



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

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

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

September 2020

President's Corner

Dear Fellow Gardeners,

Summer is nearly over and it's time to plan our fall clean-up and assess what needs to be done. Whether you are planting a vegetable garden, herbs, perennials or establishing a new lawn, it takes time and resources to accomplish your goals. We have had an unbelievable amount of rain and the ground is in good shape for aerating and seeding your fall lawn. Or you may want to establish a new flower bed.

Given the COVID-19 virus and its ever-expanding spread, RCGC will not be holding meetings. Yes, at some point in the distant future, we will be able to hold meetings, but until then Stay Healthy and Be Safe!

At the present time RCGC is researching the possibility of having some of its floral design programs videotaped so that these programs can be electronically distributed and viewed by club members using their home computers.

RCGC has developed a survey so that clubs can have input into programs for 2020-2022. Soon the survey will be distributed to RCGC Board members, chairmen of standing and special committees, club presidents and representatives electronically. The survey should be completed by September 9, 2020.

Another important topic is the Council's Grants and Awards opportunities. We offer monetary grants and awards to a 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 contact Jeanne Stigall, Awards and Grants Chairman. You can call Jeanne at 804-272-0990 or email sjlstigall@aol.com.

Also, soon I will begin working on RCGC's Yearbook 2020-2021. Please review the listing for your garden club in

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There will be no September Meeting



Floating floral design ~ Hosta leaves covered the black inner tube, golden mop cypress layered next, hydrangea circled around, pink carnations and purple alstroemerias between carnations.

Design by Karen Patterson, Midlothian Garden Club

The Church of the Epiphany Closed Due to COVID19

The Church of the Epiphany, 8000 Hermitage Road, Richmond, VA, has been closed since March. At this point in time, we do not know when the church will reopen. The Council will be notified when we may safely use the facility again. Therefore, the Council will not hold its monthly meetings until further notice. Thanks for your patience and stay healthy!

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

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the current yearbook. If changes are needed and they have not already been submitted, please send to Linda Hardwicke at lchric@msn.com.

Thank you for your continued support. Please practice social distancing and be sure to wear your mask when needed!

Sincerely,

Linda Hardwicke

New Officers Elected for 2020-2022

Following is the list of RCGC Officers elected for 2020-2022 term. Congratulations!!

President – Linda C. Hardwicke, Crown Grant Garden Club
1st Vice President – Judy Erdman, Ginter Park Garden Club
2nd Vice President – Jane VanDenburgh, Old Ivy Garden Club and
Barbara Hollister, Powhatan Garden Club
Recording Secretary – Mary Wiblin, Clay Springs Garden Club
Treasurer – Jean Fender, Hilliard Park Garden Club
Corresponding Secretary – Pat Merson, Woodland Pond Garden Club
Historian – Jeanne Stigall, Oxford Garden Club

As you may be aware the RCGC Bylaws do not allow for an "elected officer to serve more than one term of two (2) years in the same office consecutively with the exception of the Treasurer, who may serve two (2) consecutive terms."

Because I was on the slate of officers for the upcoming term as President and just finished a term as President for 2018-2020, there was a conflict with the bylaws. I refer you to the Bylaws, page 37, Article IV-Officers, Section 1. Elected Officers, Section B. The term of office shall be two (2) years or until their successor is elected...."

To resolve this issue, I contacted the RCGC Parliamentarian and the Parliamentarians for the Piedmont District, the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs and the National Council of Garden Clubs. All parties agreed that I can serve as President until a successor is elected.

It is my pleasure and privilege to serve in this position until another individual can be elected. I thank you for your support!

Conservation

Summer is still upon us and we continue to plant, water, condition and weed our gardens. This summer has been unpredictable even for the Weatherman. My spring perennial had a short season, and other seasonal perennials have become "very weedy". The Covid-19 pandemic has kept most of us inside and has given some of us time to work in our gardens. Garden chores are never ending but we reap the benefits of a peaceful getaway especially at this time. We should continue to be stewards of our environment and be aware of ways to protect it. These are a few reminders.

Conserve water and continue to protect our Waterways. Dispose of waste, herbicides and pesticides properly to keep our groundwater, ponds, creeks and rivers clean.

Be mindful when tending to your flowers, trees, and plants. Protect our pollinators. Do not use pesticides and other chemicals that are harmful to bees, butterflies, and other beneficial bugs. Use organic garden products like Neem Oil,

Safer Brand products or spray with dish soap and water. Plants that repel unwanted insects are marigolds, citronella, and herbs. They are easy to grow as well as beautiful.

Practice “Mosquito Monday”. Clean your birdbaths and fountains and check areas where water might settle after a good rain. I go around my yard every Monday and check for areas that may have standing water. Burn Citronella candles when working in the garden or use another natural bug repelling product.

When possible use organic lawn and garden care. Try fish emulsion and seaweed products, especially for potted plants. Hand pick your weeds or use horticultural vinegar instead of Roundup.

Remember:

- . Protect our Pollinators
- . Protect our waterways
- . Use Organic Garden Products
- . Practice Mosquito Monday
- . Mulch
- . Be Mindful of your Environment

~ Evelyn Klumb, Conservation Chairman

Programs Available Via Zoom

I received an email from Sheryl Smith who recently began giving her to presentations to garden clubs via Zoom. She currently offers the following programs:

1. Your Backyard Habitat, and Why It Is Important: on why native plants are important
2. Native plants: perennials, ferns, and grasses
3. Native plants: trees, shrubs, and vines

So, if you are interested in having her give one of these programs via Zoom, please get in touch with her. Here’s her email address and phone number: goingnativerichmond@gmail.com, 804-399-1346

Metropolitan Landscape Design Grants Awarded to Three Garden Clubs

Jeanne Stigall, Chairman of Awards and Grants advised that three garden clubs were awarded Metropolitan Landscape Design Grants. The projects were judged by Donna Cottingham, Kay Moore and Karen Patterson. Congratulations to:

- Thomas Jefferson Garden Club – Rooftop of McGuire Hospital
- Hanover Towne Garden Club – Bon Secours Hospital, Mechanicsville
- Hilliard Park Garden Club – Christ Lutheran Church

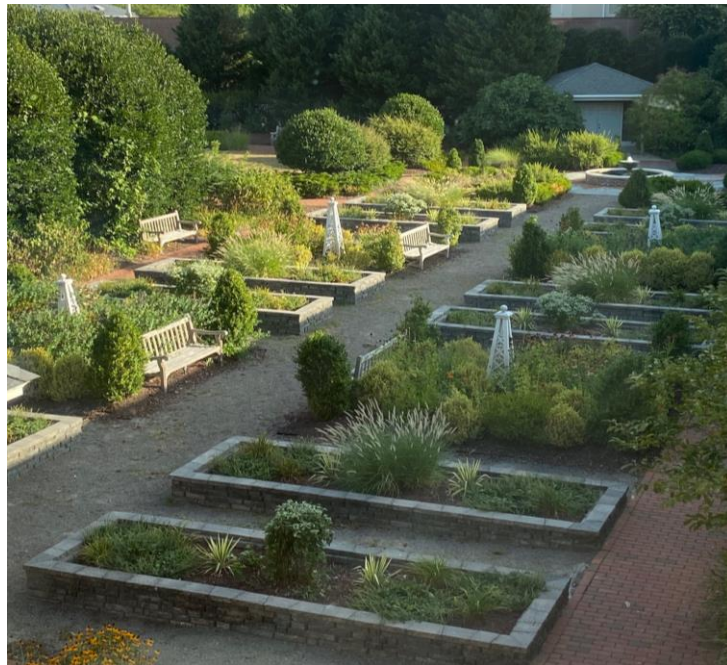
On behalf of the RCGC, each club received a grant of \$250.00 in June.

Hanover Towne Garden Club

Hanover Towne Garden Club Renovates Healing Garden for Bon Secours ~ In spring of 2019, Hanover Towne was fortunate to be awarded a generous grant from Piedmont District for renovation of part of the Healing Garden at Bon Secours Memorial Regional Medical Center in Mechanicsville. Due to some operational issues, the garden renovation didn't actually begin until early spring of 2020.

The Club removed old plant materials from 12 raised beds, added soil and eventually planted new designs which were a combination of natives, easy-care perennials and pollinator-magnets. Members and volunteers planted 48 daylilies, 48 salvia, 24 yuccas, and 18 pennisetum grasses. Existing Clustered Mountain Mint was divided and replanted in 6 of the beds.

The final stages of planting and maintenance over the summer had to occur under restrictions and social distancing due to COVID-19. Our club was undaunted - the garden is thriving - and the bees are very happy! ~Donna Hohman





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



RCGC Newsletter
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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