



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

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

March 2024

President's Corner

As spring approaches new life begins in our gardens! Take a moment to enjoy the beauty!

What a fabulous February meeting with 104 members, 22 clubs represented, and 6 guests attended.

The Chancellor Garden Club of Fredericksburg was voted into the RCGC and welcomed as a new Member Club by First Vice President, Millie Proffitt.

A wonderful power point presentation by Donna Cottingham titled "Plant it and Forget it" was very informative.

The jewelry sale by the Council had lovely pieces donated by Club Members. Big THANKS to Jane VanDenburgh and Erica Gilliam for organizing, staging, and procuring the worker bees! Huge success and so much fun!

Please attend our March 1, 2024, program presented by Josh Stutz from The Friends of the James River Park. A non profit doing good works in the City.

Canterbury, Salisbury, and Thomas Jefferson Garden Clubs will have items for sale at this meeting, so bring your checkbook/cash.

Don't forget to reserve your seat for the Fashion with Flowers program on April 5th and the Annual Meeting on May 3rd!

Looking forward to seeing all of you!
Continued prayers for all those in need, and our previous President, Judy Erdman's family.

Sincerely submitted,
Millie Proffitt, President

If one daffodil is worth a thousand pleasures then one is too few.
~William Wordsworth



March 1 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.

Friends of the James River Park
Josh Stutz, Executive Director

Refreshments provided by
Midlothian Garden Club

Open to All Members of
Our member Garden Clubs

Program for March 1 meeting ~Friends of the James River Park

Josh Stutz, executive director of FOJRP will introduce us to the James River Park, a 600 acre urban oasis in the heart of Richmond and explain the work being done by FOJRP to preserve, protect and enhance this most visited area of our city.

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 Therapy

Hanover Towne (December), Chester Garden club and Hilliard Park (February) participated in making arrangements . Hanover Towne made arrangements for assisted living and memory care at Covenant Woods in Mechanicsville; Chester Garden Club made arrangements for Meals on Wheels through the Chesterfield Food Bank on behalf of Food More and Hilliard Park (see picture and info below). ~ Cheryl Williams, chairman.

Hilliard Park Garden Club made 22 Valentine designs for Chestnut Grove Assisted Living and Elizabeth Adam Crump Health and Rehab at their February 12 meeting.



School Gardening

Hello Friends,

The Co-Coordinator of Hanover Master Gardeners sent RCGC a wonderful thank- you letter for last years' donation to the Hanover Master Gardeners Association. Our funds enables them to further their primary purpose to provide research-based horticulture information to the public. Examples include but not limited to -Ashland 4-H group became a garden steward for one of their raised beds also establishing a butterfly bed, and Boy Scout troop 709B installed the irrigation system to 19 raised beds.

All of this is wonderful news and demonstrates how are funds are being used responsibly to educate our youth and encourage kids to see the value of knowledge in the horticulture field.

To date, we have received only three donations to the Youth-School Gardening Program. I encourage each club to help with this very worthwhile program. If each club participates with their donations, then the children are the winners.

With your help we extend the extension officers resources to educate, encourage, and promote passion for horticulture.

The children are our future.

Please feel free to contact me at. luv2plyndrt@gmail.com with questions or concerns.

Bright Beams,
Janice Beatty
School/Youth Gardening Chair

**RCGC Fashion with Flowers XXV
25th Anniversary Celebration
Chairman: Pat Merson**

DATE: Friday, April 5, 2024

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

PARKING: Church parking lot on Monument Ave. or Street Parking
ONLY Handicapped Parking is allowed in the lot beside the church.

TIME: 10:00 a.m. – Doors open at 9:30 a.m.

PROGRAM: Thinking Outside the Box: Using Unexpected Items in Creative Floral Design by
Kathy Ward of Salisbury G.C. and Richmond Designers' Guild.

FASHION SHOW: Dillard's of Stony Point Fashion Park will provide the fashions for our
RCGC models. Barbara Hollister is the fashion coordinator. Models will be RCGC members.

LUNCH: Lunch will be provided by the Ladies of First Baptist Church. Menu: Chicken Caesar Salad or
Tuna Salad with Bread Stick, Chocolate Chess Pie, Apple Pie, and Coffee, Tea, and Water.

