It is all quiet in the garden right now. Sometimes we see a world of white lace after a snowfall. More often than not this year, it’s a brown and grey vista out there. Although, because this season has been generally warmer than customary, we do see the odd brave daffodil poking up out of the ground. Do they know they are going to regret their early start? Somehow, whatever weather we have, those beauties dazzle us come spring. For now, for us, it’s a time to relax, reflect, plan, and enjoy the quiet before the rush of activities in the Spring.

For not only do we have spring cleanup, daffodil shows, Easter and Passover, Environmental and Flower Show Schools, Blue and Gold Star dedications, we have Annual Meetings. I look forward to attending all of these. And I look forward to having you attend the 91st FGCMD Annual Meeting at Turf Valley. Our guest speaker will be Summer Rayne Oakes, a “Media Influencer” who will talk to us about our houseplants and how we can make them love us. Should be a very entertaining program.

We are pleased to invite you to some upcoming programs at the Cylburn Classroom. The first one is a Valentines Day workshop on February 8th, led by our 1st Vice President, Anna O’Kelly. Then on April 25th Nicki Schwab will present a program on our beloved Monarch Butterflies. Details on these events will follow.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the President’s Project. We will be able to present a check to Patricia Foster of the Friends of Cylburn Association at the Annual Meeting. If you have been planning a contribution but haven’t made it yet, there is still time before the meeting. Your support has been very generous and we are very grateful.

~Carolyn
First Vice President’s Report  …Anna O’Kelly

The Winter 2020 issue of The National Gardener highlights NGC President Gay Austin’s project “Plant America with Trees (PAT): Each One (member) Plant One (native tree)” is a challenge to all garden clubs to plant a tree for each member both years of her administration ending May 2021. That means Maryland garden clubs will add about 6800 native trees if we accept the challenge. Has your club started?

Native trees play a very important role in fighting climate change and supporting wildlife. Due to the foresight of former State President Alice Rush McKeon, a fund was established to plant trees annually. FGCMMD works with the State Highway Administration to select locations and fund an annual roadside planting of native trees. The planting rotates by District, and District I will dedicate the planting in the Spring of 2020. District II is in the planning stages of the next planting.

We are losing tree cover in Maryland, and Anne Arundel County recently enacted legislation to slow the loss of trees. According to figures from the Chesapeake Conservancy, the County lost about 2500 acres of urban and rural tree canopy from 2013 to 2017. Most of those trees were cut on private land to make way for new development. The county lost the state in forest loss, and lost more acres of forest than Prince George’s, Calvert, Howard, and Baltimore counties COMBINED from 2010 to 2017.

The Tree-mendous Maryland program sponsored by DNR is a great source for reasonably priced native trees that may be planted on public lands. Your club may work with a school, library, community, etc. to add trees in public locations through this resource. The Tree-mendous order form will be available in February 2020 at the DNR website. Also, DNR has coupons valued at $25 off the purchase of a $50 tree at partner nurseries to purchase trees for personal use. For more information on these programs, visit https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/treemendous/default.aspx

Hagerstown Garden Club issues a Call for Garden Clubs & Floral Designers

Please join us. The 19th Annual Art in Bloom will be held at the Museum of Fine Arts – Washington County the weekend of March 27, 28, and 29, 2020. The Preview Party will be held Friday evening and is a ticketed event. There is no fee for participation in the floral exhibition. Floral interpreters are invited to the interpretive demo for free at 1:30 PM on Saturday. All Garden Clubs throughout Maryland, and the 4 state region, individuals, and schools are invited to create a floral arrangement interpreting an assigned piece of art or sculpture. This is a wonderful club project and way to demonstrate your imagination and talents. The floral designs are on display throughout the weekend for public viewing. All proceeds from Art in Bloom benefit the WCMFA. To register your garden club to participate and for more information contact Betsy Hardinge, Hagerstown Garden Club orientation chair for Art in Bloom, betzhardinge@myactv.net or club President Tina Angle angletin@msn.com

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. This was a good idea but it also resulted in repetitive information being published in each issue. Why not? This result did not increase printing or postage costs but the length of the newsletter became cumbersome and, frankly, uninteresting.

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. We will also have issues dedicated to single topics like the 2019 Holiday issue that focused on the clubs’ that decorated the state house at Christmas.

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.

*Please note: The State House Christmas Trees and photos were edited out of the February 2020 submissions to the “Around the State” column. If you did not receive the Holiday edition please request it at gardenews@fgcofmd.org.
The Call

91st Annual Meeting Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland
Tuesday, March 24, 2020 Turf Valley Resort and Hotel

All FGCMMD members are invited to attend the State’s Annual Meeting and welcome Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs’ Regional Director Gail Corle Manna whose theme is “Seven Together – Planting America”

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

LUNCHEON: House Salad, Chicken Marsala with Asparagus, Baked potato, Lemon Raspberry Cake, Coffee and Tea $45

PROGRAM: Summer Rayne Oakes is our featured speaker. Summer Rayne Oakes is Media Influencer, an American fashion model, environmental activist, author, and entrepreneur, known as the world's first "eco-model". She will be telling us “How to Make a Plant Love You”. Her book will be available for purchase.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS: Please send the following proposed Nominating Committee to your Club Presidents and request they read to their membership:

- District I: Trish Reynolds
- District II: Liz Williams - Chairman
- District III: Betty Reeves
- District IV: Kathleen Brosi
- District V: Lynn Walter
- Members-at-Large: Claire Jones and Paula Winkler

A vote to accept the proposed Nominating Committee will be called for at the Business Meeting. We look forward to seeing you at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland. It will be a day filled with fun and friendship, good food, good entertainment and good shopping.
A Note from the Awards Committee...Doris Smith and Sandra Robertson

Your Awards Committee has been very busy since last fall. We received and compiled all the awards applications which were received in preparation for our judging event. It was exciting to have such a good response from the clubs highlighting their many varied and imaginative projects. The FCGMD judging was held November 7th at the Vollmer Center in Baltimore. We are extremely grateful to all the judges who traveled from far and near to participate. The winners, including the Perennial Bloom Award, will be announced at the FCGMD annual meeting and luncheon in March.

First Place winning applications in FCGMD award categories were reviewed and sent to NGC or CAR-SGC for regional and state award category consideration. Winners in regional and national categories will be announced at their respective annual meetings.

It’s not too early to consider which awards your club may be interested in applying for. Applications need to be received in Fall 2020. We encourage every club to apply for awards - try taking pictures and keeping a journal of projects which could turn into an award winner! We also hope our clubs will embrace working with the youth awards to boost our next generation of garden club members.

A reminder that the CAR-SGC Perennial Bloom Award process starts now. This award recognizes a long term member who has supported and led our garden clubs. Clubs must choose their candidates and send applications to the individual District Directors by July 1. Instructions can be found on the CAR-SGC web site.

The following awards were presented at the CAR-SGC Conference held in October:

- FGCMD District II and American Daffodil Society, First Place Flower Show Schedule Award, Standard Show: Co-Sponsored Plant Society with a District and $30, “Daffodils at the Globe Theatre”
- Queen Anne’s County Garden Club, First Place, Flower Show Schedule Award, Standard Show (Large Club) and $30, “Queen Bees, Spelling Bees and Wanna Bees”
- Four Rivers Garden Club, Third Place, Flower Show Schedule Award, Small Standard Flower Show, Medium Club
- Federated Garden Club of Maryland, Membership Increase Award, State Club with Greatest Percentage increase in paid membership in previous fiscal year
- Moonflower Garden Club, Violet S. Thoron Award, outstanding project in the field of Landscape Design or most effective program of education in Landscape Design
- Silver Fancy Garden Club, Jean Ladson Outstanding Achievement Award and $100 for a Small Club
- Judges Council of FGCMD, Outstanding Educational Exhibit Award and $100, “New Opportunities to Design”

20th Annual Country Gardens Tour

Presented by the Mt. Laurel Garden Club
Saturday June 20, 2020
Rain or Shine!
10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Tour includes three unique gardens in farm settings plus one extensive residential garden.
All located near Accident, Maryland
Perennial Plant Sale, Garden Art Boutique
Floral Design Demonstrations.
Tickets: $10 Contact Betsy Potts at bhpotts04@hotmail.com
No Pets, please.

