

# Ripples from Three Rivers



## Rome, Georgia

*November 2012*

*Three Rivers Garden Club*

*Brenda Harp, Editor*

*“Growing in Membership, Gardening in Our Community, Embracing Our Environment”*

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

As I have posted on Facebook each day this month of the things I am thankful for, I must always be thankful for the many friends I have in Three Rivers Garden Club. We have truly started out this new garden club year with a bang. It was a total surprise to those of us at Laurel District Annual Fall Meeting when it was announced that we had received the Garden Club of the Year in Laurel District and was just another reason I am proud to be your president. Thank you all so much for your continued support to this president. You are so awesome and wonderful and you are to be congratulated for all the accolades we have received from our local Federation to National Garden Clubs.

As the weather has turned from summer to fall and into winter, I look forward to the remaining months of this administration. I say without hesitation that Three Rivers Garden Club is the most active and most supportive of not only our own projects but the projects from our state, Deep South and National Garden Clubs. I encourage each of us to continue to

support the projects set before us and make this year the best year yet! The many things we have accomplished are not made by just one or two folks, but all the members working together. I am looking forward to the three Conventions (GCG, DSR and NGC) when Three Rivers Garden Club will surely shine again.

In the coming months we will join with other clubs in decorating The Rome Area History Museum, the wreaths that were done for The Cancer Center, working together to make The Convention Center the talk of the town especially during the NAIA Football Bowl and the list goes on and on. Thank you again for your support and cooperation in all we do.

My wife, Kay, and I would like to wish each of you a very Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas.

John Barnett

## *Laurel District's Club of the Year. . .*

Three Rivers Garden Club was awarded Laurel District's Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.'s Garden Club of the Year at the Laurel District Annual Fall Meeting in Gainesville, Georgia on Wednesday, October 24, 2012. Georgia's First Lady, Mrs. Sandra Deal, is pictured with Diane Harbin, John Barnett (president) and Georgia Burns. Congratulations to **THREE RIVERS GARDEN CLUB** and its **MEMBERS**.



properly so that you will obtain many feet of branches which will produce female flowers and increase your yield. In some cases hand pollination is necessary. Using a tiny artists' brush to transfer the pollen to the female fruited blossom is a common method.

There are various means used to train gourds in order to alter the shape. For a gourd that is flat on four sides, use a plexiglass mold. Jars may also be used for round gourds. Other methods used for various shapes are growing them on a trellis, rope training, and tying a knot. Gourds make wonderful containers for flowers and beautiful decorative items especially when painted.



## *October Meeting. . .*



At the October meeting of Three Rivers Garden Club, Brenda Green, owner of Greenroe Farm Daylilies, shared her knowledge of gourds, which was passed to her by her grandfather. She is a member of Cedar Bluff Garden Club.

Brenda brought a number of examples of different types of gourds as shown in the pictures below. She explained that there are hardshell gourds and ornamental ones. Gourds need to be pruned



## *November Meeting. . .*

Dr. Richard Dixon presented the program at the November meeting. Photo Archiving is one of NGC's Special Projects for this administration. As a part of this emphasis, a Power Point slide show of pictures taken by Dr. Dixon was shown illustrating different techniques which may be used to produce different types of pictures. Excellent examples of lighting, backgrounds, scope of the pictures, etc. were used. A series of pictures of the same subject was used to show changes over a period of time.

As the club's "unofficial photographer," Richard has contributed countless pictures to help document the projects and events sponsored by Three Rivers. Many thanks to him for all he does to help Three Rivers as well as Rome Federated Garden Clubs.



Photo by Linda Dean

## December Meeting . . .



Three Rivers Garden Club will meet on December 5 at Barbara Littlefield's Home at 23 Nicklaus Drive for its annual Christmas luncheon and auction. Co-hostesses will be Wanda Michaels, Winnie Holland, Cathy Carter, and Brenda Harp. Members will be helping Barb decorate her home for the season.

Members are asked to bring baked goods, gifts, and craft items to be auctioned. This is a major source of Ways and Means for the club, so come prepared to bid generously.



The following members have signed up to help with the luncheon by bringing the following items:

Meats—Wanda Michael, Winnie Holland

Vegetables—Linda Evans, Mary Louise Dixon, Sandra Norman, and John Barnett

Salads—Cathy Carter, Virginia Latham, Dean Quinn, Ginna Wise, Starr Helton

Bread—Diane Harbin, Wanda Mixon, Jo Holder

Desserts—Linda Dean, Anita Bridges, Brenda Harp

Drinks—Sue Alford, Martha Joy Herndon

If you plan to attend, or if you plan to invite a guest, and you did not sign up at the last meeting, call or email Brenda Harp or Barb Littlefield.

## Horticulture Tip . . .

### THINK OUTSIDE THE WINDOW BOX

By Winnie Holland



#### Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Window Box

It requires more than a few red geraniums; (Leader)

**It demands the same design and attention to details as any other container garden.** (In Unison)

A window box is a Mini Garden.

**A window box is a box of color.**

A window box is a box of good soil.

**A window box is a box with good drainage.**

A window box is a box of architecture and color palette in mind.

**A window box is a box with quality soil plus potting mix.**

A window box is a box with a good liner.

**A window box is a blooming box of love.**

A window box is a box with generous holes.

**A window box is a box with a recipe for beauty.**

A window box is a box with dwarf spruce.

**A window box is a box of violas, pansies, red chidori, ornamental kale, golden creeping jenny, and English ivy.**

A window box is a box with autumn color.

**Therefore, this box demands work, fun, joy, and relaxing fun to enjoy.**

Think Outside the Window Box.

**Thirteen ways of looking at a window box.**

### *Membership. . .*

Welcome to our newest member, Virginia Latham. Jinx joined at our October meeting after being invited to attend by Linda Evans.

We regret that Sue Crist has had to resign as a member of Three Rivers. She will be spending extended periods of time in Pinehurst, N.C., as she fulfills her new duties with the USGA and the 2014 U.S. Open. Sue is a past president of Three Rivers having served 1993-1996. Thank you, Sue, for your willingness to give horticulture talks, programs, etc. at our meetings and to work in many other capacities. We wish you the best in this new venture!

Remember to invite prospective members to our Christmas luncheon and auction.

### *Favorite and Unusual Houseplants. . .*

John Barnett's favorite house plant is a Queen of the Night. Blooming only one time a year, this plant expects you to wait on it to bloom. There appears to be no way to force it to bloom. The plant has one bloom per year and it only blooms that one time at night, usually between midnight and 2:00 am. It may take several nights watching it before it actually opens. And when the bloom opens finally, what a most beautiful flower she shares! A most awesome and unique plant.

Begonias seem to be a favorite houseplant for several members. Mary Louise Dixon enjoys her

beefsteak begonia, and Barb Littlefield has an angel wing begonia in her kitchen that she describes as "perky."

As the holiday season approaches, the Christmas cactus is loved by many including Ginny D'Ambrosio.

### *Dates and Duties. . .*

Watering at the Visitors Center:  
November—Anita Bridges, Linda Dean, Starr Helton, and Winnie Holland  
December—Brenda Harp, Ginny D'Ambrosio, Vickie Blankenship, and Georgia Burns  
Plant at the Library—November 19-Dec. 2  
Award Applications—December 1

### *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**"