



## GCFP District VI Newsletter

2nd Quarter, 2023

# Seedlings



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### Director's Corner

**Deb Stumpf, District VI Director**

*"Always Growing Together"*

Recently, I attended a garden club function and someone read a poem entitled "I Belong to a Garden Club Because." Yes, fellow members, there really is a poem with that name and it really says a lot about being a garden club member.

I think we can all agree that in the beginning we joined a garden club because we had an interest in gardening and wanted to acquire more knowledge about plants and how to grow them. We stayed on as members for many other reasons. Perhaps a friend invited you to join or you were new to the area and wanted to meet people with like interests. Either way, your garden club membership provided you with the opportunity for lifelong friendships. You learned that you had knowledge to share and time you could give to projects that make everyone's life better and more beautiful.

Garden club members can always find their "place" in the club. They can involve themselves in civic beautification, scholarship, program presentation, floral design, conservation and most of all leadership. Each level of garden club (local, district, regional and national) offers an opportunity to broaden one's horizons and gain further knowledge and involvement. The new people you meet become friends easily because of common interests and goals. Every member realizes she does not stand alone!

If you have a chance, look up this poem and read it. Present it to your club if you wish. As you plant your gardens this spring, remember that all the flowers that you share bring beauty to the soul and all the friendships that you cultivate make life that much sweeter.

### 2023 District Calendar

June 5-6—GCFP Board Meeting  
August 16—LHJC Flower Show, Greensburg, PA  
August 23—District VI Board Meeting, Perkins, Johnstown, PA  
Sept. 1—District VI Annual Meeting, Jennerstown, PA

Articles, events and happenings concerning District VI may be submitted to:

**Mary Lou Colussy at**  
[lalou46@aol.com](mailto:lalou46@aol.com)  
Next Seedlings by  
August 1, 2023

A special thank you to **Nerita Brant, Seedlings Proofreader**

## New GCFP Officers Installed



The following officers were newly installed at the GCFP Convention on April 22, 2023 by incoming NGC elect president, Brenda Moore at the podium.

- President: Leeanna Ryba
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP: Pat Wolanski
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Tonya Young
- Secretary: Marilyn Backus
- Treasurer: Vivian Hall
- Financial Sec: Barbara Brand

## Tick Invasion on the Rise

TICKS DON'T DO SOCIAL DISTANCING!

YOU CAN FIND THEM IN THESE COMMON AREAS:

PILE OF LEAVES

NEAR WOODPILES

AROUND STONE WALLS

HIGH GRASS AND THICK SHRUB

FOREST EDGES

Tick Research Lab

of Pennsylvania  
in partnership with East Stroudsburg University

Ticks are not picky when choosing their host and do not take part in social distancing! For the spring season, adult black-legged (deer) tick activity is increasing which increases the chance of finding one on you or your pet. Please be sure to continue checking for ticks this season.

Watch out for these unwanted visitors. Sanitize gardening clothes and shower after gardening.

Found a tick attached? We are here for you! Please visit our website to submit your order [ticklab.org/test-my-tick](https://ticklab.org/test-my-tick)

At no extra charge, you can send us up to 5 ticks of the same species, taken off of the same person or pet. We will run the exact same tests you ordered on all of these specimens, at the same time. When you get your results, they will reflect whether **any** tick in the group of ticks you sent us is a carrier of each specific pathogen we test for. Because we will test all of the ticks simultaneously, it is not possible to tell which ticks are carriers of which pathogens. If you have multiple ticks from different people or pets, please place separate orders.

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

June 4-10, 2023

Sponsored by  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.



## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### BCGC 2023-2025 Officers Installed

Mary Lou Colussy, Assistant Director of District VI installed the 2023-2025 Bedford County Garden Club officers on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. Her theme was newly planted seeds and each officer was presented with a packet of seeds as a reminder of their duties to the club.



Left to right: Treasurer...Pat Greenland; Asst. Sec/Treasurer...Micki McCahan; Secretary...Brenda Massie; President...Judy Custer; V President.... Lu Ann Riser; Asst. DD...Mary Lou Colussy

### Bedford County Garden Club



Bedford County Garden Club members planted a red bud tree at the Borough Office for Arbor Day on April 30<sup>th</sup>.



A committee from the Bedford County GC is creating a "bed" to enter the Bed Race competition in Bedford. The Great Bedford Bed Races along Juliana Street. The bed parade will start at 11:30am with the races to follow. You can witness teams compete for trophies and cash prizes.

