



Oleander Leaflets Winter, 2022

*The Official Newsletter of the Oleander District of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
A member of the National Garden Club, Inc and Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.*

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

IMPORTANT Upcoming Events and Deadlines

– SAVE THE DATES

January 20, 2022 – 11:00 AM - Meeting of Committee Chairmen for GCG Annual Meeting, Macon

January 27, 2022 – Oleander Board of Directors and Council Presidents and Club Presidents Meeting – Statesboro Country Club – 9:30 Registration – 10:00 Executive Board Meeting – 11:00 Board of Directors Meeting

February 24, 2022 – Garden Club of Georgia Board of Directors Meeting – ZOOM – 1:30 PM

March 7-10, 2022 – Deep South Garden Clubs Convention – Natchez, Miss

April 12-13 – Garden Club of Georgia Annual Meeting/Convention – Macon

May 14-21 – National Garden Club Convention – Orlando, FL

Genelda M. Reese, District Director

geneldareese@gmail.com

Judy McWhorter, Co-Director

judymc@pineland.net

Nancy Claxton, Recording Secretary

nancclax2020@gmail.com

Irene Michaels, Corresponding Secretary

savannahnana@comcast.net

Elizabeth King, Treasurer

btkeak@tds.net

Diana Malone, Parliamentarian

dmalone4086@hotmail.com



Dear Outstanding Oleanders,

I hope that each of you have enjoyed a wonderful holiday season with the ones you love! We have some fun, busy times ahead of us!

A major project for all members is our raffle ticket sales for the Garden Club of Georgia. Remember that this is our only fundraiser for the year! The tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Hopefully, most of us will like this best buy. First prize is \$500, 2nd \$250, and 3rd \$125 for the district selling the most tickets. The drawing will be held at the GCG Convention in Macon in April. Remember to write Oleander District on the back of the stub. Clubs: Please mail your ticket

Stubbs and money to me: Genelda Reese, 1237 Akins Pond Road, Statesboro, Ga 30461
geneldareese@gmail.com

It is time for our donations to "Dollars for Scholars". Each club is encouraged to donate at least \$1.00 per member. Our state Scholarship Committee will meet in February to see how much can be allocated to our students.

Don't forget other GCG worthy projects such as: State Botanical Gardens, The Children's Garden, C.Burke Day Walkway, The Cherokee Garden Library, Roadside Beautification, or Natural Disasters. We all need to review the complete list.

If you have not visited our headquarters in Athens, do plan a field trip. There is so much to see and to learn!

Thanks to the Oleander members who had already volunteered to work to make our 94th Convention of the The Garden Club of Georgia the best ever! Please say Yes if asked to help or call or email Winette Almond, home 912-832-3358 cell 912-258-1112 or walmon@dariantel.net. The dates are April 12 & 13, 2022 at the Macon Marriott City Center.

And we all want to be there to welcome our NGC President, Mary Warshauer! Look for registration information in our last Garden Gateway

. Other important events to attend are: Deep South Garden Club Convention-March 6-9, 2022, Natchez and National Garden Club Convention-May 16-19, 2022, Orlando, Fl

Here's wishing for you a Healthy, Happy New Year!

Genelda Reese

Oleander District Director

Theme:

Protect our Green Spaces and Plant Us Beautiful!

SAVE THE DATE!



Gardening in Macon

April 12 - 13, 2022

Macon Marriott Civic Center



*the ninety-fourth annual convention of
the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.*

Hosted by the Oleander District

OLEANDER DISTRICT MEETING OCTOBER, 2021



**Garden Club of Georgia President
Peggy Tucker
And Immediate Past GCG President
Barbara Bourque presented State and
National Awards and the GCG
Standard of Excellence awards to
Club and Councils in the Oleander
District.**





Award of Excellence Garden Clubs

Brooklet, Garden Club of Pooler, Garden Club of Savannah, Glad, Hoe and Hope, Jesup, Magnolia of Brunswick, Magnolia of Millen, Millen, Odum, Parkersburg, Pine Forest, Richmond Hill, Sea Oats, Seedling, Spartina, Springfield, St Marys, The Landings, Trustees, Wymberly.



Award of Excellence Garden Club Councils
Bulloch, Wayne, Millen, Savannah Area

GCG President Peggy Tucker receives donation certificates and gifts from Oleander District Director Genelda Reese



Immediate Past District Director Diana Malone presents Stained Glass Panels (by artist Alan Jones) to Mary Ogden, Former Co-Director and Sheron Herrin, Former Corresponding Secretary. (Stained Glass panels were presented to other former Oleander Officers at separate events.





As a gift from the Oleander District, Former Co-Director Mary Ogden presents a National GCG Life Membership to Diana Malone, Immediate Past District Director.

OLEANDER DISTRICT AWARDS presented by Award Chairman Betty Benner



Magnolia Garden Club of Brunswick received Shirley Lewis Environmental Awareness

**Seeds and Weeds Garden Club received the
Louise Stewart Membership Award.**

**Glad Garden Club received Mary Helen Ray
Beautification &
Historic
Preservation
Award**



**The Landings
Garden Club
received Martha
Miller Butterfly
Award**



**The Landings
Garden Club
received
Special
Achievement
Award**



**The Landings Garden
Club received All Star
Award**



Brooklet Garden Club received the Special Achievement Award



**Odum Garden Club
was presented
Oleander GC of the
Year.**

**Frances Smith of the St.
Marys Garden Club
received the
Outstanding Garden
Club Member from
Betty Benner, Oleander
Awards Chairman.**





Oleander District Chaplain Betty Waller held a Memorial Service to remember garden club members who have died in the last two years.



Genelda Reese, Winette Almon (Chairman) Peggy Tucker (GCG President), Hilda Rushing, and Geri Shaw, members of the Oleander District 2022 GCG Annual Meeting Committee performed an invitation to “Gardening in Macon”, April 12-13, 2022

FALL EVENTS FROM OLEANDER DISTRICT

CLUBS AND COUNCILS

Odum Garden Club, Jesup Garden Club, and Lily Garden Club held a Blue Star Memorial Marker dedication and rededication ceremony on November 11, 2021. Odum Garden Club Dedicated a new marker in Odum, GA and the **Wayne County Garden Club Council** hosted a reception. Also re-dedicated were Blue Star Markers in Jesup and Screven. Wayne County now has three Blue Star Markers.



GCG President Peggy Tucker, GCG Blue Star Marker Chairman Jan Thiese, Oleander District Blue Star Chairman, and Oleander District Director Genelda Reese were present with Club Presidents Betty Benner, Bobbie Scott, Phyllis Woods and the mayors of Odum, Jesup, and Screven.



SEA OATS GARDEN CLUB

Diane Ghioto, Chairman of the **Sea Oats Garden Club** SHARE committee was presented the Nelle Pope award for the outstanding project in the field of horticulture. This award was presented at the Oleander District Garden Club of Georgia meeting held in Statesboro October 19.

All the Sea Oats club members help to maintain this project which was started several years ago. Several work days are held during the year when members prune foundation plants, weed flower beds and plant seasonal plants. Members either participate in these work days or participate in the club's annual fund raising activity which funds the SHARE project..

Shown with Ghioto are a few of the club members who enjoy work days at SHARE. Left to right are: Sybil D'Amico, Francene Roberson, Dlane Ghioto, SHARE Chairman, Elaine Alberson and Faye Hollington.



The October **Sea Oats Garden Club** meeting was held at the Seafarer's Center in Brunswick. Guest speaker for the meeting

was Vicki West, Executive Director of the International Seafarer's Center. After the meeting club members assembled ditty bags for the seamen who will be in port during the holidays. The ditty bags contain toilet articles, sox, t-shirts, caps, books, and snacks. The club members bring items for the Center twice a year usually in April and October. This was the first time to assemble the ditty bags but the members will volunteer to do this again.

SAINT MARYS GARDEN CLUB

On October 16, 2021 members of the **Saint Marys Garden Club** raked, removed waste, rolled flat, and spread native wildflower seeds in Crooked River State Park, Saint Marys. It was a

productive morning and we thank all those who came and assisted. Our pollinators will thank us when these plants grow and provide a wide variety of native floral resources.



Saint Marys Garden Club member Janice McCormick shared her talents recently hosting a silk flower arranging workshop for members. Janice has a great deal of experience in floral arranging owning a flower shop for many year which she opened in the early 1990's in Texas. She also taught floral arranging at Lone Star Community college. She currently does contract silk floral design for two different companies in Texas. Janice recently returned to her hometown of Saint Marys. We are happy to have her in our club.



