

GAINESVILLE GARDEN CLUB

PRESIDENT' S REPORT

Gainesville Garden Club is in it's 98th year quickly becoming 100 years old in 2024. As many of you know we have a beautiful building and grounds to maintain. Our focus for the next two years will be our Centennial Capital Campaign to raise funds for our 100 years and that take care of the major expenses (ie, roof) to maintain our facility.

Through -out this year GGC will sponsor fund-raising events and special events to mark our Centennial.

We started out with our Fourth Annual Aged to Perfection which was a success financially and well as the number in attendance.

In November we are partnering with the Rare Plant Society by hosting their annual plant sale and swap. We will make money at this event and it certainly will give us lots of exposure.

December brings us to our Holiday Workshop. We do charge for this event and we will have a member/floral designer lead us in making a holiday design. This is always lots of fun.

We will have a social in February at Cypress and Grove Brewery which is at the old ice house in Gainesville. There will be food trucks and beer for sure. This is in the planning stages and new for us

March will be our Spring Fling which is a luncheon and fashion show or perhaps another activity. This is a fundraiser and is currently being planned.

We of course will do a garden tour in May as well as Music in the Garden on our grounds. These of course will be public events.

We will continue our community activities and ongoing projects some of which are

An Arbor Day Celebration

The Kanapaha Spring Garden Festival where we host a Children's tent for two days

Habitat for Humanity Women's Build where we provide lunch, do landscaping and provide tools to the new owner.

We provide training and assistance to 2 school gardens.

Fun with Flowers – A very popular program will be held 5 times this year.

Roadside Conservation & Pickup on the roadside every quarter along 13th Avenue.

Amaryllis bulb sale is put on by GGC. The sale ends today.

The 6 Circles provide quite a bit of community service in the name of GGC.

The She Shed which sells things throughout the year will be a part of the Ronald McDonald House Gingerbread House fundraiser. This group of crafters make many things which are affordable.

The continued landscape of our own Butterfly Garden, our Memorial Garden along with the Ronald McDonald House Garden are always maintained by our members and the Circles.

Rental of our facility provides many dollars to GGC. The years were pretty lean during the pandemic and we are glad to see the return of rental income to GGC.

As you can see, we have quite a bit going on at GGC and thank you for allowing me to share these details to you.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Lee Winterrowd-Houlihan

President