



JOIN US

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Capitol Conservation Day at the Georgia State Capitol in Atlanta was Feb 17, 2016 in partnership with the Georgia Water Coalition. WEAR GREEN!!! With "Beautification . . . Conservation . . . Education" as our Mission, GCG and its Legislative Team encourages individual members to contact their elected officials as constituents especially about conservation issues. See the [Advocacy](#) page for more details and links to our [Position Papers](#). Thanks to Tally Sweat for organizing an event that allowed us to **JOIN IN** and represent GCG.

JOIN US:

You are invited to attend The Garden Club of Georgia's 88th Annual Convention April 13-14, 2016, at the Macon Marriott City Center. Dogwood District is passionately planning an entertaining 24 hours of fun and education, beginning with several workshops Wednesday afternoon. The Awards Banquet will be Wednesday evening, with a business meeting planned for Thursday morning. The Life Member Luncheon will conclude the 2016 convention.

There will be three workshops carrying out the "**Nurturing the Passion**" theme. Dr. Wilf Nicholls, Director, State Botanical Garden of Georgia, will share the latest plans for the Children's Garden. Tommy Alden, owner of

County Line Nursery, Byron, GA will present Camellias: A Southern Treasure. Johnnie Berry, Georgia director of the African Violet Society of America, will discuss everything you want to know about African Violets. Don't forget the wonderful vendors who provide for your shopping pleasure.

A special guest at the convention will be Nancy L. Hargroves, First Vice-President of the National Garden Clubs, Inc., who will join GCG President Martha Price in presenting awards at the Awards Banquet Wednesday evening. For more information, please go to <http://gardenclub.uga.edu/convention.html>



St. Patrick's Day is a time to think about those who have been under the "winter weather". The membership team hopes that spring time will be a time that you will be able to LEAP INTO ACTION as you recover and heal.

See Article Right: How can GCG incorporate businesses to become CORPORATE MEMBERS? A business interested in gardening just might want to JOIN US.

I have learned that to be with those I like is enough.

Walt Whitman



'Make new friends but keep the old; one is silver and the other is gold, that's the wisest thing I've been told'. New members are important, current members should be treasured.



MEMBERS OF THE OLEANDER DISTRICT

VISIT HISTORIC WATERMELON CREEK VINEYARD IN TISON, GEORGIA

On January 20, 2016, members of the Oleander District gathered at the historic Watermelon Creek Vineyard in Tison, Georgia, for a tour of the vineyard, which included the unique evolution of this historic family farm and the current owners' conversion of the celebrated farm into the exquisite and hospitable vineyard and winery located on the property today.

Charles and Deborah Tillman, owners and operators of Watermelon Creek Vineyard, extended their incomparable hospitality to members of various garden clubs within the Oleander District, including Odum Garden Club, Glennville Garden Club, Pine Forest Garden Club of Baxley, Metter Garden Club, and Statesboro. Many members arrived early to enjoy either a catered luncheon, or one of the delicious culinary works of art from the exceptional kitchen at the winery. The kitchen, which is managed by Deborah, incorporates many of the time honored, original Tillman family recipes into their menu selections. After lunch, members enjoyed shopping in the enchanting and extensively stocked gift shop, in addition to participating in wine tastings, finding favorites and making their selections to share with friends and family.

Our gracious host, Charles Tillman, then took the group through the history of the creating a vineyard and winery from his family's historic farm. Eloquently transporting the group back in time from the original 1812 land grant encompassing the raw, forested farmlands, then bringing us into the present tranquil setting, complete with the stunning vineyard, the expansive winery and venues throughout the locale for such special events as weddings, anniversaries and holiday parties.

JOIN US is a newsletter prepared by Diane Harbin, GCG 4th VP, Membership Development, dianejharbin@comcast.net. **JOIN US** is formatted and edited by Kathy Donahue, a member of the Townview Garden Club, Laurel District.