TABLE CENTERPIECE: Each RCGC garden club is being asked to donate a flowering plant for the table
centerpiece. Thank you in advance for your club's donation. Plants need to be delivered to the
church parking lot entrance at 9 a.m. the morning of April 5th. A RCGC member will be at the
entrance to receive the plant.

COST: \$35 per person

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT INFORMATION: Each RCGC garden club needs to **send 1 check**
made payable to RCGC, INC. with the registration form with list of attendees to:

Johanna Gilbert, registrar, 8423 Shannon Green Ct., Richmond, Va. 23228.

Johanna's phone number: (804) 405-6225 and email: omagilbert@aol.com

REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK DEADLINE: Monday, March 25, 2024.

**Looking forward to seeing all RCGC garden clubs at Fashion with Flowers XXV on April 5, 2024, as
RCGC celebrates their 25th Anniversary!**

**RCGC FASHION WITH FLOWERS XXV
REGISTRATION FORM
DEADLINE: MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024
COST: \$35 PER PERSON**

Please send 1 check payable to RCGC with Registration Form to: Johanna Gilbert,
8423 Shannon Green Ct., Richmond, Va. 23228.

Phone: (804) 405-6225 Email: omagilbert@aol.com

RCGC Garden Club: _____

Check Number: _____ Check Amount: _____

Club Contact Person, Phone, and Email: _____

ATTENDEES

CHOICE: Chicken Caesar Salad or Tuna Salad

1. _____
2. _____
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18. _____



RCGC ANNUAL MEETING/LUNCHEON REGISTRATION

MEADOWBROOK COUNTRY CLUB

3700 Cogbill Road, Richmond, VA 23234

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024

Registration 9:30 am, Meeting 10:00 am

DEADLINE: MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024

COST: \$35 per person

MENU: Salad Bar Extravaganza to fit everyone’s tastes,
Meadowbrook Pie for Dessert, Iced Tea and Coffee

PROGRAM: “Around the Summer House” by Kate Vernon (The
Arranger’s Workshop) and Louisa Rucker (Former member of
the National Cathedral Flower Guild)

Please send 1 check per garden club payable to RCGC with Registration Form to:

Johanna Gilbert, 8423 Shannon Green Ct., Richmond, Va. 23228

Phone: (804) 405-6225 Email: omagilbert@aol.com

GARDEN CLUB: _____ Check Number: _____ Check Amount: _____
Club Contact Person, Phone, and Email: _____

ATTENDEES:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 15. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 16. _____ |

**MEETING IN TERRACE ROOM FACING THE BEAUTIFUL
GILLETTE GARDENS**



RICHMOND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

February 2, 2024

Business Meeting

The February meeting was held at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church. President Millie Proffitt called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. and held a moment of silence to honor RCGC Past President Judy Erdman. President Proffitt welcomed past Presidents, council members and guests to the meeting.

Chaplain Joyce Williams read a devotional, a prayer and led the Garden collect. Then members joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Co-2nd VPs Jane VanDenburgh and Erica Gilliam reminded members that Josh Stutz, from “Friends of the James River” will be the speaker at the March meeting. Jane shared that James River Parks are the most visited sites in Richmond.

Erica Gilliam introduced today’s speaker, Donna Cottingham. Donna is a Master Naturalist, who also has interest in pottery and photography. Donna will present her program on creating naturalized area where insects, birds, and small animals find food and cover.

Erica reminded members that the Virginia Daffodil Show will hold a workshop at Covenant Woods in Mechanicsville for those interested in entering the show in March.

President Proffitt reminded members that the December minutes were emailed and asked for any corrections. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer Jean Fender reported the balance in the checking account on Dec. 1, 2023 was \$33,963.72. There was income of \$1,320.00 and disbursements of \$822.92. The balance as of Jan. 31, 2024 was \$34,460.80. The total in Investments was \$384,218.37.

Jean reminded members that there will be Habitat houses ready this spring in Ashland. Volunteer garden clubs are needed to landscape these homes.

Jean and Horticulture Therapy chairman, Cheryl Williams gave out checks to Hanover Towne GC and Canterbury GC and recognized River Road GC for their therapy arrangements.

The Finance committee will meet after the business meeting concludes.

Johanna Gilbert reported a quorum was present with 22 clubs represented, 104 members and 6 guests in attendance.

Awards and Grants chairman Mary Francis Gravatt reminded members to submit requests to the committee before the deadlines.

