



### In this Issue:

- Message from NGC
- NGC Promo Video
- New AFGC District Directors
- Alta Vista's 60th Anniversary
- Tempe GC's 75th Anniversary
- Annual Orchid Show
- Annual Highland Garden Conference
- Scottsdale GC Fundraiser
- Federated Garden Clubs of Yuma
- Yuma GC Wal-Mart Health Fair
- Desert Pointe GC Donation
- Ready, Set, Grow
- Design Hints
- Thyme in the Kitchen

### Calendar of Events

#### September 21-24, 2011

NGC Board Meeting  
St. Louis, MO

#### October 8, 2011

Northern District Meeting

#### October 15 & 16, 2011

Annual Orchid Show  
Orchid Society of AZ

#### October 21, 2011

Tempe GC 75th Diamond  
Anniversary Celebration  
Tempe History Museum

#### October 25, 2011

AFGC Board of Directors Mtg  
Mesa Community College

## President's Message

Dear Fellow Gardeners,

Now that summer is almost over, it's time to focus on some cool stuff, like our 2011-2012 year. Garden Clubs don't take the summer off! They've been busy planning programs and projects and printing yearbooks. Our thanks go out to all our hard working club members throughout our beloved state. Because of your efforts we will have another wonderful year.



I love the first Garden Club meeting of the season. It's like going home for the holidays. You get to see all your old friends and hopefully make some new ones. Speaking of making new friends, the fall is an ideal time to increase membership. While you're out there at your local garden center selecting fall plants, please make an effort to talk up your garden club. Gardeners are friendly, caring and sharing people. All gardeners love to talk about plants and their gardens. It's very easy to strike up a conversation with a gardener in a nursery. A simple, "That's a beautiful plant, does it use a lot of water?" is sometimes all you need to get a gardener going. Remember, all gardeners are future Garden Club members and you are our best source of new members. Here are a few things to keep in mind as we begin our season;

If you meet a member of garden club in your area that is not a member of AFGC, please tell them about the benefits of affiliation. Get a contact name and number for our Membership Chairman, Anita Zytkowski. Together we can increase membership. To avoid scheduling conflict, please check with our Calendar Chairman, Cal Kelley, before setting the date for your Club event. I am looking forward to attending all of our District Meetings and seeing you all on October 25th at our AFGC Board Meeting.

See you in the garden,

**Carol**

## Calendar of Events - continued

### November 3, 2011

Eastern/Central District Mtg  
Registration Form  
Coolidge, AZ

### November 9, 2011

Southern District Meeting

### December 6, 2011

Western District Meeting

## Ready, Set, Grow by Athena Rayne Anderson



"You've probably heard about Colony Collapse Disorder and honey bee declines. But did you know that honey bees are only one of thousands of animals that pollinate plants all over the world? That's right! There are other bees, beetles, wasps, flies, birds, bats and even geckos that are important for plant reproduction. Without pollinators, almost all of the vitamin-rich fruits and vegetables that make our diets more healthy and enjoyable would cease to exist! Pollinators also keep many wild plants reproducing, helping to maintain healthy ecosystems, no matter where they are. Curious yet? Want to know what you can do to help conserve these fascinating and important animals? Check out the new blog [www.pollinators.info](http://www.pollinators.info) for more information! The blog is written by pollination ecologist and doctoral student Athena Rayne Anderson, and is user-friendly for all knowledge levels. Stop by the blog and ask questions, leave comments on posts and pages, and spread the word about the importance of pollinators by sporting a pollinators.info shirt or bumper sticker! Pollinators.info is your one stop for pollinator-related information, resources and community interaction!"

## Design Hints

## Message From National Garden Clubs We Want ARIZONA on "Flickr"

Share your garden club pictures with the world. Send pictures of your Blue Star Memorial plantings and dedications; your flower shows; your daffodil plantings; your civic beautification projects; your aquatic eco-systems projects; your Plantings for Public & Special Places projects; your glorious hydrangeas (President Shirley's favorite flower); your Arbor Day plantings; the list is long. Be sure to identify the club or district and the location. We'd like a monthly feature of a garden club's project – so send a series of 6-10 pictures of your club's project. Mostly we want Arizona represented. Send pics to Robin Pokorski at [RobinP@juno.com](mailto:RobinP@juno.com). Visit [www.Flickr.com/NationalGardenClubs](http://www.Flickr.com/NationalGardenClubs) and find pictures for your newsletters and flyers and ideas for projects and plantings and staging and, and, and – it's all there for you.

## Please Promote New NGC Video

Our NGC President, Shirley Nicolai, is requesting your help in promoting the new video – "**Growing Our World, Greening our Communities**". We need to get the word out to the garden club members to purchase this very professionally produced video for the cost of \$5, including postage and handling from National Headquarters.

The video is designed to educate existing members and attract new members, and it is only 12 minutes. The video can be shown at church, District and State meetings, flower shows, fairs, and other events and can be used to demonstrate the quality projects carried out by National Garden Clubs throughout the country, as we proudly serve our communities.

Sharon Yantis  
NGC Communications – Print/Publicity Chairman  
6306 Cherrywood, Portage, MI. 49024  
269 599-1444

<http://www.gardenclub.org/About/national-garden-clubs-video.aspx>

## New AFGC District Directors

We wanted to share some information on our newly appointed District Directors. They are an energetic and talented group of gals so stay tuned for some exciting events in the next couple of years.



## Central District Director Josephine Vincze

Josephine moved to Arizona 33 years ago from Connecticut. Upon retiring from her family business of screen printing and embroidery, she moved from the Northeast Valley to Chandler and she spends the summer months in Happy Jack, AZ. There she tends to her flower and vegetable garden, where she started her plants from cuttings and cans fruit jams to donate to the Tempe GC's November

by Buff Harrington



A Small Design may be of any design style including Traditional or Creative, and any design type but is reduced in size to 8" height, width or depth. Plant material and any other components must be small, as scale is very important. Staging and background panels must be in pleasing proportion for an 8" design. A Small Design needs to follow the Principles of Design just as any large design.

In Rea's creative design, the yellow lines balance the acrylic form. The rough texture of the flowers provides contrast to the shiny acrylic form. Too much contrast will make a design confusing. The flowers and components are in scale and the proportion of the design is pleasing. Pleasing proportions require unequal amounts, areas and dimensions.



**Federated Garden Clubs of Yuma**

A public dedication ceremony was held on Sunday, April 26th for a Blue Star By-Way Marker that was placed at Yuma Armed Forces Park. Colonel Mark Werth, Commanding Officer, Yuma Marine Corps Air Station spoke to the 85 attendees and a Color Guard was presented. Then AFGC President, Sharron Luoma, and her husband Fred traveled from Phoenix

Plant/Bake/Yard sale. Her primary garden club interests are gardening and flower arranging.

Josephine is a past President and Treasurer of Tempe Garden Club and has been a member since 2006. Currently she is the AFGC Assistant Treasurer. She also is a member of Desert Designers. Josephine has plans for a Central District Holiday Flower Show in December 2012. The 2011 Eastern/Central Joint District Meeting will be hosted by Town & Country Garden Club on November 3<sup>rd</sup> in Coolidge, Arizona. The registration form is available in the Calendar Events in this Greenleaf and on the AFGC website.



**Alternate Central District Director  
JoAnn Kaske**

JoAnn moved to Arizona 23 years ago. She was raised on a farm in St. Louis, MO and worked in the fields as a teenager. Her love of gardening was influenced by her mother who always had beautiful flowers in the garden. JoAnn joined Desert Pointe Garden Club in 2009 and is currently serving as Co-President. JoAnn says she is still learning the

“ropes” and hopes to be as much help as possible.



**Eastern District Director  
Audrey Mooring**

In 2005, Audrey was invited by a neighbor to attend a Gold Canyon Garden Club meeting, they both joined that day. She has been enjoying the camaraderie and educational experiences ever since. She served as Treasurer in 2007 – 2009.

When Audrey first moved to Arizona in 1973, her home in Paradise Valley did not have single leaf or plant on the site. This was her first real experience with landscaping and horticulture, and was repeated three more times when she and her family would return to the Phoenix Area after making career moves to other cities.

Aside from Audrey's commitment to the Garden Club, her interests include history, traveling, and reading. She says that her goal during this term is to be the best liaison she can be, between the Eastern District and Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs. The 2011 Eastern/Central Joint District Meeting will be hosted by Town & Country Garden Club on November 3<sup>rd</sup> in Coolidge, Arizona. The registration form is available in Calendar of Events in this Greenleaf and on the AFGC website.



**Western District Director  
Marlana Parrott**

Born and raised in rural southern Illinois, Marlana's father instilled in her an appreciation for gardening and a respect for nature. Marlana was attracted to Pecan Grove Garden Club because of their focus on youth, and she was immediately impressed with the energy

and resourcefulness of the members to make a difference in their community. Marlana's position with the Yuma County Cooperative

to attend the ceremony. Several other dignitaries were present including Arizona State Legislator, Russ Jones; Yuma County Board of Supervisors Chairman, Greg Ferguson, several City Council members, a member of the Daughters of American Revolution, and Art Nottingham, Veterans Assistance Counselor.

### **Desert Pointe Garden Club**

The members of Desert Pointe Garden Club recently donated \$500 to the Mesa Rose Garden Foundation in honor of Faye Strong, a member and dear friend who, sadly, passed away in 2009. A rose marker will be placed in the garden for one year in her honor, and will then be replaced with a permanent plaque that will be displayed on the wall near the Garden entrance.

### **Scottsdale Garden Club Fundraiser**

The Scottsdale Garden Club will host a fundraiser, "It's Raining Pennies from Heaven" at the Mesa Country Club, March 31, 2012 from 11-3:00. Proceeds from the luncheon activities will benefit Pennies for Pines.

Extension Office working with the 4-H program seemed to be a perfect fit to provide an opportunity to involve more youth. The Extension Office also gave her the opportunity to work with MGM Garden Club as their dedicated members grew more than a garden – they grew a community. All of the garden clubs in Yuma County have made a positive impact in their community, and Marlana is proud and excited about the coming year. The Western District meeting is scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011.



### **Southern District Director Paulette Stag**

Paulette moved to Tucson 17 years ago from Boulder, CO where she was involved in garden clubs, and was also President of Ikebana International, Denver Chapter. She is a member of Los Cerros Garden Club and also a member of Tucson Garden Club. Paulette co-chaired the 75<sup>th</sup> AFGC convention in 2009. She has served as President for both the Tucson Garden Club and Los Cerros Garden Club, and is currently Recording Secretary for Los Cerros Garden Club. As Southern District Director, Paulette looks forward to more gardening and design experiences. As well as visiting and getting to know more about each club in her district. The Southern District meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2011.



### **Northern District Director Ann Krsiean**

As a single adult working in medical records, Ann never really had the time or place to garden. Her parents were great gardeners, and she remembers many backyards filled with roses, peonies, lilacs, wisteria, poppies and phlox. So it must be in the genes! Ann moved to Green Valley in 1999, where she met and married the love of her life. They moved to Prescott in 2004. Her family had lived in Prescott in the early 50's on the old Ft. Whipple grounds so it seemed like she was returning home. Ann's sister is a Rosarian and master gardener in Tucson and she encouraged Ann to join Alta Vista Garden Club in 2006. Ann has been an active member of Alta Vista Garden Club, and she chaired the 2007 AFGC state convention committee. Ann's main goal is to increase communication between the clubs. Ann also serves as AFGC Club Programs Chair and is developing a database of programs and speakers. The Northern District meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2011.

## Yuma Garden Clubs Participate in Wal-Mart Health Fair



As the summer sizzles here in Yuma, the public can cool off while learning more about ways to keep fit and healthy at the Wal-Mart Health Fair. Duane Thompson, Wal-Mart's assistant manager, is coordinating the event to be held September 24th, and is happy to report an enthusiastic response from local businesses and organizations. Each area of the store will have groups giving demonstrations, offering health screenings, exercise activities to improve health, and much more. In the garden area, Yuma garden clubs will offer gardening advice and activities sure to make anyone, young or old, feel happier and more fit. Pecan Grove Garden Club will give away coloring books with information about trees that grow well in Yuma. They will offer advice on planting trees and discuss the benefits of gardening to help improve physical fitness. At the Yuma Garden Club station, the public can plant in self-watering containers, and children can plant in see-through cups so they can watch their seeds sprout. Hand-outs will be available giving information about when to plant vegetables in Yuma, a list of Yuma Garden Club programs for 2011-12, and the benefits of gardening for a healthier life style. Miss Yuma County will be on hand to speak about better health, a fire truck will offer fun for the kids; and when tiredness takes over, there's a massage chair available to sit in and relax. Yuma is definitely "heating up" when it comes to learning more about good health.

## Alta Vista Celebrates 60th Anniversary



Alta Vista's June meeting was livelier than usual this year as members celebrated their club's 60th Anniversary. Many members dressed up in 1950's clothing and vintage accessories. One member even wore her high school pins and awards on a period high school outfit.

Special guests AFGC President Carol Parrot, AFGC Assistant Treasurer and Central District Director Josephine Vincze, Eastern District Director Audrey Mooring, and Gold Canyon Garden Club member Mary Jo Bittman joined our members in witnessing



Barbara Thomasson's hilarious "slide show." Sixty years of "photos that were never taken" highlighted events and personal memories of the special and funny moments in the club's history. Honorary member and 3-time president Betty Siegfried was especially delighted with the tales and (dare we say?) shenanigans.



President Dianne Moyer announced that Alta Vista is the Pacific Region winner of the "Golden Days President's Project" and that Tiffany Whittemore, one of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who

submitted a piece for the poetry contest, is a First Place National Winner in Poetry Contest. The members enjoyed hearing a [summary of the past year's accomplishments and other awards and recognitions](#). The refreshment cakes baked by members Renie Collier and Mary Ann Mira carried out the theme of our super sixtieth birthday with a colorful nod to the approaching Fourth of July. As ongoing projects engage our members' talents and imagination, we can be thankful to the ladies who had the foresight to form Alta Vista. Our resolve is to joyfully maintain their vision for beautification, education and conservation for the next sixty years.

## Thyme in the Kitchen Harvest Salad



### Ingredients

- 1/2 cup walnuts, chopped
- 1 bunch spinach, bite-size pieces
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 2 tomatoes, chopped
- 1 avocado, diced
- 1/2 red onion, thinly sliced
- 2 tbsp red raspberry jam (with seeds)
- 2 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 1/3 cup walnut oil
- salt & pepper to taste

### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
2. Arrange walnuts in a single layer on a baking sheet. Toast in oven for 5 minutes, or until nuts begin to brown.
3. In a large bowl, toss together the spinach, walnuts, cranberries, blue cheese, tomatoes, avocado, and red onion.
4. In a small bowl, whisk together jam, vinegar, walnut oil, pepper, and salt. Pour over the salad just before serving, and toss to coat.

Recipe from Allrecipes.com

Photos Credits:  
Country Living  
Better Homes & Gardens

## Tempe Garden Club "75th Diamond Anniversary" Celebration

Tempe Garden Club is planning a gala celebration on Friday, October 21, 2011 at the Tempe History museum. The event will include wonderful historic information, special guests, and refreshments.

Mary Cochran, who has written the 75th Anniversary book for

Tempe Garden Club, will highlight projects that the Club has sponsored and supported for the City of Tempe in those 75 years. The book will be distributed at the event, and can be autographed by Mary. [Click here](#) for more information on this very special event.



## Annual Orchid Show



The Orchid Society of Arizona presents its annual orchid show on October 15 and 16, 2011, at the Arizona State Veteran Home, in Liberty Hall, 4141 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Phoenix. "A Mountain of Orchids", is the theme of this year's show, and features blooming display plants showcased in a creative vignette; an educational display; raffles; free orchid culture information; sales of plants and orchid-related items; and refreshments. Hours Saturday: 9 AM - 5 PM; Sunday 9 AM – 3 PM. Free admission to this fun, family event! For more information please call 602-803-6889 or visit [www.orchidsocietyaz.org](http://www.orchidsocietyaz.org).

## Annual Highland Garden Conference

Are you a gardener who would like to learn tips and tricks to help you garden more successfully under the growing conditions that are unique to living between the 3000 to 7500 foot elevations? If so please plan to attend the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Highland Garden Conference at the Prescott Resort and Conference Center, in Prescott Arizona, on Saturday, October 22, 2011 from 7:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m. with educational pre-conference tours on Friday, October 21, 2011. The tours and conference are open to the public and are designed for everyone from beginning gardeners to master gardeners. Two nationally-recognized keynote speakers will be presenting: Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University Extension Specialist, author, and educator, on "Gardening for Insects or Not" and Linda Chalker-Scott, Washington State University's Urban Horticulturist, author, and lecturer on "Garden Myths: Practices and Products". Additional breakout session topics include latest plant introductions for the high desert, insects, urban wildlife, backyard chickens, and much more. Pre-registration is required. Cost for the tours is \$25.00 and the conference is \$75.00. To register on line go to <http://ag.arizona.edu/yavapai/ahgc> or call the Prescott Extension Office, [928-445-6590, Ext. 221](tel:928-445-6590)