



FLOWER POWER

THE AVONDALE ESTATES GARDEN CLUB
MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB &
THE GARDEN CLUB OF GEORGIA

March 2022

Volume VIII Issue III

THE NATIVE NUDGE
Vernonia noveboracensis
Ironweed



A back of the border plant, this beauty will grow from 5'-8' tall, though if you cut it back in spring to 2' it will stay considerable shorter. It is attractive if blooming occurs at different heights, so prune to different heights for this effect.

This low maintenance wildflower naturalizes easily and is adaptable to garden conditions.

It will grow well in average to moist acidic soil in a sunny locale.



A Note from Peggy...

Spring is on the way, thank goodness, and we are seeing some brighter and WARMER days. It is that time of year to reflect and thank each of you for making this a remarkable year in AEGC history.

We have accomplished so much! Last Spring the start and finish of the Totem Garden at Avondale Elementary, the back to in-person meetings, the first Annual Plant Sale that celebrated Garden Week in Georgia.

Spring also took us to Athens for a visit to the Trial Gardens of UGA, and the Garden Club of Georgia's Founders Garden. Carl's Corner was rejuvenated and in the summer we toured each others gardens for National Garden Club Week.

Some of us took a break after the May meeting, but many were busy planning and working toward the fall. During the summer the Yearbook was published, programs were arranged, field trips were scheduled, and committee positions were filled. Fall brought us all back together with renewed vigor! We wanted a Strategic Plan with thoughts and ideas that would take AEGC into the future. The work of the Strategic Planning Committee brought us a new Mission and a Vision Statement to guide our decisions going forward.

The Christmas Luncheon was an opportunity to have a lovely day enjoying each others company. January and February brought us back to planning some of our next moves. Plant Sale Committee is in full swing! The Secret Garden Tour Committee is looking for gardens to show case in June.

A heartfelt thanks to the membership for their love and encouragement throughout the year.



AEGC Officers for 2022-23

President Peggy Burgess grew up in Northwest Florida. She was raised in Ft Walton Beach and spent her adult life in Pensacola. Peggy graduated from Pensacola Junior College in 1968 and worked as a Dental Hygienist for 44 years additionally managing the practice. She has always been active in church work and community activities serving on parish councils as well as homeowners associations. Peggy and her husband, Bob, moved to Avondale Estates eleven years ago to be near their daughters and their families. They have two daughters, one in Decatur and one in Columbia, SC, and two grandsons aged 12 and 16. Peggy is an active member of St Thomas More parish. Peggy is an avid reader, movie buff, and board game enthusiast. Her avocation has always been gardening and yard work. After moving to Avondale Estates in 2012, she quickly joined two books clubs and the Avondale Estates Garden Club. Peggy loves to travel and visit new places.



First Vice President Patricia Calcagno is a native New Yorker but has lived in the south for the majority of her life. After graduating college in NY she took a job as a legal secretary and did that for five years. Her dad was with the “Phone Company” for his career and urged Patricia to join him. She did so and stayed there as Executive Assistant through the various iterations and transformations until her retirement 37 years later. She had moved to Georgia with her parents and met her husband, Anthony, in Atlanta. Faulty plumbing on a house they were going to buy in Decatur led them to Avondale Estates and the house at 11 Kingstone. Patricia has been active in the community for years serving on the Board of AECC as well as AEGC and currently serving on the Tree Board as well. She chaired the Tree Walk last year

and served as Membership Chair for AEGC. She loves Anthony, Murphey (their Golden), baking, singing and gardening.

Second Vice President Susan Hawkins and her two children moved to Avondale Estates in 2019, the year after she and her partner, Lui, purchased and extensively renovated their 1939 farmhouse style home in historic Avondale Estates. Given her love of homes and community, it’s no wonder she is a realtor, specializing in our Avondale community and other ITP areas. Susan grew up in Houston, Texas, where she earned her MBA in Marketing. Following a short, but very loved time in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (Go Steelers!), Susan made her way to Georgia by moving to Decatur in 2010. Susan is excited to serve on the AEGC Board—volunteerism and community service is her passion, and she’s ready to jump in and plan an interesting year of programs!



Treasurer Peg Wyse is a native of St. Louis and has lived in Avondale Estates for 38 years. She uses “hey !” like a native Georgian, but never says “fixin to.” Her accomplishments as a gardener stem from her mother planting tomatoes every to ensure the homegrown supply. In the second grade Peg planted Zinnia seeds along their front walk, checking them daily. When they bloomed she was exuberant and recalls those Zinnias today as the largest and most beautiful blooms in the world. Peg’s career was in the travel industry with Delta, Worldspan and SITA and between retirements, a five year stint at Georgia Tech. She has retired four times and is planning the fifth at the end of March. Her life is filled with beloved children and grandchildren, dear friends, music, her church, her dog Gyp, her garden club and garden and community activism.



Peg joined AEGC upon an invitation from Patricia Calcagno when she invited her and others to a tea where she lavished guests with her wonderful cookies and scones. Several completed their applications that day. Peg has served as Treasurer since 2020 and has enjoyed the AEGC activities and events.



Recording Secretary Dianne Nelson is originally from Pittsburgh but spent many years living in Illinois, Arkansas, and Georgia. There were short stints in Iowa and Minnesota too. Dianne and her husband Tom were married for 41 years and had three children, Brian, Kate and John and four grandchildren. When Tom passed away in 2016, Dianne moved to Avondale and is happy that she did. She earned a BA in nursing from the University of Iowa, a masters from University of Central Arkansas and a PhD from Rush University in Chicago. She has practiced nursing and has been a nursing faculty member for many years. She has loved her profession, but is looking forward to retirement in May and spending more time with AEGC.

Corresponding Secretary Nancy Martin was born in Rome, GA, but grew up in Smyrna where she attended Campbell High School (the same high school as Julia Roberts). She was the oldest of three children, with two brothers who delighted in making her life miserable with their pranks. She attended Georgia State where she began as a vocal performance major and later switched to education. She earned her Masters in Education, Grades 1-8. She met her husband Jerry through friends of friends and married two years later. They have a daughter, Amy Kate who lives in the neighborhood. Nancy’s musical interests (she still sings with the DeKalb Choral Guild) have led to her being on the Board of Peach State Opera where she serves on the production team sourcing props and preparing and running the supertitle board during performances. She is also a Master Gardener and has served in that role at Woodlands Garden in Decatur. Nancy retired from the DeKalb County School System after thirty years as a middle school science and language arts teacher. After retirement, she was a Grand-nanny to her grandsons Andrew (now 17), and Alexander, (now 15). She considers that her best gig yet.





March Yard of the Month

Home of Josef Otto and Chat Choopojcharoen

3 Sussex

When we spoke to Josef, he was very apologetic because he felt the yard was not at its best, but we loved it. The home is a small, charming stone cottage with a stone chimney. Daffodils are planted and ready to welcome the spring, complementing the beds of yellow and golden pansies.

On the left side, azaleas and camellias emphasize the curve of the flower bed. Starting and ending with two limelight hydrangeas and centered by Autumn Ferns. There is a pottery water feature from Thailand that is in the center of the curve between the shrubs and the raised pansy bed. At some point Josef wishes to convert the Thai pot into a fountain, but right now the birds drink and bathe in it just as it is!

The lawn is interspersed with Broom Fork moss to allow for a natural, low maintenance year. There is a sprinkler system contained in the flower beds to irrigate the beds without wasting water

AEGC is proud to be a member of the National Garden Club, The Garden Club of Georgia, Redbud District of GCG and the Dekalb County Federation of Garden Clubs.



For your consideration . . .

The March meeting will Friday March 18th at 10:00 and will feature our regular business meeting, luncheon, garden hacks and installation of officers.

April is a very busy month for AEGC. We have the field trip on the 8th,

The membership meeting on the 15th featuring speaker Teresa Parrish who inherited Ryan Gainey's garden and on the 16th our major fundraiser, the Plant Sale.



SECRET GARDEN TOUR . . . The committee is hard at work. The five gardens have been selected, there will be artists in the gardens again, and there are new ideas about ticketing and marketing the event. The tour takes place June 4th and will help celebrate National Garden Week.



THE PLANT SALE committee has also been busy arranging for staffing, publicity, acquiring plants and already feeding and, when necessary, sheltering plants.

Plants that had been divided and propagated since last year spent the weekend in the garage with space heaters to avoid damage, or worse, from the 21 degree temperatures.

Below they are back outside enjoying the sunshine and gentle rains.

Walter says ... Remove spent camellia blooms from the bush and from the ground. You'll prevent camellia petal blight. . . Last chance to prune bush roses to approximately one half their present size . . . Wait to plant gladiolus, canna and caladium bulbs until mid-April – they all need warm soil in which to grow. . . Forsythia, quince and winter honeysuckle can be pruned to a smaller size after flowering. . . Fertilize shrubs: 1 tablespoon of 10-10-10 (or shrub fertilizer) per foot of height.

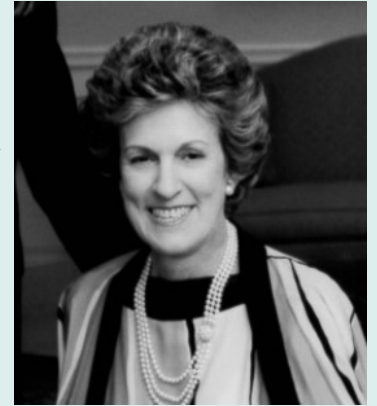


If It's April, There Must Be A Field Trip...

make your reservation early

It's going to be a good one, too! We are going to The Atlanta History Center to tour Olguita's Garden, the Swan House Garden and the Cyclorama.

Olguita's Garden is named in honor of Olga Casteleiro de Goizueta, (Olguita the diminutive of Olga), wife of Roberto Goizueta who was Chairman and CEO of Coca Cola for many years. She met her husband in high school in Cuba. They eventually married and were living in Cuba when Roberto was hired by Coca Cola. At the time Castro came to power they were in the U.S. and decided to defect. His job took them to the Bahamas and ultimately to Atlanta where they spent the rest of their lives. When her husband passed away, Olga took over as Chair of the Goizueta foundation. She continued the work and advanced the missions of the History Center, the Latin American Association, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the High Museum among others. She also served on the Board of Trustees of Emory University. *****



Reminiscent of great Italian gardens, the **Swan House Garden** is perched on a hill with a cascading fountain, terraced lawns, roses tumbling over stone walls, and clipped hedges. An intimate boxwood



garden and formal motor court complete the landscape, making this one of Atlanta's best-known and photographed sites. *****

The 360° circular panoramic painting was invented in Edinburgh in 1787 and the first painting exhibited in this new style depicted a view of that city. By the 1800's many more paintings of this type had been completed and they became popular public attractions. Hundreds of them were exhibited throughout the world in circular buildings built to showcase the paintings.

Known as panoramas in Europe and cycloramas in America, these were all large artworks painted on canvas in a realistic style which depicted scenes in true perspective. The Atlanta Cyclorama is one of only two existing 19th Century paintings. At the American Panorama Company in Milwaukee, Atlanta's canvas was conceived. APC employed more than a dozen German painters, led by a Leipzig native named Friedrich Heine. Cycloramas could depict any great moment in history, but, for a few years in the 1880s, the timing was just right for Civil War battle scenes. A single generation had passed since the end of the Civil War and survivors everywhere were beginning to ask the older family members, what happened in the war?

This Cyclorama was in Grant Park near Zoo Atlanta for many years. It was rescued by the Atlanta History Center and moved to its present locale.

Information from: Norfolk Cyclorama website and the Smithsonian Magazine



In July 2015, before restoration, conservationists photographed the entire painting. Repairing the canvas would be daunting, but a greater challenge was re-tensioning the painting to its original concave shape. Joshua Rashaad McFadden

CONTAINER PLANT RECIPES

PINBALL CONTAINER

Recipe for 12-inch pot (1 plant each in 4-inch pots):

Pinball White & Pinball Purple gomphrena,
White Calipetite calibrachoa and
Double White Profusion zinnia.



Photo By: Photo courtesy of National Garden Bureau



BLUE MAGIC CONTAINER

Recipe for 10-inch pot:

2 4.5-inch pots of Blue My Mind dwarf morning glory
(Evolvulus),
1 4.5-inch pot of Diamond Frost euphorbia.

RED VELVET CAKE CONTAINER

Recipe for a 12-inch pot (using plants in 4.5 pots):

1 Sweet Caroline Raven sweet potato vine,
2 Black Cherry Supertunia
2 White Russian Supertunia.



SUNNY SUMMER DAYS CONTAINER

Recipe for a 14-inch pot:

1 spike dracaena (often sold in 2- to 3-inch pots)
1 4-inch pot each of gold lantana and yellow cali-
brachoa,
1 4-cell pack of French marigolds in bicolor orange hue

~from hgtv.com

Collect Your Winnings!!



As We Recognize the Winners at
The DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Annual Awards Luncheon

*In the Courtyard at Callanwolde
Thursday, April 28, 2022 - 10:30 a.m.*

A Catered Lunch Will Be Served

\$25.00 Per Person

*Please Mail Your Reservation by **April 18, 2022****
to Registrar Rigby Duncan at the address listed on
the Attached Reservation Form*

*Please **do not** mail reservations and checks to the Garden Center.*

***Final reservations must be given to the caterer on Saturday, April 23,
so please comply with the due date.*



2022 Awards Luncheon Reservation Form

Mail Completed Reservation Form and Check for **\$25.00** Per Person
(payable to DeKalb Federation) by **April 18, 2022** to:

Rigby Duncan, 2800 Hunting Hill Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-1504
rigbyduncan113@gmail.com; 678-644-9502

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____ Garden Club _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Names of additional individuals included with this reservation (attach extra sheet if necessary):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Flower Power Staff

Editor..... Susan Barton

Contributing editors.....Donna Tanner

Tyler Weaver

Renee Valdes

Christi Granger

Patricia Calcagno