FLOWER POWER

The Avondale Estates Garden Club

Member of the National Garden Club & The Garden Club of Georgia

April May 2025

Volume XI Issue IV

THE NATIVE NUDGE Trillium 'cuneatum' Toadshade trillium



Native to Georgia and the Southeast except Virginia and Florida, this trillium is found in zones 4-8 in mature deciduous woodlands. Or Peg Wyse's yard. If you find them for sale in a small size and inexpensive they will likely have been dug up in the wild—a no-no!

Flowers are solitary three petals and dark maroon blooming late winter to early spring then going dormant. It can take 5-7 years from seed to flower and they are slow to spread, but also hard to kill.

They will be expensive if you find them in the market, but don't let that deter you. They are an utter joy!



National Garden Week As Celebrated in Avondale Estates

Our club will celebrate National Garden Week with what may prove to be a new tradition.

Last year Karen Liebert collected flowers from the gardens of several members and made a stunning arrangement which we gifted to City Hall. A lovely idea. This year we will contribute another bouquet from the gardens of resident AEGC members and make a presentation when the Mayor reads the Proclamation to proclaim

National Garden Week. All members are invited to the ceremony (and may be excused after the formalities). It is useful for the Mayor and Commissioners to see our members at the meetings and this is a good time to attend.

What is new this year is a sort of Progressive Members Only Garden Tour. You may bring guests, so it's not strictly members only. It will begin at 10:00 in the first garden and guests can spend up to 30 minutes before moving on to the next garden. The members graciously opening their gardens are Julie Martinez, Liz Gregory, Susan Barton and Karen Liebert. We will end and



have lunch in Karen Liebert's garden. Join other members in this new AEGC tradition celebrating National Garden Week in Avondale Estates

Look for an email from Patricia giving the final details. See you there!

"Gardening: where plants thrive, weeds conspire, and every day is a dirt-filled adventure!"

AEGC MISSION STATEMENT

The Avondale Estates Garden Club offers education and service opportunities to inspire the appreciation of the various horticultural arts and to promote the awareness of environmental responsibility.



Awards Season Features Recognition of AEGC from DeKalb Federation of Garden Clubs And Why Awards are Important

Awards recognize achievement, inspire motivation, and foster a sense of community. They provide tangible proof that efforts have been noticed and appreciated. Awards can help set standards of excellence, encourage participation, and create lasting traditions. They elevate the entire field by celebrating dedication and skill.

DeKalb Federation Awards Received for accomplishments completed during the year March 1, 2024-February 28, 2025

Attendance Award (highest percent of members in attendance at all Federation meetings) Third Place *

100% Attendance Award (AEGC was represented at all Federation * meetings)

Program Award First Place

Yearbook Award Second Place

Community Service Award Second Place

Club Exhibit Award Third Place *

Gavel Award First Place *

Special Achievement Award First Place

National Garden Week Award First Place

Website Award First Place

Newsletter Award First Place

Pull-a-Tab Award Second Place *

Bird Count Award Third Place

Pollinator Count AwardThird Place

*Indicates application not necessary







AEGC received a \$50.00 check for each of the following awards which won First Place:

Program Award, Special Achievement Award. Website Award, and Newsletter Award.



APRIL YARD OF THE MONTH THE LAKEHOUSE OWNED BY THE COMMUNITY CLUB

The Avondale Estates Garden Club April yard of the month is located at the Community Club Lakehouse in Avondale. The Community Club has revitalized the islands around the lake house including, most recently, the island around the steps. The latest renovation includes Thujas, Abelias, Acorus, Holly, and Hydrangeas giving a pleasing multi-layered organization to the space. Patricia Calcagno and Marjorie Andersson worked on the design and Ecco Gardens did the installation of the plants.

As you walk around the lake on the walking path, look over and enjoy the redesigned space!

Avondale Estates Garden Club is proud to be a Member of National Garden Club, Inc., Deep South Garden Club, Inc., The Garden Club of Georgia, Red Bud District and The DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.













MAY YARD OF THE MONTH 36 BERKELEY ROAD HOME OF MICHAEL & PEGGY PUSATERI

Last Autumn, Michael and Peggy worked with Avondale Estates resident and Landscape designer, Marjorie Andersson, who put together a plan. Focusing on low-maintenance perennials, the plan first tackled the sunny hillsides facing Berkeley and Kingstone Roads. The landscape crew tidied up existing daylilies transplanted 25 years earlier from Michael's childhood home. Added as main attractions were twelve pink drift roses, thirty-four Anna's Magic Ball arborvitae, butterfly bushes, Bobo Hydrangeas and more than 3 dozen Cone Flowers.

The shade garden facing Kingstone Road underwent a major change with the addition of thirteen reblooming hydrangeas, evergreen ferns, a mix of hostas and Everillo Yellow Carex evergreen grasses. Small, "two-man boulders" were added to each garden area as anchors, and a Muskogee Lavendar Crape Myrtle capped the project atop the hill, visible from inside the home as well as from both streets.

FEDERATION MEETING THURSDAY OFFERS A GREAT SPEAKER AND HONORS LEGENDS

The last meeting of the year for DeKalb Federation is Thursday May 22nd. As usual, we meet at Callanwolde at 10:30. This meeting features a bit of shopping with jewelry and purses at bargain basement prices. Shopping begins at 10:00.

Cherokee Garden Library Director, Staci Catron will be speaking on "Women Pioneers in Landscape Architecture and Design in Georgia." She will explore the lives of four pioneering women: Helen Hawkins Clarke, Constance Knowles Draper, Edith Harrison Henderson and Clermont Huger Lee, all of whom worked in Georgia from the 1930s through the close of the 20th century.

Following the program, the new members of the Legends Club will be recognized for their service to their clubs and communities. AEGC will be honoring four members as Legends. Sheila Biggs, Martha Jackson, Kendall Newman and Ruth Osborne will be representing us.

No reservation needed to attend, just come on down!



SHEILA BIGGS



MARTHA JACKSON



KENDALL NEWMAN



RUTH OSBORNE

WALTER SAYS... Each week a shrub needs one gallon of water per foot of height... Limbs in the way when you mow? You can safely remove one fourth of the foliage of any healthy tree during the growing season... Look for small new seedlings under your Lenten rose. They can be transplanted now to other spots... Tree roots are almost bone dry! Give them 15 gallons per inch of trunk thickness once each week if regulations allow... Prune back your hydrangeas when most of the blooms have faded. You'll

quickly get lots of new branches, which may give more flowers this fall . Try to make each cut just above two buds or two opposite leaves. Leave several shorter limbs untouched. These will harden this fall and, barring extreme winter temperatures, will be the limbs most likely to make blooms next year. There will be lots of new growth between now and October. Many of the resulting branches will also be able to mature and become capable of blooming next year. . . There is still plenty of time to **plant seed** of marigold, cosmos, cleome and dwarf sunflower. They'll make a spectacular flower show in six weeks. . .



AEGC Members Attend GCG Convention in Augusta (and Pick Up Some Awards)



Members attending The Garden Club of Georgia Annual Convention in Augusta

Nancy Darden, Susan Barton, Julie Martinez, Peg Wyse and Karen Liebert. There were speakers, design competition, Vendors, Business meetings, lunch and dinner and free time plus a cruise on the river and Awards at the glitzy evening gathering.



AWARDS RECEIVED

| Award #16 | Yearbook Award | First |
|-----------|---|--------|
| Award #37 | Publication Award-Newsletter | First |
| Award #47 | DVD/CD/PowerPoint Program Award | First |
| Award #51 | Butterfly Conservation Award-Individual | First |
| Award #53 | Social Media Award | Third |
| Award #53 | Website Award | Third |
| Award #56 | National Garden Club Week Award | First |
| Award #60 | Garden Week in Georgia Award | Second |

Deep South Garden Clubs Awards Received January 1-December 31, 2024

AWARDS RECEIVED



AEGC Celebrated <u>Garden Week in Georgia</u> with Proclamations and Another Successful Plant Sale



More Activities in April: A Recycle Rodeo & the Totem Garden

Our Recycle Rodeos were the brainchild of member, Alice Guppy. Research was done on recycling things that weren't accepted by the contractor hired by the City. A new place had opened called The Center for Hard to Recycle Materials, CHaRM. It was located on Hill Street. The idea for members was to gather their "hard to recycle material" and meet at the LakeHouse. A caravan of cars would take them to CHaRM. Further incentive was the Krispy Kreme conveniently located near the destination. The first Rodeo was in 2020. Peggy Burgess was Cheerleader-in-Chief. Today a new location has opened up less than a mile from here. It is by appointment and the most well organized recycle service you will ever see. It is easy to rid yourself of Hard-to-Recycle-Stuff.



Gardening . . . It's Who We Are

We worked with the Scouts at the Totem Garden of Avondale Elementary School. We spiffed up the site by weeding and spreading a large load of mulch.



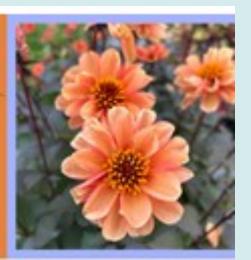
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Plant Sale

proceeds support our garden!





Trial Gardens

College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

DATE 7 JUNE 12:00PM

9:00AM



220 W. Green St, Athens, GA 30602

Garden Tours

9AM-Dr. A

10AM-Dr. Ruter

11AM-Sandy



People's Choice **Awards**

Vote for your favorite plants!

Trial Gardens at the University of Georgia