



# Keystone Gardener

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KG Online Newsletter Editor, Marie Mueller

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## A MESSAGE FROM LEEANNA RYBA, GCFP PRESIDENT



"Plant America, While Keeping PA Beautiful" will be the GCFP theme for 2023-2025. All clubs are encouraged to include litter and recycling projects in their planned activities. Work along with students by supporting projects of environmental clubs, scout troops and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful affiliates in your districts. Clean places have more economic value and people living in clean places are healthier.

In our state, the organization Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, works along with the PA Department of Environmental Protection and PA Department of Transportation to provide litter collection in spring and fall. Check out the "Litter Hawk" program for youth K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. "PA Fights Dirty" (every litter bit) is a new program aimed at ridding us of litter. Did you know that 80% of litter is four inches in size or less, and 40% of that consists of tossed cigarette butts?

Recycle whenever possible; know what can be recycled in your area, since rules are different all across Pennsylvania. Plastic shopping bags, soda and cat food aluminum cans and other items are collected and re-used to create new products, saving our precious resources. Compost food waste if you can, putting less in landfills and making black gold for your plantings! Our friends at the Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) and other organizations conduct events to recycle hard to dispose of items in many counties. My hope is that clubs will investigate what's going on near you and spread the word that these opportunities exist.

We have a lot to do in two years. I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve the GCFP in this effort.

Please send me information about the litter and recycling activities in which your clubs participate. Yours in litter collection, recycling and gardening.

"Plant America, While Keeping PA Beautiful."



## 2022-2023 PRESIDENTIAL CITATIONS

Issued by GCFP Past President Sheila Croushore

*"You have been chosen to receive this citation because of your over-the-top dedication to the GCFP, and your inspiration to keep Pennsylvania BLOOMING".*

**Tonya Young**

**GCFP Symposium Chair**

The Garden Club of York IV

Town and Country GC of Lancaster IV

*"Thank you for your diligence in organizing and running a great Symposium. It has truly been a pleasure having you on my Board."*

**Lori Pancione**

**GCFP Flower Show School Chair**

Gardeners of the Crooked Billet XI

The Outdoor Gardeners XI

*"Thank you for using your expertise and organizational skills to make the GCFP Flower Show Course II a great success. It has been truly been a pleasure having you on my Board."*

**Sandra Hendricks**

**GCFP Scholarships Chair**

McEwenville Garden Club V

*"Thank you for keeping our membership aware of upcoming deadlines, reviewing the scholarships, addressing many questions, and announcing our winners. It has truly been a pleasure having you on my Board."*

**Karen Faust**

**GCFP Blue Star Memorial Chair**

Butler Garden Club IX

*"Thank you for working diligently with boroughs, townships, state officials, and garden club members in the process of acquiring and dedicating Blue Star and Gold Star Byway and Highway markers. It has been a pleasure having you on my Board."*

**Marilyn Backus**

**2023 GCFP Convention Chair**

Garden Club of Monroeville VII

*"Thank you for your time and dedication you put forth in organizing a very successful GCFP Convention. It has truly been a pleasure having you on my Board."*

**Haddie Weber**

**2023 GCFP Convention Vice Co-Chair**

Home Gardeners Guild VII

Garden Club of Munhall X

*"Thank you for your time and the dedication you put forth in organizing a very successful GCFP Convention. It has truly been a pleasure having you on my Board."*

**Sharon Bryner**

**2023 GCFP Convention Vice Co-Chair**

Joyful Bloomers Garden Club VII

*"Thank you for your time and the dedication you put forth in organizing a very successful GCFP Convention. It has truly been a pleasure having you on my Board."*

**SPECIAL 2023 CLUB ANNIVERSARIES**

*Clubs celebrating 25, 60, 80 and 90 years*

- 25:** The Wildflower Garden Club VIII
- 60:** The Outdoor Gardeners XI
- 60:** Town and Country Garden Club of Lancaster IV
- 80:** The Garden Club of Munhall X
- 90:** The Garden Club of Forest Hills VII  
Organized 100 years – 90 years federated.
- 90:** Waterford Garden Club VIII
- 90:** Pucketos Garden Club VII
- 90:** Hazleton Area Garden Club II/III
- 90:** The Garden Club of Springfield I
- 90:** Countryside Gardeners XI

*(Clubs celebrating 50, 75, and 100 Year Anniversaries receive \$100 Awards)*

**2022 GCFP Keystone Gardener/KG Online  
Literary Awards**

*Awarded for an original garden-related poem or composition published in the Keystone Gardener or KG Online*

**Marilyn Small**

**Wayne Woods Garden Club I**

Original Article: "The Nostalgic Naked Lady"

**Debra Barhight**

**Parkland Garden Club II/III**

Original Poem: "Mother Earth and God Our Father"



## GCFP AWARDS

### GCFP PERENNIAL BLOOM AWARD

*Honoring a Long Time Club Member  
Whose Continuous Support of our Goals and  
Objectives Makes Our Clubs  
Grow and Bloom*

### 2022 GCFP PERENNIAL BLOOM AWARD

Audrey Stengel, Pottstown Area Garden II/III

### 2023 GCFP PERENNIAL BLOOM AWARD

Liz Snowdon, The Outdoor Gardeners, XI

### GCFP SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

*Recognizing outstanding achievement in one of the  
following fields of interest*

#### C. Arbor Day Activities

*Medium Club:*

1<sup>st</sup>. Southern Butler County GC IX

*Large Club:*

1<sup>st</sup> Parkland GC II/III

#### D. Holiday Project

*Large Club: "Ambler Then and Now"*

1<sup>st</sup> Norristown GC XI

#### E. Plant Sale

*Medium Club: Honorable Mention*

Gardeners of the Crooked Billet XI

#### F. Garden Tour

*Medium Club:*

1<sup>st</sup> Southern Butler County GC IX

Honorable Mention:

Hulmeville GC XI

Gardeners of the Crooked Billet XI

*Large Club:*

1<sup>st</sup> Shaler GC IX

2<sup>nd</sup> Emmaus GC II/III

3<sup>rd</sup> Norristown GC XI

#### G. Special Fundraiser for Scholarship or Community Project

*Medium Club:*

2<sup>nd</sup> Old York Road GC XI

*Large Club:*

1<sup>st</sup> Moon Township GC IX

2<sup>nd</sup> Weeders and Seeders GC  
Of Ligonier VI

#### H. Any Other Project/Event that Promotes GCFP Objectives

*Medium Club:*

1<sup>st</sup> The GC of Springfield I

2<sup>nd</sup> Southern Butler County GC. IX

*Large Club:*

1<sup>st</sup> Parkland GC II/III



### GCFP PROGRAM AWARDS

*Recognizing an outstanding, original, garden-  
related program presented at a single meeting by  
one or more club members*

#### A. Horticulture

*Medium Club: Two or More Members*

Honorable Mention: Donna McClosky and Debbie Mahon, "Putting Your Garden to Bed for the Winter" GC of Bristol Borough XI

#### E. Flower Arranging

*Medium Club: Individual Member*

1<sup>st</sup> Gwen Puglisi: "Elevating Our Holiday Gift Wrap" Wayne Woods GC I

*Medium Club: Two or More Members*

2<sup>nd</sup> Nancy Straka, Carol Koch, Bonnie Zieger, Patty Simons, and Mary Findlay: "Decorating for the Holidays"

Old York Road GC XI

*Large Club: Individual Member*

1<sup>st</sup> Nancy Smith, "Pumpkin Pizzaz" Parkland GC II/III

#### K. Workshop

*Medium Club: Individual Member*

Honorable Mention: Debbie Mahon, "Valentine's Day Wreath Workshop"

Hulmeville GC XI

### 2022 GCFP HISTORIC RESTORATION AWARD

*Honoring an Individual Garden Club Member Who Has  
Shown Dedication to Preserving an Historic Site*

Marda Craig, Old York Road GC, XI



**2022 GCFP CLUB HORTICULTURE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

*For an Outstanding Series of Horticulture Programs Presented throughout the Year*

*Medium Club:*

Southern Butler County GC IX

*Large Club:*

Weeders and Seeders GC of Ligonier VI

**2022 GCFP ELIZABETH POTTS AMIDON HORTICULTURE AWARD**

*Honoring the Most Outstanding Horticulturist of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania and*

**2022 GCFP SR-4 MEMBER OF HONOR AWARD**  
*Recognizing Five or More Years of Outstanding Contributions and All-Around Excellence to Club and Community*

Sharon Richardson  
Uwchlan GC I

**SPECIAL GCFP AWARDS**



**2022 GCFP SILVER SEAL AWARD**

*Honoring a Non-Member for Special Contributions Toward the Advancement of the Work of Garden Clubs*

Abbey Nilson  
Sponsored by Shaler GC IX

**2022 GCFP GOVERNOR'S TROPHY**  
*Honoring the Most Outstanding Large GCFP Garden Club*

Uwchlan Garden Club I

**GCFP CLUB MEMBERSHIP AWARDS**

*\$100 Awarded to the Existing Club in Each Size Category with the Greatest Number of New Members in the Calendar Year*

**Small Club – Up to 20 Members (TIE)**

Alexandria GC V  
5 New Members!

Hulmeville GC XI  
5 New Members!

**Medium Club – 21 to 50 Members**

Somerset GC VI  
10 New Members!

**Large Club – 51+ Members**

The Garden Club of York IV  
65 New Members!

**2022 GCFP COMPREHENSIVE AWARD**

*Awarded to the District Whose Clubs and Individuals Received the Most GCFP Awards in the Current Award Year*

*Congratulations to District IX!  
Winner of 44 GCFP Awards!*

**2022 GCFP FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE AWARD**

*Charlotte Chrissy, Chair*

**Small Standard Flower Show (21-50 Members)**

3<sup>rd</sup> "Fairy Tales"  
Pleasant Hills GC X

**District Standard Flower Show**

Honorable Mention—District XI  
"Color Outside the Lines"

**Standard Flower Show (Clubs 51+ Members)**

1<sup>st</sup> "A Patriotic Summer"  
The GC of Johnstown VI

2<sup>nd</sup> "North to Alaska"  
Trevoise Horticultural Society XI

3<sup>rd</sup> "Growing Wild"  
Greensburg Garden Center VII

**Standard Flower Show  
(Clubs 21-50 Members)**  
1<sup>st</sup> Hazelton Area GC II/III

2<sup>nd</sup> "The Roaring Twenties"  
Valley GC X

**Horticulture Specialty Flower Show  
(Clubs 1-20 Members)**  
1<sup>st</sup> "Beauty in Nature"  
Town and Country GC of Rices Landing X

**(Clubs 21-50 Members)**  
1<sup>st</sup> "Posies On Parade"  
Bedford County GC VI

**Holiday Standard Flower Show  
(Clubs 51+ Members)**  
1<sup>st</sup> "Tinsel and Tidings"  
Martha Washington GC X

**2022 GCFP FLOWER SHOW BOOK OF  
EVIDENCE AWARDS**  
*Deb Stumpf, Chair*

**FS-6 Small Standard Holiday Flower Show (50-99  
Members)**  
1<sup>st</sup> "Tinsel and Tidings"  
Martha Washington GC X

**FS-3A Patriotic Standard Flower Show  
(50-99 Members)**  
1<sup>st</sup> "A Patriotic Summer"  
The GC of Johnstown VI

**FS-1B Standard Flower Show  
(1-49 Members)**  
1<sup>st</sup> "The Roaring Twenties"  
Valley GC X

**FS-1C Standard Flower Show  
(50-99 Members)**  
1<sup>st</sup> "North to Alaska"  
Trevoise Horticultural Society X

**FS-7B Small Standard Flower Show  
(1-49 Members)**  
1<sup>st</sup> "Fairy Tales"  
Pleasant Hills GC X

**FS-15A District Standard Flower Show**  
1<sup>st</sup> "Color Outside the Lines"  
District XI



**2022 GOVERNOR'S TROPHY WINNER  
UWCHLAN GARDEN CLUB  
DISTRICT I**  
*Most Outstanding Large 2022 GCFP Club!*

The Governor's Trophy was presented to Uwchlan Garden Club for distinguishing itself by providing a year of well-balanced club programs, exceptional civic activity, club projects in all areas of conservation, and activity in state projects.

Members were presented with a crystal engraved vase to keep, and the historic Governor's Trophy Bowl to enjoy for the upcoming year.

These are just a few of the Highlights of their 2022 Year:

- Eleven Uwchlan club members served in Major and/or Presenter positions of the 2022 GCFP Convention in Malvern.
- Club Member Sharon Richardson organized a GCFP Sponsored trip to tour the gardens of the Netherlands. Five club members traveled with the group.
- Club Tours included the Arboretum at St. Joseph's University, the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College, and Winterthur.
- Workshops were presented on bow making, hypertufa, Christmas arrangements, and wreath making.
- Club members participated in the Longwood Gardens Flower Show, "From Sea to Shining Sea." Of the seven participating clubs, 32% of the entries were from Uwchlan members, who won a combination of 33 ribbons and awards, including the Longwood Garden Award of Excellence awarded to member, Carrie Schreffler.

- A “Thank You for Your Service” event was held for Veterans at the Coatesville VA Medical Center. Attendees received essentials bags, VA canteen vouchers, and an afternoon of good food, fellowship, and entertainment provided by club members.
- A Newcomers Welcome event was held to acquaint new members with all the opportunities available through their club, GCFP, CAR-SGC, and NGC.
- Multiple civic, conservation, educational, youth gardening, horticulture therapy, and fundraising activities supported and improved their community.
- The combined fundraising efforts of their Plant Sale and Christmas Fair raised \$19,000 to support their projects and philanthropies.

*Congratulations to the 70 Members of Uwchlan Garden Club for an Outstanding Year!*



**GCFP/CAR-SGC YOUTH CONTESTS**

*Chris Hawthorne, Chair*

**2022 Youth Poetry Contest**

“Seeds, Trees, and Bees O My!” Exploring the Diversity of Nature

GRADE K		
Ellie Wen – 1 <sup>st</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
GRADE 1		
Eva Sulta – 1 <sup>st</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
Shane Dykum – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Indiana GC		VI
GRADE 2		
Jack Steigert – 1 <sup>st</sup> Indiana GC		VI
GRADE 3		
Marco Regis – 1 <sup>st</sup> Pucketos GC		VII
Emmit Wright – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Indiana GC		VI
Ezra Morschhauser – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Indiana GC		VI
GRADE 4		
Declan Tappe – 1 <sup>st</sup> Pucketos GC		VII
GRADE 5		
Charlie Osborne – 1 <sup>st</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
Sean Millinarich – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
Rilee Hartle – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
Josie Lattimore – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
GRADE 6		
Sorcha O’Sullivan – 1 <sup>st</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
Elle Degnan – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ingomar GC		IX

Aislyn Schlessler – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
GRADE 7		
Trinity Coury – 1 <sup>st</sup> Pucketos GC		VII
Rocco Reilsong – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Moon Twp. GC		IX
Anna Morris – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
Leone Haibach – 4 <sup>th</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
GRADE 8		
Valerie Begis – 1 <sup>st</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
Declan Hibbard – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
John Santilli – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ingomar GC		IX

**2022 GCFP HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST**

*Chris Hawthorne, Chair*

GRADE 12		
Ella Harold - 1 <sup>st</sup> Ingomar GC		IX

**2022 Youth Sculpture Contest**

“Keep Our Planet Green”

GRADE 5		
Maria Hutelmyer – 1 <sup>st</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
GRADE 6		
Methuli Jayasooriya – 1 <sup>st</sup>		
The GC of Johnstown		VI
Casey Farkas – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Parkland GC		II/III
Roan Malcolm – 3 <sup>rd</sup>		
The GC of Johnstown		VI
GRADE 8		
Lillianna Serfass – 1 <sup>st</sup> Parkland GC		II/III

**2022 GCFP SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTER CONTEST**

*Paula Mohler/SBWO Chair*

“Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!”

