

# SHENANDOAH SHARINGS



## Shenandoah District

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



Edition 64-A

August/September  
2021

### EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As you know Shenandoah Sharings is published twice a year (sometimes more) before the district meeting. This is the means of communication for NGC, VFGC, Shenandoah District and information to be shared with members by your club president.

This newsletter also includes the "call" letter for the district meeting and information regarding the meeting. We are certainly happy to meet in person.

The District Meeting this fall is at an exciting place, central to most clubs; Spotswood Country Club in Harrisonburg. (Yes, we have met here before). We have two programs planned.

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

*Val*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

S D Board Meeting: Sept 9 Harrisonburg  
VFGC Flower Show: Sept 12-13 Richmond  
VFGC Board Meeting: Sept 13 Richmond  
Flower Show School: Sept 13-16 Richmond  
VFGC Grants Deadline: Sept 15  
NGC Fall Board Meeting: Sept 21-25 St Louis  
SD Judges Council Meeting: Oct 4 Harrisonburg  
Landscape Design School Oct 11-12 Richmond  
District Meeting: October 14 Harrisonburg  
Fine Arts and Flowers: Oct 21-24 Richmond  
Designers Guild Flower Show: Oct 25  
ODG Deadline: Nov 1  
Awards Deadline Dec 1

### SHENANDOAH SHARINGS

Editor.....Val Story  
valstory@aol.com

140 Culpeper Street, Warrenton, VA 20186



Shenandoah District Fall Meeting October 14, 2021  
Spotswood Country Club 1980 County Club Road, Harrisonburg

**Programs, Vendors, Fundraising**

Come visit this venue in Harrisonburg, enjoy the sights, greens and trees.  
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 9:10

Club President Meeting at 9:30

**Program: Ground Covers by Darcey Justin  
Designs by members/judges Blue Ridge District**

**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: October 5, 2021 postmarked after this date add \$10.00 to registration  
Please, send a form for each person attending.  
Registration: \$27.00**

## SHENANDOAH DISTRICT CLUB NEWS

### Glen Burnie Garden Club

Glen Burnie Garden Club members have been busy this past spring and early summer! Spring Cleanup is always a task on the agenda and there have been several small and two larger projects that members have taken on and accomplished.

Early in the spring, members led by Janet Bordwine gathered to expand the Butterfly Garden behind historic Abrams Delight and not only cleaned and expanded the bed, they donated different plants from their own gardens to enhance the garden and increase its appeal to the Monarch Butterfly, with newly added Butterfly Weed and varieties of Milkweed and Joe Pye Weed.



Next on the agenda, also led by Janet, was to clean up and mulch the beds outside of the main post office in Winchester, a focal point at a major intersection in town.



Weeding and pruning and general sprucing up was followed by mulching to keep the weeds down and dress up the beds. Janet worked with members Tricia Boyd, Lucinda Cullers and Deidra Dain, and also coordinated with Justin Hall at the town office to get the mulch delivered. Justin is thrilled with the work our faithful members have accomplished there!

Our annual Marigold Project, working with elementary school children in Winchester, was cancelled again this year because of Covid restrictions. Not to be discouraged, members Marsha Barley and Carolyn Frye worked together with the teachers at Quarles Elementary School to get the children involved in this worthwhile project. Marsha purchased a flat of marigolds for the children to plant in small garden bed outside the main entrance which was created by the custodial staff of the school. Continue next page



Glen Burnie Continued:

Carolyn was able to get SOL worksheets on plants for the children to work with in class. Each of the children also got a packet of seeds to bring home and plant in their own gardens. A Youth Grant from the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs funded this program.



The highlight of our spring meetings was a tea and tour at Blooming Hills Lavender Farm in Purcellville. Our host, Cyndie Rinek, gave an extensive tour and talk about the gardens and



growing, harvesting and using lavender in a variety of ways. The tea that followed was wonderful, and then we rounded out the day with a visit to the shop on the grounds featuring all things lavender!



We are looking forward to August when member Deidra Dain will share with us how to make plant-based solutions for natural healing. In October, at our annual Joint Meeting we will host garden clubs from Winchester and the surrounding towns. Glen Burnie members will instruct the group on various types of flower arrangements, in preparation for our Standard Flower Show that the Winchester council will be hosting spring of 2023.

Submitted by Carolyn Frye

### **Greenvale Garden Club**

With deep sadness that I have to write to you concerning a long-time member ( over thirty years ) of Greenvale Garden Club. Carolyn Anne Huffman Wetsel passed away on June 27, 2021. Carolyn was a dynamic member of the community of Harrisonburg-Rockingham County and introduced many of us to garden club. She loved cooking, gardening, and water color painting all of which added joy to her life. Carolyn will be missed by many.

Submitted by Liz Lawson



The Hill & Valley Garden Club  
Graciously Welcomes You to a  
**Garden Lover's Day** at  
Birdsong Pleasure Garden  
Luray, Virginia September 25, 2021, 10 am-5 pm

~ Enjoy Guided Garden Tours or Wonder on Your Own ~  
Landscaped Areas, Unique Garden Plantings and Soothing Water Features,  
are all woven together over the three acre gentle terrain.

