

# Trent Woods Garden Club

## March 2023

Dear Fellow TWGC Members,

I saw a lot of members taking notes during Rachael Tipton's program last month. I know many of you have signed up for the tour at her nursery, Harbourside, on April 27<sup>th</sup>. This month's meeting will feature Joanne Celinski, from New Bern Garden Club, who is an expert in creating butterfly gardens. Joanne was a driving force in New Bern Garden Club's recent grant award. Her talk should be very interesting, and I am looking forward to it.

As you may well know, TWGC is sponsoring a new Blue Star Marker in Havelock on March 2 at 10 am in cooperation with Disabled American Veterans Chapter 26 NC, the City of Havelock and the City of Havelock Appearance Committee. The program will be held at 468 Highway 70 west, at the Havelock Municipal Building.

The Blue Star Program honors all men and women that serve in the United States Armed Services, it began in 1945. The Blue Star was adopted because it had become an icon in World War II and was seen on flags and banners in homes for sons and daughters away at war. I would appreciate a good turn out from membership especially if you and/or your spouse has served.

The Historical Society is planning the 2023 Spring Home and Garden Tour for May 12-13, this is their 100th anniversary. We will need volunteers to make flower designs and serve as docents. The number of houses we serve will depend on the number of volunteers to help me. So please consider this and let me know if your interest.

We are busy preparing for our fund raising sale April 22 at the New Bern Farmers Market from 8-2. Please contact Kathleen Marty about donating garden related item (s) for the White Elephant sale. If possible, please bring your donations to the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Please also contact Mary Frances or Ann Hall to sign up to distribute herbs on April 21<sup>st</sup> or to work a shift at the NB Farmers Market.

Spring is almost here!

Gail

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

**March 9, 2023**

At New Bern Golf and Country Club

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

## **Program**

*“Butterfly Gardens”*

JoAnne will share her experiences in starting a butterfly garden and advise us on starting out own.

Presented by

JoAnne Celinski

New Bern Garden Club

## Menu Selections

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 drizzle

Or

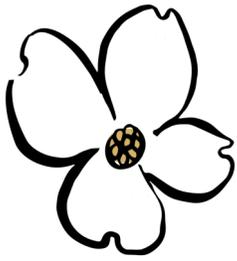
2. Pecan Crusted Chicken with Mashed potatoes and Chef's Vegetable

Please contact Judy Boyd to make a reservation by

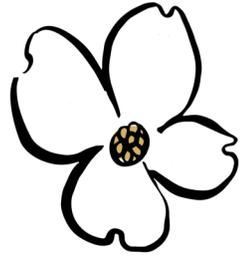
Tuesday March 7th and indicate your choice [judysboyd@embarqmail.com](mailto:judysboyd@embarqmail.com)

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

Meeting only \$10.



## TWGC Spring 2023 Fund Raising



Dear TWGC Member,

The TWGC Board has decided to expand our fund raising in the Spring of 2023. To that end, we will have our 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Herb Sale -as always, pre-order and check to Mary Florence by 2/15/23 and we will deliver to your home on April 21, 2023.

TWGC will also be offering flats of annuals and hanging baskets this year, same as Herb Sale pre-order and check to Mary Florence by 2/15/23—but you will pick up the flats or baskets at the New Bern Farmers Market on 4/22/23. On 4/22/23 TWGC will also be offering flats, hanging baskets and “White Elephant” garden themed items for sale to the public.

*How can You help us raise money for our scholarships and other worthy civic projects?*

- 1: Order your herbs, flats and hanging baskets by 2/15/23. Encourage your neighbors and friends to follow your lead. Order forms can be found on [www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com](http://www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com) or email Mary Florence at [mflorence@suddenlink.net](mailto:mflorence@suddenlink.net)
- 2: **Please donate white elephant/garden items at the March 9<sup>th</sup>** or April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, No plants at this time. Gloves, tools, books, vases, kneelers, cute objects for the garden, pots or planters, etc., etc. You get the idea!
- 3: Volunteer to sort and deliver herbs on 4/21/23 and/or volunteer to work our booth at the New Bern Farmers Market 4/22/23.

*We need your help to make this the most successful fund-raising season ever!*

*We can not do it without your help.*

Regarding a plant swap-this has been postponed and we will let you know as soon as possible.

Dear Trent Woods Garden Club Member:

Happy Almost Spring and the beginning of the gardening year. It is also the beginning of our annual membership drive for the period June 1 2023 through May 31, 2024. Annual dues are still \$30, payable by check using the tear-off sheet below. Information must be submitted to the North Carolina Garden Club by the end of March, therefore we need your dues on or before **March 15**, please.

Send your dues **ASAP** To:

TWGC c/o Rhona Beadle, Membership Chair

6004 Clubhouse Drive

New Bern, NC 28562

Please note that if you joined the club after January 1, 2023, your dues are considered paid for the period June 2023 through May 2024.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone and email: \_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

Here is my check in the amount of \$30 for annual TWGC dues from June 2023 through May 2024.

Mail to: TWGC c/o Rhona Beadle, 6004 Clubhouse Drive, New Bern, NC 28562

Bank of the Arts March 2023

By Ann Hall



*Trent Woods Garden Club*  
Designer Ann G. Hall



This arrangement includes Yellow Buttons, Pink Carnations, Hydrangeas, White Fiji, Solidago, Sweet William, Alstroemeria, and Willow Branches.

This floral design was created to reflect the theme "Her Story" SHE is feminine (pastel colored flowers, her pearls, curve of the vase). Yet SHE is strong and resilient (the rocks). SHE is well read and well written (the books by female authors). HER reach is beyond her home to the community at large (Willow Branches).

*For Artwalk*  
*Friday, February 10th*

*Trent Woods Garden Club*  
Designer Ann G. Hall

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*For Artwalk*  
*Friday, February 10th*

**White Elephant Donations**

**needed at March 9, 2023 meeting**

**Contact Kathleen Marty**

## February 2023 photos by Kathleen Marty

TWGC volunteers visited Homeplace and assisted the residents with floral arrangements that they keep to enjoy for Valentine's day. The hostess was Marcia Sproul who organized the visit. Everyone enjoyed the hands on project, but also enjoyed visiting, singing and cookies and juice. TWGC visits nursing homes in the New Bern area every month September through April.

More on  
[www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com](http://www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com)



# Youth Gardeners 2023 Schedule

March 15

Apr. 15

May 17

Early June – last meeting



Meeting: generally 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. Contact Paula Hartman

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## Garden Therapy Schedule 2023

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

Or Kathy Perretta – [krperretta@aol.com](mailto:krperretta@aol.com) 252-633-3665 to volunteer

**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

## February 2023

Trent Woods Garden Club volunteers visited with Oaks Rod Academy second graders on Valentine's Day. The day started with reviewing last month's les-



sons and the kids had checked off the bird visitors they observed at home at their own feeders. They taught the children how to make floral designs using oasis (new Word!!), greens, and mini carnations which they placed in recycled punch bowl cups. The results were beautiful. The BEES gave an arrangement to both their teacher and the principal! They also created



Valentine cards and each one was unique! They even had time to check out the gardens, pull the radishes and disperse wildflower seeds (which were from NCDOT). Unfortunately, the daffodil bulbs they planted in November have not bloomed yet---next month hopefully! All in all, our visit was very bzzzy...can you imagine that we do this all within an hour and 15 minutes! More on

[www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com](http://www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com)

# Horticulture by Paula Hartman

ROSEMARY –ROSEMARINUS -FULL SUN  
MEMBER OF MINT FAMILY; PROPAGATES BEST  
WITH STEM CUTTINGS (USING SOFT WOOD CUTTINGS);  
STRIP BOTTOM 2 TO 3" OF LEAVES AND LEAVE 5-6  
SETS NEAR THE TOP; SET IN WATER 2-4 WKS AND SOIL METHOD 4-8  
IT'S A BUSH BOUGHT AT TWGC HERB SALE YEARS AGO  
GOOD FOR RECIPES AND DESIGN (FRAGRANCE)



