

KEY NOTES



South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

January 2014
Volume 10, Issue 3

“A World of Opportunity—Be Involved”

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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 26

Please submit your articles by email, if at all possible, to mfloyd3570@aol.com
Subject: SAR Key Notes

THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

"A World of Opportunity—Be Involved"



When speaking to our Key Notes Editor, Mary Sue Floyd, about topics for the Director’s Message, she suggested an autobiographical article would be of interest. Instead of the usual type, though, I am writing my “gardening” autobiography.

When I was a child growing up in Paducah, KY, an early memory was walking in the wooded area of the large city park-Bob Noble Park-only two blocks from my home, with my grandparents. “Pa” would make my younger sister, Mary Nell, and me caps from beech leaves put together with small twigs, He also would mimic bird calls and birds would come. “Ma” would point out and name the wildflowers. Later, we would present to the park, which had a beautiful lake and “Duck Island”, the grown-up pair of ducks, “Willie” and “Minnie”, which we had received as fluffy babies for Easter months before. We visited them for years, sure we knew them from all the others.

In later years, my sister and I spent hours playing house with our table and chair set, and kitchen set. We would set the table with china “Fiesta Ware” and it was always my job to do the centerpiece of flowers for the tea party. My favorite container was a small glass creamer shaped like a milk bottle.

When we moved to Reidland, just outside Paducah, the former owner of the house had a beautiful rose garden, and I was given the duty of caring for the roses. I read magazine articles and pamphlets, and did my best. I made corsages of the roses on special occasions for family and friends, which they accepted as if they were good!

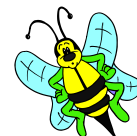
Upon our move to Tennessee in my junior high years, I again inherited roses, which were climbing on a brick wall at our home in Rock Island, and I pruned and sprayed them each season.

Through all the years, I remember visiting my grandmother, whose yard reflected her green thumb with flowers everywhere, and containers overflowing. Even now, each Spring I plant a container of deep purple petunias and one of moss roses in her memory. With space constraints, I will continue my thoughts in the next issue.

Please make plans to attend the South Atlantic Region Convention in Roanoke, VA on March 22-25. Janice Clem, Chair, Shirley Edillon, Vice Chair, and Marilyn Mason, President, along with the Committee, have planned a wonderful experience for us, and I would like to see you there!

Be Involved.

Martha



State Presidents' Themes and Reports



The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc. Joanna D. Kirby, President “Kentucky, Let’s Grow” Helping Hands Across Kentucky

I hope that when you read this in the comfort and warmth of your homes after the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season you can take a few moments to reflect on the past year. The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc. saw a slight increase in membership over the state and for this we are thankful. The District meetings this past Fall were fun and exciting with many clubs attending, some for the first time, with excellent speakers from bees to landscape design. I was able to meet so many wonderful members across the Commonwealth and hear all of the wonderful projects and plans that they are committed to in their communities. One club, the Owensboro Garden Club is 87 years old, Providence Garden Club is 75 years old, Cardinal Garden Club is 63, Highland Garden Club is 62 and Open Gate Garden Club is 60 and they are all in the same district! That is a very impressive amount of time for these clubs and they are still going strong.

My theme, “Helping Hands Across Kentucky”, with Monarch Waystations and Community Gardens is taking off with the help of our members. We partnered with WildOnes this past spring to encourage gardeners to plan and plant a butterfly garden with nectar and host plants. We started with 35 certified gardens through Monarch-watch.org and are now nearing 100. As you can see from this increase the enthusiasm is spreading and more clubs are planting. The GCKY Monarch Waystation chair, Linda Porter (the Butterfly Lady) has attended several district meetings and has spoken to several clubs sharing her knowledge and love of nature with all. Her calendar is already filling up for this year as more and more want to hear her message.

I had the privilege this summer to meet with the Commissioner of Kentucky State Parks, Elaine Walker and the state Naturalist, Ron Vanover to discuss a partnership with the GCKY and the park system. We selected 5 parks (one in each district) to establish a Monarch Waystation for the benefit of all that visit the parks throughout the state. We have met successfully with two of them and will visit the other three this winter. They already have many of the butterfly attracting plants on

site and with the addition of the Milkweed (the only host plant for Monarchs) they will be able to certify their parks. This will also allow us to be more visible to many people that we would not normally see as well as helping to educate the public about the plight of the Monarch.

An elementary school in Danville, Ky., Jennie Rogers now has a working community garden that we will use as a prototype around the state to show how a small but dedicated group of teachers, students and club members can initiate, create and plant a garden to help others in the community. It will also have a Monarch Waystation planted and ready for the Spring of 2014.

As a fundraising project the GCKY has worked with the owner of Elmwood Inn Fine Tea, Bruce Richardson, an internationally renowned tea expert, to develop a blended Black Chinese tea, “Kentucky Morning” . We are selling this delicious tea with our state logo and mission statement on the biodegradable canister to help raise funds for the 2015 NGC Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. The tea was launched at all of the district meetings and is selling ‘briskly’!

Earlier in the fall we also partnered with Amazon and by going through our state website we will earn 4% of the sales. We are slowly but surely getting this out to all of our members and we hope to see our profits increase by this spring.

We will have a Landscape Design School IV in March in Bowling Green to finish this course for those that are trying to get their certification. The instructors and information have been very useful for those of us that are in this school and the friendships made there are for a lifetime.

Our GCKY Convention will be held in April at Cumberland Falls State Resort Park and we are all looking forward to gathering together.

We hope to see everyone in Roanoke and share our winter stories.

Have a blessed New Year!

Joanna D. Kirby

**The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.,
Jenene Smith, President
Theme: "Volunteering to Make a Beautiful Difference"**



We take this opportunity to look back at 2013 and look forward to 2014. In April, when I began my term as president, the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. was well on its way to an outstanding year. The North Carolina State Legislature had approved the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly as the state butterfly, making it a state symbol. This came about due to the hard work of the members of the Cape Fear Garden Club and the backing of the Garden Club of North Carolina. A DVD on the life cycle of this butterfly has been developed and made available to schools and to garden clubs.

The Elizabethan Garden, one of our gardens, had a wonderful opportunity due to a TV show that investigated hidden treasures. This show spearheaded the tests and opinions of experts to determine the true age of the portrait of Queen Elizabeth I that had hung in the gate house of the Garden for many years. Happily, it was confirmed that the portrait was painted in the 1500 and could be worth a million dollars at auction. We are still in the process of determining our direction for that wonderful opportunity. The portrait can be viewed at the Albemarle Museum in Elizabeth City from now until March, 2014.

The Flower Show Symposium in November, held in Raleigh, was outstanding. Attendees enjoyed both the horticultural education and the beauty of the designs. Several garden clubs dedicated Blue Star Memorial Markers, that honor our veterans.

Garden clubs throughout our state have presented scholarships to their local community colleges and state universities. In 2013, the GCNC awarded \$15,000 to three students attending state universities.

Looking forward to 2014, in March, many of our club members will be attending the SAR Meeting in Roanoke, Virginia, where we hope to interact with the members of the many garden clubs that we will encounter at that meeting. It is always a very special opportunity to see the diversity of projects in garden clubs in other states and learn from them.

Also, we are working on our plans for the GCNC convention in Winston Salem, which will be April 13-15.

I wish for all of you a happy, healthy and blessed New Year

Jenene Smith

**The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.
Judith Johnson Dill, President
Theme: "Inherit the Past: Create the Future"**



The Garden Club of South Carolina members actively engaged in a variety of projects and events during the past three months. We have celebrated numerous club anniversaries, ranging from 50 to 90 years, many even celebrating charter members! We have perused club scrapbooks and memorabilia, discovering numerous editions of garden tours, historic preservation, civic beautification, conservation, landscape design schools, flower shows, massive tree plantings, Arbor Day, Blue Star Memorial Markers and work with young people. Primarily, we have found GCSC members true to our founding principles of using our garden club work to benefit others.

Continuing our concentration on communication, we have published the Winter Issue of *The South Carolina Gardener*. Devised as a reference tool, each issue features fascinating and meaningful information about gardening, focusing on NGC and GCSC objectives. We have published the fourth edition of *The Gallivanting Gardener*, designed as an out-of-the-box communication tool. This e-newsletter features articles by various statewide garden club members on pertinent topics, all deliv-

ered in creative and fun-focused techniques. We send BLASTS to quickly reach statewide members, alerting them of specific, timely issues. Members use the GCSC Website to locate and/or download time-sensitive and long-range information, read *The South Carolina Gardener* and *The Gallivanting Gardener* and find answers to *Gallivanting Gardener* puzzles. Each month, the Website spotlights and archives garden-topic book reviews in *The Book Nook*, written by a book reviewer, who is a GCSC Board member. Also, the Website features the work of two other members of the GCSC Board of Directors: the *Conservation Corner*, written by one of the nation's leading environmental experts, and the *Chaplain's Corner*, penned by our GCSC Chaplain. And, we have fun with Facebook and Twitter, especially since our GCSC member, FB Manager is in her 20s and in college! Want to distribute the news? Get a 20-something to

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deliver it!

GCSC's *jewel* is our Memorial Garden, first in the nation to be dedicated to the sacrifice and service of our military. Under the careful watch and planning of our member committee, which numbers professional landscape designers and horticulturalists, the garden restoration is evidencing remarkable progress. Designed by Lourel Briggs and situated in the Governor's Complex, the garden is a popular site for weddings and other events, including garden club activities. Called a *Cathedral in Nature*, the garden evokes tranquility and contemplation.

In early October, we completed our district Fall Gatherings and began preparations for our March district meetings. In a flurry of activities, GCSC members participated in flower shows, including the Coastal Carolina pair of shows at the Low Country fair, October 31-November 10. Next, "The Holy City", Charleston, was once more the site of the Landscape Design School for Course III, November 12-14. Not only did the school feature Karl Gercens of Longwood Gardens as the keynote lecturer, but also joined hands with the Charleston Horticulture Society, inviting participants to hear his lecture the night previous to the school.

On November 11, Rose Garden Club in St. George paid tribute to veterans of wars past with the unveiling of a new Blue Star Memorial Marker, placed at the entrance to the Dorchester County Courthouse. A testament to the club's vigorous and long-standing fund raising, this Blue Star Marker signifies the gratitude of club members for the sacrifices of our veterans. Various town and state dignitaries joined garden club members, GCSC President and many city residents. A particularly poignant part of the ceremony included a stirring address from a lifelong St. George resident who survived a WWII German POW camp.

Kicking off December, we celebrated with the entire state! The Columbia Garden Club and The Garden Club of South Carolina once again gave the State Christmas Tree to the citizens of South Carolina. Planning for this highly-popular event ensures the SC Governor can actually pull the switch to illuminate the beautifully-decorated, 40-50-foot-high tree, during the statewide televised Carolighting Service, held in front of the state capitol. Eleven thousand LED lights and hundreds of large glass balls and ornaments adorn this enormous tree. SCE&G very generously donates manpower and bucket cranes to put up the strings of lights and lift daring GCSC members to attach the ornaments.

Shortly thereafter, we celebrated Arbor Day, gathering local and statewide dignitaries and young people to plant many trees and honor our conservation pledge and duties. Clubs and councils planted trees at libraries, parks, historic sites, courthouses, churches, schools, greenways, revitalized downtown areas and civic centers.

Embodying our effort to combine widespread state and community entities in recognizing the significance of our trees, The Garden Club of Charleston celebrated Arbor Day and our state project, *Historic Trees for Historic Places*, at Charles Towne Landing. Not only did they plant an historically-correct, large live oak to memorialize their lost club members, but also they held a stirring service with officials from The City of Charleston, the State of South Carolina and National Park Service (NPS). Following the event, NPS-guided trolley tours of the forest, highlighted the individualized, unique tree markers, as well as an historically-correct reception in the Legare-Waring House, the site of the event.

With the New Year, GCSC members begin afresh, working to benefit others in our state and communities. We look forward to the SAR Convention in Roanoke, where we can meet new and continuing garden club friends.

Judith Dill

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Marilyn J. Mason, President
Theme: "Working Together To Preserve Our Legacy
-Conserve, Preserve, Restore, Educate".



These past winter months gave us pause to focus on our families and enjoy the natural Winter beauty of the season. Hopefully, thoughts will now turn to the year ahead as we strive to Preserve Our Legacy throughout Virginia in the New Year. My thoughts have quickly turned to the challenges of building membership, planning meetings, and our school offerings.

For all of these programs to succeed, we need YOU, our members. Not unlike other organizations, each year there has been a decline in memberships – for many reasons. In VFGC we continually work to bring to our membership interesting

programs at meetings, to offer flower show and landscape design schools and reach out to all of our members through our quarterly publication.

In support of NGC, SAR and VFGC themes to "Make a World of Difference," our members need to "Be Involved" so that working together we can "Preserve Our Legacy". Can we count on you to stay involved – and introduce others as well to what we have to offer?

In 2014, we are off to an impressive start. Here's what is happening in Virginia beginning in March:

VFGC is proud to offer two schools - Flower Show School (March 3-6, 2014) and Landscape Design School (March 19-20, 2014). There is still time to register!

State Presidents' Themes and Reports (continued)

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Virginia welcomes our West Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Kentucky neighbors to the "SAR – Involved and Shining" Convention at beautiful Hotel Roanoke on March 23-25, 2014. If you haven't registered, please do so NOW!

Virginia will host its biannual Member Meeting at historic Hotel Roanoke on April 28, 2014. Members – YOU will not want

to miss this very special informative, educational, and entertaining meeting.

I look forward to travelling around Virginia to its Spring District meetings and Blue Star Memorial dedications, and learning how each of our Districts and clubs are "Making a World of Difference" throughout Virginia.

Marilyn Mason

West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.
Patricia Arndt, President
Theme: "Those Who Plant Gardens Believe in Tomorrow"



"A GARDENER'S RESOLUTIONS"

It's hard to believe that another year has gone by, and a new year has started. As we all know, this is the time that many of us make new resolutions to live by. These resolutions allow us to feel good about the coming year, giving us goals for which to strive.

I'm no different than anyone else. I reflect on the past year and diligently plan on making this year better and more productive. With that said, here are my "Garden Club Resolutions" for 2014, and I hope some may be able to relate to them . . .

LISTEN MORE . . . I resolve to listen more closely when others speak to me, or offer advice. I know I don't know everything, and I need guidance from more experienced garden club members.

BE COMPASSIONATE AND KIND . . . It's easy to make wrong assumptions when dealing with people. For instance,

there might be a member who has missed too many meetings, or, maybe, they don't respond to you as quickly as you might think they should. It may be that they have issues in their lives that we don't know about – illness, depression, work, family matters, etc.

BE GRATEFUL . . . We have so many blessings in our lives. Be grateful for them all.

RESPECT AND ENJOY THE BEAUTY AROUND US . . . I resolve to slow down a bit and to enjoy the real beauty of God's world – family, friends, nature. I believe this is where real peace exists.

May you all have a successful and fulfilling year! I look forward to seeing old friends and to meeting new ones at the SAR meeting in March.

Patty Arndt

Officer Reports

Jo Jean Scott
SAR Chaplain, 2013 - 2015

Eight year old Matthew spent last night with me. He loves playing Monopoly and pancakes with maple syrup in that order. Being all out of Bisquick this morning, I took from the shelf my very old Good Housekeeping Cook Book and began to look for the home-made, breakfast pancake recipe and as I did, a long ago card from my mother fell from between the pages. Written on the card is a prayer for every day in the new year and I share it with you now -

God give us sympathy, common sense, and help us on with courage high,

God give us calm and confidence, and please, a Twinkle in the Eye.

Corresponding Sect. Dianne Caines

Don't forget our South Atlantic Regional Convention in March. The registration information as well as the information/schedule for the Flower Show can be found on our website. Why not make plans to come, bring a design and some horticulture, and enjoy the tours, workshops and information?

Happy New Year to each of you! Once again I wish to remind you that I am available to send cards, good wishes, or anything to each of you----If you only let me know. You may contact me at dhcaines@aol.com.

Key Notes

January 2014

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

Chairman Reports



ARBOR DAY

Geneva Hunt

Did any of your garden clubs do anything special to celebrate Arbor Day last spring? We need to promote Arbor Day by planting trees or other plantings or by cleaning up an area or any other way to promote Arbor Day.

Try to get publicity for your club and state while celebrating in your own way.

Let this chairman know what you did or what plans you have for Arbor Day 2014.



AWARDS

Judy Ann Fray

The SAR Awards Chairman looks forward to receiving winning entries from our 5 states by JANUARY 25. Be sure to read each award's criteria in the SAR Directory for exact wording and any exceptions in the rules listing. Youth ESSAY, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl POSTERS, YOUTH SCULPTURE, and YOUTH POETRY winners from each state are sent to the respective SAR YOUTH Chairman.

Publicity Press Books are sent to Barbara S. Ohmsen, Press Book Chairman, by February 23, and Applications for the SAR Special Project sponsored by Martha Morgan, Regional Director, are to be received by Mary Dixon by January 31. Good luck to all award applicants!

CALENDARS/*VISION OF BEAUTY*

Elaine Thornton

Even if you forgot to get your 2014, Vision of Beauty calendar already, it is not too late. Be sure to remind your clubs to get theirs to help make 2014 the best year ever.

CONTAINER GARDENING

Helen Heater

“Winter a Time for Planning and Inspiration”

Winter is a great time to reflect on our past successes and a time to gather new thoughts and ideas about future gardening. Growing plants can be very inspirational. With all of the technology today in photography (i.e. digital cameras) it is so easy to capture the beauty of our containers, gardens, children and our surroundings. It is a great way to record and save some of our beautiful creations. These are especially nice to reminisce about when the days are cold and give us inspirations and new ideas for the new and upcoming growing seasons.

Container gardening isn't about doing everything perfectly. It's an easy-going hobby that's more about personal expression, sharing and the art rather than doing things just so!

Something that may inspire you in the coming season is working with the youth. They are inspirational in the first place and we are looking for ways to get them involved and/or to share our interests in gardening. Space can be an issue in creating that dream depending where we live. Here are just a few simple ideas we can share or try that will take little space but create a lot of fun and smiles.

*Try a terrarium or a fairy garden, using tiny plants, tools and even tiny furniture to create that small container garden. They can become a great centerpiece for the patio or home.

*Try a small water garden using a half wooden barrel, a plastic liner and a small water pump from any garden center. A great way to grow small water plants, like water lilies and maybe a goldfish or small coi. There is a long list of plants and care instructions at these centers. Note; (If you decide to use the small fish it should require some shade, and of course you'll have to make other provisions for it in the winter time.)

*Or bring water to a garden with a bubbling container, instead of plants. These pots are filled simply with water and a small pump for creating bubbling sounds or effects and a lovely view to any garden or patio.

* Teach them to build a simple heart shaped topiary “plants which are trained to grow around a frame.” This project will always bring a smile. It literally takes about an hour to make. First fill a container with soil. Take a piece of 4ft wire, bend the wire in a divot, using these proportions for the middle, 1 1/2ft on one side and 2 1/2 ft. on the other. The divot you create is the middle or the center of the heart, and the longer end will be going or placed into the soil as the framework. Use an English Ivy plant as it is tough, low maintenance and easy to grow. Note: (When selecting your ivy plant, make sure it has 3 or 4 branches started, this makes a fuller topiary as it grows.) Plant the ivy at the bottom and front of the heart. Begin by wrapping the ivy around each side of the heart shaped wire. In the beginning you may have to use small pieces of tape to adhere the plant to the wire in order to begin training the ivy to grow parallel to the wire. It will cover the form in no time and will look lush and green with little effort. Again, it will make a nice container plant for summer on your patio or deck. Besides they will love being responsible for taking care, i.e. water and fertilizing with your assistance.

More importantly you've inspired children to be creative simply by sharing your interest of container gardening. Make sure you take a snapshot of their container creations. They will love to look at them later. Gardening may become a hobby of theirs someday.

Chairman Reports (continued)

ENERGY/CONSERVATION

Gail Hill

How to Reduce Your Energy Consumption

Tips for conserving electricity and cutting your energy costs

- **Buy Energy-Efficient Appliances** – Many of today's new appliances use half the energy of those from 20 years ago. If you're in the market, remember this rule of thumb: look for products with the Energy Star Registration label – they typically use about 20 to 40 percent less energy than other new models. Some electric companies and even state governments offer consumer rebates on Energy Star-rated models.
- **Insulate Your Home** – Most homes in the United States are less than optimally insulated, and older homes tend to have higher heating and cooling costs than newer homes. Installing proper insulation, windows, ducts and heating/cooling systems can keep these costs down while improving the comfort of your home. What follows is a generic guide to retrofitting your home with energy efficient features. However, the best way to learn about the specific needs of your home is to get an energy rating. An energy rater will conduct a detailed analysis of your home and identify areas where you can make cost-effective improvements in energy efficiency. Residents can find a list of certified raters by area through [RESNET](#), the Residential Energy Services Network
To get an idea of what efficiency measures might make sense for your home, start with the Department of Energy's Insulation Fact Sheet to determine what type of insulation is best suited to your house and your climate. Then, follow these general guidelines:
Start with the attic: Good insulation here can save 20 to 35 percent in heating and cooling costs.
Insulate under the floor, around hot water pipes and heating ducts, and in crawlspaces for further energy savings.
Install new windows that meet or exceed Energy Star specifications. These windows keep heat from escaping, and in hot climates, keep out half of the sun's heat energy. They also reduce noise.
- **Choose Renewable Energy** – Many consumers now have the power to choose their own energy supplier. If you have a choice, pick a supplier that uses renewable power resources, like solar, wind, low-impact hydroelectric, or geothermal. Find out if your state offers electric choice by using [Green-e's Pick Your Power website](#), a state by state guide to green energy options.
- **Who Gets An Energy Star?** –The Energy Star Registration label identifies products that are more energy efficient than other models in their category. And it isn't limited to appliances. More than 40 types of household and commercial products are eligible for the Energy Star label. Look for it when you are shopping for items like these:
 - **Appliances: dishwashers, clothes washers, dehumidifiers and refrigerators**
 - **Heating & Cooling: ceiling fans, room air conditioners and programmable thermostats**
 - **Home Electronics: cordless phones, DVD players, home audio systems, televisions, VCR's and combination units**
 - **Lighting: compact fluorescent bulbs and lighting fixtures that meet quality standards**
 - **Office Equipment: computers, copiers, faxes, monitors, printers, scanners and multipurpose devices**
 - **Home: windows, doors and skylights**

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ~ LITTER ~ RECYCLING

Grassroots Green

Karen Prewitt

The month of January was named for the Roman god Janus, whose image on coins appeared facing in two opposite directions.

Like Janus, January always provides us with an opportunity to look backward at the previous year and learn from our mistakes and then look forward and see how we can apply those lessons learned to new ways of doing things.

Since January is the traditional time for New Year's Resolutions, one of mine this year is to see how much more I can do to reduce my ecological footprint.

Did you know that the average person throws away 4.8 pounds of trash everyday? It doesn't really make sense to bury valuable materials in a landfill or burn them when they can be made into something else. In recent weeks I've read a number of articles about the economic viability of recycling in my own state of South Carolina and how new 'green' businesses are providing scores of jobs for their communities. I'm amazed at the number and variety of new industries that are cropping up with creative ways to recycle all kinds of materials.

I'd like to share with you some of the ways re-cycling in South Carolina is making a difference and open up a venue for other states to let me know of efforts in your area. We can all learn from each other

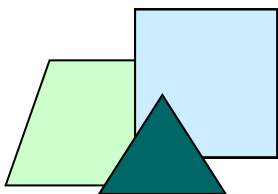
Currently there are 500 businesses in South Carolina related to re-cycling and those businesses provide 21,000 jobs in the state. Recycling has always been about protecting the environment, but now it is also about boosting the economy. South Carolina's recycling efforts in 2012 resulted in an environmental impact equivalent to saving 325,183,632 gallons of gasoline, or 12,463 railroad cars of coal, or eliminating emission from electricity use in 434,227 households.

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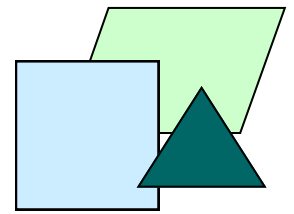
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Chairman Reports (continued)



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Food waste from restaurants, school /college cafeterias and hotels is being collected, then mixed with grass clippings and yard waste to produce nutrient-rich compost that is sold locally. The methane gas produced from a county landfill is being converted by a generator into electricity and is being sold to Santee-Cooper. At least three companies in the state specialize in solution dyed fabrics made from plastic recycling and several others are collecting and re-cycling construction waste and keeping it out of landfills. Did you know that the average 2,000 square foot new house creates about 8,000 pounds of waste?

One of the bulkiest and least biodegradable pieces of construction material in our landfills is carpeting. About 5 Billion pounds of it was thrown away last year. A company called Wellman Plastics is helping to divert used carpeting from states all along the east coast. The carpet is converted into pellet form then sold to companies that mold products for the automotive industry. Other building materials like concrete and shingles can be converted into roadbed material. Re-usable doors, shutters, fixtures and lighting are now being re-cycled at Habitat for Humanity outlets and old wood is being re-purposed into beautiful pieces of furniture. Fisher Recycling in Charleston collects glass bottles from restaurants crushes it mixes it with oyster shells and makes beautiful new counter-top materials that are far more sustainable than marble and granite and just as beautiful.

I'd like to feature *your* state in my next article, so I encourage you to send me your ideas [Kpadgett4c@cs.com] to share in my next *Key Notes* article. Meantime, even our smallest garden clubs can help in little ways - even if it is only re-cycling our Christmas cards to be re-purposed by the children at St. Judes Hospital. Recycle-Reuse-Re-purpose!

NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Patsy Stephens

2014 – Be the first club in the New Year to give a National Life Membership to pay tribute or honor someone in your garden club. We all know someone who has contributed tirelessly and done outstanding work toward meeting the goals of NGC. Please encourage your club to bestow this honor on a deserving member in your club.

National Life Memberships are \$200 each. Each NLM receives a lifetime subscription to *The National Gardener* and recognition at National, Regional, and State meetings. One half of the NLM fee is credited to the Permanent Home and Endowment Fund and one half goes to the NGC Scholarship Fund.

NLM pins are available through Member Services. Purchase of the pin is the responsibility of the person or group giving the honorarium. This is a separate expense and in addition to the NLM fee of \$200.

Checks should be made payable to National Garden Clubs and attached to a completed application form that is available on line or by request to me.

Patsy Stephens, Chairman

P.O. Box 1157

Wise, VA 24293

Email: patsy.stephens@verizon.net

SAR SPECIAL PROJECTS AWARD

Mary Dixon

“Beauty Spots for Bees and Butterflies”

SAR Director, Martha F. Morgan, has chosen the theme, “Beauty Spots for Bees and Butterflies” and is offering a variety of awards for these special projects for both 2013 and 2014. A Beauty Spot should be a small space planted with a shrub or shrubs and plants that are attractive to these pollinating insects, which are endangered in our world. The Spot may be on public or private property, but should be visible for the public to enjoy and learn the value of the plantings to the insects. The purpose of the Beauty Spot is twofold: To nourish the valuable insects and to publicize the local garden club in the community. The plot should include a sign of your choice: wood, metal, stone, etc., which will bear the name of the sponsoring garden club or council. It is suggested that shrubs be drought-resistant and compact varieties, for easier maintenance, and other plant material should be native or heirloom varieties, since they are most attractive to the insects.

Projects will be eligible for awards each year of the administration. The entry should be submitted on the National Garden Club award application and is limited to two pages: one describing the project and the second with picture(s) of the Beauty Spot at its' most beautiful time. No binders are necessary, and the application must be submitted to the SAR Special Project Chairman by mail or e-mail by January 31, 2014 and 2015.

The following Scale of Points will be used in judging entries:

Narrative presentation	15
Involvement of Club members	25
Beauty (Photographic evidence)	40
Effective use of signage	20
Total	100

Individual Club Awards:

Club Size: Under 30 members

Club Size: 30 – 59 members

Club size: 60 and over members

Council Awards:

Council size: 8 and under clubs

Council size: 9 clubs or more

State Award:

To the State with the highest number of SAR Special Project Award applications received

Send All Applications to: SAR Special Project Chairman:

Mary H. Dixon

132 Moonlight Point

Suffolk, VA 23434-9300

mdixon2643@aol.com

Key Notes

January 2014

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Chairman Reports (continued)

SAR WAYS AND MEANS

Patsy Cameron, Chairman

“Accessory Alley”



The South Atlantic Region “Ways and Means” chairman, Patsy Cameron, is planning a fund raiser during the 2014 SAR Convention at the Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke, VA on March 23-25, 2014. “Accessory Alley” will return this year; a project featuring the sale of jewelry and accessories of almost new and gently used items, including, but not limited to, jewelry, scarves, and handbags.

Your assistance is requested to help us stock the display and to provide a variety of items for sale. Time is drawing near to check your closets and jewelry chests for items that may be gently used (or never worn because they’re just not your style or didn’t work with that outfit) and donate them to our sale. As you clean out those closets and drawers while spring cleaning, please help us to offer some great finds and bargains for smart and thrifty convention goers and at the same time recycle for the good of all.

You may send items to me or take them to convention. Please make plans to donate several items now.

This year we will also showcase some vintage “button jewelry”, handmade one of a kind collectibles which are very unique and affordable. Look for us at the convention and plan to support SAR with your contributions as well.

Contact Patsy Cameron with questions and suggestions at pecameron@cox.net or 757 486 3165.



Odds ‘N’ Ends

Directory Corrections/Changes (changes underlined)

Directory Corrections/Changes (changes underlined)

P. 20 Organization Study, Carolyn Patterson: address 3492 Waterloo Rd. 26218-2187

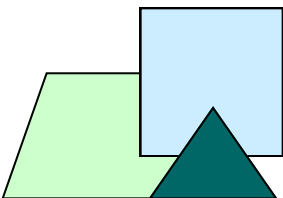


SYMPATHY to Frances Thrash (SAR Arboreta & Botanical Gardens Chairman) on the recent death of her father; to Nancy Odom (SAR Birds Chairman) on the death of her mother.

DATES FROM OUR STATES

Information on all of these is on the website for each state

Flower Show School Course 1, January 29-31, Greenville SC
Art in Bloom (UK), February 23, Lexington KY
Flower Show School Course 1, March 3-5, Raleigh NC
Flower Show School Course 3, March 3-6, Richmond VA
Flower Show School Course 4, March ??, Bowling Green KY
Landscape Design School Course 3, March 19-20, Richmond VA
GCWV Convention, April 6-8 Huntington WV
GCKY Convention, April 7-9, Cumberland KY
GCNC Convention, April 13-15, Winston-Salem NC
GCSC Convention, April 23-24, Columbia SC
Flower Show School Course 4, April 24-26, Oak Hill WV
VFGC Member Meeting, April 28, Roanoke VA
Landscape Design School Course 4, May 14-16, Morgantown WV
Flower Show Judges Symposium, June 15-17, Durham NC

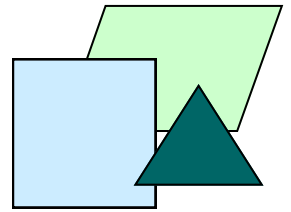


Key Notes

January 2014

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NGC Convention 2014



The NGC 2014 Convention will be in Norman OK May 1-3, 2014. The Registration Form, Tours, Speakers, and Programs are given in detail in the latest issue of *The National Gardener*.

Norman is just outside of Oklahoma City. The hotel is approximately 18 miles from the Oklahoma City airport. The convention is being held at the Embassy Suites in Norman. If you haven't made your reservation, do so. We hope to have a room full when we meet for the Regional Breakfast.

There are many interesting programs and activities planned for us. And as everyone knows, a lot of work goes into setting all this up.

June B. Ashworth, NGC Chairman

School Gardens/Pollinators
Reminding all clubs with school gardens to consider applying for a NGC award. Just go to the NGC website and review the School Gardens/Pollinators Application Blank. You must file by the March deadline. There are four awards - \$100, \$75, \$50 & \$25. Good Luck.



NGC President 2013-2015
Linda Nelson
"Making a World of Difference—
Choices Matter"

SAR Convention 2014

South Atlantic Region Convention "Involved and Shining" March 23-25, 2014 Roanoke VA



Attention: SAR Committee Chairmen and State Presidents

Promote your SAR chairmanship or a project, or showcase your state with an educational display at the 2014 SAR Convention.

Exhibits will be set up at the Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke, Virginia on Sunday, March 23 between noon and 2:00 p.m. You may use a space of 32" across by 30" deep on a table covered and skirted in white.

Reservations for exhibit and display space will be accepted through Saturday, January 25. Contact 2014 SAR Convention Chairman Janice Clem at tchokie@aol.com or at 540-977-1713 to make a reservation, to request additional space or for questions.



Key Notes

January 2014

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SAR Convention 2014 (continued)



“FOLLOW THE STAR” TO THE SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION CONVENTION
MARCH 23-25, 2014



The Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke Virginia
THEME: “INVOLVED AND SHINING”

With the beginning of a new year, we mark dates in our appointment book for special events we want to attend. Please save Sunday March 23—Tuesday March 25 in your calendar for the upcoming SAR Convention in beautiful Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke Virginia. Our convention team is eagerly awaiting your arrival!

Now is a good time to send your registration to Mary Sue Floyd, our Convention Registrar. The registration form is in this issue of Key Notes for your convenience or you may download it from the SAR website:

www.southatlanticregiongardencubs.org

SAR officers, chairmen, and state presidents have the opportunity to showcase projects with an educational display. Set up the display between noon and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday March 23. Contact the SAR Convention Chairman Janice Clem at tchokie@aol.com or 540-977-1713 no later than Saturday January 25 to reserve your space.

Many of you have already made your room reservation at Hotel Roanoke and we thank you for doing this early. The Registrar has a list of hotels near Hotel Roanoke if you find the room block full. Two other groups have room blocks at Hotel Roanoke the same time we are there. Rooms not reserved in these two blocks will be released on February 22.

The “A World of Opportunities—Be Involved” Standard Flower Show celebrates our SAR Director Martha Morgan’s theme for her administration as well as the themes of our state presidents. The flower show schedule is on the SAR website for you to see. We need your help to make the show a success. Please review the schedule and pick out a design to create and consider what horticulture entries you can bring. (Details were in the October 2013 Key Notes.)

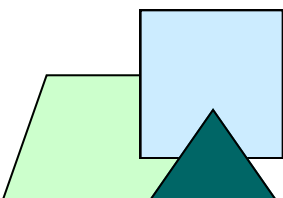
You’ll enjoy diverse programs, flower show, educational exhibits, shopping with vendors, and being with friends and networking with garden club members from Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. The convention schedule is shown below so you can know the exciting and fun events planned for your enjoyment. Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs members are pleased to host the fifty-third SAR Convention “SAR—Involved and Shining”; and we look forward to welcoming you to Virginia!

SAR CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Sunday March 23, 2014

9:30 am—11:45 am	Continuous Break Service	Shenandoah Foyer
10:00 am—6:00 pm	Registration	Shenandoah Foyer
10:30 am—11:30 am	Finance Committee Meeting	Blue Ridge
1130 am—12:30 pm	Executive Committee Meeting	Blue Ridge
12:00 noon—2:00 pm	Exhibits Set up	Alleghany
	Flower Show Set up	Peacock Alley
	Vendor Set up	Shenandoah A
1:30 pm—2:00 pm	Tour of Historic Hotel Roanoke	Meet in Hotel Lobby
	Groups A and B	
2:00 pm—6:00 pm	Exhibits Open	Alleghany
	Vendors Open	Shenandoah A
2:30 pm—3:30 pm	Program #1: Margaret “Fred” Douglas	Pocahontas
	<i>“Simple Things to Transform Your Garden”</i>	
3:00 pm—6:00 pm	Flower Show Entries Accepted	Peacock Alley

(Continued on page 12)

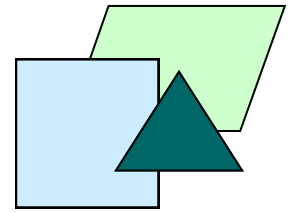


Key Notes

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SAR Convention 2014 (continued)



(Continued from page 11)

4:00 pm—5:00 pm	Program #2 Bill Smoot	Pocahontas
	<i>“Living Walls—A Look at Vertical Gardening”</i>	
6:30 pm	Banquet	Shenandoah B
	Program by Lisa Ziegler	
	<i>“Growing Your Own Summer Bouquets”</i>	

Monday March 24, 2014

8:00 am—6:00 pm	Registration Open	Shenandoah Foyer
8:30 am—11:45 am	Continuous Break Service	Shenandoah Foyer
8:00 am—6:00 pm	Exhibits Open	Alleghany
	Vendors Open	Shenandoah A
8:00 am—9:00 am	Flower Show Entries Accepted	Peacock Alley
9:00 am	Official Opening of SAR Convention	Shenandoah B
12:00 noon—6:00 pm	Flower Show Open	Peacock Alley
	<i>A World of Opportunities—Be Involved</i>	
12:30 pm	Luncheon	Crystal Ballroom
	Program by Paul Saunders	
	<i>“Boxwood: ‘Stars’ for Gardens”</i>	
1:00 pm—5:00 pm	Continuous Break Service	Shenandoah Foyer
2:00 pm—3:00 pm	Program #3 Pam Shank	Shenandoah B
	<i>“Landscapes in Miniature”</i>	
3:30 pm—4:30 pm	Program #4 Eric Day	Shenandoah B
	<i>“Horrid Insects & Lesser Know Trivia</i>	
	<i>About What’s Eating Your Garden”</i>	
4:45 pm—5:45 pm	Landscape Design Consultants	Shenandoah B
	<i>“Meet and Greet”</i>	
6:00 pm—7:00 pm	Cash Bar	Crystal Ballroom
7:00 pm	Banquet	Crystal Ballroom
	Design Program by Frances Thrash	
	<i>“The Brilliance of Creativity”</i>	

Tuesday March 25, 2014

7:30 am—8:30 am	Registration Open	Shenandoah Foyer
8:30 am	Awards Breakfast	Shenandoah B
	Design Program by Jim Taetz	
	<i>“Bringing a Breath of Spring”</i>	

Note: Details of the programs and events were in the October 2013 Key Notes.

SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION CONVENTION
March 23 – 25, 2014
 "SAR: Involved & Shining"

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, Roanoke VA

Registration: Please complete form, make check payable to: "2014 NGC-SAR Convention" and mail both to: Mary Sue Floyd, 2824 E. Meadow Wood Dr. Chesapeake VA 23321-4233 email: mlfloyd3570@aol.com; phone: 757-484-7604
Postmark by March 1, 2014 for On-time Registration

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____
 May we confirm registration by your email (above)? Yes _____ No _____

Check **ALL** that apply:
 _____ NGC Officer _____ SAR Officer
 _____ NGC Chairman _____ Former SAR Director _____ SAR Chairman
 _____ NGC Life Member _____ SAR Life Member _____ State President
 _____ Club President _____ Club Member _____ Delegate
 _____ Guest _____ Spouse _____ Alternate Delegate

All attendees must pay a registration fee.

Full Time Package Plan includes registration fee, 2 dinners, 1 lunch, 1 breakfast, break service, 8 programs, flower show and tour of Hotel Roanoke.

VA Members & Non-spouse Guests **Package Plan**.....\$200
 Out of State Members & Non-spouse Guests **Package Plan**.....\$210
 Spouse **Package Plan**.....\$185

OR

Monday only Package Plan includes registration, 1 lunch, 1 dinner, break service, 4 programs and flower show

VA Members & Non-spouse Guests **Monday Package Plan**\$ 95
 Out of State Members & Non-spouse Guests **Monday Package Plan**\$100
 Spouse **Monday Package Plan**.....\$ 90

OR

VA Members & Non-spouse Guests registration fee.....\$ 20
 Out of State Members & Non-spouse Guests registration fee.....\$ 30
 Spouse of any member.....\$ 5
 One day only registration\$ 15
Additional Late Registration (after Mar. 1 - for all).....\$ 10

Meals:

Sunday Evening.....\$ 55
 Monday Lunch.....\$ 40
 Monday Evening.....\$ 60
 Tuesday Breakfast.....\$ 35

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please indicate special dietary requirements: _____ Diabetic _____ Vegetarian _____ Vegan
 _____ Gluten Free _____ Other (medical reasons only)
 Specify _____
 No requests for substitutions will be accommodated at the time of meal service.
 We will make every effort to accommodate your medical allergies but will not be able to accommodate individual dislikes. Thank you for your cooperation!

No refunds after March 15

Please check the afternoon programs you plan to attend:

_____ Sunday, 1:30-2:00 Tour of Historic Hotel Roanoke (space limited)
 _____ Sunday, 2:30-3:30 Simple Things to Transform Your Garden
 _____ Sunday, 4:00 -5:00 A New Look at Vertical Gardening
 _____ Monday, 2:00-3:00 Landscapes in Miniature
 _____ Monday, 3:30- 4:30 Horrid Insects & Lesser Known Trivia About What's Eating Your Garden

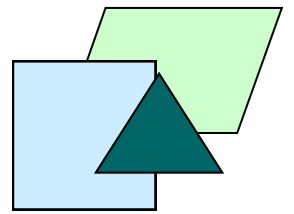
Hotel Reservations

Reservation deadline for group rate is: February 21, 2014

Make reservations directly with the Hotel Roanoke, 110 Shenandoah Ave., Roanoke, VA 24016. Call 540-985-5900 or toll free at 866-594-4722 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday and ask for the South Atlantic Region Garden Club meeting room block.
 Room rate: \$99.00 plus taxes per night for single, double, triple and quad.
 Check-in: 4:00 p.m. Check-out: 11:00 a.m. All rooms are non-smoking
 Parking: Valet \$12/day; overnight parking \$7/day; Daily rates from \$1 to \$6.

Travel Information:

By Air:
 Roanoke Regional Airport, Roanoke, VA Hotel Roanoke is 4.5 miles from the airport. The hotel offers free shuttle service to and from the airport.
 Courtesy phone in the baggage area or call the Hotel at 540-985-5900 upon deplaning.
By Automobile:
 I-81 to I-581-S Exit 5 Downtown. Stay in left lane. Merge onto Williamson Rd. Turn right on Shenandoah Ave. at the second stop light (Roanoke Valley Welcome Center). Hotel entrance is the first right. Make quick left to go to front of hotel/registration.
 From the east: Rt. 460 west to Roanoke. Left on Williamson Rd. (at the Civic Center area). Turn right at the 4th stoplight on Shenandoah Ave. (Roanoke Valley Visitors Center) Hotel entrance on right. Make quick left to go to front of hotel/registration.
 From points south taking Rt. 220 North to Roanoke: Follow 220 North to I-581. Take Exit 4 East. Stay in right lane. Take 1st right onto Williamson Rd. (Civic Center on right and Sheetz on the left). Follow Williamson Road. 6 of a mile to Shenandoah Ave. Turn right on Shenandoah Ave. (Roanoke Valley Visitors Center). Hotel entrance is on the right. Make quick left to go to front of hotel/registration.



The South Atlantic Region Member States



SARa Bee

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

Key Notes

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

January 2014