

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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Zoom General Meeting

Thursday, October 15 at 10 a.m.

PROGRAM STARTS AT 10:15 A.M.

Eugenie Applegate

The Delightful Daffodil

Eugenie Applegate is a member of the Washington Daffodil Society and grows over two hundred varieties of daffodils. She will discuss the



thirteen divisions of daffodils and techniques for growing, displaying, and after-bloom care. She will also share pictures from her visits to daffodil growers in Ireland and England. Plus more!

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS INSIDE

President's Message:

Have you noticed, how beautiful the sunsets are during this season of the year? I don't understand the meteorological science behind this phenomenon but I am in awe of autumn sunsets and their intense colors. Each one is unique and enhances our gardens and forests in many ways. The ability to turn our eyes toward the heavens and delight in seeing these amazing 'sky-paintings' is one thing Covid-19 cannot deny us ... so please join me in celebrating this season of sunsets!

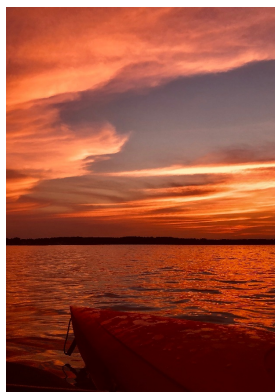


Photo by
granddaughter

At the last Rock Spring Garden Club Board meeting, Treasurer Nancy Snell presented the 2020-2021 Budget. The Board voted approval of the Budget as presented but also acknowledged that the Budget may need to be amended during the year due to unforeseen issues. In addition, the Board decided that if we are unable to meet in person in 2021, because of snow or any other reason, we will still plan to meet via ZOOM!

Many thanks to each member who joined the September 17th ZOOM meeting ... there were thirty-one attendees! I hope you enjoyed seeing each other as much as I did. Even though we are not able to gather together there are many upcoming opportunities to meet virtually, within our Club and beyond. You will continue to receive email notices regarding upcoming events and activities. I hope some of you will sign up for the CAR-SGC ZOOM FESTIVAL, October 18-22 ([CAR-SGC.org/zoomfestival](https://www.car-sgc.org/zoomfestival)). The deadline for registering is October 17. Also in the **Gardenzette** you will find important information from various RSGC committees.

A special invitation from Christ Crossman United Methodist Church was emailed to the membership inviting us to the dedication of their Pollinator Garden Sunday, October 11th, at Noon. RSGC purchased a bench for the garden. Mary Cottrell also extends her personal invitation to members to visit the Church's Pollinator Garden anytime.

ZOOM in on October 15th ... maybe we can exceed last month's attendance record of 31!!!

Charlotte

TREASURER'S REPORT

Sep. 1-30, 2020

Beginning Balance:

Receipts:

Expenses:

Ending Balance:

Nancy Snell, Treasurer

DESIGN OF THE MONTH: Cascade Design



A creative design with emphasis on a downward rhythmic movement. See page 73 of NGC Handbook. This beautiful arrangement encompasses the idea of a waterfall, representing a loose flowing, downward trailing of materials. It is usually arranged in a tall container or even placed on a pedestal to give the impression of it cascading downward. The plant material can flow from the center of the design out and over the container edges. You can layer alternating flowers and foliage to give it depth and texture. Make sure there is sufficient room for the materials to cascade downward. This arrangement will be a great opportunity for members to show off their creative skills!

November Zoom Board Meeting

Thursday, November 5, 10 a.m.

This is also the deadline for contributions to the November Gardenzette.

FLORAL OUTREACH

Autumn Outdoor Planters

Julie Williams

Dear Ladies,
Questions arose at the Board meeting regarding the Floral Outreach Fall Planter project.
It is very flexible. If you need to do this before the event date of October 15, or after the date, all is fine. Your planter should be for the outdoors, but no other requirements in size, shape, or design....

The only deadline is the one Mary has for submitting photos to her and that is November 5th. I've heard from many people about their participation! It's just a fun way to stay connected and has no judging at all. Many people said that each year, they do this anyway. So far, no one mentioned wanting to see the pots at members' homes, so we will table that extra feature. Let's keep it fun and informal!

Thanks-
Julie

SENIOR OUTREACH

AnnMarie Fay

A Big Thank You to all of our generous members who so kindly donated toiletries for residents at Mary Marshall Assisted Living. Today, I dropped off 4 large boxes filled by RSGC! They were so happy to receive them and I know they are appreciated because I



heard a resident make a request for shampoo while I was there and he had no idea what I was delivering. What a great response you gave to the needs of these Seniors, many thanks!

Our committee is working with the staff on several future projects, in a socially distant, safe manner. These projects will include:

- Mini Pumpkin Designs, arranged and delivered by our committee, for about half of the residents.
- Zoom Demo of prepping and designing medium pumpkins for 6-8 residents
- PenPal correspondence with the 32 men and 20 women. All RSGC members welcome and encouraged to help!
- Clothing Drive for new socks and gently used warm clothing.
- Spring plantings
- Seasonal centerpieces when it is safe for them to eat together in the dining room.



This Center is "A Unique and Innovative Residence for People 55 and Older with Disabilities". You may find info about them at www.voa.org/MaryMarshall

With thanks for your support,
Mary Kudless & AnnMarie Fay

HORTICULTURE

Christine Wegman

Virtual Horticulture Table

This month we will continue with the virtual horticulture exhibit through the Gardenzette.

The horticulture for this month is: chrysanthemums, Japanese or fall anemones, and tree foliage.

If you have an examples of these types of plant, stage it as you would for the regular horticulture table, in a green bottle with wedging, and take a picture of it. All photos must be accompanied by the correct botanical name of the plant and your name. Send the photos to Mary Garnett and they will appear in next month's issue. They will not be judged.

Japanese anemones consist of the following subspecies: *Anemone hupenhensis*, *Anemone hybrida*, *Anemone tomentosa*, and *Anemone vitafolia*. The beautiful single white fall anemone that is so common is *Anemone x hybrida* 'Honorine Jobert'. Any tree branch is suitable for this month's virtual horticulture table, as long as it is in excellent condition. Of course, we would love to see some fall color, but if you have a good looking specimen of any kind, please send it in.

Fastigate Trees for Small Urban Gardens, or How to Have Your Cake and Eat it Too



Fastigate trees are tall, narrow trees that take up less space than their spreading cousins, and are tailor-made for urban spaces. In large landscapes, fastigate trees are used very effectively, when planted in

rows, as punctuation marks to draw the eye.

In small urban gardens, they can be used to line a driveway or fence near the border of a property. Close planted they make an excellent privacy screen.

Plant breeders have been busy in recent years developing fastigate varieties of some of our favorite trees, including spring-flowering varieties. There are evergreen and deciduous fastigate trees, as well as many dwarf varieties. There are even some lovely spr spring-flowering types, like this *Prunus* 'Amanogawa'.



For those of us who love our native redbud trees, there is a new introduction called 'Golden Falls', pictured below. It is a weeping golden-leaved variety that grows 8-10 ft. high and 3-4 ft wide. If you think you don't have room for a redbud, you might want to give this a look. Bred by Denny Warner of the JC Raulston Arboretum in North Carolina, it should be a very reliable plant, living up to its advertisement as heat and sun resistant.



Some fastigate trees are very effective planted at entrances and can set the scale of smaller house beautifully. The lovely Japanese maple below can fit in the smallest garden, even in a pot. With a little winter protection, this tree could be grown on a balcony. In fact, many dwarf fastigate can be successfully grown in pots.



My own experience with fastigate trees has been mixed. I have a ginkgo that was developed as a street tree in Europe that is doing very well. Like all ginkgo trees, it took a few years to get going, but it is one of my favorite trees. I have had good luck with *Euonymus* 'Emerald Spire', but a Sky Pencil' holly I tried splayed to the ground its first winter. On the other hand, two 'Dee Runk' boxwoods have grown to 12 feet with no problems, and a dwarf arborvitae has been beautiful, slow-growing, and without disease or insect problems for years.

In summary, fastigate trees are perfect for small gardens. For those of us who are downsizing or thinking about it, looking at the wide variety of these plants that are available, can mean that we can continue to grow more of the plants we love than we might have thought. For those who are not downsizing, it might mean that we can squeeze just a few more special plants into our already crowded space.

LIAISON REPORT

Kate Abrahams

Meadowlark Botanical Garden's "Winter Walk of Lights" Tickets now on sale for Nov. 11 - Jan. 3. Visit www.novaparks.com

Landscape Design School Course I at Comfort Inn, Bowie MD Oct. 13-14 Visit www.ncagardenclubs.org or call Linda Harris, Landscape Design Chair at 443 695-2071 or e-mail lindaharris355@aol.com. Tuition rebate from RSGC for one or two day course completion.

Cherie Lejeune

2020 CAR-SGC BLOOMING - ZOOM FESTIVAL Oct. 18-22. As members of National Capital Area Garden Clubs, we belong to a National Garden Clubs region, called Central Atlantic Region-State Garden Clubs (CAR-SGC), a 501c3 nonprofit. The states are: New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Ohio and NCA.

The scheduled event for 2020 was cancelled in Delaware; we, NCA hosted last year. In its place, will be the BLOOMING- ZOOM FESTIVAL to generate funds for CAR-SGC's scholarship fund. Yes, NCA applicants have won this scholarship many times. Over 4 days, 7 ZOOM events, with some bonus activities planned, are offered. There are many nationally recognized speakers.

The website link is: CAR-SGC.org/zoomfestival. Note you can pay by PayPal (no fee or account required) if buying the PASS, access to all programs for \$75. Yes, you can buy programs ala carte too. If paying by check see forms attached, must be received by the CAR Treasurer by October 17th. Any questions, the contact info is on the forms. There is a cap on attendance, so if interested, get your registration form in early.

Greetings from the Lowcountry!

Dorinda Burroughs

Greetings from the Lowcountry! As many of you know, my husband and I have moved from Arlington to our home in Sullivan's Island, SC. I had hoped to be



able to attend a spring meeting to say good bye, but Covid conditions did not make that possible.

I joined RSGC in 2004 and it was one of the most rewarding experiences during that phase of my life. I learned many valuable

skills through floral design workshops, the presentations from talented and informative speakers on garden design, native plants, and so many more topics. My own garden in Arlington was a labor of love for nine years and I acquired many shared plants, seedlings, and most of all friendship and advice. The community of RSGC is a remarkable one. It not only exists in the church hall but of service in the community at large. That's the best part! You, the membership of RSGC, are a treasured group!

Now, gardening the Low-country has presented me with a new learning curve. Zones 8b and 9 are



so very different, plus we must keep in mind the many microclimates, excessive heat and humidity, salt spray and wind shear. Joining the Garden Club of Charleston and the Charleston Horticulture Society has made the transition easier with great education and activities.

I will miss you all very much! If you find you are in the Charleston area, reach out to me. My cell and email remain the same as in last year's directory. God Bless, and Keep Calm and Garden On!

With gratitude and kindness,

Dorinda Burroughs



2020-2021 RSGC Yearbook Erratum

We are pleased that the Yearbook is finished and available for distribution. We are sorry to report however that one of our Non-Executive and Liaison Committees - the **Holiday Design Event** - was inadvertently left off our listing on page 3 of the RSGC's Committees.

The Holiday Design Event does appear correctly in Article VIII of our Bylaws.

CONSERVATION

Connie Richards

Jo Ella, Connie, Dianne Simmons and Kate have been to Rock Spring Park several times in the past few months to trim and weed. Plants that the committee has added are flourishing in spite of the dry spell we had this summer. One that is particularly attractive now is the obedient plant which has lavender-colored blooms and has filled in considerably since our former member, Felicia Schwenk planted them several years ago. We are planning to do more weeding and mulching in the next two months. Stop by the park if you are in the area to admire the fruits of our labor.



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Joan Hession

Congratulations! We successfully had our first Zoom meeting. You all did a great job joining and participating in the meeting. Our speaker, Kathy Jentz, gave a very informative talk on new plant propagation. We are looking forward to having other interesting speakers at our meetings this fall. The Washington Post ran an article about proper Zoom etiquette. Two of the points apply to us. 1- Mute your mic when you are not speaking and 2- Tackle any technical issues in advance. We will be Zoom meeting in October and November. If you want to do a test Zoom meeting before the

monthly meeting, contact Joan at jshession@verizon.net. We can check your connection prior to the meeting.

The following are general instructions to help you get to the meeting:

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

Click on the link sent to you via email. If you do not currently have Zoom, it will prompt you to download the app. You do not need to create a Zoom account to download the app.

Click yes on joining with Zoom, then if asked click yes for "Using computer audio" and "Using Computer video." The meeting app will log you into the waiting room and host will let you in when it's time to join the meeting. There will be no entry to the meeting until the date and time of the meeting.

Upon entry to the meeting you will be muted. We ask that everyone mute their microphone unless they are speaking. The way Zoom works is that the active speaker will be the primary image and if you have background noise you will become the active speaker.

To see the toolbar, hover your mouse pointer over the screen image near the bottom. You will see icons at the bottom:

From left to right

- Microphone. Click the carat (^) arrow to the right of the icon to be able to unmute
- Video. Click the carat arrow and if you click "stop video" your thumbnail image will disappear.
- Participants: click the carat to see who's in the meeting with you
- Chat. This is the primary way you will ask questions. If you click Chat, a column will open to the right of your meeting video and you can type in questions at the bottom. You can choose to share with everyone or pick someone to query.

Some tips: Make sure the microphone on your device is optimized, or use headphones if you have them. If the image freezes up or you get a blank screen, it could be on the host's end or yours. Leave the meeting. Check your wifi connection and reenter the meeting link to get a new connection.

NCAGC JUDGES COUNCIL NEWS

Thea McGinnis

Flower Show School & our First Flower Show in 2020



Fall 2020 has challenged our garden club activity scheduling, requiring us to be very creative! Flower Show School, Course 4 did take place September 2020 with extra precautions to protect our students and instructors. All three Rock

Spring Garden Club member accredited judges contributed to the success of Course 4. We wish all the students the best of luck in preparing to become NGC accredited flower show judges.

Exhibiting horticulture and designs is part of the continuing education for accredited judges and is part of the qualifications required for our student judges. FSS Course III, which had been cancelled has been rescheduled to March 2021. Judges Symposiums for Virginia Federated Garden Clubs was cancelled for this month as well, and hopefully will be rescheduled in the first half of 2021.



Additional precaution required the Judges Council to move the planned NGC small standard flower show, "Fall Festival" from the planned flower show school venue to the home of Shirley Nicolai, the current JC President. This allowed the participants to exhibit designs and horticulture in a space that afforded protection to both judges and exhibitors.



The "Fall Festival" Show schedule included 5 sections of Horticulture: Annuals, Hostas, Herbaceous Perennials, Needled

Pines and Flowering and Foliage Container Plants. The Design division included one section with three classes: American Traditional Mass Design, a Petite Design and a Functional Breakfast Tray.



DESIGN OF THE MONTH: DESIGNER'S CHOICE



Kate Abrahams: Traditional mass floral design with dahlias, asters, chrysanthemums, coneflowers, pumpkin leaves, montauk daisy, lavender, horsetail weed, boxwood

Joan Hession: Black-eyed Susan, Hosta, Rose of Sharon, Ageratum, Sedum, Chrysanthemum



Carolyn Barone: Cascading design with Rose of Sharon, Coleus, Aster



Ashley Tessler: Garden flowers: limelight hydrangea, tomatoes, succulents, mums



Jenny Sullivan: Miniature Design with chrysanthemums, marigolds, lantana, winterberries, barberry



Lynda Martin: Flowers from my garden: zinnias, purple asters, angel wing begonias, lemon balm greens and Joe Pye weed white filler lowers

VIRTUAL HORTICULTURE TABLE

The plant for this month is Dahlia

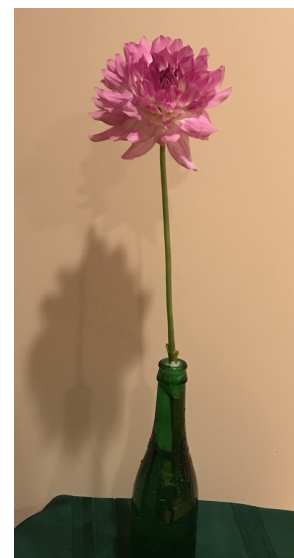


Kate Abrahams: A decorative bi-color 'Duet' *Dahlia pinnata*



Jenny Sullivan: *Dahlia* 'Arabian Night'

Kate Abrahams: A ball type *Dahlia pinnata*



Connie Richards: 'April Dawn'



Connie Richards: 'Bristol Fleck'

Thea McGinnis: *Dahlia* 'Kelvin Headlight' 7 1/2"



Ann Kelly: *Dahlia* 'Ace Summer Sunset'



George Ruppert: August Sedum *Hylotelephium*, Lacy *Coleus*

Ann Kelly: *Anemone* 'Honorine Jobert'



George Ruppert: *Coleus Plectranthus scutellarioides*, *Cleome hassleriana*



PHOTO GALLERY



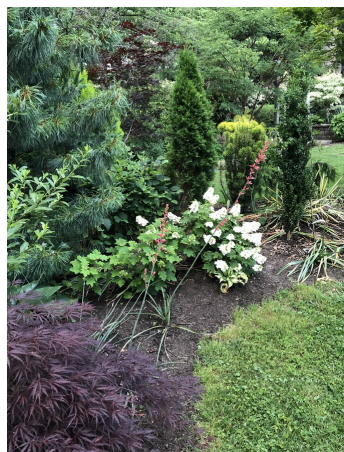
Kate Abrahams



Joyce Fall:
Phlox paniculata
garden phlox



Joyce Fall:
Ruellia augustifolia
Mexican petunia



Anita Brown



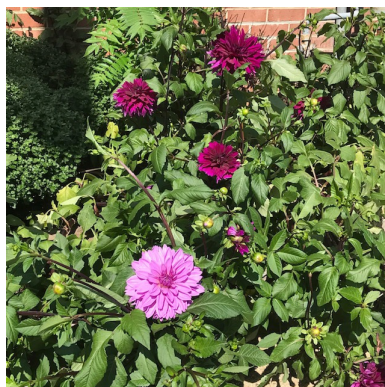
Joyce Fall: *Canna pretoria*
canna lilies



White Asters and Bee



Dahlias at
Fire Station 8
on Lee Highway



Anita Brown



Orange mums and Solomon's
Seal



Anita Brown





Ann Kelly:
Dahlia 'Cafe Au Lait'



Thea McGinnis: Lewis Ginter gardens



Thea McGinnis: Fall visit to Lewis Ginter gardens



Thea McGinnis



Thea McGinnis:
Lewis Ginter gardens



Nancy Snell: *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight'



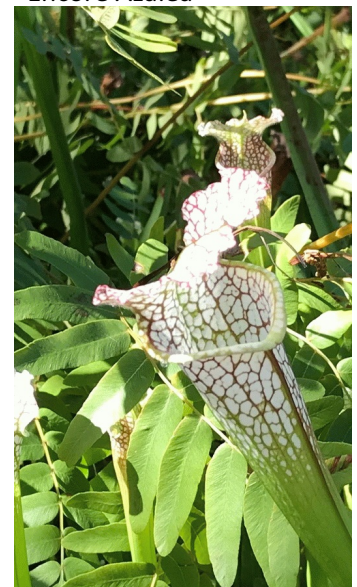
Nancy Snell: *Rhododendron* 'Conlec' - Autumn Royalty - Encore Azalea



Nancy Snell: Dwarf Butterfly Bush: *Buddleia* 'Dark Dynasty' with bumble bee pollinator



Thea McGinnis: Lewis Ginter gardens, Richmond VA



Thea McGinnis: Pitcher Plant *Nepenthes*. A native plant that's especially nice in floral designs & gardens