



Mum's the Word

November 2022 – Volume 55, Issue 3

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”

Members have been busy planting and weeding and planning for more wonderful garden projects throughout October. Members worked with the children at Homework Helpers and the primary school at the church on a variety of garden related projects. We are planting more seeds of change!

The smell of Thanksgiving will soon be wafting throughout our homes. Thanksgiving is a favorite holiday because it involves family gathered for those treasured family food traditions and spending time together.

Thanksgiving is also a time to count our blessings for the wonderful friendships and fellowship we share through this amazing organization. We are excited to welcome nine new members who have joined since September. They are a group of amazing women who are anxious to learn more about floral design, exhibiting horticulture and participating in our projects. Please seek them out and welcome them to the Club and share you tips and talents. Welcome to Rachel Schartz, Susan Preston, Sandy Zima, Missy Rakes, Marsha Caratelli, Madeleine Guerin, Lindsay Boswell, Janet Mallon, and Sue Kucera.

We have another exciting month with an amazing workshop by our own highly creative and talented instructor Kathy Ward, with the beautiful designs to be displayed at our meeting. Then, the program presented by Master Gardener, Kathy McCarthy, will cover her

Today's Program:

“The Garden of Eden – How
Virginia Horticulture Influenced
18th Century World”

by
Cathy McCarthy
Master Gardener



Photo by Emily Ford

research on how Virginia horticulture influenced the world in the 18th Century. Other activities during the month will include making floral designs with the students at Southampton Elementary School, arranging flowers for the Hospice House and getting ready for our Christmas activities.

November 30th is the deadline for making a reservation for our Holiday Dinner at Salisbury Garden Club on December 14th. Don't miss this holiday dinner with friends!

Soon, we will be kicking into high gear for our Spring Flower show. Between now and then, we will have several activities and workshops to help members learn about the designs scheduled for the show and how to create them. Lili Aram-Rose and Kathy Casella, our co-chairs, will be presenting more details soon about this exciting event. Keep reading your Mum's the Word and checking our website, www.salisburygardenclub.com, for more information. The password for Members' Only section is SGC50.

If anyone would like to offer any suggestions about our programs, activities, or other events, please feel free to email, text or chat with me. Listening to members' thoughts and suggestions for the club is part of my goal of working for members.

Always keep planting seeds!
Connie



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

3	Treasurer's Report
4-7	Committee Reports
7	New Members
7-8	Workshop – "How to Exhibit Horticulture
8	Holiday Door & Mailbox Designs
9	Holiday Dinner Party at Salisbury Country Club
10	Article: "Learning the Hard Way. . ."
10-11	Article: "Horticultural Hints"
12	Back Page – Next Month's Meeting, Calendar of Events

TREASURER'S REPORT
June 1, 2022 – November 7, 2022

Not available for website

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION – Meg Winn

We've had an excellent fall planting season!

October 20th – Dawn Lerch, Peggy Young, and Meg Winn prepared the **Redeemer Courtyard**, thinning the elephant ears, moving some ground covers, and

planting a few more pansies.



October 24th –

Kathy Casella, Susan Preston, and Meg Winn weeded the **Wishing Well Park** site and also planted tulip and daffodil bulbs and

pansies in our wagon planter inside the playground.

October 25th – Nancy Lee, Rachel Schartz, and Meg Winn planted ornamental cabbages, pansies, and groundcovers at the **preschool playground gate**. We also had a grand **Plant Together** by assisting dozens of little children in planting an assortment of little bulbs – muscari,

anemone, crocus, and star flower. The teachers were a big help and we hope all will enjoy a late winter and early spring show of the 'lesser' bulbs best seen up close.



October 26th – we met at the **Midlothian Post Office** to pull out the still blooming summer annuals and

replace them with bulbs and pansies. Barbara Metz, Kerri Butler, Gay Kistler, Helen Davison, and Meg Winn planted Tahiti daffodil, orange and gold tulip, and trumpet daffodil bulbs and topped the bulb bed with yellow and orange pansies. We also placed a small garden club sign (thank you Ellen Pinnow). We generally bask in favorable comments from passersby about our garden there.

Our **Daffodil Project** on

November 1st was well attended and we planted about 12 dozen bulbs at three locations: golden trumpets at the **Falkirk sign**, mixed



double and mixed trumpets at the **Redeemer preschool** sign on Salisbury Road, and more mixed doubles at the **Brigstock entrance**. Our work crew consisted of Barbara Metz, Becky Sido, Dallas Mosman, Marsha Caratelli, Sandy Fry, Candy Nasser, Kerri Butler, Connie Sorrell, Nancy Lee, and Meg Winn.

Thank you for all these endeavors-large and small. We will (mostly) be putting away our trowels for winter now.



But please come out and help us decorate for the holidays at the **Salisbury entrances** (Dec 1-2) as well as **Midlothian Post Office and the Midlothian Fire Station** (both on Dec 8). We will also be making **Mini-Bouquets** on December 15th at 1 PM at the Reeds Landing Shed; please bring assorted small evergreen

foliage. If you'd like to participate in any of these projects, just complete the coupon on the signup sheet.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – Lorna Boucher & Camille Archie

Redeemer Church School Bulb Planting: Thanks to Vicki McGonegal's meticulous planning, this project went very smoothly. We had 2 classes and each session started off with short story about bulb growth, read by Debbie Pinkston. The children then planted paperwhite bulbs in



little plastic dishes already prepared by Vicki, which they were to take home along with



printed instructions for watering care and a smart new pencil as a bonus! All children seemed delighted with their finished efforts. The teaching staff were extremely helpful to those of us from SGC, namely

Camille Archie, Debbie Pinkston, Susan Oakey, DanaDee Carragher, Becky Sido, and Lorna Boucher.

Thirteen volunteers designed beautiful arrangements for the **Community Hospice House** on November 10th. Catherine Barnes chairman organized the project and delivered the arrangements to the House for the



patients to enjoy. Many thanks to Catherine, Lynn Neviaser, Shirley Gates, Fran Judd, Kathy Casella, Nancy Scherer, Barbara Metz,

Nancy Lee, Sandy Fry, Deborah O'Connell, Laurie Kalata and Doris Wier for making this project a success. The patients, their families and the nurses enjoy the beauty our club shares.

Gardening Enrichment with Homework Helpers: Last year, one of our students won the 3rd grade **Woody Owl Poster Contest** for both the Piedmont District and VFGC. We



introduce the poster contest after providing some basic environmental conservation principles. Then children start to create posters of Woody Owl with their tutors helping them with spelling and following all the rules.

On September 27 and October 24, Anita King, Karen Rice, Marsha Caratelli and Becky Sido set up and assisted 39 children with their posters. On November 14, Karen Rice and Becky Sido will introduce the poster contest to an additional nine students who were away on a field trip. The students will now have their posters and materials available for them to work on until their Christmas break in early December.

Our next HH, **Kitchen Scrap Gardening**, will be the afternoons of **January 9th & 10th**. Kitchen scrap gardening is a fun way to teach the children about recycling and reusing. Please complete the coupon on the signup sheet to participate.

EXHIBITS – Kathy Ward & Joanne Wallace

We had excellent participation in our October exhibits with 11 designs, nine Botanical Arts entries, and 32 horticulture specimens. Congratulations to our three winners! **Design** – Lynn Neviaser, **Horticulture** – Kathy Ward, and **Botanical Arts** – Lili Aram-Bost.



-6-

PR
OG
RA
MS

-

Becky Sido & Katie Conschafter

Our November general meeting speaker is Cathy McCarthy and her program **The Garden of Eden: How Virginia horticulture influenced the world in the 18th Century and how you can grow historic plants in your own garden.**



On December 14, **Diane Burgess** will show us how to get ready for the holidays with her program, **“Unique Holiday Designs for YOUR Home.”** Opportunity tickets will be available for all her unique designs – this is a program you won’t want to miss!

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

Not available for website



A New January 17th Workshop...

“How to Exhibit Horticulture”

Come and join us on **Tuesday, January 17th at 2 pm** to learn how to exhibit horticulture specimens for our monthly meetings and the spring flower show. You will learn how to select your specimen, the role of the container, how and why you need to

groom it, the importance of wedging, how to find the botanical name of your specimen and the importance of writing it correctly. All horticulture specimens may be left in the room for judging at the next day's monthly meeting. **This is a free workshop, but please complete the coupon on the signup sheet so we may send you additional information.**

Joanne Wallace and Kathy Ward, Exhibits Chairmen



Holiday Designs – December 7

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



We will judge your exhibit(s) on your door or mailbox the morning of **Wednesday, December 7th**. 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 2nd**.

Designs must be in place by 9:30 AM on December 7th. Remember to include a 3x5" index card or new design exhibit 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**, nkatpatlee2@gmail.com.



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

"Holiday Reflections"

Wednesday, December 14th at Salisbury Country Club
Reservation Deadline November 30th

Gather for cocktails at 6:00 PM
Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM
Cost is \$44 per person

Meals include House Salad, rolls, and dessert

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
Pasta with Broccoli, Mushroom, Baby Kale,
Ricotta, Pecorino

and
Tea, Coffee and Cash Bar

If you have any questions, please contact
Nancy Scherer at 804-304-5211 or nancysch@aol.com

The Board wishes to thank Helen Davison for hosting the November board meeting and the New Member Brunch. It was a lovely morning and wonderful to meet so many new members!

LEARNING THE HARD WAY by Susan Nienow

If you have favorite perennials that are tender – zone 7 or 8 – mulch them with 2-3 inches of mulch. Geraniums will overwinter in a garage if it doesn't freeze and if someone remembers to water it occasionally.

Yes, you need to continue watering if November is dry. With weather changes the way they have been, nothing is predictable. Shelter your favorites if they are tender – from low temperatures and wind. I plant as many self-sufficient plants as possible, and those that don't make it get an apology. An arrangement of evergreens with red berries (I use fake because the real ones fall off) will last through Christmas if you keep it outside and keep it watered.



Horticultural Hints

I have always enjoyed the changing of the seasons.

Although I'm not a fan of winter I enjoy what brings us here and what comes after. This fall has not disappointed. It has been spectacular with its brilliant colors and its longevity. My annuals have lasted for a longer time than usual which has given me the opportunity to enjoy them longer although they are well past their peak. And some of my perennials continue

to send up a bloom or two – all of which have kept the bees happy.

Now I try to evaluate how my garden did this growing season. This was a good year for many of my plants, however, it was also a good year for all the critters that like to eat my



plants. I continue to try new and old ways to deter the deer, voles and rabbits, but not much was effective. Normally we spray the daylilies to protect them from the deer and it usually works. This year it didn't. So now I'm digging them out

piecemeal and I hope to find replacements that the deer don't like. I use the wire baskets to protect against the voles. These work, but they are a pain in the neck when you go to divide them. And the rabbits. Nothing works except the neighbors' cat and the hawk family that nests around here each year. Such is the happy lot of gardeners – always trying to solve a problem!

Look at your landscape and see where you can add some new smaller trees. It's certainly not too late to do so. Have you looked at some of the newer red bud (*Cercis canadensis*) varieties? We planted 'Rising Sun' in our daughter's yard two years ago. It has beautiful



color all year, can take full sun, clay soil and grows to 8'. There is also a variety of red bud called 'Flame Thrower' that looks like a stunner! While you're looking, check out the smokebush (*Cotinus coggygria*) varieties. They will also grow in full sun, but I've seen them in partial shade. Most people know of the purple smokebush, which is lovely, but there are other varieties as well. Look at 'Daydream' with its puffy pink flower clusters.

You probably need to order from an online catalogue, but this is the perfect time to do it.

Enjoy!

Sandy Mattes
Master Gardener



Next Month's Meeting
December 14, 2022 - 2nd Wednesday
Episcopal Church of the Redeemer
 Refreshments 9:15 AM - Meeting 9:45 AM
 (See Yearbook pages 94-96 for more info)

**Program: "Unique Holiday Designs
 for YOUR Home"**

by Diane Burgess, NGC Master Flower Show Judge

Greeter: Marcia Harrigan

Hostesses: *Marcia Harrigan, Jean Hillsman,
 Phyllis Hubbard, Susan Oakey, Deborah
 O'Connell, Maria Whiteaker, Doris
 Wier, and Pat Wilson*



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER EVENTS

- 18 Monthly Flowers for the Hospice House** NP1
21-30 GardenFest of Lights – Lewis Ginter BG
 November 21, 2021 – January 8, 2022

DECEMBER EVENTS

- 1 DEADLINE for District Awards Submissions**
1-2 Decorate Salisbury Entrances – 10 AM CP10
1-31 GardenFest of Lights continues – LGBG
2 RCGC – Program: "Holiday Designs" by
 Sally Harrison – 10 AM
 Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
6 Spring Arbor Retirement – 11 AM NP2
7* SGC Board Meeting and Luncheon – 9:30 AM
 *Note: 1st Wednesday – Hostess: Linda Nau
7 Holiday Door and Mailbox Design Exhibits CP4
8 Midlothian Post Office Workday – 10 AM CP7
8 Midlothian Fire Station Workday – 10 AM CP16
14* SGC General Meeting – *Note: 2nd Wednesday CP4
14 SGC Holiday Party – Salisbury Country Club
15 Making Mini-Bouquets at the "Shed" – 1 PM
16 Monthly Flowers for the Hospice House NP1



Newsletter Editor: Linda Nau, naule@aol.com