

GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA JOURNAL



Fall 2023 | Volume LXVIII | No. 3



INSIDE

History Blooms! | Conservation Forum | GCV Awards | Fresh Produce

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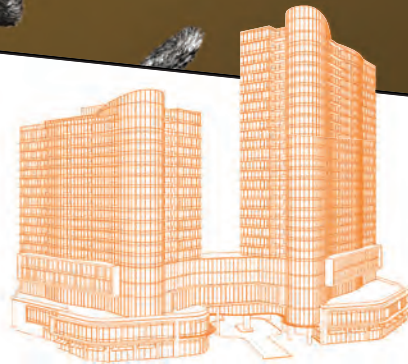
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THE GCV JOURNAL

The Garden Club of Virginia *Journal* is published quarterly and is designed to address the interests and promote the activities of the Garden Club of Virginia and its member clubs. Organized to enhance and strengthen communication within the GCV, the *Journal* focuses on the mission of the organization: conservation and beautification, horticulture, restoration and education. Approximately 3,500 copies of each issue are mailed to members and subscribers.

A PDF version is available online at gcvirginia.org.

SUBMISSIONS

The *Journal* welcomes submissions by GCV committees, clubs and club members, as well as article ideas related to the GCV's mission and its initiatives and events. As a matter of editorial policy, all submissions will be edited for clarity of expression, space, style compliance, grammar, syntax, structure and messaging. Unsolicited material will be considered, but submission does not guarantee publication. For questions, please contact journal@gcvirginia.org.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE & DEADLINES

ISSUES	PUBLISHES IN	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	RESERVE DEADLINE
Winter	December	October 15	October 1
Spring	March	January 15	January 1
Summer	June	April 15	April 1
Fall	September	July 15	July 1

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Advertising inquiries are welcome. Discounts are available to clubs and club members; frequency discounts are also available.

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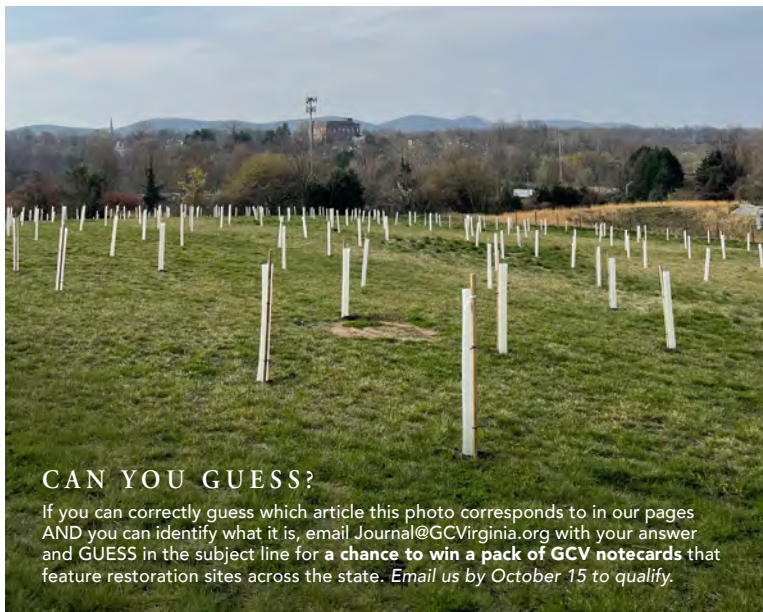
The Garden Club of Virginia is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. 12 East Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23219.

The *Journal* is printed by Carter Printing Company (ISSN 0431-0233) and is published four times a year for members by the GCV.

Graphic Design by Whitney Tigani Design

Periodical postage paid (USPS 574-520) in Richmond, Va.

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If you can correctly guess which article this photo corresponds to in our pages AND you can identify what it is, email Journal@GCVirginia.org with your answer and GUESS in the subject line for a chance to win a pack of GCV notecards that feature restoration sites across the state. Email us by October 15 to qualify.



THE MISSION OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA:

To conserve the gifts of nature, to restore and preserve historic landscapes of the commonwealth, to cultivate the knowledge and love of gardening and to lead future generations to build on this heritage.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

The ownership, management and circulation of the Garden Club of Virginia's *Journal*, published four times a year in Richmond, Virginia, is hereby stated.

The name and address of the publisher is: Garden Club of Virginia, Kent-Valentine House, 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. The name and address of the editor is: Madeline Mayhood, 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. The owner is: Garden Club of Virginia, Kent-Valentine House, 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. There are no bond holders, mortgages or security holders.

The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal Income Tax purposes have not changed during the preceding 12 months.

The total number of copies published nearest the filing date is 3,600. The average number of copies published in the preceding 12 months is 3,600. There are no sales through dealers, etc. Paid subscriptions average 3,500; the number nearest the filing date is 3,442. Other mailed copies average 12. Free distribution averages 0. The average number of copies not distributed for the preceding year is 200. The average number of copies not distributed nearest the filing date is 250.

The *Journal* Editor requests permission to mail The Garden Club of Virginia's *Journal* at the phased postal rates presently authorized on form 3526 for USPS #574-520 (ISSN 0431-0233). I certify that the statements made here are correct and complete as listed in the Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation.

Madeline Mayhood, *Journal* Editor
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 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23219

Postmaster, please send address changes to:
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9/15/2023



ABOVE LEFT: City of Lynchburg captures 2023 Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award



ABOVE CENTER: Karla Smith is a 2023 Conservation Educator Award recipient



ABOVE RIGHT: Dr. Woody Bousquet is a 2023 Conservation Educator Award recipient

COVER ART: *Lady With a Trowel*, by Janie Vaughan, Hillside Garden Club

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DON'T MISS! Dive into **three GCV events** in our features, starting on page 20.

ON THE COVER: ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

JANIE VAUGHAN

Janie Vaughan's painting, *Lady With a Trowel*, caught our eye here at the Journal. We thought you'd enjoy it on our fall cover. Using a technique called "pouring," Janie's watercolors take on a distinct character. Pouring is accomplished in stages, and it usually does not involve painting with a brush. Instead, paint is poured, sometimes using a medicine dropper, to manipulate color, subjects, and positive and negative space.

Growing up, art was always a part of Janie's life—looking at art, making art, appreciating art. "As a child playing with crayons and colored pencils," the Martinsville native recalls, her dad and her brother, Buck, would watch her and eventually suggested she "mix colors together and make some shadows." She says their advice made her think of coloring books in a different way, even as a young child.

After getting married and settling in Lynchburg with her husband, David, art classes followed—first in the 1980s at the Lynchburg Art Club, and then workshops in Myrtle Beach. She was taught by various instructors, who provided her experiences with different perspectives and techniques. "It was Jean Grastorf who taught me to 'pour' watercolor pigments onto the paper," Janie says. "That method is what I use the most—for landscapes as well as people." Today, she's a signature member of the Virginia Watercolor Society, and sometimes she's been in juried shows. "Art and flowers are fun hobbies," she says.

Janie has strong ties to the GCV, where the women in her family—her mother, her sisters, her grandmother and her aunts—were all members of either Martinsville Garden Club or Garden Study Club. Being a resident of Lynchburg, she's been a member of Hillside Garden Club since 1982 and was an Artistic Judge for GCV flower shows for many years. She recalls great memories of all of garden club experiences.

"Our Lynchburg garden has had a variety of plants," Janie says, "but by far David and I have had the most success with daffodils." She adds that her uncle was daffodil hybridizer Bill Pannill, who gifted the couple many bulbs to get their garden started. His passion was contagious: today Janie enjoys entering American Daffodil Society shows and loves sharing blooms and bouquets.

