

Key Notes

South Atlantic Region

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SPECIAL CONVENTION ISSUE

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THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

"Color Our World--Passing On Our Gardening Heritage"

Carolyn G. Patterson

Being the South Atlantic Regional Director for the past two years has been a distinct pleasure as I have worked with the member states and their presidents to further the goals of NGC and the Region. Promoting the "Good Soils" project to each state was a learning experience for all and I am looking forward to learning the state and club winners. Serving on the NGC Scholarship Committee also demanded a lot of time and effort but provided many rewards for our states' students. Travel occupied much of my time during the first year of my term as I visited four of the Region's states for their annual meetings. In the past two years I also represented the Region at NGC meetings in St Louis, Atlanta, Palm Springs, Great Falls (MT) and San Antonio. At the 2011 Winter Board meeting I signed papers to put our Region under the umbrella of NGC's 501-C-3 tax-exempt status. This will enable our donors to claim any donations on their income tax forms and also will protect us from liability as a Region since NGC's accountant will review our banking records and the appropriate reports filed. Being under NGC should also make it easier to acquire grants if needed for special projects in the future.



Carolyn G. Patterson
2009-2011

South Atlantic Regional Director



Alternate Director, Ann Sampson, presented a gift to Carolyn Patterson from the Region in appreciation for her service as Regional Director.

Making our Keynotes newsletter available to ALL our members AND in living color has been one milestone in this administration and I want to thank Nancy Hargroves for doing this and Judy Binns for keeping our website up to date. Keeping postage and printing costs down and having timely articles available from the region's chairmen was a big plus. I want to thank all the chairmen who wrote these articles and did displays for their chairmanship.

Working with all of you has been very rewarding. I would have loved to attend special events in each of your states to which I was invited, but my budget did not allow it. I want to congratulate all of your clubs that have made it to their 25th, 50th, and 75th Anniversaries! Keep up the good work as you continue to "Color Your World"!



REPORTS OF STATE PRESIDENTS



SAR Regional Director and State Presidents

Left to right: Carolyn Patterson, Betsy Steele, Mary Lou Goodman, June Ashworth, Kay Fisher, Elene Combs

Garden Club of Kentucky Kay Fisher, President Theme: "Catch the Rain"

Greetings from the Garden Club of Kentucky. Our garden clubs are all a-twitter about our newest state project.

Fifty years ago a beautiful floral clock was installed on the state capitol grounds in Frankfort. This mammoth living clock is suspended over, and surrounded by, an illuminated reflecting pool. The dial, which incorporates the name of the state, measures 34 feet across with 1 1/2 foot spaces between the minutes; the planter weighs 100 tons. Approximately 20,000 plants are required to fill the clock, which are now all grown in seven on-site greenhouses near the Capitol. The clock's hands weigh about 1/4 ton each, and move once every 60 seconds.

Fifty years ago GCKY was asked to raise the funds for the clock's original plant material. Fifty years later and less than a month ago, Governor & First Lady Beshear asked GCKY for help again. Except this time, it was for a very

tired looking rose garden to the far left of the clock. At first it was requested that each GC donate the money for one rose, but after garden designer, Jon Carloftis, got through with the new landscape plans, much, much more was needed...like an estimated total of \$5,000 for all the plant material which consists of roses interspersed with ornamental garlic (a natural pest deterrent) and Korean boxwood.

All expenses for the Capitol Rose Garden Project have been or are to be donated. GCKY pledged to raise all money needed for plants. A BLAST was sent to all garden clubs requesting at least \$20 for one rose or more if possible and donations from individual members, as well.

If all went as planned, the work was to be completed in three days last week. All the roses were to be removed, keeping those still alive, so Jon could have a clean slate to install the new garden and pathways. A plaque noting GCKY's and Jon's donation is to be placed in the garden.

All garden club members will receive an invitation from the First Lady for the rededication of the clock and rose garden

with a reception to follow at the Governor's Mansion on May 4th.

A special note: The visiting public tosses coins into the clock's reflecting pool and in thanks for our help fifty years ago the money collected is given to GCKY to sponsor our Floral Clock Scholarship.

**Garden Club of North Carolina
Mary Lou Goodman, President
Theme: "Come and See"**

The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. has 7,032 members in 278 clubs and 40 plus Youth Clubs. We are a very busy group with the Officers, District Directors and Committee Chairmen leading the way with various projects, plans, programs and events to benefit everyone.

We were honored to be invited to contribute to the Memorial Garden for the Fallen in Delaware. Money was collected in October as the officers toured the 10 districts and told of this deserving project.

The GCNC was honored to be awarded a charter in the DOT 2010 Wildflower Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Raleigh, in appreciation for their support of the Roadside Wildflower and Daylily beautification program. We appreciate the beauty of our highways and byways and invite everyone to visit our wonderful state but ask that they take their trash home with them to recycle, rather than leaving it on our roadsides.

GCNC continues to print a beautiful and useful Engagement Calendar with all profit going to the Scholarship Fund. Members from across the state contribute photos of design, horticulture and landscape scenes. Included in the calendar is a GCNC Plant Conservation list, and an Endangered and Threatened Plants list.

This year we came to an agreement with the Town of Boone and signed a 25 year lease for the Daniel Boone Native Gardens so that this garden, showcasing some of our most beautiful native plants will continue to exist in this busy area. The gardens, opened in 1966, is a project of the GCNC.

In December, The Elizabethan Gardens presented a fantastic holiday event complete with lights, music and decorations in every area, inside and outside, in all the pathways and garden areas. With the direction of the

Executive Director of the Elizabethan Gardens, Carl Curnutte, many improvements and expansions are planned and underway, including utility improvements and safe and handicap accessible pathways throughout the gardens. This work will be monitored by an archaeologist due to the historical significance of the property.

It was a great honor for North Carolina to host the SAR Convention and to welcome everyone to Greensboro to the the Proximity Hotel, the Greenest Hotel in America. What a grand time we had as we learned many new ways to go green and be better stewards of our resources. Thanks to Chairmen, Gail Hill and Rita Guyes for planning this beautiful event, thanks to Marie Cruse for the most exciting and fantastic design presentation, and thanks to all the "designing women" for the inspiring Honor Designs. Thanks to everyone for all the work to make a wonderful convention and special thanks to everyone for attending.

The Annual Convention of the GCNC will be held in Charlotte, The Queen City, on May 1-3, 2011. There will be wonderful speakers, including Dr. Allen Armitage; vendor/exhibit room with great sale items; Awards Banquet; delicious food; and of course, wonderful fellowship. Also, a Standard Flower Show, The Queen's Court, will be presented with interesting class titles, including, The Queen's Executioner, which is a hanging design. Come and participate, "Come and See".

Thanks to everyone who has accepted the invitation to "Come and See" what the Garden Club of North Carolina is doing from the mountains to the coast.

**Garden Club of South Carolina
Betsy Steele, President
Theme: "Accept the Challenge..."**

Members of the Garden Club of South Carolina have continued to "Accept the Challenge" of this administration. We have shared our vision as we planted our daffodils and shared the sunshine they produce....planted swaths of pink to honor those we love and beautified the earth with the production of edibles to share with those less fortunate. In time, as we share our goals through education and promotion of our garden club work, our numbers will

REPORTS OF STATE PRESIDENTS, cont'd

increase. For now, we welcome new members to our rosters, but our overall numbers decline. These comparative numbers will equalize as interests grows and we are recognized for the viable educational, service organization which makes us such valuable civic partners.

Email communications, an updated website and our own GCSC BLASTS have brought us a long way. However, two years ago, the GCSC President's Blog, Harvest Highlights Fall newsletter, and the GCSC Facebook page were not even on the radar for this President. As our members express more interest in education, in opportunities and in participation; we are determined to meet their needs and expectations as we compete with other agencies for members' time and energy.

Various programs and projects reflect the GCSC interest in "Good Soil", as encouraged by our SAR Director. Methods of enriching our earth, promoting prevention of storm water pollution and encouraging the use of composting have provided educational tools to share. Realizing that... WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM... should give pause for concern and make us increasingly aware of the benefits of "Good Soil!"

The GCSC Presidents' Scholarship program has been initiated and increases our available scholarships to qualifying students. Any former GCSC President may offer a \$1000 named Scholarship to be listed in our handbook and on our website.

Our SCHLI project continues with volunteers documenting Historic gardens across SC. One of our former interns, now graduated, returns as a professional to assist our Chairman in finalizing the design drawings prior to presenting the completed documents to be archived by the SC Historical Society in Charleston.

Successful fundraising is a constant challenge for non-profits. Our plantation tour, taking us through historic trails and roads of SC netted over \$13,000.00. A great success story. Thinking long-term, our innovative workers have organized for a celebration of South Carolina gardens...opening garden gates from the Low Country to the Foothills will result in a statewide garden tour for one week in May....called FOLLOW THE BLOOMS....Tickets are available on our

website and we invite all of you to visit South Carolina. This first annual tour will open over 35 gates for you to enter....

It has been this President's sincere pleasure to work with wonderful people for a worthy cause. Thank you for the honor of serving.

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs
Elene Combs, President
Theme: "Gardening Unlimited"

This has been a colorful year for the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs. Our 225 clubs and 5,779 members have enthusiastically supported my administration's theme of "Gardening Unlimited". The theme is recycled from Virginia's National GC President, Carrie Nettleton who used it in 1961-1963. Our focus on Keep Virginia Green—reduce, reuse, recycle, restore has been embraced by the majority of clubs. We provided fabric shopping bags with the VFGC logo to our membership to reduce the use of plastic bags and make our organization visible. Cell phones and empty ink cartridges were collected and turned into cash. Donations to the Penny Pines Program, the Echo Seed program and to the Haitian relief fund have helped to "green" our world.

Virginia's neighborhoods are radiating with golden colors from the thousand of daffodils that were planted in honor and memory of garden club members. Golden Days were passionately supported by each of our 6 districts. Pink was the color of choice in flower beds at Cancer centers, entrances to libraries, visitors centers, municipal buildings, YMCA's, wellness centers, hanging baskets and planters in down town centers and personal gardens. One district held a "Plant it Pink" Standard flower show others included pink classes in their shows. We have been tickled "pink" with this show of support of Breast Cancer Awareness.

Two Blue Star Memorial markers have been placed in impressive ceremonies—one at a veteran's sections of a historic cemetery and one at visitor's park where Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia meet. Each state was represented at this ceremony. Three additional markers will be dedicated this spring and early summer.

Our schools: Flower Show, Flower Show Symposium and Landscape Design continue to have successful programs. Course I is on the calendar for this spring. Landscape Design had 26 students just last week. Flower Show has 20 students for the school on April 4-6.

Five college scholarships were awarded for a total of \$10,000. \$5,500.00 was awarded to clubs in our Keys to the Future Youth Project Grants. Over 2,000 youth were impacted by these grants. \$1,000 is being sent to the Dover Air Force Memorial Garden.

Visibility of the VFGC has increased with our logo displayed on welcome signs to the communities. This was not a fund raising project but a service for clubs.

Our state convention, Plant, Grow, Bloom will be held in our states capital, Richmond, May 1-3. At this meeting, we will vote on changes to our by-laws.

We are very proud of Mary Dixon, the incoming SAR director; Nancy Hargroves, the incoming 3rd VP of NGC, and Judy Binns, the incoming president of the VFGC.

**Garden Club of West Virginia
June Ashworth, President
Theme: *Gardening in Today's World***

Our theme "Gardening in Today's World" again proved challenging, but our members met that challenge by starting two new clubs and reinstating one with a total of 51 new members. Our Landscape Design School and Flower Show Schools were well attended and we have a Symposium scheduled for August. Due to the economy and work situation our clubs donated over \$2,000 to the needy; one town has the "Neediest Cases" program. Churches, Fire Departments, Salvation Army, Boy & Girl Scouts, Girl's Leadership training, and the 4-H all received monetary help from our clubs. WVGC sent 18 youth to Conservation Camp with club donations of over \$2,800 to pay for the camperships. One club supported Carnegie Hall Christmas at Williamsburg, VA with a donation of \$1,000. A total of \$1,750 was collected for the Dover, DE Air Force Base Memorial Garden Project. One Blue Star was dedicated with another dedication scheduled May. We have five more on order. We also supported NGC and SAR sponsored projects and flower shows.

West Virginia experienced a tragic coal mine disaster with 29 lives being lost. Our clubs donated almost \$700 for relief at that time in addition to other support.

In partnership with WV Dept. of Natural Resources and Blackwater Falls State Park, this May WVGC will participate in its 50th Wildflower Pilgrimage. In all those years we have had only two chairmen. People come from all across the U.S. and some have only missed a few of these events.

One club gave a \$2,000 college scholarship to a Field Botany student, and WVGC will give a \$500 high school and a \$5,000 college scholarship. In addition \$1,000 will be given to youth Speech & Essay winners.

WV law requires banks to hold funds for five years and then turn the money over to the state. This happened to \$450 left by one former club. The only person on another \$2,970 bank account was deceased. We located two living members of the club and my entire executive board signed letters giving me permission to appoint another treasurer. The funds were donated to WV Botanic Gardens and Nature Conservancy.

Learning that several clubs were using the treasurer's Social Security number on their bank account, many had only one signature on the bank account and almost none of the 110 clubs had a dissolution clause in their by-laws. We addressed these at the fall District Meetings. I might add with great interest and success.

Two great projects: (1) 8 "cubbies" painted different colors, laid down in the back yard of a nursery school and filled with soil allowed children to help plant and harvest all kinds of vegetables - carrots, squash, peppers, tomatoes, birds nest gourds, sunflowers, egg plant, etc. Herbs for taste and scent were also planted. The cooks enjoyed making ketchup from the tomatoes. (2) A "Table Scape" project - 20 tables settings including an arrangement for each was followed by a tea where an admission charge added funds to the club treasury. Good media coverage was obtained for both of these projects.

"Gardening in Today's World" is definitely challenging but rewarding.

REPORTS OF CHAIRMEN

AWARDS Pat Abercrombie, Chairman

2011 Award Winners

1. **Bird Protection (Club)** Yaupon GC, N. Myrtle Beach, SC
2. **Butterfly** Bowling Green GC, Bowling Green, KY
3. **Civic Beautification**
 - i Small Club 29 & under Flowers and Friends of Surry GC, Dobson, NC
 - ii Medium Club 30-99 Thomas Jefferson GC, Richmond, VA
 - iii Large Club 100+ The GC of Frankfort, Frankfort, KY
4. **Environmental** Greenville Council of GC, Greenville, SC
5. **Garden Therapy/Healing Garden Beautification** Skyview GC, Charleston, WV
6. **Horticulture Therapy**
 - i Small Club 29 & under (no application)
 - ii Medium Club 30-99 Greenville GC, Greenville, SC
 - iii Large Club 100+ (no application)
7. **Historic Trail & Preservation** Wagener GC, Wagener, SC
8. **Horticulture Achievement** Lynn Pappas, Thomas Jefferson GC, Richmond, VA
9. **Landscape** Monticello GC, Charlottesville, VA
10. **Litter/Recycling/Reclamation**
 - i Small Club Green Meadow Point GC, Chesapeake, VA
 - ii Medium Club Glasgow GC, Glasgow, KY
 - iii Large Club Chesapeake Bay GC, Reedville, VA
11. **The National Gardener (Club)** Seasons IV GC, Tazewell, VA
12. **National Garden Week**
 - i Small Club Dogwood GC, Honea Path, SC
 - ii Medium Club Glasgow GC, Glasgow, KY
 - iii Large Club The GC of Charleston, Charleston, SC
13. **Blue Star Memorial (State)** VA
- 14A. **Program with Video (Club)** Blue Ridge GC, Boone, NC
- 14B. **Program without Slides, Video or Power Point (Individual)** Nel Stofberg, Fluvanna GC, Palmyra, VA
15. **Public Relations** GC of Frankfort, Frankfort, KY
16. **Roadside** (no application)
- 17A. **Standard Flower Show Schedule (Club)** Garden Club of Frankfort, Frankfort, KY
- 17B. **Standard Flower Show Schedule** Belle Isle GC, Camellia GC of Greater Charleston, GC of Otranto, Town and Village GC, Charleston, SC
(two or more Clubs or council)
18. **Martha Smith Community Improvement** Fred Brooks GC, Buckhannon, WV
19. **Vision of Beauty Calendar Sales (Club)** Louisa County GC, Mineral, VA
20. **Van Deusen Tree Planting/Arbor Day**
 - i Small Club Dogwood GC, Honea Path, SC
 - ii Medium Club Glasgow GC, Glasgow, KY
 - iii Large Club Columbia GC, Columbia, SC
21. **Flowering Tree Landscape** Council of GC of Greater Charleston, Charleston, SC
22. **Blue Star Memorial Landscaping** Bermuda Run GC, Advance, NC
23. **Edith B. Coogler Landscape Design** (no application)
24. **Jimmell Walker Memorial Membership** (awarded SAR Luncheon NGC Conv.)
25. **National Life Membership** VA
26. **SAR Life Membership** NC
- 27-1. **The Emily Floyd Stephens "Green Space"** (State - no application)
- 27-2. **The Emily Floyd Stephens "Green Space"** (Club - no application)
28. **Youth Activities** Garden BEES, sponsor - Trent Woods GC, New Bern, NC
29. **Youth Education** GC of Frankfort, Frankfort, KY

Native Plants Patch Program	(State)	(no application)
	(Club)	Thomas Jefferson GC, Dogwood GC, Charlottesville, VA
SAR Director's Special Project "Good Soil"	1. State - WV	Gateway GC, Audubon, KY
	2. Club each state	Woodland Oaks GC, Oak Hill, WV
		Dogwood GC & Thomas Jefferson GC, Charlottesville, VA
NGC President's Special Project	1. Golden Days	Emma Scott GC, Elkins, WV
	2. Beautify Blight	Azalea GC, Marion, SC
	3. Plant It Pink	Francis Fauquier GC, Warrenton, VA
Publicity Press Book	i Small Club	Green Meadow Point GC, Chesapeake, VA
	ii Medium Club	Fred Brooks GC, Buckhannon, WV
	iii Large Club	GC of Charleston, Charleston, SC
	Council	Portsmouth Area Council of GC, Portsmouth, VA
	District	Tidewater District, VA

Member Award of Honor

Rebecca J. Schilling, , Mountain Garden Club, Highlands, NC

High School Essay Contest Winner

Anna McCallum Shamrock GC, Iva, SC

SAR Poster Contest Winners—GOOD SOIL NEEDS OUR HELP

Kindergarten	Andrew Campbell	Cape Fear GC, NC
First Grade	Zaria Chaszar	Magnolia GC, SC
Second Grade	Stewart Dalton	Pickens GC, SC
Third Grade	Kayla Webb	Potomac Valley GC, WV
Fourth Grade	Tiffany Perry	Potomac Valley GC, WV
Fifth Grade	Faith McCotter	Heritage GC, NC
Sixth Grade	Arricca Moore	Potomac Valley GC, WV
Best Over-all Winner:	Andrew Campbell	

SAR Poetry Contest Winners—DAFFODILS

Kindergarten	Reece Dansey	Cape Fear GC, NC
First Grade	Jacob Baxley	Magnolia GC, SC
Second Grade	Mary Steele	Lancaster GC, SC
Third Grade	Miriam Moore	Elizabethtown GC, KY
Fourth Grade	Henry Trochlil	Old Fredericktown GC, VA
Fifth Grade	Sean Grimsley	Elizabethtown GC, KY
Sixth Grade	Charlie Trochlil	Old Fredericktown GC, VA
Seventh Grade	Lois Piscatello	Elizabethtown GC, KY
Eighth Grade	Rachael Piscaatello	Elizabethtown GC, KY
Ninth Grade	Moira Hulbert	Thomas Jefferson GC, VA
Best Over-all Winner:	Charlie Trochlil	

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Winners

First Grade	Mary Lynn Aylor	The Madison GC, VA
Second Grade	David Neal	High Country GC, WV
Third Grade	Karley Gronbech	Thoroughgood GC, VA
Fourth Grade	Daisy Levine	Potomac-Mecklenburg GC, WV
Fifth Grade	Megan Baker	Thoroughgood GC, VA

Sculpture Contest Winners

Fourth Grade	Emma Leach	Lubeck Acres GC, WV
Fifth Grade	Erin Buchaniec	GC of Frankfort, KY
Sixth Grade	Luke Gregory	GC of Frankfort, KY
Seventh Grade	Haley Logan	GC of Frankfort, KY
Eighth Grade	Payton Logan	GC of Frankfort, KY
Best Over-all Winner:	Emma Leach	

SAR CONVENTION



(left to right) SAR Director, Carolyn Patterson, thanks Convention Registrar, Phyllis Hoch; Convention Chairman, Gail Hill; and Convention Co-Chairman, Rita Guyes.



Marie Cruse with her design honoring SAR Director, Carolyn Patterson