



The South Carolina GARDENER

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

FALL 2024 VOL. 102 No 4

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message & Theme	3-4
Memorial Garden	5-6
Do you remember when?	7
Membership	8-10
Life Memberships	11
GCSC Board News	12-18
District News	19-28
SC Gardener Deadlines & Master Calendar	29

GCSC Affiliates

Anne Springs Close Greenway
Brookgreen Gardens
Butterfly Monarchy Club
Craig Farm Historical Preservation
Foundation
Moore Farms Botanical Garden
Piedmont Physic Garden
Riverbanks Zoo and Garden
SC Bluebird Society
SC Botanical Garden, Clemson
SC Native Plant Society
SC Wildlife Federation



Pictured on the cover... Sunflower Photo by Kelly Long

David Stoudenmire, President

3914 Bryant Street
Loris, SC 29569
843-333-9642

dstoudenmire@sccoast.net

GCSC Treasurer

701 Gervais St., Suite 150-142
Columbia, SC 29201
803-233-2740

Treas.GCSC@gmail.com

GCSC Headquarters

Riverbanks Botanical Garden
1300 Botanical Parkway
West Columbia, SC 29619

NGC Environmental School Studies & NGC Gardening School

Karen Allen

864-979-9562

saludalake@aol.com

NGC Flower Show Schools

Linda Howle 843-616-2561

howlelinda@yahoo.com

NGC Landscape Design Schools

Susan Epstein 843-224-6784

susanmcleodstein@gmail.com

NGC President - Brenda Moore

Oakhill, WV

bmoore@gardenclub.org

SAR Director - Carcille C. Burchette

Corbin, KY

carcillecburchette@hotmail.com

Dear Garden Club Friends,

Truly, a great deal of work has taken place over this "Summer Vacation Time" throughout our local clubs, councils, districts, and state committees. I would like to share with you some of the activities I have had the pleasure of witnessing during these busy summer months for GCSC.

□ Have attended and presented at all the District Presidents' Training Sessions. Each of these meetings have been wonderfully planned, well attended, a treasure of important knowledge on such topics as, membership recruitment, awards process, finances, maneuvering our GCSC website for information, developing informative program topics and speaker resources, etc. Many of your State Officers attended and participated as well as State Chairmen. Each year I have seen more involvement, and a higher level of educational resources/talks presented. Through programs like this and others to come, I believe we will better meet the needs of our members as well as the new ones coming in and the new clubs being formed!

□ As was the case last year, we had members of the Board of Directors that have passed. Golden Circle Member, former SC Gardener Editor, and floral design expert, Irma Trailkill passed on June 11th at 98. Our beloved former President Emily Stephens, 1999-2001, SAR Director, Member of SAR and NGC Boards, Golden Circle Member and Floral Design Expert/Judge passed on June 13th at 94. GCSC will forever be stronger and better because of these ladies just as so many others have been before. I had the privilege to speak at Emily's funeral and to express GCSC's appreciation to her sons, Michael and Lucian, our thankfulness for sharing their mother all through the years with the Garden Club Federation.

□ As the month of August entered, I was amazed with the Club and Council Yearbooks that arrived at my home. As of this writing my counter is boasting of yearbooks from all over the state.. Over 100 printed and some electronically sent are here. Planning is going on for a number of events this fall, so stay tuned for announcements of GCSC's Veterans Day Program, Arbor Day Ceremony, State Christmas Tree Lighting and many others. Let's all commit to attend as many of these programs to show South Carolina is truly "the force for good" the Garden Club of SC mission states.

□ Helped celebrate numerous clubs' special anniversary events. The Aiken Garden Club was the oldest I attended, that of their 100th year of service and one of the original clubs to start our state organization in 1930.

□ Along with Donna and Harold Donnelly, Linda Howle and Betty Jackson, we represented South Carolina at the National Garden Clubs' Convention in Denver. What an exciting time as our own Donna Donnelly was announced and introduced each time as President Elect of NGC.

□ What an exciting time as our group from GCSC traveled to Newport Rhode Island to attend the Newport Flower Show which is headed up by our fellow Sumter Poinsett-Bland Garden Club member Pat Hernandez! While there we toured several of the mansions and their gardens from the "Gilded Age" such as Marble House of the Vanderbilt Family. Charleston Garden Club Member and summer resident in that area, Elizabeth Hazard, and her husband hosted a Sunday afternoon social for all the South Carolina Garden Clubs friends on the tour. We were delighted to enjoy their lovely home and sit around in her garden by the pool and enjoy delicious refreshments. We had the pleasure of meeting some of her Rhode Island Garden Club friends while there.

□ Participated in the Blue Star Marker dedication at the American Legion Building in Little River and sponsored by Yaupon Garden Club.

□ Continuing to work with our Membership Chair, Tara Ranson and the District Teams she has put together as we continue to help interested individuals form new clubs, federate existing clubs and bring on board additional affiliate members. At our September meeting, we voted to formally accept into our federation family our 58-member newest club, Hardeeville Garden Club. Truly we are blessed and are in an unprecedented time of growth. We must continue to support and encourage this renewed interest in our mission!

Sincerely,

David

David E. Stoudenmire, Jr.

President Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.

"Legacy Gardening" Past-Present-Future



President's Theme 2023-2025
Legacy Gardening



The President's Theme for the 2023-2025 term as stated above centers our attention on the one piece of property the Garden Club of South Carolina owns. This property was donated by Sarah Bolyston in 1944 to GCSC and has become our "Legacy" to maintain and improve these grounds and structures for the present and the future. As stewards of this corner adjacent to the South Carolina's Governor's Mansion and Grounds, it is a living memorial from Columbia Garden Club Member, Mrs. Bolyston as the first such memorial in our country honoring World War II Veterans. A number of years ago the GCSC Board of Directors approved the designation of the Memorial Gardens to honor all our country's Veterans— past, present and future.

As this Administration works with the Trustees and Board of Directors, one of my missions is to help raise money to design and install a permanent handicap accessible ramp into this garden. Currently, when GCSC sponsors an activity, we are renting a portable ramp which is costly, and we have nothing to show for that money after the event is over.

I am asking that each of our Garden Club/Councils Presidents or their designee pick-out a collection container that can be passed at your monthly meetings to collect loose change and/or bills to help raise the money for this project. I look forward to seeing examples of the containers as you try to tie it into this theme and the Memorial Garden. As you collect the money, please send it in on a regular basis. Please send a check made out to GCSC for the cash collected to Marian Soule, GCSC Treasurer at 701 Gervais Street, Suite 150-142, Columbia, SC 29201. On the check, please note that it is for: "Legacy Gardening" funds.

**HELP LAY A SOLID
FOUNDATION
FOR THE
GCSC
MEMORIAL GARDEN**

**Honoring All Veterans
Past & Present
With An Engraved
Paver Stone**



To the right is a photo showing where the donated paver stones will be placed to help lay a solid foundation for the GCSC Memorial Garden.




Are you looking for a permanent, heartfelt way to memorialize or honor someone who previously or presently serve(s) as a member of the armed forces? Tribute bricks not only serve as a celebration of friends and family, but also provide building blocks for our future, helping to ensure that The GCSC Memorial Garden will continue to provide a place of dignity and serenity for the citizens of South Carolina, our community, and all who enter its gates.

Please donate an engraved brick to honor a family member or loved one in his or her memory or honor. Your donation will become a part of the Memorial Garden's history for years to come. The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. is a 501(c)3 (non-profit) corporation; therefore, all donations are tax deductible.

For questions, please call Peggy Little at 803.577.8599, or email peggylittle@comporium.net Please mail contribution checks (made payable to GCSC Memorial Garden) to Peggy Little, 1241 Bradford Drive, Lancaster, SC 29720.





The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.
invites you to a

Veterans Day Program

Monday, November 4th, 2024

11:00am - 12:30pm

at the GCSC Memorial Garden

1919 Lincoln St.
Columbia, SC 29201

Do you remember when? Helen Goforth, Co-Archivist

Thanks, y'all! We who write these articles to educate you—hopefully, even to entertain you—are grateful for your comments and encouragement to give you more! A question about the Bartram Trail from an interested club sent me on another search in Greenwood, home of former GCSC President Babs Barnette who promoted the installation of historical markers for the Bartram Trail. The project was initiated by NGC President Jessie Conner, 1975-1977.

They shared an appreciation for the talents and tenacity of the botanist/naturalist/artist from Philadelphia and wished to recognize his accomplishments on the 200th anniversary of his journeys, especially in South Carolina. It would prove to be a daunting task as the Trail is designated a National Recreation Trail. The locations of Trail markers funded and erected by GCSC (as well as other State Clubs) were chosen for their accessibility. All markers in SC are identified as being in the South Atlantic Region and those donated by GCSC were identified, engraved, and topped with the circular seal of National Council of State Garden Clubs (NGC).

The Index Journal, Greenwood, dated September 22, 1975, described the organizational meeting to document the trail described in Bartram's *Travels*. "Representatives of several upstate South Carolina counties met with members of the Bartram Trail Society of Georgia to discuss marking parts of the trail in South Carolina."

The history of William Bartram, who began his eventful four-year journey through the Southeast by sailing to Charleston in April 1773, is very significant in the history of South Carolina, because he lived in Charleston for four years and used it as a base of operations. Not only was it a strategic location, but also, there were family and friends in the scientific community who were in South Carolina. It was his intention to record the region's animal and plant life, but he also detailed early life in the Southeast.

Bartram's travels covered 2,520 miles in a seven-state area including 456 miles in Upstate South Carolina. He spent some time in Abbeville, McCormick, Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens. Suggestions were made by the GA Society to have a hiking trail over the 900-mile route, which crossed back and forth over the Georgia-South Carolina border.

