

SHENANDOAH SHARINGS

Shenandoah District



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



Edition 60

March/April
2020

CURRENT & PAST DISTRICT PRESIDENT THOUGHTS

"Winter, it's as if nature pauses to take time for silence and a rest before the exuberance of the spring flush of all things green and colorful."

"I have thoroughly enjoyed myself and I trust you have too. The clubs I have visited are all terrific and I am positive, the one's I have not visited are just as terrific. After the Shenandoah Speakers list was distributed, I am sure you learned new and interesting programs to have. I know the club I belong to used the list to formulate some of their programs. Thank you to those clubs who submitted the information."

"I have had a wonderful, busy summer. What a pleasure of settling into our new home, visiting friends, clubs and working with flowers."

"During winter, Mother Nature gives us a lull and the perfect time for planning, rethinking our various responsibilities and following through on projects. As a special treat, we have time to peruse the plant catalogs that have accumulated, and, begin to think of what is yet to come.....spring"

"I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of you for allowing me the honor of being your President for the next two years. As I'm sure you know by now, my theme is "Caring for Our Gifts of Nature" ~ through gardening and creating works of art while making lasting friendships."

"Also, please encourage your club members to attend this District meeting. We will have a special program on horticulture, creative ideas for your club's projects, great food, as well as lots of interesting items to purchase"

"Thank you for Honoring Mother Nature, By protecting her habitat through education, By litter prevention through recycling, By showing her beauty through planting gardens, and by having Flower Shows."

"A mentor, or group of mentors, is so important in many aspects of our lives, but especially for our youth. We never know what small act will make a lifetime effect on someone. I feel it is so important to capture the attention of our youth to introduce them to nature, gardening, our food sources and the impact nature has on so many aspects of our lives".

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 5: BOARD MEETING, HARRISONBURG

MARCH 19-20 SAR CONVENTION: GREENVILLE SC

MARCH 29-31: VFGC CONVENTION, HOTEL ROANOKE

APRIL 6: SDJC MEETING: HARRISONBURG

APRIL 23: DISTRICT MEETING: LEXINGTON

MAY 11-14: NGC CONVENTION: MILWAUKEE, WI

JUNE 7-13 NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

SHENANDOAH SHARINGS

Editor.....Val Story

valstory@aol.com

140 Culpeper Street, Warrenton, VA 20186





SHENANDOAH DISTRICT

April 23 at 9:45 AM

Program, Vendor,
Fundraising, Awards

Come visit this unique venue in Lexington, enjoy the sights, lake and geese! Members are encouraged to invite guests, friends, bring a club member who has never attended a district meeting.



Big Spring Farm

104 Fredericksburg Road, Lexington, VA 24450

District Meeting Information

Registration will be from 9:45 by the front door

Club President Meeting at 10:15

Program: Elise Sheffield: Director of Education for Boxerwood: She will be speaking about youth projects as well as the history of Boxerwood Gardens and Nature Center.

Shenandoah District Ways and Means with a variety of new items and the ability to own a table design

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

Toni Shreve, Chaplin, will conduct a Memorial Service for deceased members.

Please email or call Toni with the names at

540-905-5460 toniandjims@comcast.net

Thank you to the Host Clubs

Glasgow, Hot Springs, Jackson River and Twilight Garden Clubs

REGISTRATION FOR THE SPRING DISTRICT MEETING

Deadline: April 14, 2020: Post marked after this date add \$10.00 to registration

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:

George Ann Birkhofer
448 S F.T. Valley Road
Madison VA 22727-2986
madvirginian@hughes.net
540-923-4933

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: April 14, 2020 postmarked after this date add \$10.00 to registration

Please, send a form for each person attending.

Registration: \$28.00

Registrar Use Only

Check # _____

Amount _____

Date Rec'd _____

Big Springs Farm

Event Entrance with direction:

Directions from I-81 North & South:

Take exit 191 to I-64 West

Drive 5 miles to **Exit 50** (US-60 E/VA-623)

Turn **Left** onto US-60 E

Drive 0.3 miles and the entrance will be on your left, which will be marked.

Event Parking:

You will see parking on the left as you come into the event “Barn” entrance. You may park yourself there and continue walking down the road to the buildings.

Or you may drive to the “Barn” and have valet parking. No one can leave their car at the Barn site as seen below. The valet service will be located on the right side of the below picture.





IN MEMORIAM

**Cedar Run Garden Club
Susan Bryan**

**Dogwood Garden Club
Betty Hermansdorfer**

**Lexington Garden Club
Betty Goad**

**Nelson County Garden Club
Rebecca Sanders Tucker**

**Madison Garden Club
Ervel Dixon**

**Glen Burnie Garden Club
Louise Speakman**

**Luray Garden Club
Betty Booten Grubbs**



WELCOME NEW COMERS

Lake of the Woods

Kris Bride
Donna Chernowetz
Pamala Derreberry
Rebecca Heggemann
Julia Hooper
Diane Smith
Carl Tungli-Giese
Joyce Whitfield

Cedar Run

Anne Howard

Monticello

Rhonda Banks
Dixie Niepraschk

Glen Burnie

Janet Bordwine
Karen Lynch
Alana Danko
Phyllis Miller
Carol Buck

Luray

Diane Hirsh
Joan Kestermann
Rebecca Burroughs
Nancy Boyer
Del Price

Madison

Charlene Uhl
Marie Krug
Debra Dean

NGC AND SAR NEWS



**NGC President
Gay L. Austin**



Youth participation continues to produce over 18,000 children’s posters for the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl competition. The 2019 NGC grand prizewinner was Penny Atkinson, a 4th grader sponsored by the Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc. She was given special recognition by the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service at this special event.

As we anticipate future events, please consider attending and participating in the World Association of Floral Artists. The 13th WFA World Flower Show Grand Floral Affair 2020 is a five-day flower show, featuring a panorama of workshops, competitions, demonstrations and exhibitions.

The Website Development Committee has begun its task of creating our new NGC website. They are working with a website development company to redesign our website to modernize the look and feel. We want to improve the user’s experience and attract a younger generation of gardening enthusiasts to ensure the NGC legacy continues to grow and strengthen. As this develops, we will share information with you, our members, so that you can take advantage of this new NGC venture. Continue to visit our existing website for all your NGC questions: www.gardenclub.org

As NGC President, the most enjoyable part of my position, is visiting and meeting garden club members from across our nation and world. Our organization is guaranteed future success, due to the dedication of our members. As we PLANT AMERICA with seeds of service, let us maintain an enthusiastic attitude, as this is a key to success. We are “Reconnecting with Nature” through conservation, strengthening our existing membership and reaching out to potential new members, while ensuring our future by involving youth. Thank you for your continued dedication.

**South Atlantic Region Director,
2019-2021
Patricia Arndt**



The South Atlantic Region has a new Director:

Patricia Arndt
3364 Winchester Ave.
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405
304-616- 2939
jjjarndt@comcast.net

To Improve Our Communities Through Youth Involvement and Reclaiming Unusable Spaces

VFGC REPORTS

Mary Sue Floyd, VFGC PRESIDENT



“Today’s Actions Pave the Pathway to Tomorrow”

By now I’m sure all clubs are working on their particular projects and activities. As I read the responses on the Questionnaire, I was particularly pleased to read about the variety of programs and activities. Keep up the good work! These activities support our theme: Our Actions Today Pave the Pathways of Tomorrow.

I hope you are planning a time to carry out our No-Bake Sale. Let us know some of what you didn’t bake. We hope this will be a fun project for all of us as we gear up to do our holiday real baking. If your club has not returned the questionnaire, please do so. I am in the process of sharing any needs listed with the chairman who may be able to help.

On a personal note, I want to thank everyone for their concerns, emails and cards. I hope to be able to attend all functions shortly after the first of the year.

**Flower Show School
Starting on August 31, 2020 through
September 3, 2020 in
Lynchburg....Kirkley Hotel**



Remember to share with your club members that this Course I will offer a special promotion: the first 10 people, who apply for the school, take the tests and pass will receive \$100.00.



For those who want to attend for the experience and knowledge this is the opportunity.



Penny Pines

We did such a great job with our Penny Pines contributions this year!!!
Would you believe 110 plantations!!!! Our highest number of contributions yet!

AND Shenandoah District topped the list with more plantations than the other 5 districts in Virginia!! Well done!! But we only were 1 plantation ahead, so hopefully, we can honor more people next year with a plantation.

I thank each and every one of the clubs that contributed to such a worthy cause. Some of our clubs are very small, and I am always impressed when they are able to donate even one plantation. One club is even trying to donate a plantation to each state! Another club member (a widow) purchased 3 plantations each year in honor of her 3 former husbands.

Congratulate all of your club members and remember that individuals can also purchase plantations in honor or memory of love ones.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!
Joy Poole, VFGC Penny Pines Chairman

2019 Virginia Individual Garden Club Penny Pines Contributions

103 Plantations given by 43 different VFGC affiliates plus 7 unaffiliated clubs =
110 plantations.

Blue Ridge	11
Shenandoah	29
Piedmont	28
South Central	3
Southwest	3
Tidewater	26
VFGC	3

SHENANDOAH DISTRICT NEWS

Due Dates For Shenandoah Sharing Article Submissions

March 1, 2020
August 19, 2020
February 17, 2021

Email articles and pictures to
valstory@aol.com

Newsletters are emailed to Board Members and Club Presidents;
Club presidents need to email the newsletter to their members.

SHENANDOAH DISTRICT AWARDS

I want to thank the clubs that sent in applications for awards.

We had thirteen clubs submit twenty-three applications for twelve awards. There were two clubs that submitted nine applications and entries for the Youth Essay and Poetry Award. The Youth awards were judged on November 21, 2019 then sent on to the State. A big thank you to the district members who braved a dreary, rain day on December 9, 2019 to judge the award applications in Charlottesville. Everything went well thanks to Heidi Sage's assistance. Through her advise the day progressed rapidly and concluded earlier than expected.

The Scrapbook Award applications will be judged at the Shenandoah District Board meeting on March 5, 2020 in Harrisonburg. So please send in your Scrapbooks.

You will have to attend the Spring District meeting, on April 23, 2020 to find out what color ribbons your club has won.

Denise Gorsky, Awards Chairman Shenandoah District



A NOTE FROM YOUR SHENANDOAH DISTRICT TREASURER

Your District Treasurer for 2019-2021 is
GEORGE ANN BIRKHOFFER.

Contact information is as follows:

madvirginian@hughes.net

540.923.4933

448 S F T Valley Road

Madison, VA 22727-2986



Some things to remember:

District Garden Club Member Dues are \$1.25 per person and are due before May 31st of each year. A list of members is not required but include the number of members with your check.

If you gain new members after May 31, please remit an additional \$1.25 for each new member.

Make all checks payable to Shenandoah District, VCFG and send to the Treasurer as noted above. This includes dues, registration forms, luncheon checks, donations and any other remittances to the District,

“Shenandoah Sharings” is the DISTRICT NEWSLETTER sent to your Garden Club President and it should be forwarded by your President to all Garden Club Members. It is important for all to be informed of District events. Registration forms and other information from your District Treasurer will be included in this newsletter.

All registration forms and checks for meetings should be sent to the Treasurer before the due date. Number counts of people attending these meetings need to be sent to the District President by the Treasurer by the due date in order to provide an accurate head count for lunches.

Please complete all registration forms completely and always include them with your check. Please note the meeting name or meeting date on the memo line of your check.

The Scholarship Fund and the Blue Star Memorial Fund are funded by your generous Garden Club donations. Donations are accepted any time for these funds through the Shenandoah District Treasurer.



**VIRGINIA FEDERATION OF
GARDEN CLUBS
SHENANDOAH DISTRICT**



VFGC Shenandoah District Annual Dues

To be paid by May 31, 2020

\$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 Club Treasurer
George Ann Birkhofer
449 S F T Valley Road
Madison, VA 22727

Hummingbirds VS Hummingbird Moths

Soon it will be time to fill and hang hummingbird feeders. The recipe I use for nectar is 1 cup of water to $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of granulated white sugar. Boil the water and stir in the sugar, no need to add any red coloring. I usually see a scout around mid-April and then the rest of the flock returns about mid-May. My feeder is outside my kitchen window; I am always relieved when I see the birds return for another season. Try to locate your feeder close to a window so you can observe their antics.



As flowers bloom you often see a little creature that looks surprising like a hummingbird. People often mistake them for baby hummers. However, hummingbirds do not leave their nests until they are almost grown. These little mimics are **moths**; not birds at all. They are smaller than hummingbirds only measuring one to two inches as compared to an adult hummingbird measuring three to three $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Moths rely only on the nectar of flowers while humming-



birds also eat insects. The moths have six legs as an insect would and of course a bird has two. Hummingbirds keep their legs tight against their bodies when in flight so that they are sleek and aerodynamic. Moths let their legs dangle when flying and they have "furry" looking bodies.

Hummingbirds are much more aggressive than the moths. If you have spent any time watching hummers feed, you know that they will rarely be seen sharing a feeder. Last year I had a stand of red monarda (bee balm) planted around my vegetable garden and they could not tolerate being near to each other much less sharing the same bloom. Moths are much more oblivious to each other and to other people. While both species are not related biologically, they look and behave alike. It is believed that the hummingbird bird moth evolved by mimicking the hummingbird.

Be on the lookout this summer to find both species darting from flower to flower.

Betsy Walker, Shenandoah Chairman for Birds and Butterflies

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. There is excellent information available for your garden club and also opportunity for club members to volunteer. Think Spring!

Jmu.edu/arboretum/events/adultprograms.shtml

540-568-3194

At the Arboretum they are offering a Spring Lecture Series on Wednesdays for \$12.00 per lecture or \$35.00 for the series. This began in February and continues through April! Check their site for details! Then on March 21st from 9-12 there will be “A Sustainable Landscape Workshop” cost \$30.00 and this is presented by Sustainability Matters

blandy.virginia.edu

540-837-1758

May 9th and 10th from 9-4 (Mother’s Day Weekend) is the Garden Fair rain or shine with a charge of \$15.00 per car. Garden Fair is a huge plant and garden supply sale that includes native plants, annuals, small trees, shrubs, etc.

Another opportunity for garden club members would be to reach out to the group Sustainability Matters. There are numerous opportunities to help with this group. They have plant and seed swaps several times a year usually in the spring and fall. members. Their Earth Day and Community Plant Swap is held at the Historic Courthouse 103 N. Main Street in Woodstock April 18th from 10:00 – 3:00. They are located on **Facebook** and are always looking for local Artisan Vendors and Volunteers. Email sustainabilitymattersva@gmail.com. These plant and seed swaps are just as they say bring some in and take some out! No charge! This is a great way to share. I have personally attended meetings and volunteered at their very successful events; plus these ladies are great speakers for your club meetings. A real good contact source for all the right reasons.

Susan Zorn, Shenandoah Chairman

Community College Scholarship

As the Shenandoah District Scholarship Chairman, I look forward to receiving applications from young people in their first year of community college, who aspire to continue in horticulture, the environment, forestry or other garden related subject. The \$1000 scholarship goes toward their second year at a community college.

The scholarship committee consisting of Val Story, Mary Haught and I contact the community colleges in our district and ask them to help us reach out to qualified students. The information has also been on the VFGC website and may be found in the green binders given to club presidents and district chairmen. The scholarships are funded by donations to the fund from clubs and individuals through our District Treasurer.

In the recent past we have had outstanding candidates in Landscape Design and Horticulture from Northern Virginia Community College Loudon Campus. We have enjoyed meeting these young people at our Spring District Meetings. Last year's scholarship winner was Rachel Chamberlain who majored in Landscape Design and the prior year was Megan Langerman who studied Horticulture.

I look forward to presenting this years scholarship winner at the Spring District Meeting.

Heidi Sage
Shenandoah District
Scholarship Chairman



PLANET GREEN RECYCLE
RAISE FUNDS WITH OUR E-WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAM



As of March 1 PLANET GREEN will no longer be accepting small electronics. Unfortunately the company found that recycling these items was not as simple or a lucrative as it once was. The company will continue to recycle ink cartridges. VFGC will continue to receive funds for recycling our spent ink jet car-

tridges. If any of our members use refilled cartridges, please consider purchasing them from PLANET GREEN. We receive a portion of any sale.

