



LAUREL Letters

Laurel District Newsletter FALL 2022



District Director

Susan Stephens

Co-Director

Caroline Alford

Recording Secretary

Cheryl Briscoe

Corresponding Secretary

Sheelah Schreiber

Treasurer

Dee Anne Wyse

Chaplain

Mickey Carlton

Parliamentarian

Edna McClellan

Advisors

John Barnett

Edna McClellan

Marie Purser

Dear Laurel members,

This has been a long hot summer. This Director is looking forward to cooler weather. I hope you all enjoyed the summer with family and friends. Many of us enjoyed visits from our grand children and had the opportunity to spend more time with them before school began.

On August 18, the Jonquil Garden Club hosted the Laurel District Board meeting at the Marietta Educational Conference Center. Laurel District would like to thank the Jonquils for the fabulous homemade menu and the beautiful flowers on each table.

This Director has been busy working with the Magnolia Garden Club in Cartersville planning the Laurel District 64th Annual Fall Meeting. Details and a registration sheet are included in this Laurel Letters. We hope you will join us October 18 at the Hilton Garden Inn.

A reminder for all garden club presidents: please send the names of any garden club members who have passed since October 2021. The Laurel District Chaplain, Mickey Carlton is preparing a lovely memorial ceremony to honor those club members we have lost. Email Mickey at mickeycarlton@comcast.net

Many of you have been very busy this summer planning for the beginning of our September meetings. It will be wonderful to meet with our garden club members and work on our individual club projects. Some of you will be busy working with our student garden clubs; some will be digging in the dirt or pulling weeds, or perhaps planning events to honor our Veterans by placing wreaths at the Blue Star memorials.

Plant America with Health, Happiness and Fun!

Susan

Honeysuckle Garden Club

The Honeysuckle Garden Club Celebrates 75 Years

This past Spring, the Honeysuckle Garden Club celebrated its 75th Birthday at the Marietta Country Club. The room and tables were decorated beautifully. Table center pieces included small flowing fountains surrounded by beautiful nesting flowers.

Each place setting was adorned with festive fans... due to the fact that members are “fans of gardening” and celebrated this special birthday with “FANfare.” Other tables were decorated with memorabilia from past years including original yearbooks and programs, and a display of Garden Club meeting attire from the past.



HONEYSUCKLE GARDEN CLUB 2



Special guest was Susan Stephens who graciously brought good wishes to the Club. In gratitude she was presented with a print showing a field of wildflowers with Kennesaw Mountain in the background. All were proud to have celebrated this tremendous milestone.

By Kathy Benson



CUMMING GARDEN CLUB



Cumming Garden Club Uses NGC 'Plant America' Grant at Poole's Mill Park

Cumming Garden Club was one of 13 clubs in Georgia awarded a "Plant America" grant by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. The winning project of the Cumming club is designed to support beautification, horticulture and landscaping efforts at Poole's Mill Park, an historic area in northwest Forsyth County. The popular site is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places and dates to before the removal of the Cherokee and the Trail of Tears. Cherokee Chief George Welch built a gristmill and sawmill at the water site. The covered bridge is one of the few remaining in Georgia.

The Cumming Garden Club has partnered with Forsyth County Parks and Recreation in maintaining the site for several years. This \$1,000. grant is being used to include a rain garden using river rock, and to install a number of native plants to enhance the space. Identifying labels are being added to identify various plants as an educational opportunity .



Cumming Garden Club 2

The design resulted from input from Avery Howell, a master landscape architect, son of Cumming club founding member Montine Howell, and brother of past president, Tricia Wester. Interim president Jill Denlea's husband, Colin, managed the logistics for the layout and rocks installation. Many of the native plants were donated by club members. Forsyth County Parks and Rec supplied mulch and pine straw used in the trails and planting areas.

Support came from the International Students' Club of Forsyth Central High School, and their instructor, Monica Jarvis. And from two high school student athletes (using those young muscles! Thank you Abigail and Preston!)

Numerous hours have been contributed by Garden Club members including Shirley Puch, Margie Smith, Marion Rentz, Lyn Boeve, Barbara Henry, Judy Ree, Victoria Rice, Cindy Bean, Terra Manton, and Linda Hardie. By Linda Hardie



LAUREL GARDEN CLUB

Laurels Host Butterfly Gardening Workshop for Children



Members of the Laurel Garden Club conducted a butterfly garden class for children at the R.T. Jones Library in June. Supported by plant donations from Lady Slipper Nursery, the club members demonstrated, and assisted the children in, the construction of the garden, which consisted of a food plant, a host plant, a stone for resting upon and moist sand.

Divided into two groups, the children spent half of their time constructing the garden and the other half writing thank you notes to Lady Slipper Nursery. The garden club members were overjoyed to be able to conduct this class again after the break imposed upon us all by the pandemic. By all accounts, the children were thrilled to learn about, and support the survival of, one of nature's most beautiful creatures. For membership information contact Jean Ray at jeanoray@yahoo.com. By Mary Ellen Coley

Ball Ground Garden Club

BGC Member Emphasizes: Keystone Planting Really is 'For the Birds'

Jennifer Ruscilli, Ball Ground Garden Club member, Master Gardener, Master Birder and Master Naturalist gave two programs to the club this spring on Living with Birds.

One of the keys to successful backyard birding is the establishment of a keystone plant.

Keystone plants are natives that are essential to our ecosystems because they support 90% of the caterpillar species that enable our terrestrial birds to reproduce, as well as all of our specialist native bee species. An example of a keystone plant is a tulip poplar. It is a host for caterpillars and supports the Carolina chickadee. A family of four or five baby chickadees are fed 350 to 570 caterpillars a day by their parents. Over the nesting period of around 16 days, the parents deliver 6,000 to 9,000 caterpillars. The parents seldom fly more than 160 feet from the nest, finding these caterpillars primarily in trees.



Adding keystone native plants like narrow leaved sunflower, spotted beebalm, or blue mistflower to our backyard gardens is an excellent way to encourage both native birds and pollinator species. Several birds are foundational backyard species: Brown thrasher (GA state bird), Northern cardinal, Carolina chickadee, Carolina wren, tufted titmouse and downy woodpecker. They rely on caterpillars to feed their young. There are 40 million acres of suburban lawns in the United States. If only 20 million acres were converted to gardens containing native plants our wildlife species would be flourishing. Plant a native plant in your backyard! By Sally Metz



Ball Ground Hosts Cherokee Garden Clubs Council Earth Day Tea

On April 22nd, the Ball Ground Garden Club hosted the Cherokee Garden Council Tea. Four clubs with 60 members attended: Trayletaah (Canton), Sixes (Canton), Laurel (Canton), Anetsa-Ga-DA (Ball Ground). The clubs are all members of the Laurel District Garden Clubs of Georgia and the National Garden Club. The tea was held on Earth Day and celebrated Garden Club of Georgia's Garden Week. Lovely tables were set and the ladies modeled their fashionable tea hats in a contest for each.

The Sixes Garden Club won the table scape contest with a golden earth decorated with moss to celebrate the world on Earth Day.

By Sally Metz

BALL GROUND GARDEN CLUB 3

Ball Ground GC Hosts Successful Plant Sale and Community Festival

What a day it was!! On May 21, 2022. The Ball Ground (Anetsa-Ga-Da) Garden Club celebrated its 5th annual garden club plant sale and festival. The sale originated with plants for sale. Then in 2021 a festival was added with vendors and non-profit booths. In 2022 music was added to the venue.

The day was a huge success with over 1000 plants sold and a large array of vendors and speakers. The members of the club spend the entire year preparing for this event by propagating plants in their home gardens, doing digs to support people in the community who are revamping their yards, getting raffle baskets and vendors lined up for the day. Over \$10,000 in proceeds will support the Botanical Garden in Ball Ground which the club has developed and maintain for the city, as well as community planters for memorials and the senior center.

The plant sale and festival support the Ball Ground Botanical Garden, which is located by City Hall at 215 Valley Street in Ball Ground. Please come visit the garden!
By Sally Metz



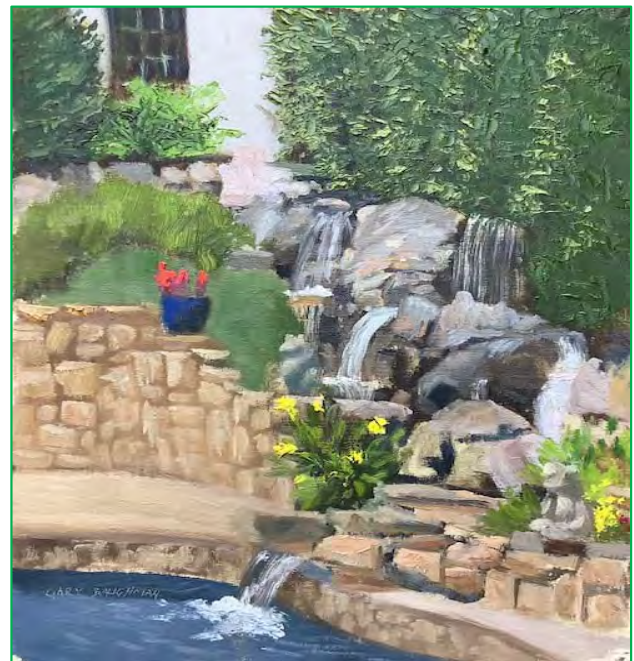


Magnolias Celebrate Successful Garden Tour

On May 15, the Magnolia Garden Club in Cartersville hosted their annual Pond and Garden Tour featuring plein air artists from the Booth Art Guild creating their works of art in the gardens on tour. This year, we added musicians in the garden. It was amazing! The 2022 tour featured private gardens at five host homes in Cartersville. Tickets were sold at two supporting businesses in town, Periwinkle and Sam Franklin Furniture, for \$15 each prior to the tour day. Tickets were also available from garden club members and Eventbrite. The ticket price was \$20 on the day of the tour. We sold over 300 tickets and had much support from the community with 60 advertisements for our program. The visitors were delighted with the awesome day. They were met with smiling garden club members and homeowners on site to answer questions about the many plantings and gardening ideas. Also thrilling were the talented musicians and plein air artists on site at the locations creating beautiful paintings right before their eyes. The Magnolia Garden Club is so happy to have had another successful year of the Pond and Garden Tour with Chairperson Vicki Jones and Co-Chair Susan Stephens. The committee and club members did a great job!

By Merrell Holden

Pond and Garden Tour Water Feature and “Art in the Garden” Painting by Gary Baughman



Magnolia Garden Club 2



Hosts Barry and Lynn Henderson with Plein Air Artist Melody Boggs



Magnolia Garden Club Members and Host Homeowners at Pond and Garden Pre-Tour



Garden Club Friends Enjoying the Pre-Tour



Laurel District Board

Twenty-five LD Board Members Attend, Jonquil GC Hosts August 18 Meeting at MEGC *By Sheelah Schreiber*



The August Laurel District Board Meeting took place at the lovely home that is the Marietta Educational Garden Center, and was hosted by the Jonquil Garden Club, one of the 20 clubs in the Marietta Council. Bright floral arrangements of sunflowers, hydrangeas, roses, blue accents, and greenery rested on table linens of green and white check. With 25 garden club members in attendance (plus our hostesses), it was a perfect summer location for our meeting. After our drive into Marietta, we were greeted with coffee, juice , and a light breakfast. Following our meeting with reports and notices of upcoming district events, lunch (including a fantastic, blueberry dessert) was served. The meeting was adjourned, group photos were taken, and we all headed back to our homes.



Jonquil Garden Club Hostesses and Scenes from the Day



Twelve dedicated Jonquil members provided the breakfast, delicious lunch, and perfect setting for the day. A special thank you to these ladies : Kelly Clark, Lorelei Clapper, Michele Cox, Heidi Hunt, Susan Austin, Meg Perry, Melissa Powell, Shirley Priest, Debbie Rosebrugh, Eva Tackett, Beth Moore Williams, and Lucille Zapotochny.



Contributing photographers: DeAnna Sloane, Michele Cox, Merrell Holden, Sheelah Schreiber, Shirley Priest, Marie Purser, and Beth Moore Williams. Thank you.

Laurel District Board Meeting 3

Time for Lunch: Jonquil's Michele Cox greets board guests for hot grilled cheese and chicken salad sandwiches, ensalata misto, and tray of fruits. "Blueberry Yum Yum," a specialty dessert by chef extraordinaire Eva Tackett, was served later. JGC kitchen crew never stopped.



Important Notices and Upcoming Events

From Sheelah Schreiber, Corresponding Secretary.

