



## FGCMD District I

Issue #30

January 2023

52 days till Spring 2023!!!

Good day to all of you! As I write to you today I find it very hard to believe that it is really winter.....maybe some of you have a few bulbs popping up in your garden....I know I do – winter aconite, snow drops, and believe it or not I have even picked about a dozen early blooming daffodils (D.'Rijnveld's Early Sensation')....and of course what we might expect, hellebores and camellia. What a joy!



The temptation is to get out into our gardens and do a bit of work.... winter pruning, mulching, garden cleanup....but beware, February is just around the corner and as many of us can remember, February is frequently a snowy, cold month here on the Eastern Shore.

This issue of Garden Basket will have two important announcements, District I and FGCMD Annual Meetings....we encourage you to attend both of these wonderful events....a time of transition to new leadership in both groups.....our very own Susie Middleton will be President of FGCMD and Terry Hollman, District Director....so lets see if we can get out there and support these dynamic women as they begin their new leadership roles!

In addition to information about the two Annual Meetings we will also share three open programs sponsored by District I Clubs. (Club Presidents, please share when you have interesting open programs). And finally, we are giving you sources for articles, webinars and more, that you might enjoy these winter months.

*Irish Reynolds*, Gardenews/Publications Chair



### **Director's "Mini Basket"**

I hope this new year brings new hope, good health and happy times spent in the garden! It hardly needs to be said that we continue to suffer challenging times on many different fronts. I believe things will get better, our hearts lighter. My message today, which maybe needs not be stated considering my audience, is to be kind, generous of spirit and pay goodness forward. Find comfort and solace somewhere, somehow (may I suggest your garden?) and take good care of yourselves.

### *Back to business....*

Activities in the district of late have mostly centered around holiday celebrations and preparing for new garden club administrations. We are down to nine clubs in District I, having recently lost (from FGCMD) the lovely folks in Greenfingers GC in Cecil County. They simply weren't able to sustain their club given their remote location and small, aging population. We hope their members seek to involve themselves in other federated clubs in our district.



Several Clubs held workshops creating wreaths and other decorations to celebrate the season. Many of these were then used to decorate public buildings in their respective towns. Of note, Talbot County Garden Club's decorations adorned their County Courthouse, the Free Library and the local Interfaith Shelter, to name a few. In addition, the club decorated 140+ mugs with greenery and candies for Meals on Wheels.

Clubs also celebrated with luncheons, gift exchanges and more. Dorchester Garden Club held their annual holiday gala at the Hyatt Resort where members and guests enjoyed a delicious meal, shopping, entertainment by the Chorus of Dorchester, and an entertaining and inspiring holiday design program by Claire Jones. Look for Claire once again with a new program, 'Sculpted by Nature,' at our Annual Meeting. Her program will feature designs using many unique foraged items.

December 17<sup>th</sup> was Wreaths Across America where, again, many District I clubs attended the ceremonies and placed wreaths on the graves at Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery in Hurlock, MD. From a small number of wreaths placed almost 10 years ago (roughly 300) to now adorning every one of approximately 7,000 gravesites with a wreath, is thanks, in part to the fundraising of District I garden clubs.

Prior to the event, Kent Island Garden Club decorated the American Legion Hall in Stevensville to welcome the Wreaths Across America truck drivers. They traditionally stop in Stevensville for a light meal on their way to Arlington National Cemetery.

All of the District I Clubs participated in decorating Christmas trees and wreaths for the State House in Annapolis. All counties were beautifully represented. Two counties on the Eastern Shore no longer have FGCMDC-affiliated clubs, so Beryl Kemp of the Chesterton Garden Club created a wreath for Cecil County, and former FGCMDC club, Caroline County GC, stepped up and created a beautiful tree for their county. Each Club participating in this festive event had a theme for their tree representing something related to their county. For example, Somerset County's tree celebrated the Gold Star Families and their new Gold Star Memorial Marker. Talbot County's tree, created jointly by Talbot County GC and Oxford GC, displayed the Waterfowl of Talbot County with each bird and duck *hand sewn* by members.

With the holiday season behind us, District I Clubs are resuming their normal activities, meetings, programs, trips, etc. Everyone is working on their program schedule and yearbooks for the coming year. Can't wait to see what unique activities you all come up with!

