

A Message from Sally Harrison

In spite of the record-breaking heat, I hope that you are having a wonderful Summer. I am sure you are working on exciting club programs for 2022-2023!

In this edition of Footprints, not only are there interesting articles but also important features. Our **Fall District Meeting** will again be held at the Doubletree on Monday, October 17, 2022. The design program will feature Frances Thrash and Kathy Ward demonstrating traditional versus creative design techniques. See JoAnn McNabb's article on page 2. Remember that seating assignments are based on a first come, first serve basis. The sooner your club gets your reservation form and check in to Johanna Gilbert, our Registrar, the better.

VFGC Grant deadlines are coming up September 15 for Youth Projects Grants and Grants to Beautify and Restore. Landscape Design School is October 10-11. See details in the fall issue of *ODG* or on the VFGC website. Please consider attending just for fun if you do not want to take the course for credit.

In the June issue of *Footprints*, we congratulated all Piedmont District Clubs that received VFGC state awards. Now we extend even more **congratulations to our District clubs that received National recognition!** See p 3.

While new awards and grants will not be made until March, 2023, **the awards application deadline is December 1.** I encourage all clubs to look over the awards list and plan now. If you have questions about the process, our District Awards Chair Joanne Wallace can help. See p 3.

Thank you to all clubs that have participated in the Penny Pines program. **Piedmont District clubs have funded ten Penny Pines plantations** this year. Thanks also for donating to the Blue Star Memorial program. **Did you know that the very** *first NGC program* established was the Blue Star Memorial program? On May 31, a moving dedication ceremony took place at the Virginia War Memorial (see p 4). VFGC and the Piedmont District are looking forward to dedicating another Blue Star Memorial marker at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.

For several years, the sale of Vision of Beauty calendars has been a good fundraiser for the Piedmont District. Unfortunately, the cost of Vision of Beauty Calendars has doubled, so we need another fundraising project. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

I am always eager to hear your ideas and suggestions. Let me know what you are thinking! Again, thank you for the volunteer hours you are sharing with your club, your community, the Piedmont District, and VFGC. I am proud of all our clubs who are participating in the VFGC Trex[®] recycling project – and earning garden benches!

Let's keep going! Let's dig into action!

Sally Sally.c.harrison@gmail.com H: 804-784-2851

Piedmont District Fall Meeting Design Program

JoAnn McNabb, Program Chair

"Traditional versus Creative" by Frances Thrash and Kathy Ward



Ever wonder if a floral design is in the traditional style... or is it perhaps in the creative style? Sometimes it's hard to tell. *Frances Thrash* and *Kathy Ward* will demonstrate the difference between the two. They will use the same containers; Frances will demonstrate a traditional design, and in the same container type, Kathy will demonstrate a creative one. And they will use the same flowers!

We are fortunate to have two exceptionally talented and accomplished ladies putting on this program for us.

Kathy Ward joined the Salisbury Garden Club in 2002 when she moved to Virginia. Her initial attraction to the club was a love of growing plants. With time, and thanks to garden club programs, she developed an interest in design as well. Kathy became an NGC accredited Flower Show Judge in 2015. She has created designs for Fine Arts and Flowers and has given floral design programs and workshops throughout Virginia. Kathy is a member of the district and state Flower Show Judges Councils and Richmond Designers Guild. She is currently the VFGC 2nd Vice President.

Frances Thrash is a past president and founding member of Lynnhaven Heritage Garden Club and

currently is president of the Richmond Designers' Guild. She is Past President of the Tidewater District of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, currently Program Director, and serves Virginia as Flower Show Schools Chairman. She is a Master Judge and a Design and Flower Show Procedure Instructor for both NGC flower show schools and symposium. She also serves on the NGC Board as Chairman of the Flower Show Achievement Awards.

Kathy and Frances will each do three designs, for a total of six, and they will be raffled off. So, be sure to get to the meeting early to buy plenty of opportunity tickets!

PIEDMONT DISTRICT FALL MEETING Monday October 17, 2022

WHERE: Doubletree by Hilton 1021 Kroger Center Boulevard Richmond, VA 23235

SCHEDULE & PROGRAM

8:30-9:00	President's Meeting	
8:30-9:45	Registration	
10:00-11:30	General Meeting	
11:30-12:00	Break / Shopper's Spree	
12:00-1:00	Luncheon	
1:00-2:45	Program:	
Frances Thrash and Kathy Ward		
demonstrate the difference between		
traditional and creative designs		

COST: \$35.00

MENU CHOICES: Herb-crusted loin of pork with brandied apples, seasonal vegetables, roasted potatoes; Grilled Filet of Salmon, lemon beurre blanc sauce, steamed rice, seasonal vegetables; Chef's Choice Vegetarian option; all served with spinach salad, rolls, beverages, carrot cake.

Reservation Form – see last page of this *Footprints* issue or download from the website: <u>https://www.piedmontdistrictvfgc.org/</u>

The Healing Tree

Pam Mann District Chaplain

There is a serene and settled majesty to woodland scenery that seeps into the soul and plants the seed of meditation. Such thoughts in the harvest months can be quite consoling, and fruitful.



One day, I was visiting a friend in the country. Over coffee, I surveyed the pleasant farming scene before me. I was fascinated to see, not woodland scenery, but a solidary tree. It stood, branches reaching up and out amidst rows of harvest ready crops.

In fact-- acres of trees had been leveled to provide space for sun dependent plants. But why did this one tree remain, as others did, in other fields? I learned the tree was spared for a purpose. Long ago, farmers traditionally left one tree standing in a field. Its presence was to provide sanctuary for farmers and their animals.

At times we might find that we alone have survived something, and we don't know why.

It's a gift and a challenge. The Lord is enabling you to be a tree of rest and sanctuary for others.

So, rise to the occasion. Spread your arms out as shade for the weary. Be a beacon of healing in someone's life today.

"In the midst---was there the tree of life---and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." Rev. 22:2



NGC Awards for Piedmont District

Certificate of Commendation/runner-up Sleepy Hollow Garden Club MAE-4G Publications/History Certificates of Appreciation Sleepy Hollow Garden Club FD-2 Floral Design Program Salisbury Garden Club MAE-2 Social Media Website MAE-5 National Garden Week MAE-2B Social Media/Media Chesapeake Bay Garden Club MAE-2 Social Media/Website MAE-2B Social Media/Website MAE-2B Social Media/Media

Awards Applications Due Dec 1

Joanne Wallace, Piedmont District Awards Chair

On the last day of the VFGC State Convention this year, eleven clubs within the Piedmont District were awarded blue ribbons for excellence achieved on many levels. CONGRATULATIONS!!

Please take time to visit Virginiagardenclubs.org where all <u>State</u> awards are listed. Click on "Awards," then click on "VFGC Award Winners," located on the right side. Hopefully, more clubs will be listed next year!

Information regarding award applications can be found under the 'Forms' tab on the website: <u>https://www.piedmontdistrictvfgc.org/</u> This year the application cover sheet has been updated in the hope of simplifying submission. As per last year, applications are asked to be sent online, if possible, with the caveat that they can also be mailed if necessary.

Applications must be received (or postmarked) by December 1st to be eligible. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me for help. Good luck to each and every garden club!! Joanne Wallace Dougandjoanne@gmail.com (804) 683-9006

CALENDAR

- Aug 22-25 VFGC Flower Show School I
- Sept 15 Deadline Grants to Beautify & Restore
- Sept 15 Deadline Youth Project Grants
- Oct 10-11 VFGC Landscape Design School
- Oct 17 Piedmont District Fall Meeting
- Nov 1 Footprints Deadline, Winter Issue
- Dec 1 Awards Applications deadline

SAVE THE DATE





Central Virginia Iris Society is excited to offer our annual

2022 IRIS RHIZOME SALE

Visit our Vendor Tent at LEWIS GINTER FALL PLANTFEST Sept. 16 & 17, 2022 9am – 3pm

Most Rhizome Fans \$5 Each Iris Growing Advice is FREE!

