



LAUREL Letters

*Laurel District Newsletter Winter,
2022*



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These last few months have been hectic and so very busy. A big thank you goes to the Magnolia Garden Club for hosting the Fall Laurel District meeting in Cartersville in October. We had 106 registered for the event. Participants brought home wonderful door prizes, many won raffle baskets, and the silent auction was lots of fun. Plan to attend next year's annual meeting. **Rome Federated won Council of the Year and the Magnolia Garden Club won Club of the Year.**

I hope each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. We have so much to be thankful for and this day is an opportunity to share with others. We have clubs that reach out to local nursing homes and contribute to community projects such as food pantries during this time.

Our Garden Club of Georgia president Peggy Tucker reminds us to "Mark our Calendars" and she and I hope that each of you are making plans now and have your calendars marked for the **Garden Club of Georgia State Convention at the Evergreen Lakeside Conference Resort at Stone Mountain hosted by Dogwood District on April 18-20, 2023.**

Also coming March 8-10, 2023 at the Hilton New Orleans in Kenner, LA is the Deep South Region Convention and the National Convention will be held May 2-5, 2023 at the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia..

Please keep those in our district that are not in good health in our thoughts and prayers. I wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Love and good wishes,
Susan

AMICALOLA GARDEN CLUB



Kris Stancil, Pickens County Chair of Commissioners , enlightened club on status of county environmental projects.



Mrs. Jan Tate, dahlia enthusiast , presented tips for growing various varieties of dahlias.

On October 18, 2022, the regular meeting of the Amicalola Garden Club was held at the Tate Community Room. A traditional lunch menu was served and hosted by Mrs. Barbara Walters, Peggy Andrews, and Lane Eckis.

Kris Stancil, Chairman of the Pickens County Board of Commissioners gave an enlightened update on the status of Pickens County Government and issues affecting Tate. He was an insightful speaker, and it was a pleasure to hear his heartfelt and meaningful remarks on the status of our county. He opened up the floor to members to ask questions on issues affecting them.

Mrs. Jan Tate presented the horticulture tip on growing dahlias. Mrs. Tate has a new passion for growing many assorted dahlia varieties. She displayed bouquets of gorgeous dahlias that she cut from her garden. Mrs. Tate has fired passion into some ladies for growing these amazing flowers. Great job, Jan.

The business meeting was then conducted by President Linda Allred. The minutes from the past meeting were read by Susan Armstrong and a treasurer's report was given by Anita Poole. Some old business of debris removal at the Old Tate Cemetery was discussed with remedies forthcoming. The annual Tate Day Festival was discussed, and members agreed to continue having a booth to sell raffle tickets, fried apple pies, handmade handbags, and gift baskets.

Members will decorate parts of Tate with mums, pumpkins, and hay bales for the festivities. Discussion was given to the November meeting and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Fran Cathey, Vice President
Amicalola Garden Club
Laurel District of Georgia

Amicalola Garden Club celebrated Thanksgiving on November 15, 2022 at the Tate Community Room. Members enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving meal prepared by members. After the luncheon, President Linda Allred brought members up to date of the Tate Day Celebration. Winners of the raffle drawing was as follows:

- 1st Place - Sue Weaver**
- 2nd Place - Richard O'Shields**
- 3rd Place - Penny Davis**
- 4th Place - Mary Bryant**

Programs for 2023 were discussed and preparation for the Christmas luncheon. Ms. Sue Weaver gave a very interesting horticulture tip on watering house plants. She also explained the difference between Thanksgiving and Christmas cactus. Ms. Jean Noland and Peggy Andrews presented a program on bow making with and without a bow maker. Members got valuable information and learned how easy it is to make a bow with a bow maker.

The ladies then put together large fruit baskets that were taken to our local nursing homes.

**Submitted by Fran Cathey
Amicalola Garden Club
Laurel District of Georgia**



Member Sue Weaver explains distinguishing characteristics of the Christmas and Thanksgiving cactus.



Peggy Andrews and Jean Noland demonstrate how to create beautiful bows.

Ball Ground Garden Club



Ball Ground Garden Club members, **Patti and Larry McNorton**, are pictured in the booth *Honoring the Monarch Butterfly* designed by the Garden Club Council of Cherokee County at the Cherokee County Fair in Canton, GA.

Led by Katie VanHiel, president, members from Trayletaah (Canton), Sixes (Canton), Laurel (Canton), Anetsa-Ga-Da (Ball Ground) garden clubs participated. The booth had a wonderful educational theme of understanding and supporting the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly which is now on the endangered species list.

Simple directions on how to easily make a butterfly habitat in your own yard was displayed for folks to try at home. The project demonstrated the importance of planting milkweed for the Monarch butterfly to survive. The display booth was a First Place Winner!

The Ball Ground Botanical Garden includes a thriving butterfly section that is registered with the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly trail. Make plans to visit now for the migrating Monarchs and next summer for a variety of butterflies.

Ball Ground Garden Club 2

Naturalist Rose Guerra Shares 'Just the facts, M'am' about Dragonflies



DRAGONFLIES: POLLINATOR OR PREDATOR?

