

SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING

April 24-26, 2020 Mount Vernon. Virginia

The Southern Garden History Society

founded in May 1982, the Southern Garden History Society is a group of enthusiasts and professionals that fosters and shares scholarly research about our historic gardens, cultural landscapes, and horticultural history through educational programs and publications. We celebrate the beauty and diversity of the South's historic gardens and encourage their preservation and restoration so they may enrich the lives of others.

Membership is open to anyone interested in the purpose of the Society. There are approximately 600 members including individuals, institutions, and organizations from across the United States and several foreign countries. For more information contact:

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Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27733
336.298.6938*

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*Contact
Dean Norton, 703.799.8667 or
dnorton@mountvernon.org*



Illustrated by

Registration

Registration must be made in advance by completing the enclosed registration form. The meeting is open only to members of the Southern Garden History Society. If you are not currently a member, you may join on the SGHS website southerngardenhistory.org or by contacting membership administrator Rebecca Hodson at membership@southerngardenhistory.org.

Registration for the 38th Annual Meeting is limited to 175 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. The registration fee of \$400 [plus \$1 dollar (GW) at the door] covers activities on Friday and Saturday, including lectures, transportation, tours, receptions, and all meals, as noted. An additional \$100 fee is required for Sunday's optional tour.

Accommodations

A block of rooms for Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25 have been set aside at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Alexandria, Virginia. The cost is \$149, single or double occupancy. To receive this rate, reservations must be received by the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites by March 26, 2020. After that date, rooms that have not been reserved from our block will be released to the general public and the rate for the rooms will be at the prevailing rate. Overnight parking is \$10 per vehicle and day use will be \$5 per vehicle. The hotel's underground garage parking is on first-come basis. For reservations call 1.800.465.4329. The local number is 703.548.6300.

If you call the general number, identify the location of the hotel and make sure you identify the group block, which is, of course,

The Southern Garden History Society.
The address for the hotel is
625 First Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

Transportation

Three major airports serve the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. They include, Dulles International (IAD) in Virginia, Baltimore Washington International (BWI) in Maryland, and Ronald Reagan National (DCA) in Washington, D.C. By far the most convenient of these airports is Reagan National. It handles most airlines and is located less than ten minutes from our home base. The Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites offers free shuttle service to and from Reagan National.

HISTORY

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association

George Washington's Mount Vernon is owned and maintained in trust for the people of the United States by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, a private, non-profit organization founded in 1853 by Ann Pamela Cunningham. The Association is the oldest national historic preservation organization in the country, and it has always been in the forefront of the restoration field.

Mount Vernon does not accept grants from federal, state, or local governments, and no tax dollars are expended to support its purpose. Mount Vernon is open 365 days a year and welcomes an average of a million visitors annually.



mountvernon.org

Welcome back to Alexandria, Virginia, for the Southern Garden History Society's 38th Annual Meeting. Alexandria, a city that has been loved and admired since 1749, was once a busy seaport. It has always been known for its distinguished heritage. George Mason and Robert E Lee were native sons; George Washington owned property here and selected land across the Potomac River from Alexandria to be the site of the new Federal City, Washington, D.C.

This year's event marks the fourth time that the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association has hosted the Southern Garden History Society for its annual meeting. The tradition dates back to the society's 8th annual meeting in 1990, when members decided to return to Mount Vernon for a reunion every ten years. So here we are, thirty years later, at the fourth, and yes, final-annual meeting at Mount Vernon under the current caretakers.

Our home base will be the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites on First Street in Alexandria. The meeting will begin Friday, April 24, at 1:00 p.m. Please take advantage of your free time on Friday morning to explore Alexandria. A shuttle service will run from the hotel to the waterfront district of the city, and from there, the wonders of Alexandria are within walking distance. Your name tag will get you free admission into the Carlyle House, the beautifully restored 1752 home of John Carlyle, a prominent merchant of Old Town, and to the Apothecary Shop, the oldest operating apothecary in the country. Our Sunday tours will be within two square miles of our hotel.

There will be many firsts and lasts during the meeting. One thing for sure, members can expect great food, beautiful venues, and interesting lectures.

You can look forward to many reflections on years of professional research, preservation, and lessons learned while working in a profession that has certainly "contributed to your health and amusement."

"The manner in which you employ your time at Bell Champ in raising nurseries of fruit, (forest trees and shrubs) must not only contribute to your health and amusement, but it is certainly among the most rational avocations of life;"

George Washington To Sir Edward Newenham.
Vol. 29, GWD, April 20, 1787.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Registration at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Hotel

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks
SGHS Business Meeting

AFTERNOON LECTURES

American Eden: David Hosack, Botany, and Medicine in the Garden of the Early Republic

Victoria Johnson

Author, Lecturer, and Associate Professor at the City University of New York

If you come to a Fork in the Garden Path, Take it

Tony Avent Plantsman, Proprietor, and Author Presentations by SGHS scholarship recipients Reflections by SGHS members

5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Depart the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Hotel for an evening of camaraderie and dining at River Farm, the site of the American Horticultural Society

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Urban Nature: Human Nature

Peter Del Tredici

Senior Research Scientist Emeritus, Arnold Arboretum

Thomas Jefferson's Gardening Legacy:

Preserving his Passion

Peggy Cornett

Curator of Plants, Monticello

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Hearty Breakfast

11:00 a.m.

Depart Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Hotel for Alexandria Wharf to board the Cherry Blossom paddle wheeler

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

A two hour excursion via the Potomac River to Mount Vernon Estate

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Visit the Pioneer Fanner site

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m

"Long and Assiduous Endeavours": The Archaeological Exploration of John Custis' Williamsburg Garden

Jack Gary

Director of Archaeology, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Reflecting on fifty years as Washington's head gardener at Mount Vernon Estate

J. Dean Norton

Director of Horticulture, Mount Vernon Estate

5:00 p.m.

Tour of Gardens and Landscapes begins

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

East Lawn Reception

8:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Dinner at Mount Vernon Estate

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

9:00 a.m.

Depart the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites to begin tours of Alexandria's best town gardens. Smaller groups will move from garden to garden through the town, and buses will be available to shuttle members when there are longer distances between gardens. Lunch will be at the Lee-Fendall house. We will conclude our tours no later than 3:30 p.m.