



# Board Briefs

Newsletter from Garden Club of Georgia, Inc Board of Directors  
**Volume XIX - Edition 5 Winter 2025 Michelle Culberson – Editor**



Wow! More strange weather! As I write this Board Briefs, John and I and my neighbor, have just finished wrapping some tropical plants in hopes they make it through the coming week of cold temperatures, rain, potentially freezing rain, and snow! I live in Savannah, on the coast. It has “flaked” twice in the 18 years that I have lived here. But in town there have been inches before. Hopefully by the time you read this in a week or two we have dodged a bullet, and our lovely South Georgia plants have survived!

Our Board continues to work hard to provide you with educational opportunities, information, and fun! You will see some photos and articles in this issue about our most recent fundraiser for the Historic Landscape Preservation Grant Fund held in Marietta November 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have also had more basic design courses around the state.

Coming up, there will be Capitol Conservation Day on March 4 and the Native Plant Symposium at the State Botanical Garden on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Check out the GCG website calendar for more information. And then of course there are the conventions! March 11-13 is the Deep South Convention hosted by GCG in Valdosta, our GCG Convention April 29-30 in Augusta and finally the NGC Convention May 18-22 in North Charleston. Go to the home page of our website for links to all of the details! All will be a great opportunity to meet fellow garden club members, hear great speakers and tour interesting gardens and historic sites.

Soon we will all be able to enjoy the beautiful spring that we have in Georgia. And, plan, refurbish, plant, and enjoy our gardens!

Hope to see you soon!

*Lisa*

# HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION FUNDRAISER 2024



The Laurel District Hosted the Annual Historic Landscape Preservation Fundraiser on November 2, 2024. There were 111 people who attended the event held at the Marietta Educational Garden Center “Fair Oaks” Home on Saturday November 2, 2024.

The event began when Laurel District Director, Cheryl Briscoe welcomed all guests, as well as our very own GCG President Lisa Hall. Boy Scout Troop 287 members presented the American flag and led the guests in the pledge of allegiance. Cheryl then introduced Marietta City Councilman Andy Morris, who welcomed everyone on behalf of the city.

Carol Fey, Marietta Daisies GC, headed a committee of twelve who planned and worked on the event with many volunteers from across the district. They deserve a big thank you for making this day possible. All the proceeds went to fund the GCG Historic Landscape Preservation Fund for next year. Grant applications are on the GCG website.

Pam Hendrix, GCG HLP Fund Chairman, announced the grant recipients for 2023-2024 across the state.

**Marietta Schools Foundation**

**Marietta Educational Garden Center**

**Zion Hill Cemetery**

**Pebble Hill Plantation**

**Lullwater Conservation Garden**

**Dell Goodall House**

Each of them will receive up to \$3000 each to be used as specified in their grant applications. A total of six grants were awarded. The application deadline for this grant is August 1, 2025 and applications can be found on GCG website.



Andy Morris, Marietta City Councilman, Offering a Marietta welcome.



Fair Oaks Docents and GC Members:  
Jennifer Foster, Lisa Callaway, Donya Morris  
and Kathy Kelly



HLP Event Program Chairs, Deborah Paul, and Deanna Sloane



Lynn Fronk, former GA First Lady, Marie Barnes Mikel Vann and Martha Lee Sanders



Gail Bailey with Plein Air Artist

# We Have Cash!

State, regional and national organizations are ready to give you funds. GCG has eliminated most matching grants; we have made it much easier to apply for, too. Please go to the details on each website to get the right information. See the chart below for more information.

<b>Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.</b>			
	<b>What it is for</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Date Restrictions</b>
<a href="#"><u>Blue Star Marker Restoration</u></a>	Restoration only	Up to \$500 per marker	None
<a href="#"><u>Community on My Mind Grant</u></a>	Any worthy civic project	Maximum \$200 annually	Must be started within GCG Fiscal yr. May 1 – Apr 30. Appn. deadline 4/15
<a href="#"><u>Garden Therapy Grant</u></a>	Projects that encourage hands-on gardening by facility residents and/or patients	Maximum \$750 annually	Must be started within GCG Fiscal yr. May 1 – Apr 30. Appn. deadline 4/1
<a href="#"><u>Historic Preservation Landscape Grant</u></a>	Restoration of historic gardens, public landscapes	50/50 matching grant up to \$3000	Appn. Deadline 8/1
<a href="#"><u>New Club Grant</u></a>	To assist in expenses for new garden club	\$100 per fiscal year for 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 years	Appn due by 4/10
<a href="#"><u>Parks and Public Lands Grant</u></a>	For clubs undertaking projects in public parks and/or public lands	Maximum \$200; project sent to DNR, PHSD for additional funds	Apply within GCG Fiscal yr. May 1 – Apr 30.

