

# THE GARDEN DISPATCH



A member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

**2024 TEXAS GARDEN CLUB OF THE YEAR - for the third time!**

**MONTHLY MEETING**  
**Tuesday,**  
**Jan. 20, 2026**  
**9:30**

Hunt United Methodist Church  
120 Merritt Rd., Hunt, TX 78024

## HOSTESSES

Johnna Curle\*  
Melissa Barroso  
Tracy Belew  
Christy Carter  
Elizabeth Cotton  
Lindsey Roberson  
Cindy Shackelford  
Sandy Hightower

**PRESIDENT**  
Cindy Janke

**FIRST VP (programs)**  
Karen Taylor

**SECOND VP (membership)**  
Martha Kimbrell

**THIRD VP (ways & means)**  
Melissa Clark-Maynard

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Jill Kerr

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**  
Trisha McMahon

**TREASURER**  
Diane DeKerlegand

**PARLIAMENTARIAN**  
Laura Greenwood

Committee Chairs,  
Project and Activity Leaders  
are listed in the Yearbook

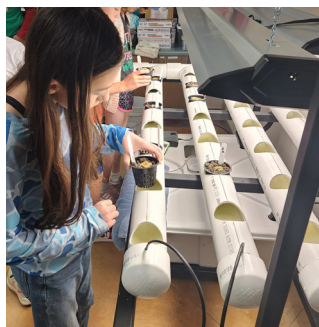
[www.huntgardenclub.com](http://www.huntgardenclub.com)  
[huntgardenclubphotos@gmail.com](mailto:huntgardenclubphotos@gmail.com)

## JANUARY PROGRAM

### HYDROPONICS

Melissa and Mikey Maynard

Discover the future of farming with Hydroponics as we outline the lessons that are experienced with the Hunt School students yearly.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy 2026! I think many of us were glad to put 2025 behind us and are pleased to be moving into a new year. Lately I have been gawking at seed catalogs and dreaming of color once again in my brown backyard. I hope that whatever this new year brings, our club will continue our hard work in making this community a beautiful place to live.

Cindy

*"Anyone who thinks gardening begins in spring and ends in the fall is missing the best part of the whole year; for gardening begins in January with the dream."*

Josephine Nuese



# What's Happening in Hunt Garden Club?

## MEMBERSHIP

**78 active members**  
**51 associate members**  
**129 total membership**



We will be voting for our new officers for 2026-2027. Here is the slate of nominees:

President - **Patti Devlin**  
VP Programs - **Mitzi Silber**  
VP Membership - **Martha Kimbrell**  
VP Ways and means - **Melissa Clark-Maynard**  
Recording Secretary - **Casie North**  
Corresponding Secretary - **Trisha McMahon**  
Treasurer - **Diane DeKerlegand**  
Parliamentarian - **Cindy Janke**

### Corresponding Secretary (Trisha McMahon)

Thank You notes:

Sugar Creek Garden Club - \$1,000  
Kingwood Garden Club - \$585, \$85, \$77, \$50  
South Hampton Garden Club - \$50  
Forest Cove Garden Club - \$170

One Get Well note.

### Scholarship (Ruth Johnson)

The March scholarship application deadline is quickly approaching. We are receiving inquiries on where to send the applications so we believe it's going to be an active year for applications.

### Social Media (Nicole Bilbao)

If you have any photos to share from your Garden Club projects, please email [huntgardenclubphotos@gmail.com](mailto:huntgardenclubphotos@gmail.com)

### Memorial Garden (Cindy Janke)

We have picked up rocks from the business that etched names in them. We are still waiting for the improvements (dirt, water lines) to be done at the HPS Park. Our hope is to get started in the spring.

### Ways and Means (Melissa Clark-Maynard)

The Hunt Garden Club is proud to share the success of our recent Flower Power Fundraising campaign, which bloomed beautifully during the late fall holiday season. Through our Amaryllis bulb sales, we raised an impressive \$2,257.50, making this one of our most successful fundraisers to date.

Every purchase helped fuel our mission of beautifying our area, supporting education, and giving back through hands-on community service especially after our devastating flood on July 4<sup>th</sup>!

We are honored to be recognized as one of the top Garden Clubs in Texas for three years, a distinction that reflects our dedication to civic responsibility, environmental stewardship, and community enrichment. Fundraising plays a vital role in allowing us to continue projects such as public garden improvements, educational outreach, and conservation efforts throughout our region.

We are already preparing for our Spring Flower Power Fundraiser, featuring daffodils and a wide selection of spring-blooming bulbs. By participating in Flower Power Fundraising, you're not just planting flowers—you're planting hope, beauty, and support for local projects right here in Hunt.

Ways and Means sales in December 2025:

Bake Sale \$1,107  
Seed ball sale \$435  
Flower power amaryllis \$2,257.30

It's a beautiful thing to be able to raise money for our endeavors. I could not do it alone and appreciate all the support! Thank you All.



### The Blue Star Memorial (Eileen Parsons)

The Blue Star Memorial committee will do some pruning this spring. We do not have plans to add any plants unless it is to replace any that don't survive the winter. I have determined, with the help of Road and Bridge, that the land is owned by the VFW, across hwy 27. Their building had flood damage so I have not been able to discuss adding a sidewalk to the site with anyone. I will try again in the next few weeks. If we get an approval, we will need to fundraise for the cost.

## More Happenings in Hunt Garden Club

### Beehives (Beth Gaddie)

The bee committee works so hard to care for our bees but despite our best efforts, we have lost one of our bee hives to the wax moths AGAIN. This is the third year in a row we have been affected by the wax moths. The wax moth larva burrow into the wood of the hive boxes causing severe damage. We have taken all of the steps possible other than fumigating to control the situation. With the last wax moth infestation, the boxes were deemed simply too damaged to be used anymore so they were discarded. At this point we either need to purchase new hive boxes to run a second hive or just operate one hive. We have requested an additional \$220 from the club to purchase a new apiary kit and nuc of bees.

### Discovery Garden (Cindy Janke)

**To any member interested in working in the Discovery Garden this spring:**

The Discovery Garden is gearing up for the spring season with a luncheon and meeting on **February 3 at Cindy Janke's family home - 210 Rio Vista Rd.**

Come at **11 a.m.** with your appetite, ideas, and enthusiasm.

Hope to see you then. Cindy



### Post Office Landscape (Alice King)

The Post Office Committee (aka Santa's Elves) decided to bring some cheer to the powder room at our temporary post office. The wreath was decorated with **bird snacks**. Happy New Year!



### Hunt Welcome Sign (Kathy Freeman)

Our **Welcome to Hunt** sign made the San Antonio News! In fact, the Welcome sign in Hunt is quite famous. People from all over come to have their picture taken there. As of late, I stumbled upon a young lady taking pictures of our old tattered sign. After visiting with her it seems she comes to the sign every year. Go figure..... It's an important landmark that many locals and visitors revere.

The Holiday decorations and lights were just what our little devastated town needed to brighten their spirits during the holidays. After the holidays the sign committee met and disassembled and packed away the decorations for a brighter holiday next year.

You may have noticed the sign has been taken down. It is now in the creative hands of Fred Collins, a sign maker in Medina. Turns out he made the very first Welcome to Hunt sign. He also made the second sign when the first sign was stolen (and, that's another story.) The sign will be made a little different this time. In light of the flood, we selected a beautiful cypress slab that's a tad bit bigger and a somewhat irregular shape as we chose to maintain a live edge with the natural curves of the tree. We are excited to see the finished sign in month or so and look forward to completing the project in the spring.







## Christmas Luncheon (Nancy Huffman)

Our Christmas Luncheon at Moon Shadow Haven was so much fun for all. We enjoyed a delicious catered buffet from Mana Sabroso in San Antonio, and did some Christmas shopping with some of our local vendors. Many thanks are in order: Jane and James Reed for sharing their beautiful venue with us once again, the lovely singing of our own Lori Wright, and Kathy Simmons and Emily Petty for providing our scrumptious dessert chocolates!





**Announcement from Cindy!**

The SCR convention will be held in San Antonio on April 28-29 at the Menger Hotel.  
Can you please check your calendars and let me know if you can attend with me?  
Sounds like there are some fun activities planned.

## SCR CONVENTION

Our garden club is part of the **National Garden Club** with over 5,000 clubs across the country.

We are further broken down into **regions** -

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGION - SCR** (Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Mexico)

**STATE - TX Garden Club - TGC**

**DISTRICTS - we are District VII West Zone**

Each of these groups hold yearly meetings to share information, learn from each other, and give awards.

In April of 2026 the **South Central Region** will host their annual convention in San Antonio on

**April 28-29**

Our district will be hosting and they want to make it fun! Consider joining us for all or part of the convention to see what other clubs are doing and make new friends.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**"PLANT AMERICA"**

**See How We Grow**

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGION CONVENTION**

**WHEN: APRIL 28-29, 2026**

**WHERE: HISTORIC MENDER HOTEL**

**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

Take a narrated boat ride along the beautiful San Antonio Riverwalk, enjoy two fun workshops, as well as speakers on orchids and lavender, and Red, White & Blue landscaping of Blue Star Memorial Markers. Tuesday will be Fiesta Day with a fabulous Design program hosted by San Antonio Judges Council and Wednesday dress in your Red, White and Blue Western wear and enjoy some Texas Hospitality!

**Tuesday, April 28, 2026 (Fiesta Day)**

8:30am Leave for San Antonio Riverwalk for Boat Tour

12:00noon Lunch at Hotel and program on Lavender

1:30pm SCR 2025-2027 Executive Committee Meeting

3:00pm Resurrection Plant Workshop

6:00pm Dinner and Design Program provided by San Antonio Judges Council

**Wednesday, April 29, 2026 (Western Day)**

9:00am SCR General Business Meeting and Awards Presentation

12:00noon Lunch and program on Orchids

1:30pm Red, White and Blue Workshop

5:00pm Reception honoring NGC President and SCR

The registration form is attached to the newsletter email. Print it out to send in your registration.