Would you please notify the Laurel District Clubs again telling them to notify me if:

1. There is a death (member or immediate family) in their club - plus name and address of where to send a card
2. A member's milestone birthday - 80, 85, 90 plus the name and address of the member

My email is mingjoysch@gmail.com. Phone 706-235-9932

Thank you,
Sheelah

Just a reminder from Jo Ann Dorsey, Litter and Recycling Chair:

Continue to save your aluminum cans/tabs and bring them to our Fall Meeting in Cartersville. Not only does recycling keep trash out of the landfills, the aluminum is sold and the money goes to the Ronald McDonald House. It's a win-win situation.

Chairman Jo Anne carried large bags to GCG Convention in Macon and turned those over to Dr. John Barnett, Chair for Pull a Tab for Ronald McDonald.

GCG AWARDS:

Applications must be received on or before DECEMBER 1st.(Exceptions: Due Jan 15th-# 28,& Due January 1st-J12, &Due February 1st-#3,20,25,26,29,31,33,49)

Diana Malone is the new GCG Awards Chairman.

Contact her if you have questions: dmalone4086@hotmail.com 770-490-7417* Watch for a new application form, new list of individual awards chairs, and a Changes and Clarifications Sheet –to be sent soon.

The 64th Annual Fall Meeting of LAUREL DISTRICT

of

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

The Hilton Garden Inn - Cartersville Tuesday, October 18, 2022



You are invited to join us at the **64th Laurel District Annual Fall Meeting** on **October 18, 2022** hosted by the **Magnolia Garden Club of Cartersville, Georgia.**

Presidents of All Garden Clubs in Laurel District - please send the names of members who has passed since our last meeting in 2021. We need the following information:

- member name
- the garden club
- city where club is located which they attended
- Were they a past President?
- Please include how long they were a member of your club.

Please Email Mickey Carlton, Chaplain at mickeycarlton@comcast.net or mail to her at 7 Waterstone Court SW, Cartersville, GA 30120 Mickey has a lovely memorial celebration planned.

NOTE: Reports maybe sent to Cheryl Briscoe, Recording Secretary at ctgb15@gmail.com

Cartersville is the smallest town in the United States with three (3) **Smithsonian Affiliate museums**. Attached is an article from the Smithsonian Magazine describing these museums. Bring your family and take advantage of visiting these museums Hotel information is on the Registration form. Cartersville is home to the Etowah Indian Mounds Museum. Plan to come in early or stay late and enjoy our beautiful city. Hotel information is located in Registration package.

Laurel District strives to "Plant America with Health, Happiness and Fun". Come join us as we the celebrate **the Birds, and the Bees, and the Flowers, and the Trees at the Laurel District Fall Annual Meeting** in Cartersville. We look forward to seeing you.

Susan Stephens, Laurel District Director 2021-2023



The 64th Annual Fall District Meeting of LAUREL DISTRICT



of
The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.



Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Coffee and Registration 9:00 am

Meeting starts 10:00 am

Honored Guest: Peggy Tucker, President of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

Featured Speaker: Paul Pugliese, Bartow County Extension Agent
UGA Agriculture & Natural Resources

Meeting and Lodging

Hilton Garden Inn

24 Liberty Drive, Cartersville, GA 30120 Phone 770-382-9787

Use *Garden Club Laurel* if calling in reservations.

Special Garden Club Rate 1 King Bedroom @ \$129 – 2 Queen Beds @ \$149

Reservation link <https://group.hiltongardeninn.com/jawhvx>

Registration and Luncheon \$42.00

Make check payable to Laurel District

Mail Registration Form and check to:

Dee Anne Wyse, 37 Waterside Drive, Emerson GA 30121

dawyse@bellsouth.net 770-262-0938

Late registration fee is \$10.00

Deadline date for Registration and Cancellation is October 4, 2022



“The Birds and the Bees and the Flowers and the Trees”

Registration & Luncheon \$42

Make Check payable to Laurel District

Mail registration and check to: Dee Anne Wyse, Treasurer

37 Waterside Drive, Emerson GA 30121

dawyse@bellsouth.net 770-262-0938

(Late registration Fee is \$10)

Deadline for Registration or Cancellation is October 4, 2022

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Garden Club Name _____

District _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____

Please list any special dietary request _____

Please Check All That Apply:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Laurel District Meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> State President | <input type="checkbox"/> Former State President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel District Voting Delegate* | <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel District Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Deep South Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel District Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Former Laurel District Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Deep South Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel District Council President | <input type="checkbox"/> District Director - other District | <input type="checkbox"/> State Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel District Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> National Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> State Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel District Club Member | <input type="checkbox"/> National Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest |

*Voting delegate is one member from each club or council

State or District Chairmen wishing to reserve display space please indicate here.

YES 3 feet 6 feet Due to limited space, one space per Chairmanship.

Name _____

Chairmanship _____

PLEASE SEND A COMPLETE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING



The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. UPDATE September- October 2022

Promoting Beautification, Conservation and Education

A monthly news update for all GCG Members – including “FYI”, Save the Dates, Deadlines and other timely information.

Welcome to a new season of Garden Clubs all over Georgia!

Some clubs met throughout the pandemic and others are now beginning to meet again. Clubs are continuing and restarting projects or are beginning new ones. Clubs are preparing applications for Awards and planning for District Annual Meetings.

Important Information:

- **Calling all GCG Board Members to the Board of Directors Meeting at Lake Blackshear on September 13th and 14th!**
- NGC Plant America Grant Applications are due October 15th.
- **The construction of the new GCG Website continues and it should be up and running this fall.**

Upcoming Events!

SEPTEMBER 2022

7 – GCG F&E Board Meeting – ZOOM – 10:00 AM

10 – Georgia Hosta Society General Meeting – Deen Day Sanders Garden House - Duluth

13-14 - GCG Fall Board of Directors Meeting – 2:00 PM - Lake Blackshear

16-18 – Greater Atlanta Rose Society show/convention – Chateau Meichtry Family Vineyard

21-22 – 49th Redbud Yellow Daisy Flower Show – Callanwolde Fine Arts Center - Atlanta

OCTOBER 2022

6,7,8 &13,14,15 – 11th Annual Native Plant Sale – State Botanical Garden of Georgia

Thursdays & Fridays 4-6 pm / Saturdays 9 am- noon botgarden.uga.edu

5 – Oleander District Annual Meeting – 9:00am – Ogeechee Technical College – Statesboro, GA

6 – Azalea District Annual Meeting – 9:30 am – Athens Country Club – Athens, GA

11 – Redbud District Annual Meeting – 9:30 am – First Baptist Church New Life Center – LaGrange, GA

12 – Magnolia District Annual Meeting – Columbus, GA

13 – Camellia District Annual Meeting – Douglas, GA

18 – Laurel District Annual Meeting – 9:00 am – Hilton Garden Inn – Cartersville, GA

19 – Dogwood District Annual Meeting – Atlanta, GA

REMINDER: GCG AWARDS Applications have to be received on or before DECEMBER 1st. (Exceptions: Due Jan 15th - # 28, & Due January 1st - J12, & Due February 1st - #3,20,25,26,29,31,33,49)

Diana Malone is the new GCG Awards Chairman. Contact her if you have questions:

dmalone4086@hotmail.com 770-490-7417 * Watch for a new application form, new list of individual awards chairs, and a Changes and Clarifications Sheet – to be sent soon.

* If your District has an event that needs to be disseminated – please send to Diana Malone at dmalone4086@hotmail.com

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. is a member of the Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

WEBSITES: The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. www.gardenclub.uga.edu

National Garden Clubs, Inc. www.gardenclub.org

Deep South Garden Club, Inc. www.dsgardenclubs.com

Save the Date

April 18-20, 2023



**The Garden Club of Georgia's 95th Annual Convention
Hosted by Dogwood District
April 18-20, 2023
Atlanta Evergreen Lakeside Conference Center
Stone Mountain**

Beautiful setting. Great room rates.
Afternoon workshops, Fantastic Speakers,
Wonderful Vendors for your shopping pleasure.
Mark your calendars now. Exciting details will be announced.

Laurel District Board—MARSHALL FOREST REPORT

August 18, 2022 by Caroline Alford

Marshall Forest has been the scene of much activity this spring and summer. Many community groups have worked together to help make improvements in the forest. The parking lot is full most nice days as many are using the trails as a means of getting out in nature and away from the crowds with Covid still an issue.

Andrew Saville, the son of a Garden Club Member, continues to keep the Pecan Field mowed.

The large pecan tree branches that fell during the winter storms have been removed. The Nature Conservancy Fire Crew reinstalled the Braille signs that have fallen off the stands using longer bolts, lock washers and nuts.

Tours of the forest were given on March 12th and April 19th during Garden Week in Georgia. A Garden club member's son replaced the remaining guide rope posts as his Eagle Scout project. Pressure treated lumber was used for the posts as the composite posts are on backorder for 26 months or more due to supply chain issues.

Some of the guide ropes have been replaced, but more rope has been requested from the climbing gym in Kennesaw.

Several clubs have scheduled tours of the Forest during the fall and spring.

The Robert Weed Memorial Walk will be held in October.

Marshall Forest still has many things that need to be done to keep the trail well maintained and accessible to the physically impaired.

The Fire Crew is scheduled to replace rotten boards on the wet weather creek bridge next year.

Installation of the remaining guide ropes with climbing rope donated by a climbing gym in Kennesaw.

The Nature Conservancy is working on a partnership with Berry College and Shorter University to create learning centers in the Pecan field and over to the Coosa River. The goal is to make the Marshall Forest a destination for student field trips. In addition, TNC is working to establish a working relationship with the City of Rome and TRED to apply for a GOSA grant to upgrade the trails and make other improvements close to the river.

A list of the donors to Marshall Forest will be listed by District in Board Briefs. Deed of Gratitude Certificates will be printed for those contributing before March 1st and given to the District Directors at the State Board Meeting in September. Your contributions are important to the Forest as there is no endowment for this property. The improvements made to the forest come from your donations. Thank you for your continued support of this special place.

Donations by District

Azalea District	12 Clubs 1 Council 1	District 1 Individual	\$440.00
Camellia District	6 Clubs		\$150.00
Dogwood District	13 Clubs		\$ 350.00
Laurel District	22 clubs -1 District-	7 Individuals	\$1225.00
Magnolia District	4 Clubs		\$ 100.00
Oleander District	6 Clubs		\$ 150.00
Redbud District	8 Clubs		\$ 200.00
Total Contributions for 2021-2022			\$2615.00

Your contributions help us keep the Marshall Forest in good condition for visitors. Please don't forget to add Marshall Forest to your club's list of contributions. Deed of Gratitude certificates will be presented to contributors of \$25 or more to Marshall Forest by March 1 of each year. Contact Caroline Alford to schedule a tour of the forest via e-mail at caroboone@aol.com or by cell phone 706 346-5886.

Legislative and Government Affairs Report for July 19, 2022\

by Mickey Carlton

Laurel District Board Meeting

The Georgia Public Service Commission is set to vote July 21 on Georgia Power's Integrated Resource Plan which sets the utility's long-term plans for how it produces energy and manages infrastructure . It includes proposals for shuttering coal units, managing toxic coal ash disposal, and solar energy production, among other issues.

Georgia Power proposes to excavate the unlined pit at Plant Wansley, which previously was slated to be capped in place, this is not good enough. Georgia Power still plans to leave about 35 million tons of toxic coal ash in unlined pits where it mixes with groundwater at 4 other power plants along the Coosa, Chattahoochee, and Qcmulgee Rivers. Leaving coal ash in groundwater violates federal law.

Georgia Power proposed decommissioning the last coal units at Plant Wansley by this August. The utility proposed closing the two coal units at Plant Bowen in Bartow County by the end of 2027. The Public Service Commission is considering keeping Plant Bowen's coal units open for as many as 8 years beyond that date.

The environmental risks and economic indicators are clear. Georgia Power and the Public Service Commission need to move on from coal and focus on clean, renewable energy production. Georgia Power also needs to heed federal law and move toxic coal ash out of our groundwater and into permitted lined landfills.

Respectively Submitted,
Mickey Carlton

Editor's Note:

Thanks to all who shared the exciting, informative articles and photos of your garden club projects and events. Also, thanks for sending reports and notices in a timely manner. I really appreciate sharing what you send!

Shirley

See our next deadline below: **NOVEMBER 19**

**Laurel Letters Newsletter
Summer Issue
Deadline - May 15
Emailed - June 1**

**Fall Issue
Deadline - August 25
Emailed - September 15**

**Winter Issue
Deadline - November 19
Emailed - December 15**

**Spring Issue
Deadline - February 25
Emailed - March 15**

**Send information to Laurel
Letters Editor:**

**Shirley Priest
sapriest2@aol.com**

