



Green Lines

THE LITTLE GARDEN CLUB OF MEMPHIS
Member of The Garden Club of America



Muhammad Mahdi Karim

President's Letter

In my mind, September lasted a nano-second. One minute, I was getting excited about college football and the hope of fall, and the next, I was turning the page on my calendar to October.

We got off to a great start with our speaker, Kim Halyak, who showed us that *any* garden is a good one.

Then, 30 of us blew into Chicago and the Lake Forest area where we were a part of one of those trips that defies description. Ruthie and Sue left no stone unturned; no opportunity denied. We are eternally grateful for those 5 days and the magic we experienced.

On the heels of the trip, Linda, Mary Call, Tempe and I headed down to Monroe (MON-roe) for Presidents Council, recently renamed "Leadership Council". We learned and re-learned so much and I finally declared that I could not take in any more information. We were treated like royalty by the ladies of The Monroe Garden Study

League, who worked so hard to make everything perfect.

I'm looking forward to our October membership meeting and hearing from our speaker, Meredith McGraw Bishop of Bloom and Bounty in Nashville. Check out her Instagram and Facebook pages to see what a treat we have in store.

This year's Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference, featuring the historic gardens of Hawaii, is virtual this year, so everyone can attend. Use the link below to register and tune in for as little or as long as you like. How many opportunities do we get to go to Hawaii without paying anything?

In the meantime, enjoy each cooler day that comes our way. This is Memphis, and it's still hot in November, but we will get there (and then start wishing for warmer weather!)

Love,
Emily

October Meeting - Meredith Bishop

Welcome Meredith Bishop of Nashville's Bloom & Bounty!

Meredith Bishop, urban cut-flower "farmer", is a native Memphian, but has called Nashville her home for over 22 years. She owns and operates an organic cut-flower business called Bloom & Bounty from her 1-acre property on Woodmont Boulevard in Nashville. She sells her sustainably grown blooms to local florists as well as the public, leads educational workshops on indoor seed sowing and sustainable gardening, educates local flower enthusiasts on how to grow their own cut-flower gardens, and teaches floral arranging.



Meredith also runs a design studio where she creates floral arrangements for local events, flower deliveries and bouquet subscriptions, as well as operating an online Home & Garden gift shop.

From originally only vegetable gardening to heirloom flowers started from seed, Meredith's passion for working in the soil has continued

to grow, as has her desire to share her knowledge with others.

Welcome Meredith!

--Paige Proctor

Let's Go Chicago!





It started with a book, [Gardens of the North Shore of Chicago](#) and from there, the trip grew, with the help of author Ben Lenhardt and another GCA member, Liz Lavezzorio, Lake Forest GC. And then, 30 women boarded a bus and visited 6 gardens that varied in style from classic, to contemporary to country. We ambled through several allees and then, on to orchards – each highlighting trees in different garden atmospheres.

Fred Spicer, Director of Chicago Botanic Gardens, educated us for two hours as we toured his 385 acres filled with man-made lakes, and over 28 different display gardens. If you find yourself in the Windy City, be sure to visit – and allow a full day to do so!

The Gardens at 900 was our first stop to the garden owned and designed by Craig Bergmann. We approached his property through the formal motor courtyard, walked through several garden rooms, ambled past apple trees and ended at his garage complex that houses his studio offices. You can access his website <https://hortusbycraigbergmann.com/> to purchase garden statuary.

Patrick Allin's gardens challenged us to find beauty in a more natural form and it wasn't difficult to appreciate the intended purpose of letting nature grow as undisturbed as possible. No trimmings have been removed from this property. Instead, they are left on the ground to serve as the following years fertilizer. Rob Diblik (2023 GCA Medal of Honor) did an exceptional job of defining the role of a landscape architect and a true "Gardener". This man is passionate about Mother Earth as was the head gardener, Michael 'Moki' Ruminski. Research Rob Diblick who is recognized as a leader in the New Perennial Movement. He's inspirational and you'll grow from that experience.

Camp Rosemary and Crab Tree Farm toyed with our senses. From Camp Rosemary's gloriously manicured gardens with a palette of purple, blue and pink (and pool area that relaxed us thoroughly) to Crab Tree Farm where Mrs. Bryan delighted in touring us through her home, adorned with English antiques and a love for British ancestry. We all want to play tennis on that estate – or take a try at wood carpentry. In all, we loved the contrast in these gardens that challenged us to appreciate beauty in different forms.

Mettawa Manor, another Craig Bergman design, surprised us not only with its casual beauty, but also with its warm and inviting TV personalities – Donna La Pietra and Bill Kurtis. Once again, the owners continued to purchase land and expand their property – all for the purpose of conserving garden and prairie space for generations to come.

