



The North Carolina Gardener

**“Growing Together”
Summer 2026**

**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF NORTH
CAROLINA, INC.**

Member: National Garden Clubs, Inc. South Atlantic Region (SAR)

Summer 2026-Vol. 93 No.1

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Summer 2026-Vol. 93. No. 1

ELECTED OFFICERS 2025-2027

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Magic Dust, front cover contest winner: Taiyo Sunflower (Helianthus annus 'Taiyo') taken by Eric Kozen

This glorious sunflower photo captures the summer spirit with its' sunny face while perfectly catching one of our numerous pollinators in flight. The photo is titled Magic Dust shot by Eric Kozen, Cape Fear GC-D11. Eric is a past president of the CFGC (2017-2018) located in Burgaw. Eric grows hundreds of sunflowers annually on his farm in Burgaw along with zinnias and other flowers all started from seed. One morning while watching the many bees feeding on the sunflowers he captured one of them spilling pollen as it was going from flower to flower. Amazing!

Gardener Quarterly Newsletter Schedule:

Issue	Submission Deadline	Publish Date
Spring (Apr-Jun)	March 1	April 1
Summer (Jul-Sep)	June 1	Jul 1
Fall (Oct-Dec)	September 1	October 1
Winter (Jan-Mar)	December 1	January 1

Our mission is to provide education, resources, and networking opportunities for our members and to promote the love of gardening, floral design, civic and environmental responsibility.



President's MESSAGE

*Growing Together Through Communication,
Collaboration and Education*

Dear Garden Club Members,

Thank you for making our 101st Annual Meeting in Greensboro such a tremendous success. It was a wonderful time of fellowship, learning, and celebrating the accomplishments of our clubs across North Carolina.

A special thank you to Jo Ann Lasker, Sherric Richmond, and their committee for the outstanding job they did planning and hosting this event. Their dedication, hard work, and attention to detail made the meeting a memorable experience for all who attended.

As we move into summer, many of us look forward to spending time with family and friends, creating memories, and enjoying the beauty of God's creation in our gardens and communities.

Let's make North Carolina a leader in celebrating America's 250th Birthday and showcase the pride we have in our state and nation.

★ RED, WHITE, AND BLUE CHALLENGE ★

Plant red, white, and blue flowers wherever possible:

- ★ Blue Star Memorials
- ★ Gold Star Memorials and Markers
- ★ Community Gardens
- ★ Churches and Schools
- ★ Public Spaces
- ★ Your Home Garden



Remember to take before and after photos!

★ ASK ME ABOUT MY GARDEN CLUB ★

Wear your badge proudly this summer. Every conversation is an opportunity to invite someone to become part of our Garden Club family.

While many organizations slow down during the summer months, we have a wonderful opportunity to grow our membership and expand our impact.

Thank you for your continued support, dedication, and commitment to the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.

Let's Make North Carolina Bloom in Red, White, and Blue!

With Gratitude,

★ *Charles McLendon* ★

President
Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.

*Planting Pride, Growing Beauty,
and Celebrating America—One Garden at a Time.*



First Vice President, Marilyn Wright, Annual Report Greensboro May 2026

We have worked hard this year to increase membership and add new clubs. We have seen some gains and hope this momentum will continue. In May/June 2025 we listed 138 clubs in our GCNC membership. As of May/June 2026 we stand at 140 clubs, having lost 4 through this current year. Our membership is currently 4400, up from 4300. This is significant since we lost 4 clubs with a considerable number of members.

Six new clubs have joined the Garden Club of North Carolina:

- Bonded By Blooms Greensboro
- Triangle Gardeners Guild Garden Club Knightdale
- Brooklyn Arts District Wilmington
- Garden Club of the High Country Boone
- Begonias Garden Club Greensboro
- Late Bloomers Garden Club Winston-Salem

In September we hope to welcome back the Carthage Garden Club whose members have decided to rejoin the Garden Club of North Carolina. The one word no one likes to hear is “NO”. When someone approaches you about joining a garden club, please try to accommodate that future gardener. If your club is no longer accepting new members, explore the possibility of creating a new club. It only takes five interested members. Then call me. We can make the prospect of a new club a reality in a few easy steps. The Garden Club needs everyone helping us grow. This is a commitment we should all make to our fellowship of gardeners. We want to give everyone a place in our organization.

I would now like to read the Honor Roll Clubs for 2025 – 2026.*

Marilyn Wright

First Vice President

Members make us proud

Submitted by First Vice President, Marilyn Wright

MEMBERS OF OUR GCNC FAMILY MAKE US PROUD

CE 6	Gateway GC, Kentucky	Gateway GC, Kentucky	Lake Norman Garden Club, North Carolina
Community Project with Native Plants/Wildflowers	Lake Norman GC, North Carolina	Lake Norman GC, North Carolina	
	Dirt Diggers GC, Wyoming		
	Buckingham-Gillwyn GC, Virginia		
	Belzoni GC, Mississippi		
	Rhododendron GC, Alabama		
	Hearthstone GC, Texas		
	Fleming County GC, Kentucky		
Cape Fear GC, North Carolina	Garden Club of Elizabethtown, Kentucky		
Colonial Heritage GC, Virginia.			
Bella Vista GC, Arkansas			
Garden Club of Elizabethtown, Kentucky			
Danbury GC, Connecticut			
New Smyrna Beach GC, Florida			
Mesquite GC, Texas			



SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT !

At the National Garden Club Awards in May, our very own **Lake Norman Garden Club** beat out all the competition and won \$500 for their efforts.



WE HAVE ANOTHER STAR AMONGST US.

Cathy McDowell Poulos received the South Atlantic Region Member of Honor at the National Garden Club Awards in May. Cathy is a hard working member of Cape Fear Garden Club in Wilmington. **AWARD # SR4**



DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE YOUTH AWARDS



Sandy Purvis, member of the Raleigh Garden Club and advisor to the youth club, Rosey Girls, received an honor at the recent National Garden Club Awards night. Sandy received the Individual Outstanding Service to Youth, along with \$100. **AWARD # YW10**

Congratulations, Junior Advisor of the Year!

**PLEASE JOIN US IN HONORING THE JUNIOR
GARDEN CLUB ADVISOR OF THE YEAR 2025 -
2026**

REBECCA (BECKY) TODD



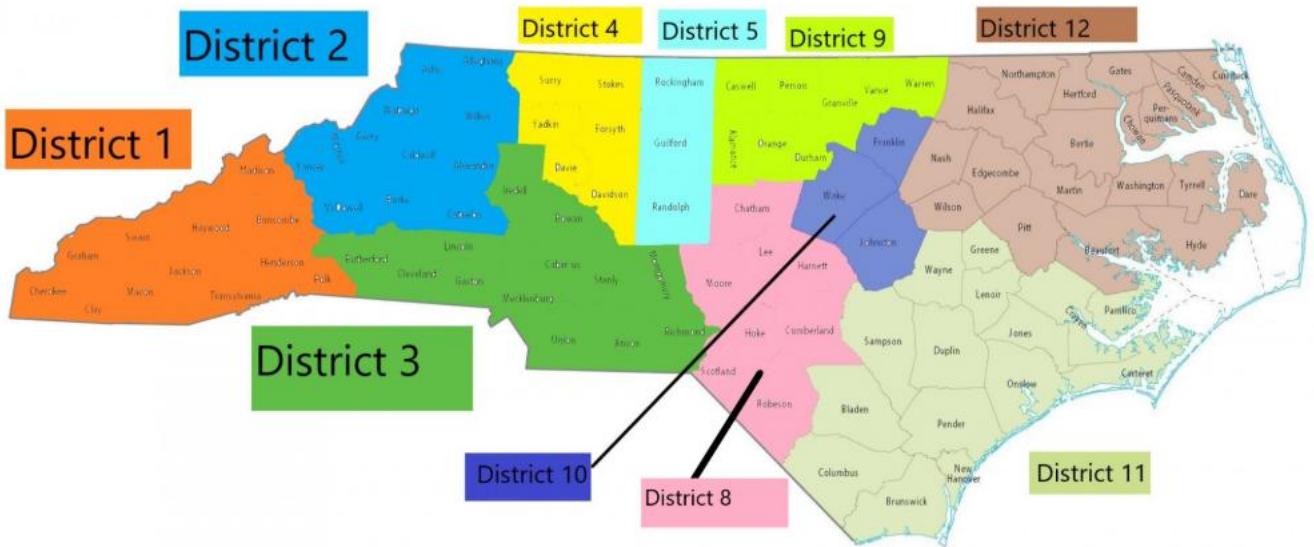
Rebecca, or as her young gardeners call her, “Miss Becky,” is advisor to *The Carolina Honey Bees Junior Garden Club* near Whiteville, NC. She is assisted by Betty Dunn, who is the photographer, publicity manager, and general assistant, for the group. Becky is sponsored by the senior garden club, Coastal Garden Club in Shallotte, N.C.

CONGRATULATIONS MISS BECKY AND BETTY



Charles McLendon, President of Garden Club of North Carolina, presents the Junior Advisor Award to Rebecca (Becky) Todd.

Garden Club North Carolina District Map Club Tidings



District 1-2

Asheville
Brevard
Hendersonville
Morganton
Newton
Piney Creek
Sherrills Ford
Sylva
Tryon
Waynesville

District 3

Charlotte
Cherryville
Davidson
Huntersville
Monroe
Statesville
Troutman

District 4

Bermuda Run
Elkin
King
Lexington
Mount Airy
Pilot Mountain
Winston-Salem

District 5

Greensboro
Jamestown
Julian
Liberty
Reidsville

District 8

Dunn
Fayetteville
Laurinburg
Lillington
Pinehurst/
Southern Pines
Pittsboro
Spring Lake

District 9

Chapel Hill
Durham
Hillsborough
Roxboro
Warrenton

District 10

Cary
Knightdale
Raleigh
Wendell
Zebulon

District 12

Ahoskie
Farmville
Maneto
Moyock
Rich Square
Rocky Mount
Tarboro
Washington
Wilson

District 11

Cape Carteret
Clinton
Dudley
Emerald Isle
Goldsboro
Jacksonville
La Grange
New Bern
Newport
Pine Knoll Shores
Shalotte
Sneads Ferry
Southport
Surf City
Tabor City
Whiteville
Wilmington
Wrightsville Beach

Raleigh Garden Club D10 Celebrates 100 years!

Planting Power: 100 Years of the Raleigh Garden Club

The Raleigh Garden Club wrapped up our 100th Year Anniversary with a closing reception at the City of Raleigh Museum. A RGC member-designed exhibit featuring our first 100 years had been on display for a year. The exhibit received the Outstanding Group Project Award from the City of Raleigh Historic Resources and Museums Program.

We celebrated our first 100 years in myriad ways; we had a birthday party for ourselves; we dressed in period costumes; we visited gardens of our earliest members; we marched in the St. Patrick's Day parade; we took our show on the road and shared our history with the COR museum, with Rotary Clubs, with fellow garden clubs. At JC Raulston Arboretum's Moonlight in the Garden event, six members created floral designs that led attendees through the century of floral design. We raised money for a civic project- revamping of the Shade Garden at the Raleigh Rose Garden and Little Theater, completing the circle begin almost 100 years ago when some of our early members initiated the very idea of the Raleigh Rose Garden.

The Museum's closing reception included attendance from RGC members, District 10 members, monthly meeting speakers and Raleigh community supporters, as well as a heartfelt speech from RGC's Historian and 100 Year Anniversary Project Lead, Erica Winston.



Left, June Sweeny Tour Chair,
Right is Jill Wilson, Vice Chair

Raleigh Garden Club D10 Celebrates 100 years!



Museum Exhibit creator Erica Winston, RGC President Laurie McDowell, and member Sue Segre at the Museum Closing Reception



Over 50 community and club members enjoyed the reception



RGC Exhibit at the City of Raleigh Museum

Raleigh Garden Club D10 Time Capsule

TIME CAPSULE To cap off our 100th Anniversary events, we procured a Time Capsule to hold some important artifacts from the current day. The Time Capsule is to be opened by future Raleigh Garden Club members in March 2050. Working with RGC member Russ Stephenson, RGC member Joyce Moses has arranged to bury the Time Capsule on Russ' property, the former site of Isabelle Bowen Henderson's home and garden. This property has historic designation and is protected from any future development. Thanks to Russ and to Joyce for arranging safekeeping for our Time Capsule. What's in our Time Capsule? An RGC T-shirt, meeting programs, the Time Capsule documents from members, Yearbooks from 2024-25 and 2025-26, letters from President Laurie McDowell and Past President Frances Cain, seeds from the Botanical Garden Wildlife Flower of the year, RGC Member Name Tag, Website URL, select photos from our 100th Celebration - City of Raleigh Museum, Isabel Henderson Tour, and the RGC St Patrick's Parade; and the Landscape Design Plan for the Raleigh Rose Garden Shade Garden Project. Photo below: Joyce Moses and Laurie McDowell presenting the Time Capsule at the May general meeting.

Joyce Moses and Laurie McDowell presenting the time capsule at the May 2026 general meeting



Raleigh Garden Club-D10 Annual Plant Sale

A group of ten members met in January of 2026 to begin planning our annual plant sale. The plant sale was held at Ridge Road Baptist Church on April 24 and 25. The weather was perfect, and we had lots of shoppers at this new venue. Our focus was to provide pollinator-friendly plants including native plants from Backyard Butterflies, annual and perennial plants from Campbell Road Nursery, hostas from Carroll's Nursery, and member-donated plants from our gardens and homes. A potting party was held on March 24 at a member's home with potting mix and pots available to those who brought or provided divisions to be potted. We were very fortunate to receive plants from the Raleigh Rose Garden Shade Garden. This garden is being redesigned and is a 100th Anniversary project for Raleigh Garden Club. This was a focus for the sale since all donated plants were sold at a 99% profit. We had over 850 plants donated. A new club member, Keith Lilly, made labels describing each plant: common and botanical name, a picture, growing conditions, and annual or perennial. The Worm Dude was on site selling his worm castings and some unique plants, NC Extension Master Gardner and RGC member, Rachel Strauss, was available to answer questions for any shoppers and a food truck helped sustain us! We successfully earned a profit of \$5479.91 which will help bolster RGC's community donations, awarded at our June 3rd meeting. Sue Segre and Shelia Alexander co-chaired the committee which included: Elizabeth Barringer, C.J. Dykes, Sandy Purvis, Keigh Lilly, M'Liz Reichers, Nancy Volk and Karen Johnson.



Elizabeth Behringer with Co-Chairs Shelia Alexander and Sue Segre

Transylvania Garden Club D1-2

March Program Speaker on Gardening for the Birds and Bees for Your Garden. How we can make our yards the perfect home for birds and bees.

April Program Two Co-Presidents of the Brevard High School Gardening Club we sponsor spoke on what they are doing and their plans for the future.

May Annual Spring Plant Sale. Proceeds are used to provide scholarships for a horticultural student at Blue Ridge Community College, funds for Brevard High School Gardening Club, Rosman High School FFA, and beautification at the Railroad Depot in Brevard.

May Members had a privately guided tour to Southern Highlands Reservoir, a high elevation botanical garden famous for prominent spring blooms and breathtaking views.

We are continuing to plant for the future since 1776 at the Railroad Depot. Our flowers will be red, white and blue. Also, we are planting at the existing Blue Star Memorial in Brevard. May members are planting red, white and blue flowers in memory of a beloved member who passed away very recently. We are planting a climbing rose at the Railroad Depot.

June Members are touring the North Carolina arboretum . A personal guided tour, learning about the past, present and future of our gardens.

July Program on Patriotic History of America's Victory Gardens. Exploring how America's home - grown gardens have patriotic roots

August Tour of the presidents' gardens and trails followed by a luncheon hosted by a member.

September A guided tour of Bullington Gardens to learn about their mission.



New Hanover Garden Club D11 Growing Green Memories

New Hanover Garden Club engaged in the Green Memories program at the Brookdale Wilmington location fall 2025 through spring 2026. Green Memories operates through The Therapeutic Forest of Rosendale, England created the outline for “Green Memories” at Brookdale Wilmington, a senior care facility for memory loss. It holds its premise in the oriental practice of Shinrin-yoku. The program involves working and being in nature to both stimulate and rejuvenate.

Thus, since so many seniors come from an era where gardens represented daily existence in the family, a program based on the garden for those struggling with dementia opens a fabulous service effort. All reap rewards; both the garden club members and the residents of the memory care home.

NHGC members were onsite monthly not only to work with residents one on one in the garden but take part in the overall “Green Memories” program. Each program included short sessions of singing, learning and accomplishing something garden related. For capable residents work in the garden followed the programs. Rewarding conversations and memories were shared between garden club members and residents.

Brookdale Wilmington possessed a lovely courtyard with a wandering path. Raised planters were added by the facility and funds from the garden club helped obtain additional planters, secured shepherd hooks and hanging baskets all to create easily workable and water-able spaces for residents. New Hanover Garden made sure each season was marked with “Green Memories”. A small bird tree based on Eve Bunting’s book, “The Night Tree” was the Christmas theme where efforts gave back to nature. Then, spring brought on the emergence of tulips, daffodils, irises, down to muscari that had been planted in pots in the fall. The programs’ efforts bread life as the residents watched the explosion of color and their personal “green memories” return recalling memories past.

Beyond the residents’ remembrance, staff also benefit as this area became a place to retreat with residents when dementia moments require resetting. Staff also enjoy helping residents’ water regularly to keep the garden growing. The club provided several appropriate books for family members to share with their loved ones when visiting outdoors in the garden. The best example of the garden’s benefit includes a resident comment.

“I know if I want to keep going out here, I must be here working everyday like I always have. I did this for my dad. This garden gives me purpose.”

New Hanover Garden Club D11



New Hanover Garden Club looks forward to continuing working in memory care environments.

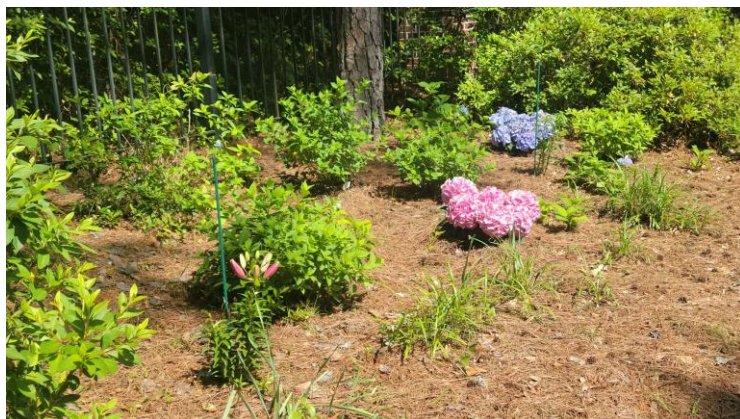


Loblolly Garden Club D11

Loblolly Garden Club continues to maintain and add new plants to the entrance to Historic Oakdale Cemetery in Wilmington. Workdays are planned several times throughout the year. Spring cleanup and planting was scheduled the end of March.



Members at work



Fruits of our labor

Loblolly Garden Club D11- Blue Bird Boxes

In keeping with our community involvement, Loblolly's Garden Therapy committee partnered with the Friends School of Wilmington to enhance and expand their Bluebird Trail. The students have been learning about the environment and needs of successful expansion and sustainability of the bluebird population in coastal North Carolina. They have studied their habitat and what is needed to expand their population. They decided areas of placement and best location for the bluebird boxes on their campus for the bluebirds to thrive. They presently had 4 boxes they were maintaining in the Finely Forest Grove already.

Loblolly Garden Club donated 4 more bluebird boxes to add to this trail. These boxes were constructed of cedar and made by our club's president son, Kris Miller. Each box was placed in the perfect location for new bluebird families. Presently 3 boxes are inhabited.

Several of our members toured the Friends School on May 27, 2026, to observe the newly placed boxes in Finley Grove Forest and walk along the bluebird trail. It was truly an exciting visit! We look forward to continuing our partnership with The Friends School of Wilmington.



Loblolly Club Members

Waynesville Garden Club D1-2 Spring Recap

Spring was a full and rewarding season for our club, centered on fundraising efforts that supported student scholarships. In January, we held a Snowflake Luncheon workshop where members created bookmarks from flowers we had dried since the summer of 2025 to sell at festivals. In February and March, we completed our new cookbook, *From Mountain To Meadow Recipes For All Seasons*, a project we had worked on for a year, and sent it to the publisher. One especially memorable moment during the cookbook's development was taking a photo of all the members in their flower aprons beneath the Gateway to the Mountains on Main Street. It was a wonderful time of fellowship. In April, we began planning for the USA's 250th birthday by selecting red, white, and blue flowers for our six gardens. That same month, we also refreshed the gardens to prepare them for planting and created 100 flower bouquets for Meals on Wheels and several local nursing homes.

May was a wonderfully busy month. On May 1 and 2, we began the month with a two-day event at the Lake Junaluska Plant Sale, where we sold our cookbooks, last year's *Garden Buzz*, stationery cards, and bookmarks. On May 9, we hosted a booth at the Whole Bloomin' Thing Market in Frog Level, downtown Waynesville. We ended the month with Helen Henry, Lynne Leatherwood, and our president, Cherry Stone, attending the NC Garden Club Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina. At the conference, they sold our products, enjoyed the activities, and connected with fellow garden club members while sharing information about our club's work. Most exciting of all, from January through May we were able to award \$3,000 in scholarships to Haywood County students who will be studying the environment. As we look ahead to June, we do so with gratitude for all we have accomplished and with excitement for the projects, gardens, and opportunities to serve that lie ahead.

Waynesville Garden Club D1-2 Spring Recap



Products we sell
To raise funds



Red, white and blue
Flowers-WGC Garden

Emerald Isle Garden Club D11 Ended the Season with a Gallop!

April and May were very busy months for the Emerald Isle Garden Club! On April 16th, we installed the Gold Star Memorial in honor of our lost veterans and their families at our NC Wildlife Boat Ramp. Almost 100 people attended, including many members of the state garden club and the community.

The Green Thumbs students planted Beauty Berry bushes in our Rain Garden in honor of Arbor Day in April and we were amazed how helpful they were, and how hard they worked. We had the most fun “tickling” the roots for transplanting. We were thrilled to find out one of our first graders, Caleb Curtis, won first place in the Woodsy Owl poster contest. He and his family were so excited.

The end of April and the beginning of May heralded our Bikes and Blooms event in partnership with the town’s Bike the Banks. It was a soggy weekend, and the bicycle event was cancelled, but we persevered and the plants loved the weather. We decorated our roundabout with bicycles and lovely potted flowers while local businesses decorated their own. We gave awards for the categories of Best Theme, Best use of Flowers, and Most Fun. The pizza shop bicycle was a shoo-in for most fun.

Then for our early May meeting, the theme was the Kentucky Derby. Centerpieces went to the Best overall outfit, Best Hat, and horse Win, Place, and Show. The members drew horse names from a box. Audio of the race was played, while the members stomped their feet as though horses running. Some of the horse names were made up, like Propagation Rising. It was great fun! A new slate of officers were elected and we’re not taking much of a break, since the board will be meeting in June and August. We are anticipating a great year to come!

Emerald Isle Garden Club D11



Pizza Shop Bicycle



Green Thumbs Planting Beauty Berries



Gold Star Memorial

Lake Norman Garden Club D1-2

Our Lake Norman Garden Club was quite busy this spring, as we:

- Uncovered a time-capsule buried in Uncle Billy's garden by the LKNGC in 1999. tackling Phase IV of our 4500 square foot pollinator garden.
- Completed Phase IV of our 4500 sq ft pollinator garden.
- Created individual plant signs for 30 specimens in our pollinator garden including plant name, species name and QR code.
- Hosted a Spring Community Program – Monarch Butterflies by Kari Heav
- Celebrated our year-end at Michele Mall's beautiful alpaca farm.

Time-capsule uncovered!

In 1999, LKN Garden Club dedicated a memorial garden to “Uncle Billy” a local hero and writer born in . This garden was part of the existing library at the time, and included many beautiful shrubs, trees, perennials, gazebo, outdoor picnic area, millstones and of course a time capsule buried to be opened in 1924. In 2014, a new library in Sherrills Ford was built, and the building and garden were deeded to Catawba County.

It was this last year, while completing our pollinator garden at the current Sherrills Ford Library, that several items were identified to move to the new garden. While researching further, it was brought to our attention that there was a time-capsule.

It was a cold day in early spring, that a motley crew of women found the time-capsule and unearthed all of its treasures.

Completed Phase IV of Pollinator Garden

Phase IV of our 4500 sq ft pollinator garden, included 4 workdays. Two prepping and two planting. We also moved over 2 pieces of millstone from Uncle Billy's garden. We planted over 2000 native plant plugs in our new area and also filled in throughout the garden.

Created individual signage for 30 species in garden

Committee chairs Karen Katilie and Michele Petit identified 30 species of plants to showcase in the garden. Michele's husband Tracy was able to print the plant name, species and add QR code to each small sign.

Hosted March 26 Spring Community Program on Monarch Butterflies

Incredible community program led by Kari Heavner, a self-taught nature enthusiast with a focus on native plants, ecosystem service and wildlife habitats.

Lake Norman Garden Club D1-2



Unearthing of Time-Capsule!



Phase IV - Planted over 2000 plugs



Spring Luncheon at Alpaca Farm!

Cape Fear Garden Club D11 2026 Azalea Tour Results

Final Report CFGC Azalea Garden Tour 2026

June Sweeny, Chairman, Jill Wilson Vice Chair

This year, “The Joys of April, Gardens to Inspire” opened with glorious weather for our ribbon cutting at our Cameron Art Center. Our Guests included the Azalea Festival Queen and her court along with many local distinguished guests and garden club members and their families and friends. Music was provided by Coastal Strings. The perfect weather with sunshine and a light breeze as well as early blooming azaleas that held on, continued throughout the entire three days and everyone was most impressed and learned valuable tips from the garden owners who all do their own gardening. The 11 gardens were a variety of sizes and each had their own personality, including Airlie Gardens where many Azaleas remained in bloom for the festival.

Our wonderful Ambassadors continued to grow in number to 49 this year with 38 young women and 11 young men, some of whom served as docents on the trolleys for our 5 Secret gardens along with 2 honorable mentions. A good number of our Ambassadors have expressed strong interest in returning for next year’s tour!

Some of our garden owners decorated their own outdoor tables, while our tabletop committee provided stunning décor on others and none disappointed! Sunday of the tour included a plein air artist art show in one of our secret gardens. Art Sales were just under last year’s total at \$7,400. With total proceeds at \$74,662.00, we will continue to honor our standing grants of \$24,300 leaving about \$60,000 for grant applications to come to us in June.

We are thankful for every committee and club member who did their part and more to help make this tour one hundred per cent successful.

Old Salem Garden Club D4

Finishing the Year in Style

The Old Salem Garden Club finished a yearlong celebration of their 75th anniversary at the Old Fourth Street Filling Station on May 20th. They enjoyed a meaningful and emotional installation ceremony - expressing gratitude for the excellent service of the executive board this past year and an advance thank you for a wonderful year of service to the incoming board members. In addition to the ceremony, delicious lunch, and time of fellowship, they had a surprise visit from Deborah Thompson, Director, District 4. She presented the outgoing President, Debbie Linville, with a first place certificate (and \$50 cash prize) for winning first place in the GCNC Elma K. Porter Bowden Yearbook Award contest and a second certificate for coming in third place in the SAR of National Garden Clubs, Inc. On the heels of placing first and third in the two categories of the recent Garden Club Council volunteerism awards the week prior (\$1000, total award), they were reminded once again that when this group of garden club ladies work together, they can do wonderful things in the community! It has been a terrific, productive, and special year for the Old Salem Garden Club and they are looking forward to what the 2026-27 year brings.

Celebrating Service



Old Salem Garden Club D4



First Place and Flourishing



Rooted in Community

Coastal Garden Club D11 'Quilted Flowers' Flower Show

Submitted by member Bess Treadwell

The purposes of a National Garden Club Flower Show are to educate club members and the viewing public, to stimulate interest in horticulture and floral design, to provide an outlet for creative expression and to communicate National Garden Club goals and objectives.

April 24th & 25th Coastal Garden Club in Shallotte presented a Small Standard Flower Show. It was titled "Quilted Flowers" and it achieved all four of the purposes. The four design sections each highlighted a different floral design type. The horticulture provided many types of vegetation possible to grow here in our area. The Brunswick Quilters Guild joined us to display some of their beautiful quilts. The titles of our schedule's sections were based on traditional quilt blocks. Our design sections were 'Flying High' inspired by the Flying Geese block. 'Brightly Shining' inspired by the Stars block. 'Fun in the Wind' inspired by the Pinwheels block. And finally, 'From the Ground Up' inspired by the Log Cabin block. Thanks to the Brunswick Quilters Guild we had a beautiful display of some of their creative designs. The Designers' Choice award for the best floral design in our four creative design sections went to Bess Treadwell.

We had 121 pieces of Horticulture and gave 12 Top Exhibitor awards. Joan Eccard won the Horticulture Excellence award. Also winning horticulture awards were Candace Thompson, Barbara Stone, Donna Kaas and Billie Oakley. We also had two educational exhibits that carried on the quilt theme with a bit of a twist. They were 'Stash Busters' and 'Design Wall.' 'Design Wall' compared quilt design to landscape design. 'Stash Busters' taught us how to recycle our fabric scraps in our garden. One of our new members, Tina Paxton, won the educational award with her useful and creative ideas for recycling.

Coastal Garden Club D11 'Quilted Flowers' Flower Show

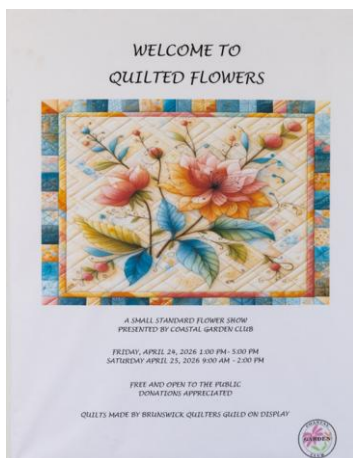
submitted by member Bess Treadwell

Coastal Garden Club has 37 members and we had 98% participation. About 200 people visited our show. Our show was a big success, and these Coastal Garden Club members chaired key positions.

Flower Show Chair	Bess Treadwell
Schedule Co-Chairs	Bonnie Giehl/Marge Comer
Horticulture Co-Chairs	Joan Eccard/Marilyn Wright
Design Chair	Marge Comer
Education Chair	Christy Butler
Judges Chair	Graceann Phillips
Clerks and Awards Chair	Sherry Jeffries
Publicity Chair	Landes Rigby

As important were all the other Coastal Garden Club members helping to accomplish all the myriad details involved in a flower show and doing it with a happy smile.

Our members and the viewing public learned about new floral designs, many of our visitors mentioned they were excited about planting some of the plants they had seen, both our floral designers and the Brunswick Quilters Guild used their efforts to show their creativity and the educational exhibits helped achieve National Garden Club recycling efforts.



Program flyer

Quilted banner created By Marilyn Wright



Coastal Garden Club D11 'Quilted Flowers' Flower Show



Photos courtesy of Linda Bronskowski



Coastal Garden Club D11 'Quilted Flowers' Flower Show



Photos courtesy of Linda Bronskowski



Coastal Garden Club D11 Annual Plant Sale Recap

Submitted by member Christy Butler Plant Sale Chair

The Planning

2026 PLANT SALE CONTRIBUTION FORM

NAME: _____

Plant Contributions - Please fill in the information and bring to the March meeting or email to hubbae1612@gmail.com. Please research as necessary to provide full plant name. Quantities are required. All contributions need to be finalized by Monday, April 10 to make signs and labels for each contributor based on the information provided on this sheet. Delivery of all materials is to take place on Saturday May 16, prior to 9:00 AM - All materials are to be labeled and priced prior to delivery at Mulberry Park. Return all extra labels and price tags with your donation delivery. *Market will be held at Riverwalk.

Plant Name (Common & Scientific)	Color	Qty
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

For Containers please provide the following information:

Count	Size	Describe mix of plants:
1		
2		
3		

Please note that we are not accepting house plants, crafts or other merchandise items for sale in 2026.

FORM BY: DEBBIE SPARKS

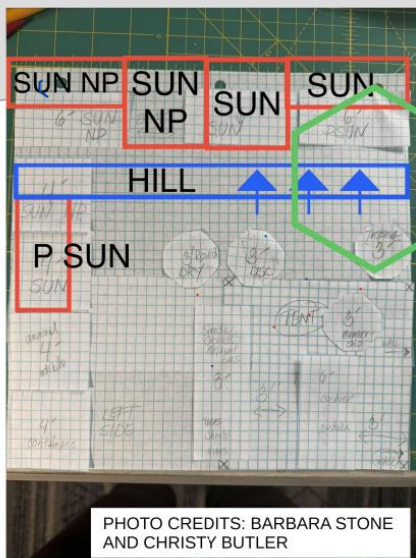


PHOTO CREDITS: BARBARA STONE AND CHRISTY BUTLER

With input from "Contribution Forms", the layout for the tables was set based on quantities and categories.

The Town of Shallotte provided an area map showing the tent location and directions for setup traffic.



IMAGE BY: TOWN OF SHALLOTTE

The Tools

RESOURCE BY: GROWJOURNEY.COM

Pot Sizes Decoded by GrowJourney.com

Main Sources for Images For this Data:

- EXCELLENCE: From Data Extensions & 4th Trial of Coexistence Vegetables & Growers
- University of Alabama Extension: Insecticide choice with plant spacing & more
- Alabama Cooperative Extension: very good chart
- Home Depot Garden Center
- Home Depot Garden Center
- University of Florida Extension: good chart
- University of Florida Extension: good chart
- Home Depot Garden Center: good chart
- Florida University Extension: good chart

Pot Sizes Table:

Approximate Root Volume*	Corresponding Pot Size**	Plant Growth by Month***
1/2 gallon (1.5L) approx. 10" dia	10" (25.4 cm)	1/2 gallon (1.5L) approx. 10" dia
1 gallon (3.8L) approx. 12" dia	12" (30.5 cm)	1 gallon (3.8L) approx. 12" dia
2 gallons (7.6L) approx. 14" dia	14" (35.6 cm)	2 gallons (7.6L) approx. 14" dia
3 gallons (11.4L) approx. 16" dia	16" (40.6 cm)	3 gallons (11.4L) approx. 16" dia
4 gallons (15.2L) approx. 18" dia	18" (45.7 cm)	4 gallons (15.2L) approx. 18" dia
5 gallons (19.0L) approx. 20" dia	20" (50.8 cm)	5 gallons (19.0L) approx. 20" dia
6 gallons (22.8L) approx. 22" dia	22" (55.9 cm)	6 gallons (22.8L) approx. 22" dia
7 gallons (26.6L) approx. 24" dia	24" (61.0 cm)	7 gallons (26.6L) approx. 24" dia
8 gallons (30.4L) approx. 26" dia	26" (66.0 cm)	8 gallons (30.4L) approx. 26" dia
9 gallons (34.2L) approx. 28" dia	28" (71.1 cm)	9 gallons (34.2L) approx. 28" dia
10 gallons (38.0L) approx. 30" dia	30" (76.2 cm)	10 gallons (38.0L) approx. 30" dia

2026 Master Plant Data.ods — LibreOffice Calc

File Edit View Insert Format Styles Sheet Data To

Liberation Sans 12 pt B I U

D123

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
36	Fanning, Beverly	Fanning	3Fanning, Roslyn3	Fanning 3	Shava Daisy	Caeruliferum superbum	Garden Plants	SUN	
37	Fanning, Roslyn	Fanning	4Fanning, Roslyn4	Fanning 4	Lutz Banks Rose	Rosa banksiae	Shrub Climbing	SHR-TREE-Y	
38	Gaehi, Bonnie	Giehl	1Giehl, Bonnie 1	Giehl 1	Coreopsis	Coreopsis spp.	Garden Plants	SUN/NP	
39	Gaehi, Bonnie	Giehl	2Giehl, Bonnie 2	Giehl 2	Ruffia Peal Day Lily	Hyacinthus	Bulb	SUN	
40	Gaehi, Bonnie	Giehl	3Giehl, Bonnie 3	Giehl 3	Hydrangea	Hydrangea	Shrub	SHR-TREE-Y	
41	Gaehi, Bonnie	Giehl	4Giehl, Bonnie 4	Giehl 4	Honea	Honea spp.	Garden Plants	SHADE	
42	Gaehi, Bonnie	Giehl	5Giehl, Bonnie 5	Giehl 5	Day Lily	Belamcanda	Bulb	SUN	
43	Gurski, Suzanne	Gurski	1Gurski, Suzanne1	Gurski 1	Golden Rod	Solidago petiolaris	Garden Plants	SUN/NP	
44	Gurski, Suzanne	Gurski	2Gurski, Suzanne2	Gurski 2	Golden Rod	Solidago spp.	Garden Plants	SUN/NP	
45	Gurski, Suzanne	Gurski	3Gurski, Suzanne3	Gurski 3	Blossa Fennel	Foeniculum vulgare	Garden Plants	ANNU-EDIBLE	
46	Gurski, Suzanne	Gurski	4Gurski, Suzanne4	Gurski 4	Passion Flower	Passiflora	Garden Plants	SHR-TREE-Y	
47	Gurski, Suzanne	Gurski	5Gurski, Suzanne5	Gurski 5	Yielda	Yielda	Garden Plants	P SUN	
48	Gurski, Suzanne	Gurski	6Gurski, Suzanne6	Gurski 6	Majolica Mint	Mentha x villosa	Herb	ANNU	
49	Gurski, Suzanne	Gurski	7Gurski, Suzanne7	Gurski 7	Canna	Canna	Bulb	SUN	
50	Gurski, Suzanne	Gurski	8Gurski, Suzanne8	Gurski 8	Lily	Lilium spp.	Bulb	SUN	
51	Hanscom, Janet	Hanscom	1Hanscom, Janet1	Hanscom 1	Cardinal Flower	Labellia cardinalis	Garden Plants	SUN	
52	Hucks, Becky	Hucks	1Hucks, Becky1	Hucks 1	Strawberry Plant	Fragaria x ananassa	FR	EDIBLE	
53	Hucks, Becky	Hucks	2Hucks, Becky2	Hucks 2	Canna	Canna	Bulb	SUN	
54	Hucks, Becky	Hucks	3Hucks, Becky3	Hucks 3	Canna	Canna	Bulb	SUN	
55	Hucks, Becky	Hucks	4Hucks, Becky4	Hucks 4	Black-Eyed Susan	Rudbeckia	Garden Plants	SUN	
56	Hucks, Becky	Hucks	5Hucks, Becky5	Hucks 5	Golden Plect	Physalis	Garden Plants	SUN	
57	Hucks, Becky	Hucks	6Hucks, Becky6	Hucks 6	Golden Plect	Physalis	Garden Plants	SUN	
58	Hucks, Becky	Hucks	7Hucks, Becky7	Hucks 7	Scotch Broom Balm	Salvia	Garden Plants	SUN	
59	Hucks, Becky	Hucks	8Hucks, Becky8	Hucks 8	Agapanthus	Agapanthus	Garden Plants	SUN	
60	Hucks, Becky	Hucks	9Hucks, Becky9	Hucks 9	Volubilis	Volubilis	Garden Plants	SUN	
61	Jeffries, Sherry	Jeffries	1Jeffries, Sherry1	Jeffries 1	Orchid Umbrella Plant	Orchid	Garden Plants	SUN	
62	Jeffries, Sherry	Jeffries	2Jeffries, Sherry2	Jeffries 2	Dianus Bicolor	Dianthus	Bulb	SUN	
	Jeffries	Jeffries	3Jeffries, Sherry3	Jeffries 3	Creeeping Jenny	Hebe	Garden Plants	SUN	
	Jeffries	Jeffries	4Jeffries, Sherry4	Jeffries 4	Elephant Ear	Colocasia	Bulb	SUN	
	Jeffries	Jeffries	5Jeffries, Sherry5	Jeffries 5	Orchid	Orchid Varieties	Houseplants	SUN	
	Kaas	Kaas	1Kaas, Donna1	Kaas 1	Passiflora	Passiflora	Garden Plants	SUN	
	Kaas	Kaas	2Kaas, Donna2	Kaas 2	Passiflora	Passiflora	Garden Plants	SUN	

Resources found on the internet were used to develop the tool for pricing plants based on pot size.



Info from "Contribution Forms" was input into a database that was used to create labels for the pots and signs.

DEVELOPED BY: CHRISTY BUTLER
POPULATED BY: DEBBIE SPARKS AND BARBARA STONE

Coastal Garden Club D11 Annual Plant Sale Recap

The Plants



TRANSPLANTS RESTING IN THEIR POTS
AFTER HARVEST FROM
SUZANNE GURSKI'S GARDEN

YOUNG GOLDENROD
GATHERED BY
BECKY HUCKS



PHOTO CREDITS: (L TO R) CHRISTY BUTLER,
LANDES RIGBY AND BECKY HUCKS



RUDBECKIA AND OXEYE
COLLECTED FROM FORMER
KAREN'S BUTTERFLY GARDEN



MARKET DAY HAULS
READY FOR TRANSPORT

PHOTO CREDITS: (L TO R) CHRISTY BUTLER
(1ST, 2ND & BOTTOM), DEBBIE SPARKS (3RD)

Coastal Garden Club D11 Annual Plant Sale Recap

The Surprises



Casualties from an overnight deer raid.



A snake inspecting the daisy trays.



PHOTO CREDITS: BARBARA STONE

The Publicity

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE THAT SHARED THE FLYERS IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND TO BULLETINS!

Coastal Garden Club is a non-profit! Proceeds from the sale help to support and outreach projects. 50% of proceeds awarded to Brunswick Community College scholarship recipient.



ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

LANDES RIGBY PILOTTED ALL PUBLICITY FOR THE PLANT SALE, INCLUDING FLYER DESIGN, NEWSPRINT AND CGC NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

CONTRIBUTING ARTIST AND JOURNALIST: LANDES RIGBY

Coastal Garden Club D11 Annual Plant Sale Recap



MORNING RUSH.....
A PLANT FOR EVERY
CUSTOMER!!



PHOTO CREDITS (L TO R):
DEBBIE SPARKS
AND CHRISTY BUTLER

Nearly \$1600 Raised on Saturday!!

(Expecting additional sales from Scott's)
Over 500 plants, Over 50 Species
Approximately 65% sold at market

We appreciate everyone's involvement,
volunteers and donators!

The Plant Sale Committee

Christy Butler Candy Thompson
Landes Rigby Debbie Sparks (Honorary)
Barbara Stone Kimberly Nolan (Pricing Tool Review)
Debbie Wilson



The North Carolina Gardener Special Interest Articles

Garden Clubs Help America Bloom for the Nation's 250th Anniversary

Garden Clubs Help America Bloom for the Nation's 250th Anniversary

By Angela Mason Foster

Second Vice-President, Washington Garden Club

Planting America, One Community at a Time

As the United States prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2026, communities across the country are considering meaningful ways to mark this historic milestone. There will be ceremonies, concerts, parades, historical exhibits, and public gatherings, but gardeners have a particularly fitting way to participate: by helping America bloom.

Through patriotic plantings, memorial garden care, public beautification, and community service, garden clubs are preparing to celebrate the nation's semiquincentennial in a way that is both beautiful and practical. A garden may seem like a small gesture, but flowers planted in public spaces can tell a powerful story. They can honor service, welcome visitors, improve community spaces, and remind us that civic pride often begins close to home.

National Garden Clubs, Inc. has embraced this opportunity through its Plant America initiative, encouraging local clubs to use gardening as a form of service. For America's 250th anniversary, that message takes on special meaning. Plant America invites garden clubs and community members to plant patriotic gardens, care for public landscapes, support conservation, and bring people together through shared work in green spaces.

A Partnership Rooted in Service

One of the most meaningful national efforts connected to this commemoration is the partnership between National Garden Clubs and Keep America Beautiful. Together, the organizations are encouraging local clubs to help restore and beautify Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Markers across the country.

Blue Star Memorial Markers honor the men and women who have served, are serving, or will serve in the United States Armed Forces. Gold Star markers honor families who have lost loved ones in military service. These markers are often located along highways, at rest areas, in public parks, near courthouses, or in community gardens. They are public reminders of sacrifice, service, and gratitude.

The beautification effort encourages garden clubs to remove litter and debris, refresh plantings, add seasonal color, and make these memorial spaces more attractive and welcoming. For the 250th anniversary, many of these plantings will feature patriotic colors—red, white, and blue—to create a visual connection between gardening, remembrance, and national celebration.

This type of work is especially appropriate for garden clubs because it reflects what they have always done well: combining beauty with service. Garden club members do not simply plant flowers for decoration. They improve shared spaces, educate the public, conserve natural resources, and create places where communities can gather, reflect, and take pride.

Garden Clubs Help America Bloom for the Nations's 250th Anniversary

Local Roots: The Washington Garden Club and the Blue Star Marker

Here in eastern North Carolina, the Washington Garden Club is part of this larger tradition of civic beautification and public service. The club encourages and promotes the Plant America idea through its ongoing support of public gardens, community landscapes, and educational gardening efforts.

One especially meaningful local connection is the Blue Star Memorial Marker located at the Chocowinity/U.S. Highway 17 rest area. For many travelers, a rest area may be a brief stop along a longer journey. But when a Blue Star marker is present, that space becomes something more. It becomes a place of remembrance and respect.

The Washington Garden Club's connection to this marker gives local gardeners an opportunity to participate in the national America250 celebration in a very tangible way. Caring for the landscape around the marker, refreshing plantings, keeping the space clean, and incorporating patriotic flowers can help ensure that the memorial remains visible, dignified, and welcoming.

A well-tended memorial planting sends a message. It tells travelers that this community remembers. It tells veterans and military families that their service matters. It tells residents that public spaces are worth caring for. In that sense, a flower bed becomes more than a flower bed. It becomes an act of gratitude.

The Garden Club of North Carolina and the Plant America Spirit

The Garden Club of North Carolina also plays an important role in encouraging member clubs throughout the state to take part in Plant America projects. Across North Carolina, garden clubs support public gardens, civic plantings, conservation programs, youth education, floral design, and community beautification. America's 250th anniversary provides a natural opportunity to bring these efforts together under a patriotic theme.

For local clubs, Plant America projects do not need to be large or expensive to matter. A patriotic container at a public building, a refreshed planting at a veterans' memorial, a pollinator bed at a library, or a red, white, and blue display at a town entrance can all contribute to the celebration. When many small projects occur across a state, they create a larger pattern of service and pride.

The Garden Club of North Carolina's encouragement helps local clubs see themselves as part of a larger national effort. A planting in Washington, Chocowinity, Raleigh, Asheville, or Wilmington may be local, but it is also connected to a nationwide celebration of America's history, landscapes, and communities.

America250: Telling Our Story Through Service

The official America250 commemoration encourages Americans to participate in the anniversary through storytelling, volunteerism, education, and civic engagement. Themes such as "Our American Story" and "America Gives" invite people to reflect on the nation's past while also contributing to its future.

Garden Clubs Help America Bloom for the Nations's 250th Anniversary

For gardeners, this is a natural fit. Gardening is an act of stewardship. It requires planning, patience, physical work, and care for living things. It also connects people to place. When we plant in our communities, we are not only improving the appearance of a space; we are investing in it.

The America Gives theme is especially relevant to garden clubs. Volunteer gardening projects support community health, environmental awareness, and civic unity. Whether volunteers are planting flowers, cleaning up litter, restoring a neglected bed, or teaching children about pollinators, they are giving something valuable to their community.

Public gardens and civic landscapes also help tell local stories. A planting at a veterans' marker tells a story of service. A pollinator garden tells a story of environmental care. A historic garden tells a story of the people who lived, worked, and planted before us. A red, white, and blue garden for America250 can tell a story of gratitude, remembrance, and hope.

Choosing Plants for Patriotic Gardens

Red, white, and blue plantings are among the most visible ways gardeners can celebrate America's 250th anniversary. The challenge is choosing plants that look good, perform well, and fit the site.

For eastern North Carolina, heat and humidity must be taken seriously. By late spring and early summer, gardens are entering a season of intense sunlight, high temperatures, and occasional heavy rain. Plants used in public spaces should be reliable, attractive, and relatively low-maintenance.

Good red choices include red salvia, red zinnias, pentas, geraniums, begonias, and red lantana. Red salvia provides upright color and is attractive to hummingbirds. Zinnias are cheerful, easy to grow, and excellent for pollinators. Pentas bloom through heat and draw butterflies.

For white, gardeners might consider white vinca, white petunias, white zinnias, sweet alyssum, angelonia, or Shasta daisies. White flowers are especially useful because they brighten plantings and help separate stronger colors. They also show up beautifully in the evening light.

Blue can be more difficult because true blue flowers are less common. Many plants sold as blue are closer to lavender or purple, but they can still work beautifully in a patriotic planting. Blue salvia, ageratum, evolvulus, lobelia, plumbago, and blue mistflower can all contribute to the effect. In hot summer locations, blue salvia, evolvulus, and plumbago often hold up better than more delicate cool-season plants.

The best patriotic gardens usually rely on masses of color rather than one of each plant. A drift of red salvia, a sweep of white vinca, and a border of blue evolvulus will have more visual impact than scattered individual plants. Containers can also be effective, especially at entrances, porches, libraries, municipal buildings, churches, and memorial sites.

Beyond Color: Conservation and Education

While red, white, and blue flowers create an immediate visual connection to the anniversary, garden clubs can also use these plantings as educational opportunities. A patriotic garden can

Garden Clubs Help America Bloom for the Nations's 250th Anniversary

teach people about plant selection, pollinators, soil health, water conservation, and responsible maintenance.

Whenever possible, gardeners should consider including plants that support bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and other beneficial wildlife. Zinnias, salvia, pentas, mountain mint, coneflowers, and many native plants can add both beauty and ecological value. Even a themed garden can be designed with pollinators in mind.

Garden clubs may also offer programs on the history of American gardens, native plants, floral design, conservation, and regional gardening practices. These educational efforts help the public understand that gardening is not just about appearance. It is also about culture, ecology, and community well-being.

The U.S. Botanic Garden's America250 exhibit featuring official state and territory flowers is a wonderful reminder of the diversity of America's botanical heritage. Every state has its own flower, landscape, and garden traditions. Together, they tell a broader story about the nation's regional beauty and natural abundance.

Engaging Young Gardeners

Youth engagement is another important part of the Plant America spirit. Garden clubs have long supported youth programs, school gardens, junior garden clubs, nature camps, and environmental education. Programs such as Wekiva Youth Camp show how gardening and conservation can help young people develop curiosity, responsibility, and respect for the natural world.

America's 250th anniversary offers an opportunity to invite children and young adults into community gardening projects. Young people can help plant flowers, water containers, make signs, learn about pollinators, or interview older gardeners about local garden history. These projects teach more than horticulture. They teach service, patience, teamwork, and care for public spaces.

A child who helps plant a patriotic garden in 2026 may remember that experience for a lifetime. Just as many gardeners learned from parents, grandparents, neighbors, teachers, or club members, today's youth can become tomorrow's stewards.

How to Get Involved

Residents who want to participate in America250 gardening efforts can start by contacting local garden clubs, civic organizations, schools, churches, or municipal offices. Ask whether there are plans for patriotic plantings, memorial cleanups, pollinator gardens, or public beautification projects. If there is no existing project, consider starting small.

A single container garden can brighten an entrance. A few volunteers can clean up a memorial site. A school group can plant red, white, and blue flowers near a flagpole. A neighborhood can adopt a traffic island, park bed, or community sign. Local businesses can add patriotic planters. Families can plant a small America250 garden at home and use it as a way to talk about history, service, and citizenship.

Garden Clubs Help America Bloom for the Nations's 250th Anniversary

The key is participation. Not every project has to be grand. In fact, some of the most meaningful projects are modest, personal, and local.

A Living Tribute

As America approaches its 250th anniversary, gardeners have a unique opportunity to celebrate through living beauty. Planting red, white, and blue flowers, caring for Blue Star markers, supporting public gardens, and teaching young people about conservation are all ways to honor the past while investing in the future.

The Washington Garden Club, the Garden Club of North Carolina, National Garden Clubs, Keep America Beautiful, and communities across the country are helping remind us that civic pride can be planted, watered, tended, and shared.

A garden is never finished in a single day. It grows through attention and care. Perhaps that is why gardening is such a fitting way to celebrate America's 250th anniversary. Like the nation itself, a garden requires many hands, many seasons, and a continued belief that what we plant today can bloom for those who come after us.



Garden Club members work at
The Blue Star Memorial



Red, White and Blue floral yard
Display, Bath NC

Save the Date: October 26-28 Flower Show School 1



WHAT ARE FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS

Flower Show Schools are designed to educate a person on how to become a NGC Flower Show Judge or just come and learn how to put on a NGC Flower Show on for your club. In school you will study Horticulture, design, and Flower Show Procedure. There are four schools which must be attended to become a Flower Show Judge. A suggestion is for your club to consider a scholarship for 1 or more of your members. They in turn will bring knowledge to you club.

The brochure below will give you all the details you need to sign up for FSS I, October 26-28, 2026. Projections for FSS II will be held in April 2027.

If you have questions or would like more information please contact Mary Vacek, Flower Show School Chairman: 936-689-0328, mary.o.vacek@icloud.com



Save the Date: October 26-28

Flower Show School 1

Tri-Fold Flyer

Our Instructors

Gina Jogan



Gina Jogan Gina has been an Instructor : Design and Flower Show Procedure for NGC's Flower Show Schools (FSS) since 2002 and NGC Symposia, Design and Allied topics since 2004. She is an NGC National Garden Clubs, Inc. Accredited - Master Flower Show Judge, and Master Emeritus Consultant in NGC Gardening Consultant and Landscape Design. Gina is 2025-2027 Flower Shows and FSS Chair

Jan Griffin



Jan moved from the Seattle area to Florida where all the plants she knew would not thrive in Florida's climate. She joined a Garden Club and started her quest for learning about other varied and interesting plants. She became a NCG Flower Show Judge. She now teaches Floral Design classes as well as horticulture for Flower Show Schools and have developed several horticulture programs, for clubs, judges, and civic groups. Being actively involved in the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and Florida Show judges keeps her busy. She has served as Horticulture Chairman for six flower shows and several District shows. Her interests other than Garden Club are my family, golf and working in her friend's florist shop. Her comment to all her wonderful design friends is that you need great horticulture to create great designs

Required Reading

- *Handbook for Flower Shows 2017 Edition* revised July 2025, digital version is available free online at www.gardenclub.org/flower-show-schoolresources Headquarters phone # 800-550-6007
- *Outlines of Period Flower Arrangement*

All taking courses for credit must:

- Attend all sessions. Be on time.
- Have attendance verified.
- Bring *Handbook for Flower Shows 2017*, Revised July 2025.
- Outlines provided to study
- Pencils
- Review Page 124 of Handbook For FS, Course 1

Study Outline will be emailed in advance to registrants.

Please review material to understand what will be taught by the instructors.

LODGING

Hotel Information

Ramada Inn

1520 Blue Ridge Parkway

Raleigh, NC 27607

919-832-4100

Room Rates \$89 plus tax

Buffet Breakfast included

Deadline to book a room is

October 15, 2026

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL



Course I

**Growing, Staging, Exhibiting,
Judging**

October 26-28, 2026

JC Raulston Arboretum

4415 Beryl Road

Raleigh, NC 27636

Sponsored by

North Carolina

State Judges Council

State Flower Show Chairman

Mary Vacek

936-689-0328

mary.o.vacek@icloud.com

Registrar

Connie Goodson

1320 N. River Drive

Surf City, NC 28445

910-526-1898

Save the Date: October 26-28

Flower Show School 1

Tri-Fold Flyer



FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL is a comprehensive program with all you need to know about judging, entering, competing and chairing a National Garden Clubs (NGC) flower show.

Four (4) courses are scheduled over a two-three (2-3) day period each with its own curriculum in horticulture, design, and Flower Show Procedure (FSP) and may be taken in any order. **Course 1** is the perfect place to start!

All are welcome to attend. NGC members who take the full course with examinations are eligible for **CREDIT**.

- Become a flower show judge!
- Plan a beautiful, educational flower show!
- Learn more about horticulture and design!

Join this unique experience. Become an active part of Flower shows. Learn more about growing, preparing, planning, staging, and judging for smooth, seamless, successful shows!

Course 1 is facilitated through a variety of methods by NGC accredited, qualified instructors with outlines provided. See the NGC Handbook for Flower Shows and all related forms on GardenClub.org. Interested in learning more about flower shows? Visit NGC Flower Shows on GardenClub.org.

Learn:

- To display and critique horticulture and floral design
- Point-scoring to evaluate how entries are judged and see what it takes to get the blue ribbon.
- About awards, types of shows, and what committees are needed to produce a show.

Register early to guarantee space and supplies.
Clipboards provided.

Garden clubs are encouraged to sponsor and provide registration for at least one member

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL Course 1 AGENDA

Flower Show Procedure (FSP) & Design
Gina Jogan
Horticulture ~ Jan Griffin
Possession of Handbook required for CREDIT.
Must be on time and seated when sessions begin and attend all sessions. Please bring pencils, clipboard will be provided.
Personal devices must be silenced throughout all sessions and Exams.

Monday, October 26, 2026

1:15 Registration
2:00 Announcements
2:30-4:30 Flower Show Procedure (FSP)

Tuesday & Wednesday, October 27-28

8:00 (Tuesday) FSP Exam
8:00 (Wednesday) Design Exam
8:00 (Thursday) Horticulture Exam

8:30 - 9:00 Registration
9:00 - 9:15 Announcements
9:15 - 10:15 Design or Horticulture
10:15 - 10:30 Break
10:30 - 12:30 Design or Horticulture
12:30 - 1:00 Lunch
1:00 - 2:00 Design or Horticulture
2:00 - 2:15 Break
2:15 - 3:15 Practice Point Scoring
3:15 - 3:30 Break
3:30 - 4:30 Point Scoring

Flower Show School
Course I
October 26-28

Deadline to Register October 10th 2026
Complete form and mail check payable to NCFS Judges Council to Registrar Connie Goodson
1320 N. New River Dr
Surf City, NC 28445
conniejog@gmail.com

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Your Garden Club _____

Full Course, plus exam and lunch ___ \$170

Full Course, no exam and lunch ___ \$160

One Day - \$80 + \$20 Lunch

Total Enclosed ___

Checks payable to:
North Carolina State Judges Council
No refunds after October 15, 2026

More information is available on the GCNC website



Floral Design Principals

Submitted by Susan Hopper member Sardiswood Garden Club D3

Design Principles Applied to Floral Designs

When you begin to select the components for your design, give some thought to how they will help you conform to design principles when you arrange them. Think about their form, size, color, and texture. Are they suitable for the container? Are some overpowering, too small, too similar, too large a quantity? Remember, at the beginning, **you have control over selection and placement.**

Balance: actual balance means an object remains upright. In floral design, visual balance means the objects appear balanced from top to bottom, side to side, front to back. Symmetrical balance would be achieved if you could draw a line through the center of the design and like materials are placed in a mirror image. In asymmetrical balance, visual weight is achieved when different materials are placed so they provide a sense of equilibrium. The axis may or may not be in the center of the design. Dynamic balance is when the components are placed to create tension, rhythm, and interest. Think of putting two groups of objects on a scale. One group is a box filled with files and the other group is cans of vegetables. Visually they appear unbalanced but the scale may show they weigh the same. You are looking for visual balance.

Contrast: contrast is achieved when components differ from each other in color, form, light, line, pattern, size, texture. Think of a traffic sign and how color and form make it stand out from the background. Leaves, flowers and branches can be smooth, rough, scaly or bumpy.

Dominance: the emphasis or impact of one element over the others. In a traditional design, this is the focal point. In a creative design, it often is the center of interest. Think of assembling an outfit for a fancy occasion and the clothes are all black/one color. You can add jewelry to draw the eye.

Proportion: the relationship between amount and quantity of one area to the whole. It is not size Think about making a recipe for soup and you need to add spice; it may be a small amount compared to the quantity of liquid but it is in right proportion to achieve the desired result. Adding the same amount of spice as liquid would not be wise.

Rhythm: the dominant visual movement through a design; can be created with form color or texture; what leads the eye through the design. Think of a snake crawling through the grass; its form and color and texture lead your eye through the scene. Placement of materials draws the eye through the design.

Scale: the size relationship of one object to another; size such as small or large is apparent only when the object is compared to another object. Think of comparing an apple to a grape; in this instance the apple is large. Compare the same apple to a watermelon and the apple is small. Leaves and flowers come in all shapes and forms and will have size when compared to other leaves and flowers.

Bringing Creativity to Designs

Submitted by Susan Hopper Sardiswood Garden Club D3

Bringing Creativity to Design

The two processes you have most control over and that offer the most potential for creativity are selection and organization.

Selection refers to containers and plant material. Taking an object and using it in a new way can bring interest and an element of the unexpected.

Organization is the way you place the plant material in a design. You might place it horizontally or diagonally or even upside down. There are several techniques listed below to give you ideas.

Bending can be done to flexible branches and leaves. It adds a sense of rhythm and creates open spaces in a design.

Bleaching is soaking cones in a solution of 1/3 bleach to 2/3 water to draw out the color. It is best done on fresh cones rather than older ones where color is set.

Bundling refers to grouping leaves, stems or blooms much as you would for a bouquet. It adds substance to something that might be too delicate or out of scale for the design.

Collaring is grouping of leaves, flowers or stems around an object or larger bloom in a circular manner.

Layering might be as simple as putting three leaves of three different sizes together and placing them as you would a single leaf.

Painting or glittering is primarily used on dried materials. It can create a specific color or add shine to a flat surface.


Rolling is manipulating a flat leaf into a more 3 dimensional shape.

Weaving is interlacing materials to create a dimensional texture or pattern.

Wiring is inserting a wire up into the hollow stem to allow bending and shaping.

Unexpected objects can be included to add seasonality or surprise. For example: ornaments, novelties at the holiday season denote a sense of time, shells painted gold on the outside and clear crystals on the inside take them from beachy to holiday.

Unique Containers such as a shallow bowl with artistic design inside the bowl, vases with uneven edges, containers with pierced areas or etching are best displayed with a simple arrangement of plant material.



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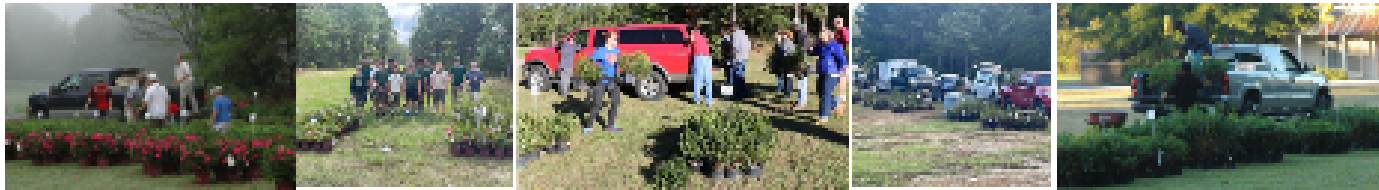
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Thank you for helping us celebrate 40 years of keeping our state beautiful!

Amazing Azalea Giveaway



GCNC Newsletter Submission

[WRAL Azalea Celebration: A Forty Year Tradition of Beautifying North Carolina](#)

For four decades, the WRAL Azalea Celebration in partnership with Keep North Carolina Beautiful (KNCB) has been quietly transforming communities across North Carolina, one complimentary azalea at a time. This fall, on Saturday, October 3, 2026, KNCB and Capitol Broadcasting Company are proud to present the 40th Annual Azalea Celebration, with the Garden Club of North Carolina joining as a partner to help spread the word, and the blooms.

The roots of this program trace back to one man's love of azaleas. In 1959, Capitol Broadcasting Company founder A.J. Fletcher personally oversaw the planting of 1,000 azaleas around WRAL-TV's studios on Western Boulevard in Raleigh, creating what would become the WRAL Azalea Gardens. "I did it because I knew it would be beautiful," Fletcher said. "It was simply my way of paying tribute to beauty for beauty's sake."

That five-acre sanctuary is still maintained today by CBC's property management team with active input from Jim Goodmon and his son, current CBC CEO Jimmy Goodmon. It remains a Raleigh landmark and a continuing source of inspiration.

In 1985, Jim Goodmon extended A.J. Fletcher's original vision statewide by launching the WRAL Azalea Celebration. The mission was to enhance community appearance, introduce new and unique azalea varieties, and establish lasting, well maintained beautification projects that communities across North Carolina could take pride in.

Today, WRAL, FOX50, MIX 101.5, and Keep North Carolina Beautiful proudly co-sponsor the program. "The WRAL Azalea Celebration is such a powerful example of how beautification can bring communities together," said Kyle Prairie, Executive Director of Keep North Carolina Beautiful. "For forty years, this program has inspired civic pride, volunteerism, and environmental stewardship across North Carolina, and we are incredibly fortunate and grateful to partner with WRAL and Capitol Broadcasting Company in helping continue this remarkable tradition for communities across our state."

The numbers tell the story. Over the past 39 years, more than 340,000 azaleas have been awarded to over 4,000 nonprofit organizations across the state. Each year, between 5,000 and 10,000 azaleas are distributed. The plants are cultivated for more than three years, potted in one-gallon containers, and stand two to three feet tall, fully ready for planting. Distribution takes place at the CBC transmitter site in Garner, North Carolina, where staff from CBC, KNCB and Boy Scout volunteers coordinate pickup for recipients from across the state.

Any 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization is eligible to apply for up to 100 azaleas. Applications for the 2026 Celebration will open soon, with a submission deadline of August 31. Because this is a first-come, first-served program and quantities are limited, early submission is strongly encouraged. Selected recipients will be notified by September 18 with pickup instructions.

Amazing Azalea Giveaway

In addition to the azalea distribution, the program recognizes outstanding stewardship through the A.J. Fletcher Award, named in honor of the man who started it all. Organizations that have maintained healthy, vibrant azaleas from prior Celebrations (calendar year 2021 or earlier) may apply for grant awards:

- First Place: \$500 and 100 azaleas
- Second Place: \$250 and 50 azaleas
- Third Place: \$125 and 25 azaleas

Each award also includes a gardening package.

"What makes this initiative especially meaningful is that these azaleas become lasting symbols of care, community pride, and investment in public spaces," Prairie said. "Garden clubs, nonprofits, schools, and volunteers all play an important role in helping create cleaner, greener, and more beautiful places for people to enjoy for years to come."

GCNC members are especially well positioned to champion this program, whether by applying on behalf of a qualifying nonprofit organization they support or by encouraging community groups to participate.

As an added incentive, the first 50 GCNC members who submit a qualifying application will receive a complimentary wildflower package for their own gardens. The package will include a quarter-pound of [North Carolina Wildflower Seed Mix](#) from [Eden Brothers](#) located in Arden, NC. Enough to cover a 300-500 sq. ft. garden, it is our way of saying thank you to the gardeners who help make North Carolina more beautiful every day.

To apply, submit the [Azalea Celebration application form](#) by August 31 by mail to:

Azalea Celebration
PO Box 10142
Raleigh, NC 27605
or by email to: AzaleaCelebrations@capitolbroadcasting.com

Learn more at wralgardens.com.



Gardening Across Generations

Submitted by member Elaine Cobb, Charlotte

I've been fortunate to learn from people with decades of knowledge, and I hope more people discover how valuable that experience is. All it takes is a Google search to see how many opportunities are out there waiting for you to jump in. Pick something and show up for the ride of your life.

When I first joined the Piedmont Daylily Club more than a decade ago, after wandering over from the playground attached to the church while their annual show was going on, the club gave me a recent introduction from a local hybridizer. As a new daylily enthusiast, I thought this was the best thing since iPhones! I was hooked. Did you see what happened? All they had to do was welcome me — a newbie — with open arms and I was hooked for life.

Those seasoned members knew exactly what they were doing.

At the time, I didn't realize I was stepping into something much bigger than flowers. I was stepping into friendships, encouragement, practical knowledge, and a whole community of people willing to teach someone new.

How do I do this? Well, the best way to do something is by doing it. Let's throw a 30+-year-old with 3 small kids into a daylily show and see how she does.

For my first daylily show, I wanted to do it all! I wanted to enter some scapes, enter a few in the off-scape competition, enter two arrangements in the design category, and photos in every category. Talk about running around like a crazy person! I got it done, but not without everyone's help.

A helpful lady, possibly Linda, a veteran exhibitor, gave instruction when I showed up with ungroomed stems to enter a flower show. She gave me recommendations like, "To start with, knock that dirt off..."

Flowers entered, I rushed over to the design section and in a panic said, "What do you think?" to Anne.

"I'd take away the lemons."

She was right. I was overdoing it. I took away the lemons, simplified my design, and headed over to place my vase with the seemingly perfect entries. Same for photos, of course I had just taken the photos the day before and picked up the prints recently. Let's choose the best ones for today.

Entering my first arrangement in a design competition, I thought I was doing them a favor by filling an empty slot. Boy was I wrong! What a huge favor they did for me.

Gardening Across Generations

Submitted by member Elaine Cobb, Charlotte

A lovely lady, let's call her Jill, helped with gentle suggestions and offers to bring more flowers and more greens. I thought I was filling the slot. They had bigger plans for me. How about a love of flowers, friendly competition, camaraderie, and coaching? Yes, I'll definitely take part in that.

I came for the flowers and somehow ended up learning life skills, event planning, and how to transport a scape without snapping it in half.

More than a decade after my daylily addiction began, a member and hybridizer from that same club invited my 10-year-old daughter, a budding hybridizer herself, over to see his hybridizing program and seedlings.

Emotionally, I was trying to figure out how to break the news to my mini-me that once she starts hybridizing, it will be a minimum of two years, probably three, before she sees any flowers from her crosses.

Right then, the hybridizer — we'll call him John — said in almost a whisper, "Don't worry... I'm giving her 10 pots of crosses I don't have room for. Some will bloom next summer, the others will take another year, and by the third year, her own crosses will be ready."

That moment stayed with me.

So much practical gardening knowledge still passes person-to-person — how to divide a plant at the right time, how to transport a scape without damage, which varieties truly perform well in our climate. These are things often learned beside another gardener, not through a search engine.

What I discovered while being surrounded by experienced gardeners is many sweet friendships and tons of information. I now have many friends to chat with about anything. Sometimes it's garden related, and sometimes it goes past the garden gate and into life outside the garden.

One garden friend, we'll call her Cathy, has children probably twice as old as my own kids. She will ask interesting questions like, "How old is your son?"

"Oh, 13? I bet he's starting to go to the gym. That's about the time that starts."

And me, eyes wide in disbelief: "Wow, yes! How did you know?"

How did you know?

Many people know many things. She was looking at my life through the eyes of someone who had already been there. She bought the t-shirt and savored the experience. She was glad I was there to visit as well.

A year later we spoke about the possibility of my son starting to drive a car. More sweet suggestions and, "Here's how I approached that nerve-racking experience."

Just like gardening advice, life knowledge gets passed down too.

Gardening Across Generations

Submitted by member Elaine Cobb, Charlotte

As one of the newer members of a garden club, and possibly younger by a few decades, I volunteered to head up the VP position by scheduling speakers and programs for our garden club year. Once again, I thought I had it all figured out. Once again, I did not.

I learned a lot that year.

The president, we'll call her Anne — different from the other Anne — committed to serving a second year. I agreed to stay in the VP position and work alongside her because we didn't want to stop learning and lose all the information we gathered during our first year.

I started paying attention to comments after meetings:

“She spoke too long.”

“That topic was too general.”

I learned to listen to my audience better. It seemed we all started getting antsy around the 45-minute mark. I also learned that sometimes people enjoy sitting and chatting together more than listening to another long presentation. More socials, possibly fewer speakers.

While planning field trips that year, I realized some members loved seeing new places together, while others appreciated the comfort and consistency of the regular meeting place. Experienced gardeners had already learned these things through years of trial and error. I was just beginning to understand them.

Intergenerational clubs help knowledge spread in a natural way. It's not just showing up for a meeting. It's listening to the speaker, asking questions, hearing things repeated, and slowly absorbing information over time.

I've been heard saying more than once, “Will you please tell me that again? I didn't write it down last time.”

Experienced gardeners don't mind telling you again. It's second nature to them. This living knowledge often isn't found online. It's found in the gentle conversation of a patient friend.

“I wouldn't plant that mint there. It will take over. You will regret that.”

I should have listened.

Many clubs are wondering how to attract younger members, but one of their greatest strengths is already there — generations of accumulated knowledge and welcoming faces.

It would be such a fun time to have more younger gardeners join garden clubs. There is so much friendship to share and knowledge to partake in.

Have you ever entered the grocery store to get eggs, bacon, and bananas and come out with eggs, bacon, a watermelon, cute cookies, a gallon of milk, and new gardening gloves? That's what happens in these clubs.

Gardening Across Generations

Submitted by member Elaine Cobb, Charlotte

Maybe you attend with the intention of learning something, and you end up with friendships you never would have found otherwise.

I'm a member of several garden clubs in this season of life. I hope to keep attending, welcome new members, and someday start to be on the "giving information" side of the conversation.

But maybe I still have more years of learning before I get there.

That's okay.

I'll enjoy this side for now, because in gardening — and in life — we never really stop learning.



Blue Bearded Iris
Iris x germanica
Photo courtesy of
Cherry Stone member
Waynesville Garden Club

Martha Franck Fragrance Garden

Submitted by Sheila Alexander

Martha Franck Fragrance Garden

Martha Franck, the garden's namesake, was president of her garden club in Durham when she traveled to Raleigh to attend a rally on women's suffrage and to hear Helen Keller speak. There's an informative article, "A Sense of the World," written by Josh Shaffer in Our State Magazine from December 20, 2010, that tells the history of the garden and how it came to be in Raleigh. Google it; you won't be sorry!

Currently, the Martha Franck Fragrance Garden is in the heart of the Governor Morehead School for students with seeing impairments. This 1.1-acre garden began following Raleigh's most devastating storm, Hurricane Fran, in 1996. Many large oak trees were lost during the storm, and the campus landscape had changed. In cooperation the GMS and GCNC worked together to build a new fragrance garden in the center of the campus. The garden opened in 2001. Originally, each section of the garden was maintained by an individual garden club.

Currently maintenance in the garden is being performed once every month by Raleigh Garden Club and Two Green Thumbs Garden Club of Knightdale. Members meet on the third Tuesday of each month.

Raleigh Garden Club member, C.J. Dykes, volunteers each Monday to work in the Rose Garden and helps with other maintenance as well. C.J. has a degree in horticulture and has a strong knowledge of rose care. He has removed diseased roses and replanted roses that are all very fragrant. Each new rose cultivar is named with an identification plaque. With C.J.'s care the Rose Garden is beautiful and flourishing.

In August 2025, we completed an application and site plan to request 25 Encore Azaleas from the WRAL and Keep NC Beautiful Azalea Program. Only 501c3 organizations can apply. We were awarded 60 1-gallon azaleas in October. 50 azaleas were planted in the garden and 10 were planted in gardens that Two Green Thumbs GC sponsors.

*Pictures are of the Rose Garden at the MFFG.

Rose Garden in the Martha Franck Fragrance Garden



Learning About JC Ralston

Submitted by Curt Lunchik

In May Bobby Ward delivered a fantastic presentation to the Fuquay Varina Garden Club. Bobby grew up in northeastern North Carolina and has an undergraduate degree in biology from East Carolina University and graduate degrees in plant physiology from North Carolina State University. He is a retired environmental scientist from Carolina Power & Light Company. Bobby is the author or editor of five gardening books and has written for *Horticulture*, *Carolina Gardener*, and *The Rock Garden Quarterly* magazines, and the *Raleigh News & Observer*. His book, *A Contemplation Upon Flowers: Garden Plants in Myth and Literature*, earned the Quill & Trowel Award from the Garden Writers Association of America. Bobby was profiled in *Horticulture* magazine in 2025 and described as "one of the most respected names in the world of horticulture." His most recent book is a biography, published by UNC Press, of the late J. C. Raulston, the founder of the North Carolina State University Arboretum. Bobby is here today to speak about Raulston and his impact on American horticulture.

So who was JC Raulston? He was a horticulturist and Director of the North Carolina State University (NCSU) Arboretum, Dr. James Chester (J.C.) Raulston became well known for growing and distributing plants. In 1976, Raulston worked with his graduate student Fielding Scarborough to develop the NCSU Arboretum and starting with 8 acres of land, the arboretum included woody and ornamental plants. The goal of the arboretum was to "affect the range and variety of plants produced and used in the N.C./ southeastern U.S nursery landscape industry". By 1980, initial membership into the arboretum began and new members were called "Friends of the NCSU Arboretum." Supporting Raulston's initiative to build new infrastructure, maintain the plant collection and purchase new plants, many nursery owners, arboreta, landscapers and horticulturists became members of the arboretum (i.e Sandy Creek Nursery, Sarah P. Duke Gardens, Sunbelt Planning Associates, etc.).

Visiting various nurseries and gardens all over the world, Raulston collected plants and seeds and brought them back to the arboretum for trial and allotment purposes. Growing and distributing plants in NCSU Arboretum became so popular, Raulston created NCSU Arboretum Plant Distribution lists and sent it to multiple botanical and research institutions. Over time the NCSU Arboretum became the JC Raulston Arboretum we know and visit today.



Citrus Grows in North Carolina

submitted by Curt Lunchik

Did you know that there are certain varieties of citrus that are sufficiently cold hardy to grow in Fuquay-Varina? One variety that does well here is the Citrumelo 'Dunstan' which is a child of contrasts: born of the rugged trifoliate orange (*Citrus trifoliata*, *Poncirus trifoliata*, or *hardy orange*) and the sunlit grapefruit (*Citrus paradisi*). Out of this unlikely marriage comes a fruit and tree of remarkable merit. Its golden-yellow spheres swell to nearly four inches across, exhaling a fragrance that, when touched with sugar, recalls the tart refreshment of a grapefruit plucked just shy of ripeness. Here is fruit that is both rustic and refined, bred for survival yet still hinting of the orchard's delicacy.

Garden writers and plant men have called 'Dunstan' perhaps the *best* of the trifoliate hybrids—"the best overall hybrid with 50 percent trifoliate parentage." It is not only its flavor that earns such praise, but its extraordinary constitution. Where ordinary citrus falter at the first winter frost, the 'Dunstan' endures. It is said to be among the hardiest of all citrus, a tree that will hold its ground in southern landscapes where grapefruit and orange could never hope to thrive. For gardeners seeking both sustenance and experiment, here is a treasure: hard to find, but worth the search.

The 'Dunstan' grows as a small, handsome tree with glossy, green leaves that unlike the hardy orange remains through the winter. In spring, fragrant white blossoms adorn its branches, whispering of the fruit to come and adding a sweet scent to the air. Come autumn, its yellow globes ripen, offering a harvest that is as much story as sustenance. A second bloom sometimes occurs in early summer yielding another set of fruit that matures in the winter.

This is not a fruit for every table, but for the adventurous grower, the historian of southern gardens, the seeker of hardy citrus, and the lover of heirlooms. In 'Dunstan' lies a lesson in survival, resilience, and the unexpected beauty of hybrid vigor. Seeds from this year's crop will be available at our November meeting or you can purchase this tree online.



Blue/Gold Star Memorial Price



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Blue/Gold Star Pricing Contact: Candace Wells

Pricing Effective Jan 1st, 2026 through December 31st, 2026

Marker, 7' post, shipping	\$2,460.00
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