

WISSAHICKON GARDEN CLUB, 90TH ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 10am

**All additional information can be found on our October Meeting Page on our Website*

<https://wissahickongardenclub.weebly.com> // password:1932

Location and Host House:

Anna Woodward

Krisheim

700 W. Mermaid Lane, Philadelphia

Attendance:

Adams, Andrews, Barrick, Cheney, Culley, Davey, Detweiler, Burdick, Drinker, Ellis, Emlen, Evans, Farley, Fiss, Flint, Frank, Good, Greenhalgh, Greenwood, Helmick, Hitchings, Holmes, Kelly, Lapham, McHugh, O'Connor, Romig, Salmon, Savage, Stewart, Taylor, Van Stone, Walker, Woodward, Funke

Sustaining: Affleck, Boothby, Clayton, McCausland, Purple

Associate: Arthur, Brown, De Beer, Kollock, Webster, Wilson

Honorary: Hunter, Stewart

Provisionals: Bast, Wilson, Fuld, Hager, Morley, Norton, Xie

Excused: Biddle, Concannon, Erdman, McCausland, Nagle, Newbold, Salva, Spaeth

Attendance: 55

President's Welcome

Anna Woodward

Business Meeting & Announcements:

Approval of the April 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Anna Woodward

Motion: Carolyn Adams

Secunder: Sarah Andrews

Dues for 2022-23

Barrett Stewart

A reminder that the Fertilizer Fund is separate from our dues and PCGCA will email you in the fall with an ask.

Program

Lauren Taylor

Hostess sign ups

Information Changes - If you have any changes to your personal information, please contact Lauren Taylor via email with your change. Please also remember to update your GCA profile on the GCA website.

Several Workdays happened this Spring:

Anna Woodward

4/28/22 Magnolia Tribute Garden (5)

4/29/22 Pastorius Park (5)
5/12/22 CH Garden District (4)
5/13/22 Tannerie Run (5)

Thank you- Carolyn Adams, Diane Drinker, Maryalice Cheney, Rita Salva Judy Xie, Sarah Van Stone, Gail Detweiler, Cheryl Sargent, Linda Funke, Debby Evans... Each Workday was 5 (with 4 to CHGD), which proved to be an efficient working number.

WGC Civic Projects & Fundraisers Update

Carolyn Adams

GCA ANNUAL MEETING

Anna Woodward

The first in person GCA Annual Meeting took place the last weekend in April in Parsippany, NJ, Hosted by Zone IV. There was a business meeting on Friday with a fun Botanical Arts presentation, in recognition of Botanical Arts as its own discipline, no longer residing under the Floral design umbrella. There was a lovely Zone V dinner at Canoebrook Country Club, a meet the GCVA Medal awardees morning then off to see some gorgeous gardens in Northern New Jersey. The awards ceremony and dinner was the grand finale. It was so nice to finally be in person, after only virtual meetings in 2020 and 2021.

Judging Program News

Anna Woodward

Jennifer Fiss and Lisa Walker have both been accepted into the GCA Judging Program for Botanical Arts. Congratulations, Lisa and Jen. The Judging program is lucky to have you two as Candidates.

Admissions

Jenny McHugh

The Admissions Committee has voted to move Ann Kelly from Active to Associate.

Nominating

Carolyn Adams

Carolyn asks for the membership to vote and approve the new slate of WGC officers for 2022-24 term:

President- Allison Romig

Corresponding Secretary -Sarah Van Stone

Wabi-Sabi

Leslie Purple

June 20, 2022

It is with such happiness that I give a report on a very successful GCA Flower Show. We exceeded all the goals we set in terms of attendance, quality of entries, and volunteer participation.

The Silent Auction, successfully fun by Rebecca Morley and Sarah Van Stone far exceeded their financial goals. The Cocktail party, run by Lisa Walker and Jen Fiss was a huge success. Because of these two events and the generous donation of the Judges Dinner by Anna Woodward and other donations (see below) we were able to donate over \$13,000 to PCGCA, The Philadelphia Committee.

Divisions were ably run by the following to whom I give great thanks:

Co-Chairman

Leslie Purple

Club President

Wissahickon Garden Club Anna Woodward

Division Chairmen

Division I Division II Division III Division IV

Awards

Class Consultants

Floral Design

Floral Design Horticulture Photography Botanical Arts

Alice Farley

Mary Jane Greenwood Debby Evans

Maryl Hitchings

Laura Savage Allison Romig

Committee

Horticulture Photography Botanical Arts

Judges and Clerks Hospitality

Judges Luncheon/Dinner

Joan Biddle, Linda Funke Emilie Lapham

Maryl Hitchings

Leslie

Barrett Stewart

Sarah Van Stone Jen Fiss

Lisa Walker

Kim Drake Kelly Culley Alice Flint

Allison Romig

Debby Evans

Mary Jane Greenwood Maryl Hitchings

Ginnie & Leslie

Kelly Asplundh Rae Bettinger Bonnie Schorsch Lisa Walker Debby Evans Joan Biddle Kelly Asplundh
Nancy Deibert

Emilie Lapham

Gerri Sammack

Alice Farley

Mary Jane Greenwood Natalie Thomas

Emilie Lapham Kelly Culley

Cheryl Sargent

Cocktail Party and Silent Auction

Passing Printing Publicity

Registration

Floral Design Horticulture Photography Botanical Arts

Schedule

Floral Design Horticulture

Botanical Arts Photography

Show Photographer Signage/Graphics

Staging and Teardown

,

Treasurer/Tickets Volunteers

Judges were unanimous in their compliments:

May 14, 2022

Dear Leslie and Ginny,

Diane Drinker

Sarah Frank Sarah Andrews

Congratulations to you both and all your respective club members. Accolades and congratulations from across all divisions and judges on an amazing show. Your Wabi-Sabi show was an enormous success and I understand that your cocktail party benefit was spectacular and additionally you exceeded your financial goal to benefit the PCGCA. What a way to end your amazing day!

Our new evaluation process allows for both on-site comments and online personal (and anonymous) comments from the judges. This allows me to give you a more comprehensive evaluation to share with your committee members. I've provided some of those remarks below:

General Comments

So happy to be together and re-engage in GCA's mission to educate and share our love of all things – garden and conservation!

What was exceptional across all divisions

Pre-show communication was outstanding – early, concise, excellent, and frequent

A beautiful show in every respect! Bravo!

The availability of the show committee to answer questions during judging was terrific. Leslie and Ginnie were very helpful, and all questions were promptly addressed. Hospitality, quality of exhibitors and the venue were outstanding.

It was a beautiful show done perfectly and show quality across all divisions excellent

There were clear and beautiful graphics

Educational elements were outstanding

The schedule was creative, well organized, unique, creative, well written and to the point.

The show created a lot of hype in the hinterlands, as in "have you entered Wabi Sabi?" and "are you judging Wabi Sabi?"

It was a special treat to visit Anna Woodward's Garden and home. The judges' dinner was exceptional

The clerks were well charged, helpful and efficient – they were outstanding

There were numerous suggestions from both Hort and Photography to charge judges and clerks at the same time (although that is not the standard practice).

Floral Design

“Passing for the Wabi Sabi show went very smoothly. Staging was good except for one corner which was a little tight for the exhibitors. Class chairs were available, and we were provided all that we needed, tape measures, red pencils, etc. All the exhibitors were ready to be passed on time. All in all, a very well-run show and it was fun to be a part of it.”

Show committee was helpful and good at pushing things along during judging – judges appreciated a reminder of timing.

Excellent graphics

There was some inconsistency in quality and level of execution of entries

Lighting was ok

*Spacing was a bit tight and a bit awkward because one class was separated into two locations
Only three classes to judge – need more entrants.*

Horticulture

“Horticulture had beautiful space and beautiful entries – very few problems

The staging for Hort was exceptional. I think the actual people who put the cut specimens on the table did that task with an eye to beauty.”

“It was such a pretty show and lovely to have enough room for everything.”

Staging was outstanding -the “risers” in the hort exhibits were appreciated “Kokedama—loved it!!”

“Par was all beautifully groomed and presented – impressive! In Par, allow a collection to be split up. The two that were there would have each have won three blues instead of one. Be more inclusive in the Par Class – let the exhibitors' imagination run unfettered.”

One group of judges felt the Wabi-Sabi theme did not align well with horticulture where specimens are meant to be perfect – the other group thought it was fun and challenging.

Other suggestions included:

Have a knowledgeable visiting horticulture judge to split the cuts further as part of a passing team. Side note: we often have the passers take some time to “read” the room. They subdivide and make corrections in staging as needed.

Classes could have been more specific and class numbers could have been clearer.

There could be more specific classes so the need to sub-divide could be lessened

There should have been separate awards for cut classes.

Use of celery for wedging was distracting and it is now prohibited in the FS&JG

Some specimens would have benefited if elevated

Either have more classes for fewer judges – judging was finished very quickly

There were numerous comments that clerks and judges should be charged together. Clerks and judges were given different information about the number of 2nds, 3rds and HMs per class – this necessitated some re-judging.

Photography

Quality of entries was outstanding

The level of Novice entries was commended

“I loved the way Leslie Purple, Show Co-chair, showed up at key points on the schedule, and told us what we were going to do, how we were going to do it, and how much time we had to do it. She was a TRUE Leader of the troops. Bravo! I think it helped to produce an excellent show.”

Suggestions:

The Schedule needed a better definition of Wabi-Sabi

Although addressed up front, the lighting was not optimal and the spacing of panels was tight. There was a concern and question about how the classes were subdivided – felt there was an imbalance and unfairness in some of the subdivided classes

Concern expressed about the variance in sizes – some very small images were being judged against some very large ones – felt that the large ones had an unfair advantage. 8x10 vs. 12x18 – suggest narrowing the size perimeter range

Architecture class was confusing relative to the schedule – perhaps have more creative classes instead.

Needed more time for judging or perhaps more panels

There needed to be clearer understanding of how many photographs would be accepted in show when original schedule went out.

Not enough room on the entry cards for the comments.

Botanical Arts

The entries were outstanding

Class 3: My Zen World – A box, was commended by the judges – they felt every entry was worth a blue. The quality of the BA entries in Class 3 was unsurpassed.

The staging of BA classes 1 and 2 was wonderful.

Entries were all at eye level which was great.

Suggestions:

Positioning the class in front of a window caused glare. The glare distorted the colors of the entries of the best class in the BA and possibly the entire show. (putting Education exhibit in front of the window instead may have been better).

There was a question whether rice was permitted since it has been processed. One statement of intent was over 25 words.

Some misspelling of botanical names on the cards

“It was difficult to judge 3 classes of BA and then also just both BA and FD awards in the time allotted. Perhaps in the future, another panel judging one class of FD and one class of BA could be included. We were told several times by the committee that we were running out of time, but we wanted to give each entry the time needed to judge it fairly as so much work goes into the each BA entry.”

Education

The Bonsai Education Exhibit was gorgeous and perfect!

Was there anything that Wabi-Sabi did that you had never seen before in a show?

It was unique to see two clubs work together on a GCA show

“A formal snack and drink set up on show floor during judging- most welcoming and thoughtful- Alice Farley even came around and offered snacks and drinks to our Panel.”

What else would you like to communicate?

“This is the finest GCA show I’ve seen with the possible exception of Indianapolis in 2016 – it had the feel of a Major Show”

“We need a safe place for purses”

*“The accommodations were a little far from the airport for those few of us flying in from out of the area. In pre-show communications, we were told that we would be receiving info about other judges' arrivals and departures to help us coordinate transportation. Unfortunately, that did not happen. However, this would never prevent me from saying yes to another invitation - **I was impressed with the amazing quality of the overall show.**”*

In closing, I would like to add that I was blown away at how fabulous your show was. You knocked it out of the ballpark, and you should be very proud of what you accomplished. Fantastic job ladies. I hope you and your members will take the complimentary comments with unabashed, glowing pride and the constructive comments as just that - how to gild the lily.

With much admiration,

Debbie Laverell

GCA Flower Zone V Representative

Two photo books were created, along with a copy of the schedule, for the archives.

When WGC sets out to do something by joining forces, we are a force to be reckoned with!

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Purple

Wabi Sabi Co-Chairman

Thank you to all the Officers and Committee Chairs for serving this past year.

Laura Savage, Molly Ellis, Jenny McHugh, Joan Biddle, Sarah Van Stone, Barrett Stewart, Jennifer Fiss, Kelly Culley, Maryalice Cheney, Debby Evans, Maryl Hitchings, Kim Burdick, Mary Jane Greenwood, Gail Detweiller, Carolyn Adams, Alice Farley, Lauren Taylor, Elizabeth Greenhalgh, Sarah Salmon, Diane Drinker, Leslie Newbold and Alice Flint.

It was a wonderful WGC year , thanks to you !

The following Officers & Chairs will be stepping down.

Molly Ellis- Corresponding Secretary

Carolyn Adams- Nominating

Joan Biddle- Awards

Sarah Van Stone- Bulletin, PR & Communications
Mindy O'Connor & Alyssa Barrick - Civic & Conservation
Debby Evans - Garden , History & Design
Elizabeth Greenhalgh & Sarah Salmon - Provisionals & Workshops
Alice Farley- Photography

Please take one of these each at the end of the Annual Meeting, as a big thank you!

The Committee Chairs for the upcoming year 2022-2023 are:

Admissions - Jenny McHugh
Awards- Jane Good
Bulletin, PR & Communications - Mindy O'Connor
Civic & Conservation- Carolyn Adams & Kristen Norton
Finance- Barrett Stewart
Flower Show & Floral Design - Kelly Culley & Jen Fiss
Fertilizer Fund- Maryalice Cheney
Garden History & Design - Emilie Lapham
Garden Visitors - Maryl Hitchings
Historian and Log - Deb Erdman
Judging- Maryjane Greenwood
Long Range Planning- Gail Detweiler
Nominating-
Photography- Barbara Ann Davey
Program- Lauren Taylor
Provisionals & Workshops - Rita Salva & Diane Drinker
Scholarship- Leslie Newbold
Web Wizard- Alice Flint

Thank you for saying yes !

The Business Meeting is now adjourned.

2022 WGC 90th ANNUAL MEETING

Mrs. Merritt's Prayer

Judy Xie

Guide us we beseech Thee, Oh Lord, in all our activities.
Give us diligence and skill in planting and maintaining our gardens.
Help us to make more beautiful the places in which we work and live;
And grant us continuing joy in working together amid growing things.

Amen.

Approval of the June 1, 2021

Anna Woodward

Motion- Mary Jane Greenwood Second- Ann Kelly

A moment of silence for WGC member , Susie Stanley, who passed away in April.

Committee Reports

Admissions

Jenny McHugh

On behalf of the Admissions Committee, it is my pleasure to share the following Annual Report for the 2021-2022 year.

- This was a wonderful first year with our new provisionals: Linnea Bast Ashley Douglas Sarah Fuld Katherine Hager Rebecca Morley Jenny Spaeth Judy Xie

And Sue-Ellen De Beer as an Associate

- In April Kristin Norton was approved to Active from Provisional
- And, we just reported that Ann Kelly has moved from Active to Associate
- We regretfully accepted two resignations:

Jan Kollock wrote that “she had not been active for some time and that she missed the opportunity to help out with projects and all that she learned by doing so. She also misses the friendships that were so important to her happiness. She appreciates being a member of this illustrious club and wishes us all the best.”

Nina Talbot said it was a “pleasure” to be a member of Wissahickon and also, “a real honor to be associated with the brightest, most artistic, creative and knowledgeable women I’ve ever known.”

- In looking forward, we have a strong list of potential candidates for Provisional members and we are confident that the future of our club is bright.

- We thank Anna for your guidance and support of all our members- new and old.

Bulletin, PR & Communications

Sarah Van Stone

Wissahickon Garden Club has had a very busy year (2021-22) in communication and PR.

We started the year off with a hospitality story on the front page in October's Bulletin eNews

At our first meeting of the year, The Wissahickon Garden Club, served individual salads in mason jars at a member's terraced garden and WGC Horticulture show. Not only do the mason jars provide safety, they can be recycled and leave less of a waste footprint than paper or plastic.

On October 19, 2021 The Zone V 2021 Historic Preservation Commendation Award was presented to the CH Conservancy, at the Zone V Meeting.

The Wissahickon Garden Club proposed the award, along with the Weeders as the seconding club and the Planters as a supporting club.

Pictures below from left to right are;

Lori Salganicoff, Director of the CHC, Eileen Javers, President of the CHC Board and Anna Woodward, President of the Wissahickon Garden Club.

In October 2021, some WGC members gathered to present Peter Zale, of Longwood Gardens and Lisa Queeno, the Upper School Science teacher, each with a \$1,000 grant to help in their efforts to re-introduce the Pink Lady Slipper Orchid to the Wissahickon. SCH students planted 15 orchid babies that had been grown from seed at Longwood Gardens. A special thank you to Sarah Andrews, who spearheaded this project, which began 2 years ago.

Finally, WGC had two very successful Olmsted 200 workdays at Pastorius Park on 10/27 and 10/28

On February 9, 2022, The Wissahickon Garden Club was in an article, on the Longwood Gardens website called "Planting the seed"

The partnership between Longwood, the Wissahickon Garden Club, and Springside Chestnut Hill Academy that started over 2 years ago, was prompted by the 2019 discovery of three flowering plants in the park— thought to have disappeared from the Wissahickon Valley. The project to re-introduce the pink lady slipper orchid to the Wissahickon was born.

This past April (April 13th) The GCA posted, on Instagram, about our Restoration Fund Project in Upper Dublin.

In the Spring Bulletin 2022, Linda Funke's article "The GCA Grant helps restore Tannerie Run Park Devastation" was published in the Dashboard.

In September 2021, Hurricane Ida spawned tornadoes that touched down in Upper Dublin Township, Pennsylvania. Tannerie Run Park West, an 8 1/2 acre parcel of township-owned informal wooded open land, was one of several areas that were severely hit. Thanks to a \$10,000 GCA Restoration Initiative grant, Wissahickon Garden Club has been able to fund a good portion of the initial phases of work to restore the devastation that occurred.

We also had a Newsworthy article published in the Spring Bulletin. Members of the Wissahickon Garden Club and The Garden Club of Philadelphia gathered over two days in late October to beautify Pastorius Park, located in the Chestnut Hill neighborhood of Philadelphia.

We finished the year with our very successful joint Flower show –Wabi Sabi and it's my hope to submit a newsworthy article for the Fall Bulletin.

Respectfully yours,
Sarah Van Stone

Civic & Conservation

Mindy O'Connor & Alyssa Barrick

The Civic and Conservation committee had another somewhat quiet year with the continuing pandemic restrictions, but we can report on the main activities all of which were meaningful.

First, with the help of our C&C Committee members, we continued the WGC's tradition of creating and donating Holiday trees for Hospice & Chestnut Hill Meals on Wheels as the December meeting. For the second year in a row we moved away from the use of oasis based boxwood branches shaped as trees decorated with plastic ornaments, to far more sustainable (and plantable) live dwarf spruce trees wrapped with burlap and decorated with large wired reusable bows. Sixty-three trees were assembled at a fun in person meeting back at St. Martin's Church, and driven to Meals on Wheels and CH Hospice where they were truly enjoyed.

Next, the committee was represented at N.A.L.'s Virtual Conference 3/1/22-3/22 by Jenny Spaeth as the WGC Delegate. Jenny learned about the importance of reaching out to our congressman Dwight Evans / District 3 to advocate for the 6 platforms GCA supports. She learned and reported about the GCA efforts to address pressing environmental issues and the solutions offered by innovation, harnessing the power of natural systems, carbon sequestration in our soil, forests and oceans, the "greening" of our transportation, energy and infrastructure, and public policy.

Lastly, the ongoing orchid project continues. It is a reintroduction and augmentation of the pink lady slipper (*CYPRIPEDIUM ACAULE AITON*) in the Wissahickon Valley. Launched in 2019 and spearheaded for WGC by Sarah Andrews, this is a joint project of the Friends of the Wissahickon, Wissahickon Garden Club, and Longwood Gardens. Peter Zale hand pollinated the flowers of the remaining three PLS plants and collected the immature seeds (embryos). Embryos were germinated in the tissue culture laboratory at Longwood Gardens.

On Oct 13th, Wissahickon Garden Club gave \$1000 grants to both Lisa Queeno of SCH's upper school science department and Peter Zale of Longwood Gardens for their work on this project. Peter Zale gave a lecture to SCH students regarding the lady slippers and instructions on how to plant them. After the lecture, the students planted the 15 orchid seedlings and complementary plants, Mountain Laurel within a fenced area at SCH. It was an unforgettable experience, not only because this project may lead to findings that could inform future orchid restoration plantings at Longwood, throughout Pennsylvania, and beyond ... but also one that all involved hope will help inspire a new generation of conservationists.

As part of their environmental science elective, participating students at SCH will record data on the orchids' survival and development and share their data with Longwood. Students will monitor the seedlings they planted using GPS coordinates and will track the date of first emergence; the number of shoots, leaves, flowers, and leaf area using imaging on a monthly basis; and the date the plant enters dormancy. Future plantings will help explore the question of what age and season is optimal to successfully reintroduce the pink lady's slipper.

Finance

Barrett Stewart

WGC Treasurer's Annual Report
Fiscal Year 7/1/21—6/30/22

WGC Treasurer's Report for Annual Meeting – June 2022

Note: Account balances to be adjusted on 6/30/22 (end of fiscal year)

6/5/22	Truist Operating Account	\$27,029.36	
6/5/22	Truist Project Account	\$17,431.54	
6/5/22	Vanguard Federal MM Account	\$25,401.90	
6/5/22	Restricted Vanguard Treasury Account	<u>\$ 8,442.32</u>	
Total WGC Funds:			\$78,305.12*

*2020-21 Annual Meeting balance was \$76,231.71, including a Project Account balance of \$25,931.54.

The President and the Executive Committee plan the budget based on previous years' spending and the current year's commitments. This year, some budgets were reduced and/or estimated due to Covid restrictions and the uncertainty of future reopening.

Operating Account:

- **Income:** The Club received over \$2,000 more in income than was budgeted. This included generous donations from the Kilduff family, in memory of Jane Kilduff, from Wendy Concannon, for provisional workshops, in memory of Judy Romig and from Freda Walton, in memory of Cornie Walton. Members also contributed more money to the Civic Fund than was forecast.
- **Expenses:** The Club's expenses were reduced due to unknown Covid restrictions and we stayed below budget with these projections. Many club meetings were also virtual, saving in program costs. The one expense over budget was the accountant fees (\$1,850 over budget) as we remain in a higher more complicated tax filing status for two additional years due to the monies raised from Garden Views in 2020.

Overall, the Club ended the year under budget, predicting more than \$5,000 under budget after additional expenses not yet received and contributions not yet made.

Project Account: The Project account started the year at \$25,931.54 and it funded the SCH stipend, Longwood Gardens stipend and \$5,000 award to Friends of Pastorius Park. We also used \$2,500 as seed money for the Wabi Sabi flower show (which we will be reimbursed for).

Vanguard: No changes to either account other than interest earned.

Dues notices for 2022–2023 have been mailed and are also posted on the WGC website. Please remit by September 1st. Note, “dues” checks are for fiscal year 2022-2023, so please date them for July 1, 2022 or later.

Flower Show & Floral Design

Kelly Culley & Jennifer Fiss

This year we all had an exciting journey down the rabbit hole and through the looking glass where things were, "large as life and twice as natural" as we rallied around our club's fall show. Members skillfully created headpieces the mad hatter surely would want at his party, expertly combining dried and fresh plant materials to create true masterpieces viewed from all sides.

We would like to highlight and specifically commend our Provisionals for their participation with their fantastic slices of cake, the botanical arts class. Following a detailed, extremely helpful, Provisional Workshop at the home of Jennifer Fiss, organized by she and Lisa Walker, the Provisionals delighted us all with their unique interpretations of the Alice in Wonderland theme.

We very much look forward to sharing our upcoming club shows, one in the spring and one in the fall, as we know the challenges we put forth will inspire brilliant creativity only the Wissahickon Garden Club members conjure!

Fertilizer Fund

Maryalice Cheney

It has been a privilege to serve as the WGC Fertilizer Fund representative this year, and to learn about the impactful PCGCA organization, and the city horticulture projects it supports.

WGC member Diane Drinker has been a vital part of PCGCA for many years and currently oversees half of the annual project grants.

Each year, the Fertilizer Fund of the Philadelphia Committee of the Garden Club of America (PCGCA) considers grant applications submitted for support of horticulturally based projects and educational programs within the City of Philadelphia. Grants are considered for merit and need, and are approved to the fullest extent possible, dependent upon the success of the Fertilizer Fund campaign for that year. Ten Zone V GCA Garden Clubs (including WGC) are members of PCGCA. Please refer to the WGC website under “Organization and Links” for more information regarding PCGCA and the Fertilizer Fund.

Wissahickon Garden Club supported the Fertilizer Fund this year with a total giving amount of \$4,775. Our total giving places us 6th compared to the 10 other clubs. The combined total donated by all the member clubs was \$50,000.

Chart 1: Total Giving

We are the largest of all the participating clubs with 96 members, (the smallest club having 37 members).

Chart 2: Total Membership

The percentage of WGC members who have donated this year is 67%. Among the 96 members of WGC, 64 donated, which places us in last place for participation.

Chart 3: Participation Rate

Our individual average donation amount of \$76 places us 9th of 10 clubs.

Chart 4: Average Gift Amount

I have also included a comparison table below for the previous 2 years, which PCGCA has provided for us for our review.

Chart 5: Fertilizer Fund 2022 AS OF 1/31/22 Wissahickon Garden Club

	2019	2020	YTD
Dollars	\$3,962.50	\$4,116.50	\$4,775.00
Donors	78	78	64
Members	92	91	96
Participation	85%	86%	67%
Average Gift			\$76
Mode (most frequent)			\$50

Let's make next year's Fertilizer Fund as successful as we are able.

Garden History and Design

Debby Evans

The focus for Garden History and Design continued to center on the designs and parks of Frederick Law Olmsted and his contributions to the American garden and public landscape. To honor this, our club workdays continued at Pastorius Park in conjunction with members of the Garden Club of

Philadelphia. An amazing group of women of all ages, joined by a group of interested and involved men, volunteered to cut, clear, and haul out plant material from the designated area on Millman Street that is adjacent to the outdoor theater area. This was followed by a planting day where native trees and shrubs appropriate to conditions on the site were planted to enhance the already established native plantings. The results are impressive, and the near neighbors are thrilled with the look of the park.

The photographic work moves on with two gardens that have been started in the previous year. These are Stonehurst, the remnants of a once large estate garden designed by the Olmstedes, belonging to Roberta Berg, and the Owens' Garden on Gravers Lane in Chestnut Hill. Seasonal photographs will be taken throughout the year to document the various seasonal highlights of each garden.

