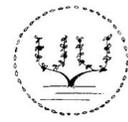


THE GARDENZETTE



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 DeAngelis

SECRETARY

Mary Millette

TREASURER

Jo Ella Samp

GARDENZETTE EDITOR

Pat Getz

Thursday June 13, 2019

Mount Vernon Tour and Luncheon

For over 150 years, people have studied, researched, and dug the earth for clues helping to make the home of George Washington one of the most accurately restored 18th century estates in America. Members may tour the gardens and visitor center exhibits before enjoying a private group lunch at the on-site Mount Vernon Inn.

Participation is limited to those who have pre-registered with Jenny Sullivan.

There will be no General Meeting in June.

CONTENTS

Program	1
President's Message	2
Treasurer's Report	2
New Officers	2
Membership	3
District 3 Fundraiser	4
Garden Therapy	5
Invitational	7
Youth Activities	8
Horticulture Show	9
Liaison Report	9
Photo Gallery	9



President's Message

Kate Abrahams

Now we stroll to the garden path's end, happily admiring summertime meadows with flitting butterflies and birds. It's time to relax and reflect on the fun club events since September culminating in the wonderful Horticulture Show and upcoming outing! After the June 13th visit to Mount Vernon to tour the gardens with Dean Norton and lunch at the Inn, the club breaks for the summer. It's been my pleasure and privilege to serve as President of an amazingly talented group of dedicated, smart, kind members (and great gardeners). Thank you all for your energy, ideas, suggestions and problem solving along the way during the past two years. I'd particularly like to thank the other Board Officers and Committee Chairs for their thoughtful leadership, support and guidance through many topics great and small facing the club present and future. Our new President Charlotte Benjamin is busy already with preparations for next year. Please share with her your ideas for programs, field trips, and improvements. Best wishes for a happy summer and I look forward to seeing you at Mount Vernon.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jo Ella Samp

May 1-May 31, 2019

Beginning Balance \$25,190.95

Total Receipts \$1,312.00

Total Disbursements \$4,567.26

Closing Balance \$21,935.69

There will be no Board Meetings in July or August; meetings resume in September.

Installation of New Officers for 2019-2020

at the May general meeting



From left: Nancy Snell (Treasurer), Carolyn Barone (Secretary) Charlotte Benjamin (President) pictured with Cherie Lejeune, NCAGC President.

The club also said farewell to outgoing President, Kate Abrahams



MEMBERSHIP

Kate Abrahams

Rock Spring Garden Club is delighted to welcome two new members: Mary Garnett and Terry Holmes. They both plan to attend the Mount Vernon tour in June so you will have a chance welcome them in person soon. Their induction ceremony will be in September.

Mary Garnett has lived in the D.C. metro area since 1970 and in Arlington for nearly 38 years. She grew up in upstate New York and earned a B.A. in German from the University of Rochester. After college she worked for IBM programming mainframe computers and spent her career supporting users and programming for IBM and other companies. After retirement she began volunteering for the Welcome to Washington International Club to promote international friendship and has served on their board for 10 years. Mary's lifelong interest in gardening goes all the way back to grammar school experiences of growing geraniums and african violets. Now she enjoys growing flowers in containers and arranging them for her own enjoyment. She recently became a widow but keeps herself busy with many interests such as non fiction reading, classical ballet, international travel, classes and walking. Her

dear friend Ann Lunson met Mary through the 4th Thursday Book Discussion Group at Central Library and sparked interest in RSGC by inviting Mary to the Holiday Design Event in 2018

Mary's contact information is:

Terry Holmes was born in upstate New York but has lived in Virginia over 50 years. She enjoyed a long career at the Public Affairs Council and then was appointed to serve on the U.S. International Trade Commission during the Reagan-Bush administration. She and her husband John have two sons and four grandchildren. She says "My interest in nature and gardening comes from my Father. He was an avid gardener. He not only had a large vegetable garden, but he took great pride in his flower garden. So I did a lot of weeding alongside my Dad and flower arranging for our home and for our church with my Mother." Terry enjoys container gardening, traveling, playing bridge and reading. She is a dear friend of Sheila Moore and many know Terry already from her membership in other local clubs.

Terry's contact information is:

District 3 Fundraiser

Kate Abrahams

National Capital Area Garden Clubs' District III held a successful fundraiser on Wednesday, May 15th at the Vienna Community Center. Garden clubs within District III, Rock Spring included, helped raise money by creating tablescape to admire, making gift baskets for a

silent auction, and selling garden/floral design items. The \$25 ticket also included a floral design demonstration by beloved Betty Ann Galway, a box lunch, and an opportunity to take home one of Betty's designs. Joyce Fall and Joan Hession set up a Ways and Means table and sold many popular items with great prices. Many thanks to Joyce and Joan for supporting

District III and RSGC with their popular vending table and friendly smiles!



Each table had a theme such as Thailand, Garden of Herbal Delight, Fern Valley's 60th Anniversary, wedding, France, peacocks, Asian scene of tranquility, an uncle's dish collection



GARDEN THERAPY

A Garden of Gratitude

Written by Jeanne Terrill, Pre-K Teacher, Glebe Elementary School

Gratitude is the first word that comes to my mind when I think of the Rock Spring Garden Club, or affectionately known to our Glebe preschoolers as “The Garden Ladies”. I have had the pleasure during my three years at Glebe of continuing the community partnership with the Rock Spring Garden Club. This has been such a valuable experience for the students and staff alike. The garden club members come to us with a wealth of life experiences. There is always a sense of shared excitement in the room when they come to deliver a program. The children are

so very excited when they hear the “garden ladies” are coming. Their excitement is evident by their cheering and jumping up and down. The excitement is also evident on the part of the garden club members. They clearly enjoy working with the children and their time spent in preparing the programs is always so evident.

The “Garden Ladies” came to us 6 times this year. During the programs there is always a story, music, singing, hands on projects, and a carefully crafted snack. We had such fabulous programs all year. In October, the children made their own floral designs inside small live pumpkins, accompanied by treat pumpkin baskets to take home for Halloween trick or treating. In November, the children decorated small unusual pumpkins, squashes, and gourds

with animal designs. The children heard a beautiful story on hibernation to learn about what animals do to manage during the winter. In January, the children learned about birds and created bird feeders with seeds to take home for their yards. The February program was all about bulbs. The children saw and touched forced narcissus bulbs and worked with planting them in soil and stone to take home. They heard a story about how bulbs flourish underground to get ready for their Spring flowers. Our early April program was a lesson about the wind. The children made their own windsocks and the garden ladies gave each child a pinwheel to take home. Our May program gave the children an opportunity to learn about gardens and they created very colorful floral designs in bright buckets. It is too hard to say which program was the best. They were all so engaging!

Our class this year consists of students with disabilities and peer models ranging in age from 3 to 5 years old. As we are a non-categorical program, our students have a variety of disabilities including developmental delays, autism, cerebral palsy, and speech and language delays. ALL the children in class benefited from this wonderful program. They enjoyed the one on one interaction with the garden club members and particularly the hands-on experiences during each program. The multisensory approach always kept the children engaged. The families were always amazed at the creations their young children made.

As we close out on the school year, I again think of how grateful I am to have had the opportunity to have the "Garden Ladies" as part of our community partners with Glebe Elementary and I look forward our continued programs next year!

INVITATIONAL
AnnMarie Fay



Jeanne Terrill with Margi Melnick,
Leader of May Program and
Mary Kudless, Chair, Garden Therapy



May Basket Floral designs created by
Glebe students

Tuckahoe Elementary Home and Garden Tour
May11

Eight homes were featured this year in their annual fundraiser. Our committee designed arrangements for each home with flowers provided by the school and we added greens from our gardens as well as some of the containers. The results are shown below in photos and a good time was had by all who worked together to contribute to this worthwhile project. As a thank-you for our efforts, we were offered complimentary tickets to the tour. Thank you to the following RSGC members for their time and talents in making this a successful event: Joan Asboth, Dorinda Burroughs, AnnMarie Fay, Jody Goulden, Ann Stevens Kelly, Helen McMahon, Jane Robinson, Vicky Schoenberger, and Sharon Siems. This is a very rewarding and fun opportunity for our club to partner with and to contribute to our community, as well as to promote the objectives of RSGC!



