



2023-2025 VOL 6 FALL 2024

# Magnolia Messenger

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## ***DIRECTORS CORNER***

### ***FALL 2024***

**Remember: TOGETHER WE BUILD  
MAGNOLIA DISTRICT, GCG, and NCG!**

The World Around Us – Love It – Beautify It – Protect It  
–Enjoy It! Know that it is Your Community that is the  
world around you!

What was one of the strangest Springs and Summers experienced across the country is now to be followed by Fall of 2024. Let us see what it brings forth! Most Magnolia Clubs took a break for the summer months, but some members were in planning mode for the upcoming months. I stand in awe of the volunteerism of our Garden Club members. Members find themselves in the throes of planning the club's upcoming year's programs and activities. It takes volunteers for projects to be accomplished. In the past year, there were wonderful community, district, and state projects accomplished.

**Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!**

## ***DIRECTORS CORNER continues***

Speaking of Programs and Activities, there is a wealth of information available through the GCG website. ([gardenclubofgeorgia.org](http://gardenclubofgeorgia.org)). **Do** take advantage of the offerings! And speaking of offerings, Lisa Hall, GCG President has updated the President's report due February 15<sup>th</sup>. So, review the new report. **See** what has changed and know that you still have time to accomplish items to check off those marks.

Magnolia District has encouraged and achieved the revitalization of Blue Star Markers in the region. We do want to rehabilitate and encourage the caretaking of the **Blue Star and Gold Star Markers**, which honor the military commitments made by people so you and I can live in a free country with the civil rights we each enjoy. Let's each Garden Club, Council and Federation commit to evaluate any marker in their region and where needed, commit to work with Magnolia District, the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., and the National Garden Club to bring those markers in need, back to their glory. By doing so, we are showing that as American Citizens and Garden Club members, we appreciate the dedication each and every military service member committed to with the loss of life or dedication of duty to protect the great United States Of America.

**You Are The Keepers Of The Blue Star and Gold Star Markers Program!** Each Memorial Marker Is The Remembrance Of The Cost Of Our Freedom. Not just My Freedom But Every Individual American's Freedom! Keep The Reminders In Good Condition!

Know that it is time for Leadership changes not only in the local Garden Clubs but at the District, State, and National level. 2025 brings changes to all of us. This will be a new chance to volunteer to impact the future. Volunteering! The benefits of volunteering can be enormous. Soooo .... let's be happy volunteers, making friends, and looking for ways to serve our communities as we follow the Garden Club mission: Beautification, Conservation and Education!

## **MAGNOLIA DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING**

You will be so excited!!! **The Magnolia District Annual Fall Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at the Doublegate Country Club, Albany, Georgia.** We plan to have a wonderful meeting and the GCG President, Lisa Hall, GCG Board and other District Directors will attend. The Registration information is below. Please plan to attend with all of your garden club members. I look forward to seeing all of you. When you get your invitation packet, please make your plans as early as you can! **We want you there with us. It is a time of celebrations and fun! Come join us!**

**Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!**

## ***Magnolia District Annual Meeting Registration Form***

*Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at*

*Luncheon Registration: \$35.00      Deadline: October 16, 2024*  
*Coffee/Registration 9:00 AM      Business Meeting 10:00 AM*  
*Late Registration: \$45.00*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Club: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Board Member                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Former State President   | <input type="checkbox"/> District Board Member  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Life Member                               | <input type="checkbox"/> State Board Member       | <input type="checkbox"/> Council President      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deep South Bd Member                               | <input type="checkbox"/> State Life Member        | <input type="checkbox"/> Club President         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deep South Life Member                             | <input type="checkbox"/> District Director        | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Member            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State President                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Former District Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Time Attendee at a Magnolia District Meeting |   | <input type="checkbox"/> New Garden Club Member |

Send Registration Form and Check payable to Magnolia District for \$35.00. On the notation line write "Annual Fall Meeting." Mail registration form and check to: Janis Webb, 161 Lakeshore Drive, Americus, Georgia 31719. Contact Janis Webb (229-938-1451) at [webb2048@bellsouth.net](mailto:webb2048@bellsouth.net) or Kay Hagler (706-566-8540) at [haglerkay@gmail.com](mailto:haglerkay@gmail.com) for information.

Please RSVP at the earliest possible time by text, email, or mailed registration. We want to save YOU a seat. *Deadline: October 16, 2024.*

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Your timely registration saves you a seat!  
 Register by October 16, 2024, to avoid a late registration fee of \$45.00.

*"Plant Your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!"*

# Magnolia Co-Director: Membership Matters

Marilyn Aldrich, Magnolia District Co-Director  
Membership Development Chairman  
August 13, 2024, Magnolia District Board Meeting  
Vienna, Georgia

Magnolia Rocks! Recently, Kay and I received word from GCG that at long last all of the registrations due last March had been received at state. All of our 23 Magnolia clubs had their registration forms in by late March. Checks followed in a few days.

Currently, Magnolia District has 490 members, down from 10 regular members from 2023. In February 2024, Magnolia had 19 subscribing members. Magnolia members who sponsored Subscribing Memberships have been notified that it is time for renewal. GCG subscribing memberships have declined by approximately 45 members from August 2023. Magnolia District has 23 clubs, 1 council, and one federation. Two of the clubs are Grand Gardener Clubs.

Magnolia District includes 25 counties. Twelve of those counties do not have Garden Clubs affiliated with the Garden Club of Georgia. A list of these counties will be distributed by email. If your club borders one of the counties, please encourage your club members to see if they know people in the area who might want to be garden club members. Your club could also help them explore the possibility of a new club in their area or you may learn that the county has a club that is not connected to GCG. Belonging to the Garden Club of Georgia is important. GCG opens the doors to many projects, community grants, greater environmental impact, and opportunities for learning and growing.

Subscribing memberships are important to educate others about the Garden club of Georgia. They serve as a great way to honor someone who loves gardening, to invite someone to learn more about the Garden Club of Georgia or to show appreciation to someone important to your garden club or community. Subscribing members are eligible to participate in all GCG activities and to attend programs across the state. Subscribing members are not eligible to vote at meetings.

It is important that we recruit new members and new clubs. If you have a cap on membership, the Magnolia District and Co-Director need to know so we do not send referrals to you. Reeling in members should be easy for clubs. Extend your great club hospitality, consider nametags, and rideshare for meetings. We retain by keeping interest and allowing each member to feel welcome and hear about their needs and expectations. When I speak with potential members, I almost always hear “a love of gardening” as why they want to join. That love of gardening extends to our tenets of beautification, conservation, and education. Even when it becomes difficult to garden, we can continue to enjoy gardens, to practice conservation, and to be open to learning and teaching.

And REMEMBER to have fun! We all need to laugh, and to play.

**Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!**

# Magnolia District Board Meeting Minutes:

Minutes: Magnolia District Board of Director's Meeting  
 Recording Secretary, Ann Howell  
 Vienna Methodist Church, Vienna, GA  
 August 13, 2024

The Magnolia District Board meeting, hosted by the Vienna Garden Club was called to order by Director Kay Hagler at 10 AM. Charlotte Vestal, Vienna Garden Club President, welcomed all members. Carolyn Culpepper delivered the Inspiration and Marsha Mulderig led the Pledge of Allegiance. Kay Hagler introduced District officers and special attendees. Treasurer Janis Webb stated that 39 were in attendance and a quorum was declared. Director Hagler appointed Sylvia Harris as Timekeeper and Kathy Hicks and Janice Cliett to approve the minutes. Ann Howell stated that the February 15, 2024, minutes were approved. Corresponding Secretary, Mary Ann Parks, reported on recent correspondence. The treasurer, Janis Webb, reported on the financial state. Director Hagler presented an update of many activities in the district, and she reminded members of the Annual District Meeting which will be held October 23, 2024, at the Doublegate Country Club in Albany. Members were asked to be willing to help with the Flower Show in Perry in October with Melodie Smith of Camellia District as Chairman and Faye Frazier of Magnolia District as Co-Chairman. Co-Director Marilyn Aldrich reported there were 490 members including 19 subscribing members in 23 clubs in the 26-county area.

**Unfinished Business:** (1) Motion from the Executive Committee reaffirming Martha Price as the representative for the GCG Nominating Committee for the 2025-2027 period and Nilsa Summey as Alternate was approved by vote. (2) Motion from the Finance Committee (Janis Webb, Janice Cliett and Cindy Williams) to remove the names of Martha Price and Barbara Bourque from accounts in Wells Fargo and to add the names of Janis Webb and Janice Cliett to the accounts was approved by vote. (3) Janis Webb was approved at the February meeting to manage suggested transactions with Wells Fargo.

The following projects were reported as Completed: Contributions to the Carter Care Center Mental Health Program, and for the Institute for Caregivers. Magnolia District contributed to the Rosalyn Carter Butterfly Trail Symposium. Magnolia District requested an NGC grant to support the Rosalyn Carter Butterfly Trail Symposium. Tom Stellings restored a Blue Star marker near Unadilla at the I-75 rest stop with a portion of the cost covered by a GCG.

The following projects are In Progress: (1) A Fall and Winter Scholarship will be presented to a Georgia Southwestern University student. (2) Placement of a marker in Plains in honor of Rosalyn Carter by April 2025 is currently being planned by a Magnolia District committee, Annette Wise, and Sewah Studios. (3) Nominating Committee for Magnolia District Board led by Marilyn Aldrich, Chairperson and members Janice Mohr, Kay Lambert, and Sandra Haga will present results at October 2023 District meeting. (4) The GCG website has updated GCG forms. All clubs need to use new forms downloaded from the GCG website and not use old forms. Membership 365 will become the new email format.

**New Business:** Discussions concerning installation of district officers at the district level rather than at the GCG Convention led to a motion by Janice Cliett , seconded by Martha Price and a vote to install new 2025-2027 officers at the October 2024 meeting if time allowed. Installation at the February 2025 meeting was an alternate choice.

Director Hagler presented several new business items: (1) Most GCG award applications are due November 15, 2024, rather than December 1. (2) The Perry Flower Show is October 4-5 with Melodie Smith, Camellia District Flower Show Chairman, Faye Frazier, Magnolia District Flower Show Co-Chairman, and Marideane Maxwell, Magnolia Design Registration Chairman. Members were encouraged to participate in design and horticulture. (3). The Great Southeast Pollinator Census will be held August 23-24. (4) Sherrell Bailey, Poetry Chairman, related that the contest was extended to grades 10, 11, 12. (5). Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl Chairman, Tricia Welch, stated that Magnolia District needs to present awards for all Magnolia District First -place winners in the GCG Youth Contest. Further discussion led to plans to provide special Magnolia District Certificates to all First-place state GCG youth winners from Magnolia District. (6). GCG will be celebrating its 100 Anniversary in 2028. (7). Ads are needed for the Garden Gateways and sponsors are needed to support GCG projects. Please make recommendations to Bess Hartley. (8). Subscribing Memberships are needed to produce GCG growth. (9). The Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Convention will be March 11-13, 2025, in Valdosta, Georgia. Magnolia District will be responsible for Honor Designs and a design for Florida. More details will be provided. (10). There will be some changes in the President Reports. (11). GCG requests that more clubs seek grants for Garden Therapy projects. (12). Chaplain Carolyn Culpepper requested the names of any deceased members be sent to her so that the Memorial in October can be planned. (13). Clare Jenkins stated that the 2025 Historic Landscape event will be November 2 at the Marietta Garden Center. (14). Willie Maxwell and Drenda Sternenber reported that there are many grants including Plant America Grants that are available to clubs. (15). Camellia Garden Club in Cuthbert announced their 75th Anniversary celebration on Nov. 13, 2024.

Following all reports, Carolyn Culpepper gave the Blessing and Kay Hagler adjourned the meeting at 12:01. The Vienna Garden Club served lunch.

## Magnolia District News

### Planning Your September 24 to June 25 Meeting Programs?

To be considered for the GCG Standard of Excellence Certification review the following process: Look at the Presidents Report listed on the GCG website and see how many of the boxes you can check by making a project or program out of the programs. Can your club take part in the programs and projects supported by the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. by using the report to determine your projects and programs in your community? You know what is best for your community and your club! Great ideas are there for meetings. **There are Changes for the 2024 REPORT due February 15, 2025!** Pay attention to emails sent out to Presidents and Board members related to the changes on the form. We will update you. Ask Kay Hagler, Magnolia District Director, if there are questions. Changes should be listed on the website form soon.

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# Magnolia District Memorials

At the October 23rd meeting we will recognize all the deceased members of the Magnolia District from the October 2023 meeting till our October 23, 2024, meeting. This does include the ones who were honored at our convention this past April 2024. Please email your members who have passed to [carolyn.hartley41@yahoo.com](mailto:carolyn.hartley41@yahoo.com). Please also send TO Kay Hagler, so we can recognize the loss of our precious members in the Magnolia Messenger in case we have missed them previously.

## BRING YOUR PULL TABS TO ALL MAGNOLIA DISTRICT MEETINGS!

Or get them to Magnolia District Pull Tab Chairman: Tricia Welch: [pkwelch5@yahoo.com](mailto:pkwelch5@yahoo.com): 1249 Jake Smith Rd., Oglethorpe, GA 31068, 478-472-8800



**MAGNOLIA DISTRICT and GCG WANTS YOU TO KNOW THERE IS GREAT INFORMATION in the NATIONAL GARDENER MAGAZINE, GCG's GARDEN GATEWAY AND YOUR DISTRICT NEWSLETTER!** It is all included in your Garden Club and GCG membership so read and enjoy!

### ***THE NATIONAL GARDENER MAGAZINE***

The official publication of the National Garden Clubs, The National Gardener appears quarterly. We highlight articles of interest to environmentalists, gardeners, landscapers, floral designers, educators as well as nature photographers. Feature columns provide our readers with leadership advice, seasonal recipes and garden club lore. Enjoy this and more by viewing and downloading the current issue. *Have The National Gardener delivered directly to your inbox- it's free!* [SUBSCRIBE](#)

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# Camellia and Magnolia Districts' Flower Show

Please review the following and announce to your Club Members! Make September a planning time for your members to consider entering a design in the show or working at the show.

## CELEBRATING NATURE'S ART

Fall IS coming! And so is...the Camellia and Magnolia Districts' Flower Show at the Georgia National Fair, Perry, GA October 4-6! It

will be here in the blink of the eye! There will be new and different sites to see: a hotel in construction near the back entrance to the Miller-Murphy-Howard Building; a little change in the entrance to the flower show inside the building; new faces among the committees; and exciting themes from some unfamiliar locations!

Some Committee Chairmen have received what they need in securing designers, judges, clerks, and luncheon menu. An email was sent to Committee Chairmen letting it be known a meeting has been

set for August 22, time to be determined. If you are a chairman and have not received an email, please send an email to [melodies387@gmail.com](mailto:melodies387@gmail.com), the purpose is your contact information (phone number, address and email) is needed for communicating important information!

We welcome non-garden club members in our communities to enter Horticulture Division with our 171 Classes. Please reach out to friends and family you know and encourage them to enter! The Design Division includes designers' choices in Traditional and Creative Designs, along with Angular, Spatial Thrust, Floor, Underwater Designs and yes, Table Designs. If

Marideane Maxwell, Magnolia District's Design Entries Chairperson, contacts you, it is hoped you will gladly agree to do a design! Education Division highlights three of Garden Club of Georgia Projects: Arboreta and Botanical Gardens; Roadside Beautification; and State Parks and Natural Resources. And our Youth Division will again have Photography! Also, youth will be able to select a shoe as the container for their flower design and a hat to decorate!

It is hoped you will be a part of a fun show with wonderful Committee Chairmen adding some new ideas! If you have any questions or interest, please call or text Melodie Smith, Camellia District, Flower Show Chairman, 478-278-7721 or email [melodies387@gmail.com](mailto:melodies387@gmail.com).

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# Magnolia District Youth Poems Winners

**Magnolia District had 4 National winners announced Jean O'Shields, GCG Youth Poetry Chairman.** The poems as follows, are as they were sent to National.

**Grapes by Grace: Reg. Ed. Kindergarten:**  
Magnolia Garden Club 05-390; Fort Valley, GA

Do you see grapes?  
They are circles.  
They are green.  
They are sour.  
Do you see the grapes?



**The Forest by Melanie: ESOL 6th Grade:**  
Village Green Garden Club 05-155:Byron, GA

The Forest is where nature lives  
The greenest town I've ever seen  
The quiet place to ever be  
Oh, how wonderful the Forest is to me  
In the Forest I will see  
A ton of trees next to me  
The grass is green like my shoes  
You see the stream you hear the breeze  
Oh, how wonderful the Forest is to me  
When night time hits it's time to sleep  
You hear the trees and the wolves  
You hear the crickets chirp away  
You see nature's lights once again  
Oh how wonderful the Forest is to me  
Time by time the night time passes  
You see the sunlight appear once more  
You see the grass as it shimmers  
You see the trees next to me  
You see the quiet town once more  
You see the grass as it shimmers  
You see the trees next to me  
You see the quiet town once again  
Oh how wonderful the Forest is to me

**Green Rain Forest by Jazmin: ESOL 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**Grade:** Village Green Garden Club: Byron, GA

The sounds of steps to the sounds of  
gushing water  
Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh  
The water singing by every stroke and lap  
it does  
The green trees swinging back and forth  
like a trance  
The natives singing their songs growing  
their beets  
Most of the animals sleeping or eating  
Even the cycles of life have been seen  
The carnivores feasting on their food  
The herbivores munching the green leaves  
and beets of the natives  
Omnivores snacking on berries and meat  
The end of days  
The day is now replaced with the night  
Which leads an owl to hoo!  
And the frogs to ribbit  
And the nocturnals to hunt.

**I Step Into the Meadow by Carina:**

ESOL 8th Grade

Village Green Garden Club, Byron, GA

I leave the dark familiar room that brings comfort  
 And step out into the unknown area  
 I look up and see the bright beams  
 The sun smiles warmly at me  
 Bright and vibrant  
 I look down to appreciate Earth itself  
 An endless forest it seems  
 Whispers of the birds cloud me  
 As I move through the wildflowers  
 Thorns prick my body  
 Poke! Poke! Ow!  
 I rush into an empty opening up ahead  
 Oh my!  
 The sunflowers turn to look at me as I marvel  
 I hear the swoosh of wind as it leaps through the meadow  
 The brushing against the green blades of grass  
 Pollen flies as the bumblebees cuddle the greenery  
 I crash onto the green blanket  
 Rolling over on my side  
 Shutting my eyes  
 Dreaming of the future  
 As the world embraces me  
 As tight as the embrace I give it.



**GCG/NGC**  
**Youth Poetry Contest**

**2024 THEME:**

"My Garden Has Vegetables to Spare That I Can Share-  
 Help Fight Hunger by Sharing Vegetables From Our Garden

**District Poetry Contest Chairman****Magnolia District V: Sherrell Bailey**

129 McMath Mill Road

Americus, GA 31719

[bailey13@mediacombb.net](mailto:bailey13@mediacombb.net)

229-942-2313

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# ANNOUNCING 2025 Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

Children from first through fifth grade  
are invited to participate in this annual  
drawing contest featuring conservation icons  
Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl!

