

THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA



VOL LXIII, NO. 1, MARCH 2018

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

Can you recall a particular moment when you realized that nature's beauty was something to hold in reverence? Did you feel moved to make responsible choices based on that revelation?

Many work for the conservation and protection of the environment because of a personal awakening, whether it was from the warmth of sunbeams, the magic of a forest walk, the miracle of birth found in a tiny seed or feeling the spray of the ocean. Read in these pages how your club is working to stir awareness in many areas of the natural world. The following pages hold challenges and rewards. Digest these articles and feel pride in the work being done throughout Virginia.

Thank you for reading the *Journal*. We welcome your articles.

Write to us at journal@gcvirginia.org.

Submission guidelines may be found on the GCV website.

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2018-2019

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The Garden Club of Virginia Journal

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Discounts: 15% discount will apply, if advertising in all four publications
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ON THE COVER...

We are delighted to feature the beautiful work of Tenley Beazley of the James River Garden Club, who captures the exuberance of the garden in spring. *White Cosmos II* is rendered in mixed media on paper.

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GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

DAFFODIL DAY

84th Annual

March 28, 2018

Richmond



Photo credit: Diane Ginsberg

Horticulture and Photography: John Marshall Ballroom

Workroom open and Exhibits placed

Tuesday, March 27, 1 - 7 p.m.

OR Wednesday, March 28, 7:30 - 9 a.m.

Exhibits open 1:30 - 5 p.m.

Artistic flower arrangements: Kent-Valentine House

Workroom open Tuesday, March 27, 4 - 6 p.m.

(exhibits may be placed 2 - 6 p.m.)

OR Wednesday, March 28, 8 - 9:30 a.m.

Exhibit open Noon - 5 p.m.

Special Events at the John Marshall Ballroom

with Tony Avent, proprietor of Plant Delights Nursery, Raleigh, NC

The special events require advance registration (fee)

Cocktails and Travels with Tony

Tuesday, March 27, 7 - 9 p.m.

Luncheon Lecture

Wednesday, March 28, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

*To register as an exhibitor, purchase tickets for special events
and for information regarding lodging, restaurants and more, see
gcvdaffodilday.org*

Daffodil Notes

The Daffodil: Symbol of Hope

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

One of my favorite greeting cards has a drawing of three daffodils with the inscription, “The Earth Laughs in Flowers.” Since I am writing this on a record-cold day in January, I am eager for the promise of the daffodils to be fulfilled. Burying lumps of dry bulbs in the cold ground in the shortening days of fall is always an act of faith since we expect beauty to spring forth months later. But already I have seen some harbingers of spring: a delicate miniature daffodil called ‘Mary Poppins’ is blooming in my garage, and the local grocery store is selling pots of cheerful yellow ‘Tête-a-Tête’ daffodils.

The daffodil has long been associated with the symbolism of rebirth and hope due to its early arrival in spring and its cheerful coloring. As such, it has become a symbol for the American, Canadian, and Irish Cancer Societies and is featured prominently in their fundraising campaigns. The walls of the Pearson Cancer Center in Lynchburg are adorned with many pieces of artwork from local artists who often include daffodils in their paintings.

There is a scientific connection between cancer and daffodils as well. Hippocrates in ancient Greece advocated using daffodil oil to treat female tumors. He may have been onto something, for the use of alkaloid chemicals from daffodils to treat a number of cancers, including uterine sarcoma as well as Alzheimer’s disease, is being actively researched.

The planting of daffodils has also become a way to symbolize resilience after a tragedy. For instance, Marathon Daffodils is the initiative that has planted more than 130,000 daffodils along the course of the Boston Marathon to, as the organizers say, “strengthen our community by bringing beauty to where there was unfathomable loss, mayhem and sadness.”

The Garden Club of Virginia will be using the daffodil to mark the hope and excitement of our next century. Plan to come to the GCV Daffodil Day March 28, 2018. Bring your own daffodils to the show, then stay until 1:30 p.m. for the announcement of the GCV Centennial Daffodil.

To further your knowledge of this most appealing flower, attend Daffodil School on Tuesday, March 27, immediately preceding the other Daffodil Day activities. Three well-known speakers will talk about many aspects of daffodils including historic daffodils, staging a large collection such as the Interclub entry, and growing daffodils in pots.

Details about registering for the Daffodil School and the timeline for the celebration of Daffodil Day can be found on Page 2 and at www.gcvdaffodilday.org. ❁



Historic Garden Week

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

Historic Garden Week in Virginia is celebrating its 85th anniversary with the 2018 tour. The history and tradition of this event should make members of Garden Club of Virginia proud. The dedication and commitment that current and former members have demonstrated in producing America's Oldest Open House are to be commended and celebrated.

As April gets closer, the hard work continues at the state and local levels. Tickets are being sold online and at advanced ticket locations. The HGW Guidebook is complete and available to the public. The www.vagardenweek.com website is in full bloom with tour descriptions, beautiful photos and possible itineraries. HGW is broadening its reach with strong state-level social media activity. Are you following, liking and sharing posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter?

For the second year, a partnership between HGW, *Virginia Living* magazine, the Virginia Department of Transportation and Bartlett Tree Experts resulted in the production of a Virginia state map identifying addresses and locations of all homes on the 2018 tour. HGW staff and VDOT created the map which will be included to subscribers in the March/April edition of *Virginia Living*. The GCV will receive 5,000 maps for distribution. A portion of the Bartlett sponsorship paid for the printing and distribution of the maps, which have been positively received.

National media coverage in support of the upcoming tours has been terrific this year. Look for articles in *Horticulture* magazine (late February), *Virginia Sportsman* magazine (spring issue), *Virginia Living* spring issue and a new VL House & Garden magazine, as well as the Garden Club of America's *Bulletin*. There will be a story in the online *Flower Magazine* and HGTVGardens.com. *Garden & Gun* may include a sidebar mention.

Thank you for what each of you have done to date and what you will do throughout the week of April 21-28 to make the 85th Historic Garden Week a success for your clubs, the Garden Club of Virginia and your communities. 🌸



The Board of Directors

approved the following slate of Officers and Directors at Large for the Garden Club of Virginia to serve from 2018 through 2020. A vote will be taken by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

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Save the Date



GCV HORTICULTURE FIELD DAY
JUNE 5-6, 2018
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Online registration opens March 1st

www.gcvirginia.org

We Are Polishing Our Gem

by Lexie Haglund, Director of Development and
Debbie Lewis, GCV Development Chairman
The Garden Study Club

This spring, the Kent-Valentine House will have a makeover. The Garden Club of Virginia's historic headquarters will be spruced up with a new roof, new paint and updates to her furnishings. These improvements will be funded in part by a grant from the Mary Morton Parsons Foundation. The foundation challenged the GCV to raise \$100,000 in matching funds by May 2018. With the match met, thanks to generous contributions from other foundations and individual donors, work on the house will be completed before the centennial celebration in 2020.

An important part of the history of the GCV includes saving the Kent-Valentine House from demolition in 1971 for the purpose of making it the headquarters of the organization. The GCV transformed the residence into functional office space without compromising its architectural integrity. It remains today, with the exception of the Executive Mansion, the last house in downtown Richmond surrounded by trees.

The Kent-Valentine contains exquisite antique furnishings donated by GCV members throughout the years. Yet the house is more than an homage to previous generations of the GCV. It is a working house, serving as a meeting spot for clubs, local community events, and as a hub during Historic Garden Week. In 2016, 88 meetings and events were held at KVH, bringing more than 2,000 people through its doors.

Bob Henkel, of the Brunswick Garden Club, recently visited the Kent-Valentine House for a club meeting. He was in awe of what the house offers to our membership, from elegant parlors to the expansive third floor meeting space. During his visit, Henkel heard about re-upholstery needs and "saw first-hand the threadbare condition of the downstairs furniture." Seeing the genteel poverty is what motivated him to make a gift in support of the project.

Henkel has been a GCV member since 2014 and values all that the organization does for the commonwealth. "I identify with the mission of restoring gardens – a Virginian whose family has been here since the middle seventeenth century, I am especially keen on preserving the beauty and history of our Old Dominion. I have enjoyed the garden club movement since the late 1970s and believe the GCV to epitomize the BEST."

Lead donors helped meet the Mary Morton Parsons Foundation matching grant ahead of our May 2018 deadline. With this support, the total project goal has

nearly been reached. If you would like to learn more about what is planned for the Kent-Valentine House, or are interested in making a gift in support of KVH, please contact Lexie Haglund, (804) 643-4137.

The Kent-Valentine House is GCV's gem; it will be exciting to see her shine more brightly soon! ✨



Photo credit: Missy James

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In Memoriam 2017

<i>Marguerite Overbey "Sugar" Bacon</i>	<i>Jean Marshall</i>
<i>Gene Bruce Gullatt Barnes</i>	<i>Millie Mason</i>
<i>Virginia Mae Barnes</i>	<i>Ruth "Petie" Whitehead Matheson</i>
<i>Frank C. Britt</i>	<i>Rebecca Cash Lee McGovern</i>
<i>Sue Chandler</i>	<i>Gwen Meredith</i>
<i>Helen B. Cheney</i>	<i>Tina Minter</i>
<i>Peggy Christian</i>	<i>Maralyn Morency</i>
<i>Frances M. Clarke</i>	<i>Fleet Carney Morgan</i>
<i>Lee Cochran</i>	<i>Jacquelin Cochran Nicholson</i>
<i>Linda Coleman</i>	<i>Cleta Iverson Norcross</i>
<i>Teckla Cox</i>	<i>Nancy Orme</i>
<i>LaVerne Crown</i>	<i>Marty Patten</i>
<i>Darlene Geer Cumberland</i>	<i>Martha Roberts</i>
<i>Barbara Cummings</i>	<i>Susan Roszel</i>
<i>Charlotte Dashiell</i>	<i>Maria Carter Satterfield</i>
<i>Coco Davis</i>	<i>Alice Smith</i>
<i>Gina Farrar</i>	<i>Adelaide Curtis Snyder</i>
<i>Jane Foster</i>	<i>Pat Staples</i>
<i>Eddie Funsten</i>	<i>Marie Suyes</i>
<i>Alice Hagan</i>	<i>Bev Talbott</i>
<i>Sara Ann Hammond</i>	<i>Catherine Taylor</i>
<i>Pat Hutt</i>	<i>Gaye Topping</i>
<i>Elizabeth Brittain Johnston</i>	<i>Sandra Whitehead</i>
<i>Shirley Van Landingham</i>	<i>Jean Osborne Wilhelm</i>
<i>Sue Lang</i>	<i>Margaret Williams</i>
<i>Ann Long</i>	<i>Page Young</i>
<i>Kay Mackie</i>	

In Memoriam lists the names of Garden Club of Virginia members who have died within the past year, compiled by the *Journal* from names submitted by club presidents.



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Landscaping for the Birds

by Kaye Moomaw
Hillside Garden Club

In January, *National Geographic* announced that 2018 is the “Year of the Bird,” in part to celebrate the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, a bird-protection law. Bird populations today continue to struggle with decline because of issues such as habitat loss by urbanization, climate change, pollution and predation. Hopefully, the Year of the Bird will raise awareness of ways that human actions can ameliorate or exacerbate these problems.

Anyone can assess the health of local habitat by observing how many native plant species grow in private and public spaces. Aerial images on Google Earth can reveal vegetation patterns as well as identify the proportion of land covered by plants versus hardscape such as concrete and asphalt. Healthy landscapes should be comprised of layers of plantings including canopy trees, understory trees, shrubs, tall grasses, flowers, shorter grasses and groundcovers. Plants ideally grow in multiple layers all the way down to the soil level. This arrangement provides rich layers of habitat that can serve as both shelter and food sources for multiple populations in a bio-diverse setting. Doug Tallamy has written several informative and insightful books about this topic including *Bringing Nature Home* and *The Living Landscape*. Similarly, Thomas Ranier and Claudia West provide inspiration for ways of incorporating layering in gardens in their gorgeous book, *Planting in a Post-Wild World*. *The Authentic Garden: Naturalistic and Contemporary Landscape Design* by Richard Hartlage and Sandy Fischer showcases beautiful designs in the naturalistic landscaping trend.

When a diverse population of animals, birds and insects is present, the ecosystem is more balanced. While many bird and insect populations have very specific food needs for different life stages, most ornamental and invasive plant species provide few of these sources. By growing more native plants and by devoting less area to lawn in a yard, the home gardener can create a habitat that invites all kinds of animal life and that attracts pollinators like bees and butterflies.

Providing clean water year round also supports and encourages wildlife. Still and stagnant water must be changed every few days in warm weather to prevent mosquito larvae from breeding. Placing a water source in an open space decreases the odds of predators attacking the visiting birds and animals. Preserving standing dead trees (called “snags”) creates shelter and retains a valuable food for birds, bats and insects.

Insecticides need to be minimized, if not eradicated. The more in balance with the natural world the environment, the less chemical support is needed. Likewise, eliminating or reducing the use of disposable containers helps reduce the hazard of disposable plastic products to birds. These are some of the guidelines suggested by the National Wildlife Federation. Any yard that meets its list of requirements may become a Certified Wildlife Habitat. The Year of the Bird is an ideal time to become a more active supporter of wildlife. ❁

With
Paintbrush
& Shovel

THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

GARDEN
MAINTENANCE
MANUAL

HISTORIC
VIRGINIA
GARDENS

PRESERVATION WORK OF
THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA
1925-2007

MARGARET PAGE BEMISS
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROGER FOLEY

Gardeners
in the Kitchen

Lessons Learned
from a
Poet's Garden

Styles of
Flower Arranging
A Primer

Harborfront Garden Club

What to do When

Shop at the Garden Club of Virginia
www.gcvirginia.org/main/shop

Bessie Bocoek Carter Conservation Award Nominations Announced

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

The Conservation Awards Committee is excited to announce three finalists for the 2018 Bessie Bocoek Carter Conservation Award. The award was established at the Annual Meeting in 2009 to fund implementation of a conservation project that will serve as a catalyst for community action. This is a monetary award for natural resource conservation or environmental protection within the commonwealth. Garden Club of Virginia member clubs send their votes on the projects to the Annual Meeting in May, and the award winner is announced then. The finalists under consideration are as follows:

Port Republic Riverside Graveyard

*submitted by
The Spotswood Garden Club*

The once-abandoned Riverside Graveyard lies within the sleepy village of Port Republic. The Spotswood Garden Club wishes to facilitate the community's efforts to restore this historic treasure and create an inviting public green space while enhancing its use as an educational site through artifact repairs and ecological rehabilitation. The riverside, cleared of invasive overgrowth and planted for native riparian conservation, will allow river access and views. Plantings will primarily serve two purposes: conservation and beautification. Plantings will stabilize the graveyard grounds as they meet with the riverbanks and provide aesthetically pleasing habitat for wildlife and pollinators. A peaceful respite will emerge on what was once a bustling street of river industry.

This restoration will amplify the site's usefulness as an educational resource. Port Republic is the destination for history-focused groups from elementary to collegiate, Smithsonian Institution tours, international tours and genealogists. Geology and archeology departments also investigate the graveyard. The interred represent occupations such as boatman, blacksmith, saddler, tanner and cooper between 1767 and 1899.

The Riverside Project is a perfect blend of preservation, conservation, beautification and education, and would provide a tremendous gift for the present and future.

Paw Path Pollinator Garden at the Smith River Sports Complex

submitted by

The Martinsville Garden Club and The Garden Study Club of Martinsville

The Martinsville Garden Club and the Garden Study Club's Smith River Paw Path Pollinator Garden, now in its second phase, has already attracted community involvement. Magna Vista High School students created insect "hotels" to welcome pollinators. The hotels have been placed along the Paw Path, with a sign explaining their role in the path's rich ecosystem. Some 75 Magna Vista students, working in groups, created webpages with podcasts about native plants planted along the trail. The two clubs chose one of the student formats as the standard to be used on the website being created to bring awareness to the pollinator garden, and purchased the domain name "PawPath.org." Students also created QR codes to be placed on each plant sign so visitors, using smart phones and other devices, can access additional information about plants that pique their interest. The next phase entails creation of elementary-level educational materials based on science SOLs for local school systems. The garden and trail offer visitors an opportunity to learn about bees, butterflies and other pollinators, and the plants on which they survive and thrive, and to inspire children and adults to help sustain the pollinators that sustain us all.

The Fred W. Beazley Outdoor Classroom at Paradise Creek Nature Park

submitted by

The Elizabeth River Garden Club

An outdoor classroom in the middle of a nature park is the perfect spot for children to learn about conservation. That is the intent at the Paradise Creek Nature Park, created by the Elizabeth River Project, a non-profit whose efforts to restore the Elizabeth River have been extremely successful.

An outdoor extension to the newly completed River Academy will include a number of teaching zones: a large space with picnic table seating for up to 30 students, a smaller area with tree stump seating, a water-wise garden, sensory garden and container garden. Native plants and trees will be used to create shade and an intimate space for learning. In this setting, children will learn about the watershed, stewardship and our impact on the environment.

The ERP educator, urban park ranger and public school teachers will use this space to inspire young students to become future conservationists. With over 15,000 visitors each year, including 6,000 inner-city youths, the park's reclaimed landscape has become a catalyst for community action.

The Elizabeth River Garden Club will serve as project advisor with qualified members selecting plants and donating professional landscape design. For further information: www.paradisecreek.elizabethriver.org and www.ergardenclub.org, Conservation tab. 🌱



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2018 Conservation Fellowship

by Lisa Mountcastle
The Garden Club of Alexandria

The Garden Club of Virginia Conservation and Beautification Committee is pleased to announce that it will accept applications for its 2018 Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellowship beginning on February 28, 2018.

The fellowship supports research regarding the conservation of natural resources and/or environmental studies concerning flora, fauna or community (cultural places) that directly impact the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The award is \$5,000 for study and research at an accredited university in Virginia. Undergraduate or graduate students are eligible to apply. Applications and all associated paperwork must be received by April 17, 2018.

Candidates will be selected by a committee composed of the chairman of the GCV Conservation Committee, the chairman of the GCV Conservation Fellowship, an at-large member of GCV and a faculty member of a university in a related field. Upon completion of the project, a presentation of the research may be made at a GCV event. ❁

For more information, email EnvironmentalFellowship@gcvirginia.org.



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My Experience with the Youth Conservation Corps at Natural Bridge State Park

by Walker Leake

How did you learn about YCC?

I learned about the Youth Conservation Corps through a family friend who works for the Fish and Wildlife Foundation. I discovered that there are YCC programs offered not only across the state of Virginia, but across the entire United States. I must admit that while my mom was jubilant at the prospect of my working for several weeks doing, what looked to be, pretty grueling, hot outdoor work, I was not. I had other ideas of how I would like to spend my summer days, and schlepping rocks was not on my bucket list. I applied to a few programs, one of them a position in Yellowstone Park in Wyoming. Competition for spots working for the YCC is fairly steep and thus I was not guaranteed to even get a position. In March, I learned I was wait-listed for a spot in Virginia, location unknown. In June, the director of the Virginia division of the YCC called to let me know that a spot had opened up if I still wanted the position. I learned that the location was the newly acquired state park at Natural Bridge, which guaranteed that labor would be more intense. I packed my bags, left all electronic gear behind (that is a requirement) and set off for a very mysterious adventure at Natural Bridge State Park.

Did you have friends with you?

I entered the program at Natural Bridge without knowing anyone.

Describe a typical day. What was the hardest thing you did?

A typical day began at 7 a.m. We lived in a small, very small, old clapboard house situated about a two-minute drive from the park. We might throw down a bowl of cereal before heading out, but often I would carry a portable breakfast to the base of the bridge and eat and marvel. Renderings for the bridge do not capture the beauty of this natural wonder. Natural Bridge changed my life. I would give up every opportunity to sleep in late if it meant waking up to that view. At those moments I almost felt like that view, that park, belonged to me and that it was my responsibility to maintain the park to the best of my abilities.

After breakfast we would stretch and warm up our bodies in preparation for the physical tasks that awaited us. We had a pretty daunting list of goals, some of which we didn't have time to tackle, and would be addressed by the team that would follow us.

Here's what we accomplished:

1. Creating an example campsite for tourists.
2. Bolstering the creek banks with riprap to strengthen the creek shoulders and prevent deterioration. (Wheel barrow after wheel barrow, and it was a challenging 1/4 mile haul, but... body by YCC was a decent consequence).
3. Loosely engineering and building a curved staircase from the parking lot to the side rear of the park's main facility.

4. Removing VERY heavy old park tables and benches from the depths of the park and then building new and improved picnic tables to replace the old. (I felt like this was the most difficult job. The tables and benches were both extraordinarily heavy and awkward to carry for such a distance).
5. Breaking up concrete fence bases by hand like men on a chain gang and having a good time doing the work.

What did you discover about yourself?

Day by day, especially by the end of my three weeks working with the YCC (the work and the beauty of the park, the extreme sense of accomplishment, perhaps best described as being a part of something bigger than myself) I felt very connected to the participants in my program, my leaders and by the staff of the park. I felt like, and was respectfully treated like, a park ranger. Ultimately, I felt not only like I had contributed to the immediate community, but I felt like I had done something for the planet. I think the feeling was to do with connecting in a very human way to nature and to other people participating together toward the same effort. The whole experience was rewarding beyond my expectations.

Would I do it again?

I am 18 now, and if I were to apply for the YCC program again, I would like to do so as a counselor. If I could lead other volunteers in a direction that helps them earn the same successful feelings I would do so in a minute. I imagine my group leaders felt very proud of themselves for their effective contributions toward our achievements. 🌱

Editor's Note: Walker Leake, son of Three Chopt Garden Club member Leesie Leake, is a junior at Virginia Episcopal School in Lynchburg.

The Youth Conservation Corps was a recipient of funds from the Garden Club of Virginia Centennial Grants, 2017. The questions were posed to Walker by Virginia State Parks Committee Chairman Jeanette Cadwallender of the Rappahannock Valley Garden Club.



YCC workers in action



Leesie, Walker and Carter Leake

Photo credit: Virginia State Parks

Club Notes

Natural Bridge State Park

*by Dougie Morris
The Blue Ridge Garden Club*

Many who attended the Garden Club of Virginia's Board of Governors Meeting in Lexington last fall made time to visit nearby Natural Bridge, a jewel in the crown and 37th Virginia State Park. In 2015, Natural Bridge owner Angelo Puglisi agreed to sell the site to the Virginia Conservation Legacy Fund. Puglisi gave the 20-story rock formation and 188 acres of the property to the fund. This nonprofit group will pay for the remaining 1,300 acres with a loan from the Virginia Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund. Once this loan is paid off, the fund will deed the entire property to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Natural Bridge was once owned by Thomas Jefferson who purchased it from King George III. It was formerly ranked along with Niagara Falls as one of the two natural wonders of the New World. A young George Washington is said to have carved his initials into the rock while surveying it for Lord Fairfax.

Citizens must help to maintain these treasures. The Blue Ridge Garden Club has donated more than \$2,000 for materials to enable the construction of an amphitheater at Natural Bridge for use by school groups listening to lectures prior to visiting the Monacan Indian exhibit. The BRGC encourages other member clubs to support the state parks and help preserve them for future generations. ❁



GCV Board of Governors attendees visiting the park

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Please contact Penny Dart at apdart@gmail.com with your ideas.*

2018 Grants to Virginia State Parks

by Jeanette Cadwallender, GCV Virginia State Parks Committee Chairman
The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

The Garden Club of Virginia Board of Directors endorsed the recommendation from the Virginia State Parks Grants Committee to award the following projects and programs in Virginia State Parks in 2018:

- Belle Isle – phase two of improvements to the landscape at the Belle Isle mansion and enhancements at the Visitors' Center
The Garden Club of the Northern Neck
- Caledon – drinking fountain
The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club
- Holliday Lake – underwater lighting in support of environmental education
Hillside Garden Club and The Lynchburg Garden Club
- Hungry Mother – Children's Discovery area
- James River – native plant and pollinator garden
Rivanna Garden Club
- Lake Anna – native plant landscaping around new cabins
The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club
- Natural Bridge – continued improvements to indoor interactive classroom
The Blue Ridge Garden Club
- Pocahontas – shoreline restoration and installation of fishing platforms
The James River Garden Club
- Shenandoah River – Pollinator Meadow with bee habitat
The Garden Club of Warren County
- Sky Meadows – Children's Discovery area and trails
Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club
- Westmoreland – creating a Discovery center in the former Visitors' Center
The Garden Club of the Northern Neck
- York River – Landscaping improvements in three gardens
The Hampton Roads Garden Club, The Huntington Garden Club and The Williamsburg Garden Club

In addition to these projects, the Youth Conservation Corps will again receive funding to aid in the purchase of supplies for the residential summer program in 20 parks.

The Centennial Project is taking off, making a lasting and visible difference to state parks across Virginia and advancing the mission of the Garden Club of Virginia. 🌿



Club Notes

Recycling or Reuse

by Becky Balzer
Roanoke Valley Garden Club

Conservationists have long preferred to recycle glass, plastics and paper rather than send them to landfills. However, research shows that while recycling does reduce waste, it actually requires large amounts energy to clean, separate, dismantle and remanufacture into new products. With this information in mind, the conservation committee of the Roanoke Valley Garden Club began looking for ways to reuse items we collect as recyclables. We were amazed by the number of items that could be used in our community and beyond for new purposes.

Each month we ask our members to bring items to our club meetings that they would normally recycle. Committee members collect the items and deliver them to local companies, schools or businesses in need of them. We have several ongoing requests from nonprofits or companies who use the recyclable items for operating expenses. For example, the local Ronald McDonald House uses the money earned from aluminum tab tops to assist with the cost of their utilities. A special needs class at a local high school uses corks and unused greeting cards for student projects. Animal shelters are always in need of old sheets and towels. Batteries and lightbulbs are collected and taken to a hazardous waste collection event sponsored by the local municipality. Cell phones are collected and placed in envelopes to be shipped to Cell Phones for Soldiers. The list of reusable items is longer than we ever imagined. ✿



Correction:

The winner of Class 104, Baroque, Best in Show and TriColor arrangement at the Fall Symposium was Amy Bertles, *The Hunting Creek Garden Club*

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Lily Notes

Yes, Virginia, There is a Lily Show.

by Carrie Darracott, GCV Lily Committee Chairman
The Augusta Garden Club

Whether you're an experienced exhibitor or just curious about lilies and the difference between *Oriental*s and *Orienpets*, the Garden Club of Virginia is putting on a show for you.

Chairman Nina Mustard has plans well under way for the 76th Annual GCV Lily Show. The show will be held at St.



Mary's Episcopal Church, 12291 River Road in Richmond on Tuesday, June 19, 2018, with the afternoon open to the general public. Workroom hours will be offered on Monday afternoon and the morning of the show. A full horticulture schedule of classes will be offered, including all North American Lily Society classes and customary GCV member-only trophy classes. Judging will be done by NALS-accredited judges. Members of the GCV Lily Committee and others will volunteer needed labor for the show. Publicity, financial and organizational support will be provided by the GCV.

Exhibits of the glorious lilies will be the center of attention, but during the hours the show is open to the public for viewing, tips on growing and showing lilies will be offered in brief sessions at "Lily Central," an information table within the showroom.

If you plan to exhibit lilies, there are several things you can do, whether you are a novice or blue ribbon winner, to make the entry process easier. Go to www.gcvirginia.org to print archived lily collections as a personal reference for identification and class entry information on each lily you bring. Label each stem you pick with a tag and waterproof pen noting cultivar name, class in which it will be entered, and collection year if for exhibit in the Interclub collection or if you have doubt about identification. For excellent general information, look at "Entering a Flower Show," also on the website.

Schedule and further information about the 2018 show will be available at www.gcvlilies.org. Take a look and plan to come to the lily show. Even if you do not exhibit, you will be treated to a beautiful display, and find inspiration and information to help you plant and enjoy lilies in your own garden. 🌸

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What is RGGI and Why Should I Care?

by Carol Carter & Carol Hunter
Albemarle Garden Club

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative is the first market-based regulatory program in the US that seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. RGGI (pronounced Reggie) is a cooperative effort by Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont to cap and reduce CO₂ emissions. It has been in place since 2008.

Every three months the states issue allowances (“pollution permits” for each ton of CO₂) equal to the cap. As the cap declines, so does the number of allowances. Power plants purchase allowances at quarterly auctions according to the number of tons of CO₂ they produce. It works like musical chairs: the allowances become more valuable as the cap declines. This encourages power plants to reduce pollution while providing funds to the states for energy efficiency, renewable energy and other consumer benefit programs. The process spurs innovation in the clean energy economy and has created green jobs and health benefits in current RGGI states.

The RGGI plan includes a cap that declines 30% between 2020 and 2030, a Cost Containment Reserve, and an Emissions Containment Reserve to enhance market stability. The RGGI CO₂ cap represents a regional budget for CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel power plants producing more than 25 megawatts.

All of this matters because the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality proposed regulations this fall that were approved by the Air Pollution Control Board, opening the door for Virginia to align with RGGI. In January, Gov. Northam announced that he would like Virginia to fully join RGGI.

All participating states benefit from a broader market with more participants. Larger markets increase economic efficiency and cost-effectiveness, align more closely with the regional nature of our electric grid, and help drive even greater consumer savings. So far, RGGI is thought by some to reflect good policy design with fair and transparent allowance auctions.

Critics of RGGI say that it does not account for methane produced from natural gas wells and that it should expand beyond the power sector to include fossil fuels from transportation and heating. If you want to dig deeper, go to RGGI.org for more information. ❁

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Maymont: A GCV Restoration Property Revisited

by Jody Branch
The Boxwood Garden Club

My first visit to Maymont was with my Brownie troop in the mid-1950s. The swan bed is my only memory of the mansion, but I vividly remember running up and down the steep hills and play-acting in the Italian and Japanese gardens. Major and Mrs. James H. Dooley began building their mansion in 1890 and created a 10-acre estate overlooking the James River. Inspired by their travels, they called upon the best landscape architects of the day to incorporate a number of enchanting theme gardens.

When the Dooleys died in the early 1920s, they left their estate to the City of Richmond as a park. The city could not provide adequate funding for proper maintenance, and in 1975, the Maymont Foundation took over. In addition to restoring existing buildings and many areas of the gardens and grounds, the foundation added the Children's Farm and the Nature & Visitors Center.

In 1996, the Garden Club of Virginia began the restoration of six acres immediately surrounding the mansion. Rudy Favretti, GCV's landscape architect at the time, used old photos, invoices, maps and blueprints to restore or replace the ornamental lawn, 28 species of trees, three rose arbors, gazebos, sculpture, rose-colored walkways and the shrub labyrinth.

Maymont's Director of Horticulture Peggy Singlemann worked with Mr. Favretti and more recently with Will Rieley and the Restoration Committee. In 2003, Hurricane Isabel damaged the labyrinth shrubs, creating the opportunity to replace most of them with more authentic Japanese white spirea. In 2006, Princeton elms flanking the entire driveway from the main gate to the mansion were planted, recreating the striking allee that had been lost to Dutch elm disease.

Sixty years after my introduction to Maymont I am still a frequent visitor. Now I love watching my one-year-old granddaughter smell the roses, play on the hills and appreciate this enchanting place. 🌸



Photo credit: Roger Foley

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

Ex Libris

by Joan Pollard and Virginia Cherry, GCV Library Committee
The Petersburg Garden Club

Rie Imai and Yuji Ueno's *Japanese Ikebana for Every Season* with photography by Noboru Murata (Tuttle Publishing, 2013, 144 pp) explores ikebana, the art of Japanese flower arranging, in ways that push the form beyond its traditional concepts.

Authors Imai and Ueno describe basic ikebana techniques such as watering, cutting, stabilizing, trimming, bending and shaping techniques. They discuss the principles of Japanese floral design (nature, water awareness, simplicity, seasonality, light and shadow, sensory perceptions) while also offering practical tips on how to choose the right container. In this book, they also thoroughly explain the concept of ikebana design such as verticality, asymmetry, color, harmony of elements, positioning and natural supports. Ueno describes his approach as “arranging floral materials to make what everyone feels is simply beautiful.”

Japanese Ikebana for Every Season provides lists of which flowers, branches, leaves and plants are readily available in each season and which are most appropriate for certain special occasions. Spring arrangements might call for orchids, daffodils, narcissus, tulips, hyacinths, dogwood, lilies, magnolias or ivy. The arranger might reach for hosta, hibiscus, apricots, hydrangeas, clematis, sunflowers, smoke tree, fleabane, berries, dianthus, blackberry, chameleon plant, peonies, grape vines or princess flower in the summer. In autumn, of course, mums, dahlias, autumn leaves and chrysanthemum are abundant. A winter selection might include roses, pine branch, thorns and amaryllis. Including step-by-step photos, the authors provide a guide to the materials, containers and techniques used so that the reader can easily reproduce featured arrangements. All floral materials and containers used in the book are widely available anywhere in the world.

Included are 53 color photographic arrangements by Murata, one of Japan's most accomplished photographers. ❁



Rose Notes

Has the Hybrid Tea Rose Run its Course?

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

Roses have a long history with gardeners around the world, but hybrid teas have only been with us for a little more than 100 years. They came into existence as part of a quest to develop a perfect rose with a pristine form and repeat bloom. In the process, growers lost their appreciation for the plant itself. Michael Pollan, who writes about the evolution of plants, says “hybrid roses don’t give more bloom, really, they just parcel their blooms out over a longer period; they save to reinvest. So instead of abandoning herself to one great climax of bloom, the rose now doles out her blossoms one by one, always holding back ...” Roses seemingly lost character, scent and a form that could nestle into a border or a natural landscape. The late Henry Mitchell was even more vehement about them, complaining about the evil of “raising scentless roses that require weekly spraying, and that can be sheltered and shielded, padded and pampered, until at last an enormous flower can be entered in a rose show.”



Are hybrid roses the culprit in the loss of popularity in rose growing and showing? Roses have been extremely adaptable, catering to the tastes of the times, so are we entering a new era in taste? We are not the only species that the rose relies on for continued existence. Are pollinators fed up with hybrid teas? The spraying and constant care have become negative factors for both young and experienced gardeners contemplating rose growing. The Royal National Rose Society in England has gone into bankruptcy, and the American Rose Society is in financial difficulty.

I believe that roses are underappreciated now because we are growing the wrong ones. They add color, scent and interest to the garden if the right cultivars are chosen among thousands available. Will there be no more rose shows? The answer lies in the willingness of participants to accept new and less stringent definitions of rose perfection. Gardeners have always found ways to form alliances and friendships with other like-minded individuals, and flower shows are a wonderful way to do this. While contemplating future rose-growing, I am inspired by books and by the quick access to the world of roses on the Internet. Google the roses you are interested in, such as Kordes or David Austin, or roses that do well in Zone 7. Also try <https://www.chambleerose.com>, the current Garden Club of Virginia supplier. I love using Pinterest to search for boards featuring old garden roses or any others of interest. Time will tell if the hybrid tea has run its course. 🌹

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In Support Of

Green Arrow Society

Special thanks to our members and friends who have made a lasting commitment to our mission with a planned gift to the Garden Club of Virginia.

Beverly I. and Wirt A. Christian, Jr.*

Janet Jackson Dennis*

Robert A. Henkel

Katherine T. Mears

Helen Turner Murphy

Susan Wight

*deceased

If you have made a planned gift, or would like more information about joining the Green Arrow Society, please contact Lexie Haglund at (804) 643-4137 or development@gcvirginia.org.



GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

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THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA CALENDAR 2018

- March 1 Deadline for Nominations for the Common Wealth Award, de Lacy Gray, Medal and Horticulture Award of Merit
- March 19 GCV Artistic Judges Workshop, Kent-Valentine House
- March 27 American Daffodil Society Judging School III Cocktails and Travel with Tony Avent, Richmond
- March 28 Daffodil Day, Richmond
- April 21-28 Historic Garden Week in Virginia
- May 15-17 98th GCV Annual Meeting, Martinsville
- June 1 Deadline for Nominations for the Conservation Educator Award and Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Conservation Award
- June 5-6 Horticulture Field Day, Lynchburg
- June 19 76th Lily Show, Richmond

Dates and events as posted on the GCV website, gcvirginia.org. See website for further additions.