



**GRAPEVINE**  
**GARDEN CLUB**  
Established 1932

# THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

2011



GARDEN CLUB of the YEAR

## June 2012

### President's Message

The experiment of planting a vegetable plant or two among my perennial beds continues. It is amazing how much can be produced by one little pepper, one cucumber, two okra and several tomato plants. Placed in with other plants, they also provide interesting leaf texture and height. As a bonus, I get to create new ways to use the produce. This week I tried stuffing mini peppers with cream cheese, a black olive and roasting them. Yum! Hope you are out in your garden and having fun, too.

I want to thank everyone who contributed to our very active and successful year. It has been a pleasure to be involved with such a great group of members. Have a wonderful summer and we will see you again in a couple of months.

✂Karen Rice, President





**MEMBERS WITH  
BIRTHDAYS IN  
JUNE, JULY and AUGUST**

June	July	August
Amy Alexander	Peggy Anderson	Greg Braak
Lyn Argenbright	Linda Barraclough	Neal Brinson
Laura Barnes	Joe Friedheim	Nancy Carlson
Kathy Clark	Ann Fuller	Carol Chick
Rebeka Cook	Ramona Hall	Colleen Connor
Carolyn Ernst	Sally Hart	Kathy Dohrer
Mari Georg	Doris Hill	Paul Ernst
Christine George	Anne Hogue	René Herndon
Helen Hastings	Dawn Joachim	Paula Jones
Anita Hilfiker	Tanya Krueger	Camille Kissell
Sheri Jones	Mary Jo Milner	Lynn Kugler
Joetta King	Eloise Myers	Mary Ledeboer
Joan Kowalski	Ebie Nametz	Natasha Loeblich
Candace Kyler	Cheryl Neumann	Toni Moorehead
Angela Ozymy	Karen Pafford	Beverly Ray
Debbie Smith	Diana Pospisil	Linda Runnerstrom
Marianne Tuggle	Sally Simpson	Matthew Singel
A.C. Urbanosky	Rusty Smith	Nancy Sporn
	Sara Stover	Barbara Thompson
	Theresa Thomas	Evelyn Urbanosky
	Sue Wille	Janice Zeleny
	Nancy Winslow	Jenny Zeller

**New Garden Club Members**

Tami Bannister  
Cindy Crook  
Tom Crook  
Iasmin Friedheim

Joe Friedheim  
Mari Georg  
Susan McCarley



**Save the Dates!**

Date	Event	Location
Sept. 7-9, 2012	Art in the Garden	Fort Worth Botanical Gardens
Sept. 22, 2012	North Texas Daylily Sale	Fort Worth Botanical Gardens
	Fort Worth Iris Society Sale	

## GGC Scholarship Recipients

**Cameron Rouze**—A returning recipient, Cameron is in his fifth and final year with plans to graduate in May 2013 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Landscape Architecture from Oklahoma State University. His resumé includes architectural plans for the Des Moines Water Works Park and Transit Garden Park in Dallas.

An A/B student in all major coursework having finished 123 hours with 75 hours in his major field, Cameron has managed to carve out time to volunteer as a Big Brother for the past six years.



**Bum Hee (Chloe) Kim**—A returning recipient studying at the University of Texas in Austin with plans to pursue a PhD in pharmacology and plant genetics, Chloe says she would like to do her own pharmaceutical research on turning botanical materials into something with clinical benefits for humans. “Almost 90% of medicine today comes from plants, which gives botany great potential.” “GMO (genetically modified) plants are becoming critical in horticulture for creating species that can resist harsh conditions and produce the best qualities aesthetically.”

**Makaela Lynn May**—A new recipient, Makaela is a recent graduate of Crowley High School with a cumulative grade point average of 3.8 on a 4 point scale. Makaela’s intended major is Horticulture at Texas A&M University. She is enrolled in the Texas Master Florist Program planning to complete her studies in June—a Master Florist at age 18. Makaela’s passions are floral design, nursery landscape, and soil science. A member of the National Gardening Association and the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association, she dominated the Youth Fair by being named Grand Champion for overall horticulture winning first-place honors in flowering hanging basket and dish gardens. Makaela’s scholarship application included an 18-page color photo album of her work.