**Magnolia District 2025 Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Contest Chairman:**  
**Tricia Welch:** pkwelch5@yahoo.com: 1249 Jake Smith Rd., Oglethorpe, GA 31068  
478-472-8800

## Youth Sculpture Contest



### National Garden Clubs, Inc. Youth Sculpture Contest

Encouraging fun and creative ways to  
*Reduce, Reuse & Recycle.*

Entries Due 11.15.24

The purpose of this contest is to encourage youth to keep our planet green and to get involved with saving our environment.

Left: GCG 2024 Youth Sculpture Winner: Lily McAfee, 1st place, 8th grade, Screven County Middle School Georgia

Contest Rules:

**Magnolia District Sculpture Chairman: Kay Hagler,** [haglerkay@gmail.com](mailto:haglerkay@gmail.com),  
P. O. Box 436, Buena Vista, Ga 31803, 706-566-8540

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# Magnolia Club News

## Fort Gaines Home and Garden Club



Fort Gaines Home and Garden Club is proud to announce a state winner. **GCG winner, Tyrihanna Spann from Clay County Elementary School** was awarded a certificate, \$10 from the Garden Club of Georgia, and \$40 from the Fort Gaines Home and Garden Club. Tyrihanna won in the category of Third Place in the Youth Poetry Contest for Grade 5. Her poem was titled “I Spy with my Little Eye, Something Outside - Celebrating Our Green World.”

Pictured- Carolyn Hartley Culpepper, President of Fort Gaines Home and Garden Club, Tyrihanna Spann, Poetry Winner, and TyKeia Beard Classroom Teacher Poetry winner

## Camellia Garden Club of Cuthbert To Celebrate 75th Anniversary

Mark your calendar! Camellia Garden Club of Cuthbert will be celebrating its 75th anniversary with a luncheon at Andrew College in Cuthbert on **Wednesday, November 13, 2024**. All are welcome!!! An announcement will be emailed to clubs in the district. **Remember**, you are invited to celebrate with us. Camellia Garden Club of Cuthbert invites everyone to celebrate their 75th anniversary at a luncheon on Wednesday, November 13. For details email [patorrbarnett@gmail.com](mailto:patorrbarnett@gmail.com) or text 334-332-5844. Pat Barnett, President. Congratulations on three quarters of a century!!!



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## Village Green Garden Club of Byron Celebrates National Garden Week



The Village Green Garden Club of Byron celebrated National Garden Week which was recognized June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. Below the members of the Byron Village Green GC presented a pot of flowers to Jo McLean at the Byron Deli Restaurant. The Garden Club followed the presentation to Jo McLean with a meeting at Byron City Hall with Mayor Chidester. The Mayor accepted a signed proclamation from the Garden Club members recognizing National Garden Week. Attending were City Clerk Telina Allred, former Garden Club Of Georgia President and Village Green Garden Club member Martha Price,



Village Green Garden Club President Kay Lambert, Mary Shelnutt, Janice Mohr, Dot Carmichael, Debbie Brown, Eleanor Phillips, and Elizabeth Stowe. What a delightful day the ladies had celebrating National Garden Week.

**Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!**

## The Azalea Garden Club of Columbus Adds New Homes To The Bluebird Trail



The sign of a bluebird is associated with springtime! And in mid-February the Azalea Garden Club of Columbus took on a winter project of cleaning out bluebird nesting boxes for the upcoming nesting season at Spring Harbor @ Green Island, Columbus GA, an assisted living, and memory support facility. The bluebird trail is set in natural woodlands surrounding the campus located on 40 idyllic acres.

The Azalea volunteers received a crash course of instruction on cleaning and minor repair, and we learned a few things about the bluebirds .... they are a bit picky about how their house is designed, where it is located, and its cleanliness! The male scouts potential nesting sites, it should be noted that it is the female bluebird who is the home buyer before selecting THE nest. When a decision is made, nest



construction begins a few hours to a few days later. While the male brings the nesting material to the site, the female embarks on construction usually consisting of fine grasses and pine needles typically taking 4-5 days to complete. The end result is a tidy woven contour cup formation that is truly a work of art.

The bluebird trail is an integral part of the Spring Harbor community and has helped to increase the bluebird population on campus which, in turn, has added to the quality of life for those who live there. It was an extremely rewarding way to learn about these beautiful little birds and a fun way to share an educational experience with each other.



Pictures: (Top left: Loraine Lester, Azalea GC President. Other photos: Faye Carles and Melba Spurlock of Azalea Garden Club, assisted by Norm and Jan Bennett, residents of Spring Harbor)

## The Butler Garden Club and the Taylor County Historical Genealogical Society in cooperation with The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. dedicates a Gold Star Marker

The Butler Garden Club and the Taylor County Historical Genealogical Society in cooperation with The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. dedicated a Gold Star Marker in the Julian Knight Park in Reynolds on Memorial Day, May 27, 2024.

The program began at the Flint Energies auditorium with Sybil Willingham, President of the BGC and Gene Brunson, Vice President of the TCHGS presiding. Rev. Stanley Kimble gave the invocation. Morgan Huffmaster led the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. Lynn Meadows-White and Rev. Howard White sang a patriotic medley. Marilyn Aldrich, Magnolia District Co-Director, introduced the guests. Nila Summey brought greetings from the GCG, Inc. Kay Hagler, Magnolia District Director gave the history of the Gold Star Markers. Janice These, GCG, presented certificates to BGC, TCHGS, and the GCG. Colonel (Retired) Tom Aldrich U.S. Army gave a tribute to the military and Gold Star Families represented. Mayor of Reynolds, Fred Waller, accepted the Marker on behalf of the city.

The assembly then moved to the flag terrace of the park for the unveiling of the Marker. Janice These dedicated the marker. Gold Star family members placed a tribute of flowers at the Marker in remembrance of their loved one. The dedication ceremony concluded with refreshments in the fellowship hall of Trinity Church of Reynolds.



**Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!**

## New Lilies, Lacecap Hydrangeas, and Azaleas Added to Marion County Courthouse Landscape



In a showing of unity and support for the Historical Marion County Courthouse, the Beautiful View Garden Club offered Connie Harris, Marion County Manager and the Commissioners aid to improve the Historical Courthouse's landscaping adjacent to the building. Ann Howell of the Beautiful View Garden Club, a Master Gardener, and other skilled members requested a beautification project for the landscaping adjacent to the historical courthouse building.

Due to time, age, and other challenges which landscapes goes through; the site was moving into messy attire. The Garden Club felt it was an excellent time to upgrade, prune, trim, fertilize, repair, and install shrubbery so the landscape could "improve the buildings curb appeal" as people are easy to state in these current times. We need to take care of our Courthouse square.

The goal was to improve the building's curb appeal and to have Downtown Buena Vista's leading lady have her prettiest frock on. The Beautiful View Garden Club has worked off and on with the County Commission to aid with bringing the Courthouse's best "foot" forward since around 1968, when Mrs. Sue Duncan and Mrs. Jo Wright started the Beautiful View Garden Club in Buena Vista.

This project was worked on from January through May with Garden Club members, digging out old roots, trimming, fertilizing, pruning, and installing plants. It was hard work and time consuming, but the landscape project is completed. There were 13 azaleas, three lacecap hydrangea, and numerous lilies installed. It took some real Hemi – horsepower provided by Barbara Hobb's truck to remove some of the old, gnarled roots. It was a good thing that not only did she have hemi power, but she had the chains to bring the stumps out of the ground.

The Courthouse square is important to provide a unique sense of place and serve as a welcoming center to the public. The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. provided a grant of \$200.00 to provide this community the project to beautify or conserve our community setting and benefit all citizens of this community.

The Beautiful View Garden Club is a member of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc and The National Garden Club!

# Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. News

**DID YOU HEAR!!! TAKE NOTICE!!!!**

## Award Applications Due November 15, 2024

**Very Important Announcement from GCG Awards Committee:  
Most Awards Applications are due by November 15, 2024  
This is Adult Awards and Not Youth Awards**

(Approved by GCG Board of Directors in 2024) – For Award Applications previously due on December 1, 2024 – they are now due November 15, 2024.

- Exceptions are Marker Awards #39 and 54 – still due December 1st.
- Other Awards due January 15 and February 1 - are still due on those dates.

Send applications to: [Awardschairmangcga@gmail.com](mailto:Awardschairmangcga@gmail.com) (DIGITAL) or Diana Malone, GCG Awards Chairman, 129 Hannah Drive, Jesup, GA 31546

For questions, please contact Diana Malone by email or text, or phone (770-490-7417)

When sending applications - please include the number of the award as you save the application.

**GOOD NEWS! Grants** are available: **GCG is offering Grants** for several Projects: Flower Show, Blue Star Marker Restoration, Wildflowers, Natural Disaster, Youth Pollinator, Historical Land Preservation, Community on My Mind, Mentoring New Garden Clubs etc. Visit the GCG Website: choose: [gardenclubofgeorgia.org /Member Resource / Grants Available](http://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/MemberResource/GrantsAvailable) to get more information. Finding the information on the GCG website is as easy as shopping on Amazon!

### ***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.*

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# Life Membership - GCG!!!



**The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.**  
**Life Members (GCG State, Deep South, and National)**

## GCG STATE – DEEPSOUTH – NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERS

Giving someone a Life Membership in the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. provides an excellent means of honoring those who have made valuable contributions to your garden club, council, or district. STATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP is \$100.00, DEEP SOUTH is \$50.00, and NATIONAL LIFE is \$200. Benefits are many, and your donation supports a most worthwhile cause. State Life Memberships fund our GCG scholarships and are tax deductible. The person's name will be recorded in the permanent Life Members book displayed at State Headquarters in Athens. The person's name will be published in *GARDEN GATEWAYS*, and he/she will receive a subscription for one year regardless of garden club status. Recognition at State Convention is also customary. Deep South Life Memberships support the Deep South Scholarship Fund. **The honor of a Life Membership does not include omission of the payment of club and state dues.**

