



The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.

Newsletter

Member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

"Garden Clubs Make Things Happen!"

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The Garden Clubs of Mississippi is full of interesting members with interesting lives. If you know of an interesting person or event with ties to GCM, please let President Young know. If your club is hosting a fundraiser, Blue Star Memorial dedication, or other worthy event, we want to get the word out.

Don't forget our website: gardenclubsofmississippi.com

2021-2023 Officers

President

Pat Young

1st Vice President

Melinda Causey

2nd Vice President

Sassy Mauldin

3rd Vice President

Darlene Underwood

Recording Secretary

Debbie Enis

Corresponding Secretary

Joy Burke

Treasurer

Amye Kelly

Executive Secretary

Angelia Wade

District Directors

Allison Ashmore – H & D
 Carla Stringer – Natchez Trace
 Marsha Barber – River Rd.
 Jayne Cooper – S. Pines
 Dickie Roberts – Spanish Trail
 Marge McCauley – Tombigbee V.

Historian

Paula Grayson

Parliamentarian

Doris Ebner

Chaplain

Sue Berry

Coordinator of Districts

Lynda Dickerson



President's Message

Fall was extremely busy, with district meetings, board meetings, Blue Star Memorial dedications, a December 1 award application deadline, a Flower Show Judges symposium in Meridian hosted by the Mississippi Flower Show Judges Council, and other garden club happenings. I wonder if many of you, like me, took some time off in December to spend time with family, recharge your batteries, and maybe even clean out a closet or two!

A new year stands before us now, with many opportunities to “*Make Things Happen*”! Winter is a great time to plan outdoor projects for yourself and your club. Half of your club year remains, and as the days slowly turn warmer, those outside projects for yourself and your club stand ready and waiting!

The upcoming months will also include the Deep South convention in March in Kenner, La, our state convention in April in Starkville, and the NGC convention in May at the Greenbrier Resort in West Virginia (details inside). Being a garden club member gives you opportunities to form friendships at five different levels: at the local level at your club meetings, with others within a wider area at the District Meetings, with others throughout the state at the GCM convention, with others throughout a six-state region at the Deep South convention, and with others throughout the nation at the NGC convention. Believe me when I say that I have made friends at all five of those levels. These friendships enhance and add depth to your life!

Communication is a key element of any successful organization. The internet is an essential tool that we can easily use to stay in touch and pass along pertinent information. I encourage District Directors to communicate often with your club presidents, and I encourage club presidents to communicate often with your club members.

Each GCM member received a hard copy of the *Miss Gardener* directory by mail. Again, Christye VanHorn put that together for us. It is a valuable reference tool loaded with information and contact details for all board members. It also includes photos of top winners from all flower shows throughout the state staged in the last club year, a photo and details of one club's project from each district, and updated award information for our GCM awards. We thank Christye for her hard work on this! At a time when most state garden clubs only send out electronic editions of their state directory, we are committed to putting that hard copy in the hands of each individual GCM member!

All the conventions mentioned above are important to us as garden club members. But I especially hope to see everyone at the 94th annual GCM convention in Starkville when Melinda Causey will be installed as the 49th president of The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc. Starkville Town and Country Garden Club is working hard to “*Make that convention Happen*”, and I hope you support them and Melinda by being there!

GCM Mothers and Daughters

Wow! I asked for photos of mother/daughter members of individual clubs, and did I receive them!! What a wonderful reflection of the continuing legacy of our membership. Below are photos of mother/daughter club members.



Susan Wilkes (right) is president of Raymond Garden Club and mother Rita Wilks is a RGC member.



Mother Lois Leigh (left) and daughter Debbie Boykin are both members of Leland/Deer Creek Garden Club.



Mother Kathy Wood (right) and daughter Ann Paige Shull are Oxford Garden Club members.



Mother Annette Caffey (right) and daughter Pam Caffey Shelie are members of Marks Garden Club.

(More GCM Mothers and Daughters)



Mother Jeanette Whitehead (right) is president of the Garden Club of Water Valley, and daughter Jennifer Lucas is Garden Club of Water Valley Secretary.



Mother and daughter GCM members and long-time board members Annie Jewel King (left), and daughter Sandra King Hultz, are both members of Town and Country Garden Club of Bay Springs.



Mother Mary Boteler (right) and daughter Jodie Huddletson belong to Leland Deer Greek Garden Club.



Wesson Garden Club's mother/daughter duo includes long-time board member Jean Ricks (right) and daughter Sherry Davis.

(Moe GCM Mothers and Daughters)



Winona Garden Club members include mother and GCM Board member Betty Ellis (left) and daughter Sherry Davis.



This family holds four generations of garden club members. Grandmother Elizabeth Jumper (left) was an active club member and state board member while living in Hattiesburg. Granddaughter Sara Hemphill (center) and mother Gay Austin (right) are members of McComb Garden Club. Great granddaughters Bess and Riley Hemphill are members of the Johnny Jump Ups in McComb.



Mother Debbie Tate (right) has been a member of Grenada Garden Club since 1993, while daughter Kathryn Shirley joined the club in 2022.



Mother Susan Wehe (right) and daughter Joanie Wehe are members of Simply Southern Garden Club.

(More GCM Mothers and Daughters)



GCM Second Vice President and mother Sassy Mauldin (right) and daughter Mary Ashley McNeely are, both members of Hernando Civic Garden Club



Mother Anita Minton (right) and daughter Jennifer Walker are members of Leland-Deer Creek Garden Club.



Mother Mary Adcock (right) and daughter Kay Boone are members of Leland-Deer Creek Garden Club



The Holsapple family has 3 generations in the Northbay Madison Garden Club. Left to right are daughter and club president Paula Holsapple-Howard, father and club treasurer Wes Holsapple, granddaughter (who plays a major part in club activities) Sophia Holsapple, mother and club membership chair Pauline Holsapple, and son-in-law and club member Mark Howard (who helps with the heavy lifting).

(More GCM Mothers and Daughters)



Incoming club President Suzanne Cox (left) and mother Ruth Prince are members of Hernando Civic Garden Club.



Nan Harris (left) and her mother Tommie Barnhart are both members of Chautauqua Garden Club.



Mother Joy Phillips (right) and daughter Marilyn Phillips are members of Wesson Garden Club.



Plantation Garden Club has mother Judith Mitchner (left) and daughter Julie Turnipseed as members.

(More GCM Mothers and Daughters)



SoSo Garden Club members include mother Sarah Sumrall (left) and daughter Janet Guthrie.



Mother Priss Ferguson (right) and daughter Trish Vaughan are both members of Winona Garden Club.



Mother Maggie James (right) and daughter Lisa Thomas are both members of Grenada Garden Club.



Grenada Garden Club has the mother/daughter duo of mother Barbara Huddleston (right) and daughter Sherry Cook.

(More GCM Mothers and Daughters)



Mother Nancy McCray (left) and daughter Jackie Walley are both members of Richton Home and Garden Club.



Mother Gladys Vice (right) and daughter Gina Arnold are both members of Richton Home and Garden Club.



Mother-Susan Marascalco (left) and daughter Jennifer Marascalco Russell are members of Oxford Garden Club.



Mother Lisa Smith (right) and daughter Vikki Smith are both members of Wesson Garden Club.

(More GCM Mothers and Daughters)



Mother Karen Clower (left) and daughter Amanda Wilson are both members of Chautauqua Garden Club.



Mother Carolyn Houston (left) and daughter Carrie Rogers are members of New Albany Garden Club.



Angie Staten (right) and daughter-in-law Ellen Staten are both members of New Albany Garden Club.



Sisters Leslie Madden Russell (left) and Tanya Madden Combs (right) are members of New Albany Garden Club along with their stepmom Lynn Madden.

(More GCM Mothers and Daughters)



Elizabeth Joslin Combs (right) and mother-in-law Tanya Madden Combs are both members of New Albany Garden Club.

Garden
Clubs Make
Good
Things
Happen
Every Day!!

Deadlines to Remember

- January 25, 2023.....Publicity Press Book to Jennifer Flautt
- January 31, 2023.....All 4 grant applications to appropriate chairman
- March 1, 2023.....All monetary donations due to chairperson
- May 1, 2023Incoming Club President Form to Angelia Wade
- May 15, 2023.....BOD final expense form due to GCM Treasurer
- June 1, 2023.....GCM Club/Council dues due to GCM Treasurer
- June 1, 2023.....Club President's Annual Report to Outgoing District Director
- June 1, 2023.....Deadline for information to *Miss Gardener* Editor



This 'N' That

District Winners

Each Fall District meeting was outstanding, with sinning clubs giving highlights of their year's activities. Attending the fall meetings is a great way to get project ideas for your club. The awards listed below were based on the President's Report submitted by each club. Your club president should already be working on that report to meet the June 1 deadline. The updated President's Report is on the GCM website. If you are a club president, don't delay. Get your club recognized for its projects and activities.

Winning club are:

Hills & Delta District

Horticulture Award-Winona Garden Club
2nd Place – Charleston's Magnolia Gar. C.
1st Place – DeSoto Civic Garden Club

Natchez Trace District

Horticulture Award- Tie
North Bay/Madison Garden Club
Raymond Garden Club
2nd Place-Brandon Garden Club
1st Place-Wesson Garden Club

River Road District

Horticulture Award-Leland/Deer Creek GC
2nd Place – Alice Bell Garden Club
1st Place – Leland/Deer Creek Garden Club

Southern Pines District

Horticulture Award- Forest Garden Club
2nd Place – Town & Country GC, Louisville
1st Place – Ellisville Garden Club

Spanish Trail District

Horticulture Award-Diamondhead Gar. Club
2nd Place – Dogwood Garden Club
1st Place – Long Beach Garden Club

Tombigbee Valley District

Horticulture Award-New Albany Garden C.
2nd Place – Little Garden Club, Corinth
1st Place – Oxford Garden Club

Membership Mondays

If you are seeking advice on how to increase your club membership, Membership Monday is a free monthly zoom event for all federated garden club members. Any club member can participate on the 2nd Monday of each month from 3 pm to 4 pm by going to the National Garden Club website (gardenclub.org) and registering.

Members can learn new skills, share success stories, and resolve commonly encountered issues.

Go to the Member Resources page on the website to register. You can also reach the presenters at membership@gardenclub.org.

The most important thing a club can do is keep their membership growing!

Upcoming Conventions

DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS, INC

March 8 – 10, 2023

“The Mindful Gardener”

Hilton New Orleans Airport

Kenner, LA

GARDEN CLUBS OF MISSISSIPPI, INC

April 18 – 19, 2023

“Magnolias at the Mill”

The Mill

Starkville, MS

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

May 2 – 5, 2023

“Almost Heaven”

The Greenbrier

White Sulphur Springs, WV

(Information for all conventions can be found on the websites, gardenclub.org, deepsouthgardenclubs.com, and gardenclubsofmississippi.com.)

Blue Star Memorial Happenings!

Blue and Gold Star Memorial Chairman Nancy Moore continues doing an outstanding job in promoting and coordinating The Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial program for GCM. Two Blue Star Memorials were dedicated last Fall.

The long-awaited installation at the Sonny Montgomery Veterans Center on the campus of Mississippi State University was completed, with the dedication held Oct. 18. The MSU President and Vice President of Student Affairs participated in the ceremony, along with the center's director and Garden

Clubs of Mississippi officers. A reception followed in the Veteran's Center. This memorial is one of only a few that are located on college campuses in the US.

The next dedication was Nov. 11 in Tylertown, where the Walthall County Board of Supervisors and Walthall American Legion Post #56 purchased the memorial in coordinated efforts with GCM. Tylertown boasts a large percentage of veterans compared to the town's population and asked GCM to work with them in purchasing and dedicating the memorial.



Participants in the Blue Star Memorial Dedication at MSU included (left to right) MSU President Dr. Mark Keenum, GCM President Elect Melinda Causey, GCM President Pat Young, Sonny Montgomery Center Director Brian Locke, GCM Second Vice President Sassy Mauldin, GCM Third Vice President Darlene Underwood, GCM Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Chairman Nancy Moore, and MSU Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Regina Hyatt.

Tylertown's Blue Star Memorial



Those participating in the dedication of the Tylertown Blue Star Memorial included (left to right) Natchez Trace District Director Carla Stringer, McComb Garden Club member Melissa Stringer, Chautauqua Garden Club President Kathy Wells, McComb Garden Club member Virginia James, American Legion Post #56 Commander Harold Smith, Blue and Gold Star GCM Chairman Nancy Moore, past GCM and NGC President Gay Austin, Chautauqua Garden Club member Laurie Singletary, McComb Garden Club member Blaize Holmes, and Wesson Garden Club President Dixie Thornton.

Support Melinda's Project...and GCM

Please consider supporting GCM by signing up for a GCM license plate. Don't wait! Please send your form today. Also please mention GCM TAG in your upcoming meetings and hand out forms to your Club Members.

We need your application and check for \$33.00 now, so that we can reach the 300 number required to produce the Tag. The license plate form is on the GCM web site or, call or email me and I will get a form to you. The sooner we have 300 signed up, the sooner we all can get the GCM LICENSE PLATE TAG.

mgcausey@aol.com 601-527-4454

Melinda Causey



Upcoming District Meetngs

May 16, 2023 – Spanish Trail District

Bay Waveland Garden Club

Bay St. Louis, MS

May 17, 2023 – Southern Pines District

Forget-Me-Not & Dalewood Garden Clubs,
Meridian, MS

May 18, 2023 – Natchez Trace District

Chautauqua Garden Club

Crystal Springs, MS

May 23, 2023 – River Road District

Belzoni and Isola Garden Clubs

Belzoni, MS

May 24, 2023 – Tombigbee Valley District

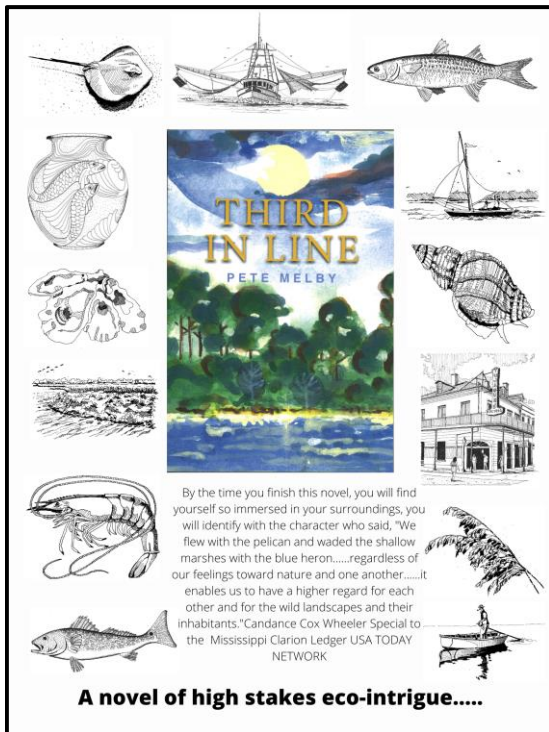
Aberdeen Garden Club

Aberdeen, MS

May 25, 2023 – Hills & Delta District

Town & Country Garden Club of Water
Valley

Spring Is Just Around the Corner!



A Good Read

Retired MSU professor Pete Melby has written a book that addresses Mississippi environmental concerns in novel form. Titled *Third in Line*, it is a family oriented thriller about a strong-willed lady member of Congress from Mississippi who faces resistance against restoring coastal conditions.

Melby served as a faculty member in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at MSU for 32 years, and many GCM members remember him as a speaker at past Edward C. Martin symposiums.

The book is available on Amazon and Bookbaby Publishers.

Four New Scholarship Recipients



GCM members met our four scholarship recipients at the annual dinner at Harvey's Restaurant in Starkville. GCM President Pat Young (left) congratulated students (left to right) Wesley Rainey (Lester Ester Horticulture Scholarship), Jacob Morgan (Imogene Triplett Forestry Scholarship), Rachel Bobo (Freda Harrison graduate Scholarship and also a Deep South Scholarship and the Gay Austin NGC scholarship), and Mia Missimer (Edward Martin Landscape Architecture Scholarship). GCM Scholarship Chairman Ann Chiles (far right) oversees the GCM scholarship program and coordinates with recipients.

Flower Show Judges Symposium



The Mississippi Flower Show Judges Council hosted a successful Judges' Symposium last Fall in Meridian, with attendees coming from as far away as Texas. A special aspect of the two-day meeting was that both instructors were teaching their last class. Design Instructor Jo Krallman made this her last symposium after 30+ years of instructing and mentoring flower show judges. GCM member and former state and national president Gay Austin taught her last horticulture course as she takes time to be with family members. Above are the 24 attendees from Mississippi who attended, along with 19 from Louisiana, 3 from Texas and one each from Arkansas and Georgia. . Melinda Causey served as chairman of the meeting.