

All the Dirt Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

Spring 2023

Hillsborough Garden Club

Garden Tour 2023

Mark your calendars for the Hillsborough Garden Club's Garden Tour 2023 entitled "Untamed. Unexpected. Unbelievable!" on **May 6** from **9 am to 3 pm**. We have 13 gardens on the tour this year!

The title of the tour says it all. Some of the gardens are free-flowing masses of beautiful



Tom Steven's Garden

flowers, shrubs and trees... Untamed. All of the gardens are hidden gems...Unexpected. And ALL of the gardens are just beautiful...Unbelievable!

Of the 13 gardens on the tour, FIVE are from our own garden club members: Sharon Billings, Beverly DeMao, Tammy Dorfman, Alice Moore and Penny Rand. We have new gardens this year that are very exciting and some of our old favorites, too! We are thrilled to have so many unique gardens.

Tickets for the event are \$30 from now until April 30th to view 13 gardens. What a deal! In fact, we'd say it was unbelievable! On May 1st, ticket prices increase to \$35. Tickets



can be purchased online on the HGC website through Eventbrite for a small fee, or by check with no fee!

Garden club members, we need your help. Each garden needs at least two hours. You receive a free ticket to the tour. We also need help the weekend before and the day before the tour with ticket

(Continued on page 2)

Calendar of Events

Thurs., March 9, 2023, 10 am
Orange County Historical Museum
Meet at Hillsborough UMC at 9:30 am to walk over to 201 N. Churton Street.
Program: Secrets of the Collection: Tour of the Orange Co. Historical Museum
Courtney Smith, museum exhibits coordinator, will give a tour of the permanent collection and new exhibit, with some behind-the-scene stories and little-known historical details.

Sat., March 18, 2023, 10 am to Noon
New Member Meet & Greet
Hillsborough UMC
130 W. Tryon Street, details on pg. 3

Thurs., April 13, 2023, 10 am
Duke Gardens Visitor Center
420 Anderson Street, Durham
Program: Walking Tour of Duke Gardens, led by docent Ann Sabesan

Sat., May 6, 2023, 9 am to 3 pm
Club Garden Tour

Thurs., May 11, 2023 **9:30 am social**
 10 am meeting

Program: Gardening for Lep's
Lior Carlson of Backyard Butterflies will speak of creating and growing hosts and nectar plants that support the Lepidoptera life cycles of butterflies and moths.

From the President

Spring is here! And it's bringing an amazing bouquet of Garden Club opportunities. The first is a partnership with the Alliance for Historic Hillsborough.

Last fall I had an unexpected but exciting conversation with leadership at the Visitors Center and learned that they are planning to renew the landscaping around the Visitors Center. We began conversations about how the Hillsborough Garden Club could help with the

project. Our success with the plant sale and garden tours have put us in the fortunate position where we have funds to help support this project.

There are several phases to the project. Phase one is complete, the foundation plantings have been removed. Phase two, the Visitors Center exterior will go through repairs, paint and other work. Phase three is where the HGC comes in. We will be sharing

more details in the next few months as we move toward phase three, scheduled for this fall. We're also looking forward to how this project ties into the Garden Club's 100 year anniversary celebration in 2025!

You'll find the rest of the "spring bouquet" in the newsletter. We hope to see you at the New Member Meet and Greet and Volunteer Spring Fling, terrarium making, Garden Tour 2023 and more.



Garden Tour Continued

(Continued from page 1)

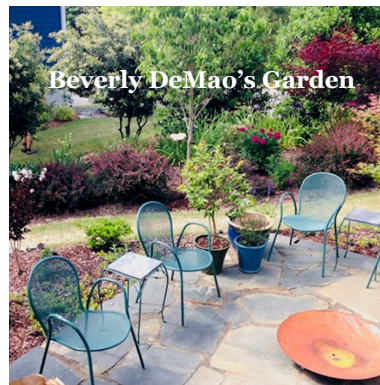
pickup at 212 N. Churton Street. Watch for more volunteer opportunities on the HGC website as we detail our needs.

