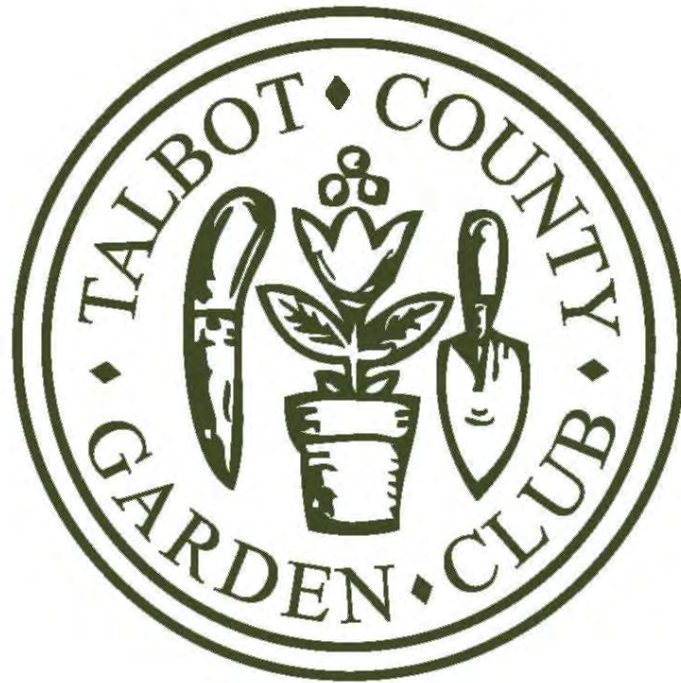


TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB 2019 IN REVIEW



RITA OSGOOD
2018-2019 PRESIDENT

&

CHLOE PITARD
2019-2020 PRESIDENT



TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB 2019 IN REVIEW
(THE CLUB'S 102ND YEAR)
PRESENTED TO
THE FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF MARYLAND
MARCH 4, 2020

OFFICERS, 2019-2020

President	Chloe Pitard
Vice President	Carolyn Rugg
Treasurer	Judy Madole
Recording Secretary	Maribeth Lane
Corresponding Secretary	Rebecca Gaffney
Member-at-Large	Rita Osgood
Parliamentarian	Boots Michalak

OFFICERS, 2018-2019

President	Rita Osgood
Vice President	Carolyn Rugg
Treasurer	Anastasia Wrightson
Recording Secretary	Lucy Spiegel
Corresponding Secretary	Meg van den Berg
Member-at-Large	Mary Louise Maechling
Parliamentarian	Peggy Hegwood

SPEAKERS' EVENTS

CLUB MEETINGS ARE FOLLOWED BY SPEAKERS' EVENTS Talbot County Free Library, free events and open to the public

RICK DARKE, Landscape Designer: "The Living Landscape," January 22, 2019

CHARLOTTE HEATH, Botanical Artist: "Ever Try to Draw a Flower?," February 26, 2019

GREGG TEPPER, Professional Horticulturist, Lecturer, Consultant: "Delaware Botanical Garden," March 27, 2019



PETER HATCH, Professional Gardener and Historian: "Thomas Jefferson's Revolutionary Garden," January 28, 2020

LOUIS RAYMOND aka "The Plant Geek:" "Potted - Gardening on the Edge," February 25, 2020

GEORGE COOMBS, Director of Horticulture, Mt. Cuba Center, DE: "Great Native Plants for the Home Landscape," March 25, 2020

CLUB EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

“SWING INTO SPRING” SYMPOSIUM The Milestone, Easton, April 23

The Talbot County GC biennial Symposium is our Club's chief fund raiser. Held on April 23, this year's all-day “*Swing into Spring*” event drew more than 200 participants. Stephanie Cohen, aka the “Perennial Diva,” anchored the morning with a lively illustrated presentation on new and underused perennials in garden design. Jennie Love, owner of “Love 'n Fresh Flowers”, an urban Philadelphia floral farm and design studio, offered practical tips for creating spectacular bouquets from the garden. Her personal approach to producing “living art” from an array of home-grown blooms has ranked her among the top wedding floral designers in the nation. Four TCGC members shared their floral expertise to round out the program.



Design by Bobbie Brittingham

FGCMD Gardenews July 2019



Susan Pyles, Boots Michalak, Bobbie, Ingrid Blanton



Bobbie Brittingham

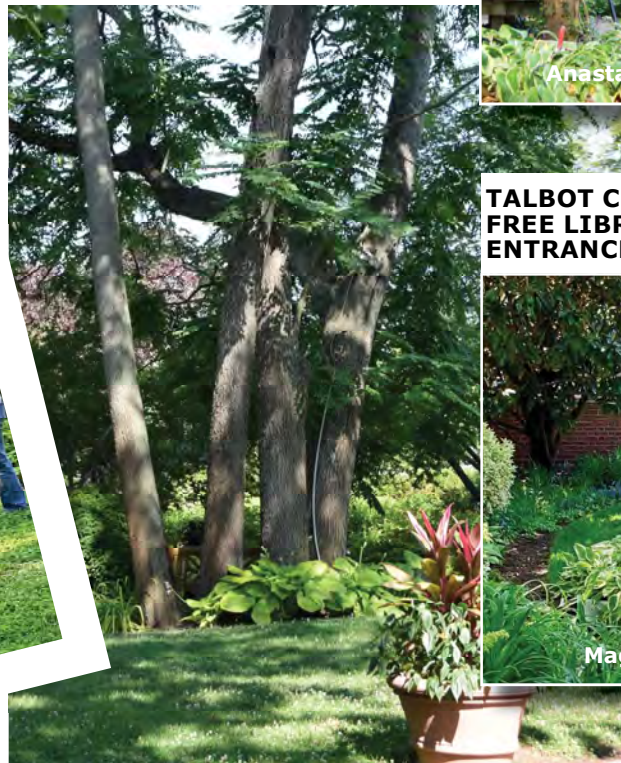
CLUB EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

EASTON BEAUTIFICATION DAY Fun Gardening with Friends, May 7

On Easton Beautification Day, TCGC members planted annuals in various public spaces and gardens around town. After working in their assigned gardens, members reassembled at the Talbot Historical Society Garden for a meeting and refreshments.

EASTON PUBLIC GARDEN MAINTENANCE March through November

**TALBOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY GARDEN
AND HUXLEY HERB GARDEN**



**TALBOT COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY
ENTRANCE GARDEN**



**FIVE CORNERS FOUNTAIN GARDEN,
IDLEWILD PARK**



CLUB EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Home of Anne Jelich, June 25

FGCMD District Director Doris Key installed the TCGC Executive Committee at the Club's Annual Luncheon: President Chloe Pitard (seated l), a 14-year Club member with a particular interest in horticulture; Treasurer Judy Madole (seated r); and (standing l to r): Member-at-Large Rita Osgood; Recording Secretary Maribeth Lane; Vice President Carolyn Rugg; Parliamentarian Boots Michalak; and Corresponding Secretary Rebecca Gaffney.



FALL LUNCHEON & BUSINESS MEETING Home of Susie Granville, September 25

BUSINESS MEETING & FLORAL DESIGN WORKSHOP: “Design with Your Hard-to-Use Containers” Trinity Cathedral, October 22



Bobbie Brittingham,
Boots Michalak

CLUB EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, Easton VFD, December 3

We officially culminated 2019 with our Greens Sale and Annual Holiday Decorating Event, an energetic Christmas party featuring more than soup and cookies, with 70 members taking part in the hands-on, imaginative decorating of numerous wreaths and garlands. When we finished, our exquisite greenery creations were installed at public sites around Easton by town personnel. There, they added a joyous backdrop for the Historic Downtown's festivities – parades, caroling and horse-drawn carriage rides – that were enjoyed by locals and visitors alike.

On Facebook, EASTON UTILITIES called it "the most wonderful time of the year!" in showing our decorations gracing their headquarters.



Georgia Adler, Cordy Tucker



Marsie Hawkinson



Talbot County Courthouse

MEALS ON WHEELS ARRANGEMENTS

Easton VFD, December 3

At the Holiday Decorating Event, everyone pitched in to help create 113 well-appreciated tabletop bouquets for Meals on Wheels clients throughout Talbot County.



Christie Hamilton

CLUB EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

HORTICULTURE WORKSHOPS By the Horticulture Committee

“THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF BIRDING” by Priscilla Thut, January 15

“GARDENING UNDER GLASS,” February 19

“GETTING READY FOR SPRING! CUTTING BACK AND PRUNING,” March 19

“SUMMER BULBS – BEYOND TULIPS AND DAFFODILS,” June 18

“HORTICULTURE FOR FLOWER SHOWS,” October 1

“LASAGNA GARDENING WITH BULBS,” November 13



Trish Reynolds, Nancy Thompson, Karen Parker, Anne Pilert, Eleanor Denegre

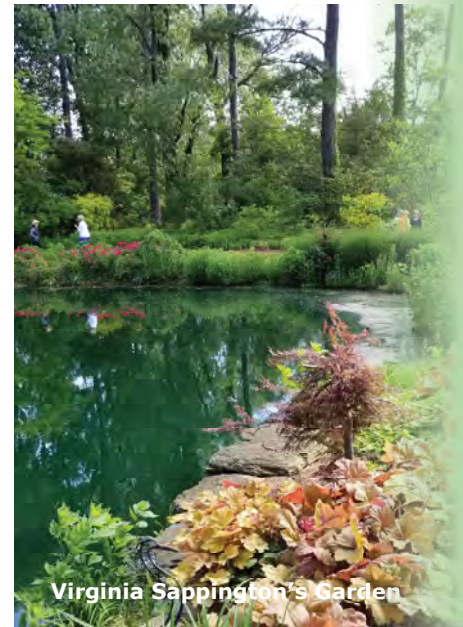
TRIPS & TOURS

ANNUAL TRIPS TO THE PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW March 2019 & 2020

TCGC members travel by charter bus to Philadelphia, dine together and overnight, then enjoy a special early-morning tour of the show floor before it opens to the public.

VISIT TO THREE MEMBERS' GARDENS: "Eastern Shore Landscapes in Spring," May 21

TCGC visited the spectacular gardens of three members: Virginia Sappington, Sherry Burke and Katie Griswold (*RIP*). Lunch beneath a tent within view of the waterfront at Katie Griswold's home highlighted the day.



Rita Mhley, Boots Michalak, Dede Hoopes, Mary Helen Cobb, Janet Mackey, Guest, Mary Lou McAllister, Trish Reynolds, Martha Horner, Chloe Pitard, Caroline Benson, Carolyn Rugg, Joey Frankos, Lauren Little, Maribeth Lane, Fran Bergere, Missy Warfield, Katie Griswold, Ingrid Blanton, Rebecca Gaffney, Mary Lou Maechling, Nancy Thompson, Peggy Lott.

TRIPS & TOURS

DELAWARE BOTANIC GARDENS TRIP Dagsboro, DE, October 8

GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA
BULLETIN, "Noteworthy,"
Winter 2020



WHITE HOUSE TOUR, Washington, December 3

Zone VI

Talbot County Garden Club

Easton, MD

Living on the edge of the Chesapeake Bay, members of the Talbot County Garden Club are well aware of the vagaries of nature. And we are a group dedicated to learning more about what we can do to benefit the environment. Two October field trips—to the recently opened Delaware Botanic Gardens and the nearby Oxford Conservation Park—deepened our knowledge.

We toured the Delaware Botanic Gardens with board vice president Carol McCloud and Elizabeth Rives, a horticultural docent. In the Woodland Gardens, we saw a stratified forest with plants repurposed from other parts of the property and "nests" formed by tree branches gathered to tidy the understory and provide safe habitat for birds and small game. The Meadow Gardens, designed in strategic waves of native plants by the renowned

Talbot County GC members found an amazing range of native plants taking hold at the new Delaware Botanic Gardens, a work in progress that begs for return visits through the seasons. Photo by Rita Mihley

landscape designer and GCA medalist Piet Oudolf, presented as a harmonious quilt of fall textures and colors. We were amazed at all that was accomplished by a modest cadre of volunteers in just three years, and we have pledged to return seasonally to experience the woodland's jonquils and the meadow's ever-changing mantle.

