Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs' OLD DOMINION GARDENER

Reuse, Recycle, and Create Lovely Designs



Ye Accawmacke Garden Club created handmade flower containers with repurposed bristles from a power brush used to clean nets covering clam beds.

These designs were auctioned at their annual luncheon to raise money for National Garden Week, June 2-8, 2019, on the Eastern Shore.

www.virginiagardenclubs.org Spring 2019 • Vol. 50 • No. 4

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2017-2019 VFGC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Planting Today for Future Generations"

Dear Virginia Garden Club Members.

It's cold! As I write this message we are experiencing record setting cold temperatures. When I wrote the last article, I said "November is upon us and the weather has finally turned cooler." Well, who knew how much cooler it would turn out to be.

These cold days are perfect for finding a warm, cozy spot and start looking through the many gardening books and catalogs that are available now. Now is the time to plan for the spring refreshing and renewing as the earth slowly warms up.

I am now receiving the club President's Reports and it is so interesting to read about all the learning programs that have been scheduled and all the projects the garden clubs are involved in.

Spring District Meetings will be happening during the month of March and it is such an enjoyable and rewarding time to be with each District to hear their reports, their programs and their wonderful shopping. Blue Star Memorial Marker dedications are being planned in the Shenandoah, Tidewater and Blue Ridge Districts. So our garden clubs continue doing their work for our earth.

Grants to Beautify and Restore and Keys to the Future Grants were awarded and were announced in the Winter ODG. Congratulations to all who received funding. Heidi Sage, VFGC Awards Chairman and her committee spent hours reviewing all the award applications that were submitted. It will be exciting to hear and see the results at the upcoming VFGC Convention in Williamsburg.

Course IV of VFGC Flower Show School was held February 25-28. Upcoming in late summer or early fall will be Flower Show School, Course I. Watch for the dates as Course I is mandatory if you are taking Flower Show School for credit. Landscape Design School, Course I will be held at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens April 8-9, 2019. Gardening School finally has a chairman – watch for this new school announcement for the fall.

2019 VFGC and SAR Conventions will be held March 29-31 (South Atlantic Region) and March 31-April 2, (Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs) at the Double Tree by Hilton in beautiful Williamsburg, Mary Dixon and Loy Holt have been planning and have some wonderful programs – you won't want to miss either convention – come and stay for both. Previews and registration information for both schools was in the Winter ODG.

Hope you are enjoying your houseplants during these cold months. Stay warm and safe while we dream for spring.

Manty Bowen

SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION (SAR) NEWS

South Atlantic Region 2019 Convention • March 29 – 30, 2019 Doubletree By Hilton Hotel • 50 Kingsmill Road • Williamsburg, Va. 23185

Please join VFGC members for the South Atlantic Region 2019 Convention. Thursday, March 28 is a pre-convention day with afternoon programs by Shelley Fones "The Gardening Angel" and Tommy White "Alton's Keep Wild Bird Rescue". There will also be a dinner Thursday evening with David Roos' program "Spring is Time to Clean Gardens".

Friday morning is the official convention opening and David Pippin and Al Brockwell, The Dueling Designers, will entertain you at lunch. Afternoon programs will include Les Parks of the Norfolk Botanical Garden and Sharon McGukin of Smithers Oasis Floral Products will discuss their products. The evening program on "Cottage Gardens" will be given by Gordon Chappell, retired from Colonial Williamsburg. The Director and Alternate Director for 2019 – 2021 will be installed in the evening.

Saturday, March 30, 2019 will conclude the convention with Brunch and the Awards Program where members are recognized for all of the outstanding work they do in their Garden Clubs. Please plan to attend the Fifty-eighth South Atlantic Region Annual Convention and celebrate with us.

For the first time the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. annual convention will follow the SAR Convention. Please plan to spend a few extra days in beautiful Williamsburg and attend the VFGC Convention. There will be registration forms on the website – www.virginiagardenclubs.org. Room rates are the same and there will still be shopping and wonderful programs.

South Atlantic Region Convention Schedule

Thursday, March 28, 2019 8:00 am – Noon	. Exhibit Room Setup	. Conference Rooms A & B
	. Registration	
	. Flower Room Open	
	. Finance Comm. Meeting	
11:00 am – Noon	. Executive Comm. Meeting	Conference Room 5
	. Exhibit Room Opens	
Noon – 1:30 pm	. Lunch – Exec. Committee	.Private Dining Room
	. Program – Shelley Fones "The Gardening Angel"	Auditorium
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	. Program - Tommy White	Auditorium
	. Alton's Keep Wild Bird Rescue	
	. Social Time	
	. Dinner & Program	
	. David Roos - "Spring Is Time To	o Clean Gardens"
Friday, March 29, 2019	FI D 0	- " B IB
	. Flower Room Open	
	. Registration Open	
	. Exhibit Room Open	
	. Official Convention opening	
12:15 pm -2:30 pm	. Luncheon & Program	. Harrison
	. Program: Les Parks	Auditorium
	. Program: Oasis Products	
	. Social Time	
	. Dinner & Program	
	. Gordon Chappell "Cottage Gard	
Saturday, March 30, 2019		
8:00 am – 9:00 am	. Registration Open	Conference Lobby Desk
	. Brunch – Awards Program	Adams Room
	. SAR 2019 – 2021 Board Meetin	ng
	. Center Lounge	

South Atlantic Region Convention

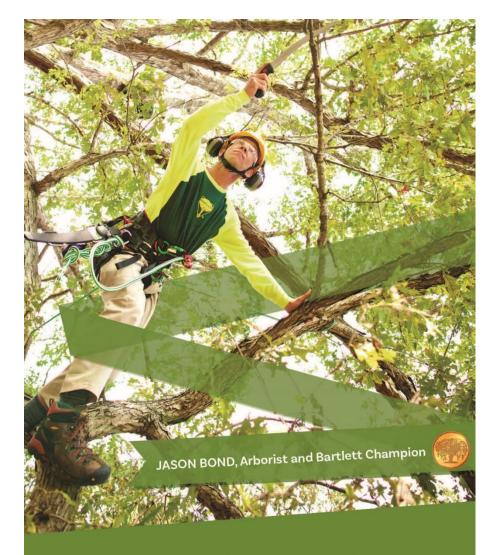
March 29-30, 2019 Fifty-eighth Annual Convention "The Beauty of Nature: Protect, Preserve, Enjoy"

Registration: Please complete form, make check payable to "SAR 2019 Convention" and mail both to Claudia H. Cosby, 3015 Mount Hill Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113-3923. For info: chcosby@verizon.net • Postmark by February 25, 2019 for On Time Registration.

