

KEY NOTES



South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

April 2016
Volume 12, Issue 4

“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"

It is my pleasure to serve the South Atlantic Region as your Regional Director along with the Five Presidents from Kentucky, Edith Nelson; North Carolina, Gail Hill; South Carolina, Yvonne Morris; Virginia, Janice Clem and West Virginia, Judy Guye. They provide us with a host of very qualified Officers and Chairmen that represent their states as they serve on the South Atlantic Region Board.

Our Former SAR Directors have provided excellent leadership for Fifty-three years and set the Standard for this Director.

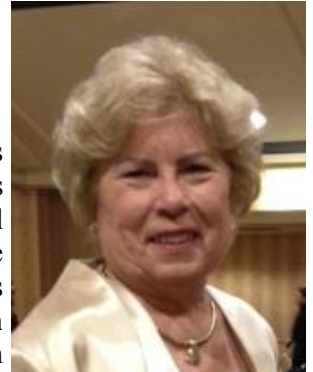
We are one of the eight Regions in the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and have some difficult internal issues to resolve during this term. I feel we are blessed to have very qualified members in our Region that will be very protective of our Members and will guide our decisions with careful thought. You can be assured that the very best interest of our members is what will be kept at the forefront of any decisions that are made.

Your Director is excited about visiting four of our SAR States during the month of April. I will be returning to North Carolina on April 17-19 where the Garden Club of North Carolina will be hosting their GCNC State Convention in Durham, NC. I'll be leaving there for Kentucky and their State Convention on April 19-21 at General Butler State Resort Park near Carrollton, Kentucky.

The next week on April 25-27 I'll be with the Virginia Federation Garden Club in Lynchburg, VA at their State Garden Club Convention. I leave there to be in Columbia, SC, with the Garden Club of South Carolina from April 27-29 for South Carolina.

We are all excited to be traveling to our National Garden Club, Inc. Convention being held in Grand Rapids, Michigan on May 2-7, 2016 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.

Many thanks to the Garden Club of North Carolina and all of their talented members for hosting a beautiful and enjoyable South Atlantic Region Convention on March 13-15, 2016 at The Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown Hotel in Raleigh, North Carolina. We enjoyed wonderful speakers, exceptional accommodations and the wonderful fellowship with all of the South Atlantic Region members. It was my pleasure to work with the Garden Club of North Carolina members, President Gail Hill, the Convention Chairman Ginny Parker and Co-Chairman, Susan Hooper. Thank you for an exceptional SAR Convention.



Sarah Ann Parler

State Presidents' Themes and Reports



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

Kentucky's Mission Statement Is:

To Provide Education, Resources and Networking Opportunities for its members and Promote the Love of Gardening, Floral Design, Civic and Environmental Responsibility.

Like most of you, my reason for joining a garden club is my love of gardening and the desire to learn more about plants and their care. As state president, my interest lies in involving the youth in gardening. Our members are working to establish youth garden clubs within the libraries by providing educational hands-on programs and information on Native Pollinator Conservation. We choose activities that create a sense of enjoyment and accomplishment. It has been noted that when children are anxious or depressed, gardening gives them a way to release their energy and creativity producing mental benefits as well as physical.

In one Youth Garden Club, the increase of children participating has more than doubled.

In November, 56 children made Christmas decorations from flowers and leaves that club members had previously dried. They made snow covered pinecones by using watered down glue and rolling the pinecones in Epsom salt. Teaching children how to use natural elements in a creative way, was the goal of this event. I was very pleased to accept 7 awards for youth related projects at our SAR Convention in Raleigh, NC. Our members are making a difference in youth education.

Kentucky now has 324 certified Way stations and more being planned for 2016. Our members are providing milkweed and

native seeds for students to plant in their gardens. We know that increasing the number of pollinator-friendly gardens will help in their survival. We are continuing our work with the Kentucky Park system. This year GCKY and the Kentucky Parks Department will host two Butterfly and Native plant weekends at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park in August and Jenny Willey State Resort Park in September. Workshops on native trees and shrubs, pollinator gardens, monarch way stations and an overview of beekeeping will be offered according to State Parks Chair, Joanna Kirby.

The Garden Club of Kentucky and Middlesboro Garden Club hosted Flower Show School Course I in November. Course II was completed just a few days ago.

You are invited to join us at our Annual State Convention April 19-21 at General Butler State Resort Park, Carrollton, Ky. We are sponsoring a Photo Contest “Gardening for Pollinators” with three categories;

1. Pollinator Gardens- All Season
2. The 3 B's - Bees, Birds and Butterflies
3. Gardening with the Youth

Photos will be displayed for all to enjoy during the convention with awards presented the last day. The members of the garden Club of Kentucky are supporting our mission statement with their varied projects and programs while embracing youth gardening education.

Happy Gardening

Edith S. Nelson

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



The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. is experiencing growing pains, just as are most other states. Our membership totals are slowly going downward as we strive to put more life into them. Our membership is probably right under 6,000 members. Our membership lists were sent out in February and are due back in by March 31. Pamphlets were handed out at our District Meetings in the fall on “Be Proactive about Membership” and

“Grow Your World by Joining a Garden Club” as well as being put on our website along with Brenda Moore's power point presentation program.

Our Youth Garden Clubs total 33 clubs with 777 members. Our Youth Award Chairman, Darene Honeycutt, is hard at work working on enticing new Youth Garden Clubs.

Our Blue Star Memorial Program continues to grow as we continue to add Blue Star Memorial Markers state-wide.

(Continued on page 3)

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www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

State Presidents' Themes and Reports (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

Our clubs and members are answering the "Million Pollinator Garden Challenge", with our directors encouraging their members to sign up and to participate in this worthwhile program.

Our Annual meeting will be April 17-19 in Durham with the theme "Un-Frozen".

Our scholarships program continues to strive with \$24,500.00 in scholarships given between seven applicants. Each applicant receives \$3500.00 for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Our club members continue to support their communities and neighborhoods by channeling their efforts through health organizations, hospice and palliative care, gardens, libraries, town halls, civic organizations, schools and many other opportunities. These gals and guys are out there working and learning ways to enhance the beauty of their surroundings

and moving forward to make things happen from the mountains to the sea.

Our association with the NCDOT and their wildflower program is a testament to the beautiful highways throughout our state. The Department of Transportation is working with us to plant more pollinator friendly flowers and cut back on pesticides to help bring back our pollinators is also a testimony of our working together.

We have six designers who are taking part in Art in Bloom at the NC Museum of Art in in April. Some of these designers have displayed before and it's a special opportunity and an honor to be recognized as designers for an event that attracts over 10,000 people. We are very proud of our designers and wish them well in this endeavor.

Gail Hill

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



GCSC Springs into Action!

The Garden Club of South Carolina is springing into action! After enjoying a restful but busy winter, GCSC's plans are springing into action!

On February 1st, we announced the **2016 SC Native Plant of the Year**, *Campsis radicans*, or the trumpet creeper vine. The plant was nominated by the Fairforest Garden Club near Spartanburg. A panel of botanical experts selected the plant from 17 nomination applications submitted from garden clubs across the state. Please visit our website at www.gardenclubofsc.org to learn more about this plant as well as the two honorable mentions.

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 due to open on April 8th. 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. A dedication ceremony is planned for April 27, 2016 in conjunction with our **Annual Membership Meeting** on April 28th at the Riverbanks Botanical Building. Au-

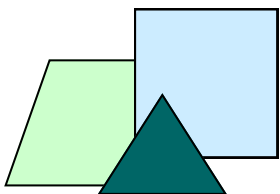
thor Douglas Tallamy will be our guest speaker and SAR Director Sarah Ann Parler will be our guest of honor.

Our April 9th **Youth Symposium** chaired by Jackie Weinzierl will be held at the Riverbanks Zoo and Garden. GCSC and SAR youth awards will be presented to our winners by GCSC State Youth Awards Chair Linda Howle. Over 150 winners and their families are expected to attend.

Plans are also underway for our **Summer Expo** on July 16th at the State Farmers' Market in Columbia. GCSC Third Vice President Trish Bender and GCSC board member Wayne Deal are co-chairs for this event. Also, plans for the **October 7-9 South Carolina Native Plant Symposium** to be held at the **South Carolina Botanical Garden in Clemson** are in progress. This Native Plant Symposium is the first ever to be co-sponsored 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 400 people expected to attend.

The Garden Club of South Carolina is growing, as we expect to add three more affiliate member organizations this spring and summer.

Yvonne Morris





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

I bring you greetings from the 5,036 members of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs who have enthusiastically embraced the theme for the 2015-2017 administration "Making Connections to Shape the Future."

We are focusing on four special projects, the first of which is promoting the planting of Monarch Way Stations to provide havens of milkweed and nectar plants to help monarchs survive and thrive. We are pleased to support this NGC project and are making this connection to nature a priority in our personal and public gardens. In addition, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is on board with this project and has planted Monarch Way Stations and plans are under way for future plantings.

VFGC's successful Plant Together Community Garden Project encourages our gardens clubs to connect with other groups such as Scouts, youth groups, veterans, Master Gardeners and other groups to work together on projects to improve our local communities. From refurbishing gardens, planting new landscapes, beautifying housing developments, planting vegetables with students and many other worthwhile projects, VFGC members are making connections to improve our communities.

Planting Trees for Tomorrow is a two-fold program, the first part of which provides recognition to clubs that plant trees. The second part is called the Living Legacy Tree Planting

Project. This project has the goal of creating a National living Memorial for the Civil War fallen by planting 620,000 trees, one for every soldier who fell during the War Between the States. The project was launched and is overseen by the non-profit organization Journey Through Hallowed Grounds. The trees will be planted from Monticello to Gettysburg along the 180 mile Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Scenic Byway. The project seeks to remember and honor soldiers – both black and white as well as Union and Confederate – who made the ultimate sacrifice of their life.

VFGC plans to have a tree planting ceremony and dedication before the end of this administration and we are raising funds towards this goal through donations to "Green Gloves for Planting Trees."

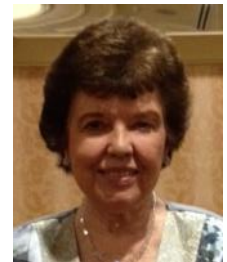
Increasing membership is a challenge and concern for all volunteer organizations. This is an area where we each need to work harder to make connections with prospective members. VFGC members have been challenged to participate in our Plus One Membership campaign by bringing in at least one new member to the club. The club president annual reports show that many clubs are adding new members and tips are being given for ways to attract new members.

This president is looking forward to attending the six district spring meetings and to VFGC's annual convention April 25-27 in Lynchburg where SAR Director, Sarah Ann Parler, will be our honored guest.

Janice M. Clem

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

The theme for West Virginia Garden Club is "Plant The Seeds And Grow With Us". I was delighted to have attended two Garden Club anniversaries this fall. Quiet Dell Garden Club celebrated their 50th Anniversary with three founding members present. 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 in Huntington celebrated their 75th Anniversary. Sandy Robinson, NGC President attended from Kentucky and presented a certificate of Proclamation from National Garden Club. It is always amazing to hear about the club projects over the years and realize the impact they have had in our communities.



I attended the NGC Fall Board meeting in St. Louis and attended 7 of the 9 WVGC District meetings this fall. I had the WVGC Fall Board meeting in Elkins, WV, where we were treated to special recognition at the American Mountain Theater show.

I am emphasizing the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge campaign and saving the amphibians in WVGC, and continue to emphasize membership, as we see our membership declining. Our WVGC Convention will be April 1-3 at Stonewall Resort. We will have Landscape School Design May 18-20 in Morgantown and Flower Show School April 20-22 in Huntington. I invite you to the SAR 2017 Convention at The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, March 26-28, 2017 for "Southern Charm and Hospitality", hosted by WVGC.

Judy Guye

Chairman Reports

ARBOR DAY

Geneva Hunt

Did any of your garden clubs do anything special to celebrate Arbor Day this 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.

AWARDS

Judy Ann Fray

The competition for the first year of an administration was excellent, with many club applications coming to the Region for awarding work of garden clubs in our five states.

The uniqueness of projects continues to amaze this chairman. Yearbook competition was keen, with many entries. Arbor Day observance is especially important to our Region. Garden Club participation in Litter Prevention / Recycling, Vision of Beauty Calendar Sales, and Flower Show Schedules had the smallest number of entries. We expect that to GROW this year.



See the list of winners on page 14-15.

BIRDS

Betty Gorrie

IT'S HUMMER TIME! Some have already arrived in the warmer areas and some will be arriving soon. They are extremely loyal to feeding sites and will return to the same feeder every year. The key to attracting them is to provide food, nesting materials and water (mistifiers). A short list of the nectar flowers that they love are: Bee Balm, Cardinal flower, Pineapple Sage, Red Hot Poker, Fuchsia, and Trumpet Honeysuckle. Along with the flowers, many of us hang Hummingbird feeders. Two Golden Rules to remember: Keep the Feeder clean and the nectar fresh. A few "Hummer" facts: beat their wings 50 – 70 times per second; tongue has grooves on sides to help catch insects; breaths while resting – 250 per minute; about 1500 Feathers; can't fly until their body temperature reaches 68 degrees; Heart rate is eight times faster than that of a human; they do not migrate in flocks, they fly alone. DO YOU KNOW ONE OF THE MOST LETHAL AND RUTHLESS PREDATORS OF THE HUMMINGBIRD? HINT, IT IS NOT A CAT! The answer will be in the next SAR Newsletter.

CONTAINER GARDENING

Helen Heater

"One Container" for your patio or entry way "for all Seasons." Begin by choosing a nice large pedestal urn. This type of urn implies grace and elegance. I would suggest it be at least 20 to 24 inches tall and a minimum of 12 to 14 inches across to start. This approximate size is great without taking up a large space and it still will be quite showy. You could always go larger depending on your allotted space.

Next, most of us love English Ivy but it can be an aggressive grower. So, the best way to contain it, is to plant it in a container. Start by planting a row of ivy around the outer perimeter of the urn, planting them a few inches apart. As the ivy grows it will fill in nicely, making a full outer edge to the planter.

Starting with "Spring" fill in the center with a lovely pot of colorful pansies. They will keep blooming right up to the heat of summer. You may have to clip or pinch off the dead blooms to keep them from re-seeding and to ensure a bounty of blooms.

"Summer" awaits and it is now time you may want to change the center. Replace the pansies and transplant them in your perennial garden. Now, fill the center of your urn with a beautiful miniature rose. Ivy and roses make a traditional romantic match. Fertilize and deadhead often.

"Fall" is next and Mums can always provide magnificent fall colors and blooms. Remove the miniature rose and transplant it in a protected area of your perennial garden. It will likely survive winter in most cases and you can enjoy it for another bloom season. Replace the center now with your colorful mums and add a small plant of purple kale for an added touch of color. Place a couple of miniature pumpkins or gourds around to accent various fall colors.

"Winter" can be represented by replacing the mums with a small Arborvitae or Alberta Spruce in the center. Add a couple of large pine cones or plastic ornaments around the bottom of the plant and add a small string of lights for that added sparkle.

"Waalaa" you are ready the Holiday season.

When the snow flies "if you have snow" (??) place the whole urn with ivy, arborvitae or the spruce in a protected area and it should be okay until spring again when they can now be transplanted out in your gardens. Note: To be safe place the planter in your garage if temperatures should fall below freezing for an extended time.

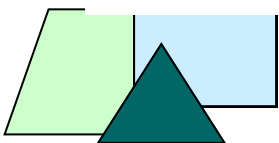
Just remember!!! Each time you move or transplant, please reward your plants with a bit of fertilizer and water and deadhead when necessary to encourage new growth.

Yes, this seems like extra steps or changes to accommodate each season but it is rewarding, fun, and you have unique planters.

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ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Karen Prewitt

Grassroots Green

A couple of weeks ago I was asked to do a program for a local garden club and their program chairman asked that my topic be about renewable resources. It is one thing to 'talk' about renewable resources, but I've discovered that garden club members prefer tactile objects that they can hold in their hands and pass around, rather than have some image projected up on a wall.

I decided that I would see how many products I could find that were crafted from renewable resources and available locally. I confess it was a bit of a challenge at first, but when I started thinking creatively I discovered that quite a few stores carried products made from recycled or renewable materials that are beautiful as well as useful.

Since my day job has been that of interior designer for the last forty plus years, I began my search by looking for building materials and decorative objects. Most of today's decorating magazines are filled with photos of kitchen center islands of granite about the size of the flight deck on an aircraft carrier. We are using up our natural resources at an incredible rate and even flaunting them in ways that defy good judgment. I know this is counter-intuitive to my design profession, but one of my particular concerns as your environmental education chairman, is the millions of lineal feet of granite and marble that are being sold each year. When you purchased your countertops did you take five minutes to consider where that granite or marble came from?

Did you visualize that blown away mountainside in Brazil, or Italy, or Montana that is now a cavernous hole in the ground without a single tree for a bird, or any undergrowth for natural habitats- nor will there *ever* be any again on that mountain. The good news is that there are alternatives for beautiful countertops that don't leave the earth permanently damaged. A local company makes countertops out of tumbled sea glass and oyster shell

fragments that are every bit as beautiful as granite! Their countertops can be cut with bull nosed or ogee edges just like stone. They also have a wide variety of other options using glass salvaged from wine and beer bottles as well as crushed clear glass insulin bottles from hospitals. Beautiful recycled glass tiles are also available for backsplashes and bathrooms.

Williams-Sonoma and Pottery Barn as well as other big box home/kitchen stores sell tumblers and wine glasses and decorative vases crafted from recycled glass, as well as cutting boards from recycled olive wood and bamboo. Speaking of bamboo, have you looked at the *new* bamboo flooring choices? Some are stained dark to look like mahogany or cherry and are truly gorgeous!

I discovered super soft sheets from eucalyptus and soy products [Tencel] and fluffy absorbent towels and bathrobes made from bamboo during a trip to the linen store.

Floors of cork are coming back in style and they can be dyed in a variety of surprising colors. This is a great floor for children's rooms because it is resilient, naturally hypo-allergenic and anti-microbial. Cork is sustainable and the tree bark grows back in three years. Another floor option is a product called Marmoleum. This product is created from wood flour and pressed linseed oil. It is pliable, available in a wide variety of colors, textures and borders, and is perfect for playrooms kitchens and sunrooms. It is also biodegradable at the end of its lifecycle.

A company from Oxford England called 'Lush' has created a line of cosmetics and soaps using almost no water and minimal packaging.

I also discovered that the singer Pharrell Williams has created a company that makes blue jeans and other clothing out of plastics salvaged from the ocean. The more I explored the more new products I found! Maybe your next garden club meeting should be a girl's afternoon shopping expedition to see what renewable resources *you* can find! Keep me posted on your discoveries.

GARDEN STUDY SCHOOLS

Jo Jean Scott

As gardeners, we are always searching for ways to make our gardening efforts more effective. We listen and read and share ideas, tips and intelligence gleaned, with gardening friends. In National Garden Clubs, we enjoy Gardening Study Schools and Councils which bring us together as students of Mother Earth.

If your state garden club lacks a Gardening Study Chairman, encourage this space be filled. If your state garden club would benefit from a Gardening Study School series of Courses, then start a movement! Soon your state organization will have a Council of Gardening Study Consultants. Gardening interest, enthusiasm and membership will grow along with the plants you are nurturing.

Gardening Study provides gardening answers and provokes gardening enthusiasm among all garden club members. Learning the correct way to plant and to prune brings joy to every gardener's heart. These words from Tracey Williams of Greensleeves Design: Plant densely and with the intention of covering most, if not all, of your soil. This density prevents weed infiltration into the gaps in the plantings, requires less mulch and other inputs, shades the soil, and prevents compaction from foot traffic and driving rain. (TNG, Winter 2016) Also to note, if the plants are blooming plants, it sure makes a beautiful show!

Chairman Reports (continued)

INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL DISASTER

Anna J. Meyers

INTERNATIONAL

FLOOD OF THE CENTURY SOAKS CHENNAI, INDIA

Weeks of torrential rains caused the worst flooding the southern India city has seen in 100 years. The residents in the capital city of Tamil Nadu state were seen carrying belongings above their heads, walking through the streets chest-deep in flood waters, while entire riverside settlements were washed away. At least 379 people died, including 54 in neighboring Andhra Pradesh state, where the floods also destroyed 100,000 acres of crops worth \$190 million.

MASSIVE EARTHQUAKE DEVASTATES NEPAL

A magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck Nepal in April 2015 killing more than 8,800 people. It damaged or destroyed 900,000 buildings, created avalanches in the Himalayas, and left almost one million children out of school. Major aftershocks, including a magnitude 7.3 tremor three weeks later, slowed recovery efforts and added to the devastation. This was the deadliest disaster on record for the nation of 26 million people.

DROUGHT WORSENS FOOD SECURITY FOR MILLIONS IN ETHIOPIA

Below average rainfall over several planting seasons has caused crop failures and death of large numbers of livestock in Ethiopia devastating the livelihoods of farmers. Ethiopia's government estimated in October that 8.2 million people need food assistance and predicted the numbers will increase in coming months. As many as 350,000 children are already suffering from severe malnutrition. Another 700,000 moderately malnourished children and pregnant and breastfeeding mothers need supplemental nutrition now into 2016.

MALAWI AND MOZAMBIQUE REEL FROM MASSIVE FLOODS

Above normal rainfall in January led to catastrophic flooding throughout Malawi and Mozambique forcing hundreds of thousands of people out of their homes and killing at least 200. Many more families lost crops and livestock. Roads, bridges and water systems were damaged or destroyed. The situation is heartbreaking. These people lack food, shelter and water.

TYPHOON KOMEN, MONSOON RAINS INUNDATE MYANMAR, BANGLADESH, INDIA

Typhoon Komen blazed through the Bay of Bengal over the summer killing hundreds of people in Myanmar, Bangladesh and India and lashing the region with monsoon rains. The ensuing widespread floods and landslides affected millions after destroying homes, crops and roads. In hard hit Myanmar, where 12 of 14 states were affected, 117 people died and nearly 400,000 people were displaced.

HEAT WAVE HITS SOUTHERN INDIA

The floods came on the heels of one of India's longest heat waves in years, which claimed 2000 lives. Temperatures climbed to as high as 118 degrees in the worst affected areas of Telangana.

NATIONAL

March 5: Snowstorm in Boston, MA (Bringing total snowfall to 108.6 inches for the season)

April 4: Tornado in Pomona, CA

April 10: Tornado in Illinois

April 16: Windstorm in Salt Lake City

April 22: Tornado in Southern California desert

April 24: Tornado in West Oahu, Hawaii

May 7: Flash flood emergency in Oklahoma City metro area

May 11: Tornado in Delmont, SD (nine injured)

May 12: Tornadoes in Texas and Arkansas (5 died)

June 4: Wildfire in Douglas

July 17: Tornado in far west Illinois

August 7: Tornado in southeast Alabama

September 16: Emergency declared for wildfire in Washington state

October 4: State of emergency in South Carolina (A weather system connected to hurricane Joaquin causing massive flooding)

November 2: Flooding in Texas (8 dead)

November 6: Earthquake swarm at Yellowstone National Park

November 19: Storms in Washington state (3 dead 185,000 homes without power)

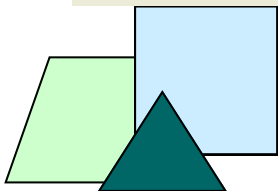
December 22: Avalanche in southern Montana

December 27: Tornado in Garland, Texas (26 dead)

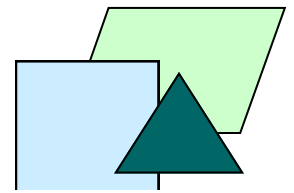
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Chairman Reports (continued)



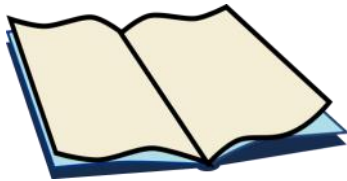
NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

Mary H. Dixon

National Garden Week will be celebrated June 5 - 11, 2016. What a wonderful time to do a project together and let the community know you are there to make things better.

Put flowers in a Library, City Office, Welcome Center or other place you might want to honor and let them know garden clubs are busy people.

Have a wonderful spring and make National Garden Week a special time for your members to work together.



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.

It seems that everyone is having a hard time getting publicity for their clubs. This might be one award that should be dropped. What do you think? We only had ten applicants from four states.



RAIN GARDENS / ORGANIC GARDENS

Lea Ann Terrell

When I was asked to be the Rain Gardens / Organic Gardens Chairman I eagerly agreed. I grew up in a time when, if you were asked to help out, you did. I have to admit I know very little on the subjects because I have not had the opportunity to actually plan and plant a garden, although I love the idea of doing it. I have recently bought a house with a nice yard, a blank canvas, so I am excited to actually plan my first garden. The internet is a wonderful thing, you type in a word or two under search and amazingly thousands of results pop up. I do not have the time or patience to read all 13,500,000 results for Rain Gardens but I have found a couple sites that were very helpful and I would like to share them with you.

[Rain Gardens: A How-to Manual for Homeowners](#) [doee.dc.gov/.../attachments/RaingardenHow2HomeownerUWExtension.pdf](#)

I like this guide because it has a lot of information from what a rain garden is, how to plan it, how to actually install it, and more.

[Rain Garden Design Templates - What is a rain garden?](#)

[www.lowimpactdevelopment.org/raingarden_design/whatisaraingarden.htm](#)

This site has templates to help you design your rain garden with specific attention to regions such as mountains, plains, and coastal areas.

The list goes on and on but I plan to start with these two web sites. I hope the links come through so you can just click on them, if not copy and paste or type the titles in your browser and they should come up.

I can't wait for spring and to get started gardening. I will keep you updated and explore Organic Gardening in my next report.



ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION

Norma Miller

The theme of the 2016 SAR Convention “North Carolina Beauty” was certainly evident along the Route 95 corridor, both in North Carolina and South Carolina. The Bradford Pear Trees (*Pyrus calleryana*) are in full bloom. They are so well suited to roadside beautification as they have a tremendous tolerance of heat, drought, and compacted soils, what better selection for roadside beautification, Route 95.

Although not in bloom yet, the highways in North Carolina are noted for their beautiful wildflowers this beautification project is done in corroboration with the garden clubs and the department of transportation. Quite a few of the intersection have been landscaped and add greatly to the appearance of Route 95.

THE CORRIE WHITLOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FROM SAR

Marsha Alexander

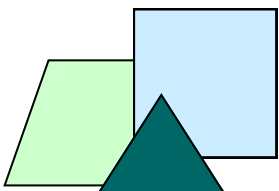
Scholarships are an important way to secure our future goals as Garden Club Members. I was so pleased to receive five Scholarship applications, one from each State in the SAR. A committee of Garden Club Members reviewed and helped judge each application. We were impressed with all of the applicants. The following Scale of Points is used to evaluate each application:

Academic Record	40%
Applicant's Letter/	30%
Listing of Honors/ Extracurricular Activities	
Work Experience	10%
Financial Need	15%
Recommendations (Letters)	5%

The following winners were chosen for The Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarships and will each receive \$2000:

Julia Fregonara of Elkins, West Virginia was submitted by The West Virginia Garden Club. Julia is a Junior at the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, majoring in Biology with a 3.7 average. She states in her letter that she has a passion for reptiles and amphibians. Her goal is to go to Graduate School and receive a Degree in Wildlife Management. Since 2011, Julia has been active with The Master Naturalist program. She also helped create interpretive Nature signs for a trail at Glendale Park, outlining the plant and animal species at the Park, as well as the importance of wetlands and park history. She also gives Educational and outreach talks to School Groups and Clubs. Recently, she spoke to a local Garden Club on the importance of amphibians. She hopes to continue sharing her love and interests to help people in her community, as well as the environment.

Stacey Bradshaw of Emporia, Virginia was submitted by The Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs. Stacey is a Junior at Virginia State University majoring in Agriculture: Plant and Soil Science with a 4.0 average in her Major. She is 48 years old and received an Associate's Degree in Business in Georgia 28 years ago. In 1995, she moved to Virginia and began working for a Local Soil and Water Conservation District for twenty years. Last year, her husband presented an opportunity for Stacey to quit her job and fulfill her dream of earning a Degree. She returned to College in the Spring of 2015. After receiving a Degree, Stacey hopes to work for the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service. Her focus is on Plant and Soil Science, because she believes that soil health is extremely important to agriculture and horticulture, as well as sustaining life in the future.



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

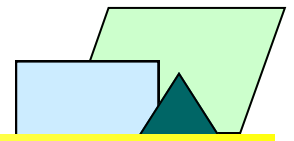
State Award: \$50 and certificate Donor—Sarah Ann Parler
 To the state with the highest number of
 SAR special projects award applications received

Deadline to Regional SAR Special Projects Chairman:

January 11, 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

POLYGONATUM

Happy First Day of SPRING from South Carolina! One of my Favorite Native Plants is Polygonatum 'Solomon Seals' and the Legend of this beautiful plant is of the magical signet ring that King Solomon received from Heaven. The base of this seal was on the ground and the tip reached to heaven! It is common to Judaism, to Christianity and to Islam. The Seal symbolized a harmony of opposites! The Seal also symbolized super-wisdom ruled by divine grace.

In 2010 the U.S. Department of Agriculture(Natural Resources Conservation Service) found that Solomon Seals had Medicinal and Restorative Value among North American Tribal Peoples.

Solomon's Seal is a very hardy plant. It prefers a light soil and a shady situation, being a native of woods. This lovely plant likes to be in the open and multiplies from the root stock. It will be better for occasional liberal dressings of leaf mold, or an annual top dressing of decayed manure in March. .

YOUTH – CHILDREN’S GARDENS/SCHOOL GARDENS

Darene Honeycutt

Garden club members of the SAR met in Raleigh, NC on Sunday, March 13, 2016 for a youth garden club workshop. Members had an opportunity to network and share information from their states. The workshop was conducted by Darene Fann Honeycutt, 3rd Vice President and Youth Chair for The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.

Kentucky’s President, Edith Nelson and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. president, Sandra Robinson and Ann Fiel reported that every public library and school in their district received a copy of The Frightened Frog. Monarch Way Stations are very popular as well as Fairy Gardens. Youth clubs assisted the parks in planting trees in the city. Ms. Nelson is offering mini-grants to assist new garden clubs.

Virginia had nine members attending the workshop. Butterfly gardens are also popular in their state. They host Nature Camp Scholarships, Youth Grants, and work with their four junior garden clubs.

South Carolina had eight members reporting that butterfly gardens are also one of their most popular gardens for youth in addition to vegetable gardens. The SC youth also study about natural habitats. Garden therapy projects are also part of their program.

Sixteen North Carolina garden club members reported that they currently have ten school gardens, two gardens at daycare centers, three afterschool gardens, and private gardens for neighborhood and homeschool clubs. Pollinator gardens are very popular in NC as Bayer Corporation and the NC DOT support the youth garden program by donating seed packets and resources for the clubs.

West Virginia reported that the basketball game delayed their members from arriving on time for the workshop so there is no garden report for their state.

*All states are encouraged to send news about their state youth gardens to Darene F. Honeycutt at 167 Hudson town Road, Dunn, NC 28334 for future reports.



YOUTH SCULPTURE

Trish Bender

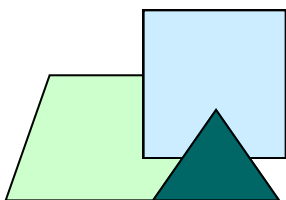
Below are photos of some of the Youth Sculptures. Encourage the clubs in your area to work with youth to put together sculptures made from recycled materials. Then enter those in next year's contest.



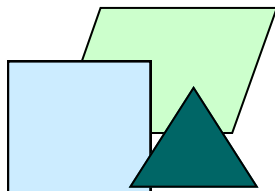
YOUTH – SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTERS

Barbara Ohmsen

This is still a popular award! Of the five states in the region – all five sent in posters. Clubs contacted 2,543 children and received 1,791 posters. The judging was hard, as it is every year. However, don't give up on this! Plan on contacting schools in the early fall – start with Art Teachers, if possible! Don't wait until December! Of the five states, only 17 clubs participated. That is NOT GOOD!!!! State chairmen – get to work in contacting all your clubs!!!!



SAR Convention 2016



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



This year the meeting was held March 13-15, 2016 at the North Raleigh Hilton/Midtown. Among the speakers this year were Bryce Lane (“Gardening in North Carolina: From the Mountains to the Coast”); Carl Curnutte (“Flourishing Gardens”); Don Lee (“North Carolina Wildflower Program”); Darene Honeycutt (“Sowing Seeds For Future Generations”); and Dr. Johnny Randall (“Go Native With The NC Botanical Garden”). We heard reports from the five state presidents as they shared the activities taking place in their states. And we heard reports from NGC given by our own Sandra Robinson, 2015-2017 National Garden Clubs President. And, as always, we enjoyed seeing some of our longtime friends again. We were invited by Judy Guye to attend the 2017 SAR Convention at the Greenbrier Hotel in White Sulphur Springs WV next March 25-28, 2017.



