



Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. Richmond, Virginia

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

October 2023

President's Corner

Dear Richmond Council Members,

Ophelia brought us some much needed rain and I hope no one suffered any wind damage! The cooler fall temperatures are most enjoyable.

I am sorry for those who missed Sandy McDougle's program that focused on growing plants that bloom in the fall at our September meeting. You will not want to miss David Pippin at our October meeting. Everyone is asked to bring a container they would like to sell (already priced), David will select one or two to use for arrangements and those will be raffled off and the unused containers will be sold. Cash or check only.

We have some individuals who are not members of a Garden Club who would like to pay a fee and join Richmond Council. We will have a vote on whether or not to include them. It is allowed under our recently approved new bylaws.

I will try to keep our business meeting short so that we can enjoy the program. If you would like to send a report to Jeanne Stigall for presentation in the newsletter, please do.

First Vice-president Millie Proffitt and President Judy Erdman were most graciously hosted by the Crown Grant Garden Club's first meeting for 2023-2024 where we enjoyed hearing about their wonderful plans for their club and getting ideas and suggestions for ways to make the Richmond Council work better for all of us. We hope to visit other clubs this year and hear your suggestions. Thank you to Crown Grant.

West Hanover GC will have a table with some fall items for sale. Please bring cash or checks. This will be our first club money making project. We wish them great success.

November will have Creating Outdoor Containers by Cross Creek Nursery and a table from the Chester GC with sale items. December will showcase Frances Thrash, a fabulous designer. Oxford GC will have pecans on their sale table and some other Garden Clubs will have sale items.

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October 6 Meeting



**Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
3601 Seminary Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227**

**Registration and Coffee 10:00 a.m.
Business Meeting begins at 10:30 a.m.**

**Container Extravaganza
David Pippin**

**Refreshments provided by
Old Ivy Garden Club**

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

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We hope you will join us for all of our wonderful programs. We will look forward to seeing you at the Ginter Park Presbyterian Church on Friday, October 6.

Sincerely yours,
Judy Erdman
President of the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs

Program for October 6, 2023 meeting ~ Container Extravaganza

We're so excited to have DAVID PIPPIN present our October program, working his floral design magic and creativity, using CONTAINERS AND DESIGN COMPONENTS THAT WE PROVIDE along with flowers he is bringing.

Please bring LOTS OF CONTAINERS AND DESIGN COMPONENTS that you are willing to donate ~ the WILDER THE BETTER! David has requested hydrangeas, especially ones that are drying and changing color. Also, branches like Harry Lauder, curly willow or fasciated willow, berries and pods.

REMEMBER that whatever he does not use will be sold as a fundraiser to benefit Richmond Council. So please bring as many things as you can! ALSO, PLEASE PRICE YOUR ITEMS TO SELL AND COME PREPARED TO PURCHASE DIFFERENT ITEMS TO TAKE HOME FOR YOUR USE! CASH OR CHECK ONLY!

Jean Fender will be managing the sale of the containers, et al. Get your donations to her prior to the meeting date or by 9:30 am on the 6th. Hope to see you there with fun things to share. - Jane and Erica

Horticulture - Preparing Your Landscape for Winter

Happy Fall! This is the time of the year that we put our gardens to sleep and begin planning for next year. How we prepare our vegetable and flower gardens have a significant impact on next year's yield.

Vegetable gardens benefit from a thick coating (2-4 inches) of organic materials like chopped up leaves and non-diseased plant waste. The addition of lime will counteract the effects of organic decomposition which lowers soil pH thus keeping the soil close to a pH of 7. A heavy application of organic materials will add nutrients to the soil as they decompose. This is a good time to make note of any changes in crop placement. I try not to plant vegetables in the same spot to avoid depleting nutrients.

Flower beds also benefit from the addition of chopped leaves. Remove spent plant materials taking care to discard in the trash any that is fungus and insect infested. Avoid trimming back perennials such as Hydrangeas, ornamentals grasses and Liriope to give the garden structure and form during the winter. Collect seeds from annuals for next year. This is the time to plant your bulbs for early spring color.

This is also the best time to make changes in the landscape that involves planting of shrubs or trees. If they go in the ground in the fall they will have time to establish a strong root system before the spring thus insuring that they will survive summer stress. I also add to my spring bulb collection. This is the time to divide clumps of daylilies and other flowering perennials. Share with friends and neighbors to spread the joy.

Try not to rake up all the fallen leaves because many helpful insects nest in leaf litter. I usually leave a layer of fallen leaves on the ground under trees. Now that the trees are bare this is the time to prune. Your hard work in the fall will be rewarded with vibrant spring blooms and bountiful harvests next summer. ~ Jackie McDonnough, Horticulture Chairman

Life 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, Committee Chairman



Sales Tables

West Hanover Garden Club will sell pumpkins decorated with succulents, seeds, bulbs, crocosmia corms, branches, floral design books, and possibly some other related items at the new initiative 'Sales table'. ~ Mary Ann Chisholm

Horticulture Therapy

Please remember to submit your requests for reimbursement to new committee chairman, Cheryl Williams, 9418 Kenna Way, Mechanicsville, VA 23116-3964. cherylandtim@verizon.net. The revised form is at the end of this newsletter.

