

Oleander District
of
The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.



***Great Programs Lead to
Increased Membership***

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
Oleander District



Sharon Flores, District Director

Marilyn Cheney, Co-Director

Mary Burns, Recording Secretary

Anne Gardner, Corresponding Secretary

Sue Cansler, Treasurer

Winette Almon, Parliamentarian

Sandra Johaneck, Membership & Program Guide Committee

Lisa Hall, Membership & Program Guide Committee

October 2012

Oleander District

Membership and Program Guide

The *Membership and Program Guide* is the culmination of a project created by the 2011-12 Officers of the Oleander District to do the following:

- Get new members
- Keep the members we have
- Make the garden club experience so rewarding and fun that getting new members and keeping them will be a snap!

Workshops were held in May 2012 in two District locations to develop ideas related to the Theme - **GREAT PROGRAMS LEAD TO INCREASED MEMBERSHIP**. Eighty *Outstanding Oleanders* representing 27 Clubs attended the two workshops.

We feel that if your club programs are interesting and timely, you will have great success in encouraging folks who aren't in a club to visit, and then they will hopefully consider joining. Interesting and informative programs will act as magnets in drawing current members to club meetings.

Special thanks to all of the Club Presidents whose "favorite" programs were submitted on the annual *President's Report of Garden Club Achievements* and to the members who shared these and other great ideas at the workshops. This Guide is the result of their successful programs and projects.



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30 Ideas to Increase Membership

The following ideas were adapted from the Deep South Region publication, "Membership Offers Opportunities for Everyone" 2011-2013

1. Promote your club with a booth at a local event such as a fair, festival and home show.
2. Host a "Paint Party" with local artists; invite the public, judge the art and serve refreshments. Artists supply their materials. Members welcome guests with garden club handouts and invitations to next regular meeting.
3. Co-host a "Plant Party" with your local nursery at a public location and invite the public. Distribute invitations to your next meeting.
4. Offer a Gardening program at the Library. Members present information on several topics such as perennials, garden pests, favorite plants, etc.
5. Select a "Yard of the Month." Present a certificate to the winner and invite them to a meeting.
6. Send welcome letters to new residents in each club member's neighborhood and invite them to a meeting.
7. Develop a beautification program in your town.
8. Include an invitation to a club meeting with time, date and location and place in your church bulletin.
9. Sponsor a yearly club competition and challenge members to bring in new members. The winner receives a traveling trophy recognizing their success in recruiting the most new members.
10. Plan a garden tour of members' gardens and invite the public.
11. Distribute garden club informational flyers to realtors to give to new residents.
12. Distribute posters to local businesses, garden centers and libraries inviting the public to a special garden club program.

30 Ideas to Increase Membership

13. Invite non-members to assist with club community activities.
14. Create a garden club float if there is a parade in your town.
15. Host a “Mad Hatter Tea Party.” Members and guests wear hats with garden-theme decorations.
16. Host a potluck supper for prospective members with current members supplying the food.
17. Organize a “Spring Fling” garden luncheon and include a floral design demonstration.
18. Plant and maintain flower beds at community locations and include signage to let the public know about your community spirit.
19. Order brightly colored t-shirts for your members with club name on front. Members wear the shirts when working on community projects to give additional visibility to the public.
20. Hold at least one meeting each year in a public building to attract local attention.
21. Provide flowers or a plant each month at public building such as City Hall, Library, local Bank; include a small sign identifying your club as the donor. Members can volunteer for each month.
22. Work with Boy/Girl Scout troops, 4-H groups and other youth organizations to form a Youth Garden Club.
23. Create an eye-catching display at the area recreational center with club activity information giving date, time, location and phone number and an invitation to attend.
24. Make personal phone calls to invite people to a club meeting. One club more than doubled their membership using this approach.
25. Organize a neighborhood “front door” decoration contest with prizes and invitations to join your club.

