



Alta Vista Garden Connection

Farewell & Welcome

A Celebratory Thank-You and New Officers Installation



The end of our long, unusually cold spring was celebrated with a fun creative garden hats contest before distribution of our redesigned yearbooks. The official Laurel awards presentation, club newsletter contest results, and our 2019-

2020 AVGC officers' installation were directed by **Elaine Gunderson**, the Northern District Director for Arizona State Federated Garden Clubs.

With ALL these happenings, photos of the party, hat contest, awards recipients, thank-you gift to Julie for 'a job well done,' the new yearbook reveal, and the officers installation, are on pp. 5, 6, 10 to 12

Our May meeting on the 28th was a festive finger foods potluck luncheon at Past President, Julie Lessard's home.

Thirty-two members and five guests enjoyed Julie's beautifully terraced hillside garden bright with blooming Mexican gold poppies and roses, complemented with charming art accents of her handcrafted glass flowers and other whimsical touches.



June 2019

AVGC Newsletter Team

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AVGC FLOAT THEME DECIDED - FRONTIER DAYS RODEO PARADE (CONT. PG.7)



The Parade Committee has come up with a theme for our float: **"Traditional Roses of the West."** The theme will be displayed along either side of the trailer on a white picket fence.

There will be a decorated a trellis/arch with greenery and roses, toward the back of the trailer.

We will have pots of roses, hopefully in bloom but if not, there will be silk roses placed in the pots with the plants along with signs of the names of vintage roses. A large/tall plant (some kind of evergreen or topiary) will be placed in each front corner of the trailer. A couple of white wicker chairs



Letter from President Nicki

Looking ahead to 2020, crazy May weather & more

These painted rock cacti made it through May's frosts just fine!



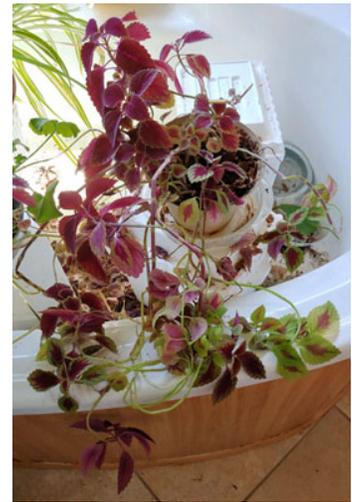
Hello AVGC members. This is my first message as President, and I am eager to pick up the reins from Julie. Making a seamless transition is a challenge since she did such wonderful job! I am so happy to have the majority of our AVGC Board continuing vacancies filled by talented,

experienced people. We have hard work ahead culminating in the **2020 Garden Tour**, but I am sure we will have great fun along the way.

How about this **crazy weather!** Here in the mountain chaparral we are used to planting later than the lower elevations. Mother's Day is the traditional golden date beyond which one is unlikely to lose plantings to cold weather. Well...not only did we have snow once after Mother's Day, but twice in certain neighborhoods, including mine. AVGC members have shared pictures of wind and hail damage to their blooming plants. Now, just a couple of weeks later, we have temperatures predicted for 90+. Go figure.

I have been over-wintering several plants in my 'garden bathtub' and I'm going to risk getting them outside now. Geraniums are turning into vines and the coleus is snaking its way out of the tub. I'm planning to try tomatoes in the tub. Is there anything better than a home-grown tomato?!!

Spring is almost over and I feel as though it has just begun. June 21st is the first day of summer — the Northern Hemisphere's summer solstice — our longest day of the year. Celebrated around the world as the apex of the growing season; the height of fertility; the advent of long sunny days, hardy growth, bursting blooms, and ripening fruit. Let's hope that our weather gods for the Northern Hemisphere get the picture.



See you at the meeting.



Stuuuuuu To Know

NEED TO MISS A MEETING?
Let us know by email or phone:
Cynthe Brush: Kathy Madeda:

AVGC is a member of the **Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs** & the **National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

Our monthly newsletter is published by AVGC, Prescott Arizona USA
Circulation: 52

General Meeting Minutes

May 2019

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 1:13 PM, Julie Lessard presiding. Meeting held at Julie Lessard's home. Julie introduced Elaine Gunderson, Northern District Director, visiting from Sedona.

Approval of minutes: April minutes approved with one correction: Kathy Gean brought snacks for the meeting, not Kathy Madedda.

Roll call: 31 present.

Guests: Kathy Morgan, second visit; Randy Odum, second visit; Phillip Stewart, second visit; Diane and Charlie Shipman, first visit.

Garden Gertie: Margot Lindsay gave a talk about growing and using herbs.

Hat Contest: By ballot vote, Dianne Murphy won the hat contest, her hat decorated with flowers, bees and butterflies – prize, succulent garden in a dish.

Yearbook: Stephen Brubaker passed out 2019-2020 Yearbooks and thanked all for posing for pictures.

Honorary Member: Julie announced that Dianne Moyer is now an honorary member of AVGC, by unanimous vote of the Board and the membership. Dianne was club president from 2011 to 2013. She is also a member of High Desert Designers and has both won and judged floral competitions.

Outgoing President: Julie was given a gift certificate to Native Gardens in Prescott from the club and a purple orchid from the Board.

Awards from AFGC: Elaine Gunderson began her presentation by explaining that she, as Northern District Director, is liaison with local club presidents and the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs. At the Annual Meeting of the AFGC last fall, memorial certificates were issued for Rusty Hansen and Virginia Ballentine. Julie

will get the certificates to the family members. Also honored with certificates for years of membership were Lucile Hurst (30

years) and Frances Martinez (45 years). Awards were given for the AVGC yearbook (honorable mention) and for the newsletter (first place). The Laurel Award was initiated by Marcie Brooks, AFGC President. The award is given to a club member nominated by her/his club for exemplary service. Julie Lessard and Carol Westfall received Laurel Awards for leadership and enthusiasm.

Installation of Officers: Outgoing officers were given a small bouquet and candle for their service. President, Julie Lessard; Vice President, Nicki Elms; Treasurer, Karen Crossley; Corresponding Secretary, Toni Ristich; Recording Secretary, Robin Borok. Incoming officers were given garden gloves to “work closely together, like a hand in a glove” (copy of poem given to Julie). President, Nicki Elms; Vice President, Stephen Brubaker; Treasurer, Karen Crossley; Corresponding Secretary Toni Ristich; Recording Secretary, Diane Benjamin.

Announcements: Karen Crossley requested that people get any outstanding receipts in by the end of the month. Julie Lessard stated that there are enough people interested that we will have a float in the July 4th parade. The suggested theme of the parade is “Western Tradition” and the theme of the float will be Three Sisters Planting”. There will be a meeting of the float committee soon. If interested in participating in the float/parade, please contact Dianne Murphy.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:21pm
Respectfully submitted,
Robin Borok, Recording Secretary



Linda Smith's Lovely NoID Iris

What's Next?

Gardening Events & Classes for the Next Month

JUNE 25th: 1pm **Alta Vista Garden Club** - Annuals presented by Watters Garden Center

JULY 13th: 7:30am - 12:30pm **MONSOON MADNESS** Plant and Yard Sale - Yavapai County Master Gardeners @ Rodeo Grounds

JULY Saturdays: at **Highlands Center** - For details of all Programs & Events see HighlandsCenter.org

Discovery Stations - Educational carts provide visitors with a brief look into the rocks, plants, or animals that make the Arizona Highlands so unique! Weekly 10am to noon.

July 20th - 8:30-10am, **Naturalist Walk**: Story of the Ponderosa Pine

JULY Classes - **Watters Garden Center**: FREE Garden Classes, Saturdays 9:30 am (approx. 1 hour) Recent classes have been very well attended. You may want to bring a chair or come early to be sure you get a seat. If you can't join us in person, each class is Livestreamed on our Watters Garden Center Facebook Page. Like the Page to be notified when we "go live" or check back to watch at your convenience.

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|------------------|--|
| July 6 Sat 2019 | Containers that Bloom like Crazy! |
| July 12 Sat 2019 | Juicer Fruits, Grapes & Berries |
| July 20 Sat 2019 | Easy Grow Roses |
| July 27 Sat 2019 | Perennial Flowers with Impressive Blooms |



Flagstaff Tour of Artful Gardens (see Flyer pg.9 - JULY GDO)

Saturday, July 20th 10am-3pm | \$12 per person, cash or check please
MAPS to gardens, sold at Viola's Flower Garden, ONLY on event day
610 S. State Rt 89A (just off I-17 Sedona exit)
Information or reservations: Colleen Tucker (928) 853-0315

ATTENTION ALL GARDENERS!

The Prescott Valley & Prescott Public Libraries will host **Yavapai Master Gardeners** from the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension giving gardening lectures each month, March through August, including slides and demonstrations.

The library also has gardening books and magazines to help guide and inspire you!

