

From: Tuckahoe Garden Club Newsletter Editor tuckahoegardenclub@gmail.com 
Subject: Please read and enjoy this update from "The Tuckahoe News"
Date: March 17, 2019 at 12:04 PM
To: jbmountcastle@mac.com



THE TUCKAHOE NEWS



March 2019





Mother Nature is delivering Spring - finally! Mertensia virginica (Virginia bluebells) emerge while glorious, golden Forsythia is in full bloom. Peonies and crocus flowers arise to announce Spring is just around the corner.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*She turned to the sunlight
And shook her yellow head,*

And whispered to her neighbor:

"Winter is dead."

— A.A. Milne, *When We Were Very Young*

Love this quote from A. A. Milne. As I write this, my lenten roses are droopy from the freezing temperatures and my daffodils have yet to bloom but I trust Mother Nature will deliver spring SOON! Many asked, we delivered....Many of you asked that we try to reduce our spring workload. Well, we listened and to that end, our March meeting will be pure fun and enjoyment-a reward for hard work and a time for fellowship with club friends. Lunch at Shagbark will be a treat for over 60 of us! What a turnout! It will start at 11:00 am with a very brief meeting (a few announcements and a by law vote.) Also, Chandler and Tricia will be taking pictures for the website. If you did not get your picture taken at the February meeting, please check in with Tricia and Chandler at 10:45a.m.

The April "meeting" is OPTIONAL (April 3, 10:00 am at 307 Stockton Road), but we hope many will want to put the brakes on for an hour or so, breathe deeply and relax with Lynn Brooke as she leads us in Mindful Meditation. April can be as busy as September and December, so we are offering the chance to clear your mind of all TGC, GCA, GCV, Spring Sale and HGW and start the month off relaxed and ready to tackle the rest of the month. Space is limited, so sign up soon by texting or calling Lynn (804-212-8047).

See you at Shagbark and at Lynn's!

Betty

President, The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton



TGC NEWS & INFORMATION

March Meeting March 20, 2019 (Wednesday)

Hostess: Lena Scott

Place: Shagbark Restaurant, 4901 Libbie Mill Blvd., E #175 (23230)

Time: 11:00 am

Program:

Short business meeting followed by Walter Bundy "Farm to Table" lunch courses at Shagbark. Cost is \$25 per person. Limited space still available. Contact Lena at lenascott23@icloud.com to inquire.

No exhibits or horticulture.

Attendance at Membership Meetings Reminder

In order to record membership attendance quickly and accurately, we will use pre-printed nametags. When you arrive, find your nametag and wear it. All un-claimed tags will tell me who did not attend the meeting. *Remember, our by-laws state active members are allowed three excused absences per year. If you cannot attend a meeting, please contact me via email or text prior to the meeting.* Thank you!

Ellen Buoyer

Recording Secretary

5buoyers@gmail.com

804-402-4387 (cell)





ATTENTION! SMILING FACES OF TGC MEMBERS!

Members photographs will be taken at the March meeting and ongoing!

For the website, Tricia Sauer and Chandler Klevana will begin taking headshot photos of all members. Wear your best blouse, don your pearls and your lipstick and line up for a quick photo to be placed on the website. These photos will be in the MEMBERS ONLY section of the site (password protected) next to pertinent greenbook info....address, phone, email, etc. Tricia and Chandler will be taking photos at all remaining meetings this spring with hopes to have a good number on the site this summer. For those we miss this spring, we will continue this in the fall till we get everyone if possible.

Such a great resource for our new members to see our smiling faces to connect with names! Thank you for participating.





Veronica peduncularis, is a low-growing perennial that typically forms a dense foliage mat in late winter/early spring and is full of flowers.

TGC Sustainers





When GCV asked member clubs to submit funny stories in honor of their Centennial, Betty and I started brainstorming about ways to find these funny stories. We decided that a gathering of our Honorary members and a few Sustainers for an old fashioned “Tuckahoe Garden Club Ladies Lunch” seemed like the perfect way to start. It also turns out that Tuckahoe will celebrate our own 100th birthday in just nine years and these stories will also be filed away in preparation for that momentous event in our club’s history!

We had a fine time at Tricia’s sharing memories of members who were mentors and dear friends. We heard wonderful stories about Betty Towers, Lou Preston, Nancy Purcell and many others who shaped our club and so willingly shared their knowledge and love of horticulture, flower arranging, and most importantly, friendship. We heard hilarious stories about Flower Show arrangements gone awry and even one about Julia Borden flying the Interclub Lily arrangement to a show out in the western part of the state in her plane! She was the pilot!! And who will ever forget the meeting when, wearing only his bikini, the assistant to the flower arranging speaker walked calmly through the meeting, out the French doors and dove into Mary Meade’s pool?

This is only the beginning. Stay tuned, as next Fall we will continue our Luncheons so all Sustainers will have a chance to share their memories. We want them preserved forever as part of our TGC history.

Tricia Sauer

TGC Membership Status Change

A reminder from the Membership Committee:

We would like to remind all members that any request for a change in membership status is due to either Elizabeth McGill or Janie Pinney by May 31st, 2019. Please refer to page 56, Section 8 of your green book which states the following:

“A member resigning from any category of membership must do so in writing to the Membership Committee by May 31st. If a resignation is received after that date, that member must fulfill all garden club obligations (i.e. dues, commitments, Garden Week, etc.) until May 31st (May 31st, 2020) of the following year when logically possible.”

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we may be of assistance to you.

Elizabeth and Janie

TGC Spring Sale



A great little plant sale!
Come shop with us...

- * Beautiful plants you can grow & use for Historic Garden Week
- * Herbs, Annuals, Perennials, Shrubs & Hard to find plants
- * Planted pots and garden accessories

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 9:00-3:00
3904 Exeter Road, Richmond, Virginia
Presale forms available www.tuckahogardenclub.com



The Spring Sale will be held on Wednesday, April 24th at Liz Carden's home and garden at 3904 Exeter Road from 9:00AM-3:00PM.

Presale forms are available NOW online on the TGC website. These forms are the bread and butter of our sale, and we appreciate you all reaching out to friends and neighbors and sharing the link and getting them to order. All orders are due to Kathy Watson by March 29th. We hope everyone in the club will buy herbs, annuals, perennials and special gifts for the spring at our Plant Sale. The proceeds from our sale go to fund community projects.

To download the order form, here is the link:

<https://www.tuckahoegardenclub.com/spring-sale>

(The form must be downloaded, printed, filled out with a check included and delivered to Kathy before she is ready to process the order.)

At the sale we will have a few vendors including an "art booth" of Tuckahoe Garden Club club members, who will contribute their artwork, Apothec (who features the BEST organic bug spray!), and a fun artist from the Eastern Shore, Abbi Custis. If you would like to contribute any artwork or creative flower arrangements to contribute to benefit the sale, please contact Molly Revere. They will need to be dropped off to Molly by Monday, April 22nd.

Your Spring Sale team,

Martha, Kathy, Patricia, Charlotte and Molly

TGC Treasurer

Tax Tips from the Tuckahoe Treasurer

Many of you represent our Club each year at numerous events such as GCA and GCV Annual meetings, GCV Symposium and Daffodil Day, GCA Zone VII meeting, etc. The Tuckahoe Garden Club of

Westhampton is committed to ensuring that its volunteers receive any federal and state income tax benefit attributed to out-of-pocket expenditures incurred on behalf of the Club. While we are not giving specific tax advice on this topic, we urge you to discuss this issue with your tax advisor and claim any deductions you may be entitled to.

The Club acknowledges that many have incurred travel, lodging and meal expenses in connection with these activities and that the Club did not reimburse you for all those expenses. Also, the Tuckahoe Garden Club did not provide you with any goods or services in consideration for your services or for your unreimbursed expenses.

As background, under current federal income tax, donors are not permitted to deduct the value of services donated to a charity. However, donors are permitted to deduct as charitable contributions certain unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenditures incident to rendition of donated services. Such expenses may include travel, lodging and meals. You should consult with your own tax advisor for information as to which of your out-of-pocket expenses may properly be treated as deductible contributions. You should also keep receipts to substantiate the amount of these expenses.

If you would like a letter from the Club verifying your attendance at these conferences and meetings I am happy to provide it - just let me know! Your participation as a volunteer benefits The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton in many ways, and we are most grateful to you.

Bonnie Cricchi, Treasurer



Another FYI....

Ordering bulbs from Brent and Becky's? Their spring blooming bulbs were just posted on their website (http://www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com/inventory/show_list/id/192-2) check it out! Their number is Toll Free: (877) 661-2852. You'll get a discount for orders placed before July 1. Don't

forget to mention your membership in Tuckahoe Garden Club.

Through their “Blooming Bucks” program, we will receive a portion of your sale and that portion goes directly into our bank account!

TGC Photography



GCA Annual Meeting Photography Schedule, May 15-20, Boston MA

Photography entries are currently being accepted until March 26. Please check out the schedule and let's have some entries from our club!

(www.gcamerica.org. Go to members page and click on *2019 Annual Meeting* and you will find the flower show schedule with the photography details in there.) TGC Photograph artists—please participate!

GCA Photography Publication

Need some eye candy? Then check out GCA's photography publication of "Focus". The pictures, by GCA members, are exquisite and will delight your visual sense. "Focus" is a quarterly online GCA publication for which you can sign up to receive by going to your member page and selecting it to be sent directly to your email. Or view it through the direct link in this month's issue of "e NEWS". In addition to the beautiful award winning photographs, there are photography tips as well. Don't miss it. I challenge our budding photographers to read each issue and submit photos when asked. It would be so amazing to have a Tuckahoe Garden Club member display a photo!

Betty

Floral Arrangement Class Opportunity



Additional "Arranging for the Joy of It"

Our September 13-15 floral design workshop is just about full. As a result, we

have scheduled a second workshop for June 28-30. Same format, same instructors (Nancy Ross Hugo, David Pippin, and Kate Vernon), same programming, housing, and food. So... if you missed out on the September workshop, register quickly for this one. As usual, there is an Early Bird discount. To register and for more information, visit <https://shrinemont.com/event/arranging-for-the-joy-of-it-june-2019/>.

<https://shrinemont.com/event/arranging-for-the-joy-of-it-june-2019/>





GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA NEWS &
INFORMATION

GCV DAFFODIL DAY



Daffodil Detectives: Be on High Alert

Daffodil Detectives. Be on High Alert

A reminder that the **Daffodil Show is Tuesday, March 26, at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**, and the club will be exhibiting a GCV test collection between 2008 -2017 of twelve different blossoms. We need help from anyone who has purchased any of these cultivars anywhere and has them in bloom. They can be brought to Sue Taylor's (4110 Park Ave. 23221) before noon on Monday, March 25, no later than 1 pm. It would be great if they were identified as that information can be found by googling "garden club of virginia daffodil collection." The names and pictures are there in living color. If you can not do that, call 317-4071 and Sue can come and cut your blooms and/or look up the identifiers.

The following are the daffodils from which we need 12 different varieties:

CATALYST, JETSTART, MINUTE WALTZ, PROTOCOL, PINK MOM, GRANVILLE BEAUTY, TRUMPET WARRIOR, OREGON PIONEER, VIENNA WOODS, SPRING BOUQUET, OREGON SUNSET, COTINGA, SWIFT CURRENT, AMERICAN CLASSIC, ORANGE SUPREME, DENALI, SPRING CORONATION, FULFILLMENT, PERPETUATION, FERTILE CRESCENT, AVALANCHE, ERLICHEER, SAINT KEVERNE, SWEETNESS, THALIA, STRATOSPHERE, SALOME, BRAVOURE, TAHITI, TRIPARTITE, RAPTURE, ALTUN HA, JAMESTOWN, MERLIN, DALLAS, ICE WINGS, CEYLON, STAINLESS, WEENA, WHITE PLUME, DREAMLIGHT, CHROMACOLOR, INTRIGUE, MONAL, BERYL, FRAGRANT ROSE, QUAIL, CURLY LACE, MARTINETTE, GOLDEN ECHO, SAILBOAT, YAZZ, ACROPOLIS, GOOSE GREEN, HIGH SOCIETY, MANLY, PROTOTYPE, BROOKE AGER, KATIE HEATH, CHA- CHA, SWEET SMILES, MARY GAY LIRETTE.

There is a direct link on the GCV website (<https://www.gcvirginia.org/daffodilday/>) to view particulars and schedules for floral design, photography, and horticulture, as well as registration for all categories. We encourage all members with daffodils in bloom to look at the schedule on line and enter something as a novice if you have never entered before or as a repeat exhibitor. All supplies are provided and there is plenty of help in filling out the exhibit cards. Hours for set up are Monday March 25 from 1-7 p.m. and Tuesday March 26 from 7-10 a.m.

Just a few bits of information to get you started:

- Snap daffodils off as near to the ground as possible and place them in tepid water. Do not cut them until you place them in the exhibit container.
- Entries must stay in place until 5 pm on Tuesday, March 26.
- Exhibit with no foliage.
- No boxwood is allowed and filler will be provided to position your blooms.

- Any filler must be concealed during judging. Permissible to use name stamps/labels. Your name is included on the tag as well, An exhibitor number and specimen tag is provided at check in.

Virtually any question can be answered by asking for help at the entry hall from the volunteers or studying the March of the Trumpets website. **Even if you do not exhibit please ATTEND. It is a fabulous experience!**

Parts of a Daffodil Plant

root – absorbs water and minerals from the soil

bulb – stores food

leaf – makes food for the plant

stem – holds up the flower and carries water and food throughout the plant

flower – contains the parts of the plant that can produce more seed to make a new plant

Parts of a Daffodil Flower

cup – trumpet shaped inner growth of the flower

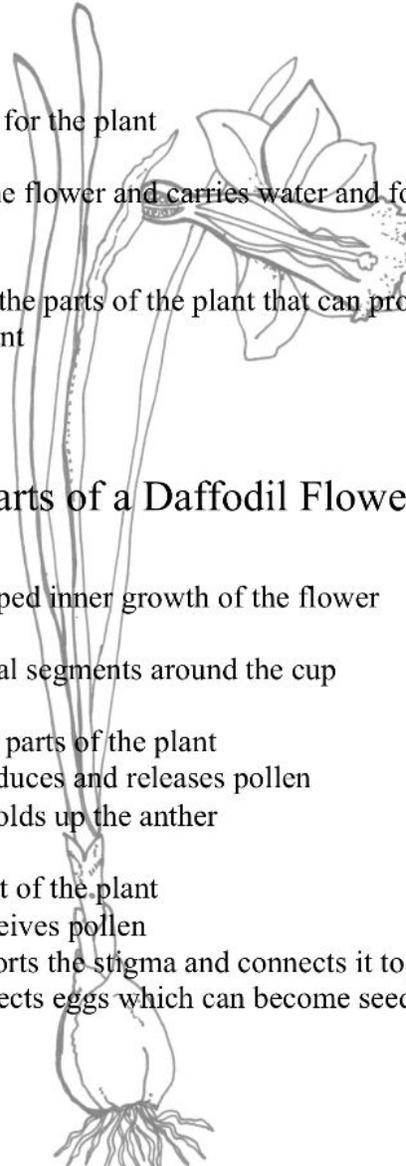
perianth – six floral segments around the cup

stamen – six male parts of the plant

- anther – produces and releases pollen
- filament – holds up the anther

pistil – female part of the plant

- stigma – receives pollen
- style – supports the stigma and connects it to the ovary
- ovary – protects eggs which can become seeds if fertilized by pollen



Last call....new members 2018, 2017, 2016 or anyone else who wants to attend!
Please attend GCV's New Member Orientation on March 26, 11:00am at Lewis Ginter. It's the same day as Daffodil Day-attend Daffodil Day and then settle in for a quick tutorial about GCV. Learn all about GCV!



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA
Historic Garden Week

HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA- May 1, 2 & 3, 2019

America's Largest Open House

Over the course of three days, the nation's only statewide house and garden tour will showcase three distinctly historic and awe-inspiring neighborhoods in the Richmond metropolitan area. The Richmond tour, hosted by the four Richmond garden clubs and Historic Richmond Foundation, will feature homes and gardens in the Fan District, Westhampton, and Manakin-Sabot. Each home will feature flower arrangements created by garden club members and visitors will enjoy exploring the home's landscapes and beautiful interiors.

"The mission of the Richmond Tour is to preserve Virginia's spring time tradition of opening up the area's finest homes and gardens. We are excited this year to welcome visitors and give them an up-close view of Richmond's history and varying landscapes, from urban to pastoral,"

explains Lisa Brennan, one of the Chairs of the Thursday and Friday Richmond Tour.

Since its inception in 1927, Historic Garden Week has continued to raise money to fund the restoration and preservation of the Commonwealth's significant historic public gardens. It's the state's largest ongoing volunteer effort and is estimated to have had a cumulative impact of \$425 million on the state's economy over the last 45 years. Tickets to the tours and luncheon at The Country Club of Virginia are

available now online at www.vagardenweek.org.

Wednesday May 1, 2019- The Fan District's Park Avenue

The Fan District in Richmond is the largest Victorian residential neighborhood in the country, consisting of middle to late 19th and early 20th Century homes. Park Avenue is one of its picturesque thoroughfares, featuring different styles of townhomes. In the early 1900's, it was a fashionable destination for affluent Richmonders seeking easy accessibility to paved roads, sidewalks and City utilities. The variety of homes and plantings reflect an eclectic portrait of architectural history, from a Duncan Lee designed Dutch Colonial to a Carl Max Linder, Sr. designed Georgian home.

Tickets to this tour include five private homes: 1508 Park Avenue, 1514 Park Avenue, 1530 Park Avenue, 1534 Park Avenue, 1536 Park Avenue, and access to tours of the sanctuary at Congregation Beth Ahabah. With a 225 year history, Congregation Beth Ahabah is considered to be one of the most magnificent classically inspired synagogues in America.

Thursday May 2, 2019- Westhampton Area

In the late 1800s, Westhampton served as the last stop on the line from the City of Richmond on the nation's first trolley system, becoming a summer retreat for many people in the area.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, St. Catherine's School, St. Christopher's School and The Country Club of Virginia attracted many families to the neighborhood and soon Westhampton developed beyond just summer cottages and farmhouses. The tour tells the history of the area through the architecture of an original summer cottage on Cary Street Road, a farmhouse on York Road and several homes on historic Three Chopt Road, including an early 1920s country estate.

Tickets to this tour include five private homes: 5407 Cary Street Road, 6004 York Road, 6410 Three Chopt Road, 6315 Three Chopt Road, and 6317 Three Chopt Road.

Friday May 3, 2019- Manakin-Sabot, Goochland

The community of Manakin-Sabot offers visitors a taste of Goochland County's rolling hills and picturesque countryside. Rich in history, this tour features four properties located on Sabot Hill Plantation, including Sabot Hill, a Georgian-style mansion with formal gardens that are more than 1,000-years-old. The current residence is in the same location as the original 1850s residence but was rebuilt in 1937 after a fire destroyed it in the 1920s. Ben Dover Farm will also be open for touring. Built in 1853 and of Italianate design, it has recently undergone a four-year restoration. National historic landmark and Thomas Jefferson's childhood home, Tuckahoe Plantation, is the fifth house on the tour.

Tickets to this tour include five properties: "Sabot Hill" 849 Sabot Hill Road, "Ben Dover Farm" 115 Ben Dover Lane, "Clarendon" 755 Merry Go Round Road, 799 Sabot Hill Road, "Tuckahoe Plantation", 12601 River Road.

Tickets for each tour day are \$45 in advance, \$55 day of the tour, and \$20 for single-site admission.

For complete information, visit www.vagardenweek.org

<https://www.facebook.com/HistoricGardenWeekinVA/>

Instagram: @historicgardenweek

Contacts:

Wednesday Tour- Chairs, Suzanne Williams (804) 301-5424

richmondwednesdaytour@vagardenweek.org

Karin Walker (804) 539-4800

richmondwednesdaytour@vagardenweek.org

Thursday Tour- Chairs, Anne Kempe, Conway Van der Wolk, and Lisa Brennan

richmondthursdaytour@vagardenweek.org

Friday Tour- Chairs, Anne Kempe, Conway Van der Wolk, and Lisa Brennan

richmondfridaytour@vagardenweek.org

GCV BANDY FIELD REPORT

The membership meeting of the Friends of Bandy Field was held on Thursday, March 7th. It was announced that the annual field workday will take place on Saturday, April 6th from 9:00 to 2:00 with a rain date a week later on Saturday, April 13. The group urges everyone to take a walk on Bandy Field to see the result of last year's workday when invasive species were removed. TGC won the prestigious Garden Club of Virginia's Common Wealth Award in 2004, along with Boxwood Garden Club, for planting native trees and shrubs to create the wetland and for improving the 18 acre site to remedy storm water runoff in the watershed. We hope as many members as possible will turn out on April 6th to protect our club's early work.

An exciting event is scheduled for Bandy Field in September. The Richmond Symphony will be hosting a “Big Tent” festival on the field Saturday, September 14th. These events bring music to neighborhoods throughout the city. The Richmond Symphony collaborates with government and civic organizations to plan community festivals under the Big Tent. The event is a free outdoor concert which creates a unique opportunity for city neighborhoods to experience the music of the Richmond Symphony.



Our own intrepid Hylah Boyd reaching to cut honeysuckle from a river birch at Bandy Field last year. Let's

follow her example and continue supporting our award-winning project!





THE GARDEN CLUB *of* AMERICA

GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA NEWS &
INFORMATION

GCA PARTNERS FOR PLANTS





OK, ladies, this is our **big push** to get you out on Chapel Island on Thursday, March 21st, from 1-3pm!

Grab your clippers and garden gloves and work off that Shagbark lunch from our meeting the day before, while bonding with Tuckahoe and James River garden club members. Many hands really do make light work, so let's go pull some invasive plants TOGETHER!

REMINDER: we committed as a club to hands-on work at Chapel Island through Partners for Plants. As a special bonus, those who attend will be eligible for a drawing and prize at the end of our satisfying 2 hours of gardening fun along the James. Please meet at the Great Shiplock Park parking lot. Hear what one of our members said from the last workday: "Who knew pulling weeds could be SO MUCH FUN!"

The next joint membership volunteer work days are:

Thursday, March 21st, 1-3pm

Friday, May 31st, 9-11am

Monday, July 22nd, 1-3pm

For more volunteer opportunities at Chapel Island, please visit www.jamesriverpark.org/invasives. This is also a great opportunity to involve family, friends, and groups with community service requirements. If interested, please contact Meg Turner at mturnerlandscapes@gmail.com.

GCA GH&D

EXCITING NEWS!!!

Open the bottles of champagne! After years of research, reports, restoration and a lot of perseverance, Upper Weyanoke's Garden Path has been accessioned into the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens! Freddie Gray, Abbie Wharton and Sue Thompson received this fabulous news just recently. Hats off to them for achieving this significant recognition of Freddie and Lawrence Gray's lovely, historic Upper Weyanoke. We are so proud of them for this distinguished achievement for their work with GCA Garden History & Design.

And here's a sneak peak at one of our programs for next year...Freddie, Abbie and Sue will be sharing their experiences and the report with us at our November 2019 meeting. We were lucky to see that garden path for ourselves last May; in November will hear the behind the scenes efforts to make this distinction happen. A treat for sure!

documentation happens. A great job done.

(New members: GCA's Garden History and Design Committee provides member clubs the opportunity to submit visual documentation and research of cultural, historic and vernacular American gardens for inclusion in the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens collection. Upper Weyanoke's inclusion in these archives is a notable achievement.)



The Garden Club of America Annual Meeting 2020



**Tuckahoe Members: PLEASE SAVE CLEAR GLASS bottles for Horticulture for 2020
Flower Show!**

Do you have a favorite glass bottle you use often (with a removable label)?

We will be collecting from all clubs at the President's Council meeting in Kentucky all clear glass bottles your club can send our way. [We are looking for small, medium and large bottles with narrow openings](#) to share with our exhibitors in our horticulture workroom. Please remove labels and make bottles as clean as possible. Please start recycling, saving and storing now for our October President's council meeting in Kentucky! The club with the most bottles contributed will win a special prize! (plant-related).

We are hoping to collect over 400 clear glass bottles for our exhibits. THANK YOU!

Candy Crosby and Martha Moore

Horticulture Division Co chairs

2020 Vision Flower Show

Albemarle Garden Club and Tuckahoe Garden Club

clover8084@gmail.com mooretj3@me.com





Volunteer Opportunities SAVE THE DATE

The Garden Club of America Annual Meeting will be held next spring, May 3-6, 2020 at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville North Carolina. Tuckahoe, along with the other seventeen Zone VII clubs, will be hosts for this meeting! Our jobs for the meeting will be to help with Registration and Communication, and Public Relations. Kathy Watson and Joanie will head our Registration team and Martha Moore and Jennifer Sisk will be helping with Communications and Public Relations.

We are going to need 10-15 volunteers from our club to come down and be registration helpers, hostesses, flower arrangers, flower show clerks, greeters, and horticulture workroom helpers. We will have a signup sheet at our May Annual Meeting, so be thinking if you can join us for the fun! Most of us who go will go drive down and stay for 2 or 3 nights. As volunteers, you will get to experience a lot of the excitement of the meeting, and meet ladies from The Garden Club of America all across the country. There will be representatives from all 200 GCA clubs at the meeting. There will be a volunteer hotel, and our club has saved funds to help underwrite the cost of our club's volunteers' hotel rooms. More details will be announced in May.

We also will have a scarf ambassador in our club who will help promote the scarf in our club, Sara Cann. The scarf has been designed by a very talented San Francisco designer, and will be available this year in May after the Boston Annual meeting for us to purchase. It is a great way to support the cause,

even if you cannot attend! The scarf sales go a long way to helping defray the meeting expenses, and make the meeting a break even event.

We are proud to be a part of this team putting on this GCA Annual Meeting as we only get this opportunity once every twelve years, as there are twelve Zones in the Garden Club of America.

Save the date!

Kathy Watson, Joanie Robins, and Martha Moore



GCA NAL

NAL Conference (Hat's off to Anne and Abbie for their time and effort!)

Anne Poarch and Abbie Wharton had the privilege of attending **The Garden Club of America National Affairs and Legislation Conference (NAL)** in Washington DC. The three-day conference was educational with the focus on the importance and relevance of GCA's ten distinct position papers (Please visit gca.org, members area, gca committee pages, conservation, gca position papers).

We heard from scientists, researchers, writers and politicians all with diversity of perspectives (see below for list of speakers and highlights of each). The culmination of the conference was visiting with our local congressman/congresswomen and Senators on Capitol Hill. We had the pleasure of meeting with Abigail Spanberger's Aide as well as Senator Warner's Aides. Representative Donald McEachin (D-VA, 4th District) was one our Congressional Speakers!

We were educated about (and discussed with our local Representatives and Senators) five current legislative priorities as follows:

The "Botany Bill"

Creates a preference in many federal programs to use native plants in restoration and other projects.

Increases funding for plant protection and restoration on many public lands including adequate funding for more botanists to help combat invasive species and promote the use of native plants to better address drought, improve water quality and promote resilience.

Scenic Byways

Scenic America, along with GCA and other organizations were instrumental in moving legislation to revive the dormant National Scenic Byways Program through the House (HR 831). Proposed byways must possess "intrinsic qualities" for acceptance to the program, and often this includes limitations on billboards, a core issue for GCA for decades, and also a visual environment in a "relatively undisturbed state", including Water bodies, vegetation and wildlife" according to USDOT.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

The Senate recently approved S47, and the House approved S47 while we were there!!!!

A bedrock conservation program, LWCF is America's most important program to conserve irreplaceable lands and improve outdoor recreation. It was established by Congress in 1965 (GCA was instrumental in securing support for LWCF) to fulfill a bipartisan commitment to safeguard our natural areas, water resources and cultural heritage, and to provide recreation opportunities to all Americans.

"This was one of the most sweeping conservation measures in decades. In addition to protecting millions of acres of land and hundreds of miles of wild rivers and establishing four new national monuments, this legislation would permanently authorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund."

National Parks – Addressing Deferred Maintenance

Legislation to provide \$6.5 billion over five years to help the National Park Service address its nearly \$12 billion maintenance backlog. Roads, trails, visitor centers and basic infrastructure have been neglected due to lack of funds.

Climate Change

GCA supports international, federal, state and local greenhouse gas reduction legislation and regulations that reflect the social cost of carbon and have their basis in peer-reviewed science. Initiatives to support sustainable forest and wilderness areas (including National Parks), as these open lands sequester carbon, help ensure clean air, and protect watersheds.

Accelerated promotion of renewable energy and advanced battery storage, as well as the promotion of energy efficiency measures in the building and transportation sectors.
GCA is opposed to regulatory rollbacks and drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Conference Speakers:

Katharine Hayhoe, Ph.D. (has a great TED talk)

Professor of Climate Science, Texas Tech University

Climate Change is real, it's us, it's serious. Multiple polls indicate that people really do not have a problem with the science, they just believe it will not impact them personally (very dangerous myth).

Ecosystems and what we are seeing today:

Phenological changes-biology events, birds migrating at different times

Longer growing seasons (by approximately 2 weeks)

Ragweed season getting longer (as CO2 increases, plants like CO2-particularly weeds) which also means more pollen

Not only timing changes but also range shifts (Kudzu moving north into Ontario, birds moving approx. 40 miles north on average.

Increasing risk of extinctions

Mitigate, Adapt or Suffer

David Yarnold

President and CEO National Audubon Society

"If you take care of Birds, you take care of most of the big problems of the world."

Birds make climate change personal and local

Plants for Birds, making native plants America's first choice. The Audubon Society's website has a "plants for birds" section where you can put in your zip code and it will tell you what native plants to use for birds in your area.

Toddi Steelman, Ph.D

Stanback Dean

Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University

As a wildfire expert, we learned that there is no longer a wildfire season but now a wildfire year. In addition, the severity has also increased

Major fires driven by extreme weather conditions

Restoration projects following fires significant

Mark Bittman (has a TED talk)

Author (lead magazine food writer at the New York Times)

New York City, NY

"Ignorance is no excuse"

Our current food system is not sustainable

Look at our own personal food policies-what's good for you is good for the planet (define what is food and eat it)

Eat more foods from the plant kingdom today than yesterday etc. Make food important.

Sarah Fleming, member of Rumson Garden Club, NJ and **Doug Adamo**, Chief, Natural Resource Stewardship Division, Gateway National Recreation Area of Staten Island

Discussed their Partners4Plants grant to partner with the Sandy Hook Division of Gateway National Recreation Area.

Diane Lewis, MD

Founder, The Great Healthy Yard Project

Member, Bedford Garden Club, NY

What we do in our yards matter!

Fertilizers and Pharmaceuticals are in 81% of our ground water, these chemicals cannot be filtered out!

Homeowners use 10x more chemicals than farmers.

Take the GCA members "Healthy Yard Pledge". GCA website has organic "how to's" for your yard.

Janis Searles Jones

Chief Executive Officer

Ocean Conservancy

Our Oceans are the single largest buffer from climate change (takes on heat and absorbs CO2)

Arctic Ocean has lost significant ice shield (waters absorbing vs reflecting sunlight creates vicious cycle.

If you do not talk about the ocean when discussing climate change-leaving out 70% of the picture.

One Garbage truck/minute going into the ocean once a year!

Allison Whipple Rockefeller

Founding Chair, National Audubon Rachel Carson Award

Founder, National Audubon Women In Conservation Program

A lifelong conservationist with a deep-seated love for nature and the American landscape.

Botany Bill Panel:

Kayri Havens, Ph.D.

Senior Director of Ecology and Conservation and Senior Scientist, The Chicago Botanic Garden

Ari Novy, Ph.D.

President and CEO, San Diego Botanic Garden

Carrie Reborá Barratt, Ph.D.

CEO and President, The New York Botanical Garden

Leslie Foaa

Panel Moderator, Member, Garden Club of Mount Desert, ME

Almost every environmental challenge requires plant and plant knowledge. Plants are not optional. In the US, of 17K plant species, 1/3rd are considered rare and only 4% are protected.

We need a healthy native landscape for air purification, pollinators, flood control and carbon storage. We need native seed (most unappreciated natural resource) to protect the environment and help with resiliency.

Botanists are also scarce, BLM has 1 Botanist/4.6 million acres, USFWS has 1/3.7 million acres. 40% of open horticulture jobs go unfilled annually.

We need to fund plant science and plant scientists. We need to create a preference for native plants in restoration projects.

Mark Falzone

President, Scenic America

Working to open scenic Byways

“Change is inevitable, ugliness is not.”

Congressional Speakers:

Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-OR, 3rd District)

Representative Lee Zeldin (R-NY, 1st District)

Senator Boozman (R-AR)

Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA)

Representative Derek Kilmer (D-WA, 5th District)

Representative Tom Suozzi (D-NY, 3rd District)

Senator Shelley Capito (R-WV)

Senator Todd Young (R-IN)

Representative Jared Huffman (D-CA, 2nd District)

Congressman Garrett Graves (R-LA, 6th District)

Representative Donald McEachin (D-VA, 4th District)

Congressman French Hill (R-AR, 2nd District)

Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)

Congressman Mike Quigley (D-IL, 5th District)





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

Copyright © 2019 Tuckahoe Garden Club, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are a member of the Tuckahoe Garden Club and/or the Garden Club of Virginia who requested to receive it.

Our mailing address is:

Tuckahoe Garden Club
12 E Franklin St
Richmond, VA 23219-2106

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



