

Tuckahoe Garden Club

Fresh Cuts From Kelly

"Live in each season as it passes; breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influence of the earth" - Henry David Thoreau



The short, dark days of winter are quickly transitioning to the beauty of spring. While I am not sad to see winter adjourn, it is a little bittersweet to know that sweater weather, fireplace moments and days without weeding are almost gone. I am embracing these last cool, rainy days as Thoreau would want us to do, with the joy of nature no matter what season. These are days of daily surprises from Mother Nature, starting here with a grand entrance from a Daphne followed by a chorus of Lenten Roses. Next up is a cherry tree in full bloom and daffodils and tulips making an early entrance to spring. The rhythm each year is the same, yet it is still a delight to happen upon a blossom at the end of winter. A garden planned with sequential blooms is a vision of beauty all year long, and I have learned much in my years with TGC to develop a palette of plants in our garden to keep it going from March to October. Even mixing in veggies as suggested by Brie Arthur to keep

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March Membership meeting gathering with fellow GCA Flower arrangers Liz Wozencraft and Sara Ledbetter from Houston. Many thanks to our Programs team for an amazing year! Many thanks to everyone in our club for your support of Historic Garden Week (April 23&25) and the Spring Sale Committee who is working hard on our April 17th sale and event! See you on March 20th! ~Kelly

HAND PICKED THIS MONTH

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

10 a.m. Membership Meeting
St. Stephen's Church

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

Daffodil Day
Virginia Wesleyan University, Virginia Beach

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

9 a.m. Board Meeting
Home of Kelly Armstrong

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Cocktail Party
Home of Christina and Tim McCoy, 4310 Cambridge Road
*Please note this is a date change

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

1 p.m. Spring Plant Sale
Home of Kelly Armstrong, 8701 River Road

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Candy in the Garden
8701 River Road

April 20-27, 2024

Historic Garden Week

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**March 20, 2024 (Wednesday)**

Program: "Putting the FUN in Flower Arranging" - Liz Wozencraft and Sara Ledbetter, Garden Club of Houston, GCA Floral Design Judges, Liz - Florescence Flower Show Chairman 2024 Houston.

Location: St Stephens Episcopal Church, 6000 Grove Avenue, Parish Hall

Time: 9:30 a.m. Refreshments, 10 a.m. Program

Hostesses: Bonnie Cricchi, Linda Hanson, Megan Matthews*

Artistic Exhibits:

Class I: "Flower Arranging Is Fun!" - Create an arrangement using any materials you have in your yard. This is the time for members who have been reluctant to enter Artistic Exhibits to throw caution to the wind and adjust to an arrangement that you find pleasing. Everyone's a winner today!

Class II: "A Host of Golden Daffodils" - Envision spring in the garden with daffodils everywhere. Create an arrangement that shows the joy of winter's end and flowers in abundance overflowing and spilling out everywhere. Container of your choice.

Class III: Spring is Nature's Way of Saying, "Let's Party!" - In the Italian Renaissance style design an arrangement that uses a variety of spring flowers: tulips, daffodils, crocuses, lily of the valley, and hellebores are all worthy of creating a cheerful spring design that says "Winter is over!" A Guide to Italian Renaissance design, including container suggestions, with photos is found on page 4 of the GCV Floral Styles and Design.

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Class II: Hellebores Galore - Specimen or Collection

Class III: Bulbs - Specimen or Collection

Class IV: Surprise Us!

Photography Exhibits:

Class I: Don't Be Shy! Submit a photograph of an artistic arrangement. Stretch yourself to create

Class II: Preparing to Arrange. Submit a photograph of preparations for creating an arrangement. Ideas to include buckets of flowers, clippers, work space, vessels

Class III: What's In Your Garden? Submit a photograph of something special or a unique perspective from your garden



Come learn from our Floral Design judges from Houston Liz Wozencraft and Sara Ledbetter. Liz and Sara are a dynamic duo from The Garden Club of Houston who love sharing with others how to have fun arranging flowers and how to consider the elements of design while arranging, Liz travels to many GCA Clubs sharing her knowledge through presentations, demonstrations and workshops. This will be a brief educational power point on design followed by a demonstration of 5 arrangements . Both have received many prestigious Flower design awards such as the Harriet DeWale Pucket Creativity Award and the Dorothy Vietor Munger Award. Both are active in flower shows around the country and are very forward -thinking towards design and flower arranging. They love arranging and will help inspire us all to try some new designs and have some fun! Liz will be a cochairman in 2025 of the Houston Flower Show Florescence. Liz serves currently as the Zone IX Representative for Floral Design. Zone IX includes Texas, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Sara has served for many years on the Finance Committee of GCA and her rightbrain/ leftbrain combined talent is inspiring. She

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winner!!! Welcome Liz and Sara! We thank them for coming to Richmond for The Tuckahoe Garden Club. We are in for a treat!
See Liz on Instagram [flowershowjunkie](#)

Budget & Gifts

We will vote on our proposed 2024-2025 Budget and Gifts at our March 20th Membership Meeting. Click here for [BUDGET PROPOSAL](#) and [GIFTS PROPOSAL](#). Please contact Preston Lee if you have any Gifts questions. The Finance Committee has completed the proposed budget for 2024-2025. The proposed budget was approved at the Board meeting on February 28th. Please address any questions to Kathy Watson or another member of the finance committee. The final budget will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in May.

Spring Plant Sale & Speaker

Save the date for
"THE GARDEN GURU"
Kent Russell, Horticulturist from Bucks
County, Philadelphia

"Candy in the Garden"
Ideas & inspiration to Create Drama in Any Garden Setting

Join Tuckahoe Garden Club for
wine & cheese poolside*
followed by a talk & special plant sale by Kent

Wednesday, April 17th
5:00- 7:00 pm
8701 River Road

Tickets sold online for \$40
\$50 at event
Tickets are limited



*Rain plan: The barn
Outdoor event, parking & walking
in grass, wear suitable attire and shoes

Calling all gardeners!! Spring is almost here! Save the date for our annual Spring Plant Sale **Wednesday, April 17 at 1 pm**. This year's sale is pre-order only with forms available mid-March. To up the fun and gardening know-how for all, in tandem we're hosting a

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into beautiful displays both in the vase and around our yard. Tickets are currently on sale on the website [HERE](#), and include wine and cheese by Kelly's beautiful pool! Bring a friend or daughter who may be later interested in joining the club. As a little candy dessert Kent will have a special plant sale of the ones he brings to share after his talk! Tickets are limited. \$40 now and \$50 at the door if any remain.

“THE GARDEN GURU”

Kent Russell, Horticulturist from Bucks County, Philadelphia



Kent Russell, listed as a preferred speaker by the Garden Club of America, is a perennial specialist who entertains and informs gardeners throughout the East Coast. Mr. Russell has had his hands in horticulture since he was 8 years old. At 19 he was hired by Renny Reynolds to establish Renny - The Perennial Farm, and has gone on to design and consult as well as host "The Garden Guru" on PBS.



Kent will assemble an array of specimen plants and offer a multitude of design ideas in this unique presentation. In addition to the abundant plant material, he will share stories about his recent gardening adventures!

Membership

It's a great time to be a TGC member! Lots going on in March and April and we look forward to having all hands on deck as we welcome Kent Russell, roll out our Annual Spring Sale and help with Historic Garden Week.

Our newest members will come together for an introductory Exhibits Workshop prior to our March meeting to learn all of the ins and outs of preparing exhibits for meetings. Thank you to Maria and all of those helping with the workshop. We also would love to gather up a

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Our spring Flower Hour is scheduled for May 8 out at Historic Tuckahoe where Sue will lead the young ladies on a spring garden walk and walk through 'Gardening 101' for these new gardeners. An evite will be sent to all participating young women.

Reminder: Any request for a change in membership status must be received by March 31st

Historic Garden Week



Historic Garden week is right around the corner! This year Garden week will be April 20-27th. TGC is responsible for filling many volunteer slots for flower arrangers, hostesses, transportation and hospitality. The HGW 2024 hostess and flower arranging sign up genius is below. Remember, each member is required to sign up for at least one shift. Please feel free to sign up for more than one, we have a lot of shifts to fill this year! Head hostess and flower arrangers have already been assigned. If you do not sign up, we will assign you a shift. Please remember, if you have a conflict with your assignment, you are responsible for switching with another member or finding a substitute. If you have any questions or make a switch, please contact Melinda Smith 804-564-4230 or Catherine Driscoll 804-833-4949. HGW proceeds fund the restoration and preservation of Virginia's historic public gardens around the state. It is going to be a very special week after so many months of planning! Sign ups are due by March 15th. Click [HERE](#) for Sign up.

Garden Club of Virginia



Dear GCV Members,

It's time to register for "Dancing with Daffodils"! Please join us on March 27, 2024, at Virginia Wesleyan University in Virginia Beach.

[Artistic Design, Horticulture and Photography Schedules and Online Registration](#)

[We need volunteers! Click here for details to sign up and join the fun!](#)

Debbie Lewis
President, Garden Club of Virginia

Debbie Bonnewell
Chairman, Daffodil Day 2024

Garden Club of America

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States across America, including the District of Columbia, have designated April as Native Plant Month, thanks to the efforts of the Garden Club of America's member clubs and collaborating organizations.

Go Native!

Why celebrate native plants? They are a fragrant and tasty invitation into our gardens for birds, butterflies, moths, bees, and animals. Natives are at the center of the living landscape. Over thousands of years, they have formed complex and interdependent relationships with native creatures, providing them with food and shelter. Most of the food we eat depends on pollinators.

Love Your Native Plants – Love Your Dirt!

Each region enjoys unique seasonal changes — flowers in the spring, sunny summers, color in the fall, snow-covered landscapes. Natives in each region have adapted so well to these changes that they do not require fertilizer or pesticides, which can pollute our rivers and our soil. In healthy soil, native plants above the ground are partners to the microorganisms under the ground; natives trap carbon and clean the air we breathe.

Clean Water is Vital!

The root system of natives reduces runoff during heavy rains, filters water, protects wetlands, and sequesters carbon. These are gifts we receive when we plant natives, and so do the fish in rivers and streams.

Keeping It Native!

We can reduce the problem of invasive plants when we plant natives. Invasives have been introduced from around the world and can expand beyond our gardens and into the wild. Invasives smother trees and disrupt native plant communities, creating a "green desert" for insects and birds.

We probably already have native plants in our gardens. To find out, check the lists of natives (and invasives) on websites like the Maryland Native Plant Society — <https://mdflora.org/chapters/washingtondc/dcchapter.html>.

How to Celebrate Native Plant Month!

Plant Native Plants! When we plant natives, we can delight in the colors of the seasons in the garden. We can create a healthy environment for birds and butterflies, and we can ensure biodiversity which sustains whole ecosystems — all in our own backyards!

*Perennial Garden Club, Washington, DC, Zone VI
Member, Garden Club of America*

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Conservation

A Conservation Conversation

A great read from The Sunday Times - UK, Saturday January 27, 2024, <http://www.thetimes.co.uk> - "Seven Reasons Why There's More Good News on Climate Change than You Think" by Hannah Ritchie, a data scientist at Oxford University. Ritchie discusses "7 key points to understand the (environmental) position we're in today, and what we can do to tackle the climate crisis head-on." She encourages us to:

1. Focus on the progress against climate change that the world has made, e.g., emissions of gases that deplete our ozone layer have fallen by more than 99% over recent years.
2. Resolve to take individual actions that make the biggest impact in reducing your carbon footprint. Drive less, carpool more, or switch to a more plant-based diet.

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Virginia Conservation Lobby Days - January 30 & 31, 2024

Ellen Buoyer, Fran McDermott & Cabell West represented TGC at Virginia's General Assembly Session. We met with State Senator Lamont Bagby and Luke Sweeney, legislative aide to House Representative Betsy B. Carr, to ask for their support on key GCV recommended environmental bills, such as tree conservation during land development, funds for forest sustainability, invasive species management, and monitoring & reporting of PFAs (toxic "forever" chemicals) by manufacturers. Check www.gcv.org for the GCV list of recommended environmental bills by number. Track any bill's status at www.viriniageneralassembly.gov under "Search Legislation with LIS" by entering the bill's number.

TGC Social Media Challenge - Let's celebrate the entire month of April, Native Plant month, by sending your photographs or artwork of native plants in your garden, for posting on the TGC Instagram page. Details and instructions will follow.



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
Saving a National Treasure



NIKKI DAVIS

Plastic pollution is a major threat to the Chesapeake Bay, its wildlife, and the health of our communities. Single-use plastic foam poses one of the greatest threats, as it chokes and permanently pollutes our waterways. Thankfully, Congress is currently considering the Farewell to Foam Act which would restrict the sale and use of foam food ware, packaging, and coolers beginning in 2026, seeking a cleaner, more sustainable future across the country. [Join CBF in urging your members of Congress to support and pass this critical and bold new legislation!](#)

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lightweight single-use plastic that is easily distributed across our lands and waters. One of the most harmful forms of single-use plastic, plastic foams often contain additional toxic additives that threaten human health, with links to nervous system damage and increased risk of cancer. **This noxious form of pollution is non-recyclable and will never fully break down, leaving behind microplastics that impact water quality, fish and wildlife, and human health.**

The Farewell to Foam Act aims to address this pervasive and dangerous form of plastic pollution by phasing out the sale and distribution of foam food ware, packaging materials, and single-use coolers. There are safer and more sustainable materials, with opportunities to implement better reuse and recycling systems that protect our health and the environment, **but we need our legislators to continue to fight for this opportunity. [Join us in urging your representatives to support the Farewell to Foam Act!](#)**

D.C., have already phased out plastic foam food ware since 2014, but to fully address plastic pollution and protect our entire watershed, the federal government must be a part of the solution. **We need Bay savers like you to let Congress know we want plastic foams out of our environment and communities. [Ask your representatives to co-sponsor the Farewell to Foam Act to protect our waterways and community health!](#)**

Thank you for standing with us,



Keisha Sedlacek
Federal Director
Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Conservation Pop-Up Event - Join us for a native plants nature walk at Lewis Ginter on April 18! You must register [HERE](#)