



Redbud Reporter

Fall 2025

From Your District Director

Fall shows us how good it can be to let summer go. We enjoy feeling the early morning fall breeze and looking at the changing colors of the leaves. It's also time to start planting those spring flower bulbs. Speaking of bulbs, The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. will soon be sponsoring a Holiday Fundraiser on Flower Power where you can purchase beautiful amaryllis and paperwhites just in time for the holiday season. More information will soon be emailed and posted on the GCG website: gardenclubofgeorgia.org

The GCG Fall Board Meeting was held in Athens on September 10. Many of our members attended due to the fact that they serve on the Board. Redbud has great representation on the 2025-27 Board and appreciates their dedication and service.

The Redbud District recently held our 52nd standard flower show "Cruisin' with Daisy" in Tucker on September 12-13. There were hundreds of horticulture specimens, many judged floral designs and a new photography division. Our flower show was successful due to the dedicated leadership of Chairman Gale Thomas, Co-Chairman Joy Zaiden, and the many committee chairmen. A special thank you to all who gave their time and talents for this beautiful event.

Garden Gateways focus will be on Litter and Recycling in its next issue. Please make sure you let me know about your club's efforts in these areas.



Remember to email me your club's information and pictures for publication by October 15 to bondudley@yahoo.com.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our Annual District Meeting on Wednesday, October 15. The Dogwood Garden Club and Garden Club of Griffin have been busy planning a wonderful event. Redbud Board members and club Presidents should plan to

attend. Clubs are encouraged to donate a raffle basket or make a monetary donation in lieu of a basket. The registration form is available on the Redbud's website: redbuddistrict.com. The registration deadline is October 3.

It's never too late to start thinking about our clubs PLANT AMERICA Red, White and Blue projects to celebrate America's 250th birthday on July 4, 2026.

Let's show our patriotic colors by planting container gardens with red, white, and blue plants. Remember to take photos of all your club's plantings.

I am thankful for and appreciate our members who have agreed to "Dig in and Get Things Done" by serving on our 2025-27 Board. We look forward to working with our 34 Remarkable Redbud Clubs.

Bonnie Dudley
Redbud District Director

GCG Century Club

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. - 1928 to 2028
**"Celebrating a Century of Beautification,
Conservation & Education"**

We will be having many events during 2028 to celebrate our centennial - and we hope you will join us!

To help defray the cost of some of the events planned for our 100th Anniversary Celebration, GCG has established the Century Club. Individual Members who wish to belong to this club and financially support the 100th Celebration may donate \$100 and receive a Century Club lapel pin and certain other benefits

Garden Clubs/Councils & Districts can join too! We welcome the financial support of all of our groups.

We are accepting \$100 donations **NOW**. Pins were ordered over the summer and will be distributed at the Fall District Meetings. Wear it with pride!!!!

Our fundraising will determine how big our celebrations can be. We appreciate your support.



JOIN ASAP to become a Century Club Member.

Make your \$100 check payable to GCG and mail along with the form below to:

Barbara Bourque, 100th Committee Chairman
6445 Holland Drive, Cumming, GA 30041-4641
b.bourque@comcast.net; 404-374-2828

[Century Club Form - for individuals](#)

[Century Club Form - for Clubs/Councils/Districts](#)

Redbud District

*The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
Cordially Invites You to Attend*

The 64th Annual District Meeting And Gift Basket Raffle

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

*First Baptist Church Griffin Family Life Center
232 S. 8th Street, Griffin, GA 30224*



“Cruisin’ With Daisy on the Highway of the Future”

The Ray Highway hosts the nation’s first pollinator-friendly right-of-way solar project located on Exit 14 on I-85 in Troup County, Georgia.

*Guest Speaker—Josh Weaver, Ph.D.
Natural Capital Manager for The Ray*



CALLING ALL REDBUD GARDEN CLUBS

We hope all of our clubs will be busy making plans for their **Remarkable Redbud** baskets at their September meeting.

