



# Laurel Letters

Winter 2020-2021

Laurel District Newsletter



District Director  
*Marie Purser*

Co-Director  
*Susan Stephens*

Recording Secretary  
*Shirley Priest*

Corresponding Secretary  
*Sue Tucker*

Treasurer  
*Edna McClellan*

Chaplain  
*Betty Jane Tilley*

Parliamentarian  
*Jackie Fulmer*

Advisors  
*John Barnett*  
*Jackie Fulmer*  
*Edna McClellan*

Hello to everyone,

I hope all of you are healthy and had a great holiday. This crazy 2020 is over and hopefully we will all have a safe and prosperous 2021.

Garden Clubs have survived by being creative - meeting in parks, outside venues, and Zoom meetings. As a new year approaches, try to think of ways to stay in touch and attract new members.

President Reports are due in February. When doing your report, you may be surprised how much your club has done even with COVID restrictions. When answering this report's questions take note of things your club might add next year, and use the President's Report to plan your upcoming activities so you can check even more boxes for 2021's report.

Our next Board meeting is still being planned for February 18<sup>th</sup> in Cartersville, hosted by the Magnolia Garden Club. More information will go out in early January.

My goal when I became Director was to visit as many clubs as possible. Well, here we are in the final quarter of my term and of course, I have not been able to visit and meet you.

Someone said the other day "you have had it easy as Director". Not being able to meet in person, having to do everything by mail, and the extra paperwork required has made it anything but easy. I will, however, say that the friends I have made have been the best part.

I am in the process of mailing award certificates out to each club. If you have a new President, please let me know so I can update my records and send the paperwork to the correct person.

I wish each of you a Happy New Year!

*Marie*

# Ball Ground (Anetsa-Ga-Da) Garden Club

## **What a process to design and implement a new botanical garden entrance!**

The Ball Ground (Anetsa-Ga-Da) Garden Club has transformed the entrance from City Hall to the gardens at the Ball Ground Botanical Garden. The overgrown limelight hydrangeas and narrow walk-way have been totally redesigned and updated. With the help of our own member Sharon Wilson, who completed the National Garden Club's four-part landscape design course hosted by the Rome Federated Garden Clubs, we were able to design a plan. We then used her new knowledge to oversee the implementation of the new entrance. Over four full work days, members and their families aided in the addition of this new feature to our garden.

To be more inviting, the walkway was widened and Hollywood junipers, which are the focal points on each side, were placed so that their arms are open to the entrance as a subtle welcome to all. Evergreens of different colors, textures and shapes add interest to the design. A variety of plants - some common and some rather unusual and rarely see - were also added.

Please come visit our garden - 215 Valley Street, Ball Ground, GA 30107.



### **The Process - Dismantling the old entrance**

A giant rock buried in the area became a focal point in the new entrance. Pictured on the right are Danny Lowry (member); and Pete Congiundi (family).



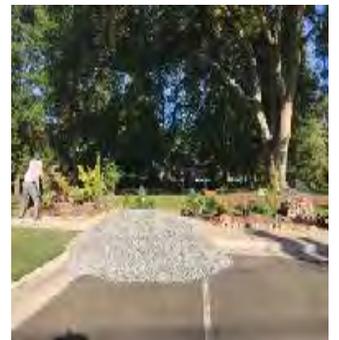
The ground was terraced and the soil amended. Stack stone was used to outline the beds; flagstone was placed for the walkway. Pictured above are Sharon Wilson (member); Pete Congiundi (family); and Joe Kitchens (member). Placing the stack stone are members Judy Dougherty, Lynne Worthington, and Karen Kitchens. Pete Congiundi is roto-tilling the soil amendments in final preparation for the plants.

## Ball Ground (Anetsa-Ga-Da) Garden Club continued



### Choosing plants and materials

Trucks drove 1 1/2 hours away to Piccadilly Farm in Bishop, GA to choose plants. Above is project leader Sharon Wilson with a load of plants. Members who helped with the plant delivery were: Mike Smith, Diane Smith, Sally Metz, Theresa Dorfling, Sharon Wilson, and Beverly Poag.



Planting are Sharon Wilson and Danny Lowry. Once the plants were in, 5 tons of slate rock were laid over the garden surface as a permanent mulch.



### The finished entrance

Many hands made "light work". Notice the Hollywood Juniper and the famous rock – it ended up being a nice surprise addition to the garden.

Sharon Wilson, proud project leader.

# Important Notices

- **The April convention in Valdosta has been cancelled.**

As much as we hate to do so, considering all the uncertainty regarding the virus, cancelling at this point is the best option. The health of our members is our primary concern. Postponing the convention was also considered, but should we have to cancel a rescheduled convention, (a very likely possibility) the financial penalties would have been much greater. If you have already made hotel reservations, please cancel them.

*Barbara Bourque, GCG President*

- **Congratulations to our newly elected officers for the term 2021-2023**

Director – Susan Stephens

Co-Director- Joanne Burke

Recording Secretary – Cheryl Briscoe

Treasurer – Dee Anne Wyse

Caroline Alford has agreed to serve as the Corresponding Secretary

Edna McClellan has agreed to serve as the Parliamentarian

Marie Purser, John Barnett and Edna McClellan will serve as Advisors.

The Director, Susan Stephens, will have to be approved by the Garden Club of Georgia and will be installed in April 2021 possibly in Athens. Other officers and positions assigned by the Director will be installed at a time and place to be determined.

*Marie Purser, Laurel District Director*

- **Save the Date**

**Pond and Garden Tour - Cartersville, GA**

[https://www.facebook.com/  
Pond-and-Garden-Tour-Cartersville-  
GA-1158258410874882](https://www.facebook.com/Pond-and-Garden-Tour-Cartersville-GA-1158258410874882)



# Interesting facts

**PLANTS THAT KEEP BUGS AWAY**  
FLEAS, TICKS  
**ROSEMARY**

**PLANTS THAT KEEP BUGS AWAY**  
SPIDERS, MOSQUITOES, ANTS  
**PEPPERMINT**

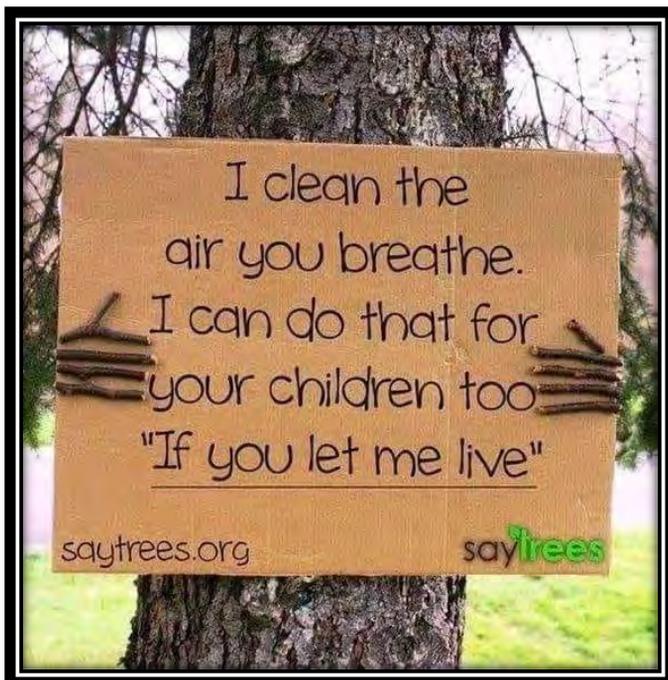
**PLANTS THAT KEEP BUGS AWAY**  
MOSQUITOES  
**CATNIP**

**PLANTS THAT KEEP BUGS AWAY**  
MOSQUITOES, APHIDS  
**MARIGOLD**

**PLANTS THAT KEEP BUGS AWAY**  
MOSQUITOES, HOUSEFLIES  
**BASIL**

**PLANTS THAT KEEP BUGS AWAY**  
MOTHS, FLEAS, FLIES, MOSQUITOES  
**LAVENDER**

The infographic consists of six rounded rectangular panels arranged in a 2x3 grid. Each panel features a title 'PLANTS THAT KEEP BUGS AWAY', illustrations of various insects, a list of the insects, and the name of a plant that repels them. The insects shown include fleas, ticks, spiders, mosquitoes, ants, aphids, houseflies, moths, and flies. The plants shown are Rosemary, Peppermint, Catnip, Marigold, Basil, and Lavender.



# Magnolia Garden Club Cartersville



The Magnolia Garden Club celebrated Christmas with a beautiful luncheon with all safety precautions. Each member brought an unwrapped toy to be donated to Toys for Tots. Pictured is Marie Purser, Laurel District Director, Barbara Bourque, Garden Club of Georgia President, Susan Stephens, director elect for 2021-2022 and Sandra McMillan, Magnolia Garden Club President.

Pictured below: Sandra McMillan, President, Jennifer Macie, Susie Lackey, and Anne Coultas.

Jennifer and Susie are members of the Bartow Beekeepers Club and shared their experiences as bee keepers. Bees are responsible for approximately 80% of all fruit, vegetables and seed crops in the U.S.



This tree was planted by Lynn Frye in honor of Mrs. Becky Davidson, a local teacher, who passed away in 2020 of cancer.

Pictured left to Right is Dee Ann Wyse, Marie Purser and Sandra McMillan Marie Purser, Director of Laurel District presented Sandra McMillan, President of Magnolia Garden Club and Dee Anne Wyse, Awards Committee Chairman, a number of awards that were recognized 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in a Medium size club, for the year 2019.





*The GCG Scholarships Committee wishes each of you all the best this Holiday Season and in the New Year!*

We continue to share our appreciation to all of our contributors and trust you will make Scholarships a part of your giving before year-**end**...**No** later than January 2021.

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. provides scholarships to eligible students Majoring in garden and environmental related fields of study enrolled in accredited Georgia Colleges & Universities. <http://gardenclub.uga.edu/scholarships.html>

*Doing any Holiday Shopping on Amazon this year?*

**Don't forget to make The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. your Preferred Charity with our AmazonSmile Program.**

You shop. Amazon gives.



- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).

Your purchases will provide Scholarships support from The Garden Club of Georgia Inc. Start shopping at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-0706724>

**So many ways to contribute to our GCG Scholarships Program**

- Named Scholarships and Patrons of Scholarships
- Contributions for the General Scholarships, Brown Thrasher & Cherokee Rose Funds
- All the above may be given as an Honor or Memorial Contribution
- Participation in the *Dollars Educate Scholars* Fundraiser – Start NOW!
- Life Memberships
- Subscribing Memberships – A Great Holiday Gift with Garden Gateways included!

Our grant recipients are dedicated to our mission of *Beautification, Conservation & Education*.

**We are here to help with your scholarships questions~**

Susan Turner, Scholarships Chairman, 770-922-4411 [glencee@bellsouth.net](mailto:glencee@bellsouth.net)

Rosemary Maulden, Assistant Treasurer, 912-267-9623 [rosemarymaulden@bellsouth.net](mailto:rosemarymaulden@bellsouth.net)

## A message from the editor...

Our Laurel Letters is very short this edition. Many of our clubs have not been able to meet due to the Covid virus. We are hopeful that with the new vaccines which have been developed will halt the wide spread of the virus.

I wish each of you good health, peace, and much joy in the New Year. I am hopeful that we may return to normal and are able to meet again in 2021.

*We are looking for a someone to serve as the Editor for Laurel Letters beginning the 2021-2023 term.*

Please contact me if you would be interested in serving in this capacity. It is a lot of fun to see what all the clubs are doing and find out about all the wonderful projects going on in Laurel District. It has been my pleasure to serve as Editor since 2017.

Susan Stephens

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770-547-4026 phone or text



## Laurel Letters Spring Issue

Deadline – February 25

Emailed – March 15



# The End