



PIEDMONT DISTRICT FOOTPRINTS

VIRGINIA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
MEMBER, NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
VOLUME 35, NO. 4 SPRING 2024

A Message from President Diane Burgess

Hello, all! I hope you are doing well!

On this gray winter day, I must admit to looking forward to spring's gentle breezes, birds nesting and new **GREEN** in the landscape. **GREEN**, the color of hope and vitality, is the sign of our gardens waking up, a time of rejuvenation. You may have been planning additions to your gardens, or just dreaming about them. Likewise, clubs have been planning and organizing spring activities, many featured in this newsletter.

A highlight of the season will be our **Spring District Meeting Monday, March 18th** ... see the preview on the next page and turn in your reservations early (see pp 14-15). The new venue at Virginia Crossings Hotel, Glen Allen will surely please. Nestled on 20 lush acres, this Hilton Tapestry Hotel will be impressive, especially in springtime. The amenities are superb; we plan a delicious luncheon plus more and new vendors for your shopping pleasure. Of course, the floral design program "A Year of Flowers" will be outstanding. Treat yourselves to this "day out"...the day after St. Patrick's Day will be fun... and wear **GREEN** attire if you like. Why not invite a friend?

Another feature on March 18th will be the announcement of Club Achievement Awards and District Grants. The good work of many of our clubs was evidenced in the number of award applications submitted (47) and the scope and quality of new and continuing projects.

Please let our Chaplain know (see p 3) of any member's death as we will have a memorial service at the meeting honoring those we have lost in the past year. In addition, we will be voting to bring our District's dues structure into conformity with the other five Districts in the State.

Flower Shows are happening! Thomas Jefferson's is April 24th -- a horticulture specialty show which will surely live up to its title "Springtime Splendor." On June 10th the Richmond Designers' Guild will also hold a horticulture specialty show, "How Fair Is a Garden," at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. What a perfect combination, a visit to our nationally acclaimed Botanical Garden and a Show. Both will be inspiring!

Our **Piedmont District continues to sponsor the popular "DESIGN 101" series**. See Kathy Ward's third "how-to: article here in *Footprints* (p 9-11). Our first **hands-on workshop will be held April 23rd**. It is open to any of our garden club members to learn, expand or refresh floral design skills. See the registration form (p. 16). The Appomattox and Nathaniel Cawsey Garden Clubs are each hosting fabulous spring events. See p 12. Also, our clubs continue collecting plastic film to be recycled for the Trex® program. Go **GREEN!**

The annual **State convention is May 21-22 at the Boar's Head Resort in Charlottesville**. It will be another lovely spring event. VFGC Garden club members from around the state are invited to attend either the full session or any part of the convention they may choose (p 5-6 and 17-18). I hope to see many of you there!

Lastly, **NGC will be adding a walking path linking its St Louis Headquarters and Missouri Botanical Garden**. To learn more and to contribute or to donate a dedicated paver, see p. 19 of this *Footprints* issue.

Here's to Spring 's awakening and **GREEN** as we Grow Together.

Diane

Piedmont District Spring Meeting

Don't Miss It!

Lili Aram-Bost, Director of Programs
JoAnn McNabb, Director of Hospitality



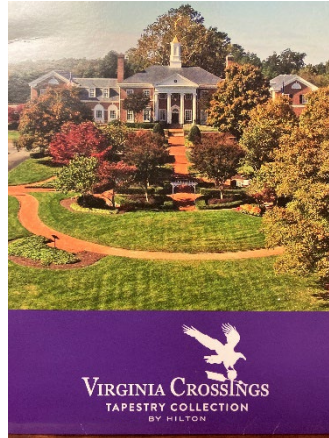
We are pleased to announce that at our upcoming March 18, 2024 spring meeting, **Marguerite (Slaughter) Armstrong** will present a floral design program entitled "A Year of Flowers," which will follow big events that she has arranged for in her abundantly creative life. Marguerite will be demonstrating how period arrangements have influenced our current creativity.

In October of 2023, Marguerite exhibited at the Virginia Museum for History and Culture, interpreting Stratford Hall for the statewide "History Blooms" exhibit coordinated with the Garden Club of Virginia. She has exhibited at all but the very first *Fine Arts and Flowers* shows at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, missing 1987 when her grandson was born. Marguerite's designs were included in the book "Art in Bloom" by Jean Reams, featuring interpretative arrangements from museums all over the country. She has also participated in the past six floral art events at the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk.



Marguerite graduated from James Madison University with a degree in Fine Arts. She has used her creativity as a designer to create landscapes

for both private and commercial properties and decorating for large fundraisers including the Preakness for Rappahannock Community College. Her business "Branches and Blossoms" specializes in non-profit events and weddings.



PIEDMONT DISTRICT SPRING MEETING

Monday March 18, 2024

NEW LOCATION

Registration Deadline
March 10

WHERE: Virginia Crossings Hotel & Convention Center
1000 Virginia Center Parkway
Glen Allen, VA 23059

SCHEDULE & PROGRAM

8:30-9:45	Registration and Shopping
9:45-11:00	General Meeting and Awards
11:00-12:00	Break / Shopper's Spree
12:00-1:00	Luncheon
1:00-2:45	Design Program: <i>Marguerite Slaughter</i>

EVENT COST: \$45.00

MENU: Salad and hot rolls and butter.

Choice of: (1) GF - Seared Chicken, Haricot Vert, Herb Roasted Red Potato, Confit Tomato Beurre Blanc, or (2) Vegetarian Lasagna, Dessert, Coffee/Tea.

To Register – Deadline March 10th - First review the registration process on page 14 of this *Footprints* issue.

Reservation Form – see page 15 of this *Footprints* issue or download from the website:

<https://www.piedmontdistrictvfgc.org/>

Special for Piedmont District Members: if you wish to enjoy the hotel and amenities including buffet breakfast, you may book a hotel stay March 17th at the rate of \$139 plus. Call 804-727-1400 and ask for Piedmont District room rate. Deadline for hotel booking is March 5th.

Appreciating the Balance of Nature

Lorna Boucher, Piedmont District Chaplain

A new year, so new beginnings. My wish is that it will be a happy and peaceful year but inevitably there will be some ups and downs. Let's hope that the ups will bring joy and excitement and the downs can be met with courage and forbearance.

One thing on which we can rely, I believe, is that the world will keep turning and that the four seasons will keep to their familiar rotation. Climate scientists may well disagree and maintain, probably rightly so, (quote) "that there is concern over the loss of natural habitats and natural resources plus concern for the climate and frequency of natural disasters." Time will tell.

This winter season is slowly coming to its end, so spring is not far away. I saw evidence of its approach in the appearance of some tiny green shoots bravely forcing their way to daylight in the cold north of England. Birds will soon be building nests. Frogs and toads will be working on species reproduction and making a great racket about it.



Harbinger of Spring,
G Goodrich Harwood 2024

I never cease to marvel at the sheer determination and strength of purpose displayed by plants, which having lain dormant all winter, push their way from darkness into light, continuing their mission to enhance our gardens and charm us with their beauty. They represent beacons of hope in our world where currently discord, inhumanity, and greed for power are wreaking havoc and despair.

Lord, please grant us patience and diligence to do our part, however small, in trying to keep the balance of nature steadfast and secure, in the hope that peace will prevail worldwide one day.

CALENDAR

- Feb 22-24 CFAA Seminar, Orlando
- Feb 23-25 Virginia Orchid Society Show, LGBG
- Mar 11-12 VFGC Landscape Design School
- Mar 18 Piedmont District Spring Meeting
- Mar 23-24 Virginia Daffodil Society Show, LGBG
- Mar 23-28 VFGC Flower Show School Course II
- Apr 23 District **DESIGN 101** Workshop
- Apr 24 "Spring Splendor" Flower Show
- May 21-22 VFGC Convention and Flower Show
- May 31 VFGC Club Dues deadline
- June 2-8 NGC National Garden Week
- June 10 Designers' Guild Flower Show
- Oct 23-27 VMFA Fine Arts and Flowers
- Nov 11-12 VFGC Symposium



Piedmont District Memorial Moment

The traditional "memorial moment" will be part of the Spring meeting. Send notices of deceased members to Lorna Boucher:

lornaboucher710@gmail.com Include: club name, deceased member's name, year of passing, and whether she/he served as president and/or was a charter member.

If You Love Daffodils...
Save These Dates: March 23 - 24



Virginia Daffodil Society
presents the
29th Annual Daffodil Show

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
Kelly Education Center
1800 Lakeside Avenue, Richmond VA 23228

Open to the Public:
Sat. March 23, 2pm-5pm
Sun. March 24, 10am-3:45pm

Exhibitors Welcome: Bring your Daffodils
Submit Entries: March 22, Noon-6pm & March 23, 7am-10am
there is no charge to exhibit & materials are provided

Questions: Email vdsdaffshow@gmail.com
Join our Facebook Page: Virginia Daffodil Society

Garden Club Awards

Did you know...

- ...there are 49 clubs in the Piedmont District, which makes it the largest District in the State?
- ... we send in the highest number of applications to be judged?
- ...while there can only be one blue ribbon awarded (highest number of points scored), all other applications with a 90+ score receive a red ribbon?
- ...all clubs compete against clubs of their own size? (small <20, medium 21-50, large 51+ and two or more clubs)?
- ...applications may be submitted online or by mail?
- ...at the upcoming March meeting we are planning a mini-workshop for anyone interested in applying but may need help? If so, contact me.



It's Not TOO EARLY!

Life is busy for us all, but VFGC is an opportunity to do good and enjoy yourself. **Consider sharing your talents by serving as an officer on the VFGC BOARD during the next administration.**

Promise...it'll be a pleasure.

The application form can be found in the FORMS section on the website:
<https://viriniagardenclubs.org>.

Joanne Wallace
Piedmont District Awards Chairman
dougandjoanne@gmail.com
804-683-9006

Smokey Turns 80!

Pat Merson, District Chair

Congratulations to four Piedmont District Garden Clubs that participated in the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest: *Powhatan, Salisbury, Sleepy Hollow, and West Hanover*. A total of 36 posters were submitted by these clubs. Winning posters, one from each grade level, 1st through 5th, were submitted to the VFGC state level poster contest. Winning Piedmont District posters will be announced at the spring Piedmont District meeting.

VFGC State Convention 2024

Boar's Head Resort

Charlottesville

Amy Gable Thorpe, Convention Chair
Dianna Busch, Convention Registrar



This year's VFGC Convention is not to be missed! The two-day format will continue for this convention which promises to be packed with excitement! We welcome the SAR Director, Carcille from Kentucky. Enjoy a Flower Show, workshops, amazing lunch and dinner programs, shopping, awards, VFFSJC meeting, seeing old friends and making new ones. Sponsors welcome!

Hotel Reservations

Venue: Boar's Resort, Charlottesville
Hotel Reservations: 888-252-0489 Ask for the "Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Block"
Block rate per night: \$235.00, resort fee has been waved. Most rooms feature two beds.
Amenities: Free stainless steel water bottle, Espresso Coffee in room, Free parking.
Hotel reservation deadline: **April 19, 2024**

The Flower Show

An NGC Small Standard Flower Show will be showcased during the convention. Any VFGC member in good standing may enter, regardless of convention attendance. Theme: "Let the Music Play" tribute to the 50's, 60's & 70's. The schedule will be available on the VFGC website or may be requested from Pat Carswell: mamala@comcast.net

Vendors

VFGC Conventions are known to provide great shopping experiences: silent auctions, opportunity tickets for designs.

The **Convention Registration form** is on pp 17-18 of this *Footprints* issue. **Deadline: May 8th postmark.**

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Tuesday, May 21

8:00 am – 6:00 pm	Flower Room Open
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Flower Show Entries Received
10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Vendor Shopping
10:30 am – 11:30 am	Board Meeting
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Luncheon & Awards Presentation
2:00 pm- 3:30 pm	<i>Workshop: Rebecca Suerdieck</i>
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<i>Workshop:: Rowena Zimmermann</i>
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Flower Show Open
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Social Hour (cash bar)
7:00 pm	Dinner <i>Program: Helena Arouca</i>

Wednesday, May 22

8:00 am – Noon	Registration Desk Open
8:00 am – 2:00 pm	Flower Show Open
8:15 am – 9:15 am	Continental Breakfast
9:30 am – 11:30 am	Convention Opening/ Business Meeting
10:00 am – 2:00 pm	Vendor Shopping
Noon -2:30 pm	Luncheon <i>Program: Laura Downing</i>
2:30 pm- 3:00 pm	Flower Show Entry Retrieval

Luncheon Program Tuesday, May 21

Award Presentations – Heidi Sage is the VFGC awards chairman. She is extremely knowledgeable in the award process and is willing to share this with the district award chairmen, through zoom meetings and numerous emails and phone calls. She navigates the NGC changes with calm and thoroughness. Sit back and enjoy her presentation.

Workshop: Tuesday, 2:00 – 3:30 pm



Rebecca Suerdieck is an award-winning historian and educator. She has delighted audiences of all ages with the variety of her programs. She specializes in making cheese and natural perfume. She lives in Williamsburg. For this program we will witness the art and science of extracting fragrance from flowers. Rebecca is one of two natural perfume makers in the USA.

Workshop: Tuesday, 3:30 – 4:30 pm



Rod Walker serves on the Blue Ridge PRISM Board. He is on the Board of Directors for the VA Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation, the Noxious Weeds Advisory Committee for the State of Virginia, which recommends changes to the state's Noxious Weeds law and regulations, and the Advisory Board for the VA Forestry Association. He and his wife Maggie are Virginia Master Naturalists. We will learn more about our invasive weeds.

Dinner Program Tuesday, May 21



Helena Arouca is a master in the Art of Ikebana at the Sangetsu School of Ikebana. She has been practicing since 1994, having taught hundreds of classes.

Helena has recently been learning to make her own ceramic vases enabling her students to practice on these unique art pieces. She is very passionate about sharing this ancient art with others and loves being able to introduce people to a new way to create harmony, beauty and awareness, shown in her floral designs. She lives in Waynesboro. Winners will receive her designs.

Luncheon Program Wednesday, May 22



Laura Dowling is an Alexandria flower designer known for her French garden-style flowers and innovative floral installations. Her love of flowers started with a trip to Paris.

From 2009 to 2015 she served as the Chief Floral Designer at the White House, where she designed for private events, including state dinners, receptions, parties and the iconic White House Christmas. She is the author of several books including her latest one: "Bouquets." Her designs and wreaths have unusual plant material.

She will give a presentation on her days at the White House as well as create 3-4 designs for lucky winners. An absolute must-see.

The Healing Power of Herbs

Martha Blessing -Chair Garden Therapy/Healing Gardens

“Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food.” This is a quote from the “Father of Medicine,” Hippocrates of ancient Greece -- also known as an herbalist. He studied herbs and their effectiveness for treating and healing the sick. In ancient times, plant-based remedies such as herbs were routinely used in healing practices. About 5,000 years ago the use of herbs for medicinal purposes was recorded on a Sumerian clay slab in Mesopotamia. Archeologists have discovered sites containing herbs from approximately 60,000 years ago.

Herbs are recognized for their healing powers. Many herbs today may contain healing attributes that can boost health benefits.



Turmeric is well known as a natural remedy for pain. Research indicates that it has powerful anti-inflammatory effects. Turmeric may help relieve painful arthritis by boosting the

antioxidant enzymes that fight oxidative damage to our bodies.



Studies show that **basil** may help fight infections and boost the function of the immune system by increasing certain immune cells in the blood. Human studies indicate that holy basil may

reduce symptoms of diabetes such as high cholesterol, excess insulin in the blood, weight gain, hypertension, and insulin resistance.



Some experts believe **oregano** contains antioxidants that help prevent damage to body cells. Oregano may fight cancer and heart disease through compounds that fight damage from free

radicals in the body. Oregano also consists of nutrients and vitamins. Studies suggest that a teaspoon of dried oregano will satisfy some of the daily need for Vitamin K.

Herbs can also add unique and desirable flavor to food. Basil is excellent with fish, salads, and sauces served with pasta. It is one of the main ingredients in pesto. Oregano complements beef and many Italian dishes. Turmeric is used in rice dishes, sweet dishes, and drinks. Turmeric is often sold as a powder or a supplement.

Supplements can contain dried herbs or a mixture of herbs. It is important to remember that the FDA does not regulate dietary supplements. Some herbs or herbal supplements could interfere with prescribed medications. Medical professionals are the best source of advice regarding herbs or supplements.

The use of herbs in treating suffering and various illness of long ago is woven through time and found in many medicines today. The healing powers found in herbs are leading various cultures today to the belief of the famous Greek physician, Hippocrates. “Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food.”

“How Fair Is a Garden”



An NGC Horticulture Specialty Show

Presented by
Richmond Designers' Guild

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Education Building
1800 Lakeside Drive
Richmond, VA 23228

575-512-5992

June 10, 2024
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Open to the Public with general admission
to Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

Member of:
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
South Atlantic Region
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Piedmont District

Ready, Set, Go!

Janice Beatty – Horticulture & Cultivar Chair

Aaahh, spring! Gardeners Delight! Gardeners' minds are racing.! What to do first? Plant seeds, weed, cut back spent growth, water, fertilize, divide plants, mulch... and so the fun begins!

Tips for Early Spring Gardening Activities:

- Take a good honest look at your garden. If you haven't already, take notes.
- Remove spent plants and look for new growth.
- Determine what unwanted plants (weeds) have taken up residence, and take measures to remove them.
- Decide what fall blooming plants need to be divided and do it now (early spring) so they will bloom in the fall. (Spring and summer blooming plants prefer a fall division). You can divide spring and summer bloomers now; just know they may not flower this summer.
- As a side note, it is healthier to divide or plant new plants on a shady day, to help prevent loss of moisture.
- Prior to dividing, water plants so roots are plump, and prepare new areas for planting your divisions. Or pot them up to share with friends.
- Most perennials appreciate spring fertilizing and again in the fall. Follow the directions on the fertilizer container. Over- fertilizing can cause lush green growth but limit the size and quality of flowers.
- If needed, or wanted, SHOP FOR NEW PLANTS. Decide on where to plant them.
- Remember to mulch your garden, being careful to place it away from the stems of the plants. Mulch helps to retain water in the soil and limits weed growth.
- If you are adding new trees and/or shrubs, the earlier in the spring the better. They need time for their roots to take hold before the heat that comes with late spring and summer begins. Remember to water them!
- Watch how your garden grows and enjoy the fruits of your labor.
- Just Breathe.



Clematis 'Nelly Moser'
Photo by Martie Parch

Blue Star Memorial Marker News

Barbara Hollister, Program Chair

Two Blue Star Memorial Markers located in the Piedmont District are being replaced. They are located south of Emporia. They were removed by the Suffolk VDOT Department. These markers were placed in the late 1940's by the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. VFGC, Inc. is paying for the cost of replacing the BSMM. Sewah Studios is no longer making caps for the older markers. The two markers have been ordered and we are waiting for delivery. There is no cost to the Piedmont District as the original markers were placed by VFGC, Inc.

Sewah Studios has increased their prices for Blue Star Memorial Markers. Like so many things these days, materials and labor are driving costs.

Blue Star- Gold Star	2024
Marker W/7' Post	2350
Marker (no post)	2225
Marker W /10" Post	2460
By-Way	750
Replacement 7' Post	375
Replacement 10" Post	475
Refurbishment	1200
Refurbishment/Cap Repair	1450
Shipping Western States	300

DESIGN 101

aka Floral Design made Easy!

by Kathy Ward

Article Three – Creating a Traditional Mass Design

In our last article, we reviewed a Line Design. In a Line Design, the most important things to remember were to use a minimal amount of plant material, create an open silhouette (open space within the design) and to have a strong, dominant line. In this article, we will be creating a simple Mass Design. **The requirements for a Mass Design are the opposite of those of a Line Design.** In a Mass Design, there is an abundance of plant material, a closed silhouette (little empty space within the design) and the element of form has more dominance than the element of line.

Creating your Design –

Step 1 – Purchase your plant material. For a small, simple Mass Design, you will need:

- linear foliage – 11 to 12 stems (about 12”), consider using branches from your garden
- smooth, round leaves – like camellia or lemon leaf
- round flowers – 9 or more, medium sized (one flower per stem); you may use more than one type of blossom
- filler flowers/foilage – 7 to 9 stems (smaller spray flowers or foliage)

For the demonstration design, I have used a dozen orange roses, purple statice, and bright green pennycrest. The orange, purple and bright green were chosen because they are bright and vivid together. The rose is larger with a smooth texture; the statice is smaller with a frilly or fuzzy texture; and the pennycrest is even smaller with a bit of a vertical line and interesting form. These contrasts in form, color and texture create interest in the design. More information on selecting your botanical components was included in article one (*Footprints*, Fall 2023).

Step 2 – Select your container. For a small Mass Design, a shallow bowl works well as a container. Black, brown and green are always good colors. You can also use a container that echoes the colors of your flowers.

Step 3 – Decide on your mechanics. The most common mechanics for a Mass Design with fresh flowers are floral foam (Oasis) or chicken wire. A kenzan can be used but it is usually more effective with less plant material.

Step 4 – Condition your flowers. For more information on conditioning, see article two (*Footprints*, Winter 2023).

Step 5 – Prepare your mechanics. For a Mass Design, if you are using floral foam, you will want to have the foam 1 to 1 1/2” higher than the rim of your container. This allows you to place some of the plant material into the arrangement at a downward angle, helping to hide the rim of the container. Use a single block of foam rather than trying to fill the bowl with pieces. An “X” of waterproof tape can be placed over the foam and attached to the sides of the bowl to keep the foam in place.

Step 6 – Cut your line foliage. Cut all pieces the same length. They should be about the width of the container or a little longer. For line foliage, I used Israeli ruscus.



Step 7 – Place your line foliage. Place six pieces horizontally, near the rim of your container – on the left side, on the right side, two evenly spaced toward the front and two evenly spaced toward the back (Image 1 right). Place one piece in the middle of the floral foam straight up (Image 2)



Place four more pieces in the top of the foam, equal distance between the center and the corner, at a 45-degree angle (Image 3).



All pieces of foliage (and all floral material in the design) should look like it is radiating from the center of the foam/design. With the line foliage, you have just created the basic outline of your design. When you place your other plant materials, they should remain within this framework. If you plan to use your Mass Design as a centerpiece, remember that the height of the arrangement should be such that people sitting at the dining table can still see each other.

Step 8 – Place your round leaves. Place your round leaves throughout the design. Use stems of different lengths. These leaves are meant to fill out the design and not to necessarily hide the mechanics. For the round leaves, I used camellia leaves. (Image 4.)



Step 9 – Place your round flowers. Place your first blossom so that it is vertical and in the center of the arrangement. Place the other round flowers equally throughout the framework of your design.



Depth is added to your design by recessing some of the flowers and finishing the back of your design. Remember to stay within your framework. (Image 5)

Step 10 – Fill in with spray flowers. Tuck the spray flowers throughout your design. They can be used to hide mechanics, hide the rim of your container and just round out your design (Image 5). A second filler was added to increase the design interest with an additional texture, form and color (Image 6).



