

Tuckahoe Garden Club

Fresh Cuts From Jennifer

“To become a gardener means to try, to fail, to stubbornly plug away at something, to endure serious disappointments and small triumphs that encourage you to try and fail again. But it means, above all, perking up your ears, sniffing, identifying the rhythm and the secret voice of a place, so that you may abandon yourself and indulge it. To make a garden is to surrender so completely that you forget yourself. It is to obey.”

– Umberto Pasti-Rohuna

(thank you Betsy for sharing!)

Dear Ladies of Tuckahoe,

We all have our different gifts and offerings as unique members of our TGC but the tie that binds us all is a love of gardening and the natural world that surrounds us. Though it may look different for each of us with our passions running deep or fairly new they are nonetheless a common bond-the thread that connects us to each other in this club. I was reminded of this as almost 30 of us gathered today out at Tuckahoe and enjoyed the most glorious morning of learning, propagating and exploring Sue’s wild and wooly fabulous fall gardens.

This month has presented so many great opportunities for us to be together, in large and small groups, to enjoy being gardeners – our monthly meeting and floral workshop, Fine Arts and Flowers at VMFA, Horticulture 101 out at Tuckahoe and ... an incredible field trip to Oak Springs and Rose Hill WOW, what a month!

May this be the kick-off to a year filled with community, creativity and FUN as a club!

Gratefully,
Jennifer





TGC Meeting Attendance Expectations

We have had many questions about attendance expectations for this year's programming and want to clarify expectations for our club this year. As last year we were deep in the throw of covid and followed guidelines set forth by the CDC and the Commonwealth of Virginia, attendance for our programming was not recorded. As restrictions have lifted we will move back to our by-laws for attendance which state: **a member may miss up to two meetings per year.**

This being said, if you are not able or comfortable attending a program in person it is your responsibility to notify Charlotte Clarkson to receive an excused absence. Note that we will continue to provide some flexibility around the 'required' maximum of two absences this year, but notifying Charlotte IS REQUIRED.

Upcoming Program and Calendar Events

November 3rd, 2021 (Wednesday)

Hostesses: *Jill Mountcastle, Martha Moore, Kathy Watson, Carey Viego, Maria Reed, Caroline Marvel, Libby Robertson

Time: Refreshments 9:30am, Presentation 10:00am and very brief business following presentation (new members announced)

Place: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Cheek Theatre

Program: Conservationist and Author, Jay Leutze, speaks to us on *The Global Garden*

We have all recently faced challenges in this time of Covid, political upheaval, and a widening climate crisis. The times feel perilous as the planet responds to a changing climate. Join us as Jay Leutze discusses the unique challenges and opportunities we face as local gardeners and as global citizens. We are all connected by weather systems that know no national boundaries, by our shared relation to the sun and stars. Forest fires in Western states are causing climate upheaval across the entire nation. We will take a look at the health of our Country's global garden.

*We have extended an invitation to James River Garden Club members to join us.

Artistic Exhibits: VIRTUAL EXHIBITS

Class I: Are you a mountain girl or a beach girl? Create an arrangement that reflects your scenic preference. Incorporate non-floral elements that tie into your theme (think: sea shells, pinecones, etc.) Flowers and container of your choice.

Class II: While Thanksgiving is only celebrated in America, imagine you've been asked to bring the centerpiece to a celebration in a different country! Use your country of choice as the inspiration for your floral and container selection.

Class III: Create a Tussie Mussie! Please refer to *GCV Styles of Flower Arranging* for design characteristics and materials to be used.

No Horticulture

Photography Exhibits:

Class I: "Outdoor Living" - submit an image of an exterior room or living space in a public or private garden.

Class II: "Fall is Upon Us" - capture an image of beautiful Autumn colors.

Conservation Exhibit:

Class I: Share and Tell—not judged. Bring a conservation related exhibit for our club to learn about your conservation lifestyle. Anything goes!

Example: You recently installed solar panels in your home—share and tell us about it. Or, this year you purchased an electric car or had an energy audit conducted of your home—share and tell us about it. What is your compost style or a personal conservation reduction or reuse tip—share and tell us about it.

Please submit photos for exhibits **by November 1st** to the following members:

Artistic exhibits: Anne Poarch agpoarch@gmail.com

Photography exhibits: Lisa Brennan lisabrennan@comcast.net

Conservation exhibit: Ellen Buoyer 5buoyers@gmail.com

HAND PICKED THIS MONTH

IMPORTANT DATES

October 20th

Voting online for new members opens

October 30th

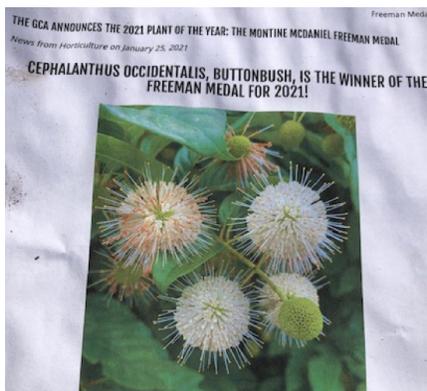
Deadline for new member voting

November 3rd

Membership Meeting

Membership Highlights

HORT 101 POP-UP



Thank you to Sue Thompson and April Greenwood for hosting a FABULOUS HORT 101 Pop-up for over 30 members on Tuesday at Tuckahoe Plantation! Sue shared her experience as the GCA Horticulture Committee Vice Chairman, where she worked with a panel to pick the Freeman Medal Plant of the Year in 2021. The Freeman Medal was established to highlight underutilized, but highly worthy North American native plants: trees, shrubs, ground covers, vines, and perennials. The goal is to encourage their use in the landscape and make them familiar to gardeners and more available in nurseries. To learn more visit:

<https://www.gcamerica.org/gca-awards-plant-of-the-year>. This list might provide you with great ideas of new things to plant in your garden.

Our members got their hands dirty by planting seeds of the *Cephalanthus Occidentalis*, or "Button Bush" plant which was the Freeman Medal award winner in 2021. The seeds will hopefully sprout at the homes of our members and be planted in gardens in early Spring. This plant was chosen for its adaptability to soils, help with erosion, beautiful flower, and fruit which supports over 20 species of birds. It is also tolerant of sun and shade and loved by bees.

After the propagation workshop, Sue led a very informative tour of Tuckahoe's gardens which treated members to a beautiful experience of a late summer garden featuring a myriad of blooming horticulture including: Zinnias, Dahlias, Cosmos, Mexican Salvia, Mexican Sunflower, Sheffield Pink Daisies, Scented Geraniums, Asters, and Salvias.

What a special morning – thank you !



Oak Springs and Rose Hill Field Trip



Misty rain and cooler temperatures did not slow down thirty of our members from enjoying the day at Bunny Mellon's Oak Spring home. Our tour began at the barn of Paul Mellon, who was a race horse enthusiast. With one Kentucky Derby winner and many other famed equines, the barn is a tribute to Paul's passion. Lucky guests can now stay in stalls which have been converted to comfortable guest quarters.

Next followed a tour of the Mellon's modest home, designed as a comfortable family home. The tour revealed the quiet country life led by this ultra wealthy family. Their passion for art collecting was reflected by the number of master paintings by famed artists including Van Gogh. Today, these paintings are replications of the originals, many of which were donated to the VMFA.

The pinnacle of our day was the walk through Bunny's garden outside the back of their home. A carefully planned garden with casual planting elements, this understated garden showcases Bunny's extraordinary gardening talents. On this rainy day, there was an English Country Garden aura. The rain could not diminish the beauty of the popping anemones, Zinnias, cosmos and other fall floral friends in full bloom. A trip through her crab apple blossom tunnel into the infamous trompe d'oeil potting shed was the perfect way to wind down our tour. A last stop at the Mellon's library featured a tribute to the family's personal collection of rare books and other collections.

This amazing tour was topped by a cozy lunch and tour at the home "Rose Hill" of Scottie and Tom Slater. Thanks so much to the Slaters for hosting our lunch and helping to coordinate our tour of Oak Spring. Also many thanks to Lynn Brooke, Suzanne Duncan and Julia Rose Borden for organizing the tour and lunch.



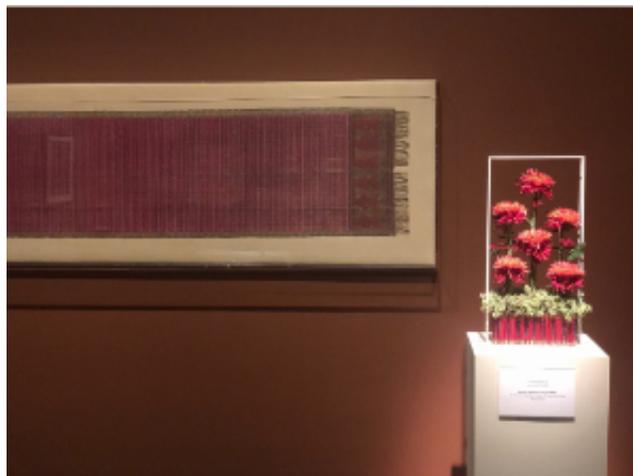
VMFA Fine Arts and Flowers

GCV Clubs and Members created Interpretive Designs for Fine Arts & Flowers, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, October 20-24, 2021

- GCV Clubs Members Arranging Interpretive Designs: 56
- GCV Clubs Represented: 26
- Number of VMFA Works Interpreted: 31



Meredith Lauter captured the vibrant blue hues and wooden decorative aspects in her interpretation of "Broad Collar", a piece in the Ancient Egyptian collection, through her use of delphiniums, eucalyptus and magnolia seed pods.



Peyton Wells and Shelley Roberts utilized the container and floral material to reflect the strong vertical red linear patterns in "Sash", an ancient Indian textile.



"First House, First Garden!"

On September 28, we celebrated another successful Flower Hour, entitled "First House, First Garden," touring the gardens of Abbie Wharton and Betty Jenkins. Here are some takeaways that Abbie and Betty shared with our Flower Hour Ladies:

- Abbie discussed having beautiful trees as the base of the garden, even if they are in your neighbors' backyard.
- Abbie offered a full plant list to all of the attendees and shared some of her favorite books. Her garden was a lovely sea of green and white, and a magical combination of evergreens, shrubs and perennials
- Everyone was taken with the clematis that Abbie had trained to grow all the way over her back porch foundation.
- Her white star at the front of her borders were a knockout.
- Betty showed us in her back alley the perfect composting bins that Matt had made for her years ago, where she deposits and turns her yard waste, compost from the kitchen. Using her own homemade compost has made her garden rich.
- Our guests were excited about Betty's small raised bed vegetable and herb garden. It was artistically laid out on the sunny side of her house.
- Each girl who came left with some lovely perennials to try including Anemone Honorine Jobert, Heuchera Citronelle and Solomon's Seal.

Thank you to Abbie and Betty for opening your beautiful gardens!



September 29, 2021 5:30 pm

First House First Garden

Progressive meeting between Abbie Wharton's house and Betty Jenkins' gardens

THE BUSINESS BOX

As we move club business out of monthly meetings, **it is crucial that each member take responsibility for staying informed and up-to-date on vital club news by reading the committee reports contained here.**

These reports represent much hard work by your fellow members. Please contact Jennifer or the appropriate committee head with any questions or comments.

Members please send any updates to your contact information to Molly Revere Molly.revere@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Committee Reports

Please click our club's seal below to read this month's committee reports:



Nominating Committee

Voting starts online for all ACTIVES on Tuckahoe Garden Club website by 10/20/21 and **vote due back by 10/30/20 noon**. In case of a tie, you may be asked to revote electronically again that evening before the 11/03 meeting.

Anastasia Seevers

Lisa Brennan
Cynthia Ferrell
Rita Ryan

Shelly Wiltshire

Bonnie Cricchi
Betty Jenkins
Abbie Wharton

Margaret Ivey

Lynn Jacob
Preston Lee
Sara Cann

Renee Montague

Linda Hanson
Chandler Klevana
Liz Garden

Kay Pangreze

Rosemarie Bundy

Kathy Watson

Betsy Mitchell

Elisabeth Mullins

Caroline Williams

Betsy Carney

Melinda Smith

Kelly Polk

Lisa Burlee

Barrie Edlich

Betsy Fautleroy

[Click Here to Vote](#)

Conservation



Leave the Leaves!

By Justin Wheeler on 6 October 2017

One of the most valuable things you can do to support pollinators and other invertebrates is to provide them with

the winter cover they need.

Besides [providing the right plants](#), and [protecting your garden from pesticides](#) one of the next most valuable things you can do to support pollinators and other invertebrates is to provide them with the winter cover they need in the form of fall leaves and standing dead plant material. Frequently however, this is the hardest pill for gardeners to swallow. It may be habitual, a matter of social conditioning, or a holdover of outdated gardening practices from yesteryear—but for whatever reason, we just can't seem to help ourselves from wanting to tidy up the garden at the end of the season—raking, mowing, and blowing away a bit of nature that is essential to the survival of moths, butterflies, snails, spiders, and dozens of arthropods.

That's why this year—and every year—we are making the case for leaving the leaves and offering input on what to do with them.

Read on with this link:

<https://xerces.org/blog/leave-the-leaves>

Holiday Greens Update December 1st

Holiday workshop will be 9:30-11, followed by 11am gathering and sale. We'll keep things fluid, festive and casual. The sale will be set up indoor/outdoor, and the hostesses will provide delicious brunch/lunch food.

Pre-ordering information will hopefully be out in the next two weeks. Cakes by Jen and cookPicnic will be back with their yummy options. Lots more to come!



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

2022 GCV Calendar Highlights

Daffodil Day 2022

March 29, 2022
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

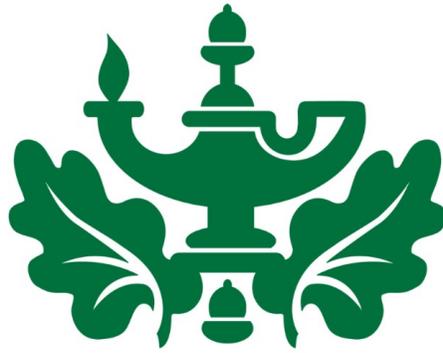
Paula Pryke Floral Demonstration
May 12, 2022
Virginia Museum of History & Culture

Lilies in Bloom 2022
June 14, 2022
Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

Symposium 2022- Cultivate!
September 20-21, 2022
Science Museum of Virginia

2022 - New GCV Styles & Techniques - 7 Workshops

1. New GCV Styles
 - Contemporary Casual
 - Interpretive
2. “What & How” - Using the Essential Principles & Elements of Design
3. “Step 1” - Flower Arranging for True Novices
4. “You Be The Judge” - Participants will Apply Principles & Elements of Design to exhibits prepared by GCV Judges
5. The New Mechanics - Alternatives to Floral Foam in Flower Arranging
6. “On the Vine” - How to Make Grapevine Spheres and Wreaths - Alternatives to Floral Foam
7. GCV Judging
 - *Revised GCV Judging Program Qualifications*
 - Judge Emeritus Status added
 - Active Student Judging Program
 - Flexibility to include community activities
 - Increased judging opportunities
 - *Judges by District* - comprehensive list available online to assist member clubs securing judges for club flower shows and meeting exhibits
 - *Judges’ Annual Record* - online report of yearly activities - January-December
 - *Judges’ Workshops*
 - Judging A Virtual Flower Show - 2021
 - Judging Botanical Arts - 2021 - Peyton Wells
 - Judges’ Chats 2021 & 2022
 - Judging with Principles & Elements of Design (2022) with VMFA
 - *Judges’ Exam*- new online exam using Principles & Elements of Design (2022)



THE GARDEN CLUB *of* AMERICA

The GCA is hosting a virtual [SAVING SALMON](#) conservation study conference on November 17. 11 am - 1 pm and 4 pm - 6 pm (eastern time). Register to attend on the GCA website.

The Floral Design Committee is presenting the second virtual design conference, [CELEBRATIONS](#), on December 8th. There will be sessions for all levels of designers. Be on the lookout for online registration coming soon. You can read all the details in the fall issue of *BY DESIGN* which can be found on the GCA website (it also should have hit your inbox this week). It's worth a look if you haven't already!

Tuckahoe Garden Club 2021-2022 Guidelines for Health & Safety

There is nothing more important than the health and safety of our members during this time of Covid-19. To that end, Tuckahoe Garden Club will observe the following guidelines for this program year:

- Our Tuckahoe Garden Club will follow the guidelines set forth by the State of Virginia in regard to covid-19 protocols (numbers of congregants at meetings, face coverings, etc).
- If you or someone you are in close contact with has had known exposure to persons with covid-19, please refrain from attending any club-related activity

for a minimum of two weeks.

- Face coverings shall be recommended at all gatherings, both inside and outside, and ask that all members maintain social distancing
- Both the September and October meetings will be held in outside venues.
- Hospitality will be creatively organizing drinks and snacks for meeting so as to be single-serving and easily picked up by individual members.
- There will be extra masks and hand sanitizers at all meetings for any members who may be in need.
- We will continue to employ decision-making in a fluid manner, adapting to changes in the ever-evolving health situation around us. This may include meeting cancellations/postponements, possible venue changes, and ZOOM meetings as an option.
- The TGC website will be the primary source for any changes that may be required this year. Members will be directed there, via email, as changes are required.

Tell us what you think about this newsletter format and content!
Email Kate Christner katechristner@gmail.com with any comments, questions or concerns.

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