

The 80s and 90s: Rise of Horticulture

The 1980s saw the beginning of a population explosion in the Raleigh greater area that continues to this day. The avalanche of newcomers to Raleigh came not from within the Southeast, but “Yankees” from the North and Midwest, and later from the West Coast. The expansion of RTP was a major factor in this demographic shift, and it trickled down to the garden club to change it dramatically.

The de facto mission of the Club became educating these newcomers to gardening in a new climate – one where summer heat was the determining factor of garden success, rather than winter cold, the joys of 4 season gardens, and the importance of shade gardening. The Club donated money to some notable civic improvement projects during these two decades. But by the end of the century, Civic Improvement was arguably the least significant of the club’s official branches: Horticulture took over as first.

The Population Explosion - Yankee Invasion

The newspaper carried features on adapting to the South, especially the summer heat, with comments such as: “The heat hasn’t caused your misery; you’re miserable because you don’t have your mind right.” (N&O 2001) Other books and articles abounded glorifying Southern cuisine, manners, and colorful slang. My native neighbor, for instance, used “bodacious” as naturally as breathing, and would often admonish me not to “get your panties in a wad.”

It became a major focus of the Club to “educate” these newcomers to gardening in a new climate. The hardpan clay from new construction was the typical new garden soil, and methods for dealing with it were continual topics of debate. Another shift was the long growing season, which radically changed the timing of blooms and made the classic companion plants of northern climes ineffective here where the same plants could bloom weeks or even months apart. All season gardening, Southern gardening traditions such as the value of broadleaf evergreens, the boxwood heritage of English tradition, the need for shade gardening, and the expanded plant palette dominated the Club programs and discussions.

By 1994, the Club’s mission statement was updated to read: “to encourage the beautification of parks, streets and gardens of the community, and to aid in the protection of trees, shrubs, wild flowers and wildlife.” They achieved this through educating their members and raising money for projects managed by other organizations, such as the Raleigh Dept of Parks, NC DOT, and the JC Raulston Arboretum.

Civic Beautification of the Streets and City

The loss of emphasis on civic beautification was a gradual process. This is not due to changes within the Club. For several years the Club looked for civic improvement projects they could undertake. But as these projects increased in cost and as the Club dwindled in size to about 100 members projects were hard to come by. The Club budget was about \$1000 a year. Due to increasing rules and regulations, it

was no longer possible to head out and “do” a project as it had been, and the Club, rather than doing its own planting and gardening, turned to giving money for such projects to be handled by the agency involved.

1982-3 Gave a check for the planting of red crepe myrtles along Ridge rd at 64 bypass.

1983-4 gave \$1000 to city for planting oak trees, another \$500 for crepe myrtles along New Bern Ave.

In 1984-5 the Club celebrated the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the English in North Carolina by planting 400 dogwoods along the Beltline through the NCDOT. The Club donated \$1000 and raised another \$3000 from a donor to complete the project. Raleigh Garden Club won a state award - the Mitchener-Pease Award - in 1986 for this project. (Recall Mitchener and Pease were the club members who instigated and chaired the Dogwood Planting Week of the 1950s.)

The Tree Personality Contest of the 1930s was long forgotten, but the tradition it began of connecting Dogwood and Crepe Myrtle trees to beautify Raleigh remained intact. Recall this was a contest to determine some tree that would become the signature tree of Raleigh, and it was run by the Club through the Raleigh Times. The winner was a tie between dogwoods and crepe myrtles. That early contest to beautify Raleigh set the precedent, and it was carried on through the decades for many big projects as part of Raleigh’s beautification.

In 1985 the Club discussed improvements to Ferguson Pond and Hymettus Woods, the park they created in the 1970s. They were encouraged in this endeavor by McAllistar **??? head of ????** and apparently were turned down. They chose instead to give \$1000 to an effort to rejuvenate the plantings around the Historic State Capitol Grounds on the side with the statue of George Washington.

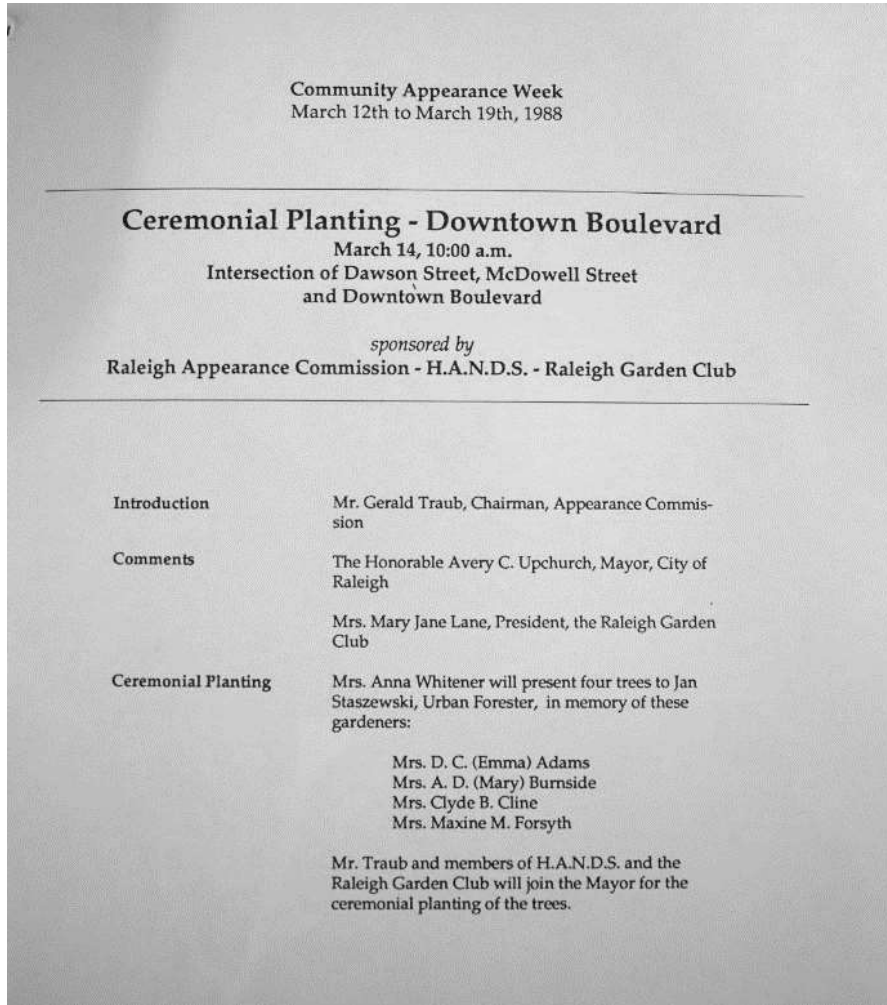
Another major civic project was helping landscape the new building of the NC Museum of Art. In 1982-83 the Museum first approached the Club about helping with their landscaping fund. The club gave all the money they had left after paying their bills, some \$200. Delays in completing the building meant the museum was not ready until 1987-8, but that year the Club gave \$1600 to the NC Museum of Art for landscaping. This substantial donation was much lauded, with the director of development Samuel T. Stone of the museum coming to the meeting. As part of the fundraising for landscaping the grounds, the museum held a lecture on gardens and new parks in Paris, France, followed by a description of the site plan for the museum. As a thank you for the Club's support, all the members were invited to attend, and the fee was waived.



PIC club history

1987-8/ #0292 & 0293

In 1987-8 a ceremonial tree planting with HANDS and the Raleigh Appearance Commission for Community Appearance Week took place. Four trees were planted at the intersection of Dawson, McDowell and Downtown Blvd. (March 1988).



dsc_0288 87-88 year



PIC letter on efforts

1986-7 Club History/#0278 and trees pic # 0289

It was getting harder and harder to find civic beautification projects, but the Club was still fighting. They brought in speakers from Raleigh's Civic and Parks departments to address the Club with possibilities. In 1988-9, club members "cruised Raleigh" for project of possible improvement so they could go to the city agency to do it. The mandate and desire to beautify Raleigh still lived on.

One example project shows how difficult it had become to make a difference. In 1989-90 the Civic Improvement Chair (Cherylle Deal) initiated a "Trees for Schools" project and purchased 500 white pine seedlings. The goal was to give them to schools in batches of 30 with a flyer on how important trees were to the environment. It was planned that the school students were to plant them to beautify the school grounds. 13 different local schools were contacted. However, school rules and concerns made that impossible. In the end, the seedlings were handed out to the kids to take home and hopefully plant.

In 1989 they gave the money to Gardeners of Wake County (then still called The Men's Garden Club), for a dogwood planting project. The club also planted a memorial tree for Mabel Buddenhagen and a red

oak at Moore Square. The city provided 20 thousand daffodil bulbs and called on the Club for volunteers to plant.

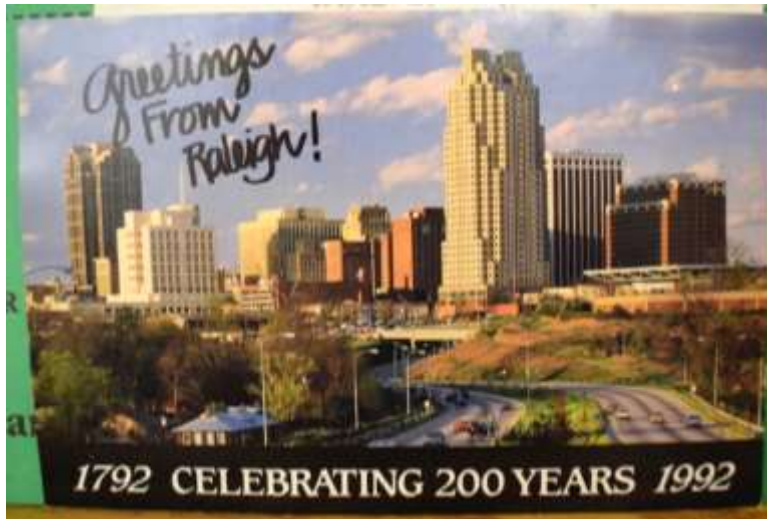


PIC club history 87-88/# 0289 whose

tree?

This was the beginning of the Club's civic project of planting a tree for members that passed away [double check if this the first year?].

In 1992, Raleigh celebrated its Bicentennial. The Club brought in the Secretary of the Raleigh Bicentennial Foundation to discuss possible projects the previous year. They gave \$1000 (inflation adjusted \$2345) to the City of Raleigh for Capital Blvd. beautification. The Club had donated the "Welcome to Raleigh" sign there in 1978. The project was for planting 20 Crepe Myrtles "Tuscarora" at around this sign as part of a Capital Boulevard gateway. The trees were the upright hybrid in a bright coral pink color, to show up beautifully in the landscape, and still today are considered one of the 5 most beautiful Crepe Myrtle cultivars. Sadly, improvements to Capital Boulevard later leveled this wonderful grove.



DSC_0166 raleigh postcard

bicentennial

Shortly after the Bicentennial, Hurricane Fran laid waste to Raleigh in 1996. The devastation was appalling. Organizations sprang up in the aftermath dedicated to restoring the streets with trees. RGC gave the Dept. of Parks \$1000 and Trees Across Raleigh \$500. Pat Olejar, then president, also got a bunch of the members to lend sweat equity and help out. The Club also joined Trees Across America and planted 50 trees along Glenwood Avenue.



PIC /club history 1997-8 # 0194.jpg

"Trees Across Raleigh"

March 22, 1997



DSC_1136 1996-7 trees fran

Sunday, March 22, was a work day for three Raleigh Garden Club members who joined hosts of other volunteers in planting trees to replace some of those destroyed by Fran. Donna Warner, Pat Olejar and Bertie Penney represented our club in the "Trees across Raleigh" project sponsored by the City.



DSC_1137 1996-7 trees fran



DSC_0949 -1989-90 shell

But by the end of the decade, the Club was fast becoming almost invisible to the Raleigh government's civic improvement efforts, although the city mayor and Parks officials attended the tree planting ceremonies throughout the 1990s. A donation was made and trees were planted most years as members memorials. There was almost no attempt to participate in the renovations and expansion of the city streets or neighborhood improvements after 1999.

The Club's largest civic project was the decoration of the Historic NC State Capitol for the holidays each year, done as a beautification offering the public of Raleigh. (See more on this below.)

Anti-litter followup

The anti-litter campaigns had been super successful, and were no longer needed. The Club maintained its commitment to litter by working with local government annually on cleanup weeks, taking a road or segment to pick up trash. They participated in the citizens program "Keep Raleigh Clean and Beautiful" to report areas needing improvement to DOT (1998-9 club history).



