

THE PETAL PUSHER

NEWSLETTER OF THE LANDINGS GARDEN CLUB



*Beautification,
Conservation, Education*

Sept. 2015

Dear Fellow Garden Club Members,

Welcome back to the Landings Garden Club year 2015-16. For September 28th, we have a fun meeting planned:

!!!Baby Turtles and Amazing New Bows!!!



If you've spent the summer away from hot Savannah, we know you come back refreshed and ready for learning and volunteering. Those who've stayed around have been busy, preparing for our club year. A few of those

are: Maggie Richard and Dottie Kirkland's Ways and Means Committee volunteers have produced hundreds of bows and have ordered our glorious amaryllis bulbs for sale at the Artisan Market and by the Village Fountain in November and December.

Jan Smart and Edith Teifel's Program committee have come up with a variety of fun and informative programs for the year. They kick off with Carolyn McInerney, protector of our precious diamondback turtles.

Jan Smart, who's wearing many hats this year, has worked with Lisa Hall to produce our wonderful new yearbook, and has assisted Pat Sunshine in interviewing and photographing new members.

Diane Gustafson, Elaine Witbeck and Ann Otjen have renewed and maintained our Village Library plantings. They look wonderful and make us proud to have our name associated with their efforts.

Judy Sweeterman has lined up volunteers to continue the wonderful hospitality our club offers at each meeting and Maureen Treat has collected talented floral designers to provide arrangements for our morning nibbles table and raffle.

Shirley Brown and her crew have battled the heat to maintain the Berm at Sparrow Field and collect data for the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project.

Lisa Hall attended our Oleander District Officer's meeting and conducted Awards Workshops for the District. Tina Zipperer, our Vice President and I attended the District President's training program.

Many thanks to all of you who have volunteered to serve on my board and the various committees. You will make this year a great one.

Margaret Hunter, President

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 26 Coastal Wildscapes Fall Native Plant Sale 9am to 1 pm
Ashantilly Center, Darien, GA

Sept 28, Monday Meeting
9 AM Board Meeting, 9:30 Coffee,
10 General meeting, 10:45
Program

Oct 5th, Causeway Clean Up
Meet at Smith's parking lot at 8 AM

Oct 10th, Petal Pusher Deadline

Oct 20th Oleander District Fall Meeting 9 AM Coffee, 10 AM
Meeting, Rincon, GA

WEBSITE

Please continue supporting green projects through the Landings Garden Club website. (www.thelandingsgardenclub.com)



GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP

Keep Savannah Beautiful is participating in Keep America Beautiful's National Planting Day. With a kick-off on **Saturday September 12, 2015**, and activities happening throughout the fall, National Planting Day celebrates the value and power of native species in restoring ecological balance to the environment while creating greener, more beautiful communities.

This year the focus is on planting pollinator gardens to help reverse the decline of pollinating insects, such as honeybees and butterflies. Planting gardens that attract and sustain these important pollinators contributes to the health of our nation's food systems and biological diversity.

Learn more about National Planting Day and associated local events by stopping by the Keep Savannah Beautiful and Savannah Urban Garden Alliance table at Forsyth Farmers' Market on September 12, 2015 from 9am - 1pm. Or just click the link below.

http://www.kab.org/site/PageServer?pagename=national_planting_day

A Reminder. To be more litter conscious bring your



own coffee cup to our meetings.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Please continue to bring your donations, including clothing, to our meetings. They are delivered to Georgia Regional Hospital and are most appreciated by the patients.

Mary Stewart and Edwina Walker, Community Service Co-chairs

**Pull and Save Tabs for Ronald
McDonald House**

Please bring your tabs to our meetings



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE SPARROW FIELD?

Plenty of activity has continued at the Pollinator Berm at Sparrow Field this summer despite a number of full-time volunteers taking breaks away from the heat and humidity.



In June, volunteers posted the sign designating the site as a Monarch Waystation. The eight species of milkweed planted at the site are establishing well. The monarchs continue to prefer tropical milkweed as evidenced by data obtained in counts over the last three months as part of the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project that was implemented by the University of Wisconsin. The handful of master gardeners and other volunteers have faithfully checked up to 175 milkweed plants weekly for eggs, larvae in various stages, pupae, and adult butterflies. The results are posted to MLMP.org.

While the monarchs are relatively scarce this year, the Berm vibrates with all manner of bees, wasps and flies nectaring on blossoms of some 84 species of plants, 63% of which are native to the Southeast and/or Texas. One of the favorite plants of the pollinators is Dotted Horse Mint (*Monarda punctata*). The 3 large clumps of this plant are a draw for photographers with macro lenses. The largest number of plants on the Berm is in the mint family (*Lamiaceae*). These plants are reliably deer resistant and their flowering continues from late spring to fall. Additionally, they winter well when cut back and mulched. Attached is a file of the plants on the site, with native species denoted; additionally, attached is a file listing the host plants with the butterfly species which depend on them.

