

KEY NOTES



South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

January 2016
Volume 12, Issue 3

“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

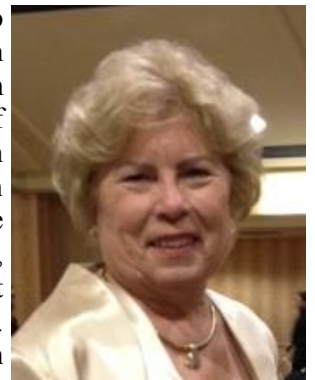
March 20

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"

The South Atlantic Region Convention is scheduled to be held at the Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown Hotel in Raleigh, NC, from March 13-15, 2016. The registration form for this convention may be found on page 13 of this issue. We are preparing for a good representation from all five of the SAR States. Convention Chairman Ginny Parker and Co-Chairman Susan Hooper have selected excellent speakers, including Derek Smith, NCDOT Roadside Environmental Unit Management Engineer and Blue Star Memorial Coordinator; Carl V. Curnutte, III, Executive Director of The Elizabethan Gardens; and Bryce Lane, who will speak on “The Magic of North Carolina” with an emphasis on horticulture from the mountains to the coast. Additional information relating to these speakers may be found on page 10 of this issue. These presenters will illustrate the Convention theme of “North Carolina Beauty”.



My home state, South Carolina, suffered a devastating drought in June and July that cost our farmers their spring crops. These losses were intensified by further losses following the 1000-year floods of Hurricane Joaquin that brought 15-20 inches of rain in one weekend. Nearly 500 bridges were destroyed or compromised, and major roads, including interstate 95, were closed for weeks/months. Thanks to all of you who called, or sent cards, or emails with prayers for our well-being. Please continue your prayers on behalf of those who continue to suffer. So many families lost their homes and businesses, and several lost their lives during this historic flood. On behalf of all South Carolinians, we thank you for your prayers and concerns.

The SAR Board was saddened to receive the news that Judy Bond, President of the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. resigned in December, 2015. Gail Hill, former First Vice President, has assumed the duties of GCNC President. We wish Gail the very best as she takes on this new role. Her contact information is included in this issue of Key Notes (page 12); please direct your correspondence to her.

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year and looking forward to seeing each of you in Raleigh, in March!

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”

Now that 2015 has come to a close, I hope each of you will reflect back on the many accomplishments that you have achieved during this past year and focus on new ideas and projects to make 2016 even better and more productive.

When I was installed as president in April 2015, I had high hopes for The Garden Club of Kentucky members to involve our youth in garden club activities and stimulate their interest in the environment. I wanted them to learn about our beautiful earth and how to take care of and preserve it, for they are our future stewards of this land. It is our responsibility as gardeners to share our knowledge.

Looking over year-end reports has proven that my hopes have not gone astray. Special Project Youth Advisor Chair, Ann Kowalkoski with the help of our five district Youth Chairmen have reported that our clubs are very busy working within their own communities with local libraries, presenting gardening workshops with Kids Club at a church, working with a county 4-H Director who provides after School Youth and Junior Gardening Projects. One club is working with a Girl Scout Troop to earn the Native Plant Patch. Activities with the youth include making concrete stepping stones, releasing 5,000 ladybugs, flower pounding to make stationary, study of native plants, identification of trees by their leaves, recycling programs for sculptures, and participating in flower

shows.

Native Pollinator Conservation for Youth is another of my special projects with emphasis on South Atlantic Region's theme *Inspire Conservation through Education*. State chairman Linda Porter is coordinating this initiative and provides our clubs with information needed for planning and completing their projects. She has put together a Pollination for Kids PowerPoint presentation to be used with primary grade children. The presentation could be easily adapted for upper elementary grade children.

Club members are supporting National President Sandy Robinson's special project *Service in Action protecting the Monarch Butterfly* by planting and maintaining Monarch Way Stations. As we build on the accomplishments of the previous administration, Kentucky now has over 300 Way Stations and more are planned in 2016. Members are providing milkweed seed to students to plant in children's gardens at school and libraries.

The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc. and Middlesboro Garden Club hosted Flower Show School Course I on November 12-14, 2015 in Middlesboro, KY with 24 students in attendance. Plans are underway for hosting Course II.

Wishing each of you a Happy New Year.

Edith S. Nelson

The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc., Judy Bond, President Theme: "Growing Forward Together"



“Growing Forward Together”

Due to the resignation of our state President, Judy Bond, in December, North Carolina has announced their new President, Gail Hill, who was the state's First Vice President. Gail will come onboard with the theme of “Growing Forward Together”. She along with interim First Vice President Jenene Smith, Second Vice President, Brenda Crocker and Third Vice President, Darene Honeycutt will be working to provide a smooth

transition for upcoming events for the state.

North Carolina is thrilled to be hosting the South Atlantic Region Convention, March 13-15, 2016 at the Hilton North Raleigh Midtown Hotel in Raleigh, NC. Ginny Parker is chairing the Convention and we're all looking forward to welcoming the region to North Carolina.

Look for more to come from North Carolina as we move forward, growing together.

Gail Hill

Key Notes

January 2016

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

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



The Garden Club of South Carolina is blooming right into 2016! After a successful November 14th Plantation Tour of the Beautiful Santee Delta, thanks to Co-Chairs Terry Ritchen and Rue Lucas, we begin 2016 with putting more plans into action. On January 12-13, we are offering Course 1 of the Landscape Design School at Charles Towne Landing in beautiful Charleston. Districts are preparing for the March Spring District Meetings. The South Atlantic Region (SAR) Convention will be held March 13-15 in Raleigh, North Carolina. On Saturday, April 9, we will have our annual Youth Symposium at Riverbanks Zoo and Garden in Columbia. This is an educational and awards presentation event for our youth contest winners. From a glimpse of the over 140 GCSC awards that were submitted in mid-December, absolutely wonderful things are happening in garden clubs throughout the state! Be sure to visit the GCSC website for the February 1st posting of GCSC's 2016 SC Native Plant of the Year winner. All awards presentations will be made at our State Meeting to be held at Riverbanks Botanical Building on April 27-28. SAR Director Sarah Ann Parler will be our honored guest, and *Bringing Nature Home* author Douglas Tallamy will be our keynote speaker. My GCSC President's Project which is the establishment of the GCSC Native Plant Garden in the Children's Garden at

Riverbanks Botanical Garden in Columbia is being made possible by our clubs' and councils' kind and generous donations to "Nickels for Natives." Contributions for "Nickels for Natives" will continue through March 2017. The District and individual club with the most contributions will be given special recognition at our April 2017 Convention in Greenville. At our 2016 State Meeting on Wednesday April 27th, we are going to dedicate the GCSC Native Plant Garden during our Vice Presidents' Reception which will be held at the Botanical Building adjacent to the garden. All garden club members registered for the State Meeting are invited to attend the reception.

Plans are also underway for our Summer Expo on July 16th in Columbia as well as the October SC Native Plant Symposium to be held at the South Carolina Botanical Garden in Clemson. This Native Plant Symposium is being sponsored by GCSC in partnership with our affiliate members, the South Carolina Botanical Garden and the South Carolina Native Plant Society. This is going to be a huge weekend event with over 500 people expected to attend.

All the best for a Happy and Healthy Blooming New Year!

Yvonne Morris

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



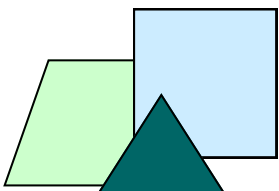
The fall of 2015 was a busy and enjoyable time of visiting VFGC's six districts and meeting many more of our wonderful VFGC members. VFGC participated in the fall State Fair of Virginia where our garden club volunteers demonstrated "Six Easy Floral Arrangements," assisted in "Craft Time for Kids" where Tussie Mussies and bird feeders were created, and provided exuberant youth and adults the opportunity to design their very own floral arrangements. Beaming smiles on the proud faces of these new floral designers made this a successful event.

On Veteran's day, a Blue Star marker was dedicated at Midlothian Middle School's Pocket Park. We were honored to have the marker unveiled by two Midlothian Garden Club members who are veterans. The beautiful music of the school

choir and band added to this most moving dedication. Six of our garden clubs were awarded a total of \$5,300 from VFGC's "Keys to the Future Youth Projects Grants." Over 700 youth will be reached with projects ranging from gardening projects at schools, teaching basic floral design and providing the youth the opportunity to enter the designs in a flower show, sponsoring a youth summer camp, to sharing an educational project called "Endangered Salamanders of Southwest Virginia."

Seven clubs received a total of \$5,300 from VFGC's "Grants to Beautify and Restore." Projects include transforming nine acres of land into a community park; restoring Boyd's Ferry, a historic site in South Boston; beautification

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3)

of a rock garden at a main intersection in Lexington; beautification of the entrance of a workplace for adults with challenging disabilities; restoration of a neglected garden at Brookneal Community Center; and restoration of a Virginia Historic Landmark park in Buckingham.

VFGC will continue to offer quality educational opportunities in 2016 beginning with Flower Show School, Course III in Richmond on February 29-March 3. Darlene Newell is the NGC horticulture instructor and Penny Decker is the NGC design instructor. Accredited Judges may use this course as a refresher.

Our successful Landscape Design School will be in Virginia

Beach on April 6-7. This will be Course III in the series. The instructors are Gordon Chappell, the recently retired Director of Landscape for Colonial Williamsburg, Jack Douglas and Margaret 'Fred' Douglas, landscape design experts, and Laurie Fox of Virginia Tech's Horticulture Department

Come to Virginia to attend FSS and LDS! Details on both schools are on the VFGC website:

www.viriniagardenclubs.org.

We look forward to the SAR Convention in Raleigh as a time to see friends, make new friends and learn from each other.

We in VFGC welcome another year and the opportunities it brings to continue "Making Connections to Shape the Future."

Janice M. Clem



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

We have continued to plant our seeds over the years and I was delighted to have attended two Garden Club Anniversaries this fall. Quiet Dell Garden Club in Monongahela-Cheat District, celebrated their 50th Anniversary year November 5th. President Gwen Kohut introduced 3 founding members of the club that were present – Priscilla Bastin, Catherine Benedum and Luella Everitt. What a joy to meet these ladies and find them still interested in their Garden Club. I think that says a lot for our organization.

Beverly Hills Garden Club, Huntington, Ohio-Guyan District, celebrated their 75th Anniversary December 1st. Sandy Robinson, NGC President attended from Kentucky. What an honor to have our NGC President attending this celebration. She was introduced by Beverly Hills Garden Club co-Presidents, Janet Sheridan and Sharon Gross. A review of the Club's past history was given. It is always amazing to hear about club projects over the years and realize the impact they have had in their communities.

I had a tour of the National Garden Clubs Headquarters, lo-

cated at the Missouri Botanical Gardens, during the NGC Fall Board meeting in St. Louis. It was nice to meet the staff at the Headquarters and visit the Members Services store. We had lunch at the Cardinal Club, Busch Stadium, and a walking tour of Citygarden. I was able to attend seven of the nine District meetings this past September and October. I enjoy hearing about all the programs and projects each of the clubs are involved in.

I hope you are planning your "planting for pollinator" garden for this summer. Remember the Million Garden Challenge and register your landscape on the S.H.A.R.E. map. Visit <http://millionpollinatorgardens.org> to learn more and get started. When asked, be sure and tell them **National Garden Clubs, Inc.** sent you.

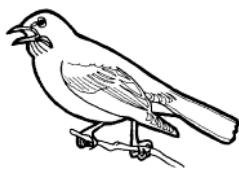
The West Virginia Garden Club, Inc. Convention will be held at Stonewall Resort, Roanoke, WV on April 1-3, 2016. I look forward to seeing you all in April.

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. Try to involve other groups with you. This could become a community project.

Let this chairman know what you did or what plans you have for Arbor Day 2016. She would like to hear from clubs and states so she can highlight some of the activities.

BIRDS

Betty Gorrie

Time to mark your calendars for a fun winter time activity. No, I'm not talking about going skiing! The annual Great Backyard Bird Count will be held Friday, February 12 through Monday, February 15, 2016. This project was created by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to enlist the public's help collecting data on the state of wild birds. Please go to the official website: www.birdcount.org to participate in the counting of your neighborhood birds. You can count birds for as little as 15 minutes a day or as long as you wish during this 4 day event. Report your sightings online at the www.birdcount.org website. This is a great chance for your clubs to get your Youth Garden Clubs involved and help them learn what birds are visiting their backyards. Remember anyone can take part, from beginning bird watchers to experts. This is also a great opportunity to get your cameras out and photograph some of the beautiful birds that visit your feeders.

AIR & WATER QUALITY

Caroline Augustine

What can YOU do about such a large issue as Water Pollution and its effect on water quality?

Educationyourself and others.. Start by knowing that Pollution is a matter of quantity. A cup of toxic material in the ocean is not going to make a lot of difference because there is so much water to disperse it. That same cup of toxins in the backyard pond will kill all the fish because there is so little water to dilute it.

Now think about this...you go into your garden and spray all the weeds with weed killer. That toxin drains down through layers of earth into an aquifer and on into the rivers where our drinking water starts.

You think, my little bit of weed killer is not going to make a difference but add that to your neighbor's, the farmer's and the factory's waste water and you DO have a problem.

SO---YOU ... skip the weed killer, get some exercise by going out in the early morning and pulling up all those weeds.. Tell your neighbors to do the same. Be Pollution fighters!!!



BLUE STAR MEMORIALS

Romanza Johnson

As we start a new year, the challenge is on for every club to place a marker in their area to pay tribute to the armed forces as a whole.

Prices vary as to your selection of a highway marker, a memorial marker or a by-way marker. Pamphlets with prices may be ordered from the national garden clubs headquarters. This program was established in 1945 and continues each year to show our appreciation for those who defend our country. Also, now information is available for restoring markers. Do let me know if I can be of help to you on your project-----make your region, state, district and club proud----participate!

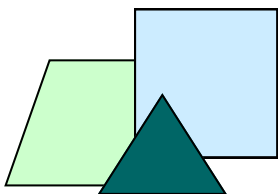
AWARDS

Judy Ann Fray

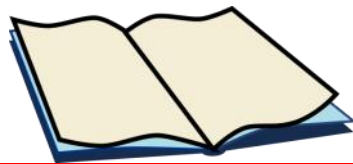


Your SAR AWARDS Chairman looks forward to receiving each state's package of award winners for our Regional competition by January 25. Then, there will be the excitementand challenges.....of getting them judged and working with awards donors in preparation for our SAR Convention in Raleigh this March. Best of luck to all!

And now you can begin thinking about and planning for the awards you will submit at the end of 2016.



Chairman Reports (continued)



CALENDARS/*VISION OF BEAUTY*

Elaine Thornton

Welcome 2016! If you have not already purchased your *Vision of Beauty* calendar to keep you organized for 2016, now is the time. Encourage your club and state members to contact our National Garden Clubs, Inc. headquarters and order one right now or better yet order them for all their gardening friends as a late but much appreciated 2016 gift. The *Vision of Beauty* calendar is a major fundraiser for National Garden Clubs, Inc. so why not support our cause while celebrating floral artistic creativity.

CONTAINER GARDENING

Helen Heater

Design and Create your Special Space(s) with Containers
Containers are some of the most versatile gardening tools we have. Containers can make any space different, colorful, and/or attractive. The only limits to what you can do with containers is your imagination. It doesn't matter the size or your space. Containers can belong anywhere in your yard. They can brighten any entryway, accent a soothing water feature or create privacy on any porch, patio or area within your yard or around your home. Any space can be improved with the addition of lovely plant-filled pots or containers.

Great or beautiful containers will naturally draw attention from your guests. So use these features to your advantage. Try a grouping of bright pots or containers clustered by a glass door or your entryway. Although avoid filling pots with plants that attract bees or obstruct easy access. You don't want your guests to get stung or hurt. Also pay attention to the amount of light that reaches the area. If there is an overhang some times that will block light and rain. It could be part shade and work out fine.

Sometimes we just have awkward spaces where nothing fits but we need something. Try a couple of decorative containers for these types of spots. It is important to keep scale in mind, (after all, we're trying to make a visually unattractive spaces look better.) For example just a cluster or couple of bright colored containers with various shapes and sizes filled with tall plantings look at home in the open space.

Create privacy for seating by placing a few tall plantings along the side and/or the back of your seating areas, you can create a sense of coziness. You can make the area as open or as private as you want. You can create a tie-in with the rest of your garden to your patio, walk way or other areas around your home.

We could go on and on listing all of the possibilities and

sharing ideas, but we need to evaluate our own areas, time and budgets. As we have said before only your imagination has limits, but hopefully we will get you thinking about what's next. These few ideas are just the tip of the iceberg and possibilities. While we are waiting for the next planting season, ponder what you might like to try next. Decorating or designing your outdoor living space is like moving your furniture around indoors. Keep it exciting and interesting.

Environmental Education

Karen Prewitt

Grassroots Green

Energy Options

Here in South Carolina, our newspapers have recently been filled with a number of informative articles concerning possible sources of energy for our future needs. One series of articles has focused on the use of air guns for offshore seismic sounding. Developers looking for energy sources want to do a series of underwater test explosions to see if drilling for oil and gas is feasible. This option has a number of people in a quandary about the impact of potential damage to the seafood industry and marine life, as well as South Carolina's beaches and their attendant tourism appeal. Coastal residents have not been entirely satisfied by developer's answers to their 'what-if' questions.

Another group of energy investors suggests that a series of wind turbine 'farms' could be planted *en masse* offshore. Having seen what a series of 'wind farms' looks like while on a trip to southern California earlier this summer and also several years ago in Costa Rica, I would certainly need to think twice about this option. Wind farms lend a surreal quality to any natural landscape with their huge stark white blades whirring away. Wind turbines in other areas have also proved deadly to migratory birds.

Other recent news articles have reported on a debate between one of our state's large aluminum processing plants and their energy supplier. The aluminum plant claims they will be forced to make drastic cuts in their workforce unless the energy supplier can keep their rates reasonable. The production facility employs a significant number of people in the community, and a loss of jobs would certainly create a ripple effect in the local economy. One energy supplier maintains that increasing rates will offset their eleven billion dollar cost for building a nuclear reactor that is currently behind schedule.

Having lived in South Carolina for the last thirty-five years, I keep wondering why our state is not giving more consideration to the use of solar power. It seems such an obvious choice for us. It is abundant, quiet, clean, doesn't hurt the environment with run-offs, is cost effective, doesn't have the potential for nuclear destruction, and can be hidden in most cases from public view on private homes and businesses...it can even be adapted to fit homes in our historic districts, without upsetting preservationists. Why have our energy companies not given this option more consideration? Is there something I have missed here?

(Continued on page 7)

Chairman Reports (continued)

(Continued from page 6)

As garden club members, I encourage you to be informed about plans for generating energy that will impact future generations in *your* community. Easy answers are in short supply. We need to educate ourselves so that we can be effective stewards.

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

Mary H. Dixon

Just in case you do not know about National Garden Week I have copied the information from the National Garden Clubs web site for you. Please plan a project and enter for an award this year. Many clubs do the projects that would qualify for the awards but do not enter. Let us hear from you this year!

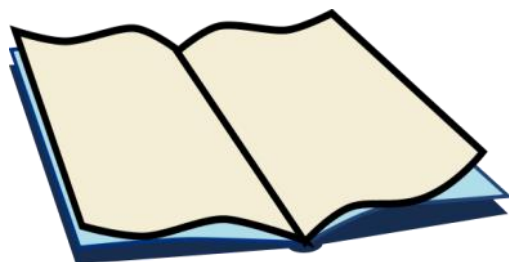
Thanks.

From the NGC Web Site:

National Garden Week

Use this week to encourage pride in communities and cooperation among groups interested in educating the general public on the importance of general gardening information. The more involved in the community that your garden club can be, the more awareness we can generate for National Garden Club and everything we do!

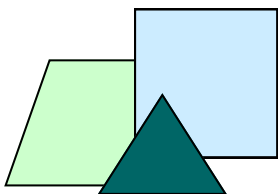
Go to the NGC Web site for more information.



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 dateline 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. Start collecting articles now for 2016.



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.**



Key Notes

January 2016

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

Chairman Reports (continued)

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. If you missed that deadline, look ahead to 2017.

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

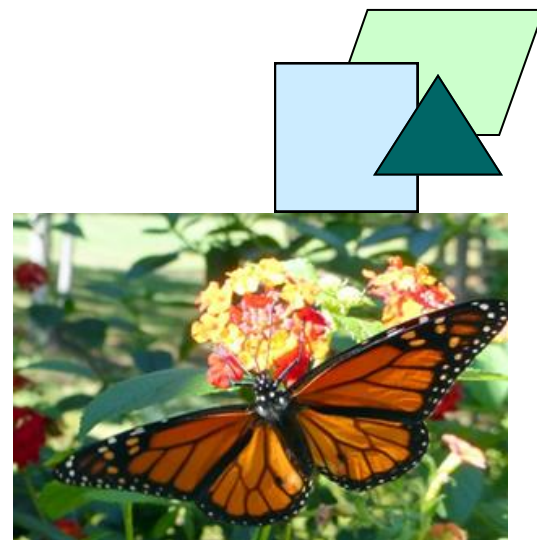


VIDEOS/DVD PROGRAMS

Dorothy Richardson

This Chairman would like to let you know that we have lots of exciting garden-related Programs. If you need a program on a particular subject please contact NGC Headquarters, MEMBER SERVICES.

Email: headquarters@gardenclub.org, phone: 314-776-7574, Address: 4401 Magnolia Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110.



WILDFLOWERS/ROADSIDES

Mary Ann Kirby

Asclepias tuberosa __ Butterfly-weed: pleurisy -root: wind-root is an important plant as Host for Monarch Butterflies to lay their eggs and for the larvae to use as food. The loss of Monarch numbers bears a direct link to the loss of milkweed plants. As members of the SAR this regional and national project of "Planting Milkweed for Monarchs" in our own gardens is important to ALL gardeners to aid in the future increase in Monarch numbers! This Chairman encourages garden club members to plant seeds for *Asclepias tuberosa* L. subsp. *tuberosa* as a project to plant in the soil or in containers. This is Important to insure that future generations of gardeners can enjoy these migrating Monarch "Winged Flowers" as pollinators and as part of the ecosystem. Propagate *Asclepias tuberosa* and document the growth of this milkweed in all the metamorphic stages of the Monarch. The attraction of the Monarch to this native plant going through the stages of metamorphosis would be educational to all ages .



Key Notes

January 2016

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

Chairman Reports (continued)

YOUTH – CHILDREN’S GARDENS/SCHOOL GARDENS

Darene Honeycutt

Fifteen youth garden clubs in North Carolina have their own gardens to include butterfly / pollinator gardens, flower gardens, vegetable gardens, and bulb gardens. Three new school clubs are in the process of being ratified. The Junior Green Thumbs received a grant from Katie’s Krops to plant a flower and vegetable garden. Many clubs invited Smokey Bear to visit their meetings to encourage environmental studies. Two youth garden clubs assisted with the financing to purchase their county a new Smokey Bear costume. A pilot program in Dunn, NC is called Bookworms in the Garden. The last Saturday of each month, The Junior Garden Club of Dunn meets at the public library; guests are welcome too. A garden theme book is read at storytime followed by a related garden activity. Children receive a plant of the month and propagate a plant to take home. A youth garden plot is being developed on the library grounds. NC is also encouraging garden clubs to purchase a copy of The Frightened Frog to donate to their local schools and public libraries as a recruiting tool for new youth clubs. Each state in the SAR is encouraged to send their statistics and news to be shared in future newsletters. Working together we can grow our region!



YOUTH PROJECTS – SCOUTS

Carolyn King

GIRL SCOUT NATIVE PLANT BADGE

The purpose of the Native Plant Badge is to encourage Girl Scouts and all Garden Clubs to work together to help Girl Scouts earn their beautiful NGC Native Plant Badge. As the SAR Youth Projects/Scouts Chairman, I urge each Garden Club to work with our Girl Scouts so they can learn what plants are native to their area. Some of the requirements are to learn how to preserve and protect native plants, and also learn what plants are invasive. Girls can interview someone about native plants in their area, and also establish a native spot in a public garden, school, church, park or community.

Since the badges are ordered through the NGC, I do not know which clubs have worked with the Girl Scouts so please let me hear from you so I can give you credit through SAR. I have experience with my local and State Garden Clubs working with youth and scouts, and will be glad to help you in any way I can.

YOUTH – SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTERS

Barbara Ohmsen

SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL – TO ALL STATE CHAIRMEN: Hopefully you will have received posters from your clubs. Please be sure to get your totals together and send them to me Forms: 2016 Smokey Bear State Chairman Report Form (and back listing state winners) and 2016 Smokey Bear Poster Contest State Chairman Outreach Report. These two forms and the five poster winners for your state are due to this regional chairman by February 22. You, as State Chairman, should have received your state entries by January 22, 2016,

Begin now making contact with groups to let them know you want to work with them again I 2016, and will have the information in late spring.



Top Winner was from California in 2015.

Key Notes

January 2016

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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 a workshop available on Monday afternoon.

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 this 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 13 of this issue.



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.



SAR Convention (continued)

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.



There will be a workshop at the convention on Monday afternoon. It will be presented by Darene Honeycutt, 3rd Vice President of the Garden Club of North Carolina as well as Youth-Children Gardens/School Gardens Chair for SAR. Darene position as 3rd VP in GCNC is to oversee all the youth clubs through out North Carolina. She is working with schools, after school programs, scouts, etc. to give the youth a insight in to what it means to be a gardener. Because a lot of adult clubs are facing a decline in membership, we must look to these young people to be the future of our organization. Darene has a lot of wonderful and new ideas in how this can be accomplished. So she does not feel rushed, she will be given an hour or more to present this workshop.

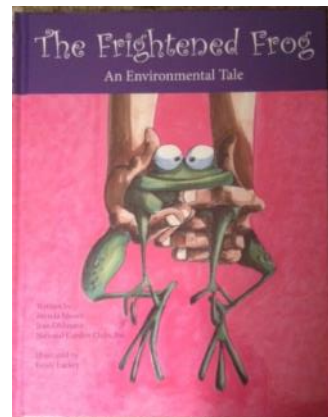
National Garden Clubs, Inc.



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.



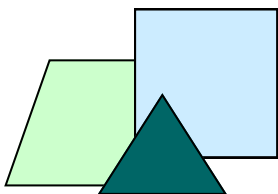
2018 Vision of Beauty Calendars ATTENTION: DESIGNERS

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

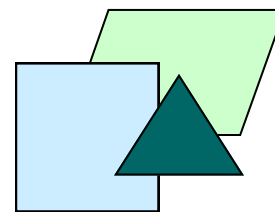
The 2018 entry form and rules are on the NGC website: www.gardenclub.org. Select forms at the top of the page; then the VOB tab.

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

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!



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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 has recently been mailed to us.. It is also 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.

Of particular interest in this issue are the descriptions of the speakers and programs, as well as all of the extra tours and trips planned. These are too numerous to list here, but you will find them hard to resist based on the descriptions.

The registration form is also in *The National Gardener*. We hope to see lots of our South Atlantic Region members there to have fun, meet new people, learn from each other, and support our own Sandy Robinson as she presides over this convention.

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

Odds 'N' Ends

Directory Changes:

President, Garden Club of North Carolina (page 13)

Gail Hill, 5512 Seven Gates Dr., Greensboro NC 27410, 336-292-8007bgthill_gail@aol.com

Youth: Children's Gardens/School Gardens (Page 20)

Darene Honeycutt, 167 Hudson town Rd, Dunn NC 28334, 910-567-6283, honeycuttdarene@gmail.com

Sympathy to Karen Prewitt on the recent death of her mother.

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 _____
Adress _____
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

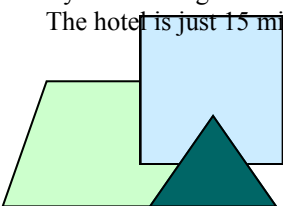
The afternoon workshops are still in the making. Please refer to the January Key Notes for all the details pertaining to these work-shops.

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.

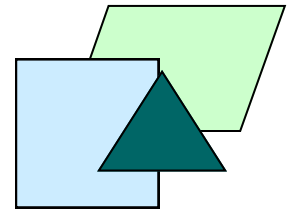
Travel Information

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.



Key Notes January 2016
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The South Atlantic Region Member States



Blue Star Memorial Dedication presented by the Emerald Isle Garden Club. Representing NGC, SAR Director Sarah Ann Parler thanked the Emerald Isle Garden Club for honoring our Armed Forces on Veterans Day by erecting a Blue Star Marker. She read a declaration from the NGC Blue Star Memorial Chairman. We were delighted to have the 3rd VP of the Garden Club of NC, Darene Honeycutt, the GCNC Blue Star Memorial Chairman, Paula Hartman and other District 11 garden club members. The event was most appropriately held on the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11 hour here in Emerald Isle, NC. The highway marker beside Hwy 58 was surrounded by colorful pansies and had a memorial wreath beside it. An estimated crowd of 250 citizens joined in the festivities. A community band played patriotic songs as the crowd was gathering and the boy scouts handed out flags and thank you notes, made by local school students, to the Veterans. Blue star lanterns hung from the trees and a large blue lighted star was on the porch of the Welcome Center, where the reception was held. All the armed forces branches were represented in the program. The color guard was from the local US Marine base. The history of the Blue Star Memorial was read as was a poem about our flag. The tribute to the men and women who have served, are serving and will serve was made by our local US Coast Guard commander who used his crew to display each of the flags of the Armed Forces as a local musician sang their song. The local blue star memorial chairman gave a presentation honoring all those in attendance. The local Navy chaplain gave the dedication of the flowers. The SAR Director, Sarah Parler, read the letter from the National Garden Club Blue Star Memorial Chairman. The NC Dept. of Transportation accepted the marker. The mayor of Emerald Isle declared the day, Emerald Isle Garden Club Day, to recognize members for all their hard work and dedication. The program ended with a real treat as our youth garden club, The Green Thumbs, sang "God Bless America."



Key Notes *January 2016*
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**Pleased Share This Newsletter With Clubs In Your
State And With Members Of The State Boards
Thank You**