



# DEEP SOUTH MATTERS

Published four times a year

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## From The Desk of the Director

2013 – 2015 Deep South Region Theme “Share the Beauty of Gardening”

“Happy New Year” everyone. I hope you all had a wonderful, restful, happy holiday, and now are ready to get back into the full swing of garden club activities for 2015.

At this time of year we start planning (or continue to plan) for the upcoming spring events such as flower shows, conventions, etc. The big event for the Deep South each year is the Deep South Convention. The 2015 Deep South Convention will be held in

Birmingham, Alabama, and the garden club members in Alabama are in “full swing” planning for a great convention. The dates of the convention are March 24-26 with the opening night on Mar. 24. The program for that evening is a Dinner “Tailgate party” with a sports hat contest and entertainment. “What fun.” Some other highlights of the convention include great programs with speakers such as Margot Shaw, the Founder/Editor of Flower Magazine, and Jason Powell, with a program entitled “Petals from the Past.” We will be treated to a tour of Birmingham Botanical Gardens, and the gardens should be beautiful at this time of year. A wonderful design program is planned with a designer from each District in Alabama designing for us. Also included will be educational workshops, such as “Fun With Flowers,” Composting, etc. The registration form and the schedule of events are included in this newsletter, and are on the Deep South website, [www.dsregion.org](http://www.dsregion.org). We hope you all plan to come to Alabama and enjoy every minute of the DS convention entitled, “Sweet Home Alabama.”

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The next big event coming up in 2015 is National Garden Club’s annual Convention to be held May 15-17 entitled “Endless Possibilities.” It will take place in Louisville, Kentucky. Again, wonderful programs, workshops and tours will be held. Some programs include Dr. Paul Cappiello, Ex. Director of Yew Dell Gardens, Jon Carloftis, a Garden Designer, and floral designer, Bill Harper, will present a design program. There are 11 tours planned including the tours for spouses, and eight educational workshops. The registration form and schedule is on the NGC website, [NGC.org](http://NGC.org), and also in “The National Gardener”. You won’t want to miss this convention either.

I hope to see you soon at some of the wonderful gardening events planned, and do continue to “Share the Beauty of Gardening”.

**Gloria Blake** 2013-2015 Deep South Regional Director

### Mission Statement for the Deep South Region

The Deep South Region is dedicated to advancing the objectives of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and to coordinating the interests and the projects of the six states in the region.

The primary objectives are horticulture, gardening, landscaping, floral design, civic beautification and environmental concerns, with emphasis on fellowship, scholarship, stewardship, and leadership.

## Editor's Message

### Editor's Welcome

Ol' Man Winter has really paid a visit to Northeast Florida! We are huddled up, bundled up, and fed up! Ready for warmer weather to head our way, and we are **beginning** to see hints of the arrival of spring. For sure, Garden Clubs across the nation are in full swing with activities. Flower Shows, Symposia, NGC Schools, Field Trips, District Meetings... and, very importantly, CONVENTIONS!

In the Deep South, we are preparing to descend upon Birmingham for the Deep South Region Convention, hosted this year by the Garden Clubs of Alabama, Inc. Our hosts are planning an event that we will all enjoy. You will find in this issue of all the materials you need to register and to make plans. A Schedule is included so that you will know all about the things we can look forward in "Sweet Home, Alabama." Trece Chancellor, President of Alabama, and her team will extend their special brand of Southern Hospitality to us, and you **DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!**

Then, in May, we will all be heading to Kentucky for the NGC Convention, to be held in Louisville. The title for this convention is, "Endless Possibilities" and I don't know about you, but the title alone is intriguing and makes me want to attend! We as Southerners are especially fond of getting together with old friends, making new friends, and learning more about all facets of our Garden Club world. I know your State Conventions will also be very special events!

In this issue, you will find an article by Judy Greenberg, DSR Adopt-a-Park Chairman who has researched the park systems in the Deep South states. She has planned her trek to Alabama, with her husband, so she can visit some of the parks along the way. Great idea, don't you think? You might plan to visit one – or more – of the beautiful parks along the way as you travel to Birmingham. Of course, those who are flying will miss out on this.

Now is the time to consider giving a Deep South Region Life Membership to someone deserving of this special recognition. In this way, you can thank them for their contribution to garden club and to their commitment to serving DSR. You may contact the DSR Life Membership Chairman Bess Hartley, (229)768-3577 or [bhartley@windstream.net](mailto:bhartley@windstream.net). What a thrill it will be to give or to receive this award during the DSR Convention!

No matter the weather in your area, we know that Spring is on the way. As someone once wrote, "Every gardener knows that under the cloak of winter lies a miracle...a seed waiting to sprout, a bulb opening to the light, a bud straining to unfurl. And the anticipation nurtures our dream." Enjoy this special season of transition as we move into the glories of Spring, leaving solemn winter behind.

Jan  
Jan Sillik, DSM Editor

Reminder - The deadline for the Summer Issue of DSM is April 15th.

### Regional Directors Schedule 2015



Jan. 13-15, 2015 – FFGC Board Meeting, Winter Park, FL  
Jan. 26-29, 2015 – Executive Board Meeting, Las Vegas, NV  
March 24-26, 2015 – DS Convention, Birmingham, AL  
March 27-28, 2015 – The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.,  
Convention, Birmingham, AL  
April 14-16, 2015 – The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.,  
Convention, Jekyll Island, GA  
April 17-19, 2015 - FFGC Convention, Boca Raton, FL  
May 14-17, 2015 – NGC Convention, Louisville, KY

**LISTEN UP!** We need your support with the Convention Program Booklet for "Sweet Home Alabama". If you haven't ordered your ad, you need to do so ASAP. **The DEADLINE IS MARCH 6<sup>th</sup>**. The details and templates are in this issue of DSM. Contact Reita Grant, Ad Chair: [rgrant@farmerstel.com](mailto:rgrant@farmerstel.com).

Adopted May 19, 1994  
I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forest, land and wildlife.



## Regional Roundup

### Alabama Trece Chancellor

Just as the New Year rang in, I began to receive Club President's reports. On a cold winter's day it warms my heart to read all that the garden clubs are doing. Some are truly amazing and will be shared in the "Club President's Wheelbarrow of Ideas" in upcoming issues of the Hortensia. The Garden Club of Alabama can be proud of all the work our members are doing "Sowing Seeds of Service."



On January 6, 2015 Linda Stephens and Ann Houston our Awards Chairmen brought all the Districts together to have the Annual Awards Meeting in Prattville. At this meeting we read all the winning applications for awards and place them in awards for Regional and National. I wished each of you could see all the work that is done by our members. It is so rewarding to read about the community involvement and the projects you do. Linda and Ann have gone the extra mile to help anyone who needed assistance with the applications and even giving advice on how to improve applications when necessary. We thank them for their time and dedication.

The Board of Directors was held at the Botanical Gardens on January 20, 2015. We had an enthusiastic crowd offering help in the upcoming Deep South Convention and Garden Club of Alabama, Inc. Convention.

To all the Regional Presidents: Please encourage your members to come and share the comradery at the Deep South Convention in Birmingham, AL.

### Florida Sue Angle

FFGC members continue to enjoy education from NGC Schools being held throughout Florida.

Flower Show Schools are being held in Gulf Breeze, Fort Myers and Port St. Lucie; a Gardening Study School in Winter Park; a very successful Landscape Design School was just completed in the Miami



area; and an Environmental Study School is being planned in Pensacola.

Our members worked hard to get the Water and Land Conservation Amendment on the ballot in November, and then did their part to get the voters out to get it passed. It became a Historic Victory, passing by 75 percent of the vote, the highest level of support for a conservation-related constitutional amendment in Florida history! Hurray!

Following our January Board of Directors meeting, members enjoyed a dinner of Sonny's BBQ and a very special informative & stimulating program by John Moran and Dr. Lesley Gamble, Co-Directors of the Springs Eternal Project. We were inspired by their focus on our water problems and solutions for our Florida Springs, and both were presented FFGC's Earth Steward honor for their significant contributions toward protecting our natural resources.

FFGC has published a fun and exciting book containing 235 pages filled with pearls of wisdom, tidbits, and snippets about gardening, horticulture, design, supplies, techniques, tips and tricks all submitted by FFGC members. It is available for only \$15.00 from our headquarters Garden Shoppe by calling 407 647-7016.

We look forward to attending the Deep South Convention in Birmingham as we make plans for our own 89<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention to be held in Boca Raton April 17-19.

As we journey together "Through the Garden Gate" we insure that we pass on "Our Legacy to Our Future."

**WILDLIFE HABITAT** – a home for animals, birds and other wildlife. By establishing a Wildlife Habitat in your yard, you will help to offset the loss of natural habitat due to urbanization and pollution. To attract wildlife, four basic requirements are necessary: food, water, shelter and reproductive sites.

For information, contact Dee Bartcher, DSR Backyard Habitat Chairman, [bartcher@cfl.rr.com](mailto:bartcher@cfl.rr.com)

## Regional Roundup

### Georgia Suzanne Wheeler

The State Board of Directors of The Garden Club of Georgia just completed the annual winter meeting. The two highlights of this meeting were the dedication of a Blue Star Marker at Martha Berry Museum at Berry College in Rome and the presentation of the GCG Seal of Honor to Timothy D. Brown, Director of the Martha Berry Museum and Oak Hill, Home of Martha Berry. He was honored for his efforts in the restoration of the gardens at Oak Hill.



Members are looking forward to the annual convention which will be held on Jekyll Island in April. "Georgia's Coastal Magic" promises something for everyone - a tour of the turtle center, a water workshop, a design workshop, presentation of awards, and the installation of our new officers. Our own DSR Director, Gloria Blake will be our honored guest.

2013 - 2015 has seen members donate record money to scholarships, roadside beautification, and Founders Memorial Garden. We have Scattered Joy as we've Bloomed and Grown."

### Louisiana Yvette Hebert



Fall was in the air as I traveled the state in October to the District Meetings. How marvelous it is that we are such a diverse state with each District placing its own footprint in the environment. Each District had such wonderful exciting programs: Floral Design, "Threatened & Endangered Species in Southern Louisiana," Horticulture ("Nutrient Deficiencies in Ornamentals") and "Delightful Discoveries at Every Bend" in Iberville Parish. Each District Director, sponsoring club(s) and all those who worked so hard made each District Meeting so successful!

New educational opportunities are available through the Landscape Design School which will be held in Baton Rouge, LA at the Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd. Course I Series XIX will be January 26-27, 2015 and Course II Series XIX will be January 28-29, 2015. These will be back to back courses. You may take both or one. Anyone may attend. See our website [[lgcfinc.org](http://lgcfinc.org)] for registration forms and information about the school.

Gardening Study School Course III will be in February 24-25, 2015 in Lafayette, LA. Information is available on the website ([lgcfinc.org](http://lgcfinc.org)) for anyone wanting to attend.

Flower Show School IV will be March 18-20, 2015 in New Orleans, LA. Contact Carrie Martin, Local Chairman at 985-893-3285, Cell 985-373-4960 or [mart3285@bellsouth.net](mailto:mart3285@bellsouth.net).

Plans are full steam ahead for the 2015 LGCF Convention to be held April 22-23 at the Isle of Capri Hotel, Lake Charles, LA. On April 21 there will be a tour of Shangri LA Botanical Gardens and Nature Center, Orange, Texas. All of the above events are on the website ([lgcfinc.org](http://lgcfinc.org)). Great programs have been planned as we enjoy our meals. One does not want to miss Awards Night and the Installation of New Officers as we say so long to one administration and welcome to a new one.

The Cleanest City Contest Forms are beginning to arrive for the deadline February 1, 2015. District Judging will take place March 16-20, 2015 and State Judging will take place April 7-17, 2015. Our goal is to be able to say that every nook and cranny in Louisiana deserves the "Cleanest City Designation." LGCF believes that when you enter, you already have won, because it shows the desire of the community to want to be litter free and beautiful!

Another school in the works will be Flower Show School, Course I, July 30, 31, August 1, 2015. It will be held in Lafayette, LA at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center. It's not too early to place these dates on your calendar for we all get busy and forget. More information is on the website ([www.lgcfinc.org](http://www.lgcfinc.org)).

Also, place on your calendar, the dates for Environmental Schools I and II which will be September 22-25, 2015 in the Monroe area. More information will be on the website ([www.lgcfinc.org](http://www.lgcfinc.org)) at a later date.

## Regional Roundup

My wish for this coming year would be that the world could know peace and harmony. I was reminded of the song "Peace on Earth"...

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be!

With God as our Father, brothers all are we.  
Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me. Let this be the moment now.  
With ev'ry breath I take, let this be my solemn vow;  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me!  
Words by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

Until next time in  
"Nature's World Where Everything Belongs"..  
Yvette Hebert, LGCF President

### BEND AND STRETCH

#### Gardener Exercises

Gardening is one of the nation's most popular outdoor pastimes. However, it can cause stress injuries, tendonitis and other physical ailments. Doing warm-up exercises will help with injury prevention. STRETCHING EXERCISES will be extremely beneficial. Taking time to change your gardening routine a bit will go a long way to help prevent injuries.

#### Remember these important slogans...

For Smokey Bear: Only YOU Can Prevent Wildfires!  
For Woodsy Owl: Lend A Hand – Care For The Land!  
Use them for Posters in your Clubs and Districts

### Mississippi Mary Lynn Powers

In November, Mississippi celebrated Veteran's Day with the installation of a Blue Star Bi-way Marker in Diamondhead at a

wonderful little neighborhood park and then the following week Clarksdale installed their marker in the downtown area. The day of Clarksdale's installation could not have been any colder, but it was still a wonderful ceremony.

Several clubs held home tours and flower shows during December. The Leland Deer Creek Garden Club celebrated 50 years of *Christmas on the Creek* with a home tour included in the activities. The day was lovely for walking through the town, meeting friends, having lunch and perusing all the storefronts open just for the day.

Excitedly Mississippi is hosting the Flower Show Judges Symposium in Hernando on Feb 12-13. Instructors are Julia Clevett and Dot Yard. This should prove to be an exciting event for our winter days. Registrar is Pat Young: 901 604 6735.

Soon we will be having our state conventions with lots of flowers and greenery. Yea!!!!

Mississippi's convention will be in Batesville in April. As far as I know, Batesville has never hosted a state convention before so this should be quite a new experience for us all.

Mississippi will also be holding Landscape School 4, probably in April but currently the dates are being rescheduled to accommodate some of the instructors, more on that later. If you need Landscape School IV, be sure to call Melanie Gousset 662 226 9666 to get on her list.

Ole man winter just won't let go of us. I imagine we will have several more weeks of this rainy miserable winter before we begin any warming of the weather. Personally I know spring is coming when I see bulbs beginning to emerge from the ground and I cannot wait!



## Regional Roundup

### Tennessee Ann McCormick



This fall was a busy time for TFGC with district meetings, our 62nd annual Conservation Camp at Pickwick Landing State Park, the annual fund raisers for our headquarters at the Ivan Racheff House and Gardens (which are a bulb sale and a Green's Tea), the dedication of two Blue Star Markers, as well as many NGC flower shows across the state.

Our Conservation Camp was a great success with exceptional speakers on subjects such as rills and channels in the garden, Japanese flower arranging, Japanese floral designs, backyard composting, birds, butterflies, and trees. The workshops were innovation, creative and fun. Our favorite state naturalist emeritus, Mack Prichard, concluded our meeting with an exceptional talk on conservation efforts in Tennessee.

Our Greens Tea is an event where we get out the silver service, our best table cloths and dishes, and indulge in scrumptious goodies that members have prepared. Members have created beautiful wreaths, swags and centerpieces using various greenery from the area. There is a bake sale with homemade delicacies. There are other items to purchase to enhance our homes and enlarge the coffers at Racheff, our headquarters, and the gift shop is open for business.

I was fortunate to receive an invitation from President elect, Pam Dowd, to the annual fund raiser for Cheekwood Botanical Gardens sponsored by TFGC District II and the Nashville Horticultural Society in December. This event, Sparkling Settings is indeed splendid. Tables are set using the very best china, crystal and silver to more casual table settings with a prize going to the best in several categories. A delicious lunch was served to those seated at each table. Silent auction items, including a lush doggie bed filled with goodies for a canine friend, raised as much as \$850 for some individual entries. I don't know the final figures for the fund raiser, but it was certainly an amazing occasion and greatly appreciated by the staff of Cheekwood. Thanks to Pam Dowd, Chairman, who doesn't expect to hold that position next year due to prior commitments that will require much of her time.

We, in Tennessee, are looking forward to 2015 and another year of continuing to enjoy and learn, and benefit our communities and beyond through garden club membership.

Ann McCormick  
Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

### SEVEN FACTORS OF LEADERSHIP

1. SELF-DISCIPLINE - acting within a set of rules or principles. A leader does not need external motivation to ensure performance.
2. PURPOSE – developing determination to achieve your vision and objectives. The leader is empowered to direct the efforts of members.
3. ACCOMPLISHMENT – defining results in terms of meeting needs of members and the organization. Effective action is the basis for successful results.
4. RESPONSIBILITY – embracing duties and obligations that grow from the trust given to you. A strong leader owns the results of decisions and shares in consequences.
5. KNOWLEDGE – the foundation of successful leadership! Fundamental, strategic and tactical knowledge will further skills as a leader.
6. LADDERSHIP – working cooperatively with members to reach agreed-up objectives.
7. EXAMPLE – your actions are a model for the others in the group. The leader's character sets the tone as members observe and copy the leader.

Excerpted from "*Making Meetings Meaningful*",  
written by Andrea T. Little,  
Certified Parliamentarian

As Gertrude Jekyll stated, "The love of gardening is a seed that once sown never dies."

## Calendar of Events

### Alabama

Mar 24-27, 2015 Deep South Convention, Birmingham, AL  
March 27-28, 2015 – The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., Convention, Birmingham,



AL

### Tennessee

Mar 17 - 19, 2015 - NGC Flower Show School IV, TFGC District I, Memphis Botanic Gardens  
Mar 23 – 25, 2015 FSS Course III - Ellington Agricultural Center, 440 Hogan Road, Nashville, TN  
Apr 22 - 23, 2015 - TFGC Convention, Doubletree Hotel, Jackson, TN



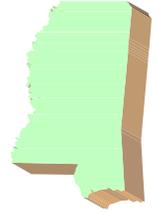
### Florida

February 24-25, 2015 Environmental Studies School, St. Augustine  
Mar 15-17, 2015 Spring Symposium, St. Augustine – District IV  
Mar 18 - 19, 2015 Landscape Design School, Course IV, Miramar  
Mar 23 - 25, 2015 Flower Show School, Course II, Ft. Myers – District IX  
Mar 26 - 28, 2015 Flower Show School, Course III, Gulf Breeze - District I  
Mar 31 - April 2, 2015 Flower Show School, Course II, Pt. St. Lucie, District X  
Apr 17-20, 2015 FFGC Convention, Hosted by Districts XI & XII, Boca Raton  
May 26-28, 2015 Flower Show School, Course III, Gulf Breeze – District I  
June 16 – 18, 2015 Short Course, UF/FFGC Gainesville



### Mississippi

Feb 12 - 13, 2015 Flower Show Symposium, First Regional Library Headquarters, 370 West Commerce St., Hernando  
Apr 14 - 15, 2015 GCM 86th Annual Convention, Batesville – Holiday Inn Express, Batesville



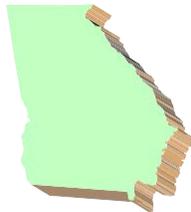
**GARDEN CHORES ...** Early spring is when new growth appears in our gardens. It's a time to remove any dead or broken stems and leaves from shrubby herbs such as lavender, rosemary, sage, thyme, or tarragon. There is no need to prune now unless plants have become leggy or overgrown or spent flowers are remaining from previous season. After woody herbs bloom in spring or summer and flowers fade, you can then lightly shape them. Pruning will improve the look and vigor of the plant and encourage new growth.

Wait until danger of frost is past to start your cilantro and dill and wait until soil warms to 60 degrees to plant basil. Remember to regularly deadhead all herbs by pinching off new flowers to encourage new growth. Plant the herbs you love and also experiment with something new. Learn along the way, have some fun and harvest herbs for your table.

Reprinted from *Smoke Signals*, the magazine of Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

### Georgia

Jan 21, 2015 North Georgia Native Plant Symposium, Athens  
Jan 29, 2015 Basic Design I (Unit 5 - Creative and Miniatures), Thomasville Garden Center  
Feb 27-28, 2015 Gardening Study School Course III, Augusta  
Mar 17-18, 2015 Environmental Studies School, Tifton



### Louisiana

Mar 24-25, 2015 DS Region Convention, Birmingham AL  
Apr 21, 2015 Pre-Convention Tour - Lake Charles  
Apr 22 - 23, 2015 LGCF Convention - Lake Charles LA



### MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

#### It's Our Future

Deep South Members: Membership continues to be a challenging priority. Caroline and I believe there are three groups of people we are not reaching – the more mature, the young adult and the just retired.

- Our more mature members – Life changing situations result in many members relocating to retirement or assisted living homes. Garden Club members can reach out to these displaced members by forming working clubs in these facilities. In GCM we have started clubs which met monthly. The ladies enjoyed it so much they decided to meet weekly.
- The young women – The “stay at home” and working mothers with small children and the carpooling mom who is constantly on the road for ballgames, dancing, music, Scouts need a time in their busy schedule to take a break. Maybe a lunch time meeting would cater to their need. In Atlanta a young group of friends decided to have a “play day” for their pre-schoolers while they shared gardening information. A club was soon formed. As the children grew so did the club. Today it is registered with 40 members.
- The newly retired - These men and women are ready for a challenge. They are looking for something fun to do. Now is the time for clubs to share their knowledge and experience along with their plants. Encourage them to try container gardening, growing veggies in pots, a small space garden, flower arranging.

How can we grow our Garden Clubs and attract dedicated enthusiasts? The key to success is MENTORSHIP. An investment of time from you and your club members is required to get a group involved. A new member must be welcomed and quickly made to feel a part of the group. There is something for everyone in a club so discover their interests. Then plan some short programs that cater to these interests through teaching and illustrating the “how to”.

Have fun sharing! Mentoring is time well spent.

Caroline Silcox, GCG

Nancy Moore, GCM Deep South Membership Committee

### BE A BEEKEEPER

Have you ever thought about being a backyard Beekeeper? You do not need a lot of money to get started. I am not talking about the Honey bee, I am talking about the native bees. They do not produce honey, they are gentle and are Solitary Bees that do not dwell holes but live in already made or supplied holes. They love natural habitat such as trees that have fallen and of course the reeds that can be bought from Crown Bees. While your bees are in hibernation this is the perfect time to be thinking ahead. Like where am I going to put the bee house, what nectar plants am I going to be planting? This is the time of year to start thinking and planning. In this article I am going to talk about the nectar loving plants that the bees love. Plant them and the bees will be sure to stay in your yard and pollinate everything in your garden and if your neighbor is lucky their garden too.

Leaf cutter bee is a generalist, and will pollinate most flowers. It flies in the upper 70 degrees to 100 plus. It's the perfect summer bee to raise. Yes the leafcutter bee uses leaf bits from non-fibrous leaf material. Here's a motto that you'll want to memorize. “A yard with nice holes in leaves is a healthy yard!”

The Mason Bee are hardworking Pollinators and studies show that spring mason bees pollinating cherries can produce double the fruit then from just honey bees.

The Powderpuff shrub also called *Calliandra Haematocephala* is hardy in zones of 9-12. It grows and flowers best if grown in full sun. Well established plants can tolerate occasional periods of drought. They can be kept to a smaller size by a yearly trimming after flowering is over in the spring. They can grow up to 10 feet tall with an equal spread, but dwarf, 3-6 foot varieties are also available. Their flower heads consist of hundreds of red, pink or white stamens that are attractive to bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

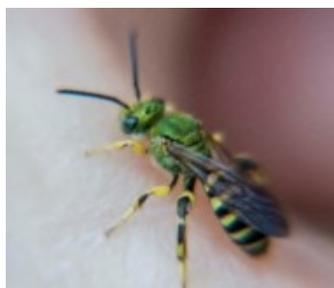


## Features

I talk about this shrub because I have one in my yard and there are hundreds of bees all over it. In the chilly nights of Florida the bees have been living underneath the leaves and I can actually lift the leaf up and look at the bee. The types of bees I have found on my flowers are the sweat bees. They are a great pollinator and a welcomed site in my yard. This one actually landed on me, then went on its way. They are so busy that they do not mind if you are there, they just go about their business, POLLINATING.

This is why it is so important to have a diversity of plants flowering all season. By having several plants for all seasons you can support a range of bee species that fly at different times of the year.

In April when the leaf cutter bees start emerging there will be plenty of nectar plants for them to enjoy thanks to all the other species of bees that have been pollinating my flowers all winter. Remember do not use pesticides; this is one of the leading factors in the death of our bees. Use local native plants. Native plants are four times more attractive to native bees than exotic flowers in gardens. Refuse to use plants with Neonicotinoids. Ask at the counter where you buy your plants where they keep their pesticide-free plants. So now is the time to start planning and planting.



Christy Linke  
Deep South Region Bee Chairman

### In Memory Carol Brown

Carol passed away unexpectedly on December 26<sup>th</sup>. She served on the Deep South Region Board as the Roadside Beautification Chairman, and also served in various capacities in her home state of Florida for her club, district and state board. She served as Community Gardens Chair for the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Board of Directors and was Immediate Past President for the Boca Raton Garden Club. Carol was a valued and cherished member of her club, district and of FFGC. She will truly be missed.

## FUN WITH FLOWERS

*Article by Claudia Bates, Flower Show Chair, DSM  
Photos of Gainesville Garden Club, Florida - Jan Sillik, demonstrator*

Do you have FUN WITH FLOWERS? This is a double-sided question. Do you have FUN when you arrange flowers for entertaining? For your home? In Florida we have a program called "Fun With Flowers" that is affordable and FUN! FWF is a hands-on, step-by-step workshop and participants go home with a floral design that is charming and professional-looking. The brainchild of Jan Sillik, Jan and her friend, Lilly Craig, began the program at the Garden Club of Jacksonville and then Jan took it statewide. Clubs use it as a recruitment tool, with workshops publicized and open to the public. Costs are in the \$15-\$25 range to enable as many as possible to attend.



There are two types of workshops: (1) with a leader/instructor that is a local florist, and (2) a program led by a garden club member, with the club paying for all materials and the club making a profit with each workshop. As an example, if a florist leads the workshop, each attendee may pay \$17 and the workshop leader receives \$12 to \$14 per student. This includes all materials. The Club makes a small amount per person to help with fixed expenses (set-up, room rental if needed, etc.) and the florists have their expenses covered, as well as reaching potential customers! It's a win-win for everyone!

In Gainesville, Florida, we started this program as a SERVICE to our members; we held monthly workshops with seasonal designs, i.e., September did a football themed design-October we did a Halloween or Autumn design, November a Thanksgiving design, December, a Holiday design, etc. In the first year we realized WITHOUT trying, a profit of over \$1,000. The profit was due to members leading the workshops, the club buying all materials in bulk

## Features

(Dollar Tree is a great place for cute seasonal containers) - flowers from a wholesale florists and/or our grocery stores and floral foam, oasis from a wholesaler.

Over 60 clubs in Florida are now offering a Fun with Flowers Program at least several times per year. One club, Wildflowers Circle of the Gainesville Garden Club, goes to a local nursing home once a year-they buy coffee mugs at the local Goodwill store, and bring flowers, greenery and oasis and lead a workshop for the residents there.



Everyone participates in making an arrangement for their rooms; this has been rewarding to the members in seeing the joy and pride in those participants' arrangements.

The clubs who have a regularly scheduled workshop at least four times per year report a growing group of enthusiastic members who are matriculating into more creative designs; those who are not interested in Creative design still have a large group who love to make arrangements for their homes, for friends in the hospital and for events. The sense of pride and accomplishment in creating professional looking designs is a bonus to your membership and just one more reason to become an enthusiastic garden clubber!



For more information, plan to be at the Deep South Convention at the Marriott Grandview Hotel in Birmingham. There will be an informative workshop demonstrating the types of designs and we will be available

to answer your questions. The Workshop will be held on Thursday at 2:15. We hope to see you there.



### THE BEES OF ETIQUETTE, FOR NGC SCHOOLS STUDENTS

- Be on time
- Be prepared
- Be aware of surroundings – cell phones off
- Be quiet- chatting makes it difficult for others to hear
- Be in your seat during the instruction – breaks are planned
- Be attentive to lectures
- Be appropriately dressed, comfortable, not TOO casual
- Be courteous at all times – to fellow students and instructor
- Be kind to one another – in class and in point scoring
- Be fair in filling out the evaluation forms
- Be all you can BE – and more
- Be of good cheer – the end will appear!

*Written by Barbara Vance for The National Gardener*

## Features

### Adopt a Park: Investigate & Inspire Others

#### My Adopt -A -Park Journey to “Sweet Home Alabama “: 2015 Deep South Convention

##### ***What do you think about when you hear the word “park”?***

*Do you think of packing the kids in an RV for snow capped mountains, spectacular canyons, geysers, painted deserts, cypress swamps, or white sand beaches? Or perhaps, you think of the playground around the corner, a stroll along a river walk or a quiet moment in a kayak. A man-made theme park like Disney might be included in the mix, and regardless of how you interpret the word “park”; nature is part of the experience and having fun is probably the goal.*

##### ***How can you “Adopt -A - Park”?***

*I find that it must start with the heart. Establishments may have legal forms and formal programs for adopting a park, but I believe that Helen Keller expressed the how of adopting a park with the following words: “The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched, they must be felt with the heart.” If you have it in your heart to see that our beautiful parks are sustained for future generations, then you will adopt a park in some meaningful way.*

The Deep South is rich with state parks, and my Adopt – A – Park Journey to “Sweet Home Alabama” began a few years ago. FFGC’s President at the time, Jan Sillik, asked me to serve as FFGC Adopt- A – Park Chairman, and then following her administration, I accepted FFGC President, Sue Angle’s challenge to merge the Adopt-A-Park Chairmanship with the Greenways & Trails Chairmanship. I began this challenge by investigating the management challenges of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection State Parks Division with 171 parks, greenways & trails.

As fate would have it, Gloria Blake invited me to serve as Deep South Adopt-A-Park Chairman last year; thus expanding the geographic boundaries for my investigations. My thoughts turned to gathering some basic information about Deep South Parks. Wow - What a task for one article! So to narrow the scope, I’ll just focus on the three states that I’ll traverse on my journey to “Sweet Home Alabama”: Florida, Georgia and Alabama. My husband Gary and I live a couple of miles as the “sand hill cranes fly” from Paynes Prairie State Park just south of

Gainesville, Florida. We’ll hop on I-75 Saturday, March 21 for our first overnight stay at the George Bagby State Park in Fort Gaines Georgia. Then Sunday morning we’ll head north to Monte Santo State Park near Huntsville, Alabama for a two night stay in one of the cabins. We have friends living in Huntsville and plan to meet up with them at the park. Tuesday morning we’ll head back south thru Alabama to Birmingham and the remainder of our “Sweet Home Alabama” vacation. Safe Travels to you and consider visiting a state park along the way!

#### **Florida State Parks – Celebrated 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2010**

Government Oversight: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Management Accountability: Florida Park Service

Goal for Management: Create a sense of place by sustaining and making available the best of Florida’s diverse natural and cultural sites to the public. Helping visitors connect with the *Real Florida*.

Scope of Management: 161 Parks and 10 State Trails encompassing 800,000 acres and 100 miles of sandy beaches.

#### **Georgia State Parks – Celebrated 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2006**

Government Oversight: Department of Natural Resources

Management Accountability: State Parks & Historic Sites

Goal for Management: National model for quality service, resource protection, recreation opportunities, ecosystems management and heritage interpretation.

Scope of Management: 63 Parks/Historic Sites

#### **Alabama State Parks – Celebrated 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2014**

Government Oversight: Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Management Accountability: Alabama State Parks Division  
Goal for Management: Acquire and preserve natural areas for recreational facilities and extend public’s knowledge of natural environment.

Scope of Accountability: 22 Parks encompass 48,000 acres of land and water.

Judy Greenberg , Adopt a Park Chairman

*Spring will unlock the flowers to paint the laughing soil.*

Reginald Heber

## Flower Show School

**Course III TBA** See NGC website for update

**Course IV- TBA** See NGC website for update

## Environmental Studies School

**Course I, February 24-25, 2015-St. Augustine, FL**

Registrar: David Farah [dcfarah@gmail.com](mailto:dcfarah@gmail.com) (904)460-4863

## 2015 Gardening Study School

### Course IV

**May 1-2, 2015 - Augusta, GA**

Local/State Chairman: [Judith Kirkland](mailto:judith.kirkland@knology.net)  
[judith.kirkland@knology.net](mailto:judith.kirkland@knology.net) (706) 556-3417

### Required Reading

The reading for this course is the NGC subscription publication [The National Gardener magazine](#). There are several ways to order the magazine and there is more information available on the NGC website.

## 2015 Landscape Design Study Courses

### Course II

January 5-6, 2015 - Marietta, GA

State Chairman: [Jane Whiteman](mailto:jane.whiteman@ngc.org) (404) 252-4473

### Required Reading

"[Stewards of the Land](#)" along with the NGC subscription publication [The National Gardener magazine](#).

*Newscape* – the NGC Landscape Design Newsletter

- Newscape Spring 2014, • Newscape Fall 2013,
- Newscape Spring 2013, • Newscape Spring 2012,
- Newscape Fall 2011

## 2015 Tri-Refresher (ESS, LDS, GSS)

**TBA** See NGC website for updates

## 2015 Symposium Schedule

**February 12-13, 2015 - Hernando, MS**

Local Registrar: Pat Young (662) 429-3060

Instructors: Julia Clevett, "With a Spin of the Wheel...Color"

Allied Topic: "What Type Judge Are You?"

Horticulture: Dot Yard. Allied Topic: "The Handbook, Where Are We Going?"

**March 16-17, 2015 - St. Augustine, FL**

Local Registrar: Lois Hannabury-Deno (904) 461-5448

Instructors: Design: Julia Clevett, "Creativity, New Trends and Techniques"

Horticulture: Tina Tuttle, "Cacti and Succulents"; Allied Topic: "Arboreal"

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT ...

FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULES – The vital importance of the Schedule cannot be overstressed! Especially when having a show evaluated and when applying for a Flower Show Achievement Award. Make sure your schedule writers have followed the instructions as closely as possible. Check the schedule over TWICE, at least, first on the district level and then on the state level. The schedule should be sent to the proper chairmen well in advance of the show to allow for any corrections that need to be made. So, write a wonderful schedule, stage a beautiful show and ENJOY!

### Color Choices MATTER in the Garden

Color can make the difference in a memorable garden and a mediocre. Small spaces appear larger when cool colors are used. Larger spaces appear more intimate when warm colors are incorporated. Remember, color affects us emotionally, and you will want to make sure you have a pleasing aesthetic experience when viewing and visiting your garden. Remember....the Design Principles (proportion, scale, balance, dominance, rhythm and contrast) and the Elements of Design (line, form, pattern, texture, and color) should always be taken into account in garden planning.



DEEP SOUTH REGION

2015 Convention Registration
'SWEET HOME ALABAMA'
March 24 - 26, 2015

Hosted by The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.
Grandview Birmingham Marriott Hotel
3590 Grandview Parkway, Birmingham AL 35243-1946

Registrar Use Only

Reg. No: \_\_\_\_\_

Check No: \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit No: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL CHECK (PAYABLE TO DSR 2015 CONVENTION) ALONG WITH THIS REGISTRATION FORM TO:
Sybil Ingram, Registrar, DSR Convention 2015, 154 Sugar Drive, Pelham, AL 35124 \* 205-733-9536 \* sybil40@charter.net
Confirmations will be emailed. For USPS mail acknowledgment of registration, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.
GCA Members must submit two separate checks when attending both conventions: Separate checks made to DSR & GCA

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION ON FORM
(Use separate form for each attendee)

Name (LAST) \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ (As you wish it to appear on your name badge)
Address \_\_\_\_\_
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ State Federation \_\_\_\_\_
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone) \_\_\_\_\_
Vegetarian Meal required \_\_\_\_\_ Special Dietary needs (medical only) \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE ALL CATEGORIES WHICH APPLY TO YOU

- Deep South Officer Former Deep South Director State President Delegate
Deep South Life Member NGC Board Member Garden Club Member Alternate
Deep South Council Member NGC Life Member Guest/Spouse/Companion

TWO-DAY FULL-TIME PACKAGE PLAN

Includes Registration Fee, Wednesday and Thursday lunches and banquets...Must be postmarked by March 6, 2015

Table with 2 columns: Package Name, Price. Includes Wednesday, March 25 and Thursday, March 26, 2015 (\$175.00) and GCA Members Package Plan (\$155.00).

PART-TIME REGISTRATION/MEAL PLAN: MEMBER, SPOUSE, COMPANION, GUEST

Circle day(s) attending...Must be postmarked by to March 6, 2015

Table with 4 columns: Category, Days, Price per day, Total Price. Includes Deep South Member Registration, GCA Member, Spouse/Companion/Guest, and various meal options for Wednesday and Thursday.

OPTIONAL MEALS

Table with 2 columns: Meal Name, Price. Includes Tuesday, 'Tail Gate Party' - Sports Hat Contest/Entertainment (\$30.00).

TOUR - (Transportation included)

Table with 2 columns: Tour Name, Price. Includes 'Cocktails in the Garden' Wednesday (\$15.00) and Tour Birmingham Botanical Gardens/Reception.

ANY REGISTRATION POSTMARKED AFTER MARCH 6, 2015 ADD LATE FEE OF \$25 .....

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE .....

No refunds after March 6, 2015. Registration Fee is non-refundable - NO WALK-INS

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND ANY PROGRAMS, MEALS OR WORKSHOPS

Hotel reservations must be made directly with the Grandview Marriott Hotel. Reservation Group Name DSRGCA.

(800) 229-9290 or (205) 968-3775 \* \$113.95 Rate includes hot breakfast buffet/double occupancy

If registering online follow this link

Click here to make reservations



**2015 Convention Schedule of Events**  
**“SWEET HOME ALABAMA”**  
**March 24-26, 2015**

**Tuesday, March 24**

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm.....	Convention Registration	Front Lobby
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm.....	Cocktails	Hotel Lounge
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.....	Dinner “Tailgate Party”	Birmingham Rooms I – II & III
	Sports Hat Contest/Entertainment	
8:30 pm –.....	Executive Committee Meeting	Shelby Room

**Wednesday, March 25**

6:30 am.....	Breakfast	Hotel Restaurant
8:00 am – 5:00 pm.....	Convention Registration	Front Lobby (Closed during meals)
8:00 am – 8:00 pm.....	Flower Workroom Open	Jefferson Room
7:30 am – 9:15 am .....	Educational Exhibit Setup	Birmingham Rooms V - VI & Hall
8:30 am – 9:15 am .....	DSR Council Board Meeting	Birmingham Room IV
10:00 am – 5:00 pm.....	Vendors Open	Birmingham Rooms V - VI & Hall
10:00 am – 11:30 am .....	DSR Business Meeting Open	Birmingham Room IV
11:45 am – 1:45 pm.....	Lunch/Program	Birmingham Rooms I – II & III
	<b>Speaker: Margot Shaw</b>	
	<b>Founder/Editor in Chief of <i>Flower Magazine</i></b>	
2:15 pm – 5:00 pm.....	“Cocktails in the Gardens”	Buses leave from Outside Main Lobby
6:15 pm – 7:00 pm.....	Cash Bar	Hotel Lounge - Atrium
7:00 pm .....	Awards Banquet	Birmingham Rooms I – II & III

**Thursday, March 26**

6:30 am.....	Breakfast	Hotel Restaurant
8:00 am – 5:00 pm.....	Convention Registration	Front Lobby (closed during meals)
8:00 am – 8:00 am .....	Flower Workroom Open	Jefferson Room
10:00 am – 5:00 pm.....	Vendors Open	Birmingham Rooms V- VI & Hall
9:30 am. – 11:15 am .....	DSR Business Meeting	Birmingham Rooms IV
11:45 am – 1:45 pm.....	Lunch/Program	Birmingham Rooms I – II & III
	<b>Speaker: Jason Powell</b>	
	<b>Petals from the Past</b>	
2:15 pm – 3:00 pm.....	Workshop	Birmingham Room IV
	“Fun with Flowers”	
3:15 pm – 4:00 pm.....	Workshop - Composting	Birmingham Room IV
	<b>“Captain Compost” – William E. Cureton</b>	
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm.....	DSR State Pictures	Atrium
	Florida 5:00 pm	Mississippi 5:10 pm
	Georgia 5:20 pm	Tennessee 5:30 pm
	Louisiana 5:40 pm	Alabama 5:50 pm
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm.....	DSR Reception	Atrium
7:00 pm – 10:00 pm.....	Design Banquet	Birmingham Rooms I – II & III

**Friday, March 27**

6:30 am.....	Breakfast	Hotel Restaurant
8:30 am – 9:30 am .....	DSR Incoming Board Meeting	Birmingham Room IV

# 'Sweet Home Alabama'

**Deep South 2015 Convention  
March 24-27, 2015  
Birmingham, Alabama**

The Program Book for the 2015 Deep South Convention offers you an opportunity to honor your Regional, State, District and Club officers; to celebrate your achievements, salute your members and, at the same time, help defray Convention expenses.

Rates for ads are, as follows:

Full page 7.5 x 4.5 inches black & white inside program page	\$125.00
Half page 3.75 x 4.5 inches black & white inside program page	\$ 75.00
Quarter page 1.75 x 4.5 black & white inside program page	\$ 45.00

Checks made payable to: **'DS Regional Convention 2015**

**Deadline for ads: Friday March 6, 2015**

All ads must be camera-ready and must meet the exact measurements given above.

Half page and Quarter page ads must be horizontal

Submit camera ready ad and payment to:

Reita Grant, DS 2015 Ad Chair  
86 Mims Avenue, Rainsville, AL 35986  
256.638.4194 [rgrant@farmerstel.com](mailto:rgrant@farmerstel.com)

To submit electronically (preferred) in MS Word or JPEG format, email to

Reita Grant [rgrant@farmerstel.com](mailto:rgrant@farmerstel.com)

# 'Sweet Home Alabama'

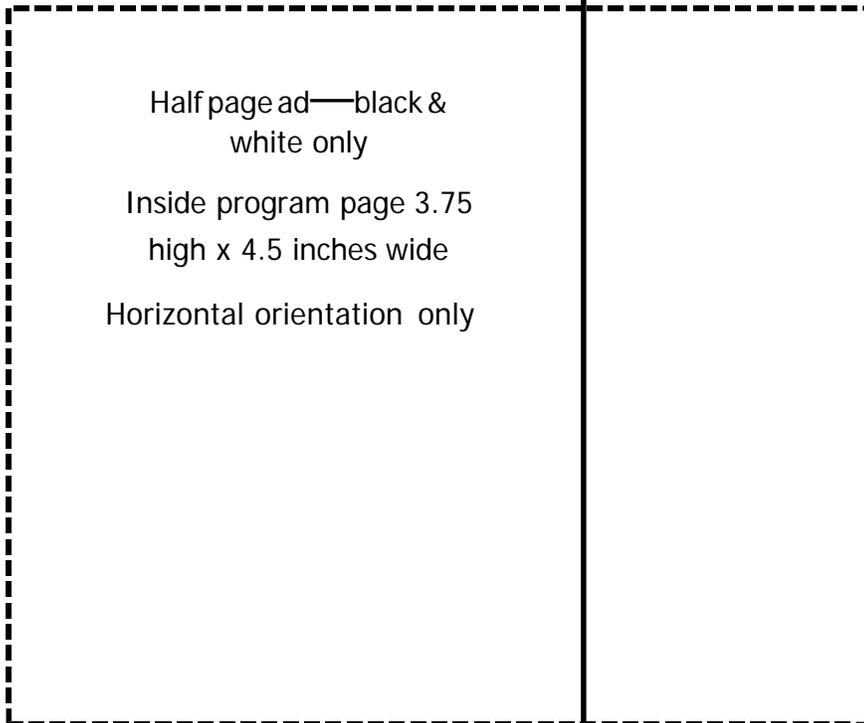
Deep South 2015 Convention

March 24-27, 2015

Birmingham, Alabama

- ◆ Please use the following templates for developing your Deep South 2015 Convention ad.
- ◆ All ads MUST be camera-ready. All ads must be black & white.
- ◆ Committee reserves right to refuse and refund any ad that does not meet the stated printing requirements.

## PROGRAM BOOK ADVERTISING TEMPLATES



Full page ad—black & white only  
Inside program page  
7.5 high x 4.5 wide  
Vertical orientation only

