



Laurel Letters

Fall 2020

Laurel District Newsletter



District Director
Marie Purser

Co-Director
Susan Stephens

Recording Secretary
Shirley Priest

Corresponding Secretary
Sue Tucker

Treasurer
Edna McClellan

Chaplain
Betty Jane Tilley

Parliamentarian
Jackie Fulmer

Advisors
John Barnett
Jackie Fulmer
Edna McClellan

Hi Everyone,

The last 5 months have been a time of turmoil for all. COVID has changed our lives and our way of doing things. Many fun events and meetings have been canceled and lives have been changed. In the midst of it all, garden club members have managed to stay in touch and maintain their personal, as well as community gardens.

The Laurel Executive Board met in July and decided to cancel our in-person Board Meeting. An email meeting was held and Board members voted to accept revisions to Policies and Procedures which will soon be posted on the Garden Club of Georgia website, Laurel District page.

Our October annual meeting scheduled for October 5th in Rome has also been cancelled. It was a very hard decision to make, but the Board felt it was best for the health and safety of all of our members. We are not alone in our decision as Board meetings and events have been cancelled across the State.

This Director is very proud of all clubs and individual members receiving awards. The award certificates will be mailed to the club Presidents.

In this newsletter, you will find a Ways and Means order form. Please look it over and see if there is anything you are interested in purchasing. These items were ordered on consignment to sell at the Convention, and instead of sending them all back, the Board felt they should be offered to members. Orders should be placed through your club.










Hopefully things will get back to normal soon and we can once again meet in person, but until that time stay safe and play in the dirt.

Marie

“Cultivate the Beauty of North Georgia”











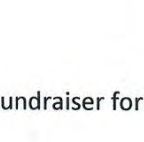
Laurel District Garden Club

Pillow Covers, Aprons, and Thermal Tote Bags

Pillow Cover with Velcro Closure	Available	Price	Quantity Ordered	Unit Price	Total
Yellow Daffodil on canvas 14" x 16.5" 	4	\$10			
Mixed Garden on Canvas 14" x 16.5" 	4	\$10			
Butterfly Garden on Canvas 14" x 16.5" 	4	\$10			
Butterfly Garden on White 14" x 16.5" 	1	\$10			
Double Butterfly Garden on Canvas 14" x 16.5" 	2	\$10			
Iris on Canvas 14" x 16.5" 	2	\$10			
Double Butterfly on White (oversize) 15" x 19" 	1	\$10			
Double Butterfly on White (oversize) 15" x 19" 	1	\$10			
Red/Orange Garden on Canvas (oversize) 15"x 19" 	1	\$10			

Pillow Cover Totals on Page 1

Laurel District Garden Club
Pillow Covers, Aprons, and Thermal Tote Bags

Aprons		Available	Price	Quantity Ordered	Unit Price	Total
Mixed Garden on Canvas		14	\$15			
Yellow Daffodil on White		5	\$15			
Mixed Vegetable on Canvas		13	\$15			
Mixed Vegetable on White		1	\$15			
Pink/Purple Hydrangea on Black		6	\$15			
Pink/Purple Hydrangea on Canvas		2	\$15			
Butterfly Garden on Canvas		3	\$15			
Butterfly Garden on White		2	\$15			
Red Geranium on Canvas		2	\$15			
Red Rose on White		1	\$15			
Red Cardinal on Canvas		1	\$15			
Aprons Total on Page 2						

Laurel District Garden Club
Pillow Covers, Aprons, and Thermal Tote Bags



TEAL



RED



ROYAL BLUE



HUNTER GREEN



PURPLE

**INSULATED ZIPPER
TOTE BAG**

Quantity Unit

Aprons

Available Price Ordered Price Total

TEAL GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA 13" X 15"	44	\$15			
RED GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA 13" X 15"	36	\$15			
ROYAL BLUE GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA 13" X 15"	14	\$15			
HUNTER GREEN GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA 13" X 15"	11	\$15			
PURPLE GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA 13" X 15"	38	\$15			

Insulated Zipper Tote Bag Total Page 3

Pillow Covers Total Page 1

Aprons Total Page 2

Grand Total

Name of Club Ordering	
Submitted by:	
Contact information for person ordering.	
Name	
Address	
City	
State	Zip
Phone	
email	



Instructions: Please combine all the member orders from your club. Contact Dee Anne to arrange delivery of your order.

Make your check payable to: **Laurel District**

Mail order form and payment to:

Dee Anne Wyse

37 Waterside Drive, Emerson GA 30121

770-262-0938 email: dawyse@bellsouth.net

Ball Ground (Anetsa-Ga-Da) Garden Club Plant Sale

Site of the plant sale,
Ball Ground Botanical Garden

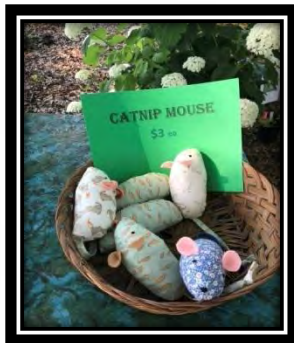


On June 13, 2020 the Ball Ground (Anetsa-Ga-Da) Garden Club hosted a plant sale in the beautiful downtown Ball Ground Botanical Garden. It was the first day after the lifting of restrictions for COVID, and we had an amazing turnout. Care was taken by all as social distancing and wearing face masks was generally the norm. During the spring garden club members worked in their home gardens to prepare plants for the sale. Perennials, herbs, shrubs, trees, annuals and houseplants were among the large selection of plants available to shoppers. Some specimens were also donated from local nurseries. In addition to horticulture, we had fun pieces such as mice stuffed with catnip and bird houses with succulents on the roof. The proceeds, approximately \$3400.00, will be used by the club to improve our watering system in the Ball Ground Botanical Garden. Many hands make light work, and the event was a huge success. Come visit our botanical garden when you are passing through Ball Ground!

Theresa Dorfling,
Plant Sale Chairman



Custom birdhouses
from gourds
made by members.



Joe & Karen Kitchens,
members working the
sale.



Our cashiers,
Evelyn Foster and Danny
Lowry.

Plants galore!



Many, many
plants were
loaded up for
the customers.



Seven Hills Garden Club

Seven Hills Garden Club is currently working on plans for the new Garden Club year. During the summer members have taken time outside to work in and help maintain our Garden at Sarah Hightower Library and provide additional maintenance to the Clock Tower Garden which Seven Hills oversaw as the 2018-2019 Federation Project. If you have some time while running errands take a few minutes to stop by each garden. Visit the pollinators, lizards and bright summer flowers. Nature has surpassed itself during this difficult time and will bring a smile to your face.

Sheelah Schreiber
Seven Hills Garden Club





PLANT AMERICA

Community Project Grants

Guidelines and Application



The **PLANT AMERICA** Community Project Grants Program is sponsored by National Garden Clubs, Inc. for new or existing club projects in their respective communities. Projects may be a joint venture with another organization/s. The scope of these projects may include but are not limited to:

- Beautification and/or restoration
- Community gardens
- Youth gardening
- Habitat for Humanity landscaping
- Landscaping projects
- Implementation of environmental practices
- A horticulture or environmental educational event for the public

Grant Amount: Up to \$1,000.00 is available to be used for direct expenses of projects.

Who May Apply:

- Individual garden clubs that are members of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- **NOTE:** Recipients of previous PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants are **NOT** eligible to apply.

How to Apply:

- Application is limited to a **TOTAL** of **two (2) pages**.
 - **ONE (1) PAGE** - Application Form
 - **ONE (1) PAGE** - Budget
- *Applications of more than two pages will **NOT** be considered. NO PHOTOS.*

- Save this form to your desktop and open it in Adobe Acrobat; it is not fillable with most internet browsers. Fill in, save the changes and email the completed **application form** and **budget** to: PLANTAMERICAGRANTS@gmail.com

Application Deadline: October 15, 2020

- Recipients of grants will be notified, and all money will be awarded by **January 31, 2021**.
- Projects must be completed by **February 28, 2022**; final report forms due by **April 1, 2022**.

Judging Criteria:

In evaluating grant applications, judging is based on the following Scale of Points:

Benefits and visibility in community	40	Collaboration with other community groups	15
Impact and scope of project	25	Application form complete	5
Involvement & participation by club members	15	TOTAL	100

Funding Guidelines:

Grants will not be provided for:

- Projects in which club does not participate in some aspect
- Purchase of Blue or Gold Star Markers
- Competitive Flower Shows
- Scout projects
- Salaries or benefits of personnel
- Political action programs
- Capital drives and fund building
- Scholarships and endowments
- Private gardens
- Lawsuits and litigation
- Overhead costs

Final Report:

1. **Deadline:** within two months after the completion of the project or by April 1, 2022.
2. Email the following:
 - A short two-to-three pages report describing the project including photos
 - A copy of the final financial report including all income and expenses
 - A copy of any publicity

NOTE: Please indicate if permission has been given for use of photos by NGC in print, website and social media. A release form for adults and minors can be found on the NGC website:

<http://www.gardenclub.org/about-us/press-room/minor-image-release.aspx>

PAGE 1 - APPLICATION
DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2020

Date of Application:

Name of State Garden Club:

Applicant (Club):

Contact: (Name of individual representing club)

Address:

Email:

Phone:

New Project: Yes No **Beginning date:** **Completion date:**

Number of Club Members: **Anticipated Number Members Involved in Project:**

Amount Requested (up to \$1,000): **Total Project Budget:**

Description of Intended Project: (Please use font size "10" or larger)

Brief description of how the funds will be used: (type of plants, hardscape items, construction, etc.)

Brief statement of any in-kind or volunteer services: (who, number of hours, function, etc.)

PAGE 2 - BUDGET
DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2020

Garden Club Name:

State:

EXPENSES

Plants (# X \$.00)	\$	
Delivery of plants	\$	
Soil amendments/mulch	\$	
Labor	\$	
Other Purchases (listed below)	\$	
*TOTAL	\$	\$ 0.00

INCOME

NGC Plant America Community Project Grant	\$	
Approximate value of donated Labor/services	\$	
Approximate value of donated Supplies/products	\$	
Club's Contribution	\$	
Other Organizations' Donation/s	\$	
Other	\$	
*TOTAL	\$	\$ 0.00

***Totals for income and expenses must be equal.**

Email APPLICATION and BUDGET TO:
PlantAmericaGrants@gmail.com



A Successful Year for Scholarships!

Susan Turner, Scholarships Chairman

**The Scholarships Committee extends our thanks to the GCG membership!
Together we have awarded \$71,000.00 to 27 students for 2020.**

We previously reported that \$70,000.00 was awarded in February.

With great appreciation, a contribution was received to be added to this year's grants. Our undergraduate and graduate students are attending Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton; Berry College, Rome; Georgia State University, Atlanta; the University of Georgia, Athens & the University of West Georgia, Carrollton.

Thank you notes from students are arriving and we wish to share a few with you now ~

"I am so grateful for being selected to receive this scholarship from the Garden Club. I assure you that all of this scholarship will be put towards my education and will be very beneficial in helping me achieve my goals. I hope I make you proud!

Thank you very much and God bless all of you!"

Sincerely, Josh Brown, ABAC

"Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of the Garden Club Scholarship. This will be immensely helpful as I pursue a degree in environmental science and I am grateful that you gave me this opportunity. Thank you again and I hope you have a wonderful rest of the year!"
Norine Moore, Berry College

"I cannot express how much the Garden Club of Georgia Scholarship means to me. I plan on attending UGA in the fall and will be majoring in forestry. I can't wait to use the money you've so generously given to learn about the world and the plants that make it so special. I'm excited to start the next chapter of my education and make Georgia a more beautiful, natural garden."
Sincerely, Rhys Medcalfe, UGA

"I'd like to express my gratitude for making the Garden Club of Georgia Scholarship possible. I was thrilled to learn of my selection for the Founders memorial scholarship and the Cherokee Rose Scholarship this year and am truly appreciative of your support. Your generous support has lightened the financial burden as I pursue my degree in Landscape Architecture at UGA. With all the uncertainty in the world right now, this generosity is all the more meaningful to me. I thank you for your confidence and willingness to help me achieve my goals."
All the best, Anna Shoji, UGA

**Please consider a donation to scholarships as you plan new budgets over the summer months. Your commitment to education is so very appreciated by these students. These young people are dedicated to the same mission as The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.,
*Beautification, Conservation & Education.***

Scholarships webpage: <http://gardenclub.uga.edu/scholarships.html>

DO CROTONS BLOOM? YES!



Crotons are tropical plants that here, in Georgia, are easy to grow as house plants. In Florida and warmer climates you will also see them in outdoor landscapes, but here our weather turns too cool for the plant to survive the winter.

From mid April until mid October my croton is outside by the pool under a screened enclosure. It receives morning and afternoon filtered sun. (Leaf colors are more vivid in the sun.). In October it is moved to a southwest facing bay window in the garage until the following spring. We do not bring it inside because of insects in the soil and pets in the house as all parts of the plant are poisonous. Even the sap from a

broken leaf or stem can irritate the skin. We have had this, our first croton, for at least 6 years and each year it puts out one or two flower stocks. (see photos). It is a rather insignificant flower amid the richly colored leaves of red, yellow, orange, and green but it does bloom.

Crotons like to be kept moist and well drained and should be fertilized in spring and summer. Drooping or browning leaves may indicate that the plant needs to be moved to a slightly larger pot. The croton is definitely an easy plant to grow and provide beautiful, vivid color to any location.

Submitted by Sheelah Schreiber, Seven Hills Garden Club



National Garden Clubs Project

The 2020-2021 NGC ongoing project is “**Plant America**” focusing on educating, building and supporting America's Garden Communities.

Dear Garden Club Friends,

Again, this year, Plant America grants will be available to garden clubs of up to \$1000 to support a community project. Projects can cover every aspect of gardening including container, community, edible, therapy, pollinator, sustainable and xeriscape to name a few.

Publicity around these community gardening projects will show the public what we do as members of The Garden Club of Georgia and National Garden Clubs and how our projects benefit our country.

We had **SIX (6)** grant recipients this January including Landings Garden Club, Madora Garden Club, Pine Tree Garden Club (Atlanta), Three Rivers Garden Club, Watkinsville Garden Club and Winchester Garden Club! Congratulations to all!!! We can do it again! You just need to apply.

Application Deadline: October 15, 2020. See the attached forms.

For all the specifics go to the NGC website:

<https://www.gardenclub.org/plant-america-community-project-grants>

For questions or assistance contact:

Lisa Hall
NGC Projects Chairman, GCG 2nd VP
hall7796@gmail.com
912-598-9504 (H)
404-414-6496 (C)

Unsolicited Packages of Seeds From China

JULY 27, 2020

The Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) has been notified that several Georgia residents have received unsolicited packages containing seeds that appear to have originated from China. Recipients are strongly advised not to open the packages or plant the seeds.

“At this time, we are not sure what the seeds are and therefore are urging everyone to be exceedingly vigilant,” Georgia Agriculture Commissioner Gary W. Black says. “If you have received one of these packages in the mail, please use extreme caution by not touching the contents and securing the package in a plastic bag.”

The types of seeds in the packages are unknown at this time and may be invasive plant species. The packages were sent by mail and may have Chinese writing on them.

Invasive species wreak havoc on the environment, displace or destroy native plants and insects and severely damage crops. Taking steps to prevent their introduction is the most effective method of reducing both the risk of invasive species infestations and the cost to control and mitigate those infestations.

Anyone who has received unsolicited seeds in the mail from China or any other country is encouraged to contact the GDA Seed Lab at **229-386-3145** or email SeedLab@agr.georgia.gov.

Georgia Department of Agriculture

Youth Garden Clubs in Laurel District

Arnold Mill Garden Club

Sponsored by Trayletaah Garden Club

Dragons Junior Garden Club

Sponsored by Three Rivers Garden Club

God's Gardeners

Sponsored by Garden Club of Ellijay

Growing Together Garden Club

Sponsored by Mountain View Garden Club

Joseph Knox Elementary Youth Garden Club

Sponsored by Trayletaah Garden Club

Junior Magnolia Garden Club

Sponsored by Magnolia Garden Club

Mud Slingers

Sponsored by Magnolia Garden Club

Sprouts Garden Club

Sponsored by Hoe'n In Euharlee Garden Club



Garden Club of Georgia Awards

<http://gardenclub.uga.edu/pdfs/awards.pdf>

Above is a link to the August 2020 updated GCG Awards Handbook which is now posted to the GCG webpage.

PLEASE share with your members and encourage your district newsletter editor to add a short article about this in your next issue.

Some Important Changes:

#16 Yearbook: Annelle Moore has moved to Macon, so all yearbook awards applications must be submitted to her at her new address on page 4.

#11 NP Native Plant Award -NEW Award!! Evelynna and Marilyn, thanks for your efforts (bugging the daylight's out of me! just kidding!) to make this baby a reality!

#H-7 High School Gardeners Essay Award - Scale of Points has been revised significantly - requires the NGC release for publication form (5 points), and essays must be submitted via email in pdf format (5 points).

I sent an email to district youth directors about this High School Gardeners Essay Award change last week.

There are some tweaks in wording to several awards, so please encourage members who to check the revised August 2020 GCG Handbook and the NGC awards website (if applicable) before submitting their awards to the individual awards chairmen. NGC has totally revamped their awards section, and it is fantastic!

Thank you so very much for all that you do to promote awards, and please contact me if your clubs/members need help with their applications.

Sincerely,
Betty Benner
GCG Awards Chair
benner148@gmail.com
912-294-6841

Youth Poetry Contest

Clubs - Contact your local elementary schools and encourage them to have their students enter our Youth Poetry Contest. You may have more success if you go through the librarian. The Librarian has access to all students and teachers. Librarians prefer to get instructions via email making the contest easier to disseminate.

With many students learning virtually, this may be a great opportunity for some excellent poetry since students are at home with individual assistance and less distraction.

NGC YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

2020-2021 Theme

"Exploring BackyardMysteries"



Eligibility

General Education: Kindergarten through 9th Grade

Special Education: Kindergarten through 9th Grade

English as a Second Language: Kindergarten through 9th Grade

Monetary awards for 1st thru 3rd place GCG winners

See GCG website for all the details, rules, and contact info for District Chairmen.

<http://gardenclub.uga.edu/poetry.html>

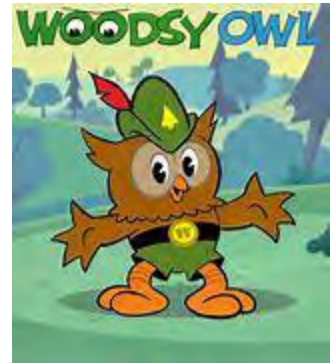
Submit Entries to your District Poetry Contest Chairman before or by December 1.

Questions may be directed to your District Poetry Chairman or State Chairman Jean O'Shields

400 Valley View Drive, Fort Valley, GA 31030-3443 oshieldsjj@bellsouth.net 478-397-7660

Youth - Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

It's Woodsy Owl's 50th Birthday in 2021, so the US Forest Service is only judging Woodsy Owl Posters, **No Smokey Bear posters this year.** We have rec'd official confirmation of that ruling - despite the fact that NGC website does not yet show the change (*NGC is in the process of updating their brand new website and there are always a few wrinkles.*) Therefore, please spread the word to all our youth. We would hate for any youngster to put forth lots of effort on a Smokey Bear poster and not have it count in the competition.



The new flyer with rules/regulations is included in this issue of Board Briefs and is being posted on the GCG website.

Contact **Mary Ogden** for more info.

912-294-144(c)

mjogden@hotmail.com

GCG Website

Please remember to access information on the GCG Website. Increased security makes it necessary to put in our USER ID and Password whenever we access any type of form or PDF document.

Please share this information with your club members:

USER ID: [guide](#) **PASSWORD:** [grow1315](#) **Both words are all lower case - no caps.**

Subscribing Membership

We can do it!! With the help from all our clubs, we can reach our goal of 10,000 members **before Oct. 10th**. This enables us to receive TWO \$4000 scholarships from National Garden Clubs. Of course we want you to invite new members to join your own club - and send their names to Bonnie with their dues. But we also ask that each club sponsor at least one **Subscribing Member for a \$25 donation**. This person is NOT a member of your club, but rather someone whom you choose to honor as a SM. Your Club Members can register a friend, neighbor or relative and they will then receive Garden Gateways and can receive email info if they wish. Clubs & the District sponsoring the highest percentage of Subscribing Members will win the contest for 2020 – to be announced at the 2021 State Convention in Valdosta. Be sure to put your club's name and number on the form to get credit for sponsorship. Do this ASAP. Bonnie needs time to process the names so we can send dues to National.

Please use form on next page

Enjoy the Newnan Garden Day Trip! Now Including Dunaway Gardens & Oak Grove Plantation



The Newnan-Coweta Historical Society is pleased to announce its expanded tour called: *"The Newnan Garden Day Trip."* In conjunction with the Coweta County Visitors Center, we have recently added Dunaway Gardens, and Oak Grove Plantation.

Newnan is located 30 minutes south of the Atlanta Airport and is known as "The City of Homes" due to its glorious architecture and six historic districts.

The tours have various ways that they can be run, but generally, they will start at Dunaway Gardens at 10am. Dunaway Gardens is on the National Register and is historical because of the dramatic outdoor theater and tea room that were operational in the early 20th century. The guided tour of the 25 acre property takes about an hour. Golf carts can be provided.

Then your bus departs for the McRitchie-Hollis Museum, where we tell the story of the house, the city and the county. Newnan has a long history and is still a vibrant and prosperous community - and at one time, it was the richest town in America, per capita! This is also the location of our luncheon.

After lunch we will board your bus for a quick jaunt around historic Newnan before going into the 1904 Courthouse. Designed by J.W. Golucke, the most prolific

courthouse architect in Georgia. The Newnan courthouse is considered his masterpiece. The Visitors Center interpreter employs a lifelong Cowetan who is a wonderful storyteller.

Heading north on Hwy 29, the final destination is the 1830s home, Oak Grove Plantation. Five acres of gardens, they are all charming vignettes including a koi pond and a two story, 3-bedroom playhouse! You will really be inspired!

Cost breakdown for the Day Trip:
Dunaway Gardens \$10.
Luncheon - \$20.
McRitchie & Courthouse \$10.00.
Oak Grove \$10.00

We will need a minimum of 20 people to conduct the tours. Time commitment is 5-6 hours.

All buildings are handicapped accessible and the courthouse has an elevator to access the upstairs courtroom. Please call Mallory Perry at 770-251-0207 to discuss and schedule your group's tour.

Luncheon Menu: chicken piccata tenderloins, small frittata, chopped broccoli salad, mimi desserts. Tea and coffee. Meal is free of gluten, sugar, dairy, nuts and PUFAs. It is paleo & keto. Vegetarian entree is a sweet potato with raisins and cashew creme.

Magnolia Garden Club

Magnolia Jr. Garden Club Hamilton Crossing Elementary School

Thank you Kathleen Clark, Vicki Jones and Lynn Frye for sprucing up Hamilton Crossing Elementary School with pine straw and planting pots to greet and welcome back students and teachers for the new school year.



Planted containers that will greet students, staff and visitors.



On Friday, June 19, Sandra McMillan, President of Magnolia Garden Club hosted Bonnie Floyd, Chairman of National Garden Week for Magnolia GC, and others to celebrate the week. Johnette Moss, Rebecca Massey, Sue Tucker, Wanda Love, and Bonnie were in attendance. Following a socially distanced lunch they toured Sandra's lovely garden that includes a peaceful sitting spot, safety handrails for the lower areas, and interesting, decorative ornaments throughout. Due to Covid19, the club was unable to have their annual Garden and Pond Tour of which the McMillan's garden was a part. These few ladies were privileged to admire the amazing hydrangeas and day lilies in bloom and appreciate the hard work that has gone into this beautiful space.

Since many groups are planning events to honor retired Supreme Court Judge Robert Benham, our club will plant a tree at Summerhill School. Though this is part of National Garden Week, planting will take place in the fall when cooler temperatures prevail. This event will be in conjunction with The Summerhill Foundation and Calvin Cooley.

Pictured is Sandra McMillan and Bonnie Floyd



Work in Progress



Fresh mulch in raised bed.

Guest speaker Gisele Butker, Master Gardener Extension Volunteer and Manager of ARC Community Garden. The ARC Community Garden was established in April 2017. Its purpose is to supplement food pantries in the local areas. The operation consists of 24 organic raised beds. Volunteers maintain the gardens.

Ms. Butker and Ms. Anne Coultas, program chairman, for Magnolia Garden club, are pictured below. Ms. Butker presented members with garden bags filled with gardening information, garden tools, and seeds.



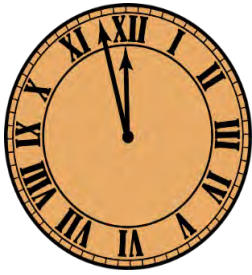
Important Notices

- **North Georgia State Fair and Flower Show has officially been cancelled.**
Pril Buege
- **Coosa Valley Fair and Flower Show has been cancelled.** John Barnett
- **Chiaha Harvest Fair- Art Festival has been cancelled. Rome Georgia.**
Sheelah Schreiber
- **ARBORETA, BOTANICAL & MEMORIAL GARDENS**The grand opening been re-scheduled to **January, 2021** at the **Center for Art and Nature Porcelain and Decorative Arts Museum at The State Botanical Garden of Georgia in Athens.** Exact date and time will be published at a later date.

TO ALL LAUREL DISTRICT MEMBERS

The Laurel District Annual Meeting scheduled for October 5, 2020 in Rome has been cancelled. The Laurel Executive Committee decided that it was in the best interest of all members to not hold a “face to face” meeting at this time. We will do an email meeting on October 5th with all Board members, Club and Council Presidents and hope they will share the information with their clubs.

A preliminary ballot for Laurel District Officers for the next term (2021-2023) will go out 7 days prior to the meeting, and nominations from the “floor” will be accepted at that time. All nominations and any recommended business to be discussed must be returned prior to the October 5th meeting. After all names and/or recommendations are turned in (by October 3rd), a final ballot will be sent out to all Board members and club Presidents . After the voting, an announcement will be made.



The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

**Now is the time to share this information with family and friends.
Support the Garden Club of Georgia Scholarships Fundraising
through the Amazon Smile Program.**

As our GCG President Barbara Bourque recently wrote,

“Please share this information with your club members. With so many people ordering merchandise on line, we certainly hope our membership would designate GCG as their charity of choice with Amazon Smile.”



You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at [atsmile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

Your shopping will provide Scholarships support from **The Garden Club of Georgia Inc.**
Start shopping at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-0706724>

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. provides scholarships to eligible students majoring in garden and environmental related fields of study enrolled in accredited Georgia Colleges and Universities. For information, including scholarships application, visit our website at <http://gardenclub.uga.edu/scholarships.html>

Your contribution to The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. through the Amazon Smile program benefits these deserving students. Their mission is the same as ours: *Beautification, Conservation and Education*. Thank you for designating **The Garden Club of Georgia Inc.** as your charitable organization! For further scholarships information contact Susan Turner, Scholarships Chairman glencree@bellsouth.net

Land Trust/Marshall Forest

Caroline Alford

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

August 18, 2020

Exciting things have been happening in Marshall Forest this year.

Here are the highlights:

- All materials for replacing the posts on the Braille Trail have been ordered.
- The installation of about half of the posts has been planned as an Eagle Scout project as soon as the materials arrive.
- A climbing Gym in Marietta has donated the climbing ropes to put between the posts for use as guide ropes for the visually impaired.
- Mark Weed and his crew removed a portion of the fence to make room for the entrance to the bus turnaround.
- Andrew Saville cut the grass in the area of the new bus turnaround.
- The City of Rome Public Works Department has put in culvert, driveway entrance, and bus turnaround across from the entrance to the Marshall Forest parking lot. This will provide better access to the pecan grove and river front parts of the forest.
- The Fire Crew from the Nature Conservancy removed invasive species, fallen trees, and fire hazards throughout the Marshall Forest.
- The 6th annual Robert Weed Memorial Walk is scheduled for October 16, 2020, at 2 pm. Owen Kinney, Head of the Biology Department at Darlington School, will speak. Social distancing will be observed.
- Katie Owens with The Nature Conservancy, Lisa Smith with the Rome Visitors and Convention Bureau, and Ansley Saville are planning for the October 2020 Georgia Historic Preservation Ramble that will be in Rome on October 17, 2020. Marshall Forest is one of the featured destinations.
- New signs to replace damaged and missing signs need to be ordered.
- Additional gravel is needed along the trails to make walking easier and more accessible to the visually challenged.
- QR codes, to give background information about the forest and trail maps for use by visitors to the forest, are one of the goals for the coming year.
- Deed of Gratitude Certificates are being printed for those who contributed \$25 or more during 2019-2020 garden club year. These will be given out at the fall District Meetings.
- Marshall Forest received \$ 2800.00 in contributions over the summer. These donations combined with the receipts from 2019-2020 were used to expedite the purchase of the composite posts, caps, and cement for the Braille Trail. More help is needed to purchase the gravel for the trail.

