

**2023 Fall Report to the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs  
Gold Canyon Garden Club**

The Gold Canyon Garden Club is busy preparing for the 2023 Fall Eastern/Central District Meeting, to be held on Tuesday November 14, at the Gold Canyon Golf Resort Towne Hall. Our Theme this year is Demystifying Orchids. Do you love buying orchids but get frustrated when they don't re-bloom? Do you find orchid care intimidating? Join us to Demystify Orchids and learn the basics in common orchid care. Our special guest speaker is a member of multiple orchid societies, master gardener programs, and garden clubs from AZ to MN. Registration deadline is fast approaching.

Our Annual Fall Fundraiser and Plant Sale is Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> in the Mountainbrook Community in Gold Canyon. A wide selection of native and desert-adapted plants will be available, as well as various flowering shrubs and other pollinator plants. Proceeds benefit our Butterfly Garden at Dinosaur Park, as well as other civic beautification projects.

Speaking of our Butterfly Garden, Gold Canyon Garden Club is very proud to announce that the Butterfly Garden was recently certified by the Monarch Watch organization as a Certified Monarch Waystation. Monarch Waystations provide milkweeds, nectar plants, and shelter for monarchs throughout their cycle of reproduction and migration. Creating and maintaining these Monarch Waystations contribute to monarch conservation and helps to assure the continuation of the monarch migration in North America.

In addition, we were also re-certified by the National Wildlife Federation as a certified Wildlife Habit. These certifications are a result of our fabulous Butterfly Garden volunteers, whose conscientious planning and landscaping of the area provides surrounding wildlife with quality habitat, food, water, cover, and places to raise their young.

The Gold Canyon Garden Club Facebook page continues to attract "likes", with almost 500 followers from all over the world. Information is shared regularly. Our website has also been recently updated.

Membership meets the second Tuesday of each month September through April. In-Person meeting locations are located at the Gold Canyon Mission Center, which is also the location of this year's Civic Beautification project.

Over the next year we have planned the following programs for our general meetings, in addition to several field trips to various locations:

- Spice Up Your Life – Growing Herbs & Spices
- Pallet Planters / Container Gardening
- Gardening for the Birds
- Native Plants
- Holiday Floral Design Hands-on Workshop
- Welcome Back, Holiday, and Summer Farewell luncheons

Community service projects include:

- Ongoing care and maintenance of the Butterfly Garden at Dinosaur Park in Gold Canyon
- Ongoing care and maintenance of the landscaped areas surrounding our two (2) GCGC Blue Star Memorial Marker, with plans for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Blue Star Marker in the works.
- Monthly collection for the National Garden Club's Penny Pines project

Gold Canyon Garden Club is excited to welcome several brand-new members this year, who learned of the Club and its activities through ongoing publicity efforts, various community projects, and word of mouth!

Submitted this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023

Tricia Schaeffer, President  
Gold Canyon Garden Club