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Welcome to Our New Board!



Kay Jones-Recording Secretary, Elizabeth Watts-Vice President, Gretchen Patricio-President, Irene Michaels-Corresponding Secretary, Nancy Rosenthal-Immediate Past President
Seated: Larry Ward-Treasurer

May 10 was the annual end of the year meeting and installation of officers. Gretchen Patricio, of the Ardsley Park/Chatham Crescent Garden Club, is our new president. Elizabeth Watts, of Windsor Forest Garden Club is Vice President, Kay Jones, also of Windsor Forest Garden Club, Recording Secretary. Our other officers are remaining in their respective positions for another year, Irene Michaels, Pooler Garden

Club, Corresponding Secretary and Larry Ward, Treasurer.. Gretchen has been involved for several years with the operations of the Reinhardt farmhouse and the Botanical Garden. Thanks to all of them for stepping up. This will be the first time in a number of years that the Council has had a full slate of officers!

Shirley Lewis presided over the installation with a little levity explaining each position's duties.

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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 operative word) so please send any information to the above email.

The Dirt on Clubs in SACGC

Garden Club of Savannah

In April, the Garden Club of Savannah was able to host our NOGS (North of Gwinnett Street) tour and tea of hidden gardens. This year it was a sold out event netting over \$50,000 for community beautification! There was 100% participation from our members. We have awarded half of the money to worthwhile projects like the

Fresh Air home, the Ronald McDonald House, the Massey School gardens, community gardens to bring hope to our poorest neighborhoods, and a walkway for children and the handicapped at the Botanical Gardens! Our sincere thanks to Kathy Shields (Chair) and Karen Eskew (Co-Chair) for their leadership and planning.

At our May Luncheon

Celebration, we shared our slide show of the tour and admitted 20 new members!



Windsor Forest Garden Club

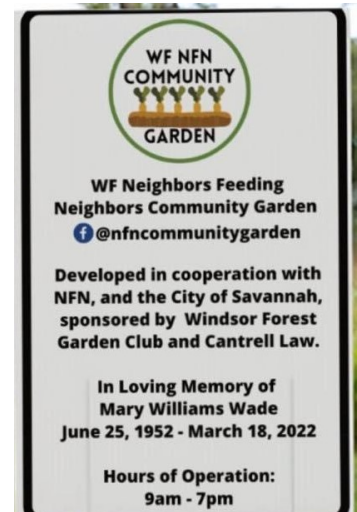
It's been an exciting last half of the year for WFG. In March our meeting was a riot of color as Cohanna led a flower arranging hands on program. We had a record turnout and everyone went home thrilled with their unique arrangements. In April Sarah Ross shared her excitement on heritage plants & seeds and got us ready to go native!

Our annual Plant Sale in April brought many repeat customers who said it was our best ever plant sale. Our members made creative signs to designate the different areas of plants making it easier for buyers & sellers alike to find what they wanted. We are thrilled that due to our successful April Plant Sale we are able to give back to the community and are

sponsors of the Windsor Forest Neighbors Feeding Neighbors Community Garden that came to fruition this spring. The gardens give those in the neighborhood the opportunity to learn about gardening and grow their own vegetables. What a blessing to Windsor Forest and we're proud to be able to support it.

We've also enjoyed working at the Herb Garden at the Botanical Gardens. We've added a variety of herbs (many started from seed by one of our members) and hope to continue to enhance place.

We finished our year with our annual Garden Ramble at a members' home. Members in attendance were overwhelmed with the array of food and the lavish attention to detail. We ended our year on a high note!



Dirt on Clubs in SACGC continued

Southbridge Garden Club

Just as Savannah grew in numbers so did Southbridge Garden Club reaching a membership total of 54 members. Our club enjoyed a busy year of many beautiful, and informative moments. Among the highlights: Touring GSU/Armstrong Campus, some delightful visitors from the Oatland Wildlife Center - including a baby alligator, an owl, and an o'possum; a very popular update on the community

from our property manager; and to top it off, a cocktail party followed by a trolley tour to the Georgia Coastal Botanical Gardens Holiday Lights. Each year we like to mix things up a bit by having an arts and crafts meeting. This year's fun idea was making mailbox toppers with artificial flowers and ribbon for the holidays. We ended our year with a luncheon in May.



Garden Club of Pooler

For their June meeting, The Garden Club of Pooler visited The Prewitt Homestead which is an urban homestead in the middle of a subdivision. Their mission statement is "Be self sufficient and encourage others." They grow almost 80% of the vegetables they consume, 100% of the eggs they consume and 100% of the chicken they consume. They offer seasonal vegetables, herbs, raw honey from their hives and much more. They also give tours, garden classes and food preservation classes.



More Dirt on Clubs in SACGC

The Landings Garden Club

Hello out there from Skidaway Island! We are having a wonderful summer getting together to just chat at our Marina, touring beautiful yards and making bows.

Our committees are meeting to organize their plans and schedules for the year over the summer as well, so we are working too. We have a large number of members, so one of the goals I have this summer is for everyone to get to know each other. We have several places we can meet on the island, so we're taking advantage of our beautiful surroundings outside as well as in each other's homes.

We have a member who is on the Architectural Review Committee, who really knows what's going on around here. Penny finds beautiful yards for us to tour as a group. Gardening here is such a challenge due to our deer issues, so we have lots of members that want to know what we can grow here on the island that won't get eaten. We have lots of homes that are just gorgeous, due to some creative gardening, research and trial and error.

One of our big projects is making bows and selling them over the Christmas Holidays. We have a great time making bows together – that is a great way to get to know people. It is quite an endeavor for us to meet twice a week during the summer months to make over 900 bows. We have several colors and sell out every year so remember to stop by the Skidaway Village during November to get yours.

Our bow sale profits support the many charities of The Garden Club of Georgia as well as several local

charities. This year we donated to The House of Hope, Refuge of Love, Park Place Outreach, and The Ogeechee River Keepers among others.

In April several Landings Garden Club members attended The Garden Club of Georgia's Convention in Macon. We were honored to receive several awards for our Club and community projects. Perhaps you have seen some of our award-winning results.

Garden Therapy Award; Serenity Garden at the Anderson Cancer Institute

Horticulture Achievement –2021-22 Club speakers & events

Butterfly Award—Pollinator Garden at Sparrow Field

Slideshow Award – Semi Hydroponics

Yearbook Award – LGC's Annual Guidebook

Social Media Award - Facebook Page

Civic Improvement Award – The Village Library Gardens & Urns

Special Achievement Award – Skidaway Farms Plot; Growing Food for the Needy

Public Relations Award – Containers at Clubhouses
Publications Award – The Petal Pusher Newsletter

We are very proud our member, Lisa Hall will be the next President of The Garden Club of Georgia. She will be sworn in at the convention next spring in Stone Mountain. We hope your members will consider attending.

Here are some photos of one of our tours at the home of one of our members; Kathy Dole.



Spring Plant Sale ~ MAY 7

A great day for a Plant Sale, beautiful weather, not too hot not too cold! It takes a lot of planning, potting, & manpower to make a successful Plant Sale.

Members of different garden clubs volunteered, digging up plants to be potted for the sale in the weeks before May 7th. On Friday, May 6th, dedicated council members (and spouses) came by, put up tables, tents and unloaded the plants from Oelschigs.

Of course on Saturday more volunteers showed up to help with customers, rearrange plants as needed, and of course act as cashier! Even more important, customers came, looked and bought! Many of our customers took advantage of the beautiful day and enjoyed touring the Gardens which looked fantastic.

