

THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA



Marcia Long

VOL LXII, NO. 4, DECEMBER 2017

Journal



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

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

Greetings of the season, dear friends! May these pages provide inspiration for private gardens, clubs and communities. Garden Club of Virginia members are succeeding in their efforts to promote beauty throughout the commonwealth. Learn from the shared stories printed on our pages. With the onset of winter, and reduced hours outside, find time to send us your contributions.

Let's make 2018 a year of creative inspiration.

Thank you for reading the *Journal*. We welcome your articles.

Write to us at journal@gcvirginia.org.

Submission guidelines may be found on the GCV website.

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The Garden Club of Virginia Journal

The Garden Club of Virginia Journal (USPS 574-520, ISSN 0431-0233) is published four times a year for members by the GCV, 12 East Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23219. Periodical postage paid in Richmond, VA. Single issue price, \$5.00.

Copy and ad deadlines are:

January 15 for the March issue

April 15 for the June issue

July 15 for the September issue

October 15 for the December issue

Email copy to the Editor and advertising to the Ad Chairman

President of the Garden Club of Virginia:

Nina Mustard

Journal Editor:

Karla MacKimmie

8505 Lees Ridge Road

Warrenton, VA 20186

Phone: (540) 341-3432

Email: journal@gcvirginia.org

Journal Advertising Chairman:

Penny Dart

9174 Harts Mill Road

Warrenton, VA 20186

Phone: (540) 347-5138

Email: journalads@gcvirginia.org

Vol. LXII, No. 4

Printed on recycled paper by

Carter Printing Company

Richmond, VA



ON THE COVER...

While we might associate it with Colonial-era Williamsburg, using winter fruit in holiday decorations began in the early 20th century, when Colonial Revival style was ascending along with the significance of Christmas in American culture. This beautiful spray of lemons was rendered by Marcia Long of The Williamsburg Garden Club.

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OTHER REFERENCES...

Kent-Valentine House

Phone: (804) 643-4137 Fax: (804) 644-7778

Email: director@gcvirginia.org

Historic Garden Week Office

Phone: (804) 644-7776 Fax: (804) 644-7778

Email: historicgardenweek@verizon.net

www.VAGardenWeek.org

Postmaster, please send address changes to:

Garden Club of Virginia

12 East Franklin Street

Richmond, VA 23219

Common Wealth Award 2017

by *Candy Carden, Common Wealth Award Chairman*
The Garden Club of the Northern Neck

The Garden Club of Virginia's Common Wealth Award first prize winner is The Healing Grove at Boulder Crest Retreat proposed by Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club. Second prize was awarded to Lee Park Wildflower and Bird Sanctuary proposed by the Petersburg Garden Club. The monetary awards were presented at the GCV's Board of Governors Meeting in Lexington.

Boulder Crest Retreat is located in the Piedmont of Northern Virginia. It is a privately funded, completely free treatment facility dedicated to our wounded warriors and their families. Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club will fund a grove of native trees that will create a soothing link between the lodges housing warriors and their families during their recovery.

Lee Park Wildflower and Bird Sanctuary is the heart of Lee Memorial Park, a remarkable 1930s WPA project built by African-American women of Petersburg to establish a botanical preserve. Signage and brochures will tell the important national story, promote the conservation of the sanctuary and describe programs for at-risk youth. ❁



Common Wealth Award Chairman Candy Carden, the Garden Club of the Northern Neck, Aline Day, president, Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club, Mary Nelson Thompson, president, and Bettie Guthrie, the Petersburg Garden Club and GCV Historian

Your Voice Counts Be a GCV Advocate!

Join the
GCV Conservation and Beautification Committee
in partnership with Virginia Conservation Network for
Legislative Day

Monday, January 22, 2018
Richmond, Virginia

*Support our mission to conserve Virginia's natural resources.
Become informed and let your legislators hear from you!*

Online registration opens after December 5, 2017

Garden Club of Virginia's First Daffodil Day Wednesday, March 28, 2018

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

Garden Club of Virginia members and fellow daffodil enthusiasts will gather for the 84th Annual GCV Daffodil Horticulture Show presented in conjunction with Daffodil Day, a new event designed to celebrate this beloved harbinger of spring.

One of the nation's largest collections of daffodil specimens will be displayed in an elegant setting at the historic John Marshall Hotel in Richmond. The comprehensive schedule of 245 classes includes GCV Collections, American Daffodil Society sanctioned classes and a youth division.

Judged daffodil photography will be on display at the John Marshall. Classes of photography include portraiture, abstract design, landscape, Old Dutch Masters floral design and mobile device candid photography of daffodils at the farmers market, flower stand or grocery store. The vision for the Daffodil Day logo was inspired by Diane Ginsberg, Garden Club of the Eastern Shore, whose beautiful photographs have supported Historic Garden Week for years.

Spectacular floral arrangements will decorate the antebellum headquarters of the Garden Club of Virginia. The Kent-Valentine House will be transformed with judged flower arrangements interpreting Richmond landmarks. Each first floor living area will feature a variety of related styles, chosen in advance by the exhibitor.

Daffodil Day offers attendees the opportunity to learn more about growing and showing daffodils at the Daffodil School with American Daffodil Society guest instructors who will teach part three of ADS Judging School on Tuesday, March 27.

For complete information and to register, visit GCVDaffodilDay.org.
Registration begins Dec. 1. 🌱



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March 28, 2018
John Marshall & Kent-Valentine

Photo by Diane Ginsberg



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59th Annual Conservation Forum

*by Wendy Vaughn, GCV Conservation and Beautification Committee Chairman
The Princess Anne Garden Club and
Leslie Leake, GCV Conservation Awards Committee Chairman
Three Chopt Garden Club*

The 59th Annual Garden Club of Virginia Conservation Forum was held on Oct. 27, 2017, at the Paramount Theater in Charlottesville. Entitled “Fracking in Virginia: From All Perspectives,” speakers shared facts on fracking and its impact on the environment.

The winners of the Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award for Meritorious Achievement in Conservation and the Conservation Educator Award were also presented at this event.

Nominated by the Albemarle Garden Club, Maggie and Rod Walker, founders of Blue Ridge PRISM, (Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Removal), were presented with the Dugdale Award. Blue Ridge PRISM was established in 2014 as a project of the Shenandoah National Park as the first Cooperative Weed Management Area to be headquartered in Virginia. The collaborative partnership between individual citizens and various public and private agencies is dedicated to reducing the negative impact of non-native invasive plants in a wide geographical area of the Blue Ridge in Virginia.



*Dugdale Award recipients
Maggie and Rod Walker,
founders of Blue Ridge
PRISM (Partnership for
Regional Invasive Species
Removal)*



*Conservation Awards
Chairman Leslie Leake,
Three Chopt Garden Club,
and Conservation Educator
Award winner Jody
Ullmann, program director
of Lynnhaven River Now,
Pearl Programs*

The Conservation Educator Award was presented to Jody Ullmann, program director of Lynnhaven River Now, Pearl Programs. Nominated by the Princess Anne Garden Club, Ullmann’s relationship with teachers, administration, parents and students is inspiring, and her commitment to the Virginia Beach schools has earned her high esteem in the educational and larger Tidewater community. The program she heads is now embedded in the Virginia Beach Public Schools Sustainability Award Process, by which it measures the schools for sustainable activities.

After receiving their awards, each recipient gave a brief and informative talk about their work and contributions to their respective communities. GCV is delighted to celebrate

these award winners for their bold strides to improve upon the preservation of our state’s natural beauty and resources. 🌿



Club Notes

Community Garden Gift Feeds the Homeless

by Gillian Cady
The Garden Club of Norfolk

This summer, a bumper crop of vegetables was harvested from raised beds alongside a busy Norfolk roadway on the front lawns of the new Union Mission Shelter for the Homeless. In April, and as part of the Garden Club of Norfolk's community outreach program, the club funded eight beds which residents built and planted. The beds produced organic vegetables to help feed approximately 381 residents daily.



Set amidst commercial sprawl, the Union Mission sits on a 17-acre campus outside of Norfolk. This non-profit, faith-based emergency shelter provides some 30,000 meals monthly to its homeless residents. The shelter's main objective is to provide housing, clothing and support to residents and enable them to become productive, self-sufficient citizens.

The GCN is delighted to see the vegetable garden supporting the Union's mission. The beds not only provide delicious fresh vegetables for the residents, but also serve as a hands-on venue to help them learn the basic elements and environmental impact of year-round gardening and provide training in employable skills. 🌱



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Grandchildren + State Parks = MEMORIES

by Bettie Guthrie
The Petersburg Garden Club

My husband, Carl, and I have been blessed with five grandsons. Since the boys were toddlers they have come to visit Geeg and Pop for a couple of weeks of pampering during school vacations. Our daughter was moving from Michigan to Alabama and asked if we would keep Mason and Liam for three weeks. Of course we were delighted to have them for three weeks. Three weeks! What were we thinking? How were we going to entertain two 11 year olds for three weeks?

Garden Club of Virginia to the rescue! From my work on the State Parks Committee I have learned, and continue to learn, about the 37 state parks and the hundreds of programs and activities they offer.

Good ole Geeg and Pop pulled out a calendar, map and *I Love Virginia State Parks*, a 23-page booklet with details and amenities about every park. We were so excited to read about panning for gold (Lake Anna State Park), collecting prehistoric marine fossils (York River State Park), swimming and visiting the depression era Civilian Conservation Corps exhibit (Pocahontas State Park), finding the legendary fairy stones (Fairy Stone State Park) and seeing the site of the first landing of the Jamestown colonists in 1607 (First Landing State Park).

Both grandparents and grandchildren were thrilled with all we experienced. Several years have passed and the boys still talk about their fabulous state park vacation. I challenge you to make your own memories by calling 800-933-PARK (7275) or visiting www.virginiastateparks.gov for your free copy of *I Love Virginia State Parks*. ❁



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Inside Belle Isle Abuzz

by Carter Blackford Filer, President
The Garden Club of the Northern Neck

On a brisk October day, invited guests came together at Belle Isle State Park on prime Rappahannock River shoreline to see and celebrate works in progress to improve the park. The Garden Club of Virginia's Centennial Grants prompted the Garden Club of the Northern Neck to spearhead



Belle Isle Abuzz – an ambitious multi-faceted project of phased activities kicked off in coordination with local park personnel and bolstered by determined professionals, community activists, organizations and individuals.

Lunch and Learn guests met at the visitors center, greeting one another over steaming mugs of Brunswick stew and light refreshments as members of the GCNN's Centennial Projects Committee and park personnel presented a progress report. Interim results were clearly visible inside the visitors center, including media display components for the entryway, construction materials ready to be used in the new Belle Isle Story exhibit area and a high-tech spyglass for birding from the Rappahannock River overlook.

The gathering culminated with a walking tour of the 1756 Belle Isle residence which had never before been open to the public. The tour was led by Donald Haynie, a horticulturalist, designer and volunteer consultant to Belle Isle Abuzz. His father was the local contractor who helped restore the residence in the 1930s. Haynie commended the extensive exterior cleanup, including tree work around the front of the residence made possible by Belle Isle Abuzz. He also highlighted the striking 18th-century landscape and architectural elements typical of a small but formal Tidewater plantation. One such existing element is a raised garden terrace stretching before the creek front area of the house which incorporates water into the overall site plan.

A new era began at Belle Isle State Park in 2017 as witnessed by what Belle Isle Abuzz has accomplished in its startup year. GCV's Centennial initiative has given impetus to enhance the park's overall appeal, bring in new visitors and become a center of research, learning and outdoor fun. ❁



Laura Dowling

Flowers in the White House Style

Join the Garden Club of Norfolk for a lecture demonstration on tips and techniques for garden style arrangements with former White House florist Laura Dowling, author of “Floral Diplomacy at the White House” and “A White House Christmas.”

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2018 AT THE
NORFOLK YACHT & COUNTRY CLUB

