

# KEY NOTES



South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

October 2016  
Volume 13, Issue 2

“Inspire Conservation Through Education”

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## Key Notes issues

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

The deadlines for the respective issues are:

June 20

September 20

**December 20**

March 20

Please submit your articles by email, if at all possible, to [mfloyd3570@aol.com](mailto:mfloyd3570@aol.com)

Subject: SAR Key Notes

## THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

### "Inspire Conservation Through Education"

The Fall Board Meeting of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. “Rising Tides”, could not have chosen a lovelier location than the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine to host this very important meeting. We were to attend to the business at hand, but were anxious to see the beautiful port and view the Historic Parks/Landmarks, Victoria Mansion and Longfellow House; riding on the cobblestone streets was a unique experience, as well.

Of course, we enjoyed shopping and dining in the excellent “Portland Dine Around” and the creativity of the world-class chefs who have settled in the area. The food was absolutely delicious, and it gave the Region Directors an opportunity to relax, enjoy and share the common goals of making NGC a more viable organization by serving as the mediators between the states and NGC. This is what we have been responsible for since 1937-1939 when the South Atlantic Region's first Director was Mrs. Frederick A. Wallis from Paris, Kentucky.

There was a good representation from all areas of the United States, anxious to be informed about the status of the eight Regions that are now in place. These Directors represent the members from our fifty states and the National Capitol Area.

The Executive Board met early on Thursday morning and, after attending to some business matters, our NGC Parliamentarian Joan H. Corbisiero stated that, **“Our NGC By-laws cannot be changed in so far as anything that relates to our Regional Structure until May 2018. Which means nothing that affects our Regions can be in place until the 2021-2023 Administration. Then it will have to be by a 2/3 majority.”**

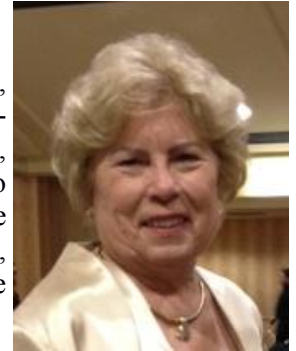
I have been informed by our SAR Treasurer June Ashworth that, on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, the South Atlantic Region Association received a letter from the Internal Revenue Service stating, **“We determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501 (c) (3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 1170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106, 2522.”**

We have been instructed on how to file and the Account Period will end May 31 as in the past.

We want to thank June Ashworth, SAR Finance Chairman and the Appointed Committee that worked together to make this a reality. We will now move forward and encourage prospective members to join our organization.

Prayerfully, by the time this is read by our SAR members in North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and South Carolina, we will have escaped severe damage from the Hurricane “Matthew”. God Bless Each of You.

*Sarah Ann Parler*



## State Presidents' Themes and Reports



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

It was a pleasure to attend the NGC Fall Board Meeting in Portland Maine with 9 other Kentucky members. I enjoyed the land and sea tour of Portland. The lighthouses were beautiful and fascinating. It was an opportunity to spend time with SAR Regional Director, Sarah Ann Parlor and the other four state presidents in the South Atlantic Region to compare notes and share information. Many good ideas come from conversing with other state presidents across our great United States.

Fall is a great time to collect seeds from your pollinator gardens to share with other members. Remember that our National President Sandy Robinson wants us to "Plant for Pollinators" and register your garden to meet the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge. Now is the time to make plans for planting that spring pollinator garden to assist in restoring critical pollinator recovery.

*Friends of Pollinators* Weekend Workshop at Kentucky Dam Village was held in August. This first time event was very successful. Each of the early registrants received a designed for us pollinators t-shirt. Programs included photography lecture, importance of monarch waystations, tour of pollinator/

native plant beds and the sale of Kentucky native plants. In 2017, a Native Plant and Butterfly event will be held at our State Headquarters Arboretum in Paris, Kentucky.

Two of our clubs in one district have ordered Blue Star Markers to be placed this November for Veterans Day to honor the men and women of the Armed Forces. This great Blue Star Memorial Marker program began in 1945 and markers continue to be dedicated each year. What a wonderful way to honor our veterans.

It will be my pleasure to attend each of our five District Meetings across Kentucky this October. Varied and interesting programs have been scheduled for these meetings by our District Directors. It is very interesting to hear the club presidents reporting on their programs and activities held during the year. I urge every member to attend their district meeting and think about attending more than one district meeting. You will be glad that you did because of fellowship with other garden club members and ideas for programs that can be used in your own district.

*Edith S. Nelson*

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



What a refreshing time of year! To be done with all the 95-100 degree weather for a while and the high humidity is a little like heaven to me. And having just returned from Portland, Maine, where I encountered the most hospitable and friendly people that I believe that I've ever been around has been tremendous.

The Garden Club of North Carolina is alive and thriving. We had a wonderful Fall Board Meeting in Rocky Mount September 11-12 hosted by the Garden Clubs of District 12. We had wonderful, interesting committee meetings, workshops, programs and entertainment. One garden club was reinstated and a new garden club joined us adding 37 new members to our membership roll. Our youth garden club chairman reported 32 youth garden clubs with a total membership of 909. One new youth club was ratified at this meeting.

North Carolina has four new Blue Star Memorial Markers to be dedicated in the next two months. One will be the first Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker by a Youth Garden Club on November 6 by the Junior Garden Clubs of Dunn.

The Vice Presidents and President will be leaving on October 3<sup>rd</sup> for a three week tour of our great state to visit the members of our ten busy working districts. We always look forward to this time, to get out and meet some of those members who can't make it to the Annual and Fall Board Meetings. We want to share with them the news of what is happening in our state, our region and in our national arenas. This gives us a chance to have a little one on one time with them.

I do hope that many of you saw more butterflies, bees and pollinators this year. I know that I did. I did not see a Monarch, but heard from some gardeners that some were sighted. I did see

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## State Presidents' Themes and Reports (continued)

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one swallowtail that I had never seen, the Zebra Swallowtail, a magnificent species. I also heard that one state sprayed for the Zika Virus and killed 30,000,000 bees; this was disheartening. There should be a better way of handling this. We are investigating this in our state.

The Winston-Salem Judges Council held a successful 49<sup>th</sup>

Symposium on August 21-23. Our thanks go out to all for all the hard work and to all who attended and passed. North Carolina hopes to offer more FSS, ES, LDS in the future.

Look out for the goblins, don't eat too much turkey and don't let Santa get stuck in your chimney! Otherwise, have a nice fall!

*Gail Hill*

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



The Garden Club of South Carolina is in fall bloom!

Over 200 members from our seven Districts attended our GCSC Midterm Summer Expo in July at the SC State Farmers' Market in Columbia. Pearl Fryar who has created the internationally known Pearl Fryar Topiary Garden in Bishopville was our guest speaker.

On October 5-6, the Nationally Accredited Judges Club of SC held their 2016 Symposium in Sumter. NGC Instructors Jo Krallman and Dorothy Yard conducted the sessions which focused on "The Challenge of Creativity & What's Hot in Pots".

GCSC is co-sponsoring the **2016 Native Plant Symposium** with the SC Native Plant Society and the SC Botanical Gar-

den on October 7-9 at the Madren Conference Center at Clemson University. Featured speakers include SC Botanical Garden Director Dr. Patrick McMillan and Dr. Drew Lanham, Clemson University Alumni Distinguished Professor of Wildlife Ecology, Forestry, and Environmental Conservation. Many workshops by special presenters are available. Also, field trips led by naturalists are scheduled in the Clemson area and at special sites. This will be open to the public through registration.

November and December are filled with club anniversaries, Christmas teas, and Blue Star Marker dedications.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving!

*Yvonne Morris*



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

This summer, VFGC garden clubs have been busy. Hilliard Park and Hanover-Towne Garden Clubs partnered with Hanover Habitat for Humanity to landscape four new homes in Ashland, and Greenvale Garden Club created a garden therapy project for Generations Crossings, an adult and child day care center in Massanetta Spring, to celebrate National Garden Week. Members of Town and Country GC in Wise provided flower and vegetable plants for those attending the observance of National Cancer Survivor Day, planted begonias around a church sign and held a "Get to Know Us" event at the Wise County Public Library to celebrate National Garden Week.

In June, the Virginia Landscape Design Consultants Council

sponsored a wonderful refresher tour to magnificent gardens in Delaware and Pennsylvania. Lucky participants visited Brandywine Cottage gardens and had a tour lead by the owner, David Culp. They saw Valley Forge Flowers and the gardens and greenhouses of Mrs. D. Hamilton (of the Campbell Soup family), and explored Chanticleer Gardens, Barnes Arboretum and Library, the Sofuso Japanese House and Garden, Bartram's Garden and the Nemours mansion and grounds.

VFGC participated in the State Fair again this September by having booth space two days. Floral design demonstrations were presented throughout each day and adults had the opportunity to make a floral design or a tussie mussie while children created a bird feeder. Virginia's Governor stopped by the tent

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and greeted our VFGC workers and guests.

Our successful Landscape Design School completed another series when course IV was held at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond on September 28-29. A new series will kick-off April 11-12, 2017. I hope you will begin your journey towards becoming a Landscape Design Consultant with us.

We are eagerly awaiting the announcement of the clubs that won a Keys to the Future Youth Grant and/or one of VFGC's Grants to Beautify and Restore. These grants give financial help to our clubs and are one of the ways that VFGC supports its clubs and their projects. One club recently used a Youth Grant to sponsor an "Endangered Salamanders of Southwest VA" educational project that included field studies of habitats, outdoor and indoor classroom instruction and artistic expressions.

As we head into the fall and holiday season, garden clubs across Virginia are busy with flower shows and projects as well as getting ready for Christmas programs and decorating historic homes. In November, we will have two Blue Star marker dedications, one in Williamsburg and one in Charlottesville – both on Veterans' Day. Two clubs, Appomattox GC and Virginia GC held Blue Star marker dedications earlier this year.

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

West Virginia Garden Club became a member of NGC 87 years ago, with 14 clubs. Seeds have been planted over the many years and now WVGC has 90 Garden Clubs. Our Fall Board meeting was held in Elkins, WV. It is always inspiring to hear the District Director's reports on the programs and projects that clubs are involved in. WVGC will have 3 more Blue Star Memorial Markers in West Virginia in 2016, the latest at Little Arlington Cemetery in Elkins, one at Grafton National Cemetery and one at the Terra Alta Veterans Memorial Park.

I attended the NGC Fall Board meeting in Portland, Maine in September. WVGC is so proud to have Brenda Moore elected as 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President of NGC. Brenda has been WVGC President, served on NGC Committees and is co-author of the "Frightened Frog". We will be looking forward to her Presidency. The Portland Garden Clubs did an outstanding job as Host for the meeting. We learned about the

Garden Club members are invited to join us in Richmond for Flower Show Judges Symposium this November 9-10. Lynn Fronk is the design instructor and Gay Austin is the horticulture instructor. See VFGC's website, [www.viriniagardenclub.org](http://www.viriniagardenclub.org) for registration information.

Have you heard that VFGC is hosting the 2017 NGC Convention in Richmond May 18-20? Be sure to save these dates and come see for yourself that "Virginia is for Gardeners." P. Allen Smith is our keynote speaker and we have many other fabulous speakers coming to share gardening information and ideas that you can use in your own home gardens. Richmond's downtown Marriott is our headquarters and is located just a couple of blocks from our beautiful state capitol and governor's mansion. Exciting tours are planned for your enjoyment, some within the Richmond area and others are headed to famous historical sites. SAR members, this is our opportunity to support and thank Sandy Robinson who will be completing her successful term as our NGC president. Let's have a good showing for Sandy and also for Nancy Hargroves, our incoming NGC president. I am looking forward to greeting you and welcoming you to Richmond this coming May.

*Janice M. Clem*



beautiful scenery of Portland and Maine from the Speakers.

I will be attending the nine District meetings around the state this fall, and will be able to see the fall foliage in full color in October. WVGC will have had 2 Flower Show Schools in 2016. Our Judges have had several shows to Judge around the State, and we are always glad to recognize a new accredited Flower Show Judge when she finishes all the requirements.

WVGC Clubs have donated over \$5,000 to be used for scholarships to the West Virginia Conservation Camp held each year in June for boys and girls ages 14-18. By sponsoring youth to this camp, garden clubs help our leaders of tomorrow, as garden clubs are interested in providing conservation education to our youth.

WVGC is hosting the 2017 SAR Convention at the Greenbrier, March 26-28<sup>th</sup>. We invite all the clubs in SAR to make plans for this memorable Convention, "Southern Charm and Hospitality".

*Judy Guye*

# Chairman Reports

## AIR AND WATER QUALITY

Carolyn B. Augustine

The Air we breath

The American Lung Association has written much about Healthy Air....Why do they do this? Because the air that goes into your lungs is extremely important to your health.

When you are outside tending to your garden, is the air you breathe good or bad and how will you know? Your city or county can give you that information. The Clean Air Act helps control many of the pollutants that could make our air "bad".

You are the one who can do much to increase the quality of air in your house. The American Lung Association had some suggestions on how to do this:

- \* Proper ventilation can keep the indoor air fresh
- \* Keep your house smoke free
- \* Keep humidity levels under 50% (a dehumidifier will help with that) Humidity increases the growth of mold and mildew
- \* Leaks and drips also contribute to the growth of mold
- \* Keep air ducts and air filters clean.
- \* Bad odors can be caused by something toxic. Find out what the cause is instead of masking it with sprays or candles.
- \* Chemical cleaning products, paint, and even new carpet can emit toxins.

We, here in Wilmington, are in the path of a Hurricane, so I remind myself that flooding and standing water can bring about a problem with both air quality and water quality.

## Aquatic Resources

June Ashworth

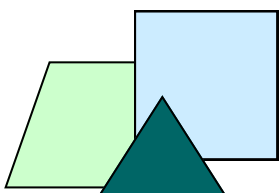
Water Water everywhere and not a drop to drink. As we listen to the reports of Hurricane Matthew, we automatically stop to pray for those being effected. The area has lots of water to deal with. Homeland security has reported that they are sending people to check on water and sewage facilities, making sure that there will be good water available after the storm. With all the water they are dealing with, there may not be enough good drinking water.

Where I live in West Virginia, we have had only one small shower since August. And we were told that it would be another week before there is a chance of rain. We are beginning to worry that forest fires will spring up. Forest fires disrupt the natural ability of the forest ground to absorb rain water and keep it from rushing to the rivers and then to the oceans.

Each section of the country has its own water problems. States are fighting each other for water rights to some of our major rivers. Los Angeles, CA and Atlanta, GA have used almost all available water sources for their growing populations.

As garden club members we take the Conservation Pledge to protect the precious air, water, forest and wildlife. But we are only a small portion of the population of this great land. Let's try to reach more people and get them to make the same pledge.

Since people are the major problem, we must get people to be a part in the solution.

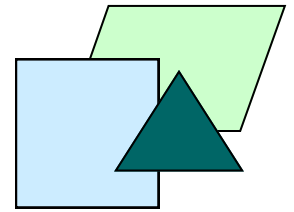


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## Chairman Reports (continued)



### ARBOR DAY

Geneva Hunt



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

As plans are made in states and clubs during the summer, try to plan a way to celebrate Arbor Day. Many of our students (and maybe some parents) don't know about the history of this day and how our projects can help our environment.

Then 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 2017. She would like to hear from clubs and states so she can highlight some of the activities.

### AWARDS

Judy Ann Fray

A question has been raised from a new State Awards Chairman, and the information may be of assistance to others who work with awards in their clubs, states, etc.

It is VERY important to read both the SAR Awards list for 2015 - 17 AND the NGC Awards List for this administration. All the rules are there, and some of the NGC award rules say "date due is determined by your state". That date must be set in accordance with SAR Awards Rules which are, in turn, set according to NGC Award Rules. If you do not have an SAR Directory in order to access the awards information, please check the SAR Website:

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

We in SAR had had NO mention of YEARBOOKS in our awards listing in past years, and there were always questions about them, but in attempting to improve the situation, something went wrong. YEARBOOKS are listed as "No.26 in the SAR Directory. Please read on in order to understand: All NGC Yearbook Awards are # 16. All are judged at REGIONAL LEVEL, and ONLY THE LIST OF WINNERS IS SENT TO NGC. They are NOT JUDGED at NGC: Regions do that (BIG) job for the NGC Awards Committee. EACH YEARBOOK SHOULD BEAR THE NATIONAL AWARD NUMBER, AS #16 A, #16 B, ETC. IF clubs send their applications to state awards chairmen with another number on them, we ask that the State Awards Chairman adjust the numbers for the clubs by adding the correct #16, etc. So, in the SAR, Yearbooks are to be submitted on the same date as ALMOST all other awards.

There is one date set in the states for clubs to submit their awards applications to the District Awards Chairman, who gets them judged and submits winners to the State Awards Chairman by Dec. 15. The State Awards Chairman gets applications judged and submits them in two directions: Those going to SAR are to arrive to this chairman by JANUARY 25, all in one package, with an enclosed list of those being submitted. ONE COPY only. NO half sheets with NGC Award Application Form, as clubs are supposed to use that form when they create their application and begin telling their project story. Award applications going from states to NGC are to arrive there by JANUARY 15, and only STATE Awards Chairmen send those. The Regional Awards Chairmen does NOT send applications on to National Chairman. This process is always confusing to those who have not worked with the awards system beyond their own club or state.

CONTINUING: PUBLICITY PRESS BOOKS ARE DUE to STATE AWARDS CHAIRMEN BY JANUARY 25. Read those rules for SAR & NGC levels of competition in their respective awards rules. Press book winners in each category are sent by the State Awards Chairman to the SAR Publicity Press Book Chairman, Barbara Ohmsen by FEBRUARY 23. She gets those judged and sends the list of winners to the SAR Awards Chairman.

Careful Reading is important in understanding the garden club awards system. And then, you may need to ask some questions. If you need further assistance, please do send an email to: Judy Ann Fray, [ja.fray@verizon.net](mailto:ja.fray@verizon.net) or call: 540-948-4220 or cell, 540-810-8778. SAR AWARD applications are to be submitted in hard copy for this last year of the administration. Applications will not be accepted by email. Thanks to all those working with awards in our Region. I look forward to receiving packages from each state in January.



## Chairman Reports (continued)



### BIRDS

Betty Gorrie

#### CHIMNEY SWIFT

I hope many of you were able to catch the migration of the Chimney Swifts as they were on their way to Peru. They will, for the most part, be out of North Carolina by the second week of October. The “Swift” is a very small bird, a “cigar” shaped slender body with very long, narrow and curved wings. When the bird lands, it can’t perch – it clings to vertical walls inside chimneys or in hollow trees or caves. This little bird spends its life in the air, eating and drinking. It is a sight to behold watching them come in at dusk to roost in an old chimney or smoke stack. You can see them for miles coming to form a large, black funnel shape over the opening and will circle in this funnel until one flies in and then the black funnel starts to disappear into the chimney. If you are lucky, you may still see them at dusk in a chimney near you.



### CALENDARS

Elaine Thornton

The leaves may have just started changing but the New Year is right around the corner. Now is the time for you and your garden club to order the 2017 Vision of Beauty calendars. They make the perfect Christmas gift or gift for speakers or friends who love natural beauty. The price each is \$6.75 but \$5.00 when you purchase two or more. Simply go to NGC Member Service Department by calling 1-800-550-6007 or shop online at [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org).



### CONTAINER GARDENING

Helen Heater

#### “Change of Seasons”

It is hard to resist the lure of a garden filled with all of those bright, cheerful and beautiful blooms, no matter what the season. So how do we get or keep that lush flower filled look for just a bit longer into fall. A big container to start!

With the change of the fall season, the weather will definitely change, the temperatures drop, frost appears in most places and/or sunny days are cut shorter. So find that large container, (at least 16 inches in diameter), walk around your garden and let that beautiful bloom give you that inspiration to develop that fall container. Lift a mum just beginning to bloom, some dusty miller, maybe a pansy or two, some marigolds, a small sedum plant, verbena or some purple salvia just to name a few things.

Combine these beautiful plants in your container, add some sphagnum moss to hold the moisture, and water well. The key is not to disturb the root system too much in the transplanting process. Give them a little shot of energy (i.e.) fertilizer/plant food to stabilize the plant into this new season. You will have beautiful color for a bit longer into late fall. Most of these plants can take cooler nights for a while.

Now you are ready to set the container in your favorite place, an entry way on your porch or patio. Just make sure the place is well balanced to get full sun with proper moisture and protected for a while longer against the possible frost.

For avid gardeners it is hard to let go of all that beautiful color, knowing that the color scheme will change to mostly white or brown shortly. However, that’s a part of the change of seasons. We get inspired, we work hard, we need rest and time to rejuvenate our bodies and minds.

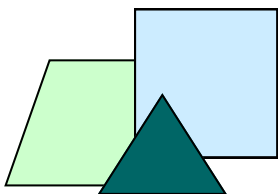
But wait; by the way don’t forget spring will be right around the corner. So don’t forget to get those tulips and daffodil bulbs in another container also this fall, give them some bone-meal for nourishment for winter. Once planted, water well. If your temperatures get below freezing for longer periods of time, place the container in your garage or a semi-protected area for a while depending on your particular area.

You will be happy or inspired again with all that beautiful bloom on your patio, porch or entry way, even in your gardens in the spring. You’ll be one of the first to have bloom in town, but for now enjoy the “Change of Seasons.”

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## Chairman Reports (continued)

### ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION/RECYCLING

*Karen Prewitt*

*Grassroots Green*

Returning recently from a month's vacation, I began the task of tackling my overgrown garden, which had gone rampant while I was away.

The heavy summer rains and southern sun had turned the garden into a tangled mess, and it was two days before I pruned away enough greenery to see ground level. Instead of seeing rich brown earth under the lush greenery, I discovered that the rains had floated tiny jibblots of styrofoam to the surface of all the beds and the entire kitchen garden was awash with them! I had *no* idea that the potting soil in the bedding plants and herbs that I had purchased in the spring contained so much of the stuff! The more I scraped the surface the more white particles emerged.

[I should perhaps note here that *Styrofoam* is a trade name for products made from a petroleum-based plastic called polystyrene. These products are not recyclable in most communities and are not biodegradable].

The morning after my first workday in the garden, I read a timely article in our local newspaper about how polystyrene has become a growing hazard to the local environment. The article reported that City Council members at Folly Beach had just unanimously passed the first reading of an ordinance forbidding the use of foam coolers, food and beverage containers, balloons and single use plastic bags on the beach. This ordinance will need a second reading to become law, but public opinion seems to support Council's actions to levy fines up to \$100.00 for a first offence. Accompanying the article was also a report on the increasing number of turtles that have recently been brought to the Charleston Aquarium critter hospital for treatment after ingesting foam particles. Turtles apparently mistake these floating particles in the ocean as a food source and the results can be deadly. Turtles are not the only marine life to be affected, minute particles of foam have also been found in shrimp and fish. Through autopsies, doctors are also beginning to discover minute traces of plastic as neurotoxins in the human brain. Humans can ingest these neurotoxins from hot foods and liquids that break down the surfaces of styrene containers. Scientists at the National Research Council have now affirmed that styrene is a carcinogen that causes cancer in animals.

Back in the garden, I was disturbed yesterday by the discovery that these foam particles were sluicing down my driveway during an afternoon rainstorm and headed for the street drain that empties into Charleston's harbour. I've now started sifting the dirt in the kitchen garden through screen wire to minimize the problem, but while doing so, it occurred to me that garden club members could encourage plant nurserys not to use foam particles as an additive to potting soil, and we could curb our personal use of foam packing materials and food containers. Individually, we can all do *something* to help the environment, but more importantly, since garden clubs are the largest volunteer organization in America, collectively our voices could make a BIG difference. We could also collectively use our voices to limit the use of polystyrene.

### FINANCE

June Ashworth

The Committee appointed to try to obtain the 501 (c) 3 Tax Exempt Status for the South Atlantic Region is happy to report that a letter has been received from the IRS stating "we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501 (C) 3. Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductions bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106 or 2522." We are required to file Form 990 each year. After our 2017 Convention, we will transfer our funds into the new EIN number and notify NGC.

We would like to thank all that voted and allowed us to make the IRS application possible.



### MEMBER SERVICES NGC

Shirley LaGarde

Santa will soon be coming and you need to be ready! Remember to check out the items available for family and friends at NGC Member Services. You will find the new charm bracelet, pins, books and the lovely new scarf with our national president's "Leap Into Action" border imprint. Items are available at NGC Headquarters by phone: 800-550-6007 or email: [headquarters@gardenclub.org](mailto:headquarters@gardenclub.org)



### NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

Mary H. Dixon

Clubs within our Region will celebrate National Garden Week June 4-10, 2017. Celebrations may include special tours, events and flower arrangements for libraries or other places.

Plan now for an event, have your city Mayor sign a proclamation declaring June 4 - 10, 2017, National Garden Week in your city and apply for an award. There are copies of a proclamation on the NGC website and you can just have the Mayor sign that and while you are at it take a small token of appreciation, like an arrangement, so city persons know we appreciate them also.

Thank you all for what you do to let others know we are National Gardeners and are proud of it.

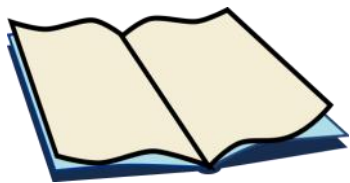
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## Chairman Reports (continued)



### PUBLICITY PRESS BOOKS

Barbara Ohmsen

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



### THE CORRIE WHITLOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FROM SAR

Marsha Alexander

Scholarships are the way that we can open many doors for students, as well as make a tremendous contribution to the future needs of our communities. A qualifying student is one who is majoring in the study of Horticulture, Floriculture, Landscape Design, Botany, Plant Pathology, Biology, Environmental Conservation, Forestry, Land Management, Agronomy, Agriculture Education, Wildlife Science, City Planning and/or allied subjects. As Garden Club Members, these are important to all of us and the quality of our lives.

The South Atlantic Region will be offering **TWO** Scholarships to a rising Junior or Senior in College. The Scholarships are each worth \$2000. Each of the Five States in the Region may submit one application to be considered for a Scholarship. A previous winner and /or applicant can apply each year that they qualify. Applications may be obtained from the SAR Scholarship Chairman or the Scholarship Chairman of each state in the region. Information and applications can also be found on the SAR Website.

The Scholarship applications are judged by a committee of SAR Members and presented at the SAR Spring Meeting.

The applications are judged using the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Scale of Points. As long as a Scholarship recipient maintains a “B” average, he/she may reapply each year during their college career.

**Complete Applications must be sent to the State Scholarship Chairman by February 1<sup>st</sup>. Each State’s best application for the SAR Scholarship must be sent to the SAR Scholarship Chairman by March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

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	5 %

The State Scholarship Chairman may submit a Scholarship Application for the NGC, Inc. Scholarship. This is due to the NGC Scholarship Chairman and must be postmarked by March 15<sup>th</sup>. The NGC Chairman will consider only one application from each State, with one exception. Any State having a membership over 10,000 as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, may submit two applications. These Scholarships are worth \$3500. SAR Members....Scholarships are an important way to secure our future goals in beautification and environmental concerns through Education. Let’s make sure that we send an applicant from each State in our region to the SAR and NGC Scholarship Chairmen for consideration.

SAR Scholarship Chairman

Marsha Alexander

110 Plantation Drive

Moore, SC 29369 864-576-1513

marshaalexander@charter.net

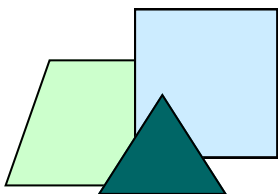


### VIDEOS/DVD PROGRAMS

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

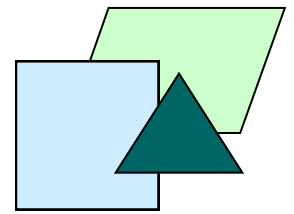


Key Notes

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[www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org](http://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, 2017** Mary Rivers, SAR Special Projects  
Chairman

11481 Voorhees Road  
Denmark, SC 29042  
803-793-4914  
e-mail: bentmary54@gmail.com



### WILDFLOWER / ROADSIDES

Mary Ann Powell Kirby

Recently my Husband and I went out West for our Anniversary and enjoyed fly-fishing in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming! This SAR Chairman for Wildflowers Roadsides enjoyed fishing the Madison near Quake Lake, Montana and noticed in September that Ox-Eye Daisies were still blooming!

In 1972 this Chairman founded a garden club in Spartanburg, SC named "Upsy Daisy Garden Club" which is still very active in all levels of Garden Club". So I always look for the Daisy Wildflower. In studying for this article I noticed that many states prohibit this wildflower. Please do your homework to check that the wildflowers you plant are not on the "Noxious And Invasive Lists".

The Ox Eye Daisy is one of the toughest perennials! This wildflower is also easy to Grow!

Remember: When you pulled off the white petals saying, "He Loves Me -He Loves Me Not"? As you would end with the last petal you hoped it would be "He Loves Me" Ox Eye Daisies light up the landscape with "white" and bloom profusely! They usually bloom in the summer. They grow up to 30 inches depending on the soil and may grow to 3 feet. In North America the Ox-Eye Daisy has become naturalized and also may be on the invasive list.

Ox-Eye Daisy may be called Maudlinwort and Dun Daisy. The wild shasta daisy can be substituted in the states which OxEye Daisy is prohibited.

#### **OX-EYE DAISY, LEUCANTHEMUM VULGARE**

The Origins of this Plant began in Europe in the British Isles and the Russian parts of Asia, including Siberia.



## Chairman Reports (continued)

### YOUTH GARDENS/SCHOOL GARDENS

Darene Honeycutt

The Junior Garden Clubs of Dunn, NC have sponsored the first Blue Star Memorial marker by a youth group. The dedication will be held on Sunday, November 6 at 2 PM as part of the annual Veterans' Day celebration at the Dunn Veterans' Park. An additional marker has been sponsored by The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. Youth Clubs to be erected at the Interstate 95 South Welcome Center in Rowland, NC. This marker dedication will be held on November 16 at 10 AM. North Carolina is proud of their youth program and the many successful projects that the clubs have achieved.

Several of the NC youth clubs have school gardens; many have butterfly gardens. The Hummers Youth Garden Club of Highlands, NC has one of the most outstanding teaching gardens in the state. The sixth grade students maintain the garden and assist grades 1-3 with lessons about plants and butterflies. The GardenBEES of New Bern, NC have a garden just outside their classroom. These second grade students grow flowers and vegetables; they study the environment with the Woodsy Owl curriculum too. Flat Rock Middle School has the largest teaching garden to date. These students maintain a memorial garden, flower and vegetable garden, and the area around the outdoor amphitheater.

Requests have been made for reports on other SAR state youth gardens. Please forward your information to [darenehoneycutt@yahoo.com](mailto:darenehoneycutt@yahoo.com)



### YOUTH – SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTERS

Barbara Ohmsen

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest – 2017

I hope that all regional members take note of the poster contest. All state chairmen have been mailed information – ARE YOU DISTRIBUTING IT? Any club can sponsor a contest. Get in touch with your state chairman – contact schools, church groups, Scout troops, home-schooled children, etc.. With your support the last two years, the South Atlantic Region has won the national award for most posters received. CONGRATULATIONS!!!!



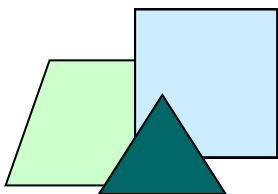
### YOUTH PROJECTS – GIRL SCOUTS

Carolyn King

NGC NATIVE PLANT BADGE

I hope all of our garden clubs in the SAR have been busy doing projects with our youth and working on the NGC Native Plant Badge, and also your state garden club's Girl Scout Patch. December 15<sup>th</sup> is around the corner and that is the time to apply for your state and SAR awards so please remember to apply for these youth and Girl Scout awards. By applying for awards, this lets everyone know what your club is doing with our youth.

If I can be of help in any way, please let me hear from you.



# SAR Convention 2017

## “Southern Charm and Hospitality” South Atlantic Region Convention March 26-28, 2017 The Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs, WV



It is with pleasure that West Virginia Garden Club invites you to attend the annual Convention of the South Atlantic Region to be held at The Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, WV .The dates are March 26-28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 ....just in time for the daffodils to bloom. Located amid the breathtaking mountains of West Virginia, The Greenbrier is a National Historic Landmark and world-class resort that has been welcoming guests since 1778.

There will be workshops in addition to a tour of the Bunkers and other tours of the Hotel’s interior. Sandy Robinson, our National President will bring official greetings.

Workshops are still pending. Please refer to the January 2017 Key Notes for more details

The room rates including all taxes and fees will be: standard/intermediate room \$207 a night for 2 people; Superior room, \$254.00 a night for 2 people. Mark your calendar and save the dates to be at The Greenbrier next March to enjoy Southern Charm and Hospitality. Look for the Registration Form in this issue. It will also be on the South Atlantic Region website. Registration deadline will be February 17, 2017.

Convention Chairman: Jerry Shriver, 304-276-8288. [jshriver@suddenlink.net](mailto:jshriver@suddenlink.net)

Co-Chairman: Martha Hilton 304-667-7060 [agentwv@mountain.net](mailto:agentwv@mountain.net)

The Registration Form is on page 15 of this issue.

Workshop on Monday afternoon will be Windowsill Art: Creating One-of-a-kind natural arrangements to celebrate the seasons. Almost everyone does it, puts a little something on the windowsill. Nancy Ross Hugo will create arrangements through photos in a power point demonstration, showing this simple art form can hone arranging skills, stretch creative muscles, and provide connection to the changing seasons. She shares dozens of her creations and which techniques, containers, and materials best facilitate the process.

## “Inspire Conservation Through Education”

Special Project:

AWEsome

AirWaterSoil-some



Key Notes

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

# National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Sandy Robinson  
2015-2017 NGC President

Theme:  
“Leap Into Action”



Virginia Is For Gardeners  
NGC Convention 2017  
Richmond, Virginia  
500 East Broad Street, Richmond VA 804-643-3400  
May 18-20, 2017

The National Garden Clubs 2017 Convention will be hosted by our Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs. This will be held in Richmond Virginia. Put this on your calendar and plan to attend some or all of this convention.

There will be a Life Member Dinner honoring all new National Life Members since May 2016. The speaker is Kaiulani Lee who will perform a play based on the life and works of Rachel Carson. If you are giving a National Life Membership to someone, order it early and encourage the person to attend this special dinner to be honored.

There will be several renowned speakers at the luncheons and banquets. The Keynote Speaker is P. Allen Smith, award winning designer, gardener, and TV host. Other speakers will be Peter Hatch on “Thomas Jefferson, Gardener”; Bryce Lane on “Waterwise Gardening: A Sustainable Approach”.

There will be pre-convention tours of interest. Also, we always have interesting and unusual vendors.

The room rates are very reasonable: \$139 single or double; \$139 triple; \$149 quad.

Valet parking is available at a cost; or self park at a nearby public parking garage.

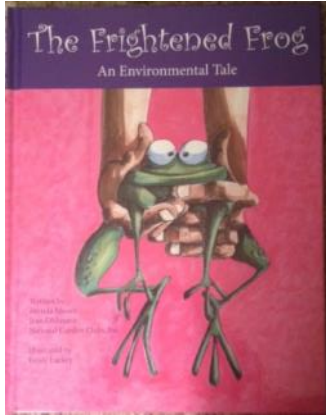
Key Notes

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

## National Garden Clubs (continued)

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!



Did you see in *The National Gardener* the article about the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest? Our Region was recognized as the region with the most posters: 1791 posters; and Virginia was recognized as the state with the most: 1185 posters. Hopefully you read the article by Barbara Ohmsen on page 11 of this newsletter. Let's all try to bring this award to our Region again.

## Odds 'N' Ends

Schools/Symposia (as found on the websites. Check websites for details)

Nov. 9-10: Symposium, Four Points by Sheraton, Henrico VA

Nov. 18-19: Environmental Study School, South Carolina

Jan. 17-18: Landscape Design School, Charleston SC

Jan. 20-21: Environmental Study School, South Carolina

The new Flower Show Handbook will be available soon, and will take effect as of July 1, 2017. Check the websites for each of our states after the first of next year as many states will probably schedule Flower Show Schools using the new book.



Do You Know What Happens November 8, 2016?  
In case you have been off the planet the past year, I will tell you!

**This country will elect a new President.**

No matter who you plan to vote for, VOTE.

This is a privilege we are given as citizens of the United State of America



Key Notes

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

# South Atlantic Region Registration Form

**SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION CONVENTION**  
**March 26 - 28, 2017**  
**Fifty-sixth Annual Convention**  
**"Southern Charm and Hospitality"**  
**The Greenbrier Hotel, White Sulphur Springs, WV**

**Registration:** Please complete form, make checks payable to "NGC-SAR 2017 Convention" and mail both to Emily Shrey, 205 Elm Street, Ronceverte, WV 24970; email: [emilyshrey@hotmail.com](mailto:emilyshrey@hotmail.com) phone: 304-645-7511  
**Postmark by February 17, 2017 for On time Registration.**

**Last Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **First** \_\_\_\_\_ **Middle Initial** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail address** \_\_\_\_\_

Please check \_\_\_\_\_ if we may email your acknowledgement to the address above.

- 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"/> Elected Delegate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guest           | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse              |   |

Please mark the plan you want to attend. Registration fee and meals included.

Full Convention beginning Sunday afternoon	\$300
WV/GCI Member -Full Convention beginning Sunday	\$280
Convention beginning with Monday lunch	\$205
Tuesday Design breakfast and program only	\$45
Additional Late Registration fee if space available	\$20
Kitchen Tour (limited to first 25 people)	\$20
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED</b>	_____

Please indicate special diet restrictions \_\_\_\_\_  
 (these may be for Medical reasons only)  
 We will make every effort to accommodate your medical allergies but will not be able to accommodate individual dislikes. Thank you for your cooperation.  
 No requests for substitutions will be accommodated at the time of meal service

Staying at The Greenbrier? \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**MEALS:**

Full Convention includes 2 banquets, 1 lunch, 1 breakfast and reception  
 Complimentary breakfast coffee and tea are available in lobby.  
 Convention beginning Monday omits Sunday Banquet.

**No refunds after March 10, 2017**

**Tour to be arranged with Concierge:**  
 Bunker tour at 11 am, 1:30 pm, 3:30 pm 1 ½ hr \$40 per person

Free Gourmet cooking demonstration at 11am & 2:00 pm in Gourmet Shop  
 Free movie in theater at 9:00 pm

**Hotel Reservations** Reservation deadline is February 17 2017  
 Make reservations directly with The Greenbrier Hotel. Call the Hotel directly at 1-304-536-1110 or 1-800-624-6070 and ask for the South Atlantic Region Garden Clubs room block to receive the established group rate. You must identify yourself as a member of SAR initially when making the reservation.

**Room Rates: This includes all fees and taxes.**  
**Standard/ Intermediate Guest Rooms** \$207/night for two people  
**Superior Guest Rooms** \$254/night for two people  
 There is a \$56.45 per person, per day charge for third and fourth persons added to above rates if staying in the same room.

Website: [www.greenbrier.com](http://www.greenbrier.com)

Driving Directions: Take I-64 to White Sulphur Springs, WV exit 181

**Sunday, March 26, 2017** "Inspire Conservation Through Education"

9:00 am	Church services.....	Greenbrier Chapel
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Registration.....	Lower Lobby
12:00pm	Former Regional Directors Lunch.....	Drapers Cate
1:00 pm	Finance Committee meeting.....	Pierce Room
2:30 pm	Regional Council meeting.....	McKinley Room
3:00-4:00 pm	Kitchen Tour.....	Main Lobby
4:15-5:00pm	Greenbrier Tea.....	Dining Room
6:30 pm	Banquet honoring SAR Life Members.....	Chesapeake
	Speaker: SAR Director, Sarah Ann Parler	

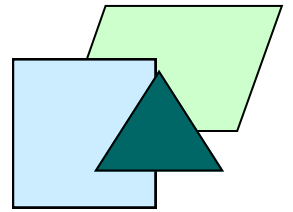
**Monday, March 27, 2017** "Timeless Traditions"

8:00 am - Noon	Registration.....	Lower Lobby
9:00 am	Official opening of convention.....	Theater
12:00 pm	Awards Luncheon.....	Chesapeake Room
3:00 - 4:00 pm	"Windowsill Art" by Nancy Hugo.....	Theatre
4:15-5:00 pm	Greenbrier Tea.....	Dining Room
6:30 pm	Banquet.....	Chesapeake Room
8:30 pm	Speaker: NGC President, Sandy Robinson	
	Reception honoring Sandy Robinson and Sarah Parler	

**Tuesday, March 28, 2017** "Unforgettable Experiences"

9:00 am	Design Breakfast.....	Chesapeake Room
10:00 am	"Designs for the Greenbrier".....	John Gillespie

## The South Atlantic Region Member States



### NGC Mission Statement

National Garden Clubs, Inc provides education, resources, and national networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility.

Key Notes

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

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