FALL 2026

OLD DOMINION GARDENER



National Awards for Virginia

Convention 2027 Preview

Spotlight: “Persistence, Pollinators, and the Power of a Few”

VOL 58 Number 2


VIRGINIA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS
INC.

OLD DOMINION GARDENER

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

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ROOTED

The ROOTED newsletter is managed by Sally Harrison. If you or your club have news you wish to have posted contact Sally at:
RootedVFGC@gmail.com
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COVER PHOTO
Peaks of Otter, Bedford
Photo by Sue Spangler
Glen Burnie GC (S)

Fall Gallery

“Live in each season as it passes; breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influence of the earth.”
-Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*



Photo by Kay Eckhardt
Fall bloomer, 50 years old, Virginia Beach
Cactus Orchid, *Epiphyllum*
Lynnhaven Heritage (T)

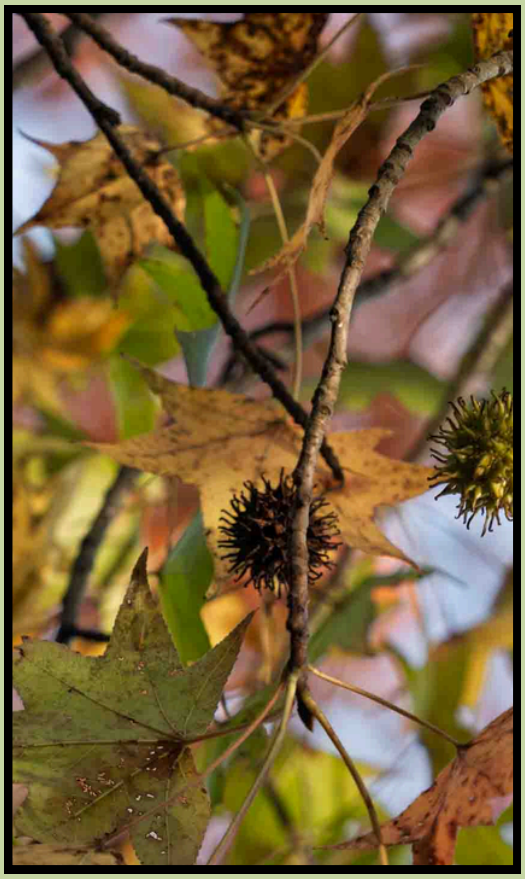


Photo by Debbi Newenstyn
Norfolk Botanical Garden
Lake Smith Terrace GC (T)

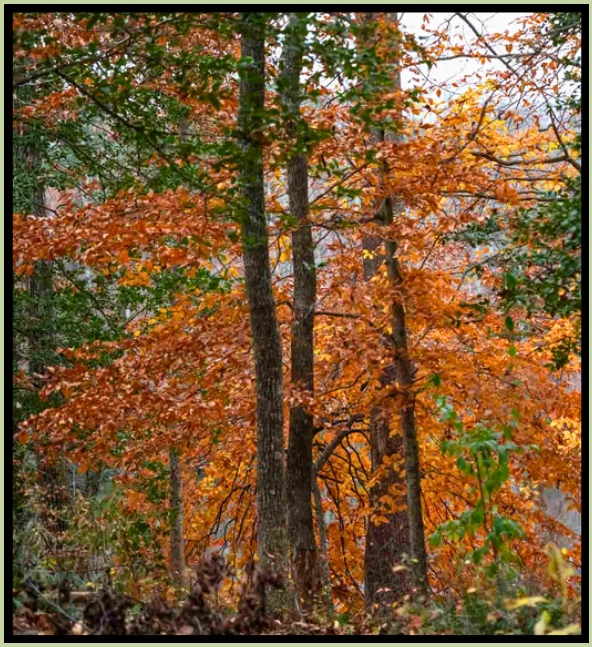


Photo by Debbi Newenstyn
Beaverdam Park, Gloucester
Lake Smith Terracee GC (T)

President's Message

Come Learn and Grow with Us



Dear VFGC Members,

I hope you have had a wonderful summer. It is hard for me to believe that it is August! Children are heading back to school soon. While many garden clubs don't meet in the summer, all garden clubs are making plans for the coming months!

This edition of the *Old Dominion Gardener (ODG)* is full of information. For example, the deadline for the "Keys to the Future" Youth Project Grants (see pp. 11-13) and for "Grants to Beautify and Restore" (see p14) is September 15. Think about the projects your club could do. The Colonial Heritage Garden Club (see pp. 6-7) took a compacted construction site to a wildlife sanctuary for birds, butterflies, insects and other wildlife as a multi -year, inspiring project.

We are all very proud of the clubs that won Awards at the District, State, Regional, and National levels. CONGRATULATIONS to our NGC national award winners listed on pages 8-9! Traveling around the state of Virginia, I know that *every* club is eligible to apply for at least one award. But no club can win an award without applying. Heidi Sage is our VFGC Awards Chairman who works with the District Awards Chairmen. See Heidi's article on page 10. So, please start working on your Awards Applications now! You can't win unless you apply by December 1, 2026!

Our statewide flower show is scheduled to be open to the public on Monday, August 24, 2026 from 12:30 to 4:00 pm at the Trinity Lutheran Church located at the intersection of I-64 and Parham Road in Richmond. Any VFGC member is eligible to enter. See the schedule for details.

I firmly believe that learning is fun! Although, I am a master flower show judge, I still enjoy going to Flower Show School, Landscape Design School, and Symposium to continue learning. I hope you will join me at one or all of these schools. Information about each is included in this issue of ODG.

Enjoy what is left of your summer! I look forward to seeing you this Fall.
Thank you for all that you do for your Club, your District, and for VFGC!

Sally

Sally Harrison
VFGC President, 2025-2027

Spotlight...

Persistence, Pollinators, and the Power of a Few

From Concrete Washout to Wildlife Meadow

Adele Lundquist, District Editor, with Florence Tull , Colonial Heritage Garden Club (T)

Thanks to the persistence of a few dedicated residents, a former concrete washout area at Colonial Heritage, a 55-plus community in Williamsburg, Virginia, has been transformed into a thriving wildlife meadow. What began as a barren, compacted construction site is now a sanctuary for pollinators, birds, butterflies, insects, and other wildlife.

In 2016, with this section of construction complete, the building company agreed to repurpose the 10,000 square feet of land to use as a wildflower meadow. The site, however, presented daunting obstacles. Years of heavy truck traffic had left the soil severely compacted, making it difficult even for grass to grow. The area had no irrigation, sat on a sunny slope, and offered little promise as a planting space. It was surrounded by a conservation area.

For many, it might have seemed impossible. But Florence “Flo” Tull, a Colonial Heritage resident and member of both the Landscape Committee and the Colonial Heritage Garden Club, saw potential. Along with three other Landscape Committee members, she set out to create a natural habitat that would support native plants and welcome pollinators and butterflies.

During those early years, Flo and her committee discovered that winning support for the meadow concept was not automatic. Still, they pressed on. They cleared and tilled the area, created planting zones, and researched which wildflower and grass seeds might germinate, survive, and eventually bloom in such difficult conditions. At the time, funding and technical support from the homeowner’s association were limited. Funding for the meadow project is a story of its own, but over time the Colonial Heritage Garden Club has contributed $2,800 to help sustain the effort.

By 2018, HOA funding for the meadow had ended, and the project needed a fresh approach. A new interest group, *Friends of the Meadow*, was formed and opened to the broader community while also becoming a stand-alone committee within the Colonial Heritage Garden Club. Today, *Friends of the Meadow* is guided by a seven-member committee and has grown from fewer than 20 original members, all of them garden club members, to 130 members drawn from across the community.

A horticulturalist from Ernst Seed recommended a full reset: take the meadow down to the ground, divide it into zones, and choose seed blends suited to the site. Allissa Bunner, a former biology major at Old Dominion University, also helped guide the effort. Together, Ernst Seed and Allissa advised the group on three custom seed blends containing a mix of Virginia native plants and grasses selected for the Tidewater region. The blends were chosen to tolerate drought, support pollinators, and resist deer browsing.

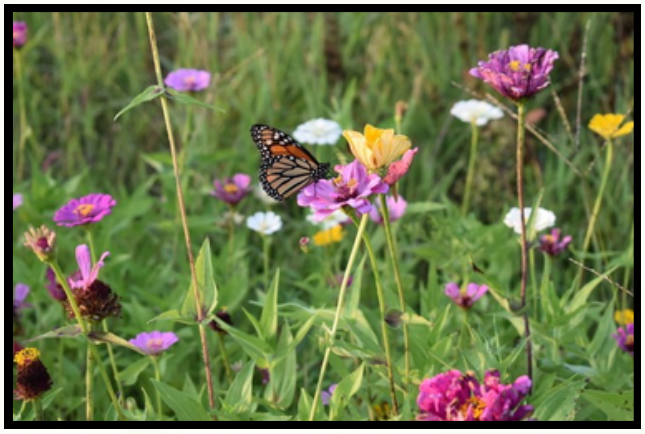
The work was intensely hands-on. Volunteers scattered millions of seeds by hand and then pressed them into the soil with a turf roller. Later, they rented augers and planted plugs of blazing star and bee balm, though getting the new plants to take hold and flourish remained a challenge. A full perimeter mulch path was added to improve accessibility. Volunteers also installed a rain barrel and filled and emptied it one gallon at a time to try and address irrigation needs. At different points, they enlisted help from the James City Fire Department and the community landscaper to provide water. In 2024, the group reached an important milestone when it was able to purchase and install a solar-powered irrigation system supplied by a 500-gallon above-ground tank.

By the spring of 2021, the meadow was already showing signs of success. Wildlife observations included box turtles, rabbits, and deer. Mason bee houses had occupied tubes, and more than 40 common milkweed plants had propagated on their own. Today, that number has grown to more than 200. The meadow is registered as a Monarch Waystation and is also listed as a natural habitat. *Friends of the Meadow* has hosted six open houses, including two held in conjunction with Colonial Heritage Garden Club home tours.

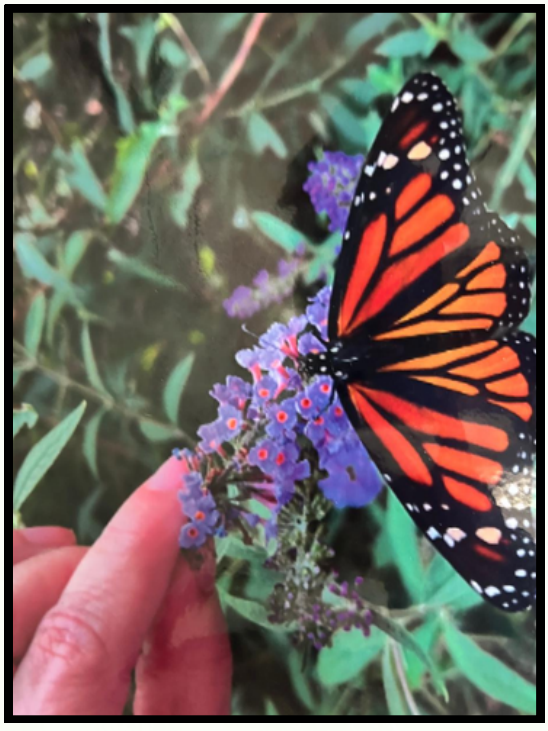
After nearly a decade of trial, error, and determination, Flo says the group has learned lessons worth sharing with other communities interested in creating similar habitats. She can often be found in the meadow with a string trimmer in hand, continuing the work that helped turn an overlooked construction scar into a living landscape



Drone Shot of the Meadow



Flourishing Meadow Today



Monarch Butterfly Release

2025 NGC Awards for Virginia Clubs & Districts

Heidi Sage, VFGC Awards Chair

Congratulations to the Virginia Garden Clubs and Districts who distinguished themselves by competing at the National Garden Club level. The National Garden Club does not offer Blue, Red, or Yellow ribbons, rather they award certificates:
Certificate of Merit – Overall Winner
Certificate of Commendation - Runners-up
Certificate of Appreciation –other award submissions received by NGC

Virginia earned more Awards of Merit than in previous years.
The clubs winning top awards are:

Buckingham/Dillwyn - South Central District

Madison - Shenandoah District

Seasons IV - Southwest District

Salisbury - Piedmont Didtrict

Following are the details by district. Congratulations to all!!

BLUE RIDGE DISTRICT

Westchester - *Certificate of Commendation* for their newsletter - MAE 4 B

PIEDMONT DISTRICT

Crestwood Farms - *Certificate of Appreciation* for Wildlife Survival, EC 3
Hanover – *Certificate of Appreciation* for Therapy Gardens G3
Salisbury –
Certificate of Merit plus $50 for their Website, MAE 2
Certificate of Commendation for National Garden Week MAE 5
Certificates of Appreciation for:
Community Gardens CE1
Landscaping Public Grounds CE 8
Wildlife Survival EC 3
Therapy Gardens G3
Horticulture Education for Youth YW 8
Rosecrest with **Violet Bank** – *Certificate of Commendation* for Community Gardens – CE 1
Sleepy Hollow – *Certificate of Appreciation* for Floral Design Program FD 2
The Piedmont District – *Certificate of Appreciation* for district newsletter MAE 4 C

SHENANDOAH DISTRICT

Calfee – *Certificate of Appreciation* for the website MAE 2
Green Hills – *Certificates of Appreciation* for:
Conservation Education EC 2
Environmental Education with Youth YW 9
Blue Star Marker Landscaping CE 7
Hawthorne – *Certificate of Appreciation* for Horticulture Education for Youth YW 8
Lake of the Woods – *Certificates of Appreciation* for:
Roadside Plantings CE 4
Conservation Education EC 2
Native Plants and Wildlife Venue EC 5
Madison - Certificate of Merit for their newsletter MAE 4 B
Shenandoah District - *Certificate of Appreciation f*or the District Newsletter MAE 4 C

SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Buckingham/Dillwyn:
Certificate of Merit plus $100 for Floral Design Program FD 2
Certificates of Appreciation:
Roadside Plantings CE 4
Beautification Project CE 5
Community Project with Native Plants CE 6
Blue Star Landscaping CE 7

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Seasons IV – Certificate of Merit plus $100 for Water EC 4
Certificates of Commendation:
Beautification Project CE 5
Horticulture Education for Youth YW 8

TIDEWATER DISTRICT

Colonial Heritage – *Certificates of Appreciation* for:
Newsletter MAE 4B
Community Project with Native Plants CE 6
Lake Smith Terrace – *Certificate of Appreciation - N*ewsletter MAE 4 G

Ready to Start 2026 Awards Season?

Heidi Sage, VFGC Awards Chair

Now is the perfect time to review your club activities, take photos, and consult your district, state, regional, and NGC award lists. Then look at the point score rubrics to guide you through writing up your three-page award application. Applications are due to your district awards chairman Dec. 1. Most districts have their own website, listing their awards. The state website is your best resource for finding awards and how to apply for them:
https://virginiagardenclubs.org/awards On that same page, each district is listed. Just click on the district and you will be connected to that district's list of awards. District Chairs are also listed.

To compete, you must first submit your award application to your district award chairman by December 1. If it is deemed worthy, earning a blue, it will go forward to state, and again, if judged worthy, on to SAR and to NGC assuming there are counterparts at each of those levels. Find the list of SAR awards on the South Atlantic Region website awards page:
https://southatlanticgardenclubs.org

This is the second year of Sally Harrison's administration and the final opportunity to apply for her four awards. These are the VFGC Special Achievement Awards (President's Awards) and each state president creates their own. In some cases the awards are continued from one administration to the next, like the NexTrex film recycling challenge.

VFGC SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (President's Awards)

SP – 1 YOUTH AWARD – READING IS FUN BUT SO IS GARDENING $20 may be awarded to a club (small club, medium club, large club)
Once a class or group of children has selected their favorite book, they should work with VFGC club members to design a garden to illustrate it.
a. The submission must include the name of the book, a diagram of the proposed garden and plant list. (For example, if the book chosen is "The Adventures of Peter Rabbit", the design would be for Mr. McGregor's Garden and list the vegetables to be planted.) Any group of children is eligible, not limited to public schools. Please submit by December 1, 2026.
b. The same as above but includes an actual garden according to the design and list of chosen plants. In addition, the submission should include pictures of the garden. This award may be for two years of the Administration, so not judged until December 1, 2026.
SP – 2 FLORAL DESIGNS FOR THE COMMUNITY $20 maybe awarded to a club (small club, medium club, large club) for an outstanding program bringing the beauty and hope of flowers to those who are facing challenges including hospice, assisted living, meals-on-wheels or other locations in the community. This would be for floral arrangements made FOR a community in need, not with them. Please submit by December 1, 2026.
SP – 3 NEXTREX FILM RECYCLING CHALLENGE - $50 will be offered each year to the overall winner, regardless of club size, who collects the most pounds of recyclable plastic film. Complete the VFGC cover sheet/application form and attach a page with the total weight you have collected for the calendar year ending December 1st. Pease submit by December 1, 2026.
SP – 4 FIRST FLOWER SHOW $20 may be awarded to a club (small, medium, large) who has their first flower show ever through December 1st. It may be any type of NGC flower show presented by a single club. The date the club was founded will be considered. Please submit by December 1, 2026.

Encouraging a Love of Nature in the Next Generation

LouAnn Dumminger, VFGC Chair - Youth, School Activities/Scouts/Enrichment Programs

There are as many ways to get dirt under young fingernails as there are NGC clubs!

- Both Girl Scouts of America and Scouting America (formerly Boy Scouts of America) offer badges with which you individually and as a club can assist. Do you have a knowledge of vermiculture or composting? Do you know how to prepare soil? Do you grow vegetables and flowers? You could be a counselor for the Scouting America Gardening Badge! Scouting America is for everyone. There are over 100,000 girls and young women in the program. Perhaps you have a Daisy, Brownie or Junior Girl Scout in your family, neighborhood or church. Do you enjoy experimenting with seeds? Designing gardens? Protecting the environment? You would be an excellent volunteer or your club could become a Program Partner for Girl Scouts from kindergarten through 5th grade. Don't forget about NGC Youth Contests: Smokey Bear/Woodsey Owl, Poetry and Essay contests. These are perfect for scouting groups.

- 4H has an almost limitless variety of projects that always need volunteers. Each 4H Youth Development Extension Agent shapes programs for interests in their locality. Volunteers may assist with garden to table projects, work on birdhouses, teach floral design and so much more!

Scouting and 4H have safety protocols which must be met before volunteers can begin. These are not burdensome, but you do want to check well in advance of any planned program for instructions.

Do your club members have children or grandchildren in daycare? Does your YMCA or church have afterschool care programs? Mini pumpkins can be grown in a pot and go well with the NGC book, *The Saved Seed*. They will actually reseed themselves if left alone!



You can find more ideas and resources on the NGC webpage at https://gardenclub.org under the Project tab/Youth and Scholarships. Additional projects for all groups and ages can be found in the Cub Scout Leader "How-To" Book. Look in your library for copies of Bill Nye the Science Guy books, especially, *Consider the Following*.

Does your club need financial help with Youth projects? See the next page for details about applying for a VFGC Youth Project Grant - applications are due September 15th.

GUIDELINES & APPLICATION
"KEYS TO THE FUTURE" Youth Project Grants

The "Keys to the Future" Youth Project Grants Program, with a simple application procedure, is sponsored by the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. for new or existing youth-centered programs. All VFGC clubs are encouraged to apply for a one-year grant up to $1,000 for the purpose of working with youth and helping them realize the rewards and life lessons from gardens and habitats for becoming good stewards of the earth. The scope of these programs may include benefits to the community, environmental awareness/education, plant-to-food connections, outdoor classroom projects, horticulture education, and the social aspects of gardening.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15 of each year
Must be submitted by a VFGC member garden club.

HOW TO APPLY:
Please fill out the Application form, include a budget and mail to:
Grace Morris Phone: 540-447-0042
VFGC Grants Committee
917 Glenwood Blvd.
Waynesboro, VA 22980-3409 or email: glyonm@aol.com

PURPOSE: The purpose of "Keys to the Future" Youth Project Grants is to provide financial support for clubs working with youth on a specific project.

PROGRAM CRITERIA:
In evaluating grant applications, priority will be given to programs that emphasize
one or more of these elements:
number of youth participating/reached
benefits to the community
environmental awareness/education
horticulture educational focus or curricular/program integration
plant-to-food connections.
social aspects of gardening i.e., leadership development, team building, community support, or service-learning
club member support and participation.

FUNDING GUIDELINES Grants will NOT be provided for:
projects in which the club does not participate in some aspect
salaries or benefits of school personnel
field trips outside Virginia
political action programs
Eagle Scout projects
capital drives and building funds
scholarships
endowments
lawsuits and litigation
overhead costs
consumables, one-time use items or giveaways, such as T-shirts, tote bags, food, admission fees, or tuition

Note: The same project is not eligible for both Youth Project Grants and Beautify & Restore Grants in the same VFGC fiscal year.