For JULY 2019:

Prescott Valley Public Library 7/9/2019
Vegetable Gardening - Fall / Winter
Kathleen Corum
Tuesday 5:30 - 6:45pm

Prescott Public Library 7/27/2019
Square Foot Gardening
Georgene Lockwood
Saturday 10 - 11:30am

FAREWELL & WELCOME (CONT. FROM FRONT PAGE)



A warm welcome to our new AVGC officers: (left to right) **Toni Ristich**, Corresponding Secretary; **Karen Crossley**, Treasurer; **Diane Benjamin**, Recording Secretary; **Stephen Brubaker**, Vice President; **Nicki Elms**, President. **Elaine Gunderson** presiding with **Debbie Mathern** assisting.

Thank You! Julie...for a job well done from your AVGC board, our members, and the AFGC represented by your Laurel Award

PHOTOS: Cynthe Brush



"GARDEN GERTIE" APRIL TIP OF THE MONTH

Loretta showed us how to spring clean our houseplants by washing smooth leaves or gently dusting hairy leaves, like on African Violets, with a soft cosmetic brush. If you have a shaded patio or porch, houseplants can be moved outside for the summer where they'll be rejuvenated by brighter light and fresh air.

AVGC FLOAT THEME DECIDED - FRONTIER DAYS RODEO PARADE (CONT. FROM FRONT PAGE)



will be placed on the trailer with a green umbrella for shade. The AVGC Logo will be on the back of the trailer gate with roses attached around it.

Our large AVGC Logo/Banner will be carried by Toni Ristich and Karen Crossley in front of the float. The truck will have red, white & blue bunting, several chairs, and a red umbrella with red, white & blue roses attached to it.

Featured roses will be: **Margaret McCormick Rose** (ie. The French Boursault; **Harison's Rose** (aka The Pioneer Rose), **Red Moss**, **Indigo**, and **Leda**.

We need:

- LOTS of silk roses, especially pink, yellow and white. We have quite a few red, but could use those as well. If you have some we could use, please let Julie know ASAP.
- 2 small, white wicker chairs to use on the float. We don't need the chairs until the Friday before the parade and can return those as early as Saturday afternoon.



MORE AFGC 'LAUREL' AWARDS (CONT. FROM P.5)

As a long time AVGC member, Carol Westfall (left) has worn many hats: Past-President, Parliamentarian, & Club Photographer among them.

Frances Martinez (right) has been a garden club member for 45 years!



PHOTOS: Cynthe Brush



“GARDEN GERTIE” MAY TIP OF THE MONTH

Margo extolled the delights and versatility of growing herbs. She brought her favorite book, titled 'Herbs' by Lesley Bremness (Penguin Group 1988) to share some of the marvelous ideas and suggestions it offers.



The Two-Tailed Swallowtail Butterfly

Mary Ann Mira

Beauty and size make the Two-tailed Swallowtail one of my favorite butterflies. It is an impressive specimen with a nearly five-inch wingspan and a body that approaches two inches in length! Because it's so memorable, it was designated the Arizona state butterfly in 2001.

This large yellow and black striped butterfly is truly a gift from nature. It has two tails and beautiful blue markings flowing across the hind wings. Lovely and graceful, I have had several of these in my backyard garden since the beginning of May. The picture to the left shows the early arrival of one of these beauties on my container garden of million bells and lobelia.

The two-tailed swallowtail is found only west of the Mississippi in North America in canyons, foothills, valleys, woodlands, and gardens from southwestern Canada through

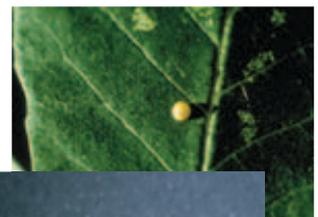
the western half of the U.S. and into Mexico.



Two-tailed Swallowtail eggs are laid singly on the plants fed upon by the caterpillar. The caterpillar (larvae) of the Two-tailed swallowtail butterfly is light green and marked near the head with four yellow dots and two yellowish eye

spots with blue centers. The caterpillar turns brownish or reddish just prior to pupation.

Two-tailed Swallowtail Butterfly caterpillars feed on a variety of trees and



shrubs leaves. Host plants include: chokecherry, bitter cherry, Arizona rosewood, single-leaf ash, hop-tree, and Arizona Sycamore. This butterfly spends the winter in pupal stage with a gray-brown chrysalis hidden in some protective camouflaged location. One generation is produced per season.



Adults emerge in May and June and may be seen flying through August. They sustain themselves on nectar and frequently may be seen visiting flowers.



