



the newsletter of the Rock Spring Garden Club, Arlington, Virginia www.rockspringgardenclub.com

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PRESIDENT

Connie Richards

VICE-PRESIDENT

Anne Collins

SECRETARY

Kate Abrahams

TREASURER

Ann Lunson

GARDENZETTE

EDITOR

Joan Hession

SHOWCASE OF RSGC MEMBER GARDENS



JUNE 9, 2016

10:00 AM

Program at Little Falls Presbyterian Church
followed by a self-guided tour
of the following gardens:

Anita Brown

Carolyn Barone

Mary Shepherd Cottrell

Ann Marie Fay

Catherine Jamieson

Mary Lunger

Rock Spring Park Garden



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Connie Richards

I loved being in my garden today! I was afraid that the cold snap ruined my hydrangeas for this season but they've come back. The peonies are still blooming, and the ferns have filled in. This evening was pleasant enough to have dinner on the deck. Spring is exciting with the flowering trees and the pops of color of the daffodils and tulips but I'm ready to relax with the lushness of the summer garden. This year there has been much excitement with the garden club. We had a successful Holiday Design Event, netting over six thousand dollars. The flower show was amazing, and I can't wait for the tour of our member gardens next week.

As demanding as this year has been being president, I'm proud of our achievements and enjoy the time I spend with club members. I'm really looking forward to next year with a different kind of schedule that will enable us to learn from the programs and have more relaxed time to spend with each other.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MAY 1-31, 2016

Ann Lunson

BEG BAL MAY 1, 2016	\$23,249.68
Total Receipt	40.00
Total Disbursements	<u>(3,134.28)</u>
CLOS BAL MAY 31, 2016	\$20,155.40

MEMBERSHIP

Anne Collins

Three new members will be inducted at the June 9th meeting. We welcome Gail Fertel, Anne Larsen and JoElla Samp.

REMINDER, PLEASE BRING YOUR NAME BADGES TO THE JUNE MEETING!!!!

FRANCISCAN MONASTERY

Connie Richards



Twenty-five members and one guest enjoyed a delightful day at the Franciscan Monastery. The drive there wasn't difficult and we all arrived in less than an hour taking several different routes. Our tour guide, Patricia Cunniff, was especially interesting as she had grown up in the neighborhood. As well as being very knowledgeable about the gardens and structures in the monastery, she shared stories of how she played there as a child. The monastery which was built in 1899 includes replicas of sites from the Holy Land so people who couldn't travel there could experience something similar. The many varieties of roses were blooming and were spectacular!



I think we should organize a group to go back next April to see the tulips. If we do that, we should definitely go to the San Antonio Grill where we had a delicious lunch. It was a wonderful time to enjoy the sights and each other's company!

INVITATIONAL COMMITTEE

Joan Asboth

On May 13, RSGC ladies created floral designs for the annual Tuckahoe Elementary School Home and Garden Tour. Special thanks to the Tuckahoe Flower Committee--Jacquie Ebert for lending her home for the work party and Gretchen Dimina for obtain the great selection of flowers.



Special kudos to Dorinda Burroughs, Anne Collins, Margaret Eubank, Ann Marie Faye, Connie Richards, Becky Salzinger and Jenny Sullivan for bringing plentiful greens and floral accents to craft beautiful floral arrangements. It was fun working together and the designs graced eight homes and a garden, plus several bouquets for door prizes.

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According to the organizers, this year's tour was the best yet--even rain held off until late afternoon. Over 200 tickets were sold and \$17,000 was raised to fund the Discovery School Yard, an outdoor learning lab for students. The tour is another initiative to support Tuckahoe Elementary in providing a unique framework for children to appreciate nature.

Many thanks to the Invitational Committee and RSGC members for outstanding support this year—Kari Rush for organizing the Holiday Tea designs--and everyone who donated flowers, made arrangements, and spent time bringing kindness and cheer to fellow club members.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Susan Scotti

May 6, the day for our Mother's Day project was cold and wet, but that didn't dampen the spirits of the 111 Tuckahoe second graders. One teacher said they had been excited all week in anticipation of making the flower arrangements.

This was the first year we have had enough rain to send us indoors to trim greens, but it worked out well and the ladies stayed warm and dry as they clipped and chatted. There were lots of greens, especially boxwood, to keep us busy for the hour.



Then it was time for the exciting part of working in the classrooms. The children were awed by the beautiful carnations and the different types of greens, and were eager to begin. After a demonstration on how to place the greens in the oasis, they worked quickly; anxious to add the carnations. The baby's breath was the last to be passed out and with it they completed their unique designs. One child said "Wait till my mom sees this and then I tell her I did it. She's going to be so surprised." And another said "I think I'll hide this under my bed till Mother's Day so I can surprise her. There's room under my bed cause I can hide there."



Thank you to everyone who contributed to this project. There were 9 committee members and 5 RSGC volunteers working together, and 5 club members who couldn't be with us but donated greens. This is the 8th year for this project and it is always rewarding.

WAYS AND MEANS

Julie Wadsworth

The **JUNE MEETING is our only opportunity** for a plant sale. We will only be selling plants in June. Divide those plants and donate them to Ways and Means. We all love seeing plants in our garden that we received from a friend and/or fellow garden club member. This has been a tremendous Ways and Means fund-raiser for the past two years, perhaps a tradition in the making.

Take a few minutes to **SHARE YOUR GARDEN**. Plants should be placed in small pots or sealed plastic bags, labeled with plant name, and sun/part shade/shade. Drop-off by 9:15am the day of our meeting is fine.

HORTICULTURE

Louise Rhoads

Margi and I would like to acknowledge the members of the Horticulture Committee for all their help at our monthly meetings this year: Toby Davis, Arlene Kigin, Ashley Tessmer, Christine Wegman, Jane Robinson and Georga Shaw. I would like to personally thank the following who served on the Flower Show Horticulture Placement Committee: Carolyn Barone, Toby Davis, Ann Lunson, Margi Melnick, Jane Robinson, and Felicia Schwenk. Whee, what fun and didn't we learn!! We had a great year and I appreciate all your support and understanding as I "jumped in" as co-chairman of this wonderful, informative committee.

Wildflowers Continued



CRIMSON-EYED ROSEMALLOW - Hibiscus palustris - can be found in tidal marshes, swamps and even in our own backyards, if given frequent deep watering. It flowers from June to September, depending upon its location throughout the mid-Atlantic and southeastern states. You might find it in standing water along with Cattails. It is a tall plant, sometimes growing up to six feet, with yellow-green, ovate to lanceolate leaves on a coarse stem, large pinky-white flowers, six inches across, with a darker center borne on short stalks from the leaf axils. Looking at a Rose-of-Sharon bush, you might notice that the fruits of these plants are very similar as they come from the same family. The leaves are a yellowy-green in color with soft white hairs on the underside. They were once used to treat dysentery, lung and urinary ailments.

Rosemallows like moist places growing along with grasses, sedges and other flowering plants in large, informal places where they provide a haven for birds. Look for the red-winged blackbirds. These plants produce a marvelous summer display when mixed with bright yellows of the Indian-cup, the royal purple of ironweed and the plentiful pink of queen-of-the-prairie. Hope we see these wildflowers during our travels this summer. Happy Vacation!

LIAISON REPORT

Felicia Schwenk

ARBOR HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

A big thank you to the club members who volunteered along with me at the National Arboretum's Arbor House gift shop, in March, April, May, and June: Thea McGinnis, Julie Wadsworth, Jody Goulden, Diane Pollack, Sherry Foster, Connie Richards, and Kate Abrahams. Please consider volunteering next year to help with this project. Volunteers receive a 20% discount on their purchases the day they work. You also get to chat with some very interesting

people who come into the shop and ask questions about the arboretum.

NCAGC DISTRICT III MEETING

Friday, June 17, 9:30 a.m. (starting with social/food)

District III Meeting, Meadowlark Gardens, Vienna, VA. Business meeting will start around 10:00, then a round robin speed dating your club idea workshop. All club members are invited to attend.

U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM (U.S.N.A)

Located at 3501 New York Ave., N.E. Washington, D.C., visit www.usna.usda.gov to check out U.S.N.A. programs, including the following:

Saturday, June 11, 11:00 a.m.

8th Annual DC Plant Swap. Free. See website above for details and instructions.

Saturday, June 19, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Workshop: Bonsai II. Bring Your Own Tree, National Bonsai and Penjing Museum Lecture/Demonstration Center. Designed for those who have completed a beginner's class and are ready for the next step. Bring your own tools. Fee: \$39 (\$31 FONA/NBF) + service charge. For more details and to register, see the above website.

OTHER JUNE EVENTS

Friday, June 10, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Arboretum and Horticulture tour, Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), Arlington, VA. With the ANC's horticulture division chief and Master Arborist Steve Van Hoven as the guide, you'll gain insight into this Level II arboretum's urban forestry program, including its extensive tree collection, turf and ground maintenance, and landscaping techniques. To partake in the tour, meet at the information desk in the ANC Welcome Center by 9:00 a.m. For more information, visit [http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Visit/Events-and-Ceremonies#/.](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Visit/Events-and-Ceremonies#/)

Saturday, June 11

Small Flower Show, *Summer Serenade*, sponsored by District I. For more information, contact Caroline Carbaugh at 301-292-2102 or cscarbaugh127@gmail.com.

Friday, June 17, 1:30 -2:30 p.m.

Garden Talk: Ornamental Grasses, Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria, VA. Give your garden four seasons of interest with low-maintenance, versatile grasses. Fee \$10.00 for Fairfax County residents/\$12.00 non-residents. For more details and to register, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/ed-adult.htm>.

LOOKING AHEAD AT FALL 2016

Monday, October 17, 10:00 a.m. (starting with goodies)

NCAGC general meeting, National Arboretum auditorium. The business meeting will begin at 10:30 and a program with a flower design speaker will be from 11:00 to noon.

Saturday & Sunday, October 22 & 23

Potomac and Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Societies combined annual show, Brookside Gardens, Silver Spring, MD. The show will be free and open to the public. For more information, contact Galen Goss at galen.goss@mums.org.

Sunday-Tuesday October 23-25

CAR (Central Atlantic Region) Conference, Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Information and registration forms can be found by clicking on <http://ngccar.org>.

Saturday, October 29

“Day with Chrysanthemums “ Teach-in. Details to come. For more information, contact Jim Dunne at jim.dunne@mums.org.

Thursday & Friday, November 3 & 4

Environmental Studies School, Course 1, Series 7, *The Living Earth*, Agriculture History Farm Park, Derwood, MD. A registration form with more information is available at <http://www.ncagardenclubs.org/schoolsandcouncils.html>. The registration form will be updated as more details become finalized.

PHOTO GALLERY

Floral designs by the Invitational Committee before they go on the Tuckahoe House and Garden Tour.



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Additional scenes from the Franciscan Monastery.



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