

## NOTES FROM LENDONWOOD

### Hello, Friends of Lendonwood!

Well, here we are in the depths of winter, with the occasional ice, sleet and freezing temps...but wait! Aren't those daffodils peeking up through the mulch? How about those Lenten roses with their nodding blooms? And do you notice the fattening buds on the tulip trees? Could it be? Yes, spring is just around the corner! We all know there will be ups and downs of the mercury before Lendonwood is awash with color, but at least we can celebrate the nearness of spring right now. It's also an ideal time to finalize plans for seasonal activities at the garden, like "Wake Up the Garden" workday, Art in the Garden, the Garden Party fundraiser, and other fun events. So let's get going and growing!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** Lendonwood's "Wake Up the Garden" spring workday is scheduled for Saturday, March 25, starting at 8:30 a.m. That's when we invite members of the community to come help us get the garden ready for a busy tourist season. It's a fun day of outdoor projects for all ages and abilities. You don't even need a green thumb! For example, workday jobs typically include: picking up sticks, painting/staining benches, repairing fences, spreading mulch, clearing leaves from the stream, and more. Lunch is provided. We usually wrap things up by 2 p.m., but any amount of time is appreciated! More info to come!



**Vice President Jim Reynolds revving up the volunteers for a past Spring Workday**

**CALLING ALL ARTISTS:** We're inviting area artists and artisans to sign up for the 2023 **Art in the Garden** show, which will be held on Saturday, May 6. Artists are encouraged to reserve booths for showing and/or selling their works at the annual show. There's no charge for exhibitors to participate, other than a refundable \$25 deposit to reserve booth space. Deadline for requesting booth space is Friday, April 28. So, if you or someone you know is a creator of arts and crafts, sign up soon! We want to fill the garden with art!



**A local artisan describes the inspiration for her craft**

**MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN COMING SOON:** Watch your mailbox for our invitation to become **members of Lendonwood Garden** for 2023! Our members (and volunteers) are the backbone of the garden; we thank you for your support! If you just can't wait for the mail, you can join online anytime at <https://lendonwood.com/membership/>. There are various levels of membership available and every single one is important to us. Besides receiving year-round access to the garden, members are eligible for free or discounted entrance to more than 345 gardens throughout North America, as a result of our participation in the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admission Program (RAP). And, of course, you get this monthly newsletter to keep you up-to-date on garden happenings. Most of all, we know our members do it for the garden. Thank you!

**NOW THE WORK BEGINS:** Grove Rotary handed out more than \$80,000 in **community grants** on January 25, including one for \$2,000 to Lendonwood Gardens! Joining me on the stage was grant sponsor Joe Van Auken, below right, to receive the check presented by Rotarian Charlie Wallace, left. The grant will be used to get us started on our new Hummingbird Waystation. We look forward to offering a place for attracting and learning more about these tiny birds.



**Thanks to Grove Rotary for its generous grant of \$2,000 to Lendonwood!**

**BRINGING NEW LIFE TO THE AZALEA GARDEN:** If you haven't been by the Azalea Garden recently, you'll be amazed at the **transformation**. Undeterred by winter weather, volunteers have lugged rocks, pulled ivy, trimmed shrubs, restructured beds, spread mulch, and more to rescue one of our botanical highlights. With all the clearing done, suddenly we can see where new azaleas need to be planted. And we'll certainly see room for improvements when the current azaleas bloom this spring. So, stay tuned for plans to reinvigorate this hidden gem.



**Past displays like this only hint at the potential of a rejuvenated Azalea Garden**

**GEAR UP FOR RE-OPENING THE WELCOME CENTER:** Board member Shirley Daggett can hardly contain herself with excitement over the next season of the **Welcome Center** and

**Gift Shop!** Just wait until you see the great new merchandise, consignment items and artworks she's lined up. Among the treasures will be a new series of books focused on nature: plants, bugs, butterflies and more. We'll also continue to carry the popular Sabaku women's tops, jigsaw puzzles, t-shirts, pottery, wood sculptures, and much more. Shirley could really use a few **more volunteers to help staff the Welcome Center and Gift Shop** a few times a month. If you can help, contact her at 918-397-0529 or [sjdaggett@gmail.com](mailto:sjdaggett@gmail.com). The Center will re-open on Wednesday, March 15, weather permitting. As usual, hours will be 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Wednesday – Saturday and 12 noon – 4 p.m. on Sundays. Check it out!

**GROVE HOME & GARDEN SHOW:** Come see us at the Lendonwood booth during the Grove Home & Garden Show on **March 3-5!** We always enjoy engaging with people who stop by, some of whom have never visited the garden. It's a chance to show off a bit: hand out literature, show a slideshow, display photos, answer questions, and just generally represent the garden. This year, because of the sale of the Grove Civic Center, it will be held at 102 Lennel Drive (former Whoops location). Hours on Friday will be 3 – 8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; and Sunday 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Admission to the show is \$5.

**TODAY'S GARDENING TIPS:** Want to know one of the most helpful tools for improving your garden over time? Keeping a **garden journal!** It can be a simple notepad or a three-ring binder. Here's where you note what and where you've planted, specific bloom times, what prospered or not, ideas for future planting or landscaping, issues with pests, etc. And it's always fun to flip through past pages for a trip down memory lane! February is a good time to pick up this gardening tool.

If you haven't already tackled the brown stalks of last year's beautiful **ornamental grasses**, now's a good time to trim them back to clear room for new growth. Many gardeners like to keep them in place for winter interest, but it won't be long before green shoots start appearing among the brown stalks. Then it's a lot harder to remove the old stalks without damaging new growth.

That's all for now, folks! Have a Happy Valentine's Day!

Jim Corbridge, President  
Lendonwood Gardens