



# Laurel Letters

Laurel District Newsletter

Winter 2021



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Dear Laurels,

I hope you all had a lovely Thanksgiving with family and friends. This has been a very busy season as we try to prepare for the holidays, do our shopping, attend our meetings, and some of us go to work.

**Raffle Ticket sales are underway for our fundraiser for the year.** Get your ticket now. Buy one or more and sell a few for The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. **The tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20.** This is your best buy and we all like a bargain. **First prize is \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup>-\$250 and 3<sup>rd</sup>-\$125.** It would be wonderful if every member bought a ticket or two. **The drawing will be held at the GCG Convention in Macon in April.** Remember to write Laurel District on the back of the stub.

**PLEASE mail your ticket stubs and money to:**  
**Winette Almond, 2073 Sutherland Bluff Dr. NE, Townsend, GA 31331**  
[walmon@darientel.net](mailto:walmon@darientel.net)

We have always promoted scholarships and now is the time to consider a donation. The scholarship committee will meet in February to see what we have to invest in our students. I encourage every member to give at least \$1.00 for "Dollars for Scholars" in January. Make someone a State Life Member where 50% of the \$100 goes to scholarships. Also, consider donating to all the other programs that we promote such as: State Botanical Gardens, Children's Garden, C. Burke Day Walkway, Cherokee Garden Library, Historic Landscape Preservation, Roadside Beautification, Natural Disasters, Penny Pines and any others.

Important Dates:

Deep South Garden Club Convention - March 6-9, 2022 in Natchez, MS.  
National Garden Club Convention - Orlando, FL on May 16-19, 2022.

**The 94<sup>th</sup> Convention of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.** will be held in **Macon on April 12 & 13, 2022 at the Macon Marriott City Center. Oleander District is hosting.** Our **NGC President, Mary Warshauer will be there.** Make plans now to attend. Don't miss out on the Fun and Fellowship! The recent **Garden Gateway** included a registration information.

**Remember Plant Native, Recycle, Reuse and Revitalize, Support all GCG Projects, Buy you Raffle ticket and check the Events Calendar often on the website and join in the activities both District and State.**

Wishing each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and may you and your family have peace and good health.

*Susan*

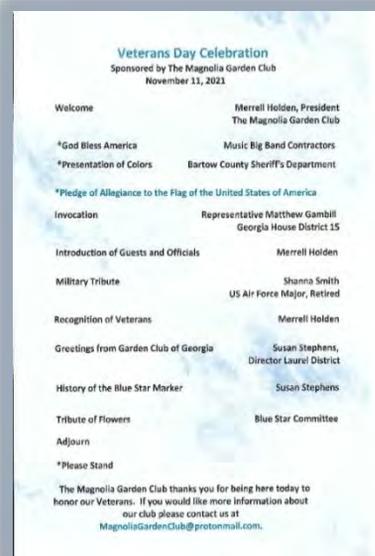
**Plant America with Health, Happiness and Fun**

# Magnolia Garden Club



## Magnolia Celebrates Veterans at Memorial Marker

The Magnolia Garden Club made an extraordinary effort in 2021 to celebrate Veterans Day at our Blue Star Memorial Marker. Our club members gather every year on November 11 to display a lavish wreath at our Blue Star Memorial Marker which was dedicated in 2016. This year we decided to invite several people from the local community including veterans and dignitaries for a program including a presentation of colors, invocation, music and a special speaker. Our goal was to let the community know that we are thankful for veterans. We also wanted to show that we are always looking for ways to partner with our community to benefit our homeland.



Beth Ward, a Navy Veteran and Blue Star Memorial Marker committee president, invited all club members and their friends and families to join her committee of six ladies at the marker for the service at 2:00 PM on Thursday, November 11, 2021. She had spruced up the wreath with a new ribbon and other careful touches. The committee arrived early to prepare for the celebration by setting up a table for the wreath and programs, placing a podium, installing the wreath stand and placing 50 chairs in front of the marker for guests. Saunders Jones, husband of club member Vicki Jones, provided a sound system for the speakers and the patriotic music by his band to be played

10A Saturday, November 13, 2021 • www.daily-tribune.com

Local

# HONORING OUR VETERANS

Susan Stephens, Magnolia Garden Club Treasurer and Laurel District Director, and Merrell Holden, Magnolia Garden Club President, invited dignitaries and press members to join the club for the program. We were joined by Will Anderson representing United States House Representative Barry Loudermilk, State House District 14 Representative Mitchell Scoggins, State House District 15 Representative Matthew Gambill, Cartersville Mayor Matt Santini, Bartow County Sheriff Clark Millsap, City of Cartersville Councilman Cary Roth, City of Cartersville Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem Calvin Cooley. Also joining us were Charlie Gambill and Sandy Scott from the Booth Museum, Earnestine Young Jones from WBHF Radio and Randy Parker from the Daily Tribune News.



RANDY PARKER/THE DAILY TRIBUNE NEWS

**U.S. Air Force Maj. Retired Shanna Smith was the guest speaker at the Magnolia Garden Club's annual Veterans Day ceremony at the Blue Star Memorial plaque on the grounds of the Frank Moore Administration & Judicial Center.**



RANDY PARKER/THE DAILY TRIBUNE NEWS

**Magnolia Garden Club president Merrell Holden addresses the attendees of the club's annual Veterans Day ceremony at the Blue Star Memorial plaque on the grounds of the Frank Moore Administration & Judicial Center.**

We were all inspired by our speaker, Shanna Smith (pictured in uniform to the immediate right of the marker), a US veteran who served 21 years in the Air Force. She talked about her experience with fellow airmen and said that it was an honor to defend freedom for our great country.



The Magnolia Garden Club will continue to celebrate Veterans Day annually on November 11 with the display of our wreath at the Blue Star Memorial Marker. We hope to include the community and veterans as much as is possible to show our appreciation for the sacrifice and love of country shown by the great men and women of the United States Military.



# *Mountain View Garden Club*

## *Garden Therapy Annual Project Gets Goodies in the Bags*



Every Easter, and again at Christmas, approximately 60 bags are prepared and delivered to Rebecca Blaylock Child Development Pre-School. Each bag contains 3-4 toys, a few candies, and a small package of cookies. Our bags are designed and made by our own Cindy Smith.

We also put together fun Christmas bags with assorted goodies including a small stuffed animal, games, and art supplies for the children each year. They love getting their goody-filled bags before leaving for Easter and Christmas breaks--and we love preparing and giving them.

***Committee: Joann Bell, Joan Fellows, Sallee Smith, Cindy Smith and Renate Starr***



# *Sope Creek Garden Club*

## Garden Club and Scouts Get the “Wild” in at McFarlane

Sope Creek Garden Club participated, along with Boy Scouts from Troop 1011, in the planting of over 350 plants to begin a small meadow installation at the McFarlane Nature Park in East Cobb. The approximately 10' x 40' space was prepared with an aerator to break up the soil, which is quite rich due to years of farming and grazing prior to establishment of the nature park. The plants were mainly landscape-size plugs, 5" x 2", of two different kinds of grasses, rudbeckia, heliopsis, solidago and vernonia. Members also contributed swamp sunflower and ageratum. The area was overseeded with baptisia, stokesia, liatris and clover.

McFarlane Nature Park is home to display gardens of Piedmont-native plants, established and maintained by Master Gardener Volunteers of Cobb County, some of whom are also members of Sope Creek GC. The Park also has a tree collection of at least one specimen of every Piedmont-native tree, and a collection of about 150 native azaleas, some of which were planted by Sope Creek members.

By Karin Guzy



# *Jonquil Garden Club*

## JGC'S Michele Cox presents the "Language of Flowers," Demonstrates How the Victorians Saved Romance

At the November meeting of the Jonquil Garden Club we were treated to an outstanding presentation, "The Language of Flowers," by our club member Michele Cox. She explained that for centuries gifts of flowers have carried hidden messages, but that this tradition "blossomed" during the Victorian era some 150 years ago, when society was extremely rigid and opportunities for interaction between the sexes were highly restricted by the prevailing manners of the day. For example, in company, a young woman was not allowed to enter a room without an escort, and a gentleman was not permitted to cross a room to speak to a lady in whom he might be interested.

But these social mores did not squelch romance nor stand in the way of budding relationships. Flowers became potent messengers, and bouquets sent and received conveyed sentiments that words could not.



Michele  
Cox



Every lady possessed a floral dictionary which detailed the meanings of the flowers grown in their Victorian gardens. For example, peony meant happy married life, red poppy indicated pleasure, primrose, "I can't live without you," and violet, "I'll always be there." We all know a red rose says "love," but a dark crimson rose meant mourning, a pink one, "please believe me," and a yellow one jealousy, or "try to care."

Michele had several books on the language of flowers for us to peruse, and her presentation concluded with our making our own "tussie mussies." Club members used some of the colorful flowers still blooming in Michele's garden along with fall berries, branches and evergreens, and she taught us how to arrange the elements and carefully wrap and hydrate stems. It was a fun, enlightening presentation, one that gave us a glimpse into the way of life of our flower-loving forebears!

By Heidi Hunt



***JGC President Lorelei Clapper joins Michele with a good read on Victorian tussie mussies.***



## Trayletaah Garden Club

Club Members Create Thoughtful Community Service Project



The Christmas Tree committee members from Trayletaah Garden Club trimmed a tree for display at the R.T.Jones Regional Library. All decorations were made from pine cones and dried plants and crafted into seasonal ornaments. The theme was “Pining for Christmas”.

*Pictured are Trayletaah members Sylvia Osborne, Liz Garner, Margie Watt, Rita Newell, and Kathy Cotroneo.*

# Ball Ground Garden Club

*Anetsa Ga-Da*



Ball Ground Garden Club members participated in the fundraiser for Toys for Toys and carried the club banner in the parade in Ball Ground on Friday, December 3.

## *From Our Gardens: Personal Submissions*



Thank you for colorful photos that highlight the beauty of the season.

**'Star Above Star' Camellia-Patti Whiteside, Laurel Garden Club**

**Front Door Design with Happy Pooch, Elaine Ness**



**Fatsia bloom,  
Shirley Priest,  
Jonquil Garden Club**

**Christmas Cactus,  
Sally Eubanks,  
Anetsa-Ga-Da (Ball  
Ground) Garden  
Club**



## *From the Editor*

Hello, Laurels,

Thank you to all who have contributed to Laurel Letters, Winter Issue, 2021. We would like to see more articles and photos to show what your clubs are doing because all clubs may draw from your ideas...and I've certainly seen some great ideas for projects with what has been submitted this year . Thank you again.

Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



*Shirley*

**Laurel Letters Newsletter  
Summer Issue  
Deadline – May 15  
Emailed - June 1**

**Fall Issue  
Deadline - August 25  
Emailed - September 15**

**Winter Issue  
Deadline - November 19  
Emailed - December 15**

**Spring Issue  
Deadline - February 25  
Emailed - March 15**

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*'Star above Star' Camellia  
Patti Whiteside, Laurel Garden  
Club*

