

Through the Grapevine

The Grapevine Garden Club Newsletter

November General Meeting

Tuesday, November 27th, 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. Remember to visit Debbie Cooper at the seed & plant exchange table. It's never too late to bring seeds to the table and all are welcome!

Hostesses are: Carolyn Ernst, Joan Kowalski, Angie Molina, Jimmie Nell Cook, Bea Stevenson. Thank You, Ladies!

Bring a friend to our November meeting! We're growing because of you! The following are our new members: Kathy Clark, Colleen Connor, Myrna Smith, Sharon Steele, Lonna Tweedy, Harriet Perrello, Rebeka Cook.



November Program: Water Wise Gardening

This month's program we'll learn from Christy and Dave McIlfrey, owners of NativeDave.com about the basic steps of water-wise landscaping through proper bed preparation, irrigation techniques and plant selection. David and Christy began NativeDave.com to restore Texas' natural beauty through design and consultation, and to inspire others through their writing and educational programs.

New This Month

Unwanted Plants? As we clean up our yard and thin our gardens out please bring your unwanted plants to the meeting! It will be great to enhance each others gardens.

Wanted Help: Do you want to be the person who people can't wait to visit at the meetings? Here's your chance. Our seed exchange table is looking for a new member to take over. If you have questions and/or are interested please contact Debbie Cooper or Val Reed.

PLANT SALE

The date for the plant sale has been changed to April 11th and 12th of 2008. Lisa Grove and Karen Thomason are the coordinators of the plant sale and they will need lots of help. In order to get as many members involved in this event we have the following areas that need chairs and committee members. Please don't hesitate to volunteer in at least one area. Once the volunteer list is complete, Lisa and Karen will be in contact with you for further information. This is Grapevine Garden Club's biggest fundraising event and allows us to give generous scholarships to college students interested in a variety of horticultural studies and gives us an operating budget for the following year. It is a wonderful opportunity to work with other members, have fun, and accomplish a very worthwhile activity. The club is counting on your support. A sign up sheet will be at each table at our general meeting on November 27th so you have time to think about where and what you want to do!!!

Publicity: Coordinate with local newspapers, Neil Sperry will advertise for us, and create as much publicity as possible.

Flyers: Create flyers to be placed around local businesses and hand out to members. Be in charge of making the necessary signs for use during the plant sale, like shade plants, sun plants, holding area, etc.

Heirloom Plants: Coordinate with members who wish to donate some of their plants and set up "digging" parties to help collect them.

Volunteer Chair: Coordinate volunteers for cashiers and clean up.

Buyers: Lisa and Karen would like to have at least 3 members help make final plant choices and visit nurseries.

Consultants: Coordinate with members who would be available during the plant sale to answer questions from the public.

Plant Delivery/Set Up: Coordinate with members willing to help unload truck deliveries on Friday and help set up the plant sale starting Friday afternoon.

Grapevine Botanic Garden Docents Tours.

The Grapevine Botanical Garden has begun Saturday morning docenting, through November 24th. The Garden is full of people on Saturday mornings, and obviously all are enjoying the outing. We feel it is a good time to be of help to the public. If interested, contact Lisa Grove, Shari Stanfield, or Rachel Clark. If you are not familiar with the garden, it is possible to "shadow" a more experienced gardener/docent, and Lisa Grove, the GVBG Gardener, is also there on Saturday mornings. Docents will also be receiving vests with the city logo and "Docent" printed on them which will cause us to stand out better and be more approachable.

Below are some impressions of Saturday, the 3rd, when Joetta King, Mary Rossman, Barbara Atkins, and Lou Milner were docents.

Arriving on a cool and sunny Saturday morning to wander the Grapevine Botanical Gardens as docents, we weren't overwhelmed by horticultural questions from visitors during our two hour stay. However, it was a perfect morning to be with gardening friends.

Barb Atkins, "I guess what I learned on Saturday was how much I don't know! No pun intended. There's always something new in the Garden. Loved the Pavilion! What I enjoyed most was being with other gardeners who also love all the plants and just talking about them! The Botanical Garden is a gardener's garden!"

Lou Milner, "I did so enjoy our Saturday 'stroll'. I loved the sense of vitality the garden is taking on...it feels loved and cared for ...the visitors can't help but feel that. I am grateful to be a part of it, even in this small way."

Joetta King, "Strolling along, comparing plant successes and failures in our own yards, identifying unfamiliar plants, serving as a docent is a fabulous way to learn more. Doesn't matter if you are an experienced or new gardener, you will learn from your docent experience!"

Mary Mossman, "I felt very inspired by the new garden friends that I did get to know a bit better. How I appreciate their sharing of knowledge of the gardens as well as a better understanding of the wonderful garden club members who have worked so hard to make Grapevine beautiful. I look forward to continued learning."

As docents become more familiar with the horticulture and volunteer guidebook, hopefully we will be comfortable scattering throughout rather than remain in our Garden Club cluster of friends. But as a new docent, it sure was comforting to learn from each other during our scheduled time in the Garden.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

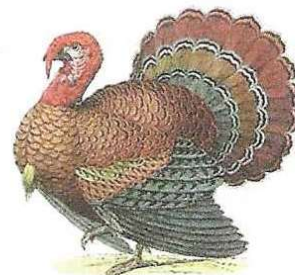
The holiday luncheon will be 11am on Tuesday, December 11th at the Lancaster Theatre in Grapevine. Reservations and payment of \$20 will be taken at the November meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may mail your payment to Susan Boelens (YB page 19). We will also be accepting cash or check donations for Grapevine Relief and Community Exchange (G.R.A.C.E.). We hope you can attend the luncheon and support this agency.

A Turkey Message from Val

As everyone knows I'm a pretty happy gal. I usually have no complaints and my motto is "Life is good!" I love my family and friends, laughter, cooking, eating, and being merry. So I wanted to find some humorous Thanksgiving or turkey story to share with you. Yes, I know how important it is to be thankful every day and I try to keep that in mind. However I came across this poem and got such a kick out of it, I thought I would share it with you. No other message intended except for you to have a good laugh. Rachel Clark and I were just discussing how important it is to have fun. Work hard; play hard—another one of my mottos.

The Turkey Popped Out of the Oven

The Turkey popped out of the oven and rocketed in to the air;
 It knocked every plate off the table and partly demolished a chair.
 It ricocheted into a corner and burst with a deafening boom,
 Then splattered all over the kitchen, completely obscuring the room.
 It stuck to the walls and the windows, it totally coated the floor,
 There was turkey attached to the ceiling, where there had never been turkey before...
 It blanketed every appliance, it smeared every saucer and bowl;
 There wasn't a way I could stop it; that turkey was out of control.
 I scraped and I scraped with displeasure and thought with chagrin as I mopped,
 That I would never again stuff a turkey with popcorn that hadn't been popped.
 —Written by Jack Prelutsky



Pewitt Education Pavilion Update

The beautiful Ed and Edith Education Pavilion at the Grapevine Botanical Garden is about ready for use! We are putting together a committee to determine the type of programs and instructors, intended audiences and schedules of programs that will take place in the facility. If you are interested on serving on this committee or perhaps just have some suggestions, please contact Joyce Quam. Also, it is not too late to donate to get your name in stone at the Pavilion. All who donate \$1,000 or more can be honored in this way.

ED AND EDITH PEWITT EDUCATION PAVILION

Financial Report, November 6, 2007

Total donations	\$ 41,179.00	
Bank interest	374.36	
Total funds available		\$ 41,553.36
Checks paid		
Balance (includes a \$500 pledge)		\$ 2,846.02

Marion Brekken, project treasurer

GGC November 2007 Holiday Craft Bazaar

There will be a Holiday Craft Bazaar immediately following the GGC November General meeting. GGC is encouraging its members to participate by donating a hand crafted item(s) for sale at the Bazaar.

Members can donate one item(s) to sell at the Bazaar with proceeds going to the fund for GGC Civic activities. Then they are also welcome to take orders of that item from the group and keep the proceeds.

Please bring the item(s) to the Community Room before the general meeting begins so that all items can be displayed. Let the Committee know before the meeting what price you are asking (or suggesting) for your item and they will tag your item with your name, the price, and an order form if you wish. Baked goods are also welcome.

If you are planning on donating an item, it would be greatly appreciated if you would tell us what you are donating prior to the meeting. Please send information to Karen Rice.

Come prepared to have fun and shop for that special item or goody for yourself or others! Cash or checks will be accepted.

Questions? Please contact Bazaar Committee:
Karen Rice (YB 40)
Diane Cauwels (YB 22)
Debbie Monahan (New member sheet)

The Garden Club is now renting storage space at StorageHouse in Grapevine. If you have any materials that belong to the club please let Valerie Reed know so that we can store all our "stuff" in one place. Over the years we have accumulated quite a collection and it will be extremely beneficial to have all items stored together. Thanks for your cooperation.

District II Convention Ways and Means

Thank you to aaaalllll the generous garden club members who contributed things to the Texas Garden Club District II Convention Ways and Means Table! A lovely gift basket for the raffle, framed pictures, books, knickknacks, and so many interesting things for the sales table. The Convention is Nov. 8, just after our GGC Newsletter "goes to press," but I'm sure the items you donated will be a real hit! Thank you, again.
Joyce Quam



“Reflecting on 75 Years of Dedicated Gardeners” THE BUTTERFLY FLUTTERBY FESTIVAL

**Written by: Barbara Oldani
Grapevine Garden Club Member since 2004**

The Butterfly Flutterby is a Grapevine festival which began in 1998 to celebrate the migration of the Monarch butterflies traveling through Texas to their winter home in Mexico. During that first year, children and pets in costume paraded from the Cotton Belt Train Depot to Liberty Park. There was food, music, a petting zoo, arts and crafts and two butterfly releases.

From the beginning, the members of the Grapevine Garden Club have been enthusiastic participants and many of the names from that first year will be familiar. Sandy Cavanaugh, Paula Jones, Sylvan Sigler, Marion Brekken, Edith Pewitt, Suzi Guckel and Dana Lawson braved blowing rain to man an educational table and apparently enjoyed it. They offered information on the Monarch life cycle and butterfly gardening and sold T-shirts from Monarch Watch, an organization based at the University of Kansas that tags the butterflies and studies their migration. Cora Lee Brannon had provided a gorgeous native flower arrangement for the table and the little lost butterflies that were too cold to fly were brought to the flowers which gave everyone an extra opportunity to admire and photograph them.

Every year the festival has always been celebrated as a wonderful success, but I especially enjoyed a story from the Butterfly Flutterby in 2000. Cora Lee Brannon had again provided a beautiful bouquet of native and wildflower cuttings and a friend of Edith Pewitt had provided a Monarch caterpillar, complete with milkweed. At the end of the day, Barbara Atkins delivered the bouquet back to Cora Lee. Several days later the caterpillar had disappeared causing some panic. It was found that the caterpillar was still there, but had progressed to the chrysalis stage and was hanging from a cherry laurel leaf. When Cora Lee had to leave town, the bouquet was returned to Barb for “butterfly-sitting duties”. In the afternoon of November 9, a beautiful Monarch butterfly emerged and sat quietly on a lantana blossom in the bouquet. A bit of sunshine was coming in the window and occasionally he would open his wings to receive the warmth. His proud caretaker talked to “Buddy” at length about the cold, rainy weather and they discussed the long journey he had to make. Buddy rested all night on the lantana blossom. The next morning the bouquet and Buddy were carried to the backyard where he could absorb more heat from the sun and stretch his wings. At approximately noon, he began his long trek to Mexico, leaving a proud but worried foster-mother.

In the years since 1998, the Butterfly Flutterby has become much larger and has remained a yearly highlight for children, their families and apparently for the Garden Club members. Many in the club should receive unofficial awards for the number of times they have volunteered. We have graduated from a table to a booth and at times we have offered tote bags, books, butterfly identification wheels, seeds, plants, necklaces, pencils, magnets and butterfly garden stakes. Who knows how many gardens have grown because of the information given out by our club or how many butterflies have had a safer journey because of our efforts? Next October, you are welcome to join us and share in the fun!

November 2007 - Newsletter Continued:

The dedication for the Ed & Edith Educational Pavilion will be on Thursday, December 6th at 4:00pm. We will meet at the Mitchell House for cookies, punch, and coffee and then proceed to the Educational Pavilion. Garden Club members, city representatives, and all donors are encouraged to be present for this dedication. We are asking club members to bring cookies to this event so please contact Sarah Erickson (contact information is in the yearbook) if you would like to help out.

Reminder: Yearbook changes need to be sent to Kathleen Thompson.

At our next general meeting, Tuesday, November 27th, Joetta King and Barbara Munn will be posted out in the parking lot of Stacy's to give our members a gentle reminder to please park at the rear of the parking lot. If you are dropping off bazaar items or refreshments you are certainly encouraged to use the circular drive to load and unload but then please move your car to the back of the lot. This is very important for all of us to remember!

Also at our general meetings, we need two or three members to form a clean up committee. Their duties would be to remove paper and clean tables, vacuum the floor, and make sure everything is put back in place. Stacy's does not charge the club for having our meetings there and we want to be respectful of their generosity. Clean up is quick and easy when a few people work together. Please contact Valerie Reed (info in yearbook) if you would like to help out in this area.
