



**TGC Keeping in Touch**  
Sarah's E-Blast - Tx KIT #2  
August 2013

**TGC President's Letter  
to Club Presidents**

**Have a Good Year** - Hope your club plans are ready for a successful year with educational programs, community projects, and outreach for "Changing Our World Through Education and Friendships". Invite a friend to join.

Sarah McReynolds  
2013-2015 Texas Garden Club President  
"Changing Our World Through Education & Friendships"

**Lone Star Gardener** - The LSG was sent electronically and is posted on the TGC web page <http://www.texasgardenclubs.org/>. TGC is being proactive to reduce costs, go "green", and provide beneficial services. Summer issue has the committee lists and is available on the "Members Only" web page. Contact District Director or TGC HQ for login and password. A paper copy is available by postal mail, upon request through TGC HQ and Linda Krimm at [LKrimm01@gmail.com](mailto:LKrimm01@gmail.com).

As we develop the Membership Management System for distribution of the LSG and for communication, please be patient. Remember, we are all volunteers.

**Landscape Design School** - Sept 23 - 24, College Station. Registration materials on: [http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southern\\_garden/LDSep13](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southern_garden/LDSep13) or requested from Karin Wallace 979-845-8565 or by email at [KMWallace@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:KMWallace@ag.tamu.edu). From Diane Perez.

**TGC Scholarships** - Application deadline October 1. Annual scholarships (usually \$800 to \$1500) to Texas college-level juniors or above, with at least a 3.25 GPA, horticulture field major. Forms are on the TGC web site - [www.texasgardenclubs.org/scholarship.html](http://www.texasgardenclubs.org/scholarship.html). Send by postal mail to Gwen DeWitt, TGC 2013-15 Vice President Scholarships, 178 Fairway Ridge, Beeville, TX 78102, 361-358-9473, [dewitt462002@yahoo.com](mailto:dewitt462002@yahoo.com).

**TGC Fall Convention** - Attend "Fall Faire ... Far Out" in Houston Oct 18-19. Registration by Oct 10. Hotel by Sept 18. Info in Summer LSG and on line at [www.texasgardenclubs.org](http://www.texasgardenclubs.org).



**NGC KIT** - The National Garden Clubs newsletter, August 2013 Keeping In Touch, was sent to all club presidents to be shared with members. If you did not receive, published electronically quarterly, it is online at NGC at [www.gardenclub.org/discover-ngc/keeping-in-touch.aspx](http://www.gardenclub.org/discover-ngc/keeping-in-touch.aspx) or contact your District Director or TGC State President.

NGC President Linda G. Nelson reminds that newsletters and magazines can be read on line at [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org). "As a trial effort of sending the KIT by e-mail, we want to evaluate this method of distribution of information. We must realize that the very people we are hoping to gain as members already rely on web-based information; we must accommodate them or we may never convince them to join us. Change is hard, we know this, but we have got to face the fact that change IS the future! We are open to feedback on this venture. If we chose to do this, it might make a world of difference in our membership numbers. Wouldn't that be great!"

From Judy Grotts SCR Director 2011-13

**Strategic Planning** - Every organization is perfectly designed to get the results it gets. If we keep doing what we have been doing, we'll keep getting what we've always gotten. The definition of lunacy is to keep doing what you've always done and expect different results. From *Genealogy Newsletter*.

Change is fundamental to life. It is something we should embrace. Some are oblivious to change. Some observe it. Some participate in it. And then there are those helping others embrace it. Help your club grow and help educate others. From Jane Cohen.



**IRS 990 N** - IRS requires all garden clubs, affiliates and councils included in Texas Garden Clubs' group exemption list for 501(c)(3) tax exempt status to file Form 990N online between June 1 and October 15. Annual filing assures your club's tax exempt status remains in force. Clubs that do not file for three consecutive years will have their tax exempt status revoked by IRS. Reinstatement of tax exempt status is expensive and not guaranteed. Contact your District Director or TGC headquarters for assistance. If you receive correspondence from IRS, contact TGC HQ immediately. We're here to help! From June Lake, TGC HQ Bookkeeper, junelake.tgc@gmail.com, 817-332-6602.

**Awards** - Most awards should be to your District Committee Chair or your District Awards Chair to arrive by Nov 1. Most entries (called Book of Evidence) are limited to three pages, so be sure that your club writes a report of at least one of your successful projects. Refer to the NGC web page for a list of awards, <http://www.gardenclub.org/awards/awards-list.aspx>, and for the new Application Form. Follow the examples given and be recognized for your accomplishments.

The TGC web site has the TGC Awards Contents 2012 and TGC 2012 Awards Brochure, <http://www.texasgardenclubs.org/awards.html>, that you can download to refer to your specific award areas, whether for N- or T- awards.

The SCR Awards Handbook is also on the TGC web page and on the SCR web page, [http://www.ngcscr.com/award\\_guidelines](http://www.ngcscr.com/award_guidelines), and are due to SCR Awards Chair, (Suzy Andrego of New Mexico, 2013-2015), before Feb 1.

We know clubs are providing educational opportunities and outreach in their communities. I'd like for every club to have at least one report so you can be recognized at the next Spring Convention in Dallas in April. From Betty Edwards, TGC VP Awards, 743 N Cedar, Kermit, TX 79745, e-mail [bedwards@classicnet.net](mailto:bedwards@classicnet.net), phone 432-586-5286.



**Youth Contests** - Encourage your youth to participate in the upcoming contests. Most Youth Contests entries are due Nov 1 to District Youth Chairs. For details and where District Chairs send their entries, go to the TGC web page - [www.texasgardenclubs.org/activities.html](http://www.texasgardenclubs.org/activities.html). Cash rewards to state winners at the Spring Convention in Addison. From Marlene Gillman, TGC VP Youth.

1. POETRY: "Protecting and Conserving Our Natural Resources". Grades Kindergarten through 9th Grade and Special Education and English as a Second Language.
  2. POSTER: a) Smokey Bear - "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires". b) Woodsy Owl - "Lend A Hand - Care for the Land". c) "Life Cycle of a Dragonfly" Texas Contest. d) "American Goldfinch" SCR Contest. All posters - Grades 1 - 5.
  3. SCULPTURE: "Consist of Recycle/Reuse/Reduce". Grades 4 - 8.
  4. ESSAY: "Today's Choices Affect Tomorrow's World". Grades 9 - 12.
  5. SPEECH: "Today's Choices Affect Tomorrow's World". Grades 9 - 12. Texas contest.
  6. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE PROJECT: "Outstanding Civic Project." Grades 9 - 12.
- For Forms and Information - [texasgardenclubs.org/activities.html](http://texasgardenclubs.org/activities.html);  
[ngcscr.com/award\\_guidelines/youth\\_contests](http://ngcscr.com/award_guidelines/youth_contests); [gardenclub.org/youth/contests.aspx](http://gardenclub.org/youth/contests.aspx)



**Dragonfly** - Fantastic garden helpers because they eat insect pests. As nymphs grow, they hunt larger insects, including mosquito larvae. Nymphs will molt or shed their skin 10 to 15 times before they are mature. A dragonfly is a very strong and good flyer, and can fly at speeds of up to 36 miles per hour. Can move in six different directions with ease and efficiency. With four wings operating independently, dragonflies can hover in one place for up to a minute. Dragonflies can also fly backward and sideways and change directions. Spread your wings; help your Garden Club develop; reach out to new members.

**BeeGap** - Watch for upcoming information about how your club can participate in an exciting new NGC and TGC project about Mason Bees.

