

JULY 2023

Petal Pusher

UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meeting-

***Please note Sept meeting is earlier than our regular meeting date**

Monday, September 18, 2023

Messiah Lutheran Church

Board Meeting

Meet & Greet

General Meeting & Program

Horticulture Field Trip

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Blackcreek Nursery & Garden

8:00 am Meet at Methodist Church parking lot to carpool

Presentation 9:00 - 11:30

***limited availability to 11 people**



The
Landings
Garden
Club

Beautification, Conservation, Education

Happy hot and humid summer,

How lucky we all are to live in such a lush and rich environment! We share this island with a plethora of birds, insects, raccoons, snakes, armadillos, bats, rats, coyotes, deer, and still a few foxes! So much around us is just green year round: shrubs, trees, perennials, and grasses. I must not forget all the lagoons, rivers, and ocean completely surrounding us teaming with fish, crustaceans, dolphins, manatees, and alligators. We have wonderful weather most of the year, but we do have to contend with our hot, humid, and muggy summers! Still how lucky each of us are to be able to call Skidaway Island home.

I welcome each of you to come along this year as we continue to grow as gardeners. Garden Club of Georgia's President - our very own Lisa Hall - has made "Beautification, Conservation and Education" as her theme. We will be doing our best to beautify our island, homes, and gardens, help with conservation in any way we can, and educate members and our community. Our National Garden Clubs President, Brenda Moore's, theme is "Go Green-Plant America". Thanks to Jayne Rogers and her fantastic helpers, we already have a Committee in place to support this important and rewarding project. Well done everyone!

I hope each of you will attend meetings, go on field trips and most of all have fun.

We have been working hard this summer to try to meet your needs this year. Yet, we need each of you to help in any way you can. We cannot do this by ourselves! Our club cannot function without you!

Please take a moment to consider if you may be able to Chair or Cochair one of these important Committees. We will be here to support and guide you, if needed. If you are having problems we will be there to help. Let's all pull together and help make this a fun and fabulous year.

Go Green-Plant America



I know this is long and your eyes might grow tired, but please take the time to read through.

1. AWARDS - Though we do not need to apply and receive awards, we do have a long history of doing so. These awards help show other clubs what we have been doing all year. This job needs someone who is willing to take the time to file all the awards we apply for. This could be done by an individual, but Cochairs or a small committee would make it easier. Almost everything(except 1 award) is due by 1 December and then you are done. So, a lot of work in the beginning of our year but it is over! Elise Snight is willing to help guide you through the whole process.

2. HOSPITALITY - We have made a few changes. We will no longer be using the huge and heavy urns. We have been gifted large pump thermos to hold the hot beverages. We do have hostesses signed up to bring all the yummy treats that we all enjoy. Margaret Hunter and Marybeth Krovisky have done a fabulous job and are ready to turn the reins over. They have lots of advice and tidbits to offer. I do not think bread and water has the same appeal as coffee and refreshments. So I am REALLY HOPING someone is willing to chair this committee

3. MEMBERSHIP - We have a brand new member willing to take this job on. Thanks Susan Mason. It would be wonderful to have an experienced club member or two to help her. A few changes might be made that we would like to discuss with the new Chair and Cochair first. I want our club to feel welcoming to all that come to visit.

4. PROGRAMS - As no one had stepped forward to fulfill this necessary committee, Gayle Ridgway and I have been working on this. If we get a response quickly there might be room for your own program ideas. As of now we need a Chair or Cochairs to follow up and coordinate with all the booked speakers and events. This is one that WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!

5. We also are looking for individuals who would be willing to:

Keep our website up to date;

Keep our Facebook page up to date;

Do publicity for our club.

Or if you are good at any computer technology we would love to hear from you!

If you got this far I want to thank you for taking time to read everything!
I am looking forward to getting to know everyone better and to a fun and fulfilling year.

Happy gardening,

Vicki

Past President's Message...

I would like to sincerely express my appreciation to all of you who so generously gave of your time and efforts to The Landings Garden Club for the past 2022-2023 year.

We had some fantastic speakers, very successful holiday bow sales, and a wonderful "Art in Bloom" show featuring local artist and floral designers. We kept our clubhouses adorned with beautiful flower urns and provided fresh grown vegetables from Skidaway Farm to the food pantry at the Social Apostolate of Savannah. It's no surprise we won 10 awards at the Garden Club of Georgia convention last March. Congratulations to All for a successful year!

The best part of the past year was getting to know so many wonderful new friends. I loved watching people blossom through their commitments to our club and community. Experiencing this was so fulfilling to me. As we look forward I would ask that you say YES, to serving on committees, and even stepping up as a committee chairperson. It is important to keep up the tradition of our club which supports so many beneficial projects.

In closing, I really loved the gift card to Herb Creek Nursery. I am such a geeky plant person, there is nothing more fun than going to the nursery and bringing home plants. This gift card continues to be my source of wonderful garden gems, at least that's what I tell my husband. He thinks I'm a little OCD about plants anyway.

Thank you so much for all of your lovely gifts and great memories.

With warmest regards,
Pam Patterson

Thank
you

Horticulture

Field Trip - Blackcreek Nursery & Garden

SAVE THE DATE

WHEN: Wednesday, September 13

WHERE: Methodist Church Parking Lot - Meet to Carpool 8:00 am

WHAT: Learn to Grow Your Own Tea: Join us for a **Tea-rific** Experience



Are you curious about the art of growing and processing tea? Join us for a unique class where you'll discover the secrets of Camellia sinensis, the magical plant behind the world's second-most-consumed beverage...*Tea!*

You'll learn interesting facts about growing tea as well as tour our 1/2 acre tea garden. We'll show you the basics for growing and caring for Camellia sinensis and you'll have the experience of harvesting tea leaves. From there we will enjoy Home Grown Tea from our garden as we demonstrate how to process tea leaves into Green, Oolong, and Black Teas.

*The tour will begin at 9:00 and end @ 11:30 so come prepared with comfortable shoes, insect repellent, cool clothing, hat & sunglasses (if preferred)

Cost to attend is **\$35.00 per person - payable at the event** (accept cash & credit cards)

**Tour is limited to only 11 people. We will keep a waiting list after 11 spots are filled and schedule another visit if there is enough interest.*

**This is an outdoor event and subject to cancellation due to weather issues. Any concerns that might prevent a safe environment, we will notify by email and TEXT.*

Plant Lovers News and Notes...

Submitted by Pam Patterson

I hope you are enjoying your summer! With the extreme heat, I am taking it slower as I spend time in my garden. The best time to work is during the cooler morning hours and I focus my efforts in smaller increments.

If you enjoy Instagram, try out our account: **landings_garden_club**. We have several members that contribute and we also follow some great garden sites such as Floret Flower, Homegrownnationalpark, Great Dixter, and #choosenativeplants. There is always something interesting to view and learn. I recently posted some flowers from my yard, so please check it out!

Last spring I submitted an article about Jenks Farmer, a well known gardener in the Southeast. You can sign-up for his emails where he shares personal stories about people and plants. He refers to this part of summer as the "dark days", when it's too hot for plants to grow, except for weeds (of course). He says "in late summer gardening, I often turn control over to nature. To pretend otherwise is a pretense, at least in our sub-tropical-esque climate."

At this time of year, I look at my garden and see a lot of weeds and the incredibly invasive *Conoclinium coelestinum* (common name Blue Mistflower). It is like the cultivated *Ageratum*, but is native to this region and easily pollinated by the wind. There is another version of that flower, *Conoclinium gregii*, which is rhizomatic and almost as aggressive. The Milkweed *Aesclepias incarnata* is also wind pollinated and floating around my neighborhood. I let it propagate in hopes Monarch Butterflies will find them.

Conoclinium



Glorybower



I discovered a whole new group of deer resistant plants, but of course these are not native to the coastal south. They are from the genus of the *Clerodendrum*, in the *Lamiaceae* family and are native to China and Northern India - Glorybower, has a red flower and the leaves smell like peanut butter. Another one is *Clerodendrum bungee*, common name Mexican Heather.

Ginger



We are currently enjoying the *Crocasmia* as well as the Goldenrods, and my gorgeous Ginger is about to put on a show. There is always something in my garden that I look forward to seeing, you just have to overlook some of the weeds.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the Weed and Wine gatherings. It's always fun to get together with other plant lovers.

Best wishes to stay cool and enjoy the remainder of your summer!

SERENITY GARDEN

Submitted by Vicki Kramer

Thanks to these Serenity Sisters for maintaining the garden at the Anderson Cancer Institute on the Memorial Hospital Campus. We are waiting on mulch to be delivered so we can complete our plantings. As always, we appreciate all that the Sisters do to make this such a **serene** place to contemplate and refresh. If you have not done so, please take time to visit this exquisite paradise, created for those who need a quite venue to reflect.



In Loving Memory....

Submitted by Amy Collings and Dawn Cordo

Not all classrooms have four walls and nowhere is that more evident than at Sparrow Field, where a new informational kiosk has been erected in loving memory of Scott Helmreich. Scott was an energetic volunteer at Sparrow Field who loved bees, bats, composting and anything that sustained nature. He was an inquisitive, talented, and gentle soul with a passion for nature who passed away in March at age the young age of 36 following a skiing accident.

Scott's parents, David and Beckie, will host a Celebration of Life, Wednesday, August 9, 6:30 pm, at Sparrow Field where the kiosk will be officially unveiled and dedicated in memory of Scott (rain date August 10). All are welcome to come walk alongside the gardens, observe the pond life, have a beverage, and appreciate the nature that Scott enjoyed. Please join us for a memorable evening in the garden!



Skidaway Farms

Submitted by Jayne Rogers

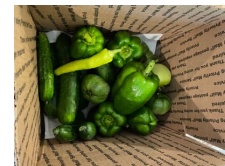


Skidaway Farm Final Report for Summer, 2023

We closed out the books on the Landings Garden Club Farm plot on June 25. The Farm plot is now cleared and covered with plastic. We can thank our members, Meg Kettlitz, Kathy Dole, Amy Brooks, and Sara Thompson for the most successful season to date. Fresh produce weighing 107 pounds was donated to the Social Apostolate of Savannah for their food kitchen (lettuce, kale, radishes, cabbage, and collards from the Fall season were not included in the Summer weight count). The weight number is deceiving, especially when one considers the wheel barrow of lettuce and the bags of herbs which weigh very little but add mightily to the lunches prepared for the hungry and homeless of Savannah. The Summer crop included lettuce, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, parsley, and dill. We also want to thank Marguerite Baxter who is our contact and liaison to this essential organization.

Since the Skidaway Farm Project was recently approved as a UGA Master Gardener project, we have been able to tap into that volunteer base and all the inherent skill and knowledge that comes from partnering with the Coastal Georgia Master Gardeners.

We welcome any interested club members to join our group. Look for a sign-up sheet at the September meeting where we will be announcing plans for start of the cool weather garden. The opportunity to learn about gardening in the Deep South, combined with the satisfaction of offering fresh vegetables to some of Savannah's hungry and homeless makes this a wonderful garden club experience. You will be hearing more about Brenda Moore, the National Garden Club President's 2023-25 project, **Plant America-Feed America** and how Skidaway Farms will be participating in this exciting venture.



Skidaway Farms is a great project to help with hunger in our community. It is a small thing but fresh, organic vegetables are so special and sharing them with the less fortunate is a mighty effort. Thanks to those who have already volunteered and anyone else that would like to join us please contact Jayne Rogers: JMRogers341@gmail.com



Ways and Means Committee

Submitted by Joni Brownstein

Holiday Bows...

Great News! Our tireless volunteers have made more than 800 beautiful bows for us to sell this holiday season. Since 1989, the Landing Garden Club has made colorful bows to sell to our community. The Landings residents have decorated mailboxes, homes and golf carts with these handmade beauties for more than 30 years.

Last year we raised \$9,500, with proceeds funding various charitable gifts and civic beautification projects for our community. We hope to exceed that amount this year as we head into the fall with our latest creations for sale. This year we will offer new ribbon patterns as well as traditional seasonal colors to choose from. Thank-you to all you lovely ladies for your time and enthusiasm in producing these bows.

More information on how and where to purchase holiday bows will be forthcoming in September. Please plan to support this important Garden Club fundraiser!



New...
Winslet Ribbon Bow



All Committee Chairs and Members...

Whether it's actual work or just a fun get together, please continue to email pictures of your committee work throughout the summer and into the fall to Elise Snight and copy Vicki Menke. Elise will add the pictures to The Landings Garden Club's Google Photo Album. You can also post these on our new Instagram Account: [landings_garden_club](#)

Elise Snight: elise.snight@gmail.com / Vicki Menke: gmenke75@msn.com

THANK YOU!

DON'T FORGET

Dear Garden Club Friends,

My family and I would like to thank you for the kindness and support which you shared with us at our time of loss for my husband, Richard. We appreciate all of the food, cards, prayers and acts of kindness which you blessed us with.

Sincerely,

Linda Moore and Family



THIS AND THAT...CHECK IT OUT...

A note from Kathy Dole...

Stay tuned for more information about a FIELD TRIP this fall (likely October). Possible destinations include the State Botanical Garden of Georgia in Athens, the Atlanta Botanical Garden in Atlanta, Magnolia Plantation in Charleston or other gardens in South Carolina. At our first meeting in September, we will ask you to indicate your interest on a form.

We would likely keep the first trip to just one day, but if there is interest, we may try to gather folks for a trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show, the largest flower show in the US. That show is in March.

We may also put on a Candlelight house Tour in December to share our holiday decorations and greenery with neighbors. More information to come.



JUST SAY NO...TO DEER

Are you looking for perennials that deer will not eat? Try Clerodendrum. Balcony Garden Web has a great article "16 of the Best Clerodendrum varieties" Bella's Nursery in Richmond Hill carries one of these varieties, Blue Butterfly Bush

Balcony Garden Web is a great website for all things all about gardening. Find some of the best gardening ideas, creative DIY's and limited space gardening tips and tricks. Check it out...balconygardenweb.com

Jenks Farmer - Crinum Lily Farm

If you were one of the lucky people who heard Jenks Farmer at our luncheon in 2017, you'll love keeping up with him and his stories about gardening. Check it out...

https://open.substack.com/pub/jenksfarmer/p/embrace-your-frass?r=2fa2u0&utm_campaign=post&utm_medium=email

If you have tips & tricks for gardening ideas and products, let us know so we can check it out...and pass along

The Landings Garden Club

Is a Federated Club and a proud member of

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs

