

# The Magnolia

Columbus Garden Club Newsletter



April, 2023

## Trust the Magic of New Beginnings...



In Springtime we experience new life. New life pops out of the buds on the trees, springs forth out of the ground in the most beautiful of colors, and we discover new life waking up in the nests of birds and in the births of wildlife in our yards and pastures. We feel the energy that new life brings and we pull out our rakes, hoes, shovels, and clippers to get rid of the dried grasses, weeds, dead stalks and limbs. **It is time to let new life grow and to blossom.**

Janet Johnson shared with us the beautiful picture of bluebirds freshly hatched from their beautiful blue eggs. What a gorgeous miracle of life!

Columbus Garden Club has been busy this last month **cleaning up** from the winter and **planting** to bring new life and color to our garden areas.

On Saturday April 1 members met at the Visitors Center to distribute volunteer supplies for our annual Trash Off event and to add plants and flowers to attract butterflies to the area. We were excited to find several Monarch caterpillars while we worked and felt successful in providing a garden for pollinators.







Garden club members Sharon Wegenhoft, Brenda Wyman, Marian Schonenberg, Sandy Barrett, Brenda Boehm, Velma Harrington, Marian's granddaughter Rhonda Schonenberg, (and behind the scenes Marian's husband Curtiss and Sharon's husband Travis) met at the visitors center to distribute supplies for Trash Off and to sign up volunteers.

But even before April 1 Trash Off Day some of our youngest volunteers (pictured below) Jayden, Tagen, and Stacy Renner, Addie Werland, and Rhonda Schonenberg had a lemonade stand to earn funds for trash off and for flowers at the visitors center.



Rhonda Schonenberg (above) helped plant flowers at the Visitor's Center and she helped sign up volunteers for Trash Off.







Colorful flowers were planted to attract pollinators: We planted dianthus, zinnias, Blue Henry, Duelberg Salvia, red salvia, parsley, dill, and yellow marigolds.



Brenda Boehm registered Trash Off volunteer Shirley Chase (right). Shirley has been a part of every trash off since 2007 when we started.





## Columbus Garden Club Pilgrimage – April 12



Club members will leave from the Walmart parking lot in front of The Old Blake's Restaurant at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 12. So, everyone please be there by 7:45 a.m. We are going by private vehicles.

We will be touring the Master Gardener Gardens in Victoria, Texas. They are by the Victoria Airport. The address is 528 Waco Circle, Victoria, Texas. After touring the gardens we

will be dining at The Pumphouse Restaurant in Victoria. After eating we will proceed to West Artisanal Nursery.

There will be walking at the gardens but it is fairly easy walking. We will probably be there 1 to 1-1/2 hours.

If you are not on the list, please text Regena Williamson at 361-550-1485 or call and let her know you are going as she needs to confirm reservations with the restaurant. **We also need more drivers.** If she left you off the list and you told her you were going it was by accident. Several have asked to be added to the list when she did not have the list with her and some have asked to be taken off the list when she did not have it with her.

*(Picture is just to inspire you. Not actual picture of nursery we are visiting.)*

### Signed up to go:

Patti Schindler  
Cheryl Rose  
Regena Williamson – Driving  
Brenda Boehm – Driving  
Patsy Hodge  
Chris Schobel  
Beth Easterling  
Barbara Hohensee  
Sandy Coffman  
Wanda Anglin  
Neva Lou Hubenak  
Sandy Barrett (cont'd.)



Ann Pavliska

Helen Huddleston

Debbie Braden – Driving

Janet Johnson and Keith Johnson – Driving

Sharon Roensch

Jennie Pritchett – Meeting us in Victoria

# Columbus Garden Club

## Plant Sale

**Sat. April 29**

**8 a.m. till Sold Out**

**Brookshire Bros.**

# Sun and Shade Plants

# Trees

# Sweets and Casseroles

We need everyone to pitch in and help make our plant sale a **“blooming success”**! There are many ways to help. You can **donate plants**. You can help **pot up plants** at one of our “work days”. You can **help price plants** on our pricing day. You can **help set up for the sale** on Saturday morning of the sale. Arrive at 6:30 a.m. if you can or at least by 7:00. **Tables need to be set up and covered** for the bake sale, for the cashiers and for the scholarship drawing area. **Trailers need to be parked** into position. **We need members to visit with customers** and help **total up their sales**. We need help at the end of the sale **taking down tables, dealing with**

plants that were not sold, getting trailers back to owners, and cleaning up the area at Brookshire Bros.

**Meet on Wednesday, April 19 at 10 a.m. at  
Marian Schonenberg's Corral**

**To Help Pot Up Plants**

**Bring Gloves, Scissors, Pruners, Hand Shovels**

**And a Happy Heart**

**(Look in Your Year Book (p. 405) Under Plant and Bake Sale  
Committee to See Who to Contact for Scholarship Wagon Items,  
Bake Sale Committee, and other Committee Members)**

**Columbus Garden Club was well represented at the District IV  
Spring Convention**



CGC President Joann Obenhaus, Deborah Braden, Nancy Galloway and Sharon Wegenhoft attended the District IV Spring Convention March 21, 2023 held at the Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston, TX. The Convention was hosted by Bluebonnet Garden Club of Houston, Borquettes Garden Club and Far Corners Garden Study Club. The Theme was **“Let Spring Begin!”**





Deborah, Nancy and Sharon attended the Executive Committee/Full Board Meeting where the officer planning and reporting was done while Joann was able to attend Angela Roth's presentation of "Gardening with Children."

Carolynne White, Convention Chairman, welcomed guests and Freda Martin, District IV Chaplin led the Invocation and the Pledge to the Flag. District IV Director Mary Vacek conducted the Business Meeting. Sharon gave both a Zone 7 Coordinator Report and a TGC Trustee Report. Lunch was served at 12 p.m. The Program was presented by the Virtual Designing Women, Jonni Almoney, Sherrill Burge, Phyllis Camey and Joanne Storm. These talented ladies take a famous painting and

interpret it with flowers. Each design was a treat to behold!

Mary Vacek recognized the first time convention attendees and the 90+ Seasoned Members. District IV New Life Memberships were then recognized. Next Garden Angels were presented by Mary Vacek. Each club in District IV is eligible to nominate one person for this event. Sharon Wegenhoft was surprised with a Garden Angel Award from District IV.

Nancy Giffhorn then presented the District IV Awards. Columbus Garden Club received the following District IV Awards:

MAE 4-1 Publication/Newsletter	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
MAE 4-f Publications/Educational	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
TGC President's Report	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
TGC Litter/Recycling/Reclamation	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
MAE 2-1 Social Website	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
TGC Scrapbook	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
TGC YEARBOOK	HM
District IV Garden Angel	Sharon Wegenhoft

New District IV Officers were installed. CGC members installed into District IV are Deborah Braden – Secretary, Nancy Galloway – Vice Director Newsletter. Sharon Wegenhoft was installed as Coordinator Area 7. Sharon will continue representing District IV as TGC Trustee for 2 more years.

The Credential Report was given by Meda Wogan and the Courtesy Resolution was presented by Carolynne White. Door prizes and Silent Auction items were awarded. Each CGC member attending was lucky enough to win at least one Silent Auction Item. By the way, CGC members donated a Belinda’s Dream Rose Bush to the Silent Auction and it actually brought in the most money (\$75) for District IV.

Each CGC member attending agreed the event was a lot of fun. Please consider going next year!



**Dist. IV Officers 2023-25**





## Last Month's Meeting



Pawne Blomquist, Brenda Boehm, and Chris Schobel greeted members with "Irish" smiles at our March meeting.

The hostesses for the meeting were:

Lead Hostess: Velma Harrington

Committee: Bonnie Halkett, Nancy Galloway, Chris Schobel, Pawne Blomquist, Martha Jordan, Rebecca LaCourse and Brenda Boehm



The Program was "Folklore of Texas Wildflowers" presented by Regena Williamson. Regena used a screen presentation of the wildflowers. Club members enjoyed all of the great information that she gave us on the many different plants and how they can be used for medicinal purposes and other everyday uses.



....And, we enjoyed having a Plant Exchange.





From left to right – Alisha Brummett was happy with her cactus. Lyn Buesher, Ann Pavliska, Wanda Anglin, and Jodi Sebesta admire a beautiful ivy that was in the “exchange”. Nancy Galloway was so excited with her plant she received in the exchange. “It bloomed!” It was a plant that was brought by Velma Harrington. Lana Miller called the plant “little white soldiers”. It is actually a plant that is in the Hosta family.

Sharing plants is one of the joys of gardening.



## Sharing Plants Through Pictures



Janet Johnson shared these pictures of spring flowers.



Some are in her yard

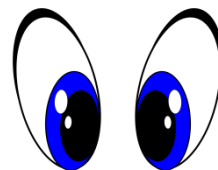


and some are



along the road....

Regena Williamson shared a picture of her Mock Orange in glorious bloom....

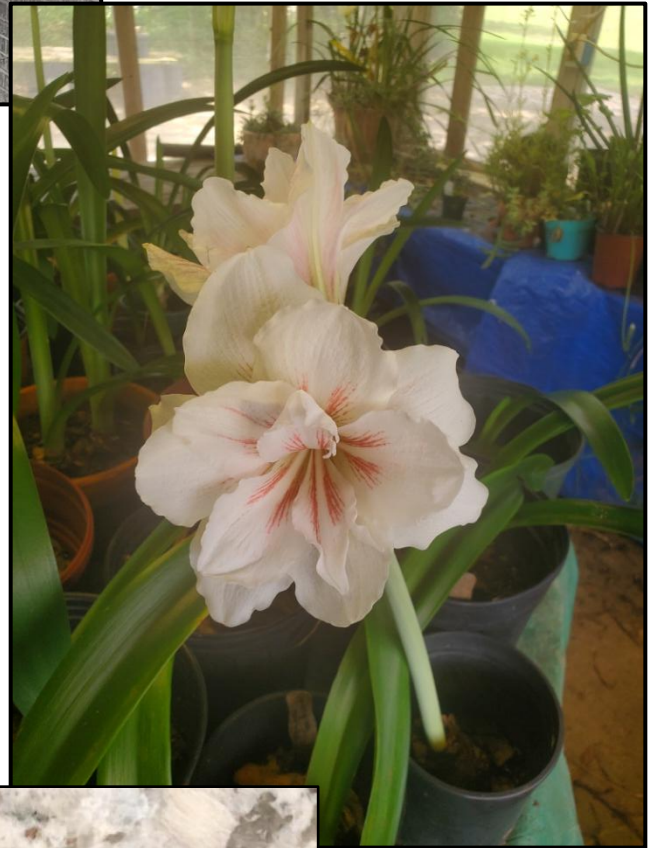






Don't you just love Mock Orange? It reminds me of dogwood. And, it comes back out every year!

Velma Harrington shared a picture of one of her Amaryllises. This one is a very large bloom but with delicate coloring of white and pink.



Janet also shared pictures of her blueberries and thornless blackberries.



**Please Join Us**  
**INSTALLATION 2023**  
**MAY 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 10:00 a.m.**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

**Crème Tea and Salad Luncheon**  
**All Members Bring Salads or Tea Sandwiches**  
**(Finger Sandwiches)**



**Wear Your Spring Bonnets, Hats or Fascinators and Gloves**  
**Help Columbus Garden Club Celebrate 87 Years**  
**Installation of 2023-25 Officers**

**Meet Scholarship Recipients**

## **We have lost some of our precious garden club members:**

**Mary Lucille Sarkozy** was born in Jackson, Mississippi on Monday, August 31, 1931, and passed away peacefully of natural causes in Houston, Texas on March 1, 2023. “Mary Lu” was 91 years old. She and Joseph Frank “Joe” Sarkozy were married in 1975, built a house, retired, and moved to Live Oak Lane between Columbus and Weimar in 1982. Mary Lu took pleasure in volunteering at the Columbus Community Hospital, membership in Columbus Garden Club, the Red Hat Society, and other organizations. She was president of Columbus Garden Club 1988-90. Services were held at 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at the Weimar Masonic Cemetery, Masonic Cemetery Road at West Main Street, Weimar, Texas 78962.

