

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 June Program. . . .

Monday, June 22nd at 7:00 pm - Granville County Expo Center

The Granville Gardeners have an exciting presentation on June 22. Tony Avent from Plant Delights Nursery and Juniper Level Botanical Gardens will be joining us with the presentation, *Backyard Beauties*. We are opening this meeting to include people from outside our club membership. Please help us fill the auditorium for this event.

This is a free event. However, if you organize a large number to attend, we would appreciate you letting Doreen Arnott know so that we can prepare appropriately. Hope to see you there!

Backyard beauties with

Tony Avent



Photo by Kaitlin McKeown

Monday, June 22 at 7pm

**The Granville Gardeners
Granville County Expo Center
4185 US-15, Oxford**

Join world-renowned horticulturist Tony Avent to learn about overlooked and exceptional native plants. This is a free event.

*Guests
welcome*

A Message from the President

Members of The Granville Gardeners,

We are in that wonderful part of the year called “spring”. Plants are blooming, color is appearing, trees are leafing, gardens are waking up, and the Granville Gardeners Expo for 2026 is in the rear-view mirror.

This year’s Expo supported a successful plant sale and raffle. The net income of the plant sale and raffle was \$5,000, which is an increase from last year. At the time of this writing, the total net profits have not been fully compiled, so you will hear more on that later.

The good news is that out of our 91 current members, 58 volunteered in some way for the Expo. The old saying that 10% of the people do 90% of the work did not apply to our gardeners.

The revised location of our plant sale, the new delivery process, customer assistance, and hard work got all but a single tray of our inventory sold. Process improvements can be made, of course. Sales of the plants were so good that the cashiers and handlers were a bit overwhelmed and sometimes the lines got a bit too long, but those were good problems to have and relatively easy to resolve.

Our reformatted plant auction at the April meeting and the fig tree sale at the Expo provided over \$1,000 for the NC State scholarship grant fund. Great work all around.

A special thanks to a special group of folks,

Bob Holtaway, President

Bailey Farms

Long-time Granville Gardener’s Expo supporter, **Bailey Farms**, really stepped up their game this year by doubling their normal donation to the Granville Gardeners! They donated \$1,000, making them a Bouquet Level sponsor.

This is the first time we have received a donation this size. Thank you so much for your support, Bailey Farms!

Pictured left to right: Linda Niles, Debbie Bailey, and Joyce Cifers.





- Roses: Spray weekly with fungicide to control black spot and powdery mildew. To keep them blooming, cut for arrangements and keep others dead-headed. Give a boost of liquid fertilizer and keep well-watered.
- As crops mature, compost or till in plant material that is not diseased. Diseased material should be discarded in the trash.
- Make repeated plantings of vegetables based on available space: There is still time for a last planting of many warm season vegetables. These include beans, corn, cucumbers, okra, squash, and tomatoes. Select early maturing varieties and provide water if needed. Note that “Days to Maturity” in the fall will be as much as 14 days longer due to the shorter day length and cooler nights. A fast and easy way to obtain more tomato plants is by using suckers: remove suckers and let them root in water or stick them in a mixture of perlite and vermiculite and keep moist until they root.
- If rain does not fall, you need to provide one inch of water per week to keep the garden growing well. Use of soaker hoses or drip irrigation will keep foliage dry and help reduce disease.
- Control weeds by mulching and hand weeding.
- If planning to raise your own transplants for a fall garden, start some at the beginning of the month and others the middle of this month to have plants ready for setting out in early August. Plants to try include Brussels sprouts, broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage.
- To stop the fall flop of mums, Joe Pye weed, sunflowers, asters, garden phlox and other tall growers, cut back by half their current growth. Some are easy to root to share with friends.
- Stake summer blooming plants that will flop because of their height and the weight of their blooms, e.g. dahlias, hollyhocks, asters, lilies, etc.
- Late June and early July are the times to take cuttings from many of your favorite shrubs. Cuttings should be hard enough that the stem breaks when bent; if not, it is too young to use.
- Bulbs such as tulips, Dutch iris, narcissus, and daffodils need to be divided. Over-crowding reduces flower production. When the leaves have turned brown, dig the bulbs and replant immediately.
- Deadhead flowers in the garden to promote continued blooming.
- Snap off the tips of chrysanthemums when the plants are about 6” tall for more blooms and a fuller plant.

