

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GARDEN CLUB
FEDERATION OF PENNSYLVANIA, DISTRICT X
Member, National Garden Clubs, Inc.

the
TEN*dril*

Volume 24; Issue 1 • March 2024

Inside this issue:

Director's Corner	2
Important Dates	3
District X Officers	3
Club Presidents and Contact Info	4
Club Reports	5-12
Committee Reports	13-17
Grants and Contests	18-21



The Director's Corner

Deborah Davis, District X Director

Our **District X Annual Spring Tea** is coming on **Wednesday, March 13, 2024**, at the Mon Valley YMCA, 101 Taylor Run Road, Monongahela, Pa. in the Activity Room. Registration is 9:30 AM. The business meeting will begin at 10 AM. **Martha Washington Garden Club** is the hostess garden club and **Garden Club of Munhall** will provide the centerpieces. The lunch is provided by the District X Board. We are delighted to have Dr. Michelle Duennes present a program on "Spotted Lantern Fly". Garden Club Presidents are asked to **RSVP with the number attending from their garden club by March 6** to dardebDavis@verizon.net. There will be a white elephant sale and a 50/50. Garden clubs can bring one Trash to Treasure entry to this meeting to be judged at the District level. The Trash to Treasure theme is "In a Milkwork Garden" and is based on reuse and repurposing milk cartons and dairy containers in crafting a patchwork with a garden theme. District X Officers, garden club presidents and chairs are asked to be prepared to present a 1 minute report at this meeting.

Don't forget the **Orchid Spring Show** by the Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania will be held **March 16 and 17, 2024**, at the Crowne Plaza, 164 Fort Couch Road, Pittsburgh, PA. Admission is \$5. There is free parking.

I hope many of you signed up to attend the "**Petals & Patchwork**" **GCFP Convention on April 7-9, 2024**, at the Double Tree Resort by Hilton Hotel Lancaster. There will be program speakers from Longwood Gardens, the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society, and the United States Arboretum.

The **501c3 Inf. Form 990** must be completed by garden club treasurers for the year 5/1/2023 to 4/30/2024 and sent to Mary Jo Gardill **NOT BEFORE May 1, 2024**, and **NO LATER THAN May 31, 2024**; she would prefer to receive the forms around May 15. The form can be found under Forms Library on the GCFP website.

Another event to look forward to is the **Annual June Fundraiser on Thursday, June 13, 2024 at South Hills Country Club**, 4305 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh, PA. 15236. Registration is at 11 AM with a Noon start for the luncheon. Andy Amrhein from True Value Hardware will speak. Each garden club is to provide a raffle basket which is not reimbursed for this meeting. There are vendors, raffle baskets, jewelry, 50/50. It is another fun event.

"SOW SEEDS OF KINDNESS, REAP JOYS OF FRIENDSHIP"

Deborah Davis, District X Director

DISTRICT X OFFICERS

Director

DEBORAH DAVIS

Martha Washington Garden Club
dardebDavis@verizon.net

Assistant Director

WANDA SHERRY

Great Meadows Garden Club
docnwanda@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

HADDIE WEBER

Garden Club of Munhall
haddieweber@mac.com

Treasurer

REBECCA LEBEDA

Garden Club of Munhall
fandbeck@gmail.com



National Garden Clubs Natural Habitats

If you have considered establishing a natural habitat area on your property, now is the time to start planning! National Garden Clubs, Inc., recognizes members whose habitats meet specific criteria. A good place to find these criteria is on the habitat application, which you can find at <https://gardenclubwebsite.wufoo.com/forms/z16n6ku90w6df5v/>. If your habitat already meets the criteria, please apply to be officially recognized!

You can also order a garden flag to display in your garden from the NGC Store: <https://www.gardenclub.org/our-store?f%5B0%5D=category%3A93>. While you're there, be sure to browse the other items available in the store!



The TENDril is published four times a year on the GCFP website in March, June, September, and December.

Submission deadline for the June issue is May 15.

Please send submissions to Marce Zaragoza, Editor, at MZarag23@gmail.com. We welcome submissions from any District X garden club member.

