



The  
Landings  
Garden  
Club

Beautification, Conservation, Education

## The Petal Pusher Newsletter

### February 2020

It's mid-February - time to trim back those bushes, ready those beds, and get thinking about spring planting! We should now have all your membership renewals in hand. If you've not yet done so, please go to the electronic form found [here](#) and fill out your information and then hit "submit." You'll see you may either pay online or you may mail a check. (If you've submitted a form online, no need to print one out when you mail your check.). We have moved to electronic forms to eliminate errors and more importantly, be environmentally friendly and reduce paper usage. If you find filling the form online is difficult, you may print out the form attached to this email, and mail your form and check to Sharon.

Join us on Monday, February 24th for our monthly meeting and program as Certified Arborist Robert Cultry presents "Human Nature; A Paradigm of Change." Robert will speak about how humans and trees interact in our environment; both valuable components to the success of the other.

As always, thank you to all committee chairs, committee members, and gardening ambassadors who make this club so very special.

*Jane*

### Dates to Remember

#### Monday, February 24th

9:00am Board Meeting  
9:30 Coffee and socializing  
10:00 General Meeting  
10:30 Program "Human Nature, A Paradigm of Change"

#### CHANGED DATE

#### Tuesday, March 31st

Special Event/Garden Tour  
Hannah Burtnik;  
"A Landscaper's Dream"  
5 Pennefeather Lane  
10 AM -11:30am

#### Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>

9:00am Board Meeting  
9:30 Coffee and Socializing  
10:00 General Meeting  
10:30 Program,  
"Rivers of Iris"

Happy  
Valentine's Day

## RECYCLING: IS IT WORTH THE EFFORT?

### Benefits of Recycling:

- Reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators
- Conserves natural resources such as timber, water and minerals
- Increases economic security by tapping a domestic source of materials
- Prevents pollution by reducing the need to collect new raw materials
- Saves energy
- Supports American manufacturing and conserves valuable resources
- Helps create jobs in the recycling and manufacturing industries in the United States.



Recycling conserves energy and natural resources. For example:

- Recycling one ton of office paper can save the energy equivalent of consuming 322 gallons of gasoline.
- Recycling just one ton of aluminum cans conserves more than 152 million Btu, the equivalent of 1,024 gallons of gasoline or 21 barrels of oil consumed.
- Plastic bottles are the most recycled plastic product in the United States as of 2015, and recycling just 10 plastic bottles saves enough energy to power a laptop for more than 25 hours.

Our role in the recycling process is in the collection and purchasing steps. More than 35 million tons of plastics were generated in the United States in 2017, and only 8.4 percent of them were recycled. Putting items in the recycling bin that can't be recycled can contaminate the recycling stream. These unrecyclable items can cause costly damage to the equipment. Additionally they must be sorted out and then sent to landfills, which raises costs for the facility. This is why it is important to check with your local recycling provider to ensure that they will accept certain items before placing them into a bin. You can help by recycling **properly**. For a link to more info on this topic click [here](#). One of the main steps to recycling correctly is identifying the material by examining the item and looking for the "chasing arrows" symbol. You can also help the recycling loop by buying new products made from recycled materials. There are thousands of products that contain recycled content. When you go shopping, look for Products that can be easily recycled and Products that contain recycled content.

The Chatham County Resource Conservation Center 1321 Eisenhower Dr. is the closest recycling center I know of, since our own recycling center has closed. They are open Tues-Saturday, 8-5 and you don't even have to get out of your car! That's pretty easy! They accept plastics Numbers 1 and 2, as well as paper, cans, cardboard and foam from packaging materials. No foam food containers or cups will be recycled. Plastic bags are accepted as well as many other materials. Click [here](#) for more info on The Chatham County Resource Conservation Center.

So, is recycling worth the effort? Each of us must answer that question for ourselves. But I hope you will start, or continue recycling for the health and future of our planet.

*Submitted by Sue Hamlet, Birds and Conservation*

## **BETHESDA NEWS**

On February 10th , the Bethesda Committee met for a planning session and social time. Our next group Spring planting will be March 30th . Anyone wishing to join our group is welcome. Please contact Diane Ingram at [DianeIngram@bellsouth.net](mailto:DianeIngram@bellsouth.net). Pictured are Diane Ingram, Elise Snight, Vicky Menke, Donna Slappey, Joy Howard, Sharon Lundin.



*Submitted by Diane Ingram, Bethesda Committee*

## **THE POLLINATOR BERM GARDEN AT SPARROW FIELD**

Sparrow Field , located off Bartram road north of the north gate, across from the second Pettigrew Road intersection is a remarkable site still not known to many community members. Entering through a canopy of palms and oaks, one emerges into a 142-yard garden and a myriad of examples of nature's activity. The site was originally a sod farm that was converted to a wild field that attracted the migratory birds While the sod farm is no longer there, there is plenty to see. The left side of the field is a berm that was constructed in 2011 with the Magnolia golf staff and numerous dedicated volunteers. The design of the site is friendly to photographers, artists and nature lovers who enjoy plants, insects and birds. Plans are in the works for clearing a pathway around the perimeter of the field. This will provide residents with an opportunity to safely walk the perimeter of the field viewing nature up close and personal.

The pollinator berm at Sparrow Field is home to over 100 species of flowering plants that attract nearly 200 documented bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies. In addition, dozens of species of birds congregate to nest in nearby trees and thickets, filling the air with their joyful calls. They can be seen feasting on the abundant insects or berries and seeds in the cultivated garden and in the wild field. Much attention is given to the choice of plants for the garden, particularly to providing host plants needed by the various species of butterflies for breeding.

The Pollinator Berm Garden at Sparrow Field is a project of Skidaway Audubon. Most of the volunteers are members of the Landings Garden Club. You need not be a member of any garden club to help nor do you need to have any gardening experience. We have several Master Gardeners who are happy to share their knowledge and expertise. Every workday is a learning experience and a fun one too.

We typically meet every Friday at 9:00 am April through October. Come when you can and leave when you must is our motto. Any and all help is greatly appreciated. Contact Dawn Cordo 973-715-5936 if you can help.  
*Submitted by Dawn Cordo, Sparrow Field Coordinator*

## SERENITY GARDEN UPDATE

Early last Fall it was observed that the plants in the corner by the bird feeder were very wet. With further investigation it was discovered that the wall had a leak and was deteriorating. It was decided that all the jasmine and fencing on the wall had to be removed in order to make the repairs. All our maintenance of plants halted as the walls were cleared of all jasmine, fencing, lighting and then power washed, repaired, repainted, etc. In the process with tarps, chemicals, ladders, scaffolding, and "big feet", our plants were trampled and many totally destroyed. As new hospital management procedures have changed, Vicki was approached with the idea that TLGC would refurbish and maintain the garden in the future, and the hospital's landscaper would supply our materials and products. At that time, Chairs Vicki Kramer and Diane Gustafson gathered a team including Diane Gustafson, Pat Barry, Angela Devour, and Margaret Hunter to discuss plans. Two ambitious husbands, Al Hunter, and Ben Gustafson dug out all the remaining stumps.

Presently we are negotiating with the hospital regarding repair of irrigation systems prior to replanting. Hopefully soon, we will be replanted and back on our twice a month maintenance schedule.

*Submitted by Vicky Kramer, Serenity Garden Committee*

## HORTICULTURE NOTES



Russ Wigh, a noted ornithologist, naturalist and great speaker gave a wonderful lecture on Monday, February 10 th. His latest research is on Owls; notably the Eastern Screech Owl, and it's absence from the Landings. We got to see a Screech Owl from Oatland Island, who is beautiful and only about 9 or 10 inches tall. Russ thinks part of the problem is the noise level from the power blowers the landscapers use. I've seen them uproot succulents from the ground in my yard! Some areas have banned these blowers; using instead blowers that are no louder than a vacuum cleaner. This would be a good subject to propose to the Board of the Landings. Wouldn't it be nice to be rid of those deafening machines?

If you have moles in your yard, it is better to abstain from using mole bait to kill them. They are just eating grubs anyway. No matter how many times you get rid of them, they come back. Poison for the moles makes them very easy prey to Raptors, who would on consumption be poisoned as well.

Until next month, Happy Gardening!

*Submitted by Betsey Andersen and Pam Pattereson, Horticulture Committee*

## FIELD TRIP TO ARMSTRONG ARBORETUM

On February 11th we had a great trip to Armstrong Arboretum where we toured the conifer garden, a small section of the camellia garden, and saw some gorgeous specimens of trees including Apple, Plum, Golden Maples. Phillip Schretter, Grounds Superintendent of Georgia Southern is responsible for the entire Arboretum. There is a ginger garden that is so interesting and these are all deer resistant. The campus is open to the public 7 days a week. Most trees and shrubs are labeled so you can do a self directed tour or get a group and contact Phillip. Photos here include Golden Bark Japanese Maple and a yellow Camellia.



*Submitted by Betsey Andersen, Horticulture Committee*

## TEA AND TOUR AND SALE

Friday, April 24th , Johns Creek, GA

The event benefits the North Georgia Council of Flower Show Judges.

See this [link](#) for more information and tickets.

## NEWS AND NEWSLETTER LINKS

Please see our website for other recent publications:

GCG Board Briefs, Winter Edition

National Garden Clubs "Join Us" Newsletter linked [here](#).

## Reminders



**Please- Remember to bring your own coffee cup to the meetings. Help cut down on the waste we generate!**

## MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to these new members!

### ELISE SNIGHT



Elise and her husband, Gary, moved to The Landings from Northern Virginia where they lived on a sixteen-acre farm. Elise spent her entire career in Federal contract management and compliance for various information technology companies. She retired last March, holding the position of Director of Federal Contract Compliance for a Fortune 500 company.

In Virginia, she enjoyed tending to her farm and animals and raising her children. She planted trees and established many gardens on her farm. She is new to Southern gardening but plans to “remodel” both her front and back yards around her home here.

### MARIANNE CLAYSMITH



Marianne Claysmith moved to The Landings eight months ago. The trees were a major reason for relocating here. [The Arbor Day Foundation has recognized Savannah as a “Tree City USA since 1985. The founding fathers “planted” it that way.]

Marianne teaches piano and bridge lessons. She particularly loves her flower gardens – in both her front yard and her back yard. Like all of us, she is slowly learning the tricks to keep the deer away from her flowers.

Marianne would like to learn more about flower arranging and really enjoys our meetings that focus on this subject. She needs to talk to some of our very talented members and volunteer to assist them in some of their projects around The Landings.

*Submitted by Janet Murphy and Pat Costanzo, Membership Committee*

<b>Treasurer's Report</b>				
From 5/1/2019 to 1/26/20				
	Operations account	Ways and Means Account	Reserve Account	Total
Beginning Balance as of 5/1/2019	\$7,128.93	\$8,319.12	\$2,500.88	\$17,948.93
Revenue	\$5,980.20	\$10,871.00	\$0.12	\$16,851.32
Expenses	<b>\$7,918.32</b>	<b>\$7,380.04</b>	\$0.00	<b>\$15,298.36</b>
Ending Balance as of 1/26/2020	\$5,190.81	\$11,810.08	\$2,501.00	\$19,501.89

*Submitted by Sharon Lundin, Treasurer*

### **CAMELLIA SHOW**

Check out the flier about the Camellia Show at Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens on February 21st-22nd. Events include a Luncheon with speaker, as well as displays to make your heart sing.



**Savannah Camellia Festival**  
 Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> – Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens

**Festival Seminars**  
 Topics include flower arranging, camellia care, grafting, waxing, and air layering

**Camellia Show**  
 Saturday 7-10am: enter your blooms

Visit [coastalgacs.wildapricot.org](http://coastalgacs.wildapricot.org) for times & details and a complete list of seminars!

*Camellia & Merchandise vendors on site!*

## FIGHT THE TOXIC LPC AGREEMENT!



Last December 19—in the middle of the busy holiday season, when few were paying attention—the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GA DNR) released a settlement agreement accepting \$4 million from Honeywell, in order to compensate for 26 years of “lost recreational uses” due to the contamination of the marsh and nearby waterways. This binding document means that DNR cannot sue Honeywell for any additional damages, even if toxins are re-released during storm events. By settling for so little, DNR is sending Georgians up a polluted creek—threatening the health of our families and of our coast itself. The One Hundred Miles Organization is asking for your immediate help.

Learn more about the situation and email DNR click [here](#). There is a link to the DNR email at the bottom of the attached document. Please tell DNR you oppose this dangerous settlement plan. You have just a few days to submit comments by the February 18th deadline.

*Submitted by Leslie Bowler, Legislative Action*

### MEETING MINUTES, JANUARY 27, 2020

President Jane Golz called the meeting to order at 6 pm. This was followed by the pledge to the flag and the “Collect”. We welcomed all guests and new members. Treasurer Sharon Lundin reported all accounts total at \$19,501.95 as of Jan. 26, 2020.

Mrs. Golz discussed the recent New Members Social. The Club is now collecting dues and membership applications which are now available digitally as well as on paper.

HELP - request to membership applications to be turned in.

THANKS - Hospitality for always presenting great table of food.

WOW - recognition went to the Serenity Sisters who created and tend the Serenity Garden at Memorial Hospital.

Reservations and deposits are due February 1 for the Spring Field Trip on March 2 to Magnolia Plantation.

Ways and Means reported that all bows have been sold and thanked those who made and sold bows.

Horticulture -Betsy Anderson and Pam Patterson explained how to keep gardening tools clean.

Russ Wigh, bird expert and researcher, will present a program on Feb. 10th on owls.

February 11 will be our Field Trip to the Armstrong Arboretum.

February 21 is the Tree Planting for Arbor Day.

Lisa Hall and Maddie Harwood presented an update on the Hesse School Outdoor Classroom. This school has a new garden club mentored by our garden club. Through our efforts, we received a \$1,000 grant from the National Garden Club Plant America. Funds will be used at the school for plants and a gardening trough accessible to people in wheelchairs.

The program, “New and Under-Used Plant Materials; Adding Color, Texture, and Drama to Your Garden” by Tim Drake from The Greenery at Hilton Head began at 6:30.

*Submitted by Kathy Jacobs, Recording Secretary*