



Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc

Richmond, Virginia

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

September 2024

President's Corner

I sincerely hope each of you have had a delightful and fun summer. The summers here in Virginia are usually hot, humid, dry, rainy and in general, a challenge to all of us. No matter what, the weeds seem to grow in abundance. Fall is knocking on the door. This brings me to the subject at hand.

The Richmond Council of Garden Clubs has a new meeting location. We will meet at **the Episcopal Church of Epiphany, 8000 Hermitage Road, Henrico, Virginia 23228. Coffee and light refreshments will be served 10:00 am to 10:30 am. The meeting will start at 10:30 am.**

TO ALL CLUB PRESIDENTS, please, please share this newsletter with all your members upon receiving it. We want members to know where we will be meeting. You are a messenger. We do not have another means to reach all your members, but through you. **THANK YOU.**

Our second vice presidents, Jeanne Stigall and Janice Beatty have been working hard to obtain great guest speakers for our programs. Come and bring a guest. The church has purchased a new sound system and projectors. (The new system is being installed at this writing. Hopefully, all is completed by our arrival).

September 6th Meeting



Salisbury Garden Club Biennial Garden Tour

**The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
8000 Hermitage Road
Richmond, VA 23228**

Registration and Coffee 10:00 AM

Business Meeting 10:30 AM

**Program: Connor Parrish owner of
Blossoming Roots Flower Farm**

**Refreshments provided by
Thomas Jefferson Garden Club**

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

The AV equipment will be set up the night prior to our meetings each month, if needed. The gentleman that will set up the AV equipment for the church has agreed to set the RCGC's up for free. However, instead of payment he has asked if we could help support the Church of Epiphany's Diaper Mission Program. This is only volunteer. If you feel you can support this program, bring a dozen or more diapers to each meeting or how often you are able. The church has one day each month families in need may come in and pick up a free dozen diapers. A table will be in the registration area to put the diapers.

The goals for RCGC for the next two years are to increase members, encourage clubs to apply for the grants and awards offered to them at the close of each fiscal year, and to think about us doing a Standard Flower Show. Ideas and thoughts are welcomed.

Looking forward to seeing each of you on Friday, September 6, 2024, at 10:00 am.

Planting and growing our future,

Barbara Hollister, RCGC President

RCGC September 6th Botanical Design Program

Janice Beatty and Jeanne Stigall, Co-2nd VP, Programs

Get ready for fall! The program on September 6th, will feature Conner Parrish, owner of Blossoming Roots Flower Farm and Supply. He will demonstrate and create a one-of-a-kind wreath using dried flower material from his farm.

Wreath making is included under Botanical Arts section, Hanging Designs. Conner also offers workshops at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden and Ashcroft Hall and Gardens in Richmond, in wreath making, and pressed flower art. His wreath will go to the winner of the door prize ticket.

Dried flower material from his gardens will be offered for sale: Cash or Check.

It's Not Too Late!!! No clubs have signed up for a Sales Table at the September meeting. Remember: Council is providing Tables (2 per club) for two clubs to sell whatever you desire, and all the profit goes to your club. This is a courtesy we offer as support to our member clubs. Call or email Jane Vandenburg (804)723-3214 or vandenburgjane@gmail.com) if you wish to participate.

October, February and April are also available. Call if you have questions.

~ Jane Vandenburg

Second Annual Jewelry Extravaganza – March 2025

Jane VanDenburgh, Co-Chair



Dear Garden Club Members,

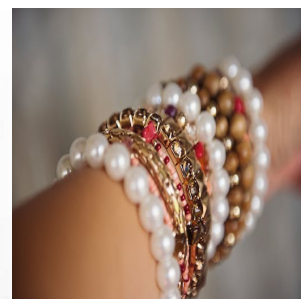
RCGC will be having our second annual costume jewelry sale at the March 2025 monthly meeting, and once again we need your help! Please ask your neighbors, relatives, friends, hairdressers, other club members to help us out. How can they do that? By donating any and all gently used (or new) costume jewelry. **Bracelets, necklaces, rings, and earrings are the best sellers. Pins and pendants are also in demand.**

You may bring them to our monthly meetings and give them to Jane VanDenburgh or Erica Gilliam. We will accept donations starting in September and ending in February. This will give us time to sort and package, to see what we have and determine how much space we will need to display them.

