

**Tuckahoe Garden Club Monthly Board Reports  
SEPTEMBER 2023**

**Dear Officers and Standing Committee Members,**  
**Please submit your monthly report to the Board in the Google form below. Keep in mind your report should be concise- sharing essential information, dates, links to further information and any action items that should be highlighted- and presented in a bullet-format if possible. If you have no report for the month, please note "NO REPORT". Thank you all!**

**OFFICERS**

**First VP/**Ellen Buoyer

The club voted for The Virginia War Memorial Public Green Space project to receive the Common Wealth award. The winner will be announced at the GCV Board of Governors Meeting on October 17-19.

**Second VP/Database /** Rita Ryan

Greenbooks are ready for those who haven't had a chance to pick them up! I will deliver any that are not picked up after the October meeting.

**Recording Secretary/** Penny Peebles

Approval of May Board Meeting and August Board Retreat minutes

**Communications Director/** Betsy Carney

Continuing to work on streamlining communications, keeping contact information up to date and collecting "job" descriptions, including duties and timelines.

**Treasurer/** Kathy Watson

Dues invoices went out by email in early September. To date, a little over half of dues have been paid. Perhaps a reminder in the next newsletter would be a good idea.

Checking balance October 1- \$24098.10

Savings balance October 1 - \$35749.90

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Communications: Newsletter & Website/** Stephanie Lansing & Lisa Burlee

Newsletter info due to [stephanielansing@gmail.com](mailto:stephanielansing@gmail.com) by 10/6 for 10/11 distribution. Thank you!

**Community Projects and Long Range plans/** Freddie Gray, Betsy Fauntleroy, Christina McCoy, Barrie Edlih, Lisa Burlee

- We will be fluffing up the outdoor patio at Caritas this month with fall plantings
- We are in conversation with Chandler about wreaths and poinsettias for Anna Julia. Should we order fake wreaths they can use year after year? (The shedding was a bit of an issue to keep tidy) Would club members donate on preorder?
- We want to consider working with The LightHouseRVA - perhaps a flower workshop which would be much easier to coordinate than with Caritas, as the women meet on specific dates and the group is not as large.

Kelly, Barrie, Freddie, Christina, Betsy, Bonnie and Preston met prior to the September meeting to discuss the below opportunity from Rosemarie Bundy and the Virginia War Memorial. Our committee is excited about this opportunity as it feeds so beautifully into Kelly's vision for our centennial in 5 years- to plant 100 white oaks in and around Richmond over the next 10 years or so (all TBD). These first 5 trees for the War Memorial would be the perfect jump off point. Bonnie and Preston assured us we have the funding for the War Memorial without stressing the coffers. We presented the War Memorial opportunity at our Sept 20th meeting and needed to vote on it as a club at our October meeting. Moving forward after these initial 5 white oaks, we would plant 1.5 inch caliper trees which reduces the cost to buy and install greatly.

Pam Seay, President of the VWM Foundation, has offered us the opportunity of being the designated supporter of "The Gold Star Oak Grove". The Gold Star designation, as I am sure you know, is for members of the military who have died during their service to our Country. The Oak Grove will consist of five, 3" caliper, native White Oak (*Quercus Alba*) trees. The trees will initially be 14 to 16 feet in height and will reach a height of 80 to 100 feet with a wide canopy of 40 to 70 feet. . Specimens have been documented to be over 450 years old. The trees will be located together in a very prominent area. The estimated cost per tree is \$1,500.00 for a total gift totaling \$9,000.00. This amount will be matched by one of the Foundations already "on board" and the additional funds will be used for other plantings.

**Conservation/** Linda Hanson and Fran McDermott

DON'T FORGET - Join us for "Conservation Pop-up Night", November 14, 7pm @ Ellen Buoyer's home. We'll share our favorite conservation tips, enjoy some light refreshments, and even play some games. Please RSVP to Fran [FBMCDER@aol.com](mailto:FBMCDER@aol.com) or Linda [lmhrva@gmail.com](mailto:lmhrva@gmail.com)

The Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation [www.dvr.virginia.gov](http://www.dvr.virginia.gov) offers great resources and advice for adding native plants to your garden this fall. You can develop a custom list of native plants for your region & habitat conditions, find a local nursery that propagates native species, & view a digital atlas of the flora of Virginia. Send us your photos of your garden additions or transformations!

**Finance/**Kathy Watson and Ellen Buoyer

I will be working with Bonnie to close out the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023 and get documents prepared for our tax return.

**Governance/** Katherine Salt and Lynn Jacobs

**No report**

**Gifts/** Preston Lee

**Fundraising/** Chandler Klevana, Lisa Brennan & Cynthia Ferrell

No report for spring sale

Plans are underway for the Christmas workshop and sale. Online order form will be distributed to membership week of Oct. 8. Online sales will include greens, food from CookPicnic and raffle tickets. Orders are due November 1. Payments will be made at checkout day of sale.

The workshop is December 5 at Chandler Klevana's home. Format is the same as last year. Members will be asked to bring greens and will be instructed on how to make a mixed greens wreath and tie a beautiful bow.

The December 6th sale will be held at Chandler's home as well. Members are asked to bring baked and other goods. There will be a few vendors and four items will be available for raffle.

We will order 22 poinsettias for the Community Service Committee to deliver to Anna Julia Cooper. Members will be given the opportunity to make a donation toward the poinsettias at checkout day of sale.

## **Membership/ Jennifer Sisk**

### **New Member Nominations**

We have openings for 6 new members for 2023.

#### **Timeline**

- September 20– Membership meeting and nomination procedures announced for 6 new members. Proposal forms will be posted on TGC site for access
- October 2– Nomination forms go live. All online
- October 18 - all proposals due to Jennifer Sisk
- October 25 – Board approves nominations
- October 26 - November 7– online voting for 6 new members
- November 15– Announce 6 new members at membership meeting
- December 5- new members invited to holiday workshop
- December 6– newest members invited to Holiday party for introduction
- January 11, 9:00 – new member orientation

#### *Members not eligible to propose this year:*

- Charlotte Clarkson
- RoseMarie Bundy
- Caroline Williams
- Chandler Klevana
- Susan Ewing
- Martha Moore

### **Flower Hour**

October 19 – workshop at Jennifer Sisk home

April – sun/Shade Garden visits with follow-up trip to nursery

	<p><b>Programs/ Martha Moore</b>  Molly Adams from Lookout Mountain Tennessee is coming to do a program for us on dahlias on October 18th .. We will host a small dinner for Molly at Portico the night before the program. Molly will be staying at Tuckahoe with Sue. She is driving from Tennessee. Cara is taking care of AV. Fran and Martha are meeting at Tuckahoe after the Board meeting to go over logistics. The program will be followed by a fun workshop on layering bulbs by Brent Heath . Abbie Wharton is coordinating the workshop. Pot , bulbs, dirt and all materials provided. Cost is \$35 and an email will be sent out for signup. Please bring a trowel. Sign up is first come first served. Spaces are limited to 30 or maybe 35.</p> <p>Thanks to those who participated in the community work morning at Shalom Farms.</p> <p>Next month in November we will be having a joint meeting with James River to hear Kathleen Gagan from Peony's envy. She will be bringing Peony tubers to sell . You will not want to miss Kathleen! She will talk a lot about peonies and integrating them into your landscape. Kathleen will be staying with Jennifer Sisk.</p>
	<p><b>Sustainer rep/ Tricia Sauer</b>  Luncheon with new members scheduled for Thursday, Oct 26th at Kelly's</p>
	<p><b>Garden Club of America/ Liz Carden</b></p> <p>The GCA Zone VII Meeting for 2023 was held in Richmond, Virginia under the leadership of the James River Garden Club. Our club was very instrumental in assisting in this meeting, supporting the artistic and botanical arts schedule, providing judges, clerks and passers, and contributing many entries to the Flower Show, Ebb and Flow, at the Commonwealth Club. We enjoyed the many speakers including John Street of James River Association; Chris Frelke - Director of Richmond's Parks and Rec; Claudia West of Phyto Studio; and Doug Tallamy - renown conservationist.</p> <p>Firstly, congratulations go to <b>Martha Moore who received the Creative Leadership Award</b>, which is the highest award given in Zone VII for her dedication to GCA at the Club,</p>

Zone and National level. Martha has supported many GCA initiatives over the years, and her passion for horticulture has been the common thread. Martha has been a great mentor and leader to so many over the years. CONGRATS MARTHA!

Martha's encouragement for horticulture entries at this show produced prolific results! **Tuckahoe won the "Corliss Knapp Engle" Zone Horticulture Sweepstakes Award!!** You are probably saying, what in the world is that? Well, it is an award for the greatest number of points achieved in horticulture entries! We had 10 members enter 72 specimens, winning 63 ribbons in Hort!! What?? That is crazy!! Even more impressive is that Sue Thompson and Kathy Watson raked in half of those points! Go girls! Many thanks to Leila Jones for hosting the Horticulture Workshop that supported this effort.

And can I mention that **Anne Poarch won the Catherine Beattie Medal**, which is awarded for a specimen with vibrancy, in prime condition, and perfection of grooming. Her "rudbeckia" specimen was sublime!

**Our entry in the Horticulture Class Challenge received 4th place** out of 18 club entries, well done! Congrats to Sue Thompson, Jennifer Sisk, Carey Viego and April Greenwood for their support of this entry.

Others who entered horticulture and won ribbons included Maria Reed, Lisa Elliott, Betsy Mitchell, Martha Moore, RoseMarie Bundy, Jennifer Sisk, Karen Gilmore and me! Everyone who entered won a ribbon! **Congrats all you Hort Queens!!**

In the Artistic division, **congratulations to Renee Gardner and RoseMarie Bundy for their 3rd prize win** for a beautiful tablescape entry (loved it so much!)

**Congrats to Peyton Wells** who received a Judges Accommodation for her Botanical Arts Division IV class "Botanical Challenge", **and to Lisa Brennan** who won a second place in this class! Amazing for both ladies!

I was very humbled to win Best in Show for my photograph of flowers at the Low Line below the train trestle. This proves that anyone who takes a risk at these shows can achieve great things. Maybe next time that will be you! Congrats to Tricia for her yellow ribbon in photography too!

Congrats to Jennifer Sisk for receiving the Medal of Merit Award at the Awards Dinner for her inspirational leadership of Tuckahoe Garden Club.

Many thanks to Meredith Lauter for her talented support of the Artistic Schedule for the show, and to RoseMarie Bundy, Renee Gardner, Peyton Wells, Kathy Watson, Sue Thompson and April Greenwood who were instrumental in providing organizing hands for the entire week. Thank you to Anastasia SeEVERS for organizing our Flower Show Tour!! And thank you to Cara Rogers for being my steadfast Delegate! Kelly

**Garden Club of Virginia/Meredith Lauter**

**History Blooms** - October 6-8 at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture, supported by GCV. Speakers and presentations Friday and Saturday along with floral designs by GCV member clubs. For discounted GCV member tickets use special code GCVBLOOMS.

**2nd Cultivating Conversations** - “Arranging Mechanics & Conditioning” - October 23 by Zoom, 5 pm - free - register at [www.gcvirginia.net](http://www.gcvirginia.net). If you missed 1st Cultivating Conversations with Molly Trapani, Michaela Robinson, Jennifer Kelley, and Meg Turner, “Designing Your Garden For Seasonal Arranging,” view the free recording at GCV website.

**Conservation Forum** - November 2, 9-1, in-person and live streaming- Charlottesville 240 W. Main Street, The CODE Building. \$55 in-person includes continental breakfast, \$15 live-streaming, recording will be available to GCV members for a limited time. “Learn how to unlove your lawn, leave your leaves, rewild and much more from 3 of Virginia’s leading environmentally-minded horticulturalists.”

**Fall Photography Challenge** - Sept 1 - Oct 25

*Class 1: Autumn Twilight - Find the last gold, pink, and orange streaks of the day surrounded by fall. Suggestions include a mountain with fall colors on fire, a small bare-branched tree with the colors of the sunset pouring through its limbs, or fallen leaves in a stream heading toward the sinking sun. Capture the beauty of fall in all its glory. Color image.*

*Class 2: The Bounty of Autumn - Compose a still life composition evoking the splendors of autumn. Colorful leaves, harvests of vegetables or fruits, and nuts and berries could be included. Showcase the colorful beauty of the fall season. Color still life.*

One photo per category. Please send your photos no later than Oct. 25 to Georgiana Watt ([georgianawatt@hotmail.com](mailto:georgianawatt@hotmail.com)).

**October’s Native Plant of the month** is the showy goldenrod, *Solidago speciosa*, native to Virginia.

**Historic Garden Week Procurement 101 Zoom** - Oct 25 at 10 am. Club presidents, tour chairmen for 2025 and 2026, procurement chairmen and any other members involved with HGW procurement are encouraged to attend. Register [Terri@VAGardenWeek.org](mailto:Terri@VAGardenWeek.org).

**Historic Garden Week Marketing Meeting** - Nov 14, 10-1 - The Woman’s Club. HGW tour chairman, co-chairman, club president, publicity chairman or social media chairman registration email in mid-October. Please contact Terri Lowman, HGW marketing coordinator, at [Terri@VAGardenWeek.org](mailto:Terri@VAGardenWeek.org) after Oct. 31 if you plan to attend and have not yet registered.

**Awards: Nominations for Bessie Boccock Carter Conservation Award** - Nov. 1 to Ann Heller at GCV.

**Awards: Nominations for the Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement** - Dec. 1

**Area GCV Events & Fundraisers:** see GCV Membership News:  
Franklin GC Christmas Amaryllis - orders by October 1  
Albemarle GC Mark Sikes Oct 11-12, Charlottesville

Nansemond River GC, Dee Dee Dalrymple, "Effortless Entertaining" October 17, 9:30-2, Suffolk  
Ashland GC, Sandy McDougale of Sandy's Plants - October 18, 10 am "Perennials-Find the Perfect  
Match" Hanover, VA

**Nominating/** Betty Jenkins: I hope I will have a slate of the Executive Committee 2024-26.  
Fingers crossed.