

FEBRUARY 2024

MANSFIELD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER



Message from the President of Mansfield Garden Club

I hope this message finds you well and filled with the same excitement and anticipation that I feel. It's a true honor to step into this leadership role and work alongside such passionate and dedicated individuals who share a love for gardening and fostering our community.

As we embark on this journey together, I am eager to build upon the strong foundation laid by our predecessors and explore new avenues for growth and enrichment within our club. With your support and collaboration, I am confident that we can accomplish great things and continue to cultivate a thriving environment for sharing knowledge, exchanging ideas, and nurturing our shared love for gardening.

Message from the President

In the coming months, I look forward to connecting with each of you, listening to your ideas, and working together to shape the future of Mansfield Garden Club. Whether it's organizing exciting events, initiating community outreach projects, or simply spending time together in our beloved gardens, I am committed to fostering an inclusive and vibrant community where everyone feels valued and inspired.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any suggestions, concerns, or ideas you may have. Your input is invaluable, and I am here to ensure that your voices are heard as we chart the course ahead.

Thank you once again for this incredible opportunity. Let's embark on this journey together and make the next two years a period of growth, friendship, and bountiful harvests for our club.

Warmest regards,
Sonya

MANSFIELD GROWS INFORMATION

Mansfield Grows – The Mansfield Library is launching a community project called "Mansfield Grows". Julie Crisafulli, Youth Services Librarian, joined our January meeting to tell us about this exciting project.

At the heart of Mansfield Grows lies an innovative indoor greenhouse cabinet that nurtures a diverse array of plants, including herbs, ornamental houseplants, and native Texas plants. The program will provide 50 growth kits that allow participants to take home a plant propagation, learn about its care, measure its growth, and report on knowledge gained through a survey.

The library needs donations of cuttings from these houseplants:

Golden Pothos
Spider plant
Little Swiss Cheese plant
Snake plant
ZZ Plant

Partners

Mansfield Public Library is partnering with the City of Mansfield Water Utilities and Environmental Services departments for their expertise on water conservation and Texas Native Plants. Tarrant County Public Health will conduct a program on healthy eating by growing herbs and vegetables. Texas Master Gardeners will provide a program on gardening. Mansfield Garden Club will host a program on vegetable gardening. Our club will host "The how to of vegetable gardening" on March 12 time to be announced.



PLANTS OF THE MONTH: FEBRUARY HERBS

Herbs To Plant In February In Texas

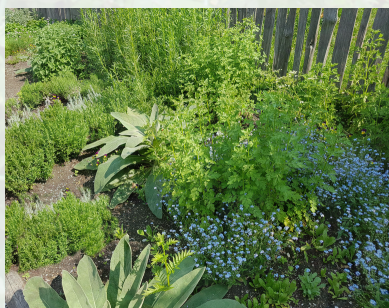
February is an ideal time to plant a variety of herbs in Texas. Herbs are perfect for adding flavor to meals, as well as having many medicinal benefits. Growing your own herbs is easy and rewarding, and there are plenty of options for planting in the mild winter weather of Texas. Herbs like cilantro, parsley, dill, oregano, rosemary, thyme, and sage are all perfect for planting in February.

If starting from seed, it is important to start the seeds indoors at least 6-8 weeks before the last frost date. This will give them enough time to germinate and establish before being transplanted outdoors. Planting herbs from seed can be tricky but with enough patience and care they will reward you with lush foliage and flavorful leaves all season long.

For those looking for a more instant gratification approach, herbs can also be planted in pots or containers from nursery stock or small plants from the local garden center. These plants can often be found already established with roots intact and ready to plant directly into a pot or the garden bed. This method is great for those looking for fast results without having to wait weeks for germination or growth of their herb plants.

When planning an herb garden in Texas during February it is important to look up the last frost date for your area so that you can plan accordingly. With proper planning you can have a thriving herb garden full of flavorful additions to your cooking all year long!

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GAZEBO

Be sure to go by the gazebo to see the beautiful Valentine decorations that Janie Runyan and our members did. Every time I drive by the gazebo it makes me proud to be a member of Mansfield Garden Club. It's a fabulous MGC project and a wonderful place to go to relax and/or take some family pictures.



