

Save the Date MAY 2-4, 2023

National Garden Clubs Convention

The Greenbrier Resort | White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia



National Garden Clubs, Inc. would like to invite you to the 2023 NGC Convention, on May 2-4, 2023, at the historic Greenbrier Resort, located in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. The Greenbrier, established in 1778, is nestled in the eternal majesty of the Allegheny Mountains and is known for pampering guests with hospitality and luxury.

The Greenbrier offers spa services, championship golf courses, a casino, tennis and more. When you visit the Greenbrier, you will know that you are in good company. Twenty-eight US Presidents and numerous celebrities including the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, Princess Grace of Monaco, Tony Bennett, Elizabeth Taylor, and Bing Crosby to General Colin Powell, Maya Angelou, Serena and Venus Williams, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg have enjoyed the Greenbrier.



Scan the QR code for a full list of activities offered at the Greenbrier Resort. For more information, please visit their website: www.greenbrier.com



Enjoy a West Virginia Welcome

hile the focus of your visit will be attending meetings doing the business of NGC, there will be plenty of opportunities to celebrate the accomplishments of the 2021-23 administration and connect with gardening friends. Our luncheon and banquet speakers include John Gillespie, Kevin Dodge and Jan Bills. We will have three special dinners: the first will be the Awards Banquet announcing the winners of NGC's awards program, the second will be the Design Banquet and the third will be the Inauguration Banquet.



John Gillespie

Design BanquetA 100 Year Legacy of Gillespie's
Flowers at the Greenbrier

John Gillespie is the President of Gillespie's Flowers & Productions and third generation owner in the family business, partnering with his siblings, Martha & Charley. The Gillespie family has been providing beautiful floral designs for the Greenbrier and its guests for 100 years, 1923-2023.



Kevin Dodge

Luncheon Speaker Night Sounds of the Appalachians Kevin Dodge, is director of the Natural Resources and Wildlife Technology program at Garrett College. Kevin will present an entertaining and educational introduction to the different hoots, howls, growls, and peeps heard at night in the mountains of western Maryland. As part of his presentation, he will weave together facts, stories and sounds to recreate a night in the Alleghenies.



Jan Bills

Luncheon Speaker Comfort, Ease and Simplicity in the Garden

Guest Speakers

Jan Bills is the author of the book Late Bloomer, a national speaker, certified landscape designer, advanced master gardener, and entrepreneur. After a successful career in the corporate world, she made a major life reassessment and followed her heart: She traded in her heels for Wellies and started the Detroit-area landscape design company Two Women and a Hoe®. Jan's work can be seen at: https://twowomenandahoe.com/

Seminars

e have arranged four seminars that will expand your gardening/growing skills including:

How to Grow Orchids in the Home | Arthur E. Chadwick

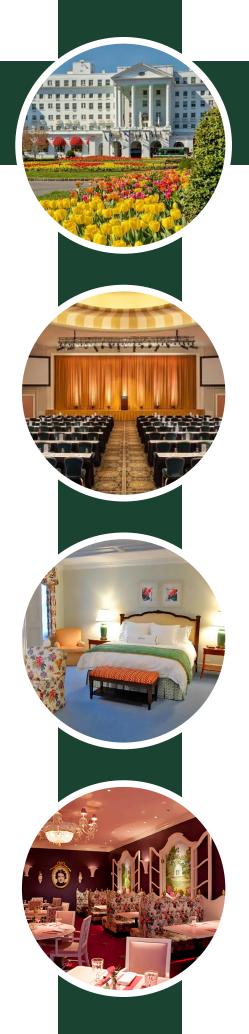
Art is the author of 2 books celebrating his love for orchids. In 2006, he published the acclaimed book, *The Classic Cattleyas*. His second book, *First Ladies and their Cattleyas: A Century of Namesake Orchids*, is scheduled for release in 2023. In 1989, with his father, he founded Chadwick & Son Orchids Inc, which operates eleven greenhouses and two retail stores, and boards over 13,000 orchids for local clients. They have had the distinction of naming cattleyas orchids for the 6 most recent First Ladies. Art is a frequent speaker at orchid society events, including two World Orchid Conferences in France(2005) and Ecuador(2017). https://chadwickorchids.com/

A Home Cutting Garden | Claire Schuchman

Claire Schuchman is a landscape designer, owner of Exceptional Gardens and a Master Gardener for Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardenin Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Claire is passionate about sustainable design and dedicated to the vision of her clients. Claire believes that a beautiful garden, large or small, can change our lives by giving us access to the beauty and healing power of nature. For more information see https://www.exceptionalgardensllc.com/.

Photography | Frank Ceravalo

Frank's love of photography began with the beauty of a 1983 snowfall in the Shenandoah Valley, acquiring a 35mm range finder camera and 12-exposure roll of film to capture the beauty. He is self-taught through adult education classes and seminars. He has studied the work and techniques of top nature and landscape photographers and enhanced his skills through experimentation. Frank's photographic goal is to create an image composed of both form and light in a visually pleasing balance. Frank's work can be seen at https://vistawv.com/





Birding Essentials | Jan Runyan & Bill Beatty

Naturalist, author and outdoor-education specialist Bill Beatty is a former interpretive naturalist for the A.B. Brooks Nature Center at Oglebay Park and instructor in outdoor adventure recreation at West Liberty University. He is a frequent lecturer in the West Virginia State Parks system. Jan Runyan is a former educator and a member and former president of Brooks Bird Club, currently serving on its Board of Trustees. She is passionate about birds and participates in bird banding programs.





Historic Tours

e have a full list of tours below that will introduce you to Wild & Wonderful West Virginia. During registration, you can select the tours that you would like from this list.

Greenbrier's Historic Bunker Tour

In the 1950's, a bunker was built to function as an emergency re-location site for the US Congress. The bunker remained in full operation until the end of the cold war.

W Historic Tour of Lewisburg

A 232-year-old town with many 18th and 19th-century buildings, where the steeple clock still tolls the hour and the church bells ring out on Sunday mornings. The tour will start at North House Museum, built in 1820 as a home and later serving as tavern and inn. After the North House tour, you are free to explore downtown Lewisburg, taking a walking tour, exploring the many galleries and shops, and/or have lunch at one of the many local eateries.

Greenbrier Floral Designer John Gillespie's Workshop & DIY Networks Barnwood Builder Store

Tour Gillespie's Flowers & Events floral workshop where the Gillespie family has been making floral arrangements for over 100 years. Your second stop is Barnwood Living, where the business of salvaging antique log cabins, barns and timber frames is married with easy sophisticated style to create a lifestyle brand that's reminiscent of simpler times.

New River Gorge National Park Tour

The New River is like a ribbon tying together all the people, places and events. Its course flows through time and protects a rich variety of history from the subsistence lives of the native peoples and pioneers, to the coming of the railroad, and ensuing boom and bust of coal mining and logging. You will also be able to take an optional guided walk on the catwalk below the New River Gorge Bridge. On your return trip to the hotel, you will stop at Tamarack Marketplace with products of more than 2,800 artists and artisans from West Virginia.



Socal Tours

e also know that our spouses, guests, and traveling partners may want to experience more of West Virginia, so we have the following tours:

Distillery & Brewery Tours

Visit Smooth Ambler Spirits Distillery and Big Draft Brewing. At Smooth Ambler Spirits you will be able to sample their fine selections of bourbons, whiskey and rye. Also, you may take the production tour from fermentation to barrel aging, and see their philosophy in action. Next, you will visit Big Draft Brewing for a tour and lunch.

Greenbrier Falconry Tour

Beginners Lesson offers guests the rare opportunity to experience the 4,000-year-old sport of falconry, "the sport of kings". After learning the appropriate techniques from our professional guides, you will get to hold a trained hawk on your fist. This is truly a once in a lifetime experience!

Greenbrier's Historic Legacy Cottages Tour

We have arranged for all of the early birds two events on Sunday, April 30, 2023. You may tour Greenbrier's newly renovated historic legacy cottages that have been used by generations of prominent families in the summer. Afterwards, there will be a dinner at a renovated 1912 Schoolhouse in White Sulphur Springs.



Registration for the 2023 NGC Convention will be posted on the NGC website (gardenclub.org) on December 1, 2022.

RESERVATIONS: Scan the QR Code or call 844-826-6864 Registration closes April 15, 2023 Hotel Reservations close March 30, 2023









Sun., April 30	Pre-Convention
7am-7pm	NGC Staff Office/Storage
	Floral Workroom
2pm-5pm	Registration
3pm-5pm	Tour 1: Greenbrier Legacy Homes
6pm	Optional dinner at the Schoolhouse Hotel in White Sulphur Springs (pre-purchased)

Mon., May 1	Committee Day
7am-7pm	NGC Staff Office/Storage
	Floral Workroom
8am-5pm	Registration/Exhibits/Vendors
8:30am-11:30am	Organizational Study Committee Meeting
9am-11am	Nominating Committee Meeting
	Scholarships Committee Meeting
	Sponsorship Committee Meeting
	Gardening School Committee Meeting
	Environmental School Committee Meeting
	Landscape Design School Committee Meeting
	Flower Show School Committee Meeting
9:30am-3pm	Tour 2: Historic Lewisburg Tour
11am-12:30pm	Tour 3: Greenbrier Bunker Tour
11:15am-1:15pm	Optional Lunch (pre-purchased)
1:30pm-3pm	Tour 3: Greenbrier Bunker Tour
1:30pm-3:30pm	Finance Committee Meeting
	Membership Committee Meeting
	Meetings Committee Meeting
	Plant America Committee Meeting
	Schools Policy Committee Meeting
3:30pm-6pm	COMAAI General Assembly Meeting
3:45pm-4:45pm	PH&E Trustees Meeting
Dinner	On your own

Tues., May 2	Awards Day
7am-7pm	NGC Staff Office/Storage
	Floral Workroom
8am-5pm	Registration/Exhibits/Vendors
8am-11am	Executive Committee Meeting
9am-11am	Environmental Concerns & Conservation Committee Meeting
	Gardening Committee Meeting
	Grants & Natural Disasters Committee Meeting
	Horticulture Committee Meeting
	Photography Committee Meeting
	Virtual Resources Committee Meeting
	COMAAI Incoming Executive Meeting
9:30am-3pm	Tour 2: Historic Lewisburg Tour
10am-11:30am	Tour 3: Greenbrier Bunker Tour
	Tour 4: Greenbrier Floral Designer John Gillespie's Workshop & DIY Network Barnwood Builders Store
11:30am-12:45pm	Optional luncheon (pre-purchased)
12:15pm-12:45pm	State Presidents Awards Rehearsal
1pm-4pm	Board of Directors Meeting
6pm–7pm	Social Hour
7pm-9pm	Awards Banquet- Speakers:

Award of Excellence Winners; State Awards



Wed., May 3	Design/Horticulture Day
7am-7pm	NGC Staff Office/Storage
	Floral Workroom
8am-5pm	Registration/Exhibits/Vendors
9:30am-3pm	Tour 5: Distillery/Brewery Tour
9am-11:30am	Business Meeting: Opening Session
noon-1:30pm	Luncheon-Speaker: Kevin Dodge "Night Sounds of the Appalachians"
2pm-2:45pm	Seminar 1: Art Chadwick "Orchids"
2pm-3:30pm	2023-25 Executive Committee meeting
3pm-3:45pm	Seminar 2: Frank Ceravalo "Photography"
4pm-5pm	Current and Incoming State Presidents & Region Directors Meeting
6pm–7pm	Social Hour
7pm-9pm	Design Banquet with John Gillespie "A 100 Year Legacy of Gillespie's Flowers at the Greenbrier"

Thurs., May 4	Inauguration Day
7am-7pm	NGC Staff Office/Storage
	Floral Workroom
8am-5pm	Registration/Exhibits/Vendors
10am-11:30am	Tour 6: Falconry Group Lesson
9am-11:30am	Business Meeting: Closing Session
noon-1:30pm	Luncheon-Speaker: Jan Bills "Comfort, Ease and Simplicity in the Garden"
2pm-2:45pm	Seminar 3: Claire Shuchman "A Home Cutting Garden"
3pm-3:45pm	Seminar 4: Jan Runyon & Bill Beatty "Birding Essentials"
2:30pm-3:45pm	Tour 4: Greenbrier Floral Designer John Gillespie's Workshop and DIY Network Barnwood Builders store
6pm–7pm	Social Hour
7pm-9:30pm	Inauguration Banquet Dessert reception hosted by West Virginia Garden Club
	- SINE DIE - CONVENTION CLOSES -

7:30am-9:30am 2023-2025 Board of Directors Meeting with continental breakfast 10am-4pm Tour 7: New River Gorge National Park and Preserve Tour - America's Newest National Park/Tamarack Marketplace Optional guided walk on the catwalk 25 feet below the New River Gorge Bridge