SHENANDOAH SHARINGS

Shenandoah District

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



March/ April 2020

Edition 60 A

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As you know Shenandoah Sharings is published twice a year before the district meeting. This is the means of communication for NGC, VFGC, Shenandoah District and information to be shared with members. This newsletter also includes the "call" letter for the district meeting and information regarding the meeting.

The District Meeting this spring is at a exciting, new and different place: Big Springs Farm in Lexington, VA on April 23. We will be starting a bit later at this venue. Scheduled is a wonderful speaker from Boxerwood Gardens; she is the Director of Education.....youth orientated. Do try to attend.

Thank you again for all the terrific articles and pictures. You are what make Shenandoah Sharing a success. Please continue sending the news. Happy Spring,

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, Fundraísing, 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 tonianjims@comcast.net

Thank you to the Host Clubs
Glasgow, Hot Springs, Jackson River and Twlight Garden Clubs

REGISTRATION FOR THE SPRING DISTRICT MEETING

<u>Deadline: April 14, 2020:</u> 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 i	f other than Shena	ndoah	
Make checks pay Mail form and ch George Ann Birl 448 S F.T. Va Madison VA 2 madvirginian@h 540-923-4933	khofer lley Road 22727-2986	nh District-VFGC	
Credentials (pleas	se circle all that app	ply)	
Club Member	Club President	SD Board Members	s Past District President
District President	VFGC Board N	1ember Guest	Other
Diet Allergies:			
Registrar Use Onl	Please, send	st marked after this of a form for each personal Registration: \$28.00	
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.



SHENANDOAH DISTRICT CLUB NEWS

Hill and Valley Garden Club

It's amazing the natural art that our club creates! This fall, member Ruby Eldridge, with the help of her husband Al, brought us slabs of pine that he cut from their property. We weren't quite sure what to do with them. We decided to decorate the wood with other dried materials and sold quite a few at our booth during Heritage Festival in October.



Our club has many talented wreath makers. We decorated historic Calendine for a Christmas event and then sold wreaths to visitors. All proceeds go towards our community projects.

We enjoyed a lovely afternoon Christmas party at the home of Linda Cox, assisted by Susan Rinaca.

Front row left to right: Lesley Mack, Fran Gregory, Marcia Kaetzel, Mary Coates, Susan Rinaca, Ruby Eldridge Rear row: Linda Cox, Katie Sokol, Will Daniels, Inez Myers, Tom Mack



Hill and Valley continued:

We're looking forward to our 3rd annual Garden Tour& Tea on June 13, 2020. Hope to see you all there!

Hill & Valley Garden Club's

Afternoon Tea and Garden Tour

at Birdsong Pleasure Garden, Luray, Virginia

Saturday, June 13th, 2020

1:00-5:00 pm

Sweet, savory and gluten free delicacies

Plants & gardening sales items

Fabulous door prizes offered

\$10 for VFGC members, \$15 for non-members.

Please RSVP, by June 6th

Lesley Mack at birdsongpleasuregarden@gmail.com

website www.birdsongpleasuregarden.info

or phone 540-743-9389



Donors – Prairie Moon Nursery, Hummingbird Hill Natives, Discovery Museum, Blandy Farms, Belle Grove Plantation, Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre, Massanutten Country Corners, and more!

Submitted by Katie Sokol

Luray Garden Club

Twenty-five Luray Garden Club members and their guests rocked out at a wonderful Christmas Luncheon at Brookside in Luray, entertained by Isaac Stroupe -- A.K.A. *Stanley's Own Elvis*. His Blue Blue Christmas songs had all feet tapping and all faces smiling!



Amy Thorpe, Shenandoah District President, attended the luncheon as the guest of honor.

LGC members brought beautifully decorated gifts to be given to local nursing home residents.

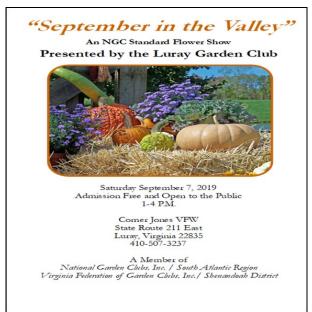




Luray Garden Club is sad to report the passing of Betty Booton Grubbs, a member of 37 years, and the resignation of Bernice Mrotek, a member of 29 years as she relocates to an assisted living facility. However, we have five new members.

Submitted by Rose Ann Smythe

How time flies! Last September the Luray Garden Club members enjoyed showing their gifts and talents by demonstrating their fantastic designs and specimens. The event was held on a Saturday and well attended. We are now talking about the next show! Way to go ladies and gentleman! Submitted by Susan Zorn

















CEDAR RUN GARDEN CLUB

October and November saw Cedar Run being involved community projects and fundraising projects. The October annual Scarecrow contest on Main Street Warrenton. CRGC placed third! The fundraisings were held at First Friday in October on Main Street and the Farmers Market in November. The club made wreaths, birdseed wreaths and feeders. The funds are used for the high school scholarship. The Club gives a scholarship each year.







Also in November, Club members worked with the Boys and Girls Club on the Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl posters.



Cedar Run Garden Club supported the St James School fundraising Gala by donating silent auction designs for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

In February the Club will also support a "SAFE" program, fundraising event by make a table centerpiece to be sold.



Cedar Run continued

Early December CRGC entered the Club Competition at the Middleburg Flower Show. Wow! The Club came is first. Congrats to all the designers



December 7, 2019 Cedar Run dedicated a Blue Star Memorial Marker at the American Legion Post in Warrenton. The Club was proud to dedicate their second marker: the first being at the WARF sports park.







A true highlight for Cedar Run members was a visit to the White House in December with all the beautiful Christmas decorations. This is a wonderful venture.

Another youth project in December. Members worked with the Boys and Girls Club children assisting them to make a gift for their mother/grandmother/father.







Submitted by Val Story

DOGWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Betty Ruth McIntyre Hermansdorfer November 14, 1929 – November 10, 2019





Betty Ruth McIntyre Hermansdorfer, longtime member of the Dogwood Garden Club and Master Emeritus Flower Show Judge, died on November 10, 2019, in Charlottes-ville. Betty joined the Dogwood Garden Club during the 1975-76 club year and was President of the club from 1981 to 1983. She was always generous with her time and shared her knowledge skills with the club members and beyond. The floral design was created by Betty's long-time friend, Dottie Reese.

The Madison Garden Club

ERVEL DIXON (Mrs. Randolph Dixon) passed away recently. Ervel joined our club in 1963, and held many offices, including that of President. Even at age 93, she is remembered as an 'encourager' to many of us, and in recent years held the special designation of "Club Life Member". She was also a VFGC State Life Member.

ADVICE FROM A GARDEN

Cultivate lasting friendships
Sow Seeds of Kindness
Listen to Sage advice
Don't let the little things bug you
Be outstanding in your field
Take thyme for yourself
No vining!

Give Thanks, Show Love, Spread Cheer



A standard flower show, "Give Thanks, Show Love, Spread Cheer" was presented by the Winchester Council of Garden Clubs on November 22 and 23 at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester, Virginia. The Council is made up of five (5) clubs. Club participation was 100%.

The theme of the show was a holiday season that included Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year. This was carried out in the design of the Flower Show Schedule, poster, cards, brochures, advertising and signage which used the logo motif and color scheme throughout. The entrance to the property had a banner announcing the show with the motif and colors as well as the poster that was placed in front of the museum entrance, along with a seasonal display of horticulture. Inside the museum, the theme was further carried through with the signage for each Division, Section and Class. The three (3) season themes were represented throughout the Division classes with unique exhibits in each of the Sections and Classes. Finally, the Club Competition featured a welcoming door that represented the theme was the first display when you entered the museum.

Extensive publicity in print, TV, radio and social media along with flyers and special leaflets distributed before the show, and the excellent venue resulted in one of the largest crowds ever seen for a council flower show.

The show included 24 Design Division entries and 57 Horticulture Division exhibits. In addition, there was a Club Competition Class that included exhibits from each of the 5 clubs in the Winchester Council of Garden Clubs, and an Educational Division consisting of 3 exhibits: The Environmental Club at Shenandoah University, Sherando High School and a Garden Therapist. The Botanical Arts Design Division had its 24 exhibits filled as soon as the schedule came out. Members were very excited to participate in this new creative outlet!

Funding to support the show came from several areas: the Winchester Council provided seed money, and the clubs added to that with the sale of note cards with the theme image, Christmas Wreathes and seasonal items, a framed original drawing of the theme image, and the sale of select arrangements and exhibits at the show.







