



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

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

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

February 2020

President's Corner

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the February 7, 2020 meeting at The Church of the Epiphany. The program topic is "*Lewis Ginter's Partnership with Feed More in the Kroger Community Kitchen Garden,*". Laurel Matthew, Senior Horticulturist, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, will be the speaker. I anticipate that this will be a very informative topic and one that is important to the community.

Following the Lewis Ginter presentation, there will be a program on "*PopUp*" *Valentine Designs* by three RCGC members.

There are a lot of events planned for the 2020 but in particular I would like to promote RCGC's ever so popular, "Fashions with Flowers XXII" program "*Let's Celebrate*" which will be held on Friday, March 27th at First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA (inclement weather date is April 17, 2020). This year's speaker will be *Jane VanDenburgh*. There will be a luncheon, a fashion show and a silent auction – all for \$30.00. This annual event is always fun and exciting. Should you have questions, please contact Pat Merson, 796-1132 or email prwtm@aol.com.

Seating is limited to 192, so please have the registration form which was recently distributed to club presidents and representatives completed and submit to Johanna Gilbert, Registrar, 8423 Shannon Green Court, Henrico, VA 23228, Phone – 270-6056. Email – omagilbert@aol.com by March 15, 2020 along with a check.

Another important topic is the Council's Grants and Awards opportunities. We offer monetary grants and awards to garden clubs for local beautification projects. The Metropolitan Landscape Design Grant offers four grants of \$250.00 each year and the J Malcolm Pace offers three awards each year. For details see RCGC Yearbook, pages 15-18 or the webpage rvagardenclubs/ServiceProjects or contact Awards and Grants Chairman, Jeanne Stigall, at 804 272-0990 or email sjlstigall@aol.com.

I look forward to seeing you at the February 7th Council meeting.

Sincerely,
Linda Hardwicke
President

February Meeting



Friday, February 7, 2020

***Church of the Epiphany
Episcopal Diocese
8000 Hermitage Road
Richmond, Virginia 23228***

Registration and Coffee 10:00 am

**Refreshments provided by
Midlothian Garden Club**

Business Meeting begins at 10:30 a.m.

**"Lewis Ginter's Partnership with Feed
More in the Kroger Community
Kitchen Garden"
Laurel Matthew, Senior Horticulturist
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**

**Open to All Members of
Our member Garden Clubs**

February Gardening Tips

“There must always be someone who is first to listen to the secrets that nature is telling every hour.” -- Luther Burbank

Pruning Basics

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. 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.

Evergreen shrubs may be pruned severely, promoting new growth, nicely shaped shrubs and rejuvenation for foundation plantings. Do not be alarmed if the space looks empty for a year or so!

For a list of some plants to prune in February see below:

Abelia	Euonymus
Aesculus	Hibiscus Rose of Sharon
Buddleia	Hydrangea
Callicarpa	Hypericum
Caryopteris	Nandina
Clethra	Potentilla
Chastetree	Photinia
Cotoneaster	Rose Hybrid Tea
Ceanothus	Pittosporum
Crepe Myrtle	Sorbaria
Cornus Colored Stems	Spirea

Any spring blooming cuttings can be brought indoors to force blooming!

The Church of the Epiphany

The Church of the Epiphany has expressed their appreciation for the generosity of the RCGC's membership donating to their "Diaper Mission". Thank you. Just remember there is no expectation on any club or member of the RCGC to participate in this project of the Church of the Epiphany. The project is being offered, strictly on a volunteer bases, to those of us who can participate and feel like we want to help the Church serve the surrounding community.

~ Barbara Hollister

Tab Tops

On December 6th, 17.63 lbs. of tab tops were delivered to Ronald McDonald House. A few of the contributions were unmarked so if we haven't recognized your club here, please let us know: Canterbury, Clay Springs, Crown Grant, Ginter Park, Hanover Towne, Hilliard Park, Newfound River, Northham, Oxford, River Road, Salisbury, and Sleepy Hollow. Happy New Year and thanks for continuing to send in the tab tops. ~ Barbara Covington and Tricia Kreynus

Meals on Wheels

At the February RCGC meeting Glebe Point, River Road and Thomas Jefferson Garden Clubs were presented checks in appreciation for their making floral arrangements for Meals on Wheels. ~ Shirley Berger, MOW Committee Chair.

Habitat for Humanity

The construction is coming along on the first 3 houses in Hanover Cove. Clay Spring, West Hanover, and Hilliard Park will be landscaping these three in the spring. Please consider volunteering to landscape one of the 3 to be constructed in the fall. I'm disappointed that the application to the Plant America Grant for \$1,000 was not approved. I had a nice letter from NGC thanking me for the application and saying it was very competitive with almost 300 other applications. If you cannot help with the landscaping, please consider a donation to the RCGC Habitat Fund. If you have any questions, contact Jean Fender at jean.fender@comcast.net.

Conservation

I have been reporting on conservation based on information obtained through sites I found while searching Google. There are hundreds of local and state-wide group, agencies and departments that have information on our local environment and natural resources. Please take the time to look at a few of them and learn how you can be stewards of the flora and fauna we share.

Nature Conservancy, The Virginia Conservation Network, Landscape Virginia, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, National Wildlife Federation, RVA-H2O are some of the groups. The resources they have were wonderful. They offer lectures, programs, and information on several topics pertaining to local issues. Check these websites for more information. They will also lead you to other organizations that work with conservation and environmental issues. Please contact me if you have any questions. ~ Evelyn Klumb

Oxford Garden Club

We enjoyed our visit to the McGuire Veterans Community Center. The Veterans and staff enjoyed the program with the Finneys and the refreshments and crafts we provided. The extra cookies and wreaths were distributed to Veterans who live outside the Community Center. I received great feedback from the Red Cross and the Volunteer Coordinator for the VA, Chris Buck. Thanks to our members who joined us at this Holiday Event. We will continue to work with special projects with the VA when possible.



River Road Garden Club

River Road Garden Club is hosting an NGC small standard flower show April 17 and 18, 2020. See details in the March newsletter.

Salisbury Garden Club

Salisbury Garden Club Decorates their Community for the Holidays. The Salisbury Garden Club had a very busy holiday season. Their activities included decorating the entrance to the Salisbury Community with bags of bows, assembled jabots, placing strings of lights on the wreaths and hung pre lit garland. They also decorated the nearby Post Office in Midlothian adding holiday colors to the walk way and garden. Multiple members entered the annual Door Decorations Design Competition using jabots, wreaths and colorful bows adding to the community holiday dress up. Members brought holiday happiness to Meals on Wheels, Spring Harbor and Hospice House by assembling 111 mini bouquets from many greens from their own winter gardens. Club members also visited the students at Southampton After School program to arrange Christmas Floral centerpieces with fresh greens, carnations and holiday sparkles. As the New Year begins, the members will be busy helping students in the Homework Helpers Program plant amaryllis as part of the Gardening Enrichment Program. SGC members are also starting a new project, Veterans Art for the Journey. It promotes healing to veterans with PTSD through various forms of oral art.



Salisbury Club members Shirley Gates, Lee Ann Jensen and Kate Cnoschafter were several of the members who decorated the entrance of the Salisbury Community.

Richmond Council of Garden Cubs, Inc.
Minutes of the General Meeting
December 6, 2019

Linda Hardwicke called the December 6th meeting to the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 10:30 A.M.

She welcomed the RCGC members to the December meeting and also had the pleasure of welcoming several members from the visiting Buckingham Dillwyn Garden Club to the meeting. Linda asked Judy Hodges, Parliamentarian, to introduce the following guests:

Barbara Wheeler, Co-President; Glenda Harris, Co-President; Suzanne VanDeGrift, Secretary and Sharon Byrum, Treasurer.

Linda also recognized JoAnn McNabb, Piedmont District President, also in attendance.

Following the welcome, Linda asked Chaplin Gladys Bowles to give the invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America. Gladys also suggested we sing several Christmas Carols, and led us in song. Linda thanked Gladys for the invocation.

On behalf of Karen Patterson, Linda recognized the River Road Garden Club for providing the delicious refreshments for the December meeting and asked that the members of the River Road Garden Club be recognized by a round of applause.

Membership Chairman Bonnie Parker reported the credentials for the meeting. There were 26 clubs, 87 members, 7 guests and 1 guest club in attendance. A quorum was present, and business proceeded.

Announcements and Old Business

1st Vice President - Susan Gaskill: Susan reported that she is working on the Annual Meeting and she also reported she had Midlothian Garden Club, Joy of the Season House Tour tickets for sale. The ticket cost was \$30.

2nd Vice President - Barbara Boor: Barbara wished everyone a very Merry Christmas

Recording Secretary - Randi Heise: Randi wished everyone a safe and happy New Year.

Corresponding Secretary and Newsletter Editor - Jeanne Stigall: Jeanne requested that clubs provide information for the newsletter to her no later than the 15th of the month. She also reminded the members that there would be no January newsletter. Information for the February newsletter is due to her no later than January 15th

Treasurer's Report Debbie Peaks: Debbie reported that there was a balance of \$29,701.85 on hand.

Historian - Jean Fender: Jean requested that clubs email her photos and a write-up of their events since she is unable to attend every event that occurs.

Parliamentarian - Judy Hodges: No report.

Advisor - Barbara Hollister: No report.

Chairman of Standing Committee Reports

Awards Chairman – Jeanne Stigall: Jeanne reminded those in attendance that the deadline for applications for awards and grants is April 1, 2020. She requested that each club president please notify her if the club would be applying for an award or grant.

Conservation Chairman – Evelyn Klumb: Evelyn requested that members be aware of wildlife during the winter months as their foraging habits may change. She suggested that members search the internet for Virginia Gardening sites that provide helpful resources in preparing your garden for spring.

Finance Committee - Chairman Debbie Peaks: No report.

Habitat for Humanity - Chairman Jean Fender: Jean announced that there are three houses under construction in Ashland. She thanked West Hanover Garden Club for volunteering to provide landscaping for one of the Ashland houses and requested garden clubs to consider volunteering to landscape one of the remaining Ashland houses.

Horticulture - Mary Lou Bean: Mary Lou was absent but provided handouts for the current month on Horticultural Tips. The handouts were placed in chairs and at the registration desk.

Life Membership – Kay Rafner: Kay requested members to please contact her if there were any questions regarding Life Memberships or if someone wanted to submit a garden club member for a Life Membership.

Protocol Chairman- Wilma Bowman: No report.

Meals on Wheels Chairman - Shirley Berger recognized three clubs for their MOW contributions:

Glebe Point Garden Club, Barbara Fischer, President; River Road Garden Club, Nancy Penick, President; and Thomas Jefferson Garden Club, Randi Heise, President

Chairman of Special Committees

Announcements – Linda Hardwicke: Ginter Park Garden Club will be having their Spring Market at the Ginter Park Presbyterian Church this spring.

Nature Camp - Chairman Sandra Walker: No report.

Newsletter Editor - Jeanne Stigall: No report.

Recycled Tab Tops – Chairman Barbara Covington: Barbara announced that she had received 26 pounds of tab tops in November for the Ronald McDonald house. The following clubs provided the donations:

Crown Grant Garden Club	Old Ivy Garden Club
Ginter Park Garden Club	Oxford Garden Club
Hanover Towne Garden Club	Powhatan Garden Club
Hillard Park Garden Club	Sleepy Hollow Garden Club
Midlothian Garden Club	Windsordale Garden Club

School Gardening – Chairman Gipsie Rodriques: Gipsie requested all clubs to continue to support school gardening.

Ways and Means, Fashion with Flowers – Chairman Pat Merson: Pat reported that the date for Fashion with Flowers will be March 27, 2019. Fashion with Flowers will be held at First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA. Garden clubs are asked to donate one or more items for the Silent Auction, and a flower arrangement or flowering plant to be used as a table decoration. Jane VanDenburgh will present a flower design program featuring spring designs. Jane will create designs for Mother’s Day, weddings, Valentine’s Day, Easter and other spring events. Chico’s will provide the spring clothing collection to be modeled by Richmond Council members. The lunch menu will feature Caesar Chicken Salad, Bread Sticks, Chocolate Mousse Pie or Apple Crisp pie, tea and coffee. Tickets are available at \$30.00. Please remit your check to Johanna Gilbert. Checks are payable to RCGC and include “Fashion with Flowers RCGC” on the check reference line. The deadline for your reservation is March 15, 2020.

Ways and Means/House Tour and Workshops- Chairman Linda Hardwicke: No report.

Website Liaison – Chairman Carol Bridgforth: The Website Committee is evaluating the contents of the website. The Committee (Carol Bridgforth, Linda Hardwicke and Jeanne Stigall) expects to be able to provide a report at the next general meeting.

Yearbook and Publicity – Chairman Linda Hardwicke: Linda reminded members that additional Yearbooks are available at the registration table for \$5.00 a copy.

New Business

Linda Hardwicke called for announcements and the following announcements were made:

Approval of the Council’s Minutes for September, October and November - Linda announced that the minutes for September, October and November were included in RCGC’s December newsletter. She asked the members to raise their hand if there were any corrections and or changes to be made. Linda requested anyone with changes to please stand and identify yourself, identify your garden club, state which set of minutes needs to be corrected. There were no suggested edits. A vote was held to approve the minutes included in the December newsletter. Members eligible to vote were as follows: Garden Club Representative, President of the Garden Club, Officers and Chairmen of Committees. A vote was held with the vote of “YAY” being unanimous.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, Linda wished all attendees a Happy and Joyful Holiday Season and thanked the members for attending.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Following the business meeting, Barbara Boor, Second Vice President, introduced the speaker, Sara Mallory from Freckled Flowers Farm.

Respectfully submitted: Randi Heise, Recording Secretary





Ginter Park Garden Club

7TH ANNUAL
SPRING MARKET

Saturday, March 28th from 10-4

Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
3601 Seminary Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227

Shop juried local artisans & vendors!
Garden items! ~ Bake Sale!
Clothing! Jewelry! Unique Artisanal Goods! Lunch!
Door Prizes!



\$2 Admission



Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Presents

Fashions with Flowers XXII

“Let’s Celebrate”

Friday, March 27, 2020

Inclement Weather Date – Friday, April 17, 2020

10:00 a.m.

**First Baptist Church
2709 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va.**

Cost: \$30.00 – Fashion Show by Chicos, Floral Designs, Silent Auction, and Lunch

Floral Design Program by Jane VanDenburgh



The lunch menu will be chicken Caesar salad, bread sticks, apple crisp pie, chocolate mousse 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, 2020. Please send 1 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: _____

February 7, 2020 - RCGC meeting, Lewis Ginter's partnership with Feed More in their Kroger Community Kitchen Garden, Presented by Laurel Matthew, Senior Horticulturist, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
March 6, 2020 - RCGC meeting, Your Backyard Habitat and Why It Is Important – Sheryl Smith
March 27, 2020 – Fashion with Flowers XXII, First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Ave., Richmond VA (April 17, inclement weather date, if needed)
March 28, 2020 – Ginter Park GC, 7th Annual Spring Market – see details in this Newsletter
April 3, 2020 - RCGC meeting, *Learning about the Mechanics Used for Arranging Designs*, Marlene MacDonald, AIFD, cfd, Wholesale Flower Market
April 17-18, 2020 – River Road GC, NGC Small, Standard Flower Show – see details in this Newsletter.
May 1 – RCGC meeting, 'Spring Fling' – Brenda McManaway, annual meeting and luncheon.

*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
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N. Chesterfield, VA 23235-3339

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO: