



FEDERATED FACTS

Publication of Rome Federated Garden Clubs, Inc.

Editor: Judy Howerton, Corresponding Secretary

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“TOGETHER WE GROW”

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Garden Club Members,

We are approaching a brand new year. We celebrate life with new beginnings and making changes. There are some questions we need to ponder over as Garden Club Members in the coming year.

What has been our greatest accomplishment for the past year in making the Earth a better place for my fellow persons?

Have I practiced the use of using reusable bags rather than plastic bags?

Have I made a concerted effort to keep the roadsides and country sides of my country free of litter?

Have I created my surroundings to look the best of my ability?

Do I give my best to my Garden Club with volunteering to projects and activities they participate in?

Do I attend the meetings held by the Rome Federated Garden Clubs?

Have I worked to increased membership into my club?

These are only a few of the questions to ask yourself as members of your club in the RFGC for the year of 2019.

Thanks for a resplendent year. I appreciate your support you have given me to be your president. I appreciate what you do to make our community a better place to live. You are super people to work with.

With love and respect,

Winnie Holland

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There Is a Promise

By Winifred H. Holland

When the sun sets
A new day will come
When the grass withers
The rains restores new life
There is a promise.

When death strikes
Birth is just over the horizon
When flowers blossoms and trees bow with foliage
New bulbs and fruit burst forth
There is a promise.

When darkness cast its shadows,
The light is blinking behind the mountain side
When the streams run dry
Clouds gather from a distance
And empty their vessels
There is a promise.

When there is noise
Silence moves in slowly
When clouds of storms rage the country side
Placated skies arise spreading its blue throughout
There is a promise.

When the cold winter winds blow through long endless days
Warm spring breezes gingerly await its turn
When seed are planted in the cold dark soil
There fruit will flourish

Yes, there is a promise .

LIBRARY SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLUB</u>
December 26-January 8, 2019	Mountain View
January 9-January 22	Seven Hills
January 23—February 5	Spade and Trowel
February 6—February 29	Thistle
February 20-March 5	Three Rivers



GARDEN CENTER SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLUB</u>	<u>TASK</u>
January 8	African Violet	Refreshments
January 29		Refreshments
February	Camellia	3 Bales pine
March 5	Thistle	Refreshments

CALENDAR

January 8	RFGC Meeting
January 9-10	Environmental School
January 16	Native Plant Symposium, Athens
January 18-19	Garden School, Griffin
January 29	Special Called Meeting at RFGC Garden Center
February 8-9	Garden School, Griffin
February 21	Laurel District Meeting, Dallas
March 5	RFGC Meeting

ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL

By Stanley Boulee

The National Garden Clubs (NGC) offers as part of its mission, educational opportunities for members and non-members.

One of the courses offered is “Environmental Studies,” a series of four two-day courses in environmental studies offered over a period of time.

The Rome Federated Garden Clubs, Inc. is offering this series in collaboration with NGC, GCG, and The Laurel District. Dates and themes are as follows:

Course II - Land & Related Issues January 9 - 10, 2019

Course III - Air & Related Issues March 20 - 21, 2019

Course IV - Water & Related Issues May 15 - 16, 2019

All courses will be held at the ECO Center, 393 Riverside Pkwy NE, Rome, GA 30161. The cost of each two-day course is \$80. This registration fee covers speaker stipends, course materials, field trips, coffee breaks, and lunch. Participants who enroll in all four courses and take a short open book test for each section of each course, will also be eligible to become a NGC, Inc. Accredited Environmental Consultant. Speakers are specialists in their field. They are drawn from local schools and universities as well as from experienced professionals in specific areas of expertise.

The mission of the Environmental School is to teach environmental literacy to cherish, protect and conserve the living earth. The courses teach participants environmental literacy, appreciation of the natural world, encourages action for sustainable development and appreciation for the interrelation of all natural things. Particular emphasis is placed on land conservation, water conservation and air quality.

Topics explored in each course:

Course II: The Living Earth - Land and Related Issues

Ecology-Land, Plants-Agriculture, Source Reduction of Pollutants, Toxics and materials, Coastal Zone Management, Environmental Science-Resources, Wildlife-Animals-The Misunderstoods, Earth Stewardship-Gardening with Nature, Nature Discovery Field Trip.

Course III: The Living Earth - Air and Related Issues

Ecology-Air, Plants-The Rainforest, Environmental Ethics, Environmental Science-Pollution, Wildlife-Endangered Plants and Wildlife, Initiating School Programs, Earth Stewardship, Nature Discovery Field Trip.

Course IV: The Living Earth-Water and Related Issues

Ecology, Plants-Aquatic Plants, Wetlands, Environmental Science-Sustainability, Wildlife-Aquatic Animals, Youth Programs in Environmental Education, Earth Stewardship-Effective Citizenship, Nature Discovery Field Trip.

RFGC’s first course, The Living Earth, was well attended (32 participants from four states) and was well received. Instructors were Ben Winkelman, Director of the ECO Center; Dr. Cathy Borer, Associate Professor of Biology and Coordinator of Environmental Sciences Program at Berry College; Dr. Brian Campbell, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Environmental Studies at Berry College; Keith Mickler, Floyd County Extension Coordinator and Agriculture Agent, UGA Cooperative Extension; and Winifred Holland, President of RFGC and retired teacher with special interest in Environmental Science.

Special recognition for the coordination of this program is extended to Jo Hernandez, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. She was assisted by Carrie Wilder, Joy Puckett, Judy Howerton, Caroline Alford, Stanley Boulee, Winnie Holland, and Dr. John Barnett representing The Laurel District. Many thanks to this dedicated group, as well as the many RFGC members who donated their time and various materials to the program, as well as preparing food for coffee breaks and lunches, a big hit with the attendees—one attendee commented that the early morning coffee we served was better than the \$17 breakfast she had at her hotel.

You’ll find attached a registration form for Course II. If you missed the first course, you may attend any and/or all of the remaining courses. Participants have started enrolling--be sure to get your registration in before the busy holidays! Deadline for registration - December 31, 2018.

Dr. Cathy Borer, Associate Professor of Biology and Coordinator of Environmental Sciences Program at Berry.



Jo Hernandez, Mary Reid and Stanley Boulee enjoying the field trip - Roman Holiday River tour.

REGISTRATION FORM
ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL COURSE II

January 9-10, 2019

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (____) _____

E-mail: _____

Garden Club: _____

\$80 Course fee (includes all fees and lunch 2 days)

Total Registration Enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to: **Rome Federated Garden Clubs**

Mail registration form and check to: RFGC c/o Stanley Boulee, Treasurer 515 E. 9th St. Rome, GA 30161. Deadline January 4, 2019.

Contact: Stanley Boulee at stanleyboulee@gmail.com

TOWNVIEW MEETING WITH ITS MONTESSORI JUNIOR CLUB

Stanley Boulee and Kathy Donahue, Townview, visited with the Montessori Upper Elementary class to present a gardening program to the Montessori Monarchs. The program was on the Holly tree. The following topics were discussed using a flannel board presentation: uses, status, description, adaptation, establishment, five fascinating facts, 400 species, dioecious, story of Christ, 1000 years, lightning strikes.

Students were given the topics to place on the flannel board and a discussion followed. Items used for visual effect were a holly bush which allowed the discussion of drupes and the leaves. A video showed Natalie Cole singing “The Holly and The Ivy.” Words to the song were distributed to the Monarchs so they could follow along.

Planting zones were discussed. Students were asked if they had seen a holly on the beach (zone 1 -5) and then discovered that the holly grows better in zones 6 – 10. Students learned that our city is in zone 7.

Snowman Poop was distributed to the students. The verse for snowman poop is: I heard that you’ve been naughty So here’s the scoop. Santa is running short on coal this year so you get Snowman Poop. The Snowman Poop was a bag of mini marshmallows.

Stanley had over 150 squares that she demonstrated the cutting of a snowflake.

Over the weekend, there was a chance to discuss the presentation. It was interesting to know what was remembered: Dioecious, Zone 7, that Holly is not found on the beach and that holly was planted in areas as a natural lightning strike attractor.



SEVEN HILLS REPORT ON CLOCKTOWER FEDERATION GARDEN

By Jennifer Kearns

Fall 2018 at the Clock Tower Garden is looking much better than Fall, 2017! Most of the invasive weeds have been removed, some of the shrubs have been moved to better places, and the garden is thriving with new pollinating flowers. I hope you saw the profusion of Monarch butterflies on the butterfly bush. On December 5, five Seven Hills Garden Club Members put the garden to bed for the winter with fresh pine straw. Thanks to Terry Paige, our Rome City Arborist for delivering 25 bales of pine straw the morning of December 5. There are no immediate chores so we will wait and see in January what needs to be done. A schedule, grouping three Federation Garden Clubs at a time, will be organized for February, March, April and May, to be presented by Jennifer Kearns at the January Federation meeting. We hope to have the City Dedication of the garden on April 10. Also, V3 Magazine has said that they would like to feature an article on the Clock Tower Federation Garden project in the April issue. Thanks to all who have labored, planted seeds and contributed plants and funds. Unrealized are the friendships and knowledge gained among fellow garden club members as well as providing a welcoming entrance to our famous landmark, the Clock Tower.

The Rosalind Carter Butterfly Trail application is being prepared and expected to be granted in the coming year.



A RECAP OF RFGC'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2018

The two- year **Clock Tower Federated Garden Project** is now in year two and each club has taken a work-day as assigned by the project manager. A **Native Fringe Tree** was planted along with **pollinator plants** and **native plants**. Many **monarchs** visited the garden this year.

A **community project** was carrying **Easter Eggs to Hospitality House for Women**.

Three Rivers Club enjoyed the **100 daffodils they planted at Sloppy Floyd Park** last Fall.

In February, 2018 we met at the Library for our **educational meeting**. **Rome Federation Educational Program** featured the authors of the new book, *Seeking Eden*, A collection of Georgia Historic Gardens. The authors are Staci Catron and Mary Ann Eaddy. Many members ordered the book and enjoyed the presentation. Book proceeds go toward the Garden Club of Georgia's Historic Landscape Preservation Grand programs. RFGC made a **monetary contribution** to that cause.

Arbor Day was celebrated on February 16. The DAR, Rome Federated Garden Clubs, and City of Rome, Rotarians, Nature Conservancy, and Master Gardeners participate annually. In 2018 we had 110 people attending. Two hundred trees were planted. One tree was given to our **Junior Garden Club at Montessori School** for planting at their school. **Rome is a Tree City and received their 28th flag**.

One Club sponsors a **Youth Club** at the Montessori School with 5 meetings per year with each meeting featuring an educational program pertaining to plants and the environment, examples are edible flowers, fall leaves, hollies, etc . A new school program was begun this year with the **East Central Elementary** doing an elevated vegetable garden. *The Saved Seed* book for children was donated to various elementary schools by individual members.

Garden Week in Georgia was celebrated by the Federation by **erecting signs** around Rome announcing the Garden Week. The City/County Commissioners did a **Proclamation** for GCG Week. Federated members held a **garden sale** to sell garden related items at the Garden Center in order to reach out to **the community** and have an opportunity to talk about garden club and gardening. Clubs weeded, **planted pollinator pots, planted spring plants, attended a hypertufa pot demonstration**, and member **Diane Harbin attended the GCG 90th anniversary celebration in Athens**. Clubs celebrated **the 90th Anniversary of founding of Garden Club of Georgia** by enjoying a celebration cake at their meeting. An Article was published **in Rome News-Tribune** regarding RFGC celebrating GCG week.

Awards won at GCG: 17 (each winner can be seen under News Tab of website.)

Awards won at NGC: The Federation received a Certificate of Appreciation from the NGC for our Federated Facts and The Standard of Excellence along with a \$50 check.

National Garden Week was celebrated by erecting banners on Broad Street and at the Clock Tower Garden. Clubs planted, weeded, and spruced up their respective gardens around town.

Individual clubs' members entered horticulture in the **Coosa Valley Fair** and earned \$1160 for their entries. Those funds are paid to the treasuries of each club.

NGC's ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL , Series VIII, Session I was held in Rome at the ECO Center on October 2-3 with 32 people participating. At the conclusion of the school there was a professionally guided field

trip – a tour aboard the Roman Holiday, a riverboat cruise. A Federation member was Captain of the riverboat.

We ordered **2019 Expression Calendars**.

Many Federated members attended the **Laurel District meeting** to support one of our own, Dr. John Barnett, Laurel District Director.

In October many members toured **Marshall Forest** as it became a dedicated Old Growth Forest.

Federated Members **made Christmas Wreaths** to donate to the **Tony Warren Cancer Center** as a community outreach. The Center will hold a silent auction to raise funds for the Cancer Crusaders.

Our county has a foster care crisis. This is a **community project** since we no longer have the state mental facility to share stockings and eggs, we now support the Department of Family and Children Services by collecting needed clothing items for children that have just been picked up and have no possessions with them. We do this in November so some items can be used for Christmas for the children.

We collect **Coke Cans/Tabs for Ronald McDonald House**.

Plants and/or arrangements are placed in the Library by the clubs of the Federation. Clubs take two-week turns and identify the plant by name as a donation by The Rome Federated Garden Clubs.

Educational Programs at our individual club meetings, include programs on hydrangea care, iris care, Lenten rose, and many other plants; trips to native selling landscape store; presentation by City Arborist; growing herbs and cooking with them; visits to Demonstration Garden at Chieftain Museum, floral design; visiting a members' vineyard; pruning program by County Agent; beekeeping, and others.

Educational programs at Jr. Garden Club included, Pumpkins; Fall leaves; Hollies; Herbs & greenhouses; Butterflies and insect life cycles; Flowers, seeds and nuts; Dirt, decomposers and compost.

Each Federation meeting has a **educational presentation by Georgia Burns, Environmental Concerns Committee Chairman**, about pertinent problems in our area.

Wild and Wonderful Youth Camp. One Club sponsored a child to attend the Wild and Wonderful Camp.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST — RFGC NOW HOLDS TITLE TO THE GARDEN CENTER.

There were many other accomplishments that happen daily that I was not aware of to include in this recap. Each club should send articles to the Corresponding Secretary for inclusion in the Federated Facts.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

On January 29, 2019 there will be a meeting at the Garden Center to discuss ownership of the Garden Center.

You will receive an email reminder closer to the date.

Each club needs to be represented with three members or more. There will be a question/answer discussion.

MY NEW YEAR'S WISH FOR EACH OF YOU

By Judy Howerton

A new year is what most people long for—it is not really the year change they look forward to but the possibility of changing themselves for the better. All of us want to start a year in a good footing. Most believe that a new year entails not only a continuous life but also a fresh beginning and a new lease on life. This lease on life however must be used in full.

The new year can be wasted or used for good. What you do each day is important because you are exchanging a day of your life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving in its place something that you have traded for it. You want it to be gain, not loss; good, not evil; success, not failure; in order that you shall not regret the price you paid for it.

