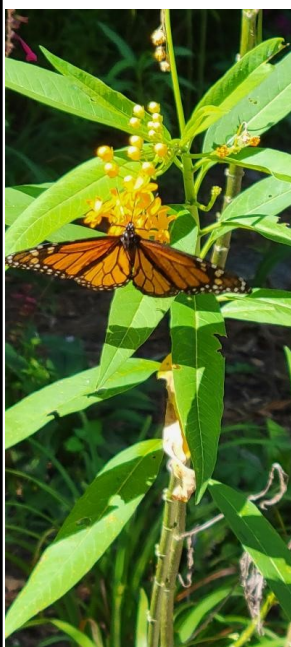




Art courtesy of: *Philip Gangler, Artist*  
InTheGreatDesign.com

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Visitor in the Gardens

## Word from SACGC President

Greetings from your SACGC President! Our first meeting was so informative! Six of the nine clubs were represented and shared their program plans for the next few months. Club members, you are in for a treat!

The news concerning the Garden included two trees which were diseased have been removed; because of all the rain, there is a drainage issue; three fourth of the new walkway has been finished; and the picket fence needs replacing. The most alarming news is a fungus has spread in the Camellia Garden. The Master Gardeners and I are pleading for help with the Children's Garden. Because of its constant use and popularity, this garden needs immediate help!!! Please talk about this at your October

meetings and let me or Betty Ward know if your club can donate some time and money to this popular garden.

Please remember the Fall Plant Sale- October 22 – from 9:00-2:00. We need volunteers Wednesday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> to pot plants, Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> to set up the tent and price plants, and Saturday to help. We also need your give away plants and decorative pots to sell. Volunteers are needed at 9:00am all three days.

The Habersham Woods Tour is October 9<sup>th</sup>, \$20.00.

I hope to see everyone at our next SACGC meeting, November 8 at 10:00! (NEW TIME)

Gretchen Patricio  
rpatricio1@comcast.net

## Word from Garden Center Director

When we all wonder if all the hard work in the Garden is worth it, someone leaves a message like this in the donation box:

*Thank you again for all your work here. This place always helps me to reflect my place in the world & with other people. This is my personal church, where I go to find God again.*

Betty Ward, Garden Center Director

Editor: Conni Connan, contact me via email at [pwconni@aol.com](mailto:pwconni@aol.com)

**For Gardens Sake** is a newsletter reflecting the interests and happenings of the Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs (SACGC), the Botanical Gardens on Eisenhower, member clubs, and activities of these organizations.

We hope to produce a quarterly newsletter (HOPE is the operative word) so please send any information to the above email. Make sure to put SACGC in the subject line.

## *The Dirt on Clubs in SACGC*

### **Ardsley Park/Chatham Crescent**

The Ardsley Park / Chatham Crescent Garden Club recently hosted their annual picnic at the Savannah Botanical Gardens. The Pavillion was a perfect location for our Low Country Boil and evening of fellowship. The gardens looked beautiful and showed well. We were so pleased to see the roses in bloom and the beds well manicured. A big thank you to

our club members Jane Pressly and Gretchen Patricio for their countless volunteer hours to maintain the rose gardens. Also, thank you to the club members of the Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs who volunteer their time to make the gardens enjoyable to all of us who visit. We are very proud of our partnership with the Savannah Botanical Gardens and the Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs and look forward to next year.



### **Garden Club of Savannah**

The Garden Club of Savannah is strong and healthy! On September 20, we hosted our first meeting to celebrate our 20 new members! They are eager to grow and learn and to work on our Spring NOGS Tour of hidden gardens next April 14-15, 2023. This year we had a record breaking NOGS Event and were able to give over \$50,000 back to our community. Their excitement is contagious!!



## *The Dirt on Clubs in SACGC continued*

### **Wilmington Island GC**

The Wilmington Island Garden Club held its first meeting of the 2022-23 year at the home of one of our long time members, Sandra Menendez. Five prospective new members attended. Members and guests were welcomed by President, Marion Leith. Discussion was led by Marion, regarding our various committees and their duties. Proposed fund raising ideas to support our charitable causes were also discussed. Yearbooks listing members as well as programs that have been planned for the coming year were distributed. An outline of each monthly program was given by Charlotte Stephens, Vice President. For the first time since the covid epidemic, we will hold a community wide Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on Wilmington Island. For the past two years we have erected a tree but have not held the community wide event. Our ceremony will be held on November 27<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday after

Thanksgiving. We will once again, have free crafts and games for the children, along with hot chocolate and cookies. Santa Claus will be present for pictures with the children and to listen to their Christmas wishes. Garden Club Members will get together over the next couple of months to make Christmas crafts and live wreaths to be sold at the event to help defray costs. We are looking forward, once again, to hosting a wonderful community wide event.

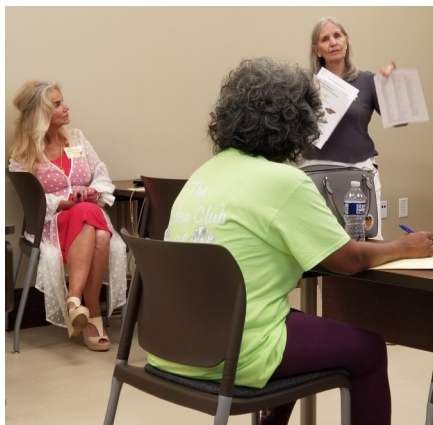
At our October meeting, members will bring plants from their yards for a plant swap. Members will discuss the needs of their plants such as water, light, shade, soil, etc. and will bring a picture of the plant in bloom.

When the meeting was adjourned, everyone enjoyed a delicious Brunch which was provided by our monthly hostesses. After brunch and socializing, everyone left looking forward to our next meeting



### **Garden Club of Pooler**

September 21, 2022 The Garden Club of Pooler met in the Community Room in the Pooler City Hall. Possible programs for the coming year were discussed, Oleander Annual District Meeting to be held in Statesboro on October 5, 2022 - Rebecca Benton Mayor of Pooler who is a club member will donate a basket, SACGC Fall Plant Sale to be held on October 22, 2022 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., guests of Irene Michaels were Elizabeth Watts Vice-President of SACGC and Kay Jones Recording Secretary of SACGC both members of Windsor Forest Garden Club. History Program was presented by member Chica and plants were shared from many members gardens.



## More Dirt on Clubs in SACGC

### Windsor Forest GC

We are excited to start our new Garden Club year with 7 new members and 48 returning members. We met at a new location and our hostesses made it look so festive we thought we were at a party! After the meeting one of our new members mentioned how vibrant the meeting was, a great compliment to all our members and leadership.

With so many new members over the past couple of years we're still trying to get to know each other. So every member got to answer a question so we got to know a little about them. It was great to hear all the different questions and answers. We dis-

cussed our 2nd annual Tree Giveaway to residents of the Southside. Last year we gave away 10 trees in November through a drawing that we advertised on Facebook. It was a great success last year and our recipients were excited to get their trees. We hope to get an update on their 1st year of life. We will be once again give away trees but upped it to 15 trees. Helping the Southside, one tree at a time!

Laura Walker from the City of Savannah, Storm Water Department, was our speaker and what a way to start the year. She was vibrant and excited to share her knowledge with us. We learned about where our water comes

from (not just from the Floridan Aquifer like I always thought) but also from the Abercorn Creek in Effingham County. Who knew? She explained why we need to be concerned about planning for the commercial growth in the Effingham area. She gave us lots of practical information and made us aware of things we just don't think about. To top off a wonderful presentation the City donated a Rain Barrel that we raffled (it went before our beautiful succulent basket). We also learned that hopefully in January Rain Barrels will be available at no charge to City residents, woohoo!

Looking forward to going to Secret Gardens next month for a program on Fall Containers.



## More Dirt on Clubs in SACGC

### Wymberly

Tom Parrish is a driven man, actually he was also a driving man, carrying bus loads of people to garden tours and lots of other colorful destinations. Tom is one of those salt of the earth people who feel compelled to do the right thing. Case in point, he's a member of the Wymberley Garden Club and no one needs to host a causeway cleanup for Tom to take action. He just does it. He goes out and bags litter and tree debris on the Isle of Hope causeway because it's good for our community. We are so happy to call Tom a neighbor. So I shouldn't have been surprised to learn that Tom also writes short stories. This is one of his favorites, Dads Garden. Enjoy!

### DAD'S GARDEN

I'm a new Garden Club member. It took me 68 years to join and I'm not sure why I did. I don't have any skills or aptitude for horticulture, what was I thinking?

My Dad had a garden, when I was growing up. I can see him watering it, and hear him yelling at us to keep our ball out of there. What ball, depended on the season, but baseball was our favorite. With four siblings, and another dozen kids on our block, there was always a game.

We were urban, the width of a single drive is what separated neighbors. We had a tiny patch of yard in the front and a shade bigger one in the back. Somehow we made it our playing fields, and even shared a bit space behind first for Dad's garden.

In left field was his compost heap, which was always good for a can of worms when we went fishing. In center field sat an apple tree that was part of the game and produced the fruit that made Mom's apple sauce. Strawberries grew along our warning track. They were big and juicy; and we'd dip them in the sugar bowl. I remember there was rhubarb, which Mom would make into a pie.

Lastly I recall Dad's tomatoes. The ones that survived foul balls down the right field line that is. They were bright red, crisp, and juicy. Sorry folks, but along with pizza and bagels, New Jersey really does have the best tomatoes.

Why did I become a member, and what was I thinking?

I love being a part of my neighborhood is the why, and I see now that joining the Garden Club was perhaps spurred by memories of my youth.

Memories of all the games we played on our field of dreams next to my Dad's garden.

### Parkersburg GC

The Paxton Memorial on Isle of Hope is an ongoing project for Parkersburg Garden Club. Before 2022 Labor Day Celebrations PGC replaced the big flag, cleaned the monument area and put small flags around the memorial. President Betty Cashwell is shown placing the flags with helper Preston Buchanan.

After a long summer, Pam Angell, Patti Davis and Sandy Champion take a few hours on a Saturday morning for a fall cleanup to spruce up the Parkersburg GC plot at the



Farmhouse on Eisenhower and then take walk through the garden. Beautiful morning. Great time in the garden!



## *Get Dirty with an SACGC Club*

Reverend Patti Davis, the Parkersburg Garden Club (PGC) Chaplain, has many ministries. When she asked if PGC would consider creating a healing garden at Riverview Rehabilitation Center, we were all in agreement..."Let's Do It"!

The project started in March 2022 with a lot of prayer! The selected area was between three buildings and had not been properly loved in at least 20 years, maybe longer. Weeds, improperly trimmed azaleas, various unruly bushes, no flowers, and soil with not enough nutrients to support a single blade of grass!



We got busy.

Week after week we trimmed bushes, pulled weeds, tackled some very aggressive vines and had the best time ever in the garden. I must admit the little silver snake that slid between my legs was startling, but friendly!

Friendships were forged over cool water in the garden (thank you Betty) after garden coffee, and sometime lunch.

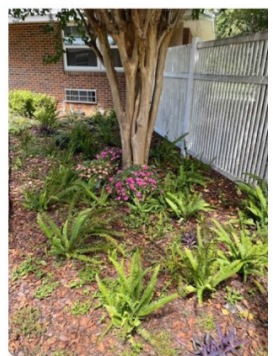
After our garden adventures, we were covered with dirt or mud ... often both!

Special thank you to the Cutter's Coffee crew for allowing us to come in!!

Summer slowed us down a little, although we adjusted and got to the garden a little earlier. We were able to add a little color to the garden. The plants were donated from other club members that were not able to actively participate in the cleanup or from the \$1.00 special rack at Lowe's!

It's a work in progress. Lot's of healing going on.

September results pre – rain....



After the rain...  
we were stumped!!



## Meet the *NOGS* Chair

In 2004 I paid my first visit to Savannah and like so many, I fell in love with this beautiful city! I love gardening but living in Indianapolis, Indiana one can only garden from about mid-May to mid-September. I knew the gardening season was much longer in Savannah and I loved peeking into the gardens in the Historic District. I was also drawn to Savannah because of its vibrant arts culture and SCAD. My professional career was as a Professor and Dean at Butler University so I wanted to retire in a city with the energy and innovation a higher education institution brings to the community.

In my professional career I had the opportunity to study seven times in Reggio Emilia, Italy. Their early childhood programs are ranked as the best in the world and I had read and studied all of the research and books about their arts based approach known as the "100 Languages of Children". After years of work I had the privilege of opening two Reggio-inspired preK through 8th grade schools in the Indianapolis Public School system.

My love and learning as a gardener has grown exponentially in the Savannah Garden Club! As a new member we are required to work two sessions as a Garden Hostess in the North of Gaston Street (NOGS) garden tour. I had the good fortune of being placed in the gardens of the Kessler-Armstrong House located on Gaston street just across the well-known Forsyth Park. Mr. Kessler's garden was filled with incredible art from around the world which



Ena Shelley, 2023 NOGS Chair and Chair Elect, Lee Green

enhanced the beauty of the gardens. I experienced my love of *art and gardening* together in this grand space!

It came as a complete surprise to be asked to Chair NOGS 2023. What a gift this role has provided for me to explore the reciprocal relationship of art in the garden and the garden as the inspiration for art as the focus for the tour. I hope you will join the Savannah Garden Club on April 14th & 15th for NOGS 2023!

## Thanks for all the Dirt

I'd like to thank all the clubs for responding to the call for information about their club activities. Part of the reason I took on the job of this newsletter is because I think what we have at the Farmhouse and Botanical Gardens on Eisenhower is amazing. But it can only stay that way if the clubs understand that these gardens belong to each and everyone one of us. So I hope by knowing what's going on at the Gardens and with all the clubs we feel more a part of the Botanical Gardens. We're all members of the Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs and connected because of that. So being able to keep up with the different clubs makes us all feel that connection.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- Oct 5** Oleander District Fall Meeting
- Oct 9** Habersham Woods Tour
- Oct 18** Deadline for Landings Heritage Lunch
- Oct 22** SACGC Fall Plant Sale
- Oct 24** Landings GC Heritage Luncheon

## *You're Invited*



# The Landings Garden Club

Beautification, Education, Conservation

## Fall Heritage Luncheon

October 24, 2022, 9AM to Noon

Palmetto Ballroom, The Landings on Skidaway Island



Our Featured Guest, Thomas Angell, Verdant Enterprises LLC

### **"Balancing Civilization and Wildness in your Coastal Landscape."**

Although the environmental movement began in the 1960's and the Green movement seems to be on practically every tongue, more than fifty years later there remains a glaring need to establish quality regional examples of biodiverse gardens that balance human and wildlife needs for a particular place.

How do we begin to understand the regional, environmental and site specific nuances

affecting our favorite places, and allow that growing knowledge to influence an appropriate and sustainable landscape or management response?

How do we strike a balance between the human need for expression and aesthetics with the functional needs for water conservation, preservation of natural habitats and protection of species diversity?



Thomas Angell, ASLA, is a native of Savannah, Georgia and a 1988 Graduate of the School of Environmental Design at the University of Georgia. He is an avid gardener and student of indigenous plant communities. He worked for Robert Marvin & Associates for seven years where he became a Project Manager for such clients as The Augusta National Golf Club and The Spring Island Company. Angell holds professional registration in South Carolina and Georgia.

Twenty-six years ago, Angell formed his own company, Verdant Enterprises, LLC in Walterboro, South Carolina. The company has now relocated to Angell's hometown of Savannah, Georgia. The firm specializes in environmentally conscious site planning and the creative use of native plants. The firm has also gained expertise in innovative storm water applications and custom hardscape detailing. This practice has evolved through a study of natural areas throughout the Coastal Plain and the desire to express a distinct sense of regionalism and low-key southern charm in site design.

**Tickets: \$40.00**

Visit the Landings Garden Club website at: <https://thelandingsgardenclub.com>

## *Fall Plant Sale ~ October 22*

### **Semi- Annual Plant and Container Sale Plant Sale Saturday October 22, 2022**

1388 Eisenhower Drive

9:00 am-2:00 pm

We will need volunteers for  
The following days and times

#### **Wednesday, October 19**

10:00 am – 12 noon

repotting and identifying plant day

#### **Friday, October 21**

Set-up and pricing Day

9:30 am - 1:00 pm

#### **Saturday, October 22**

2 shifts

8:30 am-11:00 am

11:00 am- 2:00 pm



We need your extra plants. Please start separating some of your pot bound plants to share with us. We need any pots that are ceramic, clay or decorative plastic. No nursery black or any color plastic pots. We will be collecting the plants and pots the week of the plant sale.

We will be selling plants that we have ordered from a wholesale nursery

This sale is very important to the Botanical Garden. We do this twice a year and the money we raise goes toward the upkeep of the garden and the Reinhard Farmhouse.



If you can volunteer at any of these times,  
please let me know  
so I can put you on the Schedule.

Thanks, Nancy Rosenthal

[nrosent892@aol.com](mailto:nrosent892@aol.com) or 912 598-0411