

# KEY NOTES



South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

July 2011  
Volume 8, Issue 1

“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](mailto: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



The end of the 2009 - 2011 administration came to a close with the National Garden Clubs, Inc. 82nd Annual Convention in Washington, DC. "Our Capital Congress" was the theme and it was a wonderful meeting for all who could attend.

National Garden Club's 42nd President, Shirley S. Nicolai, was installed during a beautiful banquet with a painting of the National Butterfly Garden and the National Capital as a background. Shirley's theme is ***Proudly Serving Our Members and Communities***. New projects are Photo Archiving of Accomplishments - visit the NGC website and go to Flickr to see accomplishments being made by clubs and members or share some of your own by sending pictures to Robin Pokorski at [robinp@juno.com](mailto:robinp@juno.com). Another project is Plantings For Public and Special Places with suggestions of *Gardens with Edibles - Container Gardens - Trees and Shrubs* and another project is Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems where we all can address critical water issues at local, state, regional and national levels.

It is important to each and every club to go to the National Garden Clubs, Inc. web site and look at the changes in the awards rules and the way we apply for awards. Our clubs are doing the work and deserve the recognition of winning an NGC award for their work. The SAR awards chairman Sarah Ann Parler has worked diligently to combine the Region's awards with the NGC awards so they are easily moved through the system for the award process. Therefore this Director hopes to see lots of applications for awards for the work you do.

Your Director wants to hear from you regarding ideas that can make us a better source of information for each state. We are working on our directory and the Web Site is being redesigned so it is more user-friendly for you. I am encouraging all chairmen to send useful information to our Key Notes Editor regularly so that she can include it in each issue.

Please continue to Plant It Pink, Support Penny Pines, Participate in the Youth Contests with youth clubs (there is even a contest for Grandparents this year), Continue with the Blue Star Memorial Program, Do a Habitat For Humanity Landscaping project, Work on the Membership Increase Contest and have some project to support National Garden Week.

This Director is putting her emphasis on Membership as *Members Are The Link To The Future*. Therefore, I challenge each State of the South Atlantic Region to Invite New Members to come have fun and help grow our clubs - Communicate the Rewards of Membership not only to your members but to the communities that you live in - and Educate Members and Communities about the Opportunities available to them by belonging to a Garden Club as we are all ***Proudly Serving Our Members and Communities***.

It is an honor to be the South Atlantic Region Director and I look forward to sharing time with each state during these two years and hope all will plan to attend the SAR Conventions.

*Wishing You a Beautiful Summer*

*Mary H. Dixon*

*South Atlantic Region Director*

## State Presidents' Themes and Reports

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



Maida Owen Dantzler is a native of Berkeley, California, and subsequently lived in seven states and the UK before enrolling at Clemson University. She has been in South Carolina since!

A graduate of Clemson University with a BS in Zoology, Maida taught High School Sciences at Holly Hill Academy from 1970 – 2009, retiring as a SCISA Master Teacher and a member of Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

Maida is married to Walter Dantzler; they live on the family farm in the Providence Community near Santee. The family consists of three grown sons: Bryan (Gina), David (Michele) and Brook (Amanda) as well as Dyson, who is Bryan and Gina's 8 year-old-son. A member of the Providence United Methodist Church, Maida is the Leader of the Ann Henry Clemmer Subunit.

Maida is a member and former president of Potpourri Garden Club of Holly Hill and is a member of Gardening Girls Study Club of Camden. A former East Low Country District Director, Maida has also served as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and has been a member of the GCSC Board of Directors since 1999. She is currently a student in both Landscape Design School and Flower Show School; Maida is a GCSC, SAR and NGC Life Member.

The theme for the 2011-2013 GCSC administration is "Initiate, Collaborate, Celebrate" which is designed to be a springboard for garden clubs across the state of South Carolina to continue to initiate projects beneficial to their communities, to recruit the assistance of other agencies and to celebrate and share their accomplishments by applying for awards. One exciting project is "Good To Grow", a statewide initiative encouraging clubs to become involved as mentors in developing schoolyard gardens exploring the benefits of gardening for sustenance.

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



Brenda was born in Morgantown, WV. Her parents loved nature and always worked in their yard and had a garden. But it wasn't until she became a member of Woodland Oaks Garden Club that she fell in love with gardening. It was

Brenda's joy to dedicate a Blue Star Memorial on the WVU Campus Memorial Day 2009 in memory of her father.

She met her husband, Ron, while they were students at WVU. He owns his own forestry consulting business, Highland Forestry Inc. Her degree was in Family Resources. She has been a homemaker, mother, and has taught in public and private school systems and worked in the Fayette County Public Libraries. She has always been active in civic affairs and in serving in her church. Brenda and Ron have two children, Rebekah and Andy. They are blessed with seven grandsons (Yes, you read that correctly).

In her spare time, which isn't much at this current time, she loves to garden. She especially loves unusual native plants like lady slippers, jack in the pulpits, etc. The Moore's have a West Virginia Wild Yard Certification and a National Wildlife Federation Wild Yard. Brenda is a Master Gardener and belongs to the New River Master Gardeners. Besides all of this, she is fond of antiques, especially yellowware, salt glazed and redware pottery and quilts. She is a quilter, crafter and scrap booker. She loves Mountaineer sports and hanging out with friends, including her garden club friends.

I love West Virginia, West Virginia Garden Club and its members. I love West Virginia's heritage – its music, its arts, and its people. West Virginia's nickname is "*the mountain state*" and how I love these mountains and valleys. I love it when I look at "Google Earth" and West Virginia is one of the few "green" states due to our forested areas. It is with all this in mind that the theme for West Virginia Garden Club for the next two years is: "**West Virginia Garden Club members keeping West Virginia Wild and Wonderful**". This will be a celebration of our state and our garden club members. With this in mind, I have hit the floor running after being installed as West Virginia Garden Club's 41st president I have

*(Continued on page 3)*

(Continued from page 2) (West Virginia)

travelled to at least six of our nine districts visiting clubs, attending meetings, installing officers, celebrating clubs' anniversaries, attending a home and garden tour, speaking at a Blue Star Dedication, celebrating our conservation camp's 70th year and participating in our annual Wild-flower Pilgrimage held in Blackwater Falls and celebrating its 50th anniversary. I also had a wonderful time at our NGC Convention in Washington D.C. I lived and went to High School in Fort Washington, MD, where our NGC president, Shirley Nicolai lives. So this was a trip down memory lane. We visited Mt. Vernon, the National Horticultural Society headquarters, Ford's Theater, attended church at the National Cathedral and fell in love with the Bishop's Garden there. I even got up early one morning to go on the Habitat for Humanity walk, prompted by my roommate and executive secretary, Darlene Newell. I met so many interesting members and I learned so much. The WVGC schedule will slow down for about a month then one of our districts has its meeting and we have our flower show symposium August 26-28 in Cedar Lakes Conference Center, Ripley, WV.

My project for the next two years is Membership **CPR: Communication, Participation and Recruitment**. We need to re-energize our existing members and add new members to our roles. **Communication** is key in accomplishing this and it starts with me. No phone call or email to me will go unanswered. I will try to answer all inquires in a timely fashion. I'm asking that my board members commit to the same.

These simple courtesies help people and members feel their worth. I want to make sure every member feels their value to our organization. **Participation**, again, starts with me and the board. We need to try and participate in the programs that WVGC, SAR and NGC has to offer.

Finally **R** is for **Recruitment** of members. I feel so strongly about this that I have put myself in the position of membership chairman. I will be giving practical ideas on this at this year's district meetings. We are also making use of more technology including beginning a Facebook page, West Virginia Garden club to advertise ourselves. We will continually recognize members' and club's special contributions. I will make every effort to meet members and visit clubs. Our members and I have made it our goal to make sure the lives of every existing and potential garden club members are touched and that everybody finds acceptance and a place in WVGC.

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

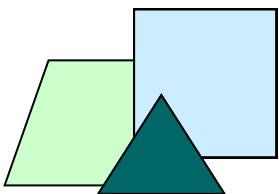


Judy began her garden club work in 1990. She is a member and former president of the Salisbury GC, an Accredited-Life Flower Show Judge, and President of Piedmont District from 2001-2003. She has served VFGC as 1st Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and Treasurer. She was awarded the NGC Member of Honor Award for the South Atlantic Region for All-Around Excellence in 2006. Judy served as the webmaster of National Garden Clubs for 2007-2011 and designed the first websites for both VFGC and the South Atlantic Region. She is also a new Design Instructor for National Garden Clubs Flower Show School and has exhibited designs in "Fine Arts and Flowers" at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and numerous flower shows. Judy is a native Virginian from the Shenandoah Valley. She graduated from Bridgewater College with a degree in mathematics and a concentration in computer science. She and her husband, Richard, have 2 married children and one grandchild. She also volunteers at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, including serving as co-chairman for Fine Arts & Flowers in 2007 and 2010.

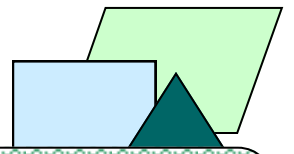
#### Goals for this administration:

GROW in educational opportunities, in membership and communication. The first changes involve making the VFGC website more user friendly for mobile devices and publishing a digital version of the VFGC quarterly publication on the website.

PLANT community gardens by establishing a "Branching Out" grant program for club community beautification projects as well as continue the "Keys to the Future" youth project grants.







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



**Theme:** "Make a Difference" because I believe that we all can make a difference in our communities, states, and nation by participating in garden clubs. Participation can be taking part in all of a club's activities

or just being a member if they are unable to be more active. By being a member your voice is heard and we can accomplish many things by simply being a large organization.

**Personal Facts:** Home is in Charlotte, NC; Married to Frank Barnes, Professor Emeritus of UNC-Charlotte; Two children & two precious grandchildren.

Judy is a Past President of Garden Lovers of Mountainbrook and the Charlotte Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. She was twice named "Woman of the Year" by the Charlotte Council; and received the "Lifetime Service Award" from the Charlotte Council. She has served The Garden Club of North Carolina as Recording Secretary, 4<sup>th</sup> VP, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, and 1<sup>st</sup> VP.

**The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.;**

Promotes youth gardening (40 youth clubs), scholarships (\$15,000 given in 2010), flower shows, Flower Show Schools, Landscape Design Schools, Garden Study Schools and many other activities.

Sponsors 3 major gardens: The Elizabethan Gardens in Manteo, The Daniel Boone Native Gardens in Boone, and the Martha Franck Fragrance Garden at the Governor Morehead School for the Blind in Raleigh.

Provides awards to the Dept. of Transportation for Roadside Development, and promotes awareness of its Wildflower Planting program. GCNC has published a set of notecards featuring these plantings across the state.

GCNC is currently working to bring its member clubs under the umbrella of its 501 (c) 3 status.

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



The theme for the Garden Club of Kentucky for 2011-2013 is "Unleash Your Power". It is my hope that our Garden Club members will take an existing project they have worked with and seems to be very effective in their community, or choose one of the new project/themes reflecting Shirley Nicholai's theme "Worthy Projects" and continue to work and expand the activities

that seem to be effective. State chairmen have been appointed and special state recognition will be given to clubs who participate in these programs. Regional and local resources for programs/workshops are being identified in each of the areas. This information will be made available on our website and in the quarterly issues of the Garden Club of Kentucky Bulletin.

Plantings for Public and Special Places

"Gardens with Edibles", "Container Gardens", and "Trees and Shrubs": State Chairmen have been appointed. Regional and local resources for programs/workshops are being identified and the information will be made available for our website and the chairmen plan to write quarterly columns in the Kentucky Garden Club Bulletin.

Photo Archiving of Accomplishments:

A State Chairman was named and pictures were submitted to Robin for the NGC project. Some of member's gardens and activities are in the NGC video on membership. Kentucky's chairman is continuing to gather digital pictures of our club's activities to be used at meetings, flower shows, and for brochures. Presently we are exploring ways to showcase these pictures.

Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems:

Kentucky is exploring possible partnership opportunities with the Kentucky Water Ways Alliance, the Aquaculture Center at Kentucky State University and various government agencies as we develop an educational bulletin board display for youth in grades Pre-K- 5th. This project, "The Toad Knows", will provide information for children on exactly what is a watershed, our Kentucky waterways, and how to protect these waterways and our water supply.

Dianne Caines brief bio: Accredited Life Flower Show Judge, Student Design Instructor (PIP), Past Accrediting Chairman and Awards and Evaluation Chairman for State Judge's Council, Chaired both local and state Judge's Council Flower Shows; Served on NGC's Calendar Committee; Served GCKy as 3rd VP; 2nd VP; Wrote and secured grant for GCKy State Headquarters to update and revise the Arboretum's Tree Educational Guide for students and visitors; Served as SAR "Plant It Pink" Chairman and Air Quality Chairman; Member of the Garden Club of Frankfort (Kentucky's oldest and largest club) for 13 years; served as President, on various Committees, wrote grant to restore the Frankfort Cemetery Chapel roof and garden; Served on Franklin County Garden Club Council 6 years and Chairman for two years.

# Chairman Reports

## Arboretums and Botanical Gardens

Karen Prewitt



As your new chairman of Arboretums, Botanical Gardens and Educational Centers for the next two years, I hope to use this space on a regular basis to let you know about some of the fascinating events that are taking place at various venues in our South Atlantic Region. Our Region has a wealth of resources just waiting to be explored...and what better time to do some exploring than summer vacation?

Now that the June temperature has hit 102 degrees in Charleston [S.C.] where I live, I'm dreaming of cool days and cooler nights in the mountains.

The refreshing air of Asheville North Carolina and vicinity suddenly beckons and the Asheville Botanical Garden has a program on identifying ferns [July 24th] that really looks interesting. Asheville is equidistant from many of the areas in our Southeast Region and offers additional education venues like Biltmore Estate and Gardens. If I could extend my vacation until September I would be sure to attend Asheville Botanical Gardens Plant and Rummage Sale on September 10th. Who doesn't love the thrill of finding a bargain? The Asheville Botanical Garden can be reached by going online to:

**bgardens@bellsouth.net** or if you prefer to write, the address is 151 W.T. Weaver Bl'vd Asheville N.C. 28804-3414. The Phone number is 828-252-5190.

If you have a favorite Botanical Garden, Arboretum or Education Center in *your* area, I'd love to hear about their programs. I promise to share the information with our members. You can contact me in any of the following ways:

KPadgett4c@cs.com or

Karen Prewitt 33 Hasell Street Charleston S.C. 29401 or 843-722-8125. Stay Cool ~ See you in the mountains !



## Do You Know Where Your "BLUE STARS" Are?

Judy Ann Fray

During this administration, we will continue to promote the 'planting' of Blue Star Memorial Markers in appropriate locations within our 5-state Region. The Blue Star Chairman in each state will be locating those markers and charting them for an educational display at one or both of our SAR Conventions. Please do help these chairmen when they make a request.

There will continue to be TWO AWARDS related to BLUE STARS:

One for the state placing the most NEW Blue Star Memorials between March 1 and Feb. 28, for award years, 2011 and 2012.

The second Blue Star Award is for outstanding landscaping of Blue Star Memorial by a club, council or group of clubs. DETAILS of both these awards will be included in the SAR Awards now being finalized by the Awards Chairman to be provided to each State Awards Chairman this July.

We are looking forward to much activity among the "STARS" as we locate them and add to their numbers.

Judy Ann Fray, Blue Star Memorial Chairman

[Ja.fray@verizon.net](mailto:Ja.fray@verizon.net)

540-948-4220

PO Box 263, Madison, VA 22727

## Container Gardening

Helen Heater

**Container gardens are concentrated gardens**

**Container gardens are adventurous undertakings**

**Container gardens are easy**

Some of us may have been doing container gardening for a while. No matter how long or what kind of experience we have as gardeners there are a few new things we can add to our perspective on container gardening.

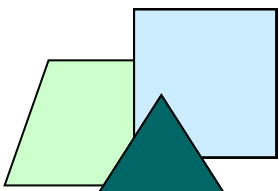
Almost any plant that can be grown in the ground can be grown in containers, and some even better that way. Container gardening is easy ,too. and a perfect fit for many people who lack the space or time for growing big

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Key Notes

July 2011

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



## Chairman Reports (continued)

(Continued from page 5) (Container Gardens)

vegetable beds. In container gardening all you need is a little space and a little sun.

Where to start? It's exciting and there are so many ideas and things to consider when getting started.

Container gardening is not a new concept, but it is becoming one of the most desired ways to garden. Think about all of the variables and our fast paced life styles, where we live for example, apartments, small spaces, the city or the country side; the zones where we live, the weather conditions and one of the most important is where we are in our own life cycle? Many gardeners cannot do what they use to do, but their love of gardening does not go away.

### The Basics of Container Gardening

When plants are grown in containers, they are much more dependent on the care we give them than are plants that are grown in the ground. Sunlight, soil, food and water are entirely within our control, and that's both an asset and an affliction. This extreme degree of control makes it possible for us to stretch seasonal limits, experiment with plants that require special soil, temperatures or light conditions, or grow plants close together in artistic looking colonies.

### What kind of Containers to Use

Containers of any kind filled with plants fit in to every garden, regardless of size or space. Art knows no boundaries in the container garden. Look around the house, the tool shed or in the garden center to get ideas. Old wheelbarrows, wagons the kids left behind, an old work boot makes a unique planter, pedestal pots, slightly broken bird baths that won't hold water anymore, **\*\*(Note: Pictured below is a broken bird bath I used as a container garden at my home)**, an old tea kettle, wooden boxes, hanging pots, old baskets, etc. However; some things to keep in mind in selecting your containers:

- Always start with a clean container, make sure it was not used for discarded chemicals, etc.
- Container gardens grow best when the containers are chosen to meet the needs of the plants and space chosen.
- Choosing the right color container for plants can make a big difference in how the plants look and how they grow. (Ex. Black or dark containers draw and hold too much heat for delicate plants.)
- Simplicity is always appropriate for entryways, which should feel open, airy and clean.
- Safety first, be careful when adorning walkways and driveways with container plants, especially in areas often used at night. (Ex. Fill them with white or light colored

plants that are easy to see in the dark. Use a small reflective strip on the bottom of the container, easily seen with lights.

- Make sure the container fits your style - formal, informal or whimsical.

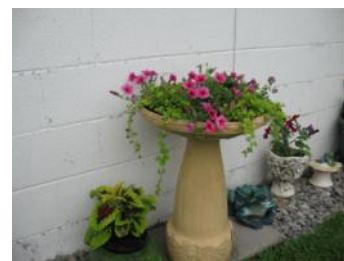
### Tips for Creating Containers

- Always make sure there's a drainage hole in the bottom of the container. If the hole is too big, you can cover it with a piece of old screen or put a few stones at the hole.
- Don't overplant your container. Remember that the plants will grow, fill out and develop longer roots. Give them room to do it.
- Choose plants that grow to different heights, keeping tall plants in the center, short plants and vines closer to the edge or rim.
- Don't wear gloves when planting small plants as they are delicate and you'll have less damage from broken blossoms and stems if your hands are unhindered
- Avoid using plants with different soil, sun and watering needs in the same container.
- Don't make the containers too heavy to move or handle. When using a large container place some broken styrofoam in the bottom before adding soil to reduce the weight of the container as well as being a little more economical by not using so much potting soil.

### What to Grow ?

If no experience perhaps start small with an herb garden. That's like having an extension to your kitchen or herb rack. Cooking with fresh herbs is great. Combinations of flowers (annuals) and vegetables make colorful and edible container gardens. Since pansies and nasturtiums are edible, place a few petals in your salad bowl for color and garnish at your next garden club luncheon you may be hosting.

Your children will be excited about growing in containers. It will be educational for them and perhaps this may spur long term interest in gardening as well as learning to eat fresh vegetables.





## PLANT IT PINK!

Give Women the Gift of Hope  
Promote A Passion for Pink by  
**PLANTING PINK FLOWERS**

Hospitals ~ Cancer Centers  
Memorial Gardens  
Garden Therapy Projects  
Private Gardens

Make a statement with pink  
flowers for

**BREAST CANCER  
AWARENESS!**

National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
“Proudly serving our members  
and communities”

Send Photo and site description to:

Sara F Brooks, Chair  
713 Bryce Street  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
sarabrooks@ec.rr.com  
910-642-4192

Plant It Pink Committee Members  
Donna W. Nowak      Anita L. Ketcham  
860-568-3724      970-817-2212

## Directory

Mary Sue Floyd

The South Atlantic Region Directory is in the process of being put together. We hope to have it distributed by the end of the summer or at least in early September.

## National Garden Week

Marilyn Mason

Celebrate National Garden Week, June 3-9, 2012

Plan now to make a difference in your community! June 3-9 is next year’s designated time for garden clubs to create awareness of a garden club’s work and to become more visible in our communities. Some ideas might be to:

- Present potted plants or flower arrangements to local banks, a library, or hospital;
- Provide and plant summer annuals at civic or governmental buildings;
- Designate gardens for tours;
- Dedicate a tree in the community;
- Host an event at the local library on gardening, flower arranging, or horticulture.

