

Club Survey 2016-2017

Garden Club	Program	Club Activities	Fundraising	Community Outreach
Albemarle	<p>We had a member meeting at Monticello with Eleanor Gould, Curator of Gardens at Monticello giving us tips on Garden Photography - it was fantastic.</p> <p>Every December, we gather to make wreath and flower arrangements to be delivered to community Centers around the Charlottesville area.</p>	<p>4 times a year, we meet at a local park for a work day We upkeep a bog garden and add new native plantings. We also have interactive plant ids, which we are constantly updating.</p> <p>We donate flowers and greenery to the UVA Hospital every Monday in June. The hospital auxiliary makes arrangements and delivers to patients.</p> <p>Shovels and Chardonnay We had 2 members gardens open for tours for our members in late June 3pm - 6pm. Served refreshments and it was a great way to catch up with members after a hectic year.</p> <p>We offer the Nellie Hough Gardening Course each fall. It is designed for</p>	<p>We use members photographs and make them into note cards, post cards and gift tags. We sell them at our December Meeting and also at the HGW.</p> <p>A local shop will host us for a night and donate 5-10% of sales to our club. They provide refreshments and we invite non members as well.</p> <p>Our club regularly stages "The Design Forum" which brings world-renowned leaders in the area of design, history, horticulture gardening and/or flower arranging to our community.</p> <p>We encourage our members to use Amazon Smile, Korger and Brent and</p>	<p>We support ARC Natural History Day Camp, The Nature Camp and City Schoolyard Garden</p> <p>Every December, we gather to make wreath and flower arrangements to be delivered to community centers around the Charlottesville area.</p> <p>4 times a year, we meet at a local park for a work day We upkeep a bog garden and add new native plantings. We also have interactive plant ids, which we are constantly updating.</p>

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Alexandria	<p>Will Rieley and the restoration of Stratford Hall's Gardens.</p> <p>Field trip to Hillwood in DC, home of Marjorie Meriwether Post.</p> <p>Flower arranging demos by Jennifer Kelley & Margaret Gardner.</p>	<p>We hosted a fundraising speaker/ luncheon with Newport Lifestyle blogger Bettie Bearden Pardee.</p>	See above	<p>We maintain a garden in Old Town Alexandria. We are in negotiation with the City of Alexandria to revamp the garden at Ramsay house, welcome center for historic Old town.</p> <p>We have partnered with Hunting Creek and Garden Club of Fairfax to replant natives at Mason Neck State Park.</p>
Ashland	<p>The most interesting programs were:</p> <p>A program on Boxwoods.</p> <p>Mike Lockitiel, who lectured on irises</p> <p>We had a program where we had our members discuss the history of our Club.</p>	<p>We have conducted a member survey to determine levels of interest in:</p> <p>Changing meeting times</p> <p>Ideas regarding programs</p> <p>New categories of membership</p> <p>The results of this survey have enabled us to increase our number of members and add a new membership category.</p>	<p>Every year we host "Fall Fantasy," a luncheon with a silent auction and a speaker. This has been a very successful fundraiser.</p> <p>We also have received monies from grants -- some have been solicited by us, others have been outright gifts from local businesses. These monies have been used primarily for our garden at the The Ashland Train Station and Visitor Center.</p>	<p>Our main community outreach project is The Ashland Train Station and Visitor Center, but, this year, we have started a program whereby we help fund community projects. We are very excited about this! Our first new project is to grant a scholarship to a local high school senior who will be pursuing a degree in botany or horticulture or agricultural studies.</p>

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Augusta	<p>In the past year, we hosted speakers on beekeeping and the American Academy in Rome, as well as the GCV Restoration Committee. In March we welcomed our neighboring Blue Ridge GC and Spottswood GC for the tri-club meeting with GCV President Nina Mustard as speaker. We needed our year with wonderful and informative field trip and tour at Natural Bridge State Park, Virginia's newest state park!</p>	<p>The Augusta GC held three Flower Shows, along with three floral study workshops. Our March flower show provided the table decorations for our Tri-club meeting. We held Horticulture Exhibits with each show, and a plant exchange in September. Members were given a Photography Challenge, and encouraged to submit spring photos to our website. Members helped clean up garden areas throughout the year at Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library. We continued our Project Dogwood funding the purchase and planting of additional Dogwood trees in city parks with the assistance of a \$1000 Rotary Club grant, and a \$2000 grant from the local</p>	<p>Book sale of gardening books donated from an estate Martins grocery cards Sales of club logo or customized aprons- very handy for HGW arranging! Holiday bazaar where members donated items and shopped during our December Social.</p>	<p>Project Dogwood : From 2013 to 2017, the club has financed the planting of 67 dogwood trees in multiple locations in Gypsy Hill Park. We installed a teaching arboretum of seven hybrid cultivars to determine varieties that thrive. The City monitors the trees and is committed to their long-range maintenance and our continued partnership. See #5 for recent activity.</p> <p>Woodrow Wilson presidential library : Members help maintain and clean the gardens at the museum.</p>

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Blue Ridge	Holly Baileys program on GCV restorations	Field trip to Montpelier with a guided tour of the gardens followed by lunch at The Market at Grelen.	Christmas Greens Sale where we sell freshly made wreaths and roping. 100% of our proceeds go back into the community of Lexington.	We co sponsor hanging baskets located on the light posts down town. We assist with plantings when requested at various historic venues. We donated \$2000 to The Natural Bridge State Park to build an amphitheater in the park near the Monacan Indian Exhibit. It will be used by school groups for lectures prior to entering the exhibit.

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Boxwood	<p>Mushroom Man He is an entertaining speaker and sells his product at the meeting. He donates 10% of the sales which actually covered his cost and the club made about \$200.</p> <p>Charles Stick, Landscape Architect Charles is from Charlottesville and spoke to our club about 20 years ago. He is charming and should have a book out soon. We were going to sell tickets to non club or guests of club members, but we had such a turn out of club members that we only sold about 10 tickets. This was held at Agecroft with limited seating.</p> <p>The Chesapeake Bay Foundation 101</p>	<p>Christmas Cheer and Charity We meet at a restaurant at holiday time and members brought a book with a nature or gardening theme to give to George Mason School.</p> <p>Walk and Wine We meet for a little happy hour to walk through and see members gardens.</p>	<p>We are planning one for the coming year. Sybil Sylvester, noted flower arranger and author, will be our fundraiser in November. Tickets will be available for this to be held in November.</p>	<p>We help with Capital Trees by going to workdays on the Low Line.</p>

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Boxwood	<p>Robyn Hartley, Groundskeeper at Collegiate School, spoke about container gardening and gave a lively talk about the best seasonal plants for beautiful container blooms along with her favorite plant combinations.</p> <p>Meg Laughon, President of the Hillside Garden Club, gave an entertaining and inspiring talk and demonstration on "Winter Flower Arranging."</p> <p>We had a wreath making workshop for members. Everyone contributed interesting plant material. Sharing greens and advice resulted in some beautiful creations.</p>	<p>We are proud of our collaboration with the other Richmond clubs on Capital Trees and the Low Line Project in Richmond. Our club looks forward to participating in work days, whether it's planting bulbs or pruning grasses.</p>	<p>We are looking forward to having a major fundraising activity in the fall of 2017. The details are not quite ready to be revealed!</p>	<p>We created arrangements using edible materials and flowers for the Fit 4 Kids fundraiser held in Richmond. This organization is a non profit that seeks to improve nutrition and food practices (which includes gardening) for children to reduce childhood obesity.</p>

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Brunswick	<p>While our Program Chairman has interesting and educational programs, one outstanding one was making arrangements in teacups. Each member brought her own teacup. Prospective members were invited to this program. Another outstanding program, and given by a member, was on Holiday Decorations. A fun program was decorating pumpkins of different sizes and shapes. They were taken to the local library and shut ins.</p>	<p>The club maintains the circle at a local cemetery.</p>	<p>At the December we have an auction. Members bring crafts, baked goods, jellies, etc. to be auctioned off. This is always a fun time.. In the spring we sponsor a geranium sale</p>	<p>we continue to support the projects at Fort Christanna.</p>

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Charlottesville	1. EMILY REED, DISTRICT 2 DIRECTOR 2. JOHN MANN, GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE FOR CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE 3. DEMONSTRATION AND FLORAL ARRANGING BY FLORAL IMAGES (OWNERS: JOEY AND RANDY) 4. SILENT AUCTION OF SEASONAL GIFTS: COMMUNITY INVITED 5. NINA MUSTARD, GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA PRESIDENT 6. STEVE PEKARY FROM TOWNSEND LANDSCAPING: HYDRANGEAS: HOW TO PLANT, GROW AND CARE FOR HYDRANDEA SHRUBS 7. FRAN BONINITI: FAVORITE GARDEN TOOLS AND CONSERVATION TIPS GIVEN AT PLOW AND HEARTH 8. ANN DUNN: A BLUEBIRDS	1. HABITAT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN PLANTING DAY AT PEN PARK 2. PARTICIPATION IN GCV FLOWER SHOWS 3. DONATED ROSES TO DECORATION DAY PROGRAM AT THE DAUGHTERS OF ZION CEMETERY	1. SALE OF THE CGC CONDITIONING BOOKS AND CALENDARS 2. DECEMBER HOLIDAY BAZAAR AND CHRISTMAS AUCTION 3. MEMBERS TAKE DONATED ITEMS TO CONSIGNMENT SHOP, ETERNAL ATTIC AND PROCEEDS GO TO THE CGC	1. PEN PARK HABITAT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN, PLANTED TWO BEDS OF PERENNIALS, WILL PLANT SEVERAL TREES AND MULCH AND PROVIDED SIGNS FOR THE GARDEN. 2. CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS: A.R.C. CAMP, NATURE CAMP, MEMORIALS AND GCV ANNUAL FUND 3. DECORATED THE CHARLOTTESVILLE TRAIN STATION FOR CHRISTMAS 4. DONATED ROSES FOR DECORATION DAY PROGRAM FOR THE DAUGHTERS OF ZION CEMETERY

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Chatham	<p>Jack Radgowski, accomplished and published photographer, presented a program on "How to Take Stunning Flower Pictures." His tips were: take multiple shots from different angles; concentrate on the image; zoom in; spritz blooms with water before shooting; choose lighting to enhance the picture. This program is of special interest for those planning to enter the photography section of GCV events.</p> <p>Kris Carbone, District IV Director, spoke to CGC about the significant impact that GCV has across the state. The program, "We are GCV," was enlightening, especially for newer members and all were reminded that everyone can find an area</p>	<p>CGC holds a "Christmas Tea" every year in a member's holiday decorated home where new members are introduced to the club. Guests from the community are also invited.</p> <p>Chatham Garden Club members visited the K-V House in the spring where they were given a tour by Alice Martin of their GCV headquarters. This was followed by a visit to the Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens.</p>	<p>Chatham Garden Club's annual spring sale of geraniums continues to be a great success, with sales increasing each year. Geraniums are purchased from a local nursery then sold and delivered to the community in time for HGW!</p>	<p>Every year CGC members work with two other clubs to decorate the Town of Chatham for Christmas. They meet and make swags with bows and ribbons to adorn the lampposts along Main St. CGC hangs wreaths on the double doors of the historic courthouse.</p> <p>CGC planted and helps maintain a portion of the gardens around Town Hall.</p> <p>For eight years a CGC member has been responsible for the hanging baskets along Main St.</p> <p>(Since Chatham is such a community with only around 1300 residents, Chatham Garden Club members support all other activities in the town. In</p>

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Danville	<p>Judging crowd response, the most popular meeting of the year was Bob Henkel of the Brunswick Garden Club presenting a talk on "Flower Arranging". He was not only informative but interesting and entertaining. Every member there was enthralled with his presentation.</p> <p>Another excellent and informative program was entitled "Bats 'Be Afraid' " presented by Bonnie Miles. Her talk educated the members on the many benefits bats provide us, how threatened they are resulting in their numbers being greatly reduced, plus she dispelled misinformation that many people have about bats to reduce their fear of them.</p>	<p>In 2016-2017 we started preparing for the GCD Centennial Celebration in 2018. It was decided a commemorative bench will be purchased, to be placed in the new downtown park being developed by the city on the Dan River.</p>	<p>GCD continued with our Geranium Sale. We also sold hanging baskets.</p> <p>We also offered copies of our photo yearbook for sale for the first time. Advanced orders were taken and those who wanted them seemed pleased to have a record of the club activities in pictures.</p>	<p>GCD maintains the Perkinson Rose Garden at the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History. It is a lovely and restful spot frequently used for photo shoots.</p> <p>Another beautification spot we look after is the Danville Science Center. We support the The Butterfly House and beautify the entrance to the museum with plantings.</p> <p>We continue with our oldest project, the historic Grove Street Cemetery. This is a joint effort with us and the City of Danville.</p>

