**From the President**

**Georgi Hall, Loudoun County**

**President’s Letter**

It is hard to believe we are starting a new VMGA fiscal year and my second year as President. Thank you to our Board, Unit Representatives and VMGA members for all your support over the last year. I am excited about the new year. We are planning to have more in-person meetings with opportunities to renew acquaintances, meet new members and share ideas in person. Our August meeting will be hosted by Loudoun County Master Gardener Association on August 12 at Claude Moore Recreation & Community Center, 46105 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling, VA 20164. The meeting will be hybrid. The lunch order form is included in this newsletter. You will be receiving additional information soon. Our October meeting will be hosted by Southside Master Gardeners Association on October 14th. We are looking for units to host our February and April 2024 bimonthly meetings. If your unit is interested, contact our Vice President, Nelda Purcell at vice-president@vmga.net.

We have just completed the 2023 VCE Master Gardener College in Blacksburg, VA. This year’s Steward program was Tree Steward. The 150 Master Gardeners and guests who attended the event learned valuable information to share with their units from the great speakers. It was nice to be able to see all our friends from across the state. Thanks to Kathleen Reed, Devon Johnson, the EMG State Office Team, members of the 2023 EMGC Advisory Team and other helpers for all their planning and work. VMGA was one of the sponsors of the event. A letter of appreciation from Kathleen Reed and the Office of the Extension Master Gardener State Coordinator team for VMGA’s sponsorship is included in this issue.

The Virginia State Fair is September 22 – October 1st at the Meadow Event Park, 13191 Dawn Blvd., Doswell, VA 23047 in Caroline County. The primary education topic for this year’s VMGA’s booth is Beneficials and Invasives. We need Master Gardeners to staff our Master Gardener State Fair Booth. It takes many Master Gardeners to carry out and make this ten-day event a success. See more information about the benefits of volunteering at the state Fair in this newsletter. Contact Christy Brennan, State Fair Chair ctb47@comcast.net if your unit is interested in volunteering.

Thank you

Georgi Hall

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