

Arizona Blooms

News from Scottsdale Garden Club

Member of Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs

Pacific Region Garden Clubs

National Garden Clubs

October 2025

Vol 4, No 1

President's Corner | Jeanne Isbell



Hello Garden Club Members,

October is just around the corner and time to start another garden club year:

a big welcome back to all our members.

Our theme for the next two years is "Conserve, Cultivate, Thrive," stressing the importance of caring for our land through conserving our natural resources.

Your board has been busy this summer planning programs and activities for our club

year. We will have Zoom board meetings a week before each monthly meeting.

Aurien has a new school for the youth gardening project, Redfield Elementary's fourth-grade class.

Additionally, we have discussed the idea of having Saturday Morning Coffees at a member's garden a couple of times to discuss gardening techniques.

Our Fun-Raiser Social is scheduled for Sunday, March 15. We still need a chairman. If you are interested in chairing or being on the committee, just let me know.

I am open to any suggestions or ideas you may have for projects or changes for our club. If we all work together in the spirit of unity and friendship we will have a very successful year.

Looking forward to seeing you all on October 6th.

Jeanne

For
the October 6th, 2025, Meeting
Deadline to Sign up or Cancel is:

Wednesday, October 1st, 2025, by Noon
RSVP via Email or Text:
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

October 6th Meeting Preview |

DeAnna Twigg

"Gardening in a National
Park"

Scottsdale Garden Club
member and past-president,



Carol Parrott spends her summers as a volunteer at Zion National Park.

Of her time there, she says that “whenever I visit a national park, I am amazed at the splendor of its natural beauty. But to maintain this natural beauty requires a full-time horticulture staff and hundreds of volunteers.”

Join us for her back-stage tour of the native plant nursery in Zion National Park.

Thought for the Day

“If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.”

-Marcus Tullius Cicero

Mark Your Calendar

October 18, 2025

Maricopa County Master Gardeners
“AZ Transplants: 10 Tips for Gardening in the Low Desert”
9-10:00 am – Surprise Water Education Ctr

October 23, 2025

AFGC Fall Meeting
Valley Garden Center
1809 N. 15th Avenue, Phoenix

November 14, 2025

Blue Star Memorial Dedication
Gold Canyon Garden Club
(See article on page 4 for address)

November 18, 2025

SGC Trip to Berridge Nursery Christmas Market – 10:30 am – Lunch to follow

November 22-23, 2025

Chrysanthemum Society Flower Show
AFGC Standard Flower Show
Valley Garden Center

October Birthdays

Happy Birthday Members!

Christine Morgan	October 6
Betty McMichael	October 12
Lenda Sundene	October 16
MJ Sobota	October 24
Judy Kennedy	October 26

SGC Members Become AFGC Life Members

Four SGC members were awarded AFGC Life Memberships at the May 2025 meeting.

Life Membership certificates and membership pins were presented by SGC Life Membership Chair **Sherry Baer** (pictured on right below) to: **Nancy Jones** (left), **M J Sobota**, **Jo Ellen Waterman**, and **Christine Wolff** (center).



SGC Members become eligible for AFGC Life Membership when they have completed two years of active membership in Scottsdale



Garden Club. The Life Membership program supports the Scholarship Fund of the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs.

Horticulture Tip | *Arizona Gardner Facebook Page – Post by ‘Addicted to Gardening’*

Having worked in greenhouses for almost 20 years, I wanted to let people know a few secrets! Whenever you transplant or start a new planter, you need to remember that dry soil is just that, dry. When you water it, a lot of the water will run right off and out the bottom of the pot.

Is your plant watered? NO. You need to water in a large bowl or bucket and give the soil time to saturate. Then set it out and let it drip. An average 10-12 inch pot can hold up to a gallon of water when dry. Hope this helps someone, lots of people join these groups to learn a new hobby and look for advice! Happy planting!

SGC at Scottsdale Public Library



A recent *Scottsdale History* update included information about the addition of Scottsdale Garden Club's past flower shows, yearbooks, and newsletters to the Scottsdale Library's digital collections.

Scottsdale History is a partnership among Scottsdale Neighborhood College, Scottsdale Public Library, and Scottsdale Historical Society. It provides information, news and resources to its subscribers about Scottsdale history.

Summer Sighting

Swallowtail Butterfly
(*Papilio multicaudata*) on
Phlox at **Jeanne Isbell's**
Bear Flat cabin on
August 7th.



AFGC's Theme for 2025-27 – Conservation is Key

AFGC 2025-27 President **Jennifer Moreland** has announced her President's Theme, "Conservation is Key".

She explains: "As gardeners and designers, we have an emotional connection to the environment and its beauty. We recognize the horticultural challenges of our times. By developing mindfulness in our everyday actions, we realize that a neutral impact is not good enough. Collectively we support greater biodiversity and work together to produce a more vibrant natural world for the future." Jennifer challenges local clubs to "Go Wild! Go Green! Go Garden!".



According to AFGC Website Blog Manager **Karen Bowen**, local club members should strive to:

Go Wild! by planting a variety of plants in their gardens, especially those sought after by butterflies and caterpillars, and those native to their area, and by starting new garden projects.

Go Green! by recommitting to composting, recycling, harvesting rainwater, and conserving resources whenever possible.

And, to **Go Garden!** by taking time to enjoy their gardens and nature in general, by attending local club meetings and by contributing to each club's effort to bring their love of gardening to the public.



New Blue Star Memorial

Gold Canyon Garden Club will dedicate a Blue Star Memorial at Silly Mountain Park Hwy 60 and Silly Mountain Road in Apache Junction on Friday, November 14, 2025 at 10:00 am.

This is Gold Canyon Garden Club's third Blue Star Site. They have previously sponsored a Blue Star Memorial at the Superstition Mountain Museum in 2011 and one at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum in 2021.



Phoenix Chrysanthemum Society and AFGC Standard Flower Show

The Phoenix Chrysanthemum Society and AFGC will present a Standard Flower Show on November 22-23. The show will be held at the Valley Garden Center, 1809 N. 15th Ave, Phoenix. It is free and open to the public. For additional information or to volunteer, contact Renee Waite, flowershowcrazy@gmail.com.



NGC - Pacific Region's Special Project

Pacific Region Garden Clubs' new director, **Tanja Swanson**, announced her Special Project – FIREWISE, a national program sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association. Director Swanson asks all garden clubs to become familiar with the Firewise Communities program as a key to protecting our homes and businesses from catastrophic fire. Members can contribute related articles to the WACONIAH, the Pacific Region's newsletter.

The contact for information about FIREWISE is:

Aaron Casem, Prevention & Mitigation Officer
Dept of Forestry & Fire Mgt
1110 W Washington St
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Phone: +1 602 771-1403 acasem@dffm.az.gov



Some Summer Activity

Karon Quigg was with her cousin in Michigan on July 4th where they picked hollyhocks and made dolls (as seen on the left)!

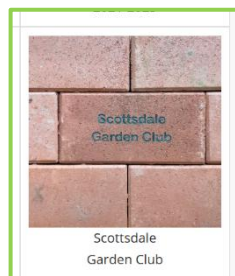


She explained, it was “just like we used to do when I was little.”



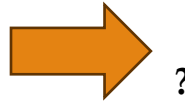
SGC's Paver at NGC's 'Pathway to Success'

Scottsdale Garden Club's Paver in the National Garden Club's "Pathway to Success" at its headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri is now in place.



The Scottsdale paver is part of the quarter-mile long path which links NGC's headquarters to the Missouri Botanical Garden. The Pathway will serve as “an educational platform, showing the rich history and mission of NGC.”

Can You Spell



The first Scripps Spelling Bee champion, an 11-year-old from Kentucky, won by correctly spelling Gladiolus, a flower genus meaning “little sword”. He won \$500 and a visit with then-President Calvin Coolidge.

Since then, the Gladiolus has been an integral part of the Bee; its various-colored blooms encircling the Scripps trophy, below.



There are about 260 species of Gladiolus, 10 native to Eurasia, and the remainder from sub-Saharan Africa.



A \$20 Billion Secret Garden?

It's time to start planting our winter garden displays and we all have our favorite plant resources from Berridge's to Home Depot.



Now, Home Depot may not be at the top of everyone's list of plant retailers but did you know this home-improvement icon runs a \$20 billion a year garden business? (more than their appliances, lumber, or paint departments!)

