

District VIII has five very active clubs. We have a total of 264 members now with Gulf Shores having 101 Magnolia Springs 5550 and Fairhope in Spanish for 29 each

Our newest club Magnolia Springs is working on some very big projects. They are renovating the Arboretum that is the entranceway to the springs that give them their name. They have a big wine and cheese fundraiser coming up to help support that and their community is donating half of the cost to renovate, they are also working to place a Blue Star memorial on the property. I'm totally impressed by the participation in getting all of this off the ground they have been a wonderful addition to GCA and our district

Orange Beach Garden Club takes the summer off after a busy year. The last thing they do is work at the cemetery placing flags for memorial day on all the veterans graves after they clean it all up. They give a scholarship away to local student every year as well. After their busy year, they deserve a summer break club President Cathy Oakes shared!

Fairhope Garden Club also takes the summer off and their club president keeps very busy because she is also a Master Garden. Charlotte Croft their president will be taking my place as Director after next year's convention and she is going to be a wonderful addition to our board club has grown and does fantastic things for their community.

Spanish Fort Garden Club has been very busy and have a dedication ceremony at the battleship for their Starr Memorial that they bought during Covid. They've had meetings on Amaryllis And possums and had a plant swap our Kathy Sudduth is acting president for them at this time and I know has lots of things planned for them in the upcoming year.

Gulf Shores Garden Club has been busy passing out money for scholarships to 2 students \$2000 each, Sponsored 10 sea turtle nest for Share The Beach, donated \$500 to the local zoo and bought a brick there, they gave money to the state park for their new pollinator garden, and \$500 to the sustainability Academy at the high school. We want everyone to know we have a fantastic celebrity speaker, Scot Wedgeworth for our Annual Floral Seminar that has 400 folks in attendance every year! We have secured a fantastic room rate of \$89 which includes breakfast at the Holiday Inn Express few blocks from venue and hope many of you will attend! Check the GCA website for more information!

As in past years our Board is sponsoring the Fall District meeting so our clubs can just enjoy and share!

Thank you,
Kim Edgerton, District VIII Director
7/29/24
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