These are long term projects, the results of which will be housed in the Smithsonian for future generations to reference. As always, there are a number of other gardens on the list for their potential to document and the committee will continue to work through the list over the coming years.

I have developed a real respect not only for the gardeners who have had the foresight to plan and plant gardens of such merit and for those who recognize the importance of them as a part of our national history. Thank you for allowing me to serve on this committee.

Garden Visitors

Maryl Hitchings

We only had a request to visit one Garden, that of Joan Holmes (early Oct.). Four of us went to assess and advise.

We all had a lovely time conferring with her pollinator plant list what would be most appropriate for her sun and spaces.

Also, there were a few suggestions of some plants that could be better placed. Joan has had a successful season and moved the plants as suggested.

Historian and Log

Deb Erdman

Mask or no mask? In person or remote? These seemed to be the questions we continued to ask during the 2021-2022 year. WGC was fortunate to begin the year in person on a beautiful sunny day at the home of Sarah Van Stone. Howie Goodwin, MD presented the club with a fascinating discussion on medical cannabis. The club members had many questions to ask Howie regarding the hot topic of medical uses for cannabis. Following the speaker presentation the winners of the club horticultural show were announced.

At the Venetian Club in October, WGC members learned different ways to use interior lighting, how to use diffusers and speedlights by photography guest speaker Nancy Evans. During the meeting it was announced that Pete Zale of Longwood Gardens and SCH Upper School science teacher Lisa Queeno each received \$1,000 grants from WGC for their efforts in reintroducing pink lady slippers to the Wissahickon. SCH students along with WGC members

planted 15 of these delicate beauties in mid October. The WGC members dedicated two days in late October to needed clean up and planting projects in Pastorious Park.

Club member Leslie Newbold treated us to a wonderful presentation about the principles of patterns, colors, textiles and shapes in designs of nature in November. Through the Looking Glass club flower show followed the meeting at the Springfield Township Library.

WGC was fortunate to continue its run of in person meetings as members gathered once again at St Martins Church for the annual decorating of dwarf holiday trees to be donated to Meals on Wheels and Hospice. While members were busy trimming and decorating trees, Club President Anna Woodward announced the exciting news that Allison Romig would become our new President for the next two years. Congratulations to Allison! 127 people turned out for the Christopher Spitzmiller Holidays at Clove Brook Farm book signing and luncheon at Philadelphia Cricket Club in December.

January 2022 marked a return to remote meetings with a presentation by John Randolph founder of the Schuylkill River Development Council. His presentation showed us how a forgotten industrial area was turned into an award winning park for residents and visitors of Philadelphia to enjoy.

Club member Rita Silva shared her 30 years of knowledge for caring and growing orchids at our February remote meeting. The club's photography show also had to be viewed remotely.

Gearing up for the joint Wissahickon Garden Club and Huntingdon Valley Garden Club GCA Flower Show Wabi Sabi: Discovering the Beauty in Imperfection guest speaker Cres Motzi spoke on concepts and techniques of Ikebana in April.

During the busy months of April and May club members contributed their time and talent to cleanup days at the Magnolia Tribute Garden, Pastorious Park, Chestnut Hill Garden District, and Tannerie Run.

Wabi Sabi: Discovering the Beauty in Imperfection was held at the Huntingdon Valley Country Club in early May. The GCA flower show was enjoyed by over 150 members and guests at the preview party and the public the following day.

Thank you to Anna Woodward for a wonderful two years as President of Wissahickon Garden. Whether our meetings were in person or remote, all the members of Wissahickon Garden Club are indebted to your constant encouragement and positivity during a challenging two years. Happy Anniversary to Wissahickon Garden Club.

Horticulture

Kim Burdick

We had a wonderful Club show on September 14, 2021 with over 150 entries. We also had a fun seed share in the fall where lots of members contributed. Joan Biddle hosted a kokedama workshop that taught us how to make these gorgeous moss balls. It was a great success.

Growers then entered their kokedamas in the Wabi-Sabi Show. In the spring, we geared up for Wabi-Sabi GCA Horticulture and Flower show and the entries were spectacular. We purchased a challenge plant for next year's show, *Cassula ovata* 'Sunshine' and hope to encourage new growers with this easy to grow Jade plant.

Nominating

Carolyn Adams

Nominating Committee

I am grateful to the wisdom and guidance of my fellow members of the Nominating Committee: Joan Biddle, Alice Farley, Anna Woodward, Mary Jane Greenwood, and Diane Drinker. I am honored on behalf of the Committee to present our slate of new officers for the years of 2022 – 2024:

President – Allison Romig

Corresponding Secretary – Sarah Van Stone.

Please congratulate our new officers, Allison and Sarah.

Photography

Alice Farley

We had a marvelous virtual photography show in early February with 20 members exhibiting, and 39 entries. Two panels of judges deliberated virtually. One can enjoy the entries and the results in a Powerpoint on the Wissahickon website. Photography has grown to be a very popular discipline within our club and I look forward to seeing it and our photographers continue to develop.

This summer, while I hope you will be 'in the moment', I hope, too, of course, that you'll have your camera nearby to record the wonderful things that catch your eyes.

Program

Lauren Taylor

Provisionals & Workshops

Elizabeth Greenhalgh & Sarah Salmon

Our objective with the Provisionals was to educate and engage. We began with Wissahickon website principles and GCA guidelines. With the amazing help of our generous members we introduced Botanical Arts, Horticultural, Floral Design and Civic duty. A special thank you to Jenn, Lisa, Kelly, Rita, Joan and Anna!

Here is what the Provisionals did in the year 2022:

In the Fall, our mighty group of 7 Provisionals were introduced to Botanical Arts by our talented blue ribbon winners Jennifer Fiss and Lisa Walker. In Jenn's newly refurbished home studio, provisionals learned the basics and core principles of Botanical Arts and how to enter a Flower Show. Jenn and Lisa shared tricks of the trade plus a starter kit filled with all sorts of seeds and pods. Eagerly the Provisionals entered "A Slice of Cake", from our Alice In Wonderland themed show in November. Painted and adorned, with whimsy and skill, their first Botanical Arts entry was a success!

In late October the Provisionals put on their work gloves and participated in our clean up day at Pastorius Park. Large branches were cut and hauled away, beautifying the park so close to

many of our members and community. A lunch followed at Sarah's home where we enjoyed chicken salad, squash soup and a beautiful Autumn day!

This Spring, our Provisionals were enriched by two workshops. The first was held at Rita Salva's bright and beautiful greenhouse. Here amongst Rita's exotic orchids, gracious member Joan Biddle instructed the Provisionals on how to plant and care for a terrarium. Years ago, Joan was inspired by beloved club member and houseplant extraordinaire Sylvia Lynn to try terrariums due to their minimal upkeep and maximum joy! With the perfect potting mix and sweetest little oakleaf fern, Joan helped the Provisionals make their own 6" terrarium. A tour of Rita's spectacular greenhouse with her photo worthy orchids concluded the workshop.

