

Arizona Blooms

News from Scottsdale Garden Club

Member of Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs

Pacific Region Garden Clubs

National Garden Clubs

March 2024

Vol 2, No 6

President's Corner | Carol Parrott



Dear Garden Club Members,

Spring is almost here. Spring is standing in the wings waiting patiently to take center stage.

Soon you will notice tiny cotyledons pushing their way up through the soil to greet the morning sun.

It's almost Show Time!

Shortly the desert floor will begin to turn from dull beige to countless shades of green as new plant growth carpets the land. Then, wildflowers will appear everywhere! That's when spring is officially here.

What's your job in all this?

Sharpen your Bypass clippers and get ready to prune. Hopefully you left the freeze damage on the plant over the winter. This not only protects your plant, it shows you where to prune. Prune back to the new growth and cut on an angle ¼ to ½ inch above a bud. Make your cuts random lengths to maintain the natural look of the plant.

That's it, you're done.

The symbolism of spring is renewal and rebirth. It is the season of hope and new beginnings.

And, that is what I wish for all of us; a splendid spring.

With love,
Carol

Thought for the Day

"Where flowers bloom so does hope."

--Lady Bird Johnson

**For March's Meeting
Deadline to Sign up or Cancel:**

Wednesday, Feb 28, 2024 by Noon

Email or Text:

susansalembier14@gmail.com

or 602-743-9133

**If you have pre-paid, you must cancel or
your account will be charged.**

March Meeting Preview |

Jeanne Isbell

**"Bees, Bees, Bees: The
Importance of Bees"**

Scottsdale Garden Club
member and former SGC
President **Aurien Preiss** will

present a program on how life as we know it



cannot exist without bees.

She will emphasize the importance of bees as



pollinators, the difference between honeybees and native bees, the threats they all face and how we can help.

March Centerpieces will be provided by **Christine Morgan** and **Nancy Jones**.

Upcoming Events

March 10, 2024

SGC FUNdraiser: "Country Living"
McDowell Center
16116 N. McDowell Mtn Ranch Road
Scottsdale, AZ



March 22-23, 2024

Sonoran Desert Awakening
Tucson Garden Club – Small Standard
Flower Show
Atria Campana Del Sol
1500 E River Rd, Tucson, AZ

March 23, 2024

Desert Valley Orchid Society Sale & Show

Berridge Nurseries

4647 E. Camelback Rd., Phoenix, AZ

March Birthdays



Best Wishes to members with birthdays in March!

Jen Donovan	March 6
Jamie Dick	March 10
Sharon Davis	March 13
Anne Lyons	March 20

A Century of Design | Carol Parrott

On February 3-4, Desert Designers Design Club presented a Small Standard Flower Show at Boyce Thompson Arboretum.

"A Century of Design" Flower Show honored the memory of the Arboretum's founder, William Boyce Thompson and celebrated the Arboretum's Centennial, 1924-2024.

Scottsdale Garden Club members, **Amy Emery, Sharon Davis, Rea Heesch, Judy Kennedy, Carol Parrott, Lucy Samuels, and Chris Wolff** are also members of Desert Designers.

Stunning horticultural exhibits were displayed in the Atrium between the recently restored greenhouses. The Horticulture exhibits demonstrated what beauty we, as gardeners, can grow in our beloved Sonoran Desert.





Talented designers presented a medley of exquisite designs showcased in the historic Smith building adjacent to the greenhouses. Gold Canyon Garden Club members participated by greeting the public, answering their questions, and exhibiting horticulture.



We were astonished at the level of participation by members and Arboretum staff who brought horticulture entries from their own gardens and collections. We had 65 cut entries, 13 planters, 42 potted cactus and succulents and 12 magnificent designs for a total of 132 entries.

We were delighted that 837 visitors attended the show and shared in what happens when the splendor of Mother Nature is combined with man's imagination.

The results are glorious!

Design Tip | Sharon Davis



If you want to use Hydrangeas in an arrangement, there are a few ways to guarantee against wilting.

1. Make sure you hydrate your hydrangeas immediately after bringing them home by recutting the stems and placing them in a water solution with one quart of water to one packet of plant food.
2. When it is time to make the arrangement, recut the stems to the size you need and either place them under a flame for 15 seconds, while protecting the flower from the heat, or cut the stem and place the stem tip in alum, which you can get in the spice department of your grocery store.
3. If you have a wilted flower, plunge it into a bowl of water to rehydrate it.

When you are making an arrangement of any flowers, make sure you remove ALL foliage that will be below the water line. You can add a drop of Clorox to the water to help deter bacteria.



Boyce Thompson Arboretum's 100th

| *Sherry Baer*

Boyce Thompson Arboretum celebrates its 100th anniversary this year.



BTA's Demonstration Garden
(BTA photo)

Located just off State Highway 60 near Superior, Arizona, the Arboretum covers about 400 acres. It was established in 1924 by Montana native William Boyce Thompson.

Thompson's winter retreat, Picket Post House, is still standing on the Arboretum grounds. A mining engineer by trade, he was also very interested in food-sustainability and this led him to create the Arboretum which today features 20,000 varieties of plant life. It is run by a nonprofit institution and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Its mission is to "inspire appreciation and stewardship of desert plants, wildlife, and ecosystems through education, research, and conservation."

In addition to its regular programming, the Arboretum will host several events to mark this 100-year milestone. The celebration began in September 2023 with the planting of 100 trees throughout the valley. Future and on-going events include:

Then and Now History Installation

(through October 2024)

Spiny Splendor: Hedgehog Cactus Art Exhibit

(through October 2024)

Legacy Tour

(through April 2024)

Founder's Celebration, Sunday, March 24, 2024

Sustainability Programming

(June – September 2024)

Second Annual Green Gala

(October 2024)

Visit the Arboretum's [website](#) for more information.

Meeting Minutes | *Carol Parrott*

McCormick Ranch Golf Club

February 5, 2024

President **Carol Parrott** called the meeting to order at 12:00.

Birthdays were acknowledged and guests were introduced. The centerpieces were designed by **Amy Emary, Rea Heesch & MJ Sobota**. The blessing was given by **Evie Campbell**.

Luncheon was served from 12:00 – 1:00.

Updates were given by Corresponding Secretary **Jen Donovan** and Membership Chairman **DeAnna Twigg**.

January minutes were approved as published.

Susan Salembier gave the Treasurer's report included in a SGC financial condition report.



Joan Baron, ceramic artist and garden speaker presented on environmental issues.

Jeanne Isbell recorded names for our fieldtrip to Joan's studio on March 5th for a tour and a garden to table luncheon.

Sherry Baer passed around a signup sheet and asked for volunteers to pick a month and write a Horticulture or Design article for our SGC Newsletter.

Carol reported that **Jamie Dick** shared that only one student applied for our AFGC scholarship. She encourages us to reach out to friends and family to stimulate interest in our scholarship program for next year.

Diane Davis reported on our Veteran's Project and brought in an example of a one-gallon size storage bag filled with small sized toiletries. Diane said socks and disposable washcloths are also welcome and please bring your donations to our March meeting.

Jeanne Isbell announced next month's special program, "Bees, Bees, Bees", that will be presented by SGC member, **Aurien Preiss**.

Our FUNdraiser, "Country Living," was discussed by committee members. It is on March 10, 2024 at the McDowell Center, 16116 N. McDowell Mountain Ranch Road in Scottsdale. All are expected to participate. If unable, you are expected to contribute \$50.00 to support the cost of this event.

Meeting adjourned at 2:13.

Time Out . . .

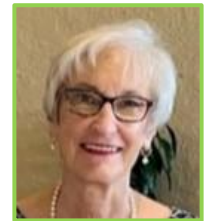


Why do fungi have to pay double bus fares?

Because they take up too mushroom!

Treasurer's Report | *Susan Salembier*

January 2024



Starting Balances (01/01/24)

Checking/Savings \$4,953.22 / \$6,878.96

INCOME

Penny Pines 40.00

Table Centerpieces 30.00

Lunches 1170.00

Interest on Savings .02

TOTAL INCOME 1240.00 / .02

EXPENSES

Speaker Fee 50.00

Lunches-Members 1131.45

Speaker Lunch 39.00

TOTAL EXPENSES 1220.45

Ending Balances (01/31/24)

CD 6,000.00

Checking/Savings \$4,972.77 / \$878.98



Gallery

February 5, 2024 – Some Kind of Nature



President Carol Parrott



Evie Campbell Giving Blessing



Speaker Joan Baron



Barbie Dimuria holding a lufah from Joan's garden





Karon Twigg back after surgery!



2nd VP DeAnna Twigg (left) welcoming new member Carol Henry



Centerpiece by Rea Heesch & Amy Emary



Carol Parrott delivering a Design Moment

