

Winter, 2019

## President's Letter

By Carla Adam, President

Spring is around the corner and already there are blossoms and other signs of spring at Brookside Gardens. We look forward to seeing 50,000 daffodils "Gild the Garden" as a result of your special anniversary donations last year. This colorful display commemorates the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brookside Gardens and was made possible by your generous contributions that totaled more than \$15,000! As always, your gifts of time and money continue to enhance Brookside.

In 2018, **FOBG** received additional "special" donations of more than \$20,000 from people giving for various reasons including separate individual gifts, funds for individual programs, gifts to honor birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions and memorials. This was much more than **FOBG** has received in the past and we are grateful for these "special" gifts.

This fiscal year (April 1, 2018 through March 30, 2019) your support to **FOBG** provided \$86,500 in funding for the following projects at Brookside Gardens: 1) Seasonal Gardening Staff-\$40,000; 2) Two of the four Summer Internships - \$15,000; 3) Spring & Fall Lecture Series -\$3,000; 4) Children's Day - \$3,000; 5) Green Matters -\$2,000; 6) Earth Day - \$1,000; 7) June

Concert Series - \$5,000; 8) Plants for the Garden - \$15,000; 9) Shakespeare in the Garden \$2,500.

In addition, **FOBG** membership is growing and we are looking for new people to join the **FOBG** Board. This is a very rewarding volunteer organization to join if you are thinking of giving back in some way this year. We are specifically looking for a new Treasurer as after many years of dedication and service, **Julia Horman** will be stepping down. Julia has served on the **FOBG** board on two separate occasions and we thank her for all her time and wonderful service. Please read about this position in this issue, go to our website or call us to find out more about volunteer opportunities with **FOBG**.

We look forward to spring and celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brookside Gardens and all of the upcoming events at Brookside. Bring some spring and sunshine into your home with some beautiful and unusual orchids from the **FOBG Orchid Show and Sale**. Our Orchid Show is coming up on the weekend of St. Patrick's Day, March 16 and 17. We hope to see you then.

In conclusion, we look forward to seeing you at upcoming events, wish you a wonderful and healthy spring, and thank you for volunteering and helping to fund the many activities at **Brookside**.



Please note that the “News from Brookside” column will return in the spring 2019 issue of **The Brooksider**.

## ORCHID SHOW & SALE

**Saturday, March 16, 10 am - 4 pm**

**Sunday, March 17, 10 am - 3 pm**

***FREE admission!***



co-sponsored by the  
**Rock Creek Orchid Club**

Brookside Gardens Visitors Center  
1800 Glenallan Avenue  
Wheaton, MD 20902



[www.friendsofbrooksidegardens.org](http://www.friendsofbrooksidegardens.org)  
PH: 301.962.1435

- Orchids and Merchandise from Top Area Growers
- Vibrant Display by Rock Creek Orchid Club
- Advice from Orchid Experts
- Repotting Service
- Raffle
- Proceeds benefit Brookside Gardens

# 2018 FOBG SILENT AUCTION Report

By Suzanne Carbone, Chair, FOBG Silent Auction

More than 120 guests attended the **Friends of Brookside Gardens (FOBG) Silent Auction, Holidays in the Gardens**, on November 10, 2018. They enjoyed food provided by **Putting on the Ritz**, entertainment by **JP Jazz** and harpist **Jim Dronenberg**, a Cork Pull where guests received an excellent, surprise bottle of wine, a Raffle of beautiful plants, and bidding on items that ranged from hand knit sweaters to vacation homes in Florida.

It was a beautiful and exciting evening and we are grateful for all the donors, volunteers and attendees who made the event a success.

Our net profit was higher than that of the 2016 Silent Auction, giving strength to all the efforts the **FOBG** engages in to support this most beautiful public garden in Montgomery County. Thank you all for making this a very special and successful event.



## ***Position of FOBG Treasurer***

**Friends of Brookside Gardens (FOBG)** is seeking a person with accounting/bookkeeping experience to fill the position of Treasurer. The description of the position, taken from the FOBG By-laws is as follows: The Treasurer shall keep a complete record of the income and expenditures of the organization, and shall pay all authorized bills by check. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties pertinent to the finances of the organization as may be prescribed by the Board. The Treasurer shall keep the funds of the organization in the name of the organization in such bank or other depository as may be designated by the Board. The Treasurer shall keep an account of all receipts and disbursements and shall make a detailed report of the financial transactions of FOBG

since the preceding Board meeting. The treasurer shall also monitor the online donation and membership revenues that get directly deposited into the FOBG bank account and submit pertinent paperwork to a CPA firm to maintain the 501 (3c) (3) status of the organization. The Treasurer shall be elected for one year term and shall be eligible to serve for no more than four consecutive terms.

If interested in applying for this position or to join the Board, please contact either the current **President, Carla Adam** (rladam@comcast.net ) or the **Vice-President, Joe Ann Stenstrom** (blueptconv@gmail.com).



# Garden Guardian

*By Dr. Dick Hammerschlag, Master Gardener, Howard County*

Whoa! MANTS!!!

So okay, maybe not 'romance' but how many of you are familiar with the **MANTS** trade show?? **MANTS = Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Show** that takes place in the Baltimore Convention Center the second week of January. So this writing is far enough in advance that you might scratch it on to your 2020 calendar!! I believe it will be their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary!! In effect, it is a nation-wide horticultural gathering of nearly 1000 **WHOLESALE** (primarily) vendors representing almost all imaginable horticultural goods. As Ed Sullivan was known to say 'A Really BIG Shew'! About half are nursery people or simply growers with some of their favorite plants. Mind you, they are not technically for sale, but for you to take an interest in. So what's in it for you?? It provides an opportunity to chat with the 'hands on' people (most often the owners) to find out what's being sold and what's new. A one on one opportunity. I said 'technically' not for sale above because some of the vendors will sell off the floor for pick up on Friday early afternoon (show is Wednesday to Friday). Other booths are for sale in their entirety so that the owners don't have to lug their plants back home. FYI some of your **FOBG** cohorts (see below) do attend like **Joan O'Rourke** (she's deal making for the Brookside plant sale and **Taffy Turner** (who is for Brookside and the National Arboretum). Point is you'll see some local folks and vendors there. Yes, the folks there are wholesalers and they are there to

make deals with wholesale buyers (as well as to hob nob with each other – time to see old friends, etc.). You can pick up free brochures and catalogues. For you to do any **REAL** regular business there or later, you'd need to be or work through a card carrying business/wholesale person – maybe joining with friends to purchase products. But, if you're a real deal maker maybe you could wrangle your own purchase with some of the vendors.

To give you an idea of the scope = what's there to see, consider the following: in addition to the myriad plant folks = growers (annuals, perennials, woodies, lots of evergreens from West coast, succulents, etc.), there are aquatic /water garden goods, Xmas items, fertilizers/pesticides, stones and stone products like fountains, irrigation equipment, mulch/soil mixes, tools galore, greenhouses, pottery, education firms (actually **MANY** of the vendors promote eco-friendly items/concepts) and so on. If nothing else, it would provide an opportunity to do some price checking. I mean what are some of those things you're buying elsewhere during the year really worth?? Admission is likely \$20 (**ANYONE** can register on-line OR in line at the door). It is easy to park on peripheral Lots C or A and take the provided free shuttle (parking is \$8.00). **So all in all, a pretty good deal!**

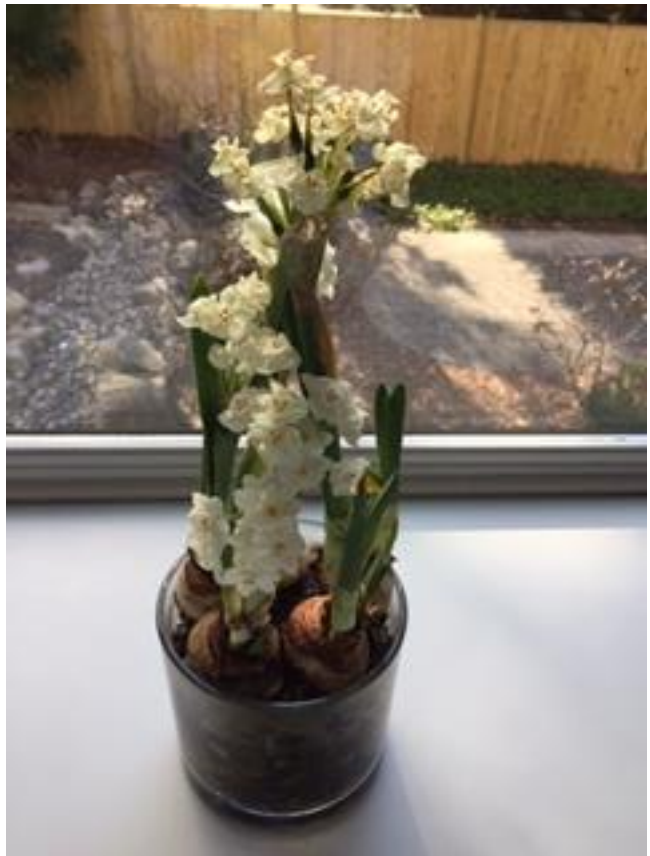


# WINTER WHITES

**By Joe Ann Stenstrom**

A favorite of many winter flower lovers is the delicate bloom from paper white bulbs enjoyed from late fall to early spring. You may love the beauty of this little gem but be dismayed by the height of the mature growth which leads to less than beautiful flopping over and propping with not so pretty supports. Many of you know the secret to stunting the growth, but in case you don't, it is watering with a solution of water and vodka or any hard liquor. This yields a manageably lovely plant to grace the otherwise bland windowsill during the winter months. There are several websites devoted to this solution for keeping the paper

whites low growing. Most suggest a solution of 1 part alcohol to 4 parts water. Instead of liquor, one can use rubbing alcohol for the same effect, using 1 part to 10 parts water. Many sites also suggest turning the pot occasionally to aid tall standing stems and growing in bright light and cool temperatures. Preparing plantings a few weeks apart ensures the pleasure of these "winter whites" for a longer period of time. Enjoy these little beauties while you wait for spring!!!!



In this and future issues of *The Brooksider*, we will provide a listing of upcoming FOBG sponsored events and Brookside Gardens adult programs. The list will be updated as information becomes available. We hope this will be helpful in planning how you can take advantage of all that Brookside Gardens has to offer. Additional offerings, such as children's programs, art exhibits and excursions can be found at: [Cultivate](#).

Date	FOBG-Sponsored Program	Course#
2/22/2019	Green Matters – Designing for Diverse Landscapes	55276
3/16/2019	Orchid Show and Sale*	
4/28/2019	Earth Day Festival/Montgomery Green Fest	
3/6/2019	<b>Brookside Gardens Adult and Children's Programs</b>	
3/11/2019	Philadelphia Flower Show - Flower Power**	55274
3/15/2019	Flower Buds - Preschool Classes**	60463
3/16/2019	St. Patrick's Day Green and Growing Scavenger Hunt	45475
3/23/2019	How to Get Your Orchid to Rebloom	62582
3/24/2019	Hands-On Introduction to Plant Propagation	62583
3/30/2019	Garden Eco-Explorers Spring Workshop Series**	62308
3/31/2019	Landscape Design I & II - Upgrading Your Piece of Paradise**	62580
4/4/2019	Undaunted Daffodils	62062
4/8/2019	Make & Take Rain Barrels**	62591
4/9/2019	Movement Workshops for Preschoolers**	61618
4/11/2019	Garden Focus: Ornamental Flowering Tree Shrubs	62588
4/13/2019	The Allure of Naturalistic Planting	63486
4/14/2019	Art & Nature Journaling with Mixed Media	63526
4/17/2019	Brookside Gardens Behind-The-Scenes Greenhouse Facility Tour**	62616
4/18/2019	Spring Tulips at Sherwood Gardens and Rawlings Conservatory	63476
4/20/2019	Designing for Dry Shade	62584
4/20/2019	Brookside Gardens Saturday Walk**	62415
4/23/2019	Forest Bathing	62603
4/27/2019	Miniature Perennial Container	62593
5/1/2019	Perfect Plant Marriages	62590
5/1/2019	Stormwater Solutions: Conservation Landscapes and Rain Gardens**	62586
5/4/2019	Brookside Gardens Azalea & Rhododendron Tour	62560
5/4/2019	Summer Annual Container	62595
5/5/2019	Focus on Butterflies**	62406
5/8/2019	McCrillis Gardens Sunday Walk**	62577
5/8/2019	Hanging Baskets	62597
5/9/2019	Tai Chi at Brookside Gardens**	62611

5/11/2019	Garden After Dark: Wings & Wine	62555
5/11/2019	Mother's Day Floral Design	62600
5/16/2019	Yoga at Brookside Gardens**	62607
5/17/2018	Pepper's Greenhouses & Red Mill Pond Botanic Garden	62615
5/18/2019	Full Moon Hike	63465
5/22/2019	Goat Yoga at Brookside Gardens**	64689
5/30/2019	Miniature Hostas	62702
	Culinary Justice: Defining a Theory of Gastronomic Sovereignty	63524
	* - Program Meets Multiple Days	
	** - Program Meets Multiple Times	

Suggestions? Ideas? Let us know!

## Friends of Brookside Gardens, Inc. Board of Directors

1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902

301-962-1435 (voice mail checked daily)

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Web address: <http://www.friendsofbrooksidegardens.org/>

Carla Adam, *President*, Joe Ann Stenstrom, *Vice President*, Julia Horman, *Treasurer*

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Nithya Raghavan, Barbara Schwarz, Gloria Sherman,  
Joe Ann Stenstrom, Betsy Thomas – ex officio, Barbara Waite-Jaques

The Brooksider: Freddi Hammerschlag and Joe Ann Stenstrom, Editors

Editorial Staff: Gene Horman, Elaine Dynes, Nithya Raghavan

FOBG Webmaster: Nithya Raghavan

