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# THE NORTH CAROLINA GARDENER

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FALL 2024

“Cultivating Inspiration”  
Communicate, Educate, Participate

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

Member: National Garden Clubs, Inc. (South Atlantic Region)

**Fall 2024**  
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**Member**

National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
South Atlantic Region

**GCNC**

Organized 1925

Federated 1930

Incorporated 1940

Our mission is to provide education, resources, and networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, civic and environmental responsibility.

[WWW.GARDENCLUBOFNC.ORG](http://WWW.GARDENCLUBOFNC.ORG)



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**Deadlines**

**November 1** - Winter Issue

**February 1**—Spring Issue

**May 1**—Summer Issue

**August 1**—Fall Issue

To submit articles, events and items of interest for submission to The NC Gardener, please send an email to Karen Doersam, Editor at

[ncgardener@gardenclubofnc.org](mailto:ncgardener@gardenclubofnc.org)

**Submission Guidelines**

- Articles to be plain text email or word doc..
- Photos should be high resolution jpg
- Email Subject in include “article for NC Gardener” and Club Name
- Email Body to include District, Garden Club, and submitter name
- Editor reserves the right to edit any article due to space constraints, duplication, clarity and accuracy.



Linda McLendon  
GCNC President

## *President's Message*

There are so many great benefits of belonging to a federated garden club. There are schools, for instance, environmental, flower show, gardening and landscape design schools. We sponsor three North Carolina gardens, the Daniel Boone Native Gardens, the Elizabethan gardens and the Martha Frank Fragrance gardens. My presidential project is to encourage you and your members to become a recipient of our prestigious life membership program. life membership for the garden club of North Carolina's fee is \$100.00. You get a certified life membership card and a life membership pin, A life membership for SAR is \$65.00 which includes a life membership certificate card and a life membership pin. A life membership fee for National is \$200.00. You will receive a life membership certified card, but you will have to order and pay for a life membership pin from member resources from national. our life membership chairman, Jo Daniels is here and will be glad to sign you up to be a life member for GCNC, SAR, AND NGC.

[Link to Life Membership Application](#)

SCAM ALERT! Please know that I (nor my officers) will never email or text you asking you to go purchase gift cards or help me get out of jail or pay my bills! I only use my AOL account and only have 919 area code for my home and cell phones. The scammers are relentless but please report these emails or call me to verify any suspicious communications

# ***EVENTS—Installation Year***

What's on the agenda in the upcoming months for garden club members? Never again will you have the opportunity to attend a South Atlantic Regional meeting, a 100th year celebration event of GCNC, and a meeting of the National Garden Club - all within driving distance

**MARCH 9 - 10  
RALEIGH , NC  
2025 SAR CONVENTION  
HOSTED  
BY NORTH CAROLINA**



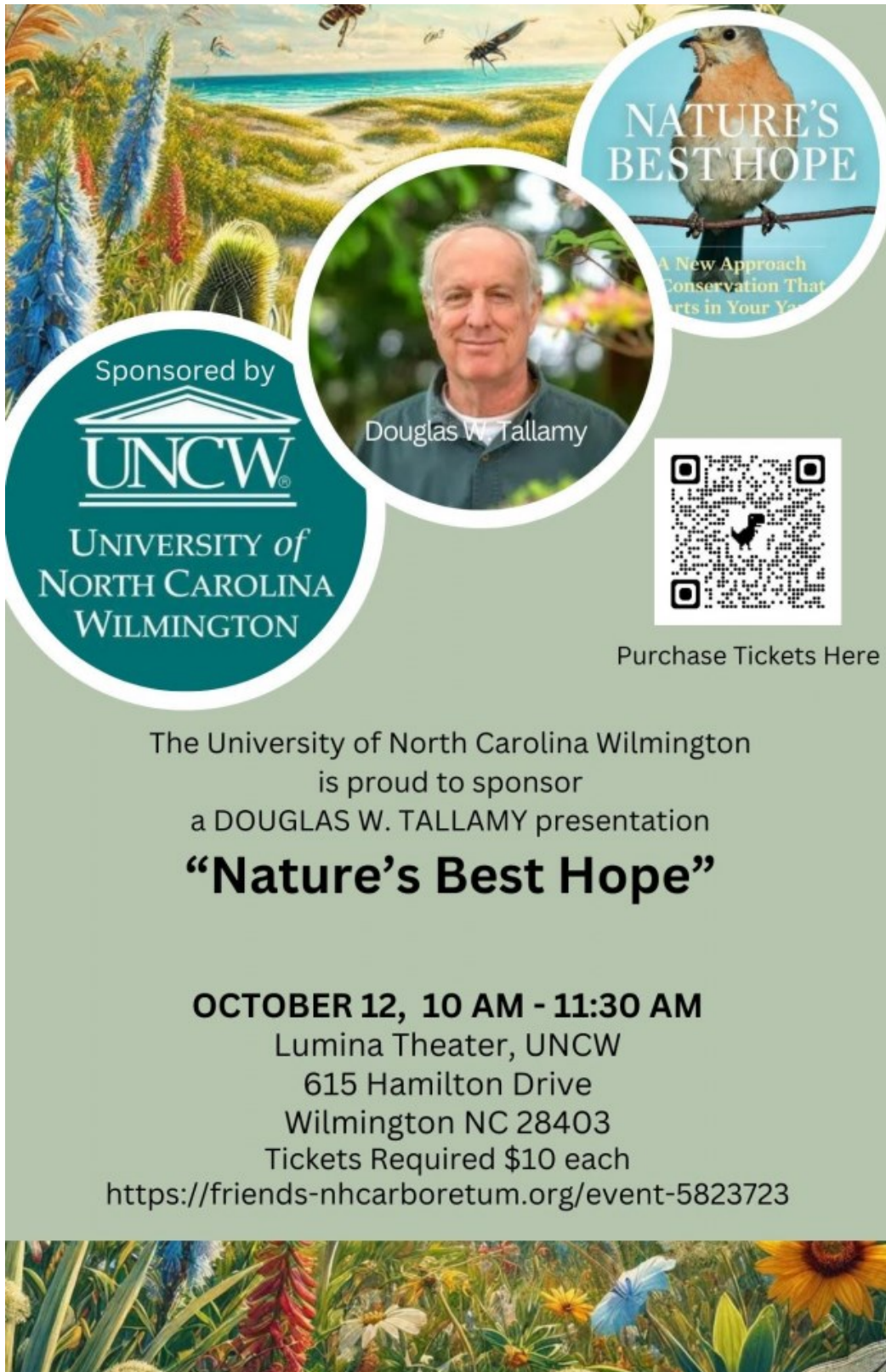
**MAY 4 - 6  
WINSTON-SALEM NC  
ANNUAL MEETING OF GCNC  
AND 100 YEAR  
CELEBRATION**



**MAY 18-21  
NORTH CHARLESTON S.C.  
ANNUAL MEETING OF  
THE NATION GARDEN  
CLUBS, INC.**




# More *EVENTS*



**NATURE'S BEST HOPE**  
A New Approach  
Conservation That  
Starts in Your Yard

Sponsored by  
**UNCW**  
UNIVERSITY of  
NORTH CAROLINA  
WILMINGTON

Douglas W. Tallamy



Purchase Tickets Here

The University of North Carolina Wilmington  
is proud to sponsor  
a DOUGLAS W. TALLAMY presentation  
**“Nature’s Best Hope”**

**OCTOBER 12, 10 AM - 11:30 AM**  
Lumina Theater, UNCW  
615 Hamilton Drive  
Wilmington NC 28403  
Tickets Required \$10 each  
<https://friends-nhcarboretum.org/event-5823723>

# DID YOU KNOW?



Brenda Crocker was the first GCNC president to use the GREEN/RED voting cards—a much more accurate and efficient way of counting votes. Thank you Brenda.



The first *The NC Gardener* was published in 1942 by Mrs. Charles Griffith of Winston-Salem. It was fifteen pages long. Most articles were about Victory Gardens and the war effort.



In 1997, the Executive Committee approved the use of given names in all printed matter. Mrs. Phebe Kirkman was the first president to appear so in *The NC Gardener*.

# ***GCNC Board News***

## **Charles McLendon—GCNC 1st Vice President/ Membership Chair**

**I am proud to report we have gained members during times when other organizations are struggling with membership. We are consistently getting potential requests sent to NGC from people moving into NC or wanting to join a garden club. Your contributions are not going unnoticed.**

**I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with the District Director and Vice Directors during my term. GCNC is truly fortunate to have these special leaders.**

**The Directors work tirelessly in their towns and districts as leaders in their communities. They encourage and help Club Presidents increase membership, host garden tours, tea parties, offer educational programs, and plan**



**projects, fund raisers, plant sales.**

**Throughout the towns and cities of North Carolina GCNC members are working to beautify their communities and enhance the quality of life.**

**These members are busy planting gardens and designing flower beds in special places . Garden club members collaborate with community businesses, hospitals, churches, assisted living facilities, schools, wel-**

**come centers. The list goes on and on.**

**Senior advisors work with junior gardeners through great projects and programs . They encourage the young gardeners help others by sharing, caring, and giving back to their communities. Gardening, environmental awareness, and growing habitats for wildlife and pollinators are the major components of the youth program.**

## **Marilyn Wright—GCNC 2nd Vice President, Awards**

**Our 100th year history book is in the final stages of editing. By November 1, 2024, it will receive its final review and go to the printers.**



**book Check my list. Make sure I didn't leave out your club. You still have time to submit your club and its founding date to be included in the history book**

**Don't miss this opportunity to honor a special club member, your entire club, or remember a member who is no longer with us. A 1/2 page is \$50 and a full page is \$100.**

**The history book will be here in years to come. You may not. What you record in this book will be a permanent record.**

**Deadline for inclusions - NOVEMBER 1**

**On the next page, I am listing the clubs who sent in their founding date – so they will be included in the**

**As we approach awards time, remember I am here to help. We can ZOOM and solve your problems immediately.**

wrightmb04@gmail.com  
828-964-6415

[History Book Ad Form](#)

# GCNC Founding Dates

<b>CLUB NAME</b>	<b>FOUNDING</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>
<i>Backyard GC, Pittsboro</i>	1947	8
<i>Bermuda Run GC, Bermuda Run</i>	1984	4
<i>Brown Thumb GC, Winston-Salem</i>	2021	3
<i>Cary GC, Cary</i>	1958	10
<i>Cedarwood GC, Jamestown</i>	1967	5
<i>Chapel Hill GC, Chapel Hill</i>	1931	9
<i>Club of Twenty Gardens, Winston-Salem</i>	1926	4
<i>Cottonland GC, Laurinburg</i>	1957	8
<i>Daffy Jills GC, Tryon</i>	1955	1
<i>Davidson GC, Davidson</i>	1957	3
<i>Daylily GC, Durham</i>	1973	9
<i>Dogwood GC, Winston-Salem</i>	1951	4
<i>Englewood GC, Rocky Mount</i>	1952	12
<i>Fayetteville GC, Fayetteville</i>	1925	8
<i>Flower Lore GC, Winston-Salem</i>	1956	4
<i>Flower Lovers GC, Liberty</i>	1947	5
<i>GC of New River, Sneads Ferry</i>	1990	11
<i>Green Thumb GC, Reidsville</i>	1948	5
<i>Heritage GC, Durham</i>	1967	9
<i>Hillsborough GC, Hillsborough</i>	1925	9
<i>Hoe &amp; Hope GC, Reidsville</i>	1948	5
<i>Hoe 'N Hope GC, Wendell</i>	1955	10
<i>King of Spades GC, King</i>	1962	4
<i>Land O' Sky GC, Hendersonville</i>	1957	1
<i>Little Gardens GC, Reidsville</i>	1935	5

**Contact Marilyn Wright, [wrightmb04@gmail.com](mailto:wrightmb04@gmail.com) to add your club information to this list.**

# GCNC Founding Dates

<b>CLUB NAME</b>	<b>FOUNDING DATE</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>
<i>Little Greens GC, Winston-Salem</i>	1951	4
<i>Modern Gardeners, Mount Airy</i>	1956	4
<i>Montibello GC, Charlotte</i>	1972	3
<i> Mooresville GC, Mooresville</i>	1948	3
<i>New Bern GC, New Bern</i>	1926	11
<i>New Hanover GC, Wilmington</i>	2014	11
<i>Old Salem GC , Winston-Salem</i>	1950	4
<i>Pine Needles GC, Fayetteville</i>	1949	8
<i>Raleigh GC, Raleigh</i>	1925	10
<i>Reidsville GC, Reidsville</i>	1922	5
<i>Roanoke Island GC, Maneto</i>	1951	12
<i>Sardiswood GC, Charlotte</i>	1961	3
<i>Sheffield Gardeners, Winston-Salem</i>	1965	4
<i>Southport GC, Southport</i>	1949	11
<i>Spade &amp; Trowel GC, Winston-Salem</i>	1931	4
<i>Steel Magnolias GC, Zebulon</i>	1998	10
<i>The Sylva GC, Sylva</i>	1960	1
<i>Town &amp; Country GC, Durham</i>	1964	9
<i>Troutman GC, Troutman</i>	1950	3
<i>Village Home &amp; Garden Club, Lexington</i>	1954	4
<i>Westwood GC, Winston-Salem</i>	1953	4
<i>Woodrose GC, Reidsville</i>	1957	5
<i>Yadkin Valley GC, Elkin</i>	1933	4

**Contact Marilyn Wright, [wrightmb04@gmail.com](mailto:wrightmb04@gmail.com) to add your club information to this list.**

## Suzanne Gurski—GCNC 3rd Vice President, Youth Chair

### Youth Garden Clubs News



Fall is a busy time for youth programs at the Garden Club of North Carolina. Most importantly it's Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest time. The poster contest is open to ALL youth in grades 1st through 5th. The national winner of the contest wins a trip for his/her family to Washington, DC for the national awards ceremony.

I'm asking all N.C. Garden Clubs to contact their local schools, libraries, youth clubs, neighborhood children, and your own grandchildren to promote the contest. This is an excellent opportunity to teach about fire prevention and conservation and have fun drawing Smokey Bear or his sidekick, Woodsy Owl.

The rules for the poster contest can be found at:  
<https://gardenclub.org/contests-and-activities>.

Also, an email blast will be forthcoming with a list of the rules and submission forms. Send your entries by January 20<sup>th</sup> to: Suzanne Gurski  
3006 Boverie St SW  
Shallotte, NC 28470

Let's show the other states North Carolina rocks!!

# Exciting Endeavors: District 1

The Brevard HS Garden has been an exciting undertaking. I have volunteered 26 hours on this project working closely with the BHS GC President, Amara Campanini. The area we beautified was all turf with one tree. Amara and I planned and laid out the beds. I gave Amara resources, and my drawing tools to research and plan with the club the types of plants they wanted to see in their student common area. The students visited the garden center where I was employed, and as we toured the grounds, I described the plants and their attributes, and they took notes. The students then huddled and discussed and chose the plant for the flower beds. The next step was killing the turf and prepping the beds for planting. The students got to experience the laborious job of scraping turf and loosening the compacted soil! Oddly enough, the vermiculture in the soil is active! That was encouraging. The next step was to place the plants and start planting them! As we focused on using mostly natives in the garden, we also decided not to bring in soil and to experiment by allowing the perennials and mulch to amend the soil. Success! The soil is already richer! In addition to the two beautiful flower beds and one ornamental grass bed, there are raised garden beds for food crops, a garden shed that a BHS GC member painted, and the students will be composting. One student made garden benches that have been placed under the tree for hanging out, outdoor meetings and classes. At this time, I am mentoring the students on how to care for the plants. The students have not only learned about plants and installing them, but budgeting and planning has been a big factor in this project as well. The students raised funds, and have researched and purchased all the items to make this idea come to fruition.



project!

Kim Antrim, District 1, Vice-Director

I am extremely proud of these students and this

# *District 1—Always having fun!*



Transylvania Garden Club members participate in a pollinator count

The Great Southeast Pollinator Census (GSEPC) is a citizen science project of NC State Extension Master Gardeners Program. Community members of all ages are invited to observe and count pollinator activity in their yards and neighborhoods. The annual, two-day event aims to collect data on pollinator population levels and diversity, educate people on the importance of pollinators, and inspire participants to take action to protect pollinators.

Visit their website to learn how you can participate.

<https://gsepc.org>

# *District 5*

## *A Celebration for Cedarwood GC*

The Cedarwood Garden Club of Jamestown met on September 12 at the lovely home of Pat Little. The members had a surprise for Reba Rooks who turned 100 and gave her a cake and had her as a "Spotlight". Featuring the major events in her life included WWII when she worked as a secretary in the war department! Married in 1944, having 3 boys, and moving to North Carolina, she has been a CGC member since 1967!! Also attached is a picture of the members who attended the meeting. It was a beautiful day!

Best regards, Sherrie Richmond

District 5, District Director

# *District 5 - A Celebration for Cedarwood GC*



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY REBA**



**The Cedarwood Gang with Reba in the center**

# District 11



## DISTRICT 11 ON THE MOVE

THE HARBOR ISLAND GARDEN CLUB



WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH

### Tour of HOMES

OCTOBER 12TH 10-5PM

PATRONS PARTY

OCTOBER 11TH 5-8PM

*presented by*



Benefiting the Beautification, Environmental and Educational Programs of the Harbor Island Garden Club

[www.harborislandgardenclub.com/buyticketshometour](http://www.harborislandgardenclub.com/buyticketshometour).

**I'm so sad that the WB Home Tour is the same date that Cape Fear Garden Club is sponsoring Dr. Doug Tallamy's "Nature Best Hope" presentation at UNCW 10:00-11:30. May I suggest that you all make a day of it and go to the Tallamy Presentation then go to the WB Home Tour. See the flyer attached with ticket information about the Tallamy Presentation. I hope we all get to participate in both awesome opportunities.**

**Delores Hawes  
Cape Fear Garden Club  
President 2024-25**

**Hi, All...Time is flying by..our District 11 meeting on OCT. 16 is coming up. Have you sent in your registration form? It's attached to make it easy. Hope to see you at our Fall District Meeting at the Wrightsville United Methodist Church..hosted by Harbor Island and Southport. Take care!  
Paula HArtman, District 11 Director**

**For any questions regarding registration, contact Beth Golder at 704-575-1368 or [ecgc03@gmail.com](mailto:ecgc03@gmail.com)**

**We ask each Club to donate one Door Prize for the meeting. Thank you.**



**DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY**

**ONLY 6 APPLICATIONS SO FAR.**

**YOUR CHANCES ARE GOOD!**

**Plant America Community Project Grant applications are open to NGC member clubs from April 1 through OCTOBER 15 of the calendar year**

**Grants have been awarded to NGC member clubs since 2017. More than 250 grants have been awarded, totaling more than \$225,000. Grants are awarded in amounts up to \$2,000.**

**<https://www.gardenclub.org/plant-america-community-project-grants>**

**Through Plant America Grants, up to \$2,000.00 is made available to be used for direct expenses of projects. Projects submitted for receiving a grant may be a joint venture with another organization/s. The scope of these projects in communities may include:**

**Beautification and/or restoration**

**Community gardens**

**School gardens/classrooms**

**Landscaping for Habitat for Humanity Homes**

**Landscaping of Blue Star or Gold Star Memorial Markers**

**Implementation of environmental practices**

**A horticulture or environmental educational event for the public**

**Project Eligibility**

**Who May Apply:**

**Individual and Near Garden Clubs that are members of National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

**Please note that recipients of previous PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants are not eligible to apply.**



**The historic Davie Poplar Tree on UNC Chapel Hill's campus is experiencing a rare and awe-inspiring phenomenon this fall. Each night for the last few weeks, thousands of twittering Chimney Swifts have flocked around the tree to roost.**

**Chimney Swifts swirling around the Davie Poplar Tree.  
Photo: Dylan Thiessen/UNC Chapel Hill.**

**WANT TO KNOW MORE?  
SUBSCRIBE TO:**

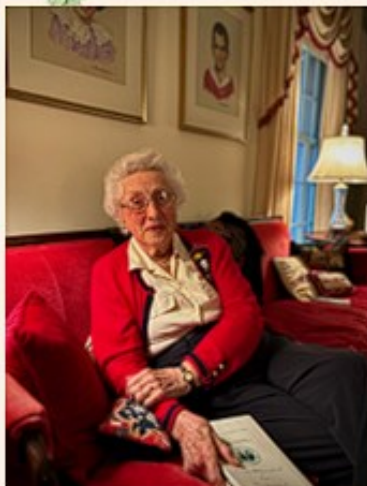
**Audubon North Carolina  
807 E Main Street Suite 2-220, Durham, NC 27701  
(844) 428-3826 | [nc.audubon.org](https://nc.audubon.org)**

**MAKE A DONATION ! IT'S FOR THE BIRDS**

# WE HONOR



**TWO CHARMING LADIES WITH 100  
YEARS OF WISDOM ARE MEMBERS OF  
THE GARDEN CLUB OF NORTH  
CAROLINA  
VALUABLE RESOURCES**



**FRANCES HUNLEY -  
MONROE GARDEN CLUB**



**REBA ROOK  
CEDARWOOD GARDEN CLUB**

# WE REMEMBER



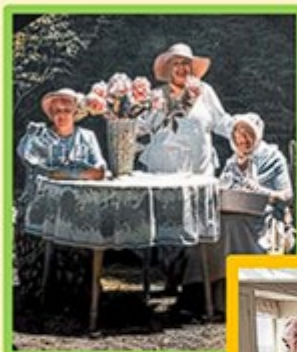
*In Memory of  
Deborah Mae Reid*

*1953-2024*

*President of Cape Fear  
Garden Club*

*2023-2024*

*We miss you everyday!*



## Rooted in History

*Honoring our members, both past and present, by celebrating 67 years of sowing the seeds of friendship for future generations!*



Transylvania Garden Club, founded 1957

**FIFTY YEARS FROM NOW  
THEY WILL STILL BE  
TOGETHER IN THE 100TH  
YEAR HISTORY BOOK-  
ENJOYING ONE ANOTHER'S  
COMPANY -  
YOU, HOWEVER, WON'T BE  
AROUND.  
RECORDING HISTORY  
MATTERS!**