



# Trent Woods Garden Club

## April 2023

Dear Fellow TWGC Members,

I understand that the Blue Star Marker dedication last month in Havelock went very well and was fully supported by the town including the Mayor and town manager. So much so, they are already planning for a Gold Star Memorial marker by the end of the year. Well done Paula Hartman, who is the Chair for National Garden Clubs and all TWGC members that participated.

I am so looking forward to having our induction of new officers this month: Raye Lynn Longhini, President, Debbie Durham 1st VP, Ann Hall 2nd VP, Robin Marfizo Recording Secretary, Rhona Beadle Treasurer, Kathleen Marty Historian and me as Correspondence Secretary.

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. Please consider this and let me know if you are interested.

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 April 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 here!

Gail

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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

**April 13, 2023**

At New Bern Golf and Country Club

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

## **Program**

“Victorian Language of Flowers”

Presented by Dawn Staats

## Menu Selections

1 .Grilled Chicken Salad – Mixed greens topped with grilled chicken, cucumber, bacon bits, onions, tomatoes

or

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

Please contact Judy Boyd to make a reservation by

Tuesday April 11th and indicate your choice [judysboyd@embarqmail.com](mailto:judysboyd@embarqmail.com)

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

Meeting only \$10.

# New Blue Star Memorial Dedication March 2, 2023

A group of TWGC members met in Havelock for the dedication of a new Blue Star Marker in the Havelock City Park. Paula Hartman, NC Chair of NGC Blue Star Program, was joined by: Raye Lynn Longhini, Carol Letellier, Frances Eder, Judy Lott, Robin Nolan-Marfizo, Cathy McAlister and Deb Tallman. TWGC sponsored the marker in cooperation with Disabled American Veterans CH 26 NC, The City of Havelock, and the Appearance Committee of Havelock.

The Blue Star started during WWII when homes and businesses would hang a blue star flag to indicate that they had a family member serving in our Armed Forces during the war. The Blue Star Markers now honor the men and women in all branches of our armed services. Later, National Garden Clubs started the Blue Star Memorial Markers that are placed along our highways, byways, and in our parks and cemeteries.



March 2023 Bank of the Arts

Designed by Robin Marfizo



*Invent Woods  
Garden Club  
Designer Robin Marfizo  
Green Hydrangea  
& Wild Greenery*



# Youth Gardeners

## March 2023

The Garden BEES of Oaks Road Academy had a very special visitor for their March meeting. We invited Ms. Jo Daniels, a beekeeper from Goldsboro, who gave us a program about bees to all the second



graders not just the Garden BEES. Ms. Jo came with all her paraphernalia. The only thing she left home were the bees!!! She gave a very detailed presentation of why bees are important to the world and showed how the queen bee worked to make honey. She even brought some old cells to show us. The children were very enthusiastic with her display. She had her white gear to show them and even had a student model the protective helmet and jacket. The smoker was another fascinating piece of equipment which helps the beekeeper access to the cells. Although



she gave us lots of facts about honeybees, at the end of the demonstration, six of the audience were able to answer her questions about bees and win prizes. As the students left the library, she presented each student with a fuzzy bee, compliments of Bayer, a company which works diligently on Biodiversity and saving bees. Each classroom teacher received a handout to reinforce the information the children learned today. All in all, everyone really enjoyed the visit...the students, but also the teachers and our TWGC members!

More on

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

# Youth Gardeners 2023 Schedule

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, April 17, 2023 10am**

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

Plant Vegetable Garden

# Garden Therapy March 2023

photos by Kathleen Marty



TWGC volunteers visited Monarch. Everyone enjoyed creating pinecone bird feeders. Later, all enjoyed cookies, juice, singing and general comradery. TWGC visits nursing homes in the New Bern area every month September through April.

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



## Seasonal Design March 2023



Robin Marfizo created this glorious creation for our monthly raffle. Everyone wanted to win and take it home!

## Seasonal Design Part 2

Paula Hartman contributed this lovely creation of different colored azaleas and forsythia for Seasonal Design.



## March 2023 Monthly Program

JoAnne Celinski gave TWGC a wonderful and informative talk about butterflies and their host plants.



# What do the three numbers on fertilizer bags mean?

*By Judi Lloyd*

The three numbers on fertilizer bags represent the primary nutrients N (nitrogen) P (phosphorus) and K (potassium), in the forms of nitrogen, phosphate and potash, respectively. The numbers indicate percentage by weight. For example, a bag of 10-5-15 would contain 10% nitrogen, 5% phosphate, and 15% potash. They are always in the same order no matter the brand or type of fertilizer.

The various macronutrients and micronutrients play multiple roles in plant structure and function, and interactions can be very complex. But in simplest terms, we can say that nitrogen supports green, leafy growth; phosphorus promotes root and bud growth; and potassium promotes disease and drought tolerance. Lawns, shrubs and plants need all these nutrients to grow healthy and strong. But what is the best ratio and how much do you need? That depends on your soil. There are many different soil types in Eastern NC and they can even vary in different areas in your yard. The only way you can determine what nutrients you have in your soil and how much you need is to conduct a soil test.

Testing your soil is easy. You can get a soil analysis from North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services – [www.ncagr.gov](http://www.ncagr.gov) . Soil tests are free from April to November or \$4.00 during the other months. You can get the soil testing kits, forms and instructions at the Craven County Cooperative Extension Office at 300 Industrial Drive or from the Master Gardener Volunteers. It is easy to do and will save you from adding too much fertilizer to your landscape wasting time, money and cause unnecessary pollution.

Once you get your soil sample results you also need to consider the time of year and growth patterns of what you want to fertilize. Springtime, when plants are actively growing and producing a nice flush of new foliage and stem growth, is a great time to fertilize. The fertilizer will be actively taken up and utilized by the plants, and less of the applied fertilizer will be lost to the environment. A good resource on fertilizing your shrubs and trees is “A Gardener’s Guide to Fertilizing Trees and Shrubs” at <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/a-gardeners-guide-to-fertilizing-trees-and-shrubs>. A good guide for fertilizing your lawn is “Carolina Lawns: A Guide to Maintaining Quality Turf in the Landscape” at <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/carolina-lawns> .

# Bird of the Month

## Painted Bunting

By Michael Creedon



Spring, time for some color. And what could be better than one of the most colorful birds found in the USA, the Painted Bunting. It is often described as the most beautiful bird in North America. The adult male is an incredible rainbow of brilliant colors, slightly smaller than a Bluebird. Females and juveniles are rather plain yellow and

green. In Louisiana it is called “Nonpareil”, without equal.

Their normal range is from Texas to South Carolina, however there



are always some found regularly right here in New Bern. They are seed eaters and if one is in your area, you can look for him on your feeders. Their habitat is woodland edges, thickets, and shrubbery.

## Bird of the Month (continued)

Normally shy and secretive, they can easily be habituated to feeders.

Painted Buntings are monogamous, keeping to themselves during breeding season. They nest in bushes and low trees, laying 3 to 4 eggs from late



April to July. Females build the nest, and care for the young alone. They do switch from seeds to high protein insects to feed the young. The chicks fledge after 2 weeks, and about 30 days later the female lays a second brood. Primary predators are snakes, with a maximum lifespan

of 10 years in the wild.

Their magnificent plumage is also their greatest fault. Their numbers are declining, with a major cause being their popularity as a caged bird in Cuba, although illegal, the law is rarely enforced.

Additional photos on

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



# Easy Spring Sherbet Cake

by Jen Cincyshopper

## INGREDIENTS

1 box White Cake Mix plus ingredients  
2 scoops Raspberry Sherbet softened  
2 scoops Lime Sherbet softened  
2 scoops Orange Sherbet softened  
4 oz Cool Whip thawed  
Decorative Sprinkles for garnish

## DIRECTIONS

Mix cake mix according to box directions.  
Line loaf pan with parchment paper.  
Pour 1 cup of batter in prepared pan.  
Bake for 13-15 minutes.  
Allow to cool for 5 minutes then remove to cooling rack to finish cooling.  
Repeat 3 more times (making 4 layers).  
Line cooled loaf pan with parchment paper.  
Place 1 layer of cake in pan and evenly spread layer with one flavor of softened sherbet.  
Repeat with 2 more layers of cake and sherbet.  
Top with remaining layer of cake.  
Freeze for at least 3 hours.  
Using a sharp knife, carefully clean up sides of cake to remove overflowed sherbet.  
Cover top and sides of cake with whipped topping and smooth.  
Shake sprinkles on top and sides.  
Freeze for at least one hour