Judy A. Custer, President

# CLUB ACTIVITIES

## BGC Plant Sale May 19-20, 2023

Club members dug up and potted over 400 perennials to be sold at our annual plant sale on May 19 and 20, 2023.

Thank you to everyone who helped out today, from BGC Plant Sale committee chairs, Joan Gervinski and Nancy Smith. "A great group of diggers and potters today. We appreciate their hard work."



**Blair Garden Club**





## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### Evergreen Garden Club

In April, the Evergreen Garden Club welcomed Jerry Pickering from the Allegheny Arboretum at IUP. He talked to us about future plans for planting trees, ferns and addressing the needs of green areas at the IUP campus.



There are approximately 1,200 trees, representing 104 tree species, on the north campus. The most common campus trees are Hemlock, Pin Oak, White Pine, and White Oak.

Previous Arboretum activities have included the planting of 212 trees, installing 32 dedication benches, constructing the Campbell Farm Rock Garden, and obtaining two grants for tree maintenance on the campus.

May and June meetings will be workdays at the Silas Clark Garden and the IUP Heritage Garden.



### Garden word of the day:

#### Myrmecochory

**Myrmecochory** is the dispersal of seeds by ants. Most myrmecochorous plants produce seeds with elaiosomes or "food bodies", structures attached to the seed which are rich in lipids, amino acids or other nutrients and are attractive to ants.



Big word done by tiny ants. That is how bloodroot was found in a new area in the garden.



### Bloodroot

*Sanguinaria canadensis*

*Sanguinaria canadensis* L.

Papaveraceae (Poppy Family)

Synonym(s): *Sanguinaria canadensis* var. *rotundifolia*

USDA Symbol: saca13

USDA Native Status: L48 (N), CAN (N)

The single bloodroot leaf and flower each rise on a separate stem, and at first the leaf completely enwraps the flower bud. The clear, white, many-petaled blossom may open before the leaf has completely unwrapped, rising slightly above the leaf to a height of 6-10 in. Leaves, which are large, round and deeply cleft, eventually reach a height of 12-24 in. On a smooth stalk a solitary white flower, with a golden-orange center, grows beside a lobed basal leaf that often curls around the stalk. Roots and stem excrete acrid red-orange juice.

This fragile spring flower develops and rises from the center of its curled leaf, opening in full sun, and closing at night. Like most members of the Poppy Family, it lasts for a relatively short time. The red juice from the underground stem was used by Native Americans as a dye for baskets, clothing, and war paint, as well as for insect repellent. The generic name, from the Latin *sanguinari*, means "bleeding."

## CLUB ACTIVITIES

**February 13- Restoration of Ludwig House-** Days after the Johnstown Flood of 1889, Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross arrived in Johnstown and resided in the Ludwig House while spearheading the life-saving mission. A Clara Barton House & Garden board member, shared updates on the current efforts to restore this historical landmark.

**March 3-4-Philadelphia FS:** The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society asks one of the state's Judges Councils to judge parts of the show. It's an honor to be invited. The Laurel Highlands Judges Council was invited this year. Three judges judged large designs over 1,000 sq ft., Charlotte Crissey, Mary Jo Gardill and Rani Murali, while three other judges judged horticulture exhibits, Claire Leichliter from Bedford GC, Margie Bucci from Indiana GC and Carol Hite from Bedford GC. Sheila Croushore, GCFP President from Somerset GS and Gail Corle Manna also from Bedford GC judged Horticulture as well.



### Garden Club of Johnstown

**March 13- Dahlia Crazy-** Ali Single and Carol Peretin, two neighbors and Penn State Master Gardeners, are obsessed with dahlias. They shared the best growing, cutting and storage methods for these Mexican beauties.

#### April 10- Installation of 2023-2024 Officers

by District Director: Deb Stumpf

President: Mary Jo Gardill      Club Treas.: Linda McCaulley  
 1<sup>st</sup> VP: Sue Konvolinka      Community Fund Treas.: Sheri Lowry  
 2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Janet Renner      Membership Sec.: Lana Custer  
 Rec. Sec.: Nancy Rovanseck      Membership Sec.: Sharon Davidhizar  
 Asst. Rec. Sec: Jackie Johnson      Historian: Toni Callahan  
 Corr. Sec.: Cheryl Wytrwal      Parliamentarian: Jean Livingston

#### News for the coming year from GCJ new president, Mary Jo Gardill:

As you all know, this is such an extremely busy time of the year for all Garden Clubs, organizing programs for the year, plant sales, civic development planning and even having time for our own gardens. The Garden Club of Johnstown is no different. The Civic Development committee is in full swing cleaning up & planning the seventeen sites in and around Johnstown. Planting & mulching will come later. Members have signed up for each area. All members will be emailed whenever major tasks are to be done at various areas for addition reinforcement. Many hands make light work!

Some of the summer programs include a yoga instructor teaching stretches before and after gardening, a visit to Mt. Assisi Gardens in Loretto, hydroponic garden lecture and tour and a program on options to transform lawns into pollinator-friendly, native plant gardens in an urban setting.

**CLUB ACTIVITIES**

**May Mart—May 19-20, 2023**

**Indiana  
Garden  
Club**

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!

Our club’s Garden Mart is back selling 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. Click on the QR code on the flyer for more information. All May Mart information can also be found on our Facebook page and at [www.indianagardenclub.org](http://www.indianagardenclub.org). Please join us!



INDIANA GARDEN CLUB  
**MAY MART**  
*Garden and Vendor Expo*

**MAY 19TH, 9 AM TO 7 PM**  
**MAY 20TH, 9 AM TO 4 PM**

SGT BANK ARENA & WHITE TOWNSHIP  
SPORTS COMPLEX 497 E. PIKE ROAD  
**\$1 GENERAL ADMISSION**

Vendors, Plants, Food Trucks, Kid's Corner, Scholarship Raffle

Guest Speaker Doug Oster  
Saturday, 1 pm  
\$10 pre-registration or \$12 at the door




**Guest Speaker  
Doug Oster**

Saturday, May 20, 2023  
1:00 pm




Whether you're new to gardening or a seasoned tender to your backyard oasis, Doug Oster has something to offer everyone! Simply put, he loves writing about gardening and highlighting gardeners. Beyond writing, Doug is also an Emmy Award-winning producer, and television host.

Preregistration is \$10 or \$12 at the door.

Connect with Doug Oster  
<https://dougoster.com/>



## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### Arbor Day Tribute

Members of Indiana Garden Club donated a Service Berry Tree to the Indiana Conservation District in honor of Arbor Day



**Indiana  
Garden  
Club**

### A Spring View of the Corner Lot



**Patton  
Garden  
Club**



# CLUB ACTIVITIES

## Future Gardeners

**Patton  
Garden  
Club**



On Friday, March 31st PGC members helped the Middle School students repot the vegetable plants they are growing for our sale. The plants look fantastic. It was a great experience working with the students, so well behaved and interested in gardening! We need to plant the seed to develop a love for gardening at a young age.



**PLANT SALE**  
Patton Garden Club  
1st Saturday in June  
*Fix-It Shop*

**June 3, 2023**  
**8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Fix-It-Shop**  
**5th St & Park Ave**  
**Patton, PA 16668**

### CLUB ACTIVITIES

#### SGC 2023-2025 Officers Installed

Somerset Garden Club had the honor of having Deb Stumpf at our April Meeting to install our new board. We are excited and looking forward to the new season with our wonderful new board!



Left to right: VP Liz Miller and her sweet son, President Sheila Croushore, Deb Stumpf, Linda Troll Secretary, Nerita Brant Assistant Secretary, Jessica Haynes, Treasurer, Judy Rach assistant treasurer. We'll be having our annual plant sale on Saturday May 20 from 9-12. We'll be doing our Uptown planting/Civic Beautification later in May.

**Somerset  
Garden Club**

**Somerset  
Garden  
Club**  
Plant Sale and Flea Market  
Laurel Arts Center  
214 Harrison Ave. Somerset Pa  
SATURDAY, MAY 20  
9am -12 noon





**CLUB ACTIVITIES**

**W&S Officers Installed**



Pic by Deb Christopher

The 2023 officers were installed by Angela McDonnell, a member, previous co-president and emeritus Penn State Master Gardener of Westmoreland County. The new officers for the 2023 year are Kate Nuernberger and Judy Ridgway as Co-presidents, Paula Heming as Vice-president, Mary Niezelski as Secretary, and Dr. Wilma Light as Treasurer. The officers each received a small gift from the membership.

**Programs Abound**

Although meetings are suspended during January and February, Weeders and Seeders gathered via Zoom in January to brainstorm and make plans for 2023 resulting in a wonderful selection of programs to offer our members and the public. On February 28 members and Master Gardeners in Westmoreland County were treated to a delightful Zoom program on *Birds in My Garden* by Laura Jackson, a gardener, retired biology, and environmental science teacher who loves the outdoors and all of its creatures.

**Weeders  
and  
Seeders**



Our opening meeting for the year on March 21 was preceded by the program, *Ticks and Lyme Disease* by Dr. Henry Croft. Fifty-nine people, including members and anyone from the public that wanted to be there (almost standing room only!), had a full hour learning about ticks and how to combat them... not only for our pets and farm animals, but for ourselves.

Butterfly-related refreshments were served to kick off our garden club's 2023 theme, the Year of the Monarch. We had a spectacular turnout at our April 18 meeting. Members and the public attended the program, *Orchids*, to learn from our presenters, Andy McAllister and Warren Mitchell of the Stone and Sky Nursery in Ligonier. Andy and Warren specialize in the growth and care of orchids and other unusual plants. After the program, clever and delicious Earth Day-themed refreshments were offered to all.



# CLUB ACTIVITIES

## Programs Abound

(Continued from page 11)

Between the March and April meetings, our club members participated in workdays for several of our gardens. Pictured are the crew at the Loyalhanna Watershed Farm Kitchen Demo Garden and two expert pruners, Tom Beckman, Penn State Master Gardener and new leader of the Ligonier YMCA Demo Garden, and Adam Brown, club member and bonsai expert, designing the perfect focal point at the Ligonier YMCA Garden.



**Weeders  
and  
Seeders**

Upcoming events for our garden club include the first annual *May Day Basket Contest* on the Ligonier Diamond on April 30 and featuring merchants and individual adult and children's entries of a basket, vase or any arrangement of fresh flowers.

On May 18, there will be a walk on the Loyalhanna Watershed grounds, led by club member, Wilma Light, educating attendees on the importance of native's species for a healthy ecosystem.

Our next meeting will be on May 16. The preceding program will be *YOU Can Help Save Our Endangered Monarch: Learn How to Be a Monarch Waystation*, presented by members, Deb Christopher and Patti Schildkamp. Westmoreland County residents will learn about the free initiative covering the cost of the Monarch Waystation certificate and sign.



**KIDS AND ADULTS OF LIGONIER,**  
you can win wonderful prizes!

Enter the first annual  
**MAY DAY "BASKET"  
CONTEST**

on the Diamond.  
Sunday, April 30, 12 Noon

Enter the contest, Visit the event, Get a free bouquet!

And planning has started for the District VI Annual Meeting hosted by our garden club this year. Save the date because it's going to be GREAT!





## *"Nature is Always In Fashion"*



District VI Annual Meeting  
Friday, Sep. 1, 9 ~3:30  
Green Gables Restaurant  
7712 Somerset Pike, Jennerstown, PA



Join us for a day of friendship and learning in the Laurel Highlands. This beautiful setting and gathering of fellow garden club members will delight all with opportunities for fun shopping and raffle baskets, a coffee/breakfast bar and delicious lunch options (with GF option). Meet your GCFP and District VI leaders, browse the gardens, and enjoy fun programming.

You'll be greeted throughout the event by our Nature Fashionistas highlighting the theme "Nature is Always in Fashion"!

Hosted this year by the Weeders and Seeders Garden Club of Ligonier





**Memories from the 2023 Philadelphia Flower Show**  
**“The Garden Electric”**  
Photos by Gail Manna



## What Should I Do If I Find a Nest Where It Doesn't Belong?

*Sometimes birds nest too close to home. Experts share what to do if you find birds raising young on your house or building.*

By Spoorthy Raman

Source: [Audubon.org/news](https://www.audubon.org/news)



Photo: Duncan Selby/Alamy

Mourning Doves are frequent home invaders, laying eggs in an air-conditioning vent, on an outdoor shelf, or, here, in a hanging planter basket.

Some birds are quite comfortable building their homes right next to ours. It's not uncommon to see Mourning Doves in an air-conditioning vent, Eastern Phoebes on a windowsill, American Robins in a wreath, or House Finches in flowerpots.

If you find one, what should you do about it?

### Leave It Be

If you find a surprise nest, leave it be. "You're not supposed to mess with it," says avian ecologist Caren Cooper from North Carolina State University.

The **Migratory Bird Treaty Act** of 1918, a federal law, protects roughly 1,100 native bird species, including eggs and nests. The list includes wrens, finches, phoebes, hummingbirds, doves, killdeer, and robins—all species that often nest around homes.

Invasive species, such as House Sparrows and European Starlings, are exempt from the law. But you should still let them be, says biologist Robyn Bailey from **NestWatch**, a community nest-monitoring program run by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. While you could legally remove their nests, it's difficult to distinguish a sparrow's nest from a warbler's if you are not an expert. "They can look very similar," Bailey says, and it's better to be safe than sorry.

Be patient, Cooper says; young fledge about a month after egg laying. During this time, hang a warning sign near the nest to warn passersby of its presence. Raising chicks takes a lot of energy, so help birds by protecting them from disturbances. Keep cats indoors, and avoid visiting the nest too frequently for photos or videos. "That Instagram feed is not as important as that nest being safe and protected from predators," Bailey says. Nest raiders, such as raccoons and crows, can observe your movements to discover nests.

Don't worry about the mess—most bird species are very clean. Chicks poop into **a diaper-like fecal sac** that parents carry and dispose of far from the nest. But if you have to clean up any fecal matter or feather dust, Cooper suggests wearing a mask and thoroughly washing your hands with soap.

### Call an Expert

Sometimes, birds will build their nest in an unsafe place—for example, in a car tailpipe or gravel driveway. In such extreme cases, don't try to remove it yourself. Instead, call a wildlife rehabilitator to relocate it, Bailey says. "Often those nests are so delicate and fragile that you're going to either damage the nest or potentially any eggs or young in it."

However, if a chick has fallen out of its nest, it's safe to put it back without worrying about the parents rejecting it. "The parents aren't all that tuned into smells," Cooper says.

### Hang Nest Boxes

Birds love to nest in dark crannies. They'll happily set up house in any pocket-like nook, even a little-used baby stroller or bike helmet. To encourage better choices, hang nest boxes and nest shelves to lure birds to safer areas.

### Enjoy the View

If you are excited about a nest around your house, consider helping scientists study nesting behaviors by joining programs like **NestWatch**. You could install a nest camera to watch, from a distance, all the drama that unfolds. "If you enjoy birds," Cooper says, "it's the best close-up way to do so." And, of course, with binoculars you can while away the hours watching parents bring up chicks from a distance.

## Low-Maintenance Roses with Incredible Fragrance

These nine trouble-free varieties offer dependable good looks and heavenly smells

By David Kirchner and Scott Warner Fine Gardening – Issue 211

Source: Finegardenig.com



**What's not to love?** While many roses suffer from numerous diseases and require a lot of maintenance to look their best, here are many that aren't as fussy. 'Prosperity' hybrid musk rose is a sight to behold when in peak bloom, and you'll never see a speck of black spot spoiling its verdant foliage.

### 3 Shrubby Rose Options with Excellent Form

This category serves as a catch-all for several different types of roses. Most share one trait: a well-defined—not too big or too tall—habit.



1. 'Claire Austin' English rose

**Name:** *Rosa* 'Claire Austin'

**Zones:** 5–9

**Size:** 4 feet tall and 3 feet wide

**Conditions:** Full sun to partial shade; average, well-drained soil

**Key attributes:** Unique fragrance; perpetual bloom (into late fall); great for cutting.

We grow about a half-dozen varieties of David Austin hybrid roses primarily for cutting; of these, 'Claire Austin' is the top performer. It stays perfectly healthy and suffers no winter dieback in our Zone 7 garden. The fully double flowers are white complemented by light, creamy yellow undertones. This plant comes into bloom a bit later in the rose season (late June on Cape Cod), and then the display continues nonstop—through the end of November if the weather cooperates. Where space allows, shrub roses the size and scale of 'Claire Austin' look best when planted in groups of at least three. David Austin describes the fragrance of this rose as "myrrh." We can't say we know what myrrh smells like, but to us the scent is of a classic old rose with a spicy anise or licorice overlay.



2. 'Ispahan' damask rose

**Name:** *R.* 'Ispahan'

**Zones:** 5–9

**Size:** 6 feet tall and 4 feet wide

**Conditions:** Full sun; average, well-drained soil



Continues from page 14

**Key attributes:** Heavy fragrance; good for cutting; nearly thorn-free; minimal pruning requirements

This is an antique variety that likely originated in the Middle East, where damask roses (hybrids derived from *R. gallica* and *R. moschata*) are cultivated for petal and oil production. The impressive flower display of 'Ispahan' lasts for nearly a month, with the entire bush becoming covered in bright pink blossoms that are deliciously perfumed with the classic "old rose" scent. 'Ispahan' is completely disease-free, vigorous, and tough as nails. It forms a large but well-behaved shrub, with branches that can bend down a bit under the weight of its flowers. Because it is such a shapely shrub, 'Ispahan' is a great addition to a mixed border, where you could underplant it with billowy perennials such as violet-blue catmint (*Nepeta* spp. and cvs., Zones 3–8).