2024 IMPORTANT DATES

- March 13 Spring Tea—Mon Valley YMCA
- April 7-9 GCFP State Convention
Doubletree Resort by Hilton Hotel,
Lancaster, PA
- Apr 26 Arbor Day
- May 14-24 GCFP Tour to England &
Chelsea Flower Show
- June 2-5 NGC Convention, The Westin, Denver, CO
- June 13 District X Annual Fundraiser
South Hills Country Club
- Sep 4 District X Annual Meeting
South Hills Country Club
- Oct 22-23 CAR-SGC Annual Convention
The Old Mill Inn, Basking, NJ
- Nov 15 America Recycles Day

DISTRICT X GARDEN CLUBS

GARDEN CLUB OF MUNHALL

Meets 4th Tuesday at 7 PM

Michael Sarraino, President

prince122@verizon.net

<http://www.facebook.com/GardenClubofMunhall>

Web site: <http://www.gardenclubofmunhall.com>

MON VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Meets 1st Monday at 6:30 PM

Alice Harris

aliceharris141@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/monvalleygardenclub/>

GIANT OAKS GARDEN CLUB

Meets 1st Thursday at 11:30 AM

Karen Humphreys, President

khumphreys81@hotmail.com

Facebook: [Giant Oaks Garden Club](#)

PLEASANT HILLS GARDEN CLUB

Meets 2nd Monday at 12:30 PM

Pamela Kavelman, President

pkavelman@yahoo.com

<https://www.facebook.com/pleasanthillsgc>

GREAT MEADOWS GARDEN CLUB

Meets 4th Wednesday at 10:30 AM

Martha Alexander, President

martha.alexander78@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/gmgc1957>

TOWN & COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

Meets 3rd Thursday at 6 PM

Tami Burnworth, President

tjfoxtrotter@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/tcgcr1pa>

GREEN GARDENERS OF UNIONTOWN

Meets 1st Friday (for lunch)

Paula Flaherty, President

pjflaherty1@yahoo.com

UNIONTOWN FLOWER CLUB

Meets 2nd Friday at 1 PM

Sharlene Lehman

fairchance67@yahoo.com

MARTHA WASHINGTON GARDEN CLUB

Meets 3rd Tuesday at 12:00 PM

Kathy Wells, President

kwells@chestnuteast.com

<https://www.facebook.com/mwgcwashpa>

VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Meet 2nd Thursday at 10 AM

Roxanne Huss

crhuss@gmail.com



Garden Club of Munhall

Michael Sarraino, President

The Flight (and Plight) of the Spotted Lantern Fly

First spotted in Pennsylvania in 2014, far outside of their native China, the Spotted Lantern Fly was seen as nothing but a pretty, little nuisance, sporting black polka dots on a vibrant red wing. But as time wore on, this little bug quickly became a great big problem as they clouded the summer sky like haze, congregated on our trees and shrubs, and hopped all over our cityscapes making for a major mess. This September we were lucky enough to host Dr. Michelle Duennes, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental & Evolutionary Biology at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, PA. Dr. Duennes has been spearheading one of the first projects devoted to cataloging and studying the spread of these pests as they invade western Pennsylvania. But what makes Dr. Duennes’s project so special is that it is a Citizen Science project, meaning she invited all of us to join in by collecting Spotted Lantern Flies in our community and storing them in an alcohol solution so that she and her team can study their anatomy, biological anomalies, and genomic makeup to try and predict and document just how these little flying terrors carved themselves a niche right here in our own backyards. Dr. Duennes was such a wonderful speaker that she will be joining us again at the end of February to give a talk on Bumblebees, on which she is a leading expert.



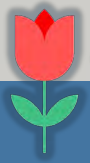
Flowers By Terry

As the holidays approached and flower arrangements being delivered to our homes and workplaces became more commonplace, we were happy to have Flowers By Terry back to teach us the ins and outs of floral arrangement. She and her team handcrafted four arrangements for us, live, and gave us step-by-step instructions on how to stack, layer, trim, and fluff blooms into beautiful displays. She even gave us her tips and tricks on how to keep our flowers fresher, longer (hint: change your water every day to keep your vase’s bacterial load low!). We were so grateful to invite back Flowers By Terry and look forward to seeing her again in the coming year.



