

Tuckahoe Garden Club

Fresh Cuts From Ellen

While at the GCA Zone VII meeting from September 30 - October 1, we learned that our fellow GCA club, French Broad River Garden Club Foundation's community in Asheville, has been severely impacted by Hurricane Helene in ways that are just now reaching us.

In response to numerous suggestions from club members, we are responding with a \$1000 donation from our endowment fund. This gift can be used for storm relief and restoration as the club sees fit. We are collaborating with James River Garden Club with this donation.

We have received word directly from FBRGC that two local umbrella nonprofits are collecting and distributing relief funds: [The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina's Emergency](#) and [Disaster Response Fund and Blue Ridge Public Radio](#). Both seem to be working together for best coordination. If you would like to donate personally for disaster relief, please consider those two resources.

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Cabell West Receives Honorary Membership



The Board conferred an honorary membership in Tuckahoe Garden Club to Cabell West. At the September meeting, Jennifer Sisk read a glowing tribute to Cabell, highlighting her numerous contributions to the club, to GCV and our community. Cabell joins only eight other members who have received this distinction.

Conservation Conscience



Conservation Launches a New Project
By Chandler Klevana

You can check it out here: <https://nextrex.com/>

If we collect 1000 pounds of plastic bags, NexTrex will give us a bench that we can donate. Possible locations could be The Kent-Valentine House where other member clubs might see it and participate, or our oak tree grove at the War Memorial. This is an ambitious goal but we can do this!

Here are the details:

- Acceptable bags are: grocery plastic bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, Ziplock/food storage bags, cereal bags, beverage case overwrap, wood pellet bags, produce bags, salt bags, stretch film. **THEY MUST BE CLEAN AND DRY.**
- We will have recycling bins at our meetings, or you can drop off your bags periodically to either Chandler Klevana's house in front of her garage, or Betty Jenkins' house in the breezeway behind her home. More sites to follow.
- The Conservation team will periodically weigh our bags and deliver to the appropriate location.
- Please consider asking family members, friends, and neighbors to save their bags for you.
- We will share more information at our next meeting and on our website!

GCV Conservation Forum



If you are interested in attending the GCV Conservation Forum on November 7 in Martinsville, please let [Betty Jenkins](#) know; she is attending and would love a fellow conservation buddy to attend with her. [Click here for more event information.](#)



The Christmas pre-sale form is now posted on [the website](#). Additionally a printable form can be accessed by clicking on [this link](#). Please deliver your printed form to [Kathy Watson](#).

Please note that **You must click on the product to see all of the different options and prices. If you click on a product and choose not to order it, you must uncheck the box to move on. Don't forget to hit "SUBMIT" at the end of the form.** No payment is due when your order is placed. Payment will be taken at the sale on December 4th.

⇒The deadline for placing orders is **Friday, October 18th**.

At our workshop on December 3rd, Peyton will demonstrate in our HOT cylinder container how to make a centerpiece, and Meredith will create a long-lasting arrangement with homemade wicker ball mechanics.

Come enjoy fellowship and make a tabletop arrangement to green up your house for December. The workshop will occur in Stephanie Lansing's beautiful pool house; it is sure to get you in the spirit! Register for the workshop on the form.

If you have questions or difficulty filling out the form, please call Kathy (804-307-4063).

Behind the Hedges of the Hamptons (June 9-12, 2025)

It's not too late! The Hamptons are calling!
Update from Martha Moore and Kathy Watson



We have 41 members confirmed and have 4 spots left for any of you still interested . The gardens are being firmed up now, and a great bit of news is that Charlotte Moss's garden, Boxwood Terrace in East Hampton is going to be opened to our group! Thanks to Susan Landin for helping secure this special garden for our trip. If you want to make the trip, please use [this form](#) and return with your \$500 deposit to Kathy Watson.

Please call Kathy Watson or Martha Moore with questions. Next deposit payment is due November 15th, with checks made out to Kathy Watson for \$900.

Share Your Notes from Freckled Flower Farm Field Trip



Our field trip to Freckled Flower Farm, full of friends, flowers and sunshine, also yielded horticulture information about tools, techniques and resources. If you would like to share your notes with club members, [click this link to fill out a form](#). If you're not comfortable with that process, you can also email the notes to Ellen Buoyer for inclusion on the form.

GCA Corner

Zone VII Meeting and Flower Show Highlights
By Ellen Buoyer



The annual GCA Zone VII Meeting and Flower Show, Motherland, was held in Charleston, West Virginia on September 30-October 1 and graciously hosted by the Kanawha Garden Club.

The Flower Show was extraordinary, with numerous classes in Floral Design, Horticulture, Photography and Botanical Arts. Tuckahoe shined in all categories.

