

## **GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM:**

### **“GOAT NOAT” FOR NOVEMBER 2020 (50th Edition)**

#### **Homewood Native Plants Garden Featured by the Patterson Park Audubon Center**

In October, Homewood Friends Meeting was one of five organizations that were selected to participate in *Audubon's Virtual Garden Tour of Community Gardens*. Gary Gillespie described our native plants garden and how it came to be. He gave a 5-minute video tour that highlighted the variety of species in the garden as well as the cisterns that were installed to help with watering the garden and managing storm water. The five gardens that were featured shared a common purpose in being bird and pollinator friendly, but there is a great variety of other benefits, design characteristics and community engagement. You can find the community garden tour as well as the wrap around webinar here at the Audubon [YouTube channel](#).

#### **This is the 50th edition of the GOAT Noats that started in 2016!**

You can see them all at:

<https://homewoodfriends.org/member-resources/committees/green-organizing-action-team-goat/goat-noats/>.

#### **The Holidays are Coming. Are you ready to kick the plastic habit in your kitchen? Just as with voting, it is good to have a plan!**

If you are like me (John McKusick), you have dozens of plastic containers and a roll of plastic wrap that you use for leftover storage. While the containers are better than the single use plastic wrap, the containers eventually crack and fail. Some can be recycled, while others cannot. But there are eco friendly alternatives that perform better than plastic and reduce the carbon footprint. Bess Keller, in her plastics workshop last year, introduced participants to a number of great products for food storage that use beeswax, silicone, or cotton. We will have more information and suggestions in next month's GOAT Noat, but here are some products cited in a Wall Street Journal article entitled, “Beat the Plastic Wrap” (October 10<sup>th</sup>).

- **Food Huggers** [www.foodhuggers.com](http://www.foodhuggers.com)
- **Beeswax Food Wrap** [www.ecohabit.shop](http://www.ecohabit.shop)
- **Stasher Standups** [www.stasherbag.com](http://www.stasherbag.com)
- **Organic Cotton Reusable Produce Bags** [www.food52.com](http://www.food52.com)
- **Reusable Bowl Covers** [www.dotandarmy.com](http://www.dotandarmy.com)

**A Good Time to Reflect:** On Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m., members of GOAT will gather to reflect on the pathways that GOAT has walked so far and how we will move into the future. If you are interested in joining us in person for this mini-retreat or would like to provide us with input, we would welcome you. Please contact a member of GOAT. Gary Gillespie (Clerk), Carol Beck, Stan Becker, Polly Heninger, Bess Keller, John McKusick and Rachael Neill.

**GOAT's Mission Statement:** The GREEN Organizing Action TEAM (GOAT) seeks to raise the level of concern for sustainability and environmental justice throughout the life of Homewood Friends Meeting and to witness this concern in the Meeting and the larger

community. GOAT organizes educational, recreational, advocacy, and other activities that move the Meeting and individuals toward adopting more sustainable practices and actions in our everyday lives and in the world.

Current GOAT members are Carol Beck, Stan Becker, Gary Gillespie (clerk), Polly Heninger, Bess Keller, John McKusick, and Rachael Neill. GOAT is an open committee that meets monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the Library (presently on Zoom). We would love to hear your questions, concerns, and ideas.