



## JANUARY 2025

**Hello Federation Friends,**



Welcome back to a new year of garden club activities and **celebrations!**

**PLEASE NOTE:** If our meeting is cancelled due to weather concerns, we will send a notice the evening before via email!!

**Our** next General Meeting will be on **Thursday, January 23, 2025**, at 10:30 in the Courtyard at Callanwolde. **Club Presidents, please share this information with your members.**

### *“Monet as a Gardener”*

Dekalb Federation’s Dianne Smith will let you know that Monet designed and cultivated Giverny so that he could paint it! Using photos that she and her husband took at Giverny, she illustrates how Monet used color theory and plant choices to create the subject for many of his famous paintings.

Dianne and her husband, Buz, live in Decatur. They have two grown sons, two grandsons, and two spoiled Whippets. She enjoyed a career in human resources leadership at Georgia State University and Emory University and retired in 2011. Since then, her life has been filled with creative activities, travel, gardening, grandchildren, and more, and she is a member of Shenandoah Rose Garden Club.

**(Nancy Martin, Programs Chairman)**



### **HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS**

The following garden club is responsible for refreshments before our meeting this month:

#### **Avon Garden Club**

Hospitality Chairman, **Christi Granger**, will contact the club prior to the meeting. We will follow the refreshment guidelines outlined in the Federation yearbook.

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

**Shenandoah Rose Garden Club – Theme: Celebrations**



(**Vicki Cooper**, Mini-Flower Show Chairman)

Please remember to bring **horticulture** “stuff” to swap – seed, plants, or rooted. 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.



(**Michèle Spears**, Horticulture Chairman)

### **GARDEN CENTER NEWS**

The Garden Center is available by appointment, so if you need to visit it, please contact me and I will arrange to meet you; [a.purr@comcast.net](mailto:a.purr@comcast.net); 770-921-9070.

(**Ann Purr**, Garden Center Director)



### **PROJECT FIG LEAF**

We are so very appreciative of the support that we received from our clubs this past year for this very important project. I am continuing to deliver items to Georgia Regional Hospital, and will make another delivery before Easter, so please bring your donations to any upcoming Federation meeting. They have requested full-size bottles of shampoo, body wash, etc., but no bar soap. Of course, men's and women's underwear and socks are always needed, and clothing with elastic waist band.

**(Glenn dolyn Hallman, Community Service Chairman)**



### **Holidays for Heroes**

What a great response we had to our drive for holiday cards for our military heroes! This year **3,569** cards were picked up in early November for delivery to Fort Gordon Army Base in Augusta for later distribution to bases overseas. Heartfelt thanks to our clubs for their participation.

**(Glenn dolyn Hallman, Community Service Chairman)**



### *The Great Backyard Bird Count - February 14-17, 2025*

**This** is now a global event. Take 15 minutes on one, or all the days. The web site [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org) has clear instructions.

Enjoy becoming a citizen scientist. The data is important. Are the bird numbers holding steady or still declining?

Do go outside, there are so many more birds to be seen than from your window.

**(Lorene Faulkenberry, Birds and Pollinators Chairman)**



### **PULL A 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. And remember, there are awards for most tabs collected, for both a small and large club, for the period April 2024-March 2025. Please bring your tabs to our January or February Federation meeting.

**(Glenn dolyn Hallman, Pull-A-Tab Chairman)**



### **BOOK SALE ROLLS ON!!**

The book sale is back! There will be a book sale at our meeting on **January 23**. Bring your donations to add to the table or contact Ann ahead of time and she will pick them up. (770-921-9070; [a.purr@comcast.net](mailto:a.purr@comcast.net)). The proceeds will be donated to NCG's Natural Disaster Fund.

**(Treasurer, Ann Purr)**

## *Leading Lights 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration*



**Our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Leading Lights gala** was held on Thursday, November 14 and it was a **big** success! 110 guests shopped our several vendors, purchased raffle tickets for our array of baskets and gift cards, and bid on silent auction items, donated by our clubs and businesses. The highlight of the day was the fashion show presented by **Carolee's** in Historic Downtown Norcross. Thanks to our lovely models (pictured below) who showcased the fashions: **Ann Purr** (Mountain Mums), **Rita Maloof** (Mountain Mums), **Iwalani Barbazon** (Leafmore Hills), **Christi Granger** (Avondale Estates), **Ann Marie White** (Lullwater), and **Meg Walton** (Lullwater). And we could not have done it without the help of all our volunteers!

**We** are grateful to all of you who supported our event, especially the wonderful Callanwolde staff.

**(Rigby Duncan, Fundraising Chairman)**







## **GARDEN THERAPY - NURTURING WITH NATURE** (Report From Georgia Regional Hospital – Winter Bounty)

**One** of the most enjoyable aspects of living in the South is that you can garden all year round. The residents and patients at GA Regional Hospital make the most of the seasons with their vegetable garden. This winter they harvested their sweet potatoes and radishes and taro root and cooked them in various ways including sweet potato latkes.

**Mary Cochran**, who is a Smoke Rise Morning Glories member and the Activity Therapy Coordinator at the hospital, noted that the sweet potato crop was smaller than usual this year as something kept eating the leaves on the vines! They have cabbage and herbs and seedlings of broccoli and bok choy ready to be planted for their winter crops. This year they grew cilantro from seed and were surprised at how well that crop did with their other herbs. They have established a work therapy program and one of the resident patients is now being paid to work in the garden several days a week.

**The** Skilled Nursing Unit that received grants this past year is still a garden “work in progress” to update and brighten the atrium space for the patients who live in that building. Colorful containers and fall plantings have added some life to the space and more is planned in the coming year.

**This** state managed hospital facility is often trying new techniques and processes to improve the quality of life for the residents, and it is very encouraging to see a positive response from staff and residents. DeKalb Federation is a viable part of the process with this garden therapy as well as the “Drop Your Drawers” underwear and toiletries donations. Thank you for your contributions to such a worthy and caring cause.

Below are some of the vegetables they grew this winter.

**(Bonnie Pennington, Garden Therapy Chairman)**





### **BEAUTIFYING THE GARDEN CENTER GROUNDS**

We haven't been able to do much in our gardens due to the weather. We did plant the bulbs that we purchased through the GCG fundraiser, and we fertilized the pansies! There will be a lot to do as soon as it gets a little warmer.

(**Quill Duncan & Sandy Reed**, Landscape Advisory Chairmen)



### **FEDERATION AWARDS**

Federation awards applications are due by **March 1**. Complete details and a fillable application form can be found on the Federation website, [www.dekalbfederation.com](http://www.dekalbfederation.com) under **Resources/Forms**. Our Annual Awards Recognition will be held on **April 17**. Please note that this is a change of date due to a Callanwolde scheduling conflict .

(**Glennolyn Hallman**, Awards Chairman)

### **FEDERATION PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND DUES FORM**

**Just** a reminder that Presidents' Reports and Club dues of **\$25** are due by **March 1**. Fillable forms can be found on the DeKalb Federation website, [www.dekalbfederation.com](http://www.dekalbfederation.com) under **Resources/Forms**.

(**Quill Duncan**, Federation President)

## **Life Members are the of DeKalb Federation!!**

**Our** February Meeting on Thursday, **February 27**, will honor all Life Members of our Federation and honor a new Life Member of the Year. The application form can be found on the Federation website, and is due, along with your tax-deductible check for \$50 by **February 15**, to submit a nominee for this honor, or fill it out for yourself if YOU are not a Life Member. You may honor a friend, a club member, your garden club, a speaker, as a memorial, or someone who has given special support to your club. Please include a short bio of your honoree(s) who will be recognized and presented with a life membership card and pin.

**The** application form can be found on the Federation website, [www.dekalbfederation.com](http://www.dekalbfederation.com) under **Resources/Forms**.

For further information, please contact me at [galedthomas@gmail.com](mailto:galedthomas@gmail.com); 404-790-7101.

(**Gale Thoms**, Life Membership Chairman)

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~ CLUB CORNER ~



**SHENANDOAH ROSE IS 60!**

Shenandoah Rose Garden Club members celebrated their 60th Anniversary on November 20 with a formal tea at the home of member Barbara Adam. Each member contributed something to the tea: homemade savory items, English scones from “Taste of Britian” in Norcross; cheese straws; an assortment of miniature desserts from Alons Bakery; petit fours from Publix; and cloth napkins. One member prepared an assortment of teas for attendees to try, while another created a lovely Ikebana floral design. Nine out of ten members were in attendance at the tea. DeKalb Federation President Quill Duncan attended as our special guest. It was a lovely event enjoyed by all.

**CONYERS GARDEN CLUB GARDEN THERAPY WORKSHOPS**

The Conyers Garden Club held two Garden Therapy workshops this fall at the Senior Center. The October 28 workshop involved making handmade cards. Gale Thomas assembled individual card kits for each senior member registered for this session. She, along with Susan Turner and Jessica Warren, led nine members of the Senior Center in a handmade cardmaking session.

The November 5 session was one on Holiday Wreath Making. Using purchased and donated wreath forms, holiday decorations, and other decorative items, club members set up a “pop-up shop” of Christmas decorations for each participating senior center member to “shop” and select a wreath form and decorative items for their wreath. Kathy Williams demonstrated bow-making to the senior members for their holiday wreaths and club members answered questions and provided feedback to the participants and assisted those few senior members with limited fine motor skills.

Due to the overwhelming interest from the senior members, the CGC had to have three consecutive sessions to allow all interested persons to participate in this activity. After the initial 12 registered participants shared their new wreaths with fellow center members, others came to request an opportunity to make a wreath. In turn, that created additional requests to participate. The CGC members allowed additional persons to participate until they ran out of wreath forms. After the last person finished her wreath, a total of 25 persons, including 2 male participants, had made holiday wreaths! (See photos below.)





Jessica Warren assists seniors making their cards.



Kathy Williams teaches making wreath bows.

### **LULLWATER DECORATED THE CONSERVATION GARDEN**

Lullwater Garden Club recreated decorations from the 1935 archives in their Lullwater Conservation Garden. Strings of popcorn and cranberry garland, dried oranges and apples, homemade suet cakes, and peanut butter/birdseed pinecones were placed in the formal garden for birds to enjoy. Members enjoyed hot cider and donuts.



**Chilly club members who decorated the garden!**

### **SMOKE RISE MORNING GLORIES DECORATED HISTORIC HOME**

For over ten years, the Smoke Rise Morning Glories have decorated the historic Wells-Brown House in Stone Mountain Village for Christmas. The headquarters of the Stone Mountain Historic Society is located on Ridge Avenue and was built in 1870. The construction was unique for the time. In fact, only a few homes in Georgia of that period were built of fireproof concrete cut to look like stone. The house sports a new roof now and is also the location of a DeKalb County Master Gardener project on the grounds of the property.

This year nine club members added period appropriate greenery, fruit and festive red ribbons to the Wells-Brown sign, lamp post, Juliet balcony and front door. On the inside of the home, the club decorated the three mantles and added a beribboned evergreen swag to the stair banister. A few years ago they started the tradition of clove-studded oranges for the mantles for a lovely holiday fragrance. That job is assigned to Marsha Pittard who always adds creative flair to the task.



### **STONECREST GARDEN CLUB ADOPTS SCHOOL**

The Stonecrest Garden Club has adopted the Browns Mill Elementary School as one of its 2024-2025 projects. The club members are working with the school staff to repurpose the school's courtyard into a Garden Sanctuary.

Using a landscape plan drawn by member Shelton Fleming, Stonecrest Garden Club members met on October 16, 2024 to plant over 50 native perennials in the school's courtyard. Joining the club members in the day's work was the school principal.



Club members and school staff planting native perennials in the courtyard.



## REDBUD DISTRICT NEWS

On **Monday, February 10** at 10:30 a.m., all Board Members and Club/Council Presidents are invited to attend the **Redbud District Winter Board Meeting** in the Courtyard at Callanwolde.

A **Zoom** option will also be offered for those not able to attend in person. Chairmen should email your reports by **February 7** to both Recording Secretary, Joy Zaidan, [joyzaidan4986@gmail.com](mailto:joyzaidan4986@gmail.com), and me. If you wish to present a report at the meeting, please let me know so that I can add you to the agenda.

Following the meeting, we will enjoy a covered dish lunch, so please bring a dish (with serving utensil) to share.

(**Kim Fair**, Redbud District Director; [nevakim@yahoo.com](mailto:nevakim@yahoo.com))

**On** October 22, the Redbud District held its 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting in Thomaston, led by District Director Kim Fair. About 100 attendees were welcomed by the three garden clubs of Thomaston who hosted the event: Green Thumb Garden Club, Spade and Trowel Garden Club, and Thomaston Garden Club. Honored guest was GCG State President, Lisa Hall, and special guests GCG Former State Presidents, Peggy Tucker and Barbara Bourque.

**Business** was conducted and 2025-2027 Redbud District officers were elected and will be installed at the State Convention in April. A memorial service honored those members we have lost since our last Annual Meeting, and the Awards Ceremony recognized the winning clubs and individuals.

**An** entertaining and informative program was given by Matthew Stafford, Daylily Hybridizer from the Country Estate in Williamson, Ga. Attendees enjoyed educational displays, a gift basket raffle, a silent auction of handmade pottery, and a delicious catered lunch.



Country Estate owners Matthew Stafford (far left) and Jonathan McDaniel (far right) pose with Redbud District Director Kim Fair and GCG President Lisa Hall.



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## ~ GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA ~

### **GCG CONVENTION**

**The** 97th Annual Convention of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. will be held April 29-30, 2025 at the Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center. Hosted by the Azalea District, the theme of the convention is “Gather on the River with the Birds & the Bees and the Flowers & the Trees”.

**On** Tuesday, vendors will be set up for you to have a fun shopping experience. Then we will enjoy a delicious luncheon and hear about the beginning of the Augusta National Golf Club and its trees from Keynote Speaker Stan Byrde.

**In** the afternoon, two breakout sessions will be offered where you will learn more about the birds and the flowers. Immediately following, you can tour the Morris Museum of Art where you can enjoy the art displays and visit the gift shop. Or you can travel down to the end of Riverwalk and see the Bonnie McClain Perennial Garden, which is sponsored and maintained by clubs of the Augusta Council.

That evening we will have district photos, a cash bar, and a fine evening dinner as you have a brief glimpse of some rare spider lilies by Owen Navarre. Then our world-famous Awards Event will take place.

**On** Wednesday morning following the business meeting, we will conclude the convention with our installation luncheon and speaker Mark Alberin will present the photographic beauty of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge.

**The** registration form and hotel information is in the Winter 2024-2025 Garden Gateways.

### **GCG 100TH ANNIVERSARY**

*Statewide Contest – Time to enter!*

**Plans have already begun. We invite you to join us in creating a Theme for our 2028 festivities. Due Date is **January 31!!****

**Please share this with your club members.**

**Complete details are attached with this newsletter!**

### **GCG PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Just** a reminder that Garden Club of Georgia annual dues and Presidents' Reports are due by **February 15**. Presidents' Reports are to be completed online. Once submitted, they will automatically be sent to:

GCG State President, Lisa Hall  
Redbud District Director, Kim Fair  
DeKalb Federation President, Quill Duncan

**To** access the forms, go to the GCG website, [www.gardenclubofgeorgia.org](http://www.gardenclubofgeorgia.org), click on Member Resources/Finance and Administrative Forms. On the left of the screen under Administrative Forms are the instructions and form for the President's Report of Garden Club Achievements.

### **DEEP SOUTH CONVENTION**

**The** Garden Club of Georgia is hosting the Deep South Convention March 11-13 in Valdosta.

**GCG** President Lisa Hall is asking that each Club to consider making a donation to fund the convention. The convention center, hotels and our tour venues were spared from extreme damage by Hurricane Helene. Many in the area have suffered greatly and are still in recovery mode. Normally we would appeal to local merchants but, due to the hurricane damage in the area, their dollars will be redirected.

**The** Deep South Region does not provide monetary assistance in producing their convention. Donations of any size are welcome from \$25 on up!

Donation checks should be made payable to "DSGC Convention" with "Donation" noted on check. All donations will be recognized in the Convention Program.

**Please send any contributions to:**

Suzan Bennett  
DSGC Convention Treasurer  
5866 Riverside Drive  
Macon, GA 31210.

Per a recommendation by your District Directors, **any club making a donation of \$25 or more will receive a point on the President's Report!**

More information on the convention, including registration form and hotel information, can be found at [www.deepsouthgardenclubs.com/convention](http://www.deepsouthgardenclubs.com/convention).



**The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.**  
***“Dollars Educate Scholars”***

**Mark your calendars for January as our Official GCG Scholarship Month!  
Members donating \$1.00 or more now thru January will make a BIG  
impact on Scholarships.**

***Dollars Educate Scholars*** contributions from members are given  
thru your garden club treasury.

Your club treasurer writes one check to GCG to mail along with the  
completed form to:

**Asst. Treasurer, Anita Allen, 381 McSwain Drive, Wray, GA 31798**

***Please support your District and your Director in the 10th Annual Dollars  
Educate Scholars fundraiser!***

***The winning District will be determined by total funds and the percentage  
of district club participation.***

***Join the fun at the GCG Annual Meeting hosted by the Azalea District,  
April 29-30, 2025***

***where we will once again Crown the Queen of Scholarships!***

***For additional information contact Susan Turner, Scholarships Chairman  
770-922-4411 glencree@bellsouth.net***

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**“Dollars Educate Scholars”**

**TRANSMITTAL FORM**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA, INC. OR GCG**  
Please complete the following information and mail with your clubs check  
for \$1.00 or more per member to Anita Allen, Assistant Treasurer,  
381 McSwain Drive, Wray, GA 31798

**Please write legibly. Contributions received through January 2025 will  
count in this giving period.**

**Club Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**District:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Club Representative & Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Club number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Members** \_\_\_\_\_

**100% Participation? Circle one. Yes No**

**Amount Enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

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~ **CALLANWOLDE CORNER** ~

*Have you considered becoming a Callanwolde Member?*

**Member events include...**

- Creative workshops in ceramics, painting, gardening, and more.  
All skill levels welcome!
- Gallery tours & artist talks
- Happy hours & networking events
- Exclusive volunteer opportunities to support our mission

**Member-exclusive discounts include...**

- Early-bird pricing on concert season tickets
- Advance access to shop the Winter House artist market
- Free tickets to select SALSAtlanta dance nights
- Other event promotions throughout the year

**For complete details on membership levels and benefits  
visit [www.callanwolde.org](http://www.callanwolde.org)**

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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 these important dates:

**Federation Dates:**

<b>January 23</b>	Federation General Meeting, Callanwolde
<b>February 6</b>	Federation Board Meeting Via <i>Zoom &amp; In Person</i>
<b>February 15</b>	Due Date For Life Member Applications
<b>February 14-17</b>	Great Backyard Bird Count
<b>February 27</b>	Federation Life Member Meeting, Callanwolde
<b>March 1</b>	Due Date For Awards Applications
<b>March 1</b>	Due Date For Club Presidents Reports
<b>March 1</b>	Due Date For Dues and Yearbook Info

**GCG Dates:**

<b>January 31</b>	Due Date For <i>Dollars Educate Scholars</i> Donations
<b>January 31</b>	Due Date For Donations to General Scholarship Fund
<b>January 31</b>	Due Date For 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Theme Contest
<b>February 10</b>	Redbud Winter Board Meeting, Callanwolde
<b>February 15</b>	Due Date for GCG Presidents' Reports/Dues
<b>March 11-13</b>	Deep South Convention
<b>April 29-30</b>	GCG 97th Annual Convention, Augusta

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