

FLOWER POWER

The Avondale Estates GARDEN CLUB
*member of the national garden club &
The garden club of Georgia*

January 2023

Volume IX Issue I

THE NATIVE NUDGE

Thalictrum thalictroides
Rue Anemone

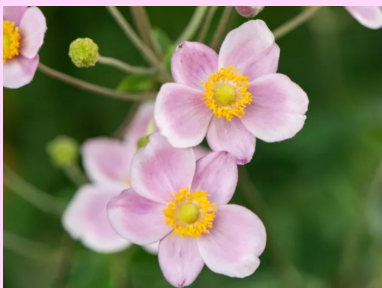


A slow grower, Rue Anemone would love to be in your woodland garden. It prefers shade, blooms April to May and then goes dormant during the heat of summer.

It prefers loose, loamy or sandy soil, so when planting it here soil amendment is a must. The only named cultivar is 'Rosea' which has pink flowers.

As a ground cover species, it emerges from the leaf-covered ground in early spring and spreads along the forest floor. It is about 9" tall when the shoots emerge from the rosette of leaves.

Flowers are insect pollinated as evidenced by their colorful, attractive flowers. After fertilization, it produces dry capsules that enclose its seeds.



New Slate of Officers for 2023-24

The AEGC Nominating Committee has put together a slate of officers for 2023-24. We will have a new President, First Vice President and Treasurer. The slate will be formally presented for a vote at the January Meeting. Thanks to each of these members for their willingness to serve.

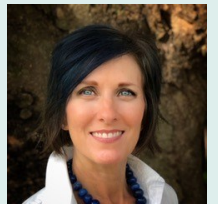
President: Patricia Calcagno



1st Vice President : Julie Martinez



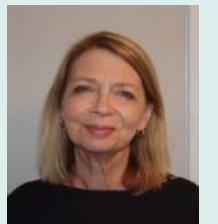
2nd Vice President: Susan Hawkins



Treasurer: Susan Ragsdale



Recording Secretary: Dianne Nelson



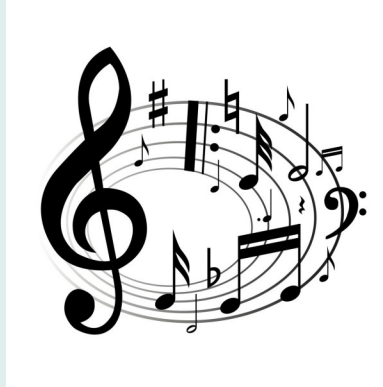
Corresponding Secretary: Nancy Martin



AEGC MISSION STATEMENT

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

Getting to Know You AEGC Style



No longer a little garden club, AEGC has grown to a robust group of more than 70. And, as Martha Stewart always says, "That's a good thing!" Good because we have the ability to do many more "good things" in our community. The downside can be that we no longer know everyone in our club.

Our program for the January 20 meeting is "Us." We will learn more about each other and our club. It should prove to be a good time and who knows? You may find someone from your same hometown, or someone else who is a twin, like you. Maybe there is someone who shares your love of Serbian tofu or rides a unicycle. It may all be revealed at the meeting. Come and be amazed and perhaps find a new friend-to-be.

What's Blooming in Your Garden?

If your answer is "not much" you might want to consider Camellias. They are late bloomers in some instances and early in the calendar year in others. They prefer part sun and part shade, make a wonderful background plant when not blooming and are spectacular when they are.

The name camellia was given to the genus by the Swedish botanist Linnaeus and there are more than 200 species and over 20,000 cultivars. Their images have been used in Asian ceramics since the 11th century. Flower colors, shapes, and bloom sizes show remarkable diversity. This could be the year you decide to share your landscape with a Sasanqua or Japonica. You can't go wrong, they are pretty easy keepers.



Camellia sasanqua

Shi Shi Gashira`

Blooms in fall

Camellia sasanqua

Cotton Candy



Camellia japonica

White By The Gate

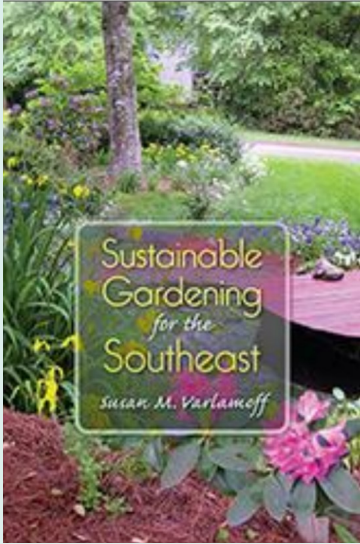
Camellia japonica

Professor Charles S Sargent



AVONDALE ESTATES COMMUNITY INVITED TO LECTURE SERIES SPONSORED BY AEGC

As put forth in our Mission Statement, AEGC offers educational opportunities and promotes environmental responsibility not only to club members, but to our wider community. In keeping with that statement, AEGC is offering a series of three lectures on sustainable gardening which are free to the public. The idea originated with Helen Dorroh and her newly established Environmental Responsibility Committee.



The first of the series features retired Director of UGA Office of Environmental Sciences and author Susan M. Varlamoff. Ms. Varlamoff is a Gwinnett County Master Gardener and has written an extremely helpful book for gardeners, *Sustainable Gardening for the Southeast*.

The date and time for that lecture is **Tuesday, January 31st at 7:00 pm** at the Community Club.

Just about a week later the second in the series will be presented. Featuring Becky Griffin, who holds a Masters of Plant Protection and Pest Management, the subject will be Preventing Water Pollution in Our Gardens. Ms. Griffin

works at the UGA-Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center. The date for that is **Wednesday, February 8th at 7:00 pm** at the Community Club.

The third in the series is Wednesday, March 22 and will feature Kristen Moretz who is Avondale Estates Director of Capital Projects Construction and Maintenance.

Please mention this informative series to your neighbors. The lectures are free, timely and helpful. They will thank



Christmas Past . . .

The annual Holiday Luncheon hosted by the AEGC Board of Directors featured tablescapes designed by eleven members. Each was more beautiful and different from the others. It was a feast for the eyes before the actual feast began.



Design by
Adam Barton
And
Scott Legg



Design by Betty Britton, Melba Castillo and Judy Coffey



Design by
Tyler Weaver



Design by Alice Murray and Kathy Hatfield



Design by Susan Barton



The buffet spread was provided by the Board members and it was a repast to remember. Everyone's best recipes! You might want to get next year's event on your calendar now!



Rewards are many for being a member of the AEGC. We receive education, establish friendships, have opportunities for leadership in a variety of areas and can push ourselves to try new things. There are responsibilities as well. One of which arises every January. **We need to pay dues.**

See Bylaws: ARTICLE VI DUES (on page 71 of our Yearbook.) Annual dues are due and payable by February 15. After that date, a late fee will be incurred.

You will have received an email from Treasurer Peg Wyse enumerating a plethora of ways you can pay your dues. Check, Cash, Venmo,

PayPal and probably many more. You can drop off a check with Peg or she will come get it or you may bring it to the meeting. We need to have this done in a timely manner because we are required to pay dues to the Garden Club of Georgia at a per capita rate for each of our members. That bill comes due on March 1st, so you can see how important it is to collect our membership dues on time.

We thank you in advance. .



JANUARY FEDERATION SPEAKER



Our nearby neighbor and Landscape Architect Dottie Myers, will be the speaker at the January DeKalb Federation meeting. Her subject will be **“Gardening As We Age.”** She will share things she learned as she re-landscaped her parents’ garden. She’ll suggest ways to modify a landscape plan and to learn how to adjust our way of gardening.

Several members attend the Federation meetings. If you are interested in going to hear Dottie, please let Peggy or Patricia know. We often carpool and would be happy to have you. The more, the merrier.

**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.**



Calendar 2023...

- January 20AEGC Membership Meeting 10:00
- January 26DeKalb Federation Meeting 10:30 Callanwolde
- January 31Sustainable Gardening First Lecture 7:00 Community Club
- February 9AEGC Board Meeting 10:00
- February 17AEGC Membership Meeting
- February 17Arbor Day in Georgia
- February 23DeKalb Federation Life Membership Luncheon 10:30 Callanwolde

Walter Says . . .Tend to your Poinsettias

Water poinsettias only as needed – when the top inch of the soil becomes dry to the touch. Keep them in bright light but cool temperatures. Do not fertilize until March. Cut off the red bracts in January, leaving only the green leaves. When it is warm enough to set them outside on a shady patio in April, cut the stems back to six inches tall. As the plants resprout move them gradually to even more sunshine. You may need to move them to larger pots so they don’t wilt on hot days outdoors. Fertilize in April, June and August using houseplant fertilizer. As they grow bigger, shorten the longest branches a couple of times to make the plants nice and compact. On October 1 this fall you can start the “fourteen hours of darkness, ten hours of bright light” regimen that will cause them to form colored bracts for the winter holidays once again.



PRUNE YOUR TREES THIS MONTH



It is easy to see the limb structure of trees now. Tie ribbon around the ones you think should be removed then step back for another look before cutting them off.

Flower Power Staff

Editor..... Susan Barton

Contributing editors.....Donna Tanner

Tyler Weaver

Renee Valdes

