

KEY NOTES



South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

January 2012
Volume 8, Issue 3

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

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Key Notes issues

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

The deadlines for the respective issues are:

June 10
September 10
December 10

March 10

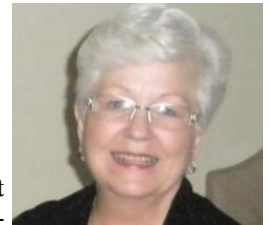
Please submit your articles by email, if at all possible, to mfloyd3570@aol.com
Subject: SAR Key Notes

THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

"Members Are The Link To The Future"

Invite New Members - Communicate Rewards of Membership -
Educate Members about Opportunities for Them

Mary H. Dixon



Happy New Year to you all. My wish is that you have had the best Holiday Season ever! Mine was wonderful as our youngest daughter was married Thanksgiving weekend. It was wonderful and she was beautiful and everything came together as planned. What more could I ask for?

It is time to remind you all to register for the South Atlantic Region convention being held March 25 – 27, 2012. Please let your state president know you are going so she can work up the delegate list. Each state is allowed to have 10 delegates and 10 alternate delegates. The list will be sent to the credentials chairman and when you arrive at the convention you will check in with her to be counted in the voting strength. Remember if you are a chairman you are already a delegate so try to get some of your non-chairmen friends to come so we have lots of new faces to meet and have fun with.

Do you remember that I asked for members to bring gently used accessories and jewelry? I have been working on that and have some items to donate and hope you do also. I just know there will be lots of bargains for us all. I know Pat Cameron will be so thankful for your contributions.

I know clubs have sent in their awards applications for this year and hope that there are many. I look forward to hearing about all of the work that clubs are doing to make their communities more beautiful. This is the time to start new projects with plans so that you will have many more award applications for next year. Applying for awards is not only a way to recognize what you are doing but gives the clubs a sense of accomplishment. Thank you all for what you are doing and know that no matter how small, it means a great deal to our organization.

Please look at the website and if you have information you wish to share send it to Margaret Graham at Jpgmcg69@aol.com so it can be added to the website for all to see. It can be a great asset for your club to have a member report on information from the web sites. There is so much on the National Garden Clubs, Inc. website and also on the site for each state. I spend time just browsing the sites to see if I can get ideas for our South Atlantic Region. Let me know if you see something you think we should add to our site and what you think about it.

Thank you all again for all you do. “Members are the Link to the Future” and you are all important to me. Keep on “Proudly Serving Your Members and Communities” and remember to **Invite** someone to come to your club meeting and **Communicate** to them what you are all about with a short program to **Educate** the benefits of membership.

Mary

Mary H. Dixon
Director
Mdixon2643@aol.com

State Presidents' Themes and Reports

The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc. **Dianne Caines, President** **“Unleash Your Power”**



Traveling across Kentucky in October to our District Meetings and interacting with our garden club members was amazing. Clubs who had previously started “Golden Daze” projects announced continuation and expansion of their original project. “Plant it Pink” increased in popularity and members welcomed the opportunity to “Plant Pink” gardens in the fall and plan pink gardens for the spring and summer.

District programs were fun and very interesting. One District’s program was “Demistifying Creative Designs” with an introduction of the basic Creative Designs and then demonstrating ways the three basic designs were the basis for many of the designs illustrated in the *Design by Types* book and our *Handbook for Flower Shows*. The attendance for that meeting tripled in attendance. Another District had an introduction to “Wall Gardening” and to the new organic fertilizer for soil and roots introduced by Jon Carloftis and Alltec this year. Another District’s program featured information and research on protecting the American Chestnut Tree.

The State Officers encouraged clubs to think combining the National President’s Initiatives with our state initiatives. They realized creative thinking can materialize into something unique. Realizing planting daffodil bulbs and pink flowering plants in public places, at senior citizens’ homes, Community Centers, using perennial plants from their gardens in plantings, involving youth with projects and then, taking digital pictures to record their activities could fit into several initiatives.

Annual Club President reports have identified two very outstanding project/activities. A project involving a high school class welding recycled objects into art/garden sculptures. The sculptures were placed in a wildflower park habitat for public enjoyment

Dianne Caines, President, Garden Club of Kentucky

The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. **Judy Barnes, President** **Theme: “Make a Difference”**



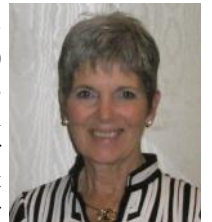
December has been a quiet month for GCNC. All the 2011 awards were due by December 1 and have been dealt with by the category chairmen. The Elizabethan Gardens had a wonderful “Winter Lights” festival for all of December and I hope some of you were able to visit.

It is hard to get back into the Garden Club groove but January will be here and over before we know it. Our 3 Boards, Elizabethan Gardens, Daniel Boone Native Gardens and the Martha Franck Fragrance Gardens will be meeting in January and plans are afoot for wonderful additions and sprucing up.

Happy New Year to all of SAR.

Judy Barnes, President, Garden Club of North Carolina

Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. **Maida Owen Dantzer, President** **Theme: “Initiate, Collaborate, Celebrate”**



Here it is a New Year, and time for those resolutions to shed our unwanted pounds (again?) and to bring new vitality to our organizations and communities. Garden clubs across South Carolina have been busily attending to their projects and programs that educate and benefit their local and statewide constituents. Flower Shows, Blue Star Memorial Marker dedications, Arbor Day ceremonies and Garden Club Anniversaries have occurred statewide and allow us to celebrate the accomplishments of our organizations.

A very successful Landscape Design School Course I was held in Charleston and featured acclaimed lecturers Jim Cothran, Andrew Kohr, Bill Eubanks, Amanda Barton and GCSC’s own Karen Prewitt, who narrated a Powerpoint presentation on the celebrated Garden Walk of Charleston.

The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. partnered once again with The Columbia Garden Club to obtain and decorate the State Christmas Tree featured on the steps of the State House in Columbia. I was thrilled to be able to ride in the SCE&G utility truck to the top of the tree in order to place ornaments on the 30 foot-tall tree! Unfortunately, thunderstorms forced the cancellation of the planned Governor’s Carolighting Service, but the Christmas Spirit was not dampened, and an abbreviated ceremony and small reception were held inside. Don Carlson and his wife Lilyan, GCSC Second Vice President, were commissioned to fabricate large “gift” boxes to be placed at the foot of the tree. Award applications are all in, and it appears that the new method

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It has been suggested that those receiving this newsletter share it with other members of their state organization, districts and clubs, so others may know more about the South Atlantic Region, its mission, and its activities.

Key Notes

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www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

(Continued from page 2)

of electronic applications is being accepted and welcomed as an efficient alternative to the old books of evidence. We await the opportunity to celebrate clubs' accomplishments at our State Meeting to be held at the new State Farmers Market on April 27. Each of our seven Districts will also honor their clubs at District Meetings to be held in March throughout the state. With the South Atlantic Region Convention also in March, that month will find us spending a lot of time on the road.

GCSC's Second Annual Follow The Blooms Garden Tour will also get underway in March, with the first day of tours, held in Santee, Holly Hill and Allendale, on Saturday, March 24. Sunday, April 1, will find us in Hilton Head Island; Saturday, April 14 will feature a tour of homes in historic Conway, near Myrtle Beach. The final day of the tour is Friday, April 20, when we visit the garden of celebrated topiary artist Pearl Fryar, in Bishopville, as well as the Moore Family Farm in Lake City. Check our website, www.gardenclubofsc.org, for more information... and look for an article in *Southern Living Magazine* soon!

Well, get out those seed and nursery catalogues while the soil rests...and have a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Maida Dantzler, President, Garden Club of South Carolina

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



Everywhere I go, I have been asking myself and the members of the garden clubs of Virginia, the following questions:

How can we best work together to make our organization grow?

What can VFGC do to support the work of garden clubs across the state?

The accomplishments of our clubs and members are evident wherever I go. As most of the work of VFGC is accomplished through the garden clubs carrying out projects all over the state of Virginia, VFGC needs to look at the best way to support the work of these garden clubs across the state.

The "Keys to the Future" grants for youth-centered gardening programs are one way that VFGC is "giving back" to its member clubs. Since its inception in 2007, 38 grants have been awarded for a total of \$33,828 reaching over 10,000 youth in Virginia.

VFGC reaches out to support students in Virginia through college scholarships. Thanks to VFGC club members giving to the VFGC Life Memberships/Book of Honor program, VFGC has been able to supplement interest income from scholarship accounts and award five \$2000 scholarships, for a total of \$10,000, each year.

VFGC offers clubs the benefit of participating in the IRS 501 (c)(3) Group Exemption at no cost to a VFGC member club. This designation allows individuals and corporations to support club projects with tax-deductible donations.

VFGC is also doing projects to be more visible in communi-

ties. The "Blue Gloves for Blue Stars" program was initiated to raise funds to refurbish the oldest Blue Star Memorial Markers as well as any others in need of repair. Thanks to VFGC members, over \$2600 was donated at Fall District meetings to make the "Blue Stars" in Virginia shine brightly again. At a cost of \$750 per marker, three markers have already been sent for refurbishing, and we hope to refurbish at least 3 more markers by the spring of 2012.

VFGC plans to establish a "Branching Out" grant program for club community beautification projects to support the work that our clubs do across the state. NGC grant programs such as PETALS are no longer funded by NGC—these grants helped clubs with civic projects in their communities, and VFGC needs to look at ways to fill this need for financial support of projects.

VFGC wants to be the best resource for each club that it can be --with special emphasis on how VFGC can best help each club be an active and growing part of our state organization.

Judy B. Binns, President, Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs

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

"While we are living in the present, we must celebrate life every day, knowing that we are becoming history with every work, every action, every deed." ~Mattie Stepanek



Winter is a time we have put all of our plants to bed. We think of hibernation and staying inside sitting by the fire. West Virginia is a state that is blessed with snow. I'm one of those people that love snow. Yet after months of snow I always start looking forward to the spring. But maybe without the winter and snow we wouldn't appreciate the spring and summer as much. It's all about perspective. And I am finding it's all about perspective as the WVGC state president. For every loss the gains are so much sweeter. And there have been both. Clubs and districts each have their own personalities and I love getting familiar with those personalities. Just like a child, I can tell which clubs and districts are growing, interested, involved, intact and healthy. Conversely there are some that are lethargic, indifferent and unhealthy. It's my goal to help those clubs and districts get back to good health.

I have attended many club meetings on so many topics and I've enjoyed them all. I've emphasized that we need to be lifelong learners and I'm doing my part. I look forward to Flower Show School, Course I, in Buckhannon, April 19-21st and our Landscape Design School May 23-25. We co-host the Wildflower Pilgrimage with the DNR, May 3 - 5 at Blackwater Falls State Park. This is a wonderful event in its 71st year with attendees

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State Presidents' Themes and Reports (continued)

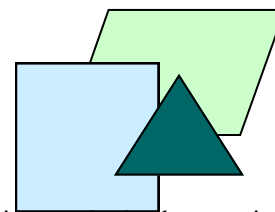
(Continued from page 3)
from over 30 states.

With every presidency comes change. I'm looking towards the future and have appointed a steering committee and a by-laws revision committee to work with our state nominating committee. Change is hard but so often needed. As in the quote by Mattie Stepanek I am keenly aware that we are creating history within WVGC and that we must daily celebrate!

Finally, I again have to mention that WVGC is gearing up to host the SAR meeting at "America's Resort" the Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia on March 25-27, 2011. Our theme is: "Timeless Traditions, Unforgettable Memories. Our National President, Shirley Nicolai will be speaking on March 25th. She and Mary Dixon, our SAR Director, will be honored at a reception that evening. On Monday we will be visited by 'Pearl Buck', our own West Virginia author. On Monday evening, WV's NGC Horticulture Instructor, Darlene Newell, will be giving a program on Spring Bulbs. We promise you'll create some unforgettable memories. Our state convention will follow March 27-29th. Our theme for our state meeting will be "Experiences are Timeless and Memories Last Forever". You are invited to stay for our state convention. Our fundraiser for the SAR meeting is "West Virginia General Store". We have so many talented craftsmen, artists and cooks that we will be selling their wares in our store. So plan now to join us and make some memories of your own.

As I mentioned before, we have put our gardens to bed. Although on some cold days we'd like to stay in bed, we must keep working to make sure WVGC members keep West Virginia Wild and Wonderful. I hope each of you has a wonderful 2012!

Brenda Moore, President, West Virginia Garden Club



Chairman Reports

Arboretums and Botanical Gardens

Karen Prewitt

The last of the beautifully colored leaves have finally fallen off of the Bradford pear trees and the window over my desk now faces only the stark branches of a gnarled old fig tree. I'm doubly glad that for once I took my own advice and slipped away to the mountains of North Carolina in October to catch the breathtaking wonder of the change of seasons on the Blue Ridge Parkway. My season as a writer of articles about Botanical Gardens and Arboretums is a bit dormant right now and even Arbor Day Tree events have passed us by, but I can always dream about spring. There may not be a lot to see right now, so many of the sites in our region are using this time to plan their new programs for the spring.