**District I's Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 1 at Prospect Bay Country Club, hosted by the Kent Island Garden Club (see flyer within for details).** President Anna O'Kelly will be installing new officers. Get your reservations in early as the deadline is February 10<sup>th</sup>. This would be a great time to introduce friends and family to the garden club! Look also at the invitations for the **FGCMDC annual meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Turf Valley Resort where our very own Susie Middleton will be installed as the new FGCMDC President!** The National Garden Club Annual Conference at the Greenbriar Hotel in West Virginia the first week of May.

Best regards!

*Jeanne*

**District I**  
**Annual**  
**Meeting**

**DISTRICT I – FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF MARYLAND, INC.**  
**ANNUAL MEETING INVITATION**  
**"Nature In Bloom"**  
**Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

Host Club: Kent Island Garden Club - Cost \$38/person

*Prospect Bay Country Club*  
311 A Prospect Bay Drive West  
Grasonville, MD 21638

**Event Timeline:**

9:30-10:15am: Registration / Light refreshments  
10:15-11:30am: Business Meeting / Awards / Installation of Officers  
11:30am: Hospitality Break / Cash Bar Featuring Bloody Mary's, Mimosas and Wine. Soft drinks available for purchase  
12:15pm: Luncheon featuring Prospect Bay House Salad: Romaine lettuce, sun-dried cranberries, candied pecans, blue cheese crumbles, apple slices, herb shallot vinaigrette with grilled chicken and Cheesecake with fresh berries. Beverages included: Lemonade, Iced Tea and Coffee  
1:00pm: **Program: Claire Jones** presents "**Sculpted By Nature**"  
*Using spring flowers and branches and weathered wood, Claire will create spring-themed arrangements with commentary and tips for flower arranging*

\*Test your Luck! Additional activities include an individual 50/50 Raffle and Raffleing off of Claire Jones Floral Design Creations - bring cash!

**REGISTRATION FORM** DISTRICT I – FGCM, Inc. 3/1/2023 ANNUAL MEETING  
Cost \$38/person: **MAKE CHECK OUT TO: "District I – FGCM, Inc."**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

List Garden Club Name (or "Public") \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

List any medically necessary food issues: i.e. Gluten-Free, Vegetarian, etc.

*Please mail check payment and this Registration form to:*

District I Treasurer, Pat Jessup, PO Box 46, Oxford, MD 21654

Email: [patriciajessup8@msn.com](mailto:patriciajessup8@msn.com) postmarked **no later than FEBRUARY 10, 2023**

No refunds will be given after February 15, 2023

Questions? Call Terry Holman 908-963-9227



**FGCMD News**

**94th ANNUAL MEETING**  
**FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF MARYLAND, INC.**  
**Turf Valley Resort & Hotel**  
**Ellicott City, Maryland**  
**Tuesday, March 28, 2023**

**The business meeting** will be in the Cameo Room, located directly behind the Grand Ballroom and accessed via the main hallway to the left of the Grand Ballroom, or by entering through the automatic doors under the convention center portico.

**Registration and vendors** will be in the Ballroom lobby which is to the left of the main entry lobby.

Registration (Ballroom lobby)	8:00am - 11:45am
Vendor shopping	8:00am - 3:00pm
Silent Auction	9:45am - 12:00 noon
Business Meeting	9:30am - 11:00am
Cash Bar	11:00am - 2:00pm
Luncheon	11:45am - 12:45pm
Program	1:00pm - 2:00pm

National Garden Clubs President, Mary Warshauer, is our special guest.  
We are honored to have Mary install the New Officers for 2023-2025

*MENU*

Market Salad  
Herb Roasted Chicken, Brown & Wild Rice Medley, Sauteed Squash, Creamy Dijon Sauce  
Apple Walnut Crumb Cake  
~ \$50.00~

**The luncheon program “Creations from the Garden” will feature floral designer Kaye B. Vosburgh NGC Master Flower Show Judge and Sogetsu Ikebana teacher of the highest rank. Kaye has recently published a book entitled “Creations from the Garden – Growing Plants for the Art of Flower Arranging” and signed copies of her book will be available for sale at the annual meeting.**

Overnight Accommodations at Turf Valley are \$131.00 + Tax (single or double rate).

Use Code 28D1NM to receive this special rate until February 24, 2023.

Annual Meeting Chairman: Betty Reeves, [BReevesdesign@aol.com](mailto:BReevesdesign@aol.com), 410-893-5027

*Support for the FGCMDC's Annual Meeting provided by the Graham Group of Robert W. Baird & Company Inc.*

# 2023 FGCMD ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

GARDEN CLUB NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

Tables will be assigned as payments are received **FIRST PAID...FIRST SEATED!!**

**PLEASE: NO WALK-INS**

Credit Card reservations by Eventbrite available at this link until March 22, 2023: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-fgcmd-annual-meeting-registration-519331744227>

If paying by check, please register and pay by garden club, when possible, to facilitate your seating and registration processing.

### ATTENDEES NAMES (Please Print)

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Club President**
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Club Delegate**
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. \_\_\_\_\_

<b>AGENDA:</b>		
Registration	Lobby, Outside of the Grand Ballroom	8:00 am – 11:45 am
Business Meeting	Cameo Room	9:30 am – 11:30 am
Luncheon	Grand Ballroom	11:45 am – 12:45 pm
Program	Grand Ballroom	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

### REMITTANCE:

# of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$50 each =  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person for your group/club reservation is \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print) Phone and/or email: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESERVATIONS BY CHECK MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 17, 2023, \$3.50 LATE FEE ADDED AFTER DUE DATE**

Make checks payable to FGCMD, Inc.

Please add *Annual Meeting* to the Memo



line of check

Mail to: PO Box 65172, Baltimore, MD 21209

**Credit Card reservations by Eventbrite available at this link until March 22, 2023:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-fgcmd-annual-meeting-registration-519331744227>

Directions to Turf Valley are available at [turfvalley.com](http://turfvalley.com).

**For Turf Valley Room Reservations: Group Code 28D1NM**

**Online reservations: Turf Valley.com, [Book Now](#)**

2700 Turf Valley Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042

**Cut-off Date: 2/24/2023**

Telephone Number: 410-465-1500

*Support for the FGCMMD's Annual Meeting provided by the Graham Group of Robert W. Baird & Company Inc.*



*From our Director* - This is always a nice event, with a delicious lunch, vendor shopping and a terrific speaker. If you do plan to attend and would be willing, district volunteers are needed for the registration booth (8-10 am and 10-12 pm) and one to usher during the morning business meeting. Thank you in advance!

Also, Susie Middleton will be sworn in as the new President of FGCMMD. As she is a member of three clubs in District I, **we** will be doing the table arrangements for this event. If you have any interest in helping, please let me or Terry know.

## FGCMD Special Earth Day Event

Please join us for a day full of learning and fun as we gather to hear speakers share their knowledge about our environment.

- Several **conservation/environmental organizations** will have exhibits with information about their activities and missions, with staff members available to answer questions.
- **Vendors will be available** for shopping as well as fundraising items provided by FGCMD
- This Earth Day Event has been approved as **"Advanced Training"** for University of Maryland Master Naturalists and Master Gardeners



For information or questions contact:  
Linda Harris ([lindaharris355@aol.com](mailto:lindaharris355@aol.com))  
FGCMD Earth Day Event Chair

*"In the past, we have asked one thing of our gardens: that they be pretty. Now they have to support life, sequester carbon, feed pollinators and manage water."*  
—Doug Tallamy

### Special Earth Day Event



Thursday, April 27, 2023  
8:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Vollmer Center - Cylburn Arboretum  
4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, MD 21209

Sponsored & Hosted by  
Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland



#### Schedule

- 8:00 – 8:45 Registration & Vendor Shopping, Refreshments
- 8:45 – 9:00 Welcome & Announcements
- 9:00 – 9:50 **Biodiversity:** why we need it; evidence that we are losing it; how to rebuild it; and the key role of gardeners in that process.  
**Dr. Sara Via**, Professor & Climate Extension Specialist  
Department of Entomology, University of Maryland, College Park
- 10:00 – 10:50 **Beavers as a keystone species** and the work being done to restore wetlands through the "Beavers Working Group".  
**Claudia Donegan**, Habitat Restoration & Conservation,  
Chesapeake & Coastal Service, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- 11:00 – 11:50 An artistic vision of the National Audubon Society's report "Survival by Degrees: 389 Birds on the Brink". Using glass, photography, and information technology, this documentary, titled **"For the Love of Birds,"** highlights projected changes in bird populations because of climate change and other factors.  
**Caroline Blizzard** is a retired ranger of the Maryland State Park Service, having spent her career promoting natural surroundings, teaching thousands of residents and visitors to appreciate and care for the flora and fauna. **Julie Turrentine** has been working with glass for decades and operates the Snowbird Creations Studio at Deep Creek Lake.
- 12:00 – 1:00 Lunch (provided)
- 1:00 – 1:50 **The Importance of Old-Growth Forests**  
**Brian Kane**, Outreach Coordinator & Mid-Atlantic Regional Manager for the Old Growth Forest Network
- 2:00 – 2:50 **An update on the Clean Water Act** "Five Decades of Clean Water"  
**Jen Mihills**, Regional Executive Director of Mid-Atlantic Regional Center of the National Wildlife Federation

TWO FORMS OF REGISTRATION ARE AVAILABLE: mail-in registration form (below) with check, or Eventbrite registration online

#### MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM

**Pre-registration is required & must be received by Friday, April 21\***  
**Limit: 100 registrants.**

**Cost to attend: \$40** (includes morning refreshments and lunch)  
**Note:** Fees are non-refundable

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **FGCMD Earth Day Event**

**Mail this registration form and payment to:**

FGCMD, PO Box 65172, Baltimore, MD 21209

Use this Eventbrite Link  
To Register and Pay Online:

[Special Earth Day Event Tickets, Thu, Apr 27, 2023 at 8:00 AM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/special-earth-day-event-tickets-511316470327)

Or enter this information:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/special-earth-day-event-tickets-511316470327>



## Club News – Open Programs

- ❖ **Oxford Garden Club.....** FEBRUARY 2, 2023 @ 2PM Proudly presents Dr. Sara Via  
Dr. Sara Via spent 30 years as a research scientist at University of Iowa, Cornell University and University of Maryland. Now, she has turned to climate change education through the University of Maryland Extension in order to help Marylanders understand the problem and how they can help to solve it. Dr. Via currently works with community groups, farmers, gardeners, and naturalists and is a popular speaker on how climate change affects health, agriculture, gardens, native plants and home landscapes.

### **“Regenerative Landscaping”**

- How to Reduce Weeding in Pollinator Gardens
- Stormwater Management

## ❖ **Talbot County Garden Club – Open Programs**

FEBRUARY 28, 2023 - 11 AM

Talbot County Garden Club Winter Speaker Program

**CAROLYN MULLET, landscape designer, author, tour guide:**  
**“Tour of European Gardens”**

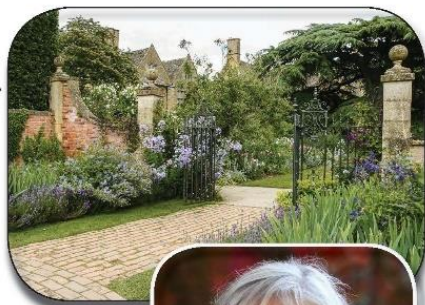
Free Program - Open to the Public - Speaker to appear via Zoom

Talbot County Free Library  
100 W. Dover St., Easton, MD

We live in an age of great gardening interest... creating private spaces that express beauty, place, nature, wildness and sometimes even fantasy. In her slide-illustrated presentation, Carolyn Mullet draws on her recent book, *Adventures in Eden*, to share stories of personal havens scattered across Europe that she chose not for their pedigree but for their owners' passion and creativity. You might visit these gardens in person next time you are in Europe, if the owners' schedules permit!

Carolyn is a retired award-winning garden designer who practiced in the Washington, DC area for over 30 years. She received her formal training in residential landscape design from George Washington University.

Questions? [connellypaige@gmail.com](mailto:connellypaige@gmail.com)



MARCH 29, 2023 - 11 AM

Talbot County Garden Club Winter Speaker Program

**KIM EIERMAN, Founder of EcoBeneficial LLC:  
“The Pollinator Victory Garden: Win the War on Pollinator Decline”**

Free Program - Open to the Public

Talbot County Free Library  
100 W. Dover St., Easton, MD



KIM EIERMAN is author of the book *The Pollinator Victory Garden: Win the War on Pollinator Decline with Ecological Gardening*. She will share her insights as an environmental horticulturist and ecological landscape designer who specializes in native plants.

Based in New York, she teaches at the New York Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, The Native Plant Center, Rutgers Home Gardeners School, and several other institutions. In addition to being a Certified Horticulturist, she is an Accredited Organic Landscape Professional, a Steering Committee member of The Native Plant Center, and a member of Garden Communicators International and The Ecological Landscape Alliance.

Questions? [comellypaige@gmail.com](mailto:comellypaige@gmail.com)

**Editor’s Note:** If a District I Club has a flyer for an Open event and would like it included in Garden Basket, please forward it to me, [pk26998@gmail.com](mailto:pk26998@gmail.com)

## **Connections:**

### **Editor’s note:**

This issue of Garden Basket is so full of Garden Club, District and FGCMMD events that I am going to shorten my usual links. So many of the articles and webinars are about winter gardens and planning for our spring gardens. So - explore these websites and dig a bit deeper to find more offerings that you might enjoy.

I hope you will have the time to enjoy some of these. There is always something you can enjoy - the offerings of videos, articles, webinars and podcasts.... and these offerings will surely brighten your day.....They are fun!

### **Links and More:**

- **Fine Gardening Magazine** – many opportunities from the “Photo of the Day”, to “finegardening.com”, to their subscription service “All Access”



○ FG posting of 1-17-23 – “Seed Starting Ideas and Techniques.”

- *Successful Seed Starting Beyond the Basics*
- *20 Great Edibles to Start from Seed*
- *10 Perennials to Start from Seed*
- *Jump Start Your Seeds*

○ Fine Gardening’s posting of 1-24-23 takes us away from winter as FG explores many beautiful gardens with fabulous videos..

- *Tour our Editors’ Favorite Gardens*
- *Tour a Modern Meadow Garden with Year-round Interest*
- *Tour a New England Garden that Perfectly Balances Hardscape and Plants*
- *Tour a Sustainable Backyard Garden Retreat*



▪ One of the subscriptions I have with Fine Gardening is “All Access”. Their most recent offering is about vegetable gardening, and they have several videos that might interest you....so check out the 1-19-23 posting for more information and access to these videos.

• **Better Homes and Gardens “Get Growing” Newsletter** .....for garden tips, check out [gardennotes@mail.hbg.com](mailto:gardennotes@mail.hbg.com)

- “Thinking Ahead” – posting of 1-21-23 will start you thinking and planning for spring.
  - *5 Things to Do Right Now for a Gorgeous Spring Garden*
  - *A complete Checklist for Spring Gardening*
  - *Our Planting Guide Shows the Best Time to Plant Bulbs*
  - *18 Spring-Flowering Bushes that Wake Up Your Garden After Winter*



BHG. Get Growing. 1-21-23

- **Garden Design –Linda at Garden Design - [Linda@gardendesign.com](mailto:Linda@gardendesign.com)**

- From Garden Design’s posting of 1/19/23.

- Last year I enjoyed the monthly webinar/visits with gardener extraordinaire, David Culp, as we “visited” is beautiful gardens in PA each month. This year Garden Design is offering a new webinar, “*Layered Planting for a Long Season with Fergus Garrett*”, head gardener of Great Dixter, a truly beautiful garden in England. It is scheduled for Saturday, February 18, at 12PM. Information on what he will be talking about can be found on the Garden Design website along with information on how to register.



- To quote Linda from *Garden Design*..... “Sharing our outdoor spaces with birds is a winner”. You don’t have to convince me.... I love watching the sparrows, chickadees, finches, and cardinals come to our feeders. They are so lively and happy and know how to make us happy too. So don’t forget your birds.... the rewards are great.



- In the same posting of 1/19/23:

- *Gardens Are for the Birds*
        - *A Naturalistic Garden That Welcomes the Birds and the Bees*

- Two additional articles that I enjoyed in this same posting:

- *Heavenly Hellebore*
        - *Tips on Where to Get Winter Garden Ideas and Inspiration.*



- *Garden Design’s* most recent posting, 1/26, has some interesting articles for us to enjoy as we wait for winter to leave, and spring to arrive.

