

# *Trent Woods Garden Club*

November 2019

**Greetings, All!**

**Hope you all enjoyed Ann Simpson's floral design presentation at our October meeting. It was really fascinating how she designed such beautiful arrangements in so many unique containers. Isn't floral design amazing? Seasonal Design and the raffle of all of Ann's designs delighted all of us. Our members again came forward to work on special projects. Nine members met at Trinity Methodist Church and helped Carol Letellier to make 125 floral bouquets for the Meals on Wheels program for Craven County. We know that the recipients will be very pleased with these surprises. Ghost Walk docents were needed, and Jane Ferree was pleased that so many of you volunteered to be docents. I'm sure that you had an entertaining evening.**

**Our visit with the Garden BEES went well. This year we have 25 BEES and a new teacher. Photos of all of these events are found here in the newsletter and also on our web page. And I would be remiss if I did not mention our fun and fund raiser at Alluring Illusions. Thank you, Ann Court, for arranging this shopping experience. Remember that our club receives 10% of the sales. Also, thank you to Debbie and Jack Durham, who will be helping with the Trent Woods Christmas Parade. The parade is on Sunday, Dec. 1. Who has some decorating expertise to highlight TWGC? We also will be decorating Christmas trees at the hospital and the Bishop House.**

**The program for the November meeting will be making ornaments and notecards with pressed flowers. We hope you have all been pressing flowers and greens. This will be a fun, hands on activity. Hope to see you on Nov. 14th. Luncheon reservations can be made through Judy Boyd, our Hospitality chair. Enjoy this fantastic fall weather!**

**Fondly, Paula**

## **Trent Woods Garden Club 2019-2020 Executive Board**

**President Paula Hartman**

**First Vice President Ann G. Hall**

**Recording Secretary Marcia Sproul**

**Treasurer Mary Florence**

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National Garden Clubs, Inc

The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc



# VOLUNTEER!

Even if you volunteered years ago-Please join us again

Please contact the committee chair and sign up for a couple of activities listed below

**Bank of the Arts**

Mary Ann Hudak

**Bishop House**

June Boyd

**Floral Design**

Ann Simpson

**Tree Décor at CEMC**

Gail McLamb

**TW Christmas Parade**

Jack and Debbie Durham

**Ghost Walk**

Jane Ferree

**Awards**

Frances Eder

**Blue Star Memorial**

Marcia Sproul

**Youth Gardeners**

Paula Hartman

**Garden Therapy**

Kathy Perretta

**Seasonal Design**

Gail Pethia

**Trent Woods Parks**

Sue Wyatt

**Meals on Wheels**

Carol Letellier

**Environmental Concerns/Conservation**

Maureen Loomer

# October 2019 Program

## *The Colors of Fall*

by Ann Simpson



What a time we had watching our own Ann Simpson create these wonderful arrangements – and all before lunch!



From very modern to traditional Ann keep us regaled with tips, pitfalls and a great ideas!



## Youth Gardeners

We had a slow start this year as we had a new teacher and classroom to establish before we met the children. We finally went to Oaks Road Academy on Friday, Oct. 4. What a great group of 25 eager second graders! But did you know there is preparation work to be done before this initial visit? First, we needed to get the fall garden established by picking up and amending the gardens with 1600 pounds of compost from our local landfill in Tuscarora. At our first meeting, we introduced seeds and how they grow. The BEES planted radish and spinach seeds, in addition to broccoli, collards and lettuce plants. In the wildflower area, they sprinkled seeds



from NCDOT plus some poppy seeds. The BEES are expected to maintain the gardens until we return next month.



Environment and habitat were the words of the day. So, we introduced our mascot, Woodsy Owl, combining his motto of “Lend A Hand, Care for the Land” with the need to recycle and reuse to help the world around us. For a craft activity, the BEES made Woodsy puppets which they seemed to really enjoy (as witnessed by the

photos). Our visit was very bzzzy as always and if you would like to join us, we return on Nov. 1. We will be introducing Arbor Day by planting a tree plus making decorations for the hospital tree. We'll also squeeze in a lesson about bulbs and plant daffodils. Call Carol Letellier or Paula Hartman if interested! Happy Fall! The Garden Ladies: Frances Eder, Eileen Griswold, Lori Gover, Ann Hall, Sylvia Cotton, and Kathy Perretta.



