

Arizona Blooms

News from Scottsdale Garden Club

Member of Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs

Pacific Region Garden Clubs

National Garden Clubs

October 2023

Vol 2, No 1

President's Corner | Carol Parrott



Dear Garden Club Members,

It's October and the ideal time to plant in Arizona.

Our glorious Sonoran desert is finally cooling down, watering is cut back and we can finally work in our gardens.

The theme for my term is "Planting for Tomorrow". Planting refers to being environmentally responsible by growing plants that are water-wise and can adapt to our changing climate. Planting also refers to growing club membership which is an unending endeavor.

It is my hope that together we will address both these important issues.

So, get up, get out, get into a garden and experience blooming Arizona.

See you in October,
Carol

Thought for the Day

"Gardening adds years to your life and life to your years."

– Unknown.

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ

Reservations for the October 2 Meeting **MUST be either e-mailed or texted** to Treasurer Susan Salembier at 602-743-9133 OR susansalembier14@gmail.com

DEADLINE: Tuesday, September 26, 2023
Expect an e-mailed/texted confirmation.

DO NOT MAIL your payment. Please bring it to the meeting on October 2.

October Meeting Preview |

Jeanne Isbell

Vickie McDermott-Rupp, founder of Phoenix Kitchen Gardens, Master Gardener, Gardening Coach and Landscape Designer, will tell



us about the growing and propagation of herbs and about using them in our recipes.

Her expertise focuses on all aspects of low desert gardening. Click [here](#) to check out her website.

Centerpieces for the October meeting will be provided by **Susan Salembier & Betty McMichael**.

Please, don't forget that luncheon reservations and cancellations this month are due to the

Treasurer, **Susan Salembier**, by September 26, 2023. (See box above.)

October Birthdays

Happy Birthday to our October birthday members!



Christine Morgan	October 6
Betty McMichael	October 12
Lenda Sundene	October 16
M.J. Sobota	October 24

Upcoming Events

October 13-15, 2023

Maricopa County Home & Garden Show -
"Local First Arizona"
Westworld of Scottsdale

October 19-22, 2023

(October 19- DBG Members Only)
Desert Botanical Garden Plant Sale at DBG
Reservations required; 7 am - 3:00 pm

October 25, 2023

AFGC Fall Executive Board Meeting - 10:30
AFGC Fall Board of Directors Meeting - 1:00
Valley Garden Center
1809 N 15th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85007

October 31, 2023

SGC Field Trip to Berridge Nursery
Tour and Shopping at the Gift Store

New Member Welcome

Mary June (M.J.) Sobota is our newest member, having joined our club in May. She spends part of the year in Mundelein, Illinois

and was introduced to Scottsdale Garden Club by SGC member **Rea Heesch**.

Please welcome her to the club.



M.J. (center) with Diane Davis (left)
& DeAnna Twigg

Scottsdale's Many Celebrities

Adapted from Scottsdale Communications and Public Affairs Director Kelly Corsette's remarks at the Arbor Day Tree Planting at Chaparral Park on Friday, April 28, 2023 (pictured here)



Scottsdale may be known as a place where you can see famous people - maybe at Fashion Square, or in Old Town, or even hiking in the Preserve.

But did you know Scottsdale is also home to many famous trees? These celebrities in our community are also tall and beautiful and some are more than 100 years old.



These beloved residents of Scottsdale include a stand of **olive trees** that runs down the center of Drinkwater Boulevard and part of Second Street in Old Town Scottsdale. City founder, Winfield Scott, planted them in 1896 to serve as the windbreak for a 40-acre citrus grove.

In the drought of the late 1890s, the orange trees died but the **olive trees** survived and thrived. They are now among the longest-standing landmarks in our city.

Before Scottsdale purchased an artificial Christmas tree, the city would purchase about 70 living **Eldarica pine trees** and place them in a tiered structure to form a living Christmas tree for the city's Holiday Harmony event at the Civic Center. Post season, the trees were planted in our parks -- the lion's share of which were planted along Hayden Road.

If you've driven by Indian School and Miller roads, you have probably noticed a pair of towering **Pistache trees** at Messinger Mortuary. These historic Scottsdale trees were brought here in the 1930s from Iran -- why? To be part of the brand-new Arizona Biltmore Resort. They were left over from the Resort construction and given to a carpenter who worked there. He brought them home and planted them in his yard, which just happens to be where the mortuary stands today.

Sadly, during severe monsoon storms in 2022, one of the stately **Pistache trees** fell -- leaving only the single tall tree as a continuing reminder of a little piece of Arizona history.

The last but certainly not least of our famous trees, is right in the heart of Old Town, the **Banyan tree** at the corner of Brown & Main.

Banyan trees, a.k.a. *Ficus benghalensis*, are native to the Indian subcontinent.

Scottsdale's spectacular specimen was planted in September 1996 from a 24" box container. Most people believe that tree is much, much older given its incredible size but we shouldn't be surprised - **Banyan trees** in India are among the largest trees in the world by canopy coverage.

Those are some of Scottsdale's famous trees - we love to share their stories and celebrate them, particularly on a day like today.

At last year's Arbor Day event, Scottsdale proudly celebrated its 40th year as part of the Tree City USA program - longer than any other city in Arizona.

This year marks Scottsdale's 41st - while that's not a nice round number like 40, it does mean that our city is entering its fifth consecutive decade as a Tree City USA.

That recognition is evidence of Scottsdale's unwavering commitment to the environment and to sustaining a wonderful quality of life in the community.

Plant Spotlight | Carol Parrott

Yerba mansa –
Anemopsis
californica –
Lizard Tail
family



Lizard Tail in Linda Larsen's Garden

A stunning native groundcover that grows by rhizomes, thrives in our alkaline soil and only



goes where it gets water. It can be used as an aquatic plant.

In Arizona it can be found growing in riparian areas. Yerba mansa adds elegance to our home ponds and our gardens. Takes full sun or part shade. In spring, stark white cone-shaped flowers emerge from a bed of white bracts. Yerba Mansa is stunning in a night garden.

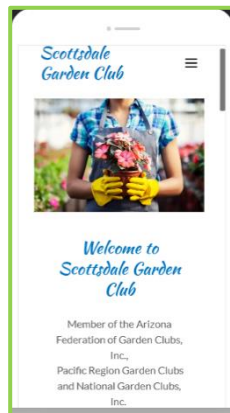
It has been used for eons by indigenous people to treat respiratory and intestinal ailments. Today, it is in production in the Tucson area.

Tea made from the roots is available at Trader Joe's. Beware, it contains a high amount of caffeine and can interfere with sleep.

Know Your Website

Did you know you can access the SGC website on your phone?

www.scottsdalegc.org



Did you know each month's program is highlighted on the SGC website homepage? Scroll down to the next picture.

Did you know the SGC Newsletters, "Arizona Blooms", are also available on the SGC website? On the homepage, tap on the menu and select Newsletters.

May 2023 Meeting Minutes |

Sherry Baer

McCormick Ranch Golf Club
May 1, 2023

President **Diane Davis** called the meeting to order at 11:58 a.m.

Diane welcomed members and guests. She introduced Scottsdale **Mayor David Ortega**. Mayor Ortega thanked SGC for participating in the Chaparral Park tree planting and presented Diane and SGC President-elect **Carol Parrott** with bottles of Queen Creek Olive Mill oil.

Diane recognized those members with birthdays in May. She extended a special welcome to those Past Presidents of SGC and AFGC in attendance. She thanked **Judy Shelton** and **Barbie Dimuria** for the centerpieces.

Chaplain **Jan Riedel** delivered a blessing and lunch was served.

Following lunch, First V-P **Carol Parrott** introduced the guest speaker, **Natalie Edwards**, an ASU graduate and intern with the Audubon Society. Natalie presented a program on how to provide for birds in our gardens.

Following the program, Diane began the business meeting.



Recording Secretary **Sherry Baer** asked if there were any changes to the minutes of April 3, 2023, as published in the May issue of the club newsletter. There were none and the minutes were filed as presented.

Treasurer **Karon Quigg** announced a correction to the Treasurer's Report for March 2023. She asked if there were questions about the April 2023 Treasurer's Report. There was one and the report was accepted as presented.

