



The Landings Garden Club

Beautification. Conservation. Education

THE PETAL PUSHER NEWSLETTER OF THE LANDINGS GARDEN CLUB

February 2019

For more than twenty years, I carried the following poem in my wallet. Then a few weeks ago I was "organizing" my stationery drawer and ran across it.

Count your garden by the flowers,
Never by the leaves that fall,
Count your days by golden hours,
Don't remember clouds at all,
Count your nights by stars, not shadows,
Count your life with smiles, not tears,
And with joy on every birthday,
Count your age by friends, not years.

This week, this poem came to life for me in the way that so many of you offered care and support to Chip and me while carrying out, with great success, Blooming with Art. Thank you!

Speaking of Blooming with Art, thank you to Heidi Lieberman (chair), Jane Golz, Susan Heath, Sharon Lundin, Stephanie Corley, Kathy Collura, and Tina Zipperer for making this event so fun and successful! What can be said about our designers? Oh my goodness, my daughter and I were sitting in the hospital room going through the pictures as Jane and Susan sent them to us. Each time saying "oh that's my favorite!" Thank you to Jayne Rogers for her photography. These talented designers are as follows:

Jane Golz and Janis Encapera,
Betsey Andersen,
Dottie Kirkland
Nancy Rosenthal and Judy Sweeterman,
Anne Gardner
Nancy Strobel,
Anne Guira

Donna Slappey
Kathy Collura,
Karen Duncan,
Marybeth Krovisky
Connie Gescheidt,
Shelby Schavoir,
Seekie Drysdale

And then we had our throng of docent/hostesses decked out in black with the festive corsages, which Heidi designed and made. They made everyone feel welcome and celebratory! THANK YOU ALL!
We have one more Fabulous February event which is the meeting on February 25th. Don't miss it!

Diane

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 7—Done in a Day
at Bethesda

**March 11-13---Deep South
Garden Clubs Annual
Convention** at Jekyll Island

March 13—Horticulture Chat

**March 20—Done in a Day at
Berm**

March 25—General Meeting

**March 28-31---Savannah
Tour of Homes and Gardens**

**April 16-18---Garden Club of
Georgia State Convention**

April 26-27---NOGS Tour

MEETING PROGRAM

I am so excited to have Kathy Herman, the niece of Dottie Kirkland, as our speaker on February 25th.

KATHRYN HERMAN is a Principal at Doyle Herman Design Associates and has been with the firm since 2000. Ms. Herman's strong horticultural background and intense interest in architecture as well as extensive travel around the world has informed her design work on various residential and commercial landscape design projects throughout the United States and around the world. Successful landscape designs have garnered many awards. Many of the firm's projects have been published in the U.S. and abroad. In 2012, Ms. Herman was elected into the New England Design Hall of Fame, for her contributions to landscape design. Ms. Herman received her B.A. from Emory University. In 2013, she co-authored a monograph on the firm's work, titled "The Landscape Designs of Doyle Herman Design Associates". She has lectured around the U.S. and served as the garden writer for several magazines. Don't miss this meeting!

MARVELOUS MARCH

We have so much scheduled in March, we had to cancel our plans for a day trip. We will have a horticulture chat, two Done in a Day projects and the General Meeting on March 25th.

Done in a Day Project at Bethesda will be on March 7 at 10:00. We will be cleaning a memorial and planting around it. We can always use more help to trim other beds.

Done in a Day Project at the Berm will be on March 20 at 9:30. We will be spreading pine straw. Please be sure to sign up at the meeting on February 25th.

SPECIAL EVENT

We will have another Horticulture Chat on March 13th at 4pm.

Program: **Chatting about Garden books**. Please bring your favorite garden book (JUST ONE). Sign up at the February meeting.

