



# THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

GARDEN CLUB of the YEAR

## December 3, 2013 Holiday Luncheon



*A thousand thanks to the Holiday Luncheon Committee chaired by Joan Kowalski*

In this issue—	page
♥ Holiday Luncheon	1
♥ President's Message	3
♥ Nominating Committee	3
♥ Calendar of Events	4
♥ Birthdays	4
♥ Save the Dates!	4
♥ GRACE Donation	5
♥ Flurry of Fall Fundraising	5
♥ Fundraising Proceeds	6
♥ A Morning with Neil Sperry	7
♥ Paula Wilbanks' Award	8
♥ District II Fall Convention	8
♥ FWBG "Tweets for the Birds"	8
Recipes	9
♥ Gardeners on the Go: Bird Hike	10



*GGC Holiday Luncheon attended by 99 members and 16 guests*

December, 2013



*Catering by Esparza's*

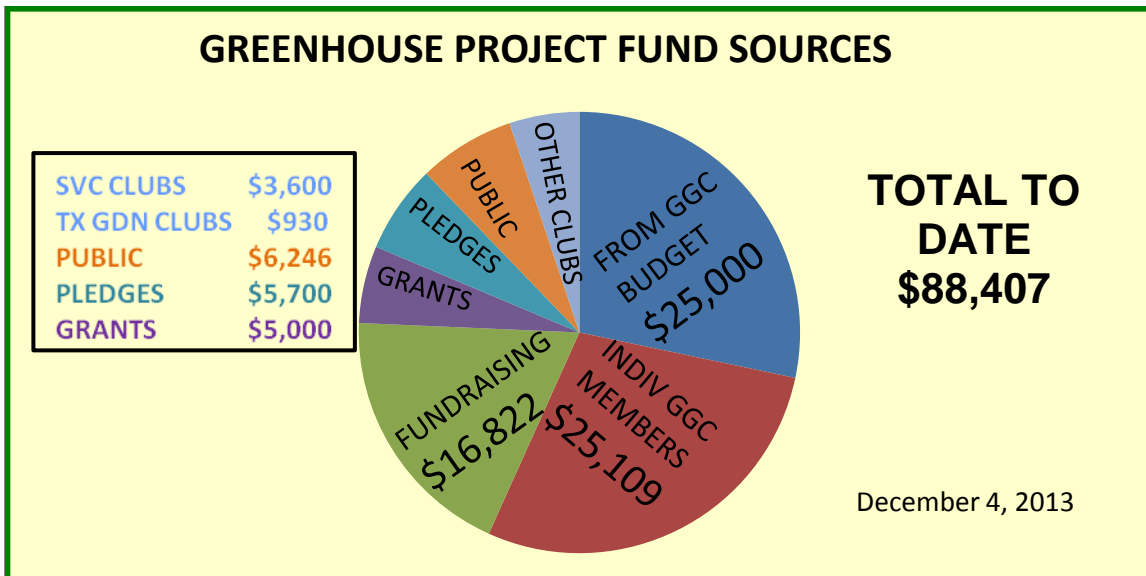


## President's Message

The holiday season started out with a bang, or should I say with an oompah! I'm sure you all agree that the Holiday Luncheon was a delight with good food, fellowship and great entertainment by TubaChristmas.



We are nearing the end of the greenhouse fundraising project. In a little over two years, we have raised over \$88,000 under the dedicated guidance of co-chairs **Sarah Erickson** and **Linda Krimm**. Here is a chart showing how the money was raised.



The details of the fall fundraising activities can be found in this month's newsletter. Wishing you all a festive holiday season and a happy new year,

**Pam Braak**

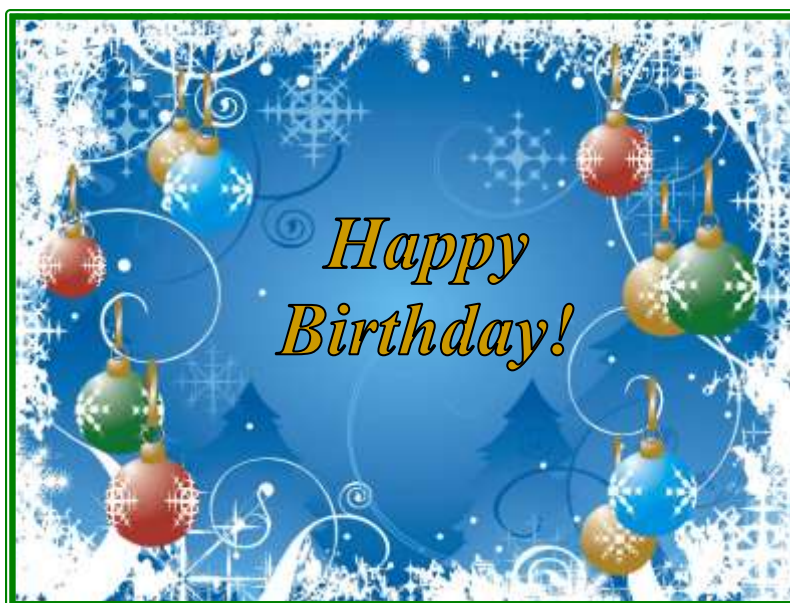


The Nominating Committee, who will come up with the slate of officers for 2014 - 15, was elected during the short December general meeting. They are Kathy Dohrer, Harriet Perrello, and Kathy Stone. The two appointed members are Joetta King and Karen Rice. If you have a suggestion for someone to fill an officer position, contact one of the committee soon. They will present the slate of officers at the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
December 14 <sup>th</sup>	Birds' Christmas Tree (Rescheduled due to weather.)	11:00 A.M. Fort Worth Botanical Gardens
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Birding Hike</b> led by Dr. Ray Chancellor	<b>Bob Jones Nature Center &amp; Preserve</b> Southlake, Texas
January 19 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Grapevine Bird Sanctuary Week</b>	
January 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Library Program:</b> Wildlife Management at DFW Airport	<b>Grapevine Public Library</b> (See article in GGC November Newsletter.)

**Elliot Agnew**  
**Angeline DePauw**  
**Laurie Evans**  
**Edward King**  
**Mike Meek**  
**Sally Perexempel**  
**Joyce Quam**  
**Connie Snyder**  
**Margaret Telford**  
**Kathleen Thompson**



# Save the Dates!

Date	Event	Location
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Work Day	West Texas Street, Grapevine, TX
February 25 <sup>th</sup>	Workshop: Work Smarter, Not Harder, In Your Garden	Grapevine Botanical Gardens
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Workshop: Container Gardening	Grapevine Botanical Gardens
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Work Day	West Texas Street, Grapevine, TX
April 16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>	Gardeners on the Go	Orange, Texas
April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Plant Sale	Grapevine Botanical Gardens
April 26 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>	Flowercade	Fort Worth Botanical Gardens
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	GGC Spring Luncheon	Lake Grapevine

### **GRACE Benefits from Generous GGC Donation**

Members of the Grapevine Garden Club and their guests donated \$2,043 at the annual holiday luncheon to benefit the Grapevine Relief and Community Exchange (GRACE). On December 5, 2013, President Pam Braak and Treasurer Harriet Perrello were given a tour of the food pantry, medical facilities, and were shown the outdoor vegetable gardens. After the tour, Pam Braak and Harriet Perrello made the presentation of the contributions.



*Pictured from left to right in the GRACE Food Pantry are Lara Sundell, Mark Woolverton, Stacy Pacholick, Pam Braak, Harriet Perrello, and Rusty Thigpen.*

### **A Flurry of Fall Fundraising for the Greenhouse Project**



*With grateful appreciation to the Co-Chairs of the Greenhouse Project, Sarah Erickson and Linda Krimm*

What a successful fall!! Here are the total net proceeds:

**A MORNING WITH NEIL  
SPERRY**

**\$3,840**

**CO-CHAIRS:  
BECKIE UNDERWOOD and  
SARAH ERICKSON**

**PLANT NATIVE-PLANT NOW  
\$4,056  
CHAIRMAN: CHUCK VOELKER**

**BUTTERFLY FLUTTERBY  
\$2,792  
CHAIRMAN: LINDA KRIMM**

**GRAPEFEST  
VOLUNTEERS @ THE NORTH  
GATE  
\$840  
CHAIRMAN: LINDA KRIMM**



**Total  
\$11,528**



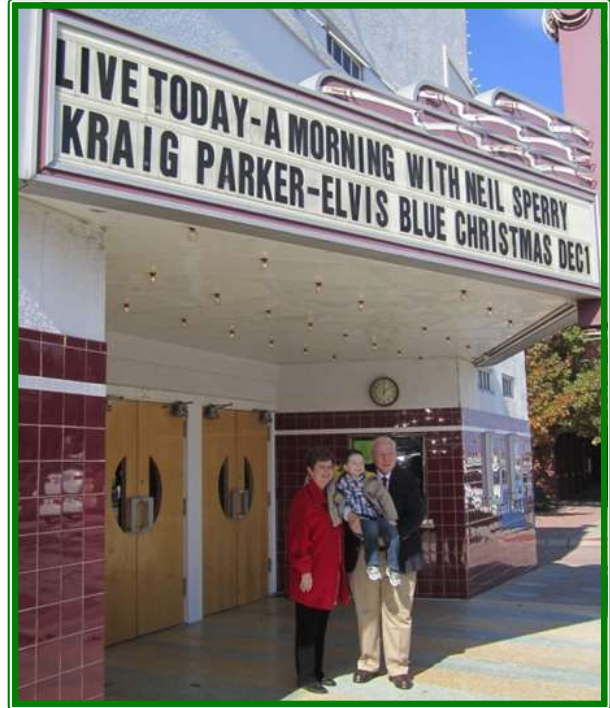
Bravo to the chairmen who did all the planning and organizing.  
And a big **thank you** to all the GGC members who volunteered.

**☞Pam Braak**

**A Morning with Neil Sperry—**



*"Texas Home Landscaping:  
Planning and Plants"*



*Lynn and Neil Sperry with Joseph*



*Big Helper, Joseph, delivers a prize  
to Chuck Voelker and Karen Rice.*



*Neil Sperry, Lisa Grove,  
and Kevin Mitchell  
Grapevine Botanical Gardens*



*Pam Braak with Neil Sperry and  
his new GGC Cap*

## Congratulations to GGC Member Paula Wilbanks!

Paula Wilbanks has just received the Tarrant County Master Gardener Volunteer Award for the Grapevine Botanical Gardens Docent Project for 2013. Paula's support of the Gardens is invaluable. She co-chairs this Docent Project for the Master Gardeners and is an encouragement with her cheerful and thoughtful manner. She has been involved with the Gardens since its inception. One of her favorite garden projects is the monthly Children's Classes. Paula also enjoys participating in the Docents in the Garden program on Saturday mornings, engaging garden visitors and sharing her knowledge with them.



*Paula Wilbanks, May 8, 2008  
Grapevine Botanical Gardens  
Photo—Joetta King*

☞Rachel Clark  
☞Lisa Grove

## District II Fall Convention – “Fall on the Frontier”

The District II Fall Convention was hosted by the Jacksboro Garden Club on November 9<sup>th</sup> at the historic Fort Richardson State Park. The “Fall on the Frontier” event got off to a fun start with a carriage ride from the parking lot across the Fort’s parade ground to the site of the convention. The convention attracted over 80 of the district’s members. There were two guest speakers, plenty of sales tables, lots of door prizes, and a nice lunch. District Director Veronica Wingen conducted the business meeting with support from her Board members – GGC’s Linda Krimm (TGC Trustee for District II and District II Scholarship Chair) and Barbara Munn (District II Membership Chair). Other GGC attendees were GGC President Pam Braak and Karen Rice.

☞Pam Braak



*In carriage: Karen Rice, Pam Braak,  
Linda Krimm, Barb Munn*



*Linda Krimm*



**Fort Worth Botanic Garden  
The Birds' Christmas Tree  
"TWEETS" FOR THE BIRDS**



**Breadsticks and Bagels**

Smear peanut butter on stale breadsticks or bagels and roll them in bird seed. Hang the treats on tree branches with biodegradable string like cotton or jute.

**Cereal Loops**

String doughnut-shaped cereal on lengths of biodegradable string. Tie the ends of the string together so you can hang it on a branch.

**Fruit Kabobs**

Find a sturdy stick about ten inches long and push it through an apple or pear half. Tie a string to either end of the stick and loop it over a tree branch. Birds will perch on the stick and nibble away at the fruit. (Stale doughnuts or bagels can also be used in place of the fruit.)

**Goodie Garlands**

Colorful strands of treats for birds can be easily assembled using a long, large-eyed needle and cotton string. Items that can be strung include cranberries, popcorn, pieces of apples, oranges, bananas, grapes, crackers, doughnut-shaped cereals and small pine cones filled with mixtures of cornmeal and peanut butter. Make garlands of one kind of food or a combination of several. Use your imagination!

**Mockingbird Muffins** (Strictly for the birds!)

- 1 cup cornmeal
- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ¾ cup raisins
- ½ cup bacon drippings
- ¼ teaspoon sand
- 1 cup water



Combine cornmeal, flour, bread crumbs and soda in a medium-sized bowl. Add raisins and sand.

Pour in bacon drippings and water and mix well.

Spoon into muffin tins. Bake at 350 degrees F. for 15 minutes. Allow muffins to cool. Spear muffins on tree branches.

### **Pine Cone Treats**

Tie strings for hanging on the pine cones. Lay the cones on a baking sheet or newspaper and coat them with peanut butter, then sprinkle the cones with wild bird seed. Never use plain peanut butter alone - mix it with seeds or cornmeal to prevent the birds' beaks from getting clogged.

These recipes and others like them may be found in Irene E. Cosgrove's books, [My Recipes Are for the Birds](#) and [More of My Recipes Are for the Birds](#).

### **GARDENERS ON THE GO EVENT**

#### **Bird Hike – Kick-off to Grapevine's Bird Sanctuary Week**

**Saturday, January 18, 8:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.**

Join naturalist Dr. Ray Chancellor for a nature hike to discover our wintering birds and interesting facets of the local ecology on January 18, 2013 at 8:30 A.M. at the Bob Jones Nature Center and Preserve. He will teach both beginning and experienced birders how to locate and identify the wintering species that visit the local ecosystem. The ecology, including the flora and fauna, and the role of habitat in finding birds will be emphasized. The casual hike will be on a flat trail and is designed for adults. Bring your binoculars and join us!



*November 11, 2011*



The Bob Jones Nature Center and Preserve (BJNC) is located in far north Southlake, north of Hwy 114, at 355 E. Bob Jones Road. Turn north onto White Chapel from Hwy 114. Go north through the roundabout and continue past Bob Jones Park until you come to East Bob Jones Road. Turn right and go about a quarter mile. The entrance to BJNC has a small stone marker on the right. Turn right into the BJNC and continue to the parking lot in front of the center. We will begin the hike from the parking lot.

Dr. Chancellor is an educator, naturalist, photographer, painter and an environmentalist with a special interest in the Eastern Cross Timbers where he has lived and studied for many years. He is actively involved with the Southlake Ornithological Society and its efforts to preserve the local area's wonderful natural history heritage and ecosystem. He is well known for leading birding hikes in the area at no cost to participants.

Special Notes for Hikers from Ray Chancellor

1. If it is raining at the start time, the hike will be cancelled.
2. If it has rained several days in advance of the hike, the trails may still be muddy and appropriate shoes or boots should be worn.
3. Most hikes are approximately 2 miles. All trails are not difficult and are easily walkable. The pace is slow so we can stop frequently to listen and observe.
4. Hikes are geared for both experienced and beginning birders but are not designed for children. Hikes sponsored by the Bob Jones Nature Center are shorter and are more geared to children's interests and attention spans. Go to the BJNC web site for their hike activities. [www.bjnc.org](http://www.bjnc.org)
5. Binoculars are needed to get the most from the hikes.
6. Since a part of all the hikes head into the morning sun, it is advisable to wear a hat or sun visor.
7. It is always advisable to carry water.

*The Brave!  
The Intrepid!  
GGC Members on a  
Bird Hike,  
January 2008*



Following the bird hike, attendees will have an opportunity to explore the Bob Jones Nature Center exhibits and enjoy a hot beverage.

Contact Joetta King if you are interested in attending the hike to receive any last minute changes in the hike due to weather conditions. Visit [www.bjnc.org](http://www.bjnc.org) to learn more about the Cross Timbers ecosystem.

There will be more information about Bird Sanctuary Week activities in the GGC January newsletter.

**Joetta King**  
**Trips and Tours**