



Sue Thompson awarded Massie Medal

By Missy Buckingham

Massie Medal Committee Chairman, The Boxwood Garden Club

On May 7, 2013, at the Annual Meeting in Charlottesville, Susan Cunningham Thompson received the Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement, the most prestigious award presented by the Garden Club of Virginia. Sue is a gifted horticulturist, a passionate preservationist and an avid conservationist. Through her work and study over the years, she has also accumulated a wealth of knowledge in garden restoration and landscape design that is respected within the state and on the national level.

A Richmond, Virginia, native and former President and member of the Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton, Sue and her family have generously opened their home and gardens at Tuckahoe Plantation, Thomas Jefferson's boyhood home and a National Historic Landmark, to the public and during Historic Garden Week for over 30 years. She has hosted three of the Garden Club of Virginia summer fellows. This talented woman has contributed her extensive horticultural knowledge and passion for garden history and design with gracious enthusiasm to the benefit of the GCV Restoration Committee, GCV clubs, and other statewide and national organizations. She has led both community and national preservation and conservation efforts with distinction. Our recipient's life's work serves as an admirable path for all of us to follow.

Her knowledge and expertise are always generously shared in her endearing, selfless way. Her tireless contributions benefit the Commonwealth and the Garden Club of Virginia where she serves in all capacities with dedication and distinction. We applaud Sue Thompson, our 2013 Massie Medal award recipient, as a steward of the land, a guardian of history, and a generous spirit. 🍀



Sue Thompson surrounded by her family after the presentation of the Massie Medal.



The de Lacy Gray Conservation Medal

*By Anne Beals
Conservation and Beautification Committee Chairman
The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club*

Awarded annually to one of the Garden Club of Virginia's own who has shown exceptional dedication to conservation and community, the de Lacy Gray Conservation Medal recognizes outstanding effort to further the knowledge of our natural resources and to encourage their wise use. At the Annual Meeting in May, this prestigious award was given to Nancy Dickerson, a member of the Princess Anne Garden Club.

Nancy's accomplishments are too numerous to list in full. She has served as chair of the First Landing State Park Exhibit Project, leading fundraisers to support its production, and was newsletter editor for Friends of First Landing. She was instrumental in arranging a Native Plant Symposium for Princess Anne Garden Club in 2012, and spearheaded a successful phone campaign to save Live Oak trees along Shore Drive in Virginia Beach. A long time member of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Lynnhaven River NOW (recipient of last year's Dugdale Award for Meritorious Achievement in Conservation), she has also worn many hats both in her local garden clubs and for the Garden Club of Virginia, and co-chairs Horticulture Field Day 2013 in Virginia Beach.

Heartfelt congratulations to Nancy Dickerson, and deepest thanks to her for making our world a better, healthier and more beautiful place in which to live, and doing so with sincere devotion and joy. 🍀



Nancy Dickerson, recipient of the de Lacy Gray Award.