

# Arizona Blooms

News from Scottsdale Garden Club

Member of Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs

Pacific Region Garden Clubs

National Garden Clubs

April 2025

Vol 3, No 7

## President's Corner | Carol Parrott



Hello Spring!

We're glad you're here as our gardens truly need our attention. Spring is the time when new growth appears and there are flowers everywhere!

The Sonoran Desert has come alive. Cherish this season for we know what comes next - intolerable heat and continuing drought. We'll be as ready as possible to face the summer if we check the irrigation emitters, mulch our plants, provide shade cloth where needed, and adjust our watering schedule. Spring is the busiest gardening season.

Thanks to all of you, we had a very successful Flower Show.

But now is the time to concentrate on our Pacific/AFGC Convention (April 27-30) which we last hosted in 2011. It's going to be a very exciting event with outstanding speakers, workshops, and tours.

There's something for everyone.

Hope to see you there.

Fondly,  
Carol

For  
the April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Meeting  
Deadline to Sign up or Cancel:

Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, by Noon

RSVP via Email or Text:

[susansalembier14@gmail.com](mailto:susansalembier14@gmail.com)

or 602-743-9133

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

Pay by Check, Cash or Zelle  
(sgcTreasurer100@gmail.com)

\$39 per lunch incl tax & tip

## April 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting Preview | Jeanne Isbell

### "Botanical Medicine"

Dr. Jenna Dye, a board-certified Naturopathic Physician, returns to present another program about medicinal plants and allergy remedies. Dr. Dye is a primary care physician with a special passion for pediatrics, adolescent and women's health. She believes her "role is to help support the body's foundation and restore and maintain optimal health."

Tablescapes will be contributed by **Evie Campbell** and **Barbara Mlnarik**.

## Save the Date

Friday, April 25  
**Arbor Day Tree Planting**  
Comanche Park  
7639 Paseo Del Norte, Scottsdale  
(on McCormick Ranch, off Hayden)

SGC-Member Coffee/Breakfast  
to follow at a location TBD



## Thought for the Day

"Plant a row for the hungry."

-Suzanne Bushnell  
NGA Chair of "Plant America –  
Feed America" Project

## Mark Your Calendar

April 19, 2025  
"Bunanza – EarthFest Green Expo"  
Scottsdale Civic Center Mall 9am - Noon  
3939 N Drinkwater Blvd., Scottsdale

April 25  
Arbor Day Tree Planting  
Comanche Park  
7639 Paseo Del Norte, Scottsdale

April 27-30, 2025  
Pacific/AFGC State Convention –  
"Wild & Water Wise"  
Wyndham Phoenix Airport, Tempe, AZ

## New Directions – Celebrating Sister Cities | Judy Kennedy



After months of planning and preparation, "New Directions: Celebrating Scottsdale's Sister

Cities" Flower Show was held at the Mustang Library on March 1-2. The ribbon cutting



ceremony took place in front of the library at noon with an impressive backdrop of flags from the eight Sister Cities. **Carol Parrott**, Scottsdale Garden Club President, and **Judy Kennedy**, Chair of the Flower Show, welcomed attendees. Scottsdale **Mayor Lisa Borowsky**, Scottsdale Library Director, **Michael Beck**, and **Neil Ciarfalia**, President of Scottsdale Sister Cities Association each shared a few words. **Medina Zick**, Mustang Branch Director, **Sandy Zally**, SSCA Arts Chair, and **Cindy DiBlasi** who created the show's logo, were introduced and thanked.



Approximately 245 visitors enjoyed the show asking questions about the garden club and the Sister Cities Association and its activities. In addition to enjoying beautiful designs and admiring outstanding horticulture, guests also received an education about the eight Sister Cities. There was even an interactive game for children with questions about each city. An added highlight was a demo artist painting flowers from some of the designs.

A flower show is only as good as those who organize it, and Scottsdale had wonderful chairpersons and great club support. Thank you to everyone involved: staging and properties; judges; awards; clerks; hostesses; publicity; horticulture placement and entries; design entries and exhibitors; education exhibits; youth exhibits; artistic crafts. It was all beautifully coordinated!

The show received a high enough score to prepare a Book of Evidence for a Flower Show Award. Thank you, **Sherry Baer**, for agreeing to do this!

And the **New Directions** award winners are.....

Award of Horticultural Excellence: **Janice Smith**

Arboreal Award: **Janice Smith, Jean Brush**

Award of Merit: **Kris Richter, Sharon Davis, DeAnna Twigg, Aurien Preiss**

Grower's Choice: **Cheryl Bunch, Janie Montgomery**

Award of Design Excellence: **Judy Shelton**

Designer's Choice Award: **Mickie Rustad**

Haikou, China – **Chris Morgan**

Cairns, Australia – **Sharon Davis**

Marrakech, Morocco – **Mickie Rustad**

Petite Award: **Mary Lou Milstead**

Interlaken – **Rea Heesch**

Alamos – **Chris Wolff**

Killarney – **Mary Lou Milstead**

Table Artistry Award: **Judy Shelton**

Uasin Gishu, Kenya – **Judy Shelton**

Kingston, Canada – **Chris Wolff**

Enchanting Places – **Jennifer Moreland**

Club Competition Award: **Yuma Garden Club**

Educational Top Exhibitor Award: **DeAnna Twigg**

Youth Top Exhibitor Award: Marrakech, "Connecting Purple Hearts"

Botanical Arts Artistic Craft Award: **Elaine Tulving**

Backpacks – **Karon Quigg**

Hats – **Lenda Sundene**

Journals – **Elaine Tulving**

Club Sweepstakes Award – Design: **Judy Shelton**

Club Sweepstakes Award – Horticulture: **Judy Shelton**

A final 'Thank You' to the many members that spent countless hours helping make this a wonderful flower show.

We hope it has been an inspiration for many to head out in unexplored "New Directions"!



## Bunnanza/EarthFest 2025 | Susan Salembier

Scottsdale Garden Club will reprise the “Unity Through Nature” educational exhibit from our recent Flower Show at Scottsdale’s popular “Bunnanza” event. Our exhibit will be part of the EarthFest celebration and will be seen by hundreds of families at this Western-themed Easter event on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am to noon at the Scottsdale Civic Center Mall.

**Needed:** Volunteers to staff our exhibit, tell our club’s story to the community and help with our children’s activity (a coloring sheet related to the exhibit.) Contact **Susan** to volunteer (602-743-9133).



## Thriving in the Heat | Jeanne Isbell

### Thriving in the Heat: Best Plants for Summer Containers in Phoenix



Gardening in The Valley of the Sun’s summer heat can be a challenge, but with the right plants, you can create vibrant, thriving container gardens that endure even the most intense sun. The key is selecting heat-

tolerant, drought-resistant species that can flourish in pots and planters.

Succulents like agave, aloe, and echeveria are



excellent choices, as they store water in their fleshy leaves and require minimal care. To help your plants thrive, use well-drained soil, water deeply but infrequently, and

choose terra cotta or light-colored containers to keep roots cooler.

For a splash of color, consider lantana, bougainvillea, and portulaca. Lantana blooms in vibrant hues, attracting butterflies and pollinators, while bougainvillea’s vivid bracts spill over containers, creating a dramatic display. Portulaca, also known as moss rose, offers delicate, jewel-toned flowers that open in full sun and close at dusk. These resilient plants not only add visual interest but also thrive in Phoenix’s arid climate, requiring little more than regular watering and ample sunlight.

If you want to attract butterflies and create a dynamic, pollinator-friendly container, try combining plants with staggered bloom times and varying heights. Pair butterfly bush or milkweed with bright zinnias and trailing calibrachoa for a layered effect. The butterfly bush’s fragrant blossoms draw in pollinators, while zinnias provide a constant burst of color. Calibrachoa spills over the container’s edges, softening the arrangement with cascades of tiny, petunia-like flowers. This mix ensures a continuous food source for butterflies and a



lively, ever-changing display throughout the hottest months.

Herbs and edible plants can also survive the summer heat with proper care. Rosemary, thyme, and oregano are Mediterranean herbs that love dry conditions and add flavor to summer dishes. Cherry tomatoes and peppers can also do well in containers, especially when placed in spots with morning sun and afternoon shade. Mulching the soil surface and watering early in the morning or late in the evening helps retain moisture and prevent stress. With thoughtful plant choices and mindful care, your container garden can be a lush, lively oasis even in the peak of summer.

## April Birthdays



Happy Birthday April Birthday Member!

**Jeanne Isbell**

**April 29**

## Meeting Minutes | Joan Yagoda

McCormick Ranch Golf Club  
March 3, 2025

The meeting was called to order at noon by our president, **Carol Parrott**. Three guests were introduced.



**Jen Donovan** (turning 90!), **Jamie Dick**, **Sharon Davis** and **Anne Lyons** all had birthdays. However, the crown was given to **Judy Shelton**, who was anointed Queen for the Day because she won so many ribbons at the Flower Show.

**Lenda Sundene** contributed our lovely tablescapes of mini rose bushes.

**Evie Campbell** gave the blessing that included an Irish blessing: "May your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow and may troubles avoid you wherever you go."

**Carol Parrott** gave a short and captivating talk and photo show about her volunteer work at Zion National Park. She and her husband worked in the Seed Department. They collected seeds from plants (only 20% per plant so the rest is left for nature), cleaned and dried the seeds and planted for germination. She got the prize for "longest commute to Zion". Way to go, Carol!

Then our speaker, **JD Hill**, appeared to tell us about his background, his present company and to recruit us to participate in his Mill + R.City program.

For \$35 a month a participant rents an attractive ecru recycle container about the size of a normal kitchen trash container. This is not just any ole recycle container. It is special for a few reasons:

It is delivered to you.

It plugs into a wall outlet.

It has a foot pedal.

It automatically grinds the food waste AND dehydrates it.

No mold, no smell, no bugs.



The dehydrated waste is picked up once a month, included in your \$35 monthly fee. When you Google r.city+mill JD's website will appear as a search. You can get more information and participate there. A very worthwhile addition to our lives.

The February minutes were approved. There was no Treasurer's Report. Our treasurer was last seen aboard a cruise ship in Australia. Our Corresponding Secretary, **Jen Donovan**, reported that **Marilyn Stone** and **Barb Mlnarik** are ill. Cards would be appreciated.

**Diane Davis** gave Nominating Committee report. The slate for next term is:

President – **Jeanne Isbell**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – **DeAnna Twigg**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – **Christine Wolff**  
Corresponding Secretary – **Karon Quigg**  
Recording Secretary – **Joan Yagoda**  
Treasurer - **Susan Salembier**

**Sharon Davis** made a motion to accept the slate, seconded by **Judy Shelton**. The motion passed.

**Judy Kennedy**, Flower Show Chairman, reviewed the show. She requested that we all fill out review forms with our comments about the show.

Dates to remember:

April 19 - "Bunanza – EarthFest Green Expo"  
April 27 – 30 – AFGC Convention  
Meeting was adjourned by **Carol Parrott** at 2:30PM.

## First Sign of Spring in Much of the Country

**The Dandelion**  
by  
**Vachel Lindsay**

O dandelion, rich and haughty,  
King of village flowers!  
Each day is coronation time,  
You have no humble hours.  
I like to see you bring a troop  
To beat the blue-grass spears,  
To scorn the lawnmower that would be  
Like fate's triumphant shears,  
Your yellow heads are cut away,  
It seems your reign is o'er.  
By noon you raise a sea of stars  
More golden than before.



Gallery | Diane Davis, Sherry Baer, Photographers



DeAnna Twigg's Educational Exhibit to be recreated for Scottsdale's Bunnaza/EarthFest 2025



Flower Show Chair **Judy Kennedy** (center) presenting Sweepstake Awards to **Judy Shelton**, on left. SGC President **Carol Parrott** is on the right.

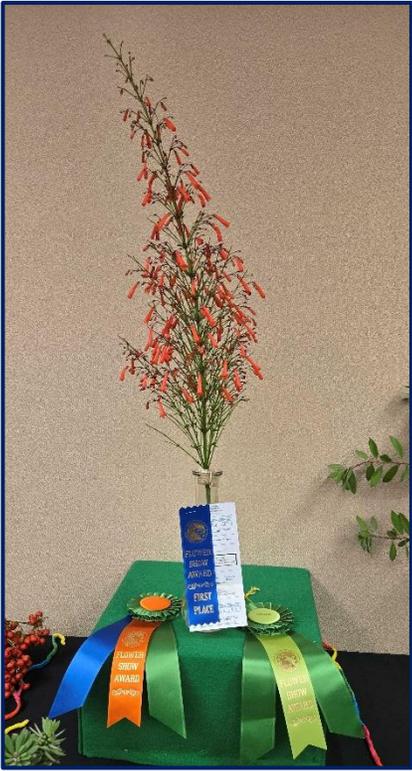




Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for SGC's New Directions Flower Show 2025



Award of Design Excellence  
By **Judy Shelton**



Award of Horticultural Excellence  
By **Janice Smith**

