

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

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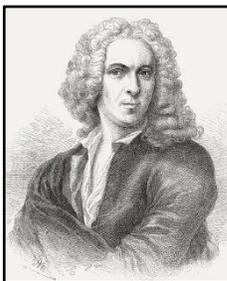
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GENERAL MEETING

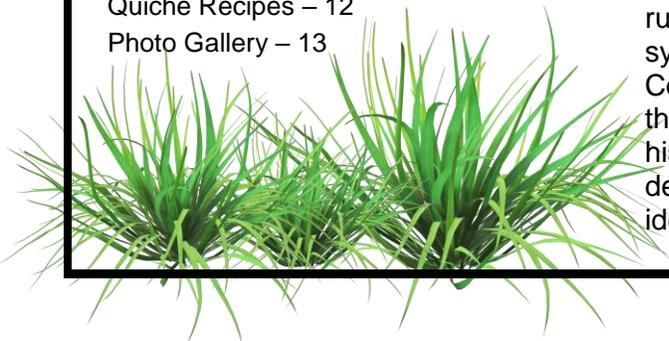
Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 10:00 am
Little Falls Presbyterian Church, Arlington, VA

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.



Carol Allen is back by popular demand to discuss the “Origins and History of Nomenclature!” Botanical nomenclature is the systematic or scientific naming of plants. That means the name assigned to a particular plant species is based on the

rules within the botanical nomenclature system. Carol Allen, Agent Associate at the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources at the University of Maryland, will discuss the history of botanical nomenclature, how we can decipher plant names, and how plant identification is evolving.



President's Message



I am sitting outside while my new dog, Barley, is exploring the yard. I'm noticing how much work I need to do. My garden needs tending. Unlike many of you, I am not a passionate gardener. I get overwhelmed by what needs to be cleaned out and what I want to plant. I do love to plant in pots – herbs, gerbera dailies, columbine, etc. But, when I focus on the side garden, I am flummoxed by

the invasive plants like liriopse, which stubbornly resist culling, and the behavior of the native lyreleaf sage that has no boundaries. Both encroach on non-native plants I cherish – my mother's irises and my hibiscus.

But, tending I will start to do today. The garden needs attention and love.

And, our club needs just the same. We need volunteers to help Jo Ella Samp and her Conservation Committee to care for the garden plot at Rock Spring Park. I am sure some of our new members would love assisting in this effort. It is one of our oldest projects and one many of us as new members gravitated to. Please talk to Jo Ella. Now is the time to learn what is planted there and what we might add. And, I can attest to the satisfaction of fostering new growth and cleaning out unwanted growth.

We will also need new growth – and tending – to other programs and projects the club has. Our Show Committee, ably and passionately led by Anita Brown, will need a new chairperson to step up to the plate. The work of this committee is paramount as part of our mission to educate ourselves in the use of flowers and plants in arrangements. The same need is foreseen for the Ways and Means Committee, which allows us a venue for cleaning out garden-related items to sell and generates income for outreach activities and club expenses.

Lastly, we must tend to the future of our club in the form of leadership for the next two years. Our nominating committee is working hard to identify volunteers to take on the positions of President, Vice President and Secretary (we have a Treasurer, thank goodness). I realize taking on one of these roles many seem daunting, but those of us who have held such a position have found satisfaction, friendship and a sense of creativity. Being an officer does not mean carrying an enormous burden; we all help lead this club, I can assure you. Rather, it means giving some TLC using the gifts each of us possess.

Dianne

Design of the Month

By Anita Brown, Show Committee Co-Chair

Hurrah – this month brings us spring! If you are like me, you love this season of the year because of the additional daylight hours, the awakening of our gardens and warmer temperatures. For me, spring is the new birth of plants in our gardens and renewed energy for projects that somehow seems to be lacking during the long winter.

This month's design is a new direction for our garden club. Although the Duo-Design is considered an advanced design by the National Garden Club (NGC), it is a fun and interesting one that Show Co-Chair Charlotte Benjamin and I thought would be more fun and easier for you because you can work on it with a RSGC partner. (We are going "outside the box" by having a partner because NGC rules require that this design always be exhibited by one person).

The Duo-Design is a creative design organized in one container or containers joined to appear as one and organized as two designs in the container(s) that are back-to-back. Each side of the design must be different from the other side. Each side must have a title or description, and generally they are opposite, as summer/winter, white/black, fresh/dry (plant material), etc. The design is constructed so that one designer works on only one side. Each side of the design is judged in separate classes; hence, you will receive credit for your side of the design. The designs will be placed on tables with no staging panels so that both sides can be clearly viewed as the judge walks around the tables.



The pictures above is a Duo-Design that has as its theme advancing/receding colors. Having the experience of working on this design at our monthly meeting will, we hope, give you confidence in exhibiting in a future flower show.

Committee Reports

Horticulture

Camellias

By Christine Wegman

Camellias are native to East and South Asia, particularly China, Japan, Korea, India and Indonesia. They are part of the tea family and are closely related to the tea that we drink, which is made from the tender new leaves of *Camellia sinensis*. There are around 300 camellia species, but the most popular plants for ornamental gardens are selections and hybrids of *C. japonica*, blooming in early spring, and *C. sasanqua*, which blooms in late autumn. Camellias are traditionally grown in the coastal areas of Virginia, south to Florida, and across the Southeastern U.S. to Texas, often referred to as the camellia belt. They are also popular in the temperate, coastal areas of California, Oregon and Washington, and traditionally thrive in zones 7-10.



Camellias are large shrubs or small trees and can be grown as single shrubs, hedges, or pruned up as trees (see picture at left of *C.* 'Kramer's Supreme', a spring bloomer). They have lovely glossy, evergreen foliage and are fairly easy to grow. Camellias are acid loving plants and thrive in the same conditions that suit azaleas and rhododendron. Camellia flowers have some of the most exquisite forms of any flowers, from single to fully double. They bloom in the cool weather of late fall or early spring, depending on the species.



From 1976 to 1978, the camellia belt experienced three very harsh winters that killed most of the camellias in the Washington, D.C. area. A few survived at the National Arboretum, and two camellia breeders in particular, Dr. William Ackerman, a retired U.S.D.A. plant breeder in Maryland, and Dr. Clifford Parks, a botanist at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, used these survivors to develop series of cold hardy camellias that will grow as far north as zone 6. The most popular cold hardy fall blooming camellias is the 'Winter' series developed by Dr. Ackerman, and the most popular cold hardy spring blooming varieties are the 'April' series developed by Dr. Parks. *C. japonica* 'April Dawn' is pictured at the beginning of this article. Dr. Parks opened the Camellia Forest Nursery in Chapel Hill, which is a small, mostly mail-order nursery now owned and operated by his son, David. If you are a camellia lover, it is worth a visit. The nursery is open on weekends, and they have an extensive selection of camellias and other rare Asian plants.

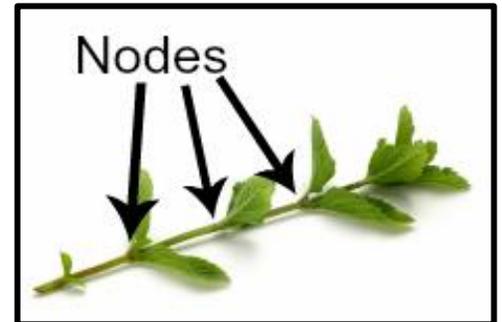
Camellias are somewhat susceptible to disease and pest damage, but planting them in an area that gets good air circulation and keeping the ground underneath free of debris will usually be enough to keep these plants healthy. *C. sasanqua* varieties will tolerate more sun than the spring blooming *C. japonica* varieties, but all camellias appreciate some shade from the afternoon sun.

Old, overgrown camellias can be rejuvenated by pruning them down to a four-foot framework of five or six stems in February or March. You will lose one year of blooms, but you will have a much more attractive, bushy plant. The American Camellia Society has a very good video on this rejuvenation pruning. Less drastic, general pruning should be performed after the shrubs have bloomed, either in the fall or the spring, depending on the species. Pruning just after bloom is a good rule of thumb for any flowering plant, since this allows you to cut back the plant before it sets new buds.



For many of us, camellias are just too large for our gardens, although regular pruning can keep these shrubs at about six feet. For those with small gardens who would love to grow camellias, there are a few dwarf, slow-growing camellias. Camellia Forest offers one called, *C. sasanqua* 'Dwarf Shishi' (pictured at left), which the catalog says will grow at a rate of about 3 inches a year, growing to about 3' by 3' in 10 years. It sports beautiful magenta semi-double flowers. Dwarf Shishi would make a great plant for a container on a patio or in a sheltered location, such as a townhouse garden. It would provide a

beautiful show of color in the late autumn. If you are looking for a dwarf shrub at a nursery, look at the space between the leaf nodes on the plant's stem. The space between the leaf nodes on a dwarf plant of any species will be shorter than that of the standard variety. This is a good way to judge whether a plant is actually a compact or dwarf variety. Dwarf plants will continue to grow, but at a slower rate.



Camellias are long-lived plants, generally living to about 100 years, and some of the original survivors of the 1976-78 harsh winters can still be seen at the National Arboretum, along with newer introductions. They are planted between the dogwood gardens and the Asian Garden.

Membership

Membership Renewals

By Carolyn Barone, Membership Chair

It's time for renewal for the upcoming 2023-2024 membership year. We are hoping all of you continue as members and even would like the "sustaining" members to become "active" again.

This year we are requesting that the renewal form be filled out online. This is an easily accessible form that is available at the following link: <https://forms.gle/m6sfKNdE7t44TppX9>. Simply copy and paste the link into your browser, fill it out, and click SUBMIT. The form will automatically be sent to our renewal listing. For those of you who prefer submitting a paper copy, use the already shared document sent a few days ago via email, and if you have already completed a paper copy, no need to complete the online form. If completing a paper copy, either mail the form to me or bring it with you to the March 2023 general meeting. And, don't forget to bring your cash or check made payable to Rock Spring Garden Club.

Next Board Meeting – April 6, 2023 at 10 am

Next General Meeting – April 20, 2023 at 10 am

Benefits of Membership - How RSGC Supports Your Membership with National Garden Clubs (NGC)

By Thea McGinnis

Rock Spring Garden Club offers a \$50 tuition reimbursement toward any NGC school course you attend. You must take the exam at the end of each course and pass, and the course administrator will send you your course documentation indicating you passed. Send that to our club treasurer with a reimbursement form and she will send you a check.



These four curriculums are available through your garden club membership: Garden Studies, Environmental Science, Landscape Design and Flower Show (Judge) School. Each curriculum has four courses to complete for certification. So, keep this in mind when you sign up for a course. For each course, this can be valued at \$200!

And more good news as many of the courses are now easily accessed as they are offered online. You can take your course here in Virginia or online in New Mexico! Not only does that save you time and money, you would still be eligible for RSGC tuition reimbursement. For more information on NGC's School offerings, see Anita Brown's more detailed article on NGC schools below or visit <https://gardenclub.org/our-schools>.

National Garden Club Schools

By Anita Brown

Flower Show School

This school consists of four courses that NGC recommends be taken in sequence and generally takes two or more years to complete. The school focuses on horticulture, design and flower show procedure. Tests are given following completion of each course for those wishing to become Accredited Judges. After completion of three courses, an active garden club member can become a Student Judge and then must complete a number of steps to become accredited. These steps are provided in Chapter 11 of the NGC Handbook.

A number of members, like myself, attended Flower Show School just to learn more about horticulture and flower design, and to find out what judges really look at when they evaluate our designs. Many of us had no interest in becoming a flower show judge when we started school, but as we learned and understood more about judging, we decided to try our hand at it and find we are still learning as new designs and new procedures are introduced by NGC. Course 2 of Flower Show School will be held April 13-16, 2023 in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Contact: FSS@ncgardenclubs.org.

Environmental, Gardening & Landscape Design Schools

These schools also include four sequenced courses, and each course consists of ten hours of instruction, which may include field trips/tours to relevant locations. A student becomes a Provisional Consultant after passing two courses and may join a Consultants Council for additional programs and tours to further the education of each member. A garden club member who completes all four courses receives a Consultant Certification Card, which does not convey professional status, but allows for judging contests and display as representative of the relevant school.

For those interested in attending a landscape design school in this area, Course 2 will be held May 22-23, 2023 at River Farm in Alexandria, Virginia. Additional information is at <https://gardenclub.org/school/landscape-design-school-courses>. These schools may also be offered online and further information on upcoming schools can be found on the NGC website at www.GardenClub.org.

Please consider the availability of these schools either in our area or online. I am sure you will enjoy the interaction with the instructors and the other garden club members who share your interests.

Garden Therapy

Little Rays of Sunshine

By Susan Scotti



The Glebe Elementary School program for the preschool class was on February 14, 2023. Mary Sliwa had prepared fun Valentine's Day themed activities for the children. As we were walking to the classroom, alongside us returning from recess were the students. They recognized and greeted us by exclaiming, "You're the Garden Ladies! Happy Valentine's Day!" Flashing a smile, one boy announced, "I'm going to be a garden man!"



When they were in the room and all nine had settled in their seats, Mary handed them a long strand of red metallic mini-hearts that stretched from one end of their semicircle to the other. Surprisingly, they held them quietly while Mary talked about how this day is celebrated. She asked about things they loved, and explained that Valentine's Day was more about the people in our lives that we love than things. And, some ways we express this love is with cards and flowers and candy. She read a book about unconditional love and that one is loved just because of who they are regardless of whether happy, sad, frightened or silly. Pat Getz read a book about a mouse making Valentines for his friends and saying what he liked about them.



Margi Melnick led them in singing "You Are My Sunshine" as she played her autoharp. Beforehand, she gave a demonstration of different ways to strum it. Kate Abrahams made it fun by leading the motions for the words as they stood up and sang. We sang it several times as they love music and joined in a little more each time.

Then it was time to make Valentine's Day cards. Using foam stickers allowed the children to make a creative design, as well as an exercise in dexterity in removing the backing. After the cards, they had fun arranging an assortment of red and white flowers in red Solo cups to take home.



It was a busy program but all had fun and it felt like a party. Mary even treated them to a party favor of a light-up wand to find in their bag along with the cards and flowers when at home. Looking forward to the next program on March 9, 2023.

Conservation/Civic Development

Spring Cleanup

By Jo Ella Samp



The Conservation/Civic Development Committee headed over to Rock Spring Park to do spring cleanup. Joining committee chair, Jo Ella Samp, were members Connie Richards, Mary Garnett, Imelda Rowe, Kate Abrahams, and Janis Gunel. The Rock Spring Park Beautification project has been ongoing since 1970, and the aim of the project as directed by the Conservation/Civic Development Committee, is to provide native plantings, do cleanup in fall and spring, maintain the pollinator garden beds, and remove invasive plants in coordination with Arlington County Parks.

Youth Activities

Succulent Terrariums

By Pat Getz



The Youth Activities Committee sponsored our second program, planting a succulent terrarium, at Tuckahoe Elementary on February 28, 2023. Five committee members were on hand to work with the second graders: Carolyn Barone, Lynda Martin, Nancy Linehan, Susan Scotti, and Pat Getz. We handed out a single page information sheet on succulents and terrariums, that included simple instructions on caring for the plants. The children had lots of questions and comments as we explained the project while they ate their lunches. Each child was then given a plastic dish to which they added pebbles for drainage and then potting soil. Next, each student was able to select one small cactus, and two other succulents to plant in the dish. After planting, the children were able to decorate and add a rock or two to their terrariums. The students were very enthusiastic about their creations, and the staff were very welcoming and supportive and assured us they are happy to have the junior gardener program back at their school!



Senior Outreach

Better Together

By Janice Haines



The Senior Outreach Committee met at Mary Marshall Assisted Living on the afternoon of February 13, 2023 for a Valentine's Day floral arrangement activity with its residents. Led by Janice Haines, eleven residents designed bouquets of red and pink spray roses, small daisies, eucalyptus and evergreens in glass jars from Bonne Maman preserves. The residents completed their design by placing a paper Valentine in the arrangement. Thanks to the committee member of Ann Duffy, Mary Garnett, Pat Getz, and Dianne Simmons for their assistance. Everyone had a good time!



Liaison

Haymarket Town & Country Garden Club is hosting a "Wizard of Oz" Tea on Friday, March 31, 2023 at 11:00am. For more information and tickets visit HTCgardenclub.com.

On March 25, 2023, the U.S. National Arboretum will host a Native Plants Symposium from 9:30 am to 3:45 pm. Visit usna.usda.gov to register. There will be a plant sale from 8:15 am to 2:00 pm that same day.

NCAGC will be offering Landscape Design School, Course 2, at River Farm in Alexandria, Virginia on May 22-23, 2023. Contact LDS@ncagardenclubs.org for information.

The Washington Daffodil Society Flower Show will be held on April 8-9, 2023 at the Alexandria Valley Scottish Rite Temple at 1430 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Join the Belvoir Garden Club for a bus trip to Blooming Hills Lavender Farm on May 18, 2023. Email josellers@cox.net.

The organization "Plant NOVA Natives" has a website page listing native plant only sellers. There is also information about many other topics related to native plants. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/cna2c9ac> to learn more.

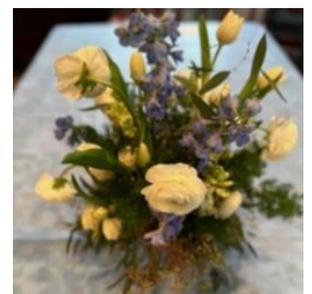
Find regional garden club news by visiting www.car-sgc.org/newsletters. There is also a link in order to subscribe to the online National Gardener magazine.

National Garden Club (NGC) Convention will be held May 2-4, 2023 at The Greenbrier Resort in West Virginia. Visit gardenclub.org for information and registration. The deadline to register is April 4, 2023.

Garden Club of Virginia is celebrating its 90th year of Historic Garden Week on April 15-22, 2023. This springtime tradition includes access to 150 private properties in communities across Virginia, many open for the first time to the public, organized into 29 unique tours. In addition, more than 1,000 spectacular floral arrangements created by the Garden Club of Virginia members will decorate showcased properties.

Mount Vernon's historic plant and garden sale is on April 29 & 30, 2023.

Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens offers floral design classes led by Ami Wilber. Club member Kate Abrahams recently took a virtual class and created this wonderful design.



Hellebores: Aristocrats of the Woodland Garden

By Ann Stevens Kelly



Hellebores, also called Lenten Roses because of their growing season winter into spring, are often considered aristocrats of the woodland garden and are a welcome mark of winter's end.

Today these perennials are offered in a lovely palette of colors for the home garden instead of the more limited choices of yesteryear. Deep maroons, dusky purples, varied pinks, rich reds, warm yellows, pale greens, brilliant whites or cream color the single, double or ruffled flowers. These nicely formed, often droopy cup-shaped flowers have evergreen leaves, which are attractive through the gardening months.

When hellebores are planted in well-drained, evenly moist shady sites, such as under oak and crepe myrtle trees, they will thrive and spread, especially in this area since they are resistant to deer and voles. Hellebores grow 15 to 24 inches and perform well in both partial shade and sunny locations if it's not too hot.

Helleborus x hybrids is a group of evergreen late winter or early spring flowering perennials in the buttercup family, commonly referred to as hellebores, Lenten Roses, or oriental hellebores, native to Europe and Asia. Caring for these hardy plants (zones 4-9) is fairly easy, although a loose cover of mulch is recommended in severe winters. All parts of hellebores are toxic, so like daffodils, they aren't bothered by animals. Since hellebores are easily hybridized, plantsmen in the United States have been propagating new varieties regularly.



If you haven't yet introduced these aristocrats into your own garden, consider doing so this spring. Check out the many varieties now on the market by visiting the BloomBox website which is offering 50 types of hellebores. Two longtime favorites are the *H. orientalis*, or Lenten Rose, blooming in early spring with large single flowers in white, pink, purple and green, and the older variety *H. niger*, known as Christmas Rose because of its winter blooming season, has large white pink-tinged flowers. The White Flower Farm website is a good source for tips on growing and caring for these lovely perennials.



Budget Report

Beginning Balance: \$

Revenues: \$

Expenses: \$

Ending Balance: \$



Villa Balbianello, Lake Como, Italy

By Sandy Wade

In 1975, a non-profit National Trust like the one in the UK was founded in Italy called the FAI, or Fondo Ambiente Italiano. When Count Guido Monzino died on October 11, 1988, he bequeathed his exquisite estate, Villa Balbianello, and a considerable dowry to maintain the villa to the FAI.

The villa was built initially by Cardinal Angelo Maria Durini at the end of the 18th century and dedicated as an exclusive literary retreat. Over the years it changed hands to new generations and owners until it was bought and restored in 1919 by an American general, Butler Ames. In 1974 Ames' heirs sold the property to the entrepreneur, explorer, and mountaineer Guido Monzino. The villa was furnished by Monzino with French antiques, a library housing important collections on alpinism and geography, and fine paintings on glass. The attic floor of the villa is dedicated to Monzino's mountaineering and polar expeditions, including one of the dog sleds Monzino used to reach the North Pole in 1971.



Villa Balbianello is perched at the tip of a promontory on the western shore of Lake Como in the town of Lenno. Its classical garden, interior furnishings, art collections, and books provide an intimate glimpse into Monzino's remarkable life. As recently as a dozen years ago visitors had to take a small boat from the shores of Lenno and circle the peninsula to climb the steps at the villa's waterfront dock. Today, one can still approach Villa Balbianello from the water, or start in the parking lot and walk the peninsula on paved paths to the entrance of the estate.

The garden surrounding the villa starts at the dock and winds upward on paths lined with candelabra shaped plane trees. At the top is a broad terrace hedged by laurel and boxwood. The most visually striking structure in the garden is the Loggia comprised of two villa rooms divided by a terrace with graceful arches covered in climbing ficus repens trees. Standing under the arches one can see amazing views to the north towards the town of Tremezzo and the heart of Lake Como, and to the south, the Isola Comacina.

The multilevel terraces on either side of the main villa feature classical sculpture and meticulously trimmed trees and shrubs typical of Italian garden design. The color palette is restrained, and a limited number of types of plant material contribute to the overall effect of simplicity and elegance. When touring the interior of the villa each window captures the "borrowed landscape" of a distinct view of gorgeous Lake Como and the surrounding mountains. Though the villa itself and the garden are modest in size compared to the ostentatious palaces on the Borromean islands of neighboring Lake Maggiore, Villa Balbianello qualifies as a slice of heaven on earth.

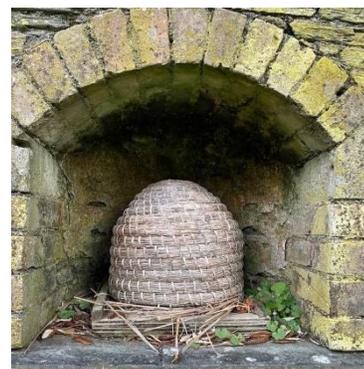


February Meeting Recap

The program for last month was a fun and entertaining telling of club members Anita Brown and Thea McGinnis' tour of the gardens in Cornwall and Devon, England. Booked through Sisley Garden Tours, the duo got to visit some magnificent gardens, meet fascinating English folk, eat lots of clotted cream and jam on scones, and jaunt through beautiful seaside and countryside locations (including a fun story of being lost and rescued by a "handsome" fellow in the seaside Cornish town of St. Ives).

The horticulture specimens for last month included some plants that we rarely get to see bloom so early in the season, such as daffodils. The evergreens continue to dominate the winter horticulture table, and the hellebores added nice color.

The design of the month was a Multi-Rhythmic Design, and the eight entries were great examples of this design type.



Those in Devon typically spread the clotted cream first followed by jam, and the Cornish tradition is to spread jam first followed by cream.

February Design of the Month: Multi-Rhythmic Design



Our February meeting featured delicious quiche made by three of our talented club members

QUICHE LORRAINE 6 to 10 servings

It seems odd that this very special pie, traditional in France, was so long in gaining popularity in America. A rich custard with cheese and bacon, it may be served either as an appetizer or as a main luncheon dish. Swiss cheese, which the Swiss know as Emmentaler, may be used in making this dish, but Gruyère has more flavor. Gruyère is available wherever fine cheeses are sold.

Pastry for one-crust nine-inch pie

4 strips bacon

1 onion, thinly sliced

1 cup Gruyère or Swiss cheese, cubed

¼ cup Parmesan cheese, grated

4 eggs, lightly beaten

(Use 2 c. half & half.)
2 cups cream or 1 cup each milk and cream

¼ teaspoon nutmeg

½ teaspoon salt

¼ teaspoon white pepper

1. Preheat oven to hot (450° F.).
2. Line a nine-inch pie plate with pastry and bake five minutes.
3. Cook the bacon until crisp and remove it from the skillet. Pour off all but one tablespoon of the fat remaining in the skillet. Cook the onion in the remaining fat until the onion is transparent.
4. Crumble the bacon and sprinkle the bacon, onion and cheeses over the inside of the partly baked pastry.
5. Combine the eggs, cream, nutmeg, salt and pepper and strain over the onion-cheese mixture.
6. Bake the pie fifteen minutes, reduce the oven temperature to moderate (350° F.) and bake until a knife inserted one inch from the pastry edge comes out clean, about ten minutes longer. Serve immediately as an hors d'oeuvre or main course. (15-20 min)

Janis Gunel ~ Quiche Lorraine

Broccoli Cheese Quiche

1½ c. broccoli florets - cut very small (½)

½ c. thinly cut green onion

1 c. sharp cheddar cheese - shredded

1 9" pie crust - Trader Joe's is good

3 large eggs - beaten well

1¼ c. half and half

1 Tbsp. flour

¾ tsp. salt

½ tsp. pepper

Mix eggs + milk
Add other ingredients
Pour into pie crust
Bake @ 350° for
45-50 minutes

Mary Sliwa ~ Broccoli Cheese Quiche

Spinach and Mushroom Quiche

9" deep dish pie crust

1 Package (10 oz.) chopped spinach, thawed

2 Tbs butter or olive oil

¼ cup chopped scallions

¼ pound sliced Bella mushrooms, sliced

½ pound grated cheese (part Swiss, part Monterey Jack)

4 eggs

1 cup heavy cream

1/8 tsp ground pepper

¼ tsp. ground nutmeg

1 tsp. salt

Thaw spinach and press out as much moisture as possible. Saute scallions and mushrooms in oil, set aside. Sprinkle half of cheese on bottom of pie. Add spinach evenly, then mushrooms and onions. Finish with remaining cheese. Beat eggs with cream and spices, mixing well. Pour over quiche in pie plate. Bake 40 minutes or more at 375 degrees until lightly browned on top.

Sandy Wade ~ Spinach and Mushroom Quiche

Photo Gallery

assorted daffodils, hellebores, and magnolias



~ Kate Abrahams

~ George Ruppert



~ Renee Bayes

~ Maryam Zolecki



**Outdoor sculptures and meadow around Glenstone Museum. Glenstone is a private contemporary art museum in Potomac, Maryland. The plantings and sculptures create a very harmonious setting with the modern architecture.
~ Kate Abrahams**

