



Welcome Anderson Creek Garden Club

October 15, 2026



Agenda



Opening Ceremony

- Collect-opening thought
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Purpose
- Introduction of Board
- Member Round Table

Current Business

- Approval of Meeting Minutes
- Calendar new year
- Financial report

Departmental reports

- Gold Star
- Membership
- Programs
- Youth involvement
- Committee sign ups



Agenda



New Business

- Membership –new members always welcome
- Discussion of action items Holiday Tour of Homes-recruitment
- Discussion of upcoming initiatives
- District Meeting October 1st-thank you!
- NC DOT Adopt a HWY, Oct 10th-thank you!
- Holiday Tour of Homes-Dec 12th
- WRAL Azalea Grant October
- Open Floor
- Questions and comments from attendees

Program

Introduction of Ms. Anna Bruner, FFA Advisor and Horticulture Instructor at Western Harnett High School and her students to provide floral design program.

Adjournment & Closing Remarks

- Closing remarks
- Next meeting November 19th



Opening Ceremony

Official Collect

The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc

Our Heavenly Father, who dost feed the birds and clothe the flowers and who knoweth and careth for every need of us, Thy children, so enlighten our minds to use wisely all the gifts of Thy Mighty Hand that we, being imbued with Thy Holy Spirit, may work so Thy will that those who come after may mark their path by our footsteps.

For all the beauty of the earth, Father, in Heaven, we thank Thee.

For our families, our friends, our free and beautiful country, Father in Heaven, we thank Thee.

We beseech Thee of Thy great goodness and tender mercy to forgive our sins and grant that we work together in fellowship, we may draw closer to Thee, Almighty God, in whose name we pray.

Amen

Mary Rehder Gerdes



Overview of Our Purpose

- The purpose of this club shall be: to stimulate interest in horticulture, gardens, youth gardening, and flower arranging; to encourage and improve civic planning; to cooperate in the protection of wildlife, wild flowers, and native plants; and to support the projects of the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Business Meeting



Membership Report 45 members

2 youth clubs

- Anderson Creek Youth Club started last year
- Western Harnett officially approved at Fall Board meeting
- New members welcome
- \$28 through December
- Youth members pay \$2 per membership to state \$3 to local club High School or ACGC whoever oversees your program sets dues
- Total \$5 each for club membership

Membership dues will go up next year to \$30 for ACGC General Memberships



Calendar

2026-27 ACGC Meetings



Month	Day	Time	Location
October	15th	6:30	Patriot Hall/ Fair
Or fair day			
November	19th	11:30	Patriot Hall
December	17th	6:30	Patriot Hall
January	21st	11:30	Patriot Hall
February	18th	6:30	Patriot Hall
March	18th	11:30	Patriot Hall
April	15th	6:30	Patriot Hall
May	20th	11:30	Field Trip
June	17th	6:30	Patriot Hall



Finance Report



	YE 2025	YE 2026
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash		\$105.00
Checking Account		\$6,888.56
• Gold Star \$2165 , pumpkin Event \$ 320, donations general \$280		
Total Current Assets		\$6,993.56
Total Assets		\$6,993.56
LIABILITIES	YE 2025	YE 2026
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Total Liabilities		\$0.00
Net Assets		\$6,993.56



Business Meeting

Youth Clubs-Rosa



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



National Garden Clubs, Inc.

ANNOUNCING 2027 Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

Children from first through fifth grade
are invited to participate in this annual
drawing contest featuring conservation icons
Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl!

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and the National Garden Clubs, Inc., are giving students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of wildfire prevention and basic environmental conservation principles through original drawings of Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl.

View previous contest winners:
<https://gardenclub.org/smokey-bear-woodsy-owl-youth-poster-contest>.



Smokey Bear says: "Only you can prevent wildfires!"

Smokey Bear is recognized nationally and internationally as the symbol for wildfire prevention. The original Smokey Bear appeared in 1944. Smokey's message, "Only you can prevent wildfires!" encourages personal responsibility for wildfire prevention. Smokey Bear teaches children and adults to be careful with campfires, barbecues, burning yard waste, and matches. For more about Smokey Bear visit <https://smokeybear.com>.



Woodsy Owl says: "Lend a hand—care for the land!"

Woodsy Owl is America's icon for the conservation of the environment. Since 1971, Woodsy has helped parents and teachers inspire children to observe, explore, and care for the environment. He challenges children to "Lend a hand, care for the land!" and to take an active role in caring for the land through recycling, reusing, and reducing waste; gardening, planting, and caring for trees; using resources wisely; and not littering. For more about Woodsy Owl visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids/woodsy-owl>.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



National Garden Clubs, Inc.

2027 Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

TIMELINE

Date	Activity	Responsibility of
August 2026	Information packages mailed to poster contest chairpersons and Forest Service conservation education and fire prevention coordinators	Forest Service
January 22, 2027	Local winning posters must be received by the State garden club or poster contest chairperson	Local garden club or poster contest chairperson
February 26, 2027	State winning posters must be received by the regional garden club or poster contest chairperson	State garden club or poster contest chairperson
March 19, 2027	Regional winning posters must be received by the National Garden Clubs poster contest chairperson	Regional garden club or poster contest chairperson
April 5, 2027	Judging to select the national winners for each grade level	National Garden Clubs poster contest chairperson and Forest Service staff
April 19-30, 2027	Selection of the national grand prize winner	Forest Service employees
May 2027	Announcement of national poster contest winners	National Garden Clubs (at their national convention)
Summer 2027	National grand prize winner recognition ceremony	Forest Service and National Garden Clubs, Inc.





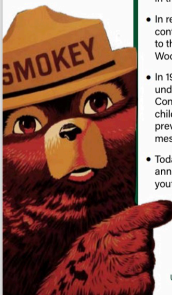
Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest HISTORY

- What is now known as the Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest began as an initiative of the New Mexico State Garden Club in 1959.
- In 1960, the National Council of State Garden Clubs (today's National Garden Clubs, Inc.) decided to replicate this contest and called it the National Smokey Bear Coloring Contest.
- The winners of the first National Smokey Bear Coloring Contest were announced at the National Council of State Garden Club's 1961 convention by Mrs. N.P. Marton, Junior Gardening Chairman, and Miss Elizabeth Mason of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.
- The name changed to the Free-Hand Smokey Bear Coloring Contest in 1971. Contest organizers asked children to draw original entries rather than color in a preexisting template. One year later, conservation took its place beside wildfire prevention in the first Woodsy Owl and/or Smokey Bear Poster Contest.
- In response to the environmental concerns in the 1970's, the contest was known as the Environmental Poster Contest. Entries to the annual competition could include either Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl but were not required to.
- In 1994, the contest celebrated Smokey Bear's 50th birthday under the name of the Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest. The contest became a national art competition in which children draw their interpretation of Smokey Bear and his wildfire prevention message or Woodsy Owl and his conservation message.
- Today, the Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest is an annual tradition amongst elementary schools, scout troops, and youth groups across the Nation.





Business Meeting



Departmental reports:

- Gold Star
- Raised so far

\$2165 donations

Still need

\$1235



ANDERSON CREEK GARDEN CLUB
Gold Star Memorial
GIVING FORM • HONOR • HOPE • HEALING

Gold Star Memorial By-Way Marker • Honor • Hope • Healing • National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Your gift supports the permanent placement of this Gold Star Memorial By-Way Marker along Highway 87 in Harnett County — a lasting tribute to all Gold Star families and a place of honor, hope, and healing in our community.

DONOR INFORMATION

Name: Amount: \$ _____

Payment Method: _____ In honor / memory of: _____

Cash Check Zelle

Checks payable to: Anderson Creek Garden Club • Memo: Gold Star Memorial

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

<https://andersoncreekgardenclub.org/>

MAIL CHECK / CASH
Make checks payable to:
Anderson Creek Garden Club
Memo: Gold Star Memorial
Mail to:
350 Rolling Pines Dr.
Spring Lake, NC 28390

PAY WITH ZELLE®
1. Open your banking app 2. Select Zelle®
3. Scan the QR code or send to:
4. Memo: Gold Star Memorial 5. Complete the transfer
andersoncreekgardenclub@gmail.com

ANDERSON CREEK GARDEN CLUB ACGC Accounts
ANDERSON CREEK GARDEN CLUB ACGC
andersoncreekgardenclub@gmail.com
Deposit to Checking -4140

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This QR code will remain valid as long as the email remains enrolled in Zelle®.

Anderson Creek Garden Club • Member of the Garden Club of North Carolina • Est. 2024 350 Rolling Pines Dr. • Spring Lake, NC 28390 • Phone: 253-370-1757 Email: janellednesbit@aol.com • ACGC: andersoncreekgardenclub@gmail.com A tribute to All



Business Meeting

Garden Club Summer Landscape Committee

ACC Botanical Garden

Spring 2027 Project





Business Meeting



- **Sign up for Committees**
- Programs help plan events, trips, set up
- Awards chair helps write up reports for awards submission to send in for state, regional and national awards
- Fundraising
- Membership
- Hospitality
- Youth



NOW RECRUITING

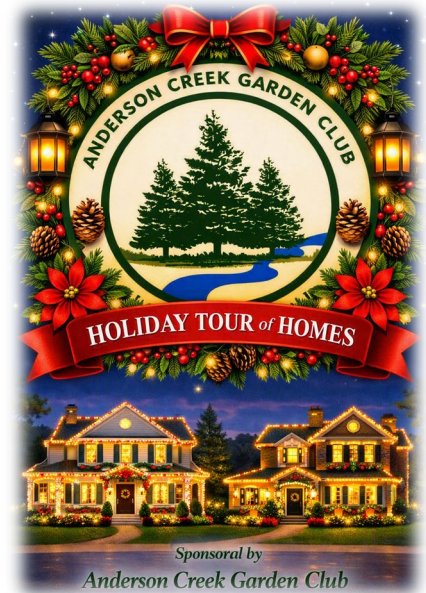


andersoncreekgardenclub@gmail.com

December 12th



5-8 pm



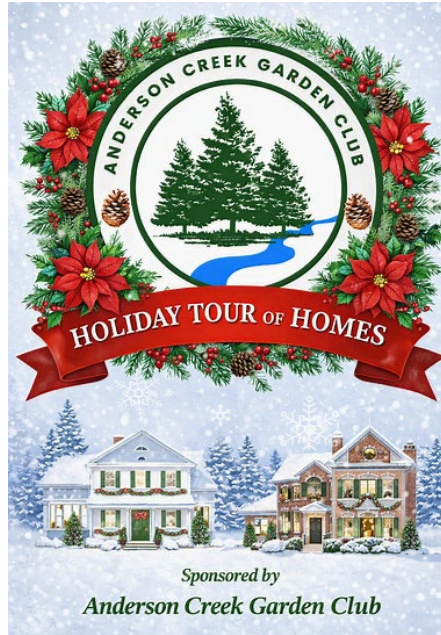


Business Meeting



Holiday Tour of Homes

- December 12th, 2026
- 5-8 pm-or 4:30-7:30
- 5-10 homes & garden tours
- No charge, donations accepted
- Start Patriot Hall



Ticketed event RSVP

andersoncreekgardenclub@gmail.com



Discussion of upcoming initiatives

THANK YOU!!!

Well Done Everyone 🙌



- District Meeting October 1st =
6 clubs attended = 36 guests, 3 non paying

\$320 brought in

\$45 in expenses, large coffee

Cost of food, drinks & supplies donated (Mr. Nesbit)

\$340 donations

donation to club \$285





Discussion of upcoming initiatives



WRAL Azalea Grant October 3rd

We received an 170 total Azaleas

- Parks & Rec,

- Anderson Creek Sr Center

- Cape Fear Cancer Center Lillington

- Healing Garden

- Harnett County Extension

- Front Entry

- Bonus areas: Patriot Hall, Veterans Park, Harnett County Courthouse and BBQ church Park!!! Well done ACGC !
And 10 to VFW Lillington

40TH ANNUAL AZALEA CELEBRATION
Applications must be postmarked by August 31st, 2026

Read the Guidelines first. Type or print clearly your responses to all questions below. Use additional plain white paper as necessary. Put your name on all pages and materials submitted. All information that you provide is treated confidentially.

Contact Information			
Nonprofit Name	The Garden Club of North Carolina, Anderson Creek Garden Club 501(c)(3) 33-1503338		
Nonprofit Mailing Address	Stoney/PO Box 300 Rolling Pines Dr. Spring Lake NC		
City	Spring Lake	State	North Carolina Zip 28390 County Harnett
Nonprofit Phone (253-379-1757)		Fax ()	
Contact Person Janelle Babbs-Nesbit		Email janellednesbit@aol.com	
Contact's Business Phone (253-379-1757)		Contact's Home Phone (253-379-1757)	
Contact's Home Address All correspondence will be sent to contact person whose address appears below. You must list your address below so that we can contact you quickly.			
Stoney/PO Box 300 Rolling Pines Dr	City Spring Lake	State NC	Zip 28390

Landscape Plan "On a separate sheet provide a sketch showing your proposed new planting scheme in relation to existing buildings and plants. The sketch does not have to be professionally drafted."

Maintenance Plan "Describe how you will care for your project. For instance, how will you keep the plants healthy? Who will care for them after planting now and in the future? What resources are available from the community to provide fertilizer and mulch? Who will fertilize, mulch, and water them?"

Charging care for the Azalea plantings will be jointly managed by the Anderson Creek Garden Club and Anderson Creek Senior Center volunteers. Their responsibilities will include watering, mulching, pruning and seasonal monitoring to ensure plant health. Throughout the year, Harnett County Parks and Recreation will continue. Maintaining the surrounding grounds and pathway infrastructure. Providing a stable and well kept infrastructure for the garden. The Azalea Garden will also be integrated into the Greater Senior Center's Wellness programming. Encouraging regular outdoor engagement, light physical activity, and social interaction. This partnership will ensure long term sustainability through shared community stewardship, community use, and consistent oversight.

For the Cape Fear Cancer Center Healing Garden, we will support the Harnett County Master Gardeners by volunteering with them to maintain the garden.

For the demonstration front entry garden at the extension offices, we have members of our club who will volunteer to maintain these gardens monthly.

You may request up to 50 plants. Types and colors shown below:

Medium white ____ medium red ____ medium lavender 50 ____ tall pink 50 ____ tall lavender 50 ____ **Total Quantity Requested 50**

Will your project be a part of a wider community clean-up and beautification project? X ____ Yes ____ No ____ If so, how? The area where the new walking path was recently cleared and cleaned was used for major dumping of trash, and large items and was cleaned out by parks and rec.

How many people (adults and children) will work on your project? 10

Has your non profit received azaleas in the past? No ____ If so, when: 2024 ____ 2023 ____ 2022 ____ 2021 ____ 2020 ____ other ____

Mail applications to:
AZALEA CELEBRATION ~ PO BOX 10142 ~ RALEIGH, NC 27605
Direct questions to: 919.821.9773
or email your application and landscape plan to AzaleaCelebrations@capitolbroadcasting.com
Janelle Babbs-Nesbit



Discussion of upcoming initiatives



- NC DOT Adopt a HWY, Oct 10th
- Great job 10 volunteers over 30 bags

Thank you

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED on January 16th!

ANDERSON CREEK GARDEN CLUB



KEEP
HARNETT
BEAUTIFUL
Partner Organization

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

NCDOT Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup
Saturday, January 16, 2027
10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
Meet at Patriot Hall
216 Anderson Creek Drive at 10:00 AM



Join Us to Keep Anderson Creek Beautiful!
All volunteers welcome. Safety vests and bags provided.
Ages 12+ (minors with adult supervision)
Email: andersoncreekgardenclub@gmail.com | Phone: 919-498-9249
Website: andersoncreekgardenclub.org
Cleanup location: Ray Road, Anderson Creek, Spring Lake, NC



Special Guest Introduction



Welcome-Ms Anna Bruner and Western Harnett students and garden club members!



General Program Resource Links



- <https://andersoncreekgardenclub.org/>
- <https://harnett.ces.ncsu.edu/horticulture-resources/>
- <https://harnett.ces.ncsu.edu/categories/lawn-garden/extension-master-gardener-volunteers/>
- <https://extensiongardener.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook/>
- [Herbaceous Ornamentals | NC State Extension Publications](#)
- [Find a Plant | North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox](#)
- <https://www.ffa.org/about-us/what-is-ffa/>



FFA

<https://www.ffa.org/>

- <https://www.ffa.org/ffa-in-the-usa/>
- <https://www.ffa.org/ffa-in-the-usa/state/north-carolina/>

- **1,053,847**

student members

- **Nationwide, there are 9,591 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.**
- **73,379** attendees
- **The [National FFA Convention & Expo](#) is one of the largest student conventions in the world with a mission to develop, educate and inspire.**
- <https://www.calameo.com/read/0051075247200e5173e1d>



Anderson Creek Garden Club Facebook



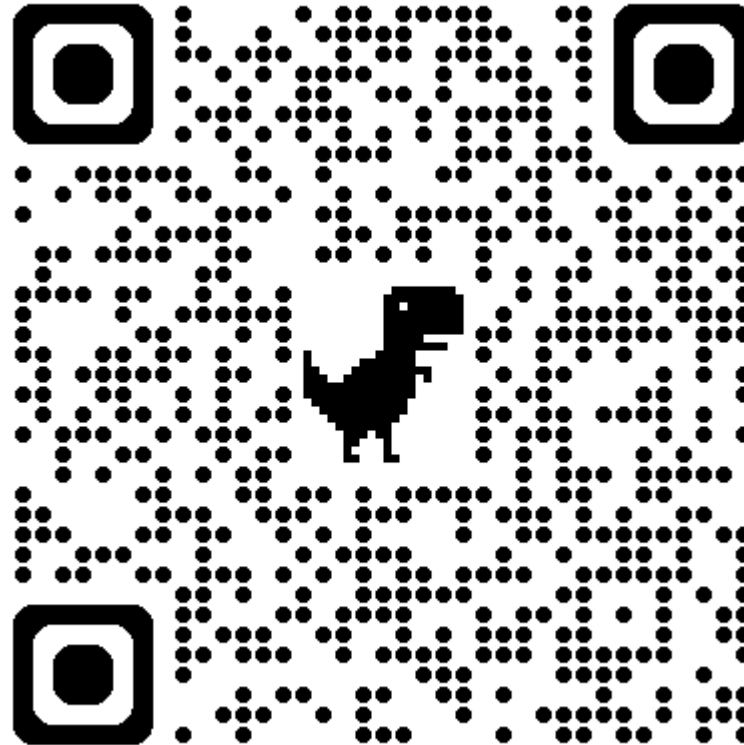
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567844503710>



ACGC Website



- <https://andersoncreekgardenclub.org/>





Gold Star Donation Form



ANDERSON CREEK GARDEN CLUB

Gold Star Memorial
GIVING FORM • HONOR • HOPE • HEALING



Gold Star Memorial By-Way Marker • Honor • Hope • Healing • National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Your gift supports the permanent placement of this Gold Star Memorial By-Way Marker along Highway 87 in Harnett County — a lasting tribute to all Gold Star families and a place of honor, hope, and healing in our community.

DONOR INFORMATION

Name: Amount: \$ _____

Payment Method: _____ In honor /
memory of:
Cash Check Zelle

Checks payable to: Anderson Creek Garden Club • Memo: Gold Star Memorial

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

<https://andersoncreekgardenclub.org/>

MAIL CHECK / CASH

Make checks payable to:
Anderson Creek Garden Club

Memo: Gold Star Memorial
Mail to:
350 Rolling Pines Dr.
Spring Lake, NC 28390

PAY WITH ZELLE®

1. Open your banking app
2. Select Zelle®
3. Scan the QR code or send to:
4. Memo: Gold Star Memorial
5. Complete the transfer

andersoncreekgardenclub@gmail.com

ANDERSON CREEK GARDEN CLUB
ACGC Accounts

ANDERSON CREEK GARDEN
CLUB ACGC

andersoncreekgardenclub@gmail.com

Deposit to Checking ...4140



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the email remains enrolled in Zelle®.

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**ANDERSON CREEK
GARDEN CLUB ACGC**

at

andersoncreekgardenclub@gma
il.com





Closing Remarks & Adjournment

- November 19th , 11:30 next meeting **Holly's Nest Animal Rescue**
- Now-November 10th recruit homes for **Holiday Tour of Homes**
- November 7th, **Carvers Creek State Park-volunteer (10-3)**
- Crafting event for shells and decorations (tbd)
- January 16th **Roadside cleanup Patriot Hall, Ray RD**
- December 12th **Anderson Creek Garden Club Holiday Tour of Homes & Lights** updates-Official announcement of start time will be announced but 5-8 pm estimated
- December 17th, **ACGC holiday meeting, craft and garden gift exchange**



ACGC 2026-27 Year Book

<https://canva.link/sz2rdnwd6gkaeeo>

Thank You-Painting of Bird for cover

Debra Wilkerson

Thank you, the inspiration

Judy Murphy

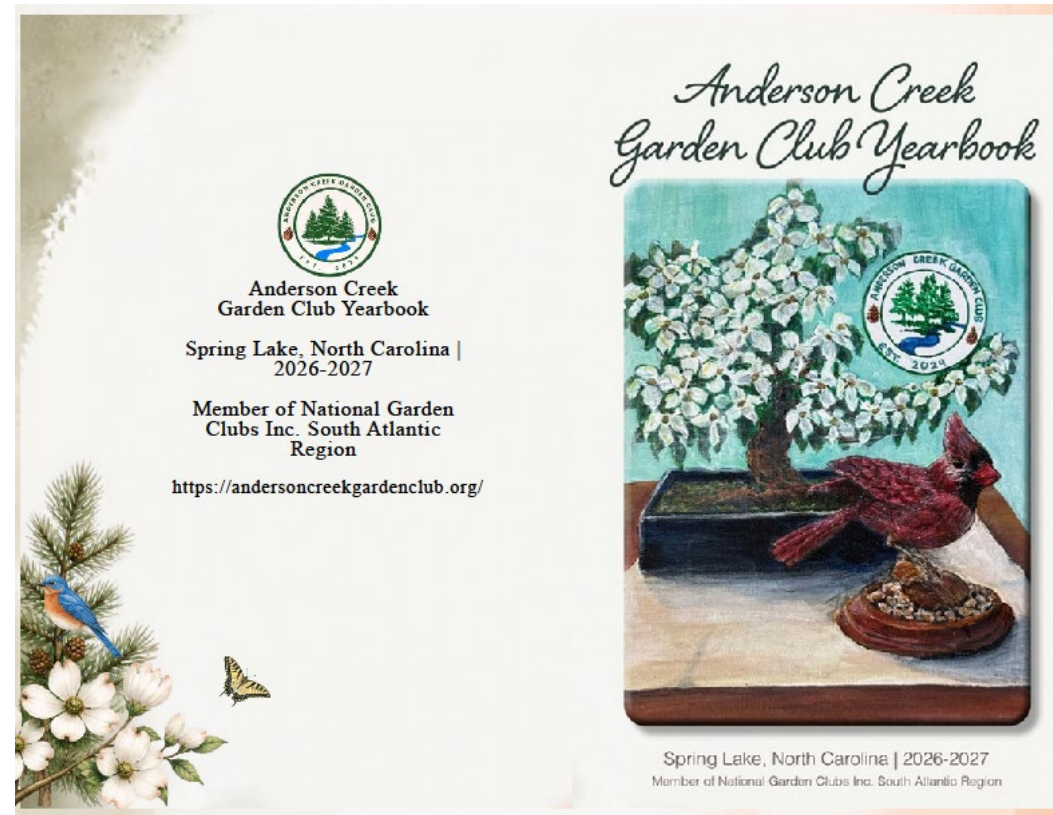
Darcy Iserman

scanning art for cover

and graphic layout work

Janelle content for
the book

Recruiting now for a
year book chair for
next year!





Q & A



- Questions