



GCSC | Winter  
VOL. 100 No 1

# The South Carolina GARDENER

The Official Publication of The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.



# The South Carolina Gardener

Winter 2022

## **The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.**

501c3 non-profit organization  
Website: [www.gardenclubofsc.org](http://www.gardenclubofsc.org)  
4194 Members, 175 Garden Clubs,  
18 Councils and 8 Affiliate Organizations

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To opt out of receiving a printed version of *The SC Gardener* and only receive an electronic version, please send an email to **Laurie Churchill, Editor** at [scgardenereditor@gmail.com](mailto:scgardenereditor@gmail.com)

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## GCSC Affiliates

Moore Farms Botanical Garden  
Piedmont Physic Garden  
Plant, Food, Body: Jenks Farmer  
Riverbanks Zoo and Garden  
SC Bluebird Society  
SC Botanical Garden, Clemson  
SC Native Plant Society  
SC Wildlife Federation

**On the Cover:** [\*Salix discolor\*](#) in snow taken by Laurie Churchill

# President's Message



Dear GCSC Members,

It's hard to believe that it is already 2022 and the first year of this administration is almost over. I hope that 2022 will be a happy, healthy, and productive year for each one of you and for GCSC.

I am so proud of all of the progress and accomplishments made by you and your clubs and districts over the past nine months. You are amazing! I have attended Luncheons, Fund-raisers, Teas, Club Meetings, Memorial Marker Dedications, Anniversary Celebrations, Presidents' Trainings, Workshops, and Christmas Parties all over South Carolina. It has been so much fun! I have also witnessed (and read about) the positive impact your projects and programs are making in your communities, as well. I look forward to seeing many of you at the State Meeting in Columbia, April 21<sup>st</sup>, as we celebrate your many successes with the GCSC Awards Program!



Until then, continue to do great things, stay healthy, and enjoy garden club!

Let's Grow, South Carolina!

*Sincerely,  
Linda Howle, President*



You shop. Amazon gives.

Use this link and sign up for SMILE on Amazon with GCSC as your charity

Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase price to GCSC every time you shop!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7005531>

# ***You are invited to the GCSC State Meeting!***

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Riverbanks Botanical Gardens, Columbia

8:30 am Registration

9:15 am Business Meeting

1:00 pm Awards Luncheon

Marty Bowers, SAR Director Special Guest & Speaker  
GCSC Marketplace and other Vendors will be onsite.

Clubs/Councils, Individuals and Businesses interested in  
reserving a FREE vendor space and/or providing a sponsorship  
should contact Jan Burch at 706-829-4108 or email to  
[janhodesburch@gmail.com](mailto:janhodesburch@gmail.com)

Registration through Eventbrite available online at:

**[Online Ticket and Registration](#)**

**Online Registration will close on April 12th.**

Hampton Inn Columbia/Downtown, Located at 822 Gervais Street,  
Columbia is giving GCSC Members a rate discount.  
The room rate is \$139/day plus \$14/day tax and \$14/day self parking.  
Call 803-231-2000 or [Click Here](#)  
“Garden Club of South Carolina” rate expires on March 20th.

***Mail in Registration Form  
for GCSC State Meeting***

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Riverbanks Botanical Gardens, Columbia

8:30 am Registration

9:15 am Business Meeting

1:00 pm Awards Luncheon

Marty Bowers, SAR Director Special Guest & Speaker

GCSC Marketplace and other Vendors will be onsite.

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Phone #:**

**Email:**

**Garden Club:**

**District:**

**Please circle all that apply to you:**

GCSC President	SAR District Director
GCSC Former President	Council President
GCSC Board Member	Club President
GCSC Life Member	Club Delegate
NGC Board Member	Club Member
NGC Life Member	Guest
SAR Board Member	1st Time Attendee

Mail in Registration Form-must be postmarked by April 1st.

**Please mail this form and \$70 check made to GCSC to:**

Cindy Thornton  
1331 Lake Mallard Boulevard  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464



# **“Coming Home to Kentucky”**

**South Atlantic Region  
of  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
60<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
March 20-22, 2022**



The Garden Club of Kentucky invites you to attend the South Atlantic Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention in Berea, Kentucky. The Convention’s outstanding speakers include Jon Carloftis, award winning garden designer; Jonathan Webb, Founder and CEO of App Harvest; and the talented Kentucky Flower Show Judges Council! Programs on horticulture, design and the SAR Awards will round out the schedule.

Berea is the Folk Arts & Crafts Capital of Kentucky so make sure you take time to visit the Convention boutique and area shops! Boone Tavern is a member of the Historic Hotels of America and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The food at Boone Tavern is legendary and you will be treated to delicious meals featuring their famous spoonbread.

Celebrate the first days of spring by  
**“Coming Home to Kentucky”!**

[Click here](#) for registration and more information.



### **“Kash for Kids”**

Under my theme of “Let’s Grow, South Carolina”, I will be placing added emphasis on youth gardening and want to establish youth gardens throughout the State. The money collected during the 2021-2023 term through my “Kash for Kids” fundraiser will be used for these projects. One of the first gardens we’re planning is at Waterfall Junction in the Children’s Garden at Riverbanks Botanical Garden in Columbia. We are also exploring a project in the Children’s Garden at the SC Botanical Garden in Clemson. If you have any ideas or areas for us to look at, please give us the information to pursue.

I would like the Garden Club/Council Presidents or their designee to create a collection container to pass around at meetings and events. You can download the graphic shown above which is on the GCSC website. We have been using a colorful watering can, but you are all so creative I can’t wait to see what you come up with! After you have collected \$25.00 or so, please send a check to the GCSC Treasurer at 701 Gervais Street, Suite 150-142, Columbia, SC 29201. Please indicate it’s “Kash for Kids” funds.

As an added incentive, the club or council with the biggest donation will have honor seating at the 2023 State Convention in Myrtle Beach!

# Do you remember when...?

By Kate Copsey

The start of the pandemic last year was the beginning of a round of shortages and restrictions – which we have managed to weather because of who we are, but it is, in some ways, similar to the way the early Garden Club members adapted to the war years in 1940s.

**The Paper Shortage:** Yes, we all recall from last year that our supermarket shelves were empty in the paper products aisle. Everything from paper napkins to tissues were in very short supply.

In 1944, GCSC President June Butler was aware of the wartime paper shortage but also the need to keep in touch with members and clubs. The Bulletin was produced several times a year but for the Spring 1944 issue the publication was typed on mimeograph paper and run off so that each club had one copy. Mrs. Butler suggested that each club have a Bulletin Reader with ‘a clear voice’ to read The Bulletin to the members at the meetings.

Our paper shortage was not quite so inconvenient for members because we have the advantage of email, which allows updates and communication to continue even if the supermarket is still out of our favorite tissues.

**Travel Restrictions:** Gas was pricey and was reserved for emergencies and the military so travelling to club meetings and state meetings was not possible. The state presidents did do a lot of travel by car and met with each club plus attended state, regional and national meetings and all this was stopped. It was recognized though that communication to clubs was imperative to survival and to the organization as a whole.

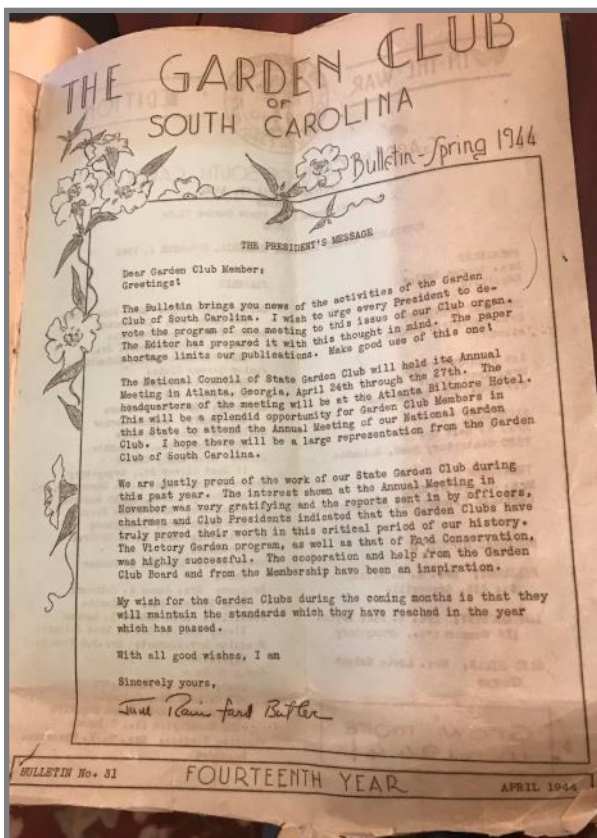
They didn’t have Zoom! Our travel was restricted due to Covid but we are in another era so computers and internet did lessen the impact of communication but travelling to meetings, while not forbidden, was, and still is, deemed unwise.