Our final workshop for the year was hosted by Anna Woodward and in her fabulous floral design room, right here at lovely Kreisheim. Anna shared her floral design talents and tips for simple, modern and chic arrangements. While enjoying wine and cheese, less was definitely more with this floral design demonstration. Colorful wire cradled bold and beautiful blooms yielding the perfect "how to " dazzle your friends at your next dinner party or decorate table tops at your school fundraiser! Our workshop concluded with a stroll around the gardens where decorative grasses were cut for the arrangements, along with sharing of plant names and growing conditions. A special evening indeed and one to finish out our year, where we appreciate each other, reflect on our club's talents and great endeavors!

Announcement- Directly after the meeting we will be taking a photograph of the entire club. The quicker we get assembled and take the photo, the sooner we can eat. Thank you!

Awards

Joan Biddle

GCA Awards:

Linda Funke - Civic Improvement Award - For her immediate and impactful action to bring healing and restoration to the Tannerie Run Park West in devastated Upper Dublin after Hurricane Ida.

Mary Jane Greenwood - Horticulture Award -In recognition of her deep knowledge, resourcefulness and passionate skill in horticulture and gardening and sharing that with her club and Zone V.

Sarah Andrews - Club Conservation Award -With deep appreciation for her leadership, conscientious dedication and inspirational impact on conservation efforts for her club, community and GCA.

Allison Romig - Club Appreciation Award -With deep appreciation for her creativity in floral design and her outstanding commitment, dedication and enthusiasm for her club, GCA and the Philadelphia Flower Show.

Jennifer Fiss - Club Floral Design Achievement - In recognition for her passionate successful immersion into Floral Design, her technical skills and mentoring proclivity. She creates beautifully crafted arrangements exhibiting grace and joy.

Club Awards

Wissahickon Garden Club

2022 Annual Meeting Awards

TLC Award- Sarah Salmon

**Given in Honor of Dottie Pearson and donated by Gigi Boothby and Joly Stewart.
First awarded in 1987 for encouragement and guidance to younger members.**

In my observation, a good group always has a great connection. And that connection is often facilitated by someone who connects the dots, or in our case provides the right amount of tender loving care!

The connection within our member seems effortless and natural. She has a warm smile and easy confidence. Like that great ground cover that beautifully ties together the landscape, or that important greenery that makes the arrangement. She has the right way with words and connecting with others. That TLC is essential. That TLC enables growth and creativity!

Our member makes the connection within our clubs youngest members. An important skill that most definitely yields a great group! This year's TLC award goes to Sarah Salmon.

Respectfully Yours,
Elizabeth Greenhalgh

Wissahickon Garden Club

2022 Annual Meeting Awards

Pemberton Cup- Kelly Culley

The Pemberton Cup was first presented to a Wissahickon Garden Club member in 1977. This award recognizes a younger member that contributes to the overall welfare of the club. Kelly Culley joined WGC in 2017 and quickly became an active participant. Her natural creativity has led her to become a highly valued member during her five years with the club. At the 2019 GCA Zone annual meeting in Boston, Kelly won second place and a novice award for her beautiful needlepoint pillow. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Kelly honed in on her needlepoint skills and exhibited a few of her works at a Springfield Library exhibition. Her attention to detail and steady hand not only differentiates her masterful needlepoint work, but her calligraphy abilities as well. We were so lucky to have Kelly co-chair all the printing, signage, graphics and nametags for our flower show, Wabi-Sabi, this past season. She was the artist behind the calligraphy for the Wabi-Sabi GCA awards, which is done on the day of the show and displayed with the exhibits. Kelly also contributed a needlepoint package to the event's silent auction.

Kelly Culley's commitment to detail and generous gift of her time continues to contribute to the overall success and wellbeing of the Wissahickon Garden Club. Congratulations, Kelly, on the distinction of receiving this year's Pemberton Cup!

Respectfully yours,

Sarah Van Stone

Wissahickon Garden Club

2022 Annual Meeting Awards

Helen Sims Award – Maryalice Cheney

Given by Carolyn Adams

This garden owner's philosophy and aesthetics are reflected in her garden design. The garden is filled with native trees, shrubs and perennials. The plantings are scaled and pruned to best advantage for this deep and slender lot. The owner is a committed organic gardener and takes seriously the GCA's Healthy Yard Pledge. She divides and spreads her plants throughout her garden enhancing the uniformity of its design. Recently she added a lovely cascading pool which brings serenity to the garden as well as helping birds gain water access. This gardener optimizes garden space by planting tomatoes in pots along her driveway and using tower vegetable growing units. Ever conscious of the environment, she deploys a compact clothesline hidden behind an evergreen. The colors in her garden reflect her cheery, outgoing personality: yellow and orange. Congratulations to Maryalice Cheney for her steadfast improvement and devotion to her special urban garden.

Wissahickon Garden Club

2022 Annual Meeting Awards

Creative Leadership Award - Leslie Purple

- is given in honor of Penelope Merritt Ashmead and Louisa Newlin Whitney . It recognizes the generous contributions of these two members.

Oh my word.....Where do you start for a member who has won so many awards and held so many positions (16 GCA awards, 24 GCA positions) a former club president, cheerleader, energizer battery bunny, and mentor to many. Her creative and leadership skills and her energetic personality are hard to fathom. Awards range from Club Appreciation to Best in Shows to Conservation and Achievement.

The recipient of this award has already won it years ago but deserves it again for her outstanding spirit, enthusiasm, organization and motivational skills for our most successful execution of the Wabi Sabi GCA flower show. Our own Leslie Purple has done it again. She is a role model for many and keeps us striving to do more and do better. Thank you Leslie for your unflagging commitment to WGC and GCA.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Biddle

**Wissahickon Garden Club
2022 Annual Meeting Awards
Photography Award- Sarah Van Stone
Given by Linda Funke**

This year's Photography Award winner isn't afraid of challenges. Though she's a relative newcomer to photography, she enters classes that often require a skill-and-experience level that are daunting to most -- closeup classes, for instance.

The lovely effects that her photos create aren't due so much to technical post-processing as to her keen eye for beautiful subjects. She doesn't need to travel to exotic places, but can find photo-worthy subjects while walking her dog around her neighborhood.

Before having her three children, she was actively engaged in the field of gemology--perhaps her keen eye behind the camera was developed in part through the years she spent examining beautiful gemstones! Over the past six years, her creativity and eye for beauty have made her a highly-valued member of the Wissahickon Garden Club.

In recognition of her talent and her adventurous spirit, the 2022 Photography Award is given to Sarah Van Stone!

**Wissahickon Garden Club
2022 Annual Meeting Awards
Wissahickon Bowl Award – Alice Farley and Leslie Purple**

Given by Jen Fiss and Lisa Walker

The Wissahickon Bowl is awarded each year to a WGC member or members for outstanding artistic accomplishments. In a club overflowing with creativity and artistry, the recipients of this year's Wissahickon Bowl are truly the cream of the crop!

An EXTRAORDINARY PAIR of talented women have created EXTRAORDINARY ART this year, their talents are many, and they are no strangers to blue ribbons. This year, they reached even greater heights with their EXTRAORDINARY CREATIONS!

Last May at the GCA Annual Meeting, this dynamic duo teamed up to present a Botanical Arts Bouquet that took everyone's breath away. The intricate and exquisite details earned them Best in Show for the second year in a row! They did it again last June winning a blue ribbon at the Philadelphia Flower Show for their whimsical Woodland Hair Ornament, contributing to the Wissahickon sweep of Botanical Arts!

And yet again, in February, they entered the Atlanta Botanical Gardens Flower Show and took home first place with their charming and clever Jiminy Cricket.

At Wabi-Sabi, they wowed us all again with a "Chopped Sticks" necklace earning a red ribbon with a class commendation.

Look as close as you want to their work, we dare you to find a flaw. Their work is as meticulously crafted as it is stunning. Their creativity and artistry is inspirational for all of us.

Aside from producing creations that are mind-bendingly beautiful, they are ever generous in sharing their time and expertise to help the rest of us grow as artists. We are so grateful for their guidance, encouragement and willingness to answer unending texts asking, "do you have any idea what this weird dried thing I found is?"

We are so lucky to have them as mentors and friends and are incredibly honored to be presenting the Wissahickon Bowl for outstanding artistic accomplishments to

Leslie Purple and Alice Farley

Presented on June 7, 2022 by Lisa Walker and Jennifer Fiss

Wissahickon Garden Club

Annual Meeting – Awards Presentation

President's Cup Given by Prior President, Carolyn Adams to Outgoing President, Anna Woodward

June 7, 2022

Anna is a stellar President of our Club. She constantly exhibits warmth, enthusiasm and leadership throughout her tenure. She mastered technology and ran our zoom and in person meetings with aplomb. Anna has many amazing traits but one that stands out is how she took on so many responsibilities with smiling, calm determination. A recent example is her participation in the Wabi Sabi Flower Show: creating and entering her first niche entry and earning a Best in Show and First Prize; entering the lily challenge class and earning Best in Show and First Prize for her blooming lily (only one of the many entrants to bloom); and then hosting over 35 judges at her home for a delicious dinner (after attending the GCA Annual Meeting the weekend before).

Anna excelled at providing opportunities and mentoring for our younger members by pairing them with more experienced members in exhibiting and serving as Co-Committee Chairs. She is a real doer and likes to get her hands dirty, actively participating in our club workdays at Pastorius Park, Concourse Lake, Magnolia Garden and Tannerie Run Park West. Thank you Anna for your compassionate, creative, and energetic leadership these past two years.

Wissahickon Garden Club

2022 Annual Meeting Awards

Governor's Trophy - Anna Woodward

Awarded to a member for her all around contribution throughout the year to the Club. It can only be won once.

The Governor's Trophy is not easily won. Even though it says "throughout the year," It is often conferred because of long and steady contributions to WGC, its history, its members, its reputation in the community and its well being.

This year's recipient has been dedicated to our club since 1994! As many of you have done, she started out as a young mother juggling children, work and garden club. At the outset she excelled at floral design and she loved to share it with others. She even took me under her wing in the late '90's for an entry into a Zone meeting. Believe me, I just carried her tool kit!

Over the years, she continued to earn praise and awards for her floral designs, within the club, at the Phila Flower Show and the Garden Cub of Mt Desert. She became a GCA floral design judge in 2011. At WGC, our recipient has served as the Floral Design and Flower Show chairs, as well as VP. And now she has just completed her term as President! Over the last two years she has capably managed us through COVID with grace, professionalism, flexibility and humor. She does like to laugh!! During her tenure, she opened up her amazing home to all of us for meetings, holiday greens, flower shows, garden tours and an annual meeting. She organized our contribution to Pastorius Park and threw the most fun 90th birthday party for Wissahickon Garden Club.

Anna's personality was perfectly suited for this job. She is full of energy, great spirit, flexibility, generosity and kindness. The extra effort it took to keep us together, to stay motivated and excited about the connections, friendships and passions we share has been extraordinary. The Governor's Trophy was truly earned.

Anna, thank you so much!

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Biddle

President's Closing Comments-

Thank you all for the privilege to have served as your club President for these past two years. It has been an extremely rewarding experience. As is my style, a lengthy report of the year will be included in the Annual Meeting Minutes, and not read now.

What I will say is that WGC has never been stronger. We had 6 workdays, Flower Shows big and small of all disciplines, held a very successful silent auction, and had fascinating speakers at our meetings.

WGC is thriving, thanks to all of you.

I wish you all a happy and healthy summer.

It has been a great honor.

Thank you.

And now.... I'd like to ask Allison Romig, the new WGC President , to come forward.

This is a little welcome package for your incoming position. Allison, WGC is in great hands, with you at the helm. Wishing you a wonderful two years, enjoy it all, it really goes quickly.

Adjournment

Allison Romig

PHOTOGRAPH of the entire attendees for WGC 90th

Rob Cardillo



WISSAHICKON GARDEN CLUB PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fiscal year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

WGC had a very productive year, despite the continued ever changing world, due to the Covid virus.

September started off with a delightful meeting with a Horticulture Show (and lunch) at the home of Sarah Van Stone. (9/14/21) The Horticulture show had lots of interesting specimens and entries. It was staged outside in a protected area from the sun and wind. Thank you to the Horticulture Committee and Chair, Kim Burdick, for creating and executing a very successful club Horticulture Show.

The speaker was Howdie Goodman on Medicinal Cannabis. The hostesses, Lauren Taylor, Jen Helmick, Ashley Douglas and Sarah Fuld created an inventive way to serve individual chicken and tuna salad cups in recyclable mason jars. This was a great way to keep everyone safe and also be together. The meeting was held outside , which also helped keep everyone safe.

The Shirley Meniece Conference was held virtually on September 22 & 23, 2021. Sarah Andrews went virtually, as the WGC delegate. One of the many instructional and educational tools learned at the conference was making Seed Bombs.

On October 5, a Provisional Workshop hosted by Jennifer Fiss. She instructed the 8 Provisionals on Botanical Arts and how to enter a flower show. It certainly was instructional and effective because many provisionals entered the Floral Design and Botanical Arts club show we had the following month.

On October 12, there was a WGC Meeting held at the Venetian Club. Our speaker was Nancy Evans, whose witty presentation on Photography "Making your light" kept everyone engaged. A delicious box lunch was provided by our hostesses, Joan Biddle, Carolyn Adams, Diane Drinker and Maryl Hitchings.

At the end of October on 10/26 and 10/27, two workdays at Pastorius Park were held, in honor of Olmsted200 and FLO's 200th Birthday year. The membership all pitched in, Especially the Provisionals. WGC coordinated the work days with the Garden Club of Philadelphia, which was another great way to collaborate with other Zone V clubs and get to know others.