## Horticulture Corner-November

By Maureen Loomer

*You can't always get what you want But if you try sometimes, well, you might find You get what you need*

--Mick Jagger and Keith Richards

Okay, so I can pretty much guarantee that the Rolling Stones were NOT referring to the challenges of gardening in eastern North Carolina when they wrote the lyric that I chose for this month's subtitle. This month, though, a lot of us wax nostalgic for what we may have admired in the past but lack in our current gardens. My sister Margaret has finally decided (after five years) that she is declaring "no mas" in her battle to raise sweet-peas, and a recent conversation I had with Marcia Sproul included our mutual frustration with peonies. Marcia had them in her old garden, and I admired them (and hollyhocks, and delphiniums!) on many visits to Maine and Colorado. Although friends in Winston-Salem grow them easily, I had chalked up my failure to our short, warm winters. In my research, I stumbled on a website <http://www.southernpeony.com/> featuring advice for choosing cultivars more likely to be successful here, as well as tips for care. So, Marcia, this is for you!

While there are many plants that thrive best after a long, bitter winter, I'll gladly do without them in favor of our long growing season and brief cold snaps. And that long growing season gives us a wider window for getting our garden work done. Bluestone Perennial Nurseries <https://www.bluestoneperennials.com> advises that folks in the Plains and Midwest should have had their spring-flowering bulbs in by early October, but we in the south can safely wait until early December. Plenty of time to cut down foliage and divide existing bulbs. I will replace some of my Blue Flags with the "bees and butterflies" collection I purchased from Bluestone that is all yellow (!) ranthis, crocus, hyacinth and alliums. If you love bulbs (especially alliums and dahlias, do check out Bluestone Perennials and Plant Delights <https://www.plantdelights.com>. Wendy at Pinecone Garden Center has been to Plant Delights (Raleigh) and has had the same luck with Bluestone that I have. Mary Florence, you will find lots of exotic alliums!

For those who admired my dahlia blooms from the October meeting; yes, the plants are still blooming prolifically. My cousin in Illinois is very envious! This is their second year, and they are planted in my (not-) cutting garden which has rich soil that tends to remain moist, and a southeastern exposure with 8-10 hours of sun. I have not seen any in Lowe's this year, but you can order them from their website.

Those of us with herb gardens are preparing to enjoy our last harvests. Saying goodbye to my mints, thymes, and sages is always a little sad, but I know they will be back in the spring. My *Pesto Perpetuo* is in a container that is somewhat sheltered. The late Madelene Hill and her daughter Gwen Barclay reminded us in *Southern Herb Growing* that "basils return to their fathers with the first frost", but I may be enjoying bruschetta through November. I have a new oregano (Cuban!) that is reportedly more tender (but not as tender as basil) than the woody ones I know, so I am bringing it in for the winter. Will let you know how it does in the sunroom.

We can expect our Christmas Cacti (*Schlumberger*) to start blooming in November. My experience is that these plants are harmed more by over-watering and over-heating than by benign neglect. I keep mine in my three-season sunroom where they are right next to the window with a southwest exposure. I water when I think of it and fertilize once a year. The ONLY time they move from their spot is for a brief trip to the living room while in full bloom. Here is a photo from last year.



Email me with suggestions for this column or if you can present at a meeting! I am still looking for volunteers for January, February, and April. Until next month....



**TRENT WOODS GARDEN CLUB  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
2019-2020**

**ARBOR DAY**

Cottle Park, Trent Woods, Nov 14  
1:00 PM

**TRENT WOODS  
CHRISTMAS PARADE**

Trent Woods, December 8

**CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING**

CarolinaEast Medical Center, TBA

**BISHOP HOUSE CHRISTMAS**

611 Middle Street, New Bern, TBA

**TWGC ANNUAL HERB SALE**

New Bern Farmer's Market  
April 2020



**Floral Designers Wanted!!!**

We are looking for 6 Volunteers to present a floral design for display during the January 2020 General Meeting Program. The design, container and materials used are your choice. Each designer will be given time to describe the flowers used and helpful hints on assembling a floral design. The 6 designs will be January's Seasonal Design and auctioned off following the presentations as part of the club's fund raisers.

Please contact D'Stone, at [dstoned6@gmail.com](mailto:dstoned6@gmail.com) or 252-633-2640 to sign up. This meeting will be experience for the designers to participate in a program and an educational, fun experience for our members.



# Horticulture

Presented by Maureen Loomer



(left)

*Nephrolepis bisecta*

Mach or Sword Fern



(right)

Asterceae

*Dahlia Pinnata*



(left)

*Malvausculus Arboreus*

Var: *drummondii*

# Orchids are easier to grow than you think!

By Judi Lloyd

If you are new to the world of orchids, don't be afraid of them. Many orchids can be easy to grow if you take some time to learn what they need. Orchid care is not difficult; it is just different. Orchids have a reputation for being difficult to grow when in fact many varieties make excellent houseplants. With proper care an orchid can be in bloom for months each year and can live indefinitely. In this respect orchids are an excellent value as far as blooming plants go. A well cared for and varied orchid collection can provide continuous bloom every day of the year. Good orchid care requires just some basic knowledge about orchids and how they grow:

- Most orchids require water once a week. Avoid over watering as this can lead to root rot.
- Position your orchid in a bright (but not direct sun) windowsill facing east or west.
- Weekly/Weakly (1/2 strength) feeding with a fertilizer designed for orchids.
- Repotting in fresh *Orchiata* mix when your orchid stops blooming.