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.



The City of Rome Public Works Department has put in culvert, driveway entrance, and bus turnaround across from the entrance to the Marshall Forest parking lot. This will provide better access to the pecan grove and river front parts of the forest.



Subscribing Membership

A Subscribing Member shall be an individual who is committed to the purposes and objectives of the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. and desires association without the necessity of becoming a member of a local garden club. A Subscribing Member shall be eligible to participate in all programs and events available to the general membership, shall receive Garden Gateways and other informative membership mailings but without the privilege of a vote.

Dues are \$25.00 per year for the Subscribing Member. Reminders will be sent prior to membership expiration. Those unpaid will be dropped from the membership and will be ineligible for awards competition.

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Subscribing Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (Home) _____

Telephone (Cell) _____

E-mail _____

Do you wish to receive regular email notices about all GCG Club Activities? Yes or No

Checks should be made payable to the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

**Mail to Bonnie Nash, Business Manager
The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
2450 S. Milledge Avenue, Athens, Ga 30602-5817
706-227-5369
gcca@uga.edu
www.gardenclub.uga.edu**

If this is a gift membership, or you were referred by a GCC Club Member, please provide the following information so we may give that club credit for this Subscribing Membership. Thank you.

Garden Club _____ Club # _____ Dist: _____

Donor/Referred by Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Use this donor address for renewal notification

Cherokee Garden Library upcoming events-

Cherokee Garden Library Lecture: Douglas W. Tallamy
Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard

Tuesday, February 2, 2021, 7:00 pm

This lecture was previously scheduled to take place on September 2, 2020.

Book signing and reception following program.

Reservations: 404.814.4150 atlantahistorycenter.com/lectures

McElreath Hall / Atlanta History Center / \$25 per ticket

Cherokee Garden Library and Georgia Perennial Plant Association Joint Program:

***Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf: An Immersive Documentary* by Thomas Piper**

Monday, April 19, 2021, 7:00 pm

This program was previously scheduled to take place on September 21, 2020

Gourmet movie refreshments provided

Reservations: 404.814.4150 atlantahistorycenter.com/lectures

McElreath Hall / Atlanta History Center / Tickets are \$15 for general public; \$10 for AHC members; free for AHC Insiders; and free for Georgia Perennial Plant Association

Laurel Letters Schedule

Winter Issue

Deadline – November 19

Emailed – December 15

Legislative and Governmental Affairs

2020 Fall Board Meeting

During the 2020 Georgia Legislature's extended session, several positive environmental bills were passed and at least one detrimental bill was defeated. The best news to emerge from the session is that a Resolution creating a proposed constitutional amendment passed.

Amendment One is on the November 4 ballot. This amendment authorizes "the General Assembly to dedicate revenues derived from fees or taxes to the public purpose for which such fees or taxes were intended."

This amendment, if passed, will guarantee that the dollars the public has paid to recycle used tires will go toward cleaning up the notorious tire dumps across Georgia, as well as funding monitoring and cleaning up landfills. Over many years, Garden club members across the state have supported efforts to get to this point. This chairman is urging you to carry this effort across the finish line by encouraging your members, friends and the public to vote for Amendment One in November. Not to be overlooked is the success of the passage of SB 123 which restores fees for coal ash dumping in lined landfills equal to that of household garbage. And, as usual, there was at least one bill that needed to be defeated, HB 345, which favored large scale industrial Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) to the detriment of Georgia's traditional family farms. These CAFOs would have severely damaged Georgia's clean waters, a high GCG priority as stated in GWC's Position Papers.

And the fight to save Okefenokee Swamp continues. Letters to the Governor, legislators, congressmen and senators as well as to the Corps of Engineers are encouraged to oppose mining operations along the ridge bordering the swamp..

Tally Sweat, Chairman



Stay Safe



Happy Fall Ya'll
The End