Plan also, to publicize the event – and apply for awards in your respective Districts/States, SAR and NGC. Beautiful National Garden Week Posters and National Garden Week Proclamations are available through NGC to download or to order, as well.

Remember, visibility is key to building membership and National Garden Week is the perfect opportunity. Let this chairman know what you do.

Marilyn Mason,      marilynmason@comcast.net

## Personnel

Margaret Healey

NGC and SAR Personnel application forms have been revised and will be put on-line and are to be submitted immediately after the conventions in the even years of each administration. Those who are currently serving on the NGC and SAR boards will indicate during their convention registration whether or not they wish to be reconsidered for the same position. Those who have “timed out” with a chairmanship or wish to serve in a different capacity will have to submit a form. Those qualified and wanting to keep the same position need not reapply.

The old procedure was to provide the forms at the first fall board meeting. That is way too early for someone to have proven his/her value for the full term.

Margaret S. Healey      mshealey@cox.net

## Water Quality

Jo Jean Scott

### How to Go Green: Top Water Conservation Tips No drips

A dripping faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day. A leaking toilet can use 90,000 gallons of water in a month. Get out the wrench and change the washers on your sinks and showers, or get new washerless faucets. Keeping your existing equipment well maintained is probably the easiest and cheapest way to start saving water.

### Install new fixtures

New, low-volume or dual flush toilets, low-flow

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(Continued from page 7) (Water Quality)

showerheads, water-efficient dishwashers and clothes washing machines can all save a great deal of water and money. Aerators on your faucets can significantly reduce water volume; water-saving showerheads can cut the volume of water used down to 1.2 gallons per minute or less. Splurging on a low-flow toilet could save another 50 to 80 gallons of water a day. Together, those changes could cut the household's daily use of water by nearly one-half – saving a considerable amount of water and money.

### Cultivate good water habits



All the water that goes down the drain, clean or dirty, ends up mixing with raw sewage, getting contaminated, and meeting the same fate. Try to stay aware of this precious resource disappearing. Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving; wash laundry and dishes with full loads; take shorter showers, etc.

### Stay off the bottle

By many measures, bottled water is a scam. Bottled water is not as well regulated as municipal water and often is not even particularly pure. Much bottled water is just tap water anyway. Bottled water is more expensive per gallon than gasoline and incurs a huge carbon footprint from its transportation. The discarded bottles are a blight in the landscape and the landfill. If you want to carry water with you, use a refillable bottle.

### Go beyond the lawn

Naturalize your lawn using locally appropriate plants that are hardy and don't need a lot of water. Water in the coolest part of the day to minimize evaporation. Drip irrigation is a better choice than using a sprinkler system.

### Harvest your rainwater

Put a rain barrel on your downspouts and use this water for irrigation. Rain cisterns come in all shapes and sizes ranging from larger underground systems to smaller, freestanding ones.

### Harvest your greywater

Water that has been used at least once but is still clean enough for other jobs is called greywater. Water from sinks, showers, dishwashers, and clothes washers are the most common household examples. (Toilet water is often called "blackwater" and needs a different level of treatment before it can be used.) Greywater can be recycled with practical plumbing systems (such as Aqus) or with simple practices such as emptying the fish tank in the garden instead of the sink. The bottom line? One way or another, avoid putting water down the drain when you can

use it for something else.

### At the car wash

Car washes are often more efficient than home washing and the water is treated rather than letting it go straight into the sewer system. Check to make sure that they clean and recycle the water.

### Keep your eyes open

Report broken pipes, open hydrants, and excessive water waste. Don't be shy about pointing out leaks to your friends and family members, either. They might have tuned out the dripping sound a long time ago.

### Don't spike the punch

Water sources have to be protected. In many closed loop systems like those in cities in the Great Lakes, waste water is returned to the Lake that fresh water comes out of. Don't put chemicals down drains, or flush drugs down toilets; it could come back in diluted form in your water.

Source: *Planet Green – A Discovery Company*

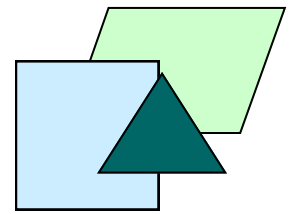
National Garden Clubs, Inc. Water Conservation Platform: **Adopted October 4, 2008**

*National Garden Clubs, Inc., believes it is imperative that we support and undertake proactive initiatives for the protection, conservation and restoration of the quality of the nation's coastal waters, wetlands, aquifers, watersheds, lakes, rivers and streams, through educational programs, conservation efforts, increased advocacy and partnerships with related government agencies, and state and national grassroots water coalitions.*

## SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL

Barbara Ohmsen

Smokey Bear celebrated his 50th year of association with NGC at the national convention this year. The over-all winner was a nine year old girl from California. The Forestry Dept. was at the Friday luncheon to present this award. At the end of the luncheon, This chairman was called to the podium - for a SURPRISE - Virginia was honored to receive the trophy for the most poster entries this past year. The state chairmen will be hearing from this chairman as soon as she gets their names. **MAKE PLANS NOW FOR YOUR CLUB TO SPONSOR THIS WHEREVER!**





## Odds 'N' Ends

### Flower Show School Course II

August 17-19, 2011

Columbia, SC

Chairman Pat Setzer

8 Running Fox Court

Columbia, SC 29223

[pmset@bellsouth.net](mailto:pmset@bellsouth.net)

803-419-0624

Pre-register prior to August 1, 2011

Full Course, 2 lunches, Exam & Outline \$91.00

West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.

and

National Garden Clubs, Inc..

present the

17th Symposium

August 26-28, 2011

Cedar Lakes Conference Center

Ripley, WV

Hosted by: Flower Show Judges of West Virginia

Every three years, Flower Show Judges are required to "go back to school" to review what they have learned in Flower Show School, catch up on changes in the handbook and renew their judging certification. This insures a fair and accurate evaluation of your flower show exhibits and the flower show as a whole. All garden club members are welcome and encouraged to attend!

On Friday evening, we will be playing "Handbook Jeopardy," a review of guidelines and procedures for flower shows and rules for exhibiting in flower shows – something from which all garden club members can benefit.

Dottie Howatt, from Delaware, will teach horticulture on Saturday. The topic will be combination plantings. On Sunday, Julia Clevert, from Virginia, will be demonstrating the use of color in design. Each registrant will receive a "color wheel" and Julia's lecture will be interactive.

To register, contact Norma Baker, Registrar, 22 Willow Lane, Wheeling, WV 26003 Ph. 304-242-3071 or visit our website [www.wvgardenclub.com](http://www.wvgardenclub.com) for a registration form.

Rates for courses are: Full course (Credit or Audit) \$80.00, Saturday only (Horticulture) \$40.00, Sunday Only (Design) \$40.00

Lodging should be reserved by August 10, 2011 by calling 304-372-7860 or 1-800-Call WVA Rates are \$65 plus tax for 1 or 2 persons per room. Check-in time is 3:00 PM

### Dates From Our States

Aug. 17-19 Flower Show School, Course II Columbia SC

Aug. 26-28 Flower Show Symposium, Cedar Lakes Conference Center, Ripley WVA

Sept. 22-24 NGC Fall Bd.Mtg. St. Louis MO

Oct. 3-6 Flower Show School, Course II, The Woodlands, Williamsburg VA

Oct. 23-25 Flower Show Symposium, North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh NC

Nov. 10-12 Flower Show Judges Symposium, The Woodlands, Williamsburg VA

Nov. 11 Blue Star Dedication, Bluefield WVA

(Gleaned from an email circulating again)

**WHO EVER THOUGHT OF THIS SHOULD GET A GREEN MEDAL**

**WHAT A GREAT IDEA. NO MORE TWIST TIES OR RUBBER BANDS.. This method is WATER PROOF AND AIR TIGHT. GREAT! The guy who first thought of the idea should be given an award for originality!!!**

Seal Plastic Bags with Old Bottle Caps

*Cut up a disposable water bottle and keep the neck and top, as in photo.*



*Insert the plastic bag through the neck and screw the top to seal.*



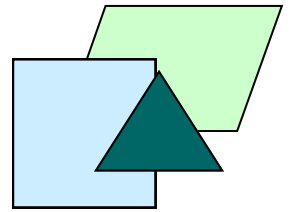
*The bag is made to be air-tight, such that water will not leak, the secret lies with the top and screw cap! This is a great idea to share.*

*Good for us and the environment too.*

Key Notes

July 2011

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



## *The South Atlantic Region Member States*



Many of our South Atlantic Region members attended the Blue Star Dedication at the National Cemetery in Washington DC on May 29, 2011 during the National Garden Clubs Convention