



Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. Richmond, Virginia

Organized 1932

Richmond, Virginia

April 2025

President's Corner

March is marching onward, and our calendars are filling up rapidly. The Richmond Council of Garden Clubs has some exciting days ahead. Just take a look at what is coming our way.

The Finance Committee will be meeting at the end of March to determine what is in our budget for the coming year. Any suggestions you have to offer the Finance Committee would certainly be taken into consideration.

The annual event, Fashions with Flowers will be held April 3, 2025, at the First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23220. The

Design program will be presented by Betty Ann Galaway, Rockbridge, Virginia. Betty Ann is an excellent designer. The Fashions will be sponsored by Dillard's, Stony Point, Richmond, Virginia. Ten models have been obtained, all representing ten different garden clubs from the Richmond Council. The spokesperson for the fashions will be Karen Patterson, Midlothian Garden Club. The lunch will be provided by the First Baptist Church, and the cost is \$40.00. We are delighted to have Karen Blakenship returning as pianist for our Fashion Show.

Make plans to attend our annual May luncheon, to be held at the Richmond Country Club, May 2, 2025.

Note, also, many of the garden clubs are having Flower Shows this spring. Plan to attend whenever possible. These flower shows are lots and lots of work. Attending the flower shows can be a learning experience for all of us. Looking forward to seeing y'all.

Let's Continue to Plant and Grow,
Barbara Hollister, President

April 4, 2025 Meeting



*The Church of the Epiphany
8000 Hermitage Road
Henrico, VA 23228*

Registration and Coffee: 10:00 AM

Business Meeting: 10:30 AM

Program: "Let's Celebrate" Floral Designs

Presenter: Jane VanDenburgh

Hospitality: Lake Anna GC

April 4, 2025 Meeting

RCGC Designer, Jane VanDenburgh will “WOW” us with her program titled, “Let’s Celebrate”. Designs will go home with lucky ticket holders.

April Sales Tables

Hanover Towne Garden Club will be selling Handmade Jewelry, hand painted garden stones, spring tabletop decorations with live material, dried floral material, yard art and a variety of other wonderful items. Please bring cash or check.

~ Barbara Hayek

Heartfelt Thanks!

Submitted by Erica Gilliam

We wish to thank all members, relatives, Master Gardeners, and friends who contributed or purchased costume jewelry for the sale held on March 7 to benefit School Gardening!

We had about 89 members attend the council meeting, and about six walk-ins. Thanks also to our committee volunteers : Susan, Sheila, Carole, Gwen, Rotraut, Sharon, Faye, Kim, Juanita, Greg, Diana, Lisa, Martie, and Barbara. (We hope we haven’t forgotten anyone.)

Our committee members helped us sort through the donations and organize according to types. They created (made) racks to attractively display sale items. They helped us to set up and pack up at the end of the day and they “checked out” customer’s treasures.

We are already planning a swan song event.

Will hope you will continue to support School Gardening by bringing to meetings: Clean clear empty pint or quart size (or even pickle glass jars) with screw on lids. (no writing or labels please on the glass) of course writing on the lids is fine.

-Gently used costume jewelry donations from those that you did not contact for this sale.

We will share results of all our efforts at the April meeting.



With heartfelt thanks-
Erica Gilliam and Jane VanDenburgh
Co-chairs

Fashion With Flowers XXVI

When: Thursday, April 3, 2025

Where: First Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Ave., Richmond, VA

Parking: Church parking lot on Monument Ave., Street Parking, ONLY Handicapped Parking in lot Beside the church (come early to secure parking)

Time: Doors Open at 9:30 AM

Program: Floral Interpretations of Fashions by Floral Designer, Betty Ann Galway.

Fashion Show: Dillard's of Stony Point will provide the fashions modeled by RCGC members.

Lunch: Lunch will be provided by the Ladies of the First Baptist Church. Menu: Salad plate- Chicken or Tuna Salad, Pasta Salad, Fruit Salad with a Croissant, Chocolate Chess Pie, Apple Pie, Coffee, Tea and Water.

Table Centerpiece: Each club has been asked to sign up to bring a flowering plant for the table centerpiece. If your club has signed up, please deliver the plant to the church parking lot entrance at 9 AM, the morning of April 3rd. A RCGC member will be there to receive the plant.

Cost: \$40

Registration and Payment Information: Each RCGC garden club needs to send 1 check made payable to RCGC, INC., with the registration form with the list of attendees to:

Johanna Gilbert, Registrar, 8423 Shannon Green Ct., Richmond, VA 23228. Johanna's phone number: 804-405-6225 and email: omagilbert@aol.com.

Registration Deadline: Monday, March 24, 2025.

A "Big Thank You" to the following for their help with Fashion with Flowers XXVI

Barbara Hollister, Johanna Gilbert, Bonnie Parker, RCGC clubs, models, Betty Ann Galway, Dillard's of Stony Point and First Baptist Church.

Thank you for making Fashion with Flowers a successful event!

Thank you for your help,
Pat Merson

Share Your Program Ideas

Jeanne and I would like to add your ideas or suggestions (to the wonderful list that Jane provided) of programs, designers, and speakers for RCGC. We are looking for any program ideas that reach the WOW level - ones your club has had that were new and very interesting or captivating. We will compile the list and share it with RCGC members as possible programs for their club. **Please provide the name of the program and contact information. Please send to:**

Janice Beatty: Luv2plyndrt@gmail.com

Or

Jeanne Stigall: Sjlstigall@gmail.com

Looking forward to getting some new ideas!

Janice and Jeanne, Co-Second Vice Presidents, Programs

Standing Committee Reports

Horticulture Therapy – Cheryl Williams, Canterbury GC

Hilliard Park Garden Club made 30 arrangements on February 17th, 2025, and delivered them to Chestnut Grove assisted living, Elizabeth House, Crump Manor, Parham healthcare and Rehab and Our Lady of Hope.

Nature Camp – Lynne Still, Thomas Jefferson GC

The Nature Camp Foundation is presenting its second annual SPRING ART DAY on April 12th. Enjoy a day of arts and crafts at Nature Camp alongside talented instructors. Class offerings will include making garden Butterfly Puddlers, watercolor botanical prints, nature writing, nature photography and more. Cost is \$40 which includes morning and afternoon sessions. Register at naturecampfoundation.org

School Gardening – Martie Parch, Salisbury GC

Spring is here and all my thoughts are in my garden. I would imagine most of us are planning, and purchasing, and planting.

Our love of gardening is our legacy for the next generation. That's why the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs donates money to each of the five master gardening groups to support their school/youth gardening programs.

Many thanks to the three garden clubs which have donated to this worthy cause. Those programs at area schools rely on your contributions as well as the proceeds from our annual jewelry sale (which was a huge success!)

Please continue to request a donation from your garden club. It will benefit the gardeners of tomorrow!

Thanks,
Martie Parch
School/Youth Gardening



Calendar of Events

- Mar 22-23** Virginia Daffodil Society Show, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
- Apr 3** Fashion with Flowers, First Baptist Church, Richmond
- Apr 4** RCGC Meeting, Church of the Epiphany
- Apr 27-28** VFGC Annual Convention, Richmond
- May 2** RCGC Annual May Luncheon, Country Club of Richmond
- May 4** Central VA Iris Society Show, LGBG

Club News

Thomas Jefferson Garden Club

“Give Bees a Chance”

On Thursday, February 27, 2025, members of Thomas Jefferson Garden Club worked with 48 Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool students teaching the importance of bees.

We read a funny book called *“Give Bees a Chance”* and then made bees with the children. We all learned a little more about bees and their importance to our lives.



Janet Minock reading to the preschool students

Crown Grant Garden Club

On Tuesday, March 11th, Crown Grant Garden Club made 30 miniature floral arrangements for the food trays at Goochland’s Meals on Wheels, celebrating St, Patrick’s Day.



*Gabby Frazier, Patty Cook,
& Kay Rafner*



Carter Rosser & Sherri Sale



Mary Schandelmeier & Carmen Dixon

Windsor Farms Garden Club

The Windsor Farms Garden Club is busy as ever! While we may not be the most visible club in the Council, we strive to positively affect our immediate neighborhood and extended community.

The club has been a strong supporter of The Virginia Home, a long-term care for residents with irreversible physical disabilities, since the founding of the club in 1953. We bring cheer to the residents by maintaining the facility's garden with workdays in the fall and spring, decorating for the holiday season in December, arranging a member-provided gift for each resident for Christmas morning, and by donating the nosegay arrangements from the spring luncheon to the female residents in May.

The club is also active within our neighborhood. We help to maintain the greenspaces in the neighborhood with multiple beautification projects including bulb planting, benches installed for neighbors to relax on, and replacement of cherry trees as necessary. We also host the Easter Egg Hunt for the neighborhood children in April, and our holiday party in December is a huge hit with club members.

Our Holiday Greens Sale in October is the club's annual fundraiser. We offer garland, wreaths, poinsettias and a few potted plants to the neighborhood. Each year, the proceeds from the green's sale are bundled as a grant, awarded to a project submitted by a chosen club member. Past years' grants have provided benches for the neighborhood, a donation to The Science Museum's new native planting area, and new landscaping for our neighborhood's church entrance.

Windsor Farms Garden Club is supported by our many members, who volunteer to keep the club going strong. We hope to continue to serve the community for many years to come!

~Anne Browne, President

Midlothian Garden Club proudly announces

An NGC Standard Flower Show

Springtime in Midlothian



Friday, April 25, 2025
2 - 4 pm

Bethel Baptist Church
1100 Huguenot Springs Road
Midlothian, Virginia
Free admission: All are Welcome



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
with **SPRING MARKET**
Saturday, April 12, 2025
10 - 5
A Curated Outdoor Market
featuring
Local Artisans & Vendors
Garden Stuff - Clothing - Jewelry
Unique Artisanal Goods
Bake Sale - White Elephant
Gelato/Coletti Ice Cream
Come shop all things Spring!
Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
3500 Seminary Ave. Richmond VA 23229
- Rain Date April 19 -

**RCGC ANNUAL MEETING/LUNCHEON
REGISTRATION
RICHMOND COUNTRY CLUB
FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025
Registration 9:30 am, Meeting 10:00 am
DEADLINE: MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025
COST: \$35 per person**

MENU: Salad Bar Extravaganza to fit everyone's tastes, Brownies and Lemon Bars for Dessert, Iced Tea and Coffee

PROGRAM: Designers David Pippin and Kate Vernon.

David and Kate are well known in our area due to their knowledge and creative talents. David of David Pippin, Inc. and Kate of the Arranger's Market will present a program that will surely be fun and informative. Their designs will be awarded to the lucky ticket holders.

**Please send 1 check per garden club
payable to RCGC with Registration Form to:
Johanna Gilbert, 8423 Shannon Green Ct., Richmond, Va. 23228
Phone: (804) 405-6225 Email: omagilbert@aol.com**

GARDEN CLUB:

Check Number: _____ Check Amount: _____
Club Contact Person, Phone, and Email:

ATTENDEES:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 15. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 16. _____ |

Purely for Pleasure
Celebrating Gardens & Gardeners

An NGC Horticulture Specialty Flower Show
 Presented by
 Sleepy Hollow Garden Club



Ephiphany Lutheran Church
 1400 Horsepen Richmond, VA 23226
 June 10, 2025

Free and Open to the Public 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Entries open to any VFGC member in good standing
 To request a schedule, contact Tatter Hartmann,
 Chair:

maryhartmann279@gmail.com

PLANT SALE!

**Saturday,
April 12th**

Sponsored By:

OXFORD GARDEN CLUB





Please come out and support our club's fundraiser!

Available For Purchase:

Event Details:

- ✔ Herbs & Veggies
- ✔ Spring Blooming Plants
- ✔ Perennials
- ✔ Baked Goods
- ✔ Container Garden Demo

Date: Saturday, April 12th, 2025
Time: 9:00 - 1:30 PM (Rain or Shine!)
Location:
 Manwood Temple of Masons
 6787 Forest Hill Ave,
 Richmond, VA 23225




FIND US ON FACEBOOK: OXFORD GARDEN CLUB/PIEDMONT DISTRICT

Plant SALE

HOSTED BY THE
Stonehenge Garden Club




SATURDAY, MAY 3
 9:00 AM - 1:00

Stonehenge Golf & CC Pavilion
 1000 Farnham Dr
 Midlothian, VA 23236

Come Fly with Me

An NGC Standard Flower Show



at the
 Episcopal Church of the Redeemer
 2341 Winterfield Rd.
 Midlothian, VA 23113
 (804) 378-7481

May 5, 2025
 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Presented by the Salisbury Garden Club
 A Member of:
 National Garden Clubs, Inc.
 South Atlantic Region
 Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 Piedmont District

Open to the public No Admission Fee

Richmond Council of Garden Clubs, Inc., Regular Meeting
March 7, 2025
The Church of Epiphany
8000 Hermitage Road
Henrico, Virginia 23228

Call to Order:

President Barbara Hollister called the regular March meeting of the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs to order at 10:30 AM.

Welcome:

President Hollister welcomed members and guests. She requested that phones be placed on airplane mode for the meeting.

Invocation:

Chaplain Karla Ogden gave the invocation.

Hospitality Chairman Karen Patterson thanked Windsor Farms GC for their hospitality and food prepared for the meeting. She announced the tentative Hostess List for next year: September- Chancellor GC, October – Crown Grant GC, November -Windsordale GC and Clay Springs GC, December – Ginter Park GC, February – Roslyn Hills GC, March – Powhatan GC, April has yet to be assigned.

Registrar:

Bonnie Parker reported 87 members including 1 associate. 22 clubs were represented. The chair reported a quorum was present, so business proceeded. Johanna circulated a sign-up sheet for clubs to sign up to donate a plant or arrangement for Fashion with Flowers.

Officer Report:

President Barbara Hollister requested that Flower Show Chairman Jennifer Wester share updates on the flower show progress. Jennifer thanked Lynne Still for writing the schedule and all who have volunteered for chairmanships. “Home for the Holidays” flower show will be held December 5, 2025, at the Church of Epiphany.

Barbara thanked those who volunteered to bring diapers for the Diaper Mission at the Church of Epiphany. The church’s mission has grown with more young families in the area using this mission.

The jewelry sale is underway, and all proceeds will go to the School Gardening Program.

First Vice President Mary Penzer reported that plans were going well for the Annual May Luncheon, but they still need a member club to volunteer to make 10-13 table arrangements. The club who makes the arrangements will be reimbursed \$150 and preferential seating.

Second Vice President Janice Beatty introduced today’s speaker, Jason Aldrich of “Undoing Ruin”. She also asked members to contact her or Jeanne Stigall with suggestions for new speakers and program ideas for the coming year.

Minutes:

The minutes for the February meeting were approved and shared in the March newsletter. The minutes of today’s meeting were taken by Recording Secretary pro tem Susan DeSordo and will be reviewed by Jennifer Wester, Janice Beatty, and Mary Penzer.

Corresponding Secretary Susan DeSordo reported that a “Thinking of You” card had been sent to Sandra Walker to let her know we miss her and wish her well. The deadline for the April newsletter is March 17, 2025.

Treasurer’s Report:

Treasurer Jean Fender reported.

Checking account balance as of February 1, 2025: \$14,135.88

Total Income: \$2,105.00

Total Disbursements: \$15,526.68

Balance of checking account on February 28, 2025: \$15,526.68.

Money Market Account balance February 1, 2025: \$8,889.27

Money Market Account balance February 28, 2025: \$8,897.93

Total Investments balance as of February 28, 2025: \$405,653.68

There was no discussion and the Treasurer's report was filed for audit.

Jean Fender announced that the Finance Committee will meet at the end of March to work on the budget for next year and requested that any suggestions be sent to her or Barbara.

Historian: Pat Merson- absent.

Advisor: Millie Proffitt- absent.

Parliamentarian: Sandra Walker – absent. Barbara gave a brief update on Sandra's recovery from surgery in the fall. She shared that Sandra is improving.

Standing Committee Reports:

Awards: Judy Durant encouraged clubs to apply for the Metropolitan Landscape Design Grant and the J. Malcolm Pace Awards by April 1, 2025.

Conservation: Evelyn Klumb encouraged members to plant native plants, plant seeds, and grow plants that don't require a lot of water.

Life Membership: Kay Rafner – absent.

Nature Camp: Lynne Still reported that the Nature Camp Foundation will hold its 2nd Annual Spring Art Day on April 12, 2025. Arts and Crafts instructors will teach how to make garden butterfly puddlers, watercolor botanical prints, nature photography and writing, and more. Register on the Nature Camp website to attend. Morning and afternoon sessions cost \$40.

Recycle Pop Tabs: Barbara announced there were many pop-tabs collected today.

School Gardening: Martie Parch reminded members to ask their clubs to donate to School Gardening. The funds collected go to the five area Master Gardeners Associations, which includes: Chesterfield, Henrico, Hanover, Goochland/Powhatan and Richmond, all of which have school gardening programs.

Ways and Means: Barbara Hollister reported proceeds from Fashion with Flowers goes to Nature Camp. Fashion with Flowers is on April 3, 2025, at 1st Baptist Church, 2709 Monument Ave, Richmond, VA. Barbara encouraged attendees to come early for parking. The program begins at 10:00 AM. The parking lot immediately behind the church is handicap parking only. Reservations for Fashion with Flowers are being accepted until March 24th. Each club is asked to donate one table plant or arrangement for the event.

The Design program begins at 10:00 AM and features designer, Betty Ann Galway. At 11:00 AM, Richmond Council members, representing 10 clubs will model fashions provided by Dillard's of Stony Point.

The regular April Richmond Council meeting will be on Friday, April 4th, at the Church of the Epiphany.

Horticulture Therapy: Cheryl Williams announced that RCGC provides reimbursement of \$2 per arrangement, up to a total of \$50, for arrangements made for assisted living facilities or Meals-on-Wheels. On February 17th, Hilliard Park GC made 30 arrangements, which were delivered to multiple assisted living facilities.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Meeting Adjourned: 11:05 AM

Susan DelSordo, Secretary pro tem



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