SPRING 2025

OLD DOMINION GARDENER

Convention 2025 Preview 8 Registration Spotlight: Gold Star Ceremonu

Spotlight: Gold Star Ceremony at Abingdon



VOL 56 Number 4



OLD DOMINION GARDENER

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

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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: <u>RootedVFGC@gmail.com</u> or by phone: 804-784-2851

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COVER PHOTO First Signs of Spring by Sandy Yun Town & Country of Wise GC (SW)

ODG Spring 2025



President's Message

Every Person Makes a Difference

Hello VFGC,

This is a time to reflect over the past (almost) two years. I have said many times that one of the most rewarding aspects of being VFGC president is the ability to meet so many wonderful people, gardeners, designers and members from all the districts.

Each district is special and has unique qualities...you should never forget that, whether you are large or small. I look at the programs held at the meetings and am in awe...from bats, to designs, to youth, to native plants, to bonsai, to perfumes, to gourds, and so many more topics.

One of the goals of this administration was to **increase flower shows. Boy, has this been accomplished!** There was a "special award" set up for flower shows, and this will be given at Convention. There were four flower shows sent to NGC for Achievement Awards. Congratulations to all the districts, councils and clubs who held shows…and I know several more are in the works for April, May, and June.

Another accomplishment is the **Blue/Gold Star program.** Two VFGC Blue Stars were refurbished in the Piedmont District, and Blue Stars were established in two botanical gardens, one by VFGC and one by Tidewater District. Abingdon Garden Club presented the first Gold Star in Virginia. I am pleased to announce a VFGC Gold Star plaque will be presented at the Southwest VA Veteran's Cemetery in Dublin, part of the Blue Ridge District.

Bylaws, Standing Rules are always a challenge. I am grateful and thank the committee that worked diligently on this project...and this was completed. Sigh!

The **VFGC Scholarship program** is alive and well. Last year's VFGC recipient won at SAR and NGC. I do hope members will continue to support this project through donations and offering VFGC Life Member pins. This is so worthwhile to give to the students and community.

I hear VFGC will **soon be gaining a club in the Blue Ridge District...**terrific. And VFGC will be gaining another club shortly: **Leafy Links, a virtual club**. The club has bylaws, standing rules, and has held a meeting to establish goals and objectives (primarily educational). At this meeting, two were VFGC members and the rest were not VFGC members with locations from Danville to Reston. At the next meeting there may be 4-5 more joining in with a program on the ins and outs of Zoom.

Social media, newsletters, magazines, website. VFGC has all of this. Our social media presence has increased. ROOTED is now a monthly publication, and the ODG quarterly magazine is wonderful. The VFGC website is updated and thorough. All the people involved in these endeavors are to be congratulated for a "job" well done. Thank you, so very much.

Awards...so important and VFGC has increased the number of awards given. Some districts submit many awards, others not so many. Please encourage your clubs to submit awards. I know what clubs are doing, and you need to be recognized. The awards committee and their leader are outstanding and are ready to support you.

Let's not forget our **wonderful VFGC Symposiums, Flower Show Schools, and Landscape Design Schools**...all are thriving and led by outstanding chairmen and committees. The schools offer a wide range of topics, and all are invited whether you want to be a judge or a landscape designer...consider attending.

Sadly, I am aware of three VFGC Board members and several members from each district who are no longer with us, having passed away. Their memory will be honored at the SAR Convention in March. All of these people contributed to our VFGC community. Godspeed to these individuals. On the flip side, I know several clubs have gained members and are continuing to do so.

Thank you to the VFGC officers, appointed offers and board members. Without you all these goals and accomplishments would not have been reached. The time and effort each member undertook is immense. I appreciate all of you. And now we need to look forward to the next administration and give them all the encouragement they deserve. We will have relatively new officers that bring a wealth of experience in their respective districts. Please offer them all the support we can. And do attend the 2025 Convention!

Finally, and not least: **"Remember every person makes a difference".** And all of you have! I thank you, Virginia, for making a difference...the pleasure has been all mine.

Val

CONVENTION INFORMATION

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Presents

> The 91st Annual Convention and NGC Flower Show

"Thank you, Virginia for Making a Difference!"



April 27-28, 2025

The Westin Richmond 6631 West Broad Street

Block your calendars...and get ready for an inspiring, educational, fun, jam-packed two days! Val Story, VFGC President, will preside over the convention. Diane Burgess and JoAnn McNabb are Convention Co-Chairs.

The Flower Show

An NGC Standard Flower Show "Thank You, Virginia" will be showcased during the convention. Any VFGC member in good standing will be eligible to participate. More information will be forthcoming in the VFGC ROOTED e-newsletter.

Passionflower and Bee - Jan Pingel, Violet Bank GC

The Venue

Richmond is the location... The Westin is the venue... a beautiful hotel with every amenity, including an indoor pool. A Marriott Exclusive 4-Diamond property, sophisticated and stylish.



The selection of this venue was based in no small measure on the hotel's extensive renovation, proximity to the interstate, and wonderful shopping areas, enclosed courtyard, 100% smokefree property. The large conference space is set apart from other hotel functions and will be dedicated to VFGC. Luxurious guest rooms with signature "Heavenly" beds have been reserved.

For Hotel Reservations - Call 1-888-627-7736 -Ask for the group rate for Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs. \$179 plus applicable taxes. Deadline for booking the group rate is April 11th.

A Special Silent Auction

Dust off that "prized" (but seldom-if-ever used) container, design sculpture or accessory... and enter them in our Convention Silent Auction. This will be a chance to recycle your quality design piece(s), spark others' creativity, and set your own starting bid. You will receive 50% of the selling price while supporting the VFGC. A win/win opportunity!

Vendors

VFGC Conventions are known to provide great shopping experiences. The 2025 Convention will follow suit. Invited vendors will feature handmade pottery, jewelry, clothing, floral design accessories, and more!

Afternoon Program Sunday, April 27

Convention Schedule

Flower Show Entries

Silent Auction Open Registration Desk Open

Vendor Shopping Board Meeting

Awards Presentation Flower Show Open Floral Design Program

Social Hour (cash bar)

Dinner and Horticulture

Program: Peggy Singlemann

Received

Luncheon

David Pippin

Sunday, April 27

8:30 am – 9:30 am
9:00 am - 5:00 pm
9:30 am – 6:00 pm 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
10:00 am - 11:30 am
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm 6:30 pm

Monday, April 28

8:00 am – 12:00 pm
8:00 am – 2:30 pm
8:00 am - 10:00 am
9:00 am – 12:30 pm
9:00 am – 12:30 pm
12:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Registration Desk Open Silent Auction Open Plated Breakfast and Convention Opening/ Business Meeting Flower Show Open Vendor Shopping Luncheon and Installation of Officers for 2025-27 Floral Design Program: Jane Godshalk Flower Show Entry & Silent Auction Item Retrieval

2:30 pm- 3:00 pm

Luncheon Program Sunday, April 27

Award Presentations – Heidi Sage As VFGC awards chairman. Heidi is extremely knowledgeable in the award process She and her committee will be presenting VFGC awards for Clubs and Districts. Enjoy her presentation and be inspired by club and district accomplishments. "**Design by Four Types"** Floral Design Program by David Pippen



David Pippin is a well-known, inspiring and sought-after teacher and Floral Designer. He hails from Louisa County and graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Education. David is an adjunct professor in the Horticulture Department at Reynolds Community College and teaches in the Floral Design program at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. He has been the floral designer at The Executive Mansion in Richmond since 2014.



Get ready for a delightful afternoon full of practical ideas and inspiration to take your own designs to the next level!

In his presentation and demonstration, David will be working from the NGC book Designing by Types, creating four design types – all to be taken away by lucky opportunity ticket holders.

Sunday Dinner Horticulture Program

"Digging In: Planting Seeds of Resilience" Horticulture Program by Peggy Singlemann



Peggy Singlemann is nationally known as a foremost gardening expert. She is the coproducer and host on the familiar TV show, Virginia Home Grown, and was the longtime Director of Operations at the Maymont estate in Richmond.

At the heart of every thriving garden lies resilience — the ability to grow, adapt, and flourish despite the challenges nature presents. "Digging In: Planting Seeds of Resilience" highlights the importance of cultivating gardens that are not only beautiful but strong and sustainable.

This session explores how gardeners can create resilient landscapes by fostering soil health, selecting adaptable plant species, and implementing sustainable practices that allow gardens to thrive year after year. Just as a seed requires nurturing to grow, a garden's resilience is built through thoughtful planning, care, and an understanding of the environment.

Key Takeaways:

• Strategies for building resilient garden ecosystems

• The role of soil health in long-term garden success

• Selecting plants that thrive in varying conditions

• Sustainable gardening practices for lasting impact

Monday, April 28th Luncheon Floral Design Program

"Bloom and Grow... A Floral Design Journey" Design Program by Jane Godshalkr



Jane Godshalk, AIFD, is an exciting and internationally recognized floral designer with a uniquely American style, fresh and uncomplicated. Her designs reflect passion and connection with nature... its shapes, colors, and textures. Each season's materials are new inspiration.

An instructor at Longwood Gardens outside of Philadelphia, Jane teaches a variety of classes from beginning to advanced, and a collection of elective classes. Her lectures and workshops are a collaboration with each individual group, tailored to inspire a wide audience. Jane's talent has been recognized with national awards from the American Horticultural Society and the Garden Club of America.

All of Jane's designs will be taken away by lucky opportunity ticket holders.



CONVENTION PROGRAM ADS

Clubs, Districts, and business organizations may place ads in the 2025 Convention Program.

- The program page size will be: 5.5" by 8.5"
- Ad costs are \$50 for half-page or \$100 for a full-page ad.
- Deadline is March 15.
- Checks may be made to VFGC (convention ad in memo line) and submitted to Linda Nau, VFGC Treasurer. Indicate Club or other organization and size of ad purchased. Send to:

Linda Nau 1810 Ethelred Court Midlothian, VA 23113-3400

 Ad copy should be submitted by March 15th in non-pdf format, preferably MS Word. Any photos or graphics work are best submitted as separate jpeg files. Submit to Gail Goodrich Harwood, program designer, at: <u>gailev@aol.com</u> If desired, Gail can help with your ad design.



VFGC Nominating Committee Report Mary Owen, Nominating Committee Chair

The Nominating Committee introduces the slate of officers to be presented for election at the VFGC Convention in April, 2025 in Richmond. The Committee expresses appreciation to those willing to be nominated to serve.

Nominating Committee: Chair, Mary Owen; Marty Bowers (BR), Judy Hodges (P) ,Pat Carswell (S), Lou Ann Dumminger SC), Barbara Smith (SW), Patsy Cameron (T)



Annual Convention Registration Form April 27-28, 2025 "Thank You Virginia for Making a Difference" The Westin Hotel - Richmond

Registration: Please complete form; make check payable to "VFGC 2025 Convention" Mail to: Claudia Cosby, 3015 Mount Hill Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113-3923; cosbych1205@gmail.com; 804-794-7798; Postmark by April 7.

Name		Pl	none ()	
Address				
			Zip	
	E-mail address		-	
Club		Distr	ict	

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 SAVE \$25 \$ 250.00 _____ Full convention includes: Registration Fee, Sunday Lunch, Sunday Afternoon Program, Sunday Dinner, Monday Breakfast, and Lunch if postmarked by April 7.

Partial Attendance Options:

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Registration Fee if postmarked BY April 7	\$ 25.00
Registration Fee if postmarked AFTER April 7	\$ 30.00
Sunday Lunch & Awards Presentation	\$ 50.00
Sunday Afternoon Program with David Pippin	\$ 30.00
Sunday Dinner with Peggy Singlemann Program	\$ 65.00
Monday Breakfast Convention Opening & Elections	\$ 35.00
Monday Lunch, Installation & Godshalk Program	\$ 70.00
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$

____Please check for any dietary requirements and list details

A Late Fee must be included for all envelopes postmarked after 4/7/25. Any registrations postmarked after 4/11/25 will not be processed or accepted. No walk-In registrations. No refunds after 4/11/25.

Refunds requested by 4/11/2025 are subject to retention of registration fee. Credentials Form next page must accompany your registration form.

VFGC 2025 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.

Spring Gallery

"Despite the forecast, live like it's spring."." -Lily Pulitzer



Photo by Debbi Babashanian Lake Smith Terrace GC (T)



Photo by Debbi Babashanian Lake Smith Terrace GC (T)



Photo by Sandy Yun Town & Country of Wise GC (SW)

SPOTLIGHT



Virginia Dedicates Its First Gold Star Marker in Abingdon

Barbara Smith and Lizzie Mann - Abingdon Gold Star Project Co-Chairs (SW)

Veteran's Day started rather dreary with the possibility of rain but the sun emerged and embraced the large crowd in attendance, a fitting tribute to our quest to dedicate a Gold Star Marker. Eighteen months ago, with high hopes, the Abingdon Garden Club (AGC) voted to honor our Gold Star Families by placing a Gold Star Memorial Marker in the local Veteran's Memorial Park.

There were several road bumps beginning with the securing of a public agency to receive and erect the heavy 7'6" marker and this was followed by production delays at the factory. Along the way, AGC's co-chairs, Lizzie Mann and Barbara Smith worked with Town Council, County Board of Supervisors, Abingdon Depart. of Parks &Rec, The Veteran's Park Foundation, local veterans and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to organize the club's dedication program of its Gold Star Marker. During the process, the Veteran's Park Foundation Board voted to use the "History of the Blue Star & Gold Star Memorial Markers" as their program for Abingdon's Veterans Day Ceremony and invited Lizzie and Barbara to be the guest speakers. The unveiling/dedication of the Gold Star Marker would be incorporated in their ceremony.

It was a glorious day with members of the Daughters & Sons of the American Revolution and the Overmountain Victory Trail leading the processional in colonial dress and the local Sheriffs Dept. posting the colors. The Appalachian Highlanders Pipes & Drums Corp and the Abingdon High School Jazz Choir provided patriotic music, and trees were planted in honor of two local veterans. Lizzie and Barbara spoke about the origination, history, and importance of the Blue and Gold Star Memorial Markers as a way to honor our veterans and fallen heroes. Their program concluded with the unveiling of Virginia's 1st Gold Star Marker by AGC President Ellen Gilmer and VP Kristen Baker and the placing of a floral wreath by SW District President Donna Altizer. The ceremony ended with the playing of Amazing Grace, a gun salute, and the playing of "Taps".

AGC members Julianne Miles (veteran) served as photographer while Doris Melson coordinated the baking/serving of refreshments with AGC and DAR volunteers at a local funeral home. Many Southwest District clubs and board members, public officials, veterans, and the community came to support the event, and it received wonderful publicity with coverage by local newspapers and two television stations. The Abingdon Garden Club is grateful to National Garden Clubs, Inc. for providing us a way to show that we remember and care about our fallen heroes and their families.







ODG Spring 2025

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Spring Things and Adventures!

Martie Parch, Horticulture Chair

We are so lucky to be living in Virginia! With an abundance of botanical gardens and universities with extensive horticulture programs, we have endless opportunities to learn and "grow". When you are filling in your spring calendar, be sure to include these events:

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond annual Spring Plant Sale is May 2-3.

You can peruse and purchase many different **varieties of hellebores at Pine Knot Farms in Clarksville** on February 21, 22, 28, and March 1. The nursery is open for visitors at other times during the season.

The **Loudon County Symposium** offers a full day of gardening education and fun in Leesburg on March 22. It's organized by the area Master Gardeners.

Be on the lookout for the date of the popular **Spring Garden Market at the historic River Farm**, hosted by the American Horticultural Society. Visitors will delight in the 25 acres of lovely formal and natural gardens.

The annual **MGACRA "Living in the Garden" Symposium** will be held at artist Gari Melchers' Home and Studio in Falmouth on April 5. This year's focus is plant resilience.

Daffodil lovers relish the **Annual Gloucester Daffodil Festival** with its daffodil show, parades and arts and crafts. It will take place on April 5-6.

Williamsburg is hosting its annual Garden Symposium on the "Influence of Great English Gardens". There will be a variety of lectures and workshops for you to enjoy on April 10-12.

A wonderful educational resource for our state, **the Hahn Garden at Virginia Tech** will be hosting workshops, speakers, plant sales and garden walks this spring. Check their website for upcoming events.

Maymont's highly anticipated Herbs Galore will return on April 26. It will be a very busy day in Virginia, as the Goochland Powhatan Master Gardeners Association is having their Spring Garden Fest at Reynolds College with a variety of vendors, workshops and classes for you to enjoy. On April 26 and 27, an online Plant Sale will be sponsored by the Norfolk Botanical Garden, and the Annual Leesburg Flower and Garden Festival will be held. In addition, April 26 begins Virginia's Historic Garden Week. What a weekend!

With all these spring events to fill your calendar, remember to take time to enjoy your own garden!

Event Calendar

Mar 9-10	SAR Convention, Raleigh, NC
Mar 17	Piedmont District Spring Meeting
Mar 24-27	VFGC Flower Show School, LGBG*
Apr 3	South Central District Spring Meeting
Apr 7-8	VFGC Landscape Design School, LGBG*
Apr 10	Shenandoah District Spring Meeting
Apr 12	Southwest District Spring Meeting
Apr 22	Tidewater District Spring Meeting
Apr 23	Blue Ridge District Spring Meeting
Apr 27-28	VFGC 2025 Convention, Richmond
May 18-22	NGC Convention, Charleston, SC
June 1-7	NGC National Garden Week
Nov 3-4	VFGC Symposium, Richmond

*Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond

Plan now for NGC National Garden Week June 1 - 7, 2025

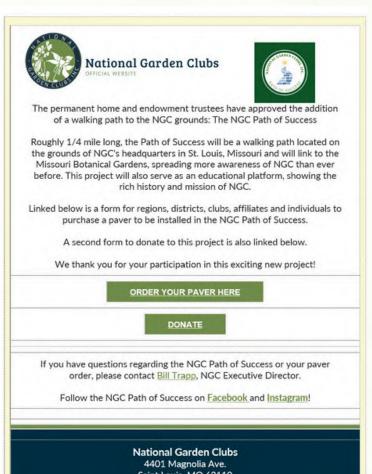
> How will your club Make a Difference?

PLANT-A-TREE Update

Violet Neel, Chair

For the year 2024, VFGC Penny Pines/Now Plant-A-Tree donations that were reported to the state chairperson amounted to **\$9,429.00**.

Please continue to report any donations made to Plant-A-Tree to Violet Neel at mvneel@yahoo.com or 276-988-7473. Awards will be based on the donations reported to the chairperson.



Saint Louis, MO 63110 www.gardenclub.org

Blue Star / Gold Star Program Update

Barbara Hollister, Chair

November 11, 2024 the Abington Garden Club, in conjunction with the Veterans Memorial Park Foundation of Abingdon/Washington County Virginia, placed a Gold Star Memorial Marker. The dedication was held with the Veterans Day Program. I am honored to announce, to the best of my knowledge, this is our first Gold Star Memorial Marker in Virginia. Congratulations Abington GC. (see spotlight article in this issue).

Acceptance and permission has been granted by the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. to place a Gold Star Memorial Marker at the Dublin Southwest Veterans Cemetery. The order and dedication are underway.

It has been brought to my attention that there are three Blue Star Memorial Plaques ordered during the time period of 2009- 20012 that have had peeling paint issues. In the event, you are aware of any others, please contact me. budhollister@gmail.com, 804-339-0298. The two refurbished Blue Star Memorial Markers in the Piedmont District have been received and replaced on #301 Highway south of Emporia.

Please note the following price increases effective Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2025

Marker, 7' post, shipping \$2,400.00 Marker, 10' post, shipping \$2,515.00 Byway Plaques \$ 765.00 Replacement 7' Posts \$ 375.00 Replacement 10' Post \$ 475.00 Refurbishment \$1,200.00 Refurbishment with Cap Repair \$1,450.00

VFGC Symposium

Richmond November 3-4, 2025

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 3-4, 2025, at the Four Points by Sheraton near the Richmond airport.

Gina Jogan – Design Instructor

Gina is an NGC Master Judge and Instructor in Design, Flower Show Procedure, and Allied Topics. She has held leadership positions in the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, the Deep South Garden Clubs, and National Garden Clubs. She has taught workshops in NGC schools as well as at CFAA and OFAD. Her stunning designs have been featured in many publications and online.

Gina will be teaching us Floor Design, Reflective Design, and the Allied Topic "Comments! Judges' Comments on Entry Cards."

David Robson – Horticulture Instructor

David is a retired horticulture and pesticide specialist from the University of Illinois. He has taught for 37 years and worked on the 2027 NGC Book for Flower Shows and the NGC Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging book.

David will be teaching us about Container-grown Philodendron, Horticulture Collections, and the Allied Topic "Botanical Arts."

For registration information, see the VFGC website or request a brochure from Symposium Registrar Dianna Busch: diannabusch@comcast.net.

VFGC Awards

More award applications were submitted by clubs and districts for work done last year than the previous two years. We also received four Flower Show Books of Evidence, more than last year's single entry. Most encouraging.

There were **applications for newer award categories** like Organic Gardening and Reclaiming Un-usable Spaces. The most popular award categories again this year were Yearbooks (13 entries), newsletters (8 clubs and 2 districts), and the Floral Design Program (8) **One item that should be noted is that the Floral Design Program category is for just one program**, not a series of workshops. Several clubs misunderstood the award criteria.

Club members also enjoy decorating historic buildings, often at Christmas – six clubs submitted applications with lovely photos. Judges value pictures and especially pictures with captions rather than collages.

Seven clubs showcased their Horticulture Therapy projects. There are two award categories: the garden therapy one can go forward to regional and national competition. The other is limited to district and state recognition and shows indoor activities with nursing homes and other institutions.

Projects involving youth were very popular with nine entries. That does not include the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster contest with 46 more posters submitted this year over last year. And we had delightful youth poetry entries as well.

Blue ribbon winners are sent on to regional and national judging panels. They earn the clubs and districts either \$20 or a rosette, in the case of yearbooks and flower show books of evidence.

The sources are donations made by individuals, clubs, and districts to the awards account. **We are looking for more funds at this time. Donors' names will be printed in the Spring Awards Ceremony program.** If you would like to support the awards program, please send your check payable to VFGC, inc. to **Heidi Sage - VFGC Awards Chairman** : 1057 Jacks Shop Rd. Rochelle, VA 22738

BE A VFGC 2025-27 YEARBOOK SPONSOR

Deadline: June 30, 2025

Who can be a Sponsor?

Each club and every club member can be a sponsor.

Benefits:

• Listed on the Sponsors Page

Receive a yearbook insert (\$10 Sponsor)

Each member club receives two gratis yearbook inserts, and each VFGC district officer

and chairman receive one gratis yearbook insert.

What's in it for me?

• A directory of names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for all VFGC officers and chairmen, district officers and chairmen, all garden club presidents, and SAR and NGC officers.

Information—on dues, donations, Life Memberships, etc.

Calendar of Events

• Awards offered by VFGC, SAR and NGC for clubs and individuals.

List of Flower Show Judges and Landscape Design Consultants

• VFGC Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and Standing Rules

INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR Please print your NAME as it is to appear in the yearbook. Name ______ District ______ Club ______ Phone Number ______E-mail ______ CLUB SPONSOR Club Name ______ District ______ Club Contact (Treasurer) ______ District ______ Phone Number ______E-mail ______ Phone Number ______E-mail ______ Tatal Order

Total Order - _____

Make check payable to VFGC, Inc. Mail check & form to: Claudia Cosby 3015 Mount Hill Dr., Midlothian, VA 23113-3923

Flower Show School Course IV A National Garden Clubs, Inc. School March 24-27, 2025 Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Education Classroom 1400 Lakeside Ave, Richmond

Flower Show Procedure will cover an explanation of Education Division and judging education exhibits; explanation of Youth/Sponsored Groups division; requirements to become an accredited flower show judge; judging etiquette and ethics; review of schedule with emphasis on format and general rules. **Horticulture** will cover creating a horticulture schedule with sections and classes; discussion of club competition award, review of general requirements for NGC horticulture TEAs; review of qualities found on Horticulture Point Scoring Form and commenting vocabulary.

Design will include creating a design schedule with sections and classes; creating staging options, creative design general characteristics; elements and principles as they relate to creating design; dynamic balance, plastic organization, juxtaposition and abstraction. General requirements for TEA Designer's Choice and Club Competition. Review of judging qualities found on the design point scoring form and design commenting vocabulary.

Horticulture & Flower Show Procedure - David Robson will teach FSP, collections and displays, and echeverias.

Design - Judy Binns will teach abstract creative designs.

Attendance at all Sessions is Required for Credit

	SCHEDULE
Monday, Mar 24	3:45 – 6 pm - Flower Show Procedure
Tuesday, Mar 25	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 26	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 27	9:00 – 10:00 am - Design Examination

Required Books: <u>Handbook for Flower Shows</u>, 2017 Edition, <u>NGC Exhibiting & Judging</u>, 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 <u>francesthrash@cox.net</u> 757-481-3484 or 757-478-5791

David Robson - Flower Show Procedure & Horticulture

David is a retired horticulture and pesticide safety specialist with the University of Illinois, first as a horticulture adviser in Sangamon County (Springfield), and then a regional horticulture educator covering the bottom $\frac{1}{2}$ of the state, and finally a campus-based specialist in Urbana. A graduate of Iowa State University and University of IL, he has taught for more than 43 years. He was president of the Springfield Civic Garden Club from 1995-1997, after serving on the board of directors for many years. He currently is the Recording Secretary of the Club. He has served 10 years (2 different terms) as the Garden Clubs of IL Awards Chairman. He currently is the 3rd Vice-President. He is a National Garden Club Master Judge since 1992, and Flower Show School and Symposium instructor since 2008, teaching Horticulture Judging and Flower Show Procedures, traveling to all but 5 states. He is the past chairman of Horticulture and Flower Show Procedure Instructors for the NGC Flower Show Schools and was chairman of the Handbook Revision Committee. He is also an IL State Fair Food Judge for the past 12 years. He currently serves on the NGC Board of Directors as the Plant America Community Projects Grant Chairman, NGC Headquarters Grounds Chairman, Finance Committee Member, and a PH&F Trustee.

Judy Binns - Design

Judy is a member and former president of the Salisbury GC, NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge, former President of Piedmont District and President of Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs from 2011-2013. She was awarded the National Garden Clubs Member of Honor Award for the South Atlantic Region for All-Around Excellence in 2006 and has served on the National Garden Clubs Board of Directors since 2007. She has exhibited designs in "Fine Arts and Flowers" at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and served as "Fine Arts and Flowers" Co-Chairman in 2007 and 2010. Judy is an NGC Flower Show School Design Instructor and has given floral design programs and workshops in Virginia as well as North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and West Virginia. She is a member of the Piedmont District Judges Council, Virginia Flower Show Judges Council, Creative Floral Arrangers of the Americas, and National Flower Arrangers. Judy is a native Virginian from the Shenandoah Valley. She enjoys spending time in her garden and specializes in floral designs for weddings and other occasions.

L	COURSE EWIS GINTER BOT	- FLOWER SHOW SCHOO IV March 24-27, 2025 ANICAL GARDEN, RICHMO DEADLINE: February 24, 20	OND
Name			
Address			
City		StateZip_	
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Club		District	
	Credit	Non-Credit	
Full Course with/without ((Includes tuition, two lunc) Flower Show Procedure (M Horticulture & Lunch (Tues Design & Lunch (Wed.) Manual will be e-mailed (fi Printed Manual available a	hes, and reserved s 1on.) s.) ree of charge)	eordered.	\$150 \$40 \$75 \$75 \$10 OTAL
Dietary Restrictions			
	No refunds a	fter February 24, 2025	
	lower Show Scho Brend Flower Sho 5612 B	yinia Federation of Gard ols in the memo line an da McManaway ow School Registrar ethlehem Road , Virginia 24065-2321	
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Hotel Information: Suggested hotel is Candlewood Suites, Richmond South 4301 Commerce Road, Richmond, VA 23234, 804-271-0016



Landscape Design School

Course 4, Series 29 Monday and Tuesday, April 7, 8, 2025 Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Education Classroom 1800 Lakeside Drive Richmond, VA 23228-4700 Phone (804) 693-9393

Sponsored by VIRGINIA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

SCHEDULE

Monday, April 7, 2025		
Time	Activity	Instructor
8:00 – 8:20am	Registration	
8:20am	Welcome	
8:30am –9:25am	Community Participation In Landscaping Projects	Laurie Fox
9:30am -10:30am	History and Development Of Community Gardens	Laurie Fox
10:45am – 11:45am	Contemporary Landscape Design Trends	Peggy Singlemann
11:50am – 1:10pm	LUNCH (The Café is convenient)	
1:20pm - 2:20pm	Supplemental Subject - Designing for Bees, Birds, and Butterflies	Peggy Singlemann
2:30pm –3:30pm	Suburban Design	Gordon Chappell
6:30pm	Group Dinner – place to be announced – pay on your own	
Tuesday, April 8, 202	5	

8:30am - 9:00am	Guidelines for Evaluating Landscape Designs of Residential, Public	a
0 0	and Commercial Properties -using the NGC LDS Form 14	Gordon Chappell
9:15am -10:15am	Evaluations of Landscape Design - Tour/Lecture	Gordon Chappell
10:30am Noon	Evaluations of Landscape Design - Tour/Lecture	Gordon Chappell
Noon - 1:15pm	LUNCH (The Café is convenient)	
1:15pm - 2:15pm	Evaluations of Landscape Design - Tour/Lecture	Gordon Chappell
2:30pm - 3:15pm	Evaluations of Landscape Design - Tour/Lecture	Gordon Chappell
3:15pm Review – col	nsultants not taking the exam may leave.	
3:30pm Exam		

Hotel accommodations at: Springhill Suites, Richmond North, 9701 Brook Road, Glen Allen, VA 804-266-9403. Rate is \$109 + per night. Cut-off date for block reservation is March 14, 2025.

Hotel: Springhill Suites Richmond North/Glen Allen @ \$109 USD per night Book under group rate for Landscape Design School

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

VFGC 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.

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".

Peggy Singlemann

Peggy Singlemann is nationally known as one of the foremost gardening experts. Her experience in the field is exceeded only by her infectious enthusiasm in sharing knowledge of best practices. She is a familiar figure as the longtime host and co-producer of Virginia's only TV show, Virginia Home Grown, on Virginia Public Media/PBS. Peggy is also prominent in this field for her transformative role renewing and overseeing the garden and grounds of the historic estate Maymont in Richmond. She holds professional certifications as an arborist, horticulturist, and landscape designer and has greatly expanded knowledge in the gardening/landscape design fields through her national and regional speaking engagements, contributions to publications, and consulting work via her business, RVA Gardener LLC. In 2022, the Virginia General Assembly presented a commendation to Peggy for her outstanding guidance, restoration, and preservation of Maymont's gardens, grounds, and arboretum over 38 years of service. COURSE REGISTRATION LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL Course 4 Series 29 April 7, 8, 2025 Registration Deadline: March 18, 2025

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. LDS will refund all but \$20 if cancellation (other than medical) is within five days of first day of class.

Make check payable: VFGC Landscape Design School Mail to: LDS Registrar Claudia Cosby 3015 Mount Hill Drive Midlothian, VA 23113-3923 E-mail: cosbych1205@gmail.com

LDS Co-chairman, Glenda Knowles Email: ggknowles6@gmail.com Phone: 757 651-0401

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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

Martha (Marty) Bowers......Moneta GC See Special Tribute, following page

Piedmont District

Alice Conrad......Rock Spring GC See Special Club Tribute, page

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

IIN MEMORIAM

A Special Tribute to Marty Bowers

Moneta Garden Club (BR) Former President, Virginnia Federation of Garden Clubs , Blue Ridge District, and Moneta Garden Club Former Director South Atlantic Region of Garden Clubs Co-Chair, VFGC Landscape Design School

Marty served her Moneta Garden Club, Blue Ridge District, South Atlantic Region, and National Garden Clubs with distinction. She was a good friend, an encourager and a mentor to those of us who were privileged and honored to work alongside her. Whenever she was asked to take on a position or task, she always without hesitation said "yes." Her warm smile, enthusiasm, and dedication made a positive impact that will long be remembered. She will be greatly missed by all those who knew her. – Janice Clem



VFGC President Mary Owen thanking Marty for her leadership at the 2023 Convention.



Brenda McManaway's honor arrangement for Marty at the 2018 Convention





IIN MEMORIAM

A Special Tribute to Alice Mooney Conrad February 9, 1921 - November 18, 2024

by members of her Rock Spring Garden Club

The Rock Spring Garden Club has lost our longest surviving member. Alice Conrad, a member since 1991, passed away in her Arlington, Virginia home on November 18 at the age of 103 years.

Born on a farm in Walker, Iowa, years before the Great Depression, Alice Mooney and her siblings were raised by hardworking and loving parents. In 1940 Alice left the farm to attend Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, where she met her future husband, Charles (Charlie) on a blind date. Alice and Charlie were married soon after the attack on Pearl Harbor. They were married for 52 years and raised four children in Arlington.

Alice loved gardening, especially growing flowers, and was a talented and a creative floral designer. When she could not find vases or containers for her minimalistic design style she became a very skilled potter, working many long hours on her basement kiln to create pieces of pottery to enhance her floral arrangements.

Alice joined the Rock Spring Garden Club in 1971 and chaired many club programs and activities during her years of service. She served as President in 1991-1992. Well into her early nineties, Alice continued to attend RSGC meetings regularly and participated in field trips and flower shows. Alice won many Blue Ribbons for her creative designs, often staged in a piece of her own pottery.

Alice specialized in the Japanese art of flower arranging, known as Ikebana. The Ikebana International Society sold her pottery at the National Arboretum in Washington, DC. She was also a member of the Lee Center Artists Ceramics Group in Arlington. Montgomery Potters, and the National Council for Education in the Ceramics Arts.

Alice was a faithful member of Columbia Baptist Church in Falls Church, Virginia for 74 years. In addition to her Sunday School activities, she enjoyed preparing floral designs for Sunday services.

Rock Spring Garden Club has lost a very valued and much-loved member and friend. Alice lived a full and rewarding life.We will remember her creative talents, her wonderful sense of humor, and her ever present smile. She was a true gift, and RSGC will always treasure our time with her.

CLUB and DISTRICT NEWS Making a Difference

Cross-Pollination









Town and Country of Wise GC WinterActivities

Sandy Yun, Town & Country of Wise GC (SW))



Members prepare kits for **Winter Sowng**



Hydroponic Gardening with the Junior Garden Club

Town and Country of Wise GC has been very active over the winter months, preparing for winter sowing - and actively supporting our Junior Garden Club at the Wise County Christian School.



Nesting boxes for Owlets made by Vocational students to support the Junior Garden Club's Ornithology study.

Original **Smokey Bear** Painting by Abrams, a member of the Junior Garden Club



Lake Smith Terrace and Lynnhaven Heritage GCs Hold Joint Flower Show

Adele Lundquist, Tidewater District Editor

My mouth just blew open", Dale Smith (Lynnhaven Heritage Garden Club) told me when she learned her petite design had won a "Blue" in her Class in the "Winter Wonderland" small standard flower show, a joint venture of the Lake Smith Terrace and Lynnhaven Heritage garden clubs (Tidewater District). Marlene Hunnings (LSTGC) experienced a similar reaction to her winning a Blue in the Botanical Arts Photography Division. "I was overwhelmed", she said. Both exhibitors are first timers who entered because fellow garden club members encouraged them to do so. Chaired by Sue Harper (LSTGC) and Bev Hunter (LHGC), the January 2025 show was an impressive display of horticulture, petite designs, education and botanical arts photography exhibits. Although there were many winners, only the top awards are listed.

Horticulture

Arboreal Award – Dale Smith, LHGC, Podocarpus gracilior, Fern pine Award of Merit – Marlene Hunnings, LSTGC, Camellia japonica Arboreal Award – Frances Thrash, LHGC, Ruscus aculeatus Award of Horticultural Excellence – –Frances Thrash, LHGC, Ruscus aculeatus **Petite Designs**

Petite Award – Bonnie Satterthwaite, LHGC, 4" "Winter Charm"

Education Exhibits

Educational Award – Cheryll Klobuchar, LHGC, "Feathered Friends In Winter" Bird survival tips

Botanical Arts – Photography

Botanical Arts Photography Award – Marlene Hunnings, LSTGC, "Winter Gardens"





I asked Val Story, VFGC President, why she has made flower shows a priority in her administration. I believe we can agree with her when she says: "Flower Shows are a beautiful collection of horticulture and designs and a way a club, council or district can show off their creativity to the public and fellow gardeners. Not only do members learn, so does the community. Flower Shows do not need to be large; at any size one can enjoy the splendor of flowers and plants. Tidewater District and their shows exemplify just this, and should be congratulated. This is why I love flower shows."



Crestwood Farms GC Teaches Kids at Butterfly Way Station

Becky Rasmussen, Crestwood Farms GC (P)



Releasing a Monarch Butterfly at the Crestwood Elementary School Monarch Way Station supported by the Crestwood Farms Garden Club

Sugarloaf GC (BR) Celebrates 60 Years

Sugar Loaf Garden Club celebrated 60 years with a potluck lunch at their December meeting. Special guests were Felice Proctor, Blue Ridge District President, and Jean Summerbell, Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs President.



Purely for Pleasure

Celebrating Gardens & Gardeners

An NGC Horticulture Specialty Flower Show Presented by Sleepy Hollow Garden Club



Epiphany Lutheran Church 1400 Horsepen Richmond, Virginia 23226 June 10, 2025 Free and Open to the Public 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Entries open to any VFGC member in good standing. To request a schedule, contact Tatter Hartmann, Chair: <u>maryhartmann279@gmail.com</u>





An NGC Standard Flower Show

at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer 2341 Winterfield Rd. Midlothian, VA 23113 (804) 378-7481

> May 5, 2025 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Presented by the Salisbury Garden Club

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

Open to the public

No Admission Fee

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Midlothian Garden Club proudly announces An NGC Standard Flower Show, **Springtime in Midlothian** Friday, April 25, 2025 1-4 p m Bethel Baptist Church 1100 Huguenot Springs Road Midlothian VA

"Fun" - Raiser for Tidewater District

Adele Lundquist - Tidewater District Editor



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; <u>cosbych1205@gmail.com</u>



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

Piedmont • Gail Goodrich Harwood 804-317-8091 Footprints@piedmontdistrictvfgc.org Subject line "For ODG"

Shenandoah • Val Story 540-272-0975 valstory@aol.com

South Central • Valerie Virkler 434-432-8757 val@rgbartlett.com

Southwest • Lizzie Mann 276-739-2302 kynana3@msn.com

Tidewater • Adele Lundquist 757-717-1953 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 <u>https://virginagardenclubs.org/Publications</u>.