THE DEDICATION CEREMONY OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA GROVE IN HUMBOLDT REDWOODS STATE PARK, CA IN 1934.
The purpose of The Garden Club of America is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, to share the advantages of association by means of educational meetings, conferences, correspondence, and publications, and to restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement.

The National Affairs and Legislation Committee
The National Affairs and Legislation (NAL) Committee keeps the GCA membership current on federal policy initiatives that relate to the GCAs purpose; identifies advocacy opportunities based on the GCA’s Position Papers and plans and executes the annual NAL meeting in Washington, D.C.

The Conservation Committee
The purpose of the Conservation Committee is to keep the GCA membership well informed on current conservation issues; to promote respect for natural resources and responsibility for environmental stewardship; to encourage clubs to identify and carry out conservation work locally, to provide environmental education programs for youth and the general public, and with the Executive Board’s approval, to work with other conservation agencies and organizations whose programs complement those of The Garden Club of America. The Conservation Committee works closely with the National Affairs and Legislation Committee. The Conservation/NAL Committee zone representatives carry the work of both committees to the clubs in their zones.

Founded in 1913.
The Garden Club of America is a volunteer, nonprofit 501c(3) organization comprised of 201 member clubs and nearly 18,000 club members throughout the country.

www.gcamerica.org.
Welcome to NAL

Welcome to the 37th Annual Garden Club of America National Affairs and Legislation (NAL) Conference in Washington, D.C.! You have chosen a very important time in our nation's history to stand up and make your voices heard.

2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote. The passage marked the largest expansion of democracy in our history.

Also, in 2020, we must begin to turn climate change around! Nearly a year has passed since the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a strong warning. It said that limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.6 degrees Fahrenheit) by the end of the century (a goal set to prevent the worst impacts of climate change from occurring) “would require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society.” Additional reports released about the same time featured scary numbers about the loss of biodiversity and how terribly flora and fauna would continue to be impacted if we do not cut CO2 emissions and pull carbon out of the atmosphere.

As members of the well-respected Garden Club of America (GCA), we are in a unique position to influence positive change. The GCA has been engaged in legislative matters since its founding in 1913. Our voice has been one of reason and our arguments have been thoughtful and science based. As a result, we have helped to influence the passage of some of our nation's most important environmental laws.

The NAL Committee was formed in 1968. At that time, according to The GCA's A History of Conservation and National Affairs and Legislation, our members were involved in the protection of endangered species, the preservation and improvement of areas of horticultural, historic, scenic or ecological value, the prevention of air, water and soil pollution and the elimination of billboards in the interests of beauty and safety.

While the GCA's priorities have remained consistent, efforts to protect the environmental laws we have relied on have become much more difficult. In the last two years, there have been more than 100 rollbacks to America’s bedrock environmental laws! These roll-backs exacerbate threats to clean air, clean water and the plant species that are core to the GCA purpose. Indeed, they are threats to all life on earth.

This year our NAL program will take us from the wildlands of Alaska to the deep ocean, 14 miles down. We will better understand the nexus between human health and the environment and learn more about how conserving land, building soil and protecting forests can, indeed, take carbon out of the atmosphere. We will gain a better understanding of the rollbacks to laws like the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Clean Water Act and what we can do to advocate on their behalf. We will then travel to Capitol Hill where we will hear from the members of Congress who authored the bills for which we are here to advocate.

And last, but certainly not least, we, standing on the shoulders of those GCA members who came before us, will visit almost every office on Capitol Hill, armed with knowledge and conviction to advocate for the protection of our environment. To be an advocate is to have courage, commitment and appreciation for the things that matter most.

We are honored to be in your company!
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GCA EXECUTIVE BOARD
Debbie Edwards, GCA President
GC of New Haven, Zone II

Julie Johnson, Executive Board
Vice President, Liaison to NAL Committee
Little GC of Columbus
Zone X

GCA ZONE DIRECTORS
DeLane Porter, Zone VII
Dolley Madison GC, VA

Marianne Salas, Zone VIII
Liaison to NAL Committee
Late Bloomers GC, FL

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Jennifer Lawrence, Zone III Chairman
North Suffolk GC, NY

Betsy Huffman, Zone VII Chairman
GC of Alexandria, VA

Tara Lewis, Zone XI Chairman
Ladue GC, MO

GCA COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
Madeline Mayhood, Bulletin
James River GC, VA, Zone VII

Sue Thompson, Horticulture
The Tuckahoe GC of Westhampton, VA
Zone VII

GCA BOARD OF ASSOCIATES
Phoebe Driscoll
The Weeders GC, PA, Zone V

Ellie Kelly
St. George’s GC, MD, Zone VI

Lindsay Marshall
Cherokee GC, GA, Zone VIII

Winsome McIntosh
Georgetown GC, DC, Zone VI

Nancy McKlveen
Marin GC, CA, Zone VII

SaSa Panarese
Milton GC, MA, Zone I

Susie Wilmerding
The GC of Philadelphia, PA, Zone V

BULLETIN COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Virginia Keller
Country GC, OH, Zone X

Deborah Twombly
Piscataqua GC, ME, Zone I

Laura Whisnand
James River GC, VA, Zone VII

FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE
Carol Carter, Schedule Reader
Albemarle GC, VA, Zone VII

OFFICIAL GCA PHOTOGRAPHER
Kate Fahey
Four Counties GC, PA, Zone V

NAL AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP
Lisa Ott, Chairman, NAL
North Country GC of LI, NY, Zone III

Elizabeth Waddill, Chairman, Conservation
Magnolia GC, TX, Zone IX

Jane Ellison, First Vice Chairman, NAL
Shaker Lakes GC, OH, Zone X

Cayce McAlister, First Vice Chairman
Conservation
GC of Nashville, TN, Zone IX

WASHINGTON, DC CONFERENCE
Lynne Nelson, Vice Chairman
The Trowel Club
Washington, DC, Zone VI

Brooke Morton, Communications/Graphic Design
Perennial GC
Washington, DC, Zone VI

COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN & EDITORS
Bennett Burns, ConWatch Editor
The Portland GC, OR, Zone XII
Harriette Brainard  
*ConWatch Assistant Editor*
Stony Brook GC, NJ, Zone IV

Karen Gilhuly, *Vice Chairman*  
Legislation & Policy  
Woodside-Atherton GC, CA, Zone XII

Carole Hunter, *Assistant Vice Chairman*  
Legislation & Policy  
Albemarle GC, VA, Zone VII

