

SHENANDOAH SHARINGS



Shenandoah District

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



Edition 65

February/March
2022

President's Notes

We have had a few days of warmer weather in between the snows to tease us into thoughts of spring. Catalogs have arrived with colorful temptations of plants to add to our gardens. It's amazing how many colors and varieties are being offered! Our calendars are starting to fill up again with meetings, Flower Show School, flower shows, ... even our state convention is scheduled for this year!

A few clubs are continuing to collect plastic for the Trex program and I would like to see more. If you are not participating as a club, I would encourage you to collect on your own and contribute to a neighboring group. Our recycling chairman will be happy to help to guide you to another club who is working to achieve their goal.

I am planning to travel to a couple of clubs in the coming weeks and look forward to seeing many of you. I welcome all opportunities to reconnect with and listen to any ideas you many have to promote gardening and garden clubs.

At this time, we are planning our district meeting on April 12, 2022, at Cross Keys Vineyards and we are looking forward to seeing you there. Until then, start your catalog orders and let us look forward to "A Time to Plant, A Time to Heal".

Pat

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

S D Board Meeting: March 10 Zoom

Flower Show School: Feb 28-Mar 3 Waynesboro

VFGC Board Meeting: Feb 28 Waynesboro

March 4: Scrap Books Due

SAR Convention: March 20-22 Berea, Kentucky

SD Judges Council Meeting: March 24
Harrisonburg

Symposium: April 4-6 Hilton in Short Pump

District Meeting: April 12 Cross Keys

ODG Deadline: May 1

VFGC Convention: May 1-3 Hilton in Short Pump

VFGC Flower Show: May 1-2 Hilton in Short Pump

NGC Convention: May 16-19 Orlando

May 31 Deadline for membership dues

June 5-11: National Garden Week

SHENANDOAH SHARINGS
Editor.....Val Story



IN MEMORIAM
Our Deceased Members



Academy of Gardeners
Anne Moore

Culpeper Garden Club
Margaret Parker
Mary Hunton
Stetson Peter

Luray Garden Club
Jean Elizabeth Reed

Natural Bridge Garden Club
Anne DeYoung Weede
Mary Sterrett Lipscomb



WELCOME NEW COMERS

Lake of the Woods

Barbara Ackman
Judy Durnin
Betsy Findel
Laura Covill
Bill Mann
Virginia Smith
Teresa Wisniewski
Wendy Witherspoon

Cedar Run

Darlene Evans
Karen Redmon

Greenvale

Lori Lyjak
Barabra Penney

Glasgow

Mary Harvey Halseth

Luray

Charlene Burrell
Janet Willians
Ana Rampy,
Sandra Modersohn
Cathy Mauck
Monica McCourt
Mary Beth McGurin.

Hill and Valley

Isabel Graves

Hawthorne

Diane Milburn
Teresa Shirnia
Ann Minor

Natural Bridge

Carla Zorn
Lucy Gritzmacher



Shenandoah District Spring Meeting April 12, 2022

Programs, Vendors, Fundraising

Come visit this vineyard in My Crawford, enjoy the sights, grapes 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 Cross Keys and wine making.
District Awards Presentation**

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

Culpeper, Hill and Valley and Luray Garden Clubs

REGISTRATION FOR THE SPRING DISTRICT MEETING

Deadline: March 31, 2022

Post marked after this date add \$10.00 to registration

Absolute cut off April 5, 2022

**Please, send a form for each person attending.
Registration: \$29.00**

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: March 31, 2022 postmarked after this date add \$10.00 to registration

Absolute cut off April 5, 2022

Please, send a form for each person attending.

Registration: \$29.00

Registrar Use Only

Check # _____

Amount _____

Date Rec'd _____

NGC AND SAR NEWS



**NGC President
Mary Warshauer**



A Playground of Possibilities

Let us spring into NGC’s plans for the upcoming months! The Membership Monday workshop, led by the NGC Membership Crew, is open to all members across the country and the International Affiliates. This workshop meets on the second Monday of every month from 2:00pm – 3:00pm Eastern Time. It is an opportunity for members to share successes, learn skills and brainstorm. The enthusiastic Membership Crew is dedicated to collaborating with members to explore solutions for the 3Rs: Recruit, Retain and Revitalize.

NGC is so proud of the success in bringing members together. Virtual platforms are not intended to replace in-person meetings or schools, but to provide access for all of our members and enhance the future of garden clubs. NGC looks forward to continuing educational activities for all members. Upcoming programs, this spring, include Kirk Brown and Doug Tallamy. Please check the NGC website for more information.

Please join us at the NGC 92nd Convention, in Orlando, Florida, May 16 -19, 2022. In an effort to demonstrate and support NGC’s mission to be environmentally responsible, we will conduct business as paperless as possible. Look for more information in this issue of TNG and on the website. I look forward to another exciting year full of opportunities. As your gardens rest and you plan and prepare for spring, do not forget to play outdoors and PLANT AMERICA.

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



Welcome to a new year, 2022 and we can only hope that this year brings about a relief from this Covid mess. As NGC President, Mary Warshauer said, Amazon reports that their crystal balls are out of stock. I'm hearing from many that their gardens have flourished as they have spent more time at home and enjoyed time working in their gardens. Unfortunately, mine have not flourished as my deer friends have eaten everything that looked like a plant or tasty bloom and then rested in the shade under my deck stairs.

I hope you are making plans to attend the 2022 SAR Convention in Berea, KY, March 20,21,22. Carla Hawkins and her committee have put together a fantastic event and we hope to see everyone there. Information is on the SAR website -- be sure to check it out.

The SAR newsletter, Key Notes has been re-constructed by Sharon Jones and will be sent out later this month. Please submit any articles by Friday, January 21 as we would like to have this newsletter out with the Convention information. Email articles to: Sharon Jones: toddie1904@aol.com Phone number is 954-253-4383 if you have questions. Deadlines for Newsletter articles are: January 20, March 20, June 20, September 20 and December 20 for January of the next year.

VFGC REPORTS

Mary Owen, VFGC PRESIDENT

It certainly “tis the season”..... to wish each of you the very best for the New Year and to thank each of you for your supportive enthusiasm of VFGC. This past year we started “Digging Into Action” and showed VFGC Pride through uncertain times. We planned, we met, and we accomplished good things.

- We held Flowers Shows ...and educational schools, both Landscape Design and Flower Show.
- Our state VFGC Headquarter was welcomed back to Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.
- We made great impressions at the Virginia State Fair with workshops.
- And at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts’ Fine Art and Flowers...over 30 participated with pride



With our TREX partnership for a litter recycling program and our VFGC Pride decal challenge., we are certainly falling back into place...and keeping you better informed, with ROOT-ED our electronic newsletter. Hope you’re enjoying it! And I’d be remiss, if didn’t mention our Symposium and state convention planned for this spring. It’s amazing.... that this is only a smidgen of what you’ve been accomplishing this year.

As I traveled throughout the state, it was such a pleasure seeing so many of you, in-person at your District’s Meetings. Everyone was excited to be able to “catch-up”, share, and learn. Experiencing such a statewide eagerness makes me feel confident that we’ll continue to meet more challenges in the coming year

Remember, you are all part of the largest volunteer gardening organization in the world and your VFGC is an active and proud part. Covid may have challenged us, but our excitement never abated... it only bloomed.

Thank youLet’s keep “Digging Into Action”

May Magic
Comes to Richmond



An NGC Specialty Design Flower Show
Short Pump Hilton, Richmond
May 1 - 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm
May 2 - 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Come Visit - Free and Open to the Public

**Design Specialty
Flower Show during the
VFGC Convention.**

May1 for entries.

**Schedule will be ready
soon.**

**Open to all VFGC club
members.**

Gardening in the Valley Tour



June 25, 2022, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Rain or Shine

The **Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association** will be hosting the 2022 edition of the **Gardening in the Valley Tour**. It will feature five uniquely different and spectacular gardens in and around Luray in **Page County**. Each one will offer ideas and information that will benefit gardening enthusiasts of all levels. Master Gardeners will be on-site at each garden to point out educational features. Information tables staffed by Master Gardeners will be at several locations to answer your gardening questions.

There will be five Featured Gardens and four additional garden and outdoor spaces worth visiting on the day of the tour where no ticket is required.

Featured Gardens (Ticket Required)

Birdsong Pleasure Garden “Garden Wonderland” - Virginia Living

For 30 years Lesley and Tom have transformed what once was a 3-acre lawn into a landscaped garden-park and bird sanctuary. Hundreds of trees, shrubs, perennials, bulbs, grasses and annuals have been planted to improve the environment and benefit the fauna. Mountain vistas, natives, ‘garden rooms’, water features and bonsai are but part of this wonderland. Birdsong Pleasure Garden has been named a “Virginia Treasure”, “Green Attraction of the Year”, et al.

Two Private Gardens in Downtown Luray

This downtown garden is a **Florist Haven**. The owner grows a wide variety of plants much of which finds its way into arrangements, wreaths and other floral decorations she creates in her studio onsite. Flower plantings enhance seating areas on the porch, around the outdoor pizza oven area, and a smaller patio with a fountain. See many examples of plants that can do double duty to enjoy outdoors in the garden and then again incorporated into floral arrangements.

This **Backyard Hideaway** is near the center of Luray, but a world away. Behind the house, the owner has a variety of well-tended raised beds for flowers, vegetables, herbs, and even a butterfly habitat. Birch trees draw the eye away from the fence that encloses the garden. Peek into the potting shed and see the compost pile to see some of the tools and practices in play that help keep this private garden thriving.

Brick House Nursery is a wholesale grower of specialty and native trees and shrubs. This family-run business was established by husband-and-wife team, Denie and Sam Smith, in 2010. Their 60-acre farm is nestled between Shenandoah National Park to the east and the Massanutten range of George

Washington National Forest to the west with Hawksbill Creek running through the center. Learn how trees and shrubs at your local garden center may have started their lives.

Continues page 8

Continued from page 7

Survivor Farm grows a wide variety of produce available at a co-op in Luray, at the farm market on-site and as pick-your-own. Farmer, Darrell Hulver, uses best practices, including drip irrigation, crop rotation, seed saving, and cover crops to raise top quality produce. He donates excess to the local food bank. Survivor Farm is part of the Fields of Gold agritourism program in the Shenandoah Valley.

Additional Garden and Outdoor Spaces (No Ticket Required)

Massanutten Country Corner

Massanutten Country Corner is three shops in one: Farm Market, Artisan's Gallery, and Garden Shoppe. The colorful plantings that line the path to the Garden Shoppe include milkweed and other flowers that qualify this garden as a Monarch Way Station. Composted manure from the chickens and goats, raised onsite, enriches the garden soil. Tickets for the Gardening in the Valley Tour will only be available for purchase here on the day of the tour.

Location: 3546 U.S. Highway 211 West

Page Alliance for Community Action Community Garden

The Page Alliance for Community Action Community Garden promotes access to healthy foods for Page County residents. **Extension** Master Gardeners are among the broad network of volunteers that established the garden and keep it viable. Volunteers will be on-site on the day of the tour to talk about the garden's purpose and the best growing practices employed there.

Location: Page Memorial Hospital

Luray-Hawksbill Greenway

Just steps away from downtown, the **Luray-Hawksbill Greenway** is a two mile, 10-foot wide, paved multi-use path that meanders along Hawksbill Creek. There are many benches, several picnic tables, and two public restrooms along the trail. It is a great stop during the Gardening in the Valley Tour to relax and refresh.

Champion Chinquapin Oak Tree

With a trunk circumference greater than 19 feet, height of 62 feet, and canopy spread of 132 feet, the **Champion Chinquapin Oak Tree** in Luray is the second largest in Virginia. It is estimated to be more than 250 years old. Extension Master Gardeners join with Luray to help ensure the health and continued longevity of the tree.

Location: Along the Blue Section of the Luray-Hawksbill Greenway

Tickets: Tickets will be available for online purchase late April through noon on June 24, 2022. The price will be \$10. Tickets will be available for purchase on the day of the tour for \$12 at Massanutten Country Corner (3546--- U.S. Highway 211 West). Check out our website at: nsvmg.org/events/garden-tour.

2022 Beneficiary

Proceeds from the 2022 Gardening in the Valley Tour will support after-school education provided by Virginia Cooperative Education in Page County Schools as part of the Growing Healthy Habits and nutrition programs and fund scholarships for Page County youth to attend 4-H summer camp. Submitted by Leslie Mack



Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg. If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Mark Sutphin, Frederick County Extension, at (540) 665-5699/TDD (800) 828-1120 during business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations five days prior to the event.



PENNY PINES End of Year Report for the Year 2021



I hope you all are so pleased with the outcome of our year since it is the Covid era and so many meetings and functions were not held.

We supported a National Garden Club program by contributing 91 plantations, which represent \$6,188 toward the planting of trees in our National Forests. With so many wild fires, floods, and diseases, we are proud to support the planting of trees in one of our national treasures - the U.S.D.A. National Forests. I hope this summer you can visit one of our national forests, not only to enjoy the experience but also to be proud to have supported them.

Joy Poole VFGC Penny Pines Chairman

Blue Ridge District	7
Piedmont District	18
Shenandoah District	31
South Central District	2
Southwest District	0
Tidewater District	<u>33</u>
Total	91

Thoughts from our District Chaplain

These days, many people seem to find difficulty looking at the bright side of their (our) situation. Hopefully, the following words will provide an optimistic view for your day. My suggestion is that one read it numerous times for the most optimistic benefit. Judy Ann Fray

Whatsoever things are true,
Whatsoever things are honest,
Whatsoever things are just,
Whatsoever things are pure,
Whatsoever things are lovely,
Whatsoever things are of good report;
If there be any virtue,
And if there be any praise,
Think on these things.

*Philippians 4:8, The Bible
King James Version*

SHENANDOAH DISTRICT NEWS

A NOTE FROM YOUR SHENANDOAH DISTRICT TREASURER



Garden Club Treasurers

Yearly Garden Club Dues are \$1.25 per member and are to be sent to your District Treasurer.

Due no later than May 31st of each year.

Checks are to be payable to:
Shenandoah District, VFGC

Send to:

Dianna Busch
Shenandoah District Treasurer
14453 Rillhurst Drive
Culpeper, VA 22701-9711



**VIRGINIA FEDERATION OF
GARDEN CLUBS
SHENANDOAH DISTRICT**



VFGC Shenandoah District Annual Dues

To be paid by May 31st

\$1.25 per member

Checks should be payable to – **Shenandoah District, VFGC**

Number of members _____

Club Name _____

Club President _____

Club Treasurer _____

Email _____

Mail check to –
Shenandoah District Treasurer
Dianna Busch
14453 Rillhurst Drive
Culpeper, VA 22701-9711

2021-23 VFGC Yearbook



"Dig into action...with VFGC"

The yearbooks were distributed at the fall District meeting if you haven't received your copy, please contact Jan Davis jmd99benz@gmail.com or call 540-972-1630 to make arrangements for receipt.

SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSEY OWL POSTER CONTEST – 2022



Even though only two clubs were able to participate due to the ongoing pandemic, the Shenandoah District Smokey Bear poster contest for 2022 was a success. The two clubs reached out to two public schools and one private school.



With the assistance of 31 teachers and one principal, 537 students participated. 537 posters were received from students in grades one through five. The winning posters have been submitted to the state chairman. We are waiting for the results from the State, SAR and National competitions.