The Gazebo received some fan mail!



Just wanted to let you know that I drive by this gazebo every week on my way to church I always look over to see how it is decorated. When I have friends in town we stop for a picture. Then I text them updated photos every time it is redecorated. Thank you for spreading joy! I told my best friend that when I go I want her to decorate a gazebo for me! ♥♥♥
Thanks for making Mansfield feel like Stars Hollow from Gilmore Girls. Jenn

We love hearing from our scholarship recipients. Here is an email that we received from Blake Tittsworth:

Hello Mansfield Garden Club,

I apologize for going a little MIA as of late, but I write to you with updates on my college career. Last semester I again managed to maintain my 4.0 OSU GPA and took horticulture classes that included Introduction to Horticulture (where I made Grateful Dead poster from seeds: photo) and Turfgrass Management. I can for sure say that while I am still in love with Horticulture , I thoroughly hate turfgrass! I mean, if you look out at the entirety of the landscape and choose to study grass, you're crazy. From these classes however, I feel that my understanding of Horticulture has blossomed and I am able to watch myself become the Horticulturalist that I want to be.

Last semester I also attended a career fair with hopes for a summer internship where I can learn more about Horticulture. After talking with many forestry companies, and making it past the interview stage for a landscaping company, I ended up calling them before a site visit and informed them that I was no longer interested. From here, I called, emailed, and sent my cover letter and résumé to over 30 vineyards across the nation and some international. I'm happy to say that I received two job offers and will be interning at Two Mountain Winery in Washington state over the summer!

Last semester I was able to bring my dog, A black lab named Mabel, up to school with me and she not only helps me with my day-to-day life but is also my favorite work partner when it's time to go work out the Vineyard. Work at the Vineyard is slow right now, but soon we will begin pruning the entire lot in preparation for this year's growing season! This year I will also be taking classes like soil sciences and landscape irrigation in regards to Horticulture, I also intend on becoming a certified Master Gardener this semester as well . I have also become an active member of our Horticulture club at Oklahoma State where I currently have the most volunteer hours of any member, to my knowledge, and I intend to become president by next year.

I hope the garden club has managed to stay warm as this winter has already come off to a ferocious start. Please let me know of any garden club hot topics lol, and I will be sure to keep writing. I've attached Some photos taken over the semester for you to look at as well.

Go pokes,

Blake Tittsworth



UPCOMING EVENTS

GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 | 6:00PM

Chris W. Burkett Service Center

620 S. Wisteria St., Mansfield, TX 76063

Jeff Amon: A seasoned licensed professional with a degree in Plant Soil Science from Texas Tech University, Jeff is a distinguished member of the Lone Star Irrigation Association. Currently serving as an adjunct professor at Tarrant County College, he imparts his extensive knowledge by teaching Landscape Irrigation (HALT 1333). With 15 years of hands-on experience in landscaping and a specialization in irrigation, Jeff brings a wealth of expertise to the table.

GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 | 6:00 p.m.

Chris W. Burkett Service Center

620 S. Wisteria St., Mansfield, TX 76063

Topic and Speaker will be: Festivals at The Dallas Arboretum, with presenter Rick Williams. Over the years, he developed a love for plants, flowers, etc., so he went to night school for 5 years at Richland College in Dallas and earned an Associate Degree in Ornamental Horticulture in May 2007. He is also a Texas Certified Master Gardener. Rick began volunteering at the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden in January 2007 where he gives tours and does other volunteer work

MANSFIELD GARDEN CLUB

MANSFIELD GARDEN CLUB 2024 - 2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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4th V.P. of Community Projects – Valerie Crowe
5th V.P. of Youth and Education – Kris Schulz and Rebecca Sales

MANSFIELD GARDEN CLUB COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Farmer's Market – Annette Atkinson & Melissa Peckler
Scholarship – Kris Schulz
Butterfly Garden – Rhonda Oertwich & Kathe Cleveland
Man House Gardens – Val Crowe
Service Center Garden Plots – Rosa Weith
Gazebo Decorating – Pamela Smith
Gazebo Garden – Janie Runyan



[/MGCTexas](#)



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