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Dolley Madison	Garden History & Design: Cindy Brown, Manager Education/Collections, Smithsonian Gardens AAG Boxwood Cultivars & Management: Robert Saunders Flowers Chopped: Annie Vanderwarker		Christmas Greens Sale Plant Sale Spring Tailgate Sale	Plant Sale Christmas Greens

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Elizabeth River	<p>1 "Organic Herbs: What to Grow and Why"</p> <p>2. Chesapeake Bay Foundation 101. What the CBF does and how it impacts our lives here in Tidewater area and adjacent areas in Va.</p> <p>3. GCV Restoration of the Portsmouth Courthouse. Presented by ERGC member Judy Perry. Judy explained the GCV selection process and the responsibilities of both the GCV and the site.</p> <p>4. Water Stewards. Presented by ERGC member Laura McDermott. Laura is also a Master Gardener.</p> <p>5. "False Cape State Park"</p>	<p>One of the most liked meetings was the Round Table Discussions held in April. RTD had never been done by our club. It came about because I, as president, wanted a NFI: Need For Information. The club was divided into six groups with a facilitator (scribe) at each table. The questions were equally timed for response. I was very happy with the end results, and I have used those responses to plan our 2017-2018 ERGC year. I asked and the members answered. I crossed referenced all six answer boards to find the commonality among the responses. At our May meeting I presented the group responses to our membership.</p>	<p>Our ERGC fundraising project this year featured Portsmouth born author Mac Houfek. Ms. Houfek has authored "Reflections on a Coastal Garden" which has become a very well recognized and well accepted book in our area and in Charleston, S.C. Our event took place on May 4 with Ms. Houfek presenting a power point of her Va. Beach garden on which the book is written. We served light refreshments, had drawings for plants and flower arrangements, and Ms. Houfek signed her book. This event was very well supported not only by our ERGC members but by paying guests.</p>	<p>This year 2017-2018 The ERGC has been involved with the Elizabeth River Project located in Portsmouth. In December, we provided flower arrangements for 35 tables for their River Star Business Recognition Luncheon held at the Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel. In May, we provided informal wildflower table arrangements for their "Moon River Supper" held at the Paradise Creek Nature Park in Portsmouth. In addition to wildflower arrangements were served as hostesses and "guides" for the guests attending the Moon River Supper. In March three ERGC members provided flower arrangements for the retirement of a staff member at the Children's</p>

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Fairfax	<p>1- Tour of Tudor Place Home and Garden as well as Dumbarton Oaks Garden. It was fascinating to observe the opulence of Washington high society in the 20's.</p> <p>2-The "Windowsill Art" presentation by the author, Nancy Ross Hugo as well as shopping from the online store, The Arranger's Market, was a wonderful treat. The author detailed simple flower arranging from your garden using very few "ingredients".</p> <p>3-"The Presidents' Gardens" book presentation and slide show by the author and former member, Linda Jane Holden was well received and most interesting. Linda had worked in the White House and because of her love of gardening became</p>	<p>The GCF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -celebrated its 90th Anniversary with a lovely Cocktail Party at the home of one of our members. -Established Pre-Club Day Member Workshops for Artistic demonstrations and practice. -Established a Facebook presence. -Expanded Hort exhibits to include Class 1,2 and 3. -Established an Exhibitors Personal Record Chart in The Yearbook to provide member tallying of points earned. -Established a Home Acquisitions Team to choose HGW tour locations. 	<p>We hold one main fund raising event per year- The Christmas Auction and Luncheon. All members are required to bring an item for Auction to this luncheon. Two days prior to this event a Greens Workshop is held to make Boxwood table trees, wreaths, kissing balls and candle rings all of which are auctioned at the luncheon in addition to the members donations. The money raised serves to fund our Annual Budget.</p>	<p>The Treasurer and myself earn money for the club from Exxon Mobil Retirees Volunteer Spouses Program. For every 40 hours of volunteer hours served we are able to each earn up to \$2,000 per year. Since 2009 we have earned \$30,000 for GCF! This year we increased our philanthropic monies to the community to include: the 4 H Club of Reston, Meadowlark Botanical Garden as well as their Camp Grow program, Nature Camp and the Food For Others garden growing project serving the needy of Fairfax County residents.</p>

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<p>Fauquier and Loudoun</p>	<p>Tour of Boulder Crest Wounded Warrior Retreat - our club helped with the healing gardens. Forestry Management - walk through a woods with forestry consultant Blandy Experimental Farm's Kindergarten through Grade 12 Environmental Education Program Christmas Flower Arranging Workshop</p>	<p>GCV Lily Show FLGC Gardening Symposium - major fund raiser</p>	<p>Every other February, we put on a day-long, multi speaker symposium on gardening. There is also a boutique, and we serve lunch. It raises about \$20,000.</p>	<p>For the last several decades, we have owned the historic Goose Creek Bridge. We just sold it to the Civil War Preservation Trust, who will take over it's stewardship. This will free up both money and volunteer time, which will let us expand our community involvement.</p>

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Franklin	<p>1. Flower Arranging Workshop--hands on flower arranging led by our member Betsy Brantley.</p> <p>2. Franklin native Brooks Rainey from the Southern Environmental Law Center in North Carolina spoke on current topics in environmental law that affect both VA and NC.</p> <p>3. Dianne Spence, GCV Restorations Committee Chair spoke about the GCV Restorations funded by Historical Garden Week proceeds. This was especially well received right before Garden Week by our new members (and older).</p>	<p>1. Each month, 4-5 2-member teams make flower arrangements to be judged and discussed at our meeting. Teams are helpful to ease the pressure of making an arrangement and instructional.</p> <p>2. The arrangements for this 2 yr. period are based on Virginia State Parks. The Schedule and Theme are related to that months' park so the parks have to be researched, too.</p> <p>3. Plant exchange at April meeting.</p>	<p>1. 2 Christmas wreath making classes for members and public--one daytime and one evening.</p> <p>2. Raffle for our club to decorate someone's mantle or front door for Christmas.</p>	<p>1. Clean-up a section of the Franklin City streets.</p> <p>2. We are major helpers on our local Clean Rivers Day working to clean The Blackwater and Nottaway rivers and/or their river-sheds.</p> <p>3. We maintain the entrance gate plantings and help with the garden of the historic Rochelle-Prince home in Courtland. Every other year we decorate the entrance gate area and the front door for Christmas.</p>

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Gabriella	<p>I have found the GCV Presidents are among the most interesting and inspiring. Jeanette Cadwallender and Nina Mustard have both been awesome when in Danville visiting our clubs. Inspiring and delightful come to mind.</p> <p>Mary Bruce Glaize gave a wonderful program on GCV and Virginia State Parks. Our Club enjoyed her visit and encourage clubs to invite her for a program.</p> <p>Susan Timmons is always a wonderful speaker.</p>	<p>Our club activity in Richmond at the Kent-Valentine House for a tour and lunch was the beginning of our wonderful day. The museum with the Fine Arts & Flowers was awesome. Our member Patsi Compton had a beautiful arrangement in this event.</p>	<p>Our fundraising activity takes place each Christmas season. We sell wreaths and garlands.</p>	<p>The fundraiser helps us maintain our D.I.G. Site #9.(Danville Interchange Garden) There are several of these sites in the city of Danville and are maintained by organizations or businesses.</p>

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Garden Study	One of our favorite programs was presented by our member who was in charge of photography for our tour during Historic Garden Week. She did a slide presentation of the flower arrangements on display during the tour. Everyone enjoyed it because most of us never got to see all the arrangements because we were too busy getting ready for the tour.	Along with the Martinsville Garden Club, we are continuing to build a pollinator garden at our local sports complex. We are preparing for the GCV Annual Meeting to be hosted by the Garden Study Club, May 15-17, 2018.	We hold a wreath and garland sale every November, selling fresh greenery from the mountains of North Carolina.	The Paw Path Pollinator Gardens will be a wonderful educational resource for the entire community.

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Gloucester	<p>Alia Anderson - young lady was sent to Nature Camp many years ago and went back on her own every year thereafter. Now on the Board of Directors and came with slides. Wonderful program.</p> <p>Doug Dwoyer, Retired NASA Engineer, worked with Global Warming. Brought slides to verify this was happening. Very eye opening.</p>	<p>We have had several arranger demonstrations from noted arrangers. A real learning experience.</p> <p>A Park Ranger who explained what we want to do with our local park. Explained the children's portion of our project. very informative.</p>	<p>Our only fundraiser this year was our spring luncheon. We charge and also bring guests which we pay for. It is always in someone's beautiful yard and we look forward to it. A lovely afternoon.</p> <p>We did raise money for 2 metal daffodil sculptures placed at either end of downtown beside of signs saying "Welcome to Historic Gloucester Courthouse". Everyone has loved them. We raised the money by selling raffle tickets for \$25.00 each and we only sold 200. The winner received a flower arrangement each month for a year which was arranged and delivered by a Garden Club member. The money covered the sculpture and the county</p>	<p>We work on Clean up Gloucester day. Usually 5 hours at least. Different parts of the county.</p> <p>We plant and weed two large wooden boxes at the main intersection of the Courthouse. Everyone takes a week to water and weed. Brent Heath gives us many new bulbs every year. It holds a multitude of bulbs. We also clean up around the boxes.</p> <p>During Daffodil Festival we hold a kids arranging session I the back of Arts on Main. They sign up for early or later session. We provide the flowers and greenery and containers. We give them advice but let them do the arrangement. This year we had over 40. They were very excited and</p>

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Hampton Roads	Art Chadwick: Growing and Caring for Orchids Annie Vanderwerker: Fearless Flowers Christy Everett: Chesapeake Bay Foundation Bonnie Satterthwaite of the Espoma Company: Environmentally Sound Garden Practices	Hosted the GCV Rose Show Took an overnight bus trip to the DC Flower Mart and Mount Vernon	Annual December Poinsettia Sale We host, with our sister club, a "Flowers After Hours" party at the close of Garden Tour Day...serve appetizers, beverages, hold a silent auction..tickets are \$10/garden club member, \$15/general public We sometimes hold a combination cocktail party/sale event at a home	We send 2 children to Nature Camp We investigate and pursue opportunities to make improvements to various landscapes in our area

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Hillside	<p>Old Roses for Modern Gardeners/Kaye Moomaw</p> <p>Selections from the Country House Library with Kisney Marable</p> <p>A Little "Daba Doo" This was a last minute program put together by Foxie Morgan when our speaker had to cancel. Foxie talked about favorite books, plants, gardening tools and supplies.</p>	<p>Hillside Endowment/members funded/created the Hillside Memorial Garden at the Old City Cemetery located between the new Comfort House and Chapel. It is a lovely garden spot planted with lily of the valley, forget-me-knots and dwarf arbelia. The Garden connects the two buildings and provides access to the terrace on the backside of the Comfort House. The Old City Cemetery is the second highest visited location in the City of Lynchburg.</p>	<p>Lady Mary Keen an English garden designer and author of Paradise and Plenty: A Rothschild Family Garden, spoke at the Academy to a crowd of approximately 130 people. Lunch was served and a book signing followed. Profits from the event exceeded \$9000.</p>	<p>Some of the profits from the fundraising event were shared with a new project for the Master Gardener's Human Kind community garden. A gazebo for demonstrations and classes is planned with urban gardening methods being a main focus. Our contribution will help fund the building of the gazebo.</p> <p>Anne Spencer Garden continues to be a lead project for Hillside. Each member dedicates 2 personal hours a year working in the garden. Some of the profits from the How to Wow fundraiser were given to the garden to repair a failing retaining wall.</p>

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Hunting Creek	<p>Oct. 2016 - Program given by Rose Love Bartlett on her book The Barthlett Book of Garden Elements</p> <p>Nov. 2016 - Speaker Eddie Gonzalez on "Coral Reefs: Rainforests of the Sea"</p>	<p>Annual Christmas Workshop making wreaths for sale</p> <p>Annual Daffodil Show at Goodwin Retirement Home with arrangements and horticulture given to the residents after judging.</p>	<p>Christmas Workshop selling wreaths, table top trees and amaryllis</p> <p>Historic Garden Week</p>	<p>Sending two campers to Nature Camp</p> <p>Giving scholarship money to high school graduate interested in studying conservation</p>
Huntington	<p>We have had several interesting programs this past year. Of particular note "Gardening for Butterflies" presented by the Butterfly Society of Virginia, "Reflections on a Coastal Garden" by Mac Houfek and several flower arranging demonstrations.</p>	<p>This year we had our first Blooming Night of Fun in November. It was a social evening with spouses at a member's wonderful home on the water. We held a silent auction and fabulous food provided by a committee of excellent cooks.</p>	<p>Wreath and Roping Sale in the autumn.</p> <p>Silent Auction</p>	<p>Continued financial support of the Virginia Living Museum, contributions to four other community endeavors and the Final Daffodil Show in its current format.</p>

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James River	<p>Our programs for the first part of the year highlighted the talents of our club members. Members Anne Thompson spoke about her business, Blackwell Botanicals, and the process of creating her beautiful works; Lauren Carter who resides at historic Shirley Plantation spoke on a modern view of living off the land; and Clare Schapiro and Carroll Andrews provided a fabulous evening of a cooking demonstration Cooking with Herbs for all Seasons. Our Conservation oriented program was extremely educational. Frank Rambo from the SELC addressed the group on the issues surrounding coal ash in our state and the current work that is being done to mitigate coal ash effects on our environment. The</p>	<p>Additional activities during our year included our Conservation Chairs launching the Queen Bee challenge to the club at the beginning of the year. They challenged the club on a monthly basis to incorporate various conservation measure into our daily routines. The program was such a success that other GCV clubs have adopted it and GCA has recognized it as well. We also had various pop up events A visit to our local water treatment facility, a session on composting, an evening of flower arranging with grocery bought flowers and a wonderful visit to the spectacular Charles Stick garden at Mount Sharon in Orange , Va. Further activities included volunteer</p>	<p>Our main fundraiser during the year was our Greens and More sale at Christmas.</p>	<p>The JRGC supports Nature Camp by sending a student from St. Andrew's school every summer to camp as well as providing funding for two classes from Anna Julia Cooper to attend James River Association's ecology days on the James. In addition, we completed our Visionary gift to Capital Trees in fall of 2016. JRGC makes annual gifts to Friends of James River Park, James River Association, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Maymont Foundation, Nature Conservancy, Scenic Virginia, Virginia Conservation Network and the GCV Conservation Fund.</p>

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Leesburg	<p>April 2016 Peter Hart gave a talk about bugs, birds and bats.</p> <p>July 2016 The speaker talked about the wetlands mitigation at Rockland-the home of Libby Devlin and Betsey Brown.</p> <p>January 2017 June Hambrick gave a demonstration on flower arranging.</p>		<p>The LGC held it's first flower symposium September 21, at Suzi Worsham's farm Riverside, to raise money for various gardening projects. About 200 attended the program given by new LGC member Holly Heider Chapple. Holly is a world famous floral designer. Everyone made a small arrangement to take home and each table of participants worked together to create a table swag. 1 lucky person at each table won the swag to take home.</p>	<p>The LGC has a list of organizations deemed to be worthy causes that receive contributions on a regular basis.</p> <p>LGC provides scholarships for 1 student to attend nature camp in the summer and 1 college scholarship for a high school student with a major in conservation, or any related field that meshes with our club mission, "to promote active interest in gardening and to assist in the protection and development of the natural beauties of the state".</p> <p>The club recently announced a competition in the local papers to any 501c3 organization who wish to compete for a grant from the club to complete or start a project that is</p>

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Lynchburg	<p>We had some great programs this year. We learned a lot about growing and using lavender in a talk given by our member, Tiffany Thompkins. Another interesting program was about composting and organic gardening, given by Sarah Hellewell of the Hillside Garden Club. We broke down into small groups at cottage meetings to get input from our members about what kind of programs they would like to have in the future. But, our biggest and most exciting program this year was the celebration of our 95th anniversary. We had a slideshow that covered our history all the way back to the 1920s. Old photographs were gathered and it was a wonderful walk down memory lane. We will now</p>		<p>We have not done any formal fundraising this year but we all contribute to our endowment fund, which serves as our slush fund for projects and activities.</p>	<p>We continue to maintain our community gardens in Lynchburg including the garden at the historic Miller Claytor house and the Gazebo Garden in Riverside Park. We have assembled a task force to explore community projects for our 100th anniversary coming up in 2023.</p>

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Lynchburg Garden Club				
Lynchburg Garden Club		In the fall of 2016, the Lynchburg Garden Club launched its first website, lynchburggardenclub.org , including an e-blast each month with up to date news and information for the membership.		

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Martinsville	<p>GCV President, Nina Mustard inspired and enlightened attendees with a highlighted history of both Martinsville clubs. Re-sparked MGC's interest in the Trillium Cove project of 1960's</p> <p>Interpretive Flower Arranging Workshop by David Pippin. Each home on the HGW tour had at least one interpretive arrangement.</p> <p>Photography: The New Flower Show Division by Claire Mellinger of Woodmount Designs & 1st VP of Albemarle Garden Club. Two MGC members entered the photography class at the Daffodil show 2017, one red ribbon in "Still Life" class.</p>	<p>Members could participate in an "art workshop" to paint the Iris logo used for the HGW materials. We had approximately a dozen participants following a general meeting of the club.</p> <p>Following most general meetings of MGC, members met in a nearby eatery to continue socializing and entertain the meeting's speaker.</p>	<p>All fundraising activities were within the club's membership: The balance of 25 daffodil scarves sold, Note cards from the daffodil print were sold, Raffle tickets for a night at Stoneleigh, dinner and wine tasting - drawing at the January meeting and a social for members and invited guest held at Hamlet Vineyard.</p>	<p>Continued work to complete the first phase of our Paw Path Pollinator Gardens. We partnered with Garden Study Club and numerous Martinsville organizations, such as several Boys & Girls Scout troops, Virginia Naturalists, Gateway Streetscapes.</p> <p>Assisting Fairy Stone State Park with application for GCV Parks grant. We partnered with Garden Study and The Garden Club of Danville, always including Board Liaison for District 4.</p>

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Middle Peninsula	<p>1. Lou Verner spoke on invasive plants in our area with a slide show. He was both informative and entertaining.</p> <p>2. A combination of first learning what a judge looks for when judging and then making our own arrangements in ugly vases at two separate meetings was a true learning experience. We judged each arrangement at the second meeting using the criteria from the earlier meeting. We all enjoyed this meeting and it was a real revelation!</p> <p>3. Learning about bees and pollination -- how each species is drawn to differing flowers and why -- from a member. We then walked through her wildflower garden before going next door to visit her sister-in-law's breath-taking</p>	<p>1. We have been consumed with hosting the last traditional Lily Show. We have studied our own jobs and had a "pretend Lily Show" so we could practice and see how the real thing would work. It was organized chaos, but we really began to understand our jobs.</p> <p>2. Each year we recognize an individual, business, or project that has benefited the community and advanced the goals of our club. This year we recognized Kitty Cox, a King William County resident and member of the Mattaponi and Pamunkey Rivers Association, who has organized an annual clean-up of the two rivers for 25 years.</p>	<p>During HGW we sold note cards using original art from local artists. We also sold plants and arrangements used in one of the locations of HGW.</p>	<p>1. Presented money and the offer of hands-on work to the West Point Historical Society when they are ready to begin a garden at their museum this year.</p> <p>2. Gave scholarship money to a local teacher to attend Nature Camp.</p> <p>3. Sent money to both Nature Camp and Jacob's Ladder for financial aid to campers.</p>

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Garden Club	Program	Club Activities	Fundraising	Community Outreach
Mill Mountain	<p>- The I-Phone and Digital Creativity " Sam Krisch Sam Krisch is a fine art photographer, known for compelling landscapes and whimsical and experimental Iphone photography. He has curated exhibitions at the Taubman Museum of Art in Roanoke, Virginia and h</p>	<p>We started a new "Get Outside" Committee to build interest and camaraderie in our community in the outdoors. We had over 25 members participate in at least one of seven hikes (Seven Peaks in Seven Weeks) on trails and mountains around the Roanoke Valley. We had about ten members who hikes all seven of the peaks. We also had a fly fishing class on the Roanoke River, a beginning paddle board trip to Smith Mountain Lake, a mid-winter hike to the Devil's Marble Yard, mountain biking at Carvin's Cove, and a member-led birding walk.</p> <p>We continue to maintain our Mill Mountain Wildflower Garden, with members working in the</p>	<p>MMGC participates in the Kroger Cares fundraising program, where member sign up and designate Mill Mountain Garden Club as the beneficiary of Kroger donations from shopping. We also participate in Amazonsmile, encouraging our members to sign up and Amazon donates a small percentage back to our club. We hold a Members Only biannual fundraiser in even years. This year we also had a shopping morning with the Janice Cain Stationary truck at our Annual Meeting at Hamlet Vineyards. Janice Cain Stationary donated a percentage back to the club. MMGC also had a member "assessment" to help fund club obligations for GCA and GCV meetings.</p>	<p>The Mill Mountain Wildflower Garden is our largest and oldest community project. Located atop our namesake, Mill Mountain, the wildflower garden is a beautiful addition to the City of Roanoke's Mill Mountain Park. On almost every Thursday from April to October (Except for our meeting day), you can find members maintaining the garden. Residents of all ages enjoy the meandering path through the garden, which eventually leads to the Mill Mountain Zoo. The garden also has a small amphitheater/outdoor classroom which was added in 2011. The City of Roanoke recognizes MMGC as having the longest partnership with a volunteer group for the</p>

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<p>Nansemond River Garden Club</p>	<p>Peggy Ann Vaughn from Edenton, NC presented a fun and informative demonstration on Landscape Arrangements. She keeps an on-going seasonal landscape arrangement in her home and showed how in the same container with a few changes, she creates a Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring arrangement.</p> <p>Carole Robbs from Neighborhood Harvest, a business that is pioneering the farm-to-table evolution of quality organic produce that is delivered right to your door.</p>	<p>Our club held its first meeting in September at the Kent-Valentine House. Leaving Suffolk by a chartered bus, members were warmly welcomed and given a history and tour of the home. We were provided a large room for our business meeting and then enjoyed a box lunch in the beautiful parlors. The staff was very helpful in every way. We also visited the Lewis Ginter Gardens and its wonderful gift shop before boarding our bus for a fun-filled return trip to Suffolk. It was a wonderful way to begin our year!!</p> <p>Members are required to enter a flower arrangement once during the year that conforms to a specific design each month and to</p>	<p>Each year the NRGC holds a Christmas party in a member's home and invites our husbands/guest. For the first time the Ways & Means Committee decided to have their fundraiser at this event. They had a silent auction with only 10 items and raised more money than they needed for the yearly budget! Everyone enjoyed this addition to our party and Ways & Means loved being "all finished" with only one event!</p>	<p>The NRGC's major civic project is our on-going Cedar Hill Cemetery Heritage Garden and Scatter Garden which won the GCV Common Wealth Award when the club made these additions to the cemetery years ago. All members volunteer keeping the gardens replanted and weeded.</p> <p>Our club sponsors the Ellen G. Godwin Ecology Camp, started by Ellen thirty-six years ago when she was president. The summer day camp attracts fifteen rising 3rd and 4th graders from all over the city who learn about plants, insects, animals, conservation, and more. Members volunteer during the week-long camp to assist the director.</p>

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Norfolk	<p>September: Pam Combs presented the Strategic Plan, followed by round table discussions. The membership was given several weeks to reflect & process the Strategic Plan after which Strategic Plan 2016 was unanimously endorsed.</p> <p>October: Davin Birdsong presented an engaging program, & directed a workshop on Container Gardening with Boxwoods.</p> <p>November: Guests of The Virginia Beach Garden Club for our Joint meeting of Tidewater Area Garden Clubs of America. Candy Crosby, GCA Zone VII Representative, and Mac Houfek, author of "Reflections on a Coastal Garden", presented the program, & Sandra Baylor demonstrated making</p>	<p>What an extraordinary year we have had! It's unique and exciting in many different ways. It began with our Board of Directors hosting a cocktail reception, entitled "Engage and Enjoy" at Connie Kellam's house. The party included out husbands. Everyone had so much fun we didn't want to go home!</p> <p>The Conservation & Beautification Committee remained active throughout the year stressing and encouraging the collection of outdated prescriptions & over the counter medications & taking everything that was collected to law enforcement offices for</p>	<p>October: The Ways and Means Committee under the leadership of its chair, Jane Edwards, sponsored an entertaining and most successful fundraising event with Danielle Rollins author of "Soiree: Entertaining with Style". Over 230 people attended. Additionally, the event included vendor sales, raffles, & a delicious lunch. It was a whopping success making \$15,000 profit! Thank you Ways & Means!!</p> <p>December: The 26th Greens Galore and So Much More Co-Chairs Jamie Old and Jane Cole enjoyed working together on our club fundraiser that raised \$9025 for Community Projects.</p> <p>April: During the Garden</p>	<p>April: Two worthy projects the Community Projects the Committee had approved in March were approved and funded:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Loo Rain Garden at the Hermitage Museum and Gardens in partnership with Harborfront GC. 2) A Vegetable Garden at the Union Mission. <p>Both these projects are completed and are being enjoyed by visitors to the Hermitage Museum and Gardens and The Union Mission and Ministries which houses 375 guests (men, women, and children) each night and serves thousands of meals each week. GCN is delighted to participate in helping to provide, not only the fresh vegetables for guests to eat but, also, the therapy and cultivation of job skills that</p>

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Garden Club	Program	Club Activities	Fundraising	Community Outreach
Petersburg	<p>Dr. Chris Ludwig (Chief Biologist, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage) spoke on the Lee Memorial Park's meadow which is being restored. He has been a consultant identifying rare species and preserving this area of the park. He is co-author of the FLORA OF VIRGINIA.</p> <p>A Chesterfield Master Gardner spoke on "Going Native"--using native plants in planting and arrangements.</p> <p>Annette Earnst. President of the Ikebana of Richmond, demonstrated several arrangements and tips on what to use and design beautiful Ikebana arrangements.</p> <p>Bettie's Guthrie program on</p>	<p>The PGC enjoys making the arrangements for the Kent-Valentine House during the month of February.</p> <p>Members work very hard but enjoy maintaining the grounds of Centre Hill in Petersburg. The Petersburg Preservation Task Force is keeping Centre Hill open and available for Historic Garden Week Tour. Due to the economic situation the museums had been closed but they are now reopening! The Club joined with the City of Petersburg in a consultation capacity to design the landscaping for the two entrances to City Hall in Petersburg. The Club is considering other areas they may help beautify the City of Petersburg due to the lack of city funding to carry out any of these projects. Of course, Historic</p>	<p>The primary event to raise funds for the Petersburg Garden Club is the annual "Splashes of Spring" program. Because the tickets were increased to \$35, we raised \$6,603.81 which will help with our projects at Centre Hill and other projects in the community. The event involves a delicious lunch, auction of items as well as a floral designer who arranged several interesting and beautiful floral arrangements as well as providing tips.</p>	<p>As mentioned above, the Club joined with the City of Petersburg in a consultation capacity to design the landscaping for the two entrances to City Hall in Petersburg. The Club is considering other areas they may help beautify the City of Petersburg due to the lack of city funding to carry out any of these projects.</p> <p>We have an annual "Nature Day at the Park" inviting local girl scouts to learn about the history, explore trees and plants, etc. but this year it was cancelled due to bad weather. It will be resumed next year.</p> <p>Members help Willcox Watershed Conservancy (Lee Park) by participating in clean-up days and other projects.</p>

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Garden Club	Program	Club Activities	Fundraising	Community Outreach
Princess Anne	<p>Mrs Christine Vrooman, co-owner and wine maker of Ankida Ridge vineyard, gave a talk on the complexities of viticulture on granite at 1800 ft elevation on the Blue Ridge Mountain. The vineyard practices sustainable farming and even uses their sheep to graze the vineyard floor. They also encourage beneficial insects, bees and wildflowers in the vineyard.</p> <p>Mrs Vrooman is an excellent photographer and showed us many photos of the spectacular mountain views around the vineyard. There were also many adorable photos of the farm animals and family dogs.</p> <p>Ankida Ridge has produced wines (especially its Pinot Noir)which is known</p>	<p>Hosted GCV Board of Governor's Meeting in October 2016. The event involved a lot of work but because of the work ethic and the enthusiasm of members, it was carried out successfully.</p> <p>Our annual fundraiser took place 10 days after the Board of Governors Meeting. The Party in the Park raises funds to support the First Landing State Park and other community projects</p> <p>At the Christmas Party for our club, members donated to the purchase of 16 childrens' bicycles and matching safety helmets. These were then given to The Salvation Army for distribution to appropriate families.</p>	<p>The Party in the Park is our annual fundraiser. In 2016, 370 people bought tickets to our Party. Our guests enjoyed food, wine and music. There was a Silent Auction and a Raffle. Auction items such as artwork, crafts, cases of wine, food baskets, vacation destinations etc were donated so guests left the Party with wonderful bargains.</p> <p>2016 was our 6th Party in the Park and since many of our guests had come to the previous fundraisers, they know other participants at the Party. The atmosphere therefore resembles a neighborhood get together. The event is held outdoors, under tents and on a sunny October afternoon, there is no better place to be than</p>	<p>The PAGC continues its support of The First landing State Park and the Brock Environmental Center.</p> <p>The PAGC offers a full scholarship to a local student to attend the summer program at The Nature Camp.</p> <p>The PAGC helped decorate the Francis Land Historical Home over Christmas when it was opened to the public.</p> <p>The PAGC also supports and participates in - The Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach The VA Beach Historical Society VA Beach Beautification Commission Lynnhaven River NOW The Chesapeake Bay Foundation</p>

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Rappahannock Valley	<p>Our members enjoyed the focus on flower arranging this year. Charlotte Benjamin demonstrated abstract arranging while Jan Williams showed us how to make quick and easy Thanksgiving arrangements. Additionally, we enjoyed the December workshop on creating Christmas decorations to take home, and the talk by Candy Crosby on tricks for displaying horticulture. Sally Harrison reviewed for us basic mechanics and gave some tricks of the trade she uses.</p>	<p>Rappahannock Valley was the host club for the 97th Annual Meeting. It was a wonderful time of working together to create a special event around our theme of "Roots of Restoration".</p>	<p>Our club did minimal fundraising as we have spent several years raising funds for hosting the annual meeting of the GCV. We sold the flower arrangements created at our meetings to members.</p>	<p>Rappahannock Valley has three projects: the gardens at Historic Chatham, the LOVE garden at an entrance to the city, and the grounds of the library headquarters. The Chatham project, a Common Wealth Award (2013), is a collaborative effort with the Rappahannock Rotary Club and the Friends of Chatham. The library project is one we took on over 25 years ago. Our responsibilities now include seasonal cleanup days and replacing damaged plant material.</p>

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Garden Club	Program	Club Activities	Fundraising	Community Outreach
Rivanna	<p>In September, Rivanna had Helen Flaminti come and speak to us about the 'soon to start' McIntyre Botanical Garden. Our club, and others, are ready to get to work with the city of Charlottesville to make this happen. Unfortunately, the City moves at a different pace than garden club ladies and there hasn't been as much news since ground breaking.</p> <p>Our conservation speaker in February was Betsy Agelesto who had us fired up on her 'Walk the walk and Talk the talk' about conservation. The Atlantic Coast Pipeline is going to change the face of neighboring Nelson County and we do not want that to happen.</p>	<p>This year our club offered a trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show. There were just better than a handful of members, but three guests. One guest was a Dolley Madison member. Everyone loved the show and the comraderie on the train. Of course, a little champagne for the ride doesn't hurt.</p> <p>Former president, Phyllis Ripper, organized an open house at the Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention Facility in early June for those who had assisted with the Commonwealth Project. The gardens were amazing and the seating area for council and meeting are just wonderful. The project has now been put to bed and in good hands with those at the Detention Center. The</p>	<p>Rivanna's Fundraising is typically our Christmas Bazaar held in lieu of December meetings and occurs the first week of December. We hold three workshops to ready us for the sale of greens, food and auction items.</p> <p>We have generous members who donate paintings they have painted or jewelry they have made or houses for vacations to auction off for members. This is a great boost to our Community project giving.</p>	<p>We have been working with the County of Albemarle in creating the Old Mills Trail, which is a Rivanna riverside walking area planted in natives by our club members. We are turning the project back over to Dan Mahon the Albemarle Park and Trail Planner, but it does need weeding this summer and they have yet to put a sign up to designate the area.</p> <p>We do work with the City Schoolyard Garden Program. Our club has donated money through the years and has watched the gardens grow and be harvested by the kids. Especially fun is the Great Potato harvest in the fall.</p> <p>We also purchased a greenhouse this year for the</p>

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Three Chopt	<p>1)- Bat Educator and Rehabilitation- Bonnie Miles</p> <p>2)- David Pippin doing Flower Arranging</p> <p>3)- Botanicals by Anne Blackwell Thompson</p> <p>4)- Wire Art Topiaries - a Theresa Bennettt</p>	<p>During the term 2015-2017, we had some "Pop-up" events. These were generally local field trips that were announced about a week or 2 beforehand. They were to see the Southern Living Designer Home in Charlottesville, mushroom foraging with Steve Haas and some others.</p> <p>They were fun because they were designed not to have to worry about a minimum number of people attendingr having to find a date that worked for everybody. We just announced the date and opportunity and whoever could attend did. It took a lot of pressure off of the planners.</p>	<p>Decorate Your House</p> <p>We sell raffle tickets and the winner gets their house decorated for Christmas (does not include the Christmas tree)</p>	<p>December-</p> <p>We take the supplies and greens to Elk Hill Farm and make baskets full of greens with the kids there. They then take the baskets to a local nursing home and give them to the residents. It is a very popular and feel-goodproject and great way to kick off the Christmas season</p>

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Tuckahoe	<p>"English Floral Design With a Twist" from Cindy Naylor, The Wild Bunch; Field Trip to Grelan Nursery Somerset, VA.; Liz Clayton "Macro Landscape and Flower Photographs"; Beth Gillespie - "Essence of Ikebana" Workshop; Greg Buppert of The Southern Law Center, "Current Issues with Environmental Impact on Virginia [Pipe Line]" Lewis Ginter Horticulture team "Planting and Management Practices in the Vegetable Garden" plus information on The Community Kitchen Garden and Partnership with FeedMore.</p>	<p>Fall Horticulture Club Day; Holiday Greens Workshop; Spring Sale and Rose and Succulent Workshops Bulb Plantings for Capital Trees;</p>	<p>Holiday Greens Sale; Spring Sale;</p>	<p>Capital Trees - "The Low Line Project"; Saint Andrews School - Seasonal Plantings; Acclaim Care-Garden Supplies; Virginia Home Fountain Honoring Anne Rawles Huske; Rice Center on the James "Research and Monitoring The James"; James River Association "Coal Ash Monitoring"; Southern Environmental Law Center "Coal Ash Lawsuits"; Scenic Virginia;</p>

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Virginia Beach	<p>Gerry Smith spoke and demonstrated Ikebana arrangements.</p> <p>Patty Hankins spoke on Smart Garden Photography with a smart phone.</p> <p>The highlight was having Tony Avent come and present his program Plant-centric Gardens.</p>	<p>We had 2 sell out flower arranging workshops, a seed planting workshop, a hypertufa trough workshop and a propagation workshop using the forsyth pot.</p> <p>We also had 2 horticulture shows with judging and a club photography exhibit.</p>	<p>We held our 34th Annual Fall Flower Festival in October 2016. It was a great success, selling thousands of pansies, snapdragons and other plants. We had specialty booths for pollinator plants, plants dug from member's gardens, vendors, second hand treasures and more.</p> <p>This was a one day sale with free admission and open to the public. All of the proceeds were given back to community projects.</p>	<p>This year the VBGC maintained membership in the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Scenic Virginia, Lynnhaven River Now, Virginia Beach Beautification Commission and the Virginia Conservation Network.</p> <p>We financially supported Mary's Garden (at the Virginia Beach Sentara Hospital), the Dale Henderson Fellowship at JC Raulston Arboretum, plantings in the rain gardens at the Brock Center, plantings in the Adam Keeling Meadow, Virginia Beach Education Foundation, Virginia Beach Public Art Sculpture and Camp Grom arbor and plaques.</p> <p>We sponsored a Virginia</p>

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Warren County	<p>One of our most informative speakers was Rebekah Paulson, Executive Director of Friends of Stadium Woods, Blacksburg, VA. Her program was about saving old growth forest.</p> <p>Also, we had a great speaker from the Lord Fairfax Orchid Society, Winchester, VA. Zita Winzer spoke about "How to grow orchids in your home".</p> <p>Another great speaker and program was "How to Preserve Historic Districts" given by Maral Kalbian.</p>	<p>We held a meeting at the home of Elaine Faucher and enjoyed her landscape of natural grass garden.</p> <p>Participated and toured the Richmond Fine Arts Museum and Flowers Show.</p>	<p>Our most successful fundraiser ever was during the Historic Garden Tour. We had a plein-air artist in each garden on tour. At the end of the day they were auctioned at a silent auction/wine tasting.</p>	<p>Some our members decorated a tree to donate to the Blue Ridge Arts Councils' Christmas tree auction.</p> <p>We also decorated a room at Christmas at historic Belle Grove, Middletown, VA.</p> <p>At Christmas we decorate the Warren Heritage Society for Christmas.</p> <p>In the spring, we help the town plant hanging flower baskets that are displayed throughout the town in the summer.</p>

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Garden Club	Program	Club Activities	Fundraising	Community Outreach
Winchester-Clarke	In my opinion the most interesting program and speaker was Cathy Mayes who spoke on the American Chestnut Society and the research that is being done to help restore the American Chestnut tree.	One of our members has had Noah Dunn, a beekeeper, install bees at her farm. He was a speaker at one of our meetings and had a wonderful presentation with pictures and the importance of bees for pollination.	Our fundraising activities were largely the continuation of a program where our treasurer got cards for different amounts from Martin's Grocery Store for our members to pay for their groceries. Five percent of the money spent was returned to our Club.	Our Club under two members sponsored a day at the Children's Museum where members illustrated the importance of pollinators and bees especially.