

Tuckahoe Garden Club Monthly Board Reports September

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

Commonwealth Award

This award, established by the Garden Club of Virginia in 1979, provides an annual grant/grants to fund community projects of member clubs in the areas of conservation, beautification, horticulture, preservation or education.

TGC members will vote at the September meeting. Please read about the finalists and come prepared to vote!:

<https://www.gcvirginia.org/warehouse/fm/documents/articles/awards/Common%20Wealth%20Finalists%202020.pdf>

Second VP/Database /Melinda Smith

-Greenbook is at the printer and will be printed and ready for pick up by Friday, September 18th.

-Greenbook will be distributed to the members at the first meeting on September 21st. If the book is not picked up at the meeting, it will be mailed to the members.

- The updated Green Book will be posted to the website.

Corresponding Secretary/Charlotte Clarkson

Working on making video of our membership meetings that may be sent out to membership and enjoyed by those members not able to attend.

Communications Director/Molly Revere

New communication flows for this year:

-website has been refreshed - please visit! (tuckahogardenclub.com PASSWORD: Daffodil)

-members will be directed to the website for communication including important dates

Treasurer/Karen Gilmore

- Share final results from TGC FY 2019-2020.
- Annual dues collection will begin at the first meeting 9/21.
- There is no dues increase this year.
- There will be no convenience fee for paying via credit card through the club's website.
- [Click here for a link to the current financial report.](#)

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications/Kate Christner and Lisa Burlee

Much work has been done this summer to:

- Update website in anticipation of more use by members as this will serve as primary source for receiving business information.
- Create a Google doc template for all monthly Board Reports (being used here!). This report will be the backbone for Board meetings and will be included in each monthly newsletter as the "business Box" that is 'required reading' for membership.
- Streamline newsletter format and content.
- Timeline for monthly submission will be emailed to Board Members

Community Projects and Long Range plans/Kate O'Hagan

- Committee encouraging input from membership on Community Project ideas. We will develop a list and work to determine what we want to take on as a club and what we can encourage membership to be involved with on individual levels.

Conservation/Ellen Buoyer

Jill Mountcastle and I have prepared our plan for the year:

- The *purpose* of the Conservation Committee is to
 - Inspire personal activism to support conservation initiatives from GCA, GCV and TGC;
 - Provide environmental education programs and a digital resource library for the members; and
 - Keep the TGC membership informed on current local, regional and national conservation issues in the legislative process.
- TGC Conservation Initiative for 2020-2021
Design and construct a robust web page on the TGC website and launch it in November (Conservation Month) with the following areas of focus, to be updated throughout the year:
 - Healthy Yards • Healthy Planet:

- Healthy Yard Pledge from GCA
- Composting benefits, styles and tips
- Impact of planting trees on local blighted areas and on climate change
- Personal Conservation: Waste Reduction
 - Single Use Plastic Pledge from GCV
 - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle tips and benefits
- Conservation Advocacy: The Legislative Process
 - Local and regional conservation issues
 - National conservation issues
- TGC Conservation Membership Survey 2020-2021
To be included in the September newsletter.

Finance/Karen Gilmore and Kelly Armstrong

- The Finance Committee met in August to discuss the '19-'20 Operating surplus caused by the cancelation of the GCA Annual Meeting and other event cancellations. The total surplus at year end was \$23,567. A plan for utilizing this surplus to support long term club needs including community gift commitments, future GCA and GCV meetings, and endowment will be reviewed and a plan will be presented to the club.

Governance/Lynn Jacob

By-Laws status and plan for the year:

Liza, Betty and I are in the process of reviewing our Constitution and Bylaws and suggesting modifications as appropriate. Modifications include:

- resolving conflicting and confusing verbiage
- using consistent terminology
- deleting and/or updating references to non-existent IRS Code sections
- making substantive changes resulting from suggestions from Jennifer's focus group meetings, barriers to in-person meetings created by the Virus and the newly updated version of Robert's Rules of Order

Gifts/Sara Cann

I plan to get our committee together this fall to begin discussions of our focus in the community.

Fundraising

Betsy Carney (Holiday)

Holiday: Along with Jenifer and Kelly, we've decided to make the Holiday workshop and sale a single day. And hopefully it will happen December 2nd! Because of the uncertainty, we'll be prepared for a virtual sale, and we may ask for all of your help in preparing a list of member sale items a week or two before. The planning is all about being creative, which thankfully is a strength of this group! Highlighting conservation is a priority as well and incorporating a philanthropic element. Details to come!

Patricia Hunter (Spring)

Kathy Watson, Chris Shands and I have met to discuss going forward in a new world! We are considering offering a Peony root sale in the Fall. Options are being explored. Perhaps this could be tied to a Peony blooming event in the Spring. We are planning a "pared down" Spring sale in April with fewer offerings. We will be highlighting the most popular items from previous sales. Rest assured we will have all of the favorites, including ferns. I have investigated having some "green" birdhouses and wooden trellises made, Stay tuned. Location TBD!

Membership/ Martha Moore / Libby Robertson

New Member Proposal Form will be sent out in September, due back Sunday, October 4.

***Reminder : No one can propose who proposed last year. No one on the executive Board can propose. Those who proposed last year can be signers.

Membership update:

7 Resignations spring 2020:

- Elizabeth McGill
- Susan Meyer
- Beth Norfleet
- Janie Pinney
- Conway VanderWolk
- Kelly Wilbanks
- Macon Willingham

Membership openings:

As per bylaws, we can have no more than 6 new members per year. We have technically 7 openings but feel it is best not to get special board approval at this time and just take on 6 new members.

currently we have :

- 68 Active members
- 20 Sustaining members
- 14 Sustainer emeritus members
- 10 Honorary members
- 2 non resident members
Woodley Habgood and Mollie Reinhart

3 members are currently on the sustainer waiting list:

Sue Taylor
Susan Jones
Shelley Roberts

They had asked to go in May/ June but we asked them to stay active for one more year and hold until next year as we would have had 10 openings.

We are planning on addressing the following issues this fall:

- Non resident members- definition and clarification for bylaws
- Sustainer Emeritus- recommendation of numbers allowed for this coming year

Carol Fox has asked to reinstate as a sustainer. She is returning to Richmond from the River to Westminster Canterbury. VOTE needed by the Board to accept .

Flowers Hour initiative

We are creating a new program/ cultivation platform to interest younger women in the Garden club who want to learn more about gardening, flower arranging, conservation and other Garden club activities . All programs are 6:00 -7:30 pm.

- November 5, 2019 Arranging with a Twist
- February 10, 2019 Bringing Nature In
- April 15, 2021 Garden Walk and Talk

We will be asking membership for legacy names to include(separate email needs to be sent to club)

Inviting 2020 new members for bulb forcing workshop. Date TBD in late October or early November. (Meredith Arendale, Kate Christner, Suzanne Duncan, Stephanie Lansing, Cara Rogers, Chris Shands) .

Encouraging proposers from the last 3 years to mentor with exhibits for meetings and to touch base by phone or in person with their new members.

Programs/RoseMarie Bundy

I am hopeful that we are all set for the upcoming year and that the Virus will not cause us to have to change plans for any of our meetings. I believe that we have great meetings planned and are taking all precautions to keep our members safe when they attend.

Sustainer rep/Susie Benson

Sustainer engagement ideas being discussed. Will report on in October.

Garden Club of America/Kathy Watson

(Flower Shows & Test Collection, Horticulture, Visiting Garden & Scholarship, Garden History & Design)

-GCA Zone VII Virtual Flower Show, 'NURTURE'
November 19, 2020

Hosted by the Albemarle Garden Club and "committee members from all corners of Zone VII"-
Floral Design, Horticulture, Photography, and Botanical Arts

Registration: for Zone VII members - September 14, 2020 and for all GCA members -
September 28, 2020

Classes will fill and close with those first registered

Schedule and information: [gcamerica.org/Members Area/enter your GCA password here/
Gardens & Flower Shows/Upcoming Flower Shows/GCA Calendar/November 19, 2020](http://gcamerica.org/Members Area/enter your GCA password here/Gardens & Flower Shows/Upcoming Flower Shows/GCA Calendar/November 19, 2020)

Other GCA Flower Shows and events are also listed on the GCA Calendar

-Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference is virtual, September 22 and 23 and open to all members! Information has been on the GCA website. It is going to be a wonderful event with great speakers and interesting topics....and it is FREE!

- Sue will be taking nominations for the Freeman Medal until December 1. She is hoping GCA members will look around their yards and find a woody native plant to nominate!

-Betsy Fauntleroy and Cary Viego are documenting Betsy's garden and have made progress but Covid has slowed things down. Cary's time is now limited to week-ends due to teaching responsibilities for her children. They are making plans on how to proceed going forward.

-The GCA Program Committee announces the launch of its virtual program series, *On Demand – It's Yours*.

Coming on October 1st, "Revolutionary Gardeners: The Gardening Wisdom of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson" featuring Dean Norton at Mt. Vernon and Peter Hatch

at Monticello, two of America's all-time GREAT horticultural heroes. These National Landmarks and Virginia treasures will not disappoint!

Coming on December 1st, "Farm, Flowers, Food and Photos: How a 19th Century Estate and Organic Farm Expresses itself in the 21st Century " featuring the talented Matthew Benson of Stonegate Farm in New York's Hudson Valley .

Our third speaker announcement will be coming very soon and will be delivered to you on March 1, 2021 to use where you need it!

Available to you from the GCA website's new Virtual page launching October 1, these three different *On Demand* programs will come to you during Oct ' 20, Dec '20, and March '21. You schedule them for your club where you have a need , a change in your schedule , or want to have a pop up FUN program with a glass of wine! *On Demand* virtual programs are designed to be used as club programs together in person , virtually , or enjoyed by GCA members in small groups, or even on your own individual schedules.

Garden Club of Virginia/Meredith Lauter
(General News, HGW, Flower Shows, Horticulture)

GCV is adjusting to Covid by offering lectures via streaming and meetings via Zoom.

- Artistic Design Committee and Photography are offering teleconference workshops and demonstrations.
- Board of Governors meetings are being held by District and by invitation.
- Horticulture Field Day is unfortunately cancelled due to Covid
- Daffodil Day is being planned for March 2021 and Symposium for Fall 2021
- Complete information at gcvirginia.org
- Upcoming dates:
 - 09.16.20 Centennial Banner Lecture - Streamed - "Restoring America's Most Significant Gardens Stratford Hall and Poplar Forest - 12:00 noon
 - 09.17.20 Photography Workshop postponed to October 28 - see below
 - 10.19.20 Artistic Design Committee meeting
 - 10.22.20 Photography Workshop - Editing - 10am - 3:30 pm
 - 10.22.20 District 1 (Richmond) Board of Governors meeting, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, 10:30 am to 2 pm

Nominating / Betty Jenkins

- No Report