

Board Briefs

A newsletter from The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., Board of Directors

Volume XVIII • Edition VII • Winter Issue 2023



HOW ABOUT THOSE DAWGS!! Back to Back National Champions!



Can you believe that Christmas and New Year's is gone? It seems like it flew in and right out again. One of these days I'll get around to taking my decorations down but The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. and our business keeps me busy during the day. It is almost time for our winter board Meeting—which will be a ZOOM meeting on February 20th at 1:30 p.m. Mark your calendars so you can join us. You will get the invitation closer to the date.

Ticket sales are under way for our annual fundraiser. I hope each board member will buy at least one, but of course five tickets for \$20.00 is the best deal. With everything so expensive now everyone participating in this raffle helps GCG. Thanks to all who have purchased tickets in the past. Just think, all of us saved at least \$20 on gas by having our board meeting on Zoom.

The Deep South Garden Club Convention will be in Kenner, LA on March 8-10, 2023 at the Hilton New Orleans. And the National Garden Club Convention will be May 2-5, 2023 at the Greenbrier Resort at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

Our own convention is coming up soon—April 18-20, 2023 at the beautiful Evergreen Lakeside Resort at Stone Mountain. Dogwood District has some great speakers planned, workshops and other interesting things. We hope to see you all there so make your reservations now and plan to attend. Lisa Hall will be installed by a very special person, as the new president of GCG. Let's support GCG and Dogwood District and make this a great convention. The more you attend these functions—the more you learn about everything that we support.

We have had a little interruption in the Historic Landscape Preservation Committee, but we are working on continuing this committee and promoting the grants. The HLP Fundraiser will be held this November 4, 2023 at the lovely Masee Lane Gardens. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend and support this event.

I have learned that nine clubs in Georgia have received a Plant America Grant out of the 140 applications that were submitted to National Garden Clubs, Inc. This is awesome!

Let's all continue to work together, promote litter control and recycling, keep an eye out for our birds, bees and butterflies and promote all aspects of GCG.

If you have a report for our board meeting, then have them ready on the 20th of February. If you can, let me know in advance if you want to give a report. I hope everyone will have their reports for the two-year term at the convention in April. Remember, print those out and give one copy to Sally Holcombe, our secretary and put the other one in that GCG folder that I gave you September 2021.

See you all on Zoom—Feb. 20, 2023 at 1:30p.m. and Let's continue to:

Plant America—Growing with Challenges and Changes!

Love to all,

Peggy H. Tucker

SUSAN SPRADLEY STEPHENS

July 2, 1948 - January 27, 2023

Susan, our sweet friend, from Cartersville is gone way too soon. She was born in Cartersville on July 2, 1948. Susan was one of five children. She worked for 31 years in the Technical College system at former Coosa Valley Tech, Rome and North Metro Tech, Acworth. After retirement, she started her own business, Susan Stephens Designs, specializing in window treatments, staging, floral arrangements, color selections and shopping for clients. She was a volunteer on the Catahoochee Tech Foundation Board as a trustee. She was mostly a “container gardener” and loved waiting on bulbs to bloom. She joined Magnolia Garden Club in 2015 and received their distinguished member award in 2016 and 2020. She was presently serving as Laurel District Director and this was her 4th year as Board Briefs Chairman.



You never saw Susan without that big smile on her face. Whenever I called her, I could just see the smile over the phone because of her sweet voice. She was always—what do you need or what can I do? I am thankful for her influence and encouragement in my life.

I will always remember the Laurel District Meeting in Cartersville this past October. Every few minutes she would say “Okey-Dokey” and smile with that big old grin. She never let things get her down or frustrate her. I loved that about her. Last November, Susan called me

one day to see if I would install the officers for Magnolia Garden Club on December 9th. I told her I would be honored. It was such a great experience to go and be with the members of this club. I wanted to give Susan something, so at our local gift shop I purchased a star ornament. On the back, I wrote “Okey Dokey” and told her club the reason for it. We all had a good laugh about it.

So many of you have been touched or influenced by her life. She met you with that smile—one that you did not easily forget. She was one of my biggest supporters and encouragers, always trying to build me up and standing behind me to push me on. I will always remember her for that.

A person who has achieved success is one who has lived well, laughed often, INSPIRED MANY and LOVED MUCH---

Left the world better than they found it
Looked for the best in others and given the very best they could.

In MY EYES and I am sure yours also, Susan was that person!! If I know Susan, I think she would say as the poem says. “Don’t cry because I am gone—But be happy that we met, our paths crossed, we made friends and we made a difference in someone’s life.” That’s our friend Susan.

Peggy H. Tucker

Magnolia District

Nilsa Summey, Magnolia District Director

The Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail Spring Symposium will be held on May 5, 2023 in Plains, GA. While the registration forms aren’t ready yet, anyone interested though can go to the website (rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org) for more information.

The Magnolia Garden Club of Fort Valley is once again sponsoring the Flower Extravaganza fundraiser to benefit GCG scholarships. The Flower Extravaganza will be held April 22-23, 2023 at Pineola Farms, Fort Valley, GA. This will be a wonderful opportunity for a garden club field trip with friends AND a way to support GCG scholarships. See you there!



Annual Spring Luncheon
Thursday March 23, 2023

**Augusta Country Club,
655 Milledge Road, Augusta, Ga**

**Registration 9:30 am
Meeting 10:00am**

Speaker Kerry Ann Mendez

Owner of Perennially Yours, LLC - *Deeply Rooted in Excellence*

Speaker - Author - Expert Gardener

Program

Inspired Garden Design: Lessons Learned from Stunning Gardens



Kerry Ann Mendez

Mail registration and check to: Lottie Gilchrist, ACGC Treasurer

729 Michael's Creek, Evans, GA 30809

Make Check Payable to: Augusta Council of GC

Registration fee \$35.00. ~ **Deadline March 17**

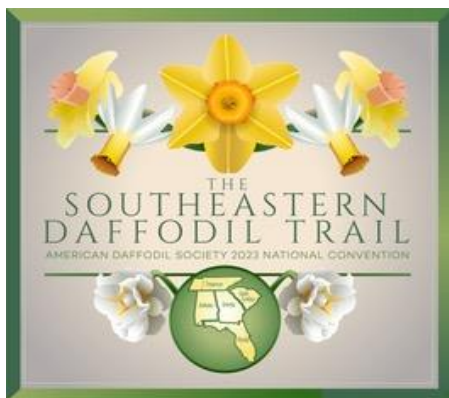
Name _____

Club _____

Email _____ Phone # _____

Regular meal _____ Gluten free _____ Vegetarian _____ Other _____

ALL garden club members and their guests are welcome to attend
whether they are Council members or not.



THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.

**Cordially Invites You to Attend Our
National Daffodil Show &
Standard Flower Show
THE SOUTHEASTERN DAFFODIL TRAIL**

**Co-hosted by Redbud District VII
of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.**

**Entries will be accepted with prior registration in the Design and Youth Divisions.
Young people pre-school to age 20 may enter!**

**We invite all ages to participate in the Design & Horticulture Divisions and the
National Daffodil Photography Flower Show.**

**View the Flower & Photography Shows
Visit the Trade Exhibits, Daffodil Boutique and more!
Friday, March 10th 2-11 PM and Saturday, March 11th 7AM – 8 PM**

This show is free and open to the public - Hotel Parking Fees Apply
Crowne Plaza Atlanta Perimeter at Ravinia, an IHG Hotel
4355 Ashford Dunwoody Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30346 770-395-7700 www.cpravinia.com

For additional information or to participate, including entries, please contact the following chairmen:

Design Entries Janet McGinnis jmcgi@bellsouth.net **Judges** Joy Zaidan joyzaidan4986@gmail.com
Clerks Ann Purr a.purr@comcast.net **Hostesses** Gale Thomas galedthomas@gmail.com
Youth Division Molly Kimler mollykimler@gmail.com Or Susan Turner glencree@bellsouth.net
Youth Daffodil Discovery Zone Volunteer Info Contact Colette Curtis ccurtis1053@gmail.com
National Daffodil Photography Show Adults & Youth contact Greg Freeman albdarned@hotmail.com
For additional questions, please contact ADS Flower Show Chairman Jaydee Ager jaydeeager@gmail.com
Design Division Chairman Lisa Robinson gardenlisava@gmail.com
American Daffodil Society Info may be found at <http://daffodilusa.org>



Discover Daffodils in the Daffodil Discovery Zone at the ADS National Convention in Atlanta!
We encourage all families and friends to discover daffodils at this interactive area for our youth.
Children will have the opportunity to: Learn about the Life Cycle of DAFFODILS
Get up-close and personal with DAFFODILS
Participate in engaging art activities surrounding DAFFODILS
Begin a lifelong interest and appreciation of DAFFODILS

The Daffodil Discovery Zone will be OPEN on **Friday, March 10 from 2:00 pm – 8:00 pm**, and reopen on
Saturday, March 11 from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm.
Volunteers Needed! We are asking for Only ONE Hour of Your Time.

Cherokee Garden Library

Linda Hardie, Cherokee Garden Library Liaison, Laurel District

Save the Date: April 12, 2023 for the Cherokee Garden Library's major program featuring Fergus Garrett, extraordinary CEO and Head Gardener of the internationally acclaimed Great Dixter House and Gardens located in Northiam, England.

Remember, Cherokee Garden Library's past virtual talks are available at this address:

<https://www.atlantahistorycenter.com/buildings-and-grounds/cherokee-garden-library/>

You may enjoy these educational opportunities at any time, perhaps for a program for your Garden Club.

As you know, GCG's financial year ends March 1, 2023, and all donations are due then. The form, should you need it is:
<https://gardenclub.uga.edu/pdfs/Donations.pdf>
The account to support CGL is 635B (indicated on the form)

House Bill 71 has been introduced - with bi-partisan support: The Okefenokee Protection Act

The Okefenokee is one of the greatest remaining natural treasures in the world and holds significant economic, ecological, and cultural value for the people of Georgia. We cannot risk long-term damage to the swamp for an experimental, unsustainable mining project. Now is the time for state action to protect this national treasure. Opponents of mining near the Okefenokee want to prevent permanent damage of the swamp's ability to hold water. Twin Pines officials argue mining will have minimal impacts.

C. Rhett Jackson, professor of water resources at the University of Georgia, described the mining plan as "deeply flawed." He said mining will

make droughts more frequent and severe in the eastern portion of the swamp and increase the probability of wildfires.



Garden Club Members - share this with your friends & neighbors. Ask everyone to call or write to their legislators -

The Protect Georgia link is the easiest way you can contact your legislators who are now in session under the Gold Dome. Fill in your info and edit the sample letter as you wish. It will be sent to your State Senator and State Representative.

www.protectgeorgia.org/okefenokee

Garden Therapy Grants

Linda Harris, GCG Garden Therapy Chairman

The Garden Therapy Committee would like to remind all clubs that we have money available for grants. If your club has had a Garden Therapy project why not write it up and apply for a grant? We awarded four grants this past year. Hope to hear from some of you soon.



The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
“Dollars Educate Scholars”



**Mark your calendars for January as our
 Official GCG Scholarship Month!**

- Members donating \$1.00 or more now thru January will make a BIG impact on Scholarships.
- *Dollars Educate Scholars* contributions from members are given thru your garden club treasury.
- Your club treasurer writes one check to GCG to mail along with the completed form to:
- Assistant Treasurer, Edna McClellan, 180 Pacer Court, Unit 9044, Ellijay GA 30540

*Please support your District and your Director in the 8th Annual Dollars Educate Scholars fundraiser!
 We will determine the winning District from contributions to Dollars Educate Scholars
 by funds and the percentage of district club participation.*

*Join the fun at the GCG Annual Meeting Hasted by Dagwood District, April 18-20, 2023
 Atlanta Evergreen Lakeside Conference Center, Stone Mountain. We will once again
 Crown the Queen of Scholarships!*

For a dditional information contact Susan Turner, Scholarships Chairman
 770-922-44 11 glencree@bellsouth.net

**“Dollars Educate Scholars”
 TRANSMITTAL FORM**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA, INC. OR GCG

Please complete the following information and mail with your clubs check for \$1.00 or more per member to Assistant Treasurer, Edna McClellan, 180 Pacer Court, Unit 9044, Ellijay GA 30540

Please write legibly. Contributions received now through January 2023 will count in this giving period.

