



Fairfield Glade Garden Club



August 2024 Newsletter

From the President

I recently had a chance to interview Wendy Raver and Sue Case, the Garden Club's current Secretary and Assistant Secretary about what it is like to be the club's secretary.

Borgh: How long have you been the club's secretary?

Raver: I was the secretary in 2024 and 2023. Sue was the secretary in 2020 through 2022. We cover for each other when one of us travels, is sick or has a personal commitment.

Borgh: So now,

Raver: We're ready to open up the positions to other club members. We have more than 240 members, so we're sure we'll be able to find the right people for these two positions.

B: What does the secretary do?

C and R in tandem: One of us takes notes at the Leaderboard and the general membership meetings and then writes up the notes as minutes for the club's official records. The minutes are distributed and adjusted if corrections are requested.

B: Is it hard?

R: Good notes make all the difference. The general membership meeting is easier as the published agenda is followed pretty closely. As you mentioned in last month's newsletter, the Leader Board discusses many topics during each meeting. There is an agenda, but topics are discussed from various angles. Capturing the ebb and flow of the discussion, along with the final decision, is the goal.

B: What skills do you need to be the secretary?

C: A basic knowledge of word processing is helpful. You don't need any previous experience as a secretary.

R: Sue and I will always be available to help you get started. No one in the Garden Club is ever left alone when they are assuming a new role.

B: How much time does it take each month?

C: You have to attend the meetings, so that's about 3 hours a month.

R: Transcribing the notes into minutes takes a few hours each month. It definitely gets easier each month.

B: Your final thoughts?

C: I like being involved with the behind-the-scenes activities at the Leader Board meetings. We're a friendly, open bunch.

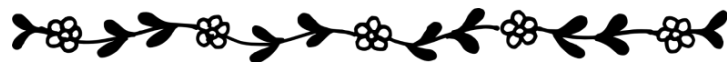
R: I'm already going to be at the membership meeting, so why not take a few notes? It is a great way to get to know other members of the club.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Borghi

President

Fairfield Glade Garden Club



Our **August 21st** meeting is at

Our **August 21st** speaker will be
Theo Wellington

the FG Community Church.
Membership meeting begins at
9am

on Light Pollution



Dear Members,

We are seeking Leader Board Member's for 2025. There is something remarkable and unique about the Fairfield Glade Garden Club. For one thing, it really is a club, not a group whose membership benefits amount to little more than having your name on a mailing list and receiving a newsletter. When you join our Garden Club, you don't belong to it, it belongs to you. Our bylaws specify leadership changes as a premise to ensure our club continues to be interesting, fun, enjoyable with fresh ideas and successful goals and events. Just a glance at our various committees' involvement in areas we care about, and the consistent increase in membership are valid verification of our community involvement and, in each other's fellowship and growth.

We are seeking: a **Vice President** which is a 3 year commitment. (One year as VP, One year as President and a third year as past president.) **Secretary** and **Assistant Secretary**. Our Secretary and Treasurer shall serve one year terms with the Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer moving directly into Secretary and Treasurer positions for one year terms. Thankfully Laure Benson our treasurer and Jean Parks our assistant treasurer will continue in their positions next year. All others are one year terms, unless the member wishes to continue. We are also looking for **2 members at large** for the leaderboard. **Committee chairs** needed: Chair for our **Member only event** and Chair for our **sharing table** plus 2 helpers each meeting. Chair of **Flower Sales Registration** (sign in members at meetings). Please Let the leader board or me know should you be interested in a position for 2025.

Fyi:

[Darlene Peterson](#) will; continue as our Trips Coordinator

[Cynthia Rossiter](#) will continue community services (Flowers at the bank)

[Suzanne Wade](#) will continue as Environmental Committee chair

[Ali Reader](#) will continue as Hospitality Chair

[Dale Jacobi](#) Assistant and [David Dean](#) Chair Membership

[Kathy Spancake](#) as Technology Chair, Communication and Publication Chair

[Peggy Mitchell](#) will continue with the Newsletter and as a member at large

Scholarship Chair will be [Carolyn Champaign](#)

[Nathy Hill](#) will continue as a member at large

[Kathy Gerhardt](#) will continue as a member at Large

Hostess / Greeter at meetings -[Deb Boyle](#)

[Susan Borghi](#) Past President, New Member events

And I, [Anne Bolter](#), will be president. Looking forward to 2025 .

