



Redbud Reporter

Spring 2022

From the District Director

Fellow Redbud Members,

All around us the eponymous *Cercis canadensis*, the Eastern Redbud, trees have bloomed. Looking out over the daffodils, irises, forsythia, hyacinth and other early spring bloomers in my yard, I find myself reflecting on the status of our garden clubs. I am happy to say that like these harbingers of springtime, we are also blooming. Club Presidents have submitted their annual reports and these reports prove that the Redbud clubs have found ways to excel within the COVID challenges of the changing safety protocols, cautions and guidelines. Proof that our clubs are moving forward with gusto.

Our clubs and councils are engaging and serving their respective communities with projects at hospitals, retirement centers, government office buildings, libraries, community gardens, schools, and along roadways. Many clubs found that their outdoor projects were a great way to serve their respective communities while safely fellowshiping with members and friends. There were club and council activities focused on conservation and recycling, gardening techniques and best practices, birds, permaculture, perennials, trees, shrubbery, and floral design. Fieldtrips were taken to the State Botanical Gardens and the GCG Headquarters, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, community gardens, and the Atlanta History Center. Clubs are installing new officers, preparing Garden week in Georgia and National Garden Week celebrations, and making end-of-year plans.

Award applications for these wonderful projects and programs have been submitted to Garden Club of Georgia (GCG). At the time of this writing, clubs are waiting with a collective bated breath to see how the district clubs fare at the April Awards Program at the GCG State Convention. Several clubs have planned activities to commemorate the April birth month of Frederick Law Olmstead.

Redbud District clubs have supported the Garden Club of Georgia's projects and programs, especially scholarship and fundraising. Redbud was the first GCG district to sell 350 raffle tickets to earn the \$250 bonus and, at the time of this writing, we were still leading in ticket sales, with more sales reported every week. (The deadline for submitting raffle tickets is March 31, 2022, so please get those last tickets sold and checks in the mail to Winette Almon.). Thank you for your wonderful support of the GCG general fundraiser for 2021-2022 and your support of the Scholarship Fund. Thanks to your contributions, the GCG Scholarship Fund was able to offer \$70,000 in scholarships to 21 deserving students. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Energized and buoyed by the recent changes in weather and the promises of spring, Redbud District clubs are focused on end-of-year projects and programs and closing out this club year with renewed enthusiasm. Redbud District members are planning to attend the GCG Convention on April 12-

13, 2022 in Macon. And at the district level, several things are being planned and more details for each of the District sponsored events are contained in this newsletter.

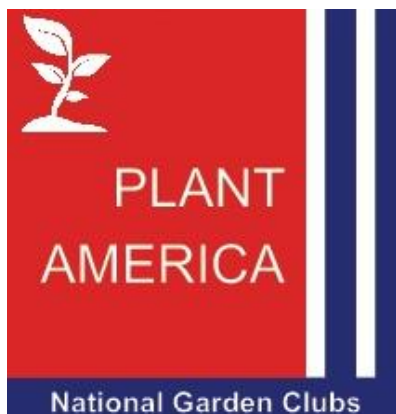
Please mark your calendars for the Annual Fall Meeting which will be held Tuesday October 11, 2022 at the First Baptist Church New Life Center in LaGrange, Georgia. A great meeting and program is being planned for our first in-person district gathering in three years.

In closing, I salute you and your clubs as you continue to set the bar for high standards for garden clubs. Thanks to each of you, Redbud District continues to exemplify beautification, conservation, and education.

Happy Spring!
Gale D. Thomas
Redbud Director

GCG Plant America Winners

Congratulations to the GCG Plant America Community Project Grant Winners



There are several grants available to garden clubs. One of the more popular grants is the National Garden Club (NGC) **Plant America Community Project Grant**. This grant provides funding for new or existing projects, including joint organization ventures. The range of projects appropriate for this grant includes beautification or restoration; school or community gardens; and landscaping at Blue Markers or Habitat for Humanity Homes. Other projects can include implementing environmental practices or hosting an educational event for the public. The 2022 winners were announced in

January. Congratulations to the following clubs for receiving an NGC Plant America Community Project Grant. We look forward to hearing more about their projects.

This year's winners are:

- Athens Garden Club
- Azalea Garden Club
- Chattooga Garden Club
- Conyers Garden Club
- Crabapple Garden Club
- Cummings Garden Club
- Garden Club of Quitman
- Honey Pond Garden Club
- Marietta Daisies Garden Club
- Seed and Weeds Garden Club
- Spade and Trowel Garden Club
- Stonehenge Garden Club
- Townview Garden Club



The 49th Annual Yellow Daisy Flower Show

She's back and starting to simmer! Yes, the Redbud District will have its annual District Flower show in September 2022 at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. We'll soon have a final date for the activities.

Why aren't we going back to Stone Mountain this year? The park is amid ownership changes and will be working on renovations and retooling. They will not be able to commit space for us. They want to look at other ways to work together but, right now, the show is out.

After an exhaustive search by a Redbud steering committee, the committee recommended that we take advantage of the generosity of Callanwolde – the home base of the DeKalb Federation. This is a unique opportunity for us and Callanwolde. This location will allow us to take advantage of a beautiful space with plenty of tables and chairs. The

major difference is that the time for the show will be shorter and must be presented during the week. That means we really must be fast in set-up and take-down. All hands on deck! It has us juiced for the future.

We have the schedule; Joy Zaidan will be reworking portions. We have a very rough idea on the display space, and we've got the commitment of the ever-dependable Daisy regulars. We're excited to be bringing in new people who may have never worked or contributed to the show when it was in Stone Mountain. We'll be sending out a survey to help us get a bead on the amount of horticulture to expect. And the chair and committee chairs will be calling on Redbuds in every corner to get involved. We hope you'll say yes. If you are interested in volunteering, just contact drmchunter@yahoo.com or say yes when a committee chair calls you.

Flower School is Coming!

The Redbud District is proud to announce that it is co-sponsoring a Flower Show School in Marietta beginning in August 2022. The school, the first in Georgia in 5 years, is an NGC accredited program to train flower show judges in judging and exhibiting both design and horticulture. This is a joint effort of the Laurel District, Creative Studies Club, The Designers Club and North Georgia Council of Flower Show Judges.

The four course School teaches all you need to know to judge, enter, compete, and chair an NGC flower show like our own annual Redbud District Show. Each course presents a deep dive on key principles and elements of design, judging criteria for designs and horticulture. You'll get a thorough understanding of flower show procedure. Learn just what makes a blue-ribbon entry. All classes are taught by experienced and credentialed instructors.

It's an intensive, highly rewarding experience. The Horticulture curriculum covers more than just how plants grow. You'll discover how to select, groom, and exhibit your plant. You'll write a flower show schedule and critique exhibits.

Design sessions give you a handle on the Principles and Elements of Design. You'll get the tools you need to evaluate various NGC types like creative line, creative mass, cascade, multi-rhythmic, parallel, functional table, exhibition tables and many more.

For flower show procedure, expect to gain enough knowledge to host your own show and to become an accredited flower show judge. You'll learn how to constructively critique design, horticulture, and educational exhibits.

All classes will be held at the Marietta Garden Education Center in downtown Marietta. Dates are as follows:

2022 1st Session: Aug. 21, 22, 23, 24

2023 2nd Session: April 23, 24, 25, 26

2023 3rd Session: Aug. 27, 28, 29, 30

2024 4th Session: Feb. 25, 26, 27, 28

Challenge yourself! If you've got an itch, scratch it at the first session, at least. You'll be getting more information as plans firm up in the next couple of months. In the meantime, if you need any questions answered, Anna Burns, anna.burns214@gmail.com, Cookie Roland r_cookie@att.net, or Diane Hunter, drmchunter@yahoo.com, will certainly try to answer them.

2022 Historic Landscape Preservation Fundraiser

Lockerly Arboretum-Historic Rose Hill Tour

Luncheon and Lecture

May 14, 10 am – 2 pm

It's Azalea District's turn to sponsor the 2022 GCG Historic Landscape Preservation fundraiser - and they have planned an outstanding event with an excellent speaker in addition to the tour. This year's Milledgeville is located in central Georgia, a reasonable drive for most members. Great outing for your club.

Lockerly Arboretum consists of 50 acres of shrubs, trees, rhododendrons, a conifer collection, an extensive camellia collection and greenhouses. Also on the property is the beautiful 1852 Greek Revival style home, Rose Hill, with its period furnishings, which will also be open for touring. Deadline for registration is May 2, 2022.



Celebrate Georgia and National Garden Week 2022

Garden Week in Georgia is April 17-23, 2022. Commemorate the week by visiting a public or private garden in the state. Encourage others to enjoy the state's natural beauty. Plant flowers or trees. Participate in any activities to make the public aware of what the state has to offer and the work of the Garden Club of Georgia. All of these things and more will help to add to the celebration of Garden Week in Georgia!

Make plans to also celebrate National Garden Week in your community on June 5-11, 2022! Each year National Garden Week provides a window for us all to encourage others to love their communities and work with organizations around us to enrich our environment. The National Garden Chairman, Sara Hemphill, offers suggestions on the National Garden Club's Official Website. Use those and the ones on the right to kickstart ideas for your upcoming events.

Create an enjoyable experience with your club during Garden Week in Georgia and National Garden Week. Send your pictures and event summaries to Sandy Reed, Editor of the Redbud Reporter sandyreed17@gmail.com and Gale Thomas, Redbud District Director, galedthomas@gmail.com.

- Plan an opportunity for an adult or youth organization to improve a public space.
- Plan an opportunity to work with families to upgrade a nearby area.
- Work with a local nursery to plan a workshop on planning a flower garden.
- Plan a workshop or educational event at your local library for children in your community.
- Visit a garden in your area with your club. Invite friends.
- Work with a local senior care home to plan a vegetable garden.
- Plan an activity with school students.
- Donate a plant or flower arrangement to a government agency. Place a National Garden Week Poster with it which can be downloaded from the National Garden Club's Official Website.

We look forward to exciting celebrations!

Watkinsville Holds Plant Sale

The Watkinsville Garden Club (WGC) will hold its annual plant sale on May 7, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. next to Oconee State Bank located at 35 N. Main Street, Watkinsville, GA. Featured in the sale will be 16 different varieties of hydrangeas grown by Dr. Michael Dirr, as well as a variety of plants grown by WGC members.



SAVE THE DATE
THE FLOWER FANTASY AT PINEOLA FARMS
NOT YOUR NORMAL FLOWER EXTRAVAGANZA!
April 23 – April 24, 2022



Don't miss this unique opportunity to tour a historic home filled with beautiful floral installations. These are not your average flower arrangements!

This is also an opportunity to tour the gardens of this historic property full of spring color and shop with many of our vendors.

Saturday, April 23rd, 10am—6pm and
Sunday, April 24th, 1pm - 6pm at 1195 Taylors Mill Rd.,
Fort Valley, GA. Tickets are good for both days.

Tickets and more information are available at
<https://www.pineola.com/events> or
call (478) 827-0894

We at the Magnolia Garden Club feel like education is key. We want to help inspire our youth in all fields of horticulture, therefore all proceeds will benefit the Garden Club of Georgia Scholarship Fund.

Great Georgia Pollinator Census

The 2022 Great Georgia Pollinator Census is August 19 and 20th. Will you be ready?

Now is the time of year to plant your new pollinator garden or garden expansion. When planning a garden to attract pollinators, remember these hints to attract the greatest diversity of insects:

- Include flowers of various colors, shapes, and sizes
- Choose plants of different heights
- Plant for a succession of blooming plants
- Limit or avoid insecticides

Will you have pollinator plants blooming during August for the Census? Take a look at the pollinator plants below that bloom in August.



Twenty amazing pollinator plants that should be blooming in August for the Census.

<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	Anise Hyssop
<i>Allium cernuum</i>	Nodding Onion
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterflyweed
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	White Turtlehead
<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>	Blue Mist Flower
<i>Coreopsis pubescens</i>	Star Tickseed
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Coneflower
<i>Eutrochium spp.</i>	Joe-Pye Weed
<i>Helianthus angustifolius</i>	Swamp Sunflower
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Spiked Blazing Star
<i>Lobelia cardinalis - red</i>	Cardinal Flower
<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	Great Blue Lobelia
<i>Monarda punctata</i>	Spotted Bee Balm
<i>Pycnanthemum spp.</i>	Mountain Mint
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	Blackeyed Susan
<i>Solidago petiolaris</i>	Downy Goldenrod
<i>Symphotrichum dumosum</i>	Rice Button Aster
<i>Symphotrichum georgianum</i>	Georgia Aster
<i>Vernonia angustifolia</i>	Narrowleaf Ironweed

GREAT GEORGIA

Pollinator Census

Erin Garden Club Holds Flower Show

A Touch of Erin Flower Show presented by Erin Garden Club of Dublin, GA will be free and open to the public from 2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Friday, April 22 and Saturday, April 23 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The show will be held at the First Baptist Church Family Center located at 405 Bellevue Avenue in Downtown Dublin.

A special pre-flower show event will welcome James Farmer to the stage for an afternoon presentation and demonstration. Farmer's pre-flower show event will take place on Friday, April 22 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. with doors opening at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40 each and can be purchased from Erin Garden Club members or by calling Paige Smalley at 478-290-7275. The event will be followed by a book signing with Farmer sponsored by Smith's of Dublin.

News from the Councils and Clubs

Avondale Estates Plant Sale

Perennials for sun? Ferns for shade? Groundcovers? Herbs? House plants? We'll have it all at the Avondale Estates Garden Club Plant Sale, Saturday April 16th from 10:00 to 4:00 on the lawn in front of the Community Club.

We'll have Lady fern, Autumn fern, Boston fern and Marianna fern. And there will be interesting shrubs like Fatsia with its huge leaves, and the native Itea, gorgeous in spring. Cheerful daisies and Mexican salvia. Black Eyed Susans and Blue-eyed Grass. Siberian, Japanese and Roof Iris.



We'll have natives and pollinators, short things and tall things, terrariums and succulents. Plants for your sunny exposures and plants for shade. We'll even have trees!

If you attended last year, you know what an opportunity this presents for the heart and soul of Avondale Estates gardeners.

Cash, checks and credit cards welcome. Mark your calendar. See you there!



DeKalb Federation Recognizes 2022 Life Members

DeKalb Federation life memberships are ways (1) to recognize club members; (2) honor non-club members who have supported your club's work; (3) honor someone with a memorial and (4) to give a gift to oneself! Not limited to individuals, clubs may also apply for or receive Life Membership status. DeKalb Federation donates the life membership funds to the Garden Club of Georgia Scholarship Fund, which benefits Georgia college students majoring in garden-related areas. Eight new life memberships were presented at the DeKalb Federation's February 24, 2022 meeting.

This year the following were recognized by their garden clubs: Mary Bell and Carolyn Chandler (Avon

Garden Club); Joan Lass and Tyler Weaver (Avondale Estates Garden Club); David Young (Hunting Hill Garden Club); and Allison Reeves (Smoke Rise Morning Glories). Conyers Garden Club member Kathy Williams sponsored a life membership in memoriam for her sister, Margaret Goble, and the Breckenridge Garden Arts I Garden Club presented a life membership in the name of all DeKalb Federation members impacted by COVID.

The Life Membership Program highlight was the presentation of the DeKalb Federation 2022 Life Member of the Year to Dr. Sandra (Sandy) Reed of Shenandoah Rose Garden Club.

DeKalb Federation Continues Garden Therapy Project

The DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs has been involved in a garden therapy project with the Georgia Regional Hospital since 2019. Residents have established both ornamental and vegetable gardens on the grounds of the Atlanta hospital. DeKalb Federation members have served as advisors to the staff who work with the residents on the project. Monetary support has come from both DeKalb Federation and The Garden Club of Georgia.

We recently received an update on the vegetable garden from project coordinator Mary Cochran. This winter they grew lettuce, cabbage, napa cabbage, curly kale, broccolini, and broccoli.

Some plants did better than others. The peas did not do well due to freezing. The curly kale was a big grower! It has been harvested and cooked three times so far. The lettuce also did well but was a short-lived producer because some of the freezes we had were just too much for it.



DeKalb Federation “Restores the Beauty”

In 2019, the DeKalb Federation began “restoring the beauty” of the grounds of the Garden Center at Callanwolde. Not even COVID could stop us, as members continued to meet in small groups to work on the landscape throughout 2020 and 2021. And it’s a good thing we were able to continue our work, because weeds don’t stop growing even during a global pandemic!

Members continue to meet to work on the garden – usually a couple of times a month for 2 to 3 hours at a time. While we work hard, we also have a lot of fun! If you are interested in volunteering to help with the garden, contact Quill Duncan (quillduncan@msn.com) or Sandy Reed (sandyreed17@gmail.com).

To celebrate Garden Week in Georgia, we will plant a ‘Ruby Slippers’ oakleaf hydrangea on the grounds in front of the conservatory. We will meet on Friday, April 22 at 10:30 am. We’d like to have a representative from each DeKalb Federation Club present. Refreshments will be served.



*Left: Daffodils brighten the rock garden
 Top right: Quill Duncan, Bonnie Pennington, Deanna McFarlan
 Bottom right: Renie Faulkenberry and Peg Wyse*

Dunwoody Garden Club News

Members of the Dunwoody Garden Club created Valentine greetings for the Phoenix Assisted Living facility at the February 9th monthly meeting. Over 35 flower arrangements were delivered to the Phoenix residents with a note of cheer.

Many members took home arrangements, while some arrangements were delivered to homebound members and others who needed a bit of cheer! It was a lot of fun and we will definitely have to do it



again! Members contributed all the necessary ingredients – red or white coffee cups or small vases (the Dollar Tree was a great source), greenery from their yards, oasis, flowers and valentine hearts! We have many, many talented members. We **stole** the idea from another garden club that had used tuna cans to make small arrangements to donate!! (Greensboro Garden club, Azalea District – one of our members is also a member of this club). We are hoping to do this again – Mother’s Day theme perhaps, with our sponsored elementary school garden club, using the tuna cans.

Garden Club members are now working hard getting ready for the annual fundraiser – the card party/luncheon/fashion show and silent auction – on Tuesday, April 26, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Dunwoody Methodist Church. Please join us! For ticket information visit the Club’s website: Dunwoodygardenclub.com.

Green Thumb Establishes Garden

Green Thumb Garden Club established a beautiful flower garden at the local hospital in Thomaston, Georgia in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in February. Eleven Autumn Coral Encore Azaleas and a Scarlet Fire dogwood (*Cornus kousa*) tree were planted. We know the garden will enhance the beauty of the hospital grounds and hopefully serve as a reminder to have yearly breast exams. We can’t wait until next year to see these plants in full bloom.



Members pictured are Sarah Armstrong, Tina Rogers, Janie Coggins, Corrine Johnston, Carey Elder and Dorris Warnock.

Shenandoah Rose Learns About Orchids and Japanese Maples

Shenandoah Rose Garden Club used their first three meetings this year to learn about orchids and Japanese maples. In January, we watched a video via Zoom on orchids produced by the North Fulton Master Gardeners (https://youtu.be/ltyV_gABShI). It featured orchid expert Jim Hinkle, who discussed, among other things, the different types of orchids, their growing needs and how to re-pot them. We followed up on this topic in February by attending the Orchid Daze show at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. And, of course, no field trip is complete without a visit to a local restaurant – in this case, the Longleaf Restaurant at the ABG.

In March, Shenandoah Rose member Sandy Reed presented a program on Japanese maples. She discussed their history, traits, growing needs, propagation, and use as container plants. The last part of her PowerPoint presentation focused on cultivars that grow well in the Atlanta area. We plan to take a trip to Gibbs Garden this fall during their Japanese Maple Festival to view these gorgeous plants in person!



Left to right: Sandy Reed, Deanna McFarlan, Dianne Smith, Karen Fishman, Kathie Battillo, Barbara Adam.

Gloria Cooke Honored by Smoke Rise Morning Glories

Our member Gloria Cooke was recognized at our February 8, 2022 meeting for thirteen years of inspired leadership at the Smoke Rise Elementary School. Gloria is a retired teacher who taught at the school and after retiring she joined the Morning Glories. It was a natural fit for her to volunteer there with the garden club's blessing to improve the grounds and the two atriums that were used as outdoor classrooms for the children.

Once a STEM program was implemented at the school, many more activities were added to enhance the learning possibilities for the students. The club introduced a pollinator garden and added native plants in one atrium and a vegetable garden in the other.

Now with the new school, the club will continue Gloria's legacy with garden club volunteers working with the school's STEM teacher to add raised beds for vegetable gardening. Members Quill Duncan, Kim Fair, Melodie Janin and Dolly Moy will be working this spring to set this new cycle of gardening in motion. Thank you, Gloria, for your many years of dedication and devotion to our community school.



Left to right: Kim Fair, Gloria Cooke, Joyce Ray, Quill Duncan