

THE GARDEN DISPATCH

Newsletter of the Hunt Garden Club

Hunt, Texas

A member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

"Friendship through Gardening"

MONTHLY
MEETING

**Tuesday,
April 18, 2023
9:30**

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

HOSTESSES

Karen Taylor (lead)
Lea Bittner
Kristina Casanova
Gay Chaudoir
Elizabeth Cotton
Emily Petty
Megan Stolley

PRESIDENT

Laura Greenwood

FIRST VP (programs)

Nancy Huffman

SECOND VP (membership)

Carol Gannaway

THIRD VP (ways & means)

Alice King

RECORDING SECRETARY

Lanie Nickel

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Gretchen Harris

TREASURER

Patti Devlin

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Elizabeth Cotton

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

APRIL PROGRAM

"Blades of Glory"

Jackie Skinner

Hill Country Master Gardeners



Jackie will be discussing the wide array of ornamental bunch grasses available to the Texas Hill Country garden, many of them native, the benefits of installing these grasses and their easy care. If you're looking for a (White-Tail) deer-proof landscape, consider starting with native and adapted grass plants. They give your yard a big sensational bang for minimum care. There is no regular mowing in the summer, fertilizing is optional. They come in many colors and shapes, and thrive in a wide variety of garden conditions. In the autumn, ornamental grasses more than live up to their name, giving the turning leaves a run for their money.

A note from your President:

April Showers Bring May flowers . . . we're waiting for more of those showers!!! In the meantime, we work in our gardens, water if we need to, and enjoy the abundance of beauty we are lucky to have in the Hill Country.

Laura

The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul.

" Alfred Austin"

What's Happening in Hunt Garden Club?

Scholarships (Ruth Johnson)

The Scholarship Committee received four applications this year. All candidates were well qualified. Harper High School had three applicants and Tom Moore Ingram High School had one. We met to evaluate the candidates using our rubric and are happy to report we are awarding scholarship monies to each of the applicants. We are awarding \$1,250 to the top applicant, \$750 to the second highest and \$500 to the remaining two applicants. Notification letters will go out this week. Stay tuned for more information on the recipients in next month's newsletter.

Also, let's thank the following committee members who worked diligently through the process: Liz Thomas-Reynolds, Bridget Symm, Debe Palmer, Martha Kimbrell, Sandy Hightower, Gretchen Harris, Diane DeKerlegand and Elizabeth Cotton.

www.huntgardenclub.com

MEMBERSHIP

81 active members
41 associate members
122 total membership

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

Laurie Catalani requested to move to Associate.
Georgia Roth has resigned.

Corresponding Secretary (Gretchen Harris)

I sent two "get well" cards, two "thank you" cards and one "sympathy" card to Barbara Blackbird for the recent loss of her husband.

What's Happening in Hunt Garden Club?



HISD Wildscape (Carla Stang)

The Wildscape team had two spring cleaning days and boy is there a difference. Trimming back and removing the old, dead growth sure gives the beds an empty look for the immediate time period. However, we were treated to some of our early bloomers: Blue Bonnets, Salvia, and a couple of Huisache Daisies. We had beautiful weather for our work days and have been blessed with a little bit of rain recently. We're all hoping for more precipitation this year so the Wildscape puts on a good show throughout the spring and summer producing nectar and pollen for our pollinator friends.

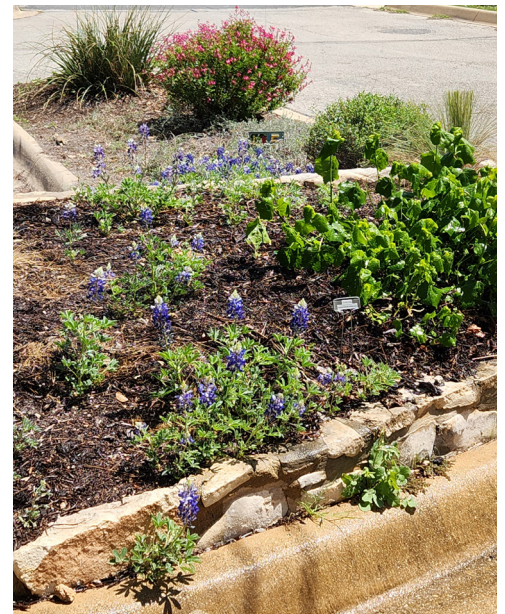


Blue Star Memorial Marker (Kristina Casanova)

The Casanovas spread 8 bags of mulch and ant treatment on 3/11 and an additional 4 mulch bags on 3/18. Not much trimming was required since we have not received rain. Salvias were just starting to bloom. Please stay tuned for the watering schedule sign up that will be emailed in preparation for summer. Thank you, Tracy Belew, for volunteering to help - much appreciated!