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAMS
P.O. BOX 25201, RALEIGH, N.C. 27611-5201

GARLAND B. GARRETT JR.
SECRETARY

April 28, 1997

Lauretta Parker
4500 Connell Drive
Raleigh, NC 27612

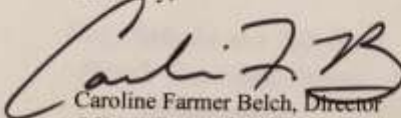
Dear Raleigh Garden Club:

Thank you for your outstanding dedication and commitment to making our annual "Great Trash Bash" spring cleanup a great success. In all 100 counties across the state, volunteers like you worked together to ensure cleaner roadsides and a healthier environment for all North Carolinians.

You are an outstanding protector of the environment and beauty of North Carolina. In addition, going that extra mile for your community and fellow citizens sets a wonderful example for others citizens to follow.

On behalf of Governor Jim Hunt, Secretary Garland Garrett and members of the Governor's Highway Beautification Council, I am pleased to present you with the enclosed Certificate of Appreciation acknowledging your stewardship of our great state.

Sincerely,


Caroline Farmer Belch, Director
Office of Beautification Programs

Enclosure

/club

**"Great Trash Bash"
Spring Cleanup Campaign
1997**



DSC_0196 litter 1997-8

Continuing Support for Historic Preservation

The Club did one big project for Historic Preservation, which was for restoring the gardens at the Joel Lane house in 1983-4. And in return, the RGC would be listed on a plaque of donors over \$1000. The Joel Lane House was privately owned by the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, and was open to the public as a museum.



DSC_0962

Civic Improvement Turns to the Parks

The year after the Raleigh Bicentennial, the Club again was working to find a suitable project – this time working with the Mayor of Raleigh. The Club eventually settled on the new park off Peace St. Once an Orphanage, the grounds were to be turned into the Fred Fletcher Memorial Park.

I mentioned that Horticulture had become dominant and one example of this is that the speaker on “Raleigh Beautiful” from the Dept of Parks was brought in by the Hort group. It was the Hort group that recommended a special planting in honor of the Raleigh Bicentennial, which ultimately became the grove of crepe myrtles planted at the city Welcome sign.

They were also the group that developed the relationship with Noel Weston, the City of Raleigh horticulturist, that led to so much work done at Fletcher Park.

The Club gave \$1000 to Noel Weston, Horticulturist for the City of Raleigh, to use for planting Camellias in Fletcher Park in 1990. These plantings still glow with blooms in late winter. This began a long and fruitful relationship with Noel and with Fletcher Park, that would continue for the rest of the decade. (Note: Noel Weston is the only non-member ever given a memorial tree by the Club.)

In 1998-99 club year, they gave \$1000 towards an irrigation system, and the following year raised \$300 to be used at Noel’s discretion for the park grounds. In 2000, a bronze plaque in honor of Fred Fletcher was presented by the RGC.

During these decades, the Club tradition of planting trees in the parks in honor of RGC members who passed away became firmly entrenched, and many trees were planted in Fletcher Park over the decade, and many other parks as well..

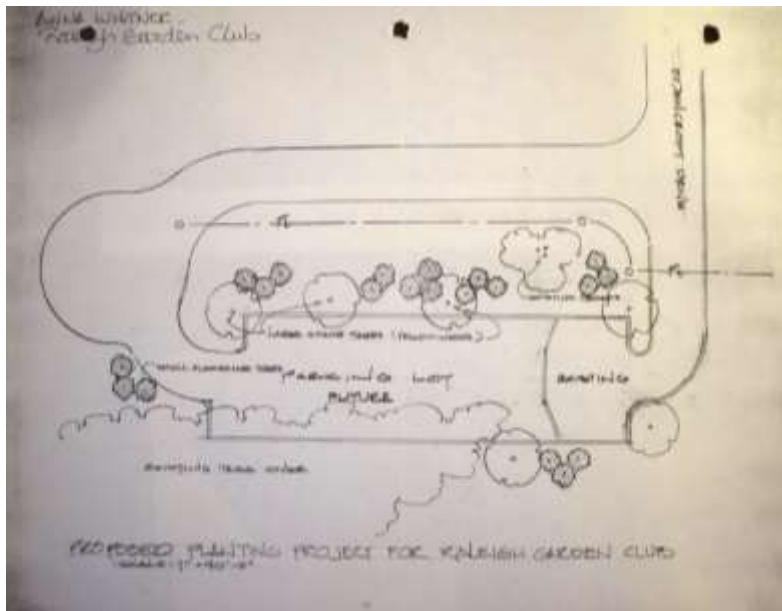
SEE separate FULL LIST of Trees planted in parks: Arbor Day and Planting of Trees.

note **letter of appreciation to Frank Evans, Dept of Parks**, for all his support over years



DSC_0163 1995-6 parks cert appreciation

ceremony



arbor day glen eden park – date???

Government and Legislation

The Club joined the Raleigh Civic Council in 1980.... a public service organization. But times changed and it was now inappropriate for the Club as a non-profit 501(c) to take a political position on legislation. They could ask members to support causes as individuals, but could not take a stand as the Raleigh Garden Club. (new law 1982-3?)

GARDENS

The Club was still dedicated to making gardens but they were not “civic” or public gardens.

In 1986-7 they returned to the garden at the Women’s Prison garden to refurbish, and again for planting in 87-88. They did another major refurbishing and planting in 1998-9 .



PIC club history 1987-8/#0295

PIC club history 1997-8/# 0202



DSC_0979 womens prison 1988-9

and same year supported supported Raleigh's Durant Park Butterfly garden with donation.



DSC_0151 1994-5 durant

butterfly lecture

Martha Franck Fragrance Garden

They contributed funds to the new version of the Martha Franck Fragrance Garden for the Blind at the Governor Morehead School in Raleigh. This garden got a major uplift and redesign after the Hurricane Fran knocked over trees. The Club contributed \$1000 for the brick edging of paths and again for perennials, and were to remain involved with maintaining this garden until the present. This new version was created by the GCNC (of which Raleigh Garden Club is a founding member). It features fragrance, texture and sound and serves as a teaching tool and outdoor classroom for the students as well as a safe place to explore outdoors.

For the full story of the fragrance garden for the blind, see the CALLOUT document.

In 1992, Margaret Reid donated her Wildflower Garden to the Triangle Land Conservancy. (Recall she was the active member in adopting BW Wells ecological approach to gardening in plant communities, and spearheaded the plant rescues and the development of Hymettus Park in the 1970s). This RGC footprint is still a memorial to her love of Raleigh's native plants and open a few times a year to the public.



Triangle Conser. report Reid Wildfl Garden 1992

The Club donated \$1000 and the sweat equity to create a garden at the Tammy Lynn Center 1994-5. This garden used raised beds and was a teaching tool for the students who were disabled children, while at the same time functioning as a wildlife habitat garden supporting for butterflies and birds. The returned to refurbish the garden a few years later in 1997-8.



DSC_0147 1994-5 tammy lyn garden



DSC_0202 19987-8 tammy lyn maintenance

PIC group pic of club 1992-3 # 0934



Horticulture and the Plant Geeks

The powerhouse of the Club transitioned to the Horticulture Study Group – they were the champions of the mission to educate the influx of new members from the Midwest and the north about gardening in the Triangle. They were enthusiastic evangelists of the new Arboretum in Raleigh and its mission of “connecting people with plants.” The study group was limited to 15 participants, who met in each others homes for a program and lunch. They acted as ringleaders for the rest of the Club, chairing plant sales, local garden and nursery tours, and educational programs. The Club first made a reputation as plant geeks at our plant sales, and then solidified our reputation at the fair gardens we designed for the NC State Fair.

One example is Virginia Baucom... There was an interesting article on Virginia Baucom, RGC member, about gardening and women.

“This was a time when the women of Cameron Park grew flowers, and they had gardeners to cut them and bring them in the house. ... Women didn’t plant vegetables then. At least not in Raleigh.” She turned her lawn into a vegetable garden, and an organic one, and exclaimed: “I don’t know what the neighbors thought!” She was the first organic gardener in Raleigh, according to her son.

It captures the horticultural spirit, even rebellious spirit, of the garden club “dirt gardeners.” Leaders in organic gardening, expanding the plant palette, and doing service to the community - in some ways the Club members hadn’t changed at all, though the world they lived in was entirely different.



DSC_0176

1995-6 baucom gardener vegetables

article /club history 1995-6 # ~ 175.jpg several pages. Virginia commented about Raleigh:



February Meeting
Horticulture Study Group
Louise Garner
"Fragrant Plant Material for the Garden"

DSC_0208 1997-8 hort group

Plant Sales for Scholarship Endowment

The first plant sale was in 1996 and the idea was to fund the newly created RGC scholarship fund. After building up the fund, the Club was ready to organize the scholarship by 1998. Roseanne Stillwell and Dot Jordan chaired the relationship with NCSU Dept of Horticulture, , to be awarded in a year or so. The Club managed the funds until 2008, when they were able to turn the management over to the NC Agricultural Foundation, the fund raising arm of the department.

The first “pot up parties” were held in 1998-9, and these became a great teaching tool for horticulture, along with the research required to assemble the impressive plant lists and the horticultural information for each plant offered. Elder members got help with their gardens and potting up seedlings which was an added way of creating club community.

Our plant sales became a source of great pride and prestige. All the plants were grown and potted up by RGC members from their gardens – and many were rare plants not commonly found in nurseries. Plant species offered topped out at 240 different kinds of perennials and ground covers, and profits soared into the \$5000 range. The profits were dedicated to funding the endowment for the RGC Scholarship fund, given to a student in the Horticulture Dept. of NC State University. As the profits increased, they were also used to fund a summer intern at the JCRA (also a student at the Horticulture Dept.) and to make donations to gardening and environmental organizations in the area, such as Habitat for Humanity, NC Wildlife Federation and many more. Once the Scholarship Endowment was handled by NCSU, the profits were dedicated to Community Donations.

Fair Gardens

The Club began creating Fair Gardens regularly in the early 1980s (the first in 1980) and continued practicing their landscape gardening skills. These gardens got a lot of public exposure and were a way of demonstrating how great plants could beautify the landscape.



DSC_0149 1994-5 fair garden

with Anne Clapp and Pat Olejar.

Public Outreach

In a fun twist of fate, in ??? Anne Clapp, a longtime member and past president of RGC, joined the team of The Weekend Gardener – the gardening radio show begun by the Club under Mary Lee McMillan back in 1927 ????. Check dates and fill in the story. To NCSU dept of Hort in 50s from RGC, then to WPTF when.

Christmas and Winter Holidays

All through these years, although it was handled through the Floral Design branch of the Club, the biggest “civic” project had to be the decorating of the Governor’s Mansion for Christmas one last time in 85, and then transitioning into the decorating of the NC State Historic Capitol for the Holidays.



Pics /1980s/clippings/#0872.jpg

The first time for the Capitol was in 1979, and the Club decorated the Capitol every year through both these decades. It was a civic beautification project and it was an enormous project – two floors and the imposing rotunda – that involved nearly every member of the Club for 3 solid days. A press release from 1983 describes:

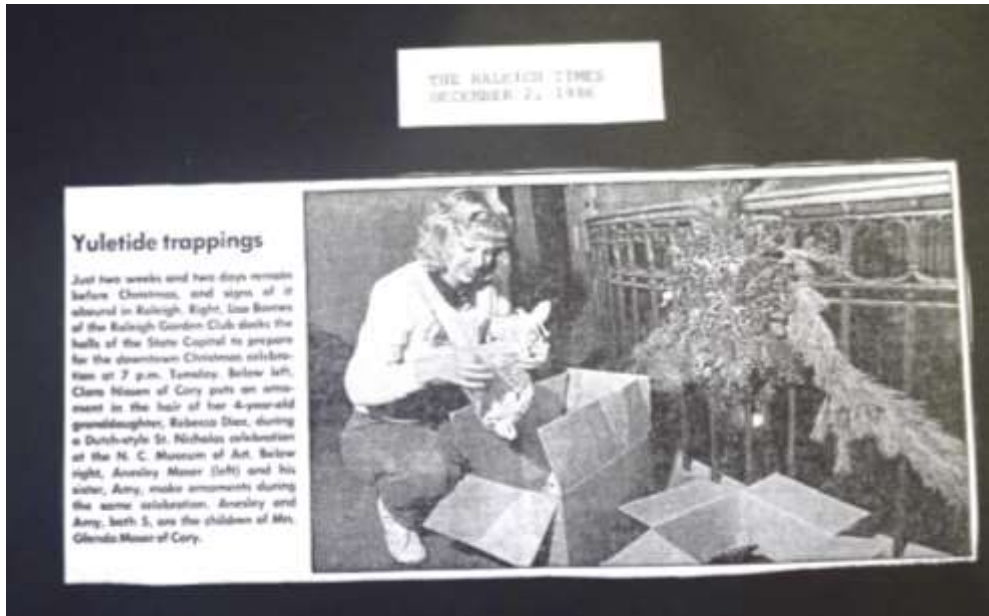
Club members will bring beauty and life to the state's most historically significant structure. Donning garlands of greenery accentuated with dried Victorian type nosegays on the circular stairway rails is only a beginning.

Divided into committees involving the entire membership, the club decorates the tree in the governor's office suite with materials indigenous to the state and the marble mantels with greenery, berries and candles. ... period fruit arrangements. The doors of the first-floor corridors were hung with wreaths... The governor and first lady traditionally hang the wreaths on the main entrance (east side) in a brief ceremony opening the capitol for the Christmas Season to the people of North Carolina. Appalachian key baskets containing arrangements of aucuba, magnolia leaves, berries and bows were hung on doors of all the first floor offices. Perhaps the most spectacular decorations were in the second-floor rotunda where four massive (5 ft wide) white urns were filled with materials representing the four regions of our state were displayed in the fourteen feet high niches in the stone walls.

Words cannot adequately express the beauty – nor capture the lovely aroma of the large variety of fresh cut greenery and burning candle wax. It is an experience the ladies of the Raleigh Garden Club would like to share with every garden club member in the state. We hope that you will visit the State Capital during the Christmas season, beginning December 12, 1983.

In the tradition of the Christmas show of Mary Lee McMillan who began the tradition back in 1927, this was done as a civic act of service: a gift to the community. School groups and the public were invited to tour the Capitol during the holiday season, and a festive open house on the first evening included the lighting of the City Christmas Tree and a speech by the Governor.

PIC 1993-94 newspaper article - DSC # 0122.jpg



DSC_0273 decorate

capital 1986-7



DSC_0286 capitol holidays 1987-88



DSC_0287 capitol holidays 1987-8



The News & Observer
TUESDAY, DEC. 7, 1993

NORTH CAROLINA

The Capitol at Christmas: Greenery on a grand scale

Volunteers deck the halls for the holidays

By David Evans
1200-4010

RALEIGH — For a quick study in Monumental Interior Design, head down to the state Capitol over the next couple of days and watch volunteers decking some real halls for Christmas.

"It's such a huge building — it takes so much to make a show," said Annie Belle Stone, a receptionist at the Capitol for the past 15 years who helps decorate, too. "If you got something like you would put in your own home, it would get lost."

Your whole home might get lost inside the 57½-foot-tall Capitol, for that matter.

The job requires 30 pounds of lowwood, which must be broken off by hand; eight 2½-foot garlands of greenery; and enough handfuls



Choloche Pryor, left and Marion Singer untangle a long garland of pine boughs before stringing them up in the Capitol.
STAFF PHOTO BY DAVID EVANS

berries, pine and holly to make dozens of wreaths.

The Raleigh Garden Club has 20

years' experience at the job. In addition to decorating the common areas, club volunteers also

dress up the offices of the governor, lieutenant governor and secretary of state.

Everything has to be done in time for the Christmas tree lighting by Gov. Jim Hunt and his wife Thursday.

On Monday afternoon, four garden club members snipped pine boughs and arranged magnolia leaves as they stood in front of tables piled with greenery.

"It's just something the women enjoy doing," club president Marjorie O'Keefe said. "It gives you a feeling of satisfaction to create something."

But the routine isn't the same this year. The state is removing lead paint from the old legislative chambers, so those areas are quarantined.

Even the Christmas tree stands stored in the chambers are off limits, so the state had to find others.

But alas, the substitute stands weren't up to the job. The 8-foot tree kept falling, and one tree in the governor's office even broke a lamp.

So now there are two-by-fours nailed to the bottom.

Accidents are nothing new, though.

Some remember the year they and several others spent six hours decorating Christmas trees perched in niches along the walls. That night, after almost everyone had gone home, one of the trees crashed down and spilled water all over the decorations.

"We could have sat there and cried," Stone said.

The volunteers take their work seriously, even donating greenery from their own yards. About 25 garden club members have helped this year, along with other regular volunteers. Fallen Park Garden Club has decorated two trees to the wall section for several years, but those areas are off limits because of the work being done this year.

For all their glory and holiday over, the decorations don't have a long life. The volunteers have to come back a few days before Christmas and take down every thing they worked so hard to make.

"If it gives people pleasure to see it," O'Keefe said, "that's our object."

DSC_0122 1993-4

decorate capitol

JC Raulston Arboretum

JC Raulston, the famed NC State Professor of Horticulture, founded the Arboretum now named in his honor in 1976. RGC and the Arboretum have had an enduring love affair since it began. JC and then his colleagues and students, for example Tony Avent and Bryce Lane, have spoken to our group many times over the last few decades. It was said of J. C. That he "broadened the plant palette in the state and the Southeast by a hundred-fold" and he certainly helped the RGC transition to a Club of plant geeks.

As the arboretum got underway, the club acted as hostesses for their big events such as the fund-raising gala and the Golf Benefit. They also encouraged the club members to get individual memberships. Two members of the Club served on the Arboretum Board of Directors.

We gave our largest donation ever to the JCRA in 2000 : \$50,000 to help build the Education center. In return, we got classroom and workshop space for the Club's meetings. Club members often helped raise funds for the Arboretum, acting as hostesses at the Gala and taking charge of the Winter Garden maintenance.

Education

The educational bent of the Club was very active and successful, but it was focused on members. The public was rarely contacted. One exception was a Floral Design lecture in 1981, a nationally prominent lecturer where the Club invited members of the NC museum of art and the NC arts council to join the audience. The following year they again presented a lecture and this time charged a \$2 fee to non-members but invited the public at large.



DSC_0933 Tony Avent, now internationally famous plantsman and founder of Juniper Level Botanic Garden, speaking 1992-3

A few flower shows were still held open to the public, but garden tours were limited to members privately opening their gardens to the membership and friends. In 1997 one last tour was held in the fall of 1997 as a benefit for the North Carolina State University Arboretum (renamed the JC Raulston Arboretum). Six Triangle private gardens were opened to the public.

Fall Garden Tour

Six Triangle private gardens were opened to the public on September 27th as a benefit for the J. C. Raulston Arboretum. The tour was sponsored by District 10. Gardens included a terraced hillside garden built on a granite ridge overlooking a stream; a professional flower arranger's lavish cutting garden; a woodland garden; a new and ingenious rock garden made of recycled concrete; a dwarf conifer collection; and an award-winning wildlife habitat featuring native plants and wildflowers.

Raleigh Garden Club members served as hostesses for the gardens on the tour.

WAKE

Among the flowers: Six of the Triangle's most outstanding private gardens will open their gates to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 27, as part of a fall garden tour to benefit the J.C. Raulston Arboretum at N.C. State University. Gardens on the tour, sponsored by District 10 of the Federation of Garden Clubs, include a terraced hillside garden built on a granite ridge overlooking a stream; a professional flower arranger's lavish cutting garden; a two-acre, lake-side woodland garden; a new and ingenious rock garden made of recycled concrete; a dwarf conifer collection; and an award-winning wildlife habitat featuring native plants and wildflowers. All the gardens are in Raleigh, Apex or Cary, within easy driving distance of one another. Tickets are \$14 before Sept. 28, \$15 after that date, with all proceeds benefiting the building fund of the J.C. Raulston Arboretum. To reserve tickets and tour maps, or for more information, call 315-1132.

WHAT'S HAPPENING...

THE NEWS & OBSERVER
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1997



PIC club history 1997-8 #0200

Garden Therapy

Civic responsibility included helping fellow citizens. Hospitals had mostly forbidden flowers for health reasons, and the focus was on the disadvantaged and seniors. The workshops at Glenwood Towers greenhouse were continued up until 1998-9. The Club was still doing programs at Dorothea Dix Hospital up until 1984. A number of senior centers were also the site for workshops led by the Club members.