As most of you may know, this is the main fundraiser that the District will have this year, and it is important that we are able to raise the funds necessary to fund our many projects; i.e., Redbud District Flower Show, storage of our flower show properties, grants made available to our member clubs, donations to the GCG Scholarship Fund, and many more. But if your club is unable to provide a basket, you could donate a gift card (\$50 or more) to the raffle or make a cash donation in lieu of, check made payable to Redbud District, memo line Raffle Basket donation, mail to Rigby Duncan, 2800 Hunting Hill Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-1504

Please attach a sign or label to your basket listing:

Club Name	Basket Theme	Contents of Basket	Approximate Total Value
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In order to provide adequate table space and signage, we need to know ahead of the meeting that your club is bringing a basket for the raffle. Please notify, Bonnie Dudley, bondudley@yahoo.com, 706-812-7167 or Glenndolyn Hallman, gkh44@aol.com, 404-803-6867 by **October 8th**.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION & REMINDERS

PULL-A-TAB PROJECT

Please bring aluminum pull tabs to support the Ronald McDonald House. The tabs are recycled and sold for cash to fund the House's operations and programs. Place you club's tabs in a baggy with your garden club's name.

COMMUNITY ON OUR MIND/FIG LEAF PROJECT

Redbud continues to support the Georgia Regional Hospital at Atlanta in Decatur, GA. You may choose to donate new socks, underwear and/or toiletry items to the residents who might not otherwise receive such items.

Two boxes will be provided near the registration table to place your tabs and items for the hospital.

Cruisin' with Daisy Flower Show is a Winner!

On September 12-13, 2025, Daisy and all her friends gathered together for a spectacular "Road Show" at the Tucker First United Methodist Church for the Redbud District's 2025 National Garden Club (NGC) Standard Flower Show. This fabulous show included over 450 beautiful horticulture entries, 36 outstanding designs, 2 educational displays, and 31 amazing photography entries. Daisy's Redbud District friends showed up and showed out! We welcomed over 250 visitors in this new location.

NGC Flower Show judges from Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee were invited to judge this annual flower show. Judging took place on the morning of Friday, September 12th and the show opened that afternoon to the public with a ribbon-cutting by the show's Honorary Chairmen Tucker Mayor and First Lady Frank and Gay Auman. "Daisy" (aka Kim Fair) drove up in her spiffy convertible to welcome visitors to the show.

Special thanks to Redbud Garden Clubs and individuals who made monetary and food donations to the flower show. Your donations allowed the show to become a reality. Heartfelt gratitude to all

of the show's volunteers. Whether you served on the show's planning committee, assisted with the show staging, placed horticulture, served as a judge, clerk, or hostess, provided meals and snacks, or assisted with breaking down the show on the last day, your role in making this show a success is appreciated. The Chairman and Co-Chairman, Gale D. Thomas and Joy Zaidan, are grateful to all who donated their time and services to make this show a remarkable one.



Daisy Flower Show Winners for 2025

Horticulture (Division I)

- NGC Award of Horticultural Excellence and Redbud District Elinor Wilson Trophy – *Dahlia*, Susan Barton, Avondale Estates GC
- NGC Sweepstakes Award, individual with most blue ribbons in Horticulture – Michele Spears, Avon GC
- Arboreal Award, Shrubs – *Euonymus americanus* (strawberry bush), Egco, Moonflower GC
- Arboreal Award, Trees – *Punica granatum* (pomegranate); Michele Spears, Avondale Estates GC
- Award of Merit, Ferns – *Arachniodes simplicior* (shield fern); Dee Montgomery, Smoke Rise GC
- Award of Merit, *Hosta* – *Hosta* 'Rainbow's End'; Sandy Reed, Shenandoah Rose & Smoke Rise Morning Glories GC
- Award of Merit, Succulents – *Euphorbia tirucalli* (pencil cactus); Yvonne Melvin, Moonflower GC
- Award of Merit, Aroids – *Scindapsis pictus* (satin pothos); Joy Zaidan, Designers & Smoke Rise Morning Glories GC
- Award of Merit, Flowering Annuals – *Plectranthus* 'Mona Lavender'; Joy Zaidan, Designers & Smoke Rise Morning Glories GC
- Award of Merit, Foliage Annuals – *Christia obcordata* (swallowtail); Joy Zaidan, Designers & Smoke Rise Morning Glories GC
- Award of Merit, Flowering Perennials – *Helianthus tuberosus* (sunchoke); Lynn Malone, Mountain Mums GC
- Award of Merit, Flowering Bulbs, Corms, Tubers, Rhizomes – *Dahlia*, Susan Barton, Avondale Estates GC
- Award of Merit, Foliage Bulbs, Corms, Tubers, Rhizomes – *Alocasia macrorrhizos* (giant taro), Maryann Bickley, Green Thumb GC
- Collector's Showcase Award – Fern collection; Deborah Fleming, Stonecrest GC



Design (Division II)

NGC Award of Design Excellence, NGC Designers Choice Award and Redbud District's Mickie Holton Inspiration Award – Barbara Crank, The Designers Club

NGC Table Artistry Award – Lynn Fronk, The Designers Club



NGC Petite Award – Robin Burkhalter, Chattanooga Garden Club.



