



Mum's the Word

Salisbury Garden Club

www.salisburygardenclub.org

February 2019 – Volume 51, Issue 6

A Message from SGC President, Lorna Boucher. . .

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.

What do you think about this particular verse? It seems to me to be an accurate description of the weather we have been experiencing recently. Still, there could be light at the end of the tunnel as February is more than half over – also when I look out of the window, I see our cherry tree in full bloom and a single brave pale pink flower on a camellia bush. Good luck to them! I'll be good and mad if the frost damages them!

I hope some of you had time to read Nancy Hargroves' article about Smokey Bear in National Garden Clubs' newsletter, *Keeping in Touch*. Like her,

Today's Program:

*"Designs from the
Handbook for
Flower Shows"*

by Julia Clevett

NGC Master Flower Show Judge



I had no idea of the origins of this advertisement, created in 1944 and still relevant 75 years on. It is especially relevant when we think about the appalling devastation caused by wildfires in California. We would certainly do well to keep reminding our young people of the extreme danger and loss of life resulting from careless use of matches, cigarettes, camp fires, etc.

Camille Archie and her team of flower designers took some lovely arrangements to the Community Hospice House this month. I had not been in the facility before but it is beautiful, with an amazingly calm atmosphere where sympathetic and expert care is given to patients and families alike.

Forthcoming events are the Piedmont District meeting on March 18th where 23 of SGC members are attending, followed by the VFGC Convention in Williamsburg.

Please keep our own flower show freshly in mind during your busy schedules. Kathy Ward and her team are working so hard to make it really spectacular and with your participation it will be. The judges contacted so far have said that they are honored to be asked to judge our show and I reckon that is a very nice compliment to us. So keep after it, ladies, I know you will do us proud!

~ Lorna



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page	
3	Treasurer's Report for January 2019
3-4	Region, State, and Piedmont District – Events/News
4-6	Committee Reports
6	Purchase Opportunity – <i>Handbook for Flower Shows</i>
6-7	Volunteer – Spring Arbor Memory Care and Gardening Enrichment Projects
7-8	New Workshop!! – Pop-up Pottery Class
8-9	50th Anniversary Garden Dedication Ceremony
9-11	Articles – Three-Minute Tip; “Horticultural Hints”
12	Back Page – Next Month's Meeting Info, Calendar of Events

TREASURER'S REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2019 – JANUARY 31, 2019

Prepared by: Claudia Cosby, Treasurer

Not available for website

REGION AND STATE UPCOMING EVENTS



The **Winter Edition 2018** of VFGC's newsletter, *Old Dominion Gardener (ODG)*, is filled with news and many upcoming events. VFGC website is www.viriniagardenclubs.org.

The **South Atlantic Region (SAR)** will hold their 58th Annual Convention in Williamsburg from March 28-30. Details are in ODG on pages 3-5.

Immediately following the SAR Convention, **Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs (VFGC)** will hold their 85th Annual Convention in Williamsburg from March 31-April 2. National President and SGC member, **Nancy Hargroves** will attend and speak at the Installation Dinner. See ODG pages 8-11 for convention details.

Flower Show School, Course 4, will be held at The Four Points Sheraton on Laburnum Avenue from February 25-28. All are invited to attend – it's not just for flower show judges. See pages 13-14 of ODG for more information.

PIEDMONT DISTRICT SPRING MEETING – MARCH 18 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PROJECT TABLE



SGC member, Martie Parch, is the Chairman of the Piedmont District Project Table. The Project Table provides design and gardening merchandise for sale at a very reasonable price. Martie needs some volunteers to help during the vendor shopping hours at the District Meeting (8:30-10:15 AM; 11:15-12 Noon). If you would like to lend a hand, just fill out the coupon on the sign-up sheet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION – Meg Winn

Back in early November, an intrepid team led by Connie Sorrell planted 200 bulbs, mostly Carlton daffodils near the southeast side of Redeemer church. Be watching for their cheerful blooms heralding spring.

Please sign up for our upcoming spring workdays.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – Martie Parch

Please remember to notify me about any member who would appreciate a get well, sympathy or thinking of you card.

EDUCATION – Camille Archie

The cold rainy weather did not stop nine dedicated volunteers from creating beautiful arrangements for the **Community Hospice**



House. Thank you to Janice Beatty, Lorna Boucher, Katie Conschafter, Frances Judd, Phyllis Miles, Linda O'Mara, Carol Romeo, Nancy Scherer and Judith Smith for your help. Many thanks to Anne McCormick, who is recovering from surgery, for allowing us to use her garage as our work place. The

Hospice House entry way was decorated with arrangements of red roses and white and red carnations nestled amongst a variety of greenery. The staff was very pleased with our Valentine creations.

Our **Spring Arbor** project will be held on February 26th at 10:00am. Please share your morning with those who need a little stimulation and kindness from others. See the article on page 6 for details about this project.

On March 11th and 12th at 3:00pm Salisbury Garden Club volunteers will once again partner with Homework Helpers for our **Gardening Enrichment Project.** See Chairman Becky Sido's article on page 7.

EXHIBITS – Nell Masee and Suzanne Miladin

Congratulations to our January Exhibit Winners! **Design** – Gayle Walters; **Horticulture** – Dominique Spinosa; **Botanical Arts Topiary Design** – Nell Masee; and **Botanical Arts Hort** - Camille Archie.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Nancy Scherer

The Nominating Committee (Nancy Scherer, Shirley Gates, Martie Parch and Peggy Young) is pleased to recommend the following members as Officers for the 2019-2020 Club year:

President - Janice Beatty

1st Vice President, Programs - Martie Parch and Connie Sorrell

2nd Vice President, Membership - Barbara Metz
Recording Secretary - Fran Judd
Corresponding Secretary - Judith Smith
Treasurer - Claudia Cosby

While the Nominating Committee feels that this slate will lead our Club with excellence, we also acknowledge that our membership has many other talented women. Please feel free to submit their names at the appropriate time next month, provided they have agreed to serve.



2017 Handbook for Flower Shows Order Yours Today!

I will be placing a large order of a variety of items for SGC, including Flower Show Handbooks. If you would like to take advantage of a low shipping rate and order a Handbook for yourself, **complete the coupon on the sign-up sheet and contact me by the deadline on February 21st!**

The base price is \$25 for the book, but individual orders are charged \$8 in shipping by National Garden Clubs. With our group order, we are able to reduce the shipping cost to \$1.50 per book, **so your total cost would be \$26.50.**

Claudia Cosby, Treasurer

Spring Arbor Memory Care Project February 26 – 10 AM



In keeping with using the five senses to make the lives of those with memory loss more meaningful, our project for February 26th will be putting together a wind chime and a bird house for their garden. We will need lots of hands to guide the residents in this project, so please complete the coupon on the sign-up sheet if you'd like help. Hope to see you at 10:00 on Tuesday, the 26th of February.

JJ Jordan, Chairman

Gardening Enrichment with Homework Helpers

Just a reminder that on March 11th and 12th, the students will learn about Winter Seed Sowing and create their own Miniature Greenhouses Using Recycled salad containers. We will meet at 3:00 PM at Stony Point Church, 2330 Buford Rd.

You can drop off your small, 5oz. clear recycled salad containers to my house, 14124 Thorney Court, Midlothian. If no one is home, just leave them on the front porch. Repurposing the salad containers is a great way to reinforce our recycling lessons with the students. If you would like to help remove the labels (half of the containers will be the top half of the greenhouses) I would love the help. Give me a call when you are available! Again, it would be great if we can get 100% participation- or close to it. Thank you!



Becky Sido, chairman

Pop-up Pottery Workshop

March 28, 2019 - 12:30 to 4:00 PM

Episcopal Church of the Redeemer – Pinder Hall

You've made the flowers – now make the pot. Join your friends for a fun afternoon playing with clay and creating your own one-of-a-kind flower pot. Your finished piece will be about 5 inches tall and decorated with your own touches. The instructor will provide hands-on instruction, clay, tools, stamps, glaze and all materials. Glazed and fired pieces will be returned to you later at a monthly meeting.



Our Instructor, Cindy Edmonds earned a BFA from JMU, studying Graphic Design and a teaching endorsement in Visual Art. Currently she teaches part time while working

on functional and decorative pottery. She passionately believes in the need for beauty in our everyday lives. Go to Instagram@cindyedmondsceramics to see examples of her work. Donna Cottingham will be assisting Cindy for this workshop.

Please complete coupon on the sign-up sheet if you'd like to participate. Attach a separate check made out to SGC for \$22.00 for this workshop.

This workshop will be first come first serve due to limited class space. If needed, we will look into an additional workshop.

Janice Beatty, Programs



The Board wishes to thank Nancy Scherer for hosting the February Board Meeting in her lovely home - and for impressing us all with her Valentine-themed decorations!

SAVE THE DATE
for Salisbury Garden Club's
Dedication of the 50th Anniversary Garden
April 17, 2019

Salisbury Garden Club will hold its 50th Anniversary Garden Dedication on April 17 at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer at 9:45 AM (before our April general meeting). We plan to meet outside in the garden, if April showers permit.

Over the past year, SGC has honored this anniversary year through many activities: a book dedication at the Midlothian Library, monthly interviews of long-time members in *Mum's*

the Word, an audiovisual and memorabilia presentation at the Annual Awards and Installation luncheon, a Fall Tea at The Mill at Fine Creek, and monthly flower designs that celebrate our past.

The Anniversary Garden Dedication program will include President Lorna Boucher's recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Club in 1968 and unveiling a bronze plaque commemorating the occasion. The plaque will be permanently placed in the Anniversary Garden on the church grounds. We'll conclude the ceremony with a toast to our Club's past, present and future.



Meg Winn and DanaDee Carragher, Chairmen

THREE-MINUTE TIP by J. J. Jordan

February! Only one more month between now and the time to start our gardens. This is the time to make sure those garden tools are cleaned and sharpened. More importantly it is a time to take a walk through our gardens making note of what repairs are needed due to winter damage. It is also a time to think about changes you would like to make for the coming season of gardening.



If you aren't already doing it consider keeping a garden journal. You would need to procure a hardback note book, preferably one without lined pages. Create a pocket by gluing, stapling, or taping a stiff page cut to the size of the notebook on to the inside cover.

Keep your phone, writing tools, colored tape, and any pictures you have taken of your garden as suggested by your September Three-Minute Tip.

By keeping a journal, you will know what you have planted, where you have planted it, and when it was planted. If your plantings thrive or if they do poorly, your notes will help you decide what plants do best and where. Most importantly you will have a record of the names of your plants so that your information will be correct on horticulture exhibits cards. You can note damage and mark them with tape to be addressed at a later time. By sketching your plans, you will be less likely to start projects that have no end. Best of all by keeping a journal, when next winter comes, you'll have a better blue print for planning the next planting season.

Horticultural Hints

I took advantage of the warmer days we had the other week and wandered in my garden. The polar vortex had gone, and hopefully will not come back – ever! I wanted to see how the garden had fared during the extreme cold snap. There was some cold damage on some tender leaves, but not very much damage overall in the garden. Our plants are



tougher than we think. What I am enjoying are the plants and shrubs that thrive in the winter and actually bloom now.

I was reminded about how important fragrance is to the garden. We always associate fragrance with the scents of summer – the roses, heliotrope, night blooming moonflowers, and even the wonderful herbs we love to grow. But we can also get lovely fragrance from shrubs that we plant. As I was

wandering through the back area of my garden recently, I was excited to see the still tight blooms of the winter daphne and edgeworthia. Soon the sun will warm them up enough that they will open and the perfume from their blooms will draw me back there again and again.

Also, there are great shrubs to plant that will give you some wonderful fragrance in the warmer months of the year. A pretty common pass along shrub is the sweetshrub or Carolina allspice (*Calycanthus floridus*). The maroon colored flowers have a fruity fragrance, but the leaves have a strong, pleasant camphor odor. Sweetshrub is often planted by doorways where you release the scent as you walk by.

Another great shrub to plant is the shade and moisture loving anise bush (*Illicium floridanum*). I planted a chartreuse colored variety last fall that is doing great. Did you catch the moisture loving part? Only time will tell how it does if and when we finally dry up. Its best fragrance is released when the leaves are crushed.



Another shade loving native shrub is the spice bush (*Lindera benzoin*) whose fragrance is also in its foliage. All of these shrubs are hardy in our planting zone and will grow slowly from 8 to 10 feet high.

Shrubs with fragrance help to engage more of your senses while you enjoy your garden. Sight, touch and smell become engaged and heighten your enjoyment and, maybe, make you linger just a little bit more.

Sandy Mattes, Master Gardener

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”

~ Audrey Hepburn

Next Month's Program – March 20, 2019

Episcopal Church of the Redeemer – Coffee 9:30/Meeting 10 AM
(See pages 104 and 106 for meeting info and speaker bio)

Program: "The Divine Ratio in Nature – The Golden Ratio" by James Calpin

Greeter: Emily Stewart

Hostesses: Beth Daniel, Helen Davison, Lesley Dobson, Holly Faison, Vicki McGonegal, Bonnie McKeever, Dominique Spinos, Peggy Stevens and Emily Stewart

Clerks: Jean Jordan, Karen Rice, Judith Smith and Kathy Ward

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY EVENTS

24	VFGC Finance Committee Meeting	CP1
25	VFGC Board of Directors Meeting	CP1
25-28	Flower Show School – Course IV	CP1
26	Spring Arbor Project – 10:00 AM	NP1

MARCH EVENTS

1	Richmond Council of Garden Clubs – RCGC "Understanding the Importance of Conservation"	
2-10	Philadelphia Flower Show	
11-12	Gardening Enrichment Program – 2:00 PM	CP9
13	SGC Board Meeting – 9:30 AM	
18	Piedmont District Spring Meeting	CP1
20	SGC General Meeting (Exhibits) 9:30 AM	CP4
23-24	Mid-Atlantic Home & Outdoor Living Show www.midatlantichomeshow.com	
25	Wishing Well Park Workday	CP13
26	Midlothian Post Office Workday	CP7
29	RCGC Event – <i>Fashion with Flowers</i>	
29-31	South Atlantic Region (SAR) Convention	CP1
30	Virginia Daffodil Society Show – LGGB	
31	VFGC Finance Committee Meeting	CP1
31*	VFGC Convention – March 31-April 2	CP1

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