

OCTOBER 2022 EDITION OF THE VFGC, INC. NEWSLETTER



November 1: ODG Winter Deadline
November 11: Shenandoah District Blue Star Dedication: Luray Caverns
Nov 15: January 15: Rooted Deadline
December 1: Award Applications Due
January, 2023: Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Due
February 27-March 2: Flower Show School Course IV: Roanoke
March 5-7: SAR Convention: Hotel Roanoke
April 23-24: VFGC Convention: Staunton

Leaves...leaves...leaves! Our leaves are falling and the colors are magnificent, but not as awesome as the colors of VFGC's activities. As I start my journey this month to every corner of the state for District Meetings, Blue Star Memorial installations, flower shows and anniversary celebrations...you never cease to amaze me with your devotion, it warms my heart specially when the temperature start to fall!

We must never forget the unique position VFGC fills in our world. We "provide youth and adult educational resources and opportunities to promote the love of gardening, floral design, civic and environmental responsibility." At a time when things can be a little strained, we encourage and accomplish good and beautiful moments. A wonderful example of this was at the Virginia State Fair. Here we held two days of hands-on workshops for all ages. We showed our pride and did good things. (Kudos for all who worked the booth and specially Judy Durant, chairman. And mustn't forget, our recent Flower Show School III, Frances Thrash, chairman.)

So be proud of VFGC and your accomplishments. Whether it be a flower show, a children's program or a recycling collection involving the community. Keep up the good work and continue to be VFGC PROUD.

Hope to see each of you at your District Meeting.

Mary Owen
President, VFGC

P.S. We've put together a new membership tool to handout at events..... Know you'll want to see it at your meetings.

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



SAR Convention “Celebrating our Region Connections”

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, Roanoke, VA
110 Shenandoah Avenue, Roanoke VA 24016

The Convention room rate is \$149.00 (for single, double, triple or quad) plus tax. Hotel Reservations Deadline: **February 5, 2023.** State you are with SAR Garden Clubs to receive this special rate: 844-442-8746

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

10:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration Open Foyer outside Shenandoah Room
11:30 a.m.- 12:30p.m. Luncheon: Former SAR Directors, Finance, Executive Committees and State Presidents: Pocahontas Room A
Noon - 6:00 p.m. Exhibits and Shopping: Shenandoah Hallway and Appalachian Room
12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting: Blue Ridge Boardroom
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Regional Executive Committee Meeting: Blue Ridge Boardroom
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting Blue Ridge Boardroom
3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. SAR Board Meeting: Pocahontas Room B
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Cash Bar
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Banquet Dinner and Program: History Alive

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023

8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Continuous Break (breakfast and refreshments)
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration (closed during meals)
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Exhibits and Shopping
9:00 a.m. Official Opening of Convention: Business Meeting
12:00 noon Luncheon Honoring State Presidents
Program
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Continuous Break (snacks and refreshments)
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Program
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Trip to Mad Dog Salvage
3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Program
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Cash Bar
6:30 p.m. Banquet Honoring NGC President
Installation of SAR Director and Officers

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023

8:00 am – 9:00 am Registration
9:00 am – 11:00 am Breakfast and Awards Presentation

2023 SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION CONVENTION

March 5, 6,7, 2023

“Celebrating Our Regions Connections”

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, Roanoke, VA

Mail completed form and check payable to “SAR 2023 Convention” to

Hazel Vance: 210 North Branch Road, Bedford VA 24523

Postmark by February 15, 2023 for on time registration

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

May we confirm registration by your email noted above? ___ Yes ___ No

Check **ALL** that apply:

- NGC Officer SAR Director Former SAR Director
- NGC Chairman SAR Officer SAR Life Member
- NGC Committee Member SAR Chairman Club Member
- NGC Life Member State President Guest
- Club President Elected Delegate Spouse

Please select all that are included in payment:

Note: Full Convention includes Registration, Sunday Banquet, Monday Continuous Break (breakfast and refreshments) Lunch and Banquet, Tuesday Breakfast.

Does not include Sunday Lunch

Full Convention (outside Virginia) _____	\$270
VFGC Member Full Convention _____	\$250
VFGC Spouse Full Convention _____	\$200
Sunday Lunch: Former SAR Directors, Finance and Executive Com _____	\$35
Sunday Banquet and Program _____	\$55
Monday Lunch and Program _____	\$35
Monday Banquet, Instillation, NGC President _____	\$55
Tuesday Award Breakfast _____	\$35
One Day Registration _____	\$30
Late Registration (Fee postmarked after February 15, 2023) _____	\$20

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED _____

Please indicate dietary requirements:

“Virginia Native Evergreen Conifers in a Changing Environment”

As I read and researched and on hearing the news reports of natural and managed wild forest fires, I thought my research might indicate that the pinecones increased if in a natural threat. As I read and grew to understand the identification of different conifers native to Virginia, I learned that the characteristics of each native species varied. The Longleaf Pine, once abundant in Virginia Colonial times, can reproduce by natural means and can sustain natural or , accidental and prescribed fires. On both the longleaf and pitch pines the cones accumulate and group and may not drop for several years. A fire will release and open the cones. Seeds will be left behind to take hold and grow a tap root even in the burn remains. The Loblolly on the other hand drops cones constantly and that is why there are multiple seedlings throughout the yard and garden that must be removed.... right plant -right place. For example there is one at the moment that is in the second year and I will need to transplant or remove to dispose or compost.



Other conifers such as the other fine pines and other family species that are native are interesting to study, I had an authentic picture from the Christmas tree farm that we visited for a tour of the shaped seedling at various ages and heights. The Christmas Tree grower gave an interesting tour of the White Pines and Scotch Pines at seven years of growth,. He indicated about a foot a year was the pattern and his shaping the trees into the perfect Christmas tree shape is different than the normal growth pattern of a White Pine. He cut a specimen that was about 3 ft and showed the branches as they grow normally. I had this to the left of the educational board near where I posted the picture of the White Pine crop in it's seventh year growing 4 to 6 ft per year.

In the interview with the Landowners (large tracts of land) especially Bonnie Stokes a member of garden clubs, the “Pine Stand” on her property was planted 30 years ago with the intention of harvesting after 20 years. 30 years later, the stand is still intact holding carbon. In the interview with her (center bottom of the ed board, she is flanked on either side of her picture with fields of sunflowers, sorgham, millet, and buckwheat. On the right side is fields of soybean leased to a farmer and the pine stand in the back and all around. She is standing in front of an eastern redwood cedar. The Eastern redwood cedar is **actually not** from the Cedrous Family but it is *Juni-perus virginiana* and is one of the first trees to repopulate cleared, eroded or otherwise damaged land. As several that I have interviewed on topic have planted hedgerows of eastern redcedar and have established wildlife habits.

In addition to creating wildlife habitats, landowners have observed watershed policy and guidelines and adhere to laws that protect the land and waters such as The Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act (CBPA). Grass filters are a routine assurance to filter “run off contaminates” as conscientious conservationists stop the passage of harmful substances to our water systems.

Agencies involved in an advisory and administrative capacity involve Virginia Forestry, U.S. Army Corps of engineers, and the US Fish and Wild life Service.

It became evident to me that I should contact the local VA Forestry Representative for my immediate county to pursue additional information. I spoke with Jesse Bander who is the VA. Forester available to Hanover and Henrico residents. By visiting the website for the Virginia forestry Service, I found the “[State of the Forest Annual Report of Virginia’s Forest 2022](#)”. Front and center of this first page was placed on my ed board. To make it more inviting and more human focus, I copied the Virginia State forester’s picture and attached to the front page place on the board. .

State of the Forest Annual Report of Virginia’s Forest 2022

Virginia’s Founding Forest-The Cature conservancy working to restore Virginia’s longleaf pine(picture of longleaf pine in it’s seedling stage on page 3 of the printed report) working in partnerships with Virginia’s department of conservation and recreation, forestry, and game and Inland fisheries to restore long leaf pine on the states public lands.

Nature-Based Coastal flood Mitigation Strategies City of Virginia Beach from the Department of Works 2019

Playbook for climate change by TNC in partnership with private landowners and public lands and waters.

Submitted by Jane Honeycutt-Earle

Flower Show School,

Course IV

Feb 27 – March 2, 2023

Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs Center

3640 Colonial Avenue

Roanoke, VA 24018

540-343-4519

For more information contact:

Flower Show School Chairman – Frances Thrash

2109 Cocoa Circle

Virginia Beach, VA 23454

francesthresh@cox.net

1-(757)-478-5791 or 1-(757)-481-3484

Attendance at all Sessions is Required for Credit

Schedule:

Monday, Feb 27	3:45 – 6 pm	Flower Show Procedure
Tuesday, Feb 28	8:00 – 9:00 am	FSP Exam
	9:15 am – 3:30 pm	Horticulture/Lunch
	3:45 – 5:45 pm	Point Scoring Test
Wed., Mar 1	8:00 – 9:00 am	Horticulture Exam
	9:15 am – 3:30 pm	Design/Lunch
	3:45 – 5:45 pm	Point Scoring Test
Thursday, Mar 2	9:00 – 10:00 am	Design Examination

Hotels near the Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs Center:

Rates are NOT guaranteed!

Holiday Inn Roanoke – Tanglewood, 4468 Starkey Rd., Roanoke, VA 24018, (540)774-4400, \$83 per night

Hilton Garden Inn Roanoke, 4500 S Peak Blvd, Roanoke, VA 24018, (540-776-3400, \$135 per night

Sleep Inn Tanglewood, 4045 Electric Road, Roanoke, VA 24018, (540)772-1500, \$88 per night

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 a review of judging etiquette/ethics, flower show achievement awards, flower show schedule writing, and evaluating an NGC Flower Show.

Horticulture will cover a review of writing sections and classes in the horticulture schedule, a discussion of botanical arts horticulture section, a review of general requirements for all NGC botanical top exhibitor awards, a review of judging qualities found on the horticulture point scoring exam, a review of horticulture commenting vocabulary, a review of judging procedures, and a discussion of growing and showing cut camellias along with collections & displays and the Club Competition Award with displays and gardens.

Design will cover a review of design schedule writing, the elements and principles of design as they relate to abstract design, the characteristics of creative designs, a review of plastic organization, penetration of space and dynamic balance, a discussion of the botanical arts design division, the general requirements for all NGC Design Top Exhibition Awards, a review of Division & Section Awards, a review of judging qualities found on the Design point scoring form, and a review of design commenting vocabulary & judging procedures.

**REGISTRATION FORM: Flower Show School-
Course IV**

Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs Center

3640 Colonial Avenue

Roanoke, VA 24018

540-343-4519

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone _____

Club _____ District _____

Credit _____ Non-Credit _____

Full Course with/without exam \$130 _____
(Includes tuition, two lunches,
and reserved seating on Front
rows)

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 \$5 _____

Registration

TOTAL _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

****No refunds after January 27, 2023**

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

Brenda McManaway,

Flower Show School IV Registrar, Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
(VFGC)

5531 Bethlehem Road, Boones Mill, Virginia 24065

Sue Kirkman

Horticulture & Flower Show Procedure Instructor

Sue Kirkman is a Horticulture and Symposium instructor, member of the Garden Club of Frankfort, NGC Master Flower Show Judge, Gardening Consultant, Landscape Design Consultant, Master Gardener, former American Iris Society Judge and a member of Bluegrass Iris, Bluegrass Daffodil, and North American Lily societies. A retired college instructor, State of Kentucky aging director and gerontologist, Sue and her husband take care of her 106 year old mother who lives with them. Sue will teach cut camellias and collections & displays.

Claudia Bates

Design Instructor

Claudia will teach Abstract Designs. Claudia Bates is a seventh generation Floridian who has been a member of the Gainesville (Florida) Garden Club for over 30 years. Claudia graduated from the University of Florida and taught Math, English and Gifted Education at the Middle School level. Claudia is a nationally accredited Master Flower Show Judge, a NGC, Inc. Flower Show Schools Instructor in Design and a Floral Design Instructor for FFGC. She is a former President of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. She has been awarded Life Memberships in her local Garden Club, the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Deep South and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Additionally, FFGC has awarded her the PILLAR OF PRIDE & HALL OF FAME Awards. Claudia has presented Design Programs in many states, CFAA and OFAD. She has devised and taught several Fantasy Flower workshops for CFAA, and, abstracting and texturizing various plant components, and DIY containers. Her designs have been published in the Vision of Beauty, NCG, Inc. calendar, and she has had the honor of one of her designs gracing the cover of the Florida Federation of Garden Club's calendar, and had designs featured in that calendar numerous times, and has two designs featured in the Wafa publication, Designing the American Way. Claudia currently serves on the NGC Board of Directors as a member of the Flower Show Schools Committee, and on the BOD of FFGC as the Chairman of the FFGC ADVISORY Committee and the State Symposium Chairman.

Volunteerism

Volunteerism is the act of contributing free labor to conduct community service or support a nonprofit organization like garden clubs. It is the principle of donating time and energy towards a greater cause. Volunteers help change the lives of those in their community as a social responsibility rather than receiving a financial reward. Why the decline?

There is much speculation, but no single definitive answer. We believe that all of the following play a roll:

- **More women working** leaving little less time for volunteering;
- **Online communities** which give people a sense of community/belonging/networking without needing to attend weekly or monthly meetings;
- **People relocating more frequently** yielding more shallow connections to their communities;
- **Kids having too many activities** leaving less time for parents to volunteer;
- **The rise of youth club sports**...again leaving less time for parents to volunteer due to week-end tournament travel.

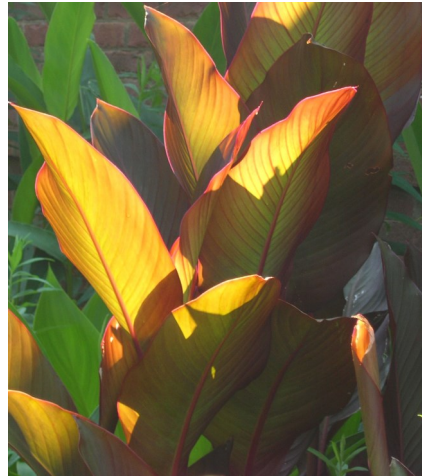
How does VFGC work on this aspect of our garden clubs and the organization as a whole? Food for thought and future discussions.

VFGC booth at The Virginia State Fair! We had lots of visitors who thoroughly enjoyed our hourly activities! Many expressed interest in joining a garden club which made us very excited. Judy Durant is the outstanding leader of this wonderful event. She organizes, plans and purchases all the activity material...rock painting, bird feeders, small floral arrangements, succulent garden and larger floral containers/arrangements.





Upper left: Flower People: Nova Scotia



Upper right: Back lit leaves: Columbia, South Carolina

Lower right: Red Lillies: Rockbridge County

Photos taken by Lynn Leech.
Lexington Garden Club



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



TREX Film Recycling Challenge: Don't forget this program is still occurring and is a great opportunity to improve the environment and, at the same time, potentially receive a TREX garden bench. Many clubs have received benches already. It is a Challenge/Collection time for a six month period. During this time you must collect the plastics, deliver to recycling locations and register your collections. Visit the website www.trex.com. You will find that this program has many helpful tools such as..... • Recycling locations • Posters showing acceptable plastics • Recycling Bins.

Green Spring Christmas Homes Tour Is Back!



Come see us in Williamsburg!

Two Tours!! Two Weekends!!

December 3 and December 10

Check out our new website!

Tickets sold here:

greenspringgardenclub.wdtp.info

We are taking care to follow CDC Guidelines

Tickets will be sold to afford spacing within

Allotted times for Tour



Dahlia pictures by Jamie Nick



Save the Date

2023 VFGC Convention

April 23 and 24, 2023

Join us for a Flower Show, Design Speakers,
Workshops, shopping, a VIP dinner and more!

Hotel 24
Staunton, VA
The old Stonewall Jackson Hotel