The winners and clubs will be announced at the April 12 District meeting. Certificates for each winning student have been ordered and will be presented at this meeting

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

Arboretum and Botanical Gardens

As Chair of Arboretum and Botanical Gardens I encourage club presidents to view the web sites listed below for programs and tours offered although some may be virtually. There is excellent information available for your garden club and also 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.

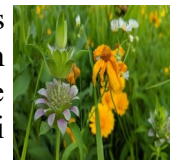
Jmu.edu/arboretum/events/adultprograms.shtml

540-568-3194

blandy.virginia.edu

540-837-1758

Another opportunity for garden club members would be to reach out to the group **Sustainability Matters**. There are numerous ways to help with this group. Email sustainabilitymattersva@gmail.com. These ladies provide an excellent program for your club meetings. A good contact source for all the right reasons and they are always looking for volunteers. Contact names Sari Carp and Paula Brownlee.



Submitted by Susan Zorn

Community College Scholarship

The Shenandoah District offers a \$1,000 scholarship to a rising 2nd year student at a local Virginia Community College. The scholarship is for students studying horticulture or a subject related to the environment. It is funded by donations from individuals, clubs, and the district. The last page of each issue of Shenandoah Sharings includes a form to include with donations to the scholarship fund.

The Scholarship Committee of Val Story, Mary Haught and myself contact the community colleges and ask for help in reaching qualified students. The information is posted on the VFGC website on the scholarship page, along with information about VFGC scholarships.

Last year we had a wonderful recipient, Alexander Burton, majoring in Forest Management Technology at Dabney Lancaster Community College in Clifton Forge. We invited him as well as the previous year's winner, Felicity Zimmerman to our Fall District meeting in October of 2021. Both accepted. At the last moment, a student in one of Alexander's classes contracted Covid, so he chose not to attend, but we were able to meet and hear from Felicity. Perhaps this year, we will finally get to meet Alexander.

At this time we are waiting for the March 1 deadline to review new applicants for our scholarship. If you know someone currently in their first year at a community college who might be interested in \$1,000 please refer them to our VFGC website or put them in contact with Mary, Val or me.



Donations make this program possible. Thank you to our supporters,

Heidi Sage
Shenandoah District Scholarship Chairman

SCHOLARSHIP

Shenandoah District Blue Star Gold Star Memorial Markers

This Committee is happy to report that the Shenandoah District Blue Star Memorial Marker slated for The Caverns at Luray, Virginia has been shipped to them.



There will be a formal presentation of the Marker when The Caverns has a permanent location. They were very receptive to the Marker and have an existing Veteran's Memorial they want to rejuvenate and place the Blue Star Marker at that new site.

The Blue and Gold Star Memorials Program honors all men and women that serve in the United States Armed Services. This program began in 1944 as a living memorial to veterans of WWII. It is important to keep this tradition of recognizing those who fought to keep us free, going and growing. We urge your club to participate.

For those Garden Clubs wishing more information on obtaining a Blue Star Marker, or Gold Star for their County or a possible location for the next District Marker please contact, Polly Gable, Blue Star Memorial Marker Chairman at pollygable@gmail.com
540-270-4416

There has been a slight increase in Marker cost as seen in the list below.

By-Way Marker Price \$530.00 (includes shipping)

Memorial Marker (Blue and Gold Star families) \$1590.00 (includes post and shipping)

Highway Marker (Blue Star only) \$1590,00 (includes post and shipping)



Respectfully submitted,
Polly Gable, Chairman Shenandoah District Blue Star Memorial Marker

Organic Gardening The Ultimate Deer Deterrent

Just in time to keep those pesky deer from devouring your garden as both struggle to survive the winter.

In my last article, you may recall that I gave instructions for Japanese beetle control. It was a labor intensive and violent approach. Fear not. My solution to preventing deer from gobbling up your garden is easy and doable for even the most timid souls – just sit back and enjoy the results.

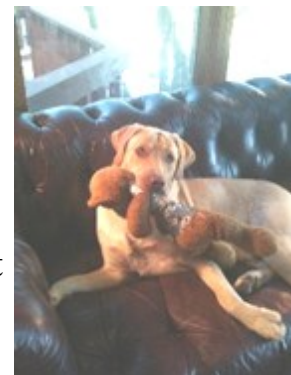
I had listened for years to the lamentations of my fellow gardeners about how the deer continued to plague them. Sprays, select plants, etc. had little to no effect. How could this be I wondered. I had zero problems and I enjoyed watching herds of deer in my fields throughout the years. So, I knew they were there – lots of them, but they kindly respected my gardens.

Then one winter, they attacked in full force. Gone were my prized rhododendrons, and almost everything else. Only the holly and yews were spared. What the heck happened? What changed all of a sudden? Then it hit me; my dog had died.

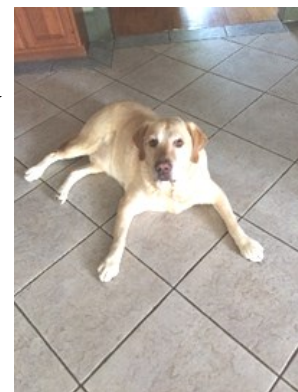
From personal experience, I offer two fool-proof organic approaches to combatting visiting deer. Implement one or both for guaranteed results.

Approach #1 – Get a dog; a big one that means business.

I was heartbroken and declared I did not want another dog. But my well-meaning husband (you remember the Round-Up King) decided that this was exactly what I needed. He thought a change of breed would not remind me of previous pets. Over the years, I always had large aggressive breeds - Pit Bulls and Airedales - for personal protection and dogs that could live outside and hold their own against predators (I live on a 45 acre farm). Worked like a charm and also good for deterring intruders of the two-legged kind. (picture #1)



So Jim bought a yellow Labrador; sweet, good natured and completely ineffective. (picture #2) I drove up my driveway one evening and the car headlights caught the reflection in the eyes of three deer munching on my shrubbery. Standing to the side was a tiny deer – a fawn? But wait, this is the dead of winter. There are no fawns. As I drew nearer, I saw that the ‘fawn’ was my yellow lab keeping the deer company and protecting them from coyotes as they bedded down for the night! I needed a new plan. Continues page 15



Continued from previous page.

Approach #2 – Fence it.

This can be done quickly and inexpensively. Pound metal stakes around their favorite winter snacks and attach wire fencing with a few zip ties. The wire comes in rolls and is sturdy enough to just set on top of the ground – no digging. Make your ‘cage’ far enough away from the bushes so that the deer cannot reach over and eat the leaves, but close enough so that they are not inspired to jump in and dine. It doesn’t look bad; especially knowing that it all comes down easily in the spring – after the rhododendrons bloom. And it is completely reusable; a one-time expense. (picture #3)



I came home last night and saw ‘my’ deer standing in the snow and gazing longingly at the rhododendrons. I felt so guilty, I bought 80 pounds of deer corn to assuage my conscious. Now officially, the corn is for the birds. Did you know that it is illegal to feed deer in Virginia? I learned this from a fellow shopper at Tractor Supply as he was loading ten bags of corn into his pickup.

Maureen Wilcox

Chairman, Organic Gardening and Herbs

Birds and Butterflies

This winter has been a snowy one and I feel fortunate to have a bird feeder outside a bay window next to our kitchen table. Besides enjoying the antics of different visitors, we are helping to provide a consistent food supply. I buy Wild Delight Nut n Berry; it is a mixture of several seeds including sunflower and berries. It a little more expensive, but well worth it. During recent upcoming weather events the birds were frantic, they seem to know when to feed heavily so as to prepare for an upcoming storm. They are my weather forecasters!

Two of my favorite birds are the tufted titmouse and the black capped chickadee. They visit daily and chose a seed and fly to a nearby branch to peck it open. I started doing some research on these two specific birds and found out that they are of the same family, Paridae and the same order, Passeriformes. These birds do not migrate and chances are if they are feeding at your house during the winter they are nesting near by in spring as well. They both like to nest in holes of old trees sometimes in old woodpecker nests. Their nests are lined with soft material such as moss and mammal hair. Titmice will sometimes pluck hair from live animals such as dogs and woodchucks.

The black capped chickadee is the state bird of both Maine and Massachusetts. It is one of the few birds that can lower its body temperature to conserve heat in frigid weather. Both of these birds are tolerant of people. Several of our tit mice hang onto the screens as if to look in. During the dark bleak days of winter, birds provide a lot of entertainment.

Submitted by
Betsy Walker



Black Capped
Chickadee (left)

Tufted Titmouse
(right)



Awards

Thanks to all the clubs that sent in applications for awards. We had eight clubs submit nineteen applications for nine awards. There was one club that submitted an application and entries for the Youth Poetry Award. The Youth awards were judged in November, 2021, then the First Place winners were sent on to the State.



A big thank you to the district members who volunteered on December 8, 2021 to judge the award applications in Raphine. It was a pleasant day even with the confusion of the new application process and scoring rubrics. Everyone took the process very seriously and worked diligently to complete the judging process for each application. Hopefully, next year will proceed more smoothly with no hiccups. We had nine blue ribbons and three red ribbons, two yellows ribbons and one white ribbon. Two clubs submitted posters for the Smoke Bear/ Woodsy Owl contest.

The Scrapbook Award applications must be received by March 4, 2022 and will be judged by mid-March. So please send your Scrapbooks directly to the Awards Chairman, at her home address. Denise Gorsky, 3147 Glasgow Hwy., Buena Vista, Virginia, 24416. Scrapbook will be returned at the Spring District meeting in April

All the Awards will be announced at the Spring District meeting, on April 12, 2022. Hope to see you there.

Denise Gorsky
Awards Chairman
Shenandoah District

District Ways and Means



April 12, 2022

Baked Goods

Design Containers

Easter Confections

Spring and Summer
Wreaths



Wire & Floral Tape

Spring and Summer
Designs

Oasis

Bird Houses

Lots of Other Treats



Bring those Checkbooks!!!



Community Gardens

Greetings fellow garden club members! Here are some gardens to visit at 3 upcoming events. Any gardens, private or public, that you would like to share, please contact me and I will disperse to the Shenandoah District club presidents or in future newsletters.

Places to Visit:

Historic Garden Week April 23-30 has tours scheduled in the following locations but there are many more throughout the state. Visit vagardenweek.org for further details.

Staunton April 23

This walking tour encompasses homes and gardens at opposite ends of the spectrum. Baldwin Place, developed in 1986, follows an architecturally cohesive “village” concept, inspired by Colonial Williamsburg, and comprised of charming down-size homes with cottage-size gardens and open common spaces. In contrast, Waverley Hill, one of Staunton’s grandest mansions, was designed by William Bottomley in 1929. It has recently been impeccably restored and “up-sized” with expansions to the extensive gardens, including garden rooms, ponds, fountains, and an elegant swimming pool with a magnificent view of the Shenandoah Valley and the Blue Ridge.

Winchester April 23

The tour features four sites, three of which served as hospitals during the Civil War. Rose Hill Farm and La Grange House are fully restored 18th century homes, and Valerie Hill Winery was built in early 19th century. Belle Grove, an 18th century plantation withstood the Battle of Cedar Creek during the civil war. Highlights include gardens, a Garden Club of Virginia restoration, and a 1.25-mile walking trail with civil war signage.

Harrisonburg April 27

Starting at the Tour Headquarters at Cross Keys Vineyard just 15 minutes from Harrisonburg, visitors will enjoy private properties that showcase both traditional and contemporary styles, as well as flower arrangements created by local garden club members.

June 25, 2022, 9 – 4, Gardening in the Valley Tour sponsored by the Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardeners Assoc. (Rain or Shine) See pages 7 and 8 of this Shenandoah Sharings.

Club News:

Garden Lover’s Day Sept. 17, 2022 will be held at Birdsong Pleasure Garden, Luray sponsored by the Hill and Valley Garden Club. 10 AM-4 PM (rain or shine)

Submitted by Katie Sokol
hillandvalleygardenclub@gmail.com

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

Fine Arts and Flowers

Flowers and fine art at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts combine for a dazzling exhibition of beauty and creativity, which was held last October.

Members from more than 75 garden clubs across Virginia, interpret masterworks in the collections of VMFA with floral arrangements throughout the galleries.

Several Shenandoah District members also participated. This is a fun and worthwhile endeavor.



**Bread-and-Salt Dish
Khlebnikov I.P. and Sons & Co.,
Russian**

**Grace Morris (Waynesboro)
Shenandoah Designers' Guild
Nelson County Garden Club**

I fell in love with this Russian “Bread and Salt” presentation plate the minute I saw the picture. When I saw it in the Museum, it was even more beautiful than I imagined. I thought “what a challenge it will be to interpret.” I love a challenge! Grace’s designs are always extraordinary and interesting. She is a credit to Shenandoah.



**Hedda Sterne, American
Lynn Neviasser (Powhatan)
Salisbury Garden Club
Calfee Garden Club**

In this piece, the artist was expressing her awe at first being in New York City at night and seeing the lovely sunset, the constantly moving cars, and the lights of the city. I was drawn to this work by the distinctive lines and the lovely colors of the evening. Lynn is now an associate member with Calfee Garden Club and is sorely missed. Her creative nature and ability is a true gift.



Chippendale Sofa
Unknown, American
Valerie Story (Warrenton)
Calfee & Cedar Run GC
Shenandoah Designers Guild

Imagine a work of art that has come to life...in flowers. The colors, textures, lines, and emotional energy of the painting or a piece of furniture are all interpreted in the floral design, displayed next to the artwork itself. I started thinking about colors: brown, and yellow. A lot of yellow! Val also enjoys the challenge of interrupting and creating a design. She especially likes to be a part of the Fine Arts and Flowers.



Little Dancer Aged Fourteen
Edgar Degas, French
Michael Rider (Etlan)
The Madison Garden Club

I first viewed this masterwork here at the Virginia Museum as a 22-year-old in 1975 when I moved to Richmond to begin a four-decade career in office automation and systems integration. My first design challenge was FLOWER COLOR and VARIETY to gain a visual similarity between sculpture and floral design when first viewed side by side. I met with a neighbor twice to plan his building of the structure to hold the floral ring 14 inches from the bottom of the bowl. Michael is a serious designer with an extraordinary eye and talent. What a pleasure to see his work..



Mummy Cartonnage (*Mask*)
Unknown, Egyptian
Mary Ann May (Jeffersonton)
Cedar Run Garden Club
Shenandoah Designers' Guild

The Unknown Mummy Cartonnage (*Mask*) is found in the Egyptian Gallery and is surprisingly well preserved as it is made of wood, covered in gesso and hand painted with black, blue, yellow and brown paints. The Interpretive floral design is an airy mass of tropical plants that may have been available in those times. The container is a large metal urn that was painted with muted colors of the Cartonnage. Mary Ann is a very talented designer using her long history of arts and crafts to aid in her works.



Paying the Ostler
George Morland, English
Kathy Holliday (Winchester)
Colonial Garden Club
Shenandoah Designers' Guild

The vitality of the artwork drew the designer – the movement from right to left of the horse, the rider, the attention of the stablemen, the dogs. The color fades across the composition from dark to light. The strong angles of the stable establish the background for the activity. An angular pottery container of the artwork's earthy color and texture was chosen. Kathy is also a very creative designer, always thinking “outside the box.” She loves to experiment this accessory's and textures.

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

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Blue Star Memorial

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In honor of President or Individual:

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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

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**Shenandoah District
Scholarship Fund**

Make payable to:

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Check Memo Line: Scholarship Fund
Send Check and Form to

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

Print: _____
Club Name