

# News at Eleven Spring 2024

## GCFP District XI

A message from the District XI Director, Honey Bawduniak

Wow, winter is gone, another State Convention is in the bag and Mother Nature has us wondering what is next! Clubs continue their work in their communities and while we continue to enrich our lives, we are enriching others. Working with children is such a rewarding activity as is working with our elderly. Many clubs have scheduled activities with these groups and some plan an activity with them as the opportunity occurs. I am not sure if schools are allowing us to come in and work with the children as we had been, but the nursing facilities do allow our clubs to enter, even if a mask is required. They see how flower arranging can affect the wellbeing of their residents.

It seems like yesterday that I was inducted as Director of District XI and now I am planning the Annual Meeting with the induction of new officers. I tried to visit clubs to see how each one of you operates and pick up a few pointers, but I am afraid I did not get to some and others I visited several times. (I had more business with them). Presiding over the induction of new officers was a favorite time for me and I got to meet the club members and new officers in one visit. My visits to The Outdoor Gardeners for officer induction and then I tried to present Liz Snowdon with her award turned into a circus; I had Covid, then she was ill then something happened and finally I got to do it. Then she received the CAR-SGC Perennial Bloom Award, and I emailed their president, Rachel Collins, and said can we do this with one planning? We did!



In March, two members of the Tohickon Garden Club presented a pressed flower workshop at the local Senior Center in Ottsville. They used buttercups and pansies they pressed last summer. They helped the group make pressed flower note cards and gift tags. The cards turned out very nice and the participants thoroughly enjoyed the activity and look forward to sending them to family and friends.



And how about the Philadelphia Flower Show!! Such a great turnout of our District Clubs. So many great entries and in all areas, District XI was well represented!



*Lorraine S. Moore- Our G C of Philadelphia & Vicinity*



*Cheri Nobel =Norristown G C*



*Sue Bunkin -Four Lanes End G C*



*Janice Jacobs- Tohickon G C*



*Bristol Borough G C Forced Bulbs*



*Bristol Borough G C at Philadelphia Flower Show*



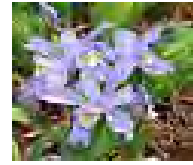
*Cynthia Wright/ beautiful specimen*



*Linda Mingo/ dress made from flowers*



*Norristown Garden Club Garden Room Blue Ribbon Entry*



*Golden Showers/  
Coreopsis*

## **Hort Tips for May, June, and July**

### **From Marge Ebertz**

#### **MAY**

When spring bulbs have finished blooming and have died back and are yellow, bulb tone can be applied. Do not cut green foliage, let it die back.

May 10 is our frost-free date. Annual flowers and vegetable plants can be set out now. Sow seeds of beans, beets, and carrots.

Houseplants can be put outside. Harden them off by bringing them in each night for a week.

Hummingbird feeders should be out now. Change the sugar water every 3-4 days.

Keep bird baths clean and filled with water.

Kill unwanted grass growing between cracks in sidewalks with white vinegar or sprinkle salt in cracks to prevent weeds.

Paint tool handles with a bright color so you can find them in the grass.

#### **JUNE**

After Spring blooming, shrubs and trees that have finished blooming can be pruned to keep them from getting too big and unmanageable.

Planting Zucchini in June will help avoid the invasion of the squash vine borer.

Pumpkin seeds planted now will give a harvest in the fall.

Keep beds weeded and mulched. Do not put more than 3 inches of mulch on flower beds or around trees.

Water beds when needed and water in the morning, using a soaker hose will eliminate the leaves getting wet.

Planters and hanging baskets need frequent watering, depending on the temperature. A weekly liquid fertilizer Helps for continuous blooms.

## JULY

Keep flowers watered, deadheaded, and weeded.

Water trees by placing a hose close to the tree trunk and allow it to slowly water the tree to a depth of 2-3 inches.

If you get a rash from poison ivy apply apple cider vinegar to the rash with a cotton ball, I will dry up the rash.

Keep bird baths clean and filled.



## Calendar of Events

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**, 9 am to 1 pm, Swedesford G C is having a Plant Sale at the North Wales Area Library Pavilion, 233 S. Swartley Road 19454.

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**, 9am to 1 pm, Gardeners of the Crooked Billet Annual Plant Sale at the Union Library of Hatboro. Rain or Shine.

**Sunday, May 19, 2024**, 11 am to 5 pm, The Outdoor Gardeners will have a booth selling hardy perennials, dish gardens and hypertufa troughs filled with small potted flowers at Chestnut Hill Home and Garden Festival. ( rescheduled form May 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Saturday, June 1, 2024**, Countryside Gardeners join Newtown Historical Assoc. in Newtown Garden Walk, 9am to 1 pm. Tickets \$ 20.00 available. At Half Moon Inn day of tour or [newtownhistoric.org](http://newtownhistoric.org).

**Saturday, June 8, 2024**, 10 am to 4 pm, Norristown G C Garden Tour “Art in the Garden”. Rain or Shine. Tickets \$25.00online @ [norristowngardenclub.org](http://norristowngardenclub.org) or NGC, P. O. Box 742, Spring House, PA 19477.

**Sunday, June 23, 2024**, 12pm to 5pm, Rain or Shine, Four Lanes En G C is having a Garden Tour, \$25.00, highlighting the beautiful gardens in Langhorne, details to be announced.

**Friday, Saturday, August 23 & 24, 2024** Trevoise Horticultural Society is having their Annual Flower Show, “Bee Inspired” , St . Ephrem, Catholic Church, 5400 Hulmeville Rd. Bensalem. More info, [trevosegardeners.org](http://trevosegardeners.org).

