

# KEY NOTES



South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

April 2013  
Volume 9, Issue 4

“Members Are The Link To the Future”  
Invite — Communicate — Educate

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## Key Notes issues

Key Notes will be published in early July, October, January, and April.

The deadlines for the respective issues are:

### June 20

September 20

December 20

March 20

Please submit your articles by email, if at all possible, to

[mflloyd3570@aol.com](mailto:mflloyd3570@aol.com)

Subject: SAR Key Notes

## THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

"Members Are The Link To The Future"

Invite New Members -

Communicate Rewards of Membership -

Educate Members about Opportunities for Them



This Director has been honored to serve you during these two years. It has been a learning experience and very enjoyable to experience new events and places.

In September of 2012 the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Fall Board meeting was in Little Rock, Arkansas. We had just a few hours to take a trolley tour of the city and go to several Museums. The Scholarship Committee spent many hours planning for this year’s scholarship applications. Every Committee works so hard and accomplishes a lot in a short period of time. We were treated to a luncheon and tour of the Gardens and Home of Chris Olsen. I returned home again renewed and ready to work toward a great year for our organization.

I traveled to Tampa, Florida in January and we all worked really hard to complete the business they had for us. Then they took us on a garden tour of Busch Gardens. That was a real treat.

I have attempted to carry out my theme of ICE – Inviting New Members to join our clubs, Communicating the Rewards of Membership and Educating Members about the benefits of belonging to a garden club. We have had gains but also losses.

We need to strive to hold on to the clubs we have and help form new clubs. We also need to work toward training the leaders of tomorrow. Leadership workshops would be a great way to work with potential future officers of our clubs. Encourage these future leaders and mentor them so that they can carry on the work we have begun.

The five states of the South Atlantic Region have made great accomplishments and I am proud of you all. Your meetings have been an inspiration to me and I am sure to your members. Keep on working to achieve your goals and this world will be a better place for us all.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve the South Atlantic Region.

*Mary H. Dixon*

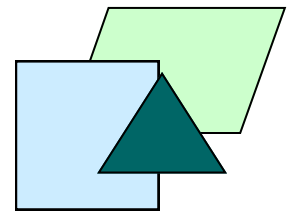
Mary H. Dixon, Director  
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## State Presidents' Themes and Reports



### **The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.** **Dianne Caines, President** **"Unleash Your Power"**



The generous hospitality from each garden club member is but one of the many rewards I have experienced in serving as President. In addition the many opportunities to interact with local members through personal visits, phone calls and email have helped me realize the importance of communication. Through listening to members, this President has been able to share ideas and resources with others.

These personal visits with a team of people within the district has influenced four new clubs to form and one affiliate club to join the ranks of Garden Club. Not only the sharing of benefits of Garden Club Membership, but realizing how many resources we can connect with also had an impact on this.

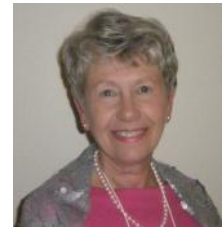
We are still collecting data on scholarships and the amount our clubs are offering. Nineteen thousand dollars has been identified. We awarded one \$8,000 scholarship at our recent State Convention. Our State Garden Club Headquarters at Paris,

Kentucky is undergoing a "refresh" project.

Outstanding projects occurring the past two years have been a "Getting to Know our Garden Clubs and their Activities" during National Garden Club Week. Four clubs did demonstrations at the local library and distributed membership literature. Another club developed a "Secret Garden" with plants and butterflies at an elementary school. The club received a \$500 award. Another club picked up recyclable items along the roadside, worked with technical school students who designed sculptures to be used in community gardens. Another club purchased a planting bench for handicapped people to use and the club created a raised garden as well as a regular plot for aged citizens.

Let us all use our love for gardening and our environmental as a way to connect with all people.

Diane Caines  
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### **The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.** **Judy Barnes, President** **Theme: "Make a Difference"**

GCNC is busy getting ready for its Annual Meeting that will be held in Wilmington, NC in April. Time to turn over the reins to new officers!!

We are still waiting and waiting and waiting to hear from the IRS about our 501 (c) 3 umbrella for our member clubs.

GCNC's Elizabethan Gardens are now a TV star (or will be on April 2). The CNBC show "Treasure Detectives" has filmed an episode at the Gardens. A portrait of Queen Elizabeth I, owned by the gardens, is thought to be of the period, circa 1590. The portrait is on Exhibition at present in the Folger Library in Washington, DC. The Treasure Detectives will examine the portrait and give an opinion on its authenticity. Tune in at 9:00 p.m. on April 2, on CNBC, and find out the answer. Penny Rose, Gardens Chairman; Sandra Snapp, Gardens Vice Chairman and yours truly are part of the show (probably 14 ½ seconds for me).

The Daniel Boone Native Gardens in Boone, in conjunction with Appalachian State University, and GCNC, will be sponsoring a High Country Horticultural Symposium titled "Harnessing the Beauty... Wildflowers and Native Plants" on June 8 at Appalachian State in Boone. It will be the first in a series of annual symposia. Information is on the GCNC website, gardenclubofnc.org.

A Flower Show Symposium will be held in Raleigh November 3-5, 2013 at the North Raleigh Hilton. The Design instructor will be Gina Jogan, the Horticulture instructor Tina

Tuttle. Registration form will be on the GCNC website.

On April 3 this president will be presenting award plaques to the North Carolina Department of Transportation workers who strive each year to have the most interesting plantings along our roadsides. This is a project we have been involved with for many years and each year we are impressed with how creative the NCDOT is with these plantings that tourists and residents enjoy as they drive through North Carolina.

GCNC is very excited to have its second in a series of Nature Ornaments that, this year will feature the NC State Butterfly, the Eastern Swallowtail. It is through the efforts of the Cape Fear Garden Club and a little help from GCCNC that this butterfly was adopted in 2012 by the state legislature. We hope to keep the tradition alive of a new ornament each year. We are continually searching for raise funds so that we can continue with the projects that we support and yet not have to increase our dues. It is a challenge and fortunately we do have most of our funds with a wealth management firm that has been a great help to us.

In Print: An article about The Garden Club of North Carolina appeared in Our State Magazine in North Carolina in January. And in spring issue of Flower magazine, accompanying the article about National Garden Clubs and President Shirley Nicolai, is a picture of the "Plant it Pink" garden of Granite Falls Garden Club, one of our member clubs in North Carolina.

It has been a joy for me to be a part of the South Atlantic Region and I look forward to seeing all of you at future meetings.

Judy Barnes  
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April 2013

[www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org](http://www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org)

**Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.**  
**Maida Owen Dantzler, President**  
**Theme: "Initiate, Collaborate, Celebrate"**



The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. has enjoyed a productive year, exemplifying the theme, "Initiate, Collaborate, Celebrate."

Our Good To Grow program has piqued the interest of many clubs who are motivated by the opportunity to offer schoolchildren the chance to turn "digging in the Dirt into a lifetime of love and respect for nature"; these schoolyard gardens allow children to plant, harvest and share their own food crops, learning to grow themselves in the process.

GCSC offers two endowed scholarships, each named for a former NGC President from South Carolina. The HESSIE MORRAH Scholarship is a \$2000 award, and the BABS BARNETTE Environmental Scholarship has a value of \$500. Last year, we were only able to award one of each, but after a beneficial change in investment management, The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. will present five HESSIE MORRAH Scholarships and five BABS BARNETTE Environmental Scholarships! At the beginning of this term, each of the seven districts across the state was challenged to raise funds to award a \$1000 District Scholarship to a worthy applicant. After the two smallest districts merged their funds,

six such District Scholarships were realized. With the addition of two more \$1000 individual grants, a total of \$20,500 in scholarship awards will be given at our State Convention in April, a record for our state!

In November, a successful Plantation Tour was held along the banks of Lake Marion and featured two antebellum homes and a Chapel of Ease that had been spared the flooding that occurred when the lake was created as a source of power for rural electrification. A highlight of this tour was the delightful 93-year-old homeowner who insisted on being her own docent!

The past two years seem to have flown by, yet are chock full of memories of District Meetings, educational Schools, conventions and celebrations, Arbor Day, Blue Star Memorials...the list goes on and on. But, when it comes down to it, the most permeating memory will be of those people who have been brought into my life, and who have been brought into each others' lives, by Garden Club connections .

Maida Dantzler  
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**Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Judy B. Binns, President**  
**Theme: Grow Now...Planting Seeds for Tomorrow**

*Grow Now . . . Planting Seeds for Tomorrow*

The Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs has certainly had an eventful and productive year! Let's look at how VFGC has grown this year.

VFGC members supported the Blue Gloves for Blue Stars Program. This program raised almost \$3500 and 5 markers have already been refurbished.

Garden clubs across Virginia celebrated National Garden Week by participating in "Plant Together," a community garden project to showcase the work that garden clubs do in their communities each year. For this first year, 30 clubs with over 400 participants planted, weeded, and mulched gardens at schools, libraries, and other locations in their communities while other clubs made and placed floral designs in public locations in public areas. All of these projects contributed to the success of "Plant Together." Garden clubs reached out to other community organizations as well, including Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Master Gardeners, school parents, students, nursing home residents, library volunteers, and more. It was interesting to read the scope of projects that VFGC clubs are involved in. Notes

were attached to the registration forms sent in, saying how much "fund" the club members had in doing something with partnering organizations and also what a great project this was! We hope to have more clubs participate this year.

Here are just a few examples of "Plant Together" projects:

One club partnered with a Girl Scout troop to clean and plant urns in a memorial garden.

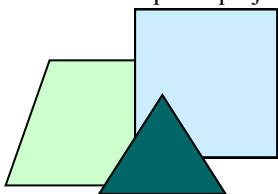
Another club pruned, replenished and watered a small public garden that they maintain in the central intersection in Chester.

A club planted and placed a large container garden outside the entry way to the Northern Neck Family YMCA.

Another club, along with the Chesterfield Master Gardeners, planted a large container garden for the courtyard at the Lucy Corr Retirement Village.

Virginia continues to focus on membership and how VFGC can best serve her clubs as we Grow Now and continue to Plant Seeds for Tomorrow.

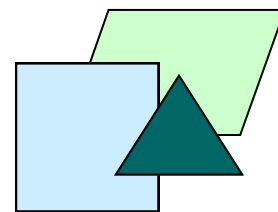
Judy B. Binns  
viriniagardenclubs.org



## State Presidents' Themes and Reports (continued)



**West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.**  
**Brenda J. Moore, President**  
**Theme: "West Virginia Garden Club  
Members Keeping West Virginia Wild and  
Wonderful"**



I read about a group of nuns who were given their first trip through the Rocky Mountains. Every time they stopped to enjoy the view, one particular nun would slip away by herself. Finally the others watched her as she walked into the gully. She bent down and reached under a sizable rock, and then turned the rock upside down. When she looked up, the entire Order of nuns was watching her.

"Margaret, what are you doing?" they asked.

"I'm turning over a rock," she replied.

"Do you do that every time and why?"

She replied: "Yes, because I will never pass this way again, and it's my intent to have made a difference while I was here. My theme for 2011-2013 has been 'West Virginia Garden Club Members keeping West Virginia Wild and Wonderful' and I think we have made a difference.

We are using the electronic media more with newsletters and notices. We have only a handful of club presidents and board members that are not internet connected and we've made allowance for them. We are also advertising WVGC more. We've tried to think out of the box on promoting our educational programs and our organization.

We have increased our attendance at our state conventions, last year we had a 65% increase. Our board meeting attendance has increased to 85%. We have worked on increasing membership

and promoting leadership within our clubs. Most clubs have seen membership increases. We are in the process of starting a new club in our eastern panhandle.

We have installed four Blue star markers this past year, one in memory of our state treasurer's husband, Michael Kozakewich at the National Veteran's Cemetery. We have two more to go during this term including one at the new West Virginia Veteran's Cemetery.

We have beautified our state by planting memorial, historic, victory, roadside, town and children's gardens thus covering the past, present and the future.

Our state convention will be held at Waterfront Place Hotel in Morgantown, April 7-9<sup>th</sup>. Our theme is 'Mountaineer Spirit – Celebrating our Past, Present and Future'. President Shirley Nicolai will be present to install new officers and we will cut a birthday cake celebrating West Virginia's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday – the only state born out of the civil war.

Although this WVGC board will never pass this way again, I'm thankful that we have made a difference in keeping West Virginia Wild and Wonderful. I feel honored to have served as the WVGC President

Brenda Moore, President, West Virginia Garden Club  
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## Chairman Reports

### Arboreta and Botanical Gardens

Karen Prewitt

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No matter where you live in the South Atlantic Region, your area is now being awakened by the call of spring.

Here in the Lowcountry, it was so warm in February that my Lady Banksia rose was in full bloom on Valentine's Day. My garden has one sure barometer of springtime and that is the fig tree just a few feet outside my kitchen window.

Mr. Fig is never fooled by what the weatherman predicts and he won't unfurl the first leaf until he *knows* the days will remain warm. While the rest of my garden seems to have been paying attention to the erratic forecasts of the Channel 5 weatherman, Mr. Fig has remained obstinate...until today. This morning there didn't appear to be even one fat bud on the tree, but by three p.m. tiny green leaf flags could be spotted here and there among the stark gray branches. I now know for sure that spring has 'begun' in Charleston, even though the Bradford pears, Japanese magnolias and azaleas are nearly finished blooming. Those of you living in more *realistic* climates can still look forward to a glorious spring.

I encourage you to visit your local arboretums and botanical gardens where a wealth of beauty, programs and new information await you. Here is a sampling:

**Kentucky:** I hope all of you who attended the SAR Convention in Lexington had an opportunity to visit the Arboretum and State

*(Continued on page 5)*

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## Chairman Reports (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

**Botanical Garden.** The garden is open dawn to dusk 365 days a year and is unique in that it is a free, urban garden. There will be a Rare Tree Walk on April 12<sup>th</sup> and Arbor Day celebrations on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Don't miss the annual plant sale on April 20<sup>th</sup> from 2-6pm.

**West Virginia:** The West Virginia Botanical Garden has fast-forwarded it's schedule of events to tout summer camp for children being held June 10-14 from 9-4 pm. Every day for five days children, age 7-10, will be taught about trees, flowers, birds, insects and environmental issues. There are lots of activities and crafts to keep everyone busy.

Positions are also available for older campers too. Contact: Erin @ wbv.org or 304-216-8704.

**Virginia:** Springtime is always a great time to visit Williamsburg, where you can augment your history tours with side trips to beautiful colonial gardens. Williamsburg Botanical Garden is worth a visit. The address is at 5535 Centerville Road. Not to be missed are all the special events including the spring plant sale May 2-3-4 showcasing 40 vendors and rare exotic plants. The Daylily Society Show and Sale will be June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**North Carolina:** The North Carolina Botanical Garden offers a wide variety of events and classes. Of special interest is a 'Local Trees Course'. Other offerings are classes on invasive plants and lectures on 'Native Southern Medicinal Plants'. Local writer, Ken Moore, writes a weekly column called "Flora" in which he provides a closer look at wild flowers shrubs and trees.

**South Carolina:** At a recent district meeting I was introduced to a speaker from Moore Farm Botanical Gardens. This is a non-profit, 35 acre, public garden in rural Lake City South Carolina. The gardens include a turf farm, vegetable garden, pond garden, green roof garden and a greenhouse and nursery filled with Southern heritage plants. Contact info: 803-767-0111 or 100 New Zion Road Lake City.

Spring is of course the prime time for experiencing the beauty of dogwoods, redbuds, flowering cherry trees and every variety of flowering plant, so take a peaceful afternoon stroll through one of the many Arboretums or Botanical gardens in your area... or better yet, make it a weekend trip.



### Arboriculture/Trees & Shrubs

Patty Hudson      BHappy39@hotmail.com

The Division of Forestry in WV has several programs that might interest garden club members. 'If Trees Could Talk'—The Forest History Society along with Duke University and NC Forestry Association has developed a Middle School curriculum to help students understand history of forests and their people. 'WV Project-Learning Trees' is an environmental education program to teach youth about environmental issues concerning trees. 'WV State Forest'-Guidelines are established for protecting and managing State owned Forests including Coopers Rock, Calvin Price, Seneca, Kumbrabow, Cabwaylingo, Camp Creek and Greenbrier. 'Call Before You Cut' program is for landowners to learn to select reputable loggers as well as help them make responsible decision for long term management. 'Arbor Day Poster Contest' is a program for 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade students to create and submit Arbor day posters. For further information about any of these programs, go to [www.wvforestry.com](http://www.wvforestry.com)

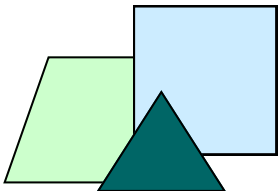
You may want to check with the Forestry Department in your state to find out if you have similar programs available or could have them made available.

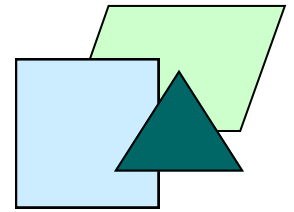


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## Container Gardening

Helen Heater, Chairman  
heaterhj@aol.com

### Miniature Roses-- Elegance and Charm in a Planter

**Roses** for a patio can make a big splash with these miniature beauties. They may have small blooms but these little beauties can create a big show in a stylish container.

With spring right here and everyone anxious I suggest trying miniature roses for many reasons. Visit your favorite garden center for new vigorous plants. **What a way to start your new patio growing season!** Note: Miniature **potted roses** work best for this project, simply because barefoot roses might take too long to get established.

They will provide you with beauty early in the summer and beyond into the late summer with proper attention in dead heading, fertilizing and watering.

#### Getting started with plants:

\*Start with a standard hardy miniature such as: "The Pink Fairy" for your center. This beauty is taller with abundant arching pink clusters, this rose is a great bloomer. These mini tree roses are excellent for containers or small gardens.

\*Choose some cascading or shrubby miniatures like "Sweet Chariot" with a bright magenta color and fading to lavender later as the blooms fade, but very fragrant.

\*A bright yellow like a "Rise 'N' Shine" is a must to add color.

\*A white "Snowball" miniature offers a flurry of double white flowers. This beauty has a profusion of trailing stems.

\* Other choices, just to name a few, one with cascading flowers is the pink "Hula Girl" or a light pale pink to white, such as "Sea Foam"; a "Nozomi" is a great ground cover rose with brighter pink blooms which requires little or no pruning, or just ask the nurseryman to see other varieties before making your selection.

#### Getting started with a beautiful container:

Choose a more elegant terracotta pot at least a minimum of 26" inches wide Place a piece of screen, or plastic netting from an orange or onion sack in the bottom of the pot to prevent lost of dirt or gravel from the drain hole in the bottom. Then cover the bottom with approximately 2" inches of gravel for drainage. Next fill the pot (½) one half full with a good potting mix. Choose a mix that is designed to fulfill special rose needs. Some include additives to promote growth. Adjust the level of dirt according to size of container and depth needed for the plant.

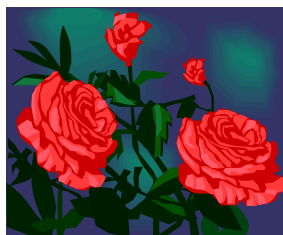
Begin with placing the taller "Pink Fairy" in the center of your container. Then plant and fill in around with the others roses, choosing 3 or 4 other colors or types. Make sure at least one of the cascading types is close to the front and rim so it will spill over the edge as it grows and provides that trailing effect. Make sure the plants, when planting them, have the same depth as in the original container; we don't want to smother them by planting too deep.

Water thoroughly and mulch at least with 1 inch of bark around the plants to conserve moisture. It will also give your planter a finished look. (Remember not to over water, plants don't like wet feet.)

**Other after care tips:** If you keep the container well groomed, i.e. dead heading spent bloom, or cut off withered blooms back to the stems' to a five part leaf. Make sure to prune regularly to keep the vigorous growers in good shape, by pruning back the weak or wayward stems will help distract from the beauty, also keeping your plants healthier and fuller. In a container of this size poke a hole approximately every 6" inches apart and feed the plants with a systemic granule, or place a teaspoon of recommended fertilizer or plant food in every hole about every 2 months, depending on the strength of the food. Last, but not least make sure to examine often your plants for those pesky critters and take care of them promptly.

At the end of the growing season you can groom the plants back, place in a sheltered area, or surround the container with heavy plastic, keeping the top open, to help protect it from winter. Let them go dormant as if they were in the ground. If your area temperatures dip lower than -10 often then I suggest placing them in the corner of the garage, or a garden room. Bring them out in the spring and feed with nature's best: lots of sunshine, ample water and food. You could transfer them directly to your flower garden or leave them in the container for another season. Typically, one year is the best time limit for this type of plant in a container, especially in colder climates.

Note: This type of container would be great as an accent piece in front of your local Library or other establishment for a Civic Beautification project or at the entrance of your Local Community Garden.



### Edible Gardens

Janice Doyle  
bdoyle@aol.com

You'd Better Watch out.....

As the Christmas song says we need to "watch out and not to be naughty" to our spring vegetable and herb plants. Whereas those herbs and tomatoes and other tender plants look so luscious in the store right now, it is just too soon for most of us to plant them directly into the garden. (cabbage, broccoli, greens etc. are an exception) There are those plants beckoning us into temptation to take them home. I for one do not want to baby those plants from now until May. Those small pots dry out and roots become entwined. May is the time in my zone to plant tender plants. For Pete's sake they are calling for MORE SNOW this week (as this chairman is writing this). Just how would those plants fare in a few inches of wet snow?

It IS a short time before the weeds begin to pop up and the gardening season gets going in earnest. Take this time to start some seeds for your garden like tomatoes, peppers and squash. Clean out old soils from house plants too. Just toss the old potting soil into your vegetable garden for the worms to re-vitiate. Put some plastic over your vegetable garden to rid it of pests that may visit you later and to get the soil nice and warm for a quick start to your summer vegetable/herb garden. Dream of new vegetable you can grow by turning the pages of a seed catalog. There are so many exciting things out there that may wet your summer appetite and bedeck your summer dinner table.



### Flower Show Schools/Judges Council

Jean W. Ohlmann j.ohlmann@insightbb.com

#### ***Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging***

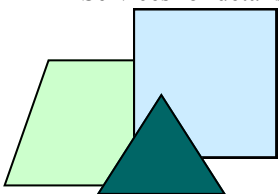
Our promise has been fulfilled. The new book, *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging* is available from NGC Member Services in St. Louis. It has taken more than four years to gather and research information on plant materials that are generally exhibited in flower shows....but it has come to fruition.

This is a supplement to the *Handbook for Flower Shows* and will be

Required Reading for judges. It contains over 200 pages with 20 pages of colored pictures showing positive and negative traits of plant specimens. Every plant included lists requirements for exhibiting and judging.

All garden club members, as well as anyone interested in horticulture will find it a treasure to add to your library.

The cost of the book is \$40. Groups may wish to order a case (24 books) and receive a discount. Contact Member Services for details



### Heritage/Native Plants

Jo Ann Johnson redrubylu@juno.com

This Chairman will return for the next two years as this Chairman and wishes to make contact with each State Chairman of Heritage/Native Plants in the South Atlantic Region.

Information is available for the subject: Heritage/Native Plants in a number of libraries and also online and this Chairman will be glad to make contact with each of you should you need help and also to receive any information available for your individual states - each chairman should make contact with clubs in the promotion of this subject - most of "we gardeners" have Heritage/Native Plants in our gardens - sometimes they are just called weeds - and if we destroy some of them - we are destroying the beauty of "Wild Nature for Free". Help is available for seeds from several sources in North Carolina and South Carolina. If your club would like a list please contact this chairman.

Sow Seeds, Plant Nature for the Future!

### National Garden Week

Marilyn Mason marilynmason@comcast.net

National Garden Week is June 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>! This special week is the opportunity for all garden clubs to attract attention to their programs and projects that benefit the community through a variety of activities.

Keep your records – take pictures!

### Penny Pines

Audrey Kelly

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Penny Pines is a National Presidents Project in which a individual/ Group or Garden Club can contribute by donating \$68.00 to a Penny Pine Plantation as part of the cost of replanting and/or replacement of trees that live naturally in a particular damaged area, whether by fire or by other natural misfortune. (These do not have to be pine trees) You can also designate a special state you wish to benefit from this contribution.

NGC and USDA Forest Service are proud to have formed this partnership sustaining our national & urban forests through this program.

For each \$68.00 donation, you will receive a Penny Pine Certificate from National Garden Clubs, Inc. made "In Honor of / or "In Memory of" a special someone who has made a difference. The form can be found on NGC Website: [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org).

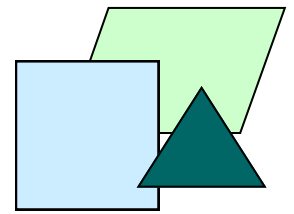
Please send in your form with \$68.00 check to the address that is on the form.

I am encouraging all 5 states in the South Atlantic Region to participate in this project by having a committee chairman and if possible to present an award to your District with the largest number of plantations (donations). Then the next step is to get your Districts to have a committee chairman and if possible to present award in their district to the club with the largest number of plantations (donations). This way we will have a chain reaction.

## Chairman Reports (continued)

### Scholarships

Betsy Steele [BetsySteele@Truvista.net](mailto:BetsySteele@Truvista.net)  
The Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship 2013



Thank you to the Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc., Federated Garden Clubs of Virginia, Inc. and the Garden Club of West Virginia, Inc. for sending applications for the 2013 Corrie Whitlock Scholarship. The applications were judged by an independent panel who commented on the caliber of the students being judged. Each state within the South Atlantic Region is encouraged to promote the SAR Scholarship program for the 2013-2015 term. The SAR Scholarship Committee is pleased to award the 2013 Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship to Sydney B. Mucha of Mt. Clare, WV, a sophomore at Davis and Elkins College in Elkins, WV majoring in Environmental Science and Sustainability Studies.

The ability and accomplishments of this young lady are best described by her faculty advisor. "Sydney stands out as one of the best students I've advised, has a keen ability to anticipate the needs of a project, adapt to changing situations, and work with a wide variety of people including faculty, staff and fellow students. It is evident that Sydney also possesses a strong aptitude for the sciences, from more technical areas such as chemistry and math, to more broadly applied knowledge such as ecology and geographic information science. Further, she has the ability to apply knowledge in a connective manner, seemingly rare in someone of college age."

As a High School intern in the NASA Engineering Apprentice Program at the NASA Independent Verification and Validation Facility, Sydney had to understand system and software requirements across multiple spacecraft domains. This required a crash course in understanding how software is made and more importantly a broad understanding of how an idea gets transformed into reality through application of engineering knowledge. Sydney was credited with developing an approach that helped enhance the ability for NASA analysts to quickly understand and assess complex software programs used to control spacecraft.

Interning in 2012 for the West Fork Conservation District, Sydney proved to continue to be a self-starter as she took responsibility for testing the soil on 45 farms for a total number of 3,148 acres which consisted of 187 fields. She assisted in the writing of the District's Annual Report as well as the District application for Education District of the Year (which the District won).

The Director of Family and Youth Development Services in Charleston, West Virginia, asked children he mentors where the beans and corn came from that they were eating. The reply was, "Kroger." Because of this answer Sydney and nine other students became involved with a project receiving much notoriety when they designed and constructed a garden for the West Side of Charleston that would be used not only to grow their food, but teach the residents of the neighborhood to even sell some for profit. Dealing with the vegetable plants, creating an instructional Power Point, planning the garden and building supporting structures were all Sydney's responsibility. She states that the teamwork involved was a powerful tool and a means to giving back to the community.

During High School, and continuing into her college career, Sydney has approached her education with seriousness and with the realization that merely attending classes is only part of her education. Her solid 4.0 grade point average in her major exemplifies her strong work ethic. Extracurricular endeavors, leadership positions, summer work and peer tutoring all underscore Sydney's desire and ambition. Determined to earn Graduate degrees in her fields of study, Sydney expresses a strong desire to continue her studies without being a burden to her parents.

It is a pleasure to present the 2013 SAR Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship, of \$2000, to a most deserving student.

### Water Quality

JoJean Scott [jojogarden34@gmail.com](mailto:jojogarden34@gmail.com)

There is nothing like a long, hot, dry summer to focus our attention on water. Always we are concerned that the quality of our water be as clean and pure as possible. Always we are hopeful that there will be more than enough water to meet daily needs for ourselves and, as gardeners, for our gardens. This report includes suggested ways to be a good water steward for the garden.

Study the way water flows across your land, places where it puddles and others where the drainage is poor. This study will affect the location of your garden. Be thinking of ways to harvest excess water. Does your house have gutters that will direct rainfall? Consider the benefits of maintaining a rain barrel or a water storage bin. Consult with your extension service as these folks can help with their experience, expertise and printed information. Perhaps your garden club will offer direction as well.

Build healthy soil. Healthy soil retains water and distributes it evenly. As gardeners, using the rototiller will turn up and aerate compacted soil and if we are lucky, we will not need the tiller but can accomplish our aims with use of a fork, hoe and trowel. Also remember to cultivate a healthy population of earthworms who will help aerate the soil. Schools now are teaching Vermiculture or "Earthworms 101" and so we too, must educate ourselves in still another important science. As water penetrates the soil our plants will be nourished.

*(Continued on page 9)*



## Chairman Reports (continued)



(Continued from page 8)

Remember to water as Nature does; in the late night, morning and evening. It is tempting to water during the hotter parts of the day but a better plan is to water when the temperatures are cooler and the loss to evaporation is less. As the Good Book says, "To everything there is a season..." and so a careful gardener will be attentive to planting information from many sources. The back of the seed packet, the National Weather Service and best of all, gardening diaries of years gone by which help to give us clues on what works and what doesn't.

As always, we must remember to plant appropriately. A sensible water conservation program includes some difficult decision making on which plants will survive and thrive most successfully where we live. Water as needed. If a sprinkler system with timer is used, be sure to check to see if water is reaching on or near the places you hope to reach. A modern drip-irrigation system at or just below the soil surface loses almost no water to evaporation or runoff and is therefore a most efficient way of bringing water to precious plant life. Watch the sun. The garden book may say "Thrives in direct sunlight". But ALL day? This is not Nature's way and it should not be the way of your garden either. Make use of shade and shade cloth, if necessary. Put up poles and arbors. Give the plants a time out from the heat, even the ones that smile bravely and say they love it!

### Youth – High School/Intermediate Gardeners Speech & Essay Contest

Jackie Dellinger stored @bellsouth.net

Below is a copy of the SAR winning essay for the NGC Essay Contest submitted by Wesley Cunningham from Washington WV. He is a Senior at Parkersburg South High School

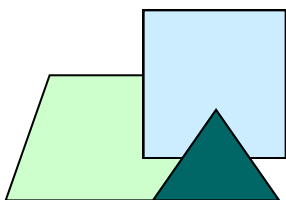
*There are many ways each of us can protect aquatic ecosystems. In fact, it only requires small changes to our lifestyles. One way is to use fewer plastic bottles and plastic bags. According to National Geographic, "tens of thousands" of marine animals are killed each year and habitats destroyed by plastic debris in the ocean. Fortunately, an individual can reduce plastic debris getting into aquatic systems by doing the following: 1) use a reusable drinking container that can provide the same service of a disposable bottle multiple times; 2) use a non-disposable container in the place of typical plastic sandwich bag or storage bag; 3) bring a reusable shopping bag with you when shopping at the grocery store.*

*Another way to potentially protect aquatic life is to reduce the effect of climate change on the ocean. As the concentration of the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increases so does the concentration in oceans. Because of the increases of carbon dioxide, the water acidifies, lowering the Ph. Some aquatic animals require their environment to have a certain Ph. to survive. Also most of organisms that are affected are at the lower end of the food chain, which can possibly destroy a possible food source for those higher in the chain. But there are ways to help shield the ocean from these negative effects. Each of us can minimize our carbon footprint by switching to fluorescent lamps; turning off TV's and lights when leaving a room; and walking or bicycling when only going short distances instead of taking the car. You can also simply plant a tree; a ton of carbon dioxide can be absorbed over the lifetime of one single tree.*

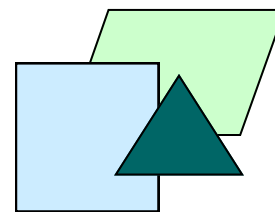
*For fresh water systems, we can do a lot by simply remembering the water supply is not unlimited. In other words, let's use water more carefully. Only one percent of the earth's water is available for human consumption. Water used can be treated and recycled. Unfortunately, we're wasting clean fresh water faster than we can restore the supply. The more we use, the less fresh water is available to aquatic organisms. Once again, small changes can help. Examples include limiting shower times a few minutes and turning off the water while brushing your teeth. (These changes not only help aquatic ecosystems but saves on utility bills as well.)*

*Moreover, we can protect our watersheds (i.e. the land area where the water drains into a common water body such as a lake or river). When water flows from the highest points in a watershed to the lowest points, it can pick up pollution along the way, resulting in pollution of a lake, river or wetland. Pollution can consist of harmful chemicals, that were improperly disposed of to trash that was not put into its proper place. Not surprisingly, the "health" of the watershed plays a significant role in the well-being of aquatic life along with the lives of everyone living in the area. The Environmental Protection Agency suggests people take the following actions to protect watershed and their aquatic ecosystems: 1) replace leaky faucets and septic tank to reduce the amount of wasted water and pollution; 2) add plants and trees along waterways to limit erosion; 3) use safe and organic material when gardening and sparingly use pesticides and fertilizers. In addition to the suggesting, individuals can volunteer to monitor pollution in a watershed or participate in cleanups and restoration of wetlands.*

*In sum, there's a lot each of us can do to protect aquatic ecosystems. It's not hard and it's the right thing to do.*



## Chairman Reports (continued)



### Youth – Recyclable Sculpture Contest

Donna Donnelly Ddon21@aol.com

The seven entries representing four of the five SAR states were exciting and fun to judge! The youth's ages ranged from 10-13 years, and grades 5-8. This is an easy contest for students to enter. I would like to encourage more entries by asking state chairmen to send the contest information to all local elementary schools via Club Presidents at the beginning of the school year so the art teachers can consider incorporating the Recyclable Sculpture Contest into their syllabus as an assignment or class project. It is a fun way for students to learn about recyclable items.

5<sup>th</sup> grade: First Place and Overall winner-Ethan Smith, age 10 from West Virginia, sponsored by the Woodland Oaks Garden Club, Oak Hill.

6<sup>th</sup> grade: First Place-Morgan King, age 12 from South Carolina, sponsored by the Rose Garden Club, Orangeburg.

7<sup>th</sup> grade: First Place-Lexi Hinson age 13 from South Carolina, sponsored by the King Alfred Garden Club, Heath Springs.

8<sup>th</sup> grade: First Place-Alexus Plyer age 13, sponsored by the King Alfred Garden Club, Heath Springs.

## Odds 'N' Ends

### Dates From Our States

WVGC Convention, Apr. 7-9, Waterfront Place Hotel, Morgantown WV

GCNC Convention, Apr. 14-16, Hilton Hotel, Wilmington NC

GCSC Convention, Apr. 25-27 Hilton Hotel, Florence SC

VFGC Convention: May 8-9 in Charlottesville VA

Landscape Design School, April 12-13, Hampton Inn, Gloucester VA

Landscape Design School, May 1-3, Bowling Green KY

Wildflower Pilgrimage, Blackwater Falls State Park, Davis, WV, May 9 – 12th

Landscape Design School, Course III, Series X, WVU, Morgantown, WV May 15 – 17

NGC Convention, May 24-26 Seattle WA

National Garden Week, June 2-8

Flower Show School, Course 3, August 15 – 17, Oak Hill, WV

Flower Show School II, Staunton VA September 9-12

Symposium, November 3-5, Raleigh NC

**Sympathy:** To Loretta Lively whose husband Jim passed away Feb. 5; to Brenda Moore whose mother passed away Jan.24; to the family of Dr. Rusty Van Pelt who passed away Feb. 7; to Emily Floyd Stephens whose husband passed away March 5; NGC Executive Director Michelle Smith whose husband died from a massive heart attack on March 13.

### SAR Directory Corrections

Mary Sue Floyd mflloyd3570@aol.com

Incoming SAR Board members should let this chairman and the incoming SAR Director Martha Morgan (marthamorgan@insightBB.com) know of any corrections prior to the printing of the 2013-2015 SAR Directory. We would like to have the directory contain no mistakes, if that's possible!



NGC President **Shirley Nicolai** is featured in the Spring 2013 issue of **flower**! If you are not currently a subscriber, sign up now to receive a hard copy of the spring issue, which includes the interview pictured below.

Visit [www.flowermag.com/subscribe](http://www.flowermag.com/subscribe) and enter the code **1NGC**. \$2 from each subscription will go the National Garden Clubs, Inc.

*Be sure to share this interview and offer with your fellow garden club members*

Key Notes

April 2013

[www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org](http://www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org)

## NGC Convention 2013

The NGC 2013 Convention will be in Seattle WA May 24-26, 2013. We hope to have many from our Region attending. It is an Installation Year. Theme: “Rain Shine”

The committee has been busy making plans for an enjoyable and informative convention.

There will be tours, workshops, speakers, designs, entertainment, vendors, and more. And, of course, everyone attending has the opportunity to meet new garden club members and exchange ideas.

Check the winter issue of *The National Gardener* for all the details, costs and registration form. (Or get it on the NGC website)

Let’s try to get as many as possible attending from the South Atlantic Region. You definitely want to be there to cheer on your state president as she reports on the activities of your state. And we hope all of our states come home with awards for their work during the past year. You really do want to be there to cheer for your state then!

And since it is also an installation year, you will meet the incoming NGC President. If you plan to take the pre-convention tour into Canada, remember that you must bring a valid passport. Register early for that tour as it has a limit on space.

But don’t wait any longer to make your reservation. The hotel fills up fast—if it hasn’t already.

Sheraton Hotel

1400 Sixth Ave Seattle WA 98101

206-621-9000 or 888-627-7056

The special NGC rate is \$149 per room.



## SAR Convention 2013

### **South Atlantic Region Convention “People, Plants, and Places” March 25-27, 2013 Crowne Point Lexington KY**

We had a Kentucky Welcome for the South Atlantic Region Convention. We were entertained by “Mrs. Lucy Bakewell Audobon”; given a floral demonstration by Lynn Fronk, with the designs being auctioned; workshops on, among other things, bees and orchids; a silent auction; good food; lots of friendly smiles and discussions; interesting reports from all five state presidents; a lovely Memorial Service; interesting vendors; and the opportunity to meet new friends as well the opportunity to be with long-time friends.

The major business conducted was the adoption of the 2013-2014 SAR Budget, and the passing of a Standing Rule Amendment which changes the distribution of Convention funds to be split 50/50 between SAR and the host state, beginning with the 2013 Convention.

And we finished with the invitation to “Follow the Star” to the 2014 SAR Convention in Roanoke VA.



Check out our website and link to each of our states!

*Key Notes*

[www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org](http://www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org)

*April 2013*

SAR Courtesy Resolution - March, 2013

**Whereas,** The members of the South Atlantic Region, attending the Fifty-Second Annual Convention at *The Crown Plaza*, Lexington, Kentucky, March 25-27, 2013 have benefited from shared information; *and*

**Whereas,** The South Atlantic Region Director, Mary H. Dixon, The South Atlantic Region officers, chairmen and members have served this organization with distinction; now therefore be it

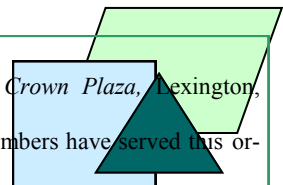
**Resolved,** That sincere thanks be given to Kay Fisher, Chairman of the 2013 Convention; Sandra Robinson, Co-Chairman and Diane Caines, President, Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc., Honorary Chairman; all those who participated in designing the table decorations and favors; all the exhibitors which include Design Exhibits, those who contributed to the Hospitality Bags, the VIP gifts; those who served as pages and hostesses and all the members of the Garden Club of Kentucky Inc. who have planned, participated and prayed for the success of this Convention and assured the success by their many courtesies extended; *and*

**Resolved,** That the Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc. President, Diane Caines, through her gracious hospitality; the members, delegates, chairmen and officers, through their dedicated concern in the deliberations of this Convention, be commended for their spirit of cooperation; *and*

**Resolved,** That the lunch and banquet speakers, the workshop presenters, and most especially, Lucy Bakewell Audobon, be extended our appreciation for contributions which will be long remembered, *and*

**Resolved,** That appreciation be extended to the management and staff of *The Crown Plaza* for accommodating us so well in our physical needs and in the services rendered; *and*

**Resolved,** That this resolution be incorporated in the minutes and that copies be sent to Diane Caines, Kay Fisher, Sandra Robinson, and the management of *The Crown Plaza*.  
Betsy Steele, Resolutions Chairman  
Adopted by The South Atlantic Region Convention - March 27, 2013



Key Notes April 2013  
[www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org](http://www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org)

