



HIGHLIGHTS of the 99th Board of Governors
October 15-17, 2018
Alexandria, Virginia

- **President Jean Gilpin** welcomed 93 attendees to the meeting, hosted by The Hunting Creek Garden Club of Alexandria. President of The Hunting Creek Garden Club, Gugi Hooff, offered greetings and praised Co-chairmen Vicky Alexander and Laura Francis.
- The 2018 **Common Wealth Award**, established in 1979 to provide grants to GCV member clubs for their community projects, was presented during the banquet as follows:

First Prize of \$10,000 -

Urban Garden Invites Youth to “Dream a Different Future” – The Elizabeth River Garden Club

Second Prize of \$6,000 -

Project Dogwood – A Hundred Year Journey, - The Augusta Garden Club

- Cornus Venus will be planted at the Kent-Valentine House in honor of Margaret Bemiss (1933 – 2018.)
- **Phillip Musegaas**, VP of Programs and Litigation, Potomac Riverkeeper Network, gave a very informative presentation on “Restoring the Nations River.”
- **First Vice-President and Chairman of the Centennial Steering Committee Missy Buckingham** gave an update on the plans that are underway for celebrating the GCV Centennial. The GCV was formed on May 13, 1920 and planning continues to commemorate this achievement by celebrating the past while looking to the future. All the hard work to date has now evolved into the appointment of The Centennial Steering Committee. The Committee includes Anne Cross as Vice-Chairman and Chairman of Centennial Celebrations, the GCV President, 11 GCV Standing Committee chairmen, 3 Special Committee chairmen, and the GCV Executive Director. The Board of Directors has approved the official “Kickoff date” for the Centennial to be at the 99th Annual Meeting in May 2019 culminating with our Founders Day events and festivities to be held in Richmond on May 13 – 14, 2020. The ‘Green Arrow’ Daffodil sales continue, and the limit has been lifted on how many bulbs can be purchased. There will be GCV Centennial keepsakes and other items for sale. Each member club has a Centennial Club Liaison, and they will receive updates to share with club members. Please communicate to the Centennial Steering Committee any celebrations and events being planned at the member club level to mark this event.

- **Second Vice-President Catherine Madden** encouraged members to join GCV friends for a trip to Paris and the Loire Valley on June 12 – 20, 2019. “Jardins of Ile de France and the Loire” will be hosted by Chip Callaway for the GCV. The trip includes 8 days of visiting famous castles, city gardens, romantic smaller gardens, chateaux of Ile de France, and the Loire. The owner, designer, or head gardener will host the tour at each site. The group will also attend the International Garden Festival. Countess Marnie deVassay will be the tour director. There are still a few spots left. You may find information on the GCV homepage under “Announcements” or contact Catherine Madden. **Director of HGW and Special Programs Karen Ellsworth** reported on Fall Symposium for Chairman Jennifer Kelley. There were more exhibits this year with horticulture, artistic design, and photographic divisions. The programs were engaging and educational with Chip Callaway’s presentation being the most popular with about 200 in attendance. The venue was a huge hit, and the budget was met. Karen thanked Jennifer for her efforts and conveyed Jennifer’s gratitude for the tireless volunteers that made this wonderful event possible. **President of the Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula Ann Glubiak** presented the Daffodil Day 2019 report for Chairman Adele Smith including the “Top Ten Reasons to attend Daffodil Day 2019.” The event will be held on March 26, 2019 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. The Daffodil Day 2019 show will include a class for the best bloom of the GCV Centennial Daffodil ‘Green Arrow’.
- **Treasurer Vicky Alexander** presented the GCV financial statement and feels the GCV is in a strong financial position. **Finance Committee Chairman Tricia McDaniel** reviewed the investment portfolios for the first quarter of the fiscal year. There was an audit completed in July and the report will be sent to the GCV in the near future. The Finance Committee promises to be good stewards of the GCV finances.
- **Conservation Awards Chairman Heidi James** reported the 4 GCV Conservation Awards include the deLacy Gray Medal for Conservation, the Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award, the Conservation Educator Award, and the Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award. The winner of the Conservation Educator Award is Nancy Newman of Charlottesville, and the winner of the Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award is the Piedmont Environmental Council. Both awards will be presented at the GCV Conservation Forum in Charlottesville on October 25, 2018. **Bettie Guthrie, The Petersburg Garden Club**, gave an update on the 2017 Bessie Bocock Carter Award winning project “Lee Park Wild Flower and Restoration Project” educating all in attendance on the topic of plant rescue.
- **Vice Chairman of Strategic Planning Heidi James** announced the committee is in its 3rd year of a 5-year process. The focus of the Committee has been centered on member clubs, HGW, and the Centennial. A HGW Treasurers workshop is being planned.
- **Common Wealth Award Chairman Karla MacKimmie** reminded everyone that the winners are announced at the banquet. **Christine Perdue Smith, Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club**, gave an update on the Common Wealth Award winning project “The Healing Grove at Boulder Crest Retreat.” Boulder Crest provides free retreats for combat veterans and first responders. A walled healing garden and a nature walk have been developed.
- Break-out sessions included discussions lead by: **Conservation Chairman Carrie Dorsey, Artistic Design Chairman Tory Willis, Horticulture Chairman Wendy Walker, Centennial Steering Committee Chairman Missy Buckingham, and Centennial Steering Committee**

Member Club Liaison Kris Carbone.

- **Restoration Chairman Anne Baldwin** reported the Committee is committed to keeping everyone informed through the monthly newsletter and the *Journal*. Members of the Restoration Committee are always available to give a PowerPoint Restoration Program to member clubs. The two 2018 GCV Restoration Fellows researched Sherwood Forest and Shirley Plantation. The Fellows presented their work in August. **William D. Rieley**, GCV Landscape Architect, presented an update on the current restorations at the College of William and Mary and Poplar Forest. Mr. Rieley has served as the GCV Architect for 20 years!
- **GCV Executive Director Lynn McCashin** presented a slide show of the very dedicated GCV staff and reported on their responsibilities. Lynn reported there were delays in repairs to the Kent-Valentine House. Interior work has been accelerated in preparation for the GCV Centennial celebration.
- **Kent-Valentine House Committee Chairman Jody Branch** reported that there have been 39 GCV events and meetings, one club meeting, one private reception, and three nonmember weddings. Virginia Cherry, The Petersburg Garden Club, has been busy recataloging the K VH library. Six area member clubs continue to fill the house with beautiful arrangements mostly using material from their gardens. The exterior work has taken its toll on the landscaping, and Will Rieley has been consulted. The GCV Centennial ‘Green Arrow’ Daffodil will be planted in the garden. Attendees were encouraged to bring GCV members to the KV House for a tour or a club meeting.
- **The Directors at Large (Bettie Guthrie, Meg Laughon, Anne Harrison Harris, Debbie Lewis, Tuckie Westfall, Ellen Upton)** presented a short skit entitled *The 6 Dwarfs at Large* with Jean Gilpin as Snow White. The skit educated the attendees on the role of the DAL including responsibilities, communication, annual giving, member orientation, state level participation, and Presidents Day.
- **Nominations Committee Chairman Ann Gordon Evans** informed attendees that nominations for Districts 2, 5, and 6 Directors at Large are being requested. A manila envelope was provided including a return envelope to send the recommendations to Ann Gordon after which they will be shared with the Committee. Nominations are to be postmarked by November 15.
- **Corresponding Secretary Janet Rosser** thanked everyone for donations to the Annual Fund. Janet then introduced the following Committee Chairmen for whom she serves as their Board Liaison prior to their reports. **Journal Editorial Board Chairman Julie Grover** proclaimed that the *Journal* has come a long way! It has evolved from the black and white “Garden Gossip” to the full-color current issues featuring a cover with members’ artwork and chronicling the endeavors of the GCV. Julie thanked GCV Communications Director Ann Heller for all of her assistance. Please follow the submission guidelines posted on the GCV website. Submission deadlines are 6 weeks prior to publication – the 15th of January, April, July, and October. **Journal Advertising Chairman Lea Shuba** informed attendees that the best advertisers are member clubs, and they receive a 50% discount on advertisements for club events. Lea also stated that there are loyal advertisers, but she is always looking for new sources. Lea has prepared packets that she will happily send to potential new advertisers. *Journal* ad rates are published on page 1, or please contact Lea for information. **GCV**

Historian and Custodian of Records Judy Perry reminded everyone that each member club has a box at the KV House, and member clubs can post their histories and yearbooks on the GCV website. Each club also has their own web page accessible through the GCV website allowing clubs to post events, photos, yearbooks, and club histories at no expense. GCV Communications Director Ann Heller can assist with this. The club historians and club presidents have received an email concerning a Humorous Recollections project to commemorate the lighter side of 100 years of the GCV. The deadline is December 1, and it should be 350 words or less. Please use a past tense narrative format with Times New Roman, 11 point font. Member and club names will not be published, but please include the name of the club and the author for contact and questions. There is a two story per person limit. These stories will be edited, compiled, and placed and the KV House. Please send these to Judy at gcvhistorian1920@gmail.com.

- **Membership Committee Chairman Diane Wilkinson** reported the Three Rivers Garden Club remains active in their community, are working hard to develop their club, and remain eager to join the GCV. New Member Orientation will be held at Daffodil Day in March 2019. More information will be on the way. New members will continue to be listed in the *Journal* and the *Membership Newsletter*. Please send any proposals for GCV honorary membership to Diane.
- **Massie Medal Award Committee Chairman Diane Spence** announced the deadline for nominations is December 1. A Nomination is required to be proposed by a member club and endorsed by two other member clubs. The recipient is announced at the Annual Meeting during the banquet.
- **Historic Garden Week Chairman Stephie Broadwater** announced the HGW 2018 was the most successful tour year ever! HGW attracts people from everyway especially Ohio! Stephie presented myth busters to the attendees including:

Local clubs choose the number of homes and events offered on their tour.
The GCV does not require club members to buy HGW tickets, but please promote ticket sales.
There is not a \$25 limit per house for flowers, but please use what you have locally and buy flowers judiciously.

