



# GIBSON ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

PO BOX 157, GIBSON ISLAND, MARYLAND 21056

**OCTOBER 2020**

## GIBSON ISLAND GARDEN CLUB BOARD

### Co-Presidents

Marge Schinnerer  
*mrschinnerer@comcast.net*  
Etelvina Tyler  
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**1st Vice President:** Elizabeth Davis

### 2nd Vice Presidents:

Rhonda Pierce & Dania Schuh

**Treasurer:** Amy Petronis Rand

**Recording Secretary:** Robin Ambler

**Corresponding Secretary:** Hetty Tegen

## GETTING TO KNOW OUR ROOTS

*“Anyone who thinks fallen leaves are dead has never watched them dancing on a windy day.”* Shira Tamir

### Thursday, October 15 - Gibson Island Garden Tour

We are pleased to have Bill Reil, *Island Superintendent* and Chris Dow, *Certified Professional Horticulturist and Assistant Island Superintendent*, as our guides for our October program. They are eager to share with us their vast knowledge of the environment where we live.

MEET AT THE POINT PROMPTLY AT 10:45 AM.

We encourage you to come by golf carts. If you are comfortable, please feel free to share a ride.

Masks or face coverings are required, and wear comfortable shoes.

Thursday, October 15

**11:00 AM Program -**  
**“Gibson Island Garden Tour”**  
led by Bill Reil & Chris Dow

12:00 Noon Lunch - Back Porch

Please join us if you feel comfortable having lunch outside on the porch.

We'll order from the menu and follow Club protocols for outside dining!

**Make your own reservation.**  
Mention that you are part of the Garden Club group.  
**410-255-1000**



Wild life on the Island - Last Supper for Monarch Caterpillar



Dania Blair - Garden Eater!

## Activities from September

**September 17: Susie Creamer, Director of the Paterson Park Audubon Center,** presented an introduction to gardening for birds and beneficial insects using Maryland native plants. In follow up to her presentation, Susie sent us the following letter:

Marge and I hope that next year this will become another Gibson Island Garden Club program along with Bay Wise certification.

### Gardens Are for the Birds!

Author: Susie Creamer



In every neighborhood, each of us has an opportunity to create a patch of habitat in the “patchwork quilt” of yards, patios, and stoops in Baltimore. Sadly, America’s popular lawn does not provide for butterflies and birds, who seek food, water, shelter, and space for survival. If we work together, our neighborhood can be a buffet for wildlife by choosing colorful plants that are best for birds.

Public green spaces and gardens at home, work, and schools offer a place for migratory birds to visit to rest and refuel during their long journeys every spring and fall. As they travel the Atlantic Flyway, their highway in the sky, birds look for green patches among the many gray cities on the east coast of the U.S. If we plant the needed species and cultivate them chemical-free, our home gardens can increase food options for exhausted birds in need of a meal.

It’s important to remove invasive species, which cause ecological harm. Popular invasives include English ivy, butterfly bush, and Japanese honeysuckle; they dominate your space, taking resources from other species. Plants native to Maryland support local butterflies and migratory birds better than plants from other parts of the U.S. and the world. Over thousands of years, Maryland plants co-evolved with local insects, such as monarch caterpillars, which specialize in eating only one kind of plant. It’s vital that we work together to offer biodiversity to wildlife to re-create a natural balance.

In your garden, cultivate species that provide fruit, nectar, and seeds to birds but remember to feed caterpillars, an essential source of protein for our avian neighbors. When we provide for these larvae, we support a healthy ecosystem. If you’re worried about bugs chewing apart your garden, remember that a single nest of baby chickadees, in just two weeks, consumes 5,000-9,000 caterpillars!

At Patterson Park Audubon Center, we promote these positive garden practices and hope you will apply for Audubon signage to boast your achievement to your neighbors. When shopping, seek Maryland natives, and insist that nursery managers stock them. Native plants are also accustomed to local soils, climate, and precipitation, so they require less watering and reduce the use of chemical fertilizers, which end up in our waterways. Avoid spraying pesticides, as these chemicals are poisonous to beneficial insects, their bird predators, and the Chesapeake Bay. When you plant natives to invite bugs to your garden, you’re also inviting birds that act as pest management, in the way nature intended.

As you enrich your Gibson Island garden this fall, encourage your friends and family to do the same. Bird-friendly habitat is possible anywhere – in public parks, streetscapes, schools, and businesses. Every grassy lawn is a blank canvas waiting to be painted with colorful wildflowers and fruiting shrubs!

For more information on Audubon’s bird-friendly habitat recognition and our Top 10 Lists of “birdiest” perennials, shrubs, and trees, visit [pattersonpark.audubon.org](http://pattersonpark.audubon.org).

## WE NEED YOU!

At our last meeting, Colleen Reed, offered an opportunity for talented Garden Club Members to share the beauty of fall flowers and foliage.

You are invited to create a fresh arrangement for the Clubhouse hallway to welcome guests dining there for the Oyster Roast, Saturday, October 10 or Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 26.

Please contact Colleen Reed at [colleenreed@gmail.com](mailto:colleenreed@gmail.com) if interested or have questions.



Marge & Etelvina are not “garden experts” but...If you send us your pertinent gardening questions, we will include them in our next newsletter. Some of our readers may be able to help

## GARDEN CLUB CORNER

We have limited time during the year to promote new programs and visit new places. If there is anything you would like to do in a small group setting, let us know and we will help put a group together.

Click below for some interesting information!  
Betsey Beck shares these websites related to migration of birds:

[MOVEBANK.ORG](http://MOVEBANK.ORG)

[MIGRATORY CONNECTIV PROJECT](#)

[BIRDCAST](#)

[3 BILLION BIRDS](#)

Anne Potter offers this information about the **“Horticulture Society of Maryland Fall Lectures Series”**  
The fall lectures will be FREE via ZOOM for non-members as well as members...see lecture information below or click on the title/link above.

### PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Welcome to September, in a year like no other. We hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer.

We're sorry we had to cancel our spring and summer programs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The June garden tour, postponed last spring, will not take place this year.

However, we are pleased to announce that we will have the Fall Lecture Series—online, using ZOOM. The series will begin in October, a month later than usual.

Please check our website, [mdhorticulture.org](http://mdhorticulture.org), for the most current information about all of our programs and events.

Thank you for your support.

Cover PHOTO: Paula A. Simon

2

### FALL LECTURE SERIES

We are pleased to present our 2020 fall lectures online using ZOOM. You will receive details for how to attend these lectures in coming emails.

The fall lectures will be FREE for Members, and also FREE for the general public and guests. Stay tuned for details.

Important note: We have postponed the start of the fall series until OCTOBER. All lectures will start at 7:00 p.m. and go until 8:30 p.m., allowing time for introductions and questions.

Tuesday, OCTOBER 13, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

MARIANNE WILLBURN

*Big Dreams, Small Garden: A Guide to Creating Something Extraordinary in Your Ordinary Space*

Tiny balcony, lack of privacy, HOA restrictions: if you're struggling with a difficult outside space you are not alone. Very few of us have ideal conditions for gardening, but by breaking down the process into manageable sections, shifting our perspective and cultivating a sense of contentment and peace, we can create “the garden that lives inside of us.” Garden columnist Marianne Willburn will review this process and share a few tips from her book *Big Dreams, Small Garden*.

LECTURE SPONSOR: Pinehurst Landscape Company

Tuesday, NOVEMBER 10, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

TERI DUNN CHACE

*Seeing Seeds: A Journey into the World of Seedheads, Pods, and Fruit*

According to Teri Dunn Chace, author of *Seeing Seeds*, every seed tells a story. Though small and often not noticed or examined carefully, seeds are simply amazing: what they look like, what they do, as they work towards their goal of self-replication. She finds strangeness and fascination in the seeds of plants as familiar as oaks and dandelions, and as curious as figs and hellebores.

LECTURE SPONSOR: Pinehurst Landscape Company

Tuesday, DECEMBER 8, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

RENNY REYNOLDS

*Chasing Eden: The Story of Hortulus Farm*

Garden designer and event planner Renny Reynolds spent two years looking for the right property on which to create splendid gardens. He found it in Bucks County, Pa., in the late 1970s. The original 15-acre farm expanded to 100 acres, with 24 gardens open to the public. The place is called Hortulus Farm Nursery and Gardens, the subject of a book by Reynolds and Jack Staub, *Chasing Eden: Design Inspiration from the Gardens of Hortulus Farm*.

LECTURE SPONSOR: To be announced

### Cylburn's 2020 Summer Intern – Marquis Barnes

Marquis Barnes, a 2020 graduate of the University of Maryland College Park, was the 2020 summer intern at Cylburn Arboretum.



The internship is co-sponsored by the Horticultural Society of Maryland, the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc., and Cylburn Arboretum Friends.

Marquis received a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture, with a focus on construction project management. He also has an Associate of Arts degree in general studies from Prince George's Community College.

As a student volunteer in 2018, Marquis worked to revitalize a rain garden at the University of Maryland, planted more than 20 trees and installed protective coverings on plantings to thwart deer. He is from Clinton, in Prince George's County.

PHOTO: Courtesy of Cylburn Arboretum Friends

### Tool Drive Update

Save your garden tools for the Society's 2021 Tool Drive, which will benefit the Farm Alliance of Baltimore. The nonprofit alliance supports urban farms and gardens that grow food for communities hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information about the alliance, visit its website, [farmalliancebaltimore.org](http://farmalliancebaltimore.org).

The Tool Drive, an annual event since 2012, was one of many Society events canceled in 2020 because of the pandemic.

### Welcome New Members!

Paula Fernandez  
Katherine Johnson  
Heather Rosenthal

# Gibson Island Wildlife!



Asiatic dayflower growing on Skippers Row near 3rd green - Hetty Tegen



Silver maiden grass - Hetty Tegen



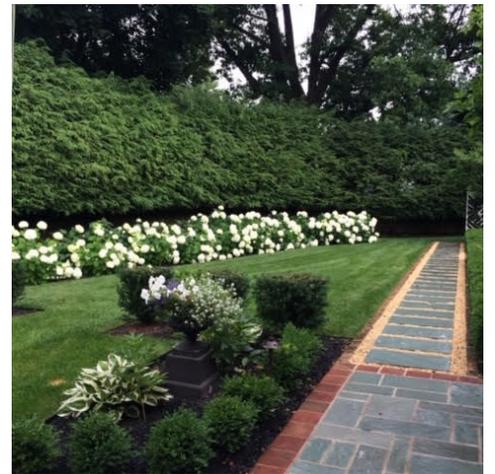
Hetty Tegen



Bald eagle has landed on Alice Long's Beach



Bev Roger's garden



Haven Younger's backyard



Luanne Smith - Gibson Island wild life



Luanne Smith's Garden



Robin Ambler's Porch