



The Blue Daylily

Newsletter of the Blue Ridge Area Daylily Society (BRADS)
2025 Winter Edition - March 5

President's Message

Greetings fellow BRADS members,
My goodness it's been a long cold Winter. I am so looking forward to Spring as I am sure everyone else is too. It won't be long now. I see a lot of green growth already pushing in the garden and before you know it, we will have blooms. And I really can't wait for all the upcoming sales and swaps. As soon as it warms up a little, I have plans to construct some raised beds around the inside perimeter



of my vegetable garden to house more daylilies. Don't tell the tomatoes but their time may be limited...Lol. I would love to hear about your plans to add more daylilies to your gardens!

March 8th we will have a potluck lunch and Nancy Jones has put together a program about Margo and Jim Murphy's garden, (two of our members) where they will talk about their hybridizing program.

On April 12th we will have a potluck lunch, Spring Business Meeting, Perennial Plant Exchange and Clark BeCraft will present a program about New Plant Introductions and All-American Selection Varieties. Clark oversees the Arboretum of Virginia Western College. Clark presented this program at the recent Home and Garden Show that was held in Roanoke. Where is the rule that we can only

talk about daylilies...We all need companion plants to go with them. Kyle Jones will also be doing tool sharpening. Sounds like a busy day. Can't wait to see everyone there.

Your Friend In All Things Daylily,
Shirley Jarusek



Upcoming Event Dates:

March 8, 2025, 12 Noon
BRADS Potluck & Presentation
RCGC
3640 Colonial Avenue,
Roanoke, VA 24018

April 12, 2025, 12 Noon
Potluck & Guest Speaker
RCGC
3640 Colonial Avenue,
Roanoke, VA 24018

Upcoming BRADS Spring and Summer Events

Spring is almost upon us! With the return of warmer weather we look forward to seeing your smiling faces just as much as the gardens in bloom.

Please take note of event dates below. Events later in the year will be detailed in a subsequent edition.

Saturday, March 8, 2025

BRADS Potluck & Presentation

12 Noon - Potluck Meal

1 PM - A slide presentation on Woodhenge Gardens, compiled by Jim Murphy and Margo Reed to showcase their beautiful daylily and other artistic garden areas, presented by Nancy Jones.

Saturday, April 12, 2025 - 12 Noon

BRADS Potluck & Guest Speaker

12 Noon - Potluck Meal

1 PM - A presentation by Clark BeCraft of Virginia Western's Community Arboretum on the topic of new plant introductions and All-American Selection varieties.

Our Spring business meeting and plant exchange will follow.

Saturday, May 10, 2025 - 9 AM

RCGC Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, May 17, 2025 - 11 AM

Plants for Members Distribution

Saturday, June 21, 2025 - 9 AM

BRADS Plant Sale and Show

Saturday, July 12, 2025

**BRADS Garden tours and summer Business Meeting
Details TBA**

Saturday, September 13, 2025

BRADS Plants For Members Auction and Potluck

10 AM - PFM Chairs Receive Auction Plants from Members

11 AM - Potluck Meal

12 Noon - Auction

Unless noted all events will be at
Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs (RCGC)
3640 Colonial Avenue, SW.
Roanoke, VA 24018

Nancy Jones
Program Chair



Clark BeCraft, photo courtesy of The Community Arboretum of VWCC.



A view of Woodhenge Gardens. Courtesy of Woodhenge Gardens Daylilies Facebook gallery. Visit their page for more photos.

BRADS Meeting Minutes - January 18 2025

Members gathered at 12:00 and enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch. Members attending were Kyle Jones, Nancy Jones, Carolyn Fleming, Tom Fore, Susan Fore, Pat Marlotte, Nancy B. Jones, Shirley A. Jarusek, Kat Ferneley, Julie Covington, Jovi Larson, Meg Swecker, Julie Kitzmiller and Beverly Angle.

Shirley Jarusek convened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She asked for committee reports.

Treasurer's Report

Kyle Jones gave a year-end financial report. He reported the club's year-end December 31, 2025 balance was \$12,721.46 plus a \$10,574.25 certificate of deposit. Tom Fore moved that the report be accepted as read. Meg Swecker seconded the motion. Kyle asked for volunteers to audit the books. He also reminded members that dues were due by January 31st.

Programs

Nancy Jones reported that the 2025 calendar was almost completed. There will be no garden work day in March in lieu of possible changes.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| April 10 | RCGC plant sale |
| April 17 | BRADS plants for members |
| June 21 | BRADS show and plant sale |
| June or July | Garden Visit TBA |
| Sept 13 | Plants for Members Auction |
| Oct 9 | Business Meeting |
| Nov | TBA |
| Dec 13 | Christmas party and dirty Santa exchange |

Tom Fore made a motion that the schedule be approved. Nancy B. Jones seconded the motion.

Plants for Members

Meg Swecker reported an order would be submitted to Browns Ferry Gardens next week in order to get a 20% discount. She stated that a decision would be made soon on other hybridizers.

Newsletter

Beverly Angle told members that the deadline to submit articles for the spring newsletter was Feb 28.

Unfinished Business

Shirley Jarusek gave an update on possible changes to the display garden. Options were discussed and tabled until the committee submits further proposals.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:45.

Carolyn Fleming
Secretary



Display Garden Report - Cont.

OPTION ONE - RAISED BEDS

WOOD

| | | | |
|---|-----|---------|------------|
| #1 Grade Ground Contact Pressure Treated Lumber | | | |
| 2" x 12" x 12' | 72 | \$24.66 | \$1,775.52 |
| 4" x 4" x 8' | 49 | \$11.10 | \$543.90 |
| 1" x 4" x 6' | 146 | \$3.38 | \$493.48 |

SOIL

| | | | |
|--|----|---------|------------|
| Good Quality Manufactured Garden Compost | | | |
| Cubic Yards | 40 | \$55.00 | \$2,200.00 |

STONE

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|----------|------------|
| Tennessee Pea Gravel | | | |
| Cubic Yards | 20.6 | \$100.00 | \$2,060.00 |

MULCH

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|---------|----------|
| Shredded Hardwood | | | |
| Cubic Yards | 10 | \$52.00 | \$520.00 |

WEED FABRIC

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------|----------|
| Dewitt 30 year Fabric 5' x 250' Roll | | | |
| Rolls | 2 | \$405.00 | \$810.00 |

TOTAL

\$8,402.90

OPTION TWO - EDGED BEDS

WOOD

| | | | |
|---|----|---------|------------|
| #1 Grade Ground Contact Pressure Treated Lumber | | | |
| 6" x 6" x 10' | 64 | \$17.98 | \$1,150.72 |

REBAR

| | | | |
|------------|---|---------|----------|
| 1/2" x 20' | 9 | \$12.98 | \$116.00 |
|------------|---|---------|----------|

STONE

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|----------|------------|
| Tennessee Pea Gravel | | | |
| Cubic Yards | 20.6 | \$100.00 | \$2,060.00 |

MULCH

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|---------|----------|
| Hardwood Shredded | | | |
| Cubic Yards | 10 | \$52.00 | \$520.00 |

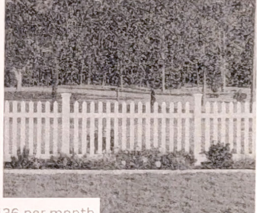

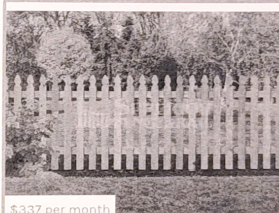
WEED FABRIC

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------|----------|
| Dewitt 30 year Fabric 5' x 250' Roll | | | |
| Rolls | 2 | \$405.00 | \$810.00 |

TOTAL

\$4,656.72

FENCING OPTIONS

| | | |
|--|--|---|
|  <p>\$426 per month</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> 4' Vinyl Scalped</p> <p><input type="radio"/> 4'H White Kirkwall (Spade Top Pickets) (VKSWS45X9)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> 6'H Black Welded Wire Deer Fence</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> White</p> <p>Features & Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SolarShield 43% Stronger Picket Made in America <p>Specifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post: 5" Sq. Rail: 2 x 3-1/2" Picket: 7/8" x 3" Spade Top <p>Warranty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifetime Transferable Warranty 3 Year Workmanship Warranty <p>Choose this package ↓</p> <p>\$ 20,033.08</p> |  <p>\$345 per month</p> <p><input type="radio"/> 6' Aluminum</p> <p><input type="radio"/> 6'H Black 200 Parkland (R)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Black</p> <p>Features & Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Made in America Upgraded 5/8"x1" Picket SolarShield Powder Coating Exceeds AAMA 2604 Standard Full Panel Coated after Assembly <p>Specifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post: 2" Sq. Rail: 1" Sq. Picket: 5/8" Sq. <p>Warranty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifetime Transferable Warranty 3 Year Workmanship Warranty <p>Choose this package ↓</p> <p>\$ 16,253.55</p> |  <p>\$337 per month</p> <p><input type="radio"/> 4' Wood/with Deer fence</p> <p><input type="radio"/> 4'H Open Picket (French Gothic)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> 6'H Black Welded Wire Deer Fence</p> <p>Natural</p> <p>Features & Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superior Wood Specification Hot Dipped Galvanized Ring-Shank Nails Superior Construction Built from Scratch On-Site <p>Specifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post: 4 x 4 Rail: 2 x 4 Picket: 1" x 4" x 4" FG <p>Warranty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 15-year warranty against termite damage and rot (up to Lifetime in some areas) 3 Year Workmanship Warranty <p>Choose this package ↓</p> <p>\$ 15,845.73</p> |
|--|--|---|

Gin and Tonic Gardening by Lynne Victorine

Several years ago, we were assigned outside reading at the Herb Society. Alice Hanawalt made us read gardening books and give oral book reports. One of the more memorable books I read was called the Gin and Tonic Gardener.

A woman had a shift in her life which entailed moving to a new home. She chose the house pretty much on the basis of what she saw in the yard. Basically, it had good bones, but otherwise, it was a blank canvas. Her plan was to design an outside space that was conducive to lying in a hammock with a G&T and a good book. She wanted the views to be pretty, but she did NOT want was a lot of maintenance.

When I did my book report, some older members were nodding sagely and nudging each other. Curious, I later talked with a few of them and asked what they thought of the book. The general consensus was that there was a point when, as much as they loved gardening, they didn't want to take on more work. If anything, most were talking about simplifying. Downsizing the amount of weeding, cutting back on the amount of hanging baskets they made up each year, that kind of thing. I wondered what changed for them, and I honestly didn't get it for a long time. One said, "Oh, I still want a nice herb garden – I like to preserve my harvest – but I don't want all the other hard work. I'm kind of over that."

I couldn't imagine – until I did.

It may have been the two summers leading up to rotator cuff surgery, when I found myself less and less able to lift and haul. It may have been how things got away from me and I was sick of the weeds. Or, it could have been the frustration of the deer decimating my plants and being tired of spraying deterrents that worked only marginally. Regardless of the cause, I became overwhelmed.

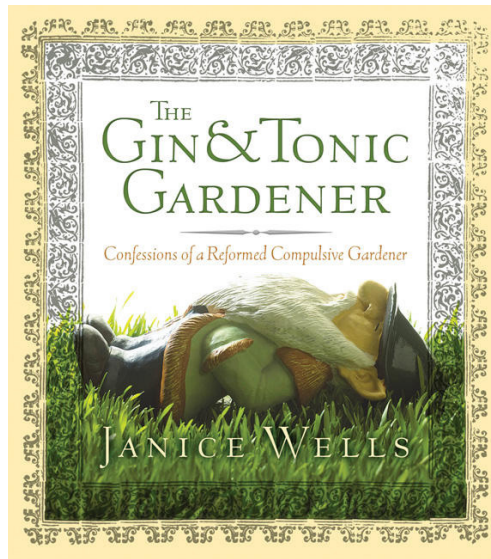
Enter the Avant Gardener. That first year of garden rehab was rough, but I kept up with Derek. The second year has been less rough, but we still have areas that need to be brought under control. This year the goal has shifted: I want a gin and tonic garden. I don't want more to deal with; I want less.

As I have observed Julie winding down her beautiful gardens, leaving behind her horticultural triumphs, I am grateful it's been on her own terms, and that she has been able to do this in stages, and with intention. I'm taking notes, and forming ideas for how I want to pare things back enough to still have views as we hang out with friends, cocktails in our hands, but to not have the heavy maintenance a complicated garden requires. I imagine there are others among us who are thinking along the same lines.

I suspect we are all wondering "how much longer can I?" The beauty of a garden in bloom is such a joy, but it is also a big job. One of those Herb Society friends

confided to me that she was transitioning to what she called adaptive gardening. She was growing things in pots, and arranging them in groupings that were easy for her to reach and within a short distance of her hose. It has been her gardening reality for the past decade, and her pots of plants are utterly magnificent. It was a creative solution to an arthritic back, but a love of gardening.

The take away from *The Gin and Tonic Gardener* was that we shouldn't beat ourselves up when we reach the point where we just don't wanna and nothing can make us. Rather, we can embrace the opportunity to seek solutions that work for us, rather than against us. Then we get to lie back in the hammock with a tall, cold drink!



Blue Ridge Area Daylily Society Inc, Treasurer's Reports

4th Quarter 2024

Balance 10/1/2024 \$13,121.99

Income

Kroger Cares \$26.64
 Auction, Heidi Douglas \$310.00
 Dues (for 2025) \$80.00
 Total \$416.64
Balance \$13,538.63

Expenditures

Heidi Douglas
 Holiday Inn \$180.30
 Stipend \$200.00
 Mileage \$393.96
 Total for Heidi Douglas..... \$774.26
 State Corporation Commission \$25.00
 Kroger Purchase
 Plates, Utensils, Etc. \$17.91
 Total \$817.17
Balance \$12,721.46

Certificate of Deposit (due 4/20/25)

\$10,574.25

Kyle Jones
Treasurer

BRADS Annual Financial Report 2024

Balance 12/31/2023 \$10,865.55

Income

Interest \$2.02
 Dues \$560.00
 Donations \$25.00
 Kroger Cares \$115.27
 Plant Sales \$1,908.50
 Auctions \$2,976.69
 Meg 1st PayPal Use \$19.40
 "Hall" Plant \$20.00
 Total \$6,626.88
Balance \$17,492.43

Expenditures

Plants for Members \$2,570.00
 Went Award \$100.00
 RCGC (Dues, Rent, % of Plant Sales) \$1,075.00
 Speakers \$774.26
 State Corporation Commission \$25.00
 Zoom \$157.40
 Membership Reimbursement \$10.00
 Kyle Jones
 (Kroger, Stamps, Spayer, Ice) \$41.40
 Kroger (Plants, Utensils, Drinks) \$17.91
 Total \$4,770.97
Balance \$12,721.46

Certificate of Deposit (due 4/20/25)

\$10,574.25

BRADS 2025 Board Members:

Shirley Jarusek,
 President

Kyle Jones,
 Treasurer

Nancy Jones,
 First Vice-President

Carolyn Fleming,
 Secretary

Meg Swecker,
Kat Ferneley,
 Second
 Co-Vice-Presidents

Beverly Angle,
Barb Putney,
 Newsletter Co-Editors

