



# Fairfield Glade Garden Club



## January 2024 Newsletter

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



**Hello all,**

**Welcome to 2024! I know this will be another great year for the Fairfield Glade Garden Club.**

**Susan, you ask, how can you possibly know that? My answer is simple ---- because the FGGC is one of the best organizations I have ever had the pleasure of belonging to. The club is filled with kind, knowledgeable, and interesting people. Month after month we consistently have great speakers. The membership works together to get wonderful things accomplished. And we have FUN doing it!!**

*The FGGC was the first club I joined when my husband Rick and I moved to the Glade in 2017. Like so many others, I joined everything in sight. I had just retired and all of a sudden I had free time. Surely I could handle membership in a lot of organizations. I juggled too many things for way too long and then I decided I needed to simplify my life and concentrate on just my favorite activities. The Garden Club instantly jumped to the top of my "keep list." I am excited that I can finally dedicate time to this club.*

*Many thanks to Rhoda for leading the club through 2023 with so much laughter and enjoyment! I am not a Master Gardener, nor can I promise to offer any words of wisdom about starting and / or maintaining a beautiful garden, but I can promise to do my best to lead FGGC through another great year in 2024.*

Take care,

*Susan Borghi, President*

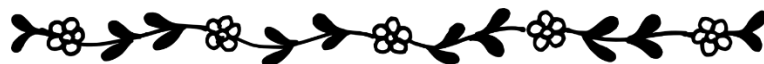
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*Our January 17th meeting is at the FG  
Community Church. Membership meeting  
begins at 9am*

*Our Speaker will be Lillie Cagie from the  
Future Farmers of America (FFA) Association*

*Our February 21st  
speaker will be Chris  
Burriss  
Stone Memorial  
Hydroponics*



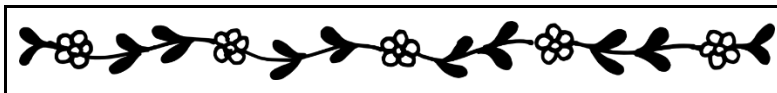
### ***Monthly speaker information***

Our January speaker will be **Lillie Cagie** from the **Future Farmers of America (FFA) Association**. Lillie is a state officer and serves as state sentinel. She comes from the Bledsoe FFA chapter in the Sequatchie Valley and is a freshman at Tennessee Tech University. She was recently named the national agriculture education proficiency winner. She has an amazing supervised agricultural education project. She also serves as a voice of agriculture and leadership for over 32,000 FFA members across the state.

She will be joined by Sadie Adams also from FFA, and will discuss their backgrounds and the goals and mission of the FFA organization. Sadie and her husband are both previous recipients of our scholarship monies. We look forward to welcoming them and learning about this great organization.



Darlene Peterson - 847-714-2153



### ***Garden Club Membership Renewal***

Within the last few weeks, you should have received a fat envelope with a return address from Fairfield Glade Garden Club c/o David Dean. Don't throw it away. It is not junk mail. It is your **2024 Garden Club membership renewal packet**. We have pre-filled the vast majority of the fields on the application from the information on your 2023 membership application. Please review the information carefully, fill in any missing information and correct or update any information that is wrong or has changed.

Return your completed 2024 Membership Application, along with your check payable to "FGGC" in the amount of \$15, to FGGC Dues in the pre-addressed envelope provided to you in the membership application packet. You must provide the postage. Please do not send cash through the mail. If you want to pay with cash or just don't want to mail in your application, you can bring your application and application fee to the next membership meeting on January 17, 2024.

In 2024, the Garden Club will be re-starting the distribution of the Club's membership list to its members. It will contain each member's name and contact information (address, phone number and email address). The membership list will only be provided to members. Members who do not want to have their contact information included in the membership list, may opt out by checking a box on the membership application directing the Club not to include their contact information on the membership

list.

Now is also the time to sign up for any of the Club's activities you wish to participate in 2024. Please check the box next to each and every activity in which you wish to participate in 2024. If you participated in an activity this year (and maybe for the 5 years before that) please check the box if you wish to continue to participate. If you are unsure whether you want to participate, check the box so that you will get information about the activity that may help you decide whether to participate in 2024

If you have any questions about the membership renewal process, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at dean3fish@aol.com or by phone or text at 503-928-1867.

Membership Committee

*David Dean*



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



## **The Weird Reason Holly Gets Super Spiky + More Cool Things About Holly**

If you have a holly bush or tree, then you've probably noticed the leaves tend to be, for lack of a better word, "stabbiier" toward the bottom of the tree. But the leaves are less spiky as you go further up the tree. Some are even rounded, lacking the characteristic shape Holly is known for. What on earth causes this? The answer is pretty cool.

## **Chew on that, Deer!**

In December of 2012, a pair of scientists in Spain wanted to know if incredibly sharp spikes on some leaves and few to no spikes on others – all on the same tree – were due to the plant changing its genetic structure. It's been known for ages that holly (and other plants) can adapt to the presence of nibbling herbivores by growing more prickly leaves, but it's never been studied on this level.

The scientists were able to prove that Holly plants can change the DNA in specific leaves, without changing the genetic makeup of the rest of the plant, in response to environmental stressors – deer eating the leaves on the lower branches.

This process, a plant's ability to change leaves within the same organism is called heterophylly.

Beyond answering a question definitively, this also paints a more hopeful picture for plants as we continue to deal with climate change – their ability to quickly adapt to changes in their environment.

If you have a larger holly, take a closer look at the leaves higher up the tree (out of reach of nibbling animals), and you may be surprised to find few spikes on the leaves.

If you notice super-pointy spines on your holly but don't have many critters in your yard, it could be your pruning practices.

## **Beautiful Berries for Your Favorite Birds**

Did you know that holly berries are an important food source for birds in the winter? Long after other fresh berries and seeds have disappeared, holly berries linger, providing feathered friends with a much-needed late-winter food source.

What's interesting is that the berries are inedible by the birds in the other months of the year. The berries are much too hard for them to eat. Only after a few successive frosts do the berries soften enough for birds to eat them.

**A special note:** while the birds may enjoy holly berries, they are poisonous to pets and people alike. So, if you do use fresh-cut holly to decorate your home at Christmas, keep them out of reach of the smaller people in your home.

Holly truly is a unique plant with so many interesting characteristics that set it apart. It's no wonder there is so much lore and tradition surrounding this beautiful plant!

Looking for more info about this, check out the attached link.

<https://www.ruralsprout.com/holly-leaves/?fbclid=IwAR3Za4LLSQHkCDmUOTo5EDCIZ1rP1lKoCGcUBZ1LVIW8gtW0MIO7wx5ISPc>



## ***Travel Corner***

Happy New Year Gardeners:

Hope you all had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends and wishing you a happy, healthy and safe new year!

Are you anxious for spring? Our first trip is as follows - please note - sign up sheets will be available at the January meeting. If you cannot make that meeting, let me know if you are interested in attending.

Date: Tuesday, February 13th

Place: [Landscape Solutions](#) - 3321 Peavine Road - Crossville, TN 38571

Description: "Preparing for Spring" - Erin and team will discuss everything from pests to pruning to get us ready for spring. Following the discussion, we will head into the greenhouse to get a little dirty by planting some seeds for our spring gardens. Please bring either a 1/2 or whole gallon empty milk jug where we will plant our seeds. Also bring gardening gloves if you would like.

Cost: \$10 for supplies - payable directly to Landscape Solutions upon arrival

Details: Class maximum is 20 people. We plan to begin at 10:00 am sharp. Depending on the interest, we may offer an afternoon session beginning at 1:30 as well. We will also plan to go for lunch (location TBD). So if we do fill both sessions, lunch will follow the morning session, and will be prior to the afternoon session.

**SAVE THE DATE!** **Thursday, March 21** - [Harmony Lane Goat Farm](#) - 285 Harmony Lane - Smithville, TN 37166

This trip will include a trolley tour of the entire farm, where we will learn about the care for their animals and farm and answer any questions we may have. You'll have an opportunity to milk a goat by hand, hold and bottle feed baby goats. This farm also has cows, calves, pigs, piglets, free range chickens and ducks. Plan on sampling their fresh goat cheese and goat milk fudge. The tour is about 3 hours. Our plan is to do the first half of the tour, then break for lunch, followed by the second half of the tour. Cost of lunch is not included in the cost of the trip, and their menu runs between \$7 - \$10.

