

# Granville Gardeners Gazette

Promoting education and recreation through gardening activities

Oxford, North Carolina

www.thegranvillegardeners.org

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## 2026 GRANVILLE GARDENER'S CLUB OFFICERS

**President:** Bob Holtaway

**Vice President:** Doreen Arnott

**Secretary:** Jacalyn Thomas

**Treasurer:** Mark Arnott

**Board members:** Liz Carr, Joyce Cifers,  
Lynn Duncan, Kaydee Karns, Linda  
Niles, Robin Word

**Past President:** David Quinn



**Granville Gardeners Gazette** is a  
monthly newsletter. Deadline for  
submissions is the 19th of each  
month.

Editor: Erma Hudgins

Submission requests may be sent to  
erma.hudgins@gmail.com.

## Our March Program.....

**NOTE: THE MARCH MEETING WILL BE HELD AT ANOTHER LOCATION!**

Monday, March 23 at 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall at  
OXFORD METHODIST CHURCH, 105 W. McClanahan Street, Oxford



## **RIPE TOMATO REVOLUTION by Frank Hyman**

Ripe Tomato Revolution is the newest book written by Frank Hyman. He will be presenting some key points about planting and growing every type of tomato.

### About the Speaker:

Frank is a former organic farmer and NCSU-trained horticulturist who studied under Will Hooker and Dr. JC Raulston. He has written two bestselling books on backyard chicken keeping and How to Forage Mushrooms Without Dying: An Absolute Beginner's Guide. He also sells articles and photos to a dozen gardening, biking and farming magazines. He's operated an award-winning design/plant/build business in Durham, Cottage Garden Landscaping, since 1992.

In addition to Ripe tomato Revolution, Frank has written two other books:

Hentopia: Create a Hassle-Free Habitat for Happy Chickens

How to Forage for Mushrooms without Dying: An Absolute Beginner's Guide  
to Identifying 29 Wild, Edible Mushrooms

All three books can be purchased on Amazon.

## **HELP!**

### **DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THE EDUCATIONAL BOOTHS AT THE EXPO:**

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| *Bottles of water (16 ounce or less)    | *Nuts                              |
| *Paper lunch bags                       | *Coffee filters                    |
| *Jars of peanut butter (40 jars needed) | *Ziplock bags (sandwich size)      |
| *Small rubber bands                     | *Paper towel or Toilet paper tubes |

Also, does anyone have any **\*ladies nylons\*** to donate?

We will be making Grass Seed Pals where we will be stuffing soil and seeds into the nylons.

Please contact Doreen Arnott if you can donate.

919-559-5971 or email at doreen.arnott@gmail.com.



## To-Do List For March



*(This was Originally published in the March 2024 Gazette)*

- For those of you starting seeds for vegetables to be set out after the last frost, plant the seeds **indoors March 1<sup>st</sup>** through **the 15<sup>th</sup>** for the transplants to be ready to plant in the garden April 15 through May. Most require a temperature of around 70 degrees to germinate, so put them in a warm place *or* provide bottom heat. When seedlings break ground, transfer to shelves about an inch below fluorescent lights or put them against a window that receives direct sun all day (south exposure).
- Plant the following seeds directly into the ground **March 1<sup>st</sup>**: arugula, beets, carrots, cauliflower, cilantro, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuces, mustard, bulb & green onions, parsley, parsnips, snow, snap, and green peas, radishes, rutabaga, spinach, Swiss chard, and turnips.
- Plant the following seeds directly into the ground **March 15<sup>th</sup>**: arugula, snap beans, beets, Chinese cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, Swiss chard, sweet corn, dill, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuces, mustard, bulb & green onions, parsley, parsnips, snow, snap, & green peas, Southern field peas, radish, rutabaga, spinach, sunflower, and turnips.
- You can **transplant** into the ground: collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuces, green onions, onion bulb sets, and parsley. Plant broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, Swiss chard, Chinese cabbage plants about mid-month.
- Use a pre-emergent herbicide to control weeds.
- After the danger of freezing temperatures, plant crocosmia, dahlia, gladiolus, and lilies.
- Re-pot houseplants that need larger pots so they will be ready to move outside after danger of frost.
- Continue to monitor houseplants for mites, aphids, soft brown scale, and white fly. Insecticidal soap is effective and safe to use. Follow label directions and spray both upper and lower leaf surfaces, stems, and trunks.
- Remove winter mulch from subtropical plants (ginger, crinum, lantana), clean area, and apply new mulch.
- Remove old foliage from hellebores and epimediums (fairy wings, barrenwort).
- Divide and transplant *or* share with others: asters, astilbe, ajuga, oxalis, bleeding heart, phlox, hostas, Shasta daisy, daylily, and coral bells.
- Keep plenty of food and clean water out for the birds.
- Fertilize perennials, shrubs, and trees with an organic slow-release fertilizer. **Note:** Most well-established plants do not need fertilizer. Those planted this past fall will benefit from fertilizer as well as any that you noticed weren't growing as expected last year.
- Cut back ornamental grasses **early** this month if you missed doing so in Feb. Many started new growth in February.
- Shrubs that bloom on new wood should be cut back and shaped.
- Continue to plant cool season vegetable seeds: kale, kohlrabi, leaf and butterhead lettuce, mustard, onions, radishes, spinach, beets, and turnips.

*Compiled by Marty Finkel*

Person 1: "What do you plan to grow this year?"  
Person 2: "Older and crankier."

# Club Calendar

**March 23, 2026**

Monthly Club Meeting at Oxford Methodist Church at 7:00 pm.

Presentation: The Tomato Revolution by Frank Hyman

**April 18, 2026**

Granville Gardeners Expo  
*Club sponsored fundraising event*

We could use help recruiting the following:

- Businesses that would be interested in renting a booth
- Businesses that would be interested in sponsoring the event
- Volunteers (ages 13 and up)

Anyone interested can find info on our website:  
<https://thegranvillegardeners.org/>  
Look under Granville Gardeners Expo information.

You can pick up business cards or flyers about the event at the club meetings.



**April 27, 2026**

Monthly Club Meeting at the Granville County Expo Center in Oxford at 7:00 pm.

We will have a plant auction that includes plants from the JC Raulston Arboretum (JCRA). A speaker from the arboretum will present the details and answer questions about the plants. All the proceeds from the sale of these plants will be used for our scholarship to NC State.

**May 25, 2026**

Monthly Club Meeting at the Oxford Methodist Church at 7:00 pm.

Covered Dish Social

**June 22, 2026**

Monthly Club Meeting at the Granville County Expo Center in Oxford at 7:00 pm.

Presentation: In Search of Great Native Perennials for the NC Gardeners by Tony Avent from Plant Delights Nursery and Juniper Level Botanical Garden in Raleigh.

## EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY!



### The Great Southeast POLLINATOR COURSE

This is as Zoom webinar that will be held each Tuesday from 3:00 - 4:00 pm, June 16 - July 28th. These sessions will also be recorded. Just \$50.

Go to [GSEPC.org](http://GSEPC.org) for more information. Center for Urban Agriculture, University of Georgia



## *Of Note....*

**Do you have a gardening question that you would like to ask an experienced gardener?**



Well, you are in luck! Write your question on a piece of paper and bring it with you to our monthly meetings. There will be a new drop box labeled "ASK MARTY" in the back of the room. Marty Finkel will provide answers and they will be featured in the following Granville Gardener Gazette.

### **TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!**

If you haven't already, please take the time to renew your **Granville Gardener's club membership for 2026!**

You can pay at the next meeting or go online at [thegranvillegardeners.org](http://thegranvillegardeners.org) to print your application and pay. Please bring completed form to the next meeting.

**Would you like to be more involved in the Granville Gardener's Club?  
Would you like more opportunities to network with other gardeners?**

**Well then, join a committee!**

Below is a list of a number of opportunities! Let a board member know if you are interested in any of the following:

- ◆ Activities & Projects Committee
- ◆ Awards Committee
- ◆ Expo Committee
- ◆ Finance/Audit Committee
- ◆ Grants Committee
- ◆ Hospitality Committee
- ◆ Membership Committee
- ◆ Newsletter Committee
- ◆ Nominating Committee
- ◆ Program Committee
- ◆ Publicity Committee
- ◆ Scholarship Committee