The effects of the war lasted a few years past the global event, and global Covid is lingering too but clubs are finding ways to meet safely. It is too early to say if the long-term effect of our pandemic will affect the number of clubs and members in the organization, but it certainly did in the post war years.

In the post war years, morale in the country as well in in clubs was low and in many ways the pandemic is having a similar effect. Recovery included reaching out to local clubs and members to keep them in touch and to restore the number of members and clubs in the state organization. Post-war State President Elizabeth Guion headed the recovery effort and spent many hours as a cheer leader for the members to restore the numbers. She 'hand wrote 2,943 personal letters and 6 mimeographed letters to club members' and did indeed increase the numbers by the end of her term.

So while our 'war' is of a very different type, there are similarities, but South Carolina Garden Club members are built of strong 'get it done' characters, so together we will survive this pandemic too.



# “GCSC Garden Heroes” Campaign

*Honoring Gardeners who Inspire Others as they Lay the Foundation for Future Gardeners.*

Let’s honor the special people who inspire us to garden. For many of us, gardening is a way of life, a way to create something beautiful, or simply an avenue to reconnect with what matters most.

As you think about your love of gardening, consider for a moment the people who introduced you to gardening. Perhaps it was a parent or grandparent, a favorite aunt or uncle who shared their love and skills with you when you were a child, or a dear friend who brought you the gift of a plant, and then showed you how to tend it. Think about your community teachers, scout troop leaders, childcare providers, and good neighbors.

You may need to look no further than your own local club!

In every NGC Federated Club, there are members who share their passion for gardening with old and new members alike. Sometimes they go above and beyond and share their passion with their communities: providing gardening experiences, outreach programs, and education to schools, seniors, and other groups. Each club might consider selecting a dedicated member each year to honor, as a tradition, or as a gift to a retiring president.

These individuals spread the joy of gardening. They fuel curiosity, cultivate interest, and seed confidence in new gardeners. They bring gardening as a first-time experience to some and frequently lay the foundation for the next generation of gardeners. All these individuals are our Garden Heroes!

*Remember, most people can grow a garden, but it takes a special hero to grow a gardener!*

The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. wants to help you honor those special individuals through our “GCSC Garden Heroes” Campaign. With a donation to GCSC, you can honor the person who inspired you, and they will receive a special Certificate of Honor that they can proudly display. The funds collected will go to support their legacy through garden training resources and educational outreach across South Carolina.

Use the application form on the next page or on the GCSC website to sponsor your **GCSC Garden Hero!**

Thank you for honoring someone who inspires the love of gardening. This hero will be featured in a future issue of the *SC Gardener* magazine and added to our list of GCSC Heroes on our website.

GCSC reserves the right to honor your hero in future publications, posts, and podcasts.

Gina Ginther, Chairperson,  
GCSC Gardener Heroes



## I support the GCSC Garden Heroes Campaign!

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution for the GCSC Garden Heroes Initiative.

Pledge Amount \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Other Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Contributions should be made payable to:***

The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.

Memo: GCSC Garden Heroes Campaign

***Mail to:***

Gina Ginther

GCSC Garden Heroes  
11109 Broken Brook Way  
Tega Cay, SC 29708

Please honor the following person as a GCSC Garden Hero:

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Address for mailing the certificate:

---

Tell us about how this person has inspired gardening:

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If possible, attach a photograph of your honoree.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for honoring a person who encourages the love of gardening!

For more information, please contact Gina Ginther at [TheGinthers@Comporium.net](mailto:TheGinthers@Comporium.net)

[https://gardenclubofsc.org/GCSC\\_GARDEN\\_HEROES\\_CAMPAIGN](https://gardenclubofsc.org/GCSC_GARDEN_HEROES_CAMPAIGN)



## **Joan Kiburz**

### **honored by the Garden Club of Aiken**

Joan was not only our President during Covid, but also Chairman of the Claudia Phelps Garden. She has spent countless hours weeding, pruning and propagating all while teaching many members of the garden club the love of plants and landscape design.



## **Bonnie Sawyer honored by The Saluda Garden Club**



Bonnie has a gift for gardening and has shared her passion with children of all ages. She was the first to introduce Saluda elementary children to container gardens and raised beds. She also grows beautiful roses and shares them with friends and nursing home residents. Her joy of gardening spreads to all of our garden club members. She has served as President five times for a total of 10 years and currently serves as our Historian.

**Thomas James Affleck, Jr.**  
**honored by Dee Helvik**

Being in the backyard with my dad, Thomas as he tied ropes around the peonies to protect them from falling over and planting and caring for roses was one of my favorite past times with him. He died suddenly when I was only 11

years old and taking care of the garden became one of my passions. He was my gardening Inspiration!



**Rebecca Crow**  
**honored by Mary Ann Kirby**

Becky was made to be a garden hero! She has worked on all levels of the SC Garden Club for over 50 years! She has been a member of several garden clubs, served on the NGC Board for 20 years, is currently working on the SAR Convention committee and on the GCSC Policies and Procedures committee. She has encouraged judges, student judges and gardeners as a program speaker and continues to be an inspiration to all.



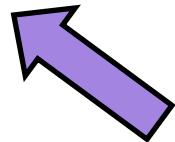


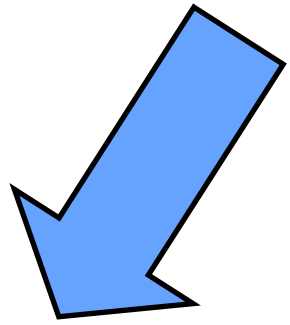
# 38 Ways to Attract New Members to Your Garden Club

By

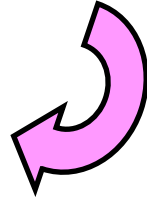
Sandie Duerksen, GCSC Membership Chair

1. Word of mouth.
2. Personal invitations to neighbors, friends, family.
3. Newspaper articles regarding your club and its activities.
4. Invite “Garden of the Month” winners.
5. Create displays at libraries and other civic buildings during National Garden Week.
6. Give presentations to other clubs and invite them to one of your meetings.
7. Provide workshops for members and friends- teach a simple flower design with each participant making one.
8. Have a special coffee or tea with each member bringing a guest.
9. Use referrals from other members.
10. Smile- show you are having fun at workshop sites
11. Provide a greeter at the entrance to your meeting who welcomes each member.
12. Invite a friend to your holiday party,
13. Offer 1st year dues free to new members.
14. Hold meetings at public places, area civic centers, libraries.
15. Advertise
16. Have an active membership committee
17. Leave fliers at public places with contact info
18. Hold open house displaying awards, scrapbooks, flower designs, good food and smiles.
19. Have couples clubs

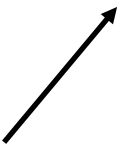




20. Hold a tour of homes.
21. Leave invitations at restaurants.
22. Encourage youth clubs at schools
23. Invite prospects 5 to 7 times.
24. Have a membership goal for the year.
25. Build a club website.
26. Have good programs
27. Follow up with every guest.
28. Be seen..have members give talks at community meetings.
29. Advertise at sports events, concerts, plays.
30. Design a club logo
31. Design a club brochure
32. Make your meetings fun
33. Develop a letter from the president to each new member
34. Feature a new member at each meeting.....a spotlight person
35. Hold joint meetings with other clubs.
36. If a club is ready to fold, invite the remaining members to yours.
37. Tap the talent of your membership



**Last but not least.....Have fun.....guests will want to return!**



# SCHOLARSHIP NEWS-LOOKING FOR YOUR CANDIDATES

Tara Ranson, Co-Chairman Scholarships 803-487-3236

As students return to school, it's time for clubs and Districts to start thinking about finding strong candidates for the various scholarships awarded each year through the GCSC scholarship program. The application deadline for the scholarships is **FEBRUARY 1, 2022**.

As a reminder, the GCSC scholarship program is open to any qualified student who is resident of South Carolina. Each scholarship has its own criteria and it is important to review the necessary requirements and restrictions for the scholarships you are promoting in your community. You will find details on the GCSC website under "Scholarships", and you can print out an information kit.

Finding strong candidates for these awards involves reaching out to your local high schools, trade schools and universities to provide not only the requirements but the deadlines. High School guidance counselors often keep track of awards and grants for their juniors and seniors and can identify and encourage good candidates. Universities, Community Colleges and trade schools have financial aid departments as well as Horticulture, Biology or Agriculture departments to contact. There may be a stellar candidate in your own family or from an organization to which you belong.

Most scholarship applications require transcripts, a list of activities and letters of recommendation along with a strong personal essay. Be aware that gathering these things to submit takes time and students are busy. Provide the information in a timely manner to those who can help provide good candidates. Because these scholarships are posted publicly on the GCSC website, savvy students may also find these opportunities themselves when they search scholarship options. If you have further questions, check the [GCSC website](#) under the "Scholarship" tab or email Chairman Sandie Duerksen at [sandieduerksen@gmail.com](mailto:sandieduerksen@gmail.com)



## **YOU COULD WIN \$300 FOR YOUR GARDEN CLUB, IT'S EASY!**

Email [\*\*sheree.welsh@yahoo.com\*\*](mailto:sheree.welsh@yahoo.com) asking for a printable .pdf of the application for a Certified Wildlife Habitat. The requirements are easily obtainable in any backyard of food, water, cover, places to raise young and sustainable practices. Have 5 club members, friends, family or neighbors complete the Certified Wildlife Habitat Application, and return the \$20 application fee for each application. (5 applications and 5 checks).

Mail your club's applications with the checks to:

Sheree Welsh  
2145 Deer Run  
Ridgeway, SC 29130

After I receive your applications, they will be forwarded to the National Wildlife Federation.

Your garden club's name will be entered in a \$300 Raffle.

Want to increase your chances? Submit 5 more applications with checks and you will have another chance in the \$300 Raffle. If you have any questions call 803-230-0098.

Please do not complete applications online!  
The deadline is **Thursday, March 31, 2022** and the drawing will be at the State General Membership Meeting.

ALL clubs will be recognized that participate.

# Why Are We Garden Club Members?

by Mary Alice Hall

GCSC Chaplain

The New Year is a great time to assess your life and think of how you want to spend your time and energy in 2022. You have chosen to be involved in Garden Club Work and want to encourage others to join you in your Garden Club because you understand:

## *The Meaning of Garden Club Work*

For some it means the actual gardening, hands in the soil, body in the sun and a vision of color and fragrance and form.

To some it means the use of flowers as a medium of artistic expression

To some it means an opportunity to serve their community by turning the ugly places into beauty spots.

To some it is a spiritual experience, whereby they may serve God through their gift of flowers to churches and hospitals and the lonely forlorn.

To a few, it means the challenge of leadership and personal ability in group work.

To a very few, it is meaningless, a name on the membership list and a sometime attendance.

But to the many it means making friends, meeting with the old and mingling with the new.

Garden club work is as complex as the unfolding of a rose and as simple as the face of a daisy.

It is social. It is spiritual. It is political. It is educational. It is scientific. It is a way of life.

Author Unknown

Printed in *A Collection of Inspirations and Installations*

published by National Garden Clubs, Inc.

# GCSC Youth Awards Celebration Picnic

Saturday, March 26, 2022

10 am – 12:30 pm



## ***The Columbia Garden Club***

### ***“Flowers With Friends” Symposium***

***Thursday, February 17***

***Central Energy***

***2030 Gregg Street***

***10:00 am***

Featured speakers will be Garden & Gun Magazine President and CEO Rebecca Wesson Darwin and floral designer and author Calvert Crary. Crary, executive director of FlowerSchool New York and FlowerSchool Los Angeles, is the author of *“Flower School: A Practical Guide to the Art of Flower Arranging.”* There will be a book signing, a floral demonstration, refreshments and a box lunch. Those interested are invited to attend with a registration fee of \$75, deadline Feb. 14. To register, [CLICK HERE](#)

# NAJCS SC

Submitted by Mary Reeves, President [Reevesmary3@gmail.com](mailto:Reevesmary3@gmail.com)

Members of the NAJCS SC want to share with GCSC members and others how to enhance their knowledge and skills in the fields of horticulture and design. We want this to be for practical applications as well as for flower shows and other exhibitions. We want this to be fun for you!

## #1 How to Design a Pot-et Fleur for Fun, Flower Show-

(In South Carolina we call this Flowers in a Pot)

**A design with an emphasis on a combination of two or more flowering &/or foliage plants with roots in growing medium.**

**Fresh Cut flowers must be included**

**Dried or other components may be added**

**Not a landscape or combination planting. (NGC Handbook page 94)**



Julia Clevette used Succulents, dried Yarrow, cut Carnations and even pieces of a broken light cover for 'bling' at a NAJCS SC show in Columbia

The Pot-et-Fleur is one that you can use as a home-design gift or a moneymaker for your club. Here are instructions and pictures:

<https://youtu.be/S578PbDhSRo>

[S578PbDhSRo](https://www.flowershowflowers.com/magazine.html)

<https://www.flowershowflowers.com/magazine.html>

<https://youtu.be/RBXpsjSIFy>



## #2 **FOAM FREE FRIDAYS** by **DESIGN**

As a Master Level Flower Show Judge, I have certainly used my share of floral foam. Without belaboring the point, remember plates, cups, containers and packaging count as FOAM. As a responsible group of gardeners, designers and residents-of-the planet, there are alternatives to the use of chemical-based foams. Here is one alternative:



**Regular “chicken wire” can be used with rolled sphagnum moss to make a cage.**



The Nationally Accredited Judges Club of SC and  
The Garden Club Council of Greater Columbia  
Present: NGC Flower Show School II  
“Horticulture and Table Designs”

Monday, March 28-Thursday, March 31, 2022  
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, S.C.

Contact: Linda Howle, GCSC State FSS Chairman  
[howlelinda@yahoo.com](mailto:howlelinda@yahoo.com), 843-616-2561  
See Brochure at [gardenclubofsc.org](http://gardenclubofsc.org)

**Elaine Jarrett, Beth Satterfield, and Courtney Mozingo, new Flower Show School students, enjoy clerking at the Coastal Carolina Fair Flower Show in Charleston**



# District News

## Coastal District

District Director: Carolyn Floyd

Co-Director: Alice Ray

### **The Georgetown Garden Club**

A Walking Tour Of Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church's Gardens

Submitted by Brenda Miller

The Georgetown Garden Club joined Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church gardeners to tour three gardens on the campus. The Church is located at 88 Baskervill Drive, Pawleys Island, South Carolina.



We began our tour in the Miss Ruby Forsythe Memorial Garden located on the site of the original Church. This garden is filled with azaleas, aspidistra, palms and live oak trees and includes a bronze portrait plaque by renowned sculptor Frederic Hart.

Miss Ruby taught in a one room school house from 1937 until 1992. This c1933 building now serves as the Parish House for HCFM Episcopal Church. The adaptive reuse of this historic structure ensures that the early history of the area is preserved. Built in 2005, the church is a board-and-batten building in the carpenter gothic style featuring post-and-beam construction, soaring windows on all sides and a chancel window centered on an ancient live oak tree.



The adjacent Biblical Garden is filled with plants and trees mentioned in the Bible. There are examples and descriptions of over 32 varieties including hyssop, rosemary, wormwood, thyme and almond, olive and fig trees. The Biblical Garden gardeners served rosemary infused cookies to club members.



The third garden is The Baskervill Food Pantry Garden featuring organic and pesticide free raised beds planted with seasonal vegetables, pollinator plants and a bee motel. The garden supplies fresh food to the Baskervill Food Pantry's vulnerable clientele.



The entire HCFM complex is a garden landscaped with mature live oak trees, camellias and azaleas. The campus is open to all and visitors are encouraged to come. All meetings, church or community groups must be coordinated through the church office located in the Parish House.

The Christmas spirit came early to **Camellia Garden Club Conway SC** members Carolyn Floyd, Rosemary Jenrette and Sims Gasque. They decided to make the historic, but currently vacant, C. P. Quattlebaum Office come to life in downtown Conway for the holidays.



Listed on the National Register of Historic Places (0014), this building was built circa 1860. It is a small one-story, two-room gabled structure that once housed the law office of C.P. Quattlebaum (1851-1929). Conway's first bank, it is the oldest commercial building in Conway.

Even before decorating could begin, preliminary work began by cleaning the steps and area around the building. Ready to get to work, they cut greenery; made festive bows; collected materials from various places and individuals; brought a tree to decorate down from an attic; and purchased other decorations at local businesses. Their connection with Hucks & Washington Furniture Company made a black rocker available for the porch, where it enticed those passing to sit and enjoy the scenery. As the holiday ended, Club member Rosemary Jenrette said, "The public seemed to notice the improvements immediately and made many comments. We did accomplish our goal. It is not sad and dark anymore."

## Camellia Garden Club of Conway

by Shirley Long Johnson

*Loutrel Briggs will live in our memory, in our hearts, and in the gardens he designed as long as we honor his work by our care and maintenance of them in our city, our state, and beyond.*

Mrs. Sallie Carrington-Chaney,  
President of the Garden Club of Charleston, 1977



Her words rang true on October 19, 2021, with the garden designed by Loutrel Winslow Briggs for Mrs. Archie Sasser in the late 40's having been brought to life at 1401 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Conway by Mary and John Long. The event has been described by *The Horry Independent* Editor, Kathy Ropp, as follows:

“Members and guests of the Camellia Garden Club got a huge treat when, as part of their regular monthly meeting, they got an up-close look at the improvements that Mary and John Long have made to their home and its gardens in the Residential Historic District of Conway. The Longs, who have spent time on the mission field in Tanzania, bought The Dr. James Archibald Sasser House (National Register of Historic Places #0642) about a year ago. Mary didn't waste any time beginning to remodel the house and its gardens. Huge beautiful live oaks form a canopy across the back of the yard and an impressive one fills the front yard.

The house was built circa 1935 by one of Conway's first medical doctors Dr. Archie Sasser and his wife Martha Dyches Sasser. Long said Mrs. Sasser loved her gardens and could always be found working in them. He said a lot originated out of that property (one being the named *Camellia Japonica Dr. Archie Sasser*), and perhaps one was the Camellia Garden Club. Mrs. Sasser was one of its founding members in 1939.

Credit for designing the garden was given to Loutrel Winslow Briggs, who was born in 1893 in New York, graduated from Cornell University in 1927 and moved to Charleston, where he

designed numerous gardens South of Broad, throughout South Carolina and beyond. His easily recognizable features include a formal garden with enclosed beds separated by hedges. For the serious gardeners in attendance, it was noted that he designed

Garden Club of South Carolina's “Memorial Garden”.





Reviving the gardens took ‘blood, sweat, tears, and bee stings – lots and lots of bee stings’, Mary said. She now sits in the yard under the shade of the oaks, listens to church bells ringing and watches the birds. God has definitely met us in this garden,” she said.



The October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting was complete with a large group of approximately 50 men and women who were able to select from two bountifully-filled tables of everything from ham biscuits to sandwiches, fruit, brownies, cookies and more. Camellia Garden Club President Shirley Long Johnson introduced the guests who included GCSC President Linda Howle, GCSC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President David Stoudenmire, GCSC District Liaison Dee LeMay, Coastal Director Carolyn Floyd, Coastal Co-Director Alice Ray, several members of the Loris Garden Club and its President Laura Hardee. Other special invitees were Board of Directors Carl Claytor and Dorothy Richardson, Myrtle Beach Garden Club President Allyson Hirsch, and several members of the Sasser family.

Among the many accolades for *The Restoration of Mrs. Archie Sasser’s Historic Garden* by Renowned Landscape Architect Loutrel Winslow Briggs was made by one of the most highly respected gardeners in South Carolina, “Thank you or a wonderful afternoon but especially for a memory that will last a lifetime”.

Loutrel Winslow Briggs and Mrs. Archie Sasser have to be smiling down as their prestigious garden once again is in its glory.

May the attached photographs give you a glimpse into the Camellia Garden Club Conway SC’s October monthly meeting. Approximately 11 judge-quality fresh floral arrangements for inside the Colonial Revival home were created by Club member Mrs. B. Pratt Gasque. In the garden atop cloth-draped tables seating eight and two refreshment tables as well as on the two garden gates were fresh floral arrangements by guest designers, Mrs. Buddy Sasser and Mrs. Furman Long.



# District News

## East Low Country District

District Director: Meg Lee

Co-Director: Peggy Benton

### Flowertown Garden Club Installation of Officers

Submitted by Holly Hussey

The Flowertown Garden Club held its first meeting of the year in September at the Cuthbert Community Center in Summerville. The program was the installation of the 2021-2022 officers. Past President and long time Garden Club member, Sue Avenel, conducted the ceremony. After honoring those leaving their positions, Mrs. Avenel presented each new officer with a small nose gay of flowers in a color symbolic of their position on the Board. It was a touching and memorable ceremony for the new board members as well as the 43 members in attendance. Provisional member, Meredith Buddin, made the nose gays and the table arrangement. At the conclusion of the meeting, the table arrangement was given to former President and senior member in attendance, Greta Ballard.

The gifting of the monthly table arrangement is one of several changes and new traditions being implemented by The Garden Club this year. Each month a different club member has been asked to make the arrangement, and after the meeting it will be gifted to a special member who is in attendance or one of our members who is no longer able to attend. Other changes include improving club exposure through social media, more off sight events, meetings and field trips, as well as a project with the recently opened Public Works Arts Center in historic downtown Summerville.

The sixty eighth  
year of The  
Flowertown  
Garden Club is  
off to a great  
start!



## Riverland Terrace Garden Club

by Sandee Bauer

In January 2020, the members of the Riverland Terrace Garden Club (RTGC) voted on the Early College High School Garden Club at Trident Technical College (TTC) becoming a sponsored Youth Garden Club under GCSC and NGC guidelines. However, soon to follow came the COVID -19 challenges and the students were no longer attending school in person. Sadly, we were unable to meet the group facilitator or the young gardeners of our club. When our 2021 garden club year began, we reached out to the Youth Garden Club. They have a new facilitator, Tara Pinckney, and 24 members have joined the club. I was invited to meet and speak to the group on October 22, 2021.



Tara is enthusiastic about her group and being associated with RTGC. I presented the club a copy of our Yearbook, and shared some of our club's various projects and programs. I also discussed being part of a larger garden club family.... with local, regional, state, and national benefits. The students were introduced to the scholarships and awards available to them through the Garden Club of South Carolina and Camp Wildwood, the environmental camp we sponsor. Each student member was given a handout describing these scholarships, as well as, application form, requirements, and due dates for applying. Our student group made up of boys and girls talked about their own gardening experiences with parents and grandparents. At my visit I was able to leave a variety of plants for students take home with them. I had a wonderful time meeting Tara and our young gardeners. We (RTGC) are looking forward to developing joint projects with our Early College High School Garden Club!

## Council of Garden Clubs of Greater Charleston's Christmas Project

Submitted by Linda R. Smith



On December 1st, the Council of Garden Clubs of Greater Charleston collected items for MUSC Children's Hospital. Thirteen garden clubs within the Council delivered 108 table top trees, 99 wreaths, 185 stuffed animals, 51 books, 44 board games, 14 toys for infants,



20 blankets and \$640 in cash from which the MUSC staff purchased items needed by the children and their families.

Riverland Terrace Garden Club  
Since 1941

## 2022 Spring Garden Tour & Bazaar

Saturday, March 19, 2022

- \* 6 Riverland Terrace Secret Gardens  
Open 10-3
- \* Bazaar  
Vendors, Unique Crafts, Plants  
Open 11-4  
Bethany United Methodist Church  
1853 Maybank Hwy



Advance ticket price \$25; day of tour \$30.  
To purchase tickets contact Joan Dunning at  
[joan.dunning@att.net](mailto:joan.dunning@att.net) or 843-324-8754.

Proceeds Benefit the Windmill  
at Plymouth Park

# St. Paul's Garden Club

submitted by Patti Dutko



Our October meeting found us learning how to make stepping stones. It was a beautiful fall day and members enjoyed making the stones. We made stones for our own homes as well as stones to be sold during our April 2nd. "Take Me To The River" private home garden tour.

Connie Puckett, one of our members, brought the whole stepping stone day together for us. We used broken pottery, marbles, tiles, sea glass, and other items to make our one of a kind stepping stones. All the gardens on the tour this year are located on rivers or lakes, each having a unique beautiful setting.

We applied for and received a grant to help refinish our Blue Star Marker. The balance of the cost came from the proceeds from our garden tours. The work was ordered and completed in October. An excellent job was done and the sign is a source of pride once again.



## Azalea Garden Club of Manning

decorated the Town Square Clock for the Christmas Holidays on October 28. This ongoing project opens the holiday season.



## Alhambra Garden Club

Submitted by Marci Silverman

The Alhambra Garden Club had a wreath making workshop in December. Wreath designs were by AGC member Seiko Smith, aptly named the *Lowcountry Christmas Wreath*. The workshop was coordinated by Seiko and Caroline Anderson using all Lowcountry plant materials, including *Magnolia grandiflora* leaves and Sago palm fronds. The wreaths were given to the city of Mount Pleasant.



