

District 3 Report

Our clubs have just begun meeting for the new year, but they have a lot of things planned! Programs range from "Bring back the Butterflies" to "How to prep your trees for a storm and care afterwards" and "Secrets to Growing and Reblooming the Moth Orchid" to "Creating a Pollinator Paradise". One club will be taking recycling to a new level when they learn how to make giant snowflakes from the plastic rings that hold six packs of soda, Gatorade or water together.

Silent auctions and plant sales will help to raise funds for the clubs. The youth clubs are starting back up and flourishing with the unwavering support of club members. Field trips to Daniel Stowe Conservancy, Mountain Creek Park and the Agriculture center gardens are on the calendar. Clubs will be decorating the Mooresville West Branch Library for the fall and Statesville Library and Lake Norman State Park for Christmas.

Alison Redfoot-DiLiddo and I have visited most of the clubs in our district and plan to visit the remaining clubs this year. Our District meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 7th at the Lake Norman State Park. We decided to shorten the meeting to attract more attendees; starting at 11:00am and ending at 2:00pm. We will still have breakfast pastries as guests arrive but, instead of a catered meal, we will have a soup and salad bar and assorted desserts. We decided to forgo the outside vendors in order to focus on our silent auction. The theme for the auction is "Everything Gardening" which we feel will appeal to all of the gardeners present. We have asked our clubs to support the silent auction with their donations and have already received several useful and beautiful items.

Our speaker for the event will be Katy Ealey from "Flowers at the Front Door". To help cover the cost of the speaker, Sharon Eichler will pay for the plants used in the demonstration, supplying her own front porch pot. To attract more attendees we have lowered the cost for the event to just \$15, with the silent auction and lower speaker cost funding the event. We will let you know how it all worked out at the Spring State Meeting!

Respectfully submitted by,
Sharon Eichler
District 3 Director