If you wish to become a Life Member or gift a membership to someone else, kindly use the below application form. Complete the application, and mail with a check to Bess Hartley. Questions: Contact Bess Hartley at [besshartley@gmail.com](mailto:besshartley@gmail.com) or 229-942-9490

### State, Deep South and/or National Life Membership Application

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Club \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a gift?  Yes  No Date card is to be presented to recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Honored by \_\_\_\_\_

Email Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address to send Membership Card \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ State Life \$100: Make Check Payable to: The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

\_\_\_ Deep South Life \$50: Make Check Payable to: Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

\_\_\_ National Life \$200: Make Check Payable to: National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Mail check along with this application to:  
 Bess Hartley - 250 Cotton Hill Road, Fort Gaines, GA 39851



## Flower Power Returns to GCG Be Ready for Bulb Season

Here's a painless and pretty way to raise money for the Garden Club of Georgia. We've beefed up our relationship with FlowerPower. Get a start on your spring gardens with premium bulbs -- Rembrandt tulips, daffodils, allium, mixed irises and much more. How about sprucing up your rock garden or maybe growing broccoli sprouts? Click on the image below and get started.

# Fundraiser!

## Fall Flower Bulbs

Tulips • Daffodils • Allium • Mixes • More!

**Order Flower Bulbs & Support Our Cause!**

*Online Orders Delivered Directly To Your Door!*

The Garden Club of Georgia is proud to announce its 2024-2025 Fundraiser. We are again using Flower Power for the fall portion of our Fundraiser. This company ships quality bulbs and seeds to the 48 states in the Continental US with 100% guarantee directly to you.

Visit Our Personalized Website By 10/15:  
<http://gardenclubofgeorgia.fpfundraising.com/>

Contact For More Information:  
**Bess Hartley**

Turn In Paper Order Forms By: **NA**

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# National Garden Club, Inc. News

National Garden Clubs provides many educational opportunities through competitions for the youth at the pre-school, elementary, middle, and high school level. Current contests include:

[Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest:](#)  
[High School Distinguished Service Project Award](#)  
[Youth Pollinator Gardens Grant:](#)  
[Essay Contest Flyer & Guidelines](#)

[Poetry Contest:](#)  
[Youth Sculpture Contest](#)

## GO WEST! YOUNG-AT-HEART GARDENER, GO WEST... TO NGC, COLORADO!

**Nilsa Summey, GCG 4<sup>th</sup> VP**



Figure 1 Nilsa Summey and Brenda Moore, NGC President

Magnolia District was represented by only one gardener at the 93<sup>rd</sup> National Garden Club Convention, held June 2-5, 2024, in Westin Westminster, Westminster, Colorado. Where were the rest of you, I wonder?

There were 320+ who did make the trek to Colorado, including 46 of 50 state presidents; two tables of international affiliates from Central and South America; and 8 Georgia delegates (President Lisa Hall; 1<sup>st</sup> VP Diane Hunter; 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Marilyn McDonnell; Immediate Past President Peggy Tucker with her husband, William Tucker; former Laurel DD John Barnett with his wife, Kay Barnett; and yours truly.)

Normally, I would say “what happens at convention, stays at convention;” however, just this one time, I’m going to share a smidgeon of what happened, so that you may want to consider breaking out of your club’s geographically limited routine and plan to attend these upcoming events:

- Magnolia District Annual Meeting in Albany (October 23, 2024);
- 97<sup>th</sup> GCG Convention in Augusta (April 29-30, 2025);

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- Deep South Region Convention in Valdosta (March 11-13, 2025)  
Georgia is hosting this regional convention so a good turnout would be great; and
- NGC Convention (June 2025) specific date/location TBD.



You know what you know, but you don't know what you're missing if you don't go and see what's happening for yourself. At conventions, you'll hear wonderful speakers, go to workshops, and get to shop with vendors. Gee, if you're not careful, you may learn something new to bring back to your club or even make a new friend or two!

The Summeys took two weeks for the 3000-mile round trip, traveling in the comfort of our RV, visiting family and friends along the way. Edwin's long-time college friend drove down from Wyoming to meet us, so they dropped Nilsa off at the convention and they had a guy's visit for a few days. The really nice thing about traveling in an RV is that you can take clothes and shoes for all occasions and for any type of weather. Also, if you happen to purchase any oversized items from the vendors, you have a place to store a 4-1/2-foot-tall metal and stone sculpture lovingly named "Spirit Woman" (because she spoke to me to purchase her! What else I bought and how much I spent is a trade secret. I could tell you... but I'd have to kill you. Ha! Ha!) Vendors had a wide variety of items—purses, totes, scarves, capes/shawls, jewelry, salt lamps, pottery, metal sculptures, etc. In addition, I got to bring home some table decorations because so many attendees were flying home, and they had no room in their carry-on bags—Awww!



Speaking of table decorations, I was surprised at how simple, recyclable, and easily made they were: inexpensive white foam (wig) heads with a wide variety of greenery coverings--some headbands and limited flowers; 2-liter soda bottles cut in half, painted bright neon colors and folded down in intertwining strips to serve as a centerpiece flower holder;



grapevines wrapped inside a glass bowl with one big leaf and only one flower in the center of the bowl, etc. Creativity was the name of the game, and the Colorado garden clubs did not charge for the centerpieces. This creative, low-cost thing might be something to consider next time we host an annual meeting or a convention.

The meetings were the meetings. The entertainment and speakers were the highlights. At one luncheon, Denver socialite and author, Linda Ross introduced The Legendary Ladies of Colorado who performed monologues humorously telling their history and life stories: Calamity Jane (frontierswoman and sharpshooter who told of her relationship with Wild Bill Hickok); the “Unsinkable Molly Brown” (socialite, philanthropist, and survivor of the RMS *Titanic*), and Katherine Lee Bates (professor of English literature, social activist, author and poet chiefly remembered for her anthem “America the Beautiful.”) Floral designs representing each of the legendary ladies were designed by Lynn Fronk, noted flower designer. At the same luncheon, Smokey Bear came to celebrate his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. One dinner speaker, Jim Fricke, Colorado Garden Foundation, went into detail of how two staff people and a bunch of volunteers raised and funded \$10M in scholarships for Colorado students.



Figure 2: L to R: Linda Ross, Calamity Jane, Katherine L. Bates, Unsinkable Molly Brown.

Another dinner speaker, Michelle Provaznik, CEO of the American Public Gardens Association, spoke about improvements to public gardens and parks throughout the United States with lots of pictures.



There were floral exhibits in the open legacy ballroom foyer; multiple tours to the Butterfly Pavilion (a short walk passing by an active prairie dog town) and at the end of the convention an all-day tour of the Betty Ford Alpine Garden in Vail (I missed that one as we were headed back east and south.)

There were several workshops—Parliamentary Procedure/Leadership Seminar; Lavender Workshop where we made lavender sachets; a Design Basics Seminar; a Time for Tea Workshop; and a Getting Started with Canva Seminar showing cut and paste shortcuts and different fonts to make dynamic flyers, programs, etc.

Yes, the rooms and facilities were very nice, and the plated food and service was good too. (Someone on the menu planning committee really liked chocolate desserts.) The cocktail hour before dinner was always informative and quite entertaining. You missed a lot this time, and I’ll see you the next time around. You are planning to go, right???

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## UPCOMING EVENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Check Calendar and Details at

<https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/events-calendar/> :

Also, Check out The Facebook and District Webpage.

Club Presidents, please email the MAGNOLIA MESSENGER to your members as the newsletter will not be sent out by any other method. Thank you for distributing the Magnolia Messenger!

| Georgia Club of Georgia, INC. |             |   |  |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---|--|
| <b>September</b>              | <b>2024</b> |   |  |
| 10                            |             | GCG Board of Directors Meeting  | GCG Headquarters, Athens, Georgia  |
| <b>October</b>                | <b>2024</b> |   |  |
| 4-6                           |             | Camellia- Magnolia District Flower Show   | Georgia State Fairgrounds, Perry, GA.:<br>Design Entry Marideane Maxwell:  |
| 9                             |             | Laurel District Annual Meeting 2024   |  |
| 10                            |             | Dogwood District Annual Meeting 2024  |  |
| 16                            |             | Oleander District Annual Meeting 2024   |  |
| 17                            |             | Azalea District Annual Meeting 2024   |  |
| 22                            |             | Redbud District Annual Meeting 2024   |  |
| 23                            |             | Magnolia District Annual Meeting 2024   |  |
| 24                            |             | Camellia District Annual Meeting 2024   |  |
| <b>November</b>               | <b>2024</b> |   |  |
| 15                            |             | Magnolia Messenger Article deadline for Winter Issue. (Dec, Jan, Feb)           | <a href="mailto:haglerkay@gmail.com">haglerkay@gmail.com</a>   |
| 15                            |             | <b>AWARDS DEADLINE TO BE RECEIVED BY THE GCG AWARDS CHAIRPERSON BY 11.15.24</b> | <b><a href="mailto:Awardschairmangcga@gmail.com">Awardschairmangcga@gmail.com</a> (DIGITAL) or Diana Malone, GCG Awards Chairman</b> |

### MAGNOLIA DISTRICT Magnolia Messenger

Kay Hagler,  
P O Box 436,  
Buena Vista, Ga 31803  
Telephone: Cell for text of voice  
706-566-8540  
Email: [haglerkay@gmail.com](mailto:haglerkay@gmail.com)

#### Magnolia Messenger Deadlines:

Fall Issue (Sep. Oct. Nov.) August 15  
Winter Issue (Dec. Jan. Feb.) November 15  
Spring Issue (Mar. April May) February 15  
Summer Issue (June, July, August) May 15

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