

Mum's the Word

October 2025 - Volume 58, Issue 2 Salisbury Garden Club

www. salisburygardenclub.com

Piedmont District, Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, & National Garden Clubs Member

A Message from SGC President, Becky Sido. . .

"Caring for our World by Sharing, Enriching and Protecting"

"Autumn is a visual gift given by nature to raise the morale of human beings who is worried as they enter the dark days of winter!" ~ Mehmet Murat ildan

Fall is here with weather that can change dramatically during the day, 50's in the morning and 80's by afternoon! Then there's the unexpected wind- knocking over potted trees and plants. It's hard to know how to dress, except in layers. Many days have been wonderful gardening days, however, most of those days my calendar was full.

September went by fast, and October promises to do the same. There were and will be many more opportunities to work in a garden or participate in some other project where we give back to our community. This is how I met and made friends that I now cherish and also learned- by getting involved. Our guided tour of the Historic Gardens at Monticello was educational, enjoyable and many of us came home with more plants. Now, I am wondering where I can find a place in my crowded gardens. We began the tour with a wonderful lunch

place, which gave us time to talk with friends, some new and others perennial. There's never enough time to chat with others at our meetings and getting involved provides the opportunity.

I'm looking forward to our Gardener's Exchange

Today's Program:

"Wildlife Neighbors: Coyotes and other Furbearers" by Leah Card,

Dept. of Wildlife Resources

so I can divide many of my plants and make room for new plants. If you have asked me to share a plant or seeds, please remind me by either email or text. Susan Nienow's article 'Cleaning, Planting and Dividing' in our September *Mum's the Word* gives helpful advice on what we can be doing now in our gardens. If you don't have September MTW, you can always find it on our website, thanks to Rachel.

I'm excited about the Pressed Flower Workshop, especially since we are helping elementary students in Gardening Enrichment create pressed flower sun catchers in March.

~ Becky



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"Love and Kindness are never wasted.

They make a difference.

They bless the one who receives them,
and they bless you, the giver."

~ Barbara De Angelis

TREASURER'S REPORT: JUNE 1 – OCTOBER 15, 2025

Prepared by Claudia Cosby, Treasurer

Beginning Balance June	1, 2025				\$3,096.66
Receipts					
Administrative					
Membership Di	ues 2025-2026			4,650.00	
Activities					
Tours			285.00		
Workshops			445.00	730.00	
Donations					
Plant a Tree				59.25	
Meetings					
	eting Registrations			630.00	
Total Receipts				6,069.25	
Disbursements					
Administrative					
Liability Insurar	nce		295.00		
Newsletter			49.50		
Treasurer Expe	nse		25.09		
Yearbook			492.03	861.62	
Donations					
	t District Awards Spons	sors		40.00	
Federation					
VFGC Dues			465.00		
Piedmont Distr	ict Dues		90.00		
RCGC Dues			40.00	595.00	
Meetings					
Judges Gifts			120.00		
Monthly Setup			110.00		
Program Speak	ers		125.00		
Piedmont Distr	ict Meetings Registration	ons	720.00	1,075.00	
Social Hospitality					
Awards Lunche	on Deposit			500.00	
				2.074.62	
Total Disbursements Operating Fund Balance	o Octobor 1E 202E			3,071.62	\$6,094.2
Operating rund baland	e October 15, 2025				\$0,094.2
COMMUNITY PROJECT	S FUND				
Beginning Balance June	1, 2025			\$1,901.77	
Receipts					
Graduation Flower	Arrangement		1,375.00		
	est added to new CD		91.84		
	C for Meals-on-Wheels		100.00		
Misc. Donations	2.2. Medis on Wheels		10.00		
Total Receipts			10.00	1,576.84	
Disbursements				1,570.04	
Community Outrea	ch				
Graduation Flor			531.34		
National Garde			30.00		
Total Disbursements	II VVCCK		50.00	561.34	
Community Projects Fu	and Palance October 15	2025		301.34	\$2,917.2
	ing parance October 15	, 2023		 	32,317.2
RESERVE FUND					
Beginning Balance June	1, 2025			4,293.89	
Disbursement - Spe	cial Purchase Tableclot	th Containers		53.35	
Reserve Fund Balance	October 15, 2025				\$4,240.5
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS					\$13,252.1
Checking Account Balar	nce				\$8,160.26
-					
Certificate of Deposit	(15 month @ 3.85%)				\$5,091.8
Total Accounts					\$13,252.10



The Board wishes to than Nancy Lee for hosting our October board meeting.



Upcoming VFGC Event

Symposium will be held at the Four Points by Sheraton near the Richmond airport on

November 3-4. Symposium is not just for judges – anyone who is just interested in learning more about horticulture and design is welcome to register for Symposium! Details about Symposium are on page 5 of the Piedmont District "Footprints" Fall 2025 issue; and the registration form is on page 13. Go to the website, https://virginiagardenclubs.org, to see the full brochure.

WE'RE GROWING! We are installing four new members this month and I couldn't be happier!

Debbie Du Val, a Master Gardener in Powhatan, comes to us from our neighboring Midlothian Garden Club participating in two Standard Flower Shows as Staging Chairman and Horticulture Classification Chairman. Debbie is also interested in working with our community outreach programs as well as our social events and monthly horticulture set up. Debbie joined over the summer, so her contact information is in our Yearbook.

Lisa Blair will be joining us and bring her experience of working with a florist as a photography stylist and visual merchandiser.

14300 Newgate Road, Midlothian 23113-4187 804-310-1164 lisa.blair.home@gmail.com

Becky Morehouse, a friend and neighbor of Becky Sido's, is new to Garden Clubbing. She enjoys hiking, gardening, travel and is ready to jump in and become a helpful hand in our social events, outreach and working to beautify our community.

14101 Mortemer Road, Midlothian 23113-6060 540-241-3018 rsm53@comcast.net

Michelle Stringer, has been a floral designer in a flower shop and a Master Gardener in Mississippi. She has also contributed to

three different garden clubs in Florida and Mississippi and found us through her neighbor, Carol Rogerson. It won't be long before we'll be enjoying Michelle's designs in our community, social and civic beautification outreach events.

3225 Fulbrook Drive, Midlothian 23113-3999 601-506-3319 mlstringer76@gmail.com

Please be sure to welcome our new members whose name tags will distinguish them this year with an added little blue hydrangea!

Barbara Metz, Membership Chairman

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION – Meg Winn

Our fall gardening days are in full swing:

September 22nd - Liz Trolan, Marsha Caratelli, and Meg Winn met at **Wishing Well Park** and deadheaded, pruned, weeded, and planted more native plants purchased from the Powhatan Native Plant sale. Liz is painting a club sign to hang on the fence.





September 23rd - DanaDee
Carragher, Candy Nasser, Anita King, and
Meg Winn divided the Siberian irises,
pruned the peonies, and did general
weeding at the **Anniversary Garden**.
And pondered the dwindling of some of
our usually hardy plants. We will be
planting more hellebores at the next

workday.

September 26th - Jean Hillsman,
Nancy Lee, Cheryl Reynolds, Susan
McClelland, Vickie McGonegal, Connie
Sorrell, and Meg Winn planted hostas,
Siberian iris, daylilies, hellebores, ferns,
and liriope in various gardens at

Manakin Episcopal Church. Many of the plants were donated by

our generous club members. Jean Hillsman gardened there nonstop during the summer, often times with her grandson's help, and the church grounds are looking beautiful. We will plant more

daffodil bulbs there in November.

October 6th - Fran Judd, Liz Trolan, Ching Stella, Cheryl Reynolds, and Meg Winn met at the **Lifelong Learning Garden** and edged, dead-headed, pruned, and weeded. We planted chrysanthemums and Japanese iris where the overgrown abelia was removed. We are planning a few



additions to the garden, including little bulbs and allium, when we meet in November. The purple aster that Janice Beatty gave us is splendid and the Dominique chrysanthemums are full of buds

October 7th - Cheryl Reynolds, David Reynolds, Katie



Conschafter, and Meg Winn did lots of heavy pruning and weeding at the Midlothian Post Office. David cut back three under-performing Caressa hollies and Katie pruned the giant azaleas. The narrow-leaf zinnias are still looking good and we will pull them out next month, possibly replacing with pansies, violas, and snapdragons. We also discussed prospects for removing or reducing in size some of the dozen overgrown Caressa hollies in the foundation. We will confer with the

Postmaster and our fellow club gardeners before we take any action.

We had many compliments and comments from passers-by at the Post Office and at the Lifelong Learning Institute garden. We are so grateful for all the plants our members offered and intend to get the remaining ones planted sometime in the next month.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Lorna Boucher & Camille Archie

Forty-six children had a great time making Bai bottle arrangements during our Gardening Enrichment Project on **October 6th & 7th**. Not only did the students learn about flowers and tying knots and bows, but also how easy it can be to



recycle/reuse something. Many of the flowers and greens came both days from members' gardens. Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers Peggy Young, Marsha Caratelli, Barbara Metz, Becky Sido, Katie Conschafter, Connie Sorrell, Camille Archie and Lorna Boucher.

On October 9, we also cleaned up the garden at Spring Arbor Memory Care and thanks to Anita

King, Marsha Caratelli, Sue Kucera and Lorna Boucher, the

garden looks amazing.

Thanks to Catherine
Barnes, Nancy Lee, Debbie
Pinkston, Peggy Young,
Barbara Metz, Fran Judd,
Katie Conschafter, Lorna
Boucher, Janice Beatty, Ching
Stella and Laurie Kalata,
there 34 beautiful



arrangements for the Hospice House.

We will have our Fall project at **Southampton Elementary School on October 27**th – please sign up to help.

November will be a busy month: on **the 5th** we will work with the residents at **Spring Arbor Memory Care**; **November 19th** we will be helping the residents at **Bickford** make small arrangements and on **November 25th**, volunteers will be at **Spring Arbor Retirement Facility.** The chairmen have not decided on every project, but they will all be some type of floral design.

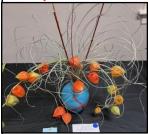
Please share your time and talents with these community projects.

EXHIBITS – Joanne Wallace & Fran Judd

Thanks for participating in our club exhibits last month; there were 12 design exhibits, 55 horticulture specimens, and nine botanical arts exhibits.

Congratulations to our September winners: Design – Ellen Pinnow; Horticulture – Liz Trolan; and Botanical Arts – Janice

Beatty!







There will be monthly exhibits in **November** (see Yearbook page 89 for the Exhibits Schedule. And don't forget to **sign up** to participate in **December's Holiday Door and Mailbox Designs**; see Yearbook page 93 and Mum's page 10 for details.

Tour of Tufton Farm – Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants – Revisited...

On September 23, twenty members of SGC gathered at Manakin Episcopal Church and carpooled to visit the gardens at Tufton Farm of Monticello. The first stop for the group was a French country café called **Simeon Market**. A former gas station, this lovely country store and market provided sandwiches and baked goods for lunch (and dessert!) and a covered area for all of us to eat. Some craft items from local artisans were also available for purchase.



From there we traveled on to **Tufton Farm**, one of Thomas Jefferson's quarter farms (a historical land division of 160 acres) which borders the Monticello plantation. Tufton Farm, located in Albermarle County, is now the home ofthe **Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants**. The

group was greeted by the curator and given a tour and a historic talk regarding the development of the plant area. We were

allowed to pass through the green house and chat with several folks that currently work there and propagate their plants. We were also allowed to see their seed recovery process and the unique measuring spoons used in packaging their harvested seeds. The final event of the day was an opportunity to purchase historic plants. A special day was had by all, and the weather cooperated nicely.

Nancy Lee, Program Chairman

Workshop: Fall Succulent Garden in a Pumpkin October 23 – 10:00 AM to Noon



Join us for the fun! Nancy Lee will lead us and provide all the necessary supplies to create our succulent gardens. For more information, see page 85 of your Yearbook. The cost is \$25 per person.

We've moved the workshop to the Community Room at the Bon Air Library, which provides more space; the address is 9103 Rattlesnake Road, Richmond.

GARDENER'S EXCHANGE - OCTOBER 30



Our fall Gardener's Exchange, "Trunk or Treat", will be held on October 30th at Manakin Episcopal at 2 PM.

Fall provides a chance to clean out the closet/garage/shed of items we no longer use in our gardens or for our

designs, and they might be the perfect treasures for someone else. Everyone is welcome; even if you come empty handed, we don't want you to leave that way!

Joanne Wallace, Chairman

RICHMOND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

The Friday, November 7, RCGC meeting will feature VFGC designer Frances Thrash with her 'Holiday Magic' design program. The program is free to all SGC members. Meeting is held at Church of the Epiphany, 8000 Hermitage Rd, Henrico 23228. Coffee/snacks at 10 AM, business meeting at 10:30, and program starting at 11.

Holiday Design Exhibits - December 10th

Are you planning to decorate your door for the holidays? How about your mailbox? If so, sign up to participate in our December exhibits, which will be judged the morning of **Wednesday, December 10**th.

To participate, fill out the coupon on the signup sheet. Please sign up by Wednesday, December 3.

Designs must be in place by 9:30 AM on December 10th. Remember to fill out a design exhibit tag for your wreath and for your mailbox and attach them to your display for the judges to see. (For exhibiting rules, see Appendix pages A1-A5 in your Yearbook or on our website in Members Only section.)



Both designs are Botanical Arts. The design titles are:

- 1. "Tis the Season" Hanging Door Design
- 2. "Glad Tidings We Bring" Mailbox Design

Both designs are "designer's choice", meaning all types of plant materials are allowed and the 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, nkatpatlee2@gmail.com.



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

"Winter Wonderland"

Wednesday, December 3rd at Salisbury Country Club Reservation Deadline November 19th

Gather for cocktails at 6:00 PM Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM Cost is \$50 per person

Meals include House Salad, rolls, and dessert

Sautéed Shrimp and Scallops with Chef's Choice Accompaniments

Pork Rib Chop with Farro Succotash, Apple Jus, Onion Marmalade

Chef's Choice Vegetarian

Pesto Gnocchi with Peas, Asparagus, Ricotta, Black Pepper Cream

> and Tea, Coffee and Cash Bar

If you have any questions, please contact **Martie Parch** at 804-240-5446 or tredwr@msn.com or **Janice Beatty** at 804-337-6152 or luv2plyNdrt@gmail.com

NOVEMBER MUM'S THE WORD ARTICLE WILL BE WRITTEN BY YOU!!

On the signup sheet there is a coupon for you to write one sentence that **describes the best gardening advice you ever received.** Barbara Metz will combine the information and the article will be in the November Mum's the Word. If you prefer, **email Barbara at barbarahmetz@yahoo.com.**

Bug Bytes: "Garden Spiders Appear in Autumn"

With the arrival of fall you may see these large black and yellow spiders in webs in your garden. Known as orb weavers, the females spin large, intricately spoked webs, usually with a central zig zag pattern called a stabilimentum. Once the web is complete, they typically stay in one place and rarely relocate.

Not an insect but an arachnid, the garden spider, or *Argiope aurantia*, benefits your garden by capturing and eating aphids, mosquitoes, grasshoppers and flies, but will occasionally capture pollinators such as bees or butterflies. When an insect flies into the web, the garden spider wraps it in silk, injects it with venom, and consumes it a few hours later. Their venom, harmless to people, is used to immobilize their prey. Gardeners should not kill these spiders, but relocate them if necessary.

Males die after mating. The female lays eggs and then protects her egg sac as long as she can, but she typically only lives until the first frost. The eggs overwinter and the young hatch in spring.



A garden spider and its prey



Confession...I tossed it a tomato hornworm!

Article and Photos by Donna Cottingham, Master Naturalist

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

How exciting that next year, 2026, we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the **Declaration of Independence**! To honor this historical event, we should plant native red, white and blue in our gardens. And feed the pollinators!



For your patriotic shade garden, try **Aquilegia canadensis (Eastern red columbine)**. Hummingbirds, bees and butterflies love this native perennial that grows well in sun or part shade. Veronia noveboracensis (New York Ironweed) will show pretty blues in shady spots but can withstand light sun and clay soil. Phlox divericata (Woodland phlox) is an alternative

that will thrive in shade. To complete your shady borders, add Aruncus dioicus (Goatsbeard). Their bold, fluffy, white plumes will attract birds to your yard.

If your garden is in a sunny area, try Eupatorium perfoliatum (Boneset). Clusters of small white flowers grow in shade or sun.

Early settlers used Boneset to mend broken bones! Another option is **Phlox paniculata 'David'**, prized for its fragrance and brilliant white color. The Symphyotrichum novae-angliae (New England aster) is a beautiful blue perennial that blooms in late summer/early fall. The tall spikes of the



blue Liatris are lovely in floral arrangements. Rarely served as dinner for deer, Amsonia tabernae montana (Eastern bluestar) displays clumps of true blue flowers. Our native red honeysuckle (Lonicera sempervirens) is a favorite of hummingbirds and other pollinators. Options for sun-loving reds are Monarda didyma 'Jacob Cline' (beebalm) and Lobelia cardinalis (Cardinal flower).

Whether in sun or shade, you can grow these natives together in your garden and make an attractive color combination and a patriotic statement. What a wonderful celebration for our 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence!

Martie Parch, Master Gardener

Next Month's Program - November 19, 2025

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

Program: "Charles Gillette and the Evolution of the 'Virginia Garden'" by Laura Petrella, Landscape Architect

Greeter: Sue Kucera

Hostesses: Lorna Boucher, Anita King, Sue Kucera, Janet Mallon, Connie Sorrell, Dominique Spinos, Gail Tatum, and Meg Winn

Clerks: Vicki McGonegal, Candy Nasser, Debbie Pinkston and Anne Margaret White

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Octob	er Events	
16	Workshop: Pressed Flowers	
17	Monthly Flowers for the Hospice House	CP34
21	Redeemer Courtyard Workday	CP23
23	Workshop: Succulent Garden in a Pumpkin	CP4
27	Southampton Elementary School Project	CP35
30	Midlothian Fire Station Workday	CP17
30	Beth Snelling Garden Workday	CP24
31	Wishing Well Park Workday	CP21
Novem	nber Events	
1	Daffodil/Jonquil/Narcissus Class - LGBC	
3-4	Symposium - Richmond, VA	CP1
5	Annual Daffodil Project – Manakin Episcopal	CP16
5	Spring Arbor Memory Care – 10 AM	CP36
7	Lifelong Learning Institute Workday	CP22
7	RCGC (Richmond Council of Garden Clubs)	
11	Midlothian Post Office Workday	CP18
12	SGC Board Meeting – 9:30 AM	
12	Redeemer School (REDS) - Plant Together	NP1
19	SGC General Meeting – 9:30 AM	CP4
	(Exhibits must be in place by 10 AM)	
19	Bickford Senior Living Project – 2:00 PM	CP30
21	Monthly Flowers for the Hospice House	CP34
24-3	0 GardenFest of Lights – Lewis Ginter BG	
25	Spring Arbor Senior Living = 2:00 PM	CP37



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