

Grand Strand Master Gardeners' *Monthly Newsletter*

January 2020



Grand Strand Master Gardeners Association
Horry and Georgetown Counties, South Carolina

January Meeting:

January 28 at 6:30 pm - Church of Christ Grand Strand
2212 Glens Bay Road
Surfside Beach, SC 29575

Program: Mack McKinnon from the Camelia Society
will be speaking about Camelia propagation

Program will be followed by refreshments and our business meeting.

Notes from our president: Mary Wilder

Happy New Year Everyone!

GSMGA had another successful year with many accomplishments in the community. We continued to serve several ongoing community projects.

The Huntington Beach Pollinator Garden was challenging at times, but definitely achieved our goal of attracting many pollinators. Dedicated master gardeners set up Plant Problem Clinics at the farmer markets and Inlet Square during the growing season, providing answers to gardeners' questions. This year we were responsible for 7 flower boxes at the Marshwalk and the Jettyview. Under the care of the master gardeners, the flower boxes are looking great. See the complete list of accomplishments for 2019 at the end of the newsletter. We can all be proud of our participation in the community.

Looking forward, we will be electing new officers and committee chairpersons for 2020 at our January meeting. Nominees are enthusiastic about leading GSMGA and some great ideas so I know we will be having another successful year. Thanks to all who stepped forward to serve on the board. All positions will be filled, given all the nominees who have stepped forward!

Nominees are as follows:

GSMGA Officers:

President.....Nanette Thomas,
Vice-president.....Liz Yamashita,
Secretary..... Gabriella Meeks
Treasurer..... Dee Braswell
Members at largeAlice Vivian and Sherri Kistemaker
Ex-Officio.....Mary Wilder

Committee chairpersons:

Communications.....Karen Nixon
Webmaster.....Al Ward
Facebook/Historian....Nancy Launi
Hospitality.....Pat Hiter
Membership.....Barbara Marshall
Programs.....Valerie Moliterno

Project managers:

Plant Problem Clinics.....Dee Braswell (Georgetown), Al Ward (Surfside)
JettyView/Marshwalk Flower boxes.....Alice Vivian, Kurt Cowles
Pollinator Garden.....Kurt Cowles, Mary Wilder

Other news:

Gabriella Dudley, who is now Gabriella Meeks since her marriage (congratulations Gabby!), has agreed to oversee the Spring fundraiser. We plan to have the same format as in the past – plant sale/garage sale, and the date will be Saturday, April 25th. So, start thinking plant propagation so we will have lots of plants to sell. We will be talking more about the details of the fundraiser at the upcoming meetings.

Reminder: Please continue to record your volunteer hours. By recording our hours, we document our participation in the master gardener program and our value in the Clemson Extension program. Contact Gary at gfrstr@clemson.edu or 843-234-7713 if you are having problems recording hours.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

There will be many volunteer opportunities in the coming months as the weather warms. We will have work days at the pollinator garden. The flower boxes at the Marshwalk and Jettyview will need attention. At the Waccamaw Library, we need to finish weeding and mulching the plant bed that we have taken on. As the work dates are determined they will be announced. Stay tuned!

I enjoyed working and learning with everyone this past year and I look forward to all the new opportunities to do in 2020. Thank you for the opportunity to serve GSMGA.

Hope to see you at the meeting!

Mary Wilder

GSMGA accomplishments during 2019:

- Staffed the Clemson Extension Plant Problem Clinics in Surfside Beach, Inlet Square Mall, and Georgetown
- Volunteered at the Camelia Show
- Staffed a master gardener table at the Brookgreen Plant Sale/Earth Day event
- Provided funds for Georgetown and Horry County 4-H Program to send children to summer camp
- Participated in SOS Healthcare “green” garden in Myrtle Beach
- Maintained 7 flower boxes at the Marshwalk and Jettyview in Murrells Inlet
- Continued to maintain and add plants to the Pollinator Garden at Huntington Beach State Park
- Provided outreach to the 2019 Master Gardener Class
- Maintained the GSMGA Facebook Page
- Maintain the GSMGA website
- Assisted students planting flower beds at the Earth Day Event at Lakewood Elementary
- Boone Hall Field trip
- Acquired a new Plant Problem Clinic banner
- Worked on the Waccamaw Library Community Landscaping Project
- Provided plant problem assistance at the Prestwick Garden Club
- Conducted GSMGA-approved Butterfly and Pollinator Open House at MG’s home
- Held Monthly meetings with speakers providing continuing education topics
- Registered HBSP Pollinator Garden as a Million Pollinator Garden
- Attended the State MG Conference at Saluda Shoals