On September 13, 2022 **Rose Guerra**, naturalist and environmental educator, presented ***Dragonflies: Pollinator or Predator*** to the Ball Ground Garden Club.

Here are a few fun facts that she taught.

- 100 dragonfly species in Georgia
- Not a pollinator
- Carnivorous
 - Eat a lot of mosquitos
 - Grab their prey with their legs
- Females fake death to avoid sex
- Spend most of their life underwater
 - Nymphs spend 2-5 years underwater
 - Mature dragon flies live for a period of weeks – months
- 4 wings – the fore and hind wings operate independently
- They can hover, fly forwards or backwards, up or down
- Migratory



Honeysuckle Garden Club



It's For the Birds:

Jim

Bearden, "The Bluebird Man,"
Updates
Club Members
with New
Displays, Info on
Meadows
Preserve



The Marietta Council of Garden Clubs' Honeysuckle Garden Club enjoyed well-known speaker Jim Bearden, aka "The Bluebird Man," at the October meeting. He provided the members with new displays and updates on the popular Green Meadows Preserve in west Cobb.

Afterward, the club traveled to see Tate Anderson's greenhouse and gardens.

**Tate
Anderson**
in his
amazing
greenhouse,
replete with
orchids of
every
variety



As a lovely addition, HGC members toured the greenhouse, filled with gorgeous orchids, and the beautiful grounds at Tate Anderson's home. Tate is the son of former Georgia Garden Council President Jennie Tate Anderson (1969-1971) of Marietta. He has been growing orchids for many years that flourish under his TLC.

Our own HGC husband, Dr. David Schmidt, who provides the "muscle" needed for set-up at meetings, is shown on the grounds with Kennesaw Mountain in the background. Thanks to Tate and David.

by Kathy Benson.



JONQUIL GARDEN CLUB



Jonquil Garden Club members celebrated the Christmas season at the beautifully decorated home of Kelly Clark with a tea. Both sweets and savory dishes were presented. Nineteen members were present. One new member, Judy Bost, joined the group.

Below: 'Dirty Santa' gifts await the onset of merry mayhem.



LAUREL GARDEN CLUB

Laurel Garden Club Honors Kenny Askew, Rededicates Youth Sports Park



Canton— Date: October 1, 2022 — Fifty-two years after the untimely death of Cherokee High School graduate Kenny Askew in an auto accident, members of the Laurel Garden Club, who maintain the planting at the base of the sign at Kenny Askew Park on Univeter Road, honored Kenny with a rededication of the park planter. Members of the club placed a commemorative stone in the planter and family and friends of Kenny's shared their memories of him.

At the time of his death, the then-18-year-old was deemed a good student and skilled athlete and, ...“was so well-liked that county leaders felt something should be done to honor his life and achievements,” said Kenny’s mother, Evelyn Askew. She said she believed the Kenny Askew Park was the first park built in the county for youth sports.

Maintaining the planting at Kenny Askew Park has been a labor of love for the members of the Laurel Garden Club. Making sure the planter is attractive year-round requires planting flowers for seasonal color twice a year; while watering, weeding and routine maintenance is performed bi-monthly or as needed.

The ceremony was held on Saturday, October 1, 2022, with seventeen family members and friends in attendance. Ten members of the Laurel Garden Club were on hand to demonstrate their dedication to the continued maintenance of the flowers at Kenny Askew Park.

The Laurel Garden Club, located in Canton, is a member of the Garden Club of Georgia and the National Garden Club, and is a private non-profit service organization founded in 1956 for the study of flowers, plants, landscape gardening, conservation, and the creation of interest in the beautification of the home and community. By Jean Ray

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL

Petal to the Metal?

Flower Show School Runs... with Enthusiasm, Energy, and Excellent Participation



Almost 40 attendees from four states kicked off Course I of The Garden Club of Georgia's Flower Show School. One instructor used the word "awesome" to describe the class of 27 students.

"That pretty much sums up the energy and enthusiasm and smarts displayed by class members," Anna Burns, Flower Show School chairman said. "After two and a half days students were still smiling when they approached the final exam in design. Our instructors and volunteers did an excellent job preparing students prior to taking the course. We have a more supportive student-centered approach than in past years. Volunteers are serving as mentors for students and communicating with them on an ongoing basis."

Held in late August at the Marietta Educational Garden Center, Course I of Flower Show School was the first of four courses in the series which will conclude in 2024. Course II is scheduled for April 23-26, 2023 in Marietta.

Sponsors include the North Georgia Council of Flower Show Judges, Creative Study Club, The Designers Club, Rome Federated Garden Clubs and Laurel and Redbud Districts of The Garden Club of Georgia.

Students are welcome to begin Flower Show School now with Course II, although they would have to take Course I eventually. Anna says, "We have pledged ourselves to catch up students who opt to begin the school with Course II. Look for registration materials at the end of the year to sign up." by Anna Burns

From the Editor

Thanks to all clubs and district leaders who have shared information about notable events and active projects. Please send more.

Merry Christmas and may your holidays bloom with love, peace, and joy!

Shirley Priest

Spring Issue Deadline: FEBRUARY 25

Please send reports, articles, and photos to sapriest2@aol.com.

