



Board Briefs

Newsletter from Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Board of
Director Volume XIX - Edition 3 Spring 2024 Michelle Culberson - Editor



Message from President, Lisa Hall

Greetings Friends,

Spring has been busy with conventions and flower shows, Basic Design Schools, Gardening Studies, and Landscape Design Schools. I have participated in many of these events. The Deep South Convention was held in Gatlinburg, TN in March. There is a photo of the Georgia contingency that attended. We are getting ready to host the next Deep South Convention in Valdosta March 11-13, 2025. The Redbud District led by Quill Duncan and Bonnie Dudley and our Convention

Coordinator Marilyn McDonnell just finished many months of planning for the 96th Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Convention. With a new format, offering choices of lectures and starting earlier at lunch, it was jam packed with two days of learning, discussing business, and amending bylaws, dining, and chatting with friends old and new. Several photos accompany this letter. If you did not attend it was great! Our next one will be April 29-30, 2025 in Augusta.

Many clubs will be “winding down” for the summer soon. I will be working on plans for the next fiscal year. Plans are to improve and expand our communication abilities with all of you through member365. More communications through zoom and email to assist Club Presidents. And more educational offerings are in store. Enjoy your summer! I hope you can spend some time in the garden.

Lisa

Convention News 2024



Deep South Convention 2024 Georgia Representatives

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc Convention 2024 Memories







2024 The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Convention Briefs

**Scholarships
Susan Turner, Chairman
GCG Annual Meeting April 17, 2024**

In the 2023-2024 giving period, clubs, councils, districts, and friends of GCG contributed \$85,000.00 to our *enlightened, amazing, outstanding, classy, magnificent, dynamic, and remarkable* students!

Once again, your grants will secure their education for the coming year. The gratitude of these students is beyond expression. The students and your committee members are ever grateful for allowing us to not only reach our goal but exceed it by 20%.

\$4,780.52 was donated to our Dollars Educate Scholars fundraiser. This is also an increase of 20% from last year. 81 clubs and one council participated. All districts took part in this fundraiser.

Congratulations to the Dynamic Dogwood District as Monica Bozonier, Dogwood District Director, was crowned the 2024 *Queen of Scholarships!*

The 3rd Annual *Flower Fantasy* Scholarship Fundraiser *Gardens Around the World* was held April 20-21 at Pineola Farms, Ft. Valley. It was not only beautiful, but successful, exceeding last year's revenues. Details will be announced at a later date. We applaud with appreciation the members of Magnolia Garden Club of Ft. Valley, Magnolia District for their dedication to Scholarships.

Please continue to make GCG Scholarships part of your giving as you formulate your budgets for the coming club year. Our students are not only deserving, but they are also indeed most appreciative to The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

Thank you for supporting Scholarships. Let us do it, again!

**Trustees
Susan Turner, Chairman
GCG Annual Meeting April 17, 2024**

The Trustees met on February 14, 2024, via Zoom. We held a productive meeting and were joined by Daun Fest, Associate Director at the State Botanical Garden. Discussions included financial aspects of our cooperative relationship. GCG and SBG enjoy a cohesive working association.

Rentals have been consistent with revenue of \$23,265, through March, exceeding our budgeted amount by 16%. We continue to consider ways to market our venue and again ask our members to include the Terrace Room for their own upcoming events.

Presented by Trustees, the 2024-2025 Headquarters House budget was passed by the GCG State Board of Directors.

The GCG Flower Show Symposium was held at Headquarters in the Terrace Room on November 13-15, 2023. It was well attended, and the new lecture tables suited the needs perfectly. These tables are available for other educational events and rentals held in the Terrace Room.

The Lucite plexiglass project, which began during the last term, was installed on the living room shelves to protect the porcelain. Total expense \$2583.26.

New carpeting has been installed in the office area, providing a fresh, updated appearance. This chairman worked with Ina Hopkins and Sally Holcombe on the choice. With the approval of Lisa Hall and designer Virginia White, we know it will be well received by all who visit. Total expense \$4788.38. New security cameras were installed. These are tied into our existing security system. The expense was \$3080.00. We all feel more confident in having this done.

Along with the aid of others, this chairman has undertaken cleaning up and cleaning out at Headquarters. Repairs and upgrades have been and continue to be in que for Headquarters. In the advent of the 100th Anniversary of GCG necessary short term and long-range projects are being discussed and budgeted.

The dedication of the C. Burke Day, Jr. Walkway was held May 8, 2024, with a reception that followed in the Terrace Room. The event was a great success.

Our Headquarters House Chairman, Ina Hopkins continues to keep all in order and apprise the Trustees on items that need immediate attention. This includes meetings with SBG and UGA Facilities Management Division (FMD) personnel, for assistance with our efforts.

Insurance Chairman, Marci Wilcox sent a recent review of policy renewals. As chairman, she keeps on top of our overall Insurance needs. Our GCG Office Manager, Arianne Knowlton, continues to be an asset to Headquarters. We are appreciative and thankful for her skillset, benefiting our organization.

**Landscape Design Schools
Betty Davis, Chairman
Spring 2024 Board Meeting**

Three Landscape Design Schools have been held via Zoom/Athens, GA this term.

Course 2 on November 8-9, 2023 with 26 registered

Course 1 on March 13-14, 2024 with 22 registered

Course 3 on April 2-3, 2024 with 21 registered

Course 4 will be held on May 29-30

By offering virtual courses attendees were from California, Arizona, Florida, New York, Maine, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maryland.

Connecticut, Tennessee, South Carolina and of course Georgia.

Marilyn McDonnell was local chairman and did a fantastic job on securing excellent Instructors.

**Garden Gateways
Stephanie Corley, Editor
2024 Spring Board Meeting**

The 9,080 copies of the spring issue carried a theme of Landscaping for Pollinators. The issue was prepared for printing in late February and mailed to membership in March. However, due to the consolidation of three USPS North Georgia sorting facilities to one Atlanta facility, delivery of *Garden Gateways* to members was delayed. This editor and the editorial board will take these delivery delays into consideration for future issues.

This past quarter a new advertising contract was created using the new rates established at the fall board meeting, and this editor assisted in the creation of a Media Packet for potential sponsors and advertisers. Guidelines for submission of articles to *Garden Gateways* were also created and posted on

the GCG website. In early April, this editor requested bids for printing of *Garden Gateways* from three vendors. After consideration, we have selected to stay with the same printer for the next four issues.

The deadline for the summer issue is April 15th and a full slate of interesting articles have been planned with the theme “Floral Design – Beginner to Inspired.”

**Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Chairman
Mary Ogden, Chairman
Spring 2024 Board Meeting**

From the seven participating districts I received a total of 35 posters. These districts reported receiving a total of 917 posters from 20 clubs, 22 public schools, one youth organization and 3 home schools. The Garden Club of Georgia sent 5 posters to Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Since this was Smokey Bear's 80th birthday only Smokey Bear posters were received and judged. The 5 posters sent to Deep South Garden Club resulted in 2 first places, 2 second places and 1 third place. Of these first-place winners, both were judged to advance to the National Garden Club competition. The first-place posters going to National were entered by: Briarcliff Garden Club, Thomasville from Camellia District and Spade & Trowel Garden Club, Augusta from Azalea District.

**Life Memberships
Bess Hartley, Chairman
Spring 2024 Board Report**

This chairman has processed 34 Life Memberships:

State Life Memberships

Laurel-6
Azalea-3
Oleander-3
Camellia-1
Magnolia-2
Dogwood-2
Total 17

Deep South Life Memberships

Laurel-2
Azalea-2
Oleander-3
Camellia-2
Magnolia-1
Redbud-1
Total 11

National Life Memberships

Azalea-1
Camellia-3
Magnolia-2
Total 6

Chairman Spotlight - Shirley McCorkle Indoor Gardening

HOW TO PLANT A SUCCULENT BOWL

Succulents come in many shapes, sizes, and colors. They have shallow root systems and require only limited maintenance. They are excellent for planting in a bowl. Succulent bowls are perfect for a centerpiece for a dining room table, coffee table, or end table. All cacti are succulents but not all succulents are cacti. Succulents store water within the stems and foliage while cacti store water in areoles, the bumpy area of spines. Both work in a succulent bowl. Just make sure they are of a smaller variety. To plant the succulent bowl, select a bowl container. You can buy succulent/cactus soil or make your own by mixing 1 pint sand, soil, and perlite together. Add over an inch of pebbles and activated charcoal to the bottom of the bowl as it absorbs extra moisture and prevents root rot. Add the soil over the bottom layer. Add soil to the area between the edge of the bowl and the plants. Space plants about 1-2 inches apart. Lightly pack the soil as you add plants. When choosing plants, try to get a variety. Select those rimmed with red, some that trail over the edges, and ones that grow tall. Give the bowl bright, direct light for at least 6 hours a day. Southern windows are the most ideal. Succulents need little water. Water thoroughly every 2 weeks in warm months and once a month in cool weather. Be careful not to overwater. Water your plants, set the bowl in a sunny spot, and watch them grow!



State Botanical Garden

Chairperson - Marianne McConnel

Many of our clubs throughout Garden Club of Georgia chose to send their end-of-year donations to the State Botanical Garden of Georgia in Athens, thus continuing the support that GCG has shown the Garden since they played such a significant role in the founding of it in the early 1970's.

These funds are sent to the Garden's general fund each year. Here they are available to be used for the curating of the 8 themed gardens, the horticultural greenhouses, and the 5 miles of trails. The garden is 313 acres of Displays, Natural areas, and Conversation. On your visits to Athens, please make the effort to visit the Children's Garden, International Garden, Heritage Garden, Flower Garden, the Sade and Native Flora Garden, and the Physic and Herb Gardens, and be proud of your involvement in their ongoing success and growth.



Admission and parking to the garden is free.

*State Parks and Public Lands - Chairman Willie Maxwell
Co-Chairman - Drenda Sternenberg*

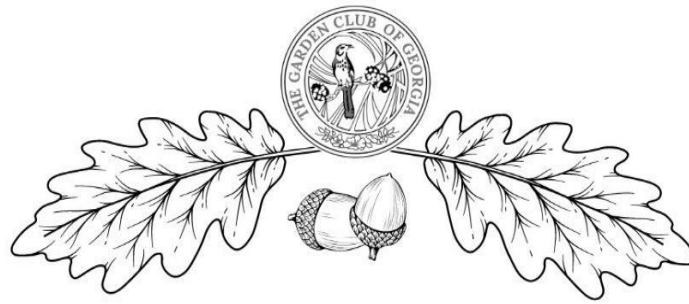
The Garden Club of Georgia is committed to our state parks and public lands. The program is designed to bring a greater awareness of the needs of our Parks and Historical Sites and encourage our members to become involved in projects that benefit parks. Eligible locations are the State Parks or Historical Sites listed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on their current web site. All projects must be planned in coordination with designated DNR officials.

All Club, Council, or District shall be eligible to apply for one grant annually during the GCG fiscal year of May 1-April 30. A grant of \$200 is available if they are planning and conducting project(s) in a State Park or Historical Site. The project must be related to gardening, conservation, environmental or natural resources. Approved projects may also receive additional funds from DNR and from Friends of Georgia State Park.

For more information contact Chairman Willie Maxwell, GCG State Parks and Public Lands Chairman wmmx2@gmail.com or 229-938-5830.



SAVE THE DATE
Garden Club of Georgia



Fair Oaks

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION FUND
MARIETTA, GEORGIA

NOVEMBER 2, 2024

Sponsored by the Laurel District





National Garden Clubs, Inc
Annual Convention 2024
Denver, CO
June 2-5, 2024

Registration

ABSOLUTELY NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE MAY 24, 2024 DEADLINE. NO WALK-INS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

[Register for the 2024 Convention Here](#)

New Website www.gardenclubofgeorgia.org

New Facebook page and remember to like and follow us!

***To post content contact our Facebook Manager: Lisa Ethridge:
Lrethridge110@gmail.com***

***New YouTube Channel: Contact our YouTube Manager with ideas and content:
Camille Greeley: Camille.Greeley@gmail.com or Camillegreeley@att.net***

Next issue of ***Board Briefs*** is October 15, 2024, deadline for articles October 1, 2024