- Botanical Arts
 - Peyton and Renee Gardner won First Place for the Most Creative Award and Best in Show (their creation will be displayed at our November meeting).
- Photography
 - Tricia Sauer won second place and the Novice Award.
- Horticulture
 - Kathy Watson won 3, First place, 2 Second Place, and 2 Third Place ribbons
 - Sue Thompson won 1, First place, 2 Second Place, 1 Third Place and 1 Honorable Mention ribbons
 - RoseMarie Bundy won 1 First place ribbon
- Floral Design
 - Meredith Lauter and Jennifer Rector won the second place ribbon for their table scape
- Long Island Cheese Pumpkin Challenge
 - Betty Jenkins won third place

The most enlightening portion of the meeting for me was the report from each of Zone VII's presidents. We were asked to capture in 250 words and photos. Since this was submitted in mid-August, we hadn't yet begun our year. [This is a link to my report.](#)

The meeting closed with the Awards Dinner. Our own Peyton Wells won the Zone Botanical Arts Achievement Award (image above), the first time the award has been given.

If you haven't visited the [GCV website](#) in a while, you'll be pleasantly surprised when you do. It's been updated and is now very user-friendly. There's a wealth of helpful information that's easy to find, including a calendar of events, online seminars such as "Cultivating Conversations", a member directory, information on Historic Garden Week, and much more.

You'll now need to create your own password, as *Green Arrow* no longer works. This process is straightforward, and you can save your password for quick logins.

Also, if you click on your member profile, there's a spot on the generic head profile to upload your photo. We hope that everyone can use their headshot photos taken at the September meeting to get this done easily.

Check out the new website (gcvirginia.org).

Community Corner

TGC members Kate O' Hagan, Melinda Smith and Kelly Armstrong gave Caritas residents some Fall cheer in their courtyard gathering space.

By Kelly Armstrong



The following are opportunities for community involvement this month:

including a Fall Tree walk at Maymont, and tree giveaways [Click here to learn more!](#)

- [Henrico County Plant Native! Festival](#) Keep Henrico Beautiful & Henrico County Recreation & Parks; Saturday, 10/19. 9am - 1pm, Dorey Park, 2999 Darbytown Rd, Henrico, VA 23231. A celebration of native plants, the ecosystems they support, and local organizations working hard to protect our environment. We'll have native plant vendors, informational organizations, and food trucks.
- [Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden](#) on Friday, October 11th 3-4pm; 40th Anniversary Speaker Series: "Designing the Future" presentation by two Nationally recognized Landscape Architects: Wambui Ippolito and Thomas Rainer. Register online <https://www.lewisginter.org/event/designing-the-future/>. (Free)
- [Capital Region Land Conservancy](#) on Sunday, October 13th. 5:30-7:30; Fields, Forests & Streams" Celebration at Maymont Nature Center. This annual fundraiser celebrating conservation successes over the year, such as protecting the most significant portion of the Richmond Slave Trail and assisting the City of Richmond purchase Mayo's Island to become the largest addition to the James River Park System, as well as protecting historic sites, old-growth forests, and agricultural fields in the surrounding counties served.(\$45 ticket to support CRLC). Register online: <https://capitalregionland.org/ffs/>
- [Garden Glow](#) at Maymont Oct 16- Nov 10: - Light sculptures will sprout up along the expanded Kinsale Glow Path and the Japanese Garden, presented by Colesville Nursery, will be transformed by color and lighting effects into a mesmerizing experience for 22 nights this fall. Free to Maymont members on Oct 16, 22, 29! Tickets on sale at <https://maymont.org/calendar/garden-glow/>.
- [Harvest Festival](#) at Shalom Farms, Oct 30th 4-7pm. : 1311 Westwood Avenue. Enjoy an evening on the farm with activities, live music, s'mores, family-style meal (vegan and vegetarian options available), fire pits and drinks to celebrate a great year! Dinner, hot chocolate, and s'mores are included, drink tickets will be \$5/each at the event. There is a suggested donation of \$25 to attend.
- Did you know that the City of Richmond adopted "Richmond 300" in September 2023 which includes six major initiatives including: Provide Greenways & Parks for All: Develop parks and greenways so that by 2037 100% of Richmonders live within a 10-minute walk of a park.

GCA Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference

Below is a report from Margaret Ivey who attended the recent GCA Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference.

Educational, inspirational, motivational. No three adjectives better describe the 2024 Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference held this September in Chicago. The conference included outstanding programs on-site at the Chicago Botanical Garden and tours of various private and public gardens, farms, and woodlands. Speakers were knowledgeable experts, who easily engaged the audience. Although a wide range of topics were covered, several themes stood out.

1. The importance of preserving, conserving, and restoring our natural habitats for the health and well-being of the environment and its inhabitants.
2. The critical need for protecting and planting trees that are natural to an area to reduce pollution, absorb carbon and improve air quality; to absorb water and reduce flooding; to create tree canopies to reduce heat levels; to provide biodiversity; and to improve individuals' physical, mental, and emotional health as well as social well-

3. The need to create and enhance urban green spaces, particularly in under-served areas, through public and private partnerships. Essential to achieving this goal is working with local communities to ascertain their needs and desires as well as to ensure their support and engagement. Several wonderful examples of urban wastelands that have been converted to parks and playgrounds were shared.
4. Working to create community gardens that teach, provide healthy foods, and reduce hunger.
5. Identifying ways each of us can create gardens and natural landscapes that bring beauty and joy to others.



View of 15-acre prairie found at Mettawa Manor & Kurtis Conservation Foundation, owned by Donna La Pietra and Bill Kurtis, host of "Wait, Wait . . . Don't Tell Me."

Taking Care of Business

A Note From Your Treasurer

Please pay your dues as soon as possible! Dues letters were emailed on September 16th for your reference.

The safest and quickest way to pay your dues is via the Zelle feature on your bank account. With this payment method, you can directly transfer funds from your bank account to the Club's account, and it is free! Bonnie or Rita will be happy to walk you through setting this feature up on your account if you have not used it before. Simply use our treasurer email address to send the payment: tuckahoegctreasurer@gmail.com

Alternatively, you may send or drop off a check with Bonnie or you may use your credit card

Please make sure you pay prior to November 30 to avoid a late charge. Feel free to reach out to Bonnie Cricchi or Rita Ryan with any questions!

Mark Your Calendars

Membership Meetings

(all meetings are on Wednesdays)

November 20

9:30 a.m. coffee, 10 a.m. program

Grace Baptist Church in Windsor Farms, 4200 Dover Rd, Richmond, VA 23221

Tuesday, December 3 at 10 a.m.

Deck the Halls, Our Holiday Greens Workshop

Stephanie Lansing's home, 330 Flag Station Rd, Richmond, VA 23238

December 4 at 11 a.m.

Holiday Party and Sale

Stephanie Lansing's home, 330 Flag Station Road, Richmond, VA 23238

Also, please note this upcoming exhibition:

VMFA Fine Arts and Flowers

The Virginia Museum Fine Arts and Flowers event is coming up, **October 23-27**.

RoseMarie Bundy and Renee Gardner are creating what we know will be a spectacular interpretation of a piece of art in the museum. Plan to visit the exhibit, see their floral design, gather fellow members for one of the luncheons. [Click here](#) for the full schedule.

Board Reports

Keep up with your Board's activity by reading the monthly Board Report [here](#).

TGC's Got Talent!

But of course we knew that. Many thanks to the eight tablescape teams and Anastasia Seevers for pulling them together to make for tables that would rival any for creativity and talent. They were so good, it's worth seeing them again.

Cara Rogers, Patricia Hunter and Meredith Arendale

Woodland Wonderland

Fall is extraordinarily beautiful In Virginia...what a perfect opportunity to enjoy a woodland wonderland dinner and you might have some fairies pop by for a visit.



Melinda Smith and Christina McCoy

New England Summer Brunch

Brunch has always been one of our favorite decadent meals! The table is set in a quaint seaside town with our children in a garden full of hydrangea on a beautiful crisp day.



RoseMarie Bundy and Renee Gardner

The Dine After the Dash, Fox Hunt Country Breakfast

Autumn has arrived in the Virginia countryside. It is time to enjoy breakfast after the hunt at a table adorned with flowers picked on the farm.



Jennifer Sisk and Terrell Harrigan
Botanical Brunch



Kay Pangraze and Liza Cabell

Family Thanksgiving

Inspired by the book [Poverty by America](#) we symbolize the resourcefulness in scarcity, and the necessity of using whatever is available to create and celebrate joyful family gatherings.



Lizzie Cox, Charlotte Clarkson and Mary Mason Foukal

Fall Harvest

A gathering of friends to kick off the season after the kids have returned to school!



Meredith Lauter and Jennifer Rector

Echo in the Deco

Birds in flight, soaring upward, inspire an echo in the Art Deco contemporary floral design, and we spread our wings!



Fran McDermott and Ellen Buoyer

A Green Gourmet Picnic

A reusable, compostable picnic designed for zero waste; even our mechanics are organic.



Member Support

Missing a meeting? Please email Fran McDermott before the meeting: fbmcdcr@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: fbmcdcr@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 tuckahoegardenclub@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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