[Anne Bolter](#)



Travel Corner

Travel Corner

Date: Tuesday, October 22nd
Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Location: University of Tennessee Arboretum - 901 South Illinois Ave. - Oak Ridge, TN
Cost: \$10.00 pp
Cap: 25 attendees - signups will be available at our August meeting
Transportation: This will be a driving trip and will carpool.

What: We will begin with a tour of the fall colors and their rain and pollinator gardens. Author and naturalist Stephen Lyn Bales will do a presentation on local birds and will be available for any questions. Following the activities at the arboretum, we will have lunch together - location TBD.

Darlene Petersen
Fairfield Glade Garden Club Travel Chair
847-714-2153
petersendarlene@hotmail.com



Hi gardeners:

Many of you showed interest in purchasing the **Fairfield Glade Garden Club Aprons**.

Cost for these aprons are \$21 per apron. Please use the link below to place your order, then mail your check to the Fairfield Glade Garden Club, PO Box 1589, Fairfield Glade, TN 38558. Be sure to include APRON in your notes section of your check.

[FGGC Apron Order Form - Google Forms](#)

All orders and payments must be received NO LATER THAN August 21st. You can bring your check to the August meeting. Anticipated delivery of aprons will be at our September members only event.

Any questions, feel free to contact Darlene Petersen (petersendarlene@hotmail.com).



“A Taste of the Garden”

Wed. Sept. 18 (regular mtg. day)
11:00 am-2:00 pm
Cumberland Mountain State Park
Assembly Hall/ Recreation Building

Salad Bar Luncheon at noon
Farmer’s Market, music, fellowship, stroll in park..... fun!

Register at August meeting, or call our food chair Mary Stockton (253-549-5575) to sign up by phone. This is a participate and partake event this year. Your food donation, or help otherwise, is your ticket in. We have slots left to fill on the buffet at this point. There will be more details at our August meeting.

Questions?
Deb Boyle, chair
Debgolfs@comcast.net
847-924-2112



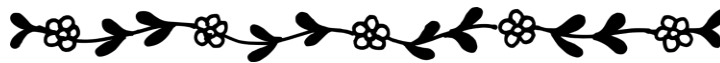
Sharing Table

Some of our helpers have requests this month. Please bring along to the August

meeting and deliver to the sharing table:

- 28 oz tin cans we will use for a project.
- All your extra gardening supplies.
- Non perishable canned goods for our September Farmer's Market.
- Emptied seed packets
- Barnyard animal artwork and decor

In addition, there is a fun opportunity to create, or donate nice items for our Farmers Market, and or also join our Farmer's Market committee if you have not heard about it as of yet. It is going to be the Sharing Table on steroids! If this is your thing, and you would like more information, call [Tamiko Roberts \(931-248-4030\)](tel:931-248-4030). You can usually spot her back at the Sharing Table at meetings also.



Are you severely allergic to poison ivy?

Try Rhus Tox poison ivy therapy. Vital Care Pharmacy in Crossville can supply this medication. It is also sold as Outdoor Joe's Rhus Toxicodendron Oral Solution on Amazon. Doses of the medication are taken in January through March before the poison ivy is present.



Information from Outdoor Joe's:

- Helps prevent allergic reactions to poison ivy for a period of a year.
- Oral solution: no need for uncomfortable injections
- Most people achieve complete immunity. Others experience less severe allergic reactions when exposed to poisonous plants.
- Recommended by physicians, nurses, pharmacists and other health professional to help prevent allergic reactions caused by poison ivy, poison oak and poison sumac.
- Homeopathic: Does not affect other prescription or over-the-counter

medications.



Look what I dug up by Nathy Hill



Does Your Soil Pass the Underwear Test?

Written by Author [Mickey Gast](#)

Published on April 23, 2024

Would you like an easy test to see how healthy your soil is? One method that sounded interesting to me was called the undie test. Yes, unmentionables.

The premise of the test:

If our soil is active, then every handful of soil has billions of fungi, microbes and bacteria constantly at work consuming organic matter. You can't see them with the naked eye, and it's hard to measure them without a microscope, but they'll make their presence known in this fun little experiment. You're supposed to bury a cotton pair of undies, and see whether there's anything left after six weeks. If your soil is teeming with good microbes, at the end of the six weeks, you're supposed to be left with only the elastic (just because it's petroleum-based and not exactly an organic delicacy). I really wanted to replicate this, but under no circumstances would I use underwear ... for a myriad of reasons. But to keep it brief (Ha!), I wanted to make sure the fabric I buried would be one hundred percent natural fiber. So linen was the obvious choice.

What do I need for the linen test?

You only need one strip of linen, markers and a hand shovel.

Since I needed to bury the linen six inches deep (15 cm) for six weeks, I chose a piece of fabric that was six inches long.

When can I do the linen test?

Any time you want, provided you have a patch of soil that you can leave undisturbed for six weeks. I buried the fabric in early March, put a reminder in my calendar for six weeks later, and then dug everything out in the third week of April.

How does the linen test work?

Step 1: Bury the fabric in the ground.

Dig a hole about six inches deep and place your fabric there. For it to decompose, it has to be natural fabric. So either pure linen or one hundred percent cotton would do. Placed the piece of fabric flat in the bottom of the hole, cover it up with soil until you've filled up the hole at the same level you started with. Add some markers as a reminder of where you buried the linen. Use something tall enough to last the 6 weeks.

Step 2: Wait six weeks.

That's the gist of it. Add the end date to your calendar six weeks from now and wait patiently. No peeking to see what's going on underground in the meantime.

Step 3: Dig everything out.

I didn't realize how well it would work. So much so that I had to do quite a bit of digging around and sifting the soil to find the first scrap of linen. If I didn't have the markers pointing to the right spot, I would have given up looking in this location. It was *that* decomposed.

What was left of it was scrap the size of my (gloved) thumb. Overall, I'd say I ended up with about ten or fifteen percent of the fabric I started with. But even these leftovers were seriously threadbare.

What does this linen test tell me?

Obviously, it's not an accurate scientific measurement. But it tells me that my soil is teeming with bacteria, microbes and fungi that are constantly consuming organic matter. Overall, it's a great experiment to conduct, for kids and adults alike, and all you need is a piece of linen. Or underwear. It's your choice.

To read the entire article just follow this link:

https://www.ruralsprout.com/underwear-soil-test/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAAR0NwYrgfUgR1bKfatkeRHNytt-jkfGz_2iF-fz1T5usHIWrM9nGXKYpGBk_aem_56XFU8SXP35fED6dHhbIDg



FAIRFIELD GLADE GARDEN CLUB
 TREASURER'S REPORT
 June, 2024

Operating Fund

Balance at	6/1/2024		\$11,357.20
Income:			
	Trip payments - Hermitage	\$1,470.00	
	Mem Dues	\$75.00	
Total Income			\$1,545.00

Disbursements

Checks:	1496 Herb Farm	(\$660.00)
	1497 Hermitage Trip - FG bus deposit	(\$136.00)
	1498 David Dean - name badges	(\$17.55)
	1499 FG Comm Church - June donation	(\$100.00)
	1500 Roger Murphy - church setup June	(\$75.00)

Total Disbursements **(\$988.55)**

Balance at 6/30/2024 **\$11,913.65**

Scholarship Fund

Balance at 6/1/2024 **\$27,581.46**

Income:

Sharing Table \$125.00

Total Income **\$125.00**

Disbursements

Checks: 1031 CC High School - Spring Plant Sale reimb (\$215.00)

Total Disbursements **(\$215.00)**

Balance at 6/30/2024 **\$27,491.46**

Total Balance **\$39,405.11**



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 by the 28th of each month.

Web site - fggardenclub.com email - fggardenclub@gmail.com

Attachments: July 2024 meeting minutes