

THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA



VOL LXII, NO. 1, MARCH 2017

Journal



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

The Garden Club of Virginia exists to celebrate the beauty of the land, to conserve the gifts of nature and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage.

FROM THE EDITOR

As you read through this issue, you'll discover a lovely article about daffodils. And by the time this reaches you, our wonderful daffodils will have brightened your lives. Each year they seem to arrive earlier and earlier, and though this gives us pause and a warning about possibly ominous changes in our climate, they are always welcome and signal the end of winter and a beginning to the industrious and eager hard work of beautifying our lives. The winds of spring strengthen the stems of, not only daffodils, but also all the growing things we depend upon to nourish and delight us. Watching the emergence of glorious stems and buds which open to life gives us hope and feeds our dreams of a sustained and unceasing future.

Thank you for reading the *Journal*. We welcome your articles.

Write to us at journal@gcvirginia.org.

Submission guidelines may be found on the GCV website.

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ON THE COVER...

Nan Mahone Wellborn of the Roanoke Valley Garden Club loves to paint Virginia landscapes. Her lovely "River of Daffodils" was painted en plein air in the gardens of Brent & Becky's Bulbs in Gloucester, the "Daffodil Capital of America."

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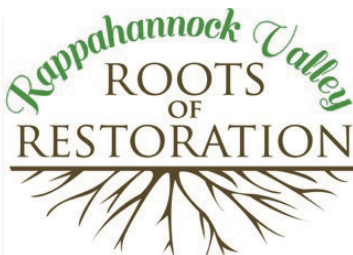
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High-flying History of the Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

by Jeanette Cadwallender
The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

In 1945, at the close of WWII, Navy Scout plane SNJ-3, bearing the name RVGC75, flew over Europe. The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club had raised over \$25,000 (\$339,000 in 2017 dollars) for the Seventh War Bonds drive at hunter trials held at Oak Hill Hunt Club. The U.S. Navy could not have known much of this garden club centered around Fredericksburg, Va.



The club's name is derived from the intent of the first members to highlight the "famous Colonial Estates in the Rappahannock Valley" (*Follow the Green Arrow, Vol. I, pg. 67*). The homeowners of these estates and interested people of Fredericksburg were asked to join. In 1924, the club was organized and held a flower show to benefit needy children. Sponsored by Dolley Madison Garden Club and the James River Garden Club, Rappahannock Valley joined the Garden Club of Virginia in 1933. Initially, there were 50 members, including seven men.

From the start, club members were active in the GCV and its mission. The rally to save Kenmore marked the start of Historic Garden Week in 1929. Club members have continued to sustain HGW with an annual tour, proceeds from which have supported the four GCV restorations in Fredericksburg: Kenmore, the Mary Washington House, the Mary Washington Monument and Gari Melchers' Home and Gardens (Belmont). The first chairman of the GCV Restoration Committee was Kate Doggett Boggs of the RVGC, who served for six years. Many members subsequently have enjoyed active service in support of the statewide club.

Fundraising through flower shows and horse shows was successful in the early days of the club and through new means continues to empower civic projects. In addition to the patriotic effort to purchase an airplane, and parties at the USO, local projects have included highway plantings, the Rising Sun Tavern gardens (Massie Medal 1972), the Masonic Cemetery, brick paths and the fountain at the City Park, landscaping the grounds of the library headquarters (Common Wealth Award 1992), and annually sending two children to Nature Camp. The RVGC started two local garden clubs and, in 1958, the Fredericksburg Council of Garden Clubs. In 1967, an auxiliary club was initiated that became the Garden Club of the Northern Neck.

The club continues to work on civic projects, most recently improving the gardens at Chatham Manor (Common Wealth Award 2013), headquarters for the Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania Military Park. Noted landscape architect Ellen Biddle Shipman designed the gardens for Mrs. Daniel Devore, our club's first president.

The RVGC, with Dolley Madison Garden Club, hosted the GCV Lily Show for five consecutive years (1936-1941) in Fredericksburg. The club's hospitality has continued in hosting statewide meetings and flower shows. It is a great pleasure to welcome the GCV to Fredericksburg, May 16-18, 2017, for the 97th Annual Meeting, "The Roots of Restoration." ❁

In Memoriam 2016

Maya Barnes

Frances Beecroft

Lillian Brabson

Dorothy Browning

Marguerite Bryant

Anne Butler

Clare Byrd

Betty Carden

Dot Caudle

Sue Chandler

Mary Ann Clark

Norma Covington

Coco Davis

Mary Eades

Koiner Ellett

Martha Fidler

Anne Flythe

Adrienne Foshay

Nancy Gatewood

Barbara Hunter Grant

Gin Harris

Janet Phillips Harrison

Millie Hotchkiss

Janet C. Hudgins

Jean Franklin Johnson

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Ava Jean Loeb

Gail Matheson

Suzanne McKown

Florence Mears

Linda Nichols

Alice O'Connor

Mary Willis Matthews Park

Anne Smith Paul

Jeanette Payne

Doris Lee Davis Pritchett

Nancy Purcell

Nancy Reuter

Lorie Rogers

Christine Sehn

Sugar Spratley

Helen Stanley

Elizabeth Ann Parker Stokes

Elizabeth Tankard

Barbara Turnbull Thorup

Mary Leavell Tompkins

Betty Dyke Vansant

Betsy Varner

Joe Lene White

Serena Wiley

Carrie Brannon Childers Winn

In Memoriam lists the names of Garden Club of Virginia members who have died within the past year, compiled by the *Journal* from names submitted by club presidents.

Virginia Conservation Network: A Valuable Resource

by Anne Beals, GCV Conservation and Beautification Committee
The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

Virginia Conservation Network is a membership organization of conservation groups across the commonwealth. The Garden Club of Virginia is a major supporter and our membership in this large network gives us excellent value.

VCN provides a presence on request for our workshops and forums and tracks conservation bills of interest during the General Assembly. If you've ever done this tracking yourself, you can understand how valuable this assistance can be. VCN simplifies our annual Legislative Day in January, supplying speakers and making appointments with our appropriate legislators. We also benefit from continuing knowledge offered by VCN through their annually published *Environmental Briefing Book* and by participating in various VCN workgroups that are developed as issues arise.

Several GCV member clubs belong to VCN; individual members also serve on the VCN board. Anne Beals from the Rappahannock Valley Garden Club and Elizabeth Christeller from the Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula have served on the VCN Board of Directors for several years. Martha Wingfield, a former GCV member, is past VCN President, and Karen Forget of Lynnhaven River Now, who received the 2012 Dugdale Award, also serves on the board. Each member of the current GCV Conservation and Beautification Committee participates in one of the workgroups of interest to the GCV.

Virginia Conservation Network offers GCV members the opportunity to learn as much as possible about issues concerning the environment and to stay current with those subjects of special interest such as land use, climate change, and uranium mining, on which we've taken formal positions. The briefing book's main subjects of healthy rivers, clean energy and green communities provide a worthwhile manual for Virginia's conservationists. Go to vcnva.org to investigate this extraordinary conservation organization. ❁



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Daffodil Notes

Dancing Daffodils: Poetry and Science

by Janet G. Hickman, GCV Daffodil Committee Chairman
Hillside Garden Club

Most of us are aware of the famous poem by William Wordsworth, *I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud*, which contains lines about the daffodils “fluttering and dancing in the breeze.” The idea of dancing daffodils has been used for artwork, songs, children’s books,* and even yoga pants. Nor is Wordsworth the only famous poet to write about daffodils in the wind. In *The Winter’s Tale* Act IV, Scene IV, Shakespeare writes of

“... daffodils,
That come before the swallow dares, and take
The winds of March with beauty ...”

How daffodils “take the winds” was the topic of a talk at the fall meeting of the American Daffodil Society. Dr. Shelley Etnier, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Butler University, spoke about “Backyard Mechanics: The Tale of the Dancing Daffodil.” While she and others were working at Duke University, they performed a number of experiments with daffodils in wind chambers. It turns out that the daffodil is especially adapted for protecting its petals and the pollen they shield from wind damage. Feel a daffodil stem and you will appreciate that it is not smoothly round; in cross section it is more like a lemon with little ridges or vanes on the edges. This shape allows the stem to twist the bloom away from the force of the wind rather than bending and breaking. As wind speed increases, the stem bends to bring the flower head closer to the ground where the wind speed is lower. The petals are flexible enough to close into a tighter umbrella as they turn their faces from the wind.

Engineers and physicists view this information with interest for its application to structures that need to perform well in the wind, such as bridges, umbrellas and golf clubs. I find it yet another example that the more you learn about a flower, the more miraculous it seems.

As our daffodils appear this spring, watch their motion in the wind and feel the stem shape that allows them to dance. Then pluck them to enter when the Huntington Garden Club opens the 83rd GCV Daffodil Show at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton. Entries may be placed beginning the afternoon of April 4, 2017, with judging and awards on Wednesday, April 5. The show is open to the public the afternoon of April 5 and the morning of April 6.

To learn more about this fascinating flower, register to attend Daffodil 201, the ADS Daffodil Judging School on April 4, 2017, also in Hampton. See the GCV website for information. 🌼

*Two children’s books on daffodils are *Dancing Daffodil Daisy* and *When Daffodils Ran Free*.



A Place Unchanged by Time – Conservation at Its Best

by Adele Smith

The Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula

Travelling the back roads of Virginia is always a magical treat. Motorists have a rare glimpse into the heart and soul of our state. One can never know what lies just around the next curve. It may be a peek at how we used to live.

Newtown is one of those unexpected surprises, located in the northwest corner of King and Queen County. In the mid-1700s, it was a crossroads settlement on the Great Post Road which ran from Williamsburg to Philadelphia. Long before the road was known as the Great Post Road and the first building was built at Newtown, the road was an old Indian trail called the Chiskiack Trail, well known and traveled during the Powhatan Confederacy. When the colonial post was established, it was logical to use the established Chiskiack Trail.

Newtown became a prominent stop on the route when a tavern was built to accommodate travelers. More houses were built at the crossroads and, as the colonies became a separate nation, Newtown was well established and flourishing. Schools had been founded and doctors opened practices to accommodate the surrounding areas. Gen. George Pickett's division camped in the yards of some homes during the Civil War before their long march to Gettysburg. As progress propelled many neighboring towns into the growth and industry brought on with the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, Newtown remained the same little village. Its citizens were happy and content to remain as they had.

Today Newtown retains its mid-19th century character and charm with few changes. While there have been additions to some of the homes, they were done with sensitivity to history. Its citizens have great pride in Newtown's history and have worked diligently to be included on the National Register of Historic Places.

This spring, homes in Newtown will be opened on Friday, April 28, 2017, during Historic Garden Week to welcome guests to revisit part of Virginia's past, conserved for the present and future. 🌸



Newtown Post Office



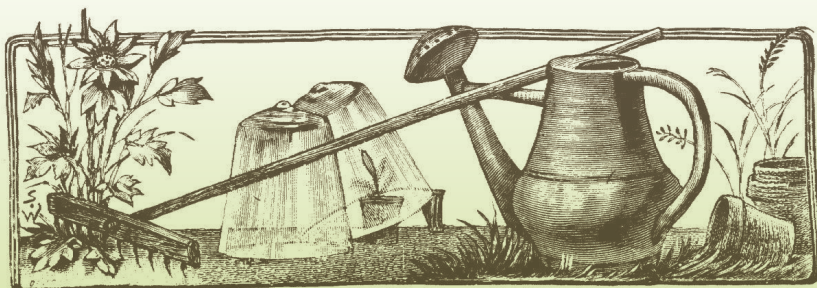
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Please contact Penny Dart at apdart@gmail.com with your ideas.*

Ex Libris

by Joan Pollard and Virginia Cherry, GCV Library Committee
The Petersburg Garden Club

Lewis Miller's *Styling Nature, A Masterful Approach to Floral Arrangements* with photography by Don Freeman (Rizzoli, 2016, 192 pp), illustrates Miller's floral arrangements which he considers "sumptuous nature." They are based on old still life paintings by Italian and Flemish artists that inspired his floral creations. The book contains still life arrangements made with flowers, plant life, beautiful containers or vessels, and other interior objects photographed with the arrangement.



The key factors considered for each arrangement are color, composition, movement, shape and texture. A chapter is devoted to each factor. Color is important in setting a tone or a mood. Composition is the floral arrangement with added elements: place it in a room and consider the size of the flowers within the container, their proportion to the room, the relation to the backdrop, the surface on which it is placed, neighboring elements and the environment. This is composition, but when fabric, curious objects and lighting are introduced, the result is a still life. Movement involves the placement of flowers ... put them in the vessel, lift them, release them back and allow the flowers to do what they want to do ... this is how movement is achieved. The four shapes Miller used extensively are the crescent, the sphere, the Y and the Hogarth curve. Texture can be introduced with flowers, berries and foliage or with the choice of the vase.

The five categories all have a common theme of duality: pairing something smooth with something rough or an exotic flower with a common flower. A helpful section includes photographs of each arrangement with a listing of the flowers used in Miller's creations. Freeman's color photographs add elegance and artistry to complement the text. Miller has created a book that will be an inspiration and guide to both beginners and seasoned flower arrangers. 🌸

The advertisement for 'THE LAURIE HOLLADAY SHOP' features a photograph of a well-lit interior space filled with various lamps and decorative items. The text is overlaid on the image. At the top, the shop's name is written in large, white, serif capital letters. Below it, a smaller line of text reads 'A FAMILY BUSINESS CONTINUES FOR OVER 70 YEARS'. A central white box contains a list of services: 'LAMP SHADES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION', 'LAMP REPAIR', 'RESTORATION', 'CUSTOM DESIGN', 'FINE FURNITURE', and 'AND GIFTS'. At the bottom, the address and phone number are listed: '123 SOUTH MAIN STREET • GORDONSVILLE, VA', 'PHONE: 540.832.0552', and the hours: 'MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 10-5:30' and 'SATURDAY, 10-5 • SUNDAY, 11-3'. The background image shows several lamps with different shades and designs, along with other decorative objects on a table.

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Rose Notes

The American Rose Society

by Lea Shuba, GCV Rose Committee Chairman
The Hunting Creek Garden Club

The Garden Club of Virginia has long been a member of the American Rose Society, which has reciprocated by sanctioning our Rose Shows and providing us with highly qualified judges at no charge. ARS judges and members frequently entered our shows and GCV has greatly benefited from this relationship. Recently I joined the organization as an individual and learned that members are provided with high quality informative magazines, websites, and an annual publication presently celebrating its 100th year.

The ARS is older than the GCV, approaching its 125th anniversary later this year. It is the prime source for rose education in this country, and has embraced the propagation of easy care and virus-free roses. Trials are organized with these goals and regional suitability in mind. Our district, Colonial, contains several local societies which together serve our entire state: the Arlington Rose Foundation, the Northern Neck Rose Society, the Patrick Henry Rose Society (Martinsville), the Richmond Rose Society, the Roanoke Rose Society, the Shenandoah Rose Society, the Southern Virginia Rose Society, the Tidewater Rose Society and the Virginia Peninsula Rose Society. Many of these societies host rose shows featuring horticulture, arrangements and photography. Membership is not required to enter.

The best source for discovering class and show schedules in your area is the website for our district, www.colonialdistrictroses.org. There you will find contact numbers and local websites, all valuable to those GCV members who enjoy showing roses and are looking for new opportunities. Since ARS has not traditionally emphasized arranging and would like to rectify this, arrangers are eagerly welcomed. I will be teaching arranging workshops for them this winter. The GCV Rose Committee is selecting a new test collection for planting in the spring, and showing them in ARS shows will contribute to their national database.

The next show will be held at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond, May 27-28 (carol.fox@scc.virginia.gov). In the fall, Arlington will host a show at Fair Oaks Merrifield, Oct. 3-4. The chairman, Pam Powers (pam1powers@aol.com), is actively seeking and encouraging arrangers, and would love to see our members enter artistic classes, as well as horticulture and photography. 🌹



Centennial Update

*by Anne Cross, GCV Centennial Chairman
The Ashland Garden Club*

Planning for the Garden Club of Virginia's Centennial celebration in 2020 is well underway. At each meeting of the Centennial Committee, we remind ourselves of our goal: "to create a celebration which is visible and lasting; is statewide in its nature; unites member clubs and garners statewide publicity."

A big step was taken in January. Members of the Centennial Committee and member club Centennial Liaisons gathered together in Richmond. Serving as points of communication, these liaisons will play a pivotal role as we move forward. It was an energizing meeting. While the chairmen of the various subcommittees of the Centennial Committee brought the liaisons up to date on the plans for the celebration, the liaisons, in turn, had wonderful ideas about ways to communicate our story to both their clubs and communities. By sharing our mission and accomplishments, we will strive to convince future generations of the importance of our values of conservation, restoration and education.

Podcasts will be one means used to tell our story. The first podcast was debuted at the liaisons meeting and received rave reviews. This medium will be employed to discuss GCV history, activities and members, and to talk with clubs about their communities and the role their club plays in that community. Stay tuned!

The Garden Club of Virginia has an amazing story to tell. We have successfully fulfilled our mission for almost 100 years. Who knows what the commonwealth of Virginia would look like without our restorations, our work on conservation issues and our assistance with state parks? What would our towns, cities and counties look like without our member clubs? We know our mission. As we commemorate our Centennial, the hope is to both celebrate our past and share our story, ensuring that the work continues in the future and is embraced by all Virginians. 🌸

A Landscape Saved: The Garden Club of Virginia at 100

An exhibit, with the above working title and beginning in March 2020, will be held at the Virginia Historical Society to commemorate our Centennial.

You are urged to scour your attics for artifacts that might be included. The exhibit themes are: education/fellowships, garden restoration, Historic Garden Week, conservation/beautification, GCV image and Centennial project (Virginia State Parks grants). Please contact Joanna Catron at jcatron@umw.edu for further information. 🌸

2017 Historic Garden Week Highlights

by Karen Cauthen Ellsworth
Director of Historic Garden Week

It seems appropriate that April 22 marks both Earth Day and the first day of the 84th Historic Garden Week tours. Early Virginians brought with them an inherent love of the land. They created plantations with noble homes and handsome gardens. Early Garden Club of Virginia members made it their mission to preserve our state's historic public gardens. GCV members carry forth the work begun with energy and enthusiasm, celebrating the earth. Historic Garden Week proceeds continue to support these efforts, in addition to funding a Restoration Research Fellowship and a centennial project with Virginia State Parks. GCV was instrumental in establishing the parks in 1929, the year of the first Historic Garden Week.



This spring marks several HGW firsts. The Garden Club of Danville, Gabriella Garden Club and Chatham Garden Club are combining efforts to produce a single tour, taking place on Friday, April 28, highlighting neighborhoods in Danville. The Blue Ridge Garden Club and the Augusta Club are also working together. Their Saturday, April 22, tour in Lexington includes six properties. The Garden Club of Warren County is spotlighting the town of Washington on Saturday, April 29. Part of Historic Garden Week for the first time, the Washington tour includes four private



homes and gardens, one church, a restoration in progress and the gardens of the Inn at Little Washington. Westover Hills in Richmond, a neighborhood located directly across the James River from Maymont, a GCV restoration site, is also part of the tour for the first time. This year, Historic Garden Week includes 204 private homes and gardens across Virginia, in addition to restoration projects and nearby historic sites, bringing the total to nearly 250 properties open April 22-29.

Be on the lookout for some significant press coverage supporting Historic Garden Week

2017 – a 10-page travel spread about Charlottesville in the March/April issue of *Victoria* magazine, a feature about Cy Twombly’s house on the Lexington tour for *Virginia Sportsman*, and an article in *Virginia Living’s* spring issue about a tour chairman’s house and garden in Norfolk. Historic Garden



Week has the distinction of being included in *The New York Times* bestselling book, *1,000 Places to See in the United States & Canada Before You Die*.

In the three years since conducting an Economic Impact Study of the nation’s only statewide house and garden tour, we have seen positive results both internally and externally. This year’s honor roll in the guidebook acknowledges numerous businesses across the state that are supporting local tours at significant levels, and we are most appreciative. Bartlett Trees, in its fourth year as the statewide sponsor, is featured prominently on the back cover of the guidebook. Historic Garden Week tours are an important economic driver in 30 communities across the commonwealth each spring, creating a combined \$11 million annual impact.

Earth Day celebrates our planet. Historic Garden Week celebrates the beauty of Virginia for all to enjoy and helps ensure it for future generations. 🌱



Celebrate at the Kent-Valentine House!

Located in the heart of downtown Richmond's Monroe Ward district, a Virginia Historic Landmark on the National Register of Historic Places and one of the area's first adaptive-use restoration projects, the Kent-Valentine House has served as the Garden Club of Virginia's headquarters since 1972.

The Kent-Valentine House is available for member-club meetings at no charge and private events for GCV members at a discounted rate. Nonmembers may also rent the house.

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Nominations

Nominations for Directors-at-Large
to serve from 2017-2019.

The membership will vote
at the 2017 Annual Meeting in May.

District 2: Meg Laughon
(Hillside Garden Club)

District 5: Tuckie Westfall
(Garden Club of Alexandria)

District 6: Ellen Upton
(Elizabeth River Garden Club)



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Restoration Fellowships Website Gets a Makeover

*by Judy Perry, Research Fellowship Chairman
The Elizabeth River Garden Club*

Two important enhancements were recently made to the Garden Club of Virginia's Restoration Fellowship programs. An updated website with user-friendly menus and icons also features beautiful pictures of completed landscaping projects. The application for prospective fellows has been revamped for clearer understanding and ease of submission.

The GCV's landscape architecture Research Fellowship program was launched by the Restoration Committee in 1996 as an important step in documenting the history of many historic landscapes in Virginia. That year, the Rudy J. Favretti Fellowship was introduced. Open to graduate level students in landscape architecture and historic preservation, the fellowship documents historic gardens in private ownership. In 2005, the William D. Rieley Fellowship was created for the documentation of historic gardens not privately held.

Students spend three months during the summer researching an important historic site in Virginia. GCV Landscape Architect William D. Rieley and the Research Fellowship Committee, which is part of the Restoration Committee, oversee the fellows' work. They are expected to produce a comprehensive paper based on their research from documentation, drawings and historical archives. The students receive a stipend and compensation for project-related expenses. To date, 29 fellows have documented 26 of Virginia's historic sites.

A dedicated website is a valuable tool for promoting these prestigious fellowships. Just as the main GCV website recently underwent an update, the fellowship website now sports a new look, as well. Last summer, the Fellowship Committee undertook the task to review both the website and the application to make recommendations.

The result is amazing. The site offers photographs of many of the past fellowship landscapes and detailed reports and site plans. The helpful menu guide and icons simplify navigation to different areas of the website. In addition, the fellowship application has been revamped for clearer understanding and ease of submission. This year's deadline is March 20, with the selection announcement set for April 1, enabling the committee to integrate with academic schedules.

Whether you are a graduate student looking for a special opportunity to further your knowledge and experience, or a GCV member interested in learning more about how the Garden Club of Virginia utilizes proceeds from Historic Garden Week in Virginia, there are many things to learn from this new fellowship website. Please see for yourself at www.gcvfellowship.org. 🌸



Westover Plantation, 2017 Fellowship site

The Stealth of Stilt

by BeBe Green, GCV Horticulture Committee
Leesburg Garden Club

My mind has been so filled with boxwood blight and emerald ash borer that I did not notice a lovely green carpet in our forest. When a neighbor commented on our lush undergrowth, I suspected that this carpet was something more than it seemed. Confirmation of my suspicion came from the Virginia Extension service. Thriving in the bottom land amongst the trees and as patches in our lawn was Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*). After further research I became alarmed.

Japanese stiltgrass was first documented in Tennessee in 1919 and is now prevalent in the eastern United States. It is an aggressive species of annual grass that is threatening native vegetation found in forests, fields and wetlands. Individual stiltgrass plants are capable of producing up to one thousand seeds annually which remain viable for three to five years. The seeds attach readily to the fur of animals and to tire treads, clothing and footwear. An early colonization of stiltgrass is often found where there is an overabundance of deer, at the beginnings of trails on public lands, along stream banks and where there is soil-disturbing activity.

Forest undergrowth is affected, as wildlife feeds on native species and avoids the stiltgrass. The preferred vegetation habitat for birds is disrupted by stiltgrass, as early-nesting plants are crowded out. Since domestic animals shun the grass, the viability of grazing pastures is changed. The appearance of lawns and golf courses is transformed when the grass turns in the fall, creating disrupting red splotches in a wide green expanse.

How can one identify and control this menace? Japanese stiltgrass closely resembles crabgrass but has a reflective white stripe down the length of the upper leaf surface. The leaves alternate on the stalk. Bamboo-like, the grass has prop roots (roots arising from the stem). These roots are weak, so small patches can be eradicated by hand-pulling during the growing season. Larger lawns can be treated with pre-emergent herbicides applied in early spring, followed by post-emergent herbicides in late summer when the plant has flower spikes. Where there is an extensive stiltgrass population, it is advisable to work with a contractor. A systemic herbicide can be carefully applied to prevent harm to nearby woody or herbaceous plants.

As with many invasive species, it is not possible to fully eliminate stilt grass, but with increased awareness, its full impact can be restrained. 🌿



Photos Courtesy of: Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org

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Inaugural Grants to Virginia State Parks

by Jeanette Cadwallender, Virginia State Parks Committee
The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

The Garden Club of Virginia Board of Directors endorsed the recommendation from the Parks Grants Committee to award grants to the following projects and programs in Virginia State Parks in 2017:

- Belle Isle – improving landscaping around historic Belle Isle mansion
The Garden Club of the Northern Neck
- Fairy Stone – pollinator waystation
The Martinsville Garden Club (with the Garden Study Club and the Garden Club of Danville)
- Leesylvania – wildflower planting, reducing invasives and eliminating mowing
- Mason Neck – a new entry for the Visitor Center; hardscaping, and landscaping of pollinator garden
The Hunting Creek Garden Club (with the Garden Club of Fairfax and the Garden Club of Alexandria)
- Middle Peninsula – supplies for educational programming
The Garden Club of Gloucester
- Natural Bridge – outfitting a classroom for educational programming in Visitor Center
- Pocahontas – converting Heritage Center to a Discovery Center
- Sky Meadows – Track Trails and Discovery area
Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club
- Smith Mountain Lake – supplies for educational programming in wet lab
The Roanoke Valley Garden Club with Mill Mountain Garden Club
- Staunton River – garden improvements around cabins

Each project required the support of the park manager. Note that in some instances, the projects came directly from state parks.

In addition to these projects, the Youth Conservation Corps will receive funding to aid in the purchase of supplies for this residential summer program in 17 parks. Virginia State Parks have received national recognition for the YCC program.

These grants have been created as our Centennial Project. They are intended to support our mission, and that of the Virginia State Parks. From the start (adopted, May 2014), the Centennial Project was to be lasting and visible, statewide in its reach, unite member clubs and garner statewide publicity for the GCV. The committee will meet in December to consider proposals for the 2018 grant cycle. Applications may be submitted at any time.

We are well on our way to 2020 and this important legacy, commemorating our commitment to Virginia State Parks. ❁



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A Journal Primer

by Karla MacKimmie, Journal Editor and Chairman
The Warrenton Garden Club

It takes a village to publish the Garden Club of Virginia's *Journal*. Committee chairmen, member club contributors and staff combine in writing for the publication, and the works of our gifted artists are featured on its covers. The cover editor, photographer, advertising chairman and members of the Editorial Board work cooperatively in its production.

In addition to its standard features, clubs are encouraged to remember the *Journal* with stories to tell, announcements to make or reports to the membership. Consider sharing pieces from your newsletters that have a broad appeal. Learning of your community projects and successful programs is one advantage of membership in a statewide club. Pictures of such events make these articles even more appealing.

Consider advertising in the *Journal*; it is an effective venue for promoting a business or event. The *Journal* is mailed to all 3,400 GCV members and available on the website. The production schedule is planned so that each issue arrives at the beginning of March, June, September and December. The deadline for submissions is six weeks prior to the date of publication, the 15th of January, April, July and October.

Contact information is printed on the inside cover of each issue of the *Journal* and submission guidelines may be found on the GCV website.

The *Journal* is designed to address the interests and promote the activities of the Garden Club of Virginia. It is by, and for, GCV members and thus, is only as good as we make it. Thank you for reading the *Journal*. We welcome your submissions. 🌸

Save the Date September 26th - 27th



Your Gifts Help Us Grow

by Betsy Rawls Agelasto, GCV Development Committee
The Virginia Beach Garden Club

In her report to the Garden Club of Virginia Board last year, past Development Committee Chairman Jean Gilpin explained how GCV Annual Fund money is used. Her comments show how each of our GCV clubs benefits from the money so generously raised from our membership.

- Member clubs hosting Board of Governors and Annual Meetings receive support from GCV.
- Cost overruns from programs and workshops are covered by GCV.
- Communication with members is enhanced through our website, as well as through our publications, the *Handbook*, *Journal* and *Year in Review*.
- Ongoing preservation and maintenance of the Kent-Valentine House is ensured.
- There has been no dues increase for GCV members for nine years.

In addition, we have a staff who relieves the pressure on our members, handling details and day-to-day operations. They make it possible for us to have the time to do what we love to do: restoration projects, gardening, horticulture and conservation events, and flower arranging.

The Annual Fund contributes to all of this and more. It helps to protect our endowment and ensures that the Garden Club of Virginia will be strong and viable for the next generation of leaders in our commonwealth.

What a gift we give and receive when we donate to the GCV Annual Fund!



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- March 1** Deadline for nominations for the Common Wealth Award, the Bessie Bocoock Carter Conservation award, the De Lacy Gray Medal and Horticulture Award of Merit.
- April 4** ADS Daffodil Judging School, Hampton
- April 5-6** 83rd GCV Daffodil Show, The Huntington Garden Club, Hampton
- April 22-29** Historic Garden Week in Virginia
- May 16-18** 97th GCV Annual Meeting, Fredericksburg
- May 31 - June 1** Horticulture Field Day, Gloucester
- June 22** 75th Annual GCV Lily Show, The Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula, Tappahannock

Dates and events as posted on the GCV website at <http://gcvirginia.org>. See website for further additions.