Springfest

Hosted by Lutherville Garden Club
Saturday April 25, 2020
9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Providence United Methodist Church
1320 Providence Road
Towson, MD 21286
Funds raised from this event support community and civic projects sponsored by the club.
2020: Seeing Clearly

The Maryland Daffodil Society, with the support of Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland and Baltimore City and Parks, is excited to announce its second year at the Vollmer Center for its annual daffodil show at Cylburn Arboretum. The dates are Wednesday April 22 and Thursday April 23, 2020.

2020: Seeing Clearly is this year’s theme and the show will include the return of the Photography and Flower Show components. All are welcome and encouraged to participate in all aspects of the show. The schedule will be available mid-February both online (www.marylanddaffodil.org) and in print.

The daffodil show is organized and participated in by dozens and dozens of garden club members, without whom this, the largest daffodil show in the mid-Atlantic region, would not be possible. It is a wonderful way to educate our community and connect with other club members. The city of Baltimore is thrilled to have this presence at Cylburn Arboretum.

So why not organize a garden club trip to see the event? You will not be disappointed and if you have never been, you will be impressed by the variety of flowers. And if you do, please let Meredith McDonagh know so she can greet you and answer questions.

For information, contact Meredith McDonagh, meredy@comcast.net

Plan to also visit the Somerset Garden Club Daffodil Show in Princess Anne, MD on April 4 and the District II Daffodil Show in Severna Park, MD on April 7—8. Details may be found at https://fgcofmd.org/calendar.html

And, whether you are planning to show your daffodils or just enjoy them, Daffodil Show Advisor Marie Coulter recommends an application of organic Espoma Bulb-tone to your daffodils in February/March for better blooms.
## Council News

**Continuing Education Opportunities Sponsored by the Councils**

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<th>Flower Show School</th>
<th>Landscape Design School</th>
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<td><strong>Course III</strong></td>
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<td>Cylburn Arboretum</td>
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<td>and</td>
<td>4915 Greenspring Ave.</td>
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<td>Baltimore, MD 21209</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lindaharris355@aol.com">lindaharris355@aol.com</a></td>
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### ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL, COURSE 4

**The Living Earth - Water & Related Issues**

Wednesday & Thursday, April 1 & 2, 2020

Chesapeake College on Maryland’s Eastern Shore

**Wetlands & Meadow Restoration Tour**
March 31st at Pickering Creek Audubon Center
And
Guided Tour of Adkins Arboretum

**Plus these classes:**

- **Ecology & Environmental Science - Sustainability**
  David Scheid, Environmental Studies Lecturer at Salisbury University

- **Wildlife - Aquatic Animals**
  Doug Myers, Senior Scientist at Chesapeake Bay Foundation

- **Youth Programs in Environmental Education**
  Dr. Leslie Adelman, Youth Program Coordinator, Adkins Arboretum

- **Tidal Marsh Restoration at Poplar Island; Maximizing Resiliency**
  Lorie Staver, Associate Research Scientist, UMces, Horn Point Laboratory

- **Aquatic Plants**
  John Sandkuhler, Nursery Manager, Environmental Concern

- **Wetlands**
  Suzanne Slear, President, Environmental Concern

- **Earth Stewardship: Effective Citizenship**
  Anna Mudd, Outreach & Advocacy Manager, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Registration and more information available at FGCMD website
Linda Harris, Environmental School Chair
lindaharris355@aol.com or 443-695-2071

Course III may be used as a Refresher by Accredited Judges.

For Registration and Course Description visit
https://www.fgcofmd.org/calendar.html
Community Service and Historic Preservation Projects

The Charles County Garden Club in District II is looking forward to a beautiful spring with the anticipated first blooming of its Daffodils and Daydreams Garden in historic Port Tobacco, MD. This is a community service project, funded with an award from club efforts in the 2019 Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage. The garden has been planted with over 5,000 bulbs, featuring one designated as the National Garden Club Daffodil by Brent and Becky’s Bulbs. The bulb is a Narcissus specifically developed to attract numerous pollinators. We also included a variety of plants and trees to enhance the garden and serve as memorials to some of our departed members. CCGC is partnering with the Society for the Restoration of Port Tobacco for this gardening project on the lawn around the courthouse. Additionally, the Port Tobacco Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is contributing a small pollinator bulb garden as a joint environmental responsibility effort. In May, CCGC participates in the annual Market Days in Port Tobacco. This provides an opportunity for community education on shrubbery, trees, flower and vegetable plants which our members have personally grown for the CCGC sale to the public.

Green-walled Garden Club in District V is excited to announce they were selected for a National Garden Club Plant America Grant for $1000.00. The club’s project was selected out of over 250 applicants from across the nation. Two years ago the club started a partnership with Catoctin Furnace Historical Society and Silver Oak Academy to develop a kitchen garden behind the society’s unique duplex log cabin. That partnership has grown with grants from the Butterfly Alliance of MD, the National Garden Club AMES Tools Grant and funds and in kind services from our club members and partners. The funds will support continued plantings and maintenance, signage and educational materials for Frederick County Public School 4th graders and visitors.
News from Around the State

District I - Eastern Shore

This Director is preparing for the highlight of the year for District I, the April 18th joint Gold Star Memorial Marker and Alice Rush McKeon tree planting dedication ceremony being held at 11am at the Eastern Shore Veteran’s Cemetery, Hurlock, MD. The Gold Star Memorial marker, funded by FGCMD, will be installed at the cemetery and is the first Gold Star Memorial marker in the state of Maryland. The native tree selection will be planted along the stretch of highway outside the cemetery’s entrance. The dedication ceremony and program will include FGCMD and District I officers, senior Veterans Affairs officials, the Cemetery Superintendent, Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration officials, as well as community involvement with the presentation of colors, music by the Mid-Shore Community Band, and the Invocation and Benediction by a local Pastor and Rabbi. All are invited to attend this exciting event for FGCMD and District I.

The Dorchester Garden Club is celebrating its 90th Anniversary in 2020. The Club was founded on February 7, 1930 and is still going strong with nearly 100 members and a strong community presence as reflected by all of its exceptional educational, social and service activities. Dorchester will host a Maryland Home and Garden Pilgrimage on May 2nd highlighting seven beautiful, historic or architecturally-significant homes, unique garden spaces in our County and an historic church, Christ Episcopal. The tour is part of our anniversary celebration which continues throughout the year.

The Yoga for Gardeners class at the “Yoga to You Studio” was a unique way to begin the New Year. Instructor Linda Hardman, Yoga Specialist in Restorative Yoga & treating pain, lead the Four Seasons GC in a series of poses to release over-stretched muscles and stiffness after gardening. See photo at right.

Dorothy Key
District I Director
Trish Reynolds preynolds@goeaston.net

Queen Anne County Garden Club is making plans to enhance the garden at Tucker House in Centreville. The garden in this 17th century home, owned by the Queen Anne’s County Historical Society, has been a continuing project of ours. We will be using proceeds from last year’s fundraisers to add an herbal component, and to make some sections easier to maintain. We will also be doing our annual “Tub Planting” in Centreville. The Club gathers to plant annuals in containers all through the center of town at locally owned businesses and public buildings.

Somerset County GC will host its 52nd Daffodil Show and Small Standard Flower Show, “Sailing the Chesapeake”, on Saturday, April 4 at St. Andrew’s Parish Hall in Princess Anne. 1-5 PM.

The Talbot County GC is gearing up for Saturday, May 9 when we will host the Talbot County House & Garden Tour of the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage 2020. Our coveted Tour will offer peeks into six distinctive private properties on the Miles River, Harris Creek and Eastern Bay, with opportunity to stroll historic St. Michaels to visit the St. Michaels Museum. Proceeds will benefit a special project at the Museum. Details: www.talbotcountrygc.org. Tickets: www.mhgp.org.

As part of our on-going commitment to our American Veterans, the Kent Island GC members honored the holiday season by participating in Wreaths Across America (WAA) by decorating 22 tables at the American Legion with centerpieces to welcome the WAA convoy for dinner and breakfast before the delivery of the Wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery. In addition many of our members participated in the actual laying of wreaths the Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery in Hurlock, now a tradition for our club.

In line with Oxford Garden Club’s continuing efforts to respond to the challenge of gardening in small spaces and increasing the use of native plants, one of our members created a new garden in her back yard using all native plants….and instead of grass she has used clover…..thus also reducing the need to mow!

Native Plant Garden using clover instead of grass.

See photo at right.
District II is excited for the two district-wide challenges we have ahead of us!

Our first challenge is to have every member’s yard Bay-Wise certified. Our goal is 100%! Most of our district is on or near the water. Almost all of Maryland is in the watershed and can get Bay-Wise certified.

National Garden Clubs have issued an incentive to raise membership ‘21% by ‘21 and our Clubs are all in!

Our Annual Meeting is on March 13 at the Bowie Comfort Inn. Our speaker will be Drew Asbury, Horticulturist and Volunteer manager at Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens. Drew will discuss the cutting garden at Hillwood that produces 1000 stems a week in the summer! Take some tips from Drew for your own (possibly smaller) garden. Guests are welcome.

Mark your calendars for the annual District II Daffodil Show, “A Star is Born” April 7-8 at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Severna Park. Grab a few friends and make a day of it!

Bayside Bloomers GC will continue our “Gardening Through the Ages” theme with a program called “Engaging Millennials in Gardening – Growing Organic Herbs at Home”. We look forward to inviting young people to join us for a workshop at Willow Oak Flower and Herb Farm. We are in the process of developing a program for “Gardening with Youth”. Six of our members received their Audubon Bird-Friendly Habitat certification!

On Saturday, May 16, 2020, Calvert GC, in conjunction with the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, is hosting a walking tour of Solomons Island. A quaint old fishing village along the banks of the Chesapeake Bay, the tour will feature a lighthouse, an old chapel, a garden, and 7 homes. Proceeds from the tour will benefit Calvert Marine Museum’s Drum Point Lighthouse renovation. Tickets ($35 in advance) and information are available at [www.MHGP.org](http://www.MHGP.org).

Chesapeake GC (CGC) looks forward to hosting the “White Elephant” table at the upcoming District II Annual Meeting on March 13 at the Bowie Comfort Inn. Along with a variety of household and gift items, the members are gathering “vintage” jewelry for the sale. Conference attendees will love the variety of items!
A new year is underway! Now it is time for all the members of the District Garden Clubs to relax and look back on all the work we did during the last months of 2019. How busy we all were providing holiday cheer by decorating mansions, hospitals, shelters, children’s homes, senior centers; by making holiday arrangements that would brighten the lives of those less fortunate; by participating in fundraising events and continuing to grow through workshop and special programs. **Ladies, congratulations on a job well done!** Have a blessed and happy 2020!

On Thursday, February 20, 2020, **Bent Twig GC** Vice President, Susan Rura, will speak about her visit to the garden at Alnwick Castle near the Scottish border where the Duchess of Northumberland has undertaken a huge horticultural endeavor. This meeting is open to all.

Despite having lost a meeting place and work area due to two floods, the last in 2018, the **Catonsville GC** regrouped and had the most successful club Christmas fundraiser in the last fifteen years.

Proceeds from the **Country Garden Club of Harford County’s** all-day card party and luncheon enable the club to provide scholarship support to local college students and create flower arrangements for delivery to area hospice patients.

**Friendship GC** of Harford County’s up-coming events include the February 10 program, "Bats in your Belfry," a discussion of the beneficial effect of bats in our ecosystems led by Kerry Wixted of Wildlife Education and Outreach Specialists. On March 9 Master Gardener Corrine Lear will present "Monarch Butterflies."

**Hardy GC** created Autumn Pumpkin Arrangements for Meals on Wheels.

**Glen Arm Garden Club’s** Thursday May 21 bus trip takes participants to the Gardens of Oz in Lancaster and the Landis Valley Farm Museum. Please contact Vicki Uzarowski at 443-226-2692 vickiuiz@zoominternet.net or Mary Carol Bruff at 443-823-9371 or c_bruff08@comcast.net for reservations.

For the past several years, **Gunpowder GC** members have established a ‘new’ tradition of gathering in December to create holiday wreaths, centerpieces and arrangements from the greens members collect from their home yards.

The **Hampton GC** January meeting featured a talk by Greg Kearns, a naturalist and expert on ospreys with the Patuxent River Park in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. After his talk, club members were raring to sign up for one of the pontoon excursions he leads on the Patuxent River in the spring.

Four years prior to the **Halten Garden Club’s** Centennial, the club decided to create a Centennial Gift to honor the legacy of the club. Halten’s Gift completed the private donor funding needed to create fully accessible trail in Cromwell Valley Park in Parkville, Maryland.

**York Manor GC** Spring programs will include a Pollinator Garden Presentation by a Master Gardener, a presentation about backyard birds at the Irvine Nature Center, a tour of Walnut Hill in Ruxton, and an annual picnic.
News from Around the State

District IV - Baltimore City
Michele Pappas mmpappas1@verizon.net

A number of the clubs in District IV were very involved in decorating historical buildings in Baltimore city this past holiday season. Mt Washington GC decorated the Carroll Mansion.

For-Win-Ash GC decorated the Banneker House. The club is also involved in landscaping the gardens and placing an arrangement in the foyer every month.

Under the leadership of Jackie Handley, Amateur GC decorated Cylburn Mansion with the help of 6 members of Lake Hills GC. Amateur also decorated the urns surrounding the Washington Monument in Mount Vernon.

Homeland GC decorated a wreath for the Governor’s Mansion in Annapolis.

This Chairman was invited by the Little GC to help make over 80 arrangements for Meals on Wheels.

In November, Guilford, St. George’s and Amateur GC’s hosted an evening with the Baltimore County Executive to address current and upcoming environmental issues in the county. Because these issues impact the Baltimore City area, all clubs in District III and IV were invited. It was a very informative evening.

On January 7 Amateur GC and Greenspring GC, a member of District III, invited Maryland State Delegate Dana Stein to discuss the upcoming Legislative Session.

The Women’s Club of Roland Park has been involved with the Abbotstown Elementary School in Waverly. A teacher at the school has started a garden club for the students. The Women’s Club of Roland Park found a Master Gardener to be a mentor. A series of lessons on gardening and ecology will be presented throughout the year. The club also supported this effort by presenting a nature craft session to the students.

While many of our clubs are struggling with members aging out of being active in the garden or moving into retirement and changing their membership status; a few clubs have seen an increase in membership since September. Cliff Dwellers GC added one, For-Win-Ash added two, Guilford added one, Lake Hills added two and Homeland added five new members. That makes a total of 11 new members in District IV.

Our clubs are located in the City of Baltimore and are making a steady positive impact on the lives of city residents. We support local legislative issues, promote farm to table living and educate individuals on the importance of caring for our environment and natural resources.

District V - Western Maryland
Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery, Washington
Ashley Conlon ashleyconlon345@gmail.com

District V lost one club at the end of 2019; Cattail River Garden Club has decided to become a social club and to leave the Federation. Green-Walled Garden Club is losing their President as she is moving out of town. Interim co-presidents Shelley Johnson and Julie Howell will fill in until a spring election is held. Now more than ever, we must work on our 21% increase by Jan 2021.

In December I went to Annapolis to see Lady Hogan’s Maryland State House Tree decorating project. District V had a significant number of displays. Thank you to all who participated.

As I write this summary it has started to snow...that reminds me to warn you that several clubs do not meet in January and some miss February. Check to see if they will be open if you plan to visit during these two months.

I see that Green-Walled Garden Club enjoyed a lei-making workshop and Hawaiian Happy Hour. Doesn’t that sound like a good way to face the winter snow?

After many happy hours spent creating natural holiday wreaths, arrangements, and crafts to raise money for community projects, the members of Cross Country GC planned a January workshop with Jan Yanero, artist and fellow member, whose medium is moss. She shared her knowledge and expertise, as well as her
News from Around the State District V continued

huge inventory of supplies. Jan’s love of the art of moss inspired everyone to create moss containers, frames and plaques.

The GC of Cumberland started the year in a new meeting place. The staff at Allegany College of Maryland is working with the club to provide a very accommodating area for our meetings and events. “Autumn’s Finest”, a small standard flower show was held at Allegany College in September. Members and guests participated with 157 entries. “Delightful Dahlias”, an educational display was presented by member Charles Baker. “Wildflowers: Native or Exotic, Know the Difference” was an educational display presented by member Donna Gates.

Mt. Airy GC is planning a bus trip to Longwood Gardens. Look for info added on the State calendar. Details will also be sent to club presidents as we look to fill our coach.

Mountain Laurel Garden Club sponsored a special winter program, “Tracking the Progress of Spring through the Birds We See and Hear,” for its members and the community on January 14 that drew over 150 attendees. Kevin Dodge, director of the Natural Resources and Wildlife Technology program at Garrett College, described the aural and visual signposts to the progression of spring in Garrett County from the first tentative "fee-bee" of a black-capped chickadee in the dead of winter to the last sandpiper to migrate through at the end of May. In a delightful multimedia presentation that also featured live bird calls with audience participation, Dodge demonstrated how the presence, behavior, songs, and calls of birds provide just as reliable an indicator of spring's unfolding as the dates on the calendar.

At the November meeting, Tasker’s Chance Garden Club celebrated their 70th year with a sharing of memories and cupcakes. The club was founded in 1949 by Mrs. Mott Howard with 17 charter members and continues today with 46 members (29 active, 6 social, 9 associate and 4 honorary).

The fall of 2019 was active for Town and Country Garden Club. Our September welcome back meeting included updates on the garden at Brooke’s House; a newly opened home for women suffering from addiction. The initial planting was completed in May 2019. A plaque will be dedicated in the spring of 2020.

Please join The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc. for the Gold Star Memorial Marker Dedication and the Alice Rush McKeon Tree Planting Dedication Saturday April 18, 2020 11:00 a.m. Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery 6827 E. New Market Ellwood Road, Hurlock, MD 21643

Please RSVP to: dbw.cbfi@gmail.com

BRING A CHAIR

Visit the FGCMD Booth at the Maryland Home and Garden Show Timonium Fairgrounds

Saturday February 29th 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM Sunday March 1st 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Our booth will feature 5 decorated head forms from each of the 5 Districts, our banners, tri-folds of our Schools and/or Councils, giveaway seed-embedded paper butterflies for persons interested in information about joining FGCMD.

There are still openings for volunteers to man the booth - free admission if you volunteer!