I have so enjoyed representing the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, and I cannot believe that the past two years of enriched activity have slipped by so quickly. Thank you to the Officers, Directors, Board Members, Presidents, and Club Members for your commitment to our outstanding organization!

The Federation is proud to be a sponsor of “The New American Garden, The Landscape Architecture of Oehme, Van Sweden.” The traveling exhibit is in the auditorium of the Vollmer Center at the Cylburn Arboretum until March 26th.

The MD Home and Garden Show opens March 4th and 5th at the Timonium Fairgrounds. Our highly popular educational booth, decorated with mannequin heads in a floral theme, delights the public! Our enthusiasm for membership is contagious, and there are great speakers and shopping! Come join us for a fun day and free tickets to the show!

Our 88th Annual Meeting and Installation of New Officers, will be at the Turf Valley Conference Center, Ellicott City, on March 28th. Our Central Atlantic Director Anne Bucher and keynote speaker Collin O’Mara, President and CEO of the National Wildlife Foundation, will be our special guests of honor.

Recognition to outstanding members and projects will be acknowledged at our Annual Meeting, and a scholarship to a deserving UMCES graduate student will be announced. I thank you for your support and generous donations to my President’s Project, “Scholarship for the Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow.”

It has a pleasure for me to share our passion for volunteerism with you during this administration. You have inspired me with your dedication, kindness, and friendship. You have my gratitude for all you do to enrich our lives and our communities! Thank you for the honor of getting to know you!

Fondly,
Nicki Schwab, President
The saying, “Time flies when you’re having fun” certainly is true for this Vice President. Time also flies when you’re busy, busy, busy. The Gardening Consultants Council meeting at Meredith McDonagh’s home was great fun with a pumpkin and succulent decorating project after the meeting. Judges Council’s “Trick or Treat” flower show brought smiles seeing the very creative Halloween designs and excellent horticulture entries. Then there was the Central Atlantic Region Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York, our excellent Horticulture Day featuring Dr. Doug Tallamay and Gardening Studies School Course II was well attended and very educational. It was gratifying to help make centerpieces for the Wreaths Across America convoy which stopped at the American Legion on Kent Island for dinner and breakfast on their way to Arlington Cemetery. The Christmas trees and wreath at the State House representing all of Maryland’s counties, were again so creative, beautiful and educational. This now annual event is a must see for our garden club members. Looking forward to seeing you on June 6th at the Vollmer Center for the FGCMD Councils’ Program, “It’s a Garden Party” Celebrating National Garden Week (June 4-10). See the flyer in this Gardenews issue and make your reservations (bring guests) soon. Non-members are welcome and after seeing our super program, may want to join a garden club. Let’s use every opportunity to increase the membership of our excellent organization. Being the First Vice President for this administration has been a rewarding experience. Thanks so much to President Schwab who has been a dedicated, diligent worker on our behalf and will be a hard act to follow.

Diana Bonner
88th ANNUAL MEETING
FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF MARYLAND
Turf Valley Country Club
Ellicott City, Maryland
Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Registration  8:00am – 11:45am
Vendor Shopping  8:00am – 3:00pm
Silent Auction  9:45am – 12:00 noon
Business Meeting  9:30am – 11:00am
Open Bar  11:00am – 2:00pm
Luncheon  11:45am – 1:00pm
Featured Speaker  1:00pm – 2:00pm

Central Atlantic Region Director Anne Bucher is our special guest, joining us for the Installation of New Officers for 2017-2019.

Meeting & Luncheon - $42.00
Caesar Salad, Rolls and Butter, Sicilian Chicken with Orzo, and Chocolate Trilogy Cake

Program Speaker
Collin O’Mara is President and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation, America’s largest wildlife conservation organization. The National Wildlife Federation is a voice for wildlife, dedicated to protecting wildlife and habitat and inspiring the future generation of conservationists.

Checks payable to FGCMD, Inc.
Mail registration forms and payments to
Barbara Whited, 6921 Bond Street, St. Leonard, Maryland 20685
Questions: barbw307@comcast.net or 410-586-0601
Registrations are due by March 17, 2017

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS at Turf Valley are $131.00 (Single or double rate). Call 410-465-1500
All reservations must be made personally – mention FGCMD Group Code 2824At
It's A Garden Party

Join us for a celebration of National Garden Week

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

at the Vollmer Center

4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, MD

Engage, Enjoy and be Educated.: Hear different speakers on a variety of topics. The day is sponsored by FGCMD’s four councils. Experience shopping opportunities with everything from books to containers and plants and more.

8:30 am Doors Open
9:15 am Welcome
9:30 am Environmental Consultants Council presents Kerri Wixted, Education and Outreach Specialist, “From Mountains to Sea: Maryland’s Natural Areas.” From the ancient peatlands in the western part of the State to globally rare serpentine savanna at Soldier’s Delight, Maryland is a small state with a lot to offer. The Natural Heritage Program has identified 31 unique natural areas that are open to the public. Learn about several of these special habitats and the rare species they contain.

10:15 am Landscape Design Council presents Kirk Brown performing as Frederick Law Olmstead, considered to be the Father of American Landscape Architecture
11:00 am Break
11:15 am The Judges Council presents Floral Demonstration by three designers and “An Update on changes in Flower Shows”
12:15 pm Gardening Consultants Council presents a Guided or Self-Guided tour of Cylburn’s Fascinating Gardens

You are welcome to bring your lunch to enjoy at the Vollmer Center.

Make your check in the amount of $25.00 per person payable to FGCMD Councils Program and send to FGCMD, P. O. Box 65172, Baltimore, Md. 21209-0172

NO TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED.
PAYMENT AT THE DOOR WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IF SEATING IS AVAILABLE.

IF YOU WANT A GUIDED TOUR OF THE GARDENS (WEATHER PERMITTING), YOUR RESERVATION IS REQUIRED AT THE TIME OF YOUR REGISTRATION (NO EXTRA CHARGE).
Hellen Avalynne Tawes Garden

Tyler Balderson, Master Arborist at Bartlett Tree Experts, gave a fantastic presentation on pruning trees and shrubs at the Department of Natural Resources on January 10, 2017. He made $300 for the Friends with the $10 admission fee. With a great PowerPoint presentation, he covered structural pruning on young trees to develop the natural character of the specific species. Topics included winter care of trees, proper mulching, root collar excavations and potential insects and diseases based upon species identified in the garden.

The weather was nippy, but we went into the garden to find examples of needed pruning.

This past fall the Friends paid for the Tawes Garden signs to be refurbished (see picture). We got a grant from the Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee (MUCFC) for 22 white pines, which were planted by volunteers in the Reforestation Area of the garden, near Rowe Boulevard.

A Memorial Rock Garden is being created in memory of Norma Coulter. Donations can be made to the Friends of Tawes Garden in Norma Coulter’s name (write that on your check). Norma Coulter, a member of Crofton Village Garden Club, got involved with the establishment of Tawes Garden, the Gift Shop, and the design of the garden. She chaired the celebration of the 20th Anniversary in 1997, and this year we are celebrating the 40th Anniversary.

Bonnie Pavlak
The New American Garden Exhibit


The exhibit will be open until March 26th.

Location: Vollmer Center at Cylburn Arboretum
Date: January 14, 2017 to March 26, 2017 (Closed Mondays)
Time: 10 am to 4 pm

Presented by Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks
Presenting Sponsors: Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland
The Horticultural Society of Maryland
LANDSCAPE DESIGN COUNCIL

The Landscape Design Council has an exciting new slate of officers for 2017-2019. They are:

Chairman – Doris White – Charles County Garden Club – District II
Assistant Chairman – Charlotte Hardman - Kent Island Garden Club I
Recording Secretary – Carolyn Keenen – Gibson Island Garden Club II
Treasurer - Trish Reynolds – Talbot/Oxford Garden Clubs I

We congratulate them and know the Council will give them all their support.

Hope you will join us on June 6th at the Vollmer Center for the FGCMD Councils’ program, “It’s a Garden Party”. See the flyer in this Gardenews issue. Landscape Design Council is very pleased to present Kirk Brown as Frederick Law Olmsted. Olmsted (along with Calvert Vaux) is famous for the design of New York’s Central Park and was an early and important activist in the conservation movement. Those of you who attended Landscape Design School II, III and IV know Kirk as an enthralling school instructor. He does programs as “John Bartram” and “Frederick Law Olmsted” throughout the U.S. Kirk is the President of Garden Writers of America and previous chairman of the PLNA Landscape and Nursery Conference plus an arm’s length of additional credits. You won’t want to miss this amazing event!

Landscape Design Chairman
Jane Chambers

Club President
Item #: 4132
Price/ea: $22.00
Gold plated with a pin-clasp on the back. 1” in diameter

Club Past President
Item #: 4135
Price/ea: $22.00
Gold plated with a pin-clasp on the back. 1” in diameter
News from Around the State

District I - Eastern Shore
Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne’s, Somerset, Talbot, Worcester
Linda Elias selias78@msn.com

District I Director Susie Middleton:

As 2016 came to a close all of our clubs celebrated the season with holiday programs and civic activities to decorate a variety of public places.

Honoring Our Veterans “Wreaths Across America”
Each year the Wreaths Across America organization recognizes our service members by coordinating the delivery of wreaths to veterans’ cemeteries across the United States. They receive no government funding. The cost of the programs is paid by individual wreaths sponsors, corporate donors and volunteer truckers. What had started out seven years ago as a small undertaking by a few ladies from the Worcester County Garden Club has grown to become a major project for our District. For the 5th year our District has coordinated fund-raising to purchase wreaths for the Veteran’s Cemetery in Hurlock Maryland. The Cemetery in Hurlock is the smallest Veterans Cemetery in Maryland but has the largest support of all, due to the hard work and generosity of our garden club members. This year we raised enough to Special thanks are due to co-chairs Bozy Markiewicz and Sylvia Wilhiae and the many volunteers who turned out on this cold rainy Saturday to lay the wreaths.

Holiday Decorations for the State House
Many of our clubs have longstanding holiday traditions which include parties and decorating public spaces and historic properties. For the second year at the request of the Governor’s office we joined with other garden clubs in the State to decorate trees commemorating each of the State’s 24 counties. We have 11 clubs on the shore and 9 counties representing more than a third of the counties in the State. The Governor and First Lady met with Garden Club Members presenting them with Certificates of Appreciation and commemorative ornaments. Photos of the two days were shared with Club Presidents and posted on the District I Facebook page. Go to “District I FGCMD” on Facebook to learn more about the programs and activities of our clubs.

Programs for 2017
Looking forward our clubs are busy planning their programs and for many March will mark a transition in leadership. Our District will also install new Officers at our March 1st meeting. Our program “Ikebana in Springtime” will feature Anna O’Kelly, District II Director who will create “Spring Designs with an Asian Influence”. Anna is a student of the Sogetsu School of Ikebana and serves as President of the Ikebana International Baltimore Chapter.

As we near March and I approach the end of my term, I want to thank the many members who supported and attended our programs. The job of Director has been incredibly rewarding. I have learned much, and made many new friends. My thanks to all who made this possible.
**News from Around the State**

**District I Flower Show**

“A Blast from the Past”

September 21, 2017

Kent Island Garden Club will host the District I Flower show on Thursday, September 21, 2017 at the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department, 1610 Main Street, Chester, MD. The Show will be open to the public free of charge from 1:30 to 5:30 PM. The Flower Show Schedule will be available in March. Please contact Show Co-Chairman, Linda Elias, selias78@msn.com, if you would like further information.

**Chestertown Garden Club**

*Chestertown Garden Club* had a VERY busy Fall/Holiday season: members hosted a Standard Flower Show, “George Washington Slept Here”; presented a day with Brent Heath of Brent and Becky’s Bulb; decorated a Christmas Tree for the Maryland State House and finally gathered to create greens for decorating Chestertown’s newly refurbished Fountain Park.

Christmas Greens for Fountain Park

**Dorchester Garden Club** hosted their annual Christmas Luncheon, "Tis the Season and all That Jazz", which included shopping, a luncheon buffet, a jazzy musical program, a floral design demonstration by Michael Bramble of "Uniquely Michael" and the wearing of their jazzy facinators – what a fun day! Members enjoyed a leaf casting program presented by DGC member Jeanne Bernard. Attendees created decorative pieces for their homes and gardens.

**Greenfingers Garden Club** annual major fundraising project is creating fresh greenery wreaths and decorations, in the Williamsburg style, for Mt. Harmon’s Historic Plantation’s 2016 Yuletide Tour Fundraiser. Here are some samples of their handiwork:

And here’s the product of their Fall workshop by Judy Feeny and Sandy Simonson:
Kent Island Garden Club members enjoyed making pinecone bird feeders with individuals at Chesterwye in early December. Holiday activities saw our members decorating Historic Stevensville, creating table designs for the annual Wreaths Across America convoy dinner, decorating the QAC Christmas tree for the State House along with QAC GC and sharing holiday cheer at our annual luncheon. Now that 2017 has officially arrived, our focus is on the 2017 District I Flower Show that will be held on Thursday, September 21 at the Kent Island Fire Department in Chester, MD. “A Blast from the Past” will bring you back to your youth. Plan to join us!

Oxford Garden Club members enjoyed their annual holiday luncheon and gift exchange in December and are busy planning for the District I Annual Meeting to be held Wednesday, March 1st at the Oxford Community Center. Installation of the new District Board will be featured, along with a design program by Anna O’Kelly, “Ikebana in Springtime”.

Queen Anne’s County Garden Club concluded 2016 with another joint venture with their partners in crime, Kent Island Garden Club – the county-themed Christmas tree for the Maryland State House. April Walter and Dawn Thomas were the artistic genies behind the stunning tree that paid homage to good Queen Anne, bedecked with jewels, crystals, pearls, glitter, faux ermine and her purple crown all befitting royalty.

April Walter, MD First Lady Yumi Hogan, Dawn Thomas, QAC Christmas Tree

Talbot County Garden Club’s planted 13,000 daffodil bulbs in November with the help of a special machine from Brent and Becky’s Bulbs. In preparation for their 100th Anniversary, the club planted the bulbs in front of Moton Park in Easton. Three types of daffodils were planted so that a consistent bloom for the entire spring season will delight the community. Here’s to another 100 years!

On December 6th, 2017, members and their guests joined together at the Easton Volunteer Fire Department to make wreaths and garland for locations around Easton. This has been a holiday tradition of the Talbot County Garden Club for over 30 years. In addition to the wreaths, the club members and their guests joined together to design holiday inspired table arrangements for Meals on Wheels. The Meals on Wheels project has blossomed over the years, to now 85 festive arrangements to brighten the holidays for their recipients. This has become a very important addition to the wreath making activity and all the members look forward to contributing to the effort.

TCGC has started planning for its biennial spring symposium, scheduled for April 18, 2017. The all day affair titled Putting on the Glitz features three guest speakers, lunch, vendor/suppliers and a chance to connect with gardeners around the region. Featured speakers this year are:

Bettie Bearden Pardee, lecturer, garden connoisseur, former magazine editor and television host/producer and author of “Living Newport”;

Paige R. Canfield, owner/designer of Sumner B. Designs presenting "Entertaining with Flowers"; and

Chris H. Olsen, nationally recognized Master Designer presenting "From Drab to Fab".

All three speakers bring together the elements of style, design and entertaining into a full day affair Putting on the Glitz. The planning committee is chaired by Kim Eckert. Information related to ticket pricing and purchasing will be made available in early 2017. Mark your calendars!
News from Around the State

District II - Southern Maryland

Anna Arundel, Calvert, Charles County, Prince George’s, St. Mary’s

Ronda Goldman Goldman.ronda50@gmail.com

District II Director

Anna O’Kelly

The busy holiday season is behind us and plans are underway for new projects as Governor Hogan remains in office! Our Membership Chairman has created signage to display at events to spur membership. These two banners are professional grade and should attract attention and help us recruit new members. Signs of daffodil leaves poking through the ground are a reminder that the District Daffodil show will be here before we know it. Mark your calendars so that you don’t miss this event on April 11 and 12 at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Severna Park. I’m looking forward to seeing you all at the District II Annual Meeting on March 10 at the Bowie Comfort Inn. The program promises to be entertaining and educational, and our new officers will be installed. The past two years have flown by and it has been an honor to serve as the District II Director.

Bayside Bloomers Garden Club

We had a busy fall and winter maintaining our Annapolis Greenscapes project - the entrance sign to Truxtun Park, we decorated a room at the historic Hammond Harwood house and made holiday arrangements for the traumatic brain injury patients at University of Maryland hospital. We also very proud that 100% of our members achieved their “Baywise Certification”!

Chartwell Garden Club

enjoyed spreading Holiday cheer this season by donating a basket of goodies for a SPAN family, making wreaths for Annapolis State Circle, decorating the Gentleman’s Study at Hammond Harwood House and partnering with the Friends of Kinder Farm Park Historical Society on the Kinder Farmhouse Christmas House Tour. This year’s theme for the Kinder Farmhouse Christmas was “Christmas Trees, Teddy Bears and Angels.” Highlights included antique cookie cutters, model trains, teddy bears, angels and sparkling glass ornaments on lithe Christmas Trees (see photo). The decorations partnered well with the museum artifacts providing a glimpse into Kinder family farm life in the early 1900’s.

Our Annual Bus Trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show is on Tuesday, March 14, 2017. Top American and Dutch horticulturalists and designers will interpret the show’s theme “Holland: Flowering the World.” Explore all the amazing landscapes and floral designs, attend live lectures and demonstrations, and enjoy the cuisine and abundant shopping. The bus will leave the Millersville Park & Ride on Veterans Highway at 10am (with a 2nd stop at the I-95N Exit 74 Joppa Road & Mountain Road Park & Ride). The bus will depart Philadelphia at 7pm. Send your $80 check made payable to “Chartwell Garden Club” to Donna Sakenes at 55 St. Andrews Road, Severna Park, MD 21146 to reserve a seat. Please include your home and cell numbers on your check for contact purposes. The cost includes transportation, show ticket, driver’s gratuity and snack. For more information contact Donna Sakenes at 410-987-0643/chloefinster@verizon.net or Shirley Santora at 410-647-4624/shysanta@verizon.net. No refunds will be given unless a replacement is found or if the trip is officially canceled by the club.

Two of our club members, Marie Coulter and Liz Williams, will be chairing the 36th Annual Daffodil Show and Standard Flower Show. The show is free and open to the public on April 11th from 2pm -7pm and April 12th from 10am – 3pm at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, 400 Benfield Boulevard in Severna Park, 21146. Marie suggests applying bulb tone in February/March to any daffodil foliage which may have emerged to help ensure blooms for the show. If you are interested in entering your daffodils in the show, please contact Show Chairman Liz Williams at 410-987-7571/mliz_williams@verizon.net.

Four Rivers Garden Club awarded two 2016 grants for garden projects at Hammond Harwood House and the Langton Green facility for disabled adults. We contributed to Wreaths Across America, and our holiday wreath making event produced 46 boxwood wreaths for Annapolis institutions. Club members conducted nine seasonal workshops at three senior centers, where seniors created spring baskets, fall arrangements, and holiday boxwood trees. The 72nd annual Flower Mart brought spring beauty to Annapolis. We created 31 pre-ordered May Baskets for local businesses, winning seven blue ribbons. In summer 2016, Four Rivers planted vegetables and flowers at the Light House homeless prevention shelter. The fresh produce was for culinary training and feeding the homeless. Four Rivers created a garden manual for shelter staff. We worked with Head Start pre-school children at the Asbury Methodist Church, providing vegetable plants and guiding the children. The pre-school teachers were given children’s books, tools, and a garden manual. Four Rivers received 2016 State awards for our grant projects at the Chase Lloyd House, the Paca House Rose Garden, and the London Town Sound and Sensory Garden, as well as a District award for May Day Baskets. Two sponsored students were State winners in the high school essay contest.
Crofton Village Garden Club

The Crofton Village Garden Club was honored to be selected as one of 24 garden clubs to decorate a Christmas tree for display in the Maryland State House including for the Holiday Open House hosts by Governor Larry Hogan and First Lady Yumi Hogan in December 2016. The decorations on the tree represented 15 of the 103 places in Anne Arundel County that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Two of these places, Linthicum Walks and London Town, have certified Arboretums. Many of the trees and shrubs in these arboretums were feature on the Christmas tree.

First Lady Yumi Hogan presented the club with a certificate of achievement and a Christmas ornament.

Club members who created the tree are Sally Moore, Nancy Percivall, Marcia Richard (CVGC President) (all standing) and Pat Stevenson and Beverly Frye (kneeling). The second photo features First Lady Yumi Hogan with the certificate.

Crossroads of Hughesville Garden Club

The Cross Roads of Hughesville asks “Is there a better way to celebrate Earth Day than learning from an Earth Stylist?” WE DON’T THINK SO!

The La Plata and Cross Roads of Hughesville Garden Clubs are proud to present Garden Guru, Perennial Specialist and Earth Stylist – Kent Russell. Mr. Russell has the unique ability to inform and entertain at the same time. Once you attend one of his events, you will want to see him again and again. He has entertained garden club members at District and State meetings, the Philadelphia Flower Show and Newport Flower Festival. Visit Kent’s website at www.thegardenguru.com.

This unique program is April 22, 1pm at the South Potomac Church, 4195 Crain Highway, White Plains, Maryland 20695. Tickets are $25 per person.

For tickets or more information, contact Diane Shisler, 301-932-0251, email dshisler@verizon.net, or Doug Vogel, 301-274-3998, email rdougvogel@gmail.com

Charles County Garden Club

The title for the club’s Fall Flower Show is “Aging Fine with Time” as a tribute to a group of CCGC members which formed a ‘wine club’ following one of the club’s Christmas Tea’s. They make various wines and have shared with members at a number of meetings throughout the year. Here’s a sneak peak of a few of the design class titles: Medal Winning Wine; Sommelier; Bubbler; Oak Barrels; Trellising; Popping Corks; Vineyard Rows; and Cool Carafes. The Youth design titles are: Stomping Grapes and Vines Gone Wild.

If you are interested in entering the show, you may contact show co-chairmen Mary Lilly (301.752.1980 / mary.lilly@coldwellbanker.com) or Paula Winkler 301.934.8305 / pmw214@comcast.net) for additional schedule information.

The club enjoyed making fresh greens creations to sell at the Kris Kringle Market this year. This was the third annual event and the number of visitors was just under 5,700. People just love the smell of our building and seeing all of the wonderful items. Boxwood wreaths, kissing balls and Christmas trees are favorites of many that come back year after year to purchase. Mixed green wreaths, mailbox covers, headstone arrangements, Christmas mugs and centerpieces great sellers, too! We also had the Magnolia Medallion made into a brass Christmas ornament that is available for sale. They are made by the company that produces the White House Christmas ornament for the White House Historical Association each year. If you are interested in purchasing one of CCGC’s ornaments, please contact Mary Lilly.
News from Around the State

The Naval Academy Garden Club (NAGC) is busy preparing for a small Standard Flower Show on April 2nd. The show will be presented in conjunction with a fundraiser sponsored by the Naval Academy Spouses’ and Civilians’ Club (NASCC), another military-related service organization in Annapolis. In order to view the show, a ticket for Mad Hatter’s Tea and Treasures must be purchased ($45, of which $20 is tax-deductible). The event will feature an elegant High Tea, an extensive silent auction, the NAGC flower show and informal appraisals by area antique dealers for up to two items per guest.

All proceeds benefit local charities. For reservations, go to www.usna.edu/NASCC and click on Tea and Treasures. Non-members should go to https://www.usna.edu/NASCC/index.php

District III - Baltimore and Harford Counties

Dot Sacker rodosack@verizon.net

District III Director Betty Reeves

It has been a great pleasure to have been your District III Director for the last two years. I have had two wonderful years visiting your garden clubs, and seeing your wonderful projects. I have also enjoyed being your representative on the Federation Garden Clubs of MD Executive Committee. If you haven’t had this opportunity, I recommend that this is something you should consider. It is a great learning experience, along with meeting other garden club officers, committee members, and participating in the many volunteer opportunities.

In October, District III had a very successful fundraising project for Hampton Historic Site for the restoration and preservation of the landscaping on the grounds of the historic site. It was a fun day with wonderful presentations, a delicious lunch, and a fashion show provided by Octavia.

Thank you for your sponsorship and donations to Wreaths Across America. This was the second year District III participated in the wonderful event at Baltimore National Veterans Cemetery in Catonsville, MD, and Bel Air Memorial Gardens in Bel Air, MD. Even though it was an icy, and not a very nice day that closed down Baltimore and Harford Counties, the ceremonies went on without delay.

Many of District III garden clubs participated in decorating historical and public places for the holidays. Five of District III garden clubs decorated five of the ten spaces at Ladew’s Christmas Open House, and many of the garden clubs from Baltimore County decorated the Hampton Historic Site for their Yuletide Event.

Thanks to the Lutherville Garden Club for representing Baltimore County, and the Evergreen Garden Club for representing Harford County in the Governor’s Second Annual Tree Program at the State House in Annapolis.

On March 3, 2017, District III’s Annual Meeting will be held at the Hillendale Country Club. This year’s theme is “Maryland My Maryland”. Let’s all wear our Maryland colors for the meeting. The program will be presented by Colleen Webster as Emily Dickinson, author and avid gardener.
I look forward to seeing you at the District III Annual Meeting.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

The morning of December 17, 2016 was a snowy, sleet mixture day. Community volunteers braved the wintry weather to place wreaths on grave sites of veterans at Baltimore National Cemetery in Catonsville and Bel Air Memorial Gardens in Bel Air, MD. Thank you to District III Garden Clubs, and garden club members who sponsored wreaths for the nationwide ceremony.

ALICE RUSH MCKEON TREE PLANTING

On an overcast day in October, District III had the great pleasure to participate in a tree planting ceremony at the Fallston Park & Ride in Harford County. Once a year, the Federated Garden Clubs, along with the State of MD Highway Administration, participate in the wonderful event. In 2016, the tree planting took place in District III.

Funds from the Alice Rush McKeon endowment and matching funds from the State of MD Highway Administration, planted over twenty trees at the Fallston Park & Ride. What was once a very unattractive area, changed to a welcome space for daily commuters, and will be even more welcoming in the spring.

BENT TWIG GARDEN CLUB

In December, each member of the Bent Twig Garden Club created an arrangement in a Christmas Mug to be donated to recipients of Meals on Wheels for their holiday enjoyment. The arrangements were judged in two categories: Most Original and Most Whimsical. Linda Masland, Past President of Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Past Director of District III, and an accredited flower show judge, will present a hands-on workshop in February about how to appreciate plants for their fragrance, their appearance and their color variety when enhancing the beauty of your garden.

Our guest speaker in March will be Carrie Engle, the retail greenhouse manager of Valley View Farms and a regular guest on the WBAL-TV Sunday Garden program. Carrie will discuss “go to plants” that will work in our gardens. She will also tell us about new plants on the market this Spring.

Guests are always welcome at our monthly meetings. Call Barbara Gunkel (410-465-5543) for more information.

FRANKLIN GARDEN CLUB

Franklin Garden Club is looking forward to a busy 2017! Our January speaker is from Irvine Nature Center speaking on the topic of Nocturnal Animals. Also in January, a group of our club members will be going to Timber Grove Elementary School to present a program on birds to 40 students grades 2nd thru 5th that are part of the school’s Environmental Club.

In the month of February, we look forward to Alan Summers, host of the radio show, The Garden Club, speaking to our club on the topic of Fifty Years in the Garden. Our March speaker, as we head into Spring, will be Julie Minch of the Maryland Daffodil Society speaking on Daffodils.

From left to right: FGCMD 1st Vice President & President-Elect, Diana Bonner; FGCMD District III Director, Betty Reeves; FGCMD Past President & Fallston Resident, Linda Masland; FGCMD President, Nicki Schwab; MD State Highway Administrator, Richard Wilke. Photo taken by Lisa Zimmerman

Photo by: Winnie Gochar
**GLEN ARM GARDEN CLUB**

members are hard at work planning their Spring Flower Show. “A Day at Magnolia Grove” takes place on Saturday, May 20, 2017, in the auditorium of Stella Maris at 2300 Dulaney Valley Rd. Lutherville, MD 21093. The show will be open to the public between 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM. This is an open show, and we invite everyone to take part. The schedule will be available soon. Entries will be accepted at the site from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM on May 19th and from 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM on May 20th. Glen Arm’s Spring Bus Trip scheduled for Friday, June 2, truly has something for everyone: a day at Brooklyn Botanical Garden, with its 28 distinct gardens, with an additional optional visit to the Brooklyn Museum of Art! The registration form and fact sheet are posted in the club’s website: https://sites.google.com/site/glenarmgardenclub/ The club continues its commitment to Meals on Wheels with spring arrangements in March.

