

The Gardenzette

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

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Kate Abrahams

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Ann Lunson

GARDENZETTE

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NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

NOV. 17, 2016 10:00 am

LITTLE FALLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FERNS IN THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE

Carl Taylor is an international authority on ferns who spent many years teaching botany and plant taxonomy (plant identification), and local flora at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee before coming to Washington to work as a Program Director at the National Science Foundation. He is now retired but still conducts botanical research at the Smithsonian Natural History Museum. He and his wife, Jerry, live in Arlington's Cherrydale neighborhood where they garden in their yard and greenhouse nearly every day. He will speak to us about the many ways ferns make great subjects for both shade and sunny gardens.

Rock Spring Garden Club

Holiday Floral Design Event Pumpkin Sale

By popular demand, our Holiday Design Event Pumpkins, created by Club members, will be available for sale right on time for your Thanksgiving holiday table arrangements and mantles.

All pumpkins are 'Designer's Choice'

Pumpkins will be ready for pick up on

Monday, November 21, 2016

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Connie Richards

I just received a very effusive thank you card from Poss Tarpley, our judge from October. She mentioned that our horticulture was great as always and was especially complimentary about our Hogarth Curve designs. She was amazed that we had so many of a design that is unusual today. I attribute this to the wonderful workshop that Anita Brown led which a good number of our members attended. The enthusiasm must have been catching because we had other members try this arrangement too.



We are planning to have several more of these workshops this year which give us the opportunity to learn new things together and more time to enjoy each other's company. I'm especially hoping that we have newer members and those of us who are more hesitant to try the trickier floral designs participate in the future. So we will let everyone know when and where the next workshop will take place.

TREASURER'S REPORT OCTOBER 1–31, 2016

Ann Lunson

BEG BAL OCT. 1, 2016	\$18,672.89
Total Receipts	1,025.00
Total Disbursements	<u>(1,323.09)</u>
CLOS BAL OCT. 31, 2016	\$18,374.80

**NO BOARD MEETING FOR
DECEMBER!!!**

SHOW PANEL DESIGN

Anita Brown

This month's floral display is a Creative Design in which a panel is the integral part of the flower arrangement. (Sometimes two panels are attached and used together). The panel/s can be solid or mesh (see-through) and can be self-supporting or placed on a container. Note that the panel/s must have a dominance of surface quality. (The panel is two-dimensional, but the completed design will be three-dimensional).

Please make sure the panel is incorporated into the design and not just placed behind the design or in front of a background panel (if used).

We are doing some new designs this year, and since many of you enjoyed the Hogarth Curve workshop, Charlotte Benjamin has kindly agreed to lead a **panel design workshop on Tuesday, November 15, at 10:00 am** at the home of Kate

Abrahams. She would like for you to bring (if possible) your panel, some plant material and a container if your panel is not self-supporting. If you do not have an idea of your design at this point, come on to the workshop anyway. I plan to bring my cork trivet to use as my panel and am eager to get Charlotte's instructions for this interesting design.

MEMBERSHIP

Kate Abrahams

A merry crowd of old, new and potential club members enjoyed good company and refreshments at Kate Abrahams' house on October 27th despite grey drizzly weather. Jody Goulden created a lovely autumn floral arrangement with yellow, rust and red colored chrysanthemums to demonstrate the club's ability. Paul Gibert donated a gorgeous cheese platter with whole cheeses and slices arranged to look like flowers! The opportunity to socialize in a relaxed, home setting was much appreciated and encouraged the potential members to consider joining the garden club. Our two newest members are Marisol Aldahondo and Pat Getz. There are several potential members who will be attending the general meeting in November. Let's welcome and offer our friendship to them. Please look for information sheets and new member application forms at the general meeting.

NEW MEMBERS

Kate Abrahams

RSGC welcomes two new members this month, Marisol Aldahondo and Pat Getz.

Marisol is a Program Analyst in the Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service improving nutrition in school lunch programs. She is interested in floral design, horticulture, native plants and wildlife. She wants to support the club's efforts to bring Arlington students closer to nature through the Outdoor Lab scholarships. She

is also interested in serving on the Conservation Committee. Originally from Puerto Rico, she has been an Arlington/Falls Church resident since 1979.

