***VFGC 2024 Convention***

*Amy Gable Thorpe, Convention Chairman*

*Dianna Busch, Convention Registrar*

**“Make a Difference**

**Virginia”**

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**90th Annual Convention**

**And Flower Show**

**Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs**

**May 21-22, 2024**

**Boar’s Head Resort and Conference Center**

**200 Ednan Drive, Charlottesville**

**Convention Registration deadline is May 8**

**Hotel reservation deadline is April 19**

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

***Hotel Reservations***

Venue: Boar’s Head Resort & Conference Center

Hotel Reservations: 888-252-0489

Ask for the “Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Block”

Block rate per night: $235.00, resort fee has been waved.

Most rooms are with two beds. Free stainless steel water bottle, Expresso Coffee in room, Free parking.

Hotel reservation deadline: April 19, 2024

***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

***Vendors***

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

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

**Tuesday, May 21**

8:00am – 6:00 pm Flower Room Open

9:00 am – 11:00 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 Presentation

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm Workshop: Rebecca Suerdieck

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Workshop: Rod Walker

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Flower Show Open

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Social Hour (cash bar)

7:00 pm **Dinner**

*Program: Helena Arouca*

**Wednesday, May 22**8:00 am – Noon Registration Desk Open

8:00 am – 2:00 pm Flower Show Open

8:15 am – 9:15 am Continental Breakfast

9:30 am – 11:30 am Convention Opening/ Business Meeting

10:00 am – 2:00 pm Vendor Shopping

Noon -2:30 pm **Luncheon**

*Design Program: Laura Downing*

2:30 pm-3:00 pm Flower Show entry retrieval

***Luncheon Program Tuesday May 21***

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 chairman, 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 2:30 to 3:30 Tuesday May 21***

Rebecca Suerdieck is an award-winning historian

and educator. She has delighted audiences of all ages with the variety of her programs. She specialized 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. She

is one of two natural perfume makers in the USA.

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***Workshop 3:30 to 4:30 Tuesday May 21***

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’s. He and this 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 a way to create harmony, beauty and awareness, shown in her floral designs. She lives in Waynesboro. Winners will receive her designs.



***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 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 have unusual plant material. She will give a presentation on her days at the White House as well as create 3-4 designs for the lucky winner. An absolute must see.

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

**Registration:** Please complete form; make check payable to “VFGC 2023 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  Tuesday Evening Dinner and Program  Tuesday Continental Breakfast | *$55.00 \_\_­­\_\_*  *$85.00 \_\_\_\_*  *$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  Total Enclosed | *$45.00 \_\_\_\_*  *$­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* |
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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.