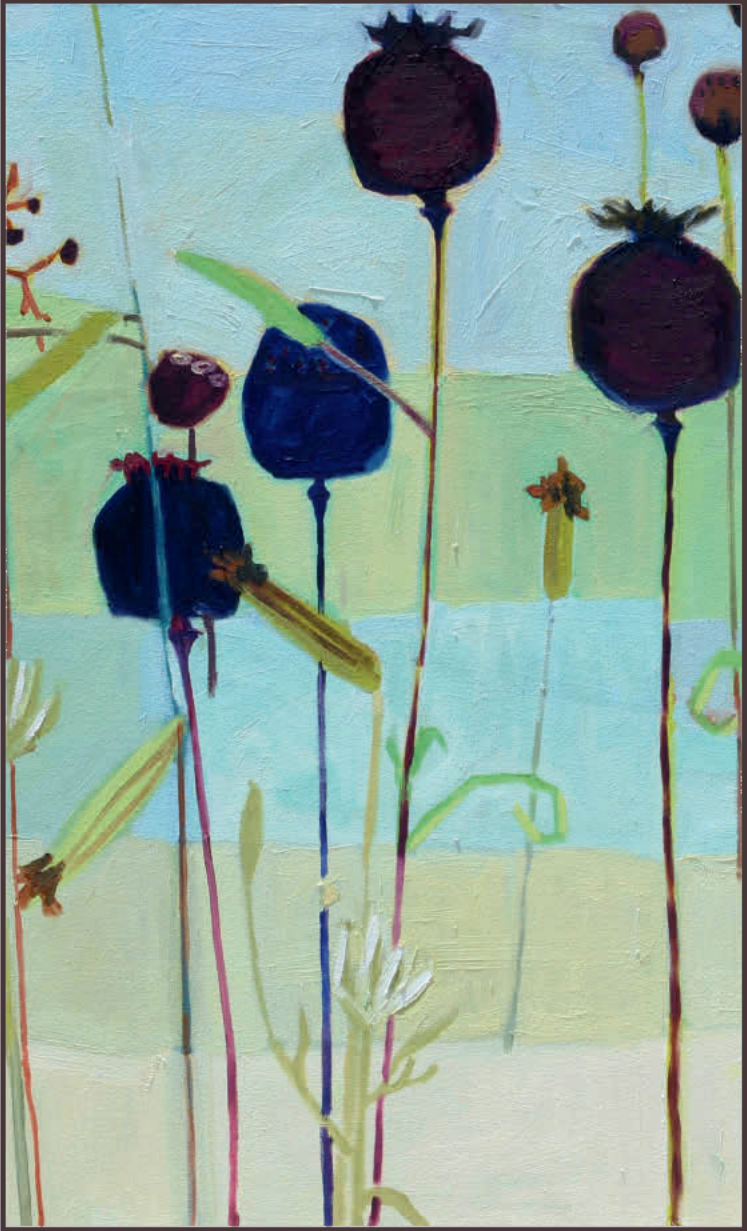


THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA



VOL LXII, NO. 3, SEPTEMBER 2017

Journal



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

The Garden Club of Virginia exists to celebrate the beauty of the land, to conserve the gifts of nature and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage.

FROM THE EDITOR

By the Editor

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ON THE COVER...

Karen Blair, a member of the Albemarle Garden Club, evokes the harvest season with her graphic rendering of "Seed Pods" in oil on canvas.

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www.VAGardenWeek.org

Postmaster, please send address changes to:

Garden Club of Virginia
12 East Franklin Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Award-winning History of the Blue Ridge Garden Club

by Julie Grover
The Blue Ridge Garden Club

Stewards of the natural beauty of Lexington and surrounding Rockbridge County since our founding in 1925, the Blue Ridge Garden Club seeks “to encourage, promote, and stimulate knowledge and appreciation of gardening, nature, and the environment” in our town and on our trails. In 2015, the club successfully nominated Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University as recipients of the Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award for conservation: VMI for its maintenance of the Chessie Nature Trail and W&L for its initiatives in sustainability and energy efficiency.



Back-to-back winners of the de Lacy Gray Memorial Medal for Conservation were club members Sallie Sebrell, who won the award in 2011 for raising awareness of global warming, and the mother-daughter team of Mary Stuart Gilliam and Catharine Gilliam Burns, winners in 2010 for their successful efforts to save Goshen Pass from development. The Blue Ridge Garden Club, with the help of the Garden Club of Virginia, has been vigilant since the 1920s in preventing dam construction, road expansion, logging, commercialization and other threats to Goshen Pass. Another club member, Molly Brown, won the de Lacy Gray Medal in 2000 for her Roots and Shoots Intergenerational School Garden, which has been the model for other school gardens across the country.

In 1929, Mrs. William H. Cocke, first president of the Blue Ridge Garden Club, was also the first recipient of the Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement for her creation of the VMI Memorial Garden. Louise Gilliam, the 15th president of the Garden Club of Virginia, received the Massie Medal in 1960 with her husband, Frank, for “their inspirational success as horticulturalists and good citizens.” Our club received the Massie Medal in 1977 for the creation and maintenance of the Bertha Whitney Townes Memorial Courtyard Garden at Stonewall Jackson Hospital. The club has been the recipient of two Common Wealth Awards, one in 1980, for landscaping the entrance to the C&O (Chessie) Walking Trail, and another in 1996, for the Roots and Shoots Garden, which won the first Conservation Educator Award at the 2016 GCV Conservation Forum.

More recently, Blue Ridge Garden Club members have been active in maintaining the Veterans Memorial Garden; selling wreaths to raise funds to support charitable, civic and educational projects, both locally and across the state; and supporting the mission of the Garden Club of Virginia. Member Barbara Walsh serves as the executive director of the Rockbridge Area Conservation Council, helping the club remain ever vigilant.

We look forward to hosting the 98th meeting of the GCV Board of Governors, “Transforming Town and Trails,” in October and trust you will enjoy the natural beauty of our town and trails that we have strived to preserve. 🌸

2017 Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale and Conservation Educator Awards

by Lesie Leake, Chairman, GCV Conservation Awards Committee
Three Chopt Garden Club

Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award

Blue Ridge Partnership in Regional Invasive Species Management has been selected to receive the Garden Club of Virginia's 2017 Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award. The Albemarle Garden Club was the nominating club.

Blue Ridge PRISM was organized to confront problems in controlling alien, invasive plants, to encourage neighborhood cooperation, and to encourage private landowners, governmental agencies and non-profit organizations to co-ordinate their efforts and work together to control the most problematic species. While the organization spans a 10-county region along the northern Blue Ridge comprising the counties of Nelson, Albemarle, Augusta, Greene, Rockingham, Madison, Page, Rappahannock, Warren and Clarke, it hopes to serve as a model for the creation of additional regional invasive species efforts in other parts of Virginia.

The PRISM Speaker's Bureau offers presentations on the PRISM in particular, but also on the problems associated with invasive plants more generally, as well as control methods and ideas for restoration of areas cleared of invasives.

Garden Club of Virginia 2017 Conservation Educator Award

Jody Ullmann, director of Lynnhaven River Now Pearl School Program, has been selected to receive the Garden Club of Virginia 2017 Conservation Educator Award. Nominated by the Princess Anne Garden Club, Ullmann has been a passionate environmental educator since the late 1970s. Throughout her career as science teacher, storyteller, garden teacher, education consultant, museum consultant and grant writer, her passion for science, the environment and for working with children has been evident. Since joining LRNow in 2013, Ullmann has doubled the number of Pearl Schools in Virginia Beach, with plans to reach a goal of 100% participation in 2017.



Jody Ullmann

She has been instrumental in developing a number of educational programs: a project to restore Spartina grass to the shoreline of Crab Creek, the lake at Mt. Trashmore, floating wetlands on stormwater ponds at Hampton Roads Sanitation District properties, schools and the shoreline at Pleasure House Point. The Trashion Show is an annual fashion show produced by middle and high school students and teachers featuring clothes made exclusively from trash such as plastics, newspapers and straws. The "Watersheds and Me" quilt project was designed to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of LRNow. Schools were invited to submit quilt squares expressing their feelings about the water.

Both awards will be presented at the 59th Annual GCV Conservation Forum, Oct. 27 in Charlottesville. 🌿



2016-17 Garden Club of Virginia New Members

(July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017)

Albemarle: Nanette Alcaro, Alexandra Shirley

Alexandria: Jennifer Hooff, Katherine Murphy

Ashland: Elaine Kastelberg, Laura Liberty, Stacey Rowe, Lindsay Ryland

Augusta: Kathy Bishop, Beverly Coffman, Beth Rowe, Carroll Weatherman

Blue Ridge: Leslie Bovay, Joanne Robblee, Whitney Huffman

Boxwood: Anna Acquino, Mackay Boyer, Cammy Carleton, Kim Condyles,
Susie McCauley

Brunswick: Susan Sawyer, Clare Williams

Charlottesville: Anne DeMaso, Amy Harris, Lawson Jenkins, Christy Wenzel,
Ames Winter

Chatham: Mary Alice Gentry, Charlotte Paris, Linda Williams

Danville: Angie Alexander, Leah Cooter, Brenda Jones

Dolley Madison: Anne Cantrell, Gina Sedwick, Bonnie Walsh

Eastern Shore: Nan Bennett, Kathleen Coalter, Elizabeth Dodd, Catie Hubbard,
Conny Needels, Linda Rogers, Ann Snyder, Martha Sutherland,
Pamela vonEliff Turner, Ann Hayward Walker

Elizabeth River: Tyese Bohan, Holly Bolling, Deborah Creamer, Margaret Davis,
Elizabeth Johnson, Johanna Perakes, Lynn Wiggins, Ellen Wood

Fauquier Loudoun: Sheila Harrell, Susanne Lamb, Christina Mackenzie,
Linda Taylor, Anne Walker, Georgiana Watt, Lucy Zimmerman

Franklin: Linda Burkett, Diana Cutchins, Sandra Holloman, Linda Smith,
Bruce Standahl

Garden Study: Patti Covington, Margaret Davis

Gloucester: Karen Barrs, Cynthia Geisert

Hampton Roads: Val Bowen, Amanda Graham, Kathy Hutcheson, Jane Quinn,
Linda Smith, Ann Moir, Lori Shuford

Harborfront, Teal Desai, Susan Einhorn, Harper Lea, Brenda Walters,

Hillside: Brandon Landes

Hunting Creek: Ana Anderson, Claire Edwards, Kim Griffith, Leslie Golden,
Anne Kelly, Betsy Regnell, Joyce Stevens

Huntington: Mari Bennett

James River: Jane Abbe, Susan Dameron, Sally Ellington, Carter Johnston,
Marshall Lynch, Nell O'Neil, Beth Spilman

Leesburg: Lyndsay Chamblin, Julie Chapin, Tracy Coffing, Sky Richardson

Lynchburg: Marcia Milam

Martinsville: Dillard Carter

Middle Peninsula: Karen Leigh Bowman, Sally Pearson, Winston Sheffield,
Agnes Stillfried, Rebecca Townsend

Mill Mountain: Sarah Boxley Beck, Meg Carter, Jessica Durham,
Kathryn Feldman, Liz Frankl, Sandra Friedlander, Sally Godsey,
Mollie Levan, Robin Roberts, Betsy Thomas

Nansemond River: Susan Lawrence

Norfolk: Cindy Conde, Kedron Fix, Virginia Henderson, Nancy Oelrich,
Maida Tipping, Katie Van Buren

Northern Neck: Nancy Austin, Lynn Bugg Pritchard, Jenny Saam

Petersburg: Patricia Mersen, Margaret Smith

Princess Anne: Mary Bernsen, Jan Fine, Barbie Sherrill

Rappahannock Valley: Chrissy McDermott, Mary Jane O'Neill

Rivanna: Cammy Diehl, Susan Overstreet, Toine Wyckoff

Roanoke Valley: Heather Greer, Mary Page Gwaltney, Justine Jones,
Beth Macher, Noelle Milam

Spotswood: Marilyn Alley, Barbara Kaufman

Three Chopt: Tarah Carlow, Courtney Harper, Mary Ann Joel,
Deborah Knighton, Carter Miller, Darcie Nelsen, Lane Sanderson,
Julee Spitzer, Farrar Wentworth

Tuckahoe: Ellen Buoyer, Charlotte Clarkson, Bonnie Cricchi, Meredith Lauter

Virginia Beach: Kelly Thornton

Warren County: Meredith Bearov

Warrenton: Kirsten Dueck, Nell Lawrence, Lauren Lawson

Williamsburg: Susie Hodgson, Alice Krebs

Winchester: Audrey Alderman, Linda Challilnor, Kristen Larsen, Polly Nelson,
Katie Wiley

Winchester-Clarke: Marianne Casey, Valerie Fox, Mary Serock, Weesy Wallace

Daffodil Notes

A Daffodil by Any Other Name ...

*by Janet G. Hickman, GCV Daffodil Committee Chairman
Hillside Garden Club*



“What’s in a name?” asks Shakespeare’s Juliet. “A rose by any other name would smell as sweet.” But a correct name is definitely useful in the world of daffodils. A name allows one to look up pictures and lots of interesting information about a daffodil on www.DaffSeek.org. When buying a daffodil bulb, having a correct name assures that it will bloom as expected and fulfill your plans for landscaping or flower arranging.

Furthermore, the correct name is essential for showing daffodils. A misnamed daffodil on the show bench will not be judged; it will just get a polite note saying “judges question name.” That is exactly what some very experienced judges said this spring when they saw the flower supplied as ‘High Society’ in the 2016 Garden Club of Virginia Collection. It’s a lovely daffodil with a nice smooth white perianth and a pleasing pink cup, but—unfortunately—it’s just not ‘High Society.’

How can this happen? That’s what Becky Heath of Brent & Becky’s Bulbs set out to discover. She was appalled when she saw that the bulb was not blooming true to name and began the detective work of finding its true identity. That search included visiting the supplier in Holland and tracing the chain of growers and distributors back four levels. Ultimately, she learned that what we received is an as yet unnamed Dutch seedling. “As yet,” meaning that she likes this new daffodil so well that she is determined to see that it gets registered with a proper name.

If you purchased the 2016 GCV Collection from Brent & Becky’s, change your labels and maps, removing the name ‘High Society’ and noting it as “2016 GCV not yet named.” Becky will let us know when it is named and at that time it can go back on the GCV Collection list and the show bench. ‘High Society’ will remain on the 2016 list in case you have it from another source (or, like me, still have it from the 2007 GCV Tried and True collection.)

Becky’s diligence in finding the correct identity is an example of the value of working with suppliers who take personal responsibility for their bulbs’ quality. I’ve had similarly good experiences with Old House Gardens, suppliers of heritage bulbs. They are careful about the authenticity of their historic bulbs, even notifying me personally three years after I bought a certain bulb when they learned it had been misnamed.

Name confusion can happen with any source; caution is always wise. Check new bulbs as they bloom against the photos and descriptions on DaffSeek and ask an expert when in doubt. 🌱

Club Notes

Local Support from a National Chain

by Jackie Anderson and Linda Tiani
The Garden Club of Fairfax

While many of us were readying our gardens for the budding spring season, it was a wonderful treat for the Garden Club of Fairfax to be supported by our local Talbots while at the same time improving our closet choices. Ten percent of the pre-tax sales for the day were donated to our club. Through local charity events, Talbots strives to give back to the community. The store served light refreshments and made special signs to advertise the event.

The Garden Club of Fairfax members informed shoppers of Historic Garden Week in Virginia, passed out guidebooks, sold tickets and discussed club goals. It was rewarding to witness the enthusiastic feedback for the love of nature, history and HGW. Additionally, we learned of potential speakers and discovered several ladies who were anxious to become members.

Consider contacting your local Talbots or other merchants to support your garden club and promote the goals of the Garden Club of Virginia and your club. It should be a win-win for all. It most certainly was for us as our coffers increased by more than \$1,000. 🌱

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Historic Garden Week

by *Stephie Broadwater, Historic Garden Week Chairman*
The Nansemond River Garden Club

Historic Garden Week is a signature event for the Garden Club of Virginia. Its goals are three-fold. As a fundraiser, it underwrites restoration projects that beautify our landscape, support our centennial project with Virginia state parks and fund fellowship programs. As a public relations event, HGW promotes tourism, welcoming visitors to our beautiful state with gracious hospitality and showcasing approximately 30 different communities each spring. Finally, Historic Garden Week is the only activity shared by each member of the Garden Club of Virginia annually. Camaraderie and friendships are developed and strengthened when we come together to make a difference. And what a difference we make.

Every member's dedication, commitment, creativity and hard work made HGW 2017 a great success. We welcomed 24,413 visitors from across the country and beyond. Soggy weather affected some tours and those not affected were thankful for their good fortune. Thirty tours netted proceeds totaling \$565,355, 5% above the 17-year average.

Producing successful tours is a year-round activity. To kick off HGW 2018, Boot Camp 5 took place on June 27 and 28. Attended by 75 enthusiastic incoming tour chairmen and co-chairmen, we covered a wide array of topics providing direction and answering questions to ensure success and lessen the sometimes daunting task of tour production. By now, homes and gardens have been procured, countless pictures taken, guidebook copy submitted, advertisements sold and sponsorships secured.

We also announced that Auburn in Mathews County will be featured on the guidebook cover and unveiled the Kwanzan cherry as 2018's highlighted bloom. Find a description of the tours at www.vagardenweek.org. Mark your calendars for April 21-28, 2018, and visit as many of the 29 wonderful tours as you can. 🌸



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Garden Week

House & Garden Tours Offered Statewide
April 21-28, 2018

Tour proceeds fund the restoration and preservation of more than 40 of Virginia's historic public gardens and landscapes, a research fellowship program and a new partnership with Virginia State Parks.

Kwanzan Cherry

For a complete listing of tours
and to purchase tickets please visit
www.vagardenweek.org



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

Symposium

RICHMOND 2017



Horticulture Show | John Marshall, 101 North 5th St.



*Enter your stems Monday, 1-4 p.m.
and Tuesday 9-11:30 a.m.*

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2-6 p.m.

*Open to the public
Walkthrough with Judges 2-3 p.m.*

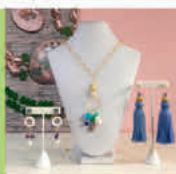
Sip, See, Shop

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 5-6:30 p.m.

*Enjoy a drink as you explore horticulture exhibits
and shop our fun boutique!*



GCV Boutique | Tuesday 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
John Marshall
Wednesday 9 a.m. - Noon
Bolling Haxall



Artistic Show | Kent-Valentine House

**Tuesday, Sept. 26, noon-6:30 p.m. and
Wednesday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m. to noon**

*Imagine the possibilities...of what you might create
in your own home as you find inspiration in the
arrangements shared by GCV members.*

Challenge the Artistic Judges

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

*Watch GCV judges create arrangements and
compete for your vote!*

Sip and See

Tuesday Sept. 26, beginning at 5 p.m.

Enjoy a glass of bubbly with us at K-VH



Venues:

Bolling Haxall House | 211 East Franklin Street

John Marshall | 101 North 5th Street

Kent-Valentine House | 12 East Franklin Street

On Tuesday, Sept. 26, the Symposium Trolley will shuttle guests among the venues from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

MORE INFORMATION: WWW.GCVSYMPOSIUM.ORG

Tips for Grooming and Showing Horticulture

1. Read the schedule at www.gcvsymposium.org.
2. Cut specimens early in the morning, place in cool water.
3. Cut bloom at peak of maturity when it is $\frac{3}{4}$ open.
4. Groom your specimen: examine with flashlight and magnifying glass removing dirt, insects, spent blooms and achieving balance.
5. Condition.
6. Stage specimen in clean container with no foliage below water line, use wedging material to position upright.
7. Complete the entry card using binomial nomenclature and other required information.

Inspiring Speakers | Visit www.gcvsymposium.org for speaker bios

Is your "thing" horticulture, conservation, flower arranging or all three? We've got a great lineup of speakers.

Tuesday, Sept. 26

The Plant Lady | John Marshall, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Seated luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Karen Rexrode presentation 12:30-1:30 p.m.

(Advance registration required. \$50 per person. Sold out.)

Three Backyard Earth Savers* | John Marshall, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Karen Forget, Christina Trapani and Katie Register

Flower Farm Girls* | John Marshall, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Foxie Morgan and Beverly Lacey

** No charge and no registration required.*

Wednesday, Sept. 27

Flower Arranging School | Bolling Haxall, 9:30 a.m.-noon

Tricky Wolfes and Kathy Rainer

(Advance registration required. \$50 per person.)

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Flowers Chopped

by Mary Stroh Queitzsch and Gale Martin
Dolley Madison Garden Club

Dolley Madison Garden Club's Flower Committee organized a Flowers Chopped competition to challenge members' floral arranging skills. Modeled after the Food Network show *Chopped*, and arranged in three rounds, there were three competitors for each round. Each was given a closed basket filled with items to be used to create a particular arrangement. Supplies, including containers, floral picks, greenery, extra flowers, branches, wire, frogs, and other helpful aids, were available on a nearby table. Ten minutes were allotted to create an arrangement from start to finish.

The first three arrangers opened their baskets to find peonies, pink roses, hellebores, and red licorice sticks. Their assignment was to create a small mass arrangement for a side table using each flower variety and the licorice sticks. Competitors worked furiously. When time was called the judges, Tasha Tobin and Vibeke Ober, examined the arrangements. The winner of round one was Carla Passarello with an arrangement using licorice loops mirroring green flat cane loops in her design.

For round two, competitors found Siberian and bearded iris, baptisia, ferns and striped paper straws with which to create a line arrangement. The paper straws proved to be challenging but when time was called all three competitors had found unique ways to incorporate the straws. The judges went to work again and named Joanna Davies the winner for incorporating a dynamic curve into her line arrangement along with the paper straws.

In the final round, three arrangers faced off with baskets of pink sweetheart roses, carnations, and lollipops to create tussie mussies. The competition was stiff; scissors snipped away, wire and lace from the supply 'kitchen' flew through fingers to pull the small nosegays together, and competitors finished just as time was called. After an intense whispered discussion, the judges declared Gail Babnew the winner of round three for use of texture and lovely lollipop placement. Amazingly, all of the winners were novice arrangers.

Members are talking about Flowers Chopped for 2018 and about inviting other clubs. Visit our Flowers Chopped video on our webpage at www.dmgcvirginia.org to see the competition. ❁

Save the Date!

May 13, 2020
Richmond

Clean and Abundant Water Matters

by Marilyn South
The Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula

The Garden Club of the Northern Neck and the Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula have partnered for several years to bring statewide conservation issues to our local communities. Citizens and students have attended the conservation forums, which seek to deepen understanding and awareness of conservation issues and how their lives may be impacted by individual, organizational and governmental decision making processes. Please mark your calendar for the upcoming forum.



