



Trent Woods Garden Club

October 2021

Dear TWGC Members,

What a great time we had at our opening meeting of 2021-2022! Ann Simpson, Thank You for providing all who participated with a great hands-on floral arranging experience. I know everyone appreciated your helpful tips and personal encouragement. No two arrangements were the same and we all had a great time!

As October begins, I want to encourage each and every one of you to support our efforts in hosting the GCNC District 11 Fall Annual meeting on October 28, 2021. This is an important endeavor for our club and your help and participation is needed. I would appreciate a good turn out from our membership and your help before and during the event would be greatly appreciated. We will be having a fun fund raiser at the meeting, the White Elephant Silent Auction and your donations to this will be greatly appreciated. We also need helpers to assemble favors, set up the day of, greeters, and clean up. Please contact Francis Eder, Paula Hartman or Deb Tallman to offer your help!

We were planning go to Bayview Nursing Home in September, but Covid restrictions precluded us visiting in person. We still had a lovely time creating 25 nosegays that we delivered to Bayview and the staff distributed the nosegays to the residents. Will this Covid plague ever end?

I have been enjoying the cooler drier weather we have been having and have been enjoying the last flowers in my garden. The cooler weather has inspired me to plant mums and I am on the lookout for snapdragons for the winter and spring. Happy Fall Planting!!

Gail xoxo

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

And

Garden Clubs of North Carolina, Inc.

TWGC Executive Board 2021-2022

Gail McLamb,

President

1st Vice President, Rhona Beadle

2nd Vice President, Raye Lynn Longhini

Recording Secretary, Deb Tallman

Treasurer, Mary Florence

Corresponding Secretary, Ann G. Hall

Historian, Marcia Sproul

TWGC General Meeting

October 14, 2021

At New Bern Golf and Country Club

10:00 AM Social time

10:30 AM Meeting begins

A reminder that if you are not vaccinated

Please wear a mask

“Backyard Birds”

Identify and Attract the Birds we see outside our Windows
Olwen will share her vast knowledge of the Birds of Eastern North
Carolina

Presented by

Olwen Jarvis

Local Bird Expert

Menu Selections

Cobb Salad – Crisp iceberg lettuce, hard boiled eggs, diced tomatoes, grilled chicken, scallions, avocado, Swiss & cheddar cheese, topped with apple-wood smoked bacon, with choice of dressing

OR

Ham and Swiss Quiche – Served with chilled asparagus & sliced marinated Roma tomatoes and sliced fruit

Please contact Judy Boyd to make a reservation by

Tuesday Oct 12th and indicate your choice at

judysboyd@embarqmail.com

Cost \$18. due before start of meeting.

Garden Therapy

TWGC's volunteers created 25 nosegays to be distributed to Bayview residents. Due to Covid re-emergence the group was unable to spend time with the residents at this time.



Garden Therapy Schedule 2021-2022

Contact Chairs: Kathy Perretta – krperretta@aol.com 252-633-3665 or
Arline North– arlinednorth@gmail.com 774-212-7991 to volunteer

Oct. 18, 2021 10am

Meals on Wheels

Trinity United Methodist Church, 2311 Elizabeth Avenue

Nov. 15, 2021 10am

Croatan Village, 4522 Old Cherry Point Road

December 13, 2021 10am

Brookdale, 1336 S. Glenburnie Road

Monday, January 17, 2022 10am

Good Shepherd, 603 West Street

February 14, 2022 10am

Homeplace, 1309 McCarthy Blvd.

March 14, 2022 10am

Monarch, 1320 Health Drive

April 18, 2022 10am

River Point Crest , 2600 Old Cherry Point Road

Seasonal Design

September 2021

This lovely arrangement was created by Ann Simpson, in addition to leading TWGC in a hands on floral design class.



Please Welcome TWGC's Newest Member!

Jeanne Garner



Tips for fall garden cleanup

By Judi Lloyd

Garden cleanup has its virtues but can do more harm than good if taken to excess. For instance, many gardeners like to clear dead leaves out from beneath shrubbery, where the leaves often come to rest after fall winds give them a few swirls around the yard. In fact, trees and shrubs would love to have their roots cozied in beneath a thick blanket of leaves. Such a blanket keeps roots warmer in winter, cooler in summer, and moister year-round. All of which spurs roots to grow more, and more root growth means more robust plants.

Many gardeners similarly wield leaf blowers and rakes to remove leaves that have drifted onto the lawn. But these leaves do no harm there, unless they blanket the ground so thickly that they exclude light.

A final pass with the mower might be all that is needed to grind leaves fine enough to filter down through the grassy blades to the soil. A mulching mower, or a conventional mower fit with a mulching blade, does this job well. The benefits of working the leaves into the lawn are similar to those of raking leaves beneath shrubbery. Next summer, your lawn will look nicer and be better able to survive periodic droughts.

Let's next take a look at all those dead and misplaced tree and shrub branches, many no longer hidden behind green leaves. Wouldn't it be nice to prune these plants to look healthy, prim and pretty now? Anytime you notice them is a good time to prune dead branches and, in most cases, diseased ones too.

Generally, though, don't prune for beauty at this time of year. Fall pruning might stimulate a little cell activity at a time when plants should be shutting down in preparation for the cold. And wounds left by fall pruning stay exposed all winter. So, plants are more likely to be injured by cold weather, and pruning wounds are more likely to get infected if plants are pruned now than if pruned in late winter or early spring. Don't bother with wound dressings to avert infections; they're generally useless.

If you can't resist the urge to grab your pruning shears and beautify some trees and shrubs, work with plants that are very cold-hardy and subject to few diseases — ornamentals such as spirea and ninebark.

The place to put most of your tidying energy is into your vegetable and flower beds. Old, infected plant parts left lying around can help spread diseases like tomato leafspots, powdery mildew of zinnia, phlox, and other plants, and peony botrytis.

For specific concerns such as these, it pays to thoroughly clean up this time of year. In this case, ripping dead, old plants, stems or leaves out of the garden and then carting them away to the compost pile also carries away some potential pest problems. Another reason to clean up vegetables and flowers now is to give you an earlier start next spring when the urge strikes you to plant. But some restraint is needed even where vegetables and flowers grew. A few plants left here and there will capture snow and hold it on the ground. Snow insulates the soil and even adds a bit of nitrogen for next year's plants.

A few stalks left here and there also liven up the drab winter landscape. Birds will flit about old sunflower heads looking for a few remaining seeds. And while seed heads of coneflower and teasel hardly get a second glance in summer, they begin to look mighty interesting come February!

October Bird of the Month
By Michael Creedon

The Log Cock



This month we will visit the ABA Bird of the Year, the Pileated Woodpecker. The history of this magnificent bird pre-dates European arrival. Native peoples since they began sitting around a campfire have venerated this creature. It's superior size, blood-red feathers, and menacing bill have made it associated with wars. However, it

has also been heavily associated with peace, its head and or bill decorating ceremonial peace pipes.



It has been hunted for food by both Native Americans and early settlers. The settlers also used its parts, the red crest used as a bookmark, the bill perfectly sized as a stopper on a powder horn.

The history of this largest of woodpeckers in North America could go on for many chapters, suffice it to note it is a storied bird.

So how do YOU pronounce Pileated?? PIE-lee-ay-tid or PILL-ee-ay-tid? Actually, there is no recognized correct pronunciation, either is correct, with various regional accents adding a few more.



Bird of the Month (cont.)

The term pileated refers to having a crest covering the pileum (top of the head). First Nations peoples called it the May-May. The early settlers called it a Log Cock, or Log Guard, as recently as the late 1930's, Pileated being a book word.

This woodpecker uses its powerful beak to tear into decayed wood in search of beetle grubs and carpenter ants. It then uses its

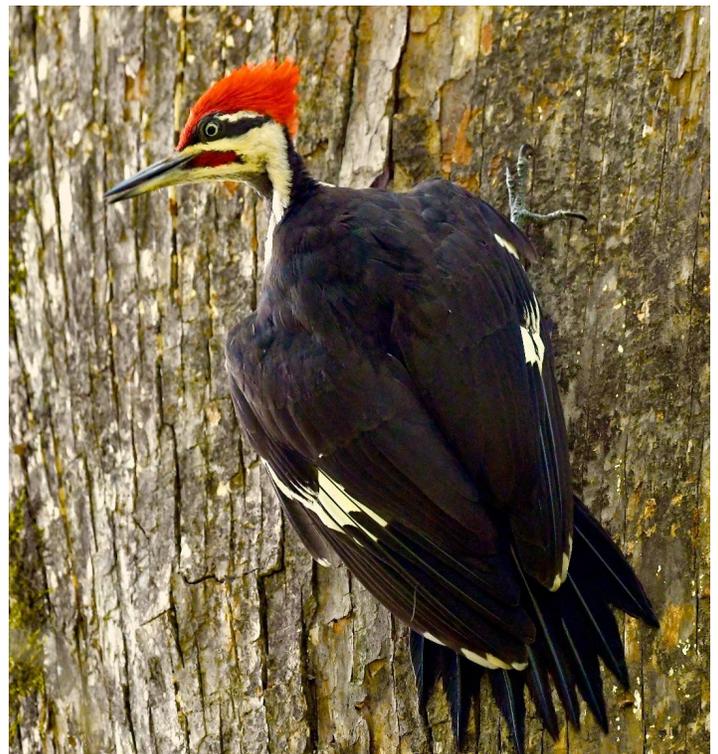
sticky tongue to catch and eat them. Most anyone here with large trees in their yard has seen, or had the opportunity to see this bird. It is quite common here in Eastern N.C. and is non-migratory. It is not un-

common to see one at a feeder in winter, particularly suet feeders. When foraging, the holes it digs are rectangular. When excavating a nest, the holes are circular. Both sexes participate in this nesting activity, usually in a dead tree from 15 to 80 feet above ground. These nests are never re-used by the builders, but provide crucial shelter for many species, including owls, swifts, ducks, bats, pine martins and others.

Usually, 3 to 5 eggs are laid, both parents incubating. 18 days to hatch,

both parents feeding, fledging in 28 days. They will usually stay with their parents for 2 to 3 months.

Both sexes are very similar, the female lacking the distinctive red cheek stripe. The oldest known specimen was just under 13 years old. When you hear that distinctive drumming coming from your backyard, go take a peek to admire this beautiful bird, and, the ABA Bird of the Year.



Horticulture

by Maureen Loomer

October Horticulture Specimen

Common Name: Society garlic, like my September selection, is not a NC native plant but one that you may like for your perennial garden.

Genus/Species: *Tulbaghia violacea*

Character: Delicate, sweetly fragrant flowers on deep green stems that smell of garlic when crushed. Various sources suggest it can bloom as early as late spring and may continue till frost.

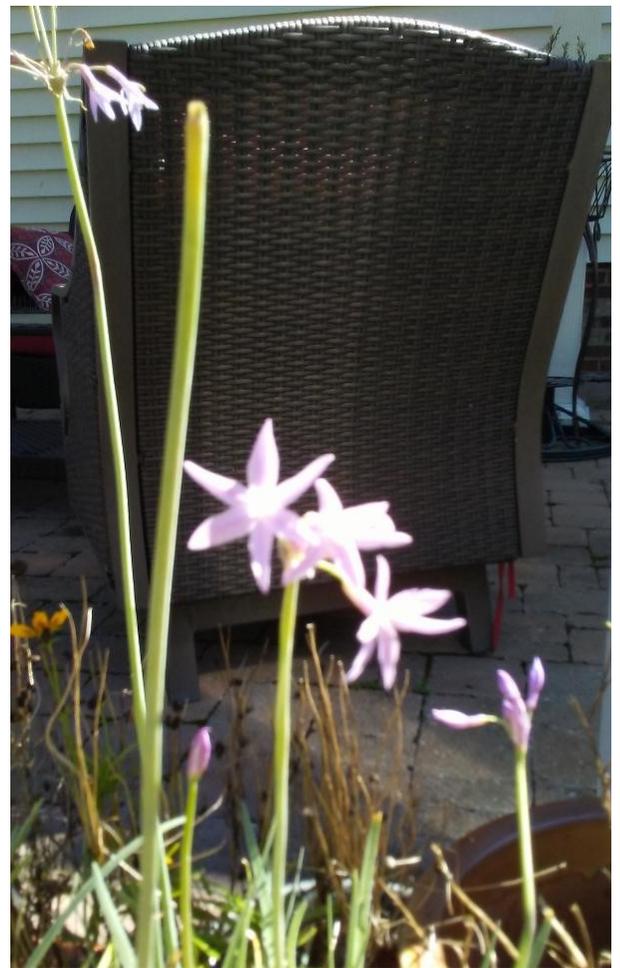
Origin: South African grasslands

Size: Forms clustering mounds like ornamental onions, up to 20 inches tall.

Lifespan: Perennial, like ornamentals can be grown from seed, but it is easier to divide existing clusters.

Photographed in her garden by: Maureen Loomer

Requirements: Full sun and well-drained soils.



Volunteers Needed!

District 11 Annual Fall Meeting

TWGC needs YOU to support the

District 11 Annual fall Meeting that we are hosting!

Date: October 28th at NB Golf and Country Club

We need help:

Assembling the favors

Donating to white elephant auction

Centerpieces,

Setting Up

Greeting

Clearing Up

September 2021 Monthly Program

Ann Simpson led TWGC members in a hands-on floral arranging class! Everyone had a great time flexing their creative muscles while Ann provided help tips and individual consultations. (There are many more photos on our website!

www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com)



September 2021 Monthly Program (continues)



Horticulture Corner-October 2021

By Maureen Loomer

“There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October.”—

Nathaniel Hawthorne



Monarchs on the Move:

I have not seen monarchs for the last 2-3 weeks even though I still have some *Asclepias tuberosa* growing in my milkweed garden. I would be interested in knowing how many of our membership have seen monarchs this year, especially if you grow milkweed for the larvae. Typically, we are on the extreme eastern side of their journey south, but these can be disrupted by storm activity.

A recent visit to the Pollinator Garden at Rassie-Wicker Park in Pinehurst revealed milkweed beetle activity on the common milkweed's seed pods. I rescued several pods and have collected the seeds which I will give to Wendy at Pinecone Garden Center for culturing. Wouldn't it be nice to have this milkweed variety (known for its pink blooms and rose-vanilla scent) next summer?

Garden chores:

Autumn is the time for dividing irises and putting in perennials. Hardy perennials can be put in the ground through the next several weeks. Folks new to our area should know that the Eastern NC growing season typically lasts well into November as we seldom get frost before the middle of the month. Last year our growing season officially ended November 18.

I am in the process of re-planting my (so-called) cutting garden. The Siberian irises have resisted division and taken over the plot, so I am taking most of them out. I will transplant some to the sunny parts of the woodland garden. I will replace them in the cutting garden with my surviving guara, Sweet William, and lance leaf coreopsis. A new addition to this cutting garden (which I never cut) is Society garlic. I have frequently mentioned my love for ornamental onions because they are hardy, produce graceful blooms, and are some of the few plants the deer NEVER bother. I have had good luck with all the alliums although my favorites are pink nodding onions. Society garlic is not an allium (belonging to the family amaryllidaceae) but has enough onion-garlic scent to discourage the deer. It also has a longer bloom time than my alliums.

Requests from your Horticulture Chairman:

My goal for this year is to increase member participation in the horticulture end of TWGC. Last month I floated my idea of recruiting members to volunteer for a face-to-face interview about their gardening experiences, which will be incorporated in this column in a “meet the gardener” segment. If you would be willing to be interviewed but want to be anonymous, I will be glad to omit your name from the segment. Also, I would appreciate having volunteers willing to EITHER donate a specimen for the monthly meeting OR suggest a plant for me to research that I can present at the monthly meeting for you OR present/request a horticulture question/problem. I will mention this at the meeting, and if you would like to volunteer or know more, please email me at bee27534@aol.com.

Horticulture Corner October 2021

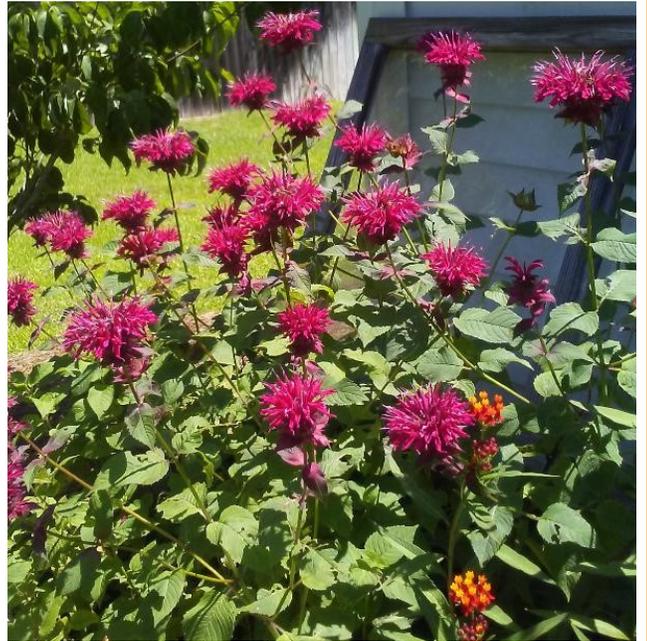
By Maureen Loomer (continued)

Running and walking through Trent Woods

Unlike the rarified environment enjoyed by plants bred for the indoors, outdoor plants must continuously contend with sometimes brutal environmental change. The foliage on outdoor trees and shrubs responds to the wide fluctuations in temperature/moisture as well as the normal solstice changes typical of our region.

These stressors cause leaf-drop in some species and color change as carotenoid production replaces chlorophylls. Don't confuse internet advice for indoor plants with what is normal to expect for outdoor plants. Most of the plants you see around Trent Woods are natives or introduced species that survive because their innate defenses enable them to cope with *mild* predation by bacteria, invertebrate animals, and fungi.

The rare occasions when I have had a problem with fungi, I have simply pruned the affected plant severely.



Powdery mildew has been mild this year in my saucer magnolias, and severe in my monarda. They are in the rear of my shed garden where it has stayed quite damp. Monarda at my mother's house, in a southwest-facing cold frame, has done beautifully.

I encourage everybody to use the sidewalks and the walking track at Cottle Park to promote fitness. The fall of leaves and pine straw can make the sidewalks slippery, so it is even more important to use proper footwear. Please be alert to children on bikes and scooters, especially just before and after school. Since I run as soon as the sun comes up, I have changed my 3.5 mile route to avoid children heading to Bangert Elementary on Chelsea Road and Country Club Road. Please avoid using telephones and other devices that distract you from your surroundings (especially someone coming from behind). Please encourage friends and family to SHARE the sidewalks safely.

Orange Olive Oil Cake

By Melissa D'Arabin

Serves 8

Butter, for greasing the pan

1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for the pan

3/4 cup sugar

2 eggs

1/3 cup olive oil

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Juice and zest of 1 orange (about 3 tablespoons juice, 1 tablespoon zest)

1 teaspoon baking powder

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt

Confectioners' sugar for dusting

Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease and flour a 9-inch round cake pan. Mix together the sugar and eggs in a medium bowl with a hand mixer on medium speed until blended and light. Drizzle in the olive oil and vanilla and mix until light and smooth. Add the orange juice and zest and mix well. Sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt in another medium bowl. Add the flour mixture half at a time to the wet ingredients and mix on low just to incorporate. Pour into the prepared cake pan and bake, 25 to 30 minutes. Let the cake cool 15 minutes, dust with confectioners' sugar and serve

...in my Garden



Brazilian Starfish Pepper

Thank you Jack and Debbie Durham for sharing this terrific pepper plant! Great shape, size and the peppers are delicious.



Trent Woods Garden Club Awards

Garden Club Of North Carolina Awards 2020-2021

First Place

National Garden Week

Asheville Garden Club Garden Therapy

Alta Kornegay Garden Therapy

Pat Olejar Holiday Decoration

Sylvia Gatzy Award

Ruth Yarbrough Publicity Press Book

Website Award

Publications Award

Mary Jane Knight Youth Program

Second Place

Club of the Year

Peggy Polak for Youth Education