Birdsong Pleasure Garden has been named a Virginia Treasure, a Native Habitat Garden,  
and called a "Garden Wonderland" by Virginia Living House & Garden magazine.

Proceeds benefit Environmental College Scholarships for Area High School Students

**Additional sales and interests:**

**A plant sale area** will offer potted perennials, trees, shrubs, seeds and various house plants.

**Raffle ticket purchases** are available for \$25-\$100 Gift Certificates from our generous donors:

Wood Thrush Natives, Discovery Museum, Hummingbird Hills Natives, Prairie Moon Nursery,  
Fort Valley Nursery, Belle Grove Museum, Shenandoah Music Theater, Harper's Statuary,  
Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, Luray Caverns, Mama's Treasurers, White Oak  
Lavender Farm, Waynesboro Garden Center, Moonshadows Restaurant, Plant Delights, Edible  
Landscaping, Mimslyn Inn, Massanutten Country Corner and others!

**Special Offer:** Airplane ride for two, offered by the South Court Inn of Luray

**Online registration** starts March 1 and closes on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 pm.

Please contact Lesley Mack at  
[birdsongpleasuregarden@gmail.com](mailto:birdsongpleasuregarden@gmail.com) or phone 540-743-9389 for info, tickets and tour time.  
Garden website at, [www.birdsongpleasuregarden.info](http://www.birdsongpleasuregarden.info) and on facebook.

**\$10 for VFGC members, \$12 for non-members**

*Please stay home if you are ill or think you may have been in contact with someone who was ill.  
All unvaccinated visitors must wear a mask. A Restroom is available*

The Hill & Valley Garden Club Graciously Welcomes You to a Garden Lover's Day at Birdsong Pleasure Garden Luray, Virginia September 25, 2021, 10 am-5 pm With precautions in place and following Virginia Health Dept. Guidelines, the Hill & Valley Garden Club (HVGC) invites you to spend a day out in a garden. Birdsong Pleasure Garden has been named a Virginia Treasure, a Native Habitat Garden, and called a "Garden Wonderland" by Virginia Living House & Garden magazine. Proceeds benefit Virginia Land Preservation and HVGC Scholarships. The Guided Garden Tour includes landscaped areas, mountain vistas and unique plantings all woven together over gentle terrain. Seating and shady areas will be available.

To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for both garden visitors and club members, garden tour times will be schedule, and a limited number of tickets sold, to make certain social distancing can be properly maintained while visiting.

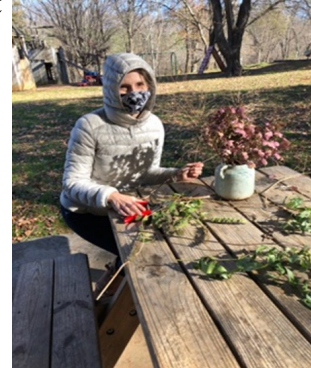
Additional sales and interests: A plant sale area will be available to small groups of shoppers, on a rotating basis. Raffle ticket purchases are available for \$25-\$100 Gift Certificates from our generous donors: Wood Thrush Natives, Discovery Museum, Hummingbird Hills Natives, Prairie Moon Nursery, Shenandoah Music Theater, Harper's Statuary, Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, Luray Caverns, Mama's Treasurers, Waynesboro Garden Center, Moon shadows Restaurant, Plant Delights, Massanutten Country Corner and others!

Online registration starts March 1 and closes on September 15th, 3:00 pm. Early registration is highly recommended, so that ticket holders are assured of their tickets and time. Please contact Lesley Mack at [birdsongpleasuregarden@gmail.com](mailto:birdsongpleasuregarden@gmail.com) or phone 540-743-9389 for info and tickets and tour time. Garden website at, [www.birdsongpleasuregarden.info](http://www.birdsongpleasuregarden.info). \$10 for VFGC members, \$12 for non-members Please stay home if you are ill or think you may have been in contact with someone who was ill. All visitors must wear a mask. No restrooms available. Use hand sanitizer often.

**The Rappahannock County Garden Club** used our lovely county park for many of our fall meetings outdoors. This Park was sorely neglected and totally overgrown with invasives until one of our members, with others in the community, got involved and helped it



become a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization. This volunteer group cleared out many of the invasives, renewed the tennis court, planted pollinator gardens, and made walking paths down to the river. We are so lucky to have this county asset!



We continued to meet on Zoom in **January and March** with a local author, Susan Sharpe, commenting on her book on Rappahannock County called, *The Nature of the Place* and Christine Schmidt, arborist at Blandy Experimental Farm,

talking to us about herbaceous plants.

In **April**, our open air gathering at the park was interrupted by a passing storm - so we gathered inside at a local church hall (for the first time) -- to hear one of our members, a Master Naturalist, give a wonderful informative presentation on Birding in Rappahannock County.

In **May** we were back at the Park for three mini-presentations; about our local mentoring program, truffle farming in the county and a presentation on Backyard Parks. **June** brought 22 members to Blandy Experimental Farm for a wonderful two hour tour of the Native Garden and the lovely meadow gardens.

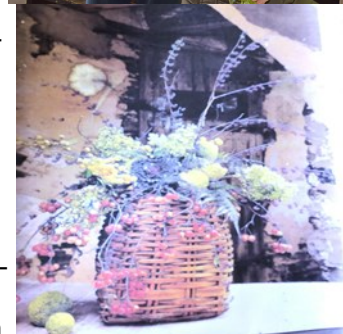


In May our club also partnered with a local non-profit Rapp at Home to make small floral arrangements for delivery to area seniors for Mother's Day.



Meanwhile, we continued our program of "Rappahannock in Bloom" with our partners, Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR) and gave

away thousands of free trees to citizens of our county. This program started in 2019 with a voluntary effort of our Garden Club to plant flowering cherry, dogwoods and redbuds in the town of Washington and Sperryville, Virginia - free of charge due to a local benefactor. We even engaged our local school children in this effort!



The STEAM Coordinator (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) worked with classes (K-5th) to teach and discuss the importance of trees -- with a poster contest as the final project.

Our Club was so pleased to recognize the great art of students from our local elementary school, as they showed us how they interpret the very important concept of "Why do we need trees?".

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Our current community project, this coming autumn, is helping to landscape the brand new Post Office in Washington, VA. With the help of the non-profit Rappahannock League of Environmental Protection (RLEP).



All in all, during “Covid” we tried to maintain a sense of normalcy. We held club meetings, had interesting programs, and brought samples of horticulture and design to be judged when possible. We kept in touch by emailing monthly newsletters, highlighting photos from our gardens, floral arrangements and sweeping landscapes.



We also added three new members during this difficult time! The current membership is about 45, with new members always being recruited.



We will meet in July at the local fire hall - for the first time in 16 months to hear from a Master Farmer, Jen Brownell of Whippoorwill Farms.

Submitted by Kathi Dutilh

## **CEDAR RUN GARDEN CLUB CELEBRATES 70 YEARS OF SERVICE**

The Cedar Run Garden Club was founded on January 27, 1950 and Federated on May 14, 1951. The 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was celebrated with a Luncheon at the Black Bear Bistro in Warrenton on Friday May 21, 2021. This has been over 70 years of learning for the members and the giving of Community Service for Warrenton. Cedar Run Garden Club has 22 members and currently meets in the American Legion Hall, when not out and about with community projects, field trips, working with the Boys and Girls Club and senior citizens.

Over the years we have met in member’s homes, the Lutheran Church on Dumfries Road, St. Johns Church, the Fauquier Springs Country Club, the Warrenton Visitors Center, the American Legion Hall and others.

Many years ago, CRGC adopted a highway (Route 674), and were presented with a sign from the Department of Highways. We have sponsored yearly Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Poster Contests. In years past, Recycling was a huge project. The Fauquier Library garden was completely renovated and planted by CRGC and has been maintained since the 1980’s a

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CRGC Continues:

project of over 40 years duration. Landscape architect Meade Palmer chose a Yellow Wood tree to plant in the garden in 1996 where it exists today 25 years later. The Library Garden is an oasis in the Towne of Warrenton.



Members learn about plant varieties and gardening, have flower shows and exhibit designs and horticulture from our gardens. Members also create flower designs and learn about the many types of designs at our meetings. The Club has visited the National Arboretum, Hillwood, Ladew, and Meadowlark Gardens, Longwood, Gardens, the White House and others.

There have had many speakers, designers and scientists who presented programs. We have sponsored home and garden tours in the past. The Club has worked with students from Fauquier High School in planting a garden and cleaned up and pruned plants in the courtyard at Bealeton Elementary School. Cedar Run also award annual college scholarships to students from local high schools majoring in horticulture related programs. Proudly Cedar Run has presented Warrenton with two Blue Star Memorials in honor of our Armed Forces. Record books and photos going all the way back to 1950 have been located and have given us insights into CRGC's accomplishments over the years. Our Club has a long and proud history of service to our community.



The 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was a celebration with our members and we had honored guest Linda Lewis Taylor present at this Celebration. Linda is a former President of CRGC from 1991 to 1993. She is a Master Judge, Designer extraordinaire, painter, teacher and potter and has held many offices in the National Capital Region Garden Clubs and in the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs.



Two other honored guests were present, Pat Carswell the new Shenandoah District President, and Valerie Story the new First Vice President of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs. Valerie Story presented a Certificate of Merit Honoring Cedar Run Garden Club from the National Garden Clubs in honor of their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, signed by Gay Austin, NGC President. Also, she presented a certificate from the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs recognizing seventy years of outstanding achievements by CRGC. Pat Carswell presented a Certificate of Appreciation for 70 years of Service to CRGC from the Shenandoah District.



Submitted by Mary Ann May



***THE NELSON COUNTY GARDEN CLUB***

The Club was not dormant during the COVID year. Respecting COVID guidelines for safety, we conducted our annual greenery sale in December of 2020. Instead of having our traditional greens workshop, supplies were delivered and arrangements picked up from individual members' homes. Club members were amazed and delighted to learn that we made more money from the 2020 Holiday Sale than we had ever made before!