Club Competition Award



Award of Horticultural Excellence



Award of Design Excellence



Botanical Arts Design Award



Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award

Submitted by Pam Lambourne

Francis Fauquier Garden Club

In December, members of the Francis Fauquier Garden Club visited the home of Susan and Alan Rubin in Delaplane to decorate for the holidays. The couple was the happy winner of the annual drawing, from among donors to the club's scholarship fund. Each year, the Francis Fauquier club awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a



graduating high school senior in Fauquier County, who plans to pursue a career in Environmental Science, Landscape Architecture, Horticulture or Forestry. Three rooms and the front entry of the Rubin's house were decorated with fresh greenery and floral arrangements.













As part of the Club's holiday season activity, small floral arrangements were delivered to residents of the Blue Ridge Christian Home in Bealeton to decorate their bedside tables and trays.

Submitted by Carol Collins

The Nelson County Garden Club

Submitted by Elizabeth Upshur

Three Days in December!!

To raise money for our annual giving of the Dorothy Lee Bowling Giles Scholarship which the club awards in May to a local high school senior wishing to major in horticulture – each December our club has a workshop for making Christmas decorations out of fresh greenery. This can be in all forms – door decorations – small Christmas trees – centerpieces for the table – and candles surrounded by greenery. Here we are at our workshop on December 12 at Trinity Church in Arrington.

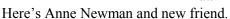


The next day, December 13, we are back at the

Church for our annual Holiday luncheon. All the members bring food, and Pat Price brings in fried

chicken for the whole club. Somehow, even without a list, just the right amount of food in the right categories seems to arrive. Jackie

Britt is the master of ceremonies aided by Suiling Weed, and each year we play different word games. The best part (besides the food) is the decorated boxes. Decorate a box with fresh and dried plants and flowers and take a box according to the number you pick out of a hat. You never what you will get.







Everyone worked hard but especially Karla Murray who made fifteen arrangements. They were all so beautiful! Unfortunately, Becky Wilson and her sister-in-law couldn't help. Both had broken arms just in time for the holidays. Everyone worked hard but especially Karla Murray who made fifteen arrangements. They were all so beautiful! Unfortunately, Becky Wilson and her sister-in-law couldn't help. Both had broken arms just in time for the holidays.

Nelson County Garden club continued

Day Number Three – December 14 – we transport all the greenery creations to the Rockfish Valley Community Center for the Annual Holiday Market.



Above: Cheryl Brogdon

Suiling Weed and Kay Volman





Hawthorne Garden Club

Hawthorne Garden Club in Winchester is celebrating our 60th Year Anniversary in 2020! We have plans to go to Hillwood Gardens in Washington DC on May 21. Enclosed is an invitation to our event and all are welcome to join us! There are tentative plans for an Alumni Luncheon in November honoring past members and our 60 years in existence. Scrapbooks from previous years will be displayed. Reminiscing will be great fun!!

The "Give Thanks, Share Love, Spread Love" National Flower Show chaired by the Glen Burnie Garden Club held at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester was a beautiful show and a wonderful success for our members as numerous blue ribbons were received. Blue Ribbons were received by: June Van De Riet, Shirley McInturff, Penny Haag, Kay Hallett, and Donna Hopkins in the Design Section. Donna Lee received a Blue in Horticulture as well the Grower's Award with Penny Haag receiving a Blue and



Grower's Choice Award. Overall, it was a very successful flower show!











Hawthorne Garden Club continued:

Annually we decorate historic sites in the Shenandoah Valley for the Christmas season. Those locations are Belle Grove Plantation, Abrams Delight, and Longbranch. Ellen Mason, a longtime member, who lives in a historic home had signed up to be in the Historic Home Tour of Winchester. Unfortunately, she required surgery and thus turned to Hawthorne members to assist in the decorating. Members were more than happy to assist!. Not only was it wonderful to be able to help a member but great to hear such wonderful comments from those who took the tour!







Submitted by Penny Haag

LOW Garden Club

The LAKE OF THE WOODS GARDEN CLUB shares a problem experienced by many organizations with mature memberships. Despite a healthy roster, we find the work being done by fewer members. To mitigate this, we are reaching out to a younger audience by offering evening programs. These evening programs supplement our regular daytime meetings and feature different programs such as a social at a winery, creating floral cones similar to a tussie mussie, meeting at a nursery to plant annuals in containers, or demonstrating flower arrangements for fall. These meetings are open to all, and attendance has been encouraging. We will monitor to see if new members are recruited as a result.

