



PIEDMONT DISTRICT

FOOTPRINTS

VIRGINIA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
MEMBER, NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
VOLUME 36, NO. 4 SPRING 2025

A Message from President Diane Burgess

Greetings all,

The new year certainly brought frigid temperatures, icy snow and some water supply issues. I hope you have been well. As temperatures warm, let's look forward to the awakening of our spring gardens, new and exciting club opportunities, and the warmth that comes from our many garden club friendships.

Our District Spring meeting will be on March 17th at the popular Virginia Crossings Hotel in Glen Allen. It will be a true celebration of spring and your clubs' accomplishments. Club Awards and Grants will be announced. Life Membership Awards will be conferred. We will be voting on officers for the next two-year term.

Sally Harrison's Floral Design program will surely be "Springtime" personified, and vendors will tempt you with an array of new spring merchandise. The bountiful buffet is crafted for speedier service. All club members are invited for a day of enjoyment and inspiration. You may certainly wear your St. Pat's green. Register with your club as early as possible (registration pp14-15.)

April 27-28 is our VFGC Convention. Our District is again honored to host this special event. The location at Richmond's 4-Diamond Westin Hotel is sure to meet your highest expectations. Comfortable, chic ambiance, and gourmet meals! Enjoy the fabulous presentations

(see pp 5-6). Also enjoy the vendor shopping, silent auction and a beautiful flower show. I hope that many Piedmont District clubs will be represented (registration form, pp 16-17). See program ad information on p 11. Note that the convention registration deadline is April 7.

The NGC Convention is being held in Charleston S C on May 18-22. The National conventions are always exciting and, of course, all VFGC members are invited. The city alone beckons, and many tours are being offered. See the NGC website for more information.

Several clubs are planning Flower Shows, Teas, Garden Parties, Garden tours. Look for these; all are wonderful opportunities for our members and their friends as well ...and a great way to attract new members!

Clubs, please keep Plant-a-Tree donations coming in. We are so fortunate to be in this part of the country, relatively free of major weather-related disasters.

Let's grow and share together; the opportunities are there in so many wonderful ways.

Diane



Piedmont District Spring Meeting

March 17, 2025

Don't Miss It!

Lili Aram-Bost, Director of Programs
JoAnn McNabb, Director of Hospitality

Our Spring District Meeting will again be held at the lovely Hilton at Virginia Crossings in Glen Allen.



We are thrilled to announce that **Sally Harrison** will be our floral design presenter. Attendees will delight in Sally's program, "**Easter is Coming**" which will feature five traditional mass themed designs, including a child-friendly project.

Sally is a Richmond native who left for 20 years, returning in 2000. Sally has one son who lives outside Lexington and a grand-dog who thinks he is a human child. Both "children" love to play in the dirt, too! Sally holds memberships in the River Road Garden Club, Ikebana of Richmond, the Richmond Designer's Guild and the VMFA Hirschler Flower Guild. Sally is Past President of The Piedmont District, Current First VP and President-Elect, VFGC, Accredited Life National Garden Club Flower Show Judge, and NGC Life Member.

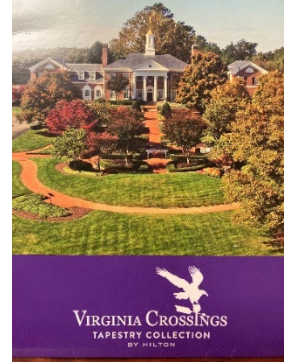
Sally favors traditional mass design. In January 2005, after arranging altar flowers for years, Sally was invited, along with 35 others from around the country, to study for six days with the Flower Guild of the National Cathedral in Washington DC. which she counts as a highlight of her design experience. Sally will share some of the techniques she learned at the National Cathedral twenty years ago. Since 2008, Sally has been invited to be a designer at VMFA Fine Arts and Flowers.

River Road Garden Club will honor Sally by being our hostess club and selling opportunity tickets for her exquisite traditional floral designs.

PIEDMONT DISTRICT SPRING MEETING

Monday March 18, 2024

Registration Deadline March 7



WHERE: Virginia Crossings Hotel & Convention Center
1000 Virginia Center Parkway
Glen Allen, VA 23059

SCHEDULE & PROGRAM

8:30-10:00	Registration, Coffee, and Shopping
10:00 -11:00	General Meeting
11:00-12:00	Break / Shopper's Spree
12:00-1:00	Luncheon
1:00-2:45	Design Program: Sally Harrison

EVENT COST: \$45.00

MENU:

A delicious buffet will feature green salad, composed salads, two hot entrees, plus a hot vegetarian entrée and gluten-free option, choice of three desserts, rolls and butter.
Coffee and Tea.

To Register – Deadline March 7th. First review the registration process on page 14 of this Footprints issue.

Reservation Form – see page 15 of this Footprints issue or download from the website:

<https://www.piedmontdistrictvfgc.org/>

Special for Piedmont District Members: if you wish to enjoy the hotel and amenities including buffet breakfast, you may book a hotel stay March 16-17 at the rate of \$139 plus taxes. Call 804-727-1400, extension 0, and ask for Piedmont District group rate – code 90R.

You may also reserve your room online using group code 90R <https://group.tapestrycollection.com/uszosz>

Deadline for hotel booking is March 2nd.

Spring: Time to Start Nurturing for the Year Ahead

Lorna Boucher, Piedmont District Chaplain

"I love Spring anywhere but if I could choose I would always greet it in a garden." - *Ruth Stout*

"To nurture a garden is to feed, not just the body, but the soul." *Alfred Austin*

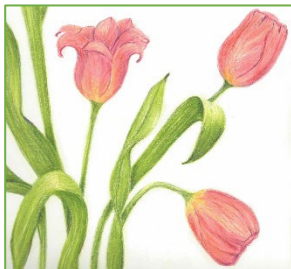
This year the Vernal Equinox is between March 19th and 21st depending on where in the world you live. The official first day of spring is March 20th. Not too long to wait!

Our bird feeders are proving to be a source of great interest and entertainment in this cold weather, as several different species are availing themselves of our offerings of sustenance! A male Towhee in all his stunning plumage arrived one morning following, no doubt, the directions of his female partner who arrived two days earlier.

Right now in Virginia, our poor gardens are trying to recover from being underneath ice, snow and freezing temperatures, thus they look pretty bleak. Fear not, all you intrepid gardeners, and be patient. Before too much longer temperatures will surely rise and hidden beauty will spring forth to enchant us once again.

Then as you stroll around your gardens or even just gaze at them through your windows, I trust that you will experience a feeling of serenity and optimism that nature will not let us down.

"A garden must combine the poetic and the mysterious with a feeling of serenity and joy,"
Luis Barragan



CALENDAR

- Feb 28-Mar 2 Virginia Orchid Society Show, LGBG*
- Mar 17 Piedmont District Spring Meeting
- Mar 22-23 Virginia Daffodil Society Show, LGBG*
- Mar 24-27 VFGC Flower Show School IV, LGBG*
- Apr 7-8 VFGC Landscape Design School, Series 29 Course 4, LGBG*
- Apr 27-28 VFGC Annual Convention, Richmond
- May 4 Central VA Iris Society Show, LGBG*
- May 18-22 NGC Annual Convention, Charleston, South Carolina
- May 31 VFGC Club Dues deadline
- June 1-7 NGC National Garden Week
- June 30 Deadline: Yearbook Sponsorship
- Nov 3-4 VFGC Symposium. Richmond

*LGBG – Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

Attention Club Treasurers - Reminder that the deadline to submit Piedmont District club annual dues is May 31st. Form on p 19 or on the website.

Piedmont District Memorial Moment

The traditional "memorial moment" will be part of the Spring meeting. Send notices of deceased members to Lorna Boucher: lornaboucher710@gmail.com. Include: club name, deceased member's name, year of passing, and whether she/he served as president and/or was a charter member.

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Posters

Piedmont District had Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl posters from two garden clubs – *Powhatan* and *Sleepy Hollow*. Winning posters in first through fifth grades were submitted to VFGC state level of the contest. Winners will be announced at the Piedmont District Spring Meeting. A BIG thank you to the garden clubs participating in the poster contest. – *Pat Merson, District Chair*

VFGC State Convention 2025

Diane Burgess & JoAnn McNabb Convention Co-Chairs
Claudia Cosby, Convention Registrar

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs

Presents

**The 91st Annual Convention
and NGC Flower Show**

***“Thank You, Virginia
for Making a Difference!”***



**April 27-28, 2025
The Westin Richmond
6631 West Broad Street**

Val Story, VFGC President, Presiding

Enjoy the Flower Show, amazing Silent Auction, presentations, inspiring lunch and dinner programs, shopping, awards. See old friends and make new ones. Fabulous venue. Don't miss this one!

The **Convention Registration form** is on pp 16-17 of this *Footprints* issue. **Deadline: Postmark by April 7.**

The Flower Show

An NGC Standard Flower Show – “Thank You, Virginia” - will be showcased during the convention. Any VFGC member in good standing will be eligible to participate. More information will be forthcoming in the VFGC *ROOTED* e-newsletter.

The Venue

Richmond is the location... **The Westin** is the venue... a beautiful hotel with every amenity, including an indoor pool – a Marriott Exclusive 4-Diamond Hotel, sophisticated and stylish.



The selection of this venue was based in no small measure on the hotel's extensive renovation, proximity to the interstate, and wonderful shopping areas, beautiful enclosed courtyard, 100% smoke-free. The large conference space is set apart from other hotel functions and will be dedicated to VFGC. Luxurious Guest Rooms with signature “Heavenly” beds have been reserved for VFGC.

For Hotel Reservations – 1-888-627-7736
Ask for the Group Rate – Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs - \$179 plus applicable taxes.
Deadline to reserve group rate: April 11th

A Special Silent Auction

Dust off that “prized” (but seldom-if-ever used) container, design sculpture or accessory... and enter them in our Convention Silent Auction. This will be a chance to recycle your quality design piece(s), spark others' creativity, and set your own starting bid. You will receive 50% of the selling price while supporting the VFGC. A win/win opportunity!

Vendors

VFGC Conventions are known to provide great shopping experiences. The 2025 Convention will follow suit. Invited vendors will feature handmade pottery, jewelry, clothing, floral design accessories, and more!

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 27

8:30 am – 9:30 am	Flower Show Entries Received
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Silent Auction Open
9:30 am – 6:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Vendor Shopping
10:00 am – 11:30 am	Board Meeting
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Luncheon Awards Presentation
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Flower Show Open
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	<i>Floral Design Program</i> <i>David Pippin</i>
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Social Hour (cash bar)
6:30 pm	Dinner and Horticulture <i>Program: Peggy Singlemann</i>

Monday, April 28

8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
8:00 am – 2:30 pm	Silent Auction Open
8:00 am – 10:00 am	Plated Breakfast and Convention Opening/ Business Meeting
9:00 am – 12:30 pm	Flower Show Open
9:00 am – 12:30 pm	Vendor Shopping
12:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Luncheon and Installation of Officers for 2025-27 <i>Floral Design Program:</i> <i>Jane Godshalk</i>
2:30 pm- 3:00 pm	Flower Show Entry and Silent Auction Item Retrieval

Luncheon Program Sunday, April 27

Award Presentations – **Heidi Sage** is the VFGC awards chairman. She is extremely knowledgeable in the award process and is willing to share this with the district award chairmen, through zoom meetings and numerous emails and phone calls. She navigates the NGC changes with calm and thoroughness. Enjoy her presentation and be inspired by club accomplishments.

Afternoon Program Sunday, April 27

“Design by Four Types” Floral Design Program by David Pippin



David Pippin is a well-known, inspiring and sought-after teacher and Floral Designer. He hails from Louisa County and graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Education. David is an adjunct professor in the Horticulture Department at Reynolds Community College and teaches in the Floral Design program at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. He has been the floral designer at The Executive Mansion in Richmond since 2014.



Get ready for a delightful afternoon full of practical ideas and inspiration to take your own designs to the next level!

In his presentation and demonstration, David will be working from the NGC book *Designing by Types*, creating four design types – all to be taken away by lucky opportunity ticket holders.

Dinner Program Sunday, April 27

**“Digging In: Planting Seeds of Resilience”
Horticulture Program by Peggy Singlemann**

Peggy Singlemann is nationally known as a foremost gardening expert. She is the co-producer and host on the familiar TV show, *Virginia Home Grown*, and was the longtime Director of Operations at the Maymont estate in Richmond.



At the heart of every thriving garden lies resilience — the ability to grow, adapt, and flourish despite the challenges nature presents. "Digging In: Planting Seeds of Resilience" highlights the importance of cultivating gardens that are not only beautiful but strong and sustainable.

This session explores how gardeners can create resilient landscapes by fostering soil health, selecting adaptable plant species, and implementing sustainable practices that allow gardens to thrive year after year. Just as a seed requires nurturing to grow, a garden's resilience is built through thoughtful planning, care, and an understanding of the environment.

Key Takeaways:

- Strategies for building resilient garden ecosystems
- The role of soil health in long-term garden success
- Selecting plants that thrive in varying conditions
- Sustainable gardening practices for lasting impact

**Floral Design Program
Monday, April 28th Luncheon**

**“Bloom and Grow... a Floral Design Journey”
Program by Jane Godshalk**



Jane Godshalk, AIFD, is an exciting and internationally recognized floral designer with a uniquely American style, fresh and uncomplicated. Her designs reflect passion and connection with nature... its shapes, colors, and textures. Each season's materials are new inspiration.

An instructor at Longwood Gardens outside of Philadelphia, Jane teaches a variety of classes from beginning to advanced, and a collection of elective classes. Her lectures and workshops are a collaboration with each individual group, tailored to inspire a wide audience. Jane's talent has been recognized with national awards from the American Horticultural Society and the Garden Club of America.

All of Jane's designs will be won by lucky opportunity ticket holders.



Looking forward to Planting New Cultivars for 2025?

Janice Beatty, Horticulture & Cultivar Chair

From "Proven Winners Direct" web site
"Yuki Kabuki" Deutzia. Deutzia X



This small shrub(30-48 inches at full size) is hardy in zones 5-8 and naturally maintains a rounded habit. Woo hooo, no pruning! "Deutzia X" brings on masses of tiny pink and white

blooms through spring and also provides great fall color. Delightful in a container as well as a part of your landscape. The best news for me is that the blooms attract butterflies, and hummingbirds to add fluttering movement in the landscape.

New from "Bluestone Perennials" is Salvia Midnight Rose, Winter Sage.



I do love salvia, and this new perennial is one on my list. Growing 12-18 inches tall with magenta-pink flowers that top

deep maroon stems. This beauty does well in mostly sunny spots in the garden and blooms late spring to early fall in planting zones 4-8. Real plus in my garden because Midnight Rose is a pollinator magnet, provides pretty cut flowers, easy to grow, and is rabbit and deer resistant. The only drawback is cutting back spent blooms to make way for new beautiful flowers. That extra step is well worth the effort.

For those ornaments grass lovers, check out "Gardening.org"



This one looks interesting. "Fescue 'Glow Sticks' from Wayside Gardens is an evergreen grass that produces fabulous lemon-yellow

spikelets which add a fun and attractive element to your landscape. This beautiful grass is drought and heat tolerant, hardy in zones 3-8. At 3 feet tall and 24 inches wide, it is a long lived plant and is perfect for gardeners interested in low-water needs or xeriscapes. Planting in masses provides the greatest WOW effect but can also add interest alongside your perennials. One of the best things about ornamental grasses is they are super low maintenance and add yearlong interest in the landscaping.

Blue Star Memorial Marker Update

Barbara Hollister, Program Chair

The two refurbished Blue Star Memorial Markers in the Piedmont District have been received and replaced on #301 Highway south of Emporia.

Please note the following price increases.

*2025 Blue Star and Gold Star Families
Memorial Marker Pricing
Effective Jan 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025*

Marker, 7' post, shipping \$2,400.00
Marker, 10' post, shipping \$2,515.00
Byway Plaques \$ 765.00
Replacement 7' Posts \$ 375.00
Replacement 10' Post \$ 475.00
Refurbishment \$1,200.00
Refurbishment with Cap Repair \$1,450.00

DESIGN 101

aka Floral Design made Easy!

by Kathy Ward

Article Seven – Creative Floral Design: Parallel Design

In the past few articles, we have talked about traditional floral designs. To quickly review, these are designs that have an abundance of plant material, a geometric shape with a closed silhouette (little to no space between plant material), plant material that is integrated (not grouped by type) and a design where all plant material radiates from a single point.

For this article, we will be discussing creative floral designs. Creative floral design began to be recognized by the National Garden Clubs in the late 1950's. The designs were no longer bound by previous rules. Instead, they were influenced by many of the art movements: Fauvism (simplified design with strong color), Art Deco (angular geometric forms), Art Nouveau (natural forms), Expressionism (self-expression) and Abstractionism (nonrealistic placement), just to name a few. There was a focus on asymmetrical shapes and less plant material. This made simplicity and balance, form and space, more important than an abundance of flowers.

In general, Creative Designs are characterized by:

- Use of less plant material. The plant material tends to be larger and bolder. Smaller flowers can be used but are usually grouped together for higher visual impact. No filler is used in creative designs.
- Use of items not normally associated with floral design. This could be an unusual container, ribbon woven through the design to accentuate the rhythm or other items added to enhance interest.

- Plant material may create one or more focal areas. This can be achieved by multi-holed container or placement of plant material.
- Plant material may be used in an unnatural way (for example - leaf manipulation, upside down flowers, stems out of water)
- Open space within the design is a must! The relationship between space and form in a creative design creates rhythm, balance and depth.
- Any part of the design may be dominant.

As with all art, creative floral designs are based (and judged) on the six *Principles of Design* (balance, contrast, dominance, proportion, rhythm and scale). You may recognize some of these principles from our earlier articles. Artistic expression, as seen in selection and placement of materials, as well as the interpretation of title and uniqueness of the design, are also important aspects of the creative floral design.

In a schedule, the required design type can be specified as traditional or it can be more specific and ask for a type of traditional design (for example a Traditional Line Design). Likewise, with creative design, a schedule may ask for a creative design or a specific type of creative design. We will now discuss one type of creative design – The Parallel Design.

The Parallel Design

This creative design is characterized by three or more parallel placements of materials in a single container (or multiple containers that are placed so that they look like one). These groupings may be horizontal, diagonal or vertical. The distance between the parallel groupings may be different. Additional plant material may be used at the base of the design to connect the groupings.

Now that you know the characteristics of a creative design and the requirements for a parallel design, let's create a parallel design!

Creating your Parallel Design –

Step 1 – Select your materials.*

- linear components – either linear branches/sticks, linear foliage, linear flowers and/ or linear non-plant material– 3 or more.
- round forms – 3-9, medium sized (one flower or item per stem); you may also use a second type of form that provides contrast in form, color, size or texture, 3 – 8 stems (optional)
- foliage to use as a connect at the base of the design (optional)– like camellia, lemon leaf

* The design must contain some plant material

Step 2 – Select your container. A large shallow rectangular bowl works well as a container for this design, although a large round bowl can work as well. You must be sure that it is large enough to allow space between the three or more groupings of materials. Separate containers can be used for each grouping, as long as there is a tray or connecting element to make it look like one container. Black, brown and green are always good container colors. You can also use a container that echoes the colors of your materials.

Step 3 – Decide on your mechanics. For a parallel design, my favorite mechanic is a pin holder (kenzan). It effectively holds a smaller amount of plant material and doesn't require a lot of material to hide it (remember – creative designs used less plant material). Floral foam or chicken wire could also be used.

Step 4 – Condition your plant material. For more information on conditioning, see article two in the winter 2023 edition of Footprints, the Piedmont District newsletter.

Step 5 – Prepare your mechanics. KENZANS can be placed in the bottom of your container or they can be anchored using floral clay.

Step 6 – Cut and place your line material. For the example design, I used sticks that had been spray painted bright green to echo the color of the container. For the parallel design, the three or more groupings of materials can be placed so that they are equidistance apart or with differing distances between them. The line material may be cut so that it is all the same height or varying heights. I placed my line material so that they are equidistant apart but with varying heights.



Step 7 – Place your focal flowers.

I placed four large round Gerbera daisies so that they accented the line material that was already in the container. It is important to place this material so that a definite space remains between each grouping.



Step 8 - Place additional plant material to add interest (optional). Additional plant material may be added to the design to add contrast in size, form, color or texture. This adds interest to your design. I placed Billy Balls (crespedia) along the line of each grouping.



Step 9 – Place your base foliage (optional).

Foliage can be placed along the base of the design to create cohesion between the groupings and to hide the mechanics. I used camellia leaves.




Step 10 – Critique your design.

Now that you have finished your design, take a good look at it. While this can be done by eye, taking a photo of it can be even more effective. Make any desired changes. In the example design, I see that the container is a bit short for the large Gerbera daisies. A longer container would have allowed for more space between the groupings.

To Learn More

If you like learning about floral design, attend Flower Shows like the one below. Consider attending Flower Show School. It will be held March 24-27, 2025 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. Judy Binns will be teaching about Abstract Creative Design. See the VFGC website/education.

Come Fly with Me
An NGC Standard Flower Show



at the
Episcopal Church of the Redeemer
2341 Winterfield Rd.
Midlothian, VA 23113
(804) 378-7481

May 5, 2025
1:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Presented by the Salisbury Garden Club
A Member of:
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
South Atlantic Region
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Piedmont District

Open to the public No Admission Fee

VFGC Symposium November 3-4, 2025

Judges, student judges and those who are just interested in learning more about horticulture and design, save the date!!! We will have tremendous instructors for our next VFGC Symposium. It will be held **November 3-4, 2025 at the Four Points by Sheraton near the Richmond airport.**

Gina Jogan – Design Instructor

Gina is an NGC Master Judge and Instructor in Design, Flower Show Procedure, and Allied Topics. She has held leadership positions in the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, the Deep South Garden Clubs, and National Garden Clubs. She has taught workshops in NGC schools as well as at CFAA and OFAD. Her stunning designs have been featured in many publications and online.

Gina will be teaching us floor design – and possibly duo design, to be confirmed.

David Robson – Horticulture Instructor

David is a retired horticulture and pesticide specialist from the University of Illinois. He has taught for 37 years and worked on the *2027 NGC Book for Flower Shows* and the *NGC Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging* book.

David will be teaching us about container-grown plants – and possibly Collections, to be confirmed.

As the Symposium program is finalized, details and registration information will be published on the VFGC website and made available through our publications.

Be a VFGC Yearbook Sponsor

Now taking orders for the 2025-27 Yearbook. Individual or Club Sponsorships. See the form at the end of this *Footprints* issue.

Garden Clubbing in the Piedmont

2025 VFGC CONVENTION PROGRAM ADS

It's a great way to promote an upcoming club event, celebrate a milestone, or honor a special club member, while also supporting the state convention where one of our own, Sally Harrison, will be installed as the next VFGC President. The ads will be in the beautifully designed convention program booklet. Cost: \$50 for a half-page ad or \$100 for a full-page ad.

Submit your own copy or Gail, our program designer, can help with your ad design if desired. The deadline for ad orders is March 15. Please submit your copy in non-pdf format, preferably MS Word. Any photos or graphics work are best submitted as separate jpeg files. Submit to Gail Goodrich Harwood at: gailev@aol.com.

Checks may be made to VFGC (convention ad in memo line) and submitted to Linda Nau, VFGC Treasurer. Linda Nau, 1810 Ethelred Court, Midlothian, VA 23113-3400

Purely for Pleasure



Celebrating Gardens & Gardeners

An NGC Horticulture Specialty Flower Show
Presented by
Sleepy Hollow Garden Club

1400 Horsepen Richmond, Virginia 23226
June 10, 2025
Free and Open to the Public 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Entries open to any VFGC member in good standing. To request a schedule, contact Tatter Hartmann, Chair: maryhartmann279@gmail.com

Life Memberships

Jane Oliver Smith, Chair

A reminder for all our Piedmont District Clubs that Life Memberships are a wonderful way to honor a club member – or treat yourself! Life Membership pins will be presented at the upcoming District meeting or at a subsequent meeting if desired.

The application is available on the VFGC website under Forms & Info: [Forms & Info – Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs](#) (viriniagardenclubs.org).

Midlothian Garden Club
proudly announces
An NGC Standard Flower Show,
Springtime in Midlothian
Friday, April 25, 2025
1-4 p m
Bethel Baptist Church
1100 Huguenot Springs Road
Midlothian VA
Free admission; **All** are welcome



**Appomattox Garden Club
Spring Tea**



Sunday, April 27, 2025
3pm to 5pm
Weston Manor
Hopewell, VA

Tickets \$15
Contact: Marilyn Brown (804)678-9040

IN MEMORIAM
ALICE MOONEY CONRAD
February 9, 1921---November 18, 2024



The Rock Spring Garden Club has lost our longest surviving member. Alice Conrad, a member since 1991, passed away in her Arlington, Virginia home on November 18 at the age of 103 years.

Born on a farm in Walker, Iowa, years before the Great Depression, Alice Mooney and her siblings were raised by hardworking and loving parents. In 1940 Alice left the farm to attend Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, where she met her future husband, Charles (Charlie) on a blind date. Alice and Charlie were married soon after the attack on Pearl Harbor. They were married for 52 years and raised four children in Arlington.

Alice loved gardening, especially growing flowers, and was a talented and a creative floral designer. When she could not find vases or containers for her minimalistic design style she became a very skilled potter, working many long hours on her basement kiln to create pieces of pottery to enhance her floral arrangements.

Alice joined the Rock Spring Garden Club in 1971 and chaired many club programs and activities during her years of service. She served as President in 1991-1992. Well into her early nineties, Alice continued to attend RSGC meetings regularly and participated in field trips and flower shows. Alice won many Blue Ribbons for her creative designs, often staged in a piece of her own pottery.

Alice specialized in the Japanese art of flower arranging, known as Ikebana. The Ikebana International Society sold her pottery at the National Arboretum in Washington, DC.

She was also a member of the Lee Center Artists Ceramics Group in Arlington. Montgomery Potters, and the National Council for Education in the Ceramics Arts.

Alice was a faithful member of Columbia Baptist Church in Falls Church, Virginia for 74 years. In addition to her Sunday School activities, she enjoyed preparing floral designs for Sunday services.

Rock Spring Garden Club has lost a very valued and much-loved member and friend. Alice lived a full and rewarding life. We will remember her creative talents, her wonderful sense of humor, and her ever present smile. She was a true gift, and RSGC will always treasure our time with her.

Crown Grant GC Holds Holiday Workshop
Submitted by Sherri Sale



Pictured – Top: Carter Rosser and Anna Marie Mizelli set the table. Below: Anna Lazarchic, center, with her daughters.



Calling All Photographers!

Gail Goodrich Harwood, ODG Editor



Thanks to all members who have submitted their beautiful photographs, not only for this issue, but for future issues. This is a terrific way to “travel” around the Commonwealth.

To submit your photographs:

- Select *seasonal photographs to complement the ODG seasonal publication schedule*. Select either long shots or close-up photos.
- Send 300 dpi jpegs – if submitting a phone photo, and your email gives you a size choice, select “Actual” or “Large” size.
- Photographs for the cover must be ‘portrait’ orientation – inside gallery photos may be either portrait or landscape orientation.
- If your photograph is not of your own garden or plant(s), please gain permission to print in the *ODG*.
 - Send to your district editor by the deadline—include your name and club name; add a caption & location of the photograph.
- Submission considered permission to print.

2023-25 Piedmont District Officers

President	Diane Burgess
Director of Programs	Lili Aram-Bost
Director of Hospitality	JoAnn McNabb
Treasurer	Claudia Cosby
Recording Secretary	Susan DelSordo
VFGC Nominating Comm Rep	Judy Hodges
Alternate	Mary Wiblin

Footprints & ODG

Send articles and photos in separate files to:

Gail Goodrich Harwood, Editor

email: Footprints@PiedmontDistrictVFGC.org

PHONE: 804-317-8091

Articles are due before the following deadlines:

MAY 1, 2025 – SUMMER

AUGUST 1, 2025 - FALL

NOVEMBER 1, 2025 – WINTER

FEBRUARY 1, 2026 – SPRING

Please mark your calendars to allow time to meet the due dates. Electronic transmission preferred, photos and graphics encouraged. Please submit photos in jpeg format as separate files, not embedded with text. Submit text in Word format, non-pdf. All articles welcome: club projects, special events, announcements about upcoming events. Mark the subject of your e-mail submission “Footprints” or “ODG” – ordinarily the same article will not appear in both publications, but some announcements and some parts of articles may appear in both.

Footprints masthead art: Black-eyed Susan and Bordered Patch butterfly © 2021 G Goodrich Harwood
Botanical Artwork © 2024 G Goodrich Harwood

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION



Piedmont District Spring Meeting Shopping, Luncheon, and Design Program

Monday March 17, 2025

Virginia Crossings 1000 Virginia Center Parkway
Glen Allen, VA 23059

Registration Deadline: March 7

Registration Process Steps

Please review before completing the Registration Form

STEP ONE - Via email: Club Contact sends registration info to the Registrar via email. Include: club name, club contact, number of seats requested (*no registrations by telephone*). List all who are attending (name and voting status). **Please pay particular attention to the correct spelling of names.**

STEP TWO - Via mail: Club Contact submits the completed registration Form. The form must be **complete. Handwritten submittals must be legible** in order to facilitate the accurate preparation of nametags. **Note that each attendee's role and voting status must be completed according to the key.** With the registration form, **one check must be included covering all registrations.**

Make check **payable** to VFGC/ Piedmont District.

STEP THREE - Registrar will confirm registration(s) to the Club Contact via email once the form and check are received.

STEP FOUR - Table assignments will be made in the order in which checks are received.

NOTE - Refunds cannot be made. Club Contact is responsible for managing substitutes in the event registrants cannot attend.



Registration Form – Piedmont District Spring Meeting

Monday March 17, 2025

Virginia Crossings 1000 Virginia Center Parkway Glen Allen, VA

Registration Deadline: March 7

Club Name	
Contact Name	
Email address	
Phone	

Registrant Information

Name (print neatly please)	√ Voting Status if applicable *
	Please complete <u>voting</u> status by key below. CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>
	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>
	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>
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	CP <input type="checkbox"/> VD <input type="checkbox"/> DO <input type="checkbox"/> DC <input type="checkbox"/> FDP <input type="checkbox"/>

*Voting Status Codes: CP= Club President VD= Voting Delegate (up to two delegates per club)
 DO= District Officer DC = District Committee Chair FDP = Former District President

Total # of Registrations @ \$45: _____ **Total Check Amount:** _____ (one check)
 Buffet will feature a variety of hot and cold choices, including vegetarian and gluten-free options, and desserts.

