

THE GARDENZETTE



Rock Spring Garden Club
Arlington, Virginia
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, South Atlantic Region, Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., Piedmont District

OFFICERS

President
Dianne Simmons

Vice President
Carolyn Barone

Secretary
Jane Robinson

Treasurer
Sherry Foster

Newsletter Editor
Maryam Zolecki



IN THIS ISSUE

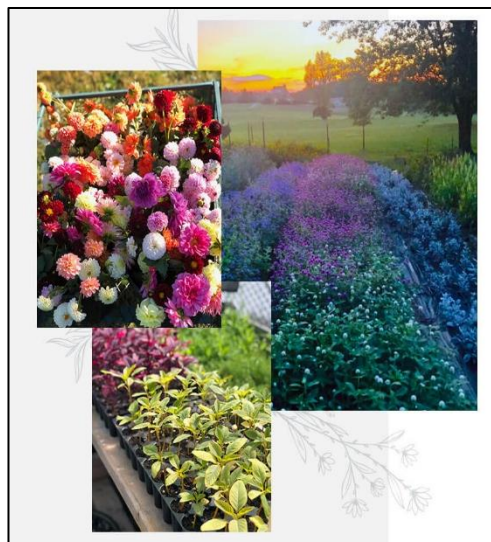
- General Meeting Information – 1
- President’s Message – 2
- Design of the Month – 2
- Budget Report – 2
- Committee Reports – 3
 - Garden Therapy – 3
 - Membership – 3
- Floral Pumpkin Sale – 4
- Holiday Tea – 4
- October Field Trip – 5
- Photo Gallery – 6



GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 10:00 am
Little Falls Presbyterian Church, Arlington, VA

Our meetings are open to the public, and guests and potential new members with an interest in gardening, floral design, horticulture and community service activities are always welcome and are asked to RSVP to rockspringgardenclub@gmail.com in order to attend.



Sarah Dakan and Tom Precht, co-founders of Grateful Gardeners, an organic cut-flower farm in Montgomery County, Maryland, will share their goal to promote local, sustainable, and collaborative flower farming, as well as their how-tos for growing dahlias. Fresh cut dahlias and dahlia tubers will be available for sale.

President's Message



Have you noticed that we have “officially” entered the holiday season? Witness the shop windows like those at Mesmeraldas, where I have my fun job, and you will see holiday decorations and gifts enticing you to enter and spend. But, I try to focus on the non-material aspects of Thanksgiving and Christmas and Hanukah, and the

celebrations of joy and appreciation for our blessings.

I digress here because I'm writing this on my deck. How about the leaves falling in droves this year? My unscientific poll of others confirms my impression that the quantity of leaves carpeting our yards is significantly greater than years past. We may find it tiresome, but the squirrels love it. All those acorns to store and consume.

Back to celebrating the season with thanks. In the life of our club, we are blessed to welcome eleven new members in the last calendar year. Add to that, the five or more who joined us during the pandemic. To express our appreciation for them, our January luncheon will celebrate them, and I hope we'll have a full house to as we get to know them and them us.

At our general meeting in January, I will also offer to you a few ideas the Board is considering to make our meetings more inclusive and efficient vis-à-vis our hospitality efforts. It is important that we share time for nutritional as well as educational sustenance in a way that all can enjoy, especially those members who work at each meeting to set up and judge our floral designs, our horticultural offerings and our hospitality offerings.

We have a great program on dahlias at our meeting on November 17th. And we have our pumpkin sale on the 22nd at Mary Lunger's garage. Thank you to those who have signed up to make pumpkin arrangements. For those who would like to make an arrangement, but are nervous about doing so, please come to my house on Sunday, November 20th (1-4 pm) for a workshop. Just let Maryam Zolecki and me know you will attend.

Dianne

Design of the Month

By Anita Brown, Show Committee Co-Chair



Last month, Show Committee Co-Chair Charlotte Benjamin, provided the club pictures of two Matisse paintings, pictured above, and asked members to interpret them in a floral design for this month's design table. I am pleased that we have twenty adventuresome and brave members who eagerly volunteered to try their hand at art interpretation, ten of whom opted for the picture on the left, and ten for the other picture.

A container has been provided to exhibitors and a bag of materials, some or all of which can be used in your design. At our general meeting, the two picture designs will be in two different classes on separate tables.

It will be interesting and great fun to view what I believe will be varying interpretations by our exhibitors because we know not every eye sees things in the same way. If you can, please join us in person at our meeting on November 17, 2022.

Next Board Meeting – January 5, 2023 at 10 am
Next General Meeting - January 19, 2023 at 10 am

Budget Report

Beginning Balance:
Receipts:
Expenses:
Ending Balance:

Committee Reports

Garden Therapy

Autumn Leaves

By Pat Getz



The Garden Therapy Committee held our first program of the school year for the preschool class at Glebe Elementary School on October 13, 2022. Four committee members participated: Kate Abrahams, Pat Getz, Margi Melnick, and Susan Scotti. The focus was changing colors of leaves and other plants associated with autumn. Pat described and passed around a "nature tray" which included

squash, acorns, chestnuts, pinecones, and colorful leaves. Kate added a pair of large pumpkins with vines still attached that had grown in her yard. The children were most impressed with a giant pinecone supplied by Susan, and the giant leaves attached to the pumpkin vine. Next, Kate read *We're Going on a Leaf Hunt*, and encouraged the students to go on their own leaf hunts. Margi led everyone in singing "Autumn Leaves are Falling Down" to the tune of "London Bridge is Falling Down". The children particularly enjoyed pretending to rake leaves and jump into leaf piles as we sang. Lastly, we had a project to make leaf crowns. Each child got a craft kit with a foam crown and colorful leaves for decorating the crown. Their teacher, Jeanne Terrill, noted that decorating the crowns was good practice for the children's fine motor skills. As they finished, the children ran to the mirror to see how they looked in their crowns; all were very pleased with themselves! We look forward to conducting monthly projects with the class for the remainder of the school year.



Membership

New Members

By Carolyn Barone, Membership Chair

The Board has approved two new members for our Club in October.

Christina (Tina) Foutz made inquiry into the Club in April at the suggestion of her mother-in-law who is active in garden clubs in the Roanoke area. Christina's interest in gardening and floral arranging prompted her to take online classes to further her skills in flower arranging. She also does nature and flower photography. She is a member of Tudor Place and Mount Vernon and has participated in the Tudor Place Garden Party committee. She enthusiastically is looking forward to participating in our Club and its activities. Christina was sponsored by Carolyn Barone and Thea McGinnis.

Elizabeth (Liddy) Schwartz was introduced to the Club through her friendship with Robin Fitch and AnnMarie Fay. A Chicago native, she moved to Arlington in 1979. After her retirement from the Boeing Company, she has fostered her interest in historical homes and gardens in Colonial Virginia and has taken courses in floral arranging. She also is excited to attend the meetings and programs of our Club and looks forward to expanding her horticultural knowledge and meeting new friends.

Please welcome Christina and Elizabeth. They will be officially inducted into the Club at our January 2023 general meeting.

Floral Pumpkin Sale

By Maryam Zolecki



Planning and organizing for our floral pumpkin sale is well underway. The sale will occur on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving at the home of club member Mary Lunger, and we ask that you deliver your arrangements to Mary Lunger's house between 1pm and 3pm on that

day. As you drop off your arrangements, if you have any leftover flowers, we would appreciate having them in case there is a need to add to any of the arrangements. Refer to the October issue of the newsletter for information on pumpkin care and preparation as well as suggestions for conditioning flowers and greens. Please spread the word by sharing the flyer emailed earlier in the month with your friends and neighbors to inform them about this fabulous event! For those outside the club membership, if you are interested in buying a pumpkin, please email Rock Spring Garden Club at rockspringgardenclub@gmail.com for information about the sale.

Thank you to all who have signed up to make arrangements, and I am happy to report that we have the promise of over forty pumpkin arrangements. We could use more, however, as this is our sole fundraiser for the year that supports so many programs sponsored by our club. If you haven't taken the plunge and signed up, please consider doing so, and if you have any questions, please email or call me, and I would be more than happy to support what you need. There are also a handful of club members who will be there the day of the sale for support as you drop off your pumpkins.

And, our club president, Dianne Simmons, will be hosting a pumpkin arrangement workshop on Sunday, November 20, 2022 from 1pm to 4pm with refreshments. This is a great way to meet other club members, make your arrangements with comradery and support, and have fun as you make your

contribution to the fundraiser. All you need to bring are a pumpkin or two (no bigger than 10 inches in diameter) and a small batch of flowers and greens from your yard, if you wish. Dianne will provide oasis, plastic cups for the oasis and additional flowers and greens (and dried flowers). You may bring an already-cleaned out pumpkin or do it at her house.

Thank you again to all of you for helping to make this year's pumpkin sale another successful one!

Holiday Tea Floral Outreach

By Sharon Siems and Renee Bayes



For all who signed up to provide a design for the Holiday Tea, be sure to mark your calendars for the look-see time on December 1, 2022

between the hours of 1pm and 3pm at Renee Bayes' home. This is one week before the December 8, 2022 Holiday Tea. At this time, you will be able to view in person your chosen design location and obtain the container you'll be using. All these will be provided by Renee. See you on the first!



Design by Renee Bayes

October Field Trip

By Thea McGinnis



Club members enjoyed a beautiful fall visit to Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens. The air was crisp and the skies blue and clear. After enjoying a guided tour of Mrs. Post's lovingly curated gardens, we enjoyed the Princess Grace Dior Collection. How shall I put this? The 70s style haute couture was not as beautiful as the Princess. But! Flower Power!

Some of us visited the house, cutting gardens and greenhouses. And we had several new and perspective club members join us. Lunch in the cafe was lovely and gave us a wonderful opportunity to catch up.



Photo Gallery



Julia Clevett's cascade and abstract creative floral designs made for the Judges' Symposium held in late September 2022.



Christmas cactus ~ George Ruppert



Hiking in the bedrock river terrace forest along the Potomac River ~ Maryam Zolecki