We'll post varieties available on our Facebook Page during early September

Blue Star Memorial Dedication

On May 31, the long-planned dedication of the Blue Star Memorial marker took place at the Virginia War Memorial. VFGC Program Chair *Barbara Hollister* presided over the ceremony that included the presentation of colors by a Joint Services Color Guard, the official dedication proclamation by VFGC President *Mary Owen*, and remarks by US Army Retired Captain William Haneke, who has led a full life of inspiring service despite severe wounds suffered while serving in Viet Nam in 1968.

VFGC Officers *JoAnn McNabb* and *Sally Harrison* also made remarks, including the presentation of the memorial wreath created by Sally featuring Poet's Laurel, the time-honored symbol of victory.





Order Your Decals and Display Them Proudly!

To order your decals, contact Barbara Hollister (<u>bedhollister@gmail.com</u>) or Mary Owen



(<u>rxowen@aol.com</u>). Proceeds from the decals will be used to purchase a Blue Star Memorial to be placed at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.

Restoring Forested Land through NGC's Penny Pines Project

Carol Medlin Chair, World Gardening/Natural Disasters/US

Piedmont District is proud support NGC's "Penny Pines Project". The Natural Disasters/USA Fund was established in 1999 by NGC in



partnership with the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forestry Service. Many states continue to suffer from Natural Disasters: floods, wildfires, hurricanes, tornadoes, ice storms, earthquakes, development, and disease. In Virginia alone, according to state environmental groups, 16,000 acres of trees are lost annually to development and disease. Penny Pines donations are made in units of \$68.00. Donations are used by the USDA Forest Service or state forestry, supplementing federal funds to replace burnt, damaged, or destroyed trees.

You may make a club or individual donation to honor, memorialize, or recognize any club member – or a friend or family member not connected with garden club. A lovely NGC certificate will be sent upon receipt of your donation.

To support Penny Pines:

- Download / print the form from the website.

- Donations are \$68.00. If you make more than one donation, a form must be completed for EACH \$68.00 donation.

- Make checks payable to 'NGC-Penny Pines.'

-Send completed form(s) and check(s) to Carol Medlin - 594 Pine Crest Drive, Heathsville, Virginia 22473-4304

Recycling: Making It a Habit

Sharon Lemke, Recycling Chair



You are never too young OR too old to learn how to recycle. If you have children, grandchildren, or work with children in our schools teaching the next generation about this activity is important. The following ideas are activities that demonstrate the importance of recycling while making it doable and functional for kids.

 Build a robot. Have the children use as many recycled items as they can to create "Robbie"
 Play a game to help kids practice what item can be recycled and which ones can't.

3. Make a bird feeder using recycled products.

 Using art, paint the recycling symbols so they can easily identify recycling bins in public.
 Make recycling bins at home. Make small bins that can be kept indoors allowing kids to easily sort the garbage.

6. **Teach the facts**. Impress the children with recycling facts such as recycling 1 ton of paper can save 17 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, 2 barrels of oil, and 4,000 watts of electricity.

7. Go on a recycling scavenger hunt. Head to a local park or other public area and see how much you can collect from the environment that can be recycled.

8. **Use old greeting cards**, cut them up and make homemade puzzles. Cereal boxes are great for this as well,

9. Take a field trip to a recycling center and watch a bit of the process happen.

10.**Spearhead a recycling club.** Encourage the children to start an initiative in their neighborhood or school.

The goal should be making recycling a positive activity which can be both fun and a great learning experience.

