



Trent Woods Garden Club

January 2021

Greetings, All! Happy New Year to you! May we all enjoy a brighter and more peaceful New Year! May we be able to get together with friends and neighbors and enjoy life once again. We hope that you were able to celebrate the holidays in safety and that you also are looking forward to the new year. Although we cancelled our December meeting, and have to also cancel our January meeting, TWGC continued to thrive to bring joy to those around us. We started the month off with participating in the Annual Trent Woods Christmas Parade. What fun we had riding in convertibles and waving to all the onlookers. Our Birthday Angels gathered with Marcia Sproul to make lovely arrangements for Bayview Home. Other members met at the Bishop Home to decorate the gates and front porch. Our work was appreciated by several residents who stopped and thanked us for our continued efforts as we hung the festive swags and designs. We also donated 8 wreaths for the National Cemetery to honor our veterans. Deb Tallman created a design for the Bank of the Arts. Plus, Frances managed to apply for awards for Publicity/Public Relations. By the way, don't forget to check out our amazing website where you can see all of our December projects in beautiful color! It seems that we were just as busy as if we had our monthly meeting!!! And PS our garden gloves sale is ongoing. Just contact Mary Florence or Ann Hall to support this fundraiser.

So, as we enter this new year, let us be mindful of all our TWGC members whom we have not seen in months! A call or email would be so welcomed. Also, don't forget to send some photos to Deb Tallman for the newsletter and/or web page. Show us your latest endeavor—a design, a plant, even a new craft. It's fun to share and we can always use a little inspiration. Fondly, Paula

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
And
Garden Clubs of North Carolina, Inc.

TWGC Executive Board 2020-2021

Paula Hartman,
President

1st Vice President, Ann G. Hall

2nd Vice President, Debbie Durham

Treasurer, Mary Florence

Recording Secretary, Marcia Sproul

Corresponding Secretary, June Boyd

Historian, Francis Eder

TWGC General Meeting
January 14, 2020

Cancelled

At New Bern Golf and Country
Club

10:00 AM Social time

10:30 AM Meeting begins

Cancelled

Luncheon will be served, the
Please contact Judy Boyd to make
a reservation and indicate your
choice at

judysboyd@embarqmail.com

Cost \$18. due before start of meeting.

Gardening Gloves will be available
for sale -\$7/pair

Due to Covid, there will be reserved seating for
anyone staying for lunch and temperatures will
be checked .before entry.

Luncheon Choices

January 14, 2021

1. Cobb Salad – Crisp iceberg, hard boiled eggs, diced tomatoes, grilled chicken, scallions, avocado, Swiss & cheddar cheese, topped with apple-wood smoked bacon, with choice of dressing
2. Chicken Cordon Bleu-Chicken breast stuffed with Swiss cheese and ham topped with Dijon sauce with creamy mashed potatoes and Chef's choice of vegetable

February 11, 2021

1. Grilled Chicken Salad – Mixed greens topped with grilled chicken, cucumber, bacon bits, onions, tomatoes
2. Pecan Crusted Chicken with Mashed potatoes and Chef's Vegetable

March 11, 2021

1. Country Club Salad- Mixed baby field greens, Portobello mushrooms, gorgonzola cheese, red onion, sun-dried tomatoes, toasted walnuts and pine nuts tossed with balsamic vinaigrette and finished with a pesto dri2. Ham and Swiss Quiche – Served with chilled asparagus & sliced marinated roma tomatoes and sliced fruit
2. Ham and Swiss Quiche – Served with chilled asparagus & sliced marinated roma tomatoes and sliced fruit

April 8, 2021

1. Oriental Chicken Salad - Shredded Napa Cabbage, Diakon Radish Sprout, Iceberg Lettuce, tossed with Teriyaki and Five Spice Chicken, Macadamia Nuts, Scallions, and Mandarin Oranges with Yuzu Ginger Vinaigrette and topped with Crisp Wonton Strips
2. Turkey & Brie – Shaved roasted turkey breast, apple-wood smoked bacon, creamy brie cheese & apricot preserves on toasted sourdough with a fruit cup

May 13, 2021

1. Davis Cup Salad-Crisp Romaine lettuce with craisins, candied walnuts, strawberries and bleu cheese crumbles
2. Brie and Raspberry Chicken - Pan Seared Marinated Breast of Chicken served with Brie Cream Sauce and Raspberry Compote, Roasted Garlic Potato Puree and Shallot and Balsamic Haricot Verts

TWGC Monthly Programs

2020-2021

January 14 Cancelled

Herbs by David Hite Head of the Kitchen Garden at Tryon Palace

February 11

Birds by Oliver Jarvis

March 11

Propagation by Amy Rose White

April 15

Medicinal Use of Plants by Maureen Loomer

May 13

TBD

TWGC Presidents Report Fact Collecting Form

Due: January 24, 2021

To: Paula Hartman (252)670-3233 or paulahartman1947@gmail.com

Please answer all questions that are applicable to you from January 2020 to December 2020.

Thank you for your participation, all Garden Club Presidents are asked to collect this information and pass it to our affiliated GC.

Have you given a garden related program to any organization? Yes/No

Have you grown any plants this past year that you have never grown before? Yes/No

Number of plantings: Dogwood____ Crepe Myrtle____ total_____

Number of garden tours either sponsored or worked on (not taken)_____

Thanks very much!

Trent Woods Christmas Parade

Just wanted to thank June and John Boyd for letting us use their convertible in the parade. And special thanks to Deb Tallman who navigated us and our TW elves, Marcia and Kathy Perretta, through the streets of Trent Woods behind the cooligans of the Shriners. Also thanks to Dr Harry who brought Elizabeth and to Gail Mclamb and Maggie Ferrara who brought up the rear with her elf falling out of the trunk.. What a fun time!! Take care and Merry Christmas to all. Paula



Trent Woods Christmas Parade December 2020



in my garden... January 2021



I discovered hot glue guns this holiday season-Thanks Judy Lott! I had a great time decorating these two wreaths, one for me and one for a friend. The wreath show above was decorated with whole nuts, dried orange slices and eucalyptus. The wreath shown below was decorated with sea shells and eucalyptus.



Volunteers Needed!

Garden Therapy — please see Kathy Perretta! We will be able to deliver Birthday Angels and small arrangements to a Nursing home each month!

January 11, 2021 Good Shepard

February 15, 2021 Homeplace

March 15, 2021 Monarch

April 19, 2021 Riverpoint Crest –plant vegetable garden

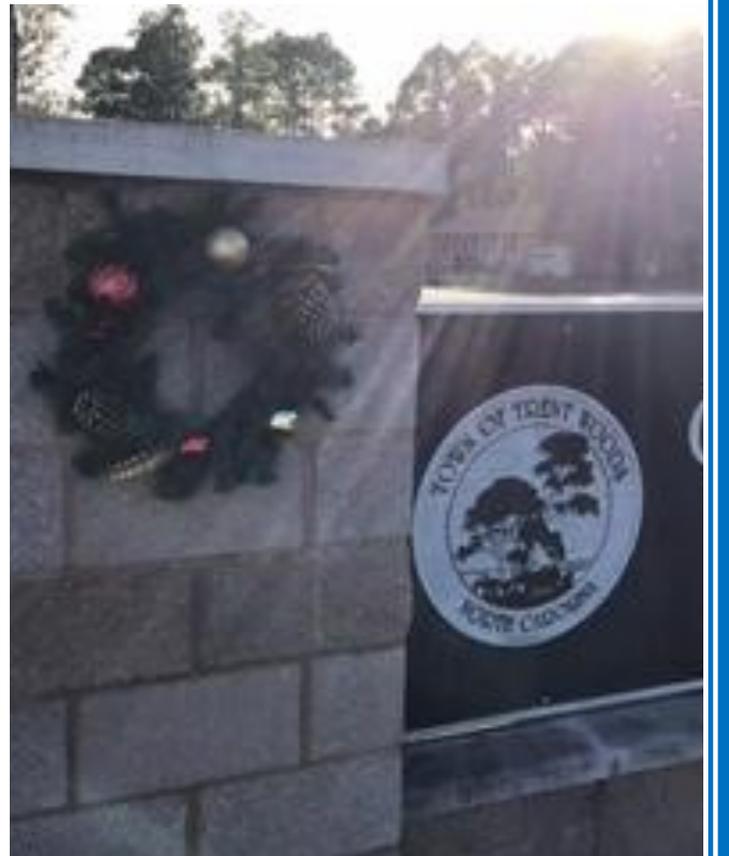
Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will not be visiting with our Second Grade Youth Gardeners until 2021. Circumstances may change so please regularly refer to our web site, Facebook page or the newsletter!

Seasonal Design — please see Gail Pethia

Bank of the Arts — please see Mary Ann Hudak

Blue Star Markers

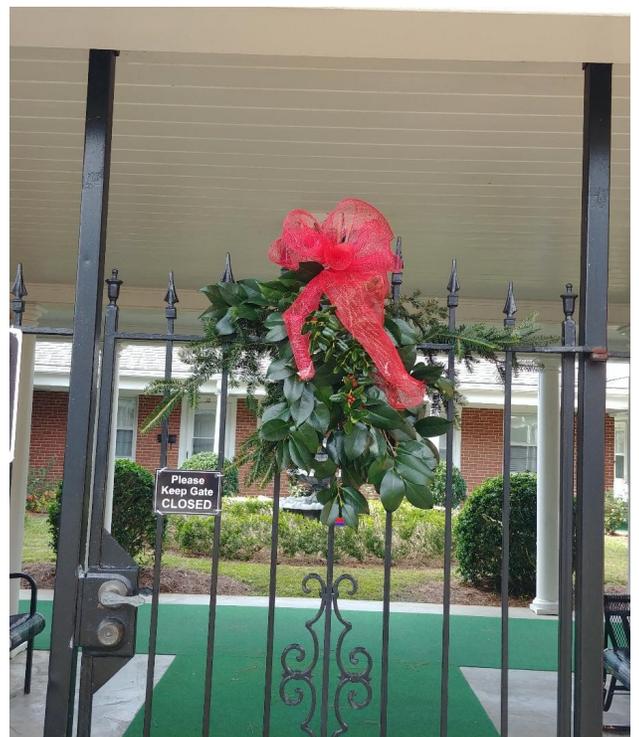
Trent Woods Garden Club maintains the Blue Star Byway Marker in Trent Woods. Recently decorated for the holiday season, TWGC volunteers will later remove the Christmas decor and prepare the beds for spring. TWGC maintains the Blue Star Byway marker, Cottle Park entrance and Meadows Park bench all year long with different plantings for each season.



Bishop Home



Due to COVID-19 restrictions, TWGC was limited to decorating the outside of Bishop Home this year. This year TWGC members were only able to decorate the exterior. TWGC members Mary Florence, Frances Eder and President Paula Hartman created the swags out of camellia, holly, fir and a little podocarpus and affixed them onto the gates and the flagpole. The holiday swags and ribbons bring cheer to Bishop Home residents and passerby.



Garden Therapy

The Birthday Angels for Garden therapy this month were Kathy Perretta, Sue Wyatt, Mary Florence and Marcia Sproul. They made Birthday floral arrangements for four residents of Brookdale Assisted Living as well as 24 Christmas cup bouquets to distribute to other residents to brighten their holiday season.



Trent Woods Garden Club 2021 Herb Sale

**Pre-Order Form Available on website
www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com**

Due February 15, 2021

Plants will be delivered to your home April 19, 2021

\$3.50 per 4" pot

Culinary Herb Planter \$20.

Lemon Grass, Basil, Parsley, Thyme, Oregano and Dill

Naturally Grown

Horticulture Corner-January 2021

By Maureen Loomer

There are two seasonal diversions that can ease the bite of any winter. One is the January thaw. The other is the seed catalogues.

- Hal Borland; American author. (May 1900-February 1978)

Seed AND bulb catalogs. Yum! More on that next month.

Weather Guess-: “NOAA’s winter forecast [for 2020-21] favors warmer, drier conditions across the southern tier of the U.S., and cooler, wetter conditions in the North” (noaa.gov media release). The Farmer’s Almanac likewise forecast is slightly higher than average temperatures and lower than average precipitation for our area (almanac.com).

Uh-huh.



Garden Centers: New Bern Farm and Garden Center had close-out prices on holiday plants and some other gift items. They have fruit and vegetable seeds on sale now. They report that increased demand may make for shortages in the spring. My visit to Lowe’s found their garden center mostly empty as they appear to be closing out evergreens. I didn’t go inside, but Lowe’s usually starts to get seeds and bulbs in January. Pinecone has lots of pansies, dianthus, snapdragons, autumn ferns, and a few heucheras.

Wallflowers (*Erysimum sp.*): Better Homes and Garden calls wallflowers “better than pansies.” According to the N.C. Extension, they are grown as a cool-season annual in the South but can be short-lived perennial or biennial. The hybrids come in many colors and were bred for

longer bloom times. Plant in average to sandy soil in full sun. It is drought tolerant once established and deer resistant. The Extension recommends them for rock gardens, the front of the border, walkways, or containers.

Horticulture Corner

(continued)

When ambient temperatures get into the mid-sixties, it may be warm enough for pollinators to become active. Overwintering butterflies like the Cloudless Sulphur (*Phoebis sennae*) may also be found looking for nectar on warm days.

Maureen's Garden: The white sage, rosemary, and rhue are still green in the walled and shed herb gardens. I will cut pink muhly grass down when (IF!) it gets dry enough to get into the back of my yard. The heucheras are doing fine next to the sunroom. I will fertilize them, like the muhly grass, in the spring. The woodland garden is mostly underwater. Sigh.



This weekend I experienced my usual relief upon mulching this year's poinsettias. As usual, they drooped and dropped leaves despite attention to water, light, and temperature. It doesn't feel like the holidays without them, but they are like fussy house guests. No matter how carefully I tend to their needs, I always feel like I never quite

live up to their expectations.

Until next month...



TWGC is pleased to announce our newest fundraiser in support of our ongoing projects and scholarship fund!



Only \$7 per pair, assorted colors and sizes!

Buy now for best selection!

Contact: Mary Florence mflorence@suddenlink.net or

Ann Hall annghall77@gmail.com

Bird of the Month

January 2021

Tundra Swans by Michael Creedon



Even as you lay in your warm beds tonight, approximately 50 miles north in the Pungo Lake, 30,000+ Tundra Swans mill about, waiting for the sunrise. Most locals are unaware of the great wildlife spectacle that unfolds every morning throughout the winter. As the sun begins to break above the eastern woodlands, a magical experience begins to unfold. Wave after wave of many hundreds of swans begin their take offs into the breeze, flying out to the fields surrounding this lake. Watching these ivory birds “walk” across the water, then with powerful wing beats soar into the Carolina Blue skies is an amazing sight.

Lewis and Clark provided the first written description of the Tundra Swan during their expedition to the West, where the birds’ whistle-like calls prompted Meriwether Lewis to dub them “Whistling Swans.” The Tundra

Swan, as its name implies, nest and breed in the remote Arctic tundra of North America, flying south to winter. Pungo Lake is just about the furthest point south in their migration

Pungo Lake is in and an integral part of the Pocosin Lakes NWR. It is 110,000 acres of pristine wilderness, established in the early 60’s to provide wintering habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds. They lease out thousands of acres to local farmers who grow corn and other grains. At harvest, the farmers leave 50% of the crop standing, which refuge staff cut down to provide supplemental feed to the birds. Week by week, they cut down a few rows in one field, next week a different field.