—Madeline Mayhood, The James River Garden Club



Lady with a Trowel, watercolor, 13.5" x 9.5," by Janie Vaughan, Hillside Garden Club, Lynchburg

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IN THE GARDEN OF LIFE



A few years ago, I received a special gift for my garden, a lovely plaque inscribed with a proverb that speaks to my heart: "Friends are the flowers in the garden of life." This sentiment beautifully captures one of the greatest rewards we receive as engaged members of the Garden Club of Virginia: *valued friendships*.

We connect through our love of gardening and our passion to conserve the gifts of nature and

restore and preserve historic landscapes. As we gather for committee meetings, forums, workshops, special events, and GCV's hallmark event, Historic Garden Week, we have the unique opportunity to build special friendships with fellow members from across the Commonwealth.

For several years, GCV membership surveys have shown that social connections and camaraderie are important benefits of being a GCV member. Meeting others through our statewide network who share the same interests can be profoundly rewarding and fulfilling.

The *Journal* is an important tool to support these connections. These pages share member club activities, upcoming events, re-caps of major events, and educational articles written by members for members. I love learning about the talented artists within our GCV family whose artwork graces each cover. The "Snips" section always makes me marvel at the variety and the impact of activities that our clubs undertake.

I hope you find the same inspiration that I do to engage in all that GCV has to offer, as shared via the *Journal*, and embrace the possibilities of making new friends through GCV.

The Garden Club of Virginia stands as a testament to what can be achieved when passionate individuals come together with a common purpose. Our camaraderie has illuminated the way, guiding us through projects and initiatives that have made—and continue to make—a lasting difference.

I thank you for your dedication, engagement and the friendships that make our GCV journey extraordinary.

Debbie Lewis
GCV President, 2022-2024



NEW! GCV NOTECARDS

GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA: PRESERVING VIRGINIA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE THROUGH HISTORIC GARDEN RESTORATION

Since 1929, the GCV has preserved and restored more than 50 public historic landscapes and gardens throughout Virginia.

This important work is possible due to the efforts of GCV members who produce Historic Garden Week tours in their communities.

This first set in a series represents a selection of our projects through photos taken by GCV members and friends. The photos have been digitally converted to a lovely watercolor effect.

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Directional signs are sparse around Fire Island.



My husband, Clay, strolls beside his Aunt Teddi on her bike.

A TIME TO REBOOT

Hello GCV Friends,

Writing to you from Fire Island, New York, smack in the middle of Great South Bay off the southern coast of Long Island. Everyone should experience life here. There are no cars, and we walk or bike everywhere on paths or meandering, well-worn labyrinthine boardwalks that connect the island's 19 hamlets.

We shower outdoors and take a mile-long stroll to Fair Harbor to grab the Sunday *New York Times* and iced coffees. Cash only, too. Every now and then, entrepreneurial stands emerge. Today we spotted homemade shell jewelry artfully displayed on a stump. Everything's \$1, a scrawled sign read, and there's a Ball jar honor system for collecting money. We bumped into an ambitious gaggle of nine-year olds who'd set up a fresh-squeezed orange juice stand. It's \$5 a cup that Paul, clearly the group's CEO, tells me. "Strained with ice?" he asks, all business. It's 8:30 in the morning, and the fresh cold juice is delicious.

Fire Island is full of tiny towns, which dot the 32 miles of this super-skinny barrier island. Each has its own personality and vibe, from the tony enclave Point o' Woods—dubbed Scarsdale-by-the-Sea, with its own private ferry service—to hamlets like Cherry Grove and The Pines that have provided refuge and relief to gay communities for over a century.



Happy and Holly secure on their perch aboard the Miss Teddi II en route to Lonelyville.

We are in Lonelyville with my husband's aunt and uncle, who have been coming to Fire Island for decades. There are 72 houses in this secluded part of the island's mid-section. Lonelyville is between Atlantique and Dunewood, but you'd never know it. There is no village or shop, and vegetation is dense and prolific, with vitex and Russian sage in full purple bloom, plus elaeagnus, scrub pine, plume poppies, Rose of Sharon, crape myrtle, wax myrtle, and barberry everywhere. One of the most curious sites was the local doctor's office next to the fire station in Fair Harbor: the front yard was full of jimsonweed (*Datura stramonium*), which I learn is deadly. A member of the nightshade family, it causes tachycardia, hallucinations and is usually fatal. It's quite lovely, though, with deep aubergine stems, hibiscus-like foliage and blossoms, and spiked seed pods that could double as medieval torture instruments. Did the town doctor know what was growing in her garden?

Directional signs are nearly nonexistent, except for an occasional "Beach Access" or "Ferries." We got here by boat—Uncle Skip's Grady White. Once he'd moored at the communal dock, we loaded our bags into a garden cart and toodled along the two-minute walk to their beachfront house.

I'm relishing this long weekend here. It harkens back to simpler, uncomplicated times. It's been restorative and relaxing—and then some. For me, it's been a chance to reboot and refresh, surrounded by family and fellowship—and a brisk ocean breeze.

I hope you, too, can have a late summer reboot to welcome fall. This issue of the *Journal* might be a good start.

Happy reading!

Madeline Mayhood

Madeline Mayhood, GCV Journal Editor
journal@gcvirginia.org
The James River Garden Club

Winterizing Outdoor Spigots

Try this DIY trick to avoid disaster.



Has your basement ever flooded because your outside spigot froze during the winter?

Did you ever have to have an entire wall of your house demolished and rebuilt because you neglected to winterize said spigot and water froze, thawed, and exploded like a geyser inside your dining room? This is a giant headache that can be simply and inexpensively avoided.

If you're a DIY person and want to avoid the cost of calling a plumber to winterize your exterior hose bibs, you can buy an inexpensive outdoor faucet cover on Amazon for less than \$5. It's shaped somewhat like a bell, has a rubber gasket for sealing purposes, is made of polystyrene and attaches to

the spigot with an adjustable string-lock.

But more than likely, you have all you need around your house to completely DIY this important fall task. And best of all, it'll cost you nothing. It's embarrassingly simple: all it takes is one thick sock, a quart-sized plastic bag, and a rubber band. Follow these step-by-step instructions to the right.

Voilà. Your spigot will stay warm and toasty all winter long. 🌿



Triple fold one thick sock. Place it over the spigot so that it's snug against your house.



Place a quart plastic bag over the sock, again so it's also snug against your house.



Secure with a rubber band. If you want extra security, wrap the whole shebang with duct tape.



Be Joyful

Celebrate daffodils and the Garden Club of Virginia with a lasting addition to your spring garden next year by planting the **GCV's 2023 Daffodil Collection, "Joyful"**, this fall. Our friends Brent & Becky Heath at Brent & Becky's Bulbs in Gloucester have



Double Narcissus 'Sweet Ocean'

curated this happy collection, which includes five of the 13 Narcissus divisions—'Happy Smiles,' 'Sweet Ocean,' 'Sugar Dipped,' 'Silver Smiles' and 'Dancing Moonlight.'

\$27 for 15 bulbs.

To order, specify item #47-0155 online or via their catalog. BrentandBeckysBulbs.com 🌿



GCV Monthly Virtual Learning Series

Cultivating Conversations is an exciting new, free, and members-only monthly virtual learning series and a great opportunity to connect with fellow GCV members throughout the state. Topics are presented by member experts and range from flower arranging with garden materials to tips for entering horticulture into flower

shows, as well as insights into GCV's restoration program. Each session will feature small group discussions and a Q&A session with our subject expert(s). Participants will also hear about past Conservation Fellowship activities, learn how to garden with sustainability in mind, and talk about the latest advice for taking care of our pollinators.



Whether you are new to GCV or are a long-standing member, each session promises to delight and inspire conversation between fellow nature-lovers. Our first session, *Designing Your Garden for Seasonal Arranging*, will share advice for developing a home garden that will produce stunning plant materials throughout the season and show gardeners how to use their beautiful plant materials in home arrangements.

Participation is free and open to GCV members. Registration is required. Register on the GCV website, grab your happy hour snack and beverage of choice, and join us for our first session **Monday, Sept. 18, from 5-6:30 p.m., via Zoom.** 🌿

—by **Andrea Butler**



GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

GCV AWARD DEADLINES

Don't miss these important deadlines for GCV's awards. For details, nomination forms and additional info, visit GCVirginia.org

NOVEMBER 1, 2023

- Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award

DECEMBER 1, 2023

- Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement

MARCH 1, 2024

- Common Wealth Award
- de Lacy Gray Memorial Medal for Conservation
- Horticulture Award of Merit

September 30 is the deadline for clubs to vote for the 2023 Common Wealth Award. Head to GCVirginia.org to read about this year's proposals.

GARDEN OF GLASS at the MSV



At the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester, don't miss Craig Mitchell Smith's *Garden of Glass* exhibition. This collection of larger-than-life floral glass sculptures are on display throughout the MSV gardens until October 13. Smith, one of the most innovative glass artists in the country, creates floral forms in kiln-fired glass. His artwork has been displayed in Epcot Center in Disney World, Missouri Botanical Garden, and many other locations. Exclusively for the MSV display, Smith created the likeness of apple blossoms, an homage to Winchester's most famous crop. TheMSV.org 🌿

Cooking with Clare

This recipe comes to us from intrepid home cook, cookbook author and James River Garden Club member, Clare Schapiro. For the uninitiated, Clare is legendary in the kitchen, and for the culinary curious, her long-running column in the *Richmond Times Dispatch* is sorely missed. She reminds us that the early days of fall are a wonderful time to capture the last morsels of summer's bounty. Give her Peach and Blueberry Crostata a whirl. Oh, and don't forget the vanilla ice cream!

PEACH AND BLUEBERRY CROSTATATA

Serves 6

For Crostata:

- 1 pie crust, *homemade is preferable*
- 6 small ripe peaches, *pitted, peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks*
- 1/2 pint blueberries (or some combination of fruit you have in hand to make approximately 2 cups)
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 1 orange, the zest grated and the juice from that orange

For Crostata Topping:

- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup flour
- 6 ounces cold unsalted butter, *chopped*

Preheat the oven to 400°F.

Place parchment paper on a large cookie sheet and set aside.

In a large bowl, combine the peaches and the blueberries with the flour, sugar, orange zest and orange juice and toss to combine. Set aside.

In a smaller bowl, combine the topping ingredients and cut them together with a



pastry blender or two knives until they are fully combined and the crumb resembles small peas in size.

Roll out pastry ball until it is a large circle, not being too careful if it's a big raggedy and not a perfectly formed circle. This will add to the rustic appearance you're going for.

Put the pastry circle onto the cookie sheet and heap the fruit in the middle of it. Put the topping on top and squash the sides of the pastry up and around the fruit, leaving lots of the crumb-covered fruit peeking out over the top.

Bake it for about 25 minutes or until it the pastry is a deep golden brown. Cool the crostata on a wire rack, and allow it to cool slightly before cutting it into wedges and serving it with vanilla ice cream.

Clare's Kitchen is available for purchase on Amazon and at ClaresKitchen.net

Moving Beyond “Spray-Centric” Plant Pest Management

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an ecosystem-based approach to landscape plant health care. IPM is designed to sustain plant health and performance through strategically implemented actions in order to minimize unintended human, ecological, and environmental effects.

A GOOD IPM PROGRAM STARTS WITH REGULAR INSPECTIONS OF THE LANDSCAPE, WITH THE GOAL OF IDENTIFYING:

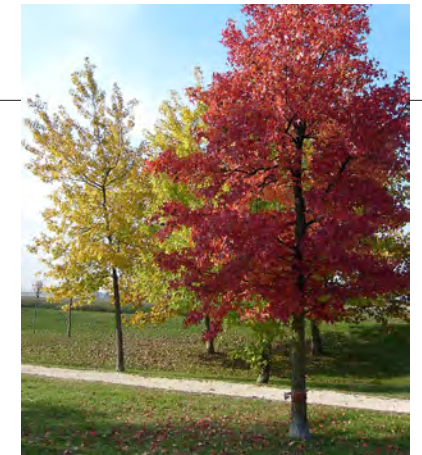
- Underlying plant health issues
- which pests and diseases are present and at what densities
- what damage they've caused or are likely to cause

Using this information, a variety of management approaches (e.g., biological, cultural, chemical) can then be combined to maximize the likelihood of long-term pest control.

In recent years, the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories staff has researched novel approaches to insect and disease management that aim to limit the use of conventional, broad-spectrum products that can adversely affect non-target plants or beneficial organisms. For example, we have begun examining ways in which growing degree-day calculations—which provide an indicator of when specific pest species are active in different geographic areas—could be made available to all Bartlett offices across the world, and with regular updates.

Additionally, we continue to explore the efficacy of various commercially available beneficial insects, such as natural predators of pests, and the potential of successfully incorporating them into our IPM programs.

In the eastern United States, trunk injection applications are a common method for protecting



native trees from serious pest threats such as Dutch elm disease and emerald ash borer. Directly injecting into the root flare versus the trunk is an emerging technique that has been shown to reduce the effect of tree wounding, enhance rate of uptake, and result in a more even crown distribution. Often these systemic injections offer several months or years of efficacy whereas a foliar spray might need to be repeated multiple times per year.

At Bartlett, we consider all available treatment methods and recommend the most appropriate course of action for each situation. Our laboratory staff continually evaluates new techniques and materials and trains our Plant Health Care Specialists in an ongoing effort to provide responsible and sustainable management for the health of landscape trees and shrubs.

**—Chris B. Riley, PhD, Entomologist
Bartlett Tree Experts**



Graphic courtesy of Virginia Tech Extension



Photos from Pixabay

Significant Gifts Reflect Club and GCV's Mission

Rivanna Garden Club (RGC) celebrated our club's Centennial with a luncheon at the Keswick Hunt Club on our actual birthday—November 16, 2022. We enjoyed a traditional menu—circa 1922—and our judged table arrangements represented each decade of our 100 years. Many of our members dressed in period attire. It was a memorable day.

We also commemorated our Centennial with a contribution of \$12,000 to Monticello, which was used to plant 52 trees intended to resemble Thomas Jefferson's vision. Additionally, we contributed \$13,000 to the Ivy Creek Natural Area, a 219-acre preserve just north of Charlottesville. Funds replaced a rock wall at River View Farm, an original African American farmstead. These projects directly complement RGC's mission of community beautification, environmental stewardship and education, as well as that of the Garden Club of Virginia.

MONTICELLO: JEFFERSON'S GROVE RESTORATION

In 1806, Thomas Jefferson drew a sketch of Monticello Mountain and designated 18 acres on the northwestern side, which he called the "Grove." Jefferson intended it to be an ornamental forest with undergrowth removed and trees



TOP: This aerial view of Monticello shows Jefferson's affinity for trees. BELOW: The Grove at Monticello. Photo courtesy of Nina Haghighi. BELOW: Many of the trees in Jefferson's Grove were impacted by invasives. Photo courtesy of TreeStewards



pruned and thinned. He modeled the Grove after the English gardens depicted in landscape paintings and those he saw throughout his travels. He often gave tours to visitors of his "pet trees."

Jefferson revered trees, planting more than 160 species. He envisioned the Grove as a large canvas of lofty shade specimens.

But, in reality, many were not suitable to the mountaintop climate of Central Virginia, and invariably substitutions were made over the years.

Since 1923, the Thomas Jefferson Foundation has continued Jefferson's legacy with a commitment to active stewardship and education. However, by 1976, it was clear that the original Grove needed restoration. Over the years many of the trees in Jefferson's Grove had outlived their lifespan, had succumbed to disease or were heavily damaged in storms.

To address the challenges presented at the Grove, the foundation hired a landscape architect and a restoration specialist to research Jefferson's original design. They produced a cohesive plan, weaving Jefferson's original concepts into their design. It was approved and installed on the slope near the West Lawn. RGC's grant replaced 52 trees in the Grove in 2022.

IVY CREEK NATURAL AREA: RESTORATION OF ROCK WALL AND GROUNDS AT RIVER VIEW FARM

River View Farm is a rare surviving example of the Union Ridge/Hydraulic Mills community of African American farmers, pastors, craftspeople and businessmen founded by the Carr and Greer families that flourished in the region beginning in late 19th century. Its founder, Hugh Carr, was born into slavery and acquired the farm's first 58 acres shortly after emancipation. By 1890, the land encompassed more than 125 acres, making Carr among the largest African American landowners in Albemarle County at the time.

Although Hugh and his wife, Texie Mae, were not educated, they made education a priority for their children. Five of their seven offspring received college degrees and became teachers and leaders in their own communities.

The Carr's eldest daughter, Mary, married Conly Greer, Albemarle County's first African American extension agent. Mary was an avid gardener and held leadership roles within several African American garden clubs and councils. She was especially known for her floral arrangements. Guests at River View Farm at that time enjoyed tours of her gardens.

Mary lived at River View Farm until her death in 1975. Founding members of the Ivy Creek Foundation (ICF) collaborated with the Nature Conservancy after her death to preserve what became known as the Ivy Creek Natural Area (ICNA). Recognizing the cultural significance of River View Farm and its history, the Foundation worked to save and preserve the documents found at the farm. They are now part of the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library at UVA. The farm is now a site on the Virginia Landmark Registry of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

The Rivanna Garden Club's history with Ivy Creek goes back decades. In 1997, the club received a \$5,000 Common Wealth Award to landscape the Education Building with a native plant focus "as a component in passive heating and cooling and as a means to attract wildlife." Landscape architect Ian Robertson was selected for the design, which also included a strong educational component. Additionally, the design encouraged children to interact with the space; plants were chosen with distinctive shapes, fragrances and textures, and a rock wall was built at a height for optimal wildlife-watching.

For over 40 years, ICF's small, dedicated staff and hundreds of volunteers have created and maintained seven miles of Ivy Creek's trails, a pollinator garden, and now the grounds around the home at River View Farm. In the recent past, ICNA volunteers and staff have cleared invasive plants and trees to reveal Robertson's original rock wall and garden. They have worked with UVA researchers and Rivanna Master Naturalists to identify the historic plants and to create a restoration plan. Among ICF's priorities was to



L-R: RGC past president Michelle Jennings with current RGC president Mary Howard at Keswick Hunt Club. Photo by Robyn Bethke, Rivanna Garden Club

RIVANNA TRIVIA

Sixteen women met for their first garden club meeting on November 16, 1922. Originally named The Rivanna River Garden Club, its name was eventually abbreviated to Rivanna Garden Club. "Rivanna" gets its name from "River Anna," named for the Queen of England.

replace the deteriorating retaining wall, which had been overrun with invasives. RGC's 2023 Centennial contribution to Ivy Creek made this a reality. 🌿

—by Susan Martin and Judith Peatross, Rivanna Garden Club

BOTTOM: The Carr-Greer family home at River View Farm. INSET: Hugh Carr, circa 1900, who founded River View Farm, was one of the largest African American landowners in Albemarle County at the time. Photos courtesy of Ivy Creek Foundation

IMMEDIATELY BELOW: The gardens at Ivy Creek Natural Area are native plant focused. Photo courtesy of Ivy Creek Foundation



Members of Rivanna Garden Club at their Centennial Celebration at Keswick Hunt Club. Photo by Robyn Bethke, Rivanna Garden Club

celebrating
100 Years

WHERE HISTORY IS
ALWAYS IN BLOOM.



FALL PLANT SALE, OCTOBER 7

Come to George Washington's Mount Vernon and shop for heirloom plants, native perennials, trees and shrubs grown on the estate.

Estate admission is not required to shop.

mountvernon.org/fallplantsale

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S
MOUNT ★ VERNON

THE MOUNT VERNON LADIES' ASSOCIATION



APPLAUSE: AWARDS & ACCOLADES



**City of Lynchburg
 Captures Prestigious
 GCV Award**

CONSERVATION EXCELLENCE
 IS HALLMARK OF ELIZABETH
 CABELL DUGDALE AWARD

Lynchburg, Virginia, a city with a rich history dating back to its founding in 1757, has emerged as an outstanding example of conservation excellence. Through its unwavering commitment to environmental preservation and sustainable practices, Lynchburg has earned numerous accolades and national recognition.

The Garden Club of Virginia is proud to present the City of Lynchburg with the Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award for Meritorious Achievement in Conservation.

Named after Mrs. Arthur A. Dugdale of the Ashland Garden Club, an exemplary member of the GCV, who was instrumental in founding the Conservation Forum, this award celebrates organizations, industries, and individuals not affiliated with the GCV who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to conservation. First introduced in 1974, and later named in honor of Mrs. Dugdale in 1989, this award recognizes those who have made significant contributions to the preservation and enhancement of the natural world.

Lynchburg's journey toward conservation excellence is a testament to the city's enduring commitment to environmental stewardship. Over the years, this historic city has consistently demonstrated a profound understanding of the interconnectedness between its urban landscape and the surrounding natural environment. From its very beginnings, with the creation of an 18-acre public space in 1862, Lynchburg's dedication to conservation has evolved into a profound legacy of sustainable practices.



The numerous accolades garnered by Lynchburg over the years bear witness to its status as a conservation leader. The city's partnership with the Lynchburg Garden Club in launching Operation Plant-A-Tree in 1981 exemplifies its innovative approach to promoting green initiatives. The program, which utilized proceeds from recycling to plant thousands of trees, resulted in an urban canopy that enhances air quality and supports local wildlife.

Lynchburg's designation as one of Virginia's earliest Tree Cities in 1983, in collaboration with the Arbor Day Foundation, further underscores its commitment to nurturing a thriving urban ecosystem. The city's efforts in creating LEAF (Lynchburg Expressway Appearance Fund) in 1991 and upgrading its historic downtown with Dark-Sky compliant lighting and pollinator-friendly plantings in 2022 reflect a comprehensive approach to conservation that considers both aesthetics and ecological impact.

In 2019, Lynchburg's decision to become a Bee City USA demonstrated its dedication to pollinator protection and ecosystem health. The city's leadership in

adopting No Mow April in 2023 to support pollinators further exemplifies its proactive stance in addressing environmental challenges.

The most recent initiative, in 2023, involving the planting of 3,000 native trees by Lynchburg's Urban Forester showcases a commitment to restoring wildlife habitats and managing noise pollution, highlighting the city's dedication to addressing multifaceted conservation concerns.

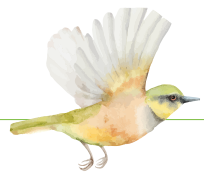
The city's dedication to environmental preservation, sustainable development, and fostering a harmonious relationship between its urban landscape and nature sets an inspiring example for communities across the nation.

By recognizing Lynchburg's achievements with the Dugdale Award, the Garden Club of Virginia celebrates not only the city's successes but also the broader significance of conservation efforts that inspire positive change beyond the city and throughout the Commonwealth.

—Marie Thomas, GCV
 Conservation Awards Chairman,
 The Augusta Garden Club



Lynchburg photos courtesy of
 City of Lynchburg, Office of
 Economic Development & Tourism



Two Outstanding Environmental Champions Honored with the GCV's Conservation Educator Award

Since its inception in 2016, the Conservation Educator Award has celebrated the tireless efforts of individuals and organizations dedicated to fostering environmental stewardship and conservation values within educational contexts. This award, established by the Garden Club of Virginia, aims to recognize those who embody the spirit of preserving the natural world and inspire the next generation to become passionate caretakers of our planet. The two remarkable recipients of this award for 2023 are Karla Smith and Dr. Woodward Bousquet.

Karla Smith and Dr. "Woody" Bousquet stand as shining examples of individuals who have transformed educational environments into platforms for environmental awareness and stewardship. Their innovative approaches, unwavering dedication and impactful initiatives have not only shaped young minds but also contributed to the conservation ideals cherished by the Garden Club of Virginia. Through their inspiring work, they remind us that education is a powerful tool for nurturing a generation that will safeguard the natural world for years to come.



Karla Smith:
CHAMPIONING WATERWAYS
AND ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION

Karla Smith is a true champion for Suffolk's waterways and history. As an educator with Chesapeake Public Schools from 1971 to 2009, she blended history, geography and environmental science to engage her students in experiential outdoor learning. Her passion for educating the next generation led her to cofound the Nansemond River Preservation Alliance (NRPA) in 2010, headquartered in Suffolk. Smith's dedication to environmental education has left an indelible mark on her community.

One of Smith's significant contributions is the Oyster Restoration Program, which she initiated in her elementary school classroom and later expanded under NRPA. This program not only aligns with Virginia's curriculum standards but

also nurtures a deep understanding of wetlands, water quality, and environmental stewardship among students. Through summer training workshops and outdoor field studies, Smith ensures that young minds are equipped with vital scientific skills while fostering a genuine appreciation for the intricate relationships in our environment. What started as a small classroom project blossomed into the Nansemond Watershed Initiative (NWI), engaging thousands of 7th-grade students to learn about the interconnectedness of plants, animals, and waterways.

Smith's innovative spirit also shines through her creation of The Watershed Explorers (WE) program in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19

pandemic. This program, tailored for 3rd grade students, combines education and fun through interactive learning kits, marine life stickers, and engaging videos. By adapting to changing circumstances, Smith continues to inspire and educate young minds about the importance of preserving local waterways.

Her impact doesn't stop in the classroom. Smith played a pivotal role in the inclusion of the Nansemond River in the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. Her efforts led to the installation of kiosks and maps highlighting the river's history, ecology, wildlife, and river access points.

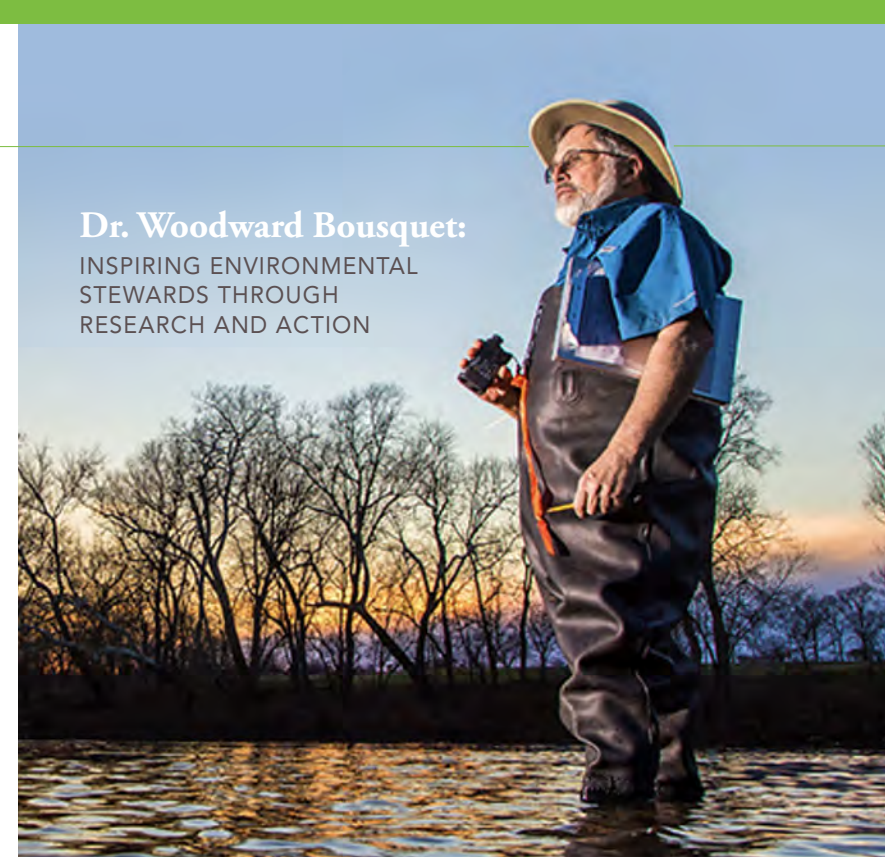
Smith's dedication and unwavering commitment to environmental education led to her recognition as the First Citizen of Suffolk in 2018, a well-deserved accolade for her contributions as an educator, historian, author, and community leader.

Dr. Woodward Bousquet, fondly known as Woody, has dedicated his career to shaping the next generation of environmental leaders. With a Ph.D. in Science Education from Ohio State University, Dr. Bousquet taught at the university level for 37 years, including 26 years at Shenandoah University, from which he retired in August 2019 as Professor of Environmental Studies and Biology.

Bousquet's teaching philosophy centers on a hands-on approach, where research plays a pivotal role in preparing students to tackle complex environmental issues. Field trips and service-learning projects have been hallmarks of his teaching style. Beginning in 1993, Bousquet led

his undergraduate students at Shenandoah University in wetland studies, water quality investigations, ecological inventories of natural areas, and environmental education projects ... all in the Shenandoah Valley region. His approach has resulted in initiatives that extend beyond the classroom and directly impact the community. His students have presented research at prestigious conferences, shaping conservation efforts, and even influencing the master plan of a National Park.

A significant achievement of Bousquet's career is his involvement in the Abrams Creek Wetlands Preserve (ACWP). Recognizing the importance of these wetlands, he collaborated with students and community organizations to protect and educate the public about the preserve's ecological significance. Through research, presentations, and partnerships, Bousquet ensured the preservation of this vital habitat, earning accolades and awards for his efforts. The Preserve's establishment in 2003 marked a significant milestone for Winchester's environmental conservation efforts. In 2012, Bousquet and his Shenandoah University undergraduates were recognized by the Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers Association for their "grassroots conservation" work. They were instrumental in studying, protecting, and educating the public about the Abrams Creek Wetlands in Winchester and Frederick County, Virginia.



Dr. Woodward Bousquet:
INSPIRING ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDS THROUGH
RESEARCH AND ACTION

Bousquet's influence is not confined to academia. His partnership with the Winchester-Clarke Garden Club and the City of Winchester led to the Preserve's recognition and ongoing management. The collaborative efforts were acknowledged with the Garden Club of Virginia's Bessie Bock Carter Conservation Award and the Garden Club of America Founder's Fund Award.

Bousquet has received Shenandoah University's Exemplary Teaching Award, and he received the same award from Warren Wilson College

in Asheville, NC. He was a Fulbright Exchange Scholar in Canada in 2000. He has served the Virginia Academy of Science in a number of capacities, including as the Academy's President in 2018-2019. His commitment to community involvement, conservation, and education aligns seamlessly with the values upheld by the Garden Club of Virginia.

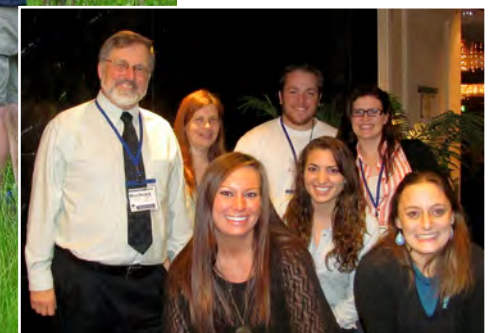
—**Marie Thomas, GCV Conservation Awards Chairman, The Augusta Garden Club**



LEFT: Shenandoah University environmental studies students with Dr. Bousquet at Abrams Creek Wetlands Preserve.

BELOW: Dr. Woody Bousquet surrounded by his students at a recent conference in Maryland.

Photos courtesy of Woody Bousquet





history blooms

GCV & VMHC launches collaborative event this October



History Blooms, a dynamic three-day program in October highlighting the state's history and horticulture, represents another outstanding partnership between the Garden Club of Virginia and the Virginia Museum of History & Culture (VMHC).

Enjoy special lectures, workshops and demonstrations, and engaging activities focused on Virginia history, gardening, and landscape preservation. In addition, several dozen stunning floral displays prepared by the Garden Club of Virginia's member clubs will be presented throughout the museum—themed for the regions and historic landscapes of the Commonwealth—allowing guests to immerse themselves in a unique statewide storytelling experience.

A LONGSTANDING PARTNERSHIP

The VMHC and GCV have collaborated over many decades. For years, the VMHC has helped steward GCV's archives. Most recently the GCV and VMHC teamed up to spotlight the GCV's 2020 Centennial through a special exhibition. History Blooms, rooted in the partnership formed around the GCV's Centennial, will continue weaving together the missions of the two organizations and strengthening this unique bond.

HISTORY BLOOMS DATES

Guest Presenters: Friday-Saturday, October 6-7

Special Events: Friday-Saturday, October 6-7

Floral Displays & Experiences : Saturday-Sunday, October 7-8

Magnolia glauca.

Lith of Endicott.

Swamp Magnolia or Sweet Bay.

history blooms

Friday, October 6, and Saturday, October 7, includes lectures, demonstration, and workshops focused on historic preservation, landscape design, and gardening topics both past and present.

GUEST PRESENTERS



Christian Geall, author of *Cultivated: Elements of Floral Style*



Nancy Ross Hugo, author of *Remarkable Trees of Virginia*, and **Kate Hugo Vernon**, owner of The Arranger's Market



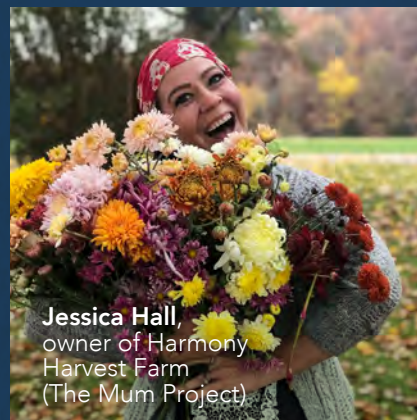
P. Allen Smith, author and TV personality from *P. Allen Smith's Garden Home* and *P. Allen Smith's Garden to Table*



J. Dean Norton, Director of Horticulture at George Washington's Mount Vernon



Abra Lee, author of *Conquer the Soil: Black America and the Untold Stories of our Country's Gardeners, Farmers, and Growers*



Jessica Hall, owner of Harmony Harvest Farm (The Mum Project)



Thomas Lloyd and Bryan Huffman, authors of *Garden Secrets of Bunny Mellon* and *Bunny Mellon Garden Journal*



Libbey Oliver, former manager, Colonial Williamsburg Flower Arranging Department and author of *Flowers Are Almost Forever*



Margot Shaw, editor in chief of *Flower Magazine* and author of *Living Floral*, and **Sybil Sylvester**, owner of Wildflower Designs and author of *Fresh*

SPECIAL EVENTS

First Fridays at the VMHC:

A special edition of *First Fridays at the VMHC* will take place on **October 6 from 5-8 p.m.** with garden related activities planned for young visitors, including demonstrations related to trees, flowers and beekeeping.

history blooms luncheon

Enjoy lunch with friends and **experience the influence of Bunny Mellon on Saturday, October 7.** Mrs. Mellon's grandson, **Thomas Lloyd**, and **Bryan Huffman**, an interior designer and dear friend of Bunny Mellon, will host an armchair journey of her life, style philosophies, and renowned interest in gardening and horticulture. A book signing will follow.

history blooms dinner

Relish in festive cocktails and then gather around the garden table the evening of **Saturday October 7.** Enjoy a presentation by Director of Horticulture at George Washington's Mount Vernon, **J. Dean Norton**, speaking on his storied career caring for and restoring Washington's iconic gardens and landscape.

FLORAL DISPLAYS & EXPERIENCES

GCV Displays
Dozens of floral creations prepared by the GCV's statewide clubs representing Virginia's distinct regions, landscapes, and parks will be on display: **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, October 7, Sunday, October 8.**

VMHC Displays
Gardening and flower-related archival treasures from the VMHC's historic collection will be on display at in the VMHC library: **11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, October 7, Sunday, October 8.**



TICKETS for lectures, workshops, and other events and programs are on sale now. The discount code for GCV members is GCVBLOOMS. Flower display access included with admission. First Fridays at the VMHC is free! For ticketing information scan the QR code or visit:



GCVIRGINIA.ORG
VIRGINIAHISTORY.ORG





Feed the Earth. Feed Your Soul.

The 65th Annual GCV Conservation Forum is in November



Do butterflies rest from long migration flights? Are bees gathering nectar for their production of honey and beeswax? How about that rabbit who frustrates you by eating your coneflowers? He needs to eat, too.

Our conscientiousness has been raised by the trend of returning to native plants and biodiversity in our gardens—to eco-landscaping. Don't misunderstand, we are not about to ask you to give up your bearded iris or peonies, but reworking our landscapes to include as many native plants as possible can be a goal. Already, honeybees from some nearby hives are indulging on brilliant purple coneflowers. Goldfinches keep watch on the blooms of rudbeckias. And yes, the deer have taken their turn at the hostas, but they can't make a dent in the Northern sea oats.

The Ecological Landscaping Alliance defines eco-landscaping as "... a method of designing, building and

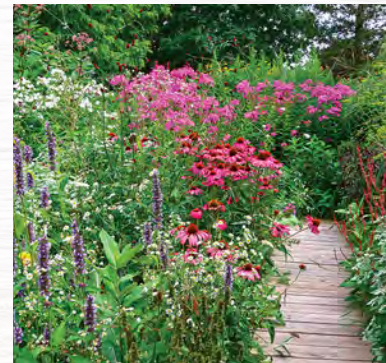
maintaining landscapes that considers the ecology of the site." The goal is to enhance the surrounding environment for the benefit of people and all the other life in the ecosystem, while conserving precious natural resources.

In 2007, Doug Tallamy brought the religion of natural biodiverse home gardening to the forefront in his book, *Bringing Nature Home*. He raised the concern that our heavily groomed lawns neutralize, if not eliminate habitat, that nurture our gardens and each other. He postulated that our gardening practices of imported hedges and hybridized shrubs and flowers are starving our native resident bees, birds, butterflies and a myriad of beneficial insects. As importantly, Tallamy advocated we humans can be the solution to the problem.

More than 40 years ago, Larry Weaner, a GCV Conservation Forum speaker, established his landscape design firm, blending expertise in horticulture, environmental science and the traditions of

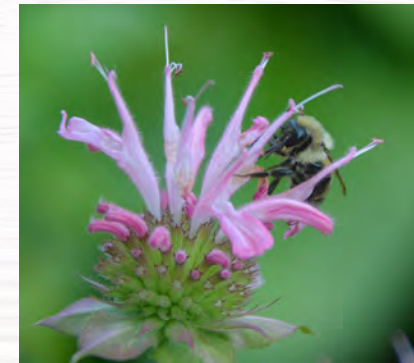
garden design to create gardens and public green spaces rich in natural plant species and ornamental beauty. The maintenance of these gardens is designed to be sustainable by conserving water, preventing soil erosion, reducing the use of pesticides and allowing nature to reestablish a biodiverse environment.

