



# Laurel Letters

**Laurel District Newsletter Summer 2022**



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**Advisors**  
**John Barnett**  
**Edna McClellan**  
**Marie Purser**

Dear Laurels,

Many of us attended the recent convention in Macon. Laurel District extends Kudos to the planning committee: Winette Almon 2022 Convention Chair, Hilda Rushing 2022 Convention Co-Chair and GCG President Peggy Tucker for presenting a wonderful convention. We had an opportunity to meet the National Garden Club President Mary Warshauer. She reminded us to Plant America!

This Director sends a big *thank you* to all the Laurel District Garden Club members who attended the 92th Convention in Macon in April. We had a wonderful time and enjoyed the guest speakers, had time to shop, and the fellowship was great. Laurel District took home many awards! We shined and showed we are hard working garden clubs.

Reminder – *Linda Harris, Garden Therapy Chairman*, tells us that money is available and encourages all clubs to consider a Garden Therapy Project and apply for a grant! Three clubs were awarded grants ranging from \$125 - \$250 since March 2022. Let's see Laurel District clubs receiving these grants this year. Many of you planted vegetable gardens and will enjoy the fruits of your bounty in the following months. This is very smart on your behalf during the food shortage in the world at the present time. If your bounty is plenty, share with your family and neighbors. There is nothing better than fresh garden veggies. Mark your calendars for October 18 for the Laurel District Annual Meeting in Cartersville. More information will be sent out soon. We have made arrangements with the Hilton Inn for those who wish to stay overnight.

We take a few months off during the summer to spend time with our families and friends. As we honor those who served our country and died on this Memorial Day, say a prayer for those still serving for our freedom. Please stay safe and enjoy this time.

Susan

# *Mountain Ivy Garden Club, Clayton, GA*

## *Mountain Ivy Garden Club's Annual Plant and Yard Sale Returns in Clayton, GA*

The Mountain Ivy Garden is pleased to announce its annual plant and yard sale will be held this year, on Saturday, June 4, from 9 a.m. until noon, at Veteran's Park in downtown Clayton. After a two-year hiatus, the club is excited to once again stage the event, which is our main fundraiser for the club. All proceeds from the sale benefit the club's college scholarship fund, which provides scholarships to qualifying high school seniors at Rabun County High School who are pursuing degrees in agriculture, horticulture or related fields.

In addition to a wide variety of plants well-suited for cultivation in the Rabun County area, the sale will also offer garden art, tools, dishes and collectibles, jewelry and accessories as well as a selection home-made treats.

The Mountain Ivy Garden Club was established in 1993 and we are members of the National Garden Clubs Inc./Deep South Region and the Garden Club of Georgia Inc./Laurel District. The club is dedicated to furthering the benevolent, charitable, scientific and educational well-being of the community and to advance the art of gardening, landscape design and horticultural education in Rabun County. Club members are responsible for maintaining the gardens of the historic Rock House and Veterans Park on Main Street in downtown Clayton. The parks are open daily for public enjoyment.

Contact: Sherry LeTellier  
sfooster911@gmail.com  
706-394-8423



# **SOPE CREEK GARDEN CLUB**

## **Sope Creek Celebrates 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with Luncheon, Artifacts Review**



**P**earls, hats, gloves, and fascinators all made an appearance at the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon of the Sope Creek Garden Club, part of the Marietta Council. Thirty of the 42 members gathered at the Swan Coach House BelleNita Room, with a beautiful day to enjoy the adjacent patio. They were joined by their guest, Susan Stephens, the Laurel District Director.

The club was founded in 1947 by Mrs. G. H. Coates, Sr. of the Coates Thread Company family, who was, at the time, one of the few accredited National Garden Club flower show judges in the Atlanta area. At the event, yearbooks of the early years were displayed, showing the names of many prominent families in the East Cobb area

Many charter members listed the names of their properties in lieu of street addresses: Mrs. M. A. Ross of Sunnybrook Farm, Mrs. A. R. Miegel of Thunderwood Farm, Mrs. A. Loudermilk of Home Sweet Home, and Mrs. Floyd Spruill, of Chattahoochee River Farm, part of which is now McFarlane Nature Park, where a number of club members volunteer today.

As members paged through old scrapbooks, they found that the early club was active in the community, helping to fund the Marietta Educational Garden Center, a project that continues today. The name of the group was inspired by their desire to landscape and beautify the area around the covered bridge that originally crossed Sope Creek on Paper Mill Rd. When the covered bridge burned in 1964, the members urged then County Commissioner Ernest Barrett to address rebuilding the historic bridge.

Three large-format yearbooks were also on display from the early years. After the luncheon, these artifacts of the club's history were delivered to the Cherokee Garden Library where they will join the archives of other club memories already housed there.

**The Cherokee Rose is the State flower of Georgia and was also chosen to represent Sope Creek Garden Club by its founders.**



**Members of the Sope Creek Garden Club were fortunate to have perfect weather in which to tour Oakland Cemetery in early April. The Cherokee Rose was in bloom, which is the flower chosen to represent the club when it was formed in 1947. Members met many residents of the cemetery through the stories told by their guide.**

***PHOTO 1:* Members gathered at an Oakland monument**

***PHOTO 2:* Teresa Murray with Cherokee Rose, the club's flower.**

**BY Karin Guzy**

# *Jonquil Garden Club*

## *JGC Meets \$1000 Scholarship Project Goals*



**The weather was perfect, the plants were plentiful and lush, and shoppers were out in force at the Jonquil Garden Club of Smyrna's annual plant sale! Our club's goal was to raise the funds for our annual scholarship, awarded to a horticulture student at Chattahoochee Technical College.**

**We met our goal, and as a bonus had the opportunity to interact with the numerous shoppers at the Sunday Smyrna Handmade Market. It was a treat to talk with so many folks in our community,--educating, answering gardening questions and helping them with selecting the right plants for their sites, as well as recruiting prospective members.**

**Each plant in the sale had an info tag, and those not in bloom had photos of the plant in flower. Almost all the plants in the sale were grown, potted up and nurtured in our own gardens.**

**Gardening is such a positive, life affirming activity and we felt happy at the end of the day that we were able to do our part to promote gardening in our community.**

**By Heidi Hunt**



**Thanks to  
all club  
members  
and to all  
guests who  
supported  
our sale.**

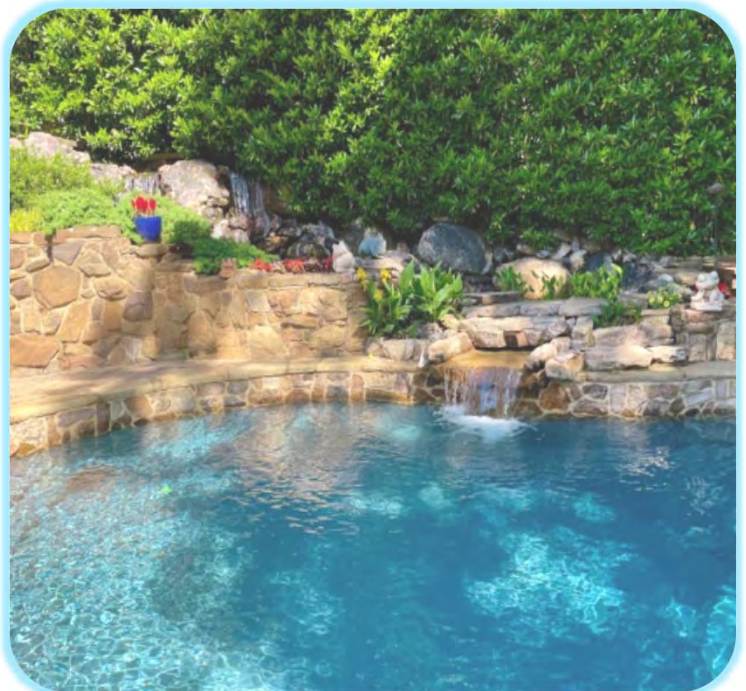
# Magnolia Garden Club

Over 350 Guests Attend Pond and Garden Tour –and Art in the Garden Tour In Cartersville



**M**embers of the *Magnolia Garden Club* preparing for the annual Pond and Garden Tour – Art in the Garden held May 14. Pictures below are a few of the beautiful venues on our tour. Plein Air Artists were on site in each site. We toured 5 host sites.

The day was lovely and we had over 350 people take advantage of the opportunity to visit and view a vast variety of gardens.





# Magnolia Garden Club

P. 2



Scenes from the day



# STONEHEDGE GARDEN CLUB



## STONEHEDGE GARDEN CLUB

celebrates with Christmas luncheon in a member's home followed by fun and games.

**Editor's note:** Finally, I found this lost photo. My apologies to Stonehedge Garden Club.

# Memories

## 94<sup>th</sup> GCG Convention



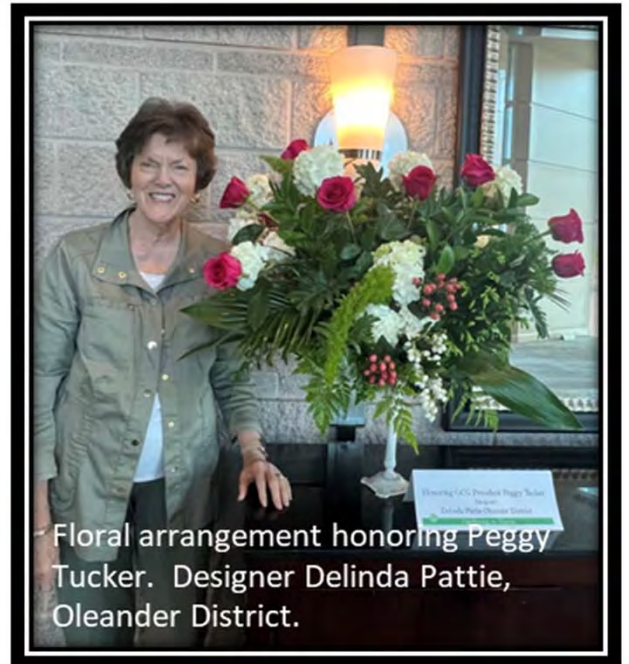
GCG President Peggy Tucker recognizing Hilda Rushing 2022 Convention Co-Chair and Winette Almon 2022 Convention Chair.



Hostess ladies collecting tickets at convention.



GCG Life Members



Floral arrangement honoring Peggy Tucker. Designer Delinda Pattie, Oleander District.



Lee Dunn Accepting Award #1 – Garden Club of Georgia Trophy Spalding CC, Dogwood District



NGC President Mary Warshauer and GCG President Peggy Tucker

**It's Coming!**

**FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL BEGINS AUGUST 21,  
2022 IN MARIETTA**

The Laurel District is proud to announce that it is co-sponsoring a Flower Show School in Marietta beginning August 2022. The school, the first in Georgia in 5 years, is a NGC accredited program to train flower show judges in judging and exhibiting both design and horticulture. This is a joint effort of the Laurel District, Redbud District, Creative Study Club, The Designers Club, North Georgia Council of Flower Show Judges and Rome Federation of Garden Clubs.

The four course School teaches all you need to know to judge, enter, compete, and chair an NGC flower show. Each course presents a deep dive on key principles and elements of design, judging criteria for designs and horticulture. You'll get a thorough understanding of flower show procedure. Learn just what makes a blue-ribbon entry. All classes are taught by experienced and credentialed instructors.

It's an intensive, highly rewarding experience. The Horticulture curriculum covers more than just how plants grow. You'll discover how to select, groom, and exhibit your plant. You'll write a flower show schedule and critique exhibits.

Design sessions will give you a handle on the Principles and Elements of Design. You'll get the tools you need to evaluate various NGC types such as Creative Line, Creative Mass, Cascade, Multi-rhythmic, Table Designs and many more.



For flower show procedure, expect to gain enough knowledge to host your own show and to become an accredited flower show judge. You'll learn how to constructively critique design, horticulture, and educational exhibits.

All classes will be held at the Marietta Educational Garden Center in downtown Marietta on Kennesaw Avenue.

Dates are as follows:

2022 1st Course: Aug. 21, 22, 23, 24

2023 2nd Course: April 23, 24, 25, 26

2023 3rd Course: Aug. 27, 28, 29, 30

2024 4th Course: Feb. 25, 26, 27, 28



Challenge yourself! If you've got an itch, scratch it at the first session, at least. You'll be getting more information as plans firm up in the next couple of months. In the meantime, if you need any questions answered, Anna Burns, [anna.burns214@gmail.com](mailto:anna.burns214@gmail.com), or Cookie Roland [r\\_cookie@att.net](mailto:r_cookie@att.net), or Diane Hunter, [drmchunter@yahoo.com](mailto:drmchunter@yahoo.com), will certainly try answer them.

*Edna McClellan is actively recruiting students and has her list started! If you are interested in attending, let her know at [ednamae@ellijay.com](mailto:ednamae@ellijay.com). You will receive registration materials if we know you are thinking about coming. See you in Marietta!*

Marshall Forest has been the scene of much activity this winter and spring. Many community groups have worked together to help make improvements in the forest. The parking lot is full most nice days as many are using the trails as a means of getting out in nature and away from the crowds with covid still an issue.

- Andrew Saville, the son of a Garden Club Member, has kept the Pecan Field mowed.
- The large pecan tree branches that fell during the winter storms have been removed.
- The Nature Conservancy Fire Crew plans to reinstall the Braille signs that have fallen off the stands using longer bolts, lock washers and nuts.
- The Fire Crew is scheduled to replace rotten boards on the wet weather creek bridge this spring.
- Tours of the forest have been scheduled for March 12th and April 19<sup>th</sup> during Garden Week in Georgia.

Marshall Forest still has many things that need to be done to keep the trail well maintained and accessible to the physically impaired.

- Finish replacing the remaining guide rope posts. A Garden Club member's son has chosen Marshall Forest for his Eagle Scout Project. It is in the planning stages.
- Reinstallation of the guide ropes with climbing rope donated by a climbing gym in Marietta.
- Installation of crusher run gravel along the Braille Trail to provide more accessibility to the physically impaired.
- Creation of QR codes to provide trail maps, Forest information, and plant identification photos.

The Nature Conservancy is working on a partnership with Berry College and Shorter University to create learning centers in the Pecan field and over to the Coosa River. The goal is to make the Marshall Forest a destination for student field trips. In addition, TNC is working to establish a working relationship with the City of Rome and TRED to apply for a GOSA grant to upgrade the trails and make other improvements close to the river.

A list of the donors to Marshall Forest will be listed by District in Board Briefs. Deed of Gratitude Certificates will be printed for those contributing before March 1st once the list has been received.

Your contributions help us keep the Marshall Forest in good condition for visitors. Please don't forget to add Marshall Forest to your club's list of contributions. Deed of Gratitude certificates will be presented to contributors of \$25 or more to Marshall Forest by March 1 of each year. Contact Caroline Alford to schedule a tour of the forest via e-mail at [caroboone@aol.com](mailto:caroboone@aol.com) or by cell phone 706 346-5886.



# You're Invited!!



## 2022 Daylily Show and Plant Sale

hosted by  
Daylily Society of Greater Atlanta

**Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**11:30am – 4:00pm**

Forsyth County Senior Services Building  
**Sexton Hall**  
2115 Chloe Road, Cumming, GA  
(Just off Sharon Road)

Sexton Hall is located just north of the Sharon Road Park Ball Fields. The **Show** and **Sale** will both be held in air-conditioned comfort – “rain or shine”.

Come enjoy amazing daylily blooms grown by our members. This year the daylilies will be shown “**On-Scape**” and “**Off-Scape**”. There will also be a **Photography Section**. The public will be the Judges for the “Off-Scape” Section and the Photography Section. **We need your input!**

There's something for everybody at this year's **Show** and **Sale**. The doors will open for the Plant Sale at 11:30 am to buy bargain plants. These wonderful plants come from our member's gardens and there are always a wonderful variety of colors and styles available. Prices for plants begin at \$10.00 with many different colors, sizes and patterns available.

Hope to see you there!



# GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA CALENDAR 2022-2023

## Calendar June 2022- May 2023

### JUNE 2022

4	Sat	Penny McHenry Hydrangea Festival, Show, Tour	
5-11	Sun-Sat	National Garden Week	
24	Fri	GCG Awards Committee Meeting	Perry
28	Tues	Wild Adventure Day in Gray, GA	Gray

### JULY 2022

21	Thu	Laurel Executive Board Meeting	TBA
22	Fri	Blue Star Marker Dedication	Columbus
28	Thur	CWP Workshop	Rum Creek

### AUGUST 2022

9	Tues	Dogwood District Board Meeting	Sandy Springs
9	Tues	Oleander District Board Meeting	Pooler
18	Thu	Laurel District Board Meeting	Smyrna
21-24	Sun-Wed	Flower Show School Course 1	Marietta
30	Tue	Investment Comm & Trustees	Athens

### SEPTEMBER 2022

7	Wed	F & E 1:30 am	Zoom
13-14	Tues-Wed	Fall Board Meeting 2:00	Lake Blackshear
19-20	Mon-Tues	<b>NCG Fall Board Meeting</b>	Saint Louis, MO

### OCTOBER 2022

5	Wed	Oleander District Fall Meeting	Statesboro
6	Thu	Azalea District Fall Meeting	Athens
11	Tue	Redbud District Fall Meeting	LaGrange
12	Wed	Magnolia District Fall Meeting	Columbus
13	Thu	Camellia District Fall Meeting	Douglas
18	Tue	Laurel District Fall Meeting	Cartersville
19	Wed	Dogwood District Fall Meeting	Atlanta

### JANUARY 2023

10	Tue	Dogwood District Board Meeting	Sandy Springs
12	Thur	Laurel Executive Board Meeting	TBA

### FEBRUARY 2023

9	Thurs	Investment Comm & Trustees	Athens
10	Fri	F & E 1:30 pm	Zoom
16	Thu	Laurel District Board Meeting	Euharlee
20	Mon	Winter Board Meeting 1:30	Zoom
21	Tue	Azalea District Board Meeting	Sandersville



## Calendar June 2022- May 2023 continued

### MARCH 2023

8-10	Tue-Fri	Deep South Convention Airport, Kenner, LA	New Orleans
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### APRIL 2023

10	Mon	F & E Meeting 1:30	Zoom
18	Tues	Spring Board Meeting	Stone Mountain
18-20	Tue-Thur	GCG Convention	Stone Mountain

### MAY 2023

2-5	Tue-Fri	NGC Convention	White Sulfur Springs, West Virginia
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# *Grants Available*

The Garden Therapy Committee is excited to announce that we have awarded **THREE** grants since March 2022. The following clubs received grants:

Bellmere Garden Club, Dogwood District - \$250.00  
St. Mary's Garden Club, Oleander District - \$250.00  
Rose and Dahlia Garden Club, Azalea District - \$125.00

More money is available and we encourage all clubs to consider a **Garden Therapy Project** and apply for a grant!

Linda Harris  
Garden Therapy Chairman

## **94<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL THE GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA, INC. CONVENTION**

The 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. was held April 12-13, 2022 at the Marriott Macon City Center, Macon with 252 members and guests attending. The two-day "Gardening in Macon" convention was hosted by Oleander District.

On Tuesday afternoon April 12<sup>th</sup>, members were treated to two informative speakers. Bonnie Satterthwaite, The Espoma Company, spoke on "There was no Miracle Gro in the Garden of Eden" and Stan Gray, The Coastal Georgia Botanical Garden, presented a program on "When Iris Eyes are Smiling". Tuesday evening included time to meet and greet our special guest National Garden Clubs, Inc. President Mary Warshauer. Tuesday evening, we celebrated and honored the outstanding work of our garden clubs and councils around the state at the Awards Banquet. Mary Warshauer, NGC President, joined GCG President Peggy Tucker on stage for Awards Presentations. 106 First place GCG awards were given and 42 Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. awards were won by GCG. The coveted Garden Club of Georgia Trophy was presented to Spalding Garden Club, Dogwood District and Spalding Garden Club won Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Outstanding Club. Peachtree Garden Club Medal was presented to Vicki Jones member of Magnolia Garden Club, Laurel District. GCG Member Award of Honor was presented to Lee Dunn member of Spalding Garden Club, Dogwood District.

Wednesday morning, April 13<sup>th</sup> started off with Peggy Tucker, GCG President, presiding over the annual business meeting. Lester Miller, Macon-Bibb Mayor, gave a warm welcome to everyone. A warm welcome was given by members when NGC President Mary Warshauer was introduced.

The convention concluded with the Member Celebration Luncheon. Laura Martin was featured speaker and talked about "Taming the Natives: Celebrating North American Wildflowers". New Life Members were recognized during the luncheon for 2019-2022: 53 new GCG Life Members, 10 new Deep South Life Members and 9 new National Life Members. During the luncheon, was a special recognition of the membership for their number of years as a member of a garden club. We had two members that have been garden club members for over 60 years. GCG President Peggy Tucker presented Presidential Citations to Diane Harbin and Betty Benner for outstanding service for GCG awards, Lisa Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Martha Price for all her work for Headquarters, Winette Almon, Convention Chairman and Hilda Rushing, Convention Co-Chairman.

The seven district designs were displayed in the Rotunda were done by Beth Wiseman, Edna McClellan and Victoria Chandler, Kay Peacock, Susan Turner, Faye Frazier, Maidee Spencer and Barbara Jones. A design honoring Mary Warshauer, NGC President, was designed by Lori Hurlbaas and a design honoring Peggy Tucker, GCG President, was designed by Delinda Pattie.

Everyone had a fun and exciting time seeing and visiting with garden club friends.

# From the Editor

**Hello, Laurels,**

**Thank you to all club members who have submitted articles and photos. We like to see your club activities and projects here, but some are notably missing in this issue.**

**Our next deadline is August 25. Please send your club news articles and photos (labeled) to me at [sapriest2@aol.com](mailto:sapriest2@aol.com).**

**Have a great summer!**

**Shirley**

