



The LONE STAR *Gardener*

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2025

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The LONE STAR *Gardener*

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TGC President's Message

Both January and February of this new year were really cold...burr! Each year it seems colder and colder at Environmental School at Fort Parker State Park located on Hwy 14 between Groesbeck and Mexia. Our field trip was a little nippy. Everything was a blast as usual... we packed our brains with as much information as we could handle. All our presenters were great! It is always so exciting to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

Things are progressing at Headquarters. I was unable to attend the Open House that was held February 23 because I came down with the flu. Reports are that it was a great success, and Alisa did a marvelous job. Everything was lovely. We had a chance to show off what we have to offer to vendors in the area.

We are committed to a new project being developed by National Garden Clubs, Inc. to place a Blue and/or Gold Star Marker at each Presidential Library in the United States. Texas needs markers at Lyndon B. Johnson (Austin), George H. W. Bush (College Station) and George Bush (Dallas) Libraries in Texas. I have turned this project over to Bobbie Mason, our State Blue Star Marker Chair, who will be making an updated report at the Convention in Nacogdoches.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you in Nacogdoches and getting a chance to catch up. Christine Fincher, Judith Bussey, and the District III team are really working extremely hard to make our experiences in the oldest city in Texas both fun and memorable ones, especially located at the historic Fredonia Hotel.

This will be my last Convention as your State President. It has been both a privilege and an honor to serve. Two years ago, in San Antonio, we all enjoyed my installation. My new supporter "HONDO" was right in the middle of all the festivities. He has made several appearances with me during my term, and I feel that everyone thoroughly enjoyed his presence and commitment to Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

Our organization was having some challenges with finances and cash flow when my term began. I appointed a committee to review our books so that Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. could work towards a reduction in expenses. Also, a committee was formed to look into methods to increase our income. We decided to use our

Headquarters as an event center to promote garden-related activities, such as weddings or showers and celebrations of birthdays or engagements, even a meeting location for Garden Clubs in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

We are still working with the City of Fort Worth to resolve the ownership of the property owned by TGC located at the Botanic Gardens. We are working closely with our attorney who thoroughly understands our position and is committed to helping us.

Found time to refresh in all four Schools during my term. Each was an "In Person" school complete with top notch instructors. Texas is lucky enough to be able to offer all schools within a one-year period. Environmental School, Flower Show School, Gardening School, and Landscape Design School. Check out the TGC and NGC Websites for information on the dates of schools.

Ending of my term is bittersweet. I have met and gotten to know so many people. Many, many member volunteers have stepped up to help as we have regained our footing. So much dedication, loyalty, and commitment to promoting the mission of Texas Garden Clubs. What a display of unconditional support. I am so very proud of each of you and I am honored to be your President.

Blessings to each of you,

Lee



*Lee Taylor, TGC President
2023-2025*

President's Travel Schedule

April 1-4, 2025 – TGC State Spring Convention, Nacogdoches, TX

April 16-17, 2025 – SCR Spring Convention, Albuquerque, NM

May 18-22, 2025 – NGC Spring Convention, Charleston, SC

From South Central Region

The SCR Convention in Albuquerque, April 16-17, promises to be a special time for all four states to convention together. The New Mexico members are working very hard to prepare a wonderful event for all their guests from around the region. A field trip to an Indian Heritage Site, a play with members, a program with live wild-life, a great designer, bees and more!



*Sarah McReynolds, SCR Director
2023-2025*

And the Awards will be spectacular because Texas is always a big winner. At the end, the 2026-2027 SCR officers will be installed in a special ceremony and party. I encourage all of you to attend and learn about the other states in this region.

I want to thank everyone for working hard on their awards and for all the flower shows, special meetings, and trips many of our Garden Clubs participated in this spring. Our State has much to be proud of. I also want to thank each and every one of you for helping me during my administration as the SCR Director 2023-2025. It has been a pleasure to work with you and I want to thank you for helping raise \$8,000 in scholarship money for our region, by buying all the pollinator gifts we offered. This has been a rewarding experience as your director, so please keep up the good work.

I hope you can attend the TGC Convention in East Texas and the SCR Convention in New Mexico.

Fondly,

Sarah McReynolds

Down the Garden Path

by Gwen DeWitt Garden Consultant

It's official - I have worn all of my sweaters and it's time for winter to be over! We are having typical Texas weather, super cold one day, then warm. At least we had a little rain. Maybe the rain and sunshine will produce some forbs and Bambi will leave my garden alone.