The Edith Carrier Arboretum at James Madison University in Virginia has already planned a series of events for Valentines weekend. There will be an indoor blooming plant sale and romantic carriage rides scheduled for February 12-14. On February 15th workshops will be held on 'Ferns' and 'How to Make a Terrarium'. The grounds are free and open to the public from dawn to dusk 365 days a year. For more information call 540-568-3194.

As more events are posted, I'll keep you informed state by state of events near you. Meanwhile, order one of those dreamy catalogs and spend these winter months planning a spot for a gorgeous new tree. If you want to plant something that will be the talk of the neighborhood, look for a picture of a Red Rain tree. It's showy blooms were 'the talk' of all those who attended the Landscape Design School Course here in Charleston [SC] last month and went on the botanical tour following the lectures

Contact info: 502-955-8512



Blue Star Memorials

Judy Ann Fray

This Chairman is eager to see the MAPS of BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKERS as shown by each State Blue Star Memorial Chairman at the 2012 SAR Convention in West Virginia. Everyone attending the Convention will be interested in their respective state participation in this National Garden Club Project. There is much activity in REFURBISHING Blue Star markers that were dedicated long ago and that now desperately need attention. We look forward to providing this educational exhibit for all to view.

Judy Ann Fray, Blue Star Memorial Chairman

Ja.fray@verizon.net

540-948-4220

PO Box 263, Madison, VA 22727

Grants Development/Natural Disasters & Wildflower Grants

Margaret Craft

If there are requests from members in our South Atlantic Region for grant monies to replace plantings or trees destroyed by flooding, tornadoes, or other natural disasters, please contact Margaret Craft by email:

mhcraft@verizon.net Or by mail P.O. Box 1344, Wise, Virginia 24293 or phone 276-328- 5182. Perhaps this can be a project for next year.

Key Notes

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Heritage/Native Plants

"Let's All Plant Heritage/Native Plants!"
in our South Atlantic Region.

Jo Ann Johnson

The following information should be helpful for those states needing something to work from:

I have checked the Resource list that will give more information from the Southern Living Garden Book and the following can be used for individual information for areas throughout each state for Native and Heritage Plants:

Kentucky - there are two Resources - Ashland

www.henryclay.org

and the Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest

www.bernheim.org

South Carolina - Riverbanks Zoo and Garden,

www.riverbanks.org

and The South Carolina Botanical Garden

www.clemsonedu/scbg

North Carolina - Botanical Gardens at Asheville

www.ashevillebotanicalgardens.org

Virginia - The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

www.history.org

West Virginia - Core Arboretum

www.as.wvu.edu/biology/facility/arboretum.html

I will be available by e-mail or regular mail for other questions that I will make every effort to address.

JoAnn Johnson, e-mail, redrubylu@juno.com

National Garden Week

Marilyn Mason

If it's January 'already' National Garden Week is just around the corner. I trust that you have been promoting and planning for a 2012 splash of color and community events that will inspire and beautify our locales.

I look forward to learning of the many projects you have undertaken. And please remember to document them with pictures and articles to support the awards to be given next year.

If you haven't sent for National Garden Week posters from National, do so. They are beautiful and 'free'. To receive order your supply, call (800)550-6007. Make them available at your spring meetings as community reminders to make a difference.

Marilyn Mason, marilynmason@comcast.net



Membership/Senior Citizens

Sunshine Williams

Reflections of Our Lives

A Standard Flower Show

The Courtyards at Berne Village

Senior Living Community



What, did you say, A Standard Flower Show? Where, a Retirement Home? You've got to be kidding me, it just can't be, I never heard of such a thing. Well, let me be the first to inform you, it happened in New Bern, NC. There were 5 garden clubs involved that staged a gorgeous flower show at a Retirement Center that offers Independent Living Apartments, Assisted Living Facilities and Memory Care Program. There is 18 acres of landscaped campus for outdoor enjoyment including a putting green, horseshoes area, shuffleboard deck, outdoor patio, seating area with BBQ/ grilling equipment. There is a clubhouse with seating, billiards, TV, tables, everything to meet their social and cultural activities.