APPLICATION

"KEYS TO THE FUTURE" VFGC Youth Project Grant

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

Date: _____ VFGC District: _____

Name of VFGC Club:_____

Garden Club Contact Person submitting application

(Name, address, phone number, email):

*This Chair will email you that your application was received.

Please do NOT use hyperlinks. Many judges write notes on the printed applications as they score.

If information is important to your application, simply type information concisely.

New Project: Yes_____ No _____

Beginning date:_____Expected Completion date:_____

Amount Requested: $_____ Amount Club Provides: $____ Total Project Budget: $_____

Number of Youth Involved in Project____ Number Reached by Project _____

Briefly Describe Project, how funds will be used. Include the following if applicable:

1. Briefly describe project. Application including budget should be no longer than 3 single-sided pages. If handwritten, please legibly PRINT.
2. What is the youth population you are working with on this project?
3. Approximately how many Garden Club Members will be involved in this project and in what roles?
4. Brief statement of any in-kind or volunteer services; please list organization & their role.
5. Location of Project: Ex. If a garden or greenhouse is to be built/used, where is it located?
6. Does your project require special approval of authorizing groups (i.e., school board)?
7. Must include a detailed budget denoting separate line-item cost of each material/component used (i.e., potting soil, pots, plants, etc.).

NOTE: Grant funds can only be used for the stated project.

Unused grant funds must be returned to VFGC by May 15 with the Final Report. The same project is not.eligible for both Youth Project Grants and Beautify & Restore Grants in the same VFGC fiscal year.

Judging is based on the following Scale of Points:

-Scope of Project 35

-Club Member Involvement 35

-Criteria Met (read Guidelines) 10

-Detailed Budget Completed 15

-Application Form Completed 5

Attach Detailed Project Budget

Mail to: Grace Morris 917 Glenwood Blvd. Waynesboro, VA 22980-3409

Phone: 540-447-0042

OR Email to: glyonm@aol.com

Any questions, please contact Grace Morris.

Creating Beauty in Our Communities

Judy Ann Fray , Chair

Apply for a VFGC "Grant to Beautify and Restore"
Application Deadline: September 15

This is a unique program of financial assistance to garden clubs that may lack funding: the stumbling block that prevents action when it is needed the most.

We hope that your club has been researching an area of need, and that a Grant from VFGC might help to get the project underway. Restoration could be necessary due to storm or other damage to gardens / areas that once were lovely, but that have suffered plant loss for a variety of reasons.

Need some ideas for your club's project?

- This past year, VFGC Grants to Beautify / Restore were used to landscape a historic railroad depot that was moved to an area with generous space to create a town park, inviting organizations to use the building and the surrounding grounds for a variety of activities. The ***Boones Mill Garden Club*** held a dedication program / Arbor Day event that called attention to the area with much newspaper publicity!
- ***Rose and Garden Club*** used their Grant to beautify a community roadside that needed attention and beauty "Just Because" they wanted to improve their community, and hopefully slow the traffic at the community entrance. There was much assistance from other community organizations, including Boy Scouts.
- The ***South Boston Garden Club*** invested their time, funds, and the VFGC Grant to landscape the Historical Museum in their town. Creative use of large planters with small evergreen shrubs became a focal point for the entrance area in the middle of winter!

Information about these grants is available on the VFGC Website. Note there is a **NEW GUIDELINE: Applications are limited to 6 pages. Photos must be submitted separately as jpeg files and not embedded in the document.** Be sure to follow the *Guidelines for Clubs Making Application*. The deadline is September 15. Best of luck to all applicants!

Send application hardcopy *and* via email to:
Judy Ann Fray, Chairman, PO Box 263, Madison, VA 22727
email: ja.fray@verizon.net
phone:540-948-4220

Investing in the Future - VFGC Scholarships

Jill Quinley, Chair

The 2025-26 VFGC Scholarship Committee received several applications for evaluation and narrowed selections down to six outstanding candidates:

Trinity Roberts, sophomore, Radford University majoring in biology with emphasis on ecology was awarded the Betsy Edwards Scholarship $2,000.00 and a VFGC scholarsh**ip** $2,000.00. Also, Trinity's application was forwarded to SAR and NGC for consideration.

Richard Marshall, junior, Ferrum College majoring in Environmental Science was awarded a $2,000.00 VFGC Scholarship.

Tyler Kleinsasser, a graduate student in landscape design and attending the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, was awarded a $2000.00 VFGC Scholarship.

Douglas Essig, junior, majoring in environmental science at George Mason University was awarded a $2,000.00 VFGC Scholarship.

Nicholas Duellman, senior, graduated with honors from Longwood University and has been accepted to graduate school at VA Tech as a GTA. He will graduate with a Master of Science and was awarded a $2,000.00 VFGC Scholarship.

Molly Jones, sophomore, VA Tech, majoring in landscape design was awarded a $2,000.00 VFGC scholarship.

The scholarship committee has been contacting all colleges and universities in their district with VFGC scholarship information.

Remember word of mouth still works! Complete information for you to share can be found at our VFGC website using the Education link.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Martie Parch, Horticulture Chair

Healing in the Garden



Think about your garden as a refuge from the world. Using spaces for paths, benches, rocks, water, color, and native plants, you can turn your garden into a place of peace and serenity...a Wellness Garden.

A winding path will interest you and carry your eyes to a distant view. That encourages you to walk farther while experiencing the sights, sounds and colors of your garden. Place a bench to rest and listen. A water feature will bring birds, butterflies and bees in for a drink. It's fascinating to watch birds bathe and feed. Be sure to add feeding stations, and you'll have a natural habitat for wildlife!

If you want a seating area for family and friends to gather, choose fragrant flowers like lavender, peonies and jasmine to add a sense of calm to your environment. Pleasant breezes make ornamental grasses and perennials like wandflower (Gaura lindheimeri) sway gracefully. Colors such as blue, light pink, green create a peaceful atmosphere that reduces our stress and makes us slow our pace in this busy world. Reds and yellow are energetic colors that evoke positivity and happiness.

Studies show that gardening is very beneficial to our bodies as well as our minds. Digging, planting, weeding, pruning are all activities that have healing powers. Gardens can help control issues like sleep, weight, focus, and memory. There is a feeling of accomplishment achieved when tending a garden. Make yours a wellness retreat where you can relax, restore, and refresh!

Photo credit; Kathy Ward

Garden Spiders Appear in Autumn

"Bug Bytes" Series

Donna Cottingham, Salisbury GC (P)

With the arrival of fall you may see these large black and yellow spiders in webs in your garden. Known as orb weavers, the females spin large, intricately spoked webs, usually with a central zig zag pattern called a *stabilimentum*. Once the web is complete, they typically stay in one place and rarely relocate.

Not an insect but an *arachnid*, the garden spider, or Argiope aurantia, benefits your garden by capturing and eating mosquitoes, aphids, grasshoppers and flies, but will occasionally capture pollinators such as bees or butterflies. When an insect flies into the web, the garden spider wraps it in silk, injects it with venom, and consumes it a few hours later. Their venom, harmless to people, is used to immobilize their prey. **Gardeners should not kill these spiders, but relocate them if necessary.**

Males die after mating. The female lays eggs and then protects her egg sac as long as she can, but she typically only lives until the first frost. The eggs overwinter and the young hatch in spring.



