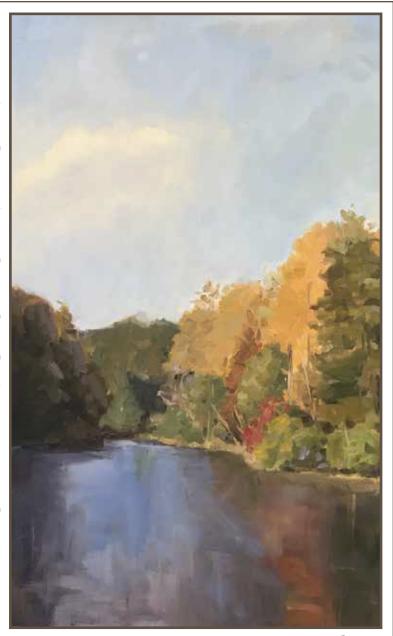
THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA



VOL LXIV, NO. 3, SEPTEMBER 2019



The Garden Club of Virginia exists to celebrate the beauty of the land, to conserve the gifts of nature and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage.

FROM THE EDITOR "To the memory of the sons of members of the Garden Club of Virginia

U.S.A. who lost their lives in the armed services of their country – World War II."

These words, along with a list of fallen soldiers, are found on a plaque in the 12th-century church of St. Martin in the French village of Ver-sur-Mer to honor and remember the brave men who lost their lives in the 1944 Allied invasion of Normandy. In 1946, following the war, the entire village was adopted by the GCV and funds were raised to facilitate the war relief effort. A compelling article in this issue explains the continuing bond between the GCV and Normandy. In June GCV members will have the opportunity to visit Ver-sur-Mer, as well

Such riveting stories will be highlighted in the GCV Centennial exhibition opening on May 13, 2020, at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture – A Landscape Saved: The Garden Club of Virginia at 100. We are all invited.

as private gardens and nearby historic sites, and attend the British Normandy



Editor and Chairman, Julie Grover, The Blue Ridge Garden Club

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GCV Photographer, Penny Dart, The Warrenton Garden Club

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Memorial dedication. (See Page 6 for details.)

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The Garden Club of Virginia Journal

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1/2 page vertical column	2 ¼" x 7 ½"	\$250
1/2 page horizontal	4 ½" x 3 ¾"	\$250
1/3 page	4 ½" x 2 ½"	\$200
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Discounts: 20% discount will apply, if advertising in all four publications

50% discount to GCV member clubs advertising a club event

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ON THE COVER...

This season's cover features a vignette of a striking oil painting by Jinx Constine of the Boxwood Garden Club. "Autumn in Virginia" captures fall's brilliance pondside, at Stoney Creek in Nellysford.

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12 East Franklin St. Richmond, VA 23219

History of The Garden Club of the Northern Neck

by C. J. Carter The Garden Club of the Northern Neck

In 1966, eight visionary women from the four counties of the Northern Neck – Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland – met to organize the Garden Club of the Northern Neck. The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club provided guidance as our sponsor until 1969, the year of GCNN's admission into the Garden Club of Virginia.

From the beginning, the mission focused on conservation, restoration of historic gardens, promotion of horticulture and beautification of the Northern Neck, Virginia's northernmost peninsula with 110 miles of shoreline. It is approximately 70 miles long and 40 miles wide. Each monthly meeting is a journey the members relish, traveling to meet, exhibit and learn in yet another historic parish hall.

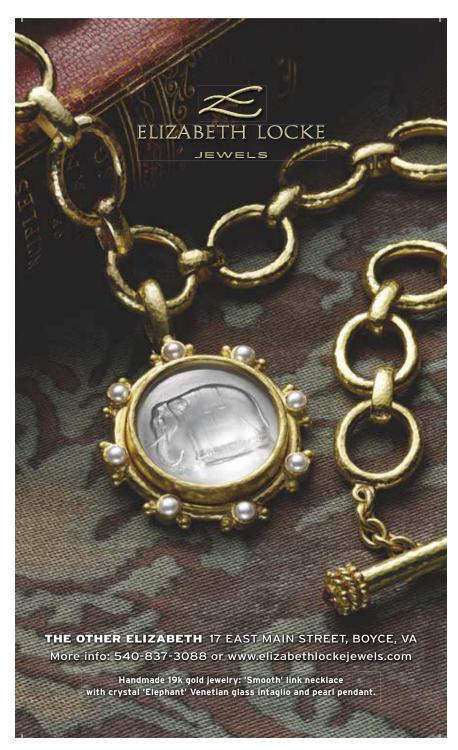
The membership is diverse, energetic and accomplished. Outreach extends throughout the four counties. A conservation forum is sponsored each year with the Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula. This symposium is open to the public, and topics have included "Preserving Our Rural Character," "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" and "Clean and Abundant Water Matters." In 2012, the GCV presented the club with the Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award for a project designed to heighten awareness of Cat Point Creek. Educational placemats were created for local restaurants spotlighting the pristine freshwater tidal system which safeguards a variety of habitats across the region.

Affiliation with GCV has benefited both members and the community. GCV has awarded three Centennial grants earmarked for Belle Isle State Park and one grant for Westmoreland State Park. In turn, GCV has benefited from its association with us. Founding member and GCNN Past President Helen Turner Murphy served as the president of GCV from 1992-1994. In 2002, Helen and her husband, the Honorable W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr., an honorary GCV member, received the Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement.

Fundraising is key to the implementation of our mission. Members raise funds annually through a plant and book sale and a biennial fundraiser. A former GCNN president, Mary Lloyd Lay, wrote a primer to gardening, *Heaven in Zone 7*. The proceeds were used to start an endowment fund. The grants program has awarded scholarships for 23 teachers to attend the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's weeklong Teachers on the Bay program. Additionally, the club has awarded more than \$20,000 to Northern Neck projects which meet the four goals of the club's mission statement.

We love to share the beauty and history of the Northern Neck and are honored to welcome the 100th meeting of the GCV Board of Governors in 2019 at Stratford Hall.





The GCV and World War II Relief Efforts

by Judy Perry, GCV Historian The Elizabeth River Garden Club

The Garden Club of Virginia has a rich and varied history that goes beyond our shores and connects with both Britain and France.

In 1940 the GCV, led by GCV President Mildred Hayes (Mrs. John G.), had concern for the British people, when World War II was raging in Europe. At a restoration committee meeting that year, the minutes read, "This October the radio and newspaper tell us of burning cities across the sea..., the world the last months of 1940 are days written in blood and pain. We cannot turn aside from the destruction of ancient and beautiful cities and landmarks rich in history and association for us all.... We want to help them in every way that we can, materially and financially, and we want to do all in our power to keep alive democracy and freedom...." The restoration committee approved the appropriation from the reserve fund (\$1,000) to go to England immediately for civilian relief. It was submitted in the form of a resolution to the GCV board of directors and was approved. The donation was sent to Virginia native Nancy Lancaster (Mrs. Ronald Tree) for the mobile canteen unit.

On Jan. 15, 1941, at a called joint meeting of the restoration committee, the board of directors and club presidents, a recommendation was approved that the entire proceeds from the 1941 Historic Garden Week in Virginia go to relief of Britain. An editorial in the Richmond News Leader by Dr. Douglas Southall Freeman said, "From Britain came the gardens that have glorified Virginia; back to England now will go the money visitors pay to see these gardens in the vernal glory of 1941. This is the decision reached today by the executive committee of The Garden Club of Virginia. A more appealing, a more appropriate decision scarcely could have been reached...." (Follow the Green Arrow, Vol. I, pg. 76.)

The final returns for the 1941 Historic Garden Week tour were nearly \$20,000, and a check was sent to Lady Astor (another Virginian, the former Nancy Langhorne, first woman Member of Parliament), who had volunteered to assist the garden club in facilitating this war relief effort.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, GCV members became involved with the war effort both in the United States and overseas. The garden club members volunteered many forms of service, from financially supporting the USO, to turning their flower gardens into Victory Gardens. Susa Stanton Snider (Mrs. Warner) from Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club was tireless in her part of the war relief effort. On behalf of the GCV, she raised \$4,000 from the design and sale of Christmas cards, collaborated on a GCV cookbook for funds for famine relief, and sent clothing and goods to Britain weighing more than 10,000 pounds.

After the June 6, 1944, Allied invasion of Normandy, the ladies of the club were aware of the devastation to the coastal communes in the region. They had a particular interest in Ver-sur-Mer, a village where, in June 1927, Virginia's own Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd crash landed his airplane in the surf during a historic trans-Atlantic flight. Monsieur Joseph Coiffier rescued him from the wreckage, brought him to his home and tended his injuries. In October 1946 at the GCV Board of Governors meeting in Fredericksburg, the GCV officially adopted the entire village, which had been decimated as collateral damage during the Allied bombing.

Mrs. Snider was appointed head of the relief effort for Ver-sur-Mer. At the next meeting of the board, she reported that 14,000 pounds of clothing, shoes, blankets, food, coats, boots, pablum, flour and peanut oil were sent to this adopted city. She read a letter from Mayor Coiffier – the same man who rescued Admiral Byrd – saying that a monument had been placed on the beach inscribed: "In gratitude to the troops, who in course of liberating the world, freed our commune at dawn of 6th June, 1944." He continued that his people "were learning to smile again, thanks to the Ladies of the Garden Club" and "a street has been named Rue de Garden Club of Virginia in mind of thankfulness for your help." The official declaration from Ver-sur-Mer is in the GCV files at the Kent-Valentine House.

Mrs. Snider reported that an additional effort was being made to raise money to replace 10 windows in the nave of the village's 12th-century church of St. Martin built in the time of William the Conqueror. The church windows were indeed replaced, signed by G. Answer, master glassmaker in Bayeux. In the 1949 *Garden Gossip* there is an account of two Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club members who visited Ver-sur-Mer, "had tea with the Coiffiers and prayed before the marble plaque in the old church on which is inscribed the names of the sons and husbands of the GCV members who were killed during this war."



A window in the 12th-century church of St. Martin that the GCV helped restore.

In May 1949, GCV President Louise Gilliam (Mrs. Frank J.) presented an illuminated scroll to Mrs. Snider "for her outstanding work as chairman and moving spirit of the Famine Relief Committee." In August of that year, the *Médaille d'Argent de la Reconnaissance Française* was presented to Mrs. Snider. It was extended in the name of the French government, "For devoted and exceptional services rendered to the cause of France."

Seventy years later, the GCV voted at its 2019 annual meeting in Portsmouth to contribute \$20,000 in support of a new memorial to the British soldiers who died on Gold Beach at Ver-sur-Mer on June 6, 1944.

The foundation for this British Normandy Memorial was laid on June 6, 2019, the 75th anniversary of D-Day. The unveiling will take place June 6, 2020. The memorial has been designed by London architect Liam O'Connor. He wrote, "While undertaking research for the project



Kathleen Vance, the Blue Ridge Garden Club, next to the plaque at Ver-Sur-Mer inscribed with the names of the sons and husbands of the GCV members who were killed during World War II.

I was taken by the plaque in the 12th-century church of St. Martin in Ver-sur-Mer commemorating the gift from the Garden Club of Virginia for the restoration of the beautiful stone Romanesque church following military action on D-Day." With further

continued p. 6

inquiry in the village, the correspondence from Mrs. Snider to the mayor in 1946 was brought to light. Mr. O'Connor contacted GCV Executive Director Lynn McCashin and GCV Historian Judy Perry. Correspondence ensued and the results are our financial support of the memorial.



A GCV trip, Châteaux & Gardens, Food & History of Normandy is planned for **June 2-10, 2020**.

Participants will see the highlights of Normandy: outstanding private gardens, the D-Day historic sites, the Bayeux tapestry and Ver-sur-Mer to see the plaque in the church of St. Martin and witness the dedication of the new monument.

For information, visit gcvirginia.org. *The number of participants is limited.*





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GCV Centennial Scarf

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Local botanicals create a lush border complete with pollinators. The colors are soft, subtle and intended for yearround wear. 17" x 70" Hand-rolled and hemmed silk twill \$100*



This 16-oz. Tervis Tumbler sports a bright green Centennial logo patch. Stock up for all your entertaining needs.

\$20

Take your Tervis with you! Now offering Travel Lids. \$5

Not available online

GCV Centennial Ties

Creating a subtle overall pattern of the signature GCV leaf logo, these handsome ties are 100% imported silk, and hand sewn in the USA. Neckties are offered in coral, blue and

grass green; bow ties in blue and green.

\$85*

*\$5 flat rate shipping

Waterford Crystal Ornament

This limited edition Waterford Crystal Disk Ornament is the perfect way to celebrate and commemorate the GCV Centennial. It also makes a lovely gift. 3.2" x 4" \$75*





SEPTEMBER 2019



TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020

• Evening reception at the Kent-Valentine House, 5 to 7 p.m. Come see your "home" refurbished and refreshed while visiting with GCV friends from all over the state. Enjoy wine and light refreshments. *Open to GCV members and their guests.* No charge.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020

- Speaker Thomas L. Woltz at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture. Check-in begins at 10 a.m. Program at 10:30 a.m. Garden & Gun calls this rising star "a landscape architect committed to conservation and improving the world we live in." Open to members, their guests and the general public. \$40 per person.
- Luncheon at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Marble Hall. 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Open to members, their guests and the general public. \$35 per person includes wine.
- Afternoon includes self-guided tours of GCV restoration sites and an
 opportunity to shop or enjoy local attractions.
- Gala Reception and Grand Opening of the GCV exhibition, A Landscape Saved: The Garden Club of Virginia at 100, at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture, 6 to 9 p.m. The story of the Garden Club of Virginia is colorful, courageous and impressive. Be the first to see it brought to life. Full bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Cocktail attire. Open to GCV members and their guests. \$100 per person.

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020

• Flower Arranging Demonstration with Paula Pryke at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture. Check-in begins at 10 a.m. Program at 10:30 a.m. Learn style secrets from this London-based floral designer honored by Queen Elizabeth and sought after by A-list clientele. *Open to members, their guests and the general public.* \$75 per person.

Learn more about the programming associated with the Centennial's yearlong celebration and stay informed at GCVirginia.org/Centennial. ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS OCT. 1, 2019.



Acclaimed Speakers Headline GCV's Founders Day

by Karen Ellsworth, Director of Historic Garden Week and Special Programs

Both of the speakers scheduled for Founders Day are superstars in their respective fields. In 2013, Thomas Woltz was named by the Wall Street Journal Magazine as its Design Innovator of the Year, while Paula Pryke is Rizzoli's bestselling floral author.

Thomas Woltz leads Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, an internationally recognized practice with offices in Virginia and New York. A Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, he restores threatened land in both rural and urban settings into healthy and productive forests, lands, and wetlands, delving deeply into the land's cultural as well as scientific and ecological aspects. To date, his firm



has practiced in more than 25 states and 10 countries, earning more than 100 awards, including the prestigious Amanda Burden Public Open Space Award for Citygarden in St. Louis. Woltz's work has been featured in Garden & Gun and Architectural Digest.

Woltz was educated at the University of Virginia where he earned masters' degrees in landscape architecture and architecture. Current work includes projects in New York City, Houston, Alberta, Canada, and Auckland, New Zealand. Don't miss his talk on Wednesday, May 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture.

Paula Pryke is one of the world's leading floral designers and an inspiration to both novices and experts. Her flower school in London, which attracts students worldwide, provides one of the most sought-after credentials for serious floral designers. Educated as a history teacher, Pryke's love of flowers led her to open her first shop in London in 1988.

Nine locations later, her business has expanded to include mail order and a special events department. In addition, Pryke was awarded an OBE for her contribution to floral design in the UK and for her impact and influence overseas. Always on the cutting edge of floral design, her unique style has directly influenced the way fresh flowers are incorporated into homes.



Over a 32-year career, Pryke has published 18 books. A natural instructor and communicator, she began speaking publicly after publishing her first book, *The New Floral Artist*. In a format similar to GCV flower arranging schools, Pryke's upcoming demonstration on Thursday, May 14 at 10:30 a.m. at the VMHC is sure to be lively and informative.

The Garden Club of Virginia thanks Robert and Lucy Huff, Bill and Robin Ingram and Meredith Lauter, our Centennial speaker sponsors. More information and registration for both events, as well as other Centennial programs, will be available on Oct. 1 at GCVirginia.org/Centennial.

SEPTEMBER 2019





Ex Libris

Serving Up Virginia's Culinary Bounty

by Kathleen Reid The James River Garden Club

he James River Garden Club releases its second cookbook – A Taste of Virginia: Through the Garden Gate. This seasonal journey through the culinary bounty of Virginia includes a pictorial tour of historic gardens and public spaces.

In 1978, several JRGC members proposed selling a cookbook to raise funds.

These visionary members, including Margaret Bemiss, Berta Bocock, Virginia Christian, Molly Fitzgerald, Polly Perkins and Helen Scott Reed, gathered recipes for two years.

They garnered the talent of George Nan to take photographs of historic homes and took out a small loan. There were 16,000 copies printed of the first edition of A Taste of Virginia.

Numerous volunteers ensured the cookbook's success by contacting retail shops around Virginia. Berta Bocock explains, "I loved going to Charlottesville to deliver the books to Monticello." Molly Fitzgerald fondly recalled working at the Junior League of Richmond's Bizarre Bazaar booth and shared that she kept the early profits in her sock drawer. We sorely miss Molly and Margaret Bemiss who said, "We left out the oil in the mayonnaise in the first edition ... and we suggested the wrong kind of chocolate for the mousse, but we had a blast!"

Today, cooks prefer minimal preparation and emphasize fresh garden ingredients. This edition is a collaborative effort with Carroll Wommack Andrews, a gardener and home cook, and Clare Osdene Schapiro, cookbook author of *Stories and Recipes from Clare's Kitchen*, food blogger and award-winning Richmond Times-Dispatch columnist.

"My favorite thing about the project was learning more about the original cookbook's creation in 1980," says Clare. "I loved hearing all of the details from numerous conversations with Margaret Bemiss, which I will treasure forever. It was fun incorporating so many of the original recipes along with the illustrations by Lila L. Williams from JRGC's 1923 book, *Historic Gardens of Virginia*. It was very special to be part of adding to the publishing tradition of our club that goes back 96 years."

Both Clare and Carroll agree on the popularity of the Legendary chocolate cake. Clare says, "It's hard to choose one favorite recipe, but I think the one I've made most frequently is the Legendary chocolate cake with Richmond's Legend Brewing Co.'s Brown Ale. It's a marvelous, easy cake with that nifty secret ingredient that always has everyone asking for seconds."

The new cookbook includes photographs by central Virginia photographer Madison Waltman and botanical images by Anne Blackwell Thompson, a club member and artist. A Taste of Virginia: Through the Garden Gate is available for purchase at JamesRiverGardenClub.org and at historic homes and gift shops throughout Virginia. Proceeds support JRGC's ongoing projects. §

The Editorial Board welcomes submissions and reserves the right to edit them.

Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellow

by Lynda Strickler, GCV Conservation and Beautification Committee The Virginia Beach Garden Club

eather Kenny, a graduate student at the College of William & Mary, has been awarded the 2019 Garden Club of Virginia Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellowship. Her study will use animal personality to optimize conservation programs in Virginia. Her case study of Eastern bluebirds' nesting habits and their response to surrounding noise pollution will provide valuable data for the management and conservation of wildlife. Kenny will experimentally apply traffic noise pollution to nesting bluebird pairs to determine how their personalities on the boldness-shyness spectrum interact with this noise. The study has strong implications for understanding how the human-built environment may pose threats to animal populations and how genetic behavioral tendencies may determine which individuals are able to adjust to city life. The project will be conducted in the Williamsburg area with nesting boxes maintained by Virginia Bluebird Society volunteers.

Lily Notes

he North American Lily Society held the International Lily Show and Symposium in Boston at the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University on July 10-14. The Garden Club of Virginia was well represented. Mary Zocchi, Dolley Madison Garden Club, has chaired the NALS for the past two years. GCV members judged and won ribbons in both horticulture and artistic designs.



Patsy Smith (Winchester-Clarke), Tricia Kincheloe (Fairfax), Suzi Worsham (Leesburg), Marianne Casey (Winchester-Clarke), Nancie Motley (Chatham), Joyce Moorman (Lynchburg), Mary Zocchi (Dolley Madison), Betsy Bradford (Hunting Creek)





SEPTEMBER 2019 WWW.GCVIRGINIA.ORG

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Early Bird Registration Opens September 2019 www.HomeGardenerDay.org



Horticulture Field Day

Orange County May 22-23, 2019

Garden Club of Virginia members enjoyed beautiful gardens, good food and great fun in majestic Orange County, Virginia. Special thanks to Mary Lou and Charlie Seilheimer (Mount Sharon Farm) and Catherine and Steven Brooks (Gaston).



