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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS '93
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Section C

Orangeburg decks historic Edisto Memorial Gardens in lights

By TERESA M. HATCHELL
T&D Staff Writer

Literally thousands of people have enjoyed the Christmas wonderland that debuted in Edisto Memorial Gardens this Christmas season.

On Nov. 29, hundreds of interested citizens gathered at the entrance to the gardens as Orangeburg Mayor Martin Cheatham, Faye Bilton, vice president of the Orangeburg Council of Garden Clubs, and Orangeburg Parks and Recreation Department Director Buster Smithexplained what led to the development of the huge display and "flipped the switch" connected to the extensive underground wiring system in "Children's Garden Christmas."

Since then, lines of cars have filed through night after night to enjoy the light/animation display, which will be open to the public through Jan. 2.

A culmination of months of planning on the part of the council, the City of Orangeburg and the Orangeburg Department of Parks and Recreation, "Children's Garden Christmas" is a professionally created display sure to attract thousands of visitors during the Christmas season.

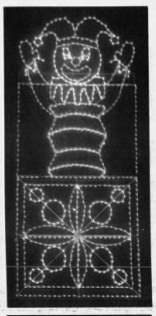
As you enter the gardens, you will see an animated ice fountain with swans to your far left and tiny twinkling white lights on trees and other structural features. To the right is a sign announcing the theme of the display. As you begin your drive through the wonderland, you see a large rocking horse slowly swaying back and forth.

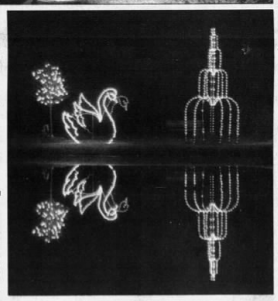
In all, there are 50 lighted trees, the welcome display plus silhouette figures of bears, deer, ice skaters and carolers. Besides the fountain with swans and rocking horse, other animated displays include a jack-in-the-box and a snowman.

And, the display would not be complete without a scene of Santa Claus and his reindeer set for take-off on the hill beside the water treatment plant.

A tour through "Children's Garden Christmas" is a free trip rich in the spirit of the season. It will continue to be lighted and open for public touring from 6 to 10 p.m. each night through the day after New Year's Day. Motorists are asked to

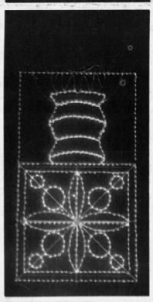
Please see Lights, 10C

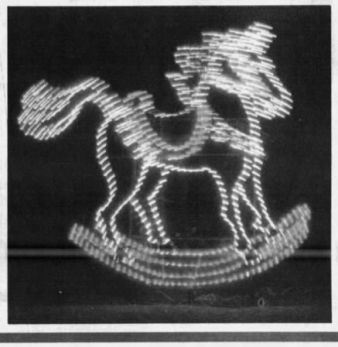


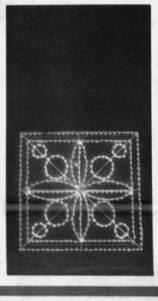


Christmas in Edisto Memorial Gardens

Thousands have enjoyed the "Children's Garden Christmas" which debuted in Edisto Memorial Gardens this Christmas season. The first display to greet visitors driving through the gardens is a brightly lit sign wishing everyone happy holidays (top). Silhouette figures are shown ice skating in front of the Orangeburg Arts Center (above). Lights of a flowing ice fountain with swimming swans reflect in the pond (right) near the gardens entrance. Other animated figures along the drive on Riverside include a waving snowman (bottom left), a giant rocking horse rocking back and forth (center below) and a jack-in-the-box (right side of page) popping out of his box. (T&D photos by Amy Tipp)







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