

MAY 2022 EDITION OF THE VFGC, INC. NEWSLETTER



Don't forget:

May 16-19: NGC Convention: Orlando
May 31: VFGC Dues and roster form due
May 31: NGC/Espoma Grant Application Due
June 5-11: National Garden Week

The VFGC Convention and Awards Ceremony were well received by all who visited the Hilton at Short Pump. Mary Owen is to be commended for running smooth, friendly meetings where people could visit and make new acquaintances. Thanks you Mary.

The Co-Chairman Diane Burges and JoAnn McNabb were outstanding and need a huge pat on the back and many, many thanks. Thank you both. Heidi Sage, Awards Chairman is organized and thorough. Thank you too for a great Awards Ceremony.

The speakers were varied and very interesting. Kathy Ward "Thinking Inside the Box ...Big Box Store" showed us an array of pipes, blinds, dryer vent hose to use in designs. Her program was well attended. Greg Britt floral designer from Keswick used many flowers to create his eclectic designs. Mary and Lili, mother and daughter team thrilled the audience with "wow" type designs. The designs were given to six lucky winners. Brenda McManaway presented a design concepts that blends crafts with flowers. Captain Mike Ostrander discussed the history and return of the Bald Eagle to the James River. His easy going presentation and pictures were a delight to see. Dan Benarcik, horticulturalist open the audiences eyes on how to combine plants, textures, colors and furniture to our yard.

Shopping was a must. the vendors were varied and interesting. The silent auction had many great buys (thank you Jane Earle).

The honor arrangements were also varied and certainly brightened the hallways and front desk. Congrats to the honorees.

One of the designs at the flower show was an educational exhibit showing the values of joining VFGC and the other was explaining the rewarding benefits of Penny Pines. Funds were donated to Penny Pines during the convention and I was the recipient of a plantation in my honor. Thank you. Val Story: VFGC First Vice President

Please continue to submit articles for Rooted. Send to valstory@aol.com

“May Magic Comes to Richmond”

Forty Designs and two education exhibits made for an exciting flower show at the VFGC Convention. The show was open for two days with many visitors. Brochures outlining the exhibits, classes and section were available. Pictured below are blue ribbon winners, other than the top NGC award winners.



Pictured are samples of the designs classes:

Upper left: Angular Design by Mary Owen

Upper middle: Featured plant material Design by Brenda McManaway

Upper right: Multi Rhythmic Design by Betty Ann Galway

Middle row far left: Creative Line Design by Genny Chase

Middle row left: Reflective Design by Janet Minock



Pictured are Petite Designs

Far Left: 8” Parallel Design by Frances Thrash

Left: 6” Tubular Design by Kath Ward

Flower Show School, Course III

A National Garden Clubs, Inc. School

August 22 – 25, 2022

Freemason Street Baptist Church

400 E. Freemason Street
Norfolk, VA 23510

757-625-7579

Pam Braun

Horticulture & Flower Show Procedure Instructor

A garden club member for almost 50 years, Pam Braun is currently a member of Leipers Fork Garden Club, which she founded in 2004. She is member of TN District II and a board member for the TN Federation of Garden Clubs and Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. She is an NGC accredited master flower show judge, an NGC horticulture, flower show procedure, and symposium instructor, member of numerous plant societies. She specializes in exhibiting collections and displays of numerous different plant groups and has won numerous top exhibitor awards for her horticulture. Besides horticulture, she enjoys floral design and has been a speaker, leader of workshops, and exhibitor at all levels from district to internationally. She has enjoyed growing plants all her life and the plant material she uses for both designs and instruction often comes from her own garden or indoor plants.

Kathleen Hawryluk

Design Instructor

Kathleen, a resident of Naples, Florida for 17 years is originally from Long Island, NY. The unusual tropical plant material on her property has inspired many new designs. Along with being a National GC Flower Show Design Instructor, she is an instructor of Ikebana (Sogetsu). As resident designer for the Moorings Church in Naples she gets to practice every week! Her designs have appeared in the FL calendar, *Design Dimensions*, and the Assembly of Flower Arrangers, *Concept* magazine. Currently serving as President of CFAA 2021, she is the immediate past President of the Naples GC and has been the President of II#160 (Ikebana Naples). Kathleen will teach creative designs.

Flower Show School – Course III

Date: August 22 - 25, 2022

Location: Freemason Street Baptist Church

Attendance at all Sessions is Required for Credit

Schedule:		
Monday, Aug 22	3:45 – 6 pm	Flower Show Procedure
Tuesday, Aug 23	8:00 – 9:00 am	FSP Exam
	9:15 am – 3:30 pm	Horticulture/Lunch
Wed., Aug 24	3:45 – 5:45 pm	Point Scoring Test
	8:00 – 9:00 am	Horticulture Exam
Thursday, Aug 25	9:15 am – 3:30 pm	Design/Lunch
	3:45 – 5:45 pm	Point Scoring Test
	9:00 – 10:00 am	Design Examination

Hotels near Freemason Street Baptist Church

Rates are NOT guaranteed:

Courtyard Marriott, 520 E Plume St, Norfolk, 23510, 757-963-6000, \$101

Wyndham Garden Norfolk Downtown, 700 Monticello Ave., Norfolk, VA 23510, 757-627-5555, \$97

Norfolk Waterside Marriott, 235 E Main Street, Norfolk VA 23510, 757-627-4200, \$118

Required Books to have:

Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition, NGC Horticulture Exhibiting & Judging, both available on the NGC Website, or 1-800-550-6007. Recommended books are Hortulana, the 21st Century Edition, and Designing by Types, by Harriott Osborne.

Flower Show Procedure will cover an explanation of the Education Division and judging educational exhibits, an explanation of the Youth/Sponsored Groups Division, requirements to become an accredited flower show judge, judging etiquette/ethics, and a review of writing a flower show schedule with emphasis on format and general rules.

Horticulture will cover creating a horticulture schedule, a review of general requirements for NGC Horticulture Top Exhibitor Awards, a review of judging qualities on the Horticulture Point scoring Form, a review of horticulture commenting vocabulary and judging procedures. Cut Herbs will be studied along with combination plantings.

Design will cover creating a design schedule, creative staging options, characteristics of creative design, the elements & principles as they relate to creative design, dynamic balance, plastic organization, juxtaposition and abstraction, general requirements for NGC Design Section Top Exhibitor Awards, a review of judging qualities found on the design point scoring form, and a review of design commenting vocabulary and judging procedures. Creative Designs will be studied.

For more information contact:

Flower Show School Chairman – Frances Thrash

2109 Cocoa Circle

Virginia Beach, VA 23454

francestrash@cox.net

(757) 478-5791 or (757) 481-3484

**REGISTRATION FORM: Flower Show School-Course III
Freemason Street Baptist Church**

400E Freemason Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-625-7579

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone _____

Club _____ District _____

Credit _____ Non-Credit _____

Full Course with/without exam (Includes tuition, two lunches, and reserved seating on Front rows)	\$130 _____
Flower Show Procedure (Mon.)	\$20 _____
Horticulture & Lunch (Tues.)	\$65 _____
Design & Lunch (Wed.)	\$65 _____
Manual will be e-mailed (free of charge)	
Printed Manual available at Registration	\$5 _____
TOTAL	_____

Dietary Restrictions _____

****No refunds after July 22, 2022**

Make check payable to **Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.** with **Flower Show Schools** in the memo line and mail to:

Glen Burnie Garden Club Plants Marigolds

With Students

On a trip to St. John, New Brunswick, Canada in September 2017, Sue Spangler saw something she thought was remarkable: a garden of bright orange marigolds, planted within the median strip of the town's main throughway, blocks and blocks in length. The flowers had been raised from seeds by the school children of St. John and were planted during one marathon session, an undertaking that has occurred in the city every year for over 20 years and has earned a place in the Guinness Book of Records 5 times, for the most children planting flowers at the same time. Sue brought the idea back to Glen Burnie Garden Club, and members enthusiastically began to plan their own "Marigold Project", but on a much smaller scale.

Quarles Elementary School in Winchester was invited to participate in the project, and in April, 2018 club members helped kindergarten and first grade students plant seeds in small starter pots. Five kindergarten and four first grades, with approximately 175 children, were involved in the project. Club members worked with the children in small groups. While one group planted, another had a mini lesson about seeds and the importance of planting gardens in our community. The seeds were then cared for by the children and their teachers for the next 6 weeks.

In May, less than 2 weeks before school was closed for the summer, the club returned to help the children put their infant plants into the selected garden beds, located beneath the school's sign in the front



yard of the school. The beds were devoid of flowers, and members had to prepare the beds prior to planting by removing several years' worth of mulch, turning the soil, edging the border, and removing weeds. On a sunny warm afternoon, 5 of the original 9 classes brought their plants to the beds and were helped by club members to carefully plant the marigolds. Again we worked in small groups. While one group planted, another group sat in the shade under a tree and learned about birds, bees, and gardening from club member Trisha Boyd, a Master Gardener.

During the summer, club members watered, fed, and weeded the beds. The marigolds flourished and provided a pretty display for passersby. Our hope was to inspire future gardeners and to teach a bit about seeds, and the importance of flowers in our world. Our Marigold Project will not make the Guinness Book of Records but we hope when school resumes in the Fall, the young gardeners can point to the marigold bed with pride and say, "Look what I did!"

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Years 2 – Present

2019 – 2022

In the second year of the project (2019), plans were made for the club to provide all materials needed to start the seeds in the classroom, but giving teachers leadership of actual planting and teaching in their individual classrooms.



The club would return 9 weeks later and help the children place the small plants in the garden under their school sign. Sharing with teachers the hands-on aspects of the project encouraged the club to look beyond one school and to investigate the possibility of involving all four of the city's elementary schools in year 3 (2020).

Years 3 and 4: During the Pandemic, there was no interaction with children but members did plant marigolds both years at Quarles Elementary School for the children to enjoy and gave teachers information to share with the students.

Year 5: 2022

This year the Marigold Project was expanded to include all first grade classes in all four of the city elementary schools. Members gave live presentations in two of the schools. These were recorded and distributed to the remaining two schools. All four schools were given all materials needed to raise marigold seedlings in their individual classrooms. Additionally, one preschool was included, involving the 4 and 5 year old students. A total of 291 students are involved in this year's project!



We now await warmer temperatures to hold our planting days. Several plants will be placed on each of the four school campuses for the students to enjoy. The majority of the plants will be placed around the circumference of a small traffic circle near the town's one city high school. Garden clubbers will make sure all areas are kept watered during the summer insuring the efforts of the children and the teachers will be enjoyed by all city residents.



Each year we have benefitted from a grant from a VFGC Youth Grant to help fund this great project!

Submitted by Carolyn Frye

VFGC PRIDE DECALS Remember to order

VFGC is a wonderful organization, beautifying our communities and making the world a better place.

Let's increase visibility and show our "pride"!

Decals are \$3 each or two for \$5. Order from Barbara Hollister
budhollister@gmail.com or Mary Owen



Penny Pines

For this term, thus far, (June 2021 to May 2023) Virginia is ranked third in the U.S. for total donations to Penny Pines. Congratulations Virginia. Way to go Joy (VFGC Penny Pines Chairman)



Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs

Life Membership — Book of Honor

This tax-deductible \$50 donation, given to honor club members, friends, and associates, is used by VFGC for Scholarships. The honorees for Life Membership receive a life membership pin and card. Book of Honor honorees will receive a card. All honorees will be listed in the Permanent Record Books housed in the VFGC Headquarters in Richmond. Visit the VFGC Web for the application form. This is a wonderful way to recognize club members and to say thank you.

National Garden Week: June 5-11 2022

Celebrate National Garden Week in Your Community!

Join NGC clubs across the country and celebrate National Garden Week, June 5-11, 2022. This week is an opportunity to encourage pride in your community, interest new members, and work with other groups to be part of those efforts. VFGC had yard signs to commemorate this week or other projects.....contact your district president for these signs.

PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants help enhance and beautify our public areas and community gardens. Project grants to NGC member clubs help educate adults and children about the joys of gardening and create a pride throughout the community. Grants may be used for physical landscaping or environmental projects, or for horticultural or educational opportunities for the community.

Plant America Community Project Grant applications are open to NGC member clubs from **April 1 through October 15** of the calendar year to fund new or continuing projects carried out during the following year. See the NGC Web for more information.