

Talbot County Garden Club



2022 Annual Report



TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB 2022 IN REVIEW
(THE CLUB'S 105TH YEAR)

An engaged membership and successful fundraising are the lifeblood of a club and 2022 was a gratifying year for the Talbot County Garden Club as we continued to grow our membership, carefully assessed our talent and treasure, and turned them into green and good actions.

Our Talbot County Tour of the Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage returned with enthusiasm and renewed energy after its pandemic hiatus. Despite the Nor'easter that hit the county, record Pilgrimage proceeds enabled us to present \$10,000 to the Talbot Historical Society to apply toward the renovation of Joseph's Cottage in our beloved Historical Society Garden. We believe our donation helped inspire additional funding to enable the renovation project to broaden and advance within the Garden.

Our talent and treasure came to the forefront again when – in the process of donating trees to the Town of Easton's Idlewild Park to memorialize Frederick Law Olmsted's 200th birthday – we learned that the town planned to expand its popular Rail Trail. Invited to partner on the project, we quickly jumped into landscape design mode and ultimately supported installation of nearly \$10,000 in trees and native plantings to enhance the first two blocks of Easton's Rail Trail Extension adding more greenspace to the town.

Thanks to our enthusiastic members, we continue our traditional activities for the community and for our club – the care and nurturing of four town parks; holiday decorations for public buildings; free gardening lectures open to the public; and involvement with Young Gardeners, Meals on Wheels, Talbot Hospice, and Talbot Interfaith Shelter; plus luncheons, workshops and garden tours. This year, we also launched a new Grant Program to support community endeavors that benefit the local environment and citizenry.

It is heartwarming to know that our simple actions can have multiplier effects... that our talent and treasure – and our growing and dedicated membership – can make a beautiful difference for many. Thank you to our Executive Board and members for making the Talbot County Garden Club the treasure it has been for more than 105 years.

Carolyn Rugg
2021-2023 President



COVER PHOTO: Susie Middleton's "Hanging Gardens Living Wreath," NGC Standard Flower Show, District 1 of The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc., Chesapeake College, September 24, 2022. Top Prize Winner: Horticultural Excellence and Growers Choice Awards.

FIVE-STAR EVENT

Talbot County Tour Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage

The TALBOT COUNTY TOUR welcomed well over a thousand pilgrims on May 7, despite a challenging Tour-day Nor'easter. Record revenues that reflected our stalwart committees, welcoming homeowners and supporters, and a boost from social media enabled us to make a significant contribution toward restoration of Joseph's Cottage, an 18th century dwelling in the Talbot Historical Society Garden.

Widewater treasures
MARYLAND HOUSE & GARDEN PILGRIMAGE
TALBOT COUNTY TOUR Saturday, May 7, 2022
 10 am to 5 pm, Rain or Shine



THE COMMITTEE... CHAIR: ELEANOR DENEGRE
ADVISORS: Caroline Benson and Virginia Sappington
COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Advertising: Maggie Jarboe and Louise Williams. Flowers: Ingrid Blanton and Karen Parker.
Hospitality: Georgia Adler and Susie Granville. Hostess: Jody Shaner. 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 Hawkins. Publicity: Pam Keeton and Rita Mhley. Rack Cards: Rebecca Gaffney. Road Marking and Directions: Carol Harrison and Trish Reynolds. Script: Eleanor Denegre. Tour Bells: Caroline Benson. Treasurers: Joan Crowley, Maxine Millar and Virginia Sappington.



Ingrid Blanton

Lynn Smith, Kay Perkins



ImpactClubs+ Communities GCA Bulletin Fall 2022

Zone VI

Talbot County Garden Club Easton, MD

On May 7 Talbot County Garden Club successfully showcased the singular architecture, gardens, and water views of the Eastern Shore of Chesapeake Bay.

The 64th staging of the Talbot County Tour of the Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage drew more than 1,000 visitors despite a challenging cool front. Thanks to enthusiastic property owners and dedicated committees of TOGCC members and other community volunteers, TOGCC presented \$10,000 to the Talbot Historical Society the designated beneficiary, to help restore Joseph's Cottage, a

late eighteenth-century dwelling in the society's public garden in Easton.

The pilgrimage was founded in 1937 by garden clubs around the state as an annual event to promote historic properties in Annapolis, the state capital. TOGCC has been involved with the pilgrimage since its inception. Tours now benefit historic sites in each host county. This year the six tour houses on the Talbot County Tour included an array of architectural styles and one of the houses was built on land purchased by Lord Baltimore in the 1690s. Land was offered at Third Haven Friends Meeting House (1684), the oldest documented building in the state.

At the presentation ceremony, Talbot Historical Society Vice President Al Silverstein welcomed the society's 66-year relationship



Cabinetmaker Joseph Neill's late eighteenth-century cottage at Talbot Historical Society, Easton, MD. Photo by Rita Mhley



Talbot Historical Society principals (from left) General Manager Peggy Moray and Vice President Al Silverstein receive \$10,000 from Talbot County GC President Carolyn Rugg with TOGCC Treasurer Fran Jenkins and Tour Chair Eleanor Denegre. Photo by Rita Mhley

with TOGCC, initiated in 1956, when the James Neill House (ca. 1800) was saved from the wrecking ball. Not only did TOGCC contribute toward the society's purchase of this key property, but the club has lovingly designed, planned, and maintained the surrounding garden ever since. Cabinetmaker Joseph Neill was James Neill's brother; both were Quakers and early abolitionists. According to Silverstein, the restoration of Joseph's Cottage is a special project currently under discussion by the society's board. While architectural studies are already underway, it could take up to 18 months to restore as a suitable tour site and exhibition area. "There is a lot of history connected to this property," Silverstein points out. "We look forward to the day when the cottage restoration is complete," says TOGCC President Carolyn Rugg. "So we can begin planning for the gardens to grow it, to ensure the historical society garden endures as a horticultural gem within the town of Easton."

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Pilgrimage Promos & Coverage

SAMPLE EDITORIAL CLIPS

You're Invited!
Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage
TALBOT COUNTY TOUR
 Saturday, May 7, 10 am to 5 pm
 (rain or shine)

- Six Historic Properties
- Inspiring Landscapes & Gardens
- 17th c. Quaker Meeting House
- Stunning Floral Arrangements

Advance Tickets \$35: mhgp.org
 Also available at Bountiful and Garden Treasures in Easton.
 Day-of Tickets \$40: Available at the Talbot Historical Society and at each tour site.

Sponsored by the Talbot County Garden Club to restore Joseph's Cottage on the grounds of the Talbot Historical Society and to maintain ongoing civic projects.

SAMPLE PAID MEDIA ADS

SAMPLE CABLE TV PSAs

Home and Garden Tour 30sec spot.mp4

Home and Garden Tour 30sec spot.mp4

SAMPLE PAID MEDIA ADS

Attraction
 The Good News Magazine May 2022 Established 1979

Talbot County House and Garden Tour

Talbot County Garden Club

LIFE The Sunday Star 5.1.22

MARYLAND HOUSE & GARDEN PILGRIMAGE

Six private properties will welcome visitors on Talbot County Tour

EASTON — An array of exciting historic properties await you on Saturday during the Talbot County portion of the Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage. The tour is from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 7, and is open to all ages.

The tour gives visitors an opportunity to see six of the state's most beautiful homes and gardens, as well as the 17th-century Quaker Meeting House. The tour is organized by the Talbot County Garden Club and the Talbot County Historical Society.

The tour will include a visit to the Colonial Revival style home of the Talbot County Historical Society, the 17th-century Quaker Meeting House, the 18th-century Georgian style home of the Talbot County Historical Society, the 19th-century Gothic Revival style home of the Talbot County Historical Society, the 19th-century Queen Anne style home of the Talbot County Historical Society, and the 19th-century Italianate style home of the Talbot County Historical Society.

Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. Tickets are available at www.talbotcountygardenclub.org and at the Talbot County Historical Society, 25 S. Washington St., Easton. Tickets are also available at Bountiful and Garden Treasures in Easton. Tickets are also available at the Talbot County Historical Society and at each tour site.

SAMPLE PAID MEDIA ADS

SATURDAY, MAY 7

TALBOT COUNTY TOUR / MARYLAND HOUSE & GARDEN PILGRIMAGE
 10 am. to 5 pm. This self-guided tour takes you to six private historic and waterfront properties with inspiring landscapes outdoors and stunning floral arrangements indoors! Proceeds will help restore Joseph's Cottage at Site No. 1: Talbot Historical Society, 25 S. Washington St., Easton. Tickets: \$35 in advance (til May 7); www.mhgp.org and at Bountiful and Garden Treasures in Easton; \$40 at all Tour Sites on May 7. Questions: 703-585-2989. Lunch info: www.talbotcountycg.org / 443-604-9832.

The Star 4.29.22

The Star Online "Event" Calendar

FOCUS - Talbot Towns The Star 7.15.22

Garden Club gives Talbot Historical Society \$10K

The Talbot County Garden Club has donated \$10,000 to the Talbot Historical Society to help with the restoration of Joseph's Cottage. The donation was made at a meeting of the Garden Club on July 15, 2022. The Garden Club has been supporting the restoration of Joseph's Cottage since 1939. The donation will be used to purchase materials and pay for labor on the restoration project.

SAMPLE PAID MEDIA ADS



At the invitation of the Talbot County Free Library Staff, Tour Chair Eleanor Denegre presented a "Tour Preview" to an audience in the Library, April 2, 2022.

Tidewater Times
 May 2022

Talbot Guide 3.22

Six Celebrated Private Properties Will Welcome Visitors on Talbot County Tour, May 7

An array of exciting Eastern Shore properties awaits your visit during the Talbot County portion of the Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage, Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 10am to 5pm, rain or shine. The Talbot County Tour is exceptional and not to be missed!

The Talbot County Garden Club, which organizes the Tour, has participated in the Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage since its inception in 1939. As a fundraiser, this year's Tour will support the restoration of Joseph's Cottage (c1797-98) at the Talbot Historical Society and the club's roster of civic projects. These include the design and maintenance of five public gardens in the Towns of Easton, plant free gardening lectures, a children's environmental program, holiday decorations for the towns, floral presentations for Hospice and Meals on Wheels, and more.

Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. To purchase advance-sale tickets, go to <https://www.bountifulandgardent.com>.

Talbot Guide 3.22

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DIGITAL & SOCIAL MEDIA

- BALTIMORE MAGAZINE
- EVENTS.BALTIMOREMAGAZINE.COM
- GCA ZONE VI
- ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY
- MARYLAND OFFICE OF TOURISM
- VISITMARYLAND.ORG
- SPY & NEWSBREAK.COM
- TALBOT COUNTY OFFICE OF TOURISM
- TOUR TALBOT.ORG
- WBOC DELMARVALIFE.COM

What's Up Magazine Events

WHAT'S UP? MEL

Talbot County Tour / Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage

May 7, 2022

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Easton, MD

DeMarVa Public Media

TALBOT COUNTY TOUR, Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage

May 7, 2022

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Easton, MD

FGCMD GardeNews 7.22

On May 7th, The Talbot County Garden Club participated in the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, opening 8 exquisite properties to over 1,000 visitors on what was otherwise a cool and rainy day. Still the homes were breathtaking, the gardens spectacular and the floral designs gorgeous. TCGC has participated in the pilgrimage since its inception in 1939, this year raising funds to support the restoration of St. Joseph's Cottage (c1797-1798) at the Talbot Historical Society as well as the club's many other civic projects.

FIVE-STAR INITIATIVE

Donation of Club's Treasured Archives

On March 28, TCGC proudly presented a century of local history encapsulated within its ARCHIVES to the Talbot County Free Library in Easton for safekeeping and public access. On April 1, the Library responded: "We are very happy about our partnership with the Talbot County Garden Club and will keep their beautiful Archives safe in our Maryland Room vault."



The Archive assembly project, which happily occupied TCGC archivists Martha Horner and Pat Lewers over 10 years, and our 8-volume Archive donation garnered media attention for the club that included first-person accounts by Martha and Pat and other long-standing members Caroline Benson, Virginia Sappington and Meg Van Den Berg, and two interviews by Dave Wheelan on SPY. Coverage on GCA's online "Showcase" followed.



Pat Lewers & Martha Horner
Caroline Benson & Virginia Sappington



Martha Horner & Pat Lewers



Caroline Benson & Virginia Sappington

The Star 3.30.22

HISTORY Library will keep Talbot County Garden Club's centenary archives

EASTON — The Talbot County Free Library in Easton accepted the historical archives of the Talbot County Garden Club in a ceremony at the Talbot County Free Library on March 28. At that time, the Garden Club also recognized Pat Lewers and Martha Horner, members who assembled and carefully curated the archives, which show a century of intertwined club, county and town history. The eight volumes of the archive will be stored in the Maryland Room and be available to the public by advance request to MFB@ncf.gov.

"We chose the library as a safe repository for our eight leather-bound volumes and as an accessible place for their future use by the public," said Garden Club President Carolyn Ragg, who made the official presentation. "Some fantastic stories of the development of public space leap from the pages of these books. They provide evidence of how a community-minded group — made by an interest in gardening, flowers and the environment — can work as one to enhance a town and a county."



Talbot County Garden Club archivists Martha Horner and Pat Lewers all behind the Club's archives, which they created. Their eight hefty volumes of history were presented to the Talbot County Free Library for safekeeping on March 28. Attending the presentation ceremony are, standing from left, Becky Ritt (TCGC Maryland Room Director), Scott Oliver (TCCL Assistant Director), Carolyn Ragg (TCGC President), Dana Newman (TCCL Director), State Senator Addie Eckardt (District 37) and Sabine Simenon (TCCL outreach services and volunteer coordinator).

and book. After that, they quickly shaped the volumes into Horner's last dream. It would take five years for those volumes to see the light of day again.

These beautiful books — each weighing about 10 pounds — are works of art, with calligraphed inscriptions and precision annotations and document numbering. The volumes cover all 10 decades — with the first 10 years in volume one and more recent materials in greater abundance in subsequent volumes. The books include primary and photographic sources, anecdotes, captions, photographs, invitations, programs, news clips and more.

The books document the Talbot County Garden Club's century-plus history to date. In the process, they tell the story of diverse talented and community-minded women who joined together because of a mutual interest in horticulture and the art of flower arranging. They recount the accomplishments, gardening skills and environmental concerns of each president's term.

Horner would compose all the writing and identify people in the pictures. She'd print out and carefully cut holes for the pictures. Lewers was the creative one with placement in "The Book."

For the two of them, the five-year archive project was not just a hobby; it was fun. In 2017, they proudly placed their precious volumes and Horner was named the club's 100th anniversary celebrator. The volumes also became the basis for the club's published content.



Members of the Talbot County Garden Club work in the Historical Society garden one of several they maintain in Easton.

A peek inside the club's Archives, which can be viewed at the Library...

Memorial Children's Garden



Three generations of the 21st-century children who inspired the completion of the Frances Plummer Memorial Children's Garden. From left, Landscape Architect Rodney Robinson, Executive Director Tony Wilkins, Mayor Bradenton, Virginia Sappington, garden artist and artist Mary, The Garden Society's Bethany, Talbot County Garden Club President Ann Horton, garden project coordinator Kelly Cahoon, The Republic, former Garden Club member and group organizer Bill Calhoun, and donor Anne Stinson, Susan Davis, Caroline Benson, Susan Plummer C., Frances Clarke, Ann Lewers, and...



Virginia Sappington presents the gift of the restored Villa Fountain, brick apron and completed garden to the Town of Easton, George Murphy, Mayor.



Talbot County Garden Club members gather at the Historical Society after working all day cleaning up the town's gardens during Easton Beautification Day April 21, 1998.

FIVE-STAR ACTIVITY

Arbor Day: Honoring Frederick Law Olmsted Tree Planting in Idlewild Park

TCGC observed ARBOR DAY on April 9 by dedicating three bald cypress trees that the Town of Easton installed near the gazebo in Idlewild Park. Inspired by a Garden Club of America initiative, the club purchased the trees to honor America's great landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted's 200th Birthday.

12 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022 THE STAR

LIFE

ARBOR DAY

Town, garden club mark Arbor Day with tree planting

EASTON — On April 9 to observe Arbor Day, the Town of Easton installed three bald cypress trees near the gazebo in Idlewild Park. The trees were provided by the Talbot County Garden Club to honor America's great landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted's 200th Birthday.

Olmsted's notable public green spaces include New York's Central Park and Washington's Rock Creek Park. Easton's Idlewild Park reflects Olmsted's spirit as it offers recreational opportunities and enjoyment to many people. Honoring Olmsted is an initiative of the Garden Club of America, with which the Talbot County Garden Club is affiliated.

In a proclamation, Mayor Robert Willey urged all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day by recognizing the many benefits that trees provide, and by planting and caring for trees for the well-being of this and future generations.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Taking part in the Arbor Day tree planting event were, front, from left, Talbot County Garden Club Vice President Maribeth Lane, TCGC President Carolyn Rugg, Easton Mayor Robert Willey and former TCGC President/current Easton Tree Board Member Chloe Pitard; and Easton Public Works Department staff, back, from left, Logan Lyons, Mike Young, Barry Slaughter and Kevin Hackett.



Standing before one of three trees bald cypress trees planted to honor FLO and Arbor Day 2022: Jody Shaner, Lin Moeller, Patty MacDonald, Nancy Thompson, Sara Walker, Virginia Sappington, Janet Mackey, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Orser, Carolyn Rugg, Chloe Pitard, Caroline Benson, Maribeth Lane, and Paige Connelly.

FIVE-STAR ACTIVITY

Partnering to Develop Easton's Rail Trail Extension

When TCGC learned of plans to expand the popular in-town Rail Trail – a former railroad right-of-way repurposed to offer off-road recreational opportunities for walkers, runners and bikers that aptly fits Olmsted's park paradigm – we leapt into action. We formed a committee to lend design expertise and select and procure plant material for the first two blocks of the NEW RAIL-TRAIL SPUR.

To date, the town has paved much of this Spur, planted our trees – six fringe trees and one specimen sweetbay magnolia – and created beds where we have planted native shrubs, perennials and grasses for year-round interest. Our principal bed welcomes those heading west on the new 2.5-mile Spur from the main 3-mile north-south Trail. Another bed lends privacy for neighbors. The Spur will be dedicated by state and local officials in the spring. By then, TCGC's three benches will be installed to encourage relaxation at select vistas.

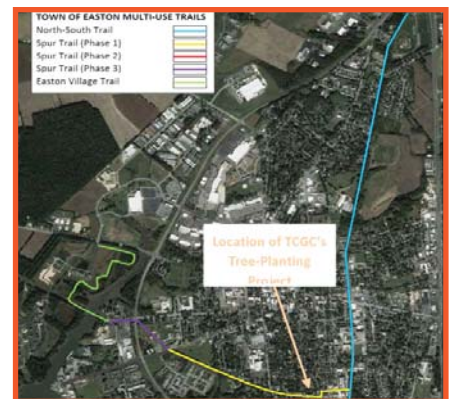
TCGC and the town have solidified an effective partnership to support this project. Moving forward, the town will maintain all new trees, beds and benches while we continue our legacy of beautifying Easton by extending Olmsted's park-like environment further along the trail.



FEBRUARY 2022



DECEMBER 2022



TCGC RAIL TRAIL COMMITTEE, front row: Maribeth Lane, Caroline Benson, Nancy Thompson, Virginia Sappington, and Janet Mackey joined the town's crew on planting day. Committee members not pictured: Paige Connelly, Anne Jelich and Cindy Pease.

SPEAKER PROGRAMS

January: JENNY ROSE CAREY, renowned gardener, educator, historian, author



“Thank you for a wonderful, information-packed presentation!” commented one of the scores of Zoomers who attended our virtual January 25 Speaker Program. Presenter JENNY ROSE CAREY – former director of Pennsylvania Horticultural Society’s Meadowbrook Farm and Temple University’s Ambler Arboretum, and caretaker of her own property, “Northview” – was inspiring! Her photos from her own and others’ gardens were gorgeous and her tips were oh-so practical. Visit as

many gardens as you can (especially locally), she urged.

“If you like a plant and it’s growing locally, you can likely grow it, too!” Her book, *The Ultimate Flower Gardener’s Guide: How to Combine Shape, Color, and Texture to Create the Garden of Your Dreams*, is newly released.



Plant in masses
for you and the
pollinators

Rudbeckia triloba,
Brown-eyed Susan

February: CLAIRE JONES, horticulturalist “Celebrate the Coming of Spring!”

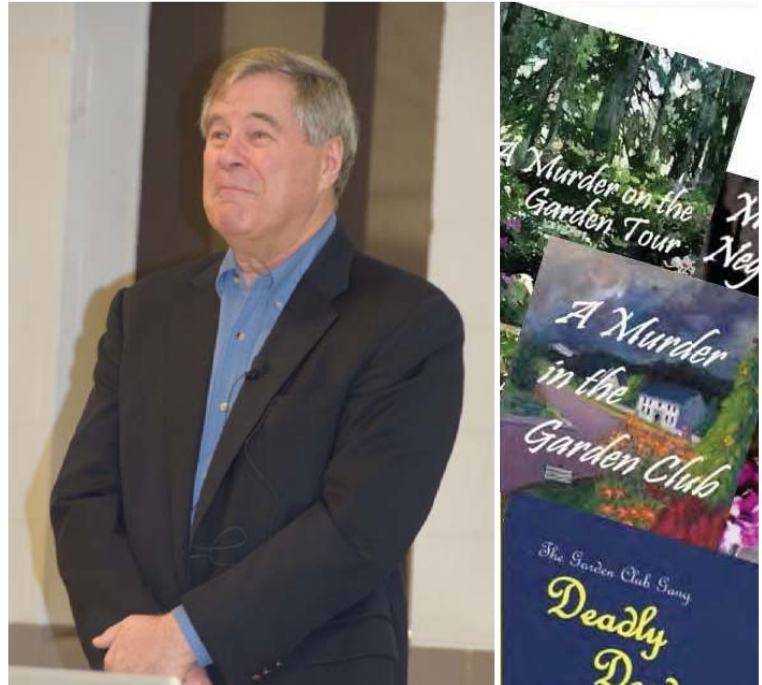
Floral Designer CLAIRE JONES visited Talbot County Garden Club members and guests in person at the Easton Volunteer Fire Department. She came bearing buckets of blooms that she expertly fashioned into distinctive arrangements that were awarded to lucky audience members. TCGC member Camille Massie assisted. While at work, Claire shared useful techniques, e.g., crosswinding to create topiaries of alstroemeria and sunflowers... soaking daffodil stems in warm water for 2 hours before arranging with other flowers... and stated emphatically: “When you design arrangements, you need to know when to call it quits!”



SPEAKER PROGRAMS

March: NEAL SANDERS, author “Gardening Is Murder!”

NEAL SANDERS writes killer books – mysteries and thrillers – focused on strong, independent women like his wife, a garden club member and master gardener. As the spouse of an avid gardener with no “real” responsibilities other than to dig holes and move rocks, Neal has had lots of time to observe gardeners and their foibles. The cast of characters he develops and enshrines in his books are memorable (like the intrepid ladies of the “Garden Club Gang”). They make his 15 books laugh-out-loud funny! When he came to town, he regaled us with his sassy oration, titled *Gardening Is Murder*, a spouse’s view on gardening and the cast of characters it has inspired.



April: Honoring Frederic Law Olmsted ED ORSER, Friends of Olmsted Parks & Landscapes

Happy 200th Birthday, Frederick Law Olmsted! TCGC celebrated in style with a traditional meeting, held at the Third Haven Friends Meeting House. Guest speaker was ED ORSER, Professor Emeritus of American Studies at the University of Maryland Baltimore Campus, and Ex Officio Board Member of the Friends of Maryland’s Olmsted Parks and Landscapes, Inc., a preservation advocacy group. His presentation: “The Legacy of the Olmsteds in Maryland: Baltimore & Beyond.” Olmsted was progressive in his approach to landscape design. Two sons followed in his footsteps. Together over a century, they created 90 notable and enjoyable greenspaces in Maryland. TCGC sang “Happy Birthday” to FLO and enjoyed gourmet cupcakes.



GARDEN CARE IN TOWN

Talbot Historical Society Garden

EASTON BEAUTIFICATION DAY, May 2, found TCGC gardeners out in full force with energy supplied by many new members. Before lunch, we memorialized Marjorie & Roger Judd whose children (Marcy Wagner and David Judd with wife Nora) and friends (including Marsie Hawkinson) recalled their devotion to the Talbot Historical Society Garden. Two benches were dedicated in their honor.



Pam Keeton



Camille Massie



Paula Murcott



Joan Crowley

While working in that Garden, our gardeners were treated to a rare sighting – a young barred owl watching them from high above. Alas, the large old sycamore that regularly provided a nesting cavity for resident owls was felled in a summer storm. An adjacent tree, also deemed dangerous, was subsequently removed as well.



Eleanor Denegre, Pat Gillen, Louise Williams, Janet Mackey, Joey Frankos, Sara Walker, Carolyn Rugg

Idlewild Park, Five-Corners Fountain Garden



Spring



Winter

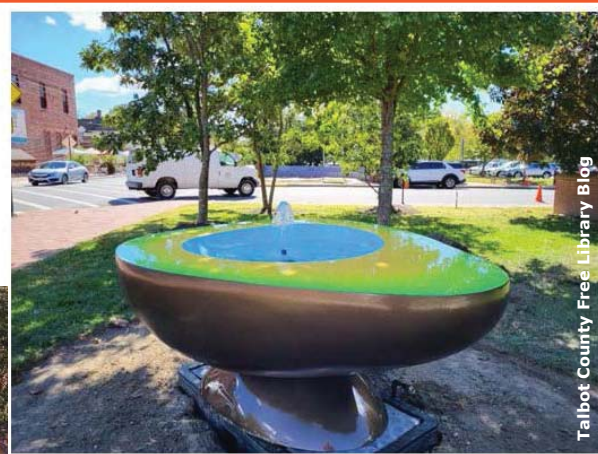


Summer

GARDEN CARE IN TOWN

Talbot County Free Library, Easton

Jan Kirsh's AVOCADO FOUNTAIN was installed in front of the library in October. TCGC members Carolyn Rugg, Joey Frankos, Chloe Pitard, Ann Ashby and Lynn Champion spent a sunny Saturday morning planting nine flats of colorful pansies at the base to match Jan's colorful sculpture and fountain. Permanent landscaping will follow in 2023.



Talbot County Free Library Blog



The Talbot County Free Library would like to thank Terry Britt for the donation of this stunning piece of art, Jan Kirsh for her donation of refurbishing the avocado and her consulting services, our County maintenance team for their installation service; and the Talbot County Garden Club who will be installing a variety of beautiful flowers and other plantings around the fountain. Come see this new addition to the library today!

Idlewild Park, Children's Garden



Anna Maria Malin, Hatsie Long, Maribeth Lane, Julia Miller, Carol Harrison, Jodie Shaner, Colleen Doremus, Pat Gillen, Lin Moeller



Lin Moeller



Pat Gillen



Anna Maria Malin

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

May Day Flower Judging in Downtown Easton



On April 30, TCGC members judged MAY DAY floral designs in Easton at an event sponsored by the Downtown Merchants. Judges Myra Gons, Maribeth Lane, Trish Reynolds, Meg van den Berg, and Carol Harrison selected Curlique as Best in Show and #1 Full Display winner. Enthusiasm was abundant and Downtown was even more beautiful for their efforts.



Talbot Hospice & Talbot Interfaith Shelter

Several times each year – for Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day, Easter, Father’s Day, Autumn, Thanksgiving and Christmas – TCGC’s Community Garden Therapy and Hospice Committee creates FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS for Talbot Hospice, to uplift residents and their families.



Autumn

In September, we also began presenting bouquets to the Talbot Interfaith Shelter, which provides residential opportunities in Easton for families and single folks in need of temporary housing. We hope that our blooms will brighten that group’s two residences and bring joy to those within! Presenting were TCGC VP Maribeth Lane and Horticulture/Awards Chair Trish Reynolds.

Accepting was Julie Lowe (c.), Executive Director of TIS.



Easter



Dede Hoopes, Lynn Smith, Myra Gons, Trish Reynolds, Jan Cullen, Maribeth Lane, Ingrid Blanton, Carol Harrison



St. Patrick’s Day

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Town of Easton Holiday Decorations

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO OUR NEIGHBORS IN THE TOWN OF EASTON! Members enjoyed our favorite activity of the year – decorating fresh greens for Easton’s public buildings. We thank the local community for support and the friendly staff of Easton Utilities who installed our handmade decorations for the Talbot County Courthouse, Easton Utilities Headquarters, Shore United Bank, plus the Firehouse and Library.



Shore Bank



This year, we also created 140 cheery tabletop arrangements for local Meals on Wheels clients.



Event co-chairs
Colleen Doremus,
Fran Jenkins



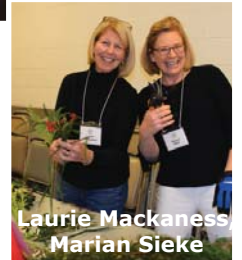
Easton Utilities



Talbot County Courthouse



Hatsie Long, Meredith Watters, Zandi Nammack, Rita Osgood



Laurie Mackaness
Marian Sieke

State of Maryland Governor’s Tree

At the invitation of the Governor and First Lady, TCGC partnered with Oxford Garden Club to create a stunning HOLIDAY TREE to represent Talbot County in the Rotunda of Maryland’s historic State House in Annapolis through the holiday season. Ornaments for the tree – themed “Waterfowl of Talbot County” – were lovingly handsewn by club members, led by TCGC’s Myra Gons and Dana Vlk.



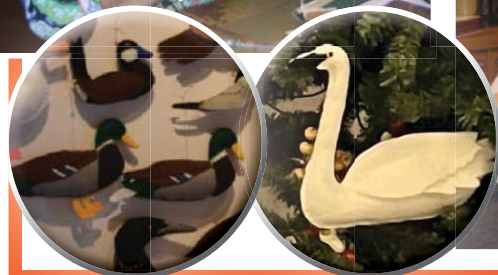
Myra Gons



Dana Vlk



At the tree’s installation... Marilyn Reedy (OGC President), Anna O’Kelly (Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland President), Trish Reynolds (OGC & TCGC), Myra Gons (TCGC), Dana Vlk (TCGC)



Carol Harrison

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Young Gardeners After-School Program

THE STAR
"Your Community Connection"
Friday, April 8, 2022

Fairy Houses
Talbot young gardeners craft box projects at library

By Trish Reynolds

Young Gardeners After-School Program members, including Alexia Bury, are shown at the Talbot County Library in Easton, Md., on Friday, April 8, 2022. The children are shown working on their fairy houses, which they will take home with them.

Young Gardeners After-School Program members, including Alexia Bury, are shown at the Talbot County Library in Easton, Md., on Friday, April 8, 2022. The children are shown working on their fairy houses, which they will take home with them.

LIBRARY
Page 1

Library volunteer Eryn Chapman helped young gardeners craft their fairy houses at the Talbot County Library in Easton, Md., on Friday, April 8, 2022. The children are shown working on their fairy houses, which they will take home with them.



Cordy Tucker and Gretta McDonald and their YOUNG GARDENERS COMMITTEE bring nature education along with fun to school-age kids at the Library in Easton.

The Wind and the Oyster Jack, Bryan Gomes, environmental educator, Clear-SharkH2O, taught the children to tong for oysters and to tie nautical knots.

as Bryan Gomes encouraged them to be good stewards of the environment, especially our waterways. TCGC hostesses helped with hands-on demonstrations.

April 8 – Young Gardeners made headlines with their fairy house craft project.

October 13 – How does pollution get into our water? How can we prevent pollutants from entering our water??? 1st to 4th graders listened attentively

November 4 – Young Gardeners with the help of TCGCers made the ornaments to grace their tree at the Festival of Trees, to benefit Talbot Hospice.

April 22 – After reading the book

Horticulture / Conservation Publications

Can You Dig It? appears three times a year with Trish Reynolds editing. The weekly informative and well-received *Tid Bits*, which debuted to keep members connected during the pandemic, will be retired.

Tid Bits!
Horticulture/Conservation Tips!
March 1, 2022
Compiled by Trish Reynolds

Tid Bits!
Horticulture/Conservation Tips!
August 2, 2022
Compiled by Trish Reynolds

Tid Bits!
Horticulture/Conservation Tips!
November 22, 2022
Compiled by Trish Reynolds

Tid Bits!
Horticulture/Conservation Tips!
January 16, 2022
Compiled by Trish Reynolds

Can You Dig It?
Spring 2022

The holiday season for 2022 is well underway... Thanksgiving is already gone, Hanukkah starts this Sunday, and Christmas is only 10 days away... where did the time go!

IN THIS ISSUE:
The Gardener's Prayer... Suev Middleton
Simply Creating a Holiday Wreath... Lin Mueller
A Gons... Trish Reynolds
A Bucket List of Garden Day Tips... Pam Keenan
TCGC and the Talbot County Free Library... Chris Pined
Easton's Rain-Trial Spot is Ready for Spring... Ann Hickey and Heidi Smith
Editor... Trish Reynolds
Design & Layout... Rebecca Gaffney

Published by the Talbot County Garden Club

Can You Dig It?
Spring 2022

Welcome to our spring edition of *Can You Dig It?*... This issue is going to take a slightly different track... and I know you will be pleased and surprised about the various ways each committee member took on this assignment.

IN THIS ISSUE:
Trees: Nature's Foundation... Lin Mueller
Pennsylvania Horticulture Society (PHS) Gold Medal Trees of the Year... Suev Middleton
My Love Affair with the Double File Yucca... Trish Reynolds
Arbor Day... Kim Eckert
Learning about Deciduous Trees the Hard Way... Samantha McCall
The Best Apps to Identify Trees... Nancy Lepore
TCGC's New Tree Planting Project... Janet Mackey
Book Review... Chris Pined
Design & Layout: Rebecca Gaffney

Published by Talbot County Garden Club

HORTICULTURE ACTIVITIES

FGCMD's District 1 National Garden Club Standard Flower Show



Susie Middleton FGCMD Master Flower Show Judge and fellow TCGC member, presented a HORTICULTURE WORKSHOP to encourage Flower Show participation.

TCGC whole-heartedly took part in HARVEST HIGHLIGHTS, a District 1 Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland/ National Garden Clubs Inc., Standard Flower Show at Chesapeake College on September 24. Ten Eastern Shore clubs participated; Queen Anne's County Garden Club hosted. Susie Middleton (r.) stands with her prize-winning living wreath (detailed on our cover).



Trish Reynolds accepted Show entries.



Pam Keeton's Red Foliated Cotton



Samantha McCall's Traditional Line Mass Tricolor Design



Julia Miller's Limelight Hydrangea

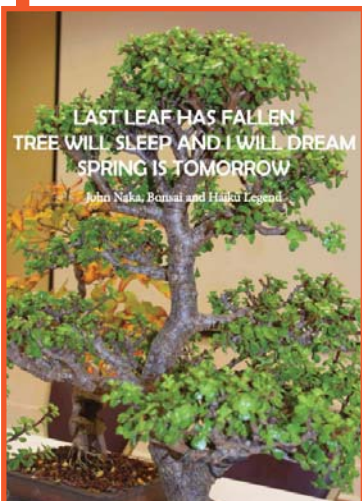


Chloe Pitard's Salvia 'Leucantha'



"The Art of Bonsai" Presentation

Maryland Bonsai Association's Barry Figard and Wayne Warren treated us to Bonsai insights at a meeting at Christ Church, St. Michaels on October 25. They explained that Bonsai ("BON=tray + SAI=planting") is gardening in miniature.



Barry Figard



Wayne Warren

TIME FOR OURSELVES

Spring & Fall Luncheons

SPRING LUNCHEON AT ELEANOR DENEGRE'S HOME

FALL LUNCHEON HOSTED BY LIN MOELLER



Eleanor Denegre, Maxine Millar, Rita Osgood, Rebecca Gaffney, Pam Keeton, Hatsie Long, Cindy Pease, Patty MacDonald



Bobbie Brittingham



Trips & Tours



May 12 – TCGC members joined garden club members from Oxford and Dorchester in touring CHANTICLEER GARDENS, Wayne, PA, with lunch at Aronimink Country Club.

June 16 – TCGC ladies enjoyed a great trip to the PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW. It rained on arrival, but skies quickly cleared for our hour-long early morning private tour and full day of gardening inspiration.

December 8 – Members and friends bussed to LONGWOOD GARDENS, Kennett Square, PA, to view the breathtaking holiday decorations and illuminations.



Welcome, New Members!



Sarah King Carr



Pat Gillen



Hatsie Long



Patty MacDonald



Laurie Mackaness

RECOGNITION

Celebrating Members



CHLOE PITARD was named to the Town of Easton Tree Board by Mayor Robert Willey. The 5-member Tree Board advises Public Works on park and street tree planting. An experienced horticulturist, Chloe served as club president (2019-2021) and is currently member-at-large on our club's Executive Board.



CORDY TUCKER was named Honorary Member for her good works over 31 years of membership – most especially with Young Gardeners and the revitalization of the Library Gardens. Virginia Sappington made the presentation.



Former club president and chair of many club committees including the Pilgrimage, PAT LEWERS has been a stalwart club and community leader and has definitely earned her Honorary Membership. Her greatest legacy is encapsulated in the Club's historical Archive albums that she co-edited with Martha Horner.



A leader in the club since the day she joined in 1987, MARTHA HORNER has been a masterful contributor to the life of the club and the community. An Honorary Membership has been bestowed on her for all the good that she has engendered, and in particular for her role over 10 years in assembling the club's Archives for future generations.

Welcome, New Members!



Anna Maria Malin



Paula Murcott



Zandi Nammack



Cindy Pease



Louise Peterson

RECOGNITION

National, State, District, Local Focus on Our Club

Talbot County Garden Club

Easton, MD

For 40 years Talbot County Garden Club has held a wreath-making day immediately after Thanksgiving. The decorated fresh wreaths and garlands help make public buildings around our beautiful community of Easton especially festive for the holidays. This activity is great fun and so satisfying that last year 70 club members met in person (pre-Omicron) at the local fire department to take part. This was a welcome change from 2020, when COVID-19 restrictions prevented meeting there and private garages were secured to continue the tradition. In addition to assembling decor for the courthouse, two libraries, the utilities headquarters, the fire department, and a landmark bank,

production included 130 tabletop arrangements for homebound Meals on Wheels clients.

Our October 2021 club meeting was also held in a traditional format. We met indoors, and Nicole Judy Rhoads of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society shared a fascinating story of how Philadelphia came to be called "America's Garden Capital." She covered the history of the early simple Quaker gardens and the more flamboyant DuPont gardens and noted the more than 30 public gardens, arboreta, and green spaces still located within 30 miles of the city, also internationally recognized for its annual flower show.

—Rita Whaley

GCA Bulletin "NewsWorthy" Spring 2022



Talbot County GC decorating tables include, from left, Anne Jellich, Alden Firth, Boots Michalak, Louise Williams, and Laura Carney. Photo by Madeline Cohen

NGC & FGCM D AWARDS

FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF MARYLAND presented several awards to the Talbot County Garden Club, March 2022

STATE AWARDS:

- 2nd Place (Landscape Design Council) for Talbot Hospice Healing Garden
- 3rd Place (Landscape Design Council) for Renovation and Planting along the Garden Wall at Talbot County Free Library
- Recognition of 105th Anniversary
- Annual Meeting Flower Show Design Blue Ribbons (Susie Middleton, Nicki Schwab); Horticulture Blue Ribbons + additional (Susie Middleton, Trish Reynolds, Nicki Schwab)

DISTRICT AWARDS:

- 2nd Place for Renovation of Talbot Hospice Healing Garden for a Meditative and Peaceful Environment
- Honorable Mention Community Service Award for Large Club Renovation & Design of the Healing Garden
- 3rd Place tie, Yearbook Clubs 51+
- Recognition of 105th Anniversary
- 2nd Place Annette Richter Photography Award (Trish Reynolds: "Michaelmas Daisy")

TCGC Members' "HARVEST HIGHLIGHTS" Flower Show Awards, September 2022

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS TOP EXHIBITOR AWARDS: Division I – Horticulture

- Award of Horticulture Excellence (Susie Middleton)
- Arboreal Award (Pamela Keeton)
- Grower's Choice Award (Susie Middleton)

DISTRICT I AWARDS: Division I – Horticulture

- Margaret Roberts Yerger Perpetual Award for the exhibitor winning the most blue ribbons for perennial exhibits (Julia Miller)

DISTRICT I AWARDS: Division II – Design

- Susan B. Whitaker Perpetual Award for the most creative Petite Design exhibit expressing a sense of humor and wit (Susie Middleton)

Upcoming Five-Star Event

Attraction 12.22

Garden Club Plans Spring Symposium

At a recent Talbot County Garden Club (TCGC) meeting, spring symposium co-chairmen Sara Robins, Alden Firth and Madeleine Cohen announced plans for an April 25, 2023,



TCGC's 2023 Spring Symposium co-chairmen Sara Robins, Alden Firth and Madeleine Cohen promise an exciting, experiential garden-to-table educational event.

event entitled "Corks, Forks and Flowers." The club's biennial adventure in learning and major 2023 fundraiser will offer a serious garden-to-table experience, peppered with fun.

The co-chairmen and energetic sub-committee members are conjuring up a magical six-hour ticketed event that will cover the science of growing

and savoring flowers, herbs and grapes. In addition to hearing from experts on these topics, attendees will enjoy a welcome coffee service, plated luncheon, floral displays, exclusive ven-

dor boutiques, a silent auction, cooking demo and wine tasting, all the while garnering fresh ideas for entertaining.

Topics on the day's itinerary include:

"Seasonal Snipping: Planning, Planting and Harvesting Flowers for Cutting Gardens to Thrive on the Eastern Shore" Ginny Rosenkranz is a

University of Maryland Cooperative Extension educator and TV personality known for her lively segments on plant care and gardening.

"Talking Terroir: The Challenges of Winemaking along the Chesapeake"

Jacque and Patrick O'Neil are University of California, Davis-trained viticulturists/enologists, proprietors of Napa, California's Jericho Ridge Vineyard, and Tilghman Island residents, and members of the Spies Family, proprietors of Cordova's Triple Creek Winery. "Culinary Gardens: The Life of a Locavore"

Jordan Lloyd is the Le Cordon Bleu Pittsburgh-trained owner/chef at Easton's Hambleton House Events & Catering, formerly of the Wylder Hotel, Bartlett Pear Inn, La Goulue, Per Se and Citronelle, and Easton native.

Symposium proceeds will benefit the club's community "green" works that include beautification and maintenance of four parks in the Town of



Easton; holiday decorations for public buildings; free horticulture lectures open to the public; engagement with Young Gardeners, Meals on Wheels, Talbot Hospice and Interfaith Shelter; and partnership with financial support to develop the Town's new Rail Trail Extension.

The event will take place at Temple B'nai Israel's venue space in Easton.

For details and tickets, visit talbotcountygc.org/events/tcgc-symposium. To support the symposium and the great work that TCGC does in our community, email tcgc2023Symposium@gmail.com.

TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS, 2021-2023



Corresponding Secretary Sara Walker

Recording Secretary Julia Miller

Parliamentarian Lin Moeller

President Carolyn Rugg

Member-at-Large Chloe Pitard

Treasurer Fran Jenkins

Inset: *Vice President* Maribeth Lane





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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.

The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc., District 1

PHOTO CREDITS

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