



THE SEEDER



Newsletter of the Garden Club of Johnstown, PA

February 2023

www.gcjpa.org

At the Feb. 13 Meeting:

- ❖ **PLEASE BRING** your 2022-23 Yearbook - We will be discussing possible changes to the club's by-laws that are listed on pages 40-44.
- ❖ **ALSO** any horticulture, such as houseplants or branches and/or designs for us to discuss.
- ❖ You can finalize your Club Survey Information. Your responses have been tallied, divided and charted so that you can review and confirm or change your choices (and hopefully add more and offer to chair/co-chair a committee).
- ❖ Our program will be a presentation on the restoration of the Ludwig House that is believed to have been used by Sarah Barton after the 1889 Johnstown flood disaster.
- ❖ Please remember to wear your nametag. (Don't let your friends be embarrassed by a "Senior Moment.")



The 2023 GCFP Convention ~ Monroeville

The 2023 Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania will be held in Monroeville, PA on April 21, 22, 23. All garden club members and guests are welcome to attend. To view all the details including the registration form go to the GCFP website www.pagardenclubs.org . **Register by March 10 for discounted price.**

FRIDAY Special Events

- ❖ Tour: A 1793 Log House and Breakfast at The Betsy Shoppe
 - ❖ Afternoon Tea and Titanic Era Fashions (Wear a Hat!);
 - ❖ Three "Make and Take" sessions - \$10 each!
- ** Costume opportunity for the International Food sampling buffet**
 - ** Featuring live Pittsburgh Ethnic Music**

SATURDAY Showcases

MARCY CUNKLEMAN, Master Food Preserver
 JEANNE CECIL, Rachel Carson Homestead Assoc.
 DON ORKOSKEY, WDO Photography
 MARK MILLER, PH.D., Pittsburgh Botanic Garden
 JOE STAVISH, Tree Pittsburgh
 GABE TILOVE, Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens
 BOB MULVIHILL, National Aviary
 Seasons - Designs by Floral Rhythms
 Installation of GCFP Officers by NGC 1st VP and Reception

SUNDAY Features

ADIA EFFIONG, Grow Pittsburgh
 ROSE MARIE MUZIKA, Carnegie Museum of Natural History
 JOSHUA BEBLO, PSU Landscape Architecture
 Luncheon & "Under the Rainbow" Design Program



Philadelphia Flower Show

The Philadelphia Flower Show is always an exciting event for us gardeners, but this year it holds even more excitement for our club and the Laurel Highland Judges Council because **our judges have been asked to help judge the show!** Our club's three judges, MaryJo Gardill, Charlotte Crissey and Rani Murali, will be on the floor on March 3rd. The show opens to the public on March 4th and runs through the 12th. After a two year hiatus when the show was held outside due to Covid, it is returning to the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia. Imagine three acres of flowers, plants and gardens (and garden accoutrement shopping!) under one gigantic roof!



Clerks Needed

In case you didn't get the previous email, this was received from the state flower show chairman this week:

"My name is Sarah Farnsworth, the Co-chair of the Hort Clerks and Barrier Aides Committee for this year's flower show, The Garden Electric. This will be the first time in THREE years that the show has had a full judging schedule for the Horticulture, and it has been brought to my attention that some of those volunteers who made 2020 such a success have not received a reminder email regarding sign up as a Hort Clerk or Barrier Aide. **We are in urgent need of more help as we need up to 77 volunteers for each judging day.**

Clerking is a great way to see the show and see the judging process in action. When you open the link below you will see that we need clerks on March 3, 6, and 9. You can register for one day, two days, or all three days. You will be needed between 9 am and 2 pm. Training is provided for the two "A" clerk positions on each panel both in person and online - one writes down the judges decisions in long hand while the other records the information on an iPad using CheckPoint. Barrier Aide is a great entry level position, and organizational skills and some technological savvy are necessary for the job of Office Assistant." <http://hortclerk.phs.volunteerhub.com/>

You will need to copy and paste the address above into your browser. It will take you to the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society page. There you will need to create an account [no fees involved] before you can go to the Clerks and Barrier Aides sign-up page. (Note: The volunteer is responsible for their own transportation and other expenses.)



Youth Committee News

Since February is National Bird Feeder Month, members of the youth committee will be making bird feeders with a group of preschoolers. We will be joining preschool teacher Kristen Kane (new GCJ member) at the Geneva Preschool on the afternoon of Feb. 22. After sharing a book about backyard birds, we will guide her four year old class through the bird feeder project. Contact Gloria LaMonica for more information or to help.



Let's Put a Plug in for Sandyvale

All members are invited to Sandyvale Memorial Gardens Annual Plug Fest on Saturday, April 1 beginning at 9AM. No experience necessary. The all-volunteer staff will plant >10,000 plant plugs in a warm greenhouse. Dress in layers and gloves are optional. Please drop in anytime between 9 and noon to join in the fun! Call Sue Konvolinka for more with any questions.



Gallery on Gazebo

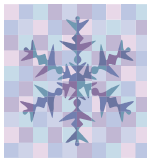
The Gallery on Gazebo would like our members to receive notices of their many varied and exciting events. They use Mial Chimp s which is always brief, informative, and very often tells folks what they don't hear or see from other sources.

If you are interested on being on their mailing list contact Rosemary Polowski at 814.243.2224.



Picnic Time

This July is our turn to host our annual meeting with The Garden Club of Somerset. If you have an idea of a venue and/or program contact the Program Committee. Past venues include the Bottle Works, Camp Conshatawba Girl Scout Camp and People's Natural Gas Park. This is a covered dish event where our members provide the covered dishes and our club provides the beverage and protein. If you were able to attend last year's event you know what a fun time was had. Plan now to keep the date, July 10, 2023 open.



Resting in Winter?

We often think of the winter months as a respite from our gardens and Garden Club activities, not so for GCJ! Our committees have been busy getting ready for the new season.

The Yearbook Committee, headed by Carla Straw with Toni Callahan, Sue Konvolinka, Nancy Ravansek and Mary Jo Gardill, is busy gathering and organizing the information for the 2023-2024 Yearbook. Compare the previous yearbook to the new one and you'll get an idea of all that has to be changed each year. It's a time consuming and detailed task.

The 2022-2023 Yearbook has been submitted GCFP in hopes of an award.

The Executive Committee and By-Laws Committee have been working on updating and clarifying the By-Laws. The Bylaws committee will be presenting proposed updates and changes to the Constitution and Bylaws at the February meeting for review and discussion. A copy of the discussed changes will be emailed in the March seeder and shared via USPS to a few members who do not use email.

The Website Committee is always updating and adding to our site. Take a look and if you have any information, pictures or ideas to add, contact the committee. Members contact information is in our Yearbook. Go to www.gcjpa.org to view our website.

Youth Gardeners Committee is anxiously awaiting the results of the GCFP's sculpture contest they entered. Gloria LaMonica and her young artists made sculptures from recyclable, reused, and reduced materials. Good luck!

The Flower Show Committee has applied for two additional awards: Flower Show Schedule Award, Outstanding Educational Exhibit Award for the exhibit of our national flag and The Book of Evidence Award. Winners will be announced at the GCFP convention in April in Monroeville.

The Nominating Committee has been hard at work putting together a new slate of officers. If you are interested in becoming an officer, contact the committee.

The Programs Committee's plan for the coming year is nearly complete with guest speakers and activities. Here, too, if you have an idea of an educational or informative program, contact the committee.

The Finance Committee is compiling the 2023-24 budget. Committee chairmen should submit any new anticipated costs greater than \$100 to them before the February meeting.

The Birds Committee is planning to add butterflies to their title becoming The Birds and Butterflies Committee. They will be focusing on the effects and efforts being made to assist these winged treasures and how we can each become involved.

Civic Development Committee has had an excellent response from the membership to continue planting and maintaining public gardens throughout the Johnstown region. Scheduled Spring work days and times will be shared with all garden club members. The garden sites will have co-chairs and all club members will be encouraged to join in the fun. Many hands make light work!

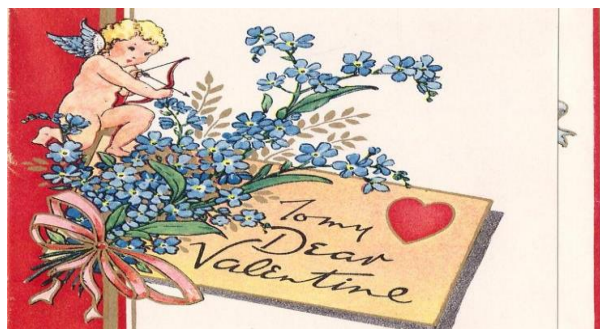


Lovely Plants for Valentine's Day

“Instead of fresh-cut flowers, give your valentine a potted houseplant that will thrive well beyond the winter season. If your partner is wooed by sweetly scented flowers, you might consider giving them aromatic star jasmine; if it's visual beauty they crave, offer them a stunning bleeding heart. Whichever plant you choose for your loved one this Valentine's Day, rest assured that it will be admired for far longer than a box of chocolates or standard bouquet of roses.” ~Treehugger, Melissa Bryer & Sanja Kostic (<https://www.treehugger.com/lovestruck-houseplants-valentines-day-4856401>)

*“She wore flowers in her hair
and carried magic secrets in her eyes.”*

~ Arundhati Roy



Happy Valentine's Day everyone, let's wear flowers in our hair (or lapels)!

Best regards,
Charlotte Crissey
GCJ President