Compiled by Marty Finkel

Club Calendar

JUNE EVENTS

6/16: Granville Gardener's Board Meeting
Richard H. Thornton Library

6/22: Monthly Club Meeting at the Granville
County Expo Center at 7:00 PM.

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

JULY EVENTS

7/21: Granville Gardener's Board Meeting
Richard H. Thornton Library

7/27: Monthly Club Meeting at the Oxford
Methodist Church at 6:00 PM. Ice Cream Social.

AUGUST EVENTS

8/19: Granville Gardener's Board Meeting
Richard H. Thornton Library

8/24: Monthly Club Meeting at the Granville County
Expo Center in Oxford at 7:00.

Presentation: *Get Creative in the Garden* by Cynthia
Dickinson.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

9/15: Granville Gardener's Board Meeting
Richard H. Thornton Library

9/28: Monthly Club Meeting at the Granville County
Expo Center in Oxford at 7:00 pm.

Presentation: *Feng Shui in the Garden* by Susannah
Alle.

OCTOBER EVENTS

10/20: Granville Gardener's Board Meeting
Richard H. Thornton Library

10/26: Monthly Club Meeting at Granville County Expo
Center in Oxford at 7:00 PM

We will have a plant auction that includes plants from
the JCRA (JC Raulston Arboretum). 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.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

11/17: Granville Gardener's Board Meeting
Richard H. Thornton Library

11/23: Monthly Club Meeting at Granville County Expo
Center in Oxford at 7:00 PM. Details TBA.



EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY!

The Great Southeast POLLINATOR COURSE



This is a 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 for more information. Center for Urban
Agriculture, University of Georgia

ATTENTION!!

Our June presentation may be a packed house and therefore, we will need extra refreshments! Contact Joann Watts if you can help.

ALSO....Our education team will be providing activities for the children at Hixs Gym Summer Camp on Mondays from 1:00-2:00 pm and we could use a few more helpers. If interested, please contact Doreen Arnott.

Marty's 90th Birthday!

At the Memorial Day social, the Granville Gardeners also helped Marty Finkel celebrate her 90th birthday! The beautiful flower arrangements were created by Gerry Alston and the cake was made by Doreen Arnott. The cake was decorated with dried "edible" flowers. Since Marty likes desserts with citrus flavors, this cake had orange, lemon, and lime flavors. Happy birthday Marty!



Happy birthday to Marty Finkel!



Marty, Gerry, and Doreen.



Marty is naming all of the flowers on her cake!

Of Note....

Do you have a gardening question that you would like to ask?

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



Congratulations to the winners from the JCRA plant auction!

- Chinese Wild Ginger: Erma Hudgins (\$15)
- Bush Ivy: Nancy Wilkins (\$15)
- Japanese Hydrangea Vine: Jane Martini (\$26)
- Weyrich's Chrysanthemum "Apricot": Kay Nutt (\$40)
- Downy Phlox: Diane Holtaway (\$45)
- Hydrangea "Turkey Heaven": Joyce Ciphers (\$50)
- Peppermint Spider Lily: Joyce Ciphers (\$55)
- Toad Lily "Momoe": Lynn Duncan (\$55)
- Ambrosia Pomegranate: Lynn Duncan (\$55)
- Wading Pool Crinum Lily: Judy McHugh (\$50)
- False Indigo "Great Escape": Judy McHugh (\$120)
- Weeping Winged Elm: Liz Carr (\$205 — Highest Overall Bid)

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