

Trent Woods Garden Club

December 2022

Happy Holiday's TWGC members!

Welcome to the whirlwind of the holidays with family and friends. This month, at our meeting on December 8th, our very own Betty Garren and her sweet daughter Kim Lewis will show us how to make Holiday decorations out of driftwood. TWGC has some very talented members!

If you are looking for something to do on Sunday December 4th, a group of us will be driving in the Trent Woods Christmas parade. So please come and wave at us!

Before Covid, TWGC used to decorate the meeting areas and make fresh swags and wreaths for outdoors. Please contact me if you would like to help decorate the gates and front door at Bishop Home.

I am pleased as punch to share with you all the nicest letter of appreciation we received from Mayor Tyson on behalf of the Town of Trent Woods. I know we do what we do-but it is nice to know that our efforts are recognized.

I am still planting bulbs for a wonderful spring showing and can't wait to see them bloom. In the meantime, Happy Holidays everyone!

Xoxo

Gail

P.S. Who is this? See me!



Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

And

Garden Clubs of North Carolina, Inc.

TWGC Executive Board 2022-2023

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

December 8, 2022

At New Bern Golf and Country Club

10:00 AM Social time 10:30 AM Meeting begins

Program

“Holiday Memory Arrangements”

Betty and her daughter Kim will demonstrate how to make Holiday Arrangements using Driftwood.

Presented by

Betty Garren, TWGC Member and Kim Lewis

Menu Selections

1. Grilled Chicken and Baby Spinach Salad - Fennel Cumin Dusted Grilled Chicken Breast over Baby Spinach, Julienne Tomato, Blackberries, Raspberries and Spicy Pecans and Mango Vinaigrette

OR

2. Grilled Salmon topped with lemon Buerre Blanc and served with starch and vegetable

Please contact Judy Boyd to make a reservation by Tuesday December 6th and indicate your choice at

judyboyd@embarqmail.com

Lunch cost \$25. due before start of meeting.

Meeting only \$10.



Town of Trent Woods

898 Chelsea Road
Trent Woods, NC 28562-7146
(252) 637-9810
townhall@trentwoodsnc.org

MAYOR:
Charles F. Tyson, Jr.

COMMISSIONERS:
Billy R. Joiner
M. Shane Turney
Daniel E. Murphy

November 14, 2022

Gail McLamb, Trent Woods Garden Club
3200 Peppercorn Road
New Bern, NC 28562

Dear Mrs. McLamb and Members of the Trent Woods Garden Club,

On behalf of the Town of Trent Woods I would like to thank you and the Trent Woods Garden Club for your active community service to our community. The Blue Star By-Way Marker makes a wonderful statement for our Town and the seasonal flowers that are planted around the marker makes for a special touch. We would also like to thank you for the plants and seasonal arrangements you provide for us at Meadows and Cottle Park and the flower arrangements that are provided for Town Hall. We are all amazed at the beauty and creativity of the arrangements. The effort devoted to these projects as well as the educational opportunities you have provided with the 2nd graders at Oaks Groove Elementary School and scholarship program certainly are also appreciated. We look forward to supporting you again, appreciate all that you do.

Sincerely,

Charles F. Tyson, Jr, Mayor

Garden Therapy

TWGC visited Croatan in November, They helped residents arranging small bouquets , sang songs and enjoyed juice and cookies.



Garden Therapy Schedule 2022-2023

Contact Chair: Jeanne Garner (301) 332-2591 jag1law@aol.com

Or Kathy Perretta – krperretta@aol.com 252-633-3665 to volunteer

Monday, December 12, 2022 10am

Hostess Laura Knox 252-633-7961 Brookdale, 1336 S. Glenburnie Road

Floral arrangements

Monday, January 16, 2023 10am

Hostess Paula Hartman - 252-670-3233 Good Shepherd, 603 West Street

Pine cone feeders

Monday, February 13, 2023 10am

Hostess Marcia Sproul - 252-672-0472 Homeplace, 1309 McCarthy Blvd.

Floral arrangements

Monday, March 13, 2023 10am

Hostess Rhona Beadle 826-266-7888 Monarch, 1320 Health Drive

Pine cone feeders

Monday, April 17, 2023 10am

Host Jack Durham - 919-758-5100 River Point Crest , 2600 Old Cherry Point Road

Plant Vegetable Garden

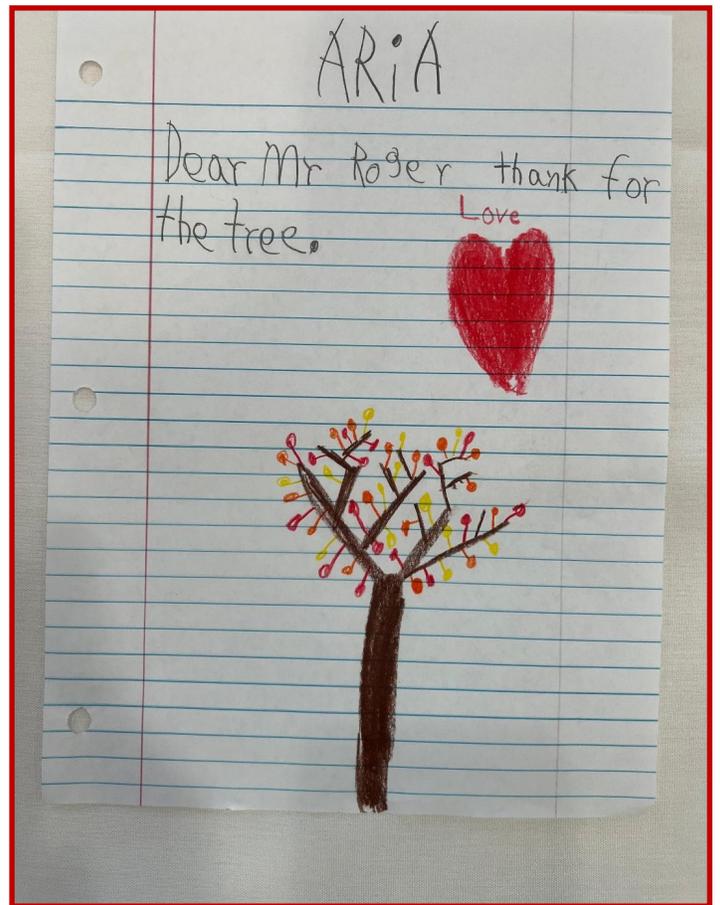
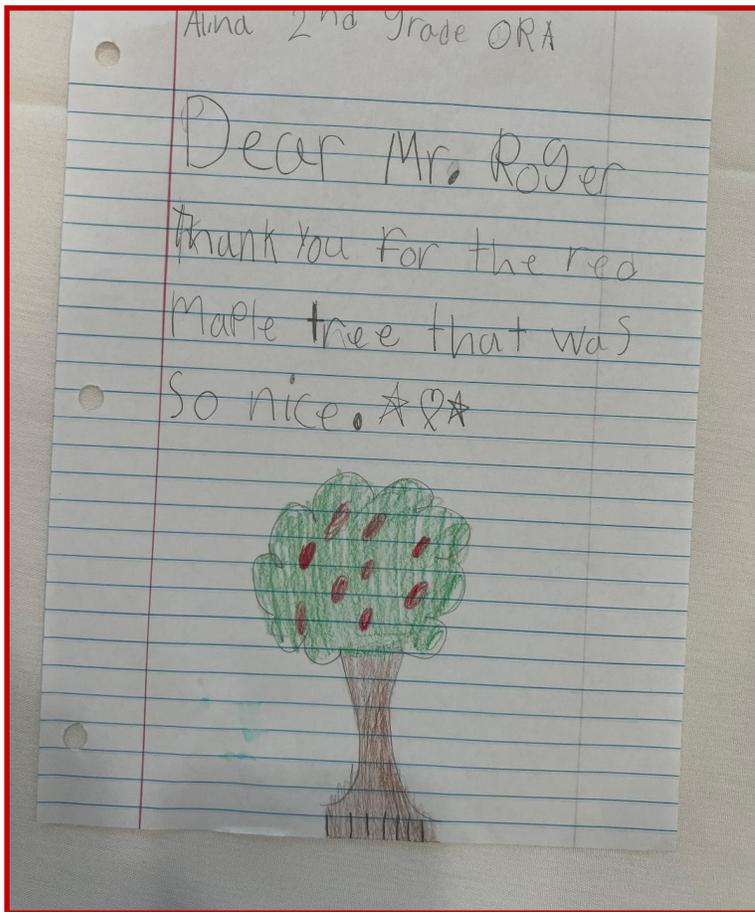


Youth Gardeners

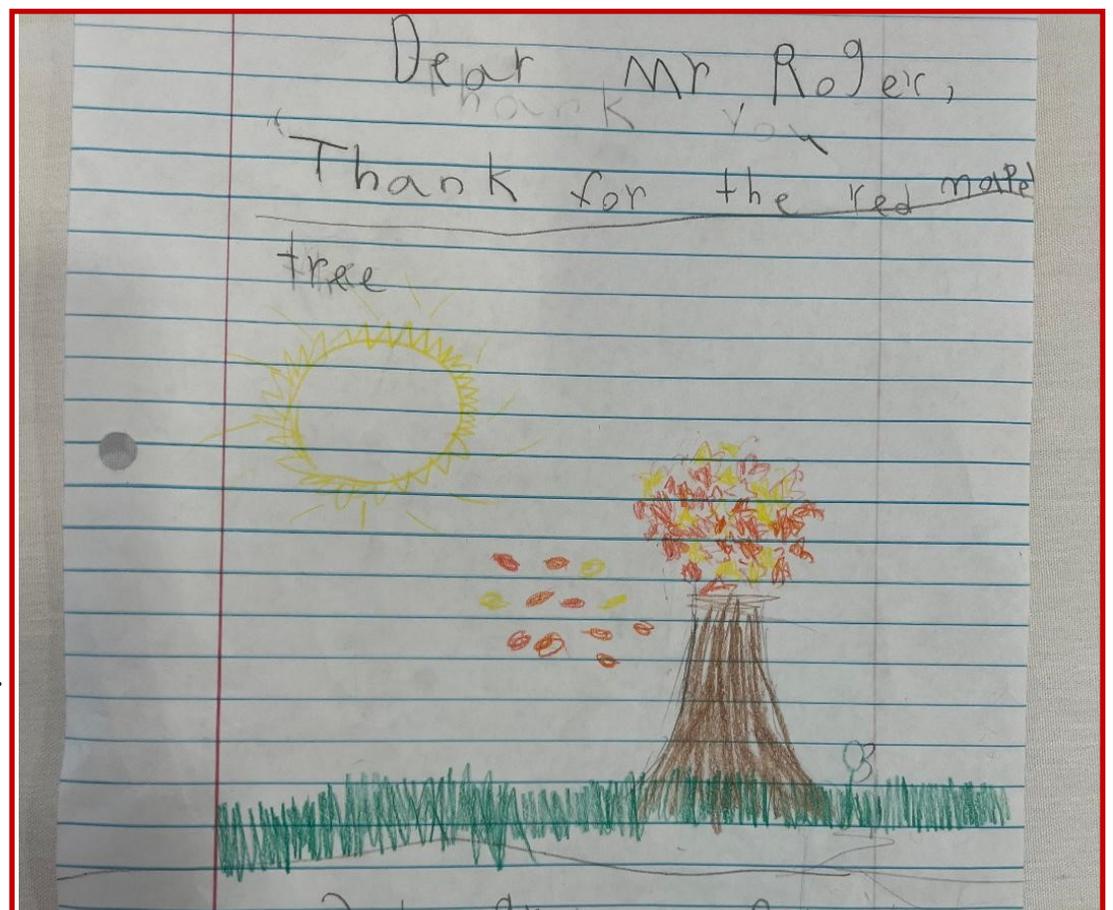
The BEES learned about trees and bulbs and then planted a tree in honor of Arbor Day and spring bulbs that will be enjoyed by everyone that drives into the school. (There are a lot more pictures on our website : www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com)



Youth Gardeners



All of TWGC's Youth Gardeners wrote the cutest thank you notes to Mr. Rogers at Tractor Supply for donating the tree the children planted. Here are a couple of examples.



Youth Gardeners 2022-2023 Schedule



Dec.21

Jan. 18

Feb. 15

March 15

Apr. 15

May 17

Early June – last meeting

Meeting: generally 3rd Wednesday of the month. We meet for lunch and planning at 11:15 at Kitchen on Trent and start the program at 12:30 Oaks Road Academy.

Monthly Program November 2022



TWGC welcomed Mike Bafford from Tryon Palace that gave us a very information presentation on NC native plants.

Seasonal Design

Verna Kuyper provided this charming and exotic design of orchids and Hawaiian fronds.



What to do for our forlorn yards this time of year...

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.

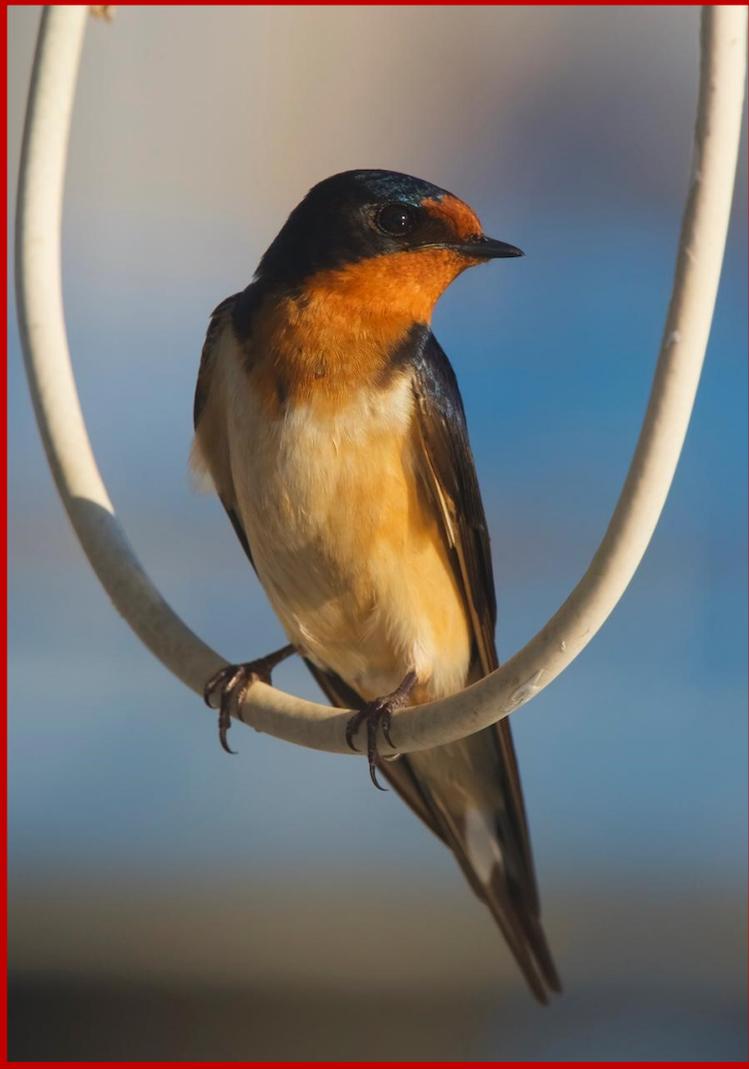
A few stalks left here and there also liven up the drab winter landscape. Birds will flit about old sunflower heads looking for a few remaining seeds. And while seed heads of coneflower and teasel hardly get a second glance in summer, they begin to look mighty interesting come February!

TWGC Supported Habitat for Humanity fundraiser

TWGC volunteers created and donated twelve arrangements that were sold to raise money for Habitat for Humanity. More on www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com

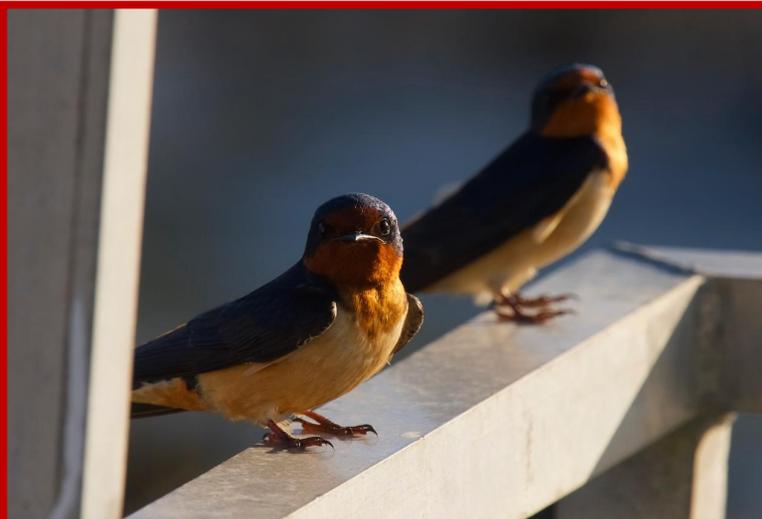


Bird of the Month
December 2022
Barn Swallow
By Michael Creedon



The barn swallow is the most widespread species of swallow in the world. In fact, it appears to have the largest natural distribution of any of the world's passerines, ranging over 100 million square miles globally. It is a distinctive passerine bird with blue upper parts and a long, deeply forked tail. It is found in Europe, Asia, Africa

and the Americas. A passerine is a class of birds that perch, also known as “perching birds”. They are distinguished from other birds by the arrangement of toes, 3 forward and one back, facilitating perching.



They are birds of open country, that typically use man made structures to build nests. As man has spread, so have the Barn Swallows. The male usually arrives first, selecting a nest site, which is advertised to the females with a circling flight and song.

Males with long streamer tails are more attractive to females, as this is usually an indicator of disease resistance and generally longer life. Once paired, they stay together to breed for life.

Both sexes build the nest, which are cups of mud pellets, lined with grasses and feathers. They will normally have 2 broods, each with 4 to 5 eggs. The female does most of the incubating, the male taking his turn up to 1/4 of the time.



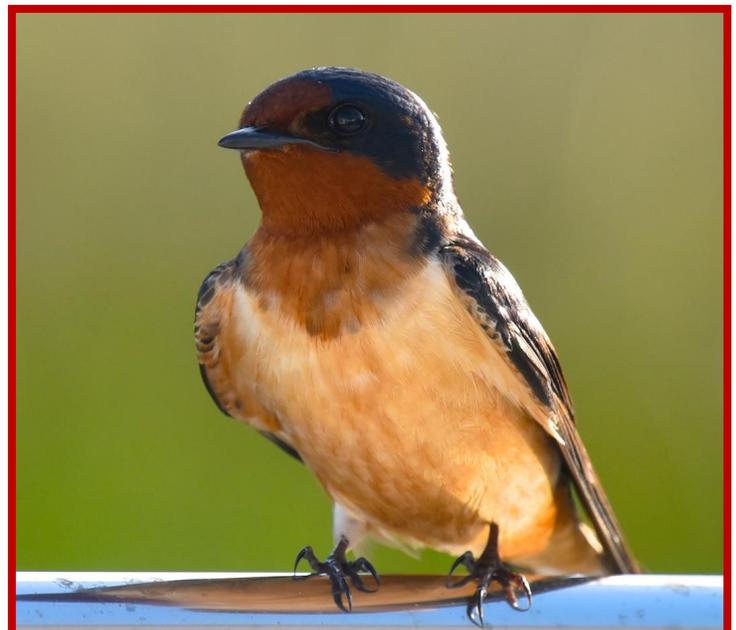
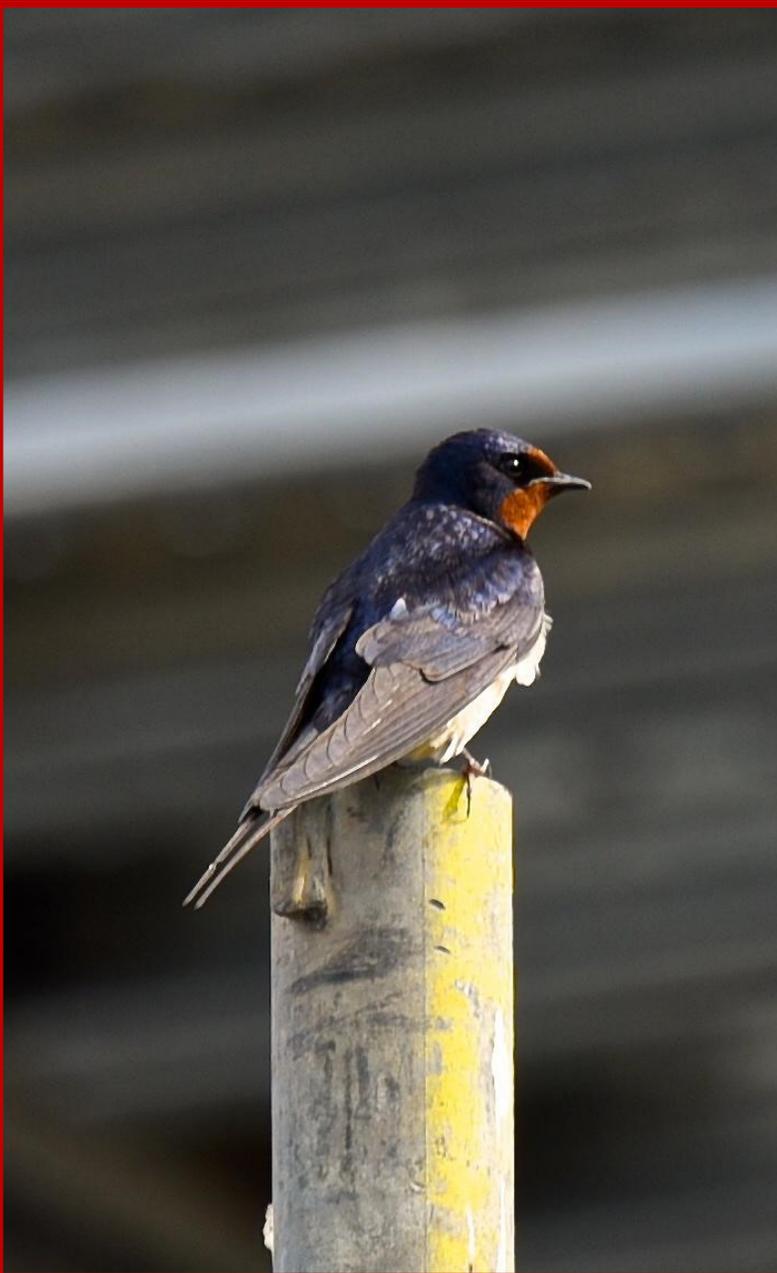
Feeding is accomplished by catching aerial insects, drinking by skimming over lakes or rivers. Bathing is similar, dipping into water while flying. While egg laying, they hunt in pairs, but otherwise often will form large flocks.

They have few predators, although a few are lost to falcons and owls. The record is 11 years, average life span is 4 years.

Locally these beautiful swift birds can be found in the eaves of any open structure near water, such as a gazebo in your backyard, or under the eaves of any building, or overhang on a vessel that doesn't move. If you have a suitable outbuilding, leaving a door or window open along with a source for mud, you can encourage nesting on your property.

Barn Swallow

Although they are now wintering in Central and South America, look for this beautiful bird to return in the spring.





Please give a warm welcome to new TWGC member Emilie Zucker!

...in my garden

Ann Simpson shared this striking arrangement made solely with Popcorn Tree leaves and seeds.



Easy Fudge Recipe by Michael Wurm Jr.

- 14 ounces white chocolate candy melts
 - 14 ounces milk chocolate candy melts
 - 14 ounces creamy peanut butter
- sugar cake decorations - optional

INSTRUCTIONS

Add both candy melts and peanut butter to the top of a double boiler (or to a heatproof glass bowl resting in a saucepan with a couple inches of water in it).

Heat the mixture until melted and smooth.

Pour the fudge into an 8x8-inch baking pan lined with a sheet of parchment paper. Allow the fudge to set. Do not refrigerate.

Once completely set, cut the fudge into squares, and if desired, top with decorative sugar cake decorations. Store in an air-tight container at room temperature.