Note – When creating a design that will be viewed from all angles, it is helpful to make your design on a rotating tray (Lazy Susan). This will allow you to easily see all sides of your design with a twist of your wrist.

Summary, Lesson Three –

These instructions give you a very simple framework to get you started with a Mass Design. Mass Designs are always geometric in shape. By adjusting the length of your linear foliage, you can create a triangle, oval or round design. The Mass Design can also be varied by using linear flowers instead of or along with your linear foliage. Have fun experimenting with different combinations of round forms and filler flowers.

To Learn More --

If you are enjoying learning about beginning floral design, the Piedmont District will hold a beginning floral design workshop on April 23rd. This workshop is open to all members of the Piedmont District. See the box below.

Another opportunity to learn more about flower design will be at our next Flower Show School, March 25-28, 2024, in Norfolk, Virginia. The design topics will be Tables and Petite Design. For more information, see the education page on the VFGC website (www.viriniagardenclubs.org).

DESIGN 101 *Live Workshop*

*Open to all members of the Piedmont District
Led by Kathy Ward*

When: April 23, 2024, 10:00 am-noon

Where: Luck's Stone, 347 River Road West,
Manakin-Sabot

What: Kathy Ward, one of our most gifted floral design instructors, will teach you how to make a simple linear design – you will bring your container and specific floral material. There's nothing like hands-on learning – and you'll take home your beautiful design to enjoy.

To Register: use the form on page 16 of this *Footprints* issue or download from the website:
<https://www.piedmontdistrictvfgc.org/>

Save the Date! VFGC Symposium November 11-12, 2024

Judges, student judges and those who are just interested in learning more about horticulture and design, save the date!!! We will have tremendous instructors for our next VFGC Symposium. It will be held **November 11-12, 2024 at the Roanoke Council of Garden Club's Center in Roanoke.**

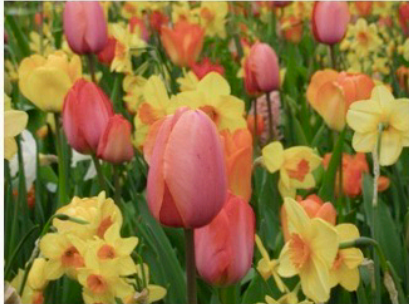
Lynn Fronk, an NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge and FSS Design and Procedure Instructor and former Garden Club of Ohio President, will be teaching us about **Tapestry and Framed Spatial Designs**. She will also be teaching the Allied Topic, **Botanical Arts – Bonded Designs** (Plaques and Collages). She has taught in 42 states and 7 Central American countries, judged major US flower shows and her designs have been published in *Designing By Types*. She is on the NGC board and is currently serving as the NGC Symposium Chairman.

Jan Griffin, NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge and Horticulture Flower Show and Symposium Instructor will be our horticulture instructor. She will teach us about **Bromeliads (Air plants, pineapples, quills, Spanish moss) and Goepertia (Prayer Plants, Peacock Plants)**. She will also be teaching an Allied Topic, **Creative Horticulture Staging**. When not teaching Symposium or Flower Show School, Jan teaches Floral Design classes in Florida. She is actively involved in the Florida Federation of Garden Club and the Florida FS Judges. Her comment to all her wonderful floral design friends is that you need great horticulture to create great designs!

For more information, or to receive a copy of the Symposium brochure, please contact Kathy Ward at klhward@gmail.com or 804-921-1021 or Claudia Cosby at cosbych1205@gmail.com or 804-794-7798.

Garden Clubbing in the Piedmont

Springtime Splendor



An NGC Horticulture Specialty Flower Show
Presented by

The Thomas Jefferson Garden Club

Trinity Lutheran Church
2315 N. Parham Road
Henrico, VA 23229
804-270-4626

April 24, 2024
Open and Free to the Public 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
South Atlantic Region of Garden Clubs
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs
Piedmont District of Garden Clubs

Appomattox Garden Club Spring Tea



Sunday, April 21, 2024
3pm to 5pm
Weston Manor
Hopewell, VA

Tickets \$15
Contact: Marilyn Brown (804)678-9040



Nathaniel Cawsey
Garden Club

27th Annual Garden Party
"Making Memories - Alfresco Style"

May 1, 2024 - 9:30 AM

Country Club of Petersburg

Program by Jennifer Mackintosh

Delightful lunch, raffle prizes, door prizes

Lovely Spring fashions by
All Manor of Things

Tickets are \$40.
Call Barbara Brigstock
804-690-3256

*Tribute to Judy Erdman,,
immediate past President,
Richmond Council of
Garden Clubs*



Judy was a strong woman full of kindness and grace. Loving and caring for all she met. Forever a friend. Determined and giving of herself. She was devoted to the goals she set forth. We will miss our dear friend, Judy, tremendously, and vow to continue the work she started, to the finish, in her memory.

In Faith and Love,
Millie Proffitt, President RCGC

Calling All Photographers!

Gail Goodrich Harwood, ODG Editor



Thanks to all members who have submitted their beautiful photographs, not only for this issue, but for future issues. This is a terrific way to “travel” around the Commonwealth.

To submit your photographs:

- Select *seasonal photographs to complement the ODG seasonal publication schedule*. Select either long shots or close-up photos.
- Send 300 dpi jpegs – if submitting a phone photo, and your email gives you a size choice, select “Actual” or “Large” size.
- Photographs for the cover must be ‘portrait’ orientation – inside gallery photos may be either portrait or landscape orientation.
- If your photograph is not of your own garden or plant(s), please gain permission to print in the *ODG*.
- Send to your district editor by the deadline—include your name and club name; add a caption & location of the photograph.
- Submission considered permission to print.

2023-25 Piedmont District Officers

President	Diane Burgess
Director of Programs	Lili Aram-Bost
Director of Hospitality	JoAnn McNabb
Treasurer	Claudia Cosby
Recording Secretary	Susan DelSordo
VFGC Nominating Comm Rep	Judy Hodges
Alternate	Mary Wiblin

Footprints & ODG

Send articles and photos in separate files to:
Gail Goodrich Harwood, Editor
email: Footprints@PiedmontDistrictVFGC.org
PHONE: 804-317-8091

Articles are due before the following deadlines:
MAY 1, 2024 – SUMMER
AUGUST 1, 2024 - FALL
NOVEMBER 1, 2024 – WINTER
FEBRUARY 1, 2025 – SPRING

Please mark your calendars to allow time to meet the due dates. Electronic transmission preferred, photos and graphics encouraged. Please submit photos in jpeg format as separate files, not embedded with text. Submit text in Word format, non-pdf. All articles welcome: club projects, special events, announcements about upcoming events.

Mark the subject of your e-mail submission “Footprints” or “ODG” – ordinarily the same article will not appear in both publications, but some announcements and some parts of articles may appear in both.

Footprints masthead art: Black-eyed Susan and Bordered Patch butterfly © 2021 G Goodrich Harwood

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<https://gardenclubs.org>

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Piedmont District Spring Meeting *Shopping, Luncheon, and Design Program*

Monday March 18, 2024

Virginia Crossings 1000 Virginia Center Parkway
Glen Allen, VA 23059

Registration Deadline: March 10

Registration Process Steps

Please review before completing the Registration Form

STEP ONE - Via email: Club Contact sends registration info to the Registrar via email. Include: club name, club contact, number of seats requested (*no registrations by telephone*). If possible when emailing, also include in the email the names of those who will attend. Pay particular attention to the spelling of names, as this is the source for nametags.

STEP TWO - Via mail: Club Contact submits the completed registration form. The form must be **complete and printed neatly** in order to prepare accurate nametags. Note that **each attendee's role and voting status must be completed according to the key, and entrée choices must be circled**. With the registration form, **one check must be included covering all registrations**. Make check payable to VFGC/ Piedmont District.

STEP THREE - Registrar will confirm registration(s) to the Club Contact via email once the form and check are received.

STEP FOUR - Table assignments will be made in the order in which checks are received.

NOTE - Refunds cannot be made. Club Contact is responsible for managing substitutes in the event registrants cannot attend.

Registration Form – Piedmont District Spring Meeting

Monday March 18, 2024

Virginia Crossings 1000 Virginia Center Parkway Glen Allen, VA 23059

Registration Deadline: March 10

Club Contact Information

Club Name _____

Contact Name _____

Email address _____

Phone _____

Registrant Information

Name (print neatly please)	√ Voting Status if applicable *	Circle Choice: Chicken (GF) or Veg Lasagna
	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>	Chick Veg
	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>	Chick Veg
	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>	Chick Veg
	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>	Chick Veg
	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>	Chick Veg
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	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>	Chick Veg
	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>	Chick Veg
*Voting Status Codes: CP= Club President VD= Voting Delegate (up to two delegates per club) DO= District Officer DC = District Committee Chair FDP = Former District President		

Total # of Registrations @ \$45: _____ **Total Check Amount:** _____ (one check)

Mail form and check payable to VFGC/Piedmont District to Registrar Johanna Gilbert:
 8423 Shannon Green Court Henrico, VA 23228-1876 email: omagilbert@aol.com

DESIGN 101
aka Floral Design made Easy!

