



Cercis canadensis
Eastern Redbud
Signature Tree of
Redbud District

Redbud Reporter

REDBUD DISTRICT

The Garden Club of Georgia

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Mickie Holton, Director (byronm12@aol.com)

Betty Lester, Co-director (bettylester@charter.net)

Gail Berthe, Editor (glberthe@aol.com)

Winter 2008/2009

Dear Garden Club Members –

Thanksgiving and Christmas have passed, and a New Year is on the way. This Director hopes your turkey was delicious and that your holidays found you healthy, happy and excited.

2008 has been an exceptional year for many of us. Mine included a new hip and a new computer. My heart goes out to those of us who may be sick, recovering from surgery or in other ways may be having difficulties. It is hoped that 2009 will be a better year for our members.

This Director is so proud of all of you – of the many accomplishments and contributions as you supported both The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. and Redbud District. Sylvia indicates that she has received over 100 gallons of tabs for McDonald House. Over 1,000 items of soap, shampoo and other toiletries have been received and many jars of peanut butter or jelly for the shelters in Atlanta. Many items of clothing have been donated for the Fig Leaf program. What a wonderful and generous way to help others.

Our garden clubs continue to function and a number celebrated special anniversaries: The Elms and Roses GC Council dedicated a Blue Star Marker in LaGrange; Mimosa GC celebrated its 75 Anniversary, Lullwater its 80th, Old Town GC of Sharpsburg its 70th, Lake Ivanhoe its 40th, Azalea GC its 35th and The DeKalb County Federation of GC, Inc. its 60th. The Garden Club of Griffin wrote a history as it celebrated its 80th. What an outstanding group we have!

Do remember the State Flower Show in February to be held in Thomasville. Please participate when called upon. Monitor your gardens, prepare your horticulture (the rains have helped) and let's do a bang up job for Redbud. This Director looks forward to the Awards Dinner which will be held in Atlanta at the State Convention. Many of you have prepared or are preparing Books of Evidence for submission. Congratulations for your efforts and best wishes for an outstanding result.

Please keep Betty Lester and Margaret Strickland in your prayers. Both had serious falls. Betty is still in rehab and, because of the extent of her injuries, has found it necessary to resign as incoming District Director. Should you have any suggestions please contact Rita Compher or Deanna McFarlan. The Nominating Committee has been activated.

There will be a Board Meeting at Callanwolde in February (date to be announced). Please bring something "eatable" to share with those present. Again this Director wishes to thank you for your support and wish you a Happy New Year filled with joy, peace and love.

God Bless.
Mickie Holton

Redbud District News

∞ Redbud District Meeting

Annual Redbud District Meeting



One of the table arrangements for the luncheon.

Elms and Roses Council was the host group for the October 20, 2008 annual meeting of Redbud District. It was a lovely day, a beautiful setting at the Highland Country Club in LaGrange. The program arranged by Elms and Roses was outstanding. John Grady Burns and his assistant were inspiring with their expertise in floral design. Beginning with the simplest concept of one container and one flower and ending with an incredible urn creation suitable for a large banquet or very special occasion. We all learned from him and took home ideas suitable for our use as well as hydrangea and willow cuttings to root, cut floral stems to enjoy and a few

fortunate members received his various arrangements as door prizes as well as the district benefiting from the auctioning of the large urn design.



Mr Burns creating the magnificent urn.



Betty Lester with GCG president Sara Lanier

Our business meeting was efficiently conducted by co-director, Betty Lester in the absence of our director, Mickie Holton who was recovering from her surgery. A few important reports were interesting and brief—the best kind! Awards were given for various achievements. Your editor has included one photograph of herself receiving a significant achievement award to publicize an important activity for interested members to consider. Garden Club of Georgia sponsors four excellent schools. Flower Show School qualifies the successful participant to be a Flower Show Judge—great fun plus incredible experience in both horticulture and design. Garden Study provides the opportunity to qualify as a Garden Consultant. This is more fully explained in the Garden Study news in this issue, page 3. Landscape Design School enables individuals to learn more about landscape design both historical/preservation and contemporary and to become a certified Landscape Design

Consultant. The Environmental School is our newest offering and specializes in information pertaining to the environment and leads to certification as an Environmental Consultant. The Garden Club of Georgia web site gives complete information about each of these courses. After certifying in all four schools an individual is considered a National Garden Club Four Star Member. You are encouraged to participate in this achievement—it is well worth the study and time. Each school individually is also worthy of your consideration—either to achieve certification or to learn.



Gail Berthe receives NGC Four Star Recognition



Sara Lanier with painting

One of the most popular events of the day is the auction of very special donated objects. This year's auction was a huge success. GCG president, Sara Lanier, is shown holding one of the beautiful floral art works. We thank each of the people who contributed to this significant increase in our district treasury! Each of us enjoyed our day in LaGrange and thank all who helped make this a successful district meeting.

∞ Resignation of Betty Lester ∞

It is with regret Redbud District accepts the resignation of Betty Lester as our current Co-Director and prospective director. Many of you are aware she fell recently and very seriously broke her leg. Below is a copy of her resignation. As you are well aware this leaves the district with a huge void to fill. Your cooperation is absolutely necessary.

With much regret, I give my resignation from being Redbud District Director Elect for 2009-2011.

As you know, I broke my right femur on November 22 and am still presently in rehabilitation in LaGrange. I hope to get home just before Christmas. Due to the orders that I can put no weight on this leg for four months and will be in rehab longer, there is no way I can participate - actually in anything for a very long time.

Our district deserves someone who can fully and wholeheartedly direct the activities. Please put out a sympathy plea for someone to step forward to lead us. I can get all of the director information and books to whomever will be director. I am sure Emily Wilbert will be a wonderful co-director, and I had looked forward to working with her.

I am so disappointed it is necessary to bow out at this time, but it is best for Redbud District's well-being.

Thanks for everyone's care and compassion in this very awkward ordeal. We'll see how I heal for future work. There is the possibility that I will have to have a knee replacement if the healing causes arthritis to set in the knee, so that puts on another extension of time.

Thanks to all of you for your vote of confidence in putting me forth as director. We'll see what the future brings!

Betty Lester

∞ Garden Study Series ∞



The third session in the current series of the Garden Study Course will be offered on March 16 and 17, 2009 at Hastings Nursery in Atlanta. The purpose of the Garden Study Course is to bring an understanding of basic gardening and horticulture to each student. Topics covered are the growing and identification of plant material, simplified botany, soil structure, growing annuals, perennials, trees and shrubs, fruits and vegetables, lawns, pests and diseases of plants, plant propagation and specialized styles of gardening. There are four courses offered in the two-day sessions. Courses are usually spaced six months apart. Upon completion of all four courses, passing the exams and complying with all requirements, National Garden Clubs, Inc. members become Qualified National Garden Clubs Accredited Gardening Consultants. Required text is *Living With Plants* by Donna Shumann, and a *National Gardener* subscription. Registration and a fee is required. Please contact Rosa Capps at 404 292 4609 or Lorraine Loftis at 404 373 1095, email is Lorraine@lorraineloftis.com. Dogwood and Redbud Districts are sponsoring this school.

Pull a Tab for Ronald McDonald House ∞



Sylvia Pannell, Chairman for Pull a Tab reports at our annual meeting in LaGrange, we collected 33 gallons of tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. That is the most we have ever collected at one time. We have a few more at the Garden Center at Callanwalde that I haven't picked up yet. But I am so happy with the district meeting collection. We have now collected 109 gallons.

Thanks to all of you.

Sylvia Pannell, Chairman, Pull & Save a Tab for the Ronald McDonald House

∞ Youth Clubs ∞

**Our GCG Youth continue to grow, with seeds of our knowledge we generously sow
for the lives of these children is all in our hands, to guide and to teach of Nature's Divine Plan.**

Our new Youth Clubs enrollment is wonderful to see.

Redbud, with clubs tried and true;

This Youth Clubs Chairman sends a heartfelt "Thank You!"

Our Wild & Wonderful Experience Camp was all that & more!

Look for our information for Summer '09

because the kids will want to attend; they'll be knocking down the door!

Get your Youth Clubs going; it's never too late...any age, any time, any place!

**Programs on recycling & litter; plant a tree & such~
teach them everything from composting to mulching!**

Create a Native Plants School Container Garden & take it around.

The ideas are endless; so many to be found.

Renew your existing clubs and send me your dues.

The form is online and in the Guide;

It's easy to do!

Be involved with our Youth; it's part of our "Mission".

Share your time & ideas, help them with their vision.

Clocks & calendars just won't wait so let's not be slow...

NOW IS THE TIME TO PICK UP & GROW!!

Susan Turner

GCG Youth Clubs Chairman

770-922-4411 * glencree@bellsouth.net

∞ Shoebox Gardens ∞

Emily Wilbert, prospective Redbud District Co-Director 2009-2011, displays one of the Shoebox Garden Boxes brought to our October district meeting. All of the members who contributed to this project are to be thanked. The Redbud District sponsors the Shoebox Gardening project as a way to encourage gardening to children and youth in our neighborhoods and around the world. Clubs are asked to fill shoeboxes with gardening and general items (child sized tools, gloves, seeds, soap, T-shirts, notepads, crayons, etc.) Boxes are to be wrapped and labeled for boy or girl and the appropriate age intended.



Clubs are asked to deliver the boxes to a worthy charitable organization in your area. Suggestions are---The Ronald McDonald House, Families First, or Samaritan's Purse. You may also call your local United Way office for additional names of appropriate organizations. Please take a photo of your boxes and include the number of boxes filled and send to: Jean Smith, 4516 Lake Ivanhoe Dr., Tucker, Georgia-30084. There is still time to do this to be useful to the organizations and to help our district qualify for a National Award!

This Project received a National Award for Redbud District in 2008---let's do it again in 2009 !!!

∞ Flower Show Information

Southeastern Flower Show January 28-February 1, 2009 Cobb Galleria Center, Atlanta,

We have tried every year to get in some interesting and different NGC classes in the Southeastern Flower Show. This year we have an Exhibition Table, Type I, class that we are really excited about. Deen Day Sanders had the frames made for the show, and I hope we can fill the class with six designs! Please consider entering this class and coming to the new location at **COBB GALLERIA CENTRE**. You will have no parking fees and will not have to go downtown to exhibit! YEAH!! The theme/title of the show is **PASSION!!** The committee is going all out for this first time in a new location. This will be a BIG WOW. If you are interested in exhibiting call the class advisor as listed in the Show Schedule which can be found on the web site, <http://www.flowershow.org/>

CLASS A19 “Applause” Exhibition Tables, Type I NGC Advisor: Jean F. Stroman 404-255-8915 jfs1170@bellsouth.net

Create an Exhibition Table, Type I, Celebrating the Arts Worthy of Applause!

- An Exhibition Table is an artistic display of dining components and plant material that is fresh cut, or dried or a combination of both.
- Exhibit will be staged on a white tabletop with black skirting 30” high x 48” wide x 24” deep provided by SFS.
- Exhibitors must incorporate a design in a frame with the overall measurements approximately: 29 ½” wide x 46” high. Smaller frame within the larger frame measurements: 19” wide x 17” high. Pair of feet stabilize and hold the frame.
- There should be no consideration for functional use on a dining table
- Exhibitor must paint the frame prior to installation period
- Exhibitor must provide an overlay to cover the tabletop
- Exhibitor must incorporate a completed floral design within the space allotted.
- Viewed from front and sides

∞ Basic Horticulture ∞



A Basic Horticulture Newsletter has been sent monthly since September 2007 via the ‘listserver’ as well as individual email copies to persons requesting a personal copy. Timely suggestions are given to help both the novice and more experienced gardener succeed with their projects. Subjects range from garden design, heirloom and new plants, books and magazines, to garden club related information such as preparing entries for a flower show. If you would like a personal copy please email Gail Berthe glberthe@aol.com or call her at 770 228 8849.

∞ Garden Therapy ∞

It is a bit too late to send Christmas Stockings to our state supported hospitals, but there is plenty of time to think about Easter Eggs! Or financial donations to help support projects for patients. The need is greater now than ever before because of state government cutbacks. A check for \$25.00 sent to Margaret Ballard, P. O. Box 338, Cornelia, GA 30531 will be much appreciated. Thelma Watkins is our Redbud District Garden Therapy Chairman and can give you needed information. Contact her at rudychiro@hotmail.com or 770 491 7257. Thank you.

Garden Club of Georgia News

∞ State Flower Show ∞

Southern Charm...



Among the Pines

The Garden Club of Georgia will have its 8th State Flower Show at Pebble Hill Plantation in Thomasville on February 20th and 21st, 2009. The first State Flower Show was held at Stouffer's Atlanta Inn in Atlanta in 1974. This will be the first time that the State Flower Show has been in South Georgia. Thomasville is known for their wonderful and exciting events such as the Plantation Wildlife Art Festival and their historical Rose Show and Festival.

The Garden Club of Georgia wants this show to be just as fabulous as these events. There will be 51 NGC Flower Show Judges in good standing from other states that will be a part of this show. Please make your plans to attend this beautiful show at a beautiful setting on Pebble Hill Plantation.

Attention to all Chairman for the State Flower Show, "Southern Charm Among the Pines": There will be a meeting of all chairman of the Show at the Miller-Murphy Building at the Perry Fairgrounds in Perry on January 6, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. Please plan to attend!

Design Entries

"*Southern Charm...Among the Pines*", the 8th Advanced Standard Flower Show sponsored by The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., will be held at Pebble Hill Plantation in Thomasville on February 20-21, 2009. Each District is responsible for twelve design exhibits (**please visit the GCG website for the program schedule**). As Redbud Design Entries Chair, I need designers to volunteer for the following classes:

Section A

Class 2 "Winter in the Woods"

Section B

Class 4 "Whispers in the Wind"

Class 5 "Chirping of the Birds"

Class 6 "A Crackle of Fire"

Section C

Class 8 "From Nature's Palate"

Section D

Class 10 "Over the River and Through the Woods"

Class 12 "Uniquely Your Own"

Section E

Class 14 "Sophistication"

Section G

Class 18 "Beach Treasures"

Section H

Class 20 "Rhythm of the Woods" (this class has been filled)

Classes 21 and 22 "Thrill of the Hunt" and "Sound of the Hunt" This is a duo design and one designer will do both classes.

Joan Thornton, Redbud District Design Entries Chairman, 404-378-3239

Horticulture Entries

Redbud District is also responsible for 150 horticulture exhibits! But with all the experience gained from years of Yellow Daisy this should be a doable project. The main concern is transporting the exhibits to Thomasville in a manner which will ensure show quality is maintained. Entries will be accepted on February 19 from 10:00 AM until 2 PM. Sections I, L, M, and N—basically the delicate cut specimens—see Schedule on the Internet or call Gail Berthe, Redbud Horticulture Chairman. giberthe@aol.com or 770 228 8849. As time draws closer and more information is available more specific will be posted on the internet and in the Basic Horticulture Newsletter for February.

∞ **State Convention** ∞

“Nature’s Palette” is the theme of the 2009 GCG State Convention to be held April 14-16 and the JW Marriott located in Buckhead and connected by enclosed promenade to Lenox Square Mall. Plan now to attend this always gala event and learn from other gardeners, enjoy speakers, be the first to see new plants and products with three full days of activities. Registration information is in the Winter 2008/2009 Garden Gateways on page 17.

∞ **House and Garden Pilgrimage** ∞

2009 Georgia Historic House and Garden Pilgrimage

Saturday, May 2, 2009
Waynesboro, Georgia
(In East Georgia – 25 miles south of Augusta)

Tour Tickets are \$25.00 per person
(\$20.00 in groups of 12 or more)
Lunch is available by reservation at \$10 per person

Seven Private Historic Homes and Gardens
Saint Michael’s Episcopal Church
Burkeland Garden

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Rain or Shine

Proceeds from the ticket sales support the restoration & preservation of Georgia’s public, non-profit historic landscapes and gardens
Sponsored by the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. & The Historic Preservation Division of Georgia
Department of Natural Resources
In Cooperation with Burkeland Garden Club, P. O. Box 39, Waynesboro, GA 30830
For More Information Contact Nancy Buttermark at 706-437-8833.

∞ GCG Web Site ∞

After many months of work, we are very excited to announce that the newly designed GCG Website has gone live. Please check out <http://www.uga.edu/gardenclub/index.html> The address is the same, but the content is new.