Log on to their site using my email, srjjj@visuallink.com and the password is kreesee.

Also, recently a speaker presented a program to my garden club on Sustainability Matters. She was representing a local organization by that name. Their mission is very timely. Check it out at sustainability-matters.org.

Susan Creasy, Roadside Beautification, Litter Prevention, Recycling Chairman

The Pleasure Garden

Winter is not my favorite time of year. Despite my winter doldrums, I forced myself to search for a website about a garden that might be inspirational to members, especially those contemplating a garden restoration project. Lo and behold a site advertising the Birdsong Pleasure Garden in Luray, Virginia piqued my interest. The owners built the garden from a blank three-acre canvas as a pleasure garden. So, what is a pleasure garden? Is it a type of garden or maybe just a word to advertise a garden? One of the perks in being affiliated with garden clubs is that not only have I challenged my back muscles but my brain cells as well. The search was on. I had to find out about pleasure gardens.



I believe all gardens are pleasurable and therefore I was surprised to find out that there were actual “pleasure” gardens that have been around for centuries. Pleasure gardens thrived in seventeen- and eighteenth-century Great Britain and Europe. In ancient Rome Emperor Tiberius acquired private gardens and opened them to the public for their pleasure. The gardens showcased beautiful landscapes with fabulous features providing places for the patrons to dine, relax, and rejuvenate themselves. The difference between those gardens being a public park was that they provided entertainment. Gardens created for the purpose of entertainment for the public did not go away and emerged all over Europe and Great Britain. While some of the pleasure gardens remained private and class sensitive, others opened to the public. Nonetheless they were all devoted to the stimulation of the intellectual and sensual pleasures of the participants who were often part of the entertainment as they promenaded in efforts to see and be seen. Often for the price of admission and appropriate attire the not so well off could promenade and pose with the most genteel of the genteel. The gardens in and of their very nature were an esthetic and entertaining delight with various designs and placement of plantings, architecture, water features, and art. Theatrical productions, games, concerts, menageries, fireworks and elaborate spectacles became part of entertainment offerings. Pavilions were erected to provide shelter for light refreshment, and some of the more elaborate shows. Shops sold sundry items within the gardens, and smaller gardens became tea gardens. There was, however, a darker side to the gardens as drunkenness, prostitution, and other less than desirable behavior was evident. Tree groves and dark pathways became places of danger where assaults of all types often occurred. Continued next page

The American version of the pleasure garden was popular between the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. They became associated, like their British counterpart, with genteel behavior and refined leisure. Pleasure gardens in America were associated in the urban areas as “rural retreats” and were evidence of the rural ideal as being part of the American identity. As time went on, the nature of some of the gardens changed and more events of rowdiness and even worse events occurred. The demise of the gardens happened rather quickly in America due to changes in the desire of people for a more participatory type of entertainment, and the value of land increasing making sale for development more lucrative for the owners. I am sure the evidence

of skullduggery and debauchery within the gardens did not help matters. The pleasure garden in eighteenth century America was the precursor to our modern-day amusement parks, zoos, theme parks and seaside parks. There were three pleasure gardens in Virginia in the early 1800s:



Vauxhall and Falling Garden in Richmond and the Riffaud’s Garden in Norfolk.

The elements of the pleasure garden were part of their entertainment value for they provided a departure from the sort of garden associated with labor: the kitchen garden, the orchard, the greenhouse, and the menagerie. However, all the garden types combined with the pleasure garden would be known as the ideal garden in America and would be most likely to have occurred in its grandeur on one’s private estate. This ideal garden would be known to those who restore historical gardens lost to the centuries.

Continued next page

The elements of the pleasure garden remain in the various modern-day types of garden designs. Allees, terraces, fountains and pools, alcoves and garden rooms, shrines and grottoes, architectural features such as pergolas and trellises, and ornamental flower and shrub plantings are all connected by strolling paths to a large expanse of open space used for gatherings. Seating and tables encouraged the participants, in the past and now, to share their thoughts as they indulged in refreshments. Aside from the plantings of the gardens offering refuge and food to the birds and other desirable critters, the only reason for the pleasure garden is for human gratification.

Of course, I had to visit Birdsong Pleasure Gardens and was impressed with what I found. Over a 25-year period, Tom and Lesley Mack have created a lovely space. All the elements of a pleasure garden are contained within their ideal garden. Their mature collection of conifers was very impressive as well as the beautiful views from their property. I can only imagine how lovely the day lily and cutting gardens are during the bloom season. The



garden contains a mixture of both native and non-native plantings and is a designated bird sanctuary. I would suggest a visit to get a feel for a model of a pleasure garden. They are open to the public for purpose of social activity as well as exploration for a nominal fee which is donated to land preservation through the Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation. Reservations should be made for a guided tour. Visit their very well-done web site on Google - Birdsong Pleasure Garden, Luray, Virginia, and their Facebook page to look for upcoming social events in the garden.

I hope that any of our clubs interested in a restoration or rehabilitation garden project will find it worthwhile to explore the history of the pleasure garden. My investigation of this garden type found that their impact on our culture and our gardens today is remarkable. Think of the pleasure garden at your next cook-out: the barbecue area, the paths lined with seasonal flower beds leading to other areas of the yard; perhaps a hidden shade garden or fishpond. And in the wide-open expanse of the backyard a boisterous gang of friends are entertaining themselves with a rowdy badminton game. Co incidental? Maybe.

Carol Davis – Chairman/Community Gardens



Cedar Run Garden Club presents a Memorial Marker

The Blue Star Memorial Committee is pleased to announce the placement of the latest Blue Star Memorial Marker to the American Legion, Post 72 in Warrenton, Virginia, by the Cedar Run Garden Club.

The Marker was presented to the Legion at a moving and patriot ceremony on Saturday,

December, 7, 2019. Certainly, a perfect day for honoring of our United States Military. Cedar Run Garden Club president Val Story welcomed members of the American Legion, members of visiting garden clubs and fellow members of the CRGC. The program included patriotic songs of America the Beautiful and God Bless America led by Joan Gallette. Yours truly was pleased to lead the Pledge of Allegiance, with the help of 5 year old granddaughter, Quenny Thorpe.

Upon accepting the Memorial Marker, Commander Claude Davenport, of Post 72, welcomed everyone including dignitaries; Carter Nevill, Mayor of Warrenton and Michael Webert 18th District Representative to the General Assembly. Both spoke on the respect and support to the United States Military and in memory of those who gave all in defending the United States and world aggression. The Commander accepted the Marker on behalf of Military members past, present and future serving in the United States of America Military.

The history of the Blue Star Memorial program was given by Marilyn Mason, Past President of the Shenandoah District and Virginia Federation Garden Clubs.

Amy Gable Thorpe, Shenandoah District President and her father, Frank Gable, a Viet Nam Veteran, member of the American Legion, unveiled the Marker. It will be permanently attached to the Post 72 building. Cedar Run Garden Club members prepared the garden section in front of the location.

We were pleased to have General Randy West; United States Marine (Ret) gave the benediction.

All attendees were invited to enjoy fellowship and refreshments provided by the American Legion.

I urge your club to join in the awesome experience and patriotic duty of placing a Memorial Marker in the place of your choice. You will be glad you did.

Polly Gable
Shenandoah Blue Star Chairman



LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC POLICY

Items of interest that are happening in Virginia.

1: Dominion Energy's efforts to protect and preserve flora and fauna along pipeline routes and power lines.

- *relocation of some aquatic life**

- *noise monitoring around bat caves**

- * maintain shade and soil moisture for a number of plants.**

- * relocating ginseng plants in George Washington National Forest**

2: Special Efforts:

- * Birds can sit on a single high voltage power line without harm.

If two lines are touched simultaneously by the same bird an electrical circuit is created and the bird is electrocuted. Similarly, the same can happen when a bird such as an eagle tries to fly between power lines closer together than the bird's wingspan.

- * Dominion is using wider armed towers in areas where large birds live, and has erected nesting perches in an effort to encourage nesting in a safe place away from tower lines. Insulators are used liberally around transformers.

- * The wider line separations and making the lines more visible to the birds has resulted in no bird deaths in areas where these are in use.

- * At Roanoke Rapids a ladder, which works much as an escalator, counts and transports eels upstream and around the power plant to their natural habitat.

- * In Warren County netting below the huge air-cooled condenser reduced bat mortality by 98% and is the most successful netting system for such a system in the world.

- * Dominion's Wings at Work program manages their right of way to protect and preserve the habitats of birds, bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

- * Dominion has funded seven pollinator projects along the Atlantic pipeline route in addition to assist landowners along the route to create pollinators sanctuaries. 500 more acres of sanctuary habitat will be completed by the end of 2020.

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RECYCLING

SOURCE-Michael Benedetto, CEO of TFC Recycling, Virginia's largest recycling plant
Recycling-The goal is to isolate material free from contamination, such as the cheese and oil in the cardboard pizza box.

Glass- Can be recycled indefinitely, in theory. Because of contamination, glass is usually only crushed and used as cover for landfills to discourage scavengers and control odor.

Cardboard- Generally only boxes containing appliances, electronics and non-perishable food items are recycled.

Mixed Paper- Mostly used as ballast for ships returning to home port empty.

Plastic Shopping Bags- The "Urban Tumbleweed". A contaminant for all recycling efforts except TREX and similar construction materials.

Aluminum Cans- Recycle bin-recycle facility-crushed into large bales-sold to mills in Kentucky or Illinois where it is shredded into chips, melted down and made in to aluminum sheets, then into cans. This cycle takes about 60 days.

Plastic Bottles- Of numbers 1-7, only #1 and #2 are suitable for recycling and must be clean dry. Always take the cap off any bottle you are recycling. A capped bottle is presumed to not be empty. There, for all practical purposes: Paper, bottles, cans. That's all you should be recycling

ENERGY

Democrats are making a push to boost clean energy in Virginia, backing proposals to widen the door for private and utility owned solar projects and supporting offshore wind development. Both chambers are also working on measures to boost oversight over the state's utilities -Dominion Power and Appalachian Power. The measures could dictate how quickly the utilities roll out clean energy projects and how they go about charging customers for electric development.

RAGING GRANNY

Activist and self-identified "raging granny" Glenna Duff Benjamin was in Montgomery County court in September because she locked herself to a side boom pipe layer and blocked construction of the Mountain Valley Pipeline for five hours. The 76 year old was charged with trespassing. She received a fine of \$200 that would be suspended if she would keep at least 100 yards away from the pipeline and the construction site and that she would not harass MVP employees or contractors. She finally agreed. She delayed construction for about 5 hours that day. She says she will continue to fight the pipeline, but from at least 100 yards, per her agreement.

Submitted by Nancy Irons Shenandoah Legislative Chairman

SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTER CONTEST



The Shenandoah District Smokey Bear poster contest was once again a successful endeavor made possible by five participating garden clubs.



The clubs reached out to three public schools, two private schools and two youth clubs.

With the assistance of 21 teachers and two youth group leaders, we reached 315 students with 280 participants. 48 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.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the five garden clubs and their chairman for all their efforts and hard work to make this a successful year. The participating clubs are: Colonial GC – Jody Elson, Madison GC – Heidi Sage, Cedar Run – Joan Galletta, Glasgow – Carol Davis and Dogwood – Eileen decamp.

