

From: Tuckahoe Garden Club Newsletter Editor tuckahoegardenclub@gmail.com 
Subject: Please read and enjoy this update from "The Tuckahoe News"
Date: March 15, 2020 at 7:06 PM
To: Jbmountcastle@mac.com



THE TUCKAHOE NEWS



March 2020

"Read, Enjoy, and Stay Informed"





Peltandra virginica, commonly called green arrow arum, bog arum or tuckahoe, is an aquatic perennial that is native to wet areas in the eastern U.S. The center of our club seal is *Peltandra virginica* which early settlers found growing along the Tuckahoe Creek. The starchy corms from which the plant grows were roasted and eaten by Native Americans in this area of Virginia. Their name for the plant was “tockawhough”. Tuckahoe arum flowers are small and light yellow, on a finger-like spike. The flower spike is surrounded by a bract (or spade).

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“Will We Survive Cabin Fever?”

Everything is closed, cancelled or postponed--this is putting new meaning into a “staycation”! This “self-distancing” is taking its toll on routines, family life, relationships. It has disrupted everything, causing life as we have known it to grind to a screeching halt. Nerves are frayed, patience is tested, and disappointments are paramount.

What to do with all this time at home? There are only so many closets and cabinets one can straighten and who finds that fun? I've got just the answer for all of us. **Go into your garden.** I was told recently that during the Great Wars, there was renewed interest in gardening. What better thing to do right now than retreat to our gardens to restore our beleaguered souls during this time of stress and isolation. I've always said my garden is my therapy.

I've done my share of gardening in the last several days. My beds are looking better. The sounds of the birds and the distant frogs comfort me and there is even an occasional bee buzzing by. I love seeing the worms in the soil. Simple pleasures!

I am planting seeds for the first time in years. I can't wait to see them sprout. Do this with your children or grandchildren and delight in their anticipation of watching a carrot seed sprout and then eating that carrot later. And in my cleaning, I am dividing plants that I will leave in my alley with a note "Free Plants!" with the hope that I will share them with a stranger who perhaps could use them. These simple tasks are sustaining me right now.

We still have our plant sale to look forward to. Take this time to look around your garden. Our plant sale can fill any holes you might have. Try a plant you've never grown. Try vegetable garden for the first time in your containers or a small section of your garden. Grocery store shopping may become more infrequent, but we can grow our own herbs, lettuces and veggies.

The one thing I can't solve right now is the isolation we probably feel. One garden club friend texted me last night, "Will we survive cabin fever?" Gosh, we have to. To that end, **stay in touch with each other. Keep me posted on important news. Check on each other. Do this more so than ever! Initial findings of the self-study we are conducting right now reveal that our relationships with each other, combined with our interest in gardening, is the most important reason why we are in Tuckahoe Garden Club. Put this into action.**

Last thing: my dog sure is happy I'm home 24/7! Bet yours is, too!

Stay well, stay in touch, stay committed to your club.

All my best,

Betty





Betty



Our dear member, April Greenwood, rector of Westover Church in Charles City shared these words of comfort when we were commiserating last night about the cancellations we are experiencing, the concerns we are all sharing, and this new reality we find ourselves in. I share these with you now:

“Gardening does nourish the soul and reminds us that our Creator has deigned us for new life and hope. So, my prayer is that people will not succumb to fear, but be

filled with a Spirit of Peace as we find new ways to receive the gift of Joy in all that is Good." Much Love, April

TGC NEWS & INFORMATION

NEXT MEETING INFORMATION

The March meeting is cancelled

our next meeting is: May 20, 2020 (Wednesday)

Dear Members,

What unexpected decisions and discussions the coronavirus has presented to all of us. And what unexpected lifestyle changes we are all experiencing for at least the immediate future. The best we can all do is to take the necessary precautions, make the best of the situation and take each day one day at a time. And stay well, please! Below I will briefly update what announcements were planned for next week's meeting, in addition to what I know as of today.

- **Please read the minutes** from the February meeting--click this link to read them: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1amZbetxQmeHo6Ay80Qh3yaZAZrj7zeFqWNJGI0Iqzng/edit?usp=sharing>
- And for reference, click here to see the proposed 2020-21 budget: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VFF9OnUHy-OuyCq0-7xTl4Y9XjAHVSGlhM6a-3rKJ_w/edit?usp=sharing . If you have changes to make, notify Ellen Buoyer and me by Wednesday, March 18. After that date, we shall mark the minutes approved.
- All is not lost! Hopefully this little bit of news will bring a smile to your face amidst all this gloom. Details are not confirmed, and I can't promise, but **we are considering doing a couple of virtual exhibits**. Our horticulture chairs are excited about this and working on the details now. Stay tuned for more info!
- This is a friendly reminder that **all requests for membership status changes** are due to the membership committee by 5:00 p.m. on Friday May 1st, 2020. Thank you and please let us know if you have any questions: Elizabeth McGill and Janie Pinney.
- **P4P Chapel Island workday: Still planned for March 23**. We will update as needed.
- **Cocktail Party: Sadly, the cocktail party has been postponed** until October. Thanks to members Lena Scott, Kate O'Hagan, Susan Jones, Shelley Roberts

THANKS TO MEMBERS LENA SCOTT, KATE O'HAGAN, SUSAN JONES, STERLEY ROBERTS, CAROLINE WILLIAMS, LYNN JACOB, KELLY ARMSTRONG AND BETSY CARNEY WHO HAD ALREADY MADE SO MANY PLANS FOR THIS FUN EVENT. WE WILL LOOK FORWARD TO OCTOBER NOW.

- **Daffodil Day:** [Betty, see what I did for HGW and Daffodil Day and tell me if you approve.]
- **Spring Sale:** We are moving forward with plans for the *outdoor* Spring Sale. Especially now, we are all probably enjoying some unexpected time in our gardens! We will all still need our herbs and this plant sale will boost our beleaguered spirits. There is more information about the sale in this newsletter. The order form is online, but for convenience, Martha is making sure each member will be receiving an order form either by mail or hand delivery. She is so thoughtful to be doing this service for us!
- Soon I will be asking **each committee head and officer to submit an end-of-your term report** to be shared with your successor. The form needs some revisions and I'll be working on that next.
- **Please read the rest of the newsletter!**

I am missing seeing each of you and enjoying our fellowship which is the heart of our club. This is unfortunately the casualty of this crisis. I'll continue to be working, moving forward with April and May events and helping Jennifer and Kelly for an easy transition. Please keep me posted on any concerns these next several weeks.

Stay well and thanks for all your support!

Betty

In Memoriam

Emory Gill Williams

1918-2020

Member of Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton, 1959-2005





From our February meeting: a gorgeous arrangement by Gregory Britt of Gregory Britt Design in Keswick.
Photo: Chandler Klevana

A promotional graphic for the Tuckahoe Garden Club Spring Sale. The background is a lush green garden with ferns and other plants. A blue circular logo in the center contains the text "Tuckahoe Garden Club" in a white script font, a small white floral icon, and "Spring Sale" in a white script font. Below the logo is a white text box with a blue border containing the following text:

**Spring is here...
Come shop with us!**

* Herbs, Annuals, Perennials, Shrubs & Hard to find plants
* Planted pots, garden accessories, loads of vendors and more!

Wednesday, April 15, 9:00-4:00

400 Harlan Circle Richmond, Virginia
Order ahead at: www.tuckahogardenclub.com



Spring is Coming: A Wake Up Call For All Gardens!

The Spring Sale is just around the corner meaning our Spring Sale Presale form will be coming to you by mail by March 17th. It is also online on the TGC website; here is the link: <https://www.tuckahoegardenclub.com/spring-sale>

Please share the link with friends who might like to preorder. Your orders help our sale which helps support community projects.

Make sure to see Tricia Sauer's fabulous NEW NOTECARDS and GIFT TAGS. These make a great gift and represent so much beauty from our gardens.

HERBS are organic this year again and coming from a great new source in North Carolina.

We also are offering ANNUALS, PERENNIALS, beautiful CLIMBING VINES, SHRUBS, ROSES and some special garden items.

We have a fun raffle with an organic raised bed organic vegetable garden, details on the presale sheet. Tickets can be ordered on the presale form, or through Kathy Watson or Charlotte Clarkson.

