



Greensburg Garden Center

July, August 2022 Newsletter



“Where Gardeners Grow”



**MAGICAL, MAGNIFICENT MONARCHS
BUTTERFLY RELEASE**
Sponsored by the Second Chance Fund
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6
11:00 AM & 1:00 PM



The beautiful Monarch butterfly is widely considered the “king” of all butterflies. Treat yourself and your family to the breath-taking sight of butterflies taking flight! To reserve your Monarch, call our office. Choose a release time to attend or pick up your Monarch to release in your own garden. The Monarchs are provided free compliments of the Second Chance Fund. We ask for a reservation fee, refunded when you pick up your butterfly.

A short, fun, educational program will be provided by our very own member - “Butterfly Lady” J.D. Peterson. J.D. is a well-known author and entertainer and will capture the attention of all, young and not-so-young!

The release will take place in the beautiful **LeFevre Butterfly Garden** located at the bottom of the parking lot behind the main Garden Center building. The colorful flowers there will entice the released Monarchs to land to take a sip of nectar.

There will be plenty to see and enjoy:

- Monarch larva will be happily munching milkweed in one of our troughs.
- Novelty items will be available for fun and excitement for the little ones.
- Educational displays and butterfly books are inside the Garden House.
- Buy a flower wand for a butterfly to coax a Monarch to land.
- Take a picture on the butterfly bench.
- We have a limited number of Milkweed plants.
- Get a butterfly tattoo.

To tempt your taste buds, we have hot dogs & toppings, butterfly shaped sugar cookies, cold lemonade compliments of Turner Dairy and **NEW!** this year is McFeely's Ice Cream truck. YUM!!!



The butterfly garden is open Tuesday and Thursday 10 AM – 3 PM through Labor Day. Enjoy Mother Nature's stunning array of colors in the beautiful LeFevre Butterfly Garden. Listen to the gentle sound of the waterfall. Relax on a bench. Come and enjoy. Bring a bag lunch. Enjoy the serenity.

Calendar of Events

July 6	Membership Mtg. 6:00 PM LeFevre Butterfly Garden "One Year in the Life of a Bee Keeper"
July 16	Flower Show noon-4:00 PM at McKenna Senior Center
August 2	Membership Mtg. 11:00 AM "Seed Harvesting, Processing & Storage"
August 6	Butterfly Release

Membership Meetings

....On July 6, we meet in the beautiful LeFevre Butterfly Garden at 6:00 PM. Our program is a really great one, "One Year in the Life of a Bee Keeper" by Chuck Hayden, President of the Westmoreland Bee Keeping Association. Refreshments will be served and Nadine Mason has something special for your entertainment!! Can't wait to see what that is. Looking forward to seeing all of you for a wonderful evening!

....Our August meeting features Patty Schildkemp and her program is "Seed Harvesting, Processing and Storage".

....Looking forward to September and our Annual Plant Exchange!

FALL RAFFLE



Love to eat out? Tired of cooking?? Too hot? Sit down and let someone serve you!

Treat yourself and take a chance to win one of five prizes, each containing 4 gift cards to popular local restaurants!! Each gift card is a \$25 value making each prize worth \$100. Only \$5.00 per ticket. Be sure to buy several tickets!!

The winning ticket will be drawn at our Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 4.

More tickets are available in the office. Call or stop by to purchase tickets and support this fundraiser!

The gift cards are courtesy of the Greensburg Garden Center Board members. The printed tickets are donated by Fotorecord Print Center. Thank you!!

The deadline to turn in photos for the calendar is June 30th.

We need a glossy 4 x 6 photo turned into the office with the photographers address sticker on the back. The person submitting the photo must be a member with a photo of their own garden and they must not be a professional photographer.

Christmas Workshops!!

*Workshops are near, not enough workers,
I fear!
Won't you come too, there's plenty to do!*



Summer is here, but winter isn't far behind! Workshops for the Christmas Sale begin Thursday, September 1, 10-3:00 PM. We are in need of willing hands, novel ideas and interesting materials. Come for an hour or stay all day. We can offer good fun, talented companions and, of course, delicious snacks.

"Growing Wild"

**Standard Flower Show
Saturday, July 16, 2022
12-4 PM**

**Open to the Public—Free Admission
Staged at The McKenna Senior Center
971 Old Salem Road, Greensburg**



Want to learn to do a simple design? Calling out to all Garden Center members!! We have a category for you in our biannual flower show. Do a simple tea place setting or a breakfast tray. One of our member judges will help guide you. Maybe just a perfect cut from your yard This is fun and educational!!

If you haven't entered this show, come out and enjoy. See what our members grow in their gardens and how creative their designs are. Maybe next time you will join in and win a ribbon of your own!



