



February 2025 President's Letter

Brr! It is very cold this morning as I am writing this letter to you. I am hoping for warmer weather soon!

Next month begins our busy season with District 1 and State meetings. The Symposium committee has been very busy making plans for our biennial gathering. The speakers are all under contract, lots of vendors have committed to coming, ads for the journal are selling well, several silent auction items have been pledged, and half the tickets are sold. I do hope many of you will be able to attend.

We will be voting for our favorite project in the GCA Founders Fund competition at the February 25th meeting. Please review the 3 candidates in your Winter Bulletin and come ready to vote.

The slate of officers that were announced at the January meeting. The vote to accept the slate will take place at our March meeting.

Hope to see you soon.

Maribeth



Member News:

Reminder: Annual Meeting 2025

Kay Perkins has graciously offered her home to host our June meeting. The meeting will be held on June 17th . **Please mark your calendars as this is a change from the date in the yearbook.**



January Minutes

Talbot County Garden Club
General meeting
1/28/25

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 at the Talbot County Library.

Maribeth welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new fiscal year.

The minutes of the December 3, 2024 general meeting were approved as sent.

President's report:

The District 1 annual meeting will be March 5 at The Fountains Wedding and Conference Center in Salisbury. Floral Designer Julia Clevett will be the speaker. The designs she will create will be raffled. If anyone plans to go she should give a check to Maribeth so Maribeth can submit one check from TCGC.

FGCMD Annual Meeting will be March 25 at Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City, presentation by Horticulturist Ron McIntosh. We would like to see good representation by TCGC members as this is Susie Middleton's last meeting as State President.

Everyone is encouraged to look at the winter issue of GCA Bulletin and review the finalists for the Founders Fund grant recipients. The finalists are: Marshlands Conservancy (NY), Virginia War Memorial Green Space (Richmond) and Forsyth Park Educational Shade Garden (Savannah). The winning project will receive \$40,000. TCGC will vote on the finalists at the February 25 general meeting.

The GCA National Affairs & Legislation (NAL) meeting will be held in Washington DC March 23-26, with a virtual session March 20. TCGC has budgeted \$500 to send a representative. Anyone who is interested in attending should contact Maribeth.

The Oxford Garden Club will be holding its tour on May 17 and is looking for docents.

Vice President's report:

Eleanor and Caroline Benson presented the plans for the 2026 Pilgrimage. In keeping with America250 the Pilgrimage will celebrate the colonial history of Talbot County. The homes on the tour will be in St Michaels, Oxford and Easton, and the tour will include "drive-bys" to highlight the history of each town. The Pilgrimage project will be the brickwork of the Neale House in the Historic Society Garden. Most of the houses, the route, and the plan are in place, but **a chair and co-chair are still needed**. Anyone who might be interested or have questions should contact Eleanor or Caroline.

Treasurer's report:

Operating: \$35,158.31

Restricted: \$16,675

CD: \$27,388

Corresponding Secretary's report:

Cards have been sent to Laura Carney on the loss of her mother-in-law, Sue Carney, and Sally McLuckie who has a torn ACL.

Membership:

A book, Wilderness, will be donated to the Talbot County Library in honor of Sue Carney, longtime former member of TCGC.

Finance:

The capital account ended the year with a market value of \$668,303 versus a market value of \$604,961 at the beginning of the year for an overall gain of \$63,342. The accrued income for 2024 was \$18,900. The current allocation in the account is 4.06% cash, 61.08% equities and 34.86% fixed income.

The market value of the account as of 1/20/25 is \$681,613, up 1.35% YTD. For the 12 month period, the account is up 12.67%.

Starting in January, all dividend and interest accruing each month to the capital account will be moved to the separate money market fund in order to build up cash for disbursements for 2025 and beyond. The money market fund is now yielding 4.54%.

January Minutes (cont'd)

Horticulture:

The program on January 27, "Herb Bitters and Human Biology" by Terry Holman, had 20 attendees and went well. February's lecture, "Cottage Gardening with a Sprinkling of Herbs," is scheduled for February 11 at 10am at the Parish Hall of Holy Trinity Church in Oxford. More information will be available in "Blossom & Bloom." On March 11 Janet Mackey will present a program on seed starting.

Awards:

TCGC has submitted several candidates for awards to be given out at the District 1 annual meeting and at the FGCMMD annual meeting.

Garden Therapy:

Flowers for Hospice and the Interfaith Shelter will be February 12. Maribeth asked for more participants than there have been recently.

Trips:

The Philadelphia Flower Show trip will be March 6. The theme is "Gardens of Tomorrow." Most attendees will drive up the day before, stay at the Marriott at the Convention Center, and have dinner as a group. Virginia needs the number of those having dinner with the group. On March 6 there will be a private 2 hour tour beginning at 8:00. Fran can take payment for the trip via credit card.

A trip to Chanticleer in Wayne PA will be April 30, followed by lunch at Aronimink Golf Club. The trip is limited to 30 people. A flyer will go out in March.

The trip to gardens in the Hudson River Valley will be May 27-June 2, 2026. The trip needs 14 people, and will be offered to TCGC members first.

The committee is looking into a trip to The Grounds for Sculpture near Trenton NJ in the fall. If anyone has any other ideas for trips they should be shared with Chloe or another member of the committee. Trips committee: Chloe Pitard, Pam Bernstein, Sarah King Carr, Kim Helfgott, and Nancy Thompson.

Library Garden:

The committee will use the \$600 from the J.McLaughlin fundraiser to purchase picnic tables.

Children's Garden:

Irrigation will be installed soon.

Young Gardeners:

Gretta thanked all who helped with last week's program.

The next Young Gardeners program will be February 27, Microgreens presented by Terry Holman. The April program will be joining the Children's Library Garden committee to plant seeds and decorate birdhouses. Everyone is welcome to come to any of the programs to just see what goes on.

Public Relations:

Thanks to Ildi Watkins and her son Ben TCGC is now live on Instagram. The address is: **talbot_county_garden_club**.

Hospitality:

The June luncheon will be held on **June 17** at the home of Kay Perkins. *Note the date change*

Nominating:

Slate of Officers for 2025-27:

President: Eleanor Denegre

Vice President: Colleen Doremus

Recording Secretary: Louise Peterson

Corresponding Secretary: Cherie Carroll

Treasurer: Pam Bernstein

Parliamentarian: Carolyn Rugg

Member at Large: Maribeth Lane

January Minutes (cont'd)

New Business:

Symposium:

The Symposium, "Floral Fete," will be held on Tuesday April 22 at the Oaks Waterfront Hotel. Speakers will be authorized to Linda Jane Holden, floral designer Sandra Sigman, and artist Anne Thompson Blackwell. More than half the tickets have been sold, and all the VIP tables are sold. There will be 15-20 vendors with many unusual offerings. Attendees should plan to carpool as parking is limited. Still to be determined: there may be discounted room rates for anyone from out of town who might want to stay at The Oaks.

Paige and Tracy thanked the committee chairs: Colleen Doremus, Kim EckertKim, Dana Vlk, Pam Keaton, Jan Cullen, Anne Jelich, Margaret Benghauser, Fran Jenkins, Juliette Fry, Alden Firth, Louise Peterson, Camille Massey, Marjory Sheldon, Carolyn Rugg, Laura Carney, Patty McDonald, Cindy Pease, Sara Robins. Sign-ups for other jobs and day-of help will occur at the February general meeting.

Louise Peterson has a list of 166 businesses that the committee has identified. So far \$16,000 worth of ads have been sold, and the goal is \$25,000 in ad sales. If anyone has a name or business to suggest, they should talk to Louise first as the contact may already be on the list or may have already been contacted by the committee. Also the committee has several interesting items for the Silent Auction including tickets to the Meet the Artist event at Chloras Point Farm.

Geraniums are now available for pre-sale.

Other New Business:

Easton Beautification Day will be held at the Idlewild Park pavilion.

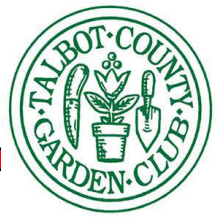
TCGC needs to provide a basket for the March 5 District annual meeting. Maribeth asked for help coming up with a theme and putting a basket together. Trish Reynolds volunteered to help and suggested the theme be "floral design" to coordinate with the speaker's theme.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40. Following adjournment speaker Sam Droege presented "Helping Native Bees in Talbot County: It's Easier Than You Think!"

Respectfully submitted,
Myra Gons



The Hort Committee Invites you:



*The TCGC Horticulture
Committee Invites You To
Our 4th Program*

***"Cottage Gardening With
A Sprinkling of Herbs"***

Location: Holy Trinity Church Parish Hall
Oxford, MD

Date: Feb. 11 Time: 10am

RSVP: Trish pk26998@gmail.com

Are you tired of the cold weather, the brisk winds, the snow....well if you are we have just the thing for you – this program will lift your spirits and get you ready for Spring!

The Cottage Garden is a distinctive style using informal design, traditional materials, dense plantings, and a mixture of ornamental and edible plants. It is generally considered English in origin, and frequently depends on grace and charm rather than grandeur and formal structure. So how do we design a cottage garden? Let's explore!

Philadelphia Flower Show

Join TCGC for a Private Tour of the 2025 Philadelphia Flower Show

Thursday, March 6, 2025



The Talbot County Garden Club will continue its annual tradition of a visit to the amazing Philadelphia Flower Show at the Philadelphia Convention Center. This year's theme "Gardens of Tomorrow" offers inspiration for creating a future where gardening plays a central role in enriching our lives and promoting a healthy planet. The Flower Show is globally renowned for its stunning floral displays, acres of garden landscapes, premier plant and botanical arts competition, demonstrations, and shopping at hundreds of garden-inspired booths.

This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow Club members. If you have never been to the Flower Show and especially if you have been a member of the Garden Club for less than five years, we encourage you to join us.

We have arranged an exclusive two-hour early morning private tour for the Club at 8:00am on Thursday, March 6. This guided tour will provide detailed information about the show, the exhibits, and the designers that is not available with general admission. This is an incredible opportunity to experience the show before the huge crowds descend on the Convention Center.

Cost: The cost of admission to the show and the early morning guided tour is \$117.50. Checks should be made out to TCGC with "Flower Show" written on the memo line. Send your check to TCGC, PO Box 1524, Easton MD 21601 by February 7, 2025.

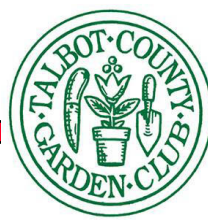
Transportation: In the spirit of promoting a greener planet and providing an opportunity to get to know your fellow club members better, we would like to strongly encourage carpooling to Philadelphia. If you would like to get a ride or are able to take passengers, you can contact Chloe Pitard at chloe@pitard.com. Chloe will help you find a ride or put you together with someone who is driving.

Group Dinner: As she has done for many years, for those going up the night before, Virginia Sappington will be putting together a group dinner at a local restaurant. If you would like to be included, please let Virginia know.

Accommodations: You can arrange your own accommodations or reserve a room at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown at 1201 Market St which is attached to the convention Center. Their phone is 215-625-2900. They do not offer a discounted group rate.

It is a great show, a great tour, a great way to welcome spring, and a wonderful way to bond with your fellow TCGC members. ***Please join us!***

Philadelphia Flower Show



For anyone who would rather not do an overnight, Dorchester Garden Club has kindly invited to join them for their day trip to the Phili Flower Show on Tuesday, March 4. TCGC has scheduled our trip for Thursday, March 6. If for some reason you are not able to go with our TCGC Group, you might want to consider going with the DGC. Their bus is making a stop in Easton.



Join DGC for a trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

This year's theme is Gardens of Tomorrow. and you are invited to explore the future through the eyes of visionary designers, expert gardeners, and passionate green enthusiasts as they merge nature brilliance with human ingenuity alongside all the Flower Show elements you know and love, at the world's biggest plant competition,

- **Unique shopping experiences, and activities for all ages**
- Hear what the most innovative plant experts from around the world think the future of gardening will be through their exhibits at our "Know to Grow speaker series"
 - You will be on your own to explore the show and for meals.
- **Visit the Website for more information:** <https://phsonline.org/the-flower-show/about-the-show/gardens-of-tomorrow>

March 4, 2025

Cost: \$150 includes bus and entrance ticket(does not include any food)

Departure **8:45 am** Cambridge –Good Will parking lot - Cambridge Marketplace Blvd

9:00am Departure at Easton Fire hall – 315 Leobard Reick Dr, Easton, MD

Arrival Time **12Noon** - Philadelphia Garden Show

4:00pm Departure from Phila Garden Show TBD

6:45pm -Easton Fire Hall - 315 Leobard Reick Dr, Easton, MD

7:15pm - Cambridge - Cambridge Marketplace Blvd

Send this registration and check to:

Dorchester Garden Club/Phila Show

RSVP Date **Feb 1** - Kay.karminski@gmail.com 410-967-5632

PO Box 1005

Payment Cutoff Date Feb 22



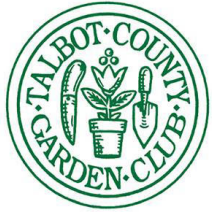
Cambridge, MD 21613

Name of guests **1**..... phone.....

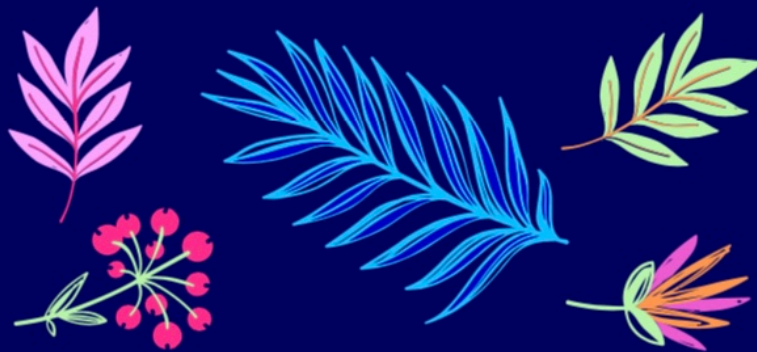
2..... phone.....

Please send check made out to Dorchester Garden Club / DGC (for Philadelphia Garden Show)

The Hort Committee Invites you:



**The TCGC Horticulture Committee
invites you to the "Starting
Plants from Seed" Workshop,
presented by Janet Mackey**



• **March 11, 2025**

• **10 AM till noon**

• **Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Oxford** •

Our presenter, Janet Mackey will go through the entire process of seed starting with a photo-filled presentation. Then we will get our hands dirty, planting seeds and potting up seedlings for participants to take home. TCGC will provide the materials – you bring the enthusiasm!

RSVP To Trish, pk26998@gmail.com, by Feb 20, 2025 – please indicate if you want to plant seeds – we will limit this part of the workshop to 20 participants.

It's Symposium Time!



Floral Fête

presented by The Talbot County Garden Club



Tuesday, April 22, 2025
The Oaks Waterfront Hotel
Easton, Maryland



(cont'd)



**Tickets are now available for
purchase – exclusively for
TCGC Members through January 6!**

**The day promises to be an elegant
and inspirational event,
and the community of our members
will be a huge part of its success.**

Get your tickets NOW!

**Tuesday, April 22, 2025
from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm**



**25876 Royal Oak Rd,
Easton, MD**

(cont'd)

Speakers

**“The Art of the Possible: Stories and Lessons
from a Self-taught Gardener”**

Linda Jane Holden (prolific garden design author,
self-taught garden historian, educator,
and Bunny Mellon gardens insider and expert)

**“French Blooms: Floral Arrangements
Inspired by Paris and Beyond”**

Sandra Sigman (second-generation floral designer
and author of *French Blooms*, founder and operator
of Andover, Massachusetts’ *Les Fleurs* and
curator of all things French)

“Pressing Botanicals: Harvesting Nature’s Bounty”

Anne Thompson Blackwell (trained artist
and plantswoman, using centuries-old traditions,
her preserved foliage and flowers are collected from
some of the most picturesque regions of the eastern US)

TICKETS:

Individual Floral Fête ticket, \$175 per person,
open seating. **Limited number of VIP Reserved
tables will be available, \$200 per person.**

Enjoy the day with family, friends or colleagues in a
choice of either eight- or ten-person capacity tables.
Tables are center-stage, premium seating for the best
vantage point for the Floral Fête's expert speakers.

Reserve your tickets at:

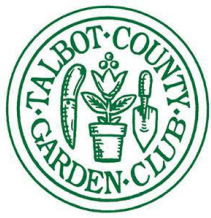
Individual: <https://buy.stripe.com/dR6cQBbEI2Xs3za8wE>

Table of 8: <https://buy.stripe.com/28o5o99wd8hMglWcMT>

Table of 10: <https://buy.stripe.com/aEUg2NaAh9IQ1r2aEK>

Note: these links are not "live." Please copy and paste in your browser.

Think Geraniums!

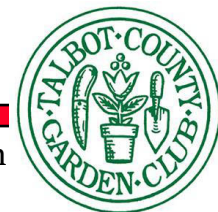


It's that time of year to start thinking about your spring and summer planters! We are excited to announce that we have a limited stock of geraniums for purchase online to be picked up at the Symposium. These exclusive beauties, priced at \$25 for a 12" pot, come directly from Landcraft Growers and are grown exclusively for our Club. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity! Appleblossom Geranium in 12" green pots.



<https://buy.stripe.com/60E509cIpeGa8Tu5kt>

Ready for a Road Trip?!