GRADE 1		
Gabriel Abukabda – 1 <sup>st</sup>		
GC of Clarion County		VIII
GRADE 2		
Noah Abukabda – 1 <sup>st</sup>		
GC of Clarion County		VIII
GRADE 3		
Quinn Telesz – 1 <sup>st</sup>		
GC of Clarion County		VIII
GRADE 4		
Audrey Jeffries – 1 <sup>st</sup> Ingomar GC		IX
GRADE 5		
Hannah Kaminski – 1 <sup>st</sup> Ingomar GC		IX



**2022 GCFP CLUB YEARBOOK AWARDS**

*Iris Cisarik, Chair*

**Under 20 Members:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Town and Country GC of Rices Landing	X
2 <sup>nd</sup> The Heritage GC	V
3 <sup>rd</sup> Elk Valley GC	VIII
4 <sup>th</sup> Burrellton GC	VII

**21-29 Members:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Heather GC of Edinboro	VIII
2 <sup>nd</sup> Waterford GC	VIII
3 <sup>rd</sup> Pleasant Hills GC	X
4 <sup>th</sup> Mifflin County GC	V

**30-44 Members:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Wayne Woods GC	I
2 <sup>nd</sup> Butler GC	IX
3 <sup>rd</sup> Great Meadows GC	X
4 <sup>th</sup> Somerset GC	VI

**45-69 Members:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Parkland GC	II/III
2 <sup>nd</sup> Shaler GC	IX
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tusca-Ridge GC	IX
4 <sup>th</sup> Martha Washington GC	X

**70-99 Members**

1 <sup>st</sup> Emmaus GC	II/III
2 <sup>nd</sup> Bethlehem GC	II/III
3 <sup>rd</sup> Weeders & Seeders GC of Ligonier	VI
4 <sup>th</sup> The GC of Johnstown	VI

**Over 100 Members:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Norristown GC	XI
2 <sup>nd</sup> The GC of York	IV

**2022 GCFP MAE-2  
SOCIAL / WEBSITE AWARDS**

*Marilyn Small, Chair*

**Large Club Websites**

1 <sup>st</sup> Fox Chapel GC	IX
2 <sup>nd</sup> The GC of York	IV
3 <sup>rd</sup> Norristown GC	XI
4 <sup>th</sup> Tusca-Ridge GC	IX
5 <sup>th</sup> Parkland GC	II/III
6 <sup>th</sup> Bethlehem GC	II/III

**Medium Club Websites**

1 <sup>st</sup> Wayne Woods GC	I
2 <sup>nd</sup> Somerset GC	VI
3 <sup>rd</sup> Old York Road GC	XI

**Large Club Facebook Pages**

2 <sup>nd</sup> Parkland GC	II/III
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**Medium Club Facebook Pages**

1 <sup>st</sup> Somerset GC	VI
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2 <sup>nd</sup> Southern Butler County GC	IX
3 <sup>rd</sup> Old York Road GC	XI
4 <sup>th</sup> Wayne Woods GC	I

**District Facebook Pages**

2 <sup>nd</sup> GCFP District XI	
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**2022 GCFP MAE-4  
NEWSLETTER/PUBLICATION AWARDS**

*Joyce Peterson, Chair*

**1-2 Page Newsletters-Medium Clubs**

1 <sup>st</sup> Standing Stone GC	V
2 <sup>nd</sup> Old York Road GC	XI

**3-12 Page Newsletters-Medium Clubs**

1 <sup>st</sup> Murrysville GC	VII
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wayne Woods GC	I
3 <sup>rd</sup> The GC of Forest Hills	VII
4 <sup>th</sup> Ingomar GC	IX

**3-12 Page Newsletters-Large Clubs**

1 <sup>st</sup> Parkland GC	II/III
2 <sup>nd</sup> Weeders & Seeders GC of Ligonier	VI
3 <sup>rd</sup> Shaler GC	IX
4 <sup>th</sup> Bethlehem GC	II/III

**13-24 Page Newsletters-Large Clubs**

1 <sup>st</sup> The GC of York	IV
2 <sup>nd</sup> Fox Chapel GC	IX

**Other Publications-Large Clubs**

4 <sup>th</sup> Tusca-Ridge GC	IX
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**2022 GCFP PUBLICITY PRESS BOOK AWARDS**

*Georgieann Dettinburn, Chair*

*Recognizing winning Books of Evidence exhibiting quality, quantity, and diversity of coverage in the print media promoting garden clubs and NGC goals and objectives.*

**Medium Club:**

1 <sup>st</sup> The GC of Springfield	I
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**Large Club:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Gettysburg GC	IV
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**2023 GCFP SCHOLARSHIP (K.G.) WINNERS**

Sandra Hendricks, GCFP Scholarship Chairperson

**THE LOUISE DIMMICK SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000**

recipient is **Gracie Elizabeth Crum** of Windber. The Garden Club of Johnstown of District VI sponsored

her. She is a senior at Windber High School and will be attending Penn State University studying Plant Science. She is interested in research and development for greenhouse production. Her high school GPA is 4.0.

**THE MARJORIE E. HAMBLIN SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** is awarded to **Elizabeth Hope Bruner** of Blairsville. A freshman at Penn State University, she studies Wildlife and Fisheries Science. She served as President of the PA Governor's Youth Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing, and Conservation. She has completed all levels of 4-H Leadership Ladders and finished her Diamond Award plus she has earned a 3.98 GPA at Penn State (Dubois Campus). Sponsored by Indiana Garden Club of District VI.

**THE CATHERINE H. KENWORTHY SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** winner is **Sam Conti** of Pittsburgh. He is a sophomore at Ohio Wesleyan College studying Biological Sciences. With his Botany degree, Sam wants to become a conservation scientist and help preserve the wonderful forests of the country. The Garden Club of Forest Hills of District VII is his sponsor. His GPA is a 3.9.

**THE LOIS DUPRE' SHUSTER SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** recipient is **Mariah Grace Noll** of Middleburg. Mariah is a junior at the University of Delaware majoring in Wildlife Ecology & Conservation. She participated in a month-long study program in New Zealand this summer studying sustainable food production. Mariah studied a systems approach to food production – studying soil, water, rainfall, erosion, and conservation of native habitats of plants and animals in agricultural systems. She is sponsored by the Susquehanna Garden Club of District V. Her GPA is 3.324.

**THE MARY ALICE WHEELER SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** is awarded to **Jenna Nicole Sassaman** of Selinsgrove. Jenna is a freshman at Penn State University studying Agriculture. She grew up on a cattle farm and knows the responsibility and leadership it takes to manage a farm. Her goal is to improve agriculture education for future generations. Sponsored by Susquehanna Garden Club of District V. Her GPA is 3.56.

**THE MARILYN L. WHITMORE SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** recipient is **Donald William Yealy** of New Oxford. Biglerville GC of District IV sponsored Donald. He is a junior at Penn State University studying Forest Ecosystem Management with a minor in Wildlife and Fisheries Science. His career

goal is to become a professional forester and work at a state or national park to manage forest land for the public to enjoy. He is still President of the Forestry Club at Mont Alto and has been a long-term member of the Boy Scouts of America. His GPA is 3.92.

**THE DOROTHY A. HERMANI SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** winner is **Jacqueline Maureen Kiszka** of York. A sophomore at Penn State University studying Atmospheric Science, she had an amazing opportunity during her second semester to work on a project in a land-atmosphere interaction lab. Plus, she spent 12 days in Iceland in a Green Program. This enabled her to explore the country's unique environment, connect and work with students from across the globe, and learn about climate change, sustainability, and renewable energy. The Garden Club of York, District IV, sponsored Jacqueline. Her GPA is 3.47.

**THE JANE LAYMAN SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** is a four-year Scholarship dependent on an annual GPA of 3.0. It is awarded to **Joseph John Romano, Jr.** of Frederick. A senior at Boyertown Area High School, Joseph will be a freshman at Delaware Valley studying Plant Genetic Science in the fall. Joseph has worked at the Fordhook Farm, the trial site of Burpee Seed Company, as an intern. His dedication and remarkable work ethic are highly acknowledged in his recommendations. The Upper Perkiomen Valley Garden Club of District II/III is his sponsor. His GPA is high school is 4.0.

