



Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Richmond, Virginia

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

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

March 2020

President's Corner

As always in Virginia, we play a guessing game with the weather. As we know, it is mid-February and we are seeing daffodils, crocus and many other spring blooming plants bursting forth with their beautiful specimens. Yes, we have had a very mild winter, but I'm not giving up on Ole' Man Winter yet. What do you think?

Aside from the weather, I would like to talk about some upcoming activities. As you know ***Fashions with Flowers XXII "Let's Celebrate"*** will be held at the First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA. The floral design program will be given by Jane VanDenburgh. Pat Merson has done a splendid job putting this popular event together. The registration form has been emailed to club presidents and representatives. Please complete the registration form for your club or register at the Council's website rvagardenclubs.com.

Historic Garden Week will be held April 22-24. The tours will be Church Hill, April 22nd, Monument Avenue, April 23rd and River Road, April 24th. More volunteers are needed. A letter from Cheryl Fockler will soon be emailed to club presidents and representatives. Please review this schedule with your members and hopefully you will make a decision to volunteer for this annual event.

The Tim Tebow Foundation "Night to Shine" will be held at the Altria Theater on Saturday, March 14, 2020. RCGC has been invited to participate in the making of the 250 corsages and 250 boutonnieres for this magnificent event. The workshop will be held at the **Berea Baptist Church, Rockville, Virginia on Friday, March 13, 2020**. Supplies are being furnished by Eli and Mary Green of the Full Pocket Farm in Montpelier, Virginia. Please check your calendar and contact Debbie Peaks, 804-564-9842 or realestatexpert@aol.com or Barbara Hollister, 804-739-3760 -Home or 804-339-0298 -Cell or budhollister@gmail.com. Your time and expertise would be greatly appreciated. Please plan to join us.

We hope you can join us for the March 6th program on "*Your Backyard Habitat and Why It Is Important*," which will be delivered by Sheryl Smith.

Sincerely,
Your President, Linda Hardwicke

March Meeting



Friday, March 6, 2020

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

Registration and Coffee 10:00 am

**Refreshments provided by
Sleepy Hollow Garden Club**

Business Meeting begins at 10:30 a.m.

**Your Backyard Habitat and
Why It Is Important**

Sheryl Smith

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

March Gardening Tips

I love flowers, trees, animals, and all the works of Nature as they pass before us in time and space. What a joy life is when you have made a close working partnership with Nature... --- Luther Burbank

Never underestimate Mother Nature as you see a spring festival of blooms in February and March! The unseasonable weather has caused early blooming for most plants, shrubs and trees. As I look around my garden, Tete-a-Tete daffodils are blooming along with B Quince and Forsythia in full splendor, Hellebores abound in white, pink and purple, and Daphne, Edgeworthia and Sweet Box are floating a soft scent through the air.

So March tips are simple, enjoy the beauty of your garden, share daffodils with a friend, water, mulch, and plan some additions to your summer garden.

The Perennial Associations 2020 Plant of the Year is *Aralia cordata* "Sun King". It has a compact form, golden yellow foliage, mid-summer white blossoms, turning to a purplish black berry. "Sun King" prefers morning sun or filtered shade. This perennial attracts honeybees and other pollinators.

A slow release fertilizer may be applied to plants in March. Milorganite is an excellent choice if you have deer issues. The deer are repelled by the scent of the fertilizer.

A reminder ~ summer blooming shrubs can be pruned at this time as well as hydrangeas that bloom on new wood. Additionally, vines that bloom on new growth, such as clematis may be pruned during March.

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

Drum roll to the clubs of Ginter Park, Hanover Towne, Midlothian, Northham, Oxford, Salisbury, Sleepy Hollow, West Hanover, and Windsordale for bringing 18.4 lbs. of tab tops to the February meeting. Great! Great job! ~ Barbara Covington and Tricia Kreynus

Meals on Wheels

At the February RCGC meeting two clubs were presented checks in appreciation for their making floral arrangements for Meals on Wheels. Salisbury Garden Club made 80 designs and Huntington Garden Club made 23 designs. ~ Shirley Berger, MOW Committee Chair.

Habitat for Humanity

Please consider sending a donation to our Habitat Fund to help with the landscaping of the 6 houses in 2020. Send to Jean Fender, 9245 Royal Grant Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Also, I encourage more clubs to volunteer to landscape one of the 3 houses to be completed in the fall. Just let me know if you are interested. If you have any questions, contact Jean Fender at jean.fender@comcast.net.

Education Project "Veterans Art for the Journey". It promotes healing to veterans with PTSD through various art forms. Members guided local veterans through floral art designs.

Other SGC members donated their time to help 72 elementary students plant Amaryllis bulbs which remained at the school so students would see that a little amount of soil and rocks can produce beautiful flowers. The students were challenged to estimate the height, color and number of blooms for the bulbs. They also guided the students through a Smokey the Bear or Woodsy Owl Poster contest. The five winners - one from each grade -had their posters sent to the Piedmont District.

Thanks to Gayle Walters, the Salisbury Garden Club website is completed and available to members and the public at Salisburygardenclub.com



Ginter Park Garden Club

7TH ANNUAL SPRING MARKET

Saturday, March 28th from 10-3

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



The River Road Garden Club of Richmond, VA is hosting an NGC Small-Standard Flower Show

April 17-18, 2020

River Road Presbyterian Church in Kemp Hall
8960 River Road, Richmond, Va., 23229

The theme of the Show is
"Mother Earth Awakening"



The show will be big and exciting and will have plenty of new designs and old favorites in the new Botanical Arts Division as well as in Horticulture, Design and Education divisions. Many top awards will be given.

Please come and enjoy the show!! We would love to see you there!

804-740-7083

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



Save this date!
Monday, March 16

Piedmont District Meeting & Floral Design Program
Four Points by Sheraton
Midlothian, Virginia

Robert Allen Hunt
Floral Designer and Event Planner
(Please see article below)

Seating will be limited for this sell-out event so register early.
The registration form is at [Piedmont DistrictVFGC.org](http://PiedmontDistrictVFGC.org). It is also
included in this newsletter



Robert Allen Hunt

Our featured floral presenter at the March 16th Piedmont District Meeting is a distinguished floral designer and event planner. He is known for his design work in Colonial Williamsburg, The Williamsburg Inn and the surrounding area as well as in Tidewater. He also creates floral designs for special events at Disneyworld.

Robert's extensive travel in the hospitality industry always provides new ideas and inspiration for his designs. We can expect 'fabulous floristry' at the March meeting. All of his designs will be raffled off.

Be sure to reserve early (as a club or individually)!



**REGISTRATION FORM
PIEDMONT DISTRICT SPRING GENERAL MEETING**

WHERE: Four Points by Sheraton Richmond, 9901 Midlothian Turnpike, Richmond, VA 23235

WHEN: Monday, March 16, 2020 (**DEADLINE: MONDAY, March 9, 2020**)

COST: \$30.00

CLUB

NAME _____

CLUB

PRESIDENT _____

CONTACT

PERSON & PHONE # _____

CONTACT

EMAIL _____

NAMES OF ATTENDEES - PLEASE PRINT

**PHONE
NUMBER**

**VOTING
STATUS**

(Include dietary restrictions or allergies)

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

Total Number Attending _____ **Total Amount Enclosed \$** _____

Use another sheet of paper for additional names – please print.

Rules for Registration

Due to problems we have had with checks being lost in the mail, registration is as follows.

1) Club emails the names of the attendees with the following information. Club Name, Name & Email address of Club Contact person, Attendees indicating Voting delegates as follows: Club President (CP) 1 vote, 2 Voting Delegates (VD) 1 vote each, District Officer (DO) 1 vote, District Chairman (DC) 1 vote, Former District President (FDP) 1 vote. NOTE: Please indicate any dietary requirements or allergies for the individual.

2) Mail check to registrar and the club will be notified when the registrar receives the check. Seating will be in the order the check is received.

You can also still mail in the Check and Registration form together. Be sure to include a email address as registrar will notify you when it is received. IF you do not receive an email confirmation call Johanna.

Check payable to **PIEDMONT DISTRICT**.

Send **COMPLETED FORM AND CHECK** to: Johanna Gilbert, registrar, 8423 Shannon Green Ct; Henrico VA 23228-1876 – (804)-270-6056 - omagilbert@aol.com. *No telephone registrations. We are unable to issue refunds, please find your own substitute.*

**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: _____

"Fashion with Flowers XXII - Let's Celebrate"

1. Each RCGC garden club is being asked to donate an item or items for the silent auction. The item/items need to be brought to the March 6, 2020 RCGC meeting.

Items that are plants need to be brought to First Baptist Church on the morning of March 27th by 8:30 a.m. The plants may be dropped off at the church's parking lot entrance. Judy Durant will be at the entrance to take your plant into the church.

2. Each RCGC garden club is being asked to donate a table floral design or flowering plant for the table centerpieces. The floral design or plant needs to be at First Baptist Church at 8:30 a.m. Judy Durant will be at the parking lot entrance to take the floral designs and flowering plants into the church.

3. Parking for the event will be in the church's parking lot which is one block from the church or street parking spaces near the church. The parking lot beside the church is for **HANDICAPPED PARKING only!**

4. Registration Deadline is March 15, 2020. Please send 1 check from each garden club with a list of attendees to: Johanna Gilbert, Registrar, 8423 Shannon Green Cr., Henrico, Va. 23228. Seating is limited to 176.

5. Please contact Pat Merson - Phone: (804) 796-1132 or Email: prwtm@aol.com with any questions.

6. Thank you in advance for each garden club's help and support of "Fashion with Flowers XXII - Let's Celebrate"!

Thank you,
Pat Merson
RCGC Fashion with Flowers XXII Chairman



March 6, 2020 - RCGC meeting, Your Backyard Habitat and Why It Is Important – Sheryl Smith
March 16, 2020 – Piedmont District Spring Meeting, Four Points by Sheraton, 9901 Midlothian Turnpike, Richmond, VA 23235
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
2333 Woodmont Drive
N. Chesterfield, VA 23235-3339

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO: