



## MEMBER'S MESSAGE BY BETSY BOSWAY

President Anne Shane asked that I 'take the reins' this month and interview the four ICC members who are serving on GCA committees. It says a great deal about our club that the GCA turns to us for leadership positions.

**Hilary Salatich** went from serving as GCA's Treasurer to heading the Second Century Campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to secure the financial future of The Garden Club of America allowing it to thrive and flourish in the coming years. Hilary was appointed by then-GCA president Anne Copenhaver to create this new Ad Hoc committee. Her steering committee consists of 7 members and includes past GCA president Katie Heins, they are tasked with communicating the campaign to the membership and overseeing a larger committee comprised of zone members from across the country. Each GCA member has an area of special interest and the endowment will be all-inclusive so that each donor can designate a place of concern or interest. Hilary travels to New York four times a year for quarterly business meetings, attends the Annual Meetings, and goes to cultivation events relating to the campaign. She adds, "one of the most positive outcomes of the Second Century Campaign will be that GCA will move into the future with a defined development program." Her willingness to create, direct, communicate, and orchestrate this campaign give you a glimmer of Hilary's heartfelt commitment to the GCA.

**Jan Sweeney** serves as Chairman of the Judging Committee, which oversees over 750 active judges and approximately 400 emeritus judges. The Judging Committee, consisting of vice chairs and zone reps, handles about 200 advancement files each year. Advancement files follow the path of each member's progression through the judging process—new candidate, candidate to prospective judge, prospective to approved judge, emeritus, LOA, and deceased files. The committee strives for judges who demonstrate the qualities of humility, courage, wisdom, tact, sensitivity, courtesy, and integrity. They want judges to be good ambassadors for the GCA since this is the only lifetime appointment in all of GCA. Jan has made it her personal goal to reinforce these objectives. She loves her job and feels she still learns something new at every flower show. That is quite a statement when you consider she has been a judge since 2005, attends all the major flower shows in Philadelphia, Boston, Greenwich (CT), Palm Beach, Houston, Memphis, Portland, Honolulu, Chicago, as well as GCA shows and zone shows. Jan works closely with the chairs of the Flower Show, Horticulture, Photography, and Awards committees. The Judging and Flower Show committees keep The Flower Show and Judging Guide (aka The Yellow Book) up to date. This manual serves as an encyclopedia for all flower shows. She also travels four times a year for quarterly business meetings in NYC. She loves the flowers and the people she has met through her journey. She says, "The essence of a flower show is to educate the Club members and the public. When you consider it educationally, it takes the burden off of your shoulders!" Jan shoulders her huge responsibility with aplomb and her effervescent smile!

The Chairman of Zone X is **Amy Cooke** and she serves the eleven clubs in Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. The zone chair is essentially a link between the clubs and the GCA. She visits every club within the zone, helps connect the clubs with each other, maintains an awareness of club activities, and communicates regularly with club presidents and zone reps. Amy updates the Zone Landing page on the GCA website to help promote activities and exchanges of ideas and information. She planned the two-day Zone X President's Council meeting, held in Indianapolis, as well as the business portion of the Zone X Conference in Cincinnati. Amy works closely with Zone X Director, Mary Harman, (Country GC) and Vice Chair Diane Wellstein who also happens to be her mother! Amy's job also requires travels to NYC for quarterly business meetings and she still finds time to serve as a prospective judge, visiting flower shows in the Midwest region. Her energy is contagious and her enthusiasm boundless!

**MEMBER'S MESSAGE** BY BETSY BOSWAY (CONTINUED)

As the Zone X Bulletin Rep, I, **Betsy**, had to dust the cobwebs off of my English Composition book and harken back to thinking about comma splices, apostrophes, and dangling modifiers. As a rep, I serve as a liaison between our zone and the Bulletin, communicating and encouraging the clubs to submit articles for the Newsworthy section and also looking for possible ideas for articles. I write a quarterly column called "Late Bloomers and Sage Advice" which showcases advice from past issues of the Bulletin that is still viable and informative. My assignments have been as varied as writing about the environmental advocacy of the Cleveland clubs long after the fire on the Cuyahoga River to interviewing the head gardener at The British Embassy after a cup of tea and tour of the gardens and greenhouses. I travel to NYC for Bulletin meetings and will venture to Santa Fe next week with my committee for our winter meeting. The Winter 2018 Bulletin is focused on conservation, recycling, and a page devoted to a certain garden club that visited the White House in December. It has been my privilege to serve our club and our zone in this capacity.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Happy New Year, fellow IGC members!

As you know, Active members are required to attend 5 meetings each year. Please note that we are not meeting in February, leaving 5 meetings between now and June. Those who have completed 10 years of service are eligible for Associate status. If you would like to change or update your membership, please contact Claudia Hapak, Corresponding Secretary, or myself.

Spring is the time we consider new members for Admissions. Ideal candidates have time to attend meetings, work on committees and an interest in gardening, conservation, floral design or photography. If you know an individual that fits this profile, please email me your request for a sponsor form. We will also have forms on hand at our March board and general meetings.

Jill Failey  
2nd Vice President of Membership

**JANUARY GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, January 17th  
10:00 a.m. Coffee**



**Park Tudor  
Foster Hall  
7200 North College Avenue**



Please enter the Main/south entrance to Park Tudor on College Avenue. Upon entering, take an immediate right and then a left at the "T". Foster Hall is a Tudor Style house at the top of the hill on your left. Parking is available on the north side of the lot near Lauth Field. There are no elevators in the building to reach the entrance and you will see steps from the parking lot up to the level where the building entrance is located.

Handicap Parking is available in the Fine Arts Circle, which is the first (and only left) you can take after you pass Foster Hall and Lauth Field. There will be golf carts provided by Park Tudor for members who need assistance. There is also signage and there will be 2-3 IGC volunteers to direct you from the parking lot.

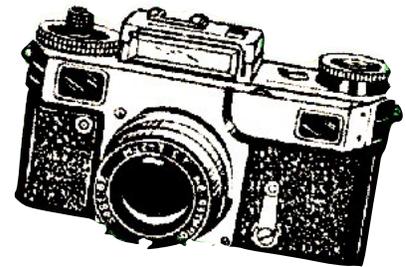
## PHOTOGRAPHY

With our upcoming Club Photography Show to take place at the May 9 General Meeting, It's Time to Focus on Photography!

The next few months, as you snap away with your phones and cameras, think about coming up with a photo that you might enter in our club show in May. Photos need to include some sort of plant or geologic material, and their primary focus cannot be a person or pet. The classes are as follows:

1. Close-up
2. Landscape
3. Manipulation ( as sophisticated as Adobe Photoshop or as simple as playing with a phone app)
4. Photo highlighting one of our community projects

Details concerning sizing and printing will follow in March. For now, just start taking photos!




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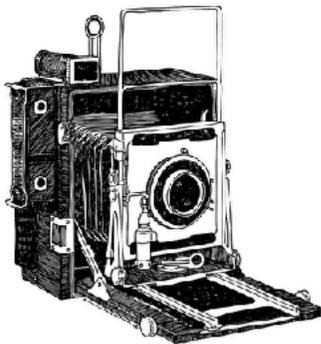
### Photography Education

In other photography news . . . Did you know that GCA offers online video tutorials as well as fabulous Photography Study Group workshops to assist you in developing your photography skills, regardless of your level of expertise? Just go to the GCA website, click on "GCA Committee Pages" and scroll down to "Photography" to access these resources.

Two workshops to note:

Portland, Oregon in June - including a photo shoot, dinner and overnight stay at our own Jan Sweeney's winery! Be sure to sign up soon to be included on the interest list for this trip, or you'll likely miss out.

Yosemite National Park in February - due to cancellations, a couple of spots are still available in the February 7-10 section of this landscape photography workshop led by Doug Steakley. Pam Mahoney is going and sure would love some IGC company! Contact her right away if you're interested.




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A reminder from our Zone X Photography Representative, Lynn Shiverick:

Please consider entering one of our upcoming Zone X Photography Shows:

- Akron Garden Club is having a Photography Show this Spring that is now open for registration. Currently the Akron Show is only open to Zone X members, but it opens to all other GCA clubs on January 25th. I know they would love to have as many Zone X entries as possible!
- Shaker Lakes Garden Club is also having a show this Spring that will open to Zone X members on February 15th, and all other GCA clubs on March 1. It is currently open to Shaker Lakes members only.
- Country Garden Club is having a show that will open to non-club members on April 17th.