Funds raised will be used to provide money for philanthropic projects that support community activities and programs. For example, we award college scholarships to three high school seniors in Hillsborough pursuing a degree in agriculture or horticulture at a university or community college. We have also given scholarships to two local outdoor day camps for attendees

who are not able to pay the tuition.

In addition to the scholarship awards, the HGC is in the planning stage of a huge landscape renovation with the Hillsborough Visitors Center! The large boxwoods have been removed around the building. After repairs to the building are completed, the HGC will work with the county and a landscape designer to the center give a fresh new look. The Club will pay for the designer and all of the plants to be planted in the fall.

AND 2025 is our 100th anniversary! The HGC was formed in 1925. In



researching for our celebration, we discovered that the first garden tour was held in 1936!

Are you interested in being a sponsor for the garden tour? Four levels of sponsorship exist: \$50, \$100, \$250 and \$500. Learn more about the benefits of the sponsorship from the HGC website.



New Member Meet & Greet



Volunteer Spring Fling

Terrarium Making with Val

March 18th

10 am - noon

Hillsborough United Methodist Church

Cost for Terrarium \$25

We hope you will plan to attend our New Member Meet & Greet, Volunteer Spring Fling and

Terrarium Making with Val. We are very excited to welcome 13 new members to the club.

Frances Moore
Wendy Martin
Amy Jensen
Pat Freeseaman
Stephanie Baldwin
Cynthia Billings
Nancy Beach
Pam Dickens
Pam Williams
Jenny Baczara
Kristen Andre
Samantha Charboneau
Gretchen Zeigenhals

Please RSVP to Tammy at tamdorf@aol.com.

Please let her know:

Meet & Greet ONLY

OR

Meet and Greet AND Terrarium Making with Val

We want to be sure and have enough supplies. There is no cost to attend the Meet & Greet only.



Backyard Butterflies

Spring Plant Sale Fundraiser

Saturdays 11 AM to 4 PM
April 8, 15 & 29
May 13, 20 & 27

Sundays 1 PM to 4 PM
April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
May 7, 14, 21 & 28

All Dates Rain or Shine

Backyard Butterflies is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit located in Hillsborough, NC

District 9 Activities

The Garden Clubs of NC has 12 districts across the state. Orange County lies within District 9. Our own Tammy Dorfman has been asked to be Vice Director of District 9 for 2023-25. Annette Branco will be the District 9 Director. She is the President of the Heritage Garden Club in Durham.

The HGC Yearbook has received the 1st Place Award for District 9. This is at least the third year

in a row that we have received the award.

Thanks go to the HGC Yearbook Committee: Sarah Meadows, Kim Richardson, Ann S. Burton, Diff Whitmore, and Sherry Appel, Chair. Thanks also to Diff for the beautiful and award-winning cover design.



The Club needs a new Yearbook Editor for the coming year. If you are interested, please contact Sherry Appel for details at sherryappel@gmail.com.

ACC Horticulture Tech Plant Sale

The spring plant sale will take place on April 20 & 21 from 10 am to 5 pm on Main Campus of Alamance Community College at 1247 Jimmie Kerr Road, Graham. You can order online or shop in-person. The website will be open for online orders April 6th through April 18th.

Their website is [ACC Horticulture Technology Plant Sale – Plant Sale \(accplantsale.com\)](http://accplantsale.com).

National Pollinator Week 2023

During **June 19-25**, Hillsborough will join other communities to celebrate National Pollinator Week. We will recognize Hillsborough as the 35th Bee City USA!

The HGC Bee City Committee plans special opportunities to educate our neighbors about the importance of pollinators to our food supply and to the beautiful flowering plants we all enjoy. These are some activities that are confirmed so far:

- ◆ Distribute *Free Wild-flower of the Year* seed at several locations in town.
- ◆ Offer free Open Garden at 2 locations in the Poplar Ridge subdivision; one is mainly flowers, and the other, mainly veggies. Need 2 helpers

on the day of event.

- ◆ Request of Governor Cooper and Mayor Weaver to declare June 19-25 as Pollinator Week
- ◆ Request Chamber of Commerce to urge merchants to observe the week with window decorations, etc.

