

Petal Pusher



The
Landings
Garden
Club

Beautification, Conservation, Education

UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meeting

Monday, April 22, 2024

Messiah Lutheran Church

9:15 - 10:00 Meet & Greet

10:00 - 10:30 General Meeting

10:45 Program - Caring for Houseplants

Garden Week - Garden Tour

Tuesday, April 16 2024

10:00 am

Gayle Ridgway's Garden

26 Delegal Road, Savannah

"Bloomin' in the Heart of Georgia"

Tuesday, April 16 - 17

Garden Club of Georgia - 96th

Annual Convention

Crown Plaza Hotel & Conference Center

Peachtree City, Georgia

Wine (Whine) & Weeds

Friday, April 26

6:00 pm

Delegal Marina - Screened Porch

Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, May 4, 2024

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Savannah Botanical Gardens

1388 Eisenhower Drive, Savannah

End of Season Luncheon

Monday, May 6, 2024

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Messiah Lutheran Church

President's Message

Welcome to April fellow gardeners,

April is always a busy month in the garden. Too much to do and not enough time to do it. It always seems like I'm running behind but it all seems to come together in the end. Over the years, I've learned to relax and enjoy all that I managed to accomplish in my garden. After all, Rome wasn't built in a day and neither will be my garden.

A lot is going on before the end of our Garden Club Season. Listed below are several events that you'll not want to miss. Please look for upcoming Evites and respond accordingly. It is always appreciated and helps with our planning.

*LGC celebrates Garden Week in Georgia with a tour of Gayle Ridgway's incredible garden on April 16, at 10:00 am. Gayle will open up her beautiful home to us so we can learn about her citrus trees and other produce she harvests throughout the year. The Horticultural Committee will be on hand to demonstrate how to collect a soil sample and they'll be available to answer your perplexing gardening questions. More details on pg. 7.

*Our general meeting on April 22 will feature Allen Broadham, President of Fancy Plants. He will share tips on the best way to grow and maintain healthy house plants.

*Wine (Whine) and Weeds is back as we gather at Delegal Marina on Friday, April 26 at 6:00. We will learn how to make a mosquito trap and discuss companion planting.

*Please join us for our End of Season Celebration Luncheon on May 6 at The Lutheran Church. More details can be found on pg. 8.

I hope you can attend all of these events. Sadly, after the May meeting we will not have another general meeting until September and I will miss seeing all of your lovely faces. So, let's all CELEBRATE what we have learned and accomplished this Garden Club Season. I sure hope you can join us!

Keep Gardening,

Vicki

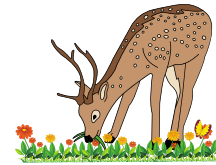


Horticulture

Submitted by Sue Lomax

OH DEER! Guess who's coming for dinner?

Many of us will concede that the deer on our island are cute and amusing. However, as gardeners, it is frustrating to try to peacefully co-exist with creatures that seem to view yards and gardens as a never ending salad bar. I am still learning what grows here and what things I can do to out-wit the deer (apparently, not nearly enough!). Several large Sam's club-size containers of cayenne pepper have been sprinkled on the perimeter of my favorite plantings to discourage the grazing herds that visit like clockwork at dawn and dusk. This diabolical powdery welcome mat works reasonably well as an irritating border wall, until it rains.



Despite certain plants being labeled as deer resistant the reality is that they will eat almost anything, if only a nibble to sample before rambling on to greener pastures. Driving around our neighborhood you see the standard shrubs and landscaping plants that are successful survivors and so used by most landscapers. These are classic and reliable but they can be a bit boring. The challenge is to add some color and contrast to our personal gardens that can survive and provide more interest throughout the year.

Starting with spring - hellebores, hyacinths and daffodils are wonderful underplantings for local shrubs. Those little pots of hyacinths and tea-a-tetes found at Walmart can go into colorful baskets in your house before they move into a permanent spot in the garden. Adding a Japanese Kerria or two to the yard will provide years of cheerful, yellow spring blooms that deer with admire but ignore. A rosemary hedge can define boundaries as well as a year-round tasty harvest as its snipped into shape. Rosemary is inexpensive, grows quickly and the piney scent is of no interest to deer.

Hyacinth



Japanese Kerria



Rosemary



Moving into summer, the addition of salvia, echinacea and milkweed will bring color, butterflies and hummingbirds. There is so much variety in these reliable plants that you're sure to find something to enjoy and complement your garden style. Lantana, although scorned by some, can provide exuberant pest free color and volume to the garden. Cleome adds height and whimsy and deer do not like its' mild thorny stems. Nicotiana will add additional height and scent from summer through fall.

Salvia



Echinacea



Cleome



Horticulture pg. 2

Fall is the time I like to add moodier plants in an effort to pretend our coastal paradise has a real fall. Ornamental cabbage provides rich color that persists through winter. Sedums, fall grasses, Japanese anemones and seed pods create interest. Add in some new snapdragons for a fresh pop of color. A few strategically placed gourds from the farmers market shout out Autumn. And don't forget to plant bulbs in preparation for spring color.

Ornamental
Cabbage



Muhly Grass



Winter is a time to relax and enjoy seasonal greens. Prune sprigs of rosemary to tuck into holiday arrangements and incorporate these into special food treats. The camellias start their blooming show and local hollies put on their winter display of colorful berries. Meanwhile our thoughts turn to the new year and renewed battle of the wits with the Skidaway deer...Oh Deer!

Community Beautification Submitted by Karen Duncan

Driving past the corner of Landings Way South and Westcross, at the "Westcross" sign, perhaps some of you felt as I did, that this area was neglected and in need of a makeover. As part of our club's efforts for continued beautification and conservation on our island, we have now partnered with The Landings Association to improve the look of this median where the Westcross sign is located. Our first task was a clean-up of the area where Garden Club members Karen Duncan, Dixie Diffenderfer, Pam Koger, Heidi Lieberman, and Pam Patterson volunteered their time.

Over the summer our goal is to develop a landscape scheme to present to Sean Burgess and the TLA for fall planting. We would love our members input for suggestions to beautify this area. Because there is no irrigation at this corner, the plantings will have to reflect a myriad of challenges and must be drought, shade and sun tolerant. They must also be deer proof, slow and low growing and preferably evergreen. Yes, this will be a challenge, but I'm sure through our club efforts we will develop an environmentally sound solution to beautify this location.



Take a look the next time you drive by the Westcross sign at Landings Way South and keep watching as this transition unfolds. If you would like to participate in this project, please e-mail your ideas to Karen Duncan: khome44@gmail.com.

Hort Short

Submitted by Meg Kettlitz

You have planted some *Asclepias incarnata* (swamp milkweed) in your garden in hopes of helping the Monarch butterfly. A few months later you are excited to see monarch caterpillars devouring your milkweed. But wait, there are also orange dots on the plant. Those orange dots are actually *Aphis nerii* (oleander aphids). In this case, it is best not to attempt to remove the aphids as you do not want to accidentally harm the caterpillar.



But if your milkweed does not have any eggs or caterpillars, the best remedy is to squish the aphids. Put on some disposable gloves and spend a few minutes smooshing as many as you can find. If there are too many to kill by hand, consider removing the plant completely. Do not throw this contaminated plant in your compost, but bag it and throw it away in your regular garbage. You may also try a spray of Dawn liquid detergent, alcohol, and water. When using this spray, you must be precise. It must hit the aphids and not the plants or mulch around affected plant. Once you have waited a few minutes for the "organic" pesticide to work, you must rinse it off of the plant. You do not want any monarch caterpillars eating this solution.

There are commercial pesticides but these are not recommended to be used on milkweed or any butterfly host plant. After all, what will kill one bug will also kill a caterpillar.

Bethesda Academy

Submitted by Diane Ingram and Kathy Collura

Bethesda welcomes Done-in-a-Day Project

The beautiful Bethesda Academy campus is rented regularly for a variety of events. Rental income supplements the school's non-academic budget. A regular team of 3-6 Landings Garden Club members works one morning each month to beautify these rental areas. This is a large space to maintain and the regulars were happy to welcome a big crew on the morning of April 4, who cleaned up leaves and debris, weeded, fertilized, pruned, and planted.

Many thanks to these mighty volunteers: Tiffany White, Susan Nash (and her husband Rufus), Sharon Lundin, Mary White, Nancy Rosenthal, Donna Nicol, Linda Moore, Cathy Blatt, Jennifer Johnson, Lisa Olson, Marie Ulrey, Meg Kettlitz, Martha Nesmith, and Donna Slappy.

After the work day, the Bethesda development director gave volunteers a brief overview of the school's history. We were also able to observe the archeology team as they survey the grounds to identify the location of the original 1700 school building.

We are always looking for new additions to our group which meets the first Thursday of the month from 9:00 - 11:00. If you are interested in making a worthwhile contribution to this beautiful, historic facility please contact Kathy Collura or Diane Ingram.



Skidaway Audubon Garden Projects

Submitted by Dawn Cordo

Sparrow Field:

Our Friday morning 9:00 am work parties have begun! The border trees have been trimmed low to encourage healthier trunks and a fuller growth we can more easily maintain. All of the plants have been cut back and beds cleared after the winter season. Louisiana iris have been planted and growing well. We're excited to see colorful blooms emerging from all sorts of plants. Our bee hives are still awaiting the arrival of their inhabitants which once in place will be a nice addition to Sparrow Field. We're always excited to see new plant growth and welcome new volunteers.

Adopt A Garden:

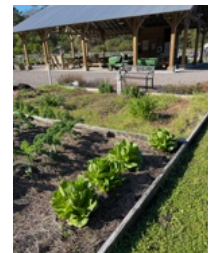
The Adopt A Garden concept has been well received and all nine gardens now have volunteers who will weed and maintain their adopted garden according to their own schedule. Interested parties are still encouraged to sign up and assist in a garden of their choice. New plants have been planted, fresh pine straw spread, and the gardens are showing new growth. We are hopeful for a showy year on the Landings Golf Club Courses. Please be sure to check out these gardens located at: Palmetto #2 and #9; Terrapin Point #1 and #6; Deer Creek #13; as well as the Oakridge Pro Shop and the Marshwood Clubhouse. And, don't forget Sunset Park!



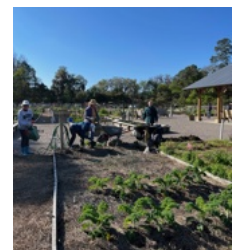
Skidaway Farms Submitted by Meg Kettlitz



The Skidaway Farm Project for the Hungry finished out our cool season vegetables on March 24th. We are pleased with the garden output this season as we were able to harvest 6 times between October and March. Our cool season vegetables included kale, romaine, red leaf lettuce, radishes and Brussel sprouts.



At each harvest, we weigh the produce. The total amount for this season was 73 pounds. Great work by all who helped to ensure a successful growing season and provide much needed nutrition for The Social Apostolate of Savannah who feed the hungry.



Jayne Rogers and I thank all of our volunteers for their support and look forward to our next cool season planting in September!

If you are interested in helping with the garden at Skidaway Farms, please contact Meg Kettlitz or Jayne Rogers.



Community Service - Collections

Submitted by Georgia Klautzer

Don't Forget... "Ambitious April"



While you are Spring Cleaning don't throw-away but instead, please give-away any of the following "Leisure Items" approved by GRHS for donation. Bins will be set up at the meeting for collection, so let's fill these bins to the brim!

Georgia Regional Hospital welcomes the following items for donation:

DVD Movies & Fitness DVD's

Male themed magazines (80% of the patients are men, but please no x-rated topics & Magazines must be staple-free)

Arts & Crafts supplies: glue, glitter, stencils, crayons, paints, markers, clays, etc..

Sports Equipment: Basketballs / footballs / volleyballs / Soccerballs / Bocce

Tennis & Exercise Equipment

Board Games

Playing Cards, and Card Games

Game consoles / Wii / PS3 games

Radios / MP3 players / headphones

Musical instruments



Thank-you for your generous monetary donations from the March meeting which were used to purchase 3 canisters of decaf coffee and 120 packages of unsweetened hot cocoa mix. We also collected a bag of toiletries which were distributed to the patients.

Lastly, don't forget to bring your aluminum can tabs. We collected 70 ounces of tabs in March. Let's increase this amount for **Ambitious April!** This collection helps to fund the monthly expenses of the Ronald McDonald House.

The staff and patients at Georgia Regional, The Ronald McDonald House, and your Community Service Committee greatly appreciate your cooperation and generous donations to make all of this happen. *Thank You*



Notice From Your Board of Director's Please Take a Moment to Read...

The Nominating Committee has put forth the following Landings Garden Club Members to fill the following positions:

- Recording Secretary - Phyllis Aaron
- Corresponding Secretary - Faye Clark

This slate of officers will be presented at the General Meeting on April 22. Nominations will also be presented from the floor.

Once all nominations have been recognized we will vote to fill the positions of Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.

The Landings Garden Club - Community Board

Upcoming Events of Interest...



Garden Week In Georgia

In honor of Garden Week in Georgia, The Landings Garden Club is excited to offer a garden tour at Gayle Ridgway's home. Come learn about her citrus plants, raised vegetable beds, Louisiana Irises and more. The Horticulture Committee will be demonstrating how to collect a soil sample and they'll be available to answer your perplexing gardening questions. Hope you can join us!

Tuesday, April 16

10:00 am

Gayle Ridgway

26 Delegal Road

Plant Sale

Savannah Botanical Garden Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, May 4

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

1388 Eisenhower Drive

Savannah, GA

Celebration Luncheon

Landings Garden Club - End of Season Celebration, see pg. 8

Monday, May 6

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

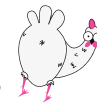
Messiah Lutheran Church

1 West Ridge Road

Be sure to Check this Out

IT'S BAAACK!!!

WHINE & WEEDS



You're Invited...



April Wine (Whine) & Weeds



Companion Planting Tips & Homemade Mosquito Traps



Friday, April 26 @ 6:00 pm

Delegal Creek Marina-Screened Porch Pavilion

Please bring your favorite beverage and an appetizer to share

PLEASE RSVP TO YOUR EVITE SO WE CAN PLAN ACCORDINGLY



You're Invited...

The Landings Garden Club

Beautification, Education, Conservation

Celebration Luncheon

Monday May 6, 2024 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Messiah Lutheran Church - 1 West Ridge Road

Join us for a delicious Salad Buffet

**Bluffton Catering will set up and feature a wide variety of salads, veggies, cheese, fruit, & toppings
Dessert of the Day is included as well as tea & water**

Cost to attend \$27.00 per person

Full payment must be received by April 30, 2024

**Bring your check made out to *The Landings Garden Club*
to the April 22 meeting, or tube to
Vicki Menke - 2 Planters Lane**

**Join us as we Celebrate all that we have
accomplished and learned this Garden Club Season**

Games & Prizes...Fun time for All!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by Karyn Rohan

| The Landings Garden Club, Treasurer's Report April 2024 | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------|
| | Beginning Balance | Income YTD | Expenses YTD | Year to Date | |
| | | | | | |
| Operations: | \$8,001.48 | \$14,405.99 | \$6,442.83 | \$7,963.16 | |
| | | | | | |
| Ways & Means | \$5,622.57 | \$15,694.90 | \$2,883.76 | \$12,811.14 | |
| | | | | \$1,313.06 | Grants |
| | | | | \$11,498.08 | |

The Landings Garden Club, General Meeting Minutes: March 25, 2024

Submitted by Connie Gescheidt, Recording Secretary

Call to Order at 10:00 am by President Vicki Menke

Members in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Collect

Speaker & Program: Barbara Victor introduced the Program Speaker: Bill Skelton of Savannah Bee Company. Speaker program ended at 10:55 am.

General Membership Meeting:

Membership- Susan Mason reported that 6 visitors are in attendance at today's meeting

Hort Short- Delivered by Meg Kettlitz. Focused on the definition of Horticulture. See article in the March, 2024 Petal Pusher.

Bethesda - Diane Ingram presented an overview of the Bethesda Academy, founded in 1740 by Reverend George Whitefield. Currently the school serves high-risk young men and conducts a day school for 100 boys. The Bethesda property is historic and beautifully maintained. TLGC Bethesda team will be planting on April 4, from 9 AM - Noon.

Meeting Minutes for February were approved as published in the Petal Pusher.

Treasurer's Report was approved as published in the March Petal Pusher.

Newsletter - The Petal Pusher was published by Linda Moore.

Community Service Collection- Georgia Klautzer announced "Ambitious April" for the purpose of collecting as many Leisure items approved by Georgia Regional Hospital Savannah. During our April 22 meeting, containers will be provided for the collection of donated items.

Programs- Barbara Victor requested suggestions for programs/speakers for 2024-2025.

Done In A Day- Karen Duncan - Reported on a collaboration with The Landings Association to plant at the Westcross entrance in the Fall, 2024. The area has been groomed and pruned. Pine straw will be placed for the Summer.

Floral Raffle- Easter Wreath was won by Barbara Victor.

Garden Tour- April 16th at 10:00 AM at Gayle Ridgway's home. Evite to be sent.

Pg. 2 LGC General Meeting Minutes: March 25, 2024

Chairpersons are needed for the following functions: Yearbook, Awards, Hospitality as well as establishing a new committee for Field Trips & Education.

Facebook page is being updated by Diane Benson – send photos via email: dnbenson78@gmail.com

Website: Needs to be reorganized and updated.

Fundraising Ideas need to be expanded beyond Bow Sales. Submit your ideas to Vicki.

Currently we have 2 Executive Board Openings for next year: Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary.

Announcements:

May 6 Installation of Officers will be a catered Potluck affair.

Savannah Botanical Garden Spring Plant Sale announced by Nancy Rosenthal is to be held on May 4. Need donations of plants, pots and tools.

Chatham County Plant Sale is March 30.

TLGC is planning to revitalize the Pollinator Garden at the Skidaway Island State Park. The club will apply for a grant from the Garden Club of Georgia.

TLGC will be hosting the Annual Meeting of the Oleander District at the Palmetto Club on October 16, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Meeting minutes submitted by:

Connie Gescheidt, Recording Secretary



The Landings Garden Club Mission

- To function as an educational organization interested in all phases of gardening and related subjects.
- To aid in the protection of forests, marshes, native plants, wildflowers and birds.
- To maintain membership in and coordinate club interests with those of The National Garden Clubs, Inc., The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., and the Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.

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