ALL SALES WILL BENEFIT SCHOOL/YOUTH GARDENING!!! Get your local Master Gardeners involved.

Thank you in advance for your help. ~ Jane VanDenburgh and Erica Gilliam

Erica Gilliam (804-784-5592) and Jane Vandenburg (804-723-4214)



Chairmen Reports

Spotted Lanternfly: Take Notice and Action

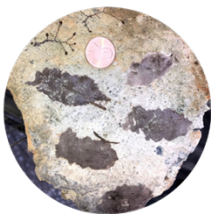
Jackie McDonnough, Horticulture Chair

Many of us in the horticulture community know the devastating impact of the spotted lanternfly (SLF), a highly invasive insect that appeared in Virginia in 2018. Sadly, that is not the case for the general public. On a lovely Sunday in mid-July, I was at a track meet on a Lynchburg college campus where these pests were swarming. Although they were making a nuisance of themselves, buzzing around spectators, most people chose to ignore or shoo them away. Frankly, I was shocked! As I tried to squash as many of the SLF as I could others looked on in amusement. I used the opportunity to explain to the people around me that the pretty insects were highly invasive and could potentially damage fruit crops, forested lands, and home gardens.

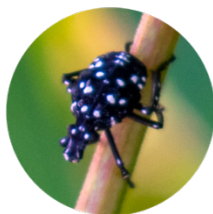
According to experts, this insect feeds on over 100 plants, including grapes, peaches, hops, and ornamentals. I have since learned that the following cities and counties are quarantined: Buena Vista, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Lynchburg, Manassas, Staunton, Waynesboro, Albemarle, Augusta, Carroll, Page, Prince William, Rockingham, Rockbridge, Shenandoah, Warren, and Wythe.

A quarantine means that businesses in those areas must obtain a Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) permit and inspect “regulated articles” before transporting them out of the area. Regulated items include any life stage of the spotted lanternfly, as well as all vehicles and any material or waste that has been outside. CDACS offers inspection training for \$6.

If you have seen a spotted lanternfly in Virginia report your sighting to your local Virginia Cooperative Extension office or online. See the flier from Loudoun County for more detailed information on how to identify the life stages and how to control the spread.



EGGS (December-May)
Size: About 1.5" long



BLACK AND WHITE NYMPH (May-August)
Size: 4mm up to 3/8" long



RED, BLACK AND WHITE NYMPH (July-August)
Size: 7/8" long or 12mm



ADULT (July-December)
Size: About 1" long

https://www.loudoun.gov/DocumentCenter/View/171009/Spotted-lanternfly-Information-One-Pager-2022_01?bidId=

MAYMONT NEWS

Sean Proietti, Senior Manager of Horticulture & Grounds Maymont Foundation

Report from RCGC Annual May Luncheon

Spring is in the air at Maymont, and the grounds are alive with frolicking children and picnicking families. The horticulture team is a whirlwind of activity this time of year, between planting, pruning, cleanups, and prepping for the busy wedding and event season. **Of the big projects currently absorbing our attention, the one I'm most excited to share is that we are well along in the process of updating our entire inventory of trees and shrubs using spatial imaging services.** In the near future, guests will be able to come to Maymont, scan a QR code at the entrance, and see a map on their phones with accurate labels for all woody plants. The software even allows us to publish information on the environmental services provided by the plants in our collection, such as carbon sequestration, runoff prevention, and total leaf surface of shady canopy. The summer interns at Maymont, funded in part by RCGC donations, are the main drivers of this project.

The students come primarily from VCU's Environmental Sciences department, and we are working in close concert with VCU faculty to not only ensure quality data, but quality training for the interns, so that they might get real -world chances to learn the skills that are so highly in demand in the industry as we rise to meet the challenges of the 21st century climate crisis.

This year, visitors will begin to see some large-scale construction on the grounds. Maymont was the recipient of a multi-million-dollar grant dedicated to tourism initiatives and will be building new animal enclosures and new pathways designed to increase accessibility. We also will be highlighting the ways in which Maymont's large-scale naturalized areas provide ecosystem services and habitat for native Virginia flora and fauna. As part of the grant, the mansion is receiving a new roof, new HVAC system, and a new fire suppression system. We are grateful that our mission to preserve this slice of American history and this rare green space in the heart of the city resonates with so many people, and thankful for the support of RCGC and all our guests and partners.

Sean Proietti
Senior Manager of Horticulture and Grounds
Maymont Foundation

CLUB NEWS

The Salisbury Garden Club's Biennial Garden Tour

The Salisbury Garden Club's Biennial Garden Tour was held on May 22, 2024, a hot and sunny day. Open to club members and guests only, over sixty attendees braved the heat to stroll and enjoy the beauty of five special home gardens and the Salisbury Garden Club's 50th Anniversary Garden, located at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer.

The home gardens, located in and around Salisbury, provided a wide variety of flora, garden art, water features and hardscapes to awe their visitors. All homeowners were gifted with amazing floral designs, created by a few talented club members, which were coordinated exclusively to display in each of the five unique home gardens. Another homeowner gift, a slate-like stone inscribed with "2024 Salisbury Garden Club Tour", was skillfully prepared by another artistic member. After many months of planning by the committee, with the cooperation of five generous homeowners, and the help of many volunteers, the 2024 Salisbury Garden Club Biennial Garden Tour was deemed a success!



2024 Salisbury Garden Club Biennial Garden Tour



ANNOUNCEMENTS

RCGC's Fashion with Flowers XXVI will be held in spring 2025. Information-date, place, floral designer will be announced in the fall newsletter and at meetings.

*Thank you,
Pat Merson
Fashion with Flowers XXVI Chairman*

GOOD VIBRATIONS

Designing to the music of

The Beach Boys

An NGC Design Specialty Flower Show

Hosted by

**Piedmont District Flower Show Judges Council of
Virginia Federated Garden Clubs, Inc.**

Monday, September 30, 2024

Deep Run Park & Recreation Center

9910 Ridgefield Parkway

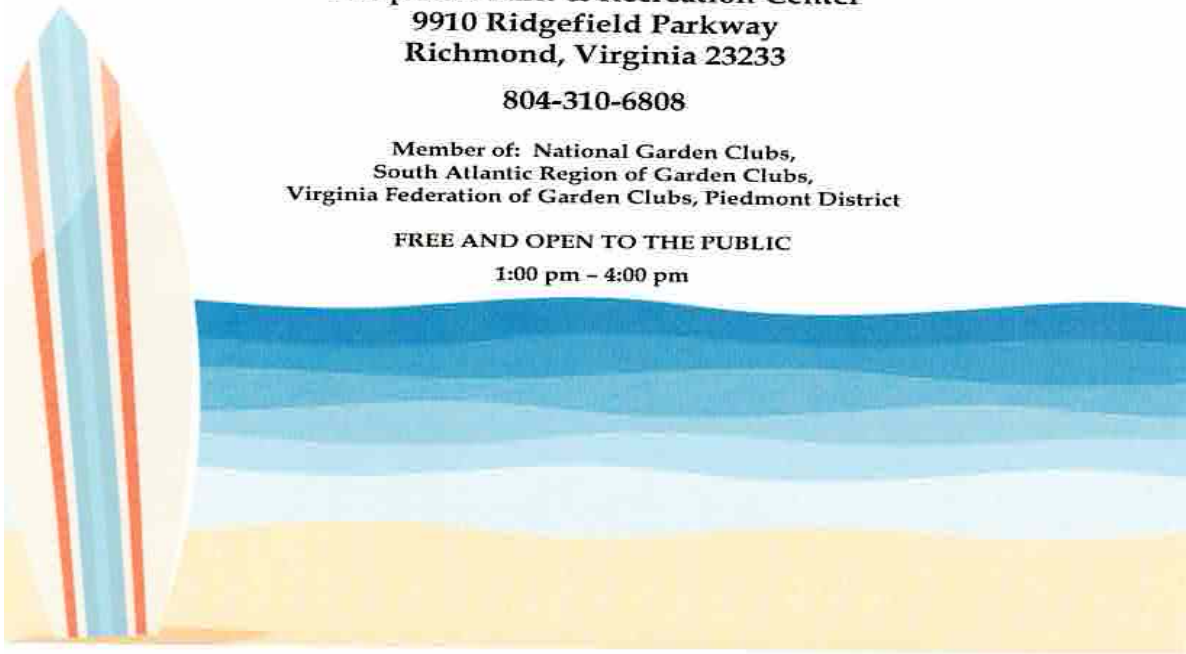
Richmond, Virginia 23233

804-310-6808

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

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm



CALENDAR

September 30, 2024- “Good Vibrations”- An NCG Design Specialty Flower Show, Hosted by: Piedmont District Flower Show Judges Council of Virginia Federated Garden Clubs, Inc. Deep Run Park and Recreation Center, 9910 Ridgefield Parkway, Richmond, Va 23233

October 4, 2024- RCGC meeting Program – **“Bulbs as Companion Plants”- Brent Heath of Brent and Becky’s Bulbs**

October 14, 2024- Piedmont District Fall Meeting - Virginia Crossings Hotel, 1000 Virginia Center Pkwy, Glen Allen, VA 23059

October 23-27, 2024- VMFA Fine Arts with Flowers

November 1, 2024- RCGC meeting program- **“Flowering Shrubs for Every Season” – Peggy Singlemann, host of *Virginia Home Grown*.**

December 6, 2024- RCGC meeting program -**Designer Evelyn Klumb, President of Ikebana of Richmond, creates designs with Asian influence.**

**RICHMOND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS
ANNUAL MEETING
MEADOWBROOK COUNTRY CLUB
May 3, 2024**

The Annual meeting of RCGC was held at Meadowbrook Country Club. President Millie Proffitt called the meeting to order, and Chaplain Joyce Williams gave the invocation and led the Garden collect. The meeting was dedicated to the memory of President Judy Erdman, 2021-2014. There was a moment of silence for Past President Mrs. Jean Kathleen Cole, 2010-2012.

President Proffitt welcomed past presidents Barbara Hollister and Judy Durant and introduced guests, Dr. Philip Coulling, Executive Director of Nature Camp and Mr. Danny Cox, VP of Horticulture at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, and designers Kate Vernon and Louise Rucker. President Proffitt thanked those who helped plan the Annual meeting: Millie Proffitt, 1st VP, Jane VanDenburgh, Co-2nd VP, Jean Fender, Treasurer, and Meadowbrook Country Club for hosting the event.

Attendance was given by Bonnie Parker with 71 checked in and 93 expected. A quorum was not needed.

President Proffitt gave her president's report and asked Lee Lythgoe from Ginter Park GC for assistance in a tribute to the officers and chairmen from 2022-2024. The next tribute was to Past Presidents Barbara Hollister and Judy Durant who received rose bushes for their help in "thorny times".

1st VP Millie Proffitt stated that her report was sent by email and could be read online.

Co-2nd VP Jane VanDenburgh stated that their full report was also available by email, but she would give a condensed version highlighting the year's programs and activities.

Recording Secretary Karen Fritter read the minutes of the April meeting. The minutes have been read and approved by three officers and published in the newsletter.