Last Name	First	Middle Initial
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone	E-mail address	
Please checkif we may en	nail your acknowledgemen	i.
Check ALL that apply: () NGC Officer () SAR () NGC Chairman () Form () NGC Life Member () SAR () Club President () Club () Guest () Spour	er SAR Director () Life Member () Member ()	SAR Officer SAR Chairman State President Elected Delegate
Please mark the plan of your cho Thursday Banquet, Friday Lunch		
Full Convention – Non-Virginia Me Full Convention Virginia Members Full Convention Spouses Thursday Luncheon-Former SAR		\$190.00 \$185.00 \$180.00 \$ 35.00
Thursday Banquet and Program Friday Luncheon and Design Prog Friday Banquet and Program Saturday Breakfast and Awards P Part Time Registration Additional Late Registration Fee –	rogram	\$ 50.00 \$ 35.00 \$ 55.00 \$ 25.00 \$ 25.00 \$ 25.00
TO'	TAL ENCLOSED	\$
Please indicate special dietary Diabetic Heart		uten Other

No Refunds after March 10, 2019

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 Early Arrivals - must register early as there is a limited block of rooms. Hotel Reservations: DoubleTree by Hilton, 50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185. Call: 1-800-222-8733 & reference group name: South Atlantic Region Associations 2019 or Code: SAG. Room rate is \$119.00 for standard room or \$139.00 for suite rooms, plus taxes and \$2.00 fee. Note: Hotel cut-off date is February 26, 2019.



I love the view from my office.

Jason Bond is a Bartlett Tree Experts champion. He, like all on his team, is the best in the business. An expert who champions the trees, landscapes and property investments of the customers in his care. He leaves no detail unexplored and no question unanswered.

Contact us today 877-BARTLETT bartlett.com



Va Federation of Garden Clubs (VFGC) News

X VFGC 2019 Convention March 31-April 2, 2019 **X** "A Gardener's Path...Can take you anywhere."

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel 50 Kingsmill Road • Williamsburg, VA 23185

It seems like it has already been a very long winter. Why not sign up now for a beautiful spring VFGC Convention in Williamsburg? Our members have been planning wonderful programs and workshops, beautiful designs and of course, food and shopping.

Sunday, March 31st is a workshop with <u>Darene Honeycutt</u>-working with youth "Sowing the Seeds for Future Generations." Immediately following her is <u>Marlene MacDonald</u> teaching us about "Focusing on the Mechanics of Design." <u>Laura Viancour</u>, Landscape Director of Colonial Williamsburg Foundation is our featured speaker for our dinner. Laura became the manager of garden programs when the new position was created several years ago. It was seen as a new way to enhance the interpretation of Colonial Williamsburg's gardens.

In her current position as Director of Landscape, Laura is responsible for the overall management of the Foundation's gardens and grounds, which include 301 – acre Historic Area, Merchant's Square, the Visitor Center and Colonial Williamsburg's museums.

Laura is a frequent presenter for a variety of publication and television shows including: Southern Living, CNN, the P. Allen Smith Garden Show and Turner South Network. I know you will enjoy her presentation on "Enhancing and Interpreting Colonial Williamsburg's Gardens."

Monday, April 1st is the official opening of the convention with <u>Jim Gray</u> entertaining us during lunch with his presentation on "Flowers with Heart." Jim grew up on the Outer Banks of North Carolina and graduated from college in art education. In 1983 he went into business as a floral designer, later he gravitated towards weddings and large scale events. He believes that floristry is truly an art form, one that demands respect of all of the elements. He also believes one should get lost in the creation of a floral design. His inspiration has always been his family. He now leads a team of very successful designers at "The City Florist" in Salisbury, MD. Afternoon programs will include: <u>Lisa Robinson</u> speaking on "Growing and Showing Daffodils." <u>Gloria Nelson</u> will follow her speaking on "In a Nutshell Why Squirrels Matter." That evening we will hear from Honored Guest: <u>Nancy Hargroves</u>, National Garden Club President. Nancy will be speaking as well as installing our new slate of officers for the 2019-2021 term as well as the District Officers for Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs.

Tuesday, April 2 will conclude the convention with Brunch and the Awards Program where clubs are recognized for the outstanding work they have done throughout the year. Please sign-up now to help us celebrate our 85th Annual VFGC Convention.

Hotel Reservations: DoubleTree by Hilton, 50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185 • Call: 1-800-222-8733 & reference group name: **Virginia Federation of Garden State Conference 2019** or Code: **VFG** • Room rate is \$119.00 for standard room or \$139.00 for suite rooms, plus taxes and \$2.00 fee. Note: Hotel cut-off date for above price is February 28, 2019.

X Convention Schedule **X**

Saturday, March 30, 2019

Early Arrivals – must register early as there is a limited block of rooms.