Allene Nungesser, *Vice Chairman*  
Partners 4 Plants  
Pasadena GC, CA, Zone XII

Cynthia Scott, *Vice Chairman*  
Conservation Study Trip  
GC of Denver, CO, Zone XII

Elizabeth Lamar, *Vice Chairman*  
Conservation Showcase  
GC of Nashville, TN, Zone IX

**COMMITTEE SUBJECT VICE CHAIRMAN**

Katy Kinsolving, *Vice Chairman*  
Sustainable Agriculture  
Millbook GC, NY, Zone III

Diane Lewis, *Vice Chairman*  
Air Quality & Toxic Substances  
Bedford GC, NY, Zone III

Jana Dowds, *Vice Chairman*  
Climate Change  
Glenview GC, KY, Zone VII

Leslie Lee, *Vice Chairman*  
Energy Sources  
Greenwich GC, CT, Zone II

Molly Jones, *Vice Chairman*  
Forests & Redwoods  
The Portland GC, OR, Zone XII

Lindsay Leisenring, *Vice Chairman*  
Land Use & Sustainable Development  
The GC of Philadelphia, PA, Zone V

Sophie Twichell, *Vice Chairman*  
National Parks & Public Lands  
Lake Forest GC, IL, Zone XI

Suellen White, *Vice Chairman*  
Native Plants, Pollinators & Endangered Species  
GC of Denver, CO, Zone VII

Carolyn Ross, *Vice Chairman*  
Oceans  
Chesnut Hill GC, MA, Zone I

Janet Frantz, *Vice Chairman*  
Transportation & Infrastructure  
Mill Mountain GC, VA, Zone VII

Sophie Glovier, *Vice Chairman*  
Waste Management  
The GC of Princeton, NJ, Zone IV

Laura Nash, *Vice Chairman*  
Water & Wetlands  
Cambridge Plant & GC, MA, Zone I

**ZONE REPRESENTATIVES**

Christy Millet, Zone I  
Noanett GC, MA

Kim Gregory, Zone II  
Greenwich GC, CT

Andrea Stewart, Zone III  
Little GC of Rye, NY

Lydia Chambers, Zone IV  
GC of Madison, NJ

Leora Natan, Zone V  
The Planters, PA

Meg van den Berg, Zone VI  
Talbot County GC, MD

Eva Clarke, Zone VII  
James River GC, VA

Kathryn Lee, Zone VIII  
Cherokee GC, GA

Janna Weber, Zone IX  
River Oaks GC, TX

Candace Sweeney, Zone X  
GC of Michigan, MI

Sue Cozzens, Zone XI  
Kenilworth Garden Club, IL

Susan Uydess, Zone XII  
Carmel-by-the-Sea GC, CA
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020

Arrival – 3:00 pm  Optional Self-Guided Explorations Commemorating the Centennial of the 19th Amendment

- The Belmont Paul Women’s Equality National Monument House
  144 Constitution Ave., NE, Washington, DC (Open 9:00 am-5:00 pm)

- The National Archives
  700 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC (Open 10:00 am-5:30 pm)

- The National Portrait Museum
  8th Street NW & F Street NW, Washington, DC (Open 11:30 am-7:00 pm)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020

The Washington Marriott Georgetown, 1221 22nd Street NW, Washington, DC
Metropolitan Ballroom

1:00 – 6:00 pm  Registration, Metropolitan Ballroom Foyer

3:00 – 4:00 pm  Climate Change Primer - C-Change Conversations*

Katy Kinsolving, Sophie Glovier and Harriette Brainard
C-Change Conversations
* Perfect for First Timers

4:00 – 4:15 pm  General Welcome/History of the GCA Advocacy

Elizabeth Waddill, Conservation Chairman
Lisa Ott, NAL Committee Chairman

4:15 – 5:00 pm  Advocacy Training Workshop**

Rich Innes, GCA NAL Consultant
Senior Fellow, Meridian Institute
Kristen Brengel, Senior Vice President Government Affairs
National Parks Conservation Association
Lesley Kane Szynal, Director, Outdoors America
** Perfect for First Timers and A Good Review for All

5:00 – 5:20 pm  Legislative Update and How a Bill Becomes a Law

Karen Gillhuly, Vice Chairman, Legislation & Policy
Carol Hunter, Assistant Vice Chairman, Legislation & Policy

5:20 – 5:30 pm  Overview of the Week Ahead

Lynne Nelson, Vice Chairman Washington Meeting

5:30 – 6:30 pm  Optional Welcome Reception ($25 reservation required)

West End Ballroom

6:15 pm  Optional Sunday Box Supper/Bus Tour loads on Ward Street ($50 reservation required)

6:30 – 8:30 pm  National Monument Bus Tour
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020
The Washington Marriott Georgetown, 1221 22nd Street NW, Washington, DC
Metropolitan Ballroom

7:00 – 9:00 am  Registration – Metropolitan Ballroom Foyer
7:00 – 8:30 am  Breakfast Buffet – Dupont Ballroom and West End Foyer, Marriott
8:30 – 8:45 am  NAL and Conservation Committee Members Official Photo
Metropolitan Ballroom
9:00 – 9:15 am  Welcome, Introductions, Surprise Salute – Metropolitan Ballroom
Lisa Ott, NAL Committee Chairman and
Lynne Nelson, Vice Chairman Washington Meeting
9:15 – 9:30 am  Opening Remarks
Debbie Edwards, President, The Garden Club of America
9:30 – 10:15 am  The Nexus Between Human Health and the Environment
Introduction: Jana Dowds, Vice Chairman Climate Change
Presenters:
Christy Brown
Co-founder and former president, Center for Interfaith Relations
Founder and Board Chair, Institute of Healthy Air, Water and Soil
Aruni Bhatnagar, Ph.D., F.A.H.A.
Director, Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute and
Director, Environmental Medicine Division, University of Louisville
10:15 – 10:45 am  Rollbacks: Looming Threats to America’s Bedrock Environmental Laws
Introduction: Karen Gilhuly, Vice Chairman Legislation & Policy
Presenter: Lynn Scarlett
Chief External Affairs Officer
The Nature Conservancy
10:45 – 11:20 am  The Clean Water Rule and the Maui Case
Introduction: Diane Lewis, Vice Chairman Air Quality & Toxic Substances
Presenter: Sam Sankar
Senior Vice President of Programs
Earthjustice
11:20 – 12:00 pm  Regenerative Agriculture: How Building Better Soil Can Help
to Save our Planet
Introduction: Katy Kinsolving, Vice Chairman Sustainable Agriculture
Presenter: John Piotti
President and CEO
American Farmland Trust
12:00 – 1:00 pm  Lunch – Open Seating (Logan Salon, Dupont Galleries & West End Room)
1:00 – 1:30 pm  The Deep Ocean and its Promise for the Future
Introduction: Carolyn Ross, Vice Chairman Oceans
Presenter: Timothy Shank
Deep-sea Biologist
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Cape Cod
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020 (continued)
The Washington Marriott Georgetown - Metropolitan Ballroom

1:30 – 2:00 pm  The Wildlands of Alaska, Climate Change and the Political Debate
   Introduction: Elizabeth Waddill, Conservation Chairman

   **Presenter: Fran Ulmer**
   Chair, The Nature Conservancy's Global Board and Fellow at Harvard’s Belfer Center

2:00 – 2:45 pm  An Exploration of Forests, Carbon and Climate Change
   **Introduction**: Molly Jones, Vice Chairman Forests and Lisa Ott, NAL Chairman

   **Panelists:**
   - **Peter Stein**
     President and Managing Director
     The Lyme Timber Company
   - **Laurie Wayburn**
     Co-Founder, Pacific Forest Trust
   - **Alexander Friend**
     Deputy Chief of Research and Development, U.S. Forest Service
     U.S. Department of Agriculture

2:45 – 3:15 pm  Loss of Biodiversity and Legislative Initiatives to Prevent the Decline
   **Introduction**: Suellen White, Vice Chairman Pollinators, Native Plants & Endangered Species

   **Presenter: Collin O’Mara**
   President and CEO
   The National Wildlife Federation

3:15 – 4:00 pm  GCA Legislative Priorities and Talking Points
   **Rich Innes**
   GCA Legislative Consultant
   Senior Fellow Meridian Institute

4:00 –

Evening  Break Out Sessions by Zone (See page 26 for Zone Break Out Rooms.)
Zone Dinners – Arranged by Zone Representatives

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020
Ways & Means Committee Room, 1100 Longworth House Office Building, Capitol Hill

6:30 – 7:30 am  Breakfast Buffet
   The Washington Marriott Georgetown, Metropolitan Ballroom Foyer

8:15 am  Buses depart PROMPTLY from Ward Street to Capitol Hill

9:30 – 9:45 am  Welcoming Remarks and Introduction
   Lisa Ott, NAL Chairman

9:45 – 10:30 am  Remarks from US Senators
10:30 – 11:00 am  Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment  
Ensuring a Woman’s Right to Vote  

**Presenter: Winsome McIntosh**  
President of the McIntosh Foundation  
Founder of Rachel’s Network  
Georgetown Carden Club Member  
NAL Chairman 1983-1987

11:00 – 12:00 pm  Remarks from Government Agencies

12:00 pm  Box Lunch

1:00 – 3:30 pm  Remarks from Congressional Representatives

3:30 pm  Announcements and Closing Remarks

3:45 pm  Full Group Photo at Peace Circle followed by Bus Departure back to the Georgetown Marriott

5:45 pm  Buses depart PROMPTLY for The Mayflower Hotel Gala from Ward Street

**CLOSING CELEBRATION AT THE HISTORIC MAYFLOWER HOTEL**  
1127 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC  
(Additional Charge – Registration Required)

6:00 pm  Cocktail Reception

7:00 pm  Gala Dinner and Keynote Address by:  

**Theodore Roosevelt V**  
Great-Great Grandson of President Theodore Roosevelt and Founding Partner Redwood Grove Capital

9:00 pm  Buses depart PROMPTLY to return to the Georgetown Marriott DeSalles Street Entrance

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

Breakfast on Your Own

Delegates and Committee members visit with their elected officials in their offices on Capitol Hill

Best wishes for a safe trip home and many thanks for standing up for our environment and a healthy future for our world.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020
Washington Marriott Georgetown Hotel - Metropolitan Ballroom

The C-Change Team is committed to bringing the discussion of climate change out of the political arena and into local communities.

C-Change Conversations was founded by Kathleen Biggins, Katy Kinsolving, Carrie Dyckman and Pam Mount. The founders wanted to engage their friends, family and colleagues on the topic of climate change in a constructive, non-partisan manner. Initially, they created a lecture series in central New Jersey, inviting nationally known experts to speak on related topics such as renewable energy, extreme weather events, arctic thawing and public policy.

From this successful lecture series grew the conviction that many in the community were searching for a comprehensive overview on climate change. In response, the team created the C-Change Primer, a non-partisan, multi-media presentation on the risks and opportunities associated with climate change. This has been seen by over 6,500 people nationwide. New requests for bookings come in every week.

Their all-volunteer team has grown to include Mary Bechler, Harriette Brainard, Sophie Glovier, Kathy Herring, Pam Parsons, Gillian Shoch Reeder, Lorraine Sciarra, Catherine Sidamon-Eristoff, and Margaret Sieck. They are training additional presenters to deliver the Primer and are looking for new ways to engage with communities across the country.

RICH INNES
GCA Legislative Consultant
Senior Fellow, Meridian Institute

Rich Innes is a Senior Fellow at Meridian Institute where he helps lead the work of the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative to catalyze ocean policy reform at the national, regional, state and local levels. Rich directs the work of the Association of National Estuary Programs, and advises the State of Washington on salmon and wolf recovery and natural resource issues. Rich also assists the National Environmental Education Foundation and The Garden Club of America in developing and implementing environmental policies.

Previously Rich was Director of Government Affairs under CEO Bill Ruckleshaus at Browning Ferris Industries. For eight years he was Senior Staff Member of the Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works for Chairman John Chafee. Rich was awarded the Bronze Medal for Commendable Service at the Office of Policy at the Environmental Protection Agency.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020
Washington Marriott Georgetown Hotel - Metropolitan Ballroom

KRISTEN BRENGEL
Senior Vice President of Government Affairs
National Parks Conservation Association

As the Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Kristen Brengel leads staff on public lands conservation, natural and cultural resource issues, and park funding. Kristen is responsible for implementing legislative strategies and working with the administration.

She has years of experience working to ensure National Park Service laws and policies are upheld and implemented to best protect all national park units. From recreation management to establishing new park units, Kristen is passionate about land conservation and ensuring future generations can enjoy our spectacular public lands and cultural sites. For many years, Kristen led the conservation community's national effort to fight attempts to authorize counties, states, and private interests to carve unnecessary and environmentally-damaging roads in National Parks, National Monuments, and potential wilderness areas. She also spearheaded The Wilderness Society's national policy and legislative work on recreation management and policy issues in National Parks, Forests, Wildlife Refuges, and BLM lands.

Kristen served as the Policy Director for the Office of the Mayor in Cherry Hill, NJ. Kristen was also the Board Chair and Transportation Advocate for New Jersey Public Interest Research Group (NJPIRG). Kristen received her B.A. in Political Science from Rutgers University.

LESLEY KANE SZYNAL
Director
Outdoors America

Ms. Kane-Szynal is Director of Outdoors America – she also serves as Chair of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Coalition, a 1,500 partner coalition working to protect and fully fund LWCF. Prior to joining Outdoors America in 2009, Lesley served as Vice President, Federal Policy & Programs at the Trust for Public Land (TPL) where she was responsible for managing its Federal Affairs Office in Washington, D.C. During her time at TPL, she helped lead efforts to create new conservation programs such as the Forest Legacy Program, and worked to ensure the protection of and funding for a host of other national conservation programs including LWCF. Previously, Lesley served as Legislative Assistant for Senator Warren B. Rudman (R-NH), handling Interior, environment, energy policy and related appropriations issues. Before her work in Congress, Lesley worked for Oppenheimer and Co., Inc. in its Corporate Bond and Public Finance Departments. Lesley is a former Board Member of the National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA) and a founding member of the Americans for Our Heritage and Recreation (AHR). Ms. Kane-Szynal has a B.A. in Political Science from Denison University in Granville, Ohio and lives in Annapolis, Maryland with her family.
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Washington Marriott Georgetown Hotel - Metropolitan Ballroom

CHRISTY BROWN

Co-founder and former president, Center for Interfaith Relations
Founder and Board Chair, Institute of Healthy Air, Water and Soil

Christy Brown, proud mother of three and grandmother of nine, has lived in Louisville, Kentucky since 1968. A passionate believer in the potential of diverse faith communities to effect positive change by working together, she co-founded the Center for Interfaith Relations in 1985 and then launched the first US Festival of Faiths in 1994. She is also a long-term International Trustee of Religions for Peace, the global interfaith organization.

In 2012, Christy founded The Institute for Healthy Air, Water and Soil to promote an interconnected vision of health incorporating citizen science and advocacy. That vision expanded broadly in 2018 through a partnership with the University of Louisville to form the Envirome Institute. The Institute researches the effects of the environment on health, promotes holistic scholarship, and bridges academic research with community engagement, transforming the city of Louisville into an urban laboratory. Guided by the Circle of Harmony and Health, a tool she developed, Brown's philanthropy promotes responsible decision making “through the Lens of Health.” The circle reveals interrelationships among environmental and human health, and the need to bring all forms of social and individual health into balance. She currently serves on the boards of the Sustainable Food Trust in England, The Berry Center, The Center for Interfaith Relations, The Louisville Orchestra and The National Trust for Historic Preservation.

ARUNI BHATNAGAR, Ph.D., F.A.H.A.

Director, Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute and
Director, Environmental Medicine Division, University of Louisville

Widely regarded for spearheading the new field of Environmental Cardiology, Dr. Aruni Bhatnagar, a Smith and Lucille Gibson Professor of Medicine at the University of Louisville, has spent more than 25 years studying the impact of toxic substances, tobacco smoke constituents and environmental pollutants on heart disease. He is a graduate of Kanpur University, India and received his post-doctoral training at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. Dr. Bhatnagar is known for his pioneering work on the metabolism of toxic substances in ambient air and tobacco smoke, and how they affect the development of cardiovascular disease and diabetes. He has published over 340 research papers, commentaries and review articles, and 20 book chapters. A leader in cardiovascular health, he has participated in more than 50 peer-review panels of the National Institutes of Health, and has served as a member of the Institute of Medicine’s Committee on Secondhand Smoke Exposure and Acute Coronary Events, as well as the Committee on Long-Term Health Consequences of Exposure to Burn Pits in Iraq and Afghanistan. For the last 10 years, Dr. Bhatnagar has served as Deputy Editor of the American Heart Association journal - *Circulation Research*. His research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Defense, and the American Heart Association. He currently serves as Director of the Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute, and Chief of the Environmental Medicine Division at the University of Louisville and Director of the American Heart Association Tobacco Regulation and Addiction Center.
LYNN SCARLETT
Chief External Affairs Officer
The Nature Conservancy

Lynn Scarlett is Chief External Affairs Officer at The Nature Conservancy. In this role, she directs policy and corporate engagement in the United States and the 79 countries and territories in which the Conservancy operates, with a focus on advancing climate action, natural infrastructure solutions, habitat protection and biodiversity, and conservation funding. During the G.W. Bush Administration, she was the Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior and served as the Acting Secretary in 2006. While Interior’s Deputy Secretary, Lynn served on the Executive Committee of the President’s Management Council. She currently chairs the Science Advisory Board of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. She serves on the board of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and is on the Dean’s Advisory Council of the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at UC Santa Barbara. Lynn is author or co-author of publications on ecosystem services, climate change, urban greening, cooperative conservation, and science and decision making. She received her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in political science from the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she also completed her Ph.D. coursework and exams in political science and political economy.

SAM SANKAR
Senior Vice President of Programs
Earthjustice

Sam Sankar joined Earthjustice in 2019 as Senior Vice President for Programs. He is responsible for developing and overseeing the overall strategy and effectiveness of Earthjustice’s programs and coordinating the Litigation, Communications, and Policy and Legislation departments.

Sam has been working on environmental issues throughout his career, which has included service as a staff attorney at the Justice Department’s Environment and Natural Resources Division, as a senior executive at General Electric, and as deputy chief counsel of a presidential commission formed to investigate the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. He has also worked as a boat captain, machinist, and senior advisor to The Nature Conservancy.

Sam received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Cornell University, an M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Stanford University, and his law degree from the University of California, Berkeley. After law school, he clerked for Judge William Fletcher of the Ninth Circuit, Judge Louis Pollak of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and Justice Sandra Day O’Connor of the U.S. Supreme Court. He lives in Washington D.C. with his wife and two children.
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020
Washington Marriott Georgetown Hotel - Metropolitan Ballroom

JOHN PIOTTI
President and CEO
American Farmland Trust

John Piotti has worked at the forefront of sustainable agriculture since the early 1990s, first in Maine, and now nationally.

In 2016, he became the President of American Farmland Trust, bringing new energy to this storied organization that helped create the conservation agriculture movement.

Under John’s leadership, AFT has engaged in the most comprehensive study of American land use ever conducted, helped secure an additional $200 million/year in Federal funding for agricultural conservation easements, and launched new initiatives that advance regenerative farming practices, combat climate change, and supported next generation farmers.

Prior to joining AFT, John served as President of Maine Farmland Trust, which during his tenure became recognized as one of the most innovative and impactful farm-support groups in the nation. John has served in the Maine State Legislature, where he chaired the Agriculture Committee and was later elected House Majority Leader. John holds three degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology: in engineering, public policy, and systems management.

TIMOTHY SHANK
Deep-sea Biologist
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Cape Cod

Tim Shank is a deep-sea biologist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on Cape Cod who is internationally recognized for his research on the ecology and evolution of seafloor ecosystems around the world, including some off the mid-Atlantic Coast. Tim has spent a total of over five years at sea as a participant in more than 70 research expeditions and made more than 50 dives in the research submersible, Alvin. He is currently the director of the HADEX program, an international effort to systematically explore and study the ocean’s hadal zone—the deepest 50 percent of the ocean. Over the course of his career, Tim has had the fortune to travel the world exploring hydrothermal vents, seafloor seeps, deep-sea coral reefs, and some of the most remote parts of the ocean and seafloor. He is also the author of Discovering the Deep: A Photographic Atlas of the Seafloor and Ocean Crust. The deep oceans and global seafloor are truly Earth’s last frontier. They remain largely unexplored yet are critical to our survival on this planet.
FRAN ULMER
Chair, The Nature Conservancy's Global Board and Fellow at Harvard's Belfer Center

Fran Ulmer has spent over 45 years in public service. She has chaired the U.S. Arctic Research Commission since being appointed by President Obama in 2011. Ulmer is a Senior Fellow of the Arctic Initiative in the Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center. She served as a Special Advisor on Arctic Science and Policy at the State Department from 2014-2017, and was a Visiting Professor at Stanford in 2018.

In 2010, President Obama appointed her to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling. From 2007-2011, Ulmer was Chancellor of the University of Alaska Anchorage. She is the Chair of the Global Board of the Nature Conservancy and serves on the Board of the National Parks Conservation Association.

Ulmer, who earned a J.D. cum laude from the University of Wisconsin Law School, served as an elected official in Alaska for 18 years as the mayor of Juneau, a state representative, and as Lieutenant Governor.

PETER STEIN
President and Managing Director
The Lyme Timber Company

Peter joined Lyme in 1990 and has led the firm's conservation-oriented forestland investment strategies. As of 2019, Lyme has raised five co-mingled funds, securing more than $950 million of capital from families, endowments, public pension funds, private pension funds, and insurance companies. Lyme has acquired and permanently conserved 1.1 million acres of high conservation value forestland in the U.S. and Canada. Lyme's conservation advisory business assists families and companies in the design and execution of conservation transactions, resulting in more than 900,000 acres of permanent land conservation in 12 states plus the Province of Quebec.

Prior to his career with LTC Partners and Lyme, Peter was Senior Vice President of the Trust for Public Land (TPL), where he was one of the founding staff. He earned a B.A. with Highest Honors from the University of California at Santa Cruz in 1975. Peter was a Loeb Fellow, received a Certificate in Advanced Environmental Studies from Harvard University in 1981, and received the Kingsbury Browne Award from the Land Trust Alliance and Lincoln Institute of Land Policy in 2012.

Peter is a former Board Chair of the Land Trust Alliance and served as a founding Commissioner of the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. He is the co-founder of the Conservation Finance Network and the International Land Conservation Network.
LAURIE WAYBURN
Co-Founder, Co-CEO and President
Pacific Forest Trust

Ms. Wayburn is an accomplished forest and conservation innovator who advises policymakers at the state, regional, national, and international levels. She pioneers new approaches to develop sustainable resource economies using her deep experience in the fields of conservation, ecosystem services, and sustainability. A preeminent authority on the climate and ecosystem benefits of forests, she leads efforts enacting climate change policies that unite conservation and sustainable management with market-based approaches. She has received several highly prestigious honors bestowed for her leadership and is a frequent speaker, writer, and media commentator on working forest conservation.

Prior to co-founding Pacific Forest Trust with Constance Best in 1993, Ms. Wayburn worked internationally for 10 years in the United Nations Environment Program and Ecological Sciences Division of UNESCO. She later served as Executive Director of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory and was the Founder and first Coordinator of the Central California Coast Biosphere Reserve. Ms. Wayburn is a graduate of Harvard University and currently serves on the Northwest BioCarbon Initiative Steering Committee, the American Forest Policy Steering Committee, and the Land Trust Alliance Advisory Council.

ALEXANDER FRIEND
Deputy Chief of Research and Development
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Alex directs, coordinates, and integrates all Forest Service research activities in order to produce scientific information and develop innovative technologies that support sustainable management of the nation’s diverse forests and rangelands. To this end, Alex manages R&D’s $300 million budget and leads an accomplished unit of 500 scientists and 1,500 dedicated staff. Through three Washington Office units, five Research Stations located across the country, and the Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin, Alex directs R&D’s basic and applied research in broad fields that include: timber management, forest soil and water, forest recreation, range management, wildlife and fish habitat, forest fires, forest insects and diseases, and forest products.

Alex joined the Forest Service in 2002 as a project leader and research ecologist at the Northern Research Station in Houghton, Michigan. Most recently, Alex has served as the station director for the Pacific Southwest Research Station, where he engaged with forest resource issues in California, Hawaii, and the US-affiliated Pacific Islands. Prior to joining the Forest Service, Alex was Professor of Forestry at Mississippi State University from 1989 to 2001.
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020
Washington Marriott Georgetown Hotel - Metropolitan Ballroom

COLLIN O’MARA
President and CEO
The National Wildlife Federation

Collin O’Mara serves as the president and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation, America’s largest wildlife conservation organization with more than six million members and 52 state and territorial affiliates. Under O’Mara’s leadership, the National Wildlife Federation is focused on uniting all Americans to ensure that wildlife thrive in our rapidly changing world. The Federation works across party lines to conserve wildlife, restore habitat, ensure healthy waters, defend public lands, provide environmental education, and connect people with the great outdoors. It publishes the award-winning Ranger Rick magazines and National Wildlife magazine. Prior to joining the National Wildlife Federation, O’Mara served as the cabinet secretary of Delaware’s Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, where he was the youngest state cabinet official in the nation. He was a Marshall Scholar at the University of Oxford, a University Fellow at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, and a Presidential Scholar at Dartmouth College.

WINSOME McINTOSH
President of the McIntosh Foundation
Founder of Rachel’s Network
NAL Chairman 1983-1987
Member, Georgetown Garden Club, Washington, DC

Winsome Dunn McIntosh is Trustee and President of the McIntosh Foundation. Winsome has served on the board of the McIntosh Foundation since 1972 and has over four decades of experience in the wider philanthropic community.

Presently, she serves on Mo-DV, Inc (a California software company), The Boat Company (Eco cruise business in Alaska), ClientEarth (Founder and Chair), and EarthJustice (largest national environmental legal firm in US).

Her past Board affiliations include Alliance for Justice (Vice Chair), She Should Run Foundation, The Association of Small Foundations (Founder and CEO), Center for Health and the Global Environment/Harvard Medical School, League of Conservation Voters Education Fund (Treasurer), Island National Bank of Palm Beach and Trust (first woman Director), the Kappa Delta Foundation, Palm Beach County Community Foundation (Founder and Vice Chair), Garden Club of Palm Beach (President), Palm Beach Preservation Foundation (founder), Palm Beach Preservation Commission (appointed Director), Open Space Institute (Chair), and The Garden Club of America.

Our Keynote Speaker

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020
The Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

THEODORE ROOSEVELT V
Great-Great Grandson of President Theodore Roosevelt and Founding Partner Redwood Grove Capital

Our keynote speaker is the descendant and namesake of President Theodore Roosevelt often referred to as America’s conservation president. President Roosevelt was an avid outdoorsman who understood early on the importance of protecting nature as one of America’s greatest legacies. "We have fallen heirs to the most glorious heritage a people ever received, and each one must do his part if we wish to show that the nation is worthy of its good fortune.” - Theodore Roosevelt.

The conservation legacy of President Roosevelt is found in the 230 million acres of public lands he helped establish during his presidency. Much of that land - 150 million acres - was set aside as national forests. In 1905, Roosevelt created the present-day U.S. Forest Service an organization within the Department of Agriculture. The idea was to conserve forests for continued use. An adamant proponent of utilizing the country’s resources, Roosevelt wanted to insure the sustainability of those resources.

Roosevelt was also the first president to create a Federal Bird Reserve, and he would establish 51 of these during his administration. These reserves would later become today’s national wildlife refuges, managed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Today there is a national wildlife refuge in every state, and North Dakota boasts the most refuges of any state in the country. (Source: nps.org)

The young Mr. Roosevelt has become a modern-day force in conservation serving as the Vice Chair of the board of directors of EcoAmerica, on the Executive Committee of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library and serves on the President’s Council for the Woods Hole Research Center. He partnered with Subaru, to create and promote a Zero Landfill Initiative at three of the National Park System’s most iconic parks. He has served on the board of directors of the New York League of Conservation Voters, President Obama’s Energy and Environment Committee and the American Bison Coalition which successfully lobbied to make the bison the official mammal of the United States.

He is a founding partner of Redwood Grove Capital, a public equity manager that incorporates climate science into a traditional investment analysis. Prior to that, he was a Managing Director at GoldenTree Asset Management, a hedge fund specializing in high yield, distressed and structured credit investments.

Mr. Roosevelt has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Princeton University and a Master’s in Business Management from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.
INTRODUCTION

Because changes to our climate impact every Garden Club of America (GCA) legislative priority, including biodiversity, clean air, clean water, agriculture, forests, national public lands and more, we believe this topic is overarching. In short, the GCA recognizes not only the threat of climate change but also the urgent need for effective action at all levels of society (including both governmental and individual action). The observed changes in climate we are experiencing daily are negatively impacting every aspect of our world. These aspects include plants and the natural world, economies, national security and human health. It has become clear that rapid loss of biodiversity, species extinction, sea level rise, ocean acidification, extreme weather events and the health of public lands are at risk if we do not act now.

Because individual and collective action still can modify the course of climate change, the GCA is committed to educating our communities about the impacts of climate change on natural systems and also promoting constructive responses to mitigate and adapt to the adverse effects.

Turning the table on climate change will not happen with one single action. It will involve a series of actions. These will include lifestyle changes, natural climate solutions (e.g., protection of public lands, forests, farms and coastal areas) as well as advancing energy conservation, reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and supporting clean energy technologies.

The following are a group of legislative priorities which, if implemented, would move us closer to reversing the devastating impacts of climate change. While there is no predominant climate change legislation advancing at this time, each of the following legislative priorities play a part in achieving an overall positive outcome. Even more importantly, each has a chance of being successful in this session of Congress!

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF)

Reasons for GCA support:
- Since 1965, the GCA has supported the LWCF, a bedrock conservation program which protects irreplaceable lands and improves outdoor recreation for all citizens, at no expense to the taxpayer. All 50 states have benefited from this program.
- GCA played an important role in passage of legislation in 2019 (S.47) to permanently authorize LWCF. Passage of this bill marks a major victory for conservation but the effectiveness of LWCF is still at risk. Though now permanently authorized, as things stand Congress would still have to vote each year as part of its budget process to provide funding for the program. Rather than fully funding the LWCF, Congress continued to appropriate only half the $900 million each year that is authorized for the program.

For your Senators and Representatives:
- Thank your legislator for his/her support of S.47 last year, which permanently authorized the Land and Water Conservation Fund. (Google “S. 47 Land and Water,” go to “actions” and click on roll call votes to see if your legislator voted “yes”).
- Ask for their support of S. 1081 in the Senate or H.R. 3195 in the House, which permanently and fully fund LWCF at $900M per year. (Google the bill number and click on “cosponsors” to see if your legislator is supporting these bills).
- LWCF received $495 million in FY2020, a good number but far short of the $900 million promised when LWCF was established in 1965.
GCA Legislative Priorities 2020

NATIONAL PARKS, PUBLIC LANDS AND NATIVE PLANTS (LWCF)

Reasons for GCA support:
- The GCA respectfully reminds Congress of its responsibility for fully funding our nation's parks, including operating expenses and maintenance, for the enjoyment of all citizens. The GCA wants it to be clear that native plants are long-term investments in the integrity of our parks and public lands and that it supports funding the pollinators and animals who depend on them.

Requests for Legislators:
- Support the Restore our Parks and Public Lands Act (S. 500 in the Senate and H.R. 1225 in the House), which would create a five-year, $6.5 billion fund to address long-standing deferred maintenance and construction backlogs at the nation's parks, wildlife refuges and Native American schools.
- These bills have strong bipartisan support.
- S. 500 is led by Rob Portman (R-OH), Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Mark Warner (D-VA) and Angus King (I-ME). (Google S 500 restore and click on cosponsors to see if your Senator is a cosponsor)
- H.R. 1225 is led by Rob Bishop (R-UT-1) and Derek Kilmer (D-WA-6) (Google HR 1225 Restore to see if your Representative is a cosponsor)

Special Request for Senators:
- Support the Native Plant Species Pilot Program Act (S. 3150), which sets up a five year pilot program in our National Parks to encourage the use of native plant material and test their effectiveness in preventing the spread of invasive species. The GCA (working with Senator Susan Collins) has been instrumental in the introduction of this bill.
- Sponsored by Susan Collins (R-ME) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA).
- Currently there is no House counterpart to this bill, but there are active discussions about potential bipartisan lead sponsors.

OCEANS

Reasons for GCA support:
The Garden Club of America believes we should protect our coastal areas and oceans from all types of pollution and environmental degradation, including plastic and marine debris. In the Senate, Save our Seas 2.0, is a bipartisan bill to address these problems.

The Save Our Seas 2.0 Act, S. 1982, was approved by the Senate unanimously on January 9, 2020. This bipartisan bill is being led by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Dan Sullivan (R-AK), and Bob Menendez (D-NJ).
- Thank your Senator for his/her support
- The bill proposes a variety of new measures to bolster international engagement and cooperation, with a view to advancing research and addressing the marine debris crisis. It also commits resources to scientific research to better understand and address the root causes of plastic pollution and proposes a host of new efforts to improve our waste management system (particularly global recycling and disposal infrastructure).
OCEANS (continued)

For your Representatives:
- Request support from your Representative for the companion bill, HR 3969. Google "HR 3969 Save" to see if your Rep has cosponsored.
- Introduced by Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR-1)

TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE AND POLLINATOR HIGHWAYS

Reasons for GCA support:
- The GCA supports the opportunities presented by the transportation and infrastructure sectors to combat climate change (clean energy, the use of native plants in federally funded projects, electric and alternative energy vehicles, permeable sidewalks, etc.)

Requests for Senators:
- The GCA supports the inclusion of the first-ever climate change title in the American Transportation and Infrastructure Act (S. 2302), which would help lower emissions, support highway wildlife crossings and improve roads, trails and bridges in our National Forests.
- The ATIA currently includes language that encourages the use of native plant material in Federally funded infrastructure projects. Please work to maintain this language in the final version of the ATIA.
- Support the Monarch and Pollinator Highway (MPH) Act of 2019 (S. 2918), which sets up a grant program to support pollinator health by promoting "the planting and seeding of native, locally-appropriate grasses and wildflowers, including milkweed" along roadsides and highway rights-of-way. It authorizes $5M per year for the program with a limit of $150K per project.
- Sponsored by Jeff Merkley (D-OR), co-sponsored by Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Tom Carper (D-DE) and Mike Rounds (R-SD).

For further background on these bills, please visit the NAL Committee page on the GCA website to find the “What We’re Watching Chart” and the "Legislative Updates".
A core tenet of The Garden Club of America’s purpose is to “restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement.” In fulfilling that purpose, the GCA has developed position papers to articulate broad goals for advocacy efforts in the public policy arena. Underlying all of these position papers is a commitment to “independent, academic, peer-reviewed scientific research as the basis for formulation of public policy and legislation, as well as appropriate funding to ensure quality results.”

The current GCA Position Papers cover the following subject-matter areas:

**CLEAN AIR:**
The GCA supports the Clean Air Act and urges a reduction in greenhouse gases through an integrated strategy of regulated emission caps, improved energy efficiency, and greater use of clean energy sources.

**CLEAN WATER:**
The GCA supports policies to protect the quantity and quality of our nation’s water resources. This includes preserving ecosystems and reducing water pollution through a vital and broad-based Clean Water Act, as well as protecting coastal waters and the oceans through national initiatives.

**CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION:**
With an emphasis on encouraging action to preserve biodiversity, the GCA is committed to educating club members and communities about the causes of climate change and constructive responses. The GCA supports public and private policies and regulations, as well as individual initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**NATIONAL PARKS:**
Recognizing the National Parks as irreplaceable treasures as well as critical habitats for protecting native plant communities and whole ecosystems, the GCA supports making conservation the system’s top priority, along with ensuring adequate resource levels to maintain the parks.

**NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS:**
Recognizing the ever-increasing pressure for multiple uses of federal lands, the GCA supports strengthening public policy to make resource protection and preservation a priority in establishing public land policy. This includes full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the use of the federal portion of that fund to purchase and restore public lands.
GCA Positions on Public Policy Issues

NATIVE PLANTS:

Viewing the Endangered Species Act as one of America’s landmark pieces of conservation legislation, the GCA supports measures to protect the nation’s rare, threatened, and endangered plants and their habitat and the wildlife they support. The GCA supports workable science-based recovery programs for all species.

OCEANS:

The GCA recognizes that oceans are the largest ecosystem, covering nearly three-quarters of Earth. The GCA supports policies to protect the quality of our nation’s oceans, protecting coastal waters and oceans through nationwide initiatives. The GCA believes in protecting our coastal areas and oceans from all types of pollution and environmental degradation using best management practices.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, SEED DIVERSITY, AND FOOD SECURITY:

The GCA encourages agricultural policies that address runoff and support conservation of healthy soil on farms, including a strong and well-funded conservation title in the Farm Bill.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBLE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION:

The GCA favors legislation that encourages biodiversity in roadside plantings, fosters the creation and maintenance of scenic byways, emphasizes protection of the natural landscape, addresses the hazards of electronic billboards and underscores the importance of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process.

WASTE MANAGEMENT:

The GCA recognizes that effective waste management is vital to our health and well-being and encourages reducing, reusing, recycling and composting. Further, the GCA supports federal, state and local legislation and policy that supports responsible waste management.

The full text of GCA Position Papers may be found on GCA’s website: http://www.gcamerica.org.

January 2020
In the early 19th century bright and educated women became active in various reform movements. Clubs formed around many different issues, ranging from literature to music to social reform.

From the 1870s to the 1920s, women's clubs became the major vehicle by which American women could apply their developing talents to shaping the world beyond their homes. Clubs afforded both social and leadership opportunities. As women's clubs grew, counting locally influential women among their rolls, they could and did affect change both nationally and locally.

At the end of the 19th c., forming garden clubs was an expression of interest in nature and beauty. Even before the war of independence, all male horticultural societies and botany groups eschewed women's membership. In response, women began forming their own clubs and associations within their own communities. Two of America’s first garden clubs were established in Cambridge MA and Athens GA. While many of these clubs started with the goal of exchanging information and flower cuttings, they soon adopted larger missions that indelibly shaped the American landscape.

Organizations founded in the early 20th century such as The Garden Club of America (1913), the Women's National Farm and Garden Association (WNFGS) (1914), and the Woman's Land Army Units (the Farmerettes of WWI) (1917), shared similar missions. Their goals were to further conservation, agricultural and horticultural education and aid in the protection and conservation of natural resources.

In the earliest years of the 20th c. the decades-long fight to win the right to vote for women in the United States was taking place. It is not hard to imagine that there was considerable crossover among the strong, like-minded women founders of these organizations. In fact, Elizabeth Price Martin, the first GCA president was also the Vice President of the WNFGS. And Louisa King was one of four Vice Presidents of the GCA and President of the WNFGS.

In January 1918, the woman suffrage amendment passed the House of Representatives with the necessary two-thirds majority vote. In June 1919, it was approved by the Senate and sent to the states for ratification. Campaigns were waged by suffragists around the country to secure ratification, and on August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the amendment, giving it the two-thirds majority of state ratification necessary to make it the law of the land. For the first time in American history women, like men, were given all the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. It is no surprise that 1920 also marks the year that members voted to incorporate the GCA.

In this, the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, the GCA enthusiastically celebrates a woman’s right to vote. All of us must appreciate that voting is a privilege not to be taken for granted. Each vote counts and the choices we make today will shape the future of our country and our world!
The National Affairs and Legislation Committee met in Washington for the first time in 1983. The meeting was hosted and coordinated by Mrs. W. Boulton Kelly (Ellie) St. George’s Garden Club, with assistance from Mrs. Edward Elliman (Ann), Hortulus Garden Club. The NAL Chairman from 1983 to 1987 was Mrs. Michael A. McIntosh (Winsome) Garden Club of Palm Beach. Following the meeting, the committee decided to “work” in Washington from 1984 on, in cooperation with the Conservation Committee, in order to establish a joint presence in the nation’s capital. A format was developed including speakers from various environmental organizations, experts in their fields, providing information on legislative issues that would be coming up at the next session of Congress.

We honor our founders for their tremendous work and foresight in providing GCA club members with this platform to exercise our civic duty.

“We hope to use legislation as a way to educate today’s members to be stewards of the past conservation concerns of The Garden Club of America and to help protect America’s future. It is then the responsibility of the members to relay these concerns to their government representatives.” – Ellie Kelly

“In these contentious times, knowledge, understanding, and a compelling voice are essential to preserve our natural world.” – Ann Elliman

“Our input is being increasingly sought as our organization becomes better recognized as having a strong, reasonable stand on conservation.” – Winsome McIntosh
Designated Locations for Zone Sessions

MONDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS – SEATING BY ZONE

Zone I
Logan Salon

Zone II
Metropolitan Gallery 2

Zone III
Thomas Salon

Zone IV
Metropolitan Gallery 1

Zone V
Metropolitan Gallery 3

Zone VI
Dupont Gallery 6

Zone VII
District Gallery 2 (3rd floor)

Zone VIII
Dupont Gallery 7

Zone IX
Metropolitan Gallery 5

Zone X
Dupont Gallery 8

Zone XI
Metropolitan Gallery 4

Zone XII
District Gallery 1 (3rd floor)
Emergency Numbers, Key Addresses & Acknowledgments

Lisa Ott
NAL Committee Chairman
516-297-1651

Elizabeth Waddill
Conservation Committee Chairman
409-893-1732

Lynne Nelson
NAL Washington D.C. Conference
Vice Chairman
202-320-1170

NAL Conference Hotel
Washington Marriott Georgetown
1221 22nd Street NW
Washington, DC 20037
202-872-1500

Capitol Hill Briefing Day
U.S. House of Representatives
Ways and Means Committee Room
1100 Longworth House Office Building
15 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20515

SEE MAP – BACK COVER

Monday Night: Zone Dinners
Contact your Conservation/NAL Zone Rep for any questions

Tuesday Night Gala Event
The Mayflower Hotel
1127 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Medical
There is no doctor on call, however, medical service is available through the hotel concierge or front desk.

Hospital (Closest to the hotel)
George Washington University Hospital
900 23rd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
202-715-4000

Pharmacy (Closest to the hotel)
Walgreens
1217 22nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
202-776-9084

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

With special acknowledgment to:
The Conservation and National Affairs and Legislation Committee members, past and present, for their sage advice and dedicated efforts in designing and producing the 2020 NAL Conference. And most sincere gratitude to Lynne Nelson, Vice Chairman of the Washington Meeting.

With special thanks to the following:
Brooke Breckenridge Morton, Designer; Rich Innes, GCA Consultant; Conservation Committee Chairman Elizabeth Waddill; GCA President Debbie Edwards and First Vice President Debbie Oliver, NAL/Conservation Committee Liaisons Julie Johnson, Vice President and Marianne Salas, Zone Director; Treasurers Elizabeth Skeadas and Karen Keating; Archivist Arete Warren and GCA Staff – Brittany Bennett, Camila Bustos, Jennifer Barnett Cohen, Maggie Cruz, and Anne Gerald

The Staff of the Georgetown Marriott and Mayflower Hotels, Office of Congressman Thomas Suozzi; The Trowel Club of Washington, DC; Perennial Garden Club of Washington, DC; Sue Morriss; Lisa Frulla, The Library of Congress

And sincere gratitude to the 2020 NAL Speakers who generously shared their valuable time and vast expertise to help GCA members become stronger advocates for our environment.
“Over 85 years ago, when land conservation was still in its infancy and age-old redwood forests in California were falling at a rapid rate, a partnership began between two young organizations. Together The Garden Club of America and the Save the Redwoods League saved a grove of primordial giants and in so doing accelerated the conservation of our most iconic and superlative forest,” said Save the Redwoods League Director Sam Hodder at the 2018 GCA Annual Meeting.

Only 5% of the original old-growth forest, which at one time covered the continents of North America and Europe, is left. Redwoods or Sequoia sempervirens (Latin for ‘always flourishing’), some of which are 3,000 years old, are the fastest growing living organisms on the planet in terms of accumulation of mass. As a result, redwood forests store more carbon per acre than any other forest in the world and are a critical component in the fight to mitigate climate change.

Let the story of the redwoods remind us of why we have traveled to Washington this week and how important our continued efforts are in protecting our precious environment. An investment in our natural resources provides a long-lasting return.

Thank you for joining us and making our voices heard.