



October 2020

# FLOWER POWER

THE AVONDALE ESTATES  
GARDEN CLUB

Volume VI Issue VI

## *Castanea pumila* Chinquapin



This shrub or small tree prefers part shade and dryer soil. Single- or multi-trunked with glossy, dark green leaves which turn yellowish or purple in fall. The flower is a long, pencil-like, pale yellow spike and the fruit is a nut enclosed in a prickly, bur-like husk.

Captain John Smith published the first record of this nut in 1612: *They [Native Americans] have a small fruit growing on little trees, husked like a Chestnut, but the fruit most like a very small acorne. This they call Checkinguamins, which they esteem a great daintie.*



## THE OCTOBER MEETING

Last week, even before the program ended, I began planning a spring trip to Philadelphia. If you attended the Zoom meeting I am sure you understand and are probably planning the same trip.

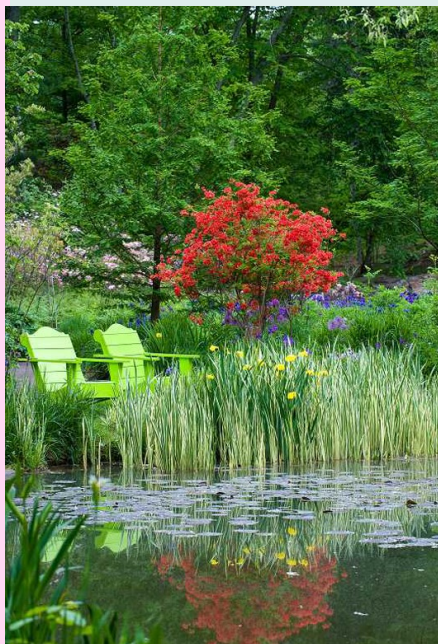
We were fortunate to have a program presented by Lynda Pollock, a Gwinnett Master Gardener who traveled to Philadelphia in June of 2019 for the International Master Gardener Conference. Philadelphia is known as the Capital of American Gardening and Lynda's photo presentation illustrated the fact.

With 36 public gardens, arboreta, and historic landscapes all located within 30 miles of Philadelphia, the Greater Philadelphia region has more gardens in close proximity than anywhere else in North America. Lynda and her husband covered 13 of those in just four days. Among the gardens the Pollocks saw is the oldest surviving botanical garden in the United States. Begun in 1728 by John Bartram who was a renown botanist and father of William Bartram who traveled the southeast in search of new plants. When he embarked on his trip he was an English subject living in the colonies, by the time he returned, he was a citizen of the United States.



To the right is the Pond Garden, one of several gardens at the The Chanticleer Gardens. This was the original summer home, then full time home of Adolph and Christine Rosengarten who owned a pharmaceutical firm.

Mr. Rosengarten's humor is evident in naming his home after the estate "Chanticleer" in Thackeray's 1855 novel The Newcomes. The fictional Chanticleer was "*mortgaged up to the very castle windows*" but "*still the show of the county.*" Playing on the word, which is synonymous with "rooster," the Rosengartens used rooster motifs throughout the estate.



# Henry Botanic Garden in Philadelphia

From the Henry Botanic Garden videos on making arrangements with material purchased at Trader Joe's or Whole Foods (organic plant material). The point is you are able to find things close to home for your arrangements. The one in the photo is a lesson on making a table arrangement.

The link or address is: <https://www.facebook.com/1036381276480002/videos/689308621990991>



In the 1920s, Mary Henry and her husband purchased a farm in Gladwyne and built a family home there. She saw the garden she was formulating as an unparalleled opportunity to create something meaningful and useful. Thus the garden would become, through her growing repertoire of horticultural and botanical skills, something that would benefit the natural world, which she held in such high regard.

With the keen eye of a natural conservationist, Mary Henry observed the incessant encroachment of the presence of man and civilization on the various environments of so many plants growing in wild places. She sought to preserve North American native plants, and save them from the degradation and loss of natural habitat that put incessant pressure on their survival.

Mary G. Henry's life was one of continual curiosity, learning, and intellectual as well as geographical exploration. She and her husband Dr. John Norman Henry both loved the wilderness. Mary Henry was, in the early to mid 20th century, an intrepid explorer. She even made a series of horseback explorations into uncharted portions of British Columbia in the years between 1931 and 1935. These explorations, through very wild and primitive areas, enabled the charting of what had previously been a blank area on Canadian maps. There is a mountain in British Columbia that was named for her, in recognition of her extensive exploration efforts.

Henry eagerly experimented with growing techniques. In her garden, she created new botanical crosses, trialed new plants, maintained meticulous plant and climate records, and she would readily share all she learned with other horticulturalists and botanists.

One of the 20th century's early conservationists, Mary Henry sought to preserve North American native plants, and save them from the degradation and loss of natural habitat that put incessant pressure on their survival. Thus she became a noted and ardent plant collector, adventurous and unafraid of the hard physical work of finding choice plants in the wild, even in the most remote locations across many states.

Her plant collecting forays into remote and undeveloped areas, especially throughout the American South and Southeast, were fearless, and the body of horticultural data and botanical information, as well as specimens, which she amassed were more than impressive.

*Information gathered from the Henry Botanical Garden website*





## The Gardens

### Brandywine Valley

- 1 Brandywine River Museum of Art
- 2 Hagley Museum and Library
- 3 Longwood Gardens
- 4 Mt. Cuba Center
- 5 Nemours Estate
- 6 Welkinweir
- 7 Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library

### Bucks County

- 8 Andalusia Historic House and Gardens
- 9 Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve
- 10 The Gardens at Mill Fleurs
- 11 Henry Schmieder Arboretum
- 12 Hortulus Farm
- 13 Tyler Formal Gardens

### Main Line & Delaware County

- 14 Barnes Arboretum at Saint Joseph's University
- 15 Chanticleer
- 16 Haverford College Arboretum
- 17 Henry Botanic Garden
- 18 Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens
- 19 Scott Arboretum
- 20 Stoneleigh: a natural garden
- 21 Tyler Arboretum

### Montgomery County

- 22 Ambler Arboretum of Temple University
- 23 The Highlands Mansion & Gardens
- 24 PHS Meadowbrook Farm

### New Jersey

- 25 Barton Arboretum and Nature Preserve of Medford Leas
- 26 Grounds For Sculpture
- 27 Camden Children's Garden

### Philadelphia County

- 28 The Arboretum at Laurel Hill & West Laurel Hill Cemeteries
- 29 Awbury Arboretum
- 30 Bartram's Garden
- 31 James G. Kaskey Memorial Park
- 32 Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania
- 33 Philadelphia Zoo
- 34 Shofuso
- 35 The Woodlands
- 36 Wyck Historic House, Garden, Farm

# LAST OF THE AWARDS SEASON — WE WON TWO!

The final awards of the season are from Redbud District, with 37 clubs and 1010 members.

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND:** Awarded to the club giving the largest amount (as averaged per member) to the GCG scholarship fund as reported in the President's Report.

**NEWSLETTER:** Awarded to a garden club for the best club newsletter submitted for the awards year. Newsletters must be published at least 3 times a year.

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## THIS WILL BE FUN, SAFE AND PROFITABLE!



AEGC is planning a Plant Sale to take place next spring. Because it would be an outdoor event, it will be safe for all attendees. We will, of course, lay it out for social distancing, require masks and make the checkout process a careful one as well.

**WE NEED MEMBERS TO START PARTICIPATING NOW.**

We will be depending on dona-

tions of plants and ask that you divide some of your plants and pot them up. Put them in a convenient place where they can be easily watered, though the need for water in the winter months is not substantial. Contribute what ever you love in your garden, whatever grows well for you and whatever needs to be divided. Some members will have extra pots if you need them If you have questions you can start with the Ways and Means committee for answers: Peggy Burgess and Julie Martinez. . . Now, go dig!



*Beautiful Avondale . . .* Let's do one more edition. Send Susan Barton your photos. There are still things blooming in the neighborhood, let's see what we can find.

**WALTER SAYS . . .** Plant spring flowering bulbs, like tulip, daffodil and hyacinth. Old, crowded beds can be loosened and the bulbs divided and replanted now. . . Finish dividing daylily clumps, iris rhizomes and peony roots. Plant them into a well-dug bed immediately. . . Remove faded rose blooms. Clip wayward stems back so the plant has a compact form, ready for winter wind and ice . . . As chrysanthemum and aster flowers fade, cut the plants back to six inches tall. . . Root cuttings of geranium, impatiens, begonia and other "outside" plants to bring indoors for the winter. . . Fertilize pansies again with water-soluble houseplant fertilizer. Switch to a product that contains nitrate nitrogen (Osmocote, Pansy Booster, etc) when you feed in two weeks.





# Our Little Free Library Needs Your Kind Donations



**Little Free Library** is a 501c nonprofit organization that promotes neighborhood book exchanges, usually in the form of a public bookcase. There are 100,000 public book cases registered with the organization and branded as Little Free Libraries. These are present in 91 countries and millions of books are exchanged each year, with the aim of increasing access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds.

The Little Free Library that is supported by AEGC is dedicated to children in the neighborhood. It is accessed from the side walk by Lynn Boyd and Harry Vann's home at the corner of Dartmouth and Fairfield Plaza on the Dartmouth side. The post is actually in their yard as the City does not permit these petit libraries to be erected on public property. Lynn's dad (Faye's husband) Bob Boyd of birdhouse fame built this diminutive book case and Harry maintains it. (he had to replace a



shingle this summer!)

The books are mostly donated though there is a line item in our budget for the purchase of books. Lynn Boyd is the caretaker of the AEGC Little Free Library. Lynn said that all children's books are welcome from toddler to teen. Pam and Steve Ryan have been great benefactors bringing books as Robert outgrows them or has read and re-read them. It would be good to have a few more sponsors, angels or patrons to swell our reserves. If you have any gently used books, please just drop them in the tiny Tudor or leave them on Lynn and Harry's wide front porch.

## REDBUD NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES SLATE

The nominating committee is delighted to submit the following outstanding women to become 2021-2023 Redbud District Officers. They exemplify the energy, knowledge, talent and dedication of our Remarkable Redbuds.

Corresponding Secretary -- Glendolyn Hallman, Smoke Rise Morning Glories Garden Club

Treasurer -- Rigby Duncan, Hunting Hill Garden Club

Recording Secretary -- Denise Finley, Smoke Rise Garden Club

Co-director -- Bonnie Pennington, Smoke Rise Morning Glories Garden Club

Director -- Gale Thomas, Conyers Garden Club

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### *From DeKalb Federation*

Please mark your calendars for these important dates:

October 22 Federation General Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

December 1 Holidays for Health Care Heroes Cards to Rigby

January 28 Federation General Meeting (probably Zoom)

February 8 Redbud District Board Meeting (probably Zoom)







OCTOBER YARD OF THE MONTH  
7 LAKESHORE  
HOME OF AMANDA FUNDERBURKE

The garden at 7 Lakeshore Drive is tenderly and lovingly cared for by Amanda Funderburke. She tells us that gardening is her therapy. During this pandemic, I think we can all relate! Throughout the spring and summer growing season the garden is home to several varieties of elephant ears, caladiums, ferns, and hostas. In addition, jasmine, azaleas, red honey suckle, and a wide variety of coleus can be found making appearances. May through July displays a large variety of daylilies in full bloom, so be sure to check this one out in spring, too! ~Peggy Burgess

# SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIPS = SCHOLARSHIPS

## WHO-WHAT-WHY-WHERE-WHEN-HOW?

**The number of garden club members in the state of Georgia has dipped below 10,000.** Why does that matter? A better question is to **whom** will that matter? It will matter to a Georgia student who needs scholarship money to be able to attend a Georgia college or university pursuing a degree in a horticulture related field.

**What's** the connection? The National Garden Club gives \$4000 to the scholarship fund of the Garden Club of Georgia as long as the membership roll exceeds 10,000. Hand wringing doesn't help, but a measure has been found that will. Enter a newish classification: Subscribing member. This membership requires nothing of the member. They do not have to attend meetings or serve on a luncheon committee. It is more of an honorary title. They will receive the GCG publication if they desire. This is the sort of thing you might give your son or daughter or sister or brother or neighbor or friend or spouse or significant other. It costs \$25 per year and helps our state organization which administers our scholarship fund.

**When is the deadline?** October 31st. Halloween. We need to have this done by that date or it won't count. There is an application online you can fill out. **Where?** Please go to:

<https://gardenclub.uga.edu/subscribingmember.html>

**How?** You may have to copy and paste this into your browser, but everything is there that you will need.

Last year through our fund we awarded **\$72000 in scholarships**. **\$8000** of that came from Redbud District. We are really good, but now is the time to ensure we get the funds from National. Please consider a Subscribing Membership as a gift today.

# NO GLITTER!!

It's that magical time of year again when Halloween isn't here yet, but we begin to think about the holidays. We usually send holiday cards to the VA and deployed military personnel. This year, we are going to give cards to our frontline medical workers at the VA hospital in Decatur. There are rules, of course.

1. Do not sign your name though you may say "We appreciate you." or "Thank you for your service" or something similar.
2. Do not seal the envelope
3. Absolutely, positively **NO GLITTER!**
4. Take your cards to Faye Boyd. Leave them on her porch in the basket she will provide.
5. Have the cards to Faye **no later than November 23rd.**





# GOOD NEWS!

## FROM FEDERATION A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

The Garden Center has been closed since March; however, Garden Center Director, Ann Purr, goes by regularly to check on things, and our **Restoring the Beauty volunteers are going every Friday (weather permitting) to work on the grounds weeding, pruning and moving stones.** Plans are underway for fall planting in November, and a list of plants with a proposed budget will be presented to the board for approval. Thanks to Quill Duncan, Glendolyn Hallman, Renie Faulkenberry, Sandy Reed, Gale Thomas, Deanna McFarlan, Bonnie Pennington., Vickey Cooper and Ann Purr.

## FROM REDBUD DISTRICT A NEW GARDEN CLUB:

We are welcoming a new club to Redbud this October. It is the Garden Club of Senoia and twenty-six members have joined! You will hear more about them in the future when we can share more details about their plans and we can meet them.

## FROM AEGC:

A holiday event for AEGC will happen! It will be virtual and with the help of some elves (it is rumored) it will be special. Your Board is working on a celebration that will bring us together in a unique manner. Keep up your spirits and soon the holiday spirit will descend, as it always does.



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