Tomball Garden Club Newsletter Vol. 4 Jan. 2026

Message from Your
Tomball Garden Club President
Teresa Bosworth Green

I hope each of you enjoyed a very happy holiday season. Now we find ourselves in the midst of a true Texas winter—freezing one night and warm again the next! This is a perfect time to recharge and reflect on the past year's successes. Regardless of the weather, our gardening spirits can bloom as we plan for spring. Together, we continue to nurture our plants and prepare for another wonderful year of cultivating both beauty and friendship.

The new year also brings an opportunity for growth within our Garden Club. Please consider inviting family members, neighbors, friends, and even acquaintances you meet in everyday conversations to join us at meetings. Growth is essential—not only to strengthen our membership, but also to expand our educational outreach to the community. As we work on projects and programs, our efforts become visible and valued, and participation in meetings and field trips helps keep everyone informed and engaged.

A special thank you to Lynette Forcht for her outstanding leadership of the Poinsettia Fundraiser, and to the members who helped set up the Poinsettia Tree at the museum: Lynette Forcht, Teresa Gunlock, Linda Nasr, Susan Roshto, Lin Hagedorn, TJ Jeter-McAvoy, and Lynn Kirchner. Additional thanks to those who secured $845 in sponsorship donations for the Poinsettia Tree—your efforts are truly appreciated. I look forward to the coming months with all of you. Remember, the simple act of tending plants is cherished by many as a form of garden therapy, bringing both joy and renewal.

Houston Federation of Garden Club Meetings

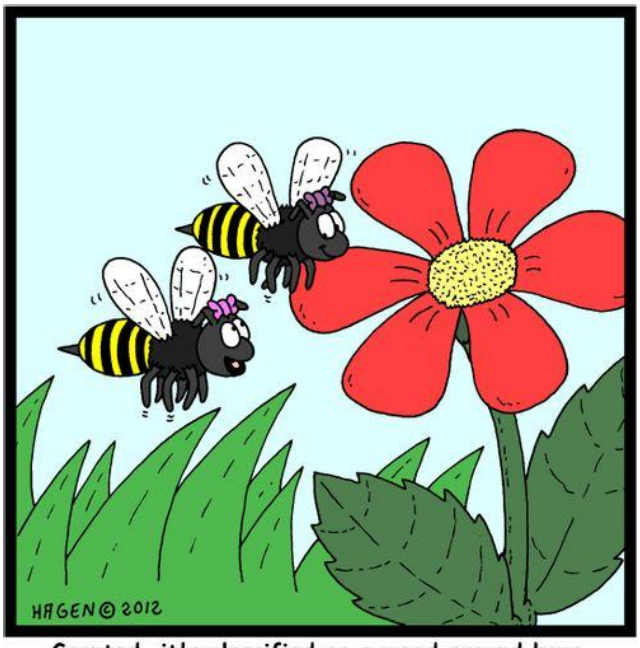
2nd Friday of each month. Sept to May 10 am – noon
City Rise Church, 4601 Bellaire Blvd, 77401

Proud members of: District IV Garden Club, Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., and National Garden Club

Tomball Garden Club meets on the first Monday of the month, September to May.

10 am -noon (9:30 social time)
Location: Tomball Museum Fellowship Hall
510 N Pine St Tomball, TX

tomballgardenclub.org



Granted, it's classified as a weed around here, but you have to agree its pollen is delicious...

Spring Field Trips

Feb 10 Mercer Arboretum
March 18 Enchanted Gardens
April 13 Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Austin

Member Spotlight

Alleine McGahen



Alleine has been a valued member of TGC since 2022. She joined with the hope of deepening her knowledge of plants and finding guidance to enhance her yard, and she has enjoyed every moment of learning along the way. What she treasures most about her membership is the opportunity to connect with fellow gardeners and participate in the club's many programs. A recent standout for her was the fascinating presentation on worm castings by Magic Worm Ranch.

Peonies hold a special place as her favorite flowers. Beyond gardening, Alleine expresses her creativity through crafting, sewing, and ceramics. She currently serves the club with dedication as both Corresponding Secretary and Chaplain. Many are surprised to learn that Alleine was born in Australia, a fun detail that adds to her unique story. She lives by her favorite guiding quote: "Do unto others as you would have done to you."

Garden Angel Winona Dutton



Tomball Garden Clubs Garden Angel award winner for 2025 -2026 is Winona Dutton. Since she joined in 2014, she has served as VP Membership, Field Trip coordinator and her home provided the venue for many celebrations, ceremonies, and staging platforms for fundraisers. Her hospitality is second to none, as is her constant smile and energy. Winona attended every workday for Tomball Garden Club's primary community service project, Tomball Museum Center. These were not one-time events; they were annual commitments. Nowhere did Winona shine like she did in her role for Field Trip Committee Chair. A Houston native, Winona always knew where to go to learn, have lunch and visit nurseries. Field Trips were magical with Winona in charge! Lunch was always a treat at some historic spot. Nurseries were planned with spring planting and winter preparation in mind! Winona piled many in her car and happily led the way on many field trips. Winona is recently widowed. With her life turned upside down, she has been at fewer events but looks forward to attending as many as possible. She is also in the 85+ Senior Gardeners recognition group! Winona will be honored as our Garden Angel & presented with a certificate at the District 4 conference that is in Columbus, Texas on March 17, 2026.

Archive Scanning update

One of our dedicated members, Dale Reid, generously volunteered her time to assist with scanning the Tomball Garden Club archives in partnership with the Lone Star College–Tomball Library and the City of Tomball archivist. Dale completed specialized training to learn the scanning process and also assisted the Board in arranging a meeting to learn about—and assist with—the project. Teresa Bosworth Green and Susan Roshto have also been trained now and will assist with the document scanning. As a result of this effort, our club will receive digital copies of all scanned materials, while the original documents will be preserved and maintained in the City of Tomball archives. We are grateful to our members for their commitment to preserving our club's history for future generations.

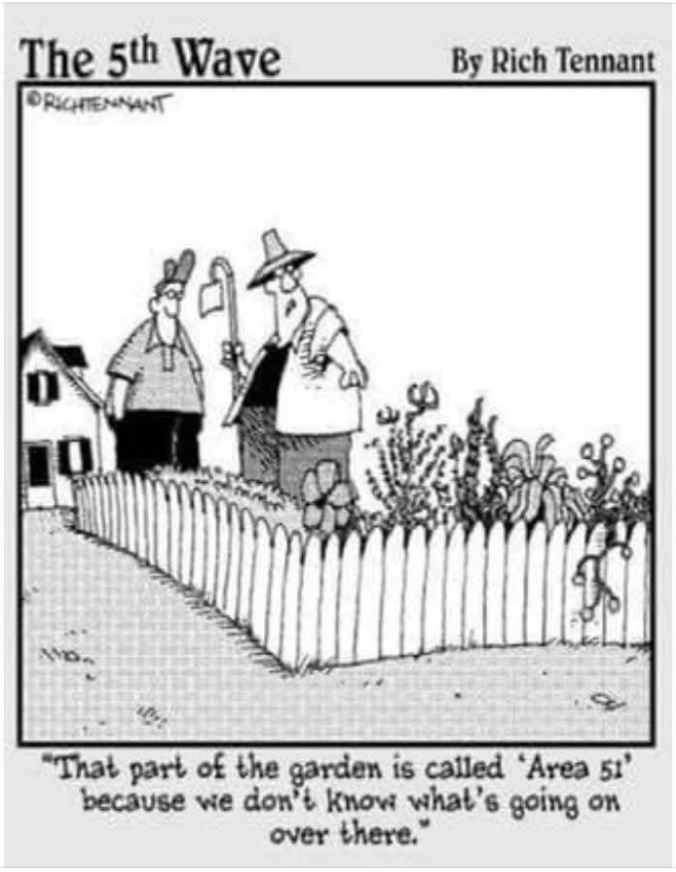
70th Anniversary of the Tomball Garden Club

The year 2026 will be an exciting milestone for the Tomball Garden Club. Founded in 1956 by a small group of dedicated women, our club will proudly celebrate 70 years of service, fellowship, and a shared love of gardening. On Oct 19, 2026 we will celebrate our 70th anniversary with a special vintage Tea for our members. The 70th anniversary committee is already hard at work planning this special event. We welcome additional members who would like to be involved in the planning and celebration. Please let us know if you would like to join us in making this anniversary truly memorable.

Donations to Hunt Garden Club

The Hunt Garden Club in central Texas suffered devastating flooding last summer, resulting in significant damage to their gardens and ongoing projects. In response, our club and its members generously stepped forward to support the Hunt Garden Club in their recovery efforts. Donations were sent this past fall, accompanied by a note expressing our sympathy and best wishes.

In the spirit of continued support, our members graciously voted to extend the fundraising effort throughout the year, with additional donations to be sent to the Hunt Garden Club in May. It is a privilege to stand alongside a fellow Texas garden club, demonstrating the strength, compassion, and unity that define our shared gardening community.

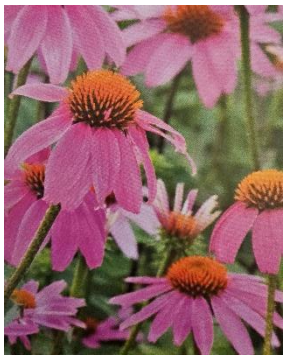


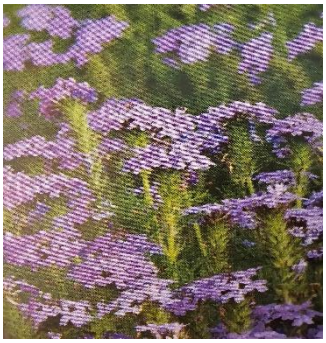
Native Plants that have low deer palatability while attracting butterflies, hummingbirds and bees



Gregg's Mist Flower- All summer bloomer, hosts Metal Mark Butterfly caterpillar and various insect pollinators love the nectar, particularly Queen Butterflies.

Purple Coneflower- well documented in horticulture literature and its' a garden overachiever. Pretty on its own but even prettier when topped with a Red Admiral or a bumble bee. Hummingbirds and butterflies love it.

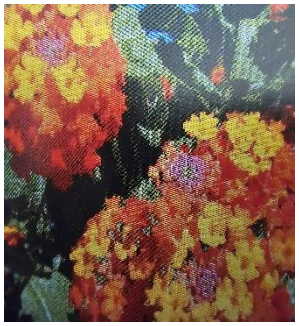




Prairie Verbena- Long season of colorful flower clusters adorned with dancing butterflies. Does well in pots, as a filler in a garden bed or a wildflower planting.

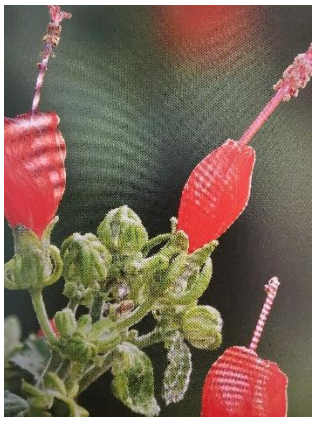
Virginia Blue Flag- Purple & white flower, beautiful iris. However please note that these are toxic, not only to deer but also to humans and pets! You should wear gloves when handling these.





Texas Lantana- Reliable and durable and deer don't like it! Slow to grow in spring, but later the Pink Evening Primrose or Baby Blue Eyes supplies green through winter and early spring.

Turks Cap- Long season of continuous reliable blooming, perfect staple for shaded garden. The shy hibiscus like flowers appear to never fully open. The flowers are edible but not flavorful, but look great as a colorful garnish.





Horsemint Lemon Bee Balm- Flowers are in tiers resembling a rounded pagoda. An appealing pungent and spicy aroma, similar to oregano with a lemony ting, can flavor stews, teas or even perfume potpourri.

Barbara Bush Chocolate Chip Cookies

From Cherie Vanis

2 c flour
1 t salt
1 t baking soda
1 c butter
1 c brown sugar
1 c sugar
2 eggs
2 t vanilla
12 oz mini choc chips
2 c quick oats
Cook approx. 11 min at 375 degrees






THE LAVENDER PATCH











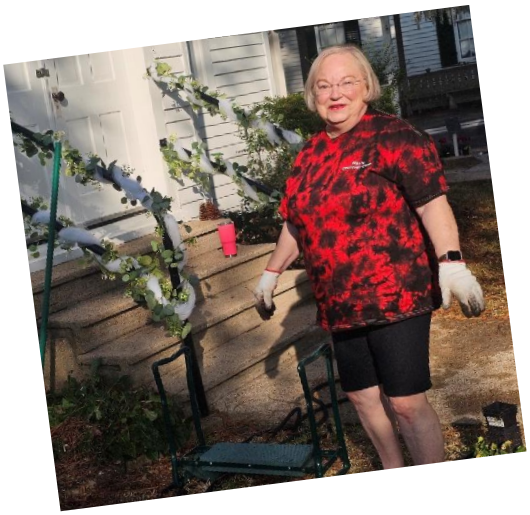





HFGC













Weed & Plant

Apply the wisdom of the garden to life—weed out distractions and clutter, and plant new adventures and relationships.

In the garden, a weed is simply something growing where it is not wanted. Weeding a little and often keeps unwanted growth from becoming overwhelming, while over-weeding can leave a space bare and lifeless. Planting brings balance—introducing variety in color, texture, and timing, nurturing what thrives locally, and occasionally tending a special plant that needs extra care.

Our lives require the same balance. Weeding removes distractions, burdens, and clutter from our schedules and relationships. Planting cultivates meaningful connections, interests, and adventures. When we thoughtfully weed and plant, we create space for purpose, beauty, and abundance to grow.