

SHENANDOAH SHARINGS

Shenandoah District

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Member,

National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Edition

61 B

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Hello,

Once again, thank you for all the wonderful articles, club news and pictures. Pictures are always appreciated and really enhance the article.

I originally thought this issue would be one, but to my joy there was enough news to have two issues.

As you know the fall District Meeting is canceled.....such a shame. But, we must hope and wish we will become "normal" again and have our spring District Meeting and clubs will feel comfortable meeting.

Thank you too, Clubs for keeping me informed on what you have done the last few months.

Take care,

Val

August
September 2020

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shenandoah Board Meeting: Sept 10: Market at Grelen

District Meeting: Oct 10: Canceled

Youth Essay/Poetry Due: November 1

Awards Due: December 1

Woodsy Owl Posters Due: December 31

SHENANDOAH SHARINGS

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SHENANDOAH DISTRICT CLUB NEWS

IN MEMORIAM

Florence S. Nordone

The members of the Academy of Gardeners Garden Club are saddened by the loss of our Charter member and good friend, Florence Nordone, who passed away on May 30, 2020 in Charlottesville, VA.

Florence was originally a member of the Rappahannock County Garden Club in the Sperryville area where she held many positions and was also its President. She then advanced to the Shenandoah District and held many offices including serving as President from 1989-1991.

Florence had a keen interest in organizational matters and efficiently run meetings. She promoted this by studying parliamentary procedure, becoming a Professional Registered Parliamentarian and started in 1990, along with others, and in affiliation with the National Association of Parliamentarians, the Silver Gavel Unit, a parliamentary education unit, based in Charlottesville, VA.

After moving to Lake Monticello, the idea formed to start a new garden club closer by and again, with others, she organized and implemented the Academy of Gardeners Garden Club, which received its Charter in 2008.

All through this time she served as Parliamentarian for the Shenandoah District for a few years, after which she primarily served as Parliamentarian for the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs until, due to declining health, she retired in 2017.

Funeral arrangements have been private.

-IAS-

Hill and Valley Garden Club

Jane Ann Moody

December 29, 1922 – March 2, 2020

Longtime member Ann Moody passed away at the age of 97 in March. She joined Hill & Valley in 1980 after years of traveling the world with her diplomat husband and 5 children. When she moved to Luray she became active in the garden club and the Luray United Methodist Church. She also volunteered as a preschool teacher. Ann was extraordinarily kind, caring, and generous, with a ready sense of humor. Ann was the impetus behind a Hill & Valley seasonal bird feeding program at a local assisted living facility in 1990 that continued until 2017 when the facility changed hands. Ann maintained her beautiful garden often earning blue ribbons for her lovely horticultural specimens and arrangements. We will miss the merry twinkle in her eyes when she smiled at you and her gentle manner. Those of us that knew Ann will treasure those memories forever.



In May club members reviewed scholarship applications from 4 graduating high school seniors and awarded (2) \$500 scholarships to Luray High School and Page County High School. Both selected students will be pursuing careers with an environmental focus. We thank member Inez Myers for her efforts in coordinating this program.

We have not been meeting since early March when the COVID crisis began. Sadly we had to cancel our June Garden Tea & Tour but hope to be back next year.

Submitted by Katie Sokol

Natural Bridge Garden Club

The Natural Bridge Garden Club is responsible for the herb garden located at the Piovano Building in Lexington. The herbs are used for the community table. Due to COVID-19 our members, Irene Condie, Ann Nay, Joanne Peretti and Debbie Levonick have been weeding the herb garden while keeping social distance. New herbs will be planted next year when the community table opens again.



The Natural Bridge Garden Club of Lexington, Virginia held their annual Plant Sale the end of April. Diane Weaver, Ways and Means Chair, had the idea and was the organizer. This sale was for the members only and not opens to the public as in the past. Despite the COVID-19 stay-at-home order, the garden club did their digging and potting plants. The sale was in the garage of member, Rosanne Faciollo.



Members were asked to drop off their plants one at a time into the garage wearing face masks and gloves. The following day, members could drive through one at a time and enter the garage with gloves and masks and select the plants they wanted to purchase. Everyone was on the honor system and sent a check by mail to the Treasurer. Everyone agreed it was fun to have something productive to do for the Club, while being quarantined and unable to meet.

Members were delighted to share their plants and be able to fundraise, work their gardens and help one another add to their gardens. As member, Sharon Littlepage observed “You can’t keep a good club down, pandemic or not.”

By Debbie Levonick,

The Rapid Ann Garden

The Rapid Ann Garden Club recently participated in a fundraiser for SAFE, a private non-profit organization that provides services to victims of domestic and sexual abuse in Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock counties. An original flower arrangement was prepared by club members and auctioned off during their annual Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball, along with other donated arrangements, to assist this organization in raising approximately \$25,000 for SAFE. We were pleased to have the opportunity to support this worthwhile organization.



Several years ago, VFGC provided grant funding to provide gardening tubs for school kindergarten classes to teach them to identify, plant, grow and enjoy vegetables each year. This year, the project could not be planted by the young children because the school closed due to the Pandemic virus and virtual learning began. Our club, along with a teacher, planted the garden for the students and pictures were sent to them as their garden progressed. At harvest time, the crop of beans, carrots, peas, cucumbers and lots of lettuce was picked and distributed to members of the community. Pumpkins have now been planted in the big blue tubs to be cared for and enjoyed by the students when they return to school in August. Even in this unsettling time our VFGC was able to thrive and teach and will welcome the kindergarten students on their return.

Submitted by Shirley Newman

GLASGOW GARDEN CLUB

During this “shelter in place” and extreme high temperatures, the Glasgow Garden Club has enjoyed social distancing while weeding , planting and generally maintaining our “rock garden”. This garden is located at the northern corridor of Lexington. Although established in 2013, by one of our current members, it was given to the Glasgow Garden Club in 2018. Club members began immediately to rehabilitate and restore the garden and it now joins other Lexington Gardens in providing a pleasant welcome to our city. Our purpose is to provide a low maintenance garden of colors and textures of plant material that are strategically placed around rocks indigenous to our area. Although we are a small club, we have very enthusiastic members that are always looking for ways to beautify our area.

Nancy Irons



Twilight Garden Club

The months of April and May are typically very busy ones for the gardeners in the Twilight Garden Club and this year is no exception. Although the Club is not having its regular monthly meetings, our members have been extra busy gardening in our yards and also in town.

Some of our members planted beautiful pink petunias in the planters at Town Hall in Clifton Forge, and other members weeded some of the Town's gardens and provided regular maintenance.



Flowers were also planted in the planters at the C&O Heritage Center, and another member picked up litter in town around the gardens.

Additionally, in May the Club donated \$50.00 to the Clifton Forge Food Pantry to help out our community. We are looking forward to seeing each other when it's safe to do so, but in the meantime we are keeping busy!

Submitted by Debbie Strott, President

Town and Country Garden Club: Stuarts Draft

Mrs. Virginia Carter was a charter member of the Town and Country Garden Club in Stuarts Draft. She helped organize the Town and Country Garden Club in 1963 and it was chartered in 1964. Ginger died February 7th at the age of 90.

She always enjoyed attending the meetings and rarely missed bringing a design interpreting the special for that month. She will be missed by the club members who enjoyed her sassy personality, her lovely gardens, her knowledge of gardening and her unique designs. Ginger was also a National accredited flower show judge emeritus. She was owner and operator of the Ginger House ceramic shop. She made many flower containers and the state flower dogwood pins for district and state meetings. Ginger never missed an opportunity to assist members of the club on design, her knowledge of gardening, and always with a sense of humor and lightheartedness. She was always quick to encourage new and old members alike and constantly encouraged us to try new designs and told us not to fear our lack of experience. She was one of the first to welcome and invite new members. She enjoyed seeing the member's gardens and was quick to acknowledge their efforts. She was a constant cheerleader for the club and its members. She is deeply missed by all of us.

Town and Country Garden Club is pleased to welcome two new members, Anne Flory and Karen Sikorski to our Garden Club. Anne and Karen both are avid gardeners. Anne has hosted several clubs and many folks visiting her beautiful garden. Karen has moved into the area and is beginning again. She already has plants and flowers blooming this her first season in her new home. Both of these ladies are wonderful additions to our club.

Submitted by Laura Meek

Hawthorne Garden Club

2020 certainly has turned out to be a challenge for us all! Hawthorne Garden Club has been in existence for 60 years and we had planned wonderful celebrations that had to be postponed to other dates. Plans for a luncheon for Alumni members is in the works for November which we are so looking forward to. We truly wish everyone good health and a smooth adjustment to the new normal.



Our June Zoom meeting was a program by Mark Sutthin, a VA Tech Agent, who discussed the Spotted Lantern Fly and other Pests in the Valley. July will be our Annual Club Picnic which is always such fun.



Lenore Kornreich has been granted a \$900.00 grant named Beautify and Restore from the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs. The funds are being used to purchase flowers and grasses to create a Rain Garden at the Independent School of Winchester. Donna Lee, Penny Haag, and Lenore did the plantings in June and they are coming along well!



Hawthorne and the community of Winchester lost a very beloved individual back in May, Shirley Hauptman Gaunt. She had been a past president of Hawthorne and a very active member in the club as well as the community. She was very involved with Museum of the Shenandoah Valley as well and received numerous leadership awards. She will truly be missed

Submitted by Penny Haag

Dogwood Garden Club

How has your garden club been keeping in touch during this time of Covid-19?

During these times of quarantine and isolation, it is important to keep in touch with our garden club members even though we can't meet in person. Just a quick phone call, card or email to say "hello" can mean so much. Just checking in with members weekly can keep your group close and keep that feeling of intimacy that can be lost during these times of separation.

Dogwood Garden Club members have been keeping in touch with "Flower Fridays" which started in April with an email including a photo and a beautiful springtime quote. We have kept it going by sharing our garden photos, and any flower photos, quotes and any other fun items that we think other members would enjoy.



We also have had one Zoom cocktail hour and a few of our members have participated in a Zoom flower arranging class with the New York Botanical Garden.



It is a tradition in the Dogwood Garden Club to make May Baskets that we bring to our May Luncheon. We enjoy them as centerpieces during our luncheon and then they are delivered to a local senior living home. We decided even though we weren't meeting in May, we would still make our May Baskets to share with local seniors. Two members collected the arrangements and delivered them to English Meadows Senior Living in Crozet where they brightened up the tables and common areas.

A few members will be visiting White Oak Lavender Farm in June to breathe in the sweet scent of the purple lavender fields and the sweet taste of lavender ice cream. We will then head over to Cross Keys Vineyard for lunch and a glass of wine.

A few members are enjoying their CSA flower shares from Blue Heron Farm in Nellysford and we have a field trip to the farm planned in July to see how they grow these beautiful blooms that we have been enjoying in our weekly bouquets! **(see next page)**

We will continue our Flower Fridays and hopefully will be able to meet together as a group for our first meeting in September. Time will tell but in the meantime we will enjoy our gardens and keep our friendships strong by emails, zoom and phone calls.



This time of isolation has given us all the chance to really stop, breathe and reset. I know most of us have really given much thought to what is important in our lives and what things can maybe be given up. It really sharpens our focus on loving our family and friends and making the most of our lives here on earth. Continued next page

Dogwood Garden Club visits Blue Heron Farm in Nellysford, VA

A few members of the club have CSA Flower Subscriptions with Blue Heron Farm and have not been disappointed with the gorgeous weekly bouquets that can be picked up at the farm in Nellysford or at a location in Charlottesville. Members feel that it is so important to support local flower farmers and just like local produce is so much fresher and tastier than store bought, local flowers are freshly cut and beautiful! It's nice to know that we are supporting a local farm right here in our area.



Members thought it would be a great summer field trip and since we would be outside with lots of social distancing, what could be better than a flower farm on a sunny summer day!

Arriving at the farm on one of the hottest days of July, we donned our hats, masks and sunscreen and headed to the barn. Owner Beverly Lacey and Farm Manager & Lead Designer Nina Zinsser Booth welcomed us as a family of Barn Swallows swooped in and out of the open door tending their babies who were peering down at us from the rafters above.



We started our tour in the small greenhouse where the seedlings begin their journey and then with the gorgeous Blue Ridge Mountains as our backdrop, we headed out to the fields and hoop houses.

We walked through rows of sunflowers, strawflowers, scabiosa, zinnias, celosia, rudbeckia, lavender and other colorful blooms. Bees and butterflies flitted from one colorful bloom to another gathering nectar and pollen.



They also grow hemp as a cover crop that suppresses weeds and can be turned into the soil in the fall.



Continued next page

Inside the hoop houses it was even hotter but the Lisianthus was a showstopper in beautiful colors of yellow, cream, pink, purple and chocolate.

After touring the fields and hoop houses, we took a respite in the shade as Nina put together a beautiful compote no foam arrangement using chicken wire as the base and securing with waterproof floral tape. She made it seem so easy and effortless. My question is always...when do you know when to stop adding flowers? Nina said, "When you think you are 80% done, then you probably are".

We so enjoyed our tour but after 2 hours, we were ready for some cool refreshments and a nice lunch. Member Elizabeth Upshur, who lives close by, offered her lovely screened in porch for lunch. We took her up on her offer and were greeted with cool drinks, wine, snacks and sweets. Her adorable pets, Peaches the cat and her two Papillons George and Charlotte enjoyed visiting with everyone.

We all were looking forward to this trip since we hadn't gotten together in person since February. It was so nice to see each other in person and spend a beautiful day on a local flower farm in Nelson County!

More info on Blue Heron Farm <https://www.blueheronfarm.us>

Submitted by Eileen deCamp, President



**Due Date
For Shenandoah Sharing Article Submissions**

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.

Glen Burnie Garden Club

Glen Burnie Garden Club in Winchester has been very busy behind the scenes, despite the lockdowns and meeting cancellations due to virus concerns!

The most exciting news for our members was being awarded First Place at the State Level for our Winchester Council National Standard Flower Show held this past November. Our members worked hard to host the show with the other 4 garden clubs in our council, and also submitted many award-winning entries in the show.

First Place



Our Marigold Project with Winchester City Elementary Schools had been cancelled for this year, but we will be re-applying for next year. This has not deterred our group from already cleaning up Handley Circle and planting at Quarles Elementary! Marsha Barley, Janet Bordwine, Melanie Henry, and Sue Spangler spruced up Handley Circle again on May 11. Carolyn Frye and Olivia Cather planted marigolds at Quarles on May 19.

Handley Circle pictured: Melanie Henry and Janet Bordwine



Marigolds at Quarles pictured: Olivia Cather and Carolyn Frye

Despite cancellations all over for activities large and small, several intrepid members of our club spent hours in the early May sunshine weeding and overall sprucing up of the parking lot circle at Abrams' Delight as well as the Butterfly Garden and Herb Garden. Glen Burnie members have responsibility for planting and maintaining the gardens at this historic property in Winchester. Thanks go to Lucinda Cullers, for leading the charge, and also Janet Bordwine, Susan Creasy and Melanie Henry for their excellent work clearing and sprucing!

Continued next page



Abrams Herb Garden

During the past several months, Glen Burnie Garden Club members have searched out interesting ways to get together and share our love of gardening in different venues. On May 12, members had a great time with our plant swap. It was wonderful to see our friends again, even as we 'socially distanced', and to share our love of gardening and plants from our home gardens! This was so well received there are plans to do this at least on an annual basis.

Plant Swap pictured: Deidra Dain, Janet Bordwine, Susan Creasy, Robin Rodgers and Lucinda Cullers



We were not going to let the Covid-19 lockdown dampen our spirits this spring! Despite Virginia's Historic Garden Week being canceled, Glen Burnie Garden Club members shared photos of their gardens in the garden club's newsletter, a new addition to our ways of communicating and keeping in touch. Members shared photos of their beautiful gardens which were uplifting and provided a 'virtual tour' in advance of the summer season.



Robin R garden to left and Janet B garden to right



June also marked our first meeting after the Covid-19 lockdowns! We were thrilled to be able to gather on member Janet Bordwine's screened in porch and have a lovely light luncheon and time of sharing and showing off our horticulture.



Submitted by Carolyn Frye

Green Hills Garden Club

This started out as a little project to help provide preventive COVID-19 face masks for members of our communities here in Rockbridge County during a time when there were no masks available to purchase. I pitched an idea to Linda Magnuson, Green Hills Garden Club President, about making fifteen flower- and bug-themed face masks, seeing if we could get a few donations for them and then making an extra mask for each donation we received to be given to a local non-profit organization. I was going to be happy if the club received \$150 in donations. As Chair of the Ways and Means Committee for Green Hills, I also thought this might be a way to raise a little revenue because the annual spring fund raiser, our beloved plant sale sponsored by the Rockbridge County Council of Garden Clubs, was cancelled because of the pandemic.

Our project ended up becoming a much bigger project, and many club members helped in multiple ways. Isabelle Chewning, Vicki Langdon, Julie Lipscomb, Paula Zimmerman, and I sewed masks. Shirley La Croix, Keedie Leonard, Kathy Tucker, Julie, Isabelle, and I donated fabric and made kits to be sewn by others. Lots of club members made donations for masks and helped distribute them.