Education (Division III)

NGC Educational Award – Angie Moore,
Spade and Trowel Garden Club



Botanical Arts (Division IV)

Botanical Arts Photography Award –
Michelle Culberson, Ellijay Garden Club



Blue Ribbon Sweepstakes Award

Awarded to the club with most blue ribbons in Show (Horticulture, Design, Education and Botanical Arts) –
Spade and Trowel Garden Club



For more photos: go to:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/eMs86RDC8jYdJTv7>

Upcoming Special Event – Save the Date

Nature’s Best Hope

The Dunwoody Garden Club will be hosting renowned ecologist and author Doug Tallamy for a special public presentation on Saturday, October 25, 2025 at Dunwoody High School. Come learn the importance of native plants and how we can protect our fragile ecosystem.

Doors will open at 3:00 pm on the day of the event. Dr. Tallamy’s talk will begin at 4:00 pm followed by a Q&A session. Admission is FREE, but you must reserve a seat by [ORDERING A TICKET](#). Tickets are going fast, so don’t delay!

Focus on Natives

Here are some suggestions from Renie Faulkenberry, Native Plants Chairman, on adding natives to your garden:

- The Perennial Plant Association has selected as their 2025 Plant of the Year clustered mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum muticum*). It grows about knee high and will flower in either sun or shade. It spreads —as do all mints – but it makes a nice background for lower growing flowers. Its tiny flowers attract very small bees.



- The Georgia Native Plant Society has selected blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium augustifolium*) as its 2025 Plant of the Year. It forms short grasslike clumps with lovely blue flowers. It is not a grass but a member of the iris family. This is a good plant for fronting a perennial bed.



Websites of both associations have list of previous winners, which provide good suggestions of other natives you can grow for our wildlife.

[Perennial Plant Association](#)

[Georgia Native Plant Society](#)

GCG YOUTH GARDEN CLUBS

Digging In with Our Redbud Youth Today and For Future Generations!

Sponsoring a *GCG Youth Garden Club* may be easier than you think!
Here are a few ways to begin and program ideas to help you get started.
Whatever you would like to share, the kids are going to love!

~ Quick Steps to Get Going~

- ❖ Work with an existing group such as a Scout Troop or Pack, school group, 4H Club or a class at your place of worship.
- ❖ Meeting requirement minimum is only 5 times per year.
- ❖ Be sure to apply for a GCG Youth Standard of Excellence Certificate.
- ❖ A Youth Club Registration Form and all youth forms & information may be found on the GCG website@ gardenclubofgeorgia.org
- ❖ Please advise your Redbud Youth Chairman if you register a Youth Garden Club.

~A Few Program Ideas May Include~

- ❖ Annual NGC Youth Poetry Contest 2025-2026 Theme:
- ❖ *Plant America for the Next 100 Years. Email entries to Melody Gaskins, Redbud Youth Chair. Entries should arrive no later than December 1st.*
- ❖ *Annual NGC High School Essay Contest - 2025-2026 Theme: Is Recycling Plastics the Answer to Our Plastic Disposal Problem?* The National Garden Clubs, Inc. Youth Essay Contest is open to all students in 9th - 12th grade. Essayists submit a 600-700 word essay that addresses the posed question.
- ❖ *NGC Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest. Mail entries to Melody Gaskins, Redbud Youth Chairman. Entries should arrive no later than December 1st.*
- ❖ *Have a recycle program and enter the NGC/GCG Youth Sculpture Contest. Entries due Jan. 1 to GCG State Chairman Judy Johnson judyjohnson1953@gmail.com (C) 912-278-1953*
- ❖ *Flower designs; start simple with a line design.*
- ❖ *Participate in a local Standard Flower Show or County Fair.*
- ❖ *Environmental concerns such as air quality, conserving water, litter & recycling. Have a discussion with artwork or a craft (rain sticks and collages are fun!).*
- ❖ *Sponsor a neighborhood or school "Clean-up".*
- ❖ *Create Holiday or Seasonal décor using fresh plant material found in the garden. Fresh, dried or a combination is easily obtained.*
- ❖ *Herb Program ~Bird Program ~ Container Gardening*
- ❖ *A Garden Therapy activity in your community is so appreciated.*
- ❖ *Important details for NGC Contests, Grants and more may be found on the NGC website www.gardenclub.org*

*Let's get Georgia's Youth excited about Gardening as they
"Dig In with Redbud to Get Things Done: Beautify, Conserve, Educate."
Melody Gaskins ~ Redbud Youth Chairman 2025-2027
(C) 706-975-6609 melodythompsongaskins@gmail.com*

*Susan Turner ~ Redbud Youth Co-Chairman 2025-2027
770-922-4411 (C)404-502-8147 glencree@bellsouth.net*

Youth Contests

It's time to get your youth started on their contest entries. Here's some info to get you started:

Youth Poetry Contest

"Plant America for the Next 100 Years"

Deadline for submission: December 1, 2025

Grades eligible: Kindergarten through 12th grade

Email submissions to Melody Gaskins, Redbud Youth Chairman

melodythompsonsgaskins@gmail.com; 706-975-6609

For guidelines, go to: <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/youth-poetry-contest/>

Smoky Bear and Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

Mail entries to arrive no later than December 1, 2025

Grades eligible: 1st through 5th

Mail to: Melody Gaskins, Redbud Youth Chairman

370 Peachtree Belt Road, Thomaston, GA 30286

melodythompsonsgaskins@gmail.com; 706-975-6609

For contest guidelines, go to: <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/smokey-bear-woodsy-owl-contest/>

Youth Sculpture Contest

"Encouraging Youth to Keep Our Planet Green"

Deadline: January 1, 2026

Grades eligible: 4th through 8th

E-mail entries to: Judy Johnson, GCG Youth Sculpture

Judytjohnson1953@gmail.com; 912-367-7779 (h); 912-278-1953

Please advise your District Chairmen of your entry: melodythompsonsgaskins@gmail.com or glencree@bellsouth.net

For contest guidelines, go to: <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/youth-sculpture-contest/>

Georgia Regional Hospital Summer 2025 Update

We have exciting news for our friends at Georgia Regional Hospital. This summer DeKalb Federation applied on behalf of the Georgia Regional Hospital-Atlanta for a grant in the amount of \$725.00 from The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Garden Therapy program.

The chairman of the Garden Therapy program is Redbud Co-Director Glenndolyn Hallman. She leads a committee from all seven districts and GCG President Diane Hunter. And happily, Quill Duncan also serves on the committee representing Redbud District. Let's say that we stack the deck just a little bit. The grant was funded, and Smoke Rise Morning Glories member and Georgia Regional Activity Therapy Coordinator Mary Cochran received the funds in early August.

When Smoke Rise Morning Glories members Bonnie Pennington and Quill Duncan visited the campus in June, Mary advised us on what the hospital garden therapy program would need for the next six months in terms of funding. The grant will fund the following items for the gardens at the Georgia Regional campus: an outdoor umbrella and stand; hose and hose carriage; fall vegetable starts; new blueberry shrubs; a fig tree; and mulch and straw bales to control the weeds and mud in the large vegetable garden. There are plans to do some renovation in the sensory garden and replace some plants that have died and prune back those plants whose growth has been exuberant!

The summer crop in the vegetable garden was impacted some by our summer weather . . . rain and then dry spells. Strawberries were the stars this year and a huge hit with residents and staff members at several gatherings.

The staff and patients there benefit greatly from the support and interest we have in their growth and therapy. It is a very rewarding project for all concerned.

And remember that your Fig Leaf Project or Drop Your Drawers donations also go to Georgia Regional Hospital for the patients who truly appreciate our contributions. In fact, the hospital officially recognized our donations this spring with a special thank you from the CEO. The lady at the hospital who manages the donations loves it when Glenndolyn Hallman calls to tell her our donations are on the way! We do make a difference in the patients' lives. Thanks, Redbud!



News from the Clubs

Avondale Estates GC Commemorates 9/11

Every September 11, Avondale Estates Garden Club members join members of the Avon Garden Club, city officials, and residents to commemorate the lives lost on September 11, 2001 at Dewey Brown Plaza across the street from Avondale Estates City Hall.

This year, on the 24th anniversary of the event, AEGC President Julie Martinez (in red blazer) joined with Avondale Mayor Jonathan Elmore (to Julie's right), city officials and AEGC members. Club member Peg Wyse rang a bell at the time the first plane hit the North Tower of the World Trade Center at 8:46 a.m.



Puppet Garbanzo from ‘Nature Time’ Video Series Kicks Off Bonnie Phelps Memorial Tree Walk Oct. 25

Garbanzo, the orange puppet from the YouTube Video series “Nature Time,” returns to the Gazebo beside Lake Avondale at 9 am Saturday, October 25, for the Avondale Estates Garden Club Tree Walk.

Children are invited to meet Garbanzo and his friends from “Nature Time” as they open the Bonnie Phelps Memorial Tree Walk. Garbanzo headlined the last Tree Walk in 2023.

The adult program begins at 10 am with a presentation from award-winning landscape designer and Avondale Estates resident Steve Sanchez. Sanchez is a long-time supporter of the tree walk and is passionate about promoting the increase of natural canopy in our urban areas. He is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Georgia Native Plant Society and served on the Board for Trees Atlanta from 2008-2014. Recognized as a true expert in preserving and capitalizing on the natural environment, Steve regularly volunteers to speak about relevant environmental topics to various organizations such as Park Pride, Trees Atlanta and UGA-CED students.

The Avondale Estates Garden Club hosts the free Tree Walk every odd-number year and invites the community to gather and learn about the importance of trees in Avondale Estates.

Hosted biennially by the Avondale Estates Garden Club, the Bonnie Phelps Memorial Tree Walk is named in honor of long-time Avondale Estates Garden Club member, the late Bonnie Phelps. The event is held in the fall every odd numbered year (2025). On even numbered years, the club hosts a tour of the city’s Secret Gardens — beautifully landscaped gardens behind homes and out of public view. The next Secret Garden Tour will be June 6, 2026.

Avondale Estates club members Helen Dorroh and Joe Foley are chairing the event.

This year’s program includes:

- 9 am — Nature Time puppet program for children
- 9:15 until 10 am — Children’s games and crafts led by club members
- 10 am — A presentation from landscape architect and Avondale Estates resident Steve Sanchez
- 10:30 am — Arborist-led walks around the historic portion of Avondale Estates where there are sidewalks. Walks leave from the shore of Lake Avondale near the Gazebo.



Avondale Estates Garden Club Hosts Program

“Climate Change Impact on Plants and Trees: What Can We Do Now?”

Climate change is very much like the old saying about the weather: Everyone talks about it, but no one does anything about it.

The Avondale Estates Garden Club (AEGC) will offer both talk and ideas for action at a community-wide program 6:30 - 8:30 pm Nov. 10, at the Lake House at 59 Lakeshore Drive in Avondale Estates.

The program will address the impact of climate change on plants and trees and offer suggestions from experts on what we can do now.

Speakers will be Virginia Hudspeth, UGA Graduate Student who is researching Adaptability to Climate Change with a focus on trees, and Tres Crow, Chief Grower, GreenBox Homes, focusing on plants.

The November program follows a series of three events AEGC sponsored in 2023 on environmental responsibility and ways our community can act locally.

The program is free and open to the public. For more details, go to:

<https://avondaleestatesgardenclub.org>.

Conyers Garden Club Sponsors Basic Floral Design Course

In response to the growing need to train more members in basic floral design, the Conyers Garden Club is sponsoring its 3rd Basic Floral Design course in Conyers. Previously sponsored courses were held in Griffin and Conyers. The 5-class course covers the National Garden Club, Inc.'s design types and the principles and elements of design.

Participants in the current course are members of various DeKalb Federation Clubs: Avondale Estates, Avon, Dunwoody, and Conyers. Using both lectures and hands-on activities, instructor Gale D. Thomas provides modeling and feedback as each participant works to complete the assigned designs. To date, classes have focused on line design, basic line design, mass design, and table settings. All participants have enthusiastically produced two designs in each class.

In the September 3, 2025 class, the students applied the principles and elements information and

evaluated four table settings provided by Gale and one of the other students (photo below). They then created their own table settings using the applied knowledge. Future classes will focus on creative and petite designs, wreaths, and fruits and vegetables.

If your club is interested in sponsoring a Basic Design Course, please contact GCG Basic Design Chairman Edna McClellan at ednamae@ellijay.com.



Dunwoody Garden Club Beautifies Library Entrance

The Dunwoody Garden Club has been beautifying the entrance and the atrium of the Dunwoody Library since 1994 and decided it was time to replace an aging statue that had seen better days. The new bronze statue, "Study Time", which depicts a young girl seated on a tree stump reading a book, represents the many children who visit the library every day. The children, via a contest, named her Libby.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on September 8th. Past President Betty Dworschak (right), who chaired the project, shared the ribbon cutting honors with Dunwoody Mayor Lynn Deutsch (left). The Mayor said the statue "epitomizes what this library represents."

The club purchased the statue with funds from sponsors and long-time supporters who have attended the annual "Swing Into Spring" fundraiser held each spring.



Joining the celebration with the many members of the Dunwoody Garden Club were: city council members; the Dunwoody Parks and Recreation staff; who created a concrete base for the statue; the Dunwoody Arts Council; Friends of the Dunwoody Library; and the library staff. And of course, the children!

Green Thumb Garden Club Learns History of Crystal Hill Gardens

The August 2025 meeting of Green Thumb Garden Club was held at The Gathering Church. Meeting tables were decorated with arrangements showcasing various flowers and plants that could be entered into the Redbud Flower Show. Member Angie Short provided information about the show and how members could participate.

The program was presented by member San Short, who shared the fascinating history of Crystal Hill Gardens in Thomaston, Georgia.

The gardens were created in the late 1920's by Albert T. Matthews, who chose the site for its crystal-clear water supply and its natural beauty – an ideal setting for his “garden of paradise”. The name Crystal Hill came from the crystalline rocks found on the property.

During Mr. Matthews' time, the gardens showcased a wide variety of plants. His favorite flower was the camellia, and he rooted more than 50 each year, eventually cultivating over 1000 specimens representing 40 varieties.

Another highlight was his collection of tropical water lilies. To display them, he built a lily pond that featured both day- and night-blooming varieties. The giant “Victorias” were especially remarkable, growing up to 70-80 inches across and blooming for 2 to 3 months.

The gardens were also home to about 150 peacocks, continuing a family tradition, as generations of the Matthews family had kept peacocks.

Following the meeting, members were able to tour the gardens.



Mountain Mums' Gale Auman Opens Flower Show

The City of Tucker was proud to host the Garden Club of Georgia's Redbud District VII for its 52nd Annual Standard Flower Show, "Cruisin' with Daisy". The event, held at the Family Activities Center of the Tucker First United Methodist Church, drew attendees from across the district and state.

To kick off the celebration, Tucker Mayor Frank Auman presented a Proclamation to the Redbud District. Gaye Auman, Past President of the Mountain Mums Garden Club, had the honor of cutting the ribbon to officially open the show. Garden Club of Georgia President Diane Hunter was also in attendance for the festivities.



