



Laurel Letters

Summer 2019

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

Cultivate the Beauty of North Georgia

Hello Fellow Laurels-

Let me introduce myself; my name is Marie Purser. I am honored to be your new Laurel District Director for 2019-2021. My theme for these two years is *Cultivating the Beauty of North Georgia*. Because I am anxious to get to know as many of you as possible, it would be my honor to be invited to any meeting or event that your club has.

As we begin a new administration time, Clubs and Councils are busy with installations, garden tours and plant sales. Many clubs celebrated Garden Week in Georgia in various ways and we would love to hear about your events and have you share some pictures. These can be sent to Laurel Letters.

I, along with other members, have attended Basic Design classes in Marietta and Environmental Studies classes in Rome. More classes are on the way when Rome Federated Council sponsors Landscape Design classes starting in August. Classes are open to all members, and I encourage you to attend. Watch for additional information and registration forms.

This year the Awards and Leadership workshops will be combined and will be held June 19th in Gainesville. The registration form is included in this newsletter, and I strongly recommend that all Awards Chairs and new officers attend. You will receive valuable information that will help you do a great job.

Mark your calendar for the Annual Fall District meeting which will be held October 8th in Dahlonega. More information and registration form will be in the next issue of Laurel Letters.

Marie Purser
Laurel District Director

“CULTIVATING THE BEAUTY OF NORTH GEORGIA”

The Laurel District of the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

Openings still available, make reservations now.



&



WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, June 19, 2019 @Atlanta Botanical Gardens Gainesville

1911 Sweetbay Drive, Gainesville, GA 30501

Coffee 9:30 am, Workshops 10:00 am – 2:30 pm

REGISTRATION FORM

The *Leadership and Awards* workshops will be held together this year. One in the morning and the other after lunch. Registration for both workshops and lunch is **\$30.00**, which includes an Awards binder and Leadership handouts.

The Leadership workshop will be presented by **GCG President Barbara Bourque** and the Awards workshop will be presented by **Betty Benner, Chairman and June Thomas, Co-Chair of the GCG Awards Committee.**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Amount enclosed _____ \$

Garden Club Name _____ District _____

Please mail registration by June 7th. Late registration add \$10.00 Check payable to Laurel District

Mail to: Marie Purser, 1074 Erwin Hill Road, Adairsville, GA 30103



Thanks for the memories.....

from John Barnett

Dear Laurels of Light.

As I reflect over the past two years, all I see are Laurel District accolades. You are to be commended for the hard work you did in 2017 – 2019. I know that you will, if you haven't already, begin preparing for many awards, events and activities in Laurel District. I remind you that Landscape Design School will be held in Rome beginning in August. I hope to see many of you at this school. Having finished with Environmental School and Gardening School, we should push forward and complete the Three-Star Award. Though these schools are sanctioned by NGC Schools, NGC expects that we also include the Flower Show Judges School. Many have no desire to go this far. So GCG has 'developed' the Three-Star Award for LDS, ES, and GS consultants. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend the Landscape Design School in Rome.

If I were to take the time and space to give everyone the accolades that are deserving, I would not be able to do so. I gave my final Director's Report in Columbus at the Garden Club of Georgia Convention. I believe that report says it all. And I wish I could have given everyone and every club a Director's Citation, but, again, time would not permit for me to do so. Thank you all for what you did, accomplished and support you gave this Director. For those that were not able to attend the Convention this year, I will close this Dialogue with that report. Blessings to all and Thank you for all you did.

My final report:

Putting into words what the past two years have meant to this Director as the first male Laurel District Director and the first male District Director in The Garden Club of Georgia is impossible. Laurel District's theme during this administration has been "Plant Gardens with New Horizons: Working Together Works".

A male director was just a start. The clubs in Laurel District began "new horizons" of their own through club projects, events and activities. Laurel District took the opportunities to **beautify** our communities, participate in the **conservation** of natural resources and **educate** not only ourselves, but, the public as well. Presenting the importance of being good stewards of our environment was shown by all clubs in Laurel District. We accomplished many goals during the past two years

In "planting our gardens" we focused on membership among other goals. The goal of membership will also be carried out during the new administration.

"Working Together Works" was carried from the far North West to the far North East and northward in Laurel District. Clubs that had not been active in the events and activities of Laurel District were pulled together and many clubs are anxious to get started with other efforts.

This Director must pause for just a moment to thank my wife, Kay (a.k.a. My Queen) for her undying support of me in all the events, activities and many nights away from home. However, since she has retired now, we can travel together. Thank you, Kay, for sharing me with Laurel District and The Garden Club of Georgia.

To give a complete history of the past two years would take much more time than we are afforded in this meeting. So, this Director, as the gavel is passed, encourages you to listen and to look as Laurels of Light shines throughout our District and our State.

I will close now to say to my "Director Sisters" and to "Mom", thank you for a great ride. It has been real, and it has been fun, and it **HAS** been **REAL FUN**. Love Y'all much now and always. Thank you, Laurel District, and, thank you Garden Club of Georgia.

John



Rome's Clock Tower Garden Dedication

On 10 April 2019 Seven Hills Garden Club held the dedication of the newly refurbished Clock Tower Garden at Bailey Park, one of the Seven Hills in Rome, Georgia. Jennifer Kearns, Seven Hills Co-President, welcomed visitors and thanked the many workers who provided their time and energy to this undertaking. (Three hundred seventy hours of volunteer time went into this plan). Mary Hardin Thornton, previously of *Keep Rome Beautiful*, provided a brief history of the garden, and Nelly Luthi, Seven Hills member and Master Gardener, told about the planning and execution of the garden. This was the two-year Rome Federation Project for 2017-2019. Over that time period ten clubs, led by Seven Hills, were involved in returning five flower beds to a welcoming site for visitors and residents taking a break from their daily lives. Seeds were started, plants were donated and purchased, invasive plants were removed, weeding was a constant chore, species were moved to better locations, and native plants and perennials were added to the garden.

When Seven Hills accepted this project their goal was to create a pollinator garden with species that would attract butterflies, bees, and birds, and survive the Georgia summer heat and hot afternoon sun next to the Clock Tower parking lot. Irrigation and pine straw were provided by the City of Rome plus help in removing invasive plants. Berry College Freshmen and Admissions Office assisted in weeding and digging out eight diseased knockout roses. Each of the ten garden clubs had assigned



workdays in addition to yearly club assessments of \$1 per member that helped with the purchase of weed killer, fertilizer, and a few plants. Since Rome is a designated Bee/Pollinator City, it only made sense to continue providing sustenance for our visiting pollinators at this garden. Host species that provide butterflies a place to lay eggs and food for emerging caterpillars were chosen; a variety of nectar plants were added to the garden to provide food and pollen for not only butterflies but also birds and bees. As spring arrives many species are beginning to enjoy the garden and upwards of 20 varieties of butterflies were seen here last year.



In 2013 the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail was created. Butterfly habitats were being destroyed; the use of chemicals severely affected the monarch butterfly; and milkweed, a plant important to butterflies, was disappearing from our gardens. Rosalynn Carter wanted to plant a butterfly garden and this was the beginning of the establishment of the Trail that has prompted gardeners to include an emphasis on providing new butterfly habitats. The

Butterfly Trail begins in Plains, Georgia with the largest garden at the Plains

Visitors Center and includes private and public gardens throughout the United States, Japan, and Canada. A complete list of these gardens plus lesson plans for teachers and additional information can be found at Rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org.

Your garden can even become part of the Butterfly Trail. In January 2019 Seven Hills applied for this distinction and the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail sign is located at the entry to the Clock Tower Garden. Rome's Clock Tower, built in 1871, attracts many visitors and the new garden will not only provide a home for pollinators but also a welcome and educational site for visitors.

Sheelah Schreiber presented *Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail* books to Ruth Forrester, Library Board of Trustees and Winnie Holland, Federation President to commemorate the event. If you are in or near Rome please stop by the garden and enjoy the flowers and the new residents.



LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS TO BE OFFERED IN ROME

The purpose of the Landscape Design School is to help members become accomplished landscape designers.

The Landscape Design Study Courses offer a series of four 10-hour courses. The courses cover the history of landscape design as well as instruction from landscape architects in a variety of design techniques used in home and municipal settings.

The curriculum covers a wide range of subjects: from landscape design history to landscape architecture in the year 2000 and beyond. Since its founding in 1958, professional instructors have maintained the high standards originally incorporated in the study program. Also offered are many optional programs, such as conferences, symposia and tours. Students acquire the tools for making their own gardens more beautiful and easier to maintain. Many students have been motivated to serve in political decision-making areas where awareness of the impact of a well-designed landscape can enhance the beauty and enjoyment of life in the public arena.

The reading for this course is the book "Stewards of the Land" along with the NGC subscription publication [The National Gardener magazine](#).

For more information contact: Jo Hernandez at jelaynejewelry@comcast.net.

All classes will be conducted in Rome, Georgia.

August 7 & 8 NGC's Landscape School Course I

November 20 & 21 Landscape School Course II

February 12 & 13, 2020 Landscape School Course III

April 28 & 29, 2020 Landscape School Course IV

A registration form can be found at
[www Romefederatedgardenclubs.com](http://www.Romefederatedgardenclubs.com) under the tab "News".

Each 2-day course is \$100. There will be a breakfast bar, snacks, and lunch each day.

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL
TO BE OFFERED IN ROME, GA**

REGISTRATION FORM FOR SERIES XXVIII, COURSE I
August 7 & 8

Name: _____ Address: _____

City/State: _____ Phone (____) _____

E-mail: _____ Member of Garden Club: YES _____ NO _____

Club: _____ District _____

PLEASE CHECK CORRECT BOX:
(Breakfast, lunch, snack both days included.)

Detail any Special Dietary needs? _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Full Course (with exam)	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Refreshing (LD Consultant)	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-credit student	\$100.00
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____

Make check payable to **ROME FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**

Registration Deadline: **July 29, 2019**

Mail to: RFGC
c/o Caroline Alford
7 Pine Valley Rd SW
Rome, Ga. 30165

Limited seating available. Refunds up to two weeks before school and a 25% handling fee will be retained on all cancellations.

For information Contact: Jo Hernandez, Chairman, at Jelaynejewelry@comcast.net

Calendar of Events

JANUARY 2019

9-10 Wednesday-Thursday NGC Environmental School - Course II Rome

FEBRUARY 2019

21 Thursday Laurel District Board Meeting Dallas,
27 Wednesday Basic Design II - Unit 2 Marietta Educational Center

MARCH 2019

20-21 Wednesday-Thursday NGC Environmental School - Course III Rome
27 Wednesday Basic Design II - Unit 3 Marietta Educational Center

APRIL 2019

24 Wednesday Basic Design II - Unit 4 Marietta Educational Center

MAY 2019

4 Saturday Soque Garden Club "Spring Garden Extravaganza" Plant & Garden Sale Cleveland
15-16 Wednesday-Thursday NGC Environmental School - Course IV Rome
29 Wednesday Basic Design II - Unit 5
Marietta Educational Center

JUNE 2019

19 Wednesday Laurel District Leadership/Awards Workshop Gainesville

JULY 2019

31 Wednesday CWP Workshop for DD's and Chairmen DNR Office at Rum Creek

AUGUST 2019

7-8 Wednesday -Thursday NGC Landscape Design School - Course I Rome
21 Wednesday Cherokee Garden Library Orientation for DDs & Chairmen Atlanta History Center
22 Thursday Laurel District Board Meeting Euaharlee

OCTOBER 2019

8 Tuesday Laurel District Fall Meeting Dahlonega

NOVEMBER 2019

20-21 Wednesday-Thursday NGC Landscape Design School - Course II Rome

FEBRUARY 2020

12-13 Wednesday-Thursday NGC Landscape Design School - Course III Rome
20 Thursday Laurel District Board Meeting Marietta

MARCH 2020

24 Tuesday GCG Spring F&E Meeting Marriott Macon City Center
25-26 Wednesday-Thursday GCG Board and Annual Meeting Marriott Macon City Center

APRIL 2020

28-29 Tuesday-Wednesday NGC Landscape Design School - Course IV Rome

AUGUST 2020

20 Thursday Laurel District Board Meeting Canton

FEBRUARY 2021

20 Thursday Laurel District Board Meeting TBD

OCTOBER 2020

5 Monday Laurel District Fall Meeting Rome

FEBRUARY 2021

18 Thursday Laurel District Board Meeting Cartersville

Individual Clubs with Web Site

[Cumming Garden Club](#), [Garden Club of Ellijay](#), [Jonquil Garden Club](#), [Smyrna](#), [Sope Creek Garden Club](#), [Three Rivers Garden Club in Rome](#)

Councils with Web Sites: [Rome Federated Garden Clubs](#)

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Send feedback to [Web Site Manager](#)

GCG Convention April 2019



Past District Director John Barnett passes the Gavel to Marie Purser, 2019-2021 Laurel District Director.