A garden spider and its prey



Confession: I tossed it a tomato hornworm!

Photo credit; Donna Cottingham

Taking the Mystery Out of Flower Shows

Val Story, Flower Show Schedule Evaluation Chair

Why is Virginia not having as many Flower Shows...or maybe we are and the schedules are just not being submitted for review... or we're not applying for NGC Flower Show Achievement Awards? We have been noted for our Flower Shows in the past. Let's make the remainder of this year and 2027 boomer years for shows.

No need for the "mystery" in Flower Shows. Here's what to know about Divisions:

THE HORTICULTURE DIVISION

This is one of the two most important Divisions of a Flower Show.
The Horticulture Division gives us the opportunity to see plants at their best. Excellence in exhibiting standards, clean unblemished specimens, and variety of genus, species, and cultivars.
The Horticulture Division is an opportunity for club members
(maybe amateur growers) to showcase their work and connect with other members
to share knowledge and expertise in gardening skills.

THE DESIGN DIVISION

This Division is also an important division in shows where creativity is showcased and those who love to design and arrange flowers can express their style. The show's theme, along with class titles, inspire exhibitors to interpret the classes in a creative way.
The show schedule states the type of staging which will be used:
tables, pedestals, frames, floor areas, and many other possibilities based on the skills and experience of club members. Designs may be traditional or creative or reflect a certain style.

That is all you need...but be sure to add one or two of the following:

EDUCATION DIVISION

One of the best ways to educate the public is with an informative Educational Display. The topics can be of local or national concerns or may address environmental issues.

YOUTH AND SPONSORED GROUPS DIVISION

A great way to teach children about the joys of growing and showing plants is to include them in a Flower Show. This Division was created for garden club Youth Groups and Adult Groups that are given leadership, programs, workshops, or financial assistance by local garden clubs.

BOTANICAL ARTS DIVISON

Public interests extend beyond the Horticulture and Design areas of the show.
This Division may include popular exhibits such as crafts, collages, plaques, fairy gardens, dried flowers, wearable art, and photography. This brings together more members
who can show off their talents to bring interest to the show.

Please contact Val Story to review schedules and to assist with any questions/concerns regarding flower shows.

valstory@aol.com

Event Calendar

August 24.....VFGC NGC Standard Flower Show, Richmond

August 24-27.....Flower Show School III, LGBG*

September 14.....VFGC Board Meeting, LGBG*

September 15.....VFGC Grants Application Deadline

September 28-29.....Landscape Design School, Series 30-3, LGBG*

September 30 - October 1.....VFGC Workshops at State Fair

October 8-11.....Fine Arts and Flowers, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

October 8.....Shenandoah District Fall Meeting

October 15.....South Central District Fall Meeting

October 15.....NGC Plant America Grant Deadline

October 18.....Southwest District Fall Meeting

October 19.....Piedmont District Fall Meeting

October 28.....Blue Ridge District Fall Meeting

October 29.....Tidewater District Fall Meeting

November 2-3.....VFGC Symposium, Roanoke

December 1.....Award Applications Due to District Chairs

***Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond**



It's State Fair Time!
If you would like to have fun and introduce "kids of all ages" to horticulture and floral design, come on out and help with the VFGC hands-on activities at the State Fair.
September 30th 3-7 pm
October 1st from 10 am – 3 pm
To volunteer, click the link to email VFGC Coordinator
jgdurant@verizon.net

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- A lovely any-occasion boxed gift for family, friends, and club members
- Manufactured entirely in the USA
- Ornament sale proceeds will be used to support VFGC scholarhips, grants, and schools.



Dimensions: L to R, 2,65"; Top to Bottom, 3.05"
Depth approximately .5"

ORDER YOURS TODAY

Name _____ **email:** _____

Garden Club _____ **District** _____

Number of Ornaments Ordered _____ **@$25 each** **Total _$**_____

Make personal check payable to VFGC, indicating "ornaments" in the memo line.
Send order form and check to VFGC Treasurer:
Linda Nau
1810 Ethelred Court
Midlothian, VA 23113

Orders will be delivered to Districts at the September VFGC Board Meeting – and subsequently distributed at Fall District Meetings or by other arrangement with your District president.
Questions, contact Linda at naule@aol.com or 804-514-0095.

Phone contact:_____

Fine Arts and Flowers 2026
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
October 8-11, 2026

Janet Minock, VFGC Liaison for Fine Arts & Flowers

VMFA's Fine Arts and Flowers will burst into bloom October 8 - 11, 2026.
37 designers from the Virginia Federation will help transform the
museum galleries into living works of art.
Floral designers will interpret iconic masterworks creating bold and imaginative
displays that will surprise and delight at every turn.

The excitement extends beyond the free exhibition with a dynamic lineup of events,
including hands-on workshops, engaging lectures, an elegant gala, and a luncheon.
A chic fashion show will add style and celebration.
Fine Arts and Flowers 2026 will be a must-see event.
See the VMFA website for event tickets.

https://www.vmfa.museum



VFGC Symposium November 2-3 Roanoke

Valerie Story, VFGC Symposium Chair

Judges, student judges. and those who are just interested in learning more about horticulture and floral design, register for Symposium! We will have tremendous instructors for our VFGC Symposium, November 2-3, 2026 at the Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs.

The registration form can be found on the following page - or download the full brochure on the website: https://virginiagardenclubs.org

Lynn Fronk– Design Instructor

Lynn is an NGC Master Flower Show Judge, Flower Show Schools Design and Flower Show Procedure Instructor. She has judged major flower shows such as the Philadelphia Flower Show, Newport Flower Show, and the Rhode Island State Flower Show. She is a member of the FSS Committee, serving as Symposium Design Chairman for 2025-27 for NGC.
Lynn will be teaching Assemblage and Low-Profile designs as well as the Allied topic: Design Techniques.

Jan Griffin– Horticulture Instructor

Jan relocated from Seattle to Florida and began a quest to learn about interesting and varied plants. She is active in the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and teaches both floral design and horticulture for Flower Show Schools and Symposia.
Jan will be teaching Botanical Arts Horticulture and the Allied topic: Flower Show Evaluation.

Hotels near the Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs

Hilton Garden Inn, Roanoke
4500 S. Peak Blvd, Roanoke 24018
540-776-3400

Holiday Inn Roanoke-Tanglewood
4468 Starkey Road, Roanoke 24018
540-774-4400

Sleep Inn Tanglewood
4045 Electric Rd., Roanoke 24018
540-301-1049

VFGC SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FORM
November 2-3, 2026
Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs
3640 Colonial Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24018

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip_____

Cell Phone #_____ **Email**_____

Club_____ **District**_____

Medical Dietary Restrictions _____

Status: Student ( ) Accredited ( ) Life ( ) Master ( )
Circle one: Testing Auditing Neither
Date of Last Certification/Audit _____

FEES
Full course price includes Monday and Tuesday Lectures and Lunches.

( ) Full Course $185 _____
Single Event Options:
( ) Horticulture & Lunch (Mon.) $ 95 _____
( ) Design & Lunch (Tues.) $ 95 _____
( ) Manual emailed free of charge OR
( ) Printed Manual $ 10 _____
MUST BE PREORDERED-Available at Registration
If postmarked after October 26, 2026, add $30 late fee _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____ _____

Make check payable to:
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Write Symposium in memo line and mail to:

Dianna Busch, Registrar
14453 Rillhurst Drive
Culpeper VA 22701
540-353-9044
diannabusch@comcast.net

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 26, 2026 No refunds after this date.

Convention Preview

93rd Annual Convention
April 26-27, 2027

Co-Chairs: Janet Minock and Gail Goodrich Harwood



As we wrap up Sally Harrison's term, we thought we would make the most of her "learn and grow" theme. Based on participant feedback, we will streamline meetings, keep valued traditions like honor arrangements, awards, and honoring the memory of friends we've lost – and add a new element: an "Inspiration Fair" full of ideas. We'll also balance horticulture and design interests. We believe that every person who comes to convention should go back home feeling inspired and energized. That is our goal for ***Seeds of Inspiration***. We look forward to welcoming you!

DAY ONE

Morning (open at 9:00 am)
"Inspiration Fair"- ideas, Information, Creation, and take-aways

Shopping: Vendors & Silent Auction

District Displays including floral honor arrangements

11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Convention Meeting & Luncheon

Afternoon
Opt for an excursion or a presentation/demo at the hotel

Evening
Social Hour and Shopping
Dinner and Evening Program with Sir Peter Crane, Oak Spring Garden Foundation

DAY TWO

Breakfast and "Cross-pollination"
Silent Auction and Centerpiece sales

Design Program with T.J. McGrath

Wrap up by NOON

Session Details and Registration form will be in the *ODG* and *Rooted* and on the website by early February.

Flower Show School
Course III

A National Garden Clubs, Inc. School
August 24-27, 2026

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Kelly Education Center, Richmond

Flower Show Procedure will cover an introduction to the Handbook, flower show composition, definition, purposes, and basic requirements of all standard flower shows, types of flower shows, standard system of judging, explanation of non-Top Exhibitor Awards, and an overview of the Flower Show Schedule.

Horticulture will cover plant nomenclature, entry tags, general requirements for NGC Horticulture Top Exhibitor Awards, explanation of judging qualities found on the horticulture point scoring form, horticulture commenting vocabulary, judging procedures, & discussion of two types of horticulture & practice point scoring of them.

Design will include a brief history of floral design, emphasis on the elements & principles of design, general requirements for NGC Design Top Exhibitor Awards, explanation of judging qualities found on the Design Point Scoring form, design commenting vocabulary, judging procedure, and practice point scoring of two types of traditional designs.

Design: Judy Binns
Judy will teach Creative Designs.
Horticulture: Sue Kirkman
Sue will teach combination plantings, aucuba and Flower Show Procedure., .

Attendance at all Sessions is Required for Credit

SCHEDULE

Monday, Aug 24	3:45 pm– 6 pm - Flower Show Procedure
Tuesday, Aug 25	8:00 am – 9:00 am - FSP Exam
	9:15 am – 3:30 pm - Horticulture/Lunch
	3:45 – 5:45 pm - Point Scoring Test
Wed, Aug 26	8:00 – 9:00 am - Horticulture Exam
	9:15 am – 3:30 pm - Design/Lunch
	3:45 – 5:45 pm - Point Scoring Test
Thursday, Aug 27	9:00 – 10:00 am - Design Examination

Required Books: Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition, NGC Exhibiting & Judging, both available on the NGC Website for purchase or download.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact Flower Show School Chairman – Frances Thrash
2109 Cocoa Circle, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-2213
francesthrash@cox.net
757-481-3484 or 757-478-5791

Flower Show School Instructors - Course III - August 24-27

Judy Binns - Design

Judy is a member and former president of the Salisbury GC, NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge, former President of Piedmont District and President of Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs from 2011-2013. She was awarded the National Garden Clubs Member of Honor Award for the South Atlantic Region for All-Around Excellence in 2006 and has served on the National Garden Clubs Board of Directors since 2007. She has exhibited designs in “Fine Arts and Flowers” at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and served as “Fine Arts and Flowers” Co-Chairman in 2007 and 2010. Judy is an NGC Flower Show School Design Instructor and has given floral design programs and workshops in Virginia as well as North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and West Virginia. She is a member of the Piedmont District Judges Council, Virginia Flower Show Judges Council, Creative Floral Arrangers of the Americas, and National Flower Arrangers.

Judy is a native Virginian from the Shenandoah Valley. She enjoys spending time in her garden and specializes in floral designs for weddings and other occasions.

Sue Kirkman
Horticulture & Flower Show Procedure

Sue Kirkman is a member of the Garden Club of Frankfort. She is the Horticulture Symposium Chair for NGC, an NGC Flower Show Judge, NGC Flower Show School Instructor teaching Horticulture, Flower Show Procedure and Symposium. Sue is a retired college instructor and gerontologist. She and her husband live in a Civil War farm house in Frankfort, KY.

Hotel Information: on your own.

REGISTRATION - FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL
COURSE I Aug 24-27, 2026
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Kelly Education Center

Name_____

Address_____

City_____**State**_____**Zip**_____

Email _____

Home Phone_____ **Cell Phone**_____

Club _____**District**_____

Credit_____ **Non-Credit**_____

Full Course with/without exam	
(Includes tuition, two lunches, and reserved seating on Front rows.)	**$150**_____
Flower Show Procedure (Mon.)	**$40**_____
Horticulture & Lunch (Tues.)	**$75**_____
Design & Lunch (Wed.)	**$75**_____
Manual will be e-mailed (free of charge)	
Printed Manual available at Registration if preordered.	**$10**_____
	TOTAL _____

Dietary Restrictions_____

****No refunds after July 23, 2026****

Make check payable to Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
with Flower Show Schools in the memo line and mail to:
Val Story
Flower Show School Registrar
2122 Whithorn Hill
Jeffersonton, VA 22724-1873
540-272-0975
valstory@aol.com

Landscape Design School
Course 3, Series 30

A National Garden Clubs, Inc. School
September 28-29, 2026

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden - Kelly Education Center Classroom
1800 Lakeside Drive Richmond, VA 23228-4700 Phone (804) 693-9393

This course is available to all those having an interest in the beauty and care of our environment through landscaping.

SCHEDULE

Monday, Sept 28	8:00 - 8:20	Registration; 8:20 - Welcome
	8:30 - 9:30	Herbaceous Material in the Landscape- *Laurie Fox*
	9:40 - 10:40	Woody Plants in the Landscape- *David Pippin*
	10:50-11:50	Role of Natives in the Landscape- *Laurie Fox*
	11:50 - 1:10	LUNCH (the Cafe is Convenient)
	1:20 - 2:20	Landscape Design with Maintenance in Mind- *Peggy Singlemann*
	2:30 - 3:30	Graphics Interpretation - *Shawn Balon*
	6:30	Group Dinner, place TBA; pay on your own
Tuesday, Sept 29	8:30 - 9:30	Landscape Design Process 2- *Neal Beasley*
	9:40 - 10:40	Landscape Design Process 2, cont'd - *Neal Beasley*
	10:50 - 11:50	Creating Your Own Home Garden Landscaping Plan (continuing after lunch) - *Neal Beasley*
	11:50 - 1:00	LUNCH (Cafe is Convenient)
	1:00 - 2:00	Creating Your Own Home Garden Landscaping Plan
	2:10- 3:10	Plan Continued - *Neal Beasley*
	3:15	REVIEW (consultants not taking the exam may leave)
	3:30	EXAM

Hotels are unable to offer a group rate this time.
Suggestion is to call to make your reservation - they offer discounts if you are a AAA member, as well as other promotional discounts.

COURSE REGISTRATION - LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL
COURSE 3, Series 30, Sept 28-29, 2026
Registration Deadline September 1, 2026

Name_____

Address_____

City_____**State**_____**Zip**_____

Email _____

Home Phone_____ **Cell Phone**_____

Club _____**District**_____

Check if Refreshing _____ Are you a Master Gardener? yes / no
Is your garden club a member of VFGC? ___Yes ___No

PLEASE CHECK CORRECT BOX

[ ] EXAM STUDENT	**$100.00**
[ ] NON-EXAM STUDENT	**100.00**

[ ] SINGLE DAY STUDENT – Monday __ or Tuesday ___ 50.00

TOTAL ENCLOSED $_____

Refunds can be given only for medical emergencies.
LDS will refund all but $20 if cancellation (other than medical) is within five days of the first class.

Make check payable: VFGC Landscape Design School

Mail to: LDS Registrar
Claudia Cosby Phone: 804 794-7798
3015 Mount Hill Drive
Midlothian, VA 23113-3923 E-mail: cosbych1205@gmail.com

LDS Chairman, Glenda Knowles
Email: ggknowles6@gmail.com Phone: 757 651-0401

INSTRUCTORS

Shawn Balon

Shawn is a landscape architect and Studio Director at Timmons Group in Richmond. He holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from Clemson University and a Master of Science in Urban Design from the U. of Texas at Austin.

Neal Beasley, ASLA, ISA Certified Arborist

Neal is a Landscape Architect and Certified Arborist with over 25 years of experience in the fields of Horticulture, Arboriculture, Irrigation, Landscape Construction and Public Gardening. Neal studied horticulture at N. C. State University and was formerly the Manager of Horticulture at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. As an Arborist, he assesses trees during the site analysis to best determine protection strategies or removal. Neal is also on the team of the Timmons Group in Richmond. Neal is the co-author of “Recycling Urban Stormwater: 1050K Street, NW Washington, DC” 2007.

Laurie Fox, Ph.D.

Laurie Fox is a faculty member in the Horticulture department at Virginia Tech and is based at the Hampton Roads Agricultural Research & Extension Center in Virginia Beach, VA where she has extension and research responsibilities. She received her BS & MS degrees in Horticulture from North Carolina State University, with an emphasis on landscape design, ornamental plant production, and weed science, and her Ph.D. from Wageningen University, The Netherlands. Laurie is an author and the publisher of “Best Plants for Hampton Roads - A Landscape and Garden Companion”.

David Pippin

David graduated from Virginia Tech in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education. Prior to founding David Pippin, Inc. in 2000, he became known for his knowledge and creative talents in a variety of horticultural and education venues in the Richmond area. In addition to running David Pippin, Inc., he is an adjunct professor in the Hort. Dept, at Reynolds Community College, as well as a facilitator and consultant for Virginia Agriculture in the classroom. He is a sought-after designer of inspired floral arrangements, a provider of garden-themed hands-on programs as well as an educator with a wide range of horticultural knowledge and experience.

Peggy Singlemann

Peggy Singlemann is nationally known as one of the foremost gardening experts. Her experience in the field is exceeded only by her infectious enthusiasm in sharing knowledge of best practices. She is a familiar figure as the longtime host and co-producer of Virginia’s only TV show, Virginia Home Grown, on Virginia Public Media/PBS. Peggy is also prominent in this field for her transformative role renewing and overseeing the garden and grounds of the historic estate Maymont in Richmond. She holds professional certifications as an arborist, horticulturist, and landscape designer and has greatly expanded knowledge in the gardening/landscape design fields through her national and regional speaking engagements, contributions to publications, and consulting work via her business, RVA Gardener LLC. In 2022, the Virginia General Assembly presented a commendation to Peggy for her outstanding guidance, restoration, and preservation of Maymont’s gardens, grounds, and arboretum over 38 years of service.


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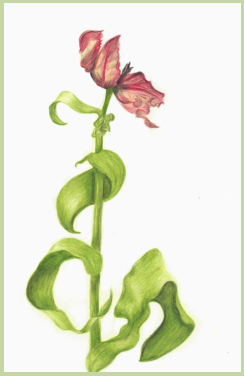

IN MEMORIAM

We honor those we have lost but have not forgotten.They live on in our hearts, and memories of them are blessings.

Blue Ridge District

Juanita King .....Westchester GC

Piedmont District

Thelma Pettis.....Begonia GC
Linda Taylor.....Chester GC
Betty Hall.....Ginter Park GC
Barbara Strongin.....Nathaniel Cawsey GC

Shenandoah District

Susan McDowell.....Green Hills GC
Eleanor Campbell.....Greenvale GC
Jane Mangum.....Hill & Valley GC
Edith Newsom.....Madison GC
Maribe Chandler-Gardiner.....Middleburg GC
Geri Turner.....Middleburg GC

South Central District

Betty Yates.....Banister River GC
Kathy Trzcinsky.....Red Hill GC
Thelma Crews.....Rose 7 Garden GC
Brenda Hawkins.....Ruth Adams GC
Betty Sumner.....Ruth Adams GC

Southwest District

Frances Sturdavant.....Town & Country of Wise GC

Tidewater District

Lillian Clopton.....Colonial Heritage GC
Janet Bradley.....Little Neck GC
Sylvia Brewington.....May Farm GC of Kingston

"IN MEMORIAM" honors the memory of current garden club members.
Please send notification to Claudia Cosby; cosbych1205@gmail.com

Cross-Pollination







Leafy Links
VFGC Virtual Garden Club
September Meeting Announced

Debbi Newenstyn, Co-Coordinator
Leafy Links Virtual Garden Club

Do you not have a garden club near you but want to participate in garden and flower arranging talks? We have something for you!

The Leafy Links Virtual Garden Club was started last year by Val Story, originally for those who did not live near a garden club and/or were housebound. It has morphed into a small group of members who enjoy presentations on flower arranging, environment, and gardening of all types. There is no business meeting, just programs by various speakers all over the country. All from the comfort of your own home!

If this sounds like something you are interested in, join us at our September 1 meeting via Zoom at 7pm. Pajama attire welcomed!

Our speaker in September is *Meg French* who will present “Supporting Nature in the Residential Landscape." Meg is a certified landscape designer, Virginia Horticulturist, and owner of Meg French Landscape Design. She graduated from Auburn University with a B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design and moved to Virginia Beach in 1986.



If you would like to join us in September, contact:
Co-Coordinator, Debbi Newenstyn, at shutterbugdebbi@gmail.com with your email address. We will send the zoom link closer to the date.
Annual dues for *Leafy Links GC* are only $10!

Winchester Council to Host Annual Joint Meeting on September 17

Carolyn Frye, Glen Burnie GC (S)

Winchester Council's Annual Meeting hosting four area clubs will be held on September 17 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Winchester.

These meetings are a great opportunity for our club members to see each other, enjoy a great time together, and see great speakers present on subjects that are important to all of us. Coming off a very successful Small Standard Flower Show, *Plants and Planets* last May, the September meeting will be a reunion of sorts where our clubs can talk about the show and share our thoughts.

This year's **speaker will be Rachel Pritchett** from *81 Landscape & Lawn Care in Inwood, WV.* She will tell us about the latest in the incorporation of native plants in the home landscape to support pollinators, to discourage pests, to add color and diversity to our gardens.

We will also have opportunity tickets to raise money for our next flower show, and each club will have a sales table of new and gently used garden-related items. Everyone looks forward to this time of sharing our love of gardening and our beautiful natural world!



Winchester Council Annual Meeting 2025

Southwest District Clubs Making a Difference in their Communities

Submitted by Theresa Chapman, District Editor (SW))

Galax Garden Club — *A Busy Summer*

Kathy Wood, Galax Garden Club



The Galax Garden Club had a full summer of community involvement. In May, members participated in "Kids to Parks Adventure Day" at Dannelly Park, an entry point to the New River Trail. Children chose seeds to plant and learned how to care for them — inspiring future gardeners.

In June, the club celebrated National Garden Week with an educational visit to Beagle Ridge Lavender Farm. July brought a civic beautification project: members pressure-washed, repaired, and repainted the city park gazebo just in time to decorate it for July 4th and the nation's 250th birthday.



Chilhowie Garden Club — *Community Roots*

Susan Johnston, Chilhowie Garden Club

The Chilhowie Garden Club continues to be a cornerstone of their community. This spring, their fourth annual plant class ran March through May, with participants starting over 50 plants and making garden signs, kokedamas, and bee houses.



Their butterfly garden at Town Hall and raised bed park garden (*pictured*) are thriving, and their Community Garden — producing vegetables and herbs all season — donates its harvest to the local Food Pantry. This fall, the club will design and offer bouquets for the Chilhowie Apple Festival Beauty Pageant contestants and host a craft fair during the Christmas Extravaganza. The town of Chilhowie provides dedicated club space and ongoing financial support — a true partnership.





Seasons IV Garden Club — *Gardening with Children*

Wendy Brady, Seasons IV Garden Club

Seven members of the Seasons IV Garden Club in Tazewell held weekly gardening sessions April through June with children at two Tazewell County branch libraries.

At the Tazewell branch, thirteen children planted red, white, and blue flowers — petunias, impatiens, daisies, coneflowers, and hollyhocks — using the book *Every Little Seed* as their guide, and helped plant library planters during National Garden Week.

At the Bluefield branch, nineteen children planted a full vegetable garden and a pollinator garden. The club hopes these young gardeners grow into future members!





Wise County Christian School Jr. Garden Club — *Youth in Action*

Sandy Yun, Town & Country Garden Club, Wise

The Wise County Christian School Junior Garden Club has had an impressive year.

- Students learned about recycling and repurposing by creating vases from bottles to give flower gifts to their mothers.
- They studied the Virginia Big-Eared Bat — native to our area — and created artwork celebrating it.
- Students were introduced to the workings of the NexTrex recycling project that helps alleviate plastics going into landfills. Collection bins were placed in the school to help. The Town and Country GC earned a bench made from recycled plastics which was placed at the public library, making a lasting community contribution.
- The club also planted marigolds from seeds saved from last year's plants, made fairy gardens from succulents, and honored veterans by placing a memorial wreath at the Blue Star Memorial Garden. Thirteen-year-old Abram painted an eagle for the club's Blue Star Memorial Byway tribute in honor of America's 250th anniversary. The memorial wreath was made by Sandy Yun.

Ruth Adams Garden Club's Umique Way of Celebrating National Garden Week

LouAnn Dumminger, Ruth Adams GC, Farmville (SC)



Ruth Adams Garden Club, with help from Jay Wilkerson - Farmville Town Horticulturist, dedicated a *Little Free Library* to celebrate 2026 National Garden Week. The library box is located next to the Farmville Herb Garden and Farmville Farmers' Market. Club members and friends donated horticulture, design, and ecology books for adults and children. The bright red box was built by a member's son and is being monitored by Master Naturalist, Jeff Smith.




Hill and Valley Garden Club
Presents
" 70 Years of Flower Power "
An NGC Standard Flower Show
at
Rebecca J. Graves Center
for the Performing Arts
PAL - Performing Arts of Luray
One East Main Street
Luray, Virginia 22835
Saturday, October 3, 2026
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Free and Open to the Public
ADA Services Listed on Website
performingartsluray.org
Member of: National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs
Shenandoah District VFGC

A Halloween Spooktacular

An NGC Standard Flower Show



Presented by Tidewater District, VFGC

Hampton Roads Agricultural Research & Extension Center
1444 Diamond Springs Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
757-363-3900

October 10, 2026
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Affiliated With:
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
South Atlantic Region
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs

Open to the Public **Free Admission**

OLD DOMINION GARDENER

ODG Editor
Gail Goodrich Harwood
gailev@aol.com

ODG Proofreader
Adele Lundquist, et al.

ODG Deadlines

Winter	**November 1**
Spring	**February 1**
Summer	**May 1**
Fall	**August 1**

"IN MEMORIAM" honors the memory of current garden club members. Please send notification to Claudia Cosby; cosbych1205@gmail.com

Submit ODG articles in MS Word format with separate image files (300 dpi jpeg) to our District Editors:

Blue Ridge · Shirley Edillon
540-989-3137
shirle4858@gmail.com

Piedmont · Gail Goodrich Harwood
804-317-8091
Footprints@piedmontdistrictvfgc.org
Subject line "For ODG"

Shenandoah · Val Story
540-272-0975
valstory@aol.com

South Central · Valerie Virkler
434-432-8757
val@rgbartlett.com

Southwest · Theresa Chapman
937-751-7246
theresa.chapman@protonmail.com

Tidewater · Adele Lundquist
757-717-1953
lundquac@cox.net



Calling All Photographers!

Thanks to all members who have submitted their beautiful photographs, not only for this issue, but for future issues. This is a terrific way to "travel" around the Commonwealth.

To submit your photographs:

- Select seasonal photographs to complement the ODG seasonal publication schedule. Select either long shots or close-up photos.
- Send 300 dpi jpegs – if submitting a phone photo, and your email gives you a size choice, select "Actual" or "Large" size.
- Photographs for the cover must be 'portrait' orientation – inside gallery photos may be either portrait or landscape orientation.
- If your photograph is not of your own garden or plant(s), please gain permission to print in the ODG.
- Send to your district editor by the deadline– include your name and club name; add a caption & location of the photograph.
- Submission is considered permission to print.

To access current and past issues of Old Dominion Gardener, go to the website https://virginagardenclubs.org/Publications.