

Petal Pusher

UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meeting

Monday, April 27, 2026
Messiah Lutheran Church
9:15 AM Meet and Greet
10:00 AM Membership Meeting and Luncheon - Meet and Greet Committee Chairs

*To attend, register on-line:
www.landingsgardenclub.com

April Buzz By...

Thursday, April 23, 2026
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
BYOB and appetizer to share
Martha Nesmith's Home
21 Cabbage Crossing

Have a Great Summer!



Beautification, Conservation, Education

President's Message

As we approach the final month of our 2025-2026 year, it's hard to believe how quickly this year has gone by. It feels like just last week when I met with committee chairs to gather calendar events, plan our speakers, and redesign our yearbook. Our members contributed valuable insights into what they wanted, and I hope you feel that this has been a remarkable year. The Board of Directors collaborated with fantastic ideas, and through hard work and mutual respect, we enjoyed every moment together (I hope).

When I initially accepted the position of Vice President, I was hesitant about committing to a total of four years – two years as VP and two years as President. However, thanks to the dedicated Board of Directors and support from our members, the past three years have flown by. The success of this club is a direct reflection of everyone's efforts. I am truly inspired by this, and I encourage each of you to consider stepping up to serve on the Board; it is a genuinely rewarding position.

Our final meeting on April 27, will celebrate and reflect on our achievements over the past year. Committee chairs will present their goals and objectives to help you find the committee that suits you best. Many members engage with two or three committees, enjoying camaraderie and friendship while contributing to the club and our community.

A few of us have been organizing an online auction to welcome Springtime in Savannah. Many local businesses have generously donated goods and services, while several talented club members have contributed their artwork. The auction will go live on April 17th at 7:00 AM and will close on April 26th at 3:00 PM. This event is open to everyone, not just LGC members. If you're fortunate enough to place the highest bid, you will receive an email with payment instructions and details on how to pick up your item.

Below is the QR code or hyperlink to review the auction items:

<https://www.32auctions.com/LGCspringtime2026>

LET THE
BIDDING
BEGIN!



I look forward to seeing you all at our Annual Year-End Meeting and Celebration Luncheon on April 27th.

Warm regards,
Gayle



You Are Cordially Invited To...

THE LANDINGS GARDEN CLUB
ANNUAL MEETING & CELEBRATION
LUNCHEON

MONDAY APRIL 27, 2026
10:00 am - 11:30 am
MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH - 1 WEST RIDGE ROAD

Join us for a delightful morning where you'll have the opportunity to meet our Committee Chairs and explore how you can get involved with your club. Lunch will be included for \$20.00 per person.

Lunch Menu

Salad Bar with all the fixings
Selection of Hot Soups
Chicken Salad & Ham Croissants
Homemade Desserts by LGC



THE LANDINGS GARDEN CLUB

Committees Serve as the Foundation of Our Club

Awards
Bethesda Gardening
Birds and Conservation
Civic Beautification
Container Gardens
Floral Design
Holiday Gate Decorations
Horticulture
Hospitality
Membership

Newsletter
Programs
Publicity
Serenity Garden
Skidaway Farm Project
Social Media & Webs
Sparrow Field
Village Library
Ways & Means / Fundraising
Yearbook

Find the committee that is right for you!

At the upcoming April meeting, each Committee Chair will have a designated table for you to explore and learn more about their respective committees.

Here's some of what you can expect to discover:

- **Committee's Mission and Objectives**
- **Time Commitment:** Is it for the full year, monthly, or seasonal?
- **Physical Requirements:** Will it require dirty hands or clean hands?
- **Membership Needs:** How many members are essential for the committee's success?

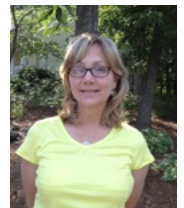
We are a working club and committee involvement is required for active membership

Welcome

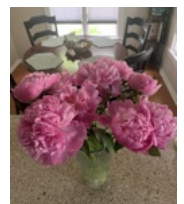
MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER!

Holly Kalbach

Holly Kalbach resides in Marshwood, close to Priest Landing Marina, and has been an integral part of the community since February 2020. Her passion for gardening began at the age of 21 while she worked at Pike Nurseries in Atlanta. There she gained invaluable knowledge in plant propagation, care, and the basic principles of gardening from seasoned professionals.



Her initial garden took shape at her home in Suwanee, GA, where she dedicated 15 years to continuously learning and expanding her plant collection—often bringing home new plants from her job at Lowe's. Witnessing the growth and proliferation of small plants, such as azaleas and perennials, continues to provide her with those "wow" moments.



For Holly, gardening offers a profound sense of fulfillment. Although peonies have kept her humble, deer have tested her patience. What once seemed charming has transformed into a greater challenge here in The Landings.

Serenity Garden

Submitted by Martha Nesmith

Our latest trip to the garden focused on further pruning and clearing away Live Oak leaves. We noticed signs of growth on several plants we had pruned earlier, but recovery will require a few more months of warm weather and sunshine. The Snapdragons have shown their resilience, continuing to bloom and bring a vibrant splash of color... hooray!



In her article "Inside Your Garden," published in the Spring 2026 edition of 'Garden Gateways', Jayne Rogers offered a delightful tribute to the Serenity Garden. She highlighted the lovely green plantings that provide structure to the space, which includes a pathway leading to a seating area just beyond a small bridge. A serene waterway and a small pond with koi complete this welcoming garden. Imagine the many individuals who can find moments of peace and healing in this well-tended garden. The women who dedicate themselves to its care also share in the joy it brings.

If you haven't had the chance yet, we warmly invite you to discover this beautiful garden, designed for those seeking a serene space for reflection. Situated at the Anderson Cancer Institute on the Memorial Hospital Campus, the garden is conveniently accessible and inviting to everyone who wishes to enjoy its splendor.

Community Service

Submitted by Georgia Klautzer

IT'S AMBITIOUS APRIL!

We're excited to kick off "Ambitious April," a month dedicated to collecting various leisure items approved by Georgia Regional Hospital Savannah. Collection bins will be available at our meeting on April 27th, so let's fill them to the brim with generous donations!

As you begin your spring cleaning, please consider setting aside the following items for our Ambitious April donations:

- **Children's books, especially those aimed at early readers**
- DVD movies
- Fitness DVDs
- Arts and crafts supplies, including glue sticks, glitter, stencils, crayons, paints, and markers
- Board games, card games, and playing cards
- Game consoles, along with Wii and PS3 games
- Radios, MP3 players, and headphones
- Basketballs, footballs, and volleyballs
- Bocce balls, tennis equipment, and other exercise gear
- Musical instruments
- Monetary donations to purchase decaf coffee and hot cocoa



We and the patients of Georgia Regional Hospital deeply appreciate your support!

THANK YOU!

Skidaway Farm Submitted by Phyllis Aaron



Spring has arrived, and everything is thriving at Skidaway Farms, including the weeds! In the next couple of weeks, we will be weeding the garden and checking the soil temperature. As soon as it surpasses 65 degrees, we can kick off our spring planting.

This season, our planting list includes: Regular tomatoes, Cherry tomatoes, Cucumbers, Peppers, Squash, and Okra. Additionally, we will explore several other plant options once we visit the garden nursery.

A heartfelt thanks to everyone who collaborates to make our garden a success. If anyone is interested in joining this group, please reach out to Phyllis Aaron.



The Garden Club of Georgia



Let's Celebrate America's 250th Birthday
in True Georgia Style!



PLANT RED WHITE AND BLUE

Now is the perfect time to start planning your patriotic garden in honor of America's 250th Birthday! Order your plants, seeds, and bulbs that showcase our national colors, and design a vibrant Americana garden for your yard or community space. Decorate with flags, banners, and birdhouses—let your imagination run free!



The Garden Club of Georgia intends to capture photos of your Red, White, and Blue gardens and create a large collage.

Please send your patriotic garden photos to: Nilsa.summey@yahoo.com
or mail them to: Nilsa Summey, PO Box 484, Fortson, GA 31808-0484

Include with your photos the following:

- Subject Line - PLANT AMERICA / GA 03-465 (our club number)
- Include the location of your garden photo (i.e., City, park name, street name)
Do Not include an address number - keep it general
- Please include your contact information (name, phone, email)

Let's Showcase How Georgians Celebrate!

We would be thrilled to have everyone from our club get involved.

Please inform Vicki Menke about your plans so we can work together to showcase America and The Landings Garden Club.



Highlights from GCG 2026 Convention

Submitted by Vicki Menke



The Garden Club of Georgia 98th Convention

I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Garden Club of Georgia's 98th Convention, which took place in Peachtree City from April 1 to 3. The venue was ideal for gardening enthusiasts, featuring a beautiful woodland setting alongside a small lake, enhanced further by the azaleas that were in full bloom.

Each year, different districts take turns hosting this annual event, and this time it was The Magnolia District's responsibility. They did an outstanding job with decorations, showcasing stunning flower arrangements, while several vendors set up booths offering a variety of garden-themed items. Overall, it was two days filled with information, enjoyment, and camaraderie with fellow garden clubs from across the state.

The convention featured an engaging lineup of speakers, one of whom I particularly enjoyed: Kathleen Kennedy, Executive Director of Concrete Jungle. This non-profit organization is committed to providing fresh fruits and vegetables to food-insecure communities throughout Georgia, effectively combating hunger. Their impact is made possible through the collaboration of volunteers, donors, tree and orchard owners, farmers, and partner organizations. For more details about their mission and how to get involved, visit their website: concrete-jungle.org.

The highly anticipated awards night occurred on Tuesday evening, attended by our state President, Donna Hunter, along with most of the GCG Board and District Managers. Notably, the National Garden Club President, Donna Donnelly, was also present. An avid gardener and retired nurse from South Carolina, she added to the evening's charm.

For many years, clubs with over 99 members were judged separately from larger clubs, which worked to our advantage as there were few competitors in that category, allowing us to consistently win first place. However, this year, the definition of a large club changed to include those with 51 or more members, creating a competitive environment with many active clubs. Despite this shift, our club performed very well, and I was proud to accept the following awards on behalf of our team. These achievements are a testament to everyone's hard work and dedication.

Garden Club of Georgia - Landings Garden Club 2026 Awards

1st Place

Award 14: Horticulture Achievement

Award 37: Publications Award - over 24 pages, our monthly newsletter



2nd Place

Award 16: Yearbook Award

Award 19: Large Club - Vicki and Gayles presentation on Medicinal Gardens

Award 50: Gardening Award

Award 51: Butterfly Conservation Award - Sparrow Field

3rd Place: DVD/CD/Flash Power Point Award

Deep South Region Awards - 7 States Compete in this regional award

2nd Place: Horticulture Achievement Award

SAVE THE DATE...

Next year, the 99th Convention is scheduled for March 30 to April 1, 2027. This event will be hosted by the Laurel District in North Georgia and will feature a Georgia Style Garden Party, highlighting Southern hospitality at its finest.

2026 Award of Merit

Submitted by Lisa Hall and Vicki Menke



The Garden Club of Georgia Award of Merit – Skidaway Audubon



Congratulations to Skidaway Audubon! This year's recipient of The Garden Club of Georgia (GCG) Award of Merit.

The Award of Merit, Award #9, is the highest honor granted to non-members by GCG, recognizing an individual or group for exceptional service or achievements of significant impact in civic beautification, horticulture, conservation, and related community activities. During the April convention, a gold medallion and certificate were presented to Dawn Cordo, President of Skidaway Audubon and member of The Landings Garden Club, by former Landings Garden Club member, Stephanie Corley.

Founded in 2007, Skidaway Audubon has demonstrated strong leadership and support for environmental initiatives, forging impactful community-wide projects in collaboration with various organizations on Skidaway Island and within The Landings community. In 1998, The Landings Club Board took decisive steps to enhance the condition and maintenance of its six golf courses by pursuing certification as Audubon Cooperative Environmental Sanctuaries.

As The Landings Club advanced through the Audubon certification program, it became clear that this represented a chance to engage the broader community on environmental topics. Consequently, the program expanded to encompass both The Landings Club and The Landings community. The committee then achieved not-for-profit status and officially became Skidaway Audubon, affiliated with Audubon International. This collaborative effort has yielded great success, as Skidaway Audubon has provided guidance and support for The Landings Club's programs while launching new initiatives for the community, with strong cooperation from The Landings Association.

Some of their numerous programs and projects include:

- The Bottle Brigade - helps keep the island litter free
- Skidaway Farm - community garden providing fresh vegetables for less fortunate
- Chinese Tallow Trees - removal of these invasive trees
- Diamond Back Terrapin Rescue - nesting and release program for turtles
- Dave Scott Blue Bird Trail - Bluebird nesting boxes throughout the community
- Skidaway Weather Stations and Water Conservation
- Pollinator Berm at Sparrow Field - volunteers welcome every Friday morning
- Chimney Cove - provides safe and suitable nesting for Chimney Swifts
- Landings Bird Cam - streams nesting raptors 24/7
- Bat Houses - helps control insects

2026 GCG Award of Merit-pg.2

Celebrating Skidaway Audubon...

Through Skidaway Audubon's unwavering commitment to enhancing and conserving our island's environment and natural resources, we are building momentum for even greater achievements. Our governing bodies in The Landings, alongside the wider community, benefit from the support of numerous dedicated volunteers and skilled staff who work tirelessly to meet our island's needs. Residents take pride in being part of a vibrant environmental stewardship program. Thanks to Skidaway Audubon's mission, we are safeguarding our island and its natural resources for everyone to enjoy for many years to come.

Congratulations to Skidaway Audubon, and a heartfelt thank you to Dawn Cordo for graciously accepting this award on their behalf.



**Special appreciation to Vicki Menke for nominating Skidaway Audubon for this award and for contributing this article for the newsletter.*

If you'd like to learn more about Skidaway Audubon, please visit their website: <http://skidawayaudubon.org>

We wanted to share a nice follow up note from Sarah Porter, Gray's Reef Foundation...



Hello!

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak to the Landings Garden Club. I truly enjoyed meeting you all and sharing more about our work and Gray's Reef. I wanted to send over a few follow up items, to share with your members.

To learn more about the Gray's Reef Foundation, visit our website: graysreeffoundation.org. We also help operate the free Ocean Discovery Center on MLK Blvd, and are currently open Tuesday - Friday. We would also be happy to host you all and give your Club a special tour!

We recently produced a short three minute video about protecting the endangered North Atlantic right whale, and installing a station on Wassaw Island last summer. I tried to show it during the presentation, so I wanted to send it over. I think it gives a great overview of how these AIS stations work and how they are protecting whales from ship strikes.

Please feel free to share my contact information. Hope to stay in touch and work together! Thank you again for the support.

*All my best,
Sarah*

*Sarah Porter (she/her/hers)
Chapter Director, Gray's Reef
(ph) 301.754.6890*

Arbor Day Observation and Rededication



On Skidaway Island, a once-majestic Liberty Oak stood proudly, adorned with a significant brass plaque honoring those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. However, upon closer inspection, it became evident that the tree was in decline, as large green spheres of mistletoe enveloped much of its canopy and branches. Meg Schreck, a member of the Landings Garden Club, informed me about this tree that deserved some attention and recognition. Its remote location did not do justice to the tribute it represented, leading me to explore options for a new commemorative tree in a more visible area.

In collaboration with the President of the Landings Garden Club, we reached out to The Landings Association (TLA), which manages the community's natural spaces. With a population of 9,000 residents, our community thrives on gardening, fishing, birdwatching, and enjoying the numerous bicycle and pedestrian trails. Unfortunately, TLA had struggled to eradicate the invasive mistletoe, which ultimately jeopardized the tree's health, necessitating its removal. Fortunately, a garden club member expressed her wish to be present during the tree's removal and requested the commemorative plaque once the arborist completed the task. TLA agreed to assist in finding a more suitable location for a new tree and supporting its dedication.

Thanks to generous funding from TLA and the involvement of our on-site naturalists and landscape superintendent, we chose a *Magnolia soulangiana* (saucer Magnolia), celebrated for its distinctive cup-shaped blossoms. These stunning blooms showcase a captivating blend of wine and pink hues, making it an ideal choice for our island's climate and the foraging habits of local deer. This unique Magnolia is one of only two planted on Skidaway Island.



Together, we identified a prominent spot for planting and re-dedicating our new tree. The Magnolia now graces a spacious, lush triangular green area just inside The Landings Main Gate, where the traffic from Landings Way South and Landings Way North converges. It is sure to become a highlight for all who enter and exit, especially in spring when it bursts forth with beautiful pink blossoms.



The development of this tree species was supported by the Audubon Society in 1980 and is part of a collection of eight, all named after young girls. The tree planted in The Landings is aptly named "Ann," a lovely name that embodies grace and dignity, making it perfect for its purpose and location here on Skidaway. Other names in this group include Betty, Jane, Judy, Pinky, Randi, Ricki, and Susan.

Looking ahead, Arbor Day, which falls on the last Friday in April, will be a fitting occasion to rededicate this tree. The Garden Club will place the original marker, along with a new one, beside the Magnolia, "Ann." We remain thankful to the Association and everyone who contributed to preserving and maintaining this beautiful tree. Indeed, all trees symbolize eternal renewal and optimism.

Birds and Conservation

Submitted by Sue Hamlet

SUPPORTING NATIVE BEES

In the humid, salt kissed air of coastal Georgia, gardeners have a opportunity to act as stewards for some of nature's hardest workers. While honeybees often steal the spotlight, Georgia is actually home to over 500 species of native bees - including the metallic green sweat bee, the robust bumble bee, and the industrious "Georgia Apple Bee" (*Andrena cratagegi*).



Unlike honey bees, most of our natives are solitary and don't live in hives. This makes them more vulnerable to habitat loss, but also easier to support in a backyard setting. Here is how you can turn your coastal landscape into a native bee sanctuary.

1. Plant for Every Season

Coastal Georgia's long growing season means bees are active for much of the year. To support them, you need a "bloom buffet" that spans from the first warm days of February through the cooling breezes of November.

- **Spring (The Kickoff):** Early bloomers like Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) and Blueberry (*Vaccinium* sp.) provide critical energy for queen bees emerging from winter.
- **Summer (The Peak):** Native perennials like Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), Black-Eyed Susans, and Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) thrive in the coastal heat and provide high-protein pollen.
- **Fall (The Final Push):** Coastal Georgia shines in autumn. Plant Goldenrod (*Solidago*) and Asters to help bees stock up for winter.

Pro Tip: Plant in "drifts". Bees prefer to forage in large clumps of the same flower (at least 3x3 feet) rather than searching for single, scattered blossoms.

2. Rethink Your "Garden Clean-up"

For a native bee, a perfect lawn is a desert. Many of our local species nest in the very things we rake up or throw away.

- **Leave the Leaves:** Many bees overwinter in leaf litter. Instead of bagging leaves, mulch them into your flower bed or leave a thin layer in wooded corners.
- **Save the stems:** About 30% of native bees nest in hollow or pithy stems. When pruning in the fall, leave 8-24 inches of flower stalks standing. These serve as natural "bee hotels" for the next generation.
- **Keep Bare Ground:** Roughly 70% of native bees are ground-nesters. They need access to patches of bare, undisturbed soil to dig their tiny burrows. If your entire yard is covered in thick turf or heavy wood mulch, they can't find a home.

3. Establish Water and Mineral Stations

Bees need water, but they are clumsy swimmers. In our sandy coastal soils, water can disappear quickly. Create a "bee bath" by filling a shallow saucer with water and adding several landing stones or marbles that peek above the surface. This allows bees to land and drink safely without the risk of drowning.

4. Skip the "Cides"

Pesticides and herbicides are the leading threats to native bee populations. Even "organic" sprays can be toxic to bees if applied while they are foraging.

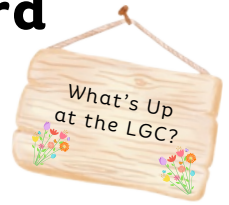
- **Integrated Pest Management (IPM):** Focus on healthy soil and diverse plantings to naturally reduce pests.
- **Timing Matters:** If you must treat a plant, apply it in the late evening after the sun goes down and bees have returned to their nests.

By making these small adjustments, you aren't just growing a garden; you're anchoring a local ecosystem, and ensuring the "right" bees - the ones living in Coastal Georgia for millennia - continue to thrive.



The Landings Garden Club - Community Board

This and That, Tidbits of Interest...



It's Time Again to "Buzz By"
April 23: 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Martha Nesmith's Home
21 Cabbage Crossing
BYOB and Appetizer to Share

HOME
landingsgardenclub.com

Fundraising - Beth Weathers

The Fundraising Committee is diligently preparing for another successful year. We are thrilled to reintroduce some familiar favorites while also adding new additions to the mix. We look forward to welcoming both new and returning volunteers as we collaborate to create something truly magical!

Bethesda Beautification - Kathy Collura

We are preparing for a bustling spring at the Bethesda campus. A significant portion of Bethesda's operating income is derived from rental fees for hosting external events, including private parties and weddings. Our objective is to plant and care for landscapes and feature plantings in the areas that Bethesda often rents out. We gather on the first Thursday of each month from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Please come join us!

Membership Update - Donna Slappey and Angie Stewart

Our recent brunch for new members was a success, with around 26 attendees. The delicious food was generously provided by Angie Stewart, Pam Patterson, Phyllis Aaron, Martha Nesmith, and Gayle Ridgway. Each new member received a pair of gardening gloves as a warm welcome gift from the club. We also discussed details for the April Meeting and Luncheon to ensure everyone is prepared for our upcoming event.



To Bowdacious Maggie!
With Fond Remembrance

Thank you for your generous spirit and devotion to making sure the special Holiday Bow Project was an overwhelming success for The Landings Garden Club!

Those of us who toiled at your diningroom table, on those lovely afternoons, will forever be grateful for your hospitality and cheerful guidance. Winding ribbon and wine were always in careful abundance. You always made sure Roy packed the precious efforts in countless storage tubs. Your leadership in carefully labeling and safely storing the newly made bows will fondly be remembered.

With affection, The Landings Garden Club



Submitted by Pat Barry in loving memory of Maggie Richards, LGC Member 2013 - 2025

Hospitality

Submitted by Jen Johnson

As a reminder if your last name starts with the letter T - W, Please bring DESSERT to the April *-Yum!* Meeting and Luncheon.

Contributions for General Meeting Social Hour

Members with the last names listed below are asked to bring goodies for the General Meeting Social Hour:

- **E - H: January 26 Meeting**
- **I - M: February 23 Meeting**
- **N - S: March 23 Meeting**
- **T - W: April 27 Meeting & Luncheon**



Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Martha Nesmith

TREASURER'S REPORT MARCH 2026					
		OPERATIONS		WAYS & MEANS	
BEGINNING BALANCE		\$10,572.77		\$7,508.29	
DEPOSITS		\$714.00		\$0.00	
SUBTOTAL		\$11,286.77		\$7,508.29	
EXPENDITURES		\$616.18		\$8.00	
ACCOUNT BALANCE		\$10,670.59		\$7,500.29	
MINUS RESERVES	*	\$2,500.00		\$541.21	Hesse School Grant \$41.21 BAL
					Arbor Day Grant \$500
AVAILABLE BALANCE		\$8,170.59		\$6,959.08	
* Funds from Savings Acct set up at Club inception. Must remain a reserve.					
ACCOUNT BALANCE INCLUDES DEDUCTION FOR 2 CHECKS NOT YET CLEARED AT CHASE BANK					

The Landings Garden Club, General Membership Meeting Minutes:

March 23, 2026

Submitted by Barbara Martin - Coresponding Secretary

Welcome

Gayle Ridgway welcomed the membership and guests, briefly mentioned Stan Gray's River of Irises at the Coastal GA Botanical Gardens, and how to propagate African violets. Two new members were acknowledged, as well as two guests.

Meeting was called to order

Membership recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Mindfulness Reflection. There were no corrections or additions for the minutes of the February 23, 2026 meeting, so they were approved and accepted by the membership. No one opposed.

Treasurer's Report

Martha Nesmith said the Treasurer's Report, dated February 2026, was published in the March 2026 Petal Pusher. The club's fiscal year ends April 30th, 2026. Martha asked that all requests be sent to her using the provided reimbursement forms. Any purchases made after April 30th will come out of the next fiscal year (2026-2027).

Martha sent an email to the committee chairs asking them to submit budget requests for the upcoming year.

*There will be a luncheon at the April 27th Membership Meeting for a cost of \$20. Martha will accept checks, cash, or Zelle payments. The club has a Zelle account attached to the Landings Garden Club account at Chase Bank.

Bylaws

The bylaws, dated February 16, 2026, were published in the February 2026 Petal Pusher for the membership to review. Gayle asked for questions or comments. There were none. Martha Nesmith made a motion to accept the new bylaws, and Angie Stewart seconded the motion. Lisa Olson (Parliamentarian), asked that only active members vote by a show of hands. Lisa counted the hands, and the required two-thirds voted in favor. The February 16, 2026 bylaws were accepted.

Yearbook

Angie Stewart and Gayle discussed the 2025 - 2026 yearbook format will be used for the coming year with updated information. Alpha graphics will be doing the printing because of their advanced tech capabilities.

Gayle requested assistance with editing and proofreading. Sally Dunphy and Lisa Olson volunteered.

National Garden Club

This year's meeting will be at Peachtree City, April 1-3. Vicki Menke, past President, will be attending. Gayle will not be able to attend due to a conflict. Dawn Cordo will be there to accept an award on behalf of Skidaway Audubon.

Garden Club Live Auction - "Springtime in Savannah"

The auction will go live from April 17th at 7:00 am - April 26th at 3:00 pm. The auction continues to need items, and all the proceeds will go to the University of Georgia's Marine Extension Program for summertime classes for children. Gayle Ridgway and Pam Patterson are heading up the auction.

LGC Membership Meeting Minutes: March 23, pg. 2

Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD)

There will be a field trip to tour the backlot of SCAD, along with a luncheon (paid by SCAD) on April 8th. There will be 28 spaces available through Evite by email with a wait list after the slots are filled. We will meet at the Methodist church on the island and carpool to a location TBD.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Hospitality

Lee Collier thanked the members who brought food for the meeting. For the April meeting, members with the last names beginning with T through Z are asked to bring a dessert for the luncheon.

Fundraising

The committee will be selling 3,000 daffodils in packages of 12 for \$20 this coming fall. Starting in the summer, groups will begin making red bows for the Christmas season. It was determined by last season's sales that there continues to be a market for the bows.

Community Service

Georgia Klautzer requested donations of elementary reading level books be added to the list of donations for the residents of the Georgia Regional Hospital. (Requested items are listed in the current Petal Pusher.)

Birds and Conservation

Sue Hamlet gave the results of the bird counting challenge. Lisa Hall won the contest with a count of 24 birds. She will receive a \$50 gift certificate. The Merlin app was recommended because it will help you identify birds through their songs.

Membership

Gayle thanked Joni Brownstein, Donna Slappey, and Pam Patterson for hosting the new member's brunch at Donna's house. Approximately 25 people attended the event. Gayle stated that the membership drive is on-going and to continue to encourage people to join the club.

The next Buzz By will be at Martha Nesmith's house on April 23rd at 6:00 PM. The event is open to husbands and guests. Please bring an appetizer to share and your beverage of choice.

Horticulture

Kathy Jacobs referred to her article in the March Petal Pusher titled, Attracting Birds, Butterflies and other Wildlife to Your Garden, where she discussed how using native plants is key to attracting wildlife to your yard. She recommended Douglas Tallamy's book, Nature's Best Hope, A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard. Please see Kathy's article for more information.

Policy and Procedures

Gayle stated that the updated Policy and Procedures had passed unanimously at the March 16th Board of Directors meeting. Under Club Policies, a code of conduct (item H), and electronic voting and communication (item P) have been added. Please see the section of Policy and Procedures on the club's website for more information.

LGC Membership Meeting Minutes: March 23, pg. 3

Nomination of Officers

Barbara Martin, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of officers that were previously presented at the February meeting:

- President: Gayle asked if there were any nominations from the floor for President. There were none, so the nominations were closed with Gayle Ridgway being the nomination for President.
- Vice President: Gayle asked for nominations from the floor. Barbara Victor self-nominated. All approved, there were no other nominations, so the nominations were closed with Barbara Victor being the nomination for Vice President.
- For the offices of Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary, there were no nominations from the floor, so the nominations were closed with the following being nominated as follows:
 - Martha Nesmith the nomination for Treasurer.
 - Phyllis Aaron the nomination for Recording Secretary.
 - Barbara Martin the nomination for Corresponding Secretary.

Voting and installation of the officers will be at the April 27th meeting.

Donna Slappey pulled the tickets for the raffle, and Tammy Viviani and Patsy Bowden were the winners.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:45

Speaker

Barbara Victor introduced the speaker, Sarah Porter with Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary, Georgia's National Underwater Park.

Minutes submitted March 25th, 2026

Barbara Martin, Corresponding Secretary



The Landings Garden Club Mission

- To function as an educational organization interested in all phases of gardening and related subjects.
- To aid in the protection of forests, marshes, native plants, wildflowers and birds.
- To maintain membership in and coordinate club interests with those of The National Garden Clubs, Inc., The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., and The Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.



The Landings Garden Club
Is a Federated Club and a proud member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
The Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.
The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

