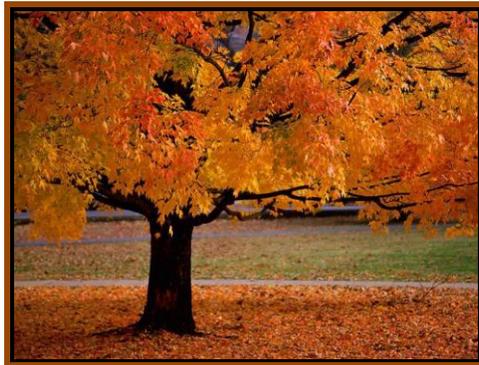




SEPTEMBER 2019

Hello Federation Friends,



WELCOME back to another year of garden club fun and activities! (Club Presidents, please share this information with your members.) Our meetings are held the fourth Thursday of September, October, and January through May. Remember that our new start time is **10:30** a.m. in the Courtyard at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, **September 26**.

As a reminder, we will again be having coffee and “nibbles” provided by member clubs each month, beginning at **10:00**. President **Sandy Reed** will call the meeting to order promptly at **10:30**, so come early, catch up with your friends, and continue to enjoy your refreshments during the meeting!

EARLY this summer, the Federation Board regrettably accepted the resignation of Diane Hunter as Garden Center Director. As many of you may know, Diane and her husband moved to Jasper, GA late last year. The combination of distance, as well as Diane’s many responsibilities on the GCG State Board, made it very difficult to continue as Director. We truly appreciate all that she has done the last several years since stepping into the role following the untimely death of Rachel Fowler. We look forward to seeing her at many upcoming activities of both the Federation and Redbud, where she just served as Chairman of the Yellow Daisy Flower Show, and she will continue to serve as Chairman of our Federation Legends Club Committee.

We are pleased to announce that Treasurer Ann Purr has agreed to wear two hats, and has assumed the position of Garden Center Director, so when she is recruiting volunteers we know that you will say yes!! Thank you, Ann, for your dedication to DeKalb Federation.

OUR program this month is *“Starting a New Nursery and the New and Exciting Hydrangeas and Other Plants”*

Our speaker, Hillary Thompson, has worked with woody plants for almost thirty years. She started out weeding for Dr. Michael Dirr in the UGA greenhouses as a student worker. Upon graduation, she spent a decade as his author’s assistant, then seven years writing about and promoting big trees for a balled and burlapped tree farm. Twenty-eight years later she still helps Dr. Dirr out while juggling her career in horticulture with Super-Sod and Soil3 and her new nursery, Cutting Edge Plants.

(Programs Vice President, Bonnie Pennington)

NEW BUSINESS

The By-Laws Committee was hard at work this summer going through the Federation by-laws and making suggested deletions and additions, with a view to bringing them more in line with the manner in which we are actually operating, making them gender neutral, and eliminating redundancy. A copy was sent to Club Presidents and Federation Representatives on September 1 for them to review, and we will vote on the changes at the September 26 General Meeting.

(By-Laws Committee Chairman, Rigby Duncan)

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS – The following garden clubs are responsible for refreshments before our meeting this month:

Four Seasons and Shenandoah Rose Garden Clubs

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

MINI-FLOWER SHOWS will be held three times each year: **October, January, and March**, and each show will focus on our theme, *Come Grow With Us!* Next month’s exhibitor is Lake Ivanhoe Garden Club

(Vickey 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.

(Anita Brittan, Horticulture Chairman)



RESTORING THE BEAUTY

As you walk up the driveway to our meeting in the Courtyard, you will be amazed at what has been done at the Garden Center this summer, and notice the signs, *New Garden in Progress*. One of our new projects is “*Restoring the Beauty*” landscape project. From its inception in April 2019, the main committee, with help from Federation volunteers representing five garden clubs, has held six workdays to remove dead and dying plants, prune, and spray unwanted vegetation. A professional tree service removed dead and dying trees, shrubs and limbed up many trees that were resting on the roof of the Garden Center. The next step will be to order mini pine bark nuggets and have the DeKalb County landscape contractors disburse the nuggets throughout the grounds. This fall a planting plan will be developed and reviewed with the goal of replanting some very select plants in November and December. A landscape committee chairman will be appointed, as well as a committee established for on-going maintenance and planting needs. (Check out next month’s newsletter for pictures of the work in progress.)

(Landscape Coordinator, Quill Duncan)

GARDEN CENTER

We’re starting another year at the Garden Center! We are still short of volunteers, so please call before you come to be sure someone is there (404-872-5730). The Garden Center will be open on Monday and Wednesday from 10:00-2:00, and **we still need volunteers!** It would be great if we could get at least one person from each club to volunteer for one day per month.

Garden Center Tasks (as needed):

- General Maintenance
- Dust shelves and furniture
- Vacuum blinds and floors
- Refresh kitchen

Library (now located upstairs):

- Maintain order on shelves
- Re-shelf returned books
- Log borrowed books

Answer Phone

Special Event Chores

- Tie silverware
- Separate raffle tickets
- Fold napkins
- YDFS follow-up
 - Bundle club horticulture cards left at show
 - Notify club of materials to pick up

(Garden Center Director, Ann Purr)

BEAUTIFICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (B.E.E.) GRANTS

Each year The DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs awards \$1,000 in grants to the Schools of DeKalb County to assist in promoting environmental projects. We are pleased to announce that this is our tenth year supporting these efforts in the local schools. The B.E.E. Grant Program has helped more than 30 different school projects over the past ten years. Be proud of the efforts in your communities and be on the lookout for school projects that we can assist.

Two schools have been selected as our winners: Sagamore Hills Elementary School and Smoke Rise Elementary School who will each receive \$500.

The STEM teacher at Sagamore Hills plans to change a weedy knoll into a pollinator and bird magnet with native plants. She has many volunteers and students who will first defoliate the area and then plant. Her students have raised several hundred dollars for this project by selling the vegetables that they grew in their school plots.

Smoke Rise is working on three initiatives:

- They plan to enhance their outdoor learning area with a canopy for shade.
- They are going to purchase an additional rain barrel to assist in watering the school vegetable gardens.
- They will begin a composting program for the food waste from their cafeteria.

Congratulations to all for a job well done.

(Renie Faulkenberry, B.E.E. Grant Chairman)

PROJECT FIG LEAF

We continue to collect donations of new underwear and socks, new or gently worn clothing (especially men's pants, no belts, elastic waist preferred), and toiletries of any size. If you wish for your donations to be given to Georgia Regional Hospital, you must indicate this on your donation. Otherwise, they will be given to the VA Hospital. Please bring your donations to our September and October General Meetings.

(Joanne Bennett, Community Service Chairman)



THE BOOK SALE CONTINUES

We will continue to bring a selection to each of our meetings to sell at minimal prices, most of which are priced at \$2.00. The proceeds will be donated to GCG's Natural Disaster Fund.

(Treasurer, Ann Purr)



The 17th Annual Leading Lights Luncheon and Fashion Show (with a holiday theme) will be held at Callanwolde on **Thursday, November 7!** **Von Maur** at Perimeter Mall will again provide the fashions. Invitations and reservation forms will be sent out soon, vendors are reserving their tables, and we are working on the program, so begin planning for the spectacular basket your club will donate for the raffle! Raffle Basket Chairmen, Deanna McFarlan and Sandy Reed, will be in touch soon!!
(Fundraising Chairman Rigby Duncan)

Healing Heroes is our hands-on Garden Therapy project, working with Veterans at the VA Annex on Henderson Mill Road. In the spring of 2017, DeKalb Federation was contacted by this office and requested that we provide the opportunity for Veterans to refresh and plant seasonal plantings twice a year. Our volunteers have provided plants, new soil, and fertilizer for one dozen planters at this location. The Veterans planted the containers as a part of their participation in the program that assists Veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or PTSD. The fall planting will be in late October, the exact date and time will be announced.
(Joanne Bennett, Garden Therapy Chairman)

Holidays for Heroes is our opportunity to thank active military personnel serving overseas by sending holiday cards, to be delivered to Dobbins Air Force Base for distribution around the world. Please do not sign your name on the cards, or seal the envelopes, and they have requested no glitter, please. A garden club could be listed, or simply a greeting, thanking our military personnel for their service. **Holiday cards must be collected no later than the September 26 meeting**, or delivered to the Garden Center by that date.
(Carol Hayes, Chairman)



ON Wednesday, September 11, DeKalb Federation participated in the Memorial Service for 9/11 first responders by providing, and placing, a wreath on the memorial, which is located in front of the DeKalb County Public Safety Complex in Tucker. Several garden club members were in attendance, and it was a very moving ceremony. Shown below are 9/11 Chairman, Susan Turner, and Federation President, Sandy Reed, at the memorial with the wreath and members of the DeKalb County Public Safety Honor Guard.



~ REDBUD DISTRICT NEWS ~

Congratulations to all of you who entered designs, horticulture and exhibits in the 48th Annual Yellow Daisy Flower Show, *Daisy Saddles Up*. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard behind the scenes on staging, entries, serving as clerks and hostesses, hospitality, setting up and tearing down the properties, and everything else. This is a HUGE job, and we appreciate all of you!

A BIG congratulations to the Federation clubs top award winners:

DESIGN:

Designers Choice: Barbara Horner, Designers; Mary Ann Bryant, Designers

Mickie Holton Inspirational Award: JoAnn Jones, Designers

Design Excellence: Mary Ann Bryant, Designers

Blue Ribbon Winners:

Bonnie Campbell, Designers

Janet McGinnis, Smoke Rise Morning Glories GC, Designers
Fay Brassie, Designers
JoAnn Jones, Designers

HORTICULTURE:

Horticultural Excellence and Elinore Wilson Trophy Awards: Christi Granger,
Avondale Estates GC

Awards of Merit:

Michele Spears, Avon GC, Herbs (Bay Laurel)
Barbara Crank, Smoke Morning Glories GC, Designers, (Ivy)
Penny Abraham, Avon GC (Hosta)
Gale Thomas, Conyers GC, Flowering Perennials (Euphorbia)
Christi Granger, Avondale Estates GC, Flowering Bulbs, Corms, Tubers and
Rhizomes (Iris)
Helen Dorrah, Avondale Estates GC, Fruits and Vegetables (Pepper)

Collectors Showcase: Lynn Boyd, Avondale Estates GC, Hosta Collection

Arboreal Award for Shrubs: Deanna McFarlan, Shenandoah Rose GC, Fatsia

Arboreal Award for Trees: Sandra Wheeler, Breckenridge Garden Arts I GC,
Japanese Maple

Growers Choice Award for Flowering Container-Grown: Lynn Malone, Mountain
Mums GC, Orchid

Growers Choice Award for Foliage Container-Grown: Gale Thomas, Conyers GC,
Begonia

Growers Choice Award for Combination Container-Grown: Joy Zaidan, Smoke Rise
Morning Glories GC and Designers, Terrarium

NGC Sweepstakes Award and Hallie Brown Trophy Award (individual winner of the
most blue ribbons in Horticulture): Gale Thomas, Conyers Garden Club

YOUTH AWARDS:

Junior Horticulture: Robert Ryan, Avondale Estates, Hosta

Intermediate Horticulture: Juliette Galotti, Smoke Rise, Sweet Pepper

High School Horticulture: Daphne Thomas, Conyers, Cherry Tomatoes

High School Design: Nate Thomas, Conyers

AND be sure to make plans to attend the Redbud District Annual Meeting and Holiday Bazaar, **Share the Joy**, on **Thursday, October 10**, at Smoke Rise Country Club in Stone Mountain, hosted by DeKalb Federation. Our guest speaker is Erica Glasener, Author, Plantswoman and Community Involvement and Events Manager for the Piedmont Park Conservancy, who will speak on *"Designing a Garden for Year Around Pleasure."* Registration forms have been sent via e-mail, as well as posted on both the Redbud and Federation web sites.

(**Quill Duncan**, District Director)

~ GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA NEWS ~

Scholarships: The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. continues in its commitment to the future of our state's young people and is proud to announce that in 2019-2020, \$75,000.00 was awarded to 17 students; in 2017-2018, \$75,000 was also awarded to 31 students; for a total amount of \$150,000 awarded to 48 Georgia college students majoring in garden-related areas during the last two years. Over 70 applications were read and evaluated by the Scholarship Committee.

(**Susan Turner, GCG Scholarship Chairman**)

Just a reminder for GCG awards submissions: Yearbooks are now due, along with most other awards, by **December 1**, (not October 15 as in the past).

Conservation Day at the Capitol will be on **Wednesday, February 26**, beginning at 7:30 am with breakfast and briefing at Central Presbyterian Church. More to follow. (**State and Federation Legislative Chairman, Tally Sweat**)

Mark your calendars for the GCG annual meeting, March 25 and 26 at the Marriott Macon City Center, and the annual convention of Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc., April 13-16 in Tampa, FL. We will hear more in the coming months!

~ CALLANWOLDE CORNER ~



Callanwolde is excited to announce **Calloween at Callanwolde** , a night of family fun for both kids and adults, (date and time to be announced). There will be trick or treating throughout the estate, live musical performances, an all-ages dance party, and a family friendly costume contest with big prizes! **Federation volunteers are needed to assist in handing out candy to the trick or treaters.**

Contact Callanwolde if you can help, 404-872-5338.

To learn more about the exciting programs at Callanwolde, visit www.callanwolde.org.

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 these important dates:

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|---------------------|---|
| September 26 | Federation General Meeting at Callanwolde
Holiday Cards for Military due Today
Bring Project Fig Leaf Donations |
| October 3 | Federation Board Meeting |
| October 10 | Redbud District Meeting
Smoke Rise Country Club |
| October 24 | Federation General Meeting at Callanwolde |
| October 31 | Federation Board Meeting |
| November 7 | Leading Lights Luncheon/Fashion Show
Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, Atlanta |
| December 1 | Due Date for Most Awards Submissions to GCG |

Rigby Duncan
Communications Chairman
404-321-1733
whatarig@aol.com