

The Clod-Hopper



Volume 3, digital edition 7

Gardeners of Wake County, Inc. — Raleigh, NC

July 2019

Gardening to Enchant

by Christine Elliott, Friendship Chair

Claremont is a quiet little town east of Los Angeles in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountain range with 10,000 foot Mount Baldy at its back. Established in 1887, when Pomona College was founded by members of the Congregational Church, its one of the oldest communities in Southern California.



Growing up in Claremont, I attended the original Congregational church situated within the college grounds and surrounded by homes build in the late 1900s and early 20th century to support the growing college community. I walked or rode my bike through the neighborhoods to Sunday services and school, choir practice, bible study and youth group meetings multiple times a week throughout my growing years. Unusual in California, huge Sycamore trees lined the main boulevards, and ornamental and fruit trees were abundant. As I remember it, every front yard was gar-

dened with care. I loved my walks. I was enchanted by the gardens. I collected little bouquets of lantana flowers, smelled the roses as they bloomed, hid behind 50 year old camellias, enjoyed the unfolding of blubs throughout spring and summer,



grabbed the odd orange or lemon hanging over a fence, and relished the coolness of shaded paths on hot summer days.

Club Meetings

Monthly meetings are at 7:30 PM at the JC Raulston Arboretum every 3rd Tuesday. Refreshments and socializing begin at 7:00.

At our next meeting on July 16th, Our guest speaker will be Cindy Chappell, a longtime master gardener and a recipient of an NCEMGVA 2014 first prize in the Madeline Collier Landscape Garden Design Competition for the Waterwise Fairground at the NC State Fairgrounds. Cindy's GWC presentation is "Four Seasons of Fragrance in the Garden" where she will encourage us to incorporate year round fragrance into our gardens. Better yet, she'll give us some specific advice on how to do it.

Don't miss this month's GWC meeting where you can learn some new ideas on planting for fragrance in your garden for all four seasons.

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Club Officers and Committees

Board members

President: Virginia (Ginny) Parker
Vice President: Kalli Shevzov
Secretary: Jim Moore
Treasurer: Mac Williamson
Immediate Past President: Paul Hoffman
At-large board members: Barbara Brown, Rich Engates, Leslie Cohen, Eddie Robinson

Committees

Activities Chairs: Will Farmer, Reed & Christine Elliott (seed swap), Renee Engates (refreshments), Mark Boone (picnic), Ginny Parker (awards banquet)
Audit: Charles Gilliam, Sharon LaRusch, Reed Elliott, Donna Farmer
Azalea Sale: Charlie Leverett
Beautification Awards: Laine Thomas
Club Awards: Jim Moore
Endowment Investment: Charles Gilliam
Friendship: Chris Elliott
Historical: Donna Farmer
Membership, Barbara Brown
Newsletter Editor: Reed Elliott
Nominating: TBA
Programs: Kalli Shevzov
Projects: Sharon LaRusch, Lynn Swanson
Publicity: Charles Gilliam
Scholarship: Joanne Boone
Telephone: Johnny and Sherrill Johnson
Webmaster: Reed Elliott

Contact Us

For additional information email our Club at gardener@gardenersofwakecounty.org

Contact Ginny Parker, President, by phone at home: 919-832-5483 or by cell: 919-880-3233

Our Club webpage is available at <https://gardenersofwakecounty.weebly.com/>

Gardening to Enchant

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Our neighborhood here in Raleigh reminds me of old Claremont, without the citrus! We live four doors up from the local elementary school. Families with children walk past our house every morning and afternoon on their way to and from school. Families and couples pass by with dogs, scooters and strollers throughout the evenings and on weekends. We have worked to create front yard gardens that will enchant a new generation. Working in the front gardens offers the opportunity to chat and connect with our neighbors. We share produce from our veggie garden and invite youngsters to come help pick for themselves. We put a stone bench near the sidewalk under the Live Oak tree so hot and tired younger children can rest on their walk home. We put two flag-stone "secret paths" on either side of the tree to invite children to walk through the garden. And we try to keep flowers blooming in the front yard year-round.

Right now the lantana are once again on full display, and they continue to charm children today, just as they did me those many years ago. I know our neighbors have been encouraged to plant more in their gardens after seeing ours. I hope some of the children will have fond memories of our garden and will be inspired to create gardens of their own when they grow up, too.



Four Seasons of Fragrance in the Garden

by Kalli Shevzov, Vice President



Every gardener love the sights and smells of a garden. Gardens overflow with spring flowers, but once spring turns into summer, they may simply turn into unvaried and less interesting shades of green. Here in the Southeast, it's easy to plant a garden with year-round interest including one with flowers every month of year.

Our guest speaker for the July meeting will be Cindy Chappell, an avid gardener, spinner and weaver. In fact, Cindy is a longtime master gardener volunteer in Wake County and a recipient of an NCEMGVA first prize in the Madeline Collier Landscape Garden Design Competition for the Waterwise Fairground Gardens located at Lake Crabtree and the State Fairgrounds.

Cindy has lived in the Raleigh area for many years. Her early life in Pittsburgh, PA provided her with a deep



NC STATE Extension Master Gardener

4 Seasons of Flowers With Fragrance

Weather it is Spring,
Summer,
Fall
or Winter



We can have
Beautiful and Fragrant Flowers!

appreciation for our mild North Carolina winters, and she takes delight in the wide variety of plant choices available to us.

The title of Cindy's GWC presentation is "Four Seasons of Fragrance in the Garden" where Cindy will encourage us to incorporate year round fragrance into our gardens. Better yet, she'll give us some specific advice on how to do it.

Don't miss this month's GWC meeting where you can learn some new ideas on planting for fragrance in your garden for all four seasons.

Summer Begins at Longview

by Sharon LaRusch



It's interesting how life has a certain rhythm to it. We all get into habits and routines, with occasional variation. Summertime is typically one of those changes for most people. Kids are out of school, summer vacations, and longer days bring a temporary change to our life's rhythm. Although our workdays are different over the summer, I am thankful that the Club members still have been able to make time to keep Longview in their summer rhythm. I missed this month's workday with a trip out of town but was excited to get the following update from Lynn that I'd like to share with everyone.

Hi Sharon,

We had a great workday Saturday, with eight present. We'd heard Tuesday night that the goats were out at WakeMed (someone saw it on WRAL) and, sure enough, they were there to greet us. We worked pretty solid for two hours and got most, but not quite all, of the remaining mulch spread. The wheelbarrow wonders were:

Mark Boone

Mark Willis

Rachel Strauss

Jim Swanson

Bill Maxwell was the mulch minder, spreading most of it around. Chris Maxwell and Gail Posey did a lot of trimming. I took some of the boxwood



down a little further and lopped more wisteria root. We were making a debris pile and then realized Chris was feeding a lot to the goats (called her the goat whisperer). I started dropping some in their pen as well, which limited our debris accumulation. We discovered the goats liked wisteria, pokeweed, nandina, and forsythia.

So we have added some new volunteers to the Longview project! All are welcome!



My Corner of the Garden

by Reed Elliott, Editor

You, too, can be a published author! Better yet, you, too, can be a contributor to the life and work of this Club.

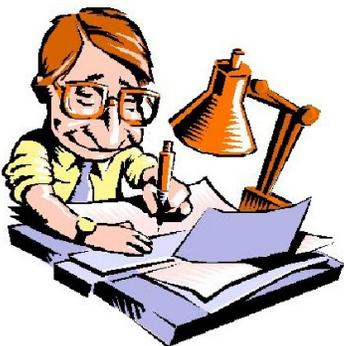
A newsletter like the *Clod-Hopper* provides an opportunity for each of us to share with all of us. Every member of this Club has unique gardening experiences and unique gardening stories. The *Clod-Hopper* is a place where we can share those perspectives. Club members are hereby cordially invited to submit articles and photos for inclusion in the *Clod-Hopper*. Articles don't have to be long or scholarly. They just have to be about gardening. Can it be something funny that happened to you while gardening? Sure. Can it be a serious discussion about a specific plant you love or a gardening problem you solved. You bet. You're the boss. You're the author!

There are a couple of simple requirements. First, keep articles reasonably short. Typically, *Clod-Hopper* articles run between 200 and 300 words. You can see an example by looking at Sharon LaRusch's Longview article in this month's edition. It's always good to include pictures like Sharon does, but there usually isn't space for more than a few, say two or three. I can't guarantee that every picture sent will be included. Sometimes space limitations get in the way. I had to leave out one of my own wife's beautiful garden pictures in the article she contributed this month but there just wasn't room. If that happens, I

hope you'll be as forgiving as (I hope) she is.

If you've got something you'd like to share, send it to me (with pictures attached) at

reed.o.elliott@gmail.com. I'll do my best to publish articles in a timely manner.



New Members

The Gardeners of Wake County welcomes anyone and everyone who loves gardens and gardening. Does that describe you? If you're not already a member, c'mon and join in on the fun! This is a great Club and we'd love to see your name featured in this box in next month's *Clod-Hopper*!