While checking on the garden, I discovered Bambi had munched on the bloom of an early Iris. Thankfully, I took a photo before the evil Bambi dined on the bloom. Thanks to the deer, I'm spending a lot of time checking and replanting bulbs. They are so hungry they are pulling on the bulbs, trying to get the least little bit of green. Job security!

I took Scout out for her late-night stroll around the pool when we discovered a visitor had been nearby. The night air was redolent with the scent of Pepe La Pew. Needless to say we did an about face and headed back into the house!

It's that time of the year when love is in the air and the little black kitties with the white stripe are on the move looking for their true love! If your pet should be so unfortunate as to meet up with one, I have the answer to your prayers. Mix 1 qt. of 3% hydrogen peroxide to ¼ cup of baking soda and add 1 tsp. liquid dish soap. Work this into a lather and sponge on your malodorous pet – leave it on for a few minutes then rinse. The smell will vanish instantly. It is necessary to keep the ingredients on hand for those unfortunate encounters. The antidote must be mixed fresh each time as it cannot be stored.

I love the intoxicating scent of roses. Warmer weather and a few rain showers have triggered a few blooms on "Old Blush" in the courtyard. So far, the deer haven't come up to the courtyard to munch on the roses. When Valentine's Day approached, it served as a reminder to trim back the roses. Begin by removing dead or weak wood. Shorten healthy canes to 18 to 24 inches. Remove crossing or rubbing limbs. Make all cuts at a 45-degree angle above an outwardly facing leaf bud. Prune to maintain a rounded or natural shape for an informal effect. Pruning roses increases blooms and makes for a more attractive shrub. Prune shrub roses and vigorous climbers and other "once bloomers" after their spring display.

After pruning it's time to feed the roses. The Rose Society recommends 2 cups alfalfa pellets, 1 cup cotton seed meal, 1 cup fish meal, 1 cup gypsum, 1 cup Ironite, and ½ cup Epsom salts. I personally use the alfalfa, cotton seed meal, and compost mixed together. An organic mix not only feeds the rose, it improves the quality of the soil.

Crunch time, spring is just around the corner and getting the flower beds ready is at the top of my list. I like to use a mix of 1 bag of compost, ½ bag alfalfa, and ½ bag cotton meal together in my wheelbarrow to spread on flowerbeds. Soil preparation is the key to a successful garden. Good soil allows for a vigorous root system which ensures a healthy plant. Healthy plants thrive and multiply, tolerate the extremes of weather and have fewer problems with disease and insects.

Soil is a living thing and working in organics is always beneficial. Using organics in sandy soil increases its ability to hold moisture and nutrients while organics in clay soil increases drainage capacity and aeration. Adding organic mulch on a regular basis is a great way to



'Alaska', a late blooming amaryllis



An early blooming iris before Bambi decided to dine on it



Winter visited the garden

improve quality and fertility - the mulch slowly decomposes enriching the soil providing food for the microbes, beneficial bacteria and fungi along with earthworms, and insects.

It never hurts to get a soil test to determine what type of soil is present and how to improve it. Soil test bags and instructions are available from the Extension Service. For a small fee, they will send your sample to A & M. You will receive a report with information on soil texture, pH, and nutrient level.

Deadhead cool-weather annuals, such as dianthus, snapdragons, petunias, pansies, and calendulas. The plants can become leggy - prune the stems back to a desirable size and shape. In a few weeks, you will be rewarded with more blooms if Bambi leaves them alone. Remove debris from your flower beds.

Prune evergreen shrubs, shade, and fruit trees - just before bud break. While you can prune summer and fall-flowering shrubs - don't prune spring-flowering shrubs, their buds are set. Mow straggly groundcovers on high setting to renew the planting. Remove twiggy growth and limbs that cross or touch one another to expose the beautiful sculptural quality of crepe myrtle trunks. Do not top them and commit crepe murder! Crepe myrtles are versatile and can be trained for a single or multiple trunks. However, they are trained; remove excess suckers from the base of the tree.

Pansies, violas, ornamental kale, cabbage, stock, sweet alyssum, phlox, petunia, verbena, geranium, aster, and snapdragons may still be set out from four-inch transplants. Perennials such as yarrow coreopsis, purple cone flower, and salvias may be set out toward the end of February. Hopefully, the deer won't treat the plants like a 24-hour buffet.

Sow seed of zinnia, nicotiana, and cosmos inside to get a jump on spring. Outside, vegetable gardeners should sow beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, Swiss chard, collards, lettuce, mustard, potatoes, radish, spinach, and turnip. After the middle of February, sow snap beans, sweet corn, cucumber, squash and watermelons.

Watch out for scale, aphids and whiteflies. Use dormant oil while temperatures are still below 85 degrees F. Watch out for loopers and cabbageworms on broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower - use a *Bacillus thuringiensis* product. Be ready to protect tomato transplants from a late spring freeze.

Hope springs eternal and so we gardeners are always planting with the hope of a better year.

Gardening School — Course 4

NGC Gardening School Series 18 Course 4 was held February 3-4, 2025 at the San Antonio Garden Center, San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Knovak was the instructor and 28 students and guests from across the state attended. It was great to visit with friends and meet new people. There were plenty of snacks, fruit, water and hardy lunches. Karen Taylor chaired the school.

Dr. Knovak used PowerPoint to present interesting and informative classes starting with extensive plant identification and scientific nomenclature. Several plant families, along with genus and species have changed due to use of DNA testing for identification. There was a session depicting woody ornamentals along with their care. A session on pruning followed. Every student chose a boxwood plant to prune and shape into their very own bonsi tree. This proved to be a favorite project for many. It's amazing what a pruner can do to boxwood. After class, many students joined Karen Taylor, and Dr. Knovak for dinner at Restaurant Twenty Two in the Quarry Mall near the hotel.

The second day, plant identification was reviewed as we walked in the courtyard garden outside the classroom. Dr. Knovak pointed out certain plants and trees in the garden especially well pruned trees and trees that had hollow spaces in their forks. The winning garden flower was *Taraxacum officinale* (yellow dandelion) growing in the grass. Due to recent snow and cold weather many plants were still dormant. This was followed by lunch and a session on Specialized Styles of Gardening. This showed the application of plant combinations in the landscape. After lunch, there was a review for the practical exam. For taking the practical, students walked into a large empty room and stood in front of a question or plant specimen. Every two minutes, students moved around the tables to answer questions or identify the plants in front of them. It was a well organized, fun filled, fabulous school. Appreciation goes to everyone who made it possible. There were six new garden consultants recognized at the end of the course. Congratulations to these new garden consultants! They are: Candice Logue, Susan Meyer, Polly Peters, Elsa Rodrigues, Leigh Thomas, and Andrew Waring



All Gardening School students



Dr. Knovak during courtyard instruction



Congratulations graduates: L - R Karen Taylor, School Chairman; Andrew Waring, Leigh Thomas, Elsa Rodrigues, Polly Peters, Susan Meyer, Candice Logue, Lee Taylor, TGC President; Dr. Knovak, Instructor



Students enjoy dinner with Dr. Knovak

COOL SEASON PLANTS

WARM SEASON SEEDS

TO PLANT NOW

by Sherie Clarkson, Horticultural Editor

As the weather starts to warm, it is time to plant any cool season plants that were not planted in the fall. There is still time to get these in the garden as the temperatures will remain cool at night and we will still have periods of cooler weather. These include several vegetables, herbs and some bedding plants.

While you can buy small start plants at the nursery, tomatoes can also be grown from seeds. Sweet and juicy, there's no beating garden tomatoes for flavor, made more intense if you grow them yourself. These however need to be started now.

If you haven't gotten your onions in yet, there is still a little bit of time. However, the better solution would be to plant shallots. They grow quickly and still have the onion flavor. Another member of this family that can be grown now is onion chives. These will bloom purple flowers in the spring that can be used in many cooking items, including vinegars which will turn a beautiful pink color. These are different from the garlic chives which grown more in warmer weather and bloom in August and September. And garlic can be planted now also. It may not get as big as if it had been planted in the fall, but it will still have the garlic flavor. Continue planting lettuce and other cool-season greens to get a final succession or two of harvest before hot weather arrives. Cool weather plants that can still be added to the landscape include pansies, violas, snapdragons and ornamental kale and cabbage. Many herbs can be planted now also as several of them do better in cooler weather. These include parsley, dill, fennel, cilantro, lovage, borage, and chervil.

When the danger of frost passes, it is time to plant seeds and transplants of warm season plants such as green beans, corn, squash, peppers, cucumbers and chards. As the last average frost date passes in your area, start planting transplants of warm season flowers. These include petunias, pentas, Blackfoot daisies, salvias and zinnias. Start direct-seeding annual flowers such as zinnias, sunflowers, cosmos, marigold, celosia and cleome in the garden.

Seed packages often include enough for several plantings. Store extra seeds sealed tightly in a jar and place in the refrigerator or freezer. Cold storage extends their life. Once the weather starts warming, the gardening chores begin to pile up, so it is best to get your plants and seeds in early to beat the heat. And we all want to have the first tomatoes so we can brag to our friends. However, remember that there still may be that late frost. so make plans to be able to protect your newly planted transplants. Row covers and water towers work well when frost is predicted but be sure to take them off when the weather warms up, you do not want to cook your plants. Gardening in the spring in Texas is always a guessing game but the rewards outweigh the work.

Texas Garden Clubs

Blue and/or Gold Star Markers

by Bobbie Mason, Blue and Gold Star Memorial Chair

It is my pleasure to announce the dedication of two new Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. Blue Star Memorial Markers. The first one is to be dedicated on March 25, 2025, at the Houston National Cemetery in District IV of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. and the second will be March 27, 2025, at the Courthouse Square, 100 West Columbia Street, in San Augustine, District III, sponsored by the San Augustine Garden Club. Congratulations to each of you on these great markers.



Progress is being made on the three Presidential Libraries in Texas for a Blue and/or Gold Star Memorial Marker. All Districts, Clubs, and individuals are encouraged to make this an ALL Texas Garden Clubs project.

[The three Presidential libraries are located on university campuses.](#)

[#36 Lyndon Baines Johnson served in WWII as a Naval Commander. He succeeded John F. Kennedy upon his death. His library is located on the University of Texas campus in Austin.](#)

[#41 George Herbert Walker Bush served in the United States Navy as a lieutenant on a fast carrier tank force in WWII. His library is located on the Texas A&M campus in College Station.](#)

[#43 George Walker Bush served in the United States Air Force, as a First Lt. His library is located on the SMU Campus in Dallas.](#)

Wikipedia has great information on the Blue and Gold Star Memorial Markers as well as Facebook. You can get a 12-page information booklet on gardenclub.org (our National Website) that includes history, pricing and shipping information, and dedication ceremony examples. Awards information, order forms, tons of pictures and much more. Please call me with questions 972-742-0738 and leave a message and I will return your call...or bobbie.mason16@yahoo.com.

Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

Open House

On a beautiful Sunday afternoon, February 23, 2025, Alisa Sykes, Events Coordinator, hosted an open house from 1:00 – 5:00 pm to show Texas Garden Clubs Headquarters as a venue for weddings, birthdays, special occasions, etc. to vendors and public. The room was elegantly appointed with flowers and chinaware on each table depicting various occasions, especially weddings. Members of the Ovilla Garden Club helped set up the indoor and outdoor areas on Saturday. The courtyard was set for a wedding with rows of chairs. Each row had a bouquet of fresh flowers at the end. The pianist placed his keyboard in a far corner outside the building. During the open house he played for several hours. It felt romantic and peaceful sitting in the shade and listening to the music throughout the garden.

Alisa and friend, Royhisha, made candied apple bites covered in various frostings as for appetizers. There were mini lemon cake pops, chocolate candies, and a small wedding cake on this table. On another table shot glasses of shrimp and grits served from a silver tray were the main entrée along with delicious strawberry and lemon punch. Every morsel was a delight to the tastebuds.

An added note: outside was a Mexican food truck, Lupes Tortilla, for folks who may want something different. The tacos, were good, however, the fajitas were awesome, the meat tender and seasoned just right.

Hostesses were Nan Markland, Bobbie Mason, and Carol Coughran. They guided guests around the room and into the courtyard. A side table held contact information regarding Alisha. Several people requested more information regarding room rates and cost for various amenities. It was a fun day in a lovely setting both inside and outside. Check it out. Your garden club may desire holding an event there.



Courtyard was set to look wedding ready



Bobbie Mason made a stunning arrangement



Tables ready for various events



Head table set for a wedding



Serving table



Lee Habaugh keyboard player in the garden



Food truck



L-R: Deborah Kennedy, Melva Alvarez, Sheri Eldermann, Bobbie Mason, Alisa Sykes

Dallas Council of Garden Clubs Style Show

The Dallas Council of Garden Clubs Fun Day on March 6 was a big success. A Style Show, Shopping Spree, and Luncheon were presented.

The event was held at the Christian Care Center in Mesquite. They have a beautiful auditorium with a great stage and facilities for holding large gatherings. There were 70 attendees, and it was a fun day and a very good Ways and Means project.

The beautiful Charcuterie Board, salads, sandwiches and desserts were prepared by the Dallas Council Executive Board.

Cheryl Fitzgerald, owner of Girlfriends Boutique in Rowlett, presented the style show. The models each showed two outfits, and they were the Executive Board, and Committee members: Sylvia Carter – President; Faye Nabors – 1st VP; Georgeann Moss -2nd VP; Nancy Keim – Recording Secretary; Jeanette Hobbs – Historian; Todd Eich – Newsletter Editor; Michael Matthews – Yearbook Editor; Tracie Turner – Girlfriends Employee; Bobbie Mason – Tickets; Stan Aten - Treasurer.



Buffet provided by Dallas Council Board



L- R Sylvia Carter, Dallas Council of Garden Clubs' President and Mary Whitehaurst, incoming District X Director



Cheryl Fitzgerald



Model Nancy Keim



Model Georganne Moss



Model Todd Eich



Model Janette Hobbs



Model Michael Matthews



Model Sylvia Carter, mother of Cheryl Fitzgerald



NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
2025 Annual Meeting & Convention
"Happy 75th Birthday NM Garden Clubs!"
April 14 & 15, 2025
Embassy Suite Hotel
Albuquerque, New Mexico

2025 NMGC Convention Registration Form

Print Your Name As you would like it to appear on your name tag.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Garden Club(s): _____

CREDENTIALS: Please circle all that apply. **NOTE:** If you are unsure of anything, please do not circle it. Someone will help you when you register at the convention.

NGC President, NGC Officer, NGC Chair, NGC Committee Member, NGC Life Member, SCR Director, Past SCR Director, SCR Officer, SCR Chair, SCR Committee Member, SCR Life Member, State President, Former State President, State Officer, State Chair, State Life Member, State District Director, Club President, Club Member, Flower Show Judge, Environmental Consultant, Garden Consultant, Landscape Design Consultant, Guest

Please mark either Early Package or Late Package:

Package includes:

Registration fee, Tuesday Lunch, President's Reception, Awards Banquet, and installation 75th birthday celebration.

EARLY PACKAGE

(Postmarked on or before 3/24/2025)

\$ 175.00 ____

LATE PACKAGE

(Postmarked after 3/24/2025)

\$ 200.00 ____

NOTE: No refunds on registration after registration close of 3/24/2023. *Registration fee of \$50.00 is NON-REFUNDABLE.*

NM JUDGES COUNCIL: (not in package plan)

Monday, April 14, 2025

NM Judges Council Dinner/Program & 75th Birthday Celebration

The Judges Council Program will be a Challenge Design program, with the opportunity to bid on a design immediately following the program. Dinner will be Chicken & Roasted Pork Loin

Dinner & Program Fee \$ 75.00 ____

NOTE: All NMGC Members and Guests are welcome and highly encouraged to attend the NM Judges Council Dinner and Program.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

HOTEL: Embassy Suite Hotel

1000 Woodward Pl NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102

Two Queens or One King \$159 (plus tax)

Deadline for special room rate is March 15, 2025.

Hotel Reservation Link:

[NM GARDEN CLUB](#)

Please make checks payable to:

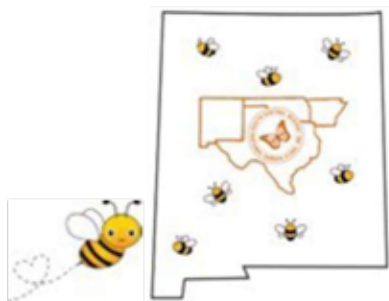
NM Garden Clubs 2025 Convention

mail them to:

Mary Noskin, 2025 SCR Convention Registrar

7615 Guadalupe Trail NW, Los Ranchos, NM 87107

(505)238-5731 noskinmary@gmail.com



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

2025 Annual Meeting & Convention
"Bee Enchanted in New Mexico" April
16 & 17, 2025

Embassy Suites Hotel

2025 South Central Region Convention Registration Form

Print Your Name As you would like it to appear on your name tag.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Garden Club(s): _____

Please mark either Early Package or Late Package:

Package includes:

Registration fee, Wednesday Tour, Lunch, Bee House workshop, Dinner and Feathered Friends Program, Thursday Lunch, Bee & Honey Presentation, SCR Director's Reception, Installation Banquet, and after party.

EARLY PACKAGE (Postmarked on or before 3/24/2025)	\$ 350.00 ____
LATE PACKAGE (Postmarked after 3/24/2025)	\$ 375.00 ____

NOTE: No refunds on registration after registration close of 3/24/2023. Registration fee of \$50.00 is NON-REFUNDABLE.

TOTAL ENCLOSED:

\$

Beeville Garden Club Annual Table Show

by Gwen DeWitt, Garden Consultant

The tempo of life has definitely picked up. Beeville Garden Club's annual table show makes the 38th I've participated in. The fun part of the show was leading a group of enthusiastic beginners in creating a floral design. The idea for this type of workshop came from a break out session at a National Garden Club convention. The workshop is the third one and has proved to be a popular addition to our annual show.

Each budding designer is supplied with a container, components and flowers. While I teach basic techniques of design, each arrangement reflects the taste of the designer. It's a wonderful way to share with the public and Beeville Garden Club managed to snag a few new enthusiastic members.

Our club formed in 1953 and became Federated with Texas Garden Clubs in 1955. I joined to meet nice people with an interest in gardening in 1987 little dreaming I would eventually become the state president. Garden Club has been an essential part of my life for almost 40 years. We have lovely, talented people in our club that work tirelessly to improve and beautify our community.



Save The Date

LOOKING BACK MOVING FORWARD

FLOWER SHOW

April 29, 2025 — 2-6 PM | April 30, 2025 — 11 AM-4 PM
&

85TH ANNIVERSARY TEA

Tea April 30 — 1-3 PM

San Antonio Garden Center
3310 N New Braunfels | San Antonio, TX 78209
210-824-9981
www.sanantoniogardencenter.org



TGC, Inc. - District IX
presents
a Ways & Means event

"An Art & Garden Show"

Saturday ~ May 3, 2025 1:00-4:00 pm

El Paso Women's Club - Mesa St. - El Paso

featuring the work of 12 artists (oil & acrylic)

pottery, & stained glass

exhibits of two floral shops

and members of the Master Gardeners of El Paso

Annual American Daffodil Society, NGC, Inc.

Small Standard Flower Show

sponsored by Texas Daffodil Society and
NGC, Inc. Designers with Flair Study Club

The Texas Daffodil Society and Designers with Flair Study Club held their annual daffodil show on March 6-7 at the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Gardens in Rosine Hall, in Dallas, Texas. The theme of the show was "International Passport to Daffodils." Karla McKenzie served as Show Chairman. Flower Show Co Chairs were Karla McKenzie and Mary Ann Moreland. Mary Ann Moreland was Schedule Chairman. Karen Murrell chaired Education and Floral Design. Horticulture Judges Chairman was Karla McKenzie. Many horticulture judges participated. Floral designers were Kathleen Johnson, Carol Coughran, Sarah Andry, Mary Ann Moreland, Annie Hibbs, Ann Dyer, Karen Murrell, Madalyn Herendez and student judge Sarah McReynolds. Clerks were Stan Aten, Tom Pierce, Marilyn Fitzner, Alisa Russel-Sykes, and Linda Chantaca.

Horticulture Division I - Horticulture held 694 entries of daffodils from across Texas. The roller coaster weather made us wonder if any daffodils would be available. The first 70 degree weather brought out the blooms.

The theme for the Design Division II was, "Travel the World for Daffodils." Section A theme was "Countries of Daffodils." Class 1 "Daffodil of the Mediterranean," Class 2 "United Kingdom of Daffodils," and Class 3 "Daffodils Down Under (Australia)." Section B theme was "Dining with Daffodils" - Functional Table for Two.

The Ikebana Society held a lovely display with different Ikebana floral designs.

Visitors roamed through the show. A wedding was scheduled in Rosine Hall immediately following the daffodil show. The bride asked for the daffodils that were headed for the trash. She had the used daffodils placed in her vases and put on the tables for her wedding reception. A happy ending for the lovely 2025 daffodil show.



At Left
There were six long tables
of daffodils waiting to be
judged!



At right
Class 4 Functional Table for Two
First place winner "Dining with
Daffodils"
Designer Ann Dyer



First place winner in Class I "Daffodils
of the Mediterranean"
Designer Kathleen Johnson



First place winner in Class 2 "United Kingdom of
Daffodil"
Designer Madalyn Hernandez

At right,
First place winner
in Class 3 "Daffodils
Down Under"
Designer Karen
Murrell



Arp Garden Club Gifts President-Elect



Members of Arp Garden Club gave TGC, Inc. President-elect Linda Jean Brown a cutting board titled **Destination Texas** to represent all the places she might visit during her term.

Thank You Letter

by Linda Jean Brown, SCR Youth Activities Coordinator, 2021-23 and 2023-25

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as South Central Regions Youth Activities Coordinator for the terms 2021-23, 2023-25. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the SCR Chairmen. It has been a pleasure meeting and getting to know each of you. I love to receive the entries from our youth. Some of them are priceless.

South Central Region has a very important garden club history which will continue for many, many years to come as long as we continue to be involved with today's youth, tomorrow's gardeners. Garden club members in this region have the determination to educate our youth on the importance of keeping our environment safe, clean and litter free. We need to stay connected to them so we can show them how to take care of our Earth.

Just by reaching out to these kids they know we care about them. Visiting their schools to teach them gardening is such a rewarding time to spend with this group of eager minds.

By reaching out to our youth one never knows the impact it will have in their young lives or how they will touch our lives.

Some of the ways we can teach them is through Youth Contests such as: The Bird Art Work, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Posters, Poetry, Essay and Recycle/Sculpture.

As garden club members, we are encouraged to continue to educate the next generation so they have something to give to generations to come.

So let's do what we do best...play with others and get our hands dirty.

Our Youth...Our Future

Fleur de Lis Garden Club – Sachse, Texas

On February 24, 2025, the Fleur de Lis Garden Club held their regular meeting. A floral workshop was presented by Carol Coughran, an accredited NGC master judge. She did a short Power Point on "Making the Most of Grocery Store Flowers." She had three different arrangements prepared and made a fourth arrangement as a demonstration on preparing vases, separating flowers and greenery, and placing stems in the vase. After the demonstration, all the garden club members started creating their own arrangements. The garden club furnished vases, two buckets of flowers and a table overflowing with greenery and vines. They had 30 minutes to choose plant material and complete their arrangements. There was a lot of laughter and talking (a fun workshop). The arrangements were lovely.



Members working on arrangements



Finished vases



Fleur de Lis GC President



The results from the workshop

Texas Wild Flowers

from Texas Highways Brochure

Springtime in Texas is the most beautiful season of the year. Green grass interspersed with bluebonnets, Indian paintbrushes, and pink buttercups. The subject of many photos and fond memories. You may desire planting some of these natives in your home gardens.

List of Top 15 Texas Wildflowers

1. Bluebonnet (*Lupines texansis*)
2. Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja spp.*)
3. Indian blanket (*Gallardia pulchelle*)
4. Drummond phlox (*Phlox drummondii*)
5. Prairie verbena (*Clandularia bipinnati*)
6. Pink evening primrose (aka pink buttercup) (*Oenothera speciosa*)
7. Common sunflower (*Helianthus annus*)
8. Winecup (*Callirhoe involuerata*)
9. Mexican hat (*Ratibida columnifera*)
10. Eryngo (*Eryngium leavenworthii*)
11. Basket flower (*Centurea americana*)
12. Blue eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium spp*)
13. Rain lily (*Cooperia pndunculata*)
14. Gay feather (*Liatris spp*)
15. Texas thistle (*Cirsium texanum*)

Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

2025-2027 Slate of Officers

President - Linda Jean Brown
VP - Finance - Carol Coughran
VP - Awards - Sherie Clarkson
VP - *The Lone Star Gardener* - Linda Love
VP - Organization Studies - Sylvia Morgan Carter
VP - Membership - Paula Copt-Duplant
VP - Scholarship - Karen Taylor
VP - Youth - Mary Alice Debow
Recording Secretary - Cynthia Heckaman
Treasurer - Peggy Moreland
Historian - Donna Hale
Corresponding Secretary - Jeanette Hobbs
Parliamentarian - Sarah McReynolds
Chaplain - Heather White, M.D.

2025-2027 District Directors

District I - Pam Davison
District II - Sharon Swagerty
District III - Kathi Sivess
District IV - Sharon Wegenhoft
District V - Denise Hilburn
District VI - Felicia Jo Snowden-Sosa
District VII - Michele Potter
District IX - Patricia Lopez
District X - Mary Whitehaurst

2025-2027 Trustees

District I - Betty Edwards
District II - Barbara Bateman
District III - Virginia McNeill
District IV - Nancy Giffhorn
District V - Janice King
District VII - Elizabeth O'Brien
District VIII - Nan Markland
District IX - Francie McIntosh
District X - Marilyn Fitzner

TEXAS GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

PRESIDENT-ELECT 2025-2027

Linda Jean Brown



Calendar 2025

Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. | (817) 332-6602 | tgc.headquarters@gmail.com

NGC Events	NGC Spring Convention - May 18 -22, 2025 – Embassy Suites Hotel, North Charleston, South Carolina
TGC Events	TGC Spring Convention – April 1-4, 2025 – Fredonia Hotel, Nacogdoches, Texas Your Path Back to Nature
SCR Events	SCR Spring Convention – April 16-17, 2025 – Embassy Suites, Albuquerque, New Mexico Theme: Bee Enchanted in New Mexico
Flower Show Schools	Flower Show School I - Dallas, Texas. Location TBA. Jan Myrick, Chairman, 210-587-9861
Environmental School	Environmental School IV - Water - September 19-21, 2025, Fort Parker State Park, Park Road 28, Grosbeck, Texas. Sarah McReynolds Chairman, 254-562-5751
Gardening Study School	GSS Series Course – August 4-5, 2025 – San Antonio Garden Center, 3310 N New Braunfels, San Antonio, Texas. Karen Taylor Chairman, 409-256-3819
Landscape Design School	Landscape Design School, Course 14, Series 28 - September 29-30, 2025 - George Bush Library, College Station, Texas. Michele Wehrheim Chairman, 979-703-8271

Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. MISSION STATEMENT Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. promotes the love of gardening, floral design, horticulture, civic responsibilities, landscaping, environmental concerns, and garden therapy for men, women, and children and encourages participation and support in educational programs for both the very young and advanced students. It is the purpose of this organization to preserve, protect, and conserve the natural resources of this country and to maintain and enhance the beauty of the lands.

FROM YOUR HEADQUARTERS

We gratefully accept your contributions received from January 18, 2025 through March 1, 2025..

ENDOWMENT FUNDS: SCHOLARSHIP FUND: Plano Garden Club.

HEADQUARTERS FUNDS: HEADQUARTERS BUILDING MAINTENANCE: Mesquite Garden Club; HEADQUARTERS GENERAL OFFICE FUND: Mesquite Garden Club, Three Rivers Garden Club.

GENERAL FUNDS: MEMORIAL BOOK: Honoring Denora (De Nora) VanDusen Dial.

PRESIDENT'S BOOK: DISTRICT X: Diana Loring by Mesquite Garden Club.

CONTRIBUTING PROJECTS: BIRDSEED: A & M Garden Club; BROOKWOOD COMMUNITY: A & M Garden Club; SEEDS FOR LIFE: A & M Garden Club, Houston Federation of Garden Clubs; GARDENS AT TEXAS A&M: A & M Garden Club; TEXAS A&M FOREST SERV: Mesquite Garden Club.

My Message...

*I wish to thank the grand ladies of our staff: **Gail Ferris Beasley, Gwen DeWitt, Sherie Clarkson, and Dana Serafine.** They each contributed often and cheerfully when requested. We hope you enjoyed our efforts as much as we enjoyed preparing every issue for you.*

*A big THANK YOU goes to TGC President, **Lee Taylor** for all her help and to all who sent articles and photos.*

*At Headquarters, **Janice King** (the best) always had a ready answer and got our final edition to **Sarah Barrick** on time!*

*And **Linda Love** –The Lone Star Gardener's new Managing Editor---my best regards and hope you have fun!*

Carol Coughran