**THE KATHERINE L. RIEGER SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** recipient is **Samantha Grace Schulteis** of Biglerville. A senior at Duke University's Trinity College of Arts and Sciences, she is studying Environmental Sciences & Policy. Samantha grew up on a fruit farm in Adams County and is described as bright, capable and grounded in her education that will bear fruit in her academic formation and career trajectory. She is planning to continue her education for her Master's Degree in the fall. Gettysburg Garden Club's, District IV is sponsoring Samantha. Her GPA is 3.903.

**THE CONSTANCE H. SMITH SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,750** is awarded to **Grace Martha Steward** of Camp Hill. Grace is finishing her fourth year of a five-year course at Penn State majoring in Landscape Architecture. She is interested in focusing on environmental issues within her major, especially in the context of public park spaces. Her



letters of recommendation describe her as being an excellent communicator, hard-working, and a very confident person in carrying out her academic and job-related responsibilities. The Penn Cumberland Garden Club of District IV is her sponsor. Her GPA is 3.8.

**THE MIRIAM A. STEEL SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** recipient is **Drew O’Canavan Farrell** of Erie. He is a freshman attending Cornell University studying Landscape Architecture. His goal is to create spaces that not only impact individuals but communities and ecosystems. He wants to solve problems and embrace change. He would like to someday create his own park. His sponsor is Presque Isle Garden Club, District VIII. His GPA is 3.23.

**THE EDITH CLEMMER STEINBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** is awarded to **Hunter Hawke Holcomb** of Titusville. He is a sophomore at Chatham University studying Environmental Science. He is an exemplary individual, student-athlete, and role model. Hunter has a gift for research and the curiosity it takes to inspire questions in the world of science. He is very passionate about preserving and protecting the public land that gives people experiences in nature. District VIII, Titusville Garden Club is his sponsor. His GPA is 3.23.

**THE JACQUELINE A. DAVIES SCHOLARSHIP OF \$1,000** recipient is **Rebecca Leigh Durbin** of East Berlin. She is a sophomore at Penn State University studying Agriculture Sciences. Rebecca is majoring in Environmental Resource Management. Since attending Penn State, she has become an active member of the Student Farm Club to learn a variety of agricultural topics. Her goal is to develop efficient waste management and recycling systems. She is sponsored by Gettysburg Garden Club of District IV. Her GPA is 3.93.



**2022 GCFP SR-4 MEMBER OF HONOR AWARD**  
*Recognizing Five or More Years of Outstanding Contributions and All-Around Excellence to Club and Community.*

**And**  
**2022 GCFP ELIZABETH POTTS AMIDON HORTICULTURE AWARD**  
*Honoring the Most Outstanding Horticulturist of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania.*

Sharon Richardson  
Uwchlan Garden Club  
District I



Sharon’s efforts toward the advancement of NGC, GCFP, and Uwchlan Garden Club goals and objectives are numerous as evidenced by her club, state, national, and community involvement.

She is the epitome of a lifelong learner, working tirelessly through gardening, volunteering, teaching, lecturing, and writing. She has dedicated her first decade of retirement to learning about gardening, landscape design and environmental issues and sharing her knowledge with garden clubs, Environmental Advisory Committees, community groups, senior citizen’s groups, and serving on GCFP Board positions.

Sharon has completed hundreds of hours of continuing education hours for Master Gardeners, Longwood Gardens, and NGC Schools. Her gardening and horticulture knowledge is extensive, and she shares her knowledge far and wide to NGC, GCFP, local clubs and organizations.

- She organized the international GCFP-sponsored trip to the Netherlands in 2022 to experience the Floriade and Keukenhof with 70 participants.
- As a member of the 2022 GCFP Convention Executive Committee, Sharon secured several speakers and presenters, as well as several large financial sponsorships.
- She attends NGC Landscape Design, Gardening, Environmental, and Flower Show Schools.
- She’s published gardening articles in the Keystone Gardener, Nature News of Charlestown Twp., the Hardy Plant Society, the West Chester Daily Local and Immaculata University.
- She’s provided tours of her garden to garden clubs, Master Gardeners, students of the Lifelong Institute, and 2018 NGC Convention dignitaries.
- She has won numerous awards at GCFP Flower Shows, and the Philadelphia Dahlia Society.

- She volunteers tirelessly as a docent at Longwood Gardens.

Sharon is an avid gardener, and maintains a 2.5 acre garden (mostly pollinator) at her home in Charlestown Township, Malvern, PA. It includes a wooded area, a small “Noah’s” orchard with 2 trees of each fruit she chooses to grow, a large pollinator bed, several dahlia beds, 3 raised vegetable beds, a deer-trail garden and several other beds featuring Pennsylvania keystone and native plants. She hosts “pop-up” garden visits for her garden club members and Chester County Master Gardener colleagues.

For her many achievements, involvement in gardening education, and her extensive horticultural skills, Sharon Richardson is awarded both the GCFP Member of Honor and Elizabeth Potts Amidon Horticulture Awards.



**2022 GCFP SILVER SEAL AWARD**

*Recognizing a Non-Member for Special Contributions Toward the Advancement of the Work of Garden Clubs*

**Abbey Nilson  
Environmentalist  
Teacher**



Sponsored by  
Shaler Garden Club  
District IX

By the time she was four, Abbey Nilson was by her mother’s side working in the garden, composting, and helping with the Shaler Garden Club’s annual plant sales. Her mother, Shelley Nilson, an accomplished master gardener and educator for the Audubon Society of Western PA, and a 36-year member of the Shaler Garden Club, nurtured and taught her daughter well. Abbey has become an educator whose goal is to instill the love of land and our precious resources in the next generation.

Abbey initiated the Sustainability Class at Shaler Area High School in 2020. The curriculum is designed to encourage students to examine the impact of their own water and energy use, transportation and food choices, as well as trash recycling and waste disposal. This program

encourages students to work with community leaders on environmentally themed community projects.

Abbey motivated her students to work with the Allegheny Land Trust over the past two years to raise awareness, help purchase, and preserve a 155 acre tract of land known as Girty’s Woods, named for the watershed in which it is located. It was being targeted for development without regard for its critical role in storm water absorption and flood prevention for the borough situated in the basin below. Allegheny Land Trust was able to purchase the land and preserve it as a greenspace in 2021. Her students have continued to partner with ALT to assist with fundraising efforts for the Shaler/Reserve Land Protection Project to further and safeguard stormwater absorption, preserve the natural beauty of a former 60 acre tract of farmland, expand natural habitats, and increase native wildlife and native plants.

Abbey has created an awareness in the community about the importance of greenspace preservation. Her students turned their classroom into a “nursery” for 300 native tree seedlings that they later planted. They are working on an ongoing Native Species Project identifying and documenting the native plant species in Girty’s Woods. With the help of the Audubon Society, they have created a special mix of native seed packets important for pollinators as part of their “Save the Land, Save the Monarchs” campaign. They raised a monarch butterfly from an egg in class, then tagged it for release and research.

To create an awareness of the environmental impact of single use plastics, her students proposed building an ecobrick planter made of used plastic bottles on the school grounds. To help fund the green restoration of a damaged community building, her students grew succulents from cuttings, potted, and sold them. The restoration included solar panels, an electric vehicle charging station, and a playground with “green” features.

In addition to developing an awareness of the importance of preserving our natural resources, Abbey’s students are developing organizational, communication, and co-operative skills. She serves on the Millvale Community Development Corporation Board and the Triboro Ecodistrict

Council. She was named a semifinalist for the 2023 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year. The positive impact of Abbey's lessons on her students and community is far-reaching and lasting.

Abbey's Sustainability students at Shaler Area High School have written a children's book, "Love the Earth", a collection of short stories, poems, artwork, activities, and positive messages to help raise funds for the future Etna Library. It can be purchased online at <http://etna-communityorganization.square.site/product/sasd-sustainability-love-the-earth/23> or at the Etna Pop-Up Library, 341 Butler St. Etna, PA 15223 during select events.



### 2022 GCFP HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY WINNER



**Ella Harold**  
**Grade 12**  
**Hampton High School**  
**Gibsonia, PA**

*Sponsored by Ingomar Garden Club,  
District IX*

#### **"Protecting Our Water Resources"**

*In her own words*

Water is the most important resource on our planet. People consume millions of gallons of water every day. The way humans are currently using water is not sustainable. Water is being used more than it can be produced. Overpopulation is a huge problem in the world. The earth is struggling to keep up. When I hear about protecting our water resources, the first thing I think about is simple things like turning off water to brush my teeth and taking shorter showers. Throughout my research, I have found that this problem goes way deeper than just these simple fixes. Chemicals are not being disposed of properly, the carelessness of farming, and overpopulation are some examples of the bigger problem.

Large companies have been dumping chemicals into our water resources for decades. Arsenic (As), Mercury (Hg), Selenium (Se), and Lead (Pb) are only a few examples of poisons that are being put in our water. These chemicals live in our environment, ruining our earth for decades. Not only do they harm us but also harm our animals living in these poisonous waters. The concentration of chemicals

is known for promoting the growth of algae blooms, which are both harmful to humans and toxic to wildlife by making the water smoggy, suffocating the coral, and much more. I believe that holding these companies accountable for the years of damage is the first step in prevention.

Furthermore, businesses like farming also have responsibility in this grave issue. Pesticides are being sprayed onto our crops. Then when those crops are watered, the toxins run off into our environment, leaching nitrogen into groundwater. This is an issue because these toxins end up in our lakes, oceans, and rivers, flowing to every part of our planet affecting everyone. Factory farms are known for storing animal waste in open-air lagoons which are prone to leaks and spills. An example of this going extremely wrong would be when in 2011, a hog farm located in Illinois spilled over 200,000 gallons of manure into a creek, resulting in more than 110,000 fish dying. Each one of those fish had a job to help our ecosystem improve. Without them, the consequences were harmful to our environment.

Finally, overpopulation has been an increasing issue with many consequences. The earth is having to produce resources for more people than it can handle. There is not enough water for those who need it so protecting these resources is critical for our future. The young and growing generation is relying on us to protect their earth so they can have the future they deserve. "Right now, there are about 1.1 billion people globally who do not have access to safe drinking water. About 218 million Americans live at least 10 miles from a polluted water source." I believe public education on this issue will help growing families think before they make a decision to have more children.

Altogether humans need to fix this problem that we created. We got comfortable just being able to simply walk to our kitchen and get a glass of water. This will soon not be a possibility for the next generations due to our selfishness and irresponsibility. We have time to fix this tragic issue but we as a population need to realize our mistakes and fix them while we still can.

*Quote from National Geographic 2016, World Health Organization 2019, and Green America 2013.*



## 2022 AWARD STATISTICS

Sheri Lowry, Chair

Our GCFP Award Program recognized the extraordinary efforts of our individuals, clubs, and districts during 2022 at our 2023 Convention. The dedication, creativity, knowledge, and hard work shared in the award applications truly showcased the efforts of our GCFP members to accomplish NGC goals and objectives.

62 of our 106 GCFP clubs received at least 1 award. 33 First Place winners were forwarded for CAR-SGC award consideration; 25 First Place winners were forwarded for NGC award consideration.

196 certificates were awarded. (Honorable Mention certificates were not included in computations for the Comprehensive Award or club totals.) **District IX was the Comprehensive Award winner with a total of 44 Individual, Club, and District Awards!**

### DISTRICT AWARD BREAKDOWN

District I	15 Awards
District II/III	23 Awards
District IV	15 Awards
District V	8 Awards
District VI	21 Awards
District VII	13 Awards
District VIII	10 Awards
District IX	44 Awards
District X	14 Awards
District XI	19 Awards

### TOP CLUB WINNERS

IX	19--Ingomar GC
II/III	13--Parkland GC
I	8--Wayne Woods GC
IV	8--The GC of York
IX	8--Southern Butler County GC
XI	8--Old York Road GC

Thank you to all of the club members who shared their outstanding members' accomplishments, and submitted their club's projects and volunteer efforts. Our GCFP Members are truly impressive, hard-working, devoted volunteers!

*As you gather information and plan to submit applications for the 2023 Awards year, keep in mind that successful applications adhere to the requirements, scoring rubrics, and instructions found*

*in the Award Manuals and supporting documents located on the GCFP Awards Page of our [pagardenclubs.org](http://pagardenclubs.org) website. Updates to these Manuals and Documents are planned to be posted by July 1<sup>st</sup>. **Wait to complete and forward your applications until the updated forms and information have been posted.***



## FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL COURSE IV

Lori Pancione, GCFP Flower Show Chair



The NGC Flower Show School Course #4, sponsored by the Philadelphia Area Judges Council and GCFP, is scheduled for **Thursday, October 12 through**

**Sunday, October 15, 2023 with the Written Exam for Design on Sunday morning.** The school will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Philadelphia West, located at 640 Fountain Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462.

Room block reservations will be available Thursday, September 1, 2023. 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 bed options, and study suites in each room, making them ideal to share.

Instructors for this final course in our series of Flower Show School will be Sue Kirkman (Horticulture, Collections and Displays) and Gina Jogan (Advanced Flower Show Procedure and Advanced Design Types).

The Flower Show School #4 trifold, and additional information will be available after June 30, 2023 at [www.pagardenclubs.org](http://www.pagardenclubs.org). It is usually posted in two places - under Educational Programs and Upcoming Schools.

Make plans to sign up early. Credit and non-credit options are available for the school attendance.

Watch for more news about Flower Show School #4 in upcoming KG editions. Contact Lori Pancione, State Flower Show Chairman at [lpnzy@hotmail.com](mailto:lpnzy@hotmail.com) for additional details.



### DISTRICT X NEWS

Deborah Davis, District X Director



District X had a successful "Spring Tea" held on March 15, 2023, at the Mon Valley YMCA. District X Officers, Garden Club Presidents and Committee Chairs reported. Marcy Cunkelman, a member of the Evergreen Garden Club

in GCFP District VI, spoke on "Choosing the Correct Plants for Attracting Birds and Pollinators".

Pleasant Hills Garden Club was the District X winner of the "Trash to Treasure" contest and the entry will go to the GCFP State Convention in April for judging. The Garden Club of Munhall was the host Club and Mon Valley Garden Club provided the lovely centerpieces. Funds were collected for the Natural Disaster Fund. Grace Mitchell of Martha Washington Garden Club ran the 50/50 drawing. Elaine Swaney of Great Meadows Garden Club handled the white elephant sale.



### HERITAGE GC BEAUTIFIES TROY

Judy Warn, District V Director

If you happen to be in downtown Troy, PA on a summer day, you might see one of the members of the Heritage Garden Club watering one of the seventeen pole baskets and the ten pedestal planters the club maintains. It is common for these

busy women to hear passersby say, "You ladies do such a nice job of beautifying Troy," or someone in a car tapping their horn in approval as they drive by.



As summer fades into September, it is time to cut back the flowers that have been so carefully tended and to fill the containers with a variety of fall themed faux flowers, greenery and cute little scarecrows. With the surrounding mountains all ablaze as a backdrop, it is visually stunning.

Once Thanksgiving has come and gone it is time to remove the fall decorations and gather up fresh greenery from the members' yards to prepare for the winter display. Each planter contains a variety of pine boughs, holly, spruce, hemlock, twigs, and teasel and the piece de resistance - seasonal snowmen. Red velvet bows add a final touch.



During the Easter season, after the soil thaws enough to remove the winter display, tulips, both real and artificial, and branches are inserted into the planters and hung with colorful Easter eggs.



The club has been fortunate enough to receive money from the Case Fund, to defray the cost of the plants and decorations. They have also been

most fortunate to receive help from a local boy scout troop with the watering and with other groups from the local high school and community. Most of the work is done quietly without much fanfare, but Heritage Garden Club could not ask for better publicity than they receive while working downtown in Troy in plain sight.



## PARLIAMENTARY POINTERS

Sharon Brown, GCFP Parliamentarian

Probably the question that has come before me most often since taking this position has been one of Quorum. What is a quorum and why is it necessary? Simply put a quorum is the minimum number of members that must be present to conduct business in an organized assembly such as your club or district meeting. It is necessary to protect against an action by a small number of persons that is not truly representative of your organization's purpose or goals. The quorum may be stated as a number or percentage in your by-laws and should be a realistic representation of the average attendance. If your meeting is regularly scheduled and members know the usual time and place, the quorum required is whomever attends.

Another parliamentary topic that has come up several times is the way in which chairpersons address the assembly. Members presenting a report should address only the Presiding Officer, that would be your club president, your district director, or the state president. I hear complaints all the time about a chair who wants to be sure everyone is listening, so they open their report with an address to the presiding officer... and members, and guests and all my friends! When the state president and vice presidents attend the district meetings, they do so as special guests of the assembly and should not be addressed when a report is given. Most often, an introductory welcome has already been given by the presiding officer to all special guests.

Lastly, and this is one that really stumps me, no one seems to want to make a motion. A motion is simply a proposal that the assembly take a certain action. "I move that..." and finish with your proposal. Be specific, use time and/or place if necessary, and dollar figures when appropriate. Saying "so moved" after someone else makes the suggestion is not correct, nor is "I make a motion" correct language. If members do not take the initiative to actually speak the words, then the recording secretary must come up with the motion. This is not good parliamentary procedure.



## HOW DOES YOUR CLUB TREAT YOUR SPEAKERS?

Susanna Reppert Brill, Member Penn-Cumberland GC, Program Resource for District IV, GCFP Program Resource

There are many things that a club can do to ensure good experiences and a quality programs for your club meeting. The following listed items can be done to have a good program for your meeting. Please keep score and give your club one point for each item done consistently.

Do you give your speaker solid information for date/ time and location of the program? Simply saying we meet at the Methodist Church is not enough. In my little town there are eight, yes eight, Methodist churches and each has multiple doors to enter. Be sure to give a complete name of your meeting location, full address, correct date and time AND include a tip as to which entrance to use. Also give your speaker a cell phone number to contact a member at the meeting as necessary. All of this is critically important information.

Do you reach out for a final contact a day or two before the program just to reconfirm all of the critical information such as date/ time/ location/ entrance and cell phone contact?

Do you ask in advance what the speaker needs to have a successful program for your club? Do they need audio visual equipment, a card table or an eight-foot table, a microphone and/or a podium? And is that organized in advance?

Do you have a greeter or someone to watch for and welcome the speaker when they arrive?

Do you have someone available to help carry in items, pass around papers as needed, help make sure the AV equipment is ready, and see if your speaker needs a glass of water?

Do you promote their program to your members in advance of the meeting to build excitement?

Did you promote their program on your FB page or to the newspaper? It is especially important to offer promotion for speakers that do not receive an honorarium. Do you have their speaker

fee/honorarium check prepared and ready to give to them the day of the program?

Do you ask the speaker in advance for some introductory materials and also very importantly how to pronounce their name so you are prepared before the start of the program?

Do you invite them to stay for the refreshments? Do you send a thank you note or thank you email afterwards? And, for a bonus point, did you include a tidbit from their program you found particularly intriguing?

Did you score a solid 10 points? Yay! Great job! Did you score 8 or 9 points? That is still very good and I am proud of you. Did you score a 6 or 7? Oh my! You need to up your game a bit!



## IRIS CISARIK'S FEATURED DESIGN

GCFP Board Member Iris Cisarik's Ikebana Design was on display in the main lobby of the Phipps Conservatory as part of the Ikebana International spring show. Iris is a member of the Ikenobo School.



## DEB STUMPF

District VI Director, Indiana Garden Club



Deb grew up on the family farm in Westmoreland County, PA. She was introduced to gardening at an early age by her grandmothers: one loved roses while the other earned a well – deserved reputation for rehabilitating the family's dying houseplants.

She worked as a registered nurse for 45 years before retiring in 2014. Since then, she has devoted countless hours to gardening. She joined the Indiana Garden Club in 2011 and has served as the group's President, Vice President, Program Chairman and May Mart Vendor Chairman. She currently serves as Chairman of the Flower Arrangers Committee, providing floral arrangements for club functions. Deb is also Co-Chairman of the club's upcoming flower show.

Deb joined the District VI Board of Directors in 2012 and has served as Secretary and Assistant Director. She has also held the position of Flower Show Book of Evidence Chairman on the GCFP Board of Directors for six years. She is an Accredited Flower Show Judge and a member of both the Laurel Highlands and Pittsburgh Area Judges' Councils. She served as the Vendor Chairman on the 2019 State Convention Committee and held the same position for the CAR-SGC Conference in 2022.

Deb has also been a long-time volunteer for the Indiana County Conservation District's Envirothon Competition on both the junior high and high school levels. She currently resides in Indiana, PA with her husband Rick. They have two daughters and two grandchildren.



## ROSIE LAWRENCE

District VIII Director

Rosie's love of gardening started when she was very young. Her mother loved gardening, especially herbs. She remembers her mother asking her to go to the herb garden and pick whatever kind of herb her mother needed to cook dinner.



Rosie lived in Southern California for several years. She also lived in Waldorf, Maryland. She worked for a government consulting firm in Washington, D.C., where she supervised the computer department. Rosie transferred to the Dahlgren, VA office as the Computer Department Supervisor and later as a Systems Analyst. While working there, she met her husband, Jim. In 1997 they moved to Clarion, PA.

Rosie joined the Clarion Civic Club and a quilting group in a local church. In 2006 she became a Clarion County Master Gardener through the Penn State Cooperative Extension program. In 2015 she joined the Wildflower Garden Club and served as Vice President for four years. During this time, she coordinated a youth group called "The Little Sprouts," an after-school program at one of the Clarion County elementary schools, where students from third to six grades would learn about horticulture and gardening. In some years the program had as many as 68 students. In 2016 she joined the Garden Club of Clarion County.

In 2020 she became the Wildflower Club President, for two years, which was during the Pandemic. They did not have monthly club meetings, but rather they had social gatherings outdoors at club members' homes. Rosie was also the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Chairman, for two years, for the Garden Club of Clarion County Garden Club. In 2020 one third grader placed in Regionals! Rosie and Jim have six children and six grandchildren. Her passions are grandchildren, working in her greenhouse, quilting and crocheting.



## LEAF COLORS

Martha Alexander



Each fall leaf peepers emerge to feast their eyes on the glory of the leaves of deciduous trees across Penn's Woods. Bright sunlight filtering through golden, tangerine, and scarlet leaves can leave you spellbound in wonder at the beautiful sight. While driving home from Philadelphia this past Sunday, I was treated to such a vision that was so uplifting it filled me with gratitude for all of nature and I felt entirely holy.

How does mother nature put on such a show? The surprising thing about these colors is that they are there in the leaves the whole time but are covered up or masked by the overwhelming amount of green chlorophyll in the leaves. Yellow and orange carotenoids are in the leaves to help them absorb wavelengths of the sun in a broader spectrum. The

green chlorophyll is the miracle chemical that produces sugar in the plant. Reds are produced when anthocyanins use sugar backed up in the leaves in fall.

In early autumn, in response to the shortening days and declining intensity of sunlight, leaves form an abscission layer at the base of the petioles which virtually close it off. This causes chlorophyll production to slow and eventually stop as there is less daylight. The carotenoids and anthocyanin that are present in the leaf are then unmasked and show their colors.

The amount and brilliance of the colors that develop in any particular autumn season are most closely related to temperature and moisture. A succession of warm, sunny days and cool, crisp but not freezing nights seems to bring about the most spectacular color displays. It is one of the greatest shows on earth.



## SEED MONEY

Marjorie Sears, GCFP Seed Money Chair

We're still trying to stretch the \$2500 that is in our Budget for Seed Money. Certain times during the year Burpee is busy and requests fall through the cracks. But they are offering two solutions:

**We now have a Coupon Code - PAGC23. It is for garden club leaders so that those in charge of projects can order their own.** The coupon code affords 20% off and free shipping without an order minimum. This coupon code is exclusively to GCFP members ... no one else has this coupon! You can order up to 50 seed packets at a time. The coupon is valid on plants, too.

Secondly, submit a donation request for your organization, please send a formal request letter by US Mail, using your organization's letterhead, including a contact name & email address with your request, to the following address:

W. Atlee Burpee & Company  
ATTN: Donation Request  
300 Park Avenue  
Warminster, PA 18974



Due to the large volume of donation requests that Burpee receives, they may be unable to honor all requests. At this time they only donate seeds, and do not donate plants, bulbs, catalogs or general merchandise. Due to limited resources, Burpee is unable to meet specific varietal requests and cannot honor large volume seed requests.

Please let me know if this works for you so that I can thank them. Both Murrysville Garden Club and Old York Road Garden Club have recently received an abundance of seeds via the Donation Request.

ALSO, Seed Money is Blooming across Pennsylvania for these 50 GCFP clubs in 2023:

Alexandria G C, V; Bedford County G C, VI; Bethlehem G C, II/III; Burrellton G C, VII; Country Gardeners of Lima, I; Countryside Gardeners, XI; Duboistown G C, V; Emmaus G C, II/III; Four Lanes End G C, XI; G C of Bristol Borough, XI; G C Monroeville, VII; G C Munhall, X; G C of Springfield, I; Gardeners of the Crooked Billet, XI; Gospel Hill G C, VIII; Green Thumb G C, IV; Hazleton Area G C, II/III; Heather CC of Edinboro, VIII; Heritage G C, V; Hulmeville G C, XI; Indiana G C, VI; Ingomar G C, IX; Kane G C, VIII; Lawrence Park, VIII; Littlestown Area G C, IV; Mon Valley G C, X; Moon Township G C, IX; Murrysville G C, VII; Norristown G C, XI; Oil City G C, VIII; Old York Road G C, XI; Parkland G C, II/III; Patton G C, VI; Presque Isle G C, VIII; Shaler G C, IX; Shiloh G C IV; Schuylkill G C, II/III; Southern Butler G C, IX; Standing Stone G C, V; Swedesford G C, XI; The G C of Johnstown, V; The Outdoor Gardeners, XI; Trevoise Horticulture Society, XI; Uwchian Garden Club, I; Uniontown Flower Club, X; Upper Perkiomen Valley, II/III; Verona G C, VII; Wayne Woods Garden Club, I; Weeders & Seeders, G C, VI; The Wildflower G C, VIII.



## GARDEN CLUB OF MONTROSE

Janis Wunschuh, Garden Club of Montrose

The Garden Club of Montrose was honored to add one more piece of beauty and remembrance to the Danny Crisman Memorial Park. This park sits on a 5-acre parcel of land reserved by Debbie Crisman in honor of her son Danny, the 343 firefighters that perished on September 11, 2001, and those who

were there to save others. The main monument base is the shape of the Pentagon and includes two black squares symbolic of the World Trade Center, and a star facing west symbolizes Flight 93, Shanksville, PA. In the area, one encounters peaceful, thoughtful landscapes and a seating area to visit and honor all the heroes affected by the tragedy of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Planted was a Kousa Dogwood selected for its deer resistance, spectacular spring flowering season and hardiness in this northern colder region. Montrose GC attended the September commemoration remembrance ceremony surrounded by community members of local fire fighters, first responders, police and boy scouts. As the program progressed, there was a pause as the most glorious sunset rose up behind the crowd. All were affected by this special place.



*L - R: Janis Wunschuh, Judy Simpson, Joanne Decker, Suzan Seamans, Christine Berkuta, Janet Guenter.*



## MONROE GC

Jane Kruse, District II/III Director

With a smaller bank account this year, Monroe Garden Club chose a different effort to support this year. Instead of offering scholarships for youth to attend a nature camp, the Club chose to purchase supplies to help a local Poconos Area Abuse Center family as they left the shelter and started life again in the community. Bedding, cleaning supplies, cookware and clothes gave the family a positive start as they returned to living on their own.



## JUST SOMETHING ABOUT MAPS

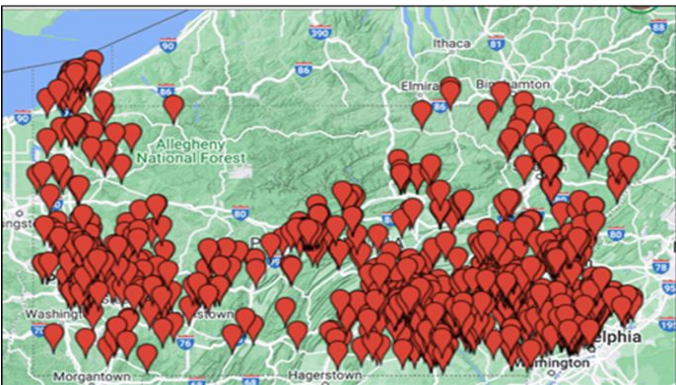
Leslie Anthony, GCFP Pollinator Restoration Chair

Do you have a garden full of flowering plants? Do you love to watch bees, butterflies and hummingbirds as they move from plant to plant in your garden? Then, put your garden on the map!

There are two maps that deserve your attention. Both show a commitment to conserving pollinator habitats.

**Pennsylvania Pollinator Friendly Garden Map.**

To be on the Pennsylvania Pollinator Friendly Garden (PPFG) map, your property must be certified as pollinator friendly. The PPFG certification program, which started in 2011, provides guidelines for creating a safe haven for pollinators along with native plant recommendations for Pennsylvania. Certification requires that you abide by best pollinator practices and provide documentation that your property has an established pollinator garden as defined by the program. Satisfying the requirements to have your garden certified takes some time and effort, but it is well worth it. Over 1,000 homeowners across our state have done it.



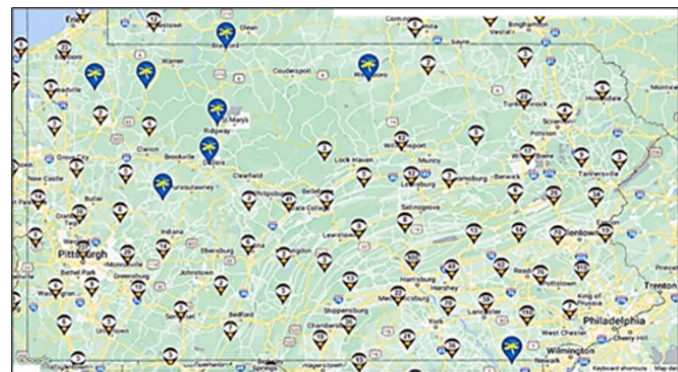
Location of all the PA Pollinator Friendly Gardens across the state.

Once a garden is PPFG certified, it is tracked on the PPFG map. More information can be found on the PA Pollinator Garden Certification website at <https://ento.psu.edu/research/centers/pollinators/public-outreach/cert>.

**Homegrown National Park MAP.**

Homegrown National Park (HNP) is a new approach to unite fragments of land scattered across the country into a network of natural habitats. Organized in 2020 by Doug Tallamy, with assistance from Michelle Alfandari, HNP encourages anyone with a flowerpot, lawn, garden, or farm to plant and preserve plants and animals that are essential to the health of our ecosystems. Though still in its initial stages of development, this initiative is strong and gaining attention and momentum across the US and Canada. No doubt, success can be attributed to the keen, insightful leadership of Doug Tallamy, a

renowned expert in the science of plant-insect interactions who is passionate about helping people create wildlife habitats in their own backyards and gardens.



Location of all the Homegrown National Parks across the state.

The HNP initiative encourages anyone who plants natives and/or removes invasives from their property to get on their MAP and report their accomplishments. Though there are no requirements specific to the number of plants on your property, the HNP initiative emphasizes a commitment to its environmentally-friendly practices, which are aligned with but actually exceed those outlined in the PPFG program. For more information, go to <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/>.

The initial HNP goal is to develop 20 million acres of native plantings across the United States. The MAP offers a robust, interactive format for logging your native plantings and for gathering information across local, regional and national contributors. To date, over 27,000 individuals have registered to be on the MAP. Pennsylvania ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in HNP registrations with over 1,200.

It is clear that home and community gardens can play a key role in the survival of our ecosystems and that people across Pennsylvania are making a difference. With over 4,700 members, wouldn't it be great if a substantial number of our GCFP membership got on the maps? What an impact we could have! I am on both maps. Are you?



## WHY I GARDEN

A reply to a friend by Ellen Phraner, Monroe GC  
as to "Why I Garden"

Here is a quote from a BBC article on how the majestic gardens in Europe survive: "It's all about people - not just to do the work, but people to care and be engaged. Gardens are driven by individuals who feel the need to express themselves through the medium of a garden." That describes me.

An 88-year-old good friend of mine suggested that we find another hobby for me "to get me off the ground." She was an avid gardener who took many classes at the NY Botanical Garden. I wrote this to her when she was wintering in Florida:

"I am responding to your comment that I should find another hobby that does not require sitting on the ground. I am passionate about gardening. I watch a Garden Answer post every day and I can't wait to get to the park. Every single time I am in the garden, I am thanked and complimented or I have a delightful conversation. I get exercise and fresh air. I learn continually. I watch many different flowers, bushes and trees grow and bloom.

I experienced "good press" this last year with a TV interview and two federation awards. This month, I was quoted in the federation newsletter: "I know that I inspire people as five different people told me that I inspire them. After a group of nine people spread mulch, the very next morning a volunteer was spreading mulch at his home. A neighbor watched what I cut back in the fall and did the same. Then her daughter copied the practices." I influence and inspire others. I teach everyone including children.

We are a way station for Monarch butterflies. I attract insects, bees, birds and butterflies. The park improves the quality of the neighborhood and the environment. I encourage adults and children to work the garden increasing their sense of ownership. I want to garden into my 90s. I bought a new stool to use in the garden that will get me off the ground. I found my life's purpose. I wanted you to know this."

Thanks for letting me share this with you.  
Ellen



## DONATIONS

Linda Southerling, Chair

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

### Donations:

Four Season Garden Club of Kennett Square  
Fox Chapel Garden Club  
Spade and Trowel Club  
The Garden Club of Forest Hills  
Uwchlan Garden Club

### In Memory:

Joel Hawthorne  
Angela Raitano



## PENNY PINES

Barb Andrus, Chair

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

### General Donations

The GC of Reading  
Pottstown Area GC  
Uniontown Flower Club  
Southern Butler County GC  
Emmaus GC  
Shaler GC  
The GC of Forest Hills  
Gettysburg GC  
Murrysville GC  
Bedford County GC  
Four Seasons GC of Kennett Square  
Evergreen GC  
Norristown GC  
Waterford GC

### In Memory of

Ellen G. Harter  
Bernice Gardiner  
Frances H. Wilson  
Bethlehem GC  
Judy Rhine  
Jane Glenn  
Pucketos GC  
Ginny Somers  
Elverson GC

**In Honor of**  
Alice Stewart  
Pucketos GC  
Nancy Vincett  
Fox Chapel GC

Carolyn "Joyce" Thompson  
Green Thumb Garden Club  
Larry Moyer  
South Schuylkill Garden Club

**BOOK OF RECOGNITION**

Joyce Hoek, Chair

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

In Memory:

Evelyn (Lluwanna) Gibson Wells  
The Outdoor Gardeners  
Leah Riband  
The Outdoor Gardeners  
Patricia Stone Bartlett  
Gospel Hill Garden Club  
Lynda Peterson  
Gospel Hill Garden Club  
James Gallagher  
The Outdoor Gardeners  
Nancy Shremshock  
Burrellton Garden Club  
Irene Karrs  
Burrellton Garden Club

**NEW 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.*



NGC Life Membership

**Rosie Lawrence**, The Wildflower GC and GC of Clarion County, Dist. VIII  
A birthday gift from her husband.

CAR Life Membership

No new members

GCFP Life Membership

*(\$75 dollars of the \$100 donation is used for GCFP Scholarships).*

No new members



**2022 KEYSTONE EVENTS**

**The Garden Club of York** located in York, PA will present its **18<sup>th</sup> annual Garden Faire & Plant Sale** on Saturday, May 6, 2023. The time is from 8am to 3pm at the York State Fair Grounds, in the Paddock Building. RAIN OR SHINE. To reach the Paddock building enter at gate #6 Highland Avenue. We will be selling herbs, perennials, annuals, vegetables, garden treasures, gardening tools, garden art as well as a flea market. We accept cash, credit card or checks. For additional information check out our website – gardenclubofyork.com.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Garden Club of Springfield** will hold its **12<sup>th</sup> Annual Plant and Bake Sale** at Old Central School, Saxer Avenue and Powell Road, Springfield, Pa. on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. rain or shine. The sale will feature hundreds of herbs, vegetables, native plants, annuals, hanging baskets, perennials, "fresh baked goods," and plants dressed for Mother's Day gifts. Members of the Garden Club, including Master Gardeners, will be on hand to answer questions and help with selections. The Garden Club of Springfield is a service and educational organization emphasizing the importance of using native plants in our gardens. All proceeds will go toward an annual scholarship awarded to a high school graduate who will pursue a degree in Horticulture or Environmental Studies.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Outdoor Gardeners** will once again participate in the **annual Chestnut Hill Garden Festival**, held the first Sunday in May, where they occupy a premium spot on the avenue at the top of the hill. The booth will feature hardy perennial plants dug from members' gardens, planted hypertufa troughs made the previous fall, and

cheerful baskets filled with annual plants topped off with a bow just in time for Mother's Day. The club has participated in this event for over thirty years and it is their main fund raiser. Join in the fun on May 7 from 11 am to 5 pm and stroll the avenue filled with artists, vendors, seated and walk-away dining, kids' events, live music and adorable dogs in costumes strolling with their families while enjoying a lovely spring day.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Indiana Garden Club** will hold its annual **May Mart-Garden & Vendor Expo** on Friday, May 19, 9AM to 7PM and Saturday, May 20, 9AM to 4PM, at the S & T Arena, White Township Sports Complex. Admission is \$1 per adult. Children are free. It allows us to fund scholarships, make donations to environmental causes and help with the beautification of local public gardens. There will be 50 plus vendors selling specialty plants, garden art and nature related products. There will also be a wide variety of locally made items. Our Orphan's Court will be there selling all the "orphans" donated by club members and the general public. Come early as plants sell quickly!

Indiana Garden Club's Garden Mart will sell garden related items made and donated by IGC members. The scholarship booth has raffle tickets for sale to win items donated by the vendors. All the money collected goes toward our scholarship fund. Applications for scholarships are available at the booth as well as on our website. [www.indianagardenclub.org](http://www.indianagardenclub.org). Food truck offerings as well as our club's mushroom sandwiches and strawberry pie make for a delicious lunch. This year we are excited to have Doug Oster as a guest speaker. All May Mart information can be found on our Facebook page and at [www.indianagardenclub.org](http://www.indianagardenclub.org). Please join us!

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Garden Club of Forest Hills** will present a **Standard Flower Show**, "Tracing Our Roots," to be held at the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, 1840 Ardmore Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15221, on Friday, July 21, from 2 to 7 PM. The theme refers to our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary – 1923-2023. For information, contact the Flower Show Chair, Joyce Peterson, at 412-243-5107, or email at [jpeterson1010@msn.com](mailto:jpeterson1010@msn.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

In honor of our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, **Countryside Gardeners** presents "A Celebration of Memories" including a **Small Standard Flower Show** at the Half Moon Inn, 105 Court Street, Newtown PA. The flower show is free and open to the public. Dates include: Friday, September 15, 2023 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Mary Jo Garner, [maryjogarner1@verizon.net](mailto:maryjogarner1@verizon.net) or 215 858 0939.



## 2023 GCFP CALENDAR

May 2-5	NGC Annual Convention, Greenbrier Resort, White Sulphur Springs, WV
Jun 4-10	National Garden Week
Jun 5-6	GCFP Board of Directors Meeting, Wyndham Gardens, Boalsburg, PA
Aug 31	District V
Sep 1	District VI
Sep 5	District VIII
Sep 6	District VII
Sep 7	District IX
Sep 8	District X
Sep 11	District II-III
Sep 12	District XI
Sep 13	District I
Sep 14	District IV
Sep 26- Oct 7	Gems of Germany Trip
Oct 9-10.	GCFP Board of Directors Meeting, Wyndham Gardens, Boalsburg, PA
Oct 12-15	Flower Show School Course IV, Doubletree, Plymouth Meeting, PA



**DEADLINES FOR THE KG ONLINE NEWSLETTER:  
June 15 for the July 1 issue and October 15 for the Nov. 1 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.

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**THANKS TO OUR  
WONDERFUL PROOFREADERS:**

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