Before trimming



After trimming

More Happenings

Discovery Garden

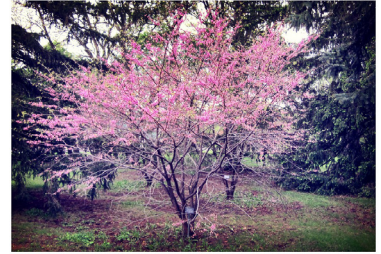
The 4th and 5th graders have had lessons on scarecrow making, water catchment and water movement through three types of soils.



President's Garden (Sue Hilton)

The Presidents Garden has been trimmed back and that has encouraged the lantana to bloom as usual. The Mountain Laurel tree has almost doubled in size and is blooming beautifully as well.

Our small redbud tree has survived for several years despite its small size. It's a determined little tree, and we are determined to give it every chance!



Post Office Landscape - (Kyra Bowman)

We had our two PO Bed workdays. Sunday, 3/26, Alice King, Carol Gannaway, Pam Hardin, Karen Taylor and Carla Stang pulled all the rocks from the beds and washed them. A layer of compost was put down and the cleaned rocks were replaced. Our second workday, Saturday, 4/1, we had Alice King, Ann Birkner, Carol Gannaway, Pam Curtis and Karen Taylor. We planted the red yuccas at the far outer corners of both beds and created new beds outside the original ones to plant the Nolinias. Compost was spread and newspapers were laid down in an effort to keep grass and weeds from coming through. The beds were finished off with mulch. All our earlier plantings have come back and are blooming beautifully, with the exception of the blackfoot daisies. We discussed replacing them as they are such a nice addition to the beds, but after checking Friendly Natives in F'burg and Plant Haus, none were to be found. We decided instead of the pots with grass that something flowering in the inner corners would be nice.



Adopt A Highway - (Penny Deupree)

Adopt A Hwy clean up was a success- it did not rain! 10 people were there to help with this process and collected 7 large bags of trash. Our Hwy 39 was shiny and cleaned up!! Thanks to those that volunteered!!

Social Media (Mitzi Silber)

My added focus on our website with the Spotlight articles seems to really be paying off. In the past month, there have been 217 visitors to the site! The next Spotlight will feature our Bee Crew.



HGC BULLETIN BOARD



The **Hunt Volunteer Fire Department** needs your help with the **Beast Blast!** This annual, community event will be held on April 15th from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the main firehouse on FM 1340. Beef, chicken and veggie fajitas will be served, with all the fixings so we need desserts.

If you can help, please make individually wrapped desserts (cookies, brownies, etc.) to accompany the meal and deliver them to the firehouse on the morning of the event before 11:00 a.m. If you need to make other arrangements to deliver your desserts, please contact Gretchen Harris, (830)928-3530 or Karen Taylor at (409)256-3819.



The Hunt Welcome Sign is ready for Spring!

ANNOUNCEMENT

Bernadell is stepping down as the **Hydroponics Coordinator**, so we need a replacement to fill this role for the Fall.

Field Trip!

Hill Country Youth Ranch Tour

Thursday, April 27th @ 10:00.

We'll meet at Bridget's Basket at 9:15 and carpool from there. There is plenty of parking at the Youth Ranch if you want to take your own car.

The tour should take about 1 1/2 hours. I'll pass around a sign up sheet at both the March and April meetings.

Questions? Email Katy at katywcallen@gmail.com, or call: 713-703-3612.

HCYR : 3522 Junction Hwy, Ingram
guides: Katy Allen, Wynita Yancy



SAVE THE DATES

April 15 - Beast Blast, HVFD annual event

April 27 - Field Trip Tour of the Hill Country Youth Ranch


May 16 - May Garden Club Luncheon (not the 23rd)

"Launching Hunt Garden Club's 70th Year!"

See your Invitation on the next page!

ATTACHMENTS

Meeting Agenda
Treasurer's report
March meeting minutes



We are launching into our
70th year!

You are invited to the

*Hunt Garden Club
Platinum Luncheon*

Celebrating 70 Years of Service

May 16, 2023

*Heart O' the Hills Camp
2430 Hwy 39*

Gather at 11:00 am, lunch at 11:30

Please bring a salad to share, serving spoon,
and a card with salad ingredients.

RSVP to Trisha McMahon
at trishakster@gmail.com
by May 2