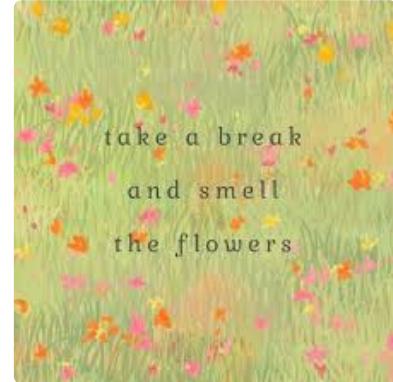


# THE IVY ANCHOR

The Hampton Roads Garden Club Newsletter

## June 2025

It's the "good old summertime". My hope for each of you is to find the joy of summer and marvel at the beauty we get to experience in this season of warmth, sunshine, and warm rains. Our gardens are coming alive with colors, bees and birds. Make time to appreciate them all. I read that the real pleasure of owning a fine plant is not complete until it has been given to friends. I challenge you to share something from your garden this summer whether it is a divided plant, bulb, seeds or a few cut stems or herbs with a friend.... satisfaction guaranteed!



Don't forget the Lily Show in Irvington at the Chesapeake Academy. A free "Lily Lust Workshop" at 11 am on June 17th, requires no registration and is free! The Lily Show follows the next day, June 18th, 2-4:30 pm. It's a great day trip! Call a few friends and go!

Once again, thank you for making this Hampton Roads Garden Club year such a pleasure! Your friendship, eagerness to pitch in and smiling faces have made for a memorable good time!

Have a wonderful summer!

Ann Fisher, HRGC President

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## President's Report: 92nd Annual Meeting of the GCV

The 2025 GCV Annual Meeting was hosted by the Lynchburg Garden Club and held at The Virginian Hotel in Lynchburg. We gathered at Amazement Square, a 4-story state of the art Children's Museum for cocktails followed by a buffet dinner. A pollinator garden kit served as our favors, appropriate for the "Bee City".



The following morning we were offered field trip options. I chose to visit Pharsalia, a flower farm in nearby Nelson County. A bus full of flower loving ladies were transported to the farm for a walking tour and talk by owner Foxie Morgan. It was glorious! She offered innumerable tips on what to grow and how to best use them in arrangements. We were served a delicious buffet lunch, challenged by a flower identification quiz, had an opportunity to purchase plants and we each received a bouquet of peonies in a vase just ready to bloom! Pharsalia offers many workshops

throughout the year. I want to go back!!

Our afternoon included the first of 2 business meetings.

Here are the highlights:

### **Historic Garden Week 2025**

470,000 guests visited the Historic Garden Week tours across the state.

Visitors came from 42 states and 16 countries.

Proceeds fund the restoration and preservation of VA's historic public gardens and provide graduate level research fellowships.

### **Daffodil Day**

The show included 1700 stems of daffodil varieties.

There were 47 artistic design entries.

The VA Wesleyan University will host again next year, March 24-25, 2026.

### **GCV Journal**

Editor since 2020, Madeline Mayhood, has resigned.

A "Journal Committee" will replace the Editor.

Seeking Contributing Editors and Sales Representatives.

### **Summer Photography Challenge**

Two Classes for entry:

Petscapes: A pet or pets in a natural setting, no people.

Reflections of Summer: a waterscape capturing summer fun in reflection.

For more information, click here: [https://gcvirginia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/GCV-Summer-2025-Photography-Challenge.pdf?mc\\_cid=cd28aa5b2d&mc\\_eid=0d3e6efd54](https://gcvirginia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/GCV-Summer-2025-Photography-Challenge.pdf?mc_cid=cd28aa5b2d&mc_eid=0d3e6efd54)

### **Common Wealth Award Finalists Announced**

1. Preservation, Conservation and Restoration of Grove Street Cemetery; The Garden Club of Danville.

2. The Dodona Native Pollinator Gateway Garden; The Leesburg Garden Club.

Voting will take place at our September meeting.

### **2023 Winner of the Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award**

Presentation of the completed project, Botanical Garden of the Piedmont by Albemarle Garden Club.

### **2023 Winner of the Common Wealth Award**

Presentation of The Virginia War Memorial, in Richmond on Belvedere Street. Revitalized by the Tuckahoe, Boxwood, James River and Three Chopt Garden Clubs.

This award has given more than \$250,000 since 1979.

### **2024 Conservation and Environmental Studies Undergraduate Fellow**

Current graduate student at CNU, Jordan Goodrich presented her research on *Phyllanthus urinaria*; chamber bitter, an invasive plant in VA.

-The meeting was adjourned for dinner. We were transported to "Point of Honor", a former GCV restoration site, for cocktails. The Awards Banquet was held back at The Virginian. The 2025 Bessie Bocock Carter award was given to the Hillside Garden Club for their project: Access to Nature and Outdoor Learning on the Cosby Trail. This is the project our club voted to support!  
-The Massie Medal Award will be announced at the October Board of Governors meeting.  
-On Wednesday morning, I met with my fellow District 3 presidents and our representative, Rennie McDaniel for breakfast.

The GCV business continued with a presentation from Nelson, Byrd and Woltz, our landscape architectural firm, with updates on restorations done at the Washington and Lee Chapel and plans for the garden restoration at the Kent Valentine House. Hopefully completion will be in 2026.

The District Representatives presented a GCV-EOPARDY skit. Very creative!

The next Annual meeting will be held at The Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke on May 19-21, 2026. The theme is "Be a Wildflower". Wildflowers are resilient and beautiful, just like GCV members.  
The meeting was adjourned!

*Submitted by HRGC President Ann Fisher*



HRGC President Ann Fisher and Vice President Allison Clock attend the Garden Club of VA's Annual Meeting in Lynchburg.



Thanks to Page Kremp, HRGC Horticulture Chair, for providing Milkweed; a Keystone plant for our club's contribution to the Horticulture display at the Annual Meeting.



A giant bee sculpture greets visitors to Lynchburg, "The Bee City"!



Point of Honor, a GCV restoration project, served as the location for a cocktail party before the awards banquet.



The beautiful main house of Pharsalia used for events.



A walking tour of Pharsalia, a beautiful flower farm in Nelson County with owner and GCV member Foxie Morgan, was filled with tips and tricks for flower arranging.



The flower cooler at Pharsalia is full of beautiful blooms.



The business meeting centerpiece portrays the theme, "From Heritage to Hive."



The Dinner was decorated with exquisite Peonies everywhere.



The Lynchburg Garden Club cut Peonies from their yards and put them in their refrigerators. Each attendee was given a vase of the dry Peonies to take home as a parting favor. When they returned home they added water and it was like magic, they bloomed. This arrangement was given to Allison Clock.



The HRGC Annual Meeting and Luncheon was held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at the home of member Pam Patterson. It was a very stormy and rainy day, and when members arrived there was no electricity in Pam's neighborhood. However, her beautiful home has a lovely large family room with big windows letting in enough light to be able to hold the meeting. As soon as Luncheon Chair Debbie Tanner and her committee, Birgit Kingsbury, Julie LoCicero, and Karan Mulkey announced that members could begin getting their food, the lights came on and everyone enjoyed the delicious

meal they had prepared. We welcomed Associates Gay Huffman, Ellen Jones, Carol Norfleet and Milly Wassum who braved the storm to join us!



The lovely entrance to Pam Patterson's home greets members for the May meeting and luncheon.



Members make their way through the rainstorm down the driveway to the meeting.



This beautiful bright room full of windows was the perfect spot for our meeting when the electricity went out due to the storm.



Allison Clock and Ann Fisher get ready for the meeting.



Joanna Bigley, Sue Morgan and Linda Smith wait for the meeting to start.



Sarah Huddleston, Sherry Maynard and Sandy Parks catch up with each other before the meeting begins.



The luncheon hostesses were Julie LoCicero, Captain Debbie Tanner, Birgit Kingsburg, Karan Mulkey and our home hostess Pam Patterson.



The delicious lunch buffet is ready for members to dig in and enjoy.



JoAnne Trimbur, Bobbie Cooke, Ann Fisher and Amanda Graham enjoy their lunch.



Teresa Robinson and Courtney Gilmore enjoy visiting with each other.



Associates Milly Wassum, Carol Norfleet and Gay Huffman enjoyed seeing each other at the luncheon.



Susan Armfield, Associate Ellen Jones and Stacy Queensberry smile in the dining room.



Donna Herbert talks with our home hostess Pam Patterson.



Becky Tench and Mary Kay Lawson enjoyed their lunch.



Luncheon hostess Debbie Tanner catches up with Mindy Beasley and Jenny Griffiths.



Page Kremp and Sam Bishop share a laugh!



Mary Diggs and Julie LoCicero pose for the camera!



Maureen Hutchens and Dale Banning say goodbye before heading out into the rain!



A beautiful garden on Pam Patterson's property.



Horticulture Field Day was held on May 16, 2025 in Fredericksburg, VA on a warm sunny day. HRGC members Allison Clock, Mary Diggs, Ann Fisher, and Mary Johnson were among the attendees. The day was filled with a variety of gardens to visit: public gardens, restoration sites and private home gardens were open. Attendees enjoyed the different types of gardens on the tour, sunny gardens, shade gardens, rain gardens, flower gardens and restored historical gardens. There was a lot to see and learn and it was a very enjoyable day roaming the beautiful streets of Fredericksburg!



Mary Diggs, Mary Johnson and Ann Fisher began the day touring the gardens of Chatham Manor.



Built in the 18th century by William Fitzhugh, Chatham Manor once served as a headquarters and hospital for the Union army during the Battle of Fredericksburg. The house was ransacked during the Civil War and later restored in the 20th century.



Beautiful pink Peonies graced the gardens throughout the Manor grounds.



The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club received the Common Wealth Award in 2013 for its work at Chatham Manor, helping to research and restore the original 1921 Ellen Biddle Shipman garden and repair statuary. Shipman's landscape was commissioned by Mrs. Daniel Devore, a former homeowner of Chatham who founded RVGC and served as its first club president.



A National Historic Landmark, Belmont was built c.1795. The estate was enlarged to its current size and the garden was laid out in the 1850s. Belmont sits atop a hill and offers spectacular views overlooking the falls of the Rappahannock River.



In 1916, American Impressionist artist Gari Melchers and his wife Corinne assumed ownership of the estate and created stately ambience and horticultural artistry. Belmont's formal grounds and gardens from the Melchers era were restored by the Garden Club of Virginia in 1994.



The ladies met up with Allison Clock who was serving as a hostess at one of the homes.



A charming shade garden thoughtfully balances the relationship between plants,



A lovely stream runs through the shade garden that has

insects and birds. Numerous berried shrubs and trees also provide nourishment for the bluebirds. There are nest boxes for bluebirds, a brush pile for critters to hide in and a water feature that attracts hundreds of birds every day to this bird sanctuary. Numerous understory shrubs on the property shelter feathered friends from predators.



A beautiful flower pot sits on the porch greeting visitors at one of the private homes.



After their garage burned down, this homeowner decided to rebuild it as a flower arranging space. She added commercial refrigerators and upgraded the air conditioning to keep it cold enough to keep the flowers fresh. She provides flowers for events in Fredericksburg.



Rows of shelves in her "flower garage" hold a multitude of vases and pots!



A spectacular perennial border featuring peonies, iris, tulips, daffodils, columbine and lilies lies behind the house of the Cadwallenders. Paths lead to the rose garden, chicken house and rain garden.



Known as the "Rowe House," this Federal home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Former GCV President Jeanette Cadwallender is the sixth generation of her family to live in the home, which was built by an ancestor in 1828.



A new greenhouse has just been installed and is awaiting plants to grow among its beautiful windows.

## Fundraising Committee Event-Make Plans to Attend Now!



Great gift items and fashions from Cricket will be available for purchase! Just in time to get a jump start on the holidays! Wear your fanciest hat, we will be giving a prize for the loveliest one!

Tickets may be purchased starting June 16, 2025. There is limited seating so RSVP early!

RSVP To: Teresa Robinson at 757-926-4107 (landline), leave a message with your name and number of tickets desired or text name and number of tickets desired to Teresa's cell phone 757-303-0727. Checks, Cash & Venmo accepted. Any questions, please contact Teresa.

**Please note that the date for this event has changed from the announced date at the May meeting!**

The 2025 Historic Garden Week tour in Hampton was a big success. The weather was beautiful and tour visitors enjoyed the wonderful sunshine and cool breezes off the water as they strolled from house to house. The visitor count averaged 515 people per home. Final numbers of money raised will be released this summer by GCV. Thank you to all of our HRGC members who participated in and supported this year's tour.



The 2026 HGW tour will be held in the James Landing subdivision in Newport News. At this time, the tour has 4 homes and 1 garden but that is subject to change.

*Submitted by HGW 2026 Chair Stacy Queensberry*

In August, Mary Johnson will begin selling ads for the 2026 HGW Guidebook, the local brochure and sponsorships for the tour.

Please think of any businesses that may be interested in buying an

ad or being a sponsor. Please pass any contacts you may have to Mary, she will take it from there. Thank you to those of you who have already passed on potential sponsors and advertisers information.

*Submitted by Mary Johnson, 2026 HGW Ad & Sponsor Chair*

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## HGW Middle Peninsula-Middlesex Tour Photos

As promised in the May issue, below are some additional pictures from the HGW Middle Peninsula-Middlesex Tour that was attended by a group of HRGC members who toured the home of Associate member Milly Wassum.



The HRGC members stand with Milly in front of her home Regent Cottage.



Milly's back porch is so inviting on a hot day!



The pool in the back of Milly's home.



The view from Milly's backyard overlooks the marina on Locklies Creek and the Rappahannock River. Just Beautiful!



Providence, a home built in 1760 was restored and expanded by the current owners. It is located on the Piankatank River and sits on 15 acres of groomed woodlands and open fields.



The owners have added gardens that embrace both sun and shade.



Lovely Irises line the gardens on the back of the home.



The pool at Providence overlooks a beautiful water view of the river.



Built in 2020, this home Falling Tide was built by the owners to have water views from every room in the home.



Landscaped gardens overlook the Piankatank River.



Raised garden beds growing a variety of vegetables.



A stately Magnolia tree looks over Moore Creek on the grounds of the Cutler home.



A Lilac vine grows on top of the entrance to the side patio.



The Ward home has an expansive lot that includes multiple outdoor venues. A hedge of knock-out roses greets visitors to the home.



This outdoor fountain was decorated with a lovely arrangement.



Given the owner's love of gardens, it is not surprising that gardens can be seen from each vantage point in the home.



Beautiful Peonies bloom in one of the many gardens.



Irises and ferns line the area toward the back of the home.



The 2025 HRGC Bus Trip to Charleston, SC made a profit of \$2,573.00 this year. Thank you to all of the members who went on the trip and brought friends and family with them. Thank you to the Bus Committee for all of their hard work planning the trip and working on the bus to make it a fun ride. As usual it was a fun filled trip enjoyed by all who attended!

*Submitted by Bus Trip Co-Chair Jane Quinn*



The 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. These include education, conservation advocacy, awards and grant opportunities for clubs, as well as publications and membership communication. Many GCV programs are available free of charge for members, thanks to the Annual Fund. It ensures that GCV can employ professional staff to support programs and the

membership as well as provide maintenance and preservation of the Kent-Valentine House, which is a National Historic Landmark. The Annual Fund was established in 2009 to provide unrestricted funds for the operation of GCV. Funds raised in one year are available to meet the needs of the following year's operating budget.

As you know the past two years our club contributed substantially to the Annual Fund. So far this year we are a bit behind on our giving. As of this issue of the newsletter we have only had 21 Active members (42%) and 5 Associates (24%) make a contribution this fiscal year. The Annual Fund runs from July 1 through June 30th every year, so you still have time to contribute by the end of the month. All donations to GCV's Annual Fund are tax deductible. You may mail a check to GCV or you may go on-line at <https://gcvirginia.org/product/donation/>. Thank you to those of you that

have already contributed your piece of the pie! If you are not sure if you have contributed during this fiscal year or you have any questions about the Annual Fund please contact Mary Johnson.

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## GCV Photography Workshops



Join GCV members on Aug. 15, 2025, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. for an Exploration of Travel Photography A Zoom Summer School presented by the GCV Photography Committee. Photo by Mary S. Queitzch.

To register for this workshop click [here](#):

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/b0yY38L0Q\\_OiwVBsI1iUbA#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/b0yY38L0Q_OiwVBsI1iUbA#/registration)

### David Luria Photo Workshop

Held June 2, this virtual workshop provided guidance for capturing stunning photos with your smartphone. HRGC member Allison Clock attended the workshop and submitted this photo she took with some tips from the workshop. Allison learned that when photographing flowers, try taking the photos with black cardboard or fabric behind them. Allison used fabric for the picture below. The other tip she learned was to try to take pictures of flowers in the shade. Beautiful photo Allison, thanks for sharing with us!



# YEARBOOK Update

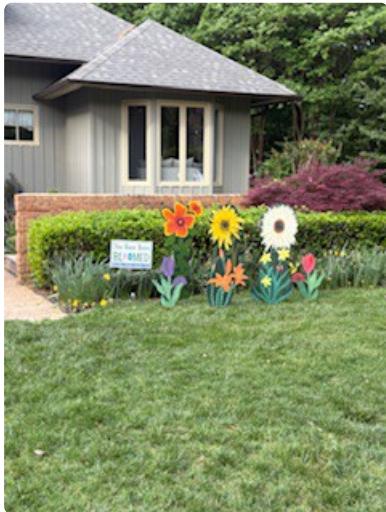
All HRGC members, Actives, Associates, and Non-Residents are asked to verify their contact information for the yearbook. The 2025-26 Yearbook will be edited this summer for distribution to members in September. Please help Yearbook Editor Sidney Jordan make sure that all of your information is correct and up to date. In addition, please log on to the HRGC Blog and check your member information there. Information on how to access the blog, The Dirt, can be found on Page 9 of the HRGC Yearbook. Please send any changes to your contact information to Sidney or contact her if you have any questions. Thank you for your help!

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The Admissions Committee would like to remind the membership that we have 5 openings for new members. Proposals for membership may be received during the summer for a vote by members at the September meeting. Please mail all proposal letters for new members to Admissions Chair Trish Lively at 166 Spoon Court, Yorktown, VA. 23693. If you have any questions, please contact Trish.

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## You've Been Bloomed

Don't let the summer stop you from Blooming someone for a special occasion! Our Blooms Committee members work through the summer spreading cheer with our colorful flowers placed in yards across the Peninsula. Ideas for Blooms include Birthdays, Anniversaries, Thank You's, Get Well Wishes, A New Baby or Grandchild, New Empty Nesters, A New Home, Graduations, Promotions, To Show Appreciation, To Thank a Client, Retirement, Friendship, or "Just Because"! The possibilities are endless. As one of our club fundraisers, the Bloom Committee raised **\$675.00** in sales. We can get a head start on next year by working to bloom friends this summer! So let's all start Blooming! To place an order for your Blooms please contact Ann Moir at [annmoir@cox.net](mailto:annmoir@cox.net) or 757-291-5066.

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# World Bee Day

MAY 20



David Freeman from the City Manager's Office helped the Hampton Roads and Huntington Garden Clubs' Bee Committees with a city proclamation recognizing World Bee Day on Tuesday, May 20. He is pictured here with Dale Banning from the Hampton Roads Garden Club.

This day is a global event recognized by the United Nations to highlight the vital role of bees and

other pollinators in our ecosystem and our planet's health. The theme for World Bee Day 2025 is "Bee inspired by nature to nourish us all."

Newport News has been approved as a Bee City for another year!

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## IN THE NEWS

HRGC member Page Kremp and her husband Jeff are owners of Jeff's Flowers, Of Course, a florist in Newport News. Page and Jeff and their business were featured in the May issue of the Oyster Pointer newspaper. To read the article, click here: <https://oysterpointer.net/jeffs-flowers-of-course-petal-perfection/>

Mary Diggs submitted this article entitled *Black Herbalism's Healing Legacy*. Black herbalism traces its roots to the Western African religious practices of Yoruba and the concept of ashe, in which healers listened closely to plants to connect with the spiritual forces of living, growing things. To read this interesting article, click here: <https://www.nwf.org/Magazines/National-Wildlife/2025/Spring/Conservation/Black-Herbalism>

### *How Gardening Can Help You Live Better For Longer*

Results of a study showed those who spent time gardening showed greater lifetime improvement in their cognitive ability than those who never or rarely did. To read about this study click here: <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20250509-how-gardening-boosts-brain-health?ocid=fbfut>

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# Summer Birthdays!

Happy Birthday to our members who have summer birthdays!

Happy Birthday to our June ladies:

- 10 Page Kremp
- 14 Jenny Griffiths

Happy Birthday to our July ladies:

- 1 Birgit Kingsbury
- 12 Joanna Bigley
- 12 Tyra Freed
- 14 Maureen Hutchens
- 17 Karan Mulkey
- 29 Ann Moir
- 30 Susan Armfield

Happy Birthday to our August ladies:

- 3 Donna Herbert
- 12 Lori Shuford
- 21 Allison Clock

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**Just For Fun!**



# Happy Summer



**Mary Johnson**

Mary is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

