



2025-2027 VOL 4 SPRING 2026

# Magnolia Messenger

**DISTRICT DIRECTOR:****Marilyn Aldrich,****2025-2027**

591 Brannon Montgomery Road

Mauk, GA 31058

Cell: 229-314-0892

[mwaldrich1@aol.com](mailto:mwaldrich1@aol.com)**CO-DIRECTOR:****Ann Howell**

P.O. Box 171,

Buena Vista, GA. 31803

Cell: 229-939-1766

[Annshowell50@gmail.com](mailto:Annshowell50@gmail.com)**RECORDING SECRETARY:****Drenda Sternenber**

Cell: 229-894-0982

[drenda.sternenberg@gmail.com](mailto:drenda.sternenberg@gmail.com)**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:****Janice Mohr**

Phone: 478-654-6359/

478-918-5717

[mohrj@hotmail.com](mailto:mohrj@hotmail.com)**TREASURER:****Janis Webb**

Cell: 229-938-1451

[webb2048@bellsouth.net](mailto:webb2048@bellsouth.net)**PARLIAMENTARIAN:****Bess Hartley**

Cell: 229-942-9490

[bessbhartley@gmail.com](mailto:bessbhartley@gmail.com)**CHAPLAIN:****Carolyn H. Culpepper**

Cell: 229-942-8649

[carolyn.hartley41@yahoo.com](mailto:carolyn.hartley41@yahoo.com)**Content This Issue:****Magnolia District News P1****Club News P12****GCG News P19****NGC News P--****Calendar of Events P 21**

## DIRECTORS CORNER

### Director's Corner – Spring 2026

Ready or not, the 2026 Garden Club of Georgia “Celebrate America” is happening in Peachtree City April 1-3. Our Magnolia District in conjunction with the Garden Club of Georgia is hosting the convention. Kay Hagler and all her Chairpersons have been hustling to secure quality speakers, collect raffle items for our baskets, prepare door prizes, and plan quality exhibits for the convention. GCG has set up Flower Design classes, a Garden Party, some fabulous meals, and an exciting awards banquet. I would say come and enjoy—instead I must say come and plan to work as you enjoy all the convention has to offer. You can register online or by mail using forms in the Garden Gateways or Magnolia Messenger. Registrations are due by March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Spring is around the corner. It is time to sharpen your tools and be ready to start “digging in the dirt”. Plant sales are “springing” up all over. See our calendar for

## ***DIRECTORS CORNER continues***

Oglethorpe Garden Club plant sale. They work all year propagating plants from their own yards and gardens making them available for everyone. They are tried and true varieties for our weather.

Remember there will be vendors at the Magnolia Garden Club's "Fantasy in Flowers" and the Butterfly Garden Symposium and Native Plant sales. Hopefully, our homes will soon be adorned with those patriotic gardens of red, white, and blue as we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation.

Mark your calendars for the unveiling of the Rosalynn Carter Memorial Marker at 3:00 PM of May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Plains Visitor's Center.

All of our clubs are looking for new members. Georgia Garden Week and National Garden week are prime times to be visible in your communities.

Many of you worked on club, district, council, and federation history for our Centennial Committee as we plan to celebrate the first 100 years of the Garden Club of Georgia in 2028. Excitement is in the air as we see plans progress to that BIG celebration.

## **Magnolia District Co-Director Report**

### **Magnolia District Co-Director, Ann Howell**

As Magnolia District Co-Director it is good to report that this district has had a slight increase in membership since the October 2025 report. Membership totals according to the GCG website indicate that the 23 clubs in the Magnolia District now have 470 members. This increase of 8 members since October 2025 is good but meanwhile there is a reported loss of 29 total members in the district since 2024. There are currently 27 paid Subscribing members in Magnolia District.

All club presidents and members are encouraged to check in your area and reach out to more people who might be interested in joining your club. One club recently added four new members after a veteran club member invited ladies from her church. Advertise special events in the newspaper or social media. Share with friends in the gym, church or school groups.

On April 1-3, 2026, the Magnolia District is hosting the GCG Convention in Peachtree City with Kay Hagler and Sybil Willingham serving as Chairman and Co-

Chairman. This is a great opportunity to invite a good friend to go as your guest by sharing the expense of the registration and hotel to offer the opportunity for this friend to discover “What Garden Club is All About”.

Now is the time to GROW our District by introducing new people, new ideas and new friendships that last for many years.

## **MAGNOLIA DISTRICT NEWS**

### **The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. 98th Convention, April 1,2,3, 2026**



**Don't miss The Fabulous Convention in Peachtree City.**

Magnolia District cordially invites you to join us as we learn more about the environment on the spaceship called Earth. On the day you arrive vendors will be set up for you to have a fun shopping experience before gathering for the opening meeting and where you will learn about Medicines in Nature and those little monarch butterflies migrations. The Keynote speaker will be Dr. Jaap De Roope of Emory University at 10 am for the opening meeting.

Please **consider contributing a Raffle Basket** as a fund raiser for the Convention. It is fun to see how creative people can be in the creation of the Raffle Baskets! Be sure to get the basket to someone attending the Convention, well ahead of time. Remember that Magnolia District is Hosting the Convention and working hard to make it fun.

**CONVENTION  
DEADLINE:**



**REGISTRATION  
March 14, 2026**

Convention April 1-3, 2026

Crowne Plaza SW Peachtree City Hotel Convention Center, Peachtree City, GA

**Healthier Environment, Healthier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**



## THE GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA, INC. 98<sup>TH</sup> CONVENTION

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Wednesday April 1, 2026

6:00 am – 10:00 am	Breakfast Buffet <b>(Pre-registration Required)</b>	Two01 Restaurant
8:00 am – 6:00 pm	Registration	Convention Center Main Lobby
10:00 am – 11:30 am	Opening Session <b>Speaker: Dr. Jaap de Roode</b>	McIntosh Ballroom
<i>“Building Gardens to Provide Pollinators and Other Animals With Medicine”</i>		
11:30 am – 7:00 pm	Vendors	Aberdeen Pre-Function Area
11:30 am – 7:00 pm	Exhibits <b>Lunch (On your own)</b>	Aberdeen Pre-Function Area
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	<b>Mass Designs Floral Workshop</b> <b>Presenter: Anna Burns</b> <b>(Pre-registration Required)</b>	Room 127
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	<b>Breakout Session</b> <b>Speaker: Suzanne Finger</b>	McIntosh Ballroom
<i>“A Taste of the American Landscape – History of the American Kitchen Garden”</i>		
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	<b>The Garden Club</b> Cocktails & Conversation (Cash Bar) District Photos (Schedule to be Announced)	Upstairs Balcony Area
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	<b>Awards Banquet</b>	Aberdeen Ballroom



#### Thursday April 2, 2026

6:00 am – 10:00 am	Breakfast Buffet <b>(Pre-registration Required)</b>	Two01 Restaurant
8:00 am - 6:00 pm	Registration	Convention Center Lobby
8:00am – 7:00pm	Vendors and Exhibits	Aberdeen Pre-Function Area
8:00 am - 8:45 am	GCG Consultants Council Annual Meeting	McIntosh Ballroom
9:00 am – 11:00 am	General Business Meeting	McIntosh Ballroom
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	<b>Luncheon</b> <b>Speaker: Dr. Sheri Dorn</b> <i>“Gardening as Part of America’s Pathway to Health”</i>	Aberdeen Ballroom

**Thursday, April 2 (continued)**

1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	<p><b>Concurrent Breakout Sessions</b> (each speaker presents on the following schedule and members rotate rooms)</p> <p>First Session 1:30 - 2:30 Second Session 2:45 - 3:45 Third Session 4:00 - 5:00</p> <p><b>Concurrent Session Speakers</b></p> <p>Speaker: Katherine Kennedy <i>"Alleviating Hunger and Related Health Issues by Growing and Gleaning Produce"</i></p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Emily Coffey <i>"The Crucial Role of Botanical Gardens in Plant Conservation"</i></p> <p>Speaker: Joe Cook <i>"200 Years of Georgia River History – From Cotton Barges to Canoes"</i></p>	<p>Aberdeen Ballroom: Room 127 <b>Room 220</b></p>
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	<p><b>The Garden Club</b> Cocktails &amp; Conversation (Cash Bar)</p>	Upstairs Balcony Area
7:00 pm – 9:00pm	<p><b>Dinner Banquet</b> Speaker: Dr. Dorinda Dallmeyer <i>"From Georgia to the World: William Bartram's Botanical Legacy"</i></p>	Aberdeen Ballroom

**Friday April 3, 2026 (optional)**

6:00 am – 10:00 am	Breakfast Buffet ( <b>Pre-registration Required</b> )	Two01 Restaurant
9:00 am – 11:30 am	<p><b>Creative Designs Floral Workshop</b> Presenter: Lynn Fronk <b>(Pre-registration Required)</b></p>	Room 127

# Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail Spring Symposium and Native Plant Sale

Friday, May 1, 2026, Plains, Georgia From 8:30 am – 2:30 pm



## *Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail®*

*2026 Symposium & Native Plant Sale*

*Friday, May 1, 2026 in Plains, Georgia*

### *Keynote Speakers*



**Ashley Frasco**  
Green and Growing  
WSB Radio



**Susan Meyers**  
Monarchs Across Georgia



### *Symposium Mini Programs*



**Dr. Jaap de Roode, PhD**  
Emory University  
Department of Biology  
Director, de Roode Monarch Lab



**Amy Heidt**  
Coastal Plain Native  
Plant Chapter, GNPS



**Mary Ann Johnson**  
Former Florist for Rosalynn Carter at  
The Carter Center



**Brandon Gross**  
Horticulture Instructor  
South GA Tech College

*Symposium details and registration are on our website*

*[www.rosalyncarterbutterflytrail.org](http://www.rosalyncarterbutterflytrail.org)*

*229-824-4567*

\*\*\*\*\*

***Seating is limited -Book early !***

Event sponsored by the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail  
Co-Sponsors Coastal Plain Chapter, GNPS , Growing Old Nursery and  
Emory University de Roode Monarch Lab

**All profit made from the Symposium, Silent Auction and Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail plants/items will go directly to establish additional habitat for pollinators, The Carter Gardens and promote the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail.**

**Healthier Environment, Heathier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**

## **2026 RCBT Spring Symposium and Native Plant Sale**

**Registration Form for Friday, May 1, 2026**

**8:30AM – 2:30PM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

### **Registration per person is \$65.00**

*No refund of registration fees after April 1<sup>st</sup>.*

### **Lunch (check one choice)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Chick-fil-A sandwich with a small side salad**

Salad Dressing (**check one choice**) \_\_\_\_\_ Balsamic vinaigrette \_\_\_\_\_ Ranch or \_\_\_\_\_ Italian

\_\_\_\_\_ **Large Market Salad *without meat***

Salad Dressing (**check one choice**) \_\_\_\_\_ Balsamic vinaigrette \_\_\_\_\_ Ranch or \_\_\_\_\_ Italian

Drink: \_\_\_\_\_ Coke \_\_\_\_\_ Diet Coke \_\_\_\_\_ Water

**Please let us know if you have a RCBT registered garden so we can put it on your name tag.**

RCBT Garden name \_\_\_\_\_ RCBT Garden number \_\_\_\_\_

*If your garden is not registered please go to [www.rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org](http://www.rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org) and join the trail.*

Symposium details are online at [www.rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org](http://www.rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org), click on the rolling banner on the homepage.

You can register online or print the form and mail it with your check to RCBT, PO Box 10, Plains, GA 31780.

Lunch is included in the registration fee. The symposium will be held in Plains at the Plains Community Center at Clark and Main Street. There will be 4 plant vendors with 100s of beautiful plants. For additional information contact Annette Wise 229-824-4567.