**Annie Margaret Girndt Moore**, 87, of Rock Island, Texas passed away on March 24, 2023 in Eagle Lake, TX. She was born on May 2, 1935 to Lawrence Girndt and Bertha Carpenter in Rock Island, TX. On June 17, 1967 she married Michael William Moore and they were proudly committed for 56 years. She worked as a teacher for 38 years. She was a classy lady who enjoyed quilting, teaching her grandkids and doing puzzles with them, gardening, crafting, cooking, reading and practicing her organizational skills. Funeral service was held on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 2:00 pm at Henneke Funeral Home in Columbus, Texas.

**Delores Fehrenkamp Purcell**, aka Dodi, Sister, Nana, and Memaw was born on October 16, 1931 in Columbus, Texas and died peacefully in her sleep on April 8, 2023. After marriage to Ed Purcell they traveled and lived in several states for Ed’s work as a NASA engineer. Along with being a wonderful wife, mother to Kim and Gary, grandmother and friend to many Delores excelled in her talents as a piano teacher, seamstress, gardener, painter, cook and ceramics maker. She especially enjoyed her garden and in particular her succulents. She was a lifelong member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus where she played piano and organ in her youth. She was an active member of the Columbus Garden Club where her horticulture talent thrived and was awarded the title of gardener emeritus.



Visitation will be held on Thursday, April 13, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 at Henneke Funeral Home in Columbus, Texas. Funeral service will be Friday, April 14, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Paul Luthral Church in Columbus. Visitation at church will be from 9:00 am to 10:00 am.

Please keep these precious families in your thoughts and prayers.



**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 there is a death in the family please contact:

Joann Obenhaus, 979-942-0528 – She will notify the appropriate members to communicate with the club.

Cheryl Rose, 713-444-6500 – She is officer in charge of notifying the club

Susan Peletz, 979-732-6621 – She will send birthday cards, get well cards, sympathy cards

**If you have garden hints or want to share a garden experience or want to share pictures from your garden** please send to Velma Harrington at [velma.george07@gmail.com](mailto:velma.george07@gmail.com) I will be glad to include in our monthly newsletter.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

MARK YOUR 2023 CALENDAR – **For Federation, District IV, TGC and NGC Events**

### **APRIL:**

- 1** CLUB DUES TO FEDERATION, DISTRICT IV, AND TGC  
**10-14** TGC CONVENTION – SAN ANTONIO  
**14** FEDERATION GENERAL MEETING 10 A.M. – SAPC  
**19-21** SCR SPRING CONVENTION, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK.  
**24-25** SCR SPRING CONVENTION, LITTLE ROCK, AR

### **MAY:**

- 1** DEADLINE FOR TGC AND FEDERATION DUES  
**2-5** NGC SPRING CONVENTION – WHITE SULFER SPRING ,WV.  
**8** HFGC BOARD MEETING, 12;30 PM BAYLAND  
**12** FEDERATION GENERAL MEETING. 10 A.M. SAPC  
**15** IRS DUE DATE FOR FILING E-POSTCARD FOR CLUBS WHOSE FISCAL YEAR ENDS ON DECEMBER 31

### **JUNE:**

- 4-10** NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

## **Remember our Birthdays:**



### **April**

- 16** Suzy Purcell  
**25** Lyn Buescher  
**28** Barbara Hohensee



## **MARCH YARD OF THE MONTH**

**Home of Melissa Parker**

624 Preston Street

This beautiful home has flower beds that are full of hydrangeas, lantanas, cannas, ferns, and other plants.



## **MARCH COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION**

**B'Dazzled**

1128 Milam Street

The business has a lot of beautiful succulents in a container with dianthus and a lot of beautiful succulent plants and also crotons and kolanchos.



*It is not just a hobby*

*It is my escape from  
reality.*