Members of **Virginia's Pride Garden Club of Manning** installed bird feeders at the Pocotaligo Nature Walk in November. The project's purpose is to encourage the swamp's bird population to venture closer to the walkways for the enjoyment of visitors. This is a new project that the club hopes to continue.

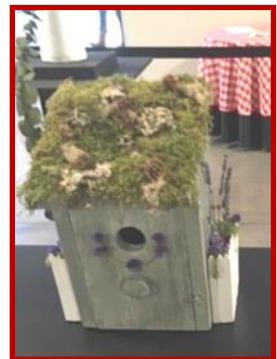
**Summerville’s Flowertown Garden Club** planted flowers at the entrance of the Public Works Art Center on November 18 in a new ongoing project. The Public Works Art Center, open since October 15, 2020, serves as “a cultural hub and creative incubator” for artists and visitors and is a draw to downtown Summerville. ([www.publicworksartcenter.org](http://www.publicworksartcenter.org))



Two NGC Standard Flower Shows titled *Fair Frolics* were presented by **The Council of Garden Clubs of Greater Charleston** and the Exchange Club Fair of Charleston October 28 through November 7.



Design categories included “Scrambler” at left, “Candy Apple” below, and “She Shed” at right.



# District News

## East Piedmont District

District Director: Elaine Wade

Co-Director: Linda Hutchinson

### The Lancaster Garden Club

submitted by  
Carolyn Tolson

What a joy to have David Stoudenmire, GCSC First Vice President visit with the Lancaster Garden Club for its October meeting and



present the program. Joyce Morin, a member -not pictured- was snapping the photo. Thank you David, for taking time from your busy schedule to come and meet with us.

### Council Of Garden Clubs of Manning

submitted by Betty Reese, President

On October 20, members and guests of the Council of Garden Clubs of Manning enjoyed Bryce Lane's presentation *Color Magic in the Garden*. Bryce entertained and enlightened a large crowd of eager and wannabe gardeners with his wit and wisdom. Each attendee was asked to consider his/her garden. Then, using Bryce's suggestions and how-tos, to envision it as a "place of beauty," transformed by incorporating color into the landscape through plantings and garden art. Following his presentation,

Bryce answered numerous questions from the audience. Visitors from all over the state attended this fabulous event, which was presented with utmost care.



Bryce Lane, Retired Professor,  
Department of Horticulture  
NC State University

"And they all lived happily ever after knowing that the magic of color echoes in their garden was perfect."



**The Potting Shed Garden Club of Chester** partnered with Historic Brattonsville to celebrate Arbor Day with the planting of a ten foot Willow Oak. Poems were read, the tree was blessed and it was a beautiful sunny day with Brattonsville staff and Potting Shed Garden Club members.

( Pictured are Historic Brattonsville staff and Potting Shed Garden Club members.)



The Potting Shed Garden Club also partnered with the City of Chester to plant a white Dogwood tree in Frank Conner Park. This was the second tree planted in the park by The Potting Shed group.

Club President Mark Cockerille spoke of Arbor Day in South Carolina, club member Linda Smith read a touching poem and club chaplain Diane Simpson offered the prayer. The mulch was donated, the city dug the hole. It was truly a community effort.

Pictured are club members  
Linda Smith and  
Diane Simpson.



## **Leaf and Petal Garden Club**

Submitted by Venise Grier

The Leaf & Petal Garden Club kicked off its new year with a Zoom meeting in September. President Venise Grier outlined plans for maintaining our three Community Gardens and our newest project of establishing a pollinator garden at the Lindsay Pettus Greenway. Program Chair, Sara Phillip, announced the line-up of speakers which represent a broad range of topics of interest to club members.

The Club's October speaker was Peggy Little, GCSC Memorial Garden, Chairman; Chairman of the Board of Trustees; Veterans' Outreach. Peggy's virtual presentation covered the history and projects of the Memorial Garden. She distributed brochures for ordering Memorial Garden bricks to honor a Veteran.

Kathy White, Chair of the Carolina Fence Garden at Andrew Jackson State Park, organized a October 23<sup>rd</sup> work day during which the rail fencing was replaced. Also, several new plants and mulch were added.



In November, our program was provided by Carolyn Kemp, a plant dye artist, basket weaver, and water color artist. Carolyn explained the source of natural dye plants - roots, flowers, stems, and their hull or leaves – and the of process for using natural dyes to color textiles.



Plans for December include participating with two other garden clubs to decorate the exterior of the Historic Lancaster Courthouse, plant a native tree on the Lindsay Pettus Greenway, and meet for a meal and gift exchange with club members.

## Clarice Wilson Garden Club

“Fun in Designing with Whimsical Weathered Wood”  
submitted by Mary Ann Powell Kirby

In November, at the elegant Poinsett Club in Greenville, Clarice Wilson Garden Club presented an original design program using weathered wood. Presenter Mary Ann Powell Kirby, a credentialed designer and flower show judge, created seasonal designs using horticulture from her garden.



Mary Ann’s first design featured a copper-colored bamboo container of split palm spathe, dried Banksia Protea, dried Sago palms and Osage oranges impaled on Nandina stems. Burfordii holly from her garden was arranged in a cascade in an antique 1920 Art Deco smoke stand that depicted dancer Isadora Duncan in the second design. Weathered wood in the form of a dancer, Nandina foliage and Wisteria vine from the garden of Mary Ann’s mother completed the creation. The third design featured a crescent-shaped piece of wood on an inverted oriental stand. Banksia Protea sprayed red, fresh foliage and Indian corn were attached to the wood using dried palms and hemp roping.



# District News

## East Sandhills District

District Director: Frances Kendall

Co-Director: Michelene Sheehy

### The Council of Garden Clubs of Sumter

submitted by Fair Edmunds

The Council of Garden Clubs of Sumter and member clubs Azalea and Poinsett-Bland hit the ground running in September and have yet to slow down. In October Council presented an NGC Standard Flower Show in conjunction with The



Sumter American Legion Fair. The show's schedule, *Homegrown History*, featured designs and horticulture categories that remembered South Carolina-born notables from Mary Boykin Chestnut to Eartha Kitt to Bobby Richardson. For the first time, the Flower Show shared a venue with the Art Show, a move that expanded the horizons of both art patrons and plant lovers.

Also in October, Council saw to the refurbishment of the county's Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker at the intersection of US Highway 378 East and SC 261. With a generous grant from GCSC and a similarly generous donation from Sumter County Council, the marker was restored to its former glory. The marker, placed in 1968, had dulled from pollution, weather and road grime but once again is truly eye catching.



On Saturday, December 4, Council presented *Sumter's Holiday Showcase* to our community. In a departure from our traditional Holiday House Tour and Tea, Garden Club members filled the Alice Boyle Garden Center with Christmas-themed decor to appeal to a variety of tastes.

Trees featured ornaments fashioned from recycled coffee pods and paper towel rolls by children at a local day care center, playful elves, cardinals, hymnal music, The Twelve Days of Christmas and original Sumter-themed ornaments created by Terry Newman, artist and Azalea member.



Elegant tables capes, including a stunning upcycled blue and silver dinner table created by Poinsett-Bland member Pat Fernandez, wreaths running the gamut from glittery to nativity, a festive porch complete with topiary and a pink boa-inspired Mrs. Claus' Boudoir were just a few of the designs that delighted ticket-holders. Exterior doors and windows were adorned with native palm fronds tied with red ribbons, and lanterns draped with greens and red ribbons greeted visitors. The Preview Party the evening before found guests enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres under twinkling lights accompanied by a wonderful violinist.



Members took a short break from *Showcase* preparations to celebrate Arbor Day on December 3 with the City of Sumter. The City planted a Kousa dogwood (*Cornus kousa*) in Swan Lake Iris Gardens. TreesSC also attended the event and presented the Golden Acorn Award to City Arborist Brock McDaniel for his contributions in support of our State's community forests. Members were pleased to congratulate Brock and to thank him for his support of our activities.

**Darlington Garden Club**  
members Betty Ann Chase,  
Rosanne Brasington, and  
Linda Howle, hang wreaths and  
garlands at the historic  
McCullough House the first week  
in December.



## **QUINBY GARDEN CLUB**

Submitted by Nellie Clayton

Quinby Garden Club members were busy in November preparing for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Arbor Day Celebration on Arbor Day, December 3, 2021. Because of Covid the event was not held in 2020 and we were waiting to hear from Mayor Ashby Gregg about scheduling it in 2021. In early November, he let the Club know we could proceed with this annual project!

The committee members were Linda Page, Louise Rallings, Anna Polk, and Nellie Clayton. Contact with the coordinator for the Town of Quinby revealed that forty new bows were needed to replace the previously used ones. Christmas red ribbon was located and purchased by the Town of Quinby. Members met to tie bows and attach them to the wreaths. The wreaths were placed at the main Quinby entrances and other streets, the Municipal building, and the new Quinby Community Center.

Prior to the tree lighting, the committee members contacted local businesses for contributions to help with door prizes. Flyers were placed in prominent places the businesses in Quinby. On Arbor Day, members decorated the Quinby Community Center with magnolia leaves, Christmas ornaments and balloons. Tablecloths and centerpieces were placed on the tables. The Town furnished a beautifully decorated twelve-foot Christmas tree for the inside. The Club placed greenery at the entrance of the building.

Also prior to the tree lighting and Arbor Day celebration, the mayor and four members of the Club planted a blue spruce tree in an area between the building and the street. The tree is small at this time, but it is anticipated that it will be the annual Christmas tree for years to come.

At the Christmas Tree Lighting and Arbor Day Celebration on December 3, 2021, Mayor Gregg welcomed attendees and garden club members present introduced themselves.

A Christmas devotional was given by Keith Hinson, pastor of Quinby Baptist Church, Arbor Day information was given, and the group enjoyed Christmas carols. The group went outside for the mayor to turn on the lights on the Christmas tree and watch and for Santa's arrival. The children visited Santa and had refreshments.

There was a raffle on a small, decorated Christmas tree that had been donated. Tickets were drawn for door prizes that included gift certificates from KJ's (IGA), two savings accounts from Carolina Bank, and even packages of Christmas cookies among other items.



# District News

## West Low Country District

District Director: Kathy New

Co-Director: Elizabeth Cronk-Horch

### Garden Makers Garden Club

Submitted by ElizaBeth Cronk-Horch, President

These old growth camellias were all over my yard in Aiken when we bought our home- most are at least 50-60 years old. They start blooming in September and will

continue in waves throughout the winter until March/April. We had many limbed up due to the sheer size of them and they are just a sight to behold. Some we have left natural. I have a couple over 30 feet tall! The first tree (30 feet tall) to bloom vibrates and hums with pollinators for several weeks. You can hear it from across the yard! We only have guesstimates as to varieties because of their age but there are more than 60 on the property. We have a wonderful canopy of Long Leaf Pines that are the perfect host for these amazing plants.





# Lady's Island Garden Club

Submitted by Sondra Knight

Ladies Island Garden Club started out the new 21/22 year with a new president, Pam Floyd. Taking office during Covid was a challenge. As many of you probably did, the Zoom meetings, offered by GCSC as a free access, were a wonderful lifeline to keep our



members connected. We must applaud our ex-president, Veronica Anderson for this feat as she passed the gavel onto Pam. During Covid our new by-laws were updated and passed by a unanimous vote. Our yearbook committee chaired by Teege Culp had the giant task of formatting and printing the by-laws into our yearbook. The LIGC plants and cares for two garden plots at the Beaufort National cemetery. This spring was spent redesigning and planting many perennials and shrubs as a means to keep the gardens as low maintenance and cost effective as possible. Susan Hinrichs as our new committee chair for Community Projects researched and sourced approximately 200 plants that were used in the two beds. Our fall plantings at the National Cemetery included filler plants, snap dragons and daffodil bulbs. Anita Hinkell as our first vice-president has thrilled our club with many wonderful speakers so far, who have presented informative topics, such as native plants, coastal conservation, snakes and their importance in our world. She also planned and coordinated our first field trip of the year to the Charleston Tea Plantation. What better way to bond with fellow members than to spend two hours in a car with them? We participated in the Beaufort Historic Foundation's Tour of Homes the week before Halloween. Myself, Sondra Knight, as committee chair for the Design,



Shows and Tours committee coordinated with the Beaufort Council of Garden Clubs president Sandra Educate and Lise Sundrla from the BHF to decorate with lovely fall arrangements at the Smalls-Nash cottage. Our Ways and Means committee chair, Linda Formby planned a bake sale plus floral arrangements sale fundraiser at the Grayco Hardware Store (the areas greatest mercantile) on Lady's Island. Our members baked and created arrangements to sell the week before Thanksgiving.

## **Palmetto Garden Club of Beaufort**

Submitted by Beverly Whitaker

In the fall of 2019 members of Palmetto Garden Club noticed an overgrown and essentially ignored small public park on a corner of Bay (Main) Street in Beaufort, SC directly across from the historic and pristine Beaufort waterfront. Feeling that this little “pocket” park called Secession Park was so underutilized yet had so much potential, the club suggested a partnership with the city of Beaufort to create a perennial pollinator planting project. Located on the corners of Bay (Main Street), Church and Craven streets, thousands of residents and tourists walk and drive by this prime location every day, most taking little notice. We could fix that.

Our club felt we could use our gardening and design talents to enhance the beauty and increase utilization of the park by creating a pollinator habitat garden and participate in a community improvement project. We drew a design plan and submitted it for approval by the Downtown Operations and Community Services Department under the direction of Linda Roper. Initially our club would replace the hedge and plant pollinator plants, flowers and herbs in the existing bed along Church Street creating both an attractive and functional garden habitat for birds, bees and butterflies. This new garden plan was designed to be visually appealing year-round. We received city approval and funding from a grant awarded by the PLANT AMERICA Community Project to Palmetto Garden Club in December of 2020.



In early 2021, garden club members began the site preparation work by removing the existing hedge along Church Street with the generous help of two club members whose family has access to a backhoe. Members then dug out remaining roots, prepared the beds and added soil amendments. We also removed excess Spanish moss from the Crape Myrtle trees that blocked the sunlight.



Planting began in late March with the new hedge of Dwarf Podocarpus (Podocarpus macrophyllus ‘Pringles’) plants. Then we planted two Salvia varieties, ‘Black and Blue’ and ‘Hot Lips’ with their delicate red and white bicolor blooms and also Firecracker (Russelia equisetiformis) plants. In April and May more of our plants became available so Milkweed (asclepias tuberosa), Bush Daisy (Europs pectinatus), and herbs (fennel, flat leaf parsley and blue spires basil) were planted. We completed the garden in mid-June with the planting of Lantana (‘Lucky Sunrise Rose’) and PowWow Wild Berry Coneflower plants.

Throughout the summer and early fall, garden club members took turns watering and weeding the garden. It was rewarding work with the cool southerly sea breeze off the water keeping us cool as we enjoyed many wonderful compliments on the garden beauty from residents and travelers alike. Many came to sit, stay awhile and enjoy their cup of coffee in this quiet setting filled with color, bees and butterflies.

As winter approaches our members will continue to care for the garden although not as intensively. It will have a different beauty but be equally welcoming, interesting and restful for all of Beaufort to enjoy.

Lastly a special thanks goes to Palmetto Garden Club members, the City of Beaufort and Linda Roper, the Garden Club of South Carolina, and the National Garden Clubs PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grant Program. Without every one of you this project would still just be an idea.

*The*  
**Aiken Garden Show** **May 13-14, 2022**

FOR DETAILS AND TICKET INFORMATION:  
[www.aikengardenshow.org](http://www.aikengardenshow.org)  
OR CALL 803.215.5633

Aiken County Historical Museum • 433 Newberry Street SW • Aiken, SC

Tours of Private Gardens • Featured Speakers  
Vendor Market • American Rose Society Rose Show

## Aiken Council of Garden Clubs

Twenty-five years ago the Aiken Council of Garden Clubs placed a Blue Star By-Way Marker at the Dollhouse located inside Hopelands Gardens. Several years ago the Country Gardeners Garden Club voted to make the area a special club project. Vines were removed, bushes were trimmed and fresh mulch was added. Recently the entire Dollhouse grounds have undergone an extensive landscaping project using profits from our biannual fundraising Garden Show. With the guidance of Betty Gourdin, SCGC Marker Chair, (application on SCGC website) we were able to receive a grant to help us restore our Blue Star Marker. We contacted Tom Stelling. Tom uses the National Garden Club specifications to restore markers. Tom and his wife travel the USA bringing markers back to the look they deserve. Tom is a Navy veteran and has chosen to do this to honor Veterans everywhere.



You can reach Tom by email or text:  
386-299-7841

[www.HistoricalMarkersRestoration.com](http://www.HistoricalMarkersRestoration.com)

(submitted by Nancy McCormick, Chairperson, Blue Star Marker Committee, ACGC)

## Seed and Weed Garden Club

Seed and Weed Garden Club honored breast cancer survivors and promoted breast cancer awareness during the month of October. Our “Plant It Pink” activities included planting our Memory Garden pink to emphasize this annual health campaign and sponsoring a Breast Cancer Survivor Drive Through on October 13, 2021, Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

Pink Gomphrena, pink Petunias, pink Angelonia, pink polka dot plants, pink mandevilla, and other pink flowers were used as focal points in the Memory Garden. Other pink adornments such as breast cancer ribbons, pumpkins, wind chimes, and a chandelier were also used to increase attention to breast cancer and enhance the theme of the Garden.

Beautiful treat boxes were filled with a variety of goodies for the Survivors who attended the Drive Through, which held near the Memory Garden. Numerous boxes were delivered to survivors who were unable to attend the Drive Through and some were delivered to the Infusion Center at Beaufort Memorial Hospital for patients undergoing treatments for breast cancer.

The Sprouts, our Youth Garden Club, painted styrofoam pumpkins pink to be used on tables at the Drive Through. We also had a member of the Interact Club, a service organization at a local high school, help on the day of the Drive Through.

The positive comments from the community on the appearance of the Memory Garden and the smiles and feedback of appreciation from the Survivors were a blessing to the Seed and Weed Garden Club.



# District News

## West Piedmont District

District Director: Dot Closs

Co-Director: Lorraine Gerhart

**Unit One Garden Club members from the Greenwood Council of Garden Clubs** learn about traditions behind the Mexican observance of dia de los muertos or day of the dead Nov. 1 and 2. From marigolds and cockscomb used on the family altar to photos of deceased loved ones, the day of remembrance brings family together to dine on foods that were favorites of the deceased and to recall stories about them. From left are Unit One members Carol Stahl and Charlotte Cabri and Gina Bautista, program presenter, and her sister, Gregoria Bautista. Pan de los muertos or bread of the dead was baked by the sisters, who likened the Mexican observance to a family reunion. Photo by Lynda Thurman. Submitted by Charlotte Cabri.



Want to be famous and fabulous like these garden club members?  
Just submit your Club or Council activities, meetings, projects, etc... to *The SC Gardener* magazine by emailing [scgardenereditor@gmail.com](mailto:scgardenereditor@gmail.com) The deadline for the Spring issue is **February 15th.**

# Lake and Hills Garden Club

By Laurie Flanagan

The Arbor Day Foundation remarks that while most holidays commemorate events and people from the past, Arbor Day is a celebration of the future. Planting trees on Arbor Day is a symbol of hope in the future - hope for a better tomorrow, improved environmental conditions, more numerous wildlife habitats, and healthier communities.

Lake and Hills Garden Club (LHGC) celebrated South Carolina's Arbor Day on Friday, December 3 by planting native Red Maple trees at Keowee Elementary School in Seneca and the Tamassee DAR School in Salem. LHGC and Arbor Day Project member Cheryl Shuford led a presentation with the children about the history of Arbor Day, the proper care and planting of trees, and the natural habitats trees provide for wildlife. The second grade students at Keowee and the fourth-grade students at Tamassee DAR were then split into groups: Ticklers, who spread the tree roots; Lifters, who moved the trees into the ground; Rainmakers, who watered the trees. LHGC Club members Lynn Pode, Marilyn Miller, Sherri Wangrin, Karen Pfaff, Joy Lutz, Judy Trad, and Margaret Stricker assisted the children who didn't mind one bit getting dirty, preferring to work without gloves.



Planting trees on Arbor Day is transformative. South Carolina towns, ravaged by tornadic storms, take the first steps towards landscapes where future generations can linger under the shade of towering trees. The children, who plant those trees, may well strengthen their own roots, too. Arbor Day activities, such as Lake and Hills tree plantings that involve our youth, are great ways to support the 2021-2023 Garden Club of South Carolina's theme: "Let's Grow, South Carolina!" Plant a tree. Plant hope.



## The Greenville Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.

by Sandra Hamann

October 8th and 9th, The Greenville Council of Garden Clubs hosted “*Silly Scary Sustainable Scarecrows*” in the Urban Arboretum at Council’s Headquarters at the Kilgore-Lewis House. Torrential rain on opening day did not dampen the spirits of Council’s 9 member clubs who sponsored the show or of the 2 Garden Club members who entered the juried show.

The focus of the free-to-the-public event was “sustainability.”

Scarecrows were to be created using only sustainable elements, from bamboo frames to natural or recycled products. Instructions included composting and/or recycling the scarecrows at the end of the show!



Local agencies who support sustainability were invited to set up exhibits demonstrating how their efforts benefit our community. Eight agencies representing trees, water, recycling, gardening and wildlife participated in the event. Karen Allen, Chair of GCSC’s Environmental Studies School, demonstrated “How to Make Sustainable Potting Soil.”



Judging took place as scheduled, in spite of a downpour. The three good sports who judged the show were impressed with the degree of creativity displayed in the scarecrows. As the afternoon sun began to dry the Arboretum grounds, the Show opened as scheduled for a very successful and well attended second day!





THERE'S

# Magic

IN THE AIR

THE GREENVILLE COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

PRESENTS

AN NGC FLOWER SHOW

APRIL 26-27, 2022

OPEN AND FREE TO PUBLIC



KILGORE-LEWIS HOUSE  
560 N. ACADEMY ST  
GREENVILLE, SC, 29601

MEMBER OF NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.  
SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION  
THE GARDEN CLUB OF SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.  
WEST PIEDMONT DISTRICT



Save  
The  
Date

"Gardening for Birds, Butterflies & Bees"

**Annual Spring Meeting  
and Awards Luncheon**

**March 1, 2022**

**9:00 am**



**Where:**

**Lutheran Church by the Lake  
McCormick**

# District News

## West Sandhills District

District Director: Karen Galloway

Co-Director: Becky Fairey

### ***'Chapin Goes Green'* to become a Certified Community Wildlife Habitat**

By Cindy Chin, President Chapin Garden Club

Chapin has registered to become a Certified Community Wildlife Habitat with the National Wildlife Federation. In order to be certified, Chapin has to “earn” certification points by providing habitat for wildlife throughout the community – where people live, work, learn, and worship. To do this, individual properties such as schools, backyards, public parks and gardens, places of worship and businesses, agree to provide the four basic elements that all wildlife need – food, water, cover and places to raise young. Additionally, individuals agree to integrate sustainable gardening practices such as using rain barrels, reducing water usage, removing invasive plants, using native plants, and eliminating pesticides. This practice provide habitats that help create areas for wildlife. The newly connected avenues of habitat then enable wildlife to thrive, traveling from property to property.

The plan to have Chapin certified as a community habitat is a joint effort bringing together many individuals and organizations in Chapin. Presently Jay Keck - Habitat Education Manager with the SC Wildlife Federation and Cindy Chin - President of Chapin Garden Club are serving as team leaders. Initial efforts focus on educating and engaging community support by organizing and hosting workshops focused on gardening for wildlife. The team is also concentrating on presenting innovative educational opportunities, such as plans for an upcoming *'wildlife'* trivia night at Timberlake Country Club. This exposes community members to the need for and benefits of creating wildlife habitat.

Noting that “healthy habitats and healthy communities go hand-in-hand”, Chapin Mayor David Knight issued a proclamation endorsing the ‘Chapin Goes Green’ project and supporting the enrollment of the Town of Chapin in the National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat Certification program. Cindy Chin, representing Chapin Garden Club and the ‘Chapin Goes Green’ project attended the Chapin Town Council meeting on October 5 to accept the proclamation.



Recently, ‘Chapin Goes Green’ completed a major project supporting the community certification initiative. Working with volunteers from Town Hall, and the community; Garden Club members, folks from the SC Wildlife Federation and members of the Chapin

Beautification Foundation installed a 70-foot native plant pollinator garden behind Town Hall. More than 200 native plants were planted. The focus was on non-invasive native plants that occur naturally in our region and provide vital habitat for birds, butterflies, moths, and other wildlife. The pollinator garden serves as a demonstration site for residents to see a model habitat garden that can be replicated in their own yards.

Each homeowner, business, school, and place of worship with a 29036 zip code is encouraged to review the criteria for having their property certified. In order to complete the property certification requirements, the ‘Chapin Goes Green’ effort must document a total of 225 certification points and currently the project has 104 habitats certified. For information on having your property certified or for additional information about the ‘Chapin Goes Green’ project contact Jay Keck ([jay@scwf.org](mailto:jay@scwf.org)) or Cindy Chin ([chinhome@aol.com](mailto:chinhome@aol.com))

## Columbia Garden Club Fall Planting at VA Blue Star Memorial site



The Columbia Garden Club is bringing a bright touch of fall flowers to the new Blue Star Memorial Marker site at the Veterans Hospital complex on Garners Ferry Road. Trudy Miles Wilson, chair of the of the Blue Star Memorial Project, led the planting project October 14 after overseeing the marker's relocation in March to the VA site from Sesquicentennial Park.

Columbia Garden Club members plant fall flowers at Blue Star Memorial site at VA Hospital complex on Garners Ferry Road. From left are Trudy Wilson, CGC Blue Star Memorial Chair, and committee members Laura Foster and Doris Taylor.  
*(Photo courtesy of Columbia Club)*

The prominent location was chosen to be a part of the nearby Fisher House with its construction set to begin this fall. The marker site will be the starting point of a fitness track, built in conjunction with the Fisher House, which will encompass the entire grounds of the hospital complex.

The Blue Star Memorial Markers Project has a distinguished history beginning in 1945 after World War II to pay tribute to the United States Armed Forces. They are in national cemeteries, parks, veteran facilities and gardens across the country.

Wilson says the fall planting continues the red, white and blue five-star theme begun by the VA grounds staff when the marker was relocated. When completed, the \$6.5 million Fisher House will provide free lodging for relatives who are visiting VA patients. The VA Medical Complex is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. South Carolina's first Fisher House opened in Charleston in 2018. Currently, there are some 90 Fisher Houses across the nation, providing lodging to more than 400,000 families since 1990.

*For questions, contact Warren Hughes, CGC publicity committee, 803-782-2266, [wah@sc.rr.com](mailto:wah@sc.rr.com)*

# Pine Garden Club

Submitted by Jane Barnhill

Have you ever stayed in a hotel built in 1773? Have you ever toured homes and gardens of prominent authors and artists? If not, maybe you would like a trip to the Berkshires as three of our Pine Garden Club Members recently made. Jane Barnhill, Pat Chapman, and Peggy Crouch took the “Fall in Love With the Berkshires” trip with Joyce Moore, Tour Manager. After flying from Columbia, SC, to Albany, NY, we joined members of the tour from six other states.

Our base was the Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, built in 1773. Highlights of the trip included the Norman Rockwell Museum where we saw the many *Saturday Evening Post* magazine covers; Chesterwood, the home of Daniel Chester French who created the iconic figure of Abraham Lincoln for the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC; Naumkeag, the home and gardens of the Choate family. Mabel Choate, an avid gardener for over 30 years, helped create more than 15 gardens, paths, gates, and lawns on the property.



Each day offered trips to wonderful museums, gardens, and homes. The Clark, a museum best known for its French Impressionist, Old Master, and American paintings, also included an extensive collection of silver. On the same day, we toured The Mount, Edith Wharton’s house and garden, and had lunch on the terrace of the home. The day was completed with a trip to Hancock Shaker Village, a tour of their Shaker farm, round milking barns, and the Believer’s Room where we were treated to Shaker music and a delicious dinner.



The West Sandhills District Meeting is March 10 at Phillips Market Center at the State Farmers Market and will be hosted by the Columbia Garden Club. Our featured speakers will be Hugh Weathers, SC Commissioner of Agriculture and Amanda McNulty of ETV’s Making It Grow.

# ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Submitted by Victoria Bergesen, GCSC Chairperson  
and NGC Environmental Concerns Coordinator



## Gardening with Nature Developing Local Resources

*Your **Gardening with Nature** projects will be most successful when you use local resources and form local partnerships.*

NGC's new program **Gardening with Nature** is inspired by the work of Doug Tallamy's, *Nature's Best Hope*. We can make a big difference by modest measures such as reducing lawns and planting natives, especially trees. For more details on the program visit our NGC website: <https://gardenclub.org/gardening-nature>



Always start by taking advantage of your NGC affiliation. Our NGC Gardening with Nature Committee consists of the Environmental Concerns Committee and the Horticulture Committee. These include many committee chairmen who will offer resources within their specialized areas. Although your SAR Region and GCSC may not include all of these chairmanships, you should be able to find some that will be helpful. For example, many states have pollinator projects. See our NGC website: <https://www.gardenclub.org/gardening-horticulture-and-environmental-concerns>.

Your local Agriculture Extension office is always a great resource. Agents are often available as speakers gratis. They can help you find sources for bulk native plants or seeds to use in community projects or to give away to the public. They also offer soil testing which is really important if you want healthy plants. They usually have a wide range of free publications relating to the environment and gardening.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS



Contact your local Master Gardener and/or Master Naturalist Associations. These are great sources for free speakers and programs. Especially with pandemic uncertainty think beyond the typical indoor meetings or long-distance field trips. Consider a field trip to a small park or a private garden in your town. A local Master Gardener or Master Naturalist can teach you to recognize the plants (including weeds) and wildlife (including insects) in your own backyard!

Our SC Department of Natural Resources website has some interesting publications. <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/education/pubs.html>

The SC Native Plant Society is a wonderful resource. We offer an annual seminar and the local chapters offer speakers, plant sales, and field trips. <https://scnps.org>

For a comprehensive list of national resources, please contact me. I would also very much like to hear about any of your club's projects or activities relating to environmental issues.

Editor's note: Victoria has beautiful photos of plants native to South Carolina labeled with the name of each plant at

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vbergesen/albums/>



Contact Victoria for more information at [victoriabergesen@gmail.com](mailto:victoriabergesen@gmail.com)

# Memorial Garden

Peggy Little, Chair

GCSC Memorial Garden Trustees

## Anemone Garden Club Honors Veterans

“Fairfield County veterans, past and present, will be honored with an engraved paver stone in the Garden Club of South Carolina Memorial Garden in Columbia, SC”, said Sheree Welsh, President of the Anemone Garden Club. Garden club members sold 500 Daffodil bulbs this fall as a fundraiser to fund the project.



Peggy Little, Memorial Garden Trustee Chair said, “Winnsboro has a close connection to the historic memorial garden through Sarah Porter Smith Boylston (1871-1963) who donated the land for the memorial garden in 1946 from her personal garden”. Sarah was married in 1909 to Samuel Shoemaker Boylston, a Winnsboro businessman. They made their home in the Caldwell-Hampton-Boylston House in Columbia.

Famed landscape architect, Loutrel W. Briggs designed the garden to give the impression of a cathedral. “This was the first garden in the United States to honor World War II veterans”, said Little. The memorial garden has evolved to honor all men and women who have served our country. The garden provides a place of dignity and serenity for the citizens of South Carolina. Additionally, the garden hosts ceremonies, weddings and special events.

The Anemone Garden Club will be one of the first garden clubs to honor all veterans from our county with an engraved brick. Families can also honor individual veterans. For more information on honoring your veteran, contact Peggy Little at

[peggytlittle@comporium.net](mailto:peggytlittle@comporium.net).





# Master Calendar of Events

February 1	Scholarship Deadline
March 1	West Piedmont District Meeting, McCormick
March 3	NAJCSC Meeting, Columbia
March 5	West Low Country District Meeting, Graniteville
March 8	Coastal District Meeting, Zoom
March 10	West Sandhills District Meeting, West Columbia
March 16	East Low Country District Meeting, Zoom
March 23	East Piedmont District Meeting, Zoom
March 24	East Sandhills District Meeting, Florence
March 26	Youth Awards Celebration, Riverbanks Zoo
March 28-31	Flower Show School #2, Columbia
April 12	Finance Committee Meeting, Columbia
April 20	BOD Meeting, Columbia
April 21	State General Membership Meeting, Columbia

**Mission** The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc., a non-profit organization, is a force for good that promotes all aspects of gardening, focusing on preservation and restoration of historic gardens, conservation and environmental protection of natural resources, education of members and youth organizations, civic beautification, horticulture, and floral design.

The South Carolina Gardener is the official publication of the Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc., published quarterly and funded in part by Membership dues. The South Carolina Gardener has made every effort to insure listings and information are accurate and assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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*Laurie Churchill, Editor*

*Gay Nelson, Co-Editor*

## Submission Deadlines

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
<i>Winter</i>	<i>Nov. 15</i>
<i>Spring</i>	<i>Feb. 15</i>
<i>Summer</i>	<i>May 15</i>
<i>Fall</i>	<i>August 15</i>

## Submission Guidelines

- Articles to be plain text email or word doc..
- Photos should be high resolution jpg
- Email: [scgardenereditor@gmail.com](mailto:scgardenereditor@gmail.com)
- Email Subject to include “article for SC Gardener” and Club Name
- Email Body to include District, Garden Club, and submitter name
- Editor reserves the right to edit any article due to space constraints, duplication, clarity and accuracy.