

KEY NOTES



South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

October 2015
Volume 12, Issue 2

“Inspire Conservation Through Education”

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Key Notes issues

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

The deadlines for the respective issues are:

June 20

September 20

December 20

March 20

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

THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

"Inspire Conservation Through Education"

During the Summer and Fall of this year, all States received listings of Award information from National Garden Club, South Atlantic Region and each of our five SAR States. Once you receive this, your members can begin deciding what project would be workable with your members and would be the best for the membership. The members have to choose the direction then they can begin making plans, incorporating suggestions, listening to ideas and the different views from their members on how to make the idea into a project that conforms to the stipulations of the Award.

SAR Awards are listed on our newly reorganized website.

SOUTHATLANTICREGIONGARDENCLUBS.ORG

Hopefully by the time you are reading this, you have already undertaken a project or projects and are beginning to formulate plans to make it a reality. I've received several calls about SAR Projects and they sound excellent. I am anxious to see if their vision becomes a reality for their club, communities and schools.

The plan is how much the cost will be, do you have enough manpower, do you want to involve other groups such as boy/girl scouts, schools, communities, civic organizations? If you have to gain permission to make the project possible, make contact with those who are in charge of particular school, church, a park in a City or Town, Girl/Boys Scout participation, City/Town involvement and most of all organizing the idea.

The first year of a term is always the beginning. What you anticipate, what type of project you have decided upon and then what constructive plans you have made such as location, and other involved community clubs, etc that will be joining in with this undertaking and can this project be completed in two years.

I feel our Regional members will be among the finalists for consideration with their projects for 2015-2017 and hopefully will receive many SAR/NGC Awards next Spring.

Again, read the Award Information carefully and see what is best suited for your Club, Council or State.

Sarah Ann Parler

Special Project:

Awesome

AirWaterEarth(soil)-some



State Presidents' Themes and Reports



The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc. Edith S. Nelson, President "Paving the Pathway to the Future"

The summer months have come and gone, oh so quickly. It is September and fall is in the air. The summer landscape is being replaced with autumn's beautiful colors of yellow, orange, brown and reds. Mums and pumpkins are the items that gardeners are purchasing to spruce up their gardens and entry ways. After summer's hot days, and the return of cooler weather, remember the time to fertilize your lawn is September and October.

During the summer months, many clubs have hosted garden tours and teas. Fairy gardens have gained more interest among the clubs and the children enjoy touring them. One club encouraged boys and girls, decked out in their wings and headpieces, to create wonderful gardens of their own. They used items taken from nature such as soil, pebbles, moss and twigs. They created fairy houses out of tree branches. A wonderful way to stimulate creativity in the minds of our youth and bring them outdoors.

Our 55 garden clubs are working in their communities with libraries, youth groups, scouts and other civic organizations on projects that involve youth activity and native pollinator conservation. Two clubs have established children's gardens at their local library and participated in the children's reading program by reading to them *The Life Cycle of Butterflies*. One club presented the book to their school library. Other clubs have presented to schools and libraries in their communities, *The Frightened Frog* an Environmental Tale written by Brenda Moore and Jean Ohlmann and illustrated by Emily Lackey,

This book is a big hit with children.

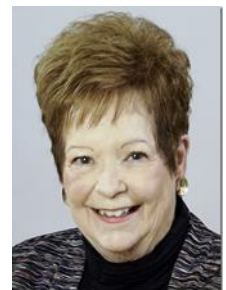
The number of Monarch Waystations is still growing in our Commonwealth. We now have over 250 listed in Kentucky. Gardens are being planned, planted and certified around the state through Monarchwatch.org. National Garden Clubs, through President Sandy Robinson's goal to establish One Million Gardens, recognizes the vital importance of the waystations and gardens to provide food and protection for the monarch.

October brings fall District Meetings. Our five District Directors are busy with their committees planning wonderful programs for us to enjoy. My state projects are Youth Gardening and Native Pollinator Conservation. With this theme in mind, Audubon District's program is *Designing for Pollinators*. The designs will utilize garden flowers with emphasis on those that attract butterflies and bees. Dogwood District's theme is *Paving the Way with Pollinators* with emphasis on Beekeeping. Other districts are presenting programs on container gardening and landscaping. I am looking forward to attending each of the District Meetings.

We must teach our young children to love and understand nature and their environment in order to protect it. Children of today are our future garden club members and stewards of our land. Our garden club members in Kentucky are *Paving the Pathway to the Future*.

Edith S. Nelson

The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc., Judy Bond, President Theme: "The Three C's: Contemplate the Past, Conquer the Present, and Challenge the Future "



The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc., will be 90 years old on November 6th. We were organized by five clubs four years before the National Garden Club. GCNC members are very

proud of their past.

Activity highlights include affiliations with Elizabethan Gardens, Daniel Boone Native Gardens and the Martha Franck Fragrance Gardens which date to the 60's; 34 youth garden clubs

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with the first established in the early 1930's; scholarships awarded annually since 1950; in 1982 we dedicated our first Blue Star Marker and started a NC Wildflower of the Year program with the NC Botanical Garden and for 25 years we have judged entries and provided awards for the NC Department of Transportation Roadside Development program.

Our state office has been located at the J.C. Raulston Arboretum on the NC State campus since 2003 thanks to a generous bequest from the estate of a member. We have an

office manager who keeps the office open four days a week and is of immeasurable help to all of our clubs.

We have recently completed our Fall Board Meeting which was held at a lakeside resort in the mountains – lots of business and fellowship combined with wonderful scenery and food! Our president and three vice-presidents will travel to each of our ten districts over three weeks in October for the Fall District Meetings. As our state is very large in area, this requires a lot of driving but the opportunity to meet with all of our members in their own area makes it a very worthwhile endeavor.

Judy Bond

The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.
Yvonne Morris, President
Theme: "Let's Bloom and Grow Together!"



We are blooming and growing! Three more wonderful organizations have become GCSC Affiliate Members: Audubon South Carolina, Riverbanks Zoo and Garden, and the South Carolina Botanical Garden in Clemson! The South Carolina Native Plant Society became our first Affiliate Member in April.

Our July Summer Expo, a tradeshow like informational meeting, complete with a dozen vendors and our state committee chairs' display booths was a huge success! Over 250 club members attended from across the state. Each attending officer received the newly revised *GCSC Garden Club/Council Leadership Guide*. Guest speaker was Dr. Jeff Beacham of the South Carolina Native Plant Society.

Like summer, fall will bring many opportunities and events. Some District Directors are having Fall Gatherings while others are visiting their District's clubs. Our 203 clubs and 16 councils are back in full swing with new and continuing projects after a summer of preparing for another club year.

My President's Project for this term is the establishment of the GCSC Native Plant Garden in our state capital of Columbia at the Riverbanks Botanical Garden's new Children's Garden which is currently under construction. GCSC Headquarters is located in the Riverbanks Botanical Garden Building. Our

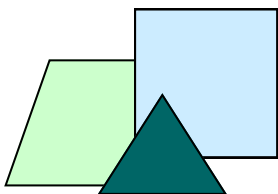
youth are our future, and we want to provide this special area in the new Riverbanks Children's Garden for everyone to enjoy. All contributions to the "Nickels for Natives" fundraiser will go directly to support the establishment of the GCSC Native Plant Garden which will promote the education and enjoyment of our native plants. A very special dedication ceremony is planned for April 27, 2016 in conjunction with our Annual Membership meeting on April 28th.

NGC Flower Show School Course 4 will be held in Greenville on September 21-23. This course is co-sponsored by the Greenville and Spartanburg Councils of Garden Clubs. NGC Landscape Design Course 1 will be offered January 12-13, 2016 in Charleston.

On Saturday, November 14, GCSC is having "The Beautiful Santee Delta" Plantation Tour fundraiser to support GCSC projects and programs. This will be your only opportunity to see six plantations in the McClellanville/Georgetown area. Ticket price includes a pre-tour party on November 13th hosted by the Georgetown Garden Club and a plantation lunch served on the grounds of one of the plantations. Please contact me if you would like more ticket information.

Have a happy autumn!

Yvonne Morris





Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Janice M. Clem, President
Theme: "Making Connections to Shape the Future"

Summer across the beautiful Commonwealth of Virginia was busy for our garden club members as they held flower shows, celebrated anniversaries and implemented civic and youth projects. Blue Star Memorial markers were dedicated at inspiring ceremonies at Fishburne Military School in Waynesboro, Fort Lee in Petersburg and the National Veterans Cemetery in Culpeper.

The VFGC Board of Directors met in August in Lynchburg where we heard how our committee chairmen are implementing the programs of our NGC President, SAR Director, and this state president. A new VFGFC tote bag was sold to help provide funds for VFGC special awards to recognize clubs that implement projects that support Monarch Butterfly Way Stations, Planting Trees for Tomorrow, Plant Together Community Garden Projects and the Plus One Membership Campaign, all projects of this president.

Flower Show School, Course 2 with NGC instructors Sue Kirkman and Frances Thrash was held in August. We were pleased to welcome students who came from other states. We

are looking forward to Flower Show Judges Symposium on October 19-21 in Richmond and Landscape Design School on October 28-29 in Richmond. Details are on the VFGC website: www.viriniagardenclub.org. You are invited to come!

VFGC has two grants programs for its clubs. "Keys to the Future" Youth Project Grants are awarded to clubs for new or existing youth-centered programs that help youth realize the rewards and life lessons from gardens and habitats to become good stewards of the earth. Grants to Beautify and Restore provide funds to help clubs replant, restore, and beautify a public area that has been damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster. Grants may also be used to beautify public areas and roadsides. The announcement of the winners will be soon.

This president looks forward to visiting each of our six districts and being with our wonderful VFGC members who are "Making Connections to Shape the Future."

May you enjoy the glorious autumn season and upcoming holidays.

Janice M. Clem



West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.
Judy Guye Swanson, President
Theme: "Plant The Seeds and Grow With Us"

West Virginia Garden Club, Inc, Fall Board meeting was held recently in Elkins, WV. It is always inspiring to hear the District Director's reports on all the programs and projects that each club is doing. Kanawha Garden Club in Charleston, WV had a free public lecture by Dr. Doug Tallamy, author of "Bringing Nature Home" and "The Living Landscape". I spoke at the Memorial Dedication of a bench and garden at the Lively Family Amphitheater in Oak Hill, WV. Woodland Oaks Garden Club and WVGCI sponsored this meaningful event in memory of Loretta Lively.

We are working on encouraging all our clubs to submit applications for the many awards available, using a special power point presentation made by Second V.P. Vickie Stedman.

This presentation will be shown at District meetings, so that Club Presidents can take this information back to their individual clubs. The idea is to show that it is not that hard to fill out the award application.

WVGCI now has a Facebook page and an updated web site. As our membership continues to age we see declining numbers. This is something we are all working on. I try to remember, "There is no elevator to success, you have to take the stairs"! We need to keep inviting a friend or community member to join Garden Club and take one step at a time to insure our wonderful organization continues.

Judy Guye

Chairman Reports



ARBOR DAY

Geneva Hunt

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

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

Let this chairman know what you did or what plans you have for Arbor Day 2015. She would like to hear from clubs and states so she can highlight some of the activities.

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS PROTECTION

June Ashworth

America's Aquatic Ecosystem consists of all the oceans, rivers, wetlands, swamps, bogs and small streams in the country. Each of us benefit from these water sources and must do our part to protect them. The freshwater system and the salt water (oceans) need our help today.

America's future generations are depending on us to leave the aquatic ecosystem in as good a shape or even better than we inherited it. We need our agriculture system to feed the people, however, storm water runoff from our agriculture lands can damage a delicate pond or river that eventually flows into larger bodies of water such as rivers and on to the ocean. Many police department and health care facilities collect unused medicines and burn them - please don't flush medicines down the drain. Waste water treatment facilities must re-process all of our overuse of water. We need to cut down on the use of water by installing modern commodes, take shorter showers, use less water to brush our teeth, use rain barrel water to water your plants and other water saving measures to help protect and preserve our precious water resources.

This was brought home to West Virginia about a year ago when a chemical company polluted the water supply for a customer base of 300,000 people for weeks. Talk about inconvenience, try to do without your tap water for weeks.

We need a fresh, unpolluted, water source for our food supply, for people and wildlife. You have read stories like "help us save the Colorado River." Why don't we try to save and protect all of our water resources--they will then be able to provide a healthy life for future generations.