More details, including cost will come out soon!

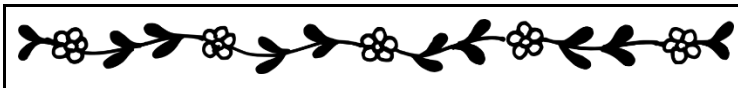
### Guidelines for Fairfield Glade Garden Club Field Trips

We are happy to be able to offer exciting trips for your enjoyment! However, to be able to continue to bring these to you, we have created the following guidelines to follow.

- 1) Before signing up, please be sure to check your calendar and mark them.
- 2) Once you have signed up payment is due within 5 days to confirm your spot. (recommend bringing a check to meetings when signing up).
- 3) Once you are confirmed, there will be no refunds as payments are made to the venue and/or bus company to lock in the arrangements.
- 4) We understand that occasionally unexpected things may arise, however, if you need to cancel, you will be required to find a replacement to recoup your cost from your replacement. Please let the travel chair know your replacement.
- 5) As always, all confirmed participants will receive an email 2-3 days prior to each trip with all details pertaining to each particular trip.
- 6) If you are unable to attend a bus trip last minute, please contact Darlene Petersen so buses can depart. We don't want to leave anyone behind or hold up buses.

All trips will be announced in the newsletter first, followed by a detailed email, then signups will be available at the following garden club meeting.

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



### “A Taste of the Garden”

Member Only Event- September 2024

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! Here is what we need from you soon.

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!

Questions? [Deb Boyle](#) 847-924-2112



## **The Sharing Table**

Something old, something new.....

Happy New Year! We are ready for another fun year at our sharing table. We will have an empty table to start 2024, so bring your unwanted gifts, your plantings, puzzles, books, crafts, etc. It is a true trash to treasure hunt for 30 minutes before each meeting. We will not accept puppies or spouses as donations.

Do you want to be part of our team?

Contact Deb Boyle by text at: 847-924-2112

[Deb Boyle](#)



**Please note below proposed changes to the FG Garden Club By-Laws. They will be voted on at the General Meeting on January 17, 2024.**

### **ARTICLE VII – APPOINTMENTS**

President and Vice-President shall serve one-year terms with Vice-President moving directly into President and President serving as Past President for one-year terms. **Secretary and Treasurer shall serve one-year terms with Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer moving directly into Secretary and Treasurer positions for one-year terms.** ~~All other Leader Board Members shall serve for two (2) year terms.~~

A slate of officers shall be presented to the General Membership to be voted on at the October meeting. Elected officers consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, **Assistant Secretary**, and Treasurer, and **Assistant Treasurer**. ~~Assistants to these officers shall be appointed by the President.~~ If only one member is submitted for each office a motion shall be made to accept this slate of officers as presented, then a vote is taken on the motion.



***Letter of appreciation***



Dear Fairfield Glade Garden Club

Thank you for supporting the Knoxville Botanical Gardens and Arboretum with your generous donation. We could not exist without our kind support.

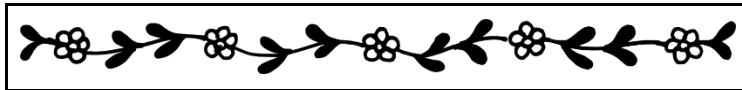
Donations like yours allow KBGA to continue to provide the opportunity for the community, visitors, and our neighbors to experience the beauty of the former Howell Nurseries, Joe Howell Landscape and Nurseries and the former Home of Joe Howell. It allows us to provide community programming, Fall Festival, outreach and continue growing our Gardens.

This year, we have begun the work on the Howell Legacy Garden which when completed will be a place of beauty, contemplation, and memories. In addition, we have continued our work on the Seed Garden, rehabilitation of the Seed Cottage in the Center for Urban Agriculture and to begin work on rehabilitation of the Visitor Center Tile Roof.

The value of your donation is innumerable to the legacy of the Howells and the Future of the Knoxville Botanical Gardens for years to come.

Sincerely,

Jim Richards





**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)