



Horticulture, Conservation, Floral Design & Photography

THE IVY VINE

The Little Garden Club of Memphis
Member of the Garden Club of America

December 2019



*At Christmas I no more desire a rose
Than wish a snow in May's new-fangled mirth;
But like of each thing that in season grows.*

William Shakespeare

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

And here we are at our final month of 2019! How and when did this happen? In November, the Little Garden Club was the epitome of Thanks and Giving as we offered our time, talents and treasures to

Le Bonheur, The Garden Club of America, and The Memphis Botanic Garden. And now as we enter the Christmas season, I look forward to our meeting at Elizabeth Williamson's home. Greg Campbell and Erick New will be our speakers and are prepared to show us how to spruce up our homes with their beautiful ideas on "Decorating from the Field". I have no doubt we will all be in the Christmas spirit after that meeting!



I thought it would be fun to have a little gift exchange at our December meeting (for those who would like to participate). Most of us have been part of a Secret Santa Gift Swap – but how many of you have been part of a “Secret Planta” Plant Swap?! If you would like to participate (and I hope you will!), please bring a plant that you have divided from your yard (or from a local nursery) and place it in a small pot (or any easy way to transport), bring it with you to the December 5 meeting, and you can take home a plant from another member! This is going to be a fun and special way to share some of our favorite plants with one another. More details will appear in your inbox – and again, this is optional, but I hope many of you will participate!

I wish you and your families good health and a happy holiday season.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!

May Call



December Membership Meeting and Luncheon "Christmas Decorating from the Field"

Thursday, December 5
at the home of
Elizabeth Williamson
5885 Garden River Cove

Hostesses:
Julie Hussey (RSVP)
Lisa Snowden
Virginia Rowland
Elizabeth Williamson

The program will feature our special friends Greg and Erick at Elizabeth Williamson's beautiful home. Be sure to join us for this festive time as we learn from the experts!

Parking is limited in Elizabeth's neighborhood, so please carpool if you can. We will have valet parking.

–Ragan and Kim

Important December Dates

Wednesday, December 4 – Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m., MBG

Thursday, December 5 – Membership Meeting, 11:00 a.m.,
Elizabeth Williamson's home



November speaker and author Susan Sully and Judy Powell, whose St. Simons Island home appears in Susan's book, *Southern Hospitality at Home*.

Memorials and Honorariums

The Memorial Fund

In memory of Bill Carrington Jones
Elizabeth and Russell Williamson

In memory of Mildred Smith
Elizabeth and Russell Williamson
Katie and Chip Dickinson

The Sensory Garden

In memory of Bill Coolidge
Peggy Jones

The GCA Education Fund

In memory of Mildred Smith
Mary Call and Mott Ford

In memory of Bill Coolidge
Mary Call and Mott Ford

Please send donations for the Memorial
Fund, Sensory Garden Fund, GCA

In memory of Miriam Heard Range
Peggy Jones

Education Fund, and the Children's
Garden Fund to Mimsie Crump, 222
Belhaven Street, Memphis, TN 38117.

Second Century Campaign

If you would like to make a donation to the Second Century Campaign, please click the button below.

All gifts, pledges, and planned giving notices received by December 31, 2019 will be attributed to the Second Century Campaign. It is a really nice way to honor someone for Christmas or send a memorial.

I hope our club will be one of the clubs that participates 100%. No amount is too small or too large. We, as a club, have benefitted from funds from GCA. We received \$20,000 from Founders Fund and \$2750 from Partners for Plants. Let's give back so GCA can continue to fund these projects.

Merry Christmas,
Tempe

[Give to The Second Century Campaign](#)

Travel Stipend Increase

The Little Garden Club reimburses delegates to Shirley Meneice, Presidents Council, NAL, Zone Meeting, and Annual Meeting for all registration fees and up to \$500 in travel expenses.

Due to the rising costs of travel, it was decided that we will raise the travel stipend to \$1000 for Shirley Meneice, NAL and Annual Meeting. Presidents Council and Zone Meeting reimbursements will remain at \$500.

We have a new account, the GCA Education Fund, which will finance the travel stipend and will be funded primarily by the following: in-house auction proceeds, interest from CDs on applicable accounts, Kroger/Amazon donations and profits from miscellaneous fundraising sales (greenery, tote bags, aprons, etc). Members may make donations to this fund for honorariums or memorials.

