

The Magnolia

Columbus Garden Club Newsletter



February, 2024

Hearts and Flowers To You



(Flowers Shared for Newsletter by Columbus Garden Club Members)

Happy Valentines Day



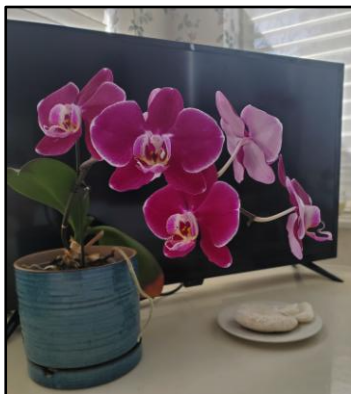
Happy Valentines Day! I have a few things to announce! First off, is our upcoming pilgrimage on May 8th. We will be going to Brookwood where we can shop and have a wonderful lunch and then we can go to other local nurseries in the area. We will have a list of those nurseries coming soon for you to sign up for. Please invite a friend/friends or someone who might be interested in being a member of the club. I was invited to the pilgrimage and that's how I got started with Columbus Garden Club. It's a great way to introduce them to a lot of us in a relaxing fun environment and see what we do. We would love to have them with us! I'll have more information at the meetings as we get closer.

If you are a chairman of one of our many flowerbed projects, I know the time is almost here where we can really start working in them again! Please remember to include our high school students as your workers. Contact Wanda Anglin or Bren Wyman and let them help you get it all set up! We will talk a little more about this at the meeting but we need to continue this project that was very successful in the fall. What a great way we can involve our community and our high school students for volunteer hours!

We will be voting on our Garden Angel for this year at our February meeting. A ballot will be prepared for everyone to vote. The names will be members who qualify for this honor, according to our standing rules that we accepted this fall. If you're not sure what the qualifications are, go to page 819 in the yearbook. I love our Yearbook. It has so much good information!

Last but not least, if you have something good to share with the club (for example) a new grandbaby, something exciting going on in the greenhouse, flower bed or just something joyful for you please share with Velma so that we can get these joyful announcements in our newsletter as well!!

In His Garden
Janet



Orchids shared by Velma Harrington
They love it by the bathtub in filtered light.

Environmental School Course II Attended by Nancy Galloway and Sharon Wegenhoft



Nancy Galloway and Sharon Wegenhoft were so excited for this Environmental School, Course II. Sharon just went to audit the course as she is already a certified Environmental Consultant. Nancy however needed this and 3 & 4 to complete her Environmental Consultant certification. These courses were very informative.

All the lectures and slide shows were very interesting and given by extremely knowledgeable TGC approved presenters. The meals are always very good and all included in the price of the course. Any workshops that are given, can be opted out of, if you choose.

They also manage to come up with fun things to do in between classes. Scavenger hunts, crafting things and workshops where you learn fun things like different ways to fold napkins. In the crafting workshop we learned about essential oils and their medicinal, cooking and other uses. We each were given a scent pendant and got to choose a scent that we liked for it. We were also given a reusable water bottle after the scavenger hunt, there was no clear winner, so we all got a prize!!

We had one evening that ended in us all making a succulent garden in an old shoe that we brought from home!! All the supplies were provided, even the succulents! That was extremely fun!!

To sum up this trip and course, it was very memorable. The friendships we've made will last a lifetime and the memories also.

(Submitted by Nancy Galloway)



(Succulent Gardens made in old shoes at Environmental School. Did you know that it takes 25 years for shoe soles to deteriorate in landfills?)

Flower Show Judges School Course II

Course II of Flower Show School was held at Bayland Community Center in Houston. It was an intense full 3 days and then day 4 was a test in the morning, then we were finished with Course II. If you are auditing the class, you do not have to take the exams. Auditing the course lets you keep up to date on new designs, new techniques and the rules. It never hurts to brush up on these.

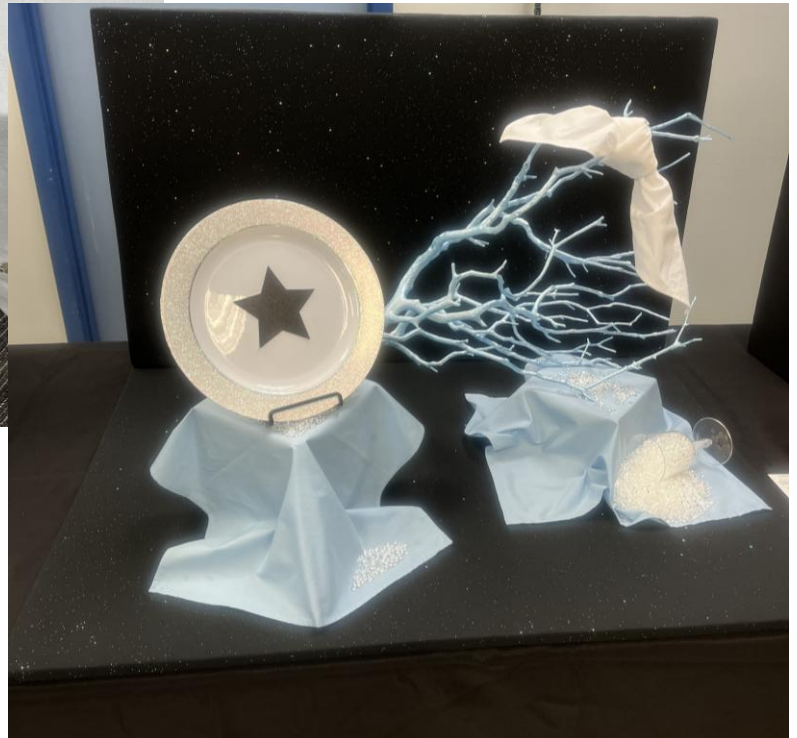
We learned about designs, horticulture, table designs, exhibition tables, tray designs and petite designs plus herbs and Dracaena (syn. Sansevieria).

Examples of a Tray Design





Table Design



Exhibition Table Design

The instructors and classes offered were:

Pam Braun, Leiper's Fork Garden Club, Board member for TN Federation of Garden Clubs, TN District II, Deep South Region, and NGC. She is also an NGC accredited Master Flower Show judge and an NGC Horticulture and Flower Show Procedure instructor along with many other accolades. It is truly an honor to have her among our instructors. The courses Pam taught were: Flower Show Procedure-Course II, Horticulture-Course II, Herbs, and Dracaena. She also went over points scoring with horticulture. In Pam's horticulture class I learned what judges look for and how to display and groom plants properly.

Our other instructor was **Shirley Tetreault**. She is a member of Uptown Garden Club. She is a Design/FSP/Symposium Instructor for NGC. Shirley is a Master Gardener, a member of the African Violet Society, Daffodil Society, President of the High Desert Design Club, and past president of Albuquerque Garden Clubs. She has served 4 years as New Mexico State

President and was NGC Secretary. She is a delightful and knowledgeable instructor! Some of the areas that Shirley covered were: Petite designs, Exhibition tables, Functional tables, Tray Displays as well as judging criteria for all these areas and point scoring. In Design class we learned about balance and different styles to use plus what some judges like and do not like. Kudos go to the garden club members who helped with setting up this school and running it. They did an amazing job, as usual.

It was a lot of hard work but the feeling you have after the last day's test is wonderful!

Submitted by Nancy Galloway

Pictures submitted by Regena Williamson

- **District IV Spring Convention** – March 27, 2024 - See Below
- **TGC Spring Convention**, April 8-12, 2024 Abilene, TX. District VIII hosting at the MCM Elegante Hotel, 4250 Ridgemont Drive, Abilene, TX 79606; (Reservations – 325-698-1234, call Debra at the hotel) Registration Fee is \$35. Theme is West Texas Wild, Cut 'n' Dried.
- **SCR Spring Convention** April 24-25, 2024, Four Points by Sheraton Little Rock Midtown Hotel, Little Rock, Arkansas
- **NGC Spring Convention** - Denver, Colorado, June 2-5, 2024. More Information will be coming.
- **Flower show III** will be held September 30-October 3, 2024 at Bayland Community Center in Houston, TX

District IV is having their annual District Convention on March 27, 2024. Hosted by Area Nine with Jaime Pierce as Convention Chairman, it will be held at the Lone Star Community Center located at 2500 Lone Star Parkway in Montgomery, Texas. The meeting will begin at 9:00 am and adjourn at 2:00 pm. The theme "Milkweed for Monarchs" will increase our knowledge as we learn about the endangered Monarch butterfly and the easy-to-grow Milkweed they need for life. The meeting will open at 9:00 am with Registration and follow with District IV Business, Programs, Awards, Committee Recognition, Lunch, Silent Auction, and more. **The Registration and lunch fee is \$60.00 and is due by March 4, 2024.** Please mail your check payable to Bridgeland Garden Club and the registration form to: Bridgeland Garden Club, Margarette Boswell, Treasurer. 18506 Imagination Way, Cypress, Texas 77433. District IV TGC, Inc. Coastal Prairie Region * January 2024* Checks received after March 4 will require an additional \$5.00 late registration fee. Hotel accommodations are available at Margaritaville Lake Resort, 600 Margaritaville Park Way, Montgomery, Texas 77356. The phone number is (936) 448-4400. Registration is due by Monday, March 4, 2024

Also, the **Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. 96th Spring Convention will be held April 8- 11, 2024 in Abilene, Texas.** "West Texas Wild: "Cut 'n' Dried" is the theme for the convention and the deadline for registration is March 1, 2024. Please send registration form and check payable to District VIII Convention to: Monty Lewis, Convention Treasurer, 825 Waters Edge Drive, Abilene, Texas 79602. The registration fee is \$35.00 for the entire convention or \$25.00 per day. Hotel accommodations are also available for the State Convention at MCM Elegante Hotel, 4250 Ridgemont Drive, Abilene, Texas 79606. Identify by event name to receive a special rate. The deadline for hotel reservations is March 8, 2024. The phone number is (325) 698-1234.

Cindy Heckaman District IV Director Texas Garden Clubs District IV Annual Convention Milkweed for Monarchs Wednesday, March 27, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Lone Star Community Center 2500 Lone Star Parkway, Montgomery, TX Area 9 invites you to attend the District IV Spring Convention 2024. We will have District business, awards, silent auction, a raffle, the naming of "Garden Clubs of the Year", a fantastic program and luncheon. Enjoy learning about the protected Monarch Butterfly and the native milkweed they need for life. HOTEL INFO: Margaritaville Lake Resort, 600 Margaritaville Park Way, Montgomery 77356. (936) 448-4400. You must make your reservations by January 20th. Registration is due by Monday, March 4, 2024. Checks received after March 4th will require an additional \$5 late registration fee. No registrations will be accepted after March 10th. Registration + Luncheon: \$60 Late Fee: \$5.00 Grand Total: \$ Check # Please mail your check, payable to Bridgeland Garden Club, and the form below to: Bridgeland Garden Club Margarett Boswell, Treasurer 18506 Imagination Way Cypress TX 77433 We Request That All Garden Clubs Donate Items to the Silent Auction. Thank you!

Registration Form for Texas Garden Clubs District IV Annual Convention

Name: _____

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City, Zip: _____

Cell Number: _____

Garden Club Representing: _____

Please circle your credentials: SCR Chair TGC State Officer TGC State Chair Trustee District Director District Director Former District Director Council President Former Council President NGC Life Member TGC Life Member District IV Life Member Affiliate President Affiliate Member Judge: Master Life Accredited Student Emeritus Garden Club President Garden Club Member NEWS



SHARING OUR GARDENS WITH EACH OTHER

Velma Harrington shared her African Violet that thrives in the bathroom by the bathtub.

How to Care for African Violets

African violets are small houseplants that grow quite well in normal house temperatures, flowering almost continuously in clusters of white, blue, or purple flowers over fuzzy leaves. Here's how to care for African violets in your home.

About African Violets

Despite their common name, African violets are not a type of violet, but they do produce vivid, violet-colored flowers. They are now categorized in the genus *Streptocarpus*. However, as their name suggests, African violets are native to East Africa, stemming from the tropical rainforests of Tanzania and Kenya. In 1892, German colonial officer Walter von Saint Paul-Illaire identified these plants and sent seeds back to Germany. African violets do best and produce the most blooms in bright, indirect light with regular house temperatures (no lower than 55F at night nor above 75F during the day). Though they are generally easy to care for, they can go through fussy spells. Don't be discouraged!



Shared by Bren Wyman on Facebook. "Very excited to show the first open bloom on my Pen-wiper Kalanchoe. The plant itself is not the prettiest but the flower is gorgeous. Have had this plant for approximately 4 years and the first time it has bloomed."

Friends



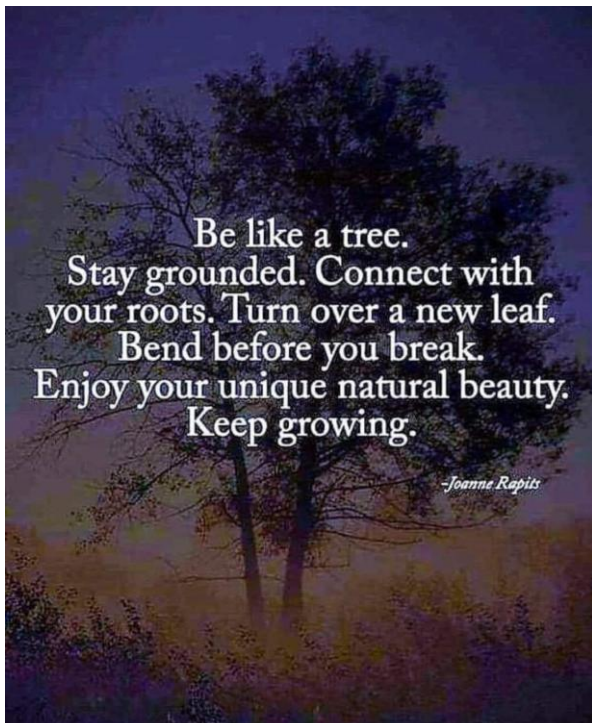
Work Smarter in your Spring Garden! WITH STACY RENNER



Learn techniques to make gardening more fun,
PLUS find out how to attract “nature’s workers”
through flowers and herbs in containers.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29 @ 2 PM

Stacy Renner has a Horticulture degree from Texas A&M and
is the owner of Take Root, Nursery in Columbus.



Watch for information about
Columbus Garden Club Arbor Day
Celebration.

Patti Schindler

Members: Deborah Braden
Nancy Galloway
Wanda Anglin

(All members are encouraged to help.)

Educational Corner - The “Snake Plant” or “Mother In-laws Tongue” has long been classed as the Genus, Sansevieria. However, due to modern day DNA testing it was moved to the Dracaena genus. This can be important to us as club members in exhibiting horticulture for flower shows.

By which ever name they are called the “Snake Plant” is an easily grown plant that can easily be grown indoors or out. It is a popular plant for horticulture both as potted and cut exhibits and some of the species are excellent for line material in designs.

Most “Snake Plants” are slow growing and do not require a lot of water or humidity. However, the rhizomes will even come out of the drainage holes and will often distort or break the container they are growing in. They are an excellent houseplant as they will do well in the lower light conditions of most households.

Outside “Snake Plants” appreciate dappled sunlight. They do not tolerate temperatures below 50 degrees Fahrenheit very well although mine manage in the high forties in the greenhouse at times.

To learn more about Sansevierias (Dracaena) there is an International Sansevieria society that has information about the care of Sansevieria’s and show pictures of the different species and cultivars.

Interesting facts about Sansevierias is they can be cultivated in water from a leaf cutting but not the variegated form as the variegation will not hold true in the new leaves.



Picture of Sansevieria (Dracaena) Leaves emerging directly from rhizome with insignificant stem. It is a monocot with flowering stem a scape.

There are over 100 different species of Sansevierias (Dracaena’s) and many cultivars. They are native to Africa, Madagascar and southern Asia.

Sansevieria have a number of health benefits, they filter the air and are great for removing toxic pollutants including carbon dioxide, benzene, and formaldehyde and they are said to boost mental health.

(Submitted by Regena Williamson)



Regena Williamson, Amber Leung (speaker), Joann Obenhaus, Helen Huddleston, Cheryl Rose, Sharon Wegenhoft and Brenda Boehm

Last Month's CGC Meeting

Last month's garden club meeting was on Planting for Our Birds on the Post Oak Savannah and Making a Difference by Amber Leung, Environmental Educator and Staff Naturalist, Houston Audubon Society. Her program consisted of a power point program and educational information.



(picture previously submitted by Nancy Galloway)

Hostesses were Patti Schindler, Helen Huddleston, Regena Williamson, and Debbie Braden.



Native Plant Society of Texas

SPRING SYMPOSIUM



at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

4801 La Crosse Avenue, Austin, TX 78739

Saturday, March 2, 2024

8:45 am – 2:45 pm

(Check-in and light breakfast begin at 8 am)



Native Host Plants for Texas Butterflies and Moths

Jim & Lynne Weber – Master Naturalists and Authors

TCA Native Plant Propagation Center

Mei Ling Liu – Texas Conservation Alliance

Lewisville Native Plant Initiative

TJ Gilmore – Mayor of Lewisville, Texas

Chapter of the Year!

Native Plant Society of Texas

Student Research Studies

Xinyi Yan – UT Austin, Silas Jenkins – TSU

Unique Ecological Systems and Associated Rare Flora of Texas

Jason Singhurst – Texas Parks & Wildlife

*Workshop will be followed by a tour of the Lady Bird
Wildflower Center Gardens. Please sign up
for the tour when you register.*

Boxed Lunch, Light Breakfast (begins at 8 am) & access to
Wildflower Center gardens are included with Registration!