NGC President Sandra Robinson and SAR Director Sarah Ann Parler



Darene Honeycutt



Don Lee



Some of the Attendees

SAR Convention (continued)



Memorial Service
Emily Stephens (left)

Right:
Sarah Ann Parler
And State
Presidents



Carl
Carnutte



Bryce Lane



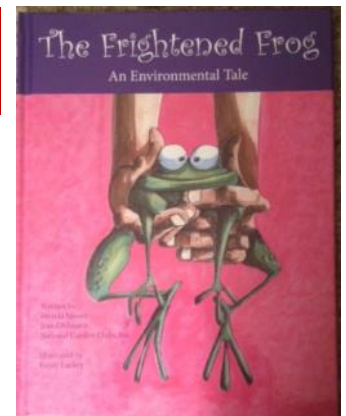
National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Sandy Robinson
2015-2017 NGC President

Theme:
"Leap Into Action"

**The 2016 NGC Convention is 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!

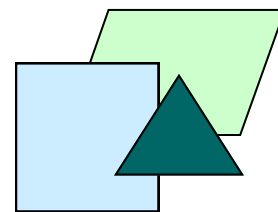
A report from the NGC Convention will be in the July Key Notes.

Key Notes

April 2016

www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

Odds 'N' Ends



Directory Changes:

Yearbook changes: Susan Hooper 8501 Greencastle Drive; **Charlotte, NC 28210** E-Mail: susanhopper@att.net tel: 704-552-5673

The GCNC Flower Show Symposium.

August 21, 22 & 23, 2016, at the Twin City Quarters, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Sponsored by The Garden Club of North Carolina and the Winston-Salem/West Piedmont Judges Council.

Horticulture Instructor - Darlene Newell; Design Instructor - Claudia Bates

Joyce Adams – Chairman, 336-924-8881, jadams4207@triad.rr.com

Awards List

[All awards are \$25 EXCEPT as noted.]

#1: ARBOR DAY / TREES—Donor: Geneva Hunt

Medium Club: Azalea G. Club of Marion, SC
Large Club: Flowertown G. Club, Summerville, SC
Ex-Large Club: Salisbury G Club, Midlothian, VA
Overall Winner: Yaupon Garden Club, N. Myrtle Beach, SC

#2. BIRD PROTECTION—Donor: Betty Gorrie

Oxford Garden Club, Richmond, VA

#3. PROTECTING OUR POLLINATORS—Donors: Joanna Kirby & Emily Stephens

(A tie) Boiling Spring Lakes Garden Club, Southport, NC
Berkeley Hills Garden Club, Hanahan, SC

#4. COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION / LANDSCAPE DESIGN—Donor: June Ashworth

Medium Club: Clarice Wilson G Club, Greenville, SC
Large Club: Chesapeake Bay G Club, Reedville, VA
Overall Winner: Hilliard Park Garden Club, Mechanicsville, VA

#5. ENVIRONMENTAL / CONSERVATION—Donor: Karen Prewitt

Clarice Wilson Garden Club, Greenville, SC

#6. GARDEN THERAPY HEALING GARDEN—Donor: Carolyn McCafferty

Trent Woods Garden Club, New Bern, NC

#7. GARDEN THERAPY HORTICULTURE—Donor: Pat Abercrombie

Small Club: Hilliard Park G Club, Mechanicsville, VA
Large Club: The Avid Gardeners of Hilton Head Island, SC
Overall Winner: Beverly Hills Garden Club, Barboursville, WV

#8. HISTORIC PRESERVATION—Donor: Gail Hill

Small Club: Leaf & Petal G Club, Lancaster, SC
Overall Winner: The Madison Garden Club, Madison, VA

#9. PUBLICATION—CLUB NEWSLETTER—Donor: Mary Sue Floyd

Single Page—Extra Large Club: Lake of the Woods Garden Club, Locust Grove, VA
Medium Club: Monticello G Club, Charlottesville, VA
Multiple Pages—Small Club: Green Meadow Point G Club, Chesapeake VA
Large Club: Chesapeake Bay G Club, Reedville, VA

Ex-Large Club: Salisbury Garden Club, Midlothian, VA
OVERALL Winner: The Madison Garden Club, Madison, VA
#10: NONE

#11: NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK--Donor: Mary Dixon

Small Club: Francis Fauquier G Club, Warrenton, VA
Large Club: Chesapeake Bay G Club, Reedville, VA
EX-Large Club: Lake of the Woods Garden Club, Locust Grove, VA
Overall Winner: Town & Country Garden Club of Wise, VA

#12. PROGRAMS: A—VIDEO / POWER POINT—Donor: Dorothy Richardson

Vickie Stedman, Awards Chairman for WVGC the winner
B – WITHOUT A.V. AIDS- Donor: Anna J. Meyers
Boone County Garden Club, GCKY

#13: PUBLIC RELATIONS—Donor: Judy Guye Swanson

Leaf & Petal Garden Club, Lancaster, SC

#14: ROADSIDE IMPROVEMENT Award—Donor: Norma Miller

Yaupon Garden Club, N. Myrtle Beach, SC
#15: FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE –A—SINGLE CLUB—
Donor: Jean Ohlmann

Salisbury Garden Club, Midlothian, VA for their show, “Celebrating the Arts”
B – 2 OR MORE CLUBS / COUNCIL—Donor: Jerry Shriver
Council of Garden Clubs of Greater Charleston, SC for “Music City—Nashville”, A Double Show lasting a total of 11 days at the Coastal Carolina Fair

#16: None

#17: “PLANT IT PINK”—Donor: Patricia Arndt

The Garden Club of Elizabethtown in KY
#18: VISION OF BEAUTY CALENDAR SALES—Donor: Elaine Thornton

Seasons IV Garden Club, Tazewell, VA

#19: BLUE STAR MEMORIAL LANDSCAPING—Donor: Romanza Johnson

Lake of the Woods Garden Club, Locust Grove, VA
#20: none

#21. WATER CONSERVATION—Donor: Carolyn B. Augustine

Berkeley Hills Garden Club, Hanahan, SC
#22. WEBSITE AWARD –Donor: Emily Stephens
Hilton Head Island Council of Garden Clubs, HH Island, SC
#23. SAR LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD—Donor: Jenene Smith
The Garden Club of North Carolina

Awards List (continued)

#24. SAR CONVENTION REGISTRATION—Donor: Ginny Parker

The Garden Club of South Carolina

#25. YOUTH EDUCATION—Donor: Carolyn Patterson

Boone County Garden Club

#16. Yearbooks (certificates only)

Clubs of 20 and Under members: Green Meadow Point G Club, Chesapeake, VA

21 - 29 Members: Westchester G Club, Roanoke, VA

30 – 44 Members: Phymosia Garden Club, Beckley, WV

45 – 69 Members: Clarice Wilson G Club, Greenville, SC

70 – 99 Members: Chesapeake Bay G Club, Reedville, VA

100 – 299 Members: Salisbury G Club, Midlothian, VA

300 + Members: The Garden Club of Charleston, SC

16 B—Club Council Yearbook:

Garden Club Council of Greater Columbia, SC

16 D—State G Club Yearbook

With Advertisements: The Raleigh Garden Club, Raleigh, NC

Without Advertisements: The Garden Club of Kentucky

#27. PUBLICITY PRESS BOOKS --Certificates only

Small Club: Green Meadow Point G Club, Chesapeake, VA

Medium Club: The Madison G Club, Madison, VA

Large Club: The Garden Club of Danville, KY

Council: Tidewater District Council of Garden Clubs, VA

#28. LITTER / RECYCLING / RECLAMATION—Donor: Phyllis Steele

Green Meadow Point Garden Club, Chesapeake, VA

SPECIAL: MEMBER AWARD OF HONOR: Presented to LINDA STEWART, MEMBER OF CROASDAILE GARDEN CLUB, DURHAM, NC

#29. YOUTH CLUB AWARD—Donor: Lilyan Carlson

Sea Oats Garden Club, sponsor of EcoKids at Riverside Elementary School, N. Myrtle Beach, SC

#30: YOUTH ACTIVITIES AWARD—Donor: Judy Ann Fray

Gold Dusters Jr. Garden Club, sponsored by The Moneta G Club, Moneta, VA

#31. YOUTH POETRY CONTEST—Donors: Susan Throneberry, Edith Nelson & Martha McGuirk

Kindergarten: “Jump Frog Jump” by Jalen Bruce, Varnille Elem. School. Sponsored by: Magnolia Garden Club, Varnville, SC

First Grade: “A Bug Party” by Jeremiah John Caroson, Johnson Elementary, sponsor: Stargazer Garden Club, French Lick, West Virginia

2nd Grade: “Frogs” by Natalie Porth, Calhoun Academy, sponsor: Rose Garden Club of St. Matthews, St. Matthews, SC

3rd Grade: Chorus of Ribbits” by Daniel Crouse, Concord Elem. School. Sponsor: The Perennial Garden Club, Paducah, KY

4th Grade: “Frogs Do” by Avery Danielle Skinner, Alvaton Elem. School. Sponsor: Two Creeks G Club, Alvaton, KY

5th Grade: “Frogs” by Mason Polin, Calhoun Academy. Sponsor: Rose Garden Club of St. Matthews, St. Matthews, SC

6th Grade: “Under Construction” by Ava Brunson, Ashley Hall School. Sponsor: Council of G. Clubs of Greater Charleston, Charleston, SC **OVERALL WINNER**

7th Grade: “Jump Frog Jump” by Emmie Barth, Mead Hall Episcopal School. Sponsor: The Garden Club of Aiken, Aiken, SC

8th Grade: “Eco-Frog” by Jeffery Moore, Simons Middle School. Sponsor: Fleming County G. Club, Flemingsburg, KY

#32. NGC HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST --\$200 FROM SAR: Sabrina Shroades Essay title: “Don’t Let the Frogs Croak”

#33. YOUTH RECYCLED SCULPTURE CONTEST—Donors: Tish Bender & Becky Oliver

4th Grade: Martina Rogers, Rineyville Elementary Sch.; Sponsor: G C of Elizabethtown, KY

5th Grade: Abbey Garvin, Home School. Sponsor: Riverland Terrace G.C, SC

6th Grade: Eli Skoglund –Home School. Sponsor, Riverland Terrace G Club, SC

7th Grade: Cameron Tisdale –Tisdale Academy, Sponsor: Council of GC of Greater Charleston, SC

8th Grade: Amani Dayson—Charleston Collegiate School, Sponsor: Magnolia Garden Club of Johns Island, SC

#34. SMOKEY BEAR / WOODSY OW –Donors: Barbara Ohmsen & Ann Fiel

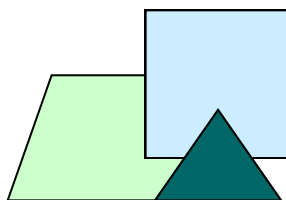
Grade 1: Alex Barton, Sponsored by Thoroughgood Garden Club, VA

Grade 2: Maren Floyd, Thoroughgood Elem. School. Sponsor: Thoroughgood GC, VA

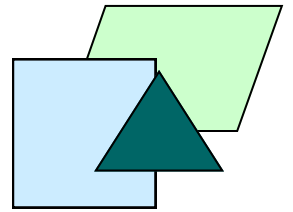
Grade 3: Alissa Rogers, Divide Elem. School. Sponsor: High Country GC, WV

Grade 4: Brady Faris, E. P. Ward Elem. School. Sponsor: Gateway GC, KY

Grade 5: Abigail N. Wohlueter, A. G. Richardson Elem. School. Sponsor: Calfee GC, VA



The South Atlantic Region Member States



Vendors at the SAR 2016 Convention



Key Notes *April 2016*
www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org

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