



Mum's the Word

September 2023 – Volume 56, Issue 1

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, Connie Sorrell. . .

Theme: “Gardeners are the Seeds of Change”

A new year of Salisbury Garden Club is here! Welcome to another exciting year of programs, activities, workshops, and lots of garden fun.

With this new year, we have lots of fall activities for gardeners, from planting new additions in our gardens, designing new arrangements, showing off our garden horticulture, sharing our plants with others, and looking forward to all the gardening and seed catalogs that will be arriving in the mail this Fall. Mostly, it will be wonderful to say good riddance to a very hot summer and welcome to the cooler Fall weather.

All the board members have worked diligently to plan an extraordinary year and members have many opportunities to share their talents and knowledge to provide great enrichment to our community, increase our skills in design and gardening, renew old friendships and make new friends!

We will have lots of changes this year, starting with our new meeting locations at the Salisbury Presbyterian Church on Salisbury Drive. We will start our meetings with our coffee time at 9:15 am and the program/business meeting at 9:45 am.

Becky Sido and Katie Conschafter have created a great year of programs with new topics and new speakers and new workshops. You will find all the details in your new Yearbook for specific descriptions, dates, and time of these events.

Linda Nau has done another remarkable job of creating a new Yearbook for our Club. She is the recipient

Today's Program:

The Art of Pressing
Flowers, Herbs
and Foliage
by
Sheila Weisensale



of many National and State awards for her fabulous work. All the club activities and instructions, bylaws, design and horticulture guidelines and tons of other great information are included. Keep an eye on your email for the outstanding Mum's the Word monthly newsletter and the sign-up sheet she produces for volunteering each month. She welcomes photos of club members' gardening activities and articles about club activities and gardening tips.

Meg Winn and the Civic Beautification team have a great set of plans for the several gardening we maintain for the community! We will have new opportunities to do new projects at the Salisbury Presbyterian Church and the new Midlothian Fire Department.

Lorna Boucher and Camille Archie and the Community Outreach team have another meaningful year of activities with the retirement communities, the Hospice House, after school programs and veterans.

Rachel Schartz and her team are doing an outstanding job revamping our website and keeping the information up to date. She welcomes information from members to be added to the website. You can find all our information on this site. To view items in the For Members Only, remember the password is SGC50.

Looking forward to seeing everyone and enjoying being together for another wonderful year!



Keep planting seeds!
Connie

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TREASURER'S REPORT
JUNE 1, 2023 – SEPTEMBER 13, 2023
Prepared by Claudia Cosby, Treasurer

Not available for website



Upcoming VFGC Event

Symposium will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton (1021 Koger Center Blvd, Richmond) on **November 6-8**. Any interested individual is welcome and invited to attend; all attendees must register in advance. **Registration deadline is October 7**. For more information, refer to the **Fall 2023 edition of the VFGC Old Dominion Gardener, pages 21-23**.

PIEDMONT DISTRICT FALL MEETING MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023



Join us for a wonderful day at the **Piedmont District Meeting** held at the DoubleTree by Hilton on Koger Center Blvd. There will be lots of vendors, good food, and a clever design program by our own **Mary Arakelian and Lili Aram-Bost**, who will create designs using recycled items from Virginia.

Registration (and shopping) – 8:30 to 9:45 AM. General Meeting – 10:00 to 11:15. Break and shopping – 11:15 to 12:00. Lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 and the Program from 1:00 to 2:45 PM.

Luncheon choices are: (1) **Italian herb-grilled chicken breast** with olive oil and a nut-free pesto sauce with seasonal vegetables and oven-roasted potatoes; (2) **Grilled filet of salmon** with a lemon beurre blanc sauce, steamed rice and seasonal vegetables; (3) **Chef's choice vegetarian**. All three choices include a Caesar salad, rolls, beverages, and seasonal fresh fruit tart for dessert.

September 20 is the deadline to sign up for our group reservation – just complete the coupon on the sign-up sheet if you'd like to attend. The cost is \$45 per person.

Student Contest Opportunities with NGC



If you are looking for an activity for a student(s) in your life, why not consider urging them to enter the **NGC Youth contests**. This could be a fun activity when you are babysitting or perhaps over the holidays. These contests are for all students in grades K-12 - perhaps your child, grandchild or neighbor? Winning entries from the district will be sent on to the state, regional or national level. Winners will receive a certificate and a bit of reward money.

Poetry Contest - For **students in K-9, Special Education K-9 and ESL K-9**, there is the Youth Poetry Contest. Students are to create a poem with the theme "I Spy with My Little Eye, Something Green Outside – Celebrating Our Green World". The poem can rhyme or not. It can be a traditional verse, limerick, Haiku, blank verse,

acrostics, cinquains or in any form you like. Poems are to be delivered to Kathy Ward **by November 29th**. For more information, see <https://www.gardenclub.org/poetry-contest>



Smokey Bear Poster Contest – For students in grades 1-5 who like to draw, there is a poster contest featuring Smokey Bear. This is Smokey's 80th birthday! The poster should be 11 x 17" and include Smokey's message, "Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires". It can be made

with pencils, crayons, markers, poster paints, watercolors and the like. Posters should be delivered to Becky Sido **by December 28th**. For more information and poster paper, contact Becky Sido.

Sculpture Contest – For students in grades 4-8, there is a contest where you make something out of recyclable, reused or reduced materials. It could be a bird, a fish, a landscape, a plant or anything you can imagine. The sculpture can be no more than 8 ½ x 11". The entry form, with photos of the sculpture should be delivered to Kathy Ward **by November 29th**. For more information, see <https://www.gardenclub.org/youth-sculpture-contest>

Youth Essay Contest – For students in grades 9-12, there is an essay contest with theme "What are the benefits of planting natives?". The typed essay is to be between 600 and 700 words, including the title. The essay will be judged on knowledge of subject, practicality of proposal, originality, organization and clarity of presentation. An entry form will need to be included with the submission. Essay and entry form should be delivered to Nancy Lee **by November 29th**. For more information and an entry form, contact Nancy Lee.

Nancy Lee and Kathy Ward, Awards Chairmen

COMMITTEE REPORTS



CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION – Meg Winn

We have plans for a great garden year for Civic Beautification. We are saying a nostalgic goodbye to the Redeemer Courtyard but will replace it with projects at **Salisbury Presbyterian Church** and **Lifelong Learning Institute**. Peggy Young and Kerri Butler will co-chair our new flower garden at LLI and Kerri Butler will chair our project at SPC. See page 34 of your new Yearbook for more info.

Barbara Metz is managing the **Midlothian Post Office** (photo at PO this past August) and she and Lorna Boucher will direct the



**Salisbury
Christmas
Decorating.**

Doris Wier
and DanaDee
Carragher will
co-chair the
Anniversary

Garden. Susan Oakey will plan our **Annual Daffodil Project** and Candy Nasser will chair the **National Garden Week**. Nancy Lee and Kerri Butler will co-chair the **Midlothian Fire Station**. Meg Winn will manage the garden at **Wishing Well Park**. **See Yearbook pages 25-28 for more information about each of these projects.**

We are so appreciative of our returning chairmen and fellow SGC gardeners and we intend to go forth and beautify the community with renewed zeal this year!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – Lorna Boucher & Camille Archie

Many thanks to all the returning chairmen. Your dedication and hard work are greatly appreciated! A special thanks to Ellen Pinnow for chairing **Bickford Retirement Facility** this year. The chairmen have many projects planned for the year which will help the young and old in our community. Each project is designed to bring joy and new experiences through flowers. **For photos and details about each of the projects, see pages 29-33 of your Yearbook.**

Bickford – Ellen Pinnow; **Spring Arbor Memory Care** – JJ Jordan; **Spring Arbor Retirement** – Kathy Casella; **Gardening Enrichment** – Becky Sido; **Southampton Elementary School** – Peggy Young; **Community Hospice House** – Catherine Barnes; **Veterans Art for the Journey** – Camille Archie; **Monthly Flowers for the Hospice House** – Lorna Boucher and Camille Archie.

Volunteer Opportunities: Please read the coupons and consider how you can help with the projects. **Bickford on September 27, 3 PM** – volunteers will help residents make small fall arrangements.

Spring Arbor Memory Care – October date TBD.

Community Hospice House on October 5 – small arrangements to be delivered to Catherine Barnes by 3 PM.

Gardening Enrichment on October 9-10 from 2:30 to 4:30 – we will be doing two separate activities. First is to propagate jade plants and then begin the posters for the Smokey Bear Poster Contest.

Monthly Flowers for the Hospice House on October 20.

TOUR – GREENSWELL GROWERS OCTOBER 24

We hope you will join our tour! Details will follow about the meeting place, time, carpooling, etc. Just complete the coupon on the sign-up sheet if you'd like to participate.

Greenswell Growers is an innovative large-scale indoor growing facility providing delicious, safe, healthy and pesticide free greens that gives back to the community. Their large-scale indoor growing facility is as sustainable as it is productive. Their indoor growing facility has very little impact on its surroundings. Thanks to its recirculation systems, they use 95% less water than traditional growing methods and essentially eliminate water runoff into the environment.



Becky Sido and Katie Conschafter, Chairmen

GARDENER'S EXCHANGE - OCTOBER 26



This year we will again have a Gardener's Exchange in the Fall and Spring. **"Trunk or Treat" will be held on October 26th** and **"Divide and Conquer" will be held March 27th.**

Fall provides a chance to clean out the closet/garage/shed of items we no longer use in our gardens or for our designs. Spring is a great time to 'divide and share' from our garden bounty that has perhaps become too bountiful. No hard and fast rule about either and everyone is welcome even if you come empty handed!

Joanne Wallace, Chairman

SGC GARDEN TOUR

The Salisbury Garden Club Biennial Garden Tour will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, with a rain date of May 23rd. Co-chairs John and Fran Stanwix ask for your assistance



by recommending any homes with gardens you think would make a great addition to the Tour. It would be ideal if all of the Tour homes were those of our club members, but any other interesting gardens of non-members will also be

considered. All homes recommended should be in the Salisbury or nearby adjacent areas to allow for short travel distances.

Further, volunteers will be greatly appreciated to help on the Garden Tour. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet, or call John and Fran, if you want to be a part of this special culmination of the 2023-2024 SGC year.

Trex Film Recycling Challenge

Help our club to improve our environment and at the same time, receive another TREX garden bench. We are officially signing up for a 12-month Challenge/Collection in October. During this time, **we must collect 1000 pounds of plastic!** Please begin to save and weigh your plastic and take it to your favorite grocery store. Send me your weights once a month. I encourage you to visit the website to learn more about what plastics are acceptable to recycle.
<https://recycle.trex.com/view/educate>

PLASTIC BAGS



INTO



Remember Plastics must be clean, dry and stretch.

DON'T RECYCLE PLASTIC ITEMS IF IT:

Rips Like Paper, Is Shiny, or Makes a Crinkly Sound

Thanks to all who have already started saving plastic bags! Contact me if you would like to help with this project or if you have any questions. Becky Sido becky.sido@gmail.com

Art for the Journey

In August we were asked if we would arrange a project for some blind/partially sighted veterans. Needless to say, we were only too happy to do this. Nine SGC members volunteered to help and we decided to settle on small flower arrangements which would be easy to transport back to base.



All went according to plan and it was quite clear that the participants all had a happy time and really enjoyed their afternoon. They appreciated our help so much. It is pretty humbling to see their cheerfulness and good humor, knowing that they have suffered some devastating traumas in the course of their service to their country.



Art for the Journey is an amazing program which we, as SGC, will surely continue to support for as long as we are needed.

SGC members who helped were: Kathy Casella, Nancy Lee, Anita King, Linda O'Mara, Susan Oakey, Janice Beatty, Gay Kistler, Camille Archie and Lorna Boucher.

Lorna Boucher and Camille Archie, Chairmen

ATLAS GLOVES

Once again, we will be selling the fabulous Atlas gardening gloves.

The cost is \$6 per pair. They come in sizes extra-small, small, medium, large and extra-large.

Just complete the coupon on the sign-up sheet to purchase the gloves. They make wonderful Christmas gifts for you or your friends and family!



The Board wishes to thank Nancy Scherer for hosting the September board meeting in her beautiful home!

A Note of Thanks. . .

Since we are moving the club meetings to Salisbury Presbyterian Church, we are retiring the Church of the Redeemer Courtyard garden project.

Looking back, I note that SGC has maintained, designed, and augmented the space for at least twenty-four years! **And for the past nine or ten years, Dawn Lerch and Peggy Young have managed to keep it looking lovely in all seasons.**



It was always a pleasure to volunteer for work days there and see the inspired design and novel plant combinations Dawn created.

We truly appreciate Dawn's and Peggy's diligent care during these years.

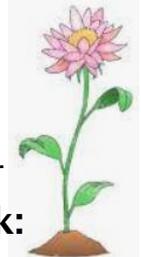
Thank God for gardeners and their message.

Meg Winn, Civic Beautification Chairman

Here we grow again. . . please welcome our newest members:

Sue McClelland and Dotsie Williams

Their contact information is in the Yearbook.



Member updates included in Yearbook:

Dawn Lerch and Dallas Mosman have moved

Dawn is still fairly local in Manakin-Sabot, but Dallas has moved to North Carolina, so we will miss seeing her on a regular basis. All the best, Dallas!

Choose Your Mum Wisely



Florist Mums: If you're like me, you love the Virginia fall colors and look forward to displaying some pots of brightly colored mums on your doorstep or table. Orange, purple, yellow, rust and red blooms take you well into Thanksgiving, and often, in a fit of cleaning for Christmas, these mums get thrown on the compost heap. Florist mums are not hardy. These beautiful plants are best grown as annual flowers for fall decoration and produce few or no stolons (a slender stem that grows horizontally along the ground, giving rise to roots and aerial (vertical) branches at specialize points called nodes). Buy these florist mums mid-September and beyond because they fade and wilt if the weather is too warm.

Garden (Sometimes called Hardy) Mums: Sold in the Spring, garden mums are hardy perennials that will come back every year when planted in a sunny spot in the garden. They're typically sold outdoors. Garden mums produce underground shoots and stolons that enable these mums to survive from year to year. The easiest way to keep hardy mum plants alive for next year is to bring the plant indoors after the first hard frost. For potted mums this means cutting off the brown foliage and stems about 3-4 inches long above the soil, wrapping the pots and bringing them inside to an unheated garage or shed. Water mums so the soil is slightly moist during winter dormancy. In the early Spring, find a sunny, well drained spot and plant them about one inch deeper than they were in the pot.

DanaDee Carragher, Master Gardener

Resources: Extension.unh.edu – Can Fall Mums be Planted in the Garden?

Extension.psu.edu -- Chrysanthemums – How to get Great Mums without a lot of Work

Youtube: How to Plant a Hardy Mum: Step-by-Step Gardening



Next Month's Meeting – October 18, 2023

Salisbury Presbyterian Church

Refreshments 9:15 AM – Meeting 9:45 AM

(See page 76-78 of your Yearbook for more information)

Program: “Perennials for Year-Round Color”

by Ally Sheehan of Cross Creek Nursery

Greeter: Ellen Pinnow

Hostesses: Nancy Clark, Katie Conschafter, Gay Kistler,
Matilda Large, Ellen Pinnow, Nancy Pressendo,
Carol Romeo, Anne Stiles

Clerks: Catherine Barnes, Sue Lindsay,
Marcia Harrigan and Jean Peters

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

21	Wishing Well Park Workday – 9:30 AM	CP21
26	Midlothian Fire Station Workday – 10 AM	CP17
27	Anniversary Garden Workday – 9:30 AM	CP15
27	Bickford Senior Living Project – 3:00 PM	CP30
29	Midlothian Post Office Workday – 9:30 AM	CP18

OCTOBER

TBD	Spring Arbor Memory Care	CP36
2-3	Landscape Design School, Course I	CP1
5	Community Hospice House Project	CP31
6	RCGC (Richmond Council of Garden Clubs) 10 AM at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church	
9	Lifelong Learning Institute Workday – 9:30 AM	NP1
9-10	Gardening Enrichment Program	CP32
11	SGC Board Meeting – 9:30 AM Hostess: Meg Winn	
15	Deadline: NGC Grant Applications	
16	Piedmont District Fall Meeting DoubleTree by Hilton	CP1
18	SGC General Meeting – 9:15 AM	CP4
19	Wishing Well Park Workday – 9:30 AM	CP21
20	Monthly Flowers for the Hospice House	CP34
24	Tour – Greenswell Growers – Goochland	CP4
26	“Trunk or Treat “Gardener’s Exchange	CP7
30	Annual Daffodil Project – 10 AM	CP16
31	Lifelong Learning Institute Workday – 9:30 AM	NP1



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