Sincere congratulations are extended to these exceptional GGC Scholarship recipients.

✿Linda Barraclough





The GGC is looking for a Flowercade Chairman for 2012-2013. The job takes about 3 days of effort in April and a little preparation in assembling and distributing Flowercade information. The bonus? You learn a lot and get to hand out blue ribbons at the end of the event! If you would like to consider volunteering for this position, please contact Karen Rice.



*Linda Krimm & Sarah Erikson at Flowercade*

## May 12<sup>th</sup> Plant Sale Grapevine Botanical Gardens *Seminars*



*Pam Braak on Shade Gardening*



*Toni Moorehead on Sun Perennials*

### *Hard Work and FUN!*



*Kathy Stone, Pam Braak, Karen Rice*



*Sale of Heirloom Plants*



## Spring Luncheon, May 22, 2012

The luncheon committee planned a lovely luncheon—good food, good friends, new friends and guests—in the Trawick Pavilion on Lake Grapevine.



*The luncheon committee: Val Reed, Joan Kowalski, Pat Mingus, Edie Williams, Angela Ozymy, Rene Herndon, Anne Hogue, Linda Barraclough, Gloria Land, Joetta King (Susan Boelens not in picture)*



*Hats off to 80 years of gardening!*



**National Garden Week –  
Recognizing Remarkable Deeds of U.S. Garden Clubs**



National Garden Week was celebrated June 3 – 9 this year, which presents an excellent reason to look up the genesis of garden clubs in the U. S. I discovered these groups are mostly an American invention. I dug deep (pun intended) to find the roots of these organizations and discovered how incredibly hard Americans worked to improve and protect our environment before they even knew how delicate and valuable it is. Citizens became a driving force to crusade against pests, rescue trees, recover our roadsides, prevent billboard pollution, adopt recommended landscaping, honor our war veterans with horticulture and therapy, and literally carpet the country with wildflowers, to name just a few projects, in an effort to maintain and beautify the landscape of our magnificent country.

Here are a few of their significant accomplishments:

The Quarantine Act of 1912, was directed against insect pests and resulted in the ban of Dutch bulbs. A group of early gardeners and environmentalists felt the government should concentrate on “scientific research on extermination and control.” A letter to President Hoover asked for a nonpartisan committee to investigate the problem. He replied “action will occur soon.”

Even back in 1933, a “Save the Redwoods” committee was formed. In 1949 National Garden Club, Inc. members purchased 40 acres of redwoods and donated it to the California Park System. An additional 40 acres was given in 1951.



It didn't take long for garden club members to take on menacing highway billboards. Quick action was taken to save the Long Island sand dunes and wooded headlands from billboard advertisements. The highway into and out of Washington, D. C. had the worst billboards in the country. The zeal to ditch billboards was unabated. Garden club members formed a project which became a formal protest to ban advertisement in the landscape.

In 1935 national garden clubs endorsed "Certificates of Merit" to gas stations, roadside parks, restaurants, and motels for environmental and horticultural improvements. A Roadside Development Committee was adopted. We now know this to be the "Good Neighbor Award." Members introduced legislation to protect trees, shrubs, and wildflowers, and to establish roadside parks. In addition, they objected to having political signs on the highway. Campaigns against billboards included the essentials. First, develop a backing for making the highways beautiful by addressing Men's Civic Clubs and Chambers of Commerce. Second, create publicity showing support restriction of billboards which garden club members wanted limited to commercial districts. With an emphasis on horticulture, conservation, and roadside protection, the movement forged ahead.



The Blue Star Memorial program was adopted in 1945 beginning with New Jersey's Blue Star Drive, a five-mile stretch planted with 1,000 dogwoods and no billboards. Highways were identified across the nation and every state participated by seeking approval of State Legislatures and the cooperation of the highway departments. State garden clubs bought the Blue Star Markers, landscaping materials, and installed the markers and horticulture at chosen locations. These markers are dedicated in honor of all who have served, are serving, and will serve in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

Veterans of WWII were provided horticulture therapy while recovering at the VA hospitals. Garden club members gave courses in plant identification, established gardens, and built and operated greenhouses at the VA hospitals.

In 1949, garden club members compiled a list of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants that grew and thrived in each state. This was published as a horticultural travel guide. *"The Guidebook – What Grows Where You Are"* was printed under the title *"A Traveler's Guide to Roadside Wildflowers, Trees, and Shrubs."*

A perky figure was introduced in 1952 to be used on posters, seals, and signs to help with the war on litter. *"Litterbugs"* became an everyday word as National Garden Clubs, Inc. adopted the slogan *"Don't be a Litterbug"*. Keep America Beautiful, Inc. got on the bandwagon and included the slogan and figure in its programs. The popular *"Litterbug"* program encouraged safer and more beautiful highways. Garden club members purchased more than 300,000 litterbags to encourage the disposal of waste.



Highway watchdogs became concerned that the Federal Highway Act of 1956 didn't include provisions "for preservation of the natural beauty through which the freeways are constructed". Restaurants and service stations were ruled off the highway but not billboards. Garden club members got into the fight to control billboards by supporting changes in legislation.

"Operation Wildflower" appeared on the horizon with Oklahoma providing one of the major inspirations. The Oklahoma Highway Commission was enlisted to plant seeds provided by garden clubs which resulted in 12,000 miles of Oklahoma roadside planted in one year.



As First Lady in the 1960s, Ladybird Johnson sponsored environmental causes and National Beautification projects. She was instrumental in the fencing of salvage yards. Ladybird established wildflower centers, supported the prairie grass restoration efforts, and implemented the beautiful highway medians of wildflowers across the state of Texas. After leaving the White House, Ladybird Johnson remained active in environmental and horticultural activities. Her efforts can be traced to active garden club members who began their work long before Ladybird took on the cause.



National Garden Clubs, Inc. was organized in 1929 to address current issues and involve members in many environmental concerns. Today it oversees 6000 clubs in the U.S. (GGC is but one) and is the largest volunteer association of its type in the world. You can go to the NGC website and view a video showing current projects by local clubs all over the country. The span of projects is astounding.

So, it's no surprise to read the mission statement of the National Garden Clubs, Inc.: "to provide education, resources, and national networking opportunities for our members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility."

Hear, hear!!



Elayne Vick

## Eastern Redbud Tree Program

On Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, members of Grapevine Garden Club had the opportunity to go into fourteen third grade classrooms in three elementary schools in the Grapevine Colleyville School District to present our annual Eastern Redbud Tree Program.



### ***Silverlake Elementary***

*Suzi Guckel, Evelyn Urbanosky,  
Barbara Atkins, Miriam Ward,  
Lyn Argenbright, Mary Ledeboer*



### ***O.C. Taylor Elementary***

*Alexandra Taylor, Pat Mingus,  
Joan Kowalski, Jenny Zeller*

In each of the classes, the volunteers shared a new book, *The Happiness Tree: Celebrating the Gifts of Trees We Treasure* (by Andrea Alban Bosline and Andrea Alban), demonstrated how to plant a tree, and enjoyed good discussions with the third graders regarding the importance and care of trees. Each student was presented with a beautiful Eastern Redbud sapling to take home. Part of their discussion was how and where to plant their own saplings. Karen Rice, Grapevine Garden Club President, received a call the next day from a mother thanking her for the sapling and telling her that they had enjoyed planting their sapling as a family that afternoon in their backyard.



### ***Heritage Elementary***

*Dinah Chancellor, Sharon Swagerty,  
Michele Burger, Val Reed*



The day before the presentations, a group of volunteers had a “bagging party” to prepare and organize the materials for each of the classrooms.

The books and redbud saplings were gifts of the City of Grapevine. Keep an eye on your neighbors’ yards for new Eastern Redbuds! Two-hundred sixty-six saplings were distributed, and fourteen were left in the classrooms.

Thank you to all the great volunteers!

☛ **Sheri Jones, Coordinator**



***Bagging Party***

*Jenny Zeller, Barbara Atkins, Thierrie Mazur,  
Diane Cauwels, Peggy Harris, Pat Mingus,  
Mary Ledeboer, Margaret Richter  
(Val Reed was not present for the picture.)*

## **Appreciation Medal from Grapevine Historical Society**

In honor of the Grapevine Garden Club’s efforts in restoring the old Grapevine Depot as a historical landmark and museum, Carolyn Ernst, immediate past president of the Grapevine Historical Society, presents GGC President, Karen Rice, an award of appreciation.



*Karen Rice and Carolyn Ernst*





## **Gardeners on the Go – Celebrating National Garden Club Week Scent Matters - In More Than Just Roses**

There is some comfort in touring a garden and finding that an experienced gardener shares the same challenges as the less practiced gardener. Weeds grow with vigor, rose bushes may decline, rains flood certain areas, and a neighbor's trees shade sun loving roses. As thirty-seven members and guests visited with Mike Becker during the National Garden Club Week tour of his residential garden containing 400 to 500 roses, cacti and succulent container specimens, perennials, and a tropical garden area, there was much to learn.

Becker has been studying and growing roses since 1975. Having moved from California to Texas, he realized that although daytime temperatures are similar in both locations, it is the cooler night temperatures in California that make a difference in growth habits. The cooler temperatures during the night allow plants to recover from the daytime heat stress.



His most significant Texas gardening challenge was the result of a tornado that destroyed a significant number of the 750 roses he was growing at the time. He plans to reduce the current 400 - 500 roses to eventually having about 350. There is a lot of work involved in caring for such a large collection of roses. He spends a full week, 7 hour days, in February pruning the roses. The hybrid roses are pruned to knee or waist height. Climbers are pruned to fence height, 6 feet. In addition to reducing the stem height, he also snaps the leaves off next to the stems as he prunes.



Maintenance of this landscape requires diligence! The entire garden is watered by drip irrigation, but that also requires modification with changes made in the landscape design. In the process of developing and contouring the landscape in 2005, twenty-five truckloads of compost and soil were added. Current maintenance also includes adding mulch. Because of his



current work schedule at Calloway's Nursery in Hurst and limited gardening time, Mr. Becker will require the assistance of a garden crew to help spread five truckloads of mulch. (There are 12 to 14 yards<sup>3</sup> in a truckload.) He is convinced that Texas has more weeds than any other state! He confided that he spends more time pulling weeds than deadheading blooms. After garden critters uproot plant identification signs, Becker may need to refer to his landscape design to help in repositioning them to their proper location.

In response to members' questions, Becker had several maintenance tips for roses. Keep dead rose foliage off the ground. Rake up the foliage. The disease spores remain on the fallen leaves and the wind will blow the spores back up onto the shrub foliage. Watch for the webs of spider mites on roses. They will begin to appear when the weather begins to get hot with temperatures reaching 80°. Spider mites can defoliate a bush in seven days and are found on the underside of leaves. He recommends planting rose bushes 4" - 5" above soil grade to allow for settling and use of mulch.

When asked to name his favorite plant, Becker laughingly replied that it would be similar to revealing your favored child. However, he reluctantly said that a favorite rose for fragrance was Fragrant Cloud and a favorite exhibition rose would be Veteran's Honor because it has great form and is extremely hardy.



Fragrance is a major consideration in Becker's selection of tropicals, vines, roses, shrubs and trees. Of particular interest to the ladies was the Ylang Ylang vine that has leaves used in perfume blending for Chanel #5. Enhancing the beautiful violet, wisteria-like flowers of the Texas Mountain Laurel which blooms in the spring is the enchanting grape-like fragrance. Roses, lavender, jasmines, ginger – so many of the plants used in this landscape provide an enchanting fragrance. Sitting on the back patio or strolling the garden during the evening must be amazing as the cooler temperatures increase the blooms' scents. Becker said



that since he can't be in Hawaii, he wanted to experience tropical fragrances in his own garden.

This year the roses bloomed earlier than expected due to the warm winter and spring, and there was not an abundance of blooms during our tour. However, Becker's garden crew will be busy deadheading, mulching, and weeding in preparation for opening the garden for public viewing on Saturday, June 30, from 9 A.M. – 3 P.M. at 1685 Bent Creek Drive, Southlake. If you missed the GGC tour, consider attending. You can expect a groomed garden with extensive roses in bloom for your viewing pleasure.

**Joetta King**  
Coordinator



*Peggy Harris, Barbara Williams,  
Sylvan Sigler and Mike Becker*

