



District 1-2 Director Report
2026 GCNC Board of Directors Meeting
September 2026

Greetings from Western North Carolina! My name is Cathy Franklin-Griffin, D1-2 Director. Our Vice Director is Debra Brodersam. Please stand, Debbie. D1-2 Club Presidents and Members, please stand, too. The real work, creativity, and success in the district are because of the Vice-Director, Presidents, and members. Appreciation to the clubs for contributing to D1-2's Tote Bag and contents contribution to the Silent Auction.

There has been a loss of 3 members (death or health challenges) and an overall gain of 15 members from end of May to September for a current D1-2 membership of 288. There are 10 Senior Clubs (Good Earth, Piney Creek Dirty Fingers, Lake Norman, Mimosa, Asheville, Waynesville, Land 'o' Sky, Sylva, Transylvania, Garden Club of High Country) and 2 Youth Clubs in D1-2.

The largest membership gain in past three months is in Asheville Garden Club (8 new members – 5 from friends, 2 from website, 1 from GCNC referral).

2/10 clubs reported no news over the summer (Sylva GC and GC of High Country). 8/10 share highlights:

Asheville – completed 4th year plant sales; preparing for annual wreath fundraisers. Met in member gardens over summer. All Souls not available to meeting for another year. Meeting place search for 2027 ongoing. Installation of new President Suzuyo Fox. Celebration of landmark birthday for President Anne Kime.

Transylvania – Patriotic bird houses and plantings of red/white/blue in Depot Gardens; R/W/B planting at Brevard Memorial Marker; Great SE Pollinators

Land 'o' Sky – Largest club with 35 Active and 34 Associate Members. Main project: Atrium at Pardee Hospital and Bicentennial Pollinator Gardens. Christmas Bazaar – December 5.

Mimosa - Continues: Bluebird Trail and Hatching reports to state. September 2026 = celebration of 250th anniversary of McDowell House Period Garden (site of Bluebird Trail).

Good Earth – Smallest club with 6 members. Ranger Presentation and picnic. Trip to Lake Lure (Ed. Bldg. no open every day – much smaller gardens); support of/participation at Daniel Boone Native Gardens; red/white/blue plantings at church project site. Red/white/blue for historical cemetery planned.

Piney Creek Dirty Fingers – Membership up to 30; very successful 3 days of Annual Spring Teas. Rock column and extension of decorative fencing around gardens at Meeting House supported by Teas.

Lake Norman – Has gone live online at <https://lkngardenclub.org>. Check out the website! Club members just completed a plant sale with >\$4,000.00. The club plans a quarterly newsletter with education, gardening tips, hacks, etc., to further engage the community.

Waynesville (12 month club) – Awarded 3 - \$1,00.00 scholarships for Haywood County students to attend college; participated in the Whole Blooming Thing Festival and the Annual Lake Junaluska Plant Sale. Planted red/white/blue flowers with flags and banners in 5 of the 6 community gardens the club maintains. Continued Community-wide Dahlia Exhibition at the Waynesville Library – “flower show” for dahlias with 1st, 2nd, 3rd place based on community votes (183). Fundraising during “Sip, Stroll, Shop” through December; workshop for Bookmark making; plan tree planting of sourwood tree at Historic Shelton House & Museum (NC Museum of Crafts and History) in October. (Eliminated ½ memberships.)

The clubs contribute to the GCNC newsletter and fundraise throughout the year to support and beautify communities.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Franklin-Griffin, Director
GCNC District 1-2
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Club Presidents

*Asheville GC – Anne Kime – Installation of Suzuyo Fox as new President

GC of the High Country – Dana Holden

*Good Earth GC – Harry Griffin

*Lake Norman GC – Donna Smith

Land 'o' Sky GC – Ginger Michel (Sallie Carr – Liaison)

Mimosa GC – Cackie Joyner

Piney Creek Dirty Fingers GC – Cindy Atwood

Sylva GC – Janet Davis

Transylvania GC – Alane Klink

*Waynesville GC – Cherry Stone

*Attending 2026 GCNC Board of Directors Meeting (Anne plus 2 members; Harry plus 2 members- DD and VD; Donna; Cherry = 8 attendees from D1-2)