**The Azalea Trumpet** Winter 2022



A publication of the Azalea District--Member of The Garden Club of Georgia, the Deep South Region, and the National Garden Club

Director's Message Betty Davis

### Season's Greetings Amazing Azaleas!



Here we are again in the middle of the Holiday Season. The year 2022 has really gone by fast and as they say "Time Flies When You Are Having Fun". The big event of fall took place in Athens, GA at the Annual Azalea Fall Board Meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup>. I appreciate all who attended and you can all agree it was a Fabulous, fantastic and fun meeting. We were honored to have Georgia's First Lady, Marty Kemp welcome all to Athens. Carmen Johnston presented an outstanding, eloquent program featuring table settings from her travels to "Gardens of the World"- France, Singapore, London and Vancouver. She gave away many gifts and everyone in attendance were awed by her program. Amazing Azalea Clubs did a wonderful job of bringing 18 raffle baskets that were unique and well done. The raffle was a big success as was the "Butterflies in the Skies" fundraiser. Four attendees received \$100 each and a fifth person won a quilted butterfly bed runner. All attendees were invited to take home some of the handmade butterflies created by the late Charolette Thompson, Ways and Means Chairman. Eleven Azalea Awards were given and thirteen clubs plus the Augusta Council were presented the "Standard of Excellence" certificates by GCG President, Peggy Tucker. I hope you all enjoy the pictures of the meeting included in this issue of the Trumpet.

On November 12<sup>th</sup> the Grovetown Garden Club had a Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication Ceremony. It was a beautiful and moving ceremony attended by state and local dignitaries. Even Elvis made an appearance. It was followed by a Veterans Memorial Service and luncheon given by the City of Grovetown.

The following week on November 19<sup>th</sup> this Director was given a surprise 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party by her four sons and families. It was a very special memorable party and the best one yet! Elvis showed up at this event also! I thank the many garden club friends who sent cards.

I hope you all had a Blessed Thanksgiving with family and/or friends and are now in the swing of preparing for a delightful Christmas Celebration. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



### 2021 President's Reports AZALEA DISTRICT II BETTY DAVIS, DIRECTOR

This Director received 32 President's reports with 13 clubs scoring 30 or more points. The 32 clubs added a total of 88 new members! The total points of the clubs was 802.

These are the Clubs that received the "Standard of Excellence" certificate.

AZALEA GARDEN CLUB-AUGUSTA / 02-065 CHEROKEE ROSE GARDEN CLUB -AUGUSTA/02-190 GATEWAYS GARDEN CLUB-SOCIAL CIRCLE /02-435 IRIS GARDEN CLUB-AUGUSTA /02-185 LADIES GARDEN CLUB -ATHENS/02-030 NANCY HART GARDEN CLUB -HARTWELL/02-350 PINE TREE GARDEN CLUB -HARTWELL/02-355 ROSE AND DAHLIA GARDEN CLUB -ATHENS/02-035 SHARON-RAYTOWN GARDEN CLUB -ATHENS/02-035 SHARON-RAYTOWN GARDEN CLUB -AUGUSTA/02-245 UNION POINT GARDEN CLUB –UNION POINT/02-445 WARRENTON GARDEN CLUB -WARRENTON/02-480



AUGUSTA COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS ALSO RECEIVED The "Standard of Excellence" certificate

Three Azalea Clubs received NGC PLANT AMERICA GRANTS Azalea GC Honey Pond GC Athens GC

Azalea Awards 2022

- 1. Sherley Selman- The Dollie T. Harper Outstanding Member Award
- 2. Pine Tree/Hartwell Ellen Schneider Goodrich Outstanding Garden Club
- 3. Rose & Dahlia GC Azalea District Attendance Award
- 4. Marjorie Taylor Smith Flower Show Schedule Award -- no entries
- 5. Maxine Shapiro Goldstein Garden Therapy Award Rose & Dahlia GC
- 6. Norma Watterson Historic Preservation Award no entries
- 7. Jeanne Lyons Mathis Civic Improvement Award Rose & Dahlia GC
- 8. Carolyn Childers History Award Watkinsville GC
- 9. Suzanne Wheeler Bird, Bees/and or Butterfly Gardening Program Watkinsville GC
- 10.Edell Raburn School Grounds Improvement Award no entries
- 11. Katherine Stewart Allen Youth Activities Award Rose & Dahlia GC
- 12. Florence Taylor Lifetime Achievement Award Mary Byrd
- 13. Betty Davis Membership Award Heritage GC
- 14. Marilyn McDonnell Native Plant Award Azalea GC



### Shining a Spotlight On Our Members



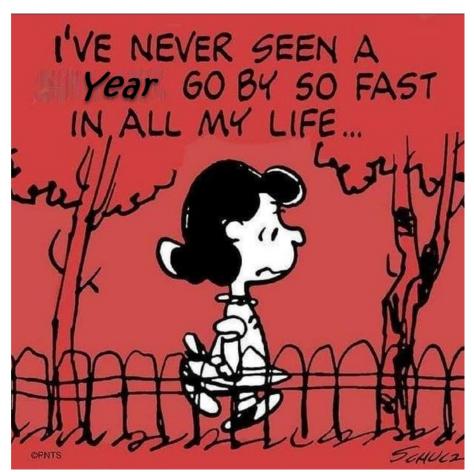
"In every gardener, there is a child who believes in the seed fairy." "H Jackson Brown Jr



Gray Garden Club

is shining the Spotlight on member, Sally Brown, who generously offered her (and her husband Hoyt's) home place for the Wild Adventure Day Camp. Sally is a long standing and active member in GGC. She always has a smile and makes us all feel better when she walks into the meeting

Betty Says:



# Chairman Reports

### MAKING DECORATIVE FLOWER POTS

### Betty Hotchkiss, Indoor Container Gardening

Indoor container plants can add a lot of color and interest to our homes during the holiday season. Plants such as Christmas Cactus, Poinsettias, Cyclamen, Amaryllis and paperwhite Narcissus are all appropriate se-



lections for decorating during the holidays. This year I decided to go an additional step by recycling used terra cotta pots and decorating for the holidays.

I began with a good collection of 6 inch flower pots that had been used previously but were perfect for this project. If you don't have any old pots, of course new ones will do quite well and are inexpensive. Pots must be clean and dry before decorating. Each pot was sealed on the inside by painting with a clear polyurethane to prevent moisture from the soil from leaching through after watering. Pots were then painted with acrylic paints in holiday colors. Allowing the paint to dry and adding a second coat of paint ensured a better look. After the paint was dry the fun of

decorating the pots began.

Flower pots can be decorated in many ways, limited only by your imagination. I found that I did best either with a stencil or decoupage. I began by stenciling pots but found that I enjoyed the decoupage results more. There is no shortage of material for decoupage. I used holiday napkins, cutouts from old Christmas cards, and scrapbook paper. A decoupage material such as Modpage was used to adhere and cover the decorations. Several coats are needed for good coverage and to make waterproof. After decoupage is dry pots may be planted with holiday plants or bulbs of your choosing. Below are a few photos of pots I made. Hope you will enjoy doing this as much as I did.

# News from Our Clubs

### Gray Garden Club

After a quiet September, Gray Garden Club was busy in October. Five Members attend-ed the annual District meeting in Athens and afterwards went to the Native Plant Sale at the Botanical Gardens (The group also toured the Children's Garden for inspiration). On October 11, 2022 the club assisted Molly Kimler with The Garden Club of Georgia's first Wild Adventure Day.



### Milledgeville Garden Club





Milledgeville Garden Club gathered at Westover, home of member Thulia Bramlett, who delighted those present with not only the property's history dating from 1822, when it was established by Colonel Benjamin S. Jordan, but also with tales of the Jordan family. This presentation was followed with a scavenger ramble among the gardens and buildings throughout the property. Afterwards, delicious refreshments were enjoyed by the large crowd on this beautiful afternoon.

Pictured (L/R) with Mrs. Bramlett are Garden Club President Kathy Chandler and Hostesses: Carol McRae, Mary Nevins, Debbie Davis, Elain Alton and Sue Wright.

# Iris Garden Club



**A Litter Scavenger Hunt** was one of five Outdoor Classroom activities sponsored by the Washington-Wilkes Iris Garden Club at this year's *No Child Left Inside* October event at the Washington-Wilkes Primary School's Wildlife Watch area. (Photo by Richard Crabbe)

The Iris Garden Club adopted the Washington-Wilkes Primary School Wildlife Watch Outdoor Classroom in 2012. This expansive and ambitious outdoor classroom idea was conceived in 1993 by a team of educators who partnered with the community. The project was ultimately completed in 1997. Original features included paved walking paths, entrance garden, wetland pond and bridge, amphitheater, butterfly garden, rock garden, gazebo with concrete tables, pine and cedar tree plantings around the perimeter, open grassy area, an animal tracks sandbox, garden area, weather station, and a grape arbor. Fifteen years later, multiple garden areas, structures, and interpretive areas needed serious attention. Recognizing the importance of preserving and maintaining this valuable school and community resource, the Iris Garden Club stepped up to meet the challenge. With the approval and strong support of the Primary School,



Becky Griffin, Office Manager of the Wilkes County Farm Bureau, focused on *Ag in the Classroom* activities at the Gazebo area.

club members identified the areas that needed the most attention—pruning, weeding, landscaping, and replanting. Donations were solicited from garden club members and local garden centers. The club also applied for and received state and national grant funds. Local patrons donated a garden swing, garden benches, birdhouses, milkweed plants, landscaping pebbles, bird feeders, and bird seed. Garden club committee members agreed to work in the outdoor classroom one day each week to attend to seasonal garden tasks and maintenance. Many businesses and nonprofit groups supported this restoration effort: Rotary Club, Watson-Brown Foundation, Fairway Building Supply, USDA NRCS Service Center, Brown and Brown Forestry Consulting Company, Boy Scouts of America, Washington-Wilkes Recreation Department, the Washington Little Theater Company, Washington-Wilkes Country Club, and Goodness Grows Nursery.

To celebrate the garden club's work the first year, the club and the Washington-Wilkes Primary School joined together in the fall of 2013 to host an all-school outdoor learning event, *No Child Left Inside*. This special K-3<sup>rd</sup> educational program involved six separate interdisciplinary learning stations: Wildlife, Forestry, Soils, Fine Arts, Games, and Language Arts. Due to its overwhelming success, *No Child Left Inside* has become an annual event, usually held in October.

Besides the Litter Scavenger Hunt, this year's event, held on October 21, 2022, included representatives and specialists from the Georgia Forestry Commission, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Wilkes County Farm Bureau, and the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Over the past ten years, Iris Garden Club members have also worked with various grade levels during the school year to plant a wildflower meadow, establish three raised bed herb gardens, and replant flowers in the Entrance Garden. Currently the club Is working with local soil scientists to erect a kiosk in the new Soil Station to identify the soil layers and







The Sawtooth Oak Circle is the outdoor learning station for these Georgia Forestry Commission experts: Cliff Hargrove, Keith Murphy, Beth Richards, Rusty Meadows, and Abram Blackburn as Smoky Bear.

Georgia Environmental Protection Division volunteer, Amy Potter, explains the importance of pollinators at the Outdoor Classroom's Wildflower Meadow.

scientists from USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, question the students about the properties of soil at the Soil Station. Iris Garden Club member. Elizabeth Crabbe, explains rules for the Litter Scavenger Hunt, beginning at the

amphitheater.

Robert Smith and

Chris Amos, soil

types of soils found in our area. The Iris Garden Club of Washington-Wilkes, GA, established in 1959, currently has 32 active members. The object of this club is to advance gardening, develop home grounds, further city beautification, and support the state and national federation of garden clubs. The focus for all of the garden clubs in Georgia is "Beautification, Conservation, and Education."



# Milledgeville Garden Club

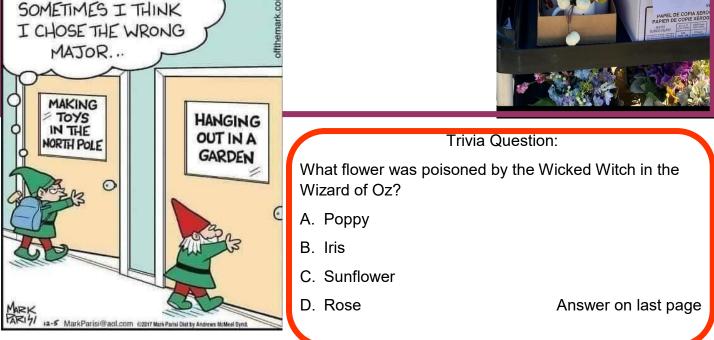
It was a magical day when Milledgeville Garden Club members met to make holiday Flower Arrangements for tenants to enjoy in

their rooms at five Assisted Living Homes: Savannah Court, Chaplinwood, Cottages, Fellowship Home, and Green Acres.

Pictured making the delivery to Savannah Court's Activity Director' Sharon (center) are Sylvia Moore and Sharon Williams.

"It's always a blessing for MGC to do this annual holiday event" said Kathy Chandler, club President.





"Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine to the mind."

- Luther Burbank

# Gray Garden Club



November 6—12, 2022 turned out to be a busy, but happy, week for GGC. We started out on Tuesday replanting the Jones County Animal Shelter pots for Fall and Winter.

Saturday we celebrated Jones Counties' Veterans by participating in the annual Jones County Veterans Appreciation Day by pinning poppies on Veterans and giving them a small "Goody" bag.

Both of these programs make us appreciate the fate of the Shelter pets, and the sacrifices that Veterans have made to keep this country free and our families safe.



# Milledgeville

Garden Club

President Kathy Chandler welcomes 7 new members into the Milledgeville Garden Club, Azalea District.

Then the 49 in attendance reviewed their new Year Books for 2022-23, with awesome plans for the year ahead!



# After Six Garden Club

For the November meeting the members of the After Six Garden Club enjoyed a hands on program presented by member, Nancy Lindroth on forcing bulbs. Nancy supplied all the bulbs, pots, soil and filler for each member. Some chose Amaryllis bulb and other chose paper white bulbs. Each member took home their potted bulbs and hope to see blooms by Christmas. They will meet in December at the Ronald McDonald House to decorate one of the Christmas trees.



Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication Ceremony Grovetown, Georgia 12 November 2022

The Grovetown Garden Club of the Azalea District, Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. and the City of Grovetown sponsored a Blue Star Memorial Marker with a Ceremony on 12 November 2022.

# BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKER DEDICATION CEREMONY NOVEMBER 12, 2022 Welcome

Shiloh Vasquez-President of The Grovetown Garden Club Rita Hamilton-President Augusta Council of Garden Clubs Betty Davis -Azalea District Director

# **Opening remarks/Announcements**

Master of Ceremony Mayor of Grovetown Gary Jones Inspiration Mrs. Mary Byrd Pine Needle Garden Club Invocation Pastor Elliott B. Norman Clifford Memorial Presbyterian Church Color Guard Grovetown High School JROTC Pledge of Allegiance Kayla Whitfield President of the Grovetown High School garden club National Anthem Barney Walling Remarks/History of the Blue Star Marker Janice Thiese Blue Star Memorial Marker Chairman The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Peggy Tucker President The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc Poetry Reading Army Veteran Jeremy Dingler **Dedication of Marker** Jan Thiese Blue Star Memorial Marker Chairman

### Announcements



History of Garden Clubs and Beautification Organizations in Georgia

> presented by Matthew Burkhalter

# December 4th 3pm Oconee County Library







# Garden Club

Nativities from Around the World



Treasure the true spirit of Christmas and join the Louisville Garden Club to enjoy hundreds of nativities from around the world, displayed in the former Henderson Chevrolet building at <u>231 W. Broad St</u>. in Louisville, GA from Dec. 1 - 4. The event will be open: Thursday, Dec 1 - 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 2 - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 3 - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 4 - 1-4 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under, when accompanied by an adult, and can be purchased at the door. For advance tickets or additional information, call the Jefferson Co. Chamber of Commerce at 478-625-8134. All proceeds will be used to help beautify Louisville and the surrounding community. Each ticket provides the holder a chance to win a nativity.



### Meyer Lemons Do Well in Containers.

Meyer lemons are especially fast-producing and do well in containers. They also create an intense fragrance. Lemon trees of all types require regular pruning and generally do better in areas where there is less humidity and the growing season is long and warm.

news@newsletter.myhomehobby.com

### WILD ADVENTURE DAY



On October 11, 2022, the Gray Garden Club in cooperation with the Garden Club of Georgia, sponsored the first Wild Adventure Day Camp in Georgia.

Seven Campers spent the day hiking, painting birdhouses and leaves, studied debris from net dipping, planted container gardens, learned about keeping our water clean, counted pine tree rings to determine how old the tree was and had the opportunity to meet and examine a box turtle up close to learn about its habitat, diet and how to tell the sex of a turtle.

This camp gave the Garden Club the opportunity to educate our youth on the necessity of preserving land, water and wildlife for the future of our planet Earth while having a fun time doing it..

Gray Garden Club would like to thank Camp Director Molly Kimler, and Michael Grace Camp Counselor for their wonderful work with Jones Counties' youth. Most importantly we would like to thank our campers: Elijah Dykes, Caleb Briley, Beau Briley, Coleman Quinn, Lucas Edwards, Patrick Cardon and Logan Buchanan for coming!

### Scenes from the District Meeting October 6, 2022



Top Left: Director Betty in Butterfly attire Top Right: GCG President, Peggy Tucker and others buying basket raffle tickets Bottom Left: One of Carmen Johnston's tablescapes. Bottom Right: President Peggy with guest speaker, Carmen Johnston



Top Left: Director Davis with Georgia First Lady, Marty Kemp

Top Right: Marilyn McDonnell, Rita Hamilton and ACGC President receiving Named Scholarships

Bottom Left: Beverly Dorn, President Azalea GC receiving Native Plant Award for Azalea GC

Bottom Right: Membership Award presented to Caroline Kinney, President of Heritage GC

Top Left: Lifetime Achievement, Mary Byrd

Top Right: Youth Activities Award, Rose and Dahlia GC, Becky Green

Bottom Left: Watkinsville GC, Birds, Bees and Butterflies Award and History Award, Pamela Hendrix

Bottom Right: Outstanding Garden Club Award, Pinetree GC, Hartwell; Linda Harris, President











Top: Garden Therapy Award, Rose and Dahlia GC

Bottom Left: Civic Award, Rose and Dahlia GC

Bottom Right: Dollie T Harper Outstanding Member Award, Sherley Selman





# 2021 Standard of Excellence Clubs





SELC filed suit in federal court challenging the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' decision to unlawfully reinstate Trump-era determinations that removed Clean Water Act protections from almost 600 acres of wetlands on the doorstep of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge. Right now, a mining company wants to excavate these wetlands, which would have devastating effects on the swamp's ecosystem.

Representing the National Wildlife Refuge Association, National Parks Conservation Association, Defenders of Wildlife, and the Center for Biological Diversity, we are challenging the federal agency's action that opens these critically important wetlands to destruction by the strip-mining operation.



SIMPLE TIPS TO KEEP YOUR LIVE CHRISTMAS TREES GREENER, LONGER: ONCE YOU'VE PICKED THE PERFECT TREE, YOU HAVE 4-6 HOURS FROM WHEN IT'S CUT/TRIMMED BEFORE A SAP SEAL FORMS AT THE BASE. IF THAT HAPPENS TO YOUR TREE, RETRIMMING IT IS THE BEST WAY TO KEEP IT FRESHER, LONGER USE WARMER WATER TO SOAK THE TRIMMED TREE TRUNK --COLD WATER CAUSES THE SAP TO HARDEN, GUNKING UP THE FRESH CUT AND CAUSING NEEDLE LOSS IN THE LONG RUN. TREES NEED AS MUCH AS A GALLON OF WATER OR MORE IN THE FIRST 24 HOURS & ONE OR MORE QUARTS A DAY AFTER THAT. HYRDATION PREVENTS THE NEEDLES FROM DRYING AND DROPPING

OFF & THE BOUGHS FROM DROOPING, TRY NOT TO LET THE WATER

STATISTICS IN

LEVEL DROP BENEATH THE BASE OF THE TREE!



### 2023 DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS, INC. ANNUAL CONVENTION CALL

March 9-10, 2023

Hilton New Orleans Airport 901 Airline Drive, Kenner, LA

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

Presents

# **The Mindful Gardener**

A Journey Through the Senses

In addition to the Convention LGCF, Inc. is sponsoring an NGC Tri-Refresher March 8, 2023

Deep South Garles Claits, Inc.	Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. 2023 Convention <i>The Mindful Gardener – A Journey Through the Senses</i> Hosted by Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. March 8, 9, 10, 2023 Hilton New Orleans Airport 901 Airline Drive Kenner, Louisiana 70062			TIONING	
Last Name:	First Name:				
Address:					
City:	State:		Zip:		
State Federation	E-Mail:				
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:				
Deep South Officer Deep South Board Mem Deep South Life Membe	rNGC Board Memb	erOfficial Delegate		den Club Member st/Spouse	
FULL-TIME PACKAGE - INCLUI	DES REGISTRATION, ALL WORKS CHEONS, and 2 DINNER BANQUI		\$245.00	\$	
2 LUNG	CHEONS, and 2 DINNER BANQUI	ETS	\$35.00	\$ \$	
2 LUNG	CHEONS, and 2 DINNER BANQUI NLY - Check days attending:  neck meals attending:	E <b>TS</b> Thursday 3/9	\$35.00 \$35.00 \$35.00 \$50.00 \$35.00	\$	

To register you must fill out additional Tri-Registration form and submit SEPARATE payment please

ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT: https://www.easyreg.org/cgi-bin/acct/Q3NLADMSXV/signup.pl

OR

YOU MAY MAIL CHECK PAYABLE TO LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC. WITH REGISTRATION FORMS TO: Kyle Martin, 73192 Military Road, Covington, Louisiana 70435-6053 Confirmations will be emailed.

NO REFUNDS after **FEBRUARY 17, 2023**. Refunds requested PRIOR to this date will be subject to retention of registration fee. NO WALK INS! YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND TOUR, ANY PROGRAMS, MEALS, OR WORKSHOPS.

NOTE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS FOR HEALTH ISSUES:



### **Clean Water Act at 50: People's protection against pollution**

Fifty years ago, when former President Richard Nixon initially vetoed the Clean Water Act, Republican Senator Howard Baker of Tennessee famously said, "I have found that the kind of natural environment we bequeath to our children and grandchildren is of paramount importance. If we cannot swim in our lakes and rivers, if we cannot breathe the air God has given us, what other comforts can life offer us?"

This year, we're celebrating 50 years of the Clean Water Act — but there's more work to do at this critical moment in the fight to protect clean water for generations to come.

### Who benefits the most from clean water?

We all do. Think about how we use water each day. We drink it, give it to our kids, bathe in it, and use it for cooking. It is part of us. When polluters take that away from families and communities, it shakes us to our core. And so many people depend on clean water for their livelihoods, from the multi-billion-dollar outdoors, brewing, fisheries, and tourism economies to folks out fishing for supper.

Without the Clean Water Act's basic safeguards in place, the waters that millions of Southerners depend on every day for drinking water and other uses would be at risk of pollution and destruction. *GEOFF GISLER, SENIOR ATTORNEY, SELC* 

### What does the Clean Water Act do?

It gives us the tools to prevent pollution and hope for a better future. When the law was passed in 1972, an overwhelmingly bipartisan Congress recognized that our families won't be safe until we stop polluting our streams and rivers entirely — and set a goal of eliminating pollution by 1985. We haven't met that goal because the law hasn't been enforced. When it is, the Clean Water Act can stop pollution from ever entering our waters.

Without the Clean Water Act's basic safeguards in place, the waters that millions of Southerners depend on every day for drinking water and other uses would be at risk of pollution and destruction. Nationally, that number is more like 217 million people.







# Azalea District Calendar 2021 – 2023



February 21, 2023	Azalea District Board Meet	ing Sandersville
March 2—5, 2023	Deep South Convention	New Orleans
April 16—22, 2023	Garden Week in Georgia	
April 18—19, 2023	GCG Convention	Stone Mountain
April 23—25, 2023	Flower Show School II	Marietta
May 2—5. 2023	NGC Convention	Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV
June 4—10, 2023	National Garden Week	
Aug. 27—30, 2023	Flower Show School III	Marietta
Feb. 24 —28, 2024	Flower Show School IV	Marietta

Trivia Question Answer:

A. Poppy