Julie Proctor and the Hospitality committee thanked Oxford GC for the refreshments. Karen Patterson will be calling clubs for hostessing in the 2024-2025 session.

School Gardening chairman Janice Beatty reported three garden clubs have contributed School Gardening. Janice shared a letter from Hanover Master Gardeners who thanked the committee and stated that a permanent area was being created to use with youth gardeners.

Johanna Gilbert, acting for Fashion & Flowers chairman, Pat Merson, stated that a signup sheet would be passed for clubs to provide a plant/flower for the tables at Fashion & Flowers on Friday April 5.

President Proffitt announced a new club from Fredericksburg, Chancellor Garden Club, requested acceptance into RCGC. President Proffitt made the motion to accept and 2nd VP Erica Gilliam seconded. There was a member vote and the motion carried. Chancellor President Sharon Moser and four members were welcomed into RCGC.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Donna Cottingham presented her program “Plant It and Forget It.”

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Fritter, Recording Secretary

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Nancy Quinn

October 30, 1947 - February 19, 2024

Visitation and Funeral arrangements will be announced as soon as they are confirmed. Thank you all for your support and prayers during this difficult time.

Nancy had been with the club since 2014 and served as corresponding Secretary, Yearbook editor, and photographer. She had also attended several Piedmont district meetings and other club activities, such as working our Plant Sales. She was very outgoing, respected, and much appreciated by all. She will be missed. ~ Laura Divinski, Powhatan Garden Club President



PLEASE JOIN US FOR
Ginter Park Garden Club's
9th SPRING MARKET

Saturday, April 13, 2024
10 - 3

A Curated Outdoor Market
featuring
Local Artisans & Vendors

Come shop all things Spring!

Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
Corner of Walton and Seminary Ave.

~ Rain Date April 20 ~

The CHESTER GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE
Saturday, April 27th from 8 AM – 2 PM
at Castlewood, a historic plantation in Chesterfield.
10201 Iron Bridge Rd., Chesterfield, VA. 23832.
~ Melissa Ray, President, Chester Garden Club

Annual Spring Garden Fest!

Saturday, April 27, 2024

8 am to 3 pm

Reynolds Community College

1851 Dickinson Road, Goochland, VA

A FREE, family friendly event that is a celebration of all things related to gardening so stop by to see:

- The GPMGA Plant Sale – a wide variety of plants at great prices!
- Ask the Master Gardener booth – free gardening help and advice
- Gardening vendor booths – lots of fun items to delight gardeners

Go to www.gpmga.org to find out more and register for classes!



OXFORD GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE!



Saturday, May 4

8:30 AM– 4:00 PM – RAIN OR SHINE!

Location: Manwood Temple of Masons, 6787 Forest Hill Avenue Richmond, VA 23225

Herbs & Veggies Spring Blooming Plants Perennials
Pots & Garden Tools Baked Goods

Please come out and support our club's fundraiser!



“How Fair Is a Garden”



An NGC Horticulture Specialty Show

Presented by
Richmond Designers' Guild

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Education Building
1800 Lakeside Drive
Richmond, VA 23228

575-512-5992

June 10, 2024
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Open to the Public with general admission
to Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

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

Calendar of Upcoming Events!

March 1, 2024 - RCGC meeting program, ~**Friends of the James River Park**, Josh Stutz, Executive Director of FOJRP

March 18, 2024 – Piedmont Spring meeting ~ Virginia Crossings Hotel, 1000 VA Center Pkwy, Glen Allen, VA 23059

March 23 and 24 - Virginia Daffodil Society Show - Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden – 9am – 4 pm - Included with regular admission. Location: Auditorium. Hundreds of delightful prize-worthy daffodils and expert growers on hand.

April 5, 2024 – RCGC meeting program – Thinking Outside the Box Using unexpected items in Creative Floral Design by Kathy Ward, Salisbury Garden Club. Annual Fashion with Flowers XXV – Regular meeting will be combined with the FWF luncheon to be held at **First Baptist Church**, 2709 Monument Avenue, Richmond.

May 3, 2024 - RCGC meeting program – Around the Summer House, Kate Vernon (The Arranger’s Workshop) and Louisa Rucker (a former member of the National Cathedral flower guild). This will be the **annual luncheon** meeting which will be held at the **Meadowbrook Country Club**, 3700 Cogbill Rd., Richmond, 23234

*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