

The Ivy Anchor

The Hampton Roads Garden Club Newsletter

April 2024

The warm weather has made an appearance and so have the new blooms on our flowers and trees. That means that Historic Garden Week is right around the corner. After two years of planning, HGW Chairman Sam Bishop and her HGW Committee have designed a beautiful tour in Poquoson this year. All of the homes have a water view and each are unique in their own way. Members are planning what they will do for their flower arrangements which always delight our visitors with their creativity and beauty. Hostess sign-up has begun and if you have friends or family that would like to help hostess, invite them to join us. They will receive free entry into the tour. HGW is our club's biggest fundraiser with all proceeds going to GCV restoration projects and fellowships. I hope that you will help promote our tour by reposting the tour posts on social media, buying tickets for the tour, inviting friends to the tour, and taking HGW posters to businesses that you may know who are willing to help us get the word out about the tour. After the tour, plan on joining us at Flowers After Hours. It is always a fun way to celebrate a successful tour day. I would also love to encourage you to attend other tours around our region or state. It is so fun to see how other clubs do their tours and to visit different parts of the state to tour beautiful homes. So grab your HGW Guidebook and make some plans to support another tour, you won't regret it.

Mary Johnson



April Meeting Notice-Voting Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Time: 9:30 Social; 10:00 Business Meeting

Place: First Presbyterian Church, 514 S. Armistead Ave., Hampton, VA. 23669

Parking: There will be a Bon Secours Care-A-Van in the parking lot serving the community. You may park in any available space in the lot. You may also park on the

streets around the church.

Voting Meeting: This month we will vote on the 2024-25 Nominating Slate and a New Member Proposal from the Admissions Committee. If you cannot be at the meeting to vote, please send in your absentee ballot to Recording Secretary Sue Morgan. This slate is in the article below. You may call Admissions Chair Debbie Tanner to have the new member proposal letters read to you in order to vote by absentee ballot.

Hostesses: Sue Morgan & Jane Quinn

Program: Tips from "The Garden Guru" Michael Westphal, Director of Retail Sales at McDonald's Nursery in Virginia Beach. He will be sharing gardening techniques for "over the top" container gardening.

RSVP: If you are unable to attend the meeting please send your regrets to Recording Secretary Sue Morgan at marnee757@hotmail.com.



2024-2025 Nominating Slate

Nominating Chairman Donna Herbert presented the 2024-2025 HRGC Nominating Slate to the members at the March meeting on behalf of the Nominating Committee. The following slate will be voted on by the membership at the April meeting. If you are unable to attend to vote, please send your absentee ballot to Recording Secretary Sue Morgan.

2024-2025 HRGC Nominating Slate

Officers:

Vice President: Allison Clock

Treasurer: Sam Bishop

Recording Secretary: Jennifer Dick

Corresponding Secretary: Becky Tench

Directors At Large: Joanna Bigley, Allison Hund, Debbie Tanner

Admissions Committee: Trish Lively, Karan Mulkey

Nominating Committee: Dale Banning, Sidney Jordan, Martha Sides

Historic Garden Week

As Historic Garden Week is fast approaching we are still looking for assistance with hostess shifts and parking. Another email will go out in the upcoming week looking for Hostesses and Parking Attendants (a great husband job 😊). Please encourage your friends to sign up! If you have



someone who is willing to volunteer please use this link to sign them up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CA8AE2FA7F58-47975079-historic/131138482#/>

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Rose Field or Julie LoCicero.

Our next meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 is the deadline to purchase tickets for Flowers After Hours. Tickets are \$30 a person and can be paid for by check or Venmo. This year's FAH will be held from 5-7 pm at the Poquoson Yacht Club after the tour. If you would like more information or would like to make a reservation please contact Teresa Robinson.

As our members have visions of flower arrangements dancing in their heads, our Flower Chairs, Joanna Bigley and Allison Hund would like to share GCV's Arranging Tips with us. Please click the link here:

https://www.gcvirginia.org/warehouse/fm/documents/articles/announcement/HGW_PlantListforArrangingr.pdf

Historic Garden Week in VA was featured in Southern Living as one of the "15 Best Places To Travel In The South This April!" Thank you to Page Kremp for sharing this article with us!

https://www.southernliving.com/best-places-travel-april-8608751?hid=6029541bb4ef453bcf14c1162c85f98d2af3f5d4&did=12379683-20240326&utm_source=slv&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=sl-best-of-the-south_newsletter&utm_content=032624&lctg=6029541bb4ef453bcf14c1162c85f98d2af3f5d4

Charleston Bus Trip

The wheels on the bus rolled round and round and headed towards Charleston SC for the 2024 HRGC Bus Trip from March 18th through the 21st. The bus was packed with 49 ladies, members from our club, other area clubs, and friends and family. On the way down we stopped at Cracker Barrel for brunch and then to everyone's favorite Buc-ees! Once in Charleston the bus was unloaded and we headed into the hotel for happy hour before setting out for dinner in many of Charleston's famous restaurants.

Tuesday started with a fashion show at Chico's and then the ladies shopped til they dropped at the many wonderful stores throughout downtown Charleston. Wednesday was the Charleston Festival's Home and Garden Tour and it warmed up and the sun was shining bright as ladies lined up to see the unique homes and beautiful gardens in the garden district of the city. That evening everyone gathered for a cocktail party at the Harden/Hoefer home in the South Battery. Betsy and Rick are former Newport News residents who have retired in Charleston and graciously invited us to their house again for a lovely evening to cap off our time in the Holy City. This year because the weather was so lovely we were able to enjoy their beautiful garden. It was also fun to catch up with former HRGC member Kim Cross who is now a Charleston resident. On Thursday we loaded up the



bus with our luggage and many many shopping bags and headed back to the Peninsula. Fun on the bus included games with prizes, refreshments, and jokes provided by Jane Quinn! A stop at DeWayne's Garden Center was another opportunity for ladies to spend some money in the gift shop and the nursery. As we arrived back in Newport News around 6:00 everyone was glad to be back but sad that our fun filled four days had come to an end! Thank you to Becky Tench and Mindy Beasley who planned a wonderful trip and took care of all the details. Thank you to the bus committee members, Kristin Barnes, Ann Fisher, Mary Johnson, Sidney Jordan, Birgit Kingsbury, Sue Morgan, and Jane Quinn who kept the food and fun flowing throughout the trip! Please enjoy the many pictures below that depict just some of the fun that was had. Thank you to Sarah Huddleston, Lyn Hutchens, Mary Johnson, Sidney Jordan, Birgit Kingsbury, Sue Morgan, Karan Mulkey, Teresa Robinson, and Becky Tench for sharing their photos for the newsletter!

Hitting The Road



Ann Fisher and her sisters Martha Mugler, Jane Quinn, and Sue Morgan, along with Becky Tench and Birgit Kingsbury smile as the wheels on the bus hit the interstate headed to Charleston!



In garden club fashion the bathroom on the bus was decked out with flower decorations!



A stop at Buc-ees finds bus committee members Sidney Jordan, Sue Morgan, Ann Fisher and Jane Quinn ready to stock up on the Beaver Nugget snacks!

Shop Til You Drop



First stop Chico's! Trish Lively, Sarah Huddleston and Val Bowen enjoy the in store fashion show.



Lori Shuford and her mother Vicki Fourney look for sizes at Chico's.



Sandy Parks is headed to the dressing room while Maryann Ayer decides if she wants to purchase the jacket she is wearing.



Shopping the streets of Charleston are Birgit Kingsbury, Teresa Robinson, Mindy Beasley and Kristin Barnes.



Mary Bateman models a huge hat in the dressing room at the Gretchen Scott store!