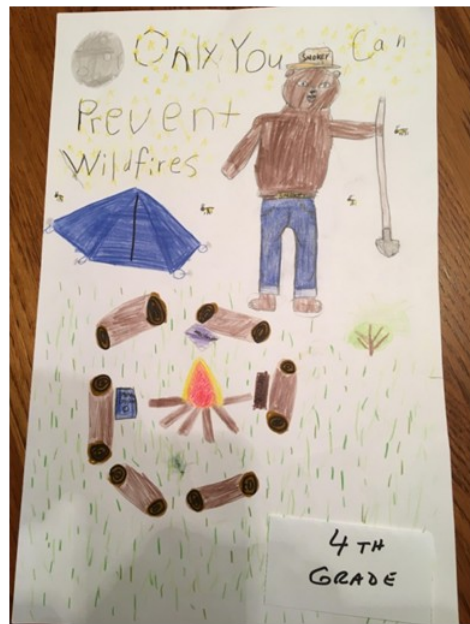
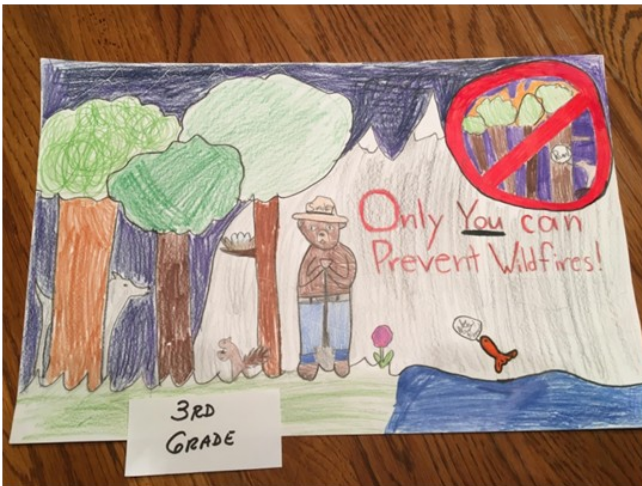
The winning entries for the Shenandoah District are:

Grade 1 – Emilyn Backe	Madison Garden Club
Grade 2 – Olivia Perry	Madison Garden Club
Grade 3 – Charlotte Thomsen	Colonial Garden Club
Grade 4 – Araceli Quintero	Glasgow Garden Club
Grade 5 – Sierra Boxler	Glasgow Garden Club

Congratulations to all the winners! Certificates for each winning student have been ordered and will be presented to the student by the club chairman.

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

See pictures next page



GARDEN THERAPY REPORT – SPRING 2020

Elizabeth Upshur, Chairman

The Mayo Clinic Health Letter for February of 2020 in an article entitled “The Great Outdoors” reports that “spending time in nature can evoke many positive feelings...time in nature can also be invigorating...studies have found an association between time in nature and benefits to mental and physical health.” Add nature and meditation and you have a powerful weapon to combat the stresses of modern life.

My friend Elaine, who is in her eighties, called to say that she was ready for an adventure. What a coincidence – I was just about to launch myself into an excursion exploring water in Orange County. There is nothing more soothing than finding a quiet place with beautiful water and losing yourself. We began at Lake Orange not far from the town of Orange – and after getting lost only once – we found it – a beautiful wooded lake with small islands. It also had the requisite place to sit – no one was there. It may not be like that in warm weather but in cool weather it is pleasantly deserted.



Back again in the town, we were lucky enough to meet a local farmer named Myron who, at first, tried to sell us some hay but, despite the fact that we didn't need any hay, he told us several places we could access the Rapidan River. We began our quest at Myron's farm on the outskirts of Orange where we parked in mud and went off to find Myron and his hay.

Myron led us across a field up to a barbed wire fence which was electrified. He showed us how to carefully step on the wire and duck under the barbed wire. There were all these cows in the field beyond the wire looking at us. They may have been giggling (cows do that). I asked Myron if cows bit people and chased them, and he said – not usually. Continued next page



Elaine and I walked down a hill and could see the river but there was a slightly mucky swamp between us and our sitting on the river bank. We struggled back up the hill keeping a close watch on those cows and stepped on the wire again and went under the barbed wire. Only this time, Elaine caught her ski jacket on the barbed wire. It sort of exploded and puffs of feathers began flying around (there was a breeze).



Myron then told us of two other spots where we could easily view the Rapidan. After asking us again if we needed any hay, he wished us luck. We went over to nearby Madison's Mill Road and drove down the hilly dirt road until Elaine said she was afraid if we went any further we would get stuck. We then walked to the ruins of an old mill and on to the river.

I asked Elaine if she had noticed all the signs saying "Private Property" and she said "no". Luckily no pit bull came out to greet us. The photo is of the ruins of Madison's Mill



We then backtracked to Woodbury Forest Bridge Road, a dead end narrow road at the end of which was a very old stone bridge and a beautiful creek sparkling in the sunlight. This was the place.



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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 540-547-3328

5114 States Mill Road

Boston, VA 22713-4419

chadenva@aol.com

Contributions to

Blue Star Memorial

Make Payable to

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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