

Cape Fear Clippings



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

Ask a Gardener

Help! How do I care for my beautiful orchid so it continues to bloom?

Part two from CFGC Members Rahel Haley and Sandra Kittenger who 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.

Temperature: Orchids do best indoors during the winter and spring. I move them outside after we have sustained 60+ degrees. Because the air indoors is dryer it is key to have them experience the humidity they require on a regular basis. Never allow the air conditioner vent to blow on them; however having the heater vent nearby is ok as long as they remain moist. In the summertime when you have them outside make sure that you continue with the consistent watering care. When the temperatures get cooler than 55 at night you need to bring them back inside. Since they have been outside all summer make sure you soak them thoroughly outside to get rid of the ants and any other insect that has lived in your pot before you bring them inside. Not a fun experience if you forget this step.

Soil: Most orchids come in a bark mixture and this is ok, however I find it hard to regulate their moisture level, so as soon as they are done blooming I move them into a moss environment. Remember these plants are used to growing in very humid air with no dirt around them and they receive all their nutrition from air and rain. So the simpler their mixture is the better.

Long-term maintenance: If orchids thrive, they bloom for 4-7 months and are dormant for 2-5 months before producing blooms again. Some species take even longer to bloom and that is ok. The main thing is that they will always rebloom; you just need to remain consistent with taking care of them. I have had some orchids be dormant for 12-18 months, which is ok. Once an orchid has bloomed, leave it alone; **do not** cut off the flowering stem. This stem will regrow new blooms time after time... and if it is done using the stem, it will let you know as it will produce a new stem and the old stem will dry completely out and look like a reed at which time you can cut it off. Whenever a new stem appears, it is easy to confuse with the roots, as they look the same initially. Also during the dormant time the plant will sprout additional roots that insist on growing outside the pot, this is natural as this is what they do in nature. Do not feel the need to repot it, the more air the roots have the happier your orchid is. And if your orchid does not rebloom use it as an experiment by rooting it outside in the crook of some branches in a tree, you would be surprised that they can grow in NC, and they do not spread because the temperatures will control their growth or kill them if it gets too cold.

General Meeting

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Cape Fear Country Club

1518 Country Club Road

Coffee and Horticulture Judging: 9:30 am

Devotional: Connie Parker

Program: 10:00 am

Program Title: **Sowing Seeds for Future Generations**

Presenter: Darene Honeycutt, Youth Award Chair,
Garden Club of North Carolina

Refreshment Table Arrangement: Bobby Jean
Harvey

Horticulture Theme: Tulips, Daffodils & Flowering
Shrubs

Day Clerks: Bettye Broadwater, C.C. Hensley
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

Set up begins at 8:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. social and displays

10:30 a.m. meeting begins

New Hanover County Arboretum
Auditorium

Save the Date

Arbor Day
Celebration
April 22

Lower Cape Fear
Bird Islands
Cruise
May 21

National
Garden Week
June 4 - 10

Plant An Azalea Week
(1st week in April)



"Promoting Beauty In Our Community"

Cape Fear Garden Club, Inc.

Committee Highlights & Announcements

- The **Transportation Committee** is planning its' first delivery with cookies from the Azalea Festival Ribbon Cutting. We are asking the ladies who bake cookies to **bake one extra cookie** and that is all we need from each of you. Just deliver your cookies as usual and we will take it from there. Thank you for helping us remember our shut-ins. Questions call Brenda Garrison 919-619-1633.
- **Garden Therapy** will be meeting on April 3 at 1:00 p.m. at the Elderhaus on Greenfield Lake. Our activity leaders for the day are Melinda Stewart and Nancy Cameron. We had very poor attendance in March, so please try to make the April meeting.
- The **Youth Garden Clubs** are always looking for interested members! Contact Cathy Giannini (262-4170) with your interests and suggestions.
- **Hospitality Committee:** Please bring refreshments by 9:15 a.m. 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** would like to thank Fran Summerlin and Susan McGee for researching and teaching the best cookie recipes and baking/ decorating tips for the March cookie workshop. You can find our current recipes and tips on the CFGC website by clicking this link [Ribbon Cutting cookies](#). Please join us as we welcome our newest members to the Cape Fear Garden Club at the March meeting! Last year's new members have "lost" their flowers on their nametags and bloomed out to regular active members! So be on the lookout for the newest member's flowered nametags and introduce yourself!
- **Civic Improvement Committee** has 3 upcoming projects. All members are invited to join any event. Call Nan Caison (910-524-8885) if you need more information about any of these projects. Project #1 - April 1st 10:00 a.m. Tree Planting, Project #2 - April 4th 10:00 a.m. Plant an Azalea at Hugh McRae Park (more details under Club News), Project #3 - April 22nd 9:00 a.m. - Spring planting at the corner of Wrightsville Ave/Independence in conjunction with Earth Day and the city wide clean up for the Wells Fargo Event.

Azalea Garden Tour News

- **It's here!!! The 2017 AZALEA GARDEN TOUR!!!** Please contact Betty Hill (910) 395-2920 if you have not yet received your tour tickets. As a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, we can offer you a tax deduction. With your \$100 Friends of the Tour donation, you will receive a donation statement for your tax records and your mandated 2 tickets for the tour. Your consideration is appreciated.
- Please show your support for our club by attending the **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**. It's Friday, April 7th, at 10:00 a.m., at the home of Carole and Richard Johnson - 7601 Masonboro Sound Road. *There is free shuttle bus service from Southside Baptist Church (3370 S. College Road).* Enjoy the horse-drawn carriages, the Parade of the Belles (all 152 of them), the 15-piece string orchestra from Hoggard High School, the Ashley Honor Chorus, and, of course, our deliciously Southern homemade cookies and punch!
- Grab a friend, meet new friends, show our garden owners how much we appreciate them! Please attend the **GARDEN OWNERS THANK YOU LUNCHEON**, on THURSDAY, APRIL 20TH, at 11:30 a.m., at The Surf Club. Please RSVP no later than Thursday, April 13th with your Entree Choice and \$23.00 check made payable to Cape Fear Garden Club. Entree Choices include (please pick one): Pecan Chicken Salad served on a croissant, Shrimp and Grits or Vegetable Quiche with a green salad. Payment can be made at the March 28 general meeting or mailed to: Rhonda Sweeney, 2240 Deepwood Drive, Wilmington, NC 28405.
- **RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY COOKIES!** Please bring your two dozen homemade cookies to 7601 Masonboro Sound Rd, on Thursday, April 6th between 9am-1pm. Look for the cookie drop off signs. The home is across the street from the Windward Oaks Entrance. When arriving, please enter the north driveway, circle & exit the south driveway. This will help the traffic flow. Remember to bring cookies in disposable containers & please no nuts, chocolate or burnt cookies. Here is the link to the cookie information and recipes on CFGC website: [Ribbon Cutting Cookies](#). Thank you, in advance, for all your effort to make this project a success.
- **Attention all health care providers!** We need assistance during the Ribbon Cutting to monitor the Belles and assist the public. EMS will be on site for emergencies. Contact Cheryl Meitrodt if you can help.
- And perhaps, most important of all from Caroline Butler, 2017 Azalea Tour Chair, "as our tour unfolds, let's just enjoy our friends, both old and new, as we work together to make Wilmington more beautiful. Thank you."



Committee of the Month: Youth Garden Clubs

Mission statement: Activities of this committee include education and encouraging a better understanding of the earth sciences and how it relates to children of any age or grouping.

Number of times you have meetings and how long they last: We have two meetings as a committee, once at the beginning of the school year to organize events and then at the end of the school year to summarize. Committee members are encouraged to participate in 5 events during the school year with student groups such as classrooms, scouts, daycare or community gatherings. Most usually last only 45 minutes each time. We are always looking for single events that help the community understand the value of nature's wonders.

Main projects/activities & length: Youth Garden Clubs work independently from each other and develop on the interests of that club or its leader. Currently there are three elementary school clubs and we support boy and Girl Scout troops in their quest for merit badges when asked. Each meeting with a group is under an hour commitment. We are always open to participating in special events within the community that help support our goals on behalf of the Cape Fear Garden Club.

Do you need members with particular skills or contacts to join your committee? You need to enjoy working with children and sharing your love and knowledge of nature. CFGC has many committees that will share in the education process when called upon. We have a budget for each club that support supplies that you might need. You are the key component!

District, State & Club News

- A position will be available this spring for membership on the **Board of Directors of the Elizabethan Gardens** in Manteo, NC. Please contact Marjorie Way for more information.
- Once again it is time to select the committee(s) you would like to serve on next garden club year. Whether you are changing your committee assignment or not you must sign up. Your current year **committee selections** will not be retained. A selection sheet will be sent in separate email later this week.
- FYI from Promotions: **Clothes** ordered in January and February will be distributed at the March meeting. **NO new orders taken. Azalea Belle lists** will also be available at \$5.00 each. **Belles and Blooms** book that includes a belle list will sell for \$35.00. We will also have the note cards, books, and prints for sale in March.
- Please help us in "promoting Beauty in our Community" during the CFGC's annual "**Plant an Azalea Week**". This year the focus of our celebration will be on Hugh McRae Park. Plan now to attend **the Official Planting of Azaleas Ceremony April 4th at 10 am at Hugh McRae Park**. Don't forget to purchase your Plant an Azalea cards— all profits go to **planting azaleas in a New Hanover County Park**. Cards are blank for purchaser to send to someone to honor them (Mother's Day, birthday, "just because you love them") or to a family member who has lost a loved one in memory of that person. We've raised over \$2,000 and planted more 150 azaleas in our parks. See you there!
- The **Arbor Day tree planting** will be on **Saturday, April 22nd** at the front of the Habitat for Humanity neighborhood, Cottages at Cornerstone, located at 3809 Prices Lane, Wilmington (it is very close to Maides Park). Parking will be on Mosley Street. The ceremony will be at 11 a.m. Girl Scout Cadet Troop 1549 will be helping with the ceremony as part of earning a Tree Badge (it is a very small troop of only 5 young ladies, 11-12 years old). We need as many ladies from the CFGC to attend as possible!
- The **Azalea Belle Pandora Charm** is now available for sale. The Belle charm can only be purchased at Dragonflies. The cost is \$45 + tax. We will receive \$4 for every charm sold, which will be put into a Belle Scholarship account.
- **Beauty Spot Nominations** will be accepted at the end of April. Details for submission coming next month but start looking for the prettiest spots in town.

Upcoming Events

- **NOW - Azalea Belles on Display.** Stop by Independence Mall (near Center Court) and checkout the store front display of everyting Azalea Belle.
- **March 23 - CFGC on WHQR 91.3.** Tune in at 8:50 a.m. or 4:44 p.m. to hear Gina Gamboni's interview with Caroline Butler and a garden owner chatting about the upcoming Azalea Garden Tour.
- **March 23 - Kickoff Party for the Cape Fear Museum's opening of the Smithsonian Institution's Traveling Exhibit " Pools, Patios & the Invention othe American Backyard"**. Visit the [Cape Fear Museum website](#) for details. CFGC will be participating in the exhibit on June 4 during first Sunday free day.
- **March 26 - 28 - South Atlantic Regional Meeting (SAR)** Greenbrier Resort, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.
- **April 1 - Plant Sale.** Harbor Way Gardens at WBCh. 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Visit the [Harbor Island Garden website](#) for details.
- **March 30 - April 2 - Art in Bloom** at the NC Art Museum, Raleigh. Click here for details [NC Art Museum](#).
- **April 7 - 9 - Azalea Garden Tour**
- **April 9 - 11 - Garden Club of NC, Inc. Convention.** Greensboro, NC. Check [GCNC website](#) for more info.
- **April 20 - Azalea Garden Tour Garden Owners Appreciation Luncheon.** 11:30 am. Surf Club, Wrightsville Beach. Open to all CFGC members. Look under Azlaea Garden Tour news for details.
- **April 22 - CFGC Arbor Day Celebration.** Details under club news.
- **May 16 - CFGC May Luncheon & Installation of 2017-2018 Club Officers.** 11:30 a.m. Surf Club, Wrightsville Beach. \$25. Buffet. Sign up at March meeting.
- **May 16 - 21 - National Garden Clubs Annual Convention.** Richmond, VA. For more information check the website [National Garden Clubs](#).
- **May 21 - Lower Cape Fear Bird Islands Cruise.** Boarding 1:30 p.m. Departing at 2:00 p.m. Returning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40.00 for adults, \$25 for children 12 & younger. **Only 13 tickets remain! They will be available at the March meeting.
- **November 4 - Save the Date for "A Southern Soiree: Celebrating our Southern Beauty"**, CFGC's endowment fundraiser held in the late afternoon at the Trask Farm.

Reminders

- **LUNCH!** Please join us for the luncheon following the March 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, March 23.** If you are lunching with your committee you must make a reservation, just note your committee name on your RSVP. Cost is \$19. 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 current yearbook for directions and information about the CFGC website. It gives you step-by-step instructions for getting your user name and password.
- **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 to submit 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 in the members only section.

I am a CFGC Member: Eric Kozen

- **I joined the CFGC** in 2006 after two years of being on the waiting list. When I went to my first meeting and saw all those women for the first time, I said oh boy, but many graciously welcomed me and I knew this was the place for me.
- **In my garden,** I inherited a beautiful mature landscape when my wife and I bought our 1918 farmhouse in Burgaw with 4 acres. It is truly a mixture of southern favorites with camellias, azaleas, hollies, crape myrtles, live oaks, Japanese maples and pecan trees. I have added many perennials; over 1000 daffodils and I also grow nearly 1000 sunflowers and zinnias as well as many other butterfly and hummingbird favorites.
- **In my spare time,** I enjoy spending time with my 3 dogs, fly-fishing with my father, cooking (people want me to open a restaurant), tending to my chickens and just enjoying the outdoors.
- **On my bucket list,** would be to go to Europe and Italy to immerse myself into the culture, history, scenery and amazing food.
- **I'd tell new CFGC members,** to get involved in something that you enjoy and also to be bold enough to try something new, there are many opportunities in the CFGC to explore new horizons and meet wonderful people.



Program Notes

Highlights from our February speaker, Tara Duckworth, Director of New Hanover County Parks... NH County has 1,700 acres of green space and 15 district parks. The employees manage an average of 34 acres each. The best way they have found to manage the Canada Geese population at Airlie Gardens is with a Border collie named Reilly. The Parks Conservancy of NH County will be sponsoring a Trash Mob on April 22 and a Food Truck Rodeo on April 23. Check their [website](#) for details. Coming up in March will be a celebration of youth gardeners. Come hear Doreen Honeycutt from the Garden Club of NC, Inc. tell all about NC's Youth Gardening Program. She will also be sharing unique ideas for youth programs on a budget.



Membership/Yearbook Updates

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

Active

Miriam Burns Whitford - cell 910-262-1097 and delete home number

Cheryl Maxwell - Resigned

Emeritus

Lib Robinson, Betty Wallace, passed away

Correspondence

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

SYMPATHY: Family of Betsy Wallace, CFGC Member since 1989, Julia Davis

WISHES FOR A FULL AND SPEEDY RECOVERY: Aggie Henriksen