Early on, our advertising was by word of mouth, and then Isabelle advertised in the local online Brownsburg Community Newsletter, which opened the flood gates. In all, we made more than 167 masks. We received donations for 74 masks and were pleased to donate 93 masks to these organizations in our communities.

- 20 - Project Horizon, Lexington
- 17 - Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church, Lexington
- 15 - Bethesda Presbyterian Church, Rockbridge Baths
- 14 - New Providence Presbyterian Church, Raphine
- 10 - Asbury United Methodist Church, Brownsburg
- 8 - Bethel Presbyterian Church, Staunton
- 5 - St. John's Lutheran Church, Little Pantry, Lexington
- 4 - Wade's Mill, Raphine

Our club realized \$671.00 in net revenue, which we will use to fund other local projects.

Members of our club who participated (clockwise from top left): Lucy Hayes, Julie Lipscomb, Paula Zimmerman, Isabelle Chewning, Vicki Langdon. Not pictured: Shirley La Croix, Keedie Leonard, Marilyn McIlvain, Kathy Tucker.

By Lucy Hayes, Chair
Ways and Means Committee



The Madison Garden Club



The Madison Garden Club has not met since February, but anticipates a re-start in September. We have depended on our club newsletter to keep members informed and engaged during the summer months. Members were challenged with something different each month: To grow a Victory Veggie Garden; to design foliage in a white container; create a design in a black container; and to create a design using vegetables from the Victory Veggie Garden. Photos are submitted to our newsletter for sharing with all our members.

We look forward to being a garden 'club' again!



A Note of Appreciation...

The Madison Garden Club appreciated so much those who purchased tickets for our "Spring Floral Design Program by *Southern Blooms*", March 19, 2020. The 'turnout' was going to be great for a program that we were sure our Shenandoah District friends would have enjoyed. Then along came Coronavirus and the Pandemic, which cancelled everything. We couldn't imagine that even re-scheduling for a June date would also have to be cancelled. Madison Garden Club members hope that at some future date we might offer such a program again. Thanks again to all.

Submitted by Judy Ann Fray, President

Calfee Garden Club

As with other clubs, Calfee Garden Club is moving forward to be ready for the time when we can meet again. It's challenging but we remain hopeful of better times soon.

Fall of 2019 brought a new park, Rockwater Park, to the Town of Culpeper. As with any new park, trees are needed. Calfee Garden Club and Culpeper Garden Club collaborated to donate a Red Maple sapling, which will bring shade and beauty for years to come.



In February 2020, Calfee was asked to provide table centerpieces for the annual "Behind the Mask" fundraiser which benefits S.A F.E., the shelter for abused families. The theme was "Mardi Gras" and with a flurry of activity, glitter dust and bows, the club created beautiful centerpieces.



May brought Covid-19 but Calfee did not let this stop the club from spring cleanup and new plantings for our Memorial Garden located in Yowell Meadow Park. With social distancing, masks and a great plan, the club planted many beautiful annuals and some perennials for the most beautiful offering to date.

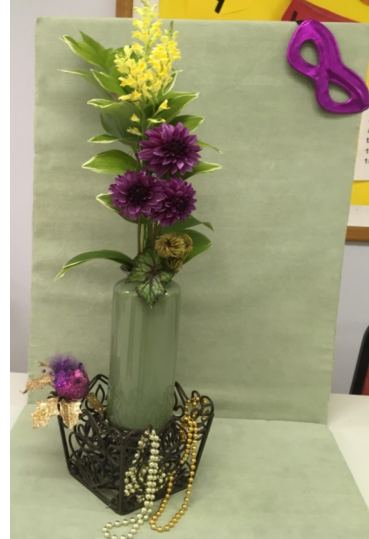


Calfee Garden Club also welcomed three new members to the club who are looking forward to what 2020-21 has to offer. Submitted by Melanie Brown

Shenandoah Designers Guild

The Guild has met in June and July and will continue meeting until October.

Members were happy to start meeting again and creating designs. (Even, if a bit rusty). The first three designs are of a Marti Gras theme....originally for our March meeting. The next four photos depict weather themes....



Left: April Showers
Lower Left: Summer Time
Lower Middle: Winter "snowing"
Lower Right: Tornado



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

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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:

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Check Memo Line: Scholarship Fund

Send Check and Form to

Heidi Sage

1057 Jacks Shop Road

Rochelle, VA 22738-3907

Print: _____

Club Name