



Green Valley Gardeners

A Service Club Made Up of Gardeners

Celebrating our 35th year!

SAND N SEEDS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Chuck Parsons

I don't know about you, but Mojo and I have sure been enjoying the cooler mornings. We typically take a nice long walk through Desert Meadows Park and then North along the river until the path ends at the edge of the golf course. Mojo enjoys all the smells and the occasional Javelina sighting. I enjoy the mountains, wildflowers in bloom and the cool breezes along the river.

October is election month. Please vote! We have excellent candidates for our 3 board positions and we have an important by-law change for you to consider. Information is in this issue and will be provided along with your ballot.

I received a good response to the "One minute survey" regarding the rose garden. I have the results of that survey in this issue.

We will be holding our November Board meeting on the second Tuesday, November 10th rather than the normal first Tuesday. This will allow Jack Davis, our Vice President, to attend. The meeting will be held at the Cooperative Extension office from 1 to 4 pm. This meeting will be our annual strategic planning session – sometimes referred to as our "retreat."

Preparations are already underway for the annual luncheon. Please look for more details in this issue and mark your calendar.

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GREEN VALLEY GARDENERS, 2015 BALLOT AMENDMENT AND CANDIDATES

Candidates:

Three board positions are vacant. Please vote for up to three of the following candidates. Ballots that have more than three marked will be disqualified. Candidates listed in alphabetical order.

Jan Ajemian

I have lived in Green Valley for almost four years. I moved from Seattle, where I worked in a variety of nursing jobs and as a realtor for 15 years. In Green Valley I have co-chaired the seminar committee for 2½ years, have worked the plant sales and the Sahuarita Pecan Festival. I am a grad of Duke University (1974 English literature), University of Texas at Arlington (nursing) and the University of Dallas (MBA). I am first generation American on my father's side and I am eligible for membership in the DAR on my mother's.

I have enjoyed my experiences with the Gardeners because I have learned a lot about the desert southwest and I have made new friends. I would hope to encourage such learning and friendship among others should I be elected.



Greg Hill

I have been a garden club member since moving here last year. I've participated in many fun activities of our club including the plant sales, "thank you" BBQ for the YouthBuild students, Canoa Ranch and the Sahuarita Pecan Festival. I have enjoyed the seminar topics – I look forward to presenting a seminar on bonsai this fall.

I appreciate the opportunity to learn about desert plants and gardening while working at Desert Meadows Park. The camaraderie gained by working alongside other members has been wonderful.

These aspects are important to me and I welcome this opportunity to help the club grow and continue to prosper.



Francis Howe

I have been a member of the Green Valley Gardeners for about eight years and have served two terms on the board. During that time I have enjoyed being a greeter at most of the weekly seminars and helping when needed at other activities and events.

As plans developed for the Desert Meadows Park, I have worked with Henry Garcia to make the metal sign and other metal structures to be enjoyed by our park visitors.

I am currently working with one of the Boy Scouts on a project to build a new seating area in the park using a rock bench. This will help the scout complete one of the requirements toward earning his Eagle Scout rank.



Kathy Stone

George and I moved to Green Valley in 2003 and quickly fell in love with the diverse landscape. Being a Master Gardener in the state of Missouri and with a passion for landscape design, I immediately, began to learn all I could as quickly as I could. We joined the Green Valley Gardeners and became involved in the many activities.



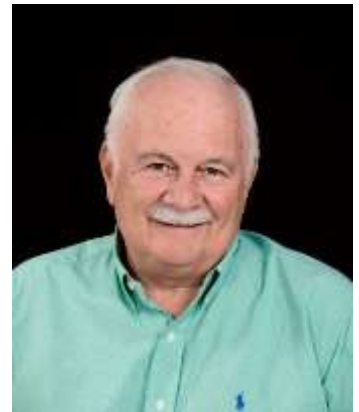
During the early years of club membership, I was still working full time but was able to be somewhat involved with plant sales, home tours and was invited twice to present “Container Cactus Gardening” to those attending our Thursday seminar series.

In 2014 I was asked to be a partner in the development of the cactus display garden at Desert Meadows Park where I have the privilege to work with so many talented people. Desert Meadows Park is still an ongoing project, and I look forward to being a part of that development.

My interest in a board position is simple. I have a desire to insert a leadership role that will help our club continue our very important community involvements. I will be forever grateful for your confidence and vote for me.

Mark Thompson

Carol and I have been members of the Green Valley Gardeners since about 2007. While we have been coming to Green Valley since the early 1980’s, we are now spending a longer time here as winter residents.



In the last couple of years, I have aided the organization as follows:

- as a Desert Meadows 1 homeowner and former board member, I was one of the first proponents of transferring the park to Green Valley Gardeners;
- I currently have a raised bed plot at the park;
- I was one of the first volunteers at the park when the project was initiated;
- I have volunteered at the fall plant sale for two years;
- I have worked with Judy Christensen to create a comprehensive spreadsheet that she now uses for membership;
- and, earlier this year I was asked by the board to audit 2014 financials – it was the first financial audit of the organization’s books.

With respect to the audit, I made a number of recommendations for change which are now in various stages of implementation, including the proposed by-law change on this ballot.

General Information

- Each member receives one ballot.
- Each household membership receives two ballots.
- Please vote on the by-law change – your vote is critical as we need a high percentage of our total club membership participating to accomplish a by-law change – thank you!
- Vote for up to three board candidates.
- Your ballot must be **received** in the club’s PO Box by October 30, 2015.

Proposed change to the by-laws

Our by-laws are out of date with respect to the electronic banking options now available. We no longer need to write and mail hardcopy checks for many of our expenses. In addition, banks no longer monitor for two signatures. The board proposes the following change to facilitate the job of our treasurer, yet provide adequate oversight by the board.

You will find this measure on the ballot you receive this month. Please vote. Some of you are new to the club and may not feel you know the candidates sufficiently to cast a ballot; however, we do need your vote on this measure in order to validate the election. Thank you.

By-laws currently read:

ARTICLE VIII: FINANCE

E. **Checks.** All disbursements shall be issued by checks carrying two signatures, usually those of the Treasurer and one other officer.

Proposed by-law change:

ARTICLE VIII: FINANCE

E. **Checks.** All disbursements shall be issued by check or electronic payment by either the Treasurer or President.

F. **Reconciliation.** The President shall appoint a board member, other than the Treasurer, to receive and reconcile the bank statements on a monthly basis.

G. **Annual audit.** The President shall cause an audit of the organization's finances to be done on an annual basis. Audit to be available for board review during first quarter of following year.

FUND RAISERS

FALL PLANT SALE - Thom Metcalf and Elissa Dearing

Mark your calendar and save your pennies – our fall plant sale will begin Thursday, October 29 and run for three days ending on Halloween.

We are obtaining some excellent plants again this year; some from new suppliers that we have not featured before.

In the next week, we will ask for volunteers to work the sale. This is always fun and a way to learn a lot about plants that do well here in the Sonoran Desert. We need volunteers to set up the sale on Wednesday, October 28th as well as all three days of the sale. Shifts typically run 2 hours during the sale. Sign-up sheets will be at the seminars, and we will send out email notifications as well.

Again this sale, Thom will have his "Orphan's Table." It's worth the trip just to see what he has found for us this time!

The sale is in the Continental Shopping Plaza. We are located on the sidewalk between Mac's Pub and the Turquoise Cowgirl gift shop. Sale begins at 9 am each day.

MEMBERS' SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE - Marita Ramsay and Cathy Merritt - Co Chairs

A visit to Pottery Blow Out and the Unplugged Wine Bar was held in September. Members were able to purchase pottery for discounted prices. At the wine bar, members were treated to specials on food and drink. Thanks to members George Stone and Gene VanDyken for arranging this trip.

On **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH**, we will be touring the Pima County Plant Nursery with Manager Jessie Byrd. Over 20,000 plants are currently being grown for a variety of public projects. In addition, the nursery maintains a native seed library of 130 species. Jessie Byrd will also tour us through the adjacent Prickly Park. Signups for the event have been at the weekly seminars. Those unable to be at the seminar this Thursday can also call Marita at 208-290-7770 or email her at maritasandpoint@yahoo.com. The tour begins at 10 a.m., and we will carpool from the Green Valley Village parking lot near the La Placita restaurant (99 W Esperanza Blvd, Green Valley, AZ 85614) at 9:15 a.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH is the date for our 2nd annual BBQ at Desert Meadows Park. As before, there will be food, drinks and live entertainment. Also, members and their guests can see the major changes that have occurred and are still happening in the Park. Registration for the BBQ will begin October 22nd at the weekly seminars. We will also be sending an email Blast with a mail-in registration form.

PROJECT UPDATES

ARID GARDEN - Mary Kidnocker



Hard surfacing our gravel-covered garden paths continues. Recently completed was an interior section with a slight slope. Next planned is the main entrance which will deplete funds for this year. So far the material and work have been financed through the generosity of the White Elephant 2014 Grant.

Our sincere appreciation goes to President Chuck and First Lady Dana Parsons for the

donation of over 500 like-new concrete pavers. These will eventually be used to cover the balance of the garden paths as funds become available for installation.

It is a pleasure to have volunteer Cynthia Surprise back with us again, after she spent her summer in Massachusetts. Our winter volunteers are truly missed, and it is such fun to “catch up” when they return.

Summer rains have created a garden of lush greenery and outstanding blooms... you don't want to miss the show!



HISTORIC CANOA RANCH (HCR) – Raydine Taber

October 12th will be our fall workday to clean up the gardens and to plant our cool weather plants. Jan Nash has researched heritage type plants and square foot planting. Shortly after this planting, we will not only be providing the garden plant identification layout to the Canoa Ranch docents but we will also provide a write up on how those plants may have been used by Canoa Ranch throughout its history.

October 25th is Anza Day at the Ranch and we will have a table located at the Kitchen Herb Garden with brochures about GVG, GVG projects and our partnership with Canoa Ranch. Anza Day is a free event held at Canoa Ranch 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be the Anza Coalition Color Guard procession, historic presentation, tours, vendors, and other activities. This is an excellent opportunity to just leisurely walk about the ranch, spend some time learning and absorbing the history and culture of Canoa Ranch and southeastern Arizona.

OGDEN COMMUNITY GARDEN – George Stone

HOW AND WHY TO STAY HEALTHY WHILE GARDENING

The other day while reading the newspaper, I came across an article on diabetes. My mother died a diabetic and before her death she was a double amputee. Sadly, my sweet little Mom developed diabetes within the last 10 years of her life and those years were miserable for her. She neglected ALL advice on eating healthy. I vowed not to follow in her footsteps, but here I am 20 pounds overweight, not exercising like I should and having the attitude many have heard me say: “ I will die of something but it sure as heck will NOT be from starvation! “ I flipped the page of the newspaper and ---GASP!!! I came across another article but this time it was on the waste of food in Arizona. No shortage of food at my house! In fact, I KNOW I throw too much food out. Kathy has told me a zillion times that I do. So, it must be true.

So, I'm on my soapbox now and want to tell you what you already know and have heard a million times before about diabetes--- but what the heck. I think I have finally got the BIG picture. Something has clicked in my brain telling me to get smart---straighten up---fly right---eat right and, at the same time, try not to eat the junk we know is out there. Maybe, just maybe, someone out there may read and pay attention. So let's start with some statistical information.

- * 600,000 Arizonans suffer from diabetes and 1.2 million from obesity
- * 470,000 of those are type 2 and it costs us tax payers, \$4.76 BILLION per year to treat and by 2017 that cost will jump to \$5.8 billion a year
- * If diabetes goes unchecked, the price will rise about \$3.6 billion a year.

I am not a real fan of stats but that should do the trick if you're going to change your ways.

I also might add that I too, like Mom, started my weight gain in my early 70's. Did OK while I was in my 60's but things have gone bad in the last 10 years. Sound familiar? Probably! I look back on my last 10 years and have tried to figure it out. I've come to several conclusions:

1. I did not really exercise enough
2. Food prices rose but my income stayed the same and I started buying the cheaper food ---not wanting to give up my vacation money, my bingo money, my movie money, my fishing money, my clothing money and etc. to buy the better food.
- 3: Got lazy and did not want to cook.
4. Eating out was easy. Whatever my reasons are, they just don't hold water. I look into the mirror and see that I'm still fat.

THE PLAN is simple. Eat more veggies and less meat, especially the red meat. I am going to grow vegetables until they come out my ears. I am going to swim for my exercise. I am going to get HEALTHY. I lost 10 pounds a few months ago but gained it all back. This time, I am going to be a winner. I am going to follow my cardiologist's suggestion and stop this stuff of eating until I am FULL. I weigh 213 and plan on being down to 195 pounds before Christmas. Wish me luck and, if you would care to join me in a weight reduction plan, call me at 343-9690 or, at least, to give me moral

support. Call me to wish me luck. Call me to tell me ---stay with it, George ---you can do it. Email me at 123gstone@gmail.com. And by the way, maybe I will/can avoid diabetes. Oh!! The article on food waste, it will wait for another day. My brand new motto is now-----“when I die, I want to be the strongest and healthiest dead body in the morgue.” I have to go plant a carrot or two and other healthy stuff.

Do you need a garden plot? Have 1 left.
See you in the garden.

DESERT MEADOWS PARK - Chuck Parsons



Palo Verde tree outside Elissa's garden plot

What fun to see and hear the reaction our returning winter residents have to the park! When we see it daily and even weekly, we can lose perspective of the change that is occurring. An amazing amount of work has been accomplished through the summer. Many of the plants have put on considerable growth – even some of the original trees have dramatically increased their size. Especially the old Palo Verde located just outside the fence from Elissa Dearing's garden plot. It is obviously getting some benefit from the water

and fish emulsion that Elissa applies to her plot!



Wind sculpture donated by Larry Cederholm

We continue to get donations from the community. Most notable is the new wind sculpture that was built and donated by Larry Cederholm. Larry works at Prestige Assisted Living next door to the park. If you see him on the ride-on mower, please say thanks. We have also received many more plants, soil and several yards of rock.

We are installing signs to identify many of the plants in the park. We have also begun work on some new benches. Francis Howe has fabricated gabion cages. We will fill these with rock and then top with flagstone to create the benches.



Plant identification signs



Gabion benches

Many members contribute, in many ways, to the development of the park. As project manager this makes my job so much easier – I say thanks! This month I will single out Jim Campbell. He has taken it upon himself to pot up plants that have been donated. We now have quite a “nursery” – originally we called it the “orphanage” because people dropped off unwanted plants. Volunteers often browse the nursery for plants to add to the park. I expect many of the plants now in stock will go on sale at the October plant sale. We all recognize that the nursery would not be maintained without Elissa Dearing keeping the plants hydrated on a regular basis.



Plant nursery

Two picnic areas are now fully functional for your enjoyment. Stop by with a picnic lunch or dinner sometime soon!

THE COMMUNITY GARDEN @ DESERT MEADOWS PARK – Chuck Parsons

As we go into fall, we will want to do some soil amendment, maybe improve our irrigation and plant cool season vegetables. What’s a “cool season” vegetable you ask? We have had Rob Call speak at club seminars while he was the Cooperative Extension agent for Cochise County –

where lots of vegetables grow. Remember him? He made it simple – generally speaking you eat plant parts (leaves, stems, roots) of cool season plants and you eat fruit parts (containing the seed) of warm season plants. There are very few exceptions.

We also have learned, from Marylee Pangman as she spoke at past seminars, that the transition between cool season and warm season (whether veggies or flowers – whether going into cool or into warm) is when night time temperatures hit 55 degrees. No real rush getting cool season crops going until our nights cool a bit more – although as you might have noticed, at the Desert Meadows Park community garden, George Mathes has lettuce growing (he is off to Europe for two weeks; I guess he expects that to happen while he is gone – but then, he plants tomatoes before night temperatures rise above 55 degrees too). Exceptions!

PLOT HOLDERS FORUM

2015 OCTOBER IN YOUR PLOT - Lorna Mitchell

Rain has been great this summer keeping humidity up and sun intensity is down, so new life is infused into many weary plants, and seedlings have grown rapidly. Temperatures will ease lower as the sun slants to the south making mornings chilly by month's end.

Harvests have been good: eggplant, corn, peppers, squash, green beans, some tomatoes. We've made spaghetti sauce for Eggplant Parmesan but not enough to can. We have canned green beans (with a pressure cooker), made pickled peppers and Baba Ghanoush.



October is the beginning of our winter vegetable season. We are fortunate to garden year round by rotating types of crops. Remember to replenish soil nutrients with amendments of steer manure, peat, and balanced fertilizer whenever you dig. Now is the time for transplants of cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, Swiss chard, spinach, and kale. Put in seeds of carrots, beets,

Swiss chard, kale, lettuce, spinach, cilantro, peas, radishes, kohlrabi, rutabaga, parsnips, and turnips. Garlic grows from cloves, point up, and stays in till May or June.

Don't plant "winter squash," that's a term for hard skinned squash that stores well but it is very frost sensitive and grows in the summer. Also, don't plant potatoes yet; Irish potatoes will plant in February, sweet potatoes in May. Buy only healthy plants free of insect pests to bring into the garden. Hijacking pests will damage not only the plant they rode in but will soon move to others; stop them before they arrive.

Continually check irrigation to ensure water delivery to each plant. Inspect connections for leaks and timers for settings. Check for low batteries; the high temperatures of summer can drain them and your timer won't work without them.

Pests are still with us; tomato hornworms keep showing up, grasshoppers are everywhere, and leafhoppers are sucking juices out of everything. Mechanical methods (squish them), BT spray, chemical powders or sprays all have their place, but please use chemicals very carefully by measuring and following directions on the label.

Weeds are another pest needing our attention. Vine weed looks like morning glory and is invasive and will strangle plants, pull it out, do not let it grow. Mesquite seeds germinate and grow very rapidly and put down a long strong tap root, pull them up before you can't! Of course, Bermuda grass invades everywhere and digging it out helps, spraying with Roundup can stop it but don't allow drift, it kills all plants.

Onions go in this month or next. I recommend ordering onion plants if you want bulb onions and put them in next month. Be sure to get "short day" onions which bulb with only 11-12 hours of daylight. Day length determines the growth of the bulb in onions. At our latitude we have short days all year round. Short day onions don't store well but are juicy and sweeter than storage onions. Long day onions store well because they are drier but that concentrates the polyphenol chemicals. Hot temperatures cause onions to bolt (sending up a flower stalk) so we grow them in the winter. Plan now so you can order plants. Next month I'll discuss onion cultivation.

Onion sets are produced by sowing seed in early summer and harvesting small bulbs which are stored over the winter and planted the next spring to mature into bulbs. Most sets are of long day varieties and will never produce full size bulbs at our latitude. Only use onion sets if you want green onions quickly.

I am looking forward to cooler mornings and the change of season. Those are my plot thoughts for now, Happy Gardening!

FROM FARMER BOB AND THE FARMER'S WIFE, LYNN – Robert & Lynn Swan



VEGGIES NOT FROM THE DESERT: MORE tomatoes? Bob dried these and then "whizzed" them in our mini food processor. They yielded about a pint which we'll use when we want to enhance the tomato flavor of a soup, sauce or salad dressing.

Here's Bob giving the produce its first rinse outside. I painted up this old table, Bob cut a hole for an enamel dish pan and a colander I found, and one for the faucet, which he hooked up to nearby hydrant. We just fling the water on the nearby flowers, since there's no drain. It's especially nice when veggies are muddy due to a rain.

F.Y.I.... Bob tried to start some seeds to bring down to AZ with us as seedlings and found to our dismay that germination decreases dramatically at temps over 80, especially the cruciferous ones! He's trying again now that temps are in the 70's. Lynn Swan

SCOUT RYAN @ DESERT MEADOWS PARK – Ryan Todd

I had an action packed month at Desert Meadows Park. The month began and ended with rattlesnakes and with a scorpion thrown in for fun. I also hauled cacti and rocks to the park. The icing on the cake was Ebonie taking a little stroll down the street without telling us first. She came sprinting back when we started to call for her. Finally, my mom and I got to start working on our new garden plot.



The first week I saw 2 rattlesnakes within a half an hour. One was living and one was dead. The living one was asleep in some flowers I was cutting, so it didn't bite me when my hand came 1 inch from it. We called the fire dept. to come and take it out. The other rattlesnake I saw was dead, but it was huge!

It was four feet long at the very least. It was in a vegetable garden. It died because its body was stuck in some chicken wire. I had decided to cut off its rattle, but it was harder to do than I thought it would be. After I did that, I realized I should cut its head off and bury it so people didn't hurt themselves on it. I had never got to be so close to a rattlesnake before that day. I also got to look inside its mouth, and saw its fangs. They folded into the roof of its mouth and when I pressed on its head they shot out. I scared my Mom bad with the snake too. I snuck up behind her and held the snake close. When she turned around she jumped. Her adrenaline was up for a little bit.

Ryan Todd with dead rattlesnake

The second week I helped with a cactus rescue. A cactus rescue is where someone donates a bunch of cacti and we go dig them up. In all, we got a bunch of barrel cacti, some agaves, and a Queen of the Night cactus. The adults were really excited about the Queen of the Night cactus, but I can't see why. It looks like a dead stick above ground, but the root looks like a fat, stubby tan carrot. One of the barrel cacti was really tall.

The next week, I helped move rocks from somebody's house to the park. There were a lot of rocks there! Everywhere you turned, there were rocks. We filled a trailer full of them and it didn't look like we did much. On the ride there, I sat on one of Ebonie's beds, and she gave me the evil eye the whole way there and back. I was tired after moving rocks all morning.

The last week, I helped clear out vegetable beds for their new owners. The main thing I pulled was the Armenian and lemon cucumbers. After that, my mom and I pulled the plants out of our new bed and started to work on getting it ready. While we were pulling the stuff out of there, I saw a lizard moving in our plot and I watched it run, right behind a rattlesnake. I yelled "snake" which really scared my mom, since I forgot to point at it and she didn't know where it was. Then I looked down and saw a scorpion in our plot, too. We called the fire department, and they sent someone to get the snake. It was a little diamondback rattlesnake. The fireman took him, and put him in a wooden box. While he talked to us, the two snakes in the box (the box had another snake in it) were rattling a lot. After that fiasco, I helped Mr. Parsons put the signs up for some of the desert plants in the park. While I did that, Mr. Parsons taught me some of the desert plant names, like golden hedgehogs, ocotillo, and sharkskin agave. Now when I see them out places, I will know what they are.

In October, I plan to start (and hopefully finish) my Eagle Scout project, which is building the storage building for the garden tools.

EDITORIAL

A "ONE-MINUTE SURVEY" - Chuck Parsons

In September, I received a request from the Rose Society board in Green Valley. They asked whether the Green Valley Gardeners would be willing to take over the rose garden at the GVR East Center. We had just had our October board meeting and wanted an answer back within a week. I mentioned this to Mary Kidnocker while we were meeting to discuss another topic. It was Mary that suggested the idea of doing a quick survey of the entire membership.

The survey consisted of two questions. Should the club do it? And, if we did, would you volunteer on this project? I received responses from over 20% of the membership. I was pleased with the response. Thank you if you were one! It was of great help – I simply did not know how many members had an interest in growing roses. Personally, I do not, but I did not want to turn down the opportunity if members were interested in taking on the project.

Interesting results! The tally was split on the first question. The majority of those in favor personally enjoyed the garden and hated to see it go away. Those opposed had a variety of reasons. Some thought the club was managing enough projects around town and did not want to see us get overly committed. Some thought that their GVR dues should cover expenses of that nature. Some simply did not believe roses belonged in the desert.

The bottom line, though, was readily apparent in the response I received on the second question. No one expressed interest in managing this project. Only four members volunteered to work on the project, with a couple more part-time resident volunteers. It was obvious to me that the club would not have a sufficient number of volunteers to do this project to our standards – thus I declined. Lack of sufficient volunteers is the problem that the Rose Society has and the reason that their board has chosen to discontinue their commitment to manage the garden.

ASK A MASTER GARDENER - By Chuck Parsons and Leslie Campbell

The Green Valley Master Gardeners are increasing their community outreach. A collaborative partnership has been established with the Green Valley Gardeners to increase the Master Gardener presence at garden club locations and events.

Should you wish to contact a Master Gardener please refer to the following chart:

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Monday	8 am to Noon	UofA Cooperative Extension Office 1100 East Whitehouse Canyon Road Or call 520-648-0808 and speak to a Master Gardener
Tuesday	8 am to Noon	UofA Cooperative Extension Office 1100 East Whitehouse Canyon Road Or call 520-648-0808 and speak to a Master Gardener
Wednesday	10 am to 2 pm	Green Valley Farmers' Market Green Valley Village @ Esperanza & La Cañada
	8am to 11 am	Desert Meadows Park 999 S La Huerta
Thursday	9 to 9:30 am 10:30 to 11 am (seminar 9:30 – 10:30)	Green Valley Gardeners seminars Desert Hills GVR Social Center @ 2980 South Camino Del Sol
Friday	8 am to 10 am	Arid Garden 1004 W. Camino del Arrendajo
	10 am to Noon	UofA Cooperative Extension Office 1100 East Whitehouse Canyon Road Or call 520-648-0808 and speak to a Master Gardener

You can also leave a voicemail message during non-office hours at 520-648-0808 or leave an email message anytime at greenvalleymastergardeners@gmail.com – The University of Arizona, Pima County Cooperative Extension.

MEMBERSHIP – Judy Christensen

Welcome to 7 new members who joined in September. Thanks so much for supporting our club. Cheers to Marilee Crumley, Maria Duane, Linda and Byron Gricius, the household of Holly Spoor and Ed Knop, and Sue Wallace! We appreciate your enthusiasm and support of our mission of horticultural/ environmental education and community service.

We hope to see you at a Thursday Seminar, the members' activity on October 15th or the Plant Sale on October 28th, 29th and 30th. Our total membership is **now 320!**

PETALS OF GIVING



Ancient Aztecs gave marigold (*Tagetes*) seeds, native to Mexico, to the Spanish explorers. Upon their return to Spain, the conquistadors introduced the plants to European gardeners, who quickly adopted them. The Marigold was renamed "Mary's Gold" and the cheerful annuals eventually made it back to North America as hybrids. Some say Marigolds can be used to repel various pests in our gardens. Others dispel that idea. Either way, they add color to any garden.

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN SEPTEMBER: Larry Cederholm, wind sculpture "Drinking of the Wind" , value\$4,000; Russell Symes, Tool Box (including misc. tools, value \$400; Joe and Jan Melhorn, Fish Hook barrel cacti (2 over 35", 6 over 24" and 6 8-24") 9 Hedgehog & Misc. 8", 1 Queen of the Night, 3 clumps Spruce cone and 8 clumps of *Trichocereus*, value\$980; Jonell Kotouc, large rip rap approx. 6 cu yards, mixed size river rock approx. 2 cu yards and Prickly Pear cactus, value \$321

CIRCLE YOUR CALENDAR

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

- **Every Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.- ALLEN OGDEN COMMUNITY GARDEN TOURS**

OCTOBER

- **October 15th** Member's Activity, Tour Pima County NRPR nursery & Prickly Park
- **October 22nd** Seminar @ Desert Hills, Description of Plants Being Sold at the GVG Plant Sale – Alex Shipley, Civano Nursery
- **October 25th** Anza Day, Historic Canoa Ranch, 9 AM to 1 PM
- **October 29th** Seminar @ Desert Hills, Vegetable Gardening in Containers – Start Now and How
- **October 29th, 30th & 31st** FALL PLANT SALE, @ Continental Shopping Plaza

NOVEMBER

- **November 5th** – Seminar @ Desert Hills, Bonsai
- **November 10th** Board Retreat/Meeting @ Pima County Extension – 2016 Planning
- **November 12th** Seminar @ Desert Hills, Orchids
- **November 14th** Annual Membership meeting, BBQ/Potluck & Music
- **November 19th** – Members' Activity, Tour of Green Things Nu

Contact us: Green Valley Gardeners, P.O. Box 86, Green Valley, AZ 85622-0086 or, to send an email use the contact section on our website <http://greenvalleygardeners.com/>

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