



Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. Richmond, Virginia

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

May 2023

President's Corner

Dear Richmond Council Members,

Our Annual meeting and Fashion with Flowers show is almost here. Friday, May 5th at the First Baptist Church will close our 2022-2023 meeting year. We are going to have a delicious lunch prepared for us by the church and will have dueling designers from our own talented members to entertain us. Our fashion show this year is presented by Soft Surroundings. They are conveniently located at Short Pump Town Center for us to shop. We can all look forward to a delightful day of fashion, flowers and friendship.

Thank you to everyone who sent me cards and get well wishes. I am looking forward to seeing you all and sharing a fun day with you!

If you do not have your tickets yet, please order them now
.want to see you there.

Sincerely yours,
Judy Erdman



May 5 Meeting



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

Registration and Coffee 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting begins at 10:30 a.m.



Fashion with Flowers
And Annual Meeting

Open to All Members of
Our member Garden Clubs

Program for May 2023 meeting ~ It's a Challenge! Four designers will create a design appropriate for the Challenge Design class in a flower show. The designers are Susan Gaskill, Midlothian Garden Club, Evelyn Klumb, Oxford Garden Club, Janet Minock, Thomas Jefferson Garden Club and Marty Thornhill, River Road Garden Club.

School Gardening Program. 2022-2023

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank the following Garden Clubs for their generous donations to the School/Youth Gardening program: Windsor Farms, Salisbury, Highland Springs, Woodland Pond, Hilliard Park, Sleepy Hollow and Canterbury.

In addition to these seven clubs, we received 2 generous donations from individuals. For the 2022-2023 Garden Club year Richmond Council collected a total of \$985 to support the efforts of The Cooperative Extension in Richmond and the counties of Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico and Powhatan to enhance horticulture outreach programs for youth. These funds will help with financing school gardens; promote sustainable gardening practices to youth and a host of other gardening activities. We can help provide the resources to show gardening and growing your own food is fun and rewarding... among other inspiring youth horticulture programs as well as helping to provide needed supplies. Perhaps our efforts will encourage a love of gardening and open up horticulture as a career choice.

I encourage each club that is a member of RCGC to add School/Youth Gardening as a line item in your budgets. If each club gives a little, then the children are the winners, they are our future. Please feel free to contact me at luv2plyndrt@gmail.com with questions. ~ Bright Beams, Janice Beatty, School Gardening/youth Gardening Chair

Lifetime Membership

Please consider giving a member of your club a Lifetime Membership. For a donation of \$50, the recipient will receive a pin and a membership card. The donation of \$50 goes to Nature Camp. I know the campers as well as the camp administrators would welcome the extra support. For more information, please contact Kay Rafner at krafner@comcast.net ~ Thank you, Kay Rafner

Horticulture

Watch Out for That Pretty Weed!

The Central Virginia region has a new invader, the Lesser celandine aka fig buttercup. This very invasive spring ephemeral is yellow daisy-like perennial and is usually found in moist, wooded area. These invasives have no local enemies so they then to grow very fast and replace native plants that are food and habitat for native fauna. If you spot it in your yard dig it out. I would also suggest taking a sample to your local extension service office. So take a look at the photo and hunt those buggers out.



Nature Camp

Thank you to the members attending the April Richmond Council who took part in the Nature Camp "brown bag" donation challenge! A total of \$96.88 was received and the matching gift provided a \$200 check for Nature Camp. Great job ladies! ~ Sandra Walker, Nature Camp Chair

Annual Meeting and Fashion with Flowers

A BIG THANK YOU to the following for making the RCGC May Annual Meeting and Fashion with Flowers XXIV a success: Judy Erdman, Jane VanDenburgh, Barbara Hollister, Johanna Gilbert, Bonnie Parker, Jean Fender, and Judy Durant, the floral designers, the models, Soft Surroundings, RCGC garden clubs' plant donations, and First Baptist Church. ~ Pat Merson, Fashion with Flowers Chairman

Tab Tops

THANKS to the clubs of Canterbury, Clay Springs, Ginter Park, Hanover Towne, Midlothian, Oxford, River Road, Thomas Jefferson, Windsor Dale, and Woodland Park for collecting April's tab tops and to Elizabeth Moorhouse for picking them up. ~ Barbara Covington and Patricia Kreynus

Habitat for Humanity

Thanks so much to the following clubs for their donations to the Habitat Fund this year: Highland Springs Garden Club, Sleepy Hollow Garden Club, and Old Ivy Garden Club. We appreciate so much Hilliard Park Garden Club and Sleepy Hollow Garden Club for landscaping a Habitat House. River Road, Hilliard Park and Oxford Garden Clubs are in the process of planning to landscape a house in the next month or so.

With Richmond Habitat wanting us to help landscape as well as Hanover, Jackie McDonnough has agreed to join me on the Habitat Committee and be the contact for the Richmond Habitat houses which includes Henrico and Chesterfield as well as Richmond.

Please consider landscaping a Habitat house as a club project in the future and/or adding a monetary donation in your budget. Jean Fender, Habitat Chairman

RCGC dues

RCGC dues for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 are payable as follows:

Active Membership shall pay annual Council dues as follows:

- clubs with 51 plus members - \$40.00
- clubs with 26-50 members - \$30.00
- clubs with 11-25 members - \$25.00
- clubs with 10 or fewer members - \$15.00

Dues are per club and are payable no later than May 31. If dues are not received by July 1, the club shall be delinquent and shall be notified by the Treasurer. If dues are not received by September 1, club membership in Council shall be forfeited.

RCGC Yearbook Information for 2023-2024

Club Name _____

Year Organized _____ No. of Members _____

When meetings are held (ex. 3rd Thursday, daytime) _____

President's name, address, telephone number(s), and email address:

Representative's name, address, telephone number(s), and email address:

Please send this form along with your check for 2023-2024 Club dues made out to Richmond Council of Garden Clubs by May 31, 2023, to:

Jean Fender,
Treasurer, RCGC
10000 Berry Pond Lane,
Mechanicsville, VA 23116

RICHMOND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS
Minutes of April 7, 2023

The April meeting was held at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church and First Vice President Milly Proffitt called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. President Erdman is recovering from major surgery and hopes to return by the May meeting. Chaplain Joyce Williams shared a thought for the day and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bonnie Parker reported attendance: 16 clubs and 38 people were present.

The minutes were included in the newsletter and there were no corrections.

Treasurer Jean Fender gave her report: the balance in checking account March 1, 2023 was \$39,918.13. The total income for the month was \$1,088.09 and disbursements of \$1,572.91. The balance in checking on March 31, 2023 was \$39,433.31. Investments total was \$381,545.59.

Thomas Jefferson Garden Club received a check for their Horticulture Therapy project. Sleepy Hollow Garden Club will also receive a check for their Horticulture Therapy Project.

Awards and Grants: Jean Fender reported that there were three applications for the Metropolitan Landscape Design Grant and one for the J. Malcolm Pace Award.

Jean Fender reported on Habitat for Humanity and thanked Old Ivy for their donation in memory of Gladys Bowles. Sleepy Hollow, Old Ivy, Hilliard Park and several other clubs will be working on landscaping Habitat homes.

Conservation: Evelyn Klumb reminded members to garden responsibly during the summer.

Horticulture: Jackie McDonnough shared a concern about an invasive plant, *Ficaria verna*, which looks like a large buttercup or yellow daisy and has fleshy leaves. It starts greening in March and is very invasive. Contact your local Extension Service to determine what to do.

Jackie reminded members to support local growers when buying plants for spring planting. B and B Farms in Mechanicsville was mentioned and there are others in the area. Jackie will try to include these in the newsletter.

Hospitality: Julie Proctor thanked Northam and Hilliard Park Garden Clubs for the refreshments.

Life Memberships: Please contact Kay Rafner if your club would like to honor a member with a life membership.

Nature Camp: Sandra Walker thanked Hilliard Park Garden Club for their donation and challenged members to add money to the bag she was passing and she would match the amount collected.

Tab Tops for Ronald McDonald House: Barbara Covington was not present but her representative picked up the tab tops.

Johanna Gilbert reminded members for Pat Merson to send in reservations by April 21 for Fashion & Flowers on Friday May 5 at First Baptist Church, Richmond. Jane VanDenburgh shared details about the program.

Jean Fender went over changes in the bylaws. Evelyn Klumb asked for clarification of Article V, D who votes in an election of officers-all members who are present or only designated voters? This was an area that needed clarifying. Sandra Walker suggested the Bylaws Committee review the new bylaws and check for problems.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Erica Gilliam introduced Lisa Trapp who gave a presentation on "Capital Trees", a project using volunteers to green areas of Richmond including the Capital Trail.

The program concluded at 12:15 p.m.



Old Ivy Garden Club Plant Sale

Saturday, May 13 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Chamberlayne Heights United Methodist Church
6100 Chamberlayne Road
Fellowship Hall

On our tables you will find a variety of plants, flower containers, garden art, baked goods and more.

Come ready to shop, shop, shop!
Great gifts for Mother's Day



Calendar of Upcoming Events!

May 5, 2023 – Fashion with Flowers XXIV and Annual meeting, First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Ave.,
Richmond, 23220

**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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FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO: