



FEDERATED FACTS



FEBRURAY 2024



Happy February to Everyone!

This is a special month with all that we celebrate in the month. Not only do we have the beginning of Lent as we prepare for the coming of Easter, Valentine's Day (when we celebrate LOVE and the wonders it produces in our lives), but also the advent of Spring appearing in our world, I am excited to see the bulbs I planted this late fall, coming up bringing color to my life. They signal HOPE to me as I trusted that each bulb would produce a glorious flower for all to enjoy.

Speaking of Easter, I sincerely ask and encourage you to attend our next Federation meeting on March 5th with our program entitled "Easter is the Burst of Color", presented by none other than one of our favorites, Dr. Gil Watson. Please make a special effort to come and enjoy this meeting. "Another great March treat will be hearing Mr. Dan Roper at our Community Education Program. All of our clubs are sponsoring this event on March 22nd at 9:30 at the Civic Center. Clubs are asked to donate \$25.00 for our refreshments in lieu of bringing food. There will be a competition event- the club with the most members in attendance and the club with the best percentage in attendance. Let's make this a fun event by encouraging your friends and neighbors to hear Dan." Have you heard the speaker, Dan Roper. Come attend the community program. I want to say a special thank you to all who supported our fundraising efforts.

Have a wonderful February. I appreciate each of you and what you do to enrich your community, especially through Garden Club!

Anita Bridges, President, RFGC

January 2, 2024: Minutes, Rome Federated Garden Club

President Bridges called the meeting to order at 10:00 with a thank you to Three Rivers for the delicious refreshments. A warm welcome was given to any visitors Cristin Warden and her mother Gail Sharber. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Stanley Boulee followed by inspirational words from our Chaplain, Ann Bradfield.

Joy Puckett introduced Cristin Warden who presented an excellent program on how the organization Empowered Elegance helps young women have a successful prom experience. Last year more than 40 young women were fully dressed for their coming proms. Donations can be made to Restoration Rome by February 8 for this prom season.

The minutes of our November 7 meeting were approved as corrected. **Officer's Reports**

Presidents' reports are due February 15 and Anita will be glad to assist if there are questions about the new streamlined process. The State is also asking that no memberships forms be sent in yet as a new software is being prepared for use. The **Treasurer's report was made by Caroline Alford and a copy is attached** to the

President Bridges reported for Joy Puckett on the Community Education Program. This project alternates years with the Day in May celebration. Selena Tilly will be presenting on the role of the rivers in Rome on March 21st at the Civic Center. Cheryl Melton reported on the Two-Year Project at the Clock Tower. 25 people participated at the last clean-up day and all clubs are encouraged to have their members attend. A conversation will be held with the city over the possibility of handrails being installed on the steps. The next clean-up is February 29th at 9:00.

Committee Reports

Jennifer Kearns reported for Environmental Concerns on the book **Nature's Best Hope** by Douglas Tallamy as an excellent reference. We were encouraged to feed the birds during winter and also scan our yards for invasive plants.

Jan Mendence reported for Ways and Means with a big thanks to all who sold and **bought Bussey's cards to support our fundraising endeavors.**

Unfinished Business

A vote was made to approve the proposed changes in the wording of Article V Election of Officers in our By-Laws. This was approved and returned the language to what it was before when an incorrect change was made. Other changes were just modest corrections and did not need to be read. A copy of the changes is attached to the minutes. President Bridges thanked Mary Rolan and Cindy Smith for all their efforts on this.

President Bridges reminded us of the following Calendar events

February 16 – Arbor Day, 1 pm, Berry Trail

February 21– Capitol Conservation Day

March 5 – RFGC Meeting – **Dr. Gil Watson** “Easter is the Burst”

March 21—Community Education Program, Civic Center, 9:30

April 16-17—State Convention



"INDIAN TRAIL TREES"

What: Community Education Program—

Everyone is welcome

Where: Rome Civic Center, Jackson Hill

Who: DAN ROPER, Presenter

When: March 21, 2024

Refreshments: 9:30 a.m.

Program: 10:00 a.m.

Sponsored by The Rome Federated Garden Clubs



2024 Convention Registration Form

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. • 96th Annual Convention

Bloomin' In the Heart of Georgia

April 16-17, 2024 • Crown Plaza Atlanta SW, Peachtree City

Last Name _____ First Name _____
 Badge Name Preference _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____
 Club Name _____ District _____

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- State President
- Member
- Guest
- Voting Delegate **
- My First GCG Convention
- Club President
- District Director
- District Board Member
- Council President
- Former State President
- State Board Member
- State Life Member
- Former Deep South Director
- Deep South Board Member
- Deep South Life Member
- Former National President
- National Board Member
- National Life Member

THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO REGISTER

PACKAGE PLAN Includes Registration Fee, Tuesday Luncheon, Workshops, Awards Banquet, and Wednesday Luncheon and Post Convention Designers' Challenge.
PACKAGE PLAN TOTAL \$202 \$ _____

PART-TIME PLAN: No extra fee for workshops

- Tuesday Opening Luncheon \$49 \$ _____
- Tuesday Awards Banquet \$64 \$ _____
- Wednesday Luncheon \$49 \$ _____

REGISTRATION FEE per day \$30 \$ _____
PART TIME PLAN TOTAL \$ _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION COST \$ _____
 Late Registration Fee (postmarked after March 31st) \$30 \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

****All GCG Board Members, GCG Life Members and one member from each club are Voting Delegates; please check Voting Delegate box if applicable.**

Special Dietary Needs:

Please Register for the Tuesday Workshops: (circle your choice per/session)

1st Session: Staci Catron **or** Jenny Cruse-Sanders

2nd Session: Moe Hemmings **or** Carleton Wood

Post Convention Designers' Challenge

(following Wednesday Luncheon)

YES, I will attend

NO, I am unable to attend

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 31, 2024

Make Check Payable to: **GCG 2024 CONVENTION**

Mail Check & Registration Form to: Rigby Duncan, 2800 Hunting Hill Lane, Decatur, GA 30033

rigbyduncan113@gmail.com - 404-321-1733 (home) - 678-644-9502 (cell)

No Refunds After April 1, 2024 • Registration Fee Not Refundable - No registrations accepted after April 7th

On-line registration with credit card payment will be available in January at gardenclubofgeorgia.org.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Crowne Plaza Atlanta SW Peachtree City

201 Aberdeen Parkway, Peachtree City, GA 30269 (470) 390-5690

\$139.00++ per night for King or 2 Queen room

To register: Contact IHG Reservations at 1-877-227-6963 and provide the specific dates, the GROUP NAME:

Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Annual Conference 2024 and GROUP CODE: GCG

Reservation Deadline for Group Rate: March 16, 2024

If you require handicap access, first register using the phone number above. Once you have your reservation number, call the Crowne Plaza hotel front desk agents at 770 487-2666 and request a room on the second floor closest to the restaurant.