

**Minutes of Rappahannock Garden Club Meeting
September 8, 2016**

The meeting opened with President Bonnie Schaschak welcoming members and guests. Guest was Crissy Ketner, a youth who has visited several times with Jenny Boyenga. It was announced that Pat Hanley, a former member of the club, had died recently. Chaplain Cheryl Brown Davis sang "Peace Begins With Me" and was joined by members in singing a most moving tribute in memory of the day our country was attacked on 9-11-2001. Lunch was then served. The hostess committee consisted of Bonnie Schaschak (chair) Marty Wilson, Jean Ehlman, Joan Eremenko, and Cheryl Brown Davis. Birthdays of the month included Anne Warner, Pam Lazorchak, Mary Jacobs, Claudia Holmes, Joan Eremenko, Ann Hecht, Mary Ann McKay, Sara Ford, Ann Burgess, and Katherine Pickle. Cheryl Brown Davis led the group in singing "Happy Birthday." Bonnie asked the past presidents of the Rappahannock Garden Club to stand to be recognized.

President Bonnie called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m. She reminded members about environmental stewardship and the need for sustainable gardening. Old business included the review of minutes from the August meeting that had been posted on the website. Judy Ripley made a motion, seconded by Karen Rosenfeld, and approved by the membership that the minutes be approved. There was no financial report. The August newsletter had been posted for review. Bonnie announced that there would be a board meeting on Wednesday, September 21 and that details would be e-mailed to board members. She suggested that committee chairs start creating reports for their respective committees. Bonnie asked members to volunteer to serve on the Scholarship Committee. Betty Otley, Anne Skerrett, Marty Wilson, Anita Shawver, and Paula Brinser volunteered. They will select a chairman from the group. It was announced that there would not be displays of

horticulture, food garden, and artistic design at the October meeting. Members need to focus on the fundraiser, items to sell, and the special program. Jo Manson, Ways and Means Chair, reported that there would be a cornucopia of offerings to sell in October. She had placed a sign up sheet in the back of the room. Cathie Elliott gave an update on the recent survey and the monarch butterfly project. Mary Ann McKay reported that the Frightened Frog Program had ended. She reported that there had been fifteen volunteers and articles in the newspaper and on the website. The program taught the life cycles of the frog, and volunteer Mary Hutya had brought in live tadpoles for the children to see and touch.

President Bonnie presented youth program chairman Mary Ann McKay an award of distinguished service from the National Garden Clubs, Incorporated for her creative leadership with the Frightened Frog Program. Donna Anderson, representing the Boys & Girls Club, was present for the presentation. She praised Mary Ann for her excellent delivery of a program that was truly a multi-dimensional activity. A frog cake from Bernadette's bakery was served with ice cream to honor Mary Ann.

New business included nominations for the Most Valuable Gardener. Members were asked to nominate three people and state reasons for the nomination. The sheets were then collected and names will be compiled from the lists. It was announced that the Piedmont District Meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 10, 2016. Cost is \$30.00, and the registration deadline is September 26. Members who wish to attend need to send their money to treasurer Robin Perks so she can file by September 21. It was announced that on October 20 there would be a program at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts focusing on fine arts and flowers and the art of floral arranging. Keys to the Future Youth Project Grants are due by September 15. Details for requirement can be found on the Piedmont District VFGC website. President Bonnie announced that the Landscape Design School is scheduled for September 28-29 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, and the registration form is on the Piedmont website. The Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Symposium

will be November 9-10 in Henrico, and more information is on the website. She said that the Piedmont District Grant application deadline is February 15, 2017, and now is the time to work on it. The national convention of garden clubs will be held in Richmond May 18-20, 2017 at the Richmond Marriott Hotel in downtown Richmond. At the October meeting there will be a convention table where members can volunteer as a hostess, floral designer, or helper for the national convention.

Vice president Jenny Boyenga introduced the guest speaker as a generational Virginian from Ivey, Virginia. Marilyn Sprouse is a graduate of Radford University, a full time volunteer for the talented and gifted program, and an art teacher at Lancaster Middle School. Her talk was entitled "Life Is Color," and she explained how the eye perceives color. She said that color is three different things: hue, tint, and shade. She demonstrated various methods for using color in design and landscapes. Members received a color wheel that helped with the understanding of monochromatic, analogous, and complementary color schemes.

At the conclusion of the program Jenny discussed details for the October meeting. Nancy Hargroves, president-elect of the National Garden Club, will present a demonstration for creative fall and winter container gardening. The program is entitled "Witches, Turkeys, and Reindeer." The public is invited, and admission is \$10.00 per guest.

Judging results were as follows:

Horticulture

Deborah Burgess – 7 Blue – 35 points

Ann Hecht – 2 Blue – 10 points

Robin Perks – 1 Blue – 5 points

Margie Redlin – 1 Blue – 5 points

Judy Ripley – 2 Blue, 2 Red – 16 points

Karen Rosenfeld – 1 Blue – 5 points

Sharon Rowe – 8 Blue plus Best in Show – 50 points

Cathie Ward – 1 Blue, 1 Red – 8 points

Marty Wilson – 6 Blue, 2 Red – 36 points

Food Gardens

Cheryl Brown Davis – 3 Blue – 15 points

Deborah Burgess – 3 Blue – 15 points

Ann Hecht – 2 Blue – 10 points

Judy Ripley – 1 Blue – 5 points

Sharon Rowe – 2 Blue – 10 points

Artistic Design

Carol Clark – 1 Blue plus Best in Show – 15 points

Margie Redlin – 1 Blue, 1 Red – 8 points

Cheryl Brown Davis made a motion to adjourn. Judy Ripley seconded the motion that was approved by membership. Time of adjournment was 2:15 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Anne O'Bryant
Recording Secretary**