The Garden Club of Virginia exists to celebrate the beauty of the land, to conserve the gifts of nature and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage.
Dear Members and Friends,

I salute those who have worked hard to achieve successful events for the Garden Club of Virginia over the past year. We have had a very successful Historic Garden Week, dedicated restoration projects at the Historic Henry County Courthouse and Monticello, hosted three beautiful flower shows along with educational programs for Conservation and Horticulture and are beginning a new partnership with Virginia State Parks.

The Centennial is drawing closer and as 2020 illuminates our history, we remain current and dynamic moving into the future.

Our new president, Nina Mustard, has led the development of a Strategic Plan that will put GCV on the road to our next century; celebrating all that is successful and keeping the Club relevant and poised for advancement. Our founders were cutting-edge risk takers who advocated for a more beautiful Virginia, and we continue in that vein.

Remarkable blooms are attractive but a true gardener knows that garden design, soil preparation and well-thought out hardscapes are essential to making a horticultural display a true garden. Not all the work for the Club is apparent on the surface. Inside this Year in Review 2015-16, take note of the successful undertakings of the Garden Club of Virginia. GCV members and staff at the Kent-Valentine House, our Richmond headquarters, combine to put legs on our mission, “celebrate the beauty of the land, conserve the gifts of nature and challenge future generations to build on this heritage.”

I remain grateful to all who contribute to our success.

Jeanette Rowe Cadwallender
President 2014-2016
Executive Director

Another great year of flowers, workshops, garden tours, interesting programs, important advocacy, restorations and friendship for GCV members! As you look through this Year in Review, I hope you feel proud of your organization and all that it offers its members. I am continually amazed by how much is accomplished by our garden clubs that directly benefits individuals, communities and Virginia.

The photos of happy faces at events and programs represent the many opportunities to get together for learning and fun. I hope you are saying, “I was there! I am so glad that I went and I loved being there!” If not, I encourage you to attend as many programs as you can this coming year. Take a friend, go with your club and enjoy all that this extraordinary organization has to offer.

Lynn McCashin
Executive Director

Virginia State Parks preserve and interpret Virginia’s natural and cultural resources. Given the threat of development, important native species are protected in parks. Animals find habitat. Historical interpretations teach us about our past, and the parks provide outdoor recreation for everyone. By adopting Virginia State Parks as our Centennial Project, GCV is recognizing our history and working to support the future of these vital resources.

In 1929, the same year Historic Garden Week in Virginia was launched, GCV advocated for the establishment of state and national parks in the commonwealth. In the past year, garden clubs have hiked, picnicked and even held club meetings in nearby parks.

As our Centennial project, the Virginia State Parks Grants are funded by Historic Garden Week proceeds. A garden club, or a Virginia State Park itself, may apply for these grants. Applications can be found at gcvirginia.org. Our gifts will help parks in many ways: improvements to trails, playgrounds, exhibits and gardens. The possibilities are endless.

In anticipation of our second century, the Garden Club of Virginia has conducted a strategic planning process to ensure that we continue to have a notable impact on the beauty of Virginia and that we are organized to meet the needs of our members.

Over the next five years, GCV will review the way we work with member clubs and the way GCV is governed to ensure we are facilitating collaborations in the best way possible given changing demographics, priorities and available resources.
Treasurer’s Report

The Garden Club of Virginia operates on a fiscal year that began July 1, 2015, and ended on June 30, 2016. Our operating income for the year exceeded the budget by 11% while expenses came in 18% below budget. The budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year was presented by the Treasurer to the Board of Directors for a vote of approval and then to the membership at the 2016 GCV Annual Meeting in May.

The revenue from Historic Garden Week is one of the largest sources of income each year for GCV. The related expenses are taken from this income, and the remaining funds are used to support our restoration projects around the commonwealth. In addition, GCV will be celebrating our centennial in 2020 and we have allocated $100,000 a year over the next five years from Historic Garden Week proceeds to make grants to Virginia State Parks on projects that fall within our mission and the state parks’ mission: conservation, beautification, horticulture, preservation and education.

Expenses for GCV include maintaining our headquarters, management/staff salaries, insurance, funding of our restoration and centennial projects, development expenses and the cost of our yearly audit. To communicate with our membership, we maintain our websites and publish the Journal quarterly. Our budget includes contributions to member clubs toward our annual fall and spring meetings and three yearly flower shows. We budget to break even on our events: schools, forums and workshops.

Our assets of approximately $8 million include the Kent-Valentine House property, our cash accounts and investment portfolio. At the end of June 2016, the GCV investment portfolio was valued at more than $5.9 million, which is approximately 7% of GCV’s total assets. Our financial records are audited annually, and we receive a clean opinion. As a 501(c)(3) organization, our Federal Form 990 is filed each year and is available for public review.

The Garden Club of Virginia is in a strong financial position for members to continue the work of our mission throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Worthington, Treasurer

GCV Income
$1,509,187

GCV Expense
$1,354,283

Garden Club of Virginia Public Events

October 5-6, 2016
78th Annual GCV Rose Show, Hampton
Hosted by The Hampton Roads Garden Club

November 3, 2016
Conservation Forum “Green Energy - Exploring Wind & Solar” Charlottesville

April 5-6, 2017
83rd GCV Daffodil Show, Hampton
Hosted by The Huntington Garden Club

April 22-29, 2017
Historic Garden Week in Virginia

June 22, 2017
75th Annual GCV Lily Show, Tappahannock
Hosted by The Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula

For more information on these events, please visit gcvirginia.org.
Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement

The 2016 Massie Medal Award for Distinguished Achievement was presented to Bebe Luck, a member of the Ashland Garden Club. Bebe is known for her exceptional dedication, energy and commitment in many leadership positions. Her friends in member clubs said it best, “We had the privilege to work with Bebe. While her work is quiet and behind the scene, she sets a standard of excellence and graciousness that is the essence of GCV.”

Common Wealth Award

The Common Wealth Award was established in May 1979 to provide annual grants to the community projects of the Garden Club of Virginia’s member clubs. The 2015 award was given to two clubs: the Charlottesville and Rivanna Garden Clubs, who are joining forces to create a beautiful garden at the Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention in Albemarle County.

Charlottesville and Rivanna Garden Clubs will also assist with the project’s design and management, including enlarging the existing garden and filling it with organically grown heirloom vegetables, fruit trees, berries, native trees and shrubs.

Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award

For meritorious achievement in conservation, this award was presented jointly to Virginia Military Institute and Washington & Lee University. These distinguished institutions have demonstrated a commitment to conservation and ecology by creating outstanding programs on their campuses. VMI maintains the Chessie Nature Trail, a seven-mile, rail-to-trail project along the Maury River. W&L installed solar panels on the law school and parking garage and designed programs to involve students in a Campus Garden, a composting program and recycling initiatives.

deLacy Gray Memorial Medal for Conservation

The Garden Club of Danville’s Hollis Scott Stauber received the 2016 deLacy Gray Award for Conservation. As a conservation leader, Hollis helped develop the Danville recycling project and created a brochure detailing ecofriendly insecticides and cleaning products. She chaired her club’s Conservation Forum on the Health of the Dan River and the GCV Conservation Workshop “Conservation in Virginia: What is Working?”

GCV President Jeanette Cadwallender with Massie Medal recipient Bebe Luck (Ashland) and her daughters, Georgia, Anne and Lin.

Hollis Scott Stauber (Danville) deLacy Gray Memorial Medal for Conservation recipient and GCV President Jeanette Cadwallender.

At the Dugdale Award announcement: Chris Wise, Kimberly Hodge Cowgill, W&L; GCV President Jeanette Cadwallender; GCV Awards Committee Chairman Katherine Knopf (Roanoke Valley); Larry Camper, JB Harris, Lt. Col. Richard Fletcher, VMI; GCV Conservation and Beautification Committee Chairman Tuckie Westfall (Alexandria); Col. Jay Williams, VMI. Photo by Catharine Gilliam Burns.

Common Wealth Award Winners:
Rachel Watson (President, Charlottesville) and Phyllis Ripper (President, Rivanna)
Conservation

Relevant issues of importance to the preservation, protection and beauty of Virginia’s environment are the focus of the Conservation and Beautification Committee. In 2016, GCV took a position to oppose offshore oil and gas drilling in the Atlantic Ocean and to continue vigilance over the proposed James River power line crossing. Members’ voices are heard in local communities, and by the state and federal government as a well-informed voice for the environment.

The 57th Conservation Forum, “Film Festival on the Fourth,” was held at the Academy of Fine Arts, Warehouse Theatre in Lynchburg, Va. The film “Rappahannock: The Story of a Historic and Beautiful River and its People” was featured along with a collection of short films on conservation issues with an emphasis on water, plastics pollution and pesticides. The films inspired letters of appreciation from students in attendance.

Legislative Day

Legislative Day, held in conjunction with the Virginia Conservation Network, included meetings with legislators as well as an issues review session conducted online. The 2016 GCV Legislative issues reflected our continued vigilance regarding the ban on uranium mining, support for state park funding, clean water and air, advocacy of a plan for recurrent flooding adaptation, and the preservation of the viewshed of the lower James River.
Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellowship

This is the second year for the Conservation and Environmental Studies Fellowship, begun in 2015. It supports research of flora, fauna or cultural practices that directly impact the Commonwealth of Virginia. The one-year Fellowship provides an annual grant of $4,000 for study and research at an accredited university in Virginia for an undergraduate or graduate student.

At the Board of Governors meeting in Martinsville, our first fellow, Nikki Andressen, presented her work on the habitat essential to the native pitcher plant, *sarracenia flava*.

Paul M. Lacy, a graduate student in Integrated Science and Technology at James Madison University, has been chosen as our 2016 Conservation Fellow. His research project is titled “Native and Invasive Aquatic Plant Species in Virginia Trout Water.” We look forward to seeing the results of this research.

Conservation Educator Award

Adopted in 2016, the Conservation Educator Award will recognize individuals or organizations whose work in an educational environment supports the mission of the Garden Club of Virginia and its conservation ideals. This recognition award will be given to an individual or organization who creates a learning environment that benefits the community. The learning environment may extend beyond a traditional “school” environment, and recipients may be educators, scout leaders, 4-H leaders, master gardeners, or environmentally focused organizations. The first recipient will be announced at the GCV Conservation Forum in November 2016.

GCV’s Historic Headquarters

Since 1972, the Kent-Valentine House has served as headquarters and home to the Garden Club of Virginia. Located in the Monroe Ward District in downtown Richmond, this antebellum gem is one of its kind in the area. The Kent-Valentine House is a Virginia Historic Landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is one of the area’s first adaptive-use restoration projects and inspired renewal in the neighborhood. GCV is just the fourth owner of the house which is 171 years old. Kent-Valentine House is available for club meetings and luncheons.
Restoration

An abiding appreciation for the past, present and future of Virginia’s historic spaces inspires the Garden Club of Virginia to create appropriate settings for many of the state’s notable landmarks. Since 1929, the proceeds of Historic Garden Week have funded the restoration of more than 100 gardens at almost 50 individual properties within the commonwealth.

Working with the City of Martinsville, and with the support of the Harvest Foundation, the Garden Club of Virginia renovated the square surrounding the Historic Henry County Courthouse. With the presentation of the completed project to the City of Martinsville in October, GCV advanced the revitalization of the downtown area by providing a central, tree-lined plaza which preserves the essential character of the Courthouse grounds and offers a welcome gathering place for the residents of Martinsville.

In 1938, the Garden Club of Virginia restored the West Lawn flower gardens at Monticello in accordance with details found in Mr. Jefferson’s sketches and notes. Seventy-eight years later, the Garden Club completed another piece of restoration work at Monticello. The Kitchen Road is an essential lane in the intricate pathway system designed by our third president. In order to transform the mountaintop landscape back into one familiar to Mr. Jefferson, every step in this process has been taken with painstaking deliberation supported by scholarly research, design ingenuity and meticulous workmanship.

The Enchanted Garden at the Poe Museum, in downtown Richmond, was planted in 1929. The current design, by William D. Rieley, landscape architect for the Garden Club of Virginia, features plants mentioned in, or evocative of, the writings of Edgar Allen Poe.
Proceeds from Historic Garden Week have enabled GCV to establish research fellowships for graduate level landscape architecture students. The William D. Rieley Fellowship documents historic gardens that are not privately held. The Rudy J. Favretti Fellowship documents privately owned historic properties.

The 2015 Rudy J. Favretti Fellowship was awarded to Wenling Li, who earned her Master of Landscape Architecture Program from Harvard University. Her subject of research was Berkeley Plantation in Charles City County.

Westover Plantation, also in Charles City County, was the research subject of the 2015 William D. Rieley Fellow, Amanda Goodman. Amanda is completing her Master of Landscape Architecture degree at the University of Virginia. The results of the work of the GCV Research Fellows are available online at www.gcvfellowship.org, including published reports and site plans. Historic Research Fellowships will be awarded again in the spring of 2017.
Historic Garden Week

Founding GCV members might not have anticipated how this venerable event would evolve. Gardening gloves and clippers replaced the white gloves of yesteryear as members scoured personal gardens (and those of generous neighbors) cutting for over 2,300 world-class floral arrangements created especially for Historic Garden Week 2016. In April, we tweeted about featured properties. Three tours actively promoted bicycling. Historic Garden Week continues to change and grow.

Income from this annual fundraiser has grown 40% in the last five years. Net revenue for 2016 exceeded last year by approximately 5%. Tour proceeds fund the restoration and preservation of Virginia’s historic public gardens and landscapes, research fellowship programs and a five-year GCV 2020 Centennial project with Virginia State Parks.

Opposite page: 1. Fort Monroe. 2. Boot Camp, held at the Bolling-Haxall House so we could accommodate the 94 participants, was a big success. 3. Historic Garden Week Chairman Meg Clement (Three Chopt) and Richmond Tour Co-Chairman Catherine Whitham (Three Chopt). Meg traveled across the state in support of Garden Week. 4. Beth Coleman, (Blue Ridge), arranging on tour day in Lexington. 5. Felicia Feaster, editor-in-chief of HGTVGardens.com, visited numerous tours. Pictured with Tricia Garner (Rappahannock Valley) and Nick Cadwallender in the Cadwallenders’ garden in Fredericksburg. 6. Three consecutive HGW Chairs Sandy Geiger, Julie Stone and Nina Watkins on tour from the Gloucester Garden Club. 7. Plein air artists in featured gardens are often part of the touring experience.
Horticulture

The Garden Club of Virginia’s Horticulture Committee stimulates interest in horticulture by educating our members through workshops, horticulture exhibits at the Annual and Board of Governors meetings, articles in the Journal and GCV website, and Horticulture Field Day.


Two Annual Exhibits

The horticulture exhibit at the Board of Governors Meeting in Martinsville was a display of succulents in recycled containers, which were “recycled” as centerpieces for the meeting. The Annual Meeting exhibit in Alexandria was groupings of three colonial herbs in complementary containers. In addition, there was an optional garden project— growing “colonial era” plants outdoors by seed in the winter under a bell jar or plastic milk jug.

Horticulture Awards of Merit

Established in 1960 for individual members of the Garden Club of Virginia who achieve significant accomplishments in horticulture, both personally and in their communities. Eight members were honored at the Annual Meeting in Alexandria.

2016 Recipients:

Nancy Dickerson, The Princess Anne Garden Club
Tamara Gibson, The Spotswood Garden Club
Janet Hickman, Hillside Garden Club
Missy Janes, Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club
Helen Junkin, The Princess Anne Garden Club
Linda Patton, The Elizabeth River Garden Club
Ann Reamy, The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club
Casey Rice, Harborfront Garden Club
Flower Shows

In addition to helping clubs host the three Garden Club of Virginia flower shows, this year the Flower Shows Committee created flower show guidelines that could both streamline the duties of host clubs and significantly cut costs. We hope the work done this year will pave the way to a new, more future-oriented model of our beloved shows.

Inter Club Award

The GCV Annabel Josephs Inter Club Artistic Award is a perpetual trophy given annually to a member club for excellence in flower arranging at GCV flower shows. It is awarded to the club accumulating the most points in the artistic Inter Club Class yearly. This year’s award went to the Hunting Creek Garden Club, finishing the year with a Quad Blue at the Daffodil Show.

Flower Arranging School

Flower Arranging School is a much anticipated event open to all GCV members. It provides demonstrations of unique and familiar flower arranging techniques. Just completing her stint as the head White House arranger, Laura Dowling treated us to an insider’s look at her time there, as well as a sampling of her trademark modern French arranging.

Rose Show

Gabriella Garden Club hosted a romantic 77th Rose Show, featuring traditional arrangements saluting the poetical rose. Mill Mountain won the Quad Blue with an Italian Renaissance design interpreting Shakespeare; Janie Vaughan (Hillside) won for best individual and most creative interpretation of Omar Khayyam’s poetry and Karen Wachtmeister (Warrenton) won the Hundley trophy for the GCV Member Sweepstakes.

1: Class 40 A Blue Ribbon Quad winning arrangement created by Mill Mountain Garden Club 2: Class 44 Blue Ribbon and Best in show Artistic Arrangement winner Janie Vaughan (Hillside) 3: Floribunda, One Bloom per Stem ‘Easy Does It’ exhibited by Karen Wachtmeister (Warrenton) 4: Rose Show Co-Chairman Margaret Scott, Club President Betty Leggett (both Gabriella), GCV Rose Chairman Sherry Leffel (Spotswood) and Rose Show Judges Chairman Rebecca Atkinson (Gabriella)
Daffodil Show

The Huntington Garden Club hosted the second largest daffodil show in the country, featuring masses of the spring beauty. Inter Club classes showcased the Chesapeake Bay, the Quad Blue going to Hunting Creek’s arrangement spotlighting NASA’s space program. Ceci Brown (Gloucester) won the Elizabeth Clopton Brown Member Sweepstakes Trophy, presented to the GCV member with the most blue ribbons.

Lily Show

Lions, tigers and bears were the stars at the 74th GCV Lily Show, hosted by Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club. The innovative arrangements interpreted “The Wizard of Oz,” with the Quad Blue Inter Club award going to the Lynchburg Garden Club and the individual prize to Caroline Parrish (Warrenton). The new Helen Turner Murphy Award for the Best Inter Club Test Collection was won – appropriately – by the Garden Club of the Northern Neck, Helen’s club.

The Helen Turner Murphy Award is presented to the Blue Ribbon winner of the Lily Inter Club Collection.
Annual and Board of Governors Meetings

The Garden Club of Alexandria hosted the 2016 GCV Annual Meeting at the Hilton in Old Town Alexandria, co-chaired by Jennifer Kelley and Catherine Bolton.

GCV President Jeanette Cadwallender (center), President Sue Rosser and Nancy Moore, (Martinsville) co-chairman of the 96th meeting of the GCV Board of Governors in October 2015 at the New College Institute.

Garden Club of Virginia Travel

In late February 2016, GCV members and friends travelled for a two-week journey to tour gardens of Northern India. The itinerary included many landmarks important to the Mughal period of history throughout Rajasthan and, of course, the Taj Mahal, Sha Jahan’s monument to his wife, Mumtaz. A highlight was walking through the President’s Garden in Delhi; open for only a few weeks each year, this garden showcases the role water plays in Mughal garden design and was perfectly planted with an abundance of roses, bulbs and dahlias. The capable tour guides made sure all arrangements for comfort were considered. The camaraderie enjoyed by the group is a good omen for future trips with GCV.

Honor Roll of Donors
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016
The Garden Club of Virginia is honored to acknowledge the generosity of our members and friends.

* Perennials – Three or More Years of Annual Fund Giving

**Regency Terrace** $10,000 and above
- Bartlett Tree Experts
- Hilldrup Moving & Storage
- Prime Media Productions
- The Robert & Bessie Carter Foundation
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. McDaniel*

**Alpine Garden** $5,000-9,999
- Bank of the James
- Fraîche
- Oakwood Foundation*
- Mrs. William G. Pannill

**President’s Parterre** $1,000-4,999
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- Shore Bank
- Southern Landscape Group
- Richard J. Sterne, III DDS PC
- The Table at Wilton
- TowneBank of Richmond
- TowneBank of Virginia Beach
- Union Bank and Trust
- Van Yahres Tree Company
- Virginia Beach Homes
- Charlottesville Community Foundation
- Sue W. Massie Charitable Trust, UW, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
- The David E. Post Family Foundation
President’s Parterre $1,000-4,999 continued

The Josiah P. Rowe III Family Foundation* Legacy Fund of The Community Foundation* The Hunting Creek Garden Club* The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club* Virginia Cherry* Lee Cochran*

Boxwood Maze $500-999


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Association
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Davidson & Garrad, Inc.
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Annual Border $100-249

The Bakehouse at Chelsea
Blue Ridge Mortgage
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The Junior League
of Dallas Garden Club
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The Charlottesville Garden Club
The Elizabeth River
Knot Garden

Camp Maxwellton for Boys/ Camp Lachlan for Girls
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