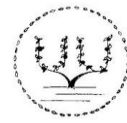


THE GARDENZETTE



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 58, Number 1

September 2019

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Charlotte Benjamin

VICE PRESIDENT

Sharon DeAngelis

SECRETARY

Carolyn Barone

TREASURER

Nancy Snell

GARDENZETTE EDITOR

Kate Abrahams (Sept-Jan)

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RSGC General Meeting

Thursday September 19, 2019 10 a.m.

Little Falls Presbyterian Church

Lower Level, Friendship Hall

6025 Little Falls Road

Arlington, VA 22207

"Exploring Creative Floral Design"

Program begins at 11 a.m.

NGC Life Judge and award-winning floral designer Arlene Stewart will demonstrate techniques to use for constructing several types of floral arrangements including a Grouped Mass Design, a Transparency Design and a Cascade Design which will be featured in this year's Show opportunities. Don't miss this opportunity to learn new mechanics to make your floral arrangements more special.

Life Judge, Superb Floral Designer and NCAGC 1ST VP Arlene Stewart



President's Message

Charlotte Benjamin

I have recently become intrigued by PATHWAYS! Pathways are all around us...little paths and large paths. The most compelling one that has captured our attention lately is the pathway of Hurricane Dorian. But there are many others for us to explore. Our individual gardens provide paths to a favorite space, to a majestic tree, or to a cutting garden filled with flowers for our enjoyment. Other paths beckon us: a walk in the forest or along a riverbank, a walk through a local farmer's market and even a walk around our neighborhoods to see what is going on in someone else's garden!

This coming year RSGC will explore many interesting, educational and diverse paths. Your Program Committee has selected an amazing variety of monthly speakers—HDE is back—the December Tea features an outstanding collection of Asian art—the June Field Trip is at Oatlands with abundant garden paths!

Pathways are fun and exciting...expect the unexpected! I invite you to share this 2019-2020 year with your RSGC friends!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Nancy Snell

June 1 – Sept. 1, 2019

Beginning Balance : \$

Total Receipts : \$

Total Disbursements : \$

Closing Balance : \$

October Board Meeting Date:

Thursday, Oct. 3rd 10 a.m.

Host: Anita Brown

SAVE THE DATES!

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21ST
RSGC'S HOLIDAY DESIGN FLORAL EVENT
WITH HILLWOOD'S Amazing FLORAL
DESIGNER AMI WILBER!



Floral Designer Ami Wilber



THURSDAY-FRIDAY OCTOBER 24-25TH
'A CAPITAL HARVEST'

CENTRAL ATLANTIC REGIONAL (CAR)
CONFERENCE AT ARLINGTON HILTON, 950
N. STAFFORD ST., ABOVE BALLSTON ETRO
WORKSHOPS, DESIGNS/PHOTOGRAPHY
REGISTER NOW AT [WWW.CAR-](http://WWW.CAR-SGC.ORG/CONFERENCE-2019)
SGC.ORG/CONFERENCE-2019

SEPTEMBER FLORAL DESIGN
TRADITIONAL or CREATIVE
PETITE DESIGN

When our Show Committee met this summer to make decisions on our monthly designs, everyone agreed that this month we should give you a choice to do your favorite design, although it must be small. You can do either a traditional or creative design that should not exceed 8" in height, width and depth. If you need additional information on petite designs, you can refer to page 73 of the 2017 NGC Handbook. Since I have been a member of our wonderful garden club, I do not believe we have had every member meet our goal of 2 designs per year. My goal this year will be 100% compliance, and our Committee has come up with some interesting and some very easy designs, so no excuses –Right? Remember you can get credit for any pumpkin designs you do in the fall, designs for our December Tea and any you may do for special occasions that the club has sanctioned. If you ever have questions concerning our designs, please let me know, and I will be glad to help. My best to all of you for the best designs ever!

Anita Brown, Chair
Show Committee

UPCOMING VOTE ON PROPOSED
2019-2020 RSGC BUDGET

The Budget Committee met in June to create a proposed 2019-2020 budget for a club vote at the September general meeting. The proposed budget can be found on page 9. With input from previous spending, and estimates from outgoing/incoming Committee Chairs, the proposed budget was developed. The November Holiday Floral Design Event will be our big fundraiser to support scholarships and club operations. Many thanks to Budget Committee members Jo Ella Samp, Nancy Snell, Charlotte Benjamin, Sherry Foster, Jane Bartlett, Pat Getz and Kate Abrahams for their effort. Additional thanks to Jane Bartlett for auditing the club books for 2018-2019.



