

SHENANDOAH SHARINGS



Shenandoah District

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



Edition 72

General and Club News

March/April
2025

President's Message

Spring 2025

Throughout the year I ask myself: "*What is my favorite season?*" When beach weather rolls around, I say "**Summer**, of course". Then after months of bugs, I am DONE with the hot weather. **Fall** is now my favorite season, when the trees turn beautiful colors and the nights bring cool crisp air. But then everything starts dying, the yard looks dreadful and all I can see is the work ahead to make the garden presentable. Before you know it, yay, **Winter** is here. No more yard work, just cozy days by the fire curled up with a good book. Well, this gets old doesn't it? Freezing weather, snow like I've not seen in a decade, power outages – I am so over with winter.

Spring is coming! I am now convinced - **SPRING** is my all-time very favorite season. Lately my area has had a few warm days that tempt me to get out and get going with tending the garden. My bulbs are up about 4" and I find myself hunting every day for emerging growth and buds. I notice that the birds are getting aggressive, vying for prime nesting spots. I tell those delicate plants wintering over in the garage to hold on for just a little longer. Will my 'pets' have made it through the winter - the groundhog living under my patio, the black snake I rescue every winter who cannot seem to find a warm place to hibernate, and the enormous bullfrog who insists on living in my swimming pool despite many attempts to relocate him?

Come to the Spring District meeting and learn their fate. For me, the 2025 District meetings should be entitled "*The Nostalgia Tour*". The Spring Board meeting will be **March 13th** at the Harrisonburg Wood Grille Buffet, where I attended my very first ever District gathering as a new and

clueless committee chairman. Likewise, the District Spring Meeting will be **April 10th** at the Tinkling Springs Presbyterian Church, Fishersville. This venue holds fond memories indeed, as it is where I was installed as your District President and where the next president will begin her term.

So save these dates and let's celebrate spring together. Remember, if there were no tribulation, there would be no rest; if there were no winter, there would be no spring. Whatever the season, remind yourself - "**My Garden ... My Refuge**".

Maureen



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SHENANDOAH BOARD MEETING: MARCH 13:
HARRISONBURG
SHENANDOAH DISTRICT MEETING: APRIL 10:
FISHERSVILLE
VFGC CONVENTION: APRIL 27/28: RICHMOND
CULPEPER FLOWER SHOW: MAY 7
CEDER RUN FLOWER SHOW: MAY 14
NGC CONVENTION: MAY 19-22: CHARLESTON
NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK: JUNE 1-7



IN MEMORIAM
Our Deceased Members



Cedar Run
Mary Ann May



WELCOME NEW COMERS

Hill and Valley

Ron Vickers

Middleburg GC

Carol "Boo" Busey

Susan Robeson

Nelson County GC

Karen Sinclair

Beverley GC

Sharon Moyer

Karen Olivares

Erin Wright

Nancy See

Holly Clouse

NGC AND SAR NEWS

**NGC President
Brenda Moore**



Considering Starting a New Club?

Are you and your neighbors interested in beautification of your neighborhood or town? Do you want to learn how to grow your own vegetables - even on your patio? Are you concerned about environmental issues facing your community? Do you wish you knew how to landscape your yard, plant a container garden on your porch or make a floral centerpiece for your dinner table? Focus on any or all of these things while building friendships and bettering your community and environment!

Consider posting on social media or distributing flyers in your area to gain the attention of potential members. Public spaces such as libraries, community centers, universities, botanical gardens, nurseries, and garden centers are a good place to start.

A new club becomes affiliated with National Garden Clubs by joining the state garden club that is a member of National Garden Clubs. Visit the state garden club listing to find the contact information for your state's membership application procedure. These affiliations bring benefits like invitations to conferences and specially arranged tours and access to well-known speakers.

**South Atlantic Region Director,
2023-2025
Carcille Burchette
Theme: "Go Green...Plant Natives
Plant Seeds for New Clubs"**



SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION LIFE MEMBERSHIPS It have enjoyed serving as SAR Life Membership Chairman for several years. This Chairman attended the SAR Convention in Greenville, SC March 17-20, 2024. I encouraged the attendees to go back to their state and promote the Life Memberships. The SAR Life Membership supports The Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is open to a college sophomore or junior for use during the junior or senior year of college. This Chairman attended the SAR Convention in Greenville, SC March 17-20, 2024. I encouraged the attendees to go back to their state and promote the Life Memberships. The SAR Life Membership supports The Corrie Whitlock Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is open to a college sophomore or junior for use during the junior or senior year of college. During January 2024-December 2024 12 SAR Life Memberships were received. The scholarships will enable students to further their education. Thanks to each one that purchased one. This Chairman encouraged each one to purchase a Life Membership. **REMEMBER: LIFE MEMBERSHIPS=SCHOLARSHIPS!!**

VFGC REPORTS

Val Story, VFGC PRESIDENT

Hello, Shenandoah District,

This looks like Shenandoah will have another exciting meeting....always look forward to the awards ceremony, Becky does a great job. And of course Valerie Vaughan is great too, as are your officers: Maureen, Toni and Dianna.



As the term winds down, one always reflects on what was accomplished and what was not quite finished. On most accounts, I am pleased with the results of all the districts and VFGC. One goal was to have more flower shows and that certainly has been accomplished. Fortunately, not stopping either...several are the horizon in Shenandoah, Tidewater and Piedmont. All good.

I hope some of you will attend the VFGC Convention in Richmond. The speakers look great as do the vendors...and meeting of course as well as the instillation of new district and VFGC officers.

You might consider attending the Symposium in November, also in Richmond...learn about collections, potted philodendron and floor design and reflective designs....you do not need to be a judge!!

Give VFGC Life membership, as well as SAR pins...all go to the scholarships funds. What a way to recognize members.

Please, always remember
“Every Person Makes a Difference”

Val

Picture by Alana Danko



It's Spring ...  Happy!!

Shenandoah District Spring Meeting

April 10, 2025

at

Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church

30 Tinkling Spring Dr.

Fishersville, VA 22939

District Meeting Information

Registration Begins at 9:15 a.m.

Club Presidents Meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Meeting Begins at 10:15 a.m.

Registration Cost: \$30.00

Deadline - March 28, 2025

Post marked after this date add \$10.00 to registration

Please send a form for each person attending

Programs

Morning Program - District Awards Presentation

Afternoon Program - "*Alive*...with Bees: bees, people and the planet -
Karen Hall

Pam Lamborne, Chaplin, will conduct a Memorial Service
for deceased club members. Please email Pam with the names
to be remembered at pamlamborne@yahoo.com

Board Members & Clubs: If you are interested
in having a vendor table please contact Valerie
Vaughan: vrvcouours@hotmail.com or
540-377-2239.

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 Dr.

Culpeper, VA 22701-9711

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: _____

Registration Fee \$30.00

Deadline: March 28, 2025

Post marked after this date add \$10.00 to registration

Please send a form for each person attending

Registrar Use Only

Check # _____

Amount _____

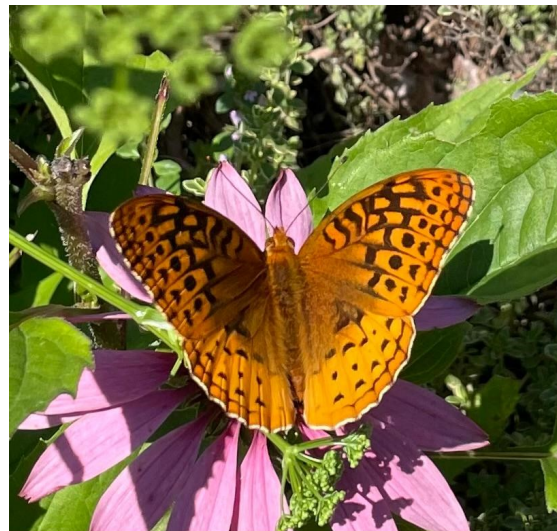
Date Rec'd _____

Hello Fellow Shenandoah District Garden Clubbers!!!

I am sending out this message to you as your incoming District President. I began working on our 2025/27 committee roster in early January contacting many of you to fill specific vacancies and have since suffered a stroke with three weeks in the hospital and now fulltime therapy regime as outpatient. I have made good progress but still limited in mobility. I am telling you this because I will not be able to work as vigorously on securing all of the committee chairman and am asking for your help. Listed below are the committees that need chairmen: Garden Therapy, Roadside Beautification, Litter Prevention and Recycling, Penny Pines, and Ways and Means. Please contact me if you will be willing to serve or be prepared with a "Yes" when I contact you!

As Val Story tells us thru working together "every person makes a difference."
Thank you for your consideration and make a plan now to attend our district meeting – April 10th at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church.

See you then,
Valerie Vaughan
President Elect -2025/27



Photos by Carolyn Frye
Glen Burnie Garden Club

SHENANDOAH DISTRICT NEWS

A NOTE FROM YOUR SHENANDOAH DISTRICT TREASURER



Garden Club Treasurers

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

Due no later than May 31st of each year.

Use the Form on next page.

Checks are to be payable to:
Shenandoah District, VFGC

Send to:

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



**VIRGINIA FEDERATION OF
GARDEN CLUBS
SHENANDOAH DISTRICT**



VFGC Shenandoah District Annual Dues

To be paid by May 31st

\$1.25 per member

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

Number of members _____

Club Name _____

Club President _____

Email _____

Address & Phone No. _____

Club Treasurer _____

Email _____

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

Birds and Butterflies

By Betsy Walker

This winter was a snowy one and I don't think there is anything prettier than a pair of cardinals sitting on a snow-covered tree branch. They flit back and forth from the feeder (which is filled with seeds) to the trees.

Virginia has the cardinal as its state bird but so do six other states: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, and West Virginia. Plus, there are The Arizona Cardinals an NFL team and The St. Louis Cardinals a major league baseball team who have cardinals as their mascots.

Cardinals were kept as pets until 1918 when a law was passed protecting them. I have a hard time imagining them in a cage when they fly back and forth from branch to branch and seem so free and happy.

They are often thought of as the most romantic birds because they mate for life. A male will bring the female a seed and seems as if they are kissing. The pairs start mating in March and will continue through September, raising several clutches of babies. The female builds the nest while the male brings the building materials, twigs, vines, pine needles and soft leaves. The female cardinal is one of the few female songbirds that sings. It is thought that she is telling the male that she needs more food.

Cardinals are very territorial, and they will peck at their reflections thinking that another bird is encroaching on their territory. We had a male cardinal that pecked on our sunroom windows from dawn to dusk day after day. Let us hope that the group that we have now will be less frantic.

There are many myths surrounding cardinals, most to do with good fortune and love. Since they are monogamous, it is thought that it is a sign to treat your spouse with love and respect. Native Americans thought that they represented a visit from a dead relative. Whatever your feelings or superstitions about these birds, I always enjoy their beauty.



PLANT A TREE

Penny Pines has now transitioned to Plant-A-Tree: Previously, we required donations in increments of \$68.00. Donors can now contribute any amount, starting from as little as \$50.00 to as large as \$10,000.00. This change provides greater flexibility for donors and enables a wider range of people to participate in the program.

As of May 31st, 2025, we will no longer be providing mailed certificates to donors. In an effort to "Go Green," we will be offering digital certificates that donors can customize and print out themselves. We kindly ask that all donors provide their **email address** (even if donating by check) so that we can electronically send out tax receipts and online certificate links/instructions. We assure you that your privacy and personal information will be handled with the utmost care and security.

When donating, you may choose to have your donation go to where it's most needed or you may select a National Forest; however, the Forest Service reserves the right to utilize funds based on need. If you specify a National Forest where there is no tree planting need, then the donation may be used for planting trees on another forest. *Please note, individual plantings will not be identified per donor (ex: if you donate to a forest, you would be unable to locate a specific tree that you helped donate).

Deer Resistant Native Plants

Knowing how susceptible a plant is to deer browsing will help you mitigate deer damage in your landscape. Generally, deer avoid ferns, grasses and sedges. They usually are warded off by plants with thorns, and prickly or scented leaves. However, a deer will eat prickly leaves, I found out the hard way last summer, when stressors affect food and water supplies. Last summer with our temperature extremes and no rainfall, deer ate scratchy cucumber leaves and Oakland holly leaves for the water. Deer overpopulation, habit, and age also determine what deer eat. Under the right circumstances, deer will eat almost anything if they are hungry enough and their preferred foods are scarce.



Listed on the next page are some of the good deer resistant native plants you can use, I went to several sources and the list is endless, but I have had success with these (so far):

Trees: Redbud, River birch, American Holly and Sweetbay Magnolia.
Shrubs: Red Twig Dogwood, Serviceberry, Spicebush, Beautyberry, Winterberry (both male and female) and Witchhazel.
Flowers: Yarrow, Bee Balm, Goldenrod, Butterfly weed, Columbine Foam Flower, Lady Fern, Lavender, Marigold, Milkweeds and Black-eyed Susan.

Some sources to see broader lists: https://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/pages/hunt_trap/ddmtpplants.aspx (Maryland Department of Natural Resources), <http://extension.umd.edu/resource/deer-resistant-native-plants/> (University of Maryland Extension), <https://mgnv.org/plants/best-bets/deer-resistant/> (Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia)

Donna Courtney
Native trees and Heritage plants

Native Viburnums

Viburnums are a beloved group of plants for a reason: they change dramatically throughout the year, offering cinematic landscaping. Viburnums go from leaves to flowers to berries to fiery fall foliage. They are a go-to for professional landscapers for their ease of care and beauty. There are 150+ viburnum species worldwide with several native to North America (not including cultivars). Viburnums are beloved worldwide, but sadly the Asian species have taken the spotlight when it comes to landscaping. Let's turn that around! Several native viburnums are just as gorgeous as non-native viburnums and offer lots more benefits for North American gardeners.

What are the benefits of planting native viburnums:

Super low maintenance: Native viburnums need minimal care to thrive, compared to some non-native viburnums, which require fertilizers or special care.

Bird magnet. Native viburnums cover themselves in berries in the fall, which attract birds like the phoebe, mockingbird, robin, brown thrasher, northern flicker, cardinal, cedar waxwing, vireo, bluebird, and grosbeak.

Native viburnums are host plants. Native viburnums are the host plants for many beautiful creatures, including the Spring Azure butterfly. Every native viburnum you plant helps ensure that mom Spring Azures have a place to lay their eggs, and their baby caterpillars have food to eat.

Some native Viburnums to try.

American Cranberry Bush/Cranberry Viburnum. Stop everything you're doing and plant this one immediately: it's gorgeous AND the fruits are edible to humans! They can grow up to 12 feet tall, making them great for hedgerows and living fences. Full sun, partial sun/shade. Although it's often called a "cranberry bush" these are not cranberries, they are viburnum berries. They taste like tart cherries and are most often used for making jams and pies (sugar helps.) American Cranberry bush viburnum is generally deer resistant, but deer may eat if other food sources are scarce. Continues page 13

Cultivars: Bailey Compact American 5-6 foot tall, produces berries, but birds won't touch. It prefers plenty of moisture but will handle some drought.



Arrowwood Viburnum, Viburnum Dentatum. Arrowwood's name comes from its straight branches, which Native Americans used to make arrows. In the fall, its leaves turn into orange red alongside blue-colored berries. Grows 6-12 feet tall, plant in full sun, part shade. Arrowwood viburnum is generally low-maintenance, and its fragrance and texture are unappetizing to deer.

Cultivars: Sparkler grows 10-15 ft, claims ignored by deer but loved by nature, and Blue Muffin (Proven Winners) grows just 3-5 tall. Note on Proven Winners' page: A note about deer resistance viburnums are generally considered deer resistant in that they rarely cause significant damage to the whole plant. However, deer may eat the flowers, particularly on younger plants, which will also eliminate the possibility for fruit to form. Suggests netting or a repellent.



Good on-line source of these two natives is on the Arbor Day Foundation Shop page, under tree nursery > Flowering trees. <https://shop.arborday.org> Bare rooted plants.

Fayette County Extension Horticulture on YouTube, has a brief 3 minute video on Viburnums. Worth watching. Type in Fayette County Extension Horticulture Viburnums on YouTube and the video will pop up. Enjoy.

Donna Courtney
Native trees and Heritage plants

Community Gardens

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley Events

Orchid Show and Sale, April 18 & 19

Enjoy a display of prize-winning orchids, browse orchids available for purchase, and learn about growing and caring for orchids from the experts in the Lord Fairfax Orchid Society. Bring your problem orchids in for suggestions and have your orchid repotted (small fee). Free lectures on a variety of orchid topics will be offered each day.

Glen Burnie Garden at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley offers a wide range of garden related workshops and events. For more details visit <https://www.themsv.org/upcoming-events/>

Historic Garden Week is April 26 – May3. Visit www.vagardenweek.org to find a tour near you.

Spring Celebration Plant Sale April 25-May 3 @ Edith J. Carrier Arboretum, Harrisonburg
Shop from a variety of **houseplants**, **native perennials**, **shrubs**, and **trees**! This ongoing sale is in the Frances Plecker Education Center and on the Ernst Tree Terrace.

Spring Plant Fest May 2 - 3 @ Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden www.lewisginter.org

Annual Mother's Day Garden Fair May 10 & 11 @ Blandy Farm, State Arboretum of Virginia

Shop over 60 vendors of plants/gardening related products, food and music!

<https://blandy.virginia.edu/garden-fair>

Garden Lover's Day @ Birdsong Pleasure Garden May 17 from 10-4 pm

1414 Longs Road, Luray, VA

www.birdsongpleasuregarden.org

2025 Garden Fest

Belle Grove Plantation June 7 from 8 am to 2 pm.

Master Gardener Plant Sales - \$5 & \$10

Food and Specialty Vendors

Submitted by Katie Sokol

hillandvalleygardenclub@gmail.com

CLUB NEWS

Natural Bridge Garden Club

Flower arranging can be compared to writing a book. When the writer sits down at the computer to begin a story, she is usually faced with a blank page. Likewise, when designing a flower arrangement, a person might have a collection of flowers and greenery but not the slightest idea what to do other than stuff them into a vase.

That's where design line comes into play, and members of the Natural Bridge Garden Club will be delving into this aspect of flower arranging as their theme for 2025-2026

Design expert Maureen Becker, an award-winning flower judge and Master Gardener, has identified 10 different "visual paths," which dictate the flow and motion of an arrangement, for members to demonstrate.

Line determines the viewer's gaze, allowing designers to express various characteristics in their composition. Static or dynamic? What will be interesting and pleasing to the viewer's eye?

Anyone can put flowers in a vase, Becker says, but only the most talented designers can delight the observer's senses with their expertly crafted designs.

NBGC members will create arrangements using these specific design lines: circular, horizontal, curved (Hogarth Curve), crescent, vertical, asymmetrical, parallel, cascade, diagonal, and triangular. Members are given specific instructions regarding permissible plant materials and accessories, container styles, dimensions, and colors to be used. Winners are announced and ribbons awarded at the end of each meeting.

Program Chair Lucia Owens and her team are offering a diverse lineup of activities for the year covering topics like ornamental grasses and sedges, invasive plants and insects, Kokedama (the Japanese art form of growing plants in a ball of moss and soil), Ikebana (the Japanese art of flower arrangement), Irish and American hedgerows, and tips for putting gardens to bed for winter.

Submitted by Sharon Littlepage

CAPTION: Diane Weaver, NBGC president with her prized Angel's trumpet (*Brugmansia*).



Middleburg Garden Club

Pictures from our recent Greens Show, "Celebrate The Win! A Day at the Races".



Submitted by Lauren Vogan



"How Fair Is a Garden"

*Cedar Run Garden Club
Presents a Horticulture
Specialty Flower Show*

May 14, 2025

1:00 to 3:00

Christ Church
95 Green St, Warrenton, VA 20186

All invited



Cedar Run Garden has been “prepping” for the Horticulture Specialty Show for several months. Members are excited to have this show for the club has not had a flower show in several years.

The club lost a long time member : Mary Ann May. She was dedicated to the club, the library garden and supported many endeavors in which the club participated. She gave several programs on design and horticulture and chaired committees. She would be pleased Cedar Run is having a flower show.

Hawthorne Garden Club

One of Hawthorne's favorite times of the year is participating in the decorating of the Belle Grove Mansion for the holidays. This year the theme was "Christmas in the Valley".

Hawthorne chose to decorate the parlor featuring dozens of ceramic pieces — bowls, bird-houses, vases, planters, and beyond — crafted by Anthony Baecher, a 19th century earthen-ware potter who is hailed as one of the best the valley has had. Baecher's pieces were borrowed from the collection of local resident Jerry Partlow.

The club used these pieces to be the foundation of our decorating theme and filled the pottery with greenery, small trees, berries, red cockscomb and Money Plant silvery white disc-like seed pods. In addition to decorating with the pottery, the club also wanted to highlight baskets that were made in the Shenandoah Valley with period materials like nuts, pine cones, candles and ribbon.

Several of our members were pictured and/or quoted in the Winchester Star including Donna Lee, Carla Gorman, Shirley McInturff, Penny Haag, Donna Hopkins, Ceci Albecker and Ann Minor.



Submitted by Donna Lee



Glen Burnie Garden Club

Winter Sowing: A Step-by-Step Guide

Winter sowing is an easy, cost-effective way to start seeds outdoors during the winter months. By using recycled containers as mini-greenhouses, you allow seeds to naturally stratify and germinate when conditions are ideal. This method produces hardy seedlings ready for transplanting. Follow this step-by-step guide to get started.

Step 1: Gather Your Materials

- Plastic containers (milk jugs, soda bottles, takeout containers)
- Potting soil (well-draining, not garden soil)
- Seeds (cold-hardy flowers, herbs, and vegetables)
- A sharp knife or scissors for cutting
- Duct tape or packing tape for sealing
- Permanent marker for labeling

Step 2: Prepare the Containers

1. Cut your plastic container horizontally, leaving a small hinge to keep it attached.
2. Poke drainage holes in the bottom to prevent waterlogging.
3. Make small air vents on the top or sides to allow airflow.

Step 3: Fill with Soil

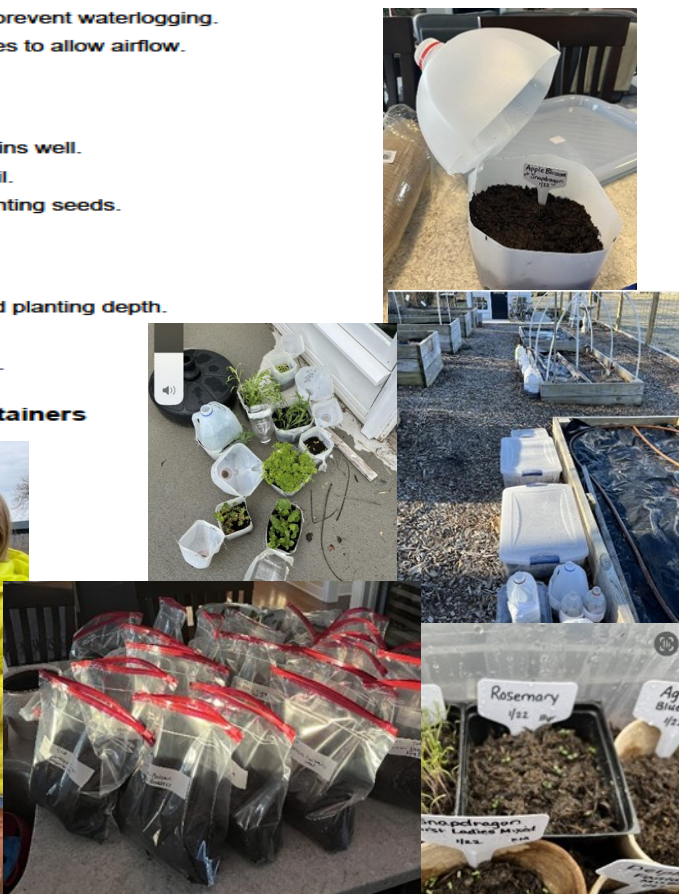
1. Use a high-quality potting mix that drains well.
2. Fill the container with 2-3 inches of soil.
3. Moisten the soil thoroughly before planting seeds.

Step 4: Sow the Seeds

1. Check seed packets for recommended planting depth.
2. Scatter or place seeds as directed.
3. Lightly cover seeds with soil if needed.

Step 5: Label and Close the Containers

Submitted by
Carolyn Frye



Culpeper Garden Club

The Culpeper Garden Club is celebrating their 90th anniversary by hosting a NGC Standard Flower Show on May 7, 1-3 pm, at the Culpeper Field House. In addition, to the horticulture and floral design exhibits, Robert Myers, Montpelier's horticulturist, will be doing a presentation on the Annie DuPont gardens at Montpelier. Other presenters will speak on water conservation, the importance of soil testing and native plants. Local nurseries will be offering plants and small shrubs for sale. Hope to see everyone on May 7th!



Designs of the Decades

90th Anniversary Celebration

NGC Standard Flower Show

Presented by the

Culpeper Garden Club

At the

Culpeper County Fieldhouse

16388 Competition Drive

Culpeper, VA 22701

540-727-3412

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

1:00- 3:00 PM

Open and Free to the Public

Member of

The National Garden Clubs, Inc.

South Atlantic Region

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs

Shenandoah District

Submitted by Michelle North

Hill & Valley Garden Club

The Trex bench we earned by collecting and recycling plastic film was installed by Luray Parks and Recreation at the new town playground. We have been amazed at the effort started by our member, Brenda Winter, to collect plastic film and earn great benches from the Trex Co. For the first bench, we accumulated 500 lbs. Trex then changed its amount to **1,000 lbs.**, but with the additional aid of the Luray Garden Club, we plowed ahead and have now earned a second bench, to be placed at an elementary school so that teachers monitoring recess have a place to sit.

That there is so much plastic film out there is unfortunate, but at least, by recycling we can contribute to making durable products from it. Now, our two garden clubs have embarked on a quest for a third bench. Any idea of what 2,500 lbs. of plastic film would look like?



Photo by Katie Sokol



Photo by Tom Mack



Photo by Katie Sokol

At our February meeting, Lesley Mack gave a presentation and workshop on the Japanese art of kokedama. Koke=ball, and dama=moss. The procedure is to encase a small, shade-loving plant in sandy, damp soil, and cover the ball with moss secured by string. The result is a long-living plant, growing in a restricted space, that is akin to bonsai. Lesley had the materials on hand; members brought plants so that we each could take home a kokedama. Continues pg 22

Hill and Valley Garden Club – *continued*



Submitted by Carol Florian

Garden Lover's Day

Saturday, May 17, 2025, 10-4 pm

Birdsong Pleasure Garden

Luray, Virginia

Artisans, Plant Sale, Raffle,
Music, Door Prizes,
Local Wines, Food Truck

Hosted by *Hill and Valley Garden Club*

hillandvalleygc.com

Tickets on Site ~ Environmental HS Scholarship Fund

birdsongpleasuregarden@gmail.com

Highlights from 2024
Francis Fauquier Garden Club
Warrenton, VA

Our garden club had a very full and exciting year. But the one thing that sticks out the most is Oak Spring. We had several opportunities to visit the Oak Spring gardens. In April, we were able to visit Oak Spring as a group on a garden tour.

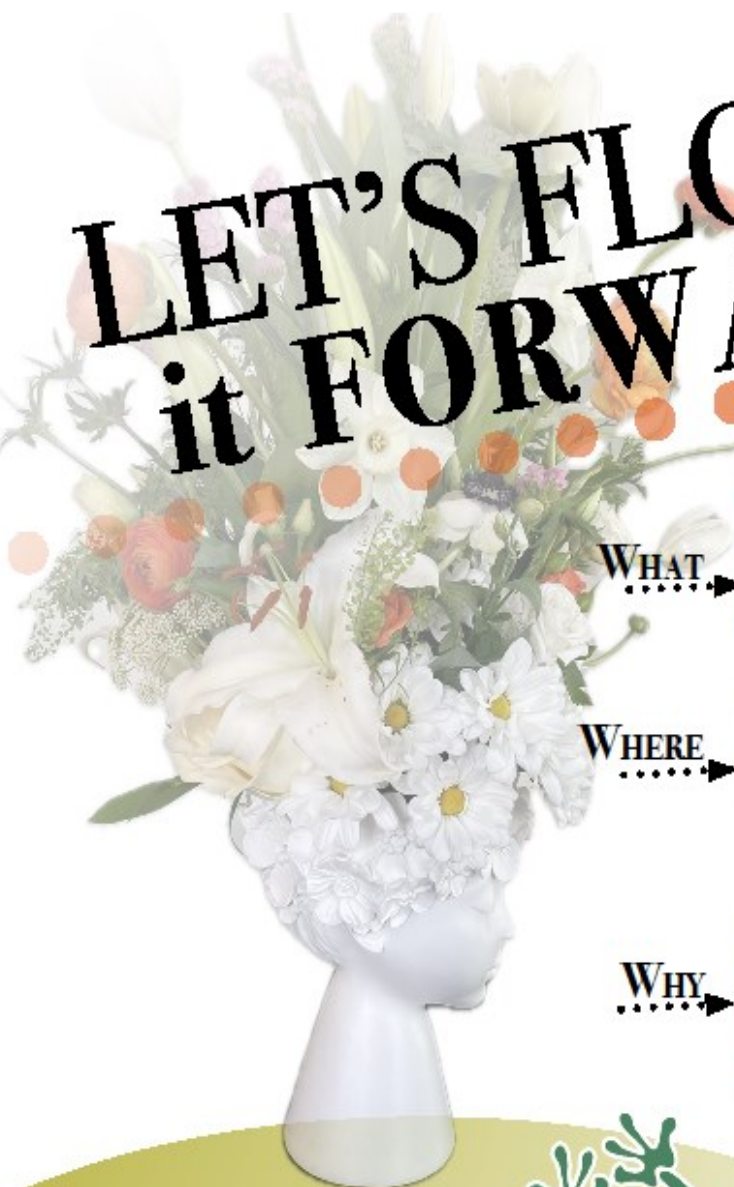


And in August we held our monthly meeting in the Basket house. Followed by a summer tour of the gardens. Our oldest member had this on her bucket list, and we were very happy to help her check that off. Looking forward to visiting this garden again, and again.



Submitted by Donna Courtney

LET'S FLORAL it FORWARD



WHAT

We invite you to design a tabletop or a floral design. Multiple sizes and ways to participate. Contact Wendy Stark for details. c. 804-994-3344 wendykayestark@gmail.com

WHERE

Ethan Allen® of Sterling is hosting:
45460 Dulles Crossing Plaza
Dulles Town Crossing
Sterling, VA 20166

WHY

This is a fundraising event to benefit Froggy's Closet of Winchester. Froggy's Closet provides the basics and beyond what all children deserve! www.frog-kids.org

WHEN

SUNDAY,
MAY 18, 2025
12:00 PM–4:00 PM



**Froggy's
Closet**

www.frog-kids.org

Check the
Froggy's Closet
Facebook page
for weekly
updates of needs.

Rapid Ann Garden Club members reveled in our much-anticipated Holiday Party and Gift Exchange. Competition is fierce but friendly to create the prettiest and most creative gift wrapping. Sheila's birdhouse was the hit of the party. We dined on a potluck feast and drew numbers for the gift exchange. There were oohs and aahs as the beautiful packages were handed around. Afterward, members mingled and wished each other Happy Holidays.

Submitted by Susan Prock



Academy of Gardeners Graden Club

On September 11, 2024 the Academy of Gardeners GC traveled to the Virginia Mennonite Retirement Center in Harrisonburg, VA, home of longtime garden club member, Ann Showalter.

She was presented an Honorary Membership from the Academy to commemorate her many contributions to our garden club and gardening in general.

Ann treated the members to a delicious Lunch in the formal dining room, and after that a trip to the Organic Gardens at Willow Run Farmstead, which the retirement community maintains. The weather was great which made for a wonderful day.

Submitted by Imkelina Sturm



Nelson County Garden Club

The Nelson County Garden Club held its annual greenery workshop on December 5th at Trinity Episcopal Church in Arrington to design arrangements for the greenery fundraiser sale on December 7th. Evelyn Logue and Kristy Kobylinski co-chaired the event this year with Frances Van Lear providing pointers on arrangements. Pinecone swags were made, bundles of greenery were roped, and stunning arrangements were created by a wonderful team of members.



On December 6th, the club's annual holiday luncheon was held at Calvary Baptist Church in Lovingston, which was very fun and festive as always. Everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck meal. Our new Active Honorary Members were also recognized and applauded -- Eula Clark, Barbara Marshall, and Shirley McGatha – and were each presented with a framed certificate and beautiful scarf. We ended the gathering with the Naughty and Nice gift swap. Everyone brought a gift in a bag or box decorated with a floral or festive theme to be judged ahead of the gift swap. It was memorable and provided lots of laughs among members.



On December 7th, the club's annual greenery fundraiser took place at the holiday market at Rockfish Valley Community Center in Afton. Many members volunteered to help make the event a huge success raising a total of \$1,590 for Nelson County scholarships. Special thanks again to Evelyn Logue and Kristy Kobylinski for co-chairing the greenery workshop and sale.



Nelson County GC Continues

In early February, our first meeting of 2025 was a Newcomers' Tea at club member Kristy Kobylinski's beautiful home in Nellysford. It was a special gathering celebrating new and old members. Since spring 2023, NCGC has welcomed 15 new members with several more planning to join in the months ahead.



On February 28th, six club members drove over two hours to attend the 30th Annual Hellebore Festival at Pine Knot Farms in Clarksville, VA. The farm featured a wide variety of hellebores and other gorgeous plants and shrubs for sale. Members shopped, toured the farm's woodland garden, and enjoyed lunch in Clarksville before heading back home. It was worth the trip!



Submitted by Melissa Dicky



APPLICATION FOR VFGC LIFE MEMBERSHIP/BOOK OF HONOR

Check One: _____ Life Membership
 _____ Book of Honor

Name of Honoree

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Honoree's Garden Club

Honored by

District

Date of Presentation

Surprise? _____ Yes _____ No
Club Meeting _____ District Meeting _____

Send life membership pin and card or Book of Honor Card to:

Name

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____
E-mail _____

CHECK payable: VFGC, Inc.

MAIL to Shenandoah Life Membership Chairman:

Denise Henderson 540-222-5176
513 Trailside Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22911-8495
chadenva@aol.com

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