Along the way, we were able to tour historic homes, take a walking tour of Lake Forest, enjoy good meals at Francesa's and Shoreacres, "kick up our heels a bit" and revel in the luxury of The Deer Path Inn with its Tootsie Rolls and Heath Bars. The sun shined bright every day and we basked in the warmth of our club, the ladies in it and the memories that we made together – all as we toured The Gardens of the North Shore of Chicago.

--Sue and Ruthie

Horticulture

Spring sprang, the dog days of summer have come and gone and as we enjoy the crisp fall air we must look ahead to the winter season. I had a wonderful conversation with Chris Cooper in our very own Shelby County Extensions Office. I wanted to be able to share with all of you a few important steps in preparing our gardens for the winter. The first and foremost important thing to remember is water, water, water. Many people stop watering as the fall season sets in. Often our irrigation companies begin shutting down our sprinklers early. Even as plants are going dormant they need to be watered. Please continue to water deeply (top 6 inches of soil) throughout the month of November. Keeping our plants properly hydrated will improve the longevity and health for the next season. In addition, once we get into the colder days of December and beyond watering thoroughly before a big freeze will help to protect the plant in those extreme temperatures.

Once December rolls around this is the perfect time to test your soil so that you can make modifications before the spring growing season begins. The UT Soil Plant and Pest center has soil kits that can be picked up at the Shelby County Extension Office (777 Walnut Grove Rd #21 Memphis, TN 38120) and sent to Nashville for analysis. The results will be email to you within 3-5 business days after they receive the samples. The price varies depending on how many samples and tests you would like to have run. Lastly, pruning before the winter is not recommend. It would be wise to trim dead areas off shrubs and trees, but pruning for any other reason should wait until late winter early spring.

As we all continue to nurture our gardens and bring them back to life from last years freeze lets take the extra time to give them the best chance of survival if we were to have such extreme temperatures again this year. Chris is a wonderful resource. Should you have further questions he is available to answer your calls 901-752-1207. Happy gardening!!!

--Bradley Fogelman

Scholarship

Botany



Do YOU know anyone who may qualify for a scholarship in an environmental study field or landscape architecture?

The Garden Club of America has awarded a record \$402,500 for the 2023–2024 year to recognize the academic endeavors of 86 scholars—a banner year for GCA’s Scholarship Committee.

GCA's scholarships cover projects in the fields of botany, coastal wetlands, ecological restoration, desert studies, garden history and design, international studies, landscape architecture, conservation horticulture, horticulture, native plant studies, native bird habitat, pollinator research, environmental studies, and urban forestry.

**Click the button below to begin the application process this fall.

-- Leslie Schutt

[Application](#)

Floral Design

We encourage you to subscribe to the GCA quarterly virtual magazine, *By Design*. This can be accomplished by logging on to the GCA website and clicking on Committee pages and hitting Floral Design then scrolling down till you see the *By Design* magazine on the right-hand side and clicking on it. You will see a Manage my Subscriptions button. By Design has a lot of interesting information and as well as

beautiful pictures! ENJOY !!!

--Michelle and Mimsie



RHYTHM & HUES

The Flower Show schedule opens October 7th for the upcoming Flower Show, *Rhythm & Hues*.

April 12-14, 2024
Dixon Gallery and Gardens

Please click on the button below to see the classes.

Rhythm & Hues

Garden History and Design

Here is a little education article on Garden History and Design from the GCA website.

--Lucia Crenshaw

Arbor vs. Pergola

Memorials and Honorariums

SEPTEMBER DONATIONS

MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of Mrs. Libby Daughdrill

Ginger and Dabney Collier

Stacey and Thomas Hussey

Emily and Harvey Kay

Elizabeth and Russell Williamson

In Memory of Mr. John Dobbs

Stacey and Thomas Hussey

In Memory of Mrs. Kitty McClintock

Ginger and Dabney Collier

Tempe and Michael Thompson

In Memory of Mrs. Suzette Turner

Emily and Harvey Kay

SENSORY GARDEN

In Honor of Mrs. Sue Clark

Michelle Dunavant
In Memory of Mrs. Libby Daughdrill
Connie and Lou Adams
Tempe and Michael Thompson
In Memory of Mr. Tommy Keesee
Tempe and Michael Thompson
In Honor of Mrs. Ruthie Taylor
Michelle Dunavant
In Memory of Mrs. Suzette Turner
Michelle and Bill Dunavant
Mereditih Prichartt
Ruthie and Edward Taylor

GCA TRAVEL EDUCATION FUND
In Memory of Mr. Tommy Keesee
Linda and Neely Mallory
In Memory of Mrs. Kitty McClintock
Linda and Neely Mallory

-- Anne Dunavant

Daffodils!



