



the path forward



DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

It is with great pleasure that this Annual Report of the Garden Club of Virginia is presented for your review. This is an opportunity to highlight our organization's accomplishments during the July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 fiscal year and to acknowledge and thank our many generous donors. Gifts made in honor or in memory of friends or loved ones carry special meaning.

The mission of the Garden Club of Virginia is to conserve the gifts of nature, to restore and preserve historic landscapes of the Commonwealth to cultivate

historic landscapes of the Commonwealth, to cultivate the knowledge and love of gardening, and to lead future generations to build on this heritage. Thanks to the coordinated efforts of 48 member clubs and with your philanthropic support, our organization will continue its century-long commitment toward ensuring an environmentally sound Virginia, honoring the integrity of its significant historic landscapes and inspiring others to do the same.

There was renewed energy and enthusiasm to move forward to learn, grow and thrive during this post-pandemic year. Educational opportunities were broadly shared through webinars, workshops, field trips and forums, as well as horticulture, photography and artistic design flower shows and demonstrations.

The Garden Club of Virginia's commitment to the preservation of historic landscapes in Virginia was underscored with the dedication of four major landscape restorations at Poplar Forest, the Poe Museum, Stratford Hall and William & Mary, made possible by members' efforts to host Historic Garden Week each year. Our adoption of a position for the statewide protection of native plants supported our mission and an updated Strategic Plan provides a vibrant vision for the future of our organization.

We are grateful for and hope to inspire continued philanthropic support from our members, clubs, sponsors and friends in order to provide exceptional programs and educational opportunities, support community initiatives for our member clubs, and continue our dedicated and steadfast impact across Virginia.

Hissy Buckinghall

Missy Buckingham, President 2020-2022 GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA



REFLECTIONS OF GENEROSITY

Edith Wharton said, "There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it."

On a hot summer afternoon, a four-person crew re-reinstalled one of seven large mirrors that grace the Kent-Valentine House, the historic landmark property that serves as the Garden Club of Virginia's headquarters. This mirror underwent months of conservation by a craftsman specializing in fine art restoration and gilding.

Like the other mirrors, it was a gift of the Valentine family and likely was crafted in New York in the third quarter of the 19th century, according to a fine art appraiser. She described this particular mirror as an "Eastlake carved gessoed and gilded overmantle mirror...one of a matched pair (rare)."

Thanks to the generosity of individual donors and member clubs, the Garden Club of Virginia was able to restore these exceptional mirrors as part of our Centennial campaign to conserve and refresh the Kent-Valentine House. The mirrors now gleam in their original splendor, reflecting the crystal chandeliers and beautiful interior.

Some may ask, "What does a garden club have to do with mirrors?"

For the Garden Club of Virginia, it's easy to make the connection. An important tenet of our mission is to preserve the past for future generations. We apply the same meticulousness to the care of the Kent-Valentine House furnishings and its grounds as we do for preserving natural environments and historic public landscapes throughout Virginia.

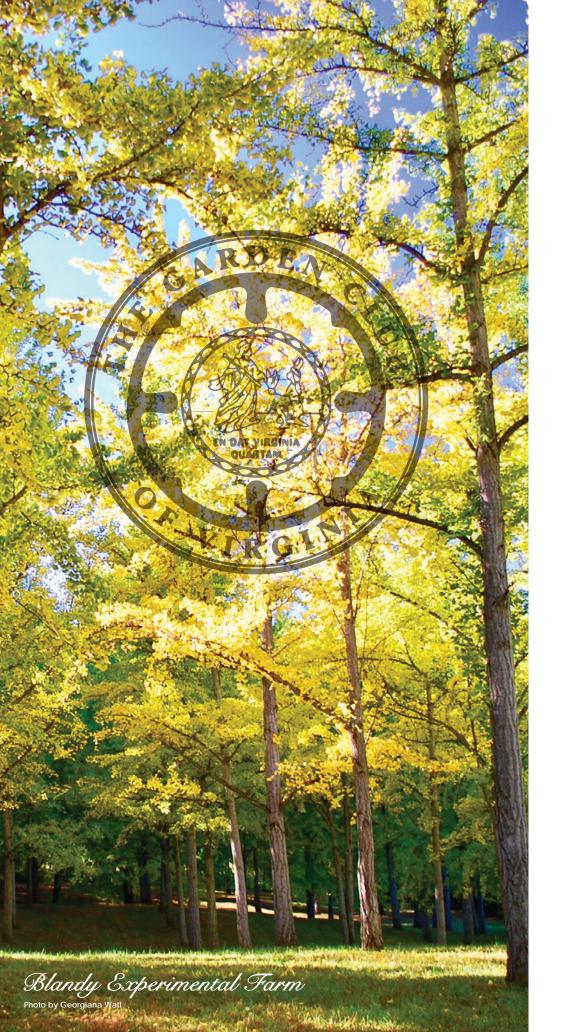
Your gifts help to embrace high standards of research and expertise. You help us to accurately restore and preserve noteworthy places. And thanks to you, the Garden Club of Virginia continues to shed new light on conservation and nature-related interests, informing and inspiring countless individuals and initiatives each year.

We are grateful for the many reflections of generosity that help the Garden Club of Virginia spread the light. Thank you.

1 B.H

Andrea Butler, Executive Director GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

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We are sincerely grateful to the members and friends who have chosen to leave a lasting legacy by including the Garden Club of Virginia in their estate plans.

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The following individuals, foundations and member clubs made gifts to refurbish the Kent-Valentine House, in honor of the Garden Club of Virginia's Centennial, and restore its gilded mirrors to their original splendor. Special thanks to the **Mary Morton Parsons Foundation** for its lead matching gift.

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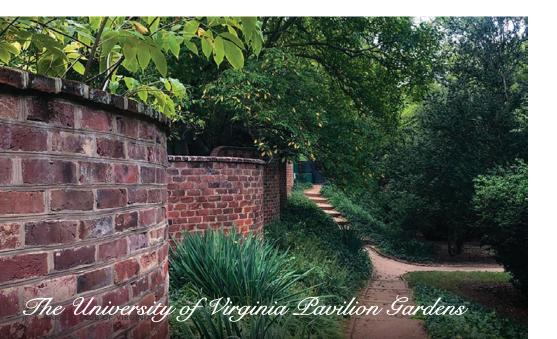
THE ANNUAL FUND helps to provide the resources needed to fulfill the GCV's mission.

THE COMMON WEALTH AWARD provides competitive grant funding for community-based projects led by our member clubs.

THE CONSERVATION FUND supports the GCV's educational programming, fellowships and advocacy to promote conservation and environmental stewardship.

THE ENDOWMENT FUND ensures that the GCV will maintain its leadership role in restoration, conservation, education and beautification well into the future.

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Laura Francis Nancy L. Holcomb Carol Hunter Mr. and Mrs. William J. Lynch, Jr. Anne Alexander Marshall Jeanette Felton McKittrick Sally Najjar Miller Forrest D. Moore Jamie A. Old Libbey Oliver Carla Passarello Cathy Tyler Barbara Walsh

HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK FUND

The Boxwood Garden Club Tricia H. Garner

RESTORATION FUND

The Brunswick Garden Club Gabriella Garden Club Sally Najjar Miller Susan S. Mullin Sue W. Rosser Betty Shaw

Allison Clock Forrest Moore, GCV Staff, Barbara Walsh, Conservation Forum Committee, Environmental Fellowship Committee, Legislative Subcommittee, Legislative Workshop Participants Allison Clock Elizabeth Hamilton Allison Clock Allison Clock Nancy Holcomb Allison Clock Allison Clock Allison Clock Sally Harman Allison Clock Allison Clock Judy Epperly Allison Clock Allison Clock Allison Clock Carol Carter The Hunting Creek Garden Club Allison Clock

Amy Hudgens, Mignon Tucker The Petersburg Garden Club

Betsy Worthington Sue Rosser Nancy Baker Mina Wood William Rieley Nancy Perkins

Doplar Forest Dresentation

Restoration Committee Chairman (2020-2022) Betsy Worthington at the Poplar Forest Presentation on Oct. 14, 2021.





uring the fiscal year 2021-2022, the Garden Club of Virginia was able to return to some pre-pandemic normalcy with our meetings and programs, and it is reflected in our finances.

The Garden Club of Virginia operates on a fiscal year that began July 1, 2021, and ended on June 30, 2022. The budgets for the fiscal year were presented by the Treasurer to the Board of Directors and then to the membership for a vote of approval at the May 2021 GCV Annual Meeting. Beginning in FY2021, the Board separated the Operating Budget from the Historic Garden Week/Restoration budget, although this report will review both budgets as one whole.

The Garden Club of Virginia's largest source of revenue is our annual Historic Garden Week. While there were many improvements made to the tour logistics as a result of the pandemic, it was exciting for the tour to return to opening houses as well as gardens. The 2022 tour enjoyed its most impressive financial success in its 89 years with a net income of \$638,629. These monies fund our restoration and ongoing support of historic public landscapes throughout the commonwealth, and they fund landscape architecture fellowships.

The sources of operating funds for the GCV include membership dues, the annual fund, donations and sponsorships of events. In addition, we receive income from publication advertising, workshops and special programs and rental of our carriage house. Any shortfalls are funded by a draw of up to five percent from our endowment fund. For FY22, we took a 2.9% draw.

The expenses for the GCV include funding our restoration projects, fellowships and cash awards for member club community projects, educational programs for members and the general public, our



GCV Income \$1,302,082

management/staff salaries (four fulltime and three part-time staff), property maintenance and operations of our headquarters, development and communications and our yearly audit.

To communicate with our membership, we maintain our website, produce a monthly e-newsletter, a biannual Restoration newsletter and publish the *Journal* quarterly, leverage the District-At-Large network, as well as meet with the club presidents three times per year. We also host and facilitate meetings for 19 standing committees and seven special committees. We fund two awards each year, the Common Wealth Award and the Bessie Bocock Carter Conservation Award. The GCV normally funds two classes of fellowships each year. The Conservation Fellowship was completed in FY22 but the two Restoration Fellowships were on hold for a third year.

Our assets of approximately \$9.3 million include the Kent-Valentine House property, cash accounts and investment portfolios. At the end of June 2022, the GCV investment portfolios were valued at \$6.6 million, which is approximately 71 percent of the GCV's total assets. Our financial records for the 2020-21 fiscal year were audited, and we received a clean opinion. As a 501(c)(3) organization, our Federal Form 990 was filed this year and is available for public review.

The GCV leadership remains prudent in overseeing its finances. Through these actions, we are in a stable financial position as we head into fiscal year 2022-23. We look forward to advancing our mission throughout the commonwealth.

Inicia Madania

Tricia McDaniel, Treasurer 2020-2022 GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA



GCV Expense \$1,263,051

2021-2022 GCV Board of Directors

PRESIDENT Missy Buckingham THE BOXWOOD GARDEN CLUB

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT Debbie Lewis THE GARDEN STUDY CLUB

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT Kris Carbone THE GARDEN CLUB OF DANVILLE

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CONSERVATION AND BEAUTIFICATION Allison Clock The HAMPTON ROADS GARDEN CLUB

DEVELOPMENT Pam Combs THE GARDEN CLUB OF NORFOLK

FINANCE Trudy Melvin THE BLUE RIDGE GARDEN CLUB

HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK Tricia Garner THE RAPPAHANNOCK VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

HORTICULTURE Heidi James THE LYNCHBURG GARDEN CLUB

RESTORATION Betsy Worthington THE LYNCHBURG GARDEN CLUB

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Andrea Butler

Melissa Butler Finance Manager

Quan McGough Office and Events Coordinator

Lee Mondesir *Kent-Valentine House Manager*

The Garden Club of Virginia is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All photos are property of the GCV unless otherwise credited.

We make every attempt to list donors correctly. Please contact us at (804) 643-4137 or development@gcvirginia.org with updates.

Thank you for helping the Garden Club of Virginia on the Path Forward

To learn how you can support the Garden Club of Virginia, contact Andrea Butler, Executive Director, at 804-643-4137.

THE MISSION OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

To conserve the gifts of nature, to restore and preserve historic landscapes of the commonwealth, to cultivate the knowledge and love of gardening, and to lead future generations to build on this heritage.

Albemarle Garden Club–1913 • The Garden Club of Alexandria–1925 • The Ashland Garden Club–1922 • The Augusta Garden Club–1919 • The Blue Ridge Garden Club–1925 • The Boxwood Garden Club–1937 • The Brunswick Garden Club–1924 • The Charlottesville Garden Club–1949 • Chatham Garden Club–1921• The Garden Club–1949 • Chatham Garden Club–1921• The Garden Club–1949 • Chatham Garden Club–1921• The Garden Club–1949 • Chatham Garden Club–1921 • The Garden Club–1926 • The Charlottesville • Dolley Madison Garden Club–1927 • The Garden Club of Fairfax–1926 • Fauquier

• The Elizabeth River Garden Club-1927 • The Garden Club of Fairfax-1926 • Fauquier Club-1933 • The Garden Study Club-1946 • The Garden Club of Gloucester & Mathews-1928 • The Hampton Roads Garden Club-1932 • Harborfront Garden Club-1953 Garden Club–1935 • The James River Garden Club–1915 • Leesburg Garden Club–1915 The Garden Club of Norfolk-1915 • The Garden Club of the Northern Neck-1966 • The Valley Garden Club-1924 • Rivanna Garden Club-1922 • Roanoke Valley Garden Cluband Loudoun Garden Club–1915 • The Franklin Garden Club–1945 • Gabriella Garden Hillside Garden Club–1935
The Hunting Creek Garden Club–1942
The Huntington The Martinsville Garden Club-1923 • The Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula-1994 The Mill Mountain Garden Club–1927 • The Nansemond River Garden Club–1928 • Petersburg Garden Club–1925 • The Princess Anne Garden Club–1932 • The Rappahannock 925 • The Spotswood Garden Club–1924 • Three Chopt Garden Club–1939 • Three Rivers Garden Club – 2015 • The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton–1928 • The Virginia Beach Garden Club-1937 • The Garden Club of Warren County-1929 • Warrenton Garden Club–1911 • The Williamsburg Garden Club–1929 • Winchester-Clarke Garden Club–1924 • The Little Garden Club of Winchester-1934 • The Lynchburg Garden Club-1922 •



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