



Cape Fear Garden Club

CLIPPINGS

news & updates

February 2024 | Issue 6

President's Message

GENERAL MEETING:
February 28, 2024

Cape Fear Country Club

9:15 - 9:30 a.m.

Horticulture Judging

9:30 a.m.

Hospitality & Social Period

10:00 a.m.

Meeting Called to Order

Devotional:

Valerie Robertson

Program: "Presidents & Yearbooks, 1925-2024"

Presenter: Elaine Henson

Refreshment Table

Arrangement:

Stephanie Hendrickson and
Elizabeth Dunn

Horticulture Theme:

*Camellias and Early Bulbs
and Flowering Branches*

Day Clerks: Lolita Bryant,
Linda Pyle

Judges: Marcia Doering,
Barbara Howard or Karen
Root.

Azalea Garden Tour Tickets
are on sale!

Sign up to be a Garden sitter

Dear CFGC Member,

According to my calendar, it's February, and we all know that means flowers and chocolates.

The latest copy of Town and Country magazine has an article on "The 12 Best Valentine's Day Flower Arrangements for That Special Someone". In a nutshell, I will give you the run down in order.....roses, orchids, sunflowers, lilies, tulips, dried florals, alstroemeria, daisies, calla lilies, carnations, anemones, and ranunculus. So, take this list and head out to your favorite flower-buying place of business and have a hi-ho time getting your blooms.



Now, let's talk about candy. My favorite candy in the whole wide world you can't even buy south of the Mason-Dixon line! It's called Fannie May, and I pack my suitcase full when I go home to Illinois. My Easter basket as a child was not complete without a Fannie May egg. On my last trip back, I carried several boxes of candy on the plane in case I needed a sweet pick-me-up to survive the Newark to Wilmington flight. So, all this said, I have decided to do something different this year.....yeah.....another change.

We all know about Blowing Rock in North Carolina. Slippery Rock in Pennsylvania. Little Rock in Arkansas. Well, friends, we now have Azalea Rock right here in Wilmington.

Our very own Irene Shea has painted this precious yard rock, and they will be for sale at the Trolley Stop during the Garden Tour just eight weeks away! They're a Limited Edition (you know how they always advertise that part).



Barbara Downing is currently curating the club's Facebook page. She is looking for assistance. Please contact her if you are interested at bdowning789@gmail.com

I am breaking the news to Brad to get on the stick and get me a rock for Valentine's Day for \$10.00. I will be the happiest woman in Wilmington.

I hope you all get pinged from Cupid's Arrow sometime this month.

Fondly,

Deb

Debbie Reid

President

Cape Fear Garden Club 2023-2024

February Lunch RSVP

Ladies Lunching



If you want to stay for lunch, email Penny at PJandMark@bellsouth.net to reserve your place. If you decide to have lunch on the meeting day, you can see Penny at a table in the lobby and pay your \$25. she'll let you know if there is space available.

Thank you to the 31 members and guests who stayed for lunch last month. Remember to plan on having lunch at the club in February, consider "hatching two birds with one stone," and have a committee meeting.

The menu for February is the Chef's choice of sandwiches and wraps with one vegetarian option. Club chips, tossed salad, and a freshly baked cookie will be included.

Remember, CFCC charges our club 40 lunches regardless of how many members purchase lunch. The lunches are delicious and reasonable at only \$25.

If you would like to reserve a table in the lobby for a committee meeting, please email me so we can make those arrangements.

Delores Hawes

Amazing Special Events Committee



Your Amazing Special Events Committee is hard at work brainstorming AMAZING Centennial ideas, AMAZING Past Presidents Luncheon, and AMAZING trips and events for an AMAZING 2024-2025 year of our AMAZING Cape Fear Garden Club!

[Bethy Trice](#)

February 20th Workshop Growing/Beginning an Edible Garden Inside

2:00 PM-4:00 PM
New Hanover County Arboretum Auditorium
Presenter: Meg Shelton from Shelton Farms

Nothing requested to bring...JUST YOURSELF AND EVEN A FRIEND!

This will be another learning and informative experience for all attendees, with some door prizes.



FEBRUARY 28TH CFGC GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

It is my hope that each of you has enjoyed the programs/speakers each month that have been presented.

This month's program should delight each of us as we turn back the hands of time with a special history presentation from the lady in the know, Elaine Henson, on "**PRESIDENTS & YEARBOOKS** from **1925-2024.**"

As Cape Fear Garden Club members, I think you will not want to miss this historical presentation. It is a time to look back at the extraordinary ladies who led the club and to view yearbooks of the club's past.

[Sandy Cyphers](#)
2nd Vice President



ANNUAL IKEBANA EXHIBITION
OF
EXQUISITE JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Presented By
Wilmington Chapter 212
of Ikebana International

FRIDAY, MARCH 29th from 1-5pm
SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH from 10:00am-4pm

New Hanover County Arboretum Auditorium
6206 Oleander Dr. Wilmington, NC

FREE ADMISSION

Ikebana Demonstrations: Saturday 12:00 & 1:30pm
Guest Exhibitor: The Cape Fear Bonsai Society

Gardening for Wildlife

It was with great enthusiasm that the Gardening for Wildlife committee gave the January General Meeting program!

Natalie Bohorquez was the guest speaker from the NC Wildlife Federation (NCWF). Natalie spoke to us about how much development had taken place in our state in the last few decades, and some of the statistics were alarming . . . , especially for native plants and wildlife. She gave us great information on what we can do as gardeners to protect and preserve our environment with programs such as the “Butterfly Highway” and tips on certifying your yard for wildlife through the NCWF website.



Also in attendance and supporting the goal to have the City of Wilmington Wildlife certified by our Centennial in 2025 were Mayor Pro-tem Rev. Clifford Barnett and Salette Andrews from the Wilmington City Council. Our committee has found a friend in Ernie McLaney who was instrumental in working to have the City of Charlotte and the St. James Community certified, as he was also present at this meeting.

Join us and have your garden certified if you still need to! It's simple, and if help is needed, please reach out to us! rebecca.hardy3@gmail.com or ncwf.org/garden.

Our next committee meeting will be on Thursday, February 8th, at 4 pm at Delores Hawes's home.

[Becky Hardy](#) and [Mary Smith](#), Co-Chairs
Gardening for Wildlife Committee

Horticultural Minute

Trees Please! Oaks are the Most!



Oaks provide a host of offerings for wildlife. We are all familiar with the acorns produced over the summer and available for wildlife to eat in late summer and fall. But in the spring, oaks are the larval host plant for specific moths and butterflies.

Oaks support more life forms and interactions than any other tree genus in North America, sustaining everything from acorn-collection woodpeckers to caterpillars that dazzle like jewels. Songbirds such as the Carolina Chickadee can be seen carrying a caterpillar to feed its nestlings.

Per Doug Tallamy, an entomologist at the University of Delaware, ninety-six percent of terrestrial birds rear their young on insects, and caterpillars are a particularly important food source. In addition, he says that native trees support more of the caterpillars birds need to feed their young. During the breeding season, Carolina chickadees and other birds need many insects---in the case of chickadees, more than 5,000 per clutch of hatchlings!

Many species of oaks prosper in Wilmington. Along Market Street in the historic district are laurel oaks and seven live oaks in front of the Kenan House at 17th and Market. The UNCW

campus has more than a dozen species, including the magnificent promenade of Live Oaks at the front quadrangle.

Airlie Road has many Live Oaks with the characteristic wind-blown shape because they are near the water. The appreciation of these trees is so important.

A Post from Frances Parnell, Emeritus Member: "It isn't what we suggest for planting, but how we save what is already in place. Too many important trees, like our oaks and hollies, are needed for food, cover, and places to raise young and are removed to plant lawns and smaller plants. Once the larger and slow-growing vegetation is removed, it takes a long time to grow them again.

Please preserve our mature trees and garden for wildlife. **Tree Giveaway, Saturday, March 9**, 9 am, Legion Stadium, Alliance for Cape Fear Trees and Arbor Day Foundation.

Reading: The Nature of Oaks, The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native Trees. Douglas W. Tallamy

[Marcia Doering](#)

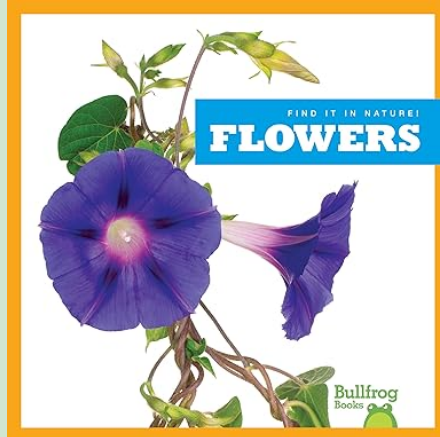
Certified Arborist, Retired, International Society of Arboriculture
Landscape Consultant, National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Picture Credits

Live Oak Picture by Bernie Baker

Chickadee painting by Cathy Poulos

Librarian's Report



Pat Fitzgerald, an Active Cape Fear Garden Club member, passed away on September 29, 2023. Pat had been a member of the club for 16 years.

Two books have been donated to the New Hanover County Library in Pat's memory - "Flowers (Find it in Nature!)" - by Jenna Lee Gleisner and "The No-Dig Children's Gardening Book: Easy and Fun Family Gardening" by Charles Dowding

[Diane Smith](#), CFCG Librarian

2024 Azalea Garden Tour

Garden Tour Tickets On Sale



Azalea Garden Tour Tickets will be available for pick up or purchase at the February and March 2024 General Meetings. A table will be in the reception area for your convenience. Additional tickets are \$50 each.

GARDEN OWNERS LUNCHEON – will be at the Surf Club, 1 Mallard St., Wrightsville Beach, on Thursday, April 18th at 11:30 am. **The buffet lunch is \$38.** Please make your check payable to Cape Fear Garden Club, and on the memo line, write Garden Owners Luncheon. You can also pay with cash.

Please print your name and check the appropriate box, “Paid with check or cash,” on the sheet attached to the envelope that will be passed around at the February and March General Meetings.

The menu is listed below:

- Surf Club Fresh Baked Breads/Rolls with Creamery Butter
- Seasonal Greens Salad Bar with six condiments and four dressings
- Zucchini St. James With Bacon
- Seasonal Sauteed Vegetables
- Chicken Marsala with Roast Fingerling Potatoes
- Baked Flounder with Lemon Butter and Wild Rice
- Lemon Squares & Mini Chocolate Lava Cakes

There will be a CASH bar.

Look forward to seeing you at this special event to honor the Garden Owners that made the 2024 Azalea Garden Tour possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

[Signa Stalvey](#), Chair
2024 Azalea Garden Tour

Garden Sitters Needed - SignUpGenius (SUG) has been sent out again to all club members via Constant Contact, requesting you to sign up to sit in a garden. THANK YOU to all the members who have already signed up. Sixty empty slots must be filled. Just to remind you, this is a requirement to maintain your membership in the CFGC.

[Sign Up as a Garden Sitter Here](#)

Plant Raffle Tickets will be sold at the February and March General Meetings. The proceeds from selling raffle tickets go to nonprofit organizations in New Hanover County. There will be three winners (\$500 each) for a total of \$1500 in plants of your choice of color for your garden. Johnson Nursery and Proven Winners are the sponsors. One ticket is \$10, and three tickets are \$20.

Hobby Greenhouse Tour Saturday, March 2, 2024



HOBBY GREENHOUSE TOUR

SATURDAY – MARCH 2, 2024

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

This FREE self-driving tour of local hobby greenhouses is sponsored by the
Wilmington Hobby Greenhouse Club

GREENHOUSE DESCRIPTIONS AND DIRECTIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON
THE DAY OF THE TOUR AT THE NEW HANOVER COUNTY ARBORETUM
6206 Oleander Drive

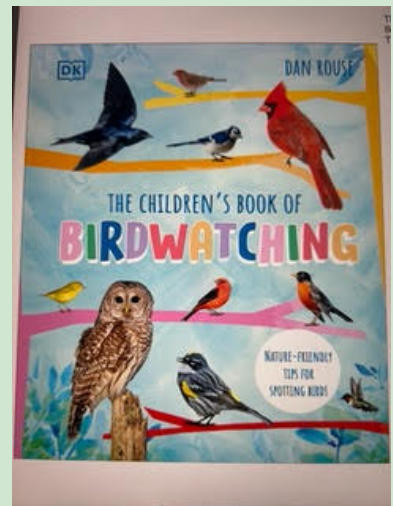
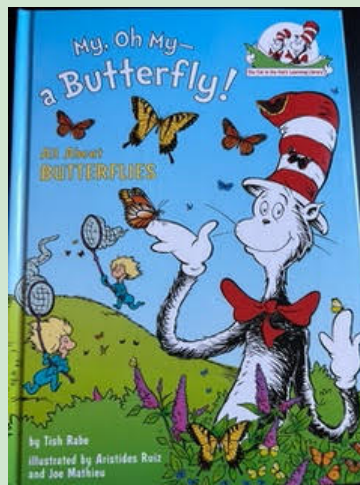
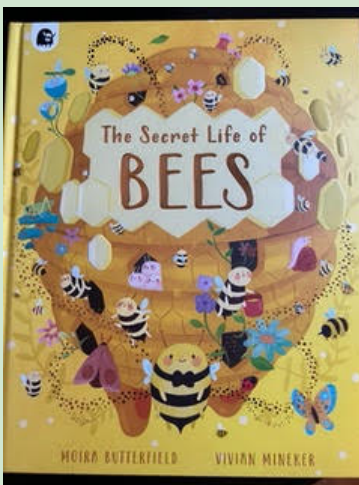


See our web site: www.hobbygreenhouseclub.org for a list of
greenhouses and directions or call (910) 619-0942 for further info.

March 2, Wilmington, NC. **Annual Hobby Greenhouse Tour** - a FREE self-guided tour of local greenhouses, including member and nonmember greenhouses and commercial and institutional greenhouses throughout New Hanover, Brunswick, and Pender counties. Visit any or all (your choice). The tour starts at the New Hanover County Arboretum. 9 am to 5 pm. Download the tour pamphlet and driving directions - <http://www.hobbygreenhouseclub.org>

Bees, Birds and Butterflies

Centennial Project - Collect 100 New Hardback Children's Books



February At Home Activity

The Bees, Birds, and Butterflies Committee is collecting 100 new hardback children's books to teach them how to care for these creatures and protect their habitats. The books will be distributed to local elementary schools in honor of our centennial.

Some suggested titles include *The Secret Life of Bees* by Moira Butterfield, *My, Oh My—a Butterfly* by Tish Rabe, and *The Children's Book of Birdwatching* by Dan Rouse. These can be purchased on Amazon for \$15 or less. You may bring your donations to the March general meeting.

Thanks in advance for your support of our project!

[Angela Rigsbee](#)



Bird Approved Seed Treats February At-Home Activity

- Mix $\frac{1}{2}$ cup unflavored gelatin with $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of hot water until clear and dissolved.
- Remove from heat and stir in 8 cups of birdseed, making sure all the seeds are coated.
- Shape the treats inside cookie cutters or in silicone mold. Pack tightly. If you use the silicone mold add the bird feed to the mold first and then fill with gelatin.
- Refrigerate for 2-4 hours and dry for 3 days.
- Before the treats are completely set, use a pencil to make a hole for the ribbon.
- When completely set, add ribbon or twine to hang in your trees.

Battery Island Bird Cruise

Sunday, May 19th, 2024

Join us for an educational and enjoyable cruise along the nine Lower Cape Fear River Islands, nesting sites of Brown Pelicans, White Ibis, Royal Terns, Great Egrets, American Oystercatchers, and other water birds on Sunday, May 19th. We will cruise on the Henrietta Riverboat docked at the River Walk in downtown Wilmington (at Dock Street) and travel to Battery Island across from Southport.



Lindsay Addison, Coastal Biologist for Audubon NC, will narrate the cruise. In addition, Jill Peleuses of Wild Bird & Garden will be available onboard during our return trip to answer any songbird-related questions.

The Henrietta Riverboat features an air-conditioned lower level with tables and chairs and a canopy-covered upper deck with chairs. The riverboat is wheelchair accessible, restrooms are available, and the Henrietta crew provides a cash bar and snack bar. Boarding will begin at 10:30 am, departure at 11:00 am, and we will return approximately at 4-5 pm. Fun activities are planned during the return trip, including Bird Bingo!

Tickets are limited this year...and sell out quickly! Buy your ticket as soon as possible!

Tickets are \$100 each (check or cash), and your ticket price includes a deluxe box lunch from Jason's Deli. The Battery Island Committee will have tickets for sale at the March General Meeting and the Wild Bird & Garden Store in Hanover Center beginning **March 15**.

BATTERY ISLAND COMMITTEE TO MEET AFTER THE FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING!

Please plan to stay for a quick meeting of the Battery Island Committee after February's General Membership Meeting (February 28) in the hospitality area. Lunch is optional but welcome.

If you need additional information or have questions, please get in touch with Marlene or Marylou, Co-Chairs of the Battery Island Committee.

[Marlene Eader](#)
[Marylou Moeller](#)

Garden Therapy



Our Garden Therapy Department met with the residents of Elderhaus on Monday, February 5, for our monthly activity. Fourteen of our 24 members and 37 participants “shared the love” by making two Valentine crafts.

First, participants made a 5' x 7" “heart picture frame” with an attached magnet to hang on any metal surface. The participants loved choosing and attaching decorated pink, red, and white adhesive hearts to the frame.

Next, the participants created a “rose that will never wilt”! Another perfect craft for their special Valentine, they created a long stem rose (either red or pink), with a long green stem and a special to/from card.

“Thank you” to our members Courtney Thomas and Cassie Williamson for providing these awesome crafts and allowing the participants to be creative and social.

Smiles, love, and laughter filled the room! Happy Valentine's Day to all!



Support CFGC

Make Your Donation Safely and Securely Online

Mail In Donation Form

[View the Winter 2023 Issue of The National Gardener](#)



Connecting You with People, Plants and Programs



Cape Fear Garden Club | www.capefeargardenclub.org

Submissions for Clipping must be received by two weeks before the general meeting. Send all 2023-2024 submissions to clippingscfcg@gmail.com



Cape Fear Garden Club, Inc | P.O. Box 4751, Wilmington, NC 28406

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