- ◆ We have featured pages on the many projects and programs sponsored and supported by GCG. There are photographs of club activities from all over the state.
- ◆ Please browse the menu buttons and click on your area of interest. The site map will give you an over-all view of what is included on our website, and we hope you will find this site easier to use. Don't forget the Forms page where you can access the many forms you may need.
- ◆ The Seven GCG Districts are listed in the "About Us" section. Each District's newsletters are posted as well as a district calendar. When new events are scheduled, kindly send me the info so we may update these calendars.
- ◆ There are still a few pages that are under construction, that will be completed soon - but we didn't want to make you wait any longer to view the new site.
- ◆ If you club participates in activities that could be featured on any of these pages, kindly send me photographs and descriptive paragraphs for consideration in future updates. Comments and suggestions are always welcome.

We hope you enjoy and find most useful this newly designed GCG Website.

Barbara Bourque
 Rec. Secretary and GCG Website Mgr.
b.bourque@comcast.net
 770-889-2596

∞ Arboreta and Botanical Gardens ∞



Garden Clubs are urged to support our Botanical and Memorial Gardens. Please send donations to the state chairman, Ruthellen Anderson. For Certificate of Appreciation send \$10.00 or more by March 1 2009. Individuals may also wish to donate to this project and take a tax deduction,. GCG is registered with the IRS as a 501c (3) Non-Profit Organization. Gifts in honor and memorials are also encouraged as a wonderful way of honoring someone special. Please enclose with your check made out to GCG and mail to: **Ruthellen Anderson, 427 Gold Bullion Drive East, Dawsonville, GA. 30534**

Club _____
Club # _____ District _____
President's Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Whom you are honoring if applicable

∞ NGC Garden Week ∞



PICTURES OF National Garden Week are needed for a STATE award entry. Send pictures and description of what you did to Lorraine Loftis, 952 Lullwater Road, Atlanta, GA 30307-1242 or email me at nanobzr@bellsouth.net. Hope you have already submitted your award entry for a club or clubs. If so, I already have that info. Thank you for sharing your information with me.

∞ Community Wildlife ∞



HELP SOLVE THE WILDLIFE HOUSING SHORTAGE



Birds and other species of wildlife that use tree cavities for roosting and raising their young are suffering a housing shortage. This shortage is particularly acute in urban and suburban areas. In Georgia at last 30 species of birds such as eastern bluebirds, Carolina chickadees, woodpeckers and prothonotary warblers nest in natural cavities. In addition, tree cavities are used by a host of other animals that inhabit our backyards. Consequently, there simply aren't enough cavities to go around. The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. and the Wildlife Resources Division's Nongame Wildlife Program needs your help to alleviate this problem.

This year the Community Wildlife Project (CWP) will focus on providing our backyard neighbors with much-needed nesting boxes to help offset the shortage of natural nesting and roosting sites in neighborhoods throughout the state. Here is how you can help:

If you don't currently provide at least one nesting box or roosting box for wildlife, erect a minimum of one box in your yard.

At the same time, submit your application to become certified in the CWPs Backyard Certification Program.

If you get one or more of your neighbors to do the same, you will be taking the first step toward becoming certified as a Neighborhood Community in the CWP.

If you have already registered your backyard in the program, simply erect a minimum of one additional box.

If you and your neighbors have already formed a CWP Neighborhood partnership, a minimum of one box must be erected in the backyard of each participant.

Fill out the CWP Application for Certification for Artificial Nesting/Roosting Structures and return to the address provided.

For more information and applications for the Community Wildlife Project, visit:

<http://www.uga.edu/gardenclub/cwp.html>

or contact – Lisa Robinson @ gardenlisa@comcast.net

∞ Pick-up for Georgia ∞



Your Garden Club Could Be a Winner

PICK UP FOR GEORGIA, PICK UP FOR YOUR COMMUNITY!

The Pickup for Georgia Keep It Green 7 Clean team wants to encourage your club, council or district to enter the litter contest that GCG is sponsoring. We want to recognize your group for outstanding efforts in litter reduction, litter learning or litter eradication. Simply write a short narrative (a paragraph or two explaining your litter project, no Book of Evidence, no photos) and submit it electronically to Chairmen Harriotte McDannald (hdmcd@hotmail.com) and Joy Zaidan (jzaidan@bellsouth.net). The club that has done the most to impact litter education and/or litter reduction will be recognized. **The deadline to submit entries is April 1, 2009.** The winning club will be announced in Garden Gateways and Board Briefs. Additionally, the winning club will be presented with litter pick-up sticks. This is GCG's way of recognizing clubs for outstanding litter projects and encourages them to continue by giving them the tools (the pick-up sticks) they need. Let us know if your club is involved in litter projects and how your litter efforts have impacted your community. Harriotte and Joy

THE 2008 LITTER CONTEST WINNER IS...The Thomasville Garden Club, Inc.!

∞ Native Plants and Wildflowers

PURPLE CONEFLOWER WILDFLOWER TAG New Wildflower Tag Unveiled



Color your Roads!! This is the slogan of the **new wildflower program** introduced by the Georgia Department of Transportation at the GDOT Board meeting held in Atlanta, August, 2008, with the unveiling of a new license plate featuring the native **purple coneflower**, *Echinacea purpureum*.

It was decided that it would be beneficial for Georgia residents to have **two choices** in *wildflower tags*, since the Black-eyed Susan tag has been available for ten years. The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. representative, Jaydee Ager, helped in the process. The **purple coneflower** was the overwhelming choice of the planning committee. Months of planning went into the process of planning, design, and approvals for the new *wildflower tag*. The process included obtaining blessings from all governmental agencies involved, including

State Department of Revenue, which handles tag sales. A constitutional amendment had been voted on by Georgia voters to establish the Black Eyed Susan tag, and included wording that other *wildflower tags* could be issued, as well. This Constitutional Amendment guarantees funding for the wildflower beautification program, as the Legislature cannot take the money for any other purpose. The new tag was presented to the GDOT Board by two little 'flower fairies', Lauren Wright, age 6 (on left), daughter of William Wright, and Ellie DeGrace, age 5, (on right) daughter of Christopher DeGrace, landscape architects in the Department of Maintenance for GDOT. The slogan, **Color Your Roads!**, has been chosen to promote the *wildflower program*. GDOT is desirous of having this printed on the license plates of the new **purple coneflower**. Since state law requires that every county name be printed on the tags for identification, they must go back to the Legislature and get it amended that the **Purple Coneflower** tag can use a slogan instead of the county name. Both the black-eyed Susan and **purple coneflower** tags are available through your county tag office for a one time \$25 fee, almost all of which goes directly into the roadside wildflower fund to support research on the uses and value of planting native flora, suitable varieties to use in different areas of the state, and for the wildflower seed and daffodil plantings over the state.

This year GDOT is planting 175 acres of wildflowers and 210,000 Daffodil bulbs statewide. The plantings are evenly distributed among the 7 GDOT districts. For more information on the Georgia DOT, visit the website : www.dot.state.ga.us. Also, if you are not getting *wildflowers* planted on the highways in your area, please contact:

Christopher DeGrace, Landscape Architecture, GDOT Office of Maintenance, 600 West Peachtree St., Suite 1044, Atlanta, Ga. 30308, phone 404-631-1398. If he cannot answer your questions, he can suggest other resources for the answer. More importantly, support the *wildflower program* by purchasing a wildflower tag, and also make the **\$25 donation through your garden club to the wildflower program** which helps sponsor the highway wildflower awards program through The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. This donation is sent to Z Ganaway, Roadside Beautification Chairman, South; 615 Idlewood Dr., NW; Atlanta 30327-4727. Check made payable to GCG.

Kathryn Litton
Roadside Beautification Chairman, North

Native Plant Symposium
January 21, 2009—State Botanical Garden in Athens
Garden Club of Georgia Terrace Room
8:30 to 3:30

Outstanding instructors covering subjects including Planet-friendly Gardens, Wildflower and Native Plant Propagation, Beekeeping, and Native Vines

Registration

Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

County _____ Phone _____

Email _____

GCG or Friends of the Garden members \$40.00 Non-member \$45.00

Box lunch included in price, check one turkey roast beef ham vegetarian

Make checks payable to The State Botanical Garden of Georgia and mail to:
SBGG, Education Department
2450 Milledge Avenue
Athens, GA 30650
For more information please contact Cora Keber at 706 542 6156 or ckeber@uga.edu

∞ **NGC School Projects Report Due** ∞



To be eligible for Special Prize money and receive NGC Certificate of participation, garden clubs and councils need to send application report form telling about their School Garden Project completed during 2008 before December 31, 2008.

Application report form is available on GCG website www.uga.edu/gardenclub or www.gardenclub.org, the National Garden Club website. Please send application form to the following by December 31st.

- NGC President's School Garden Project Chair Carol Bullard, P. O. Box 9, Pope, MS 38658
- Rosemary Maulden, GCG National Project Chair, 302 Bushoan Road, Brunswick, GA 31525

The Awards will be announced at NGC Convention in May 2009 for projects completed during 2008.

∞ Landscape Design Consultants ∞

Good News!! We are very proud of our President, Virginia Pennington who compiled a Book of Evidence for an NGC Award. Georgia received 1st place because of our program and to Virginia's efforts on writing up the award application.

Sara Lanier, President of The Garden Club of Georgia was awarded the Landscape Design Education Award by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. This was for the most comprehensive and effective state program of education in landscape design, informing the public of proper landscape design practices, with benefits derived from developing plants for proper homes, schools, parks roadside, communities, cities and regions. The book of evidence was prepared by Virginia Pennington, State Landscape Design Consultants President.

Local Club News

Lullwater Garden Club



The Lullwater Garden Club held their annual Garden Therapy festivities at the home of Jane Carney on November 11, 2008. Over 50 stockings were created in support of the Garden club of Georgia initiative. Pictured here are the hard working gals and their output. (seated - Vivian Moody, Laura Murphy, Judy Clairmont, Linda Manners, standing – Susan Peterson, Ivy Dougherty, Denise Neely and Renie Faulkenberry)

Concord Garden Club



The annual holiday luncheon for the club was held on December 6 at Grits Café in Forsyth. Valera Carroll was presented an Award of Appreciation for her service to Concord and Pike County. She has worked tirelessly for several years to improve and maintain the landscaping in downtown Concord. This service has not only beautified the village but has created a work situation benefiting the ladies incarcerated at the State Correctional Facility in Pike County. A group of these ladies has helped once a month with the maintenance and greatly benefited from the association with Valera. Her

gentle and knowledgeable guidance has achieved a level of example and learning which, hopefully, will provide life skills necessary in their lives after release from prison. She is greatly admired.



Marisa Fry attended the luncheon with her mother, Gina Fry. Marisa is the club's prospective new member, class of 2028! She certainly added to the day's festivities in her bright red velvet dress, but this picture shows her in her traveling outfit. Everyone needs a beautiful child to brighten their spirits.



LaGrange Garden Clubs, Elms and Roses Council



Elms and Roses Garden Council of LaGrange has dedicated a Blue Star Memorial as a tribute to the Armed Forces. The memorial is at the new Government Complex on Church Street in LaGrange.

The Blue Star Memorial Program honors service men and women who have served, are serving or will be serving in the armed services of the United States. In 1945, the National Council of State Garden Clubs (now National Garden Clubs, Inc.) adopted the program started in New Jersey and began a Blue Star Highway system, which covers thousands of miles across the Continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii. A large metal Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker was placed at appropriate locations along the way. Memorial Markers and By-Way Markers are placed at locations such as national cemeteries, parks, veteran's facilities and gardens. The Blue Star became an icon in World War II and was seen on flags and banners in homes for sons and daughters away at war, as well as in churches and businesses.

Georgia garden clubs have been especially active in recent years, raising money to erect Blue Star Markers throughout our state to honor our military personnel.

Blue Star Memorial Price Change

Effective June 1, 2008 and good until May 2010, the cost of erecting a Blue Star Marker will be \$1,200, and for a Blue Star Plaque, \$395. For more details, contact:

Betty Lester
GCG Blue Star Marker State Chairman
100 Pine Tree Drive
LaGrange, GA 30240-1030
706-884-7257

∞ Dates to Remember ∞

January 2009

6 State Flower Show Chairman Meeting, Perry

21 Native Plant Symposium Athens

28 Garden Club Day at Southeastern Flower Show

28-Feb. 1 Southeastern Flower Show Atlanta

February 2009

18 Finance and Exec. Comm. Meeting Thomasville

19 Placement of Horticulture Pebble Hill

20 Arbor Day in Georgia

20-21 State Flower Show – Pebble Hill Plantation Thomasville

March 2009

1 Decorated Felt Eggs to State Hospitals

25 Native Plant and Wildflower Symposium Tifton

27-29 Deep South Convention Huntsville, AL