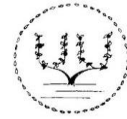


THE GARDENZETTE



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



Rock Spring Garden Club is a member of the National Garden Clubs Inc., Central Atlantic Region, National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc., District III; and Southern Atlantic Region, Virginia Federated Garden Clubs, Inc., Piedmont District

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OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Kate Abrahams

VICE PRESIDENT

Sharon De Angelis

SECRETARY

Mary Millette

TREASURER

Jo Ella Samp

GARDENZETTE EDITOR

Pat Getz

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General Meeting

Thursday September 20, 2018 10:00 am

Little Falls Presbyterian Church

Lower Level Friendship Hall

6025 Little Falls Road

Arlington, VA 22207

Making an Autumn Wreath

Speakers: Jane Winter and Betty Sejas

Company Flowers, Floral Designers



Jane and Betty, designers for over twenty years at Company Flowers, will demonstrate how to make a beautiful autumn wreath for your home from organic, natural, and fresh materials and how to design a wreath centerpiece for the table.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kate Abrahams

Greetings to all and a big welcome back to Rock Spring Garden Club! First of all, let me thank and praise all the members who worked so hard to put the yearbook, programs, budget, floral design choices, and database together over the summer. Because all this work was done so well and on time, we can start cruising in September. Please take a moment to thank the committee chairs for jobs well done that benefit all of us. Company Flowers' floral designers Jane Winter and Betty Sejas, who were featured at the 2014 Holiday Design Event, have an autumn wreath presentation for us this month. I'm looking forward to learning how to make one from these experienced and talented designers. To remind you, in October there will be a wonderful tour of Green Spring Gardens and restaurant group lunch afterwards instead of the usual general meeting. I hope you will be delighted when you see in the new yearbook the great programs ahead, and valuable added information, as well as smile happily after reading this September issue of the 2018-2019 Gardenzette.

SHOW DESIGN for September:

American Traditional Design Types

Jane Bartlett

American Traditional design uses plant material in a naturalistic manner. It differs from Creative design in that it uses more plant material and little or no abstraction. Creativity is achieved through beauty, unity, harmony and selection of plant material. Each design is based on a single "set pattern" of geometric form (sphere,

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jo Ella Samp

Jun 1-Aug 31, 2018

Beginning Balance \$26,291.41

Total Receipts \$175.00

Total Disbursements \$902.46

Closing Balance \$25,563.95

BOARD MEETING

Thursday October 4, 2018 10:00 am

Host: Kate Abrahams

Co-host: Mary Millette

cylinder or pyramid). Plant material is natural, radiating from one point, material is integrated rather than grouped.

American Tradition Design Types include: Line, Line-Mass, and Mass. Please identify your design type on your index card if you submit a design for judging. Have fun. See Handbook (2017), pp 70-71 for more information.

Thank You Note

Dear Flower friends,

Words cannot express the outpouring of support you gave me during Rick's serious illness, passing, and service. The meals, visits, cards, emails, and service attendance showed just the caliber of people you all are. I am doing pretty well all things considered and thank you for your kindnesses from the bottom of my heart.

*Fondly,
Sharon Siems*

MEMBERSHIP

Kate Abrahams

A highlight of last June's picnic meeting in the park was inducting new member Sandra (Sandi) Hodges. Originally from New Jersey and an early education major at North Texas State in Denton, she had a 42-year international flight attendant career with American Airlines, retiring four years ago. She is an active volunteer in the fight against human trafficking by recognizing and reporting this crime with D.C. Non-Governmental Organizations. She has been an instrumental force in training flight attendants to be alert for victims and report crimes against women and children. Sandi is also a passionate gardener who has through her HOA leadership added two trees to Arlington's Tree Canopy Project in her townhouse development. She and her husband Tom have six children and 12 grandchildren. She is eager to meet and learn from garden club members and become an active participant in club projects. Welcome, Sandi!

WAYS and MEANS

Joyce Fall

Our notable Ways and Means table will be open for business at the September meeting. Possibly you have been cleaning out your closets, attics, and garages this summer and

wondering what you can do with your excess "treasures". Your items are always welcome to include, but not limited to, vases, gardening tools and magazines, hand-made crafts, and baked items. If you have a donation, please contact Joan Hession.

AWARDS

Margaret Eubank won a Perennial Bloom Award from NCAGC District III. She also received a "tussy mussy" arrangement.



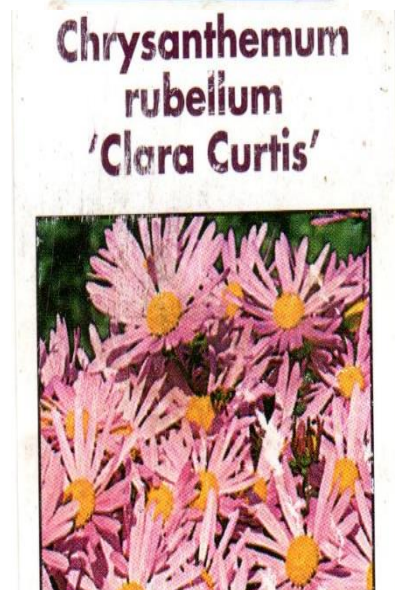
Connie Richards won 3 awards at the Arlington County Fair in August. Two blue ribbons, a red ribbon, and a pink ribbon. Connie encourages more members to enter their flowers at the fair next year. Her designs are shown below.



PLANT DONATIONS

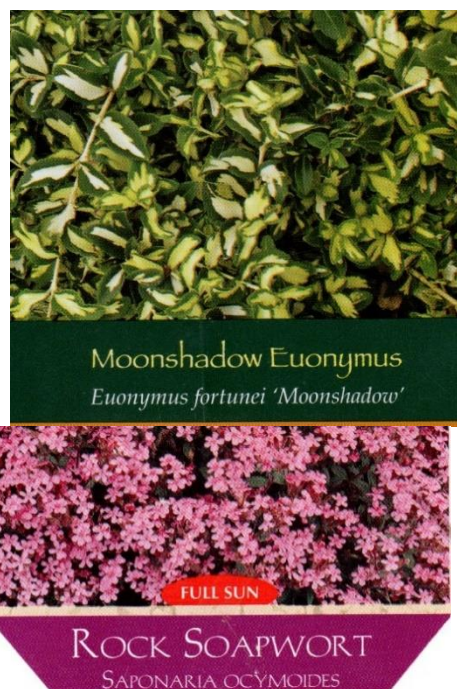
Joan Hession

Former RSGC member Susan Foulke has sun-loving flowers and plants that she is donating to any interested RSGC members. The plants included are: iris, peonies, sedum, cone flowers, daisies,



Day lilies, phlox, lamb's ear and chrysanthemums.

In addition, she has ground covers:



Interested members will need to dig the plants themselves as Susan has a permanent back injury. If you wish to get some plants, contact Joan Hession.

October 18th Tour of Green Spring Gardens – and Payment Due for Lunch

Jenny Sullivan, Program Chair, requests members to pay \$32.00 at the September meeting for the restaurant lunch after the tour of Green Spring Gardens in Alexandria on Thursday, October 18th. Cash, or checks payable to Jenny Sullivan are accepted. There will be a choice of two entrees and two desserts and the \$32.00 will cover the food, beverage and tip. A sign-up sheet will be passed at the September meeting so members can indicate their choices. The tour will be 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be at noon at the Silverado Restaurant in nearby Annandale. Thank you for assisting Jenny with this early collection of payment.

GARDEN THERAPY

Mary Kudless

The “Garden Ladies”, as the children affectionately call us, wrapped up the school year on June 4 with a rousing program designed by Susan Scotti, celebrating Memorial Day, Flag Day and the start of summer with our Glebe elementary pre-K students and their teachers. The children heard a great story, titled “What Will Grow”, read by Connie Richards which described the growth of the vegetable garden. The illustrations were just perfect for the 4-year old age group. Margi Melnick followed this with a song, celebrating the flag and each child had a flag to wave in the parade we led around the room!



Susan’s beautiful program followed which gave the children the opportunity to create floral designs in star decorated solo cups that she had prepared with oasis ahead of time. There was great excitement about placing the red and white carnations and the little flags. As you can see, the results demonstrated the growth of the children over the school year as floral designers!



Marion Hart served some delicious snacks to round out the program.



I want to thank all the members of our committee for your many contributions this year to the special need students. Every program that you offered was developmentally perfect for our age group and generated both joy and learning.

RSGC June Meeting

The June general meeting was held in Bon Air Park where members enjoyed a picnic lunch and touring the Master Gardener sun and shade gardens, as well as the Bon Air rose garden.

NCAGC 1st Vice President Cherie Lejeune inducted officers for the 2019-19 club year; President Kate Abrahams, Vice President Sharon DeAngelis, Treasurer Jo Ella Samp, and Secretary Mary Millette (by representative).



Scenes from the Newport Flower Show, June 2018- The show was held at Rosecliff Mansion. Several RSGC members attended.



One highlight of the show was the presentation by Sachi Rose, Brooklyn Floral Designer, shown here with some of her “slow flower” designs made with organic, locally sourced, seasonal flowers and environmentally friendly techniques (no oasis).



HORTICULTURE

Christine Wegman

Exhibiting Horticulture Successfully

Selecting Plant Material

1. Select plants from your garden for cutting early in the morning, and place them directly into cool water.
2. Cut at the peak of maturity-for show purposes, that means when the main bloom is $\frac{3}{4}$ open.
3. Cutting on a slant encourages the uptake of more water for hydration.
4. The plant must have been grown in your garden for at least 3 months.

Grooming

1. Do not show plants with damaged or spent flowers.
 - a. They should be removed as inconspicuously as possible-or trimmed if removal would destroy symmetry. Trimming should follow natural line of the leaf.
 - b. A small blemish should not take an otherwise perfect specimen out of contention.
2. There should be no dust, dirt, pollen or spray on leaves.
3. The specimen should be free of evidence of pests and disease.
4. No leaf polish may be used.
5. If a container plant is being exhibited, the container should be clean.

Exhibiting

1. Wedging material should be used to hold plant upright and in the best position for viewing. Cotton has been used frequently in the past, but it is preferable to use a clear material such as saran wrap or bubble wrap. Boxwood should be used only to stage daffodils.
2. The bottles should be clear or green glass.
3. The plant should be well hydrated, preferably conditioned for several hours.
4. The stem must be visibly submerged in water.

5. Only one stem may be exhibited in each container.
6. There should be no foliage below the water line.
7. The plant must be properly and legibly labeled. Genus and species preferred, but common name is acceptable at club meetings.

Botanical Nomenclature

Why do we use it? Because common names, such as 'bluebells', can refer to many different plants and correct botanical nomenclature avoids confusion.

What is it? Botanical nomenclature contains the names of the genus, species, and sometimes cultivar. It is written in descending order from the largest to smallest group.

Example: *Magnolia grandiflora*
 'Little Gem'
 southern magnolia
 or
 Magnolia grandiflora
 'Little Gem'
 southern magnolia

Explanation: *Magnolia grandiflora* is the genus and species of our southern magnolia. It is written in italics if typed or underlined if hand written. 'Little Gem' is a dwarf cultivar of the southern magnolia and is enclosed in single quotation marks. Southern magnolia is the common and is written on a separate line underneath the botanical name.

How to find a plant's correct botanical name

1. Enter the common name in a Google search and choose the 'images' option. Select a picture matches your plant. Clicking on the picture will usually give you the botanical name.

2. If you want to be sure you have the correct name, go to the Missouri Botanical Garden's 'Plant Finder' or the Royal Horticultural Society's website are authoritative.
3. A third alternative is to visit the website of a plant society, such as the American Daffodil Society, the American Rose Society, or the American Conifer Society. Hint: if you type the name of the plant and 'society' ('conifer society) in a Google search it will usually yield the correct name of the organization.

LIAISON REPORT

U.S. Botanical Garden. Two exhibits through October 15th: "Wall Flowers: Botanical Murals" and "Botanical Art Worldwide: America's Flora" in Conservatory Gallery. Also visit the outdoor National Garden and Bartholdi Park across the street from the Conservatory. 100 Maryland Avenue S.W., Washington D.C. 20001 www.usbg.gov

River Farm Open M-F 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. April through September. Free admission. Perennial border, Andre Bluemel Meadow, White House Gates, Ha-Ha Wall, Green Garage, Garden Calm, Children's Garden, Estate House. 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308 Visit ahsgardening.org for more information.

Smithsonian Gardens. Weekly tours through September. www.gardens.si.edu/our-gardens

Brookside Gardens "Wings of Fancy: Live Butterfly and Caterpillar Exhibit" Through Sunday September 16th. \$8 admission for ages 13 and up. 301 962-1400 1500 Glenallan Avenue (South Conservatory Bldg) Wheaton MD 20902

Landscape Design School Course 4, Richmond VA Mon-Tues. October 1-2 . Glenda Knowles (757) 651-0401

Autumn Fest at Glencarlyn Library Garden.

September 16 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. 300 South Kensington Street, Arlington. Crafts, native plant sale, pumpkins, vendors. Ball-Sellers House., master gardener advice For more info call 703 244-7309 or email glencarlynlbrarygarden@gmail.com

Native Plant Sale at Long Branch Nature Center.

September 22 1-3 p.m. 625 South Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Trees, shrubs, perennials. Preorder plants if you wish at registration.arlingtonva.us for pick up at Long Branch. More info call 703 228-6535.

National Capital Dahlia Society Flower Show and Sale

Sat. 2-5 p.m.-Sun. 9-3 p.m. September 29-30. Brookside Gardens Visitor Center, 1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton, MD (301) 962-1400 For more info contact Nick Weber at heritagero@aol.com or visit www.nationalcapitaldahlia.org

NCAGC Fall General Meeting Tuesday, September 25 9:30 a.m. coffee, 10 a.m. meeting begins. US National Arboretum Auditorium, 3501 New York Avenue NE Washington, D.C.

NCAGC District III Meeting Friday, September 21st 10 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens Atrium Building, Vienna, Virginia

NCAGC Gardening School Course I, October 4-5, Merrifield Gardening Center, Fair Oaks, Fairfax, VA register at ncagardenclubs.org Tuition rebate available from RSGC.

NCAGC Landscape Design School Course III, October 29-30, Merrifield Gardening Center, Fair Oaks, Fairfax, VA Register

at ncagardenclubs.org Tuition rebate available from RSGC.

Fine Arts and Flowers at Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA

October 24-28 (Wednesday-Sunday) Free and open to public. Tours, lectures, luncheons and special events require tickets. Visit www.vmfa.museum for more information.

Jenny Sullivan's hollyhocks, grown from seed



PHOTO GALLERY

Storm Water Rain Gardens along Williamsburg Boulevard, Arlington



Monarch butterfly



Monarch caterpillars at work



Akureyri Botanical Gardens, Iceland, July 2018



Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA
July 2018

