

TEXAS

is calling

AND I MUST

go



Visiting Gardens
Committee

April 9 - 14, 2018

Monday, April 9

Arrive Dallas, Texas

Check into the Ritz Carlton, Dallas, a luxury hotel in the heart of uptown.

2121 McKinney Avenue
Dallas, TX 75201

The hotel is located just a 27-minute drive from DFW airport and a 10-minute drive from Dallas Love Field. All rooms are on the Club level, offering complimentary continental-style breakfast, complimentary appetizers and beverages each day.

5:30pm | Leave hotel for cocktails at the home of a Founders Garden Club member's home and garden archived for the Smithsonian in 2004.

The original woody site features areas of vinca and grass sloping down into a slight dale, then rises to the entrance of a porch filled with potted plants. The original rose garden contained tea roses, which later became a white and white garden, and then changed to the present rose garden. Flowering fruit trees, spirea, cherry laurel, Japanese maple, tulip magnolias, and magnolias are integrated into the naturalistic setting.



7pm | Dinner in the four-acre Serendipity garden, a cool retreat in Dallas shaded by a canopy of old native cedar elm trees. The garden features a stone grotto built into an artificial hillside that was designed to add instant age.

Owned since 1982 by a Founders Garden Club member, the garden has a stone circle fire pit overlooking Bachman Creek, a terraced rose and herb garden with gravel paths behind an ornamental iron gate, parterre gardens, a chicken coop, a dog kennel with a courtyard, a children's play yard and playhouse, and a rectangular swimming pool surrounded by another pool for koi.

The evening will include a brief history of "Big D" and a Texas welcome by Founders Garden Club members.

Tuesday, April 10

9pm | Leave hotel for a day at the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Gardens.

This venue was founded upon the dreams of a few visionaries with a passion for preserving both history and nature. Though the gardens themselves are comparatively young, the work that went into creating the current gardens began long ago. In 1974, the Dallas Arboretum & Botanical Society (DABS) adopted bylaws, elected officers, and incorporated as a nonprofit organization. In 1977, the City of Dallas Park Board recommended that the grounds of the DeGolyer Estate be used as the site for the arboretum. From 1978 until 1982, DABS worked with the city to raise funds to purchase the 22-acre Alex Camp House, which is adjacent to the DeGolyer Estate, for a combined 66-acre property. The gardens opened to the public in 1984. Today the Dallas Arboretum has over 18 different garden settings featuring native Texas plants, roses, maple trees, trial gardens, sunken gardens, and the Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden, plus the newest addition: The Tasteful Place.

The garden staff will be giving you a full tour of all the gardens and share their knowledge.



12pm | Lunch in the Degolyer Estate Garden

3pm | Leave for tea in the garden of a Founders Garden Club member, whose Renaissance-style villa and garden exist on one acre behind a green wall of Nellie Stevens holly and Little Gem magnolias. The owners wanted to build a “forever” home and garden for themselves, children and grandchildren. The garden incorporates a series of outdoor rooms in the European manner.



4:30pm | Return to hotel

6pm | Leave for cocktails at the garden of a Founders Garden member

7pm | Stroll down the tree-lined street for dinner in the home and garden of another Founders Garden Club member.

Slightly more than an acre with a creek running through it, this house was designed to take advantage of the privacy of the location. The house and garden ornamentation



were designed by Hal Thomson. This property, like many Italian gardens, relies on water features, detailed stone work, and a sloping site with terraces. The renovation of the classical Italian style-garden includes a new crescent-shaped pool and a rustic low key limestone pathway to link all the architectural elements together. These include an original boathouse, stone bridge, and a terrace with balustrade and fountain. An orangerie was added next to the fountain courtyard in 2013. The present owners' goal was to do only work that enhanced the original designs of the house and garden.

