



Through The Grapevine

June 2026

Yearbook Reminders:

Any information (dates, places, times, etc.) on events and meetings need to be emailed to Karen Stephenson by July 15th.

Any updated headshots for the membership roster need to be submitted via email by July 15th.

Any pictures from members to be considered for the 2026-27 Yearbook cover, please email to Karen Stephenson in the largest format offered.

PLEASE NOTE: put in Subject line **GGC Yearbook** for any information/photos you might send so that your email does not get lost in my inbox.

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Thank you!

~ Karen Stephenson,
Yearbook Chair
(email on page R-78
of the current
yearbook)



Bonnie Sekin's photograph on GGC's 2025-2026 yearbook. "An Open Gate: A garden, a memory, a new beginning" on page 4 of our newsletter.

Please note: Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 22nd
Social and refreshments: 9:30 a.m. ~ Program: 10 a.m.
Grapevine Convention Center at 1209 S. Main Street

President's Message

Welcome to the lazy, laid-back, dog days of summer where it is sometimes comfortable enough early in the morning and late in the evening—while it is still light—to spend time in the garden. Whether you are working in your beds or just enjoying the hard work you did in the spring, I am reminded that time spent in the natural world restores the soul.

It is with joy and some sadness that I take on the last year of my presidency in Grapevine Garden Club. The joy involves being surrounded by active, caring individuals who—when they see a need in their community—do not passively complain that "somebody really ought to _____ (fill in the blank)." Instead, they pick up a gardening tool or a telephone and quietly rise to the occasion. The sadness involves not being so deeply involved in this great organization that I do not ache as much with the sadness of losing Ray Chancellor—who this coming August will have passed from this life four years ago. Grapevine Garden Club has been my salvation. I will be forever grateful for your support!

We are indeed fortunate to have such a talented group of leaders in GGC. And we are lucky to have so many who continue to join our organization. We plan to be "talent spotters" as we work among you!

For example, I need volunteers to help at Butterfly Flutterby. On Saturday, October 17th, at the Science Station, children and adults will look through bug's eye kaleidoscopes to see how insects view the world through their compound lenses and will use microscopes to inspect Monarch wings to see the scales up close. They will also blow through a children's party toy to see how it unrolls and then rolls up again. They will notice how the action of the toy is similar to how a butterfly unrolls its tongue (proboscis) to sip nectar from a flower. They will inspect posters to learn about the life cycle of a butterfly—from egg, to caterpillar, to chrysalis, to adult butterfly. Participants will also learn about Monarch migration from the northern tier of states to the mountains of central Mexico. OK! To avoid seeming to be totally self-serving, I will say that we also need volunteers to fill other Butterfly Flutterby roles. Susan Stanek will be happy to sign you up! Our volunteers report that they have almost as much fun as our participants do!



Meanwhile, enjoy every moment of your summer! We will look forward to seeing you in September.

✪ Dinah Chancellor

Grapevine Garden Club (GGC) Craft Fair Participant Rules/Guidelines

The purpose of the Craft Fair is to showcase the talents of the GGC members and to offer club members an opportunity to purchase unique items. The Craft Fair for 2026 is scheduled for the November 17th meeting.

A participant must be a current member of GGC or a family member of the garden club member.

Participants must register and reserve a table with Judy McDoniel before the October meeting. The type of craft must also be registered.

The \$15.00 fee for use of a 6 ft table must be paid to the club by the October meeting.

Since space is limited, participants are limited to one table to allow as many members to participate as possible. A participant may be placed on a waiting list for a second display table if not all of the tables are reserved by the October meeting.

Things to know in preparing for participation in the Craft Fair

- Participants should be ready to start setting up their craft tables at 8:30 a.m. All unsold items must be removed by noon. (A delay may cost the club an additional fee.)
- Table locations will be assigned by the chair person and will be identified with your name and craft. All crafts must be displayed on the table (not on the floor). Extras may be stored under the table.
- Members will be shopping between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. No shopping will be allowed during the General Meeting. If time allows, shopping may take place after the meeting has been adjourned.
- There will be no refunds after reserving a table, however you may offer your table to another member and be reimbursed directly. The chair person must be notified in advance of the replacement person's name and craft
- Participants should provide a tablecloth for their display table to make it attractive and to protect the table surface.
- Loose glitter, confetti and foam string of any kind are not permitted in the convention center. Nothing is to be attached to the convention center walls.
- Promotion for the Craft Fair will encourage members to pay with check or cash. All payments will be made directly to participant. Participants are responsible for providing money for making change or accepting credit card payments.
- If a participant desires to reserve a table with proceeds benefiting GGC, no fee is required to reserve a table. Proceeds are submitted directly to the GGC treasurer with an designation to the General fund or Scholarship/Civic fund. In this case checks for purchases should be made out to the GGC rather than the participant.

Please contact Judy McDoniel for any questions or to reserve a table.



29th Annual Butterfly Flutterby

Saturday, October 17th

We will be celebrating with the monarchs as they journey to Mexico.

Please contact BFFB Coordinator Susan Stanek with any questions or to volunteer.

An Open Garden Gate: A garden, a memory, a new beginning

This is posted with special gratitude to the Grapevine Garden Club for such a meaningful welcome, to my sister-in-law, who so naturally gives of herself in all she does, always taking the time to think of others and to my husband, whose gift for architecture has given me a beautiful garden and a life that continues to blossom.

This year, the Grapevine Garden Club chose my photograph for the cover of their 2025-2026 yearbook. The photograph was of our garden gate. As a new member, it was truly an honor to be welcomed in such a meaningful way by a group that has been growing since 1932.



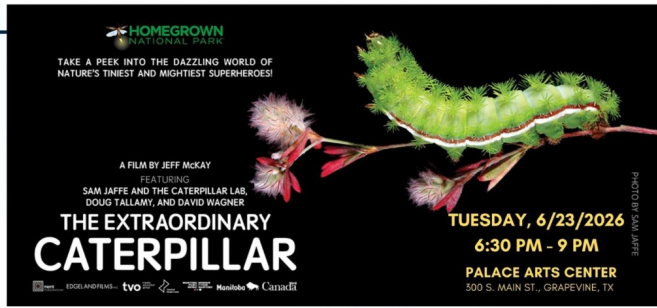
The gate itself has a wonderful story. It was designed by my husband, an architect with a gift for seeing possibility where others see only space. He did not just build a structure; he created something more. It is an invitation, an opening, a threshold where a memory from long ago can quietly live on. At the top of the gate sits a stain glass window that once hung in the farmhouse where my mom grew up on a farm in North Dakota. It is simple, steady and full of its own quiet history. In finding a place for that window, Paul did more than design a gate. He gave that memory a way forward, gently weaving my mom's past into our present in a way I never could have imagined.

I have walked through this gate a million times. It is where I have spent this season of life slowing down, tending what I have planted and finding a quiet kind of peace.

When I was invited by my sister-in-law to join the Grapevine Garden Club, I stepped through a new garden gate. Not just for me, but for all of us, this garden gate leads beyond our own gardens into something shared, new friendships, learning and a deeper sense of community. For now, I find myself standing at that opening, not rushing, but simply taking it in with gratitude and a quiet sense of curiosity for what may come. Grateful for where I have been and open to what may come next, much like my mom's stain glass window, carried forward into something new. My sincere thanks to the Grapevine Garden Club, and to my sister-in-law and husband, each of whom has opened a gate for me in their own way.

~ [Published by Bonnie Sekin](#)

You are invited to view Jeff and Donna Young's garden on Saturday, June 13th, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 8 to 11 p.m. Our address is in the directory on page R-92. Come see how we have used 12 bathtubs, a dinghy, a canoe and over 200 containers. We have an 800 gallon pond on a terraced hill, along with many other water features. To tour the other 35 gardens on the NTWGS.org Pond and Garden Tour, you will need the guide. Guides are available at Marshall Grain in Colleyville for \$20.00, or from us as we have a few. It is a 2 day tour (June 13-14.) One guide book is good for a carload of your friends or family.



PANEL DISCUSSION



Sam Kieschnick
Texas Parks and Wildlife



Jake Poinsett
Trinity River Audubon Center



Carol Clark
Monarch Watch



Teddi Zonker
Wild Ones DFW



RSVP IS REQUIRED TO RESERVE YOUR SEATS



[For information and registration, click here](#)

Hosted by [Wild Ones DFW](#): Native Plants, Natural Landscapes. We connect people and native plants for a healthy planet. Join us to celebrate biodiversity, ecological stewardship and the power of native plants to support life.

Our sponsors:

- Wild Ones DFW
- Homegrown National Park
- Fort Worth Audubon Society
- Grapevine Garden Club**
- Native Plant Society of Texas
- Texas Master Naturalist—Cross Timbers Chapter

GGC Plant Sale

Urgent Request for Volunteer Leaders!



Garden Bazaar: Do you know that a flea market and a bazaar are very nearly the same event? A bazaar originally meant a place where people come together. We can all agree that our Annual GGC Plant Sale is just that. Our Bazaar, a separate part of the Sale, has its own area. During these past few years, we have successfully sold new, used and handmade items generously donated by our GGC members and their families and friends. **We are currently seeking a new chairperson (or co-chairs) for the 2027 Bazaar.** This fun role involves organizing, pricing and displaying donated garden-related items during set-up, as well as interacting with customers on the day of the event. It is a rewarding opportunity to help find new homes for interesting items while supporting GGC. Please consider volunteering to chair the GGC Bazaar for our 2027 Plant Sale. *If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Catriona Noble or Carole Lee.*

Plant Sale Coordinators/Co-Chairs: Judy and I will Co-Chair the 2027 Plant Sale. We are sending out the message, again, that 2027 will be our last year as Co-Chairs of this important GGC event. **We are currently seeking Co-Chairs to shadow us next year and take the reins in 2028.** Please kindly consider this leadership role. (It is easier and more fun with a friend!) *Questions or need more information, feel free to contact Judy Sutherland or Karen Stephenson.*

Thank you!





Please welcome
our
newest members:

Samia Khan

Larry Lewis

Kelly Matwick

GGC Email Information

The Grapevine Garden Club sends weekly emails from September to May on Wednesdays. During June, July and August, the emails are sent out as needed. Emails are also sent out as needed for Special Announcements.

If you are not receiving the emails, please check your spam or junk mail. You may need to add the following email address to your contacts:

ggcinformation-aol.com@shared1.ccsend.com.

Please contact Ella Barber or Pam Braak should you have any questions.



Wall-Farrar Adopt-An-Area -Trail Tidy-up Monday, July 20th

Yes, it's summer and yes it will be hot! We will be starting our summer trail tidy-up an hour earlier than usual in July with a start at 8 a.m. Please mark your calendar and come walk the trail with us. It's a great opportunity to catch up with GGC friends over the summer. This is our bi-monthly community Adopt-An-Area service project named GGC Trail Tidy-up. Join us Monday, **July 20th at 8 a.m.**

Location is the Wall-Farrar Nature Trail Grapevine. Parking is allowed courtesy of Church at the Cross at 3000 William D Tate Ave, Grapevine, TX 76051. Hope to see you on the 20th!



*~ Karen Rice and
Robin Pond, Coordinators*

Gardeners On The Go: Green's Produce and Plants

10:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 24th

3001 W. Arkansas Lane in Arlington

Email Donna Young (Page R-92 in yearbook) to sign up.

Green's is a delightful place to shop for fresh locally grown produce, plants for the garden and garden decor. Their produce is always fresh, and they also carry several kinds of pickles, salsa, white cheese sauce for dipping, freshly made guacamole, specialty breads and loads of other delicious snacks.

Enjoy a 15% discount on garden items only!

Lunch - 12 p.m.

Texan Kitchen - 415 N. Main St., Euless

Carpool Meet Up: Grapevine Botanical Garden
at 10 a.m.

or meet at 10:30 a.m at Green's Produce & Plants

Wear Purple Shirts

May 12th Volunteer Appreciation Tea



May 26th Garden Tours



Pam & Greg Braak's garden



Left: Pam & Greg Braak's garden, as viewed from Betsy Marsh's garden



Left: Betsy Marsh's garden



Above & Below: Tom & Cindy Crook's garden



Above: Betsy Marsh's garden



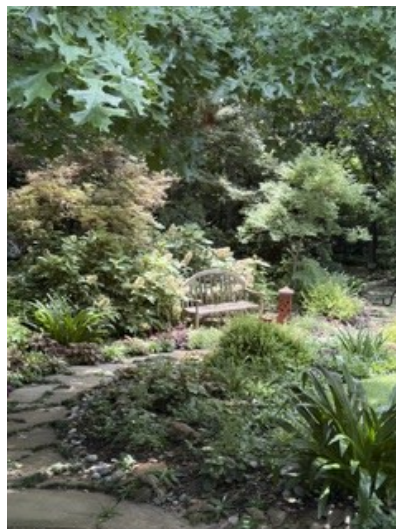
May 26th Garden Tours



Margaret Meharg's garden and pond



Above & Right: Debbie Boyle's garden



Above & Right: Toni Moorehead's garden

Gardeners On The Go: Follow up to Harvest Hall

Eight Members got together for a guided tour of Harvest Hall on May 27th and a trip to the top of the tower. First thing we did was all go into the Speak Easy Phone Booth to hear a recording by Clint Eastwood.

It ended with do you feel lucky, Punk!

Then we were given information on all the murals in the Hall. From there we went to the top of the tower where we were given tons of information and stories on the buildings and train station in Grapevine. We got to see the skyline of both Dallas and Ft. Worth. After a fantastic, informative tour by our guide, Lisa, we each chose what we wanted to eat, then joined up in the Third Rail Room for food and fellowship. A good time was had by all.



Gardeners on the Go: Weston Gardens In Bloom

10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 28th ~ 8101 Anglin Drive in Forth Worth

Email Donna Young to sign up. (Page R-92 in the yearbook.)



Join us for a tour of Weston Gardens In Bloom's demonstration gardens, to view the diverse selection of plants, in a full grown state. Weston Gardens In Bloom is your go-to nursery for beautiful Texas Native Plants! They have a beautiful Monarch Butterfly Way Station. Plus a Gift Shop for teas, jewelry, books, etc. and lots of organic products for your garden.

Enjoy a 10% discount!

Lunch - 12 p.m. at Bravo Eats - 201 Kennedale Pkwy in Kennedale

Carpool Meet Up: Grapevine Botanical Garden 10 a.m. or 10:30 a.m at Weston Gardens In Bloom

Wear Purple Shirts