



# TAPROOT

The Newsletter of the Council of Garden Clubs  
Of Virginia Beach, Inc.

[www.vbgardenclubs.org](http://www.vbgardenclubs.org)

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### Board Meeting:

Wednesday, September 3, 2003      Francis Land House  
10:00AM      3131 Virginia Beach Blvd.

### General Meeting:

Wednesday, September 10, 2003      Thalia United Methodist Church  
Registration – 9:30AM      4321 Virginia Beach Blvd.  
Program – 10:00AM

**Workshops for Officers, including: President, Awards Chair-  
man, Judging Chairman**

### 2003-2005 Officers:

President	Sam Halvorsen
First Vice President	Anne Herrick
Second Vice President	Frances Thrash
Recording Secretary	Betty Bloxom
Corresponding Secretary	Debra Nicholson
Treasurer	Peggy Caverly

## President's Message

Sam Halvorsen, [byznana@aol.com](mailto:byznana@aol.com), 490-4529

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. I am looking forward to the next two years. It will be a difficult task to fill Cheryl's shoes, but I will do my best!

My theme is *"Unity" Working Together For Beautification And Conservation.*

I'm happy to say that my Board and Committee Members come from 16 of our Clubs. We have many exciting things planned for this year...so get ready to roll up your sleeves and dig in!

Many thanks to Cathy Cole and her committee for their hard work. It was a beautiful luncheon. Anne

Herrick has been working on the Yearbook all summer. Please get your copy at the September meeting. Thanks to all who sell or place ads.

Frances Thrash has some wonderful programs lined up for us. Water Ponds, Perennials, and so forth. I can hardly wait! Suzie, even with her injured back has been hard at work on our fund-raiser.

I'm looking forward to meeting and working with all of you.

Sincerely, **Sam**

## Council's Awards Beautification and Conservation ("ABC") Project

Suzie Duckworth, [suzied@verizon.net](mailto:suzied@verizon.net), 363-1050

First, I would like to thank Middle Plantation Garden Club (now Lynnhaven River Garden Club) for their generous donation of \$250, and \$50 from an individual Garden Club Member in memory of her grandmother Mrs. Raymond "Dollie" Mansfield. Also, Johnnie Miller who donated \$38.00, and Church Point Garden Club for an additional \$500 in addition to their \$1,000 already donated, leaving a total of \$2,090 needed to make the Council Of Garden Clubs a Platinum Donor of \$10,000.

I am very disappointed that only 20 garden clubs have participated with donations for this wonderful project. **I hope all garden clubs will help us reach our goal.**

At this time, only one other donor, Mr. Dickie Foster has given over \$10,000. I hope you will help put our name on the Donor list with Mr. Foster. Your dona-

tions need to be in by February when we must send all funds to the sculptor.

These funds will place 4 sculptures in the garden. The first, three children in a circle, will be placed in the middle of the garden, and three other sculptures will be displayed on a grassy area, a child doing a handstand, two playing leap-frog, and one inspecting an insect on his hand.

I encourage every Member of every Garden Club to make a personal donation, no matter what size, to help us meet this goal.

This is definitely the best project the Council has ever been involved with in over 50 years. I appreciate your club helping to meet our goal.

## Awards

Cheryll Klobuchar, [c-klobuchar@cox.net](mailto:c-klobuchar@cox.net), 463-4885

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer, what we had of it that is. Congratulations to all the clubs who submitted entries at our Awards and Installation Luncheon in June, and especially to our winners. You all deserve a big hand of applause for all the time and effort you put into these projects. It is my hope that we can get even more clubs to submit awards this coming year.

Please check out the Awards section of the Council Yearbook when you receive your book. We have made a few changes and added some new awards.

The winner of the *Georgia Fletcher Garden Paper Award* is published each year in our Council Yearbook; I hope everyone will take the time to read about this year's award winner.

I look forward to answering any questions you may have about the awards at our September meeting, so mark September 10<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. This informative meeting is your chance to have any and all of your questions about awards answered.

**I would like the Clubs who won First place for Scrapbook, Yearbook, and Newsletter to bring their winning entry to the first Council meeting.** This will give our Members an opportunity to look at your winning entries. I will also have some Scrapbook pages from years past for clubs to pick up.

See you in September!

## Francis Land House

Pam Grover, 497-6904



I look forward to working with Garden Club Members to provide decorations for the Francis Land House during the next two years.

Please freely volunteer your time and expertise when I pass around the sign up sheet or ask your help for special occasions.

Many Thanks – Pam

## Neptune Festival – Senior Gala

Sam Halvorsen, [bzynana@aol.com](mailto:bzynana@aol.com), 490-4529

**September 25, 2:00PM, Virginia Beach Pavillion**

Arrangement items that will be provided include Black top hats, wands, and decks of cards. We will use Chrysanthemums to make floral arrangements in the top hats.

**September 25, 2:00PM, Virginia Beach Pavillion**

The Council of Garden Clubs is invited to prepare floral arrangements for the Neptune Festival Senior Gala. The Gala theme is “Magic.”

Please bring evergreens (i.e. holly and fir boughs) and greenery (i.e. bare branches, boxwood, acuba, Camilla, and ligustrum) for the arrangements. Also bring equipment.

We will prepare an arrangement for the King’s table and 84 arrangements for the additional tables.

## Hospitality

Midge Berry, [kattia65@aol.com](mailto:kattia65@aol.com), 463-1784

Thanks to everyone who provided refreshments and centerpieces during the last year.

discuss information, and enjoy the company of friends while enjoying your handiwork.

This year we anticipate even greater attendance at meetings, and your support for this social time is essential. This time is when we question speakers,

Call Midge (463-1784), Josephine Maguder (486-0249) or Debbie Woodard, (463-1958) to volunteer and let your talents shine during the up-coming years.

### Hospitality Volunteers - September 10, 2003

Linkhorn Park Garden Club  
Church Point Garden Club  
Thalia Garden Club  
Bay Colony Garden Club

Betsy Davis  
Suzie Duckworth  
Ellie Kreassig, Mary Ann Pate  
Laurette Riccio

**Note:** *We need your Garden Club to help with refreshments, or a centerpiece for this meeting.*

### Hospitality Volunteers – November 12, 2003

Garden Club of Greater Kempsville  
Cavalier Garden Club

Emma Boston, Debra Nicholson  
Peg Ward

**Note:** *We need your Garden Club to help with refreshments for this meeting.*

## ABC Project

Suzie Duckworth, [suzied@verizon.net](mailto:suzied@verizon.net), 363-1050

Suzie Duckworth, Ellie Kreassig, former Hands Chairman Ann Brown, and Jeanette Willenbrink worked very hard this summer to reorganize Hands, now called Awards Beautification and Conservation Program ("ABC").

I hope your ABC Chairman will read the Council Yearbook, available at our September 10 meeting. It contains ABC information that makes it convenient for all Clubs to participate and know the rules.

You may also want to attend the first meeting and participate in our workshops. Ellie and I can answer questions regarding our new Program. We hope these changes will be helpful when making decisions on your projects.

Hope you had a great summer.

See you in September.

## Special Programs

Frances Thrash, [frances@i-thrash.net](mailto:frances@i-thrash.net), 481-3484

### September 30, Tidewater District Sandy McDougle – "Falls Grand Finale"

Tidewater District will hold a Special Program on September 30 at the James River Country Club in Newport News. Registration begins at 9:30AM and the special program at 10:00AM.

Sandy McDougle of Sandy's Plants (<http://www.sandysplants.com>) will present a program entitled "Falls Grand Finale" using perennials, and unusual plants. In addition, Sandy will bring slides, plants, and items to sell. I do not know the cost of this event.

### October 8, Virginia Beach Council of Garden Clubs – Bill Dougherty – "Floral Fusion"

A "Floral Fusion" will be presented October 8 at the Central Library.

Registration is at 9:30AM and Charles W. ("Bill") Dougherty of "The Flower Studio" will begin his presentation at 10:00 AM.

Bill will create several bouquets that can be used collectively in a mass display, or separately.

The cost for this program has not yet been set.

## Taproot

Debra Nicholson, [dsnich@cox.net](mailto:dsnich@cox.net), 499-0176

*TAPROOT* is sent to most Members by e-mail to save Council postage fees, and is only mailed as a hard copy to Clubs without e-mail capability.

You need Adobe Reader installed on your machine to open *TAPROOT*. To install this program, go to our website ([www.vbgardenclubs.org](http://www.vbgardenclubs.org)), click "The Taproot" and scroll to the bottom of the page to the Adobe link to download and install the program.

On the Adobe page, under Step 1 of 2, select "English" in "Language" the appropriate operating system in "Platform," and broadband or dialup for "Connection Speed."

Under Step 2 of 2, check box to download the full version and **DO NOT** check the second box. Click "Download." If a File Download prompt displays with the question "Would you like to open the file or save it to you computer?" click "Open." Adobe is very good about policing their website for viruses, and you should have no problems with computer infections.

The automatic download should begin. After the program has completed downloading, the Adobe Reader 6.0 Setup will display, click Next, then Next, then Install, and finally, Finish. The Adobe 6.0 Reader icon should display on your desktop, and the program is available for your use.

If you receive *TAPROOT* by Postal Service and your Club has a Member with e-mail address who will distribute it to your Club, please send me the following information for that Member:

Name  
Garden Club  
Address  
Phone  
E-mail Address

I am happy to send the *TAPROOT* to any Member who has an e-mail address and can provide me with the above-requested information.

The deadline for items to be included in the November *TAPROOT* is October 24, 2003. As well as Council information, please send your special events and Club activities to:

Debra Nicholson ([dsnicks@cox.net](mailto:dsnicks@cox.net))  
5354 Sir Barton Drive  
Virginia Beach, VA 23462  
(757) 499-0176

### Council Website

Virginia S. Anderson, [www.VBGardenClubs.org](http://www.VBGardenClubs.org), 496-8086

The Council's web host provides many features you can use by e-mailing the Council Webmaster at [webmaster@vbgardenclubs.org](mailto:webmaster@vbgardenclubs.org).

**E-mail addresses:** 300 free for Clubs  
(*YourClubName*@vbgardenclubs.org)

**Web Space:** share photos of recent events, post information about an upcoming event, or your Club calendar of events.

Council Website:

**Banner Advertising:** If someone wants to advertise a gardening-related business or event, send them the Webmaster's e-mail to get for complete information and rates.

(Member rates are \$1- month. Non-Member rates vary.)

**Sponsor Page Advertising:** If someone wants to support the Council's goals, they can get complete information from the Webmaster.

**Classified Advertising:** For \$1 a month (pre-paid), take out an ad with contact information and up to 250 characters to sell your garden equipment or look for help with lawn and garden care.

Proceeds from advertising help pay for the Council website and other Council projects.

### Yearbook

Anne Herrick, [anneher@earthlink.net](mailto:anneher@earthlink.net), 340-3525

Council 2003-2004 Yearbooks will be ready for pickup at the first Council General Meeting on September 10. Hopefully!

Please see me for your copy (copies).

Anne Herrick, Yearbook Chairman

## *Notices*

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### **Pansy Sale**

Lake Smith Terrace Garden Club  
October 24-25, 2003



Lake Smith Terrace Garden Club will hold its 2003 Pansy sale on Friday, October 24, 1:00 to 5:00PM and Saturday October 25, 9:00AM to 4:00PM at 1040 Five Forks Road, Lake Smith Terrace.

Glorious 6-inch pots are available at \$3.75. Handmade bows for your holiday decorating will also be for sale. Call Janet Gross 473-8844 or Mary Jane Taylor 671-7751 for more information.

### **Master Gardeners 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Gardening Festival 2003**

Free to the Public

Saturday, September 13, 2003; 10:00AM – 3:00PM

Enjoy the Community Gardening Festival on Saturday, September 13, 2003 from 10:00AM until 3:00PM at:  
Virginia Tech Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center  
1444 Diamond Springs Road, Virginia Beach

#### 10:00-2:00 Speakers

10:00	Mark Weathington	Fall Gardening for Tidewater
11:00	Zari Doran	Floral Demonstration
	Ruth Burch	Butterfly Gardening (held in Display Garden)
12:00	Liz Maurer	Color in the Garden
	Barbara Brawley	Herb Gardening (held in Display Garden)
1:00	Vickie Shufer	Native Plants for Tidewater
2:00	Randy Jackson	Grasses for Tidewater

#### 10:00-3:00 Author's Corner/Books for Sale

*The New York/Mid-Atlantic Gardener's Book of Lists* by Bonnie Appleton  
*Best Plants for Hampton Roads: A Landscape & Garden Companion* by  
Dawn Alleman, Ed Bradley, Laurie Fox, Norman Grose, Brenda Johnson-Asnicar, Sherry Kern, Eva Lynn Trump Rudiger, and Jim Williams

#### Activities

Demonstrations	Plant Sale
Display Gardens and Arboretum Tours	Plant Doctor
Garden Societies' displays	Children's Activities.
4-H Club display	Food Vendor and Bake Sale
Silent Auction	

Master Gardeners from Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Suffolk are assisting Virginia Beach Master Gardeners. For more information contact: Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Beach Office, 757-427-4769 or visit [www.vbmg.org](http://www.vbmg.org).

## Virginia Beach Master Gardener Volunteer Training

### Orientation Classes

If you are interested in becoming a Virginia Beach Master Gardener Volunteer, attend an orientation meetings at the Owl's Creek March Pavilion Theater of the Virginia Marine Science Museum (717 General Booth Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23451):

Thursday 23 October – 10:00 – 12:00 noon.

Thursday 30 October – 10:00 – 12:00 noon.

Master Gardener Training Classes will be held on each Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00 – 12:00 noon, from February 3 through March 30, 2004.

For more information, call the Virginia Beach Cooperative Extension Office at 427-4769.

## Virginia Beach SPCA

### Poop Pollutes

An educational campaign from the Virginia Beach SPCA

The goal of the campaign is to increase awareness of the importance of properly disposing of pet waste, said VBSPCA executive director Sharon Adams. Pet waste not only spreads disease, but also it pollutes neighborhoods, parks, schoolyards, beaches and even the Lynnhaven River.

“After learning that pet waste, which can come from as far away as Green Run, is one of the major pollutants of the Lynnhaven River,” Adams explained, “we decided it was time to make a real effort to encourage folks to Scoop the Poop!”

John Koehler, who owns award-winning Koehler Studios, designed a “Poop Pollutes” poster and flyer. They feature a Labrador retriever with a life ring around its neck with the words, “Scoop the Poop” and “Save the River.” The flyer can be downloaded free of charge at [www.vbspca.com/poop](http://www.vbspca.com/poop).

“We envision these posters throughout the City,” Adams said, “particularly at areas frequented by our canine citizens, such as parks, ball fields, schoolyards, the Boardwalk, and other places in neighborhoods.”

The VBSPCA hopes to reach pet owners everywhere by also circulating flyers and posters to civic leagues, garden clubs and other groups and through media promotion in newspapers and organizational

newsletters as well as on radio and television, Adams said.

“We at the VBSPCA love all animals,” she added, “but we don’t love their poop.” Sadly, too many people allow their animals to defecate in our neighborhoods, yards and parks, and do not pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Left on the ground, Poop Pollutes...

The land...

Pet waste contains bacteria and parasites. Diseases that can be spread from pet waste include –

**Campylobacteriosis** (a bacterial infection causing diarrhea in humans)

**Salmonellosis** (the most common bacterial infection transmitted to humans from animals -- symptoms include fever, muscle aches, headache, vomiting, and diarrhea),

**Toxocarisis** (roundworms transmitted from animals to humans. Symptoms include vision loss, rash, fever, or cough).

The water...

Pet waste degrades water quality leading to cloudy, green water from accelerated algae and weed growth, objectionable odors, and dead fish and other organisms.

Up to one fourth of the fecal coliform in the polluted Lynnhaven River is from pet waste.

Pet waste left in yards as far away as Green Run eventually reaches the city's historic water way.

The air...

In addition to odors, flies and other pest insects can also increase when pet waste is

disposed of improperly, becoming a nuisance and adding another vector for disease transmission.

Communities...

Finally, pet waste pollutes friendships.

### What to do with poop (in case you are ever asked!)

**Pick it up:** Clean up after your dog every single time whether in your own yard or your neighbors'! Carry extra bags when walking your dog and make them available to other pet owners who are without.

**Flush it:** Pet waste can be flushed down the toilet. The water from the toilet goes either to a septic system onsite or a sewage treatment plant that removes most pollutants before the water reaches its outlet. Used litter should be disposed of in a securely closed bag in the trash.

**Treat it:** Consider an underground pet waste digester in the yard -- check your local pet supply store or go to [www.doggiedooley.com](http://www.doggiedooley.com)

**Trash it:** Putting pet waste in the trash beats leaving it on the street, but it's not the best solution. Waste can contribute to the landfill problems.

**Leave it to a pro:** K-9 Connection (572-1402) and Beyond the Call of Doodee (631-1396 or 270-8673) are two local companies who will completely remove the waste from your yard and dispose of it themselves, for a fee.

For more information, call Sharon Adams or Dale Bartlett at the VBSPCA, 427-6387, send e-mail to [vbspca\\_director@msn.com](mailto:vbspca_director@msn.com) or visit the VBSPCA's web site: [www.vbspca.com/poop](http://www.vbspca.com/poop).

### Save Our Live Oak Trees (September 2 or 9 Deadline)

Linda Tetlak, [RJTETLAK@peoplepc.com](mailto:RJTETLAK@peoplepc.com)

Two Live Oak trees (registered with the "Live Oak Society of The Louisiana Garden Club Federation") live on a small treed lot along Shore Drive, between Dinwiddie Road and Dupont Circle, between Don Julio's restaurant and The Chesapeake House (on the west side of the Lesner Bridge). If you park at the dirt lot on this property, you can follow a little path into the forested area and find the trees. The younger of the two trees, named "Ocean Park's Live Oak," has a girth of 13 feet 3 inches and a spread of 60 feet. The larger tree is called as "Sea Ranch Oak." With a girth of 21 feet and spread of 97 feet, it has an estimated age of 300-400 years old. It has one larger branch that runs across the forest floor for over 70 feet. It is further back than the younger tree, sitting next to an old pop-up trailer on the path. You cannot view either tree from Shore Drive.

On August 12, City Council met and approved the "Dinwiddie/Dupont Circle Project," by a vote of 6 to 5. This project involves cutting down all the trees on this property, including the two Live Oaks, to make way for a 27-unit high-rise condominium that fills the entire lot. Council can reconsider this decision if one Member who voted for the application motions to reconsider the prior vote at a meeting within 30 days of the original action. The Cape Story by the Sea Civic Organization has requested that Council consider the purchase of this property to create an "Open Space" park with beach parking. These trees would be the park's focal point.

The Organization requests that you contact the City Council Members who voted in favor of this project and ask them to reopen the issue and vote to deny. Sample of letters you might use are included below. City Council Members who approved this project are:

Harry E. Diezel	<a href="mailto:hediezel@vbgov.com">hediezel@vbgov.com</a> 604 Rosaer Lane VA Beach, VA 23464	#420-5724 (H) Kempsville District #2 –to June 30, 2004
Margaret L. Eure	<a href="mailto:mleure@vbgov.com">mleure@vbgov.com</a> 5400 Compton Circle VA Beach, VA 23464	#420-6745 (H) Centerville District #1 –to June 30, 2004
Jim Reeve	<a href="mailto:jreeve@vbgov.com">jreeve@vbgov.com</a> 1476 Lotus Drive VA Beach, VA 23456	#721-7055 (W) Princess Anne District #7 –to June 30, 2006
Peter Schmidt	<a href="mailto:pwschmidt48@aol.com">pwschmidt48@aol.com</a> 1029 Bobolink Dr. VA Beach, VA 23451	#428-3670 (H) #494-5235 (W) At Large –to June 30, 2006
Rosemary Wilson	<a href="mailto:rcwilson@vbgov.com">rcwilson@vbgov.com</a> 1304 Wren Place VA Beach, VA 23451	#422-0733 (H) At Large –to June 30, 2004
Ronald Villanueva	<a href="mailto:rvillanu@vbgov.com">rvillanu@vbgov.com</a> 2428 Hillcrest Meadows Lane VA Beach, VA 23456	#523-9393 (H) #244-7266 (W) At Large –to June 30, 2006

Please contact these Council Members as quickly as possible, to meet the **September 2 or 9 deadline** of the next City Council meeting. You may also contact City Council Members who opposed this project to lend voice to their position and help them influence Members who approved the project. City Council Members who opposed the project are:

Mayor Meyera Oberndorf	<a href="mailto:moberndo@vbgov.com">moberndo@vbgov.com</a> 2401 Courthouse Drive City Hall, Building #1 Municipal Center VA Beach, VA 23456	#497-2446 (H) #427-4581 (W)
Vice Mayor Louis R. Jones	<a href="mailto:ctycncl@vbgov.com">ctycncl@vbgov.com</a> 1008 Witch Point Trail VA Beach, VA 23455	#464-2151 (H) #583-0177 (W)
Richard Maddox	<a href="mailto:rmaddox@vbgov.com">rmaddox@vbgov.com</a> 1609 Atlantic Avenue VA Beach, VA 23451	#422-9342 (W)
Reba McClanan	<a href="mailto:ctycncl@vbgov.com">ctycncl@vbgov.com</a> 3224 Burnt Mill Road VA Beach, VA 23452	#340-8835 (H)

James Wood

[jlwood@vbgov.com](mailto:jlwood@vbgov.com)

#498-3435 (H)

3778 Prince Andrew Ln

#340-8411 (W)

VA Beach, VA 23452

### Letter 1

Dear Council Member,

I request that you make a motion to reconsider the Dinwiddie Project because the development is too massive a structure for the proposed location.

As stated in Section 221 (i) of the City Zoning Ordinance stipulates that any conditional use "...be compatible with the neighborhood in which it is to be located, both in terms of existing land uses and conditions and in terms of proposed land uses and use permitted by right in the area. Among matters to be considered in this connection are traffic flow and control, access to and circulation within the property; off-street parking and loading; refuse and service areas; utilities; screening and buffering; signs, yards and other open spaces; height, bulk and location of structures; location of proposed open space uses; hours and the manner of operation; and noise, light, dust, odor, fumes and vibrations."

The height and bulk of this project are NOT COMPATIBLE with the single family homes located to the west in Ocean Park.

Sincerely,

### Letter 2

Dear Council Member,

I request that you make a motion to reconsider the Dinwiddie Project because the development is too dense for the lot size.

A structure of this size does not provide an acceptable transition between the single-family residents of Ocean Park and the high-rise condominium of Chesapeake House. A smaller scale development or Open Space should be the planned use of this last remaining Bay front property.

Please reconsider this project and vote for "Denial" the next time around.

Sincerely,

### Letter 3

Dear Council Member,

I request that you make a motion to reconsider the Dinwiddie Project because this property should be Open Space.

This property was recommended for purchase in the 2000 Outdoor Plan that is part of the City Comprehensive Plan. The property could be a small park and beach access with the 400 year-old Live Oak tree as a centerpiece. This would also allow the heavily treed site to remain virtually undisturbed. A 20 to 30-space lot would also work well as an overflow lot for the City Boat ramp facility.

Please reconsider this project and vote for "Denial" the next time around.

Sincerely,