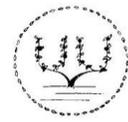


THE GARDENZETTE



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

Volume 57, Number 8

April 2019

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Kate Abrahams

VICE PRESIDENT

Sharon DeAngelis

SECRETARY

Mary Millette

TREASURER

Jo Ella Samp

GARDENZETTE EDITOR

Pat Getz

General Meeting

Thursday April 18, 2019 10:00 am

Little Falls Presbyterian Church

Lower Level Friendship Hall

6025 Little Falls Road

Arlington, VA 22207

Functional and Resilient Landscapes

Speaker: Thomas Rainer

Author and Principal, Phyto Studio, Washington, DC

Thomas Rainer is a registered landscape architect and a leading voice in ecological landscape design who has designed for the U.S. Capitol and New York Botanic gardens. His passion is to plant functional and resilient landscapes that can thrive in the context of cities and towns. He has recently published "Planting in a Post-Wild World" and has been featured in articles in the Washington Post and the New York Times. His blog, Grounded Design, is found at thomasrainer.com.



CONTENTS

Program	1
President's Message	2
Treasurer's Report	2
Board Meeting	2
Ways and Means	2
Show Design	3
Youth Activities	4
Garden Therapy	5
Horticulture	6
Recipes	8
Liaison Report	8
Photo Gallery	9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kate Abrahams

Checking my front yard for blooming spring bulbs is like opening presents to myself every year. Just like the squirrels, I forget what I planted where so when the hyacinths, daffodils, and tulips work their way upward and bloom it is always a delightful surprise! I tried some different daffodil varieties to figure out which one I like best and have to wait to see how the new peonies and dwarf iris turn out. The Japanese magnolia is blooming first

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jo Ella Samp

Mar 1-Mar 31, 2019

Beginning Balance \$24,370.01

Total Receipts \$768.00

Total Disbursements \$1,819.68

SHOW DESIGN Requirement

Reminder! The April general meeting is your last opportunity to bring in a floral design for credit toward the two Show Designs that are required every club year for each member. The April design is Spatial Thrust and is explained on the next page.

followed by the camellias as the sedum, lilacs and heuchera are waking up. I'm sure you are watching your babies yawning in their beds like I am. I wonder which lucky plants will come to the Horticulture Specialty Show next month? Our speaker this month, Thomas Rainer, is a visionary landscape architect who will inspire you to see the extraordinary importance of landscape design in urban spaces. He really is a guiding light for today's urban planners. Looking forward to seeing you soon and please keep those renewal forms, guests, and visitors coming in!

Closing Balance \$23,318.33

BOARD MEETING

Thursday May 2, 2019 10:00 am

Host: Carol Cochran

Co-host: Sheila Moore

WAYS and MEANS – Spring Plant Sale

Joyce Fall

The Spring Plant Sale will take place at our general meeting on April 18. It's always exciting getting plants, especially those that have come from our very own garden club members. It's a perfect time to gather new specimens for your garden and for you to share your plants as well. Please pot your plants early in non-returnable pots. Each plant should be labeled with: PLANT NAME, SUN OR SHADE, and HEIGHT (if known). Looking forward to seeing all the varieties of plants at this year's Ways and Means table.

DESIGN OF THE MONTH:
Spatial Thrust Design
Jane Bartlett

This creative design uses two parallel placements of similar components. The thrust may be vertical, horizontal or diagonal depending on the shape of your container or 2 similar containers. Emphasis is on the 2 thrusting lines and the space between them. Plant material may be added **only to the outer edges of the thrusting lines**. The thrust components (bamboo, slim straight leaves, other materials, natural or created) are parallel and carry the focal point of the design. Use minimal floral materials.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Vicky Schoenberger

A special group of kids at Tuckahoe Elementary School joined in, excited to learn how to plant grass seeds. We started by reading a lovely, color-illustrated book, "A Seed is Sleepy," while they enjoyed their lunch. Next, we distributed the materials needed to plant their seeds to make Grass Heads, explaining that they would see grass growing in about a week, and also what to do at home to keep their Grass Heads happy.



They were so proud of their work. And we club members enjoyed this attentive, well behaved group of kids.

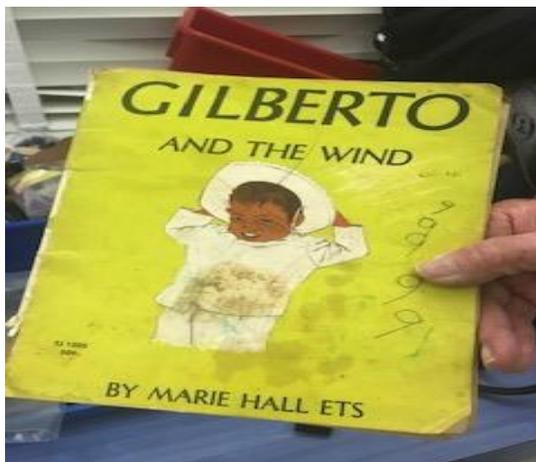


GARDEN THERAPY

Mary Kudless

“The Wind was Blowing and the Children Understood”

Marian Hart chose to introduce the Glebe Pre-K students to the nature of wind. She read from a well-worn book that Margi Melnick had used when she was teaching. We learned from Jeanne Terrill, our teacher, that this book is still a required element of the Pre-K curriculum in the Arlington Public Schools. Let’s just say, that understanding the concept of wind is “never out of vogue.”



The children enjoyed the story and then focused their attention on Margi Melnick’s song about wind, delivered through hand gestures and simulations of how the wind moves. Next, the children moved to their tables and created “wind kites or wind socks” that Robin Fitch had designed and she ingeniously created individual elements for a kit for each child. The results were magical and easily grasped by the three and four year olds. An absolute confirmation that they absorbed the program, was that several of them moved their creations over to the air vent in the classroom and

happily watched their wind socks with streamers bounce along on the currents of air.



Snacks, lovingly provided by Ann Marie Fay, followed the activity and each child’s creation went into a large clear bag to take home. The final “mistral magic” of the day was the addition of colorful pinwheels into the take home bag to continue to reinforce the day’s lesson.



HORTICULTURE

Christine Wegman

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ENTER HORTICULTURE AT THE FLOWER SHOW



Plan Ahead and Prepare Plants

- Groom your specimen: clean off any dirt, remove pests, clip unsightly spots from leaves or remove leaves and petals as necessary. Make sure it has a pleasing shape.
- For container plants: measure pot size and repot if necessary. Be sure plant is in proportion to container size.
- Fill out the front page of your entry card.
 - Use pencil or indelible ink to prevent water damage to your entry card.
 - Fill out both top and bottom sections.
 - Determine the correct botanical name of your entry and write it in the "Variety or Class Name" sections (top and bottom) of the card. If you are not sure, look it up. If you use a computer, enter the common name of the plant and you will find many sites that give the botanical name. *Remember, you will lose 5 points if you don't have the correct botanical name.*
- Fill out your name and contact information.
- Use the schedule to determine the Division, Section, and Class No. portion of the card.
- Leave the Entry No. section blank. You will be assigned a number at the show.
- Bring supplies for last minute grooming: nail scissors, tweezers, q-tips, extra bubble wrap, tiny brushes, extra top dressing for container plants.

At the show

- All entries will be received on the morning of the show, between 8:00 am and 10:00 am. *Please, please don't wait until the last minute.* Flower show committee members have a lot to do getting everything ready for judging; we will really appreciate it if you don't wait until the last minute.
- There will be a staffed Help Desk to answer last minute questions or help with plant identification. Remember, it is NOT the responsibility of Help Desk staff to properly identify your plant. They can only offer advice.
- Complete any last-minute grooming if necessary.
- Move to the Entries and Classification sections. *You must stay with your plant throughout these two processes.*
- **Entries Section.** Your first stop is the entries section. Your entry will be recorded and you will be assigned an entry number.
- **Classification Section.** This is your next stop.
 - The clerk will examine your plant to ensure that it is of Show quality, meets class requirements (name,

- pot size, etc.), and is free of insects. The clerk may suggest additional grooming to improve your specimen's appearance and chance of winning.
 - The clerk will check that your entry card is correctly filled out.
- *Once this process is completed and your entry has been accepted, you may not touch the plant, and **must** leave the show area.* The Placement Committee will take over and put your entry in the correct place on the tables.
- All entries must be removed from the church by 4:00 pm.

Here is what happens after your entry has been accepted.

- Placement Committee members put your entry in the correct place on the tables.
- After all the entries are placed, Classification Committee members look over the entries to see if there are enough of a particular kind of plant to subdivide classes. Each subclass will be judged on its own, so this gives more opportunities to award first, second, third place, and honorable mention ribbons. All the new subsections are divided by ribbons. Entries are then replaced in the proper subsection.
- When the judges enter the room at 11:00 am they will often find more opportunities to subdivide classes, and the process of rearrangement will continue.
- Between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm, the judges will judge all the entries. After the initial round of judging, awarding first, second, third place, and honorable

mention ribbons, the judges will select those entries of special merit to receive additional awards. These awards are listed on page 4 of the flower show schedule.

- As this process of making awards takes place, the clerks record all the information on the entry cards. The cards are then punched (with a hole puncher) accordingly.
- When all the awards have been made, the bottom portion of all the entry cards is removed and the results are recorded.
- Entries receiving special awards are removed to a separate section for display, and the show is opened for viewing.



Recipes

These delicious dishes were served at the March general meeting.

Curried Fruit

3 c peach halves
3 c pear halves
3 c apricots
2 c pineapple chunks
¼ c butter, melted
1 c brown sugar
2 tsp curry powder
4 oz maraschino cherries
¼ tsp ground ginger
¼ tsp nutmeg

Drain the fruit well. Pat dry. Arrange fruit in a flat baking dish. Melt butter and add brown sugar and spices. Mix well and sprinkle on top of fruit. Bake one hour at 325 degrees.

Ham and Cheese Strada

12 slices firm white bread, crusts removed
¾ lb sharp cheddar cheese, grated
2 c diced, cooked ham
6 eggs, slightly beaten
3 c milk
¼ tsp salt
1 tsp dry mustard
Butter a 9"x13" dish. Lay 6 slices lightly buttered bread in the dish. Sprinkle on half of the cheese, sprinkle ham on top. Put on top 6 more slices lightly buttered bread. Beat the eggs with the milk, salt and dry mustard. Pour over the top of the dish. Sprinkle on the remaining cheese. Cover and refrigerate overnight, or at least 6 hours. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 40 minutes. May bake in advance and reheat. Let rest 10-15 minutes before serving.

LIAISON REPORT

Washington Daffodil Society Spring Daffodil Show. Sat. April 13th 2 - 7 p.m. and Sun. April 14th 9 am- 1:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. Alexandria Scottish Rite, 1430 West Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA 22302

"Early Morning in the Garden" early admission to Meadowlark Gardens for photographers, birders and strollers. Open 6 a.m. on Sunday, April 21st and Saturday, May 18th. Regular admission charged. Vienna, Virginia. Visit www.novaparks.com

Garden Fair and Plant Sale at U.S. National Arboretum. Free and open to the public Sat. April 27th Noon - 4 p.m. Sun. April 28th 9 am to 4 p.m. Members of FONA can shop earlier on Saturday. Visit www.fona.org for more information.

Center Native Plant Sale at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 South Carlin Springs Rd. Arlington. Saturday, May 4th 1 - 4 pm. Preorder deadline is Wed. April 24th. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us/native-plant-sale for preorder list and more info.

"Spring Garden Day" Fundraiser at Green Spring Gardens. Sat. May 18th 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Big plant sale with 40 vendors, bake sale, food trucks. Visit www.friendsofgreenspring.org, or contact info @friendsofgreenspring.org or 703 642-5173.

National Garden Club Convention April 29-May 2nd, Biloxi, Mississippi
Visit gardenclub.org to register.

Floral Design Workshops offered by the NCAGC Judges' Council on May 13, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Vienna Community Center, Vienna,

VA \$150 for all three workshops www.ncagardenclubs.org

Gardening School Series X Course II, National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc. May 21-22, 2019, Merrifield Garden Center Fair Oaks, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22020 703-968-9600. Further information: www.ncagardenclubs.org and click on

Gardening School or email Joyce Skogland at jeskog612@gmail.com or call 703.591.4017. Day 1: Plant Diseases and Garden Pests, Growing Vegetables, Growing Fruit. Day 2 Irrigation and Waste, Lawn Alternatives and Growing Grass. Fees before May 14th NGC member\$90, non-member \$100. One day only \$50. Breakfast and lunch included.

PHOTO GALLERY

New Zealand plant life





**Nixon Presidential Library
Yorba Linda, California
Pat Nixon Garden**