[Host Plants on the Pollinator Berm at the Sparrow Field and the Corresponding Butterfly.docx](#)

[..\Downloads\Pollinator Berm Plants rev 082515.doc](#)

Shirley Brown, Sparrow Field Coordinator/ Photo of Bumble Bee on Monarda Punctata by Shirley Brown

MEMBERSHIP



It is my pleasure to introduce our newest member of The Landings Garden Club, Donna Slaphey. Donna is originally from New Orleans, Louisiana, but has also lived in Chattanooga TN, Macon GA, and just prior to moving to the Landings a year ago, the Atlanta area. Donna and her husband Ed had visited friends in The Landings on several occasions, but it wasn't till Ed was stuck in a lengthy Atlanta traffic snarl coming home from golfing, that he announced his intention to move to The Landings. Donna had no desire to be the wife who sat at home waiting for her husband to come home from golfing...and she certainly has avoided that! She has acted as general contractor for the extensive remodel of their Deer Creek home and has become involved in local charities like The 100. In addition she has been

engaged in some of her favorite activities such as interior decorating, sewing, bocce, Mah Jongg, gourmet cooking, floral arranging and party planning. And she comes to us with a background in gardening; she's a master gardener and has been a member of other garden clubs, including having been instrumental in the formation of the Magnolia Garden Club in Macon.

Please join me in welcoming Donna Slaphey to The Landings Garden Club.

Pat Sunshine, Membership Chair

AWARDS

The Landings Garden Club won six awards at the 87th State Convention. They are: Deep South Region- 2nd place Litter Control, Garden Club of Georgia- 1st place Litter and Pollution Control, 1st place Website, Overall winner Website, 1st place Publications- Newsletter, and Honorable Mention Yearbook. Congratulations everyone!

Lisa Hall, Awards Chair

LANDINGS GARDEN CLUB GENERAL MEETING MINUTES- APRIL 27, 2015

President Leslee Bowler called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by the collect read by Diane Gustafson, one of the Library Chairmen. The minutes of the March meeting were approved. The Treasurer's statement was approved and filed. A motion to accept the annual budget for years 2015-2016 was made, seconded and approved.

President Announcements: The Rose Festival at the Botanical Gardens on Eisenhower is May 2. Southbridge Garden Club is hosting an annual garden tour and tea party on May 16.

Treasurer Kay Osborn listed our Suntrust Bank checking balance at \$15,992.80. Our Charitable gifts for the year totaled \$3,700.00. Our current balance on April 27, 2015 is \$11,907.18 (which includes a contingency reserve fund of \$2500.00) Further information of who received our Charitable Gift monies and the proposed Annual Budget for the year 2015-16, is filed with the Recording Secretary's minutes.

Committee Reports:

Awards – Lisa Hall announced that we won six awards at the 87th State Convention. Only four awards were applied for – but we received six! Our yearbook won 4th place, our web-site won 1st place, our newsletter won 1st place, and our litter/pollution control committee(causeway clean-up) won 2nd place. Congratulations to all. She encouraged us to get our grandchildren involved in the annual poster contest because Leslee's granddaughter won a prize for this too.

Causeway Clean-up – the final day for the year is Monday, May 4.

Birds and Conservation – Linda Sue Babcock reminded us to do careful pruning of bushes so we don't disturb bird nests. Clean your hummingbird feeder and try colorful flowers to attract hummingbirds and butterflies.

Membership – There were 34 members present at today's meeting. We had one guest – Meg Schreck.

Ways/Means – Maggie Richard thanked Barbara Martin (co-chair) and everyone who helped this past year. She will be looking for and asking for help in the coming year.

Design – a beautiful arrangement created by the Blooming Idiots was won by Nancy Rosenthal. Table Arrangements were provided by Leslee Bowler.

President's final remarks: Leslee thanked all committee chairmen for their support and outstanding work and remarked on the significant monies raised to donate to worthwhile groups, the work we have done for our environment by participating in legislative issues, our increased membership, our continued efforts at maintaining the library front garden, cleaning the causeway and making red bows.

2015-2016 BOARD INTRODUCED AND SWORN IN BY IRENE THORNLEY

This slate was voted on and accepted unanimously by the membership:

President: Margaret Hunter, V.P: Tina Zipperer, Treasurer: Marsha Wills, Recording Secretary: Jayne Rogers
Corresponding Secretary: Susan Otter.

New President Margaret Hunter presented outgoing President Leslee Bowler with a check for \$150 so she could purchase a Japanese Maple tree.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30.

Program: Sean Burgess – Landings Association Environmental Manager speaking about Water Conservation.

Karen Angers, Recording Secretary