Rita Quinn had everyone put their bags around her so she could send this picture to her husband to scare him haha!

The sights and sounds of Charleston



Martha Kelly, Susan Stokes, Donna Givens, Karan Mulkey, and Lyn Hutchens pose with the Red Gorilla at the Vendue Hotel!



A horse drawn carriage ride around Charleston was a fun morning for Mary Johnson, Sidney Jordan, Ann Fisher, Donna Herbert, Mary Bateman, Rita Quinn, Martha Mugler, Jane Quinn, Sue Morgan, Trish Lively, Martha Sides, Mary Pat Croft and Page Kremp.



A fun evening for Birgit Kingsbury, Kristin Barnes, Teresa Robinson, Carrie Karnes, Mindy Beasley, and Julie LoCicero at Hall's Chop House.



One of the many beautiful churches in the Holy City!



Lovely entrance to a Charleston restaurant.



Beautiful houses everywhere you turn.

The Charleston Festival Home and Garden Tour



Debbie Tanner, Susan Stokes, Donna Givens, and Martha Kelly pose on the porch of the 1820's Aiken-Rett House.



Nancy Goodiel, Mary Pat Croft, Rita Quinn, Carrie Karnes, Julie LoCicero, Page Kremp and Val Bowen pose on the patio of one of the tour homes.



Ann Fisher, Jane Quinn, Martha Mugler, Mary Bateman, Mary Johnson, Lyn Hutchens, Sidney Jordan, Donna Herbert and Sue Morgan enjoy the beauty of one of the gardens on tour.



A cute potting bench in the side yard of one of the homes.



This beautifully manicured garden in the shade was so relaxing.



A gorgeous container full of flowers and plants.



A small but beautiful patio on the side of a home on tour.



The azaleas are in bloom in Charleston!



This yard and pool area was designed by the homeowner who is a landscape architect.

Garden Party at the Harden/Hoefer Home



A delicious cocktail buffet was enjoyed by everyone.



Donna Givens and Lyn Hutchens try the BBQ!



Trish Lively and Donna Herbert chat at the cocktail party.



Carrie Karnes, Debbie Tanner, former HRGC member Kim Cross and Donna Herbert are excited to see each other and catch up with Kim!



The Williamsburg Garden Club ladies had a wonderful time in Charleston. Terry Buntrock, Joyce Feder, TJ Cardwell, and Michele DeWitt pose with their cocktails.



Enjoying the beautiful backyard are Mary Diggs, Kristin Barnes, Mary Pat Croft, Rita Quinn, Mindy Beasley and Teresa Robinson.



Ladies socialize in the beautiful garden of the Harden/Hoefer home.



The meticulously trimmed hedges of the garden are breathtaking!



A lovely pagoda garden storage shed adorns the garden and is a lovely focal point.



Debbie Tanner and Martha Kelly enjoy the evening.

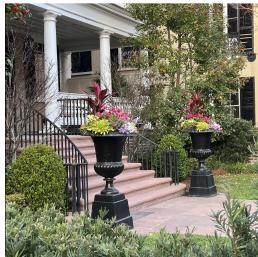


Kim Cross, Becky Tench and Mindy Beasley present Drs. Betsy Harden and Rick Hoefer with a thank you gift for hosting us in their home for the cocktail party.



Betsy and Rick hold a picture of their beautiful backyard garden that the club gave them to thank them for their hospitality. Betsy and Rick used to live and practice medicine in Newport News and have retired in Charleston. They have graciously invited our club to their home for our cocktail party for the past two years.

The End of a Wonderful Trip!



On our walk from the cocktail party to meet our bus we were able to see more beautiful homes in the South Battery area.



Ladies celebrate the end of a fantastic tour with a nightcap in Camellias, better known at the Pink Bar, in the Hotel Bennett.



Cheers to another year of fun in Charleston!



The Fun Bunch!



2024 Daffodil Day

This year's GCV Daffodil Day was held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at Virginia Wesleyan University in Virginia Beach. Several members from the Hampton Roads Garden Club volunteered the morning of the show to help clean the workroom or work as a runner for the judges. Allison Clock, GCV Horticulture Chair and

HRGC member, was in charge of the workroom that day. She helped guide Amanda Graham, Mary Johnson, Sidney Jordan, Julie LoCicero and Sherry Maynard in the duties of workroom clean up. There were many volunteers that morning so the work went quickly and was finished early. In the meantime Dale Banning and Anne Harrison Harris traversed the Jane P. Batten Student Center as a judge's runners. The daffodil's were beautiful and so many varieties were on display in the Horticulture Exhibit. The award ribbons were proudly displayed by the winners! It was a beautiful show that highlighted so many bright and sunny daffodils!



Welcome to Daffodil Day!



The workroom was busy with participants getting their horticulture display ready for judging.



Buckets of beautiful daffodils were spread throughout the workroom.



HRGC members, Mary Johnson, Sherry Maynard, Sidney Jordan, Allison Clock, Amanda Graham and Julie LoCicero worked to help clean up the workroom once the judging began!



Judges ribbons adorn some of the winners.



Beautiful horticulture displays of a variety of daffodils.



HRGC Photography Chair Allison Clock took home third place in the GCV Photography Division "Tap Dance" with this beautiful picture! Congratulations Allison!



These are daffodils in the yard of Lori Shuford's family farmhouse. Due to some construction these flowers need to be moved. Lori would love to give these bulbs away to any member who would like to come dig some up and take them home with you. Lori will be available to help you on April 10, 11, or 12 from 10am to 12pm. The address of the farmhouse is 256 Shorecrest Lane, Hampton VA. 23669. This is off of Harris Creek Road and it is a gravel driveway down to the house. Contact Lori for more information.

HRGC Community Projects



Newport Harbour Apartments Project

Members from HRGC and HGC came together again on March 8, 2024 at Harbour Apartments in downtown Newport News to provide another flower arranging program for the children who reside there. A report from HGC member Pam Henifin summarizes

the day: "The energy, the exuberance and the joy of Newport Harbour's young residents is contagious! Spending time with these kids is a tonic for the woes of the world around us and a reassurance that kids can break away from their "screens" and show off their creativity. Ten children participated, but it seemed like 20 were in the room. How many arrangements and bouquets were made? Fifteen? Twenty? We were worried that we had too many flowers--not a

chance with this group! Watching arrangements being made for moms and grandmothers was particularly moving. One little boy rode his bike back to tell the ladies that his mother loved her flowers and wanted to thank everyone!"

Thank you to HRGC members Birgit Kingsbury and Sherry Maynard and HGC members Pam Henifin, Amy Behm, Wanda Blalock and Martha Elton for teaching the children the art of flower arranging! Additionally a huge thank you to HRGC member Page Kremp who donated flowers, vases and bows for the project.



The room is ready for the children of Harbour Apartments to begin the flower arranging workshop!



HGC Member Wanda Blalock helps a young participant pick out his flowers for his arrangement.



HGC member Amy Behm instructs some children how to place the flowers in their vases.



Walk Hampton Clean

The Community Project Committee is excited to announce our club's participation in Walk Hampton Clean on Saturday, April 20th from 10am-12pm. Our area to clean is around Buckroe Beach Park at 100 South First St, Hampton, VA 23664. We'll meet in the parking lot at 9:45 to get supplies. Lunch will follow at the

Deadrise Restaurant on Ft. Monroe at 12:15. Please consider volunteering to help with this project. Please contact Birgit Kingsbury or Page Kremp if you would like to join in the fun and help the environment too!



Galentine's Sip and Shop

Joanna Bigley and her Fundraising Committee would like to thank the membership for 'showing up' to the Galentine's Sip and Shop in February!!! The club's participation on every level was over the top! Thanks to members for donating fantastic auction items and for inviting so many family and friends to the event. The committee consisting of Joanna, Mary Diggs, Ann Moir, Teresa Robinson and Milly Wassum put on a fantastic fun event that was enjoyed by all who attended. They are excited to announce that the net total from the extremely successful auction was \$5,018.00!



GCV Annual Fund "Piece of the Pie" Campaign

The GCV's Annual Fund helps to propel the mission of the statewide organization. Apart from Historic Garden Week and the ongoing historic landscape restorations which have separate budgets, the Annual Fund supports all other GCV programs.

This club year the Annual Fund began on July 1, 2023 and runs until June 30, 2024. Mary Johnson is hoping we can improve on our numbers from last year and reach our goal of 100%

participation. Again this year, at each meeting Mary will award a pie to one member who has contributed her "piece of the pie" to the annual fund this club year. At the end of the year if we reach our goal, Mary will allow one lucky member who has contributed to the pie to hit her with a pie in the face!

As of March 28, 2024, we have had 30 Actives donate (58%), 4 Associates donate (22%) for a club total of 34 donations which is 49% of the club! Thank you to everyone who has made a donation this year!

If you would like to support the GCV Annual Fund and help us reach our goal of 100% you may mail your donation to GCV, 12 E. Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23219. Make checks payable to GCV and designate "Annual Fund" on the memo line. If you would like a donation envelope, please contact Mary. You may also pay online at www.gcvirginia.org and click on donate.

Thank you for your support of the Annual Fund and contributing your Piece of the Pie!



Cultivating Conversations

The next Cultivating Conversations by Zoom is April 15, 2024, 5 p.m. **Using Native Plants and Sustainable Practices in Your Home Garden**

Please join us as Meg French of the Virginia Beach Garden Club shares her knowledge and expertise on native plants and sustainable gardening practices for your home garden.

Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEkdO-upjgtE9S9Eqwi1FU9pG13ljHs8c66#/registration>

Horticulture Field Day

GCV's Horticulture Field Day is fast approaching. This year's event is June 4-5, 2024 in Leesburg, VA. GCV Horticulture Chairman Allison Clock has planned two full days packed with activities visiting beautiful private gardens and estates as well as a photography workshop and a featured speaker. Horticulture Field Day is one of GCV's most popular events and sells out quickly. Make



plans to be in Leesburg for all the festivities. Please use the link below for additional information and to register for the event.
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/cu/GQT6gxI?CFID=c1cf8261-d730-432e-bde6-e874fe4144ae&CFTOKEN=0>



CNU Gardening Symposium-April 6, 2024

25th Anniversary Gardening Symposium

"Gardening: Stewardship of Nature"

Saturday, April 6, 2024

Christopher Newport University's annual Gardening Symposium aims to provide education to gardeners in our community. Each year the symposium includes speakers, workshops, plant sales, and more. Past conference attendees included master gardeners, novices, and gardening enthusiasts from the Peninsula and

southside Hampton Roads. The symposium is brought to you by Christopher Newport University Grounds Department and the LifeLong Learning Society. For more information and to register for the event click here: <https://cnu.edu/gardening/>

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to our April Birthday Ladies!

9-Rita Quinn

11-Martha Sides

20-Amine Morgan

24-Kristin Barnes

25-Amanda Graham

27-Stacy Queensberry

30-Val Bowen



Just For Fun!

GARDENING



TRICEPS



FOREARMS



BICEPS



CHEST



ABS



SHOULDERS



CALVES



THIGHS



BUTTOCKS

**THE ORIGINAL FULL-BODY
WORKOUT**

HOSTA LA VISTA, BABY!
HA HA! GET IT? "HOSTA"
LA VISTA? HEE HEE HA...

SIGH...



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And suddenly Lydia wondered if
gardening was such a good "couple"
activity after all....



Mary Johnson

Mary is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters