

KEY NOTES



South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

October 2014
Volume 11, Issue 2

“A World of Opportunity—Be Involved”

Inside This Issue

Director's Message	1
State Presidents	2
Kentucky	
North Carolina	
South Carolina	
Virginia	
West Virginia	
Chairman Reports	5
Arbor Day	
Awards	
Blue Star Memorials	
Calendars/Vision of Beauty	
Container Gardening	
Energy Conservation	
Environmental Education	
Historic Trails	
National Garden Week	
National Life Membership	
Scholarship	
SAR Spec. Project Award	
Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Posters	
Youth—Essay	
SAR Convention 2015	9
NGC Convention 2015	10
Odds'n'Ends	10
SAR Convention Registration	11

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"

This Summer has been a season of extremes in Kentucky. We ended the months of June and July with a large deficient in rainfall, to be followed by the wettest August on record, with over a two inch surplus at the end of the month. So far in September, it has been a record dry month, again. Our gardens have reflected these extremes. I have been following the weather in the other South Atlantic Region States and I think many of my fellow gardeners have had the task of watering flowers, shrubs, and, especially, container plants throughout the summer months. The beautiful flowers are worth it, right? Our garden has attracted an unusual number of bees, butterflies and hummingbirds, all welcome visitors. Not so welcome have been the spiders and mosquitoes!

The Summer Issue of *The National Gardener* had several interesting articles on our pollinators, I hope you read the one that reported more bees were visible lately with less colony collapse. I hope our various emphases on awareness have contributed to this gain. Another item in this issue features pictures of several flower designs which were placed in hallways at the NGC Convention in Oklahoma City. One is the beautiful design honoring South Atlantic Region by Dianne Caines of Kentucky. Thanks, Dianne!

Brenda Moore, South Atlantic Region Historian, and Membership Committee member, National Garden Club, has made available a wonderful brochure on membership and also has a Power Point dealing with membership. She may be contacted at b_moore@frontier.com.

We are looking forward to the South Atlantic Region Convention at the Marriott Resort, Hilton Head Island, SC. Please mark March 22-24 on your calendars. The National Garden Clubs, Inc. 2015 Convention will be held in our South Atlantic Region, in Louisville, Ky. May 12-18. Ann Fiel and her Committee have been planning for many months and with the help of numerous members throughout SAR, the meeting and installation of Sandy Robinson, London, Ky. as NGC President will be a memorable event. A Tri-refresher will be available during the Convention, and several tours.

As many of you know, my husband, Russ, had a bad fall on our son's boat dock at the lake on Memorial Day, resulting in broken ribs and cracked vertebrae, and a large hematoma. He has recovered well (although he still insists *on doctor's orders* he cannot load or unload the dishwasher). He plans to be in Iowa this month. Thank you to everyone who sent cards and notes and called about his progress. It meant much to both of us.

Gardeners make wonderful friends.

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

It is hard to believe that yet another summer has flown by and we are now counting down the days before Christmas. Here in Kentucky we are also counting the days before the NGC Convention in Louisville, KY on May 12-17, 2015. There is much work to be done to prepare for such a large gathering of gardeners and friends and our committee has been hard at work. We are looking forward to seeing all of you in the beautiful Bluegrass state next year and hope that you will enjoy all that we will have to offer.

This summer our clubs and members have been hard at work planning and planting Monarch Waystations (Bed and Breakfast) for the declining Monarchs. In the Spring of 2013 we had only 36 certified waystations here, we now have over 182 so you can see that a lot of clubs have added these in their communities, parks and home gardens. I continue to work with our state parks and encourage them to plant the necessary Milkweed in their perennial beds and borders as well as to certify them through MonarchWatch. The Monarch numbers are reported to be up slightly as they begin their long journey south to Mexico for the winter.

We are spreading the news about Smokey Bear in our local libraries as schools are becoming more and more difficult to get on board with. This is also an opportunity to work with children from a diverse group of schools and to help educate the general public as well. As we move into the drier days of Fall this is a good time to get the news out in our local papers. If you have not met Smokey in person this is a great year to meet him and wish him a Happy 70th Birthday!

There are still a number of Flower Shows on the calendar for this Fall and I know that they will all have wonderful specimens and designs to stimulate each one of us. Each of the clubs that have held these Flower Shows have spent many months planning and preparing for these wonderful events.

As I have been able to visit with club members in their homes and at club meetings I am touched and blessed by the kindness and generosity that they show to so many. We are not just gardeners of the earth, we are gardeners of man as well.

May each of you have a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas Season

Joanna D. Kirby

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



It has been a very hot, humid and busy summer for the Garden Club of North Carolina with lots of meetings and activities. We had a very successful Flower Show Judges Symposium in Durham, June 15-17. There were 59 in attendance, 10 of which were from out of state. The Design instructor was Julia Clevett and Jim Schmidt was the Horticulture instructor.

