

FEBRUARY 2023

Hello Federation Friends,



CELEBRATE LIFE MEMBERS

Our annual Life Member Recognition Ceremony will be held on Thursday, February 23, at 10:30 a.m., in the Courtyard at Callanwolde. We will recognize our new Life Members, and especially those being honored by their clubs. The 2023 Life Member of the Year will be announced at the conclusion of the program.

Your Federation Board will serve a complimentary buffet lunch following our meeting.

GARDEN CENTER NEWS

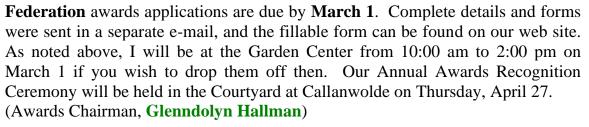
The Garden Center continues to be closed; however, if you need to visit it, please contact me and I will arrange to meet you; <u>a.purr@comcast.net</u>; 770-921-9070. (Garden Center Director, **Ann Purr**)

FEDERATION PRESIDENTS' REPORTS AND ANNUAL DUES

Just a reminder that Presidents' Reports and dues are due by **March 1**. Forms and instructions were sent in a separate e-mail and can be found on the DeKalb Federation website, <u>www.dekalbfederation.com</u>.

I will at the Garden Center from 10:00 am until 2:00 on March 1 if you wish to drop them off, or you may bring them to our Life Member Meeting on February 23. (Federation President, **Glenndolyn Hallman**)

FEDERATION AWARDS



PULL & TAB FOR RONALD MCDONALD



I want to remind all the clubs to get their aluminum tabs to me by March 1 so they can be counted for the Tabs Award at the Awards Ceremony. Or you can bring them to the General Meeting on February 23 at Callanwolde. If you can weigh them and remove any metal tabs, it will be appreciated, but if not, I will do it. Call me if we need to arrange for your tabs to be picked up.

(Glenndolyn Hallman; 770-491-7398.)



Thank you to all the clubs for your donations to Project Fig Leaf for the Georgia Regional Hospital. The total number of items donated in 2022 was 1250. I have already received a cash donation, undergarments and toiletries from three clubs in 2023. The plan is to deliver before Easter, which is April 9. A second delivery will happen in June. Items may be brought to the Garden Center or the General Meetings. I recently got feedback from the hospital stating that they need more **large, extra-large** and **2XL** Men's items. They also use liquid soap instead of bar soap. Please continue, as you have been, providing men's and women's undergarments, socks and toiletries. All items are to be **NEW**. Please <u>no</u> alcohol based mouthwash. No waist drawstrings and elastic waist items preferred. Thank you for your generous dedication to this project.

(Denise Finley, Community Service Chairman)



RESTORING THE BEAUTY (Garden Center Grounds)

The Garden Center Grounds Group is now exploring a new addition to welcome visitors as they pass by our garden space. It is our plan to create a pair of raised bed gardens alongside the sidewalk entrance that will be used to feature seasonal annual displays. We know that thousands of people visit Callanwolde every year and we want to keep enhancing our presence with some colorful blooms to welcome visitors and brighten our entrance from the parking lot. And you may ask. "Why raised beds?" We learned the hard way when we tried to plant azaleas that the ground in that area is so compacted that it required the "Tilling Twins" to break up the soil to plant the three Encore azaleas! We need friable soil and good drainage to have a successful show of annuals, so raised beds fit the bill. Stay tuned to follow our progress on this newest addition to the DeKalb Federation grounds. Want to help plant? Please contact Sandy Reed or Quill Duncan. Garden workdays will resume in late February!

(Quill Duncan & Sandy Reed, Co-Chairmen)



GARDEN THERAPY - NURTURING WITH NATURE

The following is a gardening update from Mary Cochran, Activity Therapy Coordinator at Georgia Regional Hospital.

The gardening groups at GRHA were quite active in 2022, thanks to the support and encouragement of our partners and mentors.

Recovery Garden at the Gym:

We started actively composting for the first time in January and February 2022, and set up a compost pile next to the shed behind the Building 27 Gym (with coaching from Bonnie Pennington and Quill Duncan on how to get started). We purchased hay with gardening funds and added healthy plant materials and scraps from our cooking, ending up with a sizable pile of compost that had broken down enough to add into the garden as we turned over the soil and planted in the spring We purchased some mulch, but also accessed pine bark mulch from our hospital supply. Curly kale, rainbow chard, and radishes were our most successful winter crops for 2022. In the spring we planted wildflower seeds, green beans, sunflower seeds, sweet corn, elephant ears (2 plants), a banana tree, tomatoes (seeds), and cucumbers (seeds).

Late spring/early summer we planted watermelon, squash, Japanese eggplant, zucchini, cantaloupe, sweet potatoes, Vietnamese spinach, hot peppers, and mouse melon. A giant

sunflower volunteered and was the largest of our sunflowers. We harvested blueberries, blackberries (2 kinds), and strawberries. Figs were plentiful in late summer. During the summer we planted okra and pumpkins.

Our harvests were plentiful, and we cooked vegetables, fruits, and herbs at the Tx Mall kitchen, sometimes weekly, but always bi-weekly.

Bonnie Pennington and Quill Duncan visited our gardens and provided us with SO MUCH valuable knowledge and suggestions.

We participated in the Georgia Pollinator Count in August, and we harvested, packaged, and sold herbs from our gardens at a staff function.

In the fall/late fall we harvested pumpkins, watermelons, MUCH okra, mouse melons, Vietnamese spinach, sweet potatoes, and (big highlight for me as a gardener!) wonderful large cherry tomatoes from a massive plant we grew from seed!!! Can you tell it was my first time to grow excellent tomatoes (or any tomatoes) from seed? We purchased frost blankets with gardening funds that saved our tomatoes and pumpkins - that is until the big freeze hit!

East Unit Garden:

The members of my gardening group also maintained the East garden. Last year we weeded, watered, transplanted lots of baby dill plants to the gym garden, planted lemon grass, jasmine, horehound, and a mosquito plant. Our goal was to keep this garden looking neat and nice since it is frequently viewed by staff and patients.

Other Gardens and Gardeners:

Although we had three staff that implemented gardening groups retire/leave, we strengthened our staff/patient involvement in creative ways. Ms. Michelle, who facilitates gardening groups at the Treatment Mall, collaborated with Art Therapy to make and paint birdfeeders and birdhouses, some of which were sold during one of our patient Art Shows. The proceeds were added to our gardening fund.

Dr. Vann, one of our medical doctors, entered into a sharing partnership with us and provided us with many plants including purple sweet potatoes, mouse melon, and Vietnamese spinach. We propagated and traded plants. (Some staff actually wanted to trade unusual plants for cannas! Yay!)

(Bonnie Pennington and Quill Duncan, Co-Chairmen)

PLEASE remember to bring **horticulture** "stuff" to swap – seed, plants, or rooted – to our meeting. Be sure to include the name of each plant, and care instructions. Bring some – take some!

Also, please bring some plastic grocery bags to carry home your plants.



(Acting Horticulture Chairman Bonnie Pennington)

MINI-FLOWER SHOWS are held three times each year: **October**, **January**, and **March**, and each exhibitor will follow the same theme. March exhibitor is:

Smoke Rise Morning Glories Garden Club – Theme Apything Goes

(Vicki Cooper, Mini-Flower Show Chairman)



BOOK SALE ROLLS ON!!

The book sale is still on! We will bring a selection to each of our meetings to sell at minimal prices, most of which are priced at \$2.00. The proceeds will be donated to NCG's Natural Disaster Fund.

(Treasurer, Ann Purr)

~ RECYCLE AND REIMAGINE! ~

We are continuing to collect recyclables at each of our meetings, so please bring them when you can. (Clandolyn Hallman: 770-491-7398)

(Glenndolyn Hallman; 770-491-7398)



POP & CORK FOR THE FEDERATION

What have you been doing with all those wine corks? Just bring them to a Federation meeting! We will send them to an organization that repurposes them into shoe soles, carpet, etc.



DON'T DISPOSE OF THE DISPOSABLES

Remember all those packets of disposable utensils we got with take-out meals during the pandemic? Well, we have found a home for them with a non-profit that distributes meals to those in need. **Most important** – the utensils must still be encased in their original plastic wrap.

UPDATE – Quill Duncan recently delivered a very large bag of these collected utensils to Decatur Emergency Assistance Ministry (DEAM) for their homeless ministry.



PULL & TAB FOR RONALD MCDONALD

We are continuing to collect aluminum tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Many pounds were delivered last spring in grateful appreciation.



WAVE A WAND FOR THE FEDERATION

Don't dispose of your mascara wand (brush) when you are finished with it. Wash it to remove the residue and bring it to a Federation meeting. We will donate them to a group for their use in grooming rescued animals.

~ CLUB CORNER ~



You are invited to the Dunwoody Garden Club's 45th annual card party, luncheon, "Swing Into Spring," location as in recent years, the spacious Fellowship Hall at Dunwoody United Methodist Church, <u>1548 Mount Vernon Rd</u>, on April 25 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$30 each for light breakfast and coffee, delicious lunch, Chico's spring fashion show, silent auction, along with your games, fellowship, and fun. This is our only fundraiser every year and it allows the Dunwoody Garden Club to continue its many projects to help beautify Dunwoody and environs.

Tickets can be purchased using the attached form or on our website, <u>www.dunwoodygardenclub.com</u>. Ticket purchase deadline is Sunday, April 16, but don't dally because they fill that big room every year! The Dunwoody Garden Club appreciates your support, and look forward to seeing you on April 25. Any questions, call Bonnie at 770-639-3510. "We Dig Dupwoody!"

We would like to feature the activities and accomplishments of our member clubs, so please send your articles and photos to <u>rigbyduncan113@gmail.com</u>!



REDBUD DISTRICT NEWS

The Redbud District Winter Board Meeting was held in the Courtyard at Callanwolde on **February 13**, at which the 2023-2025 Redbud District Officers were introduced (and will be installed at the GCG State Convention in April). Club and Council Presidents were invited to attend, and following the Board meeting a covered dish lunch was enjoyed by all.

Looking Ahead:

July 18, Redbud and Dogwood Districts will co-host The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Leadership and Awards Workshop.

October 17 DeKalb Federation will host the Redbud District Annual Meeting.



American Daffodil Society Flower Show

On **March 10-11**, Redbud District is Co-Hosting. The American Daffodil Society, Inc. Standard Flower Show, *The Southeastern Daffodil Trail*, at the Crowne Plaza Atlanta Perimeter at Ravinia Hotel, 4355 Ashford Dunwoody Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30346. **Complete details are attached**.

(Gale Thomas, Redbud District Director)



GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA

GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA NEWS





CAPITOL CONSERVATION DAY 2022



We hope you have registered with the Georgia Water Coalition to attend this event at the Georgia State Capitol on **Tuesday, February 21, from 8 am to 1 pm**.

(Registration information was sent in a separate email.) We will gather for a continental breakfast, orientation, and issue briefings at the Central Presbyterian Church. Then we will walk across the street to the Capitol for a group photograph and to meet with legislators about timely water legislation. **Registration closes on February 17**. If you did not register in time to attend, save the date for a follow up Virtual Issue Briefing on the evening of March 2. More details to follow.



GCG Raffle Fundraiser — **Buy Your Ticket Today!** Tickets are \$5 each, or 5 for \$20. Cash prizes are \$500 first prize, \$250 second prize, and \$125 third prize. Winners will be drawn at the State Convention in April, and you don't have to be present to win. Tickets were mailed to Redbud Club Presidents, or contact Redbud District Director, Gale Thomas for additional tickets; galedthomas@gmail.com.

IT'S CONVENTION SEASON – and plans are in full swing!!



The Garden Club of Georgia's 95th Annual Convention Hosted by Dogwood District April 18-20, 2023 Atlanta Evergreen Lakeside Conference Center Stone Mountain

Beautiful setting. Great room rates. Afternoon workshops, Fantastic Speakers, Wonderful Vendors for your shopping pleasure.

Complete Convention registration information may be found in the Winter 2022/23 *Garden Gateways*

Register online (Click **Control** on your keyboard, then this link):

https://forMagnolia m.jotform.com/211994690426161

HOTEL RESERVATIONS Evergreen Lakeside Conference Resort 4021 Lakeview Dr, Stone Mountain, GA 30083 (770) 879-9900 Deadline for hotel registration: on or before March 26, 2023 – to receive group rate. \$143.00 ++ per night for King or Double – included in price is \$4 reduced entrance fee to Stone Mountain Park for staying at hotel – normally \$20 fee.

> It is best to register for hotel online. (Click **Control** on your keyboard, then this link): <u>https://book.passkey.com/e/50303356</u>

Follow the prompts, enter your dates, and select room type. Most will register for 2 nights, (Tues-Opening Dinner & Wed-Awards Banquet) April 18 & 19.

Those driving a long distance may wish to come early and stay in hotel on Monday night.

If you need <u>handicapped</u> rooms, **AFTER** you make your reservation, **THEN** contact Geri Shaw, our GCG Convention Coordinator. Give her your confirmation # and dates of stay, and she will contact the hotel on your behalf. **Geri Shaw at:** <u>geri.shaw01@gmail.com</u>

For any of our members who have mobility issues and wish to rent a scooter- the hotel gave us the name of a preferred vendor for the park- Atlanta Scooter Rentals. Attendees can book directly thru them for the convention.

See website: <u>http://atlantascooterrentals.net/rate-schedule.html</u> or email: <u>atlantascooters@aol.com</u>

SAVE THE DATE



The Flower Fantasy at Pineola Farms

Saturday, April 22, 2023, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Sunday, April 23, 2023, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm Fort Valley, Georgia

Magnolia Garden Club in Fort Valley is inviting you to a tour of the gardens and historic home at Pineola Farms, and hear featured garden experts and shop their many vendors. All ticket sales will benefit The Garden Club of Georgia Scholarship Fund. For ticket information, and to learn more about this historic home dating back to 1865, visit <u>https://www.pineola.com/events</u>, or call 478-335-1700.

(Susan Turner, GCG Scholarship Chairman)

CALLANWOLDE CORNER

KEEP THE ARTS ALIVE WITH A "LASTING LEGACY"

Callanwolde Legacy Bricks

Your brick can include your name, an encouraging message, or pay tribute to a friend or loved one who has been touched by Callanwolde. Go to the Callanwolde website and "Click to Order your Brick Today!"

Callanwolde Spring Concert Series

The popular concert series showcasing R&B, folk, rock, and bluegrass talents returns to Callanwolde!

Callanwolde is proud to host the 2023 Spring Concert Series in our beautiful outdoor amphitheater. The Callanwolde Amphitheater provides an intimate atmosphere to spend time with friends, unwind, and experience an evening of live music surrounded by the natural beauty of the Callanwolde Estate. Guests are invited to bring blankets, chairs, and a picnic dinner with drinks. The amphitheater features VIP tables and Lawn seating.

Series Schedule

March 31st – Certainly So
April 14th – Dwayne Shivers
April 28th – Ruby Velle and the Soulphonics
May 12th – Luke Winslow-King

Complete details may be found at www.callanwolde.org.

Be sure to check their website for a complete list of available classes: dance, pottery, gardening, and media craft.

We look forward to seeing you all at our meetings, and to hearing from you if you have any questions or need additional information.



Please mark your calendars for upcoming Federation events:

- > Annual Life Member Recognition Celebration, February 23
- > DeKalb Federation Awards due by March 1
- > DeKalb Federation President's Club Activity Report due by March 1
- DeKalb Federation Annual Dues due by March 1
- > Aluminum Tabs due for award by March 1
- Federation Board Meeting March 2
- Federation General Meeting/Officer Installation March 23
- Federation Board Meeting April 6
- Dunwoody GC Fashion Show Luncheon April 25
- Annual Awards Celebration April 27
- Federation Board Meeting May 4
- Federation General Meeting May 27

Also, other upcoming garden club events:

- Conservation Day at the Capitol February 21
- > American Daffodil Society Flower Show, Atlanta March 10-11
- ➢ GCG 95th Annual Convention, Stone Mountain April 18-20
- Deep South Convention March 8-10
- American Daffodil Society Flower Show March 10-11
- ➢ Garden Week in Georgia, April 2-10
- GCG Annual Convention April 18-20
- Pineola Farms Scholarship Fundraiser, April 22-23
- NGC National Convention May 2-5

Rigby Duncan Communications Chairman 404-321-1733 (h) 678-644-9502 (c)