

**Garden Club of Virginia
Board of Governors Report
October 25, 2020**

It was my pleasure this year to represent our Tuckahoe Garden Club at the GCV board of Governors Annual Meeting at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. Due to covid-19, GCV restructured how this meeting was traditionally conducted. Rather than convening leaders of all six districts in one location for a two-day meeting, each district had their own local meeting with GCV leadership delivering organization and committee reports. Our District 1 meeting was led by Missy Buckingham, GCV President and was attended by District 1 presidents, past presidents, the GCV Executive Committee and select Standing Committee representatives.

Following are the highlights of this year's meeting:

- Missy Buckingham reported on the general state of the Garden Club of Virginia
- The 2020 de Lacy Gray Conservation Medal was awarded to Meg Turner and Anna Aquino – Anna was there to receive this award.
- Tricia McDaniel, GCV Treasurer reported on changes made to GCV accounts, separating into an Operating Account and an account dedicated to the operations of HGW. This will streamline finances and add to transparency for members.
- Betsy Worthington gave an update on Restoration projects, highlighting the completion of Poplar Forest and the Reveley Garden at William and Mary.
- Debbie Lewis reported that Kathryn Whitney has been retained to assist GCV in filling the role of Executive Director, following the retirement of Lyn McCashin.
- Carroll Andrews delivered the Conservation and Beautification report.
- Meredith Lauter updated us on the plans for the Artistic Design Committee. Their focus lies in three areas: to learn, to design and to judge and their initiatives will be oriented on these areas for the next two years.
- Historic Garden Week is shaping up well for this year, with a capable and adaptive group of members who are working to deliver a successful week across the state while making adaptations for Covid-19. Remarkable, ad sales for the HGW publications are up more than 100% than what was projected – great news!
- Nancy Inman introduced us to the new format for the Journal, edited by Madeline Mahood.
- The Common Wealth Award was announced and the recipient for First Place for 2020 is **Living Green Wall at Brock Environmental Center's Classroom**, *submitted by the Virginia Beach Garden Club.*
The Second Place winner is Mill Mountain Wildflower Garden: The Next Fifty Years and Beyond Enhancing the Visitor Experience Through Educational Signage, *submitted by Mill Mountain Garden Club.*

The meeting was followed by a Leadership Luncheon.

Respectfully Submitted, Jennifer L. Sisk