

Greetings to the members of the Deep South Region of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and to the visitors of this website!! On this Award winning website, you will find information about the Deep South Region (DSR) and the State Garden Club organizations that make up this region. Club members will find this information useful as they plan their meetings, programs and projects for the upcoming garden club year. Specific information includes 2015-2017 DSR Awards and Deep South Unified Regional Project (DSURP). Take time to check out the Committee & Projects and the Forms pages frequently as updated reports are posted. On the Deep South States page, you will find the most recent Deep South Matters, the NGC Award winning, quarterly newsletter. You will also find educational opportunities listed by state.

Those that think life in the Deep South is slow paced do not know much about “garden club life” in the Deep South. Slow paced is never a phrase I would use to describe the events and opportunities that the many active garden club members take advantage of throughout the year. In just the past few months, many have attended the Deep South Region, State and National Garden Clubs, Inc. Conventions where they attended workshops, programs and learned of the Awards their hard work garnered for the year. Garden Clubs in the Deep South Region are alive and well and meeting the many challenges their communities face.

The members of the Deep South Region are no strangers at taking action whenever the need or the opportunity arises. Whether located in large cities or small towns, members’ sense of place lies within their communities, be it a subdivision, neighborhood, or the entire town.

The natural landscapes of the Deep South Region states are among this Nation’s most beautiful and are quite diverse, ranging from the Great Smokey Mountains to white sandy beaches, with rolling hills, prairies and deltas in between. Natural resources are abundant and so are the challenges. Litter control, declining aquifers and educating citizens on the health aspects of gardening are just a few.

The 2015-2017 Deep South Region Theme, “*Service Through Action*”, addresses the fact that to serve our communities by beautifying, conserving water, teaching or learning, etc., requires *Action*. The Deep South Unified Regional Project (DSURP), “*Community Action*”, directs clubs to initiate a project or projects within their communities involving Environmental Efforts, Gardening Efforts and/or Educational Efforts. This two year project will involve DSR Clubs, State Organizations and Youth. Cash Awards offered for Club Competitions are significant and meant as incentives for clubs to begin and complete a new project and to apply for an award.

DSR Alternate Director, Nancy Moore, is serving as the DSURP Chairman. Please read the complete DSRUP information on our website and contact Nancy if you have questions.

The DSR Council roster, which is composed to the DSR Officers and DSR Chairmen, may be found on the DSR website, [www.dsregion.org](http://www.dsregion.org). I encourage state chairmen and club members to contact these DSR Chairmen if you have questions or need or want to share information.

During the hiatus that most garden clubs have during the summer, use this time to replenish your energy and ideas to be refreshed and full of creativity for that September meeting. Garden clubs have so much to offer their communities through knowledge, experience and their willingness to share. *Service Through Action* is the vehicle – take it for a ride!

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”  
— Mahatma Gandhi