

# Garden Talk

November 2022



**Tulsa Garden Club**  
gardening • community • education  
PO Box 521003 Tulsa OK 74152-1003

*Beautifying Tulsa since 1929!*  
Member: National Garden Clubs and  
Oklahoma Garden Clubs



**Tulsa Garden Club**  
gardening • community • education



**Bring a friend and join us for floral  
arranging, snacks and strolling**

Member National Garden Clubs & Oklahoma  
Garden Clubs

***RSVP by November 28, 2022***

**[TulsaGardenClub@gmail.com](mailto:TulsaGardenClub@gmail.com)**



# Tulsa Garden Club 2022-2023 Officers

*Plant Oklahoma: Let's Think Global and Plant Local*

**President, Kathi Blazer**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Phyllis Ogilvie**

**Recording Secretary, Cathy Covington**

**Corresponding Secretary,  
Susan Henderson**

**Treasurer, Nancy Gleeson**

**Assistant Treasurer, Judy Carter**

**Historian, Judy Weaver & Linda Smith**

[TulsaGardenClub@gmail.com](mailto:TulsaGardenClub@gmail.com)



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Tulsa Garden Club  
gardening • community • education

## Rose Fund

October 2022

[www.TulsaGardenClub.org/Rose-Fund](http://www.TulsaGardenClub.org/Rose-Fund)

### DONORS

Sarah Hodgens

Sandy Farris

Drs. Carletti, Maxwell  
and Staff

Dr. Carletti, Riddle  
and Staff

Dr. Carletti, Stevens  
and Staff

### HONOREES

Kenneth Campbell

Dillon Davis

Monte Geerdes

Anthony "Ton" Andretti

Ruby Copeland

Welcome,  
New Member  
**Tammy Smith**

Gardening Education Partner *Oklahoma Gardening* reported YouTube views since 2019:

- 16,019 views to date for 2022 Garden Tour videos.
- This is up from the 10,881 views the 2021 videos had around the same time 2021
- And 6,974 views the 2019 videos had in fall 2019
- 42,572 total views of all TGC videos since 2019

*EIN 73-1359566 Tulsa Garden Club is a not-for-profit educational organization subordinate to Oklahoma Garden Clubs. Charitable gifts are deductible to the extent allowed by current tax law.*

**Order springtime bulbs and perennials to plant NOW! Click the Bloomin' Buck\$ image/link, choose Tulsa Garden Club and plan your bloomin' spring.**

**Tulsa Garden Club receives a percentage of your order to support gardening education!**

**Help Us Raise Needed Money!**

**Bloomin' Buck\$**  
with Brent and Becky's



# President's Perspective

by Kathi Raun Hromas Blazer, Member since 2018

## Looking Around Us:

- Great attendance and fabulous inspirational November 7 meeting while members shucked bean pods for the Pawnee Seed Project.



- Patron invitations for the 72nd Annual Garden Tour will be in the mail in the next few days. The Garden Tour is in full swing. Send any names you would like to invite to be a Patron to [TulsaGardenClub@gmail.com](mailto:TulsaGardenClub@gmail.com).
- Tulsa in Need: There are many organizations that support those in need of food, clothing, shelter, medical, etc. Look around and find at least one new one to donate to, give time or money. Gardeners make great citizens.
- May we be thankful for all that is around us: good, not so good and questionable as this means we are alive.

Kathi Blazer, President, 2022-2024

## Gardening Education Partner Impact Report Up With Trees

Tulsa Garden Club's donation each year is for the annual renewal of the Club's "Adopt a Tree" site at Highway 169 and 81st Street south.

"Adopt a Tree Site" is Up With Trees' founding program. Since 1976 Up With Trees has posted signs identifying sponsored tree sites that promote preservation and ongoing planting of life-giving trees.

Site sponsorships fund the planting and maintenance of the trees and extend public awareness through the signs.

## 72nd Annual Garden Tour *Passport to Paradise* May 20, 2023

Watch for details on our featured gardens. Patron letters will be in mailboxes soon, so Patrons may benefit gardening education projects, like our public flower shows, and our gardening education partners, like Up With Trees!

72ND ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR  
Oklahoma's longest-running educational,  
charitable tour of private gardens.

*Passport to Paradise*

10am-4pm, Saturday  
May 20, 2023

Member National Garden Clubs and  
Oklahoma Garden Clubs





# The Living Earth Environmental School

By Judy Grotts, Member since 1996

## Friday, December 9, and Saturday, 2022

The Living Earth, Land and Related Issues focuses on ecology, land, plants, agriculture, source reduction of pollutants, toxics and materials, coastal zone management, environmental resources, wildlife, animals, “The Misunderstoods”, and Gardening with Nature.

Student Gretchen V. says  
*Environmental School is great with engaging teachers, exciting tours, meeting new people and reconnecting with others. It's worth every penny!*

Students must complete all four courses of the Environmental School to become a consultant. In addition to national recognition, consultants are qualified to facilitate learning programs, serve on community advisory boards and engaging the community in environmental issues, resources, protecting birds, bees and other wildlife.

This school will help develop a greater understanding that people are an inseparable part of a system consisting of humans, culture, the biophysical environment and that people have the ability to alter the interrelationships of this system.



Register by December 7 via [Eventbrite](#) or mail check. Click image or scan QR code.

It takes three times the amount of water in a bottle of water to make it as it does to fill it.

It takes almost 2,000 times the energy to manufacture a bottle of water than it does to produce tap water.

HealthyHumanlife.com

NGC ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL  
via Zoom  
SERIES 7-001 COURSE 2  
December 9  
and  
December 10, 2022



# History Bites

by Linda Smith, Member since 2017 and Judith Weaver, Member since 2016

## YESTERDAY

The Tulsa Tribune announced the Open House of the New Garden Center on Sunday, November 21, 1954, from 2 - 5pm. Crowds of over 2000 attended. "It was a proud day for the Tulsa Garden Center, for the many members of garden clubs who have worked so long toward this day, and for all Tulsa, which is marking another milestone in its growth with this new center," the newspaper stated.

Busy Tulsa Garden Club members DID work long and hard to make this dream happen! Members held bake sales, rummage sales, fairground flower marts, served banquets "church fashion" to raise money, and held benefit parties with proceeds going to the new garden center. The Tulsa Garden Club contributed over \$5,000 that went toward the purchase of furnishings, chairs, tables, china, stainless steel, a water cooler, vacuum cleaner, projector and screen, typewriter, adding machine, and a 48 cup coffee urn. For 25 years the Tulsa Garden Club had held meetings mostly in members' homes with flower shows and events at Philbrook. The many rooms of the former George Snedden mansion could now afford the space for garden club meetings, flower shows, classes, and lectures.



## TODAY

The tradition continues with Tulsa Garden Club meeting at the beautiful Tulsa Garden Center.

Members and guests meet the first Monday of each month except July, Aug, Sept, and Jan.

What an inspirational permanent meeting place to further our mission of promoting the love of gardening following the dream of our 1929 founders!

# Gardening for Birds

by Fran McKean, Member since 2021

The Blue Jay is no stranger to us, proudly making itself known on any occasion. She or he may become uncharacteristically shy and secretive when nesting unless the need arises to discourage a predator – owl, hawk, snake, or a couple of girls! My sister and I spent many hours exploring the woods and fields in western Arkansas. Having no computer in hand we wouldn't know that the Jay nest might be only feet away in the brush. The striking blue birds with black and blue markings would “dive bomb” about our heads.

The Blue Jay is found in woodlands in the eastern two-thirds of the US, especially where oaks are growing. Omnivorous, they consume acorns and other nuts, seeds, insects, even bird eggs and small animals. At feeders the Jay might prefer peanuts, sunflower seeds, or cracked corn.

The Jay nest is bulky with twigs, bark, grass, and may be cemented with mud. It may be found from low to as high as fifty feet.

The National Geographic Backyard Guide describes the Blue Jay as “conspicuous, colorful, brassy, loud, domineering, raucous, adaptable, intelligent, inquisitive, thieving, handsome, and unmistakable”. That should cover the matter, but a few additional comments about behavior are worthy of attention.

This assertive bird will dominate other birds often without regard to size. There must be a back story somewhere because the Jay, at 2.5-3.5 ounces, will harass a red-tailed hawk of 1.5-3.5 pounds! He can also effectively mimic the hawk.

An alarm call from the Jay will cause other birds to flee or freeze in place.

Some parasitic birds such as the Cowbird may lay their eggs in another bird's nest. Some birds will not notice, but the Blue Jay is likely to toss it out.

Migration? The Jay may or may not fly south depending on conditions.

A key species in propagating oak trees, the Blue Jay may busy himself “seed-caching”. They bury acorns, many of which are never found and eaten.

The Jay may spread himself on the hill of ants less likely to sting or may crush the ants with his beak to spread on feathers and skin. The ant body contains formic acid which repels bird lice. How did he know that?

Amazing creatures are all about, serving their purpose in their habitat and many times providing entertainment and enrichment for us all.

Resources:

Alderfer, Jonathan, Backyard Guide to the Birds of North America, Washington, D.C., National Geographic, 2019.

Kricher, John, Peterson Reference Guide to Bird Behavior, New York, N.Y., Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2020.

Photo credit John D. Harris, Broken Arrow





# Gardening with Nature

by Rose Schultz, Member since 2016, President 2020-2022

Last month I defined native. So, “Why Can’t Insects Eat Alien Plants?”, is a great question and also the title of one of the chapters in *Bringing Nature Home* written by Doug Tallamy.



Chickadee with insect to feed babies

Doug explains, it’s leaf chemistry. “The chemical constituents that allow plants to fix energy from the sun and turn that energy into new tissues, a process called primary metabolism”.

We all have different DNA as do plants. We eat lettuce, apples, and carrots, yet we don’t eat grass, holly berries, and daffodil bulbs, although are plants. We eat foods that taste good and we can easily digest. The same is true of insects and birds, etc., some foods they can digest and some they cannot. It’s all in the chemistry.

Planting natives that provide food for insects and birds is a primary reason for choices you should make when planting. You do not want a pest free garden. If you see holes in leaves, it is food for something. Celebrate!

Why are insects important? Why do we need to plant things insects can eat? University of Delaware research determined it takes between 5,000 and 9,000 insects to raise a brood of baby chickadees. Just as our babies feed on milk, baby birds feed on caterpillars.

Another reason, if you plant alien plants, these plants take up space that could be occupied by native plants. Additionally, because the aliens are transplanted without the controls they had where they were native, they can become invasive. For instance, Kudzu is native to some parts of Japan and China where it is not invasive. In the USA Kudzu has destroyed many plants and trees, etc. because it is difficult to control.

Photo from [ourhabitatgarden.org](http://ourhabitatgarden.org).

*THE PERFECT MULCH—leaf litter provides free mulch, free fertilizer, free weed control and free soil amendments. Litter also provides habitat for many of the arthropod predators that help keep garden communities ecologically balanced.*

Doug Tallamy

*Embedded into the culture of many native American tribes, corn plays an important role in ceremonies, and is celebrated in these communities through feasts, dances, songs, and art! “It’s Corn” takes a look into Philbrook’s Native American Collection to see how corn has influenced artists through jewelry, pottery, paintings and more. Join us in celebrating corn this harvest season!*

Kathi Blazer, Member since 2018, President 2022-2024

# Why Flower Shows?

By Sue Lovelace, Member since 2004, President 2011-2013

In a Design Specialty Show, there is no Horticulture (the plants you grow). For this special show you may purchase plant material, pick along the road, or pick from a friend. You may use any plant material you wish in your designs but you do not have to grow it.

There are five Divisions possible for a Flower Show: Horticulture, Design, Education, Youth and Sponsored Groups, and Botanical Arts. The "Schedule" outlines all elements of a flower show as the Law of the show.



Artistic Crafts ~ Fascinator Hat

The Tulsa Garden Club Flower Show, "Oklahoma Shows!", to be held March 25, 2023 is all about Design. A design is a plan bringing order to an art form by using the elements and principles of design to create beauty, harmony, distinction and expression.

Members can benefit from the special workshops to be held by learning how to create all the different designs listed in the schedule. Members will learn how to craft the designs and how they are judged.

What does "designer's choice" mean? Some of the designs are made using all dried materials, some using all fresh plant materials, and designer's choice means you can use either dried, fresh or a combination of the two.

Each Flower Show must contain Education. "Oklahoma Shows!" will have

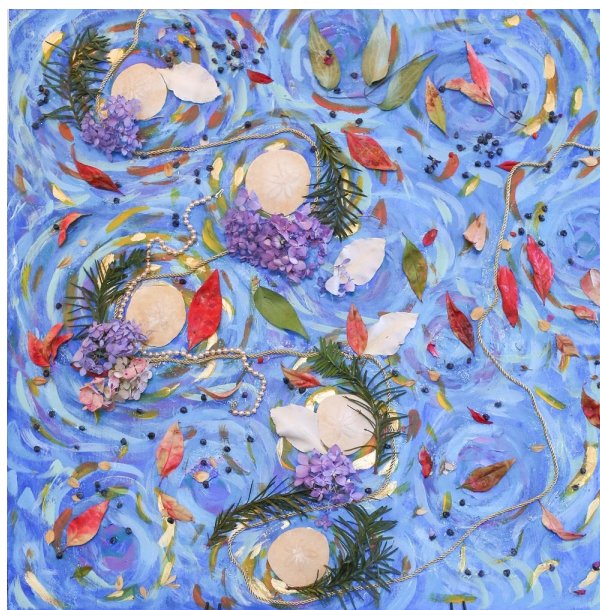
two educational exhibits, and Botanical Arts.

The Design section limits entries to four in each class. In Botanical Arts Division, there can be unlimited entries, provided there is space available.

There are three Sections of Botanical Arts: Botanical Design, Artistic Crafts and Photography. The difference between Botanical Design and Artistic Crafts is Botanical Design is decorative while Artistic Crafts are objects with a function.

There will be Photography. Start thinking about the photos you have archived and the ones you can take over the winter.

"Oklahoma Shows!" Design Specialty Flower Show will also have a Division for Youth Designs. Young gardeners and artists kindergarten through high school are encouraged to enter!



Botanical Design ~ Collage

**Oklahoma Shows! is March 25, 2023. Plan your exhibits for this Design Specialty Show.**