<a href="#"><u>Flower Show Grant</u></a>	For clubs who have not held a flower show ever or in the past 5 years	Up to \$200 in matching grant	Appn 4 months prior to show
<b>National Garden Clubs, Inc.</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Plant America Grant</u></a>	Any project benefitting community – blue star, schools, public buildings, etc.	Maximum of \$2000 for direct expenses	Apply April 1 through October 15
<a href="#"><u>Espoma</u></a>	Any community gardening project	\$250 in Espoma supplies	Apply October through May 31
<a href="#"><u>Ames Tool Grants</u></a>	Any garden club project involving planting, maintaining	\$450 in Ames Garden Tools	Apply Jan 1 through Mar 1. Project must be completed Mar 1 through Sept 30
<a href="#"><u>Natural Disasters</u></a>	To ameliorate damage from natural disasters in public areas and gardens	Up to \$5000	Awarded in NGC fiscal year June 1 through May 31
<a href="#"><u>Native Plants and Wildflowers Grant</u></a>	To fund planting projects focusing on natives	Up to \$500	Apply 2 months prior to start of project
<b>Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Unified Project</u></a>	Projects focusing on Planting for Pollinators in Public Spaces	\$250 1 <sup>st</sup> place, \$150 2 <sup>nd</sup> place, \$100 3 <sup>rd</sup> place available in several categories	Appn deadline 1/31/25

**For Garden Club members we are calling this  
*The Year of Conventions!***

We hope you will join us at one or all of these events.  
Visit websites to learn more and register for conventions



***Charms of the South***  
**Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention**

**March 11-13, 2025**

**Valdosta, GA**

**Rainwater Conference Center**

***Hosted by The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.***

**Register by 2/17/25 to avoid late fees**

**<https://www.deepsouthgardenclubs.com/convention>**



***Gather on the River***  
**The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.**

**97<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

**April 29-30, 2025**

**Augusta, GA**

**Riverfront Marriott**

**Register by 4/18/25 to avoid late fees**

**<https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/>**



**National Garden Club**  
**Annual Convention 2025**

**May 18-22, 2025**

**North Charleston, SC**

**Embassy Suites by Hilton Charleston Airport**

**Hotel & Convention Center**

**Register by 4/20/25 to avoid late fees**

**<https://gardenclub.org/2025-ngc-convention-details>**

# BASIC DESIGN CLASSES

The Conyers Garden Club sponsored a GCG Basic Floral Design I Class meeting monthly August – December 2024 in Griffin, GA with Anna Burns as instructor. Students attending were from Atlanta, Smoke Rise, Decatur, Griffin, Dunwoody, Stonecrest, and from as far away as Jesup. Unit I was on how to create Line designs with an emphasis on the Oriental Influence and Line Mass designs of American origin. Unit II was creating Mass Design in both Floral and Foliage designs. Unit III Dining Tables centerpieces creating two designs 1. Tall Design and 2. Low Design. Unit IV Designs using fruits and vegetables for which the students created a Williamsburg newel post mass arrangement and Morimono – “Piling up” design. Finally, Unit V Creative Designs and Petite Designs for which the students created three different designs, 1. Creative Line/mass design, 2. Creative mass/tapestry in a box and 3. 12” Creative Petite Design. These successful classes have the students asking for a Basic Design II Course.





# Upcoming Basic Design I Course in Conyers, GA

## Basic Design I Course

February 19 @ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

The Conyers Garden Club is sponsoring a Basic Design I Course in 2025. The class will meet at the Conyers Presbyterian Church in Conyers. Dates for the classes are February 19, March 19, April 16, and May 21, 2025. Session times are 10AM-3PM. The registration for the course is \$125. To register, please click on this link: <https://forms.gle/WfPQqD1Z5TvU2sKJA>

**On-Site Dates:** February 19, 2025 – Line, Line Mass, and Mass Design  
March 19, 2025 – Dining Table Designs  
April 16, 2025 – Creative & Petites  
May 21, 2025 – Botanical Arts: Wreaths and Fruits and Vegetables

*For more information, please contact Gale D. Thomas via phone (404-790-7101) or email ([galedthomas@gmail.com](mailto:galedthomas@gmail.com)).*



# Save the Date

March 4, 2025 8:00 am

## Capitol Conservation Day At the State Capitol

We will gather for a continental breakfast, orientation, and issue briefings/education at the Central Presbyterian Church. Then we will walk across the street to the Capitol for a group photograph and to meet with legislators about timely water legislation. Exact details to follow.



# 2025 Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail Spring Symposium and Native Plant Sale

**SAVE THE DATE**

May 2, 2025

Plains, Georgia



Join us for the annual spring symposium in Miss Rosalynn's hometown of Plains, Georgia. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Allan Armitage, a well-known writer, speaker, and horticulturist. Enjoy other informative speakers as well as a plant sale. Registration information and details to follow. Watch the [rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org/events](https://rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org/events) website for more information and registration. Dr. Allan Armitage is a well-

known writer, speaker, and horticulturist. Born and raised in Quebec and Ontario, he later lived in East Lansing, MI and now resides in Athens, GA. He has worked with landscape plants and greenhouse crops in the North and South and travels the world speaking and sharing his passion for plants. Armitage holds his B.S from McGill University in Montreal, his M.Sc. from University of Guelph, and his Ph.D. from Michigan State University.

# Native Plant Symposium

Growing and protecting native plants are important for many reasons: they celebrate our state and region, they are well suited to our region's growing conditions, and they are the foundation of the complex ecosystem that supports insects, birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals. Native plants can be tough, beautiful plants for your home landscape as well as delicate harbingers of the changing seasons. Join us for this year's Native Plant Symposium to explore the beauty of native plants.

March 5, 2025

9:00 am – 3:30 pm

State Botanical Garden of Georgia

Garden Club of Georgia Headquarters, Terrace Room

Registration \$65 Lunch included

This event is held each year in partnership with the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

Register online: <https://outreachregistration.uga.edu/>



**New Website [www.gardenclubofgeorgia.org](http://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](mailto:Lrethridge110@gmail.com)**

**New YouTube Channel: Contact our YouTube Manager  
with ideas and content**

**Camille Greeley: [Camille.Greeley@gmail.com](mailto:Camille.Greeley@gmail.com) or [Camillegreeley@att.net](mailto:Camillegreeley@att.net)**