Tentative activities that require getting more volunteers to assist:

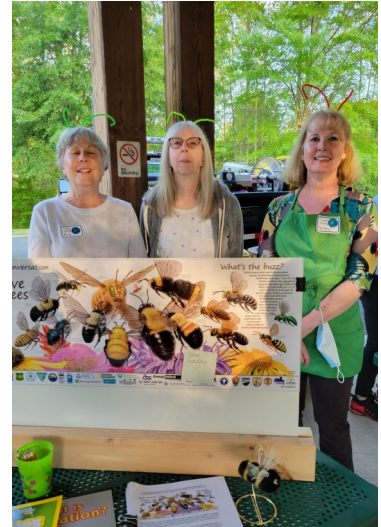
- ◆ Need 3-4 volunteers for public information table at Earth Evening April 28, 6-8pm; materials furnished; need folks to answer questions.
- ◆ Need helpers to set up and conduct a Bee Photo Hunt; post cartoon bee signs; public takes certain # of photos and collects stickers from mer-

chants to win prizes.

- ◆ Need volunteers to conduct Pollinator Themed Family Craft Event at a local park (date TBA) – volunteers will interact with adults and children to make seed bombs and pollinator art projects, distribute information about native plants and pollinator gardening, and answer questions.

The Bee City Committee needs people! If you have graphic arts skills, creative activity skills, writing ability, love to interact with people about plants, and want to learn more about pollinators, we can use your energy and active participation.

Contact Chair Sarah Meadows, smeadow100@gmail.com.



Earth Evening 2022
Pictured from left to right
Ann Sebesan, Donna Musson
and Adrienne Scurtu



Pollinator Gardens

Garden Club member Sharon Billings has proposed a wonderful project and she needs our help. Sharon would like to create a list of privately owned pollinator gardens in Hillsborough (including church and other private gardens: they can be any size, big or small).

Creating this list of privately owned gardens would give our town

extra credit as being a "Bee City". This is an internal list for the HGC and your address will not be shared without your permission.

The Tree Board maintains a list of several town-owned pollinator gardens. This is a great project to measure progress! Let's see where we start and where we end up!

Please help by sending your known pollinator garden sites (name and address) to:

shaybill@embarqmail.com

If you have neighbors and friends who are not Garden Club members, please ask them if they would like their gardens added to the list.

Learn more about certifying your gardens:

<https://gardening.ces.ncsu.edu/2020/08/certify-your-pollinator-garden/>

<https://homegrownnationalpark.org>

<http://www.millionpollinatorgardens.org>

<https://growingsmallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/growingsmallfarms-pollinatorconservation/>

Hillsborough Garden Club

President: Tammy Dorfman
Vice President: Ann Sebesan
Secretary: Sherry Appel
Treasurer: Beverly DeMao
Newsletter Editor: Lynn Odom

Club Motto: To preserve what is good. To grow what is good. To display what is good.

Conservation Pledge: I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet Earth and promise to promote education, so that we may become better caretakers of our air, water, forest, land, and wildlife.

Affiliate of the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. and National Garden Club, Inc.



www.hillsboroughgardenclubnc.org

History of the Club

In 1970, at the suggestion of Garden Club member Mrs. C.F. Dority, the restoration and maintenance of an old-fashioned garden at the Burwell School was begun as a long range project by the Garden Club. Extensive research, planning and planting were done for several years.

On April 17, 1977, the Hillsborough Historic Commission and the Garden Club dedicated the garden to Carrie Waitt Spurgeon who had lived in the house and

helped care for the garden.

The Burwell School is also home to the Musk Rose. The Musk Rose or *rosa moschata* discovery at the Burwell School is credited to Mrs. Helen Blake Watkins, who cataloged the Burwell School's garden plants for the Hillsborough Historical Society in 1970. Mrs. Blake Watkins was also associated with the Garden Club.

The Musk Rose was found only in North Carolina at the Burwell School in Hillsborough and the Burwell



The Musk Rose

plots at the Elmwood Cemetery in Charlotte. To read the story "Discovering the Musk Rose in America", check out the Hillsborough Historical Society Journal, Vol. 5, in the Museum's Gift Shop.