Below is the brochure for our tour of gardens and estates, public and private in the Hudson River Valley, organized by Cole Burrell. The format is that we will drive independently to our first stop in Tarrytown, New York. After that we will travel by bus, wending our way up the river ending at Storm King Sculpture Center. The bus will deliver us back to Tarrytown at the end. Read it carefully...there are lots of great stops. There may be some extra tweaking: we have room for one more garden, but that will not change anything.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested even if you are not ready to send in a deposit. This tour needs to have 14 people. If there are not enough of us, I will need to look elsewhere to fill it up as we did with the Charlottesville tour last spring.

~ Chloe (chloe.l.pitard@gmail.com)

GARDENS OF THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY

An Exclusive Tour For The
Talbot County Garden Club

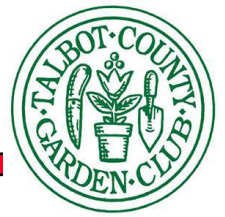
MAY 27 - JUNE 2, 2025



ESCORTED BY
C. COLSTON BURRELL
AND
BRETT ISAACSON

[\(click here to view brochure\)](#)

From the Conservation Corner:



HOW TO PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR VACATION – AN ECO-FRIENDLY GUIDE

As your much-anticipated vacation approaches, it's important to think about how to leave your home in a way that supports environmental conservation. Here are some simple tips to prepare your home for vacation while being kind to the planet.

- 1. Adjust Your Thermostat:** Set your thermostat to an energy-saving temperature. Turn the thermostat down to the '50s in the winter (warm enough to prevent pipes from freezing), or up to the mid-'70s during the summer.
- 2. Unplug Everything:** Before you leave, unplug all electronics that won't be in use, like your toaster, chargers, computers and entertainment systems. This step not only saves energy but also protects your devices from power surges.
- 3. Take Care of Your Plants and Yard:** Mow the lawn and tend to any outdoor plants before you leave. Ask a friend to water your indoor and outdoor plants or invest in plant nannies or an irrigation system respectively.
- 4. Stop Mail and Newspaper Delivery:** Put a hold on mail delivery services while you're away. [This link](#) will take you to the USPS website. You can usually put a "vacation stop" on your newspaper delivery on the publisher's website. Alternatively, arrange for a neighbor or friend to collect your mail and packages to prevent signs of an empty house (which can attract unwanted attention).
- 5. Secure Your Windows and Doors:** Ensuring your windows and doors are properly secured can help avoid any unplanned energy waste. If you have blinds or curtains, close them to help insulate your home, which can reduce your energy costs.
- 6. Turn Off Water and Check for Leaks:** If you're going away for an extended period, consider turning off the main water supply to avoid any leaks or potential water damage. Check for leaks before you leave to conserve water and avoid dealing with issues when you return.
- 7. Clean Up Before You Go:** Before you pack your bags, do a quick tidy-up around the house. Clean out the fridge of perishables, do the dishes, and make sure your washer and dryer are empty so you are not leaving wet clothes that might become musty after a while.
- 8. Take Out the Trash:** Don't leave food scraps in your trash cans. Take out any garbage, especially food waste, to minimize the risk of attracting pests while you're away. Composting any organic waste left behind is also a great eco-friendly option.

HAPPY TRAVELS!



• FEBRUARY 11, 2025 •

THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA
invites you to register for the
2025 Virtual Floral Design Conference

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

11am-3pm ET | 10am-2pm CT | 9am-1pm MT
8am-12pm PT | 6am-10am HT

This conference will showcase international and professional designers including Kristián Kövér, Ren MacDonald-Balasia, Noah Harders, and award winning GCA designers. It will consist of two sessions with a 15 minute intermission. Each session is a live Zoom webinar featuring pre-recorded presentations and interactive Q&A sessions.

This conference celebrates the diversity of inspiration that drives floral designers to create with unique vision and style. We hope their journeys will inspire you to discover your own artistic floral direction. Let's have fun as we push the boundaries of our artistry - beyond blooms-through the mediums of floral design and botanical arts!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE AND REGISTER](#)

You are invited:



TCGC Members – You are all invited to attend the
96th FGCMMD Annual Meeting on March 25, 2025,
at Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City.

We will be celebrating and thanking our own Susie Middleton, FGCMMD President, as she ends her two-year term. Susie has set a high standard with all the innovations that she introduced in leading the organization. She has worked tirelessly for the State, Districts and Clubs, visiting as many as she could during her time in office. She has worked very hard to strengthen the sense of membership belonging at all levels. Susie's theme as FGCMMD President, "Sustaining Mother Earth....One Action at a Time", has led to clubs and members to be more conscious of our environment. Her State Project, "Sustaining Maryland – Grants for Garden Clubs", has provided funds to assist clubs in sustainability. So please come and join me in attending the FGCMMD Annual Meeting to thank Susie Middleton for her efforts!

~ Maribeth

Important Information

~ Cost: \$52 Please send your check to Maribeth Lane - checks MUST be sent by March 3.

(mailto: 115 S. Harrison Street, Easton 21601)

~ Make Checks payable to FGCMMD, note in memo line- FGCMMD Annual Meeting

~ When replying to Maribeth, please indicate if you are Gluten Free

For more information on the Annual Meeting, please see next page.

(Cont'd:)



The Call

96th Annual Meeting Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland Tuesday, March 25, 2025, Turf Valley Resort and Hotel

All FGCMD members are invited to attend this year's State Annual Meeting and welcome our special Guest of Honor, National Garden Clubs President Brenda Moore. President Moore will install the new FGCMD Officers, who will lead our Federation for the 2025-2027 term. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Liz Williams, proposes the following slate for your confirmation:

President, Donna Miller – Mountain Laurel Garden Club/District V
First Vice President
Second Vice President, Randy Low – Gunpowder Garden Club/District III
Treasurer, Anna O'Kelly – Crofton Greenery Garden Club/District II
Recording Secretary, Mary Hutchins-Danna - Mt. Airy Garden Club/ District V
Corresponding Secretary, Shirley Santora – Chartwell Garden Club/District II

A vote to accept the proposed slate will be called for at the Business Meeting. **BUSINESS MEETING VOTING:** Only State Executive Board Members, Former State Presidents, current Club Presidents and one delegate per club chosen by the Club President are eligible to vote.

Registration	8:00am	-	11:45 am
located in the Lobby of the Hotel's Main Entrance			
Vendor shopping	8:00am	-	3:00 pm
Silent Auction	9:45am	-	12:00 noon
Business Meeting	9:30am	-	11:00 am
Cash Bar	11:00am	-	2:00 pm
Luncheon	11:45am	-	12:45 pm
Program	1:00pm	-	2:00 pm

We will present some awards at the Business Meeting, and additional ones at the luncheon meeting. District and Youth Awards will be presented at each District's Annual Meeting. At the Business Meeting, District Directors will present a three-minute report. Except for the Treasurer, all Officers and Chairmen are asked to submit written reports to the Recording Secretary. A request for oral report time must be submitted to the President by March 6th.

LUNCHEON MENU

Market Salad Market V & GS-Mixed greens, zucchini, Carrots, Tomatoes, Peppers, Onion , Herb Vinaigrette
Herb-Roasted Chicken GS with Wild Rice Medley, Sauteed Squash, Creamy Dijon Sauce
Double Layer Carrot Cake V

Note: GS means Gluten Sensitive, V means Vegetarian

PROGRAM

The luncheon program is: "The Exciting New World of Houseplants" featuring Ron McIntosh. He is a Horticulturist and Landscape and Gardening Advisor in Pennsylvania. He will lead you into the world of houseplants as you explore the varieties from around the globe as well as traditional ones from the past. Discussion will cover the selection and care of indoor greenery from containers, soil and fertilizers to pest control and propagation. **Plus, all the plants he displays will be for sale!**

Federated Garden Clubs of MD:



JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EARTH DAY EVENT

8:00 to 8:45 Registration & Refreshments
8:45 to 9:00 Welcome

April 24, 2025 - 8 am to 12 noon
Vollmer Center at Cylburn Arboretum
Baltimore, MD

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Ecological Landscaping for a Climate Resistant Watershed

Stacy Small-Lorenz, Specialist for Residential Landscape, UMD Extension

Learn about Maryland's climate forecast and delve into practical steps we can take as individuals and neighborhoods to become better stewards of the land, water, and atmosphere, in a shared quest for climate-resilient, sustainable landscapes that support native biodiversity and enhance our human connection to nature.

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Beauty, Biodiversity and Resilience

Lisa Kuder, Native Plants & Landscape Specialist, UMD Extension

Explore naturalistic design and how to select native plants that can tolerate deer pressure, as well as a range of environmental conditions such as drought, flooding, and salt intrusion. Try your hand at applying what you've learned in a group garden design project.

11:10 AM - 12:00 PM

Protecting Pollinators and Beneficial Insects Amid Climate Change

Madeline Potter, Specialist for Entomology & IPM, UMD Extension

Connect the dots between Climate Change, native plants, pollinators, and beneficial insects while hearing actionable advice for gardeners. From habitat creation to learning about fascinating insect-plant relationships, discover how your greenspace can become a refuge for biodiversity.

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

\$30 Registration. Please make checks payable to: FGCMD
Earth Day Event

Mail this registration form and payment to:
FGCMD, PO Box 65172, Baltimore, MD 21209

Native plant sale by Herring Run Nursery

Several conservation organizations will have exhibits with information about their activities and missions, with staff members available to answer questions.



Eventbrite online Registration
\$33.85 includes \$3.85 processing fee

Pre-registration is required & must be
received by Friday, April 18
Note: Fees are non-refundable



"Approved Maryland Master Naturalist &
Master Gardener Advanced Training Event"



The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland THE HORT REPORT WINTER 2024

Botanical Names

“Twas brillig, and the slithy toves did gyre and gimble in the wabe; All mimsy were the borogoves, and the mome raths outgrabe.” If you think that botanical names are just a lot of jibber-jabber that are not necessary, just think about Lewis Carroll’s Jabberwocky and, even though it uses silliness, you still get the gist of what is going on. The same thing happens with botanical names, as their foundation of Latin, Greek or Roman word structure helps you tell something about most plant material. These plant names tell you more about the plant than common names do, since many plants have local names (and pronunciation). *Parrotia persica* translates to Persian Parrotia, fairly simple, but *Poncirus trifoliata* does tell you it has clusters of 3 leaves, but nothing about it being a hardy orange.

Then there is *Liquidambar styraciflua*, the Sweet Gum, also known as Gumball Tree, Star Leaved Gum, Alligator Wood, Red Gum and a host of other names, which is why the botanical name is so important. The Sweet Gum is a beautiful fall tree and provides us with those spiky gumballs to use for holiday decorations.



Evergreens



Most of us think of evergreens as strictly conifers, but there are many different plant species that can be evergreen. (There are deciduous conifers, and one of them, the Dawn Redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) has beautiful amber fall color prior to the needle drop.) During the late fall and winter months we appreciate evergreens filling in the landscape otherwise left barren by perennials and deciduous trees and shrubs. The stars

(Cont'd):

include the holly and magnolia trees, viburnum, sweet box, boxwood, Chinese holly, osmanthus, winterberry and nandina. The extra benefit is that most evergreens make wonderful decorations used for celebratory



occasions during the winter holidays. Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) is a deciduous holly that is a nice home for birds and has bright red berries in the winter, which after a couple of frosts, feed the birds. Osmanthus

(*Osmanthus fragrans*) the Tea Olive is a medium sized

shrub that thrives in sun to partial shade and is drought resistant. The variety "Goshiki" has beautiful, variegated holly-like leaves.



One evergreen shrub that has been grown for centuries is the boxwood. Recently both species, (*Buxus sempervirens*) American Boxwood and (*Buxus suffruticosa*) English Boxwood, grown in this area have been troubled by boxwood blight. However, the news for boxwood fans is good, as there are several new varieties developed in Europe that show good



disease resistance. The "Better Boxwood" collection in the US was developed in Europe, which had been battling boxwood blight since the early 1990s. "The meticulous breeding process was spearheaded by Didier Hermans of Herplant BV, a renowned Belgium grower, in collaboration with the Flemish Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research, both of whom are at the forefront of the fight against boxwood blight in Europe." The named variety "Renaissance" will become our

new border edge boxwood as it only reaches 2', so the roses or perennials within the border are still visible.

We have pointed out many times that winter is a great time to review your landscape and see where you may need to add an evergreen filler to close a gap or screen something new. Maybe a neighbor has added a shed which you don't want to look at from your deck, or their kids are older now and want to work on that beat up car all hours of the night using floodlights directed at your bedroom windows. You need screening!

(Cont'd):

GRASSES

Ornamental grasses are colorful, hearty, easy to maintain, help prevent erosion and display multi-season interests. From containers and hedges to borders and mass plantings, garden grasses or ornamental grasses have something for everyone. Pink grasses can be showstoppers. Pink Muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*) grows in much of the U.S. They offer late season color in the fall with their feathery pink plumes. This grass flourishes in warm, dry climates and full sun. It thrives in clay soil and requires little water, and very little fertilizer.



Unfortunately, some grasses which we have been planting are now on the invasive or somewhat invasive list. Two of these, *Miscanthus* and *Pennisetum* had become favorites in the landscape industry which may have been the reason for the spread of seeds.

Over the past few days, our mailboxes and In-boxes have been filled with garden catalogs which will keep us warm over the next couple of months when it is too cold for man nor beast to be gardening. We hope this report finds you celebrating a Happy New Year and the thoughts of walking through your beautiful and well landscaped garden this year.

Jennifer A Evans and Gay Bohn
Horticulture Co-Chairs

Photos:

Sweet Gum from www.mortonarb.org

Dawn Redwood, Winterberry & Osmanthus by Jennifer A, Evans

Better Boxwood "Renaissance" from www.betterboxwood.com as well as origin quote

Pink Muhly grass from www.fast-growingtrees.com





Landscape Design School Course 1



Wednesday & Thursday
May 7 & 8, 2025
DoubleTree by Hilton
5485 Twin Knolls Road, Columbia, MD 21045

Sponsored by
Landscape Design Consultants Council
Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.
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Credentials Chair, Linda Harris
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[\(click here for registration information\)](#)



National Garden Clubs

OFFICIAL WEBSITE



THE NATIONAL GARDENER

Winter 2025
gardenclub.org

(click here to read full edition)

Dear Gabby....

What do I do with My Amaryllis Bulb...

After the flowers have faded, cut off the stems to within an inch of the top of the bulb. If you grew the bulb in water rather than soil, transfer it to a pot filled with moist growing mix (making sure the top 1/3 of the bulb is exposed). Put the pot in a bright window and continue watering as needed, keeping the soil barely moist. Fertilize monthly, using a standard liquid houseplant fertilizer.



When spring arrives and the weather has settled (several weeks after any danger of frost has passed), put the potted bulb outdoors in a partially shaded location where it will be protected from the wind and won't get too wet. Continue to care for your amaryllis as you would a houseplant, watering and fertilizing as needed.

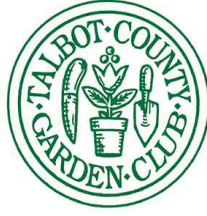
When fall approaches (well before any danger of frost), bring the potted bulb indoors. Put it in a cool, relatively dark place (garage or basement) and stop watering. This will tell the bulb that it's time to rest and initiate flower formation. After 6 to 12 weeks, gently remove the bulb from the pot and pull off any dry leaves. Replant the bulb in fresh potting soil and care for it as you would a newly purchased bulb.

"Dear Gabby Gardener,"

This column is a community information column for our Club. It will include plant questions, swaps or anything else garden related. Examples:

- ~ I'm dividing my Black Eyed Susans, anybody want some? or
- ~ My peonies are in full bloom, come see them on Sunday? or
- ~ I've got 10 pairs of clippers I'm selling. Anybody interested? or
- ~ Anybody have suggestions for what to plant in an area that floods in my yard?

Please submit anything by the 20th of the month.



Log on! 2nd Reminder!

Log on! The Club's Website Adds Value to Your Membership

In analyzing the club's membership rolls, we discovered that 52 percent of our members joined the club within the last 5 years. It's understandable that many do not know the depth of club history. And many do not know all the club's other 100+ members. Yet, we have web resources that can help!

If you want to secure a copy of TCGC's Centennial History to learn about the club's legacy, you will find it fully available for free on TCGC's website: <https://talbotcountycgc.org/>. Click the "Read and Listen" pull-down menu atop any page. There you will find the "Centennial Book" in pdf format (1917-2017) to read online or to download to your own device.

For the club's continuing history, click the same "Read and Listen" menu. Among "Publications" find Annual Reports (2019-2023), along with issues of "Can You Dig It?" and "Tid Bits!" and audio of the club's "Going Green" gardening programs that have aired on WHCP-FM (91.7) in Easton.

AND while you're on the site, please add your photo to your "Member Profile" to help others know who you are:

1. Log into the "Members Section" (via box, top right) and look for "Account Settings" in the dropdown menu
2. On Account Settings, hover over "Howdy," which appears with your name (top right)
3. Hit "Edit Profile" in the dropdown menu to open your Profile
4. Scroll down to "Member Info" and follow instructions to add a photograph and edit information
5. Hit "Update Profile" key (at the bottom) to save your input
6. "Log Out" in the dropdown menu (top right).

Best to log back into the "Members Section" to verify that your changes were made. *Thank you!*





Follow TCGC on Facebook!

To get instant updates on TCGC activities – news of coming events and photos from events of the day – log on to our Facebook page. You can find us by searching for TALBOT COUNTY GARDEN CLUB.

Blossoms and Blooms Deadline: The 20th for the following month's issue.
Please submit photos and articles to: newsletteroftcgc@gmail.com

***Taken any fun photos of our members at work or play?
Submit them for our next edition!***

THE END