

**SPRING 2024**

# OLD DOMINION GARDENER



Preview & Register: 2024 Convention

Spotlight: The Village Garden Club  
of Amherst

Inspiration: Virginia Gardens & Preserves

**VOL 55 Number 4**





# OLD DOMINION GARDENER

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

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Valerie Story

“Every Person Makes a Difference”

[valstory@aol.com](mailto:valstory@aol.com)



## ROOTED

The ROOTED newsletter 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](mailto:RootedVFGC@gmail.com)

or by phone: 804-784-2851

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Richmond, VA 23228-4700

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<https://viriniagardenclubs.org>

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COVER PHOTO

“Rhododendron in Central VA”

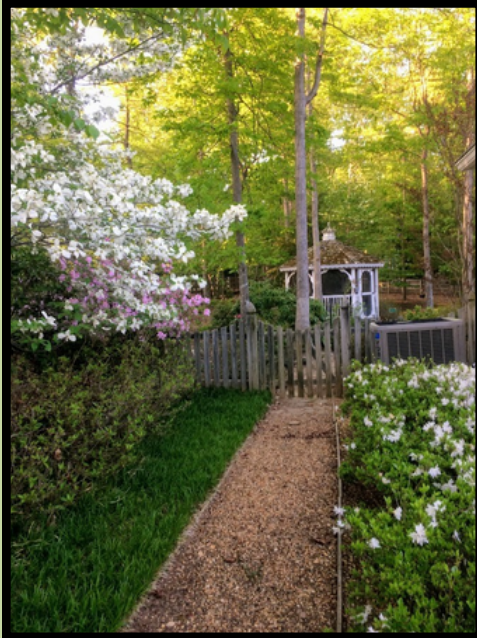
by Kathy Ward

Salisbury GC (P)

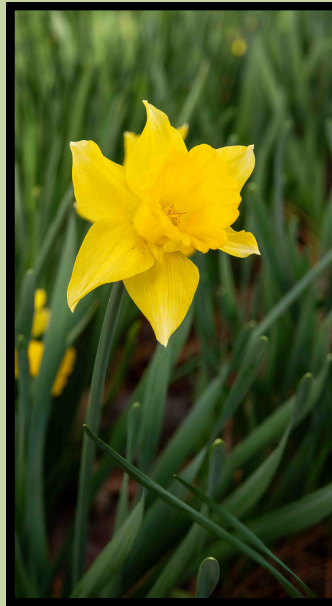
# Spring Gallery

"That is one good thing about this world -- there are always sure to be more springs."

L.M. Montgomery



The Garden Path  
Midlothian  
Photo by Kathy Ward  
Salisbury GC (P)



Daffodil at Norfolk BG  
Photo by Debbi Babashanian  
Lake Smith Terrace GC (T)



Itoh Peony in my garden last April  
Photo by Martie Parch  
Salisbury GC (P)



Clematis Nelly Moser in my garden last April  
Photo by Martie Parch  
Salisbury GC (P)



Bluets (*Houstonia caerulea*)  
Photo by Valerie Virkler  
Friends and Flowers GC (SC)



# President's Message



Hello VFGC Members,

Happy New Year! Spring is almost here, or as the trusty groundhog says. I do hope he is correct. We have had a little lull with fewer events over January and February, but come March, April, and May, here we go ... and I am so looking forward to the district meetings and conventions.

One very positive thing is occurring now that the club president reports are being submitted. Golly, how wonderful to hear about all you are doing. Gives me ideas, too. Thanks for sending some of your meeting programs. We have requests for VFGC to offer a list of programs; this will be done! Another plan is to assist club presidents by having a more complete guide available to help in the role of president. This would hopefully encourage garden club members to serve as officers, which I feel is very rewarding. There is also a plan to have club president zoom meetings. Stay tuned.

One NGC program that VFGC is participating in is the "Path of Success." This is a walking path at the NGC Headquarters in St. Louis that will connect the Missouri Botanical Garden with the headquarters. This is a way to promote NGC, as well as a way to educate visitors on the history of NGC. Check the NGC website to consider contributing to this great cause.

"Make a Difference, Virginia" is the theme of the 2024 VFGC Convention to be held May 21-22 at the Boar's Head Resort. Wonderful plans are in progress to have a great convention, as well as a flower show: "Let the Music Play." There are a variety of speakers (two of which I have heard before- A plus), and a special treat to have a former White House floral designer show us her time in the White House as well as demonstrate her designs.

There have been comments, "everything is going digital." I understand the frustration some may feel, but I also stress this is the way of the future. Email and websites are being used more and more as well as Facebook and all the social media platforms.

Virginia had more awards submitted this year. Congratulations. I know several awards are on their way to further compete at SAR and NGC. I hope many will see Heidi's award presentation at the VFGC convention. We'll include the recap in the ODG summer issue.

Flower Shows...keep them coming. There are several in the works. These are so important for public education, judging credit, and to just plain have fun. Some of the districts are having shows at their spring meetings and other at the fall meeting.

See you soon at your district meetings and anniversaries. Remember "everyone makes a difference."

Val

## Everyone Makes a Difference



# VFGC 2024 Convention

Amy Gable-Thorpe, Convention Chair  
Dianna Busch, Registrar

**“Make a Difference, Virginia”**

**May 21-22**  
**Boar's Head Resort**  
**Charlottesville**

This year's VFGC Convention is not to be missed! The two-day format will continue for this convention which promises to be packed with excitement! We welcome the SAR Director, Carcille from Kentucky.

Enjoy a Flower Show, workshops, amazing lunch and dinner programs, shopping, awards, VFFSJC meeting, seeing old friends and making new ones. Sponsors welcome!

VFGC Conventions are known to provide great shopping experiences, silent auctions, and opportunity tickets for designs.

**Registration Deadline**  
**Postmarked by May 8, 2024**



**Boar's Head Resort** ★★★★★

200 Ednam Drive Charlottesville Virginia 22903 US Tel. 888-337-3237

**Venue: Boar's Head Resort**  
**Hotel Reservations:**  
**888-252-0489**  
**Ask for the “Virginia**  
**Federation of Garden Clubs**  
**Block”**

**Block rate per night:**  
**\$235.00, resort fee has been**  
**waived.**

**Most rooms feature two**  
**beds. Free stainless steel**  
**water bottle, Espresso**  
**Coffee in room, Free parking.**

**Hotel reservation deadline:**  
**April 19, 2024**



# CONVENTION SCHEDULE

## Tuesday, May 21

8:00 am – 6:00 pm	Flower Room Open
8:30 am – 10:00 am	Flower Show Entries Received
10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Vendor Shopping
10:30 am – 11:30 am	Board Meeting
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Luncheon & Awards Program
2:00 pm- 3:00 pm	Workshop Rebecca Suerdieck
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Flower Show Open
4:00 pm- 5:00 pm	Workshop Rod Walker
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Social Hour (cash bar)
7:00 pm	Dinner Design Program: Helena Arouca

## Wednesday, May 22

8:00 am – Noon	Registration Desk Open
8:00 am – 9:30am	Open Breakfast
9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Flower Show Open
9:00 am – 11:30 am	Convention Opening/ Business Meeting
10:00 am – 3:00 pm	Vendor Shopping
Noon -2:30 pm	Luncheon Design Program: Laura Dowling
2:00 pm- 3:00 pm	Flower Show entries retrieved

## THE FLOWER SHOW

An NGC Small Standard Flower Show will be showcased during the convention. Any VFGC member in good standing may enter, regardless of convention attendance.

Theme: "Let the Music Play" tribute to the 50's, 60's & 70's.

The schedule will be available on the VFGC website or may be requested from Pat Carswell:  
[mamala@comcast.net](mailto:mamala@comcast.net)

## SCREAMING WHILE I CAN...

The Convention **SILENT AUCTION is back!** Since we'll soon quietly circle around grand offerings, let me shout out this **first call to all volunteers, donations, and future bidders.**

- **Volunteers:** solicit donations, pick up items, set up, break down.
- **Donations:** auction items, consignment 50%, financial support for baskets.
- **Future bidders:** come ready to bid and let us know what would make the auction great for you.

If you are ready to pick up the megaphone with me, **Tina Foutz**, or want to tell me a quiet little secret, contact me via email [christinamfoutz@gmail.com](mailto:christinamfoutz@gmail.com) or text/cell phone 301-461-4025. Additional information will be sent to club presidents in the coming weeks.

## Luncheon Program Tuesday, May 21

### Award Presentations – Heidi Sage

is the VFGC awards chairman. She is extremely knowledgeable in the award process and is willing to share this with the district award chairmen, through zoom meetings, and numerous emails and phone calls. She navigates the NGC changes with calm and thoroughness. Sit back and enjoy her presentation.

### Workshop: Tuesday, 2:00 – 3:30 pm



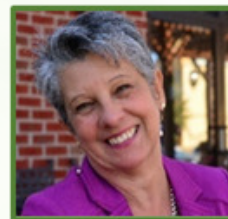
**Rebecca Suerdieck** is an award-winning historian and educator. She has delighted audiences of all ages with the variety of her programs. She specializes in making cheese and natural perfume. She lives in Williamsburg. For this program, we will witness the art and science of extracting fragrance from flowers. Rebecca is one of two natural perfume makers in the USA.

### Workshop: Tuesday, 3:30 – 4:30 pm



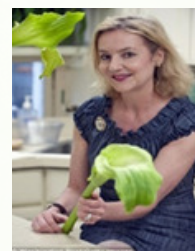
**Rod Walker** serves on the Blue Ridge PRISM Board. He is on the Board of Directors for the VA Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation, the Noxious Weeds Advisory Committee for the State of Virginia, which recommends changes to the State's Noxious Weeds law and regulations, and the Advisory Board for the VA Forestry Association. He and his wife Maggie are Virginia Master Naturalists. We will learn more about our invasive weeds.

## Dinner Program Tuesday, May 21



**Helena Arouca** is a master in the Art of Ikebana at the Sangetsu School of Ikebana. She has been practicing since 1994, having taught hundreds of classes. Helena has recently been learning to make her own ceramic vases enabling her students to practice on these unique art pieces. She is very passionate about sharing this ancient art with others and loves being able to introduce people to a new way to create harmony, beauty and awareness, shown in her floral designs. She lives in Waynesboro. Opportunity tickets will be available to win Helena's designs - including one in one of her custom-designed ceramic vases.

## Luncheon Program Wednesday, May 22



**Laura Dowling** is an Alexandria flower designer known for her French garden-style flowers and innovative floral installations. Her love of flowers started with a trip to Paris. From 2009 to 2015 she served as the Chief Floral Designer at the White House, where she designed for private events, including state dinners, receptions, parties and the iconic White House Christmas. She is the author of several books including her latest one: "Bouquets." Her designs and wreaths contain unusual plant material. Laura will give a presentation on her days at the White House as well as create 3-4 designs. An absolute must-see. Opportunity tickets will be available to win her designs.



**90th Annual Convention Registration Form  
May 21-22, 2024 • "Make a Difference, Virginia"**

Registration: Please complete form; make check payable to "VFGC 2024 Convention" and mail both to Dianna Busch, 14453 Rillhurst Dr, Culpeper, VA 22701-9711; diannabusch@comcast.net; 540-353-9044. Postmark by May 8

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Check ALL that apply:

- National Officer/Chm/BdM  District President  NGC Life Member
- Regional Officer/Chm  District Director  SAR Life Member
- Former VFGC President  Club President  VFGC Life Member
- State Officer/Chm  Club Member  Visitor/Guest
- VFGC Life Member/ Book of Honor since 5/1/23  First-time attendee

Select Your Attendance Plan:

Full Convention (Package Plan- \$25 savings) \$200.00 \_\_\_\_

Full convention includes: Tuesday Lunch, Workshops, Tuesday Dinner, Wednesday Continental Breakfast, Lunch and Registration Fee if postmarked by May 8.

Partial Attendance Options:

Tuesday Lunch, Program & Workshops \$55.00 \_\_\_\_

Tuesday Evening Dinner and Program \$85.00 \_\_\_\_

Wednesday Continental Breakfast \$ NC \_\_\_\_

Wednesday Lunch and Design Program \$55.00 \_\_\_\_

Registration Fee if postmarked by May 8 \$30.00 \_\_\_\_

Registration Fee if postmarked after May 8 \$40.00 \_\_\_\_

One-event Registration Fee \$45.00 \_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

A Late Fee must be included for all envelopes postmarked after 5/08/24. Any registrations postmarked after 5/11/24 will not be processed or accepted. No Walk-in registrations. No refunds after 5/11/24. Refunds requested by 5/11/2024 are subject to retention of registration fee.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please check for any dietary requirements and list details.

**VFGC 2024 Convention Credentials Form**

All designated delegates and alternates, including VFGC Officers and members of the Board of Directors, must complete this form and include it with your Registration Form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ Garden Club \_\_\_\_\_

Check one that applies:

- VFGC Officer/Board of Directors  Club Delegate
- Club President  Club Alternate

Eligibility shall be in accordance with VFGC Bylaws - number of Delegates and Alternates in accordance with size of club as follows:

- 1-25 members: President or appointee - 1 Alternate
  - 26-50 members: President or appointee plus 1 Delegate - 2 Alternates
  - 51-100 members: President or appointee plus 2 Delegates - 3 Alternates
  - 100+ members: President or appointee plus 3 Delegates - 4 Alternates
- Delegates have the right to vote; alternates fill in the delegate if he/she is unable to attend the Convention.

# Spotlight: The Village Garden Club of Amherst

Nina Garrett, President, The Village GC of Amherst (SC)



The Village Garden Club was organized in 1953 as the Weed and Wish Garden Club. By 1956, the name was changed to the Village Garden Club of Amherst, Virginia. Currently, we have 27 members. The objectives of the club are to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, facilitate civic pride through the beautification of community gardens, and promote the protection of native plants and birds.



Since its inception in 1953, the presence of this club has been felt throughout the community in many ways. We have many gardens we maintain throughout our town, but our signature project is the traffic circle which intersects Route 60 and Main Street. The circle is the oldest continually maintained VDOT circle in Virginia. Planning for the club's traffic circle project began in 1973. In April of 1975, holly, azaleas, and bulbs were planted. With the help of VDOT and the Town of Amherst, a water sprinkler system was installed in 1976. The beautiful water fountain, funded by donations from Amherst residents, businesses, and volunteer organizations, was erected in 2006.



In 1978, the Village Garden Club was invited to participate in the plans for the Amherst mini-park garden. The club presented a tree to the Amherst Town Council to be planted in the new garden. In 1980, we placed a sundial in the park as a memorial to former club members. The club is responsible for landscaping and maintaining the park garden. Over the years, besides maintaining the Route 60 traffic circle, the club has expanded its permanent horticultural projects to include the following: the Main Street Memorial Garden, the Amherst County Museum and Historical Society gardens, the town hall gardens, fire station garden, and the south end "Welcome Sign" garden as well as the Main Street, post office, town hall, and police department planter box.



Another of our signature projects is the “Gingerbread Soldiers” which we display in the circle and throughout the town during the Christmas Season. We currently have 30 of these soldiers, eight of which are placed within the traffic circle garden along with a beautiful metal Christmas tree. Over the years, we have placed other trees in the mini-park, at the town hall sign, and at the south end sign. Local businesses, families and individuals can sponsor a soldier each year for \$50. Each soldier has a plaque identifying the sponsors. At the end of the Holiday Season, the plaques are given to the sponsors. The Amherst County High School shop class makes the plaques for us. The money we collect from the sponsorships helps to fund our charitable donations. Additionally, we are currently working with Amherst County High School students to complete the painting of an additional six soldiers.



Our biggest fundraiser is our annual “Garden Fest” held each year on the last Saturday in April. Members grow plants throughout the year which are then sold to the public during this event. Hundreds of people in the area return each year to purchase vegetable plants, herbs, annual and perennial flowers, as well as native plants, bushes, and trees. Members of the local 4-H club work with us to assist customers getting their purchases safely stowed in their vehicles. We also have a boutique at the event that features many donated garden-related items for sale: flowers pots, gardening tools, pictures and paintings.



Because of the many hours we volunteer for civic improvement projects, we are fortunate to receive from the town of Amherst a yearly monetary grant which helps us purchase seasonal plantings for the many gardens and planters we maintain.

Each year, our club donates money to several organizations including Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Meals on Wheels, and the Cancer Society. We also give the 4-H Club a sizable donation which helps to support students attending 4-H summer camp.

Throughout our years of service, The Village Garden Club of Amherst has earned several awards for our work. Twice we were named as the recipient of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs' “Civic Improvement Award,” where we received one first place and one second place prize. The club has also been chosen to receive the district's “Best Community Award” on multiple occasions



# How Does Your Garden Grow?

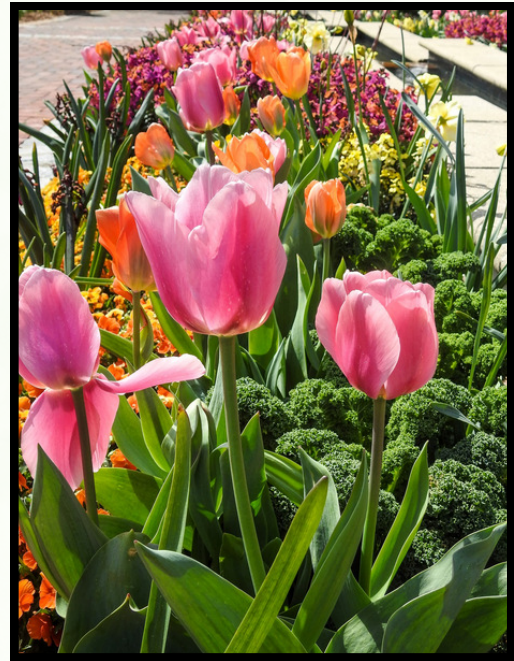
## Taking Inspiration from Our Virginia Gardens

Martie Parch, Horticulture Chair

We are fortunate to live in Virginia where there are so many diverse botanical gardens. As gardeners, we are encouraged to continue our education by taking advantage of these living designs of horticultural beauty.

### Tulips at Norfolk Botanical Garden

Photo by Debbi Babashanian  
Lake Smith Terrace GC (T)



**Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden** in Richmond includes 82 acres of themed gardens, an educational children's garden, and a stunning conservatory. Beginning in March, one can register for classes on shrubs, botanical drawing, floral designs, birds, and even wine. Their website is <https://lewisginter.org>.

**The Norfolk Botanical Garden** is the largest in the state, offering classes on floral design, cooking, art, children's programs and various tours of their 60 themed gardens. Through a WPA grant in 1939, it was established as the Azalea Garden which hosted the International Azalea Festival for many years. Look for information at <https://norfolkbotanicalgarden.org>.

**The State Arboretum of Virginia** originated from the Blandy Experimental Farm to train UVA students in farming methods. Research today focuses on the ecosystems among plants and animals. There are herb gardens, native trails and a large grove of ginkgo trees. Registration for tours, classes and workshops can be found at <https://blandy.virginia.edu>.

**Meadowlark Botanical Garden** is located outside of Washington D.C. Originally a 74-acre farm in the Virginia Piedmont region, it grew to become a scenic property of hills, lakes, trails and lush gardens of native trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses and perennials. Tours and children's camps are available at <https://novaparks.com/parks/meadowlark-botanical-gardens>.

# Natural Area Preserves in Virginia

## Wonderful resources for education and gardening inspiration

Susan DelSordo - Legislative Chair, Piedmont District

If you have not visited one of the many unique Natural Area Preserves in Virginia, you're in for a surprise. **The Virginia Natural Preserves System was established in 1989 by the "Virginia Natural Area Preserves Act" to protect natural communities and habitats and rare species of plants and animals.**

The Natural Area Preserves System is under the direction of the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Natural Heritage Program. The Natural Heritage Program participates in NatureServe, which is a nationwide information sharing network to establish conservation priorities across state lines.

A landowner can voluntarily dedicate property as a Natural Area Preserve by contacting the DCR, who determines if the property meets the criteria. Natural Area dedication works much like a conservation easement by placing restrictions on future activities on the property, such as: no hunting, camping fires, off-road vehicles, removal of plants, animals and minerals or historic artifacts. To date, the system includes sixty-six natural area preserves, totaling over 61,067 acres in the Commonwealth.

**A personal favorite is Cape Charles, located near the tip of the Eastern Shore. This is a bird watcher's paradise!** Cape Charles provides a critical stopover habitat for fall migrating songbirds. During the winter, long-tailed ducks, loons, and scoters can be observed.

**If you live near New Kent County, you may be familiar with Cumberland Marsh, which is a mixture of freshwater tidal marsh and wooded upland habitats along the Pamunkey River.** Cumberland Marsh supports one of the world's largest populations of *Aeschynomene virginica* (Sensitive Jointvetch), a rare species of a wildflower in the legume family. It is on the federally listed threatened species list.

**For a complete list of Natural Area Preserves with public access, visit the preserve's webpage at <https:dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-area-preserves>. Before you go, check the Department of Conservation and Recreation's guidelines that ensures you will have a well-prepared adventure.**



# Civic Improvement Awards Available

Donna Cottingham

The Virginia Landscape Design Consultants Council (VLDDCC) offers a Civic Improvement Award to a garden club for completion of a landscape design and installation project that enhances a community. Civic Awards include First Place - \$200, Second Place - \$150, and Third Place - \$100. Awards will be presented at the VFGC Convention in May.

## REQUIREMENTS

A project must be completed between April 1, 2023 and April 1, 2024. The application for the award must be submitted by April 30, 2024.

Award applications are limited to one per club per year.

### Locations for Consideration:

- The enhancement of public buildings such as hospitals, schools, nursing homes, libraries, and churches.
- The enhancement of recreational spaces such as outdoor classrooms, play areas, and mini-parks.
- The enhancement of public sites such as city signage, boulevards, the entrance to a city, or a public walkway.

For more information, or to obtain an application form for your club, contact Melissa Damiano, [mtdamiano@aol.com](mailto:mtdamiano@aol.com).

### Awards will be judged on the following scale of points:

- 40** Visibility and benefit to the community
- 25** Impact and scope of the project
- 15** Sustainability of the project upon completion -- and plans for maintenance
- 10** Participation and collaboration with community groups
- 10** Participation of club members



# Event Calendar

- Feb 22-24.....CFAA Seminar, Orlando
- Feb 23-25.....Virginia Orchid Society Show, LGBG
- Mar 11-12.....VFGC Landscape Design School, Richmond
- Mar 17-20.....SAR Convention, Greenville, SC
- Mar 18.....Piedmont District Meeting
- Mar 23-24.....Virginia Daffodil Society Show, LGBG
- Mar 25-28.....Flower Show School II, Norfolk
- Apr 4.....South Central District Meeting
- Apr 11.....Shenandoah District Meeting
- Apr 24.....Blue Ridge District Meeting
- Apr 27.....Southwest District Meeting
- Apr 30.....Tidewater District Meeting
- May 1.....ODG Submission Deadline
- May 21-22.....VFGC Convention & Flower Show
- June 1.....Deadline for VFGC Dues Payment
- June 2-5.....NGC Convention, Denver
- June 2-8.....NGC National Garden Week
- Oct 23-27.....VMFA Fine Arts and Flowers
- Nov 11-12.....VFGC Symposium, Roanoke



**If You Love Daffodils. . .**

**Save These Dates: March 23 - 24**



**Virginia Daffodil Society**  
*presents the*  
**29<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:vdsdaffshow@gmail.com)  
Join our Facebook Page: Virginia Daffodil Society



**It's Not TOO EARLY!**

**Life is busy for us all,  
but VFGC is an opportunity to do  
good and enjoy yourself. Consider  
sharing your talents by serving as  
an officer on the VFGC BOARD  
during the next administration.  
Promise...it'll be a pleasure.**

**The application form can be found  
in the FORMS section on the  
website:**

**<https://viriniagardenclubs.org>.**

## **Save the Date!** **VFGC Symposium** **November 11-12, 2024**

Judges, student judges and those who are just interested in learning more about horticulture and design save the date!!! We will have tremendous instructors for our next VFGC Symposium. It will be held November 11-12, 2024 at the Roanoke Council of Garden Club's Center in Roanoke.

Lynn Fronk, an NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge and FSS Design and Procedure Instructor and former Garden Club of Ohio President, will be teaching us about Tapestry and Framed Spatial Designs. She will also be teaching the Allied Topic, Botanical Arts – Bonded Designs (Plaques and Collages). She has taught in 42 states and 7 Central American countries, judged major US flower shows and her designs have been published in Designing By Types. She is on the NGC board and is currently serving as the NGC Symposium Chairman.

Jan Griffin, NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge and Horticulture Flower Show and Symposium Instructor will be our horticulture instructor. She will teach us about Bromeliads (Air plants, pineapples, quills, Spanish moss) and Goepertia (Prayer Plants, Peacock Plants). She will also be teaching an Allied Topic, Creative Horticulture Staging. When not teaching Symposium or Flower Show School, Jan teaches Floral Design classes in Florida. She is actively involved in the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and the Florida FS Judges. Her comment to all her wonderful floral design friends is that you need great horticulture to create great designs!

For more information, or to receive a copy of the Symposium brochure, please contact Kathy Ward at [klhward@gmail.com](mailto:klhward@gmail.com) or 804-921-1021 or Claudia Cosby at [cosbych1205@gmail.com](mailto:cosbych1205@gmail.com) or 804- 794-7798.



# PENNY PINES Update

Violet Neel

16 Penny Pines Plantations were donated to restore damaged land during the period November-December 2023.



Blue Ridge District	1 Plantation	\$ 68
Piedmont District	2 Plantations	\$ 136
Shenandoah District	1 Plantation	\$ 68
South Central District	1 Plantation	\$ 68
Southwest District	2 Plantations	\$ 136
Tidewater District	9 Plantations	\$ 612
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16 Plantations</b>	<b>\$1088</b>



**National Garden Clubs**  
OFFICIAL WEBSITE



The permanent home and endowment trustees have approved the addition of a walking path to the NGC grounds: **The NGC Path of Success.**

Roughly 1/4 mile long, the Path of Success will be a walking path located on the grounds of NGC headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri and will link to the Missouri Botanical Garden, spreading more awareness of NGC than ever before. This project will also serve as an educational platform, showing the rich history and mission of NGC.

We hope regions, districts, clubs, affiliates and individuals will purchase a paver to be installed in the NGC Path of Success. This form and a second form to donate to this project can be found on the [NGC website](#).

We thank you for your participation in this exciting new project!

# VFGC Landscape Design School

## Course 2 Series 29 March 11 - 12, 2024

Sponsored by Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond

Registration Deadline February 20, 2024

### SCHEDULE

TIMING	ACTIVITY	INSTRUCTOR
<b>Monday, March 11</b>		
8:00 am	Registration	
8:20 am	Welcome	
8:30 am-9:30 am	Landscape Design Process	Laura Petrella
9:40 am-10:40 am	Overused, Often Invasive Plants and Native Alternatives	Neal Beasley
10:50 am-11:50 am	Designing a Themed Garden (Supplemental Subject)	Laura Petrella
11:50 am-1:10 pm	LUNCH (Café is convenient)	
1:20 pm- 2:20 pm	Accessible, Enabling, and Therapeutic Gardens	Laura Petrella
2:30 pm- 3:30 pm	Development of N.A. Landscape Design	Gordon Chappell
6:30 pm	Group Dinner - Location TBD (pay on your own)	
<b>Tuesday, March 12</b>		
8:30 am- 9:30 am	Preservation of Historic Sites and Structures	Gordon Chappell
9:40 am-10:40 am	Plants for the Landscape	Laurie Fox
10:50 am-11:50 am	Redesign of Areas	Neal Beasley
11:50 am-1:00 pm	LUNCH (Café is convenient)	
1:00 pm- 2:00 pm	Structures in the Landscape	Gordon Chappell
2:10 pm- 3:10 pm	Designing for Pollinators and Wildlife	Laurie Fox
3:15 pm	Review (Consultants not taking exam may leave)	
3:30 pm	Exam	

### Course Location

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

Education Building Classroom

1800 Lakeside Drive

Richmond, VA 23228-4700

Phone (804) 693-9393

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 one course, you are eligible to join the Landscape Design Consultants Council and participate in their fabulous trips.



## INSTRUCTORS - 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.

### **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.**

REGISTRATION - LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL  
COURSE 2 SERIES 29 March 11 - 12, 2024  
LEWIS GINTER BOTANICAL GARDEN, RICHMOND  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_District\_\_\_\_\_

Check if Refreshing \_\_\_\_\_ Master Gardener? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Is your garden club a member of VFGC? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

PLEASE CHECK CORRECT BOX

- |                          |                                     |          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | EXAM STUDENT                        | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | NON-EXAM STUDENT                    | 100.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 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: 804 794-77  
3015 Mount Hill Drive Midlothian, VA 23113-3923  
E-mail: [cosbych1205@gmail.com](mailto:cosbych1205@gmail.com)

LDS Chairman, Marty Bowers

Email: [martbw@gmail.com](mailto:martbw@gmail.com) Phone: 540 309-1676

LDS Co-chairman, Glenda Knowles

Email: [ggknowles6@gmail.com](mailto:ggknowles6@gmail.com) Phone: 757 651-0401

**HOTEL INFORMATION**

Start Date: Sunday, March 10, 2024

End Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Last Day to Book: Sunday, February 11, 2024

Hotel offering the VFGC special group rate:

SpringHill Suites Richmond North

9701 Brook Road, Glen Allen (804) 266-9403

special rate 109 USD per night plus taxes

Click this link to book your reservation:

[Book your group rate for Va Federation of Garden](#)



# Flower Show School Course II

A National Garden Clubs, Inc. School

March 25-28, 2024

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



**LOCATION: Freemason St. Baptist Church 400 E. Freemason Street Norfolk, VA 23510**

**Flower Show Procedure** will cover review of Standard & Specialty Flower Show requirements, standard system of awarding, duties of flower show chairman & committee, writing a flower show schedule, and an explanation of Botanical Arts Photography Section & Botanical Arts Photography Award.

**Horticulture** will cover staging horticulture innovatively, petite horticulture, general requirements for horticulture TEA Awards, judging qualities on the point scoring form, and commenting vocabulary.

**Design** will include table designs with the role of balance, color and texture emphasized, creative staging of tables, petite design and TEA Awards for tables and petites, judging qualities on the Point Scoring form, and commenting vocabulary and procedures.

**Design & Flower Show Procedure: Lynn Fronk teaching tables, petites, & flower show procedure.**

**Horticulture: Sue Kirkman teaching orchids, holly, & African violets.**

**Attendance at all Sessions is Required for Credit**

## SCHEDULE

Monday, Mar 25	3:45 – 6 pm - Flower Show Procedure
Tuesday, Mar 26	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 27	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 28	9:00 – 10:00 am - Design Examination

**Required Books: Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition, NGC Exhibiting & Judging, both available on the NGC Website for purchase or download.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact Flower Show School Chairman – Frances Thrash**

**2109 Cocoa Circle, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-2213**

**francestrash@cox.net**

**757-481-3484 or 757-478-5791**

LYNN FRONK

Flower Show Procedure & Design

Lynn is a National Garden Club Master Flower Show Judge, Flower Show Schools Design and Flower Show Procedure Instructor. She has taught in 42 States, Mexico, Guatemala, Columbia, Ecuador, Uruguay and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. She has judged major flower shows in the United States such as the Philadelphia Flower Show, Newport Flower Show and the Rhode Island State Flower Show. She is the winner of the Mildred-Heter Buckingham Award for outstanding service for the Garden Club of Ohio and has several designs featured in Designing by Types. Lynn is a Past President of Garden Club of Ohio. She is a member of the Flower Show Schools Committee serving as Symposium Chairman for 2023-2025 for the National Garden Clubs, the Symposium Chairman for the Garden Club of Georgia and has recently relocated from Ohio to Flowery Branch, Georgia. She is a Master Environmental Consultant and a Gardening Consultant for NGC.

SUE KIRKMAN

Horticulture

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.

REGISTRATION FORM: Flower Show School-Course II

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.)	\$150_____
Flower Show Procedure (Mon.)	\$40_____
Horticulture & Lunch (Tues.)	\$75_____
Design & Lunch (Wed.)	\$75_____
Manual will be e-mailed (free of charge.)	\$10_____
Printed Manual available at Registration if preordered.	\$10_____

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*No refunds after Feb 25, 2024**

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 Registrar  
5531 Bethlehem Road, Boones Mill, Virginia 24065

Hotel Information: VA Flower Show School block, #VH23P8, at Country Inn & Suites, 5808 Burton  
Station Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23455, at \$134.10 plus tax per night, for 2 queen beds.

Reservations must be made by February 24, 2024, to receive this rate, 757-734-1303



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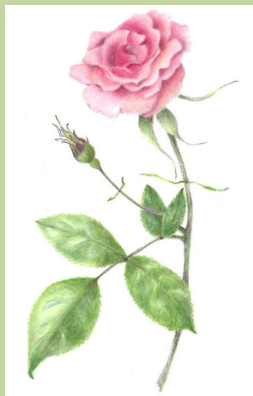
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SCIENTIFIC TREE CARE SINCE 1907



# IN MEMORIAM

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

## Piedmont District

**Judy Erdman.....Ginter Park GC**  
**immediate past President, Richmond Council of Garden Clubs**

Judy was a strong woman full of kindness and grace. Loving and caring for all she met. Forever a friend. Determined and giving of herself. She was devoted to the goals she set forth. We will miss our dear friend, Judy, tremendously, and vow to continue the work she started, to the finish, in her memory.

In Faith and Love,  
Millie Proffitt, President RCGC

**Margaret Ross.....Sleepy Hollow GC**  
**Elvie Hardy.....Sleepy Hollow GC**  
**Kathy Porwoll.....Violet Bank GC**

## South Central District

**Alice Throckmorton.....Ruth Adams GC**

**"IN MEMORIAM" honors the memory of current garden club members.**  
**Please send notification to Claudia Cosby**



# CLUB and DISTRICT NEWS

Making a Difference

# Cross-Pollination





*Awaken to the Beauty of Spring*



# Flower Shows!

**An NGC District Small Standard Flower Show**

**Presented by**

**South Central District, VFGC**

**Ash Camp Baptist Church**

**8687 Church Street**

**Keysville, VA**

**Thursday, April 4, 2024**

**1:00 PM-2:30 PM**

**See [viriniablooms.org](http://viriniablooms.org) for details.**

## *Springtime Splendor*



**An NGC Horticulture Specialty Flower Show**

**Presented by**

**The Thomas Jefferson Garden Club**

**Trinity Lutheran Church**

**2315 N. Parham Road**

**Henrico, VA 23229**

**804-270-4626**

**April 24, 2024**

**Open and Free to the Public 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

**Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

**South Atlantic Region of Garden Clubs**

**Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs**

**Piedmont District of Garden Clubs**

## **It's A Small World After All!**

**An NGC Petite Small Standard Flower Show**

**Sponsored by**

**Lynnhaven Heritage Garden Club**

**Princess Anne Country Club**

**3800 Pacific Avenue**

**Virginia Beach, VA 23451**

**757-428-4141**

**April 30, 2024**

**10:00am – 3:00pm**

**To be held in conjunction with**

**Tidewater District's**

**Spring General Meeting**



# Flower Shows!



*Here Comes  
the Sun*  
**THE  
BEATLES**  
*In the Garden*

**A Small Standard Flower Show  
Inspired by The Beatles**

*Presented by*  
**Rock Spring Garden Club**  
of Arlington, Virginia

Thursday, May 16, 2024  
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM  
Little Falls Presbyterian Church  
6025 Little Falls Road  
Arlington, VA 22207

Member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc., Central Atlantic Region, National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc., District III, South Atlantic Region, Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., Piedmont District

## *"How Fair Is a Garden"*



An NGC Horticulture Specialty Show

Presented by  
Richmond Designers' Guild

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Education Building  
1800 Lakeside Drive  
Richmond, VA 23228

575-512-5992

June 10, 2024  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Open to the Public with general admission  
to Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

Member of:  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
South Atlantic Region  
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Piedmont District

# Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs Helps Raise Funds for United Way

**Sherrene Wells - Town & Country Garden Club and Star City Garden Club (BR)**

Congratulations to the Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs for their impressive achievements in the United Way of Roanoke Valley's "Fashion for Evergreens" competition at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center! Winning 1st Place in the Public Vote and 3rd Place in the Judges Award is truly an outstanding accomplishment.

The "Bee-lieve" bee garden concept was visually appealing and carried an important message: promoting healthy and sustainable habitats for bees and other pollinators. The fact that Roanoke has been designated a BEE City since 2022 adds even more significance to the theme. It's commendable that the Roanoke Valley Garden Club played a pivotal role in securing this title for the city.

Chairperson Sherrene Wells and the entire team deserve praise for their creativity and decorating ideas, which clearly resonated with the judges and the public. Achieving such success in only the second year of participation is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs.

The annual event at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center not only brings joy to the community but also serves as a significant fundraiser for the United Way of Roanoke Valley. The generosity of thousands of guests who take part in the self-guided tour and vote monetarily for their favorite trees has raised over \$65,000 to support Roanoke families facing financial challenges.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who voted for the RCGC tree, and it's exciting to hear that the committee is already looking forward to 2024 with a new theme and plans for another stunning tree!





# 27th Annual Garden Party

Paige Owen - Nathaniel Cawsey GC (P)



Nathaniel Cawsey  
Garden Club

**27<sup>th</sup> Annual Garden Party**  
**"Making Memories - Alfresco Style"**

**May 1, 2024 - 9:30 AM**

Country Club of Petersburg

Program by Jennifer Mackintosh

Delightful lunch, raffle prizes, door prizes

Lovely Spring fashions by  
*All Manor of Things*

Tickets are \$40.  
Call Barbara Brigstock  
804-690-3256

## Green Spring GC Annual Homes Tour



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Green Spring Garden Club, Inc.  
presents

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS HOMES TOUR**

**Saturday, December 7th, 2024**  
**Williamsburg, VA**

More Details: [www.greenspringgardenclub.org](http://www.greenspringgardenclub.org)



# Buckingham Dillwyn GC Installs Garden Bench

Elsie Towler, Buckingham-Dillwyn GC (SC)

Buckingham Dillwyn Garden Club recently installed a bench at the Buckingham Arts Center and dedicated the bench in memory of Charlene Snoddy. Mrs. Snoddy was a long time member and past president of BDGC. The bench was acquired through the garden club's partnership with NexTrex's plastic recycling program.

Standing is Donna McRae-Jones, chair of the recycling program; seated are Jackie Fairbarns and Suzanne VandeGrift, co-presidents.



# Appomattox GC to Host Spring Tea

Rebecca Slagle, Appomattox GC (P)

## Appomattox Garden Club

### Spring Tea

Sunday, April 21, 2024

3pm to 5pm



Weston Manor  
Hopewell, VA

Tickets \$15

Contact: Marilyn Brown (804)678-9040



# OLD DOMINION GARDENER

## ODG Editor

Gail Goodrich Harwood  
gailev@aol.com

## ODG Proofreader

Adele Lundquist, et al.

## ODG Deadlines

Winter	November 1
Spring	February 1
Summer	May 1
Fall	August 1

"IN MEMORIAM" honors the memory of current garden club members. Please send notification to Claudia Cosby; [cosbych1205@gmail.com](mailto:cosbych1205@gmail.com)



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

### Blue Ridge • Shirley Edillon

540-989-3137  
[shirle4858@gmail.com](mailto:shirle4858@gmail.com)

### Piedmont • Gail Goodrich Harwood

804-317-8091  
[Footprints@piedmontdistrictvfgc.org](mailto:Footprints@piedmontdistrictvfgc.org)  
Subject line "For ODG"

### Shenandoah • Val Story

540-272-0975  
[valstory@aol.com](mailto:valstory@aol.com)

### South Central • Valerie Virkler

434-432-8757  
[val@rgbartlett.com](mailto:val@rgbartlett.com)

### Southwest • Lizzie Mann

276-739-2302  
[Kynana3@msn.com](mailto:Kynana3@msn.com)

### Tidewater • Adele Lundquist

757-717-1953  
[lundquac@cox.net](mailto:lundquac@cox.net)



## Calling All Photographers!

Thanks to all members who have submitted their beautiful photographs, not only for this issue, but for future issues. This is a terrific way to "travel" around the Commonwealth.

To submit your photographs:

- Select seasonal photographs to complement the ODG seasonal publication schedule. Select either long shots or close-up photos.
- Send 300 dpi jpegs – if submitting a phone photo, and 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 orientation.
- 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 & location of the photograph.
- Submission is considered permission to print.

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