

## eNews June 2020

The Garden Club of America <enews@gcamerica.org>  
Reply-To: enews@gcamerica.org  
To: stephhaig1@gmail.com

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Sandra Williams, The Planters, Zone V

Images from Zone V - To see additional images, [click here](#).

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## President's Letter

### *America's Gardens*

Gardens have always played an important role in the lives of Americans, from the Biltmore Estate Garden to the Chicago Botanic Garden and on across the country. In this time of crisis, they are more important than ever. And isn't it fitting that the U.S. Postal Service has just released a stamp collection celebrating American public gardens in its 2020 Forever stamps program? This is one more acknowledgement of the ubiquitous nature of gardens in our national landscape and psyche. Many of the featured gardens hold special significance within the GCA.



[Read About the Garden Stamps](#)

I should also note the Olmsted 200 celebration that is being planned under the leadership of our immediate past president, Dede Petri. The GCA is playing a prominent role in this national project, which honors the legacy of America's preeminent landscape architect.

I know that you are enjoying the time spent in your own gardens now. It is salve for the soul.

Sending you continued wishes for good health and safety. I miss you!

Debbie Edwards

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## Conservation

### *The GCA's First Virtual Conservation Exhibit*

Explore a virtual conservation exhibit from the annual meeting and other at-home learning opportunities!

Step into the Appalachian Mountains and learn about the most bio-diverse region in North America. Explore 31 iconic national parks, compliments of Google Earth, and many other opportunities to educate yourself on keeping nature running strong while staying at home.



Photo Credit: Missy Janes,  
Fauquier and Loudoun GC

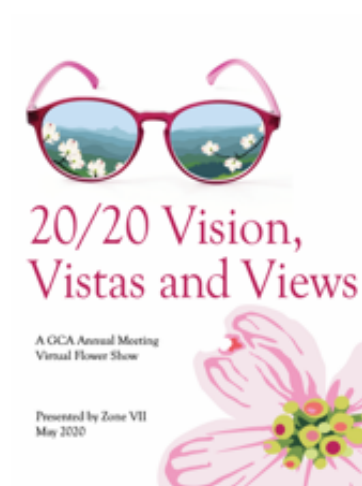
## Explore At-Home Opportunities

### Flower Show

#### *In Case You Missed It...*

See the judging results of an amazing show!

20/20 Vision, Vistas and Views, the annual meeting flower show, took advantage of virtual technology to judge entries that had already been received when the flower show was cancelled. View the Photography and Botanical Arts results and the fabulous video of the Conservation exhibit. Be inspired to make the most out of a disappointment.



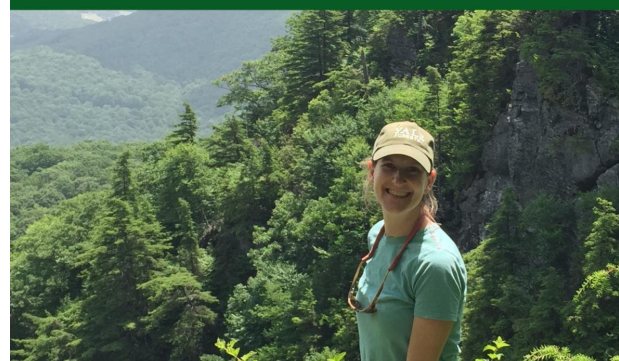
Be Amazed!

### Scholarship

#### *The GCA Annual Meeting Scholarship Speaker*

“I’ve always wanted to be a wildlife biologist, doing fieldwork and science,” exclaims Dr. Liz Kalies, Director of Science for the Nature Conservancy’s North Carolina Chapter. As a recipient of a GCA scholarship in ecological restoration, Dr. Kalies was scheduled to speak at the 2020 Annual Meeting in Asheville, NC. Her impressive work has continued since she was a scholar in 2008.

Dr. Liz Kalies  
Director of Science,  
N.C. Chapter of The Nature Conservancy



Learn About this Accomplished Scholar

### NAL

#### *Living Plant Collections Need Our Help*

According to the American Public Garden Association (APGA), mandatory stay-home orders have resulted in 96% of botanical gardens across the country being completely (60%) or partially (36%) closed! Unattended plants can die, in some cases, overnight.

The GCA has joined the APGA to advocate for \$130 million in emergency funding to be included in an upcoming stimulus package by writing a letter to Congress.

In addition, the Great American Outdoors Act will be discussed by the Senate in June. Contact your state's US Senators and share your voice.



[Read the Letter](#)

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## Hospitality

### *Low Country Cooking from Back in the Kitchen*

Recipes with a taste of the South are the perfect way to welcome the beguiling months of summer. With an abundance of farm fresh fruits and vegetables, local seafood, and poultry, what could be more delicious than Low Country cooking and the best rum cake you'll ever eat? You'll love these recipes!



[Recipes for the Southern Soul](#)

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## Garden History & Design

### *A Gardener's Garden and a Collector's Garden*

Walking through Barbara Shea's garden provides the opportunity to see varieties of plants, shrubs, and trees usually only found in books and plant catalogues. It is a garden encyclopedia which is continually evolving and changing with the "act of gardening" being the goal.



Photographs: Courtesy of Barbara Robinson

[View The Shea Garden](#)

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## Horticulture

### *Get the Real Dirt on Dirt ... and Soil*

Get down and dirty! This issue includes useful information on understanding soil contents, soil testing, improving your soil, and composting. Read Ray Roger's article on Dr. Barad's mix for succulents and take a look at some results from the 'Soil Your Undies' challenge. Learn to grow a pollinator lawn, seed starting tips, workshops on native plants, and more.

## The Real Dirt



[Read The Real Dirt](#)

## Photography

### *Announcing the Summer Issue of Focus*

Inside you will find details about the new *Focus* online contest, 'America the Beautiful' and GCA club members' winning images from both the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show and the Boston Flower & Garden Show. There are seven informative articles, images from the PSG trip to New Orleans, and our regular features — Focal Pointers and FYI. As the summer begins, take a moment, and enjoy our newest edition of *Focus*.



[Read Focus](#)

## Partners for Plants

### *A Banner Year for P4P*

2020-21 will be the most active P4P year since its inception in 1992. Twelve new projects have been approved and every GCA zone is participating in the 59 active projects moving forward. We are proud to see the hard work and enthusiasm being put forth by our clubs to eradicate invasive plants and to propagate and restore native habitats across the country! That is what P4P is all about!



Zone XII Pasadena Garden Club members harvest acorns from endangered Engelmann Oaks for propagation and restoration as part of their new P4P project.

[Learn More About P4P](#)

## GCA Marketplace

### *New Outdoor Accessories*

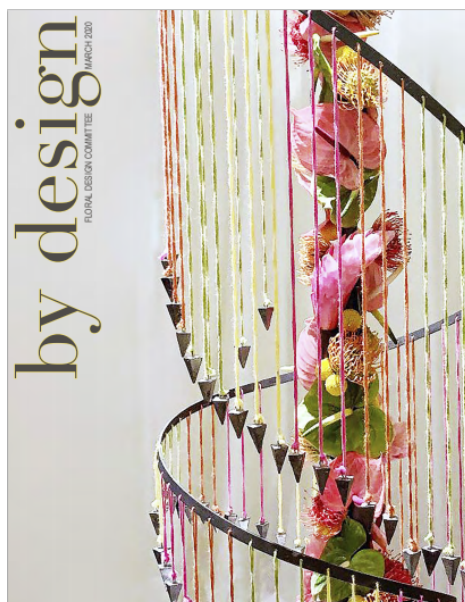
With the reopening of communities across the country, getting spiffed up for a game of golf (or a walk outside) may be just what you need. Order a wide-brimmed visor, golf towel, and golf marker hat clips — all tastefully styled with the GCA logo in green. These items won't last! Check out the new GCA playing cards, bathrobes, and our other signature items. Remember that a percentage of each item purchased from the Marketplace supports the GCA.



Photo Credit: Terry Stockman

Shop the Marketplace

## Publications



To be notified when new issues of publications are available, [click here](#).



Helen Wagner, West Chester GC, Zone V

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Click the icons below to connect with us!



As always, club members have access to this and much, much more by visiting  
[gcamerica.org/members](https://gcamerica.org/members). Login with your email.

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### **eNews**

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EDITOR, LaVanna Wrobley, Ladue GC, Zone XI

PHOTO EDITOR, Sue Welch, Indianapolis GC, Zone X

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIRMAN, Amy W. Cooke, Indianapolis GC, Zone X

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