Returning to nature will not lead to being ostracized from your suburban neighborhood. As the trend to design and garden with eco-landscape techniques grows, you may not even be the most rebellious gardener on your street. The design and "look" of a sustainable biodiverse garden can be beautiful and "cutting edge." Consider the beauty of Oehme, van Sweden's meadows blowing in a breeze. Drink in the variety and texture of Campion Hruby's regimented groupings of native grasses on a hillside. Thomas Rainer, another of our forum speakers, describes the buffer strip of ground between sidewalk and street in his neighborhood as containing more than 20 native species all thriving,



despite some arduous conditions. Your garden can be a boon to the rescue of natural habitat.

Author Michael Pollan said, "The garden suggests there might be a place where we can meet nature halfway."



Let's plan to meet Mother Nature more than halfway. Conservation is an integral element of eco-landscaping. Eco-landscaping is the quintessential manifestation of the GCV's vision: "Our organization is committed to ensuring an environmentally sound



Virginia and informing and inspiring others to do the same.

Feed the earth. Feed your soul. 🌱

—Laura Francis, *The Hunting Creek Garden Club*

BE INSPIRED TO MEET MOTHER NATURE MORE THAN HALFWAY. LEARN HOW TO APPLY THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF ECO-LANDSCAPING TO UNLOCK POTENTIAL IN YOUR GARDEN.



SPEAKERS

Thomas Rainer, *Principal, Phyto Studio*, landscape architect, presents an overview of eco-landscaping, "applying innovative planting concepts to create ecologically functional designed landscapes."

Eliza Greenman, *Heirloom Orchardist*, discusses an environmentally pleasing way to create new homes for nearly extinct fruit and nut cultivars to suit today's needs and demands.

Larry Weaner, *Principal, Larry Weaner Landscape Associates*, takes us to our own backyards to inspire a natural landscape design whether meadows, water or woodlands.

HANDS ON ACTIVITIES? SHOPPING ONSITE?

We've got that!

In person forum attendees will have the option to participate in related hands on activities in the Charlottesville vicinity during the afternoon. You will also be able to take home treasures from our onsite vendors.

Join us in Charlottesville at the LEEDS certified CODE Building or from your living room!

JOIN US NOVEMBER 2
REGISTER NOW AT
GCVIRGINIA.ORG

GCV CONSERVATION AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

The Conservation Forum will recognize the recipients of the **2023 GCV Conservation Educator Award** and the **Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award** for Meritorious Achievement in Conservation. All are profiled on page 18 of this issue of the *Journal*.

Three masters in the field of eco-landscaping will share their expertise. This hybrid forum brought to you from Charlottesville will comprise virtual opportunities, in person speaker presentations and a panel conversation.

GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA
65th Annual Conservation FORUM
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
November 2, 2023
9 a.m.-1p.m.
IN-PERSON & LIVE-STREAMED

EcoLandscaping
Restoring Nature's Balance
Register at GCVirginia.org

HAVING FUN AT *summer fun*

Lily Show Attracts More Than 100 Exhibitors

GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA
LILY SHOW
HOSTED BY DOLLEY
MADISON GARDEN CLUB



Summer Fun Co-chairs DeLane Porter (left), Jane Hammond (right), receive GCV Helen Turner Murphy Award from GCV President Debbie Lewis. Photo by Mary Queitzsch

Bergman, a North American Lily Society (NALS) judge and instructor. He drew a packed house and offered many tips on successfully growing lilies as well as insights into a judge's thought process.

The floral design and horticulture workrooms bustled with excitement as exhibitors prepared their arrangements and stems, while those in the photography division, who finalized submissions before the show date, waited patiently. Once the workrooms closed, the judges went to work scrutinizing entries. With judging finalized, the show floor opened to exhibitors and members of the community. GCV President Debbie Lewis presided over the awards ceremony with the assistance of immediate past president, Missy Buckingham (2020-22), GCV Artistic Design Chairman Cathy Lee (Boxwood Garden Club) and GCV Photography Chairman Susan Lendermon (The Augusta Garden Club). DMGC was delighted to receive the GCV Helen Turner Murphy Award for best eight stems from the GCV 2012-2021 collections. Lily show co-chair DeLane Porter presented DMGC awards in artistic, horticulture and photography.

As the show closed, aspiring lily judges participating in the yearlong NALS Judging School underwent the third part of their training and final test with Dr. Bergman.

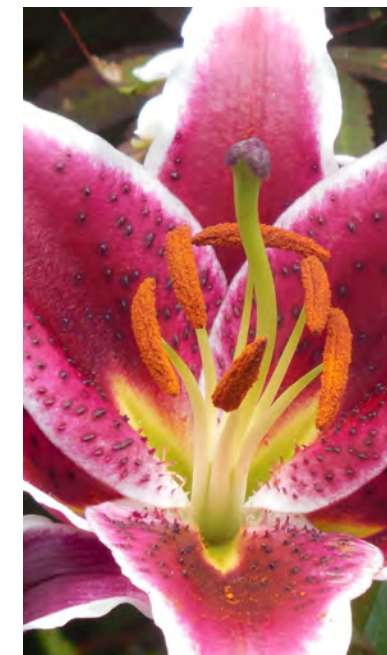
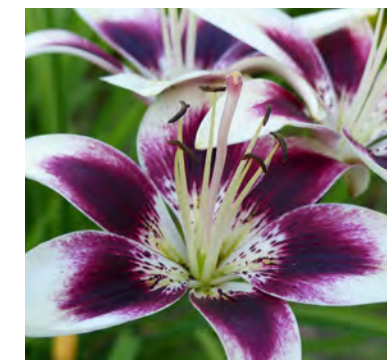
Congratulations to DMGC's own Jane Hammond and Jacque Johnson, who successfully completed the course and became new NALS student judges.

Jane Hammond summed up the experience: "While the show was all about the celebration of the lily it was so much more. It created a unique opportunity to knit together our club members—new and old—to work side by side for a common cause."

—Heather McCullough



Artistic Design Submission Class 5, "Picnic At The Park." Photo by Mary Queitzsch



Asiatic lily. Photos by Jan Haerer, Robert Baylog, Rebecca Matthews, Ronile, Jan Haerer, Elstef from Pixabay

The 2023 Lily Show, *Summer Fun*, hosted by the Dolley Madison Garden Club (DMGC), brought exhibitors and visitors from across Virginia,

North America, and as far away as New Zealand to Orange, Virginia. The show was co-chaired by DMGC members Jane Hammond and DeLane Porter, with outstanding assistance from GCV Lily Committee Chair Patsy Smith (Winchester-Clarke Garden Club). More than 100 participants from 28 GCV clubs, non-GCV garden clubs, and independent exhibitors participated in the show, which also included several young exhibitors.

A highlight of the two-day event was the presentation, *Growing and Showing Lilies*, by Dr. Brian



Artistic Design Submission Interclub Division, Class 1 "On The Road Again." Photo by Mary Queitzsch



GCV DISTRICT 3

Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula

MIDDLE PENINSULA

Last summer, on July 15th of 2022, there was a terrible fire on historic Prince Street in downtown Tappahannock. Thankfully there were no human casualties, however several long-time businesses—the Martin Sale Furniture Company and the Prince Street Café, among others—were totally devastated. In addition, the apartment homes above the businesses on that block were also destroyed.

This year, the Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula selected this site for a local project. Spearheaded by club member Liz Harper, Fire to Flowers has been a welcome addition to Tappahannock, transforming a blighted landscape into beauty. Flowers have made all the difference.

—Sally Pearson



TOP: Flowers made all the difference.

ABOVE: Sally Pearson's granddaughter, Cali, standing in front of the ruins the day after the Tappahannock fire.

Photos courtesy of Sally Pearson

GCV DISTRICT 5

The Little Garden Club of Winchester

WINCHESTER

Club member Cathy Philips recently shared her hobby and love of bees with members of the Little Garden Club of Winchester. *Buzz, buzz* doesn't just mean honey. Plant pollination is necessary for all plant production, and honeybees are some of the most important pollinators. Cathy has always been interested in bees, so she signed up for a class through BONS—Beekeepers of the Northern Shenandoah. Her hobby quickly blossomed. She started two years ago with two hives in her urban backyard in Winchester and currently has five. She finds it relaxing and a perfect fit. Her family and neighbors are supportive of her hobby

and don't mind the bees being so close by. They especially love the sweet reward. "We always need more bees," says this Winchester beekeeper. "Please plant pollination gardens. And if you see a swarm don't be afraid. Call your local beekeepers club and they will send someone to capture it."

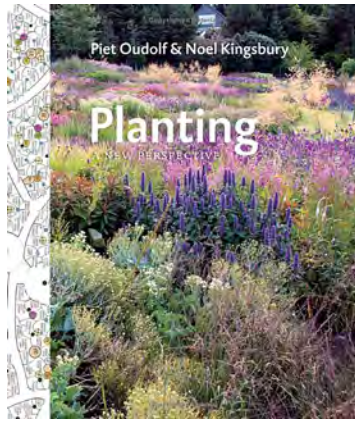
—Jackie Koirtyohann



Photos on this page courtesy of Jackie Koirtyohann

CATHY SHARED SEVERAL FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT HER CARNIOLAN BEES FROM YUGOSLAVIA.

- Bees can recognize faces and voices.
- There are many races of honeybees.
- The worker bee only lives about six weeks while a queen bee may live for six years.
- Honeybees are not native to North America.
- Bees can count and bees communicate with each other by doing a waggle dance to point out a good source of nectar and pollen.
- Honey never spoils and is not processed.
- All the bees in the hive make decisions about the group, such as when to swarm or replace the queen.



Planting

BY PIET OUDOLF & NOEL KINGSBURY

With the GCV's upcoming Conservation Forum on Eco-Landscaping, it's time to take another look at *Planting*, labeled "indispensable" by the *The New York Times*. Written by Piet Oudolf and Noel Kingsbury, two extraordinary designers for extraordinary times, they bring their unrivaled expertise and iconic aesthetic sense to bear as they consider 21st-century trends and challenges confronting both home gardeners and landscape professionals. Faced with concerns such as sustainability, biodiversity, nature deficit, and water reclamation, they extol high-performance designs that aim to collaborate with nature rather than control it. With *Planting*, designers and home gardeners can recreate these plant-rich, beautiful gardens that support biodiversity and nourish the human spirit. *Timber Press* (2013), 280 pages

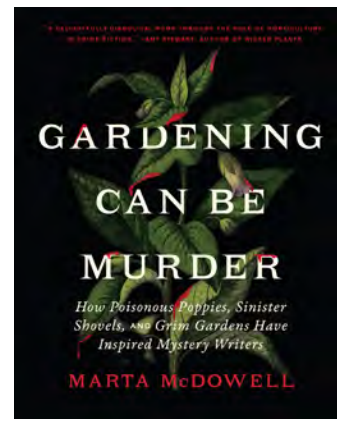


The Kinfolk Garden: How to Live with Nature

BY JON BURNS

Consider a gardener with a secret oasis on a Parisian rooftop. An artist making faux flowers to brighten Manhattan apartments. A family of ranchers rewinding the outback. We all know that connecting with nature is good for our souls, but think about others in your life who haven't quite connected those dots.

The Kinfolk Garden is a primer on how to make that connection. It's an invitation to engage with nature—to care for it, create with its beauty and cultivate new relationships around it—and offers inspiration and guidance to anyone looking to bring a little more greenery into their life. Anchored around the idea of nature as nourishment, it explores lush gardens and plant-filled homes around the world and introduces the inspiring people who coax them into bloom. Through visits to friends old and new, the Kinfolk team learns the secrets to a good garden, and what good a garden can do—for our self-care, creativity and communities. *Timber Press* (2020), 352 pages



Gardening Can Be Murder: How Poisonous Poppies, Sinister Shovels, and Grim Gardens Have Inspired Mystery Writers

BY MARTA MCDOWELL

With their deadly plants, razor-sharp shears, shady corners and ready-made burial sites, gardens make an ideal scene for the perfect murder. But the outsize influence that gardens and gardening have had on the mystery genre has been underappreciated. Now, Marta McDowell, a writer, gardener and garden club member with a near-encyclopedic knowledge of the genre, illuminates the many ways in which our greatest mystery writers—from Edgar Allen Poe to authors on today's bestseller lists—have found inspiration in the sinister side of gardens.

From the cozy to the hardboiled, the literary to the pulp, and the classic to the contemporary text, *Gardening Can Be Murder* is the first book to explore the mystery genre's many surprising horticultural connections. Meet plant-obsessed detectives and spooky groundskeeper suspects, witness toxic teas served in foul play, and tour the gardens—both real and imagined—that have been the settings for fiction's ghastliest misdeeds. A *New York Times* bestselling author herself, McDowell also introduces us to some of today's top writers who consider gardening integral to their craft, assuring that horticultural themes will remain a staple of the genre for countless twisting plots to come. *Timber Press* (2023), 216 pages



ONCE OCTOBER ROLLS AROUND, many gardeners will find themselves gravitating indoors where they can curl up with a pile of plant catalogs and make grand plans for next spring. But before tossing in the towel, tick off a few outdoor chores so you'll have a clean slate come spring.

1 Shut down and winterize water features. Avoid leaving water in fountains to prevent cracking and drain, dry and store pumps. Make sure to clean fountains, too, and safely store them.

2 Protect garden ornaments that would otherwise be subject to winter damage. Glass gazing balls and other garden accents can be susceptible to freezing temps, so move them to sheltered, nonfreezing locations until spring arrives.

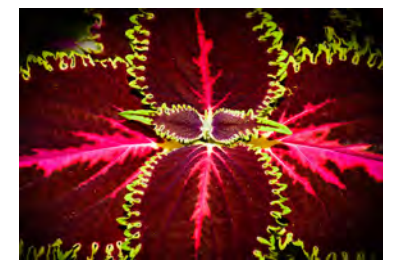
3 Store hoses and sprinklers and drain spigots. Winterizing spigots can prevent water disasters, but if you're not up for the hassle, consider investing in frost-free versions. One night of freezing temps can ruin your favorite watering wand and hose, where they can crack and split. Make sure to drain hoses and store them where they'll be protected from harsher months.

4 Move containers indoors unless they're foam or fiberglass. Don't risk leaving more delicate vessels

outside. Terra cotta pots absorb moisture that break up in flakes when they freeze, while glazed pots can crack from expanding soil and water. It's definitely a chore, but one winter that damages your favorite pots will definitely motivate you for years to come.

5 Prune deadwood from trees and shrubs. Fall is a good time to take this step that will neaten up any landscape. Whip out your pole saw and prune away any dead branches, especially those that may compromise roofs, powerlines, hardscaping—even cars—in cold winter months. But if you're just about neatening up beds and borders, beware: know which plants appreciate being cut back and those who resent fall pruning. Russian sage, artemisia, and lavender, for example, are more likely to make it through winter with their entire framework in place.

6 Take cuttings from tender plants. If you're partial to that tri-colored coleus you've enjoyed all summer and fall, try your luck at taking a cutting. They're easily rooted by planting them directly in soil or sticking them directly in a glass of



Coleus cuttings can be easily rooted in water
Photo by Dimitris Vetsikas from Pixabay

water on a windowsill until you have time to pot them up. They may not win a beauty pageant throughout the winter, but come spring and with a little TLC, they'll be off and growing in no time.

7 Move tender plants into your garage or basement. As long as the space is nonfreezing, relocate your favorite potted tropical, like bougainvilleas and mandevillas, and overwinter them in a protected spot. Check on them every now and then throughout the winter, and don't let them dry out. Replacing tropics each year can get expensive, so if you take this step, then slowly introduce them outside after the first frost date and give them a little fertilizer boost, you and your pocketbook will be heavily rewarded.



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