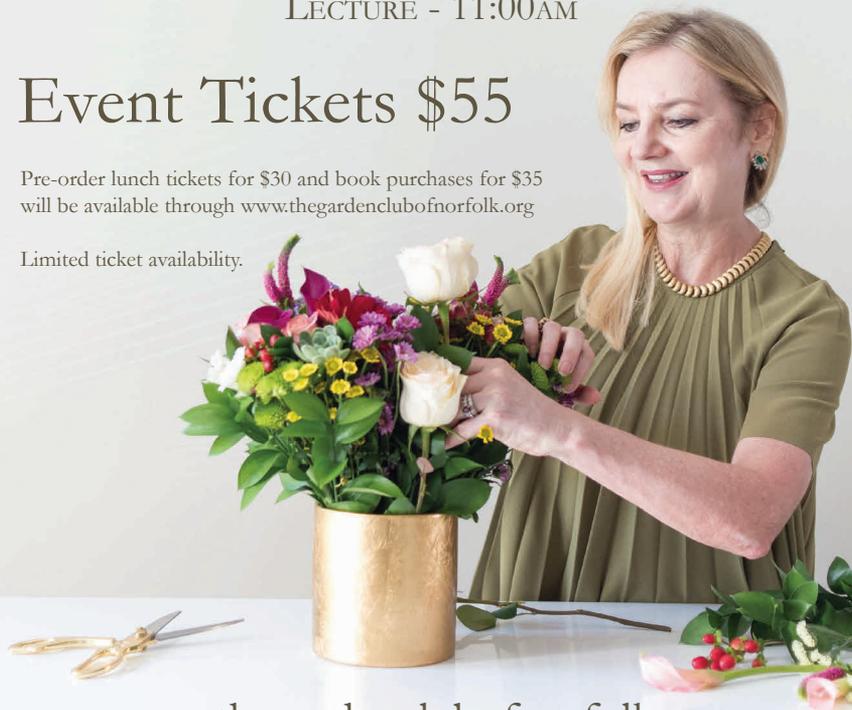
VENDOR SHOPPING - 9:30AM TO 2:30PM

LECTURE - 11:00AM

Event Tickets \$55

Pre-order lunch tickets for \$30 and book purchases for \$35 will be available through www.thegardenclubofnorfolk.org

Limited ticket availability.



www.thegardenclubofnorfolk.org

Balloons, Bottles and Butts: Conservation Workshop Recap

by Carol Carter
Albemarle Garden Club

The following information was presented by three formidable leaders in watershed and coastal stewardship; Katie Register, Christina Trapani and Karen Forget, who spoke at the Garden Club of Virginia Symposium held in Richmond in September.

Here are a few trashy tips they shared:

1. Balloon releases at weddings, memorial events and parties end up littering landscapes everywhere and are deadly to wildlife on land and in oceans. Whether latex or Mylar, balloons are toxic when they land. Blow bubbles or plant trees instead.
2. Ugh! Plastic drink bottles are *still* one of the most common litter items and are so wasteful. We all need to commit to reusable bottles.
3. Cigarette butts are not only unsightly, but the filters are plastic, last forever and can sicken and kill wildlife. They are the most littered item on the planet, and many people who “litter” cigarette butts would not normally litter anything else.
4. Plastic bags, plastic straws, plastic utensils ... there is a theme to this common litter, and it is plastic ... which slowly degrades but never disappears. It should be replaced with items that can be used again and again.

On a positive note, the Virginia Beach business community is helping to reduce cigarette litter with cute educational signs and available receptacles. Go to lynhavenrivernow.org and look under Pearl Homes to find tips for forming good habits. Let's all move on from harmful littering. 🌱



*Katie Register, Christina Trapani
and Virginia Witmer*

Club Notes

A Cigarette Litter Prevention Program

by Joanie Eiland Laird
The Augusta Garden Club

On June 1, 2016, the Augusta Garden Club won a \$1,000 grant from Keep Virginia Beautiful for its Cigarette Litter Prevention Program. The initiative seeks to educate the public about damage to the environment from discarded cigarettes, our nation's most commonly littered item.

With this grant money, the Augusta Garden Club's conservation committee purchased eight cigarette litter receptacles and produced posters and stickers to be placed on and above them. The City of Staunton's Parks and Recreation department assisted in the designation and placement of the receptacles throughout Gypsy Hill Park and Montgomery Hall Park. The amount of cigarette litter collected is evidence of the great success of this project.



... continued on page 11

continued from page 10 ...

To expand the Cigarette Litter Prevention Project, the conservation committee plans to develop an education and outreach program targeting civic organizations, public service organizations and youth programs. Students from the National Honor Society will help distribute educational materials to schools and other outlets. Committee members plan to speak about the program to different groups in the near future.

The Augusta Garden Club is very excited to enter this new phase of engagement with the community and looks forward to reporting on its continued success in the future. ❁

Club Notes

Flowers and Friends: The Hampton Roads Garden Club Trip to the National Cathedral Flower Mart and Mount Vernon

*by Anne Harrison L. Harris, President
The Hampton Roads Garden Club*

The Hampton Roads Garden Club sponsored a combined trip to the 2017 National Cathedral Flower Mart and to Mount Vernon on May 5-6, 2017. Our group, 38 ladies representing five garden clubs, enjoyed every minute of this adventure.

The Flower Mart is held on the grounds of the Washington National Cathedral (the Cathedral Close) and is sponsored by All Hallows Guild, a volunteer organization. The area encompasses 59 acres of gardens and grounds including a medieval-style garden, Olmsted Woods, three school campuses and the magnificent Cathedral building. We arrived to find over 80 vendors selling unique items of food, clothing, flowers, plants, jewelry and art. Proceeds from sales contribute to the Flower Mart's funds for the care and preservation of the Cathedral gardens and grounds.

Inside the Cathedral, each archway was filled with a fabulous arrangement produced by an embassy or international floral designer. The designs were used to showcase each country's native flowers, histories and cultures. The National Cathedral Orchestra and the choirs of St. Alban's School performed throughout the day.

We next boarded the bus and headed for Old Town Alexandria. There we enjoyed a lovely reception and talk by Laura Dowling, former chief floral designer at the White House and author of the book, *Floral Diplomacy*.

The next morning we were given the option of touring the grounds of historic Christ Church or walking around Old Town Alexandria. Many of us did both! Afterward, we headed to Mount Vernon where we were treated to a special private tour that included areas of the home not normally open to the public.

This was our club's first trip to the National Cathedral Flower Mart. It was such a success that I hope you will consider joining us for our next excursion. If you would like to be informed about plans for future trips, please contact Melissa Saunders at mwsaunders26@gmail.com. ❁



G.G. Buxton and Joanne Prillaman, the Hampton Roads Garden Club, present a wreath in honor of their club at the tomb of George and Martha Washington

30 artistic arrangements
422 horticulture entries – more than 500 stems

Thank you to our Symposium sponsors
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Photo credit: Sandy Geiger



Artistic Awards



Wendy Burns, Albemarle
Garden Club, Class 106,
Art Nouveau, Blue Ribbon



Suzanne Willett, The Hunting
Creek Garden Club, Class 104,
Baroque, Best in Show, Tri Color
Blue Ribbon



Betsy Carey (novice),
The Rappahannock Valley
Garden Club, Class 102,
Late Colonial, Blue Ribbon



Mary Lou Johnson,
Linda Patton, Crystal Wass,
Harborfront Garden Club,
Class 101, Traditional Mass,
Blue Ribbon



Nancy Baillio,
The Princess Anne
Garden Club,
Class 103, Assemblage,
Most Creative, Red Ribbon

For more photos and a complete list of winners,

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Horticulture Awards

Mollie Reinhart,
The Tuckahoe Garden
Club of Westhampton,
Best in Show
and Goshen Pass
Award for the best
perennial grown
for foliage



Catherine Leitch, Roanoke
Valley Garden Club, Green
Award for the best horticulture
entry grown without pesticides
and Blandy Award for best
herb collection



The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton,
Mary Jean Printz Award for best inter club exhibit
of six hybrid tea or grandiflora



Kathy Watson, The Tuckahoe Garden
Club of Westhampton, Edith Farr Elliott
Memorial Award for best floribunda and
their climbing sports bloom or spray



Mary Young Tracy, The Garden Club of the
Northern Neck, Richmond Low Line Award for
best flowering, berried, seeded or fruited branch

Bernice Walker,
Dolley Madison
Garden Club,
Jane Marshall
Broyhill Memorial
Trophy for best
hybrid tea,
grandiflora or their
climbing sports
bloom or spray



go to www.gcvirginia.org.

Rose Notes

Beware of Rose Thorns

by Lea Shuba, GCV Rose Chairman
The Hunting Creek Garden Club

I received an email the day before the Fall Symposium from a Rose Committee member who couldn't make it to the show because she was suffering from a severe form of *Sporotrichosis*, a disease caused by the fungus *Sporothrix schenckii*. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the fungus is transmitted through breaks in the skin or a puncture from a rose thorn. The first symptom of *sporotrichosis* is usually a small, painless, reddish-purple bump that develops one to 12 weeks after exposure, and will seem slow to heal. Additional bumps or sores may appear later near the original, indicating that the fungus is spreading through the lymphatic system. Most cases of *sporotrichosis* only involve the skin and are not life-threatening, and must be treated with prescription oral antifungal medication for several months. Patients with severe forms of *sporotrichosis* are treated with amphotericin B, which is given intravenously. If *sporotrichosis* progresses to the lymph nodes or lungs, surgery is often needed to cut away infected tissue.

A more rare but equally dangerous condition is plant thorn arthritis, or synovitis, a noninfectious inflammation of a joint resulting from a thorn puncture that leaves residual plant matter lodged within it. The fragments cause a localized inflammatory reaction that leads to swelling, stiffness, loss of motion and pain. There is no medication or home remedy to cure this type of infection. Only surgery to remove the thorn remnants and the diseased synovium (lining) is curative. Recovery of joint function can take months.

These are not the only hazards associated with rose thorn injuries, as they can transmit whatever is in your soil, including tetanus. Other less serious bacterial infections are common, and most of us who work in the garden respect the damage to our fingers these can cause. While fungi, thorn fragments, or bacteria can turn a small wound into a large problem, there are many common sense preventative measures that can be taken. Immediately wash thorn pricks with rubbing alcohol and gardeners' soap and apply a topical antiseptic such as iodine or an antibacterial ointment. Bandage the wound and keep it clean. Watch carefully until the wound heals, and seek medical attention immediately if any sign of infection develops. Keep your tetanus vaccine up to date. Of course the ultimate safeguard is to wear leather gauntlet type gloves to protect your hands and arms as you prune. Try to resist the impatience that leads us to feel so hampered by the bulky gloves that we unwisely discard them. 🌹



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

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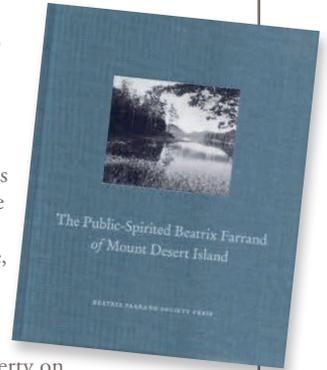
by Joan Pollard and Virginia Cherry, GCV Library Committee
The Petersburg Garden Club

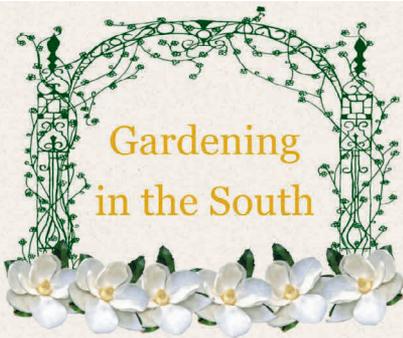
The Public-Spirited Beatrix Farrand of Mount Desert Island, by Roxanne S. Brouse, (Beatrix Farrand Society Press, 2016, 127 pp.) provides continuing insight into the life of Beatrix Cadwalader Farrand, the renowned landscape architect. She designed about 100 gardens for private residences, estates and country homes, public parks, botanic gardens, college campuses and the White House. Farrand possessed prodigious knowledge of plants and had a keen eye for design and proportions with close attention to detail. Only a few of her major works survive, including Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, D.C. She was the only woman of the founding eleven members of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

John D. Rockefeller, a lover of the outdoors, bought property on Mount Desert Island in 1912 for his growing family and for the opportunity to pursue his passion for building carriage roads and bridges. The roads, built by Rockefeller, are now part of the Acadia National Park with the goal of providing public access to all parts of the island.

The collaboration between Rockefeller and Farrand began when he gratefully accepted her assistance to design the plantings lining the carriage roads. She had come to the area as a child and considered Mount Desert her home. Farrand worked on almost 50 properties throughout the island but her work at Mount Desert Island's national park, Acadia, marks her greatest contribution to the public realm. The book includes many letters of correspondence between Farrand and Rockefeller.

Following Farrand's death at Garland Farm on Mount Desert Island, the farm was established as the Beatrix Farrand Society. Founded in June 2003, it is a nonprofit Maine corporation, whose mission is to foster the art and science of horticulture and landscape design with an emphasis on the life and work of Beatrix Farrand. After years of neglect going back to the 1960s and following a study for the National Park Service conducted by Roxanne Brouse of Rieley and Associates, the park roads were recognized for their national significance. The Society, with public support, returned the roads and roadsides to their original splendor. 🌿





Home Gardener Day 2018

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**Experience the Beautiful
Gardens of England
with the
Garden Club of Virginia
this May**

*by Lexie Haglund, Director of Development,
Garden Club of Virginia*

The Garden Club of Virginia is offering a unique horticultural experience in England. Visit the Chelsea Flower Show on Members' Day before the event opens to the public. Enjoy afternoon tea in the organic garden of HRH The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall (Prince Charles and Camilla). Explore the Kiftsgate garden, started in 1920, where you'll view the extraordinary Kiftsgate rose. This trip offers many opportunities to expand your knowledge of horticulture and is sure to inspire old world innovation in your own garden.

Travelers will depart May 19 and return May 27, 2018. The full itinerary and trip description can be found in the members' section of the GCV website, or contact Lexie Haglund at (804) 643-4137, development@gcvirginia.org.

We look forward to traveling with you across the pond. Spaces are filling quickly; reserve your spot today. 🌸



Hidcote Garden

Photo credit: Academic Arrangements Abroad

Historic Garden Week

*by Stephanie Broadwater, Historic Garden Week Chairman
The Nansemond River Garden Club*

December is a busy time for all of us. We've just celebrated Thanksgiving and are moving quickly into the holidays when shopping, parties and spending time with family and friends are a few of the activities that compete for our attention.

It's been an active fall for those of us working on Historic Garden Week. There were fall district meetings to attend, guidebook advertising to finalize, sponsors to secure and tour guidebook copy to turn in, plus much more. By any measure, the informative and entertaining marketing meeting in November was a success. Presenters educated tour leaders, and the state media kit and 2018 marketing materials were distributed.

The guidebook has been laid out; tour chairmen have reviewed their sections and finalized distribution lists for the 75,000+ guidebooks that will ship in February 2018. Advertising sales for the 2018 guidebook will again pay for the printing and distribution of Historic Garden Week's most important and beloved marketing tool. The pictures are glorious and the descriptions beautifully written.

A creative and colorful teaser was unveiled on our Facebook page, "Historic Garden Week in Virginia," in September; "29 tours in 29 days" leaves us looking forward to more highlights. A weekly email update being sent to club chairmen is keeping everyone focused and on track.

The reimagined HGW State Committee met for the first time. This group of dedicated ladies will work on projects, identify best practices and support HGW and the tours in many ways.

Online tickets went live the week before Thanksgiving and make great gifts. Go to vagardenweek.org and buy tickets to any or all 29 tours. With all the hard work accomplished, it's time to take a break from HGW and enjoy the holiday season. ❁



Photo credit: Missy Janes



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Greenery for the Holidays

by Carolyn McLeod Noland
The Mill Mountain Garden Club

As winter and the holidays approach, let us examine some evergreen options for use in decorating. There are many attractive, traditional and diverse greens which can be used to create swags, garlands and mantel décor. As beautiful and historic as *Buxus sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' (boxwood) is, its use is now discouraged due to the highly contagious *Cylindrocladium buxicola* fungus attacking it.

Other excellent evergreen choices include magnolia, cryptomeria, Frazier fir, *Arizona cypress* 'Blue Ice' and juniper with lots of blue berries. They give volume and a base layer for decorations. Red holly berries, variegated holly leaves, nandina berries, seeded eucalyptus, moss and running cedar add three-dimensional effects. There are many varieties of holly with leaves of different shapes. *Ilex* 'Emily Bruner' and 'Oak Leaf' have larger leaves.

Local garden centers and farmers' markets are good sources for greens, seed pods, berries and ribbons. Often they will create a custom wreath for you. A thin coating of an antidessicant will help to keep evergreens from drying out unless they are burned directly by the sun.

Cast iron urns are very popular outside on the front stoop. For the holidays they may be filled with beautiful arrangements of evergreens, curly willow for height and some red accents. The arrangement can be created in a plastic basket filled with potting soil and placed in an urn or other container. The holly and willow will root in the soil and last longer.

In addition to the traditional outdoor wreaths, or garlands festooned from an overhead arch, consider garlands nestled on the mantel, draped over a large mirror or wrapped through a bannister to add to the holiday spirit. Hang smaller wreaths from windows and adorn lamp posts with swags. Include organic pods, grasses, sticks and forest floor matter for interest. Take photographs and save bows for the following years. Have an evergreen holiday season. ❁

A woman in a teal lace dress holding a bouquet of flowers, standing in front of a white door. The image is part of an advertisement for The Fashion Gallery.

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Daffodil Notes

Who is Growing in Your Garden?

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

Daffodil names add to the fun of cultivating these flowers. I've just planted 'Sara Kinne' in a prime spot in my raised bed. The real Sara is a friend of mine from the American Daffodil Society, who is chairman of the membership committee and the namesake of a beautiful daffodil bulb she sent me this fall. Her bulb joins a number of others named for friends and famous persons I've met through daffodils.



Photo Credit: Diane Ginsberg

Last quarter I wrote about the importance of daffodil names. A daffodil gets its official name when it is registered, a process of sending a detailed description and photo to the U.S. Registrar who then sends it on to the Royal Horticultural Society for approval before being officially listed. The hybridizer of the bulb usually does this, but there are exceptions. For instance, our Hillside Garden Club member Janie Vaughan is the registrant for her uncle Bill Pannill's 'Scuffle Hill,' a bulb she named to commemorate his home.

The stories behind daffodil names can be fascinating. Many are explained on the pages of DaffSeek.org. The names can help you decide what you want to buy. I once bid an unconscionable amount at a charity auction for a bulb of a new miniature, 'Little Karen.' As the prices escalated, it was clear that I was in a bidding war with another fancier. I said plaintively, "But my granddaughter is named Karen!" "So is mine!" said the other bidder. I wisely folded. I did get a bulb of 'Little Karen' the next year to plant along with 'Frank,' a bulb named after her father.

Daffodils have been named for friends, pets ('Nico'), family events ('Irish Affair'), places ('Stoke' has a GCV connection), and sometimes phrases uttered by the beholder of a new flower bloom: 'Oh Wow.'

Whether you have chosen your daffodils because of name or beauty, bring them to the 2018 Daffodil Day in Richmond and enter the 84th GCV Daffodil Show on March 28, 2018. If you're not sure of the name, bring them anyway; Daffodil Committee members will help you try to identify them. Also consider attending Daffodil School on March 27, 2018, to learn more about this beloved flower. Details are available at gcvdaffodilday.org. ❁

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Please contact Penny Dart at apdart@gmail.com with your ideas.*

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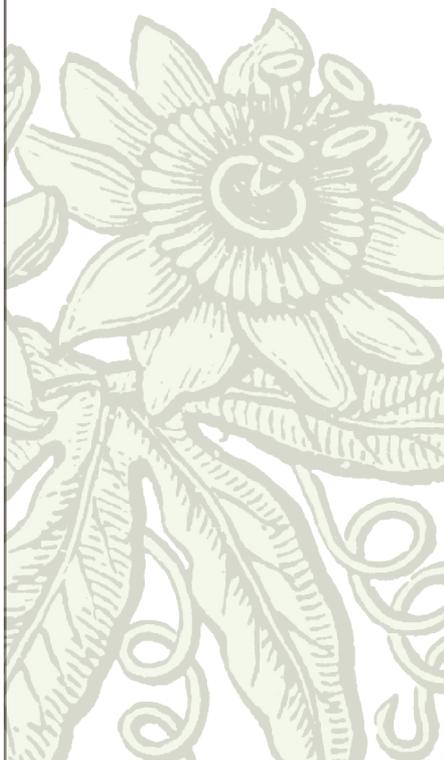
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The ownership, management and circulation of The Garden Club of Virginia's *Journal*, published four times a year in Richmond, Virginia, is hereby stated in the first issue published after the first of October, 2017.

The name and address of the publisher is: The Garden Club of Virginia, Kent-Valentine House, 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. The name and address of the editor is: Karla MacKimmie, 8505 Lees Ridge Road, Warrenton, VA 20186. The owner is: The Garden Club of Virginia, Kent-Valentine House, 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. There are no bond-holders, mortgages, or security holders.

The purpose, function, and non-profit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal Income Tax purposes have not changed during the preceding 12 months.

The total number of copies published nearest the filing date is 3,400. The average number of copies published in the preceding 12 months is 3,400. There are no sales through dealers, etc. Paid subscriptions average 3,312; the number nearest the filing date is 3,312. Other mailed copies average 0. Free distribution averages 36. The average number of copies not distributed for the preceding year is 88. The average number of copies not distributed nearest the filing date is 88.

The *Journal* Editor requests permission to mail The Garden Club of Virginia's *Journal* at the phased postal rates presently authorized on form 3526 for USPS #574-520 (ISSN 0431-0233). I certify that the statements made here are correct and complete as listed in the Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation.

Karla MacKimmie, *Journal* Editor
8505 Lees Ridge Road
Warrenton, VA 20186

9/7/2017





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- Dec. 8 Virginia State Parks Grant Applications Deadline
- Jan. 15 Deadline for March *Journal* Submission
- Jan. 22 Legislative Day, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Richmond
- March 1 Nomination Deadline for Common Wealth Award
- March 1 Nomination Deadline for de Lacy Gray Memorial Medal for Conservation
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