



## The House Report

July and August 2021

Vol. 4

Issue 4

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Monthly Highlights

**The New Sustainability Campaign**



The Greenhouse Project is on its way to ensuring a sustainable future with the launch of its Sustainability Endowment Fund. The goal is to raise \$1 million in 2021 to invest in the ongoing and future operational and fundraising needs.

Our mission is growing, giving and teaching for a greener, healthier and more sustainable community. Like other organizations in 2020, many of these funding avenues had to be streamlined or stopped altogether. Fortunately, just like our plants and trees, our roots are strong and we are emerging better prepared for what lies ahead.

This endowment will set us up for future success and will fund our annual budget, helping us to invest in our current and future day-to-day operational needs, including our very exciting teaching farm in Carson City.

A Tool Kit has been created to help people and businesses become involved. This toolkit contains materials you can use to promote your involvement and support with several easy-to-use options to help you spread the word. [Click here to learn more!](#)

Thank you for your support in helping us to create a more sustainable community.

# The Bug Corner

Assistant Manager, Will Pierz

Wasps... Most of us are not fans of these, often black and yellow, flying insects; However, as with many other insect families the most well known don't make up the majority! Wasps (of the family Vespidae) are separated into five different subfamilies: Euparagiinae (a small group of solitary cavity dwellers), Masarinae (the pollen wasps), Eumeninae (the mason and potter wasps), Polistinae (the paper wasps), and Vespinae (the hornets and yellowjackets). Of these subfamilies, only those within Polistinae and Vespinae nest in colonies and have a queen to defend! This is the primary reason for defensive behavior and aggression. Most solitary species of wasp (the members of the other three subfamilies) hunt insects, usually caterpillars, for their larvae to consume while the adults subsist on pollen and nectar. That means they're just additional allies in our gardens and local ecosystems.



So, how can you tell the difference? Well that can be quite difficult... Habitat and behavior will be your best indicators, with the social wasps that share a nest tending to be the pests. If there are many wasps using the same entry or actually building a nest - be concerned. If there are many wasps utilizing different holes or nesting cavities (such as in a DIY "bee hotel") but not building anything of their own - you likely have a solitary pollinating species!

## Quality Thyme

## Director's Report, Jon Ruiter



Heading into the hot summer months, things are starting to look a bit more normal as we emerge from the pandemic. We were able to use our new classroom for some in-person education before the school year ended recently. Our Mother's Day Plant Sale was a huge success, combining both an online sale and an in-person event. Our dedicated volunteers have been able to return to both sites and provide much needed help to Cory and Will. Our monthly Foothill Garden Education Series has gone back to meeting in person (but we're also keeping the Facebook streaming option for those who wish to watch online). The petunia baskets have been hung downtown, providing added beauty to our downtown corridor as more and more people return to the offices, shops, and restaurants there.

As announced a few months ago, we're continuing our efforts to become more self-sustaining and in that regard, thank you to all who have already donated to our endowment fund! We are continuing to plan our expansion at the Carson High School site to create a more comprehensive teaching farm for the students, while also providing revenue-generating opportunities to help fund our core mission. Watch for more details on this later in the summer.

**Finally, a "Save the Date": our annual fundraiser Harvest Dinner will be held Monday, September 27, 2021! We're excited to be able to hold this event in the fall again, and we're currently planning the details, including a delicious menu prepared by local celebrity chefs, great wine, many**

fantastic auction items and a raffle to be held the night of the dinner.  
Watch for details to be announced soon!

## Not Your Grandfather's Farm

TGP Action Group Volunteer, Millie

### IT STARTED WITH A DREAM

In 2009 a dream was sown by Karen Abowd, long-time civic leader, community advocate and restaurateur, and local attorney, Janette Bloom. After becoming aware of severe food shortages among the underserved segment of Carson City, they began plans for a community greenhouse to serve this population and provide healthful produce and opportunities for volunteerism.



Welcome to the first installment of Not Your Grandfather's Farm, where you can explore and learn about modern applications of agriculture. In each newsletter just click the link or scan the code for full inspiration on featured local, national and international agricultural programs that are innovating to feed the world.

We begin with our very own local nonprofit, The Greenhouse Project, created with a dream, lots of collaboration with community businesses and that first little sprout!



[Watch Our Video Here!](#)

## Welcome to our New Education and Outreach Coordinator

I am so happy to join The Greenhouse Project as the Education and Outreach Coordinator. I am excited to assist with the teaching farm, working alongside the Carson High School teachers to create curriculum with hands-on learning opportunities for the students, and spread the word about what TGP is doing! I moved to Carson City three years ago from South Lake Tahoe, and have been searching for a way to become involved in the Carson community. My background is natural resource management and environmental education, which goes hand in hand with my love for the outdoors.



My passion is getting kids outside, and we will be doing plenty of that in the gardens!

Thanks for having me TGP!

### Meet the Board

**The Greenhouse Project's Board of Directors are a hardworking and diverse group of civic minded members of the community. All TGP board members are volunteers and aim to serve the mission of the TGP.**

**Board Member, Lucy Joyce**



Lucy Joyce was born and raised in Columbus, OH. Her father was a passionate naturalist and her family was raised to love and appreciate the outdoors. However, she was intrigued by the “Wild West” and attended UNR, receiving a Bachelors of Science in Forest Management. Upon graduation, she was hired as the first female Forester for the State of Nevada. While working for the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF), she became an Urban Forester and surveyed the city trees in Carson City, culminating in writing a management report for all publicly owned trees in the City.

