

SHENANDOAH SHARINGS



Shenandoah District

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Member,
National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Edition 66

August September
2022

President's Notes

I'm ready for fall! I am tired of the heat. It has been oppressive this year. Of course, toward the end of every season, I find myself anxiously awaiting the next. I don't know why I am trying to rush time. At my age, I should be trying to slow it down. But I'm like a child looking forward to what might be coming next. I'm sure many of you, like me, are eagerly awaiting the crisp days of fall and what it brings.

For gardeners, fall brings thoughts of planning and planting for spring. It brings a time to clean out the old and get ready for the new. It brings glorious colors, shorter days and, of course, sweater weather!

We are still looking for ways to increase membership. Our fall meeting will be held on October 13 at the Market at Grelen. It is a beautiful venue and one of my favorites. I have chosen as a theme, "Be Our Guest, Be Our Guest", and encourage everyone to bring a guest to see what we are all about and enjoy the program. Grab a friend, family member or another garden club member and bring them to share what we do and encourage their interest in garden clubs.

In the meantime, as the cooler days approach, get out into your gardens and let's look to fall as "A Time to Plant, A Time to Heal".

Pat

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VFGC Finance Meeting and VFGC Judges Council
August 28: Williamsburg

VFGC Board Meeting: August 29: Williamsburg

Grants due: September 15

SD Board Meeting: September 8: Harrisonburg

Flower Shows: September 15: Culpeper GC
and Glasgow GC

SD Judges Council Meeting: October 3
Harrisonburg

Landscape Design School: October 10,11
Lewis Ginter

District Meeting: October 13 Market at Grelen

Plant America applications due October 15

Rooted Deadline: Oct 15 and Nov 15:

ODG Winter Deadline: November 1

Award Applications Due: December 1

SHENANDOAH SHARINGS
Editor.....Val Story



IN MEMORIAM
Our Deceased Members



Academy of Gardeners
Vickie Godwin

Lake of the Woods
Susan Oldach

Lexington Garden Club
Marcella Meers

Monticello Garden Club
Sharon Zobrist



WELCOME NEW COMERS

Lake of the Woods

Janet Stockman
Vickie Haydon
Shirley McLaughlin
Karen Newman
Cynthia Newman
Deborah Raines
Renee Hochenberger
Toni Maltagliati
Susan Petty-Bailer
Ernie Pozzi
Sue Stover
Sandy Wilson

Cedar Run

Louise Carter
Judy Gentry
Bonnie Blair-Seiple

Nelson County

Joan Klaus
Jane Griffith
Ruth Ann Warner

Rose Cliff

Grace Morris

Green Hills

Marcie Harding
Donna Strickler
Julie Turner

Frances Fauquier

Donna Courtney
Aimee Housley

Designers Guild

Pam Lambourne
Michael Rider



Shenandoah District Fall Meeting October 13, 2022

Programs, Vendors, Fundraising

Come visit the Market at Grelen, enjoy the sights and rolling hills.
Members are encouraged to invite guests, friends, bring a club member who has never attended a district meeting.

District Meeting Information

Registration will start at 9:15
Club President Meeting at 9:45
Meeting starts : 10:15

Program: History of the Market
Dynamic Designers: Lili and Mary (a must)
Both have designs in the NGC Vision of Beauty Calendar

Board Members & Clubs: Should you be interested in having a vendor table please contact Val Story: valstory@aol.com

Judy Ann Fray, Chaplin, will conduct a Memorial Service for deceased members. Please email Judy Ann with the names at ja.fray@verizon.net

Thank you to the Host Clubs

Calfee, Cedar Run and Rappahannock County Garden Clubs

REGISTRATION FOR THE FALL DISTRICT MEETING

Deadline: September 30, 2022

Post marked after this date add \$10.00 to registration

Absolute cut off October 4 2022

**Please, send a form for each person attending.
Registration: \$28.00**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Name of Club _____

Name of District if other than Shenandoah _____

Make checks payable to Shenandoah District-VFGC

Mail form and check to:

Dianna Busch

14453 Rillhurst Drive

Culpeper, VA 22701-9711

diannabusch@comcast.net

540-547-2874

Credentials (please circle all that apply)

Club Member Club President SD Board Members Past District President

District President VFGC Board Member Guest Other

Diet Allergies: _____

**Deadline: September 30, 2022 postmarked after this date add \$10.00 to
Registration**

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Registration: \$28.00**

NGC AND SAR NEWS



**NGC President
Mary Warshauer**



MARY'S MUSINGS

This first year as NGC president has truly flown by. We began the 2021-2023 term with virtual meetings and presentations, and we are now able to reconnect, be together and meet in person. It has been gratifying to be able to attend meetings around the country in the second half of this term. It, also, has been a joy to renew old friendships in person and begin new ones. NGC's state, local leaders and members have clearly been busy with their clubs. I am inspired by their determination to stay connected and remain dedicated to their business and projects. Their passion is rooted in their work which supports NGC's mission. After two years, our first in-person national convention was held at the Rosen Plaza in Orlando, Florida. Thanks to all of our members whose commitment and support made the 91st NGC convention a wonderful success. As the days get longer and the air warmer, enjoy the summer days and sunshine that invite us to plant our gardens, Plant America, and play outdoors!

**South Atlantic Region Director,
2021-2023
Marty Bowers
Theme: Reconnect, Plant, Grow and Bloom**



SP 1: A gardening project involving youth

SP 2: Restoring or reclaiming a public site

1) Youth are our future. Through our work as gardeners, we can instill in youth the rewards and joys of gardening. If they plant it, watch it grow, they will eat it. Imagine the joy on a child's face when the bulb they planted in the fall becomes a bright yellow daffodil in the spring. Creating pollinator gardens, wildflower gardens and any other type of gardening with youth \$50 cash award will be presented annually to the garden club for the most outstanding project involving youth. Must include number of garden club people involved and number of youth.

2) Plan to restore a public site that has become overgrown, contains dead plants and weeds, or reclaim a public site that has been abandoned \$50 cash award will be presented annually to the garden club for the most outstanding project either for restoring or reclaiming. Photos must be presented showing before and after completion of work and must include location, time, cost and number of garden club people involved.

Deadline for submitting applications: State Awards Chairman submit applications to the SAR Special Projects Chairman: with January 25th as the deadline to be received from the state to the Region Awards Chairman:

Sharon Jones, 85 Surber Drive, Moneta, VA 24121-3449

Questions: toddie1904@aol.com

VFGC REPORTS

Mary Owen, VFGC PRESIDENT

As I come to the end of the first full year of my presidency, I am filled with pride and gratitude at what we are doing in Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs. We are making amazing strides on our two key objectives.



First - “DIG INTO ACTION” ...with VFGC. We have come roaring back on all fronts! - A refreshed ODG and the new Rooted e-newsletter - Amazing response to our call to action with the Trex® Recycling Project – 12 VFGC clubs have earned a bench! - Excellent Flower Show and Landscape Design Schools - A Symposium with well over 100 attendees from our own state and beyond - VFGC Flower Shows in the fall of 2021 and at Convention.

Second - Increase the visibility of VFGC....to make sure our works are seen, and our organization is recognized...to take PRIDE in who we are AND what we do. - Our presence and workshops at the Virginia State Fair - Club members displaying “VFGC Pride” stickers - Clubs celebrating NGC National Garden Week with posters, events, and our bright new yard signs And our VFGC Convention! Excellent programs, high energy, beautiful honor arrangements. I so appreciated Kathy Ward’s honor arrangement, the gorgeous pink roses given to me by my “home district,” Piedmont – and the Penny Pines donation made in my honor.

I can’t thank Convention Chairs Diane Burgess and JoAnn McNabb enough – and all of you who attended and helped make it happen! I am so proud of all that our clubs are doing – just look at that awards list! Keep Digging In.

Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center



SAVE THE DATE
South Atlantic Region
61st Annual Convention
March 5-7, 2023
“Celebrating Our Region
Connections”
Exciting speakers and vendors
Trip to Black Dog Salvage
And much more



Save the Date
2023 VFGC
Convention

April 23 and 24, 2023

Join us for a Flower Show, Design Speakers,
Workshops, shopping, a VIP dinner and more!

Hotel 24
Staunton, VA
The old Stonewall Jackson Hotel



Awards from National Garden Clubs, Inc.

I am delighted to announce two clubs from the Shenandoah District, plus the District Newsletter received honors at the NGC Convention in May.

“*Shenandoah Sharings*” earned the top honor – the Certificate of Merit as “Overall Winner” in the category of a newsletter over 24 pages. Editor Val Story publishes it four times per year keeping members aware of club programs and projects. The newsletter has two formats: one edition pertains to NGC, SAR and VFGC and Shenandoah Board news. The other is news from various Shenandoah District Clubs.

These publications were particularly helpful during the Covid time informing members of what meetings were occurring in person or by Zoom and what clubs were doing to cope with the in person meeting challenges.

A most impressive achievement at the National level! Congratulations to Val and all who contributed.

Glasgow Garden Club earned the Certificate of Commendation (runner up) for their Permanent Community Improvements award application (or Civic Beautification at the district and state levels).

Valerie Vaughan of the Glasgow Garden Club completed the award application for Civic Beautification. Members tackled a three phase renovation project at Centennial Park in the town of Glasgow. Each of the three pages of the application form detailed a different phase of the project. They included excellent before and after photos, nicely captioned and a detailed budget including “in-kind” contributions by club members. They also had copies of articles in *Shenandoah Sharings* and local papers: the *Glasgow News* and the *News-Gazette*, Lexington. Most impressive is the involvement of 100% of the club members.

Lake of the Woods Garden Club also earned the Certificate of Commendation (runner up) for their Landscaping of Public or Religious Grounds.

Barbara Brady of Lake of the Woods Garden Club submitted the award application. A major change was made in the traffic flow around the Lake of the Woods Community Center where members hold their meetings. This necessitated renovating the landscape which club members traditionally maintained. Existing plants obstructed visibility and posed safety issues. The members worked with the general manager, grounds chief, clubhouse manager and a professional landscaper to remove large trees and shrubs and install lower growing plant material. Fund raising was a significant part of the challenge. The award application included a detailed landscape plan with trees and shrubs carefully identified as well as before and after photos with captions, a judging favorite.

Congratulations to these clubs and individuals. I look forward to many more impressive award applications, which are due to Awards Chairman Denise Gorsky by December 1st.

Heidi Sage
VFGC Awards Chairman

PENNY PINES Report for the Year 2022



VFGC Donated 58 Plantations: Jan-June 2022

For \$3944.00

Blue Ridge: 10 Piedmont: 10

Shenandoah: 18 South Central: 8

Southwest: 2 Tidewater: 9

VFGC Board: 2



Visit the Shenandoah District web

shenandoahdistrict.com

If you would like anything to add to this web (within reason), let us know.

New items to be added are the list of speakers and the bylaws.

SHENANDOAH DISTRICT NEWS

HELP NEEDED FROM YOUR DISTRICT TREASURER!!

Houston we had a problem.

For some reason / reasons unknown, some of the Club Treasurer's were not sending the District Annual dues of \$1.25 per member in the merry month of May.

May turned out not so merry this year and caused headaches and confusion all around.

Either the Shenandoah Sharings sent to all club Presidents, were not passed on to their members, specifically their Treasurers; or if the newsletter was shared with all the club members, some choose not to read important District information in the Spring Issue.

The spring issue of Shenandoah Sharings has always had the information about District Dues, how much per member, where to send and the form to be used for remittance.

As our usual method did not work this year, please send me your thoughts how you feel your club Treasurer could be notified next spring.

I will be very interested if anyone actually reads this and responds to me.

Shenandoah District Treasurer
Dianna Busch
diannabusch@comcast.net



SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTER CONTEST 2023

Schools will be opening soon and fall activities will be in full swing. That includes the Poster Contest!

I will be sending a preliminary email to all Shenandoah District Club presidents the end of August. My email will be requesting the name and contact information for the poster chairman for each club. I know most clubs first meeting is in September, at which time you will be making plans for the year and assigning committee chairmen. Please forward the poster chairman information to me as soon as possible.

It is never too early to start contacting schools, youth groups and home schoolers!

I look forward to another successful contest. COVID could not keep us down!

Toni Shreve
Shenandoah District Chairman
Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest



Arboretum and Botanical Gardens

Fall is arriving and with it the task/pleasure of cleaning our gardening tools for the spring season.

As Chair of Arboretum and Botanical Gardens I encourage club presidents to view the websites listed below for programs and tours offered although some may still be held virtually. There is excellent information available for your garden club and opportunities for club members to volunteer. It is always exciting to find new information and be able to implement these different techniques of gardening and enjoy the time to really work the garden and experiment with what works best for you and your garden.

Jmu.edu/arboretum/events/adultprograms.shtml

540-568-3194

blandy.virginia.edu

540-837-1758

Birds and Butterflies

Summer gardens are in full swing; flowers, both perennials and annuals are putting on quite a show. The butterflies while slow to arrive this season seem to be abundant now. The black and yellow swallowtail butterflies are the most common ones I see. I have several butterfly bushes there are two or more butterflies gathering nectar all day. I have been congratulating myself on providing such an attractive habitat.

The common butterfly bush or *Buddleja davidii* is found at most nurseries and big box stores. It is fairly easy to grow, it is a tough plant and will tolerate a variety of soils and conditions. Its beautiful spires of white, purple and pink always enhance a landscape. Deadhead the spent blooms insure continuous flowering.

However, this shrub only feeds the butterfly at **one stage of its life**. It does have copious nectar which makes it so attractive to bees and butterflies alike. Butterflies need to be able to lay eggs on plants that will provide food for the caterpillars. No caterpillar will eat the butterfly bush's leaves, it is not a host plant. It is also considered an invasive; it is extremely successful at reproduction. One single flower spike can have over 40,000 seeds. It is originally from China and can rob native plants of both space and nutrients and without native plants there can be no caterpillars and without caterpillars there can be no birds.

To help our treasured butterflies, consider planting a Summersweet (*Clethra ainifolia*). Also plant drifts of perennials such as coneflowers, hyssop and Joe Pye weed. These are host plants and will insure that you will have butterflies next season.

By Betsy Walker



AWARDS, AWARDS, AWARDS

Hopefully everyone is enjoying the summer season and your gardens are being productive.

While some clubs are still recovering from the disruption of Covid-19, many club had success during the year of 2021. At the Shenandoah District Spring meeting twenty-two Blues Ribbons, four Red Ribbons, two Yellow Ribbons, and one White Ribbon were awarded to District Clubs. Of the eleven clubs that received Blues Ribbons and moved forward, eight of those clubs received Blues Ribbons, one received Red Ribbons and one club received a White Ribbon. Our own Shenandoah Sharings also won a Blue Ribbon at the State level. Two of those clubs were then awarded Blue Ribbons at the Regional level. Thank you to Calfee, Cedar Run, Glasgow, Glen Bernie, Hawthorne, Hill and Valley, Hoe-N-Hope, Lake of the Woods, Madison, Monticello, Natural Bridge, Rapid Ann, and Town & Country-Lexington for submitting Award Applications and congratulations to all of you. Also a huge Thank you to all the District Board Members who contributed to the prize money for these awards

With the lessening of restrictions, it is hoped that there will be even more Award Applications submitted for the year of 2022. It is well known that the clubs of the Shenandoah District do great things.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Fall District Meeting

Denise Gorsky



The bounty's of home vegetable gardens.

Yummy and such a joy to grow and eat!!



Community Gardens

Hill and Valley club member Lesley Mack recommends visiting this nursery in Stanardsville that has been in business for 40 years. It looks like an amazing place to visit. The website offers full details including instructions on how to build a bog garden. pitcherplant.com

Botanique is a plant nursery specializing in carnivorous plants, such as the Venus' Fly Trap, Pitcher Plants, Sundews and more. Pitcher Plants are the main focus. Our nursery is home to the greatest variety of Pitcher Plants in the U.S.A. . Hundreds of new hybrids and selections are only found at Botanique. Research on carnivorous plants is performed at our facility. Our focus is on environmental and horticultural analysis of carnivorous plants and their habitats. We are located in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Stanardsville, VA. Appointments must be made to visit the nursery and garden clubs are welcomed.

Another place to visit is **Blandy Experimental Farm at the State Arboretum of Virginia** located at 400 Blandy Farm Lane, Boyce, VA. www.blandy.virginia.edu

You can visit on your own or the following guided tours are offered at a cost of \$8 per person:

Blandy's History & Arboretum Collection – 1.5-2hrs. March-Nov.

Garden Tour – 1 hr. April-Oct. Herb, Iris, and pollination gardens

Native Plant Trail – 1-2 hrs. April – Oct.

Conifer Collection – 1 hr. All year, weather permitting

Looking for native plants? Visit **Watermark Woods** in Loudon County. In business since 2014, they now sell over 40,000 plants a year. Website: watermarkwoods.com

Garden Lover's Day Sept. 17 @ Birdsong Pleasure Garden update....

We have a new parking area located at 1414 Longs Rd. Walk across the road to enter the garden. Guided tours are available or explore on your own.

Be sure to stop by the tent where you can enter to win \$25-\$100 gift certificates from our very generous donors: Ivy Nursery, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Bluestone Perennials, American Horticultural Society, Monticello, Plant More Natives, Sandy's Plants, Hill House Natives, Forrest Green Farm, Merrifield Garden Center. You will receive one raffle ticket upon entry but additional tickets may be purchased for \$5 each.

We will have many perennials, shrubs, and trees for sale including some native species featuring fall bloom/color such as *Persicaria virginiana* 'Painter's Palette', *Clethra alnifolia*, and *Lindera benzoin*. \$5/ 1qt, \$10/ 1 gal. Cash or checks only.

All proceeds from this event go to our Environmental Scholarship program for local high school students.

Please share a favorite garden or nursery that you or your club has visited!

Submitted by Katie Sokol



Hello fellow Garden Club members . . .

The Ways and Means Committee is busy making and securing items for the Fall District Meeting. Jams, jellies and pickles are made and baked items are being planned just for you! If there are particular things that you would like for us to make (ie. wreaths, arrangements or baked goods) give me a call or email with your personal request.

Thank you,
Valerie Vaughan

TREX PLASTIC FILM RECYCLING PROJECT

We have four clubs in the Shenandoah District that are participating in the TREX challenge. Calfee (Culpeper), Glen Burnie (Winchester), Rapid Ann (Orange) and Rappahannock Co. (Rappahannock). Hawthorne and Madison are also participating. After receiving information from each of these clubs I thought it would be helpful for other clubs to hear how they are trying to obtain the goal of 500lbs of recycling plastic film to obtain and donate a TREX bench.

A common theme between the clubs is contact a local grocery store manager and partner with them to recycle your collected plastics through their connection with TREX company. You may enlist the help of local businesses to collect their shipping wrappings to bulk up your collections. Such as home improvement stores and furniture stores. You can request the 3foot plastic containers (limit 2) from TREX to collect your plastics in and when filled place in 33gallon bags and take to your partnered grocery store after weighing them. Some clubs are having each member weigh their recycles prior to donating and reporting monthly to their club president. Another club president uses a hand-held fishing scale to weigh the bags. It is an effort by all members but such a wonderful project to participate in and reduce Landfill waste.

What can be recycled?

All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.



Smaller clubs have opted to inform other organizations within their town such as Lions Club and Women's Club to make them aware of this challenge and the other organizations are happy to take on the challenge.

I hope this information will inspire other clubs to participate in the 6- month challenge by TREX.

To sign up for your challenge:

Go to : www.trex.com

scroll to bottom of page. Click on RECYCLING

scroll to bottom of page. Click on RECYCLING PROGRAMS

scroll to bottom of page. Click on RECYCLING CHALLENGES

The program VFGC is participating in is

COMMUNITY AND UNIVERCITY CHALLENGE PROGRAM

Click on download for info

For questions and more info contact me at chadenva@aol.com

Submitted by Denise Henderson

APPLICATION FOR VFGC LIFE MEMBERSHIP/BOOK OF HONOR

Check One: _____ Life Membership
 _____ Book of Honor

Name of Honoree

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Honoree's Garden Club

Honored by

District

Date of Presentation

Surprise? _____ Yes _____ No
Club Meeting _____ District Meeting _____

Send life membership pin and card or Book of Honor Card to:

Name

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____
E-mail _____

CHECK payable: VFGC, Inc.

MAIL to Shenandoah Life Membership Chairman:

Denise Henderson 540-222-5176
513 Trailside Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22911-8495
chadenva@aol.com

Contributions to

Blue Star Memorial

Make Payable to

Shenandoah District, VFGC

In honor of President or Individual:

Name of Club or Individual making

Donation: _____

Check memo line: Blue Star Memorial
Send Check and form to

Polly Gable

540-347-7708---pollygable@gmail.com
6416 Summerfield Lane
Warrenton, VA 20186

Contribution to

**Shenandoah District
Scholarship Fund**

Make payable to:

Shenandoah District, VFGC

Check Memo Line: Scholarship Fund

Send Check and Form to

Heidi Sage
1057 Jacks Shop Road
Rochelle, VA 22738-3907

Print: _____
Club Name