PUSSY WILLOW – SALIX FAMILY- FULL SUN  
NEEDS WATER OR NEAR WATER SOURCE  
MALE HAS PEARLY WHITE CATKINS  
CAN PROPAGATE BY CLIPPING AND PUTTING IN WATER;  
IT WILL ROOT WITHIN 2-3 WEEKS OR PLACE IN GROUND  
OR CONTAINER SEVERAL INCHES DEEP, WATER OFTEN  
OFTEN USED AS BORDER OR DRIED IN DESIGNS



## Don't Forget

Your donations to the TWGC Garden and White Elephant Sale being held on Saturday April 22, 2023 at New Bern Farmers Market, Please bring your donations of anything garden: gloves, vases, books, tools, statues, plant stakes, markers, etc. to the March 9th meeting.

## Don't Forget

To volunteer with sorting and filling orders and delivering herbs from the TWGC Herb Sale on April 21, 2023.

## Don't Forget

To volunteer to help with the TWGC booth at the New Bern Farmers Market, on April 22, 2023 where we will have flats of annuals and hanging baskets for sale along with donated garden related items.

### February 2023 Monthly Program

Rachel Tipton gave TWGC a wonderful and informative talk about pre-spring preparations for the garden.



## Seasonal Design February 2023



Mary Florence created this moss ball container and planted the orchids within. What a stunning presentation.

# Spring Temperatures: Remember, We're Not in Louisiana

*Contributed by Judi Lloyd*

Spring green up is a difficult transition for warm season grasses. At the time of green up, a centipede grass root system is essentially starting over, and our usual lingering cool soil temperatures don't help matters. For example, as of April 17 of last year – following an exceptionally warm winter - soil temperatures in the eastern Coastal Plain (measured at 10 cm, or about 4 inches) ranged from 54° F near the Virginia border, to 55° midway down the coast, to 61° in Wilmington. Those numbers are far below the 75° to 85° soil temperature range considered optimal for warm season turf root growth. So even by early to mid-April, warm season turf root systems in the Craven County area are a long way from operating at full speed, no matter how green the leaves may appear.

For this reason, while warm season sod could be installed in March or early April, rooting-in is going to take significantly longer than for sod laid in May. Likewise, centipede grass seed sown in March, as compared with May, will take longer to germinate and longer to develop a root system. Rather than gaining an advantage by starting early, you're likely to just get things off to a very slow start, which can translate into less-than-optimal performance later during spring and summer.

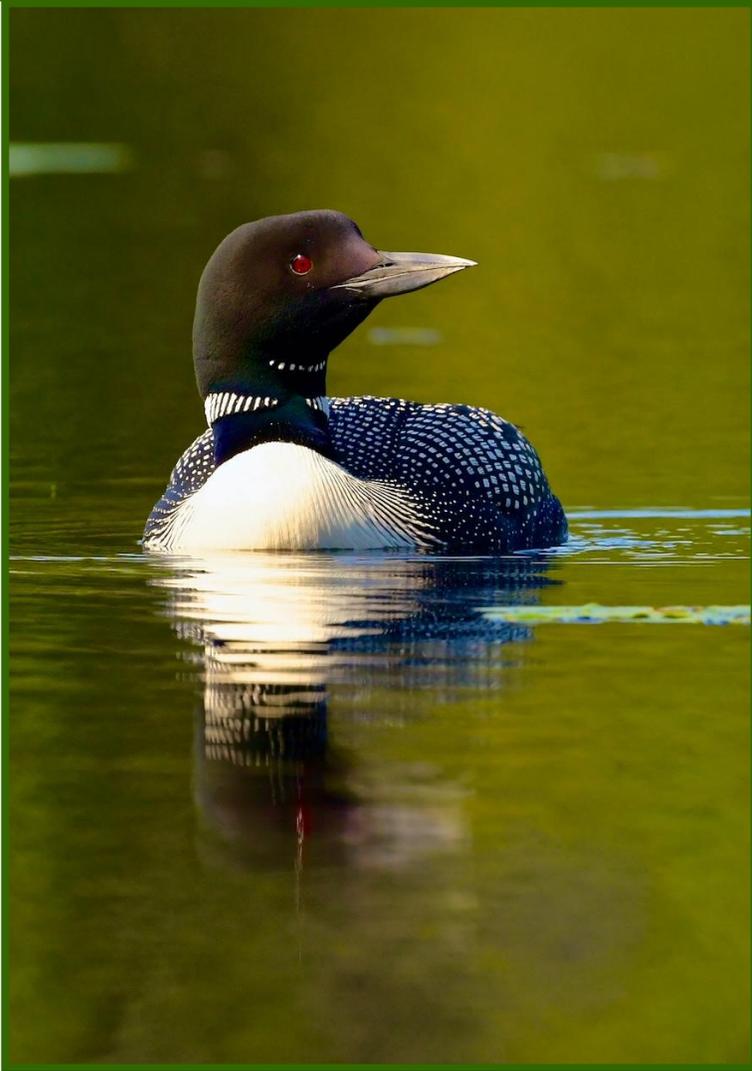
Early March is a great time to get started with landscape pruning. Likewise, for tree fruits and small fruits such as grapes. Remember that muscadine grape vines perform best with annual pruning, without which they eventually become overgrown, non-productive masses of vines and vegetation.

For best uptake and utilization of applied nutrients, fertilize when the plant in question is covered with its first heavy flush of new spring foliage. Choose fertilizers based on soil test information, repeated every 2-3 years if possible. Every tree and every shrub do not need fertilizer every year. Fertilize based on criteria such as stage of growth, growth increments from last year, performance and foliage color the previous year, and so forth. Woody plants don't need fertilizer at planting or during the first year; they need proper watering.

Tomato plants and other summer vegetables will be available soon. But it's not uncommon to see a light frost as late as the first week of April. Windy, cool temperatures combined with cool and wet soils are unfavorable to tomatoes, peppers and others planted in March. Mid-April is much better.

Written by: Tom Glasgow, Craven County Extension Director

Bird of the Month  
Common Loon  
By Michael Creedon



The Common Loon in my eyes is anything but common. Breeding adults have a plumage that includes a broad black head and neck with a greenish, purplish, or bluish sheen, blackish or blackish-grey upperparts, and pure white underparts. They are mainly Nearctic, breeding from the Arctic circle to the northern parts of the USA. They usually winter along coasts and on inland lakes, bays, inlets, and streams with birds migrating to the nearest body of water that will not freeze over in the winter. They appear in coastal waters from Maine to the Florida gulf coast. That includes our local coastal waters. The lakes must be large enough for

flight take-off and provide a large population of small fish.

They are large birds, 2 to 3' in length, and a wingspan of 4 to 5'. The common loon is an expert fisher, catching its prey underwater by diving as deep as 200 ft. With its large, webbed feet, the common loon is an effi-



cient underwater pursuit predator and adroit diver. It needs a long run-up distance to gain momentum for flight take-off and is ungainly on land, sliding on its belly and pushing itself forward with its legs. Its clumsiness on land is due to the legs being positioned at the rear of its body; the pelvic muscles are well developed, ideal for swimming but not well-suited for walking.

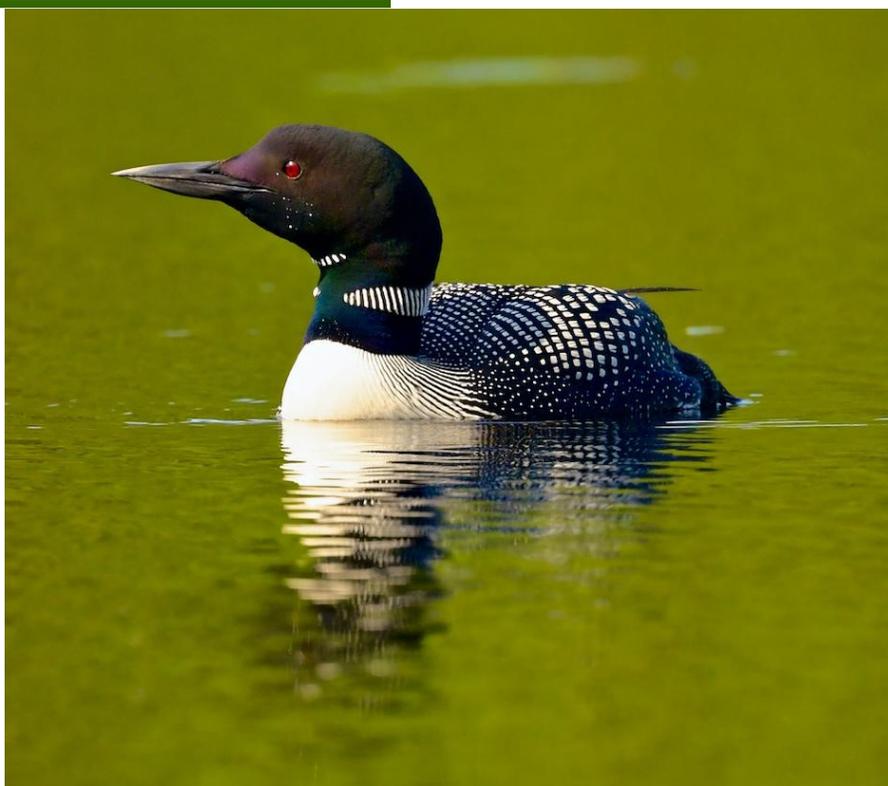
## Bird of the Month (cont.)

When it lands on water, it skims along on its belly to slow down, rather than braking with its feet, as they are set too far back. It is a very competent flyer, reaching speeds of 75mph during migration.



Fish account for 80% of their diet, foraging for fish up to 10" in length. The young typically eat small minnows and small insects. Most fish are swallowed underwater, with the larger ones brought to the surface. They are visual predators, so it is essential that the water be clear.

The Common Loon is serially monogamous, remaining together through their breeding attempt, reuniting the next spring. They stay together until the death of a mate, or the territorial eviction of a mate, the other establishing a quick pair bond with the evictor. Evicting birds tend to be young, 5 to 9 years old, and the evictee older, 15 years and up. They typically live till their mid 20's.



## Bird of the Month (cont.)

Nesting begins in early May, usually on islands, on the shoreline if no island is available. They will reuse last years site if they were successful hatching chicks there, if not, they will choose a new location. They will lay usually 2



eggs once the ice has melted. They share incubation for a month, with chicks immediately swimming with the parents, sometimes riding on their backs.

A pair of loons raising 2 chicks will consume about 1,000 pounds of fish during the 5 1/2 months they spend in their breeding territory.

More on our website [www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com](http://www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com)



## Irish Soda Bread by Ina Garten

4 cups all-purpose flour, plus extra for currants  
4 tablespoons sugar  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt  
4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) cold unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch dice  
1 3/4 cups cold buttermilk, shaken  
1 extra-large egg, lightly beaten  
1 teaspoon grated orange zest  
1 cup dried currants

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Line a sheet pan with parchment paper.

Combine the flour, sugar, baking soda, and salt in the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Add the butter and mix on low speed until the butter is mixed into the flour.

With a fork, lightly beat the buttermilk, egg, and orange zest together in a measuring cup. With the mixer on low speed, slowly add the buttermilk mixture to the flour mixture. Combine the currants with 1 tablespoon of flour and mix into the dough. It will be very wet.

Dump the dough onto a well-floured board and knead it a few times into a round loaf. Place the loaf on the prepared sheet pan and lightly cut an X into the top of the bread with a serrated knife. Bake for 45 to 55 minutes, or until a cake tester comes out clean. When you tap the loaf, it will have a hollow sound.

Cool on a baking rack. Serve warm or at room temperature.

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