



*"Making the World More Beautiful
One Seed at a Time..."*

March 2017

Federated Facts



Thank goodness it is spring and with it a renewed sense of spirit and growth. Just as we do to our gardens, examining, cleaning, pruning and preparing, we must also do to the organizations that we love participating in. The Rome Federated Garden Clubs have a big decision to make as to the current and future growth of our organization. While change can sometimes agitate or come by surprise, it can also stimulate and spur proper examination of the circumstances. Thank you to everyone who has both passionately and passively joined into the conversation about the Garden Center and the future of RFGC.

At the latest Federated Garden Club meeting, a special committee was called to identify, report and inform all club members as to the overall financial health and future outlook of RFGC as was influenced by the desire of the YMCA to acquire the Garden Center from RFGC. As a group we must respond to the YMCA in a timely manner yet many concerned members felt that more information was needed and thus the special committee was formed.

This special committee is a "Find and Report" committee, made up of 1 member from each club, with the assistance of some of the Executive Board members and led by future President, Winnie Holland. They shall present their findings via email/mail on or before April 17th to all members, making a presentation of the information at the special Federated meeting called on April 25th at 10am at the Garden Center. They have been tasked to discover the following information:

1. Identify and report all expenses paid and anticipated by Federation for the last 2 years
2. Identify and report the percentage increase/decrease in any expenses over the 2 year period
3. Identify and report all Fixed revenue streams (dues paid by members during the last 2 years- not fundraisers)
4. Identify and report the percentage of increase/decrease in fixed revenue streams over the last 2 years
5. Identify and report Insurance findings to include liabilities, deductible and insurance coverage.
6. Identify and report the difference between expenses and fixed revenue
7. Identify and report any and all permanent long-term solutions to remain financially solvent while adhering to the mission of the Rome Federated Garden Clubs
8. Identify and report alternative meeting locations including continued use of the Garden Center under terms of an agreement presented by the YMCA

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The intention of this committee is to answer as many questions as we can and produce information that will help each of us make a decision as to the direction of the RFGC as it relates to the future of the Garden Center located at 100 E. Eight St. Rome, GA 30161. While this committee will not have any voting or decision making capabilities, it can offer suggestions on future fundraisers, and deliver information examining any and all scenarios that we might encounter during and after this process.

As always, we appreciate your support of the Rome Federated Garden Clubs and we look forward to delivering our findings.

Thank you & Happy Gardening!

Carrie Wilder
RFGC Corresponding Secretary

Special Announcements

I would like to invite you to come hear Joan Maloof, founder and director of the Old Growth Forest Network, April 27, 10am at our home outside Rome, GA. Joan is the author of three books on Old Growth Forest and she will lead a walk through our forest after her talk. Contact me...Jennifer Kearns, davjen@bellsouth.net for more information.

“Dear Friends of the Old-Growth Forest Network,

In April I will be visiting Georgia and I am so excited for this trip! Perhaps you can join me at one of these events:

April 25: The amazing Eco-Addendum of Atlanta, led by Kathryn Kolb, has organized a tree-mendous celebration to bring recognition to the original forest of Atlanta. They will be dedicating several forests in Dekalb and Fulton Counties into the Old-Growth Forest Network. In addition, I will be speaking as part of a full evening of forest experts and community discourse in the “Discovering the Original Forest of Atlanta” event on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at Emory University. The details of the event are found here. <http://www.ecoaddendum.org/event/joan-maloof-talk-and-forest-panel-emory-april-25/>

April 27: Private forest tour and talk in Rome, GA. (Contact me if interested)

April 28: Morning in Gainesville, GA I will be the speaker for the dedication of the Redbud Ecology Center – a part of the Redbud Project. (Contact me if interested.)

April 29: I will be featured at the Georgia Forest Watch 13th Annual Wild & Wooly Forest Festival on Saturday, April 29 from 2-5pm at the Santee Nacoochee Center in Santee Nacoochee, GA. Registration and a full schedule of events is [here](#).

As always, keeping me on the road and available for these incredible events requires funding. Please donate to the Old-Growth Forest Network so we can continue our work of speaking out for forests and creating a national network of protected forests. I hope you, too, are finding time to speak out....For the forests!

Dr. Joan Maloof
Founder and Director of the Old-Growth Forest Network
PO Box 21, Easton MD 21601
410-251-1800 joan@oldgrowthforest.net

Upcoming Events

Day in May Celebration

May 2, 2017

11-12:30

Coosa Room Rome/Floyd Co. Library

DAY IN MAY

May 2, 2017

Program: 11 a.m.---11:30 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m.---12:30 p.m.

Co-Chairman--Ruth Forrester (706-766-7331) **and** Sheelah Schreiber (703-599-4512)

Menu: Chicken Strips (by Federation)

Pimento Cheese Sandwiches

Deviled Eggs

Potato Chips

Fruit Trays

Brownies

Lemon Squares

Sweet Tea and Water

Club Assignments: Please bring food on glass or silver serving dishes to the Coosa Room of the Rome/Floyd County Library by 10:00 a.m., cut the crust off the bread and bring serving bowls for the chips (chips should be brought in bags). All serving dishes should have names on the bottom. Ruth and Sheelah would also like to have the name and cell phone number of the person responsible for bringing your club's food assignment to the Garden Center. **Thank you.**

CAMELLIA

Misty Rigas

4 dozen lemon squares; 2 gals. sweet tea;
lemons cut for tea

LAVENDER VIEW

Jackie Scott

4 dozen brownies;
1 large bag potato chips

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Caroline Alford

30 pimento cheese sandwiches (wheat bread
cut in thirds); 4 doz. brownies

SEVEN HILLS

Amanda Kinder
Carrie Wilder

Fruit tray for 35; 2 dozen (48 halves) deviled
eggs; 2 doz. lemon squares

SPADE AND TROWEL

Ardith Birdsong
Jayne Payne

30 pimento cheese sandwiches (white bread cut
in thirds); 2 gallons sweet tea; lemons cut for tea

THREE RIVERS

Ginny D'Ambrosio
Jinks Latham

30 pimento cheese sandwiches (white bread
cut in thirds); 2 doz. lemon squares

THISTLE

Nancy Davis
Barbara Ivey

Door decorations; 2 floral arrangements (food
and drink tables)

TOWN VIEW

Pam Roberts

3 dozen (72 halves) deviled eggs;
2 gallons sweet tea; lemons cut for tea

AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

Jo Hernandez

Fruit tray for 35; 2 large bags of potato chips

Presidents---Please send Ruth Forrester the guest list for the Day in May Celebration.



**CHIEFTAINS
HERB & PLANT SALE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH
8 am - 4 pm
SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH
12 - 3 pm
COOSA VALLEY
FAIRGROUNDS

Proceeds Benefit

Chieftains Museum
MAJOR RIDGE HOME

Sponsored by Friends of Chieftains Museum

Historic Preservation Fundraiser

April 26th, 2017

Berry College

Each club should provide 1 native plant arrangement for the table centerpieces which will be sold at the event. Please bring the arrangement to the Special Meeting called on April 25th at the Garden Center