

District V Report for GCA Convention 2024

District V is in a state of crisis! We are having difficulty finding someone to assume the responsibilities of District Director. There are only 3 clubs remaining in the district and one of those is down to 7 members, with only four of those able to be active in club activities.

Tulip Garden Club has continued to meet with a small group of 4, sometimes 5. They have maintained the raised flower beds at the historic Opelika Train Depot where 3 classes of preschool children meet. This spring the club planted marigold plants with 54 children in the preschool after they had studied a unit on plants. The children were excited to be able to carry home a "real live plant" as one child put it. The club also visited Opelika High School's greenhouses, where Ginny Gaberlavage, the director of the horticulture program, explained the program provided for the students there. In May we will meet for our spring picnic and discuss plans for next year.

Wedowee Garden Club celebrated its 75th Anniversary this year. They have had great programs, including a presentation by an Auburn graduate and landscaping business owner who spoke about pruning. During his presentation they discovered he was a recipient of their club's local scholarship when he graduated from Randolph County High School. Their club has a Christmas tradition of judging Christmas decorations and lights in Wedowee. Signs are posted for Best around, Best Door, Best for Children, Best business, etc. Pictures are put in the local paper and on Facebook. The club has a successful plant sale each year. They start in March meeting every week to make yard art to sell along with their plants. This year's plant sale will be May 4th at Kiwanis Park from 9:00 to 12:00. In April the club has an annual flower show. All plant material must come from yards. Ribbons are awarded for small, medium and large categories. In May they will have their annual picnic, elect officers and say goodbye until September.

Town and Country Garden Club is in Sylcauga. They are meeting regularly and continuing community projects. I was unable to get further information because I failed to contact them early enough to talk with their president. We thought we had co-directors coming from this club but I have been told they decided not to take the job.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat May, Acting District V Director