

FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTRESS

Diocesan Board: See Page 4 for Board Member contact information.



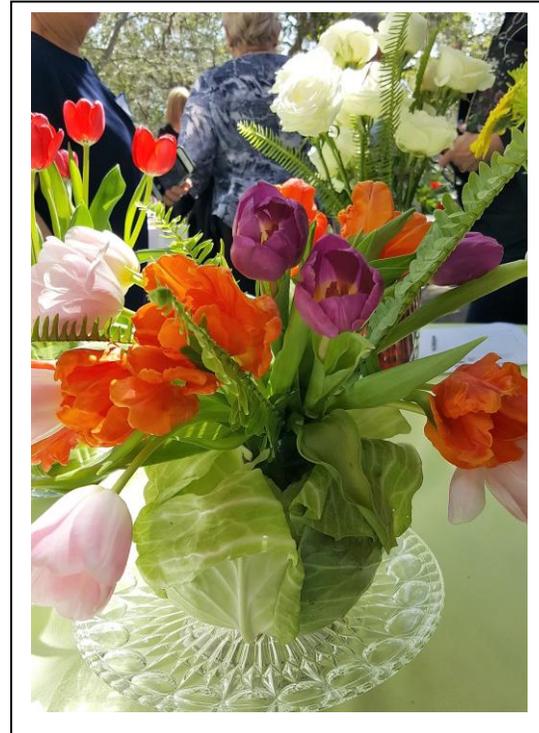
St David's

FLORAL DESIGN SEMINAR DELIGHTS AND INSTRUCTS

By Nance Burroughs

Seven members of the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Flower Guild in Melbourne attended the annual floral design workshop at St. Peter the Fisherman Episcopal Church in New Smyrna Beach the end of February.

Over 100 participants gathered from various churches and garden clubs for this popular seminar. The morning started with a delicious buffet brunch prepared by several members of the church. A scrumptious assortment of quiches, bacon wrapped apricots, tomato cheese bites, and fresh fruit was enjoyed as people gathered at tables on the sun deck. An added benefit this year was the ability to purchase a cookbook at a nominal fee of all the delicacies served. Beautiful flower arrangements were the centerpieces at each table which were later available for purchase at a silent auction.



(continued on page 2)

DATES TO REMEMBER:

4-7 June 2017 – Province IV Altar Guild Conference at Kanuga, Hendersonville, NC – to Register, call 828-233-2811 or visit <https://registration.kanuga.org/4106>

February 2018 – Annual Diocesan Altar Guild (DAG) Meeting at All Saints in Lakeland (Southwest Deanery)

July 2018 – Annual National Altar Guild Conference, Austin, TX

February 2019 – Annual DAG Meeting at Canterbury Retreat Center in Oveido

TELL EVERYONE ABOUT THE NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH. When you have something that you think others would like to hear about, please send information about the event to Judy Henderson at jem2415@earthlink.net. This can be events that have already occurred or things that are coming up. We are always looking for articles and pictures to include in the Newsletter; let us hear from you.

FLORAL DESIGN SEMINAR DELIGHTS AND INSTRUCTS (continued from page 1)

After brunch, everyone moved into the sanctuary and Sally Spencer, the rector's wife, designed over a dozen arrangements, skillfully talking and explaining what she was doing as she created. Questions were encouraged, and cameras were snapping as the designs evolved into stunning creations. All of the arrangements that Spencer created were also available for purchase at a silent auction.

Some important "takeaways" from the seminar:

- Always trim the stems of flowers and greens immediately before using them in an arrangement.
- Dipping the cut stems into a solution called Quick Dip 100 hydrates and keeps the flowers and greens fresher longer.
- Trim roses and hydrangeas under water and remove all leaves except the very top ones. This applies to most flowers.
- Flowers always last longer if they are in water rather than oasis, but that's not always possible. Sturdier plants do better in oasis.
- Using orange colored flowers with red and pink will really make your arrangement pop.
- Refrain from using purple flowers in arrangements that will be viewed from a distance. They are hard to see and are best used in arrangements enjoyed close up.
- Be creative. Use tea cups for small arrangements. Display your arrangement on a cake pedestal to give it prominence. Consider hollowing out a cabbage enough to insert a vase inside and build your arrangement in the glass vase.

If you are interested in attending next year's floral design seminar, call St. Peter the Fisherman Episcopal Church at (386) 428-7383 with your name and contact information. They will place you on the list and send you information on next year's seminar when it becomes available.



BIOGRAPHY – Judy Henderson

I hope it's not too presumptive of me to think you might want to know more about my journey to the Diocesan Altar Guild (DAG), and how I became the DAG Directress and Newsletter Editor. I was born and raised in Alexandria VA and attended a small Episcopal Church there – All Saints Sharon Chapel – located on Franconia Road. As a child, I remember wandering through the cemetery reading the names and dates on the tombstones, many of which predate the Civil War. Sharon Chapel was our “family” church, and the congregation included my grandparents and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Many family members are buried in the cemetery. All of my early social events centered on church and family.

In 1972, I was working as a civilian for the US Air Force when the government decided to move our entire unit (the Air Force Technical Applications Center - AFTAC) from Alexandria VA to Patrick AFB FL. My family and I moved with them, and I continued to work for AFTAC until I retired in May 1999 with 37 years of federal service. My friend, Joan, had urged me to join the Altar Guild (AG), but I told her I needed 6 months to get organized before making that commitment. In November 1999 I joined the AG at Holy Trinity, Melbourne. A few years later, I became a Team Leader, and with about 7 years of AG experience, I became AG Directress at Holy Trinity, a position I continue to hold.

In early 2014, I was asked by Sue Geiger if I would consider taking the position of DAG Newsletter Editor. After some prayer and thought, I said yes, not knowing at the time that this would lead to me becoming the DAG Directress a year later. Since that time, I've learned a lot about the DAG and what it can do for Altar Guilds throughout the Diocese. I've also had the privilege of representing the Diocese at the Province IV and National Altar Guild (NAGA) levels. The Diocesan Altar Guild is fortunate that our Bishop has supported and encouraged the DAG over the years. Bishop Brewer takes a personal interest and routinely presides over the annual DAG Eucharist.

On a personal note, I have a daughter, Cindi (and her husband, Mark), and two grandchildren, TJ and Jill. I also have many step-children, step-grandchildren, and step-great-grandchildren since my marriage to George in 2009. People often ask George and me where we met, and our answer is “at church.”

VEILING CROSSES DURING LENT

The question was asked, “What are the rules about veiling crosses during Lent?” A check of the rubrics indicates there is no rule, but this falls into the category of “tradition.” After receiving input from a number of churches, it was quickly apparent there are many different views on Veiling the Crosses and the “tradition” is likely to change with a new priest.

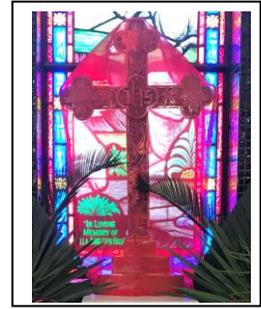
First, we'll start with Veil or No Veil. Then, there's the question, do you veil the crosses during all of Lent, or just Holy Week, or just Good Friday. Many churches begin veiling the crosses at the beginning of Lent (generally using Purple veils), but others choose to begin veiling the crosses on Palm Sunday (generally with Red veils) and continue through Good Friday (with Black veils). Other churches do not veil until Holy Week. Some churches use opaque veils, while others use sheer veils. Some churches use no veils. At least one church changes to Red for Palm Sunday but changes to White for Maundy Thursday.

Most churches surveyed use Black veils for Good Friday, but some use the Purple veils through the entire Lent season. Churches that have a school campus may also cover the crosses around the campus.

VEILING CROSSES DURING LENT (continued from page 3)

Other traditions during Lent include removing brass items such as crosses and/or candlesticks and replacing them with wooden crosses or candlesticks and/or using pottery vessels instead of silver. At least one church changes from Rite II to Rite I during Lent. Flora is generally not used on the Altar during Lent, except on Palm Sunday, when palms adorn the Altar.

In the Altar Guild we must remember to be flexible. Different priests will have different ideas, but all are intent that whatever we do brings people closer in worship to God. You might ask why they have chosen to change the tradition in your church; they probably have a good reason. At my church, when the current priests (Fr Steve & Rev Pam Easterday) arrived, we were using opaque veils during Lent, but they asked us to uncover the crosses during Lent because their sermons would be focusing on the cross. They also asked us to change to sheer Red veils for Holy Week and sheer Black veils for Good Friday. The "tradition" continues.



Red Veil at Holy Trinity Melbourne



St Davids-by-the-Sea Cocoa Beach

CENTRAL FLORIDA DIOCESAN ALTAR GUILD BOARD:

- Directress & Newsletter Editor: Judy Henderson - Home 321-327-3175; Cell 321-536-3965 – jem2415@earthlink.net
- Assistant Directress: Kathy Shearer - Cell 407-230-4350 – wwdassoc@gmail.com
- Secretary: Alex Rockefeller – Cell 585-978-0162 – ayrock70@gmail.com
- Treasurer: Cyndy Berry – Cell 203-215-0125 – cyndy.berry@usa.net
- Chaplain: Rev. Meghan Farr – Work 321-723-5272 – revmeghan@holyltrinitymelbourne.org
- Central Deanery:
 - Kathy Shearer – Cell 407-230-4350 – wwdassoc@gmail.com
 - Eve Hyatt – Home/Work 407-880-3416 – samias@aol.com
 - Beth Hyatt - Home 407-884-6058 – Cell 407-252-4934 – samias@aol.com
- Northeast Deanery:
 - Judy Valk – Home 386-960-7413 – jayempea@cfl.rr.com;
 - Dory Dunn - Home 386-255-6886; Cell 386-679-4605 – doryadunn@gmail.com
- Northwest Deanery:
 - Suzie Lore - Home 352-729-2459; Cell 407-761-4920 – Loresl@aol.com
 - Sue Geiger - Cell 352-617-0076 – sue.geiger@outlook.com
 - Dianne Casson – Home 352-787-0508 – Cell 352-255-5444 – dcasson@embarqmail.com
- Southeast Deanery:
 - Alex Rockefeller – Cell 585-978-0162 – ayrock70@gmail.com
 - Jeanne Weaver - Home 321-613-2403; Cell 757-871-6576 – jhweaver30@gmail.com
- Southwest Deanery:
 - Betty Seckinger - Home 863-324-7323; Cell 863-221-4103 – bettyboop100100@gmail.com
 - Betsy Watson - Home 863-688-2162; Cell 863-670-1602 – eswatson675@aol.com
 - Cyndy Berry – Cell 203-215-0125 – cyndy.berry@usa.net
 - Sharon Smith – 863-370-0315 – smithibeme@tampabay.rr.com