



Midlothian Garden Club
Member of the National Garden Clubs
The Daffodilly Newsletter



January 9, 2018

Bethel Baptist Church

1100 Huguenot Springs Road, Midlothian, VA 23113

Meeting – 10:30, Lunch 12:00

Program: *Attracting Birds with Water*

Bob Schamerhorn will do a power point presentation on "Attracting Birds with Water", and will "wow" us with his beautiful photography of birds.

Birds, like all other animals, prefer habitats that meet ALL their basic survival needs: food, shelter and water!

Message for Pat Hoy - For next month's program our February speaker, Sandy Fry from the Tech Extension Service could use our input regarding what shrubs, plants, trees we would like to know how to prune, so I will be passing around a clip board for our members to write down what they would like her to address especially.

Lunch Hostesses: Margaret Gregg*, Aleta Jenkins, Sandy Howells, Laura Meade and Wilma Hefner

Board Meeting: January 23, Kathy Gunther, 9:30 for refreshments and 10:00 for the meeting. Please let Kathy know you are coming. (739-1229, kgunther24@gmail.com)

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

A very Happy New Year to everyone. We are certainly beginning 2018 with some of the coldest weather I can remember. In addition to keeping ourselves and our families and pets warmer, let's not forget the birds who are wintering with us. Be sure to keep your feeders full. They love suet this time of year. A water source is also a good idea. Our speaker this month, Bob Schamerhorn, will have more to say about how to care for our feathered residents.

I am repeating myself here, but we still need a new coordinator for our Meals on Wheels project! This project creates small floral arrangements to accompany a Meals on Wheels lunch delivery, and we do it only once a year.
Volunteer!

We had such a fine turnout at our December field trip to Strange's. It was great to meet your guests. Remember that all of us are the best ambassadors for our Club. Continue to bring your friends to our meetings when you can.

Plant What Grows
Jennifer

TREASURER'S REPORT: January 9, 2018

No activity since November 28, 2017

Balance as of 1/9/18 \$7,655.15

Midlothian Electronic Library

January 2018 ELECTRONIC Library's entry (No. 13)

Virginia Tech, Agriculture College: RESEARCH

A. Virginia Tech Agriculture and Extension Service has a very broad range of topics for purview. There are many topics and subjects to select for your interest.

Below are some of those that are of interest to gardeners.

<https://www.cals.vt.edu/research/focus-areas.html>

B. Interesting research of manure, removing harmful properties that pass to run-off, keeping the very beneficial properties for vegetation.

<http://news.cals.vt.edu/229-report/2016/09/28/designer-manure-could-become-fashionable-on-farms/>

C. Research and development to address the growing problem of "bed bugs", which are now readily found not only in homes, apartments, and hotels, but in health care facilities like medical care facilities, women's shelters, dialysis centers, and lower-income elder care facilities. (The elderly are high risk due to reaction to bites and/or poor eyesight or mobility.)

<http://news.cals.vt.edu/229-report/2016/09/28/taking-the-bite-out-of-bedbugs/>

D. Research and understanding Zika and Malaria.

<http://news.cals.vt.edu/229-report/2016/09/28/exploring-genetics-to-combat-malaria-and-zika/>

E. Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center

Virginia Beach, Virginia (Just off US Route 13 on the approach to Bay Bridge)

Numerous research projects from lawn grasses to both ornamental to food producing,

Aquatic plants, those for purifying, erosion control, etc.

Experimental Gardens, Master Gardener maintained show gardens,

Tree display of types of trees to grow requiring low canopies, and

Aquatic plants for filtering water sources.

<https://www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/arec/hampton-roads.html> (click on various points that interest you.)

January Gardening Tips:

- Record in your garden journal successes and failures for 2017. New members start one if you haven't.
- Check perennial plants for frost heave; tamp down and apply mulch if needed.
- Water houseplants as needed with **room temperature water**.
- Clean garden tools and rub with oil. Spray the top 12 inches of the handle with bright paint to make them easier to see in the garden.
- When using Oasis, never push it down into water to soak. While holding the Oasis, let it sink slowly into a bowl or pan of water. When the water reaches the top hold it in place for a moment and then allow it to sink. If it goes under too quickly, dry pockets will be left.

"Lewis Ginter Events!"



Tuesday, January 9, 2018 @ 9:00 am - Sunday, January 14, 2018 @ 5:00 pm, all garden visitors enjoy FREE admission to Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens.

Monday, January 15, 2018 @ 9:00 am - Wednesday, February 28, 2018 @ 5:00 pm all garden visitors enjoy half-price admission. Garden admission is \$6 for adults and seniors and \$4 for children.

Wednesday, January 24, 2018 @ 11:00 am - 1:30 pm

In this one-pan wonders class, Executive Chef Anne Maury Haapala demonstrates how to make fuss-free suppers that are as delicious as they are easy to clean up. The demonstration is followed by a delectable lunch featuring some of the recipes discussed.

For more information on these events or to register, go to,

www.lewisginter.org.

“Dates to Remember”



January 10, Garden Therapy at Ginter Hall, 10:00. Let Wilma Heafner know if you can come and help.

January 19th, 1-6, January 20th, 8-6, January 21 10-4, Virginia Orchid Society's 12th Annual Orchid Show at Strange's Garden Center on W. Board Street. Flyers are on our Share table.

February 2, Richmond Council of Garden Clubs; Program: “Modern Floral Designs” by Laura Anne Brooks

FYI Roosting House for Birds

Information comes from the website;

<http://www.paulnoll.com/Oregon/Birds/Home/bird-feeder-roost.html>

During most of the year birds find adequate shelter in the vegetation of their habitats. In the depths of winter, however, even the thickest evergreen tree may not provide enough shelter to keep a bird from perishing in the cold. Birds are the most vulnerable to the elements at night, when temperatures plunge and darkness keeps them from finding food to provide the fuel they need to keep warm. Most birds sleep at night, roosting in the same kinds of places in which they build their nests in spring and summer.

Frequently there is not enough space for the flocks of birds that gather near bird feeders or other concentrations of food. Roosting boxes are artificial cavities designed as communal bedrooms for winter birds. Communal roosting gives small birds the advantage of sharing body heat. Place roosting boxes in the most sheltered spot you can find. The south side of a building or large tree is often a good location. Roosting House building plans can be found on the site.

