



Arizona Blooms

News from Scottsdale Garden Club

Member of Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs

Pacific Region Garden Clubs

National Garden Clubs

December 2025

Vol 4, No 3

President's Corner | Jeanne Isbell



Hello Garden Club Members,

Hope you are all looking forward to an exciting month of December.

November has been a busy and fun month, with activities including a joint Central and Eastern District Meeting at Sun Lakes on the 13th attended by **Judy Shelton, Aurien Preiss** and me. The speaker, **Jackie Peel**, gave a very interesting and entertaining presentation on roses. Did you know that our plant heat index is 11 here in the valley?

Judy and I were lucky enough to win a basket in the raffle.

The State Garden Club web site is a great resource and State President **Jennifer Moreland** has challenged all members to complete the Challenge Wall which includes 4 focus areas and to sign the gardener's pledge. Check it out by clicking [here](#). If enough club members participate, our club will be eligible for cash prizes.

The 18th was our field trip to Berridge Nursery Christmas Market. Eight members and two guests had a great time looking at the gorgeous

For
the December 8th, 2025, Meeting
Deadline to Sign up or Cancel is:

Wednesday, December 3rd, 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

decorations and some of us even brought some home. Lunch at The Henry was very good, I would definitely recommend it.

Our December Meeting program will be an interesting and informative presentation on the Condition of the Arizona Forests.

Don't forget to bring any flower or plant themed gift that cost no more than ten dollars wrapped or bagged for a 'Pick A Bag' gift exchange.

How about all that rain this past week. Five days in a row.

See you all December 8th.

Jeanne

Holiday Gift Exchange |



DeAnna Twigg

December is the month of giving.
Join us in the spirit of giving and fun
at our Dec 8th Meeting for

PICK A BAG

The theme of this is
BOTANICAL

Do not spend over \$10

IDEAS: You can give a plant, seeds, a pretty
pot, dishcloth, dish towel,
magnets, notecards, a garden tool,
a vase, a hummingbird feeder, or a hand soap

The examples are endless.

Just Don't Forget To Stick It In A Bag

Thought for the Day

"Every human is an artist. And this is the
main art that we have: the creation of our
story."

don Miguel Ruiz

Mark Your Calendar

December 8, 2025

Scottsdale Garden Club Meeting
McCormick Ranch Golf Club, 11 am – 2 pm
Presentation on Arizona Forests & Holiday
'Pick A Bag' Gift Exchange

Coffee in the Garden | *Carole Parrott*



Scottsdale Garden Club is
on a mission to recruit new
members.

What better way is there to
grow our membership, other than in the
garden?

We have an idea but need your help to
introduce a program called "Coffee in the
Garden". If you know anyone that is
interested in joining a garden club, this will be
the perfect way to introduce them to our
Scottsdale Garden Club.

All you have to do is invite them!

They will enjoy their morning coffee while
taking a leisurely stroll through the member's
garden. Their questions will be answered, thus
combining membership with education.

A beautiful garden has already been selected
as the site to launch our exciting program, but
we need your participation to succeed.

We're planting a seed that we hope will bloom
into increased membership through "Coffee in
the Garden."

Remember, all you have to do is invite
someone!



AFGC President's Challenge Wall

AFGC President **Jennifer Moreland's** theme is "Conservation is Key", emphasizing the "conservation of water, soil and land!".

To inspire local clubs and enrich members' knowledge and awareness, AFGC has developed a series of "quick definitions, quick links and featured articles", focusing on four conservation areas: Sustainability, Reforestation, Arbor Day Tree Planting, and Firewise Communities / Fire Safety.

Members are encouraged to read the material in each focus area and answer a brief survey. Clubs whose members participate will be recognized at AFGC Annual Meetings.

Let's increase our Conservation Knowledge while supporting our club at the next AFGC Annual Meeting!

Click [here](#) to get started!

December Birthdays



Happy Birthday Members!!

Karen Kelley	December 4
DeAnna Twigg	December 14
Amy Emary	December 26
Aurien Preiss	December 30
Judy Shelton	December 30

Give the Gift of Scholarship | *Jamie Dick*



As the season of giving is upon us, the amazing gift of an AFGC \$5,000 Sponsored Scholarship is now available for qualifying students in 18 different career paths.

With your enthusiasm in spreading the word we have the potential to make a difference between a deserving student having the funds to continue their education next year or not.

We have streamlined the application process and all required forms are readily available for students to begin applying [here](#). Our AFGC Scholarship application is also easily accessible for AZ students through the Scholarship Universal Portal.

Because of you, our AFGC Sponsored Scholarship is truly a legacy that demonstrates our commitment to education, our love of gardening and our generosity for years to come.

Clover to the Rescue! | *Sherry Baer*

When new member **Linda Eggink** was looking for an eco-friendly alternative for her front lawn, her landscaper suggested clover.



Now, well into its first season, the clover is a dense, spongy, green cover which can still handle some foot traffic. It's currently sporting scattered, tiny white flowers. Some watering is still required, but only occasional mowing. She's not sure what variety of clover it is. Anyone know? See picture on the right.



The grass replacement was only part of the new landscape design for Linda's front yard. Her landscape designer, Design Laboratory, included a low wall in a basket-weave design, punctuated by 'sticks in the desert' (vertical metal poles) to create privacy for a front patio area as well.

A series of prickly pear cacti (*Opuntia ellisiana*) stand guard over the clover lawn.



She still has plenty of color between the path to the front door and the driveway.



Meeting Minutes | Joan Yagoda

McCormick Ranch Golf Club
November 3, 2025



The meeting was called to order at noon by President **Jeanne Isbell**.

Helen Griller gave the Moment of Gratitude.

The beautiful Mum centerpieces (each accompanied by a Mystery Bag!) were crafted by **Chris Wolff** and **Judy Kennedy**.

DeAnna Twigg introduced **Tom Ponce**, a representative of Republic Services. He gave a most interesting and relevant presentation that covered many aspects of trash removal and recycling. Republic now has 65 landfill bio-gas energy projects wherein they convert the gas that is emitted from old landfills into usable bio-gas. They also have Polymer Centers that transform plastic products into high quality food grade flakes that are used to manufacture new packaging. Their commitment to sustainability is impressive.

October minutes were approved following a motion by **Sherry Baer**.

This summer, our Club Year Books were donated to the Scottsdale Historical Society for their library and archives.

Susan Salembier presented the Treasurer's report. Our CD matured on November 2, 2025 with a value of \$6,566.60. The entire amount will be rolled over to another CD with a 7-month term. Susan asked for volunteers to form a committee to discuss use of those funds



in the future. **Carol Parrot, Karon Quigg, Diane Davis, and Jeanne Isbell** volunteered.

Treasurer's Report was approved after a motion from **Carol Parrott**.

DeAnna Twigg discussed the field trip to Berridge's Nursery Christmas Market (4647 E. Camelback Rd. Phoenix 85018) at 10:30AM, November 18th. Lunch will follow at The Henry.

There will be a gift exchange at our December meeting. Members are requested to bring a gift (value under \$10) in a bag or wrapped.

Saturday Educational Coffees was mentioned by **Carol Parrott**. The purpose of this is to generate new members who might not be available during the week. Date and place have not been finalized.

Jamie Dick presented the Horticultural Moment. Each of us was given a tulip bulb and directions for planting and care. Thank you, Jamie!

Eastern and Central District meeting is Nov. 13th. If you need transportation contact **Judy Shelton**.

The Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs has a new very attractive and informative website: azgardenclubs.com

Scottsdale Garden Club needs a standing committee chair for Historian and for Publicity. We also need a Chair for March 15 fundraiser.

Chrysanthemum Society Flower Show (an AFGC Standard Flower Show) will be Nov.

23rd at Valley Garden Center, 1809 N. 15th Ave. Phoenix 85007.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20PM.

Treasurer's Report |

Susan Salembier



STARTING BALANCES (10/01/25)

Checking/Savings \$2,964.04/ \$879.13

INCOME

Centerpieces 50.00

Plant A Tree 22.00

TOTAL INCOME 72.00 / 0.01

ENDING BALANCES (10/31/2025)

Checking/Savings \$4,206.04 / \$879.14

CD \$6,566.60

LUNCH RECONCILIATION

Income \$2,145.00

Paid to Club - 975.00

\$1,170.00



Gallery | *Photographs Contributed by Jamie Dick, Susan Salembier, and Diane Davis*



Speaker **Tom Ponce** from Republic Services presenting on Republic's Sustainability Initiatives



Susan Salembier (left) and **Jamie Dick**
Jamie's Horticulture Moment included
Tulip Bulbs for Members to Plant



Following a visit to Berridge's Nursery Christmas
Market, members lunched at The Henry

