



Mum's the Word

October 2021 – Volume 54, Issue 2

Salisbury Garden Club

www.salisburygardenclub.com

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

A Message from SGC President, Janice Beatty. . .

Autumn, the third season of the year, when crops and fruits are gathered and leaves fall. Oh, and let's not forget, acorns. We can only hope the deer consume vast amounts of acorns this year, and not so many of our plants.

As SGC members, we have many projects to work on this fall. I thank all of the committee and project chairs that have spent time and energy arranging for education and community activities. We need volunteers to help accomplish these goals. Please consider signing up for one or more of the many projects that are available. It's a great way to make new friends in the club, and knowing that you are helping others is a really good feeling. You, as an individual, can have an impact by creating good in our community.

Speaking of volunteer opportunities, workdays remaining this month are Daffodil Project, Redeemer Courtyard, and the Post Office in early November. Educational activities include working with children at Redeemer Preschool (outside), making arrangements for Hospice House and other projects in November. Please see the Education section in Committee Reports for times and dates for these community activities. Adding your experience, time, helping hand and enthusiasm to activities is a benefit to all.

We are fortunate that our club has many wonderful designers that are participating in VMFA exhibit, 'Fine Arts and Flowers 2021'. Take time to visit the museum and prepare to be awed.

Gardener's Trunk or Treat is on October 27th at the back parking lot of Redeemer. See *Mum's the Word* page 6 for more information.

I for one am really looking forward to today's program with National Design Instructor, and member of our club, Julia Clevett.

Today's Program:

"Mix and Match"

by

**Julia Clevett,
NGC Master
Flower Show Judge**



And of course, dear to my heart, is the November program by Jody Conway, “Honey Bees – More than Just Honey”.

October and November provide such a flurry of enjoyable and worthwhile activities for our club. Hope that you will join in where you can.

Bright beams, Janice



TREASURER’S REPORT – SEPTEMBER 1-30, 2021

Prepared by Helen Davison, Treasurer

Not available for website

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PIEDMONT DISTRICT MEETING



What a great day we had this past Monday to finally meet with our friends at the Piedmont District Meeting!

A big thank you to Lorna Boucher, Shirley Gates, Nancy Scherer, and Delora Stites for their help at the Piedmont District Project Table sales. I couldn’t do this without them!

Martie Parch
Piedmont District Project Sales Chairman

COMMITTEE REPORTS



CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION – Meg Winn

For our fall workdays, we primarily need your help with pruning and planting. Our **Redeemer Courtyard** workday is **October 29 – a new date – at 9:30 AM**. The **Midlothian Post Office** workday is on **November 4 at 10 AM**.

I’m also asking for transplants for a few of our spots: wood spurge, Hellebores, Susans, hardy chrysanthemums, etc. **Please alert me if you have something we can come dig!**

Our **Annual Daffodil Project** will be held on **October 26 at 10 AM**. We will meet at Episcopal Church of the Redeemer as all of our plantings will take place on the church grounds.

So, join us when you can with gloves, clippers and trowel – just complete the coupon(s) on the signup sheet if you'd like to help out.

EDUCATION – Camille Archie



Our first Education Project was at **Spring Arbor**. Many thanks to JJ Jordan for organizing the planting of colorful decorative pepper plants.

On **October 28th at 10 AM**, we are scheduled to help the children at **Redeemer Preschool** plant bulbs. Weather permitting, we will have work tables outside for the project and all volunteers will wear masks.

For **November 10th**, we need twelve small designs for the **Community Hospice House**. As in the past volunteers will provide the container, flowers and greenery for their arrangement. Please deliver the arrangements to **Catherine Barnes, 2830 Park Ridge Road, Midlothian; place on wooden steps near the garage by 3:00 PM**.

We are scheduled for **Bickford Senior Living** on **November 17th at 1:30 PM**. We will be helping the residents at Bickford to design small arrangements to decorate their rooms for Fall. All containers and flowers will be provided, **but please bring greenery from your garden**.

The first **Gardening Enrichment Project** will be held on **November 29th and 30th**. The focus will be on Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl and their Poster Contest. After learning about fire prevention and basic environmental conservation principles, the children will create posters of Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl. **We will meet at Stony Point Church, 2330 Buford Rd, Room 206 at 2:30 PM**.

If you would like to participate in any of these projects, just complete the appropriate coupon on the signup sheet. Please be aware we are very concerned with everyone's safety and will plan accordingly. If volunteers have any questions, please call me.

EXHIBITS – Kathy Ward and Joanne Wallace



Congratulations to our exhibit winners in September: **Pat Wilson for Design and Gay Kistler for Horticulture!**

If you want to look forward to November exhibits, see page 91 of your Yearbook for the schedule.

Don't forget to join us for our annual **Gardener's Exchange** – see page 6 for details.

Our annual **Holiday Designs** will take place on December 8. Refer to the article on page 7 of Mum's for more information and complete the coupon on the signup sheet if you'd like to participate.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Martie Parch

At the November meeting, we will be electing two more members for the Nominating Committee. It will be our task to present a slate of officers (President, 1st VP Programs, 2nd VP Membership, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer) for the 2022-2023 club year.

In January, all active members have the opportunity to submit names of candidates for office. If you are interested in serving as a club officer or know someone who is, please consider submitting your and/or their names to the committee.

PROGRAMS – Martie Parch and Connie Sorrell

I hope all of you I have dabbled with botanical arts. Peyton's program last month was fascinating! Our program today will be presented by our illustrious member, **Julia Cleve**. Julia has won numerous awards all over the United States and internationally as well.

Please remember to come in the side entrance so we can keep a safe distance from the daycare and nursery school children. Also be sure to park in the back row.

The church is installing a new A/C system soon. Please be patient while we anticipate cooler weather.

Thank you for your continuing support. We hope you enjoy this year's programs!

SOCIAL HOSPITALITY – Nancy Scherer and Shirley Gates

Hi, Ladies. It will be so nice to once again get together and start the holiday season at our annual **Christmas Party on December 1st**. Details about the party are included on page 8 of *Mum's the Word*.

You may choose to pay by cash/check to Helen Davison (see the coupon on the signup sheet) or use PayPal. For PayPal go to salisburygardenclub.com. Click on "Members Only" section (the password is SGC50); scroll down to the yellow "Donate" button for the SGC Christmas Party. Contact us if you have any questions. Thank you. Nancy Scherer - 594-5694; Shirley Gates - 378-9099.

A Gardener's Trunk or Treat!!

Wednesday, October 27th at 3:30 PM

Our annual **Gardener's Exchange** will be held on October 27th in the rear parking lot, by Wishing Well Park, at the **Church of the Redeemer**. Fill the back of your car with items you would like to give away - plants, books, magazines, vases, design materials, seeds, just about anything gardening or design related. **Please be in place by**



3:30 PM and just open your trunk to display what you have brought. All members are encouraged to attend whether they have items to share or not. It should be a good time for us to socialize



outside and also get some much-needed gardening and design inspiration.

Joanne Wallace, Exhibits Co-Chairman

Holiday Designs

Are you planning to decorate your door for the holidays? How about your mailbox? If so, sign up to participate in our December exhibits.



As in past years, there will be no need to bring your designs to the church. We will judge them on your door or mailbox the morning of **Wednesday, December 8th**. This is a great way to fulfill your design requirement to be a member-in-

good-standing. For more information, see page 95 of your Yearbook. To participate, fill out the coupon on the signup sheet. **Please sign-up before Friday, December 3rd**.

Designs must be in place by 9:30 AM on December 8th. Remember to include a 3x5" index card with the title of the design facing out and your name on the back of the card (see Yearbook **Appendix page A2** for a sample of an exhibit card).

Both designs are **Botanical Arts**. The design titles are: **1. 'Tis the Season – Hanging Door Design**, and **2. Glad Tidings We Bring – Mailbox Design**. Both designs are "designer's choice", meaning all types of plant materials are allowed. Designer has complete choice as to what to use. Any fresh plant material may not be treated.



Volunteers are also needed to help the judges. If you would like to drive the judges to see the designs or clerk for them, please fill out the coupon. If you have any questions, please contact chairman Nancy Lee at nkatpatlee2@gmail.com.



**You and your guest are invited
to the Salisbury Garden Club
Annual Christmas Party**

"Joys of the Season"

Wednesday, December 1st at Salisbury Country Club
Reservation Deadline November 24th

Gather for cocktails at 6:30 PM
Dinner will be served at 7:15 PM
Cost is \$35 per person

Meals include House Salad, rolls, potato and vegetable

A plated **Sauteed Shrimp and Scallops**
w/ Boursin and Crispy Prosciutto & "Dirty Martini" sauce

A plated **Grilled Pork Ribeye**
w/ Warm Spiced Apple Compote

Chef's Choice Vegetarian
House-Made Pasta
w/ Broccoli/ Mushroom/ Baby Kale/ Ricotta/ Pecorino

and
Chef's Choice Dessert
Tea, Coffee and Cash Bar

If you have any questions, please contact
Nancy Scherer at 594-5694 or nancysch@aol.com

See page 6 for payment details



“Pollinators Rock” by Janice: Representations of butterflies are seen in Egyptian frescoes at Thebes, which are 3,500 years old.

ATLAS GARDEN GLOVES

We will once again be selling Atlas 370 Style Gripster Nitrile Dipped Garden Gloves. We will be taking prepaid orders (cash or checks) at the meeting today – just complete the coupon on the signup sheet. If you cannot prepay, please send a check made out to SGC to Helen Davison,



14510 Kenmont Drive, Midlothian 23113. Be sure to list the exact number of gloves and the sizes you would like to order.

Each pair sells for \$6 and they come in sizes small, medium or large. They are washable and come in four different colors.

The gloves will be ordered on October 29th and delivered at the November 17th general meeting.

THREE-MINUTE TIP by J. J. Jordan

For those of us who have tried composting with the method prescribed by most authorities on the subject but found it was a bit much, I came across a unique and really easy way to compost.

Recently while at a friend’s barbeque I noticed a covered Lowes five-gallon bucket sitting aside on the patio. It seemed sort of out of place on the patio, so I asked what it was about. My friend said it was a new way of composting and opened the bucket to show me the most beautiful composted soil.

In order to compost this way, you will need to buy a covered five- gallon bucket, drill ½ inch holes around the top about 4 to 5 inches apart, and fill it with about 2 to 3 inches of top soil. After that simply throw in vegetable scraps, egg shells, coffee and tea grounds, and even garden clippings. After that stir it with you trowel or take the handle and give it a few spins to keep the soil turned. If the compost seems too wet, uncover it and let the sun dry it out. I was asked if holes could be drilled in the side at the bottom of the bucket as well. I don't know the answer to that, but it would seem to me that holes in the bottom would allow for additional air flow and drainage, both needed for good composting. This would be a good project for the coming doldrums of winter. So happy composting.



The board wishes to thank Connie Sorrell and Lorna Boucher for hosting the October board meeting.

Holiday Cactus

Is your Christmas cactus blooming in November? Then it may not be a Christmas cactus! Yes, there are more than one type of holiday cacti. There is a Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter cactus. Not only do they bloom at different times, they also have different leaf shapes.

The Thanksgiving cactus, *Schlumbergera truncata*, blooms earlier, closer to Thanksgiving. It is the most common type of holiday cactus. It has distinctly pointed projections at the edges and ends of the flat stem segments. It is sometimes

called the “crab” cactus because they resemble crab claws. The blooms on this cactus are erect and do not hang down like the flowers on a Christmas cactus.

Schlumbergera buckleyi, the true Christmas cactus, blooms closer to Christmas. It has more rounded, scalloped edges on tear drop shaped segments. The blossoms droop down toward the ground. This cactus is rarely for sale. Often times the plant you will find for sale is Thanksgiving cactus, even though it is labeled as Christmas Cactus. Leaf shape is the easiest way to tell at Thanksgiving cactus from a Christmas cactus.

The Easter cactus is *Schlumbergera gaertneri* (formerly, *Hatiora gaertneri*). It is the most difficult of the three types of Holiday cactus to grow, and also the most difficult to find. It blooms in the spring and sometimes again in the fall around Halloween. It has flattened stems with rounded scallops, somewhat similar to the Christmas cactus. The flowers are different from the flowers of the Thanksgiving and Christmas cactus. There are more flaring, trumpet-shaped, pointy petals. Flower shape is the best way to identify the Easter cactus.




Thanksgiving
Cactus

Christmas Cactus

Easter Cactus

Kathy Ward
NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge



Next Month's Program – November 17, 2021

Church of the Redeemer – Coffee 9:30/Meeting 10 AM
(See page 90 of your Yearbook for more information)

Program: “Honey Bees – More than Just Honey”
by Jody Conway


Greeter: Candy Nasser

Hostesses: Susan Congrove, Katie Conschafter,
Shirley Gates, Anne McCormick, Vickie
McGonegal, Candy Nasser, Dominique Spinosa,
and Fran Stanwix



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

- | | | | |
|-------|--|---|------|
| 20-24 | Fine Arts & Flowers at VMFA |  | |
| 26 | Annual Daffodil Project – 10 AM | | CP19 |
| 27 | Gardener's Exchange – Trunk or Treat!! | | CP5 |
| | Church back parking lot – 3:30 PM | | |
| 28 | Redeemer Preschool Nature Program – 10 AM | | CP8 |

NOVEMBER

- | | | | |
|-------|--|--|------|
| 4 | Midlothian Post Office Workday – 10 AM | | CP7 |
| 10 | SGC Board Meeting – 9:30 AM | | |
| | Hostess: Becky Sido | | |
| 10 | Community Hospice House Project | | CP24 |
| | Arrangements delivered by 3 PM | | |
| 17 | SGC General Meeting – 9:30 AM | | CP4 |
| | (Exhibits must be in place by 9:45 AM) | | |
| | Program: “Honey Bees – More Than Just Honey” by Jody Conway | | |
| 17 | Bickford Senior Living Project – 1:30 PM | | CP14 |
| 19-30 | GardenFest of Lights – Lewis Ginter BG | | |
| | November 19, 2021 – January 9, 2022 | | |
| 29-30 | Gardening Enrichment Program | | CP9 |



Newsletter Editor: Linda Nau, naule@aol.com

