

GARDEN CLUB OF WILMINGTON
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Location: Vicmead Hunt Club
Program: "Photographing the Natural Landscape"
Presenter: Jim Graham, Photographer
Hostesses: Photography Committee
Attending: D. Abbott, P. Barton, A. Biggs, A. Biggs, A. Bray, G. Butters, L. Cattermole, B. Cooch, J. Cushman, B. Denham, L. Dobbs, N. Draper, M. du Pont, C. Eaton, L. Eirhart, E. Fiechter, D. Fisher, G. Flinn, M. Grant, E. Gregory, W. Habgood, K. Hackett, R. Hoopes, K. Kristol, K. Maroney, B. McCoy, S. Parker, M. Patterson, F. Pyle, N. Reese, L. Roselle, B. Rowland, W. Russell, E. Scott, B. Scott, H. Scott, A. Silliman, M. Silliman, B. Simonds, V. Sutton, C. Taylor, M. Waldron, C. Wissing, L. Carbonell, L. du Pont, J. Spruance, L. Barton and C. Rice.

The meeting was called to order at 10:59 by First Vice President Wendy Russell. President Sally DeWees was unable to attend due to illness.

PROGRAM:

- Photography Vice Chair Elaine Scott introduced guest speaker, Jim Graham. Jim is a professional photographer and author. (His latest book was on sale at the meeting.) He has worked as an editorial and commercial photographer and is based in Centreville, DE. He was formerly a staff photographer with the News Journal and has worked with many local and national publications. Among his many awards, Jim has won the Southern Photographer of the Year award and has been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.
- Jim Graham described his photographic slide show as a "tour from Delaware to Antarctica." His goal was to illustrate how to communicate through the lens of a camera with the goal of eliciting emotion in the viewer. The slide show was amazing!
- Following the slide show, Jim welcomed questions from our members. He provided excellent tips for composition, visual editing, developing "raw files", settings on iPhones and more. He received an enthusiastic round of applause!

BUSINESS MEETING:

- Wendy thanked Elaine for her introduction of Jim Graham. She thanked our guest speaker and invited him to stay and join us for lunch.
- Wendy asked for additions or corrections to the January minutes. As there were none, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Ann Biggs made the motion and Anna Biggs seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
- Wendy reminded everyone to sign the attendance sheet.
- Since there have been questions about the meeting RSVP procedure, Wendy prepared a slide illustration of the Jot Form invitation. After the "Respond" and "Confirm" steps, it is necessary to continue to the bottom of the page to click on "Submit". Otherwise, the

data will not be received by Jot Form or GCW. Wendy and Meg will be available after lunch to help anyone with questions. They look forward to giving assistance at the next March meeting. Reminders will be sent on Fridays before each meeting. Please bring your Jot Form questions to the next meeting!

President's Report:

- Wendy gave Sally's Presidents' Report:
 1. DCH has begun work on the Gina Bissell Garden project.
 2. The GCW sponsored lecture "Green Roofs" by Ed Snodgrass was very well received.
 3. Plans are underway to create a new fundraising event for 2024; this event will replace the Rare Plant Auction. The event steering committee includes Cynthia Rice, Grier Flinn, Mary Patterson and Anna Biggs.
- Wendy reminded everyone to check the GCW website for the many programs and information available from DCH, UDBG, GCA, etc.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer Libbie Fiechter explained that the CPI and GCW accounts were successfully merged last year but the intention of modifying the By-Laws in order to align our program year with the fiscal year has yet to be done. This will require an adjustment to *By-Law Article VIII.1* that states our current fiscal year begins on June 1 and ends on May 31. To ensure more accurate accounting of dues and expenses, it is suggested that the fiscal year should begin on July 1 and end on June 31.
- A motion was made by Mary Patterson to amend *Article VIII.1* to reflect our fiscal year to begin on July 1 and to end on June 31. Betsy McCoy seconded the motion. The motion received unanimous membership approval.

Photography:

- Photography Vice Chair Elaine Scott announced "A Thing Called Love". That's the title of the Spring Photography Show. On April 3. Registration opens on Mar 6. Please refer to the GCW /Photography Committee's website for entry details.
- Please register for the workshop entitled "Editing Photographs with Your Phone" with Kate Fahey, GCA Photography Judge, March 23, 1-3 pm. It will be held at Lucinda Laird's home. It is limited to 15 people and registration is required. A \$25 registration fee must be sent in advance to the Club Treasurer.
- The luncheon centerpieces were created by the Photography Committee and were for sale. The design was just in time for Valentine's Day!

Founders' Fund 2023:

- Our Founder's Fund Representative, Peggy Barton, explained The Fund's mission to support and encourage member clubs to engage in civic projects. All GCA club members are encouraged to vote to determine the winners of the Fund.

- Peggy Barton presented the three finalist civic projects nominated by GCA member clubs to receive funds. First place winner receives \$30,000 and the runners-up each receive \$10,000.
- The three finalists for our consideration /votes are:
 1. Cylburn Arboretum Friends Nature Education Center Garden in Baltimore, MD.
 2. The Butterfly & Bee Pollinator Meadow at Chickasaw Park in Honor of Muhammad Ali in Louisville, KY.
 3. Sowing and Growing Evanston Grows: Urban Gardens and Community in Evanston, IL.
- Please read the interesting details about these worthy projects on the GCA Winter Bulletin website on pages 51 - 58. ***Then vote on our GCW website!*** Peggy encourages anyone with questions or needs help in voting to please contact her.
- Peggy provided interesting history about the origins of the Fund, created to honor Elizabeth Price Martin who founded GCA in 1913. Martin, who lived in Philadelphia, was a remarkable civic “tour-de-force.” And she was Evie Scott’s aunt!
- Peggy urged all GCW members to thoughtfully consider increasing our donation to the Founders’ Fund when considering next year’s budget.

Philadelphia Flower Show & Floral Design Conference:

- Vice Chair Lynn Carbonell announced openings for “Clerk” and “Barrier-Aid” positions for the Philadelphia Flower Show (March 4-12 at the PHL Convention Center). Training for these positions will be held on February 27. There are great benefits for these volunteers: work shifts begin at 9 am (not 5 am); workers get to see the entire Show after finishing shifts; and you get a Show pass to return on another day. Please contact Lynn for more information.
- Concurrently (Feb 6-9), GCA conducted 4-days of virtual workshops for anyone interested in Judging or learning more about Floral Design, Horticulture, Botanical Design and Photography.
- The 2023 Floral Design Conference will be held on February 28. This virtual event is free and open to all members but registration is necessary. For more information or to register, visit the GCA website. The presentations will be recorded for viewing at a later date.

Announcements:

- Linda Eirhart announced that Winterthur will host a special day on Mar 11th. Plantsman Michael Dosman of the Arnold Arboretum will talk about 20th Century Plant Exploration. There will be a Plant Sale. Tour and experience the March bank in full bloom. Go to the Winterthur website to learn about these activities and to register.
- Wendy reminded that anyone who is interested in learning “how to advocate” can register at no charge for the NAL Advocacy one-hour virtual workshop on February 23 at 1-2 pm. Registrations must be made by Feb 14th.

Membership Co-Chair Eleanor Gregory requests all new member applications and letters should be submitted by Feb 14th. This includes requests from current members who would like to change their membership level.

The next Member Meeting will be on March 6th at 11:00 am at the Delaware Center for Horticulture. Boxed lunches will be served.

Wendy adjourned the meeting at 12:11 pm.