



GARDENEWS

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What does the new year have in store for us? If January is any indication, it is going to be as unpredictable as the last two years! We have seen more snow and colder temperatures than we have experienced the last few years. But have faith, Spring is around the corner!

The recent spike in Covid cases caused many of us to return to Zoom meetings. While virtual platforms are not intended to replace in person meetings or schools, they have created opportunities that were previously unavailable to our organization. Some members have availed themselves of the online schools offered by NGC and others have attended virtual workshops and programs. These are tools that we will continue to use to grow our organization, and by becoming comfortable with them, we will be able to grow at a personal level.

March is Annual Meeting month in Maryland! All Districts held their 2021 Annual Meeting by Zoom, but 2022 will see a return to in person meetings. I hope that you will attend your District's meeting and reconnect with friends.

The State Annual meeting will be held on March 22 at Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City, and I am definitely looking forward to ditching the Zoom and screens and seeing and chatting with all of you live face-to-face. We will welcome the CAR-SGC Director, Betty Cookendorfer, and the Judges Council will present a flower show titled "From Small Seeds, Great Things Grow" in honor of this President's Project. Our speaker is nationally recognized garden writer Page Dickey. Look for the review of her latest book in this edition. We will be drawing the winning ticket for a trip to Aruba, and have several vendors lined up.

We held a safe and successful hybrid meeting at Turf Valley last year with several members attending in person. Rest assured that we will again be working with Turf Valley to ensure that the event is conducted with Covid safety in mind, and in compliance with county guidelines. Hand sanitizing stations are located throughout the property, high touch areas are frequently sanitized using Clorox 360 Electrostatic Sprayers, and effective December 26, 2021, by order of the Howard County Executive, face masks are required for all staff and guests while they are indoors, unless seated at a table, eating and drinking.

Hope to see you there!

Anna



President Anna O'Kelly and Sheba

Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland's Annual Meeting



Please plan to attend the

93RD ANNUAL MEETING FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF MARYLAND, INC. TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2022 TURF VALLEY RESORT & HOTEL ELLICOTT CITY, MARYLAND

**This year's meeting includes a luncheon, an exciting speaker, a special guest, vendors,
a chance to win a trip to Aruba and a Judges Council Flower Show.**

Betty Cookendorfer, Central Atlantic Region-State Garden Clubs Director, will be our special guest.

Program: *Uprooted: A Gardener Reflects on Beginning Again*

Page Dickey has written on gardening and garden design over the years for *House and Garden*, *Architectural Digest* and *The New York Times*. She lectures around the country about plants and garden design, and is the author of eight books, including *Gardens in the Spirit of Place*, and the award-winning *Breaking Ground: Portraits of Ten Garden Designers*. Her first book, *Duck Hill Journal*, and its sequel, *Embroidered Ground*, are about Duck Hill in North Salem, New York, where she lived and gardened for thirty years. Her latest book, *Uprooted: A Gardener Reflects on Beginning Again*, is about her move north and subsequent new adventure, and the basis of her presentation.

Judges Council Standard Flower Show 11:00 AM – 2:30 PM

“From Small Seeds, Great Things Grow”

Show Theme honors President Anna O’Kelly’s Project: The SEED School of Maryland

For more information and the registration form, please visit www.FGCofMD.org and look under Calendar of Events.

News about Gardenews

Gardenews is the mandated newsletter for the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland. Over its lifetime it has been presented in several different formats. Approximately 10 years or so ago a decision was made to bring the newsletter into the 21st century and publish it online to reduce the printing and postage costs.

Gardenews is transitioning to a leaner format. Each issue will explore in more depth themes or topics particular to our garden club world. The “Around the State” column will see the biggest change. The focus will be on one or two unique club projects or activities per issue. Information about fundraisers, bus trips, flower shows and lectures are all newsworthy but will be presented in a different format. Some of that will be directed to the Calendar of Events on the FGCMMD website where it will receive more exposure.

The guidelines for permission to use photographs and attributions will remain the same. Questions and comments should be addressed to the Editor at gardenews@fgcofmd.org.

First Vice President

Uprooted: A Gardener Reflects on Beginning Again

For a variety of reasons, when they reach a certain age, many gardeners move from a long established and beloved garden to something smaller and, hopefully, easier to take care of. They 'downsized'. Page Dickey and her husband, Bosco Schell, did the opposite. They 'upsized'. They moved to a larger, much larger, property. **Uprooted** is the story of the result of that decision.

Page Dickey is a passionate gardener, landscape designer and author. As a long serving member of the Board of the Garden Conservancy she is the co-founder of their highly popular Open Days program.

She has been in the forefront of American gardening for many years. For 35 years she gardened at a beloved three acre property in New York State, Duck Hill. She loved the property and was more than willing to share it with many visitors. As the years went on, she found the care was becoming more and more challenging. Moreover, and perhaps more important, she had done everything there was to do. She and Bosco were both ready for a change. After some searching, and, I think, much to their surprise, they purchased a much larger place in Northwestern Connecticut.



Susie Middleton

They named their new seventeen acre property Church House. Built in 1793 as a Methodist Church, it had been converted to a private home in 1930 with several successive owners. It had stood empty for various periods of time. Before moving in they did some renovations to the house and spent that first year considering the garden. Then comes the interesting, fun part of the book. Page has put in flowers, shrubs and a small cutting garden near the house. The rest of the property has been left as a meadow and an extensive woodland. This latter is being not so much developed as artfully curated. She is adding flowering trees shrubs and wildflowers. She is nurturing what is already there and cleaning out some dead wood. Her description of these activities makes this book a pleasure to read. Photographs by Ngoc Minh Ngo and Merion Brenner further enrich the book.

Page writes in the manner of David Culp, Joe Eck & Wayne Winterrowd and Helen Van Pelt Wilson to mention a few of my favorites. She writes about gardening in the context of what she does in her own garden and in doing so touches on garden design, plant choices and garden maintenance. Her writing is knowledgeable, intimate, literary and unpretentious. She is what everyone would like in a gardening friend.

Page will be the featured speaker at the Annual Meeting of The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland Annual Meeting to be held at The Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City MD on Tuesday, March 22. It will be a real treat to hear her speak.

Website Update

The new FGCMDB Handbook was recently added to the Member Support page. www.fgcofmd.org/membersupport/ It is a comprehensive 'encyclopedia' of information covering all aspects of our organization. The table of contents is interactive making it easy to find topics.

The Calendar of Events is the master calendar of the Federation. When planning events please check the Calendar first to avoid scheduling conflicts. Guidelines can be found at www.fgcofmd.org/calendar/. Requests to post information on the website can be sent to website@fgcofmd.org.

Councils and Schools

Continuing Education Opportunities Sponsored by the Councils

Landscape Design School

Course 4 of Landscape Design School will be held on May 24 & 25 at Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City. This course will feature classes about contemporary landscape design trends, community participation in landscaping projects, suburban design, and the development of community gardens. There will also be a class on rain gardens. We will be learning about how to evaluate landscape designs of residential and public gardens and will evaluate two gardens we will be touring – one a public garden and one a private one. We have a great roster of instructors again scheduled for this course, with relevant backgrounds, education and experience in landscape design as it relates to the classes being offered. Registration is currently open and the school brochure can be found on the FGCMMD website on the calendar and Council pages.

Gardening School

A new series of Gardening School courses will begin with Course 1 scheduled for September 14 & 15 at the Cylburn Classroom. This course will offer classes in basic botany, soils, techniques for growing outdoor flowers, and plant propagation, including a propagation workshop (hands-on project). We are in the planning stages and as soon as the course brochure is completed, we will open registration and provide plenty of information for those that will be interested in attending. This is usually a very well attended educational event, so stay tuned for more information.

Submitted by Linda Harris, Gardening School Chair and Landscape Design School

Upcoming Flower Shows

The Naval Academy Garden Club (DII) is planning their upcoming flower show, scheduled for June 14-15. The club will transform The Atreem at Soaring Timbers in Annapolis into a riot of color with a hefty blend of patriotic music. Flower Show details will be posted on the club's website within the next month. Please go to www.NavalAcademyGardenClub.org

39th Annual Daffodil Show

and

NGC Standard Flower Show

“A Daffodil Star is Born”

Presented by District II

The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.

The American Daffodil Society

Tuesday April 12, 2022: 2 PM to 7 PM

Wednesday April 13, 2022: 10 AM to 3 PM

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church 400 Benfield Road, Severna Park, MD 21146

Public Invited – Free Admission Handicap Accessible



Fundraising

WIN A WEEK IN ARUBA!

FGCMD is having a fundraiser and you can win!



All you need to do is buy a raffle ticket. Cost is \$15 per ticket or 3 for \$30. Tickets will be sold at all 2022 District Meetings with the winner announced at the Annual Meeting on March 22, 2022. Travel will be November 4 – 11, 2022.

Winner gets a week at the 5-star Costa Linda Resort in a 2 bedroom/2 bath apartment. This Resort has been awarded the Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence for 5 Consecutive Years!

The unit features Tropical Décor and includes:



- ☐ Fully-Equipped Kitchen
- ☐ Private Balcony with Ocean-View
- ☐ 35" Phillips Flat Screen Color Satellite TV in the Living Room and 32" Phillips Flat Screen Color Satellite TV in the Bedrooms
- ☐ Sony Blu-Ray DVD players with HDMI and USB port
- ☐ Two full bathrooms, including a Roman shower in the master bath and tub/shower in the second bath



- ☐ Air Conditioning
- ☐ Telephones & Room Safe
- ☐ Mon-Sat Maid Service
- ☐ Flights are at your expense but available direct from BWI on Southwest Airlines.

Good luck!

A new club-level fundraiser idea from Town and Country Garden Club

Town & Country GC in Hagerstown held a different and very successful fundraiser this past year. We plan to make this a yearly event! In the summer of 2021, Club members sold 200 raffle tickets to local businesses and individuals for a chance to win a monthly flower arrangement for a year. We delivered the first arrangement in September to Michele McKenna, D.V.M. at Cumberland Valley Veterinarian Clinic where it was proudly displayed in the front lobby. Each month's arrangement is designed by various club members who select a seasonal theme. Dr. McKenna will continue to receive a monthly floral design through August 2022. Funds raised will assist horticulture students and to maintain gardens at Coffman's Nursing Home in Hagerstown. We are looking forward to the 2nd annual fundraiser in June 2022.

News from Around the State

District I - Eastern Shore

Caroline, Cecil,

Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Worcester

Trish Reynolds precynolds@goeaston.net

Jeanne Bernard, District I Director

In spite of the very difficult challenges of planning and hosting meetings and other activities during these times of Covid, our District I clubs have continued to be very busy, especially so through the holidays. Several clubs held workshops where members created wreaths and arrangements of greens. In some cases, the work products were for members to take home

or gift, but other clubs used this opportunity to create holiday decorations for their communities and public spaces, and to create arrangements for Meals on Wheels recipients.

An NGC Small Standard Flower Show, hosted by Four Seasons GC, themed 'Polar Express' was held in early December.

On December 18th, annual Wreaths Across Street, America service and wreath laying was held at the Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery in Hurlock. We joined over two million volun-



Best In Show, Designer Ann Street, FSGC



unteers nationwide at more than 2500 memorial sites to gather as one nation to Remember, Honor and Teach. A wreath was laid on every grave and this Director made a point of emphasizing the sig-

nificant role that garden club members play in honoring our veterans. Not only is District I the largest fundraiser for the Eastern Shore event, engaging numerous partners to raise funds and awareness, but garden clubs have been responsible for the installation of Blue and Gold Star Markers at this cemetery. Gold Star markers were also dedicated this holiday season in Somerset and Queen Anne Counties.

In times of Covid, when meetings are often held virtually limiting contact and engagement between clubs and their members, our district has communicated with board members, club presidents and club members with a monthly e-mail blast from the Director, **District I Buzzings**, and a monthly newsletter, **Garden Basket**, penned by Trish Reynolds. These publications help to FGCM District I keep our district connected and informed—even if and when we are not under the restrictive cloud of a global pandemic.

**District II - Southern Maryland**

Anne Arundel,

Calvert, Charles County, Prince George's, St. Mary's County

Rose Gazarek rosegazarek@gmail.com

Carolyn Leahy, District II Director

FREDERICK LAW OLMSTEAD

By Joan Walker

DII Chairman Civic Improvement and Historic Preservation

April 26, 2022 will mark the Bicentennial birth of Frederick Law Olmstead: landscape architect, author, journalist, city planner, public official and creative genius who transformed the American landscape.

Olmstead was born 1822 in Hartford, Connecticut. Olmstead had planned to enter Yale College. But, due to an exposure to sumac poisoning weakening his eyes, he had to give up college plans.

For some years he worked as an apprentice seaman, a merchant and a journalist. As a journalist, in 1850 he traveled to England to visit public gardens, where he was greatly impressed by Birkenhead Park. This visit inspired his later contribution to the design of Central Park in New York City. In 1861 he wrote his views on the effect of slavery on the economy and the social conditions of the southern states.

Olmstead's objective was to always preserve natural beauty for future public enjoyment and to play on the unique characteristics of a place. It is said that "he painted with lakes and wooded slopes, with lawns and banks, forest covered hills, with mountainsides and ocean views."

In 1852, Calvert Vaux, an English architect, and Olmstead entered New York City Central Park design competition together. Their Greenwood Plan was the winning design. Olmstead believed that the common green space must always be equally accessible to all citizens and was to be defended against private encroachment. Later as Central Park Commissioner, he struggled to preserve that idea of the parks be accessible to the general public.

Olmstead created numerous parks around the country including Chicago's Riverside Parks, New York's Prospect Park and the Niagara Preservation at Niagara Falls. In 1873 he was commissioned to design the enlarged grounds of the U. S. Capital, highlighting the Capital itself.

Olmstead was co-founder of The American Society of Landscape Architecture. During his thirty-eight year career he completed numerous projects, including residential suburbs, city squares, park systems, scenic reservations and university campuses. He passed away in 1903.

At this time, plans are already being developed for a year-long National Bicentennial Celebration of Frederick Law Olmstead, Father of American Landscape Architecture.

News from Around the State

District III - Baltimore and Harford**Counties** *Diane Perkins pahperkins@msn.com**Claire Jones, District III Director*

District III Clubs' activities promoted beauty, comfort and joy during the holiday season. Many of the District III Garden Clubs in Baltimore and Harford County participated in Wreaths Across America on December 18, 2021. The clubs provided comfort through the mission to remember the fallen, to honor those that serve and their families, and to teach the next generation the value of freedom. This is the sixth year that District III has participated in Wreaths Across America's Day of Remembrance. A note of appreciation is extended to Betty Reeves, District III chairperson. In addition, Glen Arm Garden Club continued their commitment to support the Veterans' Services at Perry Point by providing holiday gifts to the veterans living at the facility.

District III members created beauty for the holiday season through a variety of projects (photos attached). Eight District III Clubs, with approximately 25 members, decorated the Hampton Mansion.



Fundraising events brought joy throughout the holiday season. Glen Arm Garden Club sponsored a successful (soldout!) fundraising trip to Longwood Gardens on December 3rd. The participants strolled the gardens, conservatory, pump house and grotto, followed by a fantastic light show after sunset. On December 4th, the York Manor Garden Club sold 50+ arrangements at Mercy Ridge, a retirement community on the campus of Stella Maris. The arrangements were created in a workshop style on December 3rd with a wide variety of fresh greens from members' properties and festive cut flowers, candles and bows.

**Did you know.....**

The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland Scholarships are funded through donations and State Life Memberships. Applications may be downloaded at www.fgcofmd.org/scholarships.html.

District IV - Baltimore City*Maidie Podles, District IV Director*

No one can pretend that the virus hasn't changed things. At least one club has disbanded during the past year due to commitments elsewhere. To address the issue, the Bolton Hill Garden Club sponsored a meeting and lively discussion on the topic, "Why Garden Clubs Matter." Members requested that the speaker's notes be circulated.... this has been done.

District IV is gearing up for its spring meeting in March at L'Hirondelle, which will feature a plant sale and a Garden Shed, where members can donate tools and garden supplies in addition to plants and bulbs.

District V - Western Maryland Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery, Washington*Sue Christiansen, District V Director*

Hagerstown GC "Art in Bloom" hosted by Hagerstown GC at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts will be held on March 25, 26, and 27, 2022. Garden Clubs, individuals, and schools are invited to create a floral arrangement interpreting an assigned piece of art or sculpture. The floral designs are on display throughout the weekend for public viewing. Orientation for floral designers will be held Thursday, February 24th at 11:00 a.m. at the museum. For snow dates, registration and other info, email Betsy Hardinge by Monday, March 7th at betzharding@myactv.net or call 301-491-5709. Betsy needs your information no later than Monday, February 7, 2022.



Mt. Airy GC is proud to offer a second scholarship to Daniel Hinkle who is currently a student in the two year Forestry Program at Allegany College of Maryland. Daniel graduated with high honors from Walkersville HS in 2020. At Allegany College, he has been on the Dean's List every semester and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. He also serves as a Resident Assistant working several nights a week. Almost all of his studies are "in the field"

concentrating on a wide variety of horticultural topics! Daniel is currently enrolled in Forest Management, Forest Fire Control and Urban Forestry, graduating in May 2022 with a certificate in Forest Technology.

The Mountain Laurel GC (MLGC) is a recent recipient of a \$600 NGC, Inc. Plant America Grant that will be used for

Continued on page 8

News from Around the State

Continued from page 7

the club's Habitat for Humanity Project in Garrett County. MLGC members and UMD Extension partners will create a new native plant garden at a Habitat home located in Hopeland Village. The grants will be used for site preparation, soil amendments, and eighty native plants. Members Linda Harris and Donna Miller designed the garden during the recent Landscape Design School, focusing on native pollinator-friendly plants that flower from early spring into fall. MLGC also hopes to feature the 30' by 4' garden on one of the club's future garden tours. MLGC 2022 Country Gardens Tour: \$10.00 - Saturday, June 25, 10 am-3 pm, rain or shine (no pets). The tour includes four residential gardens in southern Garrett County. Visitors will see native plants, a Garrett County Master Gardener display, fishpond, memory gardens, and flowers for sun & shade that thrive in the local area.

Annual Perennial Plant Sale: Sat. June 11 in Oakland Saturday, June 11, 10 am-1 pm, rain or shine, no pets. More info: www.MountainLaurelGardenClub.com.

Green-Walled Garden Club in Frederick, MD has blossomed during the pandemic! A youth therapy project about which we are very proud, is the Club's partnership with Rock Creek School (RCS). RCS is a Frederick County Public School special education day program. The program serves diverse functional academic, medical and behavioral needs, as appropriate, for children/students with Individualized Education Programs ages 3-21 who have significant cognitive disabilities and are working to achieve a Maryland High School Certificate of Completion.

Every year is special at RCS and the Club looks forward to continuing its partnership with the school as it moves to its new location. The Club will work with RCS in their new location to plan new gardens such as a Sensory Garden for students and the relocation of the school's Student Memorial Garden.

Town & Country GC in Hagerstown held a different and very successful fundraiser this past year. To read more about it, look on page 5 of this issue.

Partnering

Partnering: An Integral Part of the FGCMMD Mission

Garden club members work together to create an environment of continually learning about horticulture, design, our climate. They create friendships in sharing the rewarding hobby of gardening. They work together to fulfill the missions of NGC.

The next level of creation comes from partnering with outside entities. Clubs establish relationships with other clubs, districts and beyond. They are encouraged, also, to find ways to partner with their non-gardening communities. Partnering is important to get (larger) projects accomplished, goals realized. It affords the club publicity to show its good works, which encourages others to do the same. It is very satisfying. And it is deeply welcomed by the public.

The Maryland Daffodil Society is one such organization that relies on the partnership it has with FGCMMD (and with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks). Without the club members, who represent all five districts, the show would not be the success it always is. FGCMMD members volunteer to run the show. They participate in leadership roles and in entering specimens/photography/floral design. They create the breadth of the show and the friendly ambience the event affords. This is true for all the other wonderful daffodil shows that are held in Maryland and in our region (Virginia and Pennsylvania).

I want to personally recognize and thank everyone who makes this partnership what it is. It does not go unnoticed or unappreciated. Please visit your local daffodil shows, other horticultural society shows as well, as you will not doubt find FGCMMD members center front and behind the scenes! These shows make great day trips for garden clubs—bring everyone along!

~ Meredith McDonagh, Maryland Daffodil Society Show Chair 2022

April 21-22, 2022, at the Vollmer Center of Cylburn Arboretum Visit: www.marylanddaffodil.org for updates, meredy@comcast.net for information. Halten GC (DIH), WCRP GC (DIV)

March 26: Virginia Daffodil Society, Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, Richmond VA jpotter890@msn.com

March 29: Virginia Daffodil Show, Garden Club of Virginia, Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, Richmond VA Catherine Madden cmadden105@gmail.com or Nancy McLaughlin nancymcl@rockbridge.net

April 2-3: Gloucester Daffodil Society/Middle Atlantic ADS Show, Botetourt Elementary School krist6435@verizon.net or peggyb72@gmail.com

April 8-10: Washington Daffodil Society, Alexandria Valley Scottish Rite Temple, Alexandria VA daffyun100@gmail.com

April 11-13: District II FGCMMD, Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Severna Park MD mliz.williams825@gmail.com

April 21-22: Maryland Daffodil Society, Cylburn Arboretum, Vollmer Center meredy@comcast.net

April 23-24: Pennsylvania Daffodil Show, Washington PA Joe Hamm joe hamm1@juno.net

April 29 – May 1: (Judging School April 28) American Daffodil Society Convention and National Show, Tuscarora Daffodil Group, Gettysburg PA www.daffodilusa.com