

Greensburg Garden Center

September, October 2021 Newsletter

"Where Gardeners Grow"



Host a
PERFECT HOLIDAY PARTY
Thursday, October 21, 2021
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Greensburg Country Club
\$60.00/per person — reservations required



Indulge yourself!! **Victoria Piekut, Miss Pennsylvania 2020**, will emcee a fabulous, unforgettable evening of food, fashion, florals and fun! We have gathered together all the elements that compile a "Perfect Holiday Party" to make your party an evening to remember all year long. Take the worry out of what food and drink to serve, what to wear, and display the latest decorating ideas.

- **Gary Pratt of Le Jardin Floral** will create a perfect entrance piece to welcome guests to your holiday home.
- Hors-d'oeuvres with a flair by **Greensburg Country Club's own Executive Chef** will be demonstrated and passed for sampling.
- **Raspberry Acres** representative Laurie Corbett will help you choose a red/and or white wine to complement your menu and please the palate. Samples of each wine will be served for tasting. If you would like to enjoy a glass, you may purchase a bottle and enjoy a more generous amount on your own or share with you friends.
- **Wight Elephant Boutique** will hold their regularly scheduled Thursday night Facebook fashion show for your pleasure. Get the scoop on special holiday fashion trends for the hostess or the party guest with descriptions by owner Victoria Piekut (Miss Pennsylvania, 2020).
- Meanwhile, enjoy a sampling of cookies and chocolates from **Sharon's Cookies** and **McFeeley's Chocolates**. Be sure to take a few extra sweets home with you and place a holiday order.
- Gary Pratt will again amaze with a floral centerpiece to adorn any serving table and finally entertain all with his musical talents. He will have copies of his latest CD for purchase, plus items from Le Jardin.

Not to be missed are raffle offerings!

- The Greensburg Country Club has donated a golf foursome.
- Also from the Greensburg Country Club are tickets to the sumptuous Sunday brunch.
- **Spa 309** was generous with a spa package which includes an express facial, manicure and pedicure. Don't forget to make an appointment early for your holiday needs.
- GGC decorators adorned a 4' Christmas tree to complement any home.
- A Steelers basket with miscellaneous and a wreath for the Pittsburgh football fan.
- Spode Christmas pieces to adorn your home and enjoy this Christmas holiday season.

An evening such as this has never been offered before! Don't miss this one-of-a-kind event!

Calendar of Events

Sept. 7	Membership Mtg. 11:00 AM Plant Auction
Oct. 5	Annual Membership Meeting— Greensburg Country Club Program by Gary Pratt
Oct. 9	Christmas Workshops Begin 10-2
Oct. 21	“Holiday Party” 6-9:00 PM

....Our Sept. meeting is a long-standing favorite! Sandy Truckner will once again be the auctioneer for our annual plant auction. Bring a plant//plants from your garden or fresh vegetables that you have grown or a bouquet of flowers! Share your bounty and go home with something new!

Greensburg Garden Center's ANNUAL MEETING Greensburg Country Club Tuesday, October 5, 2021 “The Magic of Fall”



Well known Greensburg floral designer and country music performer Gary Pratt will be our guest speaker at our Annual Meeting presentation at Greensburg Country Club.

Gary Pratt is owner of Le Jardin Floral (located on Second Street in Greensburg). He is well known around the community for his unique creations and passion for floral beauty. Gary will create several designs and share his expertise. Unique raffle prizes will be displayed to purchase tickets. Autumn will be in full regalia with tables festooned with pumpkins and fall colors, provided by Joan Stairs.

Our regular meeting will begin promptly at 11:00 AM in the Fireside Room and will include election of 2021 officers. At 12:00 Noon, enjoy a delicious lunch in the Ballroom followed by Gary Pratt's floral design program.

The regular meeting is free, of course. Lunch and program is \$35.00. Come to enjoy the sumptuous lunch and lively, colorful program, an all-around relaxing and educational day in an elegant setting. Call the office for reservations (724-837-0245) by September 30, 2021. Or email at ggc951@live.com.

A Butterfly Thank You

Many thanks to all who worked hard to make the August 14 butterfly release an amazing day for many. It takes many hands to set up tents, tables, chairs, make beautiful flower wands, price the Butterfly Boutique, bake cookies and cut their garden flowers. Hats off to Sandy and Bill Truckner who donated the hot dogs and served them too! The children enjoyed the artistic ability of Camille Kuczynski who painted butterflies on their smiling faces. Turner Dairy again donated lemonade and apple juice for the thirsty. Somehow it all comes together with the help of so many.

Most of all we are grateful to the generosity of John & Malinda Sherid who enabled all to have a free butterfly through their sponsorship of the Second Chance Fund in memory of Fred and Kim Cecchini.

All are invited to visit our beautiful Lefevre Butterfly Garden to witness the enchanting flutter of butterflies.

A Symbol of Hope

*A butterfly lights beside us like a sunbeam
And for a brief moment its glory and beauty
belong to our world.*

*But then it flies again
And though we wish it could have stayed...
We feel lucky to have seen it.*

~Author Unknown

Do You Have Covid Fever??



Have we got a cure for you!! Due to most of the restrictions being lifted, we are planning to go back to a full-blown Christmas Sale this year. That means we need to produce a lot of unique, hand-crafted merchandise.

Please plan on joining us to learn about our new and innovative ideas or share some of yours. Workshops will begin Thursday, September 9, and then we will meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM.

2021 Scholarship Recipient



The Katherine McKenna Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 was awarded to Megan Czekaj. Megan is the daughter of Michael Czekaj of Mt. Pleasant, PA.

Megan is pursuing a bachelor degree in Plant Science at Penn State University. She has selected the Crop Production option as part of her major. Even through Covid-19 required many adjustments to scheduled classes, Megan achieved an admirable 3.7 GPA. She will be entering her senior year this fall.

Megan's areas of interest include agroecology, soil management, and entomology. Most recently she became secretary of the Agronomy club and worked as a research assistant for weed ecology. Megan attended the Fayette campus of Penn State for two years where she was one of a select few students chosen to participate in the Launch Box program. Under the mentorship of Ajaya Warriar, she worked on the development of a home kit to test iron levels in field water.

Many of us were able to meet Megan at our evening membership meeting on July 6th in the LeFevre Butterfly Garden. We enjoyed hearing about her most recent study on the thistle weed and her experiences attending PSU's main campus this past year.

Congratulations Megan!

The 2022 Calendar

The photos submitted this year were wonderful. There were so many great photos that it was hard to pick just one for each month. The Calendar Committee sorted the photos by month and set aside the very best for Brother Mark Floreanini, Associate Professor of Studio Arts at St Vincent College to make the final selections. Then the preliminary calendar was delivered to Fotorecord. As soon as it has been proofed for a final time, production will begin. We plan to have it available for the September meeting.

The fun of the calendar is that every time you turn the page to a new month, you get to see another member's garden. Many of us receive free calendars through the mail this time of the year and can't see the need for another one. But your purchase of a calendar helps support the continued operation of GGC. Submitting photos is one way to support your Greensburg Garden Center, buying one or more calendars is another way. We'd like to suggest you buy calendars to send as birthday or Christmas gifts as well as hostess gifts. We are keeping the price at \$5 to make your purchases easier.

Sometimes taking the photos isn't the hard part, it's getting them printed for submission. So thanks to everyone that made the effort to do so. If your photo wasn't selected, perhaps studying the winners will help you compose better photos next time. Sometimes it is a background that distracts, colors that are off a bit from too much sun, or a slightly out-of-focus subject. And the committee tries to favor photos of whole gardens or parts of gardens over single flowers whenever possible.

We loved all the photos selected. Still there was a shortage of winter shots; even Br. Mark remarked on that. We enjoyed looking at all the photos and wished we could have used more. See inside the back cover for honorable mention photos.

The Calendar Committee, Agnes, Charlene, Sandy



Welcome new members Tiffany Horvat, Hannah McCarthy and J. D. Peterson. Glad to have you join us.



Reminder—Our Fall Raffle tickets are still available at our office. The winner will be drawn at our Annual Meeting in October.

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

GREENSBURG GARDEN CENTER 2021
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.