

Tuckahoe Garden Club Monthly Board Reports November

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

<p>First VP/Kelly Armstrong</p> <p>The 2020 Commonwealth Award winner is the Living Green Wall at Brock Environmental Center's Classroom Annex submitted by The Virginia Beach Garden Club.</p>
<p>Second VP/Database /Melinda Smith</p> <p>No report</p>
<p>Corresponding Secretary/Charlotte Clarkson</p> <p>no report</p>
<p>Communications Director/Molly Revere</p>
<p>Treasurer/Karen Gilmore</p> <p>Update on Dues Payments and balances</p>

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications/Website/Kate Christner and Lisa Burlee

- No report for website

Community Projects and Long Range plans/Kate O'Hagan

TGC Community Partner small group discussion, 10/28/20.

Jennifer Sisk, Kelly Armstrong, Abbie Wharton, Barrie Edlich, Kate O'Hagan

The above members met to discuss the expansion of the **TGC Long-Range Planning Committee** to a committee that plans for new, or continues existing, programs that meaningfully connect TGC to Richmond community organizations or efforts *noting that relationship-based projects tend to be more focused/relevant and successful*. All in attendance recognized that current Covid-19 restrictions have drastically reduced the opportunities to volunteer in person at this time.

Also recognized was the fact that numerous TGC members have long-standing relationships with nonprofit organizations, including but not limited to: BeFriend (Molly Reinhart), Caritas (Jennifer Sisk), Shalom Farms (Tricia Sauer), and ReLeaf Richmond (Jill Mountcastle). It was suggested that TGC members be surveyed to update this information on potential community partners.

All agreed this is the time to explore. Kate O'Hagan will meet with Mollie Reinhart regarding the BeFriend movement and will follow-up with Sherri Sullivan at ReLeaf. Jennifer Sisk will investigate Caritas opportunities at their new Richmond location.

Discussion points include

- hope to connect WOMEN with WOMEN in the expansive realm of gardening and growing both flowers, food, and friendship.
- hope to provide, when feasible, face to face volunteer opportunities for members and communities to work together towards a mutually agreed-upon goal based on actual need.
- hope to provide opportunities for members interested in contributing to the success of projects either remotely or in a "support" capacity.

Ideas include:

- provide members with a listing or quarterly calendar of local volunteer opportunities relating to gardening/greening and conservation.
- simple garden kits for Caritas program graduates.
- garden opportunity at the new Caritas facility.
- "garden mentors" program for a community interested in learning more.
- flower flash in areas void of greenery.

Conservation/Ellen Buoyer

If you haven't already, check out GCV's online Conservation Forum:

<https://www.gcvirginia.org/forum2020/>

Sign-up to virtually attend the GCA Conservation Study Conference 2020. You should have received a personal email from GCA inviting you to attend. [Click here](#) to go directly to the GCA sign-up.

November 15 is America Recycles Day, a Keep America Beautiful program

<http://kab.org/programs/ard/>

November 18 is our club's monthly meeting with speaker Jay Leutze with a fantastic conservation message.

January 2021 is Conservation Month when the new Conservation webpage launches on

<https://www.tuckahoegardenclub.com/>

We are putting together a basket of Conservation goodies to be included in the Christmas Sale raffle. Also, we'll be selling [Bee's Wrap](#), an all natural way to store food at the sale. The wraps make terrific gifts.

Finance/Karen Gilmore and Kelly Armstrong

Members were informed that the Board approved the proposal for the \$23,567 operating surplus from 2019 to be utilized as follows:

- 1. \$6,523 from the cancellation of the GCA Annual Meeting to be put in a savings account reserve to start club savings for the 2030 GCA Zone meeting.**
- 2. \$7,940 of operating budget savings due to Covid cancelled events to be put in a reserved savings account for educational opportunities for the club including flower arranging workshops, conservation experiences, flower hour events, and conferences.**
- 3. \$9,104 of excess fundraising to fund \$4,000 of to GCA Partners for Plants, \$2,500 for Covid relief to community partners as determined by the Gifts Committee, and \$2,604 for the TGC Endowment for future projects.**

The Board also approved the use of \$6,666 of earnings from the Endowment to be used over the next two years to fund the remainder of our \$10,000 gift to Capital Trees.

We will be meeting with our financial advisor at Davenport to review our account performance next week.

Governance/Lynn Jacob

We are continuing to work on a draft of proposed revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws and have sought input from the Membership and Finance Committees regarding their suggestions. We have scheduled Zoom meetings with these committees for November 17 and 19.

Gifts/Sara Cann

No report

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

Our Holiday workshop and sale is around the corner! This year our sale and meeting will be a festive outdoor event. Please bring your contributions for your fellow members to purchase and enjoy, and we'll have a few additional vendors and products onsite. Along with delicious (and covid friendly) food and drink. Also new this year, we are setting up a virtual marketplace allowing members to shop online for a few days surrounding the sale...more information to come! The committee again will be hosting a raffle and tickets will be available mid-November until the day of the sale. While we'd love to see you in

person, please know pick-up, delivery and the virtual marketplace will be available to everyone.

The Spring Sale committee launched a bare root Peony sale. Peonies are from Peony's envy in New Jersey. Sales have been brisk. Hopefully the roots will arrive shortly and will be hand delivered The week of November 9. Invite your friends to order!

Membership/Libby Robertson

Our voting process is posted online and will be open for active members to vote for up to 7 candidates between November 7 and 17. In case of a tie, we would have an email run off on the afternoon before the meeting. Please encourage all of your friends to remember to vote.

We have our first Flower Hour this Thursday at 5:30 with Jennifer and Freddie Gray doing the demonstrations. We have had a good response to this and have over 22 legacies attending. We will have name tags. Our hope is that this will be low key and get them to be observant of what little gems they might have in their home landscapes, and might get interested in arranging .

On November 11 we are having a bulb workshop at 10:00 am at Martha's for last year's new class. All of them are coming . We have purchased 25 special amaryllis to give to our Sustainer Emeritus and Honorary members. Susie Benson will help deliver them. If you would be willing to help deliver them right before or right after Thanksgiving , let us know. We are talking about forcing bulbs (hyacinths that have been in refrig for 8-10 weeks) , and planting paperwhites and amaryllis. We may have some extra to sell at the Christmas Sale.

Betsy let me know if this would be possible.

We would like to encourage all Board members to encourage new members from the past 3 years to attend the November meeting. Mask up and encourage others!

Douglas Martin gave me a special keepsake from her files about her time when she was a provisional. She cherishes the memories of her early days in the club and wanted to share this document with our archives. I am sending it to Peyton, and will share this at the board meeting briefly.

Programs/RoseMarie Bundy

From the feedback that I have received, everyone was very pleased with the October workshop and meeting at Quirk. Great attendance and participation !

The November meeting on November 18th, at the VMFA is shaping up nicely.

Sustainer rep/Susie Benson

Martha Moore and I will be planting bulbs on Nov 11 to deliver to Sustainer Emeritus and Honorary Members. Just a thought to let them know we are thinking about them.

Garden Club of America/Kathy Watson

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

No report.

Garden Club of Virginia/Meredith Lauter

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

GCV Conservation Forum

Tune in to see Richmond's Capital Trees Low Line featured as well as multiple offerings on The Urban Landscape - Making a Difference in Your Community presented virtually for GCV's Conservation Forum Available at gcvirginia.org.

Horticulture Education

Did you know that bees snooze - in the middle of the day - on your flowers? Learn all about the various habits and benefits of bees in Heidi James' *Native and Solitary Bees* video offered as part of the GCV Conservation Forum. Other topics are Healthy Habitats, Urban Greening, Biodiversity, Doug Talamy, RVA Low Line, Urban Forestry, Native Plants, and Greening Main Street.



HGW

HGW - The Magazine, free and available mid-November (I counted on the GCV website over 59 distributors in Richmond including Victoria Charles, Strange’s, Libbie Market and The Shoppes at 5807 to name just a few) highlights the 30 tours planned for this Spring.

**GCV Flower Workshops - November 2020 through February 2021
& Daffodil Day 2021**

New Contemporary Designs

The Artistic Design Committee will announce next week upcoming flower arranging workshops and educational sessions available by Zoom from November 2020 through February 2021. Topics will include design styles included in GCV’s Daffodil Day, scheduled for March 30, 2021 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden and some NEW CONTEMPORARY DESIGNS. RoseMarie Bundy, Ellen Buoyer, and Jill Mountcastle helped with our first experiment with Modern Mass - a vibrant, compact design featuring unique materials, bold colors, engaging textures, and sharp contrasts.



Aprons

Everyone can use a hardworking and attractive apron! In lively lime green with an embroidered



Garden Club of Virginia logo, it is pretty yet durable, perfect for identifying yourself as part of the GCV team whether gathering, arranging, exhibiting, judging or volunteering. The apron has pockets for your snips, supplies and cell phone. Adjustable at the neck and ties in back, one size fits all. Available in the [Shop section of the website](#) and at the Kent-Valentine

House. \$30/apron + shipping. Meredith will have a sample at our upcoming Tuckahoe meeting and can deliver to upcoming meetings if interested.

Nominating/ Betty Jenkins