AWARDS

Judy Ann Fray

In an effort to try to simplify our SAR Awards list, judging, and awarding of cash awards, we have created some changes that everyone making awards applications will need to note.

Most awards have only ONE CASH AWARD in the subject area, with certificates being awarded to winners in clubs separated by size, as usual. The Cash Award will go the BEST OVERALL application, so everyone will need to put forth that BLUE RIBBON EFFORT across the board. Soliciting cash awards for each club size category was HUGE, and we believe that the results will be equally as good.



Unfortunately, Youth ACTIVITIES & CONTESTS were omitted from the list that I sent to the Directory Chairman. I am so sorry. These are listed below. They will be AWARDS 29 – 34.

There were so many questions about where to locate YEAR-BOOK AND PUBLICITY PRESS BOOK AWARD INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE INCLUDED 'WHERE TO' information. You will find it listed as AWARDS # 26 and 27. Be aware that these are judged only once, and SAR will award certificates to winners, as usual. This chairman tried to give the 'clue' to where to go for the application information (National Garden Clubs). Everyone will need to use those NGC Award Numbers on the applications. Hopefully, this is logical and helpful.

31. NGC YOUTH POETRY CONTEST Donors: Edith Nelson,

\$10 and an Honor Certificate will be presented to the winners of grade levels K---9th grade and Special Education & ESL Students. A \$25 award will be given to the student with the overall best poem.

Theme, 2015 – 16: "Croaking, Leaping Frogs"

Theme, 2016-17: "We Three: Bees, Butterflies and Me"

DEADLINE both years: February 14.

Students MUST FOLLOW NGC Rules. Find those and other details:

www.gardenclub.org/youth/youthcontests/poetrycontest.

State Youth Poetry Contest Chairman sends the State Winners to the SAR Youth Poetry Chairman: Susan Throneberry

4621 Old Scottsville Road

Alvaton, KY 42122

The list of winners is then submitted to the SAR Awards Chairman by March 1.

32. NGC HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST Donor: South Atlantic Region

\$200 will be awarded to the SAR Essay Contest winner. Open to all high school students. See NGC Contest Rules. State winner must be sent to Regional Essay Contest Chair-

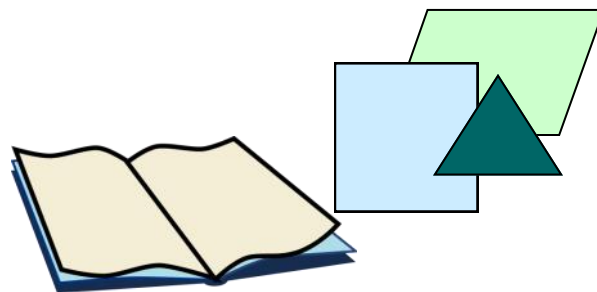
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Chairman Reports (continued)



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man by JANUARY 1. Send to: Lilyan Carlson
114 Libby Ariail Court
Chapin, SC 29036
lilyan@bellsouth.net 803-345-0186

Name of Regional Winner must be sent to SAR Awards Chairman by February 1.

33. YOUTH RECYCLABLE SCULPTURE CONTEST

Donors:

\$10 and an Honor Certificate will be awarded to the SAR youth sculpture winners of grade levels 4 – 8. \$25 will be awarded to the student with the overall best sculpture made of recyclable items for designated grade levels. Students must follow NGC rules. Photos of the State winners are sent to the SAR Youth Sculpture Contest Chairman:

Trish Bender 843-795-2112
2171 Welsh Avenue 843-276-1618 (c)
Charleston, SC 29412
tbender@carolinaone.com

34. SMOKEY BEAR / WOODSY OWL POSTERS Donors: Barbara S. Ohmsen,

\$10 and Honor Certificate will be awarded to the SAR poster winners of each grade level (Grades 1 – 5). States are to send only one winner in each grade level to the SAR Smokey Bear / Woodsy Owl Chairman. Posters must follow the rules of NGC and the US Forest Service flyer. Send state winners to:

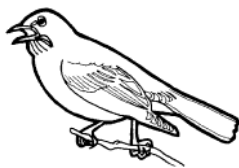
Barbara S. Ohmsen, 2881 E. Meadow Wood Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23321-4243
Due Dates: February 15 of both 2016 and 2017.

BIRDS

Betty Gorrie

WATER FOR BIRDS

Birds love a birdbath and they love a birdbath with a drip even more. However, when the colder months are upon us, many people bring in the birdbath. By having a heated birdbath, you can watch the birds bathing in temperatures below freezing and wondered if this makes any sense. Think about it....of course it makes sense. In order to fly and to stay warm, birds must keep their feathers clean. Bathing is an important part of their hygiene. Having clean, open water available for them in winter is important for their overall health. No matter the season, keep only 1 or 2 inches of water in your birdbath, just enough so the birds can drink, wade and bathe. Most important, be sure to keep the water and the birdbath clean as no one, not even our feathered friends like a dirty "bath tub" or water. .



CALENDARS/*VISION OF BEAUTY*

Elaine Thornton

2015 is speeding by and soon we will be celebrating 2016. Now is the time to order your 2016 Vision of Beauty Calendars. Promote to your state, district and clubs this flower arrangement and engagement calendar created by NGC. The calendar includes full page color designs and a delightful way to keep track of all your activities for the coming year for the low price of \$6.75 per single copy (price includes shipping). With a discounted price for quantity orders, think about using the Vision of Beauty Calendar as an exciting and profitable "Ways and Means" item. Order now from NGC.

CONTAINER GARDENING

Helen Heater

"Preparing Container Gardens and Plants for Winter

No matter how much some of us dread the colder seasons, or as we fight the thought of winter, it will arrive; but it doesn't mean we have to lose our favorite container plants. Time, however may be the issue. Preparing for winter is a lot of work in a short time frame.

We have to start thinking about over wintering the plants that we want to keep. Then there's the cleaning and storing of our containers, and last but not least, planting our bulbs for spring. Let's first think about the plants we want to save. Annuals are not the problem, we know that they are too difficult to winter over, for the most part. It's just easier to buy new plants in the spring. However, more and more gardeners are adding perennials and tubers to their mix of container gardening. Those plants like coneflowers, or cannas can live to bloom again. Plants like coneflowers, hostas, etc, can be lifted and placed back into your flower gardens early in the fall.

Since they look so great in the containers it is a shame to let them go to waste at the end of the year.

Just plan a spot for them in the garden early enough to let the perennials get established before the first freeze. Water well during this period and mulch them well with 2 or 3 inches of mulch before the first freeze. Next spring, provided the winter is not too harsh, your plants should be showing growth. Remember with good plant food and TLC plants will survive most usually.

Over wintering the tubers like dahlia or cannas need to be lifted and stored, especially in the colder areas. The simple solution is dry-storage. This technique works for about all tubers or rhizomes. You can leave them in the pots until the frost but after the temperatures drop below 32°F it's time to take the next step. So get them indoors before that time.

When lifting the clumps from the containers or pots make sure

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Chairman Reports (continued)

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not to damage any of the little shoots. Clip back the foliage to about 2 to 3 inches above the tuber. Take off most of the loose soil. Place the tubers or rhizomes in a warm dry place, like the shade of a tree or the basement floor or a work table to dry for a few days. The rest of the loose soil will fall off, careful not to damage the tender tubers or sprouts. Just make sure they are completely dry, otherwise the moisture may cause them to rot.

Dry store them in layers of crumpled up newspaper and store them in a box or basket. You can also use peat moss or sawdust in open plastic containers for storage. Keep them a cool (around 45 to 50°F) and dry, dark spot. Any warmer they may begin to sprout again. Through the winter periodically check on them to make sure no soft spots are found or signs of rotting. Remove the suspicious tubers, cut away or remove the damaged ones, sprinkle some type of fungicide or dusting sulfur (available at any garden center) and let dry, the place them back in storage.

They should grow just fine next spring or growing season. Just remember it's a good idea to alternate these tubers by planting them in the actual ground next time. It's not a great idea to place in containers 2 years in a row. They usually won't grow as well as the first year.

Next, if we decide to bring any annuals in to overwinter it's a little intimidating or worrisome about bringing in unwanted critters like spiders, mites, or earwigs. Removing insects from containers or plants can be challenging as many spectricides can be harmful to plants and people. The organic preparation or approach is the best plant or people friendly approach to pest removal. Apply any of these treatments outdoors and wait several days. The organic approach is by spraying the plants or foliage with a water and soap solution to remove aphids or other insects or fill the container with water until the soil is completely covered and let stand a couple of hours and the insects will drown and rise to the surface. Let the plant drain and dry out a bit and bring in side. Plants like begonias, fern or cacti are the ones to withstand this process pretty well.

Next or finally, remember to scrub and clean our containers before storage. Containers are an investment in your yards' appearance. Protect the investment over winter by properly cleaning them. Terra-cotta or glazed containers can crack or flake apart. Metal or wood can rust or rot, making the unusable.

Beware if your containers or plants show any sign of disease problems during the season. Either can harbor the disease until next growing season. So it's best to clean the containers as thoroughly as possible. Finally, sterilize with a spray with a solution of bleach and water and rinse. Spray again with a solution of vinegar and water, this will also remove any signs of build of minerals left behind from the fertilizers. Rinse, dry and store. Remember if you have the space, it is best to leave them stored unstacked, especially terra-cotta.

Yes, it is a lot of work, but we will have much better results and save green (i.e. money) to make green another season. Now it's time to plant bulbs for spring.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION/ ENERGY CONSERVATION/LITTER/ RECYCLING

Karen Prewitt

Grassroots Green

Warning Signs

This is my second two-year term as Environmental Education Chairman for the South Atlantic Region and my third two-year term as Environmental Education Chairman for the Garden Club of South Carolina. I'm into my fifth year writing articles entitled *Grassroots Green* and I've often started these articles with the question: **Did your Know?** I've finished the article with: **How can you help?** I've tried to offer simple ideas that even our smallest clubs can use to help solve our environmental problems.

You only have to pick up the morning newspaper or listen to the evening news to be aware of the problems we are facing with climate change. My newspaper this morning included the following articles: *Nuisance flooding on the rise ~ Searchers look for victims of Utah's flash flood ~ Computer models failing to accurately predict the path of California wildfires ~ Arctic sea levels sink to 4th lowest level.* This summer alone there have been 66 forest fires on the west coast, some of which are still raging, burning millions of acres of natural habitat ...not to mention homes and businesses. Earlier in the spring there were violent tornadoes all over the country, often in places that have never had this sort of problem, and most of us have experienced one or more of the rash of sudden destructive thunderstorms that have deluged random parts of the country. Oddly, part of our South Carolina upstate is in drought conditions, while the Lowcountry on a recent day was flooded with 6.43 inches of rain in one hour! Scientists say that 70% percent of these disasters are climate related and can be directly attributable to greenhouse gases that change normal weather patterns! NOAA, the intra-governmental panel that monitors climate change, has set a cap of 400 parts per million as the tipping point for a global crisis, but this summer we exceeded that figure! We are told that by reducing that figure to 350 parts per million we could greatly reduce the impact of devastating weather events.

You say, Yes, I've heard all that, but I can't do anything about it. I have good news. Yes, we can do something! As garden clubs we can plant trees and shrubs that reduce the heat, reduce our energy use by shading our houses, build topsoil, reduce noise, buffer wind and weather and remove pollutants from the air. On Labor Day weekend, the value of trees removing pollutants from the air was brought to my attention personally after pruning some limbs from the top of our fig tree. The leaves were covered in black greasy diesel soot from the idling engines of cruise ships docked two blocks from my house.

I could actually see how my tree helped filter the very air I breathe!

Sadly, we often value our trees and plants for what they look like, and not what they do. As your environmental chairman, I encourage each of you personally, and each of your clubs to consider planting one, or more, trees for Arbor Day this year.

I also encourage you now to plan an event for Earth Day, held on April 22, 2016. Know that our yards are one of the most empowering conservation options that we have.

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www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

Chairman Reports (continued)



Photo by Rue Lucas

HISTORIC TRAILS

Terry Ritchen

On the rice Trail...

Soon after the first grains of rice were brought to Charleston on a ship from Matagascar in 1685, planters in the lowcountry realized the area was perfect for rice cultivation. With a temperate climate, swamps and tidal estuaries, the area soon became the leading producer of rice in the United States. Through much trial and error, cultivation became more and more refined and in the 1720's -1730's, numerous rice plantations were built on the coast of South Carolina. The importation of hundreds of slaves from the Gold Coast of West Africa with its long history of rice cultivation provided the knowledge, skills and labor necessary to convert the land into productive fields controlled by a tidal irrigation system. By 1770, over 40,000 tons of rice were exported from South Carolina. With the invention of the tide driven rice mill, automated grain elevators and an improved packing system by Jonathan Lucas in 1794, the production of rice was at an all time high and South Carolina one of the wealthiest states in the country.