Our Club is flourishing with a variety of stimulating programs including our annual Christmas Tea for which members are encouraged to honor an old Virginia tradition to bring their own teacups and share why they chose that cup. Field trips have included a visit to a local orchid greenhouse, which supplies orchids to multiple businesses east of the Mississippi River, including Costco. We just enjoyed our third annual Wine, Cheese, and Chocolate Strawberries, a winter warm-up celebrating Valentine's Day.

Traditionally, our Club has supported the local food bank encouraging members to bring contributions to each meeting. Finally, we thought to ask the food bank staff what they needed. Would you believe that pancake mix and pickles were on the first request? They struck gold.

Our members are also enthusiastic supporters of Penny Pines, and pass the jar at each meeting. Our Club funded six plantations last year!

We are looking ahead to our Home and Garden tour on June 6, 2020.



Submitted by Joy Poole

Glen Burnie Garden Club

Who knew that 4th graders from Orchard View Elementary School would have so much fun creating arrangements in hand-me-down coffee mugs? That's exactly what some members of Glen Burnie Garden Club experienced when they interacted with and coached the students, helping them design fall arrangements.

Shenandoah University sponsored Career Day, Tuesday, October 22, 2019. Students from the local elementary school were invited to explore and learn about various "jobs" that might spark an interest for the young folks. The students chose several different "stations" and rotated from station to station in 25 minute increments.

Members of Glen Burnie donated mugs, greenery from their fall gardens and their time to make this day a memorable one for all involved. Fall flowers were ordered from Costco to share with the students as they "designed" their take-home arrangements.

Each child was given a mug with pre-soaked oasis and then the fun began. Mary Will Bowen was the lead-presenter during the project. She explained how to balance the arrangements in regards to height of the stems and also in regards to texture and color. Various members of the club stationed themselves around the table to help out the young designers. You've never heard such good questions and animated chatting as the youngsters began choosing their colors and materials for their designs. The boys were just as excited, if not more excited than the girls. When the students learned that they could take their finished products back to school and then home with them, they were so excited.

Everyone involved in the project was pleased with the end results. The students went back to school with tangible proof of a creative design and the club members were encouraged by the enthusiasm and appreciation that was shared. We even recruited a new member from another station. What joy there is to be shared when you can work with flowers.

Submitted by Marsha Barley





Monticello Garden Club

Members of the Monticello Garden Club met on January 9, 2020 at the Bonefish Grill restaurant in Charlottesville to celebrate the 62nd anniversary of the Club. Our special guest at the luncheon was Tina LaRoche, executive director of Camp Holiday Trails, a nonprofit camp in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains near Charlottesville.

Camp Holiday Trails provides a fun camping experience and exposure to the outdoor environment with around the clock medical supervision to children with diverse medical diagnoses. They have served over 10,000 campers from all over the U.S. since 1973! One of the original founders of the camp, retired pediatrician Dr. Robert Selden, is the husband of club member Nancy Selden.

At the luncheon Club co-president Rena Snow presented Tina and Camp Holiday Trails with a check for \$10,000 to sponsor camperships this summer. This gift is funded annually with a generous donation from Linwood A. "Chip" Lacy and his wife, Connie in memory of Chip's mother Ann Warrick Lacy, an avid gardener and long-time member of the Monticello Garden Club.

In addition to this financial sponsorship, Monticello Garden Club has several ongoing landscaping projects at the camp. We are delighted to help support such a worthwhile cause.

Submitted by Susan Netemeyer





Community Gardens

Carol Davis is happy to report that three of our member clubs in Rockbridge County are in various stages of developing planting projects in their communities. The Glasgow GC has assumed responsibility for a roadside rock garden that could no longer be cared for by the original creators. The club members worked for 2 days to restore and mulch the garden as well as preparing the garden for winter. Plans for additional planting and maintenance will resume in the spring. Also, the Glasgow GC is in the early stages of partnering with the town of Glasgow to aid in the restoration of the town's Bicentennial Memorial Park. A grid plan was presented to the town officials for their consideration. This is a large project and if accepted will be a three-phase project lasting over at least three years.

The Natural Bridge GC has adopted an abandoned herb garden in front of the Piovano Building in Lexington, Va. The club will be responsible for its restoration and maintenance. The herbs are used in food preparation for the Rockbridge County Community Table. Kudos to the Natural Bridge GC.

Glasgow and Natural Bridge GC members had a work filled day at the master gardener directed Natural Bridge Elementary School Garden installing new elements in the garden to areas that needed an upgrade. Those supplies were purchased with money obtained by VFGC grant monies.

I am also thrilled to recognize the Fair Hills GC's efforts to sponsor a Children's Garden Club for the purpose of providing inspiration and guidance to youngsters as they learn how to plant flowers and vegetables. The members hope to beautify the local school grounds as well as other localities while providing fellowship and fun activities for the young members. The club will be open to kids from kindergarten to 5th grade. Fair Hills GC is aware of the possibility of acquiring grants and awards from the district and state levels. I would also like to think that sharing the story of the Glen Burnie GC marigold planting project offered in part, inspiration to Fair Hills GC.

The above information brings me to the point of the importance of sharing with others within our district. I would like to know about the efforts of our member clubs in community or youth planting projects as well as garden restoration efforts, historical or otherwise. I am happy to see the announcement of grant awards in our Old Dominion Gardener. The article apprised me of more garden planting projects within our district. The student marigold planting project sponsored by

project both received grant monies. A 30-year-old garden will be overhauled and acquire a new look of that of a pollinator garden with the efforts of the Madison GC. The Hawthorne GC. is busy rescuing a landscape at a private school after it became damaged by severe rains. A new rain garden will replace the damaged site.

I have a hunch that there are planting projects and possibly historical restorations that I am not aware of. The importance of sharing cannot be underestimated as one club could find inspiration from another's story of what is happening with their projects. Let me know what projects your club has taken on or share your ideas with our newsletter for others to read. We have lists for ideas for monthly programs and floral design themes. Maybe we can start a collection of ideas for community planting or restoration ideas to use as a reference source.

I also want to mention that over the last year the Virginia legislature passed legislature designating several African American Cemeteries throughout Virginia as historical sites that are now eligible to receive funds from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources to preserve and maintain the cemeteries. Several burial areas were named in the 2019 and 2020 legislative sessions. Often in horrible states of deterioration due to the ravages of overgrowth, flooding, paving, construction, eminent domain, and urban renewal, some of these burial gardens are in danger of being lost forever. They are important sources that offer vital information to our historical past. Garden clubs might be interested in partnering with other organizations in the restoration of these areas as volunteers who will be needed for removing overgrowth, helping to clean and right the headstones, identification of dead or diseased trees and shrubs, replacing plantings with those of historical significance, helping identify lost and unmarked gravesites, and maintaining the restored areas. A few of the cemeteries added during the last session were in Loudon County, Harrisonburg, and Buckingham County to mention a few. The preservation of these perpetual gardens is imperative for their historical value as well as the very nature of their role in preserving the dignity of our American cultures.

Congratulations to these clubs.....there must be more in the Shenandoah District

APPLICATION FOR VFGC LIFE MEMBER- SHIP/BOOK OF HONOR	Contributions to		
I	Blue Star Memorial		
Check One: Life MembershipBook of Honor Name of Honoree	: Make Payable to Shenandoah District, VFGC		
Address	In honor of President or Individual:		
CityStateZip	Name of Club or Individual making		
Honoree's Garden Club	Check memo line: Blue Star Memorial Send Check and form to Polly Gable 540-347-7708pollygable@gmail.com 6416 Summerfield Lane Warrenton, VA 20186		
Honored by			
District			
Date of Presentation			
Surprise?YesNo Club Meeting District Meeting Send life membership pin and card or Book of Honor Card to:	Contribution to Shenandoah District Scholarship Fund		
Name	 - • Make payable to:		
Address	Shenandoah District, VFGC		
CityStateZip	 Check Memo Line: Scholarship Fund Send Check and Form to Heidi Sage 1057 Jacks Shop Road Rochelle, VA 22738-3907 		
Phone # E-mail			
CHECK payable: VFGC, Inc. MAIL to Shenandoah Life Membership Chairman: Denise Henderson 540-547-3328	Print:Club Name		