Example of a Petite Design



Holiday Floral Design Event (HDE) Committee Update

Dianne Simmons, HDE Chair

The Club will host our 8th Holiday Design Event (HDE) Thursday evening, November 21st in Ballston, and we make this an all hands-on-deck event in which we welcome help and of course, attendance by all! For those of you who have joined the Club since our last HDE in November 2017, Club members conceived of this event as a means to learn about floral design through experts in the field and as a means to give back to our community, primarily in the form of scholarships for children to attend Arlington County's Outdoor Lab summer camp. Our guest designer will be Ami Wilber, floral and event décor designer at Hillwood Estates. The event also includes a pumpkin floral arrangements sale, a silent auction, Tools of the Trade sales and delicious food and drink made by our members. Tickets are \$30 and will be on sale shortly at meetings and through EventBrite. We have a dedicated committee working on all aspects of the HDE, but we WELCOME additional participation and creative ideas from all members. Please see Dianne Simmons at next Thursday's meeting or email her or call if you feel called to contribute.

National Capital Area Garden Clubs District III June 21 Presidents' Coffee

Members of D3's garden clubs met at the Meadowlark Gardens Atrium Building to celebrate the new District Board members, new club Presidents and to thank the outgoing Board for their two years of service. Outgoing District III Director Mary Cottrell was delighted to receive a beautiful bouquet from incoming Director Nancy Moats. Charlotte Benjamin was honored with a floral pin as Rock Spring GC's incoming President.



Incoming National Capital Area District III Officers who were introduced by NCAGC



President Cherie Lejeune were District Director Nancy Moats, Assistant Director Joyce Skoglund, Treasurer Chris Getek and Treasurer Jane Razeghi (seen above).

D3 Perennial Bloom Awardees

Club "Perennial Bloom " awardees were honored with a certificate and flower arrangement. Charlotte Benjamin accepted the honor on behalf of Ann Lunson, Rock Spring GC's nominee. The award is given to long time members who have shown exceptional dedication and service to their clubs as officers, committee chairs and program supporters.



Ann Lunson, RSGC Perennial Bloom Awardee.



New D3 Director Nancy Moats



Charlotte received a floral pin from District III

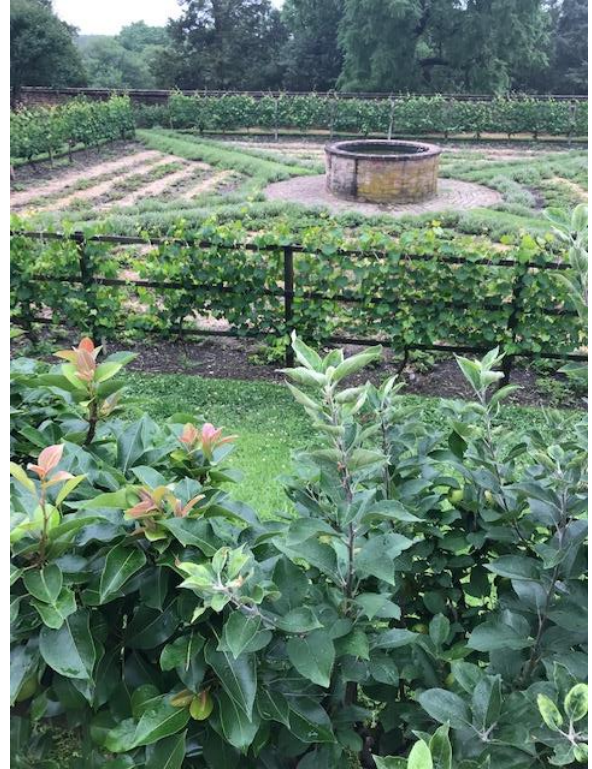
DONATION APPEAL FROM THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIR SHEILA MOORE

The Ways and Means table is in need of your treasures. In addition to your priceless vases and gifts, we would like any donations of baked goods and costume jewelry. Items can be left on Sheila Moore's front porch or brought to the meeting. Sheila will also pick up items if you call her. Think declutter, declutter, declutter and then come and recluster at the September 19th meeting!



June's Mount Vernon Field Trip

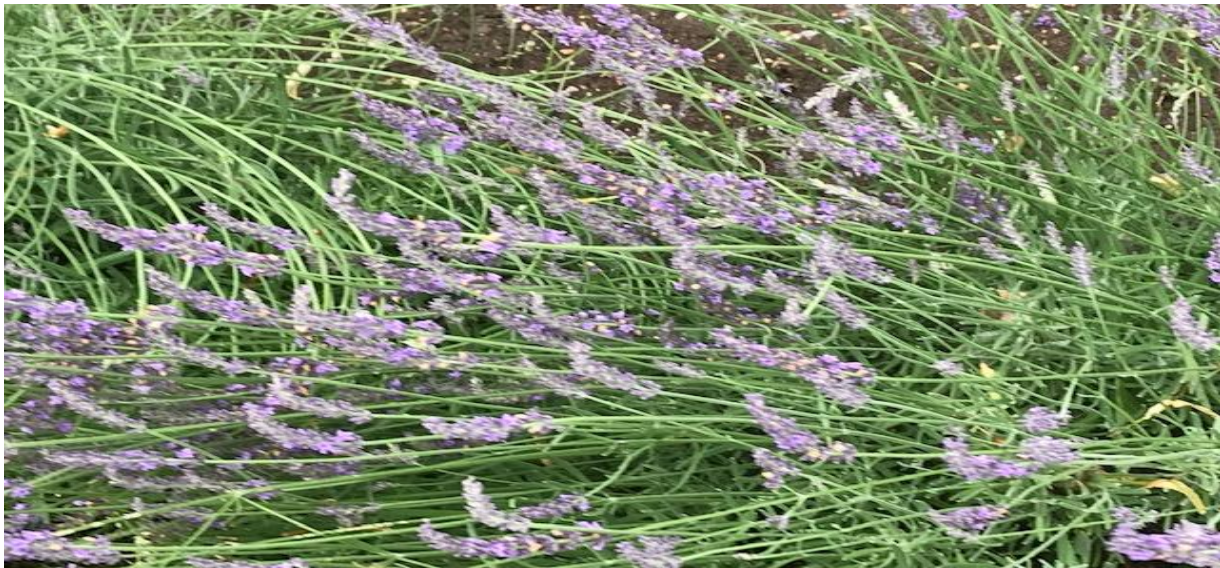
Head Horticulturist Dean Norton led club members, family and friends through the gardens at Mount Vernon and explained the inspirations for George Washington's designs and plantings. After admiring the design of the Bowling Green and views in front of the mansion, the group proceeded through the lower and upper gardens and admired the view of the Potomac river from the back porch. After the tour, the group enjoyed lunch at the nearby Mount Vernon Inn in one of the private dining rooms. Many thanks to Jenny Sullivan for arranging the great excursion before the club started a summer break!



INVITATIONAL COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 12th HOLIDAY TEA
Julie Williams, Chair

This year's December Holiday Tea's gracious hosts are Toby Davis and her husband who invited the club to enjoy their fascinating home. Toby has chosen the theme "Christmas East: Near-Middle-Far" celebrating global Christmas traditions. She and her husband have traveled the world, often to countries of the Near, Mid and Far East and their home is a jewel-box reflecting these travels. The Hospitality Committee may be inspired by cuisines

from these countries for this year's tea. Many thanks to the Davis family for inviting us to admire reflections of interesting and beautiful places in their home and providing wonderful inspiration for club members' arrangements. Julie will bring a sign-up sheet to the September meeting for those who wish to make an arrangement. These arrangements will earn club credit without a judge's critique. Guidelines for color and containers will be provided.



NEW POLLINATOR GARDEN COMING TO FALLS CHURCH

A pollinator garden established by Christ Crossman United Methodist Church in Falls Church is under construction using RSGC member and D3 Board Advisor Mary Cottrell's master plan. RSGC recently donated \$250 to the project to purchase a garden bench. Trees have been planted and eventually walkways and pollinator friendly plants will be added. Come visit the garden located in front of the church building at 384 North Washington Street, next to the Sunrise Retirement Home and across from the Columbia Baptist Church. Donations of native plants are very welcome!

HORTICULTURE

Christine Wegman



New Horticulture Guidelines for the Club

As most of you know, we had a very successful Flower Show last May. Members brought in 120 horticulture specimens. When added to the number of specimens brought in at the general meetings, the total was almost 240. That is something the club can be proud of. Nearly every member made their required contribution of two horticulture specimens per year.

For new members, don't forget that club rules require you to bring in at least two horticultural exhibits each year. It's not hard to find something in your garden that is at the peak of bloom, or a good-looking conifer branch and bring it in. Club members always enjoy seeing what other members grow. There are a few guidelines to remember when bringing in horticulture, and we are in the process of writing those up in a handbook for members.

At our May flower show, the judges loved the condition and variety of our horticulture, but agreed that we could do better at naming our plants correctly, that is, using the proper botanical name, underlining that part of it that is in Latin, and enclosing cultivar names in single quotation marks. This is not nearly as hard as it sounds. If you know the common name or if you know part of the Latin name, google what you know, "botanical name for ...", and you will almost always get the correct answer. If that doesn't work, the members of the Horticulture Committee will help you identify the plant. The judges have challenged us to be better, so let's make the effort.



New Entry Cards

This year the Board has decided that we will use the official National Garden Clubs flower show entry cards at our regular club meetings, instead of index cards. Below is a picture of the NGC flower show entry card and instruction on filling out the card.

National Garden Clubs, Inc.			
FLOWER SHOW			DATE
DIVISION	SECTION	CLASS No.	ENTRY No.
VARIETY OR CLASS NAME			
EXHIBITOR			
ADDRESS			
CLUB			
1st	2nd	3rd	Honorable Mention
EXHIBIT SCORED 90+			

National Garden Clubs, Inc.			
FLOWER SHOW			DATE
DIVISION	SECTION	CLASS No.	ENTRY No.
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We have ordered plenty of entry cards and they will be available at the horticulture table during meetings. Please take a few so you can fill them out in advance.

Here is how to fill out the entry card.

Please use a **PENCIL**, so that any corrections can be made easily, without throwing away the card.

1. Flower Show: "RSGC meeting".
2. Date: use the month of the meeting.
3. Division/Section/Class No./Entry No.: leave blank. This is for standard flower shows and refers to the flower show schedule.
4. Variety or class name: Enter the botanically correct name for the plant, e.g. Spiraea japonica, and the cultivar, if known, on the line below, e.g. 'Goldmound'.
5. Exhibitor/Address/Club **above the perforated line**: fill in your name. The rest of this section can be left blank.
6. Exhibitor/Address/Club **below the perforation**: fill in your name, leave the rest blank. Horticulture Committee members will collect these stubs and give you credit for bringing in an exhibit.
7. Do not fill in any information on the back of the card.
8. When you have filled out all the information, bend the card up and forward along the perforated line and slip the edge under the notch. This way the judges will not see your name.

Please take a few moments to read the judge's comments. These are meant to help members know what the judges are looking for.

Note, this year we will put an **X** next to any botanical names that are incorrect. If you do not understand why an X was placed next to the plant name, ask one of the Horticulture Committee members. It is usually something simple, like forgetting to underline the Latin portion of the name or forgetting to put **single** quotation marks around cultivar names.



LIAISON REPORT

NCAGC District III Fall Meeting on Friday, Sept. 20th. 9:30 a.m. – Noon. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens Atrium Building, 9750 Meadowlark Garden Court, Vienna, VA. Refreshments served at 9:30 a.m. before meeting begins at 10 a.m. Program on locally sourced food and flowers. Free admission to the Botanical Garden after the meeting concludes.

Fern Valley 60th Anniversary Celebration at U.S. National Arboretum on September 21st. 3501 New York Ave, N.E. Washington, D.C. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Guided tours, hands-on exhibits, kids activities, fern sale, presentation by Dr. Carl Taylor, Botanist, Fern Expert. Opportunities to volunteer. Email Cherie Lejeune if interested at latripp24@gmail.com

Floral Design Workshops Sept. 23rd and Oct. 7th 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, VA Contact Arlene Stewart amstewart4@aol.com 703 791-4356. Sponsored by the NCAGC Judges' Council

NCAGC General Meeting October 8th at U.S. National Arboretum Washington, D.C. Speaker Tom Rainer, landscape architect of Phyto, Inc. and co-author of *Planting in a Post-Wild World*. 10:30 a.m. coffee and refreshments, 11 a.m. meeting starts in Arboretum Auditorium. Phyto is working on Friendship Garden project.

“Fashion in Bloom” October 10th Yacht Haven Garden Club annual Fashion Show and Luncheon fundraiser at Mount Vernon Country Club. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. 5111 Old Mill Road, Alexandria, VA \$40 ticket. Contact Rhee Killinger at rgkmsbell@hotmail.com

VFGC Piedmont District Meeting, Monday, October 14th 8:30 registration and shopping. Meeting begins at 10 a.m. includes lunch and program “Travels with Auntie Mame” until 2:45 p.m. Five Points Sheraton, 9901 Midlothian Turnpike, Midlothian, VA. \$30 More info online at www.piedmontdistrictvfgc.org

National Garden Clubs Central Atlantic Region (CAR) Conference “A Capital Harvest” theme. Arlington Hilton Hotel, 950 N. Stafford Street in Ballston (above the Ballston Metro) Thursday-Friday October 24-25th For more info and registration visit online www.car-sgc.org/conference-2019 Seven states will attend.

NCAGC Flower Show Judges Symposium, Arlington Hilton Hotel, Stafford Street in Ballston (above the metro station). Open to all garden club members and public. Saturday- Sunday October 26-27th Visit <https://ncagardenclubs.org/2019/05/09/symposium-2019/>

Gardening School Course III, November 14-15 Merrifield Gardening Center, Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA Visit www.ncagardenclubs.org for more info about registration. Tuition rebate available from RSGC upon completion of one or two days of coursework.

PHOTO GALLERY

**Claude Monet's Garden in Giverny,
France** Photos by Renee Bayes





Petite Design Examples



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