



Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc

Richmond, Virginia

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

October 2024

President's Corner

Autumn leaves are beginning to turn their magical colors. The nighttime temperatures dropping, and warm sunny days, making up a typical fall day. I wish I could add plenty of rain, but we are very dry even after last week's light rainfall.

I deeply regret that I will not be with you on Friday, October 4, 2024. I am going with my daughter to Phoenix, Arizona for a dear family friend's funeral. You will be led by one of your very capable Co-First Vice Presidents, Cheryl Williams. I will be sending my agenda to Cheryl.

Thank you to those of you that brought diapers for the Church of Epiphany Diaper Mission. Cory Isemann, who operates the sound system for RCGC Meetings, was very pleased with the participation from us. Corey accepts the donations in diapers in place of a monetary payment from us. Mother Kristen gave us a report at the September meeting regarding their diaper mission. She mentioned that they start donating the diapers to families once a month. In the beginning they had 20 families, now they are up to 75 families per month coming to pick up a dozen diapers each. This is totally voluntary for everyone. If you can bring a dozen diapers to any meeting it is

graciously accepted. It is definitely a community service.

October 4, 2024 Meeting



The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

**8000 Hermitage Road
Henrico, VA 23228**

Registration and Coffee 10:00 AM

Business Meeting 10:30 AM

Program: "Bulbs as Companion Plants"- Brent Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs

Refreshments provided by Highland Springs GC and Pamunkey GC

Open to All Members of our Garden

Clubs

The October Meeting should be another interesting program on “Bulbs as Companion Plants” presented by Brent Heath from Brent and Becky’s Bulbs.

Always learn something new from them. If you have ever had any of their bulbs, you already know they have premium quality. Come, learn and enjoy.

Looking forward to seeing each of you in November.

*Keeping planting and growing,
Barbara Hollister, President*

RCGC October 4, 2024 Program

Jeanne Stigall and Janice Beatty, Programs

“Bulbs as Companion Plants”

Brent Heath of Brent and Becky’s Bulbs will show you how to combine bulbs, perennials, annuals, ground covers and flowering shrubs that will create just the feeling you want to generate for three season seasons in your garden.

CHAIRMEN REPORTS

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Jean Fender, Chairman

We have the contact information for two new homeowners in Ashland. Planning can proceed for some landscaping in their back or side yards. The front yards had to be contracted out as required by the Town of Ashland.

Northam GC is in the process of planning the first house that has a deck in the back. I have contacted a couple of clubs about doing the second house but not sure yet if they can do it. So, if any other clubs want to step up to landscape soon (September-October) let me know.

Karen Patterson from Midlothian GC potted plants during the summer for us to use in Habitat. They are at my house or someone in my club. There are a LOT of variegated hostas which of course will be dying back so it would be nice to get them in the ground soon. Also 8 small aucuba shrubs, a few privet shrubs, a nice size beauty berry and perennial hibiscus.

We will have a table at the October meeting for Habitat with some dry plant material give-away from Jane VanDenburgh and a few hostas and information on Habitat.

We always welcome donations to the RCGC Habitat Fund to help cover the landscaping.

Contact Jean.fender@comcast.net or call cell 804-218-9006

Nature Camp

Lynne Still, Chairman

A letter of thanks from the camper sponsored by Richmond Council of Garden Clubs this past summer.

Dear Richmond Council of Garden Clubs,

Thank you so much for sponsoring my time at Nature Camp. I learned so much, made new friends, and more. My major class was Nature Writing! It was so fun! ☺

I leaned a lot about how to take in my surroundings, pay attention to small details, speak and read out loud, etc.

*Thank you again,
Greg Wojcikewych*

Philip Couling, Director of Nature Camp, thanked Richmond Council for their donation. Richmond Council is one of 24 organizations which have donated more than \$17,000 this fiscal year. Such charitable contributions are vital in supporting the financial aid program, which this year provided discounts totaling nearly \$42,000 to 55 campers, over 16% of participants.

Total Enrollment was the highest this past summer in nearly a decade.

Numbers breakdown:

1st session: 87 (Grades 10-12)

2nd session: 82 (Grades 8-9)

3rd session: 84 (Grades 7-8)

4th session: 83 (Grades 5-6)

- Grade in which the applicant will have completed before camp opened.

Adult session in May before camp opened: 40

If you have questions about Nature Camp, please contact Lynne Still (804) 690-6411,

Lynnestill23@gmail.com

School/Youth Gardening

Martie Parch, Chairman

Every year we, as a council, donate to the School/Youth Gardening projects of our local master gardeners. The benefits of these programs are numerous. They teach our children about sustainable gardening and environmental issues. They give children a connection with nature and with their community. And we all know that gardening is beneficial to our physical and mental health.

We hope that the lasting effect of gardening will encourage children to develop a lifetime interest in the field as well as possible careers in horticulture.

Remember that children are our future.

At the next board or business meeting of your garden club, please ask the members to donate to the School/Youth Gardening project.

Thank you~ Marie Parch

JEWELRY BOUTIQUE

March 7, 2025

A BIG THANK YOU to those who brought jewelry to the September meeting!!!

We will continue to collect gently used or new costume jewelry at each of our Council meetings through February. It makes it much easier for the committee if we get the items early so we can sort and bag them and we will know how much space we will need.

Don't forget to ask your friends and neighbors. Most folks are happy to support our School/Youth Gardening Program which will get 100% of the money!

Thanks for the jewels...and keep 'em coming! Jane and Erica

DOES YOUR CLUB NEED A LITTLE EXTRA CASH?



Richmond Council is offering tables for clubs to sell items of your choice at our monthly meetings. You get 100% profit!! Tables are still available for **October, February and April** so contact me at vandenburghjane@gmail.com or 804-723-4214 to reserve your space.

At the October meeting, Hilliard Park GC will be selling baked goods and gardening items.

In November we will have **Chester Garden Club** selling baked goods on fancy plates, jams and pickles and **Sleepy Hollow Garden Club** will offer note cards, containers, flower seeds and miscellaneous garden items. Mark your calendars to remember to bring **cash or check** to pay for your treats and treasures!!!

In September Lynne Still and I brought no longer needed c.d.'s, books and puzzles and collected over \$50 in donations for Nature Camp! **Easy money!**

Jane VanDenburgh, chairman

A poster for a flower show. The title 'GOOD VIBRATIONS' is in large, bold, black letters at the top. Below it, in smaller text, is 'Designing to the music of'. The name 'The Beach Boys' is written in a large, elegant, black cursive script. Underneath that, it says 'An NGC Design Specialty Flower Show' and 'Hosted by'. The main text reads 'Piedmont District Flower Show Judges Council of Virginia Federated Garden Clubs, Inc.' followed by the date 'Monday, September 30, 2024', the location 'Deep Run Park & Recreation Center, 9910 Ridgefield Parkway, Richmond, Virginia 23233', and the phone number '804-310-6808'. At the bottom, it lists affiliations: 'Member of: National Garden Clubs, South Atlantic Region of Garden Clubs, Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Piedmont District'. The event is 'FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC' from '1:00 pm - 4:00 pm'. The background of the poster features a stylized beach scene with a yellow sand area at the bottom, blue waves in the middle, and a blue sky with a few vertical lines on the left side representing palm trees or flags.

SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. Regular Meeting September 6, 2024

The September 6, 2024, meeting of the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. at the Church of the Epiphany, 8000 Hermitage Rd, Henrico, VA was called to order by President Barbara Hollister at 10:30 am.

After welcoming members to our new meeting location, President Hollister introduced Mother Kristen of the Church of the Epiphany. Mother Kristen welcomed Richmond Council and thanked us for supporting their diaper ministry. She then provided the invocation.

President Hollister reported that the church has purchased a new projector which is available for our use. Their AV chairperson will assist us with the use of the equipment. He requested that instead of paying him we support their diaper ministry.

President Hollister announced that the agreement for use of the church has been finalized and signed.

President Hollister announced that the Board of Directors voted to recommend to the Council that we hold a Standard Flower Show. Recording Secretary Jane VanDenburgh read the recommendation: "The Board of Directors recommends that Richmond Council of Garden Clubs hold a Standard Flower Show during the Holiday Season in 2025." (Clarification: November or December). The assembly voted to accept the recommendation.

Thomas Jefferson Garden Club was thanked for providing refreshments.

Bonnie Parker, Attendance Co-chair, reported that a quorum is present with 76 members in attendance.

President Hollister introduced the officers and Committee Chairmen:

First Vice Presidents – Cheryl Williams and Mary Penzer

Second Vice Presidents – Jeanne Stigall and Janice Beatty. Jeanne announced that the October speaker will be Brent Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs who will present "Bulbs as Companion Plants".

Recording Secretary – Jane VanDenburgh. Today's minutes will be approved by Lynne Still, Millie Proffitt and Mary Wiblin before being published in the next newsletter.

Corresponding Secretary – Susan DeSordo (absent)

Treasurer – Jean Fender. Jean presented her report covering June 1 through August 31, 2024. Account balances as of August 31 are Checking - \$11,807.64, Money Market - \$18,491.70 and Total Investments - \$390,919.38. The complete report is attached and will be filed for audit.

Historian and Ways and Means Chairman – Pat Merson. Plans for Fashions with Flowers 2025 are in progress.

Advisor – Millie Proffitt

Parliamentarian – Sandra Walker (absent)

Hospitality – Karen Patterson (absent) and Julie Proctor. Julie announced that hostess clubs have been arranged for the year. Next month Highland Springs Garden Club will be hostess.

Awards - Judy Durant (absent)

Conservation – Evelyn Klumb. Evelyn asked that member USE LESS PLASTIC. Only 9% of recyclable plastic is recycled. She mentioned several ways of cutting down on the use of plastic.

Finance – Jean Fender (included in Treasurer's report)

Habitat for Humanity – Jean Fender. Jean announced that two of the five Habitat homes being built in Ashland are complete. She will be in contact with clubs regarding landscape needs for these houses. She has plants donated by Karen Patterson to be used if needed.

Horticulture – Jackie McDonnough (absent)

Nature Camp – Lynne Still. Lynne gave a brief overview of what Nature Camp is and read a thank you note from the camper who received the Richmond Council scholarship this year. She thanked the group for their donations.

Properties – Barbara Hollister. Barbara announced that Council owns four pieces of silver, a tray, creamer, sugar and coffee urn. The urn spout leaks, and the Board approved having it repaired which Barbara will attend to.

Protocol – Frances Judd

Recycle Pop Tops – Carole Hopkins. Faye Moran thanked the group for their donations and reminded us to label the bags with the club's name.

School Gardening – Martie Parch. Martie reminded us that the money for school gardening goes to the City of Richmond and four surrounding counties (Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico, Goochland-Powhatan) Master Gardeners who work with the Youth in their areas. She asked that members encourage their clubs to support School Gardening.

Website Liaison – Jeanne Stigall. Jeanne announced that the website has recently been updated. Club presidents were reminded that they are the conduits for getting the newsletter to the members.

Yearbook – Susie Rothenburg (absent) Yearbooks are available today. Susie was complimented for a job well done.

There being no old business or new business, the meeting was adjourned. Janice Beatty introduced Conner Parrish of Blossoming Roots Flower Farm who demonstrated the creation of a dried flower wreath. The wreath and bundles of flowers were given as door prizes.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane VanDenburgh
Recording Secretary