District III
Texas Garden Clubs, Inc

Issue 4
Fall

Kathi Sivess, Director

Kathi Sivess

From the Director...

Welcome to fall! I hope everyone had a restful summer. I'm looking forward to getting back to garden club activities.

The summer workshops were very informative and fun. Thank you Kilgore Council, Dogwood Garden Club Lufkin, and Mt. Pleasant Garden Club for hosting these workshops and for your hard work. I really enjoyed each one.

If you haven't done your 990N yet, please get it done by the end of September. Your Zone Director has a list of the clubs who haven't filed yet. If you need help in filing, please give me a call and I will be happy to help you file.

Please double check with your treasurer to make sure you have paid your TGC State and District III dues. There are a few clubs who have not paid their TGC State dues. Clubs not paying their state dues by December will be dropped from the rolls at TGC, Inc., and you will lose your non-profit status.

The fall meeting for District III is going to be held on November 8th in Livingston hosted by Polk County Garden Club. The registration form is in this newsletter. I do hope everyone plans on coming. I will be handing out the President's Reports at this meeting. The deadline for the President's Reports to your Zone Directors is January 1, 2019 and the deadline for the reports to the District Director is January 15, 2019.

The State Fall Convention is being held in Addison on October 9 - 11. I hope to see many of you there.

Please remember that November 1 is the deadline to have your awards turned into your district chairmen. If you don't remember who the chairman is for your award, please give me a call or e-mail me.

By now every club should have met and passed out your yearbooks. So that I can keep up with activities throughout District III, I would appreciate each club sending me a copy of your yearbook. You may e-mail it to me if you would prefer. Thank you to the clubs who have sent their yearbooks to me.

I hope everyone has a great garden club year. Sincerely,

Kathi Sivess

District III Officers
2017-2019

District Director
Kathi Sivess, Director
4711 Michelle Dr.
Arlington, TX 76016
817-313-3271
kathi.sivess@sbcglobal.net

1st Vice Director (Life Membership)
Christine Fincher
212 CR 3107
Jacksonville TX 75766
913-984-5090
gcfincher@aol.com

2nd Vice Director (Awards)
Linda Jean Brown
30 Waco Dr.
Elkart, TX 75839
903-478-3264
ljbrown3264@windstream.net

3rd Vice Director (Scholarship)
Anne Brown
2713 Brentwood
Tyler, TX 75703
903.566.4459
abrn525@att.net

Recording Secretary
Linda Bordelon
1016 CR 2703
Shelbyville, TX 75973
936.332.7254
lmb1@eastex.net

Corresponding Secretary
Carol McMillan
PO Box 443
San Augustine, TX 75972
936.275.0162
district3.texasgc@gmail.com

Treasurer
Nita Beale
610 Town Oaks Cr.
Kilgore, TX 75662
903.984.5090
poppytl@cablelynx.com

Important Dates

September

18-20 NGC Flower Schow School,
Course II
Houston, Texas

21-24 Landscape Design School Series XXVI, Course I
College Station

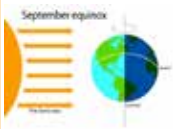
October

7-19 TGC Fall Covention
Addison

1-23 NGC Flower Show Judges Symposium
San Antonio

November

8 Dist III Fall Convention
Livingston



On Saturday, September 22 at 8:45 p.m. CT, the fall or autumnal equinox occurred. At this time the northern and southern hemispheres have equal amounts of sunlight because the earth's equator was in direct alignment with the sun. The sun will continue to get lower in the sky; the daylight hours will shorten and temperatures will drop until the winter solstice in December. During this time the trees start signaling their leaves to stop producing chlorophyll, the green pigment responsible for the leaves' color and photosynthesis. Colorful fall leaves will begin to appear.

Keep up with what's happening!

Focus on Treasurers

Instructions for Club Treasurers

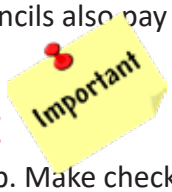
Nita Beale, District III Treasurer

Treasurers must keep an accurate account of all club money and give a detailed report of all income and expenditures at each club meeting.

STATE DUES

Clubs MUST pay their dues or lose their tax exempt status.

- **State Dues** are due by June 30th. State dues are payable May 1 and are delinquent after June 30. Clubs must be in good standing with all dues paid by due dates to receive awards. **It is urgent that they be sent in now**.
- State Dues for Clubs are $8.00 per member, regardless of whether status is active, associate or life member. Checks should be made payable to TGC, Inc. and sent to **TGC, INC, 3111 Old Garden Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76107-3498**. Send a roster of members, home addresses, zip codes, phone numbers and email addresses. A subscription to the ***Lone Star Gardner*** and **National Dues** are included in the State Dues
- **Council and Affiliate State Dues** are $15.00. Only Kilgore, Tyler and Texarkana Councils send these dues. Mail a roster with addresses and Zip codes along with check made payable to **TGC, Inc.** and mail to State Headquarters by June 30. Councils also pay $10.00 to District III Treasurer, Nita Beal, 610 Town Oaks Cr, Kilgore, Tx 75662



Clubs MUST pay the $25 district dues to be in good standing.

SEPTEMBER 30 DEADLINE

District Dues are $25.00 per Club. Make checks payable to *District III, TGC* and mail to District III Treasurer: **Nita Beale, 610 Town Oaks Cr., Kilgore, TX 75662.** Please mail by September 30 to receive awards. This includes $10.00 for club dues and $15.00 for mandatory payment of $5.00 each for spring and fall conventions and zone workshop.

Garden Therapy contributions. Send check to District III Treasurer **Nita Beale, 610 TownOaks Circle, Kilgore, Texas 75662** by September 30. Club Treasurers should indicate on the check how the funds are to be divided. In order to receive an award, a garden club must contribute at least $5.00 to each of the 5 garden therapy projects total of $25.00 for Rusk State School, Lufkin State School, Camp Tyler, Boshears and Opportunities, Inc. You may send more if your club prefers.

ANYTIME CONTRIBUTIONS

- **District III Scholarship contributions** should be sent to the Scholarship Chairman. Anne Brown, 2713 Brentwood, Tyler, Tx,75703
- **TGC Botanical Garden/Ina Brundrett Azalea Garden contributions** should be sent to the chairman. Greta Gustafson, 689 Kaila Ct, Port Aransas, Tx 78373. All checks will be held and sent at one time.
- **Flower Show School contributions** may be sent directly to the District III Judges Council. If the contribution is honoring someone, please list the name of the person being honored and reason for honoring. Make check payable to the District III Judges Council and mail to **Betty Eddleman, 211 Palogaucho Lane, Hemphill Tx 75948. (409-787-1524)**

***Lone Star* Ads**: Virginia Wallace, 14 Rim Road, Kilgore, Tx 75662. For prices 903-983-2834

DISTRICT III FALL CONVENTION - NOVEMBER 8, 2018

Sweet Harvest Festival

District III Texas Garden Clubs, Inc

Date: Thursday November 8, 2018
Place: First Presbyterian Church 910 North Washington Ave Livingston, Texas77351
Hostess: Polk County Garden Club Shirley Vannoy, president Pam MacDonald, chairman

Thursday, November 9, 2017

9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Registration, Coffee, Ways & Means
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Official Opening - General Assembly, Business
11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Luncheon
12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Program: "Honey Bees" Speaker: Carla Rudebusch
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Business Reconvene, Door Prizes, and Adjournment

Support District III Ways and Means with Your Marked Items and Shopping

Registration Form for District III Fall Convention
(Please complete a separate form for each person attending – **Deadline October 31, 2018)**

Convention Luncheon $25.00 _____

Make checks payable to: Polk County Garden Club
Mail to: Paulette Stinson
649 Deer Ridge Dr.
Livingston, TX 77351

Cut and mail bottom portion.

Name(print)_____

Garden Club _____

Address_____City_____

Telephone_____Cell_____

Special Instructions: Advise dietary restrictions or handicap provisions needed: _____

Credentials Report Information – Please Check All Classifications

__National Board_SCR Director_SCR Officer_SCR Chairman_TGC State President
__TGC Former State President
__State Officer_State Chairman_Affiliate President_Affiliate Member_District Director_District Officer
__District Chairman_Garden Club President_Gardening Consultant_TGC Design Consultant
__Landscape Design Consultant_Environmental Consultant
__Flower Show Judge: __Master, __Life, __National, __Emeritus, __Student
__Life Member, __ District, __ State, __CR, __GC

Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. Fall Convention
October 9-11, 2018

Addison, Texas

"Celebrating Autumn's Splendor"

Hosted by the Dallas Flower Judges, Founders Group & District X

Name on Badge (Please Print) _____

Address _____

Club _____District _____

E-mail _____Phone _____

Credentials (Check all that apply)

__TGC President	__SCR Chairman	__District Director	__Club Member
__Fmr TGC President	__State Chairman	__Council President	__Guest Speaker
__Fmr NGC President	__State Officer	__Club President	__1st Time Attendee
__NGC Chairman	__Affiliate President	__Club Delegate	__NGC Life Member
__SCR Director	__Affiliate Member	__Club Alternate	__SCR Life Member
__Fmr SCR Director	__Trustee	__Garden Study Consult	__TGC Life Member
__Environmental Consult	__Landscape Design Consult	__Texas Design Consult	__Master Gardener
__Judge	__Student	__Accredited	__Master __Life __Emeritus

PLEASE SELECT AND FILL IN AMOUNT FOR EACH EVENT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND

Registration Fee		
$15 for one day/ $30 for two or more days		$_____
Tuesday, October 9		
"Meet and Greet Lunch	$26.00	**$_____**
Hands on Workshop	$ 5.00	**$_____**
Dinner and Program	$35.00	$_____
Wednesday, October 10		
Optional Tour of Local Gardens	$ 5.00	$_____
Buffet Luncheon and Program	$26.00	$_____
Dinner with Design Program	$35.00	$_____
Thursday, October 11		
Buffet Luncheon Honoring Garden Club Member of The Year and Program	$26.00	$_____
Reception	$10.00	$_____
Dinner and Program	$35.00	$_____
	Total Enclosed	$_____

Please CIRCLE any Special Dietary Needs: Diabetic/ Gluten Free/ Vegan/ Vegetarian

REGISTRATION DEADLINE is October 2, 2018 ($10 Fee for Late Registration). NO REFUNDS after October 5, 2018. Make Checks payable to **DFSJFG –TGC Inc. Fall Convention.** Send registration form and check to **JOYCE COCHRAN** at Traditions /Prestonwood, 15250 Prestonwood Blvd. # 251, Dallas, TX 75248. If you have questions, contact Joyce at 214-357-1147 or e-mail her at joycecochran70@gmail.com

Tetanus a potential problem for gardeners

The United States Center for Disease Control, **https://www.cdc.gov/family/gardening**, has information about gardening health and safety tips. The tips range from clothing to heat limitations to bacterial infections. Gardeners are prone to tetanus infections. Tetanus lives in the soil and enters the body through breaks in the skin especially when using sharp tools, digging in the dirt or handling plants with sharp points.

Two important recommendations for gardening safety:

- Make sure your tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (Tdap) vaccination is up-to-date.
- Have a good set of gardening gloves

Ergonomic gardening tools for senior gardeners

Seniors often have more time for gardening and find great pleasure in getting outdoors working with plants. To keep gardening fun and enjoyable, tool manufactures are beginning to evaluate and manufacture ergonomically designed tools that are lightweight, easy to grip and simple to maneuver.

Selecting gardening gloves that provide comfort and improve grip strength is important. Some gloves have anatomically positioned padding and carry the Arthritis Foundation's Ease of Use Commendation.

Tools are being created that help reduce hand and wrist pain. They are designed to position the wrist at a natural angle, and some can even be fitted with an optional arm support cuff that allows the strength of the forearm to be used. Many come with brightly colored handles to make it easier to locate if the tool is laid down in the grass. For those gardeners who must sit on a chair or stool while gardening, long-reach garden tools are available.

A seated garden scoot is for chores that need to be completed at ground level. Seats that swivel a full 360 degrees allow movement in all directions. Some scoots can double as a gardening bench or carrier for big bags of mulch. Heavy-duty tires make a scoot easy to maneuver.

Gardens will not grow without water. A lightweight hose removes much of problem of moving a hose around for watering. Some even come attached to a mini reel. A well-designed watering wand allows the gardener to water in hard-to-reach places and will have a trigger grip to control water flow and misting.

Although there are many gardening tools on the market, they are not all the best gardening tools for seniors. Seniors may require a little extra attention in the tools they use. If local gardening stores do not carry ergonomically designed tools, many online stores stock brands that meet the individual gardener's needs.

Ticks in Texas

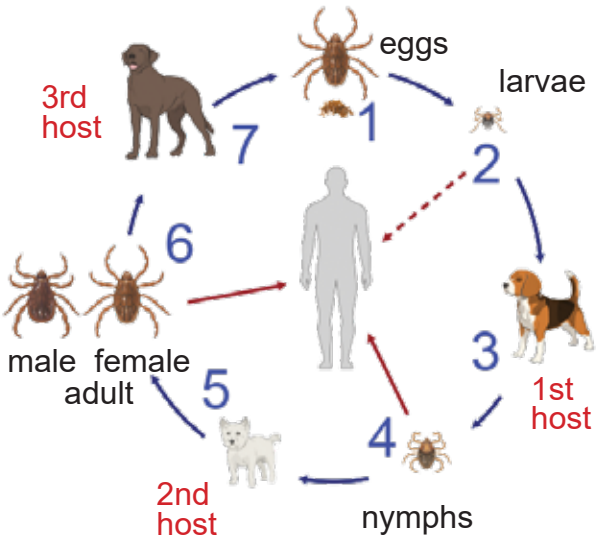
The four most common types of ticks found in Texas, in order of frequency:

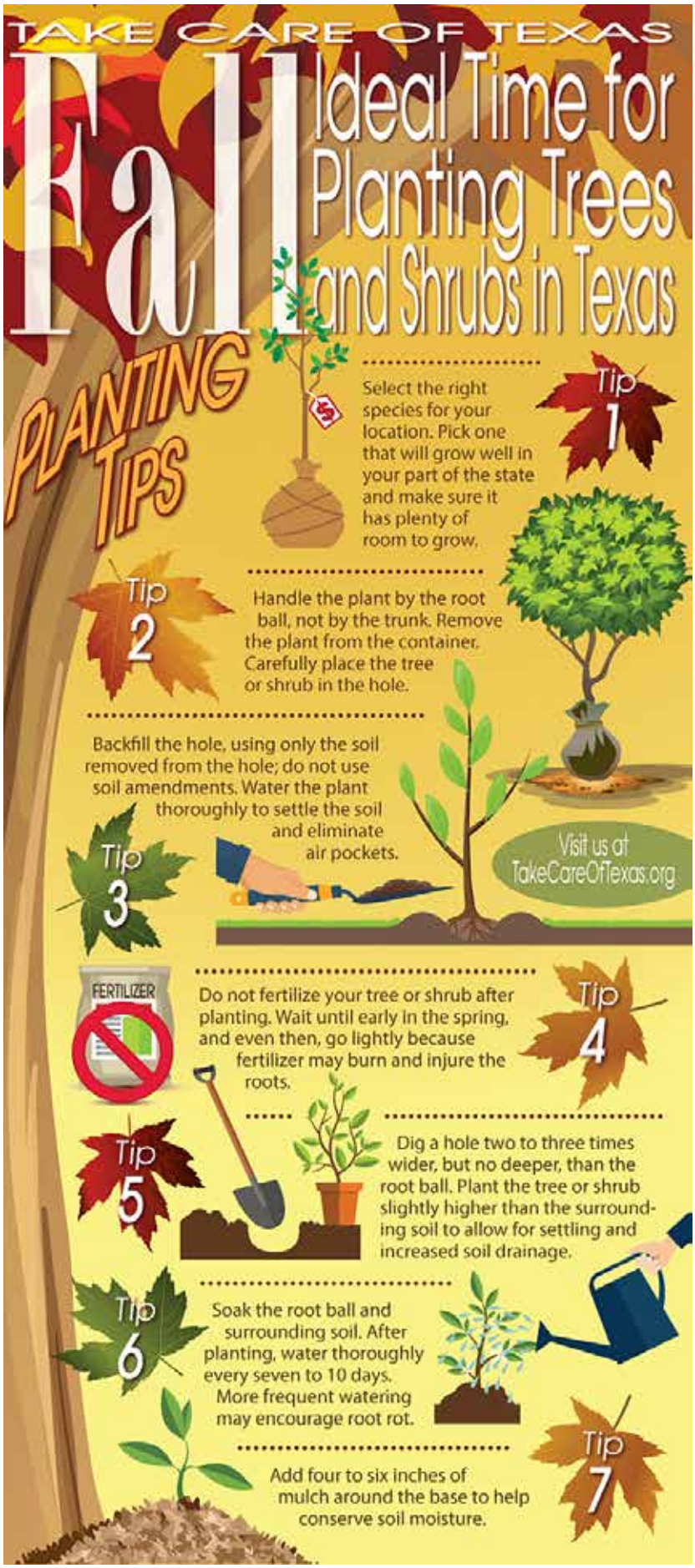
- Brown dog tick
- American dog tick
- Lone star tick
- Deer tick

Ticks are still active in the fall and winter seasons. They go through four stages during their lifetimes: egg, six-legged larvae, eight-legged nymph and adult. Ticks attach themselves to a warm-blooded host and feed until they're engorged at each stage. Depending on the availability of food sources, it can take up to three years for a tick to go from egg to adult, with most ticks dying before reaching maturity for lack of host.

Ticks cannot fly or jump; they find their hosts by hanging onto blades of grass or leaves, usually along a well-worn path. As the host passes by, the tick grabs hold with its free legs and quickly passes from the leaf or blade onto the host. Ticks will then find a nice place to insert their sucker and dine until they're full. Once full, they'll drop off, molt into the next stage of life and the cycle begins again.

Life cycle of Brown Dog Tick





AROUND THE DISTRICT

Arp Garden Club stays busy with many activities

Pictured digging the hole for the magnolia tree (in background) are: left to right--Janie Tew, Carol Izard; Evelyn Williams; Becky Barton; Mayor, Terry Lowry; Jackie Calicutt; Carolyn Allen; Carrie Thomas; Pam Lowry; Kathy Stroupe, with shovel; Claudia Harman; Maykenzie Thomas, student helper; Levi Thomas, student helper; Janet Shuttlesworth; Linda Jean Brown, and Debbie Gillispie.

The Arp Garden Club had an Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony on March 14, 2018. Linda Jean Brown, TGC Youth Activities Coordinator, led the program. The Mayor of Arp, Terry Lowry, helped in the tree planting at the Arp Elementary School; he gave an official proclamation declaring March 14, 2017 as ARBOR DAY in the city of Arp, TX.

Claudia Harman, president of the Arp Garden Club reading the official proclamation.

In May, the club went to GLENDA MAE'S DAYLILLY FARM in Murchison, TX. Pictured enjoying the presentation and enjoying the beautiful scenery: Mattie Hettinger, Marie Lanham, Jackie Calicutt,. The speaker was owner, Joey Dziema.

Each meeting two members present what we call a comprehensive study; the member chooses a topic to briefly discuss. Pictured is Jackie Calicutt discussing cosmos flowers.

Dogwood Garden Club prepares for National Garden Week

Dogwood Garden Club of Palestine has been serving its community for the past 78 years in numerous capacities. Recently, the Anderson County Judge, Robert Johnston, approached them and asked if they would consider doing a new project for the county at the Anderson County Courthouse. He wanted us to clean out and replant the area round the 30' flagpole the club had purchased and installed in 1965. It is still used today. In the process, we recovered a plaque from 1965 with the Dogwood Garden Club's name on it. Throughout all the years, the Club has worked projects at this historic courthouse and today, they continue to improve one of the outside beds.

Purchasing materials at Lowe's for a landscape new project at the Anderson County Courthouse.

Members in front of the Palestine Library looking at a "How To" Drip System display board up at the Palestine Library for the public to get ideas from to use in their own yards.

This is the new landscape bed project Dogwood Garden Club of Palestine members have taken on at the Anderson County Courthouse.

Mrs. Dottie Siviss, standing in front of the Titus County Veterans Memorial, provides the history of the National Garden Club Blue Star/ Gold Star Memorial.

Mt. Pleasant Korean War Remembrance July 27, 2018

Mrs. Dottie Siviss, standing in front of the Titus County Veterans Memorial, provides the history of the National Garden Club Blue Star/ Gold Star Memorial.

Friday, July 27, 2018 a Korean War Veterans Recognition Day ceremony was held at the big flag pole near the Titus County Courthouse at the Titus County War Memorial. Sixty-five years following the "official" end of the conflict in 1953, the remains of 55 US POW/MIAs were released.

Civic Garden Club, Kilgore, celebrates 75 years

Kim Gore, Pres.; Pam Horton, 1st V. P.; Diana Ponder, Parl.; Martha Clark,Treas.; Rita Thompson, 2nd V.P.; Patty Sanders, 3rd V.P.; Faye King, Sec.

Texarkana, Texas Council of Garden Clubs working in Texarkana community

L-R Pat Woods, Bruce Purdue, Beth Pesek, Janella Garrett, Jan Scott, Wanda Henry, Nancy Eatman, Kathy England. Mr Pardue, owner of Little Country Greenhouse, is helping Council members select plants for planting project at Hospice of Texarkana. Begonias, Impatiens, periwinkles, zinnias, dusty miller and sweet potato vine were planted Meditation Garden. clubs participating include Carol Boswell, Rose; Yulin Brewer, Rose; Nancy Eatman, Bluebonnet; Chayta Mills, Rose; Vickie Moore, Daisy; Beth Pesek, Gateway; Jan Scott, Gateway; Sandra Tipton, Daisy; Pat Woods, Bluebonnnet

Texarkana Texas Council of Garden Clubs awards $1500.00 Scholarship to Claire Sissons of Sims, TX Pictured l-r are Yulin Brewer, Rose Garden Club, Carol Boswell, Rose, Beth Pesek, Gateway Garden Club, Claire Sissons, recipient (New Boston High), Sandra Tipton and Donna Bird, Daisy Garden Club.

Gateway Garden Club's May luncheon

Gateway Garden Club held the annual potluck luncheon in May. Favorite hats were worn for the event. Members participated in a plant exchange at the conclusion of the luncheon.

Pat Arnold

Carol Hodgson, Margaret Davis

Judith White, Brenda Wisdom

Nancy Robbins, Beth Pesek

Top Row—Charlotte Hueter, Nancy Bigger, Nancy Robbins, Beth Pesek Bottom row—Jan Scott, Kathy Setula, Carol Hodgson

Rayburn Bloomers actively working

For the 29th year, Rayburn Bloomers Garden Club and neighbors picked up roadside trash for Adopt a Highway. Eleven members volunteered.

Volunteers were Janet Stoeckel, Kelly McCormick, Natthawan Davis, Phyllis Eastham, Mike Short, Ginger Becker, Larraine Hutzell, Jeannie Thrash, and (not pictured) Dee Dee Matheson, Margie Primeaux and Beth Matthews.

The Rayburn Bloomers Garden Club enjoyed a gourmet popcorn bar, shopped for jewelry and homemade preserves from a local vendor and neighbor, and purchased plants from our local arboretum at the first meeting of the new season.

New Club President Maggie Sheppard led the discussion of ongoing and upcoming projects; it's going to be a busy and exciting year. The club has grown to 57 members and is thrilled to have welcomed six new members this year.

San Augustine GC explores history

The independent Republic of Texas existed from 1836 to 1846. Texas was its own country. It had its own flags, currency, capital, and even its own embassies.

In order to show foreigners that they were entering sovereign land, granite markers were driven into the ground along the Republic's borders. Today there is only one of these boundary markers still in existence. It is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The granite pillar is nine inches square, and sticks up about four feet from the ground. Three sides are engraved, providing all the necessary details: Merid. Boundary, Established A.D., 1840 on one side, and sides two and three simply say U.S. and R.T.

President Tommie Thomas stands behind original marker with the Texas Historical Commission marker to the right.

District III at TGC, Inc Convention

District III attendees with District Director Kathi Sivess behind the sign.

District III Nominee for Member of the Year

Judith Bussey

Judith Bussey is the District III Nominee for TGC, Inc Member of the Year. A total of ten candidates, one from each district has been submitted to the state chairman for consideration. They will be chosen based on their service in garden club work and their contributions to the community.

In August, 1967 she moved from Arkansas to Newton with her husband, Jimmie, and their children. In September she joined First Baptist Church and Newton Garden Club and continues to be active in both. The church has always been a guiding force in her life. She could never have imagined the influence and joy garden club has been. She believes the greatest friends are those that appreciate and care for God's creation.

Participating in flower shows has been her favorite part of garden club activities. She has completed four of the five National Garden Clubs, Inc. Schools and became a flower show judge in 2001. It was at this time she became involved in district and state meetings. She became a master judge in 2009.

Judith served as District III Director from 2012-2014. Her theme was "Show What you Grow". It was an attempt to encourage clubs to stage flower shows.

Bussey's 51 years as a member of her local garden club has provided her multiple opportunities to serve as an officer and chair of flower shows, yearbooks and programs. Her passion is civic beautification. She led her club in landscaping the historic Powell Hotel grounds, and she continues to serve as chairman of the upkeep of those gardens. To spread her passion for gardening, she has incorporated the Newton High School's special needs class in the project.

She became a Master Gardener in 2013 and was instrumental in consolidating the efforts of Master Gardeners and the Newton Garden Club to identify and label the many beautiful trees in Caney Creek Park, a local walking park.

Bussay has served various chairmanships in District III and Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. She was elected District III Trustee in 2017.

For fifty-one years she has managed her husband's medical practice, but making a home for her family has been a priority in her life. She and Jimmie have been blessed with five wonderful children, seven grandchildren and a great grandson. She makes time to be with them in New Orleans, Georgia, Tennessee and Texas. She and Jimmie are bamboo growers with membership in Texas, Louisiana Gulf Coast and American Bamboo Societies. Judith uses this knowledge in presentations of bamboo design and horticulture programs.

Mary Ruth Day Fulenwider

Mary Fulenwider

Mary Fulenwider died April 12, 2018. She was a charter member of the Bluebonnet Garden Club, Texarkana. She was active in the club and served as an officer in District III. Mary also served as treasure for the Texarkana Council of Garden Clubs.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss,
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you all the sunshine of tomorrow.

Dogwood Garden Club of Palestine 2018 Garden Club of the Year

Dogwood Garden Club members at state convention here they received the Garden Club of the Year award were Bee Vonda, Lola Magee, Linda Jean Brown, Bee Lee, Linda Chaffin, Sharon Evans, TGC President, Betty Edwards, Kay Kuser, Queen Bee VP Awards, Gwen DeWitt, Ruth Freeman, Pat Stephenson, Billie Fitts, Ann Emigh, and Dist III Director, Kathi Sivess.

Governor's Award for Historic Preservation

Betty Oglesbee, San Augustine Garden Club, with Governor Gregg Abbott and THC Commissioners receiving award.

The Office of the Governor Greg Abbott, along with THC Chairman John L. Nau, III and fellow THC Commissioners presented Betty Oglesbee with the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation.

Throughout her lifetime, Betty and her late husband John have been responsible for the successful preservation of numerous historical buildings and the strengthening of heritage tourism in San Augustine. Betty led the way in the preservation of the beloved San Augustine Augus Theater—a 1920s cultural gem that once again serves as a community hub.

Betty was instrumental in the restoration of the San Augustine County Courthouse by helping procure a grant from the THC's Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program and even raised the matching funds necessary to restore the 1919 jail at no cost to residents. The former jail building is now open as a library and museum.

Most notable is Betty's 40 years of work in the discovery and establishment of our Mission Dolores State Historic Site. Her work with the City of San Augustine, Texas and her conversations with the THC helped lead to Mission Dolores being accepted as the THC's 21st State Historic Site.

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

-John Quincy Adams

Moving from traditional gardener to "junk gardener"

What would you do if you were extremely creative, an avid gardener, and had moved to a new home that had twenty six trees and the "soil" was white beach sand? (We believe there is a salt mine running under the property.) Well, this is the story of Carol Patterson, a former president and member of the Fannie Marchman Garden Club in Mineola, Texas.

If you can't have flower beds, have you ever considered re-purposed containers? You could stack old wagons, use old wheelbarrows, fertilizer spreaders, or even an old washing machine tub.

Have you ever tried to find a good alternative for an expensive gazebo? What about using an old satellite dish – remember the big ones that took up half the yard – turned upside down and supported by decorative wrought iron posts from a remodeled 1950's porch.

Have you ever thought about an alternative for edging around your driveway? You could use clear glass blocks from a front entry of a renovated 1950's house, bowling balls, antique glass insulators that have beautiful blue and green hues in the sunlight or even old rust covered shovels missing their handles.

Have you been saving the Tonka dump trucks your son and grandson used to transport sand from one area of the sand box to another? Why not have a "fleet" of these Tonka dump trucks to display some of your annuals?

Would you love to have a water feature that was not outrageposly expensive? Can you picture using old shovels, so the water can trickle down from one shovel blade to another?

What can you do with an old bicycle, with a basket on the handlebars? First, you plant a succulent in the basket and then you hang it up between two trees.

These are just a few of the examples of creative planting ideas used by Carol Patterson and her husband, Bill, after finding that nothing would grow in her new yard; no amount of mulch or compost was going to correct her soil conditions. They decided containers would have to be the answer to fill their yard with beautiful plants.

The search for containers began with garage and estate sales and then the heavens opened up when they discovered the local dump. Wheelbarrows that only needed tires aired up; rusty, discarded wagons in various sizes where plentiful; rusty shovels with handles broken off were scattered everywhere along with horse troughs that would no longer hold water – but would hold soil. Discarded Tonka trucks from someone's childhood were also found in abundance. As they were waiting in line, on one trip to the local dump, a truck in front of Carol and Bill contained and old satellite dish. A deal was made before they even reached the entrance and the eye-sore old satellite dish became a gazebo for their Lady Banks rose.

The East Texas State Fair Horticulture Show (late September of each year) advertised a new category for re-purposed container planting and this was another opportunity for Carol Patterson to show her creativity. She entered and won a first place blue ribbon, on her first try with an antique typewriter and pink calculating machine planted with succulents. In following years, an old world globe, a Tonka dump truck, pink go-go boots, and even a straw handbag, all filled to the brim with various plantings, were some of the re-purposed containers entered in this contest. She always comes home with ribbons and new ideas for next year's entries.

Carol and Bill Patterson have "rescued" so many found objects they have now started calling themselves "junk gardeners," and this spring they had their first "junk garden tour." The response from those attending was overwhelmingly positive, and the words creative, artistic and imaginative were used over and over. Next spring, you may want to find out the date for this tour and come to Mineola and see for yourself!

NGC and TGC Youth Awards themes for 2018-2019

TGC Environmental Poster Grades 1st thru 5th
2018-19 “The American Bald Eagle”
TGC Chairman: Bobbie Mason
bobbie.mason18@yahoo.com
121Creekview West Red Oak TX 75154

TGC Speech - grades 9th thu 12th THEME IS THE SAME AS NGC HS ESSAY
2018-19 “The Impact of Bottled Water on the Environment and the Water Supply”
TGC Chairman: Kay Kuser
kuserk@aol.com
1024 Swanson Dr Palestine TX 75801

NGC HS Essay - Grades 9th thru 12th
2018-19 “The Impact of Bottled Water on the Environment and the Water Supply”
TGC Chairman: Trish Lopez
palopez040147@aol.com
6139 Los Felinos Circle El Paso TX 79912

NGC Poetry - Grades K thru 9th
2018-19 “Pop Goes the Seed”
TGC Chairman: Nita Beale
poppytl@cablelynx.com
610 Town Oaks Creek Kilgore TX 75662

Sculpture Contest “To Encourage Our Youth to Keep Our Plant Green and to get involved”
TGC Chairman: Eleanor Floeck
elfloeck@verizon.net
4961 E. highway 290 Giddings TX 78942

Woodsy Owl “Lend a Hand - Care for the Land”
Smokey Bear “Only You Can Prevent Wildfires”
TGC Posters Chairman: JoAnn Walker
joannw@hughes.net
8456 FM 227E Grapeland TX 75844

Deadline to STATE: JANUARY 1
Deadlines for the above youth contests have not changed. Please refer to he Youth Organization & Award Brochure (2013).

SCR #17 Bird of the year contest (ALL GRADES)
2018-19 Ruby Throated hummingbird
SCR Bird Chairman: Mardi McKenzie
mardimck@yahoo.com
1054 County Street 2930 Tuttle OK 73089-3030

Our Children - Our Future
Linda Jean Brown
TGC Vice President Youth Concerns 2017-19
ljbrown3264@windstream.net
(903) 478-3264 home
(903) 724-2656 cell

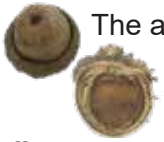
Please make a note the following award number changes have been made on National Garden Clubs, Inc. level:

- Horticulture Achievement by a Youth Garden Club award formerly # N-32 change to Section 13 YR-2
- High School Gardeners Accomplishments award formerly # N-33 changed to Section 13 Y-3
- Youth Horticulture Education award formerly # N-8 changed to Section 14 YR-1
- Environmental Education award formerly #N-54 changed to Section 14 YR-2

Walking is not only good exercise, but it can allow the participant to clear her mind, listen to the sounds of nature and notice reoccurring patterns in nature. After a robust wind or a rain, the pathway can be littered with objects fallen from the trees. Interestingly, the objects are often round in nature.

Oak galls come in many sizes, shapes and colors but are all products of the oak trees' reaction to the larvae of certain wasps known as gall wasps. These larvae cause the oak tree to manufacture cells and substances that produce the gall and in turn the wasp larvae use the gall as both food and shelter.

The sweet gum’s spiky “gum balls” hang conspicuously from the tree’s smaller branches, sometimes all winter. Their woody structure keeps them from disintegrating after their seeds have been dispersed.



The acorn usually contains a single seed enclosed in a tough leather shell. They are a food source for wildlife. For humans, they should be treated as they contain tannins which can be toxic to humans and cause an unpleasant bitter taste.

Puff balls are fungi that grow as a sphere and are found on rotting vegetation. Any Disturbance of the balls causes the spores to be “puffed up” into the air and a hollow shell, sometimes collapsed shell, remains.

As you walk, find your own patterns in nature and investigate the structures behind them.

Caring for our planet

Courtesy of Earthjustice

However for the past several years the significant impact of neonics, a class of neuro-active insecticides chemically similar to nicotine has been in question. Neonics are pesticides that are absorbed into all parts of the plant making the entire plant toxic to insects. The graphic on the right explains the effect neonics have on bees.

Earthjustice has been fighting the use of neonics on crops and recently won two court cases which caused the EPA to put nationwide restrictions on the use of sulfoxaflor.