August 4th-6th members of the Flower Show Judges Council held Flower Show School 2 in Raleigh at the J. C. Raulston Arboretum with instructors, Dorothy Yard and Frances Thrash. Twenty-one students, 5 from out of state and 13 judges attended for a total of 34. Flower Show School Course 3 will be given January 23-25, 2015 and Flower Show School Course 4 will be given June 8-10, 2015. The courses will be

held in Raleigh at the J. C. Raulston Arboretum. You may go on our website for more information. {www.gardenclubofnc.org.}

Our Fall Board Meeting was held September 13-15 in Charlotte. We were delighted and honored to have our National Garden Club President Linda Nelson in attendance. In her address to us at the Sunday evening dinner, she shared new information concerning the soon to be proposed National dues increase.

We had a wonderful time, made possible by all members of the Charlotte Council of Garden Clubs and our thanks go to them for providing an excellent location, great food and a noted Ikenbana Instructor for the Design program. .

Several of our members will join me in attending the National Garden Clubs Fall Board Meeting, in Des Moines, Iowa. September 24-28. Those attending look forward to visiting and

(Continued on page 3)

State Presidents' Themes and Reports (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

networking with Garden club members from around the world.

October will be a busy month for the officers and the many garden clubs in North Carolina as the ten district meetings begin. Officers and the Ways and Means Chairman will travel

from the mountains to the sea with stops in between during a four week period.

The garden clubs in North Carolina are working on many and varied projects to follow the themes: "Volunteering To Make a Beautiful Difference"; "A World of Opportunity-Be Involved"; and "Making a World of Difference-Choices Matter."

Jenene Smith

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



Autumn's refreshing cool weather and glorious display of nature's painted leaves signal new opportunities for members of The Garden Club of South Carolina. Across the state, members are celebrating club anniversaries, new members and active engagement in a variety of civic projects. They are identifying historic trees and places, working with environmental and conservation projects and gathering information at district Fall Gatherings.

Autumn also brings a welcome opportunity to enjoy historic Charleston, as we host the Landscape Design School, November 11-12. Dr. William Welch of Texas A&M University, not only will be our keynote speaker, but also will have available some of his excellent books, which focus on gardening in the South.

In addition, members from all districts are completing plans for the South Atlantic Region Convention, to be held at Hilton Head Island, March 22-24. It will be our particular pleasure to welcome NGC President Linda Nelson and NGC/SAR Director

Martha Morgan. Please see the registration materials in this newsletter, on the SAR Website and on the GCSC Website.

Palmettos in Paradise! Want to leave winter's blustery winds and icy weather? Make your reservation for the South Atlantic Region Convention at Hilton Head Island, March 22-24.

Come early and stay late!

Take advantage of our extended stay package, March 20-26, the 20% discount at Spa Soleil, fabulous shopping and wonderful weather. Grab a golf package and play golf at the island's stellar courses, designed by Robert Trent Jones, Tom Fazio and Arthur Hills.

Want a harbor tour? Fishing tour? Want to play golf on a championship course or three? Like tennis? Want to wiggle your toes in the Atlantic? We have it all, and just for you!

We're looking forward to seeing you all in March, at Hilton Head Island!

Judith Dill



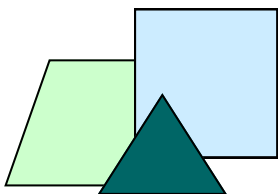
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Marilyn J. Mason, President Theme: "Working Together To Preserve Our Legacy -Conserve, Preserve, Restore, Educate"

Throughout our South Atlantic Region's five states, **Fall** takes on its annual beauty of changing seasons. In Virginia, it is also a time of VFGC providing **Youth and Community Beautification Grants** to clubs. These very successful grants enable our clubs to take on larger projects than would other-

wise be possible and they foster member enthusiasm and interest.

The Key Grants for Youth programs have proven to be a common ground between schools and clubs who choose to do so. This year 11 clubs with grants totaling \$6900 reached nearly

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3)

3500 students. Their projects ranged from creating a rain garden habitat for birds and butterflies, planting vegetable gardens, an outdoor classroom to teach life cycle, water cycle, soil cycle, ecology, entomology to name a few.

Community Beautification Grants this year have enabled clubs to refresh and plant in city intersections, restore memorial and public gardens, and other community beautification efforts.

Virginia's Fall District Meetings, Blue Star Dedications, Flower Shows and schools and other events promises to supply plenty of design and gardening know-how programs to tempt member interests. We were particularly pleased to wel-

come 89 students to VFGC's Flower Show Judges Symposium late summer.

Plans for the VFGC Annual Convention to be held April 26-28 in Williamsburg are underway. "Enhancing Nature's Bounty", the Convention theme - will depict Tony Todesco's splendid floral design art displays; and another program will feature Jeff Nunckek of Village Garden Center who will speak on the newest ideas on landscaping. Registration and other details will appear in the Winter issue of Old Dominion Gardener and on the VFGC website:

www.viriniagardenclubs.org.



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

Autumn is just around the corner! In my area of West Virginia, we were fortunate to have had a beautiful summer, with not so bad temps and good rainfall. My flower gardens were beautiful, and the vegetable garden provided many good suppers. But, it will soon be time to put the gardens to bed until planting time next spring.

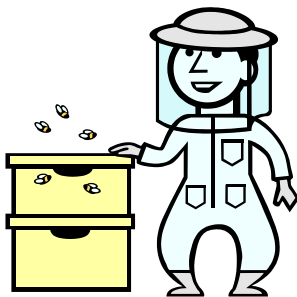
Conversely, now begins the busy time for me as President of West Virginia Garden Club, as districts schedule and plan their meetings around the state. Visiting with members during these visits is, for me, the highlight of my office. Members are the heartbeat of our organization. It always amazes me at the scope of projects that are accomplished by our clubs, even those with few or dwindling membership.

West Virginia Garden Club has lost approximately ten clubs over the past year and a half. Reasons range from "aging out"

to not being physically able to work on projects or be as active as they think they should be in their clubs. It makes me sad to hear clubs disbanding because their members feel they are no longer assets to garden club. Members should not measure themselves by the amount of projects that are accomplished, nor by the hours they are able to contribute. As long as a member believes in the mission and ideals of Garden Club, they will always have a place in our organization.

Older members are needed to act as mentors for newer, even not so new, members. Your years of service and participation can serve as a road map for those coming into Garden Club. So, to those who are even thinking about giving up or disbanding - you are needed, you are wanted, and you will always be appreciated as a member of Garden Club

Patty Arndt





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 2015. She would like to hear from clubs and states so she can highlight some of the activities.

CALENDARS/*VISION OF BEAUTY*

Elaine Thornton

Make your plans now to decide how many “Vision of Beauty” calendars you want. The 2015 calendar is now available, so if you haven’t placed your order, do so immediately.

CONTAINER GARDENING

Helen Heater

Autumn Charm in Containers

Fall is upon us again and we wonder where and why the seasons pass so fast; especially we gardeners who never want the growing season to end. Shifting from the growing season to the most colorful season is still an exciting time of year.

Enchanting colors of orange, yellow, magenta, green and purple mix and more are so marvelous. Mums in the fall are the best container plants. It’s easy to continue our gardening and decorating at a different level. Keep it simple, add pumpkins, corn stalks or “fauter” (with a beautiful bow), leaves, and a container of pansies around those container grown mums and you will have a luring display in and around your entry way or patio. Actually for a unique container, hollow out a pumpkin and place the “Mums” inside. This make a beautiful display or vase of mums inside or out. Once the mums have finished blooming or start to die back remove the spent blooms and place them in your gardens. When transplanting add a small amount of time released fertilizer for food to get them established before winter. Later towards the end of Oct or Nov. trim back the mums again, mulch and water well to survive the winter. This time period is short and winter may come early so be diligent or careful. Above I’ve shared my attempt to carry out my gardening and decorating for a few more weeks. Enjoy. Don’t forget to clean all containers before storing and you will be ready to start right away in the spring.

AWARDS

Judy Ann Fray



The SAR Awards Chairman reminds you to be planning your awards applications as you prepare for the fall and the new club year. State presidents may need to remind the clubs to do this. There were many very good applications for the past year and this chairman wants to have even more applications next year and give out lots more awards. Clubs, Districts and States can’t win anything if you don’t apply.

Read your SAR Directory and check the SAR website for the list of all awards.!

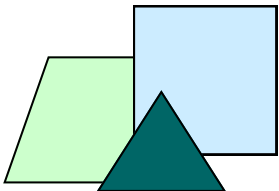
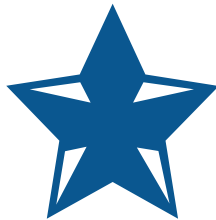
BLUE STAR MEMORIALS

Romanza Johnson

I would like to challenge every state to make all of their clubs more aware of the Blue Star Memorial Highway Program.

This program of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. began in 1945 to honor the men and women serving in the Armed Forces during World War 11. So a uniform marker was designed to identify the Highways.

Materials and prices may be ordered from NGC Headquarters by calling 1-800-550-6007 or by going to the NGC website. It would be great to have at least one new marker installed in each District of each state of our Region.



Key Notes October 2014
www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Gail Hill

CUT COLD-WEATHER COSTS

Cold weather brings higher heating bills. Here are some tips to help you reduce energy use in your home during cold weather.

Take advantage of heat from the sun. Open the curtains on your south-facing windows during the day to allow sunlight to naturally heat the home, and close them at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.

Cover drafty windows. Use a heavy-duty, clear plastic sheet on a frame or tape clear plastic film to the inside of your window frames during the cold weather months. Make sure the plastic is sealed tightly to the frame to help reduce infiltration. Install tight-fitting, insulating drapes or shades on windows that feel drafty after weatherizing.

Check your thermostat. When you are home and awake, set your thermostat as low as is comfortable. When you are asleep or out of the house, turn your thermostat back 10 to 15 degrees for eight hours and save around 10 percent a year on your heating and cooling bills. A programmable thermostat can make it easy to set back your temperature.

Find and Seal Leaks. Seal the air leaks around utility cut-through for pipes, gaps around chimneys and recessed lighting in insulated ceilings, and unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets. Add caulk or weather-stripping to seal leaks around leaky doors and windows.

Maintain your Heating Systems. Schedule service for your heating system. Replace your furnace filters once a month or as needed. Wood- and pellet burning heaters: clean the flue vent regularly and clean inside of the appliance with a wire brush periodically to ensure that your home is heated efficiently.

Reduce Heat Loss From the Fireplace. Keep your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning. When you use the fireplace. Reduce heat loss by opening dampers in the bottom of the firebox (if provided) or open the nearest window slightly – about 1 inch – and close doors leading into the room. Lower the thermostat setting to between 50 and 55 degrees. If you never use your fireplace, plug and seal the chimney flue. If you do use your fireplace, install tempered glass doors and a heat-air exchange system that blows warmed air back into the room. Add caulking around the fireplace hearth.



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ~ LITTER ~ RECYCLING

Grassroots Green

Karen Prewitt

Ouch! Feeling the Sting

After I finished my Environmental Education report at a garden club Council meeting last week, a friend handed me an envelope containing some information she had received in the mail about bees. She asked if I had seen the article from EARTHJUSTICE about the EPA's sudden reversal of opinion and approval of a class of pesticides that are known to be deadly to bees. I replied that I had not seen the article, but would be happy to read it.

Joyce suggested that I use their article as the basis of one of my future columns and share it with all our clubs. After reading the article I agreed completely, but instead of sharing it with just our local clubs I decided to try to reach a larger audience via this article in *Keynotes*. Since our SAR President's focus has been on bees, I thought this information would be both timely and appropriate. Even if you have heard some of this information before, it bears repeating.

Did you know? Since 1947 there has been a continuous decline in the number of honeybee colonies. In the span of my lifetime alone, the number of bee colonies has shrunk from 6 million colonies in 1947 to only two and a half million colonies in 2013.

Honeybees are responsible for pollinating one third of all the foods we eat!

Ninety percent of the apples, blueberries, almonds and peaches in this country depend on pollination by bees, and 70% of watermelons and 40% of all strawberries also depend on bees. It takes about two hives, or 60,000 bees, to pollinate one acre of orchard. For those of us living in South Carolina, the mention of anything that influences the well being our major crop is of serious interest. Georgia may claim the title of 'Peach State' but they actually produce fewer bushels of peaches than the state of South Carolina.

According to a *Time* magazine article, a Whole Foods store decided to dramatize the vital importance of honey bees to the nation's food supply by removing all the produce from their displays that depended on bees as pollinators. *Time* reported: "Of 453 items, 237 vanished from the store's displays!"

In many cases, the culprit behind the bee die-off is a class of pesticides known as 'neo-nicotinoids' [or 'neonics' for short]. This chemical, even in very low doses, can damage a bee's ability to navigate back to the hive. Some of the most widely used pesticides by farmers and gardeners contain neonics, so we need to scrutinize our pesticide shelf!

According to the EARTHJUSTICE newsletter: When products containing neonics were first introduced, the EPA said that further testing and public input was needed before they would approve the products... yet less than four months later, without any additional testing or public input, the EPA suddenly reversed their course and approved products containing neonics unconditionally, claiming that: "the risk to bees is outweighed by the benefits of this product". No further data was provided to the public that supported this change of thinking.

(Continued on page 7)



Historic Trails

Lynn Bell Blue Ridge Parkway

Fall in the South Atlantic Region is a popular time for touring primarily due to beautiful weather and gorgeous scenery. Although travel opportunities are limitless, I focused on five individual cities which offer their own unique historic and cultural significance, and also have close access to scenic overlooks and road tours.

Kentucky – Bardstown. Located in Nelson County in central KY, Bardstown was founded by European Americans in 1780 and is the second oldest city in Kentucky. Selected the “Most Beautiful Small Town in America” (Rand McNally/USA Today 2012), this picturesque area features: bourbon distilleries (“Bourbon Capital of the World”), Civil War history and railroad heritage. Popular attractions include historic Basilica of St. Joseph Proto – the first Catholic cathedral west of the Alleghenies; Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest; Bardstown Opry; The Kentucky Railway Museum and My Old Kentucky Dinner Train featuring scenic views.

North Carolina – Asheville. Asheville, the largest city in western NC, was in the Cherokee Nation before the arrival of Europeans in 1540. Described as a “bastion of cutting-edge art and technology,” Asheville has also kept its historic downtown beautifully preserved. You can enjoy countless art galleries, craft shops, and restaurants, as well as annual events which celebrate the local culture. In addition to the renowned Biltmore Estate, Asheville is noted for having one of the most dramatic fall foliage displays in the country. Extreme elevations and over 100 species of deciduous trees give the Blue Ridge Mountains one of the longest, most vibrant leaf seasons.

South Carolina – Greenville. Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in northwestern SC (Upcountry), Greenville has recently been listed in various national publications in the “Top 10 Fastest Growing Cities in the U.S.” The Upcountry is rich in the history of the area’s Cherokee heritage and its pivotal role in the American Revolutionary War. Greenville in particular has seven historic districts as well as scenic overlooks/waterfalls and excellent museums and galleries. Don’t miss Falls Park on the Reedy, a public garden featuring the only curved, cantilevered pedestrian suspension bridge in the US.

Virginia – Staunton. Nicknamed the “Queen City of Shenandoah Valley” in northwestern VA, Staunton is known for being Woodrow Wilson’s birthplace and the home of Mary Baldwin College, historically a women’s college. Noted for its historic architecture in six National Historic Districts, Staunton’s compact downtown is best toured on foot so you can visit the many art galleries, unique shops and vineyard tasting rooms. The beauty of the fall foliage of Virginia’s Blue Ridge Mountains can be enjoyed from Shenandoah National Park’s Skyline Drive and The Blue Ridge Parkway (shown above), both just a few miles from Staunton.

West Virginia – Elkins. Located in northeastern WV, Elkins is rich in the historic significance of railroads that drove the nation’s Industrial Age at the turn of the 20th century. You can experience the four great trains of the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad which travel through some of the “best scenery this side of the Rockies.”

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 6)

In May, researchers at Harvard University’s School of Public Health released a new study that appeared to validate beekeeper’s concerns. The study suggested that since neonics are a systemic kind of pesticide, the toxins are ingested into every part of the plant and render all it’s parts - the flowers, nectar, and pollen highly toxic for weeks thereafter.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture also recently issued this dire warning:

“Currently, the survivorship of honey bee colonies is too low for us to be confident in our ability to meet the pollination demands of U.S. agricultural crops.”

How can you help?

As garden club members and stewards of the land, we need to be especially alert to the possibilities of using any product that might be harmful to bees and other animals that help to provide our sources of food. I encourage each of you to re-read the labels carefully before using any pesticides in your garden. I’ll close with my favorite quote from Mahatma Gandhi... “Be the change you want to see in the world”.

Good News! For the last several years I have tried to get my local **Lowe’s** building supply/garden center to consider recycling empty plastic pots, flats and markers. Imagine my surprise to find a new sign in the garden center on Saturday saying that they now *will* recycle all these items. Please check with your local **Lowe’s** store to see if this is a corporate policy. Getting these items out of the landfill will make a big difference!

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

JUNE 7-13, 2015

Judy Bond, Chairman

The first full week in June has been designated National Garden Week. Encourage all the clubs in your area to include this as they plan their activities/programs for 2014-2015. Posters and proclamations can be downloaded from the NGC website, gardenclub.org. Just click on “Projects”, “Ongoing” and “National Garden Week”. Possibilities are endless! Arrange for a display of gardening books and/or an information table at your local library. Display floral designs with posters and membership brochures in prominent locations in your community. Have a plant sale, workshop or member garden tour. Both SAR and NGC, as well as many states, offer awards for the best overall promotion of National Garden Week showing community awareness throughout the entire week including local and/or state proclamations. These awards (SAR 13 and NGC 53) are available at different club size levels and compositions. Don’t miss this once-a-year opportunity to celebrate our passion!

Chairman Reports (continued)

(Continued from page 7)

Ride in a 1920-era coach to enjoy beautiful river and mountain views in the Monongahela National Forest. The Cheat Mountain Salamander, originating in Elkins, is one of the highest rail excursions east of the Mississippi River and offers two of the tightest track curves in the US.

Hope you get the opportunity for at least one, perhaps many, fall leaf peeping excursions!

NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Patsy Stephens

This is a gentle reminder for all SAR states to please consider purchasing National Life Memberships to honor your members. For the remaining months of 2014 and five months of 2015 you may honor your members who work tirelessly year after year with little recognition and praise. This chairman invites your state to add new NLM during this period. BEE the state recognized at the SAR convention for having the most new NLM members.

An application can be downloaded from the NGC Website. A completed application and check for \$200 made out to NGC can be mailed to me, the SAR National Life Membership Chairman. If anyone needs an application form, please contact me. The NGC Life Member pin is sold separately from NGC Member Services. Looking forward to hearing from you. If you have questions or need more information, please contact me at 276-328-8290 or email: patsy.stephens@verizon.net. My address: P.O. Box 1157, Wise, VA 24293.

SCHOLARSHIP

Marsha Alexander

Now is the time to encourage any student who may qualify to apply for the Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship offered by the South Atlantic Region. The requirements and judging scale can be found in the SAR Directory on page 24.

There is more good news! The SAR Board voted at the 2014 Convention to accept the recommendation of the Executive Board to award two (2) \$2000 SAR Scholarships in 2015. I hope that we have worthy applicants from all five states and look forward to announcing two winners at the SAR Meeting in Hilton Head, South Carolina

SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTERS

Barbara S. Ohmsen

TO ALL STATE CHAIRMEN: Please urge your clubs to participate. You have the folder that was passed out at the NGC Convention in Oklahoma. Get the information out to your state clubs. The deadline to send posters and corresponding information forms to this chairman is February 21.

We look forward to hearing from all states in 2015.

SAR SPECIAL PROJECTS AWARD

Mary Dixon

"Beauty Spots for Bees and Butterflies"

"Beauty Spots for Bees and Butterflies" is the Special Award sponsored by Director, Martha Morgan. There were no applications for 2013 so I feel certain there should be some for 2014. Please look at your projects as surely some would be eligible for this award. They are due to me by mail or e-mail by January 31, 2015.

The award is for a small space planted with a shrub or shrubs and plants that are attractive to pollinating insects, which are endangered in our world. It can be public or private property, but should be visible for the public to enjoy. The purpose of these spots is to nourish the valuable insects and to publicize the local garden club in the community. The plot should include a sign of your choice of materials, and should bear the name of the sponsoring garden club or council.

The awards are for Individual Clubs - Under 30 members, 30-59 members or 60 and over members; Council Awards - 8 and under clubs, 9 clubs or more; State Award is for the State with the highest number of SAR Special Project Award applications received. Each award is for \$25.00.

Please send all applications to: SAR Special Project Chairman: Mary H. Dixon, 132 Moonlight Point, Suffolk, Virginia 23434-9300 - mdixon2643@aol.com

Youth – High School Essay Contest

Sarah Ann Parler

2014-2015 High School Essay Contest

Theme: "Choosing to Make a Difference for a Better World"

The High School Essay Contest is open to any High School student (grades 9-12) sponsored by a federated Garden Club, group of Clubs or Council. All entries become the property of NGC, Inc.

Essay Contest Rules: The length of the essay must be between 600-700 words; any essay that does not conform to the required length will be penalized 10 points. Include a wallet-size photograph of the student, as well as a sheet listing the name, address, phone number, email address, school attending and grade level and a list of activities. Include the name of the sponsoring club(s) or council. A plastic folder is suggested.

Each SAR State has a High School Essay Chairman. Deadline for entries on State level is November 15, 2014.

SAR State winner's Essays are forwarded to the SAR High School Essay Chairman.

Once a winner is chosen, the SAR Essay Contest winner is invited to attend the SAR Convention and requested to read His/Her winning Essay. A \$200.00 check is presented to the winner at this time.

The winning entry is forwarded to NGC, Inc. to be chosen from the Eight (8) Regional winners. The NGC winner receives \$1,000.00 and the second place winner receives \$200.00.

Three of our SAR State submitted entries last year. We would appreciate having an entry from all five of our States this year.

Key Notes

October 2014

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

SAR Convention 2015

“PALMETTOS IN PARADISE” South Atlantic Region Convention March 22-24, 2015 Marriott Resort & Spa Hilton Head Island SC



NGC/SAR 2015 CONVENTION

There is going to be a Gala Event! So pack your bags, your golf clubs, tennis rackets and or bathing suits!!!! Welcome to the Lowcountry the home to Dolphins, Whales, Crabs, Shrimp, Eagles, Woodstorks, Herons, Egrets and much much more!!

The Garden Club of South Carolina invites you to attend the NGC/South Atlantic Region Convention 2015, held March 22-24 at The Marriott Resort and Spa at Palmetto Dunes on Hilton Head Island. We encourage you to come early and stay late, with pre and post packages ages available. “Palmetto's in Paradise” await you along 12 miles of sandy beaches., sun, sea and both indoor and outdoor pools. The property features 3 Championship golf courses designed by Robert Trent Jones, Arthur Hills and Tom Fazio along with tennis courts, and the very famous Spa Soleil, with a 20% discount for convention attendees. Fun and surprises await you and your guests!

A trip back in time on Sunday evening! Travel back to 1740 and meet Eliza Lucas who married Charles Cotesworth Pinckney of historical fame. Eliza developed indigo as one of the Souths' most successful crops. Because of her accomplishments, she was the first woman inducted into The South Carolina Business Hall of Fame. Come and meet this most successful young woman.....

On Monday Evening you will be treated to a figurative tour through one of the most beautiful places in South Carolina. Dr. A. Segars of South Carolina Department of Natural Resources will take you through the ACE Basin, the convergence of the Ashley, Cooper and Edisto Rivers, which is the largest estuary on the East Coast.

Lots of creative workshops and an array of vendors for your shopping pleasure. And, if you have time to venture out of Palmetto Dunes, you will find amazing shopping including Tanger Outlet Malls One and Two, with approximately ninety-one stores available for your pleasure. Before departing the Lowcountry you will be entertained by Palmetto's of Sea Pines bringing you the latest of resort wear, shown by our own GCSC's famous and fantastic models'

Come visit us and stay awhile, with our beautiful places and smiling faces. We hope to see you all very soon.

Norma Miller, SAR Convention 2015 Chairman

Hotel Reservations Reservation deadline for group rate is February 22, 2015

Make reservations directly with the Hilton Head Marriott Resort & Spa at Palmetto Dunes

1 Hotel Circle, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928 Call 1 888-511-5086 and ask for South Atlantic Garden Club

Room rates are: \$129.00 resort view, \$139.00 Ocean view, \$159.00 Ocean front

3 days pre and post convention rates are available

Check in : 4:00pm. Check out 11:00am

Parking: Valet \$18.00 per day Self parking available in two locations

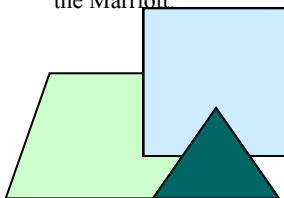
Travel information:

By Air: Savannah International Airport

Hilton Head Airport (served by US Air only)

By Automobile: Route I 95 in South Carolina, Exit 8 toward Hardeeville/Hilton Head Island

take route 278 E. toward Hilton Head, stay on route 278 through Bluffton. Cross over bridge to Hilton Head Island stay on the right, do not go on the Cross Island Expressway. Continue on route 278 E./William Hilton Parkway turn left at sign for Palmetto Dunes, stay to left, follow signs for the Marriott

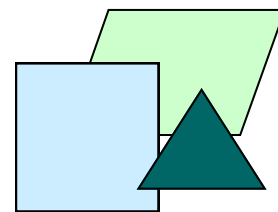


Key Notes

October 2014

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

National Garden Clubs, Inc.



2015 NGC CONVENTION

“Endless Possibilities”

May 15-17, 2015

Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel

830 Phillips Lane

Louisville KY

Rooms: \$129 per night 1-502-367-2251 or 1-888-223-9627 by April 19, 2015

Mark your calendar now as you plan to attend the 2015 NGC Convention. This will be an Installation Year, and one of our own, Sandra Robinson, will be installed as the 2015-2017 NGC President. Ann Fiel is the Convention Chairman.

There are pre-convention tours available May 12, 13, 14.

We have a variety of tours planned, including:

Churchill Downs Horse Race Track with lunch at the backside where trainers and jockeys eat.

Bernheim Forest with their Canopy Tree Walk.

Makers Mark Distillery - a “green” facility where you can view the exquisite newly installed Chihuly ceiling.

Travel past scenic horse farms & rock fences to our historic State Headquarters and arboretum and visit a working horse farm.

Exciting spouses tours and more...

We have speakers who are nationally & internationally known.

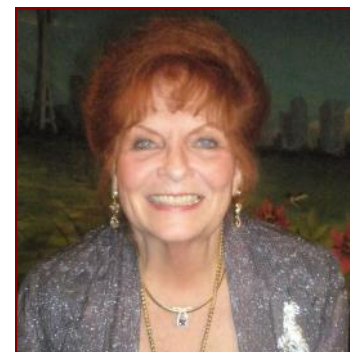
Tri-Refresher credit is offered for all tours, speakers & seminars.

The Life Member Banquet will be a gala affair! You will visit Yew Dell Botanical Gardens, an outstanding American garden. It is the legacy of one of America’s finest nurserymen, Theodore Klein, who started designing and building Yew Dell in 1941. Theodore Klein developed sixty new varieties of plants, one of which is the Forest Pansy Redbud.

Jon Carloftis is the speaker fro the Opening Luncheon; Bill Harper is presenting the program for the Design Banquet. We then have the Award of Excellence Luncheon, Awards Banquet, Regional Luncheons, and Installation Banquet.

Each day there will be a choice of three seminars to attend. And as always, vendors with interesting wares.

So there is much to do, and many friends to see (or to meet new friends). Let’s have a great turnout from our region. If you haven’t attended a National Garden Clubs Convention, this would be our opportunity, since it is so close.



NGC President 2013-2015

Linda Nelson

“Making a World of Difference—
Choices Matter”



We hope you are reading the interesting/informative articles in each issue *The National Gardener*. Don’t receive it?? Check with your SAR or state chairman or go online to NGC to subscribe. You’ll be glad you did!

Odds ‘N’ Ends

DATES FROM OUR STATES

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

Judges Symposium: Oct. 23-25, 2014 in Elkins WV

Landscape Design School: Nov. 11-12, 2014 in Charleston SC

Flower Show School course 3: Jan. 21-23, 2015 in Raleigh NC

Flower Show School course 1: March ??, 2015 in ?? VA

Flower Show School course 1: April 9-11, 2015 in Oak Hill WV

Key Notes

October 2014

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB/SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION CONVENTION

March 22-24, 2015

“SAR: Palmetto’s in Paradise”

The Marriott Resort and Spa Palmetto Dunes, Hilton Head Island, SC

Online link:

Hilton Head Marroitt Resort and Spa/ South Atlantic Region Garden Club

Reservations must be made by February 21, 2015

Registration: Please complete form, make check to “2015 NGC/SAR Convention” and mail both

to: Susan A. Baldwin, 232 Grandview Court, Hilton Island, SC 29926 e:mail su-zy@cbh@aol.com

phone 843.422.0700(c)

Postmark by March 1, 2015 for on time registration

Name _____ Phone _____

Ad- dress _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E:mail _____

May we confirm your registration by your e:mail? Yes _____ No _____

Check all that apply:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| _____ NGC Officer | _____ SAR Director | _____ 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.

Circle Amount(s) being paid

A. Full Time Covenant Plan includes Registration fee, 2 Dinners, 1 Lunch, 1 breakfast. 6 programs

- SC members and non spouse guests-----\$255
- Out of State Members and Non-spouse Guests-----\$265
- Spouse package full Convention-----\$255

OR

B. Monday & Tuesday package includes registration, 1 lunch, 1 dinner, 1 breakfast & 4 programs

- SC Members and Non Spouse Guests-----\$195
- Out of State Members and Non-spouse Guests-----\$200
- Spouse Monday Package Plan-----\$130

REGISTRATION FEES

- SC Members and Non-spouse Guests-----\$30
- Out of State Members and Non-spouse Guests-----\$40
- Spouse of any Member-----\$15
- One day only registration-----\$25
- Additional Late Registration (after March 1, 2015) for all-----\$20

MEALS

- Sunday Evening-----\$60
- Monday Lunch-----\$50
- Monday Evening-----\$75
- Tuesday Breakfast-----\$45

Please indicate any special needs or dietary requirements _____ Diabetic

_____ Vegetarian _____ Vegan

_____ Gluten Free _____ Other (medical reasons only) _____ Wheelchair Access

Speci- fy _____

No requests for substitutions will be accommodated at the time of meal service

We will make every effort to accommodate your medical allergies

NO REFUNDS AFTER MARCH 14

Please check the afternoon programs you plan to attend:

- _____ Sunday 2:00-4:00 pm. Home and Garden Tour
- _____ Monday 2:00-3:00 Faux Flowers Made Fun by Maggie Engstrom of Sweet Bay Nursery (\$40.00 spaces limited)
- _____ Monday 3:00- 4:00 pm. “Living Wreath by Margie Fox The Garden Gate Nursery

Sunday evening program by Eliza Pinckney (circa 1740)

Monday luncheon program by :DIA Designs in Art

Monday evening program by Dr. A Segar with SCDNR Conservation: The Ace Basin located 45 minutes south of Charleston is one of the largest undeveloped estuaries on the East Coast of United States

Tuesday morning program Designs by Palmetto’s of Sea Pines

Hotel Reservations Reservation deadline for group rate is February 22, 2015

Make reservations directly with the Hilton Head Marriott Resort & Spa at Palmetto Dunes

1 Hotel Circle, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928 Cal 1 888-511-5086 and ask for South Atlantic Garden Club

Room rates are: \$129.00 resort view, \$139.00 Ocean view, \$159.00 Ocean front 3 days pre and post convention rates are available

Check in : 4:00pm. Check out 11:00am

Parking: Valet \$18.00 per day Self parking available in two locations

Travel information:

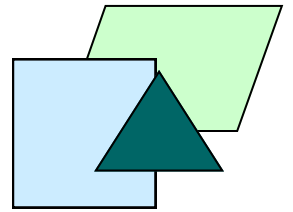
By Air: Savannah International Airport

Hilton Head Airport (served by US Air only)

By Automobile: Route 195 in South Carolina, Exit 8 toward Hardeeville/Hilton Head Island

take route 278 E. toward Hilton Head, stay on route 278 through Bluffton. Crossover bridge to Hilton Head Island stay on the right, do not go on the Cross Island Expressway. Continue on route 278 E./William Hilton Parkway turn left at sign for Palmetto Dunes, stay to left, follow signs for the Marriott

Total Amount of check _____



The South Atlantic Region Member States



SARa Bee

Key Notes

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

October 2014

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