All this changed with the advent of the Civil War. The destruction of property, loss of capital and the end of slave labor through emancipation doomed the rice culture. In Georgetown county alone, production fell from over 55 million pounds in 1860 to just over 5 million pounds in 1870. A brief attempt at resurrecting the trade was attempted after the war but a series of 3 devastating storms just after the turn of the century caused flooding and destruction that could not be overcome. Coupled with the rise in production from the Gulf states, commercial production of rice in the lowcountry was over.

Today we can see the legacy of this golden era in the beautiful homes and plantations that were built by wealthy merchants in the days when rice was king on the Carolina coast.

MEMBER SERVICES – NGC

Shirley LaGarde

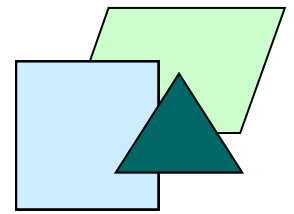
Please look at the items available from NGC Member Services. The Frightened Frog is a delightful children's book and the charm bracelet is a joy to wear. I have received many inquiries when wearing my bracelet. The 2016 calendar is a MUST HAVE!



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www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org



PUBLICITY PRESS BOOKS

Barbara Ohmsen

Are your clubs getting any publicity – local, state, region, national? If so, you need to keep the articles (with the date-line attached) and get your book to your state chairman in January! The judging scale is on the NGC Website – so you can see what the requirements are

ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION/SCENIC AMERICA

Norma Miller

I Walked the Spanish Moss Trail

Rails to Trails a green-way project owned by Beaufort County, South Carolina

The Port Royal Railroad was a South Carolina railroad constructed in Port Royal in 1870. following the Civil War. The railroad was in continuous operation until 2006 when the State of South Carolina closed the port of Port Royal. It was officially decommissioned in 2009. The ownership of the historic "Magnolia Line" right-of-way was transferred to Beaufort/Jasper Water and Sewer Authority. B/JW&SA began removing the rails in 2010. In 2011 B/JW&S granted a surface easement to Beaufort County to develop the corridor. What once was a path for coal, steam and train travel to North Augusta is now a walking and bicycle path.

"Friends of the Spanish Moss Trail," a group of public minded citizens, set out to search for funding for the project. Three years ago, in 2012 the plans had yet to reach the drawing board, and now we are beginning phase four of the five phases originally decided upon.

Phase 1 started in November 2012, fully funded by a grant from the James M, Cox Foundation.

Phase 2 was started in November 2013. Again it was funded by the Cox Foundation and a partnership with the Cities of Beaufort and Port Royal.

Phase 3 was started in November 2014, funded by the Cox Foundation, and Blue Cross Blue Shield and a large number of private donors who contributed \$250,000.00. So far, five miles have been completed connecting Beaufort and Port Royal. When totally finished the Trail will stretch from Port Royal to Whale Branch a distance 13.6 miles

The Friends of the Spanish Moss Trail have just announced phase four and ground has been broken with a grant from The Federal Highway Administration, pending eight miles to be finished by 2016. Phase four will complete the project to an area just south of The Marine Air Station. At that time phase 5 will be planned to the total distance envisioned.

Early in phase 2 The Beaufort Council of Garden Clubs and Beaufort Garden Club planted Magnolia trees along the trail. This was thought appropriate as the rail line was formerly called the "Magnolia Line"

In 2013 The Camellia Garden Club of Beaufort planted Ca-

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

mellias at the beginning of the trail in a garden by the old historic Depot and The Beaufort Council planted another tree in 2014 for Arbor Day. The Camellia Garden Club added to their collection and helped the first graders from Riverview Charter School plant fifty Long Leaf Pines supplied by Clemson along the trail. At the same time The Beaufort Council of Garden Clubs planted a species Oak Tree.

A walk along the trail provides you with an amazing view of nature. You will pass through beautiful woods filled with many different varieties of trees, shrubs and native plants providing shade for natural wildlife, marshes filled with birds, and at low tide many crabs scurrying about. Or you can stop by one of the creeks almost guaranteed to land a fish. If you look carefully as you walk you will see rabbits, squirrels, raccoon's and even snakes. Glancing into the endless sky you will note many species of birds and I am sure you will encounter birdwatchers as The Spanish Moss Trail has developed into a Birders Paradise. The success of this project is due to the commitment of numerous organizations to create something beautiful out of what was deemed useless.

Its September 14th, 65 degrees an absolutely glorious day, the sky is a beautiful Carolina blue, endless without a cloud in sight and I am walking The Spanish Moss Trail with my Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Toby. It is amazing. The wildflowers in bloom create an astonishing picture, the perfume from the wild honeysuckle is intoxicating. It is high tide as we walk through the Marsh with

water on both sides of the trail you feel as if you were sailing. Continuing along past the woods protected by the Open Land Trust, you find yourself listening to a myriad of song birds. You will encounter cyclists, joggers, and walkers: Some very serious; others, like myself out enjoying the day and what nature has provided for us. Come visit Beaufort and enjoy a remarkable outdoor recreational

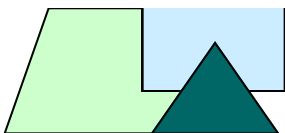
experience Although my home is not in the City of Beaufort I encountered people I knew and lots of friendly faces. Come, you will always be welcomed.

THE CORRIE WHITLOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FROM SAR

Marsha Alexander

Now is the time to encourage any student who may qualify to apply for the Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship offered by the South Atlantic Region. The requirements and judging scale can be found in the SAR Directory on page 21.

There will be two (2) \$2000 SAR Scholarships in 2016. I hope that we have worthy applicants from all five states and look forward to announcing two winners at the SAR Meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina. The deadline to send to this chairman is February 15, 2016.



SAR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Jenene Smith

Due to the vision of South Carolina's Corrie Whitlock, SAR Regional Director from 1995-1997, the SAR Life membership scholarship program was established in 1996 at the annual meeting in Raleigh, NC

The original cost was \$50.00 and in 2006. It was voted to increase the fee to \$65.00 and included a pin. The money from the sale of the memberships is deposited into the scholarship fund for investment, with the interest used for funding the SAR Scholarship. It is now the Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship from the South Atlantic Region.

Each state within the SAR can submit one application to be in competition for the Scholarship. It is open to a college sophomore or junior. The winner is announced at the annual convention. Applications may be obtained from the SAR Scholarship Chairman, the SAR Website or State Garden Club Scholarship Chairmen.

SAR Life Membership Award of \$25.00 goes to the state having the most new regional life members since the previous SAR Convention.

INVEST IN THE FUTURE! Please consider a Life Membership as a way to honor a garden club member or a non-member. It not only benefits the person being honored, but the student who receives the SAR Scholarship. Send your check to your State Life Membership Chairman or to me, Jenene Smith. Make check payable to South Atlantic Region and on the information line, write Life Membership.

Remember **SAR LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**
=SCHOLARSHIPS.



Chairman Reports (continued)



WILDFLOWERS/ ROADSIDES

Mary Ann Kirby

Joe Pye Weed (*eutrochium*) is an amazing wild edible plant that is an herb and is a wildflower which is in the sunflower family. This Native plant which grows in America attracts butterflies and bees and grows well in a container. Joe Pye can be used as a privacy screen in the landscape.

The origin of this common name of this plant is dubious however the best theory holds that it refers to a Native American named Joe Pye(Jopi), who used this perennial plant to cure typhus in the 1800's. This plant is a hardy perennial that blooms when many other plants are finished and lasts until the first hard frost. All parts of Joe Pye Weed may be eaten and may be dried. When made into tea there are many health benefits. The other name, "gravel root" was listed in the US Pharmacopoeia from 1820-1842.

This photo was taken by this chairman at the North Carolina Welcome Center and was eight feet tall!

SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL SPECIAL PROJECT 2015-2017

"AWE-SOME POSSIBILITIES"

We, as SAR gardeners, stand in **AWE** of what we have inherited and must pass on to future generations. Our director, Sarah Ann Parler, has announced her theme, "**Inspire Conservation through Education**" and is using this as the basis of her regional project.

One challenge for the 2015-2017 administration is participation in the SAR special project. This project is doable by clubs and councils of any size in the diversified locations of our five-state region. Her desire is that everyone accepts responsibility to develop and implement educational projects which will focus on the conservation and preservation of our Air, Water and Earth (soil) resources. Choose your area of interest or combined interests of two or perhaps all three. Does that not put you in **AWE** of project possibilities?

Awards for our SAR Special Project will honor clubs, councils and a state whose project focus is on Air, Water and Earth (soil). The entry should be submitted using the National Garden Club application form and is limited to three pages, including narrative presentation and photographic documentation. Awards will be given both years.

Scale of Points:

Narrative Presentation (scope)	45 points
Involvement of Members (%)	25 points
Photographic Documentation and Layout	30 points

Club Awards: \$50 and certificate Donor--Sarah Ann Parler

- Under 30 members
- 30-59 members
- 60 and over members

Council Awards: \$50 and certificate Donor—Sarah Ann Parler

- 8 and under clubs
- 9 or more clubs

State Award: \$50 and certificate Donor—Sarah Ann Parler

To the state with the highest number of SAR special projects award applications received

Deadline to Regional SAR Special Projects Chairman: January 11, 2016

Mary Rivers, SAR Special Projects Chairman
11481 Voorhees Road
Denmark, SC 29042
803-793-4914
e-mail: bentmary54@gmail.com

YOUTH – CHILDREN’S GARDENS/SCHOOL GARDENS

Janice Doyle

The Colonial Beach Community Garden is at the site of the old school that was arson burned a year ago. Community Action Group children enjoyed a fall planting project in August. Community Action serves families in crises in Richmond, King George and Westmoreland Counties in the Northern Neck of Virginia.

In interesting technique for making homemade planting strips was used. Mix a paste from water and flour. Spread out toilet paper from the roll a little at a time. Dab paste every 3 inches. On each glue dab place 2-3 seeds. Allow to dry. Put kids names on toilet paper where they each placed seeds. If breezy an anchor like a brick of two may be needed to hold strip in place. Once dried the strip is trendy to spread out in garden space. Cover strip with soil and watch plants grow. The seeds used were a fall planting mix containing collards, kale, and spinach. The plants will grow during fall, winter and into spring. (PS: children were not allowed to be photographed nor their planting strip since it had their names on it for crises protection privacy).

YOUTH—SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTERS

Barbara Ohmsen

All state chairmen have received their information (and forms) for this poster contest. Now we are hoping that the states come through with LOTS of posters. Did you know that SAR won at the National Convention for the most posters received? YES, WE DID! Now let's do it again. Looking forward to hearing from the states in January.

Chairman Reports (continued)

YOUTH – RECYCLABLE SCULPTURE CONTEST

Trish Bender

IF YOU WANT TO GET YOUTH INVOLVED, GO WHERE THE KIDS GO... Facebook, Twitter, Instagram!

It appears Virginia will get a run for their money this year in the Youth Recycled Sculpture Contest as districts around the South Atlantic Region spread the word about the contest through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

The Garden Club of SC used its Facebook Page to connect with middle school Facebook users to help promote the contest. To make it even more exciting, clubs in the Charleston, SC Council collected tiny recycled items to donate to the Charleston Children's Museum who agreed to host a craft afternoon for the contestants.

They also added the contest to the Youth Special Exhibits Division of their Fall Flower Show so the sculptures would be on display during the Coastal Carolina Fair.

As Youth Sculpture Chair for SAR, I am super excited to see how your state will implement the contest. Remember to send your state winners to SAR before February 1st, 2016.

And take a page out of our next generation's book. Scan it to me in color at tbender@carolinaone.com with subject line SAR Youth Contest Winner or (if you prefer) Snail-mail me at:

Trish Bender, SAR Youth Recycling Chair, 2171 Welch Ave, Charleston, SC 29412



SAR Convention 2016

“North Carolina’s Beauty” South Atlantic Region Convention March 13-15, 2016 North Raleigh Hilton Raleigh NC



Come and enjoy “North Carolina’s Beauty” at the annual SAR Convention. We hope you will enjoy learning about “North Carolina’s Beauty” given by guest speakers from the region, shopping with vendors that represent the area and meeting other people that love to garden and want to learn more about how others garden.

There will be workshops available during the three days and who knows, we may even have a garden tour.

This year the meeting will be held March 13-15, 2016 at the North Raleigh Hilton/Midtown located at 3415 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, North Carolina. Phone Number 844-582-8885.

The room rates will be \$119.00 per night for this meeting. Mark your calendar and save the date to be in Raleigh next March to enjoy North Carolina’s Beauty.

Raleigh is just east of the middle of our region, so we hope to have many, many attendees from all five states.

Convention Chairman: Ginny Parker, 919-832-5483, vlp1006@aol.com

Convention Vice-Chairman: Susan Hooper, 704-552-5673, susanhooper@att.net

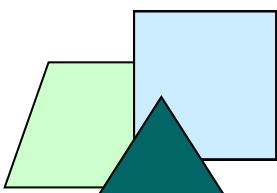
The Registration Form is on page 15 of this issue.

"Inspire Conservation Through Education"

Special Project:

Awesome

AirWaterSoil-some



Key Notes

October 2015

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

SAR Convention (continued)



Speaker: Bryce Lane, NC State Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor Emeritus, Lecturer Emeritus

Topic: **"Gardening in North Carolina: From the Mountains to the Coast"**

An informative and inspiring talk about gardening and gardens in North Carolina. From botanical gardens to personal gardening stories, come hear about the magic of North Carolina horticulture!

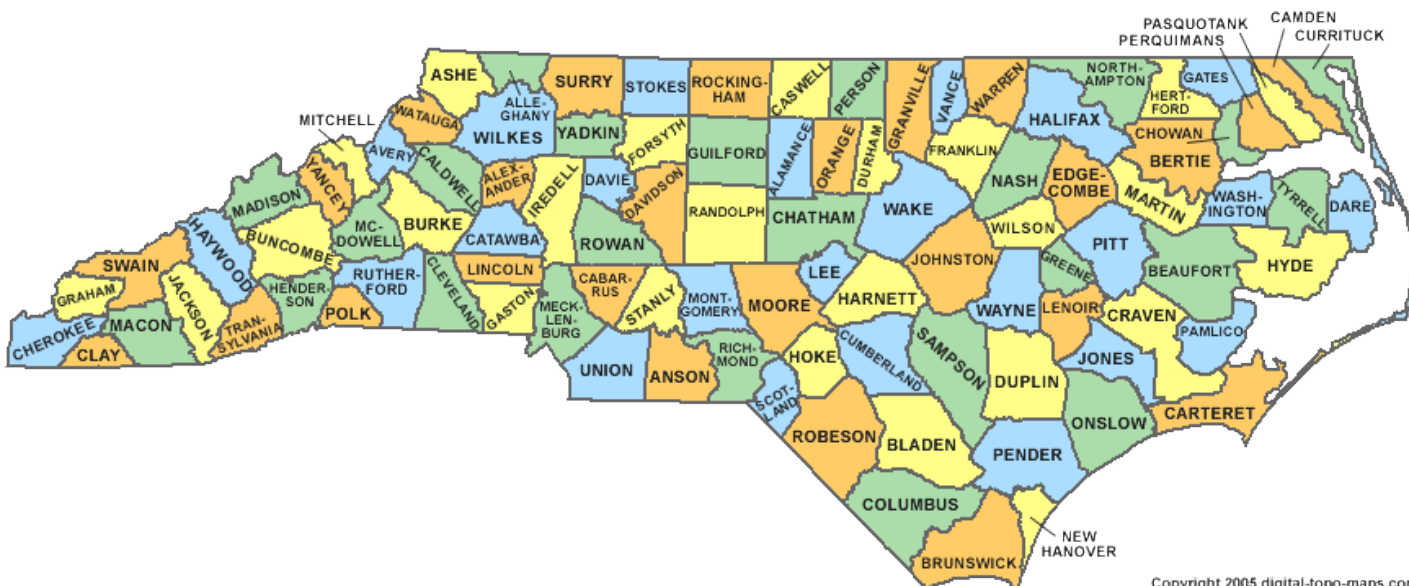
Speaker: Carl Curnutte, Director Elizabethan Gardens Topic: "Flourishing Gardens"

When the planet flourishes, nature blossoms. Attend a program that opens the doors to sustainability for your neighborhoods and homes by following practices used by The Elizabethan Gardens. Learn how choices made while maintaining a public garden have impacted the environment. Sustainability activities, conservation, and ideas for reducing, reusing, and recycling are all explored while learning the rich history of the Gardens and its' programs. Do you want to reduce your impact on the world's resources? Conscious global citizens are committed to bring about a "flourishing" world through awareness, responsibility and sustainable action. Paul Hawken, environmental activist and author said, "The first rule of sustainability is to align with natural forces, or at least not try to defy them." As exemplified by The Gardens, small steps can make big footprints and have an impact on history and environment. Participants will also have a chance to win prizes using their knowledge of sustainability practices.



Speaker: Derek Smith, NCDOT Roadside Environmental Unit Topic " North Carolina Wildflower Program"

The North Carolina Wildflower Program began in 1985 with 12 experimental acres. Celebrating 30 years of seeding wildflowers along the primary routes across NC, the program has grown to include approximately 1,500 acres today. With continued support provided by the Garden Club of North Carolina, this program and roadside aesthetics in general have promoted North Carolina to become ranked the 6th most visited state in the nation. Travelers and citizens make the NC Wildflower Program the most popular program in the Department of Transportation. The NC Wildflower Program is funded by the sale of personalized license plates.



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Key Notes

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Odds 'N' Ends

Directory Corrections: Even though we thought everything had been proofed, we find more mistakes in our SAR Directory:

- p. 7 Credentials Phyllis Steele email pbsteele408@gmail.com (listing on p. 16 is correct)
- p. 13 NC Pres. Judy Bond phone (919)533-6254
- p. 13 WV Pres. Judy Guye (omit Swanson); WV website: wvgardenclub.com
- p.14 Birds Chairman Betty Gorrie, 109 Robert Cook Lane, Banner Elk NC 28604 (828) 898-8422 betstys_garden@hotmail.com
- p.15 Conv. Chr. Ginny Parker: zip code 27608
- p. 16 Comm. Gardens Helen Heater: email is changed to heaterhj@frontier.com
- p.18 Membership Ann Fiel : 141 Stone Brook Dr. Morehead KY 40351-1846 gckyann@fiel.us and add cell (606)776-3153 (listing on p.8 is correct)
- p. 19 Orgazination Study Carolyn Patterson 3492 Waterloo Rd. (listing on p. 7 is correct)
- p. 20 SAR Special Project Mary River email is changed to bentmary54@gmail.com
- p. 21 Youth Projects(Scouts) Carolyn King email cskingworld@aol.com

If there are further corrections, please let this editor and your SAR Director know. We need the correct information in order to keep communication open.

Sympathy To Judy Ann Fray (Awards Chairman) on the loss of her mother in July.

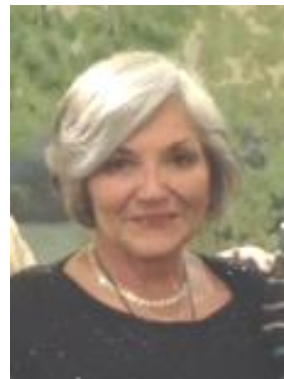
The following members of SAR are the representatives on the NGC Nominating Committee for 2015-2017
NGC Nominating Committee:
Ann Fiel, Kentucky, Representative
Martha Morgan, Kentucky, Alternate
Betsy Steele, South Carolina, Representative
Maida Dantzler, South Carolina, Alternate

National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Sandy Robinson
2015-2017 NGC President

Theme:
"Leap Into Action"



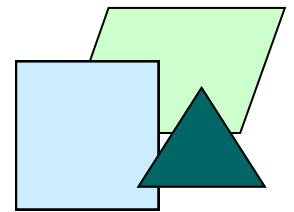
MARK YOUR CALENDAR now and plan to attend the 2016 NGC Convention May 2-6, 2016 in Grand Rapids MI.

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

Key Notes

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Michigan will play host to the 2016 NGC Convention. The dates are Monday through Friday, May 2-6, 2016, taking place at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids.

Some exciting pre-convention tours are being planned, as well as some post-convention tours. One is the Holland Tulip Time Festival. The other is visiting Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel. Let's just really start "Bloomin' on the Grand". Other tours will be announced.



The National Gardener will be coming to us soon. It is now available to us online on the members side.

There are many interesting articles in it to help us carry out the various projects of this administration.

Also there is a summary of the titles of the NGC poetry contests, essay contests, sculpture contest, and Distinguished Service Award.

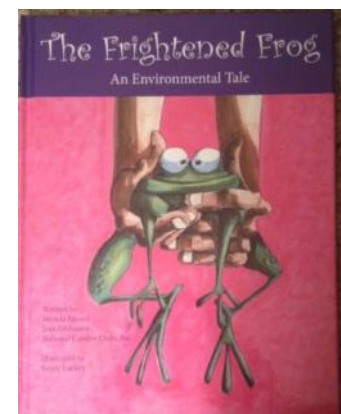
2018 Vision of Beauty Calendars

ATTENTION: DESIGNERS

Please consider photographing your designs and submitting them to the calendar committee for the "Visions of Beauty" calendar.

The 2018 entry form and rules are on the NGC website: www.gardenclub.org. Select forms at the top of the page; then the VOB tab.

Check it out. More entries are needed from the South Atlantic Region.



NATIONALGARDENCLUB/SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION CONVENTION
MARCH 13-15, 2016
“SAR: NORTH CAROLINA BEAUTY”
THE HILTON NORTH RALEIGH/MIDTOWN
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

Please complete form, make check to “2016 NGC/SAR Convention” and mail both to:
Ginny Parker, 1801 Ridley Street, Raleigh, NC 27608: email VLP1006@aol.com Phone: 919-880-3233 (Cell)

Postmark by **February 19** for on time registration.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

May we confirm your registration by your email? _____ Yes _____ No

Check all that apply:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NGC Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> SAR Director | <input type="checkbox"/> SAR Officer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NGC Chairman | <input type="checkbox"/> Former SAR Director | <input type="checkbox"/> SAR Chairman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NGC Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> SAR Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> State President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse |

ALL ATTENDEES MUST PAY A REGISTRATION FEE

Circle Amount(s) being paid.

- NC, Out of State members and non- spouse guest -----\$200.00
Includes Registration fee, 2 dinners, 1 lunch, 1 breakfast and workshops
- Spouse package – full convention-----\$175.00
Includes Registration fee, 2 dinners, 1 lunch, 1 breakfast and workshops
- One day registration only----- \$25.00
- Additional Registration (after March 1) for all attending-----\$10.00
(Regular registration rate for everyone attending is \$50.00 – included in above on-time packages)

Individual Meals

- Sunday Evening \$45.00
- Monday Lunch \$30.00
- Monday Evening \$45.00
- Tuesday Breakfast \$30.00

(Plus the Registration Fee)

TOTAL PAID _____

Please indicate any special needs or dietary requirements: - Diabetic,
 Vegetarian, Vegan, Gluten Free, Other (medical reasons only)
 Wheelchair Access, _____ Specify

NO REQUESTS FOR SUBSTITUTIONS WILL BE ACCOMMODATED AT THE TIME OF MEAL SERVICE.

We will make every effort to accommodate your medical allergies.

NO REFUNDS AFTER MARCH 5, 2016

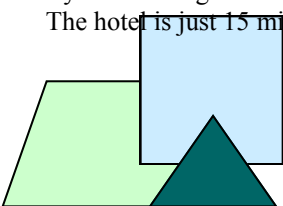
The afternoon workshops are still in the making. Please refer to the January Key Notes for all the details pertaining to these workshops.

Hotel Reservations: Reservation deadline for group rate is **February 21, 2016** .Make reservation directly with the Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown, 3415 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, NC 919-872-2323 and mention NGC/SAR Convention.

Room rates are \$ 119.00 for both singles and doubles. Check in time is 3:00 and check out time is 12:00 noon. All hotel parking is free.

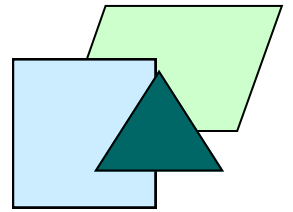
Travel Information

By Air: Raleigh Durham United International Airport. The hotel provides complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport. The hotel is just 15 miles from the airport.



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The South Atlantic Region Member States



Key Notes

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