Saint Marys Garden Club

members had so much fun decorating our sponsored tree for the Tinsel Trail. The Tinsel Trail is a display of live decorated trees at Waterfront Park in Saint Marys. All proceeds benefit the Camden House which helps to change the lives of victims of domestic violence and their children. Each tree purchased is decorated by the organization purchasing the tree. The public is invited to the Tinsel Tree



Lighting Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 12. Trees will decorate the park from Dec. 12-Jan. 3. The event is free to attend and will be open to the public daily 24/7.



Saint Marys Garden Club members delivered a car full of donated food, personal care and hygiene items to helping those in need. We delivered to Camden House a program helping abused woman and children in Camden County and Helping Hands or local food pantry. Camden House is a new project for the Garden Club this year, for there is a real need as some of the women arrive with only the clothes on their back, no toiletries, etc. at all with them. We also delivered to Helping Hands pantry personal care items, diapers and non-perishable food items. We collect two times each year to benefit those in need in our community.

Camden County now has a tribute to our United States military servicemen and women with the dedication of the Blue Star Memorial Marker on I-95 at the St. Marys Welcome & Visitor Center. A meaningful ceremony was hosted by the **St. Marys Garden Club** and included the Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay color guard on November 10, 2021. The pledge was led by Able Cadet Mikayla Garner and Seaman Apprentice Maverick Garner with the anthem sung by Mary Margaret McNeil, the CCHS Chorus President. Guest speakers were Peggy Tucker, the President of the Garden Club of Georgia, Robby Horton, the City Manager of St. Marys, and VADM Al Konetzni (USN-ret). Jan Theise, Blue Star Marker Chairman of the Garden Club of Georgia, dedicated the marker for all to see lest we forget those who help to keep us free. Distinguished guests included Dave Reilly, President of the Navy League of the United States. Patsy Schrieber, Junior Vice Commander of Georgia Veterans of Foreign Wars, Grayson Day, Mayor of Kingsland, Lisa James and Artie Jones Jr. of St. Marys City Council, and CAPT Chirs Bohner, CO of Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. The St. Marys Garden Club thanks all who helped make this a memorable dedication, including Keith Post, executive director of the St. Marys Submarine Museum, and many others.



MT VERNON GARDEN CLUB

When members of the **Mt Vernon Garden Club** returned to monthly meetings following the Covid 19 Pandemic, they were treated to "high tea" by the staff of Brewton Parker College in



Mt Vernon, where their monthly meetings are held. This was Brewton Parker College's way of welcoming the club members back. They arrived attired in hats and gloves, reminiscent of "Downton Abbey" and were served hot tea along with scones, following the usual luncheon. Delicious! All the ladies agreed it was a fun time to dress up.

.....

HOE AND HOPE GARDEN CLUB



On November 22, 2021 **Hoe and Hope Garden Club** decorated a Christmas tree at Ogeechee Hospice in Statesboro, GA. Club members pictured are (l-r) Rozlin Jones, Jenny Lee, Trudy Counts and Cindy Berg.

SPRIG AND DIG, BROOKLET, AND EVERGREEN GARDEN CLUBS



On December 18, 2021 members of Sprig and Dig, Brooklet and Evergreen Garden Clubs collected new underwear to donate to Fostering Bulloch. Members shown (l-r) are Anna Beecher, Diane Long, Bev Lanier, Judy Walker, Susan Mullican, Lynda Hamilton, and Kay Hammond.

BULLOCH COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS



On December 2, 2021 the **Bulloch Council of Garden Clubs** created a patriotic Christmas tree at the Courthouse Annex in Statesboro, GA. Pictured are (l-r) Janet Mallard, Susan Mullican, Kay Holland and Ellen Lanier. Not pictured is Elizabeth Gillespie.



On December 2, 2021 the **Bulloch Council of Garden Clubs** decorated a Christmas tree at the Courthouse in Statesboro, GA with handmade ornaments from natural resources found in Georgia. Pictured (l-r) are Nan Watson, Kay Holland, Susan Mullican, Nancy Trawick, Peggy Clanton and Faye Hulst.