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Carolyn Barone

Mothers Days Project

Mothers of the second-grade students at Tuckahoe Elementary School were surprised this year by the wonderful Mother's Day arrangements prepared for them by their children with the help of the Youth Activities members and other volunteers from the Rock Spring Garden Club. On Friday May 10th we gathered in the garden hallway at Tuckahoe and prepared a variety of greens, donated by members: boxwood, cypress, arborvitae, laurel, euonymus, fir. We then proceeded to one of four classrooms and assisted the 82 children with creating their own designs with greens, carnations and baby's breath. Did you know that the special day honoring mothers originated by Anna Jarvis in Grafton, WV in 1908? Her mother cared for the wounded on both sides of the Civil War and she wanted to honor her mother and all mothers because "no one has done more for you." This day grew in popularity and in 1914 President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May as a day honoring all mothers. She selected the carnation as the flower and by 1925 this flower was associated with Mother's Day. However, she resented the commercialization of the day and felt sentiments should be expressed by handwritten notes. Today, whether by phone, cards, notes or texts we have Anna Jarvis to thank for celebrating this holiday. The second graders were glad to participate and certainly were creative in their arrangements this year. A few didn't know if they could wait until Sunday to give them to their moms, some were thoughtful enough to want a special color of the carnation because that is mom's favorite. And, surprisingly, one asked if we were going to come back so they could make an arrangement for the fathers. Thus ended a year of monthly projects with the second graders at Tuckahoe. Whether making pumpkin arrangements or designing holiday trees to making terrariums or

bird feeders they amazed us with their enthusiasm and interest. They always remember to thank us for this special time with them and wished they could do it more often.



LIAISON REPORT

District III President's Coffee Friday 9:30 a.m. June 21. All RSGC members are welcome to attend. Meadowlark Gardens Atrium Building, 9750 Meadowlark Garden Court, Vienna, VA

NGC Flower Show School Course II August 5-7 at Cambria Hotel, College Park, Maryland. Must have completed Course I. For

HORTICULTURE SHOW

Kate Abrahams

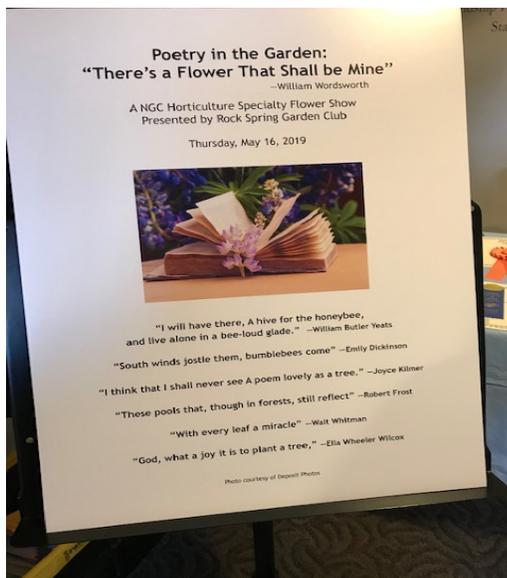
RSGC's first Horticulture Specialty Flower Show was open to the public on Thursday May 16 from 2-4 p.m. after 11 judges determined award winners among the horticulture, photography and temporary garden exhibits. Teams of three judges conferred while volunteer clerks assisted them. The judges were delighted with the excellent horticulture

information and registration materials, contact Bette Lewis at blewismilk@aol.com or call 301 439-9453

Medicinal Plants lecture at U.S. Arboretum's Visitor Center Auditorium. June 29 10 a.m. - Noon. \$15.00 Register at <https://www.usna.usda.gov/visit/events-calendar>.

exhibits indicating great gardening skills in the club as well as creative talent in the botanical arts division. The public visiting the show enjoyed the range of plant materials from evergreens, succulents, flowering perennials, foliage exhibits and container plantings. Many thanks to the whole club for supporting this educational experience for the community. Photos from the event are shown below.

PHOTO GALLERY



NCAGC President Cherie LeJeune



New President Charlotte Benjamin enjoying display of NCAGC, VFGC and NGC awards



Evergreen boughs on display



Allium class

Botanical Arts: Four Temporary Garden Entries



First prize winner by Julie Williams, Mary Kudless, and Julie Wadsworth



Peony classes



Botanical Arts 4 Classes of Photography:





Thea McGinnis won the top rosette award for her close up photo entry



The top Horticulture Division Awards table. Joan Hession recorded all the entries and judging results.





Jane Bartlett's yellow peony won the highest awards in the Horticulture Division

