



Trent Woods Garden Club

September 2025

Fellow Gardeners,

It's been a remarkably hot summer, and I know, for me, gardening has sometimes been difficult! The cool weather this past week has only been a tease and I'm sure more heat will be coming.

We have a full year planned. Maureen Loomer has lots of wonderful programs planned for each of our meetings. I hope all will come to support her hard work and efforts to keep us informed and educated about our gardening choices. If you can come a little early, it is a good time to get caught up with friends and a time to get to know new members better.

We have our usual projects and some new ones to keep us all very busy. Let us remember that our projects depend on the help of all our club members. No contribution is too small and all are appreciated. There are several people who you can contact to help with projects. Karen Kimball is the chair of Garden Therapy, our monthly visits to area nursing homes. The residents truly enjoy the time we spend with them. There are never too many hands to facilitate the individual projects we attempt each month. Just let Karen know if you are willing to come when she passes the sign-up sheet each month. Karen Powers is in charge of Garden Bees and has merged our local group to help with a local Boys' and Girls' Club. She will be asking for various help as the year continues. Thanks to Sue Wyatt, our liaison with Broad Street Christian Church that has opened up their doors to facilitate some of our projects. If you haven't seen the hard work of the volunteers who made all this happen. Please go by and take a look. They have done an incredible job. Ann Hall is the chair of Bank of the Arts and is still looking for people to make an arrangement each month. She will be filling us in on the needs for each month. Please be sure to try to respond each month to Judy Boyd about your intentions for lunch. It makes it much easier for the club to set up our tables. Be sure to include any guests you may be bringing and what they want to have for lunch. Mary Florence is chair of seasonal design, and I know she will be asking members to create a floral design for each meeting-say yes and sign up. Sue Wyatt is also the chair of Beautification, her group tend to the public gardens, and she is always in need of help to keep things looking nice for our neighbors. Finally, Paula Hartman and her team need your help on awards, this function tells the story of TWGC and raises money for our scholarships. So Please sign up and help, you won't regret it!

I probably have left something very important out, but as I was told not too long ago, not all members even read this!

I will miss our September meeting. I will be in Greece! If you have anything you need, anytime of the year, please just email me. I will try to address all concerns in a timely manner.

See y'all soon!

Raye Lynn Longhini, President TWGC

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

And

Garden Clubs of North Carolina, Inc.

TWGC Executive Board 2025-2027

Raye Lynn Longhini

President

1st Vice President, Deb Tallman

2nd Vice President, Maureen Loomer

Recording Secretary, Annette Daugherty

Treasurer, Janet Jonah

Corresponding Secretary, Marcia Sproul

Historian, Karen Kimball

A heartfelt Thank You to all that have served TWGC so faithfully.

TWGC 2024-2025 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– Janet Jonah-janet.jonah1@gmail.com-443-981-9307

Floral Design Chair – Ann Simpson simpsonann@suddenlink.net

Fundraising Chairs– Karen Powers-kpowers913@gmail.com 285-797-8209 and
Giga Smith –gigasmith57@gmail.com 252-876-5084

Garden Therapy Chair- Karen Kimball Karenkimball1@gmail.com 603-438-1839

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

Seasonal Design Chair—Mary Florence mflorence@suddenlink.net

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

Service Recognition Award Chair– Deb Tallman - deborah_t_07760@yahoo.com
732-539-8846

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

Youth Gardeners Chair– Karen Powers kpowers913@gmail.com

Trent Woods Garden Club Members' Meeting

September 11, 2025

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

**2025—2026 Executive Committee Objectives with TWGC Committee
Chairs**

Menu

1. Cobb Salad – Crisp iceberg, hard boiled eggs, diced tomatoes, grilled chicken, scallions, avocado, Swiss & cheddar cheese, topped with apple-wood smoked bacon, with choice of dressing

OR

2 Grilled Salmon topped with Lemon Beurre Blanc with chef's choice of starch and vegetable

Please contact Judy Boyd to make a reservation by
Tuesday September 9th and indicate your choice to

judysboyd@embarqmail.com

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

Meeting only \$10.



Horticulture and Environmental Concerns September 2025

By Maureen Loomer

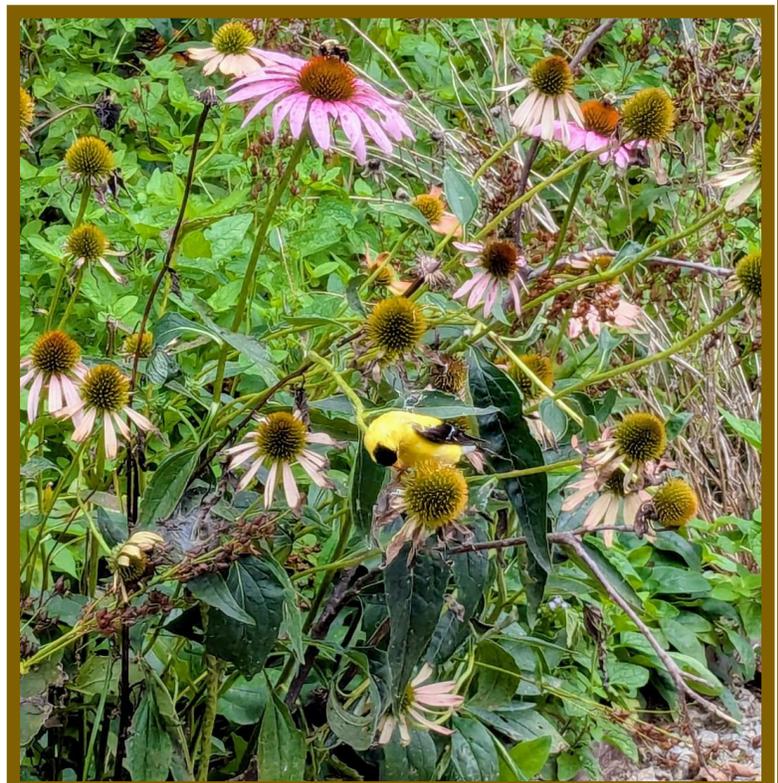
“I’d like to call back Summertime and have her stay for just another month or so. But she’s got the urge for goin’, so I guess she’ll have to go.”

--Joni Mitchell, Canadian Singer/
Songwriter

Where has the time gone? I hope you are looking forward to seeing old and new friends at our September meeting. I know I am!

September birthday. Asters (a very large genus) symbolize love and wisdom, patience and beauty. It has also been associated with faith, friendship, and purity. Morning Glories have symbolized love that was never returned but have also been seen as a sign of undying love. <https://www.almanac.com/september-birth-flowers>

Crop/Wildlife Watch. As of August 18, North Carolina crops are enjoying a good-to-excellent year with corn, soybeans, peaches, and peanuts especially successful. https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/North_Carolina/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2025/CW081725.pdf Those of us cultivating tomatoes and sweet peppers in Trent Woods have had a tough time with insects and fungus. I am told it has been an especially poor year for bell peppers.





It's migration season for hummingbirds! I put up two feeders to help mitigate how poorly my flowers (except the lavenders!) are doing. The house finches and purple finches like to sip on them too.

I saw a female Monarch butterfly in the garden yesterday and was sad that none of my milkweed survived the brief-but-intense-heat and episodic heavy rain this summer. The Monarchs are on the journey south to Mexico and I hope other folks did better with their pollinator gardens. My mints have struggled mightily, but my Thai Basil has revived enough to be blooming again. The bronze fennel has all been eaten

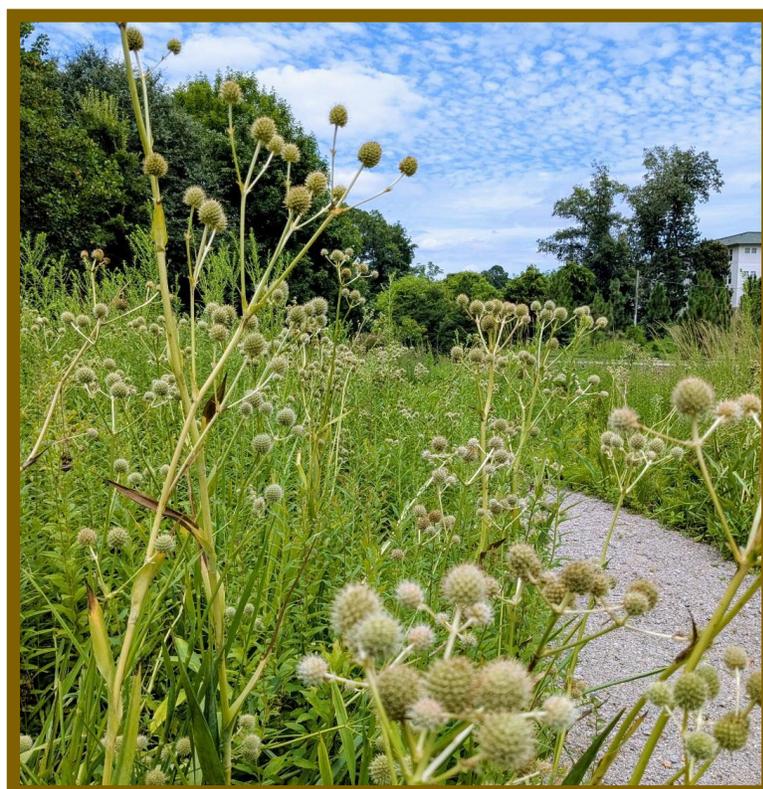
by black swallowtail larvae but it will grow back quickly. I took the photo of Rattle Snake Master at Pinehurst's Arboretum Pollinator Garden. All of mine drowned.

