



# Mum's the Word

February 2024 – Volume 56, Issue 6

Salisbury Garden Club

[www.salisburygardenclub.com](http://www.salisburygardenclub.com)

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Member

## ***A Message from SGC President, Connie Sorrell. . .***

“There is always in February some one day, at least, when one smells the yet distant, but surely coming, summer.”

Gertrude Jekyll

As the seed catalogs have been flooding our mailboxes, it is exciting to see the dizzying number of selections that can be added to this year's gardens. Besides trying new seeds in our gardens, we are also planting seeds of community spirit and joy and friendship with the many activities. My heartfelt thank you to each of you for your many contributions to the Club and the community.

With the brilliant, sunny days we have been having this month, the promise of a new Spring is here. As I take my daily walk with my dog, Damon, it has been wonderful to have so many sunny days, see the daffodils blooming and feel that Spring is just a few weeks away. Anticipation is a wonderful feeling!

Thank you to Helen Davison for hosting a new member orientation at her home this past week and a special thanks to all the board members who welcomed our new members.

We are blessed to be gathering again with our beautiful friends and a luncheon of delicious delights to celebrate February as Heart Month.

For Heart Month, let's celebrate the American Heart Association (AHA) 2023 recipient of the Women Changing the World Award, Dr. Jennifer Ashton. Dr. Jen is the chief medial correspondent for ABC News. The honor recognizes a woman who is a leader in her field or community leading change and outcomes that help forward the mission of the AHA.

Her most important message to women: take heart disease seriously and

### **Today's Program:**

**“Butterfly,  
Flutterby”**

by  
Sue Becker,  
VCE Bedford Extension  
Master Gardener



personally. "Whenever women hear 'heart disease,' no woman ever thinks that refers to them, especially if they don't have glaring risk factors," she said. "But it is the No. 1 killer of women, and that means me and that means you."



Learn more about how to have and keep a healthy heart and to recognize the special symptoms women have when having a heart attack. Check out

[Heart Attack, Stroke and Cardiac Arrest Symptoms | American Heart Association.](#)

This month we will be presenting the slate of new officers and asking for nominations from the floor. The Club benefits greatly when members new to the board step up to take a leadership positions. New leaders strengthen the club with new ideas and new energy. Please consider volunteering to become a board member or a committee chair or project lead. It takes a village of volunteers to make the Club the vibrant organization it is and keep it fresh and fun.

March 18<sup>th</sup> is the Piedmont District Meeting and luncheon. Please join your fellow club members and other clubs for this exciting meeting and floral design program. Be sure to give Claudia your check and your choice of entrée.

We have many exciting events coming in March and April so be sure to read the details here and mark your participation on the Signup sheet. Don't forget to leave it in the basket at the meeting.



Keep planting seeds!  
Connie



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# TREASURER'S REPORT

## JUNE 1, 2023 – FEBRUARY 21, 2024

Prepared by Claudia Cosby, Treasurer

<b>OPERATING FUND</b>			
<b>Beginning Balance June 1, 2023</b>			<b>\$3,096.66</b>
<b>Receipts</b>			
<i>Administrative</i>			
Membership Dues 2023-24 (paid 2022-23)	4,050.00		
Membership Dues 2023-24	1,250.00	5,300.00	
<i>Activities</i>			
Atlas Glove Orders & Sales	1,178.00		
December Workshop	220.00		
Richmond Council GC Hospitality	125.00	1,523.00	
<i>Donations</i>			
Penny Pines Donations	173.78		
Misc. Donations	2.00	175.78	
<i>Meetings</i>			
District Meetings Registration	855.00		
Opportunity tickets	329.00		
Security deposit from SPC	100.00	1,284.00	
<i>Social Hospitality</i>			
Christmas Party	2,880.00	2,880.00	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>11,162.78</b>	
<b>Disbursements</b>			
<i>Administrative</i>			
Bank Fee	8.00		
Corresponding Secretary	20.60		
Liability Insurance	294.00		
Membership	27.11		
Newsletter	105.82		
Piedmont District Dues	20.00		
Richmond Council Dues	40.00		
VFGC Dues 2023-24	540.00		
Website Hosting, Domain (annual)	278.95		
Yearbook	685.47	2,019.95	
<i>Activities</i>			
Atlas Gloves	761.86		
Flower Show	47.41		
Richmond Council GC Hospitality	146.43	955.70	
<i>Donations</i>			
Penny Pines Donations (2)	136.00		
RCGC Youth Education Donation	50.00		
VFGC, Piedmont District Awards Sponsors	40.00	226.00	
<i>Meetings</i>			
Awards Luncheon 5/24 Deposit	500.00		
District Meetings Registration	900.00		
Monthly Programs	587.75		
Meeting Setup	220.00		
* SPC Facility Rental, etc.	1,000.00	3,207.75	
<i>Social Hospitality</i>			
Christmas Party refunds	135.00		
Christmas Party	2,436.17	2,571.17	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>		<b>8,980.57</b>	
<b>Operating Fund Balance Feb. 21, 2024</b>			<b>\$5,278.87</b>

<b>COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUND</b>							
<b>Beginning Balance June 1, 2023</b>							<b>\$2,113.00</b>
<b>Receipts</b>							
	Graduation Flowers		1,375.00				
	Blooming Bucks Rewards		54.77				
<b>Total Receipts</b>							<b>1,429.77</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>							
<i>Community Outreach</i>							
	Art for the Journey/Veterans		26.45				
	Bickford		50.05				
	Southampton Youth Program		13.73		90.23		
<i>Civic Beautification</i>							
	Daffodil Project		100.00				
	Fire Station		106.88				
	National Garden Week		113.80		320.68		
<b>Total Disbursements</b>							<b>410.91</b>
<b>Community Projects Fund Balance Feb. 21, 2024</b>							<b>\$3,131.86</b>
<b>RESERVE FUND</b>							
<b>Reserve Fund Balance Feb. 21, 2024</b>							<b>\$2,895.61</b>
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>							
	Youth Grant Awarded		125.00				
<b>Total Receipts</b>							<b>125.00</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>							
	Southampton School		27.51				
	Plant Together		55.85				
<b>Total Disbursements</b>							<b>83.36</b>
<b>Total Restricted Funds Feb. 21, 2024</b>							<b>41.64</b>
<b>TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS</b>							<b>\$11,347.98</b>
* These funds were for: SPC rental space Flower Show-\$300 (paid in arrears);							
security deposit-\$100; and Sep & Oct rental and janitorial fee (each \$300)-\$600							



## ***VFGC AND PIEDMONT DISTRICT EVENTS***

### **VFGC Landscape Design School Course 2:**

March 11-12 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens.

Registration deadline was February 20, but you might still be able to attend. For more information, see pages 18-20 of the **Old Dominion Gardener Spring 2024** edition; it's available online at [viriniagardenclubs.org](http://viriniagardenclubs.org).

**Flower Show School Course 2:** March 25-28 in Norfolk, VA. Registration deadline is February 24. Information about this course is also available in the **Old Dominion Gardener Spring 2024** edition, pages 21-22; it's available online at [viriniagardenclubs.org](http://viriniagardenclubs.org).



**Piedmont District Spring Meeting:** March 18.  
**Note new location** – Virginia Center Crossings  
Hotel & Convention Center, 1000 Virginia Center  
Parkway, Glen Allen, VA.

Marguerite Slaughter Armstrong will present a floral design program entitled “A Year in Flowers”, demonstrating how period arrangements have influenced our current creativity.

Registration and shopping begins at 8:30 am, followed by the general meeting and awards. Luncheon will be at 12:00 noon and the design program will be from 1:00 to 2:45 pm. **The cost is \$45 per person.** Complete the coupon on the signup sheet if you’d like to attend, and **make your check out to SGC**, as we will send one check for all the members/guests attending.

The luncheon choices are (1) Seared Chicken, Haricot Vert, Herb Roasted Red Potato, Confit Tomato Buerre Blanc or (2) Vegetarian Lasagna.

**Piedmont District Floral Design Workshop: Design 101** articles in *Footprints* newsletter by Kathy Ward have been very popular, so now you can enjoy learning more about floral design in a stress-free workshop. **This is a very beginning floral design program for novices; we will be making a simple linear design.** Before the workshop, participants will be instructed what materials they will need to bring.



Kathy is your the instructor and the workshop will be held on **Tuesday, April 23, from 10 am - noon.** The location is Luck’s Stone, 347 River Road West, Manakin-Sabot (first building on the right).

You can register by completing the coupon on the SGC signup sheet or by filling out the registration form on page 16 of *Footprints* Spring 2024 Edition. **The cost is \$15 per person and you should make your check payable to Piedmont District.**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION – Meg Winn

We had one workday on January 23rd to remove the holiday decor from the Salisbury entrances and signs. Lorna Boucher and Barbara Metz led the project and Shirley Gates, Camille Archie, Marsha Caratelli, Nancy Lee, and Meg Winn had the wreaths, garland, and lights stocked in the cars in an hour. We sorted and stored them in Fran Judd's garage.



There are no work days in February and we will be watching for emerging daffodils at our various sites.

The sign-up sheet includes our March and April workdays – just complete the coupon if you can lend a hand!

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH – Lorna Boucher & Camille Archie

Good news is that we have been asked, once again, to do the **Graduation Flower Arrangements** for Chesterfield County Schools.



The dates are May 20th to 24th, but we will have to construct the arrangement on the 19th. The arrangement has to last all week, so we will need to water and change out any dead/drooping flowers during that time. This is just a heads up and sign-up coupons will be available in March and April.

We have one project in March - **Gardening Enrichment with Homework Helpers on March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>**. This is our easiest activity! We will help students create their own bouquet reusing Bai drink bottles. If you have any flowers or greens in your yard, that you are willing to share, please let Becky Sido know. We will also hand out the Smokey Bear certificates for those who finished their posters.

It appears that we have rather an overload of projects this April, so please will you offer to help in any way you can. All projects will be relevant to Springtime, but exact details are not finalized yet. Coupons will be available at February and March meetings giving dates and times.

As always, Camille and I are just delighted and thankful that we have so many competent and willing volunteers.

### BIENNIAL GARDEN TOUR – John & Fran Stanwix

Please mark your calendar to attend The Salisbury Garden Club Biennial Garden Tour, which will be held between 11 am to 3 pm, on

**Wednesday, May 22, 2024**, with a rain date of May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Six unique area gardens will be featured.

The committee will greatly appreciate volunteers who will be present at one of the six homes for two hours between 1 pm and 3 pm. **Please add your name to the signup sheet to be a part of this special culmination of the 2023-2024 SGC year.**

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Martie Parch**

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present a slate of officers for the executive board for 2024-2025. They are:

**President:** Becky Sido

**1<sup>st</sup> VPs Programs:** Lynn Neviaser and Fran Stanwix

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP Membership:** Peggy Young

**Corresponding Secretary:** Delora Stites

**Recording Secretary:** Katie Conschafter

**Treasurer:** Claudia Cosby

I'd like to thank Barb Metz and Susan Oakey for their assistance serving on the Nominating committee.

### **SOCIAL HOSPITALITY – Martie Parch & Nancy Scherer**

Today we will be enjoying our annual **Food from the Heart Luncheon** which will follow our meeting. We have a total of 41 members who have signed up and are sharing their culinary talents. It will be a yummy day!!! Enjoy!

Thanks to **Jean Hillsman** for her help serving as our liaison for Manakin Episcopal Church. Thanks also to Fran Judd who stores our tablecloths and insists on laundering them as well!



Mark your calendars for the Salisbury Garden Club **May Awards and Installation luncheon**. We are so fortunate to have reserved the same space at the Boathouse at Sunday Park for May 15. Information will be in the March *Mum's the Word* and a coupon will be on the March meeting signup sheet. We're all looking forward to this fun event!



*The Board wishes to thank Helen Davison for hosting the February Board Meeting and New Member Brunch!*

## **Workshop: Make Your Own Small Platter Impressed with Botanicals**

**April 9, 2024 - 12:30 PM to 4:00PM**

Come play with clay! Cindy Edmonds is returning this year to teach us how to make unique ceramic platters. She will provide prepared rolled clay, tools, brushes, glazes, and firing costs. Cindy will take our platters to a studio, have them fired, and return them to us. Bring your own plant material to impress the clay and have fun. The price for the 4-hour workshop is \$60 per person.

Cindy Edmonds earned a BFA from JMU, studying Graphic Design as well as a teaching endorsement in Visual Arts. She currently teaches part-time while working with functional and decorative pottery. She passionately believes in the need for beauty in our everyday lives. See examples of Cindy's work on Instagram@cindyedmondsceramics.



The first photo does not have the clear glaze yet.

### **TREX CHALLENGE!**

So far 223.3 pounds collected - in 3 ½ months. I know a lot of you have saved plastic that you would like to get rid of. Just weigh it, take quick a picture and send it to me with the weight. Then drop it off at any store that has a bin for plastic. Along with pictures supporting plastic turned in, Trex prefers the plastic be put in clear or translucent bags, so stores know it isn't garbage. So, please remember, take a photo of the plastic you're recycling, and send it with the amount of plastic! Remember, no pet or bird food bags! Please email me your weights and picture to me. Thanks! [becky.sido@gmail.com](mailto:becky.sido@gmail.com)



## March Program: “Living Soil – The Misunderstood World Beneath Your Feet”

**Bio:** My name is Conner Parrish and I own Blossoming Roots Farm and Supply out in Ashland, Virginia. We are a local cut flower farm with a mission to protect and nurture the environment around us! I have always been a nature lover and started down this path after the sudden loss of my father at an early age. I quickly realized nature is what grounded me and after becoming a beekeeper in college, I began to understand the therapeutic benefits it cultivated within me. Flower farming naturally entered the picture after I was planting them to feed my bees. Fast forward to today and I own a cut flower farm that donates a portion of profit to pollinator conservation each month! I am finally living the dream and helping the world be a better place.



**Program:** In this presentation, you will learn about the living world below your feet that is often overlooked in today's world. We will explore what living soil is and how you can become a steward of it at home.

## The Language of Flowers



Since we are in the month of love and valentines, I thought you might enjoy an article on the language of flowers. We all enjoy receiving flowers, but did you ever realize that there is a complicated message hidden in those beautiful blooms?

Floriography, or the cryptological language of flowers, has been around for a very long time. It is now primarily associated with the Victorian era in Western Europe

and America. During this time, gifts of blooms were used to express feelings of romance and love that society didn't allow to be proclaimed publicly. These coded messages were expressed through the choice of bloom type, color and number of stems. There were even floral dictionaries to help sort out the message behind the flowers.

**Bloom Type** - As we all know, and are reminded of each Valentine's Day, red roses are the flower professing romantic love. Roses in general are a symbol of love and devotion. Other "love" flowers include tulips which represent love and passion and forget-me-nots which mean true love. Primroses and lilacs symbolize young love and youthful innocence. Just to mention a few more, camellias stood for perfection; peonies meant bashfulness; lilies represented purity; daisies symbolized innocence and iris was for hope. Most flowers that had meanings during the Victorian times were garden flowers, as those were the flowers that were most prevalent.



**Number of Blossoms** – When a single flower was bestowed, it could convey that the sender's emotions were well-defined by that type/color of flower. It could also signify that a romance was just beginning. A bouquet, on the other hand, conveyed a more complex combination of emotions. The selection of different flowers to the bouquet allowed for a richer, layered expression of feelings, with each flower conveying its own message. Victorians often exchanged small "talking bouquets", called nosegays or tussie-mussies, which could be worn or carried as a fashion accessory.



**Color** – As we mentioned earlier blossom color also "colors" the meaning of a flower. Red roses are the best recognized symbol of romantic love as red is the color of passion and desire. A pink rose implies a less intense affection and represents playfulness and femininity. White roses infer purity

and innocent love. Yellow roses suggest friendship. In the late 1800's, if you were to receive a red rose from a suitor, but wanted to convey disinterest, you might send them a yellow carnation.



While most of the coded messages in flowers are not recognized today, they are still fun for those of us who love flowers. The next time you create a garden bouquet for someone, you may wish to consider selecting the flowers that express your sentiments.

Kathy Ward, NGC Flower Show Judge

## February Weather by C. Richard Miles

February sulks its shadow,  
Over moorland, marsh and meadow.  
Dreary drizzle unabating,  
Then there's weather worse awaiting:  
Fog and frost and soft snow drifted  
Deep in heaps that can't be shifted,  
Rain that pours for hours and hours  
Putting paid to plants and flowers,  
Howling wind and gusting gale,  
Slushy sleet and hammering hail.  
Hopefully this woeful weather  
Has to pass, not last for ever.  
On a brighter note, a thought:  
Just be thankful February's short.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 22-24 CFAA Seminar (Creative Floral Arrangers of the Americas) – creativefloral.org**
- 23-25 Virginia Orchid Society Show – Lewis Ginter**
- 27 VFGC Board of Directors Meeting - Virtual**

### MARCH EVENTS

- TBD Veterans Art for the Journey Project**
- 1 RCGC (Richmond Council of Garden Clubs)**  
10 AM at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church

CP38

## MARCH EVENTS - Continued

2-10	<b>Philadelphia Flower Show</b>	
11-12	<b>Gardening Enrichment Program</b>	CP32
11-12	<b>VFGC Landscape Design School, Course II</b> Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden	
13	<b>SGC Board Meeting – 9:30 AM</b>	
14	<b>Salisbury Presbyterian Workday – 9:30 AM</b>	NP2
15	<b>Monthly Flowers for the Hospice House</b>	CP34
17-20	<b>SAR (South Atlantic Region) Convention</b>	
18	<b>Piedmont District Spring Meeting</b> Virginia Crossings Hotel & Conference Center, Glen Allen	CP1
20	<b>SGC General Meeting – 9:30 AM</b> (Exhibits must be in place by 9:45 AM)	CP4
21	<b>“Divide and Conquer” Gardener’s Exchange</b>	CP7
23-24	<b>Virginia Daffodil Society Show – Lewis Ginter</b>	
25-28	<b>Flower Show School, Course II – Norfolk, VA</b>	CP11
26	<b>Midlothian Post Office Workday – 9:30 AM</b>	CP18
27	<b>Anniversary Garden Workday – 9:30 AM</b>	CP15
31	<b>RVA Tropical &amp; Exotics Plants – Plant Swap</b> Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens	



### *Next Month’s Program – March 20, 2024*

*Manakin Episcopal Church – 985 Huguenot Trail  
Refreshments 9:30 AM – Meeting 10am*

*Program: “Living Soil – The Misunderstood World  
Beneath Your Feet” by Conner Parrish*

*Greeter: Linda O’Mara*

*Hostesses: Lindsay Boswell, Liz Brengel, Linda  
Jones, Jean Jordan, Marian Kavanagh, Susan  
Nienow, Linda O’Mara, and Kathy Ward*

Newsletter Editor: Linda Nau, [naule@aol.com](mailto:naule@aol.com)