Save the Date

“Blossoming In Macon”

March 24, 25, & 26, 2020

Hosted by Laurel District



Cherry Blossoms # 1 Edna McClellan, #2 Shirley Priest, # 3 Marie Purser and Cherry Blossom Moma Susan Stephens reminding members to **Save the Date**.



Group Photo of Laurel District members attending GCG Convention April 16-18, 2019 in Columbus.

ARBORETA, BOTANICAL & MEMORIAL

GCG SPRING 2019 CONVENTION COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

MARY W. DENNEY, CHAIRMAN

FOR THE TERM OF 2017-2018 114 CLUBS DONATED \$4,351.00 TO THE STATE BOTANICAL GARDEN OF GEORGIA AND 49 CLUBS DONATED \$1,336.00 TO THE ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDENS.

FOR THE TERM OF 2018-2019 112 CLUBS DONATED \$3,080.00 TO THE STATE BOTANICAL GARDEN OF GEORGIA AND 50 CLUBS DONATED \$1,640.00 TO THE ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN AND 12 CLUBS DONATED \$530.00 TO OTHER GARDENS IN THE STATE

FOR THE FULL TERM:

226 CONTRIBUTED 7,431.00 TO S.B.G.

99 CONTRIBUTED 2,976.00 TO A.B.G.

12 CONTRIBUTED 530.00 TO OTHER

TOTAL CONTRIBUTED \$10,937.00



Garden Gateways Report

Victoria Chandler - Editor & Art Director
Dorothy Lee - Associate Editor & Text Editor
Annual Meeting April 16-18, 2019



The **Garden Gateways** team has completed eight issues of Garden Gateways during this Administration (Summer 2017 through Spring 2019). We are printing 10,378 copies per issue. In each issue, we try to include three calendars of upcoming events:

Callaway Gardens
State Botanical Garden
What's Coming Up (GCG member events)

We like to have at least two regular articles per issue,
Inside Your Garden Gate by Kathryn Litton and *Environmentally Yours* Renie Faulkenberry.

Deadlines for each issue:

Summer Issue deadline April 15 - covers June, July and August
Fall Issue deadline July 15 - covers September, October and November
Winter Issue deadline October 15 - covers December, January and February
Spring Issue deadline January 15 - covers March, April and May

“This and That”



Shirley Priest and Edna McClellan designed this beautiful arrangement for Laurel District at the GCG meeting in Columbus. **Kudo Ladies!** We appreciate your talents on our behalf.



Barbara Bourke, GCG President and Marie Purser, Laurel District Director



Edna McClellam and Betty Jane Fleetwood taking a break at the Deep South Convention

Land Trust/Marshall Forest

Caroline Alford

State Convention Board Report

End of Term 2017-2019

April 18, 2019

Marshall Forest has been a busy place the past two years. Katie Owens from the Georgia Conservancy noted the number of volunteers who have worked in the forest including the Fire Crew, the Berry Freshmen, and the Weed Family. Many donations were made to the forest by individuals as well as garden clubs, councils, and districts.

Here are the highlights:

- A record number of visitors came to the forest from inside Laurel District and surrounding districts as well as from other states.
- There were two Robert Weed Memorial Walks during this term.
- Joan Maloof, Executive Director of the Old Growth Forest Network inducted the Marshall Forest into the network in October 2018.
- The Fire Crew from the Nature Conservancy removed invasive species and fire hazards throughout the Marshall Forest.
- Berry College freshmen worked in the forest on their community workday removing invasive species around the trails.
- The Flower Glen Trail opened in the summer of 2018 for the first time since 1993, when it was closed due to a major storm in March of that year.
- A new loop trail, which highlights the natural grove of Long Leaf Pines at the top of Mr. Alto, has been constructed at the top of the Dorsey Trail.
- The City of Rome Public Works Department is working with Georgia Power to facilitate the installation of a streetlight across from the entrance to the forest parking lot.
- Mark Weed has rebuilt the entrance gates to match the fencing of the meadow across the street and pressure washed the Marshall Forest sign at the entrance.
- Mr. Cescutti has repaired the vandalism damage done to the Marshall sculpture.
- The parking lot has been cleaned up, leveled, and the old cross ties removed. Some new crossties have been installed, but others need to be purchased.
- Contact has been made with the Environmental Science Department at Berry College to facilitate some senior projects in the forest.
- Contact has been made with the Science Department at Darlington School to provide to students volunteer opportunities in the forest.
- An Eagle Scout project is in the works to replace the podiums and posts along the Braille Trail.
- New signs to replace damaged and missing signs will be ordered once the new podiums are installed.
- Additional gravel will be placed along the trails once the new posts have been installed to make the trail more handicap accessible.

Land Trust/Marshall Forest

continued

Deed of Gratitude Certificates have been printed for all donors and presented to the District directors for distribution.

Please continue to support the Marshall Forest with your contributions of \$25 or more. The forest is still undergoing more renovations. We have several things that need to be paid for including materials for the Eagle Scout project, streetlight installation, gravel for the trail, and additional cross-ties. Your contributions help us keep the Marshall Forest in good condition for visitors. Your help is invaluable.

Tours of the forest can be scheduled by e-mailing Caroline Alford at caroboone@aol.com or by calling 706 346-5886.

Contributions

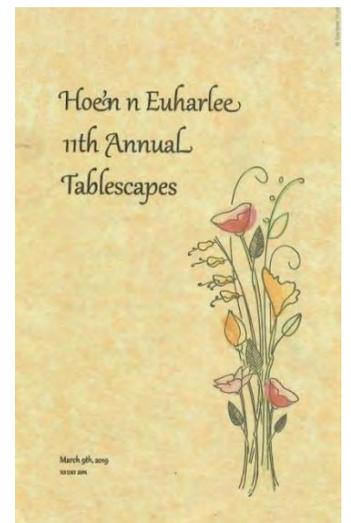
District	#	2017-2018	#	2018-2019	Total
Laurel District	27	\$ 750.00	36	\$ 1540.00	\$ 2,290.00
Azalea District	18	\$ 445.00	15	\$ 370.00	\$ 815.00
Oleander District	6	\$ 150.00	6	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00
Camellia District	6	\$ 150.00	6	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00
Magnolia District	4	\$ 100.00	3	\$ 75.00	\$ 175.00
Dogwood District	10	\$ 235.00	15	\$ 360.00	\$ 595.00
Redbud District	12	\$ 261.00	10	\$ 220.00	\$ 481.00
Totals	83	\$2,091.00	91	\$ 2,865.00	\$ 4,956.00



Hoe n' Euharlee



A sampling from our 11th Annual Tablescapes fundraiser.



Planting a tree to celebrate Arbor Day



Installation of Officers

L-R: Jackie Fulmer (Installer), Dianne Myers (President), Cynthia Reed (1st VP), Linda Craft (3rd VP), Marie Purser (4th VP), Pat Ward (Recording Secretar) Jan Shepherd (Treasurer), Dot Brett (Chaplain), and Betty Jane Tilley (Parliamentarian)

L-R: Isabelle Adams (Sprouts-youth GC), Dianne Myers, Marie Purser, Sue Cox, Dot Brett, Linda Craft, and Betty Jane Tilley

Trayletaah Garden Club

Congratulations!



Sara Ali a youth garden club member at Arnold Mill Elementary School came in 1st Place in the State competition, 1st Place in the Deep South Regions and 3rd Place Nationally.

Pop Goes the Seedlet

SARA ALI

(To the tune "Pop Goes the Weasel")

All around the planet Earth,
Seeds help preserve our planet,
Water, sun, and nutrients,
Pop goes the seedlet!

Planet Earth needs nutrients,
Planet Earth needs nourishments,
Seeds can provide these things,
Pop goes the seedlet!

All around the country,
Various seeds maintain our planet,
By growing fruits and vegetables,
Pop goes the Seedlet!



State



National



Deep South

Visit these sites for great information

LaurelDistrict.org

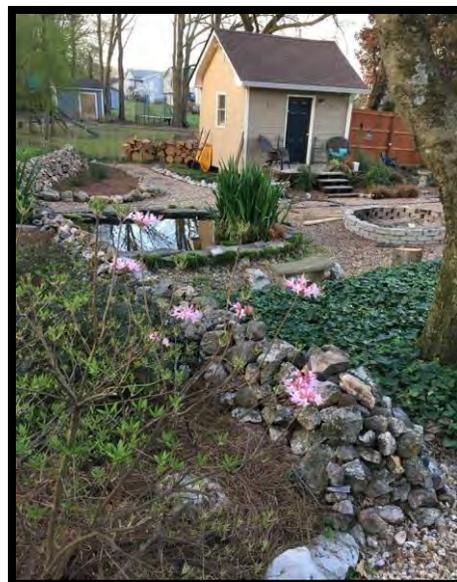
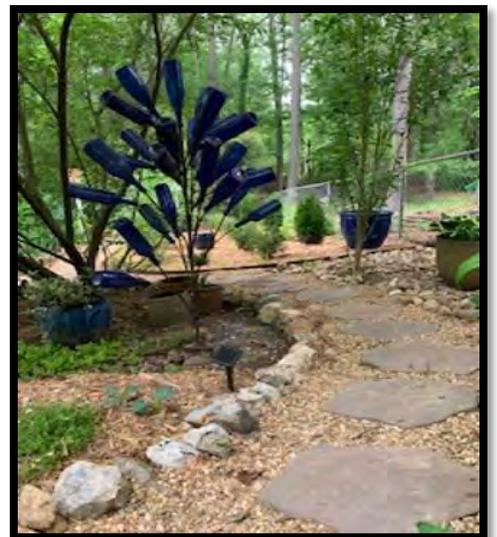
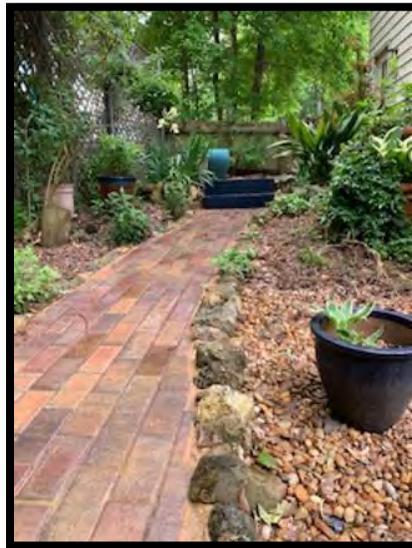
The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

gardenclub.uga.edu/laureldistrict.html

Magnolia Garden Club

A FEW PHOTOS FROM OUR
POND AND GARDEN TOUR
SITES HELD RECENTLY.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
NOW FOR NEXT YEAR'S
POND AND GARDEN TOUR
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020





PROCLAMATION SIGNING at Bartow County Courthouse, Commissioner's Conference Room. **Bonnie Floyd of Magnolia Garden Club, chair of the National Garden Week committee** with Mayor Pro-tem **Calvin Cooley, Chairman of the Friends of George Washington Carver Park committee**, signs the 2019 proclamation. National Garden Week is June 2-8, 2019.



Magnolia Garden Club
Members attending the
Tablesapces sponsored by Hoe
n' Euharlee Garden Club.

Seated L-R: Honoary Member
Mary Siniard,
Mickey Carlton, Vicki Jones.
Standing L-R: Kathleen Clark,
Sue Tucker, Susan Stephens,
Sandi Lucas, Jo Ann Dorsey,
and Marcia Humphreys.

LAUREL DISTRICT DATES ON GCG MASTER CALENDAR 2019

2019

Environmental School Course IV Rome	May 15 & 16, 2019 Rome
Awards/Leadership workshop	June 19, 2019 Gainesville
Landscape Design School	August 7 & 8, 2019 Rome
Laurel District Board Meeting	August 22, 2019 Euharlee
Laurel District Fall Meeting	October 8, 2019 Dahlonega
Landscape Design School	November 20 & 21, 2019 Rome

2020

Landscape Design School	February 12 & 13, 2020 Rome
Laurel District Board Meeting	February 20, 2020 Marietta
**GCG State Convention	March 24, 25, & 26, 2020 Macon
Landscape Design School Rome	April 28 & 29, 2020 Rome
Laurel District Board Meeting	August 20, 2020 Canton
Laurel District Fall Meeting	October 5, 2020 Rome
Laurel District Board Meeting	February 18, 2021 Cartersville

Reminder

Please save your tabs and/or cans for Ronald McDonald!

Thanks, John



Reminder - save the date

**October Fall Meeting
Forrest Hills Mountain Resort in Dahlonega**

October 8th

More information coming soon

Laurel Letters

2019- 2020 NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

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



Happy Summer! 

THE END