

**2018 Garden Club of Virginia Horticulture Field Day
June 5-6, Lynchburg, Va.**

Featured Gardens



**Kay and Kent Van Allen – Pebbleton
1202 Pebbleton Lane**

Nestled at the base of two mountains, Pebbleton is something to behold. Many of the imposing trees and large boxwoods on this 7-acre property are more than two centuries old. Across the driveway from the house is what Kay lovingly calls her “Secret Garden.” Protected by a 7-foot-tall wall, constructed of local stone and an iron gate that is a work of art, the garden is a lush and relaxing oasis and truly a treat for the senses. The back of the property holds a

long perennial bed anchored by a pond that is home to goldfish, tadpoles and an assortment of water plants. Through a wrought iron gate is an allée of cherry trees which have been underplanted with thousands of daffodils from the Garden Club of Virginia test collections over the years. Truly a feast for the eyes when they are in bloom!

Kay, a published and experienced gardener, has filled her grounds with a wonderful variety of plants, touches of whimsy and expanses of calming green space. There is something here for everyone.

**Lou and Ivor Thomas
1204 Blackstone Place**

True horticulturists will certainly enjoy this two-acre gem in the heart of the city. The homeowners have spent the last 17 years painstakingly reworking this landscape to work with Mother Nature and create an amazing oasis. Filled with wonderful natives, spring ephemerals and rare trees this property is special. Here you will leisurely stroll along paths and over numerous bridges and feel as though you are in quiet woods far away from civilization.

Due to the recent tornado that hit our city, this property is replacing one of the other gardens that suffered too much damage to remain on the tour. If there is a silver lining to the damage caused by that storm ... this property is it!



**Catherine and Mike Madden
105 Lee Circle**

Here you will be greeted with a total replanting of the front parterre garden and boxwood edging. This massive overhaul was necessitated by boxwood decline in the original old English boxwoods. The new boxwoods used are a strain that has been bred to be more resistant to disease. The parterre garden was originally designed by Pat Leggett, a previous owner and past president of the Garden Club of Virginia.

The designs for the rear gardens were drawn in 1926 by A. A. Farnham. Much of the original hardscape is still visible in the garden, including stone patios and walls as well as paths. Large beds of mixed perennials and flowering shrubs stretch throughout the back and each bed seems to flow into the next, providing a delightful journey through nature. There are several places to stop, sit and soak in all of the beauty.



**Jill and John Fees – Fox Hill Estate
1221 Fox Hill Road**

From the raised beds and greenhouses to the English garden and the expansive vistas, this 39-acre property has something for everyone. The owners are organic gardeners who grow an impressive assortment of vegetables and herbs in a space designed to keep wildlife out. A smaller kitchen garden provides easy access to fresh herbs when cooking and fresh-cut flowers for decorating. This space also holds a summer house adorned with a wonderful thatched roof. An English garden is tucked into the side of the house and provides a space for quiet reflection while you enjoy the delightful scent of the surrounding roses. A stairway from this garden puts you in the beautifully manicured back garden with its artwork and calming water feature.

A new greenhouse has a section devoted to growing hydroponic vegetables for year-round use. Patches of various fruit trees dot the property and several hundred indigenous trees have been added to create a park-like setting.



Melanie and Lynch Christian
2100 Oak Park Place

This 15-acre property encompasses a wide variety of landscape ranging from open meadows to a walled secret garden. The meandering entrance drive passes through what appears to be a natural landscape, but which, in reality, has been carefully enhanced with a number of follies created by the owner. At the top of the drive there is a spectacular view of the Blue

Ridge Mountains. Multiple gardens surround the house. The walled garden is sized for the entertainment of large groups and at the same time offers complete privacy. The protected space allows the owner to enjoy tender and special plants safe from the grazing habits of wild animals.

The property displays a large collection of native plants. There are also many special plants expressing the owner's interest in unusual specimens. This garden is a delight from any vantage point.