



## Greenleaf Bulletin - November 2010 Issue

Dear Friend,

Wow, is Autumn ever welcome...Hope you are all enjoying the cooler weather in the South and the colors in the North. Don't you just love Arizona?



All of the Fall District Meetings were so interesting and fun, thanks to our *Wonderful* District Directors. Thank you, we enjoyed meeting everyone that attended. It is amazing to hear about all of the great projects that are being done by our members. These District Meetings are the way for us all to find out what is happening and to take part in our state functions.

Last month I attended the National Board Meeting in Great Falls Montana. The opportunity to hear about, and to participate in the workings of our National organization is always an exciting experience. National has so much to offer. I hope that everyone will check the National Garden Website often at [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org). You will find information on programs, awards, forms, design, horticulture, schools, how to run a meeting, etc.

Now that email and websites have become so important to our organization, we need to familiarize ourselves with our website. ([www.afgcgreenleaf.org](http://www.afgcgreenleaf.org)) Let it be your tool to increase your knowledge about garden clubs, members and events in our state. The board Members at the AFGC Fall Board Meeting voted to upgrade the website, and Judy Tolbert has some very exciting features for us.

Also, check our Pacific Region website, [www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org](http://www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org). Arizona will host the Pacific Region convention in April. Our National President Renee Blaschke and our Regional Director Sandra Ford will be here, and all 8 states in our region will be represented. Amy Emary and Rea Heesch will chair this event so we know that it will be *amazing*. The registration form is in this issue. Register early! Please come!

Wishing you a lovely Holiday Season.

Love,

**Sharron**

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### **Important Registration Changes regarding the AFGC Website.**

**[www.afgcgreenleaf.org](http://www.afgcgreenleaf.org)**

Members - Please register for an account using your personal email address and unique password to use the new upgraded website and access the "Member Only Page".

Click on "**Register**" at the very top of this website page, or if you have previously registered, click on "**Login**" at the very top of this website page.

**Blue Star Memorial Dedication**



On Memorial Day, May 29, 2010 at 9:00AM, the Town and Country Garden Club held a dedication ceremony for the newest Blue Star Memorial located near the US Post Office in the city of Coolidge, AZ. A presentation of Colors by the Coolidge High School ROTC, was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by T & C member, Judy Rotz-Lopez. Ricky LaPaglia, Director of Parks & Recreation, welcomed the crowd that gathered for the dedication and Steve Horlacher gave the invocation. Claire Graham, T & C President, related the history of the Blue Star and the National Garden Clubs' adoption of the Blue Star Program. The memorial was unveiled and Claire Graham read the dedication. Tom Shope, Mayor, accepted it for the city of Coolidge. Taps and benediction were presented followed by a reception hosted by the City of Coolidge.

This is the second Blue Star Memorial donated by the Town and Country Garden Club. The first, located at the museum on Main Street in Florence, AZ was dedicated on November 11, 2008.

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**Desert Splendor**

*2011 Pacific Region Convention*

*2011 Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs*

Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs invites you to the 69th Annual Pacific Region Convention, ***“Desert Splendor”***, April 14th – 16th, 2011 and the one day AFGC 77th Annual Convention in Scottsdale, April 17th, 2011. The convention will be held at the Hilton Scottsdale Resort and Villas, Scottsdale, AZ.

Scottsdale is a wonderful mix of southwest culture and old west history. You won't want to miss its museums, gardens or just enjoy the spectacular desert cactus and flowers blooming in the spring. Husbands and guest will enjoy the golf courses and tourist areas of the city, all within a short distance of the hotel.

We are planning a ***SPLENDID*** three days of fun in the sun, with speakers, a design program, [50/50 raffle](#), lots of vendors, prizes and surprises. Come early for the pre-convention tour to Solari Bell Foundry in Paradise Valley. A tour of the Desert Botanical Garden and Scottsdale's Old Town Art and Shopping tour are also planned. The installation of the new Pacific Region officers will cap off the convention. [Click here](#) for the temporary agenda for the PR convention.

The AFGC 77th Annual Convention will be a one day affair with a luncheon speaker and the installation of our 2011-2013 officers following the Pacific Region convention on April 17th. Mark your calendars for a good time and help us welcome and support Carol Parrott and her slate of officers.

[Registration](#) for the Pacific Region Convention, April 14 – 16, 2011

[Registration](#) for the AFGC Convention, Sunday, April 17, 2011

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## Northern District Meeting

*Anita Zytkowski*

The Highland Center for Natural History in Prescott was the perfect Autumnal setting on October 9<sup>th</sup> for the Northern District meeting that was hosted by Alta Vista Garden Club. Four of the five northern district clubs were represented. Guests included Sharron Luoma, AFGC President, Carol Parrott, AFGC President Elect, Marcie Brooks, Recording Secretary, and Judy Tolbert, Greenleaf Editor. Upon arriving, members were given a questionnaire asking them to share information about their backgrounds and later each member shared their experiences. This experiment proved to be great fun and showed that we are all passionate about what we do in garden clubs.



Each club gave a brief presentation describing their activities and future plans, followed by a yummy lunch. The beautiful centerpieces created by member, Dianne Moyer, were raffled at the end of the meeting.

A docent guided nature walk in the Prescott National Forest was offered to end a perfect fall day.

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## Western District Meeting

The Western District Meeting was held on October 16th, 2011 at the home of [Cal Kelley](#) in Yuma, AZ. Members present included Cal Kelley, Western District Director, Dalene Kelly, Yuma Orchid Society, Elizabeth Moody, MGM Garden Club, Willene Calvert, Pecan Grove Garden Club, and Sharon Jessup, Federated Garden Clubs of Yuma. Guests included Sharron Luoma, AFGC President, Carol Parrott, AFGC President Elect.

All Western District clubs were represented and gave reports of activities and future projects. The meeting was followed by a BBQ hosted by Cal Kelley.

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## Southern District Meeting

The Southern District Meeting was held on November 1st at Mimi's Restaurant at the Tucson Mall. The meeting was hosted by the Tucson Garden Club. Guests in attendance were Sharron Luoma, AFGC President and Carol Parrott, AFGC President Elect. Terry Swartz, President of the Tucson Rose Society was the guest speaker for the meeting.

## Central & Eastern District Meeting

*Josephine Vincze*



Award winning author, [Conrad Storad](#), delighted all with his presentation of “Conrad’s Critters” at the combined Central & Eastern District meeting hosted by Tempe Garden Club. The meeting was held at the Marie Callender’s Restaurant, Chandler, Az on November 2nd, 2010 and was attended by 44 members representing eight garden clubs, including Sharron Luoma, AFGC President. Conrad is well known throughout the nation for his many stories of animals that we may encounter in the desert. He donated two of his books that were raffled at the end of the program.

In lieu of Presidents’ Reports, each Club had a visual display table, showing the various activities of their Club. Greenleaf Web &

Graphic Designer, Becca Tolbert and AFGC Greenleaf Editor, Judy Tolbert, hosted an information table and offered tips on navigating the AFGC website and the AFGC Greenleaf. Members were registered and given information regarding the new features that will be available on the website as a result of the recent upgrade.

Fran Harkey, Central District Director, held the election of the 2011 Director, [Josephine Vincze](#) and Alternate Director, [JoAnne Kaske](#).

Beth Hoss, Eastern District Director, held the election for 2011 Director, [Audrey Mooring](#).

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## Flower Show School Symposium

*Joyce Girvin*



The AFGC Judges Council will be holding another Flower Show School Symposium at the Valley Garden Center in Phoenix on Thursday, March 3rd and Friday, March 4th, 2011.

Horticulture will be discussed during the first day of the symposium. Marie Harrison hailing from Florida will begin the day by talking about Colorful Bracts which many people think are flowers. Recently there has been a change that addresses the judging of plants with bracts, such as bougainvilleas, poinsettias, bromeliads and Lenten Roses. Later in the morning, she’ll discuss houseplants such as Sansevieria and Philodendron and how they are judged in a flower show.

On Friday, March 4th, we are fortunate to have Lynn Fronk from Ohio to present “Terrific Tables” for her main topic and her Allied Topic will be “Tantalizing Techniques”. Lynn will discuss all of the table types including the newer Capsule Table for One as well as the various Exhibition Tables. Most people enjoy creating tables and the public certainly enjoys seeing them. So many times someone will have a fantastic design idea; yet will have difficulty with the mechanics. Lynn’s technique section will assist in bringing your idea to fruition through helpful design tips and new techniques that may ease the qualms associated with entering flower shows.

Judges are required to refresh their knowledge periodically, however, anyone who is interested may attend one or both days for an enriching and enjoyable time.