30 Ideas to Increase Membership

26. Organize an open workshop at a garden center with a flower show judge demonstrating basic designs for the home. Charge a small fee (\$5.00) and serve simple refreshments furnished by club members.
27. Prepare a one-page flyer with a brief history of your club and list past accomplishments, on-going projects and community involvement and end with an invitation to join the club. Include meeting time, location and contact person with phone number. Members could give these to prospective members as they invite them to a meeting. *See sample: St. Marys GC.*
28. Hold an OPEN meeting for the public at least once each year and offer an interesting Horticulture program. Create display boards that describe special Garden Club of Georgia projects such as Blue Star Markers, Scholarship program, *Collect a Tab* for Ronald McDonald House, educational opportunities such as flower show schools and landscape courses for members, etc. to demonstrate the value of GCG membership.
29. Offer to give programs for other organizations in your community spotlighting your clubs community endeavors.
30. Create computer generated “business cards” and distribute several to each member to hand out to potential members. The “Club” card could be printed on pre-perforated stock business cards from an office supply store, or you can print several on card stock and cut with a paper cutter. You could also print post card-sized cards to use as invitations to potential members. *Consider leaving the WHERE and CONTACT line blank so that the member presenting the invitation may insert her name and meeting location. See example on next page.*

Oleander Garden Club



Please Join Us ...

What: Garden Club Meeting
When: 2nd Thursday of Month – 10:00
Where:
Contact: Jane Gardener – 912-555-5555

Please plan to attend our next meeting for fun, fellowship and educational activities.

There is no substitute for a personal invitation to attend a meeting. Present the Club “business card” to your invited guest as a reminder of the meeting and chances are they will join you.

Make Prospective Members Feel Welcome and a Part of the Club

A prospective member attending a garden club meeting should walk away feeling as though they are already a part of the club. Introduce the prospective member to others during the club’s hospitality time. Then, after the meeting, encourage them to ask questions about the club.



Dear Prospective Member,



We are happy that you have shown an interest in St. Marys Garden Club. This introductory letter is to let you know who we are and what we do. Our objective is to promote the love of gardening among amateurs, to promote the study of horticulture, to protect our native trees, wildflowers and birds, to encourage civic planning, and to engage in activities which are charitable, educational, and scientific.

“Most St. Marys Garden Club members were transplanted to St. Marys by choice. We found something special and wonderful about this little town and made our homes here and put down roots. We wanted to learn more about gardening in this area and discovered the St. Marys Garden Club. It is a privilege to live here and I think being involved in the garden club is a bonus in many ways. We've met some wonderful friends; we've learned a little more about gardening and we've learned about the pleasures and pitfalls of volunteering in the community.” - Joyce St. Clair, President

Civic Projects: Our garden club creates and maintains planting beds around St. Marys: St. Marys Senior Care Center, First Presbyterian Church, Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Chapel. Arbor Day.

Community involvement: Each month we recognize a local business or civic building for their efforts in maintaining an aesthetically pleasing landscape and/or garden area. For Hay Days in October, we create a scarecrow display. We also decorate Orange Hall and St. Marys Visitors Center for the holidays. In addition we help residents of Magnolia Manor with planting and crafts.

Membership: Membership is open to all regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity or religious affiliation.

Meetings: We meet monthly. These meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. unless otherwise published. We offer a varied program including lectures, workshops, garden tours and field trips.

Fundraisers: Our major fundraising event is our booth at the Rock Shrimp Festival where we sell plants and other garden-related items donated by our members. We created two series of note cards. One features photos of prominent historical sites of St. Marys, the second series is of local flora. All photographs were taken by members of our club.

And so, prospective member, after you have attended two meetings, we hope you will decide to join us as an active member. If you enjoy gardening and/or flower arranging, have time during the day for club activities, and would like to get to know a diverse group of creative people, please join our club!

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Joyce St. Clair, President; Phone: 912-882-9166

Judy Molnar, First Vice President; Phone: 912-882-8887

Ideas to Keep Existing Members

The following ideas were adapted from The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. publication, "Membership Development Guide"

- Current Club members are valuable assets. A good organization will nurture these assets and draw-out their potential. It is critical for club leaders **to make all members feel wanted and needed as a member.**
- Garden Club activity has its tradition in civic involvement. Members benefit singularly from opportunities for leadership and personal development. Encourage members to share their talents and resources by serving on club committees and working on projects.
- Members who attend meetings cannot help but be involved and committed to the club.
- To encourage good club attendance, leaders are challenged to provide interesting and exciting meetings where members feel welcome and have fun.
- In promoting active attendance, efforts should be directed at using the following:
 - ❖ Incentives for attendance
 - ❖ An active fellowship committee
 - ❖ Good follow-up of absentees

Ideas to Keep Existing Members

Promoting Active Attendance

Incentives for Attendance

Provide incentives for attendees: Interesting and informative programs act as magnets in drawing members to club meetings. Enthusiasm for these programs can be created by the President and Program Chairman. Programs should be publicized in advance at meetings and in local newspapers. Attendance contests can serve the dual objective of having fun and boosting attendance.

Fellowship Committee

Good fellowship is one primary reason members join your club. Appoint a Fellowship Committee to develop strategies to develop friendships among club attendees in an atmosphere of fun. An active Fellowship Committee will encourage active interchange between members before, during and after each meeting and will discourage the development of cliques within a club.

Follow-Up of Absentees

The Club should establish a good mechanism for contacting members who do not attend club meetings. Ideally, if a member misses two consecutive meetings, they should be contacted. Access to attendance records and club attendance policies are important to know before contact is made. Your call should be caring in tone and designed to let the member know they were missed and are needed by your club. Your objective is to get them back and keep them as participating members of the club.



13 Easy Steps to Keep Existing Members

1. Have interesting and varied programs. Keep your meetings lively, educational and entertaining.
2. Make everyone feel welcome.
3. Contact absentees and encourage them to attend and participate and remind them of upcoming events.
4. Make everyone feel needed and useful by involving them in club activities.
5. Survey all members as to types of programs they would like to have and follow up by providing such programs.
6. Congratulate members for a job well done.
7. Do not complain at meetings. For example: if the food is bad, work behind the scenes to get it corrected.
8. Treat new members and guests as you would like to be treated.
9. Start your meeting on time! If you always begin late, members will get in the habit of coming late or not at all.
10. Use a printed Agenda. Club members will find this will help to begin and end the meeting on time.
11. Have a program and announce the program ahead of time.
12. Ask each member to bring a guest. If the guest sees a good program with good fellowship, they might just ask how to join the fun.
13. MAKE GARDEN CLUB FUN!



Recognition of Growth

Recognize your members for their contributions to membership growth! Pin a flower on their label. Let them know you care and appreciate their hard work.

Attendance is Important to the Club because ...

- A member who attends contributes to the club.
- It helps develop better fellowship at club meetings.
- It makes it easier to get good programs and justifies more easily a speaker giving time and effort.
- A speaker will always give a better performance to a large audience and when the spirit of good fellowship prevails.
- It facilitates the recruiting of new members.
- It is a sign of club strength.
- It builds the club image.
- It provides better opportunity for input by a greater number of members.
- Members are needed to conduct successful club projects.

Attendance is Important to the Member because ...

- Fellowship opportunities are provided.
- A respite from busy business schedule is offered.
- Occasions for leadership roles are available.
- Opportunities for personal growth through self expression are available.
- Club activities and operations are better understood.
- Opportunities are available to be of service to others and to make a difference in the community.
- Lifelong friendships are often developed.

Programs ~ Programs ~ Programs

The following programs were listed as the *Favorites of the Year* from Oleander Club Presidents in their 2011-2012 GCG President's Reports. These proven successes will make your meetings educational, exciting and fun. Please contact the Speaker or Club President for additional information.

Eastern Area of Oleander District
St. Marys to Savannah

Birds and Flowers in Bloom

Speaker, Frances Smith; 912-673-8245
St. Marys Garden Club

Holiday Decorations Inspired by Colonial Williamsburg

Speaker, Curt Smith, Coastal Georgia Historical Society; 912-638-4666
Cassina Garden Club, St. Simons Island



Garden Vitality Buzzing (Beekeeping at Organic Farm)

President, Carol Grant; 912-912-634-2208
Live Oaks Garden Club, St. Simons Island

Decorations and Party Planning Extraordinaire

Speaker, Stacy Bass, Straton Hall; 912 275-8294
stacy@stratonhall.com
Live Oaks Garden Club, St. Simons Island

Everything You Need to Know About Keeping Trees Healthy

Speaker, Shannon Baughman, Bartlett Tree Experts; 912 351 0111
sbaughman@bartlett.com, Savannah
Live Oaks Garden Club, St. Simons Island

Birds

Speaker, Carol Lyons; 912 638-6134
Live Oaks Garden Club, St. Simons Island

Programs ~ Programs ~ Programs

Bees

Speakers, Gabe and Betty Ann Lewis, Sapelo Farms
www.sapelofarms.com

Native Plants of the Coastal Golden Isles

Speaker, Linda Lamb, Coastal WildScapes; 912-437-1234
Cherokee Garden Club, St. Simons Island

Fall & Thanksgiving Arrangements

Speaker, Rebecca Thomas; 912-638-5560
Sea Oats Garden Club, Brunswick

Growing and Cooking with Herbs

Speaker, Beth Dupuy; 912-279-2374
Magnolia Garden Club, Brunswick



Latest Trends in Landscaping

Speaker, Elaine Reddish; 912-427-8389
Jesup Garden Club

Different Varieties of Pumpkins

Speaker, Mary Ann Landon; 912-427-6244
Ruby Riggins Camellia Garden Club, Jesup

Parliamentary Tips for a Successful Meeting

Speaker, Mary Ogden; 912-586-6125
Odum Garden Club

Propagation of Sun Coleus

Speaker, Deloris Surrency; 912-579-5353
Lily Garden Club, Screven



Tour of Frances Meeks Historic Home & Gardens, Lunch at Ford Plantation

President, Karen Burnett; 912-230-2956
Spartina Garden Club, Townsend

Programs ~ Programs ~ Programs

Backyard Bird Habitat, Speaker, Diana Churchill
President, Lori Pommerenck; 912-727-2263
Richmond Hill Garden Club

Plants That Bloom in Winter Season
Speaker, Paula Bashlor; 912-313-2500
Pembroke Garden Club

Daylily Gardens
Speaker, Scott Elliott, Joiner Daylily Gardens;
JoinerDaylilyGardens.com
Habersham Garden Club, Savannah

Orchids are Easy, So Why Won't Mine Bloom?
Speaker, Gail Mathews, Live Oak Orchids; 912-961-7455
gailphal@aol.com; Savannah
The Landings Garden Club, Skidaway Island, Savannah

Study of Trees & Shrubs in Forsyth Park,
Savannah
President, Marlene Kotso; 912-238-9826
Marshlands Garden Club, Savannah



Wormsloe Plantation – Recreating Gardens of 1736
Speaker, Sarah Ross; 336-572-2225
Savannah Garden Club

Garden Therapy
Speaker, John Paul Breault, Savannah Regional Hospital
912-356-2011
Wilmington Island Garden Club

Creepy Crawlers in Your Garden
Speaker, Bob Rees; 912-925-5319
Windsor Forest Garden Club, Savannah

Programs ~ Programs ~ Programs

Western Area of Oleander District
Baxley to Swainsboro

Garden Therapy

Speaker, John Paul Breault, Savannah Regional Hospital;
912-356-2011
Pine Forest Garden Club, Baxley

Heirloom Seeds

Speaker, Raven Waters, Red Earth Farm; 912-557-1053
Reidsville Garden Club

Growing Camellias

Speaker, Harry Moses
President, Connie Sapp; 912-565-7944
Lyons Garden Club



Winter Flower Baskets for Your Home

Speaker, Kelly Martin; 912-538-9270
Pine Ridge Garden Club, Vidalia

Vermiculture

"The raising and production of earthworms
and worm castings"
Speaker, Will Sullivan; 912-687-0286
Ailey Garden Club



A Natural Christmas

Speaker, Christie Roller; 912-583-2621
Mount Vernon Garden Club

Curb Appeal

Speaker, Helen Foy; 912-489-6664
Civic Garden Club, Statesboro

Programs ~ Programs ~ Programs

Evergreen Designs for Winter

Speaker, Todd Branyon; 912-681-2580
Evergreen Garden Club, Statesboro

Christmas Decorating

President, Marcia Twigg; 912-852-2557
Hoe & Hope Garden Club, Statesboro

Operation Open Health Community Mission

Speaker, Delia Mobley; 912-764-2486
Spade & Trowel Garden Club, Statesboro

Thompson's Nursery

Speaker, Scott Thompson; 912-839-2164
Sprig & Dig Garden Club, Statesboro
Brooklet Garden Club – Field Trip to Thompson's Nursery

Daylily Garden

President, Bobbie Reid; 478-982-5381
Azalea Garden Club, Millen



Bulbs in My Garden

Speaker, Evelyn Young; 478-982-4577
Green Thumb Garden Club, Millen

How to Grow Roses

Speaker, Edison Harris; 478-982-4150
Millen Garden Club

Lemon Uses

Speaker, Judy Hill; 912-863-3715
Screven County Garden Club, Sylvania



Making Concrete Flower Pots

President, Kay Peacock; 478-237-7528
Seedling Garden Club, Swainsboro

Projects

A wide variety of innovative and exciting projects were submitted by Club Presidents as “favorites” on the 2011-2012 President's Reports. Please contact individual Presidents for additional information.

Anniversary Celebrations

Public 80th Anniversary Celebration

- The Soperton Mayor proclaimed Sunday, November 20th as Soperton Garden Club Day to celebrate the club's 80 years of service to the community. Mayor Evans led the ribbon cutting at the Library with the clubs' officers and honored guests. Tables were filled with wonderful goodies made by the members including varieties of sandwiches, cookies, candies, mints, nuts, cake and citrus punch. Glass display cases held the club's original papers, yearbooks and other memorabilia. Also displayed were more recent documents about meetings, programs, certificates and awards and photos of activities and projects. A framed list of club presidents and founders was displayed, as well as a listing of the founders of the first garden club in the U.S.A. Exhibit displays included LeConte Woodmanston with Oleander Committee Chair, The Founders Memorial Garden with District Chair Kathryn Rachels Fowler and James Holland, as the retired Altamaha Riverkeeper, with his new project, Plum Orchard. The public was invited to attend.

Soperton Garden Club

President: Kathryn Fowler; 912-529-3787



Projects

Beautification

Island Beautification Contest

- For the past 3 years, The Wilmington Island Garden Club has held a *Beautification of Wilmington Island Contest*. Businesses along Johnny Mercer Boulevard were included in the contest and winners were given certificates and signs to display outside their establishments. Certificates were also given to a company for *Best Small Container Garden* and three other businesses were recognized for their continuing efforts to beautify Wilmington Island. Club members are hoping more businesses will join in the competition next year.

Wilmington Island Garden Club, Savannah
President: Betty Ward; 912-898-3504

Thousand Tree Project

- Over the last ten years the Club has undertaken many island beautification projects. These have included roadside beautification, landscaping of historical buildings and the planting of an award winning butterfly garden in Demere Park. In March 2011 the club began their *Thousand Tree Project* with a goal of planting 1000 trees on St. Simons Island over the next ten years. This project is designed to increase the island's tree canopy which has greatly diminished over the years. The first phase of the project was completed in May 2011 and resulted in the planting of forty, 16 foot tall, live oak trees along Airport Road. The trees have proven to be a wonderful improvement to this frequently traveled road. Public participation is key to this project as the club is not able to plant 1000 trees without help from the community. Through community outreach members encourage individuals and businesses to plant trees, particularly natives, on their own. The club will provide information regarding planting of native trees and issue certificates to those who participate. Donations will be accepted from the

Projects

public and contributions for the planting of memorial trees will also be accepted. Club members will continue to scout locations for tree planting and plant as many trees as their treasury allows. All of the club's island beautification funds come from their annual poinsettia sale.

Live Oaks Garden Club, St. Simons Island
President: Carol Grant, 912-634-2208

Keep Jenkins Beautiful

- Millen Garden Club participated in this civic project by pruning crape myrtles that line Cotton Avenue, the main business street downtown.

Millen Garden Club
President: Art Johnson, 478-982-5595

Renovation of Machen Square East, Brunswick

- Club members participated in the renovation of the historic square with planting of shrubs and flowers. The club also purchased a park bench for the square.

Magnolia Garden Club, Brunswick
President: Marilyn Hauser, 912-506-3995

Maintenance of Gardens and Grounds

- Cassina members continue to maintain the gardens and grounds of their historic slave cabins. Members also continue to assist the St. Simons Council of Garden Clubs in maintaining the rose garden in Demere Park.

Cassina Garden Club, St. Simons Island
President: Anne Aspinwall, 912-634-8443

Brick Pathway in Memory of Members

- Club members laid out a brick pathway at the Botanical Garden in Savannah to honor the memory of deceased members and living members and their families and pets.

Habersham Garden Club, Savannah
President, Carolyn Ulmer, 912-355-7329

Projects

Christmas Decorations

Christmas Decorations for Historic Courthouse

- Club worked with the Montgomery County Commissioners to obtain new Christmas Decorations for the Historical Montgomery Courthouse in Mount Vernon, and then decorated with 110 wreaths in the windows and garlands and ribbons on banisters, etc. Club members also decorated a cedar tree on the courthouse square.

Mount Vernon Garden Club

President: Mildred Tuck; 912-583-2025

Christmas Bow Fundraiser

- The Landings Garden Club used profits from their annual *Bow and Bulb* fundraiser to present charitable gifts in the amount of \$3,700 to groups that protect our local forests, marshes, native plants, wildflowers and birds.

The Landings, Skidaway Island

President: Judy Sweeterman; 912-598-9037

Sing Around the Christmas Tree

- The Odum Garden Club sponsored a traditional *Sing Around The Christmas Tree* featuring music by the Jesup Church of God Praise Team. In addition to beautiful Christmas music, an open fire for roasting marshmallows and backside warming was available for all to enjoy. Refreshments of hot chocolate, coffee, and Russian tea and a variety of sandwiches, chips, candies, and Christmas cookies were served. Home-made craft items, gift baskets for Christmas gifts and Atlas Garden gloves for stocking stuffers were for sale. At the end of the event, a drawing was held for the unsold gift baskets among the club members with the understanding each basket would be presented to a shut-in or a family needing extra Christmas cheer.

Odum Garden Club

President: June Thomas; 912-586-6140

Projects

Community Plantings

Renovation of Boys & Girls Gardens at First Public School in Georgia

- Members are sponsoring and participating in a complete renovation of the gardens at this historic school - from brick pavers to plantings of perennials, shrubs and annuals.

Ronald McDonald House

- The club members purchase, install and maintain annuals and perennials of foundation beds at the facility.

Garden Club of Savannah

President: Ann Holtzclaw, 912-308-1020

Golden Days Planting

- A mass planting of daffodils was installed at the Swainsboro Chamber of Commerce and Emanuel County Court House in support of the NGC project "Golden Days." A program on daffodils was given at a garden club meeting and members were given daffodil bulbs to plant in their own gardens.

Seedling Garden Club, Swainsboro

President: Kay Peacock, 478-237-7528

Maintenance of Flower Beds

- Ongoing project of maintaining gardens at two churches. Assisted Public Works Department with landscape design for St Marys pavilion planters and continued maintenance.

St. Marys Garden Club

President: Joyce St. Clair, 912-882-9166

- Maintain park in downtown Reidsville area; Maintain flower garden at City cemetery; Maintain containers at Board of Education; Place containers at new Senior Citizen Center

Reidsville Garden Club

President: Connie LeChot; 912-805-4660

Projects

Planting and Maintaining Garden Areas

The Richmond Hill Club established a butterfly garden, planted native plants and put up birdhouses at Henderson Park. Annual maintenance is done here as well as at the Richmond Hill Library.

Richmond Hill Garden Club

President: Lori Pommerenck; 912-727-2263

Maintaining the Local Library

- The Club plants new shrubs and flowers as needed and maintains throughout the year

The Landings, Skidaway Island

President: Judy Sweeterman; 912-598-9037

City Hall Flower Beds

- Maintaining flower beds at Screven City Hall

Lily Garden Club, Screven

President: Mary Jane Stanfield, 912-579-6407

Community Support

Nativescape at Welcome Center

- Members designed and created a 30' x 8' nativescape to represent the waterfront at St. Marys. They painted a large mural, reproduced a large Live Oak branch with Spanish moss, carved a life-sized armadillo, painted a cement alligator and made a doll dressed as a boy who was fishing off the dock. They also decorated the restroom to look like a 1940's vintage mill house – a bungalow for mill workers.

St. Marys Garden Club

President: Joyce St. Clair

912-882-9166



Projects

Battered Women's Shelter

- Members donate clothing and household items to the Battered Women's Market where women who are moving back into the community from the shelter may select items for herself and her children. Personal ditty bags are also assembled by the club and given to the shelter.

Redesign and Landscaping of Odum Elementary School

- With the assistance of County Extension Agent a new landscape plan was developed. Club members and students worked together adding plants, mulch and fertilizer.

Odum Garden Club

President: June Thomas; 912-586-6140

Floral Arrangements for Area Businesses

- Created 22 flower arrangements that were presented to businesses in Screven

Supplies for Home for Battered Women

- Making and filling boxes with soap, washcloth, tooth brush, toothpaste, deodorant, comb, etc. for a home for battered women.

Lily Garden Club, Screven

President: Mary Jane Stanfield, 912-579-6407

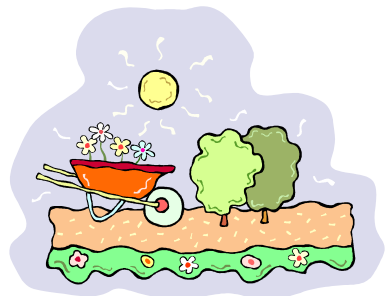
Community Gardening

- Members created landscape design and installed plants at the Old Jail Art Museum in Darien; provided plants and members planted at the newly opened Sapelo Hammock Golf Course at Shellman Bluff.

Spartina Garden Club, Townsend

President: Karen Burnett

912-230-2956



Projects

- **Plant it Pink:** Members planted flowers, installed planter boxes and hung bird houses and bird feeders to provide visual comfort for cancer patients and their families who stay at Karen's House of Hope while receiving treatment at Southeast Georgia Health System in Brunswick.
- Planted daylilies and canna lilies at Hanover Square, a park in downtown Brunswick; also cleaned up area and put out 22 bales of pine straw around trees and plantings.

Sea Oats Garden Club, Brunswick

President: Francene Roberson, 912-265-1163

Planter Maintenance

- Garden club members continue to maintain seven concrete planters on Parker Avenue in Brooklet.

Brooklet Garden Club

President: Sandra Williams, 912-823-3960

Flower Bed and Grounds Maintenance

- The club plants and maintains the plantings at the Adult Learning Center in Metter as well as at the Candler County Court House.

Metter Garden Club

President: Barbara Hunnicutt, 912-685-2902

Conservation

Adopt a Wetland

- The Richmond Hill Garden Club in partnership with the University of Georgia Marine Extension Service held a Coastal Georgia Adopt-a-Wetland workshop in July. The annual workshop certifies volunteers in chemical and visual monitoring of local wetlands including salt marsh, tidal creek, river, beach or swamp. Volunteers perform monthly water quality testing and the data collected can potentially detect serious pollution problems or can be

Projects

used by scientists to indicate water quality over time. The goals of the Adopt-a-Wetland program are to increase public awareness of the state's non-point pollution (pollution that is not from a single source but drains into waterways from many locations) and water quality issues to provide citizens with the tools and training to evaluate and protect their local waterways. Since the State program first began, more than 145 workshops have been hosted, training almost 1,500 volunteers. Workshop participants have adopted more than 75 coastal sites. There are currently 5 sites in South Bryan County and the garden club is looking for more volunteers.

Richmond Hill Garden Club

President: Lori Pommerenck; 912-727-2263

Floral Design Workshop

Series of 3 Design Workshops

- Club member who was a talented and award-winning floral designer is conducting a series of 3 workshops for members from 2011-2013. Several additional members who were also talented designers assisted. The Workshops provide an opportunity for less experienced members to learn the elements and principles of design and to participate in creative floral arranging. Flowers were donated by a local florist and greenery was contributed by a member.

Screven County Garden Club, Sylvania

President: Katherine Weeks; 912-564-7262



Projects

Local Festivals

Participant in Annual Local Festival

- The Odum Garden Club participated in the annual Odum Day celebration with a booth filled with homemade jellies, jams, preserves, cakes, cookies, candy and plastic bag holders. In addition, club members sold sausage biscuits, coffee, lemonade and juice to the Odum workers and fellow booth participants as well as all visitors to the event. Gift baskets for a variety of occasions were available for purchase as well as donation tickets for a large gift basket with a \$75.00 value. This is an annual fund raiser for the Odum Garden Club and the proceeds are used to fund community service projects.

Odum Garden Club

President: June Thomas; 912-586-6140

National Garden Week

National Garden Week

- Sylvania Mayor Margaret Evans proclaimed June 5-11 as National Garden Week, and Screven County Garden Club members held a reception for the community on June 9 at the Soda Shop Gallery. Beautiful floral displays by members filled the Gallery, and club scrapbooks, paintings and photos honoring two recently deceased members were available for viewing.

Screven County Garden Club, Sylvania

President: Katherine Weeks; 912-564-7262

Projects

Recycling

Recycling Initiative

- All members of the Club recycle paper, glass and plastic; however, there is no recycling center in the city or county. Members must take their recycling to the centers in surrounding counties. Members are working with Millen Better Hometown organization and city and county governments to develop recycling services in Millen.

Green Thumb Garden Club, Millen

President: Kathy Gay; 912-481-2006

Tours

Garden Walk Weekend: Garden Tour, Garden Market and Photography Exhibition

- In keeping with the Club's mission of "promoting a love of gardening," members produced the 6th annual Tabby & Tillandsia Garden Walk on St. Simons Island and Sea Island in May 2012. Last year 800 ticket holders toured 7 private gardens with Docents available in each garden to provide horticultural information as well as general information on garden architecture and art. A Garden Market with vendors from across the Southeast is held on the grounds of the Club. A juried photography exhibition of flowers is held in one historic tabby slave cabin while a cabin tour and video of St. Simons Island and Cassina history are available in the other cabin.

Cassina Garden Club, St. Simons Island

President: Anne Aspinwall, 912-634-8443

Projects

Christmas Tour of Historic Homes

For the past three years the club has organized a Christmas tour of homes. Monies generated from the event go towards the beautification of historic Brunswick squares and local scholarships for horticulture.

Magnolia Garden Club, Brunswick

President: Marilyn Hauser, 912-506-3995

Youth Activities

Collaboration with High School 4-H Clubs

- Club purchased flowers and containers and gave instruction to Junior and Senior 4-H members who created designs for the Club's Standard Flower Show.
- 4-H students also created and delivered Valentines for patients at local nursing home.
- 26 4-H students participated. The experiences were used as a civic improvement project for the students.

Azalea Garden Club, Millen

President: Bobbie Reid; 478-982-5381



Arboretum at High School

- Jenkins High School Arboretum
In collaboration with the Jenkins County High School Science Club garden club members have created and maintain an arboretum on the school grounds.

Green Thumb Garden Club, Millen

President: Kathy Gay; 912-481-2006

Additional Resources

BEAUTIFICATION, CONSERVATION, EDUCATION

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

2450 South Milledge Avenue
Athens, Georgia 30602-5817
706-227-5369
e-mail: gcca@uga.edu
Website: www.uga.edu/gardenclub



DEEP SOUTH REGION

Website: www.dsregion.org



National Garden Clubs

4401 Magnolia Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63110-3492
314-776-7574
e-mail: headquarters@gardenclub.org
Website: www.gardenclub.org

Notes