The Memorial Garden Committee was hard at work in April pruning and cleaning the garden the club maintains next to the Nelson Memorial Library in Lovingsston. The Nominating Committee, masked and careful about social distancing, met inside the newly refurbished library.

Our May 2021 general meeting was a picnic social event held outdoors at Trinity Episcopal Church in Arrington and chaired by Vice President, Pat Price (photo right). The slate of new officers was presented to the club for approval. We gained two new members at this meeting, Mary Hopkins and the Rev. Donna Steckline of Trinity Church.



On June 4, 2021, 22 members of the club met at Trinity Episcopal Church to swear in our new officers. Jackie Britt officiated at the ceremony. Officers sworn in were Cheryl Brogdon as President, Elizabeth Upshur as Vice President, Kay Volman as Secretary, and Terri Brooks as Treasurer.



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After this solemn and serious ceremony came the judging of hats decorated with flowers, leaves, lichens, moss and other plant material. Decorated hats is a long-standing tradition of our club. Winners of the hat competition were Jeanne Lawson (Traditional Hat), Frances Van Lear (Most Whimsical Hat), and Susan Swink (Most Outrageous) shown in order in the photos below.



On July 2, 2021, the club met at Rockfish Presbyterian Church in Nellysford. We kept to our new formula of meeting at 12:30 for social time and (this time) we had an indoor picnic lunch. Hostesses sign up for dessert on our yearly calendar, and for this meeting, Hostess Chairman Anne Newman, covered a table with cakes, cookies and desserts.

We were fortunate to have at this meeting Grace Morris who spoke on Ikebana Design. Grace has been creating Ikebana designs for many years, principally in the Ohara School, and is currently studying Sangetsu. As usual, her presentation was spectacular, and we were fascinated. Submitted by Elizabeth Upshur

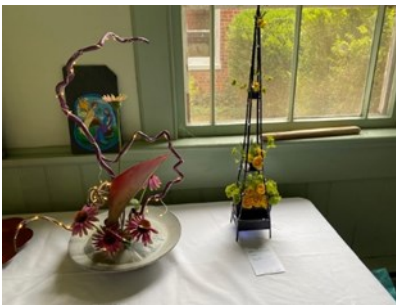


**Glasgow Garden Club** has had a busy and productive two years, including adoption of two high-profile community beautification projects, establishing an evergreen garden to supply our annual holiday wreath sale, joining in community cleanups, and increasing the robustness of our floral and horticultural presentations at our monthly meetings -- all the while observant of COVID safety guidelines!

Project coordinator Nancy Irons reports our xeriscape Rock Garden beautification project, at Lexington's Route 11 North, has been exceptionally beautiful this year. Showy red-hot pokers in full bloom provided a real pop of color, and the sedum has expanded to cover the bank nicely despite nearby city construction work earlier this year. The garden's rotating maintenance schedule of GGC members along with many husbands



has provided many hands that have made light work of keeping the weeds under control and the garden always looking good. We've received many compliments from our community.



Also, of note this year has been the formation in our club of a new Awards committee, led by Carol Davis and Nancy Irons, which has revitalized the club practice of having our members' designs and horticulture evaluated by experienced local judges at each monthly meeting. The result has been our members' increased enthusiasm, interest, participation and skill in developing floral design and horticulture presentation -- very helpful to our newer, less-experienced members and a boost for our more experienced designers. Although our 2021 design theme, "The Many Facets of Woman", has included unusual / challenging requirements like illuminary and angular design, our members have truly responded with impressive results! And, as GGC in late August will be hosting the Flower Show, presented by Rockbridge County Council of Garden Clubs, at this year's Rockbridge Regional Fair, the opportunity to sharpen and present our design abilities has been very well received.

In community cleanup news, GGC club members Doris Wright, Carol Davis, Kim Serocki and Nancy Irons and their significant others, better known as the "Trash-B-Gone gang, collected 42 bags of trash from a 1.9 stretch of road in Glasgow. This was a very rewarding experience and raised our awareness of trying to discourage littering. We also learned Bud Light is the alcoholic beverage of choice in Rockbridge County and McDonalds is the favorite fast food. Amazing what you learn when you gather someone else's trash!



### 'Trash-Be-Gone'

Members and friends of the Glasgow Garden Club participated in the March Rockbridge Area Community Cleanup Litter Challenge. Pictured are (from left) Paul Wilkop, Nancy Irons, Bob Irons, Doris Wright, John Serocki, Kim Serocki and Stanley Wright. The group, better known as the "Trash-Be-Gone" gang, is competing with similar groups in the county for the coveted "Litter Cup" which was created by Mark Cline. In four and a half hours the gang managed to collect 42 bags of litter from a 1.9 mile stretch of Lone Jack Road. Those traveling this road will see a large difference in this roadside view.

Submitted by Kim Serocki

## **RAPID ANN GARDEN CLUB PARTNERS WITH ART CENTER OF ORANGE**

Anna Pillow, the new director of the Art Center in the Town of Orange asked the guidance of the Rapid Ann Garden Club in developing a small space located directly behind the Art Center and between two buildings just off of the Main Street in Orange.

The idea is to turn this unused and neglected space into an outdoor classroom for the Art Center as well as a meeting space and activity area for the Orange Community to share. This is a sweet gem of a space that had been forgotten and unused for a number of years.

Club members met with Anna to assist in planning the use of the space, how the community could be involved and how donations might be collected to complete the area. At this time two picnic tables have been placed in the area and potted trees and shrubs have also been donated. Our club donated a miniature Chinese Maple tree and a Ninebark Shrub which are planted in whiskey barrel containers.

Future plans for the patio area include a native flower garden to include plants donated from club member's gardens and a large wall mural, which is part of another community grant.



Submitted by Martha Roby

**Calfee Garden Club**, like most clubs, have been meeting in creative ways around Covid shutdowns since Spring. Our April meeting was held at a local park. It was to be the warmest day of the week but instead, was freezing! The ladies were prepared with blankets to snuggle under and enjoyed Darcy Justen's program on bulbs.

In May, the club traveled to Bothy Lavender Farm in Amissville. Members who attended enjoyed walking among the Lavender and browsing through the shop. The owner sent Lavender sachets home to share with the membership. Sadly, the owners sold the farm just before our tour but hopefully the new owners will continue to offer tours.

Also in May, Calfee cleaned out and shaped up the Memorial Garden at Yowell Meadow Park located in downtown Culpeper. Then a beautiful assortment of annuals were planted. Calfee Garden Club initiated this garden in 1995 and has been maintaining it ever since.

Celebrating "National Garden Week" members Pat Carswell and Val Story contributed beautiful designs. Val Story exhibited a large "Pot et Fleur" which was prominently displayed at the Culpeper Library. Pat Carswell, thinking 'outside the box', displayed her colorful Creative Design at the salon where she gets her hair done. Both designs were wonderful recruitment tools for attracting new members.



Also in June, Calfee held its end of year luncheon at Inn at Willow Grove. So many, determined to see their fellow members, attended this lively event. The club recognized several long serving members with the honor of a Penny Pines Plantation planted in their honor. Framed certificates were presented to Page Aylor, Pat Bankhead, Ruth Button, Peggy Place, Audrey Powell and Anne Yeaman. Congratulations ladies, for your decades of commitment.

With July and early August, Calfee Garden Club is busily planning its 2021-2022 club year with the first meeting in mid-August. The club looks forward to an innovative, exciting and hopefully, a complete year without interruption.

Submitted by Melanie Browning

## MGC Celebrates National Garden Week June 6-12, 2021

The Madison Garden Club joined other members of the National Garden Clubs around the country in celebrating National Garden Week. According to the NGC website, “this week is an opportunity to encourage pride in your community, interest new members, and work with other groups to be part of these efforts”. Members created small flower arrangements to share with residents of Mountain View Nursing Home and Autumn Care Nursing Home. Although regular activities held monthly by the Garden Therapy Committee at these facilities before the COVID-19 pandemic were suspended, Madison Garden Club members have shared the beauty of flowers during the holiday season in December 2020 and in celebration of this important project of National Garden Clubs.



Submitted by Judy Ann Fray

### Hill & Valley Garden Club

“Serving the Luray community since 1956”

#### SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

This May we awarded \$300 each to seniors from Luray and Page County high schools: Kate Shifflett (Luray) and Katharine Yoder (Page County). Both graduates will be pursuing careers in environmental and animal poultry sciences and we are pleased to help them attain these goals. We thank Inez Myers, Scholarship Chair, for her work in coordinating the student applications.

#### MEMBER NEWS

Katie Sokol has been appointed as Chair of the Community Gardens committee. Her focus is to spread news about gardens (private or public) or any garden activities to the other 40 garden clubs in the Shenandoah District.

Lesley Mack and husband Tom were recently awarded the 2021 Virginia Green Attraction of the Year for their Birdsong Pleasure Garden. [www.birdsongpleasuregarden.info](http://www.birdsongpleasuregarden.info)

#### GARDEN LOVER'S DAY

This event will be held September 25 at Birdsong Pleasure Garden from 10-5 pm.

Your entry ticket gives you one free raffle ticket but additional tickets for \$3 each may be purchased for chances to win \$25-\$100 gift certificates: Luray Caverns, Moonshadows Restaurant, Massanutten Country Corner, Mama's Treasures, Wood Thrush Natives, Hummingbird Hill Natives, Prairie Moon Nursery, Plant Delights, Harper's Statuary, Waynesboro Garden Center, Discovery Museum,  
Continued next page

Hill and Valley continued

Shenandoah Battlefields Foundation, Shenandoah Music Theater, and a 45 minute flight for 2 departing from the Luray Caverns Airport flying with Captain Mike Osmer in a Cessna Cardinal . After the tour be sure to stop by our plant sale area for club grown plants of all kinds at super reasonable prices!

In addition, we are selling chances to win this gorgeous 6'x6' handmade quilt by member Adelheid Osmer. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased the day of the tour.

All proceeds from this event benefit the HVGC scholarship program. Call soon to reserve your ticket 540-743-9389 or email [birdsongpleasure-garden@gmail.com](mailto:birdsongpleasure-garden@gmail.com)



Our July meeting was held at the home of Linda Cox and co-hosted with Ruby Eldridge. We enjoyed a delightful potluck salad luncheon followed by a business meeting. Afterwards we walked to Ruby's beautiful deck overlooking the Shenandoah River.

Rear left to right: Marcia Kaetzel, Linda Cox, Katie Sokol, Adelheid Osmer, Ruby Eldridge, Lesley Mack Seated: Julie Edmonds and Lupe Knott. Also attended but not in photo: Inez Myers and Will Daniels

In August, Adelheid Osmer, Lupe Knott, and Katie Sokol traveled to Glen Burnie Garden at The Museum of the Shenandoah Valley. We were blessed with a cool day. Shelby Haderer met us for lunch at the picnic area. The garden is an easy stroll, filled with flowers and sculptures along the way.



Adelheid Osmer, Lupe Knott, Katie Sokol

Lupe and Adelheid in the bamboo grove.



Katie, Lupe, Shelby



Bronze sculpture in the garden



## Hill and Valley meetings and events:



Windy April meeting @ Ralph Dean Park

May meeting at home of Adelheid Osmers



Weeding at the Old County Cemetery in April. Adelheid Osmers, Tom Mack, and Will Daniels.

Lesley, Katie, and Lupe not pictured.

August arrangement at the Page Public Library by Lesley Mack  
Submitted by: Katie Sokol, Club President



## NATURAL BRIDGE GARDEN CLUB

After months of meetings via Zoom, in April the Natural Bridge Garden Club members were delighted to meet in person at the Mountain View Farm Greenhouses in Rockbridge Baths. The program “Designer Pots,” was hosted and presented by our incoming president Doris Fredricksen and was held in a beautiful setting where members had the opportunity to shop for lovely plants as well as catch up with each other in person for the first time in nearly a year.



In May we had record sales at the annual plant sale in Hopkins Green, sponsored by the Rockbridge County Council of Garden Clubs. The NBGC organized and publicized the sale this year and our County Council Representative Debbie Levonick worked hard to ensure the well-attended event was in compliance with Covid guidelines. May also brought our program “Perennial Herbs for a Tasty Edible Garden,” presented by Barbara Thomas at The Herbery in Fairfield.



Our annual end of club year picnic in June was held at Jordan’s Point pavilion in Lexington. It was a celebration of making it through a pandemic year! Our Facebook page and Zoom meetings helped us stay in touch throughout this past year, but we took great pleasure in coming together outdoors for our picnic.



In July Linda Baron held a floral arrangement workshop to help acquaint some of our newer members with the finer points of the art. We are currently busy preparing for our booth at the Rockbridge Community Festival in Lexington and for the Rockbridge County Fair Flower Show, both coming up in late August.  
Submitted by Jennifer Law Young



## The Colonial Garden Club Update

This is a little blurb to bring you up-to-date with the Colonial Garden Club and our happenings from April to July.

Each month we have made an effort to have an in person meeting and update the members with frequent emails that were unable to attend. Thankfully, there are plenty of open air locations and we had a resilient Club President, Dale, who wasn't short on ideas of Plein-air places to meet.



The club has made a point to visit our community project, at the Youth Development Center, monthly, and to keep each of the gardens looking seasonal and kept. A recent break from the norm was a field trip to Heartflame Garden in Elkton, VA. There's a highlight below.

**April** Club members brought miniature designs to our April meeting. We also had two recruits join as guests of prospective members, Peggy Walk and Tena Markosky.



**May** We gathered in May at our out-going President's home to exchange herbs and plants. Along with the flora we passed the torch of responsibility to new officers and relit the torch of a couple officers that are continuing in their post. Our new officers are Michele Sunderlin *President* and Wendy Stark *Secretary*, Katie Sunderlin *Historian*, and Lydia Sunderlin *Publisher*. The unchanged and unphased are Kay Caldwell *Vice President* and Karen Oleksa, *Treasurer*.

There was a YDC work day with a couple members. A Sweet bush was moved to the shade as it wasn't thriving on the South facing wall. A salvaged Rose of Sharon was put

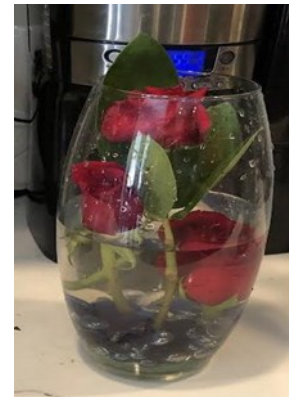


in its place. It has been challenged from the start since the root ball wasn't very extensive. We might replace it in the Fall if it hasn't been established and shows signs of promise. Ah, the ups and downs of gardening.

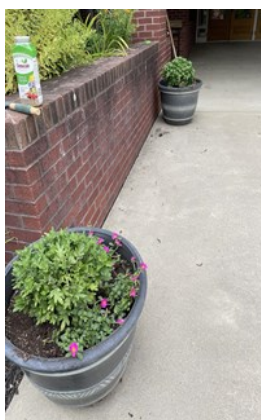


**June** In June, some members met to have a YDC work day, a Executive Meeting was held to plan for the year, and for the June meeting Coni King presented a underwater floral arrangement demonstration. Here are the group's designs.

See next page for Colonial GC news



**July** Members of the club gathered to spruce up the late summer blooms at the Youth Development Center in Winchester. We dead-headed and weeded. We have a variety of gardens planted at the YDC. They consist of mostly native plants in the sun garden or the shade garden.



See next page

### Colonial GC Continued **Field Trip to Heartflame Gardens**

Members of the program committee of Colonial Garden club arranged a field trip to the Heartflame Garden in Elkton, VA. They planned for [David Pippin](#), a Richmond Floral Designer, to join our trip on July 21 to see the gardens. What a treat all around!

The fitting title of “heartflame” was clear to me upon arrival. The warmth of a place so loved just emanates.



We enjoyed the gardens as much as any wine lover enjoys visiting a vineyard. Honestly, we were enjoying the fruits of someone else’s labor. We have a level of understanding for what it takes to have a garden and/or yard that we’re proud of. It’s always a work in progress, right? What does it take to get a garden to the level of beauty and balance that Inanna and Gabriel have achieved? Years. As we toured through the garden they shared with us some of their journey and ups and downs, but we really only received a beautiful gift from their endeavors. We weren’t part of the blood, sweat and tears. Can we really enjoy it the way that they do?

Submitted by Wendy Stark

### Glasgow Garden Club Park Renovation Project Nears Completion

Since October 9, 2020 Glasgow Garden Club has steadily worked to complete a three phase renovation project at Centennial Park in the town of Glasgow! The club, with a request from the town council, designed the landscape plan and with the town’s approval divided the work into three phases beginning in October 2020 and completion being in early spring through June 2021. A massive amount of plant material has been secured and planted. The flag pole has been centered in the 100 foot by 150 foot space. A brick walkway using salvaged brick and installed by club members, lends a focal point from the entrance to the park, encompassing the flag and its surround to the historical Padget memorial marker in the back of the space. The huge borders on either side will serve as an educational tool since they are planted with a wide variety of texture, color and seasonal interest. There are also concrete pieces and a fountain to further peak the visitors interest. The design was to surround the area and that would create a screen as plants mature. A shade garden was established in a low shaded area in the back of the space. It continues to be a work in progress as club members contribute plant material for it. Benches and picnic tables finish off the project for the Glasgow community to use and enjoy.

See next page for Glasgow news:

Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. the club will host a celebration in the park to showcase the renovated project and share it with the Glasgow residents.



Phase 1 – Clearing our and reshaping the sight. Phase 1 – Signage and time capsule is relocated and landscaped by club members



Phase 2 – Work on the walk-way begins, flag pole moved and surround planted by November 25, 2020



Phase 3 – Sod was removed from 20 foot wide borders, weed barrier laid and irrigation was installed by club members.



Finished border with fountain installed.

Shade garden planted and concrete accessory pieces added.

Planting began in early April and completed in June with many layers of mulch.

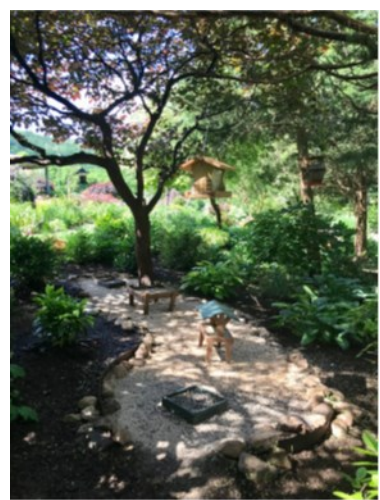
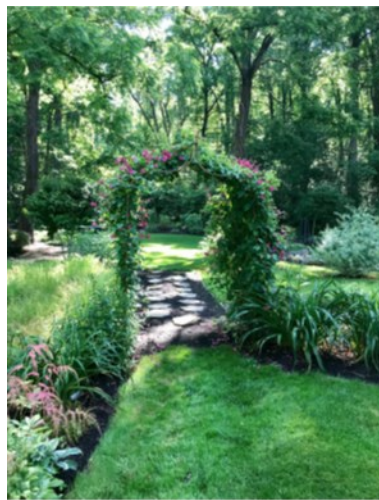
Submitted by Valerie Vaughn

On June 15th **Greenvale Garden Club** spent the morning touring Heatflame Gardens on Sandy Bottom Road near Elkton, VA. Inanna and Gabriel Garretson, the owners,



were our tour guides. The garden is located at their home, which is adjacent to Shenandoah National Park. Inanna is an artist, and her gardens reflect her personality along with her eye for design. She created a unique garden space, consisting of grassy trails, that lead into spacious garden rooms, each room seemed to have it's own theme. Inanna and her husband used the natural slope of their property to display plantings, to create a stream from numerous water springs, and to gently lead you through her garden. She incorporated the most common native trees, Redbuds, Cedars, and oaks into her design, which allowed their natural aesthetic beauty to be showcased. Her husband enjoys the birds that come to visit the garden, and ensures that they are well fed. After the tour the club was able to picnic in the garden, Susan Deputy and Marietta Irby provided the picnic lunch. Co-

Presidents Susan Deputy and Liz Lawson provided updates and announcements for the up-coming meetings.



