

# Ripples from Three Rivers



## Rome, Georgia

August/September 2012

Three Rivers Garden Club

Brenda Harp, Editor

"Growing in Membership, Gardening in Our Community, Embracing Our Environment"

### *President's Press. . .*

Again, summer has seemed to pass by us as quickly as it possibly can. I hope that each of you has special memories of a very pleasant summer with traveling, gardening, and family get-togethers. It is now time for us to begin another fast paced year in the activities of Three Rivers Garden Club. During this summer, several members have been busy with Laurel District, Garden Club of Georgia and Deep South Region activities. Now that all of that is behind us, we must look to the future.

As I had the opportunity to visit different gardens this summer, I realized that a garden can be many things. To some it is merely a piece of ground used for growing weeds--no purpose, no plan, no harvest. I have some of those places in my own yard, do you? To others a garden is a beautiful place--moist, fertile soil, tall stately trees, healthy green plants and beautiful flowers of every color in the rainbow. I have some of those places in my own yard, do you? Truly our gardens are a haven of rest, a place to refresh our souls, a place to put

ourselves in touch with God and with nature. Our club can be such a place--a place to work to grow and cultivate our membership, a place to continue gardening in our community, and certainly a place to embrace our environment. We all have duties to do to make our cause and goals in Three Rivers Garden Club a continued reality.

As we begin the second year of this administration I must pause and say thank you to each of the executive committee members, committee chairmen, all our members, and a thank you for your support and cooperation. . . During the remainder of this administration, I thank you for the opportunity to serve you, and I look forward to the coming year in gardening. We have many interesting programs planned for this year and I appreciate Mary Louise for her diligence in planning our year.

Please know that I appreciate each of you and want to say, for all you do, THANK YOU as we are growing in membership, gardening in our community and embracing our environment.

## *September Meeting, Welcome Back...*

Three Rivers Garden Club will meet September 5, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. for coffee followed by the business meeting at 10 a.m. **Starr Helton** is the hostess, and **Jo Holder** and **Dean Guinn** will provide the ways and means item. **Starr** has invited the club to meet at **Rosehill at 312 E. Fourth Avenue, the home of her brother Wes Walraven.** **Pete Wilkerson**, Historical Landscaper and owner of Scapes, Atlanta, GA, will share information about historical gardens. A tour of the gardens and grounds will highlight the day.

A complete listing of programs for the year will be included in the new yearbook which will be given out at the September meeting. **Martha Joy Herndon** has been diligently working this summer to prepare a yearbook that will guide us through the year.

**Mary Louise Dixon** has planned a wonderful variety of programs for the year. A sneak preview shows programs on plant pounding, bald eagles, underwater floral designs, landscaping your yard, ferns, and hands-on making of floral designs. In April a trip is planned to go to the Greenhouses of The Fern Lady in Cedar Bluff, AL. The yearly Christmas auction and covered dish luncheon will be held in December as well as a special luncheon in May to end the year. Fun, fellowship, and learning for everyone!!!

## *Garden Spot Wins Award...*

It was announced at the Rome Federation meeting on Monday, August, 27, that Three Rivers Garden Spot won the first place award in the parks division and first place overall award. The judges' comments: very welcoming,

stunning window boxes, inviting, nice colors, and beautiful!!! Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to plant, prune, and water, and a special word of appreciation to **Wanda Mixon** who has worked so hard for a number of years as chairman.



Window boxes filled with winged begonias at Rome Visitors Center—Three Rivers Garden Spot.



Fall decorations from 2011 at Visitors Center

## *Cleaning Day at Garden Center...*

On Friday, August 24, several members of Three Rivers Garden Club met at the Garden Center to clean the inside and to spruce up the outside in preparation for the first Rome Federation meeting on Monday, August 27. **Sandra Norman** organized the activities. **Martha Joy Herndon** and **Anita Bridges** along with spouses **David Norman** and **Steve Harp** pruned, mulched, and cleaned the plants in the yard while **Jeanettia Rush** and **Brenda Harp** helped Sandra dust, mop, vacuum, etc.



Sandra Norman



Steve Harp  
Martha Joy Herndon

Sandra was also responsible for leading the committee which provided refreshments for the Federation meeting. **John Barnett** decorated the serving table with a lovely floral arrangement.

### *Membership. . .*

As the 2012-2013 year begins, we have 24 active members, 1 associate member, and 3 honorary members. The newest member is **Jeanettia Rush**. Prior to moving to Rome in 1989, Jeanettia and her husband Wayne and their three children lived in Topeka and Lawrence, Kansas. She was born near Paola, KS, and she received a degree in Dietetics and Institutional Management from Kansas State University. She worked as a registered dietitian for 18 years at Floyd Medical Center. Wayne worked at State Mutual Insurance Company. They both retired in 2006. They have two grandsons--Jack and Ryan.

Jeanettia grew up on a farm working in a large garden growing both vegetables and flowers. She still enjoys doing both. One of her fondest memories is her grandmother's beautiful iris row which she cheerfully shared with anyone who stopped to admire them. Some descendants of those irises are currently growing in her yard.

Wayne and Jeanettia inherited the farm where she grew up. Many of the shrubs and trees remain from when she was a little girl. One

very special plant in the yard is a small white rose bush which was brought to Kansas in a covered wagon in the late 1850's when her great-great grandparents patented the farm (prior to the Homestead Act of 1862). That little rose bush still has a few small blossoms every year.

It is evident that Jeanettia's love of gardening will make her a great asset to Three Rivers. Note that she was also one of the "cleaners" at the garden center. Welcome, Jeanettia!

### *Officer/Committee Changes. . .*

Two changes for the officers and committee chairmen for 2012-2013 have been made. **Anita Bridges** will replace **Barb Littlefield** as recording secretary. **Sue Crist** will take over as Civic Improvements Chairman following the resignation of **Wanda Mixon**. The club appreciates these ladies' willingness to take on the responsibilities of these positions. Many thanks to Barb and Wanda for their past service!



### *National Garden Week. . .*

Rome Federation celebrated National Garden Week on June 3-9. Two windows at the rear of the Rome History Museum were decorated with displays showing some of the many activities of the various clubs. The large window in front of the museum gift shop was filled with items showcasing the work of the Federation. Signs were placed at each club's garden spot in recognition of the special week.

## *Dates and Duties. . .*

September 5 meeting—Hostess: Starr Helton—  
Ways and Means—Jo Holder and Dean Guinn

September 7-9—Yellow Daisy Flower Show in  
Stone Mountain, GA

September 30—Coosa Valley Fair Set-up for  
horticulture show

Month of September--Watering at Visitors  
Center—Linda Evans, Vicki Blankenship,  
Wanda Michael, and John Barnett

October 3 meeting—Hostesses and Ways and  
Means—Sue Alford and Martha Joy Herndon

October 2-6—Coosa Valley Fair Horticulture  
Show—pick up plants on October 7

October 15—Yearbook deadline

Month of October—Watering at Visitors  
Center—Sandra Norman, Jo Holder, Dean  
Guinn, and Jeanettia Rush

## *Websites. . .*

Be sure to visit the following sites:  
[www.3riversgardenclub.com](http://www.3riversgardenclub.com)  
[www.romefederatedgardenclub.com](http://www.romefederatedgardenclub.com)  
[www.laureldistrict.org](http://www.laureldistrict.org)  
[www.uga.edu/gardenclub](http://www.uga.edu/gardenclub)  
[www.dsregion.org](http://www.dsregion.org)  
[www.gardenclub](http://www.gardenclub)

## *Themes and Projects. . .*

Shirley S. Nicolai, President, National Garden Club  
Theme: “Proudly Serving Our Members and  
Communities”

Sara Lanier, Director, Deep South  
“Membership Offers Opportunities For Everyone”

Caroline Silcox, President, GCG, Inc.  
Theme: “Our Garden of Georgia”

**Mary Ellen Roos, Laurel District Director**  
Theme: “Stop and Smell the Flowers”

Jackie Fulmer, Rome Federation President  
Theme: “Honoring Our Past – Caring for Our  
Present – Ensuring Our Future”

**John Barnett, Three Rivers President**  
Theme: “Growing in Membership, Gardening in  
Our Community, Embracing our Environment”