At the Oxford Conservation Park we observed another three-year-old native plant meadow. Our walk focused on identifying local versus non-native invasive grasses and was led by Mikaela Boley, University of Maryland master gardener coordinator. Our up-close look gave us a better appreciation for this 86-acre wonder in our own neighborhood.

Both outings underscored the challenges and rewards of starting a meadow devoted to natives.

—Rita Mihley

Oxford Conservation Park visit
with Talbot Master Gardeners.



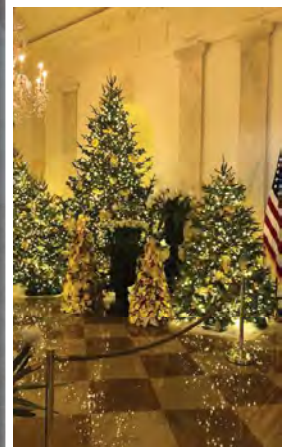
Piet Oudolf's impressive meadow on view at the Delaware Botanic Gardens in autumn.



A "nest" seen in the Woodland Gardens at the Delaware Botanic Gardens.



At sunrise, 13 TCGC members: (l to r): Julia Miller, Maribeth Lane, Maggie Jarboe, Karen Parker, Carol Harrison, Rodanthe Hanrahan, Dede Hoopes, Rebecca Gaffney, Jody Shaner, Carolyn Rugg, Chloe Pitard, Mary Lou Maechling, Lauren Little toured the Christmas-adorned White House. The First Family's "Spirit of America" greens, sparkly lights and jewel-toned ornaments were "fabulous," according to one member.



ONGOING ACTIVITIES

CHEERY OUTREACH & GARDEN THERAPY

Talbot Hospice & Intergrace/Bayleigh Chase

Members make and deliver handmade flower arrangements for residents of Talbot Hospice several times through the year and especially for holidays as part of our goal to meet needs in the community while fostering the art of flower arrangement.

Members also meet with residents at Intergrace/Bayleigh Chase to work together in the gardens and to create simple floral arrangements.



Accepting fall arrangements on behalf of Hospice were Kara Hope, RN, BSN, Talbot Hospice Clinical Director (l) and Vivian Dodge, RN, MBA, BSN, Talbot Hospice Executive Director (2nd r). Among Club members who created and delivered arrangements were: Boots Michalak, Jan Cullen, Sherry Burke, Caroline Benson, Trish Reynolds, Maribeth Lane, Rita Mhley, and Carol Harrison.

Delivering Christmas cheer were Virginia Sappington, Anastasia Wrightson, Trish Reynolds, Jan Cullen, Carol Harrison, and Maribeth Lane.



ONGOING ACTIVITIES

YOUNG GARDENERS CLUB

Based at the Talbot County Free Library in Easton, this TCGC committee works on scheduled horticulture projects with local children. The children created ornaments for a naturally-decorated Young Gardeners Club tree for display among scores of community trees in the annual Tidewater Festival of Trees, a Talbot Hospice benefit at the Tidewater Inn, Easton.



Cordy Tucker, Stellen Williams



EASTERN SHORE VETERANS CEMETERY Hurlock, MD

This year on December 14, as part of The Federated Garden Club of Maryland, Inc., Wreaths Across America Project, TCGC took part in laying wreaths at the nearby Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery. Some 7,900 wreaths were placed; one at each grave in the cemetery. The memorial occasion included “a very moving ceremony and so many people,” according to Trish Reynolds who participated in this, the Club’s near-decade of involvement.



MEMORIAL/HONORARY BOOK DONATIONS

Books are occasionally donated in memory of/ in honor of special TCGC members. The Club recently donated Judith Hann’s *Herbs: Delicious Recipes and Growing Tips to Transform Your Food* to the Talbot County Free Library in St. Michaels in honor of Marjorie Judd, one of our dedicated Honorary Members.



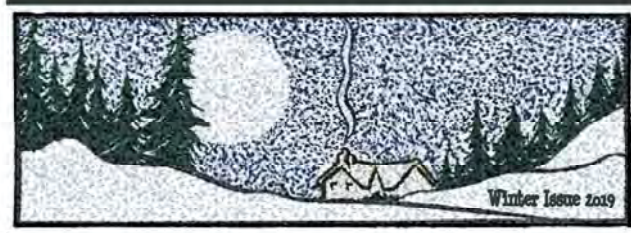
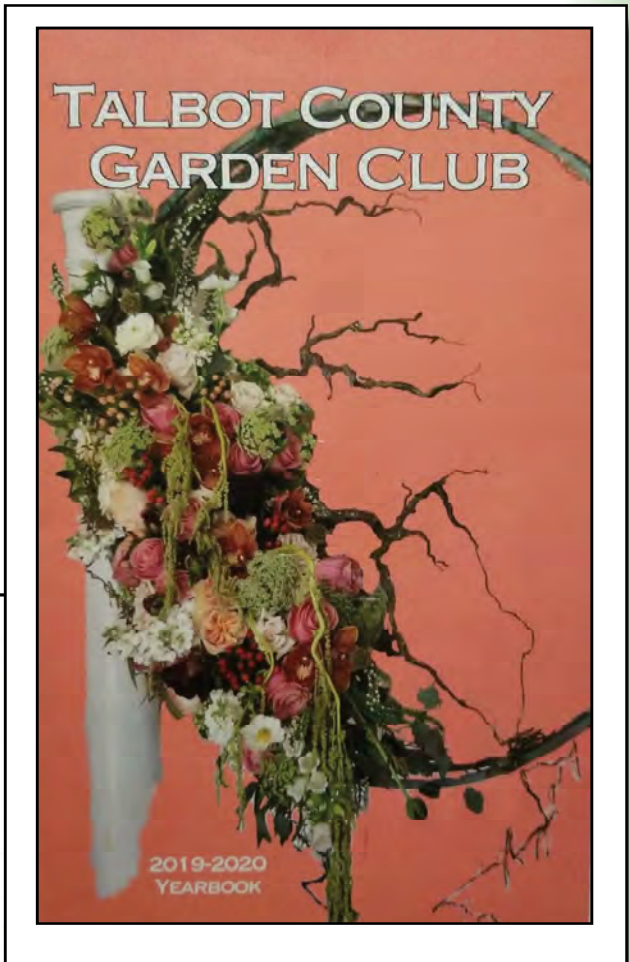
PUBLICATIONS, SPECIAL EVENTS & AWARDS

TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB 2019-2020 YEARBOOK

TCGC's comprehensive compendium of information!

CAN YOU DIG IT? Horticulture Newsletter

CYDI is published three times per year.



Can You Dig It?

Welcome to the beginning of our 10th Year of writing "Can You Dig It"! It is so hard to believe that we have been doing this for 10 years.....and still have enough in us to hopefully keep you entertained and educated.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that is contributed to this effort over these past 10 years....as has been said, "It takes a village!"

With this issue we want to welcome a new member of our Committee, Louise Williams. Louise is also a new member of TCGC but comes to us with years of experience from the Perennial Garden Club, a GCA club in Washington, D.C. Welcome, Louise.

I might have mentioned this before, but it bears repeating, Christie Hamilton and Chloe Pitard are taking a break from CYDI. We will miss the lyrical writing of Christie and the always educational writing of Chloe; we hope you gals might join us again down the line. We also have Dede Hoopes taking a break to concentrate on her business; Dede promises to return when time allows. Thank you, Dede.

As they say in show business....."Now, on with the show."

Trish Reynolds
Editor

IN THIS ISSUE:

The Beauty of the Winter Garden.....Louise Williams

A Winter's Walk in TCGC's Gardens.....Janet Maehy

Using Principles of Design to Create a Garden.....
.....Kim Eckert

A Shady Past.....Bobbie Brittingham

A Four Letter Word Worth Repeating & Planting.....
.....Lin Moeller

House Plants 101.....Trish Reynolds

Rubbing Shoulders with the Experts.....Samantha McCall

Blanket by Kathie Fivesh,
Maine literary award winner

Editor.....Trish Reynolds

Design & Layout.....Rebecca Gaffney



PUBLICATIONS, SPECIAL EVENTS & AWARDS

FGCMD DISTRICT SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING 2019 Johanna Lloyd Tilghman Award of Special Recognition to Trish Reynolds, Talbot Country Club, Easton, October 2

At the District I Semi-Annual Meeting, hosted by TCGC at Talbot Country Club, TCGC's Trish Reynolds received the 2019 Johanna Lloyd Tilghman Award of Special Recognition from Director Doris Key and District I Awards Chair Anne Foss for her "special dedication to District I work... promoting projects and activities that benefit the District and State as a whole." Included in her long list of credits are 23 years of membership in TCGC; 10 years of service as founder/editor of the TCGC Horticulture Newsletter, *Can You Dig It?*; holder of many Club, District I and FGCMD-level leadership roles; NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge; and a highly sought horticulture lecturer and teacher of programs that are "always a popular draw!"

Representing the host Club at the meeting were 21 TCGC Members including (l to r): Chloe Pitard, Maxine Millar, Boots Michalak, Rita Osgood, Bobbie Brittingham, and Marsie Hawkinson.



FGCMD 2019 AWARDS for "Historic Preservation" and "Youth Encouragement"

Trish Reynolds is pictured receiving FGCMD's Rae B. Weeks Historic Preservation Award for the TCGC restoration of the Talbot Historical Society Garden. She also accepted an award on behalf of TCGC's Janet Mackey and Cordy Tucker for their Youth Program on Worm Composting.

Trish also personally received two FGCMD awards for photos taken in the Talbot County Free Library Entrance Garden and Talbot Historical Society's Huxley Herb Garden.



FGCMD President Diana Bonner, Trish Reynolds, Former NGC President Shirley Nicolai



"Halloween"

NGC-FGCMD DISTRICT I FLOWER SHOW "Halloween," hosted by Oxford Garden Club, October 19

TCGC was pleased to assist and to participate in the Oxford GC's Show. Bobbie Brittingham created the Entrance Display; Boots Michalak led the Clerks; Ingrid Blanton wrote the Schedule; Trish Reynolds and Dede Hoopes were Chairmen of Horticulture; Janet Mackey co-chaired Horticulture Classification. Many other TCGCers trekked to Oxford to submit horticulture and designs and to help out in general. All had a howlin' good time! Despite the summer's sparse rains and challenging growing conditions, the show bewitched!!!

ON THE HORIZON!

TALBOT COUNTY TOUR OF THE MARYLAND HOUSE & GARDEN PILGRIMAGE 2020, Coming May 9, 2020

The bi-annual Talbot County Tour is one of the most coveted events of the MHG Pilgrimage. Our Committees have worked on plans for the 2020 event throughout 2019. It will take place on Saturday, May 9, 10 am to 5 pm, rain or shine. With visits to six outstanding properties close to St Michaels, MD, the Tour will engage all our members and will majorly benefit a restoration at St. Michaels Museum and various TCGC civic projects.

INFORMATION:
talbotcountygc.org

TICKETS:
mhgp.org



Who's who on the Tour Committee: (Seated l to r): Pat Lewers, Rebecca Gaffney, Christie Hamilton, Caroline Benson, Pam Keeton; (standing l to r): Co-Chair Julia Miller, Janet Mackey, Co-Chair Sara Walker, Boots Michalak, Ann Cooper, Maggie Jarboe, Missy Warfield, Maxine Millar, Nancy Thompson, Trish Reynolds and Laura Carney. Some of the extraordinary Tour sites appear below.



Emerson Point



Shipshead Farm



Aquavitae



Rivermark



TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB, INC.

P.O. BOX 1524

EASTON, MARYLAND 21601-1524

WWW.TALBOTCOUNTYGC.ORG

FACEBOOK.COM/TALBOTCOUNTYGARDENCLUB

Photo Credit

Laura Carney
Marsie Hawkinson
Pam Keeton
Rita Mhley

Federated Garden Clubs
of Maryland