Location: 3 Black Hawk Trail



HORTICULTURE

The January meeting was a packed house of Landings Garden Club members who were treated to 5 minutes of great Horticulture from Janet Morley. Our long time member Janet, told us about bulbs we may not have heard about. In driving through Thunderbolt, she many times saw green tufts in the lawn of a small house and often wondered what they were. After a very hard rain storm one day, she was travelling past the same yard and noticed that all the tufts now had white flowers. She was puzzled as to what they could be.

While working on the Landings' Native Plant Trail, the group went to (now closed) Four Seasons nursery to view the native plants and lo and behold, she saw those same plants and they were called rain lilies!! Janet reminds us that many times in order to find unusual plants that do well here, you just need to look at the older landscapes. A list follows of some she recommends, including some that were passed along to her from famed landscape designer Claremont Lee.

Zephyranthes atamosa
Common name: Rain lily
White flowers
blooms mid-Spring



Habranthus robustus
Pink flowers
Blooms in Summer



Zephyranthes candida
White flowers
Blooms late Summer, early Fall



SPRING BLOOMING BULBS

Leucojum vernum
Common name: Spring snowflake
White flowers
Blooms in earliest Spring



Ipheion uniflorum
Common name: Spring star flower
Blue flowers
Blooms in the Spring



BIRDS AND CONSERVATION

Baby, it's cold outside in a lot of the country, but here in beautiful Savannah we can feel that spring is on it's way! Our spring bird migration will soon begin and in preparation for this event, one of the most important things we can do is to clean the bird baths, houses and feeders in our yards. It is also the perfect time to create a "tickler file" on our calendars to remind us going forward to clean baths and feeders every 2 months. In addition, we should look at our cleaning equipment and decide what to replace for future use so that we can maintain clean houses and feeders. This will ensure healthy birds on our Island.



The equipment needed is basic: rubber gloves, soft cleaning brushes, tube brushes, tiny brushes, a garden hose with a strong nozzle, clean black trash bag, bleach or other bird safe cleaner and possibly a ladder. Read all directions thoroughly on cleaning solutions used for bird feeders and baths or use a 1:9 solution of bleach water (mix 8 oz. bleach into 72 oz. water). Finally, thoroughly rinse all equipment, houses, baths and feeders with clean water and air dry as a final step.



Bird houses: Remove the old nest and debris from the house. Use the above bleach solution to clean both the inside and outside of the bird house, then allow to air dry. Usually, bird houses should be cleaned by the end of January; however, if there is no activity a

quick cleaning could be in order. With Bluebirds who have multiple broods, the old nesting can be removed between each brood. Birds do not use old nesting material, they build new nests on top of the old.

Birdbaths: Empty the water & debris, brush out any additional loose debris and hose out the bath. Fill the bath with the above bleach cleaning solution and cover with a black plastic bag and allow to sit 15 -20 minutes until bath is clean (recover with bag and leave longer if needed). Rinse bath and the black trash bag (the bag can be reused for future cleaning) then fill the bird bath with 2 - 3 inches of clean water.

Bird feeders: Take apart the feeders as much as you can, again, brush loose debris into trash (seeds may sprout in the yard). Use a feeder cleaning solution or the above bleach solution to clean the bird feeder. Rinse all parts thoroughly and allow to air dry prior to refilling with seed.

Hummingbird feeders: These feeders require more frequent cleaning depending on the weather. When the temperature stays above 75 degrees, try to clean these feeders every 2-3 days, refilling with fresh nectar. Not only does mold, fungus and bacteria grow in the nectar but the sugar water will ferment and intoxicate the hummingbirds; this becomes a safety hazard to their survival. Again, take apart these feeders; using a mild solution of soapy hot water, brush all parts to remove the nectar and mold (feeders can be soaked or washed in a dishwasher). Thoroughly rinse all parts prior to reassembling and filling with nectar.

Just as we Spring Clean our homes, we should Spring Clean the houses, baths and feeders in our backyards. This spring, enjoy the beauty and antics of the birds that coexist with us here at The Landings!
Jean Deitch, Birds and Conservation Chair

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Community Service Committee will continue to collect old towels for the surgery patients at PetFix, pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, and unused hotel toiletries for the patients at Georgia Regional and the families that are staying at Ronald's house while their children are receiving treatment at Memorial Hospital. If you have any of these items at home and are intending to donate them, we'll have a table set up for them at the February meeting. Thank you for all of your donations in the past.

Barbara Martin, Community Service Chair



SERENITY GARDEN

Thanks to all these wonderful Serenity Sisters that have volunteered their time and talents to the beauty and serenity of the Serenity Garden at the Anderson Cancer Institute on the Memorial Health campus.

Barry Pat
Berlin Kathy
Bovey Joanne
Brown Shirley
Burtnik Hannah
Caldwell Sandi
Davis Judy
Deitch Jean
Devore Angela
Diffenderfer Dixie
Duncan Karen
Vickie Kramer, Serenity Garden Chair

Baxter Margarite
Gardner Anne
Golz Jane
Guira Anne
Gustafson Diane
Harwood Maddie
Holloway Jackie
Howard Joy
Hunter Margaret
Kirkland Dottie
Kramer Vicky

Lundin Sharon
Martin Barbara
Nicol Donna
Parris Vicky
Rosenthal Nancy
Schreck Meg
Sweeterman Judy
Witbeck Elaine

MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome these new members!

MISSY GOULARD



Cynthia (Missy) Goulard moved to The Landings from Lincoln Park, Illinois, just a few months ago. Interestingly, she first heard about The Landings from her mother who mentioned it to her in the 1990s. When Missy was ready to move from Illinois, she visited The Landings and instantly liked the ambiance, the layout of buildings and open spaces, and the friendly people. Missy has lived most of her life in Connecticut where she raised her three children. Before beginning her family, she was notably a subcontractor for NASA, developing the fuel for the first rocket to go to the moon. After her children were grown, Missy was involved in many volunteer activities, running, golf, and traveling. Now she participates in New Neighbor activities and plans to golf, play bocci, exercise, and relax. Unlikely chance of that! Missy is an experienced gardener with quite a resume. She was president of the New Canaan Gardeners, a small group of interested women, and of the New Canaan Garden Club, a much larger group, in which she was very involved in its arm of National Affairs and Legislation. Ask her about “Missy’s Conservation Moments” for which she was awarded a Garden Club of America

Conservation Certificate. Of course, Missy landscaped her own property that was “very beautiful” and caused “anguish” when she had to part with it to move to The Landings. Hopefully, she will not regret her move as she is very eager to be a working member of The Landings Garden Club.

JEAN AUSTIN



Jean Austin has lived in Savannah for thirty-one years. After she retired as Deputy Director of the Office of Child Support, she and her husband decide to move to The Landings in 2017. They like the security and natural beauty available here. The many walking trails and the Fitness Center fit with their outdoor and indoor active lifestyles. Jean's previous career in real estate led her to California and Texas but she returned to Savannah. She still misses the old plantation house built in 1840 that had been in her husband's family since 1880. She has always been a "Southern Belle" at heart. Her hobbies include cooking, yoga, walking, and working out at The Fitness Center. Gardening plays a big part in her daily life as well as she grows both herbs and flowers. As a spin-off from growing plants, she also dries flowers and makes arrangements with them.

Have you ever heard of a Tussie-Mussie? It is the Victorian art of expressing yourself in the language of flowers, and Jean also enjoys this technique of using dried flowers. Hopefully, she will share this process with the Club.

KATHY BERLIN



Kathy Berlin is a master gardener from Pennsylvania. She lived in a renovated farmhouse on a large tract of land. There she created many different types of gardens, including her own serenity garden, butterfly garden, hibiscus garden, and more. However, she finds that her master gardening skills do not carry over to Savannah because of its deer, insects, poor soil and high humidity. Perhaps her gardening expertise will help the Garden Club address these challenges. Kathy is a nurse and worked in a variety of medical specialties. Her last position was pediatric nurse practitioner. She uses her nursing skills here as a volunteer First Responder.

