



JANUARY 2016

Hello Federation Friends,



Well, we haven't seen any of the white stuff yet, but this time of the year snow could be just around the corner! In case of inclement weather, please remember that if the DeKalb County schools are closed, our meeting will probably be canceled. We will send out an e-blast either the night before, or early the morning of our meeting if that happens.

We hope that you all had an enjoyable holiday season (Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, and New Year!), and are ready for more Federation activities. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 28 beginning promptly at 10:00, but we invite you to join us at 9:30 for refreshments.



Our program this month is ***Our Rivers, Our Future***

Flint River Keeper, Gordon Rogers, gives us an up-to-date look at the continuing environmental and legislative issues regarding our precious and pressed resource. Over the past seven years, Rogers has led the fight to protect the Flint River system, which originates under Hartsfield-Jackson Airport, and flows to the Florida line, and is intertwined with hundreds of tributaries. Bring your questions, and your passion to preserve, as we get ready for another legislative session.

(Programs Vice President, **Diane Hunter**)

Hospitality Volunteers – The following garden clubs are responsible for refreshments before our meeting this month:

Breckenridge Garden Arts I Garden Club and Federation Board Volunteers

Hospitality Chairman, **Beth Wielage**, will contact the clubs prior to the meeting.

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!

(**Anita Brittian**, Horticulture Chairman)



Mini-Flower Shows will be held three times each year: October, January, and March, and each participating club may select their own theme. This month’s exhibitor is:

Lullwater Garden Club

(**Sandra Wheeler**, Mini-Flower Show Chairman)



We are pleased to announce that the Thirteenth Annual **Leading Lights Luncheon and Fashion Show** was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who contributed items to the raffle and to Deanna for coordinating it, Libby for the centerpieces, Joy and Glendolyn for the door prizes, Joanne, Janet, Diane, Ann and Susan for modeling the beautiful Chico’s fashions, everyone who helped with set-up and tear-down, to all of our vendors, and certainly to Chico’s Perimeter Mall. But most of all, thanks to all of you who came and supported our event! We will have a complete report at the General Meeting this month. (Fundraising Chairman, **Rigby Duncan**)

Valentines for Veterans



Last year I was delighted to take 995 Valentines to the VA Hospital. This year I would like our goal to be 1,000! I challenge every club to make or buy Valentines. The deadline for my receiving them is **February 7th**. You may bring them to our meeting on January 28, or to the Garden Center by Friday, February 5, or deliver them to my home. Remember to sign the Valentines with “A Grateful American” or something similar. A garden club name would be fine – just not your personal name.

Eleven clubs have donated 892 clothing and toiletry items to Georgia Regional Hospital, and 239 toiletry items to the VA Hospital. In addition, approximately 125 Christmas Stockings, furnished by three clubs, were taken to Georgia Regional Hospital.

Let me remind Clubs to send \$25.00 for Garden Therapy to GCG for seeds and planting beds to be furnished to the various hospitals in Georgia. This money should be received by GCG by March 1st. (See the GCG web site for complete instructions.) Your club will receive a Certificate of Appreciation at the GCG Annual Convention.

(Garden Therapy Chairman, **Joanne Bennett**)

GARDEN CENTER NEWS

The Garden Center still has some openings for volunteers. Please contact Garden Center Director **Diane Hunter** if you can volunteer in any capacity; drmchunter@yahoo.com, 404-992-7381. Many thanks to Sandy Reed and Alice Boyd, who are creating an electronic listing of all the publications in the Federation Library. Many new books have recently been added, so come by and check them out!



We still have about 10 of **The Frightened Frog** book available, so drop in the Garden Center and get a copy!

We have purchased three new aluminum benches to replace the wooden ones which were on the grounds around the Garden Center, and have cleaned up one of the older benches which was salvageable.

(Garden Center Director, **Diane Hunter**)



LIFE MEMBER LUNCHEON

Valentine's Day is the perfect time to honor someone special with a **LIFE MEMBERSHIP** in The DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., recognizing those who have made valuable contributions in gardening or garden club work. Life membership is not limited to garden club members. Non-garden club persons (such as friends, speakers or county officials) are also eligible, and memorials are encouraged as well. Even garden clubs can join the Life Membership Program. Include \$50 in your annual garden club budget for honoring a member with a Life Membership. And for an additional \$10, your nominee will receive the DeKalb Federation Life Membership pin. The one-time \$50.00 tax-deductible donation gives the Life Member the opportunity to attend informative Federation programs. But more importantly, it is a commitment that ensures the future existence of the Garden Center at Callanwolde. Become a LIFE Member and ensure perpetual LIFE to the Federation's Garden Center.

Application is attached, and is due to **Life Member Co-Chairmen, Joy Zaidan or Glenndolyn Hallman** by **February 14**.



PULL A TAB FOR RONALD MCDONALD

I want to remind all the clubs to get their aluminum tabs in by the January General Meeting so they can be counted for the first Tabs Award at the Awards Luncheon. If you can weigh them and remove any metal tabs, it will be appreciated, but if not, I will do it, and deliver them to the Ronald McDonald House.

(Pull A Tab Chairman, **Judy Lemoine**)



LOVE OUR POLLINATORS SEED EXCHANGE

Expand your garden and invite our pollinators in! Purchase 5 packages of herb/flower seeds; keep 1, and bring the other 4 to the **February** Federation Meeting to trade. You will take home 4 different packages, and give your pollinators some variety!

(Pollinators Chairman, **Carol Hayes**).

FEDERATION PRESIDENTS' REPORTS AND ANNUAL DUES

Just a reminder that Presidents' Reports and dues are due by March 1. Forms will be sent in a separate e-mail.

FEDERATION AWARDS

Federation awards applications are due by March 1. Complete details and forms will be sent in a separate e-mail. Our Annual Awards Luncheon will be held on April 28.

REDBUD DISTRICT NEWS

The **Redbud District** Annual Meeting, "*Tea in the Garden*," was held on October 15 at Dunaway Gardens in Newnan, and was a huge success!



The guest speaker was owner Jennifer Bigham, and we all enjoyed guided tours of the gardens. Redbud has had an amazing fund raiser selling Magic Wands – 283 of them so far! The Winter Board Meeting will be held on February 8 at Callanwolde.

(Redbud District Treasurer, **Rigby Duncan**)

GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL, COURSE II

In memory of former GCG President Suzanne Wheeler, North Georgia Council of Flower Show Judges is sponsoring a Flower Show School to be held at Bellmere Garden House in Johns Creek. Come and join us March 14-17, 2016 for Course II. Learn the "ins and outs" of flower shows and how to judge floral designs and horticulture. Trece Chancellor, NGC Flower Show School Design Instructor, will exhibit and discuss Creative Designs with minor and moderate abstraction, as well as Creative Mass Designs. If your focus is on horticulture, then you'll want to come and hear our very own Carolyn Hawkins, NGC Flower Show School Horticulture and Flower Show Procedure Instructor, talk about *Daffodils* and woody perennials, with an emphasis on *Aucuba*, and how to grow, show and judge them. She will also present Flower Show Procedure and the rules associated with holding a flower show.

Flower Show School is not only for prospective flower show exhibitors and judges, but also for all garden club members and all persons interested in flower design and horticulture. While the primary purpose of these courses is to train those aspiring to become flower show judges, many people attend for information only. Each of the four courses, offered approximately six months apart, includes Horticulture curriculum, Flower Show Procedure and Design instruction. The cost for each course is \$130.00 for full-time students and a judge's special of \$90 for the two-day course. Courses need not be taken sequentially, so if you missed Course I, you can begin with Course II and pick up Course I later. For further information, contact **Joy Zaidan**, GCG Flower Show Schools Chairman at jzaidan@bellsouth.net or 770-493-8475.

(Registration form will be sent in a separate e-mail.)

GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA (continued)

Every member of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. is invited to attend Capitol Conservation Day on February 17, 2016. Plans call for a Breakfast Legislation Briefing at 8:00 a.m. at Central Presbyterian Church located across the street from the State Capitol. Breakfast is complimentary for those registering by February 11. If members cannot "get to the church on time," then they may join the group at the Capitol at 10:00 a.m. for a photograph with the governor, followed by the opportunity to meet with local legislators to share concerns with them. Information for registering for the breakfast will be sent in a separate e-mail. And remember to wear something **GREEN!** (GCG State Legislative Chairman, **Tally Sweat**; tallys@bellsouth.net).

GCG Club President's Report and Annual Club Dues:

If your club is a member of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., the annual report of your club's activities is due by **February 15**, sent by **US mail** to the following (their addresses are listed on page 2 of the 2015-2017 Federation yearbook):

GCG State President, Martha Price
Redbud District Director, Janet McGinnis
Federation President, Lorene Faulkenberry

A fillable copy of the report can be found on the GCG website. Please note that this is a newly formatted form this year, so don't use a previous year's form. (This is not the same as the Federation President's Report mentioned above.)

GCG club dues are due by **March 1**.

CALLANWOLDE CORNER

The **Christmas** at Callanwolde VIP Party was an outstanding success this year with the silent auction raising \$10,000 to support Callanwolde's outreach efforts. The Atlanta Pops Orchestra, John Driskell Hopkins, Michelle Malone and The Vaudevillains, wowed audiences with their incredible performances. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the holiday season!



The third annual Callanwolde Arts Festival, with The Atlanta Foundation for Public Spaces, will be held January 22-24, 2016. The VIP Preview Party will be on the evening of January 22 from 6:00-9:00 PM giving a chance for attendees to see the artwork before the event opens on the 23rd. Make sure to purchase tickets before they sell out at www.callanwolde.org.

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DeKalb Federation lost a good friend on December 26, with the passing of former Federation President, Joan Thornton. Several people have asked about memorials for Joan, and although her family did not denote any, we know that she would have appreciated a donation to DeKalb Federation, as that was her passion. Memorial checks

should be made payable to DeKalb Federation, and mailed to Treasurer Ann Purr, 6174 Traveler Court, Stone Mountain, GA 30087-1940.

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

Please mark your calendars for upcoming **Federation** events:

- Federation General Meeting **January 28**
- Deadline for Valentines for Vets **February 7**
- Deadline for Life Member Application Forms **February 14**
- Annual Life Member Recognition Luncheon, **February 25**
- DeKalb Federation Awards due by **March 1**
- **DeKalb Federation President's Club Activity Report due by **March 1**
- **DeKalb Federation Annual Dues due by **March**
- Annual Awards Luncheon **April 28**
**(Forms are in the back of the Federation Yearbook, and will soon be sent to each club President and Treasurer)

Also, other upcoming garden club events:

- Redbud District Board Meeting, Courtyard at Callanwolde **February 8**
- Deadline for GCG Presidents' Reports **February 15**
- Conservation Day at the Capitol **February 17**
- Deadline for GCG Annual Dues **March 1**
- Deep South Convention, Tunica, MS **March 7-8**
- Flower Show School Course II, Bellmere **March 14-17**
- GCG Annual Convention, Macon **April 13-14**
- Garden Week in Georgia, **April 17-23**
- NGC National Convention, Grand Rapids, MI, **May 2-7**

Rigby Duncan
Communications Chairman
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