

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE



TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010

Note earlier starting times
(for the April meeting only).

Stacy's Furniture & Accessories

Community Room, 3rd Floor

1900 South Main, Grapevine

Social 9:00 A.M.

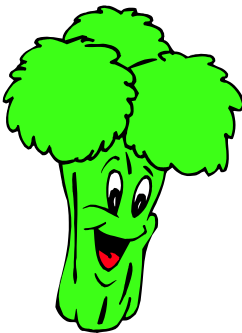
Meeting and Program 9:30 A.M.

*We thank our members for continuing to carpool and park in the outer slots
to allow Stacy's customers to park near the store entrance.*

THANK YOU TO OUR HOSTESSES: Ann Hatch (chair), Donna Christ,
Carol Crosser, Sarah Erickson, Joyce Quam, Barbara Hilliard, Angela
Ozomy, and Barb Morrell!

March Program **"Vegetables Speak to Me"**

Dr. Watson Arnold



For thirty years Dr. Arnold practiced pediatric nephrology, running a kidney dialysis and transplant program for children at the University of Arkansas Medical School in Little Rock and later at Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth.

Before he retired, Dr. Watson earned a PhD in history from TCU. Currently, he teaches at TCU and maintains a half acre garden at his family ranch where he learned to pecan and fruit trees. He enjoys combining his interest in history with that of the growing of vegetables.

It will be a special treat for us to hear about vegetables from a historical perspective!

APRIL 2010

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

PASS-ALONG PLANTS ARE NOT HAND-ME-DOWNS



I think the term pass-along plant has a nice ring to it. Not only do we get something for free, but we have a wonderful memory of something that a gardening friend has shared. I have so many pass-alongs in my garden including a winter honeysuckle from Edith Pewitt. She gave that to me at one of our first Butterfly Flutterby events and

now every winter when it blooms I just smile and think about Edith. And then in the fall I am always happy when my Ruth Nichols American Beautyberry is loaded with deep purple berries and the birds and have a feast.

Sarah Erickson gave me some tiny little daffodil bulbs a few years ago. I admired some when we were in Houston on the garden club trip a few weeks ago and Sarah could not believe she had not given me some of them. Well, I had forgotten that she had given me some and when I got home they had started to bloom and were such a pretty sunny spot in my garden.

I have tulips and an amaryllis from Linda Krimm, ferns from Barb Atkins, iris from Sylvan Sigler, a beefsteak begonia from Sheri Jones, an angel wing begonia from Rachael Clark that is a cutting from her Mom's plant, and sedum, columbine, moneywort, a beautiful variegated hydrangea and probably a few things I've had so long I forgot where I got them. Oh my goodness, I almost forgot the beautiful leatherleaf mahonia from Paul and Carolyn Ernst.

My garden is full of memories, so when you go to the plant sale this month listen carefully when you are roaming around the Heirloom Plants section, because you are sure to hear someone exclaim with pride, "Oh, those are from my garden!" I have so many of those treasures in my garden and that is what makes my garden so special to me.

Suzi Guckel
President



SUPPORTING GRACE COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Grapevine Garden Club's Civic Coordinator, Karen Rice (left) and President, Suzi Guckel (right), presented a \$400 contribution check for the GRACE Community Garden Shed Project to Mary Jo Tellin (center), Executive Director of Keep Grapevine Beautiful.

Thanks to all the GGC members who made individual contributions. - **Karen Rice**

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DUES INCREASE TO TAKE EFFECT FOR 2010-2011 MEMBERSHIP YEAR



At the March general meeting of the Grapevine Garden Club the motion was made and passed to increase our dues for the first time in 10 years, raising individual dues to \$30 and family membership dues to \$35. We agreed this was needed due to increased and additional expenses to the club. These membership renewals are due by May 31st. As you will see in the following article, we do have an added incentive of a free magazine subscription for paying these dues soon!

FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO *BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS*

Lisa Adams Grove has pursued an opportunity for the Grapevine Garden Club to participate in an offer made possible by American Public Gardens Association and Better Homes and Gardens magazine. They are supporting garden memberships by offering free magazine subscriptions to garden club members who join or renew between now and June 15th. To learn more about this offer go to:



http://www.publicgardens.org/web/2010/02/apga_and_better_homes_and_garden.aspx.

The subscription cards have arrived and will be available at the April meeting and May luncheon. For those of you who renewed in March, stop by the membership table and pick up your card!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
April 17 - 18	GGC Annual Plant Sale	Gazebo on Main St., Grapevine
April 17 - 18	Ft Worth Iris Society Flower Show	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
April 18	Molly Hollar Wildscape Native Plant Sale	Randol Mill Park Greenhouse, Arlington
April 24 - 25	Flowercade	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
April 24 - 25	Spring Festival in the Japanese Garden	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
April 27	GGC General Meeting (9:30 A.M. start)	Stacy's Furniture, Grapevine
April 27	GGC Gardens on View (4 residential gardens)	Grapevine area
May 1 - 2	African Violet Show and Sale	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
May 5	GGC Waxahachie Tour (2 residential gardens) and The Greenery (garden center)	Waxahachie, TX
May 7	National Public Gardens Day	Grapevine Botanical Gardens
May 8	Dallas Rose Show	Dallas Arboretum
May 11	GGC Spring Luncheon	Trawick Pavillion - Lake Grapevine
May 15	Herb Society Festival	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
May 15	Butterfly Plant Sale	Discovery Garden, Dallas
May 29	North Texas Daylily Society Show	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
June 1	GGC Gardens on View (Chancellor Wildlife Habitat Garden)	Southlake

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SIGLER HOSTING 'OPEN GARDEN'

Tuesday, April 20
9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

While the daffodils and columbine may have passed their prime bloom period, the iris should be peaking in late April in the Sigler garden, and you don't want to miss the opportunity to see this colorful display. Sylvan is an experienced iris grower and delights in sharing the beauty of her iris garden with you. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the maintenance and cultivation of iris. If you are interested, she will also show you how to cross pollinate an iris.



Photo: April 2009 - Suzi Guckel, Pat Mingus, Sheri Jones and Sylvan Sigler

Sylvan has 300 differently named cultivars in her iris garden. She has been growing irises for at least 50 years, but she began seriously collecting about 40 years ago. In 1993, Sylvan joined the Iris Society and was further inspired by attending an Iris National Convention in Oregon in 1994.

The Sigler garden is located near Glade Rd in southeast Colleyville. Refer to the GGC yearbook for the address. You do not need to RSVP to this invitation for Open Garden. If you are unable to attend during the time suggested, please call Sylvan and set up an appointment. She would be thrilled to visit with you about her garden.

Sylvan Sigler has been a member of the GGC since 1985 and served as president in 1998-99.

REDBUD PROGRAM FOR 2010

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped make the third grade redbud program a success! Our classroom volunteers were Nancy Braden, Nancy Benson, Rebeka Cook, Jimmie Nell Cook, and Diane Cauwels. Our bagging party volunteers were Anita Hilfiker, Barbara Munn, Paula Wilson, Barbara Atkins, Joan Kowalski, Nancy Braden, and Nancy Benson. We distributed 130 redbud trees to third graders at Holy Trinity Catholic School and Heritage Elementary School, both in Grapevine. We also donated the books A Seed is Sleepy to Holy Trinity and Tell Me, Tree to Heritage. Thank you to the City of Grapevine for purchasing the trees and the books. - **Laura Ball**



Abigail Ball

APRIL 2010

GARDENS ON VIEW TUESDAY, APRIL 27 - FOLLOWING THE GENERAL MEETING

RSVP, Yes only to Joetta King to receive directions
for the tour

This tour is not suitable for children or pets.

A garden for wildlife featuring passalong and native plants

Sandy Cavanaugh has lived in her Grapevine home for 16 years, she says in great disbelief. How time flies! She is a Master Naturalist, a member of Keep Grapevine Beautiful and the Bob Jones Nature Center, and a frequent participant in Ray Chancellor's birding hikes.



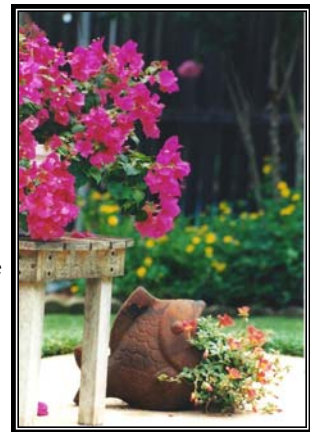
Tiger Swallow Tail on Penta

Her love of gardening, nature and wildlife started as a child from trips to her grandparents' farms in California and Michigan. This early interest is reflected in plant choices for her garden. Raccoons, turtles, butterflies, birds and other wildlife are welcome! Armadillos not so much, but one can't always have total control of one's neighbors.

Sandy's front landscape with shrubs, vines and perennials offers seasonal change with bloom and foliage. She left most of her backyard native, thereby requiring little maintenance and easily accommodating a brush and compost pile. This provides further shelter for birds, nourishment for the garden and no plant waste is sent to the landfill. Passalong plants from GGC friends abound throughout the garden.

Inspiration and initiative results in a garden for entertaining

Maybe you started out with a landscape design plan and followed it exactly, but the **Bruce and René Herndon** garden has evolved from moments of inspiration. Bruce, a high energy guy, sometimes has an idea and proceeds with the installation so that René may arrive home to be delighted by the result. They have incorporated ideas into their own garden from friends' gardens and by attending GGC tours. Having lived in their home for 15 years, they have had to deal with the loss of two large trees and the impact on their shade - loving plants. Their garden is a continuous work in progress!



Following the suggestions of Diana Pospisil, the Herndons have moved from individual island beds in their backyard to one curvilinear bed that includes sitting areas, garden art, trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals. Passalong perennials and GGC plant sale additions have given the garden special meaning as each season bursts into colorful bloom.

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GARDENS ON VIEW, cont.

There is ample seating in this garden for you to relax and enjoy your sack lunch while chatting with gardening friends.

Rene's comment that she saw no flamingos in the Houston Azalea Tour gardens didn't quite register until I observed the flock of flamingos in her garden. Every garden needs a spot of humor and these flamingos bring a smile to the observer.

A garden that is constantly changing, adapting and evolving

When **Toni and Dile Moorehead** moved into their home 12 years ago, the yard essentially had no landscaping except for some large trees covered with vines along a creek in the back. With each year new beds and plants have been added in a constant changing and evolving landscape. In contrast to the typical residential landscape, Toni's creativity begins at the curb where she has combined wildflowers and perennials in a riot of seasonal color. Following the narrow path to the backyard, you will discover graceful - curving shrub and flower beds with numerous ornamental trees including nineteen Japanese Maples. To avoid mowing around trees, Toni designed gardens around them so that now there are flagstone paths winding between large garden beds.



While you will be amazed by the diversity of horticulture, you will be enchanted by the variety of garden enhancements...a wrought iron gate backed with a mirror, benches, unusual pots and found objects used in creative ways.

We can anticipate seeing an extensive display of wildflowers as they should be peaking in late April in this Texas Wildscapes Backyard Habitat garden. And Toni has handfuls of poppy seeds to give away.

Have your brown-bag-it lunch on Toni's patio and enjoy the beauty and tranquility of the adjacent pond.

A Texas Master Gardener, Toni is the owner of Signature Gardens and brings the joy of gardening to others through consultation, design and installation. She is known for saying, "A day without dirt under your nails is like a day without sunshine."

HOSTESS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 2010-2011

If you have not already indicated you would like to help, please sign-up to be a 2010-2011 General Meeting hostess. The sign-up sheet will be available, again, at our April meeting. Thank you! - **Paula Wilbanks**, General Meeting Hostess Coordinator



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**GARDENERS ON THE GO:
DESTINATION - WAXAHACHIE**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

8:45 A.M. -3:00 P.M.

RSVP, Yes only - Joetta King by May 1

(This tour is not suitable for children or pets.)

Rain Water Harvesting and Growing Herbs

Arlene and John Hamilton moved from St. Louis to Waxahachie ten years ago, fulfilling John's lifelong desire to live in Texas. For several years during their vacations, the Hamiltons spent a week in various towns throughout Texas. Waxahachie's slogan of "The Picture Perfect Town" has proven a reality for the Hamiltons. With the stately granite courthouse on the main square, many 19th century homes and an aura of small-town rural America, they had found their Texas hometown and purchased a historic home.

Enrolling in an Ellis County Master Gardener program and joining herb societies helped integrate Arlene into the community. Arlene teaches rainwater harvesting classes to local residents through her involvement in Master Gardeners. Her herb garden is watered by soaker hoses connected to the rainwater storage tanks. Two of the herb beds are strictly for culinary use. Hamilton grandchildren know that as they help with garden chores



they can taste anything in these culinary herb beds. The Hamilton landscape is a Certified Wildlife Habitat. John's interest in the garden is primarily to assist with physical labor, but he maintains a wildflower bed in the front landscape.

Garden Inspirations "Building Friendships Over Garden Gates"



With a background of farming in Oklahoma, it isn't surprising that Marilyn Simmons would eventually want to start a business of growing produce. She currently grows vegetables for 22 families and calls this "Veggies in Partnership." A family receives a basket of fresh vegetables each week that have been organically grown and harvested by Marilyn. In addition to the vegetable garden, she has a cutting garden and sells fresh cut flowers at the Farmers' Market. Marilyn is a woman who "loves digging in the dirt and teaching others just how to do it. Her goal is to bring a health and wholesome awareness back to the home."

(continued)

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GARDENERS ON THE GO, cont.

While Marilyn is busy gardening, her daughter Donelle concentrates on the business side of Garden Inspirations, and maybe that is how Marilyn has the time to do landscape design, offer consulting services, and teach free classes. A recent class involved square foot gardening, a style Marilyn prefers for root crops such as radishes, beets and carrots.

Although the vegetables will not be available to our members, you may wish to purchase a bundle of cut flowers or compost tea. Garden Inspirations has four brewers, so compost tea is brewed every week. It takes three days to brew the tea, which has to be used in 24 to 48 hours after it comes off the brewery. Humate, fish, revitalized compost, agrispon and worm castings are used in the brew. This is a soil amendment and/or a foliar spray. They call it liquid gold. One gallon can be made into two gallons by setting water out a day in advance to rid it of chlorine or by using rain water. Each gallon costs \$7.50. For more information - www.gardeninspirations-tx.com

Lunch by Jeri McGinty in the Simmons Garden

Jeri attended a culinary school in Seattle, served as a personal chef and attended a program titled "Farm to Fork". Her goal in preparing our lunch will be to use seasonal and organic products whenever possible. Lunch will consist of a southwestern roasted chicken wrap, asparagus and tomato salad, lemon curd tartlets with blueberries, and a beverage (tea, coffee, water) **Lunch is \$10.50. Payment due before May 1.**

The Greenery - Serving Texas with dirt since 1987



Following our visit to the Simmons Garden, we will travel to a family-owned-and-managed nursery covering over four acres of plants, pottery and iron yard art. The Greenery specializes in Native Texas plants, Crape Myrtles, trees of all sizes and rock pallets.

The Greenery will be offering the following specials during the Club's visit: 10% off plants, 50% off pottery, 30% off iron yard art and buy 2 flats of annuals and get a 3rd flat free (10% off will not apply

to this special). For further information: www.thegreenerytx.com

Our scheduled tour will end at The Greenery. Before departing for Grapevine, you may decide to enjoy numerous unique shopping opportunities, including antiques, specialty shops and boutiques downtown or take the historic driving tour of Waxahachie. I highly recommend the historic driving tour! There will be Waxahachie brochures available to tour attendees at the April General Meeting.

