

February, 2024 EDITION OF THE VFGC, INC. NEWSLETTER



ROOTED

Don't forget!

ODG Deadline: February 1, 2024
VFGC Finance Committee Meeting: February 20, 2024
CFAA Seminar: February 22-24, 2024
Virginia Orchid Society: February 23-24, 2024
VFGC Board of Directors: February 27, 2024 (Zoom)

Hello VFGC,

As I look out the window there is actually snow falling. The ground hog may have been incorrect.

Garden Clubs are busy, as I note from the surveys that are coming to me and the district presidents. What a joy to read. District meetings will soon be taking place, which I am looking forward to visiting.

For those who have read the wonderful ODG that was just emailed to the districts, you will note the VFGC Convention registration is in the issue. I would like to change one thing and that is the phone number to call the hotel: **1-800-476-1988**. And ask for the VFGC Block.

Flower Show School and Landscape Design Schools will be starting soon. Do take advantage of these opportunities. I have also noticed there are several flower shows in the near future. Hopefully we will be able to offer the student judges a chance to judge.

I wonder if clubs are continuing with the TREX program with the changes. I truly hope so, because the recycling of plastics is a “big deal”.

Do remember: “Every Person Makes a Difference”, all of you make a difference.

Val Story



“Nothing Could be Finer Than to Be in Carolina”

SAR Convention
March 18 ~ 19, 2024
Greenville, SC

A great adventure awaits as we share the warmth and beauty of Greenville, a jewel of a city situated in the Foothills region of South Carolina. We’ll gather to honor our South Atlantic Regional Director and National Garden Club President as well as attend fun and educational garden club events.

One of the highlights of the Convention will be a Tea and Garden Tour where we will honor our special guests Carcille Burchette, SAR Director, and Brenda Moore, NGC President. The event will be held at the historic Kilgore-Lewis House which was built in the 1830’s and is headquarters for the Greenville Council of Garden Clubs. Tour the lovely grounds surrounding the house which include an accredited Arboretum and Garden habitat.

The convention will provide you the opportunity to attend many garden club events such as these must-see programs:

- Special “Welcome” by The Carolina Girls (Lake and Hills GC).
- “Tales from the Traveling Botanist”, by Douglas A. Rayner, PhD, naturalist/author.
- “Our Endangered Monarchs” by Kelly Long (Camellia GC of Greer).
- Special Presentation “There Was No Miracle Gro in the Garden of Eden” by Bonnie Satterthwaite, Territory Sales Manager, The Espoma Company.

The Convention will be held at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Greenville Golf Resort & Conference Center, located at 670 Verdae Boulevard, Greenville, SC 20607 (864-676-9090). We have a special room rate of \$159+ tax which includes breakfast, evening drinks, hors d’oeuvres and free parking. This special block of rooms is limited, so please make your hotel reservations early.

- Reservations can be made by clicking on the following link:
[Garden Club of SC Booking Link](#)
- Or by calling 1-800-EMBASSY and asking for the Garden Club of SC – South Atlantic Region Convention special room rate
- Last date to make hotel reservations is by **Friday, February 16, 2024.**

We look forward to seeing each of you as we welcome Spring to the upstate of South Carolina.

PENNY PINES UPDATE:

As mentioned in the January 2024 edition of Rooted, each VFGC District has a Penny Pines Chairman. *But it is important that Violet Neel (mvneel@yahoo.com), our VFGC Penny Pines Chairman, also be notified of any Penny Pines donation so that the Virginia totals and awards are accurate. We want to make sure that every club receives recognition for this important environmental contribution and beautification legacy.*

CONGRATULATIONS to the following clubs for their Penny Pines donations in 2023:

**VIRGINIA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC
PENNY PINES DONATIONS – 2023**

Blue Ridge District

Blue Ridge GC	4		
Boones Mill GC	2		
Salem GC	4	Southside GC	1
Sugar Loaf GC	3	Westchester GC	1
Total 15	\$1,020.00		

Piedmont District

Amelia County GC	1	Crewe GC	2
Crown Grant GC	1	Lake Anna GC	1
Salisbury GC	6	Sleepy Hollow GC	3
Thomas Jefferson GC	1	Violet Bank GC	1
Westham GC	1		
Total 17	\$1,156.00		

Shenandoah District

Beverley GC	1	Calfee GC	1
Cedar Run GC	1	Culpeper GC	9
Glasgow GC	2	Glen Burnie GC	1
Green Hills GC	2	Hill and Valley GC	1
Hot Springs GC	1	Lake of the Woods GC	6
Madison GC	8	Natural Bridge GC	3
Nelson County GC	1	Rapid Ann GC	4
Rappahannock GC	1	Shenandoah Designers'	
Guild	1		
Shenandoah District	1		
Total 44	\$2,992.00		

South Central District

Friends and Flowers GC	1	Gretna GC	2
Keysville GC	3		South
Central District	1		
Wayside GC (Disbanded)	11		
Total 18	\$1,224.00		

Southwest District

Abingdon GC	1	Galax GC	3
Town & Country GC	1	Southwest District	4

Total 9 \$612.00

Tidewater District

Berkeley GC	1	Colonial Heritage	6
Green Meadow GC	10	James River GC	4
Lake Smith Terrace GC1		Lynnhaven Heritage	
GC	1		
May Farm of Kingston GC	5	Merrifields GC	1
Tidewater District	16		
Totals 45	\$3,060.00		

VFGC 3 \$204.00

Total Plantations 151 **\$10,268.00**

CLUB NEWS:

In December, the **Buckingham Dillwyn Garden Club** created a festive holiday atmosphere for the community. Using greenery from their gardens and purchased holiday ornaments, members decorated the historic building that is home to the Buckingham Arts Center in anticipation of Santa’s visit with local children. Members also created small holiday arrangements to place in the rooms of residents at a local nursing home.

Below: Geraldine O’Neill places a wreath on the front of the Buckingham Arts center; Jackie Fairbarns adds holiday decorations inside the building; Suzanne VandeGrift, Pam Murray and Barbara Knabe create arrangements for nursing home residents.



The importance of finding ways to relax, to recharge ourselves, to help us feel optimistic, and to be good earthly stewards is paramount for our health and the health of the planet.

As a powerful tool for community building, sharing optimism, and teaching stewardship, **the Hill and Valley Garden Club** is hosting “Garden Lover’s Day” on May 18th, 2024, at Birdsong Pleasure Garden in Luray, Virginia.

Since 2018, Garden Lover's Day iterations have been an opportunity to encourage people to connect with nature, to cultivate the joys and benefits of gardening, and to support the club's efforts to raise funds for Environmental Scholarships for area students.

The Club's event will offer native plant sales, environmental education, landscape design, artisan made goods, music, food and drink; as well as opportunities to win gift certificates to area businesses.

Garden Club members will be on hand offering Garden Tours through Birdsong Pleasure Garden, answer gardening questions, and help plant shoppers with their purchases.

Local Artisans will offer their talents during the day. Painters, sculptors, printers, jewelry, and clothing artists are among the Artisans that will be available during the day.

Twenty top quality gift certificates for dinners, native plant orders, garden tours, museums, and theater tickets from area businesses will be available during the Environmental Scholarship fundraiser raffle. Several door prizes will be awarded during the day, as well.

Contact information: Lesley Mack at birdsongpleasuregarden@gmail.com 540-743-9389 or on the club's website – hillandvalleygc.com (Refer to the flier below)

VFGC Flower Shows are planned:

If You Love Daffodils...

Save These Dates: March 23 - 24



**Virginia Daffodil Society
presents the
29th Annual Daffodil Show**

**Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
Kelly Education Center
1800 Lakeside Avenue, Richmond VA 23228**

**Open to the Public:
Sat. March 23, 2pm-5pm
Sun. March 24, 10am-3:45pm**

Exhibitors Welcome: Bring your Daffodils
Submit Entries: March 22, Noon-6pm & March 23, 7am-10am
there is no charge to exhibit & materials are provided

Questions: Email vdsdaffshow@gmail.com
Join our Facebook Page: Virginia Daffodil Society

Rose And Garden Club
Beautiful Roses, Beautiful Garden Gala
70th
ANNIVERSARY
SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024 | 5:00-10:00 PM

The Prizery
700 Bruce Street, South Boston, VA 24592
5:00-6:00 Reception
6:00-8:00 Dinner
8:00-10:00 Musical Celebration / Dancing
CONTACT: Mrs. Juanita Johnson | 434.637.2797
TICKETS: Individual \$60



VFGC CLUB FLOWER SHOWS:

Our VFGC President, Val Story, loves Flower Shows! So do club members! So, **if your club is planning a Flower Show open to the public, please send basic information to rootedvfgc@gmail.com** so it can be listed here in future editions of **ROOTED**. There may be club road trips in everyone's future to see your club's Flower Show!

NOTE: The registration deadline FOR LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL is FEBRUARY 20!

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL
SPONSORED BY THE VIRGINIA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
Course 2, Series 29
Monday and Tuesday
March 11, 12, 2024

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
Education Classroom
1800 Lakeside Drive
Richmond, VA 23228-4700
Phone (804) 693-9393

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL COURSE REGISTRATION

Course 2 Series 29 March 11, 12, 2024

Registration Deadline: Feb. 20, 2024

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ VA _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Fax: _____

Garden Club: _____ District: _____

Check if Refreshing _____ Are you a 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 – Monday __ or Tuesday __ 50.00

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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: cosbych1205@gmail.com

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

SCHEDULE

Monday, March 11, 2024			
Time	Activity		Instructor
8:00 – 8:20am – 8:20am	Registration Welcome		
8:30am – 9:30am	Landscape Design Process		Neal Beasley

9:40am – 10:40am	Designing for Pollinators and Wildlife		Laurie Fox
10:50am – 11:50am	Designing a Themed Garden (Supplemental Subject)		Laura Petrella
11:50am – 1:10pm	LUNCH (The Café is convenient)		
1:20pm - 2:20pm	Plants for the Landscape		Laurie Fox
2:30pm – 3:30pm	Development of North American Landscape Design		Gordon Chappell
6:30pm Group Dinner – place to be announced – pay on your own			
Tuesday, March 12, 2024			
8:30am - 9:30am	Redesign of Areas		Neal Beasley
9:40am - 10:40am	Preservation of Historic Sites and Structures		Gordon Chappell
10:50am - 11:50am	Accessible, Enabling and Therapeutic Gardens		Laura Petrella
11:50am - 1:00pm	LUNCH (The Café is convenient)		
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Structures in the Landscape		Gordon Chappell
2:10pm - 3:10p-off m	Overused, Often Invasive Plants and Native Alternatives		Neal Beasley
3:15pm	Review – consultants not taking the exam may leave.		
3:30pm	Exam		

Hotel offering your special group rate:

- **Spring Hill Suites - Richmond North, Glen Allen, 9701 Brook Road, Glen Allen, VA for \$101 +USD per night (804-266-9403) Special Rate Cut-off date is February 11, 2014.**

[Book your group rate for Landscape Design School](#)

INSTRUCTORS

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.

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.

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.

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

THE IDEA EXCHANGE:

Every VFGC Garden Club strives to sponsor great programs. But where can a club find new program ideas? **Please share information about your club's favorite programs and contact info by sending it to: rootedvfgc@gmail.com for THE IDEA EXCHANGE.**

While the Old Dominion Gardener is published quarterly, **ROOTED** can be sent monthly. So please submit articles or information you want to share by the 8th of each month to rootedvfgc@gmail.com. **Every club has some news they can share at least once in 2024!**

ODG deadlines are: August 1, November 1, February 1 and May 1. For either publication, please submit photos in jpeg format. Please submit text in Word format.

WE WISH YOU VERY HEALTHY, PRODUCTIVE AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR!

Sally Harrison, Editor, **ROOTED**, Email:rootedvfgc@gmail.com