



# Trent Woods Garden Club

## June/July 2022

#416907329

Greetings to all TWGC members,

Our May meeting will be remembered for quite some time. I was so happy to see you to all there. What a busy day with the Art in Bloom and Hat competitions and meeting our scholarship winners!

Congratulations to Paula Hartman for her well deserved Service Recognition Award. Thank you Paula for all your hard work for TWGC!

We will not be meeting again until September, but be aware your TWGC Board and Chairs will be busy getting everything ready for next year!

This will be the last newsletter until we reconvene in September., but take a look at our website [www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com](http://www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com) for new backyard photos ...in my garden and any important developments.

Have a great Summer!

xoxo

Gail

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 2022 Service Recognition Award

Paula Hartman



Scholarship Awards



# TWGC Created Floral Arrangements for Craven Hospice



## Horticulture Corner- June 2022

By Maureen Loomer

*“Ah, summer, what power you have to make us suffer and like it.”*

*--Russell Baker (1925-2019), Pulitzer Prize-winning author and journalist*

Paula Hartman is trying to save a swooning *clivia* (a beautiful succulent I have not seen since I left California), and this inspired me to do a “catch up” on how member gardens are faring as we enter our summer season.

**Fungus Among Us!** Dawn Staats asked me for advice about what she feared was a collection of insect nests near her backyard seating. Her photos showed gray-beige globes that looked suspiciously like white-faced hornet nests and May is when they start new colonies in tree branches. <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/controlling-bald-faced-hornets-and-yellow-jackets-in-and-around-structures> . These turned out to be a fungus although what kind is unclear. White fungus (also called oak bracket fungus) is common with injured trees. I look forward to hearing from Dawn on how this turned out. With our humid climate, mildew is the most common fungal problem. Good ventilation is the best prevention.

**Iris(t) My Case.** Several members asked about my beardless irises. I brought some of my bulbous irises (probably a dutch hybrid) to the May meeting. I brought some of my rhizomatous irises (probably Northern Blue Flags) last year. Both had a great season, but my bearded irises did poorly; probably because the crepe myrtles deprive them of the sun they need. I hope you enjoy my piece on iris classification. What a fascinating genus of plants!

**I never promised you a rose garden.** But no worries! We are fortunate to have a number of rose enthusiasts in the membership. According to the Texas Cooperative Extension “Roses grown on their own root system are hardier and require less care than grafted roses. Old Garden Roses (antique roses), Earth Kind™ Roses, Dr. Griffith Buck Roses, and David Austin® Roses are rapidly increasing in popularity because of their long life span and natural disease resistance. Many are very fragrant, provide an abundance of blooms and come in a large variety of sizes, shapes and colors. These qualities make them adaptable to a variety of landscape situations.”

Deb Tallman sent a photo of her “basic shrub roses” which look anything but basic. Deb first worked composted manure into a lagoon in the middle of her rear garden with 8+ hours of summer sunlight. She later continued to condition what had been typical “tobacco farm” soil, by allowing successive years of mulch to break down. Adding seaweed-based fertilizer to her new plantings has been highly successful as you can see in the photo showing the roses accompanied by Midnight Marvel hibiscus and artemesia. Her maintenance routine includes Bayer Rose Food and Osmocote. Well done, Deb!

Since Hurricane Florence altered the salinity at Fairfield, Raye Lynn Fletcher keeps most of her shrub varieties and hybrid teas in containers. She swears by fish emulsion fertilizer, and things were off to a great start UNTIL a hail storm and a squirrel invasion. This was as much a surprise to me as it was to Raye Lynn, but almost every resource I consulted confirmed that squirrels do, indeed, love to eat rose blossoms (especially the new buds) and leaves. I found a few recipes for pepper spray to deter predation, and since hot pepper keeps MOST squirrels away from my birdseed, I bet it will work on roses. Raye Lynn has just added Graham Thomas to her garden. This deep yellow, honey scented David Austin rose can be trained as a climber. I know GT will thrive under Raye Lynn’s care!

Margaret Raynor also grows shrub roses. She maintains three Griffith Buck selections (Queen Bee, Rural Rhythm, Paloma Blanca), three from David Austin (French Lace, Teasing Georgia, and Abraham Darby) and two Old Garden Roses (Mrs. B.R. Cant and Sir Thomas Lipton). Black spot and mildew are a challenge in our area, but has not been a big problem for Margaret this year.

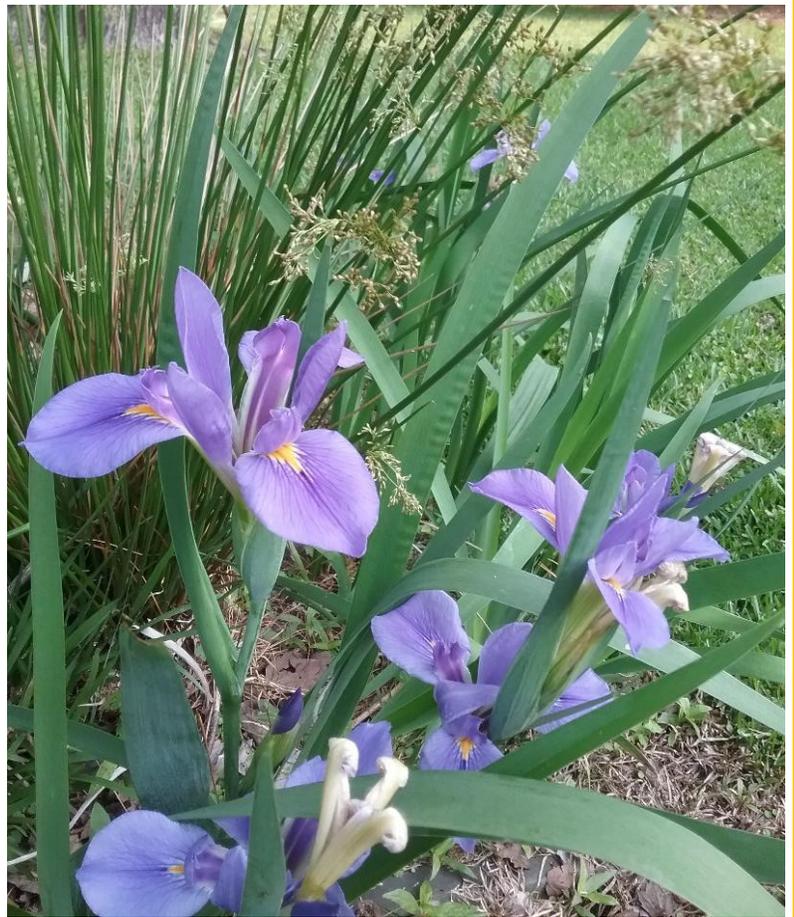
Here is a good general article for roses in our area <https://lee.ces.ncsu.edu/2016/03/do-you-love-roses/>

**Running/walking in Trent Woods.** Look for natives coreopsis, helianthus, rudbeckia and spiderwort which will bloom until frost. Watch out for Carolina Horsenettle. Pretty flowers, but like smilax, nasty thorns!

Until next time...



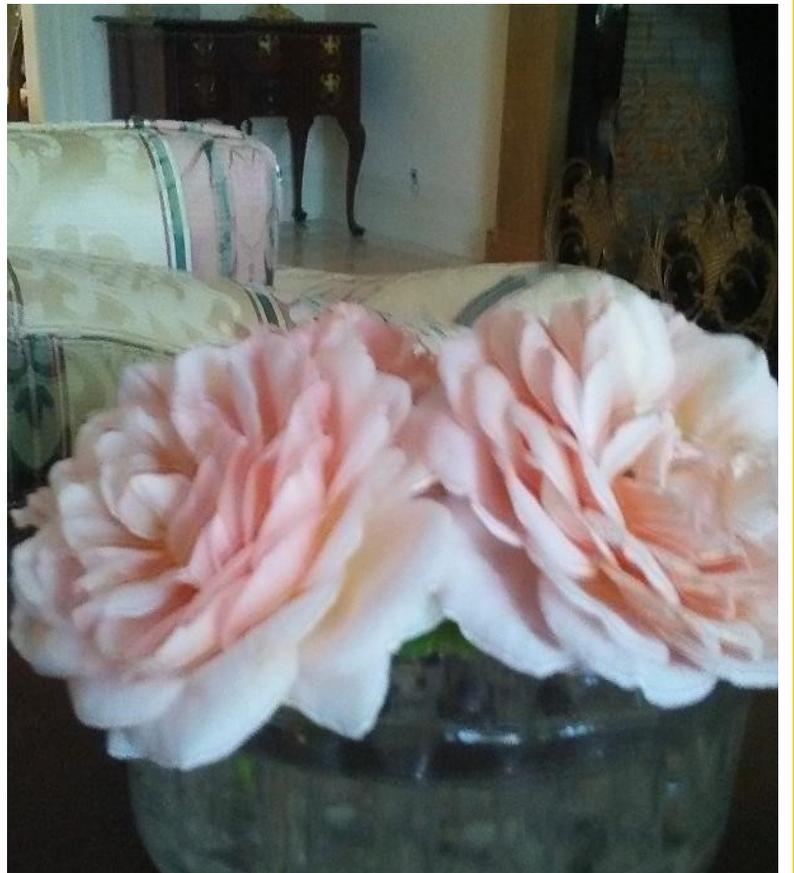
Bulbous Iris



Rhizomatous Iris



Spiderwort



Margaret Raynor's Abraham Darby Roses

Bank of the Arts June 2022

Theme: Juneteenth arrangement by Paula Hartman



**IN HONOR OF JUNETEENTH**

DESIGN BY

PAULA HARTMAN

TRENT WOODS GARDEN CLUB

FUJI MUMS, GERBERA DAISIES, BUTTON MUMS AND DAISY MUMS PLACED ON  
RED, WHITE AND BLUE MATS WITH BLACK UNDERLAY

“JUNETEENTH” for display on June 10, 2022

ON JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup> THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION FREEING ALL ENSLAVED PEOPLE WAS  
SIGNED IN TEXAS.

In this design, the RED signifies the blood that has been spilled, the GREEN reminds us of the lushness of  
their homeland, and the BLACK is the color of the enslaved.

Another flag of RED, WHITE and BLUE was added to commemorate the day that all people became American  
with a commitment to do better and live up to the American ideal of liberty and justice for all.

May 2022 Monthly Program  
Art in Bloom and Hat Competitions











Bird of the Month June 2022

By Michael Creedon

## European Starling



Many of you will wonder, if this common bird is a European Starling, where is the American or common starling. It is an interesting story. The Starling family of birds are strictly Old World, that is, on the other side of the Atlantic. There are no native starlings in the New World. On the other side, there are at least 114 different species of starlings.

A wealthy German immigrant industrialist, Eugene Schieffelin, according to legend, wished to introduce to the New World all of the birds mentioned in Shakespeare's writings. So in 1890 on a cold winter day, he released 60 starlings from England, where they are

known as the Common Starling, into Central Park, hoping they would breed. He did the same with 40 more in 1891. Unfortunately, they did. He had done the same with the House Sparrow thirty years earlier. He was unsuccessful with bullfinches, chaffinches, nightingales and skylarks. Today there are in excess of 200 million European Starlings calling the USA home. They are considered an invasive species.

Thickset and pugnacious, Starlings are the bruisers of the avian world. They are such a nuisance that they are one of the few bird species unprotected by law. They are lean and mean, and in bird circles are called feathered bullets. They are a particular problem at airports. Their bodies are very dense, and they congregate in huge flocks. In 1960 they caused the downing of an airplane at Boston's Logan airport. Six seconds after takeoff, a flock of 20,000 birds flew into the path of the flight resulting in the crash into the harbor and the loss of 62 lives.



They are the cause of an estimated 1 billion dollars per year to US agriculture in damage to crops, particularly fruit trees. They even cause milk production to fall by eating the grain being fed to cows, picking out the finest quality kernels, leaving the rest to the cows.

What is particularly irksome is Shakespeare only mentions the starling once, in all of his writings.

Starlings nest in holes, one of the safest environments to lay eggs as they are generally inaccessible to predators. But there aren't that many holes out there so competition is intense. Their muscle and attitude result in them out-competing others, such as the Red-headed woodpecker, Purple Martins and Blue Birds. In 2014, the latest record, the USDA killed over 1 million starlings, with zero effect on their numbers.

Perhaps you have heard of Murmurations. This mesmerizing phenomenon which occurs almost exclusively with Starlings, is when a flock of many thousands take flight and





for no reason change directions over and over. They are one of the most dazzling displays in the natural world. This is a link to one video of one, hope it works. If not, do yourself a favor and google the word, there are hundreds to chose from.

<https://youtu.be/M1Q-EbX6dso>

Starlings are great mimics, learning the calls of over 20 other species. They turn from white and spotted to all dark and glossy without shedding their feathers. They are strong flyers, clocked at up to 48 mph. The oldest recorded bird was over 15 years old.

Now when you see one, or more likely 25 on your feeder, you know who to thank