Sunday, March 31, 2019: 8:00 am – Noon	Exhibit Room Setup	Conference Rooms A & B
10:30 am – 6:00 pm	Registration	Conference Lobby Desk
	Flower Room Open	
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Finance Comm. Meeting	Conference Room 5
	Executive Comm. Meeting	
	Exhibit Room Opens	
·	Luncheon – Board of Directors & Former VFGC Presidents	
	Board Meeting	
	Workshop – Darene Honeycut	
	"Sowing Seeds for Future Generations"	
	Workshop – Marlene MacDonald	
	Focusing on the Mechanics of Design".	
	Social Time (cash bar)	
7:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Dinner & Program-Laura Viancour	
	"Enhancing & Interpreting Colonial Willi	amsburg's Gardens"
Monday, April 1, 2019:		
	Flower Room Open	Executive Lounge
8:00 am – 6:00 pm	Registration Open	Conference Lobby Desk
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Exhibit Room Open	Conference Rooms A & B
	Official Convention opening	
Noon -2:30 pm	Luncheon/Program-Jim Gray "Flowers With Heart"	Harrison 1-4
	Workshop: Lisa Robinson	Auditorium
	"Growing & Showing Daffodils"	
	Workshop: Gloria Nelson	Auditorium
	"In a Nutshell why Squirrels Matter"	
	Social Time (cash bar)	
7:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Dinner & Installation	
	Honored Guest: Nancy Hargroves, NG	
	Installation of 2019 – 2021 VFGC Office	ers
Tuesday, April 2, 2019		
Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration Open	Conference Lobby Desk
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration Open Brunch – Awards Program	
8:00 am – 9:00 am 9:00 am – 11:00 am	Brunch – Awards Program Convention Closes	Adams Room
8:00 am – 9:00 am 9:00 am – 11:00 am	Brunch – Awards Program	Adams Room

X 2019 VFGC Convention Registration Form **X** "A Gardener's Path...Can take you anywhere." March 31-April 2, 2019 • 85th Annual Convention

Registration: Please complete form; make check payable to "VFGC 2019 Convention" and mail both to Claudia H. Cosby, 3015 Mount Hill Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113-3923. For info: chcosby@verizon.net • Postmark by February 28, 2019 for On Time Registration.

Name			Pnone()	
Address				
City		State	Zip	
E-mail address				
Club		District		
Regional Officer/Chr Former VFGC Presid State Officer/Chm	m() Distri dent() Club () Club	ct Director President Member		ır
Additional Late Registrati *Note: Full convention inc	t and Program lesign Program stallation Program ards Program r, March 31 Luncheon-Boar on Fee – After February 2 8 TOTAL	\$ 35.00 8, 2019 \$ 25.00 ENCLOSED \$ nday Lunch and Dinn	00 00 00 00 ormer VFGC State Presidents 0 0 orer, Tuesday Brunch and Reg	
	VFGC C	redentials Form:		
Name				
District		Garden Club		
Check one that applies: () VFGC Officer/Board () Club President	of Directors		lub Delegate lub Alternate	
complete this form and in Bylaws – the number of [clude it with your Registrati	ion Form. Eligibility s ach Club is allowed to	embers of the Board of Direct shall be in accordance with V o send to Convention depend	FGC
1-25 members 26-50 members	President or appoir President or appoir	ntee – 1 Alternate ntee plus 1 Delegate	– 2 Alternates	

President or appointee plus 2 Delegates – 3 Alternates President or appointee plus 3 Delegates – 4 Alternates

Delegates have the right to vote, alternates fill in the delegate if he/she is unable to attend the Convention.

51-100 members

100+ members



National President's Project

Submitted by Liz Lester, Chairman

Congratulations to the following clubs for being National Garden Clubs' PLANT AMERICA Community Grant Award Winners

Amelia County Garden Club (P) • Calfee Garden Club (Sh) • Red Hill Garden Club (SC)

■ Landscape Design School Course I, Series XXVIII ■

April 8-9, 2019 • Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden 1800 Lakeside Drive • Richmond, VA 23228-4700 Submitted by Glenda Knowles, Chairman

Instructors will be:

<u>Gordon W. Chappell, FASLA</u>: Gordon Chappell has taught at Landscape Design School for many years in several states. From Georgia, Gordon is a graduate of the University of Georgia, a former garden director at Colonial Williamsburg, and a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architecture. His private practice of landscape architecture in James City County focuses primarily on historic properties.

<u>Jack Douglas, ASLA</u>: Jack is the President and Founder of Douglas Associates, a professional landscape design and architecture firm in Richmond, VA. He taught as an instructor for the University of Richmond, Georgetown University and the University of Virginia. His garden designs have been featured in *Southern Living* and *Southern Accents*. Jack received a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Georgia and a master's degree in Landscape Architecture from Harvard University.

<u>Trevor R. Buckley, Landscape Planner</u>. Trevor is a landscape planner and designer with a keen interest in bringing ecological design principles to bear on projects at all scales. His education and research have taken him across the American West, Europe, and Southeast Asia. After graduating from the College of William and Mary with a B.S. in Geology, he pursued farming and gardening for several seasons. This work led him to the Conway School's graduate program in sustainable landscape planning and design, where he earned a M.S. in Ecological Design. As a member of the landscape architecture studio at Timmons Group, based in Richmond, VA, Trevor works on a wide array of public and private sector projects in MD, VA, and NC.

Neal Beasley, ASLA, ISA Certified Arborist: Neal is a Landscape Architect and Certified Arborist with over 25 years of experience in the fields of Horticulture, Arboriculture, Irrigation, Landscape Construction and Public Gardening. Neal studied horticulture at N. C. State University and was formerly the Manager of Horticulture at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. As an Arborist, he assesses trees during the site analysis to best determine protection strategies or removal. Neal is also on the team of the Timmons Group in Richmond. Neal is the co-author of "Recycling Urban Stormwater: 1050K Street, NW Washington, DC" 2007.

<u>Laurie Fox, Ph.D.:</u> Laurie Fox is a faculty member in the Horticulture department at Virginia Tech and is based at the Hampton Roads Agricultural Research & Extension Center in Virginia Beach, VA where she has extension and research responsibilities. She received her BS & MS degrees in Horticulture from North Carolina State University, with an emphasis on landscape design, ornamental

plant production, and weed science, and her Ph.D. from Wageningen University, The Netherlands. Laurie is an author and the publisher of *Best Plants for Hampton Roads - A Landscape and Garden Companion*. For the past several years Laurie has served as the chairman of the Virginia Flower & Garden Expo held in Virginia Beach.

Course Registration Landscape Design School Course I • Series XXVIII • April 8, 9, 2019

Registration Deadline: March 15, 2019

Name:	
Address:	
City/State:	
Home Phone:	Cell Phone
E-Mail:	Fax:
Garden Club:	District:
Check if you are refreshing Are you a less your garden club a member of VFGC?	•
The cost of your meals or lodging is not incl Please Check the Correct Boxes	luded in the registration fee.)
[] Exam Student	\$ 80.00
[] Non-exam Student [] *Single Day Student	\$ 80.00 \$ 40.00
Circle One: Monday or Tuesda	av

Make check payable to VFGC Landscape Design School and mail to LDS Registrar: Marty Bowers • 2854 Hickory Cove Lane • Moneta, VA 24121-6029 • Phone: 540-297-0965 • E-mail: martbw@gmail.com. LDS Chairman: Glenda Knowles • 6948 Chancery Lane • Williamsburg, VA 23188 • Phone: 757 651-0401 • E-Mail: ggknowles@cox.net

(Note: Maximum class size is 30 students. Late cancellations for refunds shall be based upon medical/family emergencies.)

The text for the entire series of Courses I-IV is *Stewards of the Land: A Survey of Landscape Architecture and Design in America*, published by NGC, Inc. Order through National Garden Clubs, Inc., 4401 Magnolia Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110, 800-550-6007 or 314-776-7574. Cost is \$40.00 plus shipping & handling. To order online, scroll to the bottom of this page: http://nationalgardenclubs.org/schools/landscape-design.aspx.

Hampton Inn- 5406 Glenside Drive, Richmond. Hilliard Road beside LGBG becomes Glenside Drive. (2.7 miles from LGBG) (804)756-1777. Hot breakfast included. Ask for LDS Block – Rate: \$119.00. Cut-off date for discount is March 20, 2019. To Reserve a Room In Your Block: go to www.richmondglensidesuites.hamptoninn.com select your arrival and departure dates, then click "add special rate codes" in the box labeled "group code", enter LDS, continue making your reservation by selecting from the available room types at the negotiated group rate set up by the group contact.

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Please Print

Landscape Design School Course I Schedule:

Monday, April 8, 2019			
Time	. Activity	Chap	. Instructor
8:00am - 8:20am	. Registration		
8:20am	. Welcome		
8:30am – 9:30am	. Space, Design, and People	1	. Neal Beasley
9:40am - 10:40am	. Public Landscapes	17	. Trevor Buckley
10:50am – 11:50am	. Prin. and Elements of Landscape	2	. Neal Beasley
	Design		
11:50am - 1:30pm	. LUNCH		
1:30pm - 2:30pm	. Color in the Landscape	6	. Trevor Buckley
2:40pm - 3:40pm	. Basics of a Site Plan	9	. Jack Douglas
3:45pm	. Class Dismissed –		
6:30pm	. Group Dinner – place to be annound	ed	
Tuesday, April 9, 2019			
8:30am - 9:30am	Landscape Design Resources	8	Jack Douglas
9:40am - 10:40am	Development of Landscape Design	22	Gordon Chappell
10:50am - 11:50am	Design for the Environment		
11:50am - 1:00pm	LUNCH		
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Rain Gardens	*SIT	Laurie Fox
	*SIT – Special Interest Topic		
2:10pm - 3:10pm	Developing Your Home / Private	7	. Gordon Chappel
	Garden		
3:15pm	. Review – consultants not taking the	exam may le	eave.
3:30pm	_	,	

Be a VFGC Yearbook Sponsor

Submitted by Claudia Cosby, Chairman

Who can be a Sponsor?

Each club and every club member can be a sponsor

SPONSOR BENEFITS: Listed on the Sponsors Page • Receive a yearbook insert (\$10 Sponsor)

Each member club receives two gratis yearbook inserts and each VFGC/district officer and chairman receives one gratis yearbook insert.

What's in it for me?

- A directory of names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for all VFGC officers and chairmen, district officers and chairmen, all garden club presidents, and SAR and NGC officers.
- Information that Garden Clubs need—on dues, donations, Life Memberships, etc.
- Calendar of Events
- Awards offered by VFGC, SAR and NGC for clubs and individuals
- List of Flower Show Judges and Landscape Design Consultants
- VFGC Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and Standing Rules

Be a VFGC Yearbook Sponsor and Receive Your Copy of the VFGC Yearbook (which will have the VFGC logo in green on the front cover and VFGC on the spine).

Be a Yearbook Sponsor VFGC YEARBOOK - 2019-2021

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Individual Sponsor • Please	e print your NAME a	as it is to appear	in the yearbook.
Name			
District			
Garden Club			
Telephone Number			
E-mail			
Club Sponsor	_ - _ -		
Garden Club Name			
District			
Club Contact (Treasurer) _			
Contact Phone Number			
E-mail	 		
	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Yearbook Insert		\$10.00	
Yearbook Binder with VFGC logo		\$8.00	
Total Order			

Checks payable to **VFGC, Inc. Mail check and form to:**Claudia Cosby • 3015 Mount Hill Dr. • Midlothian,VA 23113-3923

chcosby@verizon.net 804-794-7798

Pruning

Submitted by Jane Sorensen, Horticulture Chairman

My family gave me a variety of pruning tools for Christmas this year, which was a great present. I have more trees, shrubs, and general vegetation than I can handle, but I do enjoy the mano a mano combat. So, I thought there might be more gardeners out there who would be interested in some general guidance on pruning.

First, if the branch is dead, damaged, or diseased, it's always the right time to cut it out - all the way back to healthy wood. Make sure your saw, loppers or pruners are sharp, and clean. If the branch was diseased, disinfect the tools after making the cut so that you don't risk spreading the disease. Also, don't leave pruned diseased wood lying around, or add it to your compost pile - same worry about spread of disease.

Next, for the "voluntary" pruning. Look carefully before you cut, cut just outside a branch collar, and do not remove more than a third of the plant in one year - less is better. Also, consider the normal growth habit of the shrub. Forcing a shrub into a shape other than its normal one will require constant vigilance. Virginia Cooperative Extension has great charts with recommended pruning

times for many shrubs, deciduous trees, and evergreens, and also has publications with guidance on pruning tools and techniques. Check these out at the VCE website: http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/index.html.

In general, spring blooming shrubs should be pruned after they have bloomed. Summer blooming shrubs should be pruned in very early spring (before bud-set) or after they have bloomed. Pruning in late summer and early fall exposes the new growth to possible frost/cold damage.

Since this article will probably be printed in the spring issue of the ODG, here are a few of the shrubs for which late spring pruning (May and June) is appropriate: azalea, barberry, boxwood, daphne, forsythia, Harry Lauder's walking stick, lilac, mugo pine, privet, service berry, viburnum, pussy willow, witch hazel.

Community Gardening

Happy pruning!

Submitted by Amy Gable Thorpe, Chairman

It's that time of year when we begin planning our gardens and our garden club community projects for the coming spring and summer! The Children and Community Gardens committee purpose is to encourage our clubs to garden in our communities. Whether that gardening is just our clubs cleaning up a community flower bed, working with a youth group on teaching them about gardening or with other organizations to make an even bigger impact in our community. These community projects can be as small or large as you choose but isn't it our mission as garden club members to promote gardening and beatify our communities? It can be so simple when we work together!

Here are some ideas. Have you noticed any flower beds in need of some attention or cleaning in your community around museums, county or town buildings perhaps? If only 4 members worked on the project it would take very little time. How about at churches or the local Legion Posts or VFW's and they would also have volunteers that could help...now you are planting together! What about at schools or youth group buildings, the students could help! Even if only 2 or 3 members visit a classroom or youth group and simply explained the cycle of a plant and took in either a coloring page or small cup with a bean seed for them to grow at home, you are making a difference!

Here is something I did for pre-schoolers. I went in the classroom and read them "The Saved Seed" and handed each student a pumpkin coloring page with directions to save seeds as well as 2 recipes for roasted pumpkin seeds on the back of the coloring page. I then donated the book to the school library. How easy is that? Not all projects have to be big or expensive. If you want to go big, contact the local Boy Scout troops or Eagle Scouts and now you have youth and their dads for help, think what you could accomplish with the extra manpower (literally).

So contact the grounds and maintenance offices in your town or county and ask if you can adopt that pitiful flower bed you pass on your way to the post office. Call the Commander at the local Legion Post and see if you can help them with the landscaping around their memorial garden (they may even fix you lunch). Everyone knows a teacher in their area, call them ask if you can talk to their class or do a project with them. Call the local Boys & Girls Club. Trust me, teachers and child care providers would love to have someone come in and do a project with them!

It doesn't take much, but it takes a start. Make that phone call, send the email or stop into the museum; you never know how much of a difference it can make! I can't wait to hear what you do, so please email me your projects and let me know how you do!! Email - amygablethorpe@gmail.com.

Happy Planting Together!!

"Prospective Member Knocking? How do I Answer?"

Submitted by Judy Ann Fray, VFGC Third VP & Membership Chairman

Sometimes when an individual inquires about joining a garden club, (and joining your club, specifically), you may need some help with responding. This is an example that might be used as you fill in the blanks in a written response that provides a feeling of welcome to the person who is unfamiliar with your garden club. We are grateful to Kate Abrahams of Rock Spring Garden Club for allowing use of her response to an inquiry. May this be helpful to many club membership chairmen when those prospective members come knocking. This example provides 'just enough' information to create interest, and yet does not overwhelm with a long list of club projects / activities.

Hi,		
How are you? I received a message to	from VFGC/NGC that you are i	interested in joining a
garden club and that you live in	I'm the President of _	Garden Club
and am delighted to invite you to our	next meeting on Thursday, Feb	oruary 21 at 10 a.m.
After our club business meeting, we	will have a speaker talk about tl	he cutting flower
garden at Estate starting at 1	1 a.m. We meet at the	Presbyterian
Church, 6025 Little Falls Road,	, VA 22207. If you would	like to learn more
about the club, please visit https:	(Add your club's website	e). I can send you
some information about the club if yo	ou would like. The annual dues	are \$ per year
and you must attend two general mee	etings before you apply for men	nbership. I hope you
will come in February and enjoy a lig	ght lunch as my guest after the p	orogram.
With best wishes,		-
Kate Ahrahams		

Best wishes to all clubs in warmly inviting those who are interested in garden clubs of the Virginia Federation!

VFGC Calendar of Events

March 12 South Central District Meeting	
March 14 Tidewater District Meeting	Virginia Beach
March 18 Piedmont District Meeting	Richmond
March 18 Shenandoah District Meeting	Staunton
March 21 Blue Ridge District Meeting	Roanoke
March 23 Southwest District Meeting	Abingdon
March 28-30 SAR Convention	Williamsburg
March 31 VFGC Finance Meeting	Williamsburg
March 31-April 2 VFGC Convention	Williamsburg
April 8-9 Landscape Design School	Lewis Ginter
April 29-May 2 NGC National Convention	
May 1 ODG deadline to submit articles	TBA
May 31 Deadline for VFGC Dues	

In Memoriam

♦ Piedmont District

Patricia "Patty" Bragdon	Thomas Jefferson GC
Joan Clements	Chesapeake Bay GC

CLUB AND DISTRICT NEWS

Ye Accawmacke Garden Club (T)

Submitted by Ann Bull

Ye Accawmacke
Garden Club donated \$500
to Eastern Shore Rural
Health System, Inc. in
support of their new Eastville
Community Health Center.
The donation will be used
toward landscaping at the
center. Pictured is Governor
Ralph Northam and other
dignitaries at the ground
breaking.



Beautiful Homes on Tour in Reedville (P)

Submitted by Karen Luzuriaga

On December 8 and 10, visitors toured beautiful Reedville homes with proceeds supporting the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. Four homes were beautifully decorated by their owners and Chesapeake Bay Garden Club members.

Charley and Maureen Gillmer's recently built Red Cottage is on Roseland Road. This home has a unique design allowing for many traditional Christmas decorations. Light from large windows set off the decorations and provided a panoramic view of the creek. Decorations and family heirlooms provided a cozy, warm feeling in this home. Sue Moore was the head decorator, and she had a lot of help from other members of club.

The Steamboat House at 532 Main Street got its name because it looks like a steamboat pilot house. The new owners are Mark and Stacey Stickley. It's an old beautiful,

light filled house located on the creek. Head decorator, Rebecca Elston and her crew did a lovely job making arrangements and placing greens in this quaint old house. Walking through this house was like going back in time.

On 560 Main Street sits the Carroll House, an American four-

On 560 Main Street sits the Carroll House, an American foursquare. The new owners are Dan and Michele Ginnerty. Sharon Lemke and Sharon Stieber, the head decorators, and other club members did an outstanding job with the decorations. Beautiful

arrangements and greenery blended well with the home's

décor. The view of the creek, the decorations, and the home's style all added to the home's charm.

The Pittman Cottage on 1126 Fleeton Road was also decorated by Chesapeake Bay GC. The proud owners are John and Sally Baffa. This cottage is filled with Winter 2018 • Vol. 50 • No. 3 • Page 16 of 28



photography of family and nature. Sally provided many of the decorations, and the garden club provided the greenery and floral arrangements. The head decorator was Kathie Truxall, assisted by club members. The Pittman Cottage was a warm, pleasant place to visit on the tour.

Chesapeake Bay GC also supported the RFM by creating a beautiful tablescape displayed throughout the entire event. Linda Hixon and friend Donna Bowen created the beautiful table called "Oh Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree." Many other organizations supported the Reedville Fishermen's Museum as well by providing lovely tablescapes displayed in Festival Hall.

The event ended with a snowfall and chilly air, but it did not keep away visitors. It was a festive beginning to the holiday season.



Town and Country Garden Club of Wise (SW)

Subtmitted by Kate Hibbits

Town and Country Garden Club was pleased with the number of residents who decorated their homes and businesses so beautifully in Wise for the holiday season. There were many wonderful decorations in spite of the snowy weather early in December.

The winners in the fourth annual contest were recognized at a brief ceremony on December 18 at the Inn at Wise. Both monetary prizes and certificates were awarded.

The club would like to thank member Vicki Stephens who coordinated this activity and those members who judged the contest.

Natural Bridge Garden Club (Sh)

Submitted by Diane Weaver

Natural Bridge GC met for lunch in Lexington during January to socialize and discuss plans for the spring. Our 86-year old garden club in Rockbridge County is proud of its heritage and members, both past and present. We are looking forward to several interesting upcoming meetings such as February's "Pumping up the Taste with Herbs" featuring guest speaker, Barbara Thomas of the Glasgow Garden Club. We will visit Bloomaker in Waynesboro in March to learn about redefining the floral industry...and April's meeting will be about saving the bees presented by a Whistle Creek Apiary Beekeeper. The Natural Bridge Garden Club continues to dedicate its efforts to beautify the community by contributing to hanging baskets around the town, attending community fairs, plant sales and school projects in conjunction with other clubs and County Council as well as through our meetings, programs and activities for the membership.

Lynnhaven Heritage Garden Club (T)

Submitted by Adele Lundquist

Lynnhaven Heritage Garden Club President Frances Thrash tends to the boxwoods at the Francis Land House's formal garden. The Francis Land House is a historic house in Virginia Beach and the boxwoods are direct descendants from Thomas Jefferson's 1809 Monticello. Lynnhaven Heritage GC has been maintaining the formal garden for several years.



Salisbury Garden Club (P)

Submitted by Martie Parch

The Salisbury Garden Club members have been busy volunteering in their community. We participate in the Homework Helpers program at Stony Point Church in Bon Air and recently helped the students make bird feeders. This past fall, we planted bulbs and spruced up a garden in the Suburban Park Village in Midlothian. To celebrate the holiday season, students in the after school program at Southampton Elementary School created



holiday designs with fresh flowers.
Beautiful wreaths and greenery decorated the entrances and doors of homes in Salisbury this Christmas. We will be making wind chimes in February with the residents at Spring Arbor Assisted Living and Care and teacup designs with the folks at Bickford Senior

Care. There's always a project to share with friends at Salisbury Garden Club!

Red Hill Garden Club - Community Involvement is Number "1"

Submitted by – Marilyn Shorter, President (SCD)

Here we are in the middle of winter and its time for an article for the spring 2019 issue of ODG. At the time of this writing on the "countdown to spring" there were only 59 days, 5 hours, 25 minutes until spring 2019! Can't wait for those "April showers to bring the beautiful May flowers". As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "the earth laughs in flowers"!

We kicked off 2018 in January with a member/community involvement/Red Hill fundraiser and membership drive, with a paint class, taught by our very own resident artist, Teresa Guthrie. We had 25 ladies painting beautiful sunflowers on canvass! All painted the same flower, yet all were different. January is our big fundraiser for the year - our geranium

sales. Our communities really get involved in this fundraiser and it has been very profitable for our club. We sell between 400 & 500 hundred geraniums each year.

February saw another community involvement project: members went to a local nursing home and interacted with the residents there, helping them design and make arrangements for their nursing home dining hall and also for their sitting rooms. Afterwards we had a lunch and learn session, facilitated by Marjorie Pugh on all the rules and regulations for design and judging.

Tuesday, March 12 we attended the SCD meeting at the Robert Russa Moton Museum in Farmville, Va. Since March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, Dr. Bill Jones, head of Centre Medical Center, Brookneal, spoke to us on Colorectal Cancer, signs, and the importance of early detection. This meeting was held in the home of Mrs. Marilyn Shorter.

April was a busy month working on our 5 local gardens and getting them ready for another year to look beautiful throughout Brookneal and surrounding areas. April, also another paint workshop/fundraiser/membership drive which will involve the community as well. Also busy with delivery of our geraniums that we sold in February and March.

May was our Spring Luncheon, Awards Ceremony, and Installation of New Officers. This year our luncheon will be in the home of Mrs. Nancy Foster. Then come June, we start all over again! Red Hill Garden Club.....Never Stops! Twelve months out of the year, we are like the Energizer Bunny, "we just keep on going". We have the best group of hardworking dedicated ladies in the entire SCD...well, I may be somewhat partial. These ladies make me proud!

We are making memories in the garden, in the community and everywhere we go as Red Hill Garden Club. I once read, "Success is when you look back at your life and the memories make you smile." And that's just what we do together in Red Hill Garden Club, our work and involvement with local children, the elderly and our Town beautifying our community with our gardens ...makes us smile...and that's what garden club is all about. "Flowers and gardening always make people better, happier and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul....anonymous.

We ended 2018 with all community involved holiday activities from Thanksgiving to New Years.



Save the Date to Celebrate our 50th Anniversary

Salisbury Garden Club Presents

"Pages from Our Past"

a standard flower show

May 1, 2019

1:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer • 2341 Winterfield Road in Midlothian.

Please join us for an afternoon of fun and creative beauty!

for more information contact Martie Parch *tredwr@msn.com*

Save The Date • June 1, 2019 Virginia Native Plant Symposium

Glasgow Garden Club, in partnership with the Natural Bridge Virginia State Park, is presenting a symposium about Virginia Native Plants: their identification, propagation, and nurturing. It will be held at the Natural Bridge Guest Center, Natural Bridge, Virginia on Saturday, June 1, 2019, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Space will be limited to 75 participants and reservations will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, please send your request to GlasgowGardenClub@gmail.com.

The Hill & Valley Garden Club cordially invites you to an

Afternoon Tea & Garden Tour

June 1, Saturday, 2019, 1:00-5:00 pm

Birdsong Pleasure Garden

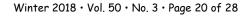
Luray, Virginia

Sweet, savory and gluten free delicacies.

Plants & gardening sales items – door prizes offered

Three acre guided garden tour over gentle terrain \$10 for VFGC member, \$15 for non-members Proceeds benefit Virginia Land Preservation and Community Projects

<u>Please RSVP</u> Lesley Mack at <u>birdsongpleasuregarden@gmail.com</u> website <u>www.birdsongpleasuregarden.info</u> 540-743-9389



Lake of the Woods Garden Club Welcomes... Nationally Acclaimed Kent Russell, the "Garden Guru"

When: Saturday, May 11, 2019 1-3 p.m.

Where: Lake of the Woods Community Center

Tickets: \$25



All are Welcome!

- Seating is limited to this one-time entertaining and FUN event!
- > Purchase tickets online at www.LOWGardenClub.org

Have fun learning how to make your garden pop and pick up a gorgeous plant for Mother's Day - the next day! Better yet... Bring your Mom!!

Sensational Dried Flowers

Submitted by Glynis Hopkins (BR)

An article in the National Geographic magazine, a rose from her mother's garden and a coffee can full of sand from a nearby creek led Esther Davis into her life's work. Little did she know then that this simple engaging afternoon activity would evolve into her full time vocation as a floral preservationist for nearly thirty years.

Esther Davis, author of "Sensational Dried Flowers – Make Dried Floral Arrangements So Beautiful They Look Fresh" will be the featured speaker at Blue Ridge District's Spring Meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2019 at Hunting Hill Country Club in Roanoke, Virginia. Esther will share her tips and techniques for drying, preserving, enhancing and reconstructing flowers so they can be used decoratively from simple designs to more complex to reach all levels of interest and inspire you to "try this at home".

She is a graduate of Washington State University with a BA in Fine Arts; continued her art education at Marylhurst College, Oregon School of Arts and Crafts, Multnomah Arts Center and Sitka Center for the Arts. Her award winning detailed colored pencil work was sold through the Attic Gallery in Portland, Oregon. By using scientific and artistic approaches with her work, she has been able to achieve a fool-the-eye fresh looking quality with her arrangements.

Her presentation and lecture resume includes Longwood Gardens, the Philadelphia and Maymont Flower Shows, PBS's Cultivating Life as well other public gardens and numerous garden clubs. Particularly fulfilling was being chosen to do seasonal dried florals for Virginia's Executive Mansion throughout the year 2009 and part of the Christmas decorating team for that year.

Esther emphasizes this is a one-time presentation for VFGC because of restrictions on her time and her involvement in many other interests. If you are interested in attending or want more information, please call or email Glynis Hopkins (ghopkins13@msn.com or phone 540-586-9655.) Seating is limited.

You will not want to miss this exciting program as Esther is a dynamic individual and her work speaks for itself.

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Appomattox Garden Club Donates Bench (P)

Submitted by Marilyn Brown



In honor of our 60th Anniversary the Appomattox Garden Club of Hopewell donated a bench to the city of Hopewell. The bench is located at the Riverside Park, formerly known as Jaycee Park, located across from the Hopewell City Marina. The bench provides an opportunity for visitors to rest after walking the Riverside Storm Water Greenway. This is a walkway available to all visitors. The trail meanders through trees behind the Appomattox Cemetery for one fourth of a mile. The donation was facilitated by Mrs. Carolyn Whitlock, club member, and Aaron Reidmiller, Director of Recreation and Parks in Hopewell and Tom Gates, Manager of Maintenance & Facilities.

Pictured (left to right) are: front row Marilyn Brown, President and Jane McCullen, Past President. Second row: Tom Gates, Carolyn Whitlock, and Aaron Reidmiller

Save the Date • Mark your Calendars Appomattox Garden Club's Annual Tea Party

April 28, 2019 from 3-5

Weston Manor • 400 Weston Street, Hopewell

Admission \$10

For Information contact Marilyn Brown mbteach@hotmail.com.



Abingdon Garden Club is looking forward to Presenting its 20th Garden Tour (SW)

Submitted by Barbara Smith

May 18, 2019 • \$15 for Tour Ticket and refreshments

The Abingdon Garden is busy getting ready for its spring garden tour. We have changed our date from June to May so we can show off our beautiful spring foliage. We have 8 confirmed locations and each is special with features such as window boxes, flowering trees, spring bulbs, and unique plants. Please join us if you are in the area.

Our website will be up and running before the tour. You can check us out at abingdongardenclubva.wordpress.com or e-mail us at abingdongardenclubva@gmail.com.

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Save The Date: April 27, 2019

"Spring In Our Mountains"

A Small Standard Flower Show (SW)

Presented by: Dogwood Garden Club of Big Stone Gap, Green Thumb Garden Club of Norton, and Town and

Country Garden Club of Wise.



Where: Wise County Public Library

Art Gallery

When: April 27, 2019

Time: Public invited to view the

show from 2-4 pm·

General Chairman: Margaret Craft For more information email Margaret mhcraft@verizon·net See you all there

Village GC Thinks Big for Christmas (SC)

Submitted by Joyce Hoffmann

Village Garden Club of Amherst was very busy during the Christmas season. As part of our beautification of the town of Amherst a new Christmas tree was designed by one of our members, Linda Gurtler. The tree was built by Bethel Welding Company and installed by town of Amherst employees and club members at the Amherst Traffic Circle.

In addition a summer project of refurbishing our

beloved "Christmas Soldiers" was completed. The soldiers were taken to various members home, sanded, painted and decorated. The soldiers were placed at various locations in town as part of the Christmas beautification project.



In the photo above, Linda Gurtler, Chairwoman for the Traffic Circle, stands beside one of the soldiers she refurbished. The newly designed tree of lights is partially visible in background. The photo to the left shows the Amherst Traffic Circle at night.

A huge thank you to all our members who worked so hard to make the town of Amherst beautiful.



Join Blue Ridge Garden Club for a Razzle Dazzle 90th Anniversary (BR)

Submitted by Roslyn Reynolds

BLUE RIDGE GARDEN CLUB will be celebrating their 90th anniversary with a "Razzle Dazzle" birthday party on Friday, April 26, 2019, in the Fellowship Hall of Main Street United Methodist Church in Bedford, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tickets for lunch will be sold by club members for \$10.00 per person. Carry-out and delivery (in town) will be available by calling 540-586-1414 no later than Wednesday, April 24th.

Lovely hanging baskets and plants from members' gardens will be for sale. There will be door prizes, a grand prize, and more!

Join Blue Ridge Garden Club on Friday, April 26 and be "razzle-dazzled!"

Buckingham Dillwyn Honors Past Presidents (SC)

Submitted by Barbara Wheeler



Buckingham Dillwyn Garden Club enjoyed a fun and tasty Christmas Fondue Luncheon at the Melting Pot in Charlottesville. The attendees also shared in the ornament exchange. Six members were presented a VFGC Lifetime Membership to honor past presidents who continue as members of BDGC. They are Charlene Snoddy (1959-1961); Pat Johnson and Jeanette Reck (2009-2010); Jackie Fairbarns (2011-2012); Suzanne VanDeGrift (2013); Eileen Butler (2013-2014).

Attending are Agnes Cramer, Suzanne VanDeGrift, Barbara Kragh, Pat Johnson, Kay Carter, Glenda Harris, Barbara Wheeler, Sharon Byrum, Barbara Clark, Barbara Knabe,

Jeanette Reck, Winnie Brown, and Elfriede Wolford. Not pictured is Marie Flowers. Photo by Agnes Cramer.

Tidewater District Flower Show Winners

Submitted by Mary Sue Floyd (T)

At the recent Tidewater District Flower Show "Rhythm in Hues" the following exhibitors produced top award winning exhibits: Designers Choice

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Award went to Betty Ann Galway for her transparency design; Gloria Nelson received Table Artistry Award and Award of Design Excellence for her functional table for two: Patsy Cameron received the Petite Award for her maximum 5 inch design; Frances Thrash received the Collectors Showcase Award and Award of Horticulture Excellence for her display of Hedera helix: and Carol Jarvis received the Botanical Arts Artiistic Craft Award for her decoration of a shoe. The



general chairman of this year's show was Glenda Knowles.

Chesapeake Bay Garden Club Remembers Joan Clements (P)

Submitted by Karen Luzuriaga



Frances C. Biddlecomb "Spirit" Award in 2003 and served as president from 2011-2013. Club members could always go to Joan with any horticulture questions or problems.

One of her greatest accomplishments was getting the Daffodil Garden planted in front of the school complex. Over 4,000 bulbs were planted to represent the children attending school in Northumberland County. Every spring the daffodils return to the delight of school children and adults.

The Chesapeake Bay Garden Club will surely miss Joan. Yes, she brought a vast knowledge of gardening skills, but she also brought a smile, kindness, and joy to CBGC.

passed away on January 19, 2019. When Joan retired, she got to pursue her interest in gardening. Her flower garden overlooked the banks of the Great Wicomico River.

She became a Master Garden

Joan Clements of Heathsville

She became a Master Garden who could amaze people with her knowledge of plants. One was always amazed because she could identify a plant both by its common and Latin names.

Joan was an active member of the Chesapeake Bay Garden Club. As a club member she earned the



From left to right: Joan Clements, Patsy Sylvia, and Anne Haynie enjoying lunch.

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Old Dominion Gardener www.virginiagardenclubs.org

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VFGC MissionStatement

Virginia Federation of
Garden Clubs, Inc.,
provides youth and adult
education resources and
opportunities for its
members to promote the
love of gardening, floral
design, civic, and
environmental
responsibility.

Save the Date!

Blue Star Memorial Dedication at the Eastern Shore Southern April 26, 2019 at 2 p.m. Welcome Center. Sponsored by Tidewater District, VFGC, in cooperation with the Ye Accawmacke Garden Club. Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel District and

Info: Janet Gehman 757-631-6103 Wanda Smith 757-787-4744



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Richmond, VA 23228-4700 1800 Lakeside Avenue

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