

Tuckahoe Garden Club Monthly Board Reports February 2025

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/RoseMarie Bundy

We are hoping for good participation in Exhibits for our February meeting. I need suggestions for promoting it...especially the mini Fine Arts and Flowers Class. Peyton did an awesome job at our botanical arts workshop! We learned some basic techniques of botanical arts and each made a dogwood blossom brooch/necklace/ring.

GCV/RoseMarie Bundy

History Blooms- February 28th- March 2nd , Penny Peebles and Renee Montague are doing the arrangement for our Club. There are lots of great speakers and demos. This is being held at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture.

Daffodil Day- March 26th, in Virginia Beach. As chair of the GCV Floral Committee, Renee Gardner is in charge of all Floral Exhibits and has written a beautiful schedule for the event.... "Windmills and Daffodils". I hope that we have lots of participation. As a member of the Committee, I will be helping Renee on the 25th and 26th and am happy to transport exhibits.

GCA/RoseMarie Bundy

There is a GCA virtual Floral Seminar on February 11th at 11 am- 4 pm. Should be fun. Hoping that the Virginia War Memorial wins the Founders Fund Award. This will be announced on April 29th at the GCA National Meeting. Ellen will be attending and hopefully will be accepting a \$40 K Grant which will be matched by a local corporation ! Please talk this up to your GCA friends across our Zone and the Country! Each GCA club gets one vote!

Second VP & Membership/Betsy Carney

The membership committee has been trying and trying to meet! Hopefully by the time the board gathers we have met and I'll have an update.

Recording Secretary/Fran McDermott

Clarification re: reporting award recipients at membership meetings

Communications Director/Stephanie Lansing

Everyone is encouraged to update their profile picture on the GCA website via instructions sent via email.

Treasurer/Bonnie Cricchi

We have sent the info needed to prepare the Form 990 to the CPA's and hope to hear back from them soon. I sat in on a GCA financial roundtable recently and learned many clubs are also dealing with all the "new" electronic means of conducting our business. There was no consensus on what is the best practice but there were some good ideas! We are now working on our budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Please let me know asap if you have any requests for your area. We will also assess where we stand with our savings reserves, future meeting fund, etc.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Website/Lisa Burlee

Community Projects and Long Range plans/Kelly Armstrong & Jennifer Sisk

- Committee had zoom meeting on Jan 8th to review Spring plans
- Anne Poarch reported on plans for Hotchkiss Green project, which may be an option for Centennial Trees. This 2 acre park in the City of Richmond will be fully renovated this year. She will be confirming costs for TGC to support 10 or more trees in this park.

- We reviewed our Centennial Tree Program and plan to present to the Board
- We discussed other community work including Caritas Spring spruce up, Anna Julia Cooper Spring refresh, and May 13th workshop at The LightHouseRVA.
- Meeting Friday 1/31 with Ellen and involved GCA members to discuss plans for GCA Zone 7 meeting in 2030.

Conservation/Betty Jenkins & Renee Montague

- Betty attended Conservation Lobby Day. She reported back to the club encouraging letters to be sent to legislators and will update the club on the progress of the bills GCV is following. She submitted a proposal to the Finance Committee requesting money in the 2025-26 budget for the Conservation Committee.
- We have collected close to 300 pounds of plastic for the NexTrex Challenge! Please contact Chandler Klevana if you have a large pick-up or need more clear bags, (804)543-7067

Governance/Katherine Salt

No report

Gifts/Preston Lee

Short announcement asking for ideas for gifts beneficiaries.

I will be presenting Kelly's report o the Long Term Planning Meeting re: Centennial Tree Planting Project Parameters

Fundraising Holiday/Martha Moore & Kathy Watson

We had a fun wrap up lunch for 8 of us following our sale and got feedback and suggestions for next year for everyone. We have one new idea for a workshop which Meredith Arendale is exploring.

Fundraising Spring/Suzanne Duncan & Megan Matthews

Pre-sale planning under way:

- Developing pre-sale list based on analysis of last year's numbers and member feedback/suggestions
- Contacting nurseries to discuss plant availability, timing, terms and discounts.

- Reaching out to some specialty growers to explore additional selections for both pre-sale and day-of-sale

Garden Guru, Kent Russell, bringing a truckload of treasures for day-of-sale.

- Kent will be a big feature for our Spring Sale and will be highlighted in promotions.
- He also plans to provide a few select plants through our pre-sale
- He's shared ideas and is in the process of determining availability for April sale date as well as mid March JotForm deadline

Conservation Committee hosting and coordinating — "Conservation's Corner" — for day-of-sale:

- Conservation Committee taking the lead on organizing a curated collection of new/never been used or gently used gardening items donated by members. This is a chance for members to clean out overflow and offer up items — vases, decorative stakes, outdoor pots, odd tools and small statuary — for "reuse." - Committee will be selecting and collecting donated items that others may enjoy as treasure. **Thank you Conservation Team** for helping out with this!!!

Spring Sale Team gathered to brainstorm additional ideas for day-of-sale vendors and raffle:

- Reaching out to vendors such as August Table, Carolyn B., and Theodora Miller to gauge interest.
- Elisabeth and Lizzie are working on curating their own 'Picks' table, that is sure to be gorgeous.

Team talked through the timetable. Working towards the following target dates:

- Sale announcement with online order form distributed to members **March 17**
- Promotion to other clubs shortly thereafter
- Deadline for submitting orders **March 28 or April 4.** (Confirming timing with nurseries)
- Set up **April 21 and 22** for **April 23** sale date.

We welcome suggestions or ideas for this year's sale! Please feel free to share with Megan, Suzanne and team.

Programs/ Ellen Buoyer

Programs Committee is set to meet on Thursday, 2/13. Please forward any suggestions to Ellen, Renee Gardner, Charlotte Clarkson, Lynn Jacob or Anastasia SeEVERS.

Sustainers/ Sara Cann

We hope to do something special for the sustainers this spring. We originally thought about offering a shuttle bus for transportation to the May annual meeting. I received quotes from James Limo but after looking at the list and a discussion with Ruth

Cunningham, Ellen and I decided to table that idea. We would maybe only have a handful of members that would use it and the buses are expensive.

We should make an effort to encourage active members to offer rides to Sustainers to the meeting. A better idea suggested from Ruth would be to have several small coffees in our homes where we can enjoy intimate fellowship and discuss their thoughts on TGCs programs, issues (if any), etc.