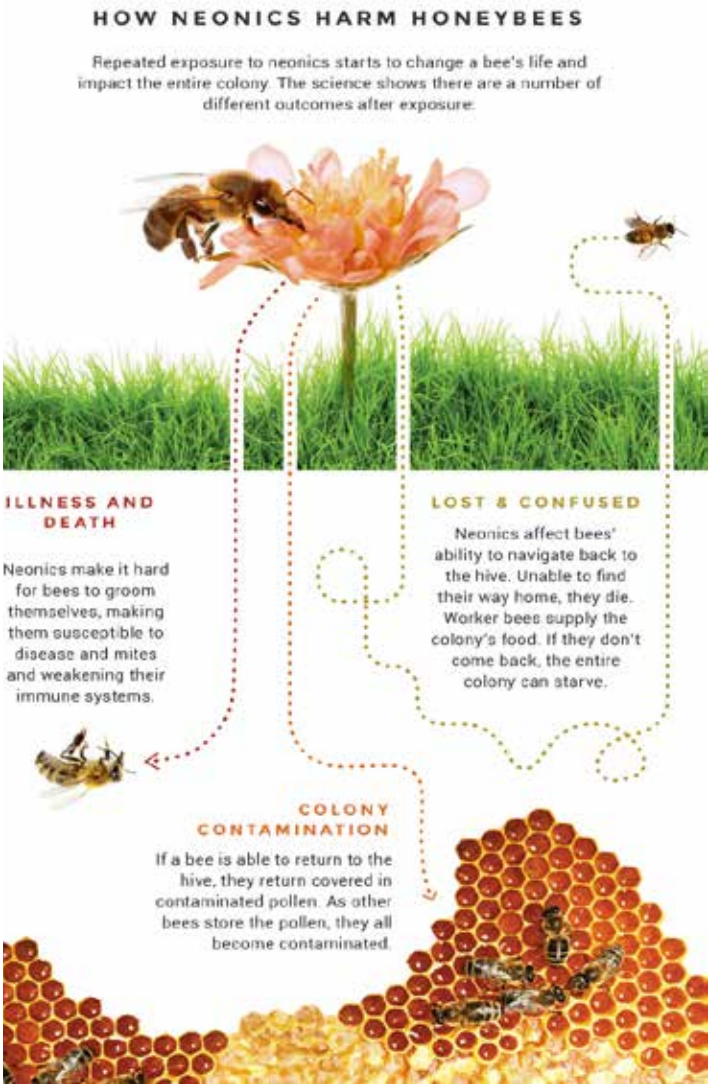
Follow the link to read an excellent article, which includes a caution about planting flowers in your yard that have been treated with these chemicals
.
https://earthjustice.org/features/the-perfect-crime

Bees

Honeybees are the pollinators of more than one-third of our nation's crops. Researchers continue to zero in on what has caused colony collapse disorder, which has a huge impact on our agriculture production. The prevailing theory among scientists in EPA, USDA and the global scientific and regulatory community is "that the general declining health of honey bees is related to complex interactions among multiple stressors including:

- Pests, pathogens, and viruses.
- Poor nutrition (e.g., due to loss of foraging habitat and increased reliance on supplemental diets).
- Pesticide exposure.
- Bee management practices (e.g., long migratory routes to support pollination services).
- Lack of genetic diversity."

https://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/pollinator-health-concerns



Courtesy of Earthjustice

Free outdoor adventures planned for fall

TALLGRASS TOUR - CLYMER MEADOW PRESERVE

Saturday, September 29th at 9 a.m. (8:30 a.m. arrival time)

Clymer Meadow Preserve

Join Brandon Belcher, *North Texas Preserves Manager*, is conducing a tour of The Nature Conservancy's Clymer Meadow Preserve. The Maximillian sunflower and other late summer blooms will be spectacular this year, and some of Texas' true "tall grasses" will be flowering as well. This 1,400 acre preserve contains one of the last remnants of the Blackland Prairie. Visitors can walk a true Texas Prairie as Branadon shares the history and beauty of this amazing ecosystem. The tour will bring you up close and personal with different types of rare prairie land and expose you to a variety of rare plants. Cameras, sunscreen, hat, long pants, hiking boots, raincoat, bottled water, sack lunch and bug spray are ll recommended. Pack a picnic lunch and a beverage, and bring the whole family.

The Nature Conservancy

For more information or to make reservations by September 26, contact Brandon Belcher at **brandon.belcher@tnc.org** or 903.752.0676. Clymer Meadow Preserve is located near Celeste, Texas, in Hunt County.

BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL - JASPER, TEXAS

Saturday, October 20

Outdoor Learning Center next to the Butterfly House

The Butterfly House, located next to the Outdoor Learning Center in Jasper, Texas, is open year-round. Beginning in September every year, master gardeners stock the house with as many varieties of butterflies as they can capture or breed.

During the Butterfly Festival, the Outdoor Learning Center next to the Butterfly House will have Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists to host a variety of free activities for kids to celebrate the fall migration of the monarch butterflies. These include insect detectives, word games, coloring, and take-home projects. Several butterfly releases will happen throughout the day. The Butterfly House is open to walk through with guides to help identify each species and their host plants. The gardens include a variety of nectar plants.

Jasper Butterfly Fest and Fall Festival are family events. The festival includes arts and crafts, food, music, entertainment, a silent auction and more.

Jasper is known as the Butterfly Capital of Texas because it is on one of the main flyways for the migration of the monarch butterfly. The monarch is the only butterfly known to make a two-way migration as birds do. Unlike other butterflies that can overwinter as larvae, pupae, or even as adults in some species, monarchs cannot survive the cold winters of northern climates. Using environmental cues, the monarchs know when it is time to travel south for the winter. Monarchs use a combination of air currents and thermals to travel long distances. Some fly as far as 3,000 miles to reach their winter home.