

Board Briefs

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



Volume XVII I Edition I, Fall 2021 Susan Stephens, Editor



Excitement is in the air!!

I know that many of you are looking forward to cooler weather and getting back together as a club. Many of our club officers have been busy planning programs and new projects for their club year. Thank you to each one that agreed to serve on the State Board and also a thank you to each GCG member that agrees to serve in your own club.

This summer we have had some great and informative Awards and Leadership workshops. I think we had close to 300 in attendance at the five different workshops around the state. All seven Districts participated in these workshops. Hats off to all the leaders and to the Districts for their planning. If you missed these workshops, you missed a lot of knowledge and a good time of being together with other Garden Club Members.

We have had several Blue Star Marker dedications and a couple of Gold Star Marker Dedications. I was privileged to attend two of the Gold Star Marker Dedications and two Blue Star Marker Dedications. We are so honored to share in these ceremonies. This is such a special time, honoring those that have served, are serving and will serve our country and the families of those that lost loved ones who were serving. I think that there are 3-4 more scheduled in the near future. If you possibly can, try to attend one of these. It will be well worth your time.

How many of you have stopped to watch the insects around you or listened to the birds sing, or paid more attention to the plants and trees around you? Our world is so full of so many intriguing things that help to Beautify our world. We are so blessed with so much in nature and we have to protect it. It is nearing times for Award Applications to be sent in. Don't wait! Get those Awards sent in now. I hope every club will enter at least one.

We all face new challenges every day, but we can do this by working together and playing together. Let's continue to stay connected with one another by working together for "Beautification, Conservation and Education. We will have to make many changes this year as new challenges arise. We want to grow together not only in membership but also in friendship and knowledge of all our surroundings. Our NGC President Warshaur wants us to enjoy outdoors and play outdoors. Let's work together as we "Plant America—Growing with Challenges and Changes" in all that we do as we enjoy the world around us.

Peggy



**The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
Board Appreciation Luncheon
and
2021 Installation of
Officers and District Directors**

Wednesday April 21, 2021

11:00 am - Reception

11:30 am – Welcome & President’s Address

12:00 pm – Luncheon

1:00 pm - Installation

**Athens Country Club
2700 Jefferson Road
Athens, GA 30607**

After so many months of not being able to gather in person, the GCG Board met in Athens for a celebration to applaud the accomplishments of the 2019-2021 term, show appreciation to the outgoing Board, and install the new officers and District Directors. Barbara Bourque thanked the Board for their hard work during the COVID term. Martha Price and Diane Harbin installed the officers and District Directors.

Carol Reap, President of the Ladies Garden Club in Athens, presented beautiful limited-edition prints, a gift from her club to our Board Members. The original set of watercolors, *The Southern Garden Series*, painted by Annie Laurie Dodd, was commissioned as part of LGC’s 125th Anniversary celebration.

The Athens Country Club provided a delicious luncheon and wonderful time was had by all.



GCG 2019-2021 Officers and District Directors met for the final time. Front- District Directors: Marilyn McDonnell, Azalea; Marie Purser, Laurel; Diana Malone, Oleander; Evelyn Rogers, Magnolia; Jan Thiese, Camellia; Debbie Vann, Dogwood; and Quill Duncan, Redbud. Middle Row: Doris Blalock, Parliamentarian; Jane Hersey, Advisor; Peggy Tucker 1st VP; Barbara Bourque, President; Martha Price, Advisory Committee; Lisa Hall, 2nd VP. Top row: Sally Holcombe, Corres. Sec; Julie Groce, Rec. Sec; Edna McClellan, Treasurer; Bess Hartley, 4th VP; and Diane Hunter, 3rd VP.

Meet the 2021-2023 Garden Club of Georgia's Officers and District Directors



GCG Officers for 2021-2023: Front: Doris Blalock, Parliamentarian; Barbara Bourque, Advisor; Peggy Tucker, President; Lisa Hall, 1st VP; Diane Hunter, 2nd VP; Jane Hersey, Advisory Council. Back row: Edna McClellan Asst. Treasurer; Marilyn McDonnell, Treasurer; Bess Hartley, 3rd VP; Julie Groce, 4th VP; Sally Holcombe, Rec. Sec; Betty Davis, Corres. Sec.



2021-2023 GCG District Directors: Gale Thomas - Redbud District, Chris Adams – Dogwood District, Nilsa Summey – Magnolia District, Rita Hightower – Camellia District, Genelda Reese – Oleander District, Betty Davis – Azalea District, and Susan Stephens- Laurel District.

2021 Historic Landscape Preservation Fundraiser



You are cordially invited to LaGrange on October 30, 2021, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm when the Redbud District hosts The Garden Club of Georgia's annual fundraiser benefitting our statewide Historic Landscape Preservation Grant program, now in its twentieth year.

How good it will be to celebrate Fall at Hills and Dales! The magnificent 13,000 square foot home, designed by Neel Reid and Hal Hentz, was completed in 1916. Today the fourth generation of the Callaway family welcomes visitors to the home, beautifully located in the sunny hills and shady dales of West Central Georgia. Plants dating back to the 1840s, 2½ acres of formal dwarf boxwood parterres, and twenty-six different varieties of deciduous magnolias are just a few of the many delights.

LaGrange is easily accessed, and a trip could be combined with a stay at Callaway Gardens! The day will feature tours of the historic home and gardens, a lecture by Jo Phillips entitled, "Heirloom Plants for Garden Fragrance," a box lunch, a welcome center with a film on Hills and Dales and a gift shop. The lecture begins at 10:30 and seating is limited to 90 attendees so plan to come early to hear this topic, or you can tour the house or gardens at your leisure upon arrival. To explore more about the property, go to [Hills & Dales Estate \(hillsanddales.org\)](http://hillsanddales.org)

To register, please complete the attached form which offers your choices for a box lunch and more details on the day. Redbud District is looking forward to welcoming you on October 30, 2021.

"Hills and Dales – A Living Legacy" Registration Form

October 30, 2021 10:00AM - 3:00PM

Come join us for a day of exploration of historic gardens and an elegant home!

Please complete this registration form and mail it with your **\$40 check**
made payable to GCG, Inc.

Mail to: **Leslie Sebaugh**
LaGrange College Alumni Office
601 Broad Street
LaGrange, GA 30240

Your registration fee includes a catered box lunch offered by Creme Fraiche. It will be available from Noon to 1:30 PM. Tables with chairs will be available or you may choose to enjoy lunch seated on the grounds on a bench or a picnic table.

Please check your choice for lunch and return this form no later than October 10, 2021.

___ Option 1: Chicken Salad Croissant Sandwich, Fruit Cup-pineapple, strawberries, and cantaloupe, Potato Chip Bag, Pickle Spear, lemon bar and lace cookie

___ Option 2: Chunky Chicken Salad, Fruit Cup-pineapple, strawberries, and cantaloupe, Pasta Salad, Potato Chip Bag, lemon bar and lace cookie

___ Option 3: (VEGAN OPTION) Veggie Sandwich-tomatoes, peppers, mushrooms, and squash on French Baguette, Fruit Cup-pineapple, strawberries, and cantaloupe, Pickle, Broccoli Salad w/ vegan Mayo, Vegan chocolate chip cookie and Vegan lace cookie

All options include Callaway Blue Bottled Water.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Garden Club _____ Location _____

See you on October 30, 2021 at Hills and Dales 1916 Hills and Dales Drive, LaGrange, GA!
See <https://www.hillsanddales.org> for directions.

Questions? Contact Quill Duncan 770 414-4766 or quillduncan@msn.com or
Bonnie Dudley 706 884- 3787 bondudley@yahoo.com.

GCG Recognition Pins

Newly designed GCG Recognition Lapel Pins will be available for sale at all in person District Meetings this October and then again at our Convention in April, 2022! Each pin is 1.25" tall and costs \$12 plus tax. Look for them at your ways and means table!



Board Briefs Dates

Fall Issue
Deadline – August 10
Emailed - August 31

Winter Issue
Deadline – January 15
Emailed – January 30

Holiday Issue
Deadline – November 5
Emailed – November 20

Spring Issue
Deadline – May 1
Emailed – May 15

Send information to:

Susan Stephens, Editor
Board Briefs
sstep47151@aol.com

Dedication Ceremony of the Daylily Statue in Buford

On May 4, 2021, members of the Stonehedge Garden Club held a dedication ceremony of the Daylily Statue, emblem of the club, in the historic downtown park of Buford, Georgia.

The club welcomed, recognized, and extended gratitude to the honored guests from The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., the Laurel District, former club past presidents, town representatives and major contributors.

We thanked **Jim Bradford**, our local artist, who created and brought the project to fruition. The club hopes to enrich the lives of all who pass by the statue and inspire the love of gardening.



Pictured L-R: **Marie Purser**, Immediate Past Laurel Director, **Peggy Tucker** GCG President, **Susan Stephens**, Laurel District Director and **Barbara Bourque**, Immediate Past GCG President.

Land Trust/Marshall Forest

Caroline Alford

Marshall Forest has had more visitors this summer. Many more people are walking the trails and enjoying the ongoing trail improvements, on a daily basis. The parking lot has more cars as I pass by the forest each day. With social distancing still required for the unvaccinated, people are looking for places to be outside and safely enjoy the out of doors. Big Pine Braille Trail tours were conducted for area clubs upon request.

The following maintenance needs have been met.

- Andrew Saville, the son of a Garden Club Member, has kept the Pecan Field mowed and debris removed to make the area more accessible.
- The Fire Crew from The Nature conservancy did some trail maintenance and removal of invasive species.

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

- Finish replacing the remaining guide rope posts.
- Reinstalling the guide ropes with climbing rope donated by a climbing gym in Marietta.
- Replacement of the bridge over the wet weather stream.
- Installation of crusher run gravel along the Braille Trail to provide more accessibility to the physically impaired.
- Creation of QR codes to provide trail maps, Forest information, and plant identification photos.
- Working with students at Berry College, we hope to create a video of a narrated walk through the forest.

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.

The Nature Conservancy is investigating the possibility of a GOSA grant to do major upgrades to the Braille trail and create river access to the fields across from the Braille trail. The grant application would have to be in conjunction with the City of Rome and Floyd County.

Marshall Forest Deed of Gratitude certificates were given to the District Directors in April at the installation of officers in Athens.

Contributions for 2020-21 are as follows:

District	# Clubs	# of Councils	# of Individuals	District	Contributions
1. Laurel	19		9	1	\$ 4070.00
2. Azalea	7	2		1	\$ 340.00
3. Oleander	5				\$ 125.00
4. Camellia	7				\$ 175.00
5. Magnolia	6				\$ 135.00
6. Dogwood	10	1			\$ 260.00
7. Redbud	10				\$ 250.00
Total Contributions for 2020-21					\$ 5355.00

A tour of Marshall Forest is scheduled for 3:00 pm, Monday, October 11, 2021, the day before the Laurel District Annual Meeting in Rome for anyone coming a day early to the meeting.

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.

Plant America-Play Outside!

National Garden Clubs, Inc. is promoting outside activities to help encourage spending more time outdoors all year long. Download and print our new Play Outside Activity Log and share it with a child.

<https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/play-outside-booklet.pdf>



Our society has produced many entertainments and activities for us to enjoy such as TV, iPads, iPhones, and Gameboys, but this has severely limited our outside fun time such as gardening, planting, weeding, cultivating, bike riding, roller skating, etc. Research says children and adults need 4-6 hours a day for outside activities. Let's help the children around us begin to gain more outdoor time by participating in a variety of outside activities each day.



Douglas Garden Club Plant America grant!

The Douglas Garden Club was proud to receive a \$500 grant from the Plant America Grant Committee earlier this year. Club President, Lindsay Day, worked with her club members and local High School Agriculture teacher, Josh Rogers, to submit an application for the grant. Coffee High School in Douglas, GA recently completed the building of a new performing arts center on the high school campus. The center was named for late high school administrator Clayton Mathis who is the husband of long-time Douglas Garden Club member, Nedra Mathis. Mr. Mathis was a gifted horticulturist in our area and known for his love of camellias and shared his love of gardening with people all over the county.

The Douglas Garden Club wanted to further honor Mr. Mathis by landscaping and planting flower beds at the new building and thought it would be wonderful to work with Mr. Rogers and his students that are members of Future Farmers of America (FFA). The Douglas Garden Club also matched the Plant America Grant that was awarded and Josh and his students created a landscape plan that would brighten the exterior of the new building. The students and members of the Douglas Garden Club have been busy planting trees, shrubs, flowers and pollinators. Josh and his agriculture students and FFA club members will be maintaining the gardens in the years to come and also using it as a learning tool for their club and class work. The Douglas Garden Club looks forward to continuing to work with Mr. Rogers to add to the garden and watch it grow!



Legislative Issues in Georgia



The Garden Club of Georgia belongs to the GA Water Coalition. **Please share this information with your club members so that they may write to the Georgia EPD before Sept. 8th.**

Coal Ash Waste

To protect communities around the state, the Georgia Water Coalition (GWC) is pursuing legislation that will:

- Ensure all of Georgia's toxic coal ash waste is stored in dry, lined, and capped facilities.
- Aggressively monitor coal ash storage facilities for leaks.
- Require public notification when coal ash waste threatens communities.
- Require producers of coal ash to provide drinking water when coal ash contamination is discovered in private drinking water wells.
- Keep coal ash landfills away from wetlands and fragile ecosystems.

At Plant Hammond near Rome, Georgia Power wants to leave more than 1 million tons of toxic coal ash sitting in groundwater along the Coosa River. And Georgia regulators are going to let them--unless you speak up. On July 12, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) issued to Georgia Power a draft pollution permit for Ash Pond 3 to permanently bury toxic coal ash.



This is the first step towards giving Georgia Power the O.K. to leave behind approximately **50 million tons** of toxic coal ash in unlined pits around the state. Toxins in coal ash can contaminate private wells and the lakes and rivers we depend on for our drinking water. We can't leave this toxic legacy for future generations.

Learn more: [GA EPD Plant Hammond AP-3 Draft Permit](#)

Tell EPD you oppose this plan to leave toxic coal ash in our waterways.

Click here to send a message: [Stop Coal Ash Pollution - Protect Georgia](#)

[Written comments must be submitted by September 8, 2021.](#)

Questions – contact: Barbara Bourque - b.bourque@comcast.net GCG Legislative Chairman

GCG STATE – DEEP SOUTH REGION – NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERS

Giving someone a Life Membership in the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. provides an excellent means of honoring those who have made valuable contributions to your garden club, council or district. STATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP is \$100.00, Deep South Region is \$50.00 and National Life is \$200.00. Benefits are many, and your donation supports a most worthwhile cause. State Life Memberships fund our GCG scholarships. It is tax deductible. The person's name will be recorded in the permanent Life Members book displayed at State Headquarters in Athens. The person's name will be published in GARDEN GATEWAYS, and he/she will receive a subscription for one year regardless of garden club status. Recognition at State Convention is also customary. Deep South Life Memberships support the Deep South Scholarship fund.

If you wish to become a Life Member or wish to gift a membership to someone else, kindly use the application form below. Complete the application and mail with a check to Bess Hartley. Questions: Contact Bess Hartley at besshartley@gmail.com or 229-942-9490

State, Deep South and/or National Life Membership Application

Name of
Applicant _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Garden Club _____ District _____

Is this a gift? ☐ Yes ☐ No Date card is to be presented to recipient _____

Honored by _____

Email Contact _____ Phone _____

Address to send Membership Card _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

____ **State Life \$100** - Make Check Payable to:
The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

____ **Deep South Region Life \$50** - Make Check Payable to:
Deep South Region

____ **National Life \$200** - Make Check Payable to:
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Mail check along with this application to:
Bess Hartley - 250 Cotton Hill Road, Fort Gaines GA 39851

Youth Garden Clubs

All clubs of National Garden Clubs may organize and/or sponsor a Youth Garden Club. Some benefits to students include:

- Introduction to the art and science of gardening using fundamental math, reading and writing skills, as well as practical applications.
- Increasing awareness of the environment, natural resources, ecology, conservation, composting, and recycling.
- Helping to raise standardized test scores, especially in science.
- Encourages creativity through observing the cycles of life.
- Development of leadership skills.
- Provision of opportunities for participation and recognition with nationally sponsored contests and awards.
- Nurturing of interests at a young age may lead to future hobbies and career opportunities.

Each established Youth Garden Club is registered annually with the state garden club, in turn automatically registering the club as a member of National Garden Clubs.

Youth Grant Opportunities

National Garden Clubs, Inc. is excited to provide a grant opportunity for Garden Clubs working with youth clubs or groups planning and planting Pollinator Gardens. Grants, up to \$200, are available for projects that include educational materials on the vital role pollinators play in nature and youth involvement in planning and planting gardens providing nesting and food sources for pollinators. Youth will learn the importance of providing appropriate food sources, nesting areas, shelter, and practicing sustainable gardening practices for pollinators by planning, planting, and maintaining these pollinator gardens.

Trudy Rudert
GCG Youth Garden Clubs Chair

**Youth Garden Clubs Application for Standard of Excellence
DUE to GCG State Youth Clubs Chairman by AUGUST 1.
Form available on GCG website under GCG Forms, scroll to Youth.**

Blue Star Marker Dedication in Social Circle



On Flag Day, June 14, 2021, many members of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. & Azalea District joined with Veterans and residents of Social Circle to dedicate a Blue Star Marker that was erected in the city's new Friendship Park. Jan Thiese presented certificates from the National Garden Clubs, Inc. to the marker sponsors: The Garden Club of Georgia, the City of Social Circle, the American Legion Post 332, and Gateways Garden Club.



Dear Districts and Clubs,
Please consider adding the purchase of a marker to your 2021-2023 budget. Or going together with other clubs to make it happen

There are additional locations where a marker, Blue and/or Gold, could be placed. Let's aim to have a marker in every city in Georgia to show support for those in the military and their families. Each District Director has a list of markers in their district.

Jan Thiese
Blue Star Marker & Gold Star Marker Chairman
The Garden Club of Georgia

**National Garden Clubs, Inc. 2020
Award Winners for The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
Awarded May 2021 - updated June 2021**

Award/Category	Certificate	Club	District	City
CS-1 D iv Community Gardens Extra-Large Club	1 st Place: Certificate of Commendation	The Landings Garden Club 03-465	Oleander	Savannah
G-3 D iv Therapy Gardens State	1 st Place: Certificate of Commendation	The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.	State	Athens
MP-2 B v National Garden Week - Group	1 st Place: Certificate of Commendation	Millen Garden Club Council 03-913	Oleander	Millen
MP-3 A i Website Small Club	Tie for 1 st Certificate of Commendation	Cumming Garden Club 01-115	Laurel	Cumming
MP-3 A ii Website Med. Club	Certificate of Appreciation	Roswell Garden Club 06-620	Dogwood	Roswell
MP-3 A iii Website Large Club	Certificate of Appreciation	Norcross Garden Club 06-600	Dogwood	Norcross
MP-3 A iv Website Extra- Large Club	Certificate of Appreciation	The Landings Garden Club 03-465	Oleander	Savannah
MP-3 AV Website Group	Tie for 1 st Certificate of Commendation	Rome Federated Garden Clubs, Inc.01-908	Laurel	Rome
MP-3 B ii Social Media Med. Club	Certificate of Appreciation	Roswell Garden Club 06-620	Dogwood	Roswell
MP-3 B ii Social Media Large Club	Tie for 1 st Certificate of Commendation	Norcross Garden Club 06-600	Dogwood	Norcross
MP-3 B iv Social Media Extra-Large Club	Tie for 1 st Certificate of Commendation	The Landings Garden Club 03-465	Oleander	Savannah
MP-3 C iv Website Extra Large State	Tie for 1 st Certificate of Commendation	The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.	State	Athens
MP 4 6 A iii Video/CD/DVD/Flash Drive Large Club	1 st Place and OVERALL WINNER: Certificate of Merit \$100	Spalding Garden Club 06-447	Dogwood	Sandy Springs
MP 4 7 A i Video/CD/DVD/ Flash Drive Small Club	1 st Place: Certificate of Commendation	Conyers Garden Club 07-170	Redbud	Conyers
Publications Horticulture, Design PUB 2-3 A ii Medium Club	1 st Place Tommy Donnan Certificate of Merit	Bellmere Garden Club 06-555	Dogwood	Johns Creek
Yearbooks Deep South Region 70-99 Members	1 st Place: Certificate of Commendation	Rose Garden Club 06-425	Dogwood	Atlanta
Yearbooks: Deep South Region Councils	1 st Place: Certificate of Commendation	Dekalb County Federation of Garden Clubs 07-929	Redbud	Atlanta
Youth Awards Y-4 Youth Environmental Concerns	1 st Place and OVERALL WINNER: Certificate of Merit \$100	Norcross Garden Club 06-600	Dogwood	Norcross
Adult Work with Youth #YR-2 A iii Youth Environmental Ed.	1 st Place and OVERALL WINNER: Certificate of Merit \$100	Norcross Garden Club 06-600	Dogwood	Norcross

**National Garden Clubs, Inc. 2020
Award Winners for The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
Youth Poetry and Posters**

Award/Category	Certificate	Club	District	City
NGC Poetry				
6th Grade	3 rd Place Tie	Madisyn C. Magnolia Garden Club 05-390	Magnolia	Fort Valley
8th Grade	3 rd Place	Phoenix J. Magnolia Garden Club 05-390	Magnolia	Fort Valley
9th Grade	1 st Place	Anna C. Ailey Garden Club 03-010	Oleander	Ailey
ESOL Poetry				
K-2nd Grade	1 st Place	Isaac A. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
	2 nd Place	Joselyn J. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
3rd – 5th Grades	1 st Place	Alex B. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
	2 nd Place	Santiago C. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
	3 rd Place	Natali B. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
Special Needs Poetry				
K - 2nd Grade	1 st Place	Morgana F. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
	2 nd Place	Wyatt C. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
	3 rd Place	Beau O. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
3rd – 5th Grades	1 st Place	Kallie S. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
	2 nd Place	Maggie R. Odum Garden Club 03-230	Oleander	Odum
Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest				
2nd Grade	1 st Place	Bentley M. Magnolia Garden Club 06-275	Dogwood	Atlanta
3rd Grade	2 nd Place	Bailey H. Dogwood Garden Club 04-537	Camellia	Valdosta