It's almost time to plant daffodils! Here are 2 events at the Dixon you don't want to miss!!!

Saturday, November 4, 2023, 10:30 a.m. – Presentation by Jason Delaney on Fall-Planted Bulbs for Spring Flowers; in Winegardner Auditorium at Dixon

Saturday, November 11, 2023, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Fall Bulb Sale–Daffodils, Crocus, Muscari, Tulips, and More; in Dixon Greenhouse

--Ruthie Taylor

Proposed Bylaw Changes

CHANGES IN RED

Sec. 6: Election of New Members

1. (1) The Membership Chairman will announce the number of vacancies to the Board. The Board will determine the number of vacancies to be filled. Election of new members will be held in October. The Membership Chairman will have proposal forms available anytime at the request of proposer or at the September Membership Meeting. All forms must be returned to the Membership Chairman no later than one week after the September membership meeting.
2. (2) Each candidate shall have one Proposer and two Endorsers. No member may propose or endorse more than one candidate per election. A candidate may be proposed a maximum of three times.
3. (3) Each Active Member shall cast a ballot in person, by proxy, or by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots must be delivered before the vote is tallied at the election meeting. Each member may vote for the number of candidates she chooses, not to exceed the number of vacancies.

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2. (2) Each candidate shall have one Proposer and two Endorsers. No member may propose or endorse more than one candidate per election. A candidate may be proposed a maximum of three times.
- 3.
4. (3) Each Active Member shall cast a ballot in person, by proxy, or by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots must be delivered before the vote is tallied at the election meeting. Each member may vote for the number of candidates she chooses, not to exceed the number of vacancies.
3. (3) Each Active Member shall cast a ballot by email to Membership Chair. Deadline is 5pm the day preceding the October meeting. Each member may vote for the number of candidates she chooses, not to exceed the number of vacancies.

--Tempe Thompson

I just want to remind y'all that if anyone needs a ride to a membership meeting, please let me know!_Also, if you know of anyone in LGC who is about to have surgery or anyone who is struggling with a health issue or bereavement, or needs extra care, please let me know! Thanks!

--Bowie Campbell
bowieandcarter@bellsouth.net

October Birthdays



2 Lisa Wilder
4 Kim MacQueen
7 Loren Powell
8 Mary Call Ford
9 Susan Driscoll
10 Lynn Fulton
20 Mary Margaret Hughes
26 Sally Treadwell
29 Tempe Thompson
30 Paige Proctor

**Cream of Asparagus Soup from
Elizabeth Heiskell's *What Can I Bring?***



Do not turn the page on this recipe. Yes, I know it has canned asparagus in the recipe and yes, you can still buy canned asparagus in the grocery store. We had a lovely but hardheaded client who insisted we make her asparagus casserole with canned asparagus. We had a couple of cans leftover. I was telling my assistant, Sarah Virden, that we just had to get rid of them. I mean really, it was embarrassing, our kitchen is on a vegetable farm. We grow asparagus! Sarah Virden remembered a recipe her daddy used to make when she was little. Cans were opened and the magic happened.

Serves: 10 * Hands-on: 30 minutes * Total: 45 minutes

1/2 large Vidalia or other sweet onion, quartered
1/2 bunch scallions, cut into 1-inch pieces (about 2/3 cup)
2 ounces (1/4 cup) salted butter
1 teaspoon kosher salt
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour, sifted
4 1/2 cups chicken broth

1 pound fresh asparagus spears, trimmed and cut into bite-size pieces (about 2 1/2 cups)
1/4 teaspoon table salt
1 (15-ounce) can extra-long asparagus spears, drained
1 (10.5-ounce) can cream of asparagus soup
1 (5.2-ounce) buttery garlic-and-herb spreadable cheese
1/2 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup heavy whipping cream

1. Process the onion and scallions in a food processor until almost smooth, about 20 seconds.
2. Melt the butter in a large saucepan over medium-low; add the pureed onion mixture, kosher salt, and pepper. Cook, stirring often, until the onion is tender, 6-8 minutes. Reduce the heat to low, and stir in flour. Add the chicken broth, stirring with a whisk until combined. Cover, increase the heat to medium-high, and bring to a boil, stirring often. Reduce the heat to medium.
3. Meanwhile, place fresh asparagus pieces in a microwave-safe bowl: add water to cover, and stir in table salt. Microwave on HIGH until tender, 10 to 12 minutes. Drain and add the canned asparagus; puree with an immersion blender until smooth. Add the soup, spreadable cheese, cream cheese, and whipping cream to asparagus mixture, and puree until smooth. Add the asparagus mixture to broth mixture; cook over medium, stirring constantly, until cheeses melt, about 10 minutes.

Email to LGCGreenLines@gmail.com

Visit the [Little Garden Club Website!](#)

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