

VFGC 2026 Convention

Genny Chase, Convention Chair
Claudia Cosby, Convention Registrar



92nd Annual Convention Williamsburg

Registration Postmark Deadline is March 31
Hotel Reservation Deadline is March 25

Our 92nd Convention promises to be a “ONE OF A KIND”!!! To begin with, we’ll be staying in the **historic Williamsburg Lodge**, which has an 18th-century style blending harmoniously with modern amenities. It is located within walking distance from historic Colonial Williamsburg and minutes from Jamestown, Yorktown and Merchants Square.

Your time will be enhanced with an **entrance ticket to Historic Colonial Williamsburg**. See working experiences such as the gunsmith shop, forge, and the apothecary shop, just to mention a few. This ticket is good for your **entire stay, not just one day entrance, at the fantastic cost of \$27.00!** There will be ample time to enjoy the Historic area during our two-day convention – or you can extend your stay at the same rate of \$189.00 (plus tax, parking), either before or after the convention.

We’ll be concluding convention activities around midday on April 21. This is “**Historic Garden Week**” day in Williamsburg, so you may wish to take advantage of visiting homes and gardens on this tour (tickets purchased separately).

Hotel Reservations

Venue: The Williamsburg Lodge

Book online: <https://book.passkey.com/e/51019193> (copy and paste in your browser) If you need assistance: 800-261-9530 Monday-Friday 9:00 AM -5:00 PM. \$189 plus applicable taxes. Parking \$10/night for hotel guests; non-registered attendees may park for posted fee.

Deadline to reserve group rate: March 25th

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, and this one will be exceptional.

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Monday, April 20

8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Silent Auction Open
9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Vendor Shopping
10:00 -11:30 am	Lavender Wreath Making Workshop (15)
10:00 am or 10:30am	Group Walking Tour of Historic Gardens (40)
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Luncheon at Historic Shields Tavern
2:00 – 4:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
2:00 – 3:30 pm	Executive Board/Board Meeting
5:00 – 6:00pm	Reception (cash bar) with special guest
6:00 pm	Dinner Design Zoom Program: Francine Thomas

Tuesday, April 21

8:00 – 9:00am	Registration Desk Open
8:00 - 11:00 am	Silent Auction Open
8:00 am - various end	Vendor Shopping
8:00 – 9:00 am	Coffee and Tea Bar with special guest
9:00 am – 12:00pm	Presentation of American Flag & Special guest; Convention Opening, welcome from Sally Harrison and Donna Donnelly; Memorial Service; Awards Announcements; and Business Meeting
12:00 pm	Convention Adjourns

Monday Morning, April 20th

Choose a Walking Tour or Wreath Workshop

Tour of Historic Gardens

Bring your best walking shoes for a fantastic, guided walking tour of three different social levels of historic Colonial Williamsburg Gardens!!! There will be two groups, **starting at 10:00 am and 10:30 am, 20 participants in each group.** We will meet at Bruton Parish Church to join the Colonial Williamsburg Horticulture department on a very interesting and informative tour of the gardens, including the Governors Palace Garden.



Wreath-Making Workshop at the Lodge

Have you worn out your best walking shoes? Do you like the scent of Lavender? Would you like to learn about the history and uses of Lavender during the colonial times up to the present? Would you like to learn the best way to grow Lavender, and enjoy making your own Lavender wreath to take home?



Then, **you are in luck!!!!** We have “Two Bees Lavender” a local business born from a passion for lavender and love of community coming from “Clifton”, their historic farm in Kilmarnock, Virginia for this event. This presentation and workshop will take place in the Lodge on **April 20th, beginning at 10:00 am. Workshop limited to 15 participants.**

Monday Lunch, April 20th

The Garden Tour groups and the Lavender workshop group will join together for a delicious **lunch at the historic Shields Tavern.**



Monday Afternoon, April 20th

Free time to enjoy vendor shopping and Colonial Williamsburg, before the reception, dinner, and program Monday evening.

Design Zoom program after dinner Monday, April 20th

Francine Thomas, New Zealand’s Designer of the Year



What a treat we have during our 92nd Annual Convention – Francine Thomas has travelled throughout New Zealand, Australia, United Kingdom, Wales and up and down the East Coast of the USA demonstrating, teaching and judging.

Francine has a very energetic sense of humor which can be contagious and is evident in her floral presentations. She is inspired by what she sees and feels, and it comes through in her ideas for floral theatres as well as in her teaching floral art. Francine loves sharing ideas to inspire other people to do the same and flowers are from the heart and as are her designs. We will experience something new to our convention this year; Francine will be **LIVE FROM NEW ZEALAND.** This Zoom design program will be interactive; with input from the audience as well as having your questions answered about New Zealand and her designs and techniques; with surprises!!! Francine says: **“THE FINEST PLEASURES IN LIFE ARE THE UNEXPECTED ONES!”**

Convention Registration Form April 20-21, 2026

"Virginia: Inspiring Past, Bright Future"

Registration: Please complete form; make check payable to "VFGC 2026 Convention" and mail (**postmarked by March 31**) to the convention registrar:
 Claudia Cosby, 3015 Mount Hill Drive Midlothian, VA, 23113-3923
 cosbych1205@gmail.com; 804-794-7798.

Name _____ Phone (____) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 E-mail address _____
 Club _____ District _____

Select Your Attendance Options

(For #s 1 and 2, please select only one option)

MONDAY April 20, morning, two options:
 #1 Guided Garden Walking Tour and lunch at Shields Tavern **\$70.00** \$ _____
 10:00 AM _____ OR 10:30 AM _____

#2 Wreath Workshop at Hotel and lunch at Shields Tavern 10:00 AM **\$75.00** \$ _____

MONDAY April 20, evening Reception (Cash Bar) Dinner and Design Program **\$110.00** \$ _____

Colonial Williamsburg special access ticket for Length of stay _____ # of tickets @ **\$27.00 ea** \$ _____

TUESDAY April 21, morning coffee/tea bar, opening of convention with presentation of flag, Memorial Service, Business meeting **\$6.00** \$ _____

Registration Fee for all attendees \$ **18.00**

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Include Late Fee of \$10.00 for envelopes postmarked after 3/31/2026.
(NOTE: Mail your registration at a post office counter to get a date-stamp applied.) Any registrations postmarked after 4/8/2026 will not be processed or accepted. No Walk-In registrations. No refunds after 4/8/2026. Refunds requested by 4/8/2026 are subject to retention of registration fee.

_____ Please check for any dietary requirements / restrictions, and list details

Please 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 5/1/25 () First-time attendee

VFGC 2026 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 all that apply:

- () 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 for the delegate if he/she is unable to attend the Convention.