On July 20, 2021, the Greenvale Garden Club visited The Farm at Willow Run, located in Harrisonburg, Virginia. This farm is a nonprofit organization owned and operated by Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community. The farm provides produce for multiple locations across VMRC's campus including the main dining room and cafe, as well as a Community Supported Agriculture Program (CSA). The club had opportunity to meet one the residents who volunteers on the farm, along with several staff members. They also toured the High Tunnel Hoop Houses where produce is grown year-round, watched

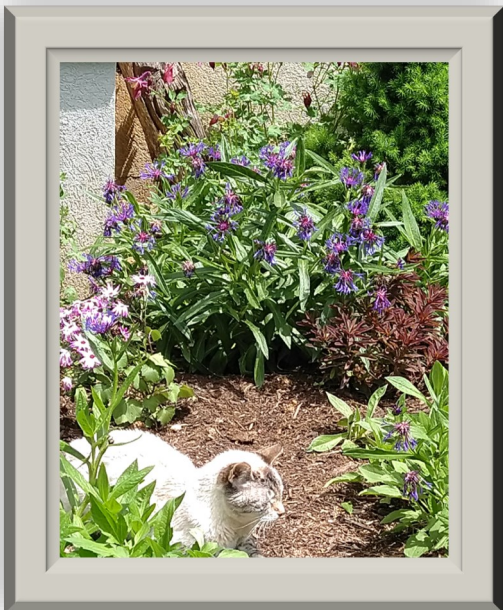
See next page for Greenvale GC news:



the operation of a root crop barrel washer, observed a solar power system that provides the majority of the electric power for farm operations, toured a hilltop garden, and visited the greenhouse where seeds are sown. Staff shared some of the daily operations with the club, answered numerous questions and provided a sample of produce and flowers. All the while, a staff member provided light musical ambience with his fiddle. The farm provides 36,000 pounds of produce a year with weekly surplus deliveries to Patchwork Food Pantry. After the tour,

the club met at A Bowl of Good for lunch, socializing, and announcements of future events.

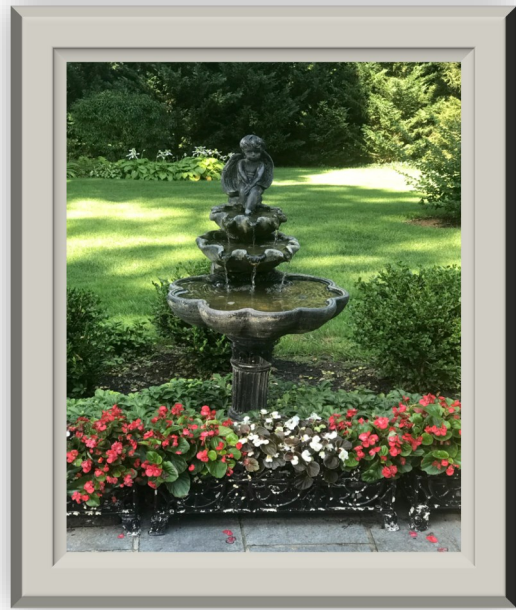
Submitted by Sabrina Alumbaugh



**Home Garden Pictures:**

**Nancy Pyle,  
Beverley GC  
To left**

**Sandra Curry  
Rose Cliff GC  
To Right**



## Francis Fauquier Garden Club

Have you ever wondered how the stone planters at the Warrenton post office manage to always have blooming plants which change with the seasons and holidays? Have you noticed the prominent letters “FFGC” boldly chiseled into the custom made planters? Unknown by many Warrentonians, these mysterious letters stand for *Francis Fauquier Garden Club*. The planters were commissioned by the club at the behest of a generous benefactor, the husband of a long time member.

Club members have been dutifully tending the boxes for 40+ years, planting and replanting with the seasons, watering, pruning, weeding and fertilizing as needed. No décor is ever repeated. Over the years, the club has won many awards at the District and State levels.

Enjoy the pictures from the past year of plantings. Summer 2020 (someone in the community added flags for 4<sup>th</sup> of July), Fall 2020 with scarecrow, Winter 2020 with a “*Letters to Santa*” theme, Spring 2021 with shamrocks for St. Patrick’s Day and a bunny for Easter, and most recently, Summer 2021. Members Kathy Mercier and Maureen Wilcox are seen replanting with succulents to withstand the summer heat and then the finished project.

Submitted by Maureen Wilcox



**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  
540-547-3328  
5114 States Mill Road  
Boston, VA 22713-4419  
chadenva@aol.com

**Contributions to**

**Blue Star Memorial**

**Make Payable to**

**Shenandoah District, VFGC**

**In honor of President or Individual:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Club or Individual making**

**Donation:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Contribution to**

**Shenandoah District  
Scholarship Fund**

**Make payable to:**

**Shenandoah District, VFGC**

**Check Memo Line: Scholarship Fund**  
**Send Check and Form to**

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

**Print:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Club Name**