



# Trent Woods Garden Club

## February 2021

Greetings, All!

Hope you are all doing all right during these trying times. I was hoping that we would see you all next week at the country club, but NOT YET. We cancelled the meeting, but hope you can still think of us as the days pass. First of all, you can bring up the Herb Sale Order form on our web site and take some time to order your herbs. Before I ordered them, I spent time to look up some of the unusual herbs to see how they would fare for me! We certainly have time to study the possibilities! And what is really neat is that once you send in your order, you can just sit and wait for the committee to deliver them to your door!

Another matter we need to address is dues. Thirty dollars is due on March 15. You may wonder why we need to pay dues for a club in which we haven't met. Did you know that part of our local dues go directly to the state? Well, state wise, as you travel remember that the Elizabethan Gardens, Raulston Arboretum, the Martha Franck Garden and Daniel Boone Gardens are all sponsored by GCNC. The Blue Star Memorial Markers we see along our streets and highways are tributes to our servicemen and women. Highway Beautification is also a part of the work done by GCNC.

And what about our own club? We have brought joy and beauty to Meals on Wheels recipients (160 of them) plus Birthday Angels have presented bouquets to nursing homes and assisted living facilities not only to remember birthdays but also to all the residents. Although we miss visiting them, we know that the flowers show that we care. Bank of the Arts is still open and active and receive our monthly creations with gratitude. Our monthly newsletter and website contain a lot of interesting and educational information. We all enjoy the photos of your gardens and designs. Remember to share photos from "in the Garden" or from in your house. All in all, Trent Woods Garden Club continues to thrive, and we hope to be together soon. Please check on your friends and neighbors. A phone call or note can make a big difference. Take care. Please call or contact me with questions or concerns. 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  
February 2021

**Cancelled**

At New Bern Golf and Country  
Club

10:00 AM Social time

10:30 AM Meeting begins

**Cancelled**

Please contact Judy Boyd to make  
a reservation and indicate your  
choice at

[judysboyd@embarqmail.com](mailto: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
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### 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 Cancelled**

Birds by Olwen Jarvis

**March 11**

Propagation by Amy Rose White

**April 15**

Medicinal Use of Plants by Maureen Loomer

**May 13**

TBD



Seasonal Design February 2021

Creamy yellow Asian lilies spill out of a D'Stone cobalt blue vase

Arrangement by Deb Tallman

## Garden Therapy

TWGC volunteers gathered at Paula Hartman's garage to assemble 20 nosegays and two birthday arrangements for residents at the Good Shepard Home. Paula Hartman, Marcia Sproul, Frances Eder, Kathy Perretta and Deb Tallman had a great time.



in my garden... February 2021



Paula Hartman shared the first Camelia of 2021 from...in her garden (above)

Marcia Sproul's recent arrangement (below)



## 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!

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 schools re-open. 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

## *TWGC Annual Dues*

*The TWGC Annual Dues of \$30.00 are due no later than  
March 15, 2021*

*During these trying times please remember that your dues  
help pay for many of our civic programs and for our  
association with both GCNC and National Garden Club, Inc.*

*Please see Ann G Hall or Mary Florence*

# Bank of the Arts

January 2021

Theme: Valentine's Day

18 white long stem roses in a crystal vase containing red glass hearts. The vase was wrapped with white ribbon and silver heart at the top.

arrangement by  
MaryAnn Hudak



## **Trent Woods Garden Club 2021 Herb Sale**

**Order Form Available on website  
[www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com](http://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-February 2021

By Maureen Loomer

*He knows no winter, he who loves the soil, For, stormy days, when he is free from toil, He plans his summer crops, selects his seeds from bright-paged catalogues for garden needs.*

-- Sudie Stuart Hager, He Knows No Winter

I love cold weather, but I get a little sad looking at my garden where there is little to do except prune dead growth and clean up weeds. I love to plan what I want to plant each year but prefer to support local businesses and our Club herb sale. I am interested in many plants unavailable locally, but buying online means paying a lot for plants in #1 containers and high shipping costs. For instance, Pine-



cone had several cultivars of hellebore (Lenten rose) in quart containers at less than \$20 each. Breck's catalog has them on sale at three for \$35.00 (3" containers), not including shipping.

well, this noninvasive cultivar may be just the ticket for a small space you want to liven up. This easy-keeper evergreen tolerates considerable shade and its toxic leaves and berries are ignored by deer and rabbits. It tolerates some pretty wet soil. Check it out at <https://www.thespruce.com/growing-firepower-nandina-5094222#>

**Starving for Winter Color:** Evergreens provide food and shelter to our wildlife. As much as I love my North American native plants, they are a bit of a disappointment for winter interest in our USDA Hardiness Zone (8a per the most current map). That said, I really love huecheras and autumn ferns, which are my favorite shade-to-part-shade plants for containers. This time of year, I also appreciate the red color of the dwarf nandina "Firepower." If (like me) you have been wary of nandina because it grows TOO

**Kitchen Gardening:** The SARS pandemic has alerted many folks to the obesity pandemic and aroused interest in home-cooking more healthful meals. Many home gardeners who are spending even more time at home want to devote some space and energy to culinary gardening. If you are lucky enough to have a space conducive to kitchen gardening, you are to be envied! The Old Farmer's Almanac uses the lunar cycle and average frost dates to calculate the best time to start seeds indoors, transplant young plants outside, and direct seed into the ground (<https://www.almanac.com/gardening/planting-calendar/zipcode/28562>).



My insurmountable obstacles are poor drainage and beaucoup wildlife. My walled herb garden is essentially a raised bed, which helps with the drainage problem at the back of the yard but I still rely on containers close to the house to help discourage the deer. Keeping in mind that Liquid Fence is just another condiment to a hungry animal, most veg is simply not realistic in my yard. If you have a fenced yard and poor drainage, consider containers for your kitchen garden. The Farmer's almanac has some of my favorite articles for veg cultivation in containers (<https://www.almanac.com/topics/gardening/container-gardening>).

**Garden Centers:** Lowe's had pansies and some ornamental cabbages when I visited Feb 2. And ... petunias ?????? They also have rosemary and some lavenders and rhododendrons. The nicest things I saw were some very pretty bedding dianthus. These are great for almost anywhere they get full sun. I have some at the cutting garden border (east-southeast exposure), where they have bloomed continuously since September. It is wonderful to have some pink and white in the garden on a sunny winter day. Pinecone had much more stock, including ornamental cabbages and kales with bright colors. The cold temps have made this year's colors especially bright (cold weather increases carotenoid production).

**Signs of Spring?** Bulbs are shooting up all over the garden. I checked the "Lazarus pile" and found two containers of bulbs that are 6-8" high. I have had goldfinches earlier and in greater numbers than usual for my yard. My sister hopes this portends an early spring. Shall we believe them or the groundhog?



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](mailto:mflorence@suddenlink.net) or

Ann Hall [annghall77@gmail.com](mailto:annghall77@gmail.com)

## Bird of the Month

February 2021

### Baltimore Orioles by Michael Creedon



Choosing this month's bird was not difficult, as I have been observing a family of Baltimore Orioles in my backyard. These are striking birds, being the only orange bird you will see in your backyard at this time of year. One of the most brilliantly colored songbirds in the east, flaming orange and black. And no, they are not from Baltimore. They share the heraldic colors of the coat of arms of 17th-century Lord Baltimore, from where their name originates. Adult

males are flame-orange and black, with a solid-black head and one white bar on their black wings. Females and immature males are yellow-orange on the breast, grayish on the head and back, with two bold white wing bars. Look for their long, thick-based, pointed bills, a hallmark of the blackbird family they belong to.

Baltimore Orioles eat insects, fruit, and nectar. The proportion of each food varies by season: in summer, while breeding and feeding their young, much of the diet consists of insects, which are rich in the proteins needed for growth. In spring and fall, nectar and ripe fruits compose



more of the diet; these sugary foods are readily converted into fat, which supplies energy for migration.



While they are quite common in much of the USA, around here they are only seen during migration. However, a few do choose to winter in these parts, as New Bern is at the northern edge of their winter migration territory. We know of several that have wintered in friends yards, but this family is our first. We have seen them many years as they pass through, for a day or two at most. So look for that brilliant orange, and if you spy it, get your jelly feeder out. You may be rewarded!

Additional photos are on our website [www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com](http://www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com)

# Winter is not a time to forget about your garden

*By Judi Lloyd*

Here are some tasks that should be taken care of over the winter.

Trees and shrubs: Keep leaves raked off lawn and around shrubs as they can create a hiding place for pests.

Lawns and ornamental plantings: Over-seeding with annual rye grass may make for a green lawn over the winter, but it is harmful to lawns, especially centipede. Clean and winterize your mower for the season. Drain gasoline or add a fuel stabilizer.



Flowers: Plant between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Don't forget the Master Gardener bulb sale at the Farmers Market! A 2-3" blanket of mulch will protect overwintering perennials and help minimize weeds.

Label plants with durable markers and consider mapping flower beds as backup.

Vegetables: Hungry for fresh greens? Start a micro-greens garden on your window sill. Sow micro-green seed mixes in shallow trays of potting soil and harvest when seedlings are 3-4" tall. You can start a new crop each week to continue getting your "salad" all winter. The average crop-time for most micro-greens is 7-10 days from seeding to harvest. Kale, cabbage and collards are the hardiest crops. You can continue to harvest them throughout the winter. Carrots can be left in the ground and harvested as needed. I'm even trying some out on my back deck in pots this year. If temperatures are expected to dip in the mid-20s, cover lettuce, broccoli, spinach and beets to prevent cold in-

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spring flowering bulbs before and Christmas. And, after Gardener bulb sale at A 2-3" blanket of mulch  
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Fruits: Remove any unharvested fruit from trees. Citrus trees, including lemon, grapefruit and mandarins are not hardy outdoors in zone 8, but can be grown in large containers that are brought indoors for the winter.

Houseplants: Cut back on watering for the winter. Allow tap water to come to room temperature before using to water house plants. Because municipal water is treated with chemicals like chlorine or fluoride; it's a good idea to let the water sit in an open container for 24 hours prior to watering. Place poinsettias in a brightly lit area where temperatures stay above 55°. Remove them from the foil wrappers before watering. If you force amaryllis bulbs to bloom for the holidays, cut back the stems after flowers fade. Place plants in a brightly lit area and water as needed. These bulbs are hardy and can be set outside in April.

### **“CLIP” NOTES:**

- This is good time to take soil samples to send to NC State (there is a \$4.00 fee for processing from November until the end of March) to see what you need to do to improve next year's lawn and garden soil. Note: this should be done every 2 to 4 years.
- Check bird feeders and refill as needed.
- Drain and store hoses and sprinklers.
- After your mums have finished blooming, cut stems back close to the ground and dispose of leaves and stems.
- Winter damage to plants results from drying, freezing and breakage. Keep plants watered during dry spells.
- Store clay and cement planters in a cool, dry location to prevent damage from freezing.
- If you have a pond, prepare it for winter by removing and cleaning filters and pumps.