Satsuki Garden Club: Butterflies, Bugs and Things that Crawl in the Night

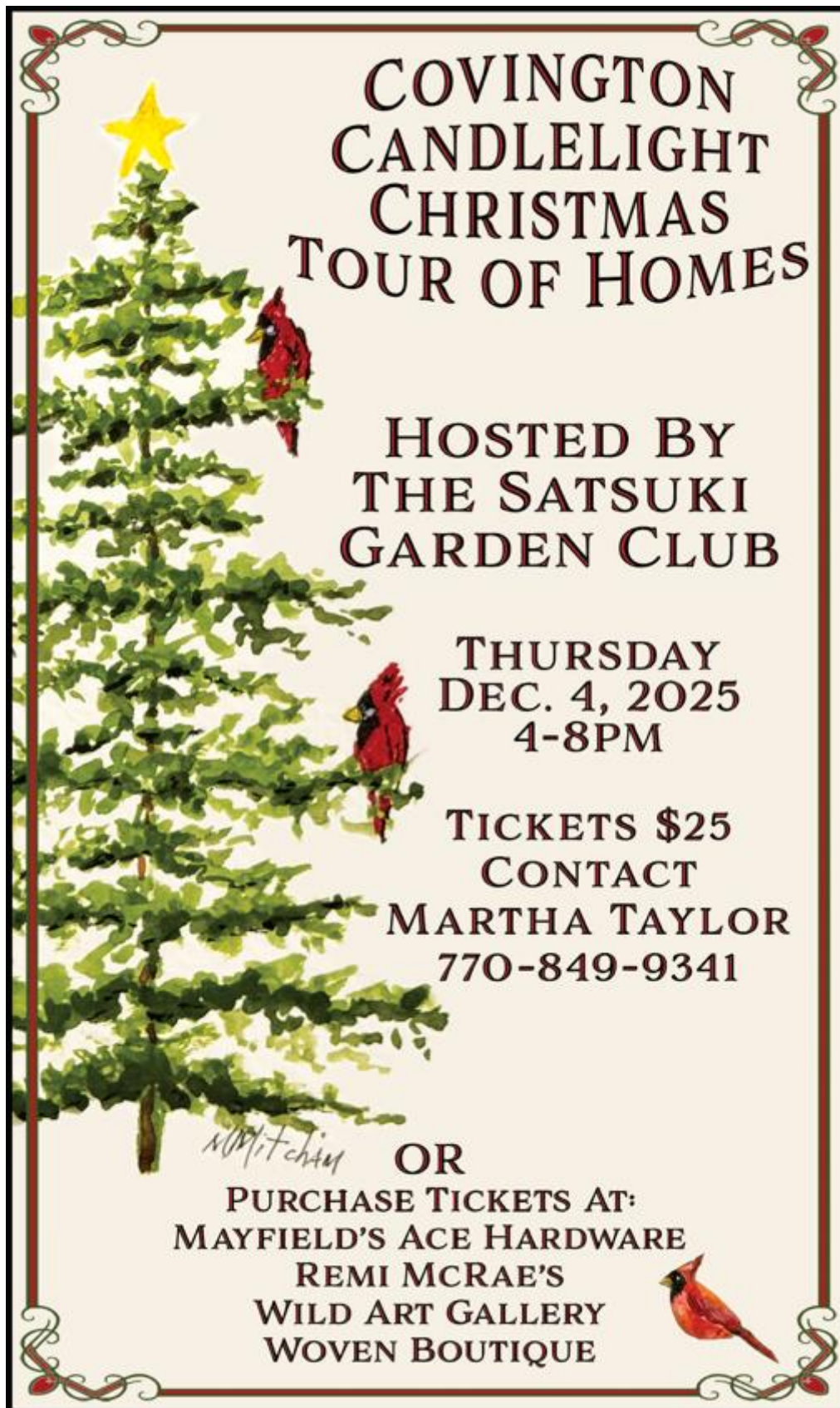
The Satsuki Garden Club in Covington installed a Free Nature Library box for children just in time for summer break. Located in Academy Springs Park at the Butterfly/Pollinator Garden built and maintained by the club, the box is stocked weekly with children's books featuring nature themes.

Members donated over 100 books about butterflies, birds, insects, the animal kingdom, gardening and environmental topics. In addition, the club purchased 100 copies of two educational paperback book titles that highlight butterflies: *Butterflies for Kids/A Junior Scientist's Guide* and *Ranger Rick/I Wish I Was a Monarch Butterfly*.

Club members gathered in June to dedicate the Free Nature Library and tour the garden. This project further promotes the educational focus of the garden and encourages young visitors to read and learn about the natural world.

Members restocking the library report the box to be empty each time they visit, confirming the popularity of this civic improvement project. The initial cost of the project was \$800 which included the box installation and the purchase of 100 paperback books. A supply of books will continue to be provided by member donations and club funding. (The Satsuki Butterfly Garden at Academy Springs Park was established in 2016 and is a registered garden on the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail.)





**COVINGTON
CANDLELIGHT
CHRISTMAS
TOUR OF HOMES**

**HOSTED BY
THE SATSUKI
GARDEN CLUB**

**THURSDAY
DEC. 4, 2025
4-8PM**

**TICKETS \$25
CONTACT
MARTHA TAYLOR
770-849-9341**

Witcham **OR**
**PURCHASE TICKETS AT:
MAYFIELD'S ACE HARDWARE
REMI MCRAE'S
WILD ART GALLERY
WOVEN BOUTIQUE**

Spade and Trowel Wins Sweepstakes Award at Flower Show

Spade and Trowel Garden Club won the Sweepstakes award for receiving the most blue ribbons at the 52nd annual Redbud District Standard Flower Show, held Sept. 12-13 at the Tucker First United Methodist Church.

Prior to the show, the club gathered at the Fair Oaks Clubhouse to prepare horticulture specimens and then submitted 119 total for judging. Club members

won 23 first place, 28 second place, 20 third place, and 36 honorable mention awards.

In addition to entering horticulture, Spade and Trowel also sponsored Angie Moore's educational exhibit on "Georgia's Beautiful DOT Wildflower Project." Moore won a National Garden Club ribbon for the display.