To make plant customers into return customers, Home Depot enhances their chances of success by working with multiple breeders like Proven Winners to find those plants most likely to succeed in their customers' home gardens. Home Depot runs 25 trial gardens in 9 climate zones in the United States to determine what will grow best and where it will grow. The breeders gather once a year so Home Depot corporate buyers can evaluate what to stock for their garden customers.

Breeders are not the only specialists that Home Depot consults. The company even sends a design team to Paris Fashion Week each year to see what the latest color trends are!

So, you might want to check with your local Home Depot to see what their research trials have discovered and to keep an eye out for any Paris color trends, too.

(Thanks to **Susan Salembier** for pointing me to the source of this information: April 19-20, 2025 Wall St Journal Article by **Ben Cohen**.)

Meeting Minutes | Joan Yagoda

McCormick Ranch Golf Club
May 5, 2025



Meeting was called to order at noon by **Carol Parrott**.

May birthdays were acknowledged: **Joan Yagoda, Sally Bradford** and **Evie Campbell**.

The beautiful tablescapes were provided by AFGC Convention.

A Mother's Day blessing was given by **Evie Campbell** – "There's no way to be a perfect mother and a million ways to be a good one."

The program was presented by **Elizabeth Tansley** – "Annuals: Where, What, When in the Phoenix Valley". Elizabeth, who holds a degree in Urban Horticulture from ASU, gave us a vegetable growing chart and presented information on growing vegetables, flowers and herbs in Phoenix. She recommended Arizona Worm Farm for reasonably priced high-quality compost.

April's minutes were approved.

Susan Salembier gave the Treasurer's Report. SGC planted a Live Oak in honor of Arbor Day. We will be donating \$200 to the Plant a Tree project of the National Garden Clubs. Susan will specify that the donation be used for Tonto National Forest. The project,



however, reserves the right to use our funds elsewhere if there is no need for them at Tonto.

Susan has also spearheaded archiving our history through the Scottsdale Library. To access past information:

1. Go to website scottsdalelibrary.org
2. In "Search our Catalog" box enter Scottsdale Garden Club
3. In "Results" click here to see thumbnail images
4. Choose "Document" (image of CD)
5. Choose "Full Screen" icon
6. Scroll through pages. "Zoom in" to enlarge

We have a new member, **Linda Eggink**, introduced by **DeAnna Twigg**. Linda will formally become part of SGC at first Fall meeting.

Diane Davis reported on Veteran's Project.

A recap of the AFGC Convention was given by **Judy Kennedy**. She thanked **Judy Shelton**, **Diane Davis**, **Sharon Davis**, **Aurien Preiss**, **DeAnna Twigg** and everyone who attended and helped make the event a success.

New officers were installed by **Carol Parrott**, who composed a personalized tribute for each new officer: President – **Jeanne Isbell**, 1st Vice President – **DeAnna Twigg**, 2nd Vice President – **Christine Wolff**, Corresponding Secretary – **Karon Quigg**, Treasurer – **Susan Salembier**, Recording Secretary – **Joan Yagoda**.

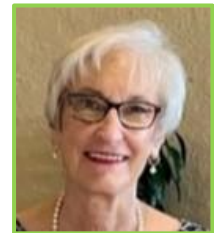
Diane Davis announced informal lunches (order from menu) noon at McCormick Ranch

dining room first Monday of every summer month starting in June. All are welcome!

Sadly, **Carol Parrott** read a letter of resignation from **Sally Bradford**. Sally has been a member of a Garden Club for 50 years! **Evie Campbell** and **Barbara Mlnarik** are now inactive members. We'll miss all of you!

Meeting was adjourned by **Carol Parrott** at 2:45PM.

Treasurer's Report | Susan Salembier



The SGC Audit Committee met on June 10, 2025, to review all transactions for the fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25 and found all to be in order.

Here is a summary of the 2024-25 financial activity and year-end balances.

Balances on June 1, 2024

	Checking	Savings	Cert of Dep
	\$7,600.75	\$879.01	\$6,000.00
Income	2,051.82	.09	428.24
Expenses	5,330.72		

Balances on May 31, 2025

Checking	Savings	Cert of Dep
\$4,321.85	\$879.10	\$6,428.24

A detailed report of income and expenses will be distributed at the October 7th, 2025 club meeting.