**GUNPOWDER GARDEN CLUB**

Each year the Gunpowder Garden Club participates in the Backyard Bird Count to help regional aviary census takers. This year, northern Maryland club members were encouraged to extend sound stewardship to help native birds survive winter and their travel itineraries.

Establishing bird stations for the ‘hometown’ titmice, juncos, goldfinches, and others passing through -- is a must. It is a cozy haven where birds can scratch seeds, meet friends, eat suet, and drink water - even in the company of a gray tree squirrel or two.

The Patterson Park Audubon Center, located in East Baltimore, is a national bird sanctuary model. This center shares speakers and materials on creating wildlife habitats and in selecting colorful perennials. It is in the sharing that Gunpowder Garden Club members grow their knowledge of bird conservation and bird habitats and extend their commitment to community stewardship.

**LUTHERVILLE GARDEN CLUB**

During the holiday season, the members participated in decorating a Christmas tree at the MD State House in Annapolis for the Annual Open House held in December. Yumi Hogan, First Lady, congratulated the garden clubs for their contribution in making the State House very festive for the holidays.

Pictured is First Lady, Yumi Hogan, with members of Lutherville Garden Club at the MD State House in Annapolis.

L to R: Carolyn Christy, Marie Frederick, Joyce Morgan, Georgia Jubb (kneeling), Mary Monte, Patsy Stein, Elaine Tipton (kneeling), Yumi Hogan (First Lady), Amanda Kilian, Dolores Pater, Corinne Lears, Dottie DeMarr, Jackie Albertson,

Members also enjoyed a club "hands-on" workshop during the holidays decorating a Christmas wreath of their own with seasonal trimmings. At the College Manor Facility, members engaged the residents in an activity making Christmas flower arrangements for their loved ones. Other club members worked with the Young Gardeners at the Lutherville Lab School making holiday arrangements, one to take home and the other to present to the College Manor residents.

February's meeting presents Ruthann and Chuck Leubecker on demonstrating how to raise and enjoy flowers for their colorful beauty.

In March, Melissa Grimm, chief horticulturist of Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, will present a program about the history of the Cylburn gardens.
and speak about the next design plan for the future of Cylburn gardens.
In April, a landscape design presentation given by Leigh Barnes, two term president of the Horticultural Society of Maryland, will explain the "dos and don'ts" on container gardening in the landscape.

**BUS TRIP TO MT. CUBA:** On May 18, 2017, join us for a guided tour of the Mt. Cuba Center located in the Brandywine Valley. Bus tour includes a gourmet boxed lunch.

*Lutherville Garden Club – Spring Bus Trip - May 18, 2017*  
Mt. Cuba Center, Hockessin, PA  
Join us for a guided tour of this beautiful botanical garden nestled in the Brandywine Valley with a gourmet boxed lunch following…

*Comfortable shoes a must!*  
Departure from Meadowood/Falls Rd. promptly at 8:30am  
(8:15am Boarding- please no earlier)  
Return arrival Meadowood/Falls Rd. approximately 4:00pm

Contact: Patsy Stein, 308 Regester Ave., Towson, MD 21212  
ph: 667-308-2428
**MANOR GARDEN CLUB**

**Fundraiser for 2016:** The Manor Garden Club held three workshops for their members at President Sharon Kollman's home to make 45 pinecone-filled baskets to sell at four different venues.

Members collected a variety of pinecones, Sweetgum balls, nuts, lotus pods, acorns, and other dried materials for the project. Red berries, dried white statice, small ornamental birds, and ribbon completed the baskets for the finished product ready to sell during the months of October, November, and December.

The baskets were sold at the Ridgely Middle School craft show, the Trinity Episcopal Church in Glen Arm, at a member's church, and even at the club's Christmas luncheon at Pappas Restaurant in December.

The club hopes to use the money made from the sale of the baskets towards interesting speakers, and perhaps give a portion of the sales towards an area gardening-related project or organization.

**MONKTON GARDEN CLUB**

The Monkton Club extends a special invitation to garden club members to join us for our April 27th meeting at 6:30 pm at the Baltimore County Public Library, Hereford Branch, at 16940 York Rd., Monkton, MD 21111. We are happy to have Mr. Frank Duff as our speaker, and his program is entitled "Growing Rhododendrons Successfully." Mr. Duff is a member of the Mason Dixon Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. He will discuss how to grow rhododendrons and cover the difference between species and hybrid rhododendrons. Additionally, he will cover hybrids that do well in our area and discuss deer management strategies. There will be a question and answer session following the presentation. Free. The public is invited. Directions: From I-83 north, take exit 27. Go east (right) on MD 137 (Mount Carmel Rd.) toward Hereford. Drive 0.5 miles to the light and turn right onto MD-45 (York Rd.). Go 269 ft. and turn right into the second driveway. The library is on your left.
News from Around the State

**District IV - Baltimore City**

*Kathleen Broi*  
**kathleen@brosi.org**

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**District IV Director**  
**Ann Losin**

District IV Director Ann Losin wish everyone a happy new year. The Christmas season has been busy with our clubs decorating historic houses. The Homeland Garden Club continued its tradition of decorating Homewood House on the Johns Hopkins campus for the holidays. Mt. Washington once again decorated the Carroll Mansion using period appropriate materials. Both Homewood House and the Carroll Mansion held candlelight tours showcasing the Christmas décor. For Win Ash decorated the Banneker Museum in Catonsville.

**For Win Ash Garden Club** also continued its proud tradition of community service with the Youth Committee chaired by Marsha Hairston. They planted bulbs and weeded the entranceway at Windsor Hills Elementary School in November 2016. Their Festival of Trees Committee, chaired by Janice Gordon, decorated a tree in keeping with the theme Yuletide Elegance. The Festival of Trees is an annual three-day holiday event that benefits the children and families who receive treatment and services at the Kennedy Krieger Institute at Johns Hopkins hospital. The $175 proceeds from the sale of For Win Ash’s tree benefitted the Kennedy Krieger Institute. Ernestine Boyd and Rhoda Fassett chaired the Banneker Museum Christmas Decoration Committee. They elegantly decorated two trees, one themed “Give a Hoot” and also decorated the other parts of the museum. President Kendrick provided refreshments to both decorating groups. At their Christmas luncheon at the Valley Inn, For Win Ash hosted FGCOMD President Nikki Schwab. President Schwab surprised President Kendrick with a gift of the NGC 2017 Calendar. President Kendrick gifted each attendee with a scallop shell angel which she made. Jackie Dorsey led the group in a delightful Christmas carol guessing game.

The Little Leaves program at the Rawlings Conservatory brings city elementary school children into the conservatory for programs of fun and learning. District IV member Alice Hubbard has been instrumental in getting the program started and keeping it running. She is shown here with second and third graders from Gwynn Falls Elementary School.

In January For Win Ash volunteered to help in the Little Leaves Program at the Conservatory. Marsha Hairston, John Pumphrey and Karin Marie Kendrick guided the two busloads of first, second and third graders. Bea Scott also helped in the afternoon.
Homeland Garden Club celebrated its 90th anniversary with a lovely dinner party at the home of club vice-president Sylvia Parker. At the club’s November meeting, Mrs. Parker led the group in a cornucopia making workshop. December brought their traditional, and much-loved, Christmas auction at the home of Elaine Born. Every club member donated a new, handmade, or antique item to be auctioned off. Club member auctioneer Alice Wilkerson kept the bidding going and made sure that a good time was had by all. This February Carrie Engel of Valley View Farms will visit the club and speak about her favorite types of flowering shrubs and new introductions. Homeland Garden Club supports the Landscape Initiative of the historically designated Homeland community. Its objective is the restoration of the common areas in the tradition of the original Olmstead design for the neighborhood.

The Garden Club of the Women's Club of Roland Park planted 250 St Keverne bulbs last fall to help beautify their neighborhood. Mid-spring this year the flowers will brighten everyone's spirits! The club has held several flower arranging workshops for members to learn and practice techniques for floral design.

SAVE THE DATE - Wednesday, May 17, 2017 The Foundation of the Women’s Club of Roland Park will have a very special and wonderful trip to Dumbarton Oaks. http://www.doaks.org/ Contact Sally Anthony for details.sallyanthony2@comcast.net if you would like to join them.

District V Director Lynn Walter

It is believe that this spring will mark the end of my two year term. It has been such a privilege to act as your Director, and the Presidents have wonderful about passing on information I share regarding our district, or communications from the State. Keep up the good work as we gear up for Spring. There is a lot going on! I was very proud that each of our six counties were represented at the Statehouse Holiday Tree project. From all accounts the trees (and wreath from Garrett County) were all lovely! Thank you so much. I am proud that almost every club has at least one environmentally themed meeting planned this year, whether pollinators birds, bees or monarchs, or sustainability with weeds, native plants or composting. Also remember, the Director's award this spring goes to the club with the highest percentage of member participation with Bay-wise certification and/or Backyard habitat certification. For those who are interested, the Great Backyard Bird Count is February 17-20
this year. Google it for more information, or contact me with questions. It is a fun and easy way to enjoy birds with your children or grandchildren and help scientists as well. Lastly, mark your calendars now for March 9, when we will have our District V meeting at Holly Hills Country Club. Our speaker, Paige Canfield, is fun, informative and entertaining. It will be my last meeting as your director, as the new administration will begin. Also mark your calendar for March 28 when our State meeting will be at Turf Valley. The speaker will be Collin O'Mara, President and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation. It will be a Great day! Presidents will have the official calls for the meetings soon if they don't already. Please plan on joining me for both meetings!

**Carroll Garden Club** - In November, Carroll Garden Club welcomed an advanced orchidist, Sarah Hurdle, who gave us in-depth botanical information about new groups of orchids that the casual grower never encounters. She has won quite a few blue ribbons from orchids she grows under specific conditions in her home. At the same meeting, keeping in mind the upcoming flower show in May, some of our members brought in standing luminaries. This is a very fine example that Barbara Childs and Kelly Bol linger worked on. Our December program was a Christmas workshop where members had a choice: create their own designs for expressing the holidays on tabletops, entryways or to admire outside. Or...work with our Barb Childs to learn how to create a kissing ball from a potato, ribbon and lots of cut boxwood sprigs. Since we don’t meet in January, we remain hopeful that our February 1 meeting will free from inclement weather and we will enjoy critiquing a slide show of design entries from a previous Art in Bloom exhibit. We will likely participate again this year.

**Cross Country Garden Club** held three workshops in the fall, making cinnamon stick trees, gift bags, ribbon ornaments, wreaths, and holiday arrangements of fresh greens to sell December 3 at the Howard County Conservancy’s Natural Holiday Sale. This was the club’s most successful fall/winter fundraiser ever, providing money to support community projects. Botanist Dr. James Duke, author of the book "The Green Pharmacy", spoke with Cross Country GC members before members took a guided tour of his gardens where they learned how plants can be used as medicine.

**Crossroads Garden Club** - Crossroads Garden Club had a successful Greens Show and everyone enjoyed the creative floral designs of David Shover. Members have been active in recent months making buckeyes, floral designs in little pumpkins and boxwood trees along with decorating the Women’s Club Building to the theme of "It's a White Christmas". Soon we will have a Garden Therapy program at a local nursing home. A bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show in March is on the horizon and in January we will be making tea cup floral arrangements under the guidance of member Connie Spong.

**Green-walled Garden Club** - The Green-walled Garden Club has had a busy fall. Our programs have included “Nature’s Amazing Wildflowers” and Holiday Designs for Exterior Decorating. We planted several flats of pansies at Rock Creek School and assisted the students at the school in making floral arrangements for the teachers during National Education Week. The club decorated one of the houses featured on the Frederick Holiday House Tour. A majority of club members
participate in this fun, creative event. Club members collected pumpkins, painted them gold and the pumpkins were used throughout the home. This is a great team activity and also a good source of income as the garden clubs receive a share of the proceeds. In December we enjoyed our annual holiday luncheon and auction—another great fund raiser with good food, good fellowship and good fun. As we move into spring we look forward to a meeting at Homewood making tea cup arrangements for the residents, a program on ikebana and our spring trip to Hershey Gardens with lunch at the historic Hershey hotel and a stop at a garden center on the way home.

The Hagerstown Garden Club will hold its annual Art in Bloom at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts located at 401 Museum Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21741. The event will be held the weekend of March 26-28, 2017. Participants will interpret works of art through flower arrangements. This is not a juried event and anyone is invited to participate. Friday, March 26 is the Preview Party from 6-8. On Saturday, March 25 from 10-4 and Sunday, March 25 from 1-5 the event will be open to the public with a nominal $5 admission charge (Members of the museum have free admission). The cost of the Preview Party is $50.00 per person. For Preview Party reservations, call the museum staff office at (301)739-5727. Credit cards are accepted. For additional information, email HGC President Cynthia Perini at Cynthia.Perini@myactv.net or go to the WCMFA website at http://wcmfa.org/art-in-bloom. Photo:

Howard County Garden Club - In November, the Howard County Garden Club held a Holiday Workshop at the home of President Judy Draper. We made wreaths and candle adapters for fundraising during the holiday season. The workshop was followed by a lovely luncheon, enjoyed by all.

Mt. Airy Garden Club - Mt. Airy Garden Club once again partnered with Silver Fancy and Carrol GCs to design the Carroll County State House Tree in Annapolis. Our Club’s Annapolis Tree Chair, Mary Boldt worked with members of the three clubs to create ornaments displaying the “Agricultural and Economic History” of our County. Members gathered information from the Carroll County Historical Society and other locations around the county to create ornaments representing early canneries, grist mills, redware potteries, early cash crops including wormseed oil, the B&O and Western Maryland Railroads, gourd bird houses, and quilt patches featuring the incorporated Town seals. It is an honor for our Club to participate in First Lady Yumi Hogan’s State House Tree event. On June 13th, our club will present “Red, White & Bloom”, a Small Standard Flower Show at the Mt. Airy Library. As part of the Flower Show Monarch Butterfly Educational Exhibit, the club is offering perennial swamp milkweed host plants grown by club members to visitors (while the supply lasts). An extension of the Educational Monarch Exhibit will be a Monarch Butterfly Program at the Mt. Air Library in late August featuring several types of milkweed plants, “live” eggs, caterpillar instars, butterflies, chrysalises and a power point presentation on the Monarch Butterfly life cycle.

Photo courtesy of the Executive Office of the Governor
Carroll County Tree Committee: (L to R): Jane Purdie, Jackie Kegel, Joyce Stone, Ruth Ridgely, First Lady Yumi Hogan, Tina Swanson, Gwyn Webb, Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford, Cathy Hoover, Linda Bonifant-Travers, (L to R back row) Marjorie Schiebel, Committee Chair Mary Boldt
Silver Fancy Garden Club - Club members met in December at Joyce Bruchey’s home to make holiday arrangements and then went to lunch at The Carriage House in Emmitsburg, Maryland. February 16 program will be held at Taneytown Library at 12:30 p.m. Club member Carolyn Maddox will present a program on Culture & Horticulture of India. Carolyn taught art for 33 years in Frederick County Public Schools. In retirement she makes floral bouquets for Scenic View Orchards. Carolyn is a second generation Silver Fancy Garden Club member. She attended her son's wedding in India this past summer and will have an interesting presentation. This program is open to everyone. The March 16 program will be a Potluck Social at 5:30 p.m. at Joyce Bruchey's home. Senior garden therapy will be offered this month as well as Junior Garden programs at Taneytown Library and Emmitsburg Library. April 20 will be an open Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Taneytown. Sylvia Deck will show Practical Arrangements for our Homes. Sylvia is an award winning, entertaining floral designer who has been in a garden club for over 20 years. May 18's program will be a field trip to En Masse Florists and Gardens, Frederick. A workshop will be presented by Sharon Mesa at 10 a.m. After lunch, there will be a tour of Evangelical Lutheran Church Gardens--18 small gardens named by the gardeners who created them, which are often on the Backyard Tours of Frederick. June 15 will be the Installation of Officers and Luncheon at the home of Mary Louise Hoban. Programs for Senior Garden Therapy as well as Junior Gardeners at the Taneytown and Emmitsburg libraries will be offered this month.

Tasker’s Chance Garden Club - Tasker’s Chance Garden Club held their largest fundraiser of the year in December, selling handmade decorated and undecorated boxwood trees. The club sells any where from 70-90 trees per year, and we sold 78 this year. Also in December 2016, a few members, led by Sue Basford and Pat Custer, went to The Senior Center and helped the seniors there create decorated trees. In February, several members will be visiting the Senior Center for a Valentine’s themed activity. Next month, we will be learning about floral design and how to improve horticulture entries in a flower show with a program presented by Marilyn Potter. Tasker’s Chance and the Garden Club of Frederick will be hosting a standard flower show “Oh Say Can You See” at 10 am on April 7, 2017, at Homewood at Crumland Farms, 7407 Willow Road, Frederick, MD 21702.