



NCAGC *In the Know* October 2025

Thank you to everyone who helped make our State Meeting yesterday so much fun!

We tried out a new meeting format and had a productive meeting. Dr. Olsen provided a very educational and entertaining look at the role of the arboretum.

Thank you to District I for hostessing our lunch provided by the Hospitality Team of members from the Woodmoor and Virtual Garden Clubs!

The 2025-2027 State Directory was handed out by 1st VP Joyce Skoglund to Club Presidents, Board members and District Boards. A pdf version of the [Directory](#) is listed on the NCAGC Website.

In this Issue:

[President's Zoom Information](#)

[Gardening School - Course 1](#)

[Landscape Design School - Course 3](#)

[NCAGC Chair/Council](#)

[Judges Council](#)

[Fern Valley Chair](#)

[Youth Chair](#)

[Upcoming Club Events](#)

[Sponsors](#)

[Upcoming Affiliate Events](#)

[NGC Grants](#)

Today is October 1st - the Deadline for submitting your Club's Yearbook, Newsletter and Perennial Bloom Award!
Your District Awards chairs are looking forward to your submissions!

Christopher Lewis

d1-awards@ncagardenclubs.org

Jo Anne Wiggins

d2-awards@ncagardenclubs.org

Nancy Moats and Jane Razeghi

d3-awards@ncagardenclubs.org

Shelley Kreitman

d4-awards@ncagardenclubs.org

**November 1st Deadline
for Awards like the
Coiner Award, Flower
Shows, Environmental
and Youth
See listing on [website](#)**

Reminder that donations to: Fern Valley, Friendship Garden, President's Project, Scholarship and Washington Youth Garden are made out to NCAGC and mailed to
NCAGC Assistant Treasurer
Janet Hazelbaker
6211 Sudley Church Court
Fairfax Station, VA 22039-1225

Former NCAGC President Mary Ellen Alden (M'Ellen) has moved and is pleased to now be living with her son in Kentucky. The NCAGC directory will be updated as information is available.

Monthly President's Meeting - October 2025

What a September! The District and State meetings we so much fun!

Our next meeting will be on Friday, October 24th, 2025 -

Topic: How might Judges Council assist clubs with Flower Shows - learn about a new award!

1. 10am: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82200434103?pwd=ftMRExnjkiIvqyl6gu4aJK4CkxoiCS.1>
2. 4pm: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86502584297?pwd=HneDGtILzEBp7TvfbDdUaXNcHiXbkM.1>

Club Presidents, please be on the lookout for an email calling the vote on changes to NCAGC's bylaws. The email should arrive on October 17th and voting will close on October 31st. Please direct any questions to Tina Foutz at parliamentarian@ncagardenclubs.org

Thank you Dominion Valley Garden Club (DVGC) and Springfield Acres Garden Club for welcoming me at your September meetings and breaking in my presentations on NCAGC!



Photo taken by Susan Lee, President DVGC while I was channeling former NCAGC President Vicki Godwin, also of DVGC with a NGC umbrella

Thank you to the clubs that have me on their calendar this year and if you have not asked myself or Joyce Skoglund to visit, please reach out!

Please considering participating in one of the upcoming schools! You can start the Gardening, Environmental and Landscape Design curriculum in any one of the four courses that make up a Series - you do not need to start at Course 1!

If you are just starting at one of these schools, please submit a [Form 6](#). If you are taking as a refresher, please reach out about your Form 7!

Gardening School - HYBRID

Course 1 coming November 17 & 18th

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

3810 Meredith Dr

Or Zoom

[Brochure/Registration](#) on NCA website

Please email our chair, Connie Richards at

gs@ncagardenclubs.org

Landscape Design School - HYBRID

Course 3 coming October 27 & 28th

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

3810 Meredith Dr

Or Zoom

[Brochure/Registration](#) on NCA website

Please email our chair, Sylvia Sloan at

lds@ncagardenclubs.org



Gardening, Environmental and Landscape Design Schools are a great way to meet new people and deepen your education. Please join us!



Judges Council's Focus on Flower Shows

Flower shows aren't just beautiful—they're powerful learning experiences. They teach, inspire, and spark creativity for everyone involved. As a Judges Council, we are in a unique position to help clubs make their shows successful.

We can:

- Share our knowledge through pre-show workshops and programs.
- Mentor novice exhibitors and encourage new judges.
- Partner with clubs in the planning stages to answer questions and offer guidance.
- Provide thoughtful evaluations that both educate and inspire.

If your club is considering holding a flower show - or has started planning one - know that we are here to support you every step of the way. Let's work together to strengthen and celebrate flower shows ensuring they continue to thrive and bring joy for years to come.

Arlene Stewart
President, NCAGC Judges Council
JC@ncagardenclubs.org

Updates from our Youth Chair

NGC has many contests for Youth -
Deadline of December 1st -
How to Enter? Submit all entries to
youth@ncagardenclubs.org

[Poetry Theme](#)

[Smokey Bear - Woodsy Owl
Poster](#)

[Pollinator Garden Grants](#)

[Recycling Sculpture Contest](#)

Fern Valley Workday's

Chair Dawn Reynolds-Olson invites you
to join her at the Fern Valley Garden on
the Arboretum Grounds

Tuesday, Oct 14, 10am-12:30pm

Friday, Oct 17, 10am-12:30pm

Friday, Nov 7, 10am-12:30pm

Tools supplied and the task will range
from pulling ivy, weeding and planting.

fernvalley@ncagardenclubs.org

❖❖ Explore the New NCAGC Website and Youth Gardening Resources!
Come grow with us! Visit the brand-new National Capital Area Garden Clubs website to access the Youth Webpage featuring the Youth Calendar, monthly lesson plans, and other great resources for young gardeners.

❖❖ Click here to explore: [National Capital Area Garden Clubs – Youth Webpage](#)

Upcoming Club Events

Ayr Hill Garden Club 2025 Online Bulb Sale

Order pickup will be at the
Freeman Store and Museum
on October 11, 18 and 25 from
10am to 4pm.

Email us if you have questions
on your order pickup.

[Shop now](#)

in Vienna, VA



SAVE THE DATE FOR
CENTENNIAL GARDEN CLUB
WREATH-TASTIC FUNDRAISER

12 4 2025

BRITTANY'S RESTAURANT
12449 DILLINGHAM SQUARE,
WOODBIDGE, VA 22192
11:00AM,

JOIN US FOR A HOLLY JOLLY TIME
CREATING A BEAUTIFUL FRESH
HOLIDAY WREATH, DELICIOUS BUFFET
LUNCH AND WONDERFUL CAMARADERIE.
\$40.00 PER PERSON
REGISTER AND PAY AT
[HTTPS://WWW.ZEFFY.COM/EN-
US/TICKETING/MAKE-N-TAKE-CGC-
FUNDRAISER](https://www.zeffy.com/en-us/ticketing/make-n-take-cgc-fundraiser)

OUR HOLIDAY SHOPPE THIS YEAR WILL BE HELD ON
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH AND SATURDAY DECEMBER 6TH.

HOLIDAY SHOPPE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 10 AM TO 5 PM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 10 AM TO 4 PM

COMMUNITY CENTER AT THE EVERGREEN FIRE AND RESCUE STATION 15
3510 JAMES MADISON HIGHWAY, HAYMARKET, VA



Tuesday, June 2, 2026

NCAGC 75th
Anniversary
Conference

Congressional Country
Club, Potomac, MD

Registration coming January
2026

Sponsors of NCAGC 🍷

[Ashby Jewelers Website](#)

[Brandywine Growers](#)

[Royal Global Travel](#)

[Baird - The Graham Watt Group](#)

[Chesapeake Natives Website](#)

[Soleado Lavender Farm's website](#)

[Bosque, LLC](#)

FXTaylor Associates, LLC

[Springsong Museum](#)

Others who Sponsored our Installation: Burke Lawn Care Merrifield Garden Center

Affiliate Events and Sponsor Listing

SOGETSU D.C. PRESENTS
Internationally known Ikebana Sogetsu Artist Ilse Beunen
<https://www.facebook.com/ilse.beunen>





DEMONSTRATION
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3
 COFFEE 9:30
 PROGRAM 10:00
 RECEPTION FOLLOWS

WORKSHOPS
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
 MORNING 9 AM - 12 NOON
 AFTERNOON 1 PM - 4 PM

St. John's Episcopal Church
 6715 Georgetown Pike
 McLean, VA 22101



SCAN FOR TICKETS

Raise a glass with us this fall!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 3:00 PM

Celebrate Maryland vineyards with unlimited wine tastings and enjoy live music entertainment, silent auction, and photo opportunities complete with a gorgeous sunset over the Potomac River. It's the fall event you don't want to miss!

Proceeds from the event will directly support our educational programming providing children with overnight experiences to discover the outdoors and appreciate nature. Cheers!



Purchase tickets & sponsorships through our website:
fergusonfoundation.org/pinot

or scan the QR code below! Individual tickets are just \$95 or reserve a table for six for \$1,200.
 Discounts available for Foundation members.

Sponsorship packages begin at \$500.

Questions? Email us at
specialevents@fergusonfoundation.org




Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society
 Presents
The 50th Chrysanthemum Show
 James Lee Community Center
 2855 Annandale Road
 Falls Church, Virginia 22042

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
 Horticultural, Ikebana and floral designs
 Chrysanthemum sales
 Photographers welcome

Saturday, October 25, 2025
 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday, October 26, 2025
 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Ikebana International Fall Exhibit at the U.S. National Arboretum

**October 9 through October 19
 from 10 am - 4 pm**



FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Free Demonstrations Oct 12, 18, 19 at 1:00 pm
 Go to iichapter1.com for more information



FONA asked if NCA might want to volunteer - are there 3 or 4 folks to join NCA President Danielle?

Email:

president@ncagardenclubs.org

Garlic Planting Party & Bulb Sale

Our annual Garlic Planting Party & Bulb Sale is a favorite event for many of FONA's staff to host, because we get to celebrate the amazing community that makes our work special. This year's event will take place on Saturday, October 25th from 11 AM to 3 PM in the Washington Youth Garden. Whether you attended your first FONA event this year, or are a long-time Washington Youth Garden volunteer, all are welcome to attend this free event. Wearing Halloween costumes is highly encouraged!



Upcoming NGC Grant Deadlines

Dear Garden Club Members,

Are you planning a project that could use a little extra support? The National Garden Clubs (NGC) offers a variety of grants to help bring your gardening and community initiatives to life—and several important deadlines are right around the corner!

Time-Sensitive Grants

- PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants
Deadline: October 15
 Support for community-based gardening project www.plantamerica.org
- ESPOMA Grant Program [Link for More Information on Espoma](#)
Open: October 1 – May 31
 Receive Espoma plant foods and potting soils to support you garden club's project.
- AMES Tools Grant
Open: January 1 – March 1
 Apply for high-quality tools to help your club complete its projects efficiently.

Open Year-Round

- Native Plant and Wildflower Grants
- Youth Pollinator Garden Grants
- Natural Disaster Grants

These rolling grants are available any time and offer support for specific needs—from youth education to recovery after natural disasters.

To apply for the PLANT AMERICA grant please visit www.plantamerica.org.

For all other grants visit the NGC Grants page for details, guidelines, and applications:

www.gardenclub.org/awards-and-grants