Name of Garden Club:

Club Number: District:

Garden Club President or Representative Data:

Name: Title:

Email: Phone number:

Number of Members in your club:

100% Participation? Circle one. Yes No

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Questions? Contact Susan Turner, Scholarships Chairman 770-922-44 11 glencree@bellsouth.net



BLUE STAR MEMORIAL and GOLD STAR FAMILIES MARKERS
Jan Thiese - Chairman

Three Blue Star Marker Dedications are scheduled for March and April 2023. They are as follows:

- Friday March 3, 2023 1 pm Rest Area 88 on I-16 West in Dublin/Laurens County, GA – Camellia District
Saturday March 4, 2023 11 am 7589 Shellman Bluff Rd. NE, Townsend, GA – Spartina Garden Club
Tuesday April 11, 2023 4 pm North corner of the triangle at E Brookhaven Dr. and Brookhaven Dr. in Brookhaven, GA – Club Estates Garden Club

If your schedule allows, please join in these Dedications and show your support for the sponsoring clubs, but most important for the men, women and families who make the sacrifice to serve in our Armed Forces. God Bless America!!

Two additional Blue Star Marker have been ordered and dedication dates are pending.

One is sponsored by Monticello Garden Club and will be placed at the American Legion Post 110 at 438 E Green Street, Monticello, GA

The other is sponsored by Rutledge Garden Club and will be placed at 105 Newborn Rd, Rutledge, GA

Sewah Studios current pricing for Blue or Gold Star Memorial Markers
Effective May 1, 2022 good thru May 1, 2023

Memorial/Highway Markers Delivered with a 7' post \$1,830.00

Byway Plaques \$610.00

Replacement Posts \$375.00

Refurbished with no post - Round Trip freight included \$900.00

Cap Repair/Refurbished with no post - Round trip freight included \$1,000.00

I hope that this increase in pricing does not prevent our clubs from supporting this program. Keep in mind that clubs and districts may partner together to sponsor markers. Also that you may reach out to the community and organizations for funding. I would encourage clubs or districts planning to sponsor a marker to get your order in to me by mid-April at the latest, so that it can reach Sewah Studios before the May 1, 2023 deadline. I'm pretty sure the price will increase again at that time.

Please share this information with all garden clubs and feel free to contact me if I can assist you in any way.

Jan Thiese

janicemariemaconga@cox.net

478-319-4231

GCG's 95th Annual Convention

April 18-20, 2023

Evergreen Lakeside Conference Resort

Stone Mountain, GA



Dogwood District welcomes you to “Garden Magic on the Mountain” to celebrate The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. 95th Anniversary at the Evergreen Lakeside Conference Resort- a perfect setting for our three days of information, fun, and fellowship. Come early - bring your spouse or family members to enjoy all that Stone Mountain has to offer.

Our Dogwood Chairmen are working extra hard to make sure this year's convention is the best ever. We want you to have fun and enjoy the celebration. We have great workshops planned for both Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and wonderful speakers at our dinner and luncheon. Of course, there will be a variety of interesting vendors for your shopping pleasure. The districts will provide beautiful designs in the lobby area, and our GCG Chairmen will display educational exhibits.

We are not having early morning District Breakfasts, but rather, we are scheduling the District Officer Installations during the cocktail hour on Tuesday and taking District Group Photos during the cocktail hour on Wednesday. Be there to support your district. Of course, you will want to attend the Awards Banquet on Wednesday evening where we recognize all the accomplishments and outstanding projects undertaken by our hard-working clubs. Thursday morning, we

will complete our business meeting, followed by the Member Luncheon and Installation of GCG Officers. Make your reservation today!

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

2023 GCG Annual Convention

Evergreen Lakeside Conference Resort

4021 Lakeview Drive • Stone Mountain, GA 30083 • (770) 879-9900

Deadline for hotel registration:

on or before March 26, 2023 to receive group rate.

\$143.00 ++ per night for King or Double – included in price is \$4 reduced entrance fee to Stone Mountain Park for staying at hotel – normally \$20.

Best way to register for hotel:

Online-to register: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50303356>

Follow the prompts, enter your dates, and select room type.

Heads Up For Habitat

Activities have resumed for many Habitat for Humanity affiliates in Georgia. The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. garden clubs are encouraged to contact their nearest H4H affiliate to discuss a partnership whereby clubs can provide expertise to local projects. We know that landscaping is the finishing touch on homebuilds. Landscape projects need not be elaborate. In fact, the simpler the better. Only low maintenance plants should be selected: specifically those plants that require little pruning, are disease resistant, and tolerate dry periods. Information about the needs of the new landscaping can be prepared for the new homeowners.

Garden clubs might choose to only design the landscaping, provide tools for the new homeowners, or present horticulture classes for new homeowners. Remember this might be the first property they have owned, so these are new skills to learn.

Please contact H4H Chairman Ina Hopkins if you have any questions. She can put you in touch with the H4H affiliate nearest your club. Contact information: email inahopkins@gmail.com or phone 706-614-4819.

SAVE THE DATE

THE FLOWER FANTASY AT PINEOLA FARMS NOT YOUR NORMAL FLOWER EXTRAVAGANZA

April 22 – April 23, 2023



Don't miss this unique opportunity to tour a historic home filled with beautiful floral installations. These are not your average flower arrangements!

This is also an opportunity to tour the gardens of this historic property full of spring color, hear featured garden experts and shop our many vendors.

Saturday, April 22rd, 10am—4pm and
Sunday, April 23rd, 1pm - 4pm in Fort Valley, GA.

Tickets are good for both days.

Tickets and more information are available at
<https://www.pineola.com/events> or
call (478) 335-1700

We at the Magnolia Garden Club feel like education is key. We want to help inspire our youth in all fields of horticulture, therefore all ticket sales will benefit the Garden Club of Georgia Scholarship Fund.



The Soque Garden Club 6th Annual

Garden Extravaganza A Plant and Garden Sale

Saturday, May 6 • 8am - 4pm

White County Agri-Science Center
Hwy 129 North at Claud Sims Road Cleveland,
GA 30528

**Free Admission - Raffle
Food Available**

Cleveland is located just South of
Helen and Sautee Nacoochee, GA.
Plan to make a day trip and enjoy
our lovely mountain towns.



SAVE THE DATE

November 4, 2023 Magnolia District is proud to present Historic Landscape Preservation Fundraiser 2023. Saturday 11:00am-3:00pm. Masee Lane Gardens, 100 Masee Lane, Fort Valley, GA. Home of the American Camellia Society. Stroll through the beautiful camellia gardens, visit the world famous Boehm Porcelain Collection.

Cumming Garden Club, Cumming GA. Laurel District:



Kicking off the new year, library designs project of Cumming Garden Club "Peace on Earth". This project continues after more than 30 years and changes twice each month. This design by Marion Rentz.

Barbara Henry, hostess Cindy and the Beans' pooch are ready to open gifts that were to be "baked, grown or sewed" which led to much creativity.



President-elect Jill Denlea getting ready for the white elephant exchange



WIN

WIN

WIN

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

G C G C A S H R A F F L E

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. will have a **Cash Raffle** again this year (2022-2023) as its only fundraiser. Garden club members from each district are encouraged to participate and support this fundraising effort.

Each District has been given tickets to sell. As an incentive to sell their tickets, a \$250 bonus will be given to each district that sells 350 tickets.

Additional tickets will be available.

Both garden club members and non-members may participate in the raffle

Cost of Tickets: \$5 each or 5 for \$20

Cash Prizes to be given at the 2023 Convention

\$500 first prize

\$ 250 second prize

\$ 125 third prize

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT AT THE DRAWING TO WIN