

## Tuckahoe Garden Club Monthly Board Reports April 2021

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**

- Finalized ByLaws language for changes to reflect newly proposed Endowment spending policy based on market valuation of fund, not income generation
- Summary of Endowment Changes:
- [https://www.icloud.com/pages/02XIJMZcRo9gOlzJpsiYtEgg#TGC\\_Endowment\\_Proposal\\_PDF](https://www.icloud.com/pages/02XIJMZcRo9gOlzJpsiYtEgg#TGC_Endowment_Proposal_PDF)  
Next steps are to work with Davenport to transition to new spending policy tracking and review investment funds.

**Second VP/Database /Melinda Smith**  
no report

**Corresponding Secretary/Charlotte Clarkson**  
no report

**Communications Director/Molly Revere**  
no report

**Treasurer/Karen Gilmore**

## **STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Communications/Kate Christner and Lisa Burlee**  
no report

**Community Projects and Long Range plans/Kate O'Hagan**

### **Community Partner Committee : TGC and CARITAS**

Abbie Wharton, Barrie Edlich and Kate O'Hagan have worked with Jennifer Sisk and Kelly Armstrong on the development of the TGC Community Partner Committee since the fall of 2020. After consideration of several Richmond based projects, TGC will work with CARITAS and the new Healing Place for Women through a variety of programs that support the needs of CARITAS and work well with the mission of the garden club (*more information about the new CARITAS Center can be found below*). To celebrate the launch of this partnership, a **Flower Flash** has been planned for the weekend of Mother's Day at the CARITAS Center in downtown Richmond. Meredith Lauter brings important flower flash experience and tremendous arranging talent to this project.

While the install of the flash will be swift and the job of only a few, the organization, preparation, creation and other logistics will be open to every TGC member who wishes to be apart of this venture! An email to the membership will be sent the week of April 5th describing all of the ways members can assist as well as a timeline for the project.

Kate O'Hagan met with Quelina Jones on Thursday, April 1st at the CARITAS Center to review the spaces outlined below. Quelina has asked for flash details and timeline as well as partial list of volunteers by Friday, April 9th to present at internal meeting on April 12th. Additionally, improvements to the campus on Stockton Street are made on a weekly basis and it was suggested that a second visit to CARITAS should occur before the flash weekend.

Approved at the April 1st meeting at CARITAS are the following locations. Attached to this email are photos of the spaces.

***Patient/Resident Entrance:***

The intake desk for the Healing Place for Women and adjacent exterior courtyard space have been designated as flash points. This location is used by residents of both the emergency shelter and multi-step program as well as staff. Set in the southeast corner of the CARITAS Center directly off the new parking lot, this is an important space in terms of usage as well as a gateway to safety and new possibilities. Passing through these entry points is a physical reminder of the journey many women are making to transform their lives.

**Exterior:** The outdoor courtyard space is enclosed by a 6ft composite board fence. Utilizing a form constructed of chicken wire, a flower heart approximately 5 feet in height has been proposed here. Additionally, flowers can be incorporated into the space through planters (two raised beds have been donated which can be reused for other garden projects). Meredith mentioned that flower buckets with arrangements to take were well received as part of the flash last summer.

**Interior:** Once inside the building, women pass through a screening area before entering the secured Healing Place. This area has a small seating area and check-in station. The south wall was recently enhanced with Sunny Goode's Love Evolve mural in soft tonal colors and flowers here should support. There is a potted tree in this space that might serve well as a base for a flower vertical (mindful that this space is narrow and nothing should hinder flow or accessibility). Other support structures include a desk system, staircase and doorway.

### ***Administrative Offices/Staff***

The north entrance of the CARITAS Center is used by the numerous dedicated staff members as well as CARITAS interns, volunteers, community partners and visitors. This second consideration for a flash point would be a way to thank staff members who continuously work to serve those in need.

**Interior:** There are a number of structures in this area that could support flowers including a desk system, reception area, staircase, and industrial fixtures. The space is long and narrow and there is a possibility that a flower form could be attached to mechanics from the ceiling.

**Exterior:** Quelina Jones specifically mentioned the garden beds along the long bank of windows in this front location would benefit from a landscape design including additional shrubs and perennials.

### ***Timeline:***

Information about the TGC/CARITAS partnership and flower flash will be sent to TGC in early April. Following is a proposed timeline for the first week of May leading up to flash day.

**Form Construction, Wednesday, May 5, 2021**  
**25 Towana Road - Kate O'Hagan**  
**9 am - 12 pm**

**Flower drop off and preparation, Thursday, May 6, 2021**

**6407 Roselawn Road - Barrie Edlich**  
**9 am - 12 pm**

**Install, Friday, May 7th, 2021**  
**The Caritas Center**  
**7:30 am - 9 am**

**Space check, Saturday, May 8th**  
**Space check, Sunday, May 9th**

**Clean up, Monday, May 10th**  
**am**

**Conservation/**Ellen Buoyer

Jill and Ellen have been creating content for the third portion of our Conservation section called Healthy Yard • Healthy Planet. Lisa Burlee is formatting the content right now and we hope to launch very soon. Stay tuned!

**Finance/**Karen Gilmore and Kelly Armstrong

**Governance/**Lynn Jacob

**Gifts/**Sara Cann  
**No report.**

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

**We are in the last phase of planning for the Spring Sale on April 14, 2021! We are excited with the volume of orders and interest. Thank you members! We will have fun vendors, a limited number of “extra” plants for sale, a special give away table, an exciting new addition (our own wonderful Martha Moore will have a Martha’s favorites table, featuring some of her new plant finds!), a fun raffle, lots of smiling faces and an event to celebrate Spring**

**and treat our gardens! Please come and bring a friend. Masks are required and social distancing will be observed!**

**Membership**/Libby Robertson / Martha Moore/ Stephanie Lansing

We held our second Flower Hour with Meredith Lauter doing arrangements for mantles and tables. We ended up having it inside due to the weather and distancing at Lynn Brooke's house. We had RSVP's from 17 girls yes, but about 9 came due to bad weather . Some had work emergencies arise. It was very successful, and Meredith engaged the girls. We provided pussy willow and red twig dogwood sticks for them to take home and fiddle.

Our next Flower Hour was scheduled originally for April 15 but has been moved to May 18 at

Jenny Evans house. Instead of flower arranging , it will be a garden walk and talk, and a potting lesson.

Libby and I met with Jennifer to discuss the future of this group and are working on developing a game plan to keep this group engaged. We prefer not to call them provisionals, but want to lay out a plan towards membership if they are interested. We are doing research by checking with other clubs who have provisional programs. We want next year to encourage each legacy to bring one friend who might be interested. We feel like this might be good cultivation events.

We reviewed parts of the bylaws with the review team.

We are going to try to make sure that all of the new members from the past two years go with a buddy to the Annual Meeting at Christina's. We are going to try to offer a casual flower arranging optional workshop for those two classes to do exhibits before the Annual Meeting.

Many of the new members have signed up for double shifts at the plant sale and are working at Historic Garden Week as well.

Please make sure if you meet any of our new members you specifically introduce yourself. They appreciate any connections, since our meetings have been remote. We had some feedback from last year's class that they enjoyed the flower workshop for Painting with Flowers pod workshops, and loved being in small groups and getting to meet members in that setting. Hope we can do it again soon.

**Programs/RoseMarie Bundy**

Sorry to miss our Board Meeting. I will be out of town, visiting my Mom. I believe that our May meeting is a “go”. It is to be held outside at Christina McCoy’s (we are awaiting for her to confirm) , at 11 am on May 19th, with a rain date of May 20th .

We will soon begin work on next year’s meetings....hopefully back to some normalcy! Hooray!

**Sustainer rep/Susie Benson**

**Garden Club of America/Kathy Watson**

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

**This virtual GCA Annual Meeting will be open to all GCA club members!**

**Plan to join the flower show preview party on May 10th, followed by two days of exceptional content:**

**...garden tours, the business meeting and GCA workshops, our annual awards ceremony and much more.**

**Registration will launch in early-April via an email sent to everyone.**

**The registration link will be posted on the GCA website when registration opens.**

**It’s not too late to register for horticulture for the GCA Annual Meeting Flower Show *Around the Green!* Entries for Horticulture classes 1-19 open at 10 am (Eastern) on April 8 and close at 12 pm on April 9. Entries are taken and passed on a first come basis until the classes are filled. All entry information can be found on The GCA Annual Meeting webpage. There is a most helpful ‘quick**

guide to entering *Around the Green*. Photographing of entries can be taken as early as April 6 but not before. It would be great if TGC could be represented in this virtual flower show!!!

**Monday, April 5th is the last day to register for the GCA 2021 Springtide Floral Design Conference which will be held virtually.**

**Garden Club of Virginia/Meredith Lauter**

**So sorry I will miss you all** - just got my second shot and had a little reaction.

**In GCV news, the Daffodil Day virtual flower** show debuted on April 1, and our exhibitors, including Tuckahoe Garden Club, have done stunning work! **View the show and vote for your favorite** on the Home page at [www.gcvirginia.org](http://www.gcvirginia.org).

In the Artistic Design section, judges devoted many hours to help arrangers and viewers understand and appreciate the fine points of floral design. Thirty three member clubs are represented and an exciting number of novice members exhibited individually or as part of a mentor/novice team. GCV Photography Chairman Edie Hessberg gave a special webinar on photographing exhibits for this virtual flower show. **Peyton Wells** hosted a hands-on workshop in Botanical Arts and **Anne Poarch** arranged in award-winning style in the Challenge Class. In the Photography division, TCG members **Jennifer Sisk and RoseMarie Bundy** showcased their masterful talents.

**GCV Horticulture Field Day - Norfolk - May 19-20, 2021** takes place at the Hermitage Museum & Gardens and Norfolk Botanical Gardens.

**GCV Conservation Legislative Triumph - Every bill** that the committee identified and the GCV Board approved for advocacy was passed by the Virginia House and the Senate (with one exception; one tabled for further discussion).

**Historic Garden Week** approaches under the capable leadership of **Bonnie and Chandler. Richmond tour dates are April 20, 21, & 22.**

**April Plant Challenge - Native planting ideas:** oak tree, red buckeye, clethra, baptisia, coral honeysuckle and witch hazel.

**Nominating/** Betty Jenkins No report.

