

FLOWER POWER

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

March 2023

Volume IX Issue III

THE NATIVE NUDE

Rosa Setigera
'Prairie Rose'



French botanist and explorer André Michaux described *Rosa setigera* on a plant-collecting expedition to North America sponsored by King Louis XVI in 1785. This imposing native rose is one of the most unusual in the world. According to legend, its bright-pink trusses of Damask-scented flowers inspired President George Washington to use it to create the first rose hybrids in America.

Today we send symbolic bouquets of native roses to Peggy Burgess who has led AEGC for two years of distinguished service to the club and the community. Thank you Peggy for everything!



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN: TULIPS, DAFFODILS, AND SHAMROCKS

You are cordially invited to hear a wonderful presentation from Landscape Architect John Critz, owner of Tilting Windmill Landscape Design, a firm he established in 2012.

Learn how to transform bulbs with faith, design and a good shovel into a spectacular spring garden that will stop traffic. Just ask his parents who own the home we will be visiting on our field trip the following week.

We will get to see John's work firsthand and unless you have been to Amsterdam during tulip time, you probably have never seen the results of planting over 50,000 bulbs. The March program and field trip is one you will not want to miss!



Installation of Officers for 2023-2024

The Annual Meeting for AEGC takes place in March at which time the installation of new officers takes place. Our outgoing President, Peggy Burgess will install the new officers.

AEGC MISSION STATEMENT

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

March Yard of the Month

Everything Everywhere All at Once

This month, instead of the traditional yard of the month, we have chosen our city's greenspaces. We would like to honor all the hard work the Avondale Estates Garden Club, the Avondale Estates Parks Department, other Avondale volunteer organizations and resident volunteers have made to our city's greenspaces to enhance their usability and beauty.

The Avondale Estates Garden club partnered with the Avon Garden Club and the arts guild to install the totem garden at Avondale Elementary School enhancing the side entrance to the school.

The Avondale Estates Garden club partnered with the city and Gardeners for the Common Good to trim the Abelia hedge over the last few years to rejuvenate them so that they are beautiful for many years to come.

The Avondale Estates Garden club has also adopted Carl's Corner and the clock tower to make a good first impression for those entering our city.

These are just a few examples of projects that have occurred. The clocktower is a work in progress and will be enhanced as the road diet construction moves forward. Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone and every organization that has worked to enhance our cities great greenspaces!

~Scott Legg



Carl's Corner with evergreens and hardscape, look for the flowers soon



The 90 year old Abelia Hedge originally planted by the Avondale Estates Garden Club as one of the first projects

The totem garden at Avondale Elementary School



Planters at the Clock Tower, they will look beautiful in the warmer months!

Final Presentation of Environmental Speaker Series

Set for March 22nd

The speaker will be Kristin Moretz, Capital Projects Construction and Maintenance Director for the City of Avondale Estates. Her presentation will be on the city's **Storm Water Studies, Plan and Projects**.

Ms. Moretz joined the City of Avondale Estates in April 2022. In her role with the city, Moretz manages capital projects including stormwater and streetscapes infrastructure and maintenance.

Attendees can find out more about the North Woods at Lake Avondale Project and the status of stormwater projects and how it affects them.

The presentation is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. If you'd like to reserve a spot, please email [Helen Dorroh](mailto:Helen.Dorroh@avondaleestates.com). This is the final presentation in a series presented to the public by AEGC Environmental Responsibility Committee.

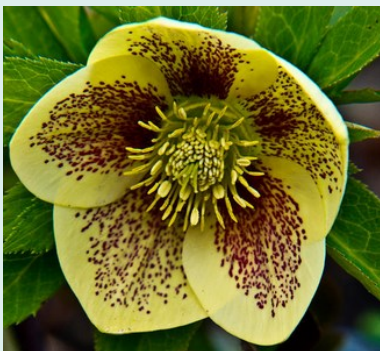


~ Helen Dorroh



FEDERATION AWARDS LUNCHEON

If you have never attended this event, this would be a good time to join your fellow members. It is a celebration of successes of sister clubs in DeKalb County as well as our own. Let Patricia Calcagno know if you are interested in going and fill out the forms in this newsletter. We'll have our usual carpool from the club to Callanwolde.



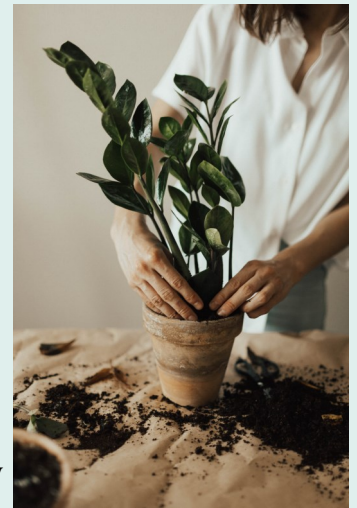
LOOKING FOR A HELLEBORE? LOTS OF CHOICES



The Plant Sale Committee Still Needs. . . .

1. **We need to know what you will be bringing us in the way of plant donations.** Please be thinking about what you will have to donate. Donations are where we make our money. A plant we purchase for \$6 and sell for \$12 only makes \$6. A donated plant we can sell for \$12 makes \$12! The bulk of our inventory should be donated plants. We are already digging up those early plants to separate and divide.

2. **We need potting soil** so we don't have to use our budgeted funds for that. We use about **60 cents worth of soil** per container when we transplant or pot up plants. At 100 plants, we use \$60 worth of potting soil. We will have hundreds of plants. We need it immediately as we have already begun to pot up plants for the sale. There is a **difference between Potting soil and Planting soil.** Potting soil is formulated specifically for plants that will live in pots for several weeks before planting in gardens. Planting soil is for in-ground planting. If you choose to purchase the soil, please read carefully what the bag has printed on it. Leidl has 1 cu ' bags for just over \$6, better price than local hardware or Home Depot price. In the alternative, you may make a monetary donation earmarked for Potting soil and we will make the purchase. You may make arrangements for a donation with Donna Tanner, Christi Granger or Susan Barton.



4. **We will need experienced cashiers and some that are familiar with using the Square used for credit cards.** It gets very frantic in the first hours of the sale, so keep that in mind. You will volunteer with incoming Treasurer, Susan Ragsdale who will be overseeing the cashiers.

Calendar 2023...

- March 17AEGC Membership Meeting
- March 18Household Hazardous Waste Event 8-12:00
- March 23..... Federation Meeting
- March 24.....AEGC Field Trip to the Tulip House
- April 15 PLANT SALE!!!!
- April 16 Garden Week in Georgia
- April 21..... Membership Meeting

Flower Power Staff

Editor..... Susan Barton
Contributors.....Donna Tanner
Tyler Weaver
Renee Valdes
Christi Granger
Patricia Calcagno
Helen Dorroh
Adam Barton
Scott Legg
Jean Kingsbury



How to Plant for Monarchs

Four species of Georgia's milkweeds grow in nearly every region of Georgia and are safe and beneficial to grow throughout the state. Lucky for us, these four are among the showiest of our milkweeds. And as an added benefit, deer avoid eating any and all milkweeds because of their bitter, toxic latex.

Whorled Milkweed (*Asclepias verticillata*) naturally occurs in dry to moist, sunny areas and woodland edges, especially where the soils are sweeter (more basic) than Georgia's typical acidic soils. This milkweed may be the most subtly beautiful of all of Georgia's milkweeds. Its slender, branched stems bear many whorls of long, slender, drooping leaves and numerous small flower clusters from June through September. The flowers are delicately shaded white to pale green to purple. A variety of bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, and skippers, visit the flowers. Deer especially avoid browsing on this plant as it is one of the more toxic milkweeds.



Clasping Milkweed (*Asclepias amplexicaulis*) thrives in dry, sunny, sandy areas such as woodlands and sandhills. It can reach 3½ feet in height and has large, widely spreading leaves tinged with dark pink. The fragrant flowers are a beautiful mix of pink, mauve, and purple, tinged with green, and make a great substitute in the garden for the non-native Common Milkweed. Its flowers, peaking between May and July, attract hummingbirds as well as nectaring insects such as long-tongued bees, butterflies, and skippers.

Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), with its bright orange flowers gracing roadsides and sunny woodlands, may be the best loved of Georgia's milkweeds. It forms clumps of branching stems that reach 2½ feet in height and bear large clusters of unmistakably brilliant flowers that attract bees, wasps, and butterflies (including fritillaries and swallowtails) in search of nectar. Butterfly Weed leaves lack the toxic, milky latex that other milkweeds have, but it still serves as a host plant for some Monarchs and is avoided by deer. It flowers over a long period in Georgia, June through August.



Red-ring Milkweed (*Asclepias variegata*) naturally occurs in sunny, dry to moist areas. It is a stately plant, with an erect, purplish stem up to 3 feet tall, widely spreading leaves, and flower clusters that resemble a snowball except for a purplish-red ring around the "waist" of each flower. Their nectar attracts long-tongued bees, butterflies, skippers, and even night-flying moths. Swamp and White Milkweed also grow in our area. *From The University of Georgia*

Avondale Estates Garden Club is proud to be a Member of National Garden Club, Inc., Deep South Garden Club, Inc., The Garden Club of



Go For The Gold!!



As We Recognize the Winners at

The DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Annual Awards Luncheon

In the Courtyard at Callanwolde

Thursday, April 27, 2023 - 10:30 a.m.

A Catered Lunch Will Be Served

\$25.00 Per Person

*Please Send Your Reservation by April 19, 2023** to Registrar
Ann Purr at the address listed on
the Attached Reservation Form*



2023 Awards Luncheon Reservation Form

Send Completed Reservation Form and Check for **\$25.00**
Per Person (payable to DeKalb Federation) by **April 19, 2023**
to:

Ann Purr, 6174 Traveler Court, Smoke Rise, GA 30087-1940
a.purr@comcast.net; 770-921-9070

Name _____

-

Phone _____

-

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Garden Club _____

-

Dietary Restrictions _____

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

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

Sponsored by the DeKalb County Sanitation Division

RECYCLE RESPONSIBLY



SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023
8 A.M. - NOON

Sanitation Division's Central Transfer Station
3720 Leroy Scott Drive, Decatur, GA 30032

This event is FREE and open only to DeKalb County residents.

Proof of DeKalb County residency is required. Residents are limited to 10 gallons of paint per vehicle. No commercial vehicles are allowed. Early arrival is highly recommended.

✓ ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Mercury
- ✓ Adhesives (glue, etc.)
- ✓ Lawn care products
- ✓ Paint & paint-related products (strippers, solvents, etc.)
- ✓ Aerosols
- ✓ Flammable substances
- ✓ Fluorescent light bulbs
- ✓ Household cleaning supplies
- ✓ Propane gas cylinders (1-20 lbs.; limited to 3 per vehicle)
- ✓ Batteries
- ✓ Photo chemicals
- ✓ Hobby and artist supplies
- ✓ Swimming pool chemicals

✗ RESTRICTED ITEMS

- X Ammunition
- X Business-generated waste
- X Gasoline
- X Automotive waste (fuel, oil, etc.)
- X Pharmaceuticals
- X Explosives
- X Diesel
- X Radioactive materials
- X Biohazardous/Biomedical waste
- X Kerosene

For more information, contact the Sanitation Division's Customer Care team at 404-294-2900.