

## **DIANE'S DIGGINGS:**

Happy New Year!

Banny and I are on Daufuskie Island celebrating the New Year as we have for the past 20 years. As I write this I am on the porch, looking at the ocean and letting my batteries recharge.

Christmas season was busy and successful for RFGC. I thank you for all your hard work and for those who came to the tea at my home. The tea was held on a cold and rainy day. The warm spirit of the garden club members and DAR members made for a beautiful and festive afternoon.

The use of E-vite, the electronic invitations, gave RFGC the opportunity to further its participating in the technology age. The executive board, host for the tea, thank you for your involvement. Your executive board members appreciated and enjoyed being invited to your December meetings. I think this was beneficial, a good way to keep communications open. I hope you will continue to invite/include us throughout the year.

The first highlight for 2014 is a visit by our state president, Suzanne Wheeler. Monday, February 3 Suzanne will review and help us prepare presidents report. She will present a PowerPoint presentation "What is this thing called Membership" on Tuesday, February 4th. Both workshops will be held at The Garden Center. Coffee will be at 9:30. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. I hope this will kick off a banner 2014 for RFGC.



**CHRISTMAS TEA**

## **IS YOUR CLUB WORKING WITH YOUTH?**

If the answer to the above question is yes, please consider the information below:

Schools Grounds Improve "Special Achievement Certificate"

A garden club may submit a letter of recommendation to the State School Grounds Improvement Chairman, Pat Hathaway [successaugusta1@aol.com](mailto:successaugusta1@aol.com), requesting a "special Achievement Certificate" for local schools who have engaged in worth school grounds projects. The LETTER should address the areas of achievement-outstand overall appearance, litter control, development of outdoor class rooms and /or landscaped design-and should include the school's name, principal and sponsoring club's name and address. Additional consideration may be given for development for specialty gardens, Arbor Day plantings and student participation. The annual deadline for garden clubs to submit this recommendation is March 1<sup>st</sup>. This certificate may be presented to the school by a Garden Club of Georgia member Garden Club.

**AWARDS! AWARDS! AWARDS!**  
**PRESIDENT'S REPORT WORKSHOP**

December 1 was a very big day for the chairmen of the different awards. That date marked the deadline for most of the award applications. Please prepare a notebook with copies of your club's applications that can be placed on display at the President's Report Workshop.

**DUES**

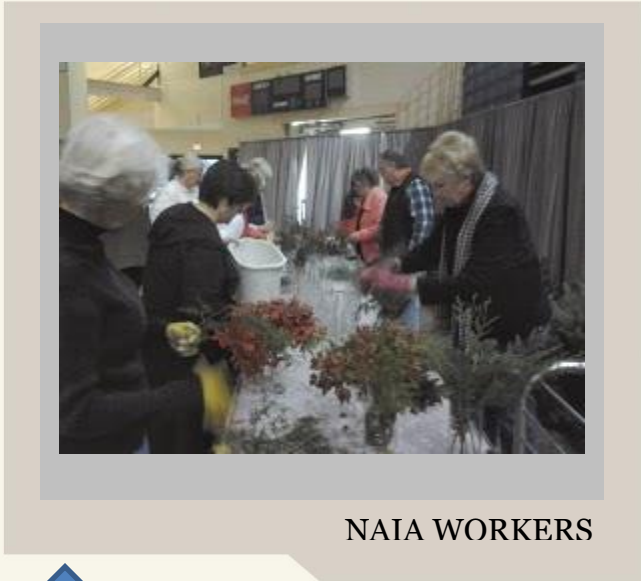
Treasurers remember that it is time to get your dues turned in for the Federation. Please work to obtain e-mail addresses. A reminder, please add the \$15.00 for Education and \$5.00 for youth to your membership.

Example:

10 members x \$10.00 = \$100 + 20 = \$120

Correct form will be discussed at the RFGC meeting January 6, 2014.

Workers for the **NAIA** table arrangements were composed of members of the community and several RFGC member clubs. Clubs represented were: Camellia, Three Rivers, Mountain View, Thistle, and Townview. Sixty table arrangements were made. Having enough workers and time, the tables were set with silverware and napkins, as well. This is the last year for the NAIA. We will look forward to working with another conference in the future.



NAIA WORKERS



TABLE ARRANGEMENT

Spotlight on  
Cultivating Young  
Minds!

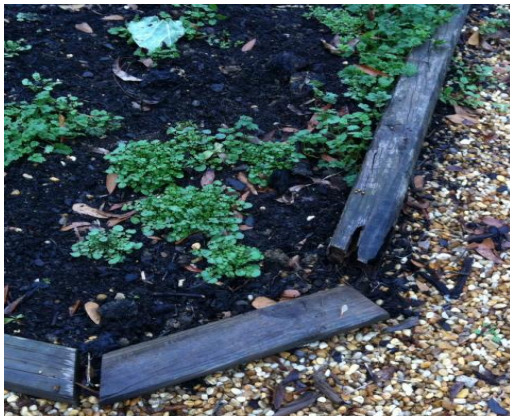
## Before and After— Revisiting the Sites of Articles Past

December 8, 2013 by [John Schulz](#)

I think my adopted art form has five dimensions. There are the usual three—depth, width, and height. I like to add the dimension where you stand inside the creation and look at it from that viewpoint (I'm not sure, though, if that is a dimension or a perspective). The next dimension is that of time. If the plants don't croak they grow and change the total feel of the project as time goes by. My main professional compensation other than making a modest living is to visit the projects after a period of time and enjoy the changes. This past week I said, "Wow" several times.

Several times this past week, I found myself in the presence of sites that I have written articles about. Everything has changed—as gardening projects have a habit of doing. At any rate, here are some pictures of my visitations during the first week of December, 2013 and the links to the articles that tell about the inception of the projects.

I think one of the most significant projects was the Boys and Girls Club vegetable garden that we built in spring of 2009. [Diane Harbin and Rome, Georgia's Three Rivers Garden Club](#) were the moving factors behind the project. After four years the garden needed a bit of physical reworking and maintenance. We tackled the job. Some of the timbers had rotted out and there was a significant amount of weeds that needed removing as well as some irrigation concerns. These jobs are right down my alley. Here's a picture of one of the main problems:



Weeds and a few rotted timbers were in the garden.

Here is a picture of this delightful garden after the clean-up and rebuild.

Rome, Georgia. Boys and Girls Club vegetable garden after clean up and repair. December 2013

You may click to visit [The Boys and Girls Club Vegetable Garden Project](#). The article was written Nov. 29, 2009



A year after the building of the vegetable garden additions were made. Go to: [The Garden Gets a Gazebo](#) from May 9, 2010.

**Renovations were made possible by a \$1000 grant from the Floyd County Commission on Youth to Cultivating Young Minds project at South Rome Boys and Girls Club.**

“Encourage Conservation, Educate Youth, and Enjoy Garden Club”

Mt. View was hosted by Caroline Alford. The Auction, conducted by Earl Tillman was a fun activity.



**Membership in Garden Clubs was even discussed at the Christmas Parade.**



**Website: [www.romefederatedgardenclubs.com](http://www.romefederatedgardenclubs.com)**

## CALENDAR

January 6, RFGC Meeting, Garden Center  
 January 8, Remove Trees and Decoration at the Rome History Museum  
 January 23, North Georgia Native Plant Symposium, Athens Georgia  
 February 3, President’s Report Workshop Garden Center  
 February 4: PowerPoint Presentation “What is this thing called Membership?” by GCG President Suzanne Wheeler  
 February 17, President’s Report Due  
 February 21, Arbor Day, Location TBA

### Garden Center

January 6, *2014	Spade and Trowel	Refreshments
February, 2014	Lavender View	Paper Towels and Bathroom Supplies
Library Arrangements		
December 30–January 13		Chattooga
January 14 – January 27		Camellia
January 28 – February 10		African Violet Study Group