

Tuckahoe Garden Club Monthly Board Reports October

Dear Officers and Standing Committee Members,
Please submit your monthly report to the Board in the Google form below. Keep in mind your report should be concise- sharing essential information, dates, links to further information and any action items that should be highlighted- and presented in a bullet-format if possible. If you have no report for the month, please note "NO REPORT". Thank you all!

OFFICERS

First VP/Kelly Armstrong

Common Wealth Award: TGC voted for the Rappahannock Valley Garden Trail proposal to create a trail for the residents and visitors of the Fredricksburg area to explore all public gardens in the vicinity, including three GCV restorations sites (Kenmore, Mary Washington House and Belmont). Stay tuned for the announcement of the GCV winner!

Second VP/Database /Melinda Smith

The Green books were handed out at the first meeting. I am delivering and will also be mailing out the remaining books. This should be completed in the next week or so.

Corresponding Secretary/Charlotte Clarkson

Video feedback

Communications Director/Molly Revere

Emailed dues letters and updated emails/member status in gmail account

Treasurer/Karen Gilmore

- TGC account balances.
- Reminder to pay dues before November to avoid a late fee.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications/Kate Christner and Lisa Burlee

No report

Community Projects and Long Range plans/Kate O'Hagan

No report

Conservation/Ellen Buoyer

- The purpose of last month's meeting was to embrace the three pillars of our clubs' focus: love of gardening, conservation, and restoration. Although the composting at Longlea was on a large scale, we learned that all kitchen scraps could be composted, including meat scraps, but they could be problematic in the city because they attract critters. Composting is one way individuals can create a Healthy Yard (view Healthy Yard Pledge [here](#)) AND have a positive impact on climate change. We will be addressing Healthy Yard Pledge in more detail in the coming months.

- November is Conservation Month; to celebrate we will be launching our Conservation page on the club website to hold our digital resources which we have in the works.

- If you have not taken the one minute conservation survey, PLEASE do. Click here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OOenAUXeTupADy-xUEWeXPBeFZEgMkWS-hyr1PaZ_Is/viewform?edit_requested=true

Finance/Karen Gilmore and Kelly Armstrong

The Finance Committee met on September 25th to discuss the FY 2020 operating surplus, unused GCA Annual Meeting funds, surplus fundraising dollars, and its future capital commitments. Below is a proposal for use of these surplus monies in support of club needs and future capital commitments.

The Tuckahoe Garden Club had a \$23,567 operating surplus at the end of FY2020. This surplus is a result of:

- The Cancellation of GCA Annual Meeting (\$6,523)
- 2020 Operating Surplus (\$7,940)
- Surplus of Fundraising (\$9,104)

Proposal:

1. GCA Annual Meeting Surplus: The \$6,523 surplus to be put in a savings account reserve to start club savings for the 2030 GCA Annual meeting which will be hosted by TGC.
2. GY 2020 Operating Surplus: The \$7,940 operating surplus, which is largely due to the cancellation of TGC meetings, flower shows, and other savings, would be used to establish reserved savings for educational opportunities not otherwise budgeted for by the club. This would potentially cover expenses for flower arranging workshops, conservation experiences, flower hour events, and for supplementing insufficient budgets for conferences including Shirley Meneice & NAL, and any other educational opportunities that may arise.

3. Fundraising Surplus: The \$9,104 Fundraising surplus would be utilized as follows:
- i. \$4,000 to fund our two year commitment to GCA Partners for Plants remaining
 - ii. \$2,500 to be used to gift philanthropic partners for Covid-19 relief as determined by the gift committee
 - iii. \$2,604 contribution to the Endowment to fund future community projects of TGC
4. Endowment Interest: To utilize \$6,666 of interest earned in the Endowment Fund to be used over the next two years to fund the remainder of our \$10,000 gift to Capital Trees.

Governance/Lynn Jacob

No further progress has been made on the revisions to the bylaws. A meeting has been scheduled for next week to continue our work.

Gifts/Sara Cann

The gifts committee plans to meet later in October. We will be working on a member's survey of where we share our funds in our community.

Fundraising/Betsy Carney (Holiday) and Patricia Hunter (Spring)

Holiday: Please keep vendor suggestions coming, we'd love ideas! And start thinking of your own contributions to help us compile a pre-sale list of member creations, donations, etc. when the time comes.

Our fabulous Spring sale will be held at Liza Carden's wonderful home. Please thank Liz if you see her. We are working on vendors and some special items for your garden and, of course, we will offer all of TGC's favorites. I am open to suggestions of items you would like to see , so please get in touch! Stay tuned!

Membership/Libby Robertson and Martha Moore

New Member Proposals are due by October 4. As of today 9/30 we have 3 proposal forms in: Kay Pangraze (Rosemarie Bundy, Liza Cabell, Kathy Watson) , Ann Robertson Stark "Arpie" (Betsy Carney, Freddie Gray, Linda Hanson) Anastasia Seevers (Lisa Brennan, Cynthia Ferrell, Rita Ryan) . We are expecting several more by the deadline. (Caroline Marvel, Maria Reed, Jen Wilkins, Shelley Wiltshire, Megan Matthews, Fran McDermott, Sarah Vander Hyde)

We will have the Board approve the proposed candidates at the Board meeting by some brief discussion and vote. These names will be given to the membership to vote for the November meeting. We may need to have a special Board vote to take 7 new members instead of the 6 in the bylaws because we have such well qualified candidates. We need to confirm the electronic voting process with Molly R and Lisa. We may need help getting this ready to send and post it on the website.

We have decided for security reasons to hand out the membership packets at the October 21 meeting and then have people vote electronically by the November meeting. This will allow us to have a brief discussion at the October meeting for the candidates.

Our new fun Flower Hour program is taking shape! Stephanie Lansing is creating an evite and these will go out in early to mid October. Thanks to Jennifer for creating a FUN new logo. We are limiting the group to those who are legacies for this year to be able to keep the events to a reasonable size. The first program will be on November 5th at Jennifer Sisk's house at 5:30 pm The program will be about foraging, creating arrangements in your home from what is in your garden, and basic floral design with a twist! Please let Jennifer know if you have any interesting materials you could cut and bring over in a bucket that morning. We will need some interesting greens and sticks. We would love some berries!

Flower Hour names to date: Kirkland Mitchell Hagerty (Betsy Mitchell's daughter), Eliza Brooke Hester and Ralsie Brooke (Lynn's daughters), Allie Carter (Rosemarie's daughter in law), Colleen Jenkins (Betty's daughter in law) , Kate Robertson Stephenson (Libby's Daughter), Alden Ramsey Mc Daniel (Ann's daughter) , Caroline Estill Ramsey (Ann's daughter-in-law), Ginny Jones (Susan J's daughter in law) , Charlotte Sisk (Jennifer's daughter), Julia Moore (Martha's daughter in law), Pearson Moore French (Martha's daughter), Eliza Blackwell Conrad (Doris B's granddaughter), Berkeley Robins McQuiddy (Joanie's Daughter), Anne Carey Robins (Joanie's daughter in law), Lucy Dabney Robins (Joanie's daughter in law), Charlotte Gomer (Preston's daughter) , Peanut Kempe (Anne K's daughter in law), Carter Hunter (Patricia's daughter), Karen Hill (Ruth Hill's granddaughter), Catherine Driscoll (Dabney McCoy's daughter) and Dottie Grover Wharton (Abbie's daughter in law). Total of 22.

Bulb forcing Workshop will be held at Martha's house on Wednesday, November 11th for last year's new members. We are working on the mentor program for classes for the past 3 years. Please let us know if there is someone you would like to mentor who has recently joined the club.

Carol Fox is happy to be back as a sustainer in Tuckahoe Garden Club. She is back living at Westminster Canterbury with her husband Carter. They moved back from the river.

During this time of Covid, please make sure to pick up the phone and call sustainers and honorary members you are friends with and say hello and check on them. It will be a bright spot in their day!

Programs/RoseMarie Bundy

I believe that our September meeting was a big success. We had 58 members in attendance and everyone seemed to be so happy to see each other and enjoy the beautiful weather and the fabulous setting and garden tours. Thank you, Kelly!

Our October and November meetings are shaping up with a floral design workshop preceding our October program in the Courtyard at Quirk.

Sustainer rep/Susie Benson

No report

Garden Club of America/Kathy Watson

(Flower Shows & Test Collection, Horticulture, Visiting Garden & Scholarship, Garden History & Design)- **information from these committees**

The Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference was a huge success! Well over 2000 attendees enjoyed the conference. GCA has made the decision that the 2021 SMHC will again be virtual due to virus unknowns.

Freeman Medal nominations are due by December 1st. Please consider nominating a North American woody tree, shrub or vine. Instructions for nominating and the requisite forms can be found on the GCA website under the Horticulture Committee.

The first of the GCA "It's Yours" on demand programs was posted on the GCA website under videos on October 1st. *Revolutionary Gardeners: Gardening Wisdom from George Washington and Thomas Jefferson*. Also on the Programs landing page you will find a link to an article "Who Grows Okra" which contains a recipe for Okra Soup from our own Lynn Brooke!

Zone VII is 'hosting' a virtual flower show "Nuture". The schedule and registration information can be found on the Zone VII landing page of the GCA website. Registration is necessary for all classes. All submissions will be virtual and are due on the following dates: Horticulture 10/5, Photography 10/7, Floral Design 10/12, Botanical Arts 10/19.

The GCA website is full of exciting news, information and educational videos. Please make sure to sign on and check it out!

Garden Club of Virginia/Meredith Lauter

(General News, HGW, Flower Shows, Horticulture)-**information from these committees**

Thank yous - GCA and GCV. Both honoring and recognizing our Centennial Anniversary, the GCV has received this beautifully worded commemorative certificate from the Garden Club of America and is most appreciative of receiving such praise from this national organization.



It reads: *"In appreciation of a century of promoting gardening and civic planting, aiding in the restoration and preservation of historic gardens, and encouraging conservation of natural resources."*

GCV Executive Director Retiring. With great appreciation for ten years of dedicated service to the Garden Club of Virginia, Missy Buckingham, GCV President, announced Lynn McCashin's plans for retirement as Executive Director. A search committee working together with Lynn will ensure a smooth transition. We wish Lynn well in her new adventures.

Workshops, Judging, Daffodil Day 2021. The GCV Artistic Design Committee is working to provide virtual workshops, to reinvigorate the judging program, and to organize floral design for Daffodil Day 2021.

Nominating/ Betty Jenkins

No Report-Thanks!