Kathy also plays the piano, golfs and serves on The Village Board. As talented and involved in the community she is, her passion is gardening. She and her husband have been permanent residents of The Landing for the past two years and do not miss the harsh winters of Erie, PA.

Janet Murphy and Pat Costanzo, Membership Committee Co-Chairs

REMINDERS

As a follow-up to our meeting last month about plastics, please bring your own coffee cup to reduce the number of plastic cups we are putting into the environment.

Also, please remember to silence your cell phone before the meeting begins.



BLOOMING WITH ART







ARBOR DAY

Arbor Day was on Friday Feb 15th. The Landings Garden Club celebrated by planting 2 red maple trees at the Sparrow Field Pollinator Garden. The holes were dug by Zipperer and Company, who provided the trees to the club. Thank-you to all who came out to plant the trees!



NOGS TOUR April 26-27

If you are interested in being a hostess in a garden for a complimentary ticket, please contact Sally Fiveash at samiam5070@comcast.net or 912-429-7047. The shifts are 9:45-1:00 or 12:45-4:00 both days.

THE LANDINGS GARDEN CLUB GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, January 28, 2019

The general meeting of the Landings Garden Club was called to order by President Diane Ingram at 10:00 a.m. Members and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance and The Collect in unison.

The minutes were approved as published in The Petal Pusher.

President's report:

Pat Sunshine reported that a card has been sent to Leslee Bowler who is ill. Additionally, she reported that the nominating committee has met, considering the slate of officers for 2019-2020.

The Treasurer's report lists \$2500.86 in the Reserve Account; \$4994.41 in the Operations Account; \$13,797.37 in the Ways and Means Account. Total Balance \$21,292.60.

Charitable gifts designations were approved by the LGC Board. The gifts include a \$1000 Garden Club of Georgia Named Scholarship in honor of Cleve and Tina Zipperer.

Dues for the next Garden Club year (May 2019-April 2020) are due in January to accommodate submitting the dues to the Garden Club of Georgia by March. Sharon Lunden is accepting dues and membership forms.

Upcoming events:

"Fabulous February"

February 6 th – Plants for a Savannah Garden at the home of Janet Morley

February 13 th - Blooming with Art at the Plantation Club

February 15 th – Arbor Day Tree planting at the Sparrow Field at 10:30 a.m.

February 19 th – Parkersburg Garden Club Card and Game Party (Isle of Hope)

February 25 th – LGC general meeting featuring award-winning Landscape Architect Kathy Herman

Other events

March 11-13 – Deep South Regional Annual Convention at Jekyll Island, Georgia

April 16-18 – Garden Club of Georgia Annual Convention at Columbus, Georgia

May – Savannah Council of Garden Clubs Rose Festival and Plant Sale at Savannah Botanical Garden on Eisenhower

Diane Ingram introduced New member Marie Ulrey. The club now has 136 members, 23 of whom joined in 2018. Three guests were in attendance. They were Sue Lomax, Jane Hernandez, and Elayne Lane.

The centerpiece was designed by Nancy Strobel and the raffle won by Maddie Harwood.

Hostesses for the meeting were Meg Schreck, Jean Holland, Betsey Anderson, Hannah Burtnik, Janet Morley, Haydee Toedtman, Peggy Schilly, and Jane Golz.

Committee Reports:

Birds and Conservation - Jean Deitch reviewed the activities of the committee this year and directed members to an article in the Petal Pusher about spring cleaning for bird houses and feeders.

Horticulture – Janet Morley talked about Rain Lilies and other "bulbs you may not have heard of."

The business meeting was adjourned at 10:30.

Nancy Rosenthal introduced Dr. Jay Brandes from the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography who spoke about Plastics Pollution on the Georgia Coast.

Submitted by Shirley Brown, Recording Secretary

