

Tempe Garden Club

Fall 2025 Report

This year Tempe Garden Club will focus on expanding our community support and preparation for our 90th Anniversary in the Fall of 2026.

We are continuing our gardening support with our plot at Friendship Evergreen Community Garden and the potted flowers and garden plot at the Historic Petersen House. We are expanding our community gardening support with caring for the Rose Garden at Birchette Park. Our club assisted in making this park a reality in the 1960's and planted over 50 rose bushes in the 1980's. In the 1980's the City of Tempe took over the maintenance of the park and garden. The City of Tempe recently requested our assistance with caring for the roses. We are setting up a plan which would include winterizing and general maintenance dates for the roses, which we will coordinate with the City of Tempe.

The 90th Anniversary preparation is established in three areas:

- 90th anniversary Garden
- Fund raising
- Celebration

The 90th Anniversary Garden will be in the east plot of Clark Park Community Garden. This community garden was having problems with this large plot, both with ideas, funding and volunteers. Our club decided to make this a great marriage with their needs and our desire to assist garden communities with the opportunity to design a sustainable sensory garden in honor of our 90th Anniversary. We used the "Pink Book" to design the sensory garden. The "Pink Book", developed by the AMWUA (Arizona Municipal Water User Association), collaborates with water conservation, horticulture, botany and plant science practices to help guide landscaping in the AZ desert using low water use plants.

Fund raising includes various plant sales at Clark Park Community Garden and at the "Christmas at Petersen House" event (Tempe History Museum's signature holiday program). We are working on Garden Theme Movie night for the Spring of 2026. We are also collaborating with the City of Tempe for plant/trees and construction support for the garden. We have applied for various garden grants to provide us with supplies and funding assistance.

Celebrations are currently planned for the Fall of 2026 for the Garden Dedication and Winter of 2026 for the Anniversary Celebration, which we hope to have AZ garden clubs attending.

Presenters during our membership meetings this year include owners of Arizona Cactus Sales and Tempe Garden Girls. Jo Setiff will also give us a presentation on desert landscaping. We have two field trips to the Worm Farm and Phoenix Zoo Light and a couple of seed exchanges with Chandler/Sunset Library and Clark Park Community Garden also scheduled for this year.

Thank you,

Terry Easley

Tempe Garden Club President