"In 1775...we can assume he retraced his steps from Georgia to arrive at Fort Charlotte opposite the mouth of Broad River to McCormick County. From here 'in the company of adventurers' bound for West Florida, Bartram traveled to Bordeaux, or Little River (McCormick County) and then on to the Benningsfield Creek west of Plum Branch, Edgefield County, the group passed out of South Carolina in the vicinity of Price Ferry (about 5 miles above the Little River) in an area now inundated by the Clark Hill Reservoir." (Bartram Trail Conference—South Carolina)

Eventually, a decision was made to "mark as closely as possible to original route, especially, in one instance, the Trail crossed at Trotters Shoal which would someday be underwater."

Babs and the Society proposed a permanent way for future generations to be educated and encouraged to study the exquisite natural beauty of South Carolina by honoring the artistic naturalist with historical markers. GCSC Minutes recorded dedications were in April, 1978.



Say Hello and Welcome to our newest federated Garden Club, **THE HARDEEVILLE GARDEN CLUB!** This brand-new club of almost 50 members was voted into federation at the September GCSC Board meeting and joins the West Low Country District. Thank you to Director Kathy New and Assistant Director Christy Sloane for their hard work this spring and summer to assist this enthusiastic group of gardeners through the process. Pictured: Christy Sloane, West Low Assistant Director; Kathy New, West Low Director; Desiree Hickey, President Hardeeville GC; Diane Carobus, Hardeeville GC.



Did You Know -

As a member of your federated garden club, you are also a member of GCSC and National Garden Clubs (NGC). The official publication of **National Garden Clubs**, *The National Gardener*, appears quarterly. The magazine highlights articles of interest to environmentalists, gardeners, landscapers, floral designers, educators, and even nature photographers. Featured columns provide readers with leadership advice, seasonal recipes, and garden club lore. Start enjoying the current National issue by viewing and subscribing for free to receive your digital copy quarterly. Go to <https://gardenclub.org/national-gardener> to sign up and subscribe today! You will also have access to past issues.

One new feature you can tap into this way is the newly formatted NGC “Membership Mondays” which are ZOOM meetings led by the NGC Membership Team from around the country. These ZOOM calls will be available on the first Monday of each month (except December). Subscribe to the NGC *National Gardener* (free) to have your name on the email list to jump on these monthly Membership calls. You will learn tips from all over the country! **The next NGC “Membership Monday” ZOOMs are scheduled for November 4 and January 6.**

Some quick ideas from the first NGC Membership call on ways to gain new members –

Have an “elevator story” ready to go about the benefits of joining your club when talking to another gardener. What does your club do? What are your programs like? What are the benefits to garden club membership? For example, “we are a diverse group of people brought together in our common interest of gardening and beautifying our community... and we have FUN doing it”.

Ask THEIR story; follow up with meeting reminders and club newsletter copies.

“Open your garden gate” with simple social media and offer a more open membership plan.

Membership News continued...

Four General Membership Techniques From NGC



Spring Into Action – Share an immediate invitation to a meeting or an event.



Establish a Passion Match – identify what they are interested in. Share upcoming activities. Introduce them to a club member who shares their passion. Link them with a way to explore and grow that passion within your club.



Offer a Low Barrier Entry – Have a simple, commitment - free way to join and get involved quickly. Keep following up after their first meeting to help “plug them in”.



Share Benefits of Belonging – Know and share some success stories of your newer members. Identify early on how THIS new visitor can also fit easily into your club.

Welcome to our newest GCSC Affiliate Member, **THE BUTTERFLY MONARCHY**

The Garden Club of South Carolina offers Affiliate memberships to non-profit organizations whose goals align with the mission and objectives of our organization. These eleven Affiliate Members pay annual dues to GCSC, and you will find their links on the GCSC website landing page. Our newest Affiliate member is The Butterfly Monarchy from Aiken, SC. They serve as the Central Savannah River Area Chapter (CSRA) of the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). Dive into the world of the Monarch Butterfly! Check their website or email them for more information on how this group raises awareness, educates youth with lifecycle activities, and works to advocate for and cultivate green space for our Monarch friends. thebutterflymonarchyclub.org

CONTACT US AT:
THEBUTTERFLYMONARCHYCLUB@GMAIL.COM

OUR MISSION

Encourage community involvement and education for the well-being and preservation of all butterflies with special emphasis on monarchs.

Our dedicated members actively engage with our local community, raising awareness across the CSRA (Central Savannah River Area) about the vital role of Monarch butterflies and educating youth on their fascinating lifecycle.



POPULAR POLLINATOR PLANTS

 Purple Coneflower	 Lantana	 Ice Pile Weed
 Sunflower	 Butterfly Bush	 Black Eyed Susan

IF YOU PLANT IT, THEY WILL COME

 Custard Milkweed	 Florida Milkweed	 Common Milkweed	 Swamp Milkweed
 Butterfly Milkweed	 Black Milkweed	 Scarlet Milkweed	 Tropical Milkweed

*Native to SC

BEST PRACTICES

- When buying milkweed, ensure no pesticides
- Plant milkweed in your sunniest location
- Wear gloves when handling milkweed
- Water new milkweed often
- Don't plant near house foundation
- Cut back plants in the fall

The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.



A non-profit organization, GCSC is a force for good promoting all aspects of gardening, focusing on preservation and restoration of historic gardens, conservation and environmental protection of natural resources, education of members and youth organization, civic beautification, horticulture, and floral design.

Join us, and as a member of a Federated garden club you will be part of something BIG!

We are 4400 members strong, serving in 172 garden clubs within 7 Districts across the state of South Carolina. We are part of the South Atlantic Region and National Garden Clubs, Inc., the largest volunteer gardening organization in the world with 165,000 members in 5,000 garden clubs. The Garden Club of South Carolina affiliate members' goals align with our mission and objectives such as SC Native Plant Society; SC Bluebird Society; SC Botanical Garden at Clemson; Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Gardens in Columbia; SC Wildlife Federation; Moore Farms Botanical Garden and Piedmont Physic Garden.

WE PROMOTE AWARENESS

We are stewards of the environment - making choices to protect pollinators and wildlife, conserve resources, and promote native plants and habitats to support them. We follow legislation to speak with a bigger voice on issues of environmental concern. We work to preserve and conserve, by identifying and restoring Historic or Legacy Gardens across the state, including Botanical and pollinator gardens. The Garden Club of South Carolina owns the Memorial Garden adjacent to the Governor's Complex in Columbia which was deeded in 1945 to become the first Memorial Garden in the United States to honor World War II veterans. This beautiful garden continues to evolve over time and is supported by individuals and garden clubs. We promote Environmental Awareness Initiatives such as recycling, upcycling, water conservation, and litter control.

WE EDUCATE

We offer National Flower Show Schools and Symposiums; Landscape Design Schools; Environmental Studies and Gardening Schools. Learn to put on a Flower Show or to be an accredited Flower Show Judge! Members enjoy fabulous, organized trips to world famous gardens. You will also learn about supporting Wildlife Habitats, The Blue Star Memorial Program, Carolina Fence Gardens, Native Plants and promoting National Garden Week and Arbor Day.

WE SUPPORT YOUTH GARDENING

We encourage the love of gardening, civic, and environmental responsibility in our youth. Local clubs promote youth activities throughout the year in their communities, including the sponsorship of Youth Garden Clubs. Clubs send campers to the highly regarded **Camp Wildwood** where the brightest conservation-minded students are invited to study wildlife and outdoor skills that are not taught elsewhere. The Garden Club of South Carolina partners with the SC Department of Natural Resources, The SC Wildlife Federation, and the Harry Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund to ensure the camp's success. We also hold Youth Poetry and Poster Contests; and the GCSC promotes Scholarship opportunities for both High School and College students, awarding over \$20,000 in 2022.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP in a Federated club

We join together at the District, State and National level to accomplish more than we ever could individually!

- As a member, you receive a subscription to the GCSC quarterly magazine, *The SC Gardener*, delivered right to your inbox.
- You are automatically enrolled as a member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc (www.gardenclub.org) and can subscribe to *The National Gardener*, their quarterly magazine.
- You can access the "Members Only" space on the GCSC website (www.gardenclubofsc.org) to discover informative educational and leadership tools. Your club will enjoy learning the GCSC initiatives during each term to guide monthly programs, workshops, field trips and Yearbooks.
- State and National project grants are available only to Federated clubs. Club Award recognition and honors are offered at the District, State and National levels.

Along with lectures and seminars at the club level, annual State meetings and Conventions offer an opportunity for continuing education and networking with gardeners from across the state who will become your life-long friends



Contact us!

The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.

701 Gervais Street, Suite 150-142
Columbia, SC 29201

WWW.GARDENCLUBOFSC.ORG



NGC & SAR Life Memberships

Dorothy Richardson, Chair

The NGC Life Membership supports scholarship funds to help young people complete their education. Giving someone an NGC Life Membership is an excellent way to honor someone who has made a special contribution to your garden club, district, state or region. Or, you may purchase one for yourself. The NGC Life Membership is divided evenly between the NGC Scholarship Fund and the Permanent Home and Endowment Fund. NGC Life Members are recognized online in *The National Gardener* and at the NGC National Conventions. To obtain an NGC National Life Membership, just complete the application form and send it with a check payable to NGC for \$200.00 and send to:

Dorothy Richardson, P.O. Box 14, Loris, SC 29569

[National Garden Clubs Life Membership Form](#)

The SAR Life Membership supports The Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is open to a college sophomore or junior for use during the junior or senior year of college. Each state within the South Atlantic Region may submit one application to be in competition for the scholarship. Qualifying students must major in the study of Horticulture, Floriculture, Landscape Design, Botany, Plant Pathology, Biology, Forestry, Agronomy, Environmental Concerns, City Planning, Land Management and/or allied subjects. All of the SAR Life Membership goes to the Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship, which means that you can use the entire amount as a charitable deduction for tax purposes. You will also receive an SAR Life Membership pin. To obtain a SAR Life Membership, just complete the form along with a check payable to SAR for \$65.00 and mail both to:

Dorothy Richardson, P.O. Box 14, Loris, SC 29569

[SAR Life Membership Application Form](#)

Remember, Life Memberships = Scholarships

5 STAR HONOR CLUB INFORMATION

Any federated garden club can earn the distinction of being designated a GCSC Five Star Honor Club by contributing a minimum of \$40.00 to each of the five GCSC "projects" (\$200.00) listed below. Blue Star Memorial Highway Markers, Camp Wildwood / Youth Awards Celebration (Contribution is split equally to benefit both), GCSC Memorial Garden, GCSC Headquarters and The SC State Christmas Tree

“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 _____

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:

Address for mailing the certificate:

Tell us about how this person has inspired gardening:

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

https://gardenclubofsc.org/GCSC_GARDEN_HEROES_CAMPAIGN



"Plant it Pink"

Garden Club of South Carolina (GCSC)

Calling all Garden Clubs and Gardeners!

Let's raise awareness of cancer with a community or home garden with pink blooming plants. All new *"Plant it Pink"*

projects will be eligible to receive a GCSC award.



To submit your *"Plant it Pink Garden"* applications and pictures by December 10, 2024 or request additional info:

Send **applications & pictures** to:

Sandie Duerksen

165 Double Eagle Court

Aiken SC 29803

803.645.2871

sandieduerksen@gmail.com

For **more info**, contact:

Radine Tate

2627 Alligator Road

Effingham SC 29541-4314

843.678.7379

rpt4love@bellsouth.net



Environmental Studies School & Gardening School

Karen Allen, Chair

The mission of the Environmental Studies Schools is to teach environmental literacy to cherish, protect and conserve the living earth. The courses teach participants environmental literacy, appreciation of the natural world, encourages action for sustainable development and appreciation for the interrelation of all natural things. Particular emphasis is presently placed on land conservation, water conservation and air quality. Environmental Studies School is aimed at producing a citizenry that is knowledgeable concerning the biophysical environment and its associated problems, aware of how to help solve these problems, and motivated to work toward their solution.

Environmental School at Magnolia Plantation



Gardening School consists of a series of four courses, scheduled over two days of instruction, followed by an exam for those interested in becoming a NGC accredited Gardening Consultant. Courses cover all aspects of horticulture: gardening, understanding soil structure, pruning techniques, identifying plants, etc. Topics include basic botany, soils, annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, fruits, vegetables, lawns, pests, plant diseases, plant classification and selected subjects of local interest. Additional topics may include reconciliation ecology and creating backyard habitats to help endangered species such as pollinators and amphibians as well as working with youth.

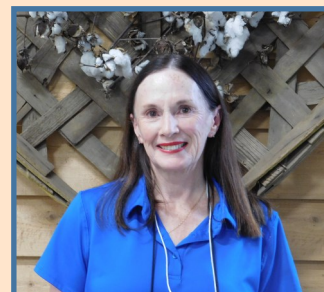
Gardening School at Spartanburg Community College

October 2023 & June 2024



Congratulations to Karen Oliver for becoming a Five Star Member of the NGC!

Karen achieved this honor by completing, earning her consultant and judge status and then receiving Master status in all four NGC Schools (Landscape Design, Environmental Studies, Gardening & Flower Show). This is an accomplishment that very few have earned and she is the first as a GCSC member to achieve it!



Contact: Karen Allen at saludalake21@aol.com, for information on these schools.

Camp Wildwood 2025 Registration

Camp Wildwood is a unique conservation and leadership camp that challenges the imagination, mind, and body. Many of its staff first came to Wildwood as campers, and the high staff-to-camper ratio ensures a quality experience. Numerous campers are the second or third generation of their family to attend Camp Wildwood. Fisheries and fishing, boating, wildlife, archery, gun safety, journaling, forestry, sports competitions, dances, talent shows, themed events—the days pass much too quickly!

<https://www.campwildwoodsc.com/camp-video>

In 2025, Camp Wildwood will take place June 15 - 21. Campers proposed by Garden Club of South Carolina member clubs may submit applications **October 1- 31**.

Applications are electronic only and will be considered in the order that they are received.

The camp fills quickly, so it is better to submit applications earlier in the month rather than later. On November 1, registration will open to the public for any remaining slots.

Clubs wishing to sponsor a camper should select a first-year-camp prospect who will be a rising 10th, 11th or 12th grader in June 2025. Clubs may offer candidates for the first-year camp only. Second- and third-year camps are significantly smaller and by invitation only.

[Article on Camp Wildwood](#)

Questions? Need help?

Please consult the Garden Club of South Carolina website for updates or contact Susan Hite, Camp Wildwood Chairman, at hite.susan@gmail.com.

COME ALIVE 2025 GCSC WITH LOVE IN BLOOM

GCSC Convention

April 28-30, 2025

Embassy Suites

Greenville, South Carolina

Keynote speaker-Garden Designer & Author
Jon Carloffis

Registration Information will be available soon on the
GCSC web site and in the
Winter edition of *The SC Gardener*

[Click here for hotel information & reservations](#)

PLANT AMERICA, FEED AMERICA



Are you participating in the NGC President's Project helping to feed the less fortunate in America? Get involved TODAY in the Plant America, Feed America Project by donating any extra produce you're growing in your own garden or in a community garden to a local organization that helps to feed the hungry in your community.

If you participate, **fill out this short donation form** found on the NGC's website. You'll find more information about this project and a link to the donation form in a story about the Plant America, Feed America project on the NGC's HOME page.

Get involved today to Feed America!!

www.gardenclub.org



Go Out and Learn with the Lake and Hills Garden Club-West Piedmont District

Submitted by Laurie Flanagan

Do you know that one of the world's 50 last great places is right here in South Carolina? According to National Geographic, Lake Jocassee in Upstate South Carolina is one such special place.

On June 4, thirteen lucky members of the Lake and Hills Garden Club (LHGC) immersed themselves in the wild wonders of Lake Jocassee, a beautiful 7,500-acre wilderness reservoir lake located within the Upstate's Jocassee Gorges. An experienced naturalist from Jocassee Lake Tours captained the boat and guided these intrepid LHGC adventurers on their day of discovery. As the boat skimmed cool, clear mountain waters, LHGC members learned about the numerous plants that abound in the temperate rainforest surrounding the lake, including over 120 species of trees. During the tour, the naturalist guide shared the history of the area, as well as amazing facts; for example, Jocassee receives over 100 inches of rain a year. As the naturalist guide nosed the boat right up into a cascading waterfall so that members could get "up close and personal" views, she also informed her crew about the wildlife that populates the lake area including bald eagles and loons. Members learned that over a 100 loons winter on Lake Jocassee annually, which explains why there are ongoing studies about the health and behavior of Common Loons in a freshwater ecosystem, like Lake Jocassee.

The LHGC offers several Go Out and Learn experiences to its members every year. While our mission is to promote the love of gardening, environmental conservation, and community responsibility, we also know it is important to provide education, resources, social opportunities, and FUN for our members. Garden Club member Evelyn Cole, who attended the tour commented, "All in all, it was a beautiful day on the water that everyone enjoyed. At the LHGC, there is always something you can dip your toes into."



ALL THE DIRT

NEWSLETTER OF THE DATAW GARDEN CLUB

SUMMER 2024

“

*The garden year has no beginning
and
no end.*

Elizabeth Lawrence

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER

Summer's zooming by, and it's almost time to dig into another fun season with the garden club!

Watch for the 2024-2025 yearbook arriving in your inbox soon. It'll be bursting with information about exciting speakers, upcoming meetings, and social events.

In the meantime, grab your calendars and mark down Tuesday, September 10th for our first meeting of the season at the Community Center. We can't wait to see you there!

Save the Date: West Low Country District
Spring Meeting at Dataw March 28, 2025



Butterfly Garden

Our Butterfly Garden offers a warm welcome to Dataw and a crucial habitat for local butterflies.

But we need your assistance! Several of our regular garden workers are away and we are reaching out to members for help. If you are able to give even a half hour of time in the Butterfly Garden, please contact Pat Bonner at miss3B@aol.com

We're blooming with pride after winning awards!

We are thrilled to announce that we recently received awards from both the Garden Club of South Carolina and the West Low Country District.

Special Achievement Award - 1st Place for our Sprouts Program that welcomes and energizes our new members.

Claudia Wrights Lea Phillip Award and the Civic Achievement Award - both 2nd place, for providing landscaping and garden tools for a Habitat for Humanity house.

Holiday Beautification Award-3rd place, for the annual lighting of two historic places on Dataw on Luminary Night.

We won two awards for our very comprehensive Yearbook--first place in the West Low Country District and third place from the Garden Club of South Carolina.

Big thanks to Lyn Wilson, Bobbi Weber, Patty Van Sant, Mary Marshall, and Donna McKeown for submitting these awards.



Dataw Garden Club
Awards for 2023

GARDENING ON THE CAY / East Piedmont District

Submitted by Tara Ranson

The close of our business meetings in May did not end our “busyness” over the summer. Gardening on the Cay continued to water and support our five public pollinator gardens and celebrated National Garden Week in June by placing signage at all the locations for the week. Some are pictured below.



Tega Cay Police Station



The Fort Mill Care Center

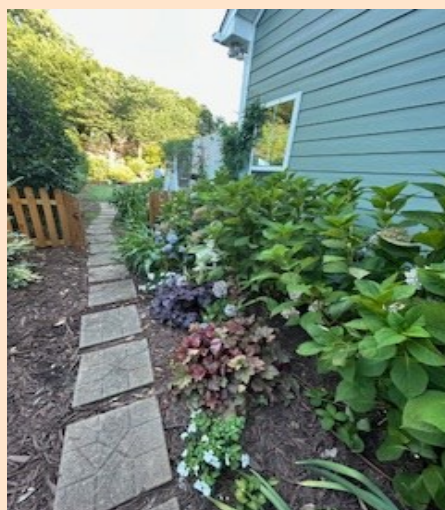


Tega Cay Elementary School Butterfly Waystation



Family Promise Carolina Fence Garden

In June, July, and August five GOTC members hosted inter-club “Sip and Strolls” at their homes for 15-25 members who enjoyed hospitality along with the beautiful and varied types of gardens.



GOTC member Donna Feely and her “cottage cutting gardens” also provided blooms all summer for the Fort Mill Care Center, our local free food bank. For ten weeks, Donna and a few other members harvested their own cut flowers each Sunday, and she was able to build and deliver almost 150 beautiful arrangements to the Center this summer. What a treat for the guests to take home a lovely donated vase of flowers along with their groceries!



The Simpsonville Garden Cub is delighted that Miss Ashley Deliberto, a Simpsonville resident, was awarded the Hessie Morrah Horticulture Scholarship from the Garden Club of South Carolina. After getting acquainted with Ashley, our club was happy to recommend her for this scholarship.

Miss Deliberto is a confident and accomplished young woman. She is articulate, curious, adventuresome, and has been very deliberate in her career choice of landscape architecture. She is enrolled at Auburn University and is a sophomore this fall.

After an internship with a commercial architecture firm, she found she enjoyed designing the *outdoor* spaces more than indoor space. She also realized that being a landscape architect would allow her to combine creative design work, with her interests in science, nature and the environment.

Ashley was enthusiastic about her design labs where she is getting hands-on experience while she was a freshman. To further support her career interests, she is the Design Chairman for the local chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architecture in Auburn. I think this is proof of the leadership she will put forth in the future.

In addition to her thoughtful career choice, Ashley is a record setting La Cross player and currently plays on a club team. In the past she also swam competitively.

With Ashley's career focus, drive, interests and personality, I can't imagine a better recipient of the GCSC scholarship. She is just a delight, and our club is so proud that we can help her achieve her career goals in horticulture.



Miss Ashley Deliberto. The 2024 Hessie Morrah Scholarship.

Azalea Garden Club of Greer-West Piedmont District

Submitted by Rosemary Saffer

National Garden Week was very busy for us!



The club picked up litter along a street in Greer and ended up with 7 bags after only about an hour of work!

Members trimmed bushes and trees and weeded the entrance at a local homeless residence.

New pots were also installed near the parking lot.



The butterfly garden at Greer Community Ministries was cleaned up and had a new bottle tree installed. The staff has reported enjoying the sculpture even before the bottles have been added.

We also worked at the local library meditation garden removing leaves, weeds and thinning out plants.

Wren and bluebird houses the club installed last year at parks in the Greer area were checked for occupancy and if they needed maintenance.

To finish our week, several of us met for lunch on Friday to celebrate our hard work!

DOGWOOD GARDEN CLUB OF ORANGEBURG OBSERVED NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

Submitted by Meredith Baker

Dogwood Garden Club of Orangeburg, an affiliate of National Garden Clubs, Inc., recently participated in that organization’s National Garden Week. The event, held June 2-8, 2024, gave garden clubs nationwide a way to encourage pride in community, interest new members, and work with other groups in those efforts.

Dogwood Garden Club has participated in the annual event for over 25 years. For 2024 the group again chose to brighten lobbies and offices across Orangeburg County. The hand-delivered vases of fresh flowers brought beauty and cheer. Henry Miller of Samaritan House said, “Our folks are going to love these!” Kenith Salley of the Orangeburg mayor’s office reported, “We got a lot of compliments on the flowers. Everyone loved them, and they lasted a long time!”

Dogwood Garden Club looks forward to participating in this wonderful event for years to come and hopes to expand the list of next year’s recipients by increasing our membership.

Susan Berry’s bouquet brightens the lobby of the Orangeburg County Fine Arts Center.



Pernell Sistrunk (C) and Margaret Frierson (R) of MUSC –Health Orangeburg thank Candace Fowler (L) for the arrangement.



Henry Miller places Meredith Baker’s vase of cheerful flowers in the front entrance of The Samaritan House.

About Dogwood Garden Club

Dogwood Garden Club was organized in 1939 and federated in 1940. The club is a member of the Orangeburg Council of Garden Clubs, The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. (West Low Country District), and National Garden Clubs, Inc. (South Atlantic Region). The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month, September to May. If you want to participate in beautifying Orangeburg by becoming a member or donating to the club's ongoing projects, contact Meredith Baker at mebaker09@me.com.



Pam Reynolds' spring bouquet brings sweetness and light to the Mabry Cancer Center.



Glenda Mueller (L) delivers her colorful creation to Anna Zacherl, Director of the Orangeburg County Library.



Kenith Salley accepts Roxie Milhouse's floral donation on behalf of Orangeburg's mayor, Michael C. Butler.

Patty Pickens' hydrangeas make a splash at the Orangeburg Department of Public Safety.



Greenwood Council of Garden Clubs Honors Woman of the Year

Submitted by Charlotte Cabri

Donna Holtzclaw may be found outside Greenwood's Hospice House working on planters maintained by Four Seasons Garden Club one day and inside at the information desk assisting visitors the next. Whatever her task, she does it with a smile.

Donna's commitment to service, both to her garden club and her community, has earned her the Greenwood Council of Garden Clubs' Woman of the Year honor for 2024.

Helping others comes naturally to Donna, who moved to Greenwood from Pittsburgh more than 40 years ago. She worked at Westinghouse, Eaton and Cutler Hammer before retiring from customer service. Upon retirement, she looked for ways to continue to serve.

Donna became a member of Four Seasons Garden Club in 2012, and since joining has been a major advocate of encouraging others to join and participate in club projects. She has served as the E-Corresponding Secretary for many years and is always happy to host club events in her home.

For the past 14 years Donna has volunteered twice a month at Hospice House (Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont) and at the Arts Center of Greenwood greeting visitors with a welcoming smile. The Arts Center honored her with its Volunteer of the Year award in 2014. "Donna has a special heart," said Susan Harris, Director of Volunteers at Hospice House.

Four Seasons Garden Club sponsors outdoor planters at community locations including Hospice House, the Arts Center and the airport, and Donna is diligent in helping maintain them. She can also be found gardening in her yard, her neighborhood and at her church. She attributes her love of gardening to her mother and grandmother who always welcomed her to work with them in their yards.

Donna has attended Church of the Resurrection for many years, and for the past four has been part of its Daughters of the King. She sends cards and visits those unable to get out in the community. Many of her visits are accompanied by her famous chocolate chip cookies.

Wherever there is a need, Donna is there to help, according to one of her garden club friends. She will provide a meal for those recovering from an illness or grieving the loss of a loved one, and she always takes time for conversation.

Garden clubs flourish with members like Donna Holtzclaw.



Sea Island Garden Club Learns About Cool Flowers at Wimbee Creek Farms

Submitted by Mary Stuart Heath

Maria Baldwin of Wimbee Creek Farms in Seabrook hosted the ladies of Sea Island Garden Club on September 11. The topic of her presentation was Cool Flowers, flowers that need to be planted in the fall.

Maria and her husband Gary grow beautiful flowers to be used and enjoyed throughout the SC Lowcountry by local and regional designers, wedding planners, and those who just love flowers. Maria also offers garden-style floral design workshops and specialty workshops that use dried flowers, as well as Christmas wreath making workshops.



Flower growing season in the Low Country has basically come to an end, so Maria stressed, “*It is time to think ahead!*”

Cool Flowers are flowering annuals that thrive in a long cool season. They are planted in October, grow their roots through fall and winter, and then flower in the spring.

Maria talked us through “starts vs seeds,” techniques for preparing the soil, and cutting procedures to coax more from each plant. Some Cool Flowers are Delphinium, Foxglove, Scabiosa, Snapdragon, Bachelor Buttons, Larkspur, Sweet Peas, Queen Anne’s Lace, Clarkia, Yarrow, Statice, Strawflowers, Poppies, Sweet William, Black-eyed Susan, Calendula, and Dill.

The day of our visit the weather was overcast and cool—just perfect for a slow walk around the farm with Maria to see some of her special plants and to learn more planting and pruning techniques. Romeo, Maria’s huge “gentle giant” dog, and her new playful kitten accompanied us, making our stroll even more special.

What a special outing! Cool Flowers!



Coastal District

District Director: Graceann Phillips

Assistant Director: Judy Wesley

East Low Country District

District Director: Peggy Benton

Assistant Director: Joan McDonald

East Piedmont District

District Director: Linda Hutchinson

Assistant Director: Denie Crowder

East Sandhills District

District Director: Michelene Sheely

Assistant Director: Elizabeth Tolson

West Low Country District

District Director: Kathy New

Assistant Director: Christy Sloan

West Piedmont District

District Director: Dot Closs

Assistant Director: Jenny Snipes

West Sandhills District

District Director: Becky Fairey

Assistant Director: Inis Gibbes

The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.

501c3 non-profit organization

Website: www.gardenclubofsc.org

4225 Members, 175 Garden Clubs,

17 Councils and 9 Affiliate Organizations

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.

To submit articles, events and items of interest for submission to *The Gardener*, please send an email to Laurie Churchill, Editor at scgardenereditor@gmail.com

Submission Deadlines

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<i>Winter</i>	<i>Nov. 15</i>
<i>Spring</i>	<i>Feb. 28</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
- 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.

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.

©2023 All rights reserved. No portion of this magazine may be reprinted without the express, written consent of the publisher.

Laurie Churchill, Editor

Gay Nelson, Assistant Editor

The Master Calendar of Events can be downloaded from the GCSC Web Site:
<https://gardenclubofsc.org/index.php>