Adult birds have entirely white plumage, black feet, and a black bill with a thin salmon pink streak running along the mouthline, and a yellow spot near the eye. Pens (females) are slightly smaller than the cobs (males). Males average 16 pounds, females 14. On wingspans greater than 5’, they depart the coastal plains of Canada in October, arriving at their winter quarters in November to December. When migrating, these majestic birds fly as high as 5 miles. They are “dippers” in the summer, feeding on aquatic vegetation. In winters, they feed on leftover grains and other crops, ie, potatoes, picked up in fields after harvest.



They have few predators, even standing up to Arctic foxes. Brown bears are another story, and do regularly cause nest failure. Golden Eagles occasionally are successful at capturing and killing an adult. Average life span is 10 years, the oldest recorded at 24 years old. They are monogamous until one partner dies. The surviving partner will wait years, sometimes its entire life before mating again. Nests built on the ground hold 3 - 5 eggs, taking 30 days to hatch, and 60 - 75 days to fledge. Whistling Swans are the most abundant swan of North America, estimated at over 170,000 individuals. The primary cause of adult mortality is hunting, with about 4,000 official kills, and another 10,000 lost to poaching.

If you are Pandemic bored, a visit to Pungo Lake will brighten your day. Maybe your whole week !

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Additional photos are on our website

www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com



Is Mistletoe the romantic plant we think of?

By Judi Lloyd

We all think of a romantic encounter when we think of mistletoe. However, mistletoe is actually a semi-parasitic evergreen shrub or plant.

While most plants will root in the ground, when a mistletoe seed lands on a suitable host plant (typically a tree), it sends out roots that penetrate the tree limbs and draw on the trees nutrients and water. As a green plant, mistletoe does contain chlorophyll and is able to make some of its own food, so it does not completely deplete its host tree. But a severe infestation of mistletoe can kill a tree by robbing the tree of its nutrients. There are at least 100 different trees that are susceptible to a mistletoe infestation, but typically the infestation will appear on hickory, pecan, oak, red maple and black gum trees.

Mistletoe is most easily seen in winter. Look for ball shaped green masses up to 3' wide connected to otherwise bare tree branches. Each mass in a tree is an individual mistletoe plant and a single tree may host only a few or many mistletoe plants. Birds are responsible for spreading mistletoe by seed. They relish its white berries, which ripen in early winter. When birds feed on these berries, the seed inside the berry passes through the bird's digestive track surrounded by a sticky film that helps the seed stick to tree branches.

Mistletoe spreads and grows considered an immediate threat to tolerate a few mistletoe plants are heavily infested with mistletoe, and can possibly be from drought, extreme temperature, or disease. If mistletoe is thing you can do for them is and a 2"-3" layer of mulch or trunk out to the edge of the



relatively slowly and is rarely considered a threat to tree health. Healthy trees are able to tolerate a few mistletoe plants with little harmful effect. Trees that are heavily infested with mistletoe may become less vigorous, and can be killed if subjected to additional stress factors such as drought, insect infestation, or root damage. If you are growing trees in your yard, the best way to manage mistletoe is to provide extra water during drought and to mulch the ground around trees from the trunk out to the edge of the canopy. This will reduce competition

from grass, conserve moisture, and protect trees from injury by mowing equipment.

If there are trees on your property where mistletoe growth cannot be tolerated, you can simply cut the mistletoe back flush with the branch. Although this will not kill the parasite, it will help slow its growth. Removal of infested branches should be done 1-2 feet below the point of attachment. But if this is going to result in a huge pruning wound, then in the long term you're creating additional problems for the tree.

In a tree where many branches would have to be removed to rid it of mistletoe, simply letting nature take its course is the better option as removing multiple branches is harmful and often fatal to trees. Pruning trees to remove mistletoe is best done in winter by a certified arborist.

Like many organisms that at first appear to only be pests, mistletoe also has some benefits. It is tremendously valuable to wildlife, particularly birds and insects. For most property owners, the presence of mistletoe should be considered a sign of a diverse ecosystem rather than a threat to tree health.

Judi Lloyd lives in River Bend and can be reached at judilloyd@yahoo.com