

Through The Grapevine, February, 2007

Welcome To Our 75th Year!

www.grapevinegardenclub.com

Grapevine Garden Club Newsletter-Grapevine, Texas

Greetings, Garden Club Members! Spring Is In The Air!

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING:

Tuesday, February 27, 2007 Stacy's Furniture, Third Floor Community Room, 1900 South Main Street, Grapevine. Social begins at **9:30 a.m.** program begins at **10:00 a.m.** We thank our members for continuing to carpool and park in the outer slots as to allow Stacy's customers to park near the store entrance. Debbie Cooper will return with her seed & plant exchange table. It's never to late to bring seeds to the table and all are welcome! GGC member and Tarrant County Master Gardener Joyce Quam will be on hand to answer questions and provide feedback regarding the many plant and seed offerings! Hostess chair for February is Ileana Craft.. Hostesses are: Julie Florence, Marion Brekken, Judy Smith, Susan Briggs, and Melinda Groenemann. Thank You Ladies! Joetta King and Linda Krimm will be available following the general meeting to answer any questions relating to the "Gardeners On The Go" Nacogdoches Tour March 19-21.. Tour packets will be available for those members who are scheduled to attend the tour. The packet has a detailed itinerary with driving directions, maps, attraction brochures & eatery options for your pre-tour perusal. If you will not be at the general meeting, kindly make arrangements to pick your packet up from Joetta (YB p. 63). Tour expense fee deadline is Thursday, February 15. Thank You!
Bring a friend and enjoy water gardening presentation!

FEBRUARY PROGRAM INFORMATION:

"Water Gardening" By Green Mama's

Our speaker from Green Mama's organic nursery will teach us the best techniques for creating and maintaining water gardens and koi ponds. Check out their website at www.greenmamas.com for more information—there is a water garden link on their homepage. If you've missed a GGC general meeting, you can catch up via the general meeting notes at www.grapevinegardenclub.com—click on "Newsletter" from homepage then click on the gavel marked "meeting minutes".

Also mark your calendar for Tuesday 2/20 at 7 p.m. at the Grapevine Public Library. GGC members Toni Moorehead and Doris Hill will present a gardening program on Perennials. This will certainly help with planning your 2007 garden! You'll also want to take advantage of the GGC caladium bulb fund raiser—see p. 4 for further details!



*We welcome three new GGC members who joined at the January, 2007 meeting:
Barbara Thompson, Diane Carlysle and Carol Crosser
Bring a friend to the February General Meeting!*

PLANT SALE * PLANT SALE *** PLANT SALE**

- The Grapevine Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale is Saturday, April 28th from 8 AM until 1:00 PM at the Farmer's Market Stalls behind the Gazebo (Main Street, Grapevine)
- Signup Sheets will be available at the February General Meeting.
- Start thinking about what plants you may have in your garden to pot up for the Plant Sale—see Joyce's article below.

Remember, this Plant Sale is our #1 fundraiser for our Scholarship Fund as well for other beautification projects in our community. Thank You! Suzi Guckel & Linda Krimm, Plant Sale Chairs

HEIRLOOM PLANTS FOR THE PLANT SALE

What a beautiful day today! I've just potted up three more zexmanias for the Plant Sale! Our friend Sarah gave me one several years ago, and now (April 28th, that is) you will be able to have one. Zexmania is a low perennial shrub that is covered with yellow blossoms all summer long. It loves the sun, the heat and little water! What more could you ask?

I know YOU have a bunch of plants with "a history." We prefer to call them Heirloom Plants! Perhaps it is a yellow columbine from Aunt Martha, or the pink phlox from Grandpa Fred. These are just a couple of Heirlooms that sell like crazy at the Plant Sale! Divide your plants and share them with the Garden Club. Pot them up now so they "fill out." Put them in quart or gallon pots, stick a label in them*, and bring them to the Plant Sale set-up on Friday, April 27th. If you have just too many for one person to dig/pot up, give me a call and we'll arrange a "potting party." Now is the time to dig! FYI: The BEST label is a #2 pencil on a mini blind! Thank You! Joyce Quam, Heirloom Plants, GGC Plant Sale

EDUCATIONAL PAVILION UPDATE

We are close to achieving our \$30,000 goal for the Educational Pavilion in the Grapevine Botanic Gardens. Thank you to the many club members who have supported the project with a donation. A special thank you goes to the Educational Pavilion Committee members, Kevin Mitchell and the PARD staff for their support and hard work on the project. We will host a Provence in Texas reception for contributors to the project on Friday, February 16, at the home of Anita and Bill Hilfiker (YB P. 61). Educational Pavilion Committee members are: Edith Pewitt, Sarah Erickson, Marion Brekken, Rachel Clark, John Parkinson, Paula Wilbanks, Edie Williams, Valerie Reed, Barb Atkins, and Shari Stanfield. Thank You! Linda Krimm

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Please make a note: Our General Meeting for March will be held Tuesday, March 27, 2007 from **3-6** p.m. at the **Mitchell Meeting House** (See YB p. 27). This is a time/location change! We wish to extend our appreciation to all who contributed photos for the slide show, and we hope to have a huge turnout for our 75th Anniversary Tea and Open House. Questions? Please contact Sarah Erickson (YB p. 58).

"When you take a flower in your hand and really look at it, it's your world for the moment." (Georgia O'Keefe)

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GRAPEVINE BOTANICAL GARDENS REPORT FOR 2006

The Grapevine Botanical Gardens conducted six tours during 2006. The tours reached 207 persons, and were usually 1 – 2 hours in length. Tours were given to a diverse group: The TCC Senior Ed.

Gardening Course, Tarrant County Master Gardener's Interns, Bilbrey Tours from Abilene, TX, Grapevine Garden Club Tour for National Garden Week, Priority Club from Waco, TX, and a large group of travel agents, hosted by the Grapevine V&C Bureau.

There are approximately 20 docents: Grapevine Garden Club members, and Tarrant County Master Gardeners from the area. Most of the docents are members of both organizations.

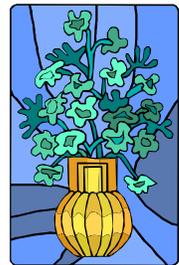
Soon, the city of Grapevine will be hiring a Gardener for the Botanical Gardens. Tours and visibility will be increasing with this addition. Also, the City of Grapevine Tour Director recommends the Gardens to those planning tours to Grapevine. We are also in the process of creating a power point presentation about the gardens. Thank You! Shari Stanfield and Rachel Clark, GBG Docents

FLORAL DESIGN WORKSHOPS

Two Floral Design Workshops will be presented by the Garden Club Council of Fort Worth in coordination with Fort Worth Council of Nationally Accredited Judges and Colleyville Garden Club. Session One: February 28 Beginners Workshop 9:00-12:00 at Colleyville Center. Students will study Principles of Design, mechanics and design techniques and make three floral designs to take home.

Session Two: April 23 Advanced Workshop 1:00-4:00 at TGC Headquarters.

Intermediates will study European designs and new design techniques. Attendees will make floral designs to take home. Registration \$45.00 includes flowers, containers and educational materials. Workshops conducted by Barbara Baker (We were fortunate to have Barbara as our guest speaker at the November general meeting). Registration deadline is 2/19—for more information contact the newsletter editor via the GGC website or refer to e-mail sent 2/1/07.



ITEMS ALERT

Our garden club has an assortment of "stuff" we have collected over the years—75 to be exact. The board had a good suggestion that perhaps we should do an inventory of "stuff" and make a list. If anyone has things they think or know belong to the club such as: tablecloths, napkins, coffee pots, extension cords, mirrors, pitchers, scrapbooks, pictures, documents, etc. please contact Barbara Oldani (YB p. 69). Barbara has graciously volunteered to make a complete list of items the club owns. We realize that too many things are scattered about so we need to gather them up and store them all in one convenient spot. Thanks for your cooperation! Val Reed

REDBUD UPDATE

I want to say a big thank you to Laura Ball and Diane Cauwels for volunteering to proceed with the redbud program this March. There will be a signup sheet at the February meeting for volunteers to bag the trees, collate materials for each classroom, and visit third grade classes. Please give careful consideration in helping out in one of these areas. This is a very special project for our club because it involves educating children on how to plant and care for trees. One of our continued projects is to pass on the love of gardening to children. Thank You! Val Reed

We received this note from a parent whose child brought home a redbud seedling: "My son's tree is thriving and is now in its third season. We are getting ready to transplant it to allow it to grow even larger. Please thank the garden club for their contribution to local beauty and showing kids how they can make the world a better place to live!"

Don't miss out on this opportunity to get big, healthy bulbs at a great price!

CALADIUM BULBS

It's time to order caladium bulbs and we have a really good source in Florida. These will be #1 size, healthy and a great buy for our gardening friends! Orders will be taken during the February meeting or you may mail in your order to Marion Brekken, 4 Echo Cove, Grapevine, TX 76051. Order must be received no later than **March 1st**. Payment must accompany this order form, payable to Grapevine Garden Club. Color brochures will be available at the meeting. If you cannot attend, you may view pictures of the caladiums at www.happinessfarms.com.

Candidum (white with green veins) Quantity _____

John Peed (dark rose-red center/veins, wide green margins) Quantity _____

Thomas Thomlinson (dark rose-red blotches and veins
(Tom Tom) medium green margins) Quantity _____

Redbud (frosty medium rose center with dark rose veins) Quantity _____

Florida Elise (light pink blotches, green veins/border) Quantity _____

Total # of bulbs _____ @ \$.55 each Check enclosed for \$ _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____

CLUB NAME _____

In order to accommodate your preferences, you may order any bulb from the brochure

HOWEVER:

1. *Minimum order of 50 bulbs; also*
2. *If your order is for Strap Leaved or Dwarf Leaved, the price is \$.75 per bulb*

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT MARION BREKEN (YB. P. 53).

KEEP GRAPEVINE BEAUTIFUL

Keep Grapevine Beautiful will sponsor a spring Community Clean-up on Saturday, March 3. Meet at Casey's Clubhouse in Dove Park (Dove Road at Park Blvd.) at 8:30 a.m. to get an assignment. Trash bags will be provided, but wear a hat, sunscreen, long pants and closed-toe shoes and bring bottled water. Areas around the lake will be the focus of the effort. Lunch will be provided from 11 to 12:30 after the clean-up. The Blue Valley Blue Grass Band will play. If you are aware of an area in the city that needs attention, call or email Marion Brekken (YB. P. 53).

WILDFLOWER SEED UPDATE

A big THANKS to Linda Krimm, Joyce Quam, Suzi Guckel, Patty Hofer, Toni Moorehead, and our guest, Elaine Parry, for coming out to Meadowmere Park and planting wildflower seeds. It was a good time had by all, and we are looking forward to seeing beautiful flowers this spring. *Debbie Cooper*

“Reflecting on 75 Years of Dedicated Gardeners”
“How many trees can a Garden Club plant in 75 years?”
Written by Linda Krimm

When Joetta suggested writing an article about the Garden Club’s commitment to Arbor Day, I agreed willingly. After all, during my “reign” as President we started distributing redbud trees to third graders in GCISD. I knew all about Arbor Day ... or so I thought. I soon discovered that in 1932 our founding Club members adopted the slogan “Another Tree in Every Yard.” I thought the slogan was very civic minded and I began to wonder how many trees had been planted since 1932. So I started counting and this is what I found recorded in the Club’s scrapbooks.

Trees Planted And Distributed During Arbor Day Ceremony By Club And PARD:

- 1979 - **8** Redbud trees planted in Heritage Park
- 1987 - **2** Live Oaks planted at Town Square Park. City presented first “Tree City USA” plaques and road signs.
- 1988 - **2** Live Oak trees planted along Municipal Way. Special guests included eight residents from Woodridge Nursing Home.
- 1989 - **2** Arizona Cypress trees planted at Torian Cabin. Members and Grapevine HS Ecology Club distributed tree seedlings.
- 1990 - **2** Red Oaks planted at Torian Cabin. Mike Burger, Meteorologist for Channel 4, was the guest speaker. **200** tree seedlings distributed to everyone attending the ceremony.
- 1991 - **1** Deodar Cedar planted between the Convention Center and Library. Program speaker was Benny Simpson.
- 1992 - **1** Live Oak planted at Trawick Pavilion in Oak Grove Park. Members and Ecology Club distributed tree seedlings
- 1993 - **6** Lacebark Elm trees planted at the Grapevine Heritage Center. Members and Ecology Club distributed tree seedlings.
- 1996 - **3** Sweet Gum trees planted at G.R.A.C.E. building. Members and Ecology Club distributed tree seedlings.
- 1999 - **1** Red Oak tree planted at Pleasant Glade Pool. Members and Ecology Club distributed tree seedlings.
- 2000 - **7** Sweet Gum trees planted at Dove Park. During the ceremony, four homeowners from south Grapevine protested the city’s plans to remove thousands of trees to build a concrete channel in Creek 23/17. (I bet that made the program fun!)
- 2002 - **1** Mexican Plum planted at Grapevine Botanical Gardens.