Register at: <https://npsot.org/>

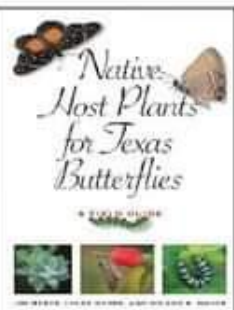
\$65 per person (\$50 NPSOT* & LBJWC members)**

Online: \$35, \$25 members

(Please consider an additional donation to NPSOT & LBJWC)

*Join the Native Plant Society of Texas at www.npsot.org

**Join the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at www.wildflower.org



**In Person
Registration**



**Online
Registration**

Celebrate Nature with Native Plants!

Let us know how you are gardening and include pictures of your plants and gardens. If you are on facebook you can chat with other garden club members, share pictures, ideas, memes, club activities and other fun stuff on the new **private group site** that is “up and going” thanks to Wanda Anglin. Just look up on facebook, Columbus Garden Club Private Group. This is a group seen only by CGC members. If you have problems finding the private group you can contact Wanda at 713-628-6545. Also, follow our public page: fb.me/columbusgardenclubtx. Or, you can always text me (Velma) at 979-253-0055 or email velma.george07@gmail.com



So that we can better communicate and express our love and concern for each other, if you know of a **garden club member or family of a garden club member who is ill or a death in the family** please contact:

Janet Johnson – She will notify the appropriate members to communicate with the club.

Cheryl Rose – She is person in charge of notifying the club.

Janet Johnson shared on **February 7** that she had heard that St. Paul Lutheran’s pastor, Pastor Alan Keethan and his wife, Debbie’s daughter, **Chelsea Gilstrap and her husband, Kevin, were in a car accident in San Antonio over the weekend**. The church secretary told Janet that Chelsea and Kevin are fine. The truck T-boned the couple on the driver’s side injuring Kevin’s elbow. The air bag apparently also damaged Kevin’s ear drum. Chelsea is pregnant, but miraculously the baby is fine and Chelsea is fine having only suffered a few bruises. I assured them that we would be praying for the healing of Chelsea and Kevin.

Please keep **Martha Jordan and Bonnie Halkett** in your prayers. Also keep **Sharon Wegenhoft, her family and son John** in your prayers.

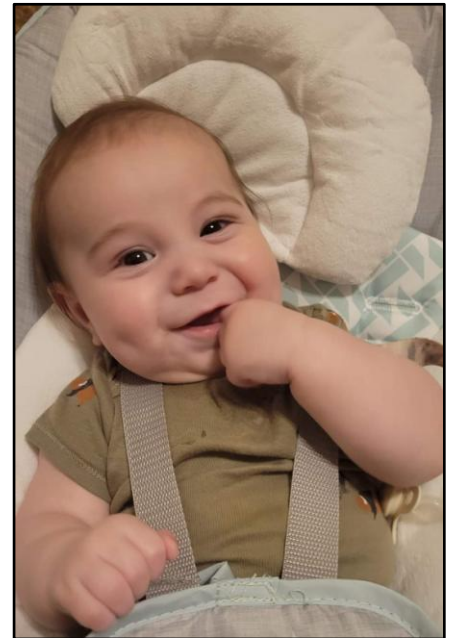
Sandy and Ken Coffman have moved to 2900 Province Village Dr., Pearland, Texas 77581, phone – 512-914-0368

Also Share your Good News and Joys. Send information and pictures to Velma Harrington at 979-253-0055 or email velma.george07@gmail.com to include in our newsletter.



Jennie Pritchett shared a picture of her three grandchildren. “Had all 3 grandkids together for the first time. Dallas is 4, Cody is 3 months, and Adlie is 1 month.”

Velma Harrington shared pictures of her and George’s first great grandson (right), **Jackson George Cooper**. He is 4 months old. (Also known as “Baby Jacks”).



Also, great granddaughter **Kendall Avery Cooper** (below left) who was born January 19.

“Kendall is the first girl in our family of 5 grandsons and 1 great grandson” says Velma.

Helen Huddleston is moving back to Georgia to be close to her son. We wish her every joy and happiness in her new home. She has been a joy to have in our club if only for a little while.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
FEBRUARY**

- 07 Sandra Barrett
- 14 Chaney Gregory
- 20 Neva Lou Hubenak
- 21 Arlene Johnsey
- 22 Jenny Pritchett

NOTE; Due to the freezes and incimate weather we have had there will be no Yard of the Month or Community

Beautification Award for the Month of February