Talbot County Garden Club 2021 IN REVIEW



Enriching the Natural Beauty of Talbot County



TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB 2021 IN REVIEW (THE CLUB'S 104TH YEAR)

In 2021 the Covid virus played a significant role in how the Talbot County Garden Club conducted activities, but we successfully soldiered on. Ever mindful of the need to keep our members safe, we met virtually throughout the winter months. Come spring as vaccinations became available, we stepped outside to gather more often and with greater appreciation for longunseen friends. Through the end of the year, vaccinated and boosted, we savored our ability to meet in person. As a Club of dedicated, community-minded gardeners and flower lovers, we have confronted the challenges posed by the global pandemic with flexibility and creativity, and have continued to focus on those we love and what we love to do. Together, we have not wavered from our goal as garden club members to make our Talbot County community environmentally exceptional... garden by garden, project by project!

Carolyn Rugg 2021-2023 President

OFFICERS, 2021-2023

President Carolyn Rugg
Vice President Maribeth Lane
Treasurer Fran Jenkins
Recording Secretary
Corresponding

Secretary Sara Walker
Parliamentarian Lin Moeller
Member-at-Large Chloe Pitard

& President 2019-2021





Virtual Speaker Programs

PRESENTING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FREE TO THE PUBLIC





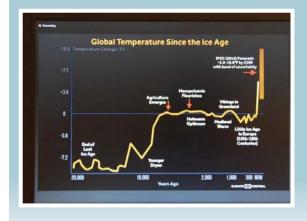
JANUARY 26: KEN DRUSE, well-known author and horticulturalist, transported his audience to his beautiful island garden in northwestern New Jersey. He shared photos of his shade-loving plants, from ground covers to favorite perennials to towering trees. His collection of variegated plants of all types may have convinced some who tend to garden with solid green leaves to try his suggested beauties. Among different garden areas, one stood out: his Cousins Garden, with native species on one side of a path and their "cousin" species on the other – plants of an analogous species from other areas of the world, e.g., Native ginger (Asarum canadense) paired with European ginger (Asarum europaeum).

FEBRUARY 23: ERIC GROFT,

FASLA, Principal of Oehme, van Sweden Landscape Architects, told us matter-of-factly, "Gardens should look good four seasons of the year." To prove the point, he regaled us with spectacular year-round photos and descriptions of his various



residential and public works projects on the Eastern Shore and throughout the world. OvS pioneered sustainable landscape design practices and remains a leader of the "New American Garden" philosophy that emphasizes the use of native plants.





MARCH 24:
KATHLEEN BIGGINS
AND HER ASSOCIATE
DR. JOAN H. SCHILLER
delivered an important
science-based overview
of climate change – the
realities, impacts and
hopes for addressing it –
as part of their C-Change
Conversation.

In-Person Meetings







MARCH SPRING MEETING Hostess Sally Akridge welcomed President Chloe Pitard. Speaker: Suzanne Pittenger-Slear of Environmental Concern, Inc. Attendees: Semi-outdoors and riveted by the speaker's presentation.

JUNE ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON



Thank you, Nicki Schwab, for hosting our traditional Spring Luncheon with 60 eager members in attendance! Congratulations to Alden Firth on receiving an award from Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland for creation of yet another perfect Yearbook!

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON





Our relaxed Fall Business Meeting and Luncheon took place in person under summery skies, surrounded by nature. Hostess with the mostest Christie Hamilton welcomed guests.

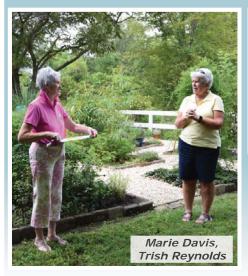




OCTOBER MEETING Nicole Juday Rhodes, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Director of Engagement, shared a fascinating story of how Philadelphia came to be called "America's Garden Capital." She covered the history of the plain early Quaker gardens and the more flamboyant DuPont gardens... leading up to the more than 30 public gardens, arboreta and green spaces still located within 30 miles of that city, which is noted for its annual flower show.



Horticulture/Conservation Activities







"SPICE UP YOUR GARDEN WITH HERBS" TOUR

Thirteen TCGC members and two guests enjoyed a Horticulture Committee trip to Pickering Creek Audubon Center's Herb Garden in September. Hostess Marie Davis, President of the Chesapeake Herb Society, told the history of the herb group and the garden, which was incredibly beautiful and bountiful at that time. On tour, Marie encouraged her guests to take both clippings and seeds that can reappear in the community as Pickering Herbs next growing season.

"LASAGNA GARDENING WITH BULBS" WORKSHOP

Trish Reynolds reprised her popular "Lasagna Gardening" workshop sharing the art of planting spring bulbs in containers, with bulbs layered atop one another, from largest to smallest. Daffodils, tulips, crocuses, Dutch irises, grape hyacinths and anemones promise to burst forth and delight us next spring!







CAN YOU DIG IT?-TCGC's TRIANNUAL HORTICULTURE/CONSERVATION PUBLICATION





TID BITS -TCGC's NEW WEEKLY HORTICULTURE/ CONSERVATION COMMUNIQUE











EASTON BEAUTIFICATION DAY & ONGOING MAINTENANCE OF TOWN GARDENS

HISTORICAL SOCIETY GARDEN



EASTON BEAUTIFICATION DAY & ONGOING MAINTENANCE OF TOWN GARDENS

FRANCES PLATE MEMORIAL CHILDREN'S GARDEN, IDLEWILD PARK





FIVE CORNERS GARDEN, IDLEWILD PARK







TALBOT COUNTY FREE LIBRARY, EASTON
Cordy and Luther Tucker in Spring... and the
Committee renovating beds in October ahead of
the 50th Anniversary Waterfowl Festival!



EMBRACING TALBOT HOSPICE

HOLIDAY FLORAL DONATIONS



Bobbie Brittingham, Alice Carr, Maribeth Lane, Nicki Schwab, Ingrid Blanton, Carol Harrison



TCGC's floral arrangers shared their talents and ensured that Talbot Hospice patients, caregivers and visitors had beautiful flowers

to boost their spirits all year long, and most especially for ...

Valentine's Day St. Patrick's Day

Easter

Mother's Day

Autumn - Staff of Shore United Bank created several charming Thanksgiving arrangements that were added to the ones created by our members.

Thanksgiving Christmas



HOSPICE HEALING GARDEN

In Spring, the Hospice/Child Loss Support Group's Healing Garden on the Oxford Road saw daffodil and allium bulbs that we planted last fall joyously reach for the sky!



SHARING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PASSION WITH THE NEXT GENERATION

YOUNG GARDENERS CLUB MEETINGS







Young Gardeners meet at the Talbot County Free Library (Easton) for monthly environmental programs, sponsored by the Talbot County Garden Club. Presenting on October 14: Bryan Gomes of the non-profit CleanShare H2O (Annapolis) who read The Lorax and led students (grades 1-4) in creating Nature Journals. Young Gardeners Committee Member Marian Sieke assisted under the leadership of TCGC Young Gardeners Committee Chair Cordy Tucker.

YOUNG GARDENERS CREATE ORNAMENTS FOR HOSPICE'S FESTIVAL OF TREES









A Sunday STAR DEMOCRAT recognized TCGC's Young Gardeners. The youngsters made ornaments of natural materials to decorate their tree, which was then made available for purchase at Talbot Hospice's "Festival of Trees" fundraiser. Assisting in the venture were Lynn Champion, Myra Gons, Nancy Laplante, Gretta McDonald, Nicki Schwab, Marian Sieke and Cordy Tucker.



DECORATING GREENS TO BOOST THE TOWN'S (AND OUR OWN) HOLIDAY SPIRITS

WREATH-MAKING DAY - COURTHOUSE TEAM







Randi The Losen

EASTON UTILITIES TEAM





TALBOT COUNTY LIBRARIES



THE FIREHOUSE



SHORE UNITED BANK TEAM







COMMERCIAL & SAVINGS

CREATING 135 TABLETOP ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEALS ON WHEELS CLIENTS

MEALS ON WHEELS TEAM





HOSPITALITY TEAM

A BIG THANK YOU to the ladies who graciously served up the "frosting" on our fun Wreath-Making Day. Cheers to their soups, savories and yummy desserts! Ann Cooper, Eleanor Denegre, Maxine Millar



Welcome, New Members!











Lynn Champion Madeleine Cohen Colleen Doremus

Myra Gons

Gretta McDonald

Dana Vlk

Virtual Flower Show

TCGC Spring Garden Photography Flower Show

Best of Show

Category 10 TREASURES:

"Nothing Says Spring Like Periwinkle Blue"

The focus and exposure on the bloom are just perfect. Some background is going out of ground is going out of focus and that is good as it helps support your use of bright color and light to draw the eye to the center of that single bloom. Simple and stunning in creating a mood



ning in creating a mood.

The diagonal wood helps frame the flower and provide less chaos to the image.

The BEST OF SHOW winner presented an image with solid technicals, understanding of contrasting color, impressive focus, great management of exposure with white areas glowing and containing detail. One of the concepts of strong photography lies in arranging light, color, composition to all take you to your subject. Another is in simplifying the image so that nothing visible in frame distracts from the subject, and everything in frame supports the subject. This one image does all that.

Best Use of Color

Category 2 BUDDING UP: Picea abies (Norway Spruce) "In the Pink"

This image suggests a story with the glimpse of blue sky and most of the frame domiand most of the Hand Offil-nated by contrasting green and pink. Light and exposure are good. Depth of focus puts some of the background into a blur which helps isolate the subject. The branch struc-ture provides leading lines drawing the eye up and in. My eye wants that from big bud to be in sharp focus, but I see the one behind and to the right in sharp focus. Near miss on the focus; not a fatal flaw, but could be a bit better if both were tack sharp. BEST USE OF COLOR was chosen from among photographs with good technical qualifications and pleasing composition. There were many more colorful images, but this award implies not just quantity of color but using color as a major element in delivering a compelling image. Green and pink colors are opposites on the color wheel; this combination is what made color a winning piece of this image.



Best Exemplifies the Category

Category 9 MIXED SPRING BORDER: "My Front Garden"

This image has good exposure on the flowers in tough high angle light. Perhaps another compelling shot could be taken in early morning or late afternoon from the same spot with more emphasis on the textures present. It meets the theme well in showing different flowers in bloom

I had several contenders for this award that were close, but in the end, BEST EXEMPLIFIES THE CATEGORY landed here, because this type of photo often be-comes nothing more than a snapshot show ing things where they grow, while this image has good technical qualities and just enough of the surroundings to tell the story while maintaining the flowers as the hero of the



Most Creative/Expressive



VIRGINIA SAPPINGTON Category 6 DAFFODILS IN THE BORDER: "Watch Up"

This image tells a story and creatively uses the dog as a leading line to one of the flow ers. Reasonable exposure shows detail in the bright flowers and dog fur as well as in the tree bark and dark leaves. The focus seems sharpest in the grass and could be improved by being tack sharp on the flower that the dog is looking at. That would maximize focus throughout the image and perhaps increase detail in the flower border. The fence makes a horizon line and leans to the right; it should be straight. The MOST CREATIVE award osen from among successful images that had pleasing compositions and good techical qualities. Adding animal life and using behavior as an attention director made nage stand out. There were other im ages where creative intent was obvious, but for which the overall image quality could not



Category 1 GARDEN LANDSCAPE

1st: RITA OSGOOD

Iris albicans "White Flutter, Soft Breeze"

This photo has sharp focus and retains highlight detail despite the challenging white blooms. The technical qualities are the strong point with the composition and emotional connection being open for some improvement. The eye moves to the bright spots and the one lower right is a bloom that is cut off. This would be stronger if the whole flower was in frame

2nd: Marsie Hawkinson 3rd: Nicki Schwab

Category 2 BUDDING UP

1st, tie MARSIE HAWKINSON & CHLOE PITARD

Nyassa sylvantica "wildfire" (Tunelo)

The isolation of the subject branch leaves nothing to distract the viewer from looking where the photographer wants the eye to go. The color and focus look good. The black background adds drama and contrast. The bright sun has caused some highlights that are so bright that they are blown out which takes away from the technical merits that are otherwise good. Perhaps the same shot taken early morning or late afternoon would produce similar results showing color and texture without the hot highlight distraction.

3rd: Sara Robins



Virtual Flower Show

Category 3 BUDDING SHRUB OR TREE

1st: RITA MHLEY

Very interesting idea to let the fence become a solid background to the flowers. Focus and lighting on the blooms is great and the color is nice. The bright leaves top center draw the eye away from your subject and could be darkened in



post processing to keep them from competing with the blooms and dancing shapes.

2nd: Marsie Hawkinson 3rd: Julia Miller



Category 5 DAFFODIL CLOSEUP

1st: TRISH REYNOLDS

This image has the subject right in the center, which often makes for a static photo. A square crop excentuates how centered it is. There is enough variation within the bloom so that it remains compelling despite being right in the center. The light is good, adds shadow and texture to the petals and the perfect focus captures every little detail of the bloom while throwing the background out of focus. The leaves form converging leading lines from both lower corners drawing the eye toward the bright bloom. To print this image, I would darken the bright spots in the top and try to darken down the bloom behind the subject to the left.

2nd: Lauren Little 3rd: Nicki Schwab



Category 7 TULIP CLOSEUP

1st: TRISH REYNOLDS Tulipa "Mariette" "Pretty in Pink

This image has great sharp focus on the subject and less focus on the flowers in the background. I like showing the context for this flower being in with others, but feel that it would be stronger compositionally if the camera were moved up just enough to place the main subject against green rather than intersecting with the other flowers. The image also needs just a bit of room on the left side for that subject flower not to touch the edge. Being a bit picky on this, but this image has so much going for it, that it is a shame to have any distractions.

2nd: Pam Keeton 3rd: Karen Parker



Category 9 MIXED SPRING BORDER

1st: MARIBETH LANE

2nd: Virginia Sappington "Four Square Garden"

This image documents the scene well. Exposure and focus are good with a challenging scene containing bright flowers and dark shadows. This image generates a feeling of peacefulness that surprised me once I found the bench in the back along the hedge. Thanks for that little surprise. From a class perspective, this would have been higher with more colorful mixed flowers playing a larger role in the frame



1st: RITA OSGOOD

Helecho de Orono (Autumn Fern) "The Path Less Taken"

Nice simple composition; odd numbers of things keep a viewer experiencing the image rather than trying to divide it in half using the mathematics side of the brain. The col-or being off center is strong and the textures are wonderful, as are the curved sticks giving your eye somewhere else to play around. The image could use a little more contrast, by bringing the blacks down, the ferns would pop and their repeating patterns would be more prominent.

2nd: Sara Robins 3rd: Janet Mackey



Category 6 DAFFODILS IN THE BORDER

1st: VIRGINIA SAPPINGTON

2nd: Joey Frankos

ably sharp and stand out nicely against the mulch. Changing time of day for photographing could im-prove the light to avoid

mottled bright and dark spots. Picking a time that minimized light on the white structure in the background would eliminate a distraction and improve the overall impact of the beautiful flowers



1st: VIRGINIA SAPPINGTON

The low light angle increases interest and outlines the flowers well. That sun also presents some lighting and exposure issues from a whole photograph perspective with technicals While the image clearly shows off the tulip border in good focus, the right upper side of the image is full of glare and the sky has blown out white areas and clouds and an unnatural blue color, which can compete with the beauty in the flowerbed, and draws the eye away from the beautiful flowers. But in the end, those flowers are beautifully photographed despite the sky issues.



Category 10 TREASURES

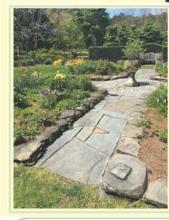
1st: REBECCA GAFFNEY

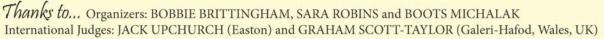
2nd: Sara Robins

lris germanica "Iris Eyes Are Smiling"

I love the focus on this image; those water droplets on the subject flowers all the way droplets on the subject flowers all the way through are stunning. The exposure is great. I just want to see this as a work of art without the distractions of the siding. Perhaps moving closer to the building so that the one flower has that red bush as a background and then crop out everything else would do it, or perhaps you could find another way of taking the background away. It helps that the background is out of focus that makes it a good picture, but I really want to see this one flower as a great picture and the background draws me out of picture and the background draws me out of

3rd: Rebecca Gaffney





Recognition

GCA SUMMER, FALL & WINTER BULLETINS

Talbot County Garden Club Easten, MD

Talbot County Garden Club members greated each other two with warm hugs and handshates when in-person meetings resumed in May and June. The May ocent was held semi-outdoors in Sally Akridge's party barn, with Steamne Phienger-Sleat, president of Environmental Concern Inc., focusing attention on the benefits of native plants to improve the Chesapeake Pay watershed.

The June event was a traditional spring luncheon at the home of Nickola Schwab. Outgoing President Chioe Pitard reviewed chib activities from a year that proved busy despite pandemio-imposed social distancing. She praised Tabliss, a new horticultural/environmental communique designed to keep memben in touch during the pandemic, and said that, by popular demand, it would continue to offer practical tips each week. She also presented awards and introduced the chab's incoming enscutives. Posters of winning entries in the virtual spring garden photography show, held in place of a realisional flower show, provided a colorful backlatop.

TOGC members continue to make Easton's public garden

TCGC members continue to make Easton's public gardens inviting for residents and visitors, with regular work sessions scheduled until frost.

—Rits Mile



Talbot County GC President Chice Pitard (left) and Awards Chairman Mary Helen Cobb (right) present a 50-year service award to Caroline Benson, with a backdrou of photography show award-winning entries. Photo by Rita Milw

Talbot County Garden Club

Easton, MD



As a follow-up to the C-Change primer presentation, Talbot County GC members (from left) Meg van den Berg, Paige Connelly, and Maribeth Lane visited local provider Easton Utilities to share climate-change insights. Photo by Rita Mhley

FGCOMD NOVEMBER GARDENEWS & GARDEN BASKET



Milestones & Adventures

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP Caroline Benson & Virginia Sappington





NAMED HONORARY MEMBERS Nan Peterson & Ellen Rajacich





IN MEMORIAM

Betty Fleming Priscilla Thut Julia Schen Sally Vermilion



PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW

Among several members who made this year's trip were Joan Crowley, Peg Keller and Virginia Sappington, with guest.



Our members also visited CHANTICLEER & STONELEIGH GARDENS in Pennsylvania.

Upcoming Events

TALBOT COUNTY TOUR, MARYLAND HOUSE & GARDEN PILGRIMAGE: MAY 7, 2022

TALBOT SPY

The Talbot County Garden Club Planning 2022 House & Garden Pilgrimage

(3) talbotspy.org/the-talbot-county-garden-club-planning-2022-house-garden-pilgrimage/



Front Row L-R: Caroline Benson, Eleanor Denegre, Pam Keeton, Louise Williams, Maggie Jarboe Second Row L-R: Patricia Reynolds, Carolyn Rugg, Marsie Hawkins, Virginia Sappington, Ann Ashby, Rebecca Gaffney. (Photo by Rita Mhley.)

The Talbot County Garden Club recently kicked off planning for the Talbot County portion of the 2022 Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage. The tour, which invites visitors to several notable private properties, will take place the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend - May 7, 2022. Eleanor Denegre chairs the event.

"I am thrilled to chair the 2022 tour committee," says Denegre. "Our committee is working hard to create an extraordinary and enjoyable experience. Our lineup of fabulous houses and exquisite spring gardens promises to be another sensational tour among the many since our biennial event was launched in 1939."

Properties on the tour include the William Mason Shehan House, Third Haven Friends Meeting House, Riverbank, Shipshead Farm, Legacy, Gross Coate Farm, and Ashby - all in Easton. The tour will also cover a stop at the award-winning Talbot Historical Society Gardens, which are lovingly maintained by the Talbot County Garden Club.

Proceeds from the tour will help to restore Joseph's Cottage, a late 18th Century wooden dwelling on the grounds of the Talbot Historical Society and to support the many civic projects of the garden club.

Members of the club chairing tour committees include:

Advertising: Maggie Jarboe and Louise Williams

Flowers: Ingrid Blanton and Karen Parker

Hospitality: Georgia Adler and Susie Granville

Hostesses: Jody Shanei

Luncheon: Ann Ashby and Sue Ellen Williams

Parking and Ambassadors: Alden Firth and Fran Jenkins

Patron Letter: Martha Horner and Pat Lewers

Photography: Laura Carney and Marsie Hawkinson

Road Marking and Directions: Carol Harrison and Trish Reynolds

Script: Eleanor Denegre

Tour Bells: Caroline Bensor

Treasurers: Joan Crowley, Maxine Millar and Virginia Sappington

More information about each of the homes, as well as ticket information will be available in

"Mark your calendars for this highly anticipated event," adds Carolyn Rugg, club president. man's your carendars or rins rignry anicopated event, addis Carroyn rougg, club preside "Talloot County is home to some of the most beautiful estates in Maryland and is always popular part of the statewide Pilgrimage. We feel truly lucky to be able to share our rich history and beautiful landscapes with the many visitors who are sure to come and 'tour'.

STAR DEMOCRAT

Talbot County Garden Club plans 2022 tours

The Talbot County Garden Club re-cently kicked off planning for the 2022 Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage's Talbot County Tour. The tour, which invites visitors to several notable private properties, will take place the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend - May 7, 2022. Eleanor Denegre chairs the event.

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Photography: Laura Carney and Mar-



Pictured in this file photo are daffodils planted in front of Moton Park by the Talbot County Garden Club.

Publicity: Pam Keeton and Rita Mhley Rack Cards: Rebecca Gaffney

Road Marking and Directions: Carol Harrison and Trish Reynolds

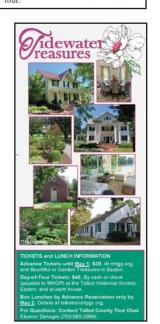
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TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB, INC.

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TALBOTCOUNTYGC.ORG

FACEBOOK.COM/TALBOTCOUNTYGARDENCLUB

TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB IS A MEMBER OF:

GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA, Zone VI

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc. Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc., District 1

PHOTO CREDITS

Gretta McDonald Laura Carney Madeleine Cohen Rita Mhley Rita Osgood Joey Frankos Rebecca Gaffney Chloe Pitard Marsie Hawkinson Trish Reynolds Pam Keeton Sara Robins Cordy Tucker Maribeth Lane Nancy Laplante Virginia Sappington