



# THE AUGUSTA GARDEN CLUB

*Established in 1919*

*Charter Member of the Garden Club of Virginia*

*Member of the Garden Club of America since 1927*

September 2018

## Board of Directors 2017-2018

Deneen Brannock,  
President

Virginia Gillock,  
First Vice President

Dana Flanders, Second  
Vice President

Cordelia Gary, Recording  
Secretary

Beth Negron,  
Corresponding Secretary

Kathy Garrison,  
Treasurer

Nancy Williams, Historic  
Garden Week Chairman

Ruth Bugas, 2017-2019

Carol Shannon, 2017-  
2019

Susie Lendermon, 2018-  
2020

Beth Scripps, 2018-  
2020

## 2018-2019

### CLUB YEARBOOK

has been updated to  
include:

- ◆ Calendar with dates and programs for the year
- ◆ Committee lists
- ◆ Membership roster

You can [access the yearbook](#) anytime on our website, or print our a copy for reference.

## *Dear Ladies of the Club,*

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the August Social hosted by Sally James and Jane Fuller, and at the Floral Design Workshop on the 11th. I know we all enjoyed catching up while enjoying Sally's beautiful home and garden! And we were inspired as always by Linda Holden and Marie Thomas as they demonstrated how to create Tussie Mussies, Biedermeier and Pave arrangements! Our September meeting will find us in the midst of Grace Rice's wonderful garden, as she and Ann McPherson host us. That meeting will be full of information and activities. Be sure to bring an exhibit for the Horticulture Show or enter the Flower Show- details and links to info are in our Committee Reports section on Page 2.

Also, at the meeting we will welcome our Garden Club of America Zone VII Chairman, Kim DeCamp. Kim will share a few words about GCA activities and opportunities; and I promise her enthusiasm is contagious! We will also hear from Bill Frazier, who will let us know about plans for some exciting improvements at Gypsy Hill Park. A number of our AGC members are also involved in this project.

And, of course, we will have brief committee reports to let you know what to look forward to in the coming months.

What a great way to kick off our Club year! Hope to see you on the 19th.

My Best,

*Deneen*

Opening Meeting  
of the  
Augusta Garden Club



•

Wednesday, September 19, 2018  
10:00 AM

•

Grace's Glorious Gardens  
Cold Coffee and Neat Nibbles  
under the tent

•

1432 Dogwood Road

Grace Rice  
Ann McPherson

Flower Show  
Plant Exchange

Regrets Only:  
anndmcp@gmail.com  
885-5850

**Time to VOTE!** Finalists for the GCV Common Wealth Award - including our own "Project Dogwood- A Hundred Year Journey " are listed on pages 4-5.

Please read and be prepared to vote at our meeting.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES:

### HORTICULTURE: *(Carrie Darracott & Sally James)*

Plan to participate in our first **Horticulture Show** on September 19th; practically anything growing in your garden can be entered! Entries will be accepted from 9:00 until 9:30, and judging will begin at 9:30; be sure to bring your own exhibit bottles. Find the [schedule here on our website](#). We will also have a **Plant Exchange** to share excess garden gems with fellow members & collect new ones of your own!



Dianne Pfizenmayer created this lovely arrangement for the August social.

### FLOWER SHOWS: *(Jane Fuller & Ellen Moffett)*

Shows this year will be centennial related. In September we feature some designs our first members would have created 100 years ago when there was much scarcity following WWI. [Click here](#) to view the schedule and revised information about participating in shows and our points award system.

### CIVIC & COMMUNITY PROJECTS: *(Dana Krusz & Carol Shannon)*

Project Dogwood continues with design underway for the educational signs to be installed near the plantings in Gypsy Hill Park and Montgomery Hall Park. GCA is reviewing the draft and we will share the design with you next month. Our club member challenge has been a great success! Thanks to the many members who have planted trees of their own this year. And keep your fingers crossed– we will find out if our application to the GCV Commonwealth Award wins in October.

### PHOTOGRAPHY: *(Susie Lendermon & Karen Santos)*



The Photography Committee has exciting plans for the year and hope many of you would like to participate. At the September meeting we will survey your interest and needs so we can respond with a fun educational program for skill enhancement.

### CONSERVATION: *(Joanie Laird & Bev Coffman)*

In June, the Club received A \$1,000 grant from Keep Virginia Beautiful to continue its “This is Litter Too!” cigarette litter prevention project. Additional receptacles will be purchased and installed at key locations in the community. Thomas Otteni (Stephanie’s son) and Imani Hankinson, seniors at Shenandoah Valley Governor’s School, will assist with cleaning and data collection this year, using this as their capstone project to evaluate the benefits of reducing cigarette litter.



### CENTENNIAL: *(Ruth Bugas)*

Plans are in the works for celebrating our 100th anniversary. Each meeting will feature a “Centennial Moment” thanks to Nancy McDaniel and our Archives Committee’s work. We will continue to collect club memories through interviews and some fun interaction this year, and will bring our Club history up to date. In March we will have a talk on Elizabeth Rawlinson, and in April, Historic Garden Week will celebrate some of our noted Club members. Stayed tuned for more details as plans evolve– and be sure to pass along any ideas you have to make our centennial year memorable and meaningful!

## COUNTDOWN to the Centennial!

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

To create excitement and community awareness as we prepare to celebrate our many accomplishments of these last 100 years, the Membership Committee encourages members to include more guests at each meeting! A guest at a meeting will learn first-hand all about what we do in the community! A guest will share in our wonderful programs! A guest will understand the value of the AGC! We ask each member to consider inviting a friend, a leader in another organization, a local community leader, or even, a potential member! All of our monthly meetings, with the exception of the May Annual Meeting, are OPEN MEETINGS and guests are welcome. As a courtesy to the hostess(es), let her know would like to bring a guest.



**Our goal is 100 GUESTS for our 100 YEARS!** That means about 10 guests at each meeting—SO MAKE A LIST OF 2 PEOPLE YOU MIGHT LIKE TO BRING TO A MEETING AND START ASKING!

**Events & Items of Interest:** (Click on the highlighted links for more information!)

- **Wednesday, September 19th, 10 a.m.** Club meeting, home of Grace Rice.
- **September 25-26th**, Garden Club of Virginia "[Elements of Beauty](#)" **Fall Symposium**, Richmond
- **October 9-11th**, Garden Club of America **Zone VII Meeting**, Roanoke
- **October 10-12th**, Garden Club of Virginia **Board of Governors Meeting**, Alexandria
- **Wednesday, October 24th, 3:30 p.m.** Club meeting, Tinkling Spring Church, Fishersville
- **October 24-28th**, [Fine Arts & Flowers](#) at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond
- **October 25th**, Garden Club of Virginia **60th Annual Conservation Forum** "[The Real Dirt on Pesticides: Pollinators, Food and our Health](#)", Charlottesville



### Centennial Daffodil:

#### Green Arrow

This mid-season daffodil, offered for the first time and developed by Brent and Becky Heath, celebrates the upcoming 2020 Centennial of the Garden Club of Virginia.



**[Order yours now from the GCV website!](#)**



The Common Wealth Award Committee is proud to announce five finalists for the 2018 Common Wealth Award. The Garden Club of Virginia member clubs will vote on the winner(s) at the Board of Governors meeting in October. Winners and monetary awards will be announced at this meeting. A description of each project is listed below:

**Project Dogwood- A Hundred Year Journey  
submitted by The Augusta Garden Club**

Habitat for Humanity is initiating a whole neighborhood approach as it buys homes and lots in a five-block area of downtown Staunton. The Augusta Garden Club will donate dogwoods for yards and planned common spaces to beautify and build equity in this formerly blighted area. Habitat will oversee green spaces and provide tools and instruction to homeowners on successful care of the trees.

Montgomery Hall Park, one of Virginia's first African-American parks, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is experiencing renewed recognition and improvements. The Club will provide dogwoods, to be planted and maintained by the City of Staunton, to enhance the park's manor house and nature trails.

Since its 1919 founding, the Club has planted dogwoods along city streets, parks, and public spaces. In the last five years, we used grants and club funds to plant over 100 dogwood trees and develop a "teaching arboretum" focused on disease-resistant cultivars. As our centennial approaches, the Club hopes to expand community partnerships and bring this project to two diverse and historic areas. The Common Wealth Award will allow the Club to increase the presence of our state tree by planting over 40 dogwoods in these underserved areas of Staunton.

**Urban Garden Invites Youth to "Dream a Different Future"  
submitted by The Elizabeth River Garden Club**

Paradise Creek in Portsmouth was once so polluted that the EPA named three "Superfund" or worst-of-the-worst sites in this area. One shore has been transformed into an urban oasis, Paradise Creek Nature Park, where at-risk youth, in particular, can discover hope.

This plan for an outdoor classroom is the second phase of the landscaping around the new UVA designed River Academy building. Children will go from the Academy to the adjacent outdoor classroom where native flowers, shrubs, trees, a sensory garden, outdoor art, and more will enliven their learning experience. They can view a solar-powered building with cisterns to provide water for plants and with sustainable materials used throughout.

Thousands of people visit this 40-acre park created by the non-profit Elizabeth River Project with help from the community. With a revitalized forest and a created wetland, this park teaches environmental stewardship of the Elizabeth River and Chesapeake Bay. But those who may benefit the most are the children from the nearby neighborhoods with inner-city challenges. "Just walking among the trees and seeing the herons takes these children out of their bleak daily lives. It gives them a chance to dream a different future," said a teacher with Young Life.

**The Paw Path Pollinator Garden at Smith River Sports Complex  
submitted by The Martinsville Garden Club and The Garden Study Club**

Our clubs collaborated to create a pollinator sanctuary. With help from Master Naturalists, the Dan River Basin Association, and Eagle, Boy and Girl scouts, we created gardens rich with native plants and information signs at either end of the popular Paw Path and along the riverside dog-walking trail.

Our vision is to offer a new approach to learning. We are seeking support for creation of elementary-level, SOL-based educational materials – say a coloring book or a storybook that uses the gardens and their plants to introduce pollinators and the importance of conservation to a young audience.

Meanwhile, high-school teachers are already creating assignments that use this outdoor classroom as a living workbook. One includes creating QR codes for our plant signs; another involved building insect hotels.

We wish to expand upon students' development of a website (PawPath.org), now underway. They have designed a site format. We would like to build on their foundation to broaden our audience.

Ultimately, we envision the need for informational/ directional signage in prominent visitor locations to draw visitors to the gardens and path.

We are gifting what we hope will be a beautiful, serene and emotionally moving destination for visitors to our area's second largest tourist attraction.

**Strengthening Our Roots:  
Improving Access to a Native Garden  
submitted by Mill Mountain Garden Club**

Just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, Mill Mountain Park is a popular Roanoke mountaintop recreation area. In the heart of the park, lies the Mill Mountain Wildflower Garden. The Mill Mountain Garden Club has worked 40+ years and 80,000+ hours to reverse non-optimal development. Today, the 2.5-acre garden is a native plant sanctuary situated between the Mill Mountain Discovery Center and the Mill Mountain Zoo. Sadly, more than half of the 70,000 annual park visitors cannot access the garden because current garden paths are not stroller and wheelchair accessible. The alternate route is a bumpy, peripheral service road.

The Common Wealth Award combined with \$10,000 raised and restricted by MMGC would provide funds to install an accessible pathway for families with strollers and visitors with disabilities. The wildflower garden is a legacy project, with roots deep and wide. Improved access will open the garden and highlight environmental stewardship, education, and conservation: a mission match with GCV. It is our hope that funds will be granted to improve garden access, allowing everyone to benefit from the beauty and lessons of a native summit garden.

**Save the Rain  
submitted by Roanoke Valley Garden Club**

The Virginia Museum of Transportation honors the history of all forms of transportation throughout our state. VMT is a multi-cultural and multi-generational museum that hosts 50,000 visitors annually. Daily the museum is filled with happy noise – school groups, grandparents with grandchildren, veterans, and history buffs. VMT serves over 15,000 school age children each year with STEM oriented classes matched to SOLS.

Beautifying and maintaining the VMT railyard area has been Roanoke Valley Garden Club's signature project since the early 1970s. The railyards behind VMT contain beautiful beds and twenty planter boxes, which we designed and have maintained since 1985. The front of the museum, however, is bleak. Six empty, brick beds there need planting to distinguish the entrance. The building's overhang blocks rainfall from this area. Being listed on the National Historic Register prevents us from altering the building. Our beautification plan includes the addition of rain barrels and rain gardens to conserve and supply rainwater to the beds as well as signage to educate visitors on rain barrel usage and storm water management. RVGC requests your support to bring beauty to this Commonwealth museum of historical and educational importance.



A Few Photos from our  
*Floral Design Workshop*



*Thank you to Linda Holden and Marie Thomas for demonstrating Tussie Mussies, Beidemier, and Pave arrangements!*

