

# Tuckahoe Garden Club

## Fresh Cuts From Ellen

Resolutions, anyone?



Are you a resolution type of person? I have been on the receiving end of numerous queries recently, like *What will your word of the year be?* and *What are you self-reflecting on from 2024 to improve your 2025?*

Our Conservation Conscience kicked in and asked the Conservation Committee what our Conservation Resolution(s) will be. I hope you are inspired by their responses below. You can also find them on a recent Instagram post.

- Betty Jenkins - plans to further her resolve to refuse to use single-use plastics, especially in plastic clam shells and bottles.
- Renee Montague - is going to focus on reducing food waste this year.
- Lauren Neal - also focusing on food waste and committing to a vegetarian meal once a week for her family.
- Chandler Klevana - resolves to “leave the leaves” on her lawn and instead mow over them to provide natural mulch.

resolve to cook more from scratch as much as possible. We all know what happens to resolutions, but you'll never know until you try.

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## GCA Founders Fund Finalist - Share the News



*This sad space is a before image that will be enhanced as part of the Green Space Project at the Virginia War Memorial.*

We are a [FINALIST](#) for the GCA Founders Fund!

Our proposal is The Virginia War Memorial Green Space Project, written and spearheaded by RoseMarie Bundy.

Here's how the selection process works:

winner receives \$40,000.

- All GCA clubs vote for the winning project via electronic ballot. The voting deadline is April 1. The winner will be announced at the GCA Annual Meeting in Ponte Vedra on April 25 and 26.
- The three finalists' proposals appear in the Winter 2025 edition of the Bulletin. You should have received a hard copy in the mail, but this is a [link](#) to the GCA Winter Bulletin. Our proposal is shown on pages 26 and 27. Check it out!
- I encourage you to talk this up with your friends in other GCA clubs. Imagine the impact we can make on the green space at the Virginia War Memorial with \$40,000!

~ Ellen Buoyer

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## Upcoming meetings, workshops, and events

### Botanical Arts Workshops

#### Dogwood Divas: Botanical Arts Hands-on Optional Workshop with Peyton Wells

Wednesday, January 22 - DAY

Location: Home of Peyton Wells, 4 Westham Parkway, Richmond (NOTE: This is a change)

Time: 9:30 am to 12 noon

Hostesses: Meredith Arendale and Kay Pangraze\*

Wednesday, January 22 - EVENING

Location: Home of Peyton Wells, 4 Westham Parkway, Richmond

Time: 7- 9:00 pm (Prosecco with Peyton)

Hostess: Ellen Buoyer

\*\* An email with a sign-up for the workshops will arrive in your inbox on Thursday, January 16. \*\*

### February 19 Membership Meeting

Our February membership meeting is going to be SO FUN!

As part of our "Ready, Set, Garden" program, Sue Thompson and Abbie Wharton will be giving us wonderful guidance on getting our gardens ready for Spring. We are also featuring a mini "Fine Arts and Flowers" exhibition, whereby some of our member artists will be paired with floral designers who want to create an arrangement which interprets their work of art. Please let us know if you would like to participate, and we will put you in touch with one of our artists! Audra Boardman and Barrie Edlich will be coordinating this and answering any questions that you may have.

Let's make this the best floral exhibition of the year!

~RoseMarie Bundy

### History Blooms at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture

*History Blooms 2025* is coming soon to the Virginia Museum of History & Culture!

The dates are February 28th through March 2nd. The theme for this Garden Club of Virginia event is "Step into the Garden," which includes a hands-on floral workshop, floral demonstrations, a virtual tour of beautiful gardens, and much more.

Our Club is participating in the floral exhibition with Penny Peebles and Renee Montague teaming up to create a theme-based flower arrangement. They will, no doubt, make us all

tickets are currently available for purchase.

Let's go!

~RoseMarie Bundy

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## Conservation Corner

### Conservation Lobby Day at the Virginia General Assembly

The annual Conservation Lobby Day at the Virginia General Assembly is January 22. This is our opportunity to personally let our legislators know of conservation issues that GCV is supporting this year. Betty Jenkins will be attending and would love for other passionate conservationists or anyone who is interested in this legislative process to join her.

The plan is to meet at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on January 22 at 7:45 am. We should be finished by noon. I've been told parking is impossible. I will either Uber or ride the bus.

You need to register on the Virginia Conservation Network's website to attend. Here is the link to register: [Virginia Conservation Network](#)

If you cannot attend, I urge you to contact your legislators to voice your support of one or all the bills. A few days before Lobby Day, I will share the bills GCV is supporting. I will follow the progress of the bills through the session and will let you know of the outcome.

This is a fascinating experience. Please let me know if you can join me. We will learn together.

~ Betty Jenkins

### Plastic Bag Collection Site Added

Please continue to save your plastic bags. In addition to Chandler's and Betty's garages, you can now drop your bags off at Catherine Driscoll's house, 211 Gun Club Road. Thank you, Catherine! This makes it easier for mid-towners to drop off their bags. Chandler's offer to pick up from you still stands, especially if you have a really large bag of bags. Her phone number is 804-543-7067.

### Please Be Mindful of the Plastic Collection Rules





This bag crinkles and doesn't stretch...it's a no-no for collection.

Thanks to everyone who is saving their plastic bags. I brought home almost 20 pounds of plastic from the meeting on Wednesday. While handling them, I noticed many items in your bags that are not allowed by Nextrex: candy wrappers, floral wrap, frozen food bags, chip bags, and styrofoam. Remember the test....if the bag does not stretch when pulled or is crinkly, it cannot be included. We are almost a quarter of the way to our goal of saving 1000 pounds of plastic. Keep saving your bags, but be mindful of what you include, and share this with your friends who are collecting with us. You can go to [www.nextrex.com](http://www.nextrex.com) for more information.

Thanks, Betty

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## Community Engagement

The Community Engagement calendar for Spring is still in the works, but if you would like to include the following great classes at Lewis Ginter, that is a great way to take advantage of this Community partner!

### **Ecological Garden Clean-Up & Spring Prep Class**

**Saturday, January 18**

**1-2:30pm**

**Cost: \$55/\$63pp**

Curious how you can clean up your garden this winter to create a pleasant, presentable space that is sustainable for your local wildlife? Join instructor Kaity Bevenour, native plant specialist & owner of Parallel Nursery, for a review of landscape management techniques for wildlife support! We'll go beyond "leave the leaves" and discuss exactly how to structure your clean-up to meet your aesthetic & ecological goals. At the conclusion of the lecture portion we will take a walk through the garden to view some of these practices! Students will take home a book of their choosing for identification help or further reading.

### **Spring Planting for Pollinators Class**

**Sunday, February 23rd**

**1-3pm**

**Cost: \$50-\$60/pp**

Spring is when the pollinators wake up and get back to work! Come learn about our amazing pollinator friends with entomologist Clara Aus. You'll learn spring planting techniques, pollinator flower preferences, host plants and how to make an attractive spring garden. Take home a spring blooming native plant and a variety of native seeds, as well as

~Kelly Armstrong

## Leadership Announcement



Co-Chairs for the GCV Annual Meeting in May of 2027 have been appointed. Please congratulate and thank RoseMarie Bundy and Renee Gardner for accepting the leadership for this tremendous project. They are living proof to the old adage, *if you want something done, ask a busy person*. We are in good hands with this dynamic duo.



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### Meredith Lauter on Video



At our November meeting it was revealed that our own Meredith Lauter made two instructional videos for the GCV Artistic Design Committee. The first one demonstrates [How to Make a Modern Mass](#). The video resides on my YouTube account, so you know where you are clicking through ahead of time. In the next newsletter I will include the second video. We are so fortunate to have Meredith's talent and her willingness to share it in our club.

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## Mark Your Calendars

### Membership Meetings

(all meetings are on Wednesdays)

January 22, 9:30 am to 12:00 pm\*

Dogwood Divas: Botanical Arts Hands-on Workshop with Peyton Wells  
Home of Peyton Wells, 4 Westham Parkway, Richmond, VA 23229  
Hostesses: Meredith Arendale and Kay Pangraze

January 22, 7- 9:00 pm\*

(Prosecco with Peyton)

Location: Home of Peyton Wells, 4 Westham Parkway, Richmond, VA 23229  
Hostess: Ellen Buoyer

February 19 at 10:30 am

Ready, Set, Garden!

Kent Valentine House, 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23219  
Hostesses: Karen Berson, Margaret Ivey, Betty Jenkins

March 19 at 6:00 pm

Spring Containers Created by Lisa

Kim Faison Antiques, 2111 Lake Avenue, Richmond, VA  
Hostesses: Anne Kempe, Jennifer Sisk, Kathy Watson, Abbie Wharton

\*Peyton is offering two workshop times on January 22.

### Board Reports

Keep up with your Board's activity by reading the monthly Board Report [here](#).

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## Member Support

Missing a meeting? Please email Fran McDermott before the meeting: [fbmcder@aol.com](mailto:fbmcder@aol.com)

Have a great picture for the newsletter or website? Send to:  
[tuckahoegardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:tuckahoegardenclub@gmail.com)

Need to send an email to the Membership? Send a draft to:  
Stephanie Lansing and Ellen Buoyer:



Your address, email or phone number changed? Send changes to Fran McDermott: [fbmcd@aol.com](mailto:fbmcd@aol.com)

### Want to share photos?

If you like to take photos at our club events, please share them. We will use them in our newsletter, Instagram account and in various reports we send to GCV and GCA.

Here's the simple process:

Email photos to [tuckahogardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:tuckahogardenclub@gmail.com). Please identify the subjects in the photo and event where it was taken.

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Tell us what you think about this newsletter format and content!

Email Jennifer Wilkins [jennyrw99@gmail.com](mailto:jennyrw99@gmail.com) with any comments, questions or concerns.

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