

Founders: *Mrs. R.H.C. Beverley, Jr.*
Mrs. Greene W. Dugger
Mrs. Laurence G. Fawcett
Mrs. Milton T. Greenland
Mrs. Charles F. Holden, Jr.
Mrs. Benjamin S. Killmaster
Mrs. A. Slater Lamond
Mrs. Samuel P. Moncure
Mrs. William D. Ord
Mrs. Douglas Smith
Mrs. Edmund Ticer (Mrs. Robert Z. Morrison)
Mrs. Park Ticer
Mrs. E. Hardy Adriance (Mrs. Meredith Wickes)
Mrs. William McIlwaine, III



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

Celebrating 70 Years

The Hunting Creek Garden Club
of
Alexandria, Virginia
1942 - 2012

Copy of Official Map of 3rd Corps-



The U.S. Forts and Batteries near ALEXANDRIA. Vt. Sept 1862.

*Jack Lamond Sara Ann Lindsey Virginia Guild Penny Bryan
Lib Sibold Anne Hobbs Margaret Moring Donna Clausen
Martha Manson Lynn Gas Lucy Rhame Lea Shuba
Anne Irving Laura Francis Vicky Alexander Elizabeth Hooff
Bunny Jacob Bruce Rodenberg Kathy Green Becky Bostick
Mimi Mackall Timmi Wood Jane Wells Karen Abramson
Sally Brierre Betsy Bradford Lucha Taylor Maria Hopper
Anne Kington Christy Bellino Teggie Smith Judy Williams*

Celebrating 70 Years is dedicated to the members of The Hunting Creek Garden Club, past and present, who with enthusiasm, dedication and grace have strived to carry out and expand the objectives of the original mission*, and in the process forged lasting friendships.

March 2012

**The bylaws of The Hunting Creek Garden Club state the objectives of the club shall be to stimulate interest in civic planting, to promote amateur gardening and to aid in the protection of our native trees, shrubs, wild flowers and birds.*

March 1942

*Diane Hynes Esther Carpi Janet vonSternberg Kim Davis
Starlet Zarek Gugi Hooff Dottie Hawkins Ann McMurray
Jackie Locke Betty Quirk Christine Roberts Bonnie Shelor
Lynn Brennan Cassie Van Derslice Catherine Austin
Susan Winn Barbara Jacob Suzanne Willett Gail Camalier
Eleanor Denegre Tamara Saltonstall Kristen Coffield
Beth Eley Liza Chapman Lauren Garcia Lori Morris
Ashli Douglas Heidi Lyons Amy Bertles Catherine Thompson*

HUNTING CREEK GARDEN CLUB

In March of 2012, we celebrate Hunting Creek Garden Club's 70th birthday. The years have been rewarding, filled with interesting activities and accomplishments which are barely touched upon in this short anniversary history. The high points can be recorded, but it is impossible to capture the spirit of these years, the fun, the learning, the hard work – strong backs should be a requisite of membership! We laughed, occasionally complained, and sometimes felt overwhelmed, but we carried on because we shared a commitment to serious purposes that deepened as the years passed and we faced new challenges to the natural environment.

Hunting Creek began as a junior garden club. Members of the Garden Club of Alexandria had met with their daughters, daughters-in-law and nieces to endorse plans for founding the Junior Garden Club of Alexandria. The first meeting of the club was held in March 1942 with all fourteen charter members in attendance. These energetic ladies immediately approved bylaws (modeled on the Garden Club of Virginia's charter), elected officers, set up eight committees, and scheduled bi-monthly meetings because there was so much to learn and to do.

While the new club was being organized, times were changing. Barely three months earlier, the attack on Pearl Harbor had plunged America into the midst of war, and the country was mobilizing on every front. Club members were determined to support the war effort, and to a surprising degree they succeeded. Their endeavors were not in line with traditional garden club activities, but members faithfully served suppers at the U.S.O., made Christmas stockings for soldiers, and collected clothes to be sent to Holland.

A year after the initial meeting, the fledgling club confidently adopted the name "Hunting Creek Garden Club" after Alexandria's historic Hunting Creek. The new name seemed appropriate since half of the club members lived on one side of the Creek, and half on the other – a nice balance. But "Junior Club of Alexandria" remained as part of the name, in very small letters.

1942 - 1952

From the beginning, the new members were intent on fulfilling their garden club obligations. They were eager to “promote amateur gardening,” starting in their own gardens. With “learning by doing” as their guiding principle, they experimented with seeds and planted a variety of flowers to study, including delphiniums, petunias, asters, columbines, lilies-of-the-valley, carnations and snap dragons.

In 1943 Hunting Creek selected the grounds of the old Alexandria Hospital (torn down in 1974) for its first “civic planting” project, and eventually “three very expensive trees,” iris and several types of ivy were planted there, enhanced by a bird bath and bird feeding station. Money for the landscaping was raised by subscription dances, bridge parties, and raffling Redskin or Theatre Guild tickets.

Horticulture soon played an important part in the life of the club. In 1944 the club acquired the Garden Club of Virginia Narcissus Collection, followed by the Rose and Lily Collections, and joined the Potomac Rose Society, the American Rose Society and the North American Lily Society. To encourage interest in horticulture, an annual Intra-Club cup was awarded to the member with the most points for Horticulture entries. Another Intra-Club cup was presented to the member with the highest points for flower arrangements. That same year the club voted to hold one instead of two monthly meetings due to the difficulties of war time transportation.

In 1949 Hunting Creek sponsored a Community Flower Show in Alexandria to which all of the local garden clubs were invited. The show was such a popular success that it was held again the following year. With the help of profits from these two shows, the club was able to provide funding for the foundation planting at the new Alexandria Red Cross Chapter House.

Learning from past experience and fortified by “three copies of the Daffodil Book” (the Royal Horticultural Society of London’s *Classified List of Daffodil Names*, 1948), HCGC sponsored its first Daffodil Show at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in 1951. It was a beautiful show and so well received that the club decided to hold another Daffodil Show in April of 1952 at Gadsby’s Tavern. After the second success, Hunting Creek resolved to sponsor annual daffodil shows. The club’s love affair with daffodils had begun.

The club continued to support war relief efforts in many ways, such as donating \$100 to an orphanage in England, sending seeds overseas and working with the Red Cross to contribute flowers and magazine subscriptions to service hospitals.

By the end of the first decade, HCGC’s membership had grown to twenty-eight active members, two associate members, and six non-residents. There were sixteen committee chairmen including a new Daffodil Show Chairman.

1942

1943

1944

1945

1946

**1942**

- First meeting of the Junior Garden Club of Alexandria, March 1942

1943

- The name "Hunting Creek Garden Club" adopted May 1943
- Selected Alexandria Hospital grounds as first Civic Planting project

1944

- Acquired GCV Narcissus Test Collection in 1944

1945

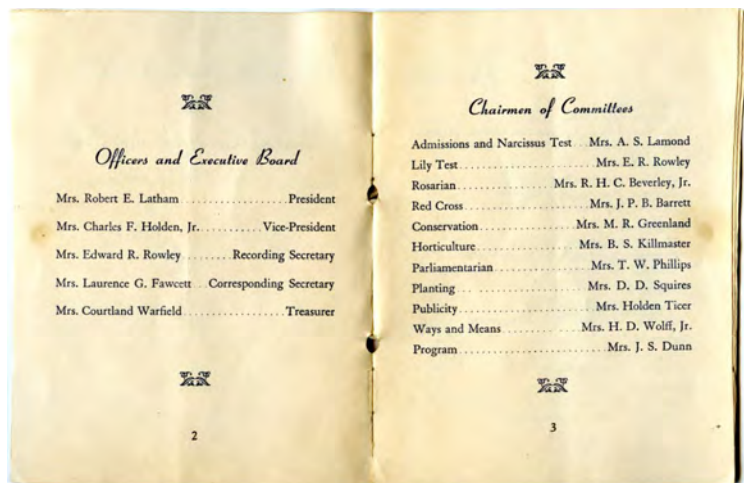
- First program devoted to flower arranging
- Awarded first Intra-Club Cup for flower arrangements

1946

- Awarded first annual Intra-Club Cup for Horticulture
- Started using printed exhibit cards for arrangement and horticultural entries

1947

- Arrangements given titles for the first time
- Changed from typed to printed programs
- Joined Potomac Rose Society



1947

1948

1949

1950

1951

1952

1948

- Contributed \$50 toward purchase of Woodlawn
- Two members became accredited judges

1949

- Sponsored Community Flower Show

1950

- Sponsored flower arranging course for beginners, open to public
- Community Flower Shows funded landscaping at new Red Cross Chapter House

1951

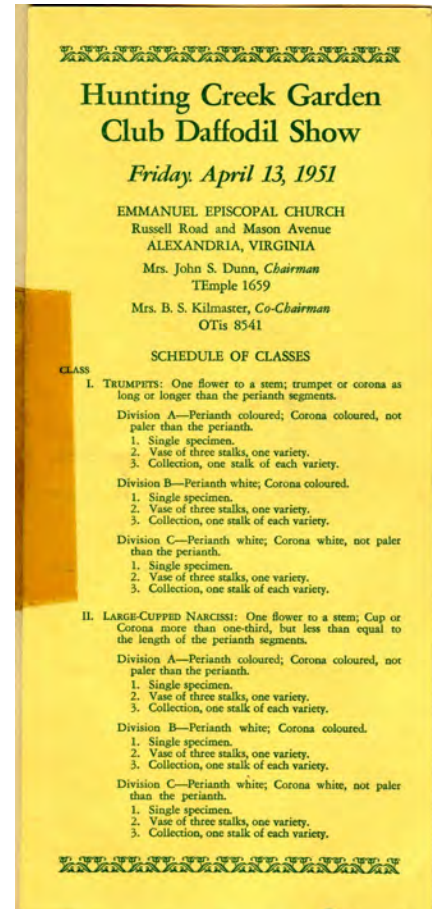
- Sponsored HCGC's first Daffodil Show, Emmanuel Episcopal Church
- Completed planting project at Alexandria Hospital

1952

- HCGC Daffodil Show, Gadsby's Tavern, now annual event



The start of our flower arranging legacy



HUNTING CREEK GARDEN CLUB



HCGC'S SECOND DAFFODIL SHOW WINNERS

Mrs. C Harrison Mann presents the sweepstakes award to Mrs. Howard Bloomer. Mrs. Hugh Cary wins for best arrangement and Miss Bruce Greenland is the winner in the Children's class



DAFFODIL SHOW COMMITTEE

L-R Mrs. Charles Nicholson, Jr., co-chairman of staging, Mrs. C. Harrison Mann, president of the club and Mrs. Robert W. Wheat, III, chairman of the show



WINNERS OF THE TWO SCHOLARSHIPS

Hunting Creek sponsors our first campers at Nature Camp

1952 - 1962

The most significant event in the history of the club occurred in June of 1954 when Hunting Creek became a member of the Garden Club of Virginia. Joining the state wide organization created wonderful opportunities and brought added responsibilities such as hosting the GCV Conservation Forum only eight months later and participating in Historic Garden Week. Hunting Creek was now a fully-fledged garden club, and all references to "Junior" vanished. At this time the club became more actively involved in conservation issues. We sponsored our first candidate for Nature Camp and supported an anti-litter campaign.

The first Christmas Workshop was held in 1954. Members did everything from cutting greens to tying bows. Since there was little opportunity to buy beautiful boxwood wreaths and trees, the sale was immensely popular in the community. We were delighted to make a profit of \$403.50! Although labor-intensive, the event proved to be an excellent fundraiser.

In 1956 The American Daffodil Society selected Hunting Creek from among the garden clubs in the entire metropolitan area to stage a Demonstration Daffodil Show at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, undoubtedly good training for sponsoring the GCV Daffodil Show the next year.

Hunting Creek's first major civic beautification project was to create a garden at Ramsay House, the oldest house in Alexandria. Its colonial garden was designed by Alden Hopkins, the landscape architect for Williamsburg. Work began in the spring of 1958 and over several years a variety of plants were added: shrubs, acuba, vinca minor, small leaf ivy, grape hyacinths, 150 tulips, more tulips A wooden bench was provided for comfort, a professional gardener was hired in 1961, and finally the steps and the wooden fence were painted. The "small perfect gem" of a garden was completed in 1962.

After twenty years, HCGC's membership had grown to a total of 42 members, with 17 committee chairmen. The elimination of the Red Cross Committee and the addition of a Historic Garden Week Chairman reflected the new focus of the club.

HCGC members headed to Richmond to attend GCV committee meetings, lectures, forums and judging schools. Ribbons and cups were won by our talented members at flower shows all over the state, and at home in Alexandria we spent countless hours working on Historic Garden Week, alternating the chairmanship with the GCA.

1952

1953

1954

1955

1956



1957 Rose Show Arrangement by
Mrs. Ella Latham

1953

- Dropped Red Cross Committee, changing focus
- Contributed to Lloyd House

1954

- HCGC became a member of GCV
- Sketch of Hunting Creek Bridge designed for New Program Cover
- First Christmas Greens Workshop to raise money for civic endeavors
- Assumed chairing Historic Garden Week alternating with Garden Club of Alexandria



THE MOST COVETED AWARD

The Eleanor Truax Harris Challenge Cup is presented to Mrs. Robert Wheat, III HCGC, by Mrs. F. Whitney Godwin, president of the GCV



An exhibit to promote HGW by HCGC and GCA at the National Capital Flower Garden Show in 1955



1957

1958

1959

1960

1961

1962

1955

- Hosted GCV Conservation Forum
- Received award at GCV's Annual Meeting for work on Conservation Forum
- Sponsored first camper at Nature Camp
- Worked to preserve C&O Canal

1956

- Staged Demonstration Daffodil Show for American Daffodil Society Convention

1957

- Hosted GCV Daffodil Show
- Created and maintained Alden Hopkins designed garden at Ramsay House

1958

- Hosted GCV Daffodil Show

1959

- Received Award from Red Cross for Christmas wreaths at Quantico

1960

- Hosted Demonstration Daffodil Show for educating the public

**1957 DAFFODIL SHOW**

Mrs. Howard Bloomer of the Garden Club of Alexandria and Mrs. F. Whitney Godwin of Suffolk VA, President of the Garden Club of Virginia

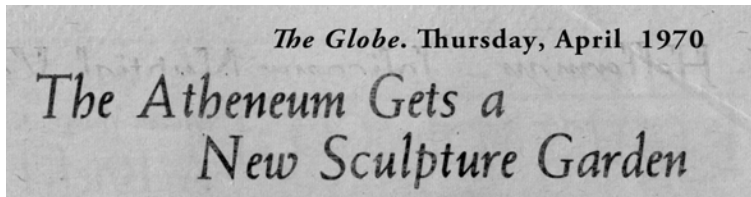
**FIRST CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP 1954**

Mrs. Robert Latham, co-chair of first Christmas Workshop, Mrs. Joseph M. Rideout, in charge of materials and accessories table, and Mrs. B.S. Killmaster, co-chair

**1958 CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP**

Mrs. Robert Latham displays a Christmas tree skirt to Mrs. Louis Mackall, (*center*) and Mrs. B. T. Boogher.

HUNTING CREEK GARDEN CLUB



WORK STARTS ON THE NEW GARDEN
Mrs. Douglas Lindsey watches the progress



Mrs. James F. Pinkney looks over the grounds that will be
paved in square cut flagstone



1962 - 1972

In 1964 the club began to consider forming a “Junior Auxiliary to Hunting Creek composed of daughters and daughters-in-law of members.” After months of research and discussion an amendment to the bylaws was approved in 1967, and sixteen young women were invited to become members of a new Provisional Class. For several years they attended separate evening meetings to learn garden club essentials, such as horticulture, flower arranging and even botany, as well as participating in many of the club’s activities. These well-trained provisionals were welcomed into the club as active members in 1972, and their energy and enthusiasm invigorated all of HCGC’s endeavors. The Provisional Class was later dropped.

In spite of so much loving attention devoted to daffodils, lilies finally took center stage during the early 1960s. Through a series of outstanding programs, members became “acutely aware” of the lily. It was a wonderful preparation for the next GCV Lily Show, sponsored by Hunting Creek in 1967 and 1968.

The focus of the next important beautification project was the Athenaeum where Hunting Creek created a Sculpture Garden for the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association’s new museum. The initial survey of the site behind the Athenaeum was far from pleasing, but with the help of a good design and a bulldozer, a delightful flagstone patio bordered by attractive shrubs and groundcover soon replaced the weeds in the small walled garden.

By now the Christmas Workshop had grown to startling proportions. The list of items for sale in 1972 included 160 boxwood wreaths, 32 boxwood trees, 15 kissing balls, 10 della Robbia wreaths and, of course, elegant bows. HCGC members met once a week from October to December to create beautiful hand-made ornaments. Although the sale raised a net profit of \$2,178.08 for club projects, members decided to limit production in the future.

HCGC’s Mrs. Mann initiated a city-wide Zero Litter Poster Contest among students in elementary and middle schools. The imaginative posters were to be seen all around Alexandria, one even made it to City Hall. Hunting Creek donated the dogwood trees that were planted at each of the participating schools.

For the first time, HCGC hosted a GCV Annual Meeting in 1972. Careful planning ensured a smooth-running and happy three-day event which included a tour of the Woodrow Wilson House in Washington, a feast at Gadsby’s Tavern, a splendid banquet at the Army-Navy Country Club (the GCV ladies wore elegant long evening gowns), and a picnic at Gunston Hall.

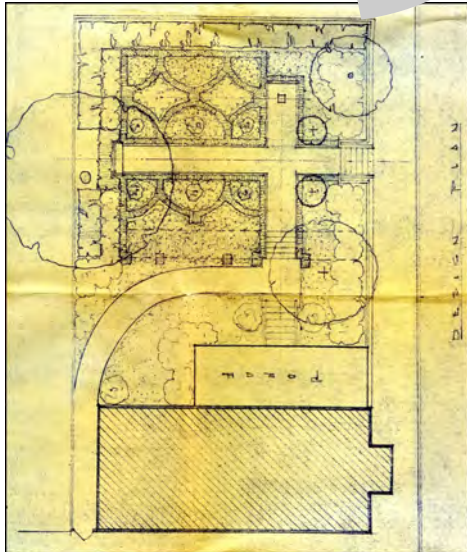
1962

1963

1964

1965

1966



Alden Hopkins Plan for the Ramsay House Garden



Mrs. C. Dawson (Franny) and Mrs. P. Davis (Woody) load magnolia for the Christmas Workshop

1962

- Completed Ramsay House Garden

1963/64

- Assisted GCA planting daffodils at Alexandria Hospital

1965

- Began using themes for annual flower arrangement schedules – the first: “A Shakespearean Year”
- Tri-Color Ribbon Arrangement, GCV Lily Show

1966

- Funded landscaping island at Rosemont and Commonwealth Avenues
- Planted grove of pine trees at entrance to George Mason University

1967

- Established Provisional Class
- Hosted GCV Lily Show
- Blue Ribbon Interclub Arrangement, GCV Daffodil Show

1968

- Hosted GCV Lily Show

1969

- HCGC in forefront of fight to prevent landfill of Hunting Creek

1970

- Began Sculpture Garden at Athenaeum (NVFAA)
- HCGC Membership reaches 60

1971

- Blue Ribbon Test Collection, GCV Lily Show
- Sponsored Zero Litter Poster Contest
- HCGC honored at opening of Sculpture Garden

1972

- Hosted GCV Annual Meeting
- Received Award of Merit from Alexandria Beautification Committee

1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972



Betty Mann, left, sponsor for the "Zero Litter" Poster Contest




Betty Mann, Jane Gouldin and Neosha Anglin put finishing touches on boxwood Christmas trees




Mrs. M. Beede, Mrs. R. Thompson and Mrs. P. Davis complete the garden at Rosemont and Commonwealth Avenues

HUNTING CREEK GARDEN CLUB



The Garden Club of Alexandria

Dear Hunting Creek Garden Club,
 Conceived in December forty
 years ago, you were a war
 baby. In March of 1942, you
 were born at a first meeting
 and were named The Junior
 Club of Alexandria.
 Right away, you assumed a
 very special and useful role
 in the community and went
 about the carrying out of
 thoughtful and beautiful
 projects with ease. War



The Garden Club of Alexandria

work was foremost with
 drives for clothing for Holland
 and stockings for the U.S.O.
 only two examples.
 You grew up quickly and with
 great grace and talent. In
 April of 1943 you asserted
 your independence and took
 a new name. You became
 The Hunting Creek Garden
 Club and your history in the
 minutes of September 1954
 reads: "apparently we

In further support of the Athenaeum, Hunting Creek agreed to purchase the winner in NVFAA's competition to select an outdoor sculpture to grace the new garden. The blue ribbon winner at the juried show turned out to be a small bronze lady fencer entitled "Olympic Champion," perhaps a tribute to determined garden club ladies. After the competition, the club hosted a gala evening reception to celebrate the "Champion," our permanent gift to the Athenaeum Garden.

In the 1970s, concern for the natural environment escalated and Hunting Creek responded by supporting attempts to limit pollution and protect our natural resources, especially the Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River. We learned to re-cycle and encouraged others to do the same. The club even wrote a letter to the C & P Phone Company about re-cycling phone books.

Hunting Creek also stepped up efforts to interest children in nature. For example, we contributed to the ALIVE Child Development Center, a pre-school for 60 children of working mothers, to encourage planting and caring for vegetable and flower gardens, making terrariums, and taking field trips. Members donated a variety of treasures like horseshoe crab shells and a deer antler, to the children's delight.

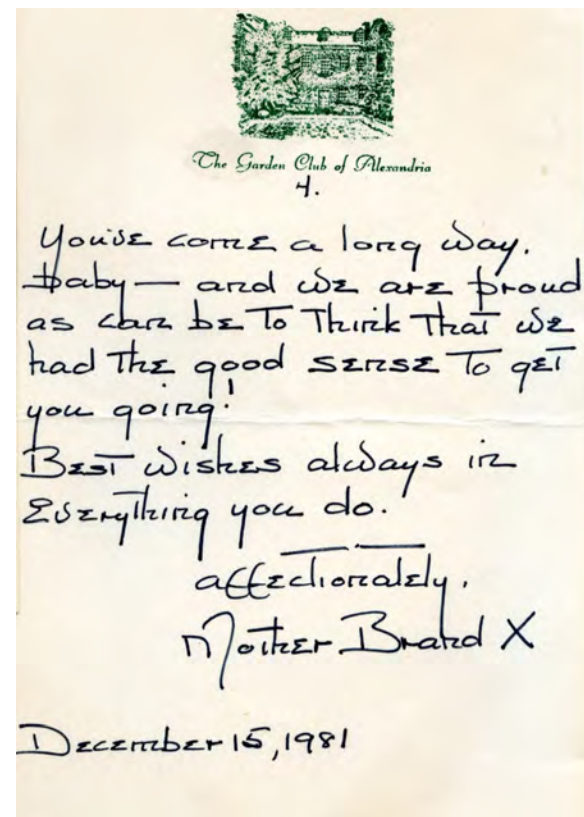
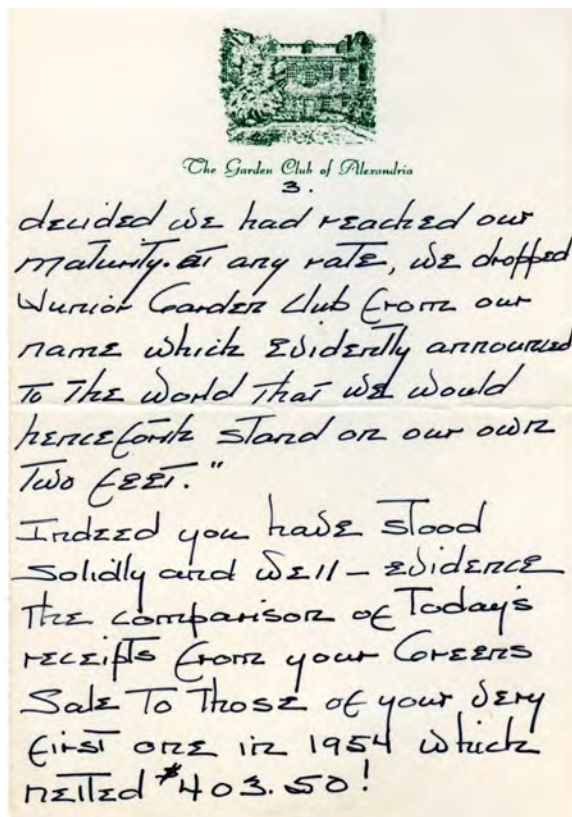
In 1976 to commemorate the Bicentennial, every GCV member club prepared a needlepoint square to be combined into a rug for the Kent-Valentine House. Our talented Mrs. Latham created an "exquisitely worked" square depicting the bridge over Hunting Creek. Entrusted to the U.S. Mail, the needlepoint was "never ever seen again." Under great duress, a second square was hastily prepared and "hand carried" to Richmond.

1972 - 1982

Over the years Hunting Creek made repeated contributions to the historic house museums in Alexandria. At the Lee-Fendall House, the club funded landscaping in front of the house in accordance with plans drawn by Meade Palmer, a well known landscape architect. In 1978 the club completed the restoration of the back garden where, with the help of the GCA, a statue of a young boy had been placed in honor of HCGC charter member Dorothy Killmaster.

Another beautification project that Hunting Creek took on at this time was landscaping the grounds of the Sheltered Homes Apartments on Bellefonte Avenue, a home for mentally challenged adults. The club proposed the project for the GCV Common Wealth Award in 1981. Although a finalist, it did not win the grant, but with a little extra effort at the Christmas Greens Workshop we raised enough money to complete the landscaping. It was rewarding to learn that the property was used and enjoyed by the neighbors as well as the residents in the Homes, thus benefitting the entire community.

In 1980 HCGC and the GCA bravely decided to change the venue of Historic Garden Week from Old Town to Seminary Hills due to the difficulty obtaining houses in the historic district of Alexandria. However, the following year the event was back in the always popular Old Town.



Letter from the Garden Club of Alexandria commemorating our 40th Birthday

1972

1973

1974

1975

1976

1972



Libby Sibold does HCGC proud at the 1977 GCV Rose Show

1973

- Supported the GCV's position against underground expansion of the State Capitol building

1974

- Blue Ribbon Test Collection, GCV Daffodil Show
- HCGC and GCA sponsored first joint Daffodil Show at Goodwin House
- HCGC's Tri-Club luncheon for GCV President canceled due to oil crisis.

1975

- Presented bronze statue, "Olympic Champion" to NVFAA for Athenaeum Sculpture Garden
- Installed wrought iron gate in Athenaeum (NVFAA) Garden



Sculpture presented to the Athenaeum



Mrs. Harris, Davis, Mann, Sibold, Guild, Anglin, Gouldin and Pinkney visit Mountain Shadows the home of Pat Crenshaw near Paris, Virginia

1977

1978

1979

1980

1981

1982

1976

- Purchased cherry trees for Bicentennial beautification project
- Continued to fund landscaping at Lee-Fendall House
- Completed landscaping at Interim House, home for teenagers

1977

- Received award for Ramsay House Garden from Alexandria Beautification Committee
- Funded landscaping at Sheltered Homes Apartments
- Blue Ribbon Interclub Arrangement, GCV Lily Show

1981

- Environmental efforts included working for billboard legislation and supporting Chesapeake Bay clean up



1954 HCGC logo drawn by Blanche Rowley was painted so that Ella Latham could needlepoint it in 1976 for the GCV Bicentennial needlepoint rug



HUNTING CREEK GARDEN CLUB



Commemorative plaque at Kent
Valentine House honoring
Virginia Guild



Virginia Guild
President of the Garden Club of Virginia
1990 - 1992

1982 - 1992

Hunting Creek sponsored the GCV Lily Show in 1985 and 1986. In addition to the usual intense planning and preparation, we faced a major challenge collecting the properties needed for the show. A contingent of young members had to rent a truck for the long drive to Chatham to pick up the properties, an adventure recognized as “a true journey of love.”

One of the club’s more unusual educational projects was for the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Shop in Alexandria. In 1987, we contributed \$4,000 to the Landmark Society for the restoration of the Apothecary Shop. A sum of \$1,500 was set aside to underwrite the cost of researching, writing, illustrating and publishing a booklet on the medical uses of herbs and barks in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Throughout the early 1980s Hunting Creek members battled the dreaded gypsy moths. Reports at our monthly meetings were a great source of practical advice where we learned how to destroy the egg masses, trap or remove the caterpillars one by one, and wrap our favorite trees in burlap.

HCGC was “covered with honor” at the GCV Annual Meeting in 1988. We were thrilled when Mrs. C. Harrison Mann received the Massie Medal, GCV’s oldest and most prestigious award, a “first” for a member of Hunting Creek. And Mrs. Clayton Tasker brought home the GCV Horticulture Award of Merit, the eighth HCGC member to receive the award since it was established in 1960. Only two years later, our very accomplished Mrs. Henley L. Guild was elected President of the Garden Club of Virginia, another “first” for a member of Hunting Creek.

Although Hunting Creek expected to send youngsters to Nature Camp, we were amazed when two of our more intrepid members decided to attend Adult Nature Camp. They survived to report back their experiences in fascinating detail. In fact, they had such fun that they returned to camp the next year with husbands and martinis in tow.

The saga of the Athenaeum Garden continued and in 1989 Hunting Creek contributed \$4,000 to the renovation of the garden. The new design included a fountain for a focal point and new planting emphasizing native evergreens. Over the years, Hunting Creek had helped maintain the garden, either financially or through our own hard labor. Finally in 1991 the NVFAA Board voted to assume permanent maintenance of the garden.

1982

1983

1984

1985

1986



Ann Schmidtlein wins the GCV Lee Harris Award Blue Ribbon for her Victorian Lily Arrangement

1983

- Continued maintenance of Athenaeum Garden

1985

- Hosted GCV Lily Show
- Contributed to landscaping at Pope-Leighey House

1986

- Hosted GCV Lily Show
- HCGC established Award of Merit

1987

- Significant contributions to Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Shop

1988

- HCGC's Betty Mann awarded GCV Massie Medal
- Received Award for Athenaeum Garden
- Voted to establish Inactive Membership Class

1989

- Donated \$4,000 to renovate Athenaeum Garden; bronze plaque placed in Garden to honor HCGC's contributions
- Blue Ribbon Interclub Arrangement, GCV Rose Show

1990 -1992

- HCGC's Virginia Guild - President of GCV

1991

- Museum Board voted to take over maintenance of Athenaeum Garden



The Arrangers
Margaret Moring, Mimi Mackall, Skip Brown, Sandy Bavin, and Ann Davis

1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992



Cary McDaniel and Mimi Mackall at the Daffodil Show at Goodwin House



1987-1989 Officers Susie Gillam (treasurer), Annie Goldsmith (secretary), Ellen Gray (president) and Pat Crenshaw (vice president)



The walled garden at the Athenaeum 1991

HUNTING CREEK GARDEN CLUB



Charter members Jane Beverley, Jack Lamond *president 1979-1981*, Courtney Ticer and Viola Greenland Pope *president 1944-1946*, cut the 50th Anniversary Cake.

1992 - 2002

An impressive number of present, past and non-resident members turned out to celebrate Hunting Creek's 50th Birthday in 1992. During the festive champagne luncheon, our charter members reminisced about the founding of the club and the days when ladies wore white gloves and hats and sipped tea at afternoon meetings. But what they accomplished!

In October, 1993, Hunting Creek sponsored its first and very successful GCV Board of Governors Meeting. Most of the three-day activities were concentrated in Alexandria and included walking tours, visits to gardens and historic houses, intimate luncheons in members' homes and a wonderful "tented" banquet at the Carlyle House where the GCV ladies were piped to dinner by a "handsomely kilted Scotsman." Fortunately we are a talented and diverse group because the work demanded "flower container designers, gourmet cooks, artists, flower arrangers, lots of good strong leg-work" and expert logistical planning.

HCGC supported the Winkler Botanical Preserve's efforts to maintain pure nature in an urban area and to educate the public about plant life and conservation issues. The Preserve, 43 acres of land unexpectedly situated in the middle of a busy Alexandria neighborhood, is dedicated to the study and conservation of flowers, trees and plants of the Potomac Valley Region. In 1995 HCGC proposed the Preserve for the GCV Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Conservation Award, and to our delight, it won!

We cheered the news that our Virginia Guild had received the Massie Medal at the GCV Annual Meeting in 1997 for her dedicated service to the Garden Club of Virginia.

In line with Hunting Creek's on-going support of civic beautification in Alexandria, the club decided to replant the courtyard garden at Robert E. Lee's Boyhood Home. We designed the garden, purchased shrubs and trees, and a team of HCGC members supplied the elbow grease with hoes, shovels and clippers, working at the site in 1999.

As usual we eagerly anticipated the first meeting of the year which occurred on September 11, 2001 at Maria Hopper's gracious old house in Alexandria only two blocks from the Potomac River. We will never forget the surreal experience of calmly carrying on with garden club business in spite of horrifying news bulletins from the luncheon ladies in the kitchen. Of course mothers with young children left immediately, but the rest of the members stayed until after lunch, a stunned and subdued group. Going out into the empty street, silent except for the occasional wail of a distant siren and the faint drone of jet fighters circling high above Washington, we knew our world had changed.

On a cheerful note, Hunting Creek visited the White House in October 2001 for a splendid tour of the beautiful gardens. We watched with amusement the playful antics of the "first dogs" who enjoyed dropping balls into a small ornamental pond. Mrs. Bush was gracious and welcoming, and it turned out to be a memorable occasion for us all.

1992

1993

1994

1995

1996



Virginia Guild awarded the GCV Massie Medal



Celebrating with Virginia l-r, Anne Hobbs, Margaret Moring, Penny Bryan and Lib Sibold



Kathy Green with her hands full of Christmas Wreaths at the 1995 workshop

1993

- Hosted GCV Board of Governors Meeting
- Financed printing of "Herbal Remedies" for Apothecary Shop

1994

- Flower arrangements schedule required at least 50% Virginia native plant material
- Funded landscaping at Carlyle House

1995

- HCGC/GCA Daffodil Show at Goodwin House re-named the "Bloomer-Crenshaw Daffodil Show" to honor two great daffodil experts
- Donated \$4,000 to Ewald Park in Alexandria
- Winkler Botanical Preserve won GCV Dugdale Award for Conservation

1996

- Blue Ribbon Interclub Arrangement, GCV Daffodil Show
- Donated fringe tree to Kate Waller Barrett Library to honor GCV 75th Anniversary
- Presentation of new Crenshaw Cup at GCV Daffodil Show



It's official -
"Bloomer Crenshaw Daffodil Show" at Goodwin House

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

1997

- HCGC's Virginia Guild awarded GCV Massie Medal
- Contributed to restoration of the Underwood Walled Garden at Woodlawn Plantation
- Landscaped courtyard garden at Lee Boyhood Home

1999

- HCGC was granted 501(c)(3) tax exemption status
- Hosted GCV Conservation Forum

2000

- Supported legislation to protect Virginia's wetlands

2001

- Toured White House Garden in October



HCGC Members enjoy Horticulture Field Day at Oak Hill in Middleburg



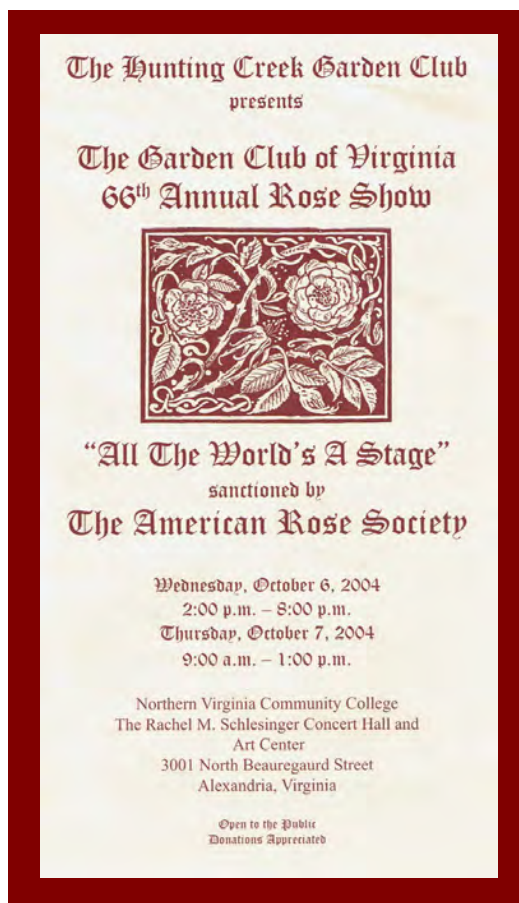
Ann Schmidlein holding tight to her GCV Lily Show entry



Lee Boyhood Home Garden Workday
Margaret Moring, Lucy Holland, Lynn Gas,
Sally Brierre, Anne Hobbs, Lucy Rhame,
Susan Castellanos, Jane Wells, Laura Francis
and Anne Irving (kneeling)



HUNTING CREEK GARDEN CLUB



2004 GCV Rose Show Blue
Ribbon Interclub
Romeo and Juliet



2004 - 2005
GCV Rose Show Chairmen
Lea Shuba and Donna Clausen

2002 - 2012

Preparations for the GCV State Rose Show went into high gear as imaginative members chose a Shakespearean theme, designed the perfect logo based on Renaissance-inspired roses, and wrote a challenging schedule. When the beautifully organized and presented Rose Show opened in 2004, it was an immediate success, as was the second show in 2005.

Three Civic Beautification and Conservation projects captured the club's interest and support. Members took pride in the successful conclusion of the installation of an Educational Pond at Polk School in Alexandria in 2006. In May, the club approved a grant of \$5,000 to help upgrade facilities at Nature Camp where we have sponsored a camper since 1955, and donated the same amount to the revitalization of Little Hunting Creek, "the trashiest stream in Fairfax County."

2010 was a year marked by change and innovation. The club had voted to eliminate January meetings, but we did not expect a blizzard to cancel our February meeting. The two-month hiatus created a communication challenge, and e-mails became the order of the day.

The Bloomer-Crenshaw Daffodil Show in April was a major experiment to find out if our club had the resources to put on the show solo after decades of co-sponsorship with The Garden Club of Alexandria. The answer was a resounding "yes!" thanks to the extraordinary response of club members who brought multiple arrangements and loads of extra daffodils. Residents of Goodwin House were delighted that the show would go on.

The decade closed with continued support to our community directed toward civic beautification, conservation and education through generous gifts to Huntley Meadows Park, Green Spring Gardens and the public schools of Alexandria with donations in excess of \$25,000.



2002

2003

2004

2005

2006



2002

- Committee formed to compile a HCGC cookbook

2004

- Blue Ribbon Interclub Arrangement, GCV Daffodil Show
- HCGC hosted GCV Rose Show
- Blue Ribbon Interclub Arrangement, GCV Rose Show

2005

- HCGC hosted GCV Rose Show

2006

- Blue Ribbon Test Collection, GCV Daffodil Show
- New Virginia Brown Guild Trophy awarded to Best-in-Show Individual Arrangement, GCV Rose Show

2007

- Flower arranging workshops held before each monthly meeting
- New Fundraiser - Amaryllis Bulb Sales
- HCGC gourmet cookbooks printed
- HCGC has 8 accredited judges

2008

- Blue Ribbon Interclub Arrangement, GCV Daffodil Show
- Grants Review Committee formed



March 2006 Dumbarton Oaks Field Trip

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2012

2009

- Blue Ribbon Test Collection, GCV Daffodil Show
- Blue Ribbon Test Collection, GCV Lily Show

2010

- New Sara Ann Lindsey Trophy for Best Oriental Lily awarded at GCV Lily Show
- Blue Ribbon Interclub Arrangement, GCV Rose Show
- Major gifts to Huntley Meadows Park for Outdoor Teaching Pavilion, Green Spring Gardens Park and Alexandria Public Schools

2011

- Virginia Guild Tray replaced Rorex Cup for Best-in-Show award at the Bloomer-Crenshaw Daffodil Show
- Blue Ribbon Interclub Arrangement, GCV Lily Show
- HCGC's first Travel Group trip to Longwood Gardens
- Fairfax County recognition of HCGC for major contributions
- 9 HCGC members serve on GCV committees

2012

- HCGC Celebrates 70th Anniversary at Tri-Club Luncheon



Virginia Guild (right) presents the Virginia Guild Tray for Best-in-Show to Betty Quirk



HCGC Travel Group

Beth Eley, Ann Kington, Esther Carpi, Martha Manson, Diane Hynes,
Lynn Gas, Anne Hobbs, Lucy Rhame, Cassie Van Derslice, Lucha
Taylor, Ann McMurray, Jackie Locke



HUNTING CREEK GARDEN CLUB Presidents 1942-1973



1942
Meredith Adriance



1942-1943
Myrtle Morrison



1943-1944
Mary Edith Fawcett



1944-1946
Viola Greenland



1946-1948
Ella Latham



1948-1950
Dorothy Killmaster



1950-1952
Betty Mann



1952-1955
Joan Holden



1955-1957
Sara Squires



1957-1959 Julie Mackall (left)
1959-1961 Lucy King



1959
Jackie Boogher



1961-1963 Lee Harris

1963-1965 Maying Lawler



1965-1967
Woody Davis



1967-1969
Jane Gouldin



1971-1973
Kay Beede



1969-1971
Sara Ann Lindsey

1973-2012



1973-1975
Neosha Anglin



1975-1977
Nancy Noone



1977-1979
Franny Dawson



1979-1981
Jack Lamond



1981-1983
Virginia Guild



1983-1985
Ann Schmidtlein



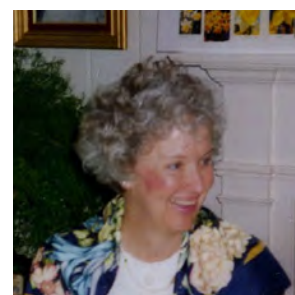
1985-1987
Wendy Straub



1987-1989
Ellen Gray



1989-1991
Helen Cox



1991-1993
Penny Bryan



1993-1995
Libby Sibold



1995-1997
Anne Hobbs



1997-1999
Margaret Moring



1999-2001
Donna Clausen



2001-2003
Martha Manson



2003-2005
Lynn Gas



2005-2007
Lucy Rhame



2007-2009
Lea Shuba



2009-2011
Anne Irving



2011-2013
Laura Francis

Looking back over Hunting Creek's achievements during the past 70 years, there is a clear history of growth and development, a broadening of our vision. In the beginning, it was the desire to know more about flowers and gardens that inspired us. We wanted to bring beauty to our homes and to our community through civic planting. Soon we branched out, contributing to highway planting, protesting the billboard blight and supporting anti-littering campaigns.

Since becoming a member club of The Garden Club of Virginia, our interest in statewide activities has increased dramatically, and so has our outreach. Our efforts to raise money during Historic Garden Week help fund important restoration projects across the state. We recognize that being part of a large umbrella organization is essential when confronting environmental issues like the current fight over uranium mining. On local issues, Hunting Creek and The Garden Club of Alexandria support each other's endeavors, a close cooperation that goes back to our beginnings as a fledgling club. Working together amplifies the effectiveness and impact of these efforts on our community.

Hunting Creek is now a mature club. Our computer-generated yearbook has 66 pages and is very different from our first printed program. The early handwritten reports and minutes belong to a different world. As the world has changed, so has Hunting Creek. World War II greatly influenced the club's founding years. Sara Ann Lindsey pointed out in her history of Hunting Creek during the 1970s that our perceptions of the Earth changed when we saw photographs taken from space of our fragile blue planet floating alone in the black void. The message was the Earth is all we have; we need to take care of it. Today it is the computer that again changes our perceptions of the world – we are all connected in ways unimaginable only twenty years ago. The only certainty is that there will be more challenges ahead.

Hunting Creek members still delight in flowers and gardens, but we know we are engaged in a constant battle to protect Virginia's natural environment. Fortunately, gardeners by necessity tend to be patient optimists, and we subscribe to the old Scottish theory, "many a little makes a much." We keep moving forward, building on the foundation set forth in the original bylaws, proud of our accomplishments but looking to the future.



Sheer Joy!

Hunting Creek Garden Club *Celebrating 70 Years* © HCGC 2012

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Mimi Mackall - Senior Writer
Vicky Alexander - Contributing Editor
Lucha Taylor - Director of Photography
Virginia Guild - Historian
Esther Carpi - Art Director

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