

# Greensburg Garden Center

## Sept./Oct. 2024 Newsletter

“Where Gardeners Grow”



### Calendar of Events

- Sept. 3      Membership Mtg.—11:00 A.M.  
Plant Auction
- Sept. 18     Bus Trip
- Oct. 1        Membership Mtg.—11:00 A.M.  
Annual Meeting
- Oct. 15      Christmas Workshops begin
- Oct. 16      Card/Game Party

### Plant Auction

The September 3 Membership Meeting program is the ever popular “Plant Auction”. Members are to bring in something from their garden; perennials, a bouquet of flowers, vegetables or even a house plant. Plants will go to the highest bidder by our favorite auctioneer, Sandy Truckner!

Bring a friend for a really good time and stay for lunch.

### 2024 Annual Meeting Greenburg Country Club October 1—Ticket \$40.00

Join us at the Greensburg Country Club for our ‘Annual Meeting Out’ on Tuesday October 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 A.M. This year’s meeting promises to be spectacular fun! The monthly meeting will be followed by a delicious luncheon and the chance to win one of many fabulous gift baskets and raffle prizes! The cost for the luncheon is \$40.00 and must be pre-paid at the G.G.C. office.

This year we are looking forward to an entertaining program; “Floral Rhythms” presented by Angie Raitano, Mary Jane Martucci and Diane Hughes. Floral design will be partnered with music and poetry in a colorful and entertaining demonstration of flowers and rhythm that promises to be a delight for all.

The meeting will also give you the chance to vote for new officers for 2025-26. Your voice counts so be sure to attend.

We will also announce the five winners for the **Restaurant Raffle**. Presenting an array of delicious culinary options, this fundraiser offers a chance to try new restaurants or revisit old favorites throughout the Greensburg area. Each prize features a \$25 gift card to FOUR different restaurants for a total value of \$100 for each winner. With five separate prizes you have five chances to win at only \$5 per raffle ticket, so enter as many times as you’d like!

The ‘Annual Meeting Out’ also features an array of fabulous raffle baskets filled with an assortment of wonderful treats and treasures. Tickets for the raffle baskets will be offered at the luncheon. You can also purchase your tickets for your chance to win a **‘Week in Williamsburg’** or one of the Restaurant Raffle prizes, so call or visit the G.G.C. office for more information and to buy your tickets.

[www.greensburggardencenter.net](http://www.greensburggardencenter.net)

Thank you to our Program Chair, Joan Stairs, for organizing this event and, as always, we look forward to her beautiful pumpkins so artfully displayed on the tables!



### Katherine McKenna Scholarship Awarded

The response to this year's scholarship announcement was a nice surprise to this chairman. Seven applications were received by the May 31st deadline.

Isabel Ramos of Vandergrift, PA Westmoreland County was selected to receive the \$1,500 scholarship. She is the daughter of Gretchen and Jorge Ramos who have three other children. Isabel attends Bucknell University majoring in Environmental Engineering and Management.

Early on, Isabel's professors were impressed with her abilities, character, and future potential as a leader. She was asked to serve as a teaching assistant for a lower level engineering class during her sophomore year. Her team building skills in designing a waste water process for a class assignment brought more attention to her academic abilities. This fall she will work as the overall lab facility assistant where she will support multiple courses, instructors, and research projects. Outside of class Isabel has been active member of several student organizations. Recently, she was initiated into the Buchnell University chapter of Chi Epsilon, a civil and environmental engineering honors society.

Upon completing her education, Isabel plans to work in the field of water restoration, specifically acid mine drainage. Her hard work in addressing this common problem will be beneficial to all of us.  
Congratulations, Isabel!  
Deneise Snyder, committee chair



**What Can You Get For \$25.00??  
A CARD/GAME PARTY!!!**

An Afternoon of fun, food and friends! Join us at the Greensburg Garden and Civic Center for a card party/game time on Wednesday, October 16 from 11:00 am—2:30 pm.

Gather a group of friends or attend by yourself and meet new people. Bring your favorite card or board games. There will even be a few you can borrow to try.

Your \$25.00 donation allows you to enjoy a few hours of fun with friends, coffee or tea, a large selection of salads, delicious desserts and an opportunity to win one of our numerous door prizes!

### 2025-26 Officers

Nadine Mason and Judy Geary, Chairs of the Nominating Committee, have announced the slate of officers for the upcoming term. They are:

- Co-Presidents—Carla Rusnica & Diane Dale
- Vice President— Paula Kramer
- Secretary—Sandy Truckner
- Treasurer—Terry Rodgers
- 2 Year Directors—Judy Geary & Susan Tuite

The slate will be voted on at the October Annual Meeting.



### Bus Trip to Remember Me Rose Garden September 18

Come along with us for a scenic bus trip along the Old Lincoln Highway.

The first stop will be at the Remember Me Rose garden in Shanksville. It is a living tribute to the 40 occupants of Flight 93 that crashed in a nearby field on September 11, 2001. There you will see a large compass design spanning a distance of 280 feet with a 30 foot fountain. Encircling the fountain are 40 rocks engraved with each of the names of the Flight 93 heroes. Over 400 pink 'Julie Andrews' roses and hundreds of perennials fill the compass. It was constructed to be visible to planes flying overhead at more than 30,000 feet. We will have a guide here to tell us about the history and development of the garden.

Next we will travel to the Jean Bonnet Tavern near Bedford for lunch on your own. This landmark tavern from the 1760's also features an adjacent herb garden and a gift shop known as the Cabin Shoppe.

After lunch we will head to the Flight 93 National Memorial, where we will have a self-guided, interactive tour at the visitors center. We will pass by the 93 foot Tower of Voices, that contains one chime for each occupant of Flight 93. It is the only one of its kind in the world.

This tour will be on Wednesday September 18. The bus leaves GGC at 8:30 AM and will be back by 4:00 PM. Price is \$65.00/members or \$75.00/non-members. Call the office for reservations. 724 837-0245.

Welcome new members Patricia Spirko, Tama Demai, Cindy Karstaedt and Diane Wills.

It's always a pleasure to have new members, we hope you enjoy and become involved!



### Autumn's Touch

Autumn's touch, a tapestry unfold,  
September's arrival, warmth turns to gold.  
Leaves gently dance, in the September breeze,  
As nature prepares for a vibrant tease.

October paints with fiery delight,  
A palette of red, orange, and yellow so bright.  
Falling leaves whisper secrets untold,  
A crispness in the air, a story to behold.

But November, ah, my heart's delight,  
When autumn reaches its majestic height.

Cozy sweaters, fireside bliss,  
November's embrace, I never miss.

~Catherine Pulsifer

## The 2025 Calendar Project



Agnes, and I want to thank everyone who submitted photos for the 2025 calendar. We enjoyed looking at all of them. It was quite a job juggling the photos to fit the appropriate months, use the best photos, and include one from each member who submitted a photo.

There were many fabulous photos we couldn't use because there are only 12 months in the year, hence only 12 opportunities to use a photo.

We want to extend once again our sincere appreciation to Br. Mark Floreanini, Associate Professor of Visual Arts at St Vincent College, who selected the winning photos. There are three businesses who support the calendar project by each donating \$100 to help cover the cost of printing. Please shop at these businesses and tell them you appreciate their support. They are Shadowwood Gardens, Country Gardens, and Silvis Landscape and Lawn Care.

As I write this the winning photos have been chosen, digital copies are being sought for some, then it will go to Fotorecord for the initial printing and then later proof reading. If all goes well, the calendars should be available at the September meeting. The calendars make nice Christmas gifts, stocking stuffers, and hostess gifts for friends and family. Even if you receive free calendars through the mail, consider buying at least one to support GGC. Another way to look at this: Every time you donate \$6 to the Garden Center, we'll give you a calendar! Sandy Truckner

### Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets are a major fundraiser to help pay expenses. We depend on you, our members, to buy and sell tickets to your friends and family.

We would like to thank Marian DeBone for her work on buying the gift cards for the **Fall Raffle** year after year. It's not easy visiting 20 restaurants! The money for the purchase of these tickets is donated by our board members.

**ONLY  
\$10  
Chance**

A special thank you to Donna Lee for so generously donating a "**Week in Williamsburg**" at the Club Wyndham Governor's Green condominiums. Experience the charm of one of Virginia's oldest cities

offering easy access to some of Historic Williamsburg's most popular landmarks, wineries, beaches and artisan shops in addition to on-site recreation and endless amenities in a picturesque setting. Tickets are only \$10 each so be sure to enter often for your chance to win this amazing vacation prize! Tickets will be available until the end of the year when we will announce the winner! Good luck!!

\*Please note G.G.C. is not responsible for any liability regarding the Williamsburg vacation give-away.

### Autumn's Embrace

Autumn whispers through the trees,  
With leaves that dance on crisp cool breeze.  
The garden dons its warmest hues,  
In shades of red, gold, and russet views.

Pumpkins dot the fertile ground,  
With mums and asters all around.  
A season rich with harvest cheer,  
As nature paints the closing year.  
~Catherine Pulsifer

### GARDENS (and Gardeners!) PERFORM in SUMMER

"CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU!" to all horticulture exhibitors, floral designers, and GGC members who helped make "GARDENS PERFORM in SUMMER" a huge success.

Top National Garden Club Awards were won by the following: Horticulture Division (91 entries):

Awards of Merit: Elizabeth Pesci (2); Judy Geary, Terry Rodgers, Susan Tuite

Arboreal Awards: Marianne Nichols (2 – Trees and Shrubs)

Grower's Choice Awards: Judy Geary, Terry Rodgers

**Horticulture Excellence Award: Judy Geary (Rosa 'Cherry Parfait')**

**Horticulture Sweepstakes Award: Terry Rodgers**

Design Division (28 entries):

Table Artistry Award: Margie Wolff

Designer's Choice Award: Marilyn Backus

GCFP Special Recognition Award: Mary Ann Artman

**Design Excellence Award: Marilyn Backus**

**Design Sweepstakes Award: Marilyn Backus**

Education Division

**National Garden Club Educational Top Exhibitor Award: Elizabeth Pesci**

A Special "THANK YOU" to Redstone Highlands and Tim Wiles, Community Liaison Officer, for the welcome and cooperation shown to Greensburg Garden Center members and guests.

Angie Raitano, F.S. Ch.

### Christmas Workshops

Believe it or not, Nadine and Judy are starting Christmas Workshops on Oct. 15 from 10-2 every Tuesday and Thursday until Christmas!! I know, I couldn't believe it either!! Anyway, please new members, consider coming to help. It's a fun time, you will learn a lot and there is a job for everyone regardless of your talents.



**Monday, October 7, is National Flower Day!**

**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 2024**  
**ASSOCIATE MEMBER - NEW MEMBER RENEWAL FORM**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: New \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ 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.*