

Garden Club of Denver

February 2022

Volume 8, Issue 16



We have welcomed in the new year but wish we were truly COVID free and able to be together again without concern. While our cocktail party with your favorite valentine is cancelled, the February gathering will be transformed into a Spring Fling in May!

Please join us either in person in Mitchell Hall, or on Zoom, for our February meeting and have some fun working together to create a vision for our Strategic Plan. Please also enjoy these history notes for they will help us in this endeavor. We are so proud of the women who have led us throughout our amazing history and the leaders yet to serve.

1996 Mt. Goliath Project adopted. This partnership with Denver Botanic Gardens and U.S. Forest Service was a three-year commitment to improve the trail and provide educational and conservation materials and experiences.

1997 The Zone XII Horticulture Arts Award for Non-Members was awarded to Anne Ophelia Douden.

1998 In September of 1998, we hosted the National GCA Conservation and NAL committees. **Tinka Kurtz** chaired this committee. Garden Club of Denver gave \$1,502 to Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado for trail building on Mt. Goliath. Glass slides made in the late 1930s by Garden Club of Denver, of gardens in the Denver area, were given to the Western History Division of the Denver Public Library. The Horticulture Arts Award was presented to **Mrs. Hugh R. Overy** for special achievement in the field of Horticulture Arts, awarded only in Zone XII.

1999 The Mt. Goliath Project was a finalist for the 1999 GCA

Founders Fund Award. Chairmen **Jane Davis, Shirley Johnson** and **Carol Schutz** guided club efforts to establish new and improved trails, signage, revegetation, a universally accessible rock alpine garden, a wild flower brochure, and three years of docent training and guided tours for the public. The \$5,000 award received from a 2nd place finish in Founders' Fund would be given to Denver Botanic Gardens designated for Mt. Goliath for educational materials. The Garden Club of Denver made additional donations to Denver Botanic Gardens in the amount of \$3,952.43 for a summer intern on Mt. Goliath and the wildflower brochure and Bristlecone Pine insert. In-Club Award to B. J. Dyer for his outstanding contribution in flower arranging education. The Garden Club of America presented **Angela Overy** the Eloise Payne Luquer Medal for special achievement in the field of Botany. The medal was presented at the GCA Annual Meeting.



2000 Box Canyon in City Park was restored and revitalized as a millennium gift to the City of Denver. Box Canyon was designed by S.R. De Boer in 1953 as part of the original Denver Botanic Gardens. Its waterway and indigenous plants, in a 500-square-foot space evoke a mountain canyon. Committee chairman **Libby Idema** and President **Barbara Baldwin** coordinated efforts among the Garden Club of Denver, Denver Urban Gardens, Denver's Department of Parks and Recreation, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado and The Park People. **Ginny Freyer** and **Tinka Kurtz** chaired a fund-raising event with former U.S. Senator Tim Wirth, raising almost \$20,000 for the project. A donation of \$2,000 was made to Denver Botanic Gardens to assist with changes being made to the gardens. The Garden Club of Denver purchased and gave to Denver Botanic Gardens' library a two-volume set entitled "Gardens of Colony and State." This is considered the best reference for gardens in the colonies and the republic.

Meg Nichols



Mark your calendar!

Tuesday, February 1
Presidents Council Meeting
1 p.m. Zoom

Tuesday, February 8

Garden Club of Denver

Denver Botanic Gardens

Garden Club of America

February General Meeting
Hybrid (Zoom and in person) DBG
Mitchell Hall, Coffee
10:30 a.m. and meeting at 11 a.m.

Wednesday, February 23
Olmsted 200 hike and Photography
Field Shoot
Evergreen Lake House 10 a.m.

Thursday, February 24
Got Photos? Zoom Photography
Meeting 4:30 p.m.

GCA ZONE XII

Membership Announcement

If you want to change your membership status please note that you must submit written correspondence (letter or email) to a Membership chair for a resignation or any membership change request.

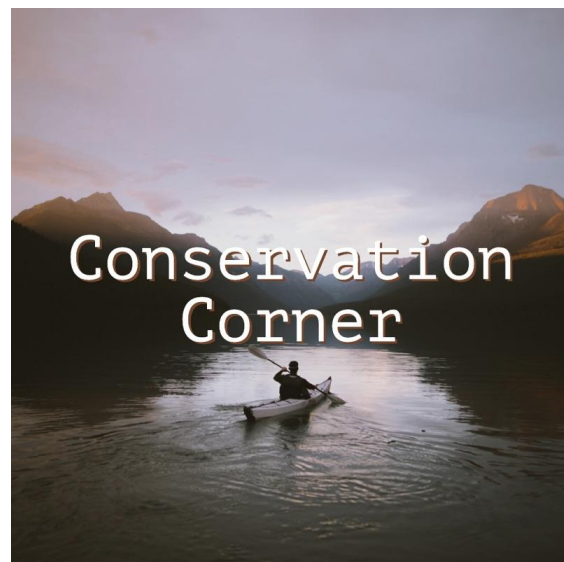
We have a number of openings for Apprentices. Check the GCD website for information on proposals, which are due March 1st. Please contact Margaret Garbe or Jane Davis with any questions.



February Program

We're excited to announce that photographer Jon Mullen will speak at our February meeting. Jon's images tell the stories of our threatened wild places. The contributing photographer to *The Wilderness Society* and *The Nature Conservancy* has had his images published in national and international publications such as *Time*, *The Times of London*, and *Mother Jones* magazine.

Jon also created Ecostock, a first-of-its-kind conservation image library dedicated to lesser-photographed locations with active conservation campaigns. The library provides free access to these powerful visuals to the non-profit organizations working to raise public awareness about these treasured landscapes.



Curl Up With Plant Catalogues by Nancy Schotters

As the winter doldrums hit, the mailman started delivering my hope of spring in the form of seed and plant catalogues. At the same time, Margaret Roach, writer for The New York Times and keeper of the fabulous website [Awaytogarden](#), did an article last week on out-of-the-limelight seed companies. Ms Roach invited her readers to stretch their horizons and plan gardens using more unusual and biologically-diverse seeds. She quotes Nathan Kleinman, founder of the Experimental Farm Network to take “a slow walk into garden radicalism.” The Network is a consortium of growers who share and trade seeds, often those of plants with important cultural and ancestral value, with the mission to combat global climate change through responsible plant breeding and sustainable agriculture research. Along with [the Network](#), are companies like [Trueloveseeds](#), featuring seeds of the African diaspora, [Twoseedsinapod](#), featuring seeds from Turkey. The entire article can be found at her website.

From my own mailbox, online and snail mail, are some favorites but nowhere near a definitive list:
[Colorado's own Botanical Interests](#)
[Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds](#)
[Prairie Moon Nursery](#)
[Territorial Seed Company](#)
[TomatoFest](#)
[John Scheepers](#)
[Select Seeds](#)
[Floret Flower Farm](#)
[Renee's Garden](#)
[High Mowing Organic Seeds](#)
[Johnny's Selected Seeds](#)

And plant catalogues from Digging Dog Nursery, Brushwood Nursery, Garden Crossings, Sooner Plant Farm give me great ideas to tweak an already packed garden. Take time on these chilly days to dream about what you'd like to see in your containers, gardens and vases. Spring will be here before we know it!

Fire Resistant Landscaping by Lisè Woodard

The threat of Colorado wildfires are on everyone's mind. Much attention is being given to fire resistant landscaping, which helps to minimize the spread of fire and helping firefighters protect one's own home. The most discussed strategy is creating a defensible space around the house, but there are additional strategies as well. Fire resistant plants are some of our favorite plants, and are also often drought tolerant. Inorganic mulches, such as pea shaped gravel, have superior fire resistant capabilities. Patios around the house are an ideal way to create attractive defensible spaces.

Listed below are several resources to learn more about fire resistant landscaping:

[Colorado State University Extension Fact sheet](#)

[Ready for Wildfire website for California residents](#)

[High Country Gardens suggestions for fire resistant plants and shrubs](#)



Fire resistant garden. Photo courtesy of [Sunset.com](#).

Join Us!

The Garden History & Design Committee is offering a brisk hike around Evergreen Lake at Dedisse Park on Wednesday, February 23rd at 10 a.m. led by the exciting Kate Fritz, DMP Board Chair. There may be ice skating too for those brave ladies who might be interested.



Get Organized in 2022!
by Deborah Foy

Do you frequently find yourself scrolling through hundreds of images in your camera roll looking for that one image to share? Maybe this is the year to get organized! Setting up some simple albums on your iPhone is a great first step to helping manage the hundreds of photos we all take each year.

When you take a photo on your iPhone it is automatically stored in the “recents” album of your Photo App along with hundreds and maybe thousands of other photos you’ve taken over the years. The Photos App also tracks other images and stores them in pre-set albums such as “live” photos and “portrait” images. But you can take it a step further and set up your own custom photo albums to help track your images. Maybe it is handy to have albums set up for specific trips, for images you take in your garden or for holidays. The options are limitless but albums will make finding and sharing that one image so much easier. Here is a helpful tutorial to get you started on setting up individual albums and organizing your photos.

Tip: Set up an Olmsted 200 album to track all your photos from the field trips. You will be able to find that perfect shot for our June informal club photography show in a snap!

Check out: [How to Use iPhone Photo Albums to Organize Your Images](#)

Congratulations to Suellen for her award winning photograph included in the 2021 *This Land is Your Land Focus* contest! Participation was strong with 194 photographers sharing images from all 12 zones. Another shout out to Jennifer Sundman, Cindy Scott’s sister, from the



Winter Inspiration
by Nina Sisk

Winter finds us a bit more hunkered down and indoors. This time of year always feels like the season to "envision" . . . a new garden bed, a new floral design combination. I think we are more willing to spend time with a cup of tea and commit to the internet search, follow an Instagram favorite, or cuddle up with a great coffee table book. Thanks to the Floral Design Committee we have some great suggestions for each of these formats. Click below for the committee's recommendations for [books](#) and [designers](#). We hope you take the opportunity to delve into something new and beautiful to get your creative juices flowing.



Broadmoor Garden Club who is included as well.

Take a minute to scroll through all the beautiful images [here](#) and enjoy Suellen's photo below.



Photo by Suellen White



Students make each beehive box by hand using native eastern cedar.

Photo by Leroy Tademy, courtesy of Ozarka/GCA Website

2022 FOUNDERS FUND PROPOSED PROJECT

GCA's Civic Improvement Committee is pleased to present the 2022 finalist for the Founders Fund grant. As we all know, the past two years have been a challenging time for our country. For many GCA member clubs, the pandemic limited community interactions and initiatives, and many projects were put on hold. As a result, the GCA has only one project on the Founders Fund ballot this year.

This project, proposed by the Gertrude Windsor Garden Club in Zone IX (Seconding Club: Monroe Garden Study League, Zone IX), supports the GCA's purpose to restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment, and it promises a brighter future for generations to come.

BEE SUCCESSFUL: THE 4G HONEY TEAM is a winner under any circumstances! Here is the Summary of their project, which will also be presented at our February General Meeting with a vote online after.

Unwelcome bees on the loading dock of the Ozarka water bottling plant in Hawkins, TX gave four inexperienced high school students the chance to help – and become – the 4G

Honey Team in the process. Building hives to relocate the colony, they gained skills that attracted national attention and inquiries from schools in Texas and beyond. The Founders Fund grant will provide equipment and materials to build an observational hive and create beekeeping curriculum to share nationwide.

The Founders Fund, established in 1936 with a grant of \$700, now awards \$30,000 to the winning project and in a normal year \$10,000 to the two runner-ups. While there is only one project on the ballot this year, every club still needs to vote. As a reminder, this grant is the only GCA award that is voted on by every member of every GCA club.

To see the full 500 word proposal please go to the [landing page of the Civic Improvement Committee in the Members Area of the GCA website.](#)



Welcome, new Affiliate member, Debra Patrician!

Debra comes to us from the Middletown (CT) GC (Zone II) where she has been a very active member for twenty-four years. Quoting from her recommendation by Middletown G.C. President, Debra “is a talented floral designer, an eager competitor in flower shows, and one of the best Visiting Gardens chairs we have ever had. She has led trips all along the Eastern seaboard, as well as to Mexico and to the Netherlands for tulip season. And she was co-President of our club during our Centennial, accomplishing a fabulous flower show and gala that contributed greatly to our prestige and our bank account. Another year, she organized a terrific garden tour, which was another winner with the public.”

She has chaired many committees, including Floral Design, and chaired a GCA Flower Show in 2010. She enjoys many aspects of Garden Club and GCA, with Floral Design being her main passion. She is the winner of the GCA Harriet DeWaele Puckett Creativity Award, a GCA national Floral Design award which recognizes exceptional innovation and interpretation.

Debra looks forward to meeting our members and becoming involved with The Garden Club of Denver. Welcome, Debra. We are fortunate to have you join us!!!

**Don't forget to follow Garden Club of America
on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Linkedin](#) and [Twitter](#)
and add the [GCA App](#) to your phone.**

GCD Board and Committees 2020-2021

Executive Committee

President: Meg Nichols

Vice President: Cindy Scott

Corresponding Secretary: Bar Chadwick

Recording Secretary: Alice Hughes

Treasurer: Maureen Barker

Director: Missy Eliot

Committee Chairmen

Admissions & Membership-elected:

Jane Davis & Margaret Garbe

Committee Chairmen (Continued)

2021 GCA Flower Show:

Missy Eliot & Nina Sisk

Fund Development:

Liza Grant

Garden History & Design:

Holley Sanford & Sarah Alijani

Historian:

Muffie Dahlberg

Awards & Founders Fund:

Sally Obregon

Bulletin & Communications:

Sarah Young

Conservation National Affairs and

Legislation:

Lisè Woodard & Amy Mower

Denver Botanic Gardens Committees:

Cutting Garden:

Genie Waters & Linda Zinn

Fete Liaisons:

Debbie Davis & Nan Procknow

Flower Arranging:

Debbie Davis

Holiday Décor:

Lisa Duke & Ann Ellis

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Amy Slothower & Megan Mahncke

Floral Design:

Nina Sisk & Cora Wheeler

Horticulture:

Leslie Liedtke & Nancy Schotters

Hospitality:

Nancy Jones & Martha Veldkamp

Judging:

Hope Connors

eNews:

Marianne Sulser & Mary Talbot

Nominating:

Missy Eliot

Photography:

Suellen White & Deborah Foy

Programs:

Caroline Rassenfoss & Tish Szurek

Scholarships:

Ann Crammond

Visiting Gardens:

Lindsay Dodge

Website:

Kathleen Woodberry
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[View as Webpage](#)