

News at Eleven

GCFP District XI

Summer 2025



From the Director

June 21st marks the advent of the summer equinox or as the Beatles sang “Here Comes the Sun.” As gardeners we celebrate the coming of the sun by enjoying the fulfillment of our winter plans and our spring labor. It is at this time that the blossoms of our flowers and the bounty of our vegetables burst forth.

I have met so many new friends ... all gardeners, on my visits to the various clubs in the District, while presiding over the installation of their new officers. These new officers will bring with them the promise of new beginnings as well as the preservation of tried-and-true past events.

I was also surprised to discover how many of our members were unaware of the existence, structure and relationship between National Garden Clubs, Inc. and Central Atlantic Region, GCFP and the affiliated State Garden Clubs. To give further explanation of the roles of the various divisions, I am having a PowerPoint presentation created which will be instructive in defining the inter-relationships of these entities and the roles they each fulfill.

In closing, I would like to wish all a relaxing summer. Sit back, enjoy a cold beverage, gaze upon nature at its fullest – but be careful – here comes the sun!
Flossie

District XI Meetings

Annual District XI Luncheon

September 11, 2025

Cedarbrook Country Club

Tim Farrell – Designer

Host Club: Old York Road Garden Club

November 7, 2025

“Guess who’s Coming to Dinner –
How to Create a Year-Round Buffet for
Pollinators”

Sharon Richardson

Host Club: Our Garden Club of
Philadelphia and Vicinity

March 2026

“The Pleasures of Palatable Posies”

Terry Miller

Host Club:
Swedesford Garden Club

News From Our Member Clubs

Trevose Horticultural Society



Members of the Trevose Horticultural Society and the Old York Road Garden Club learned to create a traditional horizontal design at their recent Floral Design Workshop led by THS President, Karen Wychock.



The Trevose Horticultural Society invites you to attend their annual flower show. Dates: August 22-23, 2025, are confirmed.

Four Lanes End Garden Club



Four Lanes End Garden Club hosted their first flower show in 10 years and received a Staging Award for how beautiful it looked. Congratulations!



Out with the old and in with the new. The Outreach Committee took on the task of refreshing the Atrium Gardens of the Memory Care Unit at Oxford Nursing Community in Langhorne.

Swedesford Garden Club



Everyone enjoyed the meal and the community at the Garden Club's annual June Dinner on the 9th.

Amazing results from Swedesford Garden Club's National Garden Week Project. They weeded and cleaned up the gardens at North Wales Library. 25 hours and 15 lawn trash bags later ... what a difference!



Countryside Gardeners



Club members caring for the
historic
Half Moon Inn.



Club Tour of Chanticleer in June

District VIII

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

MystERIE on the Bay

April 26-28, 2026

What could be better than:

- fantastic views
- seeing old friends
- making new ones
- stories about shipwrecks and murder
- presentations to pique your interest in birds, foods and horticulture
- programs to delight and teach.
- great shopping

and CHOCOLATE

Discover **MystERIE** at the Sheraton Bayfront Hotel and Convention Center, Erie, PA.

Joyce Milberg, Convention Chair

Save the Date!

Norristown Garden Club



Installation of New Officers

President – Ginger Hunsicker
First Vice President – Diane Pratt
Second Vice President – Olivia Brady
Recording Secretary – Maureen Cahill
Corresponding Secretary – Deb Webb
Treasurer – Melanie Kilgannon
Financial Secretary – Rosemarie Hardy



Norristown Garden Club Flower Show
“Take Me to the Beach”

Old York Road Garden Club

Linda Freedman was installed as
President.





GCFP District XI Annual Meeting and Luncheon Thursday, September 11, 2025

Cedarbrook Country Club
180 Penllyn Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422



Schedule

9:30 - 10:30 AM	Registration and Raffle Ticket Purchase
10:30 AM	Meeting, Awards and State Officer's Address
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Program: Autumn Delights – Designer, Tim Farrell

Menu

Entrée: Lemon Crusted Salmon ... or ... Chicken Marsala ... or ...Vegetable Risotto

Includes: Classic Caesar Salad, Rolls and Butter, Coffee, Tea and Water

Dessert: Viennese Mini Desserts

Instructions & Fees

- Reservations must be made before August 28, 2025 **Guests are welcome**
 - Fees: \$40.00 Members / \$42.00 Guests
 - Send the form and check made payable to "GCFP District XI" to:
Paula MacRae, 8409 Ardleigh Street, Philadelphia PA 19118
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Member

Name_____ Garden Club (s) _____

Email_____ Phone_____

Circle Meal Selection: ✦ Lemon Crusted Salmon ✦ Chicken Marsala ✦ Vegetable Risotto

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Guest

Name_____ Garden Club (s) _____

Email_____ Phone_____

Circle Meal Selection: ✦ Lemon Crusted Salmon ✦ Chicken Marsala ✦ Vegetable Risotto

Dietary Restrictions: _____

HORT TIPS FOR JUNE 2025

- ✓ *Relace pansies in hanging baskets with drought resistant plants. These include portulaca, succulents, verbena, lantana, and heliotrope.*
- ✓ *Gardening with deer is a challenge. Here are some deer resistant plants to incorporate into your property: coreopsis, purple cone flower, black-eyed Susan, lavender, salvia, yarrow and lamb's ears.*
- ✓ *Hummingbirds like all tubular flowers, not just red ones. Be sure to clean and change the sugar water in hummingbird feeders every 3-4 days.*
- ✓ *Keep bird baths clean and filled with water.*
- ✓ *Treat unwanted grass growing between cracks in sidewalks with white vinegar or sprinkle salt in the cracks.*
- ✓ *Never waste water used to cook vegetables; if salt is not added, you can use it to water plants after it cools down.*
- ✓ *Sprinkle coffee grounds around the base of plants but be sure to use the grounds of a drip coffee maker only.*
- ✓ *Cold coffee or tea combined with water provides an acidic drink for plants.*
- ✓ *Paint tool handles with a bright color so you can find them in the grass.*
- ✓ *Dig, divide, separate and replant daffodil bulbs as soon as foliage turns yellow. Bulb tone can be added at this time.*
- ✓ *Installation of a soaker hose in flower and vegetable beds will put water directly over the roots and reduce the spread of plant disease by keeping the plants dry.*



HORT TIPS FOR JULY and AUGUST



- ✓ *Keep flowers deadheaded.*
- ✓ *Water flower beds, container plants and gardens in early morning.*
- ✓ *Weed flower beds and apply more mulch if necessary.*
- ✓ *To water trees, place a hose close to the trunk of the tree and allow it to slowly water the tree to a depth of one or two inches.*
- ✓ *Keep bird baths filled.*
- ✓ *If you get a rash from poison ivy, apply cider vinegar to the rash with a cotton ball. It will dry up the rash.*
- ✓ *Start making a list of perennials to buy in the fall.*

Plan a Horticultural Celebration for the U.S.A.'s Upcoming ... Semi-Quincentennial Celebration

Look around your area and see if there is a place where your garden club might be able to install a community garden for the coming year. Consider a red, white and blue garden for America's 2026 birthday party or a sensory garden for a retirement community or for kids at a school or library.

Fun Fact: *The 250th anniversary is called a Semi- Quincentennial. It can also be referred to as a Sestercentennial or Bisesquicentennial. In 2026, the United States will commemorate its Semi-Quincentennial, marking 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.*