We are very fortunate to have so many new members joining us. Please welcome Bobbi Ragsdale, Ardi Hill, Ruth McCrumb and Regina Laskey.

"Gardeners tend to be the most adaptable of human beings. In fact, gardening...trains you to be flexible, and to find consolations where you can. So the poppies never came up and deer ate the roses? Well, the irises looked great and the lilacs were fabulous."
~Constance Casey



What I Learned....Cuttings/Cutting Back by Sandy Truckner



If you are like me you lost some favorites over the winter. Late winter/early spring weather was tough on a lot of plants with excess rain creating lingering wet conditions, not to mention the early warm up followed by a couple freezes.

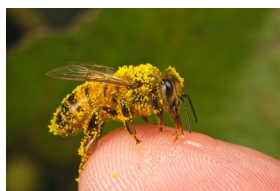
Now is the time to create some insurance against losses next winter by taking cuttings of your favorites. See the article in the summer 2021 newsletter for tips on how to take the cuttings. But basically you take a 4 - 6" cutting, place it in damp soilless mix, cover with a clear plastic bag or box, keep in bright light but not direct sunlight. Trim back any leaves that are too large. Check periodically and air out.

There is still time to cut back by 1/3 to 1/2 any perennials that are too tall. Most will come back as strong as ever. They will bloom a little later but probably won't need staking now. Here are some that can be cut back: phlox, monarda/bee balm, aster, ironweed, veronica, balloon flower, goldenrod, Joe pye weed, Russian sage, heliopsis, boneset, artemisia, nepeta. July 1 is about the latest to cut back because it does delay flowering.

Here are some perennials that you wouldn't want to cut back: iris, day lilies, red hot poker, true lilies, ornamental grasses, and similar plants, any that have the flowering stalk coming directly from the base of the plant. I can speak from personal experience that cutting back those overly tall lilies doesn't work.

Back to lost plants. I used to take a start of my pink chrysanthemum (Hillside Sheffield Pink) to May Mart when I could. Unfortunately it was one of the plants that didn't make it through the winter. So if you happened to buy one of those plants and can take a cutting, I'd sure appreciate seeing it at the September annual plant auction.

"Pollinator Palooza"



Westmoreland Pollinator Partners is offering a passport for a tour of pollinator-friendly gardens across Westmoreland County.

Anyone visiting at least six of the 21 featured gardens will be eligible to receive a free native plant that appeals to local pollinator species.

Passport folders for the Pollinator Palooza Tour will be available at the Ligonier Country Market special feature booth on June 25, Aug. 13 and Sept. 17. Stickers confirming a visit will be available at the participating gardens. Participants also can document visits by taking photos of the native plants in the gardens. Anyone photographing a native plant will receive an additional native plant while supplies last.

The idea of the passport is to see the various gardens and to take back ideas to your own lawn, garden or yard.

Participating gardens in Greensburg include Historic Hanna's Town Gardens, **Greensburg Garden Center LeFevre Butterfly Garden**, Penn State Master Gardener Donohoe Center Demonstration Gardens, Westmoreland Conservation District Meadow, The Westmoreland Museum of American Art Garden, Amos K. Hutchinson Elementary School Garden and West Penn Power Garden.

There are also participating gardens in the Ligonier, Latrobe-Derry, and Mt. Pleasant-Scottdale areas. For information, including a map of member gardens, visit Westmoreland Pollinator Partners on Facebook.

"Don't wear perfume in the garden—unless you want to be pollinated by bees!"

**"The hum of bees is the voice of the garden."
~Elizabeth Lawrence**

Greensburg Garden Center
951 Old Salem Road
Greensburg, PA 15601

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00-3:00
Phone: 724-837-0245
www.greensburggardencenter.net
email: ggc951@live.com

Co-Presidents: Carla Rusnica, Diane Dale
Co-Vice President:s Judy Geary, Nadine Mason
Newsletter Editor: Diane Dale

GREENSBURG GARDEN CENTER 2022
ASSOCIATE MEMBER - NEW MEMBER RENEWAL FORM

Date: _____ Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: Home _____ Cell _____ Email _____

Type of Membership: New \$15 _____ Renewal \$15 _____ Student \$3 _____

Annual dues run from January 1 to January 1. Please make checks payable to:
Greensburg Garden Center, 951 Old Salem Rd., Greensburg, PA 15601

My interests are: ___ Gardening ___ Floral Design ___ Butterfly Garden ___ Workshops
___ Grounds ___ Social Media

Our Mission Statement

The Greensburg Garden Center is a non-profit educational organization whose goals are to support and educate our members and the community in horticulture, conservation, and related areas and provide an annual scholarship. GGC serves Westmoreland County and surrounding communities.