- Don't forget that there are lots of other GCA Shows around the country with open photography divisions. Within the Calendar tool on the GCA website, enter the keyword "photography," check the category box "Flower Show" and voila, all the shows with Photography divisions will come up. From there you can access the schedules and explore entering.

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Looking for a chance to see your photo on the cover of the GCA Bulletin? GCA is currently looking for submissions of lush garden scene photos to consider for the cover of the spring issue. Submissions are due Feb. 1 and must be vertical, high resolution, work cropped 9 x 11, and may not include houses. Anyone interested should email Pam Mahoney for additional information. [pammahoney8021@gmail.com](mailto:pammahoney8021@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE - ANNE SHANE

### How many years have you been in The Indianapolis Garden Club and what inspired you to join?

I have been in the Indianapolis Garden Club almost twenty years. I was inspired to join because all of my good friends were active members of the Club. Now most of them are associates and I am still hanging around!

### What is your favorite IGC Community Project?

This is very hard for me to answer because we have so many great projects that we have supported that have benefitted our community and advanced our organizational mission. I guess I would have to pick Holliday Park because I think the IGC's participation in that effort as a club and through some of our individual members has really made a difference in its success as an important amenity in northside Indianapolis.

### How has IGC helped develop your interest in gardening, floral design, conservation or photography?

I would have NO expertise (and I am not sure that I would even call it that yet) in floral design if it were not for the IGC and its inspirational members' designs, workshops, flower shows, and Petal Pushers. I have enjoyed learning more about this and practicing my feeble attempts at producing arrangements.



### Is there a book, blog and/or social media profile that you enjoy referencing for inspiration?

I love Instagram because it is so visual. I follow Local Color Flowers out of Baltimore because several of us participated in a sustainable flower arranging workshop at the GCA Annual Meeting last year in Baltimore where the owner was the featured speaker. I also follow Charleston Stems. Gorgeous!

### What is the most memorable garden you have visited in the United States?

I would have to say that Longwood Gardens would have to be my favorite.

### Do you have a favorite plant? If so, what do you like about it?

I love columbines because they are such great self-seeders and you never know where they will turn up in my very random shade garden at home and in Leland. Always a pleasant surprise to see them in the spring.

by Jill Failey



HORTICULTURE AMARYLLIS CONTEST ... AND THE WINNERS ARE...

*Horticulture*

*Photography*

1st Place  
Wendy Fortune  
'Marilyn'



1st Place  
Lindsay Thornton  
'Marilyn'



2nd Place - Connie Earle  
'Samba'



2nd Place - Sue Welch  
'Double Delicious'

*Honorable Mention*



Amy Cooke



Joanne Johnston



Sue Welch

Anne Shane



Pat Jacoby



Anne Shane

CONSERVATION

# Ten Ways to Unpackage Your Life

Reprinted from US Environmental Protection Agency

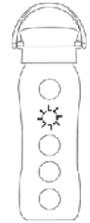


**Bring Your Own Bag**

Say no to single use paper and plastic bags and bring your own high quality reusable bag. Whether you're picking up groceries, getting takeout food or clothes shopping, use your own bag. Each reusable bag can eliminate hundreds (if not thousands) of single-use plastic or paper bags!

**Carry a Reusable Water Bottle**

Each week, Americans buy enough plastic water bottles to circle the earth five times! Carrying your own bottle cuts waste and is much cheaper. Typically, bottled water costs 2000 times more than tap water, is actually less safe to drink, and loses taste tests in competition with tap water.



**Pack a Waste-Free Lunch**

Do away with throw-away lunch packaging. Each child who brings a brown bag lunch to school every day generates 67 pounds of waste each year.



**Bring Your Own Cup**

The average American once used 500 paper cups a year. Replacing your single-use paper, plastic or Styrofoam cups with a reusable cup or mug can have a huge impact. Try keeping a cup in your bag, at the office, or in your car so you always have one around. Most coffee shops offer a discount for bringing your own cup!

**Slow Down and Dine In**

A big reason we have a food packaging problem to begin with is because people want to eat on the go – whether it's a drive-through or grab-n-go. Take a breath, slow down and dine in. Get your coffee “for here” or enjoy a home-cooked meal with friends and family and say goodbye to single-use packaging.

**Say NO to Straws or Bring Your Own**

Plastic straws are consistently one of the most littered plastic items, which means they end up in our waterways and are harmful to fish and wildlife. Say NO to straws! If you really need one, get a reusable straw and bring your own.



**Avoid Heavily Packaged Foods**

Heavily packaged foods are bad for the environment and they're usually unhealthy for you too. Buy foods that aren't heavily packaged, like fresh produce and bulk items.

**Bring Your Own Container and Utensils**

Need to grab lunch on the go? Bring your own container and utensils to cut down on “the other leftovers” from your take out meal. You can also bring your own container for leftovers when you eat at a restaurant – no more single-use “doggie bags”!



**Use No Bag or a Fabric Bag to Carry Produce and Other Grocery Items**

You've worked so hard to bring reusable bags to the store, why fill them up with plastic produce bags? Bring your own fabric bags for produce and bulk items. Many companies make reusable produce bags from hemp, organic cotton and even recycled plastic.

## CONSERVATION

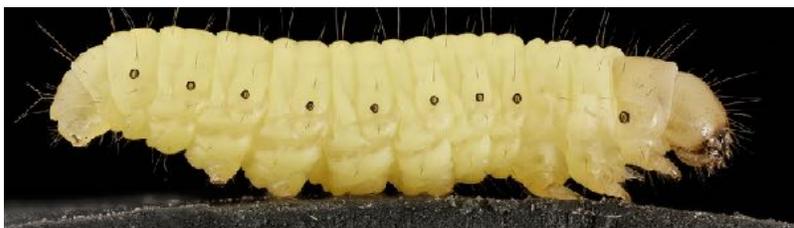
## The Lowly Wax Worm May Hold The Key To Biodegrading Plastic

by Merrit Kennedy

People around the world use more than a trillion plastic bags every year. They're made of a notoriously resilient kind of plastic called polyethylene that can take decades to break down. But the humble wax worm may hold the key to biodegrading them.

It was an accidental discovery. Scientist and beekeeper Federica Bertocchini was frustrated to find that her beehives were infested with the caterpillar larvae of *Galleria mellonella*, commonly known as a wax worm. Bertocchini, who works at the Institute of Biomedicine and Biotechnology of Cantabria in Spain, tells NPR that she was cleaning out the hive and put the worm-infested parts in a plastic bag. But shortly afterward, she noticed that "they were all crawling around my place and the plastic bag was riddled with holes."

This got her thinking about whether the creatures were simply chewing up the plastic or actually breaking it down chemically. Bertocchini and a team of researchers decided to test it, so they ground some wax worms into a pulp and spread it on the polyethylene plastic. The plastic still degraded. "So it had to be something chemical that was going on and not a physical breakdown," one of the scientists, Christopher Howe of the University of Cambridge, tells NPR. The scientists also found that what the worms did transformed the plastic into ethylene glycol, which is commonly used in antifreeze. "It's not itself a very exciting product, from our point of view, but what matters is that we're able to turn the plastic into something else," Howe says.



*The larvae of *Galleria mellonella*, commonly known as a wax worm, is able to biodegrade plastic bags.*

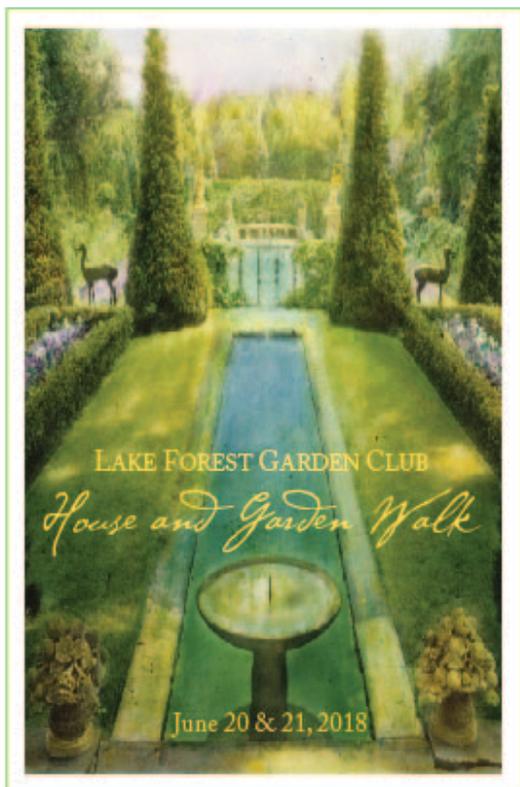
So why would the wax worm have this ability? Bertocchini says it might be because the critter commonly lives in beehives. "It eats wax and honey," she said. "So because of the similarities between wax and the polyethylene, to a certain extent clearly, maybe that's the reason why these insects developed this capability." The process of biodegrading both beeswax and polyethylene involves breaking strong carbon bonds, the scientists wrote in their recent paper in *Current Biology*.

It's worth noting that the scientists haven't yet pinpointed how the worm chemically breaks down plastic. In fact, they said it may not be the worm itself doing the work, but a bacteria in its gut that starts the process. Either way, identifying the enzyme responsible could have big ramifications for breaking down plastic waste.

The idea isn't to release millions of worms for a feeding frenzy at a dump. As Bertocchini explains, researchers are hoping to find biotechnological solutions to the problem of plastic waste. The best scenario, she says, would be to isolate the molecule responsible and "produce it in large scale in a lab in vitro, and then distribute the molecule in large scale."

The wax worm isn't the only organism that can break down plastics. For example, gut bacteria in the larvae of the Indian mealmoth *Plodia interpunctella* can break down polyethylene, but at a slower rate. And the wax worm discovery is still far from a solution to the world's piles of waste, says Susan Selke, director of the Michigan State University School of Packaging. "It's a long way from discovering something that can biodegrade polyethylene to creating a system where that biodegradation serves a useful purpose," she says.

## VISITING GARDENS



## Lake Forest Garden Club

Please consider organizing a trip for members of your club or inviting them to explore a visit on their own to the Lake Forest Garden Club House and Garden Walk, Planting with Purpose, June 20 & 21. Lake Forest sits upon the shore of Lake Michigan, 30 miles north of Chicago.

The event will feature tours of first floors of four magnificent estates and their beautiful gardens and landscapes, all owned by LFGC members. Our walk, boutique, transportation to houses and optional luncheon each day are headquartered at Onwentsia Club.

Tickets (\$125) will be available on our website, [www.lakeforestgc.org](http://www.lakeforestgc.org), beginning January 8. Please visit the website today for information regarding local hotels, restaurants, other attractions and projects Planting with Purpose will support. Please consider a Visiting Gardens trip to Lake Forest! We look forward to welcoming you.

Molly M. South – Co-Chair Susan M. Chandler – Co-Chair  
Elizabeth Jenkins – Visiting Gardens

Longwood Gardens  
Conservatory

Anne Shane took this photo just before Christmas.

All of the green are apples; the red is composed of cranberries; and the gold are sprayed walnuts. These designs are floating in shallow water in what is normally the lilly pond. Pretty amazing!



RECOMMENDED READING

Did you know that you can sign up on the GCA website to receive the following GCA publications via email?

**FOCUS (photography)**

**The Real Dirt (horticulture)**

**ConWatch (conservation)**

**Bulletin (general GCA information)**

Have you checked the GCA website lately? It's a great way to catch up on GCA news and resources during these cold winter months!  
[www.gcamerica.org](http://www.gcamerica.org)



FLORAL DESIGN FEATURE FROM THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

A Classic David Hockney Portrait—Translated into Flowers by Floral Designer Lindsey Taylor

Floral designer Lindsey Taylor riffs on the alienation between a married couple that David Hockney depicted in 'Mr and Mrs Clark and Percy' (1970–71)



As the jumping-off point for this month's arrangement, I chose "Mr and Mrs Clark and Percy" (1970–71), one of his early double portraits. It depicts, in the intimacy of their London bedroom, Mr. Hockney's newly married friends, fashion designer Ossie Clark and textile designer Celia Birtwell, with Percy, their cat.

The couple and even Percy, though ostensibly relating to each other, struck me as curiously isolated. To express that, I gathered ceramic vessels of varying heights, shapes and hues: turquoise, teal, green and a white round vase that resembled the phone on the floor. I cut a few white lilies to mimic those in the painting. I cut two more short and turned them away, a stand-in for Percy, who gazes indifferently out the window. A delightful mix of yellow, fuchsia and red tulips, delicate, busy yellow mimosa and branches of magenta beautyberry mingle to represent blond Celia and her dress. The green ceramic, a nod to Ossie's clothes, hold flesh-colored anemones, their dark centers alluding to his hair and judging eyes.

On the surface, this vivid painting conveys peace, but beneath, it explores the human condition: Even together, we are alone.

*If you enjoyed the Floral Design Feature and would like to see it appear again...let me know!*

LAURA HALEY WORKSHOP • THE BEAUTIFUL DECEMBER MEETING CENTERPIECES



DECEMBER MEETING AT WOODSTOCK CLUB



## MINUTES OF THE IGC GENERAL MEETING

**December 13, 2017**

**Luncheon**

**Woodstock Club**

President Anne Shane welcomed members to the annual Holiday Luncheon. During the gathering time, photos of the recent Washington, D.C. trip were projected for members to enjoy. Gift bags of crayons and markers were collected for Riley Hospital. The Park Tudor Madrigals presented a musical program of Christmas carols along with other holiday songs prior to the Woodstock luncheon.

After a hearty round of applause for the program, Anne Shane called the meeting officially to order at 12:40 PM. The Petal Pushers team of Rae Wilson, Jess Stokely, and Lindsay Thornton were recognized for their work and organization in providing the unique centerpieces constructed the prior day by members under the floral guidance of Laura Haley from Florida. Hilary Salatich was thanked for arranging for Ms. Haley as well as Toomie Farris for his generous contribution of flowers for the holiday arrangements.

This was followed by a delicious luncheon.

**Recording Secretary–Sue Combs**

The minutes as published in the December Newsletter were approved as written.

**Horticulture–Becky Feldman/ Sally Lanham**

Becky encouraged members to submit photos of their amaryllis by January 10, 2018 for the club photo contest.

**President–Anne Shane**

Anne reminded members the focus of the club this year is on horticulture and gardening with conservation taking the lead next year. The January general meeting will feature David Gorden discussing “Hardscape in the Garden” followed by a flower workshop in March, a lecture in April about Indy Parks and urban farming , and in May an ICC photo show.

By a show of hands the members elected in 2018 to skip a general meeting in February as the club did in 2017.

Anne reported she, Georgianne Neal, Betsy Cronin and Julie Shortridge visited the Governor’s residence to view what was left of the Claire Bennett original landscape.

Anne recognized Kim Purucker for her overall work with meeting arrangements and specifically Sally Gray and Sharon Hoffman for their lead in the luncheon planning along with the, team of Elizabeth Wiese, Judy Bracken and Ellie Bookwalter.

**ICC Endowment–Mary Grein**

Mary thanked the members for their generosity in contributing to the ICC endowment launched in late October 2017. As of now she has received \$97,650 in pledges with payments already of \$64,996.40 amounting to a current balance of \$109,829 with a projection of a minimum of \$142,000 in the endowment. The endowment has generously passed the \$75,000 minimum required to allow distribution for speakers! Look forward to some sensational speakers in the coming years secondary to the overwhelming response to the endowment request.

MINUTES OF THE IGC GENERAL MEETING (CONTINUED)

Visiting Gardens–Katie Kruse/Gay Dwyer

Katie presented a short review of the very successful trip by 35 members to Washington, D.C. in the first part of December. Kate Kennedy was thanked for her aid in getting tickets to the White House Tour. Katie received a well deserved “thank you” floral arrangement in a GCA 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary cache pot presented by Anne Shane. Gay also received a floral arrangement. Anne Shane reminded members to contact Katie or Gay if visiting other cities as they can facilitate entrance into GCA gardens in your travel cities.

Awards–Sue Welch

Sue presented a GCA Club Appreciation Award for dedicated and sustained participation to Wendy Fortune for her contributions, support, critical analysis, gardens, and floral skills that are too numerous to list over her 40 plus years in the IGC. She received a standing ovation by the membership in recognition of this well deserved award.

With no other new or old business, Anne Shane adjourned the meeting at 1:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Combs  
Recording Secretary

Next General Meeting: January 17, 10 AM, Park Tudor Foster Hall-“Hardscape in the Garden” by David Gorden



This month's banner art is from this beautiful arrangement for the Bosway wedding as photographed by Pat Jacoby.