



Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. **Richmond, Virginia**

A Newsletter of the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

March 2019

President's Corner

RCGC wishes to thank all of the individuals who stayed after the February 1st program to make bows for the "Night to Shine" program. These bows were used to make corsages and boutonnieres on February 7th at the Berea Baptist Church. Led by Levi Green, Full Pocket Farm, the volunteers worked diligently to make the corsages and boutonnieres from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Thanks to all of the volunteers who gave their time to this important endeavor.

We look forward to the March 1st program to learn more about conservation. Nikki Rovener, who is an Associate State Director, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, will deliver an address about "Understanding the Importance of Conservation." This is such an important subject for us to learn as much as possible about so that we can always be good stewards to our environment.

We are very excited about Fashions with Flowers XXI Which will be held on Friday, March 29th at First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA. This annual event is always exciting. The program this year is "Daffodil Delights" and the speaker will be, Laura Anne Brooks. There will be a luncheon, the fashion show and a silent auction all for \$30.00. The registration form is in this newsletter or it can be downloaded from the Council's website. Please complete the registration as soon as possible and submit to Johanna Gilbert, Registrar, 8423 Shannon Green Ct., Henrico, Va. 23228, Phone – 270-6056, Email – omagilbert@aol.com by March 15, 2019 along with a check. Or, you may pay on-line at <http://www.rvagardenclubs.com/>.

Thank you for your continued support of RCGC. Hope to see you at the March 1st meeting.

Linda Hardwicke
President

March Meeting



Friday, March 1, 2019

Ginter Park Woman's Club
3016 Seminary Avenue
Richmond, Virginia

Registration and Coffee 10:00 am

Refreshments provided by
Thomas Jefferson Garden Club

Business Meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. followed by

"Understanding the Importance of
Conservation"

Nickki Rovener, Associate State
Director of Virginia Conservation

Open to All Members of
Our member Garden Clubs

February Gardening Tips

In spring the trees reach into the heavens. Their green leaves leap into the sky. In summer they are gentle friends that seem to smile as the winds sigh. In autumn they turn every garden into a golden mystery. But winter is the time for prayer. In silent snowy worlds a tree becomes an artist's dream to paint, as it stands lowly in the sod. Our hearts like poets see the trees arrows that point the way to God.

--- Marion Schoeberlein

February is the perfect month to assess the need for pruning, aiding appearance, health or size, of many trees and shrubs. Late winter, early spring pruning is usually the best time to prune many species as new tissue forms rapidly. Spring blooming trees and shrubs should only be pruned for health at this time. Summer blooming shrubs should be pruned in early spring prior to bud set or immediately after blooming. Roses, evergreens and summer flowering shrubs that bloom on new growth may be pruned. Fruit trees should be pruned while they are dormant. Any winter damage on trees and shrubs can be addressed. Ideally, try to remove crossing branches, preventing chafing, improving light and airflow. Pruning cuts for dead or diseased branches should be made into healthy wood, below the affected area. Pruning cuts should minimize the plant wounding and speed wound closure. Do not coat pruning cuts with paint or wound dressing. Any spring blooming cuttings can be brought indoors to force blooming!

Winter offers the opportunity to catch up on gardening's "to dos." Clippers, pruners and other implements should be cleaned and sharpened. Clean and prepare your seed starting area. Stock up on supplies such as potting soil, seed trays, plant tags. Slow growing hardy annuals seeds can be planted in greenhouses or indoor under lights, Icelandic poppies, snapdragons and sweet pea. February is a good time to have soil samples sent for testing.

Fertilize iris by feeding with bone meal and top with wood ashes. Circle herb plantings with lime, especially lavender. Fertilize boxwoods with chicken manure. Continue feeding houseplants monthly with liquid fertilizer.

Order catalogs for summer planting plants such as Dahlia, Lillium, and Gladiolus for continued color during the summer months.

The Perennial Plant Association named *Stachys Hummelo*' as perennial plant of the year for 2019

Beneficial for Pollinators and is Deer Resistant.

Stachys Hummelo (Betony, Woundwort) are valued for their attractive, crinkled foliage and long display of prolific flowering spikes. Needs good drainage. Avoid overhead irrigation. Prefers evenly moist but well-drained soil. Deadhead to keep plants attractive and to keep from going to seed (which declines the foliage). Avoid overhead irrigation. Do not prune for winter. Can be divided every 4-5 years in spring. Grows 18-24" tall – Full to mostly sunny location. This plant benefits from partial shade in hot climate.

Meals on Wheels

The required reimbursement form for Meals on Wheels is included in this newsletter as an insert. Clubs are to use the form when requesting reimbursement. Please note that only one reimbursement is awarded to a club per fiscal year. Forms are to be returned to Debbie Peaks, RCGC Treasurer. Ginter Park Garden Club made 29 arrangements in September and October and they certainly were appreciated. RCGC will follow up with Feed More on timely responses to garden clubs' request related to Meals on Wheels needs. - Lu Cavallaro

Recycled Tab Tops

Wow! The clubs of Canterbury, Clay Springs, Ginter Park, Greenfield, Hanover Towne, Hilliard Park, Oxford, Sleepy Hollow, Town and Country, and Windsor Dale donated 22lb of tab tops this February. We have topped over 100 lbs. now. Think how many more we can collect by the April meeting! Thanks, Barbara Covington and Tricia Kreynus

"Night to Shine"

Many thanks to all the Richmond Council of Garden Club Members who volunteered following the February meeting to help cut wire and to make bows. Also, a special thank you to the members who made bows and brought them to the meeting. We appreciate all the volunteers who attended the workshop at the Berea Baptist Church on February 7th and spent hours working on the corsages and boutonnieres. Indeed, many hands make light work. Once again the "Night to Shine" in Richmond, Virginia was a great success. The Richmond Council of Garden Clubs is so honored to be a part of this very special community project. - Barbara Hollister and Debbie Peaks

Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. – Regular Meeting

February 1, 2019

Linda Hardwicke called the February 1st meeting of the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 10:30 AM. She thanked everyone for attending today's meeting and thanked everyone in advance for turning off their electronic devices. Linda Hardwicke led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America

First Vice President Susan Gaskill offered the invocation and the Garden Collect in the absence of Chaplain Gladys Bowles.

Membership Chairman, Bonnie Parker reported that the credentials report for today's meeting included 89 members, two guests and 25 clubs in attendance. A quorum was present, and business proceeded.

Advisor – Barbara Hollister reported on 'Night to Shine' and gave a brief history of the event. She requested that anyone able to stay after the meeting and assist in making bows for the event. She also requested members participate in the February 7th workshop to make corsages in Rockville at Berea Baptist Church.

Hospitality Chairman – Karen Patterson thanked the hostesses from the Westham Garden Club.

We will now hear from Officers Reports:

1st Vice President – Susan Gaskill reported that the annual luncheon is scheduled for May 3 at the Willow Oaks Garden Club. Susan also encouraged the garden clubs to promote attendance among their members to attend the meetings of the RCGC.

2nd Vice President – Barbara Boor reported on the February speaker, and progress is being made on the May luncheon speaker

Recording Secretary – Randi Heise. Will appoint two individuals to review and approve the minutes. Randi reported that she will reach out to the member clubs for volunteers to validate the General Meeting minutes based on the agenda provided by the President.

Corresponding Secretary – Jeanne Stigall reported that information for the newsletter should be to her by February 15th.

Treasurer – Debbie Peaks reported the balance on hand to be \$20,348.96.

Historian – Jean Fender had no report.

Parliamentarian – Judy Hodges had no report.

Standing Committee Reports:

Awards – Jeanne Stigall reported that the applications for awards are due by April 1, 2019 to the Awards and Grants Chairman. Please refer to the Yearbook for information related to the J. Malcolm Pace Award. The information on the website needs to be corrected. All questions should be forwarded to the Chairman. Awards will be announced at the annual luncheon in May.

Conservation – Evelyn Klumb reported on the importance of conservation and being mindful of wildlife in your backyard. She also referred members to the Virginia Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Habitat for Humanity – Jean Fender had no report.

Horticulture – Mary Lou Bean reported a list of February horticulture activities is available in each attendee's seat.

Life Membership – Kay Rafner reported there were no Life Memberships and reminded attendees funds from awarding a Life Membership support Nature Camp.

Meals on Wheels – Lu Cavallaro reviewed the revised procedures for requesting reimbursement for Meals on Wheels. Westham Garden Club reported that the new procedure worked well and that they had created 55 arrangements and received 50 cents for 20 arrangements. Although RCGC reimburses garden clubs one time a year for Meals on Wheels participation, Lu encouraged clubs to support Meals on Wheels independently during the year.

Nature Camp – Sandra Walker requested garden clubs consider donations to support the scholarships.

School Gardening – Gipsie Rodriques requested donations for the School of Gardening from garden clubs.

Tab Top – Barbara Covington reported that 14.7 pounds of tab tops were collected in December. She also reported that she had received a thank-you note from the Ronald McDonald House thanking her for the donation of tab tops. Barbara thanked the following garden clubs for donating tab tops for the Ronald McDonald house: Ginter Park, Greenfield, Hanover Towne, Old Ivy, Oxford, Sleepy Hollow, Winsordale and Wyndham.

Website Liaison – Carol Bridgforth reported on updates to the RCGC website that included a link to PayPal, a list of speakers and a judge update. Clubs are encouraged to update their activities on the website.

Announcements:

Linda Hardwicke reported that Fashions with Flowers will be held on Friday, March 29th at First Baptist Church. The registration form was emailed earlier this month and is also included in the Council's February newsletter which is on the website. The speaker will be Laura Anne Brooks who will speak on "Daffodil Delights". You may submit the paper registration or register on-line at www.rvagardenclubs.org. Pat Merson reported that the cost will be \$30 per person and that each garden club should submit a single check for all members attending. March 15th is the deadline for reservations. Garden clubs are encouraged to contribute to the Silent Auction and a table design.

New Business:

Linda Hardwicke announced the following:

Please come to the February 7th workshop to make the corsages and boutonnieres for the 'Night to Shine' event. It will be held at Berea Baptist Church, 15475 Ashland Road, Rockville, VA 23146 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Light refreshments will be served.

Mark your calendar ~ the Council's annual meeting and luncheon will be held on May 3rd at the Willow Oaks Country Club. Also the March newsletter will be emailed around the 20th of February. If you would like to include announcements or other news, please send your information to Jeanne Stigall by February 15th.

Our next meeting will be March 1st. The program will be delivered by Nikki Rovener, Associate State Director for Conservation, who will speak on "Understanding the Importance of Conservation." This is a very important topic.

Gail Harwood announced Sleepy Hollow Garden Club would hold a Flower Show on May 3rd. Exhibits are to be delivered on May 2nd. Tatter Hartman will be the Flower Show Chairman.

There being no other business, the meeting is adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Thank you, Linda Hardwicke, President

Fashion with Flowers XXI Information

1. Each garden club is being asked to donate 1 or more gardening or floral design items for the silent auction.
2. Silent auction items may be brought to the March 1, 2019 meeting.
3. Each garden club is being asked to donate a floral table arrangement or a flowering plant for a round table seating 8.
4. All silent auction items, table floral arrangements and plants need to be at First Baptist Church - 2709 Monument Ave. at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, March 29th.
5. Items and floral arrangements may be dropped off at the church parking lot entrance beside the church. Someone will be there to take these items into the church.
6. There is only Handicapped Parking in the lot beside the church. Other parking is on the street or in the church parking lot which is one block from the church.
7. Silent Auction will be from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
8. Opportunity Tickets will be sold for the Floral Designs that are made by floral designer, Laura Anne Brooks.
9. Doors to the church hall will open at 9:45 a.m.
10. The cost is \$30.00. Each club needs to send ONE check (made out to RCGC) with a list of attendees to Johanna Gilbert, registrar, 8423 Shannon Green Ct., Henrico, Va. 23228 by Friday, March 15, 2019.
11. Thank you in advance for all of your help and support of RCGC's Fashion with Flowers XXI.

Pat Merson, Chairman

Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Presents

Fashions with Flowers XXI

“Daffodil Delights”

Friday, March 29, 2019

Inclement Weather Date – Friday, April 26, 2019

10:00 a.m.

First Baptist Church

2709 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va.

Fashion Show by Chicos, Floral Designs, Silent Auction, and Lunch

Cost: \$30.00

Floral Design Program by Laura Anne Brooks



The lunch menu will be chicken salad, pasta salad, melon and fresh strawberries, croissant, dutch apple pie, boston cream pie, tea, and coffee. Each club is asked to donate a table floral design and one or more silent auction items. Please send your check made payable to Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. to Johanna Gilbert, Registrar, 8423 Shannon Green Ct., Henrico, Va. 23228, Phone – 270-6056, Email - omagilbert@aol.com by March 15, 2019. Please send ONE check from each garden club with the name of the garden club and the names of the attendees. Seating is limited to 192. Please contact Pat Merson – Phone – 796-1132 or Email: prwtm@aol.com with any questions. Please send this form with a list of the club’s attendees.

Name of Club: _____ Number of Reservations: _____

Check Number: _____

Calendar of Upcoming Events!

March 1, 2019 - RCGC meeting, program, “*Understanding the Importance of Conservation*” Nickki Rovener, Associate State Director, Virginia Conservation

March 18 – Piedmont District meeting, visit website (<http://www.piedmontdistrictvfgc.org/>) for details and registration form. Deadline to register is March 4.

March 29, 2019 – RCGC Special Event, Fashion with Flowers XXI. The event will be held at First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA and will begin at 10:00 AM. The program, “Daffodil Delights” will be delivered by Laura Ann Brooks. The cost of the tickets is \$30.00 and includes the luncheon, a fashion show and a silent auction.

April 5, 2019 – RCGC meeting, program, “*All about Daffodils*” Erica Gilliam and Judy Durant

April 30, 2019 – Horticulture Horizons - Beyond the Garden Path, presented by the Chesterfield Master Gardeners 8:00-4:00, at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, Massey Conference Center. Cost is \$50.00 before March 1, after March 1 cost is \$55.00. Contact 804-751-4401 for additional information

May 3, 2019 – RCGC annual meeting and luncheon, to be held at Willow Oaks Country Club, 6228 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225. *Speaker Betty Ann Galway*

September 22, 2019 – Save the Date – Old Ivy Garden Club will present ‘*HOLIDAY MAGIC*’ – More information will be in future newsletters.



The deadline for submitting articles, announcements and/or bulletins for the April Newsletter is March 15th. Please e-mail to Jeanne Stigall at richmondcouncilgc@gmail.com

Learn about the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. ~ their history, goals, calendar, newsletters and more. Visit the website - <http://rvagardenclubs.com/>



RCGC Newsletter

Jeanne Stigall

2333 Woodmont Drive

N. Chesterfield, VA 23235-3339

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO: