

GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA JOURNAL

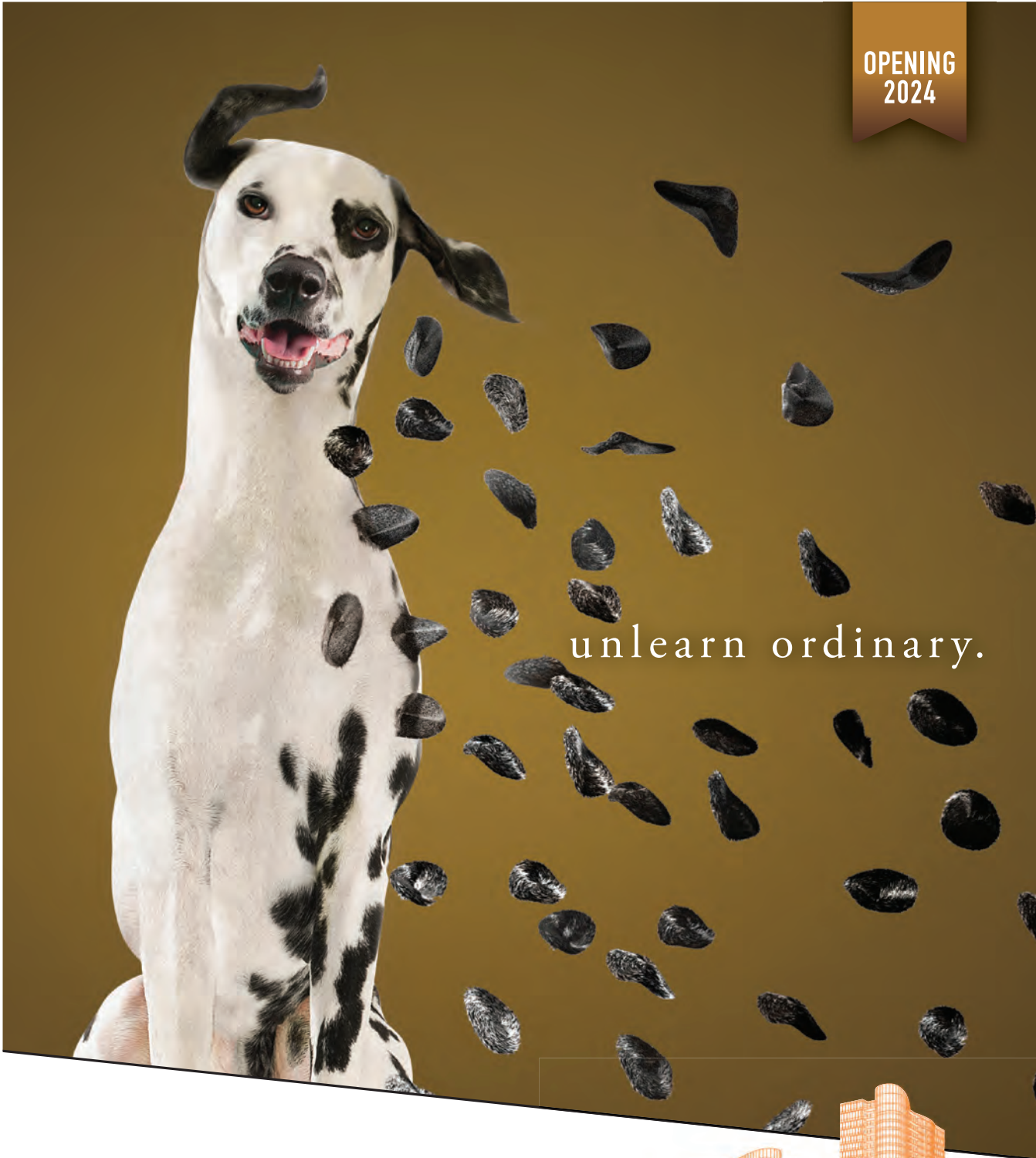
Summer 2023 | Volume LXVIII | No. 2

INSIDE

Awards! | Historic Garden Week 2023 | Annual Meeting Highlights | Daffodil Day

Gail

OPENING
2024



unlearn ordinary.

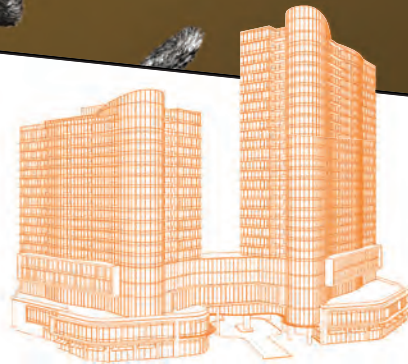
DISCOVER LUXURY OF A DIFFERENT KIND

Introducing The Mather in Tysons, Virginia—
a forward-thinking destination for those 62 and better.



Forget what you thought you knew about
senior living. Inquire today.

(703) 348.8522 | themathertysons.com



FITNESS CENTER • EXERCISE STUDIO • INDOOR POOL • SPA • RESTAURANTS • EVENT LAWN • WALKING PATHS • CONCIERGE • ROOFTOP CLUBROOM • DOG PARK



ELIZABETH LOCKE
JEWELS



The Other Elizabeth

17 EAST MAIN STREET, BOYCE, VA
540-837-3088 or www.elizabethlockejewels.com

Join us for the Design Forum
with nationally acclaimed designer & tastemaker

MARK D. SIKES



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

COCKTAIL RECEPTION
TICKETS — \$125

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Reception, Book Signing and
Vendor Gallery

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

LECTURE
TICKETS — \$100

10:00 am

Lecture followed by
Book Signing

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Refreshments, Vendor
Gallery and Flower Show

THE PARAMOUNT THEATER – CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

CAN'T MAKE IT
IN PERSON?

Receive access to a video of the lecture with Mark D. Sikes

DIGITAL TICKET — \$50



TICKETS MAY BE
PURCHASED AT THE
PARAMOUNT THEATER
www.theparamount.net

The Design Forum with Mark D. Sikes is presented by



ALBEMARLE
GARDEN CLUB
EST. 1913

WE THANK OUR SPONSORS FOR SUPPORTING THE DESIGN FORUM

Proceeds Fund Albemarle Garden Club's Community Projects



Learn more about Albemarle Garden Club's Community Projects www.albemarlegardenclub.com

QUIRK
HOTEL

Quirk Hotel Charlottesville is offering a discount on
reservations for the Design Forum attendees.

USE CODE GARDEN23



GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA JOURNAL

Summer 2023 | Volume LXVIII | No. 2

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
Fall	September	July 15	July 1
Winter	December	October 15	October 1
Spring	March	January 15	January 1
Summer	June	April 15	April 1

ADVERTISING

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

For a rate sheet or more information, visit the GCV website at gcvirginia.org or contact *Journal* Ad Sales Manager at journalads@gcvirginia.org.

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.

The Garden Club of Virginia supports recycling. Please recycle this publication.

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.

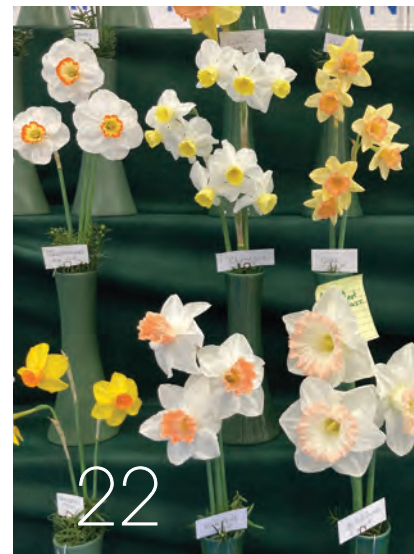
The total number of copies published nearest the filing date is 3,600. The average number of copies published in the preceding 12 months is 3,600. There are no sales through dealers, etc. Paid subscriptions average 3,492; the number nearest the filing date is 3,442. Other mailed copies average 6. Free 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
c/o Garden Club of Virginia
12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23219

Postmaster, please send address changes to:
Garden Club of Virginia
12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23219

6/15/2023



TOP LEFT: The moment Ann Gordon Evans realizes she is the Massie Medal winner. See page 15.

ABOVE RIGHT: HGW 2023 at Flowerdew Hundred with Bettie Guthrie, Petersburg GC member, GCV President Debbie Lewis and Missy Buckingham, immediate past president. *Photo by Edie Hessberg.* See more HGW coverage starting on page 18.

ABOVE: Daffodil Day 2023. *Photo courtesy of Edie Hessberg.* See page 22.

COVER ART: *Fairy Stone State Park Falls*, by Gail Doyle Smith, The Garden Study Club

Contents

Summer 2023 Journal

ESSENTIALS

- 6 Spotlight:** Cover Artist—Gail Doyle Smith, The Garden Study Club
- 7 President's Message**
- 9 Editor's Letter**
- 10 Fresh Produce & News You Can Use:** Common Wealth Award nominees, Bartlett Tree Tips, *Incanto* at LBG and more
- 14 Passing:** Farewell to Rudy Favretti, GCV's former landscape architect
- 15 Applause: Awards & Accolades**
 - Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement
 - de Lacy Gray Memorial Medal for Conservation
 - Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award

FEATURES

- 18 Historic Garden Week in Photos**
- 22 Daffodil Day Heads to the Beach**
- 26 Annual Meeting in Winchester**

SNIPS

- 28 Club News:** Clubs in three GCV districts spotlight their programs

END NOTES

- 32 How To:** Attracting butterflies to your garden
- 33 GCV Calendar**

DON'T MISS OUR TRIPLE TREAT!

Read all about GCV's THREE BIG SPRING EVENTS, starting on page 18.

ON THE COVER: ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

GAIL DOYLE SMITH

Gail Smith's GCV roots run deep, representing the third generation of women in her family who have been members of The Garden Study Club in Martinsville. In 1977 Gail joined what was then the auxiliary to the club, and in 1988, she graduated to was then lovingly called the "mother club." She's been a member ever since.

An accomplished artist, Gail describes her style as straddling the border between representational and impressionistic. "My style has developed over 15 years of study and experimentation in oils," she says, and adds that her paintings can be found in local galleries, regional juried shows and on her web site. Her cover painting, *Fairy Stone State Park Falls*, depicts a pretty little waterfall with special memories for me and many people from my hometown of Martinsville." Nestled in rural Patrick County, Fairy Stone was one of the six original state parks to open in 1936 and has long been supported by the GCV. The park was also the beneficiary of the GCV's Centennial Project, funding that established a Pollinator Waystation in partnership with The Martinsville Garden Club, The Garden Study Club and The Garden Club of Danville.

Gail now lives on the Brunswick River in coastal North Carolina with her husband and fellow artist, Wright. She says it's a part of the world that provides endless inspiration. "Wright and I are continually awed by water and marsh and sky views just outside our window. The variety of landscapes, shore birds, wildlife and flora wind up in my work," she says. Other subjects she captures reflect her Virginia roots, and her grandchildren inspired a series of children's paintings. Gail is also an enthusiastic flower arranger, a bug she happily caught from her mother, Lil Doyle. "For years, she and I teamed up to create arrangements for Historic Garden Week," Gail says. "Since her death in 2020, I have begun a cutting garden in her memory." She admits that she's continually learning which of her favorite plants from Virginia can survive in North Carolina's coastal climate. "The rubrum lilies that were a memorial gift and start of my garden are the heartiest of all," she observes, adding, "I am doggedly working to grow peonies in Zone 8, and each year I get a couple of lovely specimens."

—Madeline Mayhood



Fairy Stone State Park Falls, oil on canvas, 16" x 20," by Gail Doyle Smith, The Garden Study Club
GailDoyleSmith FineArt.com

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.

CARDS ARE GIFT-READY
CARDS AND PACKAGING ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY.

\$20 per set of 10
(\$3 shipping)



Now available at shop.gcvirginia.org,
at the Kent-Valentine House and select GCV events.

GCV BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023

President: Debbie Lewis, The Garden Study Club

1st Vice President: Kris Carbone, The Garden Club of Danville

2nd Vice President: Wendy Walker, The Garden Club of the Eastern Shore

Treasurer: Tricia McDaniel, The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

Recording Secretary: Laura Francis, The Hunting Creek Garden Club

Corresponding Secretary: Meg Laughon, Hillside Garden Club

Parliamentarian: Nina Mustard, The Williamsburg Garden Club

Artistic Design: Cathy Lee, The Boxwood Garden Club

Conservation & Beautification: Sarah Hellewell, Hillside Garden Club

Development: Kelly Johnson, The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

Finance: Mary Bacon, The James River Garden Club

Historic Garden Week: Fran Carden, Albemarle Garden Club

Horticulture: Allison Clock, The Hampton Roads Garden Club

Restoration: Jean Gilpin, Winchester-Clarke Garden Club

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

District 1 (2022-2024): Kathryn Angus, Three Chopt Garden Club

District 2 (2023-2025): Michelle Jennings, Rivanna Garden Club

District 3 (2022-2024): Katie Spencer, The Huntington Garden Club

District 4 (2022-2024): Paula Irons, Roanoke Valley Garden Club

District 5 (2023-2025): Suzi Worsham, Leesburg Garden Club

District 6 (2023-2025): Stephanie Broadwater, The Nansemond River Garden Club

Executive Director: Andrea Butler

Immediate Past President (Ex Officio 2022-2023): Missy Buckingham, The Boxwood Garden Club

A MAGNIFICENT AND MEMORABLE GCV SPRING



It couldn't have been a more splendid spring for the Garden Club of Virginia, with our delightful Daffodil Day, an extraordinary Historic Garden Week and an inspiring Annual Meeting. GCV members across the commonwealth have been busy working their magic!

By all accounts, and for me personally, the 90th Anniversary of HGW was magnificent and most memorable. In mid-February, after browsing the pages of the 2023 *Guidebook*, I had a plan. Two HGW statewide passes were better than gold...it would be the perfect spring vacation, traveling the state through the lush landscapes and gorgeous gardens across Virginia. My husband bought the idea, and on April 14th we pulled out of the driveway for our 10-day trek!

The plan covered nine tours in eight days beginning with a stroll through two centuries of Warren County history in the charming town of Front Royal. We zigzagged our way across Virginia on picturesque back roads and through quaint historic towns. Every day was a new adventure as we toured unique homes adorned with spectacular floral arrangements and walked through beautiful expansive gardens. From a gospel sing-along at Rock Spring Baptist Church in King William County, an inspiring speech by Virginia's own First Lady, Suzanne S. Youngkin, at Flowerdew Hundred in Hopewell, and the sunset over Little Oak Spring in Middleburg to our final visit on the Eastern Shore at National Historic Landmark Eyre Hall, our trip was nothing short of perfection.

I am grateful to all of you for your dedication, hard work and gracious hospitality, making HGW 2023 one for the record books.

I believe you will see, within the pages of this *Journal*, photographs, articles and exciting announcements that capture the incredible energy and enthusiasm of our membership. We are poised for another wonderful year for the Garden Club of Virginia, and I look forward to seeing you in the coming months.

Have a wonderful summer and happy gardening!

Debbie Lewis
GCV President, 2022-2024



THE BIZARRE BAZAAR®



The 48th CHRISTMAS COLLECTION!

Nov 30 - Dec 3

The Most Fabulous Marketplaces!

RICHMOND RACEWAY COMPLEX
600 E. Laburnum Ave. - Richmond, VA 23222
For information, please contact:
(804) 673-7015 or (804) 673-6280
www.thebizarrebazaar.com



Hilldrup and the McDaniel family proudly support the mission of the Garden Club of Virginia and Historic Garden Week.

Moving, Storage, Relocation & Logistics



Locations in
Fredericksburg,
Richmond and D.C.
hilldrup.com | 844.877.3438

Discover all sizes, styles & colors at Virginia's largest award winning women's boutique.



Route 11, Verona | 540-248-4292

fashiongalleryva.com



GCV JOURNAL 2023 COMMITTEE

Madeline Mayhood, Editor
The James River Garden Club

Louise Freeman,
Three Chopt Garden Club

Nancy Inman,
Albemarle Garden Club

Katherine Knopf,
Roanoke Valley Garden Club

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Kay Tyler,
The Boxwood Garden Club
journalads@gcvirginia.org

GCV PRESIDENT

Debbie Lewis,
The Garden Study Club

GCV RECORDING SECRETARY/JOURNAL LIAISON TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura Francis,
The Hunting Creek Garden Club

GCV EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Andrea Butler
GCV COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
Sarah Blackburn

GCV COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
Ann Heller

NEW TERRITORY



Since late 2020, I've enjoyed shepherding the GCV's *Journal* into new territory. We changed our format, our design, our paper, and our process. We have a rock star graphic designer, Whitney Tigani, who can be credited for elevating our pages to soaring heights. We all hope you've enjoyed the re-do over these last 12 issues. And by the way, we did most of this in the darkest days of Covid. Was it determination or insanity? You be the judge.

In spite of all the changes, much of the *Journal* has remained true to its roots since the first issue was published. We continue to address the interests and promote the activities of the Garden Club of Virginia and its member clubs by focusing on the GCV's mission of conservation and beautification, horticulture, restoration and education.

From the get-go, this issue of the *Journal*—our summer edition—stays true to those roots. First up, we bring you the lovely cover image of Fairy Stone State Park's falls, courtesy of Gail Doyle Smith from The Garden Study Club. We are so grateful to Gail for sharing her talent with us. Our Fresh Produce section is full of news you can use. Don't miss articles on Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden's *Incanto* exhibit, Legos in the garden at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, and Tree Tips—on sycamores—from our friends at Bartlett Tree Experts. Plus, GCV medal recipients are profiled in our Applause section. And we dive into butterfly gardening, thanks to Clara Aus, LGBG's butterfly expert and coordinator of the garden's M&T Bank Butterflies LIVE! exhibit, which runs through early October.

Then we pivot to chronicling three of the Garden Club of Virginia's most important events in three features—on Daffodil Day, Historic Garden Week and the Annual Meeting. We've recorded much of these highly successful events in photos, so enjoy this romp through spring, starting in March with daffodils galore in Virginia Beach, exploding statewide in April with Historic Garden Week and ending with the Annual Meeting in Winchester.

Our Snips section is where clubs shine. Take a look at what GCV clubs are up to, from celebrating centennials to showcasing especially engaging programs. Send us your news. Tell us what your club has been up to.

