



Mum's the Word

September 2020 – Volume 53, Issue 1

Salisbury Garden Club

www.salisburygardenclub.com

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Member

A Message from SGC President, Janice Beatty. . .

Autumn is right around the corner, as it always follows summer. We have had plenty of time to nurture our gardens thanks to stay at home recommendations. Our gardens have provided beauty, exercise, and optimism. Our way of life will be different, but like our changing gardens, will continue in a new way. This is where we will *bee* adaptable. As we start another garden club year, we realize things will be different. Not necessarily bad, but most definitely not what we were used to. Being able to adjust will keep us connected.

We are branching out into new methods of communication to include all our members. "It's about PHYSICAL distancing, not SOCIAL isolation". SGC board members have been very busy this summer creating new ways to keep in touch. We have had to postpone many group activities, but we are determined to continue with meetings and projects.

The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer will currently allow up to 40 members in the church for a modified meeting during the 3rd Wednesday of the month. There will be no social time, and no food will be provided. All who attend the physical meeting must wear a mask and agree to social distance while in the building. We will have a brief business meeting, and all normal club business will be in *Mum's the Word* for our members to read. Our program will be presented in person and will also be available for members in Zoom format. Members who choose to attend the meeting in person will sign up via Sign Up Genius. It is important to show up at the meeting if you sign up because space is limited. You do not need to sign up to attend the Zoom meeting.

Today's Program:

**"Container Gardening –
Tips for
Success"**



by
**Susan Nienow,
Master Gardener**

Virtual Exhibits—Our minds will be still be challenged by creating beautiful and interesting designs and displaying horticulture as per the schedule in the Yearbook. We will create, at home, complete the usual 3x5 card, take a picture, and send to Kathy Ward or Suzy Miladin. Very Accommodating! And photos will be displayed on our website!

Looking forward to the coming year we will see a variety of programs selected by Martie Parch and Connie Sorrell. They have been working all summer to offer interesting and fun programs, workshops, and tours, keeping in mind social distancing and other safe procedures. With all that is going on with Covid 19, this is quite an accomplishment.

Unfortunately, many of our educational and outreach projects have been curtailed due to the current pandemic situation. Notice I said curtailed, not ignored. Meg Winn and Camille Archie are continuing to reach out to the community to determine how we can continue to be connected. Meg and her committee are continuing to work on gardens they have been tending prior to Covid19. Camille has been in contact with her educational programs to see if there are other ways we can contribute to the well-being of the community.

Please check our website (www.salisburygardenclub.com) and your emails regularly to keep up with the latest SGC news. Things can change rather quickly these days and I will do my very best to keep everyone up to date.

We will continue to share our knowledge and work together, even at a distance. Calling another club member, just to chat, can do a world of good for both of you.

Please stay safe and healthy.

Bright Beams, Janice



The Board wishes to thank Janice Beatty for once again hosting our board meeting via ZOOM. Not an easy task under any circumstances, but she guided us through all the necessary business with her humor and usual grace!

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TREASURER’S REPORT: June 1, 2020 though August 31, 2020

Not available for website...



NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS

The September/October edition of NGC's "Keeping in Touch" newsletter is available on their website, gardenclub.org. Just scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on Member Resources to locate this newsletter and other publications.

The website also the latest information about **Flower Show and Landscape Design Schools** – some of which are available virtually – and **Symposiums**, along with a wealth of other information and articles. Check it out!

SGC's Celebration of National Garden Week

National Garden Week was June 7-13. Although we were unable to do most of our usual projects due to Covid 19, many members helped out with what we could do, and we were able to do several activities each day.



We took flower designs to 6 assisted living facilities for their lobby. Members took bouquets to friends who were ill or unable to get out. We weeded, planted, pruned and watered at five of our civic beautification sites. One member renovated her elderly neighbors' garden and planted it with plants from her own garden – all while they were out of town. What a surprise! Another member planted tomato plants in big pots with cages and donated them to a food bank. Other members did various gardening all in the name of National Garden Week.

Thanks to everyone who made this beautiful week successful in spite of Covid-19.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION – Meg Winn

Thanks to our intrepid garden managers, our sites at Redeemer Church, Post Office, and Anniversary Garden have been colorful through the summer.



Moving into the new season, we have ambitions to spruce up all the areas and plant anew for fall.

We need your help so sign up where you can lend a hand. There is plenty to do while keeping a safe distance.

The chairmen for our beautification sites are as follows:

Anniversary Garden: Danadeee Carragher

Annual Daffodil Project: Connie Sorrell

Church of the Redeemer: Dawn Lerch and Peggy Young

Midlothian Fire Station: Meg Winn

Midlothian Post Office: Barbara Metz and Kerri Butler

National Garden Week: Candy Nasser

Salisbury Christmas Decorating: Lorna Boucher and Barbara Metz

Suburban Mobile Village: Meg Winn

Wishing Well Park: Meg Winn

EDUCATION – Camille Archie

Due to the pandemic many of our Education Projects will not be available this year 2020 but hopefully in 2021 we will be busy once again with all projects. In order to serve the community, we have planned to design small arrangements for **Spring Arbor Memory Care and Bickford Retirement Center on September 22nd and December 2nd at 2:00 pm with setup at 1:30 pm.** Please bring greenery from your gardens. See the **article on page 7** for more details about these workshops.

We continue to try and think of ways to bring club members together sharing flowers with our community.

Chairman this year:

Redeemer Preschool: Vicki McGonegal

Bickford Retirement Center: Linda OMara

Spring Arbor Memory Care: JJ Jordan

Community Hospice House: Anne McCormick

Southampton Elementary School: Peggy Young

Gardening Enrichment: Becky Sido

Veterans Art for the Journey: Camille Archie

SOCIAL HOSPITALITY – Nancy Scherer & Shirley Gates

This is just to let you know that we still have our **Christmas Party scheduled for Wednesday, December 2nd at the Salisbury Country Club**. It would be wonderful to think that we could all get together and enjoy each other's company this holiday season. Obviously, at this time, we don't even know if this will be feasible with all the uncertainty surrounding the virus but it's always nice to hope. We will have updated information for you next month. Stay safe and healthy.

YEARBOOKS – Linda Nau

We will have printed Yearbooks this year, but **they won't be available until our October meeting**. I will also have the Yearbook put on our website as well as emailing it to everyone, so even those who are not able to attend meetings for a while will have access to it.

A Gardener's Trunk or Treat!!

Do you have perennials to share with members? gardening magazines? books? vases? design materials? or any other



plant, gardening or design related items?? This is just a “heads up” to give you time to get those materials together. At a time to be determined, hopefully in October, we will plan to meet at an outside location and have our annual Gardener's Exchange. Current plans are to park in an area of a

parking lot and then display the items for others to select from. It should be a good time for us to socialize and also get some much-needed gardening and design inspiration.

Kathy Ward, Gardener's Exchange Chairman

Here we grow again...our newest member is:

Joy Mingis

Personal detail not available for website



BICKFORD AND SPRING ARBOR WORKSHOPS

Dates: September 22 and December 2

Place: Redeemer Church

Time: 2:00 PM

Bring: Greens from your gardens, clippers, etc

Please note: Masks and 6' social distancing required!

We plan to create 30 lovely small arrangements which will be placed on their dining tables – 15 for each facility!

Participation is limited to 17 members (plus 3 co-chairs) at each workshop.

Advanced sign-up required. Please contact Jean Jordan at jjafta5@yahoo.com or Linda O'Mara at lindaomara1@gmail.com.



We look forward this opportunity to gather together again, catch up, and create beautiful arrangements for others to enjoy!

Jean Jordan, Co-chair Spring Arbor

Linda O'Mara Co-chair Bickford



“Pumpkins and Succulents” Workshop

On **October 20 at 1:30 PM**, **Teresa Peckens** will lead a workshop on planting small pumpkins with a variety of succulents. The workshop will be held at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer. What a fun way to spend time with SGC friends and start off the Fall season!

We will be sending an email to everyone soon with the rest of the details, but you can contact me by email if you already know you're interested in attending.

Martie Parch, Programs Co-Chairman, tredwr@msn.com



Virtual Exhibits

Thank you to all our members who sent in photos of their horticulture, designs and botanical arts this month. You will receive participation credit for each entry. After the regular meeting, photos of these exhibits can be seen on our website (www.salisburygardenclub.com).

For our October virtual exhibits, we would like to make a few changes:

1. When submitting a horticulture entry photo, please place the class and entry's botanical name in the subject line of your email. For example, "5. Herb - *Salvia Rosmarinus*" (Normally botanical names are to be in italics, but that's not an option in the subject line).

2. When submitting any entry, please send two photos - one of your entry without the card (they are too hard to read if in photo) and one of the front of the required card. Please be sure the writing on the card is legible.



**Here is next month's schedule of exhibits:
October Virtual Exhibit Schedule**

Design Division

1. **Social Distancing** - A Parallel Design* - Designer's Choice
2. **Indian Summer** - All Dry Plant Material
3. **Every "Witch" Way** - Designer's Choice
4. **Rose Colored Glasses** - Novice Design** - Designer's Choice

Horticulture Division

Specimen

1. *Aucuba*
2. Herb

Specimen (continued)

3. *Chrysanthemum*

a. Single flower

b. Spray

4. Ground cover

5. Perennial in Bloom

6. Annual in bloom

7. Unclassified

Collection***

8. Blooming Perennial

Botanical Arts Division

Design

1. **Pretty as a Picture** - Plaque****

* A **Parallel Design** is a creative design where there are three or more groupings placed in a strong parallel manner. Parallel direction may be vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. There should be open space between the groupings. Units may be of one plant material, a combination of plant materials or each of a different plant material. Design is in one container or container combined so as to appear as one unit.

** The **Novice Design** class is for members who have never won a blue ribbon for a floral design during a club meeting.

*** A **Collection** is 5 or more exhibits that are of the same genus and/or species. For example - 5 different types of cone flower that differ by species or color or form. Each is to be exhibited in a separate glass bottle.

**** A **Plaque** is a two-dimensional design that is to be displayed vertically (i.e. on an easel). It must contain some plant material and that plant material is to be placed in a naturalist position, as opposed to an abstract manner.

Suzy Miladin and Kathy Ward, Exhibits Chairmen

The Gifts of a Garden

In retrospect, in 2015, not a single person correctly answered the question “Where do you see yourself five years from now?” When the future we plan doesn’t go as anticipated, we look for comfort and purpose. Victory gardens during World War One and Two, where ordinary citizens turned to growing vegetables to aid the recovery effort, provided a much-needed morale boost at a time of great uncertainty. In stressful times and environments, gardening helps keep the hands and mind busy, allowing the brain to focus on another task. Modern victory gardens are again feeding hungry people all over the US.

I’d be interested to hear what you’ve been doing in your gardens. Are you trying new things?



We could publish your stories in our newsletter. A couple of us have met in the Anniversary Garden many times during the Covid-19 epidemic, watering in the blistering July heat, weeding in August, and enjoying an ever-changing, compact garden. Irises

have bloomed and gone and now come again. Peonies, abelia and the maple tree have flourished. Funny little autumn crocuses have caught our attention. Given the garden’s small size, there is little to weed, and it is not too daunting to keep it watered. Friendship is one of the many benefits of working in the garden together. We gardeners are in the right business for these high stress times.

We talk and plan low-water gardens with native plants and recycled materials, and where masses of daffodils should grow. We muse what plants we can transplant if the playground gets expanded. We deliberate how fast trees would grow, given our sunny spot. Memories of past disasters where the deer ate the tulips and the slugs ate the hostas just

remind us to avoid those pitfalls and move on. Our minds seek possibilities, doable dreams.

Health is a gift of the garden, health of the soil, of the plants, of the body you inhabit. Composting, rain barrels, mulch, sand and gravel all offer possibilities to build your garden's health. Good plants from reliable sources are important. And good nutrition, sunshine and exercise come with the territory. Outdoor gardening and plant care exposes us to sunshine and high amounts of vitamin D, a synthesizer of serotonin, the chemical in our brains that induces happiness. Overall mood improves greatly after spending time in nature.

For most of us, another gift of the garden is nature's diversity in plain view. Butterflies and moths, earthworms and slugs, birds and small critters that make holes are some of the characters we get to know. When we know enough, we're careful to leave the welcome door open for the garden's friends. And we get wise: we know more about

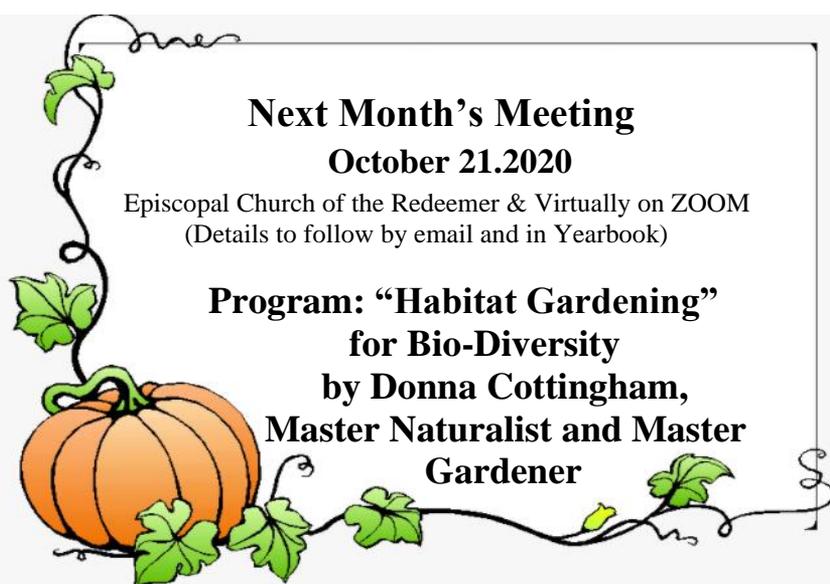


Salisbury deer's palate than a Michelin 3-Star trainee. We recognize we are part of all this, but the master of none of it.

A gift of the garden is that it doesn't have to be yours! Enjoying a forest walk or an early morning walk through your neighborhood fosters a sense of community in these isolated times. Seeing Black Eyed Susans and Moon flowers wave to you from across the street can bring a smile.

A gift of a garden is to think about the future and not dwell in the past. It is always about anticipation and "looking forward to" in the garden. We plan for its success, using "next year" or "in five years" as if time doesn't matter. We step out of time and circumstance with our eye on the horizon. A morning in the garden reminds us that nature will continue to embrace us and that there is a place for us even in hard times.

DanaDee Carragher, Master Gardener



Next Month's Meeting

October 21, 2020

Episcopal Church of the Redeemer & Virtually on ZOOM
(Details to follow by email and in Yearbook)

**Program: "Habitat Gardening"
for Bio-Diversity
by Donna Cottingham,
Master Naturalist and Master
Gardener**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September Events

22 Bickford & Spring Arbor Workshops – 2 pm CP14, 23

October Events

TBD	Gardener's Exchange – Trunk or Treat!!	CP5
5	Midlothian Post Office Workday – 9:30 AM	CP7
6	Wishing Well Park Workday – 9:30 AM	CP13
7	Suburban Mobile Village Workday – 9:30 AM	CP25
12	Anniversary Garden Workday – 9:30 AM	CP26
14	SGC Board Meeting	
15	Church of the Redeemer Workday – 9:30 AM	CP15
19	Piedmont District Fall Meeting – CANCELED	CP1
20	Workshop with Teresa Peckens – 1:30 PM	CP4
21	SGC General Meeting – 10 AM	CP4
26	Annual Daffodil Project – 10 AM	CP19



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