THE SAVANNAH AREA COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

The **Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs** (SACGC) had a Fall Plant Sale on October 23, 2021 at their Farmhouse and Botanical Garden 1388 Eisenhower Drive. This is one of two fundraiser projects held each year. The other one is the Spring Plant Sale held in May. Many people came and bought Nursery plants, Daylily plants grown by the Hemerocallis Society, Camellia tree grown by the American Camellia Society members, Pass-A-Long plants grown by Garden Club members and many ceramic containers. Visitors also freely walked through the gardens enjoying the many lovely flowers and plants in the American Camellia Society American



Camellia Trail, Children's Garden, Compassionate Friends Garden, Hemoricallis Society Daylily Garden, Herb Garden, Rose Garden and Vegetable Garden just to name a few.

Three groups of St. Andrew's school of Savannah toured our Botanical Garden carrying educational forms to fill out after each garden lecture: Children's Garden, Herb Garden and Fragrant Rose Garden. Some who finished early had an extra tour of the Vegetable Garden. The first grader's were full of questions and answers, too

The **Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs** Farmhouse and Botanical Garden was a busy place for three days with movie crew and movie stars making a love movie to come out in February on television. Members of the council worked as monitors and the council was paid for the use of their Farmhouse and Botanical Garden. Show are the two main movie stars with one of the monitors, Irene Michaels.



The Bird Girl Statue in **Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs Herb Garden** is decorated for Christmas.



The **Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs** decorated their Farmhouse for Christmas with green garlands and red bows today.



Shirley Lewis attended the October Oleander District Annual Meeting in Statesboro and received the Standard of Excellence Award for her council. Shirley presented the award to the Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs' President Nancy Rosenthal and the other members attending their November Quarterly Meeting. All were very pleased with the presentation and showed this with a round of applause!

“Dear GC friends, kind appreciation for prayers, cards and emails, at time of my three sisters' deaths. Also, sweet thanks for thinking of me during recent surgeries of bone grafts, implementation, screw inserts for implants, etc. The 'singing' surgeon tells me that I should be able to eat ham by Christmas! Blessings abound, with love, Shirley Lewis”

THE GARDEN CLUB OF POOLER

The Garden Club of Pooler met at Georgia Southern Armstrong Campus in Savannah to take a tour of their gardens given by Philip Schretter. It was a wonderful tour of the MANY gardens on campus. Some gardens were: Camellia, Conifer, Ginger and International. Professor Schretter was very knowledgeable sharing plant information and answering our questions!



PARKERSBURG GARDEN CLUB



Parkersburg Club (PGC) is a small garden that has met on the Isle of Hope for the past 50 years. Our membership is currently up of 25 wonderful ladies. We each month, share our experiences, discuss a wide variety of topics, laugh, and typically listen to some very fascinating speakers. Good old fashion friendly conversation and caring attitudes drives our membership. Our meetings offer time to connect with neighbors and meet new friends while



Garden club Hope

made meet

consuming lovely treats. The meeting, second Monday of each month, at the Isle of Hope United Methodist Church Greenhouse (9:45) is the highlight of my month. The club does not currently host a flower show, but members will work tirelessly to maintain the LaRoche causeway leading onto the island. This is neither an easy task nor for the faint hearted. Traffic, trash, weeds, and unpredictable weather make it a



challenge. It is a labor of love. Many of our members live on the Isle of Hope, others do not, but all love the island and recognize the uniqueness of the area. The causeway is the island's front door. Caring for our community is the gold standard for Parkersburg Garden Club (PGC).



Reaching out, with a little help from our friends, is most often magical. PGC, a membership organization of the Garden Club of Georgia, provides opportunities for members to take on the challenges of a variety projects. Over the past several years, members have been key to the transformation of Paxton Memorial Park. Flagstone, pavers, shrubs, and flowers brought the area to life. The

recently added benches make it a lovely place to sit and reflect. We encourage residents and visitors alike to check out the small memorial near Our Lady of Good Hope Chapel. Members also assist in the development and maintenance of the therapy garden complex at Georgia Regional Hospital. As a member of The Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs on Eisenhower, we maintain a small garden and offer additional support, such as trimming rose bushes, as needed. We provide annual scholarship support to select students on the Armstrong Campus of Georgia Southern University and have purchased a bench for the Bamboo Garden at the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens. Beyond programs, projects, and fundraising, we support and enjoy each other. One of our newest activities included a group day trip last spring for members who were interested in 'getting out'. We had a wonderful time traveling to and exploring the Magnolia Plantation near Charleston. This year we are investigating the addition of an overnight trip for the group. It will be fun! The last year has offered new challenges to the club. Seeing each other every month is very important but given health concerns, we adapted and will continue to adapt as we move through the next wave of COVID. The PGC ladies will continue our meetings at the Green House but if needed are prepared to meet via zoom, at individuals' homes and/or host online programs as needed. Staying connected is very important. We always welcome ladies who are interested in local gardening, pleasant conversation, connecting with others, and supporting our community. Please check out our Facebook page for additional information and upcoming events.

"To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow" ... Audrey Hepburn

**SPECIAL NOTICE: PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN ANY PUBLICATION,
EVENT, PROGRAM, AWARD, SCRAPBOOK, MEDIA, OR PUBLISHED NOTICE:**
**The Oleander District is a member of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.,
National Garden Clubs, Inc. and Deep South Garden Clubs Inc.**

For Your Club Handbooks and Yearbooks:

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

President: Mary Warshauer
57 Buena Vista Ave.
Rumson, NJ 07760-1202
mwarshauer@gardenclub.org
732-513-2671(Cell)

Theme: ***"Plant America ...Play Outdoors"***

Special Projects: Plant America Community Project Grants

Each One Plant One, Plant a Tree

There are 2 additional projects subject to approval.

Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

Regional Director: Carol Hall
7614 White Fence Ln
Tallahassee, FLA. 32311-9201
clinnhall@mindspring.com
561-301-1911
850-402-3057 cell

Theme: "Plant Deep South with a Rainbow of Color".

Projects:

Share your knowledge and talents in a hands on community project
Support the environment and the talents of children.

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc

President: Peggy Tucker
1848 Mt. Olivet Road
Hartwell, GA 30643-3377
wotucker@hartcom.net
706-376-8241 home
706-436-5454 cell

Theme: ***Plant America—Growing with Challenges and Changes***

Special Projects Planting Natives

Protecting & Planting for Pollinators

Mentoring New Clubs

Oleander District of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

District Director: Genelda M. Reese
1237 Akins Pond Rd.
Statesboro, GA 30461
geneldareese@gmail.com
912-764-6721

Theme: **Protect Our Green Spaces and Plant Us Beautiful!**

REMEMBER: There are still some GCG Awards Applications that are due soon:

By January 15, 2022 – Publicity Press Book Award

By February 1, 2022: # 4 Peachtree Garden Club Medal, # 20 – History Award, #25 Scrapbook, #26 Poem, #29 Landscape Design, # 31 Garden Club Council, #33 Member Participation Program, #49 Holiday Decorations

Correlation of Oleander District Awards and GCG Awards

Because of your interest in GCG Awards, take a look at just some of the award correlations between Oleander District Awards and GCG Awards. The questions on the Oleander District Awards applications are the SAME as for GCG, so you can complete and submit an Oleander District award and then transfer the information to the GCG application and submit for a GCG Award. With the Oleander Awards due October 1, you will have a real head start on December 1, the due date for most GCG awards.

Again, this list is a brief sample of the possibilities of using your Oleander Award applications for GCG awards.

Oleander District Award	Garden Club of Georgia Award
1 Horticulture - individual	7 Special Achievement 41 Herb Award
2 Horticulture - club/group of clubs	2 Garden Center 14 Horticulture Achievement 19 Horticulture Program 41 Herb Award 47 DVD/Flash Drive/Power Point 50 Gardening Award 57 Junior and/or Intermediate Activities 59 High School Gardeners Activities
3 Environment - club/group of clubs	43 Litter/Recycling/Reclamation 8 Conservation Project 6 Tree Award 11 WF/NP Wildflower and Native Plant 38 School Grounds Improvement 61 Arbor Day Award
4 Beautification/Historic Preservation - member or club	15 Historic Preservation 38 School Grounds Improvement 46 Public Relations 50 Gardening Award
5 Butterfly Garden - club/group of clubs	29 Landscape Design 50 Gardening Award 51 Butterfly Conservation Award
9 Special Achievement - club	10 Garden Therapy 13 Civic Improvement 33 Member Participation 40 Gardens for the Challenged 46 Public Relations

from your 2021-2023 Oleander District Award Committee!

June Thomas and Betty Benner 4.18.2021

The next edition of ***Oleander Leaflets*** will be published in June, 2022. Please send articles and photos to:

Diana Malone, Oleander Leaflets Editor
dmalone4086@hotmail.com