



The
Landings
Garden
Club

Beautification. Conservation. Education

THE PETAL PUSHER

NEWSLETTER OF THE
LANDINGS GARDEN CLUB

JANUARY 2019

Best Wishes for a healthy, happy 2019!

And, thank you to everyone who made 2018 a success!

Well, The Landings Garden Club is off to a great start! We had 40 people participate in the presentation about Georgia Hummingbirds given by Russ Wigh. The New Member Social hosted 17 of the 22 new members in 2018 and 16 board members. This was a chance to get to know each other in a relaxed setting. The next Special Event will be the visit to the Orchid House at Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens. Then on January 28th, we will learn about plastic in the ocean at our General Meeting.

However, the really big event that we have coming up is Blooming with Art on February 13th. For those of you who did not attend or were not here for the one in 2017, this event is a partnership with the group of artists known as Colorx12. Artists and floral designers are matched in a lottery and the floral arranger interprets the artist's creation in live botanicals. These arrangements are then sold in a silent auction. Additionally, artwork will be for sale in the Azalea Room. So it is a fun evening and you can make reservations to have dinner after. If you have not already, visit our website and watch the video of the event in 2017. It was a "sell-out", although it is free—second most-attended event ever at The Plantation Club.

This will be an exciting art event for the whole community but we need help from all members. Some members have already volunteered to be designers to interpret art pieces. We could still add more designers if you would just like to do an arrangement, not an interpretation. Each art/floral combination will need a docent to greet participants and encourage bidding in the silent auction—at least 28 people. We need hostesses who will float to greet our guests and make everyone feel welcome--15. There is also a need for 2-3 people to help with check-out.

What else can you do? You can talk about this event everywhere you go. Send emails to at least 5 friends, even off-island friends if you are willing to arrange the gate pass.

This will be an evening that will make you proud to be a member of The Landings Garden Club and all profits go to support our many projects. Last but not least, please support our wonderful sponsors, **Zipperer and Co. and South State Bank**. Please let them know how much we appreciate their donations by using their services when possible.

So please print the poster below and don't leave home without it! Hand them out wherever you go! Email to it to friends. **Let's paper the island with Blooming with Art!** See you at the meeting on January 28th and can't wait to greet you and your friends on February 13th!

Diane



YOU ARE INVITED TO

Blooming With Art

THE LANDINGS PLANTATION CLUB BALLROOM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2019

4:00 - 6:30 PM

CASH BAR AND LIGHT HORS D'OEUVRES

A creative collaboration
featuring artworks from



artists

(artists' exhibit in Azalea Room)

interpreted in floral arrangements
by members of



The Landings Garden Club

Beautification, Conservation, Education



COME TO **ADMIRE OR PURCHASE** THE ART AND FLORAL DISPLAYS
(HINT: PERFECT VALENTINE'S DAY GIFTS!)

Donations and profits from floral sales go to Garden Club projects

MEMBERSHIP - JANUARY 31 st DEADLINE

Please plan to pay your annual dues of \$40 (active) \$45 (inactive) by January 31st. The membership renewal form was emailed to you. Checks along with your completed form must be submitted together to Sharon Lundin, 7 Log Landing Rd. or at our January meeting.

JANUARY PROGRAM



On January 28th, our program is entitled "Plastic Pollution on the Georgia Coast" which will be presented by Dr. Jay Brandes, a professor at Skidaway Institute of Oceanography. He will be talking about the two year study he is leading to determine the extent of microplastics in our coastal waters.

DESIGN

Nancy Strobel will be creating one of her masterpieces for our refreshment table in January so be sure to buy raffle tickets so you have a chance to win!



CHARITABLE GIFTS ATTENTION: IT'S TIME!

The Charitable Gifts Committee will be meeting on January 21st. We welcome any recommendations you may have for potential recipients in our annual charitable fund giving. ***Please tube or e-mail your recommendations by January 20th*** to Sharon Lundin at 7 Log Landing Rd. or shlundin@comcast.net. Thank you!

ARBOR DAY

Arbor Day is February 15th in Georgia. If you have a suggestion for what our club should do for to celebrate Arbor Day, please email Diane Ingram@ diingram@bellsouth.net.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 22: Special Event—visit Orchid House at Coastal Botanical Gardens

January 28: Board Meeting and General Meeting

January 31: All dues/membership forms due

February 6: Special Event: Plants for a Savannah Garden

February 13: Blooming with Art

February 15: Georgia Arbor Day

March 11-13: Deep South Regional Convention

April 16-18: Garden Club of Georgia State Convention

BIRDS AND CONSERVATION

We've all seen decaying logs with ferns and fungi growing on them. Most of the time this has occurred through the grace of nature; sometimes these plants on logs have come about by crafty gardeners but both are eye-catching and soul soothing. Biologists call decaying trees giving life to seedlings, moss and fungi, nurse logs. They provide "ecological facilitation" in the process of breaking down the wood. Nurse logs are also called "Healers of the Forest" as they give shade, moisture and nutrients to seedlings swept by the winds allowing a safe protected home for these particles to grow.

This life cycle is one that can be incorporated into our gardens to give a natural and random texture if we are willing to look at the dead decaying wood as an artistic opportunity and not just debris. Squirrels burrowing in these logs promote further decay by their digging within the log and the bacteria in their scat. Birds and insects are also attracted to nurse logs for nesting and feeding. The beauty, joy and life provided by the decaying tree wood piques the anticipation within our curious mind.

In Coastal Georgia, pine nurse trees have a relatively short life span of 4 to 5 years due to our warm and humid climate; the harder the wood the longer it takes to decay. The debris left behind is wonderful humus and the lovely plants nursed to life are now an established part of our garden. This is the ultimate conservation in our gardens, on our Island and the earth. Shirley Brown shared the following link that inspired the above article. The link contains practical information and more pictures:

http://statebystategardening.com/enews/enews_stories/what_are_nurse_logs/

The internet has dramatic pictures showing nurse logs in the Pacific Northwest from downed redwoods, cedars and Douglas firs to art installations using the Nurse Log as a living exhibition. Residents of the Landings have created their own nurse logs as part of their gardens. Look around while walking and biking, all beautiful and food for thought!

Jean Dietch, Birds and Conservation Committee



HORTICULTURE

Planning your Spring Garden for Butterflies and Birds

Jean Deitch's committee on Birds & Conservation brought a wonderful program on Georgia's hummingbirds presented by Russ Wigh to the Club on January 7th. His talk has spurred me to study the influx of seed catalogues on my desk, with an eye to attracting more hummingbirds. Winter is a great time to consider where your garden was lacking last season and plan what to add when the temperatures warm up. And please, consider what plants may be attractive to the hummingbirds and other important birds and insects.



A visit to Sparrow Field where LGC volunteers work hard year round to maintain a beautiful laboratory of plants that sustain the bird and insect population, will give you a myriad of choices to consider for your own garden. One plant that I highly recommend is salvia. In all of its forms, this is a flower that goes the distance to make your garden beautiful to you and also irresistible to hummers and butterflies. In particular I have found the salvia 'Black & Blue' (Salvia guaranetica 'Black & Blue') to be a continual magnet. The tall spikes of cobalt blue blooms beckon to a wide variety of glorious butterflies and insects. It is a plant that commingles nicely with lantana and I love to interplant a dahlia or two to give a show stopping sight in late summer. The salvia will bloom for three seasons and most are perennial in our zone. I waited until after Christmas to cut mine back and still there are green leaves popping. I will not cover this plant through any frosts as I have found it sails right through the cold spells and still produces healthy new top growth and blooms in Spring.

Some catalogs I am perusing for seeds and plants are:

Parks (ParkSeed.com) for salvias to grow from seed (S.patens, S. x superba, S. splendens, S.farinacea, s.coccinea, S. caucasica).

Territorial Seed Company (TerritorialSeed.com) for a hummingbird mix, a blend of seed to attract over 24 species of hummers.

Burpee (burpee.com) for salvias to grow from seed or plants. Including 'Black & Blue'.

Annies (anniesheirloomseeds.com) for bee balm.

Renees Garden (reneesgarden.com) for a pollinator mix and salvia seeds.

Select Seeds (selectseeds.com) for a great variety of seeds including a hummingbird magnet Collection.

John Scheepers (kitchengardenseeds.com) hummingbird Habitat Flower Garden and Pollinator Habitat mix

Seed catalogues are a great way to find flowers that don't regularly show up at local nurseries. Keep an eye out for seed packets in garden centers and stores too. I was surprised to find a rack of seed packets at Luckey's Market today from one my favorite vendors, Botanical Interests (botanicalinterests.com). They sell a mix called Hummingbird Haven Flower Seed.

