

**Garden Club of Virginia
2019 Horticulture Field Day
Orange County
Wednesday, May 22 – Thursday, May 23**

Horticulture Field Day is open to members of the Garden Club of Virginia and one guest.

Our event begins May 22 with a relaxing stroll through the incredible gardens of beautiful **Mt. Sharon Farm** – home of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Seilheimer. The following day we will have demonstrations and tours of the incredible **Market at Grelen**, as well as guided tours of **Montpelier's** formal gardens.

At check-in you will receive a group assignment, along with a detailed map and suggested timeline. Smaller groups will enable you to fully enjoy each activity. Arrive whenever it suits your plans. We are so happy you are joining us!

- **If you're arriving on Wednesday: 1-5 p.m.**
 - Please check in at Mt. Sharon Farm
19184 Mt. Sharon Lane, Orange, VA 22960



Perhaps Mount Sharon's crowning glory is its setting, with panoramic view of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the coastal plain, its numerous 250-year-old tulip poplar trees, and its ten+ acres of gardens of national and international renown. The gardens, created by the present owners with highly-respected landscape architect Charles J. Stick, feature numerous fountains, pergolas, gazebo, pavilions, and garden statuary, as well as

formal and informal gardens inspired by the great gardens of England, France, and Italy. The gardens have been featured in more than a dozen magazines, newspapers, and books, and have been visited by horticultural, conservation, and preservation groups from throughout the world. What a treat that we get to be here! *Bathroom facilities are not available on site and the home is not open.*

- **If you're arriving on Thursday: 9-11 a.m.**
 - Check in at the Market at Grelen ~The Overlook Tent
15091 Yager Road, Somerset, VA 22972

9 a.m.-2 p.m. ~ Activities will be in one location at the fabulous Market at Grelen, providing you the opportunity to participate in each event, as well as have plenty of time to shop in the gorgeous gift store, buy some plants, or enjoy some of their famous home-made ice cream. When you arrive, you will have a little time to relax and with coffee and scones. When our programs begin at 10am, your group will rotate through each activity.



Container Garden Building with Farley

At the potting shed, Farley will demonstrate the latest techniques and tools to create a unique and beautiful container garden designed to be showy all summer long. She will explain which plants to use for the location of your containers, new and fabulous plants available, as well as how to design a striking display. Farley has years of experience and is a delightful teacher.

Guided walk through the Nursery with Owner, Dan Gregg Or Zeke Galvin.

Stroll from the Market through the Nursery to Bloomfield. Learn about a large variety of ornamental trees and shrubs, their growth habits, seasonal interest along with countless other fun facts and Q&A. [1.3 miles total - easy walk, comfortable shoes suggested.]

Proper Pruning Techniques with Dan or Darren

Learn the proper but simple way to prune your trees and shrubs (or direct someone else to!) for optimal growth and disease prevention. Location will be in the Shade Garden.

Noon-1 p.m. Lunch ~ Gourmet box lunches will be served at noon in the Overlook Tent with seated tables providing a gorgeous view of the Market at Grelen. *Grelen Market wine by the glass will be available for \$8.*



1-3:30 p.m. ~ Guided tours of the spectacular **Annie duPont formal garden at Montpelier** will be conducted on the half hour.

In the early 19th century, President James Madison enjoyed a garden of nearly four acres, including the two-acre formal garden thought to be designed by French gardener, Bizet. In 1901, Annie duPont launched a project to transform the space into an early 20th-century formal garden.

The profiles of the terraces were restored; flower beds, shrubs, and trees were planted; and the brick garden walls, statuary, and ornamental iron gates were added. Annie's daughter, Marion duPont Scott, commissioned noted landscape architect Charles Gillette to design several perennial beds and introduced a number of unusual plants to the garden. Following Montpelier's acquisition by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1984, plantings were carefully identified and cataloged. Restoration of the garden began in October 1990, funded by The Garden Club of Virginia. *[To tour the home, a separate ticket must be purchased at Montpelier on your own.]* <https://www.montpelier.org/>



1-3:30 p.m. ~ GASTON HALL

Located amid the rolling terrain and sweeping pastures of the Madison-Barbour Rural Historic District, Gaston Hall was completed in 1909 by William and Annie duPont, owners of neighboring Montpelier, for Annie's son, George Zinn, Jr. Local builder George Ficklin (1865-1917), who had supervised the duPonts' enlargement of Montpelier, designed and built the new brick manor house. From the original, extensive formal gardens, only old

boxwood and peonies remain, along with a charming garden temple, found at the end of a long drive. Building upon these elements, and relocating the original carriage house, the owners and landscape architect Rachel Lilly have created an ordered yet relaxed plan on three terraces, incorporating shrub borders, pool garden, perennial parterre and kitchen garden. The house is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Steven D. Brooks.

Places of Interest:

Barboursville Winery with Jefferson ruins. End your tour with a stop at the wonderful Barboursville Winery, or perhaps stay onsite. See their website for all that they offer. <https://www.bbvwine.com/>

Montpelier-Grelen Trail-for the Hikers in our Group!

The 3.9-mile Montpelier-Grelen Trail links Montpelier's trail system to Grelen Nursery's trail system over a route that traverses Chicken Mountain. A partnership between Montpelier, Grelen Nursery, and Piedmont Environmental Council, the Montpelier-Grelen Trail was designated a "Virginia Treasure" by the Office of the Governor in 2015 in recognition for its outstanding contribution to conservation, cultural heritage, and public outdoor recreation. Highlights include views of the Blue Ridge and Southwest Mountains, in addition to the food and entertainment offerings provided at Montpelier's [David M. Rubenstein Visitor Center](#) and [The Market at Grelen](#). Please note that the trail is only open from both ends during business hours at Montpelier and The Market at Grelen. <https://www.themarketatgrelen.com/trailmaps.html>

James Madison's Museum, 129 Caroline St., Orange. The first museum to fully commemorate the "Father of the Constitution" provides insight into the life and legacy of President James Madison. www.thejames-madisonmuseum.net

Exchange Hotel Museum, 400 S. Main St, Gordonsville. Before the Civil War, the hotel welcomed passengers from two rail lines. Soon war began and it became a hospital, which provided care for 70,000 soldiers. After the war, it served the newly freed slaves as a Freedman's Bureau Hospital. Now fully re-stored, it is a museum dedicated to the Civil War era. A medicinal garden, established by the Dolley Madison Garden Club, is located onsite.
www.hgiexchange.com

Arts Center in Orange, 129 E Main St., Orange. Established in 1997, town mayor Bob Morin donated his Main Street building to The Arts Center four years later, giving it a home. In 2017 further renovations were made, including the addition of a dedicated ceramics studio. The Center displays works by local artists in its 1911 brick building.
<https://artscenterinorange.com/>