Mail form and check payable to VFGC/Piedmont District to Registrar Johanna Gilbert:
 8423 Shannon Green Court Henrico, VA 23228-1876 email: omagilbert@aol.com



91st Annual Convention Registration
April 27-28, 2025
"Thank You Virginia for Making a Difference"
The Westin Hotel - Richmond

Registration: Please complete form; make check payable to "VFGC 2025 Convention" and mail to Claudia Cosby, 3015 Mount Hill Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113-3923; cosbych1205@gmail.com; 804-794-7798; **Postmark by April 7.**

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Club _____ District _____

Check ALL that apply:

- National Officer/Chm/BdM District President NGC Life Member
- Regional Officer/Chm District Director SAR Life Member
- Former VFGC President Club President VFGC Life Member
- State Officer/Chm Club Member Visitor/Guest
- VFGC Life Member/ Book of Honor since 5/1/23 First-time attendee

Select Your Attendance Plan:

Full Convention Package Plan SAVE \$25 \$ 250.00 _____

Full convention includes: Registration Fee, Sunday Lunch, Sunday Afternoon Program, Sunday Dinner, Monday Breakfast, and Lunch if postmarked by April 7.

Partial Attendance Options:

Registration Fee <i>if postmarked BY April 7</i>	\$ 25.00	_____
Registration Fee <i>if postmarked AFTER April 7</i>	\$ 30.00	_____
Sunday Lunch & Awards Presentation	\$ 50.00	_____
Sunday Afternoon Program with David Pippin	\$ 30.00	_____
Sunday Dinner with Peggy Singlemann Program	\$ 65.00	_____
Monday Breakfast Convention Opening & Elections	\$ 35.00	_____
Monday Lunch, Installation & Godshalk Program	\$ 70.00	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$ _____

____ Please check for any dietary requirements and list details

A Late Fee **must** be included for all envelopes postmarked after 4/7/25. Any registrations postmarked after 4/11/25 will not be processed or accepted.

No walk-in registrations. No refunds after 4/11/25. *Refunds requested by 4/11/2025 are subject to retention of registration fee.*

Credentials Form next page must accompany your registration form.

VFGC 2025 Convention Credentials Form

All designated delegates and alternates, including VFGC Officers and members of the Board of Directors, must complete this form and include it with your Registration Form.

Name _____

District _____ Garden Club _____

Check one that applies:

- VFGC Officer/Board of Directors Club Delegate
 Club President Club Alternate

Eligibility shall be in accordance with VFGC Bylaws - number of Delegates and Alternates in accordance with size of club as follows:

- 1-25 members President or appointee – 1 Alternate
- 26-50 members President or appointee plus 1 Delegate–2 Alternates
- 51-100 members President or appointee plus 2 Delegates–3 Alternates
- 100+ members President or appointee plus 3 Delegates–4 Alternates

Delegates have the right to vote, alternates fill in the delegate if he/she is unable to attend the Convention.

Be a VFGC 2025-27 Yearbook Sponsor

Deadline: June 30, 2025

Who can be a Sponsor?

Each club and every club member can be a sponsor.

Benefits:

- Listed on the *Sponsors Page*
- Receive a yearbook insert (*\$10 Sponsor*)

Each member club receives **two** gratis yearbook inserts, and each VFGC district officer and chairman receive **one** gratis yearbook insert.

What's in it for me?

- A directory of names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for all VFGC officers and chairmen, district officers and chairmen, all garden club presidents, and SAR and NGC officers.
- Information—on dues, donations, Life Memberships, etc.
- Calendar of Events
- Awards offered by VFGC, SAR and NGC for clubs and individuals.
- List of Flower Show Judges and Landscape Design Consultants
- VFGC Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and Standing Rules

INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR

Please print your NAME as it is to appear in the yearbook.

Name _____

District _____ Club _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

CLUB SPONSOR

Club Name _____ District _____

Club Contact (Treasurer) _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Yearbook Insert		\$10.00	
Binder with VFGC logo		\$10.00	
Total Order			

Make checks payable to VFGC, Inc. Mail check & form to:
Claudia Cosby 3015 Mount Hill Dr., Midlothian, VA 23113-3923