NGC Plant America Grants 2022-2023

Through the Plant America Grant program, up to \$1,000.00 is made available to be used for direct expenses of projects. Projects submitted for receiving a grant may be a joint venture with another organization/s. The scope of these projects in communities may include:

- Beautification and/or restoration
- Community gardens
- School gardens/classrooms
- Landscaping for Habitat for Humanity
 Homes
- Landscaping of Blue Star Memorial Markers
- Implementation of environmental practices
- A horticulture or environmental educational event for the public

Applications must be submitted by October 15.

To learn more and apply, go to: https://gardenclub.org/plant-america-community-project-grants

> The Rosecrest Garden Club Hosts a Holiday Gala

"The Art of Flowers - 10th Anniversary"

Country Club of Petersburg October 19, 2022.

A floral decorating demonstration will be held, along with a Fashion Walk and an opportunity to purchase a variety of items. You can place your bids at our large Silent Auction. Exciting door prizes!

To order tickets call Carolyn Shiflet at 804-721-5198

It's time for the 2023 Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Poster Contest!

Pat Merson, District Chairman

For over 50 years, children in first through fifth grades have participated in the Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Poster Contest. Children demonstrate their knowledge about wildfire prevention and environmental conservation principals such as reusing and recycling.

Piedmont District was fortunate to have two garden clubs to participate in 2021. Congratulations to Salisbury Garden Club for submitting the third-grade winning poster on the VFGC state level. The posters are first judged on the district level. Winning first through fifth grade posters are sent to the state level for judging. Garden clubs can contact elementary schools, after-school programs, daycares, and 4H programs about participation in the contest.



2021 Grade 1 National Winner, Salt Lake City, Utah

Go to <u>www.virginiagardenclubs,org</u> for contest rules and regulations.

Posters are due to Pat Merson, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Bear Chairman, no later than January 6, 2023.

Pat's address: 11231 Woodland Pond Pkwy., Chesterfield, Virginia 23838

All Piedmont District Garden Clubs are encouraged to participate. Let's showcase kids' artistic ability and creativity by participating in the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest!

September 15 Grants Deadline

Melissa Damiano, VFGC Grants Chair

VFGC has two grant programs available to member garden clubs to assist in financing club projects. For more information and applications contact the appropriate chair listed below or go to: https://www.VirginiaGardenClubs.org.

Youth Project Grants ('Keys to the Future'): The purpose of this grant is to provide financial support for club members to work with youth and help them realize the rewards and life lessons from gardens and habitats for becoming good stewards of the earth. The scope of these programs may include benefits to the community, environmental awareness education, plant-to-food connections, outdoor classroom projects, horticulture education, and the social aspects of gardening. For more information on Youth Project Grants contact: VFGC Chairman Melissa Damiano, mtdamiano@aol.com, 804-796-3287

Grants to Beautify and Restore: The purpose of this grant is to provide financial support for clubs to restore gardens that have been damaged by natural disasters within Virginia OR beautify areas within Virginia garden club communities. Priority is given to natural disaster restoration projects. For more information on Beautify and Restore Grants contact: VFGC Chairman Judy Ann Fray, ja.fray@verizon.net, 540-948-4220.

Piedmont District Memorial Moment

The traditional "memorial moment" be held at the Spring 2023 meeting. Send notices of deceased members to Pam Mann

pamann1724@yahoo.com

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

The Goodness of Goldenrod

Donna Cottingham, Native Trees and Heritage Plants



Yellow is a prominent color in the fall landscape, and goldenrod (*Solidago spp*) is one of the most abundant yellow plants in autumn bloom. A member of the aster family, goldenrod is often blamed for fall allergies, but that is a false accusation. Its large, sticky

pollen grains are dispersed by insects, not wind. It is actually the pollen from ragweed that floats in the air and makes people sneeze. There are many reasons to appreciate goldenrod.

By incorporating perennial goldenrod into your garden, not only will you be adding long lasting color, you'll also be offering nature a helping hand. According to author and entomologist Doug Tallamy, goldenrod leaves provide food to more than 100 species of caterpillars. An abundance of caterpillars is an all-you-can-eat buffet for birds feeding their young. The flowers are a pollen source for 35 species of bees as well as a late season nectar source for migrating monarch butterflies. Its seeds provide winter food for finches, juncos, and sparrows.

There are nearly 40 species of goldenrod in meadows and roadsides in Virginia, providing blooms from mid-July through October. It can survive drought, making it an excellent choice for native gardens and in areas of water conservation. It prefers full sun and dry soil. Some species are known to increase nitrogen levels in the soil. And, as an added bonus, goldenrod is deer resistant.

Goldenrod may sound almost too good to be true, but it is a beneficial plant for nature, the environment, and your garden. When many plants begin to fade at summer's end, its color adds beauty to the landscape well into fall. Visit your local nursery to find the best goldenrod plants for your garden.

Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems

Rebecca Elston, Chairman

SHORELINE EROSION (Living Shorelines, hardened structures, and other erosion controls)

The Northern Neck of Virginia is bordered by the Potomac River to the North and the Rappahannock River to the South, with several rivers and creeks within. The number of miles of shoreline along and within the Northern Neck is 1,100 miles. That is a lot of area with the potential of the land eroding into the adjacent waterway.



Wye Island Shore Erosion, Chesapeake Bay, public domain

In a previous article I wrote about "Living Shorelines," a natural method of protecting shorelines from erosion for land that is not high above the water. Salt water resistant plants, shrubs and trees are installed at the shoreline, which offers many benefits, as described in a publication of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation: "cleaner water by settling sediment and filtering pollution; better shoreline habitat for wildlife like nesting turtles and shorebirds; improved shallow water habitat for many plant and animal species like underwater grasses, blue crabs, and several types of fish."

If the land is high above the water, one solution for erosion control used to be a sea wall. However, sea walls are out of favor and in some cases illegal. Replacement for sea walls includes riprap and the larger armor stone placed at a sloping angle against the hill. However, all hardened structures, unlike plants, cannot adapt to a changing environment such as rising water.

Another method is The Reed-Trench method of terracing to control shore erosion described in <u>Gardening at the Shore</u> by Frances Tenenbaum. This terracing method was developed by a Long Island Sound homeowner after a hurricane washed away a cliff leaving gullies and rocks right down to water. The homeowner used driftwood and broken reeds that were washed up on what was left of their beach. This terracing method was successful and sometime later, after the Montauk Point, Long Island lighthouse had lost more than half of its land, this method was used and twenty years later the land is stable, and the lighthouse is safe.

Closer to home, I read an article in the "Rappahannock Record" by a homeowner who reported regarding his waterfront property as follows: "It took a few years, but once mowing stopped in a 25-foot buffer along the shore of the Great Wicomico River, native warm season grasses eventually replaced the turf grass and stopped erosion."

An article in the July 21, 2022 issue of the "Rappahannock Record" quoting a report from the Chesapeake Bay Program, stated in part, "Virginia reported pollution controls achieved . . . 100% of the reduction goal for sediment." Good news!



The author's property shoreline: Armor stone at the shoreline of the Potomac River with the Chesapeake Bay in the distance.

Garden Clubbing in the Piedmont

Chesapeake Bay Garden Club staged the Flower Show, Spring Has Sprung, at the



Heathsville Farmers' Market on May 21st. The show was not judged. The purpose was to educate visitors to the Farmers' Market about gardening.

The show was set up in the Manor Tavern Building. Displays of horticulture and floral design caught your eyes. The horticulture came from members' gardens. Members of CBGC were there to answer questions about the plants and help people with their gardening needs. Beautiful arrangements displayed distinctive styles that lit up imagination. There were educational displays on bluebirds, lavender, terrariums, and how to prevent birds from hitting your windows. Large photographs of members' gardens and CBGC's events were displayed on the walls. People enjoyed wandering around and gaining knowledge about the enjoyment of gardening, and CBGC enjoyed helping the community.

Fluvanna Garden Club provided arrangements throughout the historic Village of Palmyra for the July 2nd "Sundays" event sponsored by the

Fluvanna Historical Society. Tours were offered of various historical structures, including the "Holland Page Place," a log cabin museum built in



1865. Pictured is a design on the porch bench of the cabin using a large variety of fresh flowers from Cottage Blooms, a local flower farm in Fluvanna.



Sleepy Hollow Garden Club celebrated its 60year anniversary in May with honored guest Sally Harrison. On June 5, to kick off National Garden Week, the club dedicated its Natural Habitat anniversary garden. A grant from Piedmont District supported the garden project.

Víolet Bank Garden Club		
Hosts		
"Tís the Season"		
Design Show and Luncheon		
Wednesday, November 9, 2022		
at the Country Club of Petersburg 1250 Flank Road, Petersburg, VA		
Doors open at 9:30 a.m. Design Show at 10:30 a.m. Featuring Chris Uyhelyi, Floral Designer from Wegmans, Midlothian, VA Luncheon at 12:00 p.m.		
Ticket donation: \$40.00 Available from Jan <u>Pingel</u> 804-731-3599		
All proceeds donated to Violet Bank Museum		

Chancellor Garden Club, Spotsylvania, is celebrating its 50-year Anniversary. Gardening, friendship, and community service characterized those 50 years. The club was organized July 1, 1972 and federated in 1976. In celebration of our anniversary, club member Evelyn Matthewson, whose mother helped start the club, made a quilt to raffle off at our local Fredericksburg Fair. Our club also hosted a flower show at the fair July 29-August 10.

2021-2023 District Officers

President Director of Hospitality Director of Programs Treasurer Recording Secretary VFGC Nominating Comm Rep Alternate Sally Harrison Diane Burgess JoAnn McNabb Linda Nau Susan DelSordo Diane Burgess Janet Minock

Calling All Photographers!

Gail Goodrich Harwood, ODG Editor



Thanks to all members who have submitted their beautiful photographs, not only for the fall 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 will be considered permission to print

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 <u>before</u> the following deadlines: AUGUST 1, 2022 - FALL NOVEMBER 1, 2022 - WINTER FEBRUARY 1, 2023 - SPRING MAY 1, 2023 - SUMMER

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

The National Gardener can be delivered directly to your inbox. Free! Subscribe on the NGC website: <u>www.gardenclub.org</u>

Piedmont District Meeting Registration

Monday October 17, 2022

Doubletree by Hilton 1021 Kroger Center Blvd. Richmond, VA 23235 Registration Deadline: October 7

Registration Process Steps – please review before registering

1) **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*)

2) Via mail: Club contact submits the completed registration form and one check covering

all registrations. Make check payable to VFGC/ Piedmont District

3) Registrar will confirm registration(s) via email once the form and check are received

4) Table assignments will be made in the order in which checks are received

5) Refunds cannot be made. Club contact is responsible for managing substitutes

Club Contact Information

Club Name

Contact Name

Email address

Phone

Registrant Information			
Name (print neatly please)	V Voting Status if applicable *	Circle entrée choice	
	CP VD DO DC FDP	Pork Salmon Veg	
	CP VD DO DC FDP	Pork Salmon Veg	
	CP VD DO DC FDP	Pork Salmon Veg	
	CP VD DO DC FDP	Pork Salmon Veg	
	CP VD DO DC FDP	Pork Salmon Veg	
	CP VD DO DC FDP	Pork Salmon Veg	
	CP VD DO DC FDP	Pork Salmon Veg	
	CP VD DO DC FDP	Pork Salmon Veg	
_	nt VD = Voting Delegate (up to two deleg Committee Chair FDP = Former District P		

Attendees will be seated at tables of six for safety and comfort.

Total # of Registrations @ \$35 _____ Total Check Amount: _____ (one check)

Registrar: Johanna Gilbert Email: <u>omagilbert@aol.com</u>

Mail form and check payable to VFGC/Piedmont District; send to Johanna Gilbert:

8423 Shannon Green Court Henrico, VA 23228-1876