

The Magnolia



Columbus Garden Club Newsletter

March, 2025



What flower do you think of when you think of Spring? I think of tulips. Why? Because when I was a child my father would bring home a box of tulip bulbs (in November), we would chill the bulbs for a few weeks, and then would plant them between Thanksgiving and Christmas. They can also be planted late December to mid-January too. We always planted them in sun because when

they would bloom it was not too warm yet. In the Spring, they would “pop out of the ground”. It was a “rainbow of colors”. There were so many different colors and different kinds of tulips too.

So, when is Spring?

This year, the spring equinox falls on Thursday, March 20, 2025.

What is the difference between astronomical and meteorological seasons?

“Astronomical seasons are based on the position of the Earth in relation to the sun, whereas meteorological seasons are based on the annual temperature cycle.” NOAA says.

Another marker that spring has sprung is the March time change, which was last Sunday March 9. We will fall back again on Sunday, Nov. 2, 2025.

CGC March Meeting



Columbus Garden Club
Columbus, Texas

Container Gardening

Debbie Hopper, Master Gardener

9:30am, March 12, 2025
The Lighthouse, St. Paul Lutheran,
Columbus TX

Public always welcome!



Don't Forget to Pay Your Dues by March 31

Sign up for committees and for a hostess month

Or call/text Janet Johnson (713) 248-8974

The Honor of Your Presence is Requested
By District IV of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.



BLUE STAR MEMORIAL
MARKER DEDICATION

MARCH 25, 2025

2:30-4:00 PM

Houston National Cemetery
10410 Veterans Memorial Drive
Houston, Texas 77038

Reception to follow

Questions: Cindy Heckaman
832-654-0070

BLUEBONNET GARDEN CLUB PRESENTS...

2025 FLOWER SHOW

Blooms of Legacy



Celebrating 75 Years of Floral Splendor

Cocktail Preview Party

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

5:30 to 7:00 PM

Tickets \$25

Celebration Flower Show

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Tickets \$15

Ant Street Inn • 107 West Commerce Street • Brenham, Texas

For additional information contact

RebeccaEhlert@sbglobal.net (512-914-6148)

www.bluebonnetgardenclub.com

All proceeds benefit community projects and scholarships

For more information about the Blue Star celebration or the Celebration Flower show contact Sharon Wegenhoft.



KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL

Trash Off Days – April 2 - 5

Watch for details

Spring Clean-Up – March 1 – May 31

Community Beautification, Litter Clean Up

Plant Trees and Flowers, Trash Pick Up

Paint a Fence, Clean a Vacant Lot

Clean a park or roadside Clean a Waterway

Work on any project that beautifies our community

Volunteer Supply Kits Available

Safety Vests, Gloves, Trash Bags, Grabbers, Hand Sanitizer

Call or Text 979-733-4343

KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL SPRING CLEAN UP

The annual Spring Clean Up Event for 2025 will be held March 1 – May 31. Focusing on Litter Clean Up, Community Beautification, and Waterway Clean Up, volunteers are encouraged to join the clean-up campaign hosted by Keep Columbus Beautiful.

A project of Columbus Garden Club, the spring clean-up is a part of the Keep Texas Beautiful “Don’t Mess with Texas” and Keep America Beautiful “Greatest American Clean Up” nationwide events.

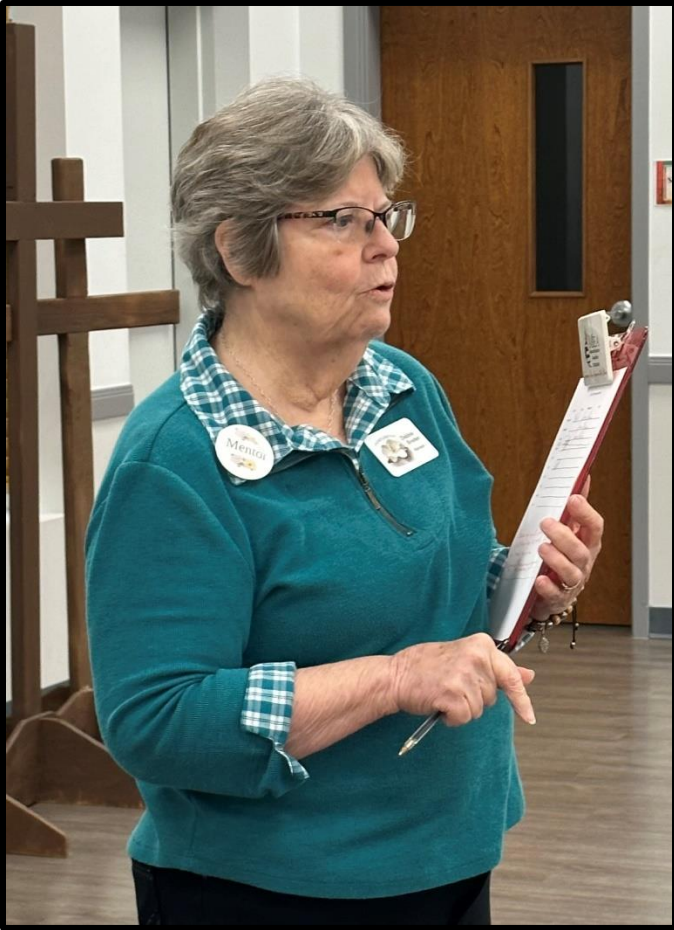
Adopt a Highway, Adopt a Spot, and Adopt a Street/Neighborhood programs continue to play key roles in ongoing beautification efforts.

Supply kits will be available for volunteers again this year. Kits include safety vests, gloves, trash bags, and grabbers.

All efforts, large or small will help our community. Registering your volunteer service will also help Columbus and the success of this event.

Call or text 979-733-4343 for more information or to volunteer.

Member in the Spotlight – Deborah Braden



I am not a native Texan but native Californian. I spent my childhood years in Phoenix before my family moved to Dallas. My father had a passion for his lawns, both front and back. He grew citrus trees in the front yard in Phoenix...a big tradition in Arizona. His lawns and bushes were impeccable. Snowball bushes bloomed outside my window. I loved them.

My first passion for flowers starts with indoor plants. African Violets, succulents (particularly cacti), and many others that I ran across. But not until I moved to Columbus did my real joy for outdoor

gardening develop. I joined the garden club. The love for gardening grew along with the lasting friendships that developed.

This passion for gardening in our club is contagious. It gives us an opportunity as human beings to realize that there is something much greater than ourselves. Experiencing the beauty of God's creation and observing the harmony among flowers and insects and animals continues to amaze me and deepen my faith.

Being a part of an organization who loves mud, dirt, rain and creates the beauty in our community is heartwarming and a blessing.

God bless you all.





Hostesses for January were: Joann Obenhaus, Sandy Chalupka, Debbie Braden, Patti Schindler, Ann Pavliska, and Janet Johnson. What a happy group of women.



Hostesses for February were: Sharon Roensch, Sandy Barrett, Velma Harrington, Marian Schonenberg. Garden Club members - happy and willing to serve you.

The February Meeting was so interesting and a lot of fun!



Phoebe Lake presented a wonderful program - **Propagation: Hands On**

It was a power point presentation and she presented so many practical ideas that help with propagation. She had suggestions on how to take care in propagating special seeds or a certain color that you don't want to mix with other seeds...and starting seeds in a plastic bag where you see them when they start putting out little roots. She showed how to make cuttings to propagate. And she shared some of those cuttings. She had plants available for members to purchase.

We had so much fun.

Members enjoyed refreshments provided by the February hostesses.

(Ann Pavliska and Wanda Anglin at the refreshment table)

Look at the beautiful orchid on the table.





Patsy Hodge and Jennie Pritchett (friends extraordinaire) and Marian Schonenberg speaking to garden club members.



Karen Payne speaks to group about Arbor Day. Jennie Pritchett, Ida Snively, and Karen Payne are getting ready for Keep Columbus Beautiful Spring Clean-Up, Trash Off Days and Recycling.

Help Columbus Garden Club earn funds by recycling your HP and Canon printer cartridges.

Turn in your cartridges to Marian Schonenberg or Brenda Boehm. This project only applies to HP and Canon. Thank you for helping.

Plant Chat

Let's Talk About Pollinator Beetles

Beetles have actually been pollinating since the Mesozoic Period about 200 million years ago! Bees were not even around yet. Beetles can pollinate day and night and are called “mess and soil” pollinators because they will eat their way through a flower’s petals and other parts then leave their frass wherever they want. (Frass is term for solid waste produced by insects, especially larvae.. It can also refer to related matter.)

Pollen is a food source for beetles and they use their sense of smell and color vision to find flowers. They have no specialized structures to gather the pollen it just sticks to their bodies as they go from flower to flower. So needless to say, beetle pollinated plants have evolved to have thicker flowers and leaves to survive. Flowers that beetles like to visit have these characteristics; Bowl shaped like a magnolia, sunflowers, or pond lily, small flower clusters like goldenrods or Spirea, white to dull white, green, even burgundy in color, strong fruity smells to no smell, open during the day and night.

Common beetles you may see pollinating in your garden are; Lady Beetles, Blister Beetles, Long-Horn Beetles, Cucumber Beetles, Scarab Beetles, Milkweed Beetles, Checkered Beetles, Flower Weevils and Snout and Bark Beetles just to name a few. As you work in your gardens enjoy all the diversity it has to offer!

Moths of the Texas Skies

Moths are not thought of as pollinators by many people due to the fact that they pollinate at night and we don’t necessarily see them at work. Moth pollination is more prevalent in the south than any other place in the continental US due to our warm comfortable nights.

Texas has several pollinator moths that visit our gardens at night; Sphinx moth-often called the hummingbird moth- comes from the tomato horn worm caterpillar, Yucca moths, Black witch moth or also known as the bat moth and is the largest moth in the USA, Polyphemus moth which have owl like eyes on their wings and a six-inch wingspan, Ailanthus Webworm moth not native to Texas but migrates from Central America, and the Yellow-collared Scape moth which is also active during the day. Notice that I didn't list the Luna moth, that's because it's not a pollinator moth. The Luna moth lacks a mouth and must eat all the nutrition they can as caterpillars!

How can we see these great creatures at night? The best way is to plant night blooming plants with fragrant flowers in your gardens and remember to plant them together not scattered throughout the garden. Use a blacklight in the garden and see the activity of the moths or another way you can view them is to try a little day-glo paint powder on a few night bloomers and watch as they open and the strong flower scent begins, moths should come and show off for you. Who knew our gardens had so much going on here in south Texas!

--Janet Johnson

Pictures from Environmental School – Jan 10-12



Nancy Galloway (left), Student and NGC ES Presenter and Sarah McReynolds, NGC Environmental School Chairman

Nancy Galloway presented program with slide show on the Monarch butterfly conservation effort, "Monarchs in the Air". **Sharon Wegenhoft** also attended the School.



On the right - Sign that the Park puts up.



Group went on a field trip to the Great Blue Heron rookery at the Park.

(first row – left to right)

Lee Taylor, TGC State President -
Sarah McReynolds, NGC
Environmental School Chairman -
Nancy Galloway, Student and NGC ES
Presenter.

(back row – left to right)

Sharon Wegenhoft, Area 7
Coordinator and NGC Environmental
School

Dr. Heather White, NGC
Environmental School Presenter and
NGC Flower Show Judge, Consultant

New Slate of Officers for 2025-2027

District IV

District IV Director for 2025-2027

District IV Director – Sharon Wegenhoft

2nd Vice Director-Budget – Gail Wright

3rd Vice Director- Newsletter – Nancy Galloway

4th Vice Director – Membership – Jennifer Hydes

5th Vice Director – Awards – Pam Randall

6th Vice Director – Organizational Studies, Jane Marvin

Secretary – Cathy Owen

Treasurer – Madeleine Rogersl

Parliamentarian/Protocol – Linda Kuper

Headquarter Trustee – Nancy Giffhorn

Area Coordinators for 2025-2027

Area 1 – Leslie Wong

Area 2 – Madeleine Rogers

Area 3 – Cindy Heckaman

Area 4 – Anna Blythe

Area 5 – Harriett Bedenbaugh

Area 6 – Diane Sullivan

Area 7; - Wanda Anglin

Area 8 – Joni Landon

Area 9 – Marian Schonenberg

Affiliates/Councils – Nancy Giffhorn

March Landscape Design School

February 10 – 11

George Bush Library



Jennie Pritchett, Sharon Wegenhoft, Nancy Galloway

Get Ready it's Time for Plant Sale

When: Saturday, April 26

8:00 a.m. til Sellout

Where: Brookshire Bros.

Put on your calendars please:

Work Days at Marian Schonenberg's Home:

April 14 and 21 at 9:30 a.m. for Planting Days



Want To Go On A Pilgrimage?

Plans are in the Process of Being Made

Columbus Oaks Raised Bed Planter Project

Sandy Barrett pulled weeds in the planter on February 17. Wanda talked with Tracy Psencik about planting tomatoes.

If you are interested in participating in this low-effort project and connecting with folks in our community you most likely will not see out and about in town, let Wanda know at 713-628-6545 or wanda.anglin@hotmail.com

Can Youth in the Garden Help Your Project?

Youth in the Garden will be helping with Trash Off Day.

Bren Wyman and Wanda Anglin invite you to consider if our Youth in the Garden student volunteers can help with your project. We have discussed having the Youth in the Garden to help water the Courthouse Square planters.

Getting Club Emails? Want to Send an Email to the Entire Club?

Get Emails

Are you receiving emails from the Club? About 4, sometimes 6 are sent monthly including meeting announcements and reminders, the newsletters, and information about upcoming events. If you are NOT receiving emails from the Club, go to this website:

<https://tinyurl.com/cgc-emails> . Enter your email address there and you will begin receiving all emails sent out by the Club.

Send an Email to the Entire Club

FYI...in the past, there was confusion about our Club email address which is hello@columbusgardenclub.org . Please note that when someone sends an email to this address, the Website/Social Media committee and some Board members get the email. It is NOT an email that sends out announcements or information to the entire Club.

The way to send an email to the entire club is to prepare what you want to say and send it along with any images to Cheryl Rose (cherylscgc@gmail.com) AND Wanda Anglin (wanda.anglin@hotmail.com). Cheryl and Wanda will coordinate putting your information in our tool called MailChimp that will send out to the entire Club.

DATES TO REMEMBER: (As Listed in Dist. IV Newsletter)

2025

January 2025:

10th Houston Federation Regular Meeting, 10 a.m.

17th-19th Environmental School – Course 4, Contact: Sarah McReynolds @ esarabeth@aol.com

February 2025:

14th Houston Federation Regular Meeting, 10 a.m.

March 2025:

14th Houston Federation Regular Meeting, 20 a.m.

27th District IV Spring Convention, hosted by League City Garden Club – See ad in District IV (August 24) Newsletter – 9a.m.- 2p.m, Johnny Arolfo Ballroom, 400 W. Walker, League City, Tx.

April 2025:

1st-4th TGC Inc. Spring Convention

11th Houston Federation Regular Meeting, 10 a.m.

14th-15th South Central State Spring Convention, Albuquerque, NM

16th-17th South-Central Region Spring Convention, Albuquerque, NM

May 2025:

9th Houston Federation Regular Meeting, 10 a.m.

(**Note: National Spring Convention:** It has been decided to move forward with the 2025 Pre-convention meetings and Convention to be held at the Embassy Suites in North Charleston, SC **May 18-21, 2025. Please make note of this change.**)

June 2025:

2nd National Garden Week

Houston Federation of Garden Clubs regular meetings are held the second Friday, September through May with the “social hour” beginning at 10-10:30 a.m.

Dates are as follows:

- Sept. 13, 2024
- Oct. 11, 2024
- Nov. 8, 2024



Houston Federation of Garden Clubs has a new meeting place at the corner of Bellaire and Ave. B and located directly across Bellaire Blvd from last year's meeting place, Faith Lutheran Church

**CityRise Church-Bellaire
4601 Bellaire Blvd., Bellaire
77401**

- Dec. 13, 2024
- Jan 10, 2025
- Feb. 14, 2025
- Mar. 14, 2025
- Apr. 11, 2025
- May 9, 2025



Joys, Love and Concerns

Wanda Anglin has been enjoying an exciting trip to the Anarctic and has been sharing



wonderful pictures of icy landscapes and wildlife. She's also celebrating a March Birthday. **Jennie Pritchett** celebrated her February birthday with a

"night on the town". Nancy Galloway celebrated a March birthday and a new car. Also remember many of our friends who are still members but find it difficult to attend.

Ann Pavliska took over choosing Yard of the Month and Community Beautification Award while Wanda was on her trip. Ann was sick with Flu while trying to fulfill that task. Thank you Ann. Hope you are well now. **Beth Easterling** has been really ill with an ear drum bursting and pinkeye. And, please remember **Martha Jordan**. We have really been missing her.

So that we can better communicate and express our love and concern for each other, if you know of a **garden club member or family of a garden club member who is ill or has had a death in the family** please contact:

Janet Johnson – She will notify the appropriate members to communicate with the club.

Cheryl Rose – She is person in charge of notifying the club.

It's time to celebrate March Birthdays:



03 Katy Seymour
05 Ericka Braun
09 Nancy Galloway
22 Wanda Anglin

Yard of the Month – March

Home of: Neal and Laurie Adcock

414 Charter St.



The front flowerbed has Crape Myrtle along with purple salvias along the front windows. There are two large planters with flowers in full boom including geraniums, Gerber Daisies, Verbenas, and yellow Nemesia. Lantana is in a small Texas planter by the front door. The yard is very neat, tidy and beautiful.

Community Beautification Award – March

None Selected

SHARE YOUR GARDEN

Ann Pavliska shared pictures of her beautiful Amaryllis



Velma Harrington – Editor of Newsletter
