



## Fairfield Glade Garden Club



**October  
2023  
Newslette  
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### ***From the President***

Good morning FFG Garden Club,

As Autumn is in the air, with cooler nights and a few trees putting on their fall colors, I am sure some of you are looking forward to the cooler temps. My yard is need of some attention and with lower humidity, it will be more comfortable to work. I want to say a big Thank You to all those involved in planning the Member Only Event at Jake's Barn. It was a beautiful day and the attention to detail by the planners was evident. I did not take any pictures but some did and they were beautiful.

I am looking forward to Don Hazel's presentation at our October meeting. We will probably have some visitors since everyone enjoys hearing Don. Please welcome our visitors. I enjoy meeting new people and hearing their reasons for locating in our area so I will be trying to meet a few new folks. I am including a couple pictures taken this last



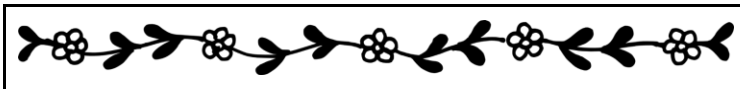
month. The first is a view of the sunset on Lake Dartmoor and the second and third are pictures of the Giant Thailand Elephant Ears and Mexican Sunflowers at the end of my driveway.



These impressive plants are Tropicals and must be dug up and kept in the garage for winter. The Mexican sunflowers are annuals.

I hope to see you all at the next meeting.

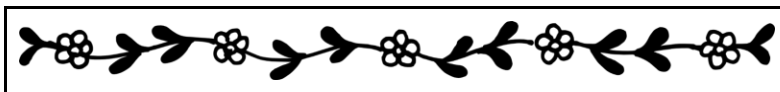
Rhoda



***Our October 18th meeting is at the FG Community Church. Membership meeting begins at 9am***

**Our Speaker will be Don Hazel**  
His topic will be "Seldom Seen Animals in Cumberland County"

Our **November 15th** speaker will be **Carrie Smith** from the Crossville Refuse/Recycling Center and she will be speaking about Recycling.





## POINSETTIA SALE

The Poinsettia Sale is the second of our fundraisers for the year - proceeds are divided between our Helena Schmidt Scholarship Fund and the CCHS Greenhouse Maintenance Program and are given to deserving students in the Crossville area towards their college education. Also, the CCHS students grow the plants as a curriculum and are graded on them. Watch for an article in the papers as the sale grows closer highlighting the students responsible for the plants.

The year-end fundraiser Poinsettia sale is confirmed as follows:

Monday, December 4th - 8:30 - 2:00 pm - Cumberland County High School Greenhouse

Tuesday, December 5th - 8:30 - 2:00 pm - Cumberland County High School Greenhouse

Wednesday, December 6th - pack plants - 12:30 - 2:00

transport from the Greenhouse to the Village Green Mall and set up

- pick-up at Greenhouse at 2:30 pm.

- drop-off at Village Green Mall at 5:00 pm.

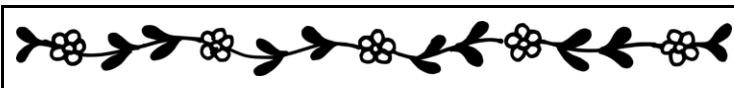
Thursday, December 7th - 7:30 am - 5:00 pm - Village Green Mall

We cannot do this without the help of our volunteers, and sign-up sheets will be available for each day at the October Garden Club meeting. The schedule is typically a 2-hour shift. As a volunteer your responsibility is to:

- help the customer pick out their plant(s), and bring to payment table
- help carry the plant(s) to the customers car
- re-arrange plants as needed to keep the area stocked and at the mall we need to sweep the floors on occasion

Any questions on the plant sale, contact Darlene Petersen

- [petersendarlene@hotmail.com](mailto:petersendarlene@hotmail.com). We look forward to another successful year!



**FG Garden Club Leadership Positions for 2024**

We will be voting for next year's leaders at the November General Meeting. I am pleased to announce that Susan Borghi has agreed to become a nominee for President and Anne Bolter has agreed to become a nominee for Vice-President.

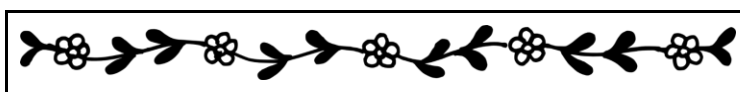
*We are still looking for people for the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Positions.* If you have a bookkeeping background and want to contribute to the overall operation of your Garden Club please consider one of these positions. Below is a description of the positions. For further information or to accept the nomination please call Kathy Spancake at 570-441-5527 or email her at [Kathy.spancake@gmail.com](mailto:Kathy.spancake@gmail.com).

#### Duties of the Treasurer:

- Two-year term
- Keeps all bank statements and records
- Reconciles monies received for fundraisers, membership, etc.
- Prepares deposits and deposit money to the bank.
- Prepares and signs checks.
- Gives a verbal treasurer's report at all General Meetings
- Subject to a yearly internal audit conducted by the President and/or Vice-President and one Member-at-Large

#### Duties of the Assistant Treasurer:

- Two-year term
- Represents the Treasurer at meetings upon his/her absence
- Signs checks in the absence of the Treasurer



#### **New(er) Member Reception**

For our new(er) members, we'd like to get to know you better and for you to get to know us. For those of you who have joined the Garden Club since March 2023, we're going to have a casual get-together. The reception will be held at Legends at Druid Hills Golf Course in the Westchester Room, on Wednesday, October 25th from 1:00 -3:00 pm. But, really, anyone – no matter how long you've been with the Club – is more than welcome to join us. If you'd like to attend, call / text / email Sue Niebuhr (440-376-4110, [uwesue1@gmail.com](mailto:uwesue1@gmail.com)) or look for a sign-up sheet at our meeting on October 18th. And, by the way, Sue wouldn't mind getting a little bit of help organizing this event. Give Sue a call if you can help a girl out.



### ***From the Travel Committee:***

This has been a fun-filled year and we have gone on some exciting field trips and have a couple more coming up this year. And attendance has been great!

We would like to continue to bring you these exciting trips. In order to continue to do so, we have created some policies and procedures we need you to adhere to.

- Be sure to check your calendar before signing up. These trips need to be considered a commitment.
- **Payment is due within 5 days to confirm your spot.**
  - All checks need to be made out to the **Fairfield Glade Garden Club (FGGC)**
  - Payments can be given at the meeting or mailed to the Fairfield Glade Garden Club, PO Box 1589, Fairfield Glade, 38558
- Once payment is made and you are confirmed, **we cannot issue refunds.** We are required to make commitments and payments to the venue and/or bus company to lock in arrangements and do not get refunds.
- We understand that occasionally unexpected things may arise. However, if you do need to cancel, you will need to find a replacement to recoup your cost. Please let the travel chair know about any of these changes.
- All confirmed participants will receive an e-mail 2-3 days prior to each trip with all details pertaining to each particular trip. If you do not see this email - please contact the travel chair as quickly as possible.

The last 2 trips of the year are completely full and confirmed. Please note that the above guidelines will be followed for these trips. No refunds can be given at this point, and again, should you be unable to attend, you will need to find a replacement to recoup your costs.

Darlene Petersen  
Fairfield Glade Garden Club Travel Chair  
[petersendarlene@hotmail.com](mailto:petersendarlene@hotmail.com) -- 847-714-2153



### **Friend of the UT Gardens, Crossville...**

**The Cumberland County Master Gardeners are offering 28 different Fall Bulb items for sale.** All proceeds benefit their local gardening education programs. You can learn more about this sale at <https://www.ccmga.org/fall-bulb-sale>. You can learn more about this non-profit educational organization by checking their website at [ccmga.org](http://ccmga.org)

The sale will run through October 15th. If you have questions now or after you order, you can send them via email to [tngardener@frontier.com](mailto:tngardener@frontier.com)



*Look what I dug up by Nathy Hill*



## **Busting 8 Indoor Plant Myths**

### **Myth 1: Tap Water = Chlorine Overdose**

Many believe tap water's chlorine or chloramine levels can harm plants' health. This misconception has led to concerns that using tap water to water your plants may expose plants to a chlorine overdose. However, this is far from the truth.

In reality, chlorine is an essential micronutrient that plants require for proper growth and development. While it is true that excessive amounts of chlorine can be harmful, the trace levels found in tap water are usually well within the safe range for most plants. In fact, these small amounts of chlorine can help plants maintain healthy cell structures, contribute to photosynthesis, and assist in osmosis.

### **Myth 2: Stones at the Bottom Boost Drainage**

Placing stones or potshards at the bottom of a container is a long-standing gardening myth believed to enhance drainage. However, this technique is ineffective mainly in improving aeration or water flow.

A more efficient approach to enhance drainage and prevent root rot is to mix sand, perlite, or small rocks into the potting soil, which will help create a more porous medium that allows water to flow more freely and prevents water logging.

### **Myth 3: Houseplants Purify the Air**

While it is true that houseplants can remove certain airborne pollutants through photosynthesis, it's important to recognize that their air-purifying capabilities are pretty limited. In most cases, the amount of pollutants that houseplants can remove from the air is insufficient to affect indoor air quality significantly.

For a more effective solution to improving indoor air, consider using air purifiers, proper ventilation, and regular cleaning to reduce airborne contaminants in your living space.

### **Myth 4: Coffee Grounds Make Great Fertilizers**

Though these aromatic remnants provide some nutrients, beware of their dark side – they can brew up an acidic environment that doesn't suit every plant.

Instead, be a plant care alchemist, using coffee grounds sparingly or composting them first to temper the acidity.

### **Myth 5: Misting Houseplants Increases Humidity**

Although the theory behind this myth suggests that misting could reduce transpiration and increase humidity, in practice, a quick spray does not significantly affect humidity levels.

According to experts, you would need to mist your plants continually throughout the day to achieve any noticeable impact on humidity. Instead, consider using a humidifier or grouping plants together to benefit from each other's transpiration

#### **Myth 6: Adding Sugar to the Water Boosts Plant Growth**

Some people believe that mixing sugar into the water will supply additional energy to the plant, promoting growth. However, this idea is misguided. Plants produce their own sugars through photosynthesis. Adding sugar to the water can have adverse effects, such as promoting the growth of harmful bacteria and fungi in the soil. To support healthy plant growth, allowing plants to generate their own food and provide them with essential nutrients through a well-balanced potting mix and appropriate fertilizers is better.

#### **Myth 7: Pebble Trays (Under the Pot) Raise Humidity**

The idea that pebble trays filled with water can increase humidity around plants seems logical, but research has not supported this claim. Experts have found that pebble trays do not have a significant or lasting impact on humidity levels.

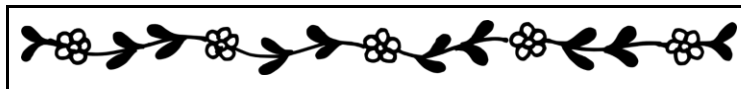
#### **Myth 8: Used potting soil is disease-ridden**

The common advice is to discard used potting soil, with claims that it's depleted and disease-ridden. But potting soil, often a mix of peat, coir, or wood-based materials with added amendments like perlite, doesn't truly 'age' or 'expire.'

Only in severe cases, with hard-to-control diseases, might you need to replace all your plants' soil. Removing the top layer is usually sufficient if your water is hard and leaves a crust on the soil. Generally, used potting soil can be repurposed for years, with some exceptions, like orchids, which require fresher potting material.

For more debunked indoor plant myths, check out the following link:

[https://worldtravelling.com/busting-21-indoor-plant-myths-discover-time-and-money-saving-tips/?utm\\_source=Facebook&utm\\_medium=FB&utm\\_campaign=DUP%20DNA\\_Big4\\_Vidazoo\\_FC\\_Plant%20Myths\\_P6\\_KNI\\_Adv%2B%20-%20vv16WT%20WT%20FB%20WW&utm\\_term=23858832200400223&layout=inf3&vtype=3&fbclid=IwAR0xBDzQCKJEQHcBa-1XvbZ0QLI1Ygb63aLmkpl9cBWMLinSxf3JWhJ8c4Q](https://worldtravelling.com/busting-21-indoor-plant-myths-discover-time-and-money-saving-tips/?utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=FB&utm_campaign=DUP%20DNA_Big4_Vidazoo_FC_Plant%20Myths_P6_KNI_Adv%2B%20-%20vv16WT%20WT%20FB%20WW&utm_term=23858832200400223&layout=inf3&vtype=3&fbclid=IwAR0xBDzQCKJEQHcBa-1XvbZ0QLI1Ygb63aLmkpl9cBWMLinSxf3JWhJ8c4Q)





**Who to call if you have questions about:**

General Information:  
Rhoda Hiller, (931) 456-7732

Membership: David Dean, (503)  
928-1867

Travel: Darlene Petersen, (847)  
714-2153

Sharing Table: Deb Boyle, (847)  
924-2112

Hospitality: Ali Reader, (815)  
353-1997

Submissions for publication in this newsletter should be emailed to Kathy Spancake at [kathy.spancake@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.spancake@gmail.com) by the 28th of each month.

Web site - [fggardenclub.com](http://fggardenclub.com) email - [fggardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:fggardenclub@gmail.com)