For a brochure - Wanda Collins [wanda.qcaz@yahoo.com](mailto:wanda.qcaz@yahoo.com) 480-882-2569.

Questions - Joyce Girvin [joycegirvin@aol.com](mailto:joycegirvin@aol.com) 928-284-4263

## Alta Vista Garden Club

*Herdis Maclellan*

Alta Vista continued its participation in “The Golden Days Project” by adding 500 daffodil bulbs and 500 blue grape hyacinths to the beds around the pioneer statue at Prescott’s Veterans Memorial Island on November 3rd. This planting project is just one of Alta Vista’s beautification projects and will strengthen the visual impact of the 300 daffodils planted there last year. The island park, located at the junction of Sheldon and Gurley Streets, also features the recently rebuilt memorial to veterans. After the intense planting session, the members stowed their shovels and rakes and gathered for an impromptu lunch at a nearby restaurant.



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## Cerbat Garden Club

*Sandie Womack*

### Andy Devine Award



On September 21st, 2010, Cerbat Garden Club was honored and recognized as the “Organization of the Year” at the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Andy Devine Awards, sponsored by the Kingman Chamber of Commerce. The Andy Awards, named after Kingman’s most famous resident, are presented each year to the remarkable men, women, and organizations that help make Kingman a better place to live and work. The Andy Award nomination was submitted by Cerbat GC member Diana Broeckel.

### School Gardening Program

Cerbat GC members, partnering with the U of A Mohave County Extension Office School Garden Program and Kingman Area Master Gardeners, serve as volunteers in area schools. Currently there are 17 classes that receive a garden lesson and hands-on gardening project each month. Additionally, there are junior garden clubs at two schools and four campuses have in-ground gardens - all part of the School Garden Program. At the Mohave County Fair, September 16-19, fruit, vegetable, flower, and herb entries from the four school gardens won a total of 42 ribbons in 23 categories. These 1st grade students at KAOL really “get into” gardening and harvesting at the campus garden site.



## Desert Pointe Garden Club

*Judy Tolbert*



DPGC members completed another phase of the Ahwatukee Recreation Center landscaping project this fall. New path lights were installed along the walkway to the pool area and 14 *Pedilanthus Bracteatus* (Slipper Plant family) were planted. Another small area was planted at the end of the path with flowering perennials.

The Pecos Community center was another recently completed landscape project. Pygmy palms, sansevieria, flax lilies and foxtail ferns were used to dress up the once barren atrium. A few boulders were added to enhance the plantings.



The 6th Annual Yard and Plant Sale was held on November 5th and 6th and as usual, a good time was had by all. Our last fundraiser for the year will be the ARC Holiday Boutique on November 20th from 8 to 2 at the Ahwatukee Recreation Center at 5001 E Cheyenne Drive, Phoenix. Our planters and a new addition of leaf shaped bird baths will be on sale as well as a variety of holiday items.

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## Yuma Garden Club

*Karen Bowen*

Yuma Garden Club is in full swing, and we are happy to welcome three new members to our club. We will participate in the Yuma Tree Expo and Yuma Community Bazaar. To raise funds for our community service projects, we will be selling succulent wreaths, plants, gourd birdhouses, and our newly-published cookbook, "Desert Jewels". It contains recipes from our members and gardening tips. The cost is \$15 plus \$3 shipping. Contact Cal Kelley, president, at [geo-cal@hotmail.com](mailto:geo-cal@hotmail.com) to order.

Yuma GC will be sponsoring our junior garden club at Desert Mesa Elementary School again this year in the Nike Reuse-a-Shoe recycling program, and helping maintain the Alma Schott Rose Garden.



## **Daffydown dilly has come to town in a yellow petticoat and a green gown**

AFGC is again sponsoring a “Dilly of a Daffodil Photo Contest” Featured are the many uses of the daffodil in arrangements, containers, private and public places, as well as with children and pets. Deadline for entries is April 10, 2011. [Click here](#) to see contest details.

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### **READY, SET, GROW!**

*by Barbara Mlnarik*

#### **SIMPLE PLEASURES FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

In the holiday crunch, don't forget the simple but delightful gift of a blooming Amaryllis. This bulb once planted, is amazing to watch as it grows---an ideal gift, especially for shut ins and families with children. They are readily available in gift boxes at most grocery and discount stores or bulbs can be purchased individually at your nursery. Most are under \$10. I like to give my potted bulbs at Thanksgiving. This allows about 6 weeks for them to grow and produce their glorious crown of blooms during the holiday season.