This giant butterfly has many nutritional requirements so it can't afford to be fussy in choosing flowers. It feeds on penstemon, thistle flowers, milkweed, and just about anything else it can find. The picture to the right shows the Two-tailed Swallowtail on pin cushion flowers in my garden. If you observe these swallowtails, you will see they stay on the move. A surprising defense mechanism, the blue eyespots on its tail may fool predators into attacking the rear of the butterfly instead of the head, giving the butterfly a chance to escape.

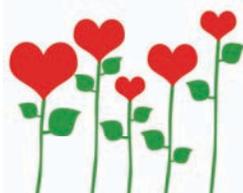
I hope you have a chance to see this glorious swallowtail floating around your flowerbeds this summer. They are unforgettable!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Article & Photo by Ruth Lysak

For committee members and Club officers that couldn't make it to the last Habitat home dedication, you truly missed a special one. The Habitat program ended and quiet Nema Assadi walked into the center of the room, made a beautiful speech about the home that had a family (father, mother, brother, sister), but it didn't have a husband and wife. He knelt down in front of Mariel and proposed ring and all!!! Of course, she said "yes." Not a dry eye in the house. This was a 'first' for the 92 homes Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity has built and dedicated!!

On June 1st, **Dianne Murphy, Holly Bosch, Paula Lund** (a future AVGC member) and **I** planted an 'Autumn Blaze' maple tree and a smoke bush at a Habitat home in Chino Valley. Imagine a group of senior women digging the holes deeper in Chino clay, wrestling a tree root ball into the hole, and staking it with 6-foot stakes and a sledge hammer — no fingers or toes were sacrificed.



AVGC's Guest Artist Booth

at the Prescott Farmers Market



July 13th and 20th are Saturdays when AVGC will have a Guest Artist Booth at the Prescott Farmers Market. We plan to sell some of our creative glass flower yard art as a mini fundraiser.

Julie & Karen are coordinating four member volunteers, each day, to staff the booth in two shifts from 7:am-10am and 10am-12:30pm. Still need two helpers for the 20th; one for each shift. If you would like to help out, please let Julie know: 480-329-9261.



JULY Gardeners Day Out

The Coconino Master Gardeners are hosting their annual fundraiser '**Flagstaff Tour of Artful Gardens**' on July 20th. (See flyer below for details.)

Nicki suggested this might make a wonderful July Gardeners Day Out for our AVGC members. We car-pool, of course, and chip in for gas @ \$5 apiece depending on the distance. We meet in the parking lot of Petsmart on Hwy 69. Tickets are \$12. Plan on @ \$20 for lunch, depending on where we eat. In the past we have gone to Buster's seafood restaurant, but Josephine's has been suggested. If you have a favorite eatery, let me know. Interested in going? Call Nicki and leave a message: 928-379-5998.

Flagstaff Tour of Artful Gardens

VIOLA'S Flower Garden

Saturday, July 20
10 am- 3 pm

Enjoy Six Creative Gardens and Outdoor Living Areas on a Self Directed Tour

\$12.00 per person Cash and Check only

Rain or shine

Tour Maps only available on the Day of the Event At Violas Flower Garden

610 S. State Route 89
Information, reservations or directions
CT (928) 853-0315
Sponsored by Coconino Master Gardeners & Violas Flower Garden



Happy
JULY

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-
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FUN AT JULIE'S PLACE



PHOTOS: Cynthe Brush & Carol Westfall

THE YEARBOOK, MORE AFGC & PACIFIC REGION AWARDS (CONT. FROM FRONT PAGE)



Surprised & delighted Carol reads her 'Laurel' Award.



Stephen & Nancy were pleased to unbox our lovely, newly redesigned 2019-2020 yearbooks, shaped by Stephen's inspired ideas. Nancy will be carrying on yearbook editor responsibilities in 2020.



Elaine Gunderson was gifted a charming tray of succulents as our thanks for coming to install AVGC's new officers for 2019-2020.



Elaine Gunderson surprised the AVGC Newsletter Team and the rest of our club members with these two awards:

1st Place - For all the Arizona Federated Garden Clubs in the state

3rd Place - For the entire Pacific Region Garden Clubs



PHOTOS: Cynthe Brush, Nancy Stelow & Carol Westfall

The Hat Contest



*Ann Baugh's
Flowerly Headpiece*



Renie's Lily Hat



*Diane Shipley
Humorous Hat*



*Mary Ann's
Fascinator Hat*



Dianne Murphy's Winning Hat



*Meta Carrle's
Flowery Hat*



Top of Dianne's Hat



Francis' Feathery Hat



Linda's Picture Hat

PHOTOS: Cynthe Brush & Carol Westfall