When you walked into the entrance you were met by the representatives of the Garden Clubs welcoming and directing you through the Flower Show. I was there as a Judge and immediately noticed the interest that the residents had in the flower designs as well as the workers. The designs were staged throughout the facility on mantles, tables, counters, cabinets, and even outside on patio tables. The horticulture was staged in the clubhouse, and the special exhibits was staged in the Bistro room.

The residents that I saw, were very alert, mobile, talkative, very interested in the flowers and very excited about what was going on in their home. Excitement filled the air, smiles on their faces, even the staff were excited and helpful. This was opened to the public from 1-6 pm, advertising the facility as well as the Garden Clubs that participated in this wonderful Flower Show, and yes the news media was there as well the Mayor of New Bern participating and thanking these clubs for their great Flower Show. This is a way that we could increase our membership by going to these facilities and starting a club. Facilities usually have activities for their residents and a Garden Club that could enhance the beauty of their facility would fit right into their program. Most of the ladies have Gardened before through clubs or at their homes. Vegetable gardening is very popular and is very beneficial and could be used in the meals at these facilities also. The staff was delighted to have this Flower Show at The Courtyards, they provided the staging, signs and a lot of the expense of the show.

Reflections of our Lives, was presented by Trent Woods Garden Club and New Bern Garden Club, both from New Bern, NC, Havelock Garden Club of Havelock NC, Bud N Shrub Garden Club and Evening Stars Garden club both from Newport, NC.

Submitted by Sunshine Williams, -Membership/Seniors Citizens and Retirement Communities Chairman.

Chairman Reports (continued)

Penny Pines

Audrey Kelly 757-486-1733
e mail: wmyluv@verizon.net

Your Garden Club can participate in a meaningful and practical conservation project by contributing \$68.00 to a Penny Pine plantation as part of the costs of replanting replacement and/or tree indigenous to a particular damaged area, whether by fire or by other natural catastrophe. (Not Just Pine Trees). You may designate a specific State you wish to have benefit from this contribution.

For each \$68.00 contribution, you will receive a Penny Pines Certificate from National Garden Clubs, Inc. made "In Honor of: _____ or "In Memory of: _____ a special someone who has made a difference in the world, just by being in it. Certificates will be issued according to information listed on the form that you can find on the NGC Website: www.gardenclub.org.

Contributions may be made from year to year under the original agreement, but must be minimum of \$68.00 (or multiples of) made payable to "NCG-Penny Pines" and mailed to:

National Garden Clubs, Inc.
National Headquarters
4401 Magnolia Ave.
St Louis, Mo 63110-3492

NGC will present an award at the NGC Convention each year to the States which have donated the greatest number of Plantations and whose clubs demonstrated the most ingenuity in promoting education in conservation by creating public awareness of the need to protect and manage our National Forest resources. Let's all publicize our objectives and establish even more Penny Pines Plantations for the reforestation of our National Forest!

Please contact this chairman: Audrey Kelly, 757-486-1733 or by email: wmyluv@verizon.net when you send in your donation for the Penny Pines Project.

Publicity Press Book

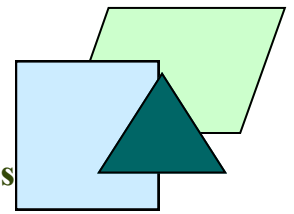
Barbara Ohmsen

Last year press books were received from all states. Can you do that again? The Press Books should be judged in each state and first place winners in each category sent to SAR Chairman Barbara Ohmsen by February 3. The press books will be returned to the states at the Regional Convention at The Greenbrier.



Scholarships

Betsy Steele



The Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship

The Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship is named for a beloved, former SAR Director from Spartanburg, South Carolina and is open to a college sophomore or junior for use during the junior or senior year of college. Each state within the South Atlantic Region may submit one application to be in competition for the Scholarship. A qualifying student is one who is majoring in the study of Horticulture, Floriculture, Landscape Design, Botany, Plant Pathology, Biology, Forestry, Agronomy, Environmental Concerns, City Planning, Land Management and/or allied subjects. The Scholarship amount is determined by the SAR Board of Directors, and the winner is announced at the SAR Convention. The Scholarship amount, determined by the SAR Finance Committee, is \$1,000 for 2012.

Applications may be obtained from the Garden Club Scholarship Chairman of each state in the region or printed from the SAR website, www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org. Completed applications must be sent to the STATE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN by FEBRUARY 1 and the STATE'S best application must come to the REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN by MARCH 1.

Begin now to share SAR Scholarship opportunities with your garden clubs. Many garden club members are unaware of this scholarship and should be urged to actively seek applicants for consideration. I look forward to hearing from you and reading the selected applications from each of the five states in our region.

SAR SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN

Betsy Steele
P. O. Box 339
Richburg, SC 29729
803-789-5451

BetsySteele@Truvista.net

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl

Barbara Ohmsen

The deadline to get your posters in to your state chairmen is January 20, 2012.

State Chairmen – your posters are due to the Regional Chairman by February 15, 2012.

Please be sure to have all the papers filled in with records of posters received, the list of first place winners with posters to this chairman ON TIME! Posters not sent on to NGC chairman will be returned at the SAR Convention at the Greenbrier. It might be nice to take pictures of the state winning posters – so they can be given to the winners (if the posters are sent on to SAR and NGC!)

Chairman Reports (continued)

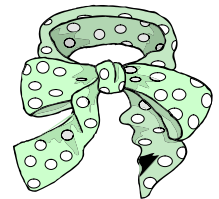
Ways & Means

Patsy Cameron

“Accessory Alley”

“Accessory Alley”, our first ways and means project for SAR will debut at the fast approaching SAR Convention at the Greenbrier Resort on March 25 – 27, 2012, in the “General Store” area of the convention. This project will be a jewelry/accessories sale of almost new and gently used items which will include but not limited to scarves, handbags and jewelry. Your assistance is needed 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 in the new year, please help us to offer some great finds and bargains for thrifty convention goers and at the same time recycle for the good of all.

You may send your items to me or bring them to the convention. Please make plans to donate one or two items now. Contact this chairman with questions and suggestions at pecameron@cox.net or 757 486 3165.



Odds ‘N’ Ends

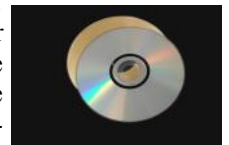
A very different, unique and touching Community Service Activity has been in place with a small garden club (14 members) (Potted Few Garden Club) whose husbands are affiliated with the Ft. Knox Army post began the “Wreaths Across America” project two years ago with 1,000 live wreaths placed; the second year 1500 placed and this past December, 2000 were placed. This is coordinated with wreath laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia and several cemeteries across the United States. Several hundred local volunteers assisted the Garden Club with the placement of the wreaths. (Wreaths were purchased from Maine-based Worcester Wreath Co and were delivered by volunteers. For every two wreaths purchased at \$15.00 each, a third was free.



Wreaths placed at the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery-Central by Wreaths Across America

From NGC Communications

Our President, Shirley Nicolai is requesting your help in promoting the new video – “Growing Our World, Greening our Communities” in your State Publications. We need to get the word out to the garden club members to purchase this very professionally produced video for the cost of \$5, including postage and handling from National Headquarters.



The video is designed to educate existing members and attract new members, and it is only 12 minutes. The video can be shown at church, District and State meetings, flower shows, fairs, and other events and can be used to demonstrate the quality projects carried out by National Garden Clubs throughout the country, as we proudly serve our communities.

(Note: This Editor ordered it and the members viewing it found it informative for present members as well as prospective members)

NGC Convention 2012

This year’s NGC Convention is May 17-20, 2012 in Buffalo NY. Check the NGC website for all information and for the registration form. We hope to see a large turnout from the South Atlantic Region. For this, more is definitely better!!

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www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

Odds 'N' Ends (continued)

SAR Directory Corrections

Mary Sue Floyd mfloyd3570@aol.com

Remember to send any Directory changes to this Chairman as well as to the SAR Director and the Corresponding Secretary. It is very important that we have the latest information so we can keep good communication with everyone.

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

Dates From Our States

Mar. 20-23 Flower Show School Course III [Stonewall Jackson Hotel Staunton VA](#)
Mar. 25-27 SAR Convention The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs WVA
Mar. 27-29 WVGC Convention, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs WVA
Mar. 29-30 Landscape Design School, Gloucester VA
Apr. 4-6 GC of Kentucky Convention, Barren River State Park
Apr. 19-21 Flower Show School, Buckhannon WVA
Apr. 30 VFGC Member Meeting, Charlottesville
May 17-20 NGC Convention, Buffalo NY
May 23-25 Landscape Design School, WVA

South Atlantic Region Convention March 25-27, 2012 The Greenbrier

Have you made your room reservation at the Greenbrier? If not, why not? You don't want to miss this fun time at such an historic location. Lots of good things have been planned for you. Don't be left out!! Below are highlights of the Convention. Room reservations must be made before February 24. The Convention Registration Form is found on page 9 in this newsletter and must be returned before February 18 to avoid a late fee and the possibility that space will not be available.

Sunday, March 25, 2012

Come early on Sunday to see the former US Government Relocation Facility known as **the Bunker**, a secret place completed in 1961 by the United States to house all of our Congress underground along with their families in the event of an attack on Washington, DC. Exposed by a *Washington Post* reporter on May 31, 1992, the Bunker is now open to the public but tours need to be arranged ahead of time since the spaces fill up fast. Make your arrangements when you reserve your room. Arrangements can also be made ahead of time to experience a guided tour the famous **Greenbrier kitchens or grounds**. Every year famous chefs conduct renowned cooking schools in these kitchens. The spring bulbs and shrubs should be making an appearance on the grounds which are known for their vast tulip plantings. Don't forget to check out the **Spa or Casino** and the beautiful **shops and restaurants** that have been added to the Casino area which are only available to guests at The Greenbrier. Make time for the **hotel tea** at 4:30 pm each afternoon.

Sunday's **banquet** features our National Garden Club president, Shirley Nicolai, from the National Capitol Area. She and our SAR Director, Mary Dixon, are looking forward to meeting you personally at the reception following the banquet. If you still have energy left, check out the newest movie in the theatre about 9:00 pm or the Greenbrier Waltz in the Casino at 10:00 pm.

Monday, March 26, 2012

The **official opening** of the convention will be at 9:00 am in the Theatre. Karen Vuranch, who performed "Coal Camp Memories" at the 2007 SAR Convention, will become Pearl Buck at the **opening luncheon** that has an oriental theme. Karen has received many awards for her performances as a master storyteller and has performed at the White House's Ellipse Theatre. Two **workshops** in the afternoon will feature landscaping specialists Tarula Avery and Barry Glick. Many garden clubs undertake planting and maintaining multiple public spaces. They take on median strips, public squares, planter boxes and hanging pots. This program is intended to inspire a new look at these spaces. Are the plants you use delivering all the bang for your buck? What's possible from late fall into early spring? Is it colorful and bright with minimal maintenance? New shrubs, long term perennials and amazing annuals will be presented to create the best eye-catching plantings with the least work. **Vendors** will have pottery, wildflowers and landscape plants for sale and our special **West Virginia General Store** will feature items made in West Virginia including antiques, glassware, crafts, and baskets.

Monday's Awards Banquet will see our state presidents receive awards for their clubs and a special program by NGC accredited Horticulture, Flower Show Procedure, and Symposium Instructor Darlene Newell on *The Gifts of Spring* showcasing new cultivars, old favorites, and gardening tips. Each SAR state will be recognized with arcane facts and implausible fables. Darlene serves on the NGC Horticulture Committee as Plant Society Liaison Chairman and is a member of the Orchid, Daffodil, and Chrysanthemum Societies, a Master Gardener, and a Landscape Design Consultant.

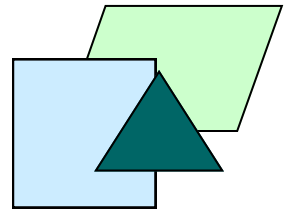
Tuesday, March 27, 2012

The **Design Breakfast** will feature The Greenbrier's own floral arranger, John Gillespie, who will give us tips and ideas for creating the spectacular displays at this premiere resort. Following his presentation, the official SAR Convention will close but you are invited to stay Wednesday and Thursday for the West Virginia Garden Club Convention at the same special rates given our convention. You may want to explore the wild areas of the state with the Land Rover Driving School, see the falconry program, enjoy horseback riding, mountain biking, golfing or the special mineral baths, visit the famous Greenbrier Clinic, swim in the gigantic indoor pool enjoyed by many movie stars and US presidents and attend free Culinary Arts demonstrations and historical interior tours. Children 17 and under stay free when sharing the same room as their parents and may be registered for special children's programs during the day and evening.

Key Notes

January 2012

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The South Atlantic Region Member States

