

# Arizona Blooms

## News from Scottsdale Garden Club

Member of Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs

Pacific Region Garden Clubs

National Garden Clubs

February 2024

Vol 2, No 5

### President's Corner | Carol Parrott

Dear Garden Club Members,

February is going to be a busy month as we focus on organizing our March 10th FUNdraiser, "Country Living". Bring your check and signup at the February meeting; see page 3 below for more information.



Remember, you can invite a friend or two, partner up to bring a raffle basket, or use your culinary skills to bring or buy food. You will have another chance to sign up in the category of your choice at our February meeting. We each play an important role in making this event a success.

As for our gardens, is yours looking sad? Frost damage everywhere? What to do?

The answer is ....do nothing. It's very tempting to prune all evidence of frost damage off your plants. But resist the temptation. Plants should not be pruned when the threat of freeze still exists. Some people wait until late February, personally I prefer March. Frost damage protects lower stem growth like leaves. Come spring you can cut down to new growth, below the damaged tissue. Spring is a time of renewal.

So send for a seed catalogue and get busy planning your garden.

"Don't wait for someone to bring you flowers. Plant your own garden and decorate your own soul." -- Luther Burbank

Fondly,  
Carol

### February Meeting Preview |

Jeanne Isbell



#### "Some Kind of Nature"

**Joan Baron** of Baron Studio is well-known for innovation in the arts, edible landscape design and neighborhood enhancement projects. Joan will present a program on environmental issues.

Centerpieces for the February meeting will be provided by **Rea Heesch** and **Amy Emary**.

**For February's Meeting  
Deadline to Sign up or Cancel:**

**Wednesday, Jan 31, 2024 by Noon**

**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.**

## Thought for the Day

“Gardening simply does not allow one to be mentally old, because too many hopes and dreams are yet to be realized.”

-Allan Armitage

## February Birthdays



Happy Birthday to those members with birthdays in February!

<b>Elaine Gunderson</b>	February 2
<b>Carol Parrott</b>	February 5
<b>Donna Westwood</b>	February 18
<b>Karon Quigg</b>	February 24

## Upcoming Events

February 3-4, 2024

“A Century of Design” - A Small Standard Flower Show

Boyce Thompson Arboretum  
Superior, AZ 85173

February 23-24, 2024

Maricopa County Home & Garden Show  
Arizona State Fairgrounds

March 10, 2024

SGC FUNdraiser: “Country Living” – 3-7 pm  
McDowell Mountain Ranch Center  
16116 N. McDowell Mtn Ranch Road  
Scottsdale, AZ

## Horticulture Moment | Carol Parrott

Valentine Emu



Our gardening friends in Australia have shared a beautiful

family of plants with us, Eremophila.

Known as Emus, they are named after the bird who feeds on the fleshy fruit of some of the 214+ species endemic to Australia.

Eremophila maculata is a timely plant that starts blooming in mid-January and is guaranteed to be at its peak by mid-February. This plant has earned the name of “Valentine Emu.”

Emus are in the Snapdragon family. The Valentine Emu produces gorgeous red tubular flowers dearly loved by its main pollinator on this continent, the hummingbird. The downward tubular blossoms are an excellent example of Mother Nature’s tool of adapted evolution. This flower serves the hummers well.

At 4’ X 4’, the Valentine Emu is polite and does not spread throughout your garden. The small rounded green leaves turn reddish in winter breaking the monotony of the grey-green palette of our desert plants.

Emus require good drainage. They love poor soil and besides occasional scale or aphids, they are pretty much disease and fungi free. Prune in late spring after flowering because blooming occurs on new tip growth generated the past season.



Hardy to 15 degrees and extremely drought tolerant once established, the Valentine Emu is at home in our Sonoran Desert.

Emus are planted in the spring or fall so your timing is spot on! This Emu is the perfect Snowbird plant as we get to see it bloom while we are here. If you can find one, buy one, plant one and watch it bloom.

It's your Valentine gift from Mother Nature.

### Club Project | *Diane Davis*

#### *Veteran Assistance*

We will be collecting bags of hygiene items for homeless vets on the streets of Phoenix at both the February and March meetings. Bags will be delivered to the VA Community Resource and Referral Center in Phoenix for distribution to those men and women vets living on our streets.



Your 1-gallon zip-lock bag should include all of the following items:

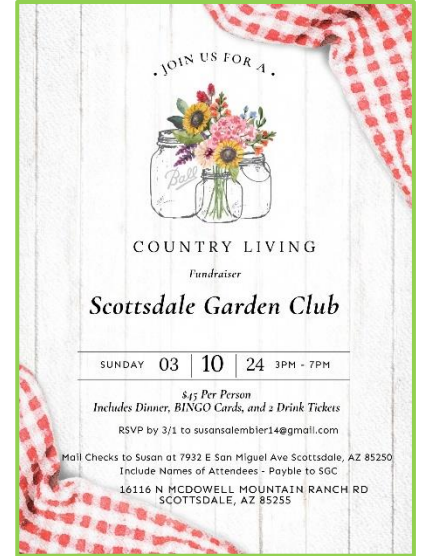
- |             |                        |
|-------------|------------------------|
| Shampoo     | Body Wash or bath soap |
| Deodorant   | Feminine hygiene items |
| Tooth brush | Hand lotion            |
| Tooth paste | Chapstick              |
| Razors      | Shaving cream          |
| Combs       | Tube Socks             |

Smaller size items are fine because our homeless vets are living out of backpacks!

Questions? Call **Diane Davis** at 602-339-0603.

## SGC 2024 Fundraiser | "Country Living"

Our 2023 Fundraiser will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 4-6 pm at the McDowell Center at 16116 N. McDowell Mountain Ranch Road, Scottsdale.



The theme this year is "Country Living" and the cost will be \$45 per person or \$50 for members unable to attend. Bring friends and family for an afternoon of food and fun!

The Fundraiser Team needs volunteers to provide gift baskets which will be raffled off at the event. To sign up to donate a basket, contact **Diane Davis** at 602-339-0603.

Volunteers are also needed to provide food and monetary donations. Contact **Judy Shelton** to help in this way, 602-502-5345.

### Meeting Minutes | *MJ Sobota*

McCormick Ranch Golf Club  
January 8, 2024

President **Carol Parrott** called the meeting to order at 12:05.

The center pieces were designed by **Karon Quigg**.



The blessing was given by **Evie Campbell**.

Luncheon was served from 12:15 – 1:00.

December minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer’s report was unavailable.

Carol reported that the Christmas Raffle proceeds were \$220.00.

The speaker, **Kathie Henderson**, along with **Barbie Dimuria** and **MJ Sobota**, demonstrated how a grocery store bouquet can make a professional looking floral arrangement.

New Business:

**Jamie Dick** reported on the status of AFGC scholarship applicants; there were none so far.

She encouraged us to reach out to friends and family to stimulate interest in our scholarship as the deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>. Application can be made on-line.

**Diane Davis** reported on our Veteran’s Project. Fill gallon size storage bags with small sized toiletries or socks, disposable washcloths, etc. and bring them to our March meeting.

**Jeanne Isbell** related that our February presenter will be **Joan Baron** of Baron Studios.

She will speak on environmental issues.

Our FUNdraiser, “Country Living,” was discussed. It is on March 10, 2024, at the McDowell Center, 16116 N. McDowell Mountain Ranch Road in Scottsdale. All are expected to participate. If unable to participate, you are expected to contribute \$50.00 to support the cost of this event.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15.

## Time Out . . .



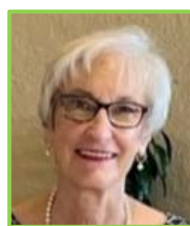
A worried-looking man went into a florist’s shop and asked for potted geraniums. The shop was out, but the clerk suggested chrysanthemums.

“No, they won’t do,” the man said. “I promised my wife I’d water her geraniums while she was away.”

-The American Legion Magazine, Oct 2023

## Treasurer’s Report | Susan Salembier

December 2023



### Starting Balances (12/01/23)

Checking/Savings \$4,449.35 / \$6,878.85

### INCOME

Holiday Raffle 220.00

Penny Pines 74.00

Table Centerpieces 25.00

Lunches 1210.00

NSF Fee Reimbursed 24.00

Donation 1.00

Interest on Savings .11

TOTAL INCOME 1554.00 / .11

### EXPENSES

Lunches 975.38

Central Dist Basket Gifts 74.75

TOTAL EXPENSES 1050.13

### Ending Balances (12/31/23)

CD \$6,000.00

Checking/Savings \$4,953.22 / \$878.96



**Gallery**

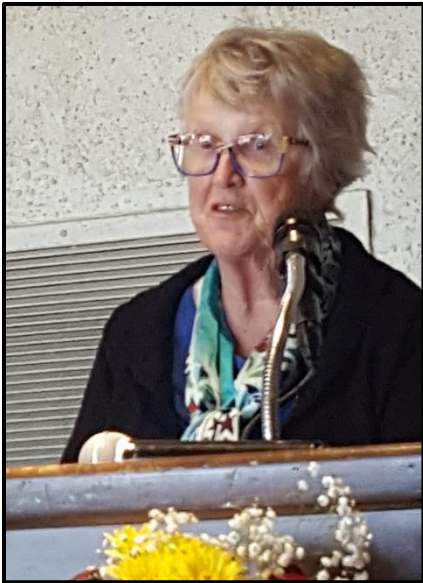
*January 8, 2024 – Grocery Store Special*



**President Carol Parrott**



**Evie Campbell Giving Blessing**



**Guest Speaker Kathie Henderson**





Lucky Members **MJ Sobota** (left) and **Barbie Dimuria** Listening to Arrangement Tips

Below, Working on Their Creations!



Finally, the Finished Products!

