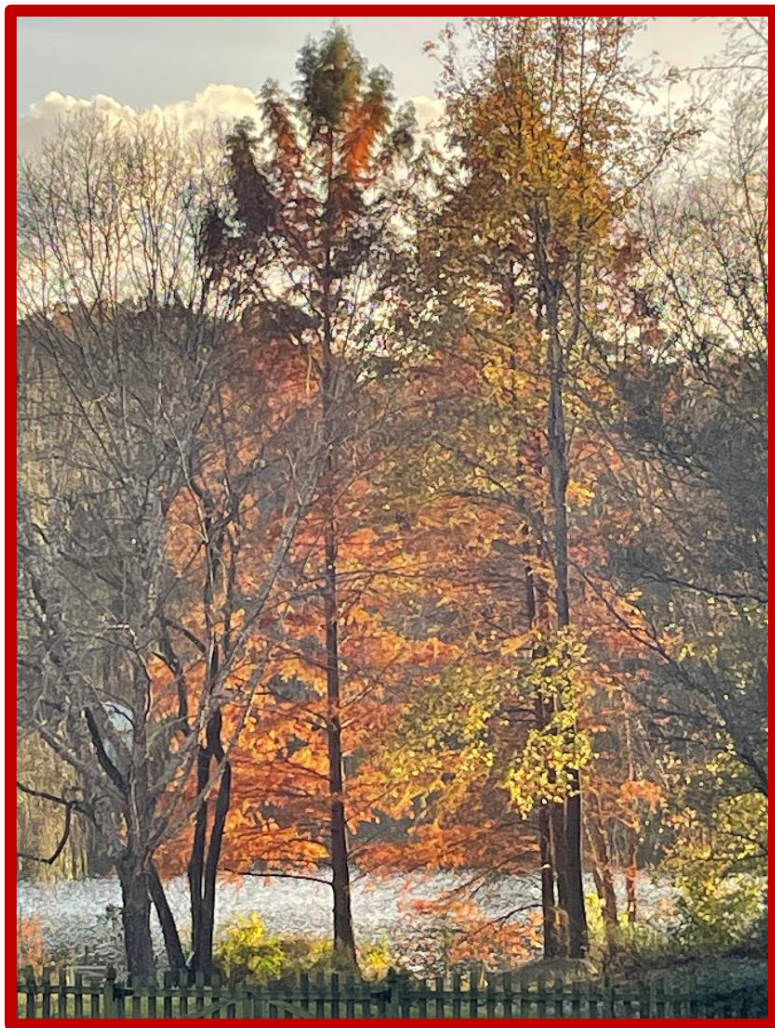


Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs
**OLD DOMINION
GARDENER**



Walton Lake, Midlothian

Photo by Janice Beatty, Salisbury Garden Club (Piedmont)

*www.viriniagardenclubs.org
Fall 2023 • Volume 55 • No. 2*

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To keep you up to date on VFGC News, the e-newsletter ROOTED will be distributed to VFGC Committee Chairs and Presidents via email and can be viewed on the VFGC site.

<https://viriniagardenclubs.org>

ROOTED is managed by First VP Sally Harrison. If you or your club have news you wish to have posted, contact Sally at:

RootedVFGC@gmail.com
 or by phone: 804-784-2851

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 "Go Green – Plant America"
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 204-573-4140

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 "Every Person
 Makes a Difference"
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 314-776-7574, ext. 218
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VFGC, Inc.
 Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
 1800 Lakeside Ave.
 Richmond, VA 23228-4700
 804-262-9887
<https://viriniagardenclubs.org>

Hello VFGC Members,



For the past months, I have had the privilege of visiting clubs for their anniversaries, given a program or two, and have installed club officers. What a pleasure, and I know more visits are pending. I see a couple clubs celebrating anniversaries in the coming months.

How nice there are Blue Star dedications at Lewis Ginter and the Norfolk Botanical Garden. I hope there will be many more.

I am pleased the VFGC website is "up" and continues with the building process. And for those social media gurus, Facebook and Instagram are alive and well. Do "check out" our social media pages. Thank you to those providing these services. Educational programs via Zoom will be upcoming.

Congratulations to *Jamie Nick*, who is the second Virginian to receive the prestigious NGC Four Star Membership: one who has completed all four NGC Schools. The first Virginia honoree was *Frances Thrash*.

Awards, scholarships, conventions are all in the works. In this ODG issue you will see the NGC Special Achievement Awards listed. Flower shows have a major emphasis. You will also see "save the date" for the 2024 VFGC Convention.

VFGC Grants are special, and hopefully clubs are applying. NGC also has wonderful grant programs, especially with "Plant America." The amount for which clubs may apply has increased to \$2000.00, and clubs who received a "Plant America" grant five years ago may apply again.

The VFGC Yearbook will be distributed soon. This will be a smaller version, as some information will be included on the VFGC website. *Claudia Cosby* is to be commended for the time and work she put into this huge project. Thank you, Claudia.

Thank you, also, for this wonderful experience... and remember **"Every Person Makes a Difference."**

Val Story

“Every Person Makes a Difference”... Spotlight on District Presidents

Mary Dixon – Tidewater District President “Plant America – Come Grow with Us”



Mary is a native of Virginia, raised in Portsmouth, and married to a native Portsmouth man 58 years ago. They have three married children and three grandchildren. Mary served as Tidewater District President for 1991-1993 and was VFGC President for 2001-2003. She was SAR Director for the 2011-2013 administration. Mary has served in many chairmanships and is a former President of Green Meadow Point Garden Club.

Love of Garden Club and the members keeps her going. Mary is a Master Flower Show Judge and a Landscape Design Consultant along with her husband Dan. She is a VFGC, NGC and SAR Life Member.

Mary’s theme is "Plant America - Come Grow with Us". The focus will be on growing our Membership, learning about growing plants and caring for the habitats of the birds and bees as well as other insects and animals.

Diane Burgess – Piedmont District President “Growing Together”



Diane is the proud mother of four grown children and one “precious” granddaughter. Her family has lived in several states, each home with a different style garden or climate. She helped found a garden club in the Midwest. Upon moving back to Virginia, Diane joined West Hanover Garden Club in 2007 and was inspired to become an NGC Landscape Design Consultant and an Accredited Flower Show Judge. Creative floral design became her personal “art form” which she attributes to her studies in Flower Show School. She has served in many capacities at the club, district, and state levels. She is a member of River Road GC, Richmond Designer’s Guild, designs for VMFA Fine Arts & Flowers, and creates designs as a volunteer to welcome museum visitors.