Second V-P **DeAnna Twigg** welcomed new member **Mary June (M.J.) Sobota** to the club.

Evie Campbell, Project Leader for the State Life Membership Project, presented State Life Membership certificates and pins to **Susan Salembier, Lenda Sundene, and DeAnna Twigg**. She explained that the purchase of Life Memberships in the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs goes toward the AFGC's Scholarship Fund.

Diane announced several awards that were presented at the AFGC Convention: Civic Achievement Award for the Arbor Day planting to **Susan Salembier**, Garden Therapy Award to **Evie Campbell**, and Yearbook Award to **Sherry Baer**. She thanked her 2021-2023 Board.

Judy Shelton, Past President of SGC and AFGC, installed the 2023-2025 SGC officers:

- Carol Parrott**, President
- Jeanne Isbell**, 1st Vice-President
- DeAnna Twigg**, 2nd Vice-President
- Susan Salembier**, Treasurer
- Barbie Dimuria**, Recording Secretary
- Jen Donovan**, Corresponding Secretary

Judy presented a Past-President pin to 2021-2023 President **Diane Davis** and a President's pin to 2023-2025 President **Carol Parrott**.

Diane reminded members of the summer luncheon schedule and adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Sherry Baer, Recording Secretary

Treasurer's Report | *Karon Quigg*

As of April 2023

Starting Balance Checking **\$5,391.95**

Income

Luncheons	\$ 689.00
Centerpieces	30.00
Name Tag	17.00
Dues	300.00
Pennies for Pines	32.00
Buff Harrington Donation	63.00
Refund – D Davis State Dues	25.00

Total Income **\$ 1,156.00**

Expenses

Lunches	\$ 1,092.42
Guest Speaker	25.00
Stamps for Treasurer	12.60
Flower Show – Aurien Preiss	51.84
Convention – Saucers	6.55
Convention – Centerpieces	69.33
Convention – Bandanas	13.04
Convention – Rope	4.07
Arbor Day Tree Donation	300.00
New Member Name Tag	16.83

Total Expenses **\$1,591.68**

Ending Balance Checking **\$ 4,956.27**

Starting Balance Savings **\$6,872.55**

Interest 0.88

Ending Balance Savings **\$6,873.43**

Karon Quigg, Treasurer



Gallery

SGC May 1st Meeting "Plants for Birds (and People)" Jamie Dick, Photographer



Natalie Edwards from the Audubon Society was Guest Speaker in May



New Member M.J. Sabota (center)



President Diane Davis announced awards for Evie Campbell (Garden Therapy), Sherry Baer (Yearbook) and Susan Salembier (Arbor Day Tree Planting)



DeAnna Twigg, Lenda Sundene, and Susan Salembier Received Life Memberships



Diane Davis passed the Presidential Gavel to 2023-25 President Carol Parrott



Arbor Day Tree Planting

April 28, 2023

Jamie Dick, Photographer



Members joined Scottsdale Mayor David Ortega to plant a tree for Arbor Day; afterward, the group had a hardy breakfast!

Summer Highlights



Evie Campbell celebrated her 90th birthday

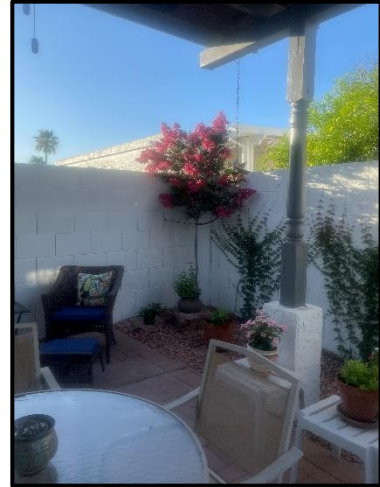


Some members at lunch in July



and in September





Three views of Luann Verholst's back garden



Sherry Baer at the San Francisco Botanical Garden
(Yes, she wore a 'Puffer' jacket; it was 50° in late May!)



Cactus blossoms in Sherry's own garden



More cactus blooms in Helen Griller's garden