While raising two daughters in Minden, Lucy returned to school and an internship to obtain her landscape architecture degree and then licensure. Shortly after licensure, she was hired by the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) to implement their new Landscape and Aesthetics (L&A) program. One of her first projects was working with Gardeners Reclaiming Our Waysides (GROW) and other community organizations on the landscape and aesthetics for the Carson City portion of I-580 through the City. She is proud of the outcome the groups collaborated on for the now completed freeway in Carson City, as well as many other L&A projects that highlight the culture and heritage of the unique communities throughout the state.

Now retired from NDOT, Lucy is enjoying visiting her daughter and twin granddaughters in Ohio and her other daughter in Amsterdam (now that COVID is under better control). She is serving her fifth year as Trustee for the Nevada Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects. But, she is especially honored and happy to be involved with the community-minded Greenhouse

Project and their mission of Giving, Growing and Teaching and continuing her family's commitment to sustainability.

## Fun Fact

Community members are welcome to become a part of our **ACTION GROUP**. This information and brainstorming panel provides “boots on the ground” support for The Greenhouse Project’s many activities and programs. We meet on the last Thursday of every month. Click [here](#) to find out how you can join!

## Upcoming Events

### Farmers Market



We will be at the Carson City Farmers Market every Saturday selling beautiful bouquets that we have harvested from our Green Central and Foothill gardens. Not only are you purchasing beauty for your home, you are helping to support our mission.

### Foothill Garden Series Educational Workshops





### **Beneficial Insects, Garden Allies, and Tricks to Growing Chemical Free Landscapes**

**Friday, July 9, 2021 11 AM – 12 PM**

Foothill Garden, 1535 Medical Pkwy  
in Carson City

In this installment we'll be discussing the importance of a chemical free landscape in maintaining healthy, low-maintenance gardens and orchards. Exploring the relationships between predators and prey, plants and their allies, and our cultivated spaces and wild places is a wonderful way to find your own holistic approach to gardening and landscape management.

We will also stream the event online for those who cannot make it in person.

[Click here to learn more!](#)



### **Designing for Abundance: Food Forests and Edible Landscapes**

**Friday, August 6, 2021 11 AM – 12  
PM**

Foothill Garden, 1535 Medical Pkwy  
in Carson City

In this installment we'll be discussing food forests or edible forest gardens. Explore the whats, hows, and whys of designing a layered polyculture system in your landscape. We'll dive deep into strategies, design elements, and climate appropriate species to grow.

We will also stream the event online for those who cannot make it in person.

[Click here to learn more!](#)



### **Microbiome Blitz**

**Friday, Sept. 3, 2021 AT 11 AM –  
12 PM**

Foothill Garden, 1535 Medical Pkwy  
in Carson City

In this installment we'll talk about the importance of microorganisms in our gardens, our bodies, and our lives. We'll cover strategies for protecting and boosting the diversity of different microbiomes and discuss methods of cultivating microorganisms to introduce into your systems.

We will also stream the event online for those who cannot make it in person.

[Click here to learn more!](#)

### **Quick Tip**

**A safe and effective way to help rid your garden of earwigs: place a shallow saucer at ground level near the affected plant and fill it with equal parts vegetable oil and soy sauce. Do this in the evening and the next morning you will be amazed at the number of earwigs trapped.**

**In Case You Missed It**

**Fruit Gleaning Project**

We donate fruit to local nonprofits that feed the community. We are looking for growers who may have quality fruit that needs to be picked. All pickers are volunteers. Their time is limited. We commit up to 4 man-hours of service per viable tree. If we cannot donate the fruit, the picker is not



obligated to pick your tree. Donatable fruit is unblemished and has no broken skin. Please indicate the Quality of your fruit on the Gleaning Form.

The form for requesting fruit gleaning can be found at

<https://carsoncitygreenhouse.org/tgp-gleaning-project/>

## Amazon Smile



Thanks to customers shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), or with AmazonSmile turned ON in the Amazon Shopping app, everyday purchases have generated over \$700.00 in donations to The Greenhouse Project!

This passive form of donating is easy to set up:

Shop at [www.smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and enter your existing Amazon login information. Select The Greenhouse Project as the charitable organization of your choice.

Same products, same prices, same great service.

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

Click [here](#) to sign up for volunteer events!



## Flower Harvesting Every Thursday

**8am-10:30am**

We will be hitting the flower beds every Thursday morning at Green Central to pick flowers to arrange into bouquets. We will teach you how to properly harvest flowers, and tips and tricks on keeping them fresh and beautiful as they go from being picked and into their new homes.



## Flower Bouquet Arrangements Every Friday

**8am-10:30am**

Every Friday morning at Green Central we will be arranging the bouquets which will be sold at the Carson City Farmer's Market. This is such a fun activity where you can be creative, surround yourself with beautiful colors and smells, and hang out with the Greenhouse Project team!



## Invasive Species Removal Ongoing

Invasive species removal is an integral part of any garden or land management. By joining us you will not only help us remove these pesky plants from our own gardens, but you will learn effective removal techniques, why removal is important, and proper mitigation.

*"The hum of bees is the voice  
of the garden."*

**-Elizabeth Lawrence, lecturer and garden designer.**

Contact [info@carsoncitygreenhouse.org](mailto:info@carsoncitygreenhouse.org) to learn more about volunteer opportunities and ways that you can involved in with TGP!! We would love to hear from you!



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