

## **TUCSON GARDEN CLUB 2023-2024**

Tucson Garden Club's theme is "May your garden always be in bloom." Our focus for this season was preparing for growth in both membership and project outreach. Our members have actively supported the AFGC President's project in website development and social network outreach.

During this season, we invited neighbors and new friends to club meetings, resulting in 9 guests. In March, Membership Chairman Paulette Stag initiated 2 new members; welcome to Bobbie Miner and Kate O'Driscoll. We have 5 more prospective members in the process of visitation before membership application.

### **Contact Updates**

Website Chairman Debbie Jamieson has built our new website at <https://tucsongardenclub.com/> and has re-established a new club email that adds an 's' onto the club name; so our NEW official club email is [TucsonGardenClubs@gmail.com](mailto:TucsonGardenClubs@gmail.com)

### **Positioning for Growth**

During this season, 3 members worked together to document a strategic plan for the club's involvement in multi-year projects. This initiative involved prioritizing which types of projects to focus on developing. We will vote on a final document in the coming season. Meanwhile, we have identified some very interesting potential projects that allow members to participate at varying levels, such as contributing to the Trex's recycling program (<https://nextrex.com/view/recyclingchallenge>); offering landscape design assistance to the City of Tucson "Storm To Shade" program; and implementing the NGC youth programs at 2 elementary schools.

### **Programs**

Our 2023-24 season of programs included 3 speakers and 2 tours. The educational speakers present on (1) "Invasive Species" by Pima County's Outreach Educator Ben Tully; (2) "Reforestation—How our Penny Pines donations are put to work" by Coronado National Forest's Project Manager Jena Trejo; and (3) "Hummingbird Rescue" by Tucson Mountain Hummingbird Rescue's Founder Noreen Geyer. In April 2024, our club

toured the Terry Schwartz' Rose Garden and Tohono Chul Park's succulent and wildflowers garden.

### **Projects**

In March 2024, Tucson Garden Club hosted an NGC small standard flower show named "Sonoran Desert Awakening" at Atria Campana del Rio, an independent living facility. Flower Show Chairman Sheila Parcel designed the flower show schedule to accommodate the smaller venue and several novice members who contributed to both horticulture and floral design. We appreciate the support shown from the Central District, Eastern District and Western District by sending judges and entries. Much appreciation to Nancy Gahtan in providing a flower show evaluation which will assist our club in conducting future flower shows to a higher standard.

### **Looking Forward to Tucson's 90th Anniversary**

Next season, our club will celebrate our 90th anniversary of federation. Stay tuned for themed salutes to our club's history.

Respectfully submitted by

Jennifer Moreland

President, Tucson Garden Club