



Dogwood Dialogue



Meet our new District Director

Christy Novellas

Dear Dogwood District Members,

First, let me begin by congratulating and welcoming all the new Garden Club Presidents and our new Dogwood District Recording Secretary, Robin Conway.

At the August 13th Dogwood District Board Meeting, we provided lots of information and dates that were compiled and put on a President Quick Guide Sheet to help you and your garden club succeed. I have included an abbreviated guide in this newsletter as well. Helping Dogwood District Garden Clubs succeed is one of our goals.

Please let me know if your club is celebrating a milestone or if you have a special event planned. The Board of the Dogwood District and the President of the Garden Club of Georgia, Diane Hunter would love to help.

With kind regards,

Christy Novellas

Dogwood Dialogue

Save the Date!

Dogwood District Fall Meeting
October 21, 2025 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

In this newsletter you can expect:

GCG and District Highlights

Dogwood District Fundraisers

Statewide and Dogwood District Activities

Navigating the GCG Website

Georgia Bulb Lasagna Plan Using Flower Power

Dogwood District Club Spotlights



2025-2027 District Executive Committee

District Director

Christy Novellas

District Co-Director

Trudy Rudert

Treasurer

Christy Roberts

Recording Secretary

Robin Conway

Corresponding Secretary

Ginny Wolf

Parliamentarian

Barbara Bourque

Advisors

Chris Adams

Monica Bozonier

Member at Large

Debbie Vann



CHRISTY NOVELLAS



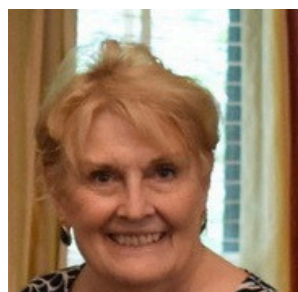
TRUDY RUDERT



CHRISTY ROBERTS



ROBIN CONWAY



BARBARA BOURQUE



GINNY WOLF



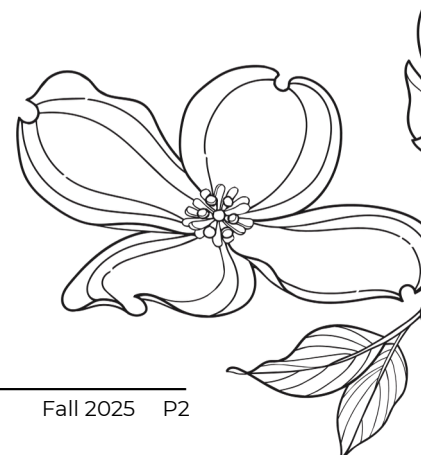
CHRIS ADAMS



MONICA BOZONIER



DEBBIE VANN





Dogwood District Fall Meeting



66TH DOGWOOD DISTRICT
ANNUAL FALL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025

Peachtree Road United Methodist Church
Grace Hall
3180 Peachtree Road, NE
Atlanta, GA 30305



Featured Speaker:

Sarah Carter, VP, Goizueta Gardens, Atlanta History Center

Honored Guest:

Diane Hunter, President, Garden Club of Georgia

Hosted By:

Gardenia Garden Club, Greystone Garden Club, Mimosa Garden Club,
Peachtree Battle Garden Club, Rose Garden Club, Planters Garden Club

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION
FORM](#)





Dogwood District Fall Meeting

1. The District Memorial Service

At the Fall Annual Meeting, we honor all Garden Club Members who have passed away from October 11, 2024 to the present. We are very sorry for your loss, and we want to take this opportunity to honor your Garden Club member. Please provide their name, date of death and your Garden Club's name.

Please send the information to: Phyllis Hogan at pmhogan1@comcast.net



**Dogwood District asks that every club donate a raffle basket
with a theme of your choosing in the amount of \$100**

Please attach this information to the basket:

Club Name and City

Basket Theme

Basket Items and Values

Total Basket Value

**If your club prefers not to donate a raffle basket,
please consider a donation to the**

**Dogwood District and mail a check payable
to the Dogwood District to**

Christy Roberts, 4261 Club Drive NE, Atlanta, GA 30319

**PLEASE EMAIL DEBBIE VANN AT debgailvann@gmail.com
IF YOUR CLUB WILL BE DONATING A BASKET.**





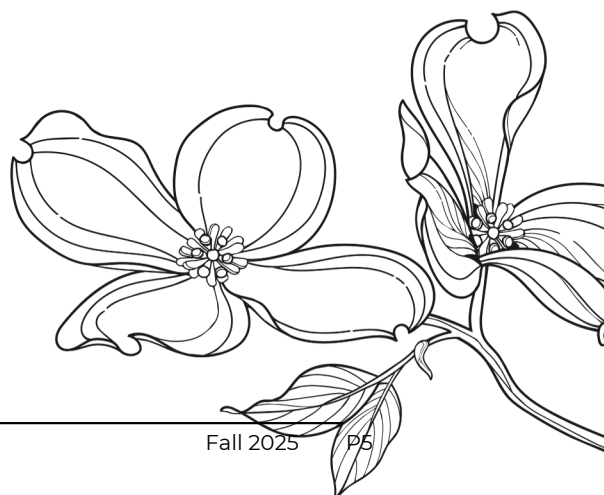
The Purpose of the Garden Club of Georgia

The purpose of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, to share the advantages of association by means of educational meetings, correspondence, and publications, and to restore, improve, and protect the quality of the environment through Beautification, Conservation, and Education. The purpose of the Dogwood District is to promote the Missions of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., and The National Garden Club. We will be working together to provide the best garden club experience for our members. Using the Theme of Beautification, Conservation, and Education to improve your communities, you can make a big impact! Together, we can improve Cities, States and even the World!!

Save the Date!

GCG 98th Annual Convention 2026

April 1st - 3rd, Peachtree City, GA





Dogwood District Meetings

The District Annual Meeting will be held in the Fall at locations rotating throughout the 6 designated areas within Dogwood District. The date of the meeting will be determined by the GCG President. The Fall Annual Meeting will be financially self-supporting.

PRESIDENTS – make note of your Garden Club's Area per the below schedule. Your club will need to plan for this event.

List of Dogwood District Clubs - Organized by Area Each Area Clubs Host the Dogwood District Fall Meeting in the Year Listed As of August 2025

Area	Club Code	Club Name
AREA 1 Clubs Host in 2030	06-008	ARTISTIC DOGWOOD GARDEN CLUB
	06-373	PINE CENTER GARDEN CLUB
	06-525	SPADE AND TROWEL GARDEN CLUB
	06-545	AMA-KANASTA GARDEN CLUB
	06-550	TOWN & COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB
AREA 2 Clubs Host in 2025	06-175	GARDENIA GARDEN CLUB
	06-190	GREYSTONE GARDEN CLUB
	06-285	MIMOSA GARDEN CLUB
	06-385	PLANTERS GARDEN CLUB
	06-345	PEACHTREE BATTLE GARDEN CLUB
	06-425	ROSE GARDEN CLUB
AREA 3 Clubs Host in 2026	06-030	BOXWOOD GARDEN CLUB
	06-075	CHEROKEE GARDEN CLUB
	06-195	HABERSHAM GARDEN CLUB
	06-240	IVY RIDGE GARDEN CLUB
	06-335	NORTHWOOD GARDEN CLUB
	06-340	PEACHTREE GARDEN CLUB
	06-380	PINE TREE GARDEN CLUB

Area	Club Code	Club Name
AREA 4 Clubs Host in 2027	06-010	ATKINS PARK GARDEN CLUB
	06-040	BROOKWOOD HILLS GARDEN CLUB
	06-130	DRUID HILLS GARDEN CLUB
	06-250	IVY GARDEN CLUB
	06-370	PIEDMONT GARDEN CLUB
	06-390	POPPY GARDEN CLUB
	06-400	PRIMROSE GARDEN CLUB
AREA 5 Clubs Host in 2028	06-060	CAMELLIA GARDEN CLUB
	06-090	CLUB ESTATES GARDEN CLUB
	06-230	INDIAN CREEK GARDEN CLUB
	06-235	IRIS GARDEN CLUB
	06-275	MAGNOLIA GARDEN CLUB
	06-435	SANDY SPRINGS GARDEN CLUB
AREA 6 Clubs Host in 2029	06-105	COUNTRY HILLS GARDEN CLUB
	06-447	SPALDING GARDEN CLUB
	06-517	ALPHARETTA GARDEN CLUB
	06-553	DULUTH GARDEN CLUB
	06-555	BELLMERE GARDEN CLUB
	06-600	NORCROSS GARDEN CLUB
	06-620	ROSWELL GARDEN CLUB



Dogwood District 2025 - 2026 Dates

Important Deadline Dates:

11/1/2025 – Deadline to submit articles/photos for Dogwood Dialogue Newsletter

October 12, 2025 - Registration Deadline for the October 21st Fall Annual Meeting

September - December - Dogwood District Annual Bulb & Wreath Fundraiser: Deadline Dates Vary **November 15, 2025** - Deadline to submit articles/photos for Dogwood Dialogue Newsletter **January 20, 2026** - Deadline to submit article/photos for Dogwood Dialogue Newsletter

Important Dogwood District Meeting Dates:

October 21, 2026 - Dogwood District Fall Annual Meeting

Location: Peachtree Road United Methodist Church (PRUMC)

January 21, 2026 - Dogwood District Board Meeting at Lost Corner Preserve, Sandy Springs, GA

2025 Convention Dates:

March 16-21 2026 - Deep South Region Annual Convention – Eastern Caribbean Cruise

April 1-3 2026 - GCG 98th Annual Convention, Peachtree City, GA

May 4-6 2026 - National Garden Club, Inc. Convention, Omaha, Nebraska

Save the Date!

November 15, 2025
Deadline to submit articles/photos for Dogwood Dialogue Newsletter



Dogwood District 2025 - 2026 Dates

Fulton Federation Meeting

Dates:

All regular meetings are held at
Northside Drive Baptist Church - Art
and Soul Room, Location: 3100
Northside Dr. Atlanta 30305
Refreshments at 10:15 am with meeting
at 10:30.

Monday, Sept. 8, 2025

Tips and Tricks of Growing Orchids
Speaker Janice Gummerod

Monday, Nov. 10, 2025

The Wonders of the Okefenokee Swamp
Speaker Lynn McIntyre

Monday, January 12, 2026

Pruning: Feel Empowered to Prune,
Best Tools and Techniques
Speaker Barbara Dorfman

Monday, March 9, 2026

All about Hummingbirds and Pollinator
Plants
Speaker Melanie Furr

Monday, May 4, 2026

Annual Awards Luncheon
The Taming of a Few: Wild Native Plants
in Your Garden
Speaker Mark Warren
This event is at Bellmere Garden House
10777 Bell Road, Johns Creek, GA 30096
Registration at 10:30 with program and
Lunch 11am-2pm

Other Important Dates:

Garden Club of Georgia Week

April 19-25, 2026 Third Full Week in April

National Garden Club Week

June 7-13 First Full Week in June

Email Addresses or URLs:

GCG Office in Athens

- gcgaua@gmail.com

GCG Website

- <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/>

Dogwood District page on website

- <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/dogwood-district-page/>

Dogwood District Newsletter and Garden Gateways

- dogwooddialoguearticles@gmail.com

Christy Novellas, Dogwood District Director

- cnovellas@aol.com
- dogwooddistrictdirector@gardenclubofgeorgia.org



DOGWOOD DISTRICT 2025 FUNDRAISERS

Flower Power Fall Bulbs

OPEN NOW!

Tulips, daffodils, etc. Check it out!

<http://gardenclubofgeorgiadogwooddistrict.fpfundraising.com>

Order online by October 15.

Pay \$6.99 shipping on your entire order.

Delivered to your home in time for fall planting.



Three Rivers Wreaths

Order online beginning October 15 and ending December 1. We will send out the link once we have it.

o Orders delivered to your choice of any place in contiguous USA and with your choice of three different shipping weeks around Thanksgiving through early December.



If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Trudy Rudert Dogwood District Co-Chair

Home: 770-446-1428 Leave a voice message if I do not answer.



STATEWIDE AND DOGWOOD DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

Garden Club of Georgia

Projects

- Blue, Gold and Historical Markers CWP - Community Wildlife Project Certifications Roadside
- Beautifications and Wildflowers
- Garden Therapy Community on my
- Mind Habitat for Humanity Garden
- Week Arboreta and Botanic Garden
- Historic Landscape Preservation
- Marshall Forest and LeConte-Woodmanston Youth Programs Parks and Public Lands
-
-

- Ronald McDonald Pull a Tab
- National Garden Club Projects
- State Parks and Public Lands
- Scholarships
- Environmental School
- Gardening School
- Landscape Design School
- Flower Show
- Natural Disaster

For more information on these projects go to www.gardenclubofgeorgia.org. From the menu, click on Projects and Programs. Select the project or program to see more details.



Habitat for Humanity

GCG encourages all clubs and districts to work with their local offices of Habitat for Humanity to locate homes in need of beautification landscape projects. Clubs can do plantings, provide gardening tools and supplies, and educate new homeowners on the care and maintenance of their new landscaping. Please consider working on a Habitat for Humanity project in your community. Find more information at the National Garden Clubs, Inc. website: <https://gardenclub.org/blog/habitat-humanity-landscaping>



Dogwood District Gold Star Marker Grant Program

Did You Know? Dogwood District has established a grant in the amount of \$500 to help Dogwood District Garden Clubs (clubs in good standing with GCG) defray the higher costs of installing a Blue Star Memorial Marker or a Gold Star Family Memorial marker. There is a limit of one \$500 grant per Marker club/term. Go to the Dogwood District page on the GCG website for application.



NAVIGATING THE GCG WEBSITE

There is a lot of information that is available to GCG members. Some of it is important to officers, some of it is important to members, all of it is available at the click of your mouse. But you need to have a clue on where to find that information. This article will help familiarize you with the Garden Club of Georgia State website and what information can be found there.

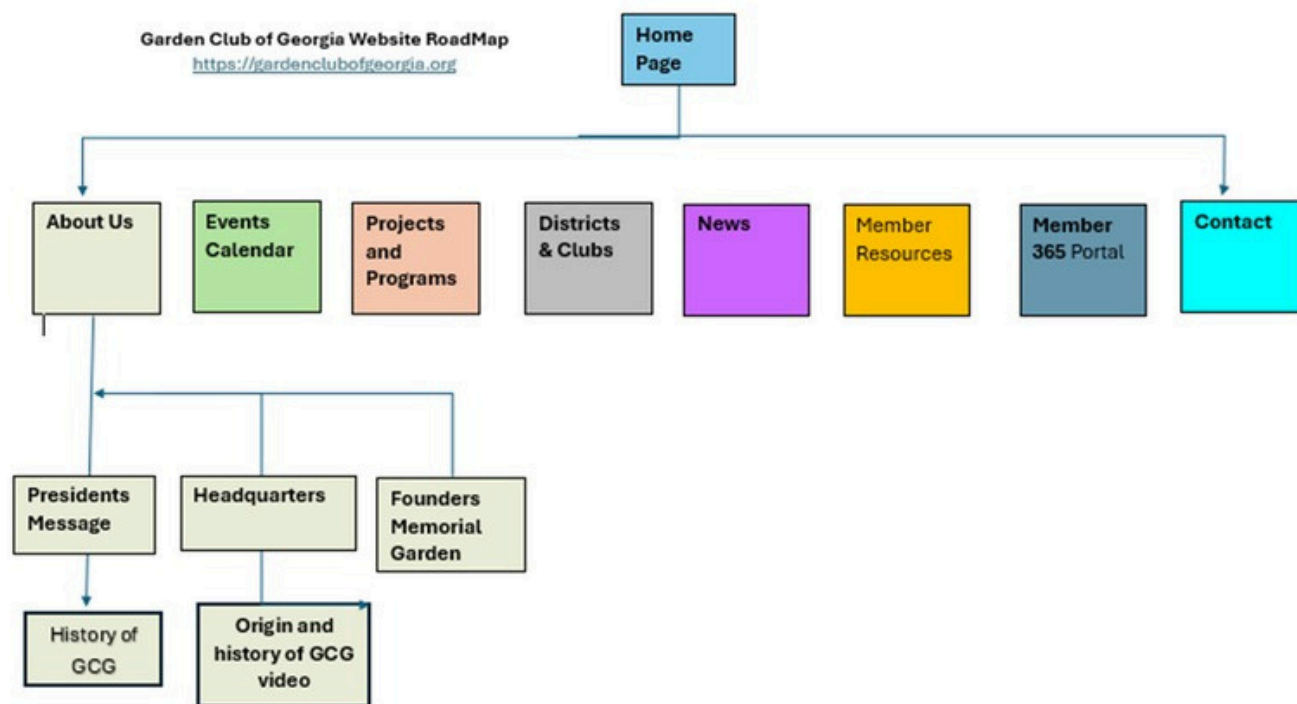
Finding the website

If you have not been on the website yet, the first task is to be aware of its existence and then being able to find it. The address for the website is:
<https://www.gardenclubofgeorgia.org>.

Home page and Main Menu

The first page that you will visit is the Home page. This is a welcome page and includes the latest information. As of this writing you will find an introduction to the new Social Media pages, the most current Awards booklet, Publication information, some education information and a calendar in list form of some of the upcoming events across the state. This page is changing all the time so be sure to check back to the Home page periodically.

At the top of the page, you will find the Main Menu.





I have included the sub menu under - About Us. If you are a new member or are just curious about what is there, you can check out the information found here. It is a good background of the organization including a welcome from the current president. Most of the information in the section will not change often, the history will be updated when we change presidents as will the president's welcome. You probably will not visit here often.

The Events Calendar is just like it sounds, a calendar of events around the state. If your club is sponsoring an event that you would like to have the public and other garden club members attend, send your information to your District Director and she can forward it on the be added to the calendar. Check this often, especially when scheduling an event that may collide with State or District events.

News is stories sent in by clubs about things that they have done or may be doing. We would love to have your information to share on Social Media and in our News section. Send your stories and photos to GCGSocialMediaStars@gmail.com to be included.

Member 365 Portal is a direct link to our Member365 login screen. All club presidents and treasurers should have access to Member365 to keep their club rosters updated. If you have any questions when trying to use Member365 (presidents and treasurers only), contact our Office Manager Arianne Knowlton at GCG Headquarters. Her email is gcguga@gmail.com.

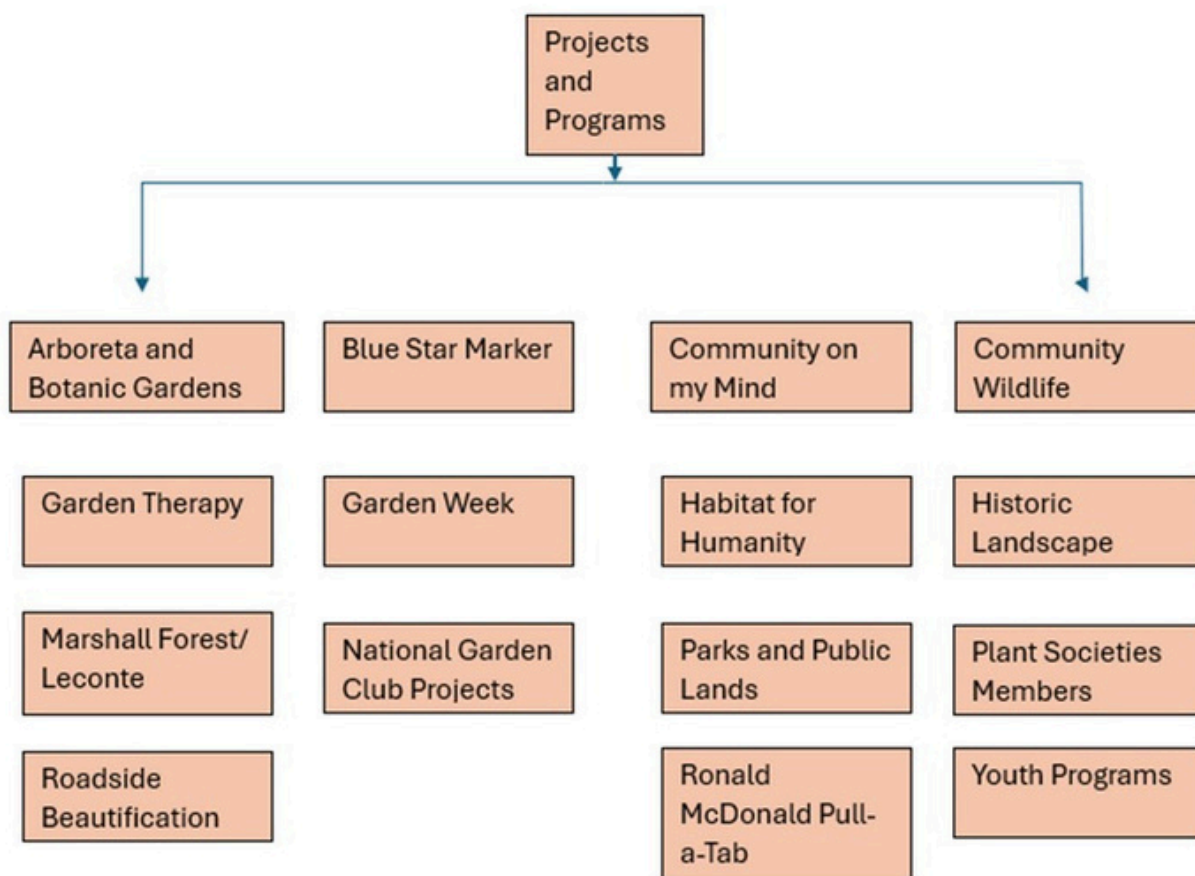
Contact is for general questions about GCG or for the public interested in joining a garden club. There are forms to fill out that will be sent to us for reply. Emails are rerouted to the appropriate people. You should not have to use this often as you will have more direct ways to reach the people who can answer your questions.

Menus to know

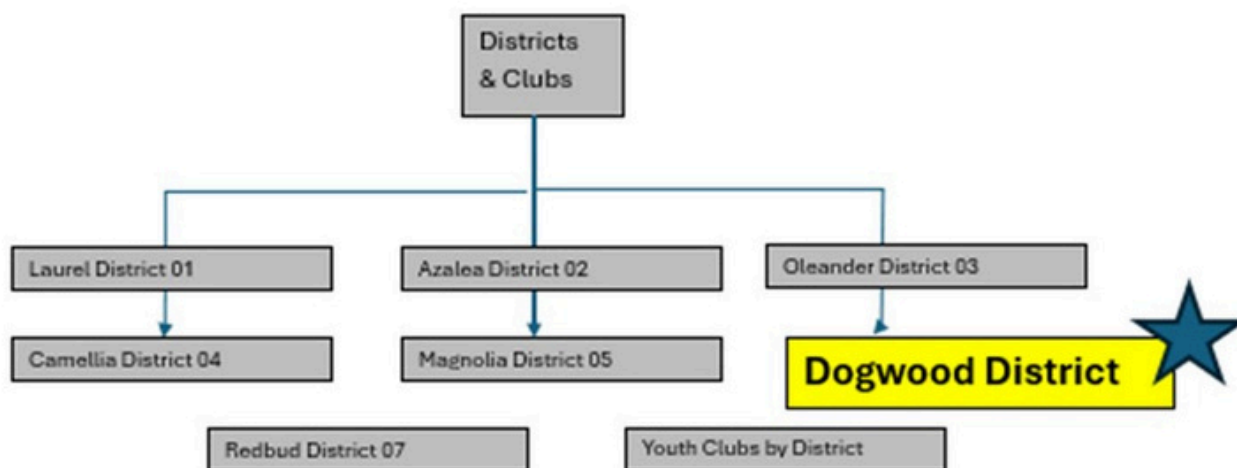
Three of the menus' entries were not mentioned above. They will be the ones you will use the most and they all have submenus to help navigate.

Projects and Programs- this section includes all the GCG and National projects that are supported. Here you can find details about each project as well as the name and contact details for the state chair. Be sure to check this section if you have any questions about the GCG projects. National Garden club projects will have a link to the National Garden Club website with that information.

(See diagram on the next page)



Districts & Clubs – This will be the section that you will visit most. Each district has a page dedicated to that district. Dogwood District is district 06 and the districts are listed in numerical order.





The Dogwood District symbol, District Director and a map of the district are the first things you will see on the page.



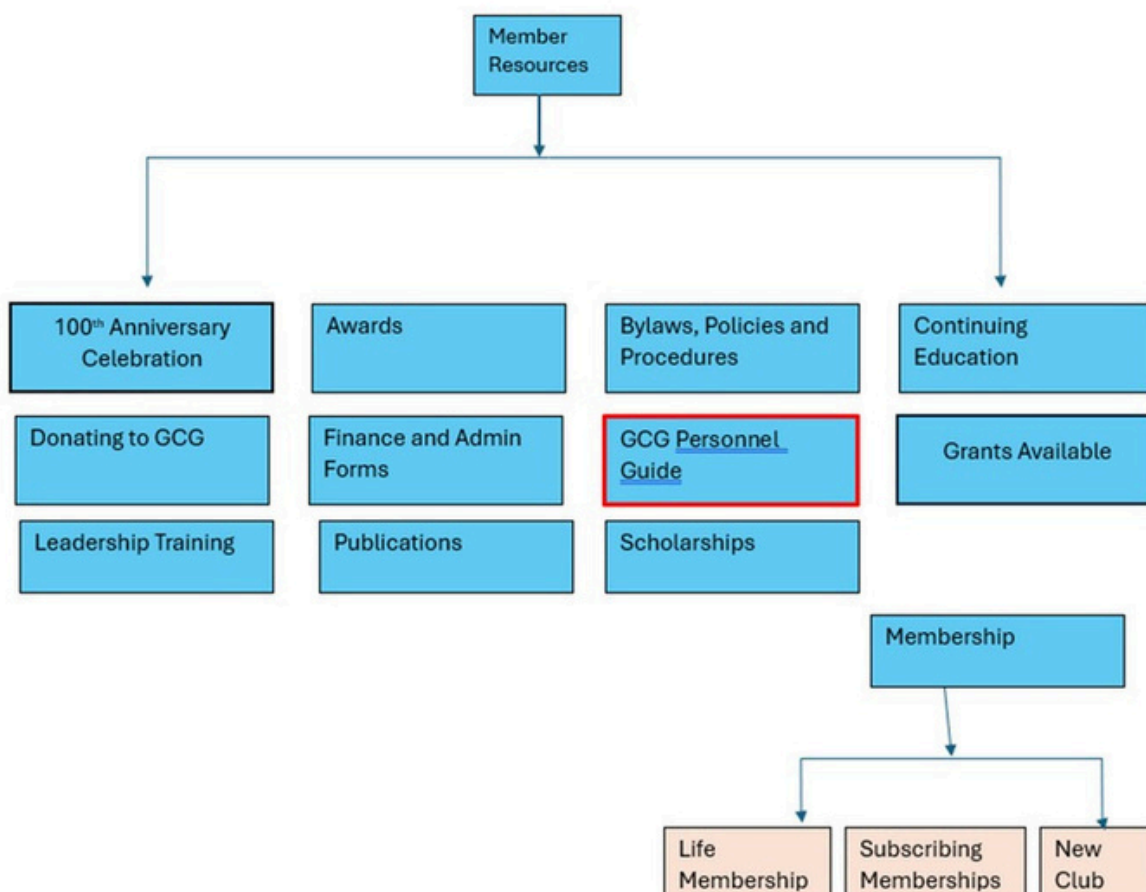
Information found on this page:

- District Information
 - Executive Committee members
 - District Meeting information
 - Newsletters (last 4 issues)
 - Forms such as Policies and Procedures, Forms for District awards, etc.
 - Fall Fundraising Flier
- What's Happening
- Photos
- Full List of District clubs – Full list of all clubs in the district including their club number and a link to their website or Facebook page if they have one.

If there is anything else that you feel would benefit you as a district member that is missing from this page, please reach out to me Chris Adams, at webmaster@gardenclubofgeorgia.org



Member Resources- contains access to all information that pertains to the Garden Club of Georgia members. This is a very useful section to familiarize yourself with and to visit often.



Be sure to explore the items on this list. We will discuss several of them here.

Awards – The 2025-2027 Awards booklet can be found here along with the award application form and some samples. Visit here to apply for your awards.

Continuing Education – Did you know that you can get continuing education in Landscape Design, Gardening School and Environmental school. You can also train to be a Flower Show judge. All that information can be found here.

Finance and Admin Forms – This is where you will find forms that will help you run your club. The link to the President's report will be here when ready and forms for making donations to GCG are also located here.



GCG Personnel Guide – This section is the only one that requires a PASSWORD. If you do not have the password, check with your club president or your district director. We do not publish this password so that we can keep that personal information for just our members. You can get contact information for all state board members and district board members.

Leadership Training – Did you miss the Leadership and Awards Workshop this summer? It is offered every other year in the odd years. Since the information presented is very useful, it has been recorded and presented here. You can find just the section that may be useful to you. You will also find copies of the information attendees received at the meeting here.

Publications – This is the place to find a PDF version of the Garden Gateways if you like to read it electronically. There are also some great Landscape Design articles and many other publications that you may find interesting.

Membership – Want to add a subscribing member to your club? Do you know a group that would like to form a new garden club? This is the place to find that information.

Be sure to explore the Member Resources section as well as the whole website. The more familiar you are with the information that can be found here the more you will find you visit the site. Take it in small bites and do not let it overwhelm you. This is your website, and it needs to be useful to you. Reach out if you have suggestions: webmaster@gardenclubofgeorgia.org.

Chris Adams
Webmaster
gardenclubofgeorgia.org

Don't forget to submit your articles to have your club featured in Dogwood Dialogue Winter Issue. **Deadline to submit is November 15th.**

Send articles to Tracee Shaw at
DogwoodDialogueArticles@gmail.com



GEORGIA BULB LASAGNE PLAN USING FLOWER POWER AND COLOR BLEND

By: Linda Doiron- GCG 3rd Vice President

With fall upon us, it's time to start thinking about bulbs. And with our Dogwood District bulb fundraiser underway, it's also a great opportunity to purchase bulbs that will both enhance your garden and containers and support our district. Here's a Georgia-friendly bulb lasagne plan. Lasagne is the plural of lasagna, and a fitting name for this planting method, which layers bulbs to make the most of small spaces and extend your bloom season. The result is a dense, colorful arrangement in a single container or bed. The plan uses bulbs that thrive in our winters and complement each other beautifully. It's designed for USDA zone 7 to 8, making it ideal for most of Georgia.

In choosing your bulbs from Flower Power, you need to consider a three-layer approach where your bottom layer will be your late bloomers (such as tulips, alliums, or fritillaries). Your middle layer will be mid-spring bloomers (such as hyacinths, daffodils or smaller alliums). Your top layer will be your earliest bloomers (such as crocuses, grape hyacinths, or snowdrops). Your container or your bed depth must be at least 14 inches, but if you're going to include the early bloomers amaryllis and paperwhites through Color Blends, then plant to a depth of 18 inches.

Next is the layering process-first add drainage material, pot feet or gravel to prevent rotting, and then fill with soil to the first layer's planting depth, placing bulbs pointy side up. Cover with more soil and repeat each layer of offsetting bulbs so they're not directly above each other.

Your finishing touch is to top with soil, water well and add a layer of mulch. If you're working with a container, you can plant winter pansies, violas or heucheras on top for immediate color until your bulbs emerge. **(See visual reference on page 18.)**

Links for the bulbs for our fundraiser are:

- Flower Power
<https://www.flowerpowerfundraising.com/marketplace/seller/profile/shop/gardenclubofgeorgiadogwooddistrict>
- Color Blends: <https://pci.jotform.com/form/252164704376155>





DUNWOODY
GARDEN CLUB

Please join us for a special presentation

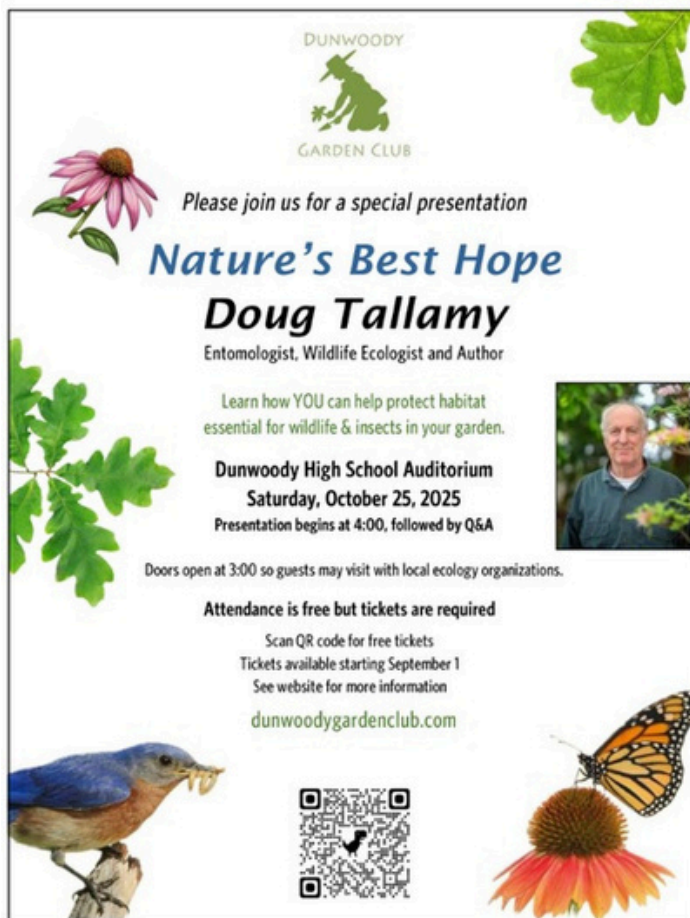
Nature's Best Hope
Doug Tallamy
Entomologist, Wildlife Ecologist and Author

Learn how YOU can help protect habitat essential for wildlife & insects in your garden.

Dunwoody High School Auditorium
Saturday, October 25, 2025
Presentation begins at 4:00, followed by Q&A

Doors open at 3:00 so guests may visit with local ecology organizations.

Attendance is free but tickets are required
Scan QR code for free tickets
Tickets available starting September 1
See website for more information
dunwoodygardenclub.com



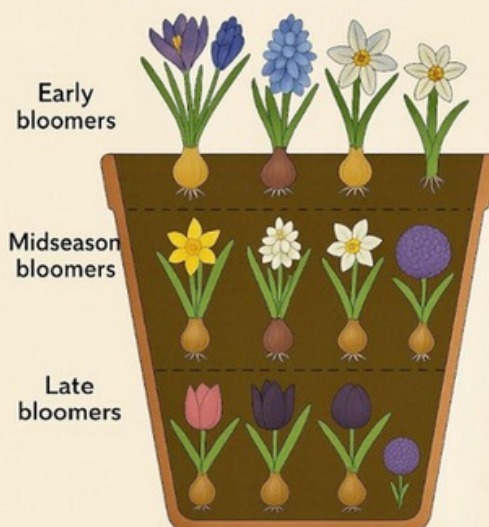
Welcome to the Dogwood District Family!

Johns Creek Garden Club

**Peachtree Corners Garden Club and
Suwanee Garden Club** -- Both in Gwinnett.

Trillium Garden Club is at the confluence of Gwinnett, Hall and Forsyth Counties. Several of their founding members are Gwinnett Master Gardeners.

Georgia Bulb Lasagne Plan



Container depth must
be at least 14 inches

Place bulbs in layers to stagger bloom times



GREAT EVENTS.....

Redbud District Clubs Dunwoody Garden Club

We are Nature's Best Hope—Growing a Better World in Your Backyard!

The Dunwoody Garden Club is thrilled to host renowned ecologist and author Doug Tallamy for a special public presentation on Saturday, October 25, 2025, at Dunwoody High School.

Dr. Tallamy, author of *Bringing Nature Home*; *The Living Landscape* (co-authored with Rick Darke); *Nature's Best Hope*; *The Nature of Oaks*; and his latest book, *How Can I help?* will provide insights into the connection between native plants and healthy ecosystems. His presentation will offer practical strategies for creating beautiful, biodiverse gardens that support wildlife and strengthen the ecological health of our community. Garden Club members are dedicated to gardening and environmental stewardship and this is a great opportunity to learn how even small changes can help to improve our fragile ecosystem. Together, we can foster a deeper understanding of how our gardens can become powerful cornerstones of conservation. **From 3:00–4:00 PM**, you'll be able to engage with members of the Georgia Native Plant Society and other groups dedicated to preserving our fragile eco-system. **Dr. Tallamy will speak at 4:00 PM, followed by a question and answer session.**

The Dunwoody Garden Club
Patsy Newton, President

Event Details

What: Presentation by Doug Tallamy

Topic: Nature's Best Hope

When: Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 3:00 PM

Where: Dunwoody High School Auditorium, 5035 Vermack Rd.,
Dunwoody, GA 30338

Hosted by: Dunwoody Garden Club

Admission: Free, but you must register to secure a seat.

More Info/Contact email: dunwoodygardenclub@gmail.com or
call/text Allison Metheny at 770-309-2640

Ticket Registration begins September 10: dunwoodygardenclub.com



Dogwood District Clubs Bellmere Garden Club

Bellmere Garden Club was pleased to dedicate both a Blue Star Memorial Marker and a Gold Star Family Memorial Marker on May 27, 2025, at the Veterans Walk at Newtown Park in Johns Creek. Club members welcomed State and District Board Members, members from other garden clubs, as well as many local dignitaries - for the dedication ceremony and reception that followed. We appreciated the participation of the Color Guard from the Johns Creek Veterans Association and the bagpiper playing 'Amazing Grace' which added to the solemnity of the occasion.





DOGWOOD DISTRICT CLUB SPOTLIGHTS

Dogwood District Clubs Artistic Garden Club



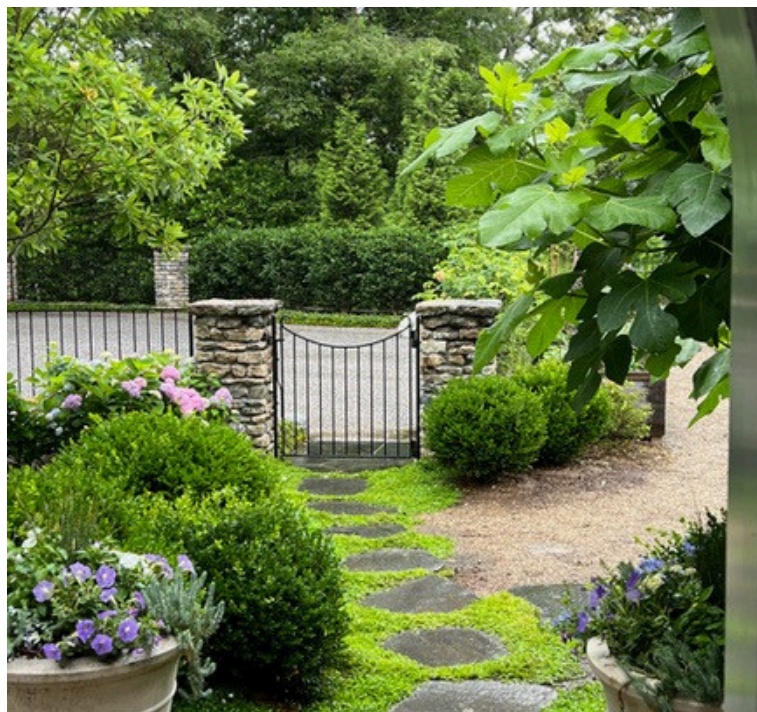
Celebrating the Summer: On July 19, 2025 the Artistic Dogwood Garden Club had a marvelous time at the Sipping Plant. Club members and our guest (and hopefully new member) created succulent terrariums, and enjoyed tasty treats and beverages.

Pictured are Helen Stewart, Felicia B. Heard, Jenelle Wilson, Tamala Williams, Sharlonne Smith, our guest Judi Sheppard, Brenda Hewitt, Sandra Lakes, and (front) Henrietta Robinson.

Suwanee Garden Club

The Suwanee Garden Club hit the ground running after their very first official meeting, channeling their enthusiasm and shared passion into preserving and enhancing the beauty of the memorial gardens. With hands in the soil and hearts full of purpose, members immediately began working side by side to nurture the space into a flourishing symbol of remembrance and community pride. Their efforts not only honored the history and significance of the gardens but also set the tone for the club's mission—to blend service, stewardship, and creativity in a way that enriches both the landscape and the spirit of Suwanee. They also hosted their first event Cooking with Herbs.





We are truly grateful so many members of other Garden Club of Georgia clubs were able to attend and enjoy Cherokee Garden Club's third biennial Cherokee Garden Tour on April 16th. The Tour featured five beautiful gardens in Atlanta's Buckhead community designed by landscape architects such as John Howard, Alex Smith and Bill Smith.

All proceeds from Tour sponsorships benefit the Cherokee Garden Club Community Fund, founded in 2008. Proceeds from the 2019 and 2023 Tours allowed the Fund to award an additional \$125,000 to local organizations. The projects supported by these grants included funding a trip to the Atlanta Botanical Garden for homeless children from the Boyce Ansley School, plantings at Atlanta Memorial Park, critical tree care following a record freeze at historic Oakland Cemetery, and providing supplies for a horticultural therapy program at Skyland Trail.

Dogwood District Clubs Cherokee Garden Club



photo credit Paula Hennessy



photo credit Robin Croft