Stephie also educated the group that the goal of the state office is to help tours, protect and build the GCV brand, and save money with statewide buying power. Stephie also communicated clubs should consider the number of hostesses, flower arrangers, and other resources available when determining the number of properties open on each tour. Tour chairs receive a copy of the *Insider's Guide*, a 12-year financial history of their tour, and information on state level sponsor benefits to help them coordinate HGW. Director of Historic Garden Week and Special Programs Karen Ellsworth is responsible for the statewide efforts of marketing and coordinating national media coverage. Karen also is responsible for the development of the *Guidebook*, the state brochure, posters, itineraries, and social media. Each homeowner receives \$1050 in gifts including a statewide pass for 2 years and a new coffee table book *Natural Virginia*. The author Ben Greenburg signs each book for the homeowner. The GCV liability policy covers all tours. The GCV Board of Directors approved a process for club presidents wishing to make a fundamental change to their tour. A letter of request should be sent to the Historic Garden Week Chairman. The HGW Committee will review the request,

make a recommendation, and send it the GCV Board of Directors. The Board will consider the request and the Committee recommendation when making a decision. The 2019 HGW *Guidebook* cover has been chosen and it features Waverly Hill in Staunton. The owners' Portuguese Water Dog, Tucker, will be pictured on the state brochure and the bluebell will be the HGW flower. HGW 2019 will be held April 27 – May 4.

- **Development Committee Chairman Sue Rosser** announced the goal for the Annual Fund is to raise \$125,000 this year. The Fall Appeal and the *Year In Review* will be mailed in the near future. The Committee is hoping for 100% member club participation. This is important when seeking grants for the Centennial. GCV dues continue to be unchanged since 2009. The Committee is especially grateful to The Ashland Garden Club for their donation of \$2500 for the mirror campaign. They have created a challenge for other member clubs to meet or exceed their donation. The Williamsburg Garden Club has also just given a \$5000 gift in honor of Nina Mustard. Sue also announced another gift in the amount of \$50,000 has been given to the endowment fund, and the donor has been thanked. Please consider including the Green Arrow Society in your estate plans.
- **Virginia State Parks Committee Chairman Nina Mustard** reported the GCV is in year 4 of our 5-year, \$500,000 funding commitment to the State Parks. Nina educated attendees on GCV involvement in State Parks and that attendance has just passed 10 million visitors! Twenty-one member clubs have been involved in securing grants to 18 State Parks. Nina shared slides of projects that have been funded by the GCV including children's discovery areas, a TRACK Trail allowing children to become familiar with walking on trails, and an underwater lighting discovery area. State Parks can submit their own application, but Nina encouraged clubs to seek a partnership. The grant submission deadline is December 1. Nina also presented the possibility of a State Parks license plate. All proceeds will benefit the Virginia State Parks. There is a minimum of 450 orders needed by November 4.
- **Annual and Board of Governors Meetings Chairman Sydney Jordan** thanked The Hunting Creek Garden Club for sharing the Potomac with the GCV attendees and thanked co-chairmen Vicky Alexander and Laura Francis for three wonderful days. The **Annual Meeting 2019** will be hosted by The Elizabeth River Garden Club on May 7 – 9, 2019. Lois Spencer and Jan Schuler, The Garden Club of the Northern Neck, invited attendees to the **99th Board of Governors** on October 15 – 17, 2019.



PICK UP YOUR PENCIL AND MAKE A NOTE!

- Update your club's **database** information on the GCV website.

- Submit club members' photography to President Jean Gilpin for inclusion in her monthly newsletters.
- Submit club events to President Jean Gilpin for inclusion in the newsletters.
- Check the GCV website for guidelines and deadlines for article and advertising submissions to *The Journal*. Cover artwork submissions are also appreciated.
- **Conservation Forum** – “Real Dirt on Pesticides: Pollinators, Food, and our Health” - Charlottesville, October 25, 2018
- **Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award** – Nominations are due November 1.
- **Centennial Club Liaisons Meeting** - November 7, 2018 –The Liaisons will meet from 10:30– 12:00 at the Kent-Valentine House.
- **Nominations** for Directors at Large, Districts 2, 5, and 6, are to be postmarked by November 15, 2018 and mailed to Ann Gordon Evans.
- **Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement** nominations deadline is December 1, 2018.
- **Virginia State Parks** grant applications are due December 1, 2018.
- **Humorous Recollections** project deadline for submission is December 1, 2018.
- **Daffodil Day** is March 26, 2019
- **GCV New Member Orientations** will be hosted at Daffodil Day. More information to follow.
- **Historic Garden Week** is April 27 – May 4, 2019
- **99th Annual Meeting** – Portsmouth, hosted by The Elizabeth River Garden Club, May 7 – 9, 2019
- **Horticulture Field Day** – Orange, May 22 – 23, 2019