- *2023 National Plants of the Year*
          - *Garden Style: Asian*
          - *Seed Starting Times*
          - *Seed Starting*



- **Kerry Ann Mendez at Perennial Yours** [pyours1@gmail.com](mailto:pyours1@gmail.com)

Kerry Ann is an award-winning, speaker, author and designer who will once again be offering her webinars usually once a month during the winter season. Her goal is to share her plant and design ideas with us as we plan our gardens for the upcoming season. I attended her first webinar, and it was terrific – “The *Perennial Plant Collector’s Treasure Chest*”.

The 1 hour presentation includes 4 pages of lecture notes and a CEU form for Master Gardeners. In addition, you do not have to attend the live broadcast. All registrants receive a replay link within 72 hours of the broadcast so you can watch it whenever it is convenient to you and as often as you like.



- **Marianne Wilburn**- she writes about the Small Town Gardener.....a good read. You can find out more about this see - [smalltowngardener.com](http://smalltowngardener.com)
- **Proven Winners** – We visit this web site frequently to check on new plants, see where we can purchase their plants.....but they also have articles about specific plants, videos, and pod casts. [kerry@provenwinners.com](mailto:kerry@provenwinners.com) My most recent email 1-6-23, had several articles that caught my attention:

- *Invite Birds to Your Garden with Native Plants*
- *Exploring Bird-Friendly Native Plants*
- *Shrubs to Attract Birds*
- *Wet Prone Soil Problem Solved*
- *All About Our Native Plants*



- **PHS** is once again offering some interesting and exciting virtual programs. Check out their web site for current information.
- **Bette Bearden Pardee** [info@privateneport.com](mailto:info@privateneport.com)  
If you like to travel, or just enjoy beautiful gardens in England this is the spot:
  - “*The Neighborhoods of Knightsbridge*” 1-15-23 posting
  - “*Rosemary Verney’s Barnsley House & Garden*” 1-26-23 posting



- **Garden Gate Magazine** –FREE on-line courses....just google them! 23 Video Gardening seminars on demand – they are full of smart tips, plant advice & projects to help make your garden better. [special-offers@gardengatemagazine.com](mailto:special-offers@gardengatemagazine.com)
- **Eden Brothers** [offer@edenbrothers.com](mailto:offer@edenbrothers.com) Even experienced gardeners can learn from the experts.... Eden Brothers has a series of videos, “*Learn How to Garden From our Experts*”, a series of 8 videos. Plus, on their website they offer access to Plant Guides, Plant Finder, Blog Posts and

## Customer Photos

- **Horticulture Magazine** Along with Garden Gate Magazine, Horticulture Magazine is offering Online, On-Demand Courses.....go to [hortmag@hortmag.com](mailto:hortmag@hortmag.com) to sign up.
- **Adkins Arboretum** – check out their blog at [info@adkinsarboretum.org](mailto:info@adkinsarboretum.org) for information on what is going on at the Arboretum.....

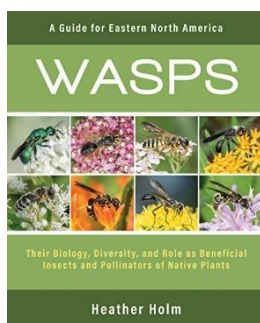
## Other On-line Resources:

Other resource for virtual classes:

- ✓ Plant Delights Nursery Inc. ([www.plantdelights.com](http://www.plantdelights.com)) at Juniper Level Botanic Garden in Raleigh, NC. They have a series of classes on Zoom, all of which are around \$40.00, and they do seem to sell out quickly. Check out their website for a class list (e.g., Garden Design for Soil Diversity, The Lifecycle of Butterflies and Moths, Land Pruning and Spring Clean-up, etc.) and availability.
- ✓ American Horticulture Society website, and on-line Magazine (need to be a member)
- ✓ Longwood Garden From Home and Blog
- ✓ Flower Magazine....web site
- ✓ UME Talbot County Master Gardeners.....newsletter loaded with information.
- ✓ Blue Stone Perennials – explore new 2022 plants.
- ✓ The Old Farmers' Almanac.....yes, try their web site.
- ✓ “Margaret At A Way To Garden”

## **A Word from District I Horticulture Chair** ..... Carol Jelich

We continue to see reports about the invasive pest, spotted lanternfly. This month, I want to draw your attention to an insect that is widely considered a pest, but in fact has a largely beneficial role for humans -- the wasp.



