

September 2011

THE GRAPEVINE GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE



September 2011

Tuesday, September 27

Stacy's Furniture & Accessories

Community Room, 3rd Floor 1900 South Main, Grapevine

Social 9:30 A.M. Meeting and Program 10:00 A.M.

*We thank our members for continuing to carpool and park in the outer slots
to allow Stacy's customers to park near the store entrance.*

THANK YOU TO OUR HOSTESSES: Sarah Erickson (Chair), Carol Chick,
Jimmie Nell Cook, Anne Hogue, Barbara Munn, Joan Pierce, Diana Pospisil,
Barbara Williams.

Grapevine Garden Club September Program

“Dragons and Damsels in Our Gardens” Our speaker will be Omar Bocanegra from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He will provide a presentation on the identification of dragonflies and damselflies in our gardens and also dazzle us with specimens from his personal collection. For future programs, be sure to check the website as well as the more detailed descriptions in the 2011 – 2012 GGC Yearbook.

☞Kathy Clark, Program Chair



Red-tailed Pennant

2011-2012 Yearbook – Available at the September Meeting

The new issue of the Grapevine Garden Club Yearbook for 2011-2012 will be available for you to pick up at the September general meeting. The yearbook is a concise reference for items like the GGC events calendar, program descriptions, new and continuing projects, as well as the membership list with contact information. The cost of the yearbook is part of your yearly dues, so please pick up one.

☞Chuck Voelker, Yearbook Coordinator

President's Message

Wow, what a summer! I'm sure we all have a new appreciation for the term "drought tolerant" when we talk about our gardens. If you had plants in your summer garden that performed particularly well, please let me know (kl.rice@verizon.net). I will collect the information and share the list after the September general meeting at the Gardens on View session. The good news is we did not have to fight powdery mildew in our gardens!

We extend a warm welcome to all new and returning members. We have planned an exciting year of activities and learning opportunities. We will kick off the year's programs with hearing about damsel and dragonflies (See program description below). Haven't you often wondered about these flying jewels as they zip through your garden? Our theme for the year will be the "Suburban Salad," which is the theme selected as a flow-down of National and State Garden Club themes. You will be able to order some salad plants to feature in your fall and winter garden (see Ways & Means / Other Projects). We have some great "Gardeners on the Go" tours lined up and volunteer opportunities so you can contribute to the community. I'm excited to get started, and I hope you are, too!



☞Karen Rice, President

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GARDENS ON VIEW – SEPTEMBER

Welcome back everyone! We are kicking off our Gardens on View tours with special sessions at the Grapevine Botanical Gardens (located at 411 Ball Street) and Nash Farms. Lisa Grove has graciously invited us to start our session at the Education Pavilion in the Gardens immediately after the regular GGC meeting on Tuesday, September 27th. She will speak to us about salad gardens grown in containers, complete with a demonstration. We will also discuss plants that are drought-tolerant and weathered our extra hot, dry summer in good fashion. We will then go to Nash Farms (located at 626 Ball Street) where a docent will speak to us about aspects of running an historic farm. Please feel free to bring your brown bag lunch to the Education Pavilion. Iced tea and water will be provided. We look forward to seeing you after the regular meeting.

☞ Marge Carpenter, Gardens on View



Education Pavilion



Nash Farm

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GET INVOLVED



Start the garden club year by becoming involved in the various activities of the club. To simplify this process at general meetings, there will be a designated table with publicity relating to upcoming tours, projects, and activities. Forms will be available for you to indicate your interest in participating in these events. Look for the sign up table, take the time to peruse promotional material, and get involved in making this a successful garden club year.

☞Joetta King, GGC Executive Board



The Suburban Salad

Every year, the GGC president selects a theme for the year and a project tied to the theme. The theme flows down from the National, State, and Regional Garden Club themes (described in the new yearbook) and benefits both the club and the community. This year the theme is the “Suburban Salad”. By integrating salad and herb ingredients in our suburban gardens, we can add nutrition to our dinner tables, and have lovely plants in our fall and winter gardens.



And in keeping with our commitment to the community, we will make a donation to a community garden. We will be offering a selection of 4” potted plants at the September general meeting. There will be a variety of edibles and herbs such as chard, kale, dill, fennel, lettuce and others. The plants will be available at the Garden on View session at the Botanical Gardens immediately after the meeting, or for those unable to attend the Garden on View event, there will be a small group available in the parking lot directly after the meeting. Proceeds will benefit the Ways & Means / Other Projects fund and community donations.



✪ Karen Rice, President

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WAYS and MEANS

As you have read in Karen's article, "Suburban Salad", the club will have an assortment of vegetables and herbs available for purchase at the upcoming September meeting. Please visit the Ways and Means table to purchase what you might like for your fall garden.

Along with the edibles, a few T-shirts are available for purchase in dark purple as many have requested. Throughout the year, shirts and other clothing may be ordered to be picked up at the next regular meeting. The T-shirts are \$14.00. Also available are grape cluster earrings for \$10.00, sun visors for \$5.00, and ball caps for \$12.50. Quantities are limited.

A new item for this year is a Grapevine Garden Club Embroidery Patch that can be attached to denim shirts, totes, jeans, etc.

We look forward to having different items throughout the year. Suggestions are welcomed.

☞Theresa Thomas, Ways and Means / Other Projects



GARDENERS ON THE GO UPCOMING ROAD TRIPS

Contact Joetta King for tour reservations and additional information.

Getting to know others with a common interest and making friends is a high priority for most of us. Traveling with club members on tours can achieve these goals. Plan ahead for joining us on upcoming road trips! Transportation to all locations will be by carpool groups or individually. Additional information regarding tours will be available by email, telephone or postal mail to those who express an interest in attending. The following tours are not suitable for children or pets.

Destination - Lewisville

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

8:15 A.M. - 3 P.M.

A guest may be invited.

- Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area (LLELA) \$3 admission fee
- Lewisville Aquatic Ecosystem Research Facility (LAERF) - no fee
- Hartwell's Nursery - no fee
- Lunch at Tierney's in Old Town Lewisville
- Steve's Leaves - no fee

LLELA is a 2,000-acre tract of land that has been leased for environmental preservation, education, and research. Only tiny islands of North Texas prairie remain. LLELA Director, Kenneth Steigman, will show members work begun to restore the prairie ecosystem and will discuss the impact of invasive plant species.

The **LAERF** tour led by Dian Smith, UNT Research Scientist II, will emphasize how exotic-invasive aquatic plant species impact our water supplies and lakes.



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Hartwell's Nursery (retail)

Lewisville's premier nursery since 1964, Hartwell's has a good selection of trees, shrubs and native plants. Tour members will be offered a 15% discount on plants during our visit.



Fanciful Foliage - Steve's Leaves (wholesale)

In his 12,000 square foot greenhouse, Steve Rosenbaum propagates more than 800 plant varieties and grows plants to sell in 4 and 6-inch pots and 10" hanging baskets for more than 50 area Whole Foods Markets and Home Depots. Steve started his nursery 35 years ago and has decided to leave plants with showy blooms to other

growers. Instead, he focuses on growing plants with unique, colorful foliage, and texture. His passion is making otherwise unknown or forgotten, and often easy-to-grow, house and patio plants available to the public.

If you missed reading Toni Moorehead's article "Fabulous Foliage" in the May 2011 newsletter available on the GGC website, read it! You will be inspired by her article and by touring Steve's Leaves to consider how significant foliage is in creating interest in the garden.

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**Destination - Fort Worth
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5**



9:15 A.M. - Return time depends on lunch and shopping interest.

Members only - No guests - No fee

Finding sanctuary in the garden

Residential garden of Katie Sherrod and Gayland Pool

When Gayland Pool purchased the 2.5 acre property before he and Katie Sherrod were married in 1991, the property was so overgrown that it was difficult to see the farmhouse that seemed more suitable for bulldozing than restoring. Carefully protecting the trees, the property was cleared of underbrush and invasive species and the house was restored. The couple's interest in using salvaged architectural

materials has enhanced the diverse plantings, provided a place of refuge, and has created a series of garden rooms throughout the property.

Although Pool, a retired Episcopal priest who held clerical positions in Dallas and Fort Worth for almost 40 years, is not a gardener, he has been a partner in creating the setting and finds peace in walking the meandering garden paths in the company of their four rescue dogs. Katie Sherrod, an independent writer, may already be familiar to you as she was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in 1987 for outstanding contributions to the field of communications. She was named one of Fort Worth's Outstanding Women in 1988 and Texas Woman of the Year in 1989.

After seeing the salvaged architectural features incorporated in the Sherrod - Pool garden, you will be inspired to stop at Old Home Supply House. On a previous tour, members found vintage fountains, statuary, planters, wrought iron gazebos, trestles, arbors, and garden art of all sorts. Sherrod said, "I love Old Home Supply." So, plan to have lunch and shop before heading home. Tour participants will receive a 10% discount.

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Destination - Dallas
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18
9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
A guest may be invited.

Autumn at the Dallas
Arboretum
Guided tour and box lunch
(Fee - \$22.75)
Minimum attendance 20.
Maximum attendance 30.



The tour is scheduled during the Arboretum's major fall event, *Autumn at the Arboretum*, highlighting 150,000 flowers and fall displays including 6,000 chrysanthemums and an elaborate Pumpkin Village made with more than 40,000 decorative pumpkins and gourds.

Although you may have visited the Dallas Arboretum many times, attending a guided tour with an experienced and knowledgeable tour guide providing information about the history of the Arboretum as well as information about the gardens and plants should enhance your experience. The tour will begin at 10:00 A.M. and last approximately one hour.

Following our guided tour, members will enjoy a pre-selected box lunch at the Lula Mae Slaughter Dining Terrace. The four lunch options will be posted at the September meeting or by email. The fee for the tour and box lunch is \$22.75. Complete the tour reservation form and make your check payable to Grapevine Garden Club. Submit both to Joetta King by September 30.

The tour fee does not include admission to the Dallas Arboretum. If you are a member of an organization associated with the American Horticultural Society (AHS), there is no admission fee. Examples of societies in the reciprocal admissions program of the AHS are Clark Gardens, Fort Worth Botanical Society, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Texas Discovery Garden, and the Dallas Arboretum. Non-members must pay \$12 adult or \$10 (65+) admission. Give serious consideration to joining the Dallas Arboretum or an AHS associated organization prior to this tour!

Joetta King, Gardens on the Go Chair

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SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ron Anderson
 Barbara Atkins
 Ella Barber
 Marilyn Bayer
 Patty Brown
 Al Capone
 Jenny Capone
 Diane Cauwels
 Rachel Clark
 Carmen Drew



Peggy Harris
 Peggy Reyher
 Karen Rice
 Shari Stanfield
 Bea Stevenson
 Lisa Stokdyk
 Marty Swindell
 Beckie Underwood
 Elayne Vick
 Edie Williams

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
Sept 15 – 18	Grapefest	Grapevine Main Street
Sept 21	FW Garden Club Council Meeting	10:00 – 11:30 A.M. Ft Worth Botanic Garden
Sept 22	<i>Fall Bird Migration</i> Dr. Ray Chancellor, Speaker	7:00 P.M. Grapevine Library
Sept 24	Iris and Daylily Sales	9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. Ft Worth Botanic Garden
Sept 27	GGC General Meeting	Grapevine - Stacy's Furniture
Sept 27	Gardens on View	Grapevine Botanic Gardens Nash Farm
Sept 27 – 28	Flower Show School III	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
Sept 29	Gardeners on the Go	8:15 A.M. Lewisville
Oct 1	Concerts in the Garden	7:00 P.M. Grapevine Botanic Gardens
Oct 5	Gardeners on the Go	9:15 A.M. Ft Worth
Oct 6	Butterfly Flutterby Crafts	1:00 P.M. Home of Gloria Land
Oct 8	Fall Plant Sale	9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Ft Worth Botanic Garden
Oct 8	Fall Round Up	Nash Farm

Save the Dates!

Date	Event	Location
October 15 th	Butterfly Flutterby	Grapevine
October 18 th	Fall Texas Garden Club Convention	San Antonio
November 1 st	Fall District Convention	Nocona (See registration form on last page of newsletter.)
December 6 th	Holiday Luncheon	Lancaster Theater Grapevine
February 27, 2012	Spring District II Convention	Ft Worth Botanic Gardens
March 22 – 24, 2012	Spring Texas Garden Club Convention	Grapevine
May 12, 2012	Grapevine Garden Club Plant Sale	Grapevine

BUTTERFLY FLUTTERBY

Grapevine's 14th annual Butterfly Flutterby will be held on Saturday, October 15th and you are invited to join in the fun. The Garden Club booth will be in the middle of the fun, which includes a parade, butterfly exhibits, arts and crafts, and entertainment! There will be several butterfly releases as part of the migration of Monarch butterflies from Canada and the United States to their winter home in Mexico.



The Garden Club will be offering information, seeds, and items for sale. Bring your seeds to the September meeting. We would appreciate your help with assembling simple necklaces from ribbon, beads and butterfly charms and creating seed packets. We will meet at Gloria Land's home on Thursday, Oct. 6 from 1P.M. – 3P.M. for this easy and fun activity. Look for sign-up sheets at the September GGC meeting for both October events.

As the Annual Butterfly Flutterby gets closer, we need all the club members to check their gardens for caterpillars in any stage! The children love seeing the real thing, instead of just pictures.

If you would like to help or have anything we can use, please contact Gloria Land or Sandy Cavanaugh. **✉Gloria Land, Co-Chair Butterfly Flutterby**

GOOD NEWS FOR THE GARDENS & THE CLUB!

During the Texas Garden Club (TGC) Spring Convention in El Paso, the Grapevine Botanical Gardens Greenhouse Project was approved by the incoming Executive Board of TGC as a “contributing project”. This means that garden clubs across the state can make donations through TGC to the Grapevine Botanical Gardens. In return for their donations, clubs will earn points on their club rating report and all donations will go to support the gardens’ educational programs and Greenhouse Project.



In case you are new to the GGC, a little history: In 2007, the Ed and Edith Pewitt Educational Pavilion was constructed with donations raised by the Grapevine Garden Club in partnership with the City of Grapevine. This outdoor teaching center is used to educate children and adults about nature, plants, wildlife, recycling, conservation, and the environment. Club members and Tarrant County Master Gardeners teach the classes and many also serve as garden docents.

In 2010, approximately 1400 children and adults attended thirteen formal classes, thirty tours, and fifteen special events. The classes, programs, and workshops create an awareness of the importance of the natural world that in turn benefits all citizens of Grapevine and the surrounding communities.

In March 2011, the GGC Board agreed to partner again with the City to obtain grants and raise matching funds and donations to construct a greenhouse within the gardens. The greenhouse will provide even more opportunities to expand the garden’s educational and volunteer programs and to propagate plants for the gardens and special events. The designation by TGC as a contributing project is a good start for this new GGC project. The GGC board and club members appreciate the approval and support of the Texas Garden Club Board.

If you are interested in helping the Greenhouse Committee obtain grants and raise funds and donations, contact Linda Krimm or Sarah Erickson.

☞ Linda Krimm, Greenhouse Committee Chair

TGC STATE CONVENTION

The Texas State Garden Club Convention will be held in Grapevine this spring, and our very own Grapevine Garden Club will be hosting! The dates are March 22, 23, and 24. The Hilton Garden Inn on Main Street will serve as hotel headquarters. Convention meetings will be located at the Grapevine Convention Center and the Lancaster Theater. As part of the activities, we will host tours of the Grapevine Botanic Gardens followed by a reception at the Lancaster.

This convention is a big endeavor, but GGC is *as* capable (or *more* capable) of handling all the details than any other club in Texas! In the coming months, we will be recruiting volunteers for various tasks, so be sure to mark your calendars now and reserve those dates in March.

☞ Sarah Erickson and Linda Krimm, Convention Chairs



Convention Sales

One of the plans for supporting the expenses of the state convention will be to sell succulent dish gardens. We used this fundraiser at the District II convention several years ago, and it was a big success.

We are asking Grapevine Garden Club members to donate succulent plants that you may have in your yard or pots. The plants will be propagated and used for the dish gardens. The plants are needed as soon as possible so that we have enough time for them to grow and divide before the convention. Please contact Barb Munn or Sarah Erickson to donate plants. You can bring them to meetings, or we can pick them up at your house. Thanks for the help!

☞ Barb Munn, Convention Sales Coordinator

DOCENTS ANYONE?

The Grapevine Botanic Gardens docent program will be very busy this year, educating and entertaining many visitors, some of whom will be here to see where their greenhouse donations are going. We have approximately 50 members, including many Master Gardeners who are not members of the garden club, and many Grapevine Garden Club members, as well. Our visitors range in age from small children to very mature people, many of whom are inquisitive about the types of plants we're growing, how we keep them alive, and how they can grow them at home. The youngest also have questions about the fish, butterflies, and other animals found in our gardens. Also, many are interested in the history of the gardens. We teach with tours and crafts and welcome anyone who would like to be a part of the program to come join us.

Garden docents will help with youth craft tables during the Fall Concert Series on October 1, 8, 15 and 22. There will also be docents in the garden from 10 until noon on Saturday mornings. It is a good opportunity to get acquainted or reacquainted with the garden while visiting with our guests. We are contemplating another docent training session this fall. If you are interested, please contact Lisa Grove at the address below.



Grapevine Botanic Gardens

**Lisa Adams Grove, Horticulturist
Botanical Gardens at Heritage Park**

817-410-3350

817-410-3051 fax

817-532-7343 cell

411 Ball St. / PO Box 95104

Grapevine, TX 76051

www.grapevinetexas.gov

☞ Barbara Thompson, Grapevine Botanic Gardens Docent Coordinator

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON COMMITTEE

The Grapevine Garden Club Holiday Luncheon will be held Tuesday, December 6th at the Lancaster Theatre. A few members are needed to assist with preparations for the luncheon. Our first meeting will be held sometime in October. A sign-up sheet will be on the sign-up table at the September general meeting. Or you can send me an email indicating that you would like to be on the Holiday Luncheon Committee.

☞ Joan Kowalski, Holiday Luncheon Chair



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GRAPEVINE GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE

The GGC Plant Sale is featuring some exciting changes for 2012. The location, date, and focus will change. The new location will be the Grapevine Botanical Gardens. We are so pleased to move to a venue that attracts gardeners and nature lovers alike. It will provide a great setting to hold the plant sale.

The plant sale date will be Saturday, May 12, 2012, and will coincide with the celebration of National Public Garden Day. The plant sale will focus on our heirloom plants. We will be providing advice to our customers regarding appropriate plant selection for their landscape requirements. The plant sale remains our major fundraising activity. It allows our club to award scholarships and provides funds for civic projects.

If you would like to contribute to the GGC's goals by coordinating the plant sale or leading a subcommittee, please contact Karen Rice. Please give consideration to this much needed coordinator position. Thank you.

☞Karen Rice, President



MOTHER GOOSE and her CHICKENS

by Elayne Vick

GGC member Patty Hofer doesn't have to buy a copy of "Raising Chickens for Dummies" like many city folk are doing these days in order to take advantage of the garden project that is taking the nation by storm. She's a seasoned hand having cared for chickens since childhood and provides her flock with a lovely playpen on her farm near Alvarado. And Patty isn't interested in just common barnyard chickens. She is invested in valuable heritage breeds. This is a very "green" effort to help restore these rare types, increasing and protecting them from being wiped out. Patty is finding it rewarding to rescue these breeds. Their unique appearance and egg production delights her.

Patty says, "My breeds are: Buff Orpington, a golden English breed, Australorp, a lustrous black breed developed in Australia, Speckled Sussex, another old English breed that's red and white spangled, and Silver Kraienkoppes, an old German/Dutch breed. They are full sized, not bantam. Excluding the Kraienkoppes, I selected the others because they are dual purpose (meat and eggs), and known for their gentleness. The Kraienkoppes are funny little bug catchers who go broody at the drop of a hat. That is, they will set their own eggs, a trait that has been bred out of modern chickens. Along with all personality, I might add. So these thrifty little girls, who actually lay fairly large eggs for their size, will be my future mamas."

Fall is a good time to raise chicks, Patty reports. "All these breeds do well in our cold weather, and other than a shelter, require no special care during freezing weather. By spring, the pullets will be laying lovely, golden, rich eggs."

When Patty sets or hatches her eggs, it takes three weeks, which results in 50 percent roosters. And unlike city folk, on her farm she can keep her roosters, which make excellent eating.

"Chickens are easy and more people are keeping them as producing pets. There is even a website where you can buy chicken *diapers* for the house bird! OK, mine don't come in the house, but they would if I let them. All the hens roam free during the day, and when I'm out in the yard they follow along and poke their beaks into whatever I'm doing. My husband calls me Mother Goose. If I try to sit down outside for very long they begin inspecting my clothes. They untie my shoes, tug hard at my pants and unsnap my pearl snap shirts."

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Predators are a constant worry, Patty says. “We have coyotes, stray dogs and cats, skunks, possums, owls, rats, chicken hawks (Coopers Hawks), kestrels, bobcats, and raccoons. Stray dogs present the most problems. Attacks are most common at night, so the birds must be put to bed at dusk and securely closed in.”

So if not as just pets, why do people keep chickens, a labor intensive activity? Patty says one main reason for their area is to keep down the grasshopper population. They have had terrible invasions of this insect, and the chickens love them. Patty says when the hens see a grasshopper offered as a treat, they lift their skirts and come running. And the resulting poop is pure gold on her garden.

Then, of course, there are the eggs, which are like night and day to the run-of-the-mill supermarket eggs. Patty says, “Our eggs are fresh, fertile, free of hormones and chemicals, and free range in beautiful shades of pink and brown.”

If you want more information about Patty’s chickens, call or e-mail her. She is happy to share info and even do a custom hatch, if you are interested.



Patty Hofer's Posing Chickens

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District II Fall Convention

Hosted by Crape Myrtle Garden Club
Invite you to

"AUTUMN ON THE CHISHOLM TRAIL"

Tuesday, November 1, 2011
First Baptist Church - Family Life Center
511 Cooke Street, Nocona, TX 76255
Questions: Call Ginger Jones
H 940-825-6272 or C 940-872-7625

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Registration and Sales Tables Open

Agenda

9:30 a.m. Board of Directors Meeting
10:00 a.m. Convention and Business Meeting
11:00 a.m. Featured speaker
11:30 a.m. Sales Tables Open
12:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. Video - History of Nocona
1:30 p.m. Raffles, Door Prizes, Hat Auction
2:00 p.m. Adjourn

Directions

I35N to 82W to Nocona

- From US 287/81 North
 - N287 to Bowie, exit Hwy 81
 - Right on Mill St. merge onto #59
 - To Montague, stop sign, then straight
 - Turn right at stop sign then left on Clay
 - Right on Maple St. Family Center on the left
- OR
- I35/W 82to Nocona, at 2nd light turn right on Clay
 - Right on Maple, Family Center on Left.

Please mail completed registration form and check for **\$25.00 payable to Crape Myrtle Garden Club by October 15th** Please note: \$28.00 registration fee if mailed after October 15th.

To:

Wanda Russell, 501 Main, Nocona, TX 76255

Registration Form for District II Fall Convention, Tuesday, November 1, 2011

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ (\$25.00 per person, \$28.00 after October 15th, payable to Crape Myrtle G.C.)

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/ZipCode: _____ Club: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____ Bring Club Designed Hat for Auction _____

Please circle all that apply:

Garden Club: President Delegate Alternate Member
Council: President Delegate Alternate Club Member
District: Officer Chairman Charter Member
State: Officer Trustee Chairman
Region: Officer Chairman/Rep
National: Officer Chairman
Life Member: District II State Regional National
Former State President Former District Director
NGC Flower Show Judge: Master Life Accredited Student Emeritus Instructor
NGC Landscape Design: Consultant NGC Garden Study Consultant
NGC Environmental: Consultant TGC Design Consultant
Texas Master Gardener
First-Time District II Convention: Attendee Guest