For further information: www.downtownwaxahachie.com

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GGC's Annual Spring Luncheon

"GARDEN FRIENDS IN TWENTY TEN"

Tuesday, May 11 - Lakeside Picnic

Arrival Social 10:30 A.M.

Lunch 11:00 A.M.

Meeting 11:45 A.M.

at the

Trawick Pavilion on the shores of Grapevine Lake

Anita Hilfiger, Coordinator



You are invited to celebrate a successful Garden Club year at the Annual Spring Membership Luncheon. Dine on the many delicious salads and desserts provided by members. Enjoy the company of gardening friends, witness the installation of the 2010-11 officers and visit with our scholarship award winners. It will be a

casual affair, and we will lunch on picnic tables under the pavilion.



In recent years, the luncheon has been restricted to club members due to the limitations of the location. This year members have an opportunity to invite a guest because this location will accommodate a large gathering. If you are inviting a guest, please submit your guest's name to Joy Mayo.

You will have the opportunity to sign up for the luncheon at the April General Meeting. If you are not attending the April meeting, 'RSVP, yes only' by May 1 to Joy Mayo. Members who have indicated a desire to attend the luncheon will receive driving directions and additional luncheon details.

Be thinking about your contribution of a salad or dessert and submit your recipe to Barbara Atkins by email or bring a copy of the recipe to the luncheon. It will be included in the next edition of *Out of the Garden and Into the Kitchen - Great Recipes for the Members of the Grapevine Garden Club*.

Dues for the upcoming fiscal year, June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2010, may be paid at the luncheon. Make checks payable to the Grapevine Garden Club (Individual Membership \$30 and Family Membership \$35).

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GGC Third Runner-up for Club of the Year in District II

GRAPEVINE GARDEN CLUB GIVEN SEVEN AWARDS AT THE DISTRICT II CONVENTION ON MARCH 11

Seven members of our club attended the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. District II Convention held on March 11 in Argyle, Texas, where club awards for 2009 were announced. Our club applied for a total of eight competitive awards, seven last fall and one in January 2010, and we placed in the following seven:

- First Place for the Presidents Objectives (the Golden Days project, to sell and plant daffodil bulbs)
- First Place for Arbor Day (the tree we planted last year during our May luncheon, in honor of our club)
- First Place for Publications - Docent Flip Cards (the picture-description reference cards we created for the Grapevine Botanical Gardens docents to help identify plants during tours)
- First Place for Horticulture Therapy Garden Project (providing landscaping and ongoing maintenance at the West Texas Street low income housing)
- Second Place Presidents Report
- Second Place Yearbook
- Third Place Publications (our newsletter)

Our first place award-winning projects move on to the State level, and the winners will be announced at the TGC State Convention to be held April 25-28 in Addison, Texas. If we are so lucky to win any firsts there, then those awards will be forwarded to the National competition. The highly-sought, non-competitive Gold Club Ratings will also be announced at the State Convention.

At the District II gathering, all attendees applauded when our Director's Citation for awarding \$8,000 in scholarships to four students was announced. No other District II clubs come close to that. We were also given an Award of Appreciation for the 100 daffodil bulbs planted at Dove Elementary School in Grapevine and a Director's Citation for the third grade redbud tree program.

All these awards put us in third place for District II Club of the Year. Considering there are 73 garden clubs in District II, we consider this quite an accomplishment. The competitive awards have strict guidelines for submission and are accompanied by written descriptions of projects and often photos. They represent our civic achievement, youth and adult education, beautification of our community, and many other projects.

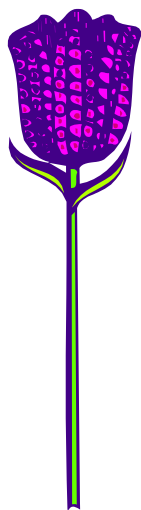
For your reading pleasure, the award booklets will be on display in our section of the Grapevine Public Library History Room. - **Elayne Vick, Awards Committee Chair**



GGC members attending the convention
Left to right. Standing. Elayne Vick, Suzi Guckel,
René Herndon, Marty Swindell
Seated. Barbara Munn, Joan Pierce.

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FLOWERCADE ENTRY INFORMATION



It is easy to be a winner in the horticulture section of Flowercade if you take a few minutes to choose a flower or branch from your garden and enter it in the Garden Club Council of Ft. Worth Flowercade Show. Each year the Grapevine Garden Club participates in Flowercade. Each year almost every entry wins a ribbon! You can't get a better deal than that! Here's what you need to do.

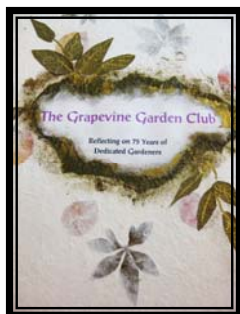
Look in your yard the day before our preparation day of Friday, April 23rd or that morning. Find two or three beautiful examples of your great gardening skills. Look for specimens that are healthy, spotless, and disease-free. Cut them and put them in water. Then all you have to do is to get those specimens to the Flowercade Committee. We will be gathering at Joan Stewart's home (yearbook pg. A-52) at 9:00 A.M., Friday, April 23 to prepare all the entries. Please be able to give us at least the common name of your plant, or better yet, do some research and also be able to tell us the Latin name. We will take it from there!

Some things to remember:

1. Plant material must be fresh and grown by you on your own property.
2. Container grown plants must have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least 90 days, except for multiple plantings (dish gardens) that must have been possessed for at least six weeks.
3. A cut specimen is one stem, bloom, spike, spray, etc. Flowering plants should be in bloom. Extra small flowers like pansies need to be displayed in a group of 5, so be sure to bring extras.
4. Entries will be judged on Saturday morning, April 24, so you will want to choose a specimen that is as close to looking good on the afternoon you bring it to enter. This can be tricky, so just give it your best guess.
5. The presence of insects or disease will disqualify an exhibit.

If you have questions, contact Sarah Erickson (Yearbook page A-15).

LOOKING BACK, 3rd installment



The history of the Grapevine Garden Club never fails to invigorate and inspire. In this issue we reprint an article written in 2007 by Carolyn Ernest (member since 2002) entitled "How the Garden Club Saved the Cotton Belt Depot." What an astounding deed! Alberta Nettleton was the Garden Club president at the time, and she spearheaded an effort that would take three years and include many other service organizations in Grapevine. Our club's continual community service and commitment goes on to this day. The plant sale, the awarding of scholarships, the many community projects we work on, all carry on Alberta's undertaking. What an inspiration!

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of Alberta Nettleton. She died on Wednesday, April 7, 2010. The Grapevine Garden Club and the city of Grapevine are enormously appreciative of her efforts.

HOW THE GARDEN CLUB SAVED THE COTTON BELT DEPOT

by Carolyn Ernst

The year was 1972 and the Grapevine Garden Club was already 40 years old. An article in the Grapevine Sun revealed that the St. Louis Southwestern Railway planned to demolish the inactive Cotton Belt Depot in Grapevine. They had offered it to the city, provided it would be moved from its location on Main Street. A delegation from the Grapevine Garden Club went before the city council and proposed that the depot be conserved and used as a city museum. Floy Ezell, city manager, later stated that "the depot was donated to the city by the railroad after passenger operations here ended." On March 16, Alberta Nettleton, Garden Club president, announced to the members that the city council had approved the club's request to sponsor the restoration of the old Grapevine Depot as a historical landmark and museum. The city would move the Depot to 231 South Ball Street in Heritage Park (at the corner of Wall and Ball streets).

Restoration would take a lot of effort and financial support. The Garden Club wisely decided to solicit the assistance of some of the other women's groups in Grapevine. Alberta must have been a good saleswoman, because she obtained promises of help from organizations including the Bay View Club, Women's Division of the Chamber of Commerce, The Tuesday Study Club, The '36 Club, and The Music Club.

The first fund raising effort for this ambitious project was the "Sweet Shop." It was a flower show held on April 21, 1972 at 1st Baptist Church and the proceeds were directed to the Depot project. More money was needed and a proposal was made to hold a Fall Festival. This successful event was repeated in 1973 on an even grander scale with all proceeds going to the restoration of the Depot. This was also the beginning of a tradition in Grapevine, where we still have a Fall Festival, now called Grapefest, benefiting historic preservation.

At that 1973 Fall Festival the new Grapevine Historical Museum building was dedicated. Mayor Bill Tate drove a gold railroad spike into a railroad tie to commemorate the event. The railroad tie was in the border of a flower bed in front of the Museum. The Garden Club had generously donated \$200 to create the flower bed and plant some crepe myrtles in the area for beautification. The spike is now in the Historical Museum on Main Street.

Of course the ladies of the Garden Club held a tea to invite the public to see the new Museum and the Grapevine artifacts it contained. Whose name is at the top of the list of attendees? Dorothy Bess Francisco, whose husband, John, was the first Museum curator. The list includes many other Grapevine Garden Club members, as well as two visitors from the Colleyville Garden Club.

Soon after the building dedication, the coalition of women's groups, which had worked so hard on the project, decided that a Historical Society should be established to continue this important work. On May 2, 1974 the state of Texas granted a charter to the Grapevine Historical Society. Alberta Nettleton, the President of the Grapevine Garden Club when the Depot project was started, was elected the first President of the new Historical Society. Alberta served until 1975 and then filled the remaining time of Dulce Moore's term when she resigned. Alberta and other Garden Club members were the nucleus of a group of citizens who worked hard to preserve Grapevine's history as the Grapevine Historical Society.

In 1975 Dulce Moore presented a plaque from the Historical Society to the Garden Club in appreciation for their efforts in preserving the history of the town before the Historical Society was formed. The plaque, created by Mrs. J. W. Childress, was, appropriately, made of cotton bolls, wheat, and other dried plant materials from the area.

APRIL 2010

CHILDREN'S CLASS AT THE GRAPEVINE BOTANICAL GARDENS AT HERITAGE PARK



Helpers are needed for the Children's Class coming up on Tuesday, April 20, 4:00 to 4:45 P.M. Classes are held in the Pewitt Education Pavilion, if weather permits. The topic this month is "There's a flower in my shoe!" The children will bring an old shoe or other whimsical "pot," fill it with soil and plant a pretty flower in it. There may be up to 15 kiddos, age 3 to 6 (most parents will stay to help!). The time goes very quickly and you will have fun, too! Please contact Joyce Quam (Yearbook

page A-44).



DOCENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please contact Shari Stanfield (Yearbook page A-51) for more information, and to volunteer.

Date	Activity	Time
Tues., April 13	Brownie Troop 1415, 7 girls, ages 7-8. General tour and composting.	6:45 - 7:45 P.M.
Thurs., April 15	Waverly Park Garden Club. About 12-15 seniors.	10:00 - 11:00 A.M.
Fri., April 16	DFW Earth First Challenge. Approx. 400 students. Mostly 5th graders but some younger. See March newsletter for details.	9:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.
Thurs., April 22	12 -16 home school children of various ages. 6 adults. General tour of garden.	11:15 A.M. - 12:15 P.M.
Mon., April 26	Camp Wrinkle Ranch. Seniors from the Grapevine Senior Activity Center to tour and do veggie/herb containers to take home. About 20. All Docents participating are invited for the day's activities.	10:00 A.M. Settlement to City Museum Tour (45 min.) 11:00 A.M. hamburger cook out lunch at the Vinyards Campground. (Please notify Shari Stanfield if you plan to eat with the group.)
Fri., May 7	National Public Garden Day at Grapevine Botanical Gardens. Container gardening workshops, photography, Weather in our area and Water conservation. Children's hands-on activities and tours. Lots of help is needed.	Shift 1: 11:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M. Shift 2: 2:30 - 6:00 P.M.
Thurs., May 27	Silverlake Elementary. 110 children, 7-8 years old. 15-20 chaperones. General tour, composting, and hands-on activities.	8:45 - 11:30 A.M.

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DOCENT REFRESHER COURSE



A docent training/refresher workshop is scheduled for Friday, **April 23 from 10:00 A.M. to noon** at the Grapevine Botanical Gardens' Bessie Mitchell House. All current docents and those interested in becoming docents are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to Lisa Grove or Shari Stanfield (Yearbook pages A-17 and A-51, respectively). This is a terrific opportunity to share your love of gardening.



THE PLANT SALE IS HERE!

Saturday, April 17 – 8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Thousands of lovely plants from nurseries, as well as many heirloom plants from our members' gardens, are ready to be delivered to the market/gazebo area in downtown Grapevine. Volunteers have been assigned jobs and times, new signs are ready, cashiers are trained, and sales consultants are primed.



What's next? The member sale is Friday, April 16, 4:00 - 6:00 P.M. Members can get all their plant shopping out of the way and get a reduced rate, too. That way, you can direct your full attention to our customers on Saturday. Let them know that our profits from this sale go toward scholarships and the club's civic activities in Grapevine. Suggest additional plants. Encourage them to ask questions. And have fun!

Reminders to members donating potted plants to plant sale:

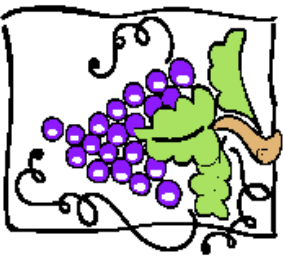


- Please take your one gallon pots to the tree farm by Monday morning, April 12.
- Label each plant.
- We will inventory and price all plants the afternoon of April 12.

You have our sincere appreciation for donating your lovely, Texas hardy, all time favorite plants that the public absolutely looks forward to buying each year!

If you have any questions or concerns about getting your pots to the tree farm, please call Valerie Reed or Karen Rice. (Yearbook page A-45)

Please print, clip and distribute.



PLANT SALE

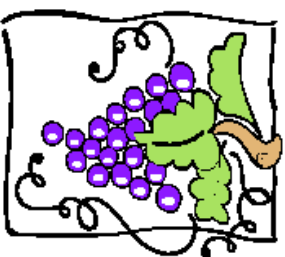
**GRAPEVINE GARDEN CLUB
ANNUAL PLANT SALE**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010
8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.**

**Come to the Farmers' Market by
the Gazebo on Main Street,
Grapevine, Texas**

- ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS . . . New Varieties
- HEIRLOOM PLANTS . . . Plants from members' gardens
- TEXAS NATIVES . . . Butterfly Garden Plants
- ROSES . . . Earthkind, Antique and Fragrant
- SUN- AND SHADE-LOVING PLANTS
- HERBS . . . AND MUCH MORE!!

Proceeds Benefit the Club's Scholarship Program and
Grapevine Community Beautification Projects



PLANT SALE

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APRIL 2010

CONTAINER CRAZY!

Spring is finally here!! I'm so excited I can hardly contain myself!! Well, if I can't contain myself, what can I contain? How about some plants!! And that leads me to the subject of this month's article...container gardening. I call myself a "pot freak" because I cannot pass up an interesting container to add to my collection. At last count, I had 80 pots. Now, I must admit that is a little over the top, but hey, I only have a few pair of shoes in my closet. So there!

There are so many types of containers on the market today. The most common is a simple terracotta pot. But ceramic, stone, plastic, glazed, fiberglass, wood, hypertufa, and concrete are also available, just to name a few. Pretty much, the sky is the limit when it comes to container gardening. If you can fit enough soil into something for a plant to grow and it has a drain hole, it has now become a container for your garden. How about an old boot? A birdcage, maybe? Step outside of the planter box, and try something unusual for your next container. Different types of containers have their pros and cons. Some are subject to freezing, cracking, or rotting; some will last for years; some are heavy, some are lightweight; some are inexpensive, some a little pricey. I'll let you do the investigating to see what would be best for your budget and design.



Purple Fountaingrass and Sweet Potato Vine



Variegated Tapioca and Blue Daze

As any good gardener knows, our plants will only do as well as the "soil" they are growing in. Mixes for containers are available under a variety of trade names and are usually referred to as "soil-less" mixes. These soil-less mixes may contain peat moss, vermiculite, perlite, bark, or coir fiber (ground coconut hulls). What I usually do is buy a good quality potting soil, then I add a little compost to add some "life" to the mix, and I also a little expanded shale to ensure good drainage, and I'm ready to plant. Containers should be filled to within about one inch of the top to allow room for water. Your containers will drain better if the soil mix goes all the way to the bottom of your pot and you do not add any gravel or filler in the bottom of the pot.

(continued)

CONTAINER CRAZY!, cont.

Now for the good part, the plants!!! When planting containers, remember that you want a "thriller" (tall plants), a "filler" (plants to fill in the middle), and a "spiller" (plants that trail over the edge). How about a container filled with a variety of Caladiums, Red Dragonwing Begonias, and Creeping Jenny for a shady spot? Or try Red Cordyline (Ti Plant), Purple Pentas, and Sweet Potato Vine for a partial sun/shade area. For a full sun spot, try Purple Fountaingrass and Sweet Potato Vine, or Variegated Tapioca with Blue Daze spilling over the side. The combinations are endless.

Once you've got your containers filled with colorful combinations, you will need to fertilize periodically and water as needed. You can use a water soluble fertilizer or a granular time-released fertilizer. What I usually do is just save a little of the organic granular fertilizer that I use in my perennial beds and sprinkle some of it in my containers a few times a season. If your containers are in a shady spot,



Caladiums, Dragonwing Begonia, Swedish Ivy



Cordyline, Pentas, Caladiums, Coleus, Sweet Potato Vine

you may only need to water once a week or every few days. If they are in full sun, you may need to water as often as every day in the middle of the summer. Stick your finger into the potting soil. If the soil is dry, then water. If it is moist, hold off for another day or so and check it again. We can kill plants by overwatering more often than under watering.

By far the best container book I've ever had is called Easy Container Gardens, by Pamela Crawford. She gives great plant combination ideas, and they all work for our climate! For even more great plant suggestions for your containers, go to www.dallasplanttrials.org. Jimmy Turner with the Dallas Arboretum has lists of tried-and-true annuals for our area. I hope I've inspired you to pot up some colorful containers for your garden this spring. Maybe you'll even add a few new containers to your collection, too.

† **Toni Moorehead,
Master Gardener**

APRIL 2010

GRAPEVINE GARDEN CLUB — PLANTING SEEDS IN THE COMMUNITY

“Seed money”: Resources to help a project grow

Does your civic organization (or school) or plant-related beautification project need money for materials and supplies?

If so, the Grapevine Garden Club (GGC) can help!

See if the following qualifications describe your group:

- Would you describe your organization or group as civic, non-profit, or GCISD school-based?
- Is your project based in Grapevine or at the GCISD properties?
- Can your project meet the intent of the GGC mission statement?

GGC mission statement:

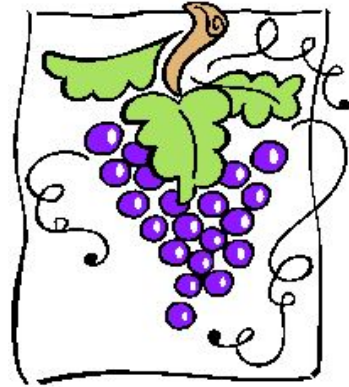
The objectives of the Grapevine Garden Club, Inc. shall be to promote interest in flowers and gardens and horticultural and floral design; further the protection and conservation of wild flowers, shrubs and trees; stimulate appreciation and protection of birds, promote city and highway beautification; actively supports environmental concerns; and encourage education in all these objectives.

If your group meets the above qualifications and could use up to \$200 of seed money, please fill out the application on the next page and submit it to:

**Grapevine Garden Club
Attention Civic Coordinator
P.O. Box 811
Grapevine, TX 76099-0811**

Note: For more information about this offer, please email Civic@Grapevinegardenclub.com. When your group has completed your project, GGC requests a short follow-up report with photos.

Thanks!



GGC Seed Money Application

Name of the applicant group _____

Short description of group's purpose _____

Point of contact in group _____

Phone number _____ e-mail address _____

Mailing address _____

How many individuals in the group _____

We are a _____ civic, _____ non-profit, or _____ GCISD-related group (check one)

Description of the project _____

How the project supports the GGC mission statement _____

Amount requested \$ _____ Estimated cost of entire project \$ _____

Estimated completion date of project _____

Location of project _____

Mail to:

**Grapevine Garden Club
Attention Civic Coordinator
P.O. Box 811
Grapevine, TX 76099-0811**

APRIL 2010

CREATING A BACKYARD BIRD HABITAT



Tour - Tuesday, June 1 10:00 A.M.

Ray & Dinah Chancellor's Wildlife Habitat Garden in Southlake

Members will have an opportunity to visit the Chancellor garden on June 1. The purpose of our visit will be to observe how to create a landscape that add elements and plants that provide food, water and shelter for wildlife

Dr. Ray 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 has been an active birder for over 40 years and was an active bird bander for 25 of those years for both the Federal and Texas wildlife departments. Banding is the practice of placing uniquely numbered bands (rings) on birds to study migratory patterns, survival and behavior patterns, etc.

The Garden Club sponsored a program on bird migration by Dr. Chancellor at the Grapevine Public Library in 2009. Many members have joined him on natural history and bird hikes in the area.

Dr. Chancellor will not be conducting any organized hikes until after April 15. He will post a hike schedule later in the month. If you are interested in receiving notices about hikes, contact him through his email - RayChancellor@aol.com.

In a recent email, Dr. Chancellor offered the following suggestions.

If you get the opportunity, it is a wonderful time to visit the Bob Jones Nature Center and Preserve for an easy hike, or take a stroll among the several parks in Grapevine. There are new birds arriving every day!

If you still have thistle feeders up, it is a good time to take them down. Here is what I do. I run several. So, I take down all but one and leave enough feed in it to be about half full. I take the seeds from all the other thistle feeders along with any still in the bags, and put them into gallon jugs. Those are then placed in the freezer in the garage until next fall. They last just fine and give me a good start before I have to buy new seed again.

Remember, that if you are using hummingbird feeders, please wash them on a weekly schedule. Use 10 percent bleach, to kill any fungus on or in the feeder. This protects the hummingbirds from getting tongue fungus which can kill them.

Your other feeders will seem to be abandoned for a while. The birds are all nesting right now and will be looking for insects to feed the young. As the young get older, all will return to the feeders. Keep at least one feeder going at all times to keep the birds coming to your yard when they are ready. It is a good time of the year to take the sunflower/bird mix feeders down and give them a thorough cleaning. Then put them back up.

As the temperatures edge toward the upper 80's, you need to think about switching from "high energy" suet or winter suet to the "Year Round" suet that is sold in nearly all stores. Be careful in that stores are reducing the price of the "winter suet" to as low as 59 cents. The reason is simple-- it will melt as soon as the temperatures go above 90 degrees. Check carefully to make sure you are getting "Year Round" varieties. These will not melt in most of our summer heat. Any winter suet blocks can be stored in the freezer until cooler weather next fall. Remember, the woodpeckers will take suet all summer long.

A good feeding program along with bird baths will keep your backyard a very special place for birds year round. They will reward you with their presence, song, and beauty in return.

- Submitted by: Joetta King, Trips and Tours

WWW.GRAPEVINEGARDENCLUB.COM

APRIL 2010

NOTICES



The City of Grapevine
The Grapevine Garden Club
Keep Grapevine Beautiful, Inc.
The Grapevine Baseball and Softball Association

Invite you to attend the

Arbor Day 2010
24th Tree City USA
Earth Day Celebration!

Oak Grove Park Ballfield Complex
2520 Oak Grove Loop South
Grapevine, Texas 76051

Thursday, April 22, 2010
4:30 - 5:30 P.M.



PROTECT
OUR
PLANET



BLESSING OF THE VINES AND NEW VINTAGE WINE AND GALLERY TRAIL APRIL 17, 2010



The festivities begin at 11:00 A.M. at Delaney Vineyards with the "blessing of the vines" and parade through the vineyard featuring city dignitaries, Knights of Columbus, Mariachis and the general public. This traditional, centuries old ritual, asks for God's grace to ensure robust vines and savory fruit. Complimentary wine tasting and live entertainment are included.

Grapevine's eight winery tasting rooms will be open all day. Passports which include tastings at each winery are \$45 per person and individual tickets are available at the winery of your choice.

Lastly, the New Vintage Art Gallery at the Palace Theatre will feature local artists and their wares including original oils, watercolors and photographs, pottery, sculptures, jewelry, etc. The art show will be open from 10:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M.

All this happens the same day as our Plant Sale, so business should be great for both. Expect a large crowd on Main Street, and when the sale is over, pack up your plants and go have a glass of great Texas wine. - **Paula Jones**

WWW.GRAPEVINEGARDENCLUB.COM

Notices, cont.



**PROMENADE 2010
GARDEN TOUR**

RAFFLE ❁ PLANT SALE ❁ EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2010
11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

\$12.00 in Advance; \$15.00 Day of Tour
Additional Information:
www.colleyvillegardenclub.org

Tickets Available at these Retail Locations:

<u>COLLEYVILLE</u> Foreman's Market Street	<u>HURST</u> Calloway's Nursery	<u>GRAPEVINE</u> Blooming Colors Marshall Grain Co.
<u>NORTH RICHLAND HILLS</u> Green Mama's Organic Garden Center		

Reminder

The April 27 GGC General Meeting will begin
at 9:30 A.M. (1/2 hour earlier than usual).
Refreshments will be served at 9:00 A.M.