# SAR Convention 2013 (continued)

## Awards 2013

- # 1. BIRD PROTECTION  
i. Gateway GC, Cadiz, KY  
ii. Abingdon GC, VA  
iii. Salisbury GC, VA
- # 2. BUTTERFLY.  
The Avid Gardeners, Hilton Head Island, SC
- # 3. CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION  
i. Woodland Pond GC, VA  
ii. Madison GC, VA
- # 4. ENVIRONMENTAL  
Harbor Island GC, Wrightsville Beach, NC
- # 5. GARDEN THERAPY/HEALING GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION  
Council of GC of Sumter, SC
- # 6. HORTICULTURE THERAPY  
i. Green Thumb GC, Raleigh, NC  
ii. May Farm GC, VA
- # 7. HISTORIC TRAIL & PRESERVATION  
Old Fredericktown GC, VA
- # 8. HORTICULTURE ACHIEVEMENT  
Judy Chandler, Warren East GC, Bowling Green, KY
- # 9. LANDSCAPE  
Charlotte Council of GC's, NC
- # 10. LITTER/RECYCLING/RECLAMATION  
i. Melrose GC, Johns Island, SC  
ii. Town & Country GC, VA
- # 11. THE NATIONAL GARDENER  
Gateway GC, Martinsburg, WV
- # 12. NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK  
i. Driftwood GC, N. Myrtle Beach, SC  
ii. The Saint Matthews GC, SC  
iii. Garden Club of Frankfort, KY
- # 13. BLUE STAR MEMORIAL  
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- # 14. PROGRAM  
Best Slide, Video or Power Point Program  
(Tie) Linda Porter, Garden Club of Danville, KY  
(Tie) Brenda Moore, West Virginia GC, President  
B. Best Program (Without slides, video or power point)  
Chesapeake Bay GC, VA
- # 15. PUBLIC RELATIONS  
(Tie) The GC of Danville, KY  
(Tie) Madison GC, VA
- # 16. ROADSIDE  
The Huntington GC, WV
- # 17. STANDARD FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE
- AWARDS
- SINGLE CLUBS  
Madison Garden Club, Madison, VA
- TWO OR MORE CLUBS OR COUNCIL  
The Garden Club Council of Greater Columbia, SC
- # 18. THE MARTHA SMITH VISUAL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AWARD  
Moneta GC, VA
- # 19. VISION OF BEAUTY CALENDAR SALES  
Green Pine Garden Club, VA
- # 20. VAN DEUSEN TREE PLANTING/ARBOR DAY ACTIVITIES  
i. Fountain Inn GC, SC  
ii. Clarice Wilson GC, Greenville, SC  
iii. The Garden Club of Charleston, SC
- # 22. BLUE STAR MEMORIAL LANDSCAPING  
Driftwood GC, N. Myrtle Beach, SC
- # 25. NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP  
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- # 26. SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION LIFE MEMBERSHIP  
The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.
- # 27. THE EMILY FLOYD STEPHENS "GREEN SPACE" AWARD  
2. Club Award – GC of Charleston, SC
- # 28. YOUTH ACTIVITIES  
Gold Dusters Junior GC, VA
- # 29. YOUTH EDUCATION  
Mountain GC, Highlands, NC
- # 30. SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION POSTER CONTEST  
Kindergarten: Barnes Gooding, Magnolia GC, SC  
Grade 1: NONE  
Grade 2: Camille Holmes, Hillcrest GC, SC  
Grade 3: Nicholas Smith, Pickens GC, SC  
Grade 4: Fatimah Rivers, Magnolia GC, SC  
Grade 5: John Rivers, Magnolia GC, SC  
Grade 6: Morgan King, Rose GC, SC  
Overall Best Poster: Grade 5: John Rivers, Magnolia GC, SC
- # 31. NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB ESSAY CONTEST  
Title of Essay: "Ways we can Protect Aquatic Ecosystems"  
Winner: Wesley Alan Cunningham, Washington, West Virginia
- # 32. NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB POETRY CONTEST  
Kindergarten: Amanda Bilchick, Dogwood GC, VA  
Grade 1: Ella Hentges, Two Creeks GC, KY  
Grade 2: Lillian Grace Tolson, Lancaster GC, SC  
Grade 3: Nicole Bilchick, Dogwood GC, VA  
Grade 4: Mary Marshall Steele, Lancaster GC, SC  
Grade 5: Caroline Tolson, Lancaster GC, SC  
Grade 6: Lexi Heck, Gateway GC, WV  
Grade 7: Lexi Hinson, King Alfred GC, SC  
Grade 8: Toshia Tamey, Fleming County GC, KY  
Grade 9: Caton Yang, Dogwood GC, VA  
Over-all Best Poem: Nicole Bilchick, Dogwood GC, VA
- # 33. SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTER CONTEST  
Grade 1: Colin Floyd, Green Meadow Point GC, Chesapeake, VA  
Grade 2: Natalie DeCastro, Thoroughgood GC, Virginia Beach, VA  
Grade 3: Nicholas Schaeffer, Calfee GC, Culpeper, VA  
Grade 4: Melumo Togashi, Thoroughgood GC, Virginia Beach, VA  
Grade 5: Karina Gebert, Thoroughgood GC, Virginia Beach, VA
- # 34. NGC RECYCLABLE YOUTH SCULPTURE CONTEST  
Grade 4: None  
Grade 5: Ethan Smith, Woodland Oaks GC, WV  
Grade 6: Morgan King, Rose GC, SC  
Grade 7: Lexi Hinson, King Alfred GC, SC  
Grade 8: Alexis Plyler, King Alfred GC, SC  
Over-all Best Sculpture: Ethan Smith, Woodland Oaks GC, WV

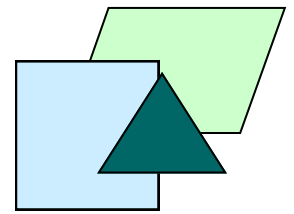
*(Continued on page 14)*

**Pleased Share This Newsletter With Clubs In Your State And With Members Of The State Boards  
Thank You**

Key Notes

[www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org](http://www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org)

April 2013



## *The South Atlantic Region Member States*



*(Continued from page 13)*

### SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION PUBLICITY PRESS BOOK AWARD

- # 44 A Small Club: Green Meadow Point GC, Chesapeake, VA  
 Medium Club: Garden Club of Danville, Danville, KY  
 Large Club: Garden Club of Frankfort, Frankfort, KY
- # 44 B District: Tidewater District, VFGC, Virginia Beach, VA
- #### YEARBOOKS
- NGC 16A: Single member Garden Club
- i. Club under 20 members: Goldsboro GC, Goldsboro, NC
  - ii. Club 20-29 members: Hunting Creek GC, Hopkins, SC
  - iii. Club 30-44 members: Hanover Towne GC, Mechanicsville, VA
  - iv. Club 45-69 members: Thomas Jefferson GC, Richmond, VA
  - v. Club 70-99 members: Chesapeake GC, Reedville, VA
  - vi. Club 100 or more members: Raleigh GC, Raleigh, NC
  - vii. Club 300+ members: The Garden Club of Charleston, SC
- NGC 16B (Group of Member Clubs, Council, District)  
 Garden Club Council of Greater Columbia, SC

### SAR SPECIAL PROJECTS

- SAR # 1 Invite New Members  
 Green Meadow Point GC, Virginia
- SAR # 2 Communicate Rewards of Membership  
 Individual Club Award  
 Green Meadow Point, Virginia
- C. Districts  
 Shenandoah-Potomac Garden District, WV
- SAR # 3 Educate members about opportunities for them.  
 West Virginia Garden Clubs, Inc.
- SAR Director's Special Attendance Award – State- largest  
 Registration by Deadline at SAR Convention – 2013 - \$ 100.00  
 The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.
- #### NGC PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECTS AWARDS OFFERED BY SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION
- NGC 1. PENNY PINES  
 Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- NGC 2. PLANTINGS FOR PUBLIC AND SPECIAL PLACES  
 The Saint Matthews Garden Club, SC
- #### SAR MEMBER AWARD OF HONOR
- Mary Beam, Four Seasons Garden Club, Gastonia, North Carolina

*Key Notes*

*April 2013*

[www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org](http://www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org)