***It was great to be in attendance when this report was given at the Garden Club of GA Board meeting this week because the Norcross Garden Club was mentioned so many times.  Thank you to all who applied for awards for our club and those who reported what our club was doing.  Your work helped to get us acknowledged.***

***Trudy Rudert***

**Dogwood District - Chris Adams.**

**GCG Fall Board Meeting**

**September 14, 2021**

 On Tuesday August 10, Dogwood District held its District Board Meeting at Northside Drive Baptist Church. This was not without drama as the meeting was originally scheduled to be held at the Sandy Springs Library. But on Saturday August 7 this director was notified that due to COVID-19, all meetings at the library from August 9 on were cancelled. So now we had no meeting location. The Dynamic Dogwoods were great and in two short days we had not one but two possible new locations. Thank you Dynamic Dogwoods.

We were able to present trophies in person to the recipients that were awarded district awards virtually last October and take photos. Congratulations went to **Norcross Garden Club** for being awarded the Garden Club of the Year, **Marianne McConnell** who was awarded Dogwood District Women of the Year and **Spalding Garden Club** who received the Jo Ann Jones Civic Improvement Award.

Dogwood Clubs and Individuals won many Garden Club of Georgia Awards. **Winnie White**, a member of Country Hills Garden Club, was awarded the GCG First Place Individual Butterfly Award for her work with Monarch butterflies. **Marianne McConnel** of Rose Garden Club, came in a close second on the GCG Distinguished Member Award. **Norcross Garden Club** was awarded GCG Garden Club of the Year with **Roswell Garden** Club being awarded 2nd place.

Dogwood clubs won many National awards too. Spalding Garden Club  was awarded a First Place Certificate of Merit and $100 as the Overall Winner for the Flash Drive  program: “Historic Gardens and Plants of the Colonial Era. Bellmere Garden Club  was awarded a  First Place Tommy Donan Certificate of Merit for their publication “Bellmere Garden Diary”  and Rose Garden Club  was awarded  a First Place Certificate of Commendation for their yearbook.

Norcross Garden Club  received two Youth Awards and two $100 checks for being the overall winner for both:  The Winifred F. Fink Award—Youth Environmental Concerns and   The Jesse M. Connor Award—Youth Environmental Education.

On July 14 Dogwood District was honored to work with Redbud District on a successful Leadership and Awards Workshop held at Bellmere Garden House. The workshop was well attended and participants left with some great information for the coming term.

The **Dogwood District 63nd Annual District Meeting** is to be held on **Wednesday,** **October 13th, 2021 at the Dunwoody Country Club**.  Laura C. Martin, Botanical Illustrator and author will be our featured speaker.    We will keep the business part of the meeting short and sweet - and do our award presentations.

Roswell Garden club is still waiting to dedicate the Gold Star and Blue Star marker installed in the Roswell Vietnam War Memorial Garden at Roswell City Hall.  The dedication ceremony has been postponed until next Memorial Day 2022. Cherokee Garden Club will be installing a Blue Star Marker at the Atlanta History Center and a dedication ceremony will be announced soon. And we are working with the city of Sandy Springs in the hopes of securing spots for new markers in the upcoming Veterans Park that is under design.

Several Dogwood Clubs are celebrating significant anniversaries this year. Norcross Garden Club celebrated 90 years in March of this year. Camellia Garden Club celebrated their 80th Anniversary this year which was postponed from 2020. And Piedmont Garden Club will also be celebrating 90 years this year.

Dogwood District clubs are getting back to pre-COVID-19 projects. The Peachtree Battle Garden Club restored the Margaret Mitchell gravesite at Oakland Cemetery. And the Primrose Garden club met this summer to work on the family grave that they maintain at Oakland Cemetery. Camellia Garden Club was finally able to return to working at the Roswell Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.  Spalding Garden Club sponsors a Youth Garden Club at the Mary Hall Freedom House in Sandy Springs. Norcross Garden Club and Sandy Springs Garden club have also been working with the Youth Garden Clubs that they sponsor.

Norcross Garden Club had a very successful spring plant sale, which was held at their clubhouse in Norcross.   The money raised is used to support their community projects.  They worked all year long digging up and dividing pass-a-long plants to grow for their annual plant sale.   Spalding Garden Club will be sponsoring a Garden Faire on October 16 which includes vendors in addition to their pass along plants they have been busy preparing for sale.

Ama-Kanasta Garden Club in Douglasville held an Hydrangea Tour of Homes this year the first weekend of June. They were not able to have the flower show as  part of it due to COVID-19 concerns.

Many Dogwood Clubs participated in **The Great Georgia Pollinator Census** Aug. 20th and 21st, 2021. Norcross Garden Club even held a youth event for counting pollinators that weekend.

Liddy Chatham, Dogwood’s Co-director is coordinating the Dogwood District fundraiser – we are again selling beautiful amaryllis bulbs as well as live wreaths and greenery for the holidays.

Dogwood District is a strong supporter of the **GCG Scholarship program.  We are very proud of how many clubs and individuals in our district choose to make Patron and Named scholarship donations every year.**

Dogwood encourages all clubs to support building our membership by adding new members or creating a new club. Dogwood’s most recent club is the  College Park Women’s Club.

The Executive Board and all of our Committee Chairmen are busy with their projects and this director knows that we have a very special and ***Dynamic***group of people working for our district.  This director thanks them for everything they do.  This is truly a Team effort from all of us!

***“Nurturing Friendships Through The Love Of Gardens”***

Chris Adams

Dogwood District Director