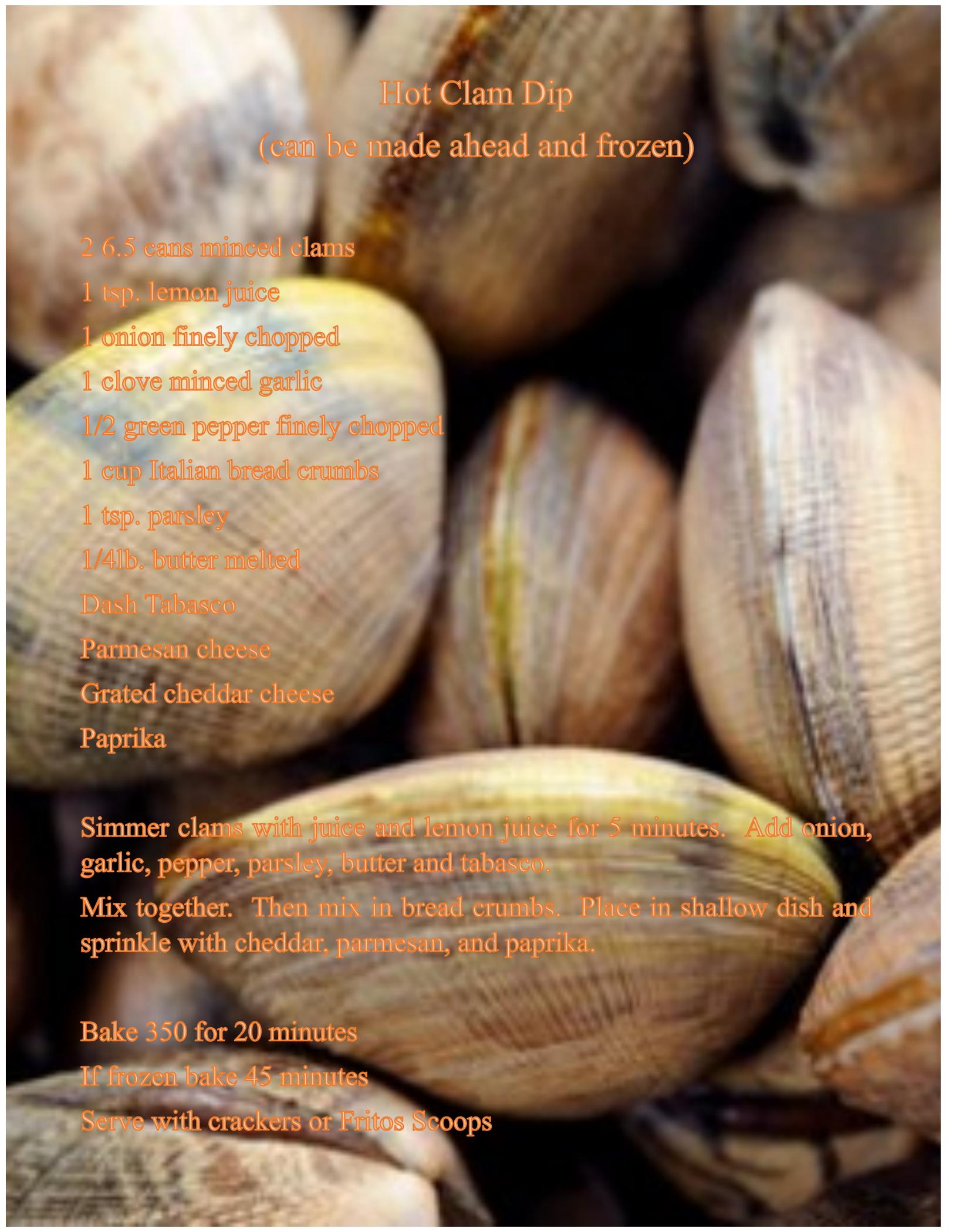
Obviously, orchids do not grow in pots in the wild. We put them in pots for our convenience. The secret to growing healthy orchids is to grow healthy roots. Ordinary potted plants are judged by their leaf growth. For orchids, the root growth is the best indicator of the health of the plant. Because obtaining a good moisture balance is so very critical to optimal orchid care many orchid growers choose clear orchid pots so that it is easier to see when the roots are thriving and when they are not.

Pot your orchids in the smallest pot that the roots will fit in. An orchid grows best in what appears to be a ridiculously small pot, so resist the urge to go up a pot size any more than is absolutely necessary to hold the roots. Clear plastic pots make it easy to see the roots and to see when to water. When watering, flush the plants with water freely, getting needed oxygen to the roots. Many people take orchids to the sink in order to flood them with water periodically. It is oxygen to the roots that orchids need and they will get it from a combination of a good open mix and proper watering habits. Orchids do not like 'wet feet' but they do very much like humidity. As a result, when grown inside a home, orchids are often placed on humidity trays. Achieving a good balance of humidity and air movement is one of the goals of successful orchid care. The key to orchid watering is not to over-water. The easiest way is to bring the orchid to the sink and run water liberally through the mix. In some cases, one can water an orchid on its humidity tray. Once the orchid has been watered it should go back to its growing space until the next watering where you can enjoy watching it thrive, and bloom again and again.

For more information or questions on orchids. My source for this article was Wendy Graveman at [ThePurple-Orchid19@gmail.com](mailto:ThePurple-Orchid19@gmail.com) You can find her at Pinecone Home and Garden, 4136 MLK here in New Bern.

*Judi Lloyd lives in River Bend and can be contacted at [judilloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:judilloyd@yahoo.com)*





## Hot Clam Dip

(can be made ahead and frozen)

2 6.5 cans minced clams  
1 tsp. lemon juice  
1 onion finely chopped  
1 clove minced garlic  
1/2 green pepper finely chopped  
1 cup Italian bread crumbs  
1 tsp. parsley  
1/4lb. butter melted  
Dash Tabasco  
Parmesan cheese  
Grated cheddar cheese  
Paprika

**Simmer** clams with juice and lemon juice for 5 minutes. Add onion, garlic, pepper, parsley, butter and tabasco.

**Mix together.** Then mix in bread crumbs. Place in shallow dish and **sprinkle** with cheddar, parmesan, and paprika.

**Bake 350 for 20 minutes**

**If frozen bake 45 minutes**

**Serve with crackers or Fritos Scoops**

# Garden Therapy



**Monday October 14, 2019-10am**

Trinity United Methodist Church

We had quite a crowd putting together 125 nosegays for Meals on Wheels! Many thanks to everyone who participated: Carol Letellier was the hostess for this annual event. She was joined by: Paula Hartman, Sylvia Cotton, Marcia Sproul, Sue Wyatt, Frances Eder, Cathy McCallister, Debbie Durham, and Dixie Howard. Please join us anytime to work with residents of different senior facilities.

**Garden Therapy – Schedule 2019/2020**

Kathy Perretta – [krperretta@aol.com](mailto:krperretta@aol.com)

516-652-6899

**Monday Nov. 18, 2019 10am**

Croatan Village, 4522 Old Cherry Point Road

Sylvia Cotton

**Monday, December 16, 2019 10am**

Brookdale, 1336 S. Glenburnie Road

Gail McLamb

**Monday, January 13, 2020 10am**

Good Shepherd, 603 West Street

Bird Feeders - Laura Knox / Paula Hartman

**Monday, February 17, 2020 10am**

Homeplace, 1309 McCarthy Blvd.

Marcia Sproul

**Monday, March 16, 2020 10am**

Monarch, 1320 Health Drive

Pinecone birdfeeders – Linda Nails

**Monday, April 20, 2020 10am**

River Point Crest , 2600 Old Cherry Point Road

Plant Vegetable Garden - Jack Durham



A native of North America, American southeast turkeys live in forests containing pine, magnolia, beech, live oak, pecan, American elm, cedar elm, cottonwood, hickory, bald cypress, tupelo, sweetgum, or water ash, with understories of sourwood, huckleberry, blueberry, mountain laurel, greenbrier, rose, wisteria, buttonbush, or Carolina willow. It is not unusual to see Wild Turkeys early in the morning gleaning forest adjacent fields or along the roadside looking for seeds and nuts from the nearby woods.

Wild turkeys mostly get around by walking but they will run and fly. Females mostly fly while males are more likely to run. Turkeys usually roost in trees, hopping upward from branch to branch. Male Turkeys gobble to attract females and warn away other males. The males display by strutting with their tails fanned and wings lowered.

Even though Turkeys roost off the ground, they nest on the ground. The female scratches a 1 inch deep bowl under a tree or thick bush and covers it with dead leaves and forest debris. The female will have one brood of 4-17 eggs.



October 2019  
Seasonal Design

Stargazer Lily, Sea Holly, miniature Roses, Mist Flower,  
Mexican Sage, and Citronella

Designer:  
Debbie Durham