



## Fairfield Glade Garden Club



## March 2024 Newsletter

### ***From the President***

One of my favorite things about living in Fairfield Glade is seeing the wildlife almost daily. I lived in California for more than 55 years. Every house I lived in or visited had a privacy fence – six feet of wood encasing your backyard in a wooden cage. Yes, our neighbors couldn't see the wild parties in our hot tub (we had the tub, not the parties), but the fences also blocked creatures from roaming through the neighborhood. I can literally count on one hand the non-squirrel animals I saw at any of my homes. One skunk, one opossum, two flocks of wild turkeys.

I did see wildlife, but I had to go to where they lived. The trails along the American River Parkway near Sacramento had deer, coyotes, birds, turkeys, and way too many squirrels to count, but it just wasn't the same as waking up and finding new-born fawns napping in your backyard. Or sitting down with your cats and watching chipmunks and bunnies playing in your front yard. Almost seven years after moving to Tennessee I routinely stop everything to take a moment to watch a family of deer enjoying a late afternoon snack in our backyard.

I know the deer in particular make a gardener's life a nightmare. But I've chosen to see the wonder and joy in the creatures I encounter. I greet winged beetles that get into our home with a smile, and then help them to

return to the backyard. I also assist spiders with their return journey. Look up the rosy maple moth in Google. It is a yellow and pink moth that visits our yard once in a while. Its face cracks me up each time I see it. Our cat Lexie is enchanted with this moth. I'll admit it, so am I.

Our March speaker, Mimi Barnes, a wildlife specialist with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, is going to introduce the membership to armadillos (yes, they are in Tennessee), opossums, and bears. These may not be cute and cuddly creatures, but I look forward to hearing their stories.

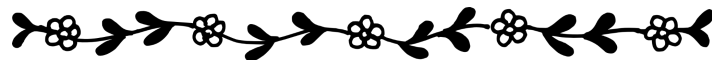
Here is a link for the Channel WCTE (PBS in Cookeville) fundraiser I mentioned at our February meeting. Please note, the fundraiser will be held at the same time as our March membership meeting.

<https://www.wcte.org/events/floral-demo-j-schwanke/>

Please travel safely wherever your day takes you!

*Susan Borghi*

**916-203-9178 CELL**



*Our **March 20th** meeting is at  
the **FG Community Church**.  
**Membership meeting begins at  
9am***

**Our **March 20th** speaker will be  
Mimi Barnes, a wildlife specialist  
with the **Tennessee Wildlife  
Resources Agency**.**



Here is the **Garden Club's 2024 budget**. Please contact me directly if you have any questions.

[Susan Borghi](#), President

916-203-9178

[Sborghi2006@JPS.net](mailto:Sborghi2006@JPS.net)

### **FAIRFIELD GLADE GARDEN CLUB 2024 BUDGET**

#### **OPERATING FUND**

Beginning Cash Balance \$8,000

#### **INCOME**

Membership dues income (\$15 per person)	\$3,200
Farmers Market - Member Only Event	<u>\$250</u>
Total Income	\$3,450

#### **EXPENSES**

Administrative expenses	\$1,052 (A)
Meeting expenses	\$2,300 (B)
Special events	\$1,100 (C)
Trips	<u>\$400 (D)</u>
Total Expenses	\$4,852

Projected Fund Balance End of Year \$6,598

#### **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Beginning Cash Balance \$20,500

#### **INCOME**

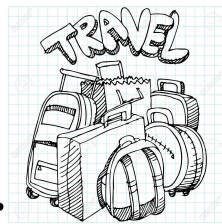
Plant and baked goods sale	\$9,100 (E)
Sharing table income	\$1,000 (F)
Other Income	<u>\$550 (G)</u>
Total Income	\$10,650

#### **EXPENSES**

Scholarships paid to colleges	\$15,000
Storage Unit	\$600
Scholarship Supplies	<u>\$100</u>
Total Expenses	\$15,700

Projected Fund Balance End of Year \$15,450

- (A) Misc supplies, web services, post office box rental, etc.
- (B) Donation to church, audiovisual costs, set up & take down meeting room, speaker stipends
- (C) Members only event, hospitality, new member meetings
- (D) Cost of coordinating trips and destination stipends
- (E) Ferns, geraniums and poinsettias sales
- (F) Sharing table
- (G) Mulch bags, donations, Cap4Kids



## ***Travel Corner***

### **Travel Corner**

**Signups will be available at the March meeting. Be sure to bring your check for payment for these trips to the March meeting, or you can mail it to the *Fairfield Glade Garden Club* PO box 1589, Fairfield Glade, TN 38558 to my attention.**

**The March 21<sup>st</sup> Harmony Lanes Goat Farm** trip filled up quickly, therefore there is no longer availability there. If you have signed up for either of the above trips, be sure to watch for my email 2-3 days prior to the trip with all final details.

**Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> [UT Discovery Gardens - Crossville](#) – there is availability for this trip**

Time: 10:30 am – 2:00 pm

Cost: \$11.50 (this is the cost for lunch – pls. specify your choice: 1) grilled chicken caesar wrap 2) grilled chicken salad 3) buffalo chicken wrap 4) Italian sub 5) ham & swiss cheese sub)

Class & tour are no charge – but donations are always welcome!

Description: Class on pollinator gardening by Master Gardener Ernie Woods and tour of the garden. Lunch will be brought in so we will eat at the garden and can continue our discussions.

**Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Stewart Galloway and Genesis Gardens – Crossville – this trip is currently closed for additional registrations due to limited parking availability at each location.**

Time: Estimated 9:00 am – due to VERY limited parking, we do need to carpool as much as possible.

Lunch: Immediately following we will have lunch at 5<sup>th</sup> Street Market – 271 West Ave. - Crossville.

Description: These are both rhododendron and azalea gardens. Bill Pinkerton at Genesis garden will be there to talk about these beautiful plants. They both have varieties from all over the world.

**Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> – [Cheekwood Gardens – Nashville](#)**

Cost: \$62 pp – 25 person cap (includes bus & tours – lunch separate cost)

Description: Private guided tour of the gardens. We have reservations at their café for lunch (separate cost) then you can enjoy the self-guided mansion tour, which is filled with beautiful pieces of artwork.

**Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> – [Erin's Meadow Herb Farm – Clinton, TN](#)**

Cost: \$35 pp – 20 person cap – cost includes class & lunch (please specify 1) ham & cheese sandwich 2) chicken salad croissant 3) vegetarian sandwich 4) garden salad)

Description: Discussion on natural skin care – hands on activity making serum to take home. This trip is back by popular demand from last year. This will be a carpool trip so you will be able to enjoy her gardens, greenhouses and shop.

**July** – working on finalizing details for trip to [Andrew Jackson's Hermitage](#) – Watch for more details!

Other things you may be interested in doing – no formal trips planned:

Tulip Festival – March 16 – April 14 – [www.luckyladdfarms.com](http://www.luckyladdfarms.com)

Baxter Gardens – private garden only open during the month of April – [www.baxtergardens.org](http://www.baxtergardens.org).

Any questions do not hesitate to contact me: [Darlene Petersen](#) – 847-714-2153



## ***Geranium & Fern Sale***

The confirmed dates for the geranium and fern sale is the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup> as follows:

**Monday - April 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Cumberland County High School Greenhouse – 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

**Tuesday - April 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Cumberland County High School Greenhouse – 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

**Wednesday - April 24<sup>th</sup>** – Pack and transport plants from CCHS to Village Green Mall

Pack – 12:00 – 2:30 pm - CCHS

Transport – Deliver to VGM by 4:30 pm

**Thursday - April 25<sup>th</sup>** – Village Green Mall – 7:30 am – 5:00 pm

**Friday - April 26<sup>th</sup>** – Village Green Mall – 7:30 – noon

Shifts are typically 2-2 ½ hours. We need help each day, but Tuesday and Thursday are very low right now, and those are very busy days. So please check your calendars. Signups will be available again at the March meeting, or you can text me your name and availability time and I will add you to the list. This is our biggest scholarship fundraiser of the year so we need your help to ensure its success.

Volunteers are responsible to help customers pick their plants, help carry them to their

car, and keep the areas stocked and clean. Each day will have a member of the scholarship fundraising committee who will be responsible for taking the money and tracking the sales.

For questions or signups, contact [Darlene Petersen](#) - 847-714-2153.



### **Fairfield Glade Garden Club Fern and Geranium Bake Sale**

The Fern and Geranium Bake Sale will be held on **Thursday, April 25th from 8am to 5pm** at the **Village Green Mall**. I know most of you know the drill. 😊 We need volunteers to work the sale in **2 hour shifts** and **we need bakers, bakers, bakers!** Please look for the sign up sheets for workers and bakers at the Fairfield Glade Garden Club General Meeting on Wednesday March 20th . **SO LETS VOLUNTEER and BAKE!** Thank you and see you at the meeting, [Sue Case](#)



### **“A Taste of the Garden”**

Member Only Event- **“A Taste of the Garden”**  
September 18, 2024  
Cumberland Mountain State Park  
Recreation Lodge

**Mark your calendars!** Our September Member Only event will be held at Cumberland Mountain State Park this year! It will be so much fun that we encourage you to have your friends join our Garden Club immediately!

**Need:**

We will be collecting garden inspired recipes from our members at the sharing table each month through June. Contribute your recipe the old fashion way, on a recipe card, or 3 by 5 card, and drop it into our recipe box! Don't forget to put your name on the top! Meatless would be great....think garden!

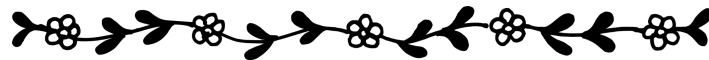
We need your seed packets! Carefully cut the top and give us the packet when you can. Bring to the Sharing Table.

Questions? Want to join our team? [Deb Boyle](#) 847-924-2112



### **The Sharing Table**

“A **Trash to Treasure Extravaganza** for 30 quick minutes before each meeting.”  
Donate your fun and interesting items each month to our Sharing Table. We do not accept puppies or spouses. And don't forget to purchase a little something also.  
We will be expecting plants coming in at these upcoming meetings. We at the Sharing Table cannot price the donations. We find though, our members are more than generous with their offerings. If you need help on your purchase, we can give you a subtle hint.  
Want to be part of our team? Text [Deb Boyle](#) at 847-924-2112



### **NEW MEMBER GET-TOGETHER**

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 in the past several months, we're going to have a casual get-together. The reception will be held in the **Fireside Room at the Community Church on Monday, March 18 from 10:00 am-12:00 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)



### **Conservation/Environmental Committee**



The Conservation/Environmental Committee is looking for new members. We have been working on a few items these past two years including, pulling garlic mustard along the Sculpture Trail and encouraging folks to adopt Smart Yard principals.

The committee has also been approached about two other topics, financially supporting *One Tree Planted* <https://onetreepanted.org/>, and encouraging native plantings in Fairfield Glade. If you are interested in these or similar topics, please let the chair, **Suzanne Wade**, know by text or email at: 608-334-4517 or [suzanne.wade52@gmail.com](mailto:suzanne.wade52@gmail.com).



## ***Look what I dug up by Nathy Hill***



### ***5 Reasons To Soak Seeds Before Planting***

Since soaking needs to be done at least a few hours before planting, and preferably overnight, impatient gardeners may wonder if this step is really necessary.

Technically, no. However, soaking does provide a number of great benefits that make it worth the effort. While you *can* germinate certain seeds without soaking, your chances of success and the speed of germination can be greatly increased if you *do*.

#### **1. Trigger Germination**

Different seeds are triggered by different levels of moisture, based on the rainfall in their native regions. Once the rainfall has increased the moisture around the seed to a sufficient level, the plant knows it is safe to begin germinating. By soaking the seeds before you start, you can trigger this moisture gauge in any seed to encourage them to

start germinating.

## 2. Speed Up Germination

By triggering germination before you put the seeds in the ground (or in trays), you can drastically reduce the time it takes for your seeds to go from sowing to transplantation-ready.

Using warm water also helps speed up this process.

While they have moisture levels that need to be met before they can germinate, seeds also have temperature sensors. These prevent the seeds from germinating when it is still too cold, risking damage to the new and vulnerable growth.

## 3. Remove Germination Inhibitors

Although it may seem counterintuitive, some seeds are actually surrounded by germination inhibitors. This is designed to prevent them from germinating inside the fruit and at the wrong time.

These inhibitors are usually removed naturally by wind or rain, but the natural process can take a while. Soaking your seeds will wash away any materials that may inhibit germination, increasing your chances of success.

## 4. Break Down Natural Defenses

Seeds are used to being battered and bruised before settling in their final resting place. Whether it's being carried by wind, pelted by rain, or surviving stomach acid from the various animals that may ingest them, they're used to some abuse before germinating.

Many seeds have hard outer shells to allow them to withstand these elements. By soaking your seeds, you can break down these defenses in a matter of hours, rather than the days or weeks it would take Mother Nature to do it.

After soaking, they will be ready to plant without anything standing in the way.

## 5. Increasing Your Odds

Plants produce trillions of seeds each year. But, not all of them will germinate, due to the many obstacles we mentioned before.

They put out so many seeds in the hopes that just a few will take, meaning not all of them have to germinate to successfully reproduce.

When you've spent money on rare or expensive seeds, or even regular seeds, relying on luck to germinate them won't be enough.

Although seeds can germinate without soaking, it does greatly increase germination rates (depending on the plant). If you want more reliable results, this extra step is well worth the effort.

To find out how to soak your seeds and what seeds are suitable for soaking check out this link:

[https://www.ruralsprout.com/soak-seeds/?fbclid=IwAR1MbwX684B6TXQD0LOqYr87cFTL\\_GbfzOfVysWXg-J\\_SvC3qY9BC0kpOB4](https://www.ruralsprout.com/soak-seeds/?fbclid=IwAR1MbwX684B6TXQD0LOqYr87cFTL_GbfzOfVysWXg-J_SvC3qY9BC0kpOB4)



**LANDSCAPE SOLUTIONS NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

Landscape Solutions (3321 Peavine) is looking for part time help – roughly 24 hours a week. If the right candidate would consider making it a full-time position. Weekend availability is a must. If you are interested, stop by and complete an application. You can ask for Erin.



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

General Information:

Susan Borghi, (916) 203-9178

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 Peggy Mitchell at [pamitch23@comcast.net](mailto:pamitch23@comcast.net) by the 28th of each month.

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

Attachments: