



The Garden Club of Santa Barbara

# Budding News

February 2021

[www.gcamerica.org](http://www.gcamerica.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Randy Baldwin, a long time friend of the Garden Club and General Manager of San Marcos Growers, will join us for a Zoom chat on February 11th at 3pm. He will fill us in on his favorite plants for Santa Barbara as we face the on-going issues of climate change, plants that are deserving of more attention, and anecdotes from his life in horticulture. We will be on for an hour so we will also have time for questions from you! To make Zoom more manageable, please email any questions to Puck Erickson Lohnas at [cpe@arcadiastudio.com](mailto:cpe@arcadiastudio.com). We will try to have photos of plants on our Zoom screen as well. The joy of horticulture is learning something new every day!

*"Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow circles of nature is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace."*

*-May Sarton*

## President's Letter

February. . . it is hard to believe a year has passed since the Corona virus hit the U.S., but the vaccine is here and hopefully it will only be months until it is available to all and life will return to normal.

In the meantime, the Flower Show Committee has changed our 2022 show to an in-house event at Birnam Wood and rescheduled our GCA show for May 2023. Most likely our flower show skills have become rusty during lockdown, and this will give us the opportunity to practice and feel comfortable entering in 2023.

The pandemic has provided all of us with more free time at home. I strongly encourage you to take this opportunity to update your profile on the GCA website. To do this please refer to the how-to box in this issue. Be sure to add a picture to your profile, a brief biography, any special skills you might have and the positions you have held in our club.

We had a wonderful turnout at our January meeting. A big THANK YOU to Allyson for such an interesting and informative presentation. There were over seventy members in attendance which leads me to believe we are all anxious to connect with one another. I thought it might be fun to do a Zoom presentation on decorating cookies for Valentine's Day. If you are interested please email me at [mycakes2@gmail.com](mailto:mycakes2@gmail.com), and I will organize a mini workshop. It will be limited to 15 members and will be on Thursday, February 11.

Looking forward to our next meeting on February 1.

My Best,

## Jane recommends

Now is a good time to stay connected to GCA! While we're spending so much time at home, the world of GCA offers inspiration and information with a simple click:

Open your recent email to the Online version of the Winter Bulletin, and treat yourself to the latest news and announcements from GCA and the stories from Zone clubs across the country. See the faces of fellow garden club members and share in their accomplishments. Enjoy all the beautiful photos!

Explore the GCA website ([gcamerica.org](http://gcamerica.org)) to view the 2021 Medalist winners and newly selected Honorary members. These are "Stars" in their chosen fields, and their contributions are inspiring. With your member password, you can view details of Zone club activities, meetings, committees, member lists... an excellent resource for finding information.

Mark your calendars for the virtual GCA Annual Meeting: May 10-12, 2021....free and fully inclusive. It will be a special opportunity to hear the stories of our medalist winners, engage in educational workshops, take a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the public flower show and enjoy exclusive garden tours. Look for an invitation to register by email in early April.

Happy wintering!

Jane Buchanan  
Communications Chair

## From Cheryl

### HOW DO I EDIT MY PROFILE?

LOG INTO THE GCA WEBSITE [gcamerica.org](http://gcamerica.org). Then click on members only and log in.

Once you have logged into the Members Area, you will see a Welcome block at the top with a square space for your picture and links to MY PROFILE, MY CLUB, MY REGISTRATIONS, and LOGOUT. Under MY PROFILE, you can view your member information as it appears to other members of The Garden Club of America.

To edit this information, click MY PROFILE followed by:

1. Click EDIT PROFILE which appears above your profile picture.
2. Edit information in any of the seven profile tabs available: DETAILS, INTERESTS, DEGREES, ADDRESS, PHONES, PAYMENT, PUBLICATIONS
3. When you have entered correct or new information, click the green SAVE PROFILE button which appears on the bottom of the profile area to save the change.
4. To request an edit of your club Positions History, please contact your club administrator. To include a past club position that is not tracked nationally, add the position and any additional information to the Bio section of your profile. Click Save.
5. To request an edit of your official GCA awards history, fill out the GCA Awards Database Update Form. Add non-GCA awards to the Bio section of your profile. Click Save.

Club Administrator is Teri Taylor,  
[teritaylor@mac.com](mailto:teritaylor@mac.com)

Questions: [websupport@gcamerica.org](mailto:websupport@gcamerica.org)



Something to do while  
you're drinking  
your morning coffee!

### FLORAL DESIGN

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDtx5RT4e7o>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-is7y8chec&feature=youtu.be>

### FROM THE GCA CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

<https://www.gcamerica.org/members/videos/details/id/251>

## *Did you know?*

Did you know that two of our members, Cheryl Miller and Betsy Coates each have two photographs of their blue ribbon flower show arrangements on the GCA website?

The photos of their arrangements are on the Photo Library of Design Styles, which can be found on the Floral Design Committee page.

With our In-House Flower Show scheduled for May, 2022, and our GCA Flower show rescheduled until 2023, photos of the different styles of arrangements will be a great reference source for better understanding what judges are looking for in any particular type of design.



## *Legacies*

### *Ericka Plack*

Our longtime member and friend, Ericka Plack has died. Ericka was particularly interested in Horticulture. She had a fabulous garden which she shared with us on many occasions. Often times, Ericka would arrive at meetings laden with bulbs and starts to be propagated by all. She was an accomplished artist belonging to the "Oak Group".

Erika moved away from Santa Barbara several years ago. We have missed her enthusiastic support and cheery smile.

### *Nancyann Failing*

Nancy Failing, a longtime member of the Garden Club of Santa Barbara, died peacefully in her sleep January 13. She was active in the Junior League, Girls Inc. and was Board President of the Santa Barbara Scholarship Foundation. She once said, "Service to your community is the rent you owe for living here." (Santa Barbara)

You might remember her Casa del Herrero Flower Show Hort entry, a not so perfect, yet well loved, Philodendron which she affectionately referred to as "part of the kitchen family".

The program committee is presenting this GCA video directly following our regular meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Enjoy!

**STONEGATE FARM WITH MATTHEW BENSON**  
A GCA EXCLUSIVE: A PHOTOGRAPHER'S FOCUS



Matthew Benson is a GCA National Speaker and serves on a Congressional Agriculture Committee advocating for rights of small-scale organic growers. He lectures on garden, food and landscape photography and his work appears regularly in magazines, books and catalogs.

He takes us on a tour of his original 1860s Carpenter Gothic estate farm, Stonegate Farm, a colorful bounty of flowers, vegetables, and fruit, in New York's Hudson Valley. He walks us through each photographically stunning garden room from flowers to farm to orchard. With a keen eye for color, form, and function, Benson correlates farming like a gardener, blending beauty with function and balancing creativity with problem solving.

Stonegate Farm as a working sustainable farm serving the community encouraging the merits of organically farmed vegetables and flowers. His planting combinations and gardening rooms are truly inspiring.



**DAVID ULRICH VIDEOS**

The Art of Seeing with a Camera is a six lecture educational program in photography accessible to all GCA members.

The lecturer is David Ulrich, best-selling author, and GCA National Speaker, and frequent presenter/workshop leader in photography for GCA programs. The series was produced by the Garden Club of Honolulu for GCA photographers at ALL levels.

To access the David Ulrich video series on the Garden Club of Honolulu website, click the link below: [gchonolulu.org/login/](http://gchonolulu.org/login/). Once you access the website, enter user name: Aloha and password: gcamember.

Introduction to Photographic Vision  
The Five Principles of Visual Expression with a Camera  
Cultivating the Art of Seeing  
Creativity with a Camera: Tools and Tips  
Authenticity: Discovering Your Unique Vision and Style  
Photography of the Land

Note: David's videos were screened at a recent Zone XII judging workshop to rave reviews!

## *Betsy Coates recommends*

The Garden Club of Santa Barbara would like to see more of its members get involved in the GCA Judging Program. If you would like to learn more about it, here is your opportunity!!! Registration is available now until January 26 to sign up for virtual Floral Design, Horticulture, and Photography workshops. More details and how to register are listed below.



*The Reality is you can only JUDGE fairly what you KNOW!*

This year, for the first time, all members of the GCA's Judging Program and those interested in the program are invited to come together across the country for The Garden Club of America's 2021 Judging Workshop, an online event. The goal of the workshop is to increase our understanding of the judging process ... from Passing to Awards. Attendance at a ten-hour judging workshop is required every two years for judges to remain in good standing. This five-hour workshop will cover this unusual time when in-person workshops have been cancelled. It also will cover information about virtual judging. You may register to attend all three workshops - Floral Design, Horticulture, and Photography. Attendance will be taken at all workshops and you must attend your judging discipline to receive credit. Knowing and learning are vital to good judging.

All times listed below are in Eastern time.

Tuesday, February 2:

- Floral Design Judging Workshop 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 3:

- Horticulture Judging Workshop 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 4:

- Photography Judging Workshop 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday, February 5:

- Candidate Judges Session 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
- Prospective Judges Session 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- Approved Judges Session 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
- Members Interested in the Judging Program Session 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Registration is \$25 per workshop. The registration fee covers the costs of producing and executing this virtual event. Registration is open to all GCA judges and interested GCA club members.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE & REGISTER <https://www.gcamerica.org/members:security/loginform?fw1pk=1>

The last day to register is January 26, 2021.

Workshop Chairmen:

Patsy Smith & Polly Glotzbach

For questions about the Judging Program, please contact [judgingprogramgroup@gcamerica.org](mailto:judgingprogramgroup@gcamerica.org).

For all registration related questions, please contact [registrations@gcamerica.org](mailto:registrations@gcamerica.org).

These sessions will be held as Zoom webinars. For tips and tutorials on participating in Zoom meetings and webinars with the GCA, visit Virtual GCA Trainings on the GCA website.

You can now follow the GCA across all of your favorite social media platforms.

*Winter views from Jane Buchanan*



## *The Garden Club of Santa Barbara Programs 2020-2021*

As of now all Programs will be virtual.

**October 5, 2020:** The Gardening Wisdom of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson with Dean Norton of Mt. Vernon and Peter Hatch of Monticello

**November 2, 2020:** C-Change: An educational, non-partisan presentation on the science of climate change.

**December 7, 2020:** Our traditional holiday arrangements made for Visiting Nurses and Hospice Care. This year we will be meeting in small groups.

**January 11, 2021:** Allyson Hayward will talk about her new book, *The Ladies of the Club*.

**February 1, 2021:** Farm, Flowers, Food and Photography. How a 19th century estate and organic farm expresses itself in the 21 century. The locale is Stonegate Farm in the Hudson River Valley.

**March 1, 2021:** Robert Cummings, retired Professor of Botany, will give a presentation on mushrooms.

**April 5, 2021:** Third GCA virtual program yet to be announced

**May 3, 2021:** Nicholas Miller will talk about the richness of Santa Barbara County's agriculture and viticulture industry.

**June 7, 2021:** Annual Meeting at the Miller's historic ranch.

## Help with zoom!

1. Shortly before your meeting, open the email invitation and click on the underlined link under "Join Zoom Meeting". If Zoom has not been downloaded to your device, you will be prompted to download at this time. (You need to download the program in order to use it.) Allow 5-10 minutes to do this in advance of the first time use.
2. Click "Join with Video". Adjust your computer or screen to have your full face in the camera and be sure your screen is horizontal vs. vertical. Also, be sure your face is well lit and avoid light from behind (like a window).
3. Select "Computer Audio" option for sound.
4. When the Meeting Host starts the meeting, you will automatically enter the meeting.
5. The display layout will default to "Speaker View" which brings the active speaker to the larger frame. You can switch by clicking on "Gallery View" to see all participants in frames equally.
6. The lower left icons allow you "Mute" or "Unmute". Zoom picks up ambient noise as well as voices so you may want to remain on "Mute" unless you want to speak.
7. For excellent video tutorials and advanced options, go to the GCA website.