Thanks to all for a Job Well Done!
Total Income after Expenses—\$2,432.25



Blue Star Marker Dedication

The **Garden Club of Pooler** together with the **Oleander District** and the **Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.** had a Rededication of the Blue Star Highway Marker located on I-95 South Georgia Welcome Center Port Wentworth, GA. on May 11, 2022. Much credit goes to The Garden Club of Pooler Co-President Louise Schindler who led The Garden Club of Pooler to this day with her dedicated planning and hard work and much credit goes to The Garden Club of Pooler Co-President

Barbara Rawlings for her work towards this project. Thank you Barbara and Louise! It was a beautiful day for this outside ceremony with Master of Ceremony Councilwoman and The Garden Club of Pooler member Karen Williams. Speeches were made by The Oleander District Director Genelda Reese, The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. President Peggy Tucker and Chairman Blue Star & Gold Star Marker Program - The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Jan Thiese. Jan al-

so presented certificates. Many government officials attended including Mayor Pro Tem Tom Hutcherson. The New Hampstead Air Force Junior ROTC Color Guard presented the colors and the New Hampstead School Chorus sang God Bless America. The Garden Club of Pooler Co-President Barbara Rawlings unveiled the marker. US Army SPC played Taps on the trumpet followed with plenty of cookies and drink for refreshments provided by The Garden Club of Pooler.



Word from Garden Center Director

Happy summer to everyone. The Garden looks lovely and if you check our Google webpage you can see that the visitors think so too. A lot of 5 star reviews. Considering that we have so few hard working volunteers, it is a miracle! Thanks to Pat Ryan for all the plants she got and the planting she did and Barb Stahl for the wonders of artichokes in the vegetable garden. Letting them bloom was a great idea and I think the most photographed plants we have ever had. Thanks also to all the Rosarians! The gardens are lovely once again.

We are in the middle of wedding season and it is going well. I would like to thank Eileen Galley, Barb Stahl and Larry Ward for all the work they do for the events. We welcome Eileen Galley as our new wedding and event coordinator. She is already booking for next season.

Our next Garden Center Board meeting is Tuesday July 5th at 10:30 in the Farmhouse. Stay cool and see you soon.

Betty Ward, Garden Center Director



"Love in the air" or the "birds and the bees" or "nature in action". Take your pick, you never know what you'll see when you take a walk in the gardens...

Happenings around the Garden

On April 27 we hosted a lovely meet and greet at the garden with good food and wine. This was for the different Garden Club members to come and learn a little more about their Gardens. We had 22 ladies in attendance representing six different garden clubs. Thanks to Conni Connan, Lenora Everett, Genie Ogden and Sandi Parshall for all their hard work. We hope to have more events like this and increase participation.

The Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs Botanical Garden has a volunteer who grows wonderful vegetables for their garden and she will not take any credit! She lived up north and learned how to grow plants in the south very well. When asked to stand in the photo, she declined saying the garden is the council's! Here are artichokes that she grew with two green thumbs!



The SACGC gave a learning tour of the Botanical Garden in March to a large group of excited students from Hancock Day School. The children lined up in four groups and enjoyed the sights and sounds of the spring flowers and birds. Rose Gardens, Herb Garden, Vegetable Garden, Wedding Pavilion, Children's Garden and more were explored by all. After the tour, the children eagerly planted Pole Beans to take home and watch grow!

More Happenings around the Garden

On any given day you will find volunteers working in the different beds around the garden. You'll find artists (or wanna bes) with their easels using the plants for inspiration. There could be a van bringing a group of senior citizens to take a walk around the gardens. Locals and out of towners alike enjoy seeing this gem in the middle of Savannah. We're not a polished garden tended to by hired staff. But we offer a respite for all who drop by. Come and see these gardens that belong to the Garden Clubs that are part of the Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs (SACGC). You will be amazed!



East Georgia Judge's Council

Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs, Inc, and Shirley Lewis hosted East Georgia Judge's Council meeting, luncheon and tour of Botanical Garden, May 16, 2022.



Master Judges, left to right: Shirley Lewis, Judy McWhorter, Brenda Griner, Jane Johnson, Winette Almon, Betty Waller and Barbara Horner.
Not pictured: guest, Irene Michaels and Caterer, Dyanna Byers.