



FEDERATED FACTS

Publication of Rome Federated Garden Clubs, Inc.

Editor: Judy Howerton

“3...2...1...LET’S GROW”

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

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Wilder Words:

HAPPY NEW YEAR! It is with great pleasure that we welcome in a new decade, 2020 has a nice ring to it don't you think? This past year has been very good to us at RFGC, thanks to a lot of hard work, resourcefulness, and dedication from our members. We have made great strides during 2019, our financial struggles and insecurity about our future were met head on by our leadership and our membership. We faced the challenges together and the results are incredible, a beautifully restored Clock Tower Garden, wonderful reviews from our Landscape Design and Environmental Schools, lovely community garden spots throughout Rome, and bank accounts that are adequately funded (without any fundraising activity). As we look back, we also know that there are some that we have lost. They are the faces that will be missed at our meetings and events, and their voices carried the wisdom, advice and support we have relied on to keep our spirits lifted. They showed us how to work together and find strength in each other.

As we look into the year ahead, we have many things to be thankful for, to be excited about and many goals to accomplish. We have much work to do, but it feels less like a chore when we all do our part and enjoy doing it together. I have so much hope for our clubs, and I have so much faith in you all! The Rome Federated Garden Club community has filled my preverbal cup to excess with laughter, friendships, accomplishments, great conversation, education and appreciation. I see how resilient we are for each other and the love is undeniable.

My wish for you all in the New Year is to take each day sharing your joy, being mindful of others, and making your surroundings beautiful with both action and words. May 2020 bring health, wealth and prosperity for us all!

With love,
 Carrie Wilder
 RFGC President



CALENDAR

January 7	RFGC Meeting
January 1	Deadline Garden Gateways Spring Edition
February 3	Arbor Day
February 12-13	Landscape Design School, Course III, Rome
February 26	Capitol Conservation Day
February 20	Laurel District Board Meeting, Marietta
March 3	RFGC Meeting



LIBRARY SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLUB</u>
December 25, 2019	Camellia
January 8, 2020	Mountain View
January 24, 2020	Seven Hills
February 5, 2020	Spade & Trowel
February 19, 2020	Thistle

GARDEN CENTER SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLUB</u>	<u>TASK</u>
January 7, 2020	Townview	Refreshments
February 1, 2020	African Violet	4 Rolls Paper towels
March 3, 2020	Camellia	Refreshments

The Rome Federated Garden Clubs, Inc.

JANUARY 7th Meeting

The January 7th Meeting will be held at the Garden Center with coffee at 9:30 a.m. followed by the business meeting at 10:00 a.m. All members of clubs involved with the federation are welcome to attend. We need at least three from each club to attend to represent your club.

Our program will be by Jesse Demonbreun-Chapman, CRBI Executive Director and Riverkeeper.

Rome Federation has received so many “thank you’s” for the schools we have offered. Here is the latest one:

Dear Caroline and Jo,

It was wonderful meeting you. The Landscape Design School was fabulous. I cannot begin to imagine how much you and the other Rome garden club members worked to put this top notch program together. Your expertise is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for all!

See you in February,

Rebecca Robinson, Covington, Ga.

ROME FEDERATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2019

Below are some of the accomplishments in 2019, including but not limited to:

RFGC supports **GCG “PLANT AMERICA – Nurture The Garden We Call Georgia”** and the Mission “Beautification, Conservation and Education”, by various means listed here but not limited to these alone.

FIG LEAF PROJECT

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

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 with, 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.

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.

GARDEN WEEK IN GEORGIA

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. Clubs **weeded, planted pollinator pots, planted spring plants, attended a stepping stone construction class**. An Article was published **in Rome News-Tribune** regarding RFGC celebrating GCG week and a Facebook announcement was posted.

BLUE STAR MARKERS

The Rome Federated Garden Clubs, Inc. strongly supports the Blue Star Program with markers as follows:

The Federated Garden Clubs, Inc. located at the Garden Center at 100 E. 8th Street Sponsored by Seven Hills Garden Club.

Camellia Garden Club located at the exit of Heritage Park on Second Avenue.

Lavender View Garden Club located at the intersection of Garden Lakes Blvd and Shoreline Drive.

Mountain View Garden Club located at Myrtle Hill Cemetery in Rome.

Seven Hills Garden Club located at Sara Hightower Regional Library,

Spade and Trowel Garden Club located at the intersection of Second Avenue and Turner McCall.

Thistle Garden Club located at Rotary Park, 1st Ave. and 6th Ave.

Three Rivers Garden Club located on Jackson Hill at the Rome Visitors Center.

Townview Garden Club located at the corner of Broad Street and 5th Ave..

Rome Federation of Garden Clubs Rome, GA sponsored at Government Plaza, Floyd Co Courthouse.

BEAUTIFICATION

Each Club in the Federation has a Civic Improvement project which is a **garden** somewhere in our town that is planted, maintained and beautifies our town.

The two- year Clock Tower **Federated Garden Project** was completed this spring and each club has taken a workday 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. This garden is now a **Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail** with a Marker placed there.

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

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.

Arbor Day was celebrated on February 15. The DAR, Rome Federated Garden Clubs, and City of Rome, Rotarians, Nature Conservancy, and Master Gardeners participate annually. Eighteen trees were planted. Rome is a Tree City and received their 29th flag. Rome is one of 9 cities in Georgia to receive the award.

Three Rivers refurbished their sign at their garden spot; constructed two new planter boxes; added a birdbath and two suet feeders; placed a patriotic theme wreath at the foot of the Blue Star Marker on patriotic holidays.

CONSERVATION

Each Federation meeting has an **educational presentation by Georgia Burns, Environmental Concerns Committee Chairman**, about issues that affect us all.

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

Visiting our new Recycling Center and learning about recycling in Rome.

EDUCATION

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 and visits to the Clock Tower Federated Garden.

Individual clubs' members entered **horticulture** in the **Coosa Valley Fair** and earned \$926.50 for their entries. Those funds are paid to the club's treasuries. All plant specimens had to be classified and named to be entered.

One Club sponsors a **Youth Club** at the Montessori School with 5 meetings per year with each meeting featuring an **educational program** which included pumpkins, fall leaves; hollies; herbs & greenhouses; butterflies and insect life cycles; flowers, seeds and nuts; dirt, decomposers and compost.

NGC's ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL, Series VIII, Session II, III, IV was held in Rome at the ECO Center in the spring with 32 people participating.

NGS's LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL, Course I was held August 7 & 8 with 39 in attendance and Course II was held November 20-21 with 38 in attendance.

Many Federated members attended the **Laurel District meeting**. Three Rivers was honored by receiving the Laurel District Club of the Year Award.

Three Rivers attended a Presentation on the State Botanical Gardens in Athens by Shelly Prescott, Director of Horticulture, Georgia Botanical Gardens. Note: This is an excellent presentation for other clubs that might be interested.

As of November 1, Three Rivers is sponsoring the Dragons Jr. Garden Club at Pepperell Elementary School. Mary Fricks is the 4th grade teacher who leads the club and John Barnett is the liaison with TRGC. John has been busily applying for a number of grants for the club. TRGC will be helping the students plant 250 yellow daffodils and 100 red tulips (the school colors) in front of the sign at the entrance to the school.

AWARDS

The Federation and the Clubs within it won **17 awards** from The Garden Club of Georgia. RFGC won First for Newsletter; Second for Yearbook; 1st for Website; Second for Arbor Day.

The Federation won **NGC awards**: Civic Achievement, First; National Garden Week, First; Received Certificates of Appreciation for Newsletter, and Membership Brochure.



LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL COURSE 2

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL PROJECT FOR 2019 - 2020

The Rome Federated Garden Clubs, Inc. will be offering the Landscape Design School in Rome, Georgia at the ECO Center. Dates for the schools are August 7-8, 2019; November 20-21, 2019; February 12-13, 2020; and April 28-29, 2020. Each two-day school will be \$100.00 and that includes lunch for each day.

Landscape Design Schools offer a series of four 10-hour courses. The courses cover learning about your ecosystem, the principles and elements of landscape design, the landscape design process, the history of landscape design and designing for the environment, among many other topics.

Since its founding in 1958, professional instructors have maintained the high standards originally incorporated in the study program. Students acquire the tools for making their own gardens more beautiful and easier to maintain. Students have been motivated to serve in political decision-making areas where awareness of the impact of a well-designed landscape can enhance the beauty and enjoyment of life in the public arena.

The courses are intended primarily for garden club members, but are open to the general public. Courses may be sponsored by member clubs, groups of clubs, councils, districts and state garden clubs. Garden club members completing the series of four courses are awarded the designation of NGC Landscape Design Consultant. To maintain Consultant status, continuing education is required. Single-subject and Multiple Refreshers provide advanced study opportunity and the occasion to interface with other Consultants. Participation in Consultant Councils is encouraged as one means of using the knowledge gained from this educational program.

More information is available at www.romefederatedgardenclubs.com under the "News" tab.

Chairwoman is Jo Hernandez, Caroline Alford is the Treasurer. Many thanks to Judy Howerton, Winnie Holland for their dedicated support for this project.

Course 1 and 2 of the school were just completed with great success. There were 39 in attendance and these ladies and gentlemen were from all around Georgia and a few of them were from Tennessee.



The Rome Federated Garden Clubs, Inc.

Calendar

2020

2020

January 7	RFGC Meeting
January 15	Deadline for Garden Gateways Spring Edition
February 1	Deadline for The National Gardener Magazine
February 3	Arbor Day
February 12-13	Landscape Design School, ECO Center, Rome
February 20	Laurel District Board Meeting, Marietta
February 26	Capitol Conservation Day 2020
March 3	RFGC Meeting & Community Educational Program
March 24-26	Garden Club of Georgia Convention, Macon
April 13-16	Deep South Convention, Tampa FL
April 15	Deadline for Garden Gateways Summer Edition
April 19-25	Garden Week in Georgia
April 18-19	Chieftain's Plant Sale
April 25	RFGC Yard Sale, Garden Center, Rome
April 28-29	Landscape Design School, ECO Center, Rome
May 1	Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail; Spring Symposium, Plains GA Deadline for The National Gardener Magazine
May 2	GCG Historic Landscape Preservation Fundraiser & Tour, Roswell
May 11-16	National Garden Clubs Convention, Milwaukee WI
June 7-13	National Garden Club Week
August 1	Deadline for The National Gardener Magazine
August 20	Laurel District Board Meeting, Canton
August 25	RFGC Meeting
September	Garden Club of Georgia Fall Meeting
October 5	Laurel District Fall Meeting, Rome
October 15	Deadline for Garden Gateways Winter Edition
November 1	Deadline for The National Gardener Magazine
November 3	RFGC Meeting

**TOWNVIEW DECORATES TREE FOR
“ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A
FAMILY” CAMPAIGN**



Townview members gathered at Hardy Realty to decorate a Christmas Tree to bring awareness to the need for Foster Care in Floyd County. It is a part of the campaign “All I Want for Christmas is a Family.” Townview’s garden is adjacent to Hardy Realty (at Broad and 5th) and was decorated with Christmas lights and red bows.

DFAC provided literature to be placed under the tree. Also, Townview members donated many items to be given to the DFAC children for Christmas. See list below:

29 pair of pajamas

6 boxes of diapers

2 bookbags

5 sports bras

16 pair panties

10 pair of briefs

8 shirts

16 toboggins

34 pair of socks

2 books

1 pair jeans

6 blankets

28 stuffed animals

13 packs colored pencils/markers

4 composition books

Games

Toiletries

wipes



THREE RIVERS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2019

Here is a summary of what our Three Rivers has done to date this year:

MEETINGS

September - Demonstration of Williamsburg-style wreath making by Rev. Dr. Gil Watson.

October - Tour of the new Rome/Floyd Recycling Center

November - Presentation on the State Botanical Gardens in Athens by Shelly Prescott, Director of Horticulture, Georgia Botanical Gardens. Note: This is an excellent presentation for other clubs that might be interested.

December - Christmas Luncheon and Auction (our primary fundraiser). Members are also asked to bring women's socks to be given to the women at Hospitality House.

PROJECTS

Garden Spot at the Rome Visitors' Center

We refurbished our sign which was showing signs of rotting.

Constructed two new planter boxes to replace the previous ones which had rotted. These are placed on the small baggage cart in front of the building.

Added a birdbath and two suet feeders in an effort to attract more birds.

Placed a patriotic theme wreath at the foot of our Blue Star Marker on the patriotic holidays.

Placed a seasonal wreath on the Three Rivers Sign.

Replaced summer plants with fall/winter plants in all planter boxes (window boxes on depot and boxes on the baggage cart and pots on the steps).

DRAGONS JR. GARDEN CLUB

As of November 1, Three Rivers is sponsoring the Dragons Jr. Garden Club at Pepperell Elementary School.

Mary Fricks is the 4th grade teacher who leads the club and John Barnett is the liaison with TRGC. John has been busily applying for a number of grants for the club. TRGC will be helping the students plant 250 Yellow daffodils and 100 red tulips (the school colors) in front of the sign at the entrance to the school.

Jeanettia Rush, President

DEADLINE FOR MARCH FEDERATED FACTS ARTICLES

If you have an article about your Club for the March FF, please send to Judy Howerton, at judy@howerton2.com by February 18.

SAVE THE DATE...RFGC YARD SALE - APRIL 25, 2020

As you start doing your fall cleaning of the gardening projects, collect used tools, containers, pots, anything garden related for the yard sale taking place April 25, 2020 at the garden center.

Not only is this a good way to dispose of unwanted items, it brings awareness to the garden center (where sale is to be held) and garden clubbing. You can hand out brochures about your garden club; you can help sell; you can purchase needed items.

This is good publicity for Rome Federated Garden Clubs.

You might even pick up some items you need. There will be some plants for sale.

This will be a fundraiser for RFGC and all clubs/members are asked to participate. Jo Hernandez, Ways and Means Chairman, will be giving more information in the near future.



GET THOSE HONEYBAKED GIFT CARDS

Dear Fellow Gardeners.

Our Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser end date is **1/3/2020**. Please support the Rome Federation by purchasing gift cards for any occasion. If you are thinking of buying a Ham or turkey for future use such as Easter, purchase your card early and use it whenever you wish. We receive 20% of your purchase price back as a donation, which does not cost you anything. To date we have **raised \$325 of our \$400 goal**.

Order your cards as they do not expire. The cards must be purchased on line from our fundraising site. Here is the link:

https://honeybakedfundraising.com/fundraisers/Support_the_Rome_Federation

Thanks for participating.

Caroline

