



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

DECEMBER 2024

Upcoming Events

- **Dec 6: Quantico Spouses' GC Xmas House Tour & Luncheon; Susan Scott for Carpooling**
- **Dec 9: 1:30-2:30 Secret Garden Decorating, Holiday Caroling & Cookies at Ferlazzo**
- **Dec 13: Montclair Holiday Decorations Judging by GCM/ Call Cecilia Carroll 703-955-0360**
- **Dec 18: MPOA @ 10 GCM Holiday Greens Workshop & Luncheon**
- **Jan 29: 10:30 All Club Planning Mtg; Winter Soup & Bread at Montclair Library**



And before we knew it... it was December!

This month marks the beginning of the winter solstice, the shortest days with the least number of daylight hours of the year. It's time to celebrate the end of another gardening year, pull out those warm sweaters and enjoy time indoors with family and friends as we welcome the holiday season!

Such a wonderfully full GCM year... and it's not over yet! Actually, it seems like it never ends for our members who love to gather even in the off-season as we continue to prepare for our 50th anniversary!

Our March Officer Installation was followed by another wildly successful May Plant Sale. Members toured lovely gardens during the Virginia Historic Garden Week and then visited the Balls Ford Composting Facility during the spring. We retreated to the air conditioning of the Montclair Library when an overly hot June cancelled our Locust Shade Park picnic. In July we were appreciative of PW Master Gardeners' program director, Valerie Huelsman's natives presentation and Wanda Simpson's seed ball project... Wanda always adds fun to the equation! We traveled to the amazing Garden of Glass exhibit in Winchester on a chilly day in August and hosted PWACGC in September. Gale James dazzled us with her presentation on propagation on a rainy September morning and in October members visited Hollin Farms in Markham for apple and pumpkin picking. Wanda Simpson guided each of us as we completed our fall centerpiece project during the November meeting using pumpkins and succulents. She promises a repeat of the fun for the December Holiday Greens Workshop scheduled for December 18th at the Montclair Property Owners Association building ...3561 Waterway Drive, 22025 ... at 10 AM. Lunch will be catered by Giorgio's.

As you might imagine, a full schedule of Programs & Events doesn't just happen. Joan Flaherty has spearheaded this Standing Committee with members Wanda Simpson, Martina Crichton, and Susan Scott this year. Our members are so very grateful for Joan's ability to guide these events with multiple moving parts to completion. Thank you, Joan, for your eighth year of organizing a packed menu of fun for all our members to enjoy!



GCM Bylaws & Constitution

Approved by 30 members either present at the November meeting or by proxy vote received prior to the meeting, allowing for the required quorum of the total membership to be achieved. Thank you to everyone who voted prior to the meeting!

As the gardening year ended, both the Firehouse Garden (c.1993) and the Secret Garden (c.1999) saw a bevy of activity as members joined to finalize the tasks of clean up and cold weather preparation. Many thanks to our community gardens leadership team of Bev Houston, Ro Carlsen, and Kathy Fisher and to the dedicated helping hands of so many who continue the rich heritage of GCM with maintaining these legacy gardens!

December Birthdays

Patti Slaughter 3rd

Martina Crichton 7th

Donna Seckar 28th

January Birthdays

Lena Dever 17th

Kathy Fisher 17th

Terri Wallendjack 22nd

Pat Charron 23rd

Gale James 29th

Jerilynn Fitzgerald 30th

Committee Chairs

Programs/Events

Joan Flaherty

Member Care

Anna Worrell

Plant Sale

Gale James & Barbara Ball

Fire House Garden

Bev Houston

Secret Garden/Garden Therapy

Ro Carlsen & Kathy Fisher

NCAGC District II Rep

Susan Scott

PWACGC Rep

Barbara Ball &
Wanda Simpson

Website

Martina Crichton

Facebook

Lu Selfridge

Publicity

Donna Seckar

November's Fall Centerpiece Workshop



What a great time we had during our November meeting!

Wanda Simpson did it again... survived another workshop trying to guide our centerpiece making... like herding cats, for sure! Join us for the Holiday Greens Workshop on Dec 18th!

Until next time, see you in the garden... *Florence*