



DEEP SOUTH MATTERS

Published four times a year

Summer, 2016

From The Desk of the Director

2015 – 2017 Deep South Region Theme “Service Through Action”

Greetings to the members of the Deep South Region. I hope your spring has been as gorgeous as it has here in Pope, Mississippi. After historic amounts of rain in March our spring flowering trees, shrubs and bulbs have bloomed like never before. But as helpful as those rains were for some, they were devastating for others. Flooding in several states of the Deep South Region were common and many lost their homes and possessions. Our hearts go out to those in flooded areas and we pray that you are on the road to recovery.

The 55th Annual Deep South Region Convention, “*Southern Bouquet*,” was held March 6th-8th in Tunica, Mississippi, hosted by The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc. Many thanks go to the Convention Chairman, Cindy Allgood, and those dedicated GCM members who shared their time and talents with the almost 200 attendees. Some photos of the Convention will be in this newsletter so that those who did not attend will see a little of what you missed! Interesting workshops, awards, unique vendors, fantastic designs, and an outstanding floral design program are just a few things that made for a great convention. Even the food was delicious!! So, if you were unable to attend the 55th annual convention, make plans today to attend the 56th Annual Convention in New Orleans, March 27-29, 2017. Stay tuned for more information.

Probably the most important business conducted at a DSR Convention in a long time occurred at the recent convention Business Meeting. First, a little history; in 2011, the NGC Executive Committee voted to include seven of NGC’s eight Regions under NGC’s 501(c)(3) umbrella. Since that time NGC filed financial reports and all other financial business for the Regions to the IRS.

Now, five years later, at the NGC Executive Committee meeting in January, 2016, the NGC Internal Audit Committee, composed of the NGC President and three Vice-Presidents, recommended to rescind the motion adopted in 2011, citing banking restrictions and government regulations, making it no longer feasible for

NGC to submit financial reports for the Regions. This recommendation was adopted by a 12 to 3 vote.

This means that Regions must disperse of their bank accounts according to the Region’s Dissolution clause in their By-Laws by May 31, 2017 and discontinue holding meetings. It would also mean no DSR Council or Chairmen, no newsletters, no website, no DSR Awards, etc.

A DSR Dissolutions Committee was appointed with Mary Summerville, current DSR Parliamentarian and former DSR Director, as Chairman, to prepare a recommendation/s as a path forward for the DSR to comply with this NGC ruling and to present this recommendation at the Business Meeting at the 2016 DSR Convention. Many thanks to the members of the Dissolutions Committee for the two recommendations that were presented:

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From The Desk of the Director

"After just debts and liabilities have been satisfied, the sum total of the DSR bank accounts shall be designated for scholarship and shall be distributed equally among the Region's six states by May 31, 2017. Should the DSR become a 501(c)(3) non-profit prior to May 31, 2017 and/or should the NGC Executive Decision be nullified, the designation and distribution authorization shall become null and void."

The first recommendation received a unanimous "Aye" vote and the recommendation was adopted.

The second recommendation was as follows:

"The Deep South Region shall apply for a 501(c)(3) non-profit and seek to obtain on or before May 31, 2017. The Deep South Region Treasurer shall prepare and file the Region's 501(c)(3) Application. She is authorized to use paid consultants if needed."

The second recommendation also received a unanimous "Aye" vote and the recommendation was adopted.

I thank the voting delegates from the six DSR states for their lively debate and understanding of the ramifications if the DSR were to dissolve and cease to exist. The word spread quickly about dissolving the region and I heard from many of you who asked that we keep this region together and carry on the work that began many years ago. In my opinion, an organization as large as NGC needs another level of communication between NGC and the state organizations and through conventions, website information, newsletters and correspondence from DSR Chairmen to State Chairmen Regions can and are performing these duties.

The process for applying for all necessary documents has begun. There are many steps in this process and members will be informed of the outcome.

In winding this article down, I'd like to remind all clubs and state organizations to plan, execute and report, through a book of evidence, your project for the Deep South Unified Regional Project, "Community Action." Contact your State DSURP Chairman for details and deadlines. **Please take advantage of the Award money to help fund future projects.**

Once again, mark your calendar and support the DSR by attending the 56th DSR Annual Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, March 27-29, 2017.

Carol Bullard 2015-2017 Deep South Regional Director

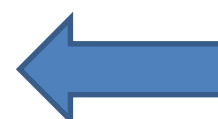
Mission Statement for the Deep South Region

The Deep South Region is dedicated to advancing the objectives of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and to coordinating the interests and the projects of the six states in the region.

The primary objectives are horticulture, gardening, landscaping, floral design, civic beautification and environmental concerns, with emphasis on fellowship, scholarship, stewardship, and leadership.



**BE SURE TO SHARE *DEEP SOUTH MATTERS*
WITH YOUR CLUB, DISTRICT AND FRIENDS**



Editor's Message

Editor's Welcome

Greetings to all!

GREETINGS from sunny Florida! And I do mean sunny! It's super-hot here in North Florida! Yesterday we hit 100 degrees at least we're getting refreshing, cooling rain showers often. We mulch and water as best we can, but it's a stressful time for our yards and gardens. Not to mention for us.

Though it's hard to believe, another wonderful year of Garden Club activities and projects has ended. We've all just concluded a veritable flurry of end-of-year activities, as we all know! Flower Shows ... Installations of Officers ... Awards Presentation Ceremonies ... Conventions ... Fundraisers... Giving of Life Memberships and much more. Now everyone is scrambling to get programs and projects lined up for next year. Now is the time to order your 2017 Vision of Beauty Calendars.

We will all enjoy a break this summer for some well-deserved R & R. We will have a time to travel, tackle our "bucket lists" and/or simply "chill out" for a while. My Club will be hosting a President's Summit this summer with leadership training for incoming Circle Presidents. We have 36 Circles at the Garden Club of Jacksonville, and all will have a busy agenda for 2016-2017. Mid-to-late summer is a great time to host a leadership training "boot camp" for incoming Presidents and officers.

In this issue you'll find lots of coverage on the Deep South Convention, "*Southern Bouquet*," that was held in Tunica, Mississippi. It's obvious that everyone who attended had a blast! Our Director, Carol Bullard, has written a wonderful message for us, with important news we all need to read about and absorb. Please read it carefully and be aware that more information will be coming as plans gel and certain actions are taken. Know that your leaders have the best interest of the Deep South Region in mind as we move forward. Next year we will convene in New Orleans, Louisiana for our DSR Convention, and won't that be fun!

Our State Presidents have given us great reports for the Regional Roundup – with all the news that wraps up a busy year in each state. Marie Harrison has written on – ugh – bugs. As we gardeners know, there are good bugs and bad bugs. Marie explains it all to us. There is information on

Awards that you won't want to miss, and lots of other great material!!

Ron and I hope you will enjoy the JUNE ISSUE of DSM. It's a HUGE issue that took lots of time to prepare; as you see, it's filled with information and photos! We look forward to our next issue, and to renewing our friendships around the Region in the fall.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Jan

Jan Sillik, Editor of Deep South Matters Newsletter, DSR, NGC, Inc.

Reminder - The deadline for the Fall Issue of DSM is Jul 15th.

FYI ...

NGC WEBSITE ... If you're having trouble navigating the NGC Website, please read the wonderful article written by **POSS TARPLEY**, NGC Webmaster, in the Winter 2016 Issue of *The National Gardener*.

PINTEREST, FACEBOOK ALERT... during the summer, you can send design/horticulture photos to **PHYLLIS WHITE**, NGC Pinterest and Facebook Media Chairman. She would welcome photos of your gardens, projects, floral design and horticulture. Member Services has an area where you can see gift items and then click to order directly from Headquarters. You will find hundreds of NGC members' names that you will recognize with floral designs from many NGC Flower Shows around the country. You can reach Phyllis at gardens@bresnan.net.

Regional Roundup

Alabama Jan Thomas

The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc. encourages diversity among its clubs and the projects they select. Trees, bulbs, vegetable and pleasure gardens have been planted from the northern counties to the coastal region. Wetlands, bird sanctuaries and turtles are being protected through efforts of the Garden Clubs and other individuals. Alabama is ambitious and dedicated to the protection of wild life, plants and most of all our forests.

Committees have been formed in preparation to offer horticulture and flower show schools in hopes of opportunities for members to earn 4 stars.

The State project, Becoming an ABC Community follows the region and NGC projects: A is a call for action, B for beauty through planting and C is for caring, caring for the people in the community; stepping forth *Going Beyond, while Reaching for New Horizons*.

Jan Thomas, President
Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.



nice get-away for fun and learning and connecting with Nature. Out adult volunteers can't wait each year for this special time. SEEK (Save the Earth's Environment through Knowledge) offers a 4-day conference each summer for 10th, 11th and 12th graders. This year, SEEK is being held in the Silver Springs State Park near Ocala, having moved from the Wakulla State Park near Tallahassee. SEEK focuses on today's critical environmental issues.

In June, we will host the FFGC/University of Florida Short Course event in Gainesville. This longstanding program is very popular and successful. A great line-up of speakers and activities will delight attendees. The theme is *"Preserving Florida: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow."*

In April, we gathered for the 90th Annual FFGC Convention, "Inspired Gardening" with workshops, speakers, lots of fun along with an Advanced Standard Flower Show entitled *"Seeds of Sunshine."* Our workshops were a huge hit; we learned about nature photography, the Monarch butterfly migration, studied trees and much more. We met at the Embassy Suites at Lake Buena Vista in Kissimmee. What a great time we had!

In Florida, our *"Garden of Inspiration"* is truly in bloom!

Arlene S. Rand, President
Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Florida Arlene Rand

In 2016, like the flowers in our gardens, activities "bloomed" everywhere for the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs! Standard Flower Shows, Garden Tours, Floral Design classes, Symposiums, NGC Schools – and much more – kept us all busy! A highlight was attending the Deep South Region 2016 Convention in Tunica, MS and a number of Florida folks attended.

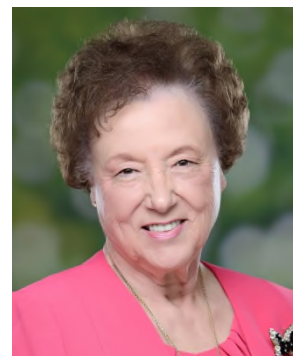
The summer brings a time for our sleepover camp, Wekiva Youth Camp, held each year in Apopka, Florida. For the younger kids, we host a "Critter Camp" and everyone has a



Georgia Martha Price

The membership of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. has started to reap some of that knowledge sown already for our conservation of beauty. We brought home a nice collection of awards from Deep South Convention. One of our student applicants won a Deep South Scholarship. We really want to educate our youth. They are the hope of the future.

We are still doing the Blue Star Memorial Markers as well as getting the Gold Star Memorials underway for the families of our veterans. We are encouraging Garden Therapy for all categories in our state now. We do the veterans as well as the nursing homes and assisted living facilities.



Regional Roundup

Youth camp will be held again this summer at Charlie Elliott as will the Judges Symposium in Athens. We always have the best instructors to lead us in this symposium. We are still having flower shows throughout our state.

In April, we held the big State Annual Meeting. We took care of business and had fun learning from our workshops that were offered.

In June we are holding a follow-on workshop at Amicolalo Falls Park to promote the National Garden Clubs President, Sandra Robinson, Deep South Regional Director, Carol Bullard, and The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. President, Martha Price projects. This year we are emphasizing our youth more and encouraging them to be good stewards of our environment.

Community Wildlife Projects are still very vibrant in our state. We have members' yards becoming certified more and more every day. You can ride by their yards and see the signs.

We are taking care of our historic projects as well as accomplishing new ones. History is vital to our membership. You can learn so much from what has already been done and has beauty to show for it.

The Children's Garden at the State Botanical Gardens is in progress. This is going to be a fabulous site when completed. It is located in Athens near The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Headquarters.

Georgia has certainly promoted native plants. They are lovely and conserve our water. Less care for them means that some members that cannot do the manual work that they use to do can have the native plants easier. Butterfly gardens in our environment is certainly helping our plants be pollinated. Members have acquired a new appreciation for bees also, because we have gotten educated better on them. Education is a powerful tool.

We continue to sow seeds of knowledge and we are certainly reaping conservation with such wonderful beauty.

Martha Price
President
The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

Louisiana Jeanette Gatzman



Garden Clubbing is alive and well in Louisiana.

We have 90 clubs with 2,640 members in our State.

All of our clubs are very active – holding flower shows, attending NGC Schools, having Arbor Day plantings, making improvements to local schools by planting gardens – vegetable and flower, beautifying their communities with pollinator gardens, installing Blue Star Markers – this week our Abbeville Garden Club ordered two Blue Star Highway Markers and one Gold Star Marker. The Gold Star Marker is only the fourth one ordered from NGC.

As our part of the Deep South Unified Regional Project I asked each club to donate at least one copy of *"The Frightened Frog"* to public and/or school libraries in their communities. I'm here to report we have a lot fewer frightened frogs in Louisiana since our clubs have donated over 200 copies of *"The Frightened Frog"* to libraries in Louisiana. The children reading the books are learning to protect frogs and their habitat in our state.

Louisiana's Live Oak Society now has 8,050 members and getting more members every week. Our chairman, Coleen Landry, has been very, very busy getting each Live Oak registered in the Society. She has registered 313 since our installation in 2015. She just registered 27 trees in three historical sites in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Coleen is the only human in the Society – but don't worry about her - she is in very good company. All the rest of the members are Live Oak Trees.

Our Cleanest City Chairman, Jean Gilstrap, reports we have 40 cities registered for our Cleanest City contest this year. She and her band of merry district and state Cleanest City Judges will be busy judging in the spring. I will have the privilege of being present for the awarding of plaques to the state winners. Every entry in the contest is a winner as far as LGCF is concerned, because by entering they begin the process of cleaning up their city/town/community. Our

Regional Roundup

hope is that this will encourage all the residents to continue the process throughout the year – not just for the contest period.

Our LGCF Convention was held March 12 and 13, 2016 in Vidalia, Louisiana. The theme *“Down by the Riverside”* was quite appropriate since our convention was held at the Vidalia Convention Center on the banks of the Mississippi River.

LGCF held a very successful and profitable Open House and Tea on March 18th at our beautiful LGCF Headquarters in Lecompte, Louisiana. The money will be used to refurbish the landscaping at Headquarters. Our Headquarters will never look more beautiful.

Thanks to our Deep South Director and all the 2016 Deep South Convention Committee for a GREAT convention in Tunica, Mississippi.

Jeanette Gatzman, President
Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc

Mississippi Debby Cooper

By choosing the 2015-2017 theme of *“Gardening Makes the Soul Blossom”* the Garden Clubs of Mississippi has promoted, and been involved in, all areas of the Deep South Region and NGC goals and objectives.



“GCM Nature Grant” GCM offers a grant to clubs for the beautification, preservation and/or improvement of an existing nature area, or for a new nature-related project. **This is a matching grant** (in kind donations accepted) of up to \$1000.00. GCM’s Landscape Design Consultants Council applied for and received this grant for 2015. Using the funds, they created a pink daylily bed at our state headquarters in the summer. The daylilies were labeled with botanical names for educational purposes. In addition, the council distributed Breast Cancer Awareness brochures at the October Fundraiser for our state

headquarters. We are very proud of their endeavor as it touched on multiple areas of interest.

“Plant-It-Pink” We have created a Plant-It-Pink State Award for landscape projects which comes with a \$100 cash award. Also, we are offering a Plant-It-Pink grant to clubs for projects. This grant may be awarded to a club, or group of clubs, for the beautification and/or improvement of an existing public/community area, or for a new project. This is a matching grant (in kind donations accepted) of up to \$500.00 per application.

“Penny Pines” The Garden Clubs of Mississippi has begun promoting and participating in the Penny Pines Project. Mississippi is rich in forests and has probably taken that for granted in the past. We want to reforest places throughout our state that have had devastating destruction from tornados and other acts of nature. We are off to a good start with a dynamic chairman promoting Penny Pines throughout the state and collecting donations as well. We look forward to growing our participation in this very worthwhile project.

Finally, the Garden Clubs of Mississippi offered our first ever series of Environmental Study Schools in April. Courses I and II were offered back-to-back. The courses were held on April 26th through 29th.

As you can see, the Garden Clubs of Mississippi is gardening to make our souls blossom.

Debby Cooper, President
The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.

Tennessee Pamela L. Dowd

As I write this news of TFGC, we are getting ready for our 2016 TFGC Annual Meeting and Convention to be held in my hometown, Murfreesboro, TN, on April 14-15. We are excited about having Pauline Flynn, Port Huron, MI, present our design program. Pauline has her designs featured in *Vision of Beauty Calendars* and *Flower Arranging the American Way*. She has taught at CFAA,



Regional Roundup

OFAD and other events throughout the US. Ben Page, prominent Landscape Architect in the South East, will inform us on latest landscape ideas on what is being done in landscaping at the TN Executive Residence, and on the development of an Arboretum Level II on the landscape. We will stage the first TFGC Standard Flower Show in twenty years at this convention. We will vote in a new club and two more youth clubs. We are following NGC, DSR and TFGC with programs and workshops on leadership, frogs, butterflies, and will make fairy gardens to take home.

Our Spring Membership Meetings in each district were well attended and followed the NGC, DSR and TFGC programs and projects. Gay Austin, 2nd Vice President of NGC, spoke to the District I membership about NGC policies, programs, and outreach to garden club members. Pollinator gardens, bees, butterflies and other pollinators were stressed at all meetings. Our first Gardening Study School in many years was held in Chattanooga, TN. It was well attended.

I am proud that TFGC has recently embraced the Penny Pines Reforestation Program. We are collecting \$68.00 PLUS at most of our large meetings, and many beautiful certificates are being presented to districts for their participation.

At the DSR Convention, TFGC gleaned a plethora of awards. We are honored that our DSR applicant, Davartay Miller from Memphis, was awarded one of the two DSR Scholarships given in the amount of \$5,000. TFGC awarded three \$1,500 scholarships and the Brainerd Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000 for the 2015 garden club year.

Twelve of our clubs in District II helped raise over \$17,000 for Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art in Nashville, TN. District IV staged a large standard flower show (84 designs) in February during a snow storm. It was beautiful and well-attended despite the bad weather. TFGC was able to donate \$3,900 to our Land Trust project, Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail. Its completion is expected in the near future. Monies raised at our Conservation Camp go to this project, and we hope to donate more in the fall.

After the convention, we took a deep breath and will now get ready for our next Garden Club year. Many new events are planned: a Landscape Design Tour to Virginia, a second Gardening Study School, a Community Standard Flower

Show with thirteen clubs participating in District II (planned to take place at Cheekwood Botanical Garden in the spring), three Blue Star Marker dedications (Chattanooga, Winchester and Mt. Juliet), a District III Standard Flower Show, a District I Standard Flower Show, individual club Standard Flower Shows, symposiums, repeats of "*Fun with Flowers*" in our four districts, another "Road Trip to Racheff" to our state headquarters annual "Greens Tea" in Knoxville, and so much more. One of my new projects is "Invite a Friend" to a garden club meeting. What may happen "**IF**" you do? Yes, TFGC members are "Actively Volunteering in our World and are truly **"VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION."**

Pamela L. Dowd
2015-2017 TFGC President

GARDENING RESOLUTIONS FROM TINA TUTTLE

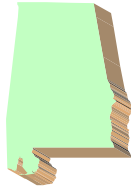
1. Embrace nature. Garden for the birds, bees and butterflies.
2. Do not blame yourself for your gardening failures. Sometimes, Mother Nature is to blame!
3. Share your passion for gardening with others, young and old, friends and strangers. What a great way to make friends.
4. Ask questions! Better yet, get answers to your gardening questions through research, contact and trial and error.
5. Try something new! Try a new plant or two! Add a water feature. Make a fairy garden. Plant more vegetables and fruit trees. Whatever you try, have fun doing it!

- Reprinted from The Florida Gardener

Calendar of Events

Alabama

April 3-5, 2016 State convention,
Montgomery, AL

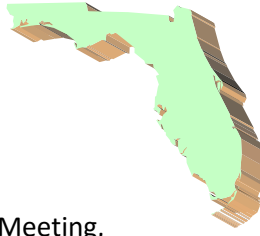


Florida

Sep 14-15, 2016 - Board of
Directors Meeting, Winter Park

Oct 4-21, 2016 FFGC Officers Tour

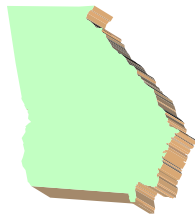
Jan 11-12, 2017 - Board of Directors Meeting,
Winter Park



Georgia

Sep 13-14, 2016 – GCG State Board
Meeting, Peachtree City, GA

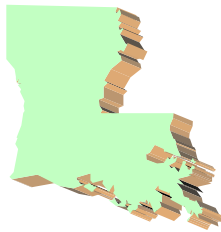
Jan 11-12, 2017 - GCG State Board Meeting - Thomasville,
GA



Louisiana

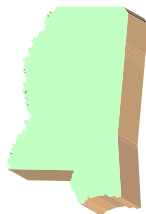
Jun 12-18, 2016 - LGCF Tour - Amish
Country Quilt Gardens

March 27-28, 2017 - 2017 Deep
South Convention, Harrah's, New
Orleans, LA



Mississippi

June 25, 2016 - Statewide Flower Show –
“Life’s A Garden, Dig It!” - Madison Square
Center for The Arts, 2103 Main St., Madison, 39110



Tennessee

Jun 1-2, 2016 – District I
Standard FS, Memphis, TN

Jun 8, 2016 – TFGC

Summer Board of Directors, Nashville, TN

Jun 16, 2016 – District I Presidents’ Meeting, Memphis, TN

Jun 18-26, 2016 – Landscape Design Consultants Tour, VA

Jun 21, 2016 – District II Presidents’ Meeting, Nashville, TN

Jun 23, 2016 – District III Presidents’ Meeting, Chattanooga,
TN

Aug. 22-23, 2016 – District II NGC Flower Show Symposium,
Nashville, TN

Sep 27-28, 2016 – Gardening Study School, Course II,
Chattanooga, TN

Oct 5, 2016 – TFGC Fall board of Directors, Burns, TN

Oct 6-7, 2016 – Conservation Camp, Montgomery Bell State
Park, Burns, TN

Oct 18, 2016 – Dist. II Fall Membership Meeting, Columbia,
TN

Oct 20, 2016 – Dist. III Fall Membership Meeting, Signal
Mountain., TN

Oct. 28, 2016 – Dist. IV Fall Membership Meeting, Farragut,
TN

Nov 1, 2016 – Dist. II “Fun with Flowers,” Nashville, TN

Nov 3, 2016 – Dist. IV “Fun with Flowers,” Knoxville, TN

Nov 10, 2016 – Dist. III “Fun with Flowers,” Chattanooga,
TN



THOUGHTS FROM NGC PRESIDENT SANDRA H. ROBINSON

We as gardeners have the choice to make a difference. It is easy to get caught up in the rat race and forget our original goals. Our clubs often fail to realize the difference they are making in the community and in the lives of our youth. Garden Club Members are planters, designers, educators, promoters, visionaries, conservationists, preservationists, environmentalists, nurturers, advocates, leaders, and dreamers. We realize the obligation we have to connect today’s youth with the natural world and to leave a legacy for future generations. We have the desire to make a difference and to impact the world in a positive manner.

MARIE'S MUSINGS

BRING ON THE BUGS!

Most garden club members are well-informed about environmental matters. We know, for instance, that the worldwide population of pollinators is diminishing. We are aware of the plight of native bees, not to mention the alien honeybee. Some of us have learned that some environmentalists are pushing for the monarch butterfly to be placed on the threatened list. We are becoming more and more aware that our food supply is directly related to pollinator activity, and that pollinator activity depends greatly on the availability of diverse plants that support them.

We know that we and the other creatures that inhabit this planet must eat in order to survive. Where does the food that sustains all creatures come from? Plants, of course, are the lifeblood of all living creatures. They provide not only the air we breathe, but also, either directly or indirectly, the food we eat. Plants alone have the ability to use the sun's energy, and through the process of photosynthesis, turn that energy into food.

However, without pollinators, many of the plants upon which we depend would not be able to produce their fruit or seed. We realize that everything on earth is interrelated, and that the demise of one plant or insect impacts everything else.

Herbivorous insects play a very important role in the food chain. They eat plants and convert the plant tissues to insect tissues which provide food for even more species. Terrestrial birds, for example, depend on insects to feed their young. Bird populations of any given area have a direct relationship to the insect population. If we want to share our space with birds, we must provide food and habitat for the insects they eat. If we want to see butterflies, we must grow plants that feed their caterpillars as well as supply nectar for the adults.

The overriding message is that by providing a diverse ecosystem, we support the insects which in turn support us. We realize more and more that not just any plant will work. Some plants will not feed insects, while others do the job quite well. The plants that are not working in ecosystems are by and large not native to that region. Native insects have not learned to eat most alien plants. Even though some alien plants may provide food, scientists

report that insects almost always choose a native plant over an alien species when given a choice (Tellamy, 2007). We all have heard the horror stories about alien species that proliferate at alarming rates and form dense monocultures. In such cases, insect populations decline because the alien has out-competed the native plants that fed the insects for thousands of years.

Man as a species has done much to diminish biodiversity. We have cut down forests, drained wetlands, and plowed under prairies. In their places we have built cities, highways, buildings, shopping malls, and factories. In short, man has decimated much of the habitat that once supported a diverse array of insects, and consequently, a vast number of other species that once populated these areas. Our country will never have any more land than it presently has, and portions of it that can support insects and other life forms are disappearing at an alarming rate.

In spite of these potentially dire circumstances, all is not lost. Man has within his capability the power to reverse the trend and to restore at least some of the diversity that once existed on our planet. Our power derives from choices we make. Very specifically, we can create a garden to attract pollinators, such as butterflies, bees, hummingbirds, and others. It is known that a garden that attracts pollinators also attracts other creatures. The presence of a variety of insects is an indicator of a healthy ecosystem.

Listed below are several things we can do to aid the pollinators and increase biodiversity.

- Help control the spread of invasive species by refusing to plant them in our gardens and by removing any that already exist.
- Join community work groups to remove invasive plants from natural areas.
- Provide insects and pollinators with nutrition and resources for raising their young.
- Integrate native plants into our gardens, no matter the garden's size.
- Talk to neighbors and show by example just how beautiful a garden filled with native plants can be and how much the wildlife that is attracted to it can enrich our lives.

Some knowledge is required to put these plans into action. Many people do not know a native plant from an exotic

Features

invasive plant. Some of their most treasured plants provide nothing to the ecosystem at large. As a matter of fact, gardeners often seek out plants for their gardens that are pest free. They want no bug, no butterfly – nothing to chew on the leaves of the plants in their gardens. If they see a bug or caterpillar, they run for the insecticide.

Some of our eyes have been opened, and we are becoming more and more aware of the intricate processes that connect all life forms. The future of biodiversity is dim unless we learn to share our earth with the plants and creatures that evolved here. There is much to learn, but it is never too late to start. Your choices can make a difference.

BUSY AS A BEE

In this article we are going to talk about backyard beekeeping. With all the talk about Solitary bees we cannot forget the honey bees. I felt it was important to let everyone know that in most states you can have a beehive in your backyard but it is important to do your research first before placing it. I always wanted to have a beehive in my backyard but wasn't permitted by my city's ordinances. That was until the law was passed permitting backyard beehives. So onward to being a backyard beehive hobbyist.

Backyard beehives are boosting bee populations. That's mostly due to the law that was passed back in July 2012. Among the new State laws that took effect in July 2012 is a measure that's dissolved local government prohibitions on beekeeping and put apiary regulation entirely in the hands of state government. Interest in beekeeping has increased dramatically in the last three years. Anyone can now be a hobbyist or "niche-pollinator". Bee laws vary drastically, depending on which ZIP code you're in. Some states require you register your beehive by County or even the State.

Bees and the Law: Relatively few communities in the U.S. outlaw beekeeping. Some communities have laws that put



practice constraints on beekeeping, such as limits on numbers of hives and a requirement that the beekeeper provide water for the bees. For example, in Florida since July 2012 you are permitted to have 1 beehive on your property if it's less than

one-fourth acre and on larger properties the limit is three hives per quarter acre. It is perfectly legal under the state law. Prospective beekeepers should learn about legal restrictions before keeping bees. Regardless of the law, a good beekeeper does not allow his bees to annoy neighbors.

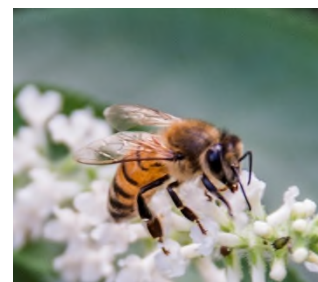
Legalizing backyard beekeepers encourages hobbyists to get the required registrations with the state, triggering inspections to ensure beekeepers are using best management practices at their hives, from re-queening to pest management.

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW YOUR STATE'S LAWS: A good place to start is contact your local [Beekeeping Association](#). They can answer questions you have as to the laws of backyard beekeeping. Beekeeping can be fun and rewarding but only if you operate with the laws your state has established.

A fence is important for most backyard beekeepers. A six-foot-high fence or shrubbery can serve several purposes: It forces the bee's flight patch above people's heads. Bees normally travel in a straight path to their hive, and a fence raises their flight patch up over everyone's head. It also creates an "out of sight – out of mind" situation. Some people may be overly concerned about bees in the neighborhood. A fence hides most evidence that managed bees are in the neighborhood and last it provides wind protection.

Water: Honey bees need to collect water, particularly in early spring and during the heat of summer. They love ponds and creeks. Bees will also drink from a dog's watering bowl or bird baths. To deter bees from going to a neighbor's yard for a drink the beekeeper should provide water for their bees. The bees seem to prefer well-aged water. A small water garden with floating plants is ideal. They also prefer water that is not too close to their hive.

Nectar Plants: Avoid using Neonicotinoids in your garden or yard. Read the label to determine whether a product contains neonicotinoids. Neonicotinoids are systemic chemicals. They are absorbed by the plant and dispersed through plant tissues, including pollen and nectar. Neonicotinoids are toxic to bees and many other beneficial insects. Honey bees are affected by low doses; exposure



Features



plants were treated with neonicotinoids.

Let's remember that honeybees pollinate over 90 food crops, and one-third of the food we eat. They are vital to the foods we grow and love to eat.

can impair their ability to fly, navigate, and forage for food. When purchasing plants, ask nursery or garden center staff if the

Now that you know what to do, try some of these and enter at your next Flower Show or enjoy them all to yourself.

Mostly hardy bulbs for indoor enjoyment:

<i>Allium</i>	<i>Anemone</i>	<i>Brodiaea</i>
<i>Camassia</i>	<i>Chionodoxa</i>	<i>Convallaria</i>
<i>Crocus</i>	<i>Fritillaria</i>	<i>Galanthus</i>
<i>Gladiolus</i>	<i>Hyacinthus</i>	<i>Ipheion</i>
<i>Iris</i>	<i>Leucojum</i>	<i>Lilium</i>
<i>Muscari</i>	<i>Narcissus</i>	<i>Rhodohypoxis</i>
<i>Scilla</i>	<i>Tulipa</i>	

THE INDOOR FLOWERING POTTED BULB

Virtually any bulbous plants (bulbs, corms, rhizomes and tubers) can be grown indoors; some are more adaptable than others. Bulbous plants are able to withstand amazing conditions, from being submersed in water to near extreme drought. Their portability when dormant makes them an ideal houseplant. Indoor potted bulbs have been around since the Victorian era.

New varieties have been developed especially for indoor culture, while at the same time growers scour the world for tried and true varieties which may have lost favor. Many resources offer only bulbous plant selections for sale.

As difficult as it may seem, enjoying a beautiful pot of flowering bulbs only takes a basic knowledge of their cultural needs. By taking advantage of their natural growth cycle and imitating desirable cultural conditions, any gardener can enjoy the indoor flowering potted bulb. Success can be achieved by understanding the structure and needs of each particular species at the appropriate cycle of growth in the right spot in the right pot.

Most any container will suffice but most need good drainage. Finding the right container to complement both the plant and the surroundings is equally important to display your potted beauties. Combining more than one genus and/or species can add interest and extend bloom time, which creates a longer lasting container of interest.

Potted bulbous plants may be shown in Standard Flower Shows as either a container grown or cut specimen entry.

Mostly tender bulbs for indoor enjoyment:

<i>Albuca</i>	<i>Babiana</i>	<i>Bletilla</i>
<i>Bowiea</i>	<i>Clivia</i>	<i>Cyclamen</i>
<i>Cyrtanthus</i>	<i>Eucharis</i>	<i>Freesia</i>
<i>Gloriosa</i>	<i>Hippeastrum</i>	<i>Homeria</i>
<i>Ixia</i>	<i>Lachenalia</i>	<i>Ledebouria</i>
<i>Phaedranassa</i>	<i>Ranunculus</i>	<i>Sinningia</i>
<i>Sparaxis</i>	<i>Tritonia</i>	<i>Veltheimia</i>
<i>Watsonia</i>	<i>Zantedeschia</i>	

Sources:

Dutch Gardens dutchgardens.com	Logee's Greenhouses logees.com
Old House Gardens oldhousegardens.com	Sunlight Gardens sunlightgardens.com
White Flower Farm whiteflowerfarm.com	Roots & Rhizomes rootsrhizomes.com
McClure & Zimmerman mzbulb.com	Mitsch Daffodils mitschdaffodils.com/

Wayside Gardens
waysidegardens.com

The beauty and enjoyment of the indoor flowering potted bulb is seasonal, but the rewards are permanent.

Debby Cooper, President
The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.

Features

"VISION OF BEAUTY" NGC, INC. CALENDAR

All members of clubs affiliated with National Garden Clubs, Inc. are invited to send digital photos as examples of skill and artistry for the 2018 Calendar. All types of designs are requested: Traditional, Contemporary, New Trends, and those appropriate for seasons of the year and holidays. Photos of a small area of your garden, such as "pocket garden," are also accepted for consideration.

Requirements: Submit only Vertical digital photos, taken with a camera with a minimum of eight (8) megapixels. A digital print, size 5" x 7", must be sent by mail including an entry form. For additional information and entry form:

www.gardenclub.org/resources/ngc-vob-entry-form-2018.pdf

CALENDAR DEADLINE: July 1, 2016 E-mail photo (jpeg) to ngcvob@gmail.com

Brenda Bingham,
7 Lenape Trail
Cedar Grove, NJ 07009,

Please include the Entry Form from:

www.gardenclub.org/resources/ngc-vob-entry-form-2018.pdf

Note: the entry form is also at the end of this edition of *Deep South Matters*.

Paula Howard, Deep South VOB Calendar Chair
601-813-6311

REMEMBRANCE - BERNE DAVIS

Bernese (Berne) Davis, a member of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and the Deep South Region, passed away Monday, March 21, 2016, at the tender age of 102. Berne Davis was a member of the NGC Golden Circle Committee and served in many capacities on the NGC Board of Directors over the years. Berne was an Emeritus Flower Show Judge and Master Landscape Design Consultant and a National Life Member.

I first met Berne in the 1990's on a garden tour in Italy and within the hour I was under her spell. I was honored to carry her luggage all over Italy during our trip! I always looked forward to seeing her at the Deep South Region and NGC Conventions. She was a lovely, gracious and generous lady (Carol Bullard, Director, Deep South Region).

Services for Berne Davis were held on Friday March 25, 2016 at the First United Methodist Church, Fort Myers, FL. Notes of condolence may be sent to the Davis Family, 1121 Wales Dr., Fort Myers, FL 33901-7738.

PLANT FOR BUTTERFLIES & POLLINATORS

Spring has arrived for many of us, time to plant for our Butterflies and Pollinators. First, decide what you'd like to attract to this garden. Butterflies, if so what kind? If it's Monarchs, their host plant is Milkweed. Check on what species of Milkweed is native to your area and plant only that species of Milkweed.

Add other plants, both annuals and perennials. A few that come to mind are Zinnias, Sunflowers, a variety of Sedum, Coneflowers, Phlox, Liatrus, Monarda, Nasturtians, Cosmos, Tithonia also known as Mexican Sunflower.

Tithonia is an excellent flower, an annual, for attracting pollinators. When I plant Tithonia there's never a day when it's blooming that it doesn't have Butterflies on it.



Remember not to use chemicals on this garden, those chemicals will kill the Pollinators that we want to attract. Another word of caution is Neonicotinoid, some plants and seeds have been treated with this chemical. It can kill our Pollinators for more than one season, be cautious. Ask if the plants or seeds that you're purchasing have been treated with Neonicotinoids.

Be sure to check out our National Garden Clubs website, under President's Special Project, Monarch Watch, and look for our new publication, "Inviting Butterflies into Your Garden." If you don't have a printer you may order a copy of this from Headquarters for only 3 dollars. It's an excellent reference when planning or planting a Butterfly Garden.

Marian M. McNabb
National Butterfly Garden Chairman

Features

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

National Garden Clubs, Inc. has designated the first full week in June of each year as National Garden Week. This year it is June 5 -11, 2016. So let's "LEAP INTO ACTION" and CELEBRATE NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK!

National Garden Week should be a fun filled week promoting the love of plants, flowers, and gardening. Use this week to encourage pride in communities and cooperation among groups interested in educating the general public on the importance of general gardening information. The more involved your garden club can be, the more awareness we can generate for National Garden Club and everything we do!

Ideas include:

- Deliver potted plants and/or floral designs to the Chamber of Commerce, City Hall, Libraries, and Hospitals along with the NGC National Garden Week Poster and Proclamation.
- Don't forget the senior citizens and veterans in nursing homes – bring them small flower arrangements to brighten their week.
- Beautify a manageable blighted area with the cooperative efforts of another group.
- Host a member garden tour – include a water garden, a vegetable garden, a rose garden, etc.
- Sponsor a hands-on "How Do You Select Flowers/Shrubs for Your Garden" at an area nursery.
- Conduct a "Get to Know Us" event at the public library.

The NGC National Garden Week Poster and the Proclamation can be downloaded and printed out from the NGC website – link to National Garden Week. Publicity is important to the successful promotion of National Garden Week – send in pictures and articles to your local and neighborhood newspapers.

Clubs should plan their activities well in advance as some of our Deep South Clubs go on hiatus in May for the summer. Have a fun National Garden Week!

Andrea Finn
Deep South National Garden Week Chairman

GARDEN THERAPY

WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

It is truly amazing that gardening is local, national, international and outer space. The news of Scott Kelly's adventures in space for an extended period of time is truly amazing; however, as a gardener, there is delight in knowing that flowers were on his mind as he traveled so many miles above the earth. On March 17, Saint Patrick's Day, he commented on his Facebook page: "I missed the color green most during my year in space. Great to see it again on Earth!" NASA is celebrating a space plant victory: Over the weekend, astronaut Scott Kelly showed off zinnia flowers he'd grown and coaxed back to health on board the International Space Station. But despite what some headlines are reporting, these aren't really *the first flowers* in space. In fact, they're not even NASA's first flowers on the ISS – though they are the first grown from start-to-finish in an official NASA mission. NASA's first bloom had a much quirkier origin: In 2012, astronaut Don Pettit grew several plants (including a sunflower) in plastic baggies he'd brought on board as a personal science experiment. The tiny blossom didn't fare well, but it did technically bloom. According to the website NASA Watch, cosmonauts produced flowers several times in the pre-ISS days of spaceflight. It seems that in at least one case, the entire growth process occurred during flight. That was a lettuce plant, but lettuce plants *can* flower – and according to research published on the subject, it appears the Russian lettuce did.



But that doesn't really matter. These space flowers might not literally be the first, but they do represent NASA's first concentrated effort to grow flowering plants in a controlled space environment. The hope is that experience with plants like zinnias will help astronauts learn how to grow more traditionally edible flowering plants like tomatoes.

Gardening is GOOD THERAPY for all!

(Excerpts taken from www.washingtonpost.com)

Submitted by: Diane J. Harbin, Deep South Region
Garden Therapy Chairman

Features



...you might be an energy hog

- If your hot water heater is set above 120 degrees....
- If you leave your thermostat on its regular setting when on vacation....
- If you don't clean the filters in your heating/cooling system monthly....
- If you don't use low water flow shower heads....
- If you run the dishwasher or washing machine when only half full....
- If you take long showers or deep water baths....
- If you let the faucet run continuously while brushing your teeth or shaving....
- If you don't fix faucets that drip....
- If you leave lights, TVs and computers on while not in use....
- If you don't clean the lint filter after each use of the dryer....
- If you use a water hose rather than a broom to clean your driveway....
- If you water your garden during the hottest part of the day....
- If you water grass on a regular basis....
- If you consistently drive over the speed limit....
- If your tires are improperly inflated....
- If you use antifreeze that contains ethylene glycol rather than propylene glycol....
- If you don't have shade trees in your landscape....
-

....you might be an energy hog!

Mary Sue Colvin
Deep South Region Energy Chairman

NEWS FROM NGC GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL

A big congratulations to Tennessee for completing Course I in March—the first time the NGC Gardening Study School has been held in that state. Maggie Burns, chairman, reached out for support by having the TFGC District III Flower Show Judges Association sponsor the school with highly qualified instructors. Tina Tuttle and Gina Jogan, members of the FL Federation of Garden Clubs, came to Chattanooga to teach the Course. Maggie says “Gardening Study School-Course I in TN is complete and was a big success! We had 33 attendees, 26 taking the exam and 2 refreshers. Two students were from AL and one from KY. Even had a phone call from a gal in NY that hoped to combine the school and visit family in TN.” Kudos to all!!

Harvey Cotten, former Director of the Huntsville Alabama Botanical Garden, has volunteered to help The Garden Club of Alabama hold its first Gardening Study School. He has supported several of the NGC Landscape Design Courses. Keep us posted Alabama!!

Barbara Hadsell
NGC Gardening Study School Chairman

DEEP SOUTH AWARDS

It was a privilege to present the awards at the recent 2016 Deep South Convention held in Tunica Resorts, MS. I want to thank my co-chairmen Barbara Armstrong and Carol Hall for their help in gathering applications and judging the many worthy projects sent in by Deep South Garden Clubs. We presented 161 certificates for general awards, 2 certificates for Deep South scholarship winners, and 78 certificates for youth awards. We also presented a total of \$475.00 in cash awards to individual clubs.

In keeping with the convention theme of “*Southern Bouquet*,” each state president was presented a flower every time their state won an award, and at the end of the awards presentation, each of them had their own southern bouquet.

My committee was impressed at the quality of the projects that the applications presented. You can find the complete Award Winners List on the Deep South website.

Features

Some of the winning projects include: restoring landscaping at a town's Courthouse Square; replicating a pioneer vegetable garden at a local historic house; co-sponsoring an annual Lawn Gala to raise money for a museum; picking up trash monthly on a two-mile stretch of litter-strewn highway; maintaining 55 bird houses on a blue bird trail; planting several live oak trees in memory of policemen who died in the line of duty; planting over 10,000 daffodil bulbs on a roadside hill at a historic cemetery; helping Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts earn badges; buying 125 butterflies for children to release at a local event; participating in data collection, planting and maintenance at a wildlife sanctuary; establishing a Meditation Garden with 159 plants; establishing a Loaves and Fishes Garden to feed the homeless at a local shelter; and I could go on and on.

Wow! The Deep South greatly benefits from the work of federated garden clubs in the six states! Garden Clubs make things happen!

I want to mention Temple Terrace Garden Club of Temple Terrace, Florida, who won Deep South Garden Club of the Year. Their outstanding work included maintaining FIVE public gardens. They also sponsor a Spring Market in March and Sunday in the Park in November. This award is also judged on attendance at local club meetings and at conventions and district meetings. I hope to have applications for this award from each Deep South state next year.

My hope is that each Deep South club has taken pictures of your members at work on your projects this year, and that you are already in the process of preparing your award applications for next year.

If you have any questions about awards, you can email, text or call me at patwyoung@hughes.net or 901-604-6735.

Happy Projects!!

Pat Young, Deep South Region Awards Chairman

Some flowers spoke with strong and powerful voices, which proclaimed in accents trumpet-tongued. "I am beautiful and I rule." Others murmured in tones scarcely audible, but exquisitely soft and sweet, "I am little, and I am beloved."

- George Sand (1804-1876), French writer

NGC MEMBER AWARD OF HONOR

Mr. John Brasher of the Fayette Garden Club of Fayette, AL, won the prestigious NGC Member Award of Honor for the Deep South States at the convention in Tunica Resorts.

This award is listed as going to a "member in the region whose efforts during a period of five or more years has made outstanding contributions to club and community in one or more of the areas of NGC emphasis."

Mr. Brasher has certainly made outstanding contributions to his club and community.

Mr. Brasher began his garden club career after he retired from owning a store. He began to improve run-down areas in his town, and then was asked to landscape other areas in town. He joined the Fayette Garden Club in 2007 and became heavily involved in local and district meetings. He began to work with inmates from the county jail, and began a Women's Prison Ministry, overseeing the work of the prisoners and teaching them about gardening, landscaping and life.

He also oversees the annual Christmas at the Park display of lights, and this past year over 90,000 people from all over the United States and beyond came to see the display.

Here are just a few of Mr. Brasher's gardening projects in his town: knockout roses at the City Hall, daylilies at the Sheriff's Department, hydrangeas at the Fire Department, and pansies at the Water Department. Despite recurring health problems, he has put in over 11,000 hours of work on many such projects over the past five years.

These are just a few of his many undertakings.

Mr. Brasher was at the convention along with family members and friends. As he received his award, he told the audience he wouldn't be in attendance the next day because he had some planting to do back in Fayette!

What a dedicated garden club member!

I know there are more "Mr. Brashers" in the six Deep South States. Please find one in your state and submit that award application next year!

Features

DEEP SOUTH MENTOR OF THE YEAR

The winner of the Deep South Mentor of the Year award at the Deep South Convention was Jane Whiteman, a member of the Sandy Springs Garden Club and the Fulton Federation of Garden Clubs in Georgia.

The Deep South Directory describes the Mentor of the Year as being a garden club member who is “an outstanding mentor who often goes above the call of normal garden club duties, and who is a loyal member that is always available as a willing adviser.”

Jane surely is deserving of the award. She is a Garden Club of Georgia life member, DSR life member, and NGC life member. Her many garden club contributions include serving on the Deep South Region board for six years, being an active Garden Club of Georgia board member for many years, holding many different chairmanships in her district, and being named the 2015 Dogwood District Woman of the Year. She is known to “support and encourage every garden club member and person that she comes in contact with in any situation.”

Jane traveled from Georgia to the convention where she was recognized at the awards presentation.

Congratulations, Jane! You have set a wonderful example for Deep South garden club members.

I know each state in the Deep South has members who are deserving of this award. I hope to have a Mentor of the Year application from each state next year.

NGC National Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Winners

The Deep South Region was the big winner in the National Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest at the recent NGC Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In order to compete on the National level, a student must win the State and Deep South competitions which include the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

There were over 60,000 first through fifth grade participants across the United States. The National Third Grade Winner was Aniyah Purifory of Mayfield Elementary School sponsored by Aldersgate Garden Club of Cleveland,

Tennessee. Aniyah will receive a certificate and a \$50.00 monetary award from National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Khushi Patel was the National Fourth Grade Winner and also was named the National Grand Prize Winner when her poster was selected as the best of the National First through Fifth Grade Winners. Khushi attends Farmington Elementary School and was sponsored by Suburban Garden Club of Germantown. She will be honored at a reception at the National Forest Service Headquarters in Washington, D.C. in June where she will receive her certificate and monetary award.



The National Fifth Grade Winner was Rainey-Estelle Harrison of Parkview Baptist Middle School sponsored by Baton Rouge Garden Club in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Rainey-Estelle Harrison will receive a certificate and a \$50.00 monetary award from National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Other National Winners were:

First Grade - Alex Barton, sponsored by the Thoroughgood Garden Club in Virginia

Second Grade - Rafael M. Gonzalez, sponsored by West Brownsville Garden Club in Texas

Pat Smith, Deep South Region Smokey Bear Chairman

Noteworthy Projects from around the Region

DEEP SOUTH UNIFIED REGIONAL PROJECT AWARD RULES

2015-2017

"COMMUNITY ACTION"

Nancy B. Moore, DSR Chairman

Phone: 601-635-3160 Email: jmmoore@decaturtel.net

Class I: Club Competition (States are allowed only one entry in each sub class per Category)

Category 1. Environmental Efforts

A certificate and cash awards will be offered for the most comprehensive entry in each of the following sub classes.

A. Individual Club

1st Place - \$200.00

2nd Place - \$100.00

B. Group of Clubs, Councils, or Districts

1st Place - \$200.00

2nd Place - \$100.00

Category 2. Planting Efforts

A certificate and cash awards will be offered for the most comprehensive entry in each of the following sub classes.

A. Individual Club

1st Place - \$200.00

2nd Place - \$100.00

B. Group of Clubs, Councils, or Districts

1st Place - \$200.00

2nd Place - \$100.00

Category 3. Educational Efforts

A certificate and cash awards will be offered for the most comprehensive entry in each of the following sub classes.

A. Individual Club

1st Place - \$200.00

2nd Place - \$100.00

B. Group of Clubs, Councils, or Districts

1st Place - \$200.00

2nd Place - \$100.00

Noteworthy Projects from around the Region

Class I: Club Competition – Overall Award

A certificate and a cash award of \$250.00 will be offered for the most comprehensive entry in Class I – Club Competition.

Class II: State Competition

A certificate and \$200 cash award will be offered to the State Garden Club Organization in the Deep South Region for the most comprehensive entry in any or all of the above mentioned Categories.

Class III: Youth Club Competition

A certificate and cash awards \$50 (1st), \$25 (2nd), and \$10 (3rd) may be awarded youth clubs for the most comprehensive entry in any or all of the above mentioned Categories. States are allowed only one entry in each sub class.

A. Junior (Preschool – Grade 6)

B. Intermediate/High School (Grade 7 – 12)

Submit Books of Evidence (compiled according to Deep South Award rules) to your State Deep South Unified Regional Project Chairman by your State Deadline.

That Chairman will submit to Deep South Unified Regional Project Chairman to be received no later than **January 31, 2017**.

SCALE OF POINTS

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Participation: | (Club: of members) | 15 |
| (size of club; percentage and involvement of members, community, government agencies, professionals, youth, residents in facilities, others. Not all of these have to be involved.) | | |
| (State: percentage of state membership, involvement of other agencies) | | |
| 2. Achievement: | | 65 |
| (scope of project; need and fulfillment; benefit to community; accomplishment; comprehensiveness of work; activities to attain goals; evaluation of goals reached; prior planning) | | |
| 3. Presentation of Book of Evidence: | | 20 |
| (neat, concise, includes all required information for a Book of Evidence; supporting data, such as clear, well-labeled and neatly attached before & after photographs, landscape plan (does not have to be professionally drawn), if applicable; financial report, letters of appreciation, community awards, newspaper/magazine articles; handouts/publications available at event, etc. Photocopies permitted. | | |

Total 100 points

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL

Course III

July 28 - 30, 2016

Lafayette, LA

Registrar: Mary Jane Peters - Phone: (985) 580-2864

Instructors:

FSP & Design: Barbara Baker

Horticulture: Pam Braun - cacti, succulents,

sansevieria and herbs - combination plantings

Course IV

Nov 1 - 3, 2016

Port S. Lucie, FL

Registrar: Michele Myers - Phone: (561) 655-7957

Instructors:

FSP & Horticulture: Dale DeFeo - begonias, saintpaulia, collections / displays

Design: Janice Hamlin

NGC ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY SCHOOL

Course I

May 19 - 20, 2016 |

West Palm Beach, FL

Course: 1

State Chairman: Nancy Richards - Phone: (561) 702-0550

Course III

Jun 21 - 22, 2016

Jacksonville, FL

Course: 3

State Chairman: David Farah - Phone: (904) 460-4663

Aug 16 - 17, 2016

Monroe (Black Bayou Lake Refuge), LA

Course: 3

State Chairman: Jean Gilstrap - Phone: (318) 680-1984

Course IV

Aug 18 - 19, 2016

Monroe (Black Bayou Lake Refuge), LA

Course: 4

State Chairman: Jean Gilstrap - Phone: (318) 680-1984

GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL

Course I

Nov 17, 2015

Miramar, FL

Course: 1

State Chairman: Marylou Ruiz - Phone: (305) 822-2717

Course II

Sep 27, 28, 2016 – Reflection Riding Arboretum & Nature Center, 400 Garden Road, Chattanooga, TN

Course III

Oct 26 - 27, 2016

Univ of FL Davie Campus, FL

Course: 3

State Chairman: Marylou Ruiz - Phone: (305) 822-2717

Required Reading: The reading for this course is the NGC subscription publication [The National Gardener magazine](#). There are several ways to order the magazine and there is more information available on the NGC website.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDY COURSES

Course III

May 2 - 3, 2016

Auburn, AL

Course: 3

State Chairman: K.T. Owens - Phone: (251) 743-3846

Nov 9 - 10, 2016

New Smyrna Beach, FL

Course: 3

State Chairman: Sally Flanagan - Phone: (386) 428-3170

Course IV

November 16-17, 2016 - Sarasota, FL
State Chairman: Karen Gott (954) 295-7205

Feb 7-8, 2017, Hosted by New Smyrna Beach GC, New Smyrna Beach,

Required Reading: The reading for this course is the book "Stewards of the Land" along with the NGC subscription publication [The National Gardener magazine](#). "Stewards of the Land" and *The National Gardener* are available from the NGC Online Store. *Newscape* is the NGC Landscape Design Newsletter

- *Newscape* Spring 2014
- *Newscape* Fall 2013
- *Newscape* Spring 2013
- *Newscape* Spring 2012
- *Newscape* Fall 2011

NGC TRI-REFRESHER

Jun 13 - 15, 2016
Gainesville, FL
Course: Tri-Refresher (ESS, GSS & LDS)
State Chairman: Jeanice Gage - Phone: (352) 332-1596

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

Jul 10 - 12, 2016
Athens, GA
Registrar: Sally Holcombe - Phone: (404) 403-9645
Instructors:
Design: Claudia Bates - Abstract Creative Design
Horticulture: Darlene Newell - Ferns and Dwarf / Miniature Plants; Allied Topic: Queen Bee & Ethics, Etiquette, Procedure
Expert: Anna Burns - Miniature Designs

Aug 10 - 11, 2016
Birmingham, AL
Registrar: Sybil Ingram - Phone: (205) 733-9536
Instructors:
Horticulture: Gay Austin - Succulents, Collections / Displays; Allied Topic: Simplified Subdivision of Horticulture
Design: Penny Decker - Picture Perfect; Allied Topic: Backgrounds

Aug 22 - 23, 2016
Nashville, TN
Registrar: Kathy Rychen - Phone: (615) 406-5716
Instructors:
Horticulture: David Robson - Branching Out and Displays; Allied Topic: How to Write and Read an Entry Tag
Design: Trece Chancellor - Dine-A-Rama; Allied Topic: Judges Comments for Design

Nov 5 - 7, 2016
Tampa, FL
Registrar: Christy Linke - Phone: (813) 752-8392
Instructors:
Horticulture: Dot Yard - Gesneriads and Collections, Displays; Allied Topic: Ethics, Etiquette, Procedure
Design: Gina Jogan - Mobiles and Transparencies

Mar 7 - 9, 2017
Diamondhead, MS
Registrar: Brierly Acker - Phone: (228) 255-2697
Instructors:
Horticulture: David Robson - Spring's Beauty
Design: Barbara May - Futuristic Designs; Allied Topic: Exploring The New Handbook Robson & May
Plant Material: Dr. Jim DelPrince

NOTE FROM EDITOR:

For a wonderful article on taking High-Resolution Photos to submit to Vision of Beauty, see the article in the Spring Issue of The National Gardener, page 11. The article written by Sandy Mangels, NGC Calendar Committee, International Affiliates, offers excellent guidelines and tips that will help you get the best quality photo possible of your lovely floral designs and gardens.

DID YOU KNOW? Up until 1958, Spanish moss was collected and used to stuff car seats and upholstered furniture. Currently, it is still used in the florist and craft industry. One myth about Spanish moss in trees is that the moss has chiggers (also referred to as redbugs). For those of us who have not experienced chiggers, it's not something we want to repeat. In reality, Spanish moss in trees rarely has chiggers, but once it touches or falls to the ground, may have chiggers. Be aware!

KNOW YOUR STATE FUN FACTS ABOUT YOUR STATE

Please note the DSR States' Websites included. It's a good idea to check your state website on a regular basis – an important source of information.

Alabama

Flower: Camellia
Wildflower: Oakleaf Hydrangea
Tree: Longleaf Pine
Bird: Yellowhammer
Butterfly: Monarch



The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.
<http://xl1.esiteasp.com/gca/home.nxg>

Louisiana

Flower: Magnolia
Wildflower: Louisiana Iris
Tree: Bald Cypress
Bird: Brown Pelican



Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
<http://www.lgcfinc.org/>

Florida

Flower: Orange Blossom
Wildflower: Coreopsis
Tree: Sabal Palm
Bird: Mockingbird
Butterfly: Monarch



Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
<https://ffgc.wildapricot.org/>

Mississippi

Flower: Magnolia
Wildflower: Coreopsis
Tree: Magnolia Grandiflora
Bird: Mockingbird
Butterfly: Spicebush Swallowtail



The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.
<http://msclubs.esiteasp.com/mississippi/home.nxg>

Georgia

Flower: Cherokee Rose
Wildflower: Wild Azalea
Tree: Live Oak
Bird: Brown Thrasher
Butterfly: Tiger Swallowtail



The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
<http://gardenclub.uga.edu/>

Tennessee

Flower: Purple Iris
Wildflower: Passion Flower
Tree: Tulip Poplar
Bird: Mockingbird
Butterfly: Tiger Swallowtail



Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
<http://www.tfgconline.org/>

VISION OF BEAUTY CALENDAR

VISION OF BEAUTY CALENDAR

All members of clubs affiliated with National Garden Clubs, Inc. are invited to send digital photos as examples of skill and artistry for the **2018 Calendar**.

The Calendar showcases Traditional and Creative designs and small "pocket gardens."

All entries will be judged by the same criteria used to judge Flower Show designs. The highest quality photos are essential to enable the Committee to properly judge the entries.

REQUIREMENTS

- The Committee accepts only photographs taken with a camera with a minimum of eight (8) mega-pixels. Send a file that is a minimum of 300dpi. Sharp focus and proper lighting is a "must" for reproduction.
- A digital print, size 5X7, taken with a camera with a minimum of eight (8) mega-pixels must be sent by mail, along with a **current entry form for each design**, to the Chair listed below. Please also email the digital image (jpeg), including the title and name of designer, to the Chair, ngcvob@gmail.com.
- Photo Shop is discouraged, unless done by a professional, since it distorts color and sharpness.
- Photographs should **not** include ribbons, entry cards or distracting backgrounds. Backgrounds should be free of wrinkles and patterns.
- Designers may submit a **maximum of 5 entries**. Please **use padded envelopes when mailing**.
- Do not use paper clips or Scotch tape. **Do not put designer's name on back.**

All entries become the property of NGC, Inc. Notification will be given if used. No entries will be returned.

CALENDAR DEADLINE: July 1, 2016

Mail to:

Brenda Bingham

(before June 1) 7 Lenape Trail, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

(after June 1) P.M.B. #219369, Montezuma, Santa Fe, NM 87501-2626

ENTRY FORM

2018 *Vision of Beauty*
NGC, Inc. Calendar

Name _____

Print clearly, type or use address label

Address _____

Zip _____

Garden Club _____

or

Affiliate _____

Email _____

(Required)

Photographer _____

Title of Picture _____

Write a short caption (30 words or less) including components and botanical names of plant material.

Email photo (jpeg) to ngcvob@gmail.com, include title and designer's name must also mail digital photo and completed entry form to:

Brenda Bingham,

(before June 1) 7 Lenape Trail, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

(after June 1) P.M.B. #219369, Montezuma, Santa Fe, NM 87501-2626

Entry Deadline: July 1, 2016

Maximum of five (5) entries, one (1) background per entry, one (1) entry per form. If duplicates are made of this Entry Form, please cut to identical size of this form. Entry Form is available on NGC, Inc. website, www.gardenclub.org

All entries become the property of NGC, Inc.

DSR 2016 Convention



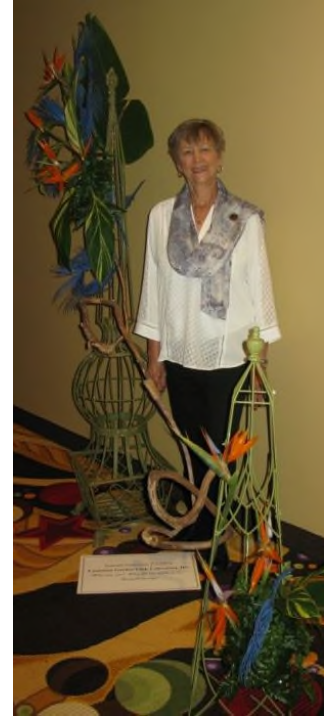
NGC President
Sandy Robinson



Sandra McCaulla, DSR Junior Gardeners Chairman, admiring the beautiful centerpieces at lunch



Jan Thomas, President of The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.; Claudia Bates, 1st VP of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.; Martha Price, President of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.; Sandy Robinson, President, National Garden Clubs, Inc.; Carol Bullard, Director, Deep South Region; Jeanette Gatzman, President of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.; Debby Cooper, President of The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.; Pam Dowd, President of The Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. (at Awards Ceremony, showing off their "Southern Bouquets")



Jeanette Gatzman, President of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. (standing beside the Stretch floor design in her honor)

These creative, honor floor designs were made by Donna Smith and Tina Brumfield of McComb Garden Club, McComb, Miss.



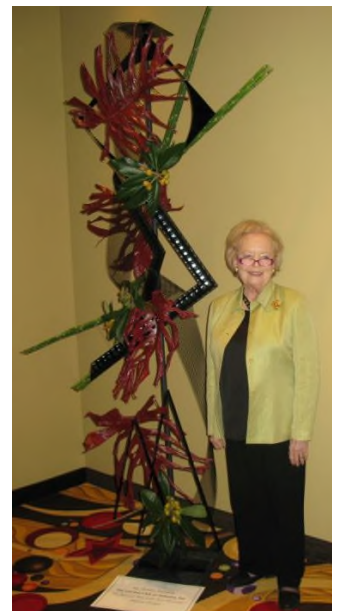
Debby Cooper, President of The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc., (standing beside the Reflective floor design in her honor)



Martha Price, President of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. (standing beside the Multi-Rhythmic floor design in her honor)



Pam Dowd, President of The Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. (standing beside the Vibratile floor design in her honor)



Jan Thomas, President of The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc. (standing beside the Angular floor design in her honor)

DSR 2016 Convention



Former DSR Director Mary Sue Colvin 2009-2011, Gay Austin, DSR Horticulture Chairman and NGC 2nd Vice President and Sandy Robinson, NGC President



Former DSR Directors, Elouise Cumbaa, 1991-1993; Bonnie Borne, 2003-2005; and Annette Stanberry, 2005-2007.



DSR Director, Carol Bullard and Member Award of Honor recipient, Mr. John Brasher, Fayette GC, Fayette, Alabama



Debby Cooper, President of The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.(center) celebrating Awards night with Ocean Springs GC, Ocean Springs, Miss. members Margaret Noblitt, Rhonda Rosetti and Catherine Chernecky



Jan Thomas, President of The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., Claudia Bates, 1st Vice President, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., and Martha Price, President of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. during the DSR Convention Business Meeting



Valerie Tipps, DSR Recording Secretary



Pat Young, DSR Awards Chairman



Jeanette Gatzman, President of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc., Debby Cooper, Debby Cooper, President of The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc., and Pam Dowd, President of The Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. during DSR Convention Business Meeting



Charla Jordan, DSR Photographer and Gay Austin, DSR Horticulture Chairman and NGC 2nd VP

DSR 2016 Convention



Eight members of the Brandon Garden Club, Brandon, Miss.



Members of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation signing the invitation to the 2017 DSR Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana



DSR Corresponding Secretary, Donna Bucci, showing a creative handmade container by artisan David Mills.



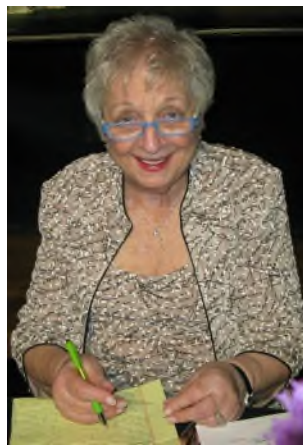
Catherine Chernecky and Rhonda Rosetti, DSR Plant-It-Pink Chairmen



Ann Godwin, Treasurer of The Garden Clubs of Mississippi and Floral Design Program presenter, Tracy Proctor of Tupelo, Miss.



Jo Ann Guise, DSR Protocol Chairman and Mary Lynn Powers, Convention Credentials Chairman



Elaine Thompson
Convention Courtesy
Resolutions Chairman



Mary Lynn Powers Convention Credentials
Chairman and Margaret Fancher Convention
Registrar

DSR 2016 Convention



Elaine Thompson, Charla Jordan, Mary Lynn Powers and Margaret Fancher



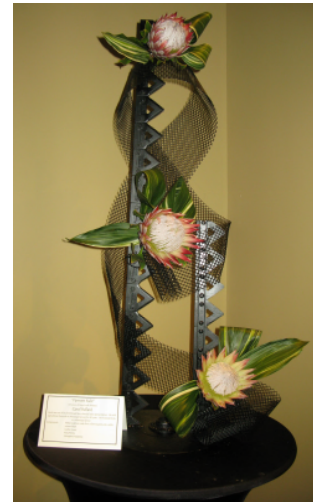
Jo Ann Guise, DSR Protocol Chairman and Carol Hall DSR Awards Committee member



Design in honor of DSR Alternate Director, Nancy Moore made by Pat Young DSR Awards Chairman and member of Hernando Civic GC, Hernando, Miss.



Design in honor of NGC President, Sandy Robinson made by Amye Kelley, member of Desoto Civic GC, Southaven, Miss.



Design in honor of DSR Director, Carol Bullard, made by Pat Young DSR Awards Chairman and member of Hernando Civic GC, Hernando, Miss



Suzanne Ross and Louise Tidmore admiring the creative skills of floral designer Tracy Proctor



Jane Whiteman, winner of the Deep South Mentor of the Year award at the Deep South Convention, a member of the Sandy Springs Garden Club and the Fulton Federation of Garden Clubs in Georgia and The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.