### 3. 'Sir Thomas Lipton' rugosa rose

**Name:** *R. rugosa*\* 'Sir Thomas Lipton'

**Zones:** 3–8

**Size:** 6 feet tall and 4 feet wide

**Conditions:** Full sun; average to poor, well-drained soil

**Key attributes:** Strong spicy fragrance; perpetual bloom; well-suited for a hedge; exceptional hardiness

'Sir Thomas Lipton' is indestructible—hardy to Zone 3 and completely free of disease. It begins to bloom in early summer,

smothering itself in clusters of powerfully fragrant white flowers that are vibrant in daylight and seem to glow in the summer twilight. Most roses reveal their fragrance only at close range, but 'Sir Thomas Lipton' wafts its scent far out into the garden. Once the first flush is over, this shrubby rose takes a short rest and then begins a rebloom the first frost. As with all hybrid rugosa roses, 'Sir Thomas Lipton' grows well in lean soil that is on the sandy side. In fact, it can perform poorly in overly rich conditions, so it's best not to fertilize this tough customer. It benefits from that reliably continues up to a hard pruning in late winter to remove old canes and shorten those that remain. Periodic deadheading of spent flowers keeps the shrub looking good and encourages a strong, consistent rebloom.

## 3 Vigorous Ramblers That Don't Quit

This class of roses is the biggest of the bunch. Most plants reach upwards of 20 (or more) feet tall, and their flower power is unbeatable.



### 1. 'Paul's Himalayan Musk' rambling rose

Continues from page 15

**Name:** *R.* 'Paul's Himalayan Musk'

**Zones:** 4–9

**Size:** 25 feet tall and 25 feet wide

**Conditions:** Full sun; average, well-drained soil

**Key attributes:** Incredible vigor; strong fragrance; perfect health

Best described as a very vigorous rose, 'Paul's Himalayan Musk' can quickly grow to 20 feet high. Although not a repeat bloomer, it is spectacular in late spring when it is smothered in sprays of small, light pink blossoms. When in full bloom, the fragrance produced by what must be thousands of individual flowers is intoxicating. 'Paul's Himalayan Musk' is best used to cover an expansive wall, to grow up into a sizable and strong-limbed tree, or to train along a high fence. Because of its healthy vigor, ease of culture, and magnificence in flower, we have chosen—with no regrets—to replace fussier, disease-prone climbers with this spectacular rambler.



## 2. 'Albertine' rambling rose

**Name:** *R.* 'Albertine'

**Zones:** 5–9

**Size:** 10 to 15 feet tall and 15 feet wide

**Conditions:** Full sun; average, well-drained soil

**Key attributes:** Extremely fragrant; lengthy bloom period; unique color. Seemingly ubiquitous in British gardens but less commonly encountered in the United States, 'Albertine' is far more contained in size than many ramblers.

We shied away from this rose at first, put off by reports of it being "prone to mildew" and nervous about how its color (described in some sources as "copper-pink") would blend in with the cooler tones that dominate our June Garden. But we've found it to be completely healthy, and its soft, salmon-pink flowers easily integrate with almost any hue. We have interwoven 'Albertine' along a wall with the shell-pink rose 'New Dawn' (*R.* 'New Dawn', Zones 5–9). 'Albertine' is one of the three most fragrant roses we grow; the scent on a warm June morning is a highlight of the gardening year. Its color shows particularly well against a stone wall or aged cedar shingles.



## 3. 'Rambling Rector' rambling rose

**Name:** *R.* 'Rambling Rector'

**Zones:** 5–9

**Size:** 30 feet tall and 25 feet wide

**Conditions:** Full sun to partial shade; average, well-drained soil

**Key attributes:** Size (where size is needed); showy hips; perfect health

The largest of the roses featured here, 'Rambling Rector' is a massive plant that can easily climb 30 feet into a supporting tree. This is not a rose for small spaces. In late spring it is covered with clusters of heavily fragrant, single white flowers that are very attractive to