My sister and I are "hosting" a family of gray foxes. We first saw the dog fox in our lower garden, then discovered the vixen napping on our raised patio in June. We've watched the three kits grow up during their occasional twilight visits. Our neighborhood is rich in rabbits, rodents, and fruit: gray foxes climb trees easily and our neighbor has several fig trees. Gray foxes are native to North Carolina but threatened by coyotes and frequently move closer to humans to avoid them. We

expect the family will disperse in another month or so. <https://www.ncwildlife.gov/media/2181/download?attachmhttps://www.southernliving.com/what-to-do-if-see-fox-in-yard-11785929//www.southernliving.com/what-to-do-if-see-fox-in-yard-11785929ent>

Drought Report. As I write, Trent Woods has accumulated 57.74 inches of rain over the year. This is 8.91 inches more than the historical average. This trend is expected to continue through the fall, so anyone still doing rain dances, you can stop now.

Until next time...



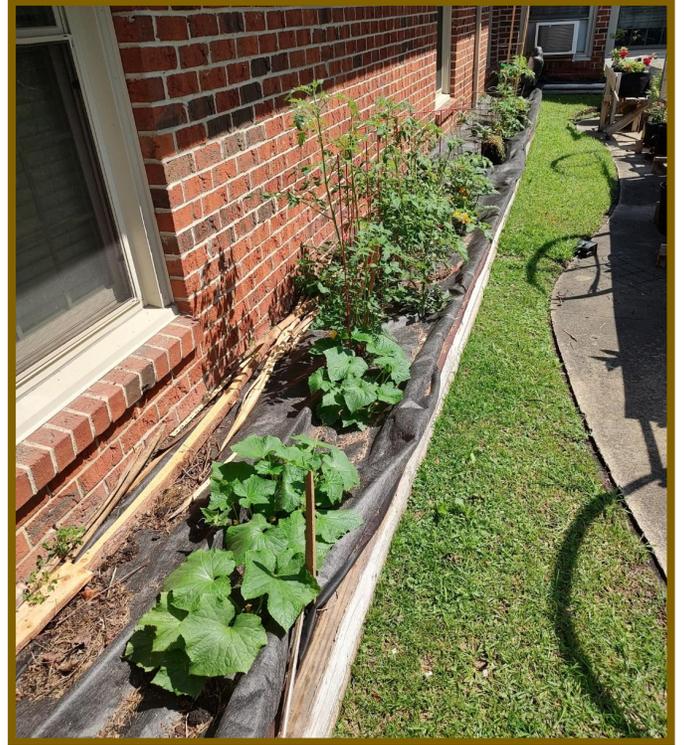
Spring Home and Garden Tour

TWGC provided floral arrangements to support the New Bern Historical Society's fund raiser. TWGC provided arrangements for two homes. Shown here are the arrangements at Heron Hospitality.



Garden Therapy Spring-Summer 2025

RiverPoint Crest residents are excited for the new “salsa” and vegetable garden that TWGC members, led by Karen Kimble planted. As the veggies and herbs ripen the staff plans on preparing them so that everyone can enjoy! Below are photos from April, May and June showing the plants’ progress.



May 2025 Monthly Program

May 2025 saw the installation of TWGC's new 2025-2027 Executive Board. Lets wish them all well as they work hard for TWGC Marthaa Schell was awarded TWGC's Service Recognition Award and Karen Powers and Raye Lynn Longhini award scholarships to our two winners.



Seasonal Design May 2025

Art in Bloom



Volunteers Needed!

As we begin a new year at TWGC it is imperative that everyone reflect and find time to volunteer for all the various good works we do throughout the year.

Garden Therapy

Youth Gardeners (Bees)

Beautification

Seasonal Design

Bank of the Arts

To name a few.

So please, contact the Chairs listed on page 3 or any board member and get involved or re-involved.

House Sparrow



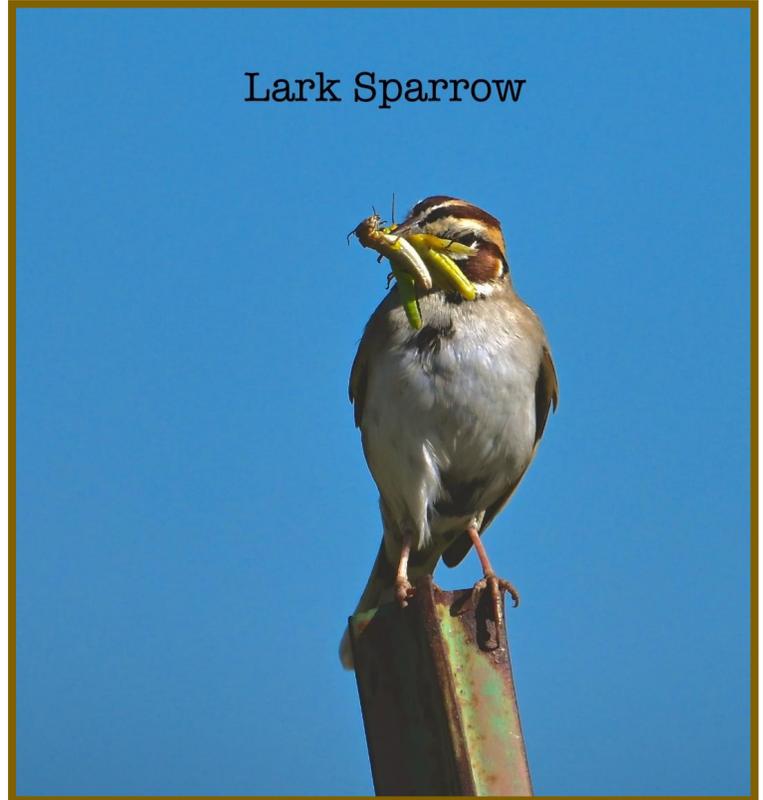
That was my mindset for at least a couple of years, until I realized actually how many different sparrows there are.

Bird of the Month

Sparrows by Michael Creedon

That's right, sparrows. When I first began photographing birds, my wife was my spotter. She would direct me to a group of birds over on a wall, I'd focus, then lower my camera commenting, "It's only a bunch of sparrows."

Lark Sparrow





Continued

Sparrows have their own family in the Passerine genera. In the New World, there are 141 recognized species in this family, including buntings, towhees, some brush finches and others. Excluding those, there are 70 that have the word sparrow in their name. And another 29 in the Old World. That's a lot of sparrows.

They are generally small to medium sized birds, seed eating with a conical bill allowing them to crack open hard seeds. Usually brown or gray, with distinct head patterns. The House Sparrow is among the most widespread bird in the world. The reason for its success is it lives among hu-



Fox Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow



mans. Native to Eurasia and Africa, it was first released in North America in 1852. This bird can make its living on the sidewalks of NYC, where few other species could survive.

Chipping Sparrow



Continued

I have managed to photograph 33 different species, despite my late start. So, when you see those little brown birds hopping around the ground in your backyard, or anywhere you go, including inside Lowes, gas stations, and other unusual places, take a closer look. It has a good chance to be something besides a House Sparrow.

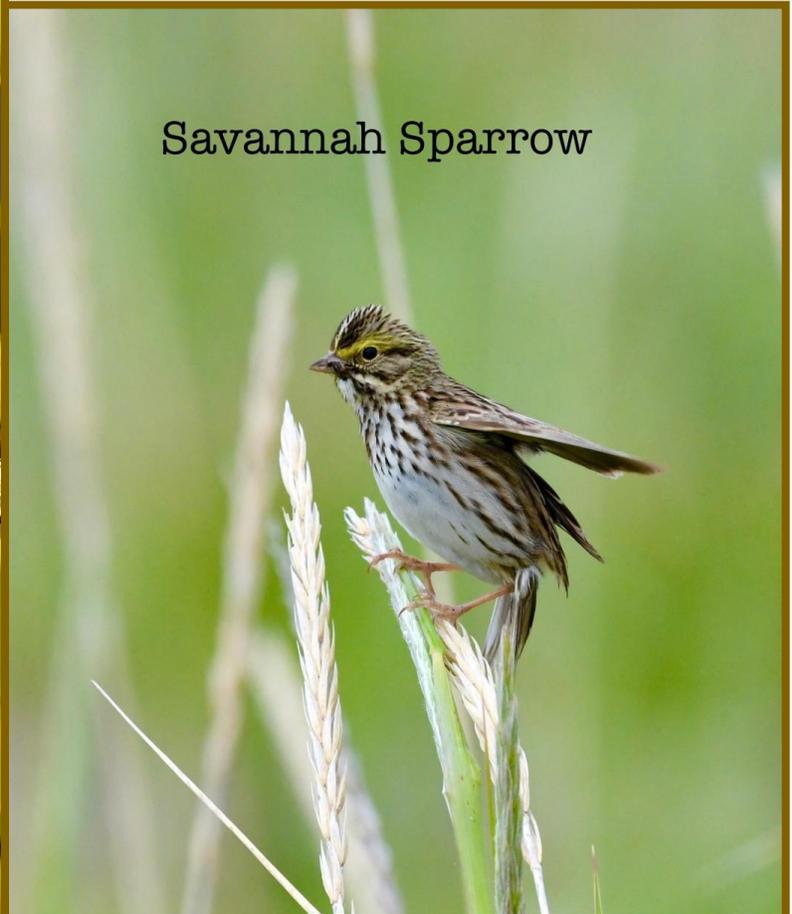
More photos from Mchael Creedon on our website:

www.trentwoodsgardenclub.com

White-throated Sparrow



Savannah Sparrow



Horticulture and Environmental Concerns September 2025

By Maureen Loomer

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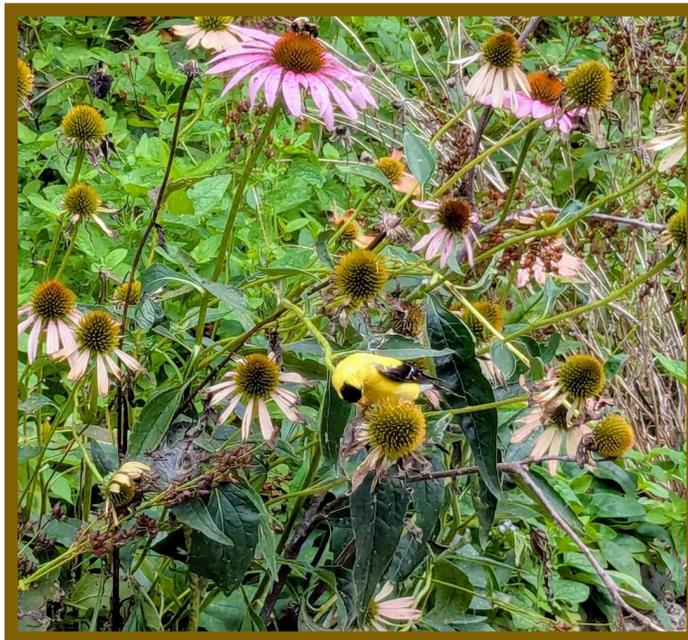
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[Crop Progress & Condition/2025/CW081725.pdf](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/North_Carolina/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2025/CW081725.pdf) Those of us cultivating tomatoes and sweet peppers in Trent Woods have had a tough time with insects and fungus. I am told it has been an especially poor year for bell peppers.

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Horticulture and Environmental Concerns

September 2025

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White Chocolate Cranberry Cookies

Ingredients

- ½ cup packed brown sugar
- ½ cup white sugar
- ½ cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1 large egg
- 1 tablespoon brandy
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup dried cranberries
- ¾ cup white chocolate chips

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Grease 2 cookie she
2. Beat brown sugar, white sugar, and butter with an electric mixer in a large bowl until creamy. Add egg and brandy and beat until incorporated.
3. Combine flour and baking soda in a separate bowl. Stir flour mixture into the butter mixture until just combined. Fold in cranberries and white chocolate chips.
4. Drop spoonfuls of dough 2 inches apart onto the prepared baking sheets.
5. Bake in the preheated oven for 8 to 10 minutes, switching racks halfway through; cookies will still appear slightly doughy.
6. Remove from the oven and let cool briefly on the cookie sheets before transferring to wire racks to cool completely