Pat, a recent retiree from a career at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, volunteers as a classroom aide at Carlin Springs Elementary and at Mount Vernon in guest services and special events. She is a volunteer gardener at the Oak Marr golf course, restoring large flower beds. She is interested in serving in the Budget, Data Management or Youth Activities committees. Originally from Fulton, in upstate New York, she has been an Arlington resident since 1976.

PUMPKIN SALE

Members may help by making a pumpkin design, sharing the flyer via email or print out with friends, family and neighbors. There will be a **workshop on Sunday, Nov 20** at a time TBA but probably early afternoon for members who would like to make theirs with others. Details will follow. We will need help on Monday Nov 21 in the morning to receive and set up the pumpkins and price. We will also need members from 3:30 to 7:00 pm for sales.

More information at the Nov. 17th meeting or email, rockspringgardenclub@gmail.com for information.

HOLIDAY TEA "WINTER WONDERLAND"

Ann Marie Fay

SAVE THE DATE
December 8, 2016
2-4 PM

At the home of Mary Lunger

GARDEN THERAPY

Mary Kudless

The Garden Therapy Committee will be starting its new year of exciting gardening, nature, wildlife and seasonal programs with a pre-kindergarten group of children at Glebe Elementary. The majority of the students are 3 years old and we hear that they really respond to music. They have a new teacher this year, Jeanne Terrill, who has tremendous background as a special education teacher and who is very excited about what Rock Spring Garden Club will bring to the students' experience. Our Committee includes: Mary Cottrell, Dorinda Burroughs, Margi Melnick, Ann Lange, Kari Rush, Susan Scotti and Mary Kudless.

We would love to have additional participants from the Club. If you are interested in joining us this year for even a single program, our schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, November 16 at 2 pm

Friday, December 16 at 2 pm

Wednesday, February 8 at 2 pm

Wednesday, April 5 at 2 pm

Wednesday, June 14 at 2 pm

Just contact Mary Kudless, if you would like to be involved.

VFGC PIEDMONT DISTRICT

District Meeting, October 10th

Kate Abrahams

Three club members, Kate Abrahams, Carolyn Barone, and Jane Robinson, attended the business meeting, luncheon and designers' presentations in a Richmond area conference center.



The Piedmont District leadership noted its Living Legacy Tree Planting Project in association with the 'Journey Through Hallowed Grounds' company, a non-profit, which will plant 620,000 trees to memorialize all Civil War soldiers in a 180 mile alley going from Charlottesville to Gettysburg. Coming up in 2017 are the VFGC Convention April 3-4th in Roanoke and the National Garden Clubs convention in Richmond, May 18th-20th. Club members are invited to attend these meetings and to volunteer to help them run smoothly. More details can be found in the Piedmont District VFGC website and Old Dominion Gardener newsletter.

One featured designer demonstrated creating Japanese style moss ball containers for outdoor plants and bulbs. The second presenter, Jenn Pineau, from Natured Composed in Middleburg, VA created a bridal bouquet, a living wreath using air plants, and various arrangements using native vines, grasses, seed pods, branches, and fruits found on her farm and along the roadside. These were all extraordinary designs and delightful to see.

WAYS AND MEANS

Diane Pollack, Sherry Foster, Julie Wadsworth

November is the traditional month for giving thanks – and we at Ways and Means are thankful for our ultra generous members who have been

so helpful in providing us with fabulous “finds” to sell at our ways and means table each meeting!

Last month, we sold over \$900 worth of Halloween-month treats and we are always looking to break our own record in raising money for our club and its range of activities. So, keep helping us by helping yourselves clean out those closets, cupboards and other nooks and crannies. Please think of us as you discover things you thought you might have already given away (we count ourselves in this category!) and feel free to call or email either Sherry Foster or Diane Pollack and arrange to drop off items. Or, if you prefer, you can drop off your things at either Sherry’s or Diane’s – just call or email ahead so that we can help you unload what we know will be some terrific finds for someone else! Remember, one woman’s trash is another woman’s (or man’s) treasure!!

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

For members who are interested, I (Julie) talked to Alice Buch about the most practical kenzans to have in your floral design inventory. She suggested the following sizes: 2.5 inch round - \$9.00, 3.5 inch round - \$14.50, and 2 x 4 inch oblong - \$12.00. Please let me know if you would like me to order one or more for you. I will be placing the order November 9 to ensure I receive them for our November meeting.

I will also be ordering green, waterproof floral tape, gardening scissors, O’Daptors and taper holders. If there are any other items you are interested in ordering please let me know. This will most likely be the last order before Christmas so think about any gardening gifts you are planning on giving or supplies you may need for your holiday floral arrangements and wreath-making.

As a reminder, we have available 4 large indoor/outdoor tote bags, 2 kneeler/seats, and a few Zenbori garden knives, which would make useful, excellent gifts.

HAND-MADE ORNAMENTS

These lovely holiday ornaments (\$10.00) will again be available at the Ways and Means Table. Another great gift idea! I (Julie) will be taking orders for bows, also. If you know you would like one, again, email me and I will have it made for the November meeting. Colors: red, silver, gold @ \$5.00 each.

SHOUT-OUT TO BAKERS

Feel like baking? Ann Marie donated her delicious baked goods last meeting and she is not on our committee. Any and all baked goods are welcomed. THEY ALWAYS SELL!

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Ann Kelly

Two of the best parts of fall, pumpkins and colorful mums, came together in our October garden program for 12 second graders at Tuckahoe Elementary School. The children were provided with small, orange pumpkins minus their tops, and yellow, white, burnt orange and purple chrysanthemums with greens from the committee members.



After decorating their pumpkins with magic markers and stickers, they were shown how to put

the mums and greens into the pumpkins to make a floral arrangement as we do for our Holiday Design sale, albeit on a much smaller scale.



To get started we had a Q&A on pumpkins and Halloween and a brief reading of a Halloween book. The program was organized by Ann Kelly and Lynda Martin, who appreciate the assistance they received from the other committee members, Carolyn Barone, Ann Duffey, Ann Kelleran, Anne Larsen, Helen McMahon, and Vicky Schoenberger.

HORTICULTURE

Louise Rhoads

I found the following article, *November - The Muted Month* (Empire, November 2, '75. The Denver Post Corporation) - many years ago in a Readers' Digest magazine. I look forward to reading it every autumn. I am glad to share it with you. Enjoy!

NOVEMBER - The MUTED MONTH

The wind whispers. Flowers fade. Animals scurry for shelter. But something in us looks forward to the testing that is to come.

November is a lonesome wind whining around the corners in search of identity. The wind whispers and moans tasting of the tang of autumn fires and of the blizzard that hulks beyond the horizon. On the lowlands, a protected flower bed still glows with color. The mountain peaks shine with fresh snow. And the wind tugs persistently at the last few faded leaves clinging to the cottonwood. Bereft of the glories of Indian summer and not yet of the winter. November holds us in silent abeyance.

It is time for quiet. Colors wane as the forces of life concentrate their energies, not on display but on survival. The brilliant indigo of October skies fades to mauve and then to slate. Ponds and rivers echo the tone in chilling waters. The ragged chorus of frogs diminishes and falls silent, and the drone of a lone wasp is sudden and startling amid the growing stillness.

November is a time of withdrawal. The trees cast loose their flags of life, and soon living and dead stand indistinguishable--gray silhouettes against gray skies. Frosted flowers shrivel and fade, as the juices of life retreat to the sanctuary of the projected roots. Small animals draw close to their earthen shelters. Insects burrow in or under. Pond life retreats to deepest water. The full, warm moon of harvest recedes into the void of space and silvers the spare landscape with cold, metallic rays.

And yet there is a cleanness to November. The air is sharp, damp and penetrating. The woods are open to the slanting rays of the sun. Brush and trees that were only a jumble of greens take on form and individuality. The view across the hillside is unobstructed, and neighbors who were screened off by foliage seem suddenly closer.

There is a certain pleasure in clearing the brittle remains of summer's growth out of the flower beds and raking the last leaves into a tidy pile. In the cold of early dusk we, too, withdraw to our chosen shelter, warm numb toes before the fire and find satisfaction in solitary musings. In the beauty of October, we could have walked forever through the riot of color, breathing the intoxicating air willing the cycle to stop there --

and never turn further. The grays of November have prepared us. We look over a landscape brushed in neutrals, husbanding its resources, girded against the coming cold, and we can no longer deny the rightful season. We welcome a clearing away of the unnecessary. A concentration the essential. A chance to view the basic structure without distraction. And something in us looks forward to the testing that is to come. November waits. And so do we.

LIASION REPORT

Anne Collins

NCA/VFGC EVENTS

November 10 -10-12:30P

NCA Morning of Design- Fall and Winter Design
Potomac Community Center, 13315 Falls Road,
Potomac, MD

See-

http://www.ncagardenclubs.org/MoD_Nov2016.pdf for more information

PROGRAMS/LECTURES/EVENTS

US BOTANICAL GARDENS

Programs through November

See- <https://www.usbg.gov/> for more information

NATIONAL ARBORETUM

Through November 13- Autumn Bonsai- The
Colors of Nature

3501 New York Ave. NE

See –www.usna.usda.gov for more information

HILLWOOD ESTATE MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Programs through the month

See- www.HillwoodMuseum.org for more information

Looking ahead

December 2, 3 &4 at various times

Wreath making

Registration required:

See –

<http://www.hillwoodmuseum.org/whats/events-and-programs/garden-events>

for more information

MERRIFIELD GARDEN CENTERS

Special programs every weekend through the month at all three locations

November 17, 6-9 pm Ladies Night Out at all three locations

Get in the Spirit of the Holiday Season!

Looking Ahead

December 3, 10am

Make your own Christmas Decorations at Merrifield and Gainesville locations

See -

<https://www.merrifieldgardencenter.com/events> for more information

MEADOWLARK BOTANICAL GARDENS

November 18- January 9 5:30-10pm

Winter Walk of Lights

Various programs throughout the month

See-

<https://www.novaparks.com/parks/meadowlark-botanical-gardens/events> for more information

BULL RUN REGIONAL PARK

November 23- January 8- 5:30-9pm (10 on weekends)

Festival of Lights

See-<https://www.novaparks.com/events/bull-run-festival-of-lights> for more information

Tickets can be purchased in advance for both events

GREEN SPRING GARDENS PARK

November 19- 9:30am

Floral Workshop- Fall Fruit and Flowers- Learn to make a floral table centerpiece

Registration required

See-

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring-ed-adult.htm> for more information

Looking Ahead

December 4 12-4pm

Gardener's Open House- Festive decorations,
refreshments

Registration required

See-

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/ed-adult.htm> for more information

STATE ARBORETUM OF VIRGINIA- BLANDY FARM

December 3 and 4 at 9:30 and 1:30 both days

Holiday Workshop

Registration required

See-

http://www.virginia.edu/blandy/blandy_web/all_blandy/2016FallPrograms-COMBINED.pdf for more information

MASTER GARDENERS OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Several programs throughout the month at various location

See- www.mgnv.org/events/mgnv-events/ for more information

LEWIS GINTER BOTANICAL GARDENS

November 25- January 9 (closed 12/24/25) 5-10pm

Dominion GardenFest Lights Illumination

See- <http://www.lewisginter.org/event/dominion-gardenfest-of-lights/2016-11-25/> for more information

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY (STC)

November 15-December 31

In conjunction with the production of The Secret Garden STC is sponsoring several garden related events

See- <http://www.shakespearetheatre.org/secret-gardens/> for more information

PHOTO GALLERY

October 20-23 at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts floral exhibit, Fine Arts and Flowers, featured works from VMFA interpreted through spectacular floral designs. Rock Spring Garden Club members paired up to do the displays pictured: Sheila Moore and Thea McGinnis

Anita Brown and Charlotte Benjamin



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.