***Wasps: Their Biology, Diversity, and Role as Beneficial Insects and Pollinators of Native Plants***, by Heather Holm, is new in paperback and could make a great winter read. It focuses on the most common flower-visiting wasps that are found in eastern North America. There is general information on the life cycle of wasps, anatomy, diet, and how to tell them apart from lookalike flies or bees. The book includes 70 genera and 150 species accounts. For each species, there are photographs with identifying characteristics indicated, a range map, a list of native nectar plants that are pollinated, and descriptions of nesting biology, life cycle, and prey.

The book has wonderful photographs and accounts of why these insects are important as both predators and as pollinators of native plants. I have seen wasps on many of my flowering native plants collecting pollen or nectar. These insects also serve a purpose in controlling other insects that can be pests in the garden, such as tomato hornworms and other caterpillars.

I will spare you the grisly details of how they hunt and kill their prey, but the stories and names are fascinating. Have you heard of the bicolored mole cricket hunter? Maybe not, but perhaps you would

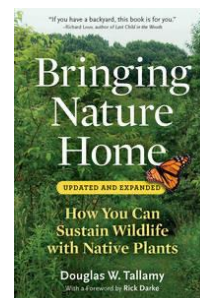


support its role in your garden.

I encourage you to allow wasps in your garden, if not on your porch. If you do see them flying around your porch, the September 2022 issue of *Cultivate*, produced by Terry Holman's District I horticulture committee, has an intriguing idea for how to divert them without killing them. Take a look – actually, the whole issue is very good.

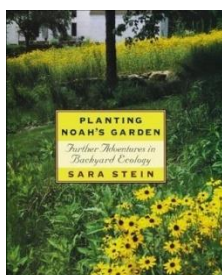
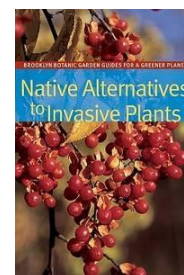
If you are looking for other books to read over the winter break from gardening, here is a short list of the books that have most influenced me in gardening and landscaping:

- ***Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants***, by Douglas W. Tallamy. Updated and Expanded Edition. Portland OR: Timber Press, 2009. "Powerful and compelling illustration of how the choices we make as gardeners can profoundly impact the diversity of life in our yards, towns and on our planet. This important work should be required reading for anyone who ever put shovel to earth." -- William Cullina, New England Wildflower Society. I think most gardeners are aware of this book, but also see Dr.

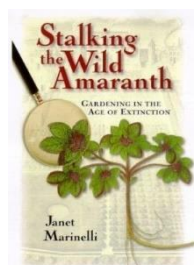


Tallamy's more recent books: ***Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard*** (2019) and ***The Nature of Oaks: The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native Trees*** (2021), also by Timber Press.

- ***Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants***, by C. Colston Burrell. New York, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2006. Identifies plant invaders and the most likely native plants to replace them.



- ***Planting Noah's Garden: Further Adventures in Backyard Ecology***, by Sara Stein. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1997. The author visits gardeners across the country who were inspired by her earlier book, ***Planting Noah's Garden***, to restore their backyard ecosystems. The second half of the book offers practical "how-to's."



- ***Stalking the Wild Amaranth: Gardening in the Age of Extinction***, by Janet Marinelli. New York: Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1997. The author examines how the common horticultural practices that we have developed over the past 150 years may be causing a new era of native plant extinctions.

**[Calendar of Events](#)**

- The Botanical Art League of the Eastern Shore is hosting an exhibit of artwork at Adkin's Arboretum from January 2<sup>nd</sup> - February 24<sup>th</sup>. The exhibit is entitled "**Land as Teacher, Healer, Sustainer.**"
- NGC continues offering its **Membership Mondays** virtual programming which is now focused on the four NGC Schools. The first one ran on January 9<sup>th</sup> and was about the Gardening School. Subsequent programs are as follows—Flower Show School on February 13<sup>th</sup>, Landscape Design School on March 13<sup>th</sup> and Environmental Study School on April 17<sup>th</sup>. You must register in advance for the live presentation, but the good news is that you can find recordings of all these excellent programs on the NGC website under Member Resources.
- March 3, 2023-DIII Annual Meeting- "Lavender Lovely" featuring Ellen Seagraves at Martin's Valley Mansion in Cockeysville. Visit the FGCMD calendar on-line for details.
- Maryland Home & Garden Show, March 4-5, Timonium Fairgrounds
- March 10, 2023--DII Meeting- "Science in the Backyard" featuring Heather Andrew, 10 am at the Bowie Comfort Inn.
- NGC Gardening School, Course 2, is being offered at the Vollmer Center, April 12 & 13. See registration flyer attached on FGCMD website. These schools are really wonderful. You will learn so much and upon completion, you can join the Council associated with a particular school and participate in tours and events.
- A special **Earth Day event** will be held at the Vollmer Center, Cylburn Arboretum on April 27<sup>t</sup>. Flyer with Registration Form can be found on the FGCMD web site, or see flyer in this newsletter.
- UME Master Gardener Coordinators are presenting various programs that might interest you so check out their website for date, time and topics.  
<https://go.umd.edu/getgrow>
- Native Plant Month 2023-Senate resolution sponsored by the Garden Club of America which, if passed, will influence the buyers' choices and nursery offerings, and to create activities and education of choosing natives and how this benefits our environment, Go to <https://nationalnativeplantmonth.org/> to register support for this.
- **Trip to France—June 29-July 11, 2023!** Claire Jones' FGCMD/MD Horticulture Society-sponsored trip to England is already full, but the France trip (*Splendors of Northern France*) has some openings. The travel company for this trip is Pathfinders/STITA Tours of Cheltenham, UK. This tour will include Monet's home and gardens at Giverny.

Versailles, Bayeux, Villandry, Agapanthus, D-Day Beaches, Paris and Chartres. Having attended one of these excursions last year, I heartily endorse the trip, A flyer is attached. You can contact Claire (District III Director) at 443-927-6285 or [jonesb1@comcast.net](mailto:jonesb1@comcast.net).



### **Trish's "Tiny Basket"**

Susie Middleton sent this to TCGC for our Horticulture Newsletter, and as we begin this new year I wanted to share this with you.

*The Gardener's Prayer* . . . . . provided by Susie Middleton

---

'The Gardener's Year' is a book by Karel Čapek, a Czech writer. Structured loosely around what to plant, grow or cultivate each month, Karel Čapek takes us on a rollicking journey through a year in his own small garden. His book is the source of this prayer for gardeners.

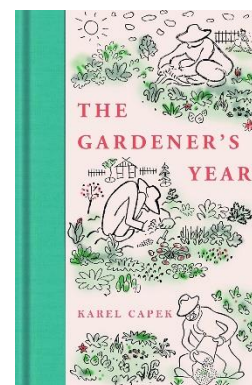
*"If it were of any use, every day the gardener would fall on his knees and pray somehow like this:*

*'O Lord, grant that in some way it may rain every day, say from about midnight until three o'clock in the morning, but, you see, it must be gentle and warm so that it can soak in.*

*grant that at the same time it would not rain on campion, alyssum, helianthemum, lavender, and others which you in your infinite wisdom know are drought-loving plants – I will write their names on a bit of paper if you like.*

*and grant that the sun may shine the whole day long, but not everywhere (not, for instance, on spiraea, or on gentian, plaintain lily, and rhododendron), and not too much;*

*that there may be plenty of dew and little wind, enough worms, no plant-lice and snails, no mildew, and that once a week thin liquid manure and guano may fall from heaven. Amen."*



We hope you have enjoyed this issue of the District I's newsletter – *Garden Basket*. See you again next month and stay warm and dream about your spring gardens!

*Garden Basket* is published and circulated to District 1 Club Members monthly.

Photos are found on the website of the various vendors highlighting their articles. Input is welcomed from members in District I and should be sent to Trish, [pk26998@gmail.com](mailto:pk26998@gmail.com)

*Trish Reynolds*, Gardenews/Publications Chair

Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland – District I  
\_\_\_\_\_ Member of \_\_\_\_\_  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Federated Garden Clubs of MD, Inc.  
District I

