
The Tuckahoe News - January 2026

The Tuckahoe Garden Club <tuckahoegardenclub@99313357.mailchimpapp.com>
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To: Jennyrw99@gmail.com

Thu, Jan 15, 2026 at 9:21 AM



Tuckahoe Garden Club

Fresh Cuts From Ellen

WOW, where did December go? Last time we gathered, we enjoyed an enriching greens workshop with Agnes Stillfried and our festive Holiday Sale and Party at Anne Kempe's lovely home.

Do you have anything on your try something new list? Below are a few of my tries and results:

- I tried a new soup recipe by Carol Chambers called [Good Luck Soup](#). It is delish; give it a whirl.
- I tried the "potato method" for floral mechanics that I found on Instagram, posted by [@anya_thegarden_fairy](#). It worked spectacularly. My greens stayed fresh for weeks. Search for Potato Wreath and Potato Kissing Ball.



- I tried soaking magnolia leaves in a 50-50 glycerin and water solution to keep them glossy and supple longer. Big fail. I think I left them in the bucket too long (2ish weeks) before using. Has anybody else tried this?

I look forward to seeing you all this month. We have two meeting opportunities:

- 4-Club Meeting hosted by Boxwood Garden Club on TUESDAY, January 20 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. 9:30 coffee, 10:00 **Kris Carbone**, President of GCV, speaks - The Garden Club of Virginia in 2026 followed by **Brian Trader**, President and CEO of Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens who presents Richmond's Garden of the Future - Highlights of the first garden expansion in 20 years and visions of the garden's new site master plan.
- Two Botanical Arts workshops on Wednesday, January 28 at Peyton Wells' home. Lookout for sign-up information

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Membership Update

By Betsy Carney

New Member Orientation

Thursday, January 15th
11:30 a.m. @ Betsy Carney's house

Please keep an eye out for our upcoming membership survey to help our incoming president plan for the years ahead!

New Members



We welcomed five new members to the club at our December Holiday Party.

Left to Right, Katie Williams, Peanut Kempe, Berkeley McQuiddy, Elizabeth Harvard, and Kellie Hilb. Their contact information is below:

Liz Harvard
eharvard06@gmail.com
804-539-5505

Kellie Hilb
kellieeh@comcast.net
804-564-1175

Peanut Kempe
peanutkempe@gmail.com
804-370-3068

Berkeley McQuiddy
robinjb0@gmail.com
804-513-7319

Katie Williams
katie_mckeewilliams@yahoo.com
804-625-7555

Centennial Tree Project Update

Submitted by Kelly Armstrong and Jennifer Sisk

We are excited to already have over 20 members committed to supporting a tree for the TGC Centennial!

To date, we have over 50 trees planted, or committed to plant! Over the next few weeks,

we will be working with members on planting logistics. We have also worked with Lisa Burlee to launch a new “Centennial Project” website section where all the information on our tree project will live. Ultimately, this will become the location for our Centennial celebration website.

You can become a Tree Hugger!



Purchase a tree or trees. [Go to our website](#) to find information and order forms. Each donor will receive a professional donation gift card to send to an honoree.



Gifts Committee Requests New Recipients

Submitted by Preston Lee

Tuckahoe Garden Club Members worked hard in 2024 and 2025 to raise funds to donate to community projects. In addition to our continued support for the Virginia War Memorial and Capital Trees, a special gift was sent to the French Broad River Garden Club to aid in restoration efforts following the devastation of Hurricane Helene. We also celebrated the 40th anniversary of Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens with a larger-than-normal gift.

Moving into 2026, we will be donating proceeds from our fundraising projects to support other organizations in our community that align with our mission.

Please submit your ideas for new recipients to Preston Lee pleerichmond@gmail.com by January 31. Last year, our club was very generous with the following gifts:

Gifts Made 2025-2026

Garden Club of America – Scholarship Fund \$200
Garden Club of Virginia – Endowment Fund \$100
Garden Club of Virginia – Annual Fund \$100
Capital Trees \$500
Chesapeake Bay Foundation \$250
James River Association \$500
Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens \$2,500
Maymont Foundation \$250
Scenic Virginia \$500
Virginia Conservation Network \$200
Shalom Farms \$200
Friends of James River Parks Association \$250
Bee City – Richmond \$125
Sub-Total: \$5,675.00

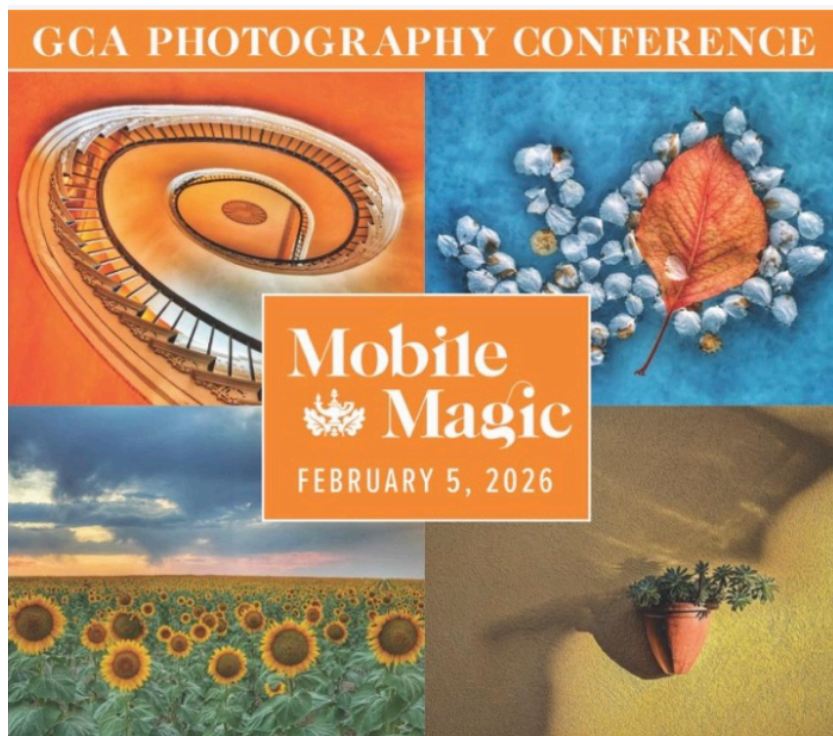
Additional Gifts

Virginia War Memorial \$2,500.00
Capital Trees \$5,400.00
French Broad Garden Club \$1,000.00
Total: \$14,575.00

GCA and GCV Photography Opportunities

Submitted by Tricia Sauer

GCA Mobile Magic - A Virtual Photography Conference



GCA is offering us a wonderful opportunity to learn more about iPhone photography from some very talented photographers! Please take a few minutes to look at this online conference and all it has to offer. The date is February 5th, and registration is open now. It's from 11 to 5, formatted into 4 sessions. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

GCV Winter Photo Challenge

The GCV Photography Winter Challenge is open for submissions. Deadline for submission is February 6. The challenge has two classes:

Class 1: Winter Solstice Celebration-Flat-Lay(/color)



Class 2: Festival of Lights-creative (color)

Original Image



Creative Image



For more information and to register, [click here](#).

Conservation

Submitted by Betty Jenkins

Skip the Salt this Winter from [The James River Association](#)

Deicing products, many of which include sodium chloride, make their way into waterways via stormwater runoff and groundwater infiltration. As a result of this pollution, the function of local waterways is impeded, local groundwater is salinated, and soil structure can be altered. Additionally, aquatic species like fish and insects that depend on unpolluted freshwater to thrive can be negatively affected by salt pollution.

One of the best ways residents of the James River watershed can contribute to a healthy James River is to reduce salt pollution by [skipping the salt](#). Instead of applying deicing products to driveways and sidewalks during wintry weather conditions, consider using a snow shovel to manage snow and ice. If traction is a concern, consider using bird seed instead of salt and sand. Simply skipping the salt this winter will go a long way in protecting the aquatic ecosystems of the James River and its tributaries.

GCA Floral Design Virtual Conference



THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA

Blooms & Beyond

FLORAL DESIGN VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

What: A virtual conference for floral design

Who: Any GCA member who registers

When: Tuesday, February 10 from 11 to 4 (2 sessions with a 15 minute intermission)

Why: Learn Something New

[Click here](#) for more information and to register

New Executive Board Announced



The new Executive Board was announced at our December meeting. Left - to - right:

Cara Rogers, First Vice President

Patricia Hunter, President

Rita Ryan, Treasurer

Christina McCoy, Second Vice President

Mary Mason Foukal, Communications Vice President

Anastasia Seevers, Recording Secretary

Tuckahoe is in superb hands going forward with this team of experienced and enthusiastic leaders. The gavel will be passed at our May Annual Meeting.

Daffodil Download

News from our members

New feature of the newsletter: news from our members. If you have news you would like to share with our members, submit it to [Jennifer Wilkins](#), newsletter editor. We all want to know about the joys and sorrows in your family. Please do not submit news on behalf of others, and no advertisements.

Mark Your Calendars

4-Club Meeting hosted by Boxwood Garden Club

TUESDAY, January 20, 2026
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
9:30 a.m. coffee, 10:00 a.m. Meeting

Botanical Arts Hands-On Workshops

Wednesday, January 28
Peyton Wells' home (4 Westham Parkway)
9:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
or
7-9:00 p.m.

GCA Photography Virtual Conference

Thursday, February 5th
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., formatted into 4 sessions

GCA Blooms and Beyond Virtual Conference

Tuesday, February 10th
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Member Support

Missing a meeting? Please email Fran McDermott before the meeting: fmcder@aol.com

Have a great picture for the newsletter or website? Send to:
tuckahoegardenclub@gmail.com

Need to send an email to the Membership? Send a draft to:
Stephanie Lansing and Ellen Buoyer:
stephanielansing@gmail.com

5buoyers@gmail.com

Your address, email or phone number changed? Send changes to
Fran McDermott: fbmcder@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. Please identify the subjects in the photo and event where it was taken.

Tell us what you think about this newsletter format and content!
Email Jennifer Wilkins jennyrw99@gmail.com with any comments, questions or concerns.

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