

# Member Newsletter

## Shady Oaks Garden Club

### April 2026

#### *A Message from our Presidents:*

Here we are getting deeper into April, a time for getting out in the yard and enjoying watching the grand awakening that comes with spring. We are reminded again of rebirth that occurs after a season of dormancy. We wish for all of you a happy spring filled with wonder and awe.

SOGC has experienced a spring-like burst of new growth in several areas. Our membership has grown substantially in the last two years or so, now at 40 (counting our two Honorary Members). With this growth, we have had an infusion of fresh and unique talent as indicated in the new member biographies and out in the Standing Committees and/or Special Projects to which they have volunteered to serve. It's amazing to hear from them and to watch them as they become more involved in club activities.

We also appreciate the deep history of SOGC that is held by our longer-term members and their willingness to shepherd us through another active year. Because of our position in the leadership team of SOGC, we can see these interactions occurring via a thirty-thousand-foot viewpoint and it is remarkable to watch it all unfold. With this new growth, we have also (*Continued on page 7—>*)



### **UPCOMING EVENTS - details on page 7**

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|------------|--|
| Tues Apr 7 | Bluebird Walk at the Olsen's 4:30 pm       |
| Wed Apr 8  | Library Project Work Day 1 pm              |
| Fri Apr 10 | Educational event at FOH                   |
| Thu May 7  | Next Shady Oaks Club Meeting 5:30 pm       |
| Sat May 9  | Plant Sale 9 am - 1 pm at Fischman Gallery |
| Sat May 23 | Garden Tour 10 am - 3 pm                   |

## April Hardware Challenge

Club members were given the unique challenge of creating a design using items typically found in a hardware store.



Sara Bowers and Debbie Jennings made use of the geometric patterns of plastic fencing and other hardware materials.



Dale McCreedy and Rod Houghton used a variety of tools, hooks, and other red items to complement the red flowers.



Betsy Hagelberg used paint buckets, brushes, and rollers in her design.



Barb Sims and Jan Taylor created a transparency design using perforated metal panels.



Heather Jacob and Stephanie Schafer employed a water faucet, window screen, and ceramic tiles in their design.



Susan Chase and Anne Reid made creative use of a recessed light fixture.



Janet Brown and Larry McDaniel were inspired by chicken wire to create a still life design of a farm scene.



Judges Debbie Jennings and Anne Reid scrutinize horticulture specimens at our club meeting.



Floral design with Peruvian flutes.

**Six Members Attend TFGC District IV Membership Meeting in Knoxville**



L>R: Kris Bowers, Sara Bowers, Cindy Hintz, Janet Brown, Jan Taylor, Barb Sims



Janet with centerpiece for our table.



Another beautiful table centerpiece at the meeting.

## Flowers of Hope—thank you to our volunteers!



### Calling for SOGC Volunteers for Friday:

Salvation Army Major Maureen and Volunteer Coordinator Olivia along with our club Conservation and Education Committee have planned a demonstration of Flowers of Hope and flower arranging for members of the Salvation Army Board and volunteers this Friday April 10 at 1 pm. Eight participants will watch and learn from Sara Bowers and any other SOGC members present. We would like to have at least four club members present, one for each table of two participants to support and encourage creativity and spread the joy of FOH volunteerism to others in our community.

(**Presidents' message**, *continued from page 1.*)

seen a sizable increase in SOGC's treasury. Recently, we looked back at the income and expenses of SOGC across a five-year period. Our treasury has more than tripled through this time, primarily because of an increase in dues revenue, successful plant sales, and the sale of garden tour tickets.

We hope you feel confident in the leadership team and its commitment to staying on budget, which you reviewed and approved in January. Again, the birds eye view we have tells us that we are doing, and will continue doing, just that. That is thanks to an involved and active Executive Committee, our Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer in particular. Our sleeves are rolled up; our garden hats sit atop our heads; and we couldn't be more pleased with how all of you continue to work in the collective garden of SOGC activity. You make our jobs easier and a lot more fun!

Warmest regards,  
Natalie and Barb  
SOGC Co-Presidents

### **Details of Upcoming Events**

Tue Apr.7 @ 4:30 pm: **Bluebird Walk** at the Olsen's, 805 N. Mountain View Circle, JC.

Wed Apr 8 @ 1 pm: **Workday** at Johnson City Public Library garden project, 100 W Millard St, JC. Bring your gardening tools.

Fri Apr 10 @ 1 pm: **Educational event** at Flowers of Hope, Salvation Army Main Office, 204 W. Walnut St, JC. See description on p.6.

Thu May 7 @ 5:30 pm: **Next Shady Oaks club meeting**, Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, 225 Princeton Rd. JC. Please have floral designs, horticulture, and refreshments in place by 5 pm.

Sat May 9 @ 9am - 1 pm: **Plant Sale**, Fischman Gallery, 133 N Commerce St, JC. Bring your plants to the Gallery the afternoon before or at 8 am on the day of the sale. Please attach price tags to your plants. Volunteers needed at sale. See attached flyer.

Sat May 23 @ 10am - 3 pm :**Garden Tour and Plant Sale**, begins at 112 Belmeade Circle, JC. See attached flyer. More details to follow. Volunteers will be needed.