Diane selected the theme of “Growing Together” – intended to resonate on many levels, from the clubs we grow, to the friendships we cultivate, to the learning we continually do, to the difference we can make in our communities.

Felice Proctor, Blue Ridge District President **"Sowing the Seeds for Tomorrow's Gardeners"**



Felice is a New Jersey native who also has deep ties to southside Virginia through her mother's family. Her interest in gardening comes from both sides of the family. For thirty or so years, Felice pursued a career in Costume Design as a teacher and designer. She moved to Virginia in 1978 as a faculty member at Virginia Tech, and after twenty-five years, retired as Professor Emerita and began finding other things to do. Among those "other things" were two happy circumstances: a wonderful several years as a volunteer in the garden at Historic Smithfield...and finally having her own home with space to create a garden. Ultimately those two things led to Felice joining Southside Garden Club and becoming involved with the Blue Ridge District and VFGC.

Felice's theme is all about inspiration. Somewhere along the line, someone or something sowed the seeds that first inspired each and every one of us to try growing something... something beautiful or exotic, useful or edible, which piqued our interest to learn how to do that. And here we are, gardeners all!

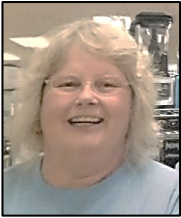
Jackie Fairbarns, South Central District President **"Plant Today for Tomorrow's Gardeners"**



Jackie's more than 80 years' experience growing things began in her mother's Victory Garden in North Carolina. She lived and gardened in Fairfax, Virginia for fifty years, and after retiring from a long career in association management, moved to Buckingham County in 2009. Jackie joined the Buckingham-Dillwyn Garden Club; she is now serving a second term as co-president. In 2017, she was re-certified as a VCE Master Gardener and currently is vice president of the Heart of Virginia Master Gardeners Association. She was the WFLO AM "radio voice" of HOVMG. When the station ceased operations, the radio talks morphed into a podcast and blog (available on HOVMG.org). Jackie enjoys gardening, especially with her helpers: two sons, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

"Plant Today for Tomorrow's Gardeners" is not only the theme for South Central for the next two years, but an invitation and charge to today's gardeners to establish the framework for tomorrow's gardeners to be enthusiastic and successful participants in making a healthier future for Planet Earth and its inhabitants.

Donna Altizer, Southwest District President **“Stepping into Nature”**



Donna’s interest in garden clubs was sparked by her aunt, who founded Cedar Bluff (VA) Garden Club in the early 1960’s. When Donna was around 10 years old, she was encouraged to participate in the Junior Division of the Flower show that was held with the local fair. That was the beginning of many exhibits, awards, and a life-long interest in flowers. After college, she went on to a career in retail. After retiring, a friend invited her to a garden club meeting. Donna enjoys crafting in many media, and especially likes anything to do with flowers or nature. She also is a firm believer in the commitment to “reduce, reuse and recycle,” making something useful instead of it ending up in a landfill.

Donna’s theme – “Stepping into Nature” – reflects her love of being outside and foraging. In the fall, her favorite season, we might find her beside the road looking for dried flowers, pine cones, acorns, sticks – anything that can be used in an arrangement or craft. Donna hopes to inspire others to go outside, even if it’s their own backyard, to search for nature’s gifts.

Maureen Wilcox, Shenandoah District President **“My Garden...My Refuge”**



Spending her career in the Defense industry, Maureen owned a satellite engineering firm supporting the Pentagon. After selling her company seven years ago, she was able at last to retire and pursue her true passion – gardening, of course! Maureen’s other interests include golf, Civil War history, animal rights, travel, and serving her church. She joined Francis Fauquier Garden Club, Warrenton, in December 2017. She was invited to join the Shenandoah District Board four years ago as chairman for Organic Gardening and Herbs committee, serving through the administrations of Amy Thorpe and Pat Carswell.

With her theme, Maureen urges everyone to stop and consider how gardens provide comfort, peace and tranquility. She likes to go to her garden whenever possible. She finds weeding to be especially therapeutic - a mindless exercise that provides results and gratification. Maureen hopes that during her term in office, she can help others appreciate this healing place and promote the sheer joy of gardening, the best form of therapy...free for the taking! Encourage everyone to join a garden club! In the (modified) words of John Lennon, “Give peas a chance.”

NGC Awards Honor VFGC Clubs and Districts

Heidi Sage, VFGC Awards Chair

Congratulations to the Virginia garden clubs and districts who distinguished themselves by reaching the level of National Garden Clubs for judging.

The NGC does not offer blue, red, or yellow awards, rather they award certificates:

- First place Certificate or Certificate of Merit is for overall Award Winners, regardless of club size.
- Certificate of Commendation by category size/type is for Runners-Up, meaning best in their size group.
- Certificate in Appreciation of award participation means the award application was sent on to NGC for consideration.

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs – Certificate in Appreciation for *The Old Dominion Gardener* - Publication MAE 4 – B-1

Piedmont District

Piedmont District – Certificate in Appreciation for Publication MAE 4-B-1

Hilliard Park – Certificate in Appreciation for Therapy Garden GC-3

Richmond Designers' Guild for Club Standard Flower Show Award 1 B – **Certificate of Merit and Purple Rosette** for "It's Summertime and the Living is Easy"

River Road Garden Club for Club Small Standard Flower show Award 5 B **Certificate of Merit and Gold Rosette** for "Mother Earth Awakening"

Salisbury Garden Club- Certificate in Appreciation for Website designed and managed by Club Members – MAE 2A.

Sleepy Hollow Garden Club- Certificate in Appreciation for Beautification Project CE-5

Sue Lindsay, Salisbury Garden Club, Certificate in Appreciation for Edible Gardening GC-2

Thomas Jefferson Garden Club - Certificate in Appreciation for Landscaping public grounds CE – 8

Violet Bank Garden Club **Certificate of Commendation** for Floral Design Program FD-2

Shenandoah District

Certificate in Appreciation to Shenandoah District for Website Designed and Managed by Club Members MAE-2 A
Culpeper Garden Club - Certificate in Appreciation for Floral Design Program FD-2

Certificate of Commendation for Website Designed and Managed by Club Members - MAE 2-A

Lake of the Woods Garden Club- Certificate in Appreciation for Roadside Plantings CE-4

South Central District

Buckingham/Dillwyn Garden Club –Certificate in Appreciation for Therapy Gardens GC-3

Seasons IV Garden Club for Water, EC-4 **Certificate of Merit**

South Boston Garden Club – Certificate in Appreciation for Conservation Activities EC-1

Southwest District

Dogwood Garden Club – Certificate in Appreciation for National Garden Week - MAE-5

Tidewater District

Tidewater District - **Certificate of Merit and Green Rosette for “Goblins in the Garden”** for a District Standard Flower Show Award 11 A

Colonial Heritage Garden Club - Certificate of Appreciation for Publication MAE 4-B

Certificate of Appreciation for Digital Media Presentation MAE 3

Nancy Hargrove Scholarship Award to Hannah Chambers, sponsored by VFGC.

Congratulations to ALL!

What's New in Awards this Year?

Heidi Sage, VFGC Awards Chair

There are **new Special Achievement Awards** this year to reflect the focus of President Val Story's administration as well as that of the National Garden Clubs. The TREX® Film Recycling challenge will continue, plus there are three new awards for clubs staging flower shows, and one new award for the NGC theme of Feeding America.

- One special achievement flower show award recognizes clubs having their first ever show; one is for clubs who have gone the longest since having a flower show; and one is for the clubs with the most new participants exhibiting in their own show. Each of these three flower show award categories runs up to Dec. 1 of 2024. Each offers a \$25 award per club size.
- NGC President Brenda Moore's theme of "Plant America, Feed America" is reflected in the next award, simply asking that clubs report the pounds of food donated to local food banks up to December 1 of 2024. Each club size may earn a \$25 award.
- The TREX® award is a similar challenge, in that clubs report their pounds of recyclable film collected. It is an annual award – each Dec. 1st. One \$50 award will be offered annually, regardless of club size.

In addition to these new President's Special Achievement Awards, NGC has changed the rule for all newsletters - for districts and clubs: *select only one issue to submit electronically*, saving printing costs.

And one more new item – there is now an "Arbor Day, Tree Planting Activities" award S-14 at the state level. In the past it was only at the regional level. Like all awards, it goes first to the district awards chairman.

Looking forward to reading award applications...and welcome your questions. Phone: 540-878-8162.

NEW VFGC SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

SP-1 FLOWER SHOWS – three awards will be offered for shows staged through Dec. 1 of 2024.

\$25 may be awarded to a club in each size group (small, medium and large) in the following three categories. It may be any type of NGC flower show presented by a single club. Complete the VFGC cover sheet/application form and simply attach a page with the requested information.

- a. For the clubs who are having their first ever flower show. The date the club was founded will be considered. (Small, medium, large)
- b. For the clubs who have gone the longest since having a flower show (Small, medium, large)
- c. For the clubs who have the most new participants exhibiting in their club's flower show. (Small, medium, large)

SP-2 "PLANT AMERICA, FEED AMERICA" \$25 may be awarded to a club in each size group (small, medium and large). For members who grow their own vegetables, fruit or other produce and donate to a local food bank or any other organization that helps fight food insecurity. Complete the VFGC cover sheet/application form and attach a page showing the total weight of produce donated over the two years ending Dec. 1, 2024.

SP-3 TREX FILM RECYCLING CHALLENGE - \$50 will be offered each year to the overall winner, regardless of club size, who collects the most pounds of recyclable plastic film. Complete the VFGC cover sheet/ application form and attach a page with the total weight you have collected in the calendar year ending Dec. 1st. Submit this by Dec. 1st to the district award chairman, who will forward it to the state awards chairman.

CELEBRATING AUTUMN

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*



*Faded "blue jean" hydrangeas
on the Northern Neck*

Photo by Linda Boatman
Westmoreland GC (P)



Asian Persimmon

Photo by Marie Butler
Lynnhaven Heritage GC (T)



Japanese Maple

Photo by Adele Lundquist
Lynnhaven Heritage GC (T)



Cucurbita

Photo by Linda Wine
Greenvale GC (S)

"My Perfectly Imperfect Arrangement"

by Tess Bradlee, Little Neck GC (T)

*Editor's Note: Enjoy this delightful story...
inspiration for all of us "intermediate" designers.*

I was babysitting my grandchildren for five days and running low on energy and time, but I really wanted to exhibit a flower arrangement for the next day's garden club meeting as I had been pondering the theme "Hearts and Flowers" for some time.

My young grandson wanted to play at the park, so I decided to bring my supplies, sit at a picnic table and put my arrangement together. I started trimming flowers when a woman approached. "Privyet," she said--"Hello" in Russian. We had made acquaintance at the park the previous day, two grandmothers nodding and smiling politely, unobtrusively monitoring the safety of our sweet grandchildren. I nodded and said "Hello." We struggled to make conversation until we both pulled out our smartphones and loaded our translator apps.

She asked what I was doing, and I explained that I was a member of a garden club, and we would be exhibiting flower arrangements with the theme "Hearts and Flowers." I showed her my eucalyptus leaves shaped like hearts and started to cut and place them around the outside of my container, oasis cleverly lining an empty Valentine candy box. When it came time to place my pink roses, I looked at her and implied my idea. She watched and soon started to nod her agreement--or not. She wanted to help me with my project. Can I say "Nyet"? Nyet.

I cut the blooms and she finished the outline of my heart-shaped arrangement. Then we decided the carnations would line up inside the roses (Da!). I showed her how to persuade the tighter carnations to

unfurl a bit; I wanted all the blossoms to be a uniform size, but she didn't seem to mind the smaller flowers.

Finally, we agreed the dainty dianthus would fill the center of the heart. I couldn't trim them fast enough for her outstretched palm as she enthusiastically pressed them in. Oasis was still visible along the sides, and I indicated it needed to be concealed. I wanted to add more wispy and loose branches of eucalyptus; she preferred a tighter solution, one leaf at a time.

When we were done, I displayed the finished product and nodded my appreciation. She was eager to continue our acquaintance. She asked my name, and I asked hers: *Valentina*. Seriously? Your name is *Valentina*, and we are making this heart together? God reveals Himself in amazing ways.



As I loaded my car, I looked again at the arrangement, wondering whether I would be too embarrassed to exhibit it. I imagined how I could explain away the imperfect flower arrangement this "intermediate" designer dared put her name on. But the joy in my heart as I waved "Poka-Poka," "Bye-Bye" to Valentina washed away all my doubts.

Postscript: "Best in Show" award!

So, You Want to Stage a Flower Show!

by Mary Ann May, VFGC Flower Show Schedule Evaluation Chair

Where to start? How to write a Schedule? Your District and State Flower Show Schedule Evaluators are ready to assist you in creating the best possible schedule.

Step One Locate Flower Show Resources on the NGC website <https://gardenclub.org>. On the Home Page, go to SEARCH and type "SAMPLE SCHEDULES." Click on **Flower Show School Resources**. Then scroll down to **Flower Show School Reading**. Click on **SAMPLE SCHEDULES**. These Sample Schedules will give you the format and required information you will need for your Flower Show Schedule.

Step Two Once your Schedule is written, send it for review via email to your **District** Flower Show Schedule Evaluator:

Blue Ridge: Betsy Klein bandbklein@gmail.com

Piedmont: Diane Burgess burgessdiane@gmail.com

Shenandoah: Elizabeth Miller/Julia Kogul
Elizabeth@ThistleBrae.com

South Central: Carol Alderman chacha34@embarqmail.com

Tidewater: Frances Thrash francesthresh@cox.net

Your District Flower Show Evaluator will review your schedule and make suggestions for improvement.

Step Three After you have revised and improved your schedule, send it for a final check via email to Mary Ann May, VFGC Flower Show Schedule Evaluation Chair, ptmboat@comcast.net. This will help ensure correctness of your Schedule and make it possible for your Flower Show to apply for a National Achievement Award. Even if you are not going to apply for this award, a proper schedule will help your Flower Show Judges.

If you wish to apply for a National Achievement Award...

Submit the names, judgeship level (student, accredited, accredited-life, master), contact information of all judges to Mary Ann May, ptmboat@comcast.net. She will choose three judges to evaluate the flower show and will forward forms to these judges to do this evaluation. Evaluations must be returned to Mary Ann within one week of the show. These forms are added to the *Book of Evidence* when it is sent to NGC by Mary Ann for consideration for the National Flower Show Achievement Award.

“How Does Your Garden Grow?”.... Fall Garden Tips

by Martie Parch, VFGC Horticulture Chair

After a summer of sizzling heat and thunderstorms, are you ready for a cool autumn? I'm looking forward to my fall to-do list. Here are some gardening tips for you:

- Pull out dead annuals.
- Deadhead perennials that have finished their bloom, but...
- Leave some seedheads for birds. Cardinals, finches, chickadees, and wrens will enjoy feasting on seedheads of joe pye weed, *echinacea* (purple coneflower), *rudbeckia* (black-eyed Susans), and *sedum*. Grasses will provide cover for small animals. An added benefit is the attractive shapes that add winter interest to your garden.
- Add your clippings to the compost but toss any diseased plants.
- Pull out plant supports, cages, and stakes to store for next year.
- Plant spring bulbs in drifts for a natural effect. Daffodils and snowdrops (*Galanthus*) are some of the first heralds of spring. Brightly colored tulips and grape hyacinths are easy to grow and add more beauty.
- Trees and shrubs are best planted in the fall. Like bulbs and perennials, they establish strong root systems during winter dormancy. Be sure to think of exposure and growth rate.
- Clean and store garden tools. Wipe off the blades of clippers, loppers, shears and trowels with a 10% bleach solution. After they dry, rub with linseed or tung oil.
- Remember when the leaves fall, don't get rid of them! You can shred them and use them as mulch. Another option is to add them to your compost pile along with grass clippings and food waste (no animal products).

Fall is a great time to assess your garden. What performed well in this area, and what didn't? What might add more form, texture, or color to that area? Time to start making my list!

**Blue Star Memorial Byway Marker Dedication
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond
August 4, 2023**



A standing-room only crowd was on hand for the long-planned and eagerly anticipated Blue Star Memorial Byway Marker dedication at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. Club members and guests from across the state attended the inspiring dedication organized by *Barbara Hollister*, the enthusiastic chair of our VFGC Blue Star Memorial program.

The program was staged in front of the garden's beautiful conservatory. Presentation of Colors, patriotic songs, prayers, and military service speakers inspired attendees. VFGC President *Val Story*, pictured right, presented the history of the NGC Blue Star Memorial program.



In the VFGC Healing Garden, the marker was unveiled and dedicated, and the wreath created by *Sally Harrison* was placed. Pictured left, *Mary Owen*, VFGC President 2021-23, made the presentation to *Brian Trader*, LGBG President and CEO. The playing of "Taps" closed the ceremony, after which refreshments were enjoyed.

Significantly, the marker at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden is the *first* Blue Star Memorial marker placed at a top U.S. botanical garden.



VFGC LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL
Course I Series 29 October 2-3, 2023
 Sponsored by Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond
 Registration Deadline September 15, 2023

Monday, October 2		
Timing	Activity	Instructor
8:00 am	Registration	
8:20 am	Welcome	
8:30 am- 9:30 am	Design for the Environment	Laura Petrella
9:40 am- 10:40 am	Principles and Elements of Landscape Design	Gordon Chappell
10:50 am- 11:50 am	Supplemental Subject - to be announced	Laura Petrella
11:50 am- 1:10 pm	Lunch (Café is convenient)	
1:20 pm- 2:20 pm	Development of Landscape Design: Ancient Times to 1840	Gordon Chappell
2:30 pm- 3:30 pm	Color in the Landscape	Laura Petrella
6:30 pm	Group Dinner - Location TBD (pay on your own)	
Tuesday, October 3		
8:30 am- 9:30 am	Basics of a Site Plan	Jack Douglas
9:40 am- 10:40 am	Learning about Your Ecosystem	Laurie Fox
10:50 am- 11:50 am	Space, Design, and People	Gordon Chappell
11:50 am- 1:00 pm	Lunch (Café is convenient)	
1:00 pm- 2:00 pm	Developing Your Garden Plan	Jack Douglas
2:10 pm- 3:10 pm	Xeriscaping: Not Just for the Desert	Laurie Fox
3:15 pm	Review (Consultants not taking exam may leave)	
3:30 pm	Exam	

*This course is available to all those having an interest
 in the beauty and care of our environment
 through landscaping.*

Instructor Profiles - Landscape Design School

Gordon W. Chappell, FASLA

Gordon Chappell has taught the 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.

Jack Douglas, ASLA

Jack is the former 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.

Laurie Fox, Ph.D.

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.

Laura Petrella

Laura Petrella received a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture from the Pennsylvania State University and a Master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. She has been an adjunct instructor at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, teaching classes in design history, theory and graphics. During her career, she designed and managed large city, state park, military installation, and department of transportation projects, ranging from fishing piers and noise walls to planting plans, traffic signals, and the Richmond Floodwall.

Course Location

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
Education Classroom
1800 Lakeside Drive
Richmond, VA 23228-4700

Phone (804) 693-9393

The Virginia Landscape Design School is finally moving into the new National Garden Club Landscape Design Curriculum with Series 29.

The new curriculum includes a segment in each course aimed specifically at redesigning home landscapes. You may want to make modest changes to your home landscaping that do not require the services of a professional designer. Environmental awareness may mean making changes in planting choices which can make significant impacts on the ecosystems around us.

Yes, passing an exam is still necessary if you want to obtain NGC LDS Consultant certification. But.....exams are now "open book/open notes." Four courses are still required for consultant certification but can be taken in any order. After completing two courses, you are eligible to join the Landscape Design Consultants Council and participate in their fabulous trips.

Hotel Information

Hotel accommodations are available at:

Springhill Suites, Richmond North,

9701 Brook Road, Glen Allen, VA. 804-266-9403

Rate is \$129+ per night.

Cut-off date for block reservations is September 1.

Info: VFGC, Landscape Design School, October 2-3, 2023.

Room reservation for block is under Martha Bowers.

REGISTRATION - LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL
COURSE I SERIES 29 OCTOBER 2-3, 2023
LEWIS GINTER BOTANICAL GARDEN, RICHMOND
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone/Fax _____

Club _____ District _____

Check if Refreshing _____ Master Gardener? ___ Yes ___ No

Is your garden club a member of VFGC? ___ Yes ___ No

PLEASE CHECK CORRECT BOX

[] EXAM STUDENT \$100.00

[] NON-EXAM STUDENT 100.00

[] SINGLE DAY STUDENT: Mon ___ Tues ___ 50.00

Order TOTAL \$ _____

Refunds can be given only for medical emergencies.

Make check payable: **VFGC Landscape Design School**

Mail to: LDS Registrar

Claudia Cosby

Phone: 804 794-7798

3015 Mount Hill Drive

Midlothian, VA 23113-3923 E-mail: chcosby@verizon.net

LDS Chairman, Marty Bowers

Email: martbw@gmail.com

Phone: 540 309-1676

LDS Co-chairman, Glenda Knowles

Email: ggknowles6@gmail.com

Phone: 757 651-0401

VFGC Symposium November 6-8, 2023

Double Tree by Hilton
1021 Koger Center Blvd. Richmond, VA 23235 804-379-3800

Any interested individual is welcome and invited to attend the VFGC Symposium; all attendees must register in advance.

Application for Renewal Credit: To obtain credit, Judges must attend all lectures in their entirety, including oral point scoring sessions, and get your card punched to show attendance. You must also bring your Handbook for Flower Shows Rev. 2027 – 2nd Edition, with all updates.

Virginia Judges expecting credit for this Symposium must send the completed appropriate form, along with the required credentials, to the VFGC Credentials Chairman Rebecca Elston, at least six weeks before the Symposium (send by 9/23/23). The forms are available online from the NGC, Inc. website:

Form 13 for use by Accredited Judges

Form 15L for use by Life Judges

Form 15M for use by Master Judges

Out-of-state Judges expecting credit for the Symposium must send the appropriate forms as listed to the Credentials Chairman in their respective states before registering for this Symposium.

No credentials will be accepted at the door.

Required Text: Judges taking the symposium for credit must bring with them *The Handbook of Flower Shows*, Rev. 2017, 2nd Edition, with updates and corrections noted. *Designing by Types* and *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging* are also helpful.

Clipboards with pencils will be provided for testing.

Hotel Information: Doubletree by Hilton is located just off Midlothian Turnpike with easy access from VA-76 or VA-288.

Reserve your room by calling Hilton reservations on 1-800-222-TREE or call the hotel directly on 804-379-3800. Ask for the block of rooms reserved for Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Rate \$139 plus applicable taxes (subject to change). Reservation **deadline is October 7, 2023**. Parking is complimentary.

Symposium Chair: Kathy Ward klhward@gmail.com 804-921-1021

VFGC Credentials Chair: Rebecca Elston
elston.marshwood@gmail.com 804-580-6713

3332 Mob Neck Road Heathsville, VA 22473-2307

VFGC Symposium November 6-8, 2023

Design Instructor: Claudia Bates

Claudia Bates, an NGC Accredited Master Judge and FSS Design Instructor, a CFAA and OFAD instructor, and former Florida Federation of Garden Clubs President, will be teaching us about Panel and Spatial Thrust Designs. She will also be teaching the Allied Topic, *Expression Vs. Interpretation*. Her designs have been published in the Vision of Beauty and FFGC Calendars, as well as in the Wafa publication *Designing the American Way*. I was lucky enough to see her teach design for FSS IV and the VFSJC meeting in Roanoke last month. I felt like I had "died and gone to CFAA!" This is a day of design you will not want to miss.

Horticulture Instructor: Darlene Newell

Darlene Newell, NGC Master Judge, Horticulture, Flower Show Procedure and Symposium Instructor, and Daffodil Judge, will be our horticulture instructor. She has a wonderful presentation style that promises to make our horticulture instruction, fun, as well as enlightening. She will teach us about Cucurbits (Pumpkins, Squash and Gourds) and Needled/Broadleaf Evergreens. Darlene will also be teaching an Allied Topic about vertical gardening entitled, *Up, Up and Away*.

Schedule

Monday, November 6th

1:00 - 2:45 pm	Registration
2:45 - 3:00 pm	Welcome and Announcements
3:00 - 4:00 pm	Allied Horticulture Topic "Up, Up, and Away"-vertical gardening

Tuesday, November 7th

8:00 - 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 - 9:15 am	Welcome and Announcements
9:15 - 10:15 am	Horticulture: Cucurbita
10:15 - 10:30 am	Morning Break
10:30 - 11:30 am	Horticulture: Evergreens
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30 - 2:30 pm	Horticulture Point Scoring Practice
2:30 - 2:45 pm	Afternoon Break
2:45 - 4:45 pm	Point Scoring Exam

Wednesday, November 8th

8:00 - 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 - 9:15 am	Welcome and Announcements
9:15 - 10:15 am	Design - Panel Designs
10:15 - 10:30 am	Morning Break
10:30 - 11:30 am	Design - Spatial Thrust Designs
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30 - 2:30 pm	Design Practice Point Scoring
2:30 - 2:45 pm	Afternoon Break
2:45 - 4:45 pm	Point Scoring Exam

REGISTRATION FORM: SYMPOSIUM November 6-8, 2023

Doubletree by Hilton 1021 Koger Center Blvd. Richmond, VA 23235

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone # _____

E-Mail _____

Club _____ District _____

Medical Dietary Restrictions _____

Judging Status _____

Date of Last Certification/Audit _____

Full course (exam or audit). Includes tuition, two lunches \$195 _____
and reserved seating on front rows for those taking exams.

Single Event

Allied Topic \$ 40 _____

Horticulture & Lunch (Tuesday) \$ 98 _____

Design & Lunch (Wednesday) \$ 98 _____

Manual will be emailed free of charge. **OR**

printed manual available at registration if **pre-ordered** \$ 10 _____

Late fee:

If postmarked after October 21, 2023, add late fee \$ 30` _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ _____

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

Claudia Cosby
VFGC Symposium Registrar
3015 Mount Hill Drive Midlothian, VA 23113-3923
cosbych1205@gmail.com

****DEADLINE: October 23, 2023**
No Refunds After October 23rd

Life Membership & Honor Roll Support Scholarships

by Val Virkler, Chair, Life Membership

There are many ways to spend \$50, but one stands out! For \$50 you can honor a garden club member AND support VFGC scholarships for college students pursuing horticulture, environmental, and other garden-related subjects. 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. An application form is available in the Forms & Info area at <https://viriniagardenclubs.org> .

Trex® Plastic Film Recycling Program Continues

Over the last two years, at least twenty-four clubs from VFGC have earned *a minimum of one* garden bench each for collecting and recording 500 pounds of plastic film during a six-month period.

Piedmont District

Woodland Pond, Salisbury, Hanover Towne, River Road, Canterbury, Sleepy Hollow, Stonehenge, Violet Bank

Southwest District

Green Thumb, Town & Country Wise, Dogwood, Seasons IV

South Central District

South Boston, Keysville

Blue Ridge District

Westchester, Blue Ridge, Maywood

Shenandoah District

Nelson County, Hawthorne, Madison, Lake of the Woods, Rappahannock County, Calfee, Glen Burnie

All clubs are encouraged to continue - or start - new recycling challenges. Decide on a six-month challenge period and sign up by going to www.trex.com. *Contact any of the clubs listed to find out how they achieved their recycling results!*

Virginia Supports the NGC Penny Pines Initiative to Restore Areas Devastated by Natural Disasters



During the year spanning June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023, VFGC clubs and districts funded **140 Penny Pines plantations**. *Violet Neel*, the new VFGC Penny Pines Chair for 2023-25, encourages all clubs and districts to increase Penny Pines participation, more important than ever, owing to the effects of climate change.

Let's Promote VFGC at the State Fair!

Judy Durant is preparing all sorts of fun and educational activities for visitors to our VFGC State Fair booth.

This is a really fun event – and we need volunteers!

Work in our VFGC booth at the fair – talk to visitors and introduce them to horticulture and design. Recruit new members!

When:

September 26 3-7 pm

September 27 10 am – 2 pm

Contact Judy Durant

jgdurant@verizon.net



Calling All Photographers!

Gail Goodrich Harwood, OGDG Editor

Thanks to all members who have submitted their beautiful photographs. This is a wonderful way to “travel” around the Commonwealth.

- Select *seasonal photographs to complement the OGDG seasonal publication schedule*, either long shots or close-ups.
- Send 300 dpi jpegs – if your email gives you a size choice, select “Actual” or “Large” size.
- Photographs for the cover must be ‘portrait’ orientation – inside gallery photos may be either portrait or landscape.
- If your photograph is not of your own garden or plant(s), please gain permission to print in the *ODG*.
- Send to your district editor by the deadline – include your name and club name; add a caption and location of the photograph.
- Submission is considered permission to print.

VFGC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept 15..... Grants to Beautify & Restore Deadline
Sept 15Youth Project Grants Deadline
Sept 26-27VFGC booth at Virginia State Fair
Oct 15.....NGC Grants Deadline
Oct 2-3.....Landscape Design School, Course 1
Oct 11Shenandoah District Fall Meeting
Oct 16.....Piedmont District Fall Meeting
Oct 24Tidewater District Fall Meeting
Oct 25.....Blue Ridge District Fall Meeting
Oct 26.....South Central District Fall Meeting
Oct 28.....Southwest District Fall Meeting
Nov 1 ODG Winter Deadline
Nov 6-8..... VFGC Symposium
Dec 1.....Deadline: Award Applications to District Chairs

Save the Date for VFGC Convention 2024!

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs
presents the

90th Annual
Convention
May 21-22

Make a Difference
Virginia



Join us at the iconic Boar's Head Resort in Charlottesville, VA for an unparalleled resort and convention experience. Enjoy a Flower Show, programs, workshops, auction, vendors and fun with fellow garden club members!

viriniogardenclubs.org

IN MEMORIAM

We honor those we have lost but have not forgotten. They live on in our hearts, and memories of them are blessings.

Blue Ridge District

Esther Davis.....Salem GC

Piedmont District

Mary Geary.....Crestwood Farms GC

Susan Jones.....Nathaniel Cawsey GC

Jackie Southworth.....Northam GC

Lynn Felton.....River Road GC

Reta Good.....Salisbury GC

Ruth D'Alessandro.....Thomas Jefferson GC

Joyce Hobbs.....Westmoreland GC

Barbara Duff.....Wyndham GC

Linda Stansell.....Wyndham GC

Shenandoah District

Vivian LakeBeverley GC

Tess Klimm.....Colonial Winchester GC

Karen Baughan.....Luray GC

Sharon Zobrist.....Monticello GC

Ruth Baumgardner.....Rappahannock County GC

Bette Mahoney.....Rappahannock County GC

Southwest District

Nancy FryeFour Seasons GC

Norma Hedrick.....Virginia GC

Tidewater District

June LeckroneGreen Pine GC

Helen Kellis.....James River GC

Cindy Martin.....James River GC

Marcia Crawford.....Thoroughgood GC

"IN MEMORIAM" honors the memory of current garden club members. Please send notification to Claudia Cosby; cosbych1205@gmail.com

DISTRICT AND CLUB CROSS-POLLINATION

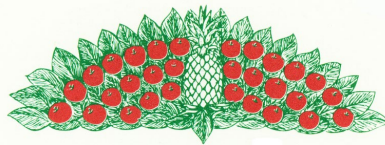
Rustburg GC Creates Arrangements at Glendale Manor

Submitted by Paula Yancey, President Rustburg GC (SC)



On Saturday, July 15th, members of Rustburg Garden Club and guests had a special morning at Glendale Manor in Brookneal, Virginia. This included a flower-arranging class with in-house floral specialist Christin Clay, a tour of the venue, and lunch with owner Hope Wright.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



**Green Spring Garden Club's
Annual Christmas Homes Tour
Williamsburg, VA**

Saturday, December 2nd, 2023

See greenspringgardenclub.org for details.

Gladys Bowles Memorial Garden

Submitted by Jean Fender, Hilliard Park GC (P)

Gladys Bowles was well-known and loved by members of garden clubs in Richmond as well as the State. Hilliard Park Garden Club was fortunate to have Gladys as a member for many years, serving in numerous capacities including President. She went on to serve in other clubs, as well as the Piedmont District, VFGC, and Richmond Council of Garden Clubs where she was Chaplain when she passed away on December 24, 2022.



Gladys was known for her outgoing personality, her storytelling, her musical abilities, and talent for singing and dancing. When the opportunity arose to create a memory garden at Laurel Presbyterian Church, where Gladys' devotion led her to a lifetime of service as music director and organist, we applied for a \$500 grant from Richmond Council which we received in May 2023.

On June 10, 2023, with the help of church volunteers, we moved existing *Nandinas*



to a smaller entrance and planted a six-foot *Arborvitae* Emerald Green on each end of the front entrance, along with three Lemon-lime *Nandinas*. We placed two 30" black planters with lemon-yellow 'Sunkist' *Arborvitae*. In front of the wide steps and sidewalk, we planted five 'Little Missy' Boxwoods. We ordered Metal Musical Notes and a Memorial Marker. Gladys' family and church members are holding a Memorial Service and Garden Dedication on September 9, 2023 from 2-4 pm.

Buckingham Dillwyn GC Celebrates 90th Anniversary

Submitted by Elsie Towler, Buckingham Dillwyn GC (SC)



The Buckingham Dillwyn Garden Club marked its ninetieth anniversary with a celebration on June 10th. Ninety years—that's a lot of flowers! In the case of the Buckingham Dillwyn Garden Club, ninety years represents a lot of service to the community.

Recent community projects include landscaping "Habitat for Humanity" Homes, landscape at highway entrances to Buckingham County, landscape plantings and maintenance at Curdsville Community Center, decorating Buckingham Arts Center at Christmas, assisting nursing home residents making arrangements, and participation in the Trex[®] plastic recycling program.

Let's not forget the flowers! BDGC members celebrated National Garden Week by creating flower arrangement displays in the Buckingham County Public Library. This year members were challenged to create arrangements based on books with a color in the title. BDGC has helped Buckingham 4-H members create arrangements to enter into competition at the Five County Fair. The club has also given away many packets of flower seeds so that recipients can begin their own flower gardens. The club looks forward to continued involvement and service to Buckingham County.

Green Meadow Point Garden Club Promotes National Garden Week

Submitted by Taylor Amponin, Green Meadow Point GC (T)

The Green Meadow Point Garden Club (GMPGC) celebrated National Garden Week with a project to let the residents of the Green Meadow Point neighborhood know what we do to make the neighborhood beautiful.

The GMPGC set up tents and tables by the community pool for the day and provided pinecone flowers for the children to paint. We also had pre-painted pinecone flowers, made by our President Karen Baker, which we distributed for a contribution to the entrance fund. The "entrance fund" is used to maintain the four entrances to the neighborhood.

It was a beautiful day, and members enjoyed greeting the neighbors as they came to enjoy the pool.



Pictured (L to R): Bonnie Warren, Emma Melton, Clemae Smith, Mary Dixon, Karen Baker, Taylor Amponin, Alice Fticsar.

Midlothian Garden Club Celebrates 70 Years

Submitted by Carol Bridgforth, Midlothian Garden Club (P)

On June 6th, Midlothian Garden Club celebrated their 70th anniversary as a Federated Garden Club. Members attended a luncheon to celebrate the anniversary and install new officers. Special Guest *Val Story*, VFGC President, installed the incoming 2023-2025 officers. Members enjoyed past scrapbooks, a photo display of our May 2023 Standard Flower Show, the lovely table settings, and the large floral arrangements made by club members. A special anniversary cake was decorated with edible organic flowers.



Club President *Barbara Hollister* presented special awards and recognitions. Also, awards were given for designs and horticulture for the past two years. Special thanks to the "70th Anniversary Committee" chaired by Susan Gaskill. The lovely Anniversary Celebration was enjoyed by all.



Glen Burnie GC Enjoys Annual Summer Picnic

Submitted by Carolyn Frye, Glen Burnie (S)

Glen Burnie Garden Club members and guests gathered to celebrate our annual summer picnic on July 21st at member *Deidra Dain's* home. Deidra has hosted three years in a row. She has a lovely garden, the perfect spot for our annual picnic! This year we had a special treat. Deidra had a new water feature installed which made a beautiful atmosphere with the background of running water as we sat around visiting and enjoying a lovely meal. The water attracts a host of birds and other woodland critters, making it a wonderful addition for humans and animals.



Pictured: Picnic host Deidra Dain and her stunning water feature.

**Violet Bank GC (P)
Invites You to their
Design Show &
Luncheon**

Violet Bank Garden Club

Hosts

*“Celebrate Every
Magical Moment”*

Design Show and Luncheon

*Featuring Whitney Walk, Floral Designer
From The Flower Mart, Petersburg, VA*

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

at the Country Club of Petersburg

1250 Flank Road, Petersburg, VA

Doors open at 9:30 am

Floral Design Show at 10:30 am

Luncheon at Noon

Ticket donation: \$40.00

Available from Gay Whitaker

804-586-1281

All proceeds donated to Violet Bank Museum

Nelson County Garden Club Celebrates!

Submitted by Sharon Cole and Missie Dickie, Nelson County GC (S)

In recent months, the NCGC has had a lot to celebrate!

In June, the club gathered for our annual luncheon and hat parade, and the installation of new officers. Fun was had by all, and the garden-inspired hats were judged in four categories: *Whimsical*, *Outrageous*, *Classical*, and *Fruits and Vegetables*.



In July, we dedicated our newly earned Trex bench at the club's Memorial Garden, which was created in 1989 at the Nelson Memorial Library to honor deceased club members. The Trex program was a perfect way for the club to not only earn a new bench to replace an older one that mysteriously disappeared from the

garden a few years ago, but it also allowed us to help the environment by collecting 535 pounds of plastic over a six-month period with assistance from community partners, including the Nelson County Food Pantry. We are now "paying it forward" by continuing to save plastic to help the food pantry earn their own bench.



Since March, the NCGC has welcomed six new members with the potential for even more as we look ahead to an exciting series of programs for the rest of 2023.

Rosecrest GC (P) Invites You to a Fall Holiday Gala

Rosecrest Garden Club

invites lovers of flowers,
holiday decorations, and fashion to

*Fabulous Fall
Holiday Gala*

Country Club of Petersburg
1250 Flank Road, Petersburg, VA

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Doors open at 8:45 a.m. Lunch served at 12:00 p.m.

Holiday Gala will feature a floral decorating demonstration
by Betty Ann Galway of Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Enjoy a delicious luncheon by the Country Club chefs and
a Fashion Walk by All Manor of Things
with an opportunity to purchase a variety of items.
Exciting door prizes and a silent auction!

Tickets are available for a donation of \$40.
Proceeds help support the Rosecrest Scholarship program.
Limited seating, so please plan early to attend.
Deadline—October 11, 2023

For tickets contact chairpersons

Carolyn Shiflet

carolyn.shiflet0865@gmail.com 804-536-0865

OR

Marie Crites

mstcove@yahoo.com 804-265-5923

Plan to attend for a fun-filled time with folks who love flowers!

Council Holds Arbor Day Ceremony and Tree Planting

Loy Holt, Williamsburg Area Council of Garden Clubs (T)

In March of this year, Williamsburg Area Council of Garden Clubs and the City of Williamsburg held its 38th annual Arbor Day ceremony at the Williamsburg Community Building and its tree planting ceremony at Bicentennial Park.

The City of Williamsburg's Vice Mayor *Pat Dent* gave opening remarks. Council President *Anne Collins*, Green Spring Garden Club, and Arbor Day Awards Co-Chairmen: *Gigi Thorpe* and *Becky Hubbard*, both from Colonial Heritage Garden Club, presided over the event. Eighteen Awards of Excellence were given to businesses. The Garden Club Award was presented to *Rose Marie Crocco*, Colonial Heritage Garden Club, and the Individual Award was presented to recent Eagle Scout recipient, *Elijah Barrett*. Featured speakers were *Charles Gardner*, Arborist, and *Jonathan Lax*, Senior Landscape Manager, both with Colonial Williamsburg. They spoke about tagging trees in Colonial Williamsburg and some of the awards that Colonial Williamsburg has received for their effort.

Loy Holt, Berkeley Garden Club, served as tree coordinator for the Council. *Lucas Jenne*, Landscape Superintendent for the City of Williamsburg, spoke about the Dogwood Tree (*Cornus* 'Stellar Pink'), as his team planted it in Bicentennial Park during a gentle rain. This was the 53rd tree planting for the Council in the Williamsburg/York County area.



Pictured (L to R): Blake Wills, Tyler Crabtree, Shawn Persinger, Lucas Jenne, Loy Holt, Marge Lynch, Anne Collins, Barbara Ramsey, Pat Dent and Jon Miano (crouching).

Memorial Wreath Placed at Oceanfront

Submitted by Leilani Ozment, Chair, Blue Star Memorial (T)

A fresh floral memorial wreath was placed on the Blue Star Highway Memorial Marker at the Visitor Center in Virginia Beach to commemorate Memorial Day weekend 2023. This Visitor Center is adjacent to the interstate and the beginning of the Virginia Beach resort area. A small vase containing extra flowers was also provided for the front desk.



We will be dedicating another Blue Star By-Way Marker on October 3, 2023, at the Norfolk Botanical Garden.

FALL REFLECTIONS



An NGC District Standard Flower Show

Presented by
Tidewater District, VFGC

Hampton Roads Agricultural Research & Extension Center (AREC)
1444 Diamond Springs Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
757-363-3900

September 23, 2023
10:00am – 3:00pm
(Rain Date: September 24, 2023)

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ODG Circulation Manager

cosbych1205@gmail.com

ODG Deadlines

Winter November 1

Spring February 1

Summer May 1

Fall August 1

Submit *ODG* articles in MS Word format with separate image files (300 dpi jpeg) to our **District Editors:**

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shirle4858@gmail.com

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Chatham, VA 24531-3117
434-432-8757 • val@rgbartlett.com

Southwest • Lizzie Mann
19376 Stirrup Dr., Abingdon, VA 24211-6766
276-739-2302 • Kynana3@msncom

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Subscription Rates

Members \$1.75

(Included in dues)

Non-Members \$3.50

Published Quarterly:

Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter

To access current and past issues of *Old Dominion Gardener*, go to the website <https://virginagardenclubs.org/Publications>.



Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
1800 Lakeside Avenue
Richmond, VA 23228-4700

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Photo by Carolyn Frye
Glen Burnie GC (S)