Spring Sale forms are due back to Kathy Watson by March 27.

We will have some great vendors this year at the sale, including Sunny Goode, Sarah Gentry (Flower artist from Texas), Kindred Skin Care, Meg Carter Jewelry Design, Three Sisters, Caroline from Tuckahoe, JR's Microgreens from Virginia Beach (very cool!) and our own "Tuckahoe has Talent" (art booth). Let Charlotte Clarkson know if you would like to donate a small piece of artwork to our THT booth.

When you get your packet in the mail, we have included some extra invitations for you to help give out for the sale. Please share with your neighbors and friends who love plants. We will have this event outside and Jennifer's and should be good, with the great fresh air. Thanks for inviting your friends to stop by our sale on April 15th at Jennifer's beautiful garden. In a month, we will all be ready to get out and enjoy our gardens!

Your spring sale team,

Martha Moore, Kathy Watson, Patricia Hunter, Penny Peebles, Molly Revere, Charlotte Clarkson and Lisa Brennan.

TGC Project Perennial

Photos from our small group sessions for Project Perennial, our club's "deep-dive self study." Many thanks to Jennifer Sisk for hosting. Photo credit: Chandler Klevana





Bloomin' Bucks **with Brent and Becky's Bulbs**

FREE MONEY FOR TGC!

New (and seasoned) members....remember this!

Want to order spring and summer bulbs (or a gift, tools, gift cards, etc.) from Brent and Becky's?

Remember they will give a percentage of your order back to Tuckahoe Garden Club if you mention their "Bloomin Bucks" program.

Last year several hundred dollars went into our coffers because of your orders. THANK YOU!

Ready to place your Brent and Becky's order?

FIRST: Go to www.bloominbucks.com and from a pull down menu you will see our club listed; select TGC and a nice percentage of your order will come back to us. **Their spring bulbs are now available for purchase.** Fall bulbs will be available sometime in March.

Check out Bloomin' Bucks and place your order to get "free money" for TGC!!





A gorgeous rose in Patagonia. Photo credit: Betty Jenkins.

GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA NEWS &
INFORMATION



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA





Dear Members,

It is with disappointment that I report the decision of your Board of Directors to cancel Daffodil Day on March 30-31. The upcoming Daffodil workshop on March 23 will also be cancelled. Workshop registrants will be refunded.

This decision comes as no surprise to most of us as the COVID-19 coronavirus continues to spread. The Garden Club of Virginia leadership will continue to monitor this situation and evaluate the status of our future events. I reiterate my message of March 12. The health and safety of our members, our staff, and our communities are our highest priority.

We will continue to communicate with you as decisions are made. I thank you all for your patience and understanding at this difficult time.

My very best,



Refuse to Use SINGLE USE PLASTIC

Garden Club of Virginia members refuse to use!

Refuse to Use Plastics: Compostable Food Containers

Did you read the article in the RTD last week about the new compostable products that Ellwood Thompson's will soon be using, thus eliminating its use of plastic containers? The products, which include cups, cutlery, and clamshells appear to be "exceptional" and will compost in either trash or commercial composting facilities. If you have contacts in the food industry, spread this word.

[https://www.richmond.com/business/plus/startup-spotlight-richmond-based-maker-of-sustainable-products-finds-key/article_5342c0b0-3bef-5110-a407-10bf04bd8060.html?](https://www.richmond.com/business/plus/startup-spotlight-richmond-based-maker-of-sustainable-products-finds-key/article_5342c0b0-3bef-5110-a407-10bf04bd8060.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

[utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share](https://www.richmond.com/business/plus/startup-spotlight-richmond-based-maker-of-sustainable-products-finds-key/article_5342c0b0-3bef-5110-a407-10bf04bd8060.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

Betty



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

Historic Garden Week



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

Centennial

1920-2020

Dear Members,

Discussions concerning the risk of COVID-19 coronavirus to our public health and the impact on our daily lives continue. Because of this extraordinary situation, the GCV Board of Directors, at a special called meeting yesterday afternoon, made the difficult decision to cancel Historic Garden Week 2020.

The Board realizes that this action has many consequences and will affect all of our members. It is clear that we must act responsibly and proactively to protect the well-being of our members, staff, volunteers, and homeowners as well as the 26,000 visitors who travel from all over the world to enjoy the gardens and hospitality of Virginia.

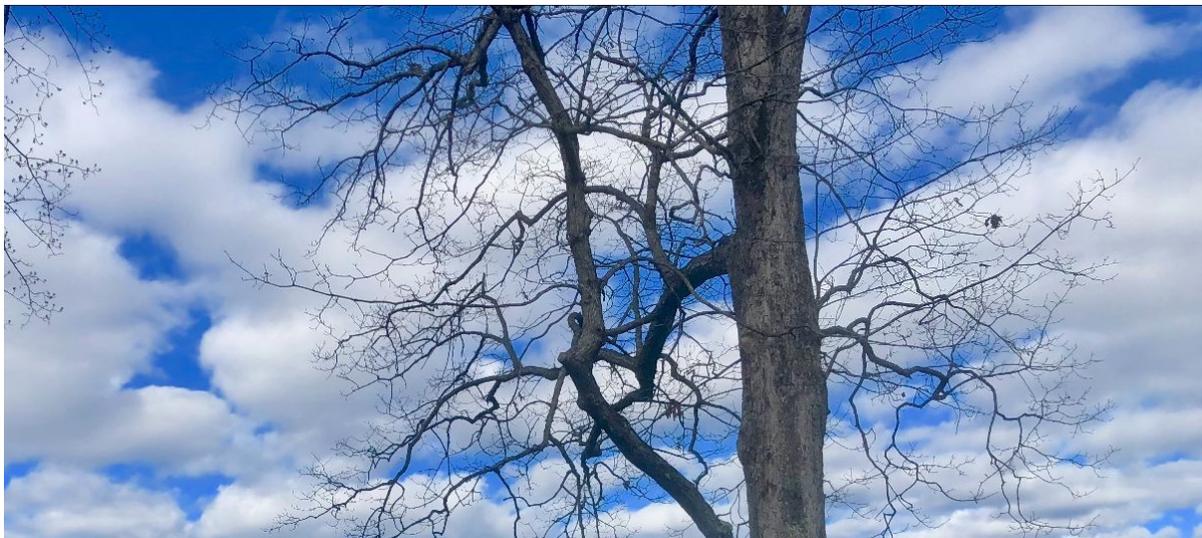
In our 87 years, Historic Garden Week has been cancelled once. At that time, we were in the middle of World War II. Now, we face challenges here at home. It is important that we support the advice of experts, adhere to guidelines established by the CDC, and take special care to keep our families and communities safe and healthy.

We thank you for your work in organizing spectacular tours for our Centennial year. We recognize the time and effort that you have put into planning this event. Over the years, your work has empowered the Garden Club of Virginia to accomplish so much at historic sites across the Commonwealth. You have had an enormous effect on Virginia State Parks. You have given graduate students in the study of Landscape Architecture the chance to further their careers through our Fellowship program. Be assured that this work will continue. Historic Garden Week 2021 will be better than ever.

Our members are at the heart of all we do. The Garden Club of Virginia is strong because of your energy, your enthusiasm, your wisdom. I admire your resilience and thank you for your patience and understanding. GCV will continue to communicate with you as the situation unfolds.

I hope you will use this occasion to enjoy the beautiful season of spring in Virginia. Pause and take a walk, enjoy digging in the dirt, listen to the birds, and relish all that nature presents to us.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jean".



Late winter vista of the James River.



THE GARDEN CLUB *of* AMERICA

GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA NEWS &
INFORMATION

Partners for Plants

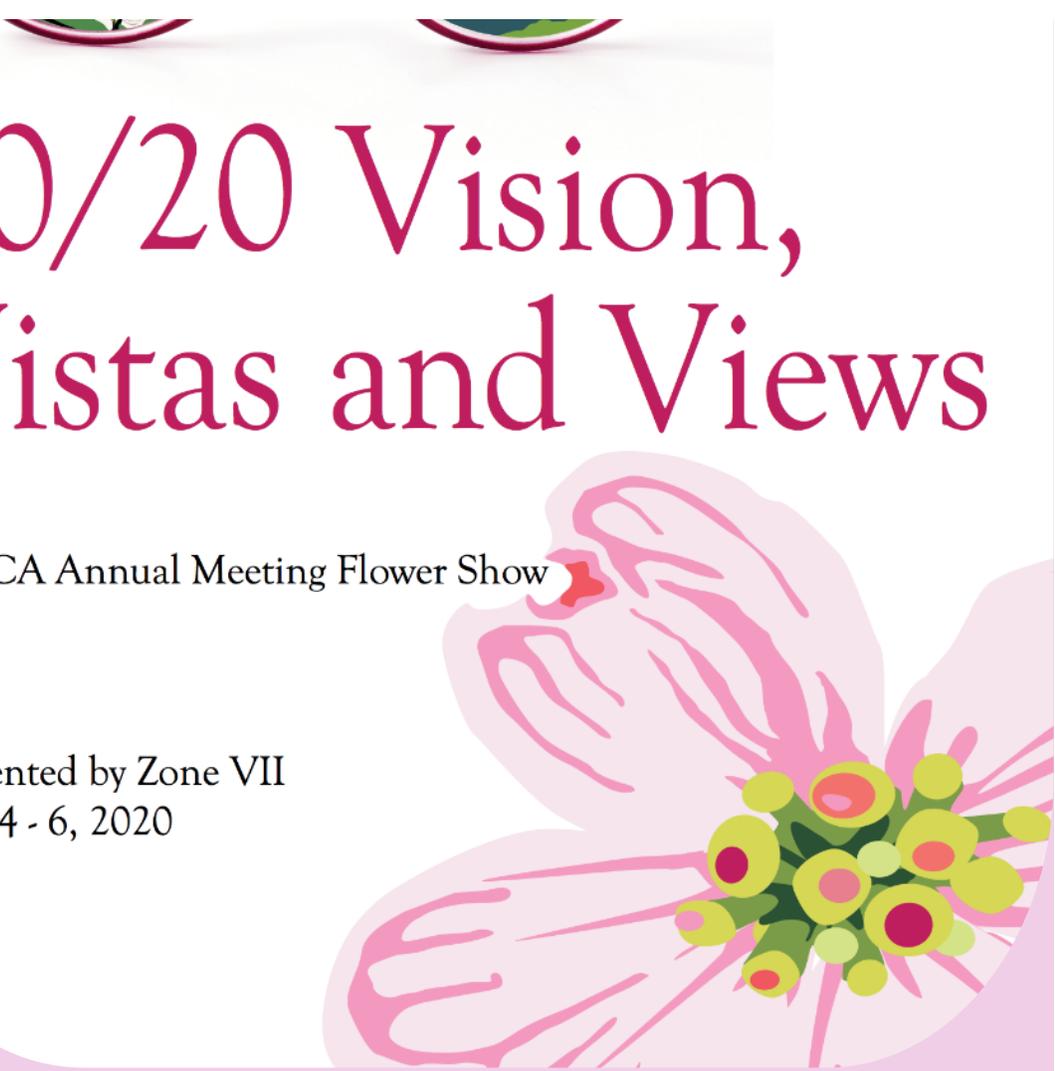


Please join us on the banks of the James at Chapel Island for our next **Partners for Plants workday, March 23 from 1-3pm**. The weather is getting warmer every day! We will meet at the parking lot at Great Shiplock Park at the intersection of Dock and Pear Street. Wear long pants and long sleeves (primarily to protect yourself against poison ivy), bring clippers and join us in river revelry while we remove invasive plants!

Come on ladies, let's get out there!

Kelly and Freddie





20/20 Vision, Vistas and Views

A GCA Annual Meeting Flower Show

Presented by Zone VII
May 4 - 6, 2020

Calling all Horticulture Lovers! The GCA Annual Meeting is just around the corner (May 4-6, 2020) and we are looking for a fantastic showing from our club. The deadline to submit entries is Saturday, May 2, 2020 at 12 p.m. The following is the list of classes/needs:

One flowering stem or branch not to exceed 30" in length from the lip of the container to the tip of the stem. Any foliage must be attached to the stem. No foliage may be under water.

Classes 1 - 9 Perennials and Biennials

- 1. Aquilegia (Columbine)**
- 2. Baptisia (Blue false indigo)**
- 3. Campanula (Bell flower)**
- 4. Dicentra (Bleeding heart)**
- 5. Digitalis (Foxglove)**
- 6. Mertensia virginica (Virginia bluebells)**
- 7. Paeonia herbaceous (Peony)**

8. Phlox 9.

Other Classes 10 - 15 Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes and Tubers

10. Allium

11. Hyacinthus (Hyacinth)

12. Iris

13. Narcissus (Daffodil)

14. Tulipa (Tulip)

15. Other

Classes 16 - 20 Ferns: Native and Non-Native

16. Anthyrium filix-femina (Lady fern)

17. Adiantum pedatum (Northern maidenhair)

18. Matteuccia struthiopteris (Ostrich)

19. Athyrium niponicum var. pictum (Japanese paint)

20. Other

Classes 21-24 Foliage Collection - Three to five cut specimens of the same species of the same genus in separate clear glass bottles of exhibitor's choice, not to exceed 24" in height from lip of bottle. Key card required.

21. Heuchera (Coral bells)

22. Hosta

23. Polygonatum (Solomon's seal)

24. Other

Classes 25 - 32 Flowering Shrubs

25. Rhododendron

26. Kalmia (Mountain laurel)

27. Paeonia suffruticosa (Tree peony)

28. Philadelphus (Mock-orange)

29. Rhododendron- Azalea-evergreen

30. Rhododendron- Azalea- deciduous

31. Viburnum

32. Other Classes

33 - 36 Flowering Trees One branch, foliage must be attached to the stem and

not to exceed 30".

- 33. *Cercis canadensis* (Redbud)
- 34. *Cornus* (Dogwood)
- 35. *Magnolia*
- 36. Other

Classes 37 - 40 Flowering Vines Stakes and ties are permitted.

- 37. *Clematis*
- 38. *Jasminum officinale* (Jasmine)
- 39. *Lonicera* (Honeysuckle)
- 40. Other

Class 41

All in the Family Garden Roses

- A. Hybrid Tea/Grandiflora-one bloom per stem in exhibition stage, no side buds
- B. Floribunda- one spray of two or more blooms
- C. Shrub
- D. Heirloom
- E. Other

A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the March meeting. Please sign up for what you "think" you will have available in your garden.

Key cards will also be available at the March meeting or [click here](#) to access the online keycard. Please fill out as much information as you can and drop off your cut specimen to either Rita Ryan's (8904 Highfield Road) or Missy Ryan's house (5305 Tuckahoe Ave)...by 12 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, 2020.

If you are unable to cut, we will cut for you!

Questions? Contact Rita @ 843-259-8407 or Missy @ 804-338-6836. Thanks for your help!

GCA CONSERVATION

The GCA hosts **The Annual National Affairs and Legislation Conference** in Washington, D.C. every February.

Advocacy in Washington DC has been an integral part of the Garden Club of America's history. This year's conference was held on February 23- 26. The conference agenda included an advocacy training session, a day of expert speakers relating to environmental issues covered in GCA position papers, a day of updates from our elected officials, and a day of advocacy in support of issues that impact member's local communities and the country at large as well as recognition of the centennial anniversary of the year women earned the right to vote.

I attended the NAL to represent our club. As a first-time attendee, it felt aspirational and inspirational. For more information on GCA positions on public policy issues, see below or go to their website (www.gcamerica.org). For a more detailed account of my experience at this conference, click here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JXjvMZnCi2Mv5rB30-jlwicC-e0IRgHmoOqFpnvw8rM/edit?usp=sharing>

Jill Mountcastle





GCA Positions on Public Policy Issues



A core tenet of The Garden Club of America's mission is to "restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement." In fulfilling that purpose, the GCA has developed position papers to articulate broad goals for advocacy efforts in the public policy arena. Underlying all of these position papers is a commitment to "independent, academic, peer-reviewed scientific research as the basis for formulation of public policy and legislation, as well as appropriate funding to ensure quality results."

The current GCA Position Papers cover the following subject-matter areas:

Clean Air: The GCA supports the Clean Air Act and urges a reduction in greenhouse gases through an integrated strategy of regulated emission caps, improved energy efficiency, and greater use of clean energy sources.

Clean Water: The GCA supports policies to protect the quantity and quality of our nation's water resources. This includes preserving ecosystems and reducing water pollution through a vital and broad-based Clean Water Act, as well as protecting coastal waters and the oceans through national initiatives.

Climate Change Action: With an emphasis on encouraging action to preserve biodiversity, the GCA is committed to educating members and communities about the causes of climate change and constructive responses. The GCA supports public and private policies and regulations, as well as individual initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

National Parks: Recognizing the national parks as irreplaceable treasures as well as critical habitats for protecting native plant communities and whole ecosystems, the GCA supports making conservation the system's top priority, along with ensuring adequate resource levels to maintain the parks.

National Public Lands: Recognizing the ever-increasing pressure for multiple uses of federal lands, the GCA supports strengthening public policy to make resource protection and preservation a priority in establishing public land policy. This includes full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the use of the federal portion of that fund to purchase and restore public lands.

Native Plants: Viewing the Endangered Species Act as one of America's landmark pieces of conservation legislation, the GCA supports measures to protect the nation's rare, threatened, and endangered plants and their habitat and the wildlife they support. The GCA supports workable science-based recovery programs for all species.

Oceans: The GCA recognizes that oceans are the largest ecosystem, covering nearly three-quarters of Earth. The GCA supports policies to protect the quality of our nation's oceans, protecting coastal waters and oceans through nationwide initiatives. The GCA believes in protecting our coastal areas and oceans from all types of pollution and environmental degradation using best management practices.

Sustainable Agriculture, Seed Diversity, and Food Security: The GCA encourages agricultural policies that address runoff and support conservation of healthy soil on farms, including a strong and well-funded conservation title in the Farm Bill.

Environmentally Responsible Transportation Legislation: The GCA favors legislation that encourages biodiversity in roadside plantings, fosters the creation and maintenance of scenic byways, emphasizes protection of the natural landscape, addresses the hazards of electronic billboards and underscores the importance of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process.

Waste Management: The GCA recognizes that effective waste management is vital to our health and well-being and encourages reducing, reusing, recycling and composting. Further, the GCA supports federal, state and local legislation and policy that supports responsible waste management.

GCA FLORAL DESIGN TIPS OF THE MONTH

Floral Design March Enews

Tip Toe Through The TULIPS...

For long lasting tulips, purchase closed buds that are just beginning to show some color. Once home, recut the stems by at least 1/2 inch and remove all leaves that will be under the waterline of the vase. Place the freshly cut tulips in lukewarm water. Cold water is not recommended for hydration of tulips. Use a floral food if available. If the tulips come packaged in plastic from the store, cut 1/2 inch from the stems at an angle then leave the wrapping in place for a few hours to support the stems while the tulips drink up the fresh water. Remove the plastic wrapping and the tulips will maintain that upright position because they have been hydrated and conditioned.

Tip: Don't mix tulips with daffodils as the daffodils leak sap that clogs the water uptake of the tulips.

Tip: Tulips work well in tall straight vases.

Tip: Place tulips away from the sun as tulips will seek out the light so they may bend or grow to the light.

Tip: Rotate the vase daily to keep the stems more upright.

Interesting Fact about tulips: They will continue to grow after being cut sometimes up to one inch or more!

Interesting Twist on Arranging Tulips:

For a different look, gently reflex or bend back each petal to create an "open tulip" which gives your arrangement a new look.





Floral Design Tip of the Month

IT DRIES CLEAR !

IT DRIES CLEAR !

IT DRIES CLEAR !



**At last there is a fast clear-drying, waterproof, acid-free
and flexible cold floral adhesive!**

Perfect for holding flowers, foliage, glass, plastic, ceramic and
paper

Available at:

Save-On Crafts - www.saveoncrafts.com - 1.55oz - \$6.99

Walmart - 1.55oz - \$11.99 - Free Shipping



Tell us what you think about this newsletter format and content! Email Jill Mountcastle jbmountcastle@mac.com with any comments, questions or concerns.

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