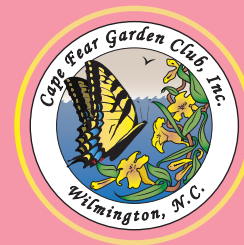


Cape Fear Clippings



Member of the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. & National Garden Clubs, Inc.

General Meeting

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Cape Fear Country Club

1518 Country Club Road

Coffee and Horticulture Judging: 9:30 am

Devotional: Sandy Smith

Program: 10:00 am

Program Title: **Master Plan for New Hanover County Parks**

Presenter: Tara Duckworth, Director, NH County Parks

Refreshment Table Arrangement: Peggy Vineyard

Horticulture Theme: Camellias, Spring Bulbs & Flowering Branches

Day Clerks: Devonna Mathis, Linda Pyle

Judge: Jenene Smith

You are encouraged to bring horticulture specimens and/or arrangements to all monthly meetings. They should be labeled and in place by 9:15 am.

New Member Orientation

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

New Hanover County Arboretum Auditorium

8:30 room open for set-up

9:40 new members & sponsors arrive to view committee displays

10:30 formal agenda begins

Save the Date

Azalea
Garden Tour
April 7-9

Arbor Day
Celebration
April 22

Lower Cape
Fear Bird
Islands Cruise
May 21

Ask a Gardener

My "sweetie" has just given me a beautiful orchid for Valentine's Day. It has numerous blooms. How do I care for it so it will continue to thrive and bloom?

CFGC Members Rahel Haley and Sandra Kittenger have had good luck with maintaining orchids. They have simple advice which they would like to say is not expert but rather what has been successful for them. See below for part one of how to care for orchids. Check back in March for the remainder of their advice.

Light: It is important that orchids receive a lot of light, but no direct sunlight for a prolonged time. Placing them in an eastern window is ideal, however if you do not have it and southern window works as long as the light is defused. My orchids are in a southern window behind a sheer curtain, and do receive about 30 min - 2 hour of indirect sunlight every day. I also place them my southern facing kitchen window where the arbor outside my window provides some shade. They need some sunshine, however the amount is the key to not burning them or dry them up. In the summertime or as soon as you are ready to turn on the AC it is a good idea to move them outside in a protected area. The cold dry air of the AC will kill them faster than anything else you can do to them. I have mine sit on the north facing front porch that receives maybe 1 hour of direct sun in the evenings.

Watering: Whenever watering them regardless if they are in bark or moss it is best to take them to your kitchen sink and shower them with lukewarm water, let the water run through the pot for 2-5 min and shower all the leaves, let them drip dry and put them back in their spot. This sometimes can be a challenge when they are in bark, as these pieces want to wash out and down your drain. Some people mist them daily rather than watering them and let them sit on a tray of wet pebbles, this process has never worked for me because I forget to keep the pebbles wet or to mist them daily. Since I keep mine in moss, I test the moss moisture by sticking my finger into the pot about 1/2 inch deep. If they are still moist I skip watering them. Whenever they are in bark I water them about every other week or when I remember it. Once a quarter I give them orchid food by soaking them for about 5 min in a tub of diluted food (*better too weak food than too strong or you will burn the roots*) and then drain them well before I place them back in their spot. The key is not to overwater your orchids, they will forgive you for drying them out some, but not if you overwater them, they will die. If you are in doubt when to feed them, look at the leaves... if they are more yellowish green than the deep dark green color they had when you bought them, they need food. Better starve them of food than give them too much so if you skip several months, do it when you remember.



Committee Highlights & Announcements

- **Garden Therapy Committee** will meet March 6 at 1:00 pm at the Elderhaus at Greenfield Lake. Martha Blacher and Carolyn Marshburn will be the leaders of the craft. Hope to see everyone there especially those who haven't attended this year.
- **Flower Arranging Committee** will have an organizational meeting on Wednesday, February 15 at 10:00 a.m. at the Arboretum. Plans will be made for upcoming activities as well as sign up for refreshment table arrangements for next year. You do not have to be a current member of the committee to attend. All members are invited to participate.
- **Transportation Committee** is happy to give a ride to anyone who needs it to any general meeting. Please call Brenda Garrison at 919-619-1633 or email brendaken@ec.rr.com.
- **Hospitality Committee:** Please bring refreshments by 9:15 am for our general meeting. All refreshments should be placed on a serving plate ready to be placed on the table. Contact Alma Fennell 350-0130 with questions.
- **New member committee** had a hat workshop in January taught by new member committee member Carolyn Jeffries. She helped new members Annie Anthony, Rahel Haley, Virginia Teachey and committee members Pat Ford, Jill Taber, and Schaum Hunt transform plain hats into spectacular hats worthy for us to wear for the Azalea Festival festivities. See photo of the beautiful hats on this page.
- **Reminder: Civic Improvements** will have the beautiful "Plant an Azalea" **note cards** available for purchase at each meeting. These cards are multi purpose: to honor or in memory of someone, or for any occasion. The cost is \$15 dollars to plant one azalea in a New Hanover County Park. Multiple plantings can be included on one card. Example: 3 azaleas equal \$45 dollars. The cards are a lovely expression and a beautiful gift to our county! See Nan Caison or Julie Fisher for purchase.
- **Civic Improvements Committee** will meet directly after the general meeting on February 28. Don't forget to make lunch reservations.
- **Battery Island Committee** please plan on staying for lunch after the February meeting to discuss upcoming clean-up and cruise. Remember to make your lunch reservations.



Azalea Garden Tour News

- It's time to sign up for one shift of **Garden Sitting** the weekend of April 7, 8, and 9. Remember this is a requirement for all active and associate members. Garden sitting sign-up sheets will be available both prior to and after the February 28 meeting.
- **Tour tickets** will be available for purchase at the February meeting for \$25 each. Reminder that each garden club member is required to purchase two tickets.
- **It is not too late to become a "Friend of the Azalea Garden Tour"!** Your \$100 donation includes your two tour tickets and part of the contribution is tax deductible.
- **FYI:** The Garden Owners Wine & Cheese Soirée is February 26th, 4-6pm at the home of Goldie Stetten.
- **COOKIES!** Start planning now for your Ribbon Cutting cookies. Drop off will be Thursday, April 6. More details next month but here is the link to the cookie information on CFGC website: [Ribbon Cutting Cookies information](#).
- **DID YOU KNOW?** We offer discounted tickets (\$22) for groups of 25 or more. If you know of an organization, please contact Ann Lyon (lyonspaws@gmail.com).
- **Azalea Belle Update:** We have 158 Belles! Acceptance letters went out Feb. 7th. Dress fittings will take place Feb. 23rd for daughters & granddaughters. Feb. 24, 25 & 26th. for everyone else.
- The **Azalea Belle Pandora Charm** will be available the end of February. The Belle charm can only be purchased at Dragonflies. The cost is \$40 + tax. We will receive \$4 for every charm sold, which will be put into a Belle Scholarship account.

Committee of the Month: Garden Therapy

Mission statement: To provide a simple craft or activity for the attendees at Elderhaus, an adult care facility.

Number of times you have meetings and how long they last: We meet the first Monday at 1:00pm in October, November, December, February, March, April and May for no longer than an hour.

Main projects/activities & length: Every month is a different project presented by a couple of members who have volunteered. Our biggest project this year was to fill and help plant some raised planters in the courtyard of Elderhaus with flowers, herbs and vegetables. Projects last no longer than an hour.

Do you need members with particular skills or contacts to join your committee? People who have an interest in working with the elderly and are somewhat craft minded are always needed.

District, State & Club News

- The January 2017 “**Keynotes**” newsletter of **SAR** is available on the website. Check out the updates and registration information for the SAR Convention to be held March 26 – 28, 2017, in White Sulphur Springs, WV. Click here to enjoy the newsletter [SAR website](#).
- **CFGC website update:** The gardening segments created by CFGC for NHCS TLN TV are on YouTube. You can get to them by clicking on this link [The Morning Show Gardening segments](#) or visiting our website and clicking the YouTube link in the right hand menu. And be sure to visit 'In the News' on our website to read the recent article that appeared in **Cape Fear Living, 'Three Makers Craft', featuring** our dressmakers for the Azalea Belles.
- From the Winter NC Birds and Butterflies newsletter comes the reminder that the 20th annual GBBC will be held Friday, February 17, through Monday, February 20, 2017. Please visit the official website at [birdcount.org](#) for more information and be sure to check out the latest educational and promotional resources. The **Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)** is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the four-day event and report their sightings online at [birdcount.org](#).
- CFGC Birds and Butterflies Committee reminds everyone to **clean out your bluebird box NOW**. It is almost nesting season.
- Orders for the CFGC **embroidered clothing** will be taken at the February meeting. This order and the orders placed in January will be available for pickup at the March meeting. This will be the last clothing order for the year if you want an item for the Azalea Festival.
- You can still get a 2017 North Carolina Garden Club **calendar** at the February meeting. **Now only \$5.00!** Please have correct cash or check. We do not have change.
- **FYI:** The official population estimate for Monarch butterflies is 146 million, compared to a long-term average of 300 million and a peak of 1 billion. The clustering butterflies cover 2.91 hectares of forest compared to a peak of 18 hectares in 1996 and an average of 6 hectares. A population of 6 hectares is the target for monarch recovery. The count is down this year by about 27%. The late 2016 winter March storm in Mexico resulted in significant casualties last year as the butterflies were beginning to migrate north. Hence there was a smaller population in the spring/summer of 2016. This official Monarch Butterfly count was released February 9, 2017. Source: NC Birds and Butterflies February newsletter.
- Please give **any extra 16-17 yearbooks** to Cathy Poulos to use for new member orientation. We are short about 11.

Upcoming Events

- **February 25 – 67th Annual Tidewater Camellia Club Show.** Arboretum. 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. free admission. Check website [Tidewater camellia](#) for more details.
- **March 1 - Youth Gardener Award Deadline.**
- **March 19 - Azalea Festival Children's Tea.** Coastline Convention Center. 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Purchase seats via [www.capefearvolunteercenter.org](#). See the cute artwork for the event on our photo page. 14 - 16 of our Belles will be participating in this event, too.
- **March 22 - New Member Orientation.**
- **March 26 - 28 - South Atlantic Regional Meeting (SAR)** Greenbrier Resort, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia
- **March 30 - April 2 - Art in Bloom** at the NC Art Museum, Raleigh. Click here for details [NC Art Museum](#).
- **April 2 - 9 - Plant an Azalea Week.** Special planting by Civic Improvements Committee at Hugh McRae Park near the Gazebo on April 4 at 10:00 a.m. All members are invited to attend.
- **April 7 - 9 - Azalea Garden Tour**
- **April 9 - 11 - Garden Club of NC, Inc. Convention.** Greensboro, NC. Check [GCNC website](#) for more information.
- **April 22 - CFGC Arbor Day Celebration.** Please note the date has been changed to Saturday. More details coming in March.
- **May 18 - 20 - National Garden Club Convention.** Richmond, VA. [Click here for more info.](#)
- **May 21 - Lower Cape Fear Bird Islands Cruise.** Boarding 1:30 pm. Departing at 2:00 pm. Returning at 6:30 pm. Tickets will be on sale to CFGC members at the February meeting and also at Wild Bird and Garden Store. Tickets are \$40.00 for adults, \$25 for children 12 & younger.

Correspondence

The following cards have been sent to members and/or members' families since our last general meeting.

SYMPATHY: Alma Fennel, Family of Lilmar Taylor - Williams, Family of Lib Robinson

THINKING OF YOU: Andrea Humphries

WISHES FOR A FULL AND SPEEDY RECOVERY: Ann Hutteman

Reminders

- **LUNCH!** Please join us for the luncheon following the General Meeting. To make your reservation RSVP to the "Paperless Post" invitation you will receive via email soon after you receive this newsletter. **If you do not have an email account** make your reservation by calling Eric Kozen at 910-612-2863. **Cut off for reservations is Thursday, February 23.** If you are lunching with your committee you must make a reservation, just note your committee name on your RSVP. **Cost is \$19 (CFCC increased the price as part of their annual review).** Pay at the meeting with exact change or check.
- **Storage Update:** If you need something from the CFGC storage area, please, call before going over to get it. Someone will meet you at the back door so you do not have to go through the warehouse. S & R Packing and Crating 343-8444 Thanks! Donna and Steve Thompson
- **Website News:** Please refer to page 84 in your new yearbook for directions and information about the CFGC website.
- **New member applications** are available from membership committee and are also available on the CFGC website. Questions email LeNeve Duncan, lenevept@aol.com or (910) 262 - 3019.
- **For changes in member contact information:** Email Penny Allison (PJandMark@bellsouth.net) or 910-686-0888.
- **For changes in membership status** (active to associate, etc.): Email Cindy Godwin (cingodwin@aol.com) or 910-679-4379.
- To submit information for the next **Clippings** or a question to "Ask a Gardener" email cfgcclippings@gmail.com or call (910) 392-1455. Feedback and suggestions are always welcome.
- All photos in Clippings were taken by members of CFGC and/or the Photography Committee.
- **Reminder:** The most current membership information is always found on the CFGC website [members only section](#).

I am a CFGC Member: Cathy Giannini

- I joined the CFGC in 2011 sponsored by Rosalie Hutter.
- **In my garden,** I love color! Blending with hues of pink from my encore azaleas, spaces are filled with bright colored 4o'clocks and annuals that spill over in pots on the patio.
- **In my spare time,** I work in my daughter's yard and love exploring Wilmington's history through the varied activities our city offers with my husband and grandchildren. Volunteering is important to me. You can find me at the Bellamy Mansion as a tour guide and gardener. Often I lead classrooms of 3rd graders through our downtown in a wonderful program called "Tar Heels Go Walking". Card stamping and several social clubs also keep me busy. I just don't remember when I had time to work!
- **On my bucket list,** with a name like "Giannini," I would love to have my family spend time in Italy getting a flavor of their heritage. Riding a camel near the Egyptian pyramids has a certain appeal also! But I'm always excited with short trips across the USA to see the "largest ball of twine", the giant redwood forests or the cement Teepee motels out west on old Route 66.
- **I'd tell new CFGC members,** Try it all! This Club presents you the opportunity to sample all the topics you have had an interest in but never the time to pursue and wonderful new people to share with. Just try it!



Program Notes

Our January general meeting speaker, Sarah Anderson, presented many thoughtful ideas and tips for working in your garden right now in the middle of the winter. Here are a few takeaways from that program... The winter garden provides a time to reflect and sit and linger in a nice sunny spot. Every plant and hardscape should work for you not the other way around. Expand your mulch bed lines to give the plants room and this will create a better balance and rhythm along with the turf lines. Turf grass is a specialty plant that needs to be babied here in our area. Wait until late February to prune your ornamental grasses so you can enjoy all the color and texture they add to your yard. Pathways can take you to a delightful spot if you have dead space to cultivate. Remember crepe myrtles have 4 seasons of beauty. Avoid pruning them to look like mop heads. And, most of all from the poet Rumi "Don't think the garden loses its ecstasy in winter. It's quiet, but the roots are down there riotous."



Membership/Yearbook Updates

The following changes & corrections have occurred since the January newsletter:

Active

Alison McNeir - New email address:
director@quinmcmgowen.com
Debbie Sheehan - New email address:
dwsheehan1960@gmail.com
Ginger Fennel - Move to Associate
Elizabeth Tait, Anne Wood - Resigned

Associate


Lilmar Taylor-Williams - Passed away 1/12/2017
Nell Hunnicutt - Move to Emeritus

Emeritus

Louise Gorham - Add email address:
Louise.Gorham@icloud.com



The Fourteenth Annual Azalea Festival Children's Tea
The Fairy Garden



To Benefit The Cape Fear Volunteer Center

March 19, 2017
2-4pm
Coastline Convention Center
Purchase seats via www.capefearvolunteercenter.org