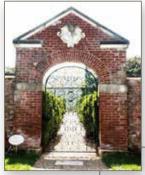
Annie Vanderwarker, Dolley Madison Garden Club, and GCV Horticulture Committee Chairman Wendy Walker, the Garden Club of the Eastern Shore, co-chairmen of Horticulture Field Day.



Gaston



Mount Sharon Farm.



Montpelier.



Restoration Committee Chairman Anne Baldwin, the Garden Club of Alexandria, GCV President Jean Gilpin, Winchester-Clarke Garden Club, and Tom Gilpin and Mary Lou Seilheimer, the Warrenton Garden Club.

The Market at Grelen, Horticulture Field Day Headquarters. **Number of Horticulture Participants**

Exhibits: 122 Stems: 181

Individual Exhibitors: 35 Interclub Collections: 6

Number of Interclub Artistic Exhibits: 12

Photo credit: Jane Cowles, The Boxwood Garden Club



The 77th Annual GCV Lily Show was ded

Artistic Awards

Class 1: Georgian (1714-1830)



The Boxwood Garden Club, Blue Ribbon, and Past Presidents of GCV Trophy for Best Interclub arrangement.



The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club, Red Ribbon



Helen Murphy, the Gar Neck, won the Gertrud Award, for the best lil Eugenia Diller Award fo hybrid lily Pictured with GC Tayloe

Class 2: Art Nouveau



The Spotswood Garden Club, Blue Ribbon



The Garden Club of Fairfax, Red Ribbon

Marcia Garden Garder

For more photos and a complete list of winners, Grateful appreciation extended to Mary Wynn and Charles McDaniel

N CLUB

piscopal Church, Goochland

icated to the memory of Katherine Beale.



Horticulture Awards



echolo Minter Memorial
y stem in show, and the
r the best oriental/trumpet
or 'Valverde.'
V honorary member
Murphy.



The Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club's collection won the Helen Turner Murphy Award, class 3: Interclub collection - eight different stems from the 2008-2017 collections.



DeLane Porter, Dolley Madison Garden Club, won the Blanche Rohrer Davis Memorial Bowl for *L. regale*, best species lily.



McGrath, the Spotswood Club, won the Blue Ridge In Club Cup for best stem grown by a novice.



Karla MacKimmie, the Warrenton Garden Club, won the Sponsor's Cup for best Asiatic hybrid lily for 'Tiger Babies.'



Maggie Neal, Dolley Madison Garden Club, won the Katherine Beale Award for best longiflorum/ oriental hybrid lily.

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go to *gcvirginia.org* and see Horticulture and Artistic Design. and Hilldrup Transfer and Storage for support of the GCV flower shows.

The Garden Club of Virginia Welcomes New Members

(July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019)

Albemarle: Martha Coates, Cindy Hickman, Hatsy Vallar

Alexandria: Jennifer Adams

Ashland: Kathy Flowers, Heather Prillaman

Augusta: Lacey Dean, Joy Krusz, Claire Marrin, Mandi Smith Blue Ridge: Catherine Siegel, Jaime Spencer, Mary Woodson Boxwood: Van Ruffner, Lucinda Stanchina, Marge Street

Brunswick: Marilyn Wright

Charlottesville: Tralyn Hodson, Ronda Pearl, Susan Timko

Chatham: Fern Brown, Sharon Brown, Laura Chappell, Martha Crider

Danville: Kristen Barker, Catherine Bendall, Brenda Rowland

Dolley Madison: Ann Thornton

Eastern Shore: Debbie Cooley, Airlia Gustafson, Channing Guvenator,

Hali Plourde-Rogers

Elizabeth River: Susan Cupitt, Belene McCue Jalbert, Sue Knowles, Mary Kay Nunley

Fairfax: Kim DiBona

Fauquier and Loudoun: Geraldine Carroll, Louise Crane, Libby Devlin, Sheila Harrell, Georgiana Watt, Michele White, Katherine Wilkins

Franklin: John Moore Drewry

Gabriella: Martha Bell, Janice Morning, Carrie Petrick, Jane Willis

Garden Study: Crystal Austin, Rena Edwards, Gale Gravely, May Hawfield, Elizabeth Morgan, Barbara Stanley, Brenda Williams

Gloucester: Pam Driggs, Suzanne Scott

Hampton Roads: Birgit Kingsbury, Martha Sides

Harborfront: Anna Boykin, Hillary Dunnigan, Julia Guerrieri, Kathy Marshall, Rochelle McCashin, Donna McCullough

Hillside: Mary Brockman, Elizabeth Harrington, Amy Kowalski

Hunting Creek: Ann Morton Habliston, Emily Sawyer Jones

Huntington: Kay Asher, Julie Bradbury, Polly Kostecki

James River: Anne McElroy, Elizabeth Reid, Barbara Yorgen

Leesburg: Sherri Anderson, Linda MacLean, Alexandra Patton

Little Garden Club of Winchester: Brenda Bacon, Linda Challinor, Kristen Larson, Linda Miles, Polly Nesselrodt Nelson, Katy Wiley

Lynchburg: Linda Duerson, Susan Ebling, Deirdra Flavin, Elizabeth Foster, Heather Harris, Mimi Hopkins, Virginia Kayes, Sally Pickle, Kate Poats, Jennifer Sittason, Sarah Elizabeth Sterne, Ashley Rae Vaughan, Emily Wolanski

Martinsville: Robin Summerlin, Lora Ware

Middle Peninsula: Cynthia Carter, Susan Fleet, Margaret Hodges, Brenda Knupp, Stacy Richardson, Betsy Shuford

Mill Mountain: Mary Lou Bruce, Aimee Conlee, Whitney Leeson, Beth Sayers

Nansemond River: Miriam Birdsong, Kacky Gallotta, Mary Kemple Henderson, Gina Pitrone

Norfolk: Donna Alexander, Ann Bisese, Mary Elizabeth Bisese, Angie Counselman, Meg Forsberg, Colleen Hamlin, Jessica Labrie, Allison Lavigne, Margaret Moore, Marta Nelson, Lisa Rabinowitz, Sharon Salyer, Lorraine Schreiber

Northern Neck: Dale Coburn, Vicki Levering, Emily Wilkinson, Margaret Withers

Petersburg: Jean Day, Sarah Drake, Ann Riggs

Princess Anne: Cheryl Dowell, Mary Smith, Robin Warren

Rappahannock Valley: Cindy Coppola, Carter Corbin, AnnHall Kendall, Kim Mitchell, Trish Williams, Kathy Wirtala

Rivanna: Michie Peyton Bright

Roanoke Valley: Ann Brisley, David Charles Campbell, Katie Ericsson, Ann Blair Miller, Lisa Turner, Marti Turner, London Ray, Vickie Sheretz, Carole Whittle

Spotswood: Meranda Graves, Kay Green, Pat Harkins, Eleanor Barham Whitehurst

Three Chopt: Martha Chapman, Sarah Innes, Leland Klim, Megan Marriott, Anne Munson, Brooke Schubmehl, Brenda Snead

Tuckahoe: Lisa Elliott, Renee Gardner, Linda Hanson, Lynn Jacob, Penny Peebles

Virginia Beach: Leslie Reid Baker, Maria Goodman Hillebrandt, Marion Padrick Taylor, Lelia Graham Webb, Heyden Kennedy Wittman

Warren County: Carol Cavanaugh, Lorraine Hultquist, Dixie Jackson, Misa Mulroney, Michelle Napier

Warrenton: Alice Laimbeer, Anna Maas, Heather McDaniel-Neff, Jeanne-Marie Tufts Williamsburg: Catherine Allen, Ann Giknis

Winchester-Clarke: Victoria Hughes, Patty Majtyka, Nancy Picklap, Cynthia Taylor, Emily Thomas, Karen Warner



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Garden Club of Virginia members refuse to use!

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Dugdale Award Goes to the Nansemond River Preservation Alliance

by Heidi James, GCV Conservation Awards Chairman The Lynchburg Garden Club

iven annually for outstanding work in conservation to an organization, industry or an individual who is not a Garden Club of Virginia member, this award was first presented in 1974. In 1989, it was named for Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale (Mrs. Arthur A.) of the Ashland Garden Club, originator of the GCV Conservation Forum. The winner of the 2019 Dugdale Award is Nansemond River Preservation Alliance.

Since 2010, the NRPA has been the champion of the Nansemond River and its tributaries. Formed by 17 Suffolk citizens who were concerned about the degradation of local waterways, the NRPA was established to raise awareness and educate all residents of the area to become environmental stewards. Now, led by a 22-member board, NRPA manages K-12 educational programs, grassroots lobbying, environmental oversight and successful outreach. The alliance has educated 7,500 K-12 students and 3,500 adults, to date.



NRPA Summer Ecology Club

The NRPA conducts monthly monitoring and sampling of the Nansemond River and Bennett's Creek and reports any problems to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. This helps ensure that the water stays clean and safe. The alliance publishes a biannual report card on the state of the waterways, establishes and maintains oyster reef sanctuaries, and develops hands-on outdoor classrooms, which include a salt marsh study and an on-board educational boat excursion. It conducts workshops, forums and exhibits on the river and creeks. It advises citizens on the eradication of invasive plants, maintaining a native plant arboretum and rain garden demonstration site, and educates citizens about best practices for their own property.

The NRPA attributes its remarkable success to the many alliances it has forged over the past nine years. It receives support from approximately 350 citizens. It has 24 business and foundation partners, including BASF Corporation, Colonial Pipeline Company and Lipton/Unilever; eight state and federal partners, including the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund and the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge; and 30 community, regional and educational partners, including the Nansemond River Garden Club and the James River Association.

The importance of the NRPA to the entire Suffolk region and to the Commonwealth of Virginia is immeasurable. The Garden Club of Virginia is honored to present the 2019 Dugdale Award to such a vibrant and dedicated organization that strives to protect our waterways and make Virginia a better place to live.

James E. Jones Receives GCV Conservation Educator Award

by Heidi James, GCV Conservation Awards Chairman The Lynchburg Garden Club

atural Bridge State Park Manager James E. Jones is the recipient of the Garden Club of Virginia 2019 Conservation Educator Award. The NBSP hosted more than 162,000 visitors in 2018, and Jones has been instrumental in the success and popularity of this beautiful landmark, often listed as one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

Jones started his career with Virginia State Parks in the 1980s after graduating from Virginia Tech with a degree in forestry and wildlife. He has worked at Fairy Stone, Claytor Lake, York River, Smith Mountain Lake, Westmoreland and Douthat State Parks and, since 2016, Natural Bridge State Park. Jones oversees educational programs for all ages and offers guided tours, hikes and environmental programs that appeal to all. A recent partnership with the Valley Conservation Council and the Rockbridge Historical Society brings Rockbridge County students to the park every Friday.



Conservation Educator Award Recipient Jim Jones

The history of Natural Bridge is fascinating. The remains of a collapsed cavern, it was a sacred site for the Monacan Indian tribe and has ties to George Washington, who surveyed it in 1750, and Thomas Jefferson, who purchased it in 1774 from King George III. Recently, the Virginia Conservation Legacy Fund purchased it. In 2016, the commonwealth made it a Virginia State Park.

Jones' dedication and genuine desire to share the beauty of Natural Bridge State Park ensure that the citizens of Virginia and beyond will benefit for years to come.

"... inspire others to outstanding accomplishments on behalf of Virginia's natural resources."

Calling All Garden Club of Virginia Member Clubs ...

Are you working on a conservation project? Apply for the Bessie Bocock Carter Award. The Deadline is November 1.

Monetary assistance is available for your club's conservation project. An award is given each May at the GCV annual meeting. Don't miss out!

Find the application online at: https://www.gcvirginia.org/main/awards-and-grants Applications should be mailed by **Nov. 1** to:

> Garden Club of Virginia Kent-Valentine House 12 East Franklin Street Richmond, VA 23219

Questions? Contact Heidi James GCV Conservation Awards Chairman heidifjames@gmail.com







Daffodil Notes

Daffodil Projects

by Janet G. Hickman, GCV Daffodil Committee Chairman Hillside Garden Club

hank you to everyone who submitted reports on growing 'Green Arrow,' the Garden Club of Virginia Centennial daffodil. Most bulbs were planted at the recommended depth of about six inches. One person reported successful growth in a large pot. Planting dates were generally late November or early December, when the ground was cool. Despite problems experienced early, with bulbs lost to fungal rot before delivery, nearly all the bulbs planted bloomed, some having more than one bloom. The common bloom time across the state was mid-April.

The 'Green Arrow' backyard science project continues. It will be especially informative to watch the growth of these bulbs in their second year, as white daffodils can be lost to basal rot in warm southern gardens. Bulb bloom dates may be atypical in the first year of planting, so they may change after bulbs acclimate to their new location. Whether or not you sent in a report this year, please report on how the daffodils perform next spring. Find the reporting form under Daffodil Horticulture on the GCV website or check with your club daffodil chairman.

Here's an update regarding the name of one GCV test collection daffodil. The 2016 collection included a bulb intended to be 'High Society,' but it was apparent as it bloomed that the bulb we received was not the true 'High Society.' Through Becky Heath's diligent detective work, including visits to the growers in the Netherlands, it was determined that what we received was a new, unnamed variety. It now has a name: 'Lovely Lynden,' 2 W-P, named in honor of Lynden B. Miller for her work as a public garden designer and restorer of the Conservatory Garden in New York's Central Park, among many other projects. This newly registered daffodil can now be entered in shows and take its place in the GCV club collection. The bulb is in limited supply this year and is offered as a web-only variety by Brent & Becky's Bulbs.

Save the date to attend the American Daffodil Society's Fall Forum & Daffodil Show on Oct. 25-27, 2019, in Lynchburg. Daffodil enthusiasts will come from all over the country for a fall-blooming daffodil show, photography show and meetings. Special this year is a Lunch and Learn "Small" Symposium on Saturday, Oct. 26, from noon to 4 p.m. The emphasis will be on growing daffodils in limited spaces, including a demonstration by Brent Heath on planting bulbs in pots, as well as talks by national daffodil experts on growing miniatures and growing in pots. Registration for the symposium is open to all, and the deadline is Oct. 1, with forms available from club daffodil chairmen or online at stores.daffodilusastore.org. **



Dolley Madison Garden Club Celebrates Its Centennial Year

by Mary Stroh Queitzsch and Gale Martin Dolley Madison Garden Club

olley Madison Garden Club, a founding member of the Garden Club of Virginia, was organized in 1919 by a group of distinguished ladies who came to be known as the Dollies. Members worked to preserve the rural heritage of central Virginia, stimulate horticultural advancement and undertake community improvements. In 1925, the Dollies organized a tour of local homes and gardens that was a precursor to what became Historic Garden Week. The homes included Inverness, Frascati, Woodberry Forest, Horseshoe Farm, Piedmont, Happy Creek, Lochiel, Red Rock, Hawfield and Montpelier. In a nod to the past this year, the club's HGW Centennial tour featured the Residence at Woodberry Forest, the home of founding member, Violet Niles Walker (Mrs. Joseph G.).

Mrs. Walker served as GCV president from 1924-1926. The Violet Niles Walker Memorial Cup for single-stem lilies was established in her memory. Club member de Lacy Thompson Gray (Mrs. Leslie H.) was GCV president from 1930-1932, and the de Lacy Gray Memorial Medal for outstanding conservation service was established by the GCV to honor her in 1965. Dottie Williams (Mrs. Wyatt Aiken), of the DMGC, served the GCV as president from 1964-1966. She was instrumental in expanding Taylor Park in downtown Orange. The park was established in the 1970s by club member Helen Marie Taylor to honor President Zachary Taylor and the 1716 Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition.

For its Centennial, the club commissioned a lotus blossom fountain sculpture for Taylor Park as a gift to the community. The public dedication of the sculpture on May 5 was attended by more than 200 people. During the ceremony, it was announced that Taylor Park has been included in the Archives of American Gardens, an effort driven by Gail Babnew, club member and current Garden Club of America Zone VII garden history and design vice chairman. Dolley Madison Garden Club, like all GCV member clubs, will continue to face challenges and complex issues with the same courage and determination shown by the club's founding members a century ago. \$\frac{\pi}{2}\$



Photo by Jeanne 1

Dolley Madison Garden Club President Annie Vanderwarker, Smithsonian Gardens'
Manager of Collections and Education Cynthia Brown, GCV President Jean Gilpin,
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Krehbiel, fountain sculpture designer and creator, Orange Downtown Alliance Executive
Director Charlotte Cole and Katherine Krehbiel, designer of fountain sculpture

GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

by Sue Rosser, GCV Development Committee Chairman The Martinsville Garden Club Betsy Agelasto, GCV Development Committee The Virginia Beach Garden Club

eartfelt thanks to you, your fellow members, your clubs, the foundations and friends who have supported the Kent-Valentine House Centennial restoration project and helped us to "polish our gem." Work continues as we put the finishing touches on her, but her brilliance is shining through.

We are grateful for your love of the Garden Club of Virginia, your support of our mission and your generosity in giving of your time and talent. We celebrate your being

a part of a GCV member tradition of giving.

Most of the furnishings in the K-VH have been given by generous, thoughtful members. It is fitting that the funds needed to reupholster furniture, repair antique pieces, replace the roof, refurbish the floors, update the lighting, replace the carpet and wallpaper and conserve the mirrors have been donated largely by our clubs and members. The development committee is grateful for your support of our stewardship of this historic Richmond landmark listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register.

The sunroom was given by Christine Hale Martin (Mrs. James Bland), GCV president from 1962-1964. The furniture was part of her bequest gift, which included artwork and other furniture throughout the house, and it has been given new life with fresh upholstery and reflects the continuous generosity of GCV members.



The third-floor meeting room, freshly painted and updated with new carpet, provides a gallery for the lovely collection of watercolor prints from the early 18th century by the renowned Mark Catesby. Mr. Robert Talley Jr., a friend of Dorothy Douglas Kellam (Mrs. Lucius J.), GCV president 1968-1970, donated this beautiful artwork, one of the largest such collections in the country.

The seven gilded mirrors were given to the GCV in 1971 by the Valentine family.

No restorative work had been done to the mirrors until last year. Now, your support is providing conservation of these stellar artifacts and allowing GCV to continue honoring the legacy of our members. Four of the seven mirrors have been completed. We hope to be able to have the remaining three funded and conserved in time for our Centennial Founders Day celebration in May 2020.

Much of the ongoing preservation and restoration of the Kent-Valentine House was funded through grants from local foundations. However, that support would not be possible without the matching funds given by you, your clubs and your fellow club members.

Your contributions have made the gifts of GCV members who came before us endure into the future of our beloved Garden Club of Virginia. Thank you! *



Rose Notes

Photo Tips

by Patsy Smith, GCV Rose Committee Chairman Winchester-Clarke Garden Club

ow is the perfect time to photograph exquisite rose blooms to provide garden inspiration in the winter months. Here are a few tips for taking flower photos using an iPhone.

Dawn and dusk are the best times to capture blooms. Dawn's early morning light is soft and provides dappled sunlight, and afternoon light is warmer. Get down on the level of the flower you are trying to photograph with an uncluttered background. Try spritzing the rose with water from a spray bottle to add a bit of drama. Shoot the rose from above or below. For a technical trick, try pressing the area on which you want to focus, and a yellow box with a sun icon will appear. Sliding the yellow box up and down will automatically adjust the light, and the square will auto lock on the image, creating a softer and more dramatic background. The newer iPhones have a portrait mode that softens the background and allows more focus on the bloom. Zoom by moving your feet, not the camera.

After capturing the image, it can be further edited. To use your iPhone adjustment tools, touch the edit button and it brings up icons for cropping, light and color enhancements. For best results, crop after you take the shot, as expanding the picture while framing degrades the image.

With practice and experimentation, your radiant beauties are captured for future viewing and sharing.

Join Claire Mellinger for a smartphone photography workshop Sept. 12 at the

Kent-Valentine House. Information and registration at gcvirginia.org. \$\footnote{s}\$

Kathie Avery, GCV Accountant/Bookkeeper

Kathie Avery, a Richmond native, holds a business degree from Mary Baldwin University. She has been a small business owner, a self-employed accountant and the sole accountant at a large construction company. After being retired for about six months, she realized she missed working and sought out a part-time position that would allow her to continue her lifelong volunteerism. Kathie

has many interests and has volunteered for Historic Garden Week. She loves gardening and is looking forward to being the only one on her block with 'Green Arrow' daffodils blooming next spring.





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CALENDAR 2019

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24-25 Back to Nature and 61st Conservation Forum "Trees: Canopy of Conservation," Natural Bridge State Park

Oct. 15 Deadline for December *Journal* Article Submission Oct. 15-17 Board of Governors Meeting, The Garden Club of the Northern Neck, Stratford Hall

Nov. 1 Nomination Deadline for Bessie Bocock Cater Conservation Award

Dec. 1 Nomination Deadline for Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement

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