Displays made at the Hogarth Curve Design Workshop:





Hogarth Curve floral displays from the October meeting:



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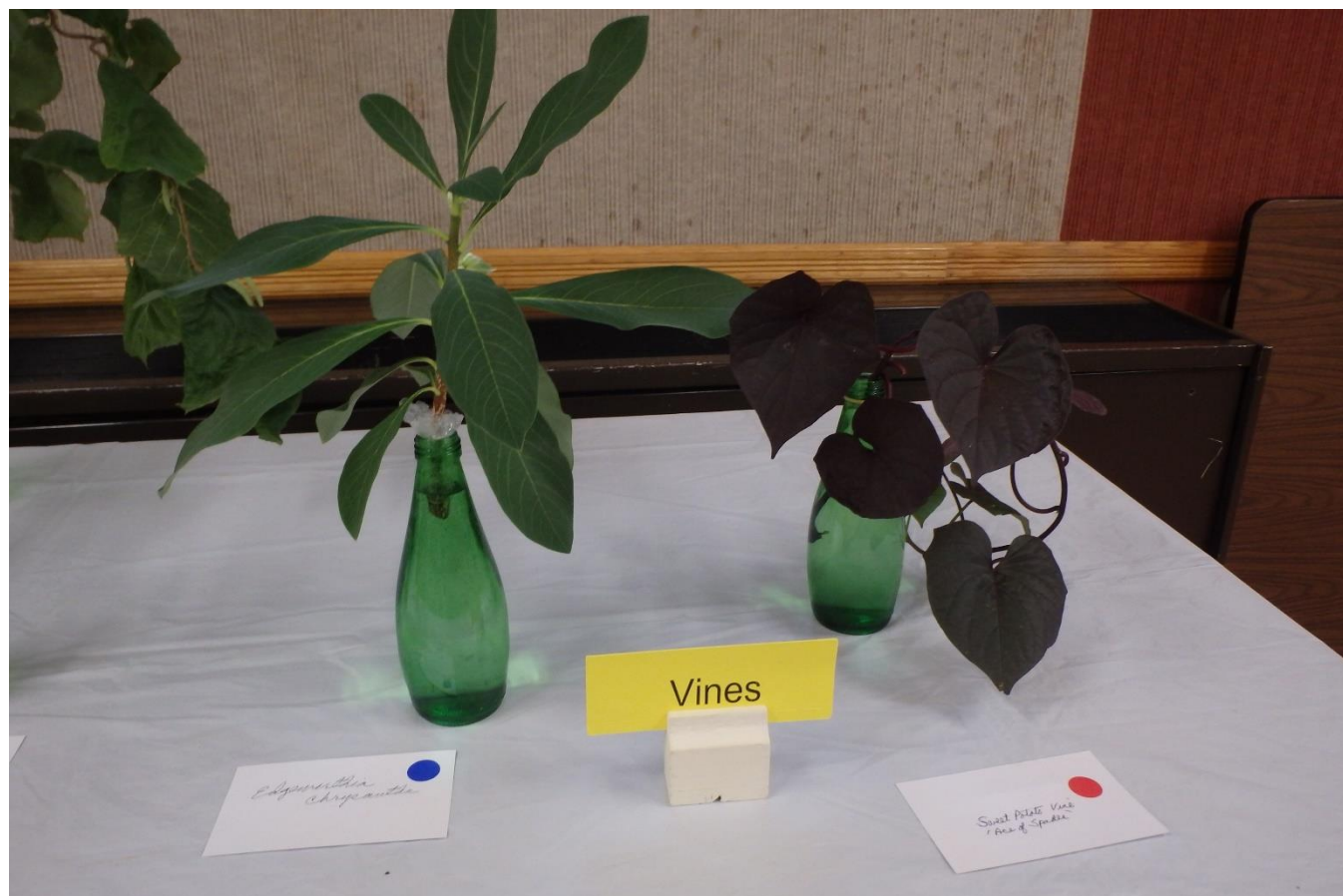
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Table decorations from the October General Meeting:



Horticulture displayed at the October General Meeting:





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