



Ann Bradley, SGC President, 2020-2021

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a strange year this has been! Our year began as usual with our New Members' Reception in September followed by field trips, workshops, and programs in support of our mission. We invited the public to programs on managing invasive species and fall garden maintenance. We held our Holiday and seedling programs with the school children. We picked up litter and maintained our public gardens. We visited the Johnston landfill and learned about growing and caring for meadows. And then in mid-March everything stopped as our community and the world was faced with the deadly disease Covid 19.

What a shock! We took a pause as we adjusted to life during a pandemic. We canceled our meetings and programs in April and May. But as it became clear that the pandemic was here for at least several months, we got creative. We adapted our Blossoms and Sweets fund raiser to the current situation but still managed to bring in a significant amount of money to support our work for the coming year. In June, we had our first Membership Meeting on Zoom. Thanks to participation from most of our members, we passed Bylaws considerably revised to bring us into compliance with our 501c3 status as well as streamline our operations for the coming years. Our Committees got back to work where possible, picking up litter, maintaining our public gardens, planning programs, managing member applications, developing the budget, updating the Website, and nominating a slate of officers.

A new Club year has begun. The Program Committee has developed an excellent schedule. We are not yet sure how we will meet and continue our programs and our work. But given our Club's ability to creatively adapt to such extraordinary circumstances, I am confident that we will succeed. After all, as our theme states, Gardening is an Expression of Hope. Thank you for your flexibility, hard work and commitment. I am proud to be your President and a member of this wonderful Club. Ann