What the Future Holds

Great things are on the horizon for the Garden Club of Munhall with our Annual Benefit at South Hills Country Club is quickly approaching: April 27th will be here before we know it! And from there it will quickly be summer and prime gardening season once again...



Club Reports continued

Giant Oaks Garden Club

Karen Humphreys, President

The Giant Oaks Garden Club meets the first Thursday of each month from February through October at St. David's Episcopal Church in Venetia. Our 66th member was inducted in December, with 2 prospective members on track to join through the first half of this year. We boast 22 members who have celebrated at least 80 birthdays and continue to volunteer and participate in GOGC activities. Three of our members have belonged to GOGC for 48 years!

Our GOGC member Randi Starr was nominated and won the 2023 Butterfly Award for outstanding service and dedication to District X, Giant Oaks Garden Club and her community. Giant Oaks has an impressive list of Butterfly Award members among our membership - the past 13 years, a GOGC member has received this award 12 times!

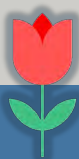
The club hosted our annual fundraiser in November at the Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe. "There's No Place Like Gnome For The Holidays" was a resounding success. Our 430 guests enjoyed the gnomes – which were everywhere. The day featured almost 60 lavish raffle baskets to bid on, assembled by our members. There were also our traditional Tinsel Pantry of homemade baked goods, shopping from an eclectic range of vendors, and 65 door prizes donated by members, friends and local merchants.

Members celebrated our annual Christmas luncheon and installation of officers at the Valley Brook Country Club in December.

On Thursday, February 1, Giant Oaks Garden Club hosted a dedication of the eco-friendly bench it adopted from Clean And Tidy Our County, Inc. with a prayer and champagne. The gray, 185-pound bench made from recycled caps is located near the pollinator garden at Peters Township Library. Present for the dedication was a reporter from the Observer-Reporter, Lacey Love, Peters Twp Library Director and Fern Sibert, founder and director of the nonprofit Clean and Tidy Our County Inc. The nonprofit collects non-recyclable plastic caps, then hauls them to Green Tree Recycling in Evansville, Ind., a company that turns the caps into benches and picnic tables. *(continued next page...)*



(L-R) Mary Dunbar, recycling chair 2020-2024; Pat Stanfill, recycling co- chair 2024; Lacey Love, Peters Township Library Director; Sophie Malli, recycling co-chair 2024.



Club Reports continued

Giant Oaks Garden Club *(continued)*

Karen Humphreys, President



Fern Siebert, wearing a bottle cap hat, is with Clean and Tidy Our County, Inc.

It requires about 200 pounds of donated caps to build a 6-foot bench and adoption costs \$350. Fern’s goal is to collect enough plastic caps from the Giant Oaks Garden Club and other donors in the community to make more than 150 benches to replace aging wooden benches in Washington County parks and public areas.

Ongoing activities include tending several area gardens, visiting McMurray Hills Manor to do garden related activities with residents, and making cupcakes and tray favors monthly for Meals on Wheels. Giant Oaks Garden Club

now has a Facebook page.

February 1 was our annual business meeting and luncheon for members to review committees, projects, budget, events and programs for the coming year. Plans are well underway for our 23rd annual Spring Plant Sale & Garden Market, to be held at the Peters Twp. Public Library on Saturday, May 18.

The Program Committee has selected educational and entertaining programs for the year. At this time we are planning our gardens and dreaming of spring.



Club Reports continued

Great Meadows Garden Club

Martha Alexander, President

Great Meadows Garden Club meets the fourth Wednesday of each month. We currently have 42 members. For the new year, our theme is Environmental Stewardship.

Living in and around Great Meadows has instilled in us a reverence for nature and a desire to nurture it. Care for nature begins with the stewardship mindset. Environmental stewardship is the compass guiding us toward a sustainable future, a responsibility shared by everyone. It is a critical lens through which we can understand how our individual behavior affects ecosystems and wildlife. We will start our year with a recycling message and winter sowing of pollinator plants. We have included many other environmental activities such as a talk on sustainability, gardening with climate change, and an Audubon bird and wildflower lesson.

Our work with Junior Gardener students at the East End Community Center, teaching good environmental practices, will continue. We will share with them our love of the natural world and help these youth cultivate respect for the earth. Along with them, we will grow a large community garden.

We will focus on floral designs throughout the year as we look toward our Flower Show next year.

Another major project for this year is to clean up, clear out, and re-landscape out Point Lookout site and Blue Star Memorial. We expect this to take two years. We also plant and maintain gardens at the Wharton Township building and park wildflower walk.

We provide new toys, clothing, and a monetary donation each year for the Caring People Ministries in the Farmington area. We also provide Horticulture Therapy for the Mountain Area Senior Citizens.



Club Reports continued

Martha Washington Garden Club

Marce Zaragoza, Newsletter Editor

The Martha Washington Garden Club continues to meet February through November on the third Tuesday of the month at the Laboratory Presbyterian Church in Washington, PA.

On December 12th we held our annual Christmas mug workshop. The mugs were prepared with oasis and ready for designing



(L-R) Members Deb Davis, Ruth Hrutkay, and Susan Luisi.

with greens provided by members.

Kudos and many thanks go to Garden Therapy Chair Mary Dobich for organizing this event, collecting mugs and many embellishments throughout the year for our use in creating arrangements. Over 80 mugs were donated to local shut-ins and nursing home residents.

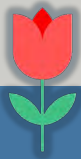


2024 marks the 90th anniversary of the Martha Washington Garden Club's incorporation into the Garden Clubs of America. The year will be dedicated to celebrating this major milestone in our Club's history. January was dedicated to deciding our course of action for the coming year, finalizing dates and speakers, and completing the yearbook for publication on our website. Highlights for the year include a Standard Flower Show, "Celebrate 90!", to be held October 4-5, 2024, at Washington Crown Center.

A major project for the year will be the completion of a large Blue Star Marker at the Claysville Welcome Center at I-79. This is the only Welcome Center in the state to not have a marker. The MWGC is helping to coordinate this effort, and we thank District X for agreeing to pay the cost of the marker and its installation.

We invite anyone interested in finding out more about the Blue Star Marker program to join us at our April 16 meeting, when we welcome Karen Faust, GCFP Blue Star Memorial Chair and wife of a Viet Nam Vet. If you plan to attend and are not a MWGC member, please contact Kathy Wells so that we can plan for extra attendees.





Club Reports continued

Pleasant Hills Garden Club

Pamela Kavelman, President

At our October meeting members decorated pumpkins with succulents. Our slate of officers was reelected for the coming year. We participated in a Candy Crawl at Mowry Park, which was attended by huge crowds beyond the expected numbers. Members dressed as butterflies or bees to hand out the candy to the hordes of children.

In November we created small flower arrangements for Atria's Senior Living Center. This is an annual project for our club, and is much appreciated by the residents.

December was our holiday party, with a covered dish potluck. This was our last meeting at the Pleasant Hills Municipal Building, which is scheduled to be torn down. Our club had been in charge of the plants in the atrium since the building was constructed. We found homes for the plants and pots. We were forced to find storage space for 50 years of supplies housed in the basement of the building, and to find a new meeting place.

We held our first meeting at our new location, the Presbyterian Church. We were pleased with the facility. We spent the business meeting going over the duties of all the committees. We have many new members and felt it was important to clarify who does what. At this meeting we also made 55 fleece scarves which we distributed to the community.

In February we will visit Phipps Conservatory for a guided tour of the orchid and bonsai exhibits.

We met the NexTrex challenge to recycle 500 pounds of plastic in six months. We have received a park bench, which will be placed at the Pleasant Hills Arboretum. We have begun a new challenge, which has new rules. We will need to recycle 1000 pounds in one year, and have photo documentation. We have a bin at the Pleasant Hills Library, where residents can bring their clean plastic bags and other plastic film.



Club Reports continued

Town and Country Garden Club of Rices Landing

Tami Burnsworth, President

The Town and Country Garden Club of Rices Landing members meet at the Hewitt Presbyterian Church the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. Our membership total is 11 at this time.

Our October meeting, members participated in a workshop preparing gift bags for Christmas to give to local nursing home residents which they greatly appreciated ! The Program for November was “Coffee Growing and Roasting” and a discussion of the benefits of using coffee grounds in the garden.

There was not a meeting in December and January’s meeting was cancelled due to the weather.

Our Program scheduled for the February meeting will be “Bears in our Area” presented by Christopher Bence, Forest Ranger.

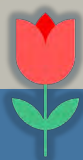


**MARCH
16 & 17
2024**

Orchid
SPRING SHOW
THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF WESTERN
PENNSYLVANIA PRESENTS
Orchid Obsession

SATURDAY MARCH 16 EXHIBITS 11 A.M. TO 5 P.M. VENDORS 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.	CROWNE PLAZA SUITES PITTSBURGH SOUTH 164 FORT COUCH RD. PITTSBURGH PA 15241 (ACROSS FROM SOUTH HILLS VILLAGE)	ORCHID DISPLAYS EDUCATIONAL CLASSES ORCHID REPOTTING ORCHID VENDOR SALES OSWP SALES
SUNDAY MARCH 17 EXHIBITS 9 A.M. TO 4 P.M. VENDORS 9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.		

Free Parking with easy access to all events
ADMISSION \$5 (MEMBERS & UNDER 18 FREE)
WWW.OSWP.ORG



Club Reports continued

Uniontown Flower Club

Sharlene Lehman , President

The Uniontown Flower Club has 33 members and meets at Mount Saint Macrina the second Friday of each month except January.

In October, special guests were Crystal Simmons, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Uniontown and Code Enforcement Officer Frederick. Director Simmons presented us with a check for \$347 to use for our Uniontown Library landscape renewal project in 2024. Director Simmons also discussed the many exciting projects happening in Uniontown. Officer Frederick explained the process of code enforcement for blighted properties.

In November, members were treated to a demonstration by member and Master Gardener Shirley Evans of floral design using fall dried flowers, wildflowers, etc. The demonstration included tools needed to create a display, sizes of displays, and other information to use for flower shows.

Members will also continue planting bulbs at local cemeteries at neglected graves, especially graves of veterans.

In December we met for our Christmas party. We had a holiday floral display that was auctioned off and raised \$120 to add to our scholarship fund that we are creating. The club is planning to give a scholarship in 2024 to a student planning to study horticulture, environmental studies, etc.



Awards and Scholarships Committee

Vina McLeod Rudolph, Chair

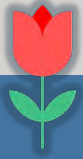
At the February meeting, I brought two copies of the District X Awards & Procedures – with deadlines noted – for each club in the District.

I have received applications for the D-X Civic Beautification Grants, from the following clubs: Giant Oaks GC, Great Meadows GC, Martha Washington GC, Mon Valley GC, Uniontown Flower Club, and Valley GC. The grant checks will be presented by the Director at the D-X Tea in March.

Since the last Board Meeting, I have processed one Scholarship for GCFP Flower Show School, Course 4, to Martha Alexander of Great Meadows GC.

SAVE THE DATE
CAR-SGC CONVENTION
OCTOBER 22 - 23, 2024

THE OLD MILL INN
225 ROUTE 202 BASKING RIDGE,
NEW JERSEY 07920
PHONE (908) 221 1100
WWW.OLDEMILLINN.COM
Chairman:
Mary Warshauer Mary@warshauer.com
Florence Leyssene florenceleysene@gmail.com



Birds, Butterflies and Conservation Committee

Martha Alexander, Chair

Conservation begins at home. Here's what you can do:

In your garden:

- Grow and fertilize organically; chemicals end up in our lakes and rivers to their detriment.
- Use compost tea and natural fertilizers.
- Add plants that support bird and wildlife habitat.
- Invite lacewings and lady bugs, which eat destructive aphids, by planting bright flowers.
- Stop slugs with eggshells, grit or children-friendly pellets around plants.
- Plant native.
- Establish rain gardens to avoid runoff into the rivers.
- Install permeable hardscape (driveways, walkways, etc.) for less runoff.

At home:

- Do not put grease down the drain; it can cause clogs and backups that eventually impact nature.
- Reuse plastic. Large plastic bottles with the bottoms cut off make mini greenhouses for seedlings.
- Recycle as much as possible.

Shopping:

- Buy locally, support farmers' markets.
- Buy products with less packaging, especially plastic.
- Carry in reusable or paper bags.



Committee Reports continued

Horticulture Report

Grace Mitchell, Chair

It's planning for planting time already! A few new offerings this year:

- **Queeny Zinnias** come in many colors, which change as the season progresses.
- **Dark Side of the Moon astilbe**, which features chocolate-burgundy foliage and purple flowers.
- You may want to try **Sun King Aralia**, a bright yellow foliage plant, which was named 2020 Perennial of the Year.



One more exotic foliage, please...

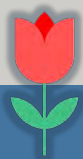
- **Jurassic Gold Fern** emerges in orange, then turns gold, then green. Busy guy!!

All these plants may be found in jungseed.com catalog.

Finally, how about a new Hosta? **Yellow Polka Dot Bikini**—seriously. And yes, it is itsy bitsy: only ten inches tall!



Happy horting!



Committee Reports continued

Pollinator Gardens Report

Wanda Sherry, Chair

How to help our pollinators survive winters in southwestern Pennsylvania

Yes, it's sounding like a broken record by now, but leaves and other litter are essential shelter for hibernating bumblebee queens and the larva of numerous butterfly and moth species. One of the first things we can do to help our pollinators is to leave the leaves. As an added bonus, leaf and mulch piles will also attract other beneficial insects.

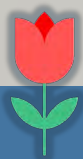
A second thing we can do is minimize our ground disturbance because approximately 70% of all bee species nest in the ground in our yards and flower gardens. While the vast majority of native pollinators nest either in the ground or cavities, there are some oddities out there that will take up residency inside shells and other unique creations, such as an old boot used as garden decoration.

It's always a good idea to talk to your family, friends, and neighbors about what you're doing to protect pollinators in winter. If you're concerned about how your yard may look to others, hang a pollinator habitat sign so they will know that your yard isn't messy; it's a safe place for pollinators to forage and nest.

"The spring equinox, Ostara, is a time of balance between day and night, dark and light, death and rebirth. The Earth awakens from her slumber and brings with her the gift of new beginnings. But only you can plant the seeds of awareness that nourish your dreams and bring them to life."

-Nell Regan K.





Program Committee Report

Haddie Weber, Chair

Following are plans for the upcoming events for 2024:

The Annual Tea is at the Mon Valley YMCA on Wednesday March 13, 2024. The speaker will be Dr. Michelle Duennes. The topic will be on the Spotted Lantern Fly. Martha Washington Garden Club is the Host Garden Club. District X Board members will provide the food. The Garden Club of Munhall will provide the Centerpieces.

Trash to Treasure entries will be judged at the Annual Tea. The winning entry will move on to be judged at the GCFP Convention. The Trash to Treasure theme is “In a Milkwork Garden”. Rules are in the Winter issue of Keystone Gardener page 20.

The Fundraiser is scheduled for Thursday June 13, 2024 at the South Hills Country Club. Valley Garden Club will be providing the Centerpieces. Andy Amrhein of Evey True Value Hardware will be our speaker on a topic to be determined. Each garden club will provide a Raffle Basket. The menu was decided upon at the February District X Board meeting and will be announced at a later date.

The Annual Meeting is September 4, 2024. This date is not determined by the district, but by the State Officers. Please mark your calendars now, as this date falls early in September, right after Labor Day. More details will be forthcoming. Great Meadows and Green Gardeners will be providing the Centerpieces. The menu for this event was also decided at the last District X Board meeting. Juliette Olshock of Phipps Conservatory will provide our program on “Planting for Pollinators”. Each club will be responsible for a raffle basket for which your club will be reimbursed \$25.

At the Fundraiser and Annual Meeting there are vendors. If you have any suggestions for vendors please let Haddie Weber know.

Thank you for everyone’s cooperation in having excellent participation in our events.



2024 Espoma Grant For Garden Clubs Nationwide



Members of National Garden Clubs are passionate about growing with a purpose and The Espoma Company wants to help! Together, we're looking for **NGC Affiliated Garden Clubs** with a vision that can be brought to life. We're selecting up to 20 clubs with projects in 2023-2024 to receive a \$250 grant for Espoma Organic plant foods and potting soils.

THE GRANT PROGRAM

Espoma's 'Plant America' Grant Program was announced at the 2017 NGC Annual Convention in Richmond. Grants for \$250 of Espoma products may be awarded to up to 20 NGC clubs annually. Since that time, over 115 grants have been awarded to clubs in 38 states. These creative NGC clubs have used these Espoma resources to beautify their local communities and improve the quality of life for their members, friends, neighbors and communities.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Grant applications for 2023-24 are accepted **October 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024**. Simply complete the online form at <https://www.espoma.com/garden-clubs/> or on NGC's site

- Be sure to attach 'before' photos of your site/s and a simple master plan sketch or diagram, plant list, etc. - clubs who do not, stand little chance of winning an Espoma Grant.
- Tell us when your project is scheduled to begin.
- Applications are accepted October 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024.



2024 Trash to Treasure Design Competition

2024 GCFP CONVENTION (7-9 April)

Trash to Treasure Theme/Rules

Convention Theme: **“Petals and Patchwork”**

Trash to Treasure Theme: **“In a Milkwork Garden”**

Lancaster County produces 2.1 billion pounds of milk annually (1776 farms). Lancaster ranks 1st in PA and 10th in the country in milk production. The contest is based on reuse and repurposing milk cartons and dairy containers in crafting a patchwork with a garden theme.

Specifications:

1. Entry to be a mounted Patchwork, Applique artwork which can also be framed (optional). It can be multidimensional (eg: extended petals, leaves design...)
2. Dimensions: No larger than 14” Wide or 14” deep. Height Limited to 14”. Framed not to exceed 11”x14.” The entry can also be displayed on an easel stand.
3. Weight: No more than 15 lbs.
4. Materials: All type of materials used for milk production including carton, plastics and glass. 20% of the design may be other materials (eg: glue, paint...)
5. Each entry must include a 3 x 5 card: Front: Title and a list of materials used. Back: District, Garden Club, Designer(s) name and mailing address
6. Entry may be work of more than one person.

ONLY ONE ENTRY FROM EACH DISTRICT

Selection method is determined by the district. District entries selected for Convention competition must be submitted on Friday, April 7 from 11-5 PM at the Doubletree Resort by Hilton Hotel. Judging will be at 5:15 PM. Entries are not to be judged under the same standards as a flower show.

Trash to Treasure Co-Chair: Naser Chowdhury and Marsha Chowdhury. Ph: 484-432-6386

SCALE OF POINTS FOR JUDGING

Conformance	20 pts
(Fits within stated dimensions, weight)	
Artistic Concept	50 pts
(Creative reuse of recycled materials)	
Expression	20 pts
(Interpretation of theme)	
Execution	10 pts
(workmanship)	
TOTAL	100 pt



2024 Trash to Treasure Examples

Examples and Ideas _



Plastic milk container that can be used as applique:





Quilt Fundraiser for State Annual Convention



Are you feeling lucky? Do you love QUILTS?

TAKE A CHANCE TO WIN ... \$10.00 per ticket

First Prize is a beautifully crafted **queen size quilt** made by Lancaster County Amish

Second Prize is a quilted **wall hanging** created by Lancaster County Amish

Third Prize is a gorgeous quilted **tote bag** made by Lancaster County Amish that has been signed by the maker



For **TICKETS** contact your
District Director or Club President

*Sarah Stoltzfus
Lancaster Co. PA
#1605*

The drawing will be held during the 94th Annual Convention of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania at the Double Tree Resort by Hilton, Willow Street Pike, Lancaster, PA - April 9, 2024 @ 2:00 p.m.

You do not need to be present to win but we would love to have you join us in the heart of PA Dutch Country

These quilted pieces are excellent examples of the craftsmanship and quality common in this beautiful local art form. Good Luck!

Thank you for supporting the 2024 GCFP Annual Convention! See you in April!