9pm | Depart for hotel

Wednesday, April 11

9am | Leave hotel for AT&T Stadium in Arlington, for a VIP tour of the home of the Dallas Cowboys, including a private tour of Jerry and Gene Jones' art collection. AT&T Stadium is the largest domed structure in the world. The stadium tour includes a private suite, the print media press box, the event level to see the field up close, the post-game interview room and locker rooms. The Jones' art collection is made up of 56 paintings, sculpture and photographs, including several commissioned pieces.

11am | Board the coach for a 30-minute drive to Fort Worth for lunch in the Embassy Room at River Crest Country Club in Fort Worth. The club was established in 1911 and is the oldest country club in Fort Worth, and the first club in Texas to include residential housing on its acreage.

1pm | Travel to the Kimbell Art Museum to be greeted and guided by George T.M Shackelford, deputy director. The Kimbell, established in 1936, consists of 350 works that not only epitomize their periods and movements but also touch individual high points of aesthetic beauty and historical importance, including Michelangelo's *Torment Saint Anthony*, the artist's first known painting, believed to have been executed when he was twelve or thirteen years old. In 2013 the Kimbell opened a new building designed by celebrated architect Renzo Piano. Visible from the lobby of the museum, this new structure becomes the main axis, emphasizing Piano's themes of transparency and openness.



2:30pm | We will be hosted in the garden of one of Fort Worth's most generous philanthropic families.

The original grounds of the Anne H. Bass Estate in Westover Hills were landscaped by Robert Zion, working closely with the architect of the house, Paul Rudolph.

Later Russell Page worked with Mrs. Bass and Mr. Rudolph to create a connection between the house and the new conservatory. Mr. Page's English-style garden includes lawns, an live oak allee, rose garden, herbaceous garden, water lily, sculpture ponds, and woodland areas.

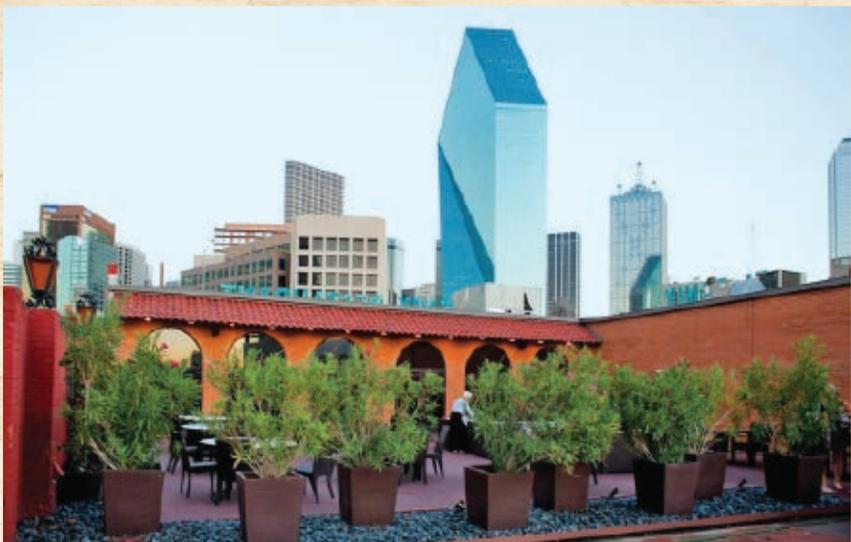


3:30pm | Board bus for the hotel
6pm | Depart hotel for cocktails hosted by an honorary member of the Founders Garden Club in her daughter's home designed by Bill Booziotis, a prominent Dallas architect known for his projects on museums, churches, university buildings, and historic restoration of various Dallas properties. The home overlooks the skyline of downtown and is built on the "dumpton."



7pm | Depart for dinner on the rooftop patio of El Fenix Mexican Restaurant, opened by the Martinez Family in 1918. You will be entertained by the music of a mariachi band while enjoying authentic Tex-Mex cuisine and margaritas.

9:30pm | Return to the hotel



Thursday, April 12

9am | After breakfast on your own your coach departs for the George W. Bush Library and Presidential Center, including a private tour of the sixteen-acre Native Texas Landscape Garden at the Center.

11am | Lunch at Café 43 in the library

12:30pm | Your coach will take you to Downtown Dallas and the Arts District to visit The Sixth Floor Museum.

Located on the sixth and seventh floors of an early 20th-century warehouse formerly known as the Texas State School Book Depository, the museum features films, photographs, and artifacts that chronicle the life, death, and legacy of President John F. Kennedy.

Next we depart for the Dallas Museum of Art, located in the Dallas Arts District and boasting a collection containing over 22,000 works of art from all cultures and time periods spanning 5,000 years of human creativity.

Our next stop is the Nasher Sculpture Garden, opened in 2003 and located in the heart of the Dallas Arts District. The Nasher is home to one of the finest collections of modern sculpture in the world, the Raymond and Patsy Nasher Collection, featuring more than 300 masterpieces by Calder, de Kooning, di Suvero, Giacometti, Hepworth, Kelly, Matisse, Miro, Moore, Picasso, Rodin, Serra and more. The longtime dream of the late Raymond and Patsy Nasher, the museum was designed by world-renowned architect Renzo Piano in collaboration with landscape architect Peter Walker.





4pm | Depart for hotel

6pm | Board the coaches for cocktails and dinner in the garden, home, and library of a Founders Garden Club member. Established in 1917, the property consists of 7.5 acres. The present owners created a new garden while maintaining the classic quality of the original. There are many mature trees such as American elm, magnolia and live oaks. Color is dominant in the garden scheme, with extensive seasonal plantings. The sprawling open back lawn slopes down to the lake. The garden is surrounded by brick walkways and a sculpture garden containing statues of historical figures. In 2004, a library/gallery wing was added, designed to showcase 18th- and 19th-century art collections of portraiture, rare documents, manuscripts, and books. With a collection of more than 10,000 books and more than 5,000 manuscripts, the private library contains one of the most significant collections in the nation outside of the Library of Congress. In 2013, the owner bought an adjacent lot and planted a peach orchard.

You will stroll the gardens and browse the library with the curator and other special guests.

9:30pm | Depart for hotel





Friday, April 13

9am | Have your bags packed and ready to board the coach for your final day in Dallas.

10am | Arrive at The Dallas Woman's Club to attend a Dallas Garden Club lecture by Bruno Duarte. From the mountains to the markets, Bruno grew up surrounded by flowers on his family's farm in Madeira. This island paradise off the coast of Morocco is known as the floating garden and is home to rare species of flowers from around the world. It's here where Bruno's passion for orchids and all things floral began.

Much like his Belgian contemporaries, Bruno's approach to floral design is both sculptural and emotional, blending organic materials and found objects together to create works of art. His floral studio in Toronto, where weekly window displays are created to showcase his artistry, is often mistaken for an art gallery. Bruno's exceptional craftsmanship and innovative design techniques have captured the attention of socialites and A-list celebrities in Canada as well as international glitterati such as Rene Zellweger, Patti LaBelle, and Sir Elton John.

When Bruno's not at his studio, he can be found designing in front of a live audience. He frequently appears on local and national television programs, and gives floral demonstrations at home and garden shows. Design firms in the city call upon him to create large structures for art galleries, restaurants, luxury condos, hotels, and private homes. He is also a regular contributor to magazines in Australia, Canada, and the United States, where his seasonal decor and wedding work are prominently featured.

12pm | Board your coach for a two-hour drive to the country and an evening under the stars at a Founders Garden Club member's ranch. Game Creek Ranch is nestled in Bosque County southwest of Dallas. The ranch comprises over 4,600 acres enclosed by twenty-one miles of eight-foot-high game fence. The ranch is managed as a game preserve for native wildlife and an Angus cattle operation, as well as maintaining breeding herds of several exotic species which are threatened or endangered in their natural habitats, or rare to Texas. The acreage also offers native Texas prairie landscape and wildflower meadows. You will tour the ranch property and enjoy a true Texas barbeque prepared by the ranch staff and served chuck wagon style.



9:30pm | Enjoy your last night in the great State of Texas where the stars are always bright in your ranch cabin.

Saturday, April 14

8:30am | After a ranch-style Texas breakfast, you will board your private coaches for DFW airport.

"Y'all come back now!"



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IMPORTANT TOUR INFORMATION

Rate: \$2475 per person, double occupancy
Single Supplement is an additional \$ 970

Included in the tour price: 4 nights' hotel accommodations; one night accommodations at private ranch; all group transportation; 5 dinners, 5 cocktail events and 4 lunches as specified in the Itinerary, including wine with group dinners; all entrance fees and activities as indicated in the Itinerary; and all gratuities for group meals, guides and bus drivers; transportation back to DFW airport for departure.

Not included in the tour price: Round trip airfare or other transportation costs from DFW to hotel in Dallas; baggage charges; personal items at the hotel (such as parking, beverages, laundry, room service, housekeeping and bellman gratuities, and communication fees); any alcoholic beverages not included with group meals; and trip cancellation/interruption insurance.

Charitable contribution: In addition to the tour fee, it is suggested that each participant make a tax-deductible contribution to The Garden Club of America in the amount of **\$200 per person**. This separate check, made payable to The Garden Club of America ("Dallas Trip Donation" in the memo line), should be **mailed with your final payment** to Anne Keesee, Trip Treasurer. These trip gifts are an important source of revenue for GCA.

Travel plans: We need to know your arrival and departure times as soon as you have your reservations. However, please do not make your travel reservations until you have been confirmed as a tour participant. Once made, send a copy of these arrangements to Marilyn Weber, Tour Coordinator, at yowlin@aol.com

Deposit: a deposit of \$900 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable) must be accompanied by signed Application **and** Terms and Conditions forms for each participant. Please make all checks payable to **The Garden Club of America** and include "Dallas Trip" in the memo line.

Final payment: \$1575 is due on February 1, 2018. A reminder will be sent out January 5, 2018. Single Supplement final payment is an additional **\$970**. (Total final payment for single is \$2545) *After you have paid your final payment, there will be no refunds.* However, **although there is no guarantee**, your full payment, minus the \$500 nonrefundable portion of the deposit, will be refunded if GCA Visiting Gardens can *easily* fill your cancelled space before March 19, 2018.

Trip cancellation/interruption insurance: GCA VG strongly recommends that each participant purchase trip cancellation/interruption insurance coverage. This insurance provides reimbursement of non-refundable, unused, prepaid travel arrangements and additional transportation costs if you are forced to cancel or interrupt your trip due to unforeseen injury, sickness or death to yourself, a traveling companion, immediate family member or business partner. Note that many policies must be purchased within a certain time (10-20 days) of your initial deposit to obtain the pre-existing condition waiver. **November 15, 2017 will be your official acceptance date for the Dallas trip. This date will be used for Trip Insurance.**

VG Committee Photography Policy: In accordance with the GCA policy on the use of personal social media, the Visiting Gardens Committee does not authorize GCA members or their guests to use any VG privileges (i.e., trips or member garden visits) for professional photography or for articles to be professionally published. Any photo taken in private gardens may not be posted on social media and must be in accordance with the GCA social media policy.

Please mail deposits and final payment checks as follows:

- Tour deposits and final payments should be made payable to The Garden Club of America (“Dallas” in the memo line)
- A suggested charitable donation of \$200 per participant, made payable to The Garden Club of America (“Dallas trip donation” in the memo line) and sent with your final payment

PLEASE DO NOT MAIL ANY CHECKS DIRECTLY TO GCA

Depending on available space, tour participants are accepted on a first come, first served basis by the postmark date on the deposit's mailing envelope. Signed Application and Terms and Conditions forms must accompany the deposit. No faxes, email or phone reservations are accepted.

The trip will be limited to no more than 30 GCA members and their spouses or immediate family members who share accommodations with the GCA member.

TOUR CONTACTS:

Betty Snellings, Trip Registrar
PO Box 30611
Sea Island, GA 31561

Anne Keesee, Trip Treasurer
Marilyn Weber, Trip Coordinator

GCA VISITING GARDENS MISSION STATEMENT

*The Visiting Gardens Committee
plans trips in the United States and abroad
to educate members of GCA clubs
in garden history and design, horticulture,
and the environment*



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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please keep a copy for your records.

Each applicant must fill out and sign.

The undersigned clearly understands that The Garden Club of America (GCA) as a sponsor of the tour is in no way responsible, and can assume no liability of any nature whatsoever, for this tour and any acts, omissions or negligence by the GCA, its members, or companies and persons with which the GCA may contract. The undersigned has carefully read the list of activities, requirements and conditions as listed in the accompanying Itinerary, the Important Tour Information, and the registration materials for the tour and is aware that the trip and its activities could involve the risk of personal injury and damage or loss of property. In consideration of the benefits to be derived from participation on the tour, the undersigned voluntarily accepts all risk of personal injury and property damage or loss arising from participation on the tour and hereby agrees that he/she and his/her dependents, heirs, executors and assignees do hereby release and hold harmless the GCA from any and all claims, including claims of illness, bodily injury, death or property damage or loss, however caused, arising from or related to the tour. The undersigned has read carefully this agreement and will abide by the conditions set by GCA Visiting Gardens as described in the accompanying Important Tour Information and registration materials and in the Terms and Conditions of this and other sections as stated herein or elsewhere published.

The GCA, its members, and its cooperating agents make every effort to select reliable suppliers and contractors to provide transportation, hotel, guide and other travel-related services, but the GCA does not assume responsibility, directly or indirectly, for any loss, damage, accident, expense, delay or injury to property or person in connection with such services. The undersigned agrees not to hold the GCA, its members, employees, agents or representatives liable for any loss or injury, expense, or damage which results directly or indirectly from any act or omission of any person or firm which is to or does not provide goods or services in connection with the tour or any available option. The GCA and its cooperating agents shall not be liable for circumstances, delays and/or expenses arising as a result of: Acts of God; weather; detention; annoyance; quarantine; strikes; theft; pilferage; war; force majeure; military, political or terrorist actions; civil disturbances; government restrictions or regulations; failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled; and/or discrepancies or changes in transit over which they have no control. The undersigned agrees not to sue the GCA, its members, or its participating agents. On payment of the deposit, the undersigned agrees to be bound by the provisions contained in the Important Tour Information and the Terms and Conditions as herein stated. The GCA reserves the right to decline or accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time before departure or during the tour. The undersigned certifies that he/she has not been treated for nor is aware of, any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/her or other members of the tour. The undersigned has read and agrees to the Important Tour Information and these Terms and Conditions for the program, especially noting the policy on cancellation, and has not received or relied on any oral or written representation of the GCA as a basis for executing this release. The Agreement shall be construed in accordance with, and this Agreement and all matters arising out of or relating in any way whatsoever to this Agreement (whether in contract, tort or otherwise) shall be governed by, the laws of the State of New York.

Name (please print)

Date

Legal signature

Date

APPLICATION FORM

Please complete and sign one application form for each traveler

Name _____

Name for nametag _____

Street _____

City _____ State & Zip code _____

Birthdate _____

Email _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____

GCA Club _____ Zone _____

I will share accommodations with _____

Medical Information

Allergies _____

Food restrictions _____

Medications _____

Emergency contact (name, relationship, address, and home and cell phones)

I attest that I am in good physical condition and should have no problem with walking long distances on uneven surfaces, including cobblestones, and the other physical requirements of this trip. I am able to walk 10,000 steps per day.

Signature _____ Date _____

Sign and mail this Application Form, the Terms and Conditions Form, and your deposit (check written to "The Garden Club of America") to:

Betty Snellings, Visiting Gardens Chairman and Trip Registrar
PO Box 30611
Sea Island, GA 31561

Please make copies of these completed forms for your personal records.



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