Treasurer Jean Fender gave her report: the balance in checking on April 1 was \$8,758.18 with receipts of

\$11,225.07 and disbursements of \$2,940.53. The balance on April 30 was \$17,042.72. The Money Market account balance on April 1 was \$10,055.45 with interest income of \$38.76 creating a balance on April 30 of \$10,094.21. The total for investments on February 29, 2024, was \$394,501.60.

Jean Fender as Finance Committee Chairman presented the 2024 budget and made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Jane VanDenburgh seconded the motion. The budget was approved as presented.

Attendance chairmen Bonnie Parker and Johanna Gilbert reported an average of 22 clubs at each RCGC meeting with 17 clubs having representatives at every meeting. Attendance certificates were presented to representatives of those clubs.

1st VP, Membership chairman, Millie Proffitt presented a new award to Hanover Towne GC for their 50th anniversary and to Ginter Park GC for their 100th anniversary.

Habitat for Humanity- Jean Fender reminded members that new houses will be available for fall landscaping and funds are available for this project.

Horticulture Therapy- Cheryl Williams gave a report on clubs that have participated and reminded clubs to fill out the form to be reimbursed.

Life Membership- Kay Rafner reported six Life Memberships were given this year and reminded members that all the money goes to Nature Camp.

Recycled Pop Tops- Carole Hopkins reported 101 pounds of aluminum pop tops were collected and given to Ronald McDonald House this year. Clubs were thanked for participating.

School Gardening- Janice Beatty thanked clubs for their donations that totaled \$450. This was added to the \$1000 budgeted by RCGC divided among the four counties participating in educating youth about gardening.

Awards & Grants- Mary Francis Gravitt, co-chair with Jean Fender, reported two applications for the J. Malcolm Pace Award for completed landscape improvement projects. Oxford GC received awards for landscaping at Bon Air Branch Library and the Masonic Temple on Forest Hill Avenue.

President Proffitt introduced Dr. Philip Coulling, Executive Director of Nature Camp, who spoke on the continuing relationship between RCGC and Nature Camp. Many children and adults have enjoyed Nature at Big Mary's Creek because of donations since 2006 of \$36,000. President Proffitt presented a donation to Nature Camp.

Danny Cox, VP of Horticulture at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden was introduced next, and he shared new and continuing activities coming to the garden plus the expansion of the facilities. President Proffitt presented a donation for Lewis Ginter.

President Proffitt asked that members began preparing for lunch and some remaining business will be concluded during the meal. Chaplain Joyce Williams gave the blessing and Johanna Gilbert began calling tables to go to lunch buffet. Lunch began about 12:00.

President Proffitt summarized the New Location Committee's report and called on committee member, Barbara Hollister, who reported on the Church of the Epiphany as a potential new meeting place. This committee will continue to look at possible new meeting places.

President Proffitt asked Karen Patterson, Hospitality chairman, Midlothian GC, to conduct the Installation of Officers for 2024-2026.

Historian- Pat Merson –Woodland Pond GC

Treasurer-Jean Fender-Hilliard Park GC

Corresponding Secretary-Susan DelSordo-Thomas Jefferson GC

Recording Secretary-Jane VanDenburgh-Old Ivy GC

Co Second Vice President Jeanne Stigall-Oxford GC

Co Second Vice President Janice Beatty-Salisbury GC

Co First Vice President-Cheryl Williams-Canterbury GC

Co First Vice President- Mary Penzer-Canterbury GC

President Barbara Hollister – Midlothian GC

Congratulations to the newly installed officers.

Co-2nd VP Jane VanDenburgh and Erica Gilliam introduced Designers Kate Vernon and Louise Rucker.

After the presentation, the drawing for designs and centerpieces was held.

Outgoing President Proffitt asked newly installed President Barbara Hollister to join her in adjourning the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Fritter, Recording Secretary 2022-2024

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

