



# *Mum's the Word*

**Salisbury Garden Club**

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

**October 2018 – Volume 51, Issue 2**

## ***A Message from SGC President, Lorna Boucher. .***

“It Must Be October” – Pearl N Sorrels

The harvest moon hangs round and high  
It dodges clouds high in the sky,  
The stars wink down their love and mirth  
The Autumn season is giving birth.  
Oh, it must be October.  
The leaves of red, bright gold and brown  
To Mother Earth come tumbling down  
The breezy nights, the ghostly sights  
The eerie spooky far-off sounds  
Are signs that it's October.  
The pumpkins yellow big and round  
Are carried by costumed clumsy clowns  
It's Hallowe'en, let's celebrate  
We know it's now October,  
What a delightful month October.

October is definitely one of my favorite months! I was born in it, married in it and made my first visit to Salisbury VA in it in October 1991. The friend from the UK who is visiting us at the moment was on the 1991 trip too! We were so excited to see all the Hallowe'en decorations, particularly the pumpkins which were almost never seen in our country. England was not much into Hallowe'en celebrations, although we from Scotland used to have great Hallowe'en parties lit by “turnip (rutabaga to you) lanterns!”

The Anniversary Tea at Fine Creek was a roaring success and very many thanks to Meg, Camille and their team of talented ladies. The floral arrangements they produced were truly stunning and much admired. On this special occasion it was my pleasure to present Claudia Cosby and Kathy Ward with Life Memberships of NGC for the outstanding work they have done, not only for SGC, but also

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

**“Designing with a  
Naturalists' Eye”**



**by Nancy Ross Hugo  
Author**

for Piedmont District, for VFGC and for NGC. They played important roles in the smooth running of the NGC Convention in Richmond in 2017 when Nancy Hargroves (SGC) was installed as National President. These gifts represent our thanks to them and our pride in what they do.

The Piedmont District Flower Show went off without a hitch. Kathy Ward was our star winner with her decorated hat and her educational exhibit on the subject of birds. The rest of the SGC Team made a very creditable showing although my own effort suffered somewhat due to the lilies in it who succumbed to a death wish!

Becky Sido submitted a grant application for “Keys to the Future Youth Project Grant.” This grant was sponsored by VFGC and thanks to Becky we received \$350, some of which will go towards our Homework Helpers project. Our Civic Beautification and Education plans are already under way. Meg and Camille are always hoping for volunteers to enable them to undertake these worthwhile projects. Gayle and Debby our new Monthly Hospitality organizers have started off with enthusiasm and efficiency at our September meeting.

I know I am re-iterating Janice’s reminder but please be vigilant when parking at the church. We are requested to park in the rear parking spaces on the far side of the median to ensure safety for the pre-school children. I realize it is tricky if you are bringing exhibits but you can stop briefly at the hall door to deposit them and then proceed to the back area. Those few members with heavy equipment to carry can leave their cars at the front but always reversed in. Thank you all in advance for helping to carry out these requests – it’s all about safety first.

Happy Hallowe'en!

Lorna



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**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**SEPTEMBER 1, 2018 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2018**  
Prepared by: Claudia Cosby, Treasurer

Not available for website

**VFGC'S JUDGES SYMPOSIUM**  
**NOVEMBER 14-15 - FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON**

**This symposium is open to all!** You may attend a single session or the entire course. The Horticulture session will be taught by Accredited Flower Show Judge, Dotty Howatt. Lynn Frank, Master Flower Show Judge, will teach design, focusing on Cascade and Low Profile Designs and Design Techniques. See your Fall 2018 *Old Dominion Gardener*, pages 12-13, or the VFGC website, [www.virginiagardenclubs.org](http://www.virginiagardenclubs.org) for more info.

# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tea at The Mill at Fine Creek



On a sunny Tuesday afternoon September 25th, members and guests joined together to celebrate our 50th anniversary with tea and delicious treats at The Mill at Fine Creek. Our president, Lorna Boucher, welcomed us and presented special awards to Claudia

Cosby and Kathy Ward for their exemplary service to SGC over the years.



In keeping with our golden theme, floral arrangements of golden roses, yellow chrysanthemums, soldago, sunflowers and daisies graced the hall. Several gardeners shared their summer's bounty of limelight and panicle hydrangeas, greenery, willow,

and grapevine.

Dawn Lerch, Carol Romeo, Donna Ludwig, Jean Jordan, Gay Kistler, and Martie Parch created the individual table centerpieces. Designers for the large arrangements and entry were Camille Archie and Nell Masee, Anne McCormick, Peggy Young, Jeanne Miles, Shirley Gates, Nancy Scherer, and Meg Winn. Lorna Boucher did double duty by keeping the designers focused and tidying up fallen petals and leaves.



As the sun set, many toured the woodland gardens and paths that meander around the old mill and slope to the creek.



*The Board wishes to thank Nell Masee for hosting the October board meeting.*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION – Meg Winn**

Sandy Fry, Barbara Metz, and Meg Winn met at the Wishing Well Park on October 4th garden to prune, pull weeds, and assess the needs of this pollinator garden as we move toward the dormant season. Then on Friday, October 5th, Doris Wier, Peggy Young, and Meg Winn worked at Midlothian Post Office weeding and pruning. On our next workday there, we'll continue and also plant mums for fall color. On October 11th, Karen Rice and Meg Winn cleaned up at the Midlothian Firestation before the hurricane rains arrived.

**We still have lots of gardening workdays before winter arrives, so please come with your gloves and clippers as we tidy up and plant at our various locations.**

### **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY / PUBLICITY – Martie Parch**

We invited members of neighboring clubs to our meeting today with Nancy Ross Hugo and are looking forward to sharing this fascinating program with our guests.

The Piedmont District Project Sales table had great success last Monday. Thank you to those who made it so fun: Shirley Gates, Nancy Scherer, Camille Archie, and Jean Morgan.

Please remember to email or call me if you know of any of our members who might benefit from a card. We've sent quite a few this year and the recipients are always grateful to know that we are thinking of them.

### **EDUCATION – Camille Archie**

Many thanks to Anne McCormick, Peggy Young, Phyllis Hubbard, Lesley Dobson and Jean Morgan for creating four large arrangements for the **Community Hospice House**. The arrangements were colorful images of Fall with flowers of golden yellow and burgundy. The hazardous roads cluttered with debris after hurricane Michael could not stop these dedicated ladies from sharing their time and talents.

Our first **Gardening Enrichment Project** was a great success thanks to Becky Sido's wonderful planning and our helpful volunteers. The children created bird feeders by using plastic bottles and chop sticks. This was a great lesson in recycling items to help our environment. Thanks to all the volunteers for making a difference in the lives of so many children.

Other Education Projects are scheduled for the months of October and November. Please volunteer to help decorate

**Chesterfield Heights** on October 22nd at 10:00am, plant vegetables at **Spring Arbor Memory Care** on October 23rd 10:00am, plant bulbs with **Redeemer Preschool** on October 30th at 9:45am, and help residents at **Bickford** make wreaths on November 7. Helping our community is such a great way to share our love of gardening. Thank you, ladies for volunteering!

### **EXHIBITS – Nell Masee & Suzanne Miladin**

Congratulations to our September exhibit winners: **Carol Romeo for Design and Peggy Stevens for Horticulture!**

### **HISTORIAN – Liz Brengel**

Whether you are a chairman or a participant, please take photos of events, workdays, and projects that you attend – and then forward them on to me! **Let's all participate in documenting the activities of our club.** My e-mail address and cell phone number are in the Yearbook. Thanks for your help!

## **Spring Arbor Project – October 23**

As many of you know last year the Salisbury Garden Club was approached by the Memory Care Unit of Spring Arbor Retirement Living facility across from Lucky's. The club was asked and agreed to creating programs that would enhance lives that are declining from memory loss. All materials would be provided by Spring Arbor. With the enthusiasm that Salisbury Garden Club is noted for, the membership responded. Not surprisingly, one of the projects received National attention within the Spring Arbor community.

Again, Salisbury Garden Club is taking on three projects. Knowing that our senses are a pathway to our brains, the projects will be each built around the five senses. The October project will incorporate smell, taste, as well as touch and sight. Volunteers will be needed to help get the existing greenhouse planted with plants that are both edible and aromatic. The Great Big Green House has been a big help with suggestions. While not all residents participate, the enthusiasm shown through curiosity is absolutely rewarding. Please join us on Tuesday, October 23.



JJ Jordan, Chairman

## TOUR OF "ZOEN GARDEN CREATIONS" – OCTOBER 24



We will meet at the church at 9:15 to car pool over to the gardens. We leave promptly at 9:30 for the gardens. We cannot wait for late comers. The address is **12346 Casco Mill Lane, Montpelier, VA**, so you can drive yourself if you want. There will be a guided tour of the beautiful Japanese Gardens, and you can expect to spent between 1 hr. 30 min to 2 hrs. Travel time is approximately 30 minutes from the Church.

The fall colors on the Japanese Maples should be spectacular. Please fill out the coupon so we know who to expect. (If you forget, come anyway!) There is no cost for this tour. **Be sure to wear comfortable shoes!!** For more info, see your Yearbook page 84.

Janice Beatty, Programs Chairman

## Holiday Door Designs – Exhibits

If you are participating in the Holiday Door Design Workshop or are planning to make a wreath at home, sign up to participate in our annual **Holiday Door Designs** exhibit held on **Wednesday, December 12**. This exhibit qualifies for the design requirement to be a "member in good standing."



Just fill out the coupon on the sign-up sheet to participate (**sign-up deadline is Friday, December 7**). The **design rules are on page 91** of your Yearbook.

Hang your design on your door by 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 12; be sure to display a design exhibit card (i.e., 3 by 5 index card) with your name on the back (see Yearbook **Appendix page ii** for a sample).

Some volunteers are needed to **help the judges by clerking or driving**. The coupon on the sign-up sheet includes a place to volunteer.

Peggy Stevens, Chairman



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

*"Holiday Sparkle!"*

*Wednesday, December 12th  
at Salisbury Country Club  
Reservation Deadline December 5*

*Gather for cocktails at 6:30  
Dinner will be served at 7:15  
Cost is \$35 per person*

*A plated petit filet dinner with  
mixed green salad,  
roasted potatoes,  
a string-bean bouquet,  
and chocolate taffee torte.*

*Vegetarian dinner available upon request.*

*Tea and coffee*

*Cash Bar*

*If you have any questions, please contact  
Nancy Scherer at 594-5694 or [Nancysch@aol.com](mailto:Nancysch@aol.com)*



Please welcome returning member. . .

Maria Whiteaker

Details not available for website



## *Looking Back at SGC. . .*

### *an interview with Candy Nasser*

Candy describes herself as a “joiner” – over the years she has belonged to book clubs, tennis clubs, and bridge clubs, and enjoys being involved in the community. When Candy became a member of the Salisbury Garden Club in 1999, there were about 50 members. The programs, people, social and civic keep her coming back.



#### **The Fire Station:**

Candy was the Club President from 2005-2007 and during her tenure, the Club focused their work efforts on the Midlothian Fire Station, designing the space and collaborating with the Boy Scouts to lay pavers. The SGC hauled dirt, established beds, and installed plantings (they incorporated the already existing “Smoke” tree for the centerpiece – get it? Smoke tree at the Fire Station?) Today, there is a rumor that the Fire Station will move to a new location, but for many years the Club provided a relaxing space for the volunteers.

#### **Some Favorite Projects:**

Candy is part of a committee who share their time and talents at Bickford, connecting with seniors through flowers and plants. The SGC’s Garden Therapy project began in the year 2000 and members continue to help seniors at Bickford Senior Living make teacup and wreath designs. Candy’s list of favorite things is long, but she puts this project above the others.

The *Food from the Heart* Luncheon is another favorite. Candy describes a Make and Take morning, where members would sign up

to do handicrafts or to plant something in a container and take it home. Paid for in advance, materials were assembled, and an instructor would provide directions for the handicraft or planting and care. When they finished, members would take their projects home after the beautiful *Food from the Heart* luncheon. Candy still has two Make and Take plants that are thriving.

When the Club was smaller, Christmas parties were held in each other's homes, and Candy remembers being Chair for the food. The Club would divide up the dishes to bring among the guests – appetizers, salads and desserts, and there would always be a delicious ham and beef tenderloin. These parties have been mentioned so fondly by our long-time members!

### **How the SGC has changed:**

Candy finds the caliber and involvement of SCG's membership impressive. Members maintain and excel in a myriad of local projects as well as have expanded to work at national, regional, state and district levels. Some SGC members hold offices at those levels. She attributes the ever-expanding membership to the club's wonderful, friendly atmosphere and warm welcoming, and the excellent programs the club offers.

## **Three-Minute Tip by J. J. Jordan**

Many of our members have water features with the exotic Koi fish in their gardens. An on-going problem is protecting these beautiful and not inexpensive Koi from predators such as Heron and raccoons. Recently while waiting for an appointment I came across an article highlighting a unique way to combat these villains.



Most predators are frightened by motion and or an image of another animal. The article suggested floating a shiny gazing ball in the middle of your pond by attaching an anchor line to the stem of the gazing ball. Place the anchor, a stone or other heavy object, in the middle of the pond with enough line so the gazing ball will be able to move about. Whenever the pond water is disturbed, the gazing ball will bob up and down and move about. The shiny surface of the gazing ball will reflect the image of the predator and with the motion will scare it away. Your pond will have a beautiful focal point and the Koi will live happily in safety.

## Horticultural Hints

So this is October? Finally! Maybe! I think we are all starting to get used to the ups and downs of our crazy weather patterns. The excessive rain we had, however, was tougher to get used to. I lost some shrubs, and now an oak tree, that I think, quite simply, drowned. We knew about some low spots in the front yard, but they were never a problem before. And may never be again.

Figuring out what to replant is the challenge. I am going to try some perennials and shrubs that prefer moist soil. Iris is a plant that I am going to move up there, and, I've also planted the shrub clethra "Ruby Spice". If they do well, I'll get braver and add more.

This is also the time of year to think about bringing in the plants that you want to overwinter. Do you have plants that you can take cuttings and root in either water or soil? I have been successful with doing that with my begonias, streptocarpus and Swedish oregano (which isn't really oregano).



And once we have a frost, I will cut back my colocasias (elephant ears), dahlias and cannas to the ground, put ugly wire fencing around them and fill the space inside with fallen leaves. This has worked well for us for several years now. I had some die back on both plants last winter due to an especially cold spell. All that meant for us was that the outer areas of the clumps didn't survive. Another idea, if you don't want to take a chance on the temperatures is to bring your plants into the house. I have a friend who digs up her colocasias and banana plants each year, pots them and puts them in a sunny window. They look sad, but they survive until spring.

There are other methods to use to overwinter your tropicals. Some involve digging up your corms and storing them in a cool dry place with dry sawdust and some need some light moisture. Find a method that works for you and the conditions that you have.

And remember, that you can also save seeds. Zinnias and marigolds can be seed harvested successfully. I have also dried and saved hyacinth bean seeds. All have been successful saves. I keep them dry and away from moisture so that they don't rot.



These are only a few suggestions on how to save your special tropical plants for next year. Research for other methods if you would prefer another way.

Always have fun!  
Sandy Mattes, Master Gardener

**Next Month's Program – November 14, 2018  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)**

Episcopal Church of the Redeemer – Coffee 9:30/Meeting 10 AM  
(See page 86 of your Yearbook for details)

**Program:** "The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Gardener – Choose Wisely" by David Roos



**Greeter:** Fran Judd

**Hostesses:** Judy Allesandro, Liz Bass, Janice Beatty, Reta Good, Debbie Jackson, Fran Judd, Sue Oakey, Linda O'Mara, Martie Parch

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**OCTOBER EVENTS**

18	Redeemer Church Workday	CP15
22	Chesterfield Heights Project	CP23
22	Midlothian Post Office Workday	CP7
22-23	Plant Together Project	CP25
23	Spring Arbor Project – 10:00 AM	NP1
24	Field Trip – Tour of Zoen Garden Creation	CP4
24-28	Fine Arts & Flowers at VMFA	
30	Redeemer Preschool Nature Program	CP8

**NOVEMBER EVENTS**

7*	SGC Board Meeting – 9:00 AM *Note: 1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday - Hostess: M. Parch	
7	Bickford Garden Therapy	CP14
8	Annual Daffodil Project – 10 AM	CP19
13	VA Flower Show Judges Council Meeting and Flower Show	CP1
13-15	VFGC FS Judges' Symposium – Henrico	CP1
14*	SGC General Meeting (Exhibits) 9:30 AM *Note: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Program: "The 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Gardener – Choose Wisely" by David Roos	CP4
23-30*	GardenFest of Lights – Lewis Ginter BG *November 23, 2018 – January 7, 2019	
29-30	Decorate Salisbury Entrances – 10:00 AM	CP10

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