Russ's talk on the hummingbirds highlighted that the Landings is one area that sees year round hummingbird activity which is unusual. Could that be because of our devoted gardeners who have planted beautiful pockets of flowers that attract these fascinating birds? Warmer climate? Studies will continue to see why they are extending their range. In the mean time, growing beautiful plants and observing nature at its best is always a gardener's delight.

Jayne Rogers, Horticulture Committee

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. Unfortunately we have received very few donations since August of this year. 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 January meeting. Thank you for all of your donations in the past.

Barbara Martin, Community Service Chair



GATE DECORATING

This holiday season we had 22 capable and enthusiastic GC volunteers decorate our neighborhood entrances with wreaths, garland and bows on a very cold NOV 28th. The decorations came down on a much warmer JAN 3rd. We preferred the warmer day for takedown!! **Thank you** to all members who gave their time to make our entrances look festive and beautiful this year.

Dottie Kirkland and Pat Barry, Gate Decorating Chairs

DONE IN A DAY

In December we had a wonderful time sharing the holiday season with seniors at John Wesley Villas. It was such a delight to be a part of the gathering as the workshop participants created a floral arrangement which they could take back to their apartment. All the seniors were overjoyed with the event. As we concluded the workshop, the seniors kept thanking each of us for providing the workshop. Truly we could tell they were excited about their accomplishments as they proudly displayed their beautiful arrangements. A special "Thank You!" goes to Shirley Brown, Joan Hutzler, Susan Woods, Beth Larance, Belinda Winters, and Diane Ingram for serving at this event.

Belinda Winters, DID Project Chair



SERENITY GARDEN

Love and care of the Serenity Garden



Vickie Kramer, Serenity Garden Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Last month I published a Biography on new member Marie Ulrey that was a rough draft. We apologize for the error. Here is the correct information. Sue Hamlet, Editor

MARIE ULREY



After many years of growing plants in pots, Marie Ulrey decided to join The Landings Garden Club to learn the secret to growing plants and bushes in her yard. Hopefully, within the many resources the club offers, will be answers to her hopes and desires. After creating a very lovely and successful perennial garden on her property in Ann Arbor, Michigan, she has tried unsuccessfully since 2006 to fulfill her wish here in Savannah. Marie and her husband Gordon, chose to retire at The Landings after looking at other golf communities in the Southeast. They realized that The Landings is a real community and not just a golf resort with six wonderful courses. The warmer weather here in Savannah also appealed to them after many frigid winters in Michigan. Marie is an avid golfer, playing about four times a week, but she has other interests also. In Michigan, Marie was a director in the Clinical Research Department of Pfizer Pharmaceuticals and led a team that ran studies for drug

development. Now that she is retired, she plays mahjong, works out at the Fitness Center, and enjoys reading. Oh, and she also enjoys her two-year-old dog. She and Gordon also like traveling and usually take one "big trip" a year. How she deals with plants in pots and travels is a mystery to many of us. Welcome Marie!

JOY HOWARD



Joy and her husband Pat, knew they wanted to retire to The Landings since living in Savannah in the 70s when Pat was a helicopter pilot in the Army. They were attracted by our two deep-water marinas that would provide a home for their sailboat, Southern Breeze. Originally from Tennessee, they have lived in several states before moving to Savannah from western Massachusetts. Their love of the water led them to buy their present house with its beautiful view of the intracoastal waterway.

Joy's career was in corporate finance. She has used her expertise in several activities since moving here nine years ago: past treasurer of Landlovers and current treasurer for The Village Library. Joy also enjoys mahjong, (casual) bridge, and a couples book club, and participates in many worthwhile causes in Savannah. Her favorite pastime, gardening around

her yard, brings her true pleasure and contentment. Welcome Joy!
Janet Murphy and Pat Costanzo, Membership Committee Co-Chairs

DEEP SOUTH REGIONAL MEETING

This year we have a rare opportunity because our regional meeting, as part of The National Garden Club, Inc. is at Jekyll Island March 11-13, 2019. Since there are 7 states in our region, it will be several years before the meeting will be back in Georgia. Make your reservations now to attend.

