



The Oleander Leaflet

Newsletter of the Oleander District of the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

Oleander District

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*“Inspire to Grow Through Beautification,
Preservation, Conservation, Education.”*

Hello Oleander Gardeners!

The door has closed on 2023, and I am looking forward to reading the president’s reports and seeing all the projects and programs you completed. Please check the boxes for the questions so they can be totaled. The door has opened for 2024 bringing in many opportunities to grow our clubs, continue projects, and participate in various schools.

After scrolling through our Oleander Facebook page, several clubs shared their outstanding projects from November and December. Many were busy bees during those months. I was impressed with how many clubs donated their time and donations to organizations other than their own club. I wish I could list all of them. There were projects such as Pine Forest GC trimming plants at the local library. Ruby Riggins donated bedding for a women’s shelter. St. Mary’s donated to a food pantry and women’s shelter. Congratulations goes to Green Thumb GC in Millen for getting the Garden Therapy Grant to use at two senior citizen centers.

Many clubs are working tirelessly on various projects and fundraisers. Please share them with us on our Facebook page, leaflet, and the website. This is how we learn from each other. Go ahead and brag about your club activities.

Also, we need articles for the Garden Gateways Magazine. The summer issue will be about Floral Arrangements and the deadline for that is April 15th. Please share a demonstration with 2-3 pictures depicting someone’s program on floral arranging to your club.

Smile everyone. Spring is not far away, and we can get out to “play in the dirt”!

Take care,
Joni Thompson
Oleander District Director



Activities Around the State

The GCG President Report

On or before February 15, 2024, clubs will submit the President's report for 2023. The reports are for the January 1 - December 31 period. Now is the time to review how you can achieve the "Standard of Excellence" award in 2024.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

Check Sign up and Details at <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/events-calendar/>
Also Check out The Facebook and District Webpage.

- January 17, 2024: GCG Finance and Executive Winter Meeting: Zoom: 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
- February 15, 2024: **Club Presidents' Report Deadline: Submit online. Watch for the information.**
- February 16-19, 2024: <http://www.birdcount.org>
- February 25-28, 2024: Flower Show School: gardenclubofgeorgia.org/events-calendar
- March 19, 20, 2024: The 2024 Deep South Garden Club, Inc. Annual Convention
- April 8, 2024: Finance and Executive Committee Spring 2024, Zoom
- April 14-20, 2024: Garden Week in Georgia
- April 16, 17, 2024: GCG Convention
- May 2-6, 2024: National Garden Club, Inc. (NGC) Convention
- June 2-8, 2024: National Garden Week



Participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count:



Great Backyard Bird Count is February 16 - February 19th. You can get more information from <https://www.birdcount.org/participate> There is no fee.

Activities Around the State

Registration is now open for the 2024 Garden Club of Georgia Convention. More information can be found on the website <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org>.



"Bloomin' in the Heart of Georgia ...Y'all Come"

2024 Garden Club of Georgia Convention

Redbud District is hosting a fantastic event: "Y'all Come to see us in Peachtree City next Spring"! Yes, we are heading in a new direction and a beautiful venue awaits us at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Peachtree City for April 16-17, 2024! The video invitation was recorded live on the grounds of the center and features the convention chairman and the **Y'all Come Band!** Details on registering and speakers will be shared later this year and we look forward to welcoming y'all!

We are hoping many of you will join us for the festivities. We promise it will be lots of fun.

Quill Duncan and Bornie Dudley

Registration is now open! Registration deadline is March 31.

[2024 Convention Registration Form \(print version to mail in\)](#)

[2024 Convention Online Registration Form](#)

Book your hotel: Contact IHG Reservations at 1-877-227-6963 or click on the [link here](#).

Provide the specific dates, the GROUP NAME: Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Annual Conference 2024 and GROUP CODE: GCG

Reservation Deadline for Group Rate: **March 16, 2024**



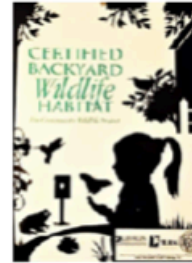
Click on the photo for video of the invitation.

If ad appears click skip and video will begin.

Activities Around the State

Did you know you can earn certification in the Community Wildlife Project? Visit <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/projects-programs-community-wildlife-project/> for applications for Certification in the following:

1. Backyard Certification
2. Hummingbird Haven
3. Gardening with Georgia Native Plants.
4. Creating A Winter Wildlife Wonderland
5. Nesting Boxes



For more information about Georgia native wildlife plantings, please contact Terry Johnson at tjwoodduck@bellsouth.net. Also, please visit [backyardwildlifeconnection](http://backyardwildlifeconnection.com) for information regarding attracting and enjoying backyard wildlife.

Winter Wonderland - <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/CWP-winter-wonderland-appn-2019-1.pdf>

Direct any questions pertaining to hummingbirds to: Terry Johnson
Community Wildlife Project Coordinator 478-994-2502 or TJWoodDuck@AOL.com

Container Gardening



Native and wildlife plantings can grow in containers as well.

The University of Georgia has produced one of the best sources for information regarding gardening in containers. It is Circular 787 (*Gardening in Containers*). The circular is available online @ Gardening in Containers – UGA Cooperative Extension Circular 787.

Information Regarding This Contact Information:

Melissa Hayes, Georgia DNR - Wildlife Conservation Section -- (478) 994-1438 or email melissa.hayes@dnr.ga.gov;
Terry Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator, tjwoodduck@bellsouth.net

Information provided on https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/CONTAINER-GARDENING-Notes-3_17-FOR-WILDLIFE-APPLICATION.pdf



All information is property of GCG, Inc.

Activities Around the District

Pull-a-Tab for Ronald McDonald House Winners Announced

District Board member Sandra Williams, Chairman of the Ronald McDonald House Charity is proud to announce the winners of the Oleander District Pull-A-Tap program.

1st Place - **Sea Oats Garden Club, Brunswick** with 58.1875 lbs.

2nd Place - **Seedling Garden Club, Swainsboro** with 30.3125 lbs.

3rd Place - **Pine Forest Garden Club, Baxley** with 28.5 lbs.

Congratulations to all of the winners!

Over the years, it has become a competition between the many clubs and districts throughout the state to see who could collect the most tabs. Certificates are given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and the winners are announced at the Annual District meetings and at the State Convention each year.

Sandra delivers all tabs collected in the Oleander district to the Ronald McDonald House located at:

Coastal Empire
4710 Waters Ave.
Savannah, Georgia 31404
912-350-7641



Oleander District Winter 2024 General Board Meeting

The Oleander District will hold its Winter General Board Meeting via Zoom on January 25 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm . A link to the meeting has been emailed to all board members.



Activities Around the District

If you have friends or businesses who are interested in supporting your club, you may wish to purchase a Subscribing Membership for them. See the application below for more details.



Subscribing Membership

A Subscribing Member shall be an individual who is committed to the purposes and objectives of the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. and desires association without the necessity of becoming a member of a local garden club. A Subscribing Member shall be eligible to participate in all programs and events available to the general membership, shall receive Garden Gateways and other informative membership mailings but without the privilege of a vote.

Dues are \$25.00 per year for the Subscribing Member. Reminders will be sent prior to membership expiration. Those unpaid will be dropped from the membership and will be ineligible for awards competition.

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Subscribing Membership Application

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Telephone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____
 E-mail _____

No need for email or phone contact information if not receiving email notices.

Do you wish to receive regular email notices about all GCG Club Activities? Yes or No

Do you wish to receive our quarterly Garden Gateways magazine? Yes or No

Checks should be made payable to the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

Mail to 2450 S. Milledge Avenue, Athens, Ga 30602-5817

706-227-5369

gcgauca@gmail.com

www.gardenclub.uga.edu

If this is a gift membership, or you were referred by a GCC Club Member, please provide the following information so we may give that club credit for this Subscribing Membership. Thank you.

Garden Club _____ Club # _____ Dist: _____

Donor/Referred by Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Use this donor address for renewal notification

Clubs or individuals may give an "Honorary Subscribing Membership" to a local dignitary, speaker, community worker/volunteer, etc. A letter of acknowledgement will be sent to the new Subscribing Member, noting a year's subscription to Garden Gateways, Please check the box and indicate the reason for this gift.

Reason for honor/gift: _____

If you would like to give an "Honorary Subscribing Membership" but don't have someone special in mind, send a \$25.00 check, but leave the top section blank. The gift will be awarded for you. A letter of acknowledgement will be sent to the new Honorary Subscribing Member, noting your donation and a year's subscription to Garden Gateways.

Youth Club Activities Around the District

Youth Jacket Clubs Sponsored by Brooklet Garden Club

DISTRICT III - OLEANDER

- Acpling County Elementary Club (AGEC) (Sponsored by the Pine Forest Garden Club)
- BES Garden Club (Sponsored by Brooklet Garden Club)
- Ocum Elementary Junior Garden Club (Sponsored by the Ocum Garden Club)
- Stilson Elementary Garden Club (Sponsored by Brooklet Garden Club)
- SPS Tiny Tiger Garden Club (Sponsored by Swainsboro Garden Club)



The Jacket Garden Clubs both created service projects for the community. The Stilson Club assembled potpourri bags for the school's teachers. The Brooklet Club assembled crèche characters for community gift baskets. Keep up your generous thoughtfulness clubs! Helpers included Judy Butler, Judy Walker, Gail Davis, Barbara Cromley, Ginny Hendricks, Sandy McKillip, and Jane Wood.



Information property of gardenclubofgeorgia.org



Shane Wellman and Mark Petkewich along with Jane Wood (not pictured) set up the Winter Wonderland.

BES students viewing the project.

On the cold Sunday of January 21, Jacket Youth Garden Club sponsors met to set up a Winter Wonderland for the students at BES. Shane Wellman, Mark Petkewich, and Jane Wood set up the wonderland display so children could witness first hand what happens when you mix freezing temperatures and water. The children's news team also interviewed STEM teacher Mr. Petkewich about the event. One interesting fact we learned was about the pansy and viola plants. We discovered they don't emit water through their leaves, but a kind of antifreeze substance. That's why they are a good choice for winter plantings. What a great way for students to enjoy the joy of good ole water droplets!

Youth School Grounds Improvement
Jane Wood, Chairman

Youth Club Activities Around the District

Youth Jacket Clubs Sponsored by Brooklet Garden Club

Jacket (Stilson) Youth Garden Club met Monday, Jan. 22nd after school. We were getting some Winter work done to prepare for Spring planting. The students moved 45 bags of potting soil to the greenhouse. Then they went to the pollinator garden where they harvested the Loofa and cleaned up all dead vines! Hard working kids today!



Junior Aggies Garden Club Pine Forest Garden Club

During the fall season, the Pine Forest Garden Club participated in many activities in their community. The members were found weeding and planting the Retired Educator's Memorial Garden located at the Appling County Board of Education with the Aggies Junior Garden Club. The Junior Garden Club regularly works with the PFGC to plant and upkeep the Memorial Garden. Other projects undertaken by the PFGC have included watering and maintaining the Pavilion Nursing Home planters, the library pollinator garden, and Appling County Heritage Center. Members have also been involved with the judging of pumpkins at Altamaha Elementary school, driving endless dirt roads for the perfect yard of the month, and delivering gift bags for veterans. Shown below are members of the PFGC and Junior Aggies at the Memorial Garden.



News From Our Clubs

Evergreen Garden Club



Club members L/R Ilene Daily, Ruth Mettler, Carol Tripp.

The November meeting of the Evergreen Garden Club was held in the home of President, Carol Tripp. Ilene Dailey gave the program for the month. Ruth Mettler, of Manchester, England recently became an American citizen and she shared this wonderful news with us! She has been a member of our club for several years!

The Evergreen Garden Club held its annual Christmas luncheon on December 5th at the home of member, Lynda Hamilton. After lunch, Christmas club members made gifts to give to area nursing homes! Much fun was had by all!



Garden Club of Pooler

The Garden Club of Pooler member, Irene Michaels, conducted the Installation of Officers in January at the Pooler library. The officers for 2024-2026:

Co-Presidents are Louise Schindler & Cathy Pompei, Treasurer, Beverly Waters and Secretary, Janice Whitman.

The newly installed officers quickly went to work! Treasurer accepted dues, Secretary took minutes and Co-Presidents presented an educational "Seed" program. This was followed by each member having hands on experience planting seeds in preparation of their April Plant Sale Fundraiser! It was a wonderful start for the New Year!



News From Our Clubs

Glad Garden Club

Holiday Fun



The Glad Garden Club of Swainsboro is shown presenting blankets and stockings to the residents at the Emanuel County Nursing Home.



Glad Garden Club recently presented a donation to Sunshine House. Pictured L/R: Mary Shepherd, Jeanette Hall, Sherri Clifton, Lee Bragg with Sunshine House, JoAnn Trammell, Audrey West, Caroline Brown, Lisa Parham, Sylvia Durden.



Members of the Glad Garden Club decorated the Emanuel County Hospital.



The January meeting of the Glad Garden Club was very informative and interesting. Savannah Tanner from the County Extension Office was our speaker. She is extremely knowledgeable about all things soil and plant related. We really appreciate her presentation and the knowledge she passed on to us. We will all be taking soil samples soon.



News From Our Clubs

Green Thumb Garden Club



Several Green Thumb Garden Club members got together on December 6th to help The HomePlace Adult Daycare get ready for Christmas. They also delivered gift bags to the clients and employees. First picture left to right: Patti Hendley, Vanessa Reeves, Kathy Gay, Melanie Clark (kneeling), Cindy Rich, and Jerry Messex.



On December 16, the Green Thumb Garden Club met at the home of club member Vanessa Reeves for great food, great company, and great garden club friends. Everyone brought finger foods and an ornament for exchange. As usual, the best time was had by all.



Hard work pays off! The Green Thumb Garden Club is proud to announce we were awarded a Garden Therapy grant by the Garden Club of Georgia for our hard work in 2023. We teamed up with The HomePlace Adult Daycare in October with our pumpkin painting project and then in November, we coordinated with the Jenkins County Senior Center with a floral design workshop. All participants thoroughly enjoyed both of these events and we can't wait to put on more fun projects like these in 2024. Pictured GTGC members L/R Vanessa Reeves, Kathy Gay, and Melanie Clark.

News From Our Clubs

Pine Forest Gardens Club



Members of the Pine Forest Garden Club have been busy trimming back plants at the Library. Watch this Spring and Summer how the plants will fill out, blossom and show out! Lots of hard work will definitely pay off.



Ardsley Park/Chatham Crescent Garden Club

Members of the Ardsley Park / Chatham Crescent Garden Club braved the frigid temperatures on January 20, 2024 to attend the First Lady's of Georgia Camellia Garden dedication ceremony at the historic Bonaventure Cemetery.

The new garden is located at the left side entrance of the cemetery and was developed by Master Gardener Liz Pasqual. With sponsorships from several Savannah area garden clubs, each planting honors a First Lady of Georgia. The Ardsley Park / Chatham Crescent Garden was proud to sponsor the Japonica Camellia in honor of First Lady Shirley Carver Miller.

The japonica camellia displays beautiful pink flowers that grow in clusters through winter and early spring. Each bloom usually lasts three to four weeks and grows two to five inches in size.



News From Our Clubs

Odum Garden Club

Odum Garden Club had a wonderful "hands on" meeting at the Wayne County High School Agricultural Department. Many thanks to Hannah Cheek, WCHS Ag Science teacher, Kelly Rauch, WCHS Animal Science teacher, and Jacqueline Elder (Arthur Williams Middle School teacher) for the wreath demonstration and for guiding OGC members in designing beautiful holiday wreaths.

Kneeling (L-R) Hannah Cheek, Marcia Carter, Bonnie Gordon, Mary Ogden, Kay Courson, Kelly Rauch, and Jacqueline Elder. Standing (L-) Julia Carter, Sharon Herrin, Cheryl Williams, Betty Benner, Miriam Murray, Jan Cooper, Anita Jordan, Mary Ann Griffis, Sue Duhon, Debra Fenn and Onzell Bowen.



Odum Garden Club celebrated Christmas with a delicious traditional Christmas dinner at the beautiful venue, Southern Weddings and Country Flowers in Jesup, GA. Twenty four member's, husbands and friends enjoyed the grand event.



News From Our Clubs

Sea Oates Garden Club



A meeting of the Sea Oates Garden Club was held at the Nunnally House in Brunswick recently. Guest speaker was Bryan Thompson, Coordinator of Nunnally House. He explained the far reaching arms of Nunnally House which serves those in need by providing a home away from home for family members, cancer patients, and interning medical staff. A tour of the facility was offered following the meeting. Lunch was enjoyed in the lobby of Nunnally House followed by the club meeting outside in the lovely garden space. Shown in the picture with Thompson are the hostesses for the meeting: (l to r) Elizabeth Regan, Sandy Smith, Bryan Thompson, and Elaine Alberson.

At the recent meeting of the Sea Oates Garden Club, a Special Award was presented to Sea Oats member, Camille Mraz. Camille was presented the Lifetime Membership Award for the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Camille was recognized for her many contributions throughout her 33 years as a member of the Sea Oats Garden Club. Pictured is Camille Mraz, left, receiving her award from Club President, Mary Virginia Keith.



The November Sea Oats Garden Club Meeting was held at Sal's Neighborhood Pizza Restaurant on Saint Simons Island. The guest speaker was M.C. Halbrook with the UGA Cooperative Extension Service. Halbrook is pictured with club hostesses, from left to right, Lynn Anderson, Sandy Hochwald, Halbrook, and Sharon Smith.



At the November meeting President, Mary Virginia Keith presented a Club Standard of Excellence Award for 2022 to past President, Kathleen Moore.



News From Our Clubs

Sea Oates Garden Club, Con't



Sea Oats and Urbana Garden Club members decorated three Christmas trees at the Southeast Georgia Health System location in Brunswick. Besides decorating trees, the Club members hung garland in several areas of the hospital. Pictured at work decorating the trees in the picture on the left are: on the floor, Faye Hollington, standing on the stage, Mary Virginia Keith and on the ladder, Sandy Smith, all Sea Oats members.

In the picture on the upper right: kneeling are Mary Virginia Keith with Sandy Smith and standing (l to r) are Ann Stone, Elaine Alberson, Rita Misinco, Teresa Howard, and Faye Hollington. Ann Stone and Teresa Howard are Urbana Club members and others are Sea Oats members.

In photo on the bottom right is Sandy Smith kneeling and standing are Linda Dunlap, Mary Virginia Keith, Rita Misinco and Elaine Alberson, Sea Oats members.



Recently the Sea Oats Garden Club members of Brunswick collected items for the Sparrow's Nest in Brunswick. Shown in the first picture are Mary Virginia Keith, President, and Sandy Smith, Vice President, with items collected at the meeting. In the second picture, Sandy delivers the items. Pictured are (l to r) Sabra Slade, Sparrow's Nest Food Pantry Manager, with Ike Hallman, Faith Work's Volunteer, and Sandy Smith, Sea Oats Vice President.



News From Our Clubs

Sprig N' Dig Garden Club

The Sprig-N-Dig Garden Club met Tuesday, November 14, 2023. Anna Beecher, Lori Haulebaus and JoAnne White were hostesses. Charley Kinship of KINSHIP ENDEAVORS, presented a very interesting program on bringing sustainable education and products to the forefront of daily living so we may have a more gentle impact on our budgets and the planet.



This year the Sprig N' Dig Garden Club decided to bless our veteran's (men and women) with Christmas bags and goodies. Thanks to Kitty and Joann for delivering the packages.



Spreading Christmas Cheer, club members Jennifer Kimbrell, Carol Tepatti, and Diane Long decorated the Christmas Tree for the Statesboro Convention & Visitors Bureau.

News From Our Clubs

St. Marys Garden Club

On November 16, the St. Marys Garden Club sponsored a special event involving the residents of the St. Marys Senior Center. The event was called the Amaryllis Project. The club members helped the participants plant amaryllis bulbs in pots to grow and keep in their rooms. The pots were donated by club members and the amaryllis bulbs were donated by Lowe's.



Each year for the last three years an event occurs in St. Marys around Christmas time called the Tinsel Trail. This event is part fundraiser for Camden House, an entity that provides shelter and support for abused wives and children from our community, and a holiday experience for all who visit Howard Gilman Waterfront Park in downtown St. Marys. This year it will feature over 50 Christmas trees, decorated by businesses and community groups, including the St. Marys Garden Club. Members of the garden club met to make additional ornaments for our tree and then gathered to decorate it in time for the annual lighting of the trees on the night of December 9.



It was a perfect day for a field trip to Days of Creations Farm in Jesup, GA. We were greeted by two four legged residents of the farm, one of the resident beagles and a tabby cat. We toured the tree farm by a tractor ride seeing many Christmas trees that will be sold this year at the farm. We also had a propagation demonstration and wreath making demonstration by the owners. Afterward we enjoyed lunch at a local restaurant. It's a fun place to bring your families during the Christmas season.



In the month of December, the St. Marys Garden Club collected donations from members of food products, personal care items, and diapers for the Helping Hands Food Pantry and the Camden House that helps shelter abused women and children. Cheryl Doster, a member, delivered the donations to the two entities on December 15.



News From Our Clubs

Brooklet Garden Club

Brooklet Garden Club has been super busy during the months of November and December! BGC members provided Christmas for twelve very deserving children, they prepared Christmas Stockings for the families of patients in Ogeechee Area Hospice and also provided goody bags of Christmas treats for local nursing homes and assisted living facilities. In addition a donation was made to the Statesboro Food Bank.



Members of the club also assisted the Brooklet Downtown Development Authority with bringing some Christmas Cheer to downtown Brooklet.



News From Our Clubs

Wayne County Garden Club Council



Wayne Memorial Hospital was transformed into a beautiful Winter Wonderland by the Wayne County Garden Club Council. Each of the four stories was decorated by the Jesup GC, Lily GC and Odum GC. This is a wonderful example of community spirit and collaboration among local organizations. Top picture (L-R). Betty Benner, Karen Carswell, Edna Counts, Phyllis Woods, Diana Malone, Janette Deal, Bobbie Scott, Bonnie Gordon, June Thomas and Sharon Herrin. Bottom picture (L-R) Mary Ann Griffis, June Thomas, Bonnie Gordon, Marcia Carter, Janette Deal and Miriam Murray.

Bulloch Council of Clubs

Members of the Brooklet Garden Club, Evergreen, Hoe & Hope and Sprig N' Dig Garden Clubs collaborated to spread holiday cheer throughout downtown Statesboro. The annual event, organized by the Bulloch Council of Clubs and led by President Judy Walker, involved decorating several trees in various buildings, including the Bulloch County Courthouse, Bulloch County Annex, and the Statesboro Visitor's Bureau. The ladies spent weeks preparing for the event, gathering ornaments and other decorations to adorn the trees. The result was a beautiful and festive display that is sure to delight visitors to downtown Statesboro throughout the holiday season.



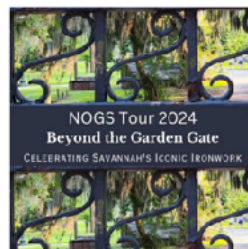
News From Our Clubs

Millen Garden Club Council invites you to attend their upcoming Flower Show. Invite a friend to join you and make it a day of fun while viewing the many talented floral designers! See flyer below for information.



The Seedling Garden Club

The Seedling Garden Club will present a Standard Flower Show titled *“Our World as a Canvas”* on April 27 and April 28, 2024 at The Fulford Educational Center at East Georgia State College in Swainsboro, GA. The flower show will be open to the public on Saturday, April 27th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm and on Sunday, April 28th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.



The Garden Club of Savannah host
NOGS Tour of Hidden Gardens
April 19 and 20, 2024

General Admission Tickets go on sale:
December 1 at 12:30AM

This special Tour unlocks the garden gates of selected private gardens and historic gardens for self-guided exploration. Ticket holders will enjoy springtime gardens located in Savannah's Landmark Historic District, which is the largest in the United States. All the gardens are located in the area North of Gaston Street (NOGS) to the Savannah River. As part of the Tour, guests are invited to a sampling of Southern Tea favorites at the Green-Meldrim House, a National Historic Landmark and one of the South's finest examples of Gothic Revival architecture. Proceeds from the Tour are donated to garden-related organizations throughout the Savannah area thanks to your generous support. **Garden Club of Savannah: Sharing the Art of Southern Hospitality with our guests for nearly 50 years.**



The Garden Club of Savannah

Group Reservations: nogsgardentourtickets@gmail.com
Email to arrange groups purchase pricing for 20 or more.

NOGS Garden Tour will be held April 19 & 20, 2024
Premium Tickets will go on sale in November 15, 2023, followed by Tea Tickets on December 1. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @GardenClubSAV to be the first to know. Lee Green is the 2024 Chair. Please direct all inquires to our email at: nogsgardentour@gmail.com

As most of you are aware, our District Director Joni Thompson, just recently lost her precious mother, Sophie Jones. Her mother had just celebrated her 100th birthday on November 9th. Sophie was a member of the Screven County Garden Club for over 65 years, and she attended a few of their meetings over the last 2 years. The first photo is of Joni and her mama. The next photo is Sophie with her 95 year old best friend, Emmie Thompson. Mrs. Emmie has been a member of the club for many years also and still attends each meeting. Join us as we celebrate these ladies that are still active in our clubs. If you have members that are age 80 or over that still participate, send in a photo to Oleander Leaflet Editor Nancy Watson at watson25714@gmail.com and remember to include how long they have been in the garden club.

Welcome to our first edition of Mrs. Sophie's 80's Ladies!



Mrs. Sophie's 80's Ladies



Shirley Lewis, Jackie Habberman, Shirley Goodson and Miriam Fulton are all members of the Windsor Forest Garden Club and they all have one thing in common, they are all over 80. Actually they have lots in common, they are good friends too. The first photo is of Shirley Lewis 86, Jackie Habberman 87, and Shirley Goodson 91. Each of these ladies are active members and all are former Presidents of Windsor Forest Garden Club. The 2nd photo is of member Miriam Fulton, 93 years of age. The ladies are all neighborhood friends and all have been 35-53 year members. They live by the motto "Gardeners live longer!"





Joan Spellman has been a member of the **Richmond Hill Garden Club** for 25 years. Joan is 92 years of age and she regularly attends meetings.



“It is unusual to have so many garden club ladies over 80 and still going strong. Participating and loving It,” states Judy Shippey, President of the **Morning Glory Garden Club**, Hinesville, Georgia.

In photo at left, Patricia Henry, member for 3 years, Judy Shippey, 17 years, Helen Bryan, 20 years, and Melinda Schneider 8 years.

President of the **Evergreen Garden Club**, Carol Tripp is 82 years of age and has been a member for 12 years.

The activities we get into as a club are so much fun and I enjoy the closeness we have developed with our members. We have gotten some new younger members recently and their energy is contagious. I encourage women to join a Garden Club and get outside into nature.



Ardis Wood is a member of **Ardley Park/Chatham Crescent Garden Club** and has served twice as president. She was the recipient of the Americanism Award from American Legion Post 464, the Lee and Emma Adler Award for Preservation Advocacy, and Volunteer of the Year from the Downtown Neighborhood Association. She has enjoyed being a member of her garden club for 30 years where she totally identifies with the mission statement of BEAUTIFICATION, CONSERVATION and EDUCATION. A bonus is experiencing great fellowship and a sense of belonging to her neighborhood!

Oleander Leaflet Tidbits

Just a reminder...

All members, 80 years of age or older that are currently active and attending club meetings, please send in photos with a brief description of yourself and how many years you have been active in your garden club. Oleander District Director, Joni Thompson would like to make “Mrs. Sophie’s 80’s Ladies” a permanent feature in the Oleander Leaflet.

Please send your club activities to Nancy Watson, Oleander Leaflet Editor at watson25714@gmail.com.

June Thomas, Oleander Facebook Editor, Kathy Shields, Oleander Website Coordinator, and I will at times share your club’s submissions on all three social outlets. The **Oleander Leaflet** guidelines are as follows:

Spring Publication: Due April 1 - Publish April 30

Summer Publication: Due July 1 - Publish July 31

Fall Publication: Due Oct. 1 - Publish October 31

Winter Publication: Due Dec. 1 - Publish December 31

Publishing dates may vary due to quantity of information received.

It’s been a long and often times a very cold winter, however Spring is just around the corner. With it comes the surprise of daffodils as they begin to poke their little heads up through the ground. Gardeners begin to gather up their garden tools, hats, and gloves, eager to play in the dirt and begin planting seeds. I can hardly wait. How about you?

See you in the next edition!



Nancy