Once the show is over, what's next? After flowering, remove the bloom stalk, place the plant in a bright location and enjoy the green foliage until all danger of frost is past. Keep the soil moderately moist and feed monthly with a balanced water-soluble fertilizer. (You can keep an amaryllis potted for years, using a terra cotta container.) Come spring, place your plant outside in a sunny or partial shady location and continue to water and fertilize. In September, stop watering and feeding and let the plant dry out. When the leaves have yellowed, cut them off and bring your pot inside to rest in a cool dark place, like a closet. In November move it into a warm room, water and get ready for the show.

In the lower desert you may wish to plant your bulbs in the garden. You may do so after the last frost. Plant them deeper than you had them in the pot, and mulch well. They may take a season to acclimate, but when settled, your amaryllis will flower annually around mid April. Their elegant crown of blooms will continue to remind you of simple pleasures for years to come.

*Resource: Southern Living 2005*

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## THYME IN THE KITCHEN

*by Barbara Mlnarik*

Whether making jack o lanterns or pumpkin pies, the big question is always, “what do I do with all these beautiful seeds?” Of course they can be roasted, but next time try mixing up healthy batches of this take along snack mix.

### PUMPKIN SEED TRAIL MIX

Combine on a shallow rimmed baking sheet:

1 cup RAW PUMPKIN SEEDS

1 tbsp EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL

Season with COURSE SALT

Toss to combine and spread in a single layer.

Bake at 375 for 8 minutes or until golden.

Stir halfway through.

In a medium bowl, mix to combine:

Toasted Pumpkin Seeds (above)

½ cup UNSWEETENED COCONUT FLAKES

½ cup toasted WHOLE ALMONDS

½ cup DRIED CRANBERRIES

¼ cup CANDIED GINGER (cut into ¼ inch pieces)

Divide among jars or bags. Trail mix can be stored at room temperature for up to 2 weeks, or frozen.

Makes 3 ½ cups

**My garden club friend, Jen Donovan, shared this recipe with me. I tried it--it's yummy!**



### **EASY PUMPKIN SPICE MUFFINS**

- 1 box classic yellow cake mix
- 1 15 oz can of pure pumpkin
- 3 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 1 cup walnut pieces (optional, but recommended)
- Powdered sugar for dusting

Set oven at 350 and spray muffin tin with Pam or use liners. In medium bowl, combine cake mix, pumpkin, and spice. Mix just until blended. Fold in the nuts. Batter will be stiff. Fill muffin cups  $\frac{3}{4}$  full and bake 22-25 minutes. Dust with powdered sugar, if desired. Will make about 15 muffins

Hint: Use an ice cream scoop to fill muffin cups. It keeps your tin nice and clean.

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### **Design Hints**

*by Buff Harrington*



**Illuminary Design** – A creative design incorporating lights for a special effect. The lighting must be an integral part of the design.

Joyce Girvin's Illuminary Design won Designers Choice and Design Excellence awards at the State Convention Flower Show in April.

Notice these features:

- Blue wire lights up.
- How the design floats on the background with the use of a coiled wire ball as mechanics.
- The elegant colors of the dried strelitzia leaves, anthurium and aspidistra.
- The ever moving rhythm of the design.

**February (TBA) 2011**

AFGC Spring Board Meeting  
Mesa Community College

**February 15, 2011**

Pecan Garden Club  
["Landscaping on a Budget"](#)

**March (TBA) 2011**

Cerbat GC Annual Luncheon

**March 3-4, 2011**

Flower Show Symposium  
Valley Garden Center, Phoenix

**March 13, 2011**

Pecan Garden Club  
["Welcome to My Garden Tour"](#)

**March 26-27, 2011**

Scottsdale Garden Club  
["Springtime in the Desert"](#)

**March 31-April 3, 2011**

Arts and Flowers  
Phoenix Art Museum

**April (TBA) 2011**

Arbor Day Comm. Celebration  
& Tree Planting, Kingman, AZ

**April 14th - 16th, 2011**

"Desert Splendor"  
Pacific Region Convention  
Hilton Resort, Scottsdale, AZ  
[Registration Form](#)

**April 17th, 2011**

77th AFGC Annual Convention  
Hilton Resort, Scottsdale, AZ  
[Registration Form](#)

**April 15-17, 2011**

Mohave County Home & Garden  
Expo, Kingman, AZ