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY - APRIL 5, 2024

Fashion with Flowers XXV **Silver Anniversary Celebration**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
2709 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA
10 AM

Program presented by floral designer, Kathy Ward. Mark your 2024 CALENDAR for FASHION WITH FLOWERS XXV. LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION IN FUTURE NEWSLETTERS. ~ Pat Merson, Chairman

A decorative flyer for a holiday event. The text is centered and framed by a border of holly leaves and red berries. The text is in a mix of red and black serif fonts. The event is presented by Ginter Park Garden Club at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church on Thursday, November 9, 2023. It features hors d'oeuvres at 9:30 am and a program at 10:30 am. The cost is \$15.00 by reservation only, with limited seating. Daffodil bulbs will be available for purchase. Contact information is provided for Millie Proffitt and Lee Lythgoe.

Ginter Park Garden Club
Presents
Holiday Designs starring
David Pippin

Thursday, November 9, 2023
Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
3601 Seminary Avenue, Richmond
9:30 am - Hors d'oeuvres
10:30am - Program
\$15.00 - by Reservation Only
Limited Seating

Daffodil Bulbs will be available for Purchase
Contact:
Millie Proffitt 804-840-8539
Lee Lythgoe 804-690-3041

RICHMOND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

Minutes of September 1, 2023

The September meeting of Richmond Council of Garden Clubs was held at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church. President Judy Erdman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chaplain Joyce Williams shared a prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Due to time constraints, Sandy McDougall of "Sandy's Plants" was introduced by 2nd VP Jane VanDenburgh and the program was presented.

At the conclusion of the program, President Erdman welcomed members and guests. Hospitality chairman Julie Proctor thanked Salisbury Garden Club for refreshments.

Bonnie Parker reported on attendance: 73 members present, representing 40 clubs and 2 guests.

Treasurer Jean Fender reported the balance in the checking account on June 1, 2023 was \$35,918.38 with receipt of \$2,205.09. The balance as of August 30, 2023 was \$36,015.54. The total in the investments account was \$383,816.83. Several clubs have resigned: Wyndham, Westham, Huntington, and Greenfield. Glebe Point has re-joined.

Jean reported that several Habitat for Humanity projects were completed over the summer and she hopes for more information about these project in the future.

Horticulture Therapy reimbursement form was included in the newsletter and clubs will be given up to \$50 per club per fiscal year. Please contact Chairman Shirley Berger for further information.

Tab tops for Ronald McDonald will be collected by Carole Hopkins with help from Elizabeth Moorhouse.

Nature Camp chairman Sandra Walker reported that more contributions came in for camp after the initial ones. These contributions have been sent to Nature Camp.

OLD BUSINESS

2nd VP Jane VanDenburgh reminded members that David Pippin has accepted the challenge to create designs using containers, line materials and other components donated by members. The extra vases and components will be sold with proceeds to go to Council to help with funds for pledges, grants, and scholarships.

Jean Fender asked members to check their club information for the new Yearbook which should be ready next month.

Members were reminded that a Memorial service for Gladys Bowles will be held from 2-4 p.m. on September 9 at Laurel Presbyterian church. The recent "Old Dominion Gardener" had an article on Gladys.

President Erdman asked for a volunteer to be Property Chairman. This chairman would be responsible for the padlock key which unlocks the storage area under the stage at Ginter Park Presbyterian church. In this space RCGC stores sound equipment, coffee pots, tablecloths and other items used at meetings.

Jean Fender reported on the Bylaws committee meeting and went over the changes in the bylaws. Jean made a motion to accept the changes and Millie Profitt seconded. Voting members were polled and the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Fritter, Recording Secretary

**Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Horticulture Therapy Reimbursement Form**

RCGC will give financial assistance to member garden clubs who make flower arrangements for Meals on Wheels, nursing homes, or similar recipients. The following guidelines apply:

- 1) Clubs will be given \$2.00 per arrangement, not to exceed \$50.00 per club per fiscal year.
- 2) Requests for reimbursement are to be made to Horticulture Therapy Chairman after arrangements are completed. Use the application shown below.
- 3) The Chairman will notify Treasurer of the amount of reimbursement to be made and mail or hand out the check at the RCGC meeting.
- 4) RCGC will only make one payment, per fiscal year to a club participating in the Horticulture Therapy project.
- 5) Chairman will keep records of clubs and reimbursement made.

Club Presidents should contact Horticulture Therapy Chairman, Shirley Berger, email: jcb61@verizon.net or 804-262-8109 for additional information.

Application for Reimbursement for Horticulture Therapy

For participating clubs that would like to be reimbursed for expenses related to this program, please complete the information below:

Name of Club _____
Number of Arrangements Made _____ Date _____
Arrangements delivered to: _____

Person submitting request for reimbursement _____
(include name, phone # and email) _____

Check to be mailed to/or presented at RCGC meeting:

Mail or email the completed form to: Cheryl Williams
9418 Kenna Way
Mechanicsville, VA 23116-3964
cherylandtim@verizon.net

Calendar of Upcoming Events!

October 6, 2023: David Pippin: **Container Extravaganza** David has accepted the challenge to create designs using containers, line materials and other components donated by our members. He will select what he wants for his designs and the remaining items **will be for sale**. Cash or check only. Proceeds to go to the Council.

November 3, 2023: Creating Outdoor Containers with Winter Interest Cross Creek Nursery will inspire us to decorate outside our homes using containers with hardy plants that will survive our cold winters. Speaker TBD. *****Plants will be for sale***** Cash or check (made out to Cross Creek Nursery) only. A gift certificate to Cross Creek Nursery will be given as a door prize!

December 1, 2023: Holiday Designs with NGC Frances Thrash of Virginia Beach, NGC flower show school instructor, will create beautiful holiday designs which conform to the NCG flower show requirements. Her designs will go home with the holders of the lucky door prize tickets.

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: