



# Keystone Gardener

Official Publication of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania

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KG Online Newsletter Editor, Marie Mueller

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Gettysburg GC IV

## A MESSAGE FROM SHEILA CROUSHORE, GCFP PRESIDENT

*If a year was tucked inside of a clock, then Autumn would be the magic hour."*

*Victoria Erickson*

When cleaning summer's spent flowers, remember to leave behind some seed heads and leaf piles to overwinter some of our native wildlife. There is nothing more surprising this time of the year than to see a flock of monarchs on the neighbor's corn heading south, or the eastern bluebirds making their way back to warmer weather. The hummingbirds are gone, but our winter birds are set. We are lucky to have some wildlife that call our gardens home this time of the year.



As migration occurs in the wild, we also have members that overwinter in warmer climates. Please make sure the GCFP Database Manager, Joanne Baylis, knows your temporary address. For those of us staying to watch the leaves fade, start clearing out your closets and gather old treasures, containers, dried materials, books, or anything you are finished with. Bring them along to a board meeting or your club meeting to share with a new friend.

This summer has been filled with Flower Shows, Garden Tours, Picnics, Convention Meetings, and Blue Star Memorial Dedications. Thanks to all of you for your hospitality.

In August the GCFP Officers met via ZOOM with the Club Presidents, Club VP's, Directors, and Assistant Directors. The topics included the GCFP Website Forms, the updated Presidents Annual Report Form, the GCFP structure starting at the club level of membership, who to contact with questions, Garden Club Acronyms, and keeping our Database updated. Our Webmaster also attended to answer questions on our new site.

The GCFP Officers attended the District Annual meetings, what a great honor. It is wonderful to see everyone in person and to hear what everyone across the state is working on.

We are gearing up for the CAR-SGC Conference being held at Seven Springs in November. Hoping to see you all there!

*"Autumn leaves show us how beautiful it is to let things go." Unknown*



**See pages 10 - 12 for Convention information.**

## FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL COURSE III

Lori Pancione, State Flower Show School Chair

The Philadelphia Area Judges Council & Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania is happy to announce the NGC Flower Show School Course # III will be held Thursday, **April 13-Sunday morning, April 16, 2023**. The school will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Philadelphia West, located at 640 Fountain Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462.

Room Reservations must be made directly with the hotel at 619-879-4148. Ask for PAJC Flower Show reservations. There is easy access, free parking, free Wi-Fi, double Queen and King options, and study suites. Student Class Registration Trifold forms will be posted on the GCFP website by November 15, 2022.

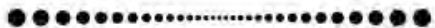
Instructors for Course III will be Susan Kirkland (Horticulture and Flower Show Procedure) and Julia Clevett (Creative Design Types).

Plymouth Meeting Mall is in walking distance or a short drive from the beautiful DoubleTree by Hilton hotel. Each room has a separate study suite and is ideally set up to share a room with a friend.

The revised flower show trifold, and additional information will be available at the GCFP website ([www.pagardenclubs.org](http://www.pagardenclubs.org)) after NOVEMBER 15, 2022.

There are several options to attend the school. Credit and non-credit options are possible. We hope to see many prospective judges or interested gardeners at Course III. Watch for more news about the school in upcoming Keystone Gardener editions.

Contact Lori Pancione, State Flower Show Chairman, [lpanzy@hotmail.com](mailto:lpanzy@hotmail.com) for additional details.



## THE NOSTALGIC NAKED LADY

Marilyn Small, Wayne Woods Garden Club



Isn't it remarkable how a smell, a flavor, a song or an event can trigger our senses to take us to a place of nostalgia? Some of us even have lovely memories

triggered by a flower -- possibly a vibrant color, the scent or texture. Such is the case of my mother-in-law and the Naked Lady flower. (You were thinking something else?)

The Naked Lady, also known as Belladonna Lily (or Colchicum), is a type of Amaryllis, with belladonna meaning a beautiful woman or lady. They are named the Naked Lady because they are a late-blooming bulb that flowers after the green foliage has died back, making it appear naked.

In my 49 years of marriage, I have always known the flower to be "Sam's Birthday Flower," which is what my husband's mother always called it. It wasn't until several years ago that I learned its real name.

My mother-in-law is no longer with us, so I can't ask her how she came into possession of the bulb, but I do know that she had them at her home since my husband was born. We would walk the yard on our visits, and she would invariably point out the flower and comment on Sam's birthday coming soon, since their bloom is an annual reminder of her eldest son's arrival.

The flowers usually bloom in my area during the first week of August, and they seem to almost pop up overnight! I drive the streets of my beautiful little town and see them everywhere. They greet us with their lovely trumpet blooms each year while we are preparing for back to school and the dog days of summer. Of course, it is an instant reminder that my husband's birthday is soon, and I need to get a birthday card and gift.

It's also an opportunity for me to quietly remember my mother-in-law and her profound admiration for gardening and her love for her son. She was a kind, lovely lady, and when she passed, she left me many things—furniture, recipes, jewelry. The most treasured thing she left me, though, was the Naked Lady flower, which we transplanted from her garden to ours.



## BEE GAP

Bonita Herman, Chairman.

Well, if you haven't yet, it is now time to bring in your Mason Bee houses. Remember to keep it in a cold, not freezing area such as an unheated garage with a blanket, or in a covered box. I am going to put mine in an old ice chest. In real life the snow

insulates the nesting areas so we need to simulate nature.

If you are able to remove the tubes, put them in a paper bag and store in a refrigerator, or as above in a garage since you need to keep them from freezing. There is a full-sized adult bee sleeping in its cocoon. You will keep them in this place until the spring, and as I have said before, when the dandelions are blooming in your area, that is the time to place your hotel in the southeast facing morning sun area.

Crownbees.com sells cocoons and I did buy two boxes. I taped them to the top of the hotel and waited. After about a week the males with the white dot on their face, emerged. After 7-10 days, out came the females. As soon as the next day she is laying eggs.

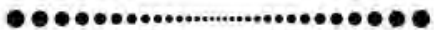
Last week, I had a booth about Mason Bees/Native Bees at a Master Gardener Pumpkin Walk in Erie, and it still surprises me how little the general public knows about these fascinating bees. As soon as children saw my stand, their response was "Yuck, I hate bees, they sting."

I had handouts and a video to show of my bee hotel of females going in and coming out of the little reeds. When I mentioned to the adults that they all have these bees in their gardens, they were more concerned about the carpenter bees and the damage they cause.

**Here are a couple of videos I encourage you to watch.**

- My Garden of 1000 Bees, which uses a special camera to get up close and personal with bees. About 30 min. long.
- Mason Bee video on PBS digital Studio, which shows a female making a nest, collecting pollen, and laying an egg. About 5 min. long

I have visited several garden clubs with my program about our Native and Mason Bees. I am hoping to continue educating more and more people.



**DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?**

People lately have been using the following words incorrectly. Do you know the difference?

**Farther or further.** If you want to be sure not to make a mistake, the simplest rules to follow are:

- Use *farther* only when you are referring to distance, literally or figuratively.
- Use *further* only to mean "more."

**Titled or entitled.**

- If something is "titled" it means that it received such a title, either by the author or by someone else - like the title of a book, or of a song you wrote.
- Entitled, on the other hand, means that a person has rights to something - like when you're entitled to free snacks because you've done something to deserve it.



**HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR**

Jill Evans, Norristown Garden Club

Norristown Garden Club's traditional Holiday House Tour is back! On Friday, December 9, 2022 from 10 to 8, five private homes and a church rectory will be featured in "Ambler, Then and Now."

Former entrepreneur Richard Mattison's home, Lindenwald Castle, was recently demolished, but ticket holders will have an opportunity to see a new home constructed on those grounds as well as several that Mattison had built nearby in the early 1900s for his managers. One of these homes appeared in the movie "The Trouble with Angels." Also showcased on this tour will be two 20<sup>th</sup> Century homes on the other side of the town of Ambler, in The Ridings neighborhood.

Tickets are limited in number, \$30 each, and nonrefundable. The tour is rain or shine. Please see [norristowngardenclub.org](http://norristowngardenclub.org) for information about tickets for this interesting tour, or call 610-279-9762 and leave a message.



**EXCEPTIONAL HORTICULTURALIST AWARD**

JoAnn Celaschi, Horticulture Coordinator

I want to make everyone aware of an important award that can be given at each District's Annual September meeting - the Exceptional Horticulturist Award.

There is no special form to submit for this award but rather a letter should be submitted to me by August 1st identifying the club member who is an

exceptional horticulturalist. Be sure to identify the club and the district of the nominee and describe their experience in growing a variety of samples of horticulture, their education in this area and examples of their sharing of their expertise. Photographs are not required.

A lengthier description of the qualifications for this award can be found on the GCFP website under Information Resources. The Honor Roll of Exceptional Horticulturalists lists past winners and can be accessed on the GCFP Directories page. The nominations for this award can be submitted to me by e-mail at [celaschi@hotmail.com](mailto:celaschi@hotmail.com), or mailed to me at JoAnn Celaschi, 1216 Lookout Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022-2028.

includes fountain grasses, feather reed grasses, and various hydrangea cultivars.

## APPLYING FOR A YEARBOOK AWARD

Iris Cisarik, GCFP Club Yearbook Chairman

The information for applying for the Club Yearbook Award is on pages 9-10 in the GCFP 2022-2023 GCFP Awards Manual on the GCFP website.

The Deadline for sending the books to me is December 1, 2022. If you have any questions, you can reach me at 412-621-0954.

## LOVELY LANDSCAPE AWARD



Left to Right: Theresa M. Powell, Chair of Lovely Landscape Committee; Brenda Mahan, 2022 Lovely Landscape winner; Barbara Funk and Deborah Davis, members.

The 2022 Lovely Landscape Award for the Martha Washington Garden Club was announced by Chair Theresa M. Powell, Deborah Davis and Barbara Funk on September 20, 2022. The winner is Brenda Mahan, Washington, Pennsylvania. Brenda's dedication and passion for landscaping was created when she and her husband purchased their home twenty-two years ago. There is nothing more gratifying than to see plants that have been planted grow into a lovely showcase. Her horticulture



## AWARD APPLICATIONS SENT TO SPECIAL AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

*These are the exceptions to the rule!*

Sheri Lowry, GCFP Awards Chair

Most of our awards are to be submitted electronically to the GCFP Awards Chair, but these are the exceptions:

- The GCFP Club Yearbook Award **(Hardcopy Yearbooks are sent to Iris Cisarik.)**
- MAE-1 Membership Awareness Award **(Hardcopy submission required and sent to Sheri Lowry.)**
- MAE-2 Websites and Social Media Pages **NEW PROCEDURE (Submit application ELECTRONICALLY to Marilyn Small.)**
- MAE-4 Publications; GCFP Newsletter/ Magazine Award **(Hardcopy Newsletters are sent to Joyce Peterson.)**
- GCFP Flower Show Achievement Awards Book of Evidence (BOE) **(Hardcopy BOE sent to Deb Stumpf.)**
- GCFP Flower Show Schedule Award **(Hardcopy submission sent to Charlotte Crissey.)**
- GCFP Youth Poetry, Sculpture and Essay Contests **(Hard copy submission to Chris Hawthorne.)**
- GCFP Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest **(Hard copy submission to Paula Mohler.)**

- GCFP Publicity Press Book  
**(Hard copy submission to Georgiann Dettinburn.)**
- GCFP Scholarships  
**(Submitted to Sandra Hendricks.)**
- GCFP Member Award of Honor  
**(May be submitted electronically or with hard copy to Sheri Lowry.)**
- GCFP Gold Seal Award
- GCFP Silver Seal Award
- GCFP Governor’s Trophy Award  
**(The last three bullets require hard copy submissions sent to Sheri Lowry.)**

These exceptions to the general rule that most applications are to be submitted electronically to the GCFP Awards Chair, are listed in the Awards Deadlines Document, the Awards Summary, and the GCFP Awards Chairmen Roster. It should not be necessary to duplicate it on the application form. All the exceptions are highlighted in the supporting documents, particularly the Awards Deadlines Document. Contact information for the Awards Committee Chairs is listed in the Directory. (You will need the password to access it.)

Detailed instructions and due dates for submitting these and all awards are provided in the **2022-2023 GCFP Award Deadline Dates Document**, and the other documents found on the Awards page of our GCFP website (pagardenclubs.org). Contact information for these Awards Chairs is found in the password protected Directories section of the website.



Updates to our Awards Manual and supporting documents were posted to our Awards page on the GCFP Website in early July as Vina McLeod Rudolph, our Webmaster, reconstructed the website. These documents include the Awards Manual, the Awards Deadlines Document, the Awards Summary, Awards Application Formatting Guidelines, the GCFP/CAR-SGC/NGC Application Cover Sheet, and the GCFP Awards Chair Committee Roster. All are available with a click on the awards link; links to CAR-SGC and NGC manuals are also available on our Awards page.

These are the most notable changes and revisions:

- As I pointed out in June, our GCFP Club Size Categories have been adjusted to align with the 3 NGC Club Size Categories: Small 1-20 Members, Medium 21-50 Members, and Large 51+ Members.
- You should also note that the Application/Cover Sheet has been revised to align more closely with the NGC application. In order to provide more space for essential information, it was necessary to remove the information box about awards that are forwarded to Awards Committee Chairs.

- As you prepare your application, refer to the new “GCFP Awards Formatting Guidelines.” Note especially the guidelines for naming your application and narrative files before they are submitted electronically. The quality of your application will improve if you follow the process outlined in the “Preparing your Narrative” section.
- The GCFP Flower Show Schedule Award Application and the GCFP Award Application Form for Flower Shows (BOE Evaluation) are found on the GCFP Website under the **Flower Show Judges’ Info** link.

