



TGC Keeping in Touch

Sarah's E-Blast - Tx KIT #16
February 2015

TGC President's Letter to Club Presidents

Happy Valentine's Day - Ask your members to tell about their favorite flowers they love. Share their joy about Garden Club. Make plans to travel together to another Garden Club event - lots of opportunities this spring.

I'm enjoying serving as your Texas Garden Club President and meeting so many nice members across the state. You've made an impact to help change our world, while learning and having fun. Thank you for all you do as a TGC member, in your home, community and across Texas.

Get together with a group from your club to go to one of the schools and to Tyler for TGC Spring Convention, April 19-22.

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

Make February Member Appreciation Month -

1. Feb 17 is Random Acts of Kindness Day. Tell your members that you appreciate them.
2. Call club members who have missed a meeting. Form a telephone committee or an email committee to communicate. It's lovely to keep people in mind! The Valentine month is the time to do it.
3. For refreshments, ask members for forgotten Valentine recipes - recipes that are great but have not been around for awhile - use one and share with all.
4. Include a little bit of training into each club meeting - make it fun and informative.
5. BOGO - Bring One, Get One - Invite a friend to your next Garden Club meeting. She may be your next new member.



Environmental Studies School - Winter 2015

This is a great retreat to learn more about Land and Wildlife and to have fun with other Garden Club members. It's next week - Feb 8, 9, 10. To sign up, contact Sarah McReynolds, Registrar, with your Name, Address, Phone, Cell # and e-mail. Contact Sarah by email: esarabeth@aol.com or by phone - home 254-729-3529, cell 254-747-3091, fort 254-729-5253 Wed - Sun

Course is \$125. payable to Old Fort Parker, Inc. Contact Sarah to pay when you arrive. Let her know if you are Taking for Credit, Refresh or Fun. Course is limited to 30 students.

It's a great bargain - school, food, fun & lodging in historic rooms. For more information, go to - texasgardenclubs.org/event/environmental-studies-school/

Landscape Design School - Course II, Series XXIV, Feb 23 - 24 at George Bush Presidential Library, 1000 George Bush Dr W, College Station. Chair: Diane Perez. For info on course, registration, schedule, hotel, go to - aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southerngarden/LDFeb15/ - Get with your members and attend this NGC educational opportunity - learn & fun.

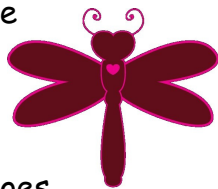
TGC Spring Convention -

Tyler, April 19-22, filled with business, fun, shopping, workshops, awards, youth speech, breakfast/lunches/banquets, fellowship, tour, learning and more. Get with a group from your club to attend. Registration hotel, and program in Lone Star Gardener magazine, online - texasgardenclubs.org/lone-star-gardener/



Awards - Congratulations to the many clubs who shared their successful projects. Come to State Convention in Tyler for results.

Dragonfly - Power and Poise - The dragonfly can move at an amazing 45 miles an hour, hover like a helicopter, fly backwards like a hummingbird, fly straight up, down and on either side, doing all of this while flapping its wings a mere 30 times a minute. Mosquitoes and houseflies need to flap their wings 600 and 1000 times a minute respectively. Awe inspiring is how the dragonfly accomplishes its objectives with utmost simplicity, effectiveness and, if you look at proportions, with 20 times as much power in each of its wing strokes, as compared to the other insects. The best part is that the dragonfly does it with elegance and grace like a veteran ballet dancer.



How can you and your Club Officers simplify, be more effective and use the power and skills of your members to help your Garden Club continue to "gracefully" serve members better, strengthen your projects in your community, and make an impact across Texas.

NGC President's Project - Award applications for this special project are due March 31, so your club can still apply, if you haven't already. Write up your air, water, land, forest and/or wildlife projects - just 3 pages via e-mail to NGC. Cash awards are available; clubs use for a project that you have worked on. Refer back to the January 2014 KIT online for details and to the NGC web site for e-mail information.

Ecology Warriors - Booklet for youth to help save the environment. Pages on Air, Birds, Bees, Butterflies, Energy, Forests, Invasive Plants, Land Conservation, Recycling, Water, Wildlife. Download from NGC web page - www.gardenclub.org/projects/ongoing-projects/ecology-warriors-workbook.aspx

Texas Design Seminar - Mar 13-14, TAMU Horticulture Building, College Station. Advanced Training for Flower Show. Joint Venture between TGC and Benz School of Floral Design Judges. Chair Joyce Cochran, JoyceCochran70@gmail.com, 214-357-1147.

Flower Show School - New series beginning in Abilene, Mar 17-19. Registration & hotel info - texasgardenclubs.org/event/flower-show-school-series-school-i/ Peggy Consolver, TGC Flower Show Schools Chair; Mary Perkins, piperone@gmail.com

NGC Flower Show Schools and your clubs' Flower Shows have been an important part of Garden Club for years. Help keep up the tradition. Send one or more club members.

Gardening Study School - April 12-14, Houston. Contact: Margaret Sinclair. Application, schedule and program will be on the TGC web page.

Dues - NGC President Linda Nelson explains that NGC must ask the members to approve a dues increase of 50 cents. Nelson says "... I am confident our members understand this and will support our request to raise our dues from 50 cents to 1 dollar. I ask that you join me in giving the equivalent of a cup of McDonald's coffee a year to NGC. ..."

Strategic Planning - Guide your club: 1) Where do we want to go? 2) How do we get there? 3) How do we measure success? 4) How did we do? 5) How can we improve? Continue to enjoy GC and share !!!

