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Garden Club of Denver

June 2021

Volume 8, Issue 10



PRESIDENT'S POST

a moment of strong wind
in the garden
and the peonies lean over
and the butterfly is blown off its point
just a while, just a while;
the gust of wind blows into my eyes
and I close them

just that moment, just that while

poem based on the painting 'Peonies and Butterfly' by Katsushika Hukosai

The exquisite peony flower has long been a favorite of Asian artists and appears not only in paintings but poetry and literature as well. European artists, such as Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Vincent van Gogh, also sought to capture the peony's beauty on canvas.



The peony is the very epitome of June and symbolizes, in the Language of Flowers, prosperity, good luck, love, honor and also a bit of bashfulness! While peonies bloom, we will gather together for the first time since October for our Annual Meeting in the Annuals Garden and Pavilion at DBG! Don't be bashful or reticent to join us. We will be outside, enjoying a reunion of friends while celebrating our award winners. Let's leave this tumultuous year behind us together. Maybe a toast is in order!

Even though the peonies will only be with us for a short while before their petals blow away, or fall intact in a heap on a table (which is in itself beautiful), they do herald the oncoming of a plethora of summer flowers. I look forward to enjoying the season with all of you.

Meg Nichols



Mark your calendar!

President's Council Meeting
Meg Nichols' house
Wednesday, June 2, 10 a.m.

**DBG @ Chatfield Farms Heritage
Iris Garden field trip with
Horticulture / Photography
committees**
June 4, 10 a.m.

GCD June Annual Meeting
DBG Annuals Garden and Pavilion
Tuesday, June 8, 11 a.m.



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[GCA ZONE XII](#)

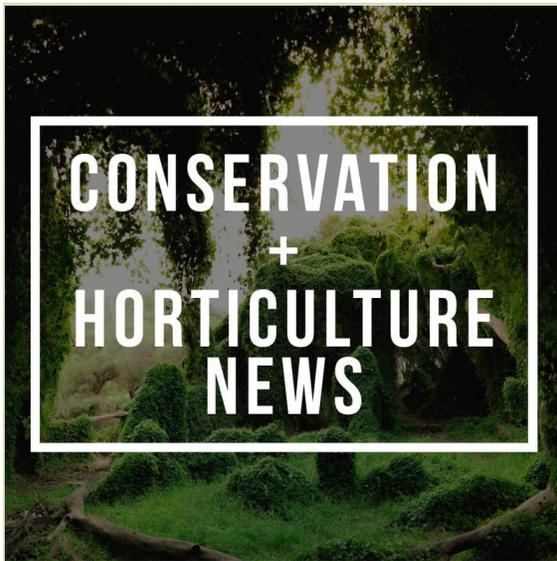
Flower Show Committee Meeting
via Zoom
Monday, June 14, 1 p.m.

eNews deadline
Tuesday, June 15

**Private Tour at Headwaters
Museum in Winter Park followed
by lunch at Paula Stuart's home**
Thursday, June 17th, Details TBA,
See more information below.

Private Tour and Lunch

Please join the Conservation Committee on Thursday, June 17th, for a private tour at the Headwaters Museum in Winter Park. The museum is a hidden gem and has gotten rave reviews for its use of interactive technology to educate visitors on the critical role the headwaters play in our environment. Paula Stuart has kindly offered to host us for lunch afterwards. Details will follow on time, directions, and suggestions to carpool.



Conservation and Horticulture Committees participate in Earth Day Cleanup By Lise Woodard

Ten GCD volunteers joined the LoDo District neighborhood group to clean up the flower beds at the Rothman Children's Playground located at Speer and Wynkoop. Because the pandemic had forced Denver's Parks and Recreation Department to reduce the number of seasonal workers that maintain the parks in the city, a large bed of native plants had received no care in over two years. We weeded and deadheaded, and more knowledgeable members helped to distinguish between perennials and weeds. A young woman traveling from Austin, Texas to Portland, Oregon joined our group. I received a lovely thank you note expressing the LoDo district's appreciation.

PHOTOGRAPHY FOCUS



Tips, Tricks and Tools By Deborah Foy

Have you considered adjusting the horizon line to improve your shot or experimenting with using an unattached lens to create a dreamy and ethereal photo? GCA has a series of Tips, Tricks and Tools videos on their website [here](#) with photography committee members sharing their favorite techniques or equipment. The videos are fun and short ... check them out and get inspired!

Congratulations to GCD Photography Committee members Sarah Alijani and Suellen While who had their photos published in the May GCA eNews, and to Margaret Garbe for her photo on the GCA landing page website. Below are their stunning shots!



Horticulture and Conservation Committees working hard in LoDo.



Pulsatilla vulgaris, Pasque Flower, photo by Margaret Garbe.

Have you been vaccinated?



Need help finding a COVID Shot?

Call, email, or text Kathleen Thomas at woodberry@gmail.com or 303-898-3900. She can help you!



by Sarah Alijani



Peony by Suellen White



Floral Design Outdoors by Nina Sisk and Cora Wheeler

Most of us are focused on our outdoor spaces this time of year and floral arranging may take a bit of a pause. Even so, we encourage you to look at your outdoor pots and planters as another opportunity to hone your floral design skills. With the explosion of planting material available, gone are the days that we are happy with a few geraniums or begonias. It is the combination of plants that make for stunning pots. Here are a few tips for success, and you'll notice that most are the same principles for good floral design.

Structure. When selecting plants think about their eventual height, shape and growth habit. A good design usually includes all three forms of plants; upright, broad, and trailing. (Ratio of 1:2:2). This recipe is better known as the combo of thrillers (upright), fillers (broad) and spillers (trailing). Use of a single bold plant can also create drama. It's also important to consider the size of your planter for proportion.

Growing Conditions. The most critical element of long-term planter success is combining plants with similar sun/shade and moisture requirements. Good potting soil is a must.

Texture. Foliage is the secret weapon for stunning pots. Consider contrasting size and texture of leaves.

Color. Be bold! Anything goes these days: it is about personal preference. Utilize complimentary colors for excitement, but as we all know the combo of greens, whites, and silver can be gorgeous. You should also consider the color of your container, your house and even your deck or patio color.

The most enjoyable aspect of outdoor floral design is that you can savor your living creation for an entire season, rather than only fleeting days of a cut arrangement. Look to Pinterest for inspiration! Also, consider creating a few smaller flat containers that can be used as floral

Welcome, New Apprentice Members!

The Membership/ Admissions Committee is thrilled to report that we will have three new Apprentices in our ranks next year.

Kelly Stava, proposed by Liz Walker and seconded by Nancy Jones and Marianne Sulser, is an active community volunteer, having recently served on the Debutante Ball Committee as well as having participated in the Denver Botanic Gardens' Fete des Fleurs. Liz and Kelly met when they were volunteers at St. Anne's Episcopal School and spent time together hiking and playing tennis. Kelly's two children are now in high school and college. Kelly and her husband, Matt, live in the Belcaro neighborhood in an older home with a lovely historic garden, which some GCD members will remember as Barbie Moore's. Kelly works hard to maintain the garden and is eager to learn more about it and the heritage roses that are a centerpiece to her landscape. Kelly loves to travel and is eager to learn more about photography in order to document her adventures with her family. Kelly is ready to jump in and help with committees and planning.

Stephanie Tryba was proposed by Nancy Jones and seconded by Mary Schaefer and Liza Grant. She has been a committed community volunteer and willingly takes on leadership responsibilities. She has been an Advisory Board member of Colorado Open Lands and has volunteered extensively for History Colorado and Historic Denver. She is a former board member of the Governor's Residence Preservation Fund and has been involved with Central City Opera and The Denver Debutante Ball. She and her husband have two grown children and live in downtown Denver where they have a stunning garden that they opened for a tour to our GCD members. Stephanie is very committed to conservation and garden design, and enjoys flower arranging. She looks forward to learning more about photography and horticulture.

Suzanne Mackenzie was proposed

centerpieces for tables. Create!



Photo from Deborahsilver.com



Photo from Hylandgarden.com

by Lisa Duke and seconded by Ann Ellis and Caroline Rassenfoss. Lisa initially got to know Suzanne through their mutual love of tennis and volunteered together at St. Anne's Episcopal School, Arapahoe Tennis Club, and on other civic committees. She chaired The Central City Flower Girls Summer Ball. Suzanne does not shy away from leadership jobs and the events she has chaired have been memorable for the participants, host organizations and committee members. She has a keen artistic eye which you might have experienced if you ever shopped at Stuart Buchanan Antiques, which she owned for ten years. Suzanne sold her business to raise her three girls with her late husband, Don, on 2 ½ acres where she honed her gardening and design skills. She is the director of CLIMB, an organization that assists students from eastern universities to find internships and jobs out west. Suzanne is a gardener, flower arranger, tennis and paddle tennis player. She has a passion and appreciation for fine art, is a voracious reader, loves to travel and is a wonderful cook. Suzanne looks forward to learning more about horticulture and conservation.

How lucky is the Garden Club of Denver to have these talented, enthusiastic ladies join us? Please be sure to welcome them when they attend their first meeting at DBG in June.

DBG Summer Arrangements by Debbie Davis

The Garden Club of Denver has partnered with Denver Botanic Gardens for many decades to plant and maintain a garden. Our current project is Lanie's Cutting Garden, named in honor of our long-time member and friend, Lanie Jackson. She designed the garden and we helped her plant it each spring. When it moved to its current location, our membership raised funds to name the garden after Lanie.

What would a cutting garden be if no one cut flowers from it, and created arrangements to demonstrate the beauty and versatility of locally grown flowers? That was the next logical step for our volunteer service to the Gardens. With the support of Brian Vogt, we began providing arrangements for Development Office special events, then the Waring House, and finally the Visitor's Center and Information Desk.

We do arrangements on Monday for the Waring House and Thursday for the Visitors' Center and Mitchell Hall Information Desk. To volunteer, you need to sign up on the Sign-up Genius so the DBG Volunteer Office will know who is on site each day and be

registered with them as a Volunteer. If you don't have a DBG ID, or lost yours, the Volunteer Office will be at the Annual Meeting, June 8, to take pictures and answer questions. Always cut early in the morning, wear your DBG ID tag, shirt, and closed-toed shoes. Please see the GCD website for more information and guidelines.

Experience a
Garden Club of
America Flower
Show like never
before.

Check out the [GCA website](#) to learn more about the upcoming virtual flower show.

Check out GCA's Improved Member Showcase

[Click here](#) to see GCA's improved Club Member Showcase, which help us see how GCA volunteers are working for a beautiful, healthy planet. Now we can join their conversations, applaud their work, and help bring volunteers together to cultivate ideas.

Also, please make sure and update your personal information on the GCD and GCA websites. Amy Slothower and Mary Schaefer will be taking your photo for the Directory at the Annual Meeting.



Don't forget to follow Garden Club of America on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter and add the GCA App to your phone.

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

Awards & Founders Fund:

Sally Obregon

Bulletin & Communications:

Sarah Young

**Conservation National Affairs and
Legislation:**

Lisë 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

Directory (Roster):
Amy Slothower & Megan Mahncke

Floral Design:
Nina Sisk & Cora Wheeler

2021 GCA Flower Show:

Missy Eliot & Nina Sisk

Fund Development:

Liza Grant

Garden History & Design:

Holley Sanford

Historian:

Muffie Dahlberg

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
& Elizabeth Weigand

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