**December 1<sup>st</sup> is the first deadline for the majority of our Awards**, particularly awards that require hard copies and are forwarded to Awards Committee Chairs, and NGC Awards. Consult the Awards Deadlines Document for deadlines, guidance on application forms, scoring rubrics, particular processes, and forwarding instructions.

A great deal of time and effort has been spent to update and prepare documents that provide the concise and consistent information that clubs need to prepare winning awards applications. I strongly encourage those applying for awards to print out copies of the manuals and supporting documents; it will truly make the process easier to manage. It is an involved process, requiring reading and interpreting rules and instructions. Just as creating designs to compete in our flower shows requires entrants to read and adhere to the rules in the Flower Show schedule and Flower Show Handbook, applying for awards requires the same type of diligence. This may sound intimidating, but the good news is: **All the information you need is readily available with a few clicks on our website at pagardenclubs.org.**

As always, I’m available to answer your questions.

## SEED MONEY GRANTS

Marjorie Sears, Seed Money Chair

The Seed Money application is on the GCFP Website under Awards, and is the same one we have had for years. Or you can use the standard GCFP / CAR-SGC / NGC Cover Sheet via email. There is no limit to the number of pages you use for Seed Money. One Application per Club for ONE project and all applications are due by February 15, 2023. If possible, please include photos. You may mail to Marjorie Sears, 8 Saint Dunstons Road, Hatboro, PA 19040 or email at [stilwellmari@aol.com](mailto:stilwellmari@aol.com).

Applications are judged and winners will be announced at the 2023 GCFP Convention. Also, Burpee Seed Co. has been very generous with seeds when asked. If you have a special project and would like some seeds, please send me a request.



## PUT DOWN YOUR RAKES

Leslie Anthony, GCFP Pollinator Restoration Chair

When you rake leaves in the fall you may be throwing away next year's butterflies. The vast majority of butterflies overwinter in our backyards. They go into a form of hibernation called *diapause* which makes their bodily functions stop until the weather warms up again. Some butterflies actually overwinter as **adults**. They find safe places to rest deep in the bark of trees, rock crevices or other natural shelters. These butterflies are usually the last to be seen in the fall and the first to reappear in the spring. Early in the season, they often feed on tree sap. Examples include Mourning Cloak and Question Mark butterflies.



**Caterpillars** of many butterfly species survive winter by burrowing into leaf litter as fall approaches. Other caterpillars sew a leaf to a twig of their host plant. Then they put a layer of silk over the leaf and, as the silk dries, it draws the sides of the leaf into a tight roll around its body. The caterpillars stay inside the leaf roll during the winter



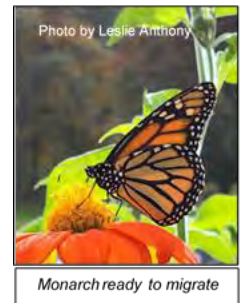
and emerge in the spring when their host plants begin to grow. Examples include Great Spangled Fritillary and Viceroy butterflies.

Butterflies who spend the winter as a **chrysalis** (pupa) attach themselves to tree bark, leaf litter or plant stems. Their development stops through winter and starts again when warm weather returns. They emerge as adult butterflies just as nectar-rich spring flowers are beginning to bloom. Examples include many species of Swallowtail and Skipper butterflies.



Very few butterflies overwinter as **eggs**. The eggs are laid in the fall in leaf litter near the base of host plants. The eggs hatch in the spring when the host plant begins to put on new growth. Examples include Banded Hairstreak and Bronze Copper butterflies.

Any butterfly that is unable to withstand freezing temperatures must move south for the winter. Monarchs migrate over great distances. Most migrating butterflies only travel a little further south for the winter. These include Painted Lady and Variegated Fritillary.



As you prepare your garden for the winter, remember the butterflies and **leave the leaves**. They are sheltering overwintering butterfly caterpillars, chrysalises and eggs. A thin layer of leaves can actually help turf—but too much will kill the grass. Rake extra leaves into areas of your yard where they are out of the way. Add a 2-to-3-inch layer of leaves over your flower and vegetable gardens and pile more leaves around your ornamental trees and shrubs. Bonus: A thick layer of leaves in garden beds is a great soil amendment. The leaves will also help plants survive spring freeze-thaw cycles and minimizes weed problems early in the spring.

It may appear a bit untidy but I have learned to appreciate my fall and winter landscape. Though I cannot see the butterflies, I know they are there and will grace me with their presence when the weather warms again.

Note: Like the butterflies, most pollinating insects need to shelter over winter. Your fallen leaves will help them too.



## GCFP PRENNIAL BLOOM AWARD

GCFP Awards Chair, Sheri Lowry

*“Honoring a Long Time Club Member Whose Continuous Support of our Goals and Objectives makes our Clubs Grow and Bloom”*



**Audry Stengel**  
**Pottstown Area Garden Club**  
**District II/III**

Our 2022 GCFP Perennial Bloom Award Recipient was nominated by her club in recognition of her dedication and willingness to work tirelessly toward the viability and continued success of her club.

Since she joined her club in 1996, she has taken on these responsibilities:

- Editing, printing, and binding her club’s yearbook every year since 2000.
- Producing the monthly club newsletter
- Preparing all the club’s Flower Show Schedules
- Chairing her club’s annual plant sale fundraiser, including purchasing plants, transporting, setting up, and treating workers to pizza and treats afterwards
- Hosting and presenting workshops about hypertufa, concrete leaf designs, and repurposed bowling ball bees and ladybugs at her home
- Co-Chair of the 2012 Annual District II/III Luncheon
- Co-Chair of the 2017 GCFP Convention
- Hosted monthly Zoom meetings for her club and District during Covid-19
- Volunteered last year to take on the leadership positions of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President and Program Chair when those positions were unexpectedly vacated
- Currently serving as Club President and Program Chair until April 2024

**Because of Audry’s enthusiastic “Super Hero” efforts, her club continues to thrive and bloom!**

Audry is also a full-time court stenographer, an active and involved church member, and caretaker for her chronically ill husband and aged parent.

Audry will be awarded her certificate at the GCFP 2023 Convention. Audrey’s nomination has been forwarded to the CAR-SGC Awards Chair to be considered for the CAR-SGC Golden Perennial Bloom Award. The winner will be announced at the CAR-SGC Convention in early November.



## SWEET PEA AWARD

Jane Kruse, District II/III Director

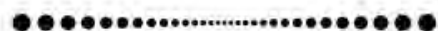
Ellen Phraner stepped beyond typical gardening of her yard and adopted Bryant Park in Stroudsburg, PA. She saw a vacant, neglected corner in the town, and approached the officials about creating a people park of which she was quite eager to help design and maintain.



A gazebo, some playground equipment, a few large trees and environmentally sensitive landscaped edging is inviting for anyone to stop by for a brief rest. Just before recognition by GCFP, Ellen and her work appeared on WNEP TV’s Home and Backyard segment. She received the Sweet Pea Award of District II/III and GCFP Seeds of Service youth involvement recognition by Sheila Croushore.

Over the years, Ellen spends many days weeding, planting, giving tours, answering questions and planning events at Bryant Park. She schedules work sessions with neighborhood children, plans activities for Girl Scout badges, holds fun and challenging projects and posts events on the park bulletin board. Children give a friendly greeting of “Hi, Ellen” as they walk home from school.

Gardening for the community, as well as her home, is what makes Ellen Phraner special. Ask any child or parent in the neighborhood.



## GIANT OAKS GC

Submitted by Judie Ball, GOGC Co-President,  
BJ Nerone, Oak Leaf Editor

Giant Oaks Garden Club is proud to recognize the numerous members who garnered District X and GCFP awards.



Ten Tulip Awards for new members and sponsors, three Daffodil Awards for activities in a special project, and five Laurel Awards to recognize contributions to the Club were recognized at the recent District X meeting.

In addition, GOGC also congratulates members who took special competitive awards. For the eleventh time in the past thirteen years, a GOGC member won the District X Butterfly Award for outstanding service and dedication to District X, GOGC, and the community. Carole Mack, who joined us in 2021, accepted the Butterfly Award, and Katherine Gentile received second place in the GCFP Horticulture Award. The Club is also proud that our newsletter, the Oak Leaf, took top honors for our club size, and our 2021 Yearbook received second place in the Publication division.

The club continues collecting plastic bottle caps for our recycling campaign. In October alone, the club gathered 18,000 caps to be made into “hydroblox” planks used in water control. We are also happy that many other garden clubs and community groups have reached out to ask how they can get involved in this effort.

As always, our major fall event is the annual Tinsel luncheon. Our November event, “Enchanted Christmas,” attracts 400 guests and features vendors, raffle baskets, door prizes, and a bakery of homemade items as well as a delicious luncheon and horticultural program. Most of the monies earned through this event go for scholarships and grants to local community organizations.

Last, but certainly not least, GOGC will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the annual Christmas Party and Installation of Officers.



## POEM BY DEBRA BARHIGHT, PARKLAND GC

Mother Earth and God Our Father

Our problems are real  
A space in time to heal?  
Our patiently hopeful Mother Earth

Land and water, sky of Beauty  
Mother Earth is crying for help  
We have shirked our duty

To honor, love, protect our gift of plenty  
Consuming all—not proceeding gently  
Carelessly taking without a thought

Help us learn to use our resources slowly  
Whether vast and mighty---or one and lowly  
Father open our eyes to the lies of greed and neglect

Rushing and ignoring the beauty around us,  
She’s struggling to remain thus  
God our Father we take your world for granted

Help us see with new eyes and heart  
That we must all do our part  
To Love Her as You do



## DONATIONS

Linda Southerling, Chair

*GCFP scholarships help students who plan to further their education in Agriculture-related fields.*

### Donations:

Burrellton Garden Club  
The Country Gardeners of Lima  
The Garden Club of Johnstown  
Greybrooke Garden Club



### In Memory:

Judy Rhine  
Marilyn C. Backus  
Pat Bilson  
GCFP State Judges Council  
Jocelyn Lamb  
Norristown Garden Club  
Roseann Lubold  
John C. Kime  
Peggy L. Alderdice  
Bedford County Garden Club



Carole Dickson  
Butler Garden Club

**PENNY PINES**  
Barb Andrus, Chair

*Donations stay in Pennsylvania for special projects, or to help reforest areas in the Allegheny National Forest.*

**General Donations:**

Ingomar GC  
Burrellton GC  
The Garden Club of Johnston  
Town & Country GC of Lancaster  
The Heritage GC  
Villanova GC

**In Memory:**

Judy Rhine  
Pucketos GC  
Peggy Hutchison  
Butler GC  
Rita Hilyer  
Patton GC

**BOOK OF RECOGNITION**

Joyce Hoek, Chair

*These donations give special recognition to club members and help support general operating expenses of GCFP.*

**In Memory:**

Carol Lynn McDonald  
Green Thumb Garden Club  
Mary Kay Dschuhan  
Tusca-Ridge Garden Club

**NEW GCFP LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**

Nerita Brant, Chair

*An excellent way to honor a special person – for a retiring club officer, a birthday, anniversary, holiday gift, or just for you. \$75 dollars of the \$100 donation is used for GCFP Scholarships.*



**Rosie Lawrence**, Wildflower GC and GC of Clarion County, Dist. VIII

A birthday gift from her husband.

**Karen Faust**, Butler GC, Southern Butler GC, Dist. IX

Gift from her Board on retiring as District Director.

**Janice Davis**, Patton GC, District VI  
A gift from the District on completing her term as director.

**Marilyn Backus**, GC Monroeville, District VII  
A gift from her District in recognition of her service to GCFP and District VII.



(Advertisement)

Unlatch the Garden Gate...  
Discover the World of Art In Bloom

**Save the Date!**  
**Plan your 2023 garden tours!**

Savannah and Charleston: 4/14-4/18/23

The Best of English Gardens and the Chelsea Flower Show: 5/16-5/25/23

The Newport Flower Show  
And Nantucket Island: 6/23-6/27/23

Santa Fe and Behind the Adobe Walls  
Garden Tour: 7/17-7/21/23

The Magic of the Maritimes: Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Bay of Fundy: August

New England's Fall Foliage Gardens: September

Moss Mountain and P. Allen Smith: October

Montreal and Quebec City: October

Visit our website for full itineraries or call for details

*Fuel your wanderlust on an Art In Bloom Garden Tour!*

Art In Bloom Garden Tours  
802-860-7601 [artinbloomgardentours.com](http://artinbloomgardentours.com)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

The Nominating Committee presents this ticket for the term 2023 -2025 as follows:

President: Leanna Ryba, District VII  
First Vice President: Patricia Wolanski, District XI  
Second Vice President: Tonya Young, District IV  
Recording Secretary: Marilyn Backus, District VII  
Treasurer: Vivian Hall, District V  
Financial Secretary: Barbara Brand, District IV



**2023 PRE-CONVENTION DISCOUNTED SHOPPING OPPORTUNITY**

by Marilyn C. Backus, 2023 Convention Chair



Women, seniors and people with ailments especially like the lightweight SPEAR HEAD SPADE® GARDEN SHOVEL, which sold out at the 2022 Convention at Malvern. This Spade reduces digging effort by 80%, especially in soils with lots of buried rocks, debris, packed earth and clay. It makes separating perennials with impenetrable roots and precision digging relatively easy.

Iris Cisarik in District VII, Sharon Richardson in District I and Mary Hendrick in District VIII love to use this shovel with its strong, sharp beveled edges and colored shaft.

View the details and order form for three models of the Spear Head Spade at [www.spearheadspade.com](http://www.spearheadspade.com). They are available to all GCFP members at a discount if **pre-ordered on-line using most credit or debit cards and the coupon code "GCFP", beginning January 1, 2023.** The \$4 discount can be applied to the shovel, and shipping costs avoided, if "in-person pickup" is selected. (Disregard the pickup address since it will be available for pickup at the 2023 Convention in Monroeville on Saturday, April 22, 2023.) Otherwise, \$4 will be deducted from shipping costs. A percentage of the Spade's online and Convention sales will be donated back to the Convention.

For answers to any questions, please contact Hugh Mura at Spear Head Spade at 732-297-9240.



**2023 GCFP CONVENTION  
HOST: DISTRICT VII**

**Convention Chair, Marilyn C. Backus**

(412-389-2113 text or [marilyncbackus@gmail.com](mailto:marilyncbackus@gmail.com)).

**Vice Co-Chairs**

**Haddie Weber** ([haddieweber@mac.com](mailto:haddieweber@mac.com)) and **Sharon Bryner** ([sharonbryner62@gmail.com](mailto:sharonbryner62@gmail.com)).



**TWELVE REASONS TO ATTEND THE 2023 CONVENTION IN MONROEVILLE**

1. *FIRST GCFP WEEKEND CONVENTION* for those who still work and/or enjoy a weekend getaway!
2. *FRIDAY MORN'S TOUR OF A UNIQUE 1793 LOG HOUSE* that was built only 5 years after signing of the Constitution. We will split into 2 groups that trade places: one tours the log house with a docent while the other breakfasts and shops at the Tea Room. Tour group limited to 26.
3. *FRIDAY'S THREE MAKE AND TAKE* activities with energetic speakers for making ribbons, making garden sprays using essential oils, and propagation tips with a take home seed and cutting tray.
4. *FRIDAY AFTERNOON TEA* with three courses and a *Titanic Era Fashions* program.
5. *FRIDAY DRESS-UP OPPORTUNITIES* – wear a hat to the Afternoon Tea and later wear an ethnic or other fun costume to mingle and meet friendly, interesting GCFP members during these events.
6. *FRIDAY'S INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAMPLING BUFFET* with Asian, Italian pasta, German, Irish, Polish/Eastern European stations; with meatless options.
7. *FRIDAY EVE'S ENTERTAINMENT* with live polka and other music of Pittsburgh.
8. *FLORAL RHYTHMS* short program will create designs to the music of the four seasons after Saturday dinner.
9. *SATURDAY EVENING'S DINNER* includes NGC installation of *NEW GCFP OFFICERS* and ends with a *DESSERT* and *CHAMPAGNE Reception*.
10. *EASY ACCESSIBILITY* – most functions occur on the main floor. Dining room across from vendor and raffles. No steps!
11. *HOSPITALITY ROOM* – sit and visit with friends between events with light snacks.
12. *DOUBLETREE HOTEL*- newly renovated large rooms with two sinks allow up to 4 people per room for \$124 + tax + gratuity. Free parking. Continental breakfasts for registered guests.



***District VII, east of Pittsburgh, invites all GCFP members and guests to***

**The 93<sup>rd</sup> GCFP Convention**  
"Thyme to Garden!"

**Friday through Sunday, April 21-23, 2023**

Doubletree by Hilton  
Pittsburgh-Monroeville Convention Center

**101 Mall Boulevard, Monroeville, PA 15146**

**FRIDAY offers** a 1793 Log House breakfast and shopping tour;  
Afternoon Tea and Titanic Era Fashions (and wearing a hat!);  
Three Make and Take sessions (Ribbon Magic, Essential Oils for Gardeners, Propagation Tips);  
Costume opportunity for the International Food sampling buffet;  
Plus live Pittsburgh Ethnic Music!

**SATURDAY showcases these presenters:**

Marcy Cunkleman, Master Food Preserver  
Jeanne Cecil, Director, Rachel Carson Homestead Assoc.  
Don Orkoskey, Owner, WDO Photography  
Mark Miller, PH.D., Dir of Pittsburgh Botanic Garden  
Joe Stavish, Assoc. Dir of Education, Tree Pittsburgh  
Gabe Tilove, Dir of Education, Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens  
Bob Mulvihill, Ornithologist, National Aviary  
Floral Rhythms performing designs to year-round seasonal music  
NGC 1<sup>st</sup> VP Installation of GCFP Officers and Reception

**SUNDAY features these presenters**

Adia Effiong, Dir of School Garden Programs, Grow Pittsburgh  
Rose Marie Muzika, Carnegie Museum of Natural History  
Joshua Beblo, Adjunct Prof of PSU  
Luncheon & "Under the Rainbow" design program presented  
by the "Best of the West (PA)" designers sponsored by GCFP Judges Councils.

**Recognize GCFP Awards and Awardees**

**Visit Vendors – Ed. Exhibits - Trash to Treasure – Raffles – Hospitality Room**

The Registration Fee for all attendees is \$5 if postmarked on or before Friday, March 10.

Late fee is \$25 after Friday, March 10. No refunds after March 31 deadline.

Register early to attend the events of your first choice.

Attendance at a hotel meal is required in order to attend a session during the same day.

Partner and travel with others, wear a hat and favorite costume on Friday eve.

Select the full conference special rate to maximize the value (and fun).

**PLEASE SAVE THE DATES and/or BOOK the HOTEL TODAY!**

Book online 24/7 at [www.doubletreemonroeville.com](http://www.doubletreemonroeville.com). Phone 412-373-7300 (ask for reservations.)

**Doubletree by Hilton**

Pittsburgh-Monroeville Convention Center

101 Mall Boulevard, Monroeville, PA 15146 (15 miles east of downtown Pittsburgh)

## **HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION**

**April 21 (8AM Tour), 22, 23 (2:45 pm Closing) (Friday-Sunday)**

**Hotel Check-in at 4 PM, Check-out at 11 AM**

**Early Arrival Check-in 4 PM on Thursday, April 20**

A special weekend discount - Friday & Saturday nights!

The group discount code is "SGC" or State Garden Club Annual Convention on or before Thursday, March 30, 2023 for these outstanding reservation rates

\$124+14% tax + gratuity / per room; up to 4 people/room  
[Thursday and Sunday nights are \$99 + 14% tax + gratuity]  
Free parking. Located across from Mall.

Changes/Cancellations must be made by 4PM, 2 days prior, to avoid no show charges.

Hotel is located at Monroeville Mall  
Exit from US Route 22 Business (William Penn Highway)  
On I-76 Turnpike, take Exit 57 Pittsburgh to Monroeville.  
On I-376E from Pittsburgh, take Exit 80 to Business 22.

(Advertisement)



# **A Piet Oudolf Story**

a talk by Deborah Chud

on **The High Line's** master designer

**"Riveting!"**

Rochelle Strauss, Director of Education  
Toronto Botanical Garden

[NotYourMothersGarden.com](http://NotYourMothersGarden.com)

## 2022 KEYSTONE EVENTS

**Duboistown Garden Club's Annual Artisan Market** will be held on November 19 and 20<sup>th</sup> at the YWCA, 815 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Williamsport, PA. The market will be held in conjunction with Victorian Christmas.

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**Gettysburg Garden Club Annual Christmas Greens and Gourmet Gifts Sale** will be held Saturday, December 3, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., or until everything is sold. The sale is at the Gettysburg Fire Hall, 35 North Stratton Street. Proceeds benefit the Lincoln Square Flower Gardens and scholarships for Adams County students majoring in horticulture-related fields. The Gettysburg Garden Club accepts cash, credit card, or check for purchases.

The community can expect the same range and quality of handcrafted arrangements that our members create. We will have wreaths, swags, candles, and large to small table arrangements. All decorations have natural greens from the yards and farms of club members and the community. Our delicious gourmet selections for humans, dogs, and cats will return with the same taste that customers enjoy each year. We suggest arriving early and browsing through our wide range of selections. Contact Joan Horak, at 717-357-5615, or visit the Gettysburg Garden Club Facebook page for additional details.



## GCFP CALENDAR 2022

Nov 2-3 CAR-SGC Conference, Seven Springs Resort, Champion, PA

## 2023

Apr 13-16 Flower Show School Course III, DoubleTree, Plymouth Meeting, PA  
Apr 21-23 GCFP Annual Convention, D-VII, DoubleTree, Monroeville, PA  
Apr 22 Earth Day  
Apr 28 Arbor Day  
May 2-5 NGC Annual Convention, Greenbrier Resort, White Sulphur Springs, WV  
Jun 4-10 National Garden Week  
Oct 12-15 Flower Show School Course IV, DoubleTree, Plymouth Meeting, PA



### THE DEADLINES FOR THE KG ONLINE NEWSLETTER:

April 1, 2023 for May 1, 2023 issue.

(Please mark your calendar)

**Please state "KG ONLINE Submission" in the subject line when submitting articles.**

The Editor reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, or space requirements.

### GCFP HEADQUARTERS

[GCFP205@gmail.com](mailto:GCFP205@gmail.com)

or

717-737-8219

### THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL PROOFREADERS:

Marilyn Backus, Sheila Croushore, Jane Dodson, Angela McDonnell, Judy Warn, Karen Wychock and Dorothy Yard