

TAPROOT

The Newsletter of the Council of Garden Clubs
of Virginia Beach, Inc.

www.vbgardencouncil.com

Volume 55 Number 6

February 2021

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Pins are still available for sale!

Please Contact: Laura Jacobson
757-237-7524

belle_of_the@hotmail.com

2019-2021 Officers

President	Betty Ann DesRoches - Bay Colony
First Vice President	Jessica O'Connor - Lynnhaven Heritage
Second Vice President	Executive Committee
Recording Secretary	Rose Busetti - Thalia
Corresponding Secretary	Susan Porter - Thoroughgood
Treasurer	Dennie Kelley - Broad Bay Point Greens

Council Website

www.vbgardencouncil.com

Webmaster: Murray Thompson
Homenet PC Services
757-304-6360



Council Motto

*"We are a service organization
dedicated to promoting our community through
beautification, conservation and preservation
by means of education and example."*

Booda Thorpe

A Message from the President**Betty Ann DesRoches**bades@cox.net

757-651-6289

Greetings dear garden club colleagues!

As I realize we're in the month of February, I nervously chuckle at the meme that my sister sent to me with the words:

"I'd like to cancel my subscription to 2021. I've experienced the free 30-day trial and I'm not interested." 😬 😊

Dr. Laurie Fox always keeps us up to date. Next Wednesday, February 10th, she will help us to answer *"Is 'Environmental Steward' on your resume?"* These programs are for your entire garden club, so rally the troops and zoom in! We are still determined to provide uplifting, inspiring programs for you during the next few months, so keep checking in with us as activities may change.

I know that our Council members feel the best when they can *give* love over receiving it but remember the 'ol oxygen mask saying. You've gotta love yourself first and *you deserve it* so I'm hoping that you will treat yourself to something special. And, remember the power of positive thinking and faith.

May lots of love and hugs come your way! ❤️ 🧡 💛 🌿 💙 💜

Betty Ann



2021 Calendar of Events

February 3, 2021

10:00 am – Zoom Meeting
Council Board Meeting

February 10, 2021

10:00 am – Zoom Meeting
Council General Meeting

Program: *"Is 'Environmental Steward' on your resume?"* by Laurie Fox, PhD Horticulture Associate, Virginia Tech, Hampton Roads AREC

February 22, 2021

7-8 pm – Zoom Meeting

Virginia Beach Master Gardeners Gardening Talks

Program: *"Warm Season Turfgrasses"* by Adam Nichols, Research Manager, Turfgrass & Weed Sciences, HRAREC
 The focus will be on the different types of warm season turfgrasses that grow in Virginia Beach, how to get them established, their growing requirements and how to maintain each of them.

Zoom link found on vbm.org

March 3, 2021

10:00 am – Zoom Meeting
Council Board Meeting

March 10, 2021**10:00 am – Zoom Meeting
Council General Meeting**Program: *“How Trees Can Save The Planet”* by Basil Camu, *Leaf & Limb*, ISA Board Certified Master Arborist**April 7, 2021****10:00 am – Zoom Meeting
Council Board Meeting****April 14, 2021****10:00 am – Zoom Meeting
Council General Meeting**

Program: TBA

April 21, 2021**10:00 am – 5:00 pm (Rain or Shine)****Home and Garden Tour of Virginia Beach** (*see Announcements for more information*)

Birdneck Neighborhood

May 10, 2020Council Awards & ABC Binders Due - **CANCELLED***Note: Keep 2019-2022 records to submit with June, 2022 applications.***May 20, 2021****World Bee Day****June 2, 2021****10:00 am – Zoom Meeting**

Program: Installation of 2021-2023 Council Officers

*(Note: Awards Luncheon – CANCELLED)***October, 2021****8:00 am – 6:00 pm****Council Annual Bus Tour – POSTPONED** (*see Announcements for more information*)

The Barrier Island Center, Historic Eyre Hall Gardens

Catered lunch & wine-tasting at Chatham Vineyards & Winery



Committee Reports**First Vice President****Jessica O' Connor**Joc800link@gmail.com

757-428-3994

You won't want to miss our March 10th Zoom Program. We will have Basil Camu (*Leaf & Limb*, Raleigh NC) speaking on "How Trees Can Save The Planet". Some of our members heard him at the Horticultural Short Course and said he was great. Plan to Zoom in for the meeting. You won't be disappointed.

Nominating Committee**Jessica O'Connor**Joc800link@gmail.com

757-428-3994

The members of the Nominating Committee, Peggy Caverly, Kay Eckhardt, Laura Jacobson, Keren Pernini and Jessica O'Connor, are pleased to offer the following slate of officers for 2021 – 2023.

President – Rose Busetti

First Vice President – Ann Abrams Hammette

Second Vice President – Betty Ann DesRoches

Recording Secretary – Sheila Magula

Corresponding Secretary – Debbie Babashanian

Treasurer – Dennie Kelley

Elections will be held in April.

Chaplain**Ellie Kreassig**kreassig1@verizon.net

757-340-0167 (H)

Please let me know if someone in your club might like a "thinking of you" or a "get well" card. I've sent several out from the Council and would like to continue to do so. A little "bright spot" in their day from receiving a card can make a big difference!

Corresponding Secretary**Susan Porter**srporter24@gmail.com

757-650-5231 (C)

Thank you for the opportunity to edit the Taproot. The Taproot can also be found on the Council website at www.vbgardencouncil.com. The next Taproot will be published on March 1st. Please send committee articles and club announcements to me by February 20th at srporter24@gmail.com. Thank you for your input!

Scholarships**Sylvia Brewington**sylvbrew@cox.net

757-340-0907

Scholarships are ongoing. For future Virginia Tech scholarship donations, please make your checks payable to Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach with a note on the Memo line and send them to Dennie Kelley, 2316 Mariners Mark Way, Unit 303, Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

Treasurer**Dennie Kelley**mdkelley@aol.com

757-496-3990

Council dues are paid as follows: Active Clubs pay \$1.00 per member. Associate Clubs pay \$50.00 per year. Dues paid after December shall include an additional fee of \$5.00 for each month, or part of a month, that they are late. Send your dues and all other contributions to: Mary Dennis Kelley, 2316 Mariners Mark Way, #303, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451

Publicity**Adele Lundquist**lundquac@cox.net

757-717-1953 (C)

After almost a year, I was excited to see that the Council was published in The Beacon. There is hope. If you have a good clear photo of an interesting activity, please send it to me for publication.

Nature Camp**Audrey Kelly**wmyluv@verizon.net

757-486-1733

Nature Camp is pleased to report that they are cautiously, but optimistically, moving forward with plans to reopen their doors this upcoming summer and to welcome back on-site sessions. This year will look unlike any other in Nature Camp's nearly 80-year history, as they must make some modifications and implement new measures in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Despite these changes, which are intended to safeguard the health and wellbeing of all participants, they hope that those who attend camp this summer will still have the same enriching, enjoyable and life-changing experience which Nature Camp has sought to provide since its inception in 1942.

The Council of Garden Clubs was pleased to support Caroline Bergren and Lukas Lewandowski, scheduled for Nature Camp summer (2020). Cancelled due to COVID-19, the Council of Garden Clubs will be supporting Caroline and Lukas for Nature Camp summer (2021). Caroline goes to Old Donation School and is in the 6th grade. Lukas goes to Cox High School and is in the 9th grade. This will be Lukas's first year going to Nature Camp. **Therefore, the Council of Garden Clubs will not be accepting applications for Nature Camp for the summer of 2021.**

We had 8 applicants for the summer of 2020. Hopefully, all 8 will have scholarships for the summer of 2021 since Nature Camp had to close for the summer of 2020. Thanks to the Princess Anne Garden Club (1 scholarship), Virginia Beach Garden Club (1 scholarship), Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach (2 scholarships), May Farm Garden Club (1 scholarship), Tidewater District (2 scholarships) and Nature Camp (1 scholarship). The Council of Gardens thanks ALL garden clubs for their donations to help support our Youth Nature Camp Scholarship.

(cont.)

We are pleased to be able to send a youth to Nature Camp each year. In order to do this, we need your support.

If a Garden Club wants to help support a youth to Nature Camp but cannot support a full Scholarship, you can donate to the Council. This is the only way that Council can send two youths to Nature Camp each year. So, please budget this with your garden club and donate.

If you have any questions about Nature Camp, please contact Audrey Kelly, 757-486-1733, email wmyluv@verizon.net or go online to www.naturecamp.net.

Guest Speakers List

Patsy Cameron

pecameron@cox.net

757-486-3165

As the chairman of the “Guest Speakers List” for the Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach, I seek your help in updating the list. If anyone who has used the current list, updated in May, 2020, finds an error in phone numbers or emails, please notify me so that corrections may be made for an update in May, 2021.

Suggestions for speakers to be added to the list are not only welcome but encouraged. If you know of a new presenter or program, please share the information with our members. Any evaluations or comments on the current list would be very much appreciated.

All program chairmen of our member clubs should have a copy of the May, 2020 list. I will be glad to send a copy to any program chairman or member who contacts me by email. The new list, which will be available after May, 2021, will be sent to club presidents.

Conservation/Ecology

Demaris Yearick

way4@juno.com

757-422-1618

We are glad to put 2020 behind us and look forward to a better and hopefully, greener year. Here are some 2021 Green Resolutions that we hope you will consider adopting.

1. Plant a tree.
2. Add native plants to your garden.
3. Ditch Disposables- use reusable bags, water bottles and razors for example.
4. Compost yard waste. Your plants will thank you!
5. Reuse, repair and repurpose.
6. Recycle, but recycle **right**. AskHRGreen.org has great recycling tips on their website.
7. Love aluminum more. Consider purchasing products in aluminum cans instead of plastic bottles and containers. Coffee and soda are two examples.
8. Turn off lights.
9. Eliminate Styrofoam from your life.
10. Volunteer with a local environmental group such as Lynnhaven River Now or the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

We now have an official Bee City Instagram account. Please check it out – search beecityvb. More posts can be found at beecityusa. Thank you!



Historic Houses**Peggy Caverly****757-490-0925****Kay Slover Eckhardt****757-486-7328**

The Council encourages garden clubs to support Council historic house projects such as weekly arrangements, Garden Week and Christmas decorating. All participation is strictly on a volunteer basis. Garden clubs receive credit and are eligible for first and second place awards for participation. The Historic Houses Committee welcomes all clubs to join in the fun and participation to work toward gaining an award. See Council Yearbook, p. 30 and 34:

#5 – Historic Homes Christmas Decorating Award

#6 – Historic Homes Weekly Floral Arrangement Award

#17 – Cheryll Klobuchar Participation Award

February Weekly Floral Arrangement Assignments

Place arrangements at the Whitehurst-Buffington Historic House (2441 North Landing Road, Virginia Beach, 23456) on Wednesday (or Saturday, if more convenient) between 1:00 and 3:30 pm. The February floral arrangement assignments are:

February 3 (or 6): Lynnhaven Heritage GC

February 10 (or 13): Pembroke Meadows GC

February 17 (or 20): Lynnhaven Heritage GC

February 24 (or 27): Thalia GC

We remind and urge all participants to:

1. Put your name and phone number on your containers.
2. Retrieve your containers the week following the placement of your arrangement including any other containers placed at other historic houses.
3. If you have difficulty locating your container, please call us to help locate it. It is not the responsibility of the W/B Historic House to call a garden club member to pick up his/her container. If your container is missing,

When these guidelines are not followed, it creates orphaned vases such as the ones shown below (this is your 2nd reminder). Please call Peggy or Kay to claim your very nice vases. Thank you and Happy New Year!

**Historic Preservation****Kay Slover Eckhardt****757-486-7328**

Does your garden club have projects involving historic properties? If so, please forward information to Kay Eckhardt at 1073 Downshire Chase, Virginia Beach, VA 23452-7328.

ABC Book of Evidence**Suzie Duckworth**Suzied44@cox.net

757-363-1050

Due to the continuing situation with the virus, we will not give the ABC Awards this year. Please remember that, if you have started or completed a new project, please keep all of your information for the 2021-2022 Awards. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Awards**Cheryll Klobuchar**c-klobuchar@cox.net

757-463-4885

I hope this finds everyone well and enjoying a little bit of winter here in Virginia Beach. As I write this, there are snow flurries outside my window.

AWARDS WILL NOT BE GIVEN IN JUNE, 2021. After much thought, it was decided to postpone the distribution of awards this year due to Covid-19. As was done last year, 2019-2020, keep your information and records. Hopefully, the Covid-19 virus will be under control by June, 2022 and we will once again be able to present awards at the CGCVB Annual Awards Luncheon. Currently, the plan will include awards earned in the years 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

Garden Club News

Garden Club representatives: This is a new “column” in the Taproot, a place to inform member clubs of your activities, past and future. Are you meeting outdoors or holding Zoom meetings? Are you doing projects? Are you giving your time and money to worthwhile causes? If so, please submit a brief article to the Taproot editor. Thank you.

The first article comes from Keren Pernini, President of Lake Smith Terrace Garden Club.

Lake Smith Terrace Garden Club**Keren Pernini**pernini@icloud.com

Lake Smith Terrace Garden Club, continues to host Zoom meetings for our members. After our programs, we invite members to share (on screen) their floral arrangements and specimens from their gardens during our meetings. Our next meeting is a Power Point presentation with VB Landscape Management, Symsi Denson, speaking to us about Pollinators.

Due to COVID concerns, we cancelled our 55th Anniversary Luncheon and planned a Zoom program with Lynnhaven River NOW. Our club contributes annually, and we thought it would be good to hear more about what they do. March will feature meetings about Native Plants with Laurie Fox from Virginia Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

Two of our members, Mildred Dyson and Keren Pernini, provided a Christmas arrangement for the Whitehurst-Buffington House dining room table. We have also provided some monthly arrangements. (*cont.*)



We had ten members at the last VB Council Zoom meeting. We donate money to several garden-related organizations with proceeds from two [annual] plant sales. We host a Pansy Sale in the Fall and a Spring Plant Sale in April. The April sale is planned for outdoors, using our grower, Paramount Nurseries, for spring flowers and herbs. Also, our members provide donations from their gardens. On a sad note, we lost one of our long-time members, Peggy Econmidis. She will be sorely missed. On a positive note, we have added three new members, Zoom meetings and all.

Finally, we are working with the City of Virginia Beach, Landscaping Department, to create a Pollinator Garden in our neighborhood park. Our club maintains a large garden bed there and, after the city installs the new garden, we will be maintaining it. Wishing everyone a healthy 2021. Have fun in your gardens!



Recommended Reading/Viewing

YouTube

"Bring Back the Pollinators"

<https://youtu.be/chvXwNbs3SA>

TED Talks

"The Case of the Vanishing Honeybees"

https://www.ted.com/talks/emma_bryce_the_case_of_the_vanishing_honeybees?utm_campaign=tedsread&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=tedcomshare

Online Reading

"Right Tree, Right Place: What to Plant and Where to Plant It"

<https://www.leaflimb.com/right-tree-right-place-what-to-plant-and-where-to-plant-it/>

Announcements

2021 Vision of Beauty Calendar



There are still a few 2021 Vision of Beauty calendars available. Please consider purchasing one for only \$6.00!

When purchasing, you may pay with cash or checks (made out to **"Tidewater District, VFGC"**). Calendar distribution options: delivery, pick-up or meet at agreed-upon location

Thank you,

Sue Harper, sueharper6@cox.net, 757-536-8396 (C)
696 Harris Point Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23455-4755



**Home and Garden Tour of Virginia Beach
Birdneck Point**

Wednesday, April 21, 2021
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM Rain or Shine

Tour Headquarters
Cavalier Golf and Yacht Club

Tickets \$40 per person, available *only* at vagardenweek.org
Includes admission to 6 properties

Tour Chairs
Frances Padden 757-641-2833
Elizabeth Reed 757-681-5331

<https://www.vagardenweek.org/main/tour-details/486/virginia-beach>



Tidewater District, VFGC, Inc.

POSTPONED!

Divas & Designs

Tidewater District Fundraiser

New date is: **Thursday, April 21, 2022**. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THIS NEW DATE!

The day full of “fun” is still the same. All current ticket holders have a reserved seat. This event will be held at the Colonial Heritage Clubhouse in Williamsburg. For information and details, contact Glenda Knowles, 757-651-0401 or ggknowles@cox.net



10:00 am Registration
10:30 am Fashion Show presented by Chico's
12:15 pm Luncheon

Program: “*Dueling Designers*” by David Pippin and Al Brockwell, Floral Designers
They will create designs side-by-side using similar containers and flowers.

Silent Auction - Themed Baskets

\$30 donation – checks payable to: Tidewater District, VFGC, Inc.



BLUEBIRD HOUSES FOR SALE
Lynnhaven Heritage Garden Club

Beautiful Bluebird Houses Made to Order

Cost: \$30.00

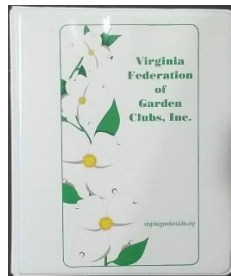
Information sheet is included.

To order contact:

Bev Hunter 340-8679 Bhunt25@hotmail.com

Cheryll Klobuchar 463-4885 c-klobuchar@cox.net

Proceeds benefit community beautification projects and other LHGC projects.



Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs

2021-2023 VFGC Yearbook

Order your copy of the VFGC yearbook to become a VFGC yearbook sponsor. To place an order, contact Darleen Nelson, 153 Bushfield Road, Montross, VA 22520-3813, darlydurl@aol.com, 804-472-9710. (Insert - \$10, Binder with VFGC logo - \$8) Deadline: June 30, 2021

SPONSOR BENEFITS

- Listed on the *Sponsors Page*
- A directory of names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for all VFGC officers & chairmen, District officers & chairmen, all garden club presidents and SAR and NGC officers
- Information - dues, donations, Life Memberships, etc.
- 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, Calendar of Events

POSTPONED!



COME JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL BUS TOUR

sponsored by

THE COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS OF VIRGINIA BEACH, INC.

October, 2021 – day TBD

THE EASTERN SHORE OF VA

TO INCLUDE:

THE BARRIER ISLAND CENTER

CATERED LUNCH AND WINE TASTING AT CHATHAM VINEYARDS & WINERY

HISTORIC EYRE HALL GARDENS

... AND A FEW SHORE SURPRISES

TOUR INFORMATION

The bus company, Venture Tours, will depart from a designated area in the Pembroke Mall parking lot at 8:00 am and return by 6:00 pm. Plan to arrive by 7:45 am to insure a prompt departure time.

Our tour includes bus fare and tip, admission to the Barrier Islands Center, catered lunch at Chatham Vineyards & Winery featuring Chef Amy Brandt and a tour of Historic Eyre Hall Gardens.

Note: Wine-tasting at Chatham Vineyards will include a separate fee for those wishing to participate.

THERE ARE ONLY 50 SEATS AVAILABLE FOR THIS TOUR SO, RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW!

****TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT, CONTACT LAURA JACOBSON via
Phone: 757-237-7524 or Email: belle_of_the_mall@hotmail.com**

NO DEPOSITS ARE REQUIRED DUE TO COVID-19. THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS GIVEN FOR THIS TOUR WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TRIP CANCELLATION DUE TO COVID-19.



DON'T MISS THE FUN!!!!

