



## **Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc**

### **Richmond, Virginia**

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

November 2024

### ***President's Corner***

The acorns are plentiful. Let's hope we can get out and do the raking before the leaves fall. I have been in Connecticut and the leaves are starting to turn there brilliant autumn colors.

**Our hearts go out to the states of Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee and affected by Helene and Milton.** In the days to come let's continue to keep these people affected by these storms in our prayers. Some of us have helped through our church. If any of you have an idea how the RCGC could help, we are open for suggestions.

**In September you voted to have a Standard Holiday Flower Show in 2025. Jennifer Wester has accepted the position of Chairman for the Flower Show.** Jennifer is a member of the Midlothian Garden Club. Jennifer has attended four NGC Flower Show Schools, and she is on her way to becoming a NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge. Jennifer will need help from ALL of us. Please say "yes" when you are asked to participate.

Just reminiscing a bit. The RCGC years ago had an annual Standard Flower Show. The Show was always in the spring and known as the South of the James Flower Show. It was held at the Carillon for years and later moved to the Southside Plaza. The Huband sisters were in charge. "Miss Lucy" and Miss Nanny, as they were fondly known, were dedicated members of the Chester Garden Club and RCGC. RCGC has been blessed with this type of member for years. We are blessed.

### ***November 1, 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: 'Flowering Shrubs for Every Season'**

**Presenter: Peggy Singlemann, RVA Gardener, LLC**

**Refreshments provided by River Road Garden Club**

**Open to All Members of our Garden Clubs**

Clubs if you have not signed up for a sales table to sell your items to raise money for your garden club do so now. Contact Jane VanDenburgh, Chairman of sales tables. Jane may be reached at 804-723-4214 or [janevand@yahoo.com](mailto:janevand@yahoo.com).

Thank you for your continued volunteer support of the Diaper Mission here at the Church of Epiphany. Keep up the good work. Looking forward to seeing you Friday, November 1, 2024.

**Barbara Hollister**  
President RCGC



## November Sales Tables

### Chester and Sleepy Hollow

### RCGC November 1<sup>st</sup> Program

*Jeanne Stigall and Janice Beatty, Programs*

**Program: "Flowering Shrubs for Every Season"**

**Presenter: Peggy Singlemann, RVA Gardener, LLC**

Peggy Singlemann is a familiar figure as the longtime host and co-producer of *Virginia's Home Grown* on PBS.

Peggy was presented a commendation by the Virginia General Assembly for her outstanding guidance, restoration and preservation of Maymont's gardens over 38 years.

Don't forget to bring cash or checks to our November meeting as our Sales Table will be offering great bargains.

***Chester Garden Club*** will feature baked goods on pretty dishes (perfect to put in your freezer for the holidays!). Also, you will find jam, jelly, conserve and pickles that make great holiday gifts, too!

***"We look forward to sharing the talents of our ladies with you! Our earnings provide scholarships for 4-H Campers". ~ Mary Musselwhite.***

**Also in November, *Sleepy Hollow*** will feature Note Cards, Containers, Flower Seeds, and gardening Items.

## December Sales Tables

### Midlothian and Oxford

At the December meeting, **Midlothian** will feature fresh evergreen wreaths, small pinecone trees and other Christmas items.

**Oxford** will offer pecans for your holiday baking.

**There are still available TABLES if your club wants to get in on the fun!**

We can accommodate two clubs in February and one more in April.

**Contact Jane VanDenburgh at 804-723-4214 or [vandenburghjane@gmail.com](mailto:vandenburghjane@gmail.com) to reserve a space.**

We realize that at the October meeting, the hallway was very congested with the tables, so we are working on a better set up for the upcoming months.

### ***December Christmas jewelry Sale!***

***In December we will have Christmas jewelry for sale so if you have any holiday pieces you no longer wear, try to bring them in NOVEMBER. (December is ok too). Novelty pieces that you may not want on your lapel could make adorable additions to gifts or cards.***

***Come prepared to shop in December! Cash or Check.***

*~ E & J*

## *Jewelry Boutique March 7, 2025*

***Please set aside some time to support our aspiring gardeners by helping us raise funds for Youth Gardening.***

### **How Can You Help?**

1. Sort through your costume jewelry and donate for our upcoming jewelry sale in March. Donations may be given to Erica Gilliam or Jane VanDenburgh at RCGC meetings.
2. Write yourself a note to "Talk this up at your next Garden Club or Master Gardener meeting."
3. Call one family member or friend (or more) that you will be seeing during the holidays and ask them to help as well.

