

 **June, 2017**

 **Volume 2, Issue 1**

**GCNC President’s Newsletter – Snippets**

**“Growing Forward Together to Plant America”**

 Spring has come and summer is near; all around things are changing. The conventions are over, new officers are being or have been installed and we’re beginning to start afresh with a new year. Thank you club presidents, district directors, vice directors, category chairmen, officers, for taking up the challenge and effort that it takes to keep this organization going. Without you, we could not survive. Thank you to our members, who support us also. We will strive to keep them more involved with what is going on at the State, Regional and National level of Garden Clubs. This is what it is about, our members, all of us, working together, to get information out to each other so that we can all take advantage of all the things that belonging to Garden Club can afford us. I would like for all of you to take note of the websites of State, Regional (SAR) and National and use these websites to garner information of what’s available to you. I’m going to give you information in this Newsletter on how to access that information along with other information that you may need in the upcoming two years.

 I have picked my theme for the next term “Growing Forward Together to Plant America” to go with the New

National President, Nancy Hargrove’s theme “Plant America”. She asked all the presidents’ to do this as she wants to make a singular focus on gardens and gardening. This concept supports the results of a recent survey at a meeting of the NGC Board of Directors that the main reason people join a garden club is to learn about gardening. This theme will have its own graphic logo for visual recognition of the program’s name. I learned at the NGC Convention last month that this same theme will be carried over through the next two administrations. The theme can cover any and every aspect of gardening, horticulture, garden design and community service – even water issues, as one cannot garden without water! It applies to every kind of garden: Blue Star plantings, vegetable gardens, community gardens, container gardening on town streets, neighborhood plantings, etc. There will be more about this on the websites with Plant America Community Project Grants Guidelines and Application, so if you’re interested check this out.

 We were excited to see our own Judy Barnes, installed as SAR Director at the NGC Convention. Mary Lou Goodman, also one of our own, will be Alternate Director of SAR. We all have a busy year ahead of us, so let’s put our heads together and make this a wonderful year for the GCNC. May each and every one of you have the best year ever!

Blessings,

Gail

Gail Hill, President, Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.

**2017 -2019 GCNC Officers**

President………………………..Gail Hill

1st Vice President…………….Brenda Crocker (Membership, District Directors)

2nd Vice President……………Darene Honeycutt (Awards)

3rd Vice President…………….Betty Gorrie (Youth Garden Clubs)

Treasurer…………………………Barbara Walters

Recording Secretary…………Pat Cashwell

Corresponding Secretary….Marilyn Wright

**Important Information:**

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

4401 Magnolia Ave.

St. Louis, MO 63110 Phone: 314-776-7574 email:headquarters@gardenclub.org

Website: gardenclub.org Type in **username “member**”; **password “pumpkin”**

President: Nancy L. Hargroves, 1235 Dover Creek Lane, Manakin Sabot, VA 23103-2532

Home: 804-784-0103 Cell: 804-363-0771; Email: inbleum@comcast.net

**Theme: PLANT AMERICA**

South Atlantic Region – [www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org](http://www.southatlanticregiongardenclubs.org)

Director: Judy Barnes, 3616 Schoolhouse Lane, Charlotte, NC 26270; Phone: 704-553-1413

Email: ncgardenjudy@gmail.com

**Theme: “THE BEAUTY OF NATURE: PROTECT, PRESERVE, ENJOY”**

**The SAR Director’s Project: “PLANT AND PROTECT OUR SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION, ITS NATIONAL PARKS, STATES PARKS, PUBLIC LANDS AND COMMUNITY SPACES”**

South Atlantic Alternate Director, Mary Lou Goodman, 1030 Friendship Road, Statesville, NC 28625

Phone: 704-876-3922; Email: marylougoodman@hotmail.com

The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. – Headquarters

PO Box 33520, Raleigh, NC 27636 Phone: 910-834-0686 email: theGCofNC1@aol.com

Website: gardenclubofnc.org **Password: ncmem1112** Office Manager: Ruth Garver

Physical location: JC Raulston Arboretum, 4415 Beryl Rd, Raleigh, NC

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Email: bgthill\_gail@aol.com

**Theme: “GCNC – GROWING FORWARD TOGETHER TO PLANT AMERICA”**

“We are so happy to announce that we welcome a new affiliate member to The Garden
Club of North Carolina. Help us in welcoming the Audubon Society of North Carolina to our membership. We look forward to working with and having a long relationship with them.”



**GCNC DISTRICT MEETINGS**

**2017 TOURS DATES** **2018 TOUR DATES**

October 10, 2017 – District 1, Sylva GC October 4, 2018 – District 11, Jacksonville

October 11, 2017 - District 3, Gastonia October 5, 2018 – District 10, Raleigh

October 12, 2017 - District 8, Lumberton October 9, 2018 - District 2, Banner Elk

October 17, 2017 - District 12, Robertson GC/Edgecombe GC October10, 2018 – District 5, Reidsville

October 18, 2017 - District 9, Mebane Council, Mebane October 11, 2018 – District 4,

**Upcoming State Meetings**

GCNC Fall Board Meeting 2017 September 10-11, 2017 Embassy Suites, Cary, NC

GCNC Annual Meeting 2018 April 15-17, 2018 Sheraton/Marriott, Chapel Hill, NC

GCNC Fall Board Meeting 2018 September 9-10, 2018 Holiday Inn, Fayetteville, NC

**SAR Convention 2018** March 18-19, 2018 Embassy Suites Cincinnati – River Center.

 10 East Rivercenter Boulevard, Covington, KY 41011

**NGC Fall Board Meeting 2017** September 12-16, 2017 St. Louis, MO

**NGC Annual Convention 2018** May 21-24, 2018 Philadelphia, PA

**NGC Fall Board Meeting 2018** September 25-30, 2018 Orlando, FL Rosen Hotel

**NGC Annual Convention 2019** April 30- May 5, 2019 Biloxi, Mississippi Beau Rivage

 **News You Can Use!**

**The Winston-Salem Judges Council has scheduled a Flower Show School with 4 courses. These courses are**

**scheduled as follows:**

**Course I, August 21, 22, 23, 2017**

**Course II, March 19, 29, 21, 2018**

**Course III, September 17, 18, 19, 2018**

**Course IV, April 15, 16, 17, 2019**

**These will be held in Winston-Salem. Look for future information. Also scheduled is a Flower Show Symposium for October 22, 23, 24, 2017 at The Elizabethan Gardens in Manteo. We look forward with anticipation to these events and thank these ladies immensely for putting them together. Please get out and support them!**

**In April, 2017, at the Art in Bloom Show at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, the GCNC had 7 designers who entered the show, Angela Marchese, Bonnie Mirfak, Catherine Phelps, Erica Wilson, Jane Barbet, Susan Hooper and Vandy Bradow. Vandy Bradow came away with the big honor of winning the Director’s Award. We congratulate all of our designers. Next year’s dates are March 22-25, 2018. If your garden club wants to schedule a trip for that time or better still want to help with the show, please get in touch with Laura Finn, Project Manager.**

**BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKER PROGRAM**

Paula Hartman

 The Blue Star Memorial Marker Program has been very active here in North Carolina over the past two years. Markers have been placed in Veterans Centers and on Highways and By-Ways to honor all Armed Forces of the United States of America. Of special note is the By-Way Marker placed at the Dunn Veterans Park in November which was sponsored by the Junior Garden Clubs of Dunn which is the FIRST Blue Star Marker in the nation sponsored by a youth club.

 The Blue Star Memorial Marker is a project of the National Garden Club. This project is explained in full under the National Garden Club website and also here in North Carolina under the NCDOT website. A federated garden club must sponsor the marker, but there are many ways of funding this tribute. One can reach out to local civic organizations to help with financing, construction, planting and maintenance. The dedication is always a special event for the town or area where the marker will be placed.

 The process from ordering the marker to the actual dedication is about 10 weeks. NCDOT installs and maintains the highway marker.

 If you have a marker which needs refurbishing, there is a veteran from Florida, Tom Stalling, who will come to NC and rehab the marker on site rather than shipping it to Sewell Studios which can be costly.

 There are over 90 markers in our state. What a wonderful tribute to the men and women who have served, are serving and will serve. For more information, contact Paula Hartman at lilsra@suddenlink.net

Check out “National Garden Clubs, Inc.” on Face Book for picture and tutorials.

Youth 2017 Publication: “The Saved Seed” $10.00 ordered through National Member Services