

Stewards to the Gardens and Grounds of the Washington National Cathedral since 1916



Flower Mart 2016 was a grand celebration of fun, flowers and families that kicked off our centennial festivities.

To become a member or to make a donation, call (202) 537-2937 or visit www.allhallows guild.org

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2016



Need to Have Perfect Gifts On Hand? Shop for the Guild's Classic *Herb Cottage Gifts* at the St. Albans Christmas House Tour Boutique (Dec. 2 and 3 –9:30 to 5); and at Flower Mart -May 5 and 6, 2017.





Herb Cottage jams and salad dressings, Gardener's and boxed gift soaps, teas and other old favorites. Limited custom orders are available at Herbcottagegifts@aol.com



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Thank you Donovan Marks and Kellie Boyle for the beautiful photographs of Flower Mart 2016 found in this report.



In 2016 All Hallows Guild marks its 100th year of continuous service to benefit the grounds and gardens of the Washington National Cathedral Close. The Guild, stewards of the 59 acres of the close, which includes the famous medieval-design Bishop's Garden; smaller memorial gardens in various quiet corners of the grounds; and the five acres of the Olmsted Woods, work to keep the close a place that refreshes the spirits of those who visit, work and worship there.



Florence Brown Bratenahl addressing the All Hallows Guild Annual Meeting 1923

MISSION STATEMENT

Since its founding in 1916, All Hallows Guild's mission has remained unchanged; "to provide for the care and beautification of the Cathedral Close - keeping in mind the vision and plans of Bishop Satterlee, the first Bishop of Washington, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., Cathedral landscape architect, and Florence Brown Bratenahl, Cathedral landscape designer Major design elements are a park-like setting, open spaces, native woodlands, and gardens suitable for a 14th century

Gothic cathedral.

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Debbie (second from right) with some of her Executive Committee

Dear Friends,

Reflecting on All Hallows Guild's first hundred years of stewardship to the National Cathedral's gardens and grounds, I am struck by the remarkable achievements that have brought Florence Bratenahl's vision to fruition. It is staggering to consider the effort and ingenuity it took to grade the slopes, obtain and install major donations of mature plant material, acquire historic architectural elements, and turn humble ground into the magnificent landscape that we enjoy today. Research into the original Bratenahl/Olmsted drawings shows an evolving plan, driven by a constant need for refurbishment, conservation, and adaptation to current conditions. The Guild's Garden Committee, working with our superb horticulture staff, continues this work today, with the overarching goal of respecting our founder's vision and preserving this oasis in the city.

This year, looking forward to our second century, the Guild began to compile a comprehensive list of needs for the Cathedral Close. In

conjunction with the Garden Committee, outside consultants, and the PECF Buildings and Grounds Committee, we have been planning, pricing and prioritizing these needs. A list of the projects we have designated as top priorities can be found in our Centennial Brochure or online: www.allhallowsguild.org. Please pick up your copy at the Annual Meeting's "welcome table" and we hope that you will join us in supporting these projects.

One important item on the list is our Investment Fund, created in the spring of 2015 from generous unrestricted donations received over the past several years. By conservatively investing \$900,000, the Guild intends to utilize a portion of the annual interest to fund horticulture on the Close. We encourage you to consider a special gift to the fund, which would help ensure our efforts for the next hundred years.

2015/2016 has been eventful for other reasons as well. Last fall was bittersweet as we bid farewell to Director of Horticulture, Joe Luebke. For 16 years, Joe implemented state-of-the-art garden care practices, advised on all projects, supported Flower Mart and other fundraising efforts, and advocated for the Cathedral gardens. Under his outstanding direction, the Bishop's Garden renovation, the Olmsted Woods restoration, and the Amphitheater refurbishment were completed. In May 2016, we celebrated Joe with a festive Garden Party on the Bishop's lawn.

The search for a new Director was a productive process in which the Guild participated fully. It yielded marvelous candidates, and we were fortunate to hire from within the very knowledgeable and capable Sandy Flowers, Director of Horticulture and Grounds, and Evan Johnson, Assistant Director of Horticulture and Grounds. On their watch, the Close continues to flourish. Sandy, Evan and the entire horticulture team have worked tirelessly through the spring rains and scorching summer heat to keep our gardens gorgeous.

AHG programs, as always, are dynamic and active. Every Board member has taken on numerous responsibilities, and it is an

President's Report continued

honor to work with so many talented, devoted volunteers. Summaries for specific programs follow, but some special thanks for extraordinary efforts are in order.

Under the stellar guidance of Carol Kelleher, the Garden Committee has undertaken the development of a wide variety of garden projects across the Close (See list of giving opportunities). Each project is given close scrutiny, careful planning and much discussion before execution.

Our Communications team, led by Beth Cowie, Anne Clippinger, and Carrie Tydings, has upgraded our website, continued to refine our use of social media and produced materials for every aspect of the Guild in an effort to keep us relevant and increasingly in the public eye.

Flower Mart 2016 chairs Beth Cowie and Cynthia Bader created an amazingly successful community event, despite one day of deluge. Behind the scenes, the event was streamlined in a multitude of ways that will serve well for the upcoming years.

Committee Reports

Our Centennial: Turning one hundred has given us the opportunity both to reflect backward and plan for the future. The Guild's Centennial provided the theme for Flower Mart 2016 in early May. Our flagship tent featured displays about our history, heritage, and programs, and we gave out tee shirts, tote bags, and Centennial coloring books as our birthday gift to the public. In September the celebration continued with Fall Garden Day, a fun family afternoon on the Bishop's Lawn with food, music, and games for young and old. October featured "The Bridges of Washington" boat tours on the Potomac led by historian and former Cathedral Clerk of the Works, Don Myer. The year was punctuated by the 2016 Annual Meeting, with guest speaker Michael Vergason, landscape architect for many of the most

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important projects on the Close including the most recent Bishop's Garden restoration. As described above, the Garden Committee worked hard to identify key projects to focus on going forward. And because big birthdays deserve long celebrations, stay tuned for more celebratory events in the coming year.

Tea and Tour Program: The Tea and Tour program has experienced a successful year with many happy attendees. Visitor Programs has provided special docent-led tours in the nave and the Guild led several tours of the Bishop's Garden. All Hallows Guild continues to serve tea in the St. Paul room. Our sixty volunteers enjoy the visitors and the team they work with. We did not serve teas in January or February in anticipation of bad weather or Cathedral calendar conflicts but still held 73 teas with 2,716 attendees. A number of Thursday teas were added to our schedule due to popularity during the Cherry Blossom season.

We believe our continued success is partially due to a new Guild social media team giving us more coverage, our excellent caterer, an efficient coordinator and our cheerful volunteers. During our brief summer vacation the kitchen was renovated to our delight and pleasure – especially the fact we now have consistent hot water. We were invited to participate in this year's Flower Mart and introduced the "Tea & Light Fare" – a modification of our weekly teas. Guild Board members, many friends and regular volunteers helped serve light fare during the two-day mart.

The Guild remains grateful to our volunteers and coordinator for their dedication to this outreach program to raise funds to benefit the gardens and grounds of the Close. We enjoy our work, being together and being of service.

<u>Herb Cottage Gifts:</u> The Guild continues to sell our unique gift items at the St. Albans Christmas House Tour and Flower Mart. There you will find our Herb Cottage jams and salad dressings, Gardener's and boxed gift soaps, teas and other old favorites. Limited custom

orders are available at Herbcottagegifts@aol.com, and pop-up sales will be advertised on our website allhallowsguild.org.

<u>Memorials and Dedications</u>: Please see page 14 for this year's listings.

<u>Our Garden and Woods Docent Programs:</u> Our mission as stewards of the gardens and grounds remains constant. We are proud of our docent program, which guides hundreds of people each year through the Bishop's Garden and the Olmsted Woods. Self-guided current tour pamphlets are in post boxes in both sites. For more information about docents and tours, see the Garden Committee report, p. 12.

Flower Mart: Flower Mart 2016 marked the kick-off to the celebration of the All Hallows Guild Centennial. The 77th annual festival began with rain but ended with a beautiful sunny Saturday - which brought out large crowds to enjoy the food, plant sales, gift vendors, children's rides and games, entertainment, the huge NCS-STA Used Book Tent, and the gorgeous International Floral Display. This year the Guild hosted Tea and Light Fare in the Cathedral's St. Paul Room which proved to be very popular.

Flower Mart Chairs Beth Cowie and Cynthia Bader and the large, enthusiastic committee (and the army of volunteers) created a highly successful Flower Mart - despite the challenges of a full day of rain on Friday. In additional to being profitable, Flower Mart 2016 helped to raise the profile of All Hallows Guild as we enter into our 2nd century. The All Hallows Guild Centennial Tent highlighted the history and accomplishments of the Guild and was a hub of activity thanks to the Flower Mart t-shirt and All Hallows Guild tote bag giveaways. We also distributed "Color the Cathedral Close" coloring books. We are grateful to the Botanical Art Society of the National Capital Region who produced beautiful drawings which were used as the pages of the book, and to our many corporate and individual sponsors who provided the funds to produce the coloring book, t-shirt and tote bag.

The 78th Flower Mart will be held Friday, May 5th and Saturday, May 6th 2017. Chairs Christina Grigorian and Sara Schaberg are

President's Message (continued)

assembling a dynamic team of committee members. Mark your calendars!

Communications and Marketing: As we move into our second century, we're keeping up with the 21st. Digital media allow us to be increasingly effective in reaching a wider public and making transactions and interactions smoother. Thanks especially to Linda Daisley and Beth Cowie, our website and social media presences are colorful, informative, easy to navigate, and always up to date. Go to: all-hallowsguild.org and check out the beautiful photo galleries, videos, and our blog! Friend us on Facebook, and don't forget to "like" our postings. Through Constant Contact, we can deliver our news-letter in a more timely, targeted way, and economically way.

In Summary: We look forward to a new year, strong as ever in our mission, fiscally healthy (see the Treasurer's Report on the next page) and enriched by dedicated volunteers. Our biggest thanks go to you, members and friends of the All Hallows Guild. Your ongoing support for the past hundred years has allowed us to realize Florence Bratenahl's vision of "A Garden for the Ages." We know that we can count on you as we move into a new century.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to be All Hallows Guild's President for the past four years. I wish to thank my Executive Committee and the many Guild members and volunteers who have been so supportive and helpful to me. I know that our work and mission, in the very capable hands of Lydia Chopvisky Benson, will continue to prosper and preserve the Cathedral's landscape.



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Treasurer's Report FY 2016

Contribution to horticulture budget	35,000
General grounds/horticulture	93,472
Tour and Tea	16,842
Rent	10,967

Total:

<u>\$156,281</u>

Major Annual Fund Raisers:

Tea & Tour (in partnership with Visitor Programs) Flower Mart Cottage Gifts—Shows and Online

Other Sources of All Hallows Guild Monies:

Memorial & general contributions Special lecture and programs Bratenahl commemorative scarf Membership dues Life memberships pass directly to the Cathedral's garden and grounds endowment fund.

All Hallows Guild is a unique organization within the PECF. It is not a part of Shared Services but pays Shared Services bills on an *ad hoc* basis. AHG is primarily an all-volunteer organization that raises money for the care and beautification of the entire Cathedral Close. The Guild represents the green space. Throughout its 100-year history, AHG has allocated its resources to grounds/horticulture projects that go beyond general maintenance. Many of these projects have brought national recognition to the Washington National Cathedral grounds and gardens.

In the last 17 years, the Guild has spent over <u>\$6.302 million</u> dollars on the gardens, grounds, and woodlands and on contributions to the Foundation or Cathedral through AHG memberships, outright gifts and reimbursements to Facilities.

<u>All Hallows Guild pays for:</u> All flowers, bulbs, trees, shrubs, tree maintenance, storm damage to landscape, landscape architects, arborists, garden interns and staff education.

<u>AHG does not pay for:</u> Regular staff salaries, garden and turf maintenance, and hardscape (except in special projects like the Olmsted Woods or the 2013 Bishop's Garden Renewal.

All Hallows Guild Garden Committee 2016 Annual Report

The Garden Committee continues seeking ways to improve the glories of the Cathedral Close. We work constantly with the Horticulture staff to turn a critical eye on these already beautiful spaces to add a shrub here, tweak a groundcover there, always hoping sun and shade and the Washington weather will be favorable. In recent years we have, sadly, discovered that Florence Brown Bratenahl's vision of boxwood, yew and stone in the garden has had to be modified to adapt to a changing climate; the stones survive, but stunning sculptural English boxwood and Irish yews are being replaced with native versions that are happier in our location.

Plantings that have been adjusted and refurbished in the last year are looking beautiful this fall. The Styrax bed in the Bishop's Garden, after a great deal of discussion and consultation, boasts new plants surrounding this specimen tree – cherry laurel provide deep green and good texture and medium height, with smaller plants blooming in muted colors, such as salvia, teucrium and geranium.

A number of new roses ornament the Rose Garden, with colors that are warm and bright, but subtle, with none upstaging its neighbors. These carry blooms into November to cheer us into the cool weather.

Our lovely little Shadow House, a magnet for children and those seeking a respite from heat and sun in the garden, is now beautifully set off by new boxwood plantings as shown in old photographs. The adjacent beds with the Porcelain Dove Magnolia and the Crabapple tree are now combined and the whole is immeasurably



improved and looks seamless. Three white camellias relate to the border by the Postern Gate across the lawn and enhance the boxwood. We hope to place the beloved statue of Pan on a stone base to complete this tableau.

New boxwood were also added to fill in a bare bed and help set off the Wayside Cross, and are a cool green contrast with the colorful Upper Perennial Border. The Norman Walk entry to the garden is beginning to regain the enclosed feeling we had lost. Sandy Flowers, our Director of Horticulture, located some prized ungrafted weeping cherry trees that now reside in the entry area. They seem to have taken to their new locations and we look forward to seeing cherry blossom branches cascading over the South Road wall once again. The addition of three white sasanqua camellias adds just a bit of interest under the tree canopy.

At the request of Joe Alonso, Cathedral Mason Extraordinaire, we authorized the removal of a Chinese Elm tree from the Cathedral's south lawn. The leaves and seedpods of the tree were so light that they were wafted up by the wind to lodge in the gutters and clog the drainage system of the Cathedral, causing interior leaks. Naturally, we were happy to accommodate, and the Guild continues to pay for tree work all over the Close. We are consulting to find a worthy replacement for this tree.

The Guild 's attentions are not confined to the Bishop's Garden:

- We consulted with NCS and its landscape architects regarding the plantings for the Curran Courtyard following the renovations of Proctor Hall;
- We are working with Michael Vergason Landscape Architects on an appropriate crossing for Pilgrim Road to link the All Hallows Amphitheater and a pathway into the south bank of the Bishop's Garden;
- We sponsored two horticulture interns during the spring and summer and we welcome back Ashley Coates, a former intern, as a full staff member;
- Garden Committee has first review of designs for a potential replacement for the Woodland Bridge, one of the Guild's Centennial projects;
- A cadre of Guild volunteers continues to work in the Olmsted Woods removing invasives, particularly English Ivy, to allow native plants and wildflowers to return and thrive.

Finally, in 2016 AHG docents gave 14 garden tours, including three as part of the Tea and Tour program.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Is. Kelleher

Garden Committee Chair

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Memorial Trees, Plants and Benches 2016 By Louise R. Beale

MEMORIAL TREES

In memory of Anne and Richard Griffis Red Maple Acer Rubrum On the West Front From their son

In memory of Frank E. Samuel, Jr. Hinoki Cypress In the Bishop's Garden From friends

In memory of Louise Wagner All Hallows Guild Garden Docent Weeping Cherry Prunus Subhirtella Pendula In the Bishop's Garden From her husband

There were no new Memorial Benches installed in 2016



How The Cathedral's Landscape Came To Be Florence Brown Bratenahl, Cathedral Landscape Designer (1928-1936) Written by Suzanne Miller

When Florence Brown Bratenahl, the wife of C. F. Bratenahl, 2nd Dean of Washington National Cathedral, became an early member of All Hallows Guild the Guild's purpose was to stimulate interest nationally for the plantings and gardens of the Cathedral Close and to raise the money to buy and plant them. Mrs. Bratenahl was determined that the boxwood and other shrubs, the trees including Irish yews, and Biblical herbs and flowering plants would be of mature size and thus from the moment of planting would be in scale with the large site on top of Washington's highest hill overlooking the Nation's Capital.

Beginning in 1895, first Frederick Law Olmsted Senior and later Frederick Law Olmsted Junior of Olmsted Associates Landscape Architects, worked with Bishop Satterlee and Dean George Bratenahl to site the Cathedral on Mount Alban and design the roads, paths, and planting areas and the planting plans. In 1922 excavation for the nave of the Cathedral created mounds of soil; Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. devised a plan to use the fill to create a more gradual descending slope to the south. This would become the walled Bishops House Garden behind the Bishop's House.

Mrs. Bratenahl became more and more deeply involved in carrying out the



planting of the Close. Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. conferred with her while designing the Shadow House on the Bishop's House lawn, she sent him a suggested plant list for the Hortulus herb garden. Contact between Olmsted Associates and the Washington Cathedral ceases after October 27, 1927.

Mrs. Bratenahl oversaw the plantings for the College of Preachers: she designed the interior garden including the fountain; she found and supervised the moving of a huge wisteria

on a horse-drawn wagon from the countryside and to this day the same wisteria climbs to the top of the College of Preachers Tower. In New York she visited sculptor George Gray Barnard who collected medieval church carvings in Europe and from him purchased the Hortulus Carolingean baptismal font, the Norman Arch Court, and the medieval sculptured panels set into the stone wall surround-ing the Bishop's Garden. Her illustrated booklets "A Cathedral Hillside and Its Gardens," "A Garden For The Ages," and "Historic Trees, Boxwood, Yews and Stone, Some Unusual Material on a Cathedral Hillside" acknowledged specific individual gifts to the Bishop's Garden, illustrated by excellent photographs, narration enthusiastically written by Florence Bratenahl. Her talents and artistic ability are evident today in the distinctive, medieval and beautiful gardens and grounds of Washington National Cathedral.

Introducing Our New President Lydia Chopivsky Benson



Lydia, on left with Beth Cowie riding the carousel at this year's Flower Mart.

Executive Committee 2016-18

President—Lydia C. Benson First VP—Anne E. Clippinger Second VP—Tammie Manning Treasurer—Holly Larisch Asst. Treasurer—Malini Jadeja Recording Secretary—Beth Crocker Corresponding Secretary—Christina Grigorian

Committee Chairs

Garden Committee—Carol Kelleher Communications—Beth Cowie, Anne Clippinger, Carrie Tydings Development—To Be Named Gifts & Donations—Holly Larisch & Melissa Isbister Membership—Tammie Manning Memorials —Angie Kelso Retail Sales—Laura Felder Tea Program—Kay Diane Bowles & Patti Beatty

About Our New President

Lydia Benson has been an active Board Member since 2008. During that time, she has tackled large projects on behalf of the Guild. Lydia has been Flower Mart Chair a record four times! and Flower Mart Advisory Chair for many years. She was educated at Stanford University—receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Communication and a Master's Degree in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies. She is fluent in Ukrainian. For the past 5 years, Lydia is also a successful real estate professional with WC&AN Miller/Long & Foster. We are so fortunate to have this talented and energetic woman as our 30th All Hallows Guild President.

Lydia's View and Goals For The Guild's Future

"I am humbled to lead this incredible organization, especially alongside Board members who give so much of themselves, their time and efforts. The Guild is truly fortunate!

As we begin our second century, All Hallows Guild has an array of incredible projects, both large and small, for the beautification and maintenance of the gardens and grounds. In addition, a main goal of my tenureship will be to strengthen All Hallows Guild's relationship with all entities of the Cathedral Close. The Guild's work is here for the benefit all, and we very much want to work hand in hand with each of the entities involved in a dynamic way."

A Special Thank You

Our friends, donors, professional experts and advisors have been instrumental in our success, therefore, we would like to especially thank : Michael Vergason, this year's Annual Meeting guest speaker and Landscape Architect, who has been so important in transforming our ideas and wishes into reality; and Donald Beekman Myer, a loyal friend, who not only supports our fundraising efforts, but brings a wealth

of knowledge as a preservationist, historian and talented botanical artist.



Michael Vergason

Michael Vergason Landscape Achitects initiated work on The National Cathedral in 1995 with the development of the Master Plan for the Cathedral Close with Torti Gallas and Partners. The work is measured carefully against the Olmsted Brothers

1910 and 1924 Master Plans. MVLA continues to serve as the LA for All Hallows Guild. Work for The Guild includes renovations and additions to The Bishop's Garden, The Herb Cottage Garden, the West Front, the Olmsted Woods, College of Preachers Garden, the North Garage and Bus Parking, and the All Hallows Amphitheater. In June of 1999, Dede Petri, Olmsted Woods Restoration Chair said: "We hired Michael because of his impressive record and his recognized familiarity with Olmsted landscapes. Time and again he has manifested an 'unsurpassed understanding of the place' and a sensitivity to the historic but dynamic nature of the Cathedral gardens and grounds. We can always depend on Michael for a good eye and a consistent vision."

Donald Beekman Myer



The City of Washington has been home to Don since 1963 when there was ample opportunity to combine his architectural training with an emerging historic preservation movement. He has served as Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, including serving with the original Joint Committee on Landmarks and administering the Old Georgetown Board. He served on the faculties of the Smithsonian Associates and Catholic University teaching Washing-

ton architectural history and urban conservation. He also served as the final Clerk of the Works for the Washington National Cathedral. This busy volunteer has continued to assist the Cathedral, serving on several Cathedral Chapter and PECF Committees. As a recognized Botanical Artist, Don's work is in several collections, been shown in a number of galleries and exhibited at the Corcoran Gallery and the Delaware Art Museum. He has donated many of these works to the Guild and Flower Mart. Again, Don helps the Guild by recently conducting two boat bridge tours on the Potomac. His book "The Bridges and the City of Washington" is the basis for these popular centennial fundraising tours.

ALL HALLOWS GUILD PRAYER O GOD our Father, who hast wonderfully blessed us with Thy gifts of the flowers of the field and garden, the trees of the wood, and the birds of the air, vouchsafe we beseech Thee, the aid and guidance of Thy Holy Spirit to All Hallows Guild and all of its members, and grant that by their labors this Cathedral Close may become more and more a haven of peace and refreshment, a revelation of Thy beauty, and a gateway of paradise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Flower Mart Chairs Beth Cowie and Cynthia Bader and a large, enthusiastic committee (and the army of volunteers), created a highly successful Flower Mart 2016



International Floral Displays Were Amazing

What Rain? - the Carousel is still running!!



The Saturday Crowds on South Road–Just Kept Coming!

Tea & Tour

www.allhallowsguild.org/Tea-Tours/reservations

202 537-5581



An in-depth Cathedral or Garden Tour followed by an elegant Catered Tea in the Tower is offered most Tuesdays & Wednesdays, Reservations required (\$30.) Treat yourself the views are amazing.