Trees Planted As Part Of A Project Or Special Event By Club And PARD:

- 1935 - **1** Redbud tree planted at the City Water Works by eighteen members after the February meeting.
 - 1937 - G. E. Hurst is quoted in the “Grapevine Sun” as saying, “Members had planted **400** Crepe Myrtles, **111** Red buds, and **32** Hackberry trees in several public places in Grapevine.”
 - 1973 - Club donated \$200 for trees at the Historical Museum. A circa 1989 picture shows **2** trees remaining.
 - 1983 - **1** Bald Cypress planted at Liberty Park and **2** Crepe Myrtles planted at Heritage Park.
 - 1986 - **1** Mexican Buckeye, **1** Possum Haw Holly and **1** Oklahoma Redbud planted at the Sesquicentennial median at Dove and Wall.
 - 1987 - Several traffic medians along Northwest Highway landscaped. Picture shows **8** trees and mentions Red Oak, Eve’s Necklace and Crepe Myrtle.
 - 1989 - **1** Arizona Cypress, **3** Texas Persimmons, **2** Texas Mountain Laurels, **1** Wax Myrtle and **1** Bird of Paradise planted as part of the Torian Cabin landscape beautification project.
 - 1989 - **300** Crepe Myrtles planted in conjunction with Grapevine Tree Farm Groundbreaking ceremony.
- (continued on p. 6)*

“How many trees can a Garden Club plant in 75 years?”

(continued from page 5)

Trees Planted As Part Of A Project Or Special Event By Club And PARD:

- 1992 - **2,100** trees planted to reforest Grapevine Lake as part of *Shoreline Re-Leaf* project.
- 1992 - **3,000** saplings potted in support of the Rotary Club's *Preserve Planet Earth* project.
- 1995 - **4** Cherry Laurels, **1** Texas Redbud and **2** Yaupon Holly planted in Heritage Garden.
- 1996 - **3** Mexican Plum planted on the knoll north of Mitchell House for Community Remembrance Day.
- 1998 - **3** white Redbud trees planted on the knoll north of Mitchell House for Community Remembrance Day.
- 1999 - **1** more white Redbud tree planted on knoll north of Mitchell House.
- 2002 - **3** Mexican Plum *Freedom Trees* planted on knoll “In Remembrance” of 911 and Oklahoma City bombing. These three remain there today.
- 2002 - **200** Redbud seedlings planted in Meadowmere Park in conjunction with City's Earth Day activities.

Trees Planted at Schools :

- 1983 - **1** Silver Leaf Maple planted at Cannon Elementary. \$50 donated by Club to plant Live Oak trees behind Grapevine High School. Number of trees planted unknown.
- 1988 - \$500 donated by Club for trees and other landscaping at the Grapevine HS Ecology Outdoor Learning Center. Number and type of trees planted not recorded.
- 1990 - **3** Red Oak trees planted behind Grapevine HS and at Dove, Cannon and Timberline Elementary Schools.
- 1991 - \$1,000 donated by Wal-Mart toward purchase of trees planted at GCISD schools. Number, type and schools unknown.

3rd Grade Tree Distribution:

- 2002 – 2006 **2200** Redbud seedlings presented to third graders at twenty GCISD elementary schools.

Trees Planted As Living Legacies

- 1999 – **2** Redbuds planted in honor of Ed and Edith Pewitt in front of Mitchell House.
- 2004 – **1** Red Oak tree planted at Heritage Park in memory of Ruth Nichol.

Trees Planted By Individual Members:

- 1982 - Arbor Day Chairman presented each member with a Redbud tree to plant. There were **31** members.
- 2000 –Joyce Quam and Sandy Cavanaugh potted over **200** tree saplings at City's Service Center.

That's **8,859** trees planted, potted or distributed by the Club, PARD and individual members! And I know some of you can remember other trees, other places, other events. I also discovered the Club has been awarded numerous District II, Regional, State and National Garden Club Awards for several Arbor Day and tree programs. The estimated population of Grapevine in 1932 was 936. Therefore, we can honestly boast “Another Tree in Every Yard” is not only a slogan – it is a reality!

PASS ALONG PLANT COLUMN!

If you have pass along plants that are free to a good home contact the newsletter editor at www.grapevinegardenclub.com—click on newsletter link and send an e-mail with your offerings! Thank You!

President's Message **Val Reed 2006-2007**

I read an interesting article in the winter edition of *The National Gardener* about landscape changes over the last 34 years written by Bonnie Ulin. She started her business in 1972 while still a student in the Radcliffe Institute Program of Landscape and Environmental Design. Here are some of her comments from the article:

We are bringing indoor products and features outdoors, so that we both figuratively and literally create "outdoor rooms" beyond the walls of our greatly expanded homes. One reason for this is that we stay home more than we used to and need extended garden spaces for entertaining, relaxing, playing, seeking serenity and capturing childhood memories.

Our front gardens are colorful, personal gardens in which we live as we live within our homes. There is a trend away from foundation plants and more interest in emphasizing the approach to our front door and the surrounding front garden reflecting our style and being an introduction to the interior space.

There is much more extensive use of hardscape, such as walkways, pathways, walls, driveways, patios and terraces forming the skeleton of many landscape master plans. The newest trend is creating fully outfitted outdoor kitchens, or at least having an outdoor grill built into the surroundings of a terrace or pool deck. Separate rooms are built with an outdoor fireplace, and decorated with weather resistant furnishings upholstered in outdoor fabrics.

We are using many more containers, sculpture, and water features in our gardens today. Decorative pots are set within garden beds, as well as grouped in the hardscape. Benches, fences, arbors, trellises and pergolas all serve a multitude of purposes. They set the tone of a property, provide a horizontal line to break up the verticality of a house, to define the entrance to a secret garden, to create a place to pause and enjoy the view around you, to espalier a plant against an empty wall. There is also much greater use of lighting, both for functional and aesthetic purposes. Lighting sets a mood and should enhance its surroundings, not call attention to itself.

Instead of straight hedges we are using mixed borders of evergreen and deciduous plantings for a softer, more natural look. Many plants have become available to us through shipping within the nursery industry over the years. There is more extensive use of perennials and they tend to be in mixed borders with shrubs and trees, so that the beds don't appear empty in the winter once the herbaceous plants die back to ground level. Lawns have given way in some cases to ground covers and moss. We have learned that there are a lot of shade-tolerant plants to accommodate the shadiest parts of our outdoor space and that woodland gardens can be spectacular places. People are interested in xeriscape, a garden of drought-tolerant plants.

Today, we think more in terms of spaces and connecting one area to another. We tend to do master plans of a property rather than just designing one area at a time. Each new landscape should look as if it had always been there and should reflect the style and fulfill the needs of the homeowner, complement the architecture of the home, and honor the ecology of the site. Remember that a successful space is one that you never want to leave! (continued on p.8)

President's Message **Val Reed 2006-2007**

(continued from p. 7)

I found the article interesting and am a very firm believer in the last sentence. And in closing I want to remind you all that there are some wonderful opportunities in the next few months to support our club with your presence and your encouragement with the Educational Pavilion and its reception, the redbud program, the Nacogdoches trip, our 75th Anniversary Tea, and our plant sale. There has been a tremendous amount of time spent planning, thinking, and organizing the above events by many of our members. I am very proud of them for they have volunteered their time and talents in making these events a huge success!

Val Reed

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED!

We are in need of a newsletter editor for the 2007-2008 calendar year. If interested please contact Kathy McCauley (YB p. 66).

Have you checked out the GGC website recently? The address is: www.grapevinegardenclub.com. If not, take a few minutes to click on "newsletter" and explore the info regarding the 75th Anniversary Tour to Nacogdoches, as well as the digital photos of GGC community projects (click on activities). Thanks to Linda Krimm for keeping our website so user friendly and informative!

Trees

Trees are joy inspiring
In those first sweet days of May
Stretching forth their lacy tendrils
To entice the lark to stay.
Trees are gracious, charming
When glossed with summer sheen
They catch the vagrant breezes
And spread their shady green. .
And somehow in the Autumn
When the magic touch of time
Has clad these trees in russet-gold
We sense a hand divine.
Yet Trees in winter fascinate
When their gaunt, nude forms arise
And trace in grotesque patterns,
Silhouettes against the skies.
-C. H. BOLTON