

LGC Newsletter



March 2021



Message from the President

Dear Friends,

How exciting to be on the cusp of Spring and, hopefully, the cusp of reopening! Spring is just around the corner and while we wait to get back outside into the garden, we welcome back Tovah Martin to whet our gardening appetites with her inspiring terrarium program.

I'm optimistic that reopening is also just around the corner. With the ongoing distribution of the COVID vaccine, we are getting close to meeting again in person. I just can't wait! I've sorely missed seeing you all and our traditional LGC activities.

Stay well and, hopefully, see you soon!

All the best, Annie

Virtual Meeting
Tovah Martin Creates Terrariums

Hosted by
Kate Jamison

March 18, 2021
2:00 PM

Tovah Martin, one of America's favorite gardeners, will introduce us to the whimsical yet practical world of gardens under glass-a no-fuss way to bring snippets of nature indoors. Read more about [Tovah](#)

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone
or dial in using your phone

Per usual, a Zoom link will be sent prior to the meeting

Committee Reports & Announcements

Awards

I'd like to urge our Active Members to vote for the Founders Fund Award. Read all about the new Founders Fund finalists and send your vote to my email susanm@c4.net. See details below.

We have an updated Awards Page on the website. Thanks to Joan Burgess for her usual technological wizardry, and to Cathy Oneglia for the striking new images of our lovely silver plates and picture frame. Click [HERE](#) to visit the Awards page.

[Susan Magary](#), VP

Founders Fund

The Founders Fund award was established in 1934 in honor of the GCA's first president, Elizabeth Price Martin, 1913–20. The first award, given in 1936, was \$700. The fund for this prestigious community grant has continued to grow through generous donations from GCA member clubs and individuals. In 2021 the winning finalist will receive \$30,000 and the two runners-up each will receive \$10,000.

The Founders Fund Committee is pleased to announce the three finalists for 2021. We invite you to read about these compelling projects and reflect upon the vision, mission, and values of the GCA. All member clubs have the opportunity to vote from now until April 1. The winner and runners-up will be announced during the GCA's 2021 Annual Meeting in May.

Click below to read about the Founders Fund finalists. Send your vote to [Susan Magary](#)

[**Read about the finalists**](#)

Conservation

To date we have already sold 10 Eastern Screech owl nesting boxes, and they will be ready for delivery mid March. Eastern screech owl are designated as 'in decline' for the Northeast area. Every home you provide will give this species a better chance to survive and thrive. Thank you! for your generosity and dedication to all things owls!



2021 NAL Conference

The GCA annual NAL conference carried the powerful messages of hope and possibility as well as practical actions we can all take to help improve the environmental condition of our planet.

The conference targeted 5 pieces of legislation - Infrastructure and Transportation, Agricultural Solutions to Climate Change, Ocean Related Solutions to Climate Change, A Trillion Trees and More, and Native Plants.

We are a powerful group of gardeners who are non partisan and do not represent any corporate interest. Highly respected in government for our knowledge of proposed legislation, our quiet strength and gravitas is a significant influence in getting crucial conservation bills enacted into law.

Act now and take the long view - every small conservation action we take changes the balance and contributes to the health of our planet. Visit the [GCA website](#) for additional NAL Conference information.

[Grace Yagtug](#)

Membership

The Membership Committee is reaching out to all regular Members, asking if any of you would like to change your membership status to "Associate". The only differences between "Active" and "Associate" membership are that you are not able to vote at the business or annual meetings, nor are you able to act as a primary sponsor to a potential member. You still retain all of the other perks of being a member, such as attending meetings and workshops and entering sweepstakes. Please see the [policy handbook](#) for more details. Please email me ASAP.

[Julia Metcalf](#)

Horticulture

Because of the cold snowiness of February and the difficulty of sharing tropical cuttings, Julia and I have decided to create a video of propagation and distribute cuttings (and rooting material as need be) in March to those who are interested. I do have some responses already from members who expressed interest in February.

I would love to have a cut forced blooming branch sweepstakes. The branch should be no bigger than 20 inches. I would need 3 photos of your cut branches in beauteous bloom. One photo would be from the front of the entire branch. This can include the bottle or means of support. The photo should fill the frame. The second photo should be from the side of the branch also filling the frame, and the third would be a close up of a bloom or cluster of blooms. Please send your photos to me by April 10th.

We are lucky to have the knowledgeable horticulturist Tovah Martin in March for our club meeting with her slideshow on building terrariums. She will be available for questions after the presentation. I know that Tovah led a workshop before I was a member, but if there are some who would be interested in building a terrarium, I will provide references for a few nurseries where you will be able to find the plants and materials. Feel free to contact me in advance if you would like.

I encourage all of you to check out the schedule for Around the Green, the 2021 Annual Meeting Flower Show. It is fully updated with new links and information. Passing for all the cut specimen classes will take place on April 8-9 if you might be interested. The planted classes in Horticulture (classes 20-22) are now full and closed. Click [HERE](#) for the Around the Green Schedule. Click the Around the Green image below for additional info.

[Kate Jamison](#)

Photography

Attached below you will find the Sweepstakes for April, 2021, our third of this cycle. I hope you will enjoy Buds and Blooms. It includes a diptych, a new photo art form for our sweepstakes.

Remember: iPhone workshop for LGC with Thaddeus Kubis on May 2. It will be an outdoor ramble in a venue to be announced.

Our Zone II Chair, Jill Corr, has asked the clubs to send in their recent Best in Show photos. Emily Dalton won that award in our Nov/Dec sweeps and in our Daffodil sweeps last May, so look for her work in the next copy of Focus.

Please do send in photos to the GCA Covid Project. It is described in detail on the Photography landing page of the GCA website.

I would also draw attention to the GCA partnership with the Olmsted Project which is gearing up for the hundredth birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted. There are many ways to participate in the project as individuals.

Cathy Oneglia

April Sweepstakes

Program

We are in for a real treat this month! Tovah Martin and Kate Jamison will be putting their artistic and horticultural talents on display while creating terrariums. It will be a grand opportunity to learn how to create and maintain your own tabletop wonder and a fun way to usher in Spring as well. The best part is that it will be a zoom presentation which will be saved to our website, enabling us to review it as we create our own terraria! Have fun!

Fran Devlin

Projects and Beautification

Dale and I would like to have a meeting (hopefully in late March/early April) to discuss our projects for this coming year. It would be wonderful if we all could meet at the Community Field on North Lake Street. Hopefully, the daffys will be showing us a sea of glorious yellow. I forgot to mention that in late May/early June of last year I saw several seniors in their caps and gowns with their parents taking pictures with our daffodils as a backdrop. Isn't that great?

Thank you Sylvia for your thoughts on the blue bird houses. So far, nothing has been done at the skating rink.

We can discuss the ideas for a location at our first meeting. Hope everyone is enjoying a true New England winter.

Dale Ryan and Lynne Sherman

From the Communications Desk

Visit our newly updated [Awards Page](#). The membership Directory has been updated with email changes. Please note: Joan Burgess, joangyrburgess@gmail.com and Cathy Oneglia, coneglia@gmail.com.

Blog Posts: How and what to post? Take a look at what has been posted already, and that may spark a thought. Entries are up to approx 200 words. Send your image(s), article and article title to [Joan Burgess](#) for posting.

Member News and Upcoming Events

Live Zoom Event at the OWL

Wednesday, March 3 from 3:00 - 4:00 PM

[At The Time of Event...Click Here To Join On ZOOM](#)

Did you join the COVID gardening craze and now don't know what to do next? Join Cameron Bove, Assistant Store Manager at White Flower Farm while she talks about different ways to break new ground, revive an old garden bed, select the right varieties of veggies and flowers for our New England climate and what tools you actually need. She will touch on future gardening trends and devote time answering your questions.



[More about Cameron's Garden Ideas](#)

An Afternoon with Scott Weidensaul - TUESDAY · MARCH 23, 2021 ·
1:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM WEBINAR

The Ridgefield Garden Club partners for its annual Conservation Meeting, featuring Scott Weidensaul.

Nationally recognized naturalist, ornithologist and Pulitzer-nominated author of nearly thirty books, including his newest *World on the Wing: The Global Odyssey of Migratory Birds*, Scott combines rigorous research with inspired storytelling to expand our understanding of the natural world. More about [Scott](#)



[More about the Scott Weidensaul Program and Reservations](#)



Exhibiting in the Photography section of the 2021 PHS Philadelphia Flower Show.

Registration is open for the Philadelphia Flower Show photography division. There is a very limited amount of time to enter, registration closes on March 19. [Read more.](#)

[Exhibitor Guide](#)

[Registration Form](#)

Virtual Connecticut Master Gardener Association Symposium Is Saturday, March 20th

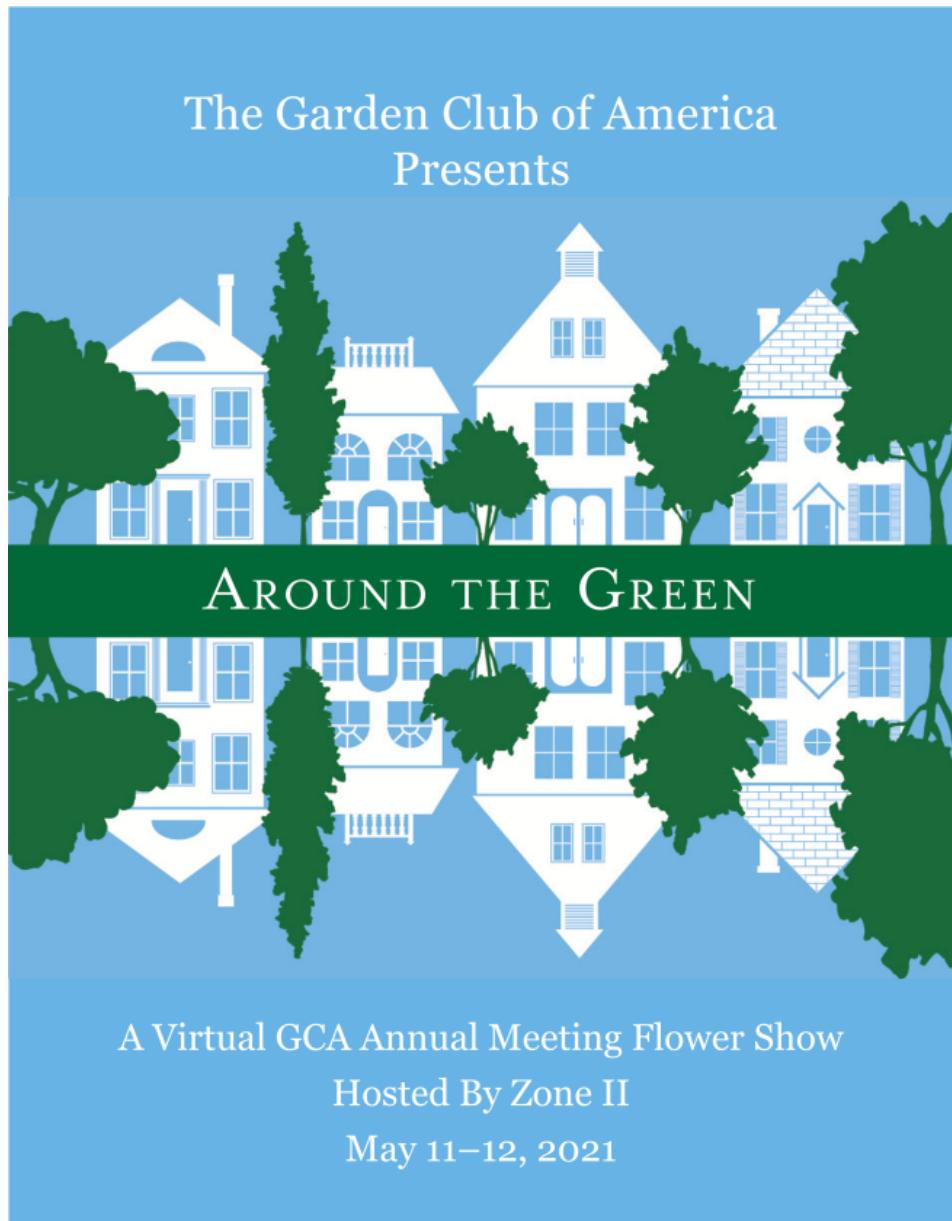
On Saturday, March 20th starting at 9:00 am, Connecticut Master Gardeners, CMGA Members, guests and the public will have the opportunity to hear national and regional experts talk about "Gardening Any Time, Any Place" by virtually attending the Connecticut Master Gardener Association (CMGA) 28th annual garden symposium.

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE VIRTUAL EVENT IS AVAILABLE HERE.

The cost for the two featured speakers and a choice of two of five breakout session speakers is \$60 for CMGA members and guests; \$90 for non-members and includes a "virtual event bag" with coupons, promotions and special offers from symposium sponsors.

CONTACT: THE SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE AT: SYMPOSIUM@CTMGA.ORG

[Event Speakers](#)



Click Image above for additional information

Upcoming events from GCA

Next year, conferences that could only be offered to a few GCA club members in the past will be available to every club member at no cost. For these conferences, we are assembling a powerhouse of speakers who will share with you their lifelong accumulation of knowledge and wisdom. But, we don't plan to just tell you or teach you; we plan to involve you in dynamic experiences that will offer you the opportunity to apply what you have heard.



Mark your calendars now, and save the date:

May 11–12, 2021 ~ GCA Annual Meeting

Further information on events will follow.