Speaker: Lewis Lawrence, executive director of the Middle Peninsula Planning Commission, covering the comprehensive water supply planning process of the Commonwealth of Virginia that ensures each locality:

- has adequate and safe drinking water available to all citizens
- encourages, promotes, and protects all other beneficial uses of the commonwealth's water resources
- develops incentives for alternative water sources
- hears the concerns of the public

The Editorial Board welcomes submissions and reserves the right to edit them.

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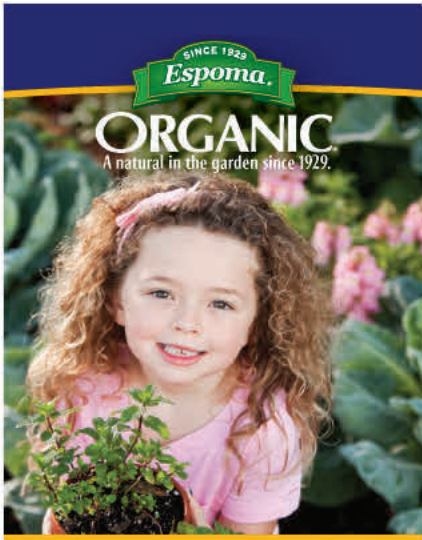
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join our gardening community



Awaiting Fall's Arrival

by Kaye Moomaw
Hillside Garden Club

I am always happy when the summer heat breaks and cooler temperatures return. I welcome the opportunity to begin tidying up my gardens and taking inventory. As I begin cleaning, I also start a new compost pile because of the perfect mix of greens and browns at this time. I divide plants that were crowded or just didn't perform the way I intended. I find it easy to flag a problem in the garden with a plastic fork or Popsicle stick, so I can remember where plants are that need attention.

Tending a garden can be quite time consuming and messy. If I have a lot of things to dig out and it hasn't rained, I water an area intensely for a few hours and let it sit so that the next day I can dig easily. I use shears for fine rooted things, shovels for clumping roots and pitchforks for roots that are entwined. For example, phlox divides easily with shears, sedum can be divided with a shovel and irises often pile so heavily on each other that it is easier to separate them with a pitchfork.

In an effort to encourage wildlife in my garden, I leave grass and flower heads standing. If there is something that spreads wildly or is invasive, I remove the seeds or pull entirely to prevent problems in next year's garden. I lightly rake the bed and apply a two-inch layer of compost and/or mulch to prepare the garden for spring. It helps to have this work completed four to six weeks before the first hard frost. I then have plenty of time to order seeds, bulbs and tubers for the upcoming year. I enjoy following several flower farmer and floral design sites on Instagram and collecting photographs of items to try in my next garden. 🌱

The 75th Annual

Sponsored by The Garden Club of Virginia
Let's Celebrate

NUMBER OF ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS: 63



Creative Mass, Past Presidents of the Garden Club of Virginia Trophy and Quad Blue, The Princess Anne Garden Club

Artistic Awards



Early Victorian Design, Blue Ribbon, Albemarle Garden Club



Late Georgian Design, Blue Ribbon, Gabriella Garden Club



Pillar Design, Blue Ribbon, Sally Travis, Leesburg Garden Club



Japanese Design - Ikebana Freestyle, Blue Ribbon, Matilda Bradshaw, The Mill Mountain Garden Club

Functional Table Design, the Anne Carter Walker Somerville Memorial Bowl for most creative arrangement, the Eugenia and David Diller Award for best artistic arrangement, and blue ribbon, Petyon Wells, Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton



Photos by Sandy Geiger

Lily Show, 2017

Club of the Middle Peninsula
celebrate with Lilies!

• NUMBER OF HORTICULTURE STEMS: 154



Nina Mustard,
GCV President, with Helen
Turner Murphy, the Garden
Club of the Northern Neck,
winner of the Virginia Ewers
Quitze Memorial Bowl

Horticulture Awards



The Helen Turner Murphy Award
for 8 different stems from
the 2006-2015 collections,
The Warrenton Garden Club



"Anastasia"
The Eugenia Diller
Award for best
oriental/trumpet
hybrid lily,

The Member Clubs Award
for best lily stem in show,
Katherine Beale,
Harborfront Garden Club



"L. leichtlinii"
The Blanche Rohrer Davis
Memorial Bowl
for Best Species Lily,
Laura Anne Brooks,
The Garden Club
of the Middle Peninsula



"Morini"
The Blue Ridge
Garden Club Cup
for best stem grown by a novice,
Susan Ripol,
The Garden Club
of the Northern Neck



"Aladdin's Sun"
The James A. McKenney
Award for best longiflorum/
Asiatic hybrid lily,
Glenna Graves,
The Spotswood Garden Club

Princess Anne Garden Club Cocktails

*by Pat Proctor and Nancy Dickerson
The Princess Anne Garden Club*

On April 12, 2017, the Princess Anne Garden Club and the Friends of First Landing State Park hosted Virginia's Gov. Terry McAuliffe and his cabinet for cocktails at First Landing State Park in Virginia Beach. The governor came to FLSP for a retreat and invited his cabinet to stay overnight in the cabins at the campgrounds.

Gov. McAuliffe's goal to visit every state park in Virginia was accomplished the following week. It was an honor to have our governor visit the park again, and a great opportunity to meet the people who work in Virginia government. Our visitors reported that they had a good time sleeping in the FLSP cabins and walking the trails.



First Landing State Park and the Princess Anne Garden Club have been partners for over 70 years. The club has an ongoing mission to work to improve and protect the park; we recognize that the park is a gem in our own neighborhood. Our history of supporting FLSP goes back to 1940 when the club successfully advocated for the rerouting of a road that was to be built through the wilderness area. The road was relocated to the park's periphery, thus preserving its present boundaries.

The PAGC provided funds for five interactive exhibits at the new trail center at the park. Several years after its completion, the trail center continues to draw visitors to learn about green living and preserving natural resources. The PAGC annually contributes money designated for the repair, replacement and installation of these exhibits.

The PAGC also donated and installed a coastal Virginia native plant landscape which has been designated a native habitat and Monarch butterfly sanctuary. It provides examples of native plants that can be incorporated into any garden; visitors are amazed at how attractive these plants can be. The exhibit changes with the seasons, and educates visitors about planting and preserving natural resources. From the interest shown by people who approach while we are working in the exhibit, we expect many more gardens in Virginia will include native plants.

In 2015, the PAGC helped to fund the construction of a Bay Lab with a Touch Tank exhibit. The Bay Lab aims to educate first time visitors to Virginia Beach. It houses plants and animals native to the Chesapeake Bay area and provides information about its protection. 🌿

Members of the Princess Anne Garden Club, Friends of First Landing State Park and First Landing officials with Gov. McAuliffe in April.



On The Road to Blue

by Meredith Lauter

The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton

At your request, the character of the Garden Club of Virginia annual flower shows is evolving from member club sponsored to GCV committee and staff organized. While new ideas are being tried, the value remains constant: research, learning, collaboration, involvement of GCV clubs and community supporters, engagement in the GCV mission, the satisfaction of a job well done, and fun. Working together, we will honor our traditions, stay current and advance.

While each part of the GCV mission is significant – “to celebrate the beauty of the land, to conserve the gifts of nature and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage,” the most essential element in achieving these important goals and advancing our legacy to future generations is you. Your interest, input, hard work and commitment are helping to create the great strides we have made since our 1920 founding.

Preparing for a flower show is an extensive process and can be daunting. The Garden Club of Virginia has a valuable tool for assistance, and we ask for your help. A resource developed to assist floral designers entering GCV shows is Floral Designs and Styles. It contains illustrative photos, and it is easily found on the website.

Susan Wight, GCV Flower Shows Chairman, has tasked GCV artistic judge, Mary Lou Johnson, to lead a team to review and supplement all included styles, and provide updated comprehensive information on exhibiting. Over the summer, I have worked with Mary Lou and GCV judge Elise Pitts to examine all aspects. We invite you to e-mail us at steveandml@aol.com with input and suggestions. We look forward to hearing from you, and we appreciate and thank you for all you do. Together we undertake the adventure on the road to blue! 🌸



A cutting-edge design in a revered ancient Japanese discipline - a highlight of the 2016 Philadelphia Flower Show.

Directors at Large 2017-2019

District 2 *Meg Laughon*, Hillside Garden Club

District 5 *Tuckie Westfall*, The Garden Club of Alexandria

District 6 *Ellen Upton*, The Elizabeth River Garden Club



The Green Arrow Society

“The Garden Club of Virginia has inspired me to expand my understanding and knowledge of flower arranging, conservation, restoration and horticulture. In addition, I have become friends with some of the loveliest women from all over the state of Virginia. A perfect combination, if you ask me.”
—Susan Wight, *The Princess Anne Garden Club*

Leave your legacy with a lasting gift for the members who will follow in your path. Join the Green Arrow Society, and give back to the organization that has given so much to you. Contact Lexie Haglund, Director of Development, for more information or to let us know about your gift. (804) 643-4137, development@gcvirginia.org

Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award Update

Former Garden Club of Virginia President Bessie Carter's family generously supports GCV's conservation efforts and encourages our membership to provide impetus for community action. Their support in Bessie's memory allows us to offer the Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award, an annual monetary incentive for projects that encourage natural resource conservation or environmental protection within the commonwealth. Individual GCV members or member clubs are eligible to receive the award and may be in concert with other Virginia conservation organizations.

We've updated our selection process and deadlines:

Nov. 1 – Application deadline

January – List of eligible candidates published and sent to clubs for vote

May – Presidents bring club vote to Annual Meeting and award is presented



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Club Notes

Ninety Years Young

by Bonnie Rekemeyer
The Garden Club of Fairfax

On a beautiful, early autumn evening in October of 2016, the Garden Club of Fairfax members and spouses celebrated the club's 90th anniversary in Arlington. After club President Linda Tiani toasted the club, Judy Landolt-Korns read the following poem which she wrote for the occasion.

Garden Club of Fairfax – 90 Year Celebration

It all started 90 years ago when three ladies began to ask
What can we do to preserve our land? And GCF was born to last.

They planted shrubs at the local school, and worked hard to save an old tree;
Put magnolias and dogwoods in public places, and beautified roads with glee.

It didn't take long before GCF knew that there's stuff they could do for the state.
It was clear that a mission was due - to help the commonwealth was great.

So they thought about what they already knew about gardening, flowers, and preservations.
By joining GCV when they were nine years old, GCF helped fund the state's restorations.

From restoring the gardens and hosting home tours, these being great projects galore,
To preserving the past and protecting the future, with fun programs and more.

What we take from our club through all of our work, cannot even be measured.

Projects will come and projects will go, but the sisterhood bonds forever treasured.

As we've evolved, our mission is great;
it's much more than playing with flowers.

To elicit the might of all of our voices, and use wisdom with of all our powers.

That's our history and onward we go, and our gift to the next generations,

Will be to leave this great commonwealth, as the healthiest state in the nation. 🌱

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Rose Notes

A Perfect Opportunity to Show Your Roses

by Lea Shuba, GCV Rose Chairman
The Hunting Creek Garden Club

The 2017 Fall Symposium, being held on Sept. 26-27, has a wonderfully creative horticulture schedule, and among the classes is one for roses. Many gardeners in Virginia have sworn off showing roses because there is tough competition and, more importantly, the perception persists that only by spraying with harsh chemicals can roses be successfully cultivated. In this first flower symposium, only Garden Club of Virginia members will be competing, and our emphasis is on growing roses that don't require the kind of care previously thought necessary. I encourage you to go out into your gardens prior to this event and inventory your annuals, perennials, herbs and roses, and pamper them before picking and grooming. In this hot summer, most things need some extra watering, and perhaps feeding, to make up for the havoc being created in our gardens.

Most types of roses can be shown, including: Hybrid Teas, Grandifloras or Climbing Sports (bloom, spray), Floribundas and their sports (bloom, spray), Polyantha sprays or their climbing sports, Modern Shrubs, Miniatures and Minifloras.

There are also special classes, including our traditional Inter Club classes. These do not have to feature GCV collection roses, just the general types specified. If you plan to come with your own roses and horticulture, see if you can bring along a collection in your club's name. Other special classes include novice, fragrance and a bouquet class.

If this sounds confusing, it needn't be. The GCV Rose Committee will be there to help. See the webpage about this event at www.gcvsymposium.org. There you can find a helpful rose glossary and all the instructions needed to enter. You cannot win if you don't bring a stem, and all of these classes are eligible for our beautiful rose trophies.

While it may be too late to order roses for this year's show, please remember to order the GCV Rose Collection, or some part of it, for 2018. The suggested roses are designed to be pesticide free. Find their pictures on the GCV website under *What we do/Floral Design*. There you will find *Rose Resources and Show Archives* under the Handbook section. There is a link to Chamblee Roses which will allow you to order directly, with shipping to your home. Select a late March delivery date. Look over all the earth friendly roses. Anything you order, including roses from the 2018 collection, will be discounted if you mention the GCV. Enjoy growing roses again. 🌹



2017 Restoration Research Fellows

by Judy B. Perry
The Elizabeth River Garden Club

Our 2017 Fellows, Kathleen Conti and Krista Reimer, met with William D. Rieley, Garden Club of Virginia landscape architect, at the end of May to begin their three month summer fellowship program. They will visit, research, and document their respective historic sites with an emphasis on the landscape, working independently under Rieley's supervision.

Conti, a recent graduate of the Masters in Historic Preservation program at the University of Texas at Austin, is the 2017 Rudy J. Favretti Fellow at Berkeley Plantation. Berkeley was settled in 1619 and the Georgian mansion built in 1726. Terraces extend down to the James River where there was once a bustling wharf. Three distinguished Harrisons of Virginia occupied the historic home, Benjamin Harrison, signer of the Declaration of Independence, William Henry Harrison, ninth President of the United States and Benjamin Harrison, 23rd President of the U.S. In 1907 the Jamieson family purchased the estate and 1,400 acres. It remains in the Jamieson family today.

The 2017 William D. Rieley Fellowship at Westover Plantation is Reimer's assignment. She is a third year student in the Masters of Landscape Design program at the University of Pennsylvania. Westover was built in the mid-eighteenth century by the Byrd family. This handsome home is a premier example of Georgian architecture. William Byrd III, the builder, was the son of William Byrd II, founder of the city of Richmond. The home's 150-year-old poplar trees frame views of the James River. Expansive grounds, formal gardens and original outbuildings leave one with a sense of those that came before. In 1921 the Richard Crane family acquired the property and today it is owned by their great-granddaughter, Andrea Erda and husband, Rob.

Because the plantations are near each other, the fellows collaborated on the shared histories. The fellows present their initial findings to the Restoration Fellowship Committee mid-way through the summer and receive helpful suggestions for further research. A final presentation at the end of the summer is to a broader audience at the historic sites. In the fall they complete a final report that includes drawings, photographs and written history. These reports are archived at the Kent-Valentine House and copyrighted to the GCV. They also are available to the public at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond and the Cherokee Library in Atlanta.

What stories these places have to tell. Read about them next year on the GCV website. 🌿



*2017 Restoration Fellows
Krista Reimer and
Kathleen Conti*

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Club Notes

The Charlottesville Garden Club Celebrates 60 Years of GCV Membership

*by Boo Greene, President
The Charlottesville Garden Club*

The Charlottesville Garden Club has reached a 60-year milestone of membership in the Garden Club of Virginia and plans to celebrate this achievement during its September meeting. We will recap the club's history and projects, share stories and reminisce about past members and friendships.

The CGC has evolved into a community of women who stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening; share horticultural knowledge; foster the growing and display of flowers; encourage conservation of natural resources and action to protect native trees, wildflowers and birds; encourage roadside beautification; and aid in the restoration and preservation of historic gardens in Virginia.

Before joining the Garden Club of Virginia on May 25, 1957, becoming one of 45 clubs in the organization at the time, the Charlottesville club had been active for many years, tracing its founding back to 1949. Mary C. Kidder, one of the founding members along with Martha Rankin and Lake Smith, recalled that it "was to be a simple flower-loving group whose purpose was to get together very informally, swap information, learn to enjoy our gardens and have fun doing so," but it became a real garden club.

The CGC continues to emphasize growing and arranging flowers, sharing horticultural knowledge and focusing on community projects. In 2017 the Charlottesville Garden Club is growing with younger members who bring talent, new ideas and great energy. 🌸



Historic Garden Week Administrative Coordinator

by Karen Ellsworth
State Director of Historic Garden Week
and Special Programs

Terri Lowman joined the Garden Club of Virginia full-time in June after working with us for four months last winter. In that time, she made important connections with club members who secure guidebook ads and with the same savvy, built necessary bridges with the advertisers. She is now responsible for administrative support for Historic Garden Week, as well as special programs of the Garden Club of Virginia. She processes advertisements for the Historic Garden Week guidebook, helping to ensure its profitability and manages its distribution nationwide and within Virginia. She organizes, maintains and updates the shared gmail/Google Drive system used by both staff and volunteers, manages internet ticket sales and oversees tour listings on the Virginia Tourism Corporation website. Together with the State Director and State Chairman, Terri prepares for and assists with multiple meetings throughout the year.



Terri Lowman

Terri's background includes a degree in human resources with a minor in marketing. In her early career, she worked for IBM in marketing and most recently spent several years managing the daily operations of Barber Martin Advertising Agency. She is involved in several non-profit organizations and has been a Girl Scout troop leader successfully guiding five young ladies to earning their Gold Award this spring, the highest achievement in scouting.

Terri enjoys traveling, gardening, interior design and being on the water. She has lived in Richmond for 27 years with her husband, Donald Lowman. They have a daughter, Katherine, 16, son, Alex, 19 and a 4-year old Boston terrier. 🌿



*The Rappahannock Valley
Garden Club won the
2017 Annabel Josephs Award.
The trophy is awarded
to the member club accumulating
the greatest number of award points
in the Inter Club Class from
Annual Meeting to Annual Meeting.*

Ex Libris

by Laura Anne Brooks
The Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula

Shakespeare's Gardens by Jackie Bennett (Frances Lincoln, Shakespeare's Birthplace Trust, 2016, 192 p.) is an illustrated text for garden lovers, restoration planners, historic plant enthusiasts, actors, playgoers and English teachers. Andrew Lawson, photographer, makes the book come alive with contemporary garden photos, but the work also contains archival images of Tudor botanicals and is laced with the bard's quotations. It has been published to support the Trust gardens.



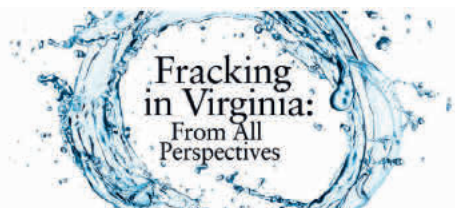
Chapters follow the chronology of Shakespeare's life (1564-1616) and connect his apparent love of nature with citations from his plays. His garden path begins with the book's presentation of his grandmother's garden at Wilmott, near Stratford. Mary Arden's farm was also near Arden Forest. From early husbandry and farming would come images in the early plays of bluebells, violets, cowslips, sweet peas, pasture roses and "seely sheep." Arden Forest provided scenery for the history plays and *Venus and Adonis*. Today Mary Arden's property has become a working Tudor site for organic food production.

Anne Hathaway's famed cottage is the focus of the chapter entitled "Youth and Romance," although Shakespeare probably spent little time there. Ironically, after 250 years of Hathaway ownership, the Victorians would restore its 19th century gardens. Their romantic view was supplanted by "spikes and mounds" from the esteemed Ellen Willmott and Gertrude Jekyll, Edwardians who gave cottage gardening its phlox and hollyhocks, sweet peas and lupines, peonies and delphinium.

The Hall's Croft chapter shows Shakespeare having purchased a property in 1602 for his daughter, Susanna, who in 1607 married Dr. John Hall, a prominent herbalist whose casebook shows his enthusiasm for the magical properties of plants. Ophelia's mad scenes with herbs and weeds, Lady Macbeth's deadly potions, the witches' stew, Othello's soliloquies and King Lear's herbal rantings all suggest a dramatist's conversations at Hall's Croft over theatrics and magic in botany.

Little is known of the actual plantings or design of Shakespeare's final property, New Place. What happened to the garden after his death in 1616 is clouded by the legend of the mulberry. In 1758 a scornful property owner, upset over tourists visiting the garden, cut down the tree from the center lawn. When angry townsfolk rebelled, the man demolished the house in 1759, only to be run out of Stratford by the folk who fashioned trinkets of the ancient mulberry.

Readers will want to do three things after reading *Shakespeare's Gardens*: see one of his plays in a garden; visit Stratford-upon-Avon with the Trust Gardens; fashion a Midsummer Night's Tudor knot of Puck's cowslips, Titania's wild pansies and thyme, pasture roses, lemon balm, rosemary and salvia — "sweet potions," I dare say! 🌿



Friday, Oct. 27, 2017 • The Paramount Theater • Charlottesville, VA

The Conservation and Beautification Committee of the Garden Club of Virginia presents the 59th Annual Conservation Forum on hydraulic fracturing (fracking) in Virginia. Speakers include experts who will cover the current status of fracking in our state and provide a balanced discussion on impacts to our economy, our water and our health.

Open to the public from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the Forum is part of the GCV's efforts to engage and inform on important conservation issues.

Be there to see the The Blue Ridge Partnership in Regional Invasive Species Management receive the GCV's 2017 Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award, and to see Jody Ullmann, director of Lynnhaven River Now Pearl School Program, receive the 2017 Conservation Educator Award. Each award winner will speak about their inspiring work.

Go to gcvirginia.org for registration, and plan for a wonderful day in Charlottesville at the historic Paramount Theater. 🌿



*Kate LeCroy
and a bee hotel*

Garden Club of Virginia 2017 Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellowship Awarded

University of Virginia graduate student Kate LeCroy has been awarded the 2017 Garden Club of Virginia Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellowship for her Mason Bee Monitoring Project. The project seeks to track the presence of spring-emerging mason bees across Virginia. Mason bees are solitary bees in the genus *Osmia*, and they nest in empty cavities in nature. These bees have been found to use "bee hotels." The GCV Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellowship supports research in areas relating to the conservation of natural resources and/or environmental studies that directly impact Virginia. 🌿

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| Sept. 26-27 | GCV Fall Symposium 2017, Richmond
Virginia |
| Sept. 27 | Historic Landscapes Society |
| Oct. 10-12 | Board of Governors Meeting, The Blue
Ridge Garden Club |
| Oct. 25 | Board of Governors Meeting, South
Side Garden Club |
| Oct. 27 | 59th Conservation Forum "Fracking in
Virginia: From All Perspectives," The
Paramount Theatre, Charlottesville |
| Oct. 31 | South Side Garden Club, 50th Anniversary
Celebration, Charlottesville |
| Dec. 1 | Nomination Deadline for Massie Medal
for Distinguished Achievement |