I'd share more, but instead, I might suggest you find a comfy spot and spend an evening this summer savoring our pages. If you enjoy this issue, have something to recommend or have a story idea, we'd love to hear from you. Thanks, as always, for your support.

Madeline Mayhood

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





Nominees Announced for the 2023 Common Wealth Award

The Common Wealth Award Committee is pleased to announce three impressive proposals for the 2023 Common Wealth Award. Each project demonstrates CWA criteria of conservation, beautification, horticulture, preservation and education.

GCV club presidents are encouraged to review in depth each nominee and then bring that information to their membership. Understanding the details of each project and what they bring to communities across the commonwealth is an important step in casting informed votes.

Each club president will receive a notice to cast their club's e-vote. All votes must be cast by September 30, 2023.

The Boxwood GC, The James River GC, Three Chopt GC, & The Tuckahoe GC of Westhampton:

The Virginia War Memorial Public Green Space | Downtown Richmond

The Virginia War Memorial pays tribute to nearly 12,000 Virginia veterans from World War II through today's War on Terrorism. The names of these veterans are inscribed on the walls of the Memorial's outdoor pavilions and are listed by county, city, or town.

The Foundation supporting the Memorial is a 501(c)(3) organization, forming a remarkable public/private partnership with the Commonwealth of Virginia. The five-acre property in downtown Richmond, on Belvidere at the Lee Bridge, is barren. There is no shade. There are no native plantings or pollinators. Appropriate commemorative gardens are severely lacking.

Creation of a public green space closely aligns with GCV's mission of promoting interest in conservation, beautification, horticulture, preservation, and education. The project would be of interest to all Virginians.

The Memorial also is in keeping with GCV's history of support for

our military. During WWII, proceeds from fundraising, Historic Garden Week, and individual GCV members facilitated many war relief efforts, including "adopting" the village of Ver-sur-Mer in Normandy. GCV paid for the restoration of 10 windows at the Church of St. Martin where there is now a plaque, listing the names of sons of GCV members who lost their lives in the D-Day invasion of Normandy. There is a street named "Rue de Garden Club of Virginia."

Gabriella Garden Club:
HOME Pocket Park—A Perennial Garden Oasis Within Its Urban Setting | Downtown Danville

During much of the 20th century, Danville was a leading industrial city in Virginia and home to one of the largest textile mills in the South. But by the new millennium, those industries had essentially disappeared, leaving the city with high unemployment, neighborhood blight, and dilapidated buildings. For over a decade, Danville has striven to rebuild itself, adopting the moniker, "The Comeback City."

HOME Pocket Park is in a rapidly growing area of Danville's downtown district. The space currently houses the "HOME" sign, which was part of a larger sign for the now-shuttered Dan River Fabrics. In addition to its historical significance, the sign has become a symbol of Danville, frequently photographed and used for marketing materials. The land, however, is under-utilized, lacking appeal and functionality.

Gabriella Garden Club envisions this to be an interactive and multifunctional space of natural beauty within its urban location. A plan has been developed utilizing a combination of hard and soft scape materials, with perennials providing color throughout the year. It also includes places to gather for outdoor dining, individual reflection, and community events.

Funds from the Common Wealth Award would be used to transform the space into a welcoming and beautiful respite hopefully making all the visitors feel at HOME.

The Garden Study Club and The Martinsville Garden Club:
The Nature Garden Along the Smith River Paw Path at the Smith River Sports Complex | Martinsville

In 2015, The Martinsville Garden Club and The Garden Study Club developed the Paw Path conservation project, a trail for pollinator plants along the Smith River and within the Smith River Sports Complex in Martinsville/Henry County.

The Paw Path has been extremely successful, with over 30,000 visitors annually, and has become a destination for numerous student field trips. In order to enhance and expand the Paw Path and continue the clubs' goals of conservation, preservation, and education for locals and visitors, a Nature Garden will be established along the Paw Path. The garden will convert an unsightly space full of invasive species into an array of native pollinator plants.

As part of implementing the Nature Garden, native plants such as Virginia bluebell, wild ginger, and crane fly orchid will be identified, protected, and transplanted if needed. Creating a beautiful and serene setting for respite, renewal, and learning, this project will be a living lab and open-air classroom, where all ages can become educated about the importance of native pollinators, in nature and in their own gardens. Funds from the Common Wealth Award will be used for site preparation and plant costs for the Nature Garden.

—Becky Farrar,
Common Wealth
Award Chair-
man, The
Martinsville
Garden Club



INCANTO:

An Oasis of Lyrical Poetry

The world premiere of *Incanto: An Oasis of Lyrical Poetry* opened to critical acclaim throughout Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in

April and continues through Oct. 9. These original works of sculpture and poetry explore human nature and invite guests into a transformational



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 Bocoock 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



space of self-inquiry. Each sculpture of *Incanto* emerges out of the garden landscape in dialogue with a poem, with the intention of creating a sacred container where words—as questions and even incantations—activate the space and spark creative thought among guests. Award-winning sculpture artist Kate Raudenbush, who emerged out of the creative vanguard of Burning Man, created *Incanto* in partnership with poet Sha Michele. Both artists incorporate a range of cultures, symbols and mythology in their work, and most of the sculptures invite guests to step inside. With heights reaching up to 17 feet, they serve as portals to other worlds of thought, meaning and healing.

LGBG is open daily 9 A.M.-5 P.M. with extended summer hours on Wednesdays through Saturdays till 9 P.M. with evening drinks and dining. Dramatically lit from within, the *Incanto* sculptures offer multi-sensory experiences inviting further exploration at night.

Tips for Tomatoes



If you grow tomatoes and aren't partial to those spindly wire cages, try wooden stakes. But make sure to use one-inch hardwood grade stakes that are five feet in length—they're best because you'll want to push at least a foot in the ground. Tie the plants to the stakes with something soft: strips of old sheets work well, or even tights or pantyhose. Believe it or not, string or twine can be too harsh and may bite through the stems when they are loaded with fruit. As the plants get taller, you'll need to add more ties.

As the summer marches on and your tomatoes mature, you may notice lower leaves are turning brown. This is probably early blight, a common soil-borne disease. It is not fatal but fruit production will decrease. You can minimize the problem by doing two things: Cut off affected leaves, and mulch the soil to minimize splash-up. Grass clippings, leaves or hay will help. They also keep the roots moister in dry times.

History Blooms

AT THE VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE

SAVE THE DATE | OCTOBER 6 – 8



The Garden Club of Virginia, in Partnership with the Virginia Museum of History & Culture, Announces a New Fall Event in Richmond!

Mark your calendar for an exciting new collaboration between the Garden Club of Virginia and the Virginia Museum of History & Culture. History Blooms will be a multi-day program at the Museum that weaves together the missions of both organizations and uses artistic floral design to tell the story of Virginia's history. Information on how clubs and members can participate, in addition to the lineup of speakers and workshops, will be announced this summer.

Stay tuned!



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

THE HEALTHY YARD CHALLENGE

POLLINATOR PLANTS
ORGANIC LAWN AND GARDEN CARE
INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT
PROTECTING OUR WATERSHED AND DRINKING WATER

Learn more at GCVirginia.org

TREE TIP: BARTLETT TREE EXPERTS

American Sycamore—*Platanus occidentalis*

The American sycamore tree, also known as buttonwood, is easily identified from other trees by its mottled bark which flakes off in great, irregular masses, leaving the surface mottled and gray, greenish-white and brown. The sycamore is widely used as a shade tree; it can grow to massive proportions, typically reaching up to 98 to 131 feet high and 4.9 to 6.6 feet in diameter when grown in deep soils.

In 1770, in present day West Virginia, George Washington recorded a gigantic sycamore in his journal. "Just as we came

to the hills," wrote Washington during his tour of the Ohio and Kanawha Rivers, "we met with a sycamore about sixty yards from the river of a most extraordinary size, it measuring three feet from the ground, forty-five feet round, lacking two inches; and not fifty yards from it was another, thirty-one feet round."

(*The Writings of George Washington*, by Jared Sparks, Volume II, Boston: Charles Tappan, 1846).

CULTURE

- Large deciduous tree (100+ ft.) that tolerates urban growing conditions.
- Grows in a wide range of soil and pH conditions; performs best in deep, wet and slightly acidic soils.
- Commonly found along streams and rivers and in floodplains.

CONCERNS

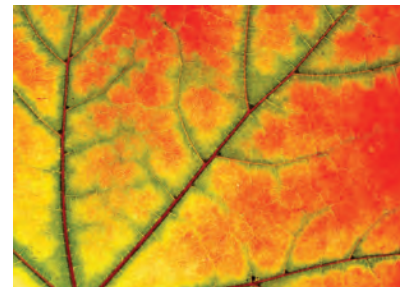
- Sycamore anthracnose, which causes defoliation and branch dieback, is the most common problem.



- Sycamore scale, leaf beetles, and defoliating caterpillars are also of concern.
- Can be killed by canker stain, a disease spread by insects and human activity, and bacterial leaf scorch.
- Some people report respiratory and skin allergic reactions.

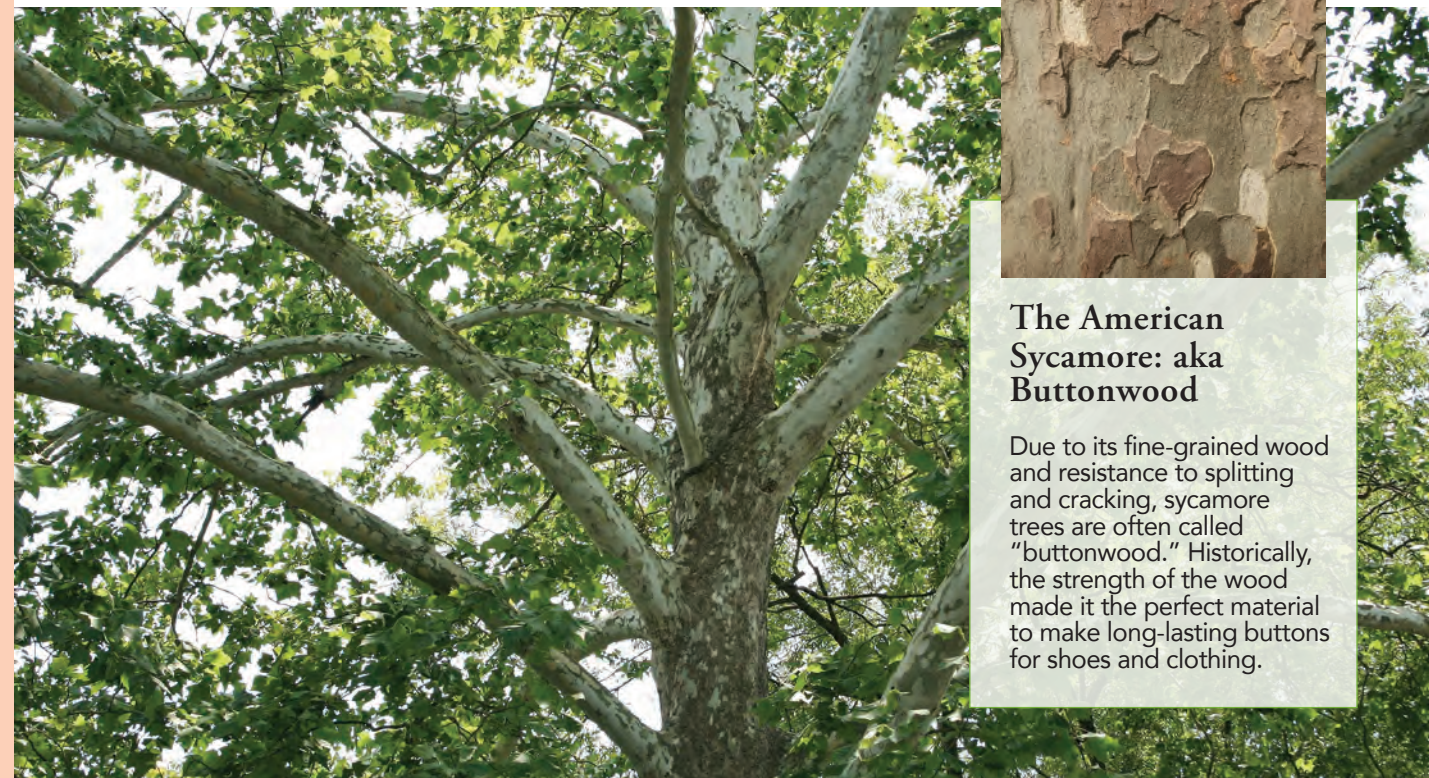
BARTLETT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Manage anthracnose with preventive foliar or injected treatments.
- Treat for scale insects, defoliating beetles, and caterpillars as needed when populations are detected.
- Utilize antibiotic treatments for bacterial leaf scorch. 🌿



The American Sycamore: aka Buttonwood

Due to its fine-grained wood and resistance to splitting and cracking, sycamore trees are often called "buttonwood." Historically, the strength of the wood made it the perfect material to make long-lasting buttons for shoes and clothing.





Rudy J. Favretti, 1932-2023

Rudy J. Favretti, landscape architect for the Garden Club of Virginia, a position he held from 1978-1998, passed away on April 13, 2023, at age 90 after a prolonged illness.

Favretti shaped the field of landscape design history and the preservation of historic gardens. He was dedicated to his long teaching career at the University of Connecticut, where he founded the nationally accredited landscape architecture preservation program and published more than 20 books. In private practice, he restored hundreds of gardens throughout the United States and Europe. His projects with the GCV included many famous landscapes such as Monticello, Mount Vernon, and Montpelier. Favretti's plans and related materials are part of the Archives of American Gardens at the Smithsonian Institution.

Born on December 3, 1932, and raised in Mystic, Connecticut, to immigrants from the Dolomites of northern Italy, Favretti was influenced by his father, a skilled carpenter who restored historic New England buildings, and by his experience working as a farmhand. He earned degrees from the University of Connecticut, Cornell and the University of Massachusetts in horticulture and design-related fields, all the while expanding his interest in historic landscape preservation.

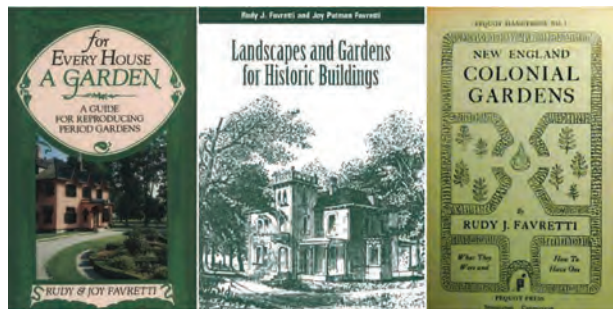
Over 50 years, Favretti developed around 600 individual and collaborative designs, master



Rudy Favretti, circa 1991, at an unidentified garden center. Photo by Andrew Cifranic



Preliminary Plan I for The Grove Monticello, Charlottesville, VA



LEFT Three of Favretti's books on historic landscape preservation.

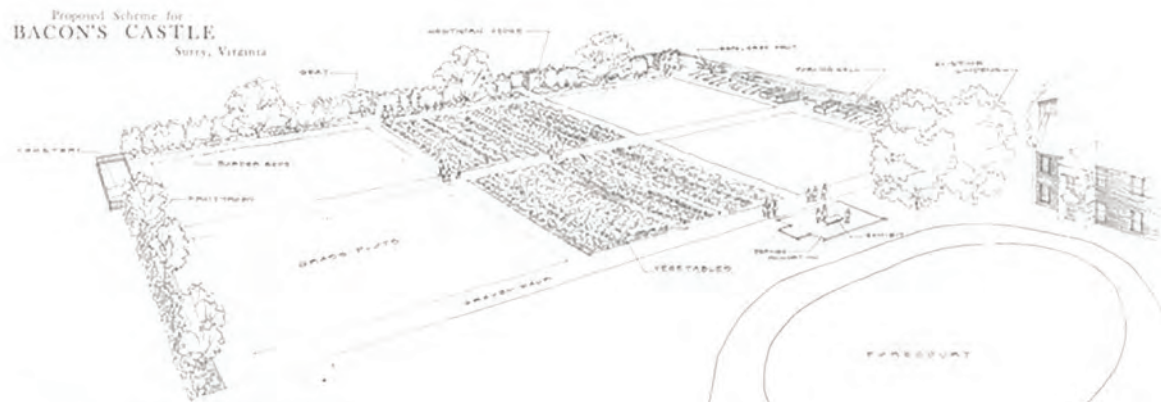
BELOW: Proposed Scheme for Bacon's Castle

planning and preservation projects that resulted in the restoration and rehabilitation of a wide range of significant historic landscapes. While practicing professionally, Favretti remained strongly committed to academia. In the early 1970s, he became professor of landscape architecture at the University of Connecticut. One of his greatest contributions to the profession was his work as author of and contributor to more than 20 books and countless publications, including some of the first how-to manuals for the treatment and management of historic sites.

Favretti had a deep sense of community, serving in various roles in Mansfield and Mystic, Connecticut, and was also the *de facto* local historian of his Italian ancestral village of Forno di Zoldo and the Val Zoldana region.

Historic garden restoration is one of the GCV's most important focuses, and to ensure generational succession in this important field, the GCV established graduate level fellowships in 1996 in areas relating to landscape architecture and historic preservation. The Rudy J. Favretti Fellowship is named in his honor.

—Adapted from The Cultural Landscape Foundation's obituary. TCLF.org



presented by THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA Rudy J. Favretti, AIA January 1988



The 2023 Massie Medal Recipient

ANN GORDON EVANS RECEIVES GCV'S PRESTIGIOUS AWARD AT ANNUAL MEETING IN WINCHESTER.



GCV president Debbie Lewis, Ann Gordon Evans and Massie Medal Chairman Candy Crosby.

To a packed crowd in the elegant ballroom in Winchester's historic George Washington Hotel, Ann Gordon Evans received the 2023 Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement at the Garden Club of Virginia's Annual Meeting on May 17, hosted by the Winchester-Clarke Garden Club. The medal's inscription to Ann Gordon Evans reads: *For her inspiring leadership, wise counsel and enduring grace.*

A resident of Hampton, Ann Gordon has been a member of the Huntington Garden Club since 1986. Her first assignment as a new member was as Historic Garden Week ticket sales chairman. It became clear then that Ann Gordon possessed the leadership and organizational

skills as well as the kind and gentle presence needed to get the job done well. She continued to serve the Huntington Garden Club in many positions—from treasurer and president to Garden Week chairman. While she was chairman of the Civic Project Committee, the Huntington GC received the Common Wealth Award for the permanent botanical exhibit, *Virginia Botanical History 1607 to Today*, at the Virginia Living Museum in Newport News. During her time with the Civic Project Committee as well as service on the board, the Huntington GC was grateful for her guiding hand on the St. John's Church Cemetery Landscape Plan and the renovation project at Lee Hall Mansion, a GCV restoration site, which involved restoring period fencing and trees on the property.

Ann Gordon served in offices of the GCV, including Director-at-Large, Recording Secretary, Second Vice President, Parliamentarian, as well as Chairman of the Common Wealth Award Committee.

She was also on the Outlook Committee and the Nomination Committee. She was President of the GCV from 2012-2014 and continued to be a leading force, establishing a Long-Range Planning Committee with a focus on plans for the GCV's Centennial. As part of the 2020 Centennial plan, the GCV initiated a partnership with Virginia State Parks, providing \$500,000 in grants over five years. Additionally, under her watch, the Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellowship was established. Both projects support the GCV's mission of beautification and conservation in Virginia. The Green Arrow Society for planned giving was also conceived during her term. She provided initial support and guidance for the newest member club, the Three Rivers Garden Club, based in New Kent and Charles City counties. Her tireless and intelligent leadership, welcoming and inclusive style, and dedication to the GCV is an inspiration to all.

—Candy Crosby, Massie Medal Chairman, Albemarle Garden Club

HISTORY OF THE MASSIE MEDAL



The Massie Medal is the Garden Club of Virginia's oldest and most prestigious award. It was inaugurated by Suzanne Williams Massie during her presidency

in 1928 and was given by her until her death in 1952. Since then, it has been presented by the GCV in her memory. The recipient of the Massie Medal may be an individual member or member club who have served the Garden Club of Virginia with unusual dedication and distinction. They must have been effective in promoting the betterment of the GCV, demonstrated excellence in horticulture, restoration, preservation or conservation of the commonwealth's natural resources.

Proposals and endorsements from member clubs must be submitted to the Massie Medal chairman. Guidelines can be found at GCVirginia.org.

Proposals Due Dec. 1, 2023



Ann Gordon Evans (center) surrounded by her family: husband Rusty, daughter Mary Katherine, and son Russ. With GCV President Debbie Lewis, far left.



Mary Louisa Pollard is 2023 Recipient of the de Lacy Gray Medal

PRESTIGIOUS CONSERVATION MEDAL IS AWARDED TO LONGTIME CHAMPION OF THE NORTHERN NECK.

Mary Louisa Pollard, of the Garden Club of the Northern Neck and a founding member of the Northern Neck Land Conservancy, received the 2023 de Lacy Gray Memorial Medal for Conservation in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the preservation of Virginia's natural resources and land heritage. The award was presented at the Garden Club of Virginia's Annual Meeting hosted by the Winchester-Clarke Garden Club on May 17.

First presented in 1965 as a memorial to de Lacy Thompson Gray and originally given by the Dolley Madison Garden Club, this award recognizes an individual member or member club of the GCV for outstanding effort to further the knowledge of our natural resources and encourage their wise use. Mary Louisa was nominated by The Garden Club of the Northern Neck.

Mary Louisa's journey towards conservation began in the 1990s when she and her brother placed a conservation easement on a large tract of woodland and meadows in the western part of Virginia through the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. This was



GCV President Debbie Lewis; Mary Louisa Pollard; Conservation Awards Chairman Marie Thomas; and Garden Club of the Northern Neck president Ann Thornton. Photo by Edie Hiesberg.

the catalyst for the creation of the Northern Neck Land Conservancy (NNLC).

Mary Louisa's passion for conservation led her to convene interested residents in her home area of White Stone to collaborate and create the NNLC in 2004. NNLC's mission is "to promote the rural heritage of the Northern Neck by conserving its lands, waters, economies, and culture for future generations." She served as the first board president from 2004-2007 and was on the board until 2014. The group originally operated out of a small outbuilding at her home on Mosquito Creek. Her husband, Bill, jokes that he was booted out of his office.

In 2005, recorded easements totaled 301 acres. Today, the Conservancy holds 6,909 acres. She developed fundraisers and educational exhibits operated by Master Gardeners, Native

Plant Society, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Department of Forestry, Oyster Growers Association, Raptor Conservancy, and others to engage the public.

Together with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, Mary Louisa and the NNLC identified a 19-mile stretch along Cat Point Creek as a Special Area Project for Land Conservation, which now provides an open space corridor between historic sites on the Potomac River and existing protected areas on the Rappahannock River. The GCV recognized the Garden Club of the Northern Neck and the NNLC in 2012 with the Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award. The award's intent is to fund implementation of a conservation project to serve as a catalyst for community action and help generate public interest. This project continues to preserve the sense of place of historic sites such as Stratford Hall and Menokin Plantation.

Story continues on next page



Albemarle Garden Club is the 2023 recipient of the Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award. This distinguished honor, on which all 48 GCV clubs vote, was formally announced at the GCV annual meeting in Winchester last month.

AGC is partnering with six local organizations to realize a shared goal: to cultivate conservationists. In partnership with the Botanical Garden of the Piedmont, the Charlottesville-Albemarle Technical Education Center (CATEC), the Jefferson Madison Regional Library, Virginia Master Naturalists, the Piedmont Bird Club, and Charlottesville Area Tree Stewards, the collaborative project will promote native species, pollinators, and nature literacy at the Botanical Garden of the Piedmont.

The project has three focus areas. The first focus is to promote pollination through working with CATEC and local high school students as they design, build and install mason bee nests in areas adjacent to BGP's wildflower

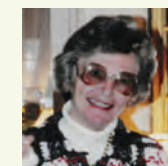
meadow that attract pollinators and birds to the Garden. The second focus is to enable native species—and the fauna they support—to thrive as invasive species in new areas of the Garden are removed. Improvement has already been seen in the water quality of a stream traversing the site and the health of two rare butternut trees as a result of these efforts. The third focus is to educate the public about the importance of supporting a healthy ecosystem. New trails and gathering areas will be created—outdoor classrooms—to host nature literacy and other educational programs focusing on pollinators, natural resource conservation, and protecting our environment. Additional books will be purchased, adding to the collection for the nature literacy program, "Explore to Read," specifically addressing issues such as conservation, invasive plants and their impact on habitat, and pollinators. 🌿

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

Albemarle Garden Club Receives the 2023 Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award

CULTIVATING CONSERVATIONISTS: PROMOTING NATIVE SPECIES, POLLINATORS AND NATURE LITERACY AT BOTANICAL GARDEN OF THE PIEDMONT

WHO WAS BESSIE BOCOCK CARTER?



Bessie Carter, GCV President from 1998-2000 was passionate about conservation. This monetary award, made possible by her family in her memory, funds the implementation of a conservation project within the state that will serve as a catalyst for community action. The award is presented annually to a GCV member club or to a member club in association with another conservation organization for either natural resource conservation or environmental protection.

Proposals by members or member clubs must be submitted to the Conservation Awards Chairman. Guidelines can be found at GCVirginia.org. The recipient(s) of the award will be announced at the GCV Annual Meeting.

Proposals Due Nov. 1, 2023

Above: GCV President Debbie Lewis (L) and Conservation Awards Chairman Marie Thomas (R) congratulates Catherine Bolton, incoming Albemarle Garden Club president, on receiving the Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award.



Bayview, a 220-acre indigenous landscape bordered on two sides by water, is Northern Neck Land Conservancy's "ambassador property" in Northumberland County and represents NNLC's conservation initiatives.



Mary Louisa Pollard (standing) and her family: daughter Sarah Chiffreller (The Boxwood Garden Club), granddaughter Jane Chiffreller and husband Albert Pollard Sr.

Continued from previous page
The Garden Club of the Northern Neck has also been a key player in conservation under Mary Louisa's leadership. The club applied for the 2017 GCV Centennial Grants to promote and assist the Belle Isle and Westmoreland State Parks by supporting permanent infrastructure in the new visitor center exhibits, landscape conservation for pollinator habitats, arborist support and education opportunities for youth. Mary Louisa organized Historic Belle Isle Work Days to clean up the overgrown gardens and held open houses to draw

people to the park. She championed environmental literacy in a time when state parks were suffering from budget cuts.

Mary Louisa also served a term in the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for the 99th district under the governorship of Tim Kaine. Hers was a voice with experience in the conservation of land as the department of Game and Inland Fisheries is the largest land-owning agency in Virginia.

Mary Louisa's talent in creating a collaborative team enabled the NNLC to thrive. She garnered community support and has

shown a quiet but determined voice for activism in conservation. The GCV is proud to recognize her work and her gifts to the state of Virginia. Mary Louisa's commitment to conservation has had a lasting impact, and her efforts have ensured that future generations will be able to enjoy the natural beauty of Virginia's Northern Neck. 🌿

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




 GARDEN CLUB
 OF VIRGINIA

90th Historic Garden Week

THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA'S HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK MARKED A MILESTONE

Proceeds fund the restoration of Virginia's historic public gardens and a research fellowship program. More than a fundraiser, Historic Garden Week is a cherished springtime tradition – for our members and for the nearly 23,000 people who attended.

The only statewide house and garden tour in the nation, Historic Garden Week is GCV's signature event. It promotes tourism while showcasing communities large and small across the commonwealth. Perhaps most importantly, this enduring legacy brings our membership together towards a common mission for eight days each spring. By all measures, 2023 was a banner year.

Photos courtesy of Terri Lowman



SUPER FANS!

HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK GARNERED APPLAUSE FROM VISITORS NATIONWIDE

by Karen Ellsworth, Director of Historic Garden Week and Editor of the Guidebook



The sun sparkled, the flowers bloomed and the homes and gardens shared their glory for nearly 23,000 visitors to Historic Garden Week 2023, held April 15–22. Thanks to the meticulous planning and abundant hospitality of the GCV's members, the 90th anniversary of HGW drew rave reviews.

Visitors hailed from 42 states and 12 countries, according to the ticketing data from Eventbrite. For those who

traveled from outside of Virginia, 36 percent were from our neighboring states of Maryland and North Carolina

The HGW post-event survey received 2,319 responses, representing 25 percent of all ticket purchasers.

"The terrific response rate is indicative of the affection people have for HGW," said Fran Carden, chairman of HGW 2022-2024 and a member of the Albemarle Garden Club.



"The Marianne Scruggs Garden Club of the Dallas Woman's Club had the most wonderful time. The hospitality shown to us was beyond our expectations.

We have never felt more welcomed or more cared for ... the great state of Virginia went above and beyond ... in return we left our mark in the shops ..."

— Elizabeth from Dallas, Texas



"I've already appropriated one of the ideas at my own home - a Mariken ginkgo tree in a planter on my deck!"

— Amy from Illinois

Has been on HGW several times, she visited four days and three nights this trip

"Beautiful homes, amazing floral arrangements, friendly volunteers!"

— Mary from Florida,

First time attendee, visited Virginia eight days



"I thoroughly enjoyed the homes, gardens, friendly people, and the weather was just beautiful. It was a fantastic week! I wish I could have fit in more tours."

— Guest from Pennsylvania

Has been visiting Virginia for HGW for more than 10 years

"Best house and garden tour in the country!"

— John from Florida

Visited six days

"It's a tradition!"

— Nancy from Georgia

Visited seven days



"We use visitors' feedback and input from our member clubs to make sure that the GCV is offering an extraordinary experience and providing valuable information for long-range planning," she adds.

Twenty-six percent of respondents attended multiple tour days, which helps with the overall economic impact of HGW through hotel stays, shopping and dining.

The top response from visitors? A whopping 51% requested that more gardens be offered on the tours. "They love seeing spectacular homes, but we clearly have many who appreciate horticulture and garden design," adds Fran.

Here are some of the many comments shared by attendees of HGW 2023.



"I love HGW. My companions from California could not believe the Garden Club of Virginia has been doing this for 90 years and do it every year."

— Guest from Maryland

HGW fan of more than 10 years

"Loved it! Thank you to the owners for opening their properties. We got some great ideas while touring."

— Guest from Massachusetts

"Thank you all for your hard work, from precision planning to outstanding execution. I always thoroughly enjoy the tours and am appreciative of the extensive work involved in coordinating the tours."

— Guest from Missouri

"For my first garden week, I was really impressed. Excellent properties were showcased, and it felt like a reasonable scope to see in one day."

— Anna from Alabama

Visited four days

"I really appreciate the effort that goes into organizing this event. The hosts were great. The interior arrangements were fabulous. Thank you."

— Frances from North Carolina



"Thank you again to all the Garden Club of Virginia members. Your work is not in vain and has inspired me past any dreams I ever had for myself. I want to pursue my passion for horticulture and become a renowned horticulturalist."

—Zari St. Jean from Virginia

First time tour attendee moved from Florida



"A beautiful experience— thank you!"

— Dana from Tennessee

First time attendee, visited Virginia three days

"My husband and I really appreciate the volunteers. They are very friendly, enthusiastic, and always ready to answer questions. They certainly express southern hospitality!"

— Diane from Maryland



daffodils on

From yellows to oranges to pinks and whites, daffodils were on parade at the Garden Club of Virginia's 89th spring daffodil show. Hosted at Virginia Wesleyan University in Virginia Beach on March 29, Daffodil Day provided a wonderful opportunity for the 100-plus attendees to mix and mingle with fellow daffodil lovers. Participants enjoyed the creative and innovative ways GCV club members interpreted the show's theme, Here Comes the Sun, in the artistic design and photography portions of the flower-filled event.



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

DAFFODIL DAY
VIRGINIA BEACH



Photo courtesy of Dana Parker

parade

Three club members, who were instrumental in ensuring Daffodil Day was a success, share their insights.

DEBBIE BONNEWELL,
2023 Daffodil Day Chairman,
Harborfront Garden Club

What was your favorite part of chairing this year's Daffodil Day?

My favorite part was that we actually got to have it at all! One month before the event that had been planned at Norfolk Botanical Gardens, we were told they could not accommodate us because of unexpected parking limitations due to construction. Virginia Wesleyan University (VWU) welcomed GCV with open arms and did everything they could to accommodate all our needs. They could not have been nicer. Before we finished cleaning up and packing, we were asked if we would like to hold Daffodil Day at VWU next year!

One added benefit was that the spaces we used for workrooms and the show floor were entirely open to view through the windows. Since we were in the student center,



there was a continuous flow of interested faculty, staff and students, curious about the daffodils and the actual show process. When the doors were open to the public, they came to see the arrangements, photographs and specimens.

I think we were able to provide a real education to an audience GCV has never captured.

At the conclusion of the show, we originally planned to use the daffodil specimens to make small arrangements for residents of a rehab facility close by. Because of the interest of all at VWU, we decided to allow anyone who wanted some flowers to help themselves. It was wonderful having basketball players ask us to help them pick out a bouquet for their rooms. Small vases filled with daffodils were distributed around the student center as well.

As one of the nation's largest daffodil shows based on the number of judged stems, this year's Daffodil Day included 62 horticulture exhibitors who entered 1,722 individual stems for judging. According to committee members working on Daffodil Day, exhibitors and judges raved about VWU. In addition, the spaces for the workrooms and the show floor were well lit and spacious.

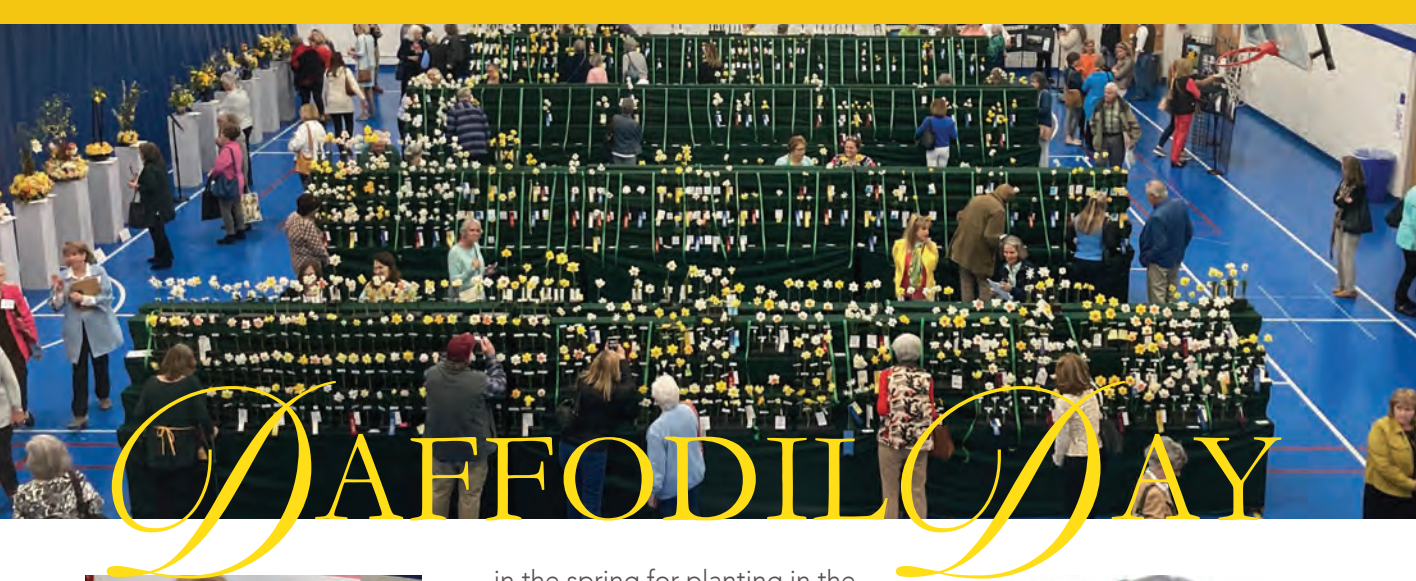


ORDER INFORMATION
GCVIRGINIA.ORG

**PURCHASE THE
NEWEST DAFFODIL
COLLECTION!**

Head to the GCV website to purchase the newest Daffodil Collection, Joyful. Included in the collection are five of the 13 narcissus divisions for a total of 15 bulbs. Consider entering stems in the GCV Collection category at next year's Daffodil Day, or simply plant them this fall to enjoy in your own spring garden.

The Joyful Collection
\$27 (NOT INCLUDING TAX).



Nancy pictured on the right

NANCY MCLAUGHLIN,
Daffodil Chairman,
The Blue Ridge Garden Club

Are you noticing any trends in terms of shapes and colors that are popular?

The newer cultivars are often very colorful, big and robust—real eye-catchers and showy. There is also a lot of interest in showing historic and classic cultivars that are often lovely treasures everyone wants to see. These classes encourage people to identify old blossoms found on older properties.

The miniatures always delight the growers and spectators who marvel at these tiny bits of perfection. What we see depends on the time of year and weather. You may see many of the same bloom because it happens to be their peak season. And then the following week's show will have a different bloom that is most prolific. It would be hard to boil the show down to a trend. If you love daffodils, you appreciate all!

Horticulture and artistic design portions were judged by American Daffodil Society-certified judges. The plant's long history of breeding has resulted in thousands of different cultivars.

Can you tell us about what it takes to enter the Best Interclub Collection class?

Every year there is a new collection of daffodils to order

in the spring for planting in the fall. These collections are grown and then shown to help us see how well each cultivar withstands the test of time and elements of nature. The GCV Daffodil Best Interclub Collection Class is meant to involve as many club members as possible.

Daffodil chairman should preregister for the interclub class. This helps the show organizers know how much room to allow for the different entries on the show floor. It is the chairman's responsibility to research the list of daffodils from the show schedule on the GCV website. After acquiring the list, each chairman may gather blooms from their club's membership to create the collection. All other classes require exhibitors to show only the blooms they have personally grown.

The fun part about this class is that it creates enthusiasm within the club. Each member who contributes to the collection feels a part of the process. This class encourages growing, showing, as well as camaraderie.

Daffodils were also showcased in a variety of arrangements that interpreted the "Sun King" in the French Baroque style; "The Sun Also Rises" in the Phoenix style, and "Keep Your Sunny Side Up" in the Casual Contemporary style in 36 stunning artistic design entries.



Cathy pictured on the left

CATHY LEE,
Artistic Design Chairman,
The Boxwood Garden Club

Arranging together sounds like a fun way to learn and to get to know other GCV members. Tell us more about how teams work together to create arrangements for judged shows.

Working with other club members is a fun way to learn design techniques as well as tips and tricks for flower arranging. Often "seasoned" arrangers have a wealth of knowledge to share with newer arrangers. Creating an interclub arrangement for a flower show is a great way to pass along this knowledge. Team members often help by collecting plant material and flowers to be used in creating the arrangement. It's fun to see what other members have growing in their gardens to share. By working together, everyone wins—whether they take home the blue or just have fun creating together. Building member relationships are just as important as building the arrangements!

— Compiled by Karen Ellsworth



Demystifying

PHOTOGRAPHY SHOWS

GCV PHOTOGRAPHER SAYS "USING CELL PHONES IS JUST FINE."

At any given GCV event, you may see official shutterbug Susie Lendermon wandering about, camera in tow.

This Augusta Garden Club member's GCV "job" is to document important GCV milestones like Daffodil Day and to encourage club members to enter photography shows. She's happy to dispense advice, especially to those new to the art of photography who may have some trepidation about entering shows. In fact, she says, it's not uncommon for some members to express being overwhelmed by the equipment many serious photographers own, feeling as though they need a fancy camera to participate in a show. "Absolutely not," counters Susie. "Many of the photos that are entered in the photography section of Daffodil Day were taken with cell phones. Please don't be intimidated. We love novices and would love for you to enter a photography show."

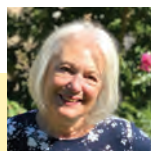


All Daffodil Day photos courtesy of Edie Hessberg, Sarah Blackburn and Susie Lendermon

GCV club members reflect on the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Splendid! Magical! A standout! These are just some of the ways in which GCV club members described the 2023 Annual Meeting in Winchester. Hosted by the Winchester-Clarke Garden Club and headquartered at the historic George Washington Hotel, the meeting featured dynamic speakers, much-anticipated award presentations and the fabulous fellowship that makes the Garden Club of Virginia such a collective treasure. 🌿

"This annual meeting was fun, friendly and informative! There was genuine camaraderie among the members and the festive mood that ensued was palpable. The presentations were remarkable. "They" say that speeches are 95 percent about presentation and five percent about content. Not true in this meeting. From the announcement of two new fall initiatives—*Cultivating Conversations* and *History Blooms*—to the great news about the net



"Many thanks to the Winchester-Clarke Garden Club for hosting the 2023 Annual Meeting! GCV is alive and thriving, with new events like *History Blooms* in October at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture and the new staff including Communications Director Sarah Blackburn. The presentation by Liam O'Connor, an architect who recently completed the British Normandy Memorial, was excellent and would be an excellent GCV trip in the future! The focus on phytoremediation—the process in which plants breakdown harmful pollutants in our soil—was a fantastic learning experience! But mostly, it was the fellowship with members of GCV that remains a standout. This was my first visit to Winchester, and I am already planning a trip back to explore this beautiful town in Virginia."

—Kelly Armstrong, President, The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton, Richmond



OUTSTANDING OBSERVATIONS

profit from Historic Garden Week, the wonderfully inspiring video by Zari St. Jean and her thoughts on what the Garden Club of Virginia means to her, the thought-provoking talk by Dr. Laurie Fox on phytoremediation and the poignant commentary by Liam O'Connor on his work on the beaches of Normandy, an area that is historically tied to GCV, this meeting was very substantive. And beyond all that, we got a hilarious story and a lead to an "angel of the road" who rescued our president when she was stranded with a flat tire on one of her many road trips on GCV business!"

—Edie Hessberg, Winchester-Clarke Garden Club, Membership News Chairman



"My first highlight of the annual meeting was the magical evening at Long Branch. From the spectacular setting overlooking the Blue Ridge Mountains to dinner under the tent and even the bus ride, what a splendid launch into things. The most memorable moment was seeing Mary Louisa Pollard receive the de Lacy Gray Conservation Award. I have known the Pollards since I was a teenager, and it brought tears of joy to see her accept that honor for all the work she has done with land conservation. So many farms and rural properties are being gobbled up by developers that I think her work to preserve properties for generations to come should be applauded."

—Latané Avery, President, Harborfront Garden Club, Norfolk





GCV DISTRICT 1

In March, AGC members decked out 1920s style to enjoy a slideshow and fellowship celebrating the club's centennial. Pictured here are 13 of the club's presidents. (above)

AGC members assemble on the staircase at the Kent-Valentine House in February (below)
Photos courtesy of Sharon Stiles

The Ashland Garden Club

ASHLAND

Hats off to Ashland Garden Club's 100 years! We've had a lot of fun celebrations this year in honor of our Centennial. In February, we hosted a lovely cocktail party in Richmond at the beautiful Kent-Valentine House. In March, we donned hats, pearls and gloves in 1920s style to honor our presidents with afternoon tea at the Hanover Arts & Activities Center. Thirteen presidents were in attendance, and we all enjoyed a slide show that captured AGC members and events over the many decades, sharing delicious food, friendship and great memories. Cheers to 100 years, AGC!

—Sharon Stiles



The James River Garden Club

RICHMOND

Supreme gardener and legendary garden writer Page Dickey was the guest speaker at the February meeting of the James River Garden Club. Held at the Dependency at Wilton House Museum in Richmond, Page's engaging program included slides that captured the evolution of her gardens, Duck Hill in upstate New York, and her newest project, Church House in rural northwest Connecticut. She described in eloquent detail the constantly changing 34-year project at Duck Hill, and then discovering her next chapter at Church House, an 18th-century Methodist church, where she and her husband, Bosco Schell, now live and garden on its



Page Dickey, author of *Uprooted*.
Courtesy of Page Dickey

picturesque 17 acres of rolling fields and woodland.

Page is an honorary member of The Garden Club of America, is a director emeritus of The Garden Conservancy and serves on many horticulture-related boards. She is the author of eight books about garden design—from creating gardens that reflect their settings (*Gardens in the Spirit of Place* and *Breaking Ground*) to planning gardens as extensions of our homes (*Inside Out*) and each is

illustrated by exceptional examples around America. *Duck Hill Journal* and *Embroidered Ground* are about Duck Hill and the process of making the garden there over three-plus decades, and her thoughts on gardening in general. Her newest book, *Uprooted*, reflects on the monumental transition from Duck Hill to Church House, chronicling her reboot and what it's meant to start anew.

—Madeline Mayhood

Church House garden photo.
Courtesy of Page Dickey



GCV DISTRICT 3

The Hampton Roads Garden Club
NEWPORT NEWS/HAMPTON

The sign reads "You Have Been Bloomed!" Eye-catching flowers are garnering much attention from passers-by. Is it someone's birthday? An anniversary? Congrats on a new baby, a new grandchild? Maybe it is simply saying, "I'm thinking of you." For myriad reasons, this colorful surprise has delighted many and become an ongoing fundraiser for The Hampton Roads Garden Club.

HRGC members Kathy Hutcheson and Amanda Graham created and implemented "You've Been Bloomed." Kathy, the artist, drew and painted the wooden flowers. Kathy's husband, John, honorary team member, wielded the saw and determined how to make the flowers sturdy and impervious to the weather. The team experimented and conquered everything from how many coats of weatherproof paint and sealer to apply to how to create supports that could withstand wind, while not damaging anything in the recipient's yard. A hand-designed card with a



Kathy Hutcheson and Amanda Graham present their fundraising idea to Hampton Roads Garden Club. Instant delight and appreciation! Photo by Mary Johnson

personalized message is left for the person being honored. Delivery is done in secret, whenever possible, adding to the happy surprise.

Club members were the first customers, placing orders to decorate the yards of family and friends. Then neighbors, as well as observers, read the accompanying signs, placed orders, and spread the word. Kathy and Amanda became road warriors right away, making weekly deliveries from Williamsburg to Smithfield and many neighborhoods in between. New members on the fundraising

team have ensured that this effort will continue.

The proceeds of this project are used to connect with and support our community. A few examples are the refurbishing and re-landscaping of the courtyards at The Mariner's Museum and the Hampton History Museum, sending a child to Nature Camp each year and connecting with residents of Newport Harbour Apartments by hands-on wreath-making and flower arranging for adult residents and lessons in plant identification for children.

—Linda K. Smith



Blooms greet an honoree at a home on Fort Monroe. Photo by Kathy Hutcheson

4

GCV DISTRICT 4

The Chatham Garden Club
CHATHAM

The Chatham Garden Club surprised the residents of Chatham Health and Rehabilitation Center with flowers for Valentine's Day. Over 80 arrangements were delivered bringing many smiles and much enjoyment to the patients. The arrangements are pictured here, along with Staci Wall, CGC Flower Show Chairman, and Kathy Anderson, club president.

—Kathy Anderson



Photo courtesy of Chatham Garden Club



Pictured here are A.C. Wilson (honorary member), Leslie Hervey (current president), past presidents Becky Farrar, Lucy Wilson, Bonnie Greenwalt, Page Beeler, Helen Carter, Nancy Moore, Cindy Edgerton, Debbie Lewis (GCV president and member of The Garden Study Club), Kim Snyder, Karen Jones, Coates Clark, Nancy Spilman, Mary Kate Dillion, Ann Auston, Judy Garland and Susan Morris.

The Martinsville Garden Club
MARTINSVILLE

The Martinsville Garden Club celebrated its 100th Anniversary in February at Chatmoss Country Club with dinner, dancing and a skit commemorating its milestones. A formal invitation captured the evening's elegant theme.

—Heidi Pinkston



So You Want to Attract Butterflies?

1 Start by choosing a spot that gets partial or full sun. Butterflies are ectothermic, which means they rely on heat from their surroundings to keep them warm. In the early morning, they will often bask in the sun to warm up before they start flying around. Consider placing some flat rocks in the sun where they can bask and warm up. Also, think about adding a bird bath or rainwater collecting source because butterflies get many of their needed salts and nutrients from groundwater that they cannot get from nectar sources.

2 Pick out a variety of nectar-producing plants for the garden. Many native butterflies rely heavily on nectar as their main food source. Choose plants that produce large amounts of nectar to support multiple butterflies. Examples are buttonbush, Joe Pye weed, goldenrod, beebalm, wild bergamot, zinnia, sedum, butterfly weed, milkweeds, coneflower, hollyhock, aster, phlox and verbena. For more information on annuals and perennials that will attract butterflies, check out Attracting Native Butterflies information on the

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden's Butterflies LIVE! page.

3 Decide which native butterflies you want to attract to your garden.

Are you aiming to attract Monarchs? American Ladies? Black Swallowtails? Common Buckeyes? Eastern Tailed Blues? Mourning Cloaks? Painted Ladies? Why stop there—the varieties are nearly endless. Find out what their host plants are and use that information to plant accordingly. Pipevine Swallowtails are partial to Dutchman's pipe and Virginia snakeroot. Pearl Crescents prefer asters as their host plant, while violets are the host plants for Great Spangled Fritillaries.

4 Choose a variety of butterfly host plants for the garden. Female butterflies will taste plants with their feet until they find the right one to lay their eggs on. While some species are generalists and their caterpillars can feed on many different plants, other species are specialists that only have one host plant. Butterflies often hang around their host plant, mating, laying egg, and feeding from its flowers.



Cloudless Sulphur Butterfly: *Phoebis sennae*
Host Plants: wild senna, legumes
Photo by Bob Peterson/Wikimedia Commons

This article was adapted from "Tips for a Virginia Butterfly Garden" by Clara Aus, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden's Butterflies LIVE! Coordinator for the M&T Bank Butterflies LIVE! exhibit. She loves educating the public about insects, especially butterflies, and hopes to strengthen engagement with the community about how we can help native pollinators in Virginia and its surrounding states.

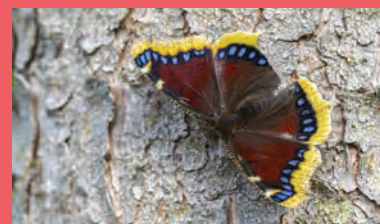
BUTTERFLIES LIVE!
RUNS THROUGH OCT. 9
LEWISGINTER.ORG



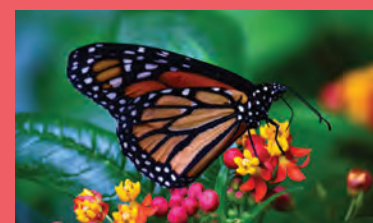
Painted Lady Butterfly: *Vanessa cardui*
Host Plants: thistle, daisies, hollyhock, mallow, legumes • *Photo by Todor/Pixabay*



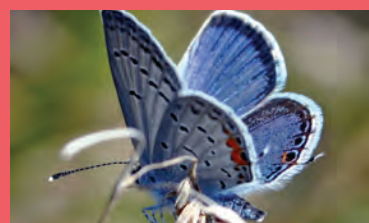
American Lady Butterfly: *Vanessa virginiensis*
Host Plants: asters, daisies, everlastings, artemisia
Photo by Jan Haerer/Pixabay



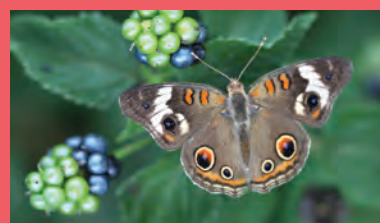
Mourning Cloak Butterfly: *Nymphalis antiopa*
Host Plants: willow, birch, elm, hackberry, cottonwood • *Photo by Erik Karis/Pixabay*



Monarch Butterfly: *Danaus plexippus*
Host Plants: milkweed
Photo by LeoPictures/Pixabay



Eastern Tailed Blue Butterfly: *Everes comyntas*
Host Plants: legumes, especially clover, trefoils, and peas • *Photo by Eric Carlson/Wikimedia Commons*



Common Buckeye: *Junonia coenia*
Host Plants: plantains, false foxglove, loosestrife, toadflax, snapdragons
Photo by James Flanery/Wikimedia Commons



SAVE THE DATES

- 2023**
- September 18** | Horticulture Workshop, Kent-Valentine House, Richmond
 - October 6-8** | History Blooms, Virginia Museum of History & Culture, Richmond
 - October 17-19** | GCV Board of Governors, Eastern Shore
 - November 2** | GCV Conservation Forum, Charlottesville

- 2024**
- March 26-27** | Daffodil Day, Virginia Beach
 - April 20-27** | Historic Garden Week
 - May 21-23** | GCV Annual Meeting, Charlottesville



CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Featuring the work of GCV artists on the cover of the *Journal* is a long-standing and much anticipated tradition. Our issues mirror the seasons—spring, summer, fall, winter—and cover art corresponds to those seasons accordingly. If you'd like your artwork to be considered, please email high-resolution jpg files to journal@gcvirginia.org.

Financial Partners for Every Season of Life

No judging.
No jargon.
No wavering.

Tracy Shackelford
Harold Philipsen, CFP®

Husband & Wife led Financial Planning Firm

bleakleytidewater.com | 1215 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Williamsburg, VA | (757) 703-0030

Securities offered through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advice offered through Bleakley Financial Group, a registered investment advisor and separate entity from LPL Financial.

Periodicals
Postage Paid
574-520
At Richmond, VA
And Additional Offices
Forwarding Service
Requested



<<Mr. John B. Jones
PO Box 1234
City Name, State 12345>>



WE'RE FOR EVERY TREE.

**EXPERT TREE CARE
FOR 115 YEARS —
AND GROWING.**

Magnolia stellata. Magnolia x soulagneana. Better known as Star Magnolia and Saucer Magnolia, these are two of the thousands of species we specialize in. For 115 years, our family-owned company has brought a rare mix of groundbreaking science, award-winning safety practices, and global resources to every tree and shrub care task at hand. Discover how our passion is inspiring one beautiful property after another.

Call **877 BARTLETT** or visit **bartlett.com**

PRUNING | FERTILIZATION | CABLING & BRACING
INSECT & DISEASE MANAGEMENT | TREE INSPECTIONS
STORM DAMAGE | LIGHTNING PROTECTION | REMOVALS



**BARTLETT
TREE EXPERTS**

SCIENTIFIC TREE CARE SINCE 1907

The F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company