



Member of:
National Garden Clubs, Inc., South Central Region
Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., District II
Garden Club Council of Ft. Worth

Through The Grapevine

October 2024

Wicked Plants

Kevin Burns
Dallas County Master Gardener

Wicked Plants is a fun presentation that covers plants that are deadly, illegal, intoxicating, dangerous or destructive/invasive.

This presentation uses interesting historical anecdotes and photos to identify the plants and facts so gardeners can avoid or not use those in their landscapes.

The October General Meeting and Craft Fair October 15, 2024

(Please note: Date is the 3rd Tuesday!)

Craft fair shopping: 9-10 a.m.

Social and refreshments: 9-10 a.m.

Program: 10:00 a.m.

Additional shopping after the program.

Grapevine Convention Center
1209 S. Main Street

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President's Message

Change is in the air—and it is a welcome change for gardeners in Texas. We have already noticed fewer hummingbirds sipping nectar from Turks Cap and Frostweed. They are loading up on nectar to leave soon as they migrate to Central and South America. These summer visitors will make way for early migrants from northern states and Canada—small songbirds first and then the larger winter visitors and shorebirds.

So why do birds migrate? When procreation—their reason for existence—has finished for the year, food sources diminish, temperatures cool, the angle of the sun begins to change from the Autumnal Equinox forward in time to the shortened days of mid-winter. Birds must adapt, migrate or die. As they arrive in our area, they are exhausted and hungry. How can we as gardeners enhance their natural environment so they can compete with our year-round residents? Birds need food, shelter and water. Next month, we will discuss in more detail the birds that call our gardens home in the winter months—the kinds of food and shelter they need to survive.

October is a busy month for Grapevine Garden Club. Plans are well underway to celebrate the 27th Butterfly Flutterby in Heritage Park in Grapevine on Saturday, October 19th—a children's art contest, a parade with participants festooned as Monarchs, plus children's crafts. Visit the science station to use microscopes and hand lenses to observe scales on a butterfly wing. Look through “bug eyes” to see the world as insects do through their compound lenses. Blow through party favors that unroll to represent how a Monarch's tongue (proboscis) unrolls to sip nectar or sweet juice from chunks of watermelon. Please enjoy with us the change in the air—including newly released Monarchs as they journey south into the mountains of south-central Mexico. *See you there!*

 *Dinah Chancellor*



ECO Talks: Green Skies Ahead ~ Sustainable Practices at DFW Airport

Wednesday, November 6th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The REC of Grapevine—1175 Municipal Way

Did you know that DFW International Airport is the first carbon neutral airport in America? Come to November's ECO Talk to learn exactly what that means and how it's accomplished. Additionally, they've added PourAway containers that allow customers to dispose of liquid before approaching some TSA checkpoints, making it easier to travel with a reusable water bottle. These measures add up! Last year the airport diverted more than 6,600 tons of waste from local landfills! Presented by the Environmental Affairs team from DFW Airport, this informative lecture will explain sustainability practices implemented, net zero status, environmental initiatives and improvements throughout the airport. This is always one of our most popular ECO Talks. [Register Here](#)

New Member Welcome Event: Calling all new members!

If you joined the Grapevine Garden Club after September 2023 then we would like to meet you at our New Member Welcome Event!

Date: Thursday, October 10

Time: 9:30 a.m. Social

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon Presentations about the club and activities

Where: Grapevine Botanical Garden / Bessie Mitchell House—411 Ball Street

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to meet other new members as well as several of our officers and committee chairs and learn about the many great involvement opportunities! You will be receiving an invite via email. **Please RSVP** so we can be sure we have adequate seating, prizes and food.

We look forward to meeting you!

Kathryn Armstrong and Liz Lovett, New Member Welcome Event Co-Chairs

West Texas Street Workday

Tuesday, October 29, 9:00 a.m.

Hello Everyone. It's time to get in the Fall Swing and gather at West Texas Street to spruce up the flower beds! Come and join us as we clean the beds and plant some colorful pansies to welcome the cool weather! Bring your own tools - clippers, trowels and rakes - and we will bring water and snacks. After we are all done, those who wish to, meet up at Jakes on Main Street in Grapevine to socialize and enjoy lunch! We always have a great time, so come and join us!

~ Robin Pond and Irene Binyon,

West Texas Street Coordinators

Arbor Day Tree Planting

Saturday, November 2nd, from 9 to 11 a.m.

Bear Creek Park Grapevine

Come and join us as we work with Keep Grapevine Beautiful community volunteers to plant trees on November 2nd at Bear Creek Park, Grapevine. We will help KGVB volunteers and Citizen Foresters plant trees. Contact Karen Rice (yearbook A-69) for parking details if you would like to volunteer. *Thank you!*

Keep Grapevine Beautiful Events

October 26: [Grapevine Recycles Day](#)

November 2: [Arbor Day](#)

Please refer to the GGC's [website](#) for full calendar of club events.

27th Annual Butterfly Flutterby GRAPEVINE, TEXAS

Saturday, October 19th

Grapevine Botanical Gardens

You and your families are invited to the 27th Annual Butterfly Flutterby, a fun community event with lots of arts, crafts, science and Monarch butterflies. The first butterfly release is at 11 a.m. Come early and enjoy the beautiful Grapevine Botanical Gardens, food trucks, booths and buy some butterfly wings and other kid friendly items. New in the Butterfly Treasurer's booth is a wooden butterfly feeder that you can purchase to attract even more bees and butterflies to your garden.

Thanks to all GGC members who have already volunteered for a morning or afternoon shift. Your team captain will be contacting you or stop by the BFFB table at the next GGC general meeting to verify your shift times or to sign up. We always need more hands for this great community project. See you at BFFB.

BFFB Coordinator: Linda Krimm (yearbook A-45)
BFFB Co-Leader: Susan Stanek (yearbook A-75)
Science Station: Dinah Chancellor (yearbook A-13)
Arts & Crafts: Ella Barber (yearbook A-4)
BFFF Treasures: Gloria Land (yearbook A-46)
Art Contest: Edie Miller (yearbook A-54)
Ambassador: Watermelon and Volunteer Check-In Cindy Miller (yearbook A-54)

*Please note: All contact
information in this newsletter is
from the 2024-2025 yearbook*

Welcome to newest members:

Marilyn Bourbon

Karen Mieser

Tracy Southers Parker

Kit Wilson



Monarch butterfly on Tithonia, aka Mexican Sunflower. Photo taken October 4, 2024.

Volunteer Opportunities With GGC

The following leadership positions are in need of a coordinator. Recruit a friend and volunteer together!

Gardeners On The Go (Day trips within this region)

Gardeners On Trips And Tours (Overnight garden adventures)

Spring Luncheon

Job descriptions begin on Page 10 of the 2024-2025 Yearbook

Contact Dinah Chancellor (yearbook page A-13)





Arbor Day School Project

NEWSFLASH!!

The Grapevine Garden Club, in conjunction with the City of Grapevine, will be jumping back into the third grade classes on November 1, 2024, to present the Arbor Day School Project (formerly known as The Native Texas Tree Project)! Yes, of course, it's not a new program, but it's always new to the 3rd graders and the book will be the same as last year's book: The Boy Who Grew A Forest: The True Story of Jadav Payeng. If you

want to help youngsters understand what the big deal is about trees, AND you are willing to read to the students, AND have a lesson plan designed for you to use, then please sign up at the September meeting. It is such a positive way to give back to the community and ensure that our future gardeners are on the road to understanding the symbiotic relationship between humans, the earth and plants!

We will be at a table at the meeting with pen in hand to sign you up!

Thank you, Judy McDoniel and Emily McDoniel, Arbor Day School Project Chairs

Fall Workshops

Correction from yearbook: The October and November workshops are to be held at the Vine Events Center (225 W Worth Street) and NOT the Bessie Mitchell House. ***Due to location size, workshops will be limited to 40 participants.*** Sign up and pay at the general meeting.

Native Plants: Wednesday, October 30th, 1:30-3:00 p.m., Vintage room at the Vine. \$10 registration fee. The workshop includes a small native plant of your choice, registration required.

Join Karla Orta, Owner and founder of Nativio Gardens to learn why fall is the best time to plant native plants in your garden and discover how prepping your landscape now can lead to a lush spring garden!

Houseplants: Tuesday, November 12th, 1-3 p.m., Vintage room at the Vine. \$10 registration fee.

In this beginner level workshop, learn from houseplant enthusiast Michelle Terry. She will share tips and tricks for fostering low maintenance, luscious indoor plants. This hands-on class will cover the steps of water propagation to planting your cuttings. The method can be easily replicated for holiday gifts!



~ Michelle Terry, Workshop Coordinator

Gardens On View:

October 22nd, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Welcome GGC to these two uniquely different gardens! Many may have seen these during one of the previous spring tours. This is a fun opportunity to view how things have filled in over the season and enjoy the “full glory” of summer growth! Please join us on October 22nd between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to enjoy these gardens.

Donna and Jeff Young (Address: yearbook A-89)

A note from Donna: Our garden is known as “The Wacky Habitat.” It features an 800 gallon goldfish pond up on a unique terraced hill, plus 20 other water features throughout the garden. Plantings include perennials, annuals, vegetables and herbs.

Ulma Lal (Address: yearbook A-46)

A note from Ulma: My husband Vinit and I built our house in 2009. Our garden is like everyone else's so it is constantly evolving with seasons and with the changing environment. In the past five years, I have been working with Toni Moorehead. Our garden is a combination of Toni's design and some of my favorites. Our front garden has a lot of Japanese maples, abelias, sunshine ligustrum, leopard plants, bear's breaches, hydrangea, various perennials and more. I have also collected a lot of varieties of jasmine from different places of travel which have been added in the yard. The backyard has a large fish pond with plenty of cannas all around it. South side of the backyard has a large vegetable garden with a lot of fruit trees next to it. There is a small kitchen garden close to the house. We have recently added a butterfly garden in the back. I'd love to have you all wander through my yard.

~ Submitted by Kim Jamieson, Gardens on View coordinator

Grapevine Garden Club 101

Yearbook: If you haven't already picked up your yearbook, please do so at the October general meeting. It is full of important club information! Monthly program information starts on page 19. Contact information for club members starts on page A-1. We do not publish contact information in our newsletter as it is available to the public; we do, however, publish where to find contact information in the yearbook. We do publish contact information in our weekly e-blasts as those only go out to club members.

Website: Have you checked out our [website](#) lately? Previous newsletters are available, along with many learning resources.

Plant sale: What is a digging kit? What is a digging party? The garden club hosts a plant sale in the spring, with many of the plants coming from our own club members' gardens. You can pick up a digging kit, which includes nursery pots and potting soil, so you can begin potting up your extra plants. Plants dug now through early spring will have time to get established prior to our spring sale. You can host a digging party in your garden if you have more to dig up for the sale than you can handle on your own. A well organized crew of club members will come out and dig up plants that you request to be dug and sold at the sale. You can also volunteer to be a part of the digging crew. Any plants dug between now and early spring will stay at the gardener's home until the plant sale, which means they may need additional protection through the winter if we have a deep freeze.

The Grapevine Garden Club **CRAFT FAIR**

The craft fair returns at our October meeting!

We have five vendors this year, displaying all their wonderful crafts!

Shopping at the Craft Fair takes place from 9 to 10 a.m., followed by the general meeting promptly at 10 a.m., then additional shopping after the meeting until 11:45 a.m..

I am very pleased with this year's selection of item. We have jams and preserves, pillows, tea towels, makeup bags, hand towels, fall linens and decor, jewelry and Christmas ornaments -- all made by talented fellow members of the Grapevine Garden Club.

There's quite a selection for you to peruse and buy! Please bring cash or checks, as some vendors do not accept credit cards. Looking forward to an exciting and eventful Craft Fair.

In the same area, also look for a table set up with irises from Sylvan Sigler's garden, a bargain at \$5 a bag. (Additional information below.)

Thank you, Alexandra Evans, Gardeners Corner

Sylvan Sigler and Her Irises

Sylvan Sigler had been growing irises for at least 55 years, but she began seriously collecting about 45 years ago. She had 300 differently named cultivars. Sylvan was a member of the GGC from 1985 until her recent passing. She served as president in 1998-99 and hosted numerous garden visits for members to learn about growing irises successfully.

Sylvan's daughter recently notified MaryLou Breiger that the family and the Iris Society had dug everything they wanted and that the club could dig if we did so quickly - within the week - as the house was being listed for sale.

A small contingent spent several hours on two different days digging irises while trying to maintain their identities. As a result, we will have irises from Sylvan's garden for sale at \$5 per bag at a vendor table at the October general meeting and craft fair. (Money collected from the irises will be added to our Spring Plant Sale proceeds.)

Some irises will be named, as best we could determine, and some will be labeled 'unknown.'

What to expect: At least two healthy rhizomes in each bag. Rhizome size will vary, depending on variety and growing conditions at the time they were dug. Plant tags may be available for \$1 extra. (One tag per variety.)

Limit of one bag per club member during the first round of shopping.



Grapevine Garden Club recognizes and celebrates members who have been members for 25 years or more by designating them as members of the Silver Circle. There are twenty members in the Silver Circle, of which four have been added this year. During the year we will highlight those new members. This month we will learn about Suzie Agnew and her gardening life and appreciation of the club.



Silver Circle Honoree: Suzie Agnew

Member since 1999 ~ 25 Years

I was born and raised in rural southwest Iowa, near the Missouri River, surrounded by gardeners and farmers. Some of my earliest childhood memories are of my great-grandfather's garden - a peony hedge out front, lilac bushes, a red rose climbing up and over a white arbor which led to a small vegetable patch. It was the peony hedge that was the most magical to me, as my great-grandfather would mow it down after it had finished blooming and the row of peonies would disappear under the lawn, then under the snow, until the following spring when it would come back to life and once again be heavy with large pink blooms. I don't know that I ever asked about the peony's re-emergence in the spring or if I just assumed it was part of my great-grandfather's gardening magical touch. I was very much a "tomboy" growing up, preferring to play in the creek or collect snails than to sit inside and read a book, much to my mother's dismay. I adored going to my aunt and uncle's farm in southeast Nebraska and fondly remember picking wild plums that grew along the old dirt roads. While I wouldn't know the word "naturalist" until many years later, my uncle was very much a naturalist. He could identify any tree or bird and would often point out the various flora and fauna as we drove along.

My husband, Kevin, and I moved to Texas in 1987, two weeks after he graduated from college, as he would soon be starting a job at Texas Instruments. Kevin's first boss turned out to be Charles Hess. It would be nearly 20 years later that I discovered Mr. Hess' artwork on display at a garden center in Richardson and realized that he was quite well known for his orchid collection and watercolor paintings. But at 19 years old, a young bride, suddenly living in the center of Dallas, I had no idea who Mr. Hess was when we invited him over for supper. He gave me an orchid that evening, the first houseplant I would own. I kept it alive for many years, though was never able to get it to bloom again. Soon, our small apartment had gardenias and citrus trees in every sunny window, while I collected magazine photographs of what my garden would someday look like.

My qualifications for a house: No HOA, It had to be tucked away in a neighborhood so I could garden as I wished, No standard back yard where you enter and see everything all at once. The house? That was an afterthought. We purchased our home in 1995 and I started gardening - and ripping out the many Bradford pear trees - before I unpacked a single box.

My garden was certified as a Texas Wildscape the following year. It was around this time that I saw a blurb in the newspaper that the Grapevine Garden Club was having their annual plant sale. The plant sale was by the train depot back then and I remember meeting Barb Atkins and her asking about my garden. I went home and told my husband that I someday wanted to join the garden club because everyone was so friendly and knowledgeable and - The Plants! Alas, at the time, I was stuck working in the corporate world.

... Continued on following page...

... continued from previous page... As it turned out, I left the corporate life soon after and went to work for Redenta's Garden in Colleyville. My only employment request was that I needed Tuesdays off to attend garden club meetings. Ruth, the owner of Redenta's, was very happy to accommodate that request so, in 1999, I joined the garden club.

This is my seventh year as the club's newsletter editor, a position that I quite enjoy. That first year as newsletter editor - 2001 - was quite memorable, as my son was born seven weeks premature just as I was to take over the position. Linda Krimm, the previous newsletter editor, offered to continue to do the newsletter while my son and I recovered, but I greatly needed the distraction the newsletter position offered. To say my son grew up in the garden club would be an understatement. He attended many board meetings, general meetings and field trips over the years. He even dug in the dirt alongside Suzi Guckel in the early days of the club's West Texas Street project. One of my favorite memories was the year he won best costume in the city's Butterfly Flutterby parade. (Photo at left.)



My first term as newsletter editor ran from 2001 to 2003, prior to the electronic distribution of the newsletter. The club met at the Bessie Mitchell house back then and the club was small enough - around 100 members - that I had a face to every name as I placed an address label on each envelope each month. By my second term as newsletter editor, from 2018 to 2021, the club had grown considerably and the newsletter was sent out electronically.

Over my 25 years in the garden club, I have assisted with a number of committees, though the newsletter is my favorite as I prefer "behind the scenes" tasks and the interactions with the various committee chairs. What led me to the garden club in the late 1990's holds true today - everyone is so friendly and knowledgeable and - The Plants!

As I write my Silver Circle article, my son texted to ask if I could help him identify an ant he discovered while away at a mountain bike race with his university's cycling team. The acorn doesn't fall far from the tree!

*Suzie, 4th from right, on a GGC field trip to
The Preserve at McCormick Park in 2008*



Butterfly Bait

Add a box of brown sugar to six very ripe bananas. Add ½ a can of beer. Place all in a large plastic container with a spout to make pouring easy. Store in a cool place. Be sure to leave the lid loose on the container as the concoction will ferment & expand. Some think the longer it ferments the better, but it works fine right away.

For a smaller batch, mix together: 1 banana 1/3 cup brown sugar and 2 oz beer

Thanks, Frontera Audubon Society,

Weslaco, Texas

~ Submitted by Gloria Land



GGC Veterans Day Parade Event November 11, 2024

Please join your fellow GGC members and others at the Grapevine Veterans Day Parade on November 11th. The parade is scheduled to start at 10 a.m., but prior to that we need to decorate the parade entry, which is Robin Pond's pickup. The pickup will be parked on West Hudgins Street, west of Main Street in Grapevine. We will decorate the pickup starting at 9 a.m. The parade travels to Main Street and moves up Main to Ball Street. You will be returned to the location where we started. You do not need to bring anything, all the decorating supplies will be provided. Wear something patriotic, veteran uniform or your GGC apparel. There is food and drink provided where the parade ends (Main Street and Wall). Please plan to attend, you will have fun and show respect to our Veterans. There will be a sign-up sheet at the October meeting. Last year we had the largest turnout ever, please plan on coming again. We will be passing out seeds of something GGC related along the parade route.

~ Chuck Voelker



Holiday luncheon location: Lancaster Theater

Cost: \$25

Entertainment: Colleyville Heritage High School Choir

Lunch will be catered by Bartley's, with a menu of cranberry pork tenderloin, pecan crusted chicken, loaded mashed potatoes, roasted squash medley, garden salad and pie (choice of pecan, apple or pumpkin.)

RSVP by November 25th to Cecilia Mitchell. Seating is limited!



Grapevine Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale

April 12, 2025

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Grapevine Botanical Garden

Announcing the Plant Sale theme for next year...

Pollinator Palooza

We appreciate everyone who can donate native perennial plants from your garden. Fall is a good time to start digging and potting plants so they have time to establish roots over the winter.

Potting mix and pots are available now.

Contact Judy or Karen if you would like to pick up supplies (a digging kit) to get started digging.

If you are interested in being a volunteer 'digger' in February or March, there will be sign up sheets at the general meeting on October 15th. Come visit us at the Plant Sale table.

Other volunteer sign up sheets will be posted at the November and January general meetings.

Any questions, don't hesitate to contact us.

Judy Sutherland (yearbook page A-78) and Karen Stephenson (yearbook page A-75)

DANCE OF THE MONARCH



27th Annual
Butterfly Flutterby
GRAPEVINE, TEXAS

Saturday, October 19, 2024 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Grapevine Botanical Gardens at Heritage Park

Butterfly Releases
Costume Contest
Arts & Crafts
Dog-friendly