

THE PETAL PUSHER

NEWSLETTER OF THE LANDINGS GARDEN CLUB



*Beautification,
Conservation, Education*

DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct 26th, Monday Meeting

9 am Board Meeting, 9:30 Coffee,
10 General meeting, 10:45 Program

Oct 20th, Oleander District Fall Meeting

9am registration, 10am meeting.
Presentation; *Fall to Holiday Floral* by Carol
Holder, floral designer

Oct 24th, Savannah Botanic Garden Reinhard House 175th Anniversary Party

Oct 31st, Plant sale

Nov 5th, Causeway Clean-up Meet at the
Smith's parking lot at 8am

October 2015

Dear Fellow Garden Club Members,

Our September meeting was well attended. We hope this month we'll have even more members and guests. We'll learn all about bees: what bees need to thrive and why we need them in our gardens. Linda Sue Babcock, our member instrumental in establishing our Landings Nature Preserve, commented that though the preserve was originally planted



with a wonderful variety of native plants, few of them

survived the almost ten-year drought the Island suffered. We often notice our natives because they are attracting so many butterflies, bees, wasps and other flying insects. Many of these natives, with proper care, can add interest to our private gardens and make the bees happy.

We have succeeded as gardeners here by amending our soil to feed our plantings and mulching to retain moisture. Poor soil or not, we have a lush and green island. Our warm climate and rainy weather means we need to prune constantly to keep our privacy screens from invading our privacy and our Confederate Jasmine from engulfing our homes. As we put our gardens to bed for the winter, we can prune as soon as the weather stays cool. Plants used for screening such as Ligustrum, Viburnum and Anise may be hard-pruned to keep them from becoming thin and leggy. Boxwood may be pruned by one third their height and width. Butterfly bush, can be pruned to 18". If your Azaleas have gotten too rambunctious, you should prune them after the spring bloom. They can be cut back severely (18-36") after blooming, but will take a couple years to return to full bloom. If you trim them now you will lose some of your spring bloom. I've always cut lantana back in the fall. But here, we lose the plants if we cut them back before they show sprouts in the spring.

Many thanks to Membership Co-Chair, Vickie Kramer, who volunteered to hand out our yearbooks. She will mail them to members who did not attend the September meeting. Our thanks also, to Hospitality Chair, Judy Sweeterman, Membership Co-Chair, Pat Sunshine, and Design Co-Chair, Maureen Treat, and their committees for getting our first meeting up and running.

Margaret Hunter

WEBSITE

Please continue supporting green projects through the Landings Garden Club website. (www.thelandingsgardenclub.com) Click here before you shop -> so our club can collect a referral fee for purchases you make at Amazon!



TREASURER REPORT

A detailed financial statement as of 9/24/15 was distributed at the September meeting. Suntrust Checking balance is \$7,277.45, Suntrust Reserve balance is \$2,500.00 and total assets are \$9,777.45.

Marcia Wills, Treasurer

YEARBOOK

This was my first year chairing the yearbook committee and I'm sorry to say there were errors in the published yearbook. Each member should make the suggested corrections, listed below, in her own yearbook. And, carefully check your personal information as it is listed in all areas of the yearbook. Send me the needed corrections, including the error, page number and the correct information, to maxwellsgal@aol.com or phone: (757) 334-3907. Or you may tube a note to me at 2 Hathaway Lane, just off Priests Landing. I will include the list of errors to the next newsletter. Here are the corrections of the errors that have been identified:

Page 2----Table of Contents: the following page numbers must be changed...

Calendar of Related Events---should be page 36

Amazon.com Referral Fee-----should be page 20

Membership-----should be page 21

Budget-----should be page 37

Awards-----should be page 39

Club History-----should be page 40

Native Plant Trail Map-----should be page 43

Collect-----should be page 44

Page 13---Floral Arrangement: Marie Scheuermann

Page 17---The date for the "Orchids" program is March 28

Page 28---email address for Peggy Schilly should be schillyr@bellsouth.net

Page 30---Tina Zipperer's address is 1 Pond Pine Court.

Please don't hesitate to bring any errors to my attention. Lisa Hall is not in the position of making corrections to the yearbook so corrections should come directly to me rather than to Lisa. This would be a good time to congratulate Lisa on 5 years of publishing a remarkably accurate yearbook!

Jan Smart, Yearbook Chair

A Reminder. To be more litter conscious bring your



own coffee cup to our meetings.

SAVE THOSE POP CAN TABS!

SUPPORT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE WITH YOUR CAN TABS!!!



Tabbs are collected by all 7 districts of the Garden Club of Georgia and turned over to the Ronald McDonald House to purchase supplies for families with hospitalized children temporarily staying there. Landings Garden Club members please get your tabs to:

Maureen Treat at 1 Keelson Lane (Marshwood) by Monday, October 19th.

She will have a container at her front door to drop your bags of tabs.

Many Thanks for your support

WAYS AND MEANS

What a fun and productive summer our bow makers had! We made 600 + bows including Classic Red velvet MAILBOX BOWS and we have added 5 new ribbon patterns. THEY ARE GORGEOUS! You can purchase them and our beautiful amaryllis bulbs at the October meeting. Bring cash, checks or "credit cards". Yes, we said credit cards! We are now set up to use THE SQUARE - a little device that, when plugged into an iPhone, allows purchasers to buy with a card. Very 21st Century! Our first official bow/bulb sale is Saturday, Nov 14 at the Artisans Market, held at the Plantation Club. Bulbs will be gift box Amaryllis. Sales to the public, scheduled for: Friday Nov 20, Monday Nov 23, Monday Nov 30, Friday Dec 4, Friday Dec 11 and Monday Dec 14th will be by the fountain in The Village.

"Eager volunteers" are needed to sign up at our October meeting for a morning or afternoon shift on sale days. Please bring your calendars as you won't want to miss this exciting opportunity to raise money for the many programs we support.

Maggie Richard and Dottie Kirkland, Ways and Means Co-Chairs



shutterstock - 113450791

WEBSITE

Wanted: Your garden photos! Since 2010 The Landings Garden Club's website has been awarded 1st place in the website category, by the Garden Club of Georgia. The judges especially like the slideshows of our members' gardens. They are both beautiful and inspirational. If you haven't already viewed the slideshows, you are in for a treat. You can view a multitude of beautiful gardens created by Landings Garden Club members by clicking the link below:

<http://www.thelandingsgardenclub.com/member-gardens.php>

We'd like to encourage our members to add to this collection. If you would like your garden to be part of the 'Member Gardens' page, please email your images to Sally Jones at sally4th@bellsouth.net or contact Sally and she will be happy to stop by and photograph your garden for you. You will not only be helping the club, but it will be a wonderful keepsake of your garden that you, your friends, and your family can visit and enjoy for years. Thank you to those who have already contributed: Pat Barry, Leslee Bowler, Bette Feingold, Anne Gardner, Lisa Hall, Sue Hamlet, Peggy Marting, Liz McGough, Brigitta Nooney (yes, Brigitta may be gone, but her wonderful garden lives on in pictures), Maggie Richards, Jayne Rogers, Marilyn Sheridan, Irene Thornley, and Sandra Wolf.

Sally Jones, Webmaster

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE SPARROW FIELD

Several members of The Landings Garden Club are performing a valued service "Citizen Scientists" collecting data for the Monarch Larvae Monitoring Project (MLMP) sponsored by the University of Minnesota. The state of Georgia has 13 sites counting Monarch eggs and caterpillars on milkweed and recording results into an online database. Most of these sites are located in coastal counties from Thunderbolt to Brunswick, with one site in Guyton, and others across the state in Carrollton and Lilburn.

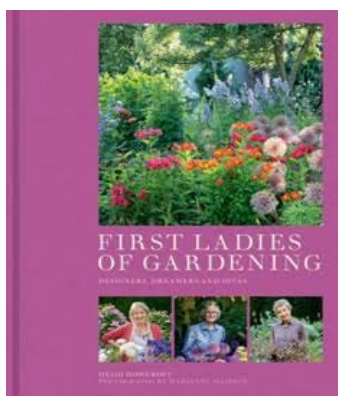


An analysis of the data reported by the week ending October 10th revealed that the Pollinator Berm at Sparrow Field had the greatest number of milkweed species and the highest concentration of plants. Since monitoring began on June 3rd, we have counted 1498 monarch eggs and 1355 caterpillars in various stages. Additionally, we have netted 52 adult butterflies, sampled them for the OE parasite and forwarded those samples to Monarch Health at the University of Georgia. The other Georgia sites reporting logged no activity or less than a handful of eggs or early stage caterpillars on any of their milkweed. Only five of the sites including the Pollinator Berm reported on a consistent basis. Data for the Pollinator Berm was broken out by number of eggs and larva on individual species of plants. The tropical milkweed, *Asclepias curassavica*, had the most activity per plant, perhaps because it is an established perennial at the berm. The next best performers were swamp milkweed (*A. incarnata*), common milkweed (*A. syriaca*), and green antelope-horn milkweed (*A. viridis*). As these plants were defoliated by hungry caterpillars, female butterflies sought out butterflyweed (*A. tuberosa*), and aquatic milkweed (*A. perennis*).

Keep in mind that the Pollinator Berm will be a control site to gather data regarding the effects of cutting back milkweed over the winter. We are partnering with Monarch Health researchers at Wormsloe where the milkweed will be cut back. We will allow the milkweed at the Pollinator Berm to continue to grow, so that a comparison can be made to see if there is truly a difference in the incidence of infestation by the parasite on the caterpillars feeding there. Club members Pat Barry, Shirley Brown, Diane Gustafson, Dottie Kirkland, Sue Hamlet, and Elaine Witbeck will continue to be busy with this project as long as the milkweed stands.

Shirley Brown, Sparrow Field Co-chair

Seeds & Weeds Garden Club Presents "England's First Ladies of Gardening" on Tuesday, October 27, 2015



Savannah's Seeds & Weeds Garden Club invites the public to a lecture by British speakers Heidi Howcroft and Alexandra Messervy, based on Heidi's book *First Ladies of Gardening*, on Tuesday, October 27 at 10:00am in the Coastal Georgia Center's Cypress Room. The event will begin with the highly illustrated talk, followed by a book signing and reception where light refreshments will be served. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and will include a chance for attendees to win a garden-themed gift basket, including an autographed copy of the book. Tickets and pre-sales of the book are available via the club's online event page at: SquadUP.com

<https://www.squadup.com/events/seeds-and-weeds-garden-club>.

DESIGN

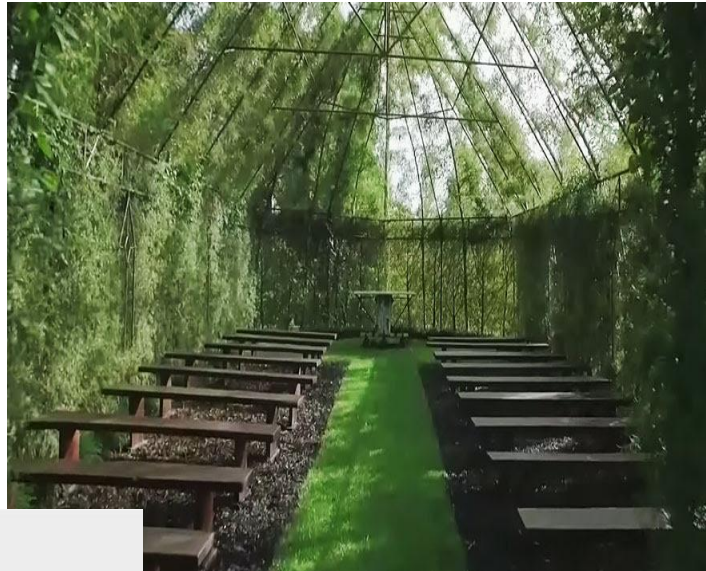
At each meeting we raffle off a floral arrangement made by one of our members. If you have any containers for a floral arrangement you could donate to the Garden Club, please bring them to our next meeting. We need large donated containers for the table arrangements so the person who wins the Floral Arrangement will be able to keep the container. Thanks to all of you who purchase the raffle tickets and donate containers. Special thanks to those who make the arrangements.

Please remember to bring pop tabs to our meetings. They are donated to Ronald McDonald House. Lisa Hall will report how many pounds of tabs that our Landings Garden Club donated this the year at the District Garden Club meeting in October 20th. Thank you for all your support.

Maureen Treat, Design Co-chair

BEAUTIFUL!!

This guy grew a church out of trees, and it's the most enchanting place in the world. For some people, the worship of nature and the divine go hand in hand. They see the overwhelming beauty in the world around them and can't help but see the hand of some otherworldly force at work. Brian Cox, a New Zealand native, spent years traveling the world and studying many different houses of worship. He's also the owner of Tree locations, a company that moves and plants large trees. So when he returned home, he knew exactly what he wanted to do to build his own monument to spirituality. In 2011, Brian began work on the Tree Church, which took him 4 years to complete.



CGBG AUTUMN GARDENFEST

The Coastal Georgia Botanic Garden will hold their annual fall festival on Friday and Saturday Oct 23 and 24. Click the link below for schedule of activities and speakers.

<..\Downloads\Autumn GardenFest.pdf>

LANDINGS GARDEN CLUB GENERAL MEETING MINUTES- Set 28, 2015

The general meeting of the Landings Garden Club was called to order by President Margaret Hunter at 9:59 am. There were 78 members, 12 inactive members and 7 guests present. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Dixie Diffenderfer read the Collect.

President's Remarks: Margaret announced that the April minutes as published in the Petal Pusher stand as approved. She introduced the following Board members to speak.

Treasurer's Report: Marcia Wills reported that her Treasurer's report will be presented in a new format which will show that our Club is meeting our objectives as defined by the by-laws. Suntrust Savings are \$2,500.00, Suntrust Checking is \$7,202.45. There were questions concerning the allocation of funds for Civic Beautification. The Library Committee, Gate Decoration and Causeway Cleanup are under Civic Beautification. The Treasurer's report does not show the break down.

Committee Reports:

Causeway Cleanup: Nancy Strobel reported that cleanup will begin Monday, October 5 at 8 am, meeting at Smith's parking lot. She called for good stewards, and asked members to invite husbands or friends who are willing to help.

Legislative Action: Leslie Bowler asked for help contacting our Legislators.

Membership: Pat Sunshine welcomed 7 guests: Jatta Hamilton, Ellen Grimm, Linda Fowler, Sandra Hunter, Pam Patterson, Peggy Hedeman, Angela Devore. Jan Smart was called on to introduce new member, Donna Slappey.

Horticulture: Irene Thornley who has been doing Horticulture for the Club for 15 years, has an assistant, Sandra Wolf. Irene's show and tell included Bush basil, Bronze Fennel, Ligularia and Leopard Plant, as well as Perennial Ageratum.

Birds & Conservation: Linda Sue Babcock reported that hummingbirds are arriving here and will continue for another month. Watch for the warblers coming through. Our butterfly garden at the State Park was the beginning of a trend for such gardens at many of the state parks.

GCG Liaison: Dixie Diffenderfer spoke about certification of your property for bird & wildlife preservation. Dixie will have forms if members are interested in having their gardens certified.

Ways & Means: Maggie Richard and Dottie Kirkland reported that 529 bows have been made thus far and pointed out the bow tree and new bow designs on display. Members were encouraged to buy or place orders now. A Square account has been set up by Ways and Means allowing us to accept credit and debit cards for bow sales. All members should sign up to sell in the Village. They will sell at the Artisan Market and will begin selling in the Village the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Hospitality: Judy Sweeterman thanked Jean Ahrens, Bette Feingold, Shelby Shavoir and Marcia Wills for the morning treats and hospitality.

Design: Maureen Treat thanked Valery Hamilton for her floral arrangement. She also sold the Raffle tickets and asked a member to draw the winner. She reminded members to turn in the pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

SACGC: Nancy Rosenthal announced the upcoming 175th birthday for the Botanical Gardens on Eisenhower Drive. There will be a Plant Sale on October 31 which will include plants from the garden.

Awards: Lisa Hall reported that our Club was awarded the following awards: 1st for Website, 1st for Newsletter, 1st for Litter & pollution control, 2nd place (regional - 7 states) for litter control, H.M. for yearbook. Lisa encouraged members to get their children or grandchildren to enter the contests held by the Garden Clubs of Georgia; there are cash prizes. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30.

Program: Jan Smart introduced Carolyn McInerney, Skidaway Audubon Board Member and self-professed "turtle lady". The program was "The Skidaway Audubon Diamondback Terrapin Project."

Jayne Rogers, Recording Secretary