
Website: fggardenclub.com

Email: fggardenclub@gmail.com

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

From Sue Niebuhr . . .

“Gardens and flowers have a way of bringing people together, drawing them from their homes.”

- Clare Ansberry

I have to wonder which came first, Clare Ansberry's musings or garden clubs. She does sum our club up nicely, doesn't she? Speaking of drawing people from their homes, April is a fairly busy month for the Garden Club. There's the New Member Reception on April 4th (for members who joined since June of last year). The Fern and Geranium Sale runs from April 18th through April 22nd. The Bake Sale is on April 21st. There is a day trip planned for April 9th to tour Knoxville's Dogwood Trail and gardens. And, there's another day trip planned for April 15th to tour two local azalea gardens.

Also of note, the Helena Schmidt Scholarship Committee is hard at work reviewing applications and finalizing awards. But let's not forget to appreciate all the other committees actively making the Garden Club an interesting, delightful, and relevant group. If you would like more information about any of these activities, feel free to contact Sue Niebuhr.

GENERAL MEETING APRIL 20

The Garden Club's next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 20th, at the Community Church on Snead Drive. Social time starts at 9:00am, business meeting starts at 9:30am. We're very pleased to announce our speaker this month will be Luke Hadden of the TN Wildlife Resource Agency. Mr. Hadden is a Forest Manager at the Catoosa Wildlife Management Area and will talk to us about the area's forest use history and current strategies for promoting wildlife habitats.

If you have garden plants, house plants, cuttings, or seedlings you are ready to part with, consider bringing them to our next meeting for the Sharing Table. We love to share plants that we hope someone else might enjoy or that we're just not willing to give up on yet. Keep this in mind throughout the year. Your plants will be more than welcome any time.



FERN AND GERANIUM SALE APRIL 18-22

The Fern and Geranium Sale is coming up soon at the CCHS Greenhouse on Monday and Tuesday, April 18th and 19th, then we will pack and transport plants from the Greenhouse to the Village Green Mall on Wednesday afternoon April 20th, and then be at the Village Green Mall on Thursday and Friday, April 21st and 22nd. If you have not had a chance to sign up to help with the sale and would like to or have signed up and

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need to make a change, please call Kathy Spancake at 570 441-5527. Together we can make this another great sale! All proceeds benefit the Helena Schmidt Scholarship Fund.

BIGDOG MARKETING APRIL 21-22

At the same time as the Fern and Geranium Sale, BigDog Marketing will be at the Village Green Mall on our behalf. If you are between the ages of 50 and 70, stop by their table and test opening containers of various kinds. For each person that fits their criteria and agrees to test their product(s), the Helena Schmidt Scholarship Fund will receive \$5!



BAKE SALE APRIL 21

Our Bake Sale will run the same time as the Fern and Geranium Sale -- Thursday, April 21st, at the Village Green Mall, 8:00am-2:00pm. We'll need your baked products for this sale. This is an opportunity to show off your kitchen skills and favorite recipes. Baked goodies need to be at the mall by 7:30am.

Please wrap items in half or full dozens using see-through plastic wrap (no Press and Seal please). Also, we find baked goods tend to sell better when they are attractively packaged on a ceramic / glass plate or in a decorative baker's box or with seasonal wrapping. (Thrift or dollar stores are a great place to find these things.) Any help will surely be appreciated.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 26

By Suzanne Wade

The Environmental and Conservation Committee ombudsman, Suzanne Wade, has been trying to control the garlic mustard around the Plateau Creative Art Center sculpture trail for four years with some early success. In 2019, with the help of the Art Guild's landscape committee chairperson and a few friends, Suzanne pulled about 20 big black garbage bags full of garlic mustard. Last year, a number of Garden Club members helped her pull 13 kitchen size bags full of the invasive. This year, committee members and a few friends scoured the woods and came up with only 3 kitchen size bagfuls!

This was a great way to get to know each other. The committee is now deciding on their next focus. While no decisions have been made, a front runner is Tennessee Smart Yards. Other actions under consideration include the Weed Wrangler effort, Recyclercize, and Peavine litter clean-up.

Their next meeting will be Tuesday, April 26 at 2:00. Contact Suzanne Wade at suzanne.wade52@gmail.com to join the committee.

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LOOK WHAT WE DUG UP!!

By Kathy Spancake

I have been asked this question a lot lately, so I thought I would share what is recommended on the Proven Winners site. "Be prepared to cover up plants that have tender emerging buds or foliage if freezing temps are in the forecast. If the buds haven't begun to open yet, there's no need to cover them." "Old sheets and towels that have been relegated to the rag pile are a good option, and professional row cover is available for purchase, too. DO NOT cover tender plants with plastic sheeting or tarps. The effect of the plastic touching the newly emerging buds and foliage will magnify the cold's effect, rather than mitigate it."

Hopefully there won't be many more freezes this year, but it is always possible. To read the entire article, "10 Essential Spring Gardening Tasks," go to [10 Essential Spring Gardening Tasks | Proven Winners](#).

Each month Kathy and I plan to publish a hopefully, somewhat unique, gardening tip. If anyone has a tip they would like to share, please email Kathy at kathy.spancake@gmail.com.

APRIL FEATURED COMMITTEE

By Kathy Spancake

Beginning with this newsletter, we will highlight a committee or two each month to keep you abreast of what is happening within your Garden Club. Featured this month is the Helena Schmidt Scholarship Committee, one of our most important committees. They deal with everything to do with the recipients of the scholarships.

This year's committee members are Michele Cooke (Co-Chair), Robin Marquis (Co-Chair), Susan Borghi (Advisor), Jennifer Danko, (Brunch Co-Chair), Sue Flynn, (Brunch Co-Chair), Anne Bolter, Toni Emery, Quentin Erdahl, Wendy Raver, Linda Reiss, and Patty Johnson.

The committee begins by contacting the guidance offices of both Stone Memorial and Cumberland County High Schools to let them know that we are accepting applications for our scholarship. The committee also contacts returning students who can apply for continuing scholarship monies. The committee just finished looking over applications from 4 new students and will interview them on April 5th. Information from 7 returning students has also been reviewed. After determining who will receive scholarships for the fall semester and making a recommendation as to the dollar amount of the scholarships, the candidates will be presented to the Leader Board for approval.

The next step in the process is preparing for the Brunch that will be held at our May 18th meeting. This Brunch is for members only at which time we will meet the scholarship recipients and their families. As seating is limited, you must sign up to attend this brunch and meeting. **Please watch for an email from the Scholarship Committee regarding the sign-up process.**

Attachment: March 2022 FG GC Members Minutes.doc

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