In between all that, I was honored to bestow on the Chestnut Hill Conservancy, the GCA Zone V Historica Restoration Commendation Award, on 10/19. Lori Salgonicoff and Board Chair, Eileen Javiers, were both there to receive it.

On 10/19 in the morning, myself and several WGC members went to SCH to hear a presentation on Pink Lady Slipper Orchids in Lisa Queeno's Upper school Science classroom.

Peter Zale of Longwood Gardens, spoke on how he propagated these natives in the lab and then we all went to the Wissahickon woods and planted/ re-introduced the Pink Ladies.

On behalf of WGC, Peter Zale and Lisa Queeno each received a check for \$1,000, for their efforts in working on this.

November started with the PCGCA Joint Meeting and a fascinating speaker, Dr. Paul Alan Cox. His book "Plants, People and Culture. The science of Ethnobotany" was mesmerizing and a hopeful discussion about plants and our bodies and healing through them.(He was also a GCA Award Medal recipient at the GCA Annual meeting in April 2022.)

Our club meeting and Floral Design Flower Show was held on November 9, 2021 at the Springfield Library. Covid and masks were back and needed to be worn at the Library.

Leslie Newbold gave us all a fascinating talk on "The Nature of Design". Thanks to the hostesses Maryalice Cheney, Kelly Culley, Sarah Frank and Laura Savage. The box lunches were delicious.

The Flower Show, chaired by Jennifer Fiss and Kelly Culley ,was Beautifully staged and with such creative designs. Congrats to Lisa Howe for getting Best in Show for her B.A. entry.

December brought us together twice.

On December 7, our Holiday Outreach and tree making was held at St Martin in the Fields Church. Thank you to Mindy O'Connor and Alyssa Barrick for organizing the entire production. Thanks also to the hostesses, Alice Flint, Kim Burdick, Judy Xie and Jenny Spaeth.

63 Trees were made to be distributed to Meals on Wheels and Wissahickon Hospice.

It was announced by Carolyn Adams, Chair of Nominating,(at the 12/7/21 meeting)that Allison Romig will be the WGC 's next President.

On December 8, 2021, WGC held a Luncheon and Lecture with Christopher Spitzmiller as our guest speaker. He spoke about his farm in Millbrook , NY and his book, A Year at Clove Brook Farm. He signed copies and sold out, which was a testament to how successful the day was.The event was held at the Philadelphia Cricket Club. The food was delicious and the speaker was charming and entertaining.

The event was meant to be a Community outreach/ WGC 90TH Anniversary celebration not a money maker. The tickets were \$65. Centerpieces were sold and table runners, too. The event was very successful and lots of fun was had by all.

Covid began to make a serious resurgence and it was decided to return to virtual/zoom meetings until numbers of those contracting went down.

Our January speaker was John Randolph discussing the "Schuylkill River Development Council" and the meeting was via Zoom.

On February 8, 2022, WGC had planned a lecture with Waldor Orchids and Orchid sale, but Covid had gotten even worse. It was decided to reschedule them for next year.

Thankfully, we have a member who is a prolific grower of orchids. She gave us a beautiful powerpoint on orchids and how to repot and take care of them. Thank you ,Rita Salva!

A Provisional workshop was held on 2/15/22 at the home of Joan Biddle. Both Joan and Rita Salva conducted a very informative workshop on Terrarium building and care of these beauties.

March brought us a short hiatus from meetings. The PHS Philadelphia Flower Show (which normally is at this time) decided to again have the Flower Show 6/11-19/22 at FDR Park. Covid was in full swing, so it was all for the best not to meet.

March 1&2 was a virtual National Affairs and Legislation Conference and our delegate was Jennifer Spaeth. Jenny reported on the importance of reaching out to our congressmen And advocating for change.

Springtime ushered in a decline in Covid cases and thankfully, the mandatory mask policy was relaxed.

On April 12, 2022, WGC held a meeting and Floral Design Presentation at the beautiful home of Elizabeth Greenhalgh.

Cres Motzi created three show stopping arrangements with the influence of Ikebana and specifically the Sugesti Floral Design method.

Three beautiful arrangements were sold to the lucky 3 members (Ashely Douglas, Lauren Taylor and Jen Fiss) whose name was picked out of a hat and gladly each paid \$100 to cover costs for the flowers.

Thank you to the hostesses, Barrett Stewart, Kristin Norton, Emilie Lapham and Linnea Bast for a delicious lunch.

On April 29 and 30th the GCA Annual Meeting was held in person for the first time in 3 years. It was hosted by Zone IV and was held in Parsippany, NJ and called, The Garden State: Pathways from Palisades to the Pinelands. I attended live with Allison Romig, watching virtually, as club Delegate. It was very nice to be back together.

May brought the arrival of the joint GCA Club Flower Show with HVGC called Wabi-Sabi. Leslie Purple (WGC) and Ginnie Tietjens (HVGC) were the chairs and this flower show was originally meant to happen May 2020. Two years later, it happened.

It was worth the wait!

With a beautiful Flower show , Patron cocktail party and Auction, Wabi-Sabi was not only a successful Flower show but profitable , too. Wabi-Sabi netted approx. \$23,000. It was decided by both Executive Boards of the WGC and HVGC that the proceeds would be given to PCGCA.

A Judges dinner was held at Krisheim and hosted by Anna Woodward.

Both clubs worked well together and it was wonderful to get to know like minded garden ladies.

Thank you to all the members of both Huntingdon Valley Garden Club and Wissahickon Garden Club for the time you took to make this a fabulous flower show. Special thanks to the two dynamite chairwomen, Leslie Purple and Ginnie Tietjens.

Our final and Annual Meeting of the WGC year was held on June 7, 2022 at Krisheim and hosted by Anna Woodward, Jane Good, Ann Kelly, Wendy Concannon and Rita Salva.

The annual meeting and awards ceremony was held outside in the Crefeld, in the garden.

After which, Rob Cardillo took a 90th Anniversary picture of us all in the garden. After which, a beautiful lunch was enjoyed under the covered porch.

It was a very sweet ending to a very mercurial year.

I have had the great privilege and honor to have served as the President of Wissahickon Garden Club these past two years. We had to learn to roll with the “covid punches”, shift gears and get creative with meetings, flower shows and conferences.

I am proud to say that WGC is thriving. One of my personal goals as President, was to usher in the next generation .We have a wonderful group of Provisionals who are ready and willing to pitch in, help out and learn.

Our members stayed engaged and connected when those two things were not so easy. Our passion for Gardening , Creating and Advocating is alive and well in the Wissahickon Garden Club.

Thank you to all the Committee Chairs, Board Members and a special thanks to Laura Savage, Recording Secretary.

I leave you all in excellent hands , with Allison Romig as our next President.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anna Woodward
President, WGC 2020-22