Dear Redbuds,

Even though I do not leave office until next month, I will say goodbye this month. Those of you who know me know that I have had the best time being your Director. And do you know why? Because so many of you take the time from your busy lives to be part of the local garden clubs, to be part of the District events, and many of you are on the State level as workers on those committees. I actually went through the GCG lists and underlined, in “Redbud magenta”, all who we can claim as our own here in Redbud. 35 state GCG chairs/committees are held by Redbud members. Please keep up this good work, and when you are called, say yes as often as possible. That is why they are called “committees”, so that the work is spread around among several.

Another wonderful part of being the Director for this exciting District was the chance to go around to different clubs as they celebrated special events, anniversaries, teas, garden walks, and sometimes I was invited to speak, in my capacity as your liaison with The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. The program “What is This Thing Called Garden Club?” continues to be useful and entertaining, and deep thanks goes to Virginia Pennington, GCG 4th VP, for the innovative program. Several clubs asked for that specific program, and for other clubs, I volunteered to bring it to them.

Traveling around the District, there were clubs for which this Director had the opportunity to perform the club officer installation. It is always a delight to see the gavel passed to the next person who has stepped up, and then many of those same officers attended the Officer Workshop in August of 2013, and also sent members to the Awards Workshop that fall. These installations gave me an opportunity to meet even more club members than was possible at the District meetings once a year.

The Editor of the Redbud Reporter reminded me several times to write this “farewell letter”, and I think the reason it was so hard to sit down and write it is because this draws to a close my wonderful time as your Director. Thank you for giving me the opportunity, thank you for being friendly, thank you for being willing to work, and thank you for being accepting of change. See you at the next District meeting, Oct. 15, 2015, at Dunaway Gardens, Newnan GA, where I will be sitting out in the audience, just like you!!

Emily Wilbert
District Director

Gardening Grows Friends
Conyers Learns About Flower Design

Conyers Garden Club members were in for a treat in January as club member Joyce Andrews presented the program on Mass Design. She discussed container and plant selection and her own style of creating a beautiful design. Joyce is a second generation garden club member and Conyers is honored to have her in their club.

Ladybugs Bring on the Rain!

At the February meeting of the Ladybugs Garden Club our program was a MAKE AND TAKE RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP. We learned about water conservation issues and the benefits of using rain barrels in our gardens. Heather Moody and John Butler, representatives from the Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources first presented a PowerPoint presentation covering watersheds, the water cycle, storm water problems, area drought issues and outdoor irrigation. Surprisingly, installing rain barrels in our gardens not only improves the water quality in our rivers, lakes and streams but also increases water quantity!

After a few instructions concerning the location, proper positioning, safety concerns and maintenance considerations for a rain barrel, our group assembled eight rain barrels. Since the barrels were pre-drilled assembly was quick and easy. All necessary materials for assembly and installation were included at a cost of only $25. The detailed home installation instructions and materials even included the necessary drill bit for preparing a downspout for attachment.

The Ladybugs will be donating one of the rain barrels to Camp Creek Elementary School for use in their outdoor education program and the remaining seven were purchased for personal use.

It was an educational, informative and fun program!
Redbud recently lost a dear friend. Garden Club of Georgia President Suzanne Wheeler went to her heavenly home. She will be truly missed. She was a dear lady, a great leader and a friend to many.

Mimosa Installs Officers

The Mimosa Garden Club of Jackson GA had an officer installation on Feb. 12, 2015. Presiding was the outgoing President Myra Potteiger. Emily Wilbert, Redbud District Director, did the installation, using a ceremony first designed by Martha Thom, Redbud Parliamentarian, at the Redbud breakfast at the GCG state convention in Marietta. Those installed were Barbara Dyche, in absentia, Parliamentarian; Ellen Brewer, Treasurer; Myra Potteiger, Nancy Sims, Sue Mitchell, Betty Carter and Barbara Kilgo, Publicity, Yearbook, Communications, Friendship: Carol Weaver, in absentia, Secretary; Anne O'Neal and Faye O'Dell, VP for Programs and Membership; Hazel Newman, President. Pictured are Hazel Newman, President of Mimosa GC, and Emily Wilbert, District Director of Redbud

Old Town Presents Scholarships

The Old Town GC of Sharpsburg held a tea for the recipients of the garden clubs 2013 and 2014 scholarships in the fields of horticulture and landscape design. Each year for the last 12 years the club has presented a local scholarship in addition to purchasing calendars and scholarship bags, and making personal donations for the GCG scholarship fund. Those pictured L to R, Rosalie Gage, Ellen Lucy, Paula Ercolini, President, Celeste Williams and Jennifer Clay, Scholarship Committee, Diane Williams, Rita Wilson, Peggie Roberts, Emily Wilbert, Redbud District Director. Standing in front are Daniel Sizemore, UGA, 2013 awardee, and Allison Gordy, ABAC, 2014 awardee.
Georgia Regional Liaison Retires

Gail Raby, the contact person for Garden Therapy at Georgia Regional Hospital, Atlanta, has retired, and among the persons attending the retirement ceremony were Helen Grogan and Johnnie Berry of Dogwood District, and Emily Wilbert and Joanne Bennett of Redbud District. Both District Directors spoke on the program, and a bouquet of flowers was also presented to Ms. Raby. She will be missed as the liaison for GCG at the Atlanta area hospital, after working there for over 20 years. In the photo are Helen Grogan, Dogwood District Director, Gail Raby, retiring, and Emily Wilbert, Redbud District Director.

African Violet Club of Greater Atlanta

proudly presents our annual SHOW AND SALE

“SEASON’S OF VIOLETS”

May 9, 2015, 10-5 pm North DeKalb Mall, 2050 Lawrenceville Highway, Decatur, GA 30033

Beautiful blooming African Violets and their relatives will be displayed and offered for sale along with supplies, leaves and information about our club. Experts will be on hand to answer all your violet questions.

Visitors are always welcome to our monthly meetings (not July, August). First Saturday of each month at 1:00 pm. Enjoy a program, refreshments, short business, leaf and plant sales plus a judged mini show. Please call contact below for place as we are meeting at 2 different places currently.

Contact Kathy Spissman for more information
mrsstrepstreps@comcast.net
770-939-5289
“Daisy is Bewitched” as we approach autumn at Stone Mountain Park for the 44th Annual Yellow Daisy Flower Show on September 11th - 13th. This Redbud District Flower Show is always an entertaining event. Encourage your garden club members to start thinking about entering designs and horticulture. There are many opportunities to learn by coming to help with horticulture, to clerk with the judges, or to be hostesses any of the three days. Your club donations are requested to help defer expenses of this Redbud District event. Contact Show Chairman Susan Turner at 770-922-4411 glencree@bellsouth.net for further information. Come join Daisy and be “Be...witched”!

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