

The Gardenzette

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

Volume 55, Number 2

October 2016

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Connie Richards

VICE-PRESIDENT

Kate Abrahams

SECRETARY

Jenny Sullivan

TREASURER

Ann Lunson

GARDENZETTE

EDITOR

Joan Hession

GENERAL MEETING

OCTOBER 20, 2016 10:00 AM

LITTLE FALLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IKEBANA AND OUR GARDENS

We are in for a treat this month! Alice Buch, who has been a member of our club since 1996, will be giving this program.



Alice has been practicing the Ohara School of Ikebana for over 20 years and has visited Japan fifteen times to refine her skills. She has exhibited numerous times at the National Arboretum and conducts workshops in the Washington, DC area.



It will be interesting to find out the characteristics of various schools of ikebana and ways to utilize the plants you have in your yard to create your own design.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Program	1
President's Message	2
Treasurer's Report	2
Board Meeting	2
Show/Workshop	2
Member Social	2
Outdoor Lab	3
Holiday Tea	3
Youth Activities	4
Ways & Means	4
Lilies	5
Liaison Report	6
Morning of Design	9
Photo Gallery	10

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Connie Richards

It was really exciting to see all of the floral designs and horticulture specimens at the last meeting! We are an amazing group!!! I'm not just saying that; I hear it frequently when I go to meetings with other garden clubs. I went to the dahlia show at Brookside Gardens last week and it was FABULOUS. We need to have a field trip there next year and be sure to stay until three o'clock when they sell the blooms. Anyway, I ran into someone from Ayr Hill Club who wants to "pick our brains" to figure out how we are such a successful club. So we have a reputation to maintain, and we *can* by continuing to participate in club activities and inviting our friends to join our club. Hopefully with all the rain, our plants have thrived and we'll still have much horticulture to share. Try to participate in the workshop that is being offered this month to help with the floral design.

TREASURER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 1–30, 2016

Ann Lunson

BEG BAL SEPT. 1, 2016	\$18,777.70
Total Receipts	755.50
Total Disbursements	<u>(860.31)</u>
CLOS BAL SEPT. 30, 2015	\$18,672.89

BOARD MEETING NOV. 3, 2016 10:00 A.M.

NEW LOCATION

Joan Hession

SHOW

Design of the month: Hogarth Curve

This design is also known as a Traditional Line Design. These designs usually have a set pattern. The Hogarth Curve's pattern **MUST** be an S-curve. This typically American design should have a strong, balanced linear component. Balance and Rhythm are achieved by gradation and transition of plant material.

FLORAL WORKSHOPS

OCT. 13 10:00 A.M.

Connie Richards

The Show Committee will be giving demonstrations of some of the monthly floral designs this year. Anita Brown will show us how to construct the "Hogarth Curve", a type of Traditional Line Design. This will be at Carol Cochran's house at 10 am on October 13. If some of you want to get together to make the arrangements for the club meeting, we can do this at my house on Wednesday, October 19, at 4pm. Bring your container, greens and flowers, and we'll share our talent. There will be similar workshops for November's "Creative Panel Design", March's "Creative Tubular Design", and possibly others.

MEMBER/POTENTIAL MEMBER SOCIAL THURSDAY, OCT. 27TH FROM 4-6 P.M.

Kate Abrahams

This will be an afternoon combination tea/coffee/wine with finger food for all members and potential members. Whatever your eye opener happens to be!

OUTDOOR LAB

Dorinda Burroughs

In late June this summer, Rock Spring Garden Club sent three students to Outdoor Lab. The students, all from Randolph Elementary School, were awarded scholarships based on their hard work, excellent grades, and an interest in the natural world.

Funds raised by the club's Holiday Design Event (HDE) enabled these students to attend. So how did this event come to pass?

In the spring of 2010, several members of the RSGC were asked to design flowers for a fund raiser for the Arlington Pediatric Center. At that event, where the designs were actually sold as a part of the evening, a number of attendees asked if our club ever held workshops in the community where they could observe floral design construction. That request, coupled with this writer's keen interest in providing scholarships for students to attend "nature camp", placed the wheels in motion for the Holiday Design Event. Since 2010, the event has grown in depth and in community recognition. It has raised approximately \$25,500, and we have sent 15 students to camp!

The Outdoor Lab has made a major and positive impact on the welfare of thousands of school children in Arlington County for decades. The program is now 50 years old and did you know that RSGC was one of the first supporters for the facility at its inception?

The Phoebe Hall-Knipling Outdoor Laboratory near Warrenton, Virginia, is a blend of the traditional camp activities (hiking, evening campfires, crafts, skits, etc.) and unique nature-based offerings. It is an extension of the day and overnight visits that students in Grades 3 and 5, respectively, take at Outdoor Lab during the school year. The week-long stay provides a higher level of nature exploration, with activity options such as orienteering. Students are given

opportunities to explore the natural world through focused activities of their own choosing and self-directed free time activities. All of our campers have attended Outdoor Lab just for the day experience, which heightens their interest and desire for the week long adventure. In the natural classroom, urban youth, often for the first time, can run in a meadow, climb a mountain, hike beside a stream and study the flora and fauna. Our campers wanted these experiences but could not attend without our scholarships. A common concern among all the campers is the need for more green spaces in their communities where children can play safely and explore the natural world. Outdoor Lab gives them a week's worth of that experience, and one that they will hopefully build upon in their future studies and endeavors. As Chris Reid of the Arlington Public School's Science Office shared as a consensus from principals and counselors in the student's schools, "You are giving them a life changing experience."

There will not be a Holiday Design Event in November 2016. It should be noted that not only does the revenue from the HDE cover the cost of scholarships and camper supplies, but also helps defray costs for our programs, speakers, rent, and other activities approved by the board. Let's continue this rich tradition and legacy by a wonderful event in 2017!

HOLIDAY TEA

DEC. 8, 2016 2-4 P.M.

Ann Marie Fay

"Winter Wonderland" will be at the home of Mary Peyton Lunger. Floral designs will be done by RSGC members. In keeping with the theme, designs will be all white flowers with greens and silver/gold accents. Most containers will be silver or crystal. The display board with pictures will be at the next two meetings. Please use the display board to sign up to do an arrangement.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Carolyn Barone

"I wish we could do this every day" commented one of the 2nd graders as I explained what the "garden ladies" had planned for them during their lunch hour at Tuckahoe Elementary School. A Reason For A Flower by Ruth Heller was read to them while lunch was eaten. Then, the 11 girls and 1 boy each potted a pansy in a peat pot for replanting at home. They added decorative markings and stickers to make them special.



We then marched to the Friendship Garden at the school entry where they each planted 3 pansies under the supervision of Lynda Martin, Ann Duffy, Helen McMahon Ann Larson and myself.



The members of the Youth Activities Committee usually meet once a month with the 2nd graders. This has been an ongoing activity since 2000 and culminates in May with the entire 2nd grade class preparing Mother's Day arrangements. Our projects are not only loved by the children, but by the committee team. The school enthusiastically welcomes us and is most appreciative of our involvement with them and look forward to our projects. Next month we will have the children make an arrangement using pumpkins...also a big hit.

WAYS AND MEANS

Sherry Foster

Many thanks to those RSGC members that contributed their "treasures" to the Ways and Means table for the September meeting – almost \$200.00 was raised and your house looks much less cluttered -- a win-win situation. For the upcoming October meeting we would like to aim for \$300.00 in sales so PLEASE check your closets, basement, attic, and under the bed for those treasures that are looking for a new home. Diane Pollack and I are happy to come and pick your donations up or you can drop them at either of our homes.

LILIES

Christine Wegman



“Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.” Luke 12:27

You might get a hint from this well-known bible verse that lilies are not very hard to grow, and you would be right. They take up very little space and can be tucked into many small spots in a mature garden. They can be grown as singles or in groups. They come in white and all the hot and warm colors, from reds through oranges to yellows, almost any shade of pink, and vibrant purples. They come in short, medium and tall varieties, as well as early, mid-season and late bloomers. And, of course, the later bloomers have matchless fragrance.



It's not possible to do justice to these beautiful bulbs in a short article, but I will write about a few of my favorites. Pictured above Asiatic lilies make a beautiful show in early June and while not fragrant, are especially welcome after the azaleas and tulips have faded. They are striking grouped together in the garden. Breeders have been busy introducing many short, variates, some just about a foot tall. Pictured above is a pot of Pink Pixie Asiatic lilies.



A relatively new type of lily, the LA hybrids, bloom next. These are vigorous plants that make a strong show and fill the gap between the Asiatics and the orientals. Some years ago my husband Charlie brought home three white LA hybrid bulbs. We now have three strong clumps and need to divide them again this fall. They are among my very favorite flowers. As you can see from the group of LA hybrid lilies pictured above, the white ones stand out beautifully and give a cool effect as the weather heats up.



Perhaps my very favorite lily is the regal lily, discovered in China in 1910 by E. H. Wilson. It is aptly named. The buds of this lily appear in early June and expand for almost a month before they bloom. They are equally beautiful in bud and in bloom. With their yellow centers and dusty pink stripes they will combine well with most flowers. Plant them where you can enjoy their lovely fragrance.



Last to bloom are the fragrant oriental lilies. We are all familiar with the pristine white 'Casa Blanca' and the deep pink 'Star Gazer', but there are dozens of others worth trying. There are a number of relatively new hybrid double oriental lilies that are exquisitely beautiful and powerfully fragrant, as pictured below left. These are exceptional plants and deserve a space along a

walkway where they can be best appreciated. They may need to be staked, but you can purchase curved stakes that will make the job easy. They are also perfect for along a fence.

Lilies are easy to grow. They will grow in full sun, but are happier with a bit of shade where their colors show to best advantage. Lilies like to have their roots cool and moist, so if not shaded by other plants, they will need to be mulched. They are hungry plants and need to be fertilized every couple of weeks with a high potassium fertilizer from early spring until about six weeks after they have bloomed. Do not cut them back to the ground after the blooms fade or the bulbs will not be able to store enough energy to bloom next year. You can trim the stems back by about one third. Unlike tulip and daffodil foliage, spent lily stems are not a garden eye sore. They just blend in with other foliage.

It's not too late to plant lilies for next year, as long as they are in the ground before the first frost. There are a number of good catalog sources for lilies: Brent and Becky's Bulbs in Virginia, B & D Lilies in Washington, and John Scheepers, the retail arm of the Dutch grower Van Engelen, are among the best.

Picture credits: 1) Nat'l. Gardening Assn. Learning Library, Plant Database, Lily; 2) Learn2Grow website; 3) Fairegarden website; 4) coolgarden.me/scented-summer-gardens-1333 website; 5) Van Engelen, Inc. website.

LIASON REPORT

Anne Collins

NCA/VFGC EVENTS

November 3-4

NCA Environmental Studies School< Course 1, Series VII

Agricultural History Farm Park, Derwood MD

See <http://www.ncagardenclubs.org/ess.html> for more information

November 9-10

VFGC Judge's Symposium- Design and Horticultural Presentations
 Four Points by Sheraton
 4700 Laburnum Ave., Henrico, VA
 Note: any garden club member can attend
 Registration Deadline: 10/17
 See
<http://www.viriniagardenclubs.org/VFGC/Symposium.html>

FLOWER SHOWS

OCTOBER 8-10
 National Capitol Area Orchid Society's Annual Orchid Show and Plant Sale
 Behnke Beltsville, MD
 See www.ncos.us

PROGRAM/LECTURES

Weekends through October
 Merrifield Garden Centers various locations
 See www.merrifieldgardencenters.com/events for a full listing

Weekends through October
 National Arboretum
 See
<http://www.usna.usda.gov/Education/events.html>
 !

All Month
 U.S. Botanical Gardens
https://www.usbg.gov/sites/default/files/attachments/usbg_coe_fall2016_web.pdf

October 8- 9- 9-4:30pm
 Virginia Arboretum – Blandy Farm
 Arborfest Fall Festival and Plant Sale
 This annual fall plant sale and garden extravaganza features vendors selling perennials, shrubs, trees, and fine items for the garden.
 400 Blandy Farm Lane, Boyce, VA

All Month
 Hillwood Estate, Garden and Museum
 4155 Linnean Ave., NW

Gardener's Focus: Multiple Programs
 Limited number of tickets for each event
 See
<http://www.hillwoodmuseum.org/whats/events-and-programs/garden-events> for a full listing

October 15 6am-10am
 Meadowlark Botanical Gardens
 Special Hours

Green Spring Garden Park

October 14– 1:30-2:30
 Garden Park: Fall Beauty
 Bring the glorious colors of fall to your landscape. Master gardeners show you a variety of gorgeous perennials, shrubs and trees in rich gold, burnt orange, brilliant burgundy and vibrant red shades that you can add to your existing plantings for remarkable, colorful results.
 Registration required:
http://parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov/rev1_course_detail.asp?category2=9999&subject=&facility2=M290&age=19&day=9999&Submit2=Search&desckey=9999&LOC=M290&TRM=16FA&CDE=2904885101

October 15- 9-12
 Beauty in Sustainability
 Learn how to create and care for a home garden that is a source for beauty, labor savings and environmental change. Get to know lovely native alternatives and rethink traditional gardening practices that are at odds with nature's rhythms. Laura Beaty and Larry Weaner show you how to create stunning gardens in harmony with ecological processes in nature.
 Registration required:
http://parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov/rev1_course_detail.asp?category2=9999&subject=&facility2=M290&age=19&day=9999&Submit2=Search&desckey=9999&LOC=M290&TRM=16FA&CDE=2904847201

October 20-23
 Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Fine arts and Flowers- A museum wide exhibition featuring works from VMFA interpreted through spectacular floral designs by members of The Garden Club of Virginia, VFGC and Gardens Clubs of Virginia

Exhibition is free and open to the public: NOTE: 4 of our members will have their designs exhibited!

Related special events require tickets:

www.vistorservices@vmfa.museum

October 22- 9-1

Master Gardeners of Virginia

Sustainable Landscape Workshop

Walter Reed Recreation Center

2909 S 16th Street, Arlington, VA

This 4-hour workshop will cover the basics of sustainable landscape management as well as best management practices for environmental landscaping. Come learn about soil protection and soil building, native plant selection, invasive plant management, and techniques to minimize storm water runoff and urban heat island effects.

Intended for property managers, homeowners, and those interested in promoting sustainable land stewardship practices in our urban environment. Free and open to the public

Registration required:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-cUTVW66Gsoz7oqNT3CkyHjcHElVI-72MEzk5j5_uUfVNjg/viewform

MORNING of DESIGN

presents

Winter Inspirations

New & Innovative Floral Designs



November 10

10 AM ---- 12:30 PM

..... Potomac Community Center

11315 Falls Road Potomac, MD 20854

Directions: Route 495 (Beltway) across the American Legion Bridge to Maryland.
Exit 39 River Road (Route 190 West) to Potomac
Right turn on Falls Road (Route 189) in Potomac
The Center is off Woodington Drive which is the
2nd right after Bells Mill Road

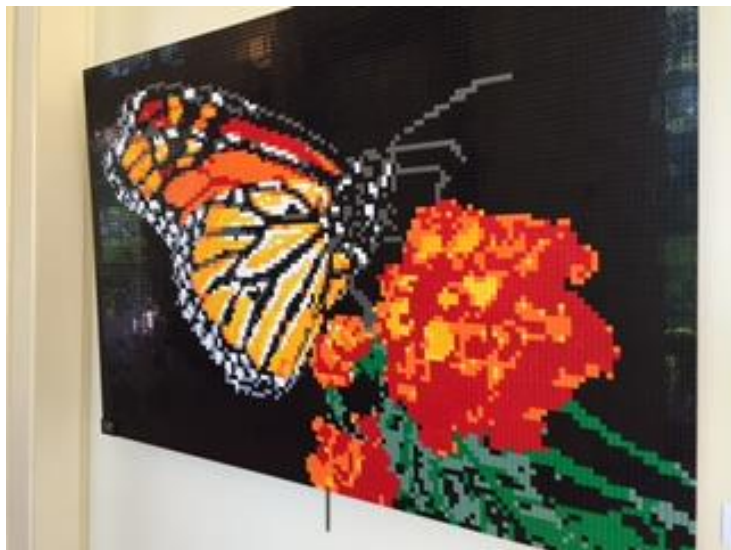
easy access parking

\$5 donation at door

Hosted by District 4

PHOTO GALLERY

Kate Abrahams shared her photographs from the National Arboretum show of lego designs. Who could have thought to make a lawn mower of lego blocks?



The September meeting had many, many fabulous **floral designs**. Here are a few of them.



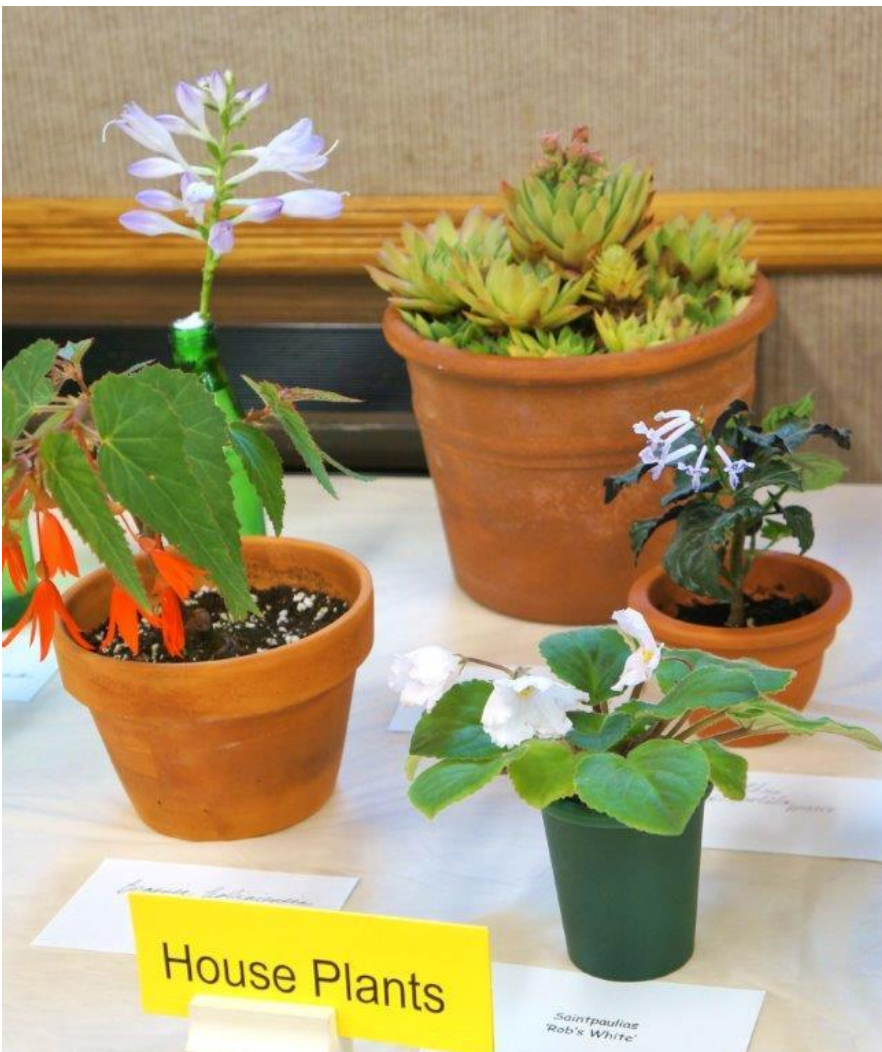




Rock Spring Garden Club is a member of the National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc., the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



Many **Horticulture** specimens were also displayed.



Rock Spring Garden Club is a member of the National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc., the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



Rock Spring Garden Club is a member of the National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc., the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.