We have already begun to get some lovely pieces. We and Youth Gardening cannot thank you enough.

*~Erica and Jane*



## Chairmen Reports

### Habitat For Humanity

*Jean Fender, Chairman*

**Sleepy Hollow GC** landscaped the side of one of the Habitat houses in Ashland on October 4<sup>th</sup>. They used plants donated by Karen Patterson and some of their members. Great Job!

**Northam GC** is planning to landscape the back or side of the other completed house in Ashland on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

**We were pleased to receive two \$100 Cross Creek Nursery gift cards from a friend of Fran Lecky, who heard her talk about helping habitat projects.** One gift card was designated for Habitat and the other for School Gardening. Since we would only purchase plants for Habitat, we are using both cards for Habitat and moving \$100 out of the Habitat Fund to School Gardening. This will be added to the donation we make at our annual meeting.

**Let me know if your club is interested in landscaping a Habitat house in the future.** There is another house nearing completion, but unsure if it will be ready for landscaping this fall or in the spring. **The RCGC Habitat Fund can reimburse up to \$300 per project to the club.**

Jean Fender, Habitat Chairman,  
[jean.fender@comcast.net](mailto:jean.fender@comcast.net) or  
804-218-9006

### School/Youth Gardening

*Martie Parch, Chairman*

Please ask your garden clubs to donate to RCGC School/Youth Gardening. The area Master Gardeners associations and 4-H programs benefit from your generosity. Individual donations are welcome also.

Thank you,  
Martie Parch

## Horticulture

### October Gardening Tips

*Jackie McDonnough, Chairman*

1. Plant onions, shallots, and garlic, and sow hardy peas like "Avola" or Meteor. Peg netting down over the beds to protect the seeds from mice and the bulbs from birds.
2. Plant daffodils, crocuses, and other spring bulbs, but wait until the end of October or the start of November to plant tulips to reduce disease risk.
3. Plant hyacinths and paperwhite daffodils in pots indoors for fragrant winter flowers. Look for bulbs that have specially prepared for indoor growing.
4. Fill pots with violas, cyclamens, and other winter bedding plants to give you color through the winter months.
5. Plant new shrubs and trees now while the soil is still warm from the summer and move plants that are in the wrong place.



6. Lift and divide summer-flowering perennials such as salvias, agapanthus, and hardy geraniums.
7. Aerate and scarify your lawn and give it the last cut before winter.
8. Cut tall shrub roses down by half to stop them from being damaged by high winds in winter, and prune rambling roses if not already done.
9. If at all possible- don't rake leaves from your beds, so overwintering insects will have a place to nest. If you do rake, use leaves to mulch vegetable and flower beds.
10. Cut back perennials as they fade but leave a few hollow flower stems and seedheads standing if you can to provide food for birds and homes for overwintering insects.

## Horticulture Therapy

*Cheryl Williams, Chairman*

### **Garden Clubs in Action!**

**Salisbury GC made 165 mini designs for Meals on Wheels on June 5<sup>th</sup> for National Garden Week.** The designs were distributed through the Central Baptist Church.

**On September 25<sup>th</sup>, as part of a four-part series of designs, Ginter Park GC helped residents of The Hermitage make 17 designs.** Their next design day with The Hermitage will be in December with David Pippin.

## Calendar of Events

October 23 - 27 - VMFA Fine Arts & Flowers

November 1 – RCGC Meeting

Nov 11-12 - VFGC Flower Show School Symposium Roanoke, VA

December 6 – RCGC Meeting- Designer Evelyn Klumb, presents Designs with an Asian Influence

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Powhatan GC Flower Show**

*Laura Divinski, President*

**Powhatan Garden Club is proud to announce that they will be hosting a Flower Show, May 3, 2025.** It is our first show in a very long time, and we are very excited. **It will be held at a Historic Chapel and Museum in the accompanying house, Michaux Venue in Powhatan.** We are fine tuning the time and theme, so stay tuned for updates in the next newsletter. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

**We are also submitting another float in the Powhatan Christmas parade and it's going to be our best one yet!** It will be full of flowers and fresh faces as we drive through the village. Bring your families. We will be giving away packets of flower seeds distributed by the float walkers along the street. **Powhatan really puts on a good show, come out and celebrate the holidays with us on December 7, 2024.**



## Grevillea

**Grevillea** was the red plant material that was featured in the centerpiece basket at the October meeting.

The genus was named in honor of Charles Frances Greville, co-founder of the Royal Horticultural Society.



**Grevillea**



*Thanks to Susan Blankenship, President of Pamunkey River GC, for sharing the information and photos with RCGC members.*

## Veggie Bars

*By Carolyn Snyder*

2 pkg. crescent rolls or crescent baking sheets

2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened

1 pkg. ranch-style dressing mix

1c. mayonnaise

$\frac{3}{4}$  c. each finely chopped vegetables: cauliflower, broccoli, carrots, onion (can use less onion if desired)

1 to 1 1/2 cups finely grated cheddar cheese

Make the bars the day before serving. Press crescent rolls into large, rimmed baking sheet (be sure to press together perforations).

Bake for 10 minutes at 350 degrees. Cool.

While crust is cooling, mix together cream cheese, mayonnaise, and dry ranch dressing mix. Reserve about one-half of the chopped vegetables for the topping and mix the remainder into the cream cheese mixture.

Spread cream cheese mixture over crust when cool. Sprinkle remaining finely chopped vegetables over mixture and press in. Top with cheese and press in again. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Slice into 48 bars before serving.

The Veggie Bars were served at the October meeting and many members requested the recipe! This recipe was in a Henrico Master Gardeners Cookbook.

**Courtesy of Susan Blankenship, Pamunkey River GC**

## **Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. Regular Meeting October 4, 2024 Minutes**

The October 4, 2024, meeting of the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. at the Church of the Epiphany, 8000 Hermitage Road, Henrico, VA was called to order by Co-First Vice President Cheryl Williams at 10:32 am. She announced that President Barbara Hollister is out of state for a funeral.

Chaplain Karla Ogden led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and offered a prayer as our devotional.

Johanna Gilbert confirmed that a quorum was present.

Presiding officer, Cheryl Williams recognized and thanked Highland Springs and Pamunkey River Garden Clubs for providing refreshments.

She announced that arrangements have been confirmed to hold our May annual luncheon meeting at the Richmond Country Club. A deposit of \$600 has been made for two rooms.

Co-second Vice President Jeanne Stigall presented a brief bio and description of today's program 'Bulbs as Companion Plants' by Brent Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs in Gloucester.

Today's minutes will be reviewed and approved by Jane Hays, Mary Penzer and Martie Parch before being published in the November newsletter.

Corresponding Secretary Susan Delsordo announced that the deadline for articles for the next newsletter will be October 11<sup>th</sup>.

Treasurer Jean Fender presented her report covering September 1 through September 30, 2024. Account balances as of September 30<sup>th</sup> are Checking - \$10,272.04, Money Market -

\$18,522.74, and Investments - \$391,672.06. The complete report is attached and will be filed for audit.

Conservation Chairman Evelyn Klumb reported that there is a new laundry product that will remove microfibers from your clothes as they wash. Google Cora Ball microfiber remover to find an online source and more information.

Habitat for Humanity Chairman Jean Fender reported that two houses are now being landscaped by Sleepy Hollow and Northam Garden Clubs. She has received a donation of two \$100 gift cards to support Habitat and School Gardening. Since School Gardening cannot use the gift card, it will be given to the Habitat fund and another \$100 will be designated for School Gardening.

Horticulture Chairman Jackie McDonnough gave her report covering tips for gardening activities in the Fall. The article will be submitted to the newsletter.

Horticulture Therapy Chairman Cheryl Williams recognized Salisbury Garden Club for making 160 miniature designs for distribution to Meals on Wheels through Central Baptist Church and Ginter Park Garden Club for a design workshop program at the Hermitage where residents are invited to make flower arrangements with four sessions planned. Cheryl encouraged other clubs to be innovative in providing flowers for nursing homes and other facilities. Council will reimburse clubs \$2 for each arrangement up to \$50 maximum.

Life Membership Chairman Kay Rafner reminded members that a life membership is a nice way to honor a club member with the \$50 going to Nature Camp.

Faye Moran substituted for Carole Hopkins, Recycled Pop Tops Chairman, thanking the clubs who brought in pop tops in September and this

month. She reminded members to label the bags with the club's name.

School/Youth Gardening Chairman Martie Parch asked members to encourage their clubs to donate to School/Youth Gardening.

We were reminded to give Jeanne Stigall feedback concerning our website.

Jewelry Sale Co-chairman Erica Gilliam urged members to collect costume jewelry for our sale in March which will benefit School/Youth Gardening. The committee will have Christmas jewelry available at the December meeting.

There being no old or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 11 am and Brent Heath gave an informative and entertaining presentation. Numerous members won bulbs or books donated by Brent and Becky's Bulbs.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane VanDenburgh, Recording Secretary

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

