



# Trent Woods Garden Club

## February 2024

Happy February,

I for one am happy to see this cold January end. I don't remember a colder December and January for some time. We can all look forward to working in our gardens very soon. Our on-going partnership with Holland Bulbs continues - so go on our website and order spring planting bulbs and seeds!

Our Spring Tea Fund Raising Event on Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup> is really coming together. You will find additional information inside this newsletter and on the tables at our February Meeting. We are holding seats for TWGC members until February 23<sup>rd</sup>, after that we will open sales to the public.

We still need volunteers to hostess tables, design centerpieces, and greet at the front door. Sign-up sheets will be distributed at the February meeting, or you can call, text or email Deb Tallman or Rhona Beadle. Until next Month!

Raye Lynn Longhini, TWGC President

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

And

Garden Clubs of North Carolina, Inc.

*TWGC Executive Board 2023-24*

Raye Lynn Longhini

President

1st Vice President, Debbie Durham

2nd Vice President, Ann G. Hall

Recording Secretary, Marcia Sproul

Treasurer, Rhona Beadle

Corresponding Secretary, Gail McLamb

Historian, Kathleen Marty

# TWGC 2023-2025 Standing Chairs

Awards Chair-Paula Hartman – paulamhartman1947@gmail.com 252-670-3233

Beautification and Civic Development Chair- Sue Wyatt – swyatt@suddenlink.net 252-636-0278

Communications Chair-Deb Tallman - deborah\_t\_07760@yahoo.com 732-539-8846

Environmental Concerns/Conservation Chair- Maureen Loomer – bee27534@aol.com 252- 638-5502

Finance Chair- Rhona Beadle - rhonab451@gmail.com 862-266-7888

Fundraising Chair- Deb Tallman - deborah\_t\_07760@yahoo.com 732-539-8846

Garden Therapy Chair- Jeanne Garner - jag1law@aol.com 301-332-2591

Horticulture Chair-Maureen Loomer– bee27534@aol.com 252-638-5502

Hospitality/Liaison with New Bern Golf & Country Club Chair- Judy Boyd – judysboyd@embarqmail.com 252-638-6597

Memorials Chair- Frances Eder – minfrances@gmail.com 252-634-4114

Parliamentarian/By-Laws Chair-Deb Tallman - deborah\_t\_07760@yahoo.com 732-539-8846

Photographer Chair-Kathleen Marty - martykathleen558@gmail.com 207-350-6031

Scholarship, Sharon D. Quill Chair-Karen Powers – kpowers913@gmail.com 585-797-8209

Service Recognition Award Chair- Mary Florence – mflorence@suddenlink.net 252-633-2851

Yearbook Chair-Judy Lott – judylott@netzero.com 252-665-1352

Youth Gardeners Chair- Paula Hartman – paulamhartman1947@gmail.com 252-670-3233

# Trent Woods Garden Club Members' Meeting

February 8, 2024

New Bern Golf & Country Club 4301 Country Club Road, New Bern, NC 28562

10:00 am – Coffee and Social 10:30 – Meeting and Program

12 Noon – Lunch

## *Program*

“A Year of Flowers – New Bern through the Seasons”

Videos of walks through the seasonal gardens of New Bern showcasing the different flowers in our area.

Presented by

Amy Rose White, TWGC Member  
and Life-long Plant Enthusiast

## **Menu Selections**

Oriental Chicken Salad – Shredded Napa cabbage, Daikon radish sprout, iceberg lettuce, tossed with teriyaki and five spice chicken, macadamia nuts, scallions, and mandarin oranges with Yuzu ginger vinaigrette and topped with crisp wonton strips

OR

Pecan Crusted Chicken with mashed potatoes and chef's choice of vegetable

Please contact Judy Boyd to make a reservation by

Tuesday February 6th and indicate your choice [judysboyd@embarqmail.com](mailto:judysboyd@embarqmail.com)

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

Meeting only \$10.

Trent Woods Garden Club presents a

# SPRING



TEA

Saturday March 23, 2024 2-4pm

Broad St Christian Church

This event will include delicious savory and sweet nibbles, teas, lovely set tables, some delightful raffle items and a wonderful afternoon with new and old friends.

This event is a fund raiser for our Scholarship Fund

If you are interested in attending please contact either Rhona Beadle at [rhonab451@gmail.com](mailto:rhonab451@gmail.com) or Deb Tallman at [Deborah\\_t\\_07760@yahoo.com](mailto:Deborah_t_07760@yahoo.com) \$25.00 tickets are on a first come basis.

Tea service begins at 2pm

Horticulture Share-February 2024

Gail McLamb provided this delightful posey from her garden. Maureen Loomer provided TWGC members with information about the plants that were used.



*Spring Tea*

We need Volunteers to greet  
and sign in guests (3)  
and 3 more hostess'

Please see Ann Hall

## Horticulture Corner-February 2024

By Maureen Loomer

*And all by the roadside the wild birds fly  
Up out of the thistle and into the sky;  
Red birds, black birds, they sing as they fly...  
They're all dressed up in feathers with colors outrageous;  
They soar from this earthly-bound kingdom of cages  
On delicate wings, so small and courageous.*

---“Wild Birds” by Jan Harmon, American poet and composer

I chose this month's lyric/poem in appreciation of Olwen Jarvis's program on winter birds at our January general meeting. I think she worked a bit of magic because that very afternoon, three Baltimore orioles appeared at my backyard feeders. On this past Sunday I took advantage of the sparkling 72-degree weather and Olwen's advice to take a long walk at Martin Marietta Park where I saw scups, grebes, cormorants, and hooded mergansers. I think you'll enjoy a visit to Martin Marietta Park during our milder winter and spring days.

Walking by the water along the Dragonfly Trail you will find eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) dominating the landscape. One of my favorite native trees, this evergreen is fast-growing but not invasive, drought, heat, and freeze-tolerant, and makes an excellent windbreak. It also provides important shelter for wildlife. Like hollies, the members of the juniper genus are dioecious; with the female tree's "berries" (actually, seed cones) an important winter-spring food for cedar waxwings, bluebirds, and other species. First observed at Roanoke Island, Virginia, in 1564, eastern red cedar was prized by the colonists for building furniture, rail fences, and log cabins ([https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=juvi](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=juvi)).

February's primary birth flower is the violet (*Viola sp.*) which has been a reminder of loyalty, thoughtfulness, and dependability since the Victorian age. In Christianity, it is believed that the flowers blossomed at the Annunciation. Most violets are edible and have been used in medicine since antiquity. Some varieties contain salicylic acid, the chief ingredient in aspirin. (<https://www.almanac.com/content/february-birth-flowers>).

Pansies are a *Viola* hybrid popular outdoors for their cold tolerance in our area. They may do well in sun or part shade with well-drained soil but care must be taken against over-watering (<https://wayne.ces.ncsu.edu/2021/12/pansies-enliven-winter-landscape/>).

Primroses (*Primula sp*) are February's secondary birth flower. Associated with youthful love by the Victorians, primroses have been associated with magic and romance throughout European history. Although primrose is toxic to dogs, cats, and horses (<https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants/primrose>), it is edible for humans. The leaves and flowers can be eaten cooked or raw or used as an herb or garnish. Primrose can also be used to make wine and syrup. So until next month....

**Bank of the Arts  
January 2024  
by Paula Hartman**



**TRENT WOODS GARDEN CLUB**

DESIGNER: PAULA HARTMAN

**JOY IN THE ORDINARY**

JANUARY 12, 2024

The Bank of the Arts is surrounded by beautiful paintings and sculptures. My floral design reflects the JOY of our everyday life by incorporating regal roses, to simple alstroemeria, mums and greens of various colors.

# What activities can an avid gardener do here in New Bern during the month of February?

*By Judi Lloyd*

Broken, dead or diseased limbs can be removed from trees and shrubs any time during the year.

Winter is a great time to transplant trees and shrubs.

Take advantage of a nice day to rake up leaves and debris in your yard.

Do not fertilize dormant lawns!

Plan beds for spring and order any seeds you'll need.

Cut back ornamental grasses and liriope this month or February *before* new growth appears.

Sow seeds of garden peas and snow peas directly into the garden from the middle of January through late February.

If you haven't soil tested in the past 3 years, send off samples now to determine which nutrients your garden needs. (Note: There is a \$4.00 charge from December until the end of March, but is free the rest of the year.)

If your houseplants are pale and spindly, they may need more light. You can provide supplemental lighting with grow lights or move them to a brighter location.

Keep bird feeders cleaned and filled to support resident and migratory birds.

Begin a garden diary! Include tasks, purchases, successes and weather conditions, etc.

## Environmental Concerns and Conservation

February 2024

By Maureen Loomer

Storms across the southern tier of the U.S. brought some relief to some of the states suffering historic drought. This was a relief for the USFS as they indicate the Haywood fire in the Great Smokies National Park is now 80% contained (<https://ncfpublic.firesponse.com/>). Please encourage your neighbors to join you in remaining vigilant for wildfire threat which is a growing concern in our community.

TWGC Vice President Debbie Durham and Horticulture/Environmental/Conservation Chair, Maureen Loomer have joined the committee headed by Trent Woods Town Clerk, Holly Willis to organize an Earth Week/Arbor Day celebration/festival April 22-27. Educational and entertainment activities are being planned. Volunteers to help are needed! Contact Maureen [bee27534@aol.com](mailto:bee27534@aol.com)

February 4, 2024 is **Craven County's "Little Sweep" Clean Sweep event!** Volunteers are needed to help clean up our communities. <https://www.cravencountync.gov/DocumentCenter/View/13619/Clean-Sweep-Flier---Feb-4th>

Join the Central Coastal Plain Chapter of the NC Native Plant Society for a **PRIVET PULL!** Help remove this non-native invasive plant from a county park. A great way to enjoy the outdoors, meet new friends, get some exercise and perform a great service for the ecosystem! Invite your friends!

DATE: Saturday, February 24, 2024 (if raining, event will be cancelled)

LOCATION: Creekside Park, Craven County (at the end of the park's main road, near Brice Creek - see link for map) <https://cravencounty.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=2167>

ADDRESS: 1821 Old Airport Road, New Bern, NC 28562

TIME: 9:00am-1:00pm

RSVP: [ccpncnps@gmail.com](mailto:ccpncnps@gmail.com)

Volunteers will target small privet seedlings that can be pulled up by hand. Garden/work gloves are suggested. If you have a small weed wrench (like a Puller Bear), feel free to bring it. Closed-toe sturdy shoes are recommended. Bring your own water and snack if you wish. Restroom on site.

Note: I fully support efforts to limit the invasion of these aggressive species where they threaten ecological diversity and our native plants. Keep in mind, though, that old privets still provide shelter for birds and insects. Let's just not have any more of them! In this spirit, I provide you with some trustworthy resources with good suggestions for alternatives for new plantings.

<https://lee.ces.ncsu.edu/2024/01/plant-this-not-that-top-10-privet-ligustrum-ssp-alternatives/>

<https://mgv.org/plants/invasive-plants/privets/>

<https://gainvasivespeciescouncil.org/alternatives/>

## Garden Therapy Schedule 2023-2024

**Jeanne Garner – ag1law@aol.com**

**301-332-2591**

**Karen Kimball - karenkimball2@gmail.com**

**603-438-1839**

Monday, February 12, 2024 10am Annette Daugherty 252-671-7112

Homeplace, 1309 McCarthy Blvd

Floral arrangements

Monday, March 18, 2024 10am Rhona Beadle 826-266-7888

Monarch, 1320 Health Drive

Pinecone feeders

Monday, April 15, 2024 10am Jeanne Garner 301-332-2591

River Point Crest, 2600 Old Cherry Point Road

Plant Vegetable Garden

## Monthly Program January 2024

TWGC members and guests were treated to a wonderful presentation by Olwen Jarvis that included photos and bird calls.



### TWGC Annual Dues

TWGC Annual Dues of \$30. must be received by March 15, 2024

Please make your \$30 check out to TWGC and bring to our next meeting

or

send to our Treasurer, Rhona Beadle

# Garden Therapy

Photos by Kathleen Marty and Author Karen Kimball

TWGC volunteers had a fun-filled morning when they visited Golden Heights in January. The residents enjoyed making pinecone feeders and hanging them out front for the birds. A delicious snack of juice and homemade cookies was served after building up quite an appetite with all the activity. It was a treat for the residents, as well as for our volunteers to spend time together.



## Hooded Mountain Tanager

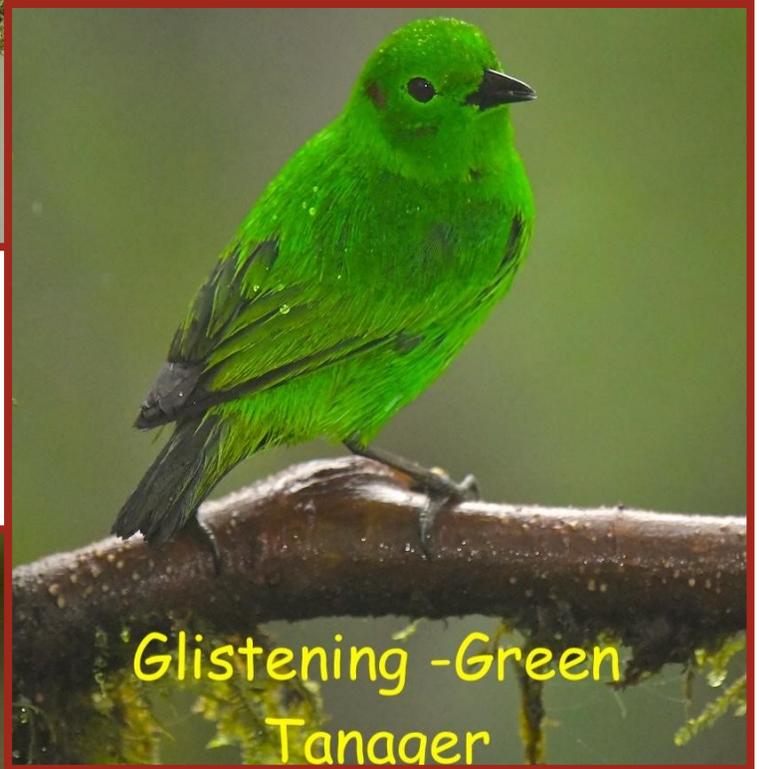


## Bird of the Month February 2024 by Michael Creedon Tanagers

No look at birds of the world would be complete without a look at the Tanager. This family of birds are a new world family inhabiting central and all of South America. It represents 4% of all avian species. The species count is approximately 392 of mostly brightly colored fruit eating birds. Here in the USA, we have 3 Tanagers, the Scarlet, Summer and Western. However, modern molecu-

lar studies have now discovered these are not true Tanagers but belong to the Cardinal family. So here we are completely devoid of any Tanagers. With the

## Cuban Grassquit



## Glistening -Green Tanager

exception of a stray bird that flies across the border. When that happens, birders from a thousand miles away come in hopes of seeing a “Lifer”.

Crimson Backed Tanager



## Bird of the Month (cont.)

Tanagers are small to medium sized, often brightly colored, with a few Black and White. Their bills vary according to diet, some short and thick to crack open seeds, others long and curved to forage for nectar. They inhabit a wide area from swamps to the top of the Andes. Most species are endemic to a relatively small area. They live in pairs, or small groups of 3 to 5 individuals, with most of these groups parents and their offspring. It is interesting to

Blue-winged Mountain Tanager



note that many Tanager species names do not include the word Tanager, such as finches, grassquits, saltator, dacnis,

Rufous-throated  
Tanager



conebill, flowerpiercer, seedeaters, honeycreepers and more. Only 149 have the word Tanager, 108 are called finch.

## Bird of the Month (cont.)

They are omnivorous birds, eating fruits, seeds, nectars and insects. Breeding occurs either in March to June in temperate areas, or September to October in South America. Little information is available on breeding behavior, except that males show off their brightest feathers to potential mates and rival males.

Most Tanagers build cup nests on tree branches, with entrances on the side. Most are hidden in dense vegetation. Clutch size is 3 to 5 eggs, with the female incubating, with the male feeding her. Both sexes feed the

Multicolored Tanager



Golden Tanager



Masked Flowerpiercer



young, and a few species have helpers from previous years nestlings.

As you look at these few species I have included, know there are hundreds more, each more beautiful and interesting than the last. And that is why birders from around the world flock to the regions south of our border, to get a peek at this fabulous family of birds.

go to [www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com](http://www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com) for more pictures!

# Orange Olive Oil Cake

## Ingredients

- whole oranges equal to 320g
- 2 large eggs room temp
- 1 cup sugar (200 g)
- 1/2 cup plus 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil (130 g)
- 2 cups plus 1 tablespoon all purpose flour (290g)
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- For the topping:
- 1/2 cup orange juice (115 g)
- 1/4 cup sugar (50g )
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream (238 g)

## Instructions

Preheat oven to 350F. Grease or spray an 8 or 9 inch cake or springform pan

In the bowl of a blender or food processor, add the clementines and process until they are a smooth pulp.

Pour into a large bowl and whisk in the eggs, sugar, and oil.

Sprinkle the flour, baking powder, and salt on top of the wet ingredients. Whisk them together gently and then combine with the rest of the batter. Don't overmix, just combining until no streaks or flour bits.

Bake for 35-45 minutes, until a cake tester inserted into the center comes out clean. (Bake time will be longer if using 8 inch pan vs. 9 inch.)

!While cake is baking make the syrup:

In a small saucepan combine the orange juice and sugar. Stir until the sugar has dissolved it has reduced down a bit.

!To finish:

While cake is cooling, prick the top with a fork. Generously brush it with about half of the syrup.

Beat the whipped cream to medium peaks, add the rest of the syrup (no more than 1 tablespoon,) then continue to whip until a bit more firm.