-Kate Trammell

Conservation

Ways to Save Energy This Winter

Heating and Furnace

- For every degree you lower your thermostat, you save about 2 percent on your heating bill.
- For optimal home heating and energy saving, set your thermostat no higher than 68 degrees while at home, and lower the heat when you go to bed or when you are not at home.
- Changing dirty furnace air filters can provide a cost savings of up to 5 percent!
- Check doors for weather stripping and replace if necessary.

Windows and Insulation

- During sunny days, leave blinds and drapes open to allow solar heat to warm your home. Keep them open during the day to let heat in, and then close them at night to prevent heat from escaping.
- Install covers on keyholes and/or letterboxes to reduce indoor drafts.

Lighting

- Replace light bulbs. Switching to CFLs or LED bulbs can provide greater cost-savings, as they use less energy and last longer than traditional incandescent bulbs.
- Install motion sensors or timers on external lights.
- Halogen lighting is ideal for gardens and pathways, as they use up to 40 percent less energy than traditional bulbs.

General

- Check the air pressure in your tires. Cooler temperatures can lower tire pressure, which, in turn, lowers fuel efficiency.
- Chop up leaves with your lawn mower to create a layer of mulch that will break down and give your lawn nutrients.
- Keep your fridge at least three quarters full to maximize efficiency.
- Wash laundry with full loads, and use cold water to save energy.
- When cooking on the stove, make sure to put lids on pots to cook food quicker and save energy.

By Peter J. Bock

LGC Goes to Philadelphia!

DONT FORGET.....

Please bring your check to the
December meeting payable to LGC, or

mail to Kate Connell, 208 Lombardy Road, 38111 or Venmo your balance to kate-connell-3. Single occupancy payment is \$1100 and double occupancy payment is \$1400. Please let us know if you need any help!

The trip is going to be fabulous! In addition to the Flower Show, Longwood Gardens, Winterthur, and the Barnes Collection: we have incorporated Grace Kelly and the Philadelphia Water Works conservation project as well as a visit to the exclusive Union League Club!!!

-Kate and Michelle



December Birthdays

4 Katie Wiener
5 Julie Mills
15 Katie Eleazer
15 Kirk McClintock
17 Musette Morgan

Memphis Botanic Garden December Activities

November 1–December 29 – Gifts of Green at the Garden, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Sales from this seasonal pop-up shoppe support the horticulture, nursery and educational programming of The Garden.

November 29–December 30 (select nights) – Holiday Wonders at the Garden, 5:30 – 8:30 pm. Holiday Wonders at the Garden features four distinct areas catering to different interests: Snowy Nights, Trees Alight, City of Memphis Christmas Tree, and Under the Stars Outdoor Lounge.

December 14 – Herbal Work Study: Seeds, 8:15–11:30 a.m. These three hours will be spent cleaning and packaging seeds. As we clean the seeds, we will learn about seed saving and packaging with a goodly smattering of general herb information. Hot coffee and herbal libations will be provided.



Reminder: Memphis Botanic Garden Membership

If you have not renewed your membership, click the button below.

Renew MBG Membership

Photography

The Photography at our LGC Show was incredible, especially the Close-Up Class!!!

It's that time again for us to enter a photo for Zone 2020 in Monroe, LA. The class is a close-up of a native plant/flower—this is a plant that grows around our area. (You may not use a photo from a trip to Colorado.) A close-up could be part of a leaf, a flower, bark, a decaying leaf., etc., etc.—think out of the box!

Here are the specifics:

Class 2 Near-Sighted Color

Create a **COLOR CLOSE-UP** image of a plant indigenous to your region. Plant material required. Identify plant material.

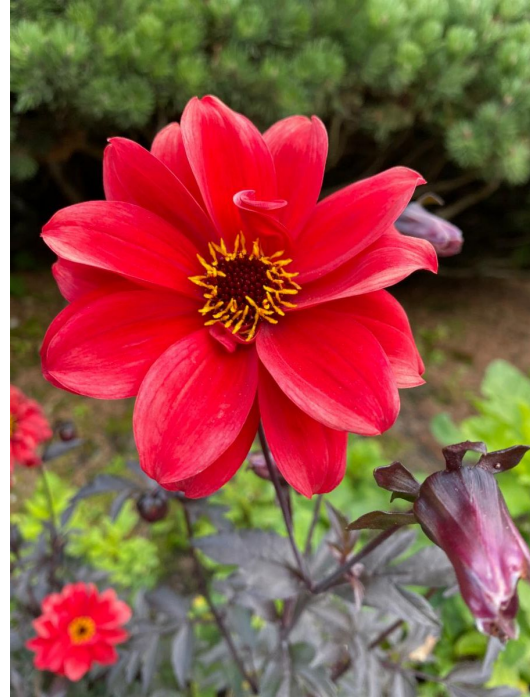
Educational Note: *Close-up - a photo taken close to the subject or with a long focal-length lens to permit a close and detailed view of the object. The object fills most of the frame. GCA FS&JG, July 2019 Edition.*

***These will be printed, brought and judged by our membership at the February meeting. I will give you printing instructions in the January Ivy Vine. Last year we had about 20 entries so get snapping that close up! Please participate!!!

Questions??? Contact [Ruthie](#)



Lucia Crenshaw



Mary Call Ford

Horticulture

Join the “Soil Your Undies Challenge”!

Simply bury a pair of white panties in your garden and be sure to mark The Spot by leaving the elastic band above ground. Come back April 1st and see what is left when you dig them up. If your “Tighty Whities” are perfectly intact, then your soil is pretty lifeless and you may need to amend it. However, if your elastic band is all that remains, then your soil is thriving and teeming with beneficial bacteria!

We will give you a nudge on April 1st and can't wait to compare results. We are suspicious that our containers that are full of purchased bags of soil are pretty devoid of life, but we shall see....

Have fun with this!

-Corinne, Leslie & Ruthie





Christmas Trees

(A Christmas Circular Letter)

The city had withdrawn into itself
And left at last the country to the country;
When between whirls of snow not come to lie
And whirls of foliage not yet laid, there drove
A stranger to our yard, who looked the city,
Yet did in country fashion in that there
He sat and waited till he drew us out
A-buttoning coats to ask him who he was.
He proved to be the city come again
To look for something it had left behind
And could not do without and keep its Christmas.
He asked if I would sell my Christmas trees;
My woods—the young fir balsams like a place
Where houses all are churches and have spires.
I hadn't thought of them as Christmas Trees.
I doubt if I was tempted for a moment
To sell them off their feet to go in cars
And leave the slope behind the house all bare,
Where the sun shines now no warmer than the moon.
I'd hate to have them know it if I was.
Yet more I'd hate to hold my trees except
As others hold theirs or refuse for them,
Beyond the time of profitable growth,
The trial by market everything must come to.
I dallied so much with the thought of selling.
Then whether from mistaken courtesy
And fear of seeming short of speech, or whether
From hope of hearing good of what was mine, I said,
"There aren't enough to be worth while."
"I could soon tell how many they would cut,

You let me look them over.”

“You could look.

But don’t expect I’m going to let you have them.”
Pasture they spring in, some in clumps too close
That lop each other of boughs, but not a few
Quite solitary and having equal boughs
All round and round. The latter he nodded “Yes” to,
Or paused to say beneath some lovelier one,
With a buyer’s moderation, “That would do.”
I thought so too, but wasn’t there to say so.
We climbed the pasture on the south, crossed over,
And came down on the north. He said, “A thousand.”

“A thousand Christmas trees!—at what apiece?”

He felt some need of softening that to me:
“A thousand trees would come to thirty dollars.”

Then I was certain I had never meant
To let him have them. Never show surprise!
But thirty dollars seemed so small beside
The extent of pasture I should strip, three cents
(For that was all they figured out apiece),
Three cents so small beside the dollar friends
I should be writing to within the hour
Would pay in cities for good trees like those,
Regular vestry-trees whole Sunday Schools
Could hang enough on to pick off enough.
A thousand Christmas trees I didn’t know I had!
Worth three cents more to give away than sell,
As may be shown by a simple calculation.
Too bad I couldn’t lay one in a letter.
I can’t help wishing I could send you one,
In wishing you herewith a Merry Christmas.

—Robert Frost