Floral Design Workshop
April 23, 2024 – 10 am - noon
Creating a Simple Linear Design

Would you enjoy participating in a stress-free morning playing with flowers? Would you like to learn more about floral design? If so, this Piedmont District floral design workshop is for YOU!

Our first workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 23, 10:00 – noon at .Luck’s Stone, 347 River Road West, Manakin-Sabot (first building on the right).

We will be creating a simple linear design. The cost is \$15 per person.

To register, please fill out the form below and email/send it to Claudia Cosby at 3015 Mount Hill Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113-3923.

Approximately one week before the workshop, participants will be instructed what materials they will need to bring with them, including flowers.



Floral Design 101 Workshop Registration

Name _____ Garden Club _____
Email Address _____ Phone Number _____
Workshop @ \$15 per person Total Enclosed _____ Check No. _____

Include a check made out to VFGC/Piedmont District

Send to: Claudia Cosby, Piedmont District Treasurer
3015 Mount Hill Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113-3923



**90th Annual Convention Registration Form
May 21-22 • "Make a Difference Virginia"
Boar's Head Resort - Charlottesville**

Registration: Please complete form; make check payable to "VFGC 2024 Convention" and mail both to Dianna Busch 14453 Rillhurst Dr, Culpeper, VA 22701-9711; diannabusch@comcast.net; 540-353-9044 • **Postmark by May 8**

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Club _____ District _____

Check ALL that apply:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Officer/Chm | <input type="checkbox"/> District President | <input type="checkbox"/> NGC Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Officer/Chm | <input type="checkbox"/> District Director | <input type="checkbox"/> SAR Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Former VFGC President | <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> VFGC Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Officer/Chm | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor/Guest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VFGC Life Member/ Book of Honor since 5/1/23 | | <input type="checkbox"/> First-time attendee |

Select Your Attendance Plan:

Full Convention (Package Plan - \$25 savings) \$ 200.00 _____
Full convention includes: Tuesday Luncheon & Program, Workshops, Tuesday Dinner & Program, Wednesday Continental Breakfast, Wednesday Luncheon & Program, and Registration Fee if postmarked by May 8.

Partial Attendance Options:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| Tuesday Luncheon, Program, and Workshops | \$ 55.00 _____ |
| Tuesday Evening Dinner and Design Program | \$ 85.00 _____ |
| Wednesday Continental Breakfast | Complimentary |
| Wednesday Luncheon and Design Program | \$ 55.00 _____ |
| Registration Fee <i>if postmarked by May 8</i> | \$ 30.00 _____ |
| Registration Fee <i>if postmarked after May 8</i> | \$ 40.00 _____ |
| One-event Registration Fee | \$ 45.00 _____ |
| TOTAL ENCLOSED | \$ _____ |

Late fee must be included for all envelopes postmarked after 5/8/24. Any registrations postmarked after 5/11/24 will not be processed or accepted. No Walk-In registrations. No refunds after 5/11/24. *Refunds requested by 5/11/24 are subject to retention of registration fee.*

____ Please check for any dietary requirements and list details below.
 See next page for Convention Credentials Form.

VFGC 2024 Convention Credentials Form

All designated delegates and alternates, including VFGC Officers and members of the Board of Directors, must complete this form and include it with your Registration Form.

Name _____

District _____ Garden Club _____

Check one that applies:

VFGC Officer/Board of Directors

Club Delegate

Club President

Club Alternate

Eligibility shall be in accordance with VFGC Bylaws - number of Delegates and Alternates in accordance with size of club as follows:

1-25 members	President or appointee – 1 Alternate
26-50 members	President or appointee plus 1 Delegate – 2 Alternates
51-100 members	President or appointee plus 2 Delegates – 3 Alternates
100+ members	President or appointee plus 3 Delegates – 4 Alternates

Delegates have the right to vote, alternates fill in for the delegate if he/she is unable to attend the Convention.



National Garden Clubs

OFFICIAL WEBSITE



The permanent home and endowment trustees have approved the addition of a walking path to the NGC grounds: The NGC Path of Success

Roughly 1/4 mile long, the Path of Success will be a walking path located on the grounds of NGC's headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri and will link to the Missouri Botanical Gardens, spreading more awareness of NGC than ever before. This project will also serve as an educational platform, showing the rich history and mission of NGC.

Linked below is a form for regions, districts, clubs, affiliates and individuals to purchase a paver to be installed in the NGC Path of Success.

A second form to donate to this project is also linked below.

We thank you for your participation in this exciting new project!

[ORDER YOUR PAVER HERE](#)

[DONATE](#)

If you have questions regarding the NGC Path of Success or your paver order, please contact [Bill Trapp](#), NGC Executive Director.

Follow the NGC Path of Success on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

National Garden Clubs

4401 Magnolia Ave.
Saint Louis, MO 63110
www.gardenclub.org