8:30AM **Plant Sale and Silent Auction begin**

9:15AM **Welcome and Announcements**

Keynote Speakers: Ashley Frasca- Host of Green and Growing with WSB Radio Show  
Susan Meyers – Monarchs Across Georgia

Mini-Session Speakers: Mary Ann Johnson - Former Florist for Rosalynn Carter at The Carter Center  
Dr. Jaap deRoode - Monarch Expert and Author with Emory University  
Amy Heidt - Coastal Plain Chapter, GPNS  
Brandon Gross – Horticulture Instructor with South Georgia Tech. College

*All profit made from the Symposium, Silent Auction and Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail plants/items will go directly to establish additional habitat for pollinators, The Carter Gardens and promote the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail.*

*Seating is limited, book early!*

**Healthier Environment, Healthier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**



**Ready to become a pollinator pro?** *If you love pollinators—or want to—this 7-week virtual course will transform the way you see your garden, greenspace, and the tiny creatures that power them. Led by experts in their insect fields, you will learn more, see more, and become a more confident Census counter!*

**June 16th**

**Carpenter Bees**

Dr. Bethany Harris & Whitney Ottinger

**June 23rd**

**Bumble Bees**

Avery Young & Becky Griffin

**June 30th**

**Butterflies**

Dr. Sonia Altizer & Jeremy Rhoden

**July 7th**

**Small Bees**

Dr. Kris Braman & Amanda Bratcher

**July 14th**

**Honey Bees**

Dr. Jamie Ellis & Bethany O'Rear

**July 21st**

**Flies & Wasps**

Dr. Scott Clem, Dr. Jason Schmidt, & Gabrielle LaTora

**July 28th**

**Beetles and other insects**

Dr. Joe McHugh

**Course Wrap-up**

Registration required.  
For more information:



[GSePC.org/course](https://GSePC.org/course)

Ticket Price

**\$25.00**

## PINEOLA FARMS & GARDENS

EVERYTHING YOU LOVE ABOUT THE SOUTH - EST. 1865



THE FLOWER FANTASY AT PINEOLA FARMS - APRIL 25 & 26, 2026  
 SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026 10 AM - 5 PM SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026 1 PM - 4 PM  
 PURCHASE TICKETS BELOW

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

**Mark your calendars for another fun and exciting fundraiser event!**

The **Magnolia Garden Club of Fort Valley, Georgia**, is proud to host its fourth **Flower Fantasy** at the beautiful historic **Pineola Farms**.

**Date:** April 25-26, 2026 Saturday, April 25, 2026 10 am - 5 pm Sunday, April 26, 2026 1 pm - 4 pm

**Theme:** Reduce, Repurpose, Recycle - Treating Our Environment Better

This year's event will feature creative, meaningful floral designs that are fresh, different, and inspiring—all centered on our environmental theme. You'll also enjoy additional educational programs throughout the weekend, including:

- The ease and benefits of composting
- The importance of worms and other natural helpers
- Practical ways to protect, preserve, and enhance our environment

Join us for a delightful day (or two!) touring the stunning historic property, admiring unique floral installations, shopping with vendors, and learning how to be better stewards of our planet.

A percentage of the funds raised will support scholarships through the Garden Club of Georgia and the Sensory Garden at Masee Lane Gardens.

We can't wait to see you there—let's celebrate flowers, creativity, and a greener future together!

**Thank You to Our Sponsors. We could not do this without them. Please Support Them!**

Event Location - Pineola Farms - 1195 Taylors Mill Rd. Fort Valley, GA 31030 478-227-2084

**Healthier Environment, Healthier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**

## Pull and Save a Tab for Ronald McDonald



Ann Howell, the Ronald McDonald Pull Tab Chairman for the Garden Club of Georgia, has announced that the District collecting the most pull tabs for the year will be given an award at the State Convention in Peachtree City. Magnolia District needs to win this, so please let Laura Johnson, the Magnolia District Pull A Tab for Ronald McDonald Chairman (Johnson, Laura, [iamspartacus11@icloud.com](mailto:iamspartacus11@icloud.com), 6949 HWY 41N, Vienna, GA 31092. Cell 229-815-8272) know that you have pull tabs. Know how many tabs (by weight) your club or Council has collected during this year (April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026). Check on how to process on the GCG website or check with Laura for the District. Decide to deliver the tabs well in advance. You are encouraged to take the tabs to your district

Pull Tabs Chairman. If you want to bring the tabs to one of the District meetings, make arrangements with Laura so the tab weight will count for the Magnolia District Annual meeting in October 2026 as well as for the Conventions. The District will have an August Board meeting and the October annual meeting.

## Oglethorpe Garden Club of Oglethorpe, Hosted the Magnolia District Board Thursday, February 5, 2026



The Magnolia District of the Garden Club of Georgia Board Meeting was hosted by Oglethorpe Garden Club on February 5, in Oglethorpe GA. Club members representing the 17 counties in the district gathered at the Oglethorpe Business Center to conduct the business of the district, to keep abreast of important State Garden Club



Magnolia District Registration Officers welcome guest.

issues and to have fellowship with other garden loving friends. OGC members provided a comfortable, attractive venue complete with a light breakfast bar before the meeting and ending with a lovely luncheon buffet. Oglethorpe Garden Club treated attendees to the beautiful tablescapes!



What a beautiful Welcoming sign for Magnolia District.



Members attended to business and acknowledged reports during the business session.



Right Photo: Left, Marilyn Aldrich, Magnolia District Director and right, Kathy Cockerham, Oglethorpe Garden Club ,



**Healthier Environment, Healthier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**

# Magnolia Club News

## Azalea Garden Club of Columbus Celebrates Love, Friendship, and Flowers



Our February garden club meeting embraced a festive Valentine theme as members wore their favorite LOVE colors and celebrated another year of meaningful friendships. The atmosphere was joyful and welcoming, with plenty of bubbly and chocolates adding a sweet touch to the gathering.

Our program consisted of the healing power of flowers and their effects on our mind, body and soul, reminding us that flowers offer far more than visual beauty. Flowers have a unique ability to lift the spirit, evoke memories, and create moments of calm and connection. Whether shared during times of celebration or comfort, flowers can bring hope, peace, and emotional renewal.

The program beautifully aligned with the heart of our Valentine-themed gathering—celebrating love, compassion, and the simple yet powerful ways flowers help us care for one another. It was a heart-filled meeting that perfectly reflected the spirit of the season: connection, kindness, and the meaningful role flowers play in our lives.  **By: Loraine Lester, Azalea G C of Columbus.**

## Azalea Garden Club Launches Final Stages of Plant America Project in Columbus

The Azalea Garden Club of Columbus began the final stages of its Jordan Vocational High School Plant America Project shortly after the Christmas holidays, returning to campus in early January 2026 with renewed enthusiasm and a clear vision for the courtyard garden. This phase focused on the foundational structure.

To fully appreciate this progress, it is helpful to look back at how the transformation began. The courtyard project started with demolition in late spring 2025, when the flower beds were completely removed and redesigned. Old, overgrown

shrubs were cut back or extracted, and invasive weeds were eliminated. Existing mulch, landscape fabric, rocks, and accumulated debris were cleared away to expose the soil beneath. The beds were then thoroughly prepared by incorporating organic matter to restore nutrients and, during the heat of the summer months, while school was out, the beds were intentionally left to rest. This extended rest period proved invaluable - the soil developed into a rich layer of organic matter and became wonderfully easy to work, creating ideal conditions for healthy root establishment and long-term plant success.

Our garden club members were joined by school alumni, making the work both productive and meaningful. With many hands working together, this stage was completed efficiently and in a true spirit of partnership. A backdrop of evergreen azaleas, podocarpus, and osmanthus was installed to create a strong, year-round framework for the courtyard beds. These plantings represent an important step in transforming the area into a vibrant, sustainable garden that will serve students and faculty for years to come.

Then nature decided to test our efforts. In mid-January, only seven days after our planting, Winter Storm Fern swept through the Columbus area, blanketing our newly installed shrubs with one to two inches of snow. We anxiously awaited the thaw to assess how our new plantings had fared.

As if that were not enough, the storm was followed by an arctic blast of chilling winds and plunging temperatures well below freezing, heightening our concern for the young shrubs. Fortunately, our hardy evergreen selections had been chosen with resilience in mind. The snow provided a protective layer of insulation against the cold, and as temperatures gradually moderated, we were relieved to see the shrubs holding strong—an encouraging sign for the seasons ahead.

In early February, we gathered once again to continue building structure and visual interest. Additional evergreens, including distylium and loropetalum, were installed to strengthen the garden's architectural framework, while ground covers and Drift® Roses were added to introduce vibrant color and soft fragrance. The design remains intentionally low maintenance, emphasizing layered textures, year-round structure, seasonal color, and subtle fragrance.



*Azalea GC of Columbus Members Contribute to the project.*

With demolition, soil restoration, and these major planting efforts now complete, we have successfully fulfilled the core objectives of our grant. As a result, our Plant America funding has been fully utilized. We are deeply grateful for the support that made this transformation possible.



*Error! No text of specified style in document.-1Students participate and then take a photo op.*

Moving forward, we will continue our partnership with JVHS alumni in future stages, focusing on durable annuals and perennials capable of withstanding our summer heat and humidity. These additions will further enhance color and seasonal interest for the school's students and faculty, ensuring the courtyard remains an inviting space for the entire school community.

This project stands as a meaningful example of community collaboration, hands-on horticultural stewardship, and thoughtful landscape planning. We look forward to watching the courtyard garden continue to grow, mature, and flourish throughout 2026 and beyond.

**By: Loraine Lester**

## The Daffodil Garden Club of Albany

The Daffodil Garden Club Kicks Off January with Exciting News and Educational Program. The Daffodil Garden Club met for its January meeting with 13 members in attendance. **President Penny**



**Williams announced exciting news that the club was selected to receive the National Garden Club Plant America Community Project Grant.** With more than 120 applications submitted nationwide, the club is thrilled that its project was chosen for funding. The grant will be used to support a planting site at Radium Springs Trail.



**Healthier Environment, Healthier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**

The club welcomed guest speaker Chris Prince, co-owner of Prince Worm Farm, a veteran-owned business in Leesburg, Georgia. Chris shared information on the benefits of worm castings, including improved soil health, better water retention, stronger plants, improved root development, and increased germination and yields—without the risk of burning plants like chemical fertilizers. **By: Penny Williams, Daffodil GC President of Albany.**

## Azalea Garden Club of Americus, GA

Members of the Azalea Garden Club of Americus, GA, recently discovered a new way to celebrate nature through a special program held in January 2026. [Paula Lewis of Pretty Wild Designs](#) led a wreath-making workshop where members



created grapevine wreaths in various circular and oval shapes. **Participants utilized a unique selection of natural materials, including Spanish and reindeer moss, magnolia and wild fern leaves, lotus pods, and petrified mushrooms.** Paula also provided a variety of ribbons for handcrafted bows.

The finished wreaths are now on display at members' homes, with some adorning front doors and others accenting interior walls. One member even opted to use interchangeable bows to adapt her wreath for different holidays and seasons. Everyone enjoyed the creative

experience.

## The Azalea Garden Club of Columbus Makes a Haul for Ronald McDonald Pull-A-Tab

There was a lot of work involved in collecting, sorting, bagging and hauling bagged tabs to the Magnolia District Board Meeting held in Oglethorpe, GA on February 5, 2026. We want to send a **shout out to Azalea club member Sandy Dawson who has a new tab “connection” and to Oglethorpe President, Kathy Cockerham’s husband**

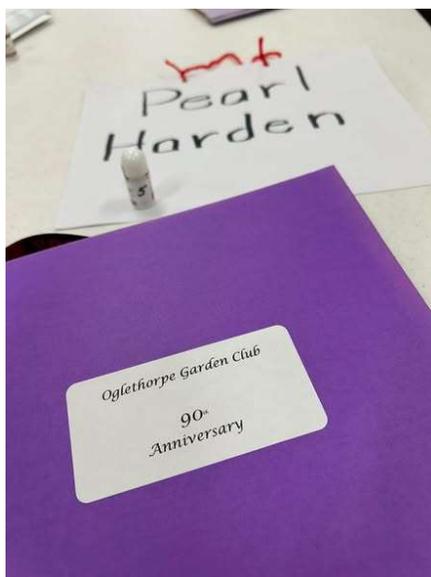


Nilsa Summey left side of photo and Sandy Dawson on the right side!

(a subscribing member) who hauled two large heavy boxes of tabs out of our trunk directly to his truck bed—what a blessing! It's all for a great cause and since we had over 25-gallon bags of tabs, we're hoping for a win for our club and the Magnolia District. **By : Nilsa Summey**

**That is a lot of  
Tabs!**

## Oglethorpe Garden Club of Oglethorpe, GA 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Oglethorpe Garden Club member Mary Haigler used the January 14 meeting to introduce today's members to the founding members of their club. On January 31, 1936, thirty-two industrious women gathered to establish a group to better the city through their efforts. Today's meeting was the 90th Anniversary of that successful beginning.

Mrs. Haigler researched those first minutes of the meeting and the newspaper records to write a skit to give feelings of that time. She gave each person a folder containing information of the

first meeting. Highlights of special events through the years will be added as Mary shares more information at future meetings.



**Healthier Environment, Healthier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**

## Butler Garden Club of Butler and Reynolds



**December** is the most wonderful time of the year but also the busiest time of the year. December 2025 was no exception for the Butler Garden Club. BGC prepared mugs of greenery and blooms of the season and delivered them to all residents at the Taylor County Health and Rehabilitation Center and to Country Gardens Assisted Living. BGC delivered fruit to the Senior Center in Reynolds. BGC members laid wreaths at Andersonville National Cemetery. Their tasks all completed members settled in for a long nap. Turning the page to 2026, Pam Weldon, BGC Vice President, presented an excellent program in **January** on hypertufa—the recipe for making your own containers.

On to **February**, looking for a decorative but functional use for bottles you have saved? Need help watering your plants when you are out of town? (Photo left) [Valerie Sellers, Master Gardener from Perry](#), explained how to create and incorporate bottle art in your garden and solve these problems. **By: Eloise Doty, Butler Garden Club**



## NEW CLUB JOINS MAGNOLIA DISTRICT, THE GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA, INC., DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS, INC. AND THE NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB, INC.

**We welcome Brookstone Home and Garden Club to our organizations!**

## 2026 Hummingbird Migration Map (Find Out When to Expect Them)

**Put out your feeders ! The hummingbirds are coming.**

**Check out when:**

**<https://empressofdirt.net/hummingbird-migration-map/>**

Spring is migration time for hummingbirds travelling from their winter homes to breeding habitats in the United States and Canada. Use this tracking map to know when to expect them in your area.

### Hummingbird Species

These are some of the hummingbird species found in **Canada** and the **United States**. There are over 360 identified species in the world. Estimates vary but approximately 25 species appear in the United States with approximately 10 of these species extending into Canada with a few continuing up into Alaska for summer breeding.



Male and female Ruby-throated Hummingbirds

### Ruby-throated Hummingbird

*Archilochus colubris*

- **Summer Breeding:**  
Canada (East of Rockies)  
United States – Eastern
- **Winters in Florida, Mexico, Central America**

**Interesting:** Highest population of all hummingbird species: 35 million (current estimate)

**Learn More:** [All About Birds](#)

# Memorial



With Sympathy, Magnolia District extends our heartfelt sympathy to clubs who had members pass away during the past years. We extend our sympathy to their families, friends, and club members.

February 7<sup>th</sup>, 1947 – February 6, 2026. Donna R. Scott, 78, passed away on Friday, February 6, 2026. She was a member of the Beautiful View Garden Club, of Buena Vista for numerous years and was in charge of organizing the Rural America Parade each year before her retirement. Donna had a rich and rewarding life full of love and dedication to her family and personal values.

Clubs, if any of your members pass away, please let us know so we can include their names in our newsletter and remember them at the Memorial Service at the Fall meeting and at the GCG Convention. Send info to:  
haglerkay@gmail.com.

**Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. News**

**Garden Club of Georgia 98th Annual  
2026 Convention**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 14, 2026**

**Healthier Environment, Healthier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**



**It is all about the Convention April 1,2, 3, 2026, Crown Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, Peachtree City, GA!**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 14, 2026**

## *Types of Magnolias*

**12 Different Types of Magnolia Trees and Shrubs**

<https://www.thespruce.com/twelve-species-magnolia-trees-and-shrubs-3269666> By: [VANESSA RICHINS](#)

[MYERS](#): Vanessa Richins Myers has a BS in horticulture and over 10 years of training and experience as a professional horticulturist and gardener.



*Art of Paint by Numbers.com*

We are Magnolia District! Most people think of the Southern Magnolia as depicted in the photo when they think of Magnolia District. I have a Saucer Magnolia that is full bloom now. Watch as the spring brings about the Magnolia blooms. Study the types of Magnolias. I enjoy the slight lemon smell of the Southern Magnolia. Did you know that there are

over 200 species of magnolia trees and shrubs. Southern magnolias (*Magnolia grandiflora*) and saucer magnolias (*Magnolia x soulangeana*) are two of the most popular types grown in Georgia. How many can you name or find a reference to?

**Healthier Environment, Heathier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**

## **SAVE THE DATE & PLAN TO ATTEND**

**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 Magnolia Messenger!**

### **Check the GCG Website Calendar for all Opportunities In GA!**

March 1	2026	Club, Councils, Federations Dues	Dues Due to GCG
March 1	2026	Deadline for 2026 Club Membership Registration, Member 365 on GCG Website.	GCG
March 16-21	2026	Deep South Garden Club Convention	
March 28	2026	Historic Landscape Fundraiser:	Tour of Homes Dublin, GA
April 1-3	2026	Garden Club of Georgia Convention	Crowne Plaza, Peachtree City, GA
April 15	2026	Garden Gateway Submission Deadline	Theme: Celebrating America's 250 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
April 15	2026	Show off the Red, White, Blue Gardens:	Submit to Marilyn Aldrich, <a href="mailto:mwaldrich1@aol.com">mwaldrich1@aol.com</a>
April 13-16	2026	NGC Flower Show School, Macon	Macon
April 19-25	2026	Georgia Garden Week	
April 26-27	2026	Fantasy in Flowers at Pineola, Scholarship Fundraiser	Ft. Valley
May 1	2026	Rosalyn Carter Butterfly Trail and Marker Dedication	Plains
May 2-6	2026	National Garden Club Convention	
October 9-12	2026	Magnolia District-Camellia District GN Flower Show	Perry
October 15	2026	Magnolia District Annual Meeting	Americus

### **MAGNOLIA DISTRICT Magnolia Messenger**

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

<p>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</p>
---

## We Are Magnolia District!

### Types of Magnolias

#### 12 Different Types of Magnolia Trees and Shrubs

<https://www.thespruce.com/twelve-species-magnolia-trees-and-shrubs-3269666> By: [VANESSA RICHINS MYERS](#): Vanessa Richins

Myers has a BS in horticulture and over 10 years of training and experience as a professional horticulturist and gardener.

We are Magnolia District! Most people think of the Southern Magnolia as depicted in the photo when they think of Magnolia District. I have a Saucer Magnolia that is full bloom now. Watch as the spring brings about the Magnolia blooms. Study the types of Magnolias. I enjoy the slight lemon smell of the Southern Magnolia. Did you know that there are over 200 species of magnolia trees and shrubs. Southern magnolias (*Magnolia grandiflora*) and saucer magnolias (*Magnolia x soulangeana*) are two of the most popular types grown in Georgia. How many can you name or find a reference to?



Art of Paint by Numbers.com

## We hope to see you at the convention!

### Join Us for the 98th Annual Convention!

#### “GCG Celebrates America”

Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center

Peachtree City, Ga.

Let's Gather Together! The Magnolia District and The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. invites Garden Club members to The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.'s 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention at the Crown Plaza in Peachtree City, Georgia as “GCG Celebrates America”. The Crown Plaza Hotel and Conference Center offers the perfect setting for the three days of information, fun, shopping, and fellowship. It has gorgeous outdoor scenery, beautiful lakes, and relaxing accommodations.

On April 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, 2026, there will be great workshops for skill development, celebration of garden clubs with awards for projects, and featured speakers to educate members. There will be a raffle for entertainment and a variety of interesting vendors for shopping pleasure. Enjoy the beautiful floral designs by the districts presented for your visual enjoyment plus learn about the educational exhibits which focus on programs of GCG.

**Healthier Environment, Heathier You with Beautification, Conservation and Education**