

News Release

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Honoring Past Cape Fear Garden Club Members on Arbor Day 2011

Wilmington, North Carolina: Cape Fear Garden Club will celebrate Arbor Day, Friday, March 18, 2011 in Oakdale Cemetery. An oak tree will be planted in Section F to replace a dead tree. Marjorie Way, Arbor Day Chair, will dedicate the tree to the ladies of Wilmington, who in 1925 founded Cape Fear Garden Club. Ten of the 12 charter members are known to be buried in Oakdale Cemetery. They are Mary Wiggins Davis, Ida Kate Hawthorne Elliot, Margaret Hargrove Hall, Margaret Iredell Meyers Latimer, Sarah Crowther Lippett, Nola R. Martin, Rena Nelson McRae, Jeanie Strange, and Margaret Glenn Willard. The public is invited to attend.

The Cape Fear Garden Club© with 350 members was founded in 1925 making it the oldest and largest garden club in North Carolina and among the largest garden clubs in the nation. The organization is best known for producing the annual Azalea Garden Tour©, featuring the finest and most exquisite gardens in Southeastern North Carolina, along with the beautiful Cape Fear Garden Club Azalea Belles. Profits from the Cape Fear Garden Club Azalea Garden Tour© are distributed throughout our community as beautification and horticulture grants; scholarship grants at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and Cape Fear Community College; and support for conservation efforts at Battery Island, a National Audubon Society bird sanctuary. Well over \$1 million has been distributed in the past 57 years, including more than \$71,000 from the 2010 tour. The Cape Fear Garden Club, Inc. manages four departments, 19 Standing Committees, and 13 Special Committees. Each year, Cape Fear Garden Club, Inc. awards thousands of dollars in grants for beautification and horticultural projects, produces the annual Cruise of the Lower Cape Fear Bird Island tour, conducts flower arranging workshops, hosts horticulture specimen contest monthly, and photography of the Cape Fear Garden Club Azaleas Garden Tour. The Cape Fear Garden Club, Inc. meets monthly from September to May at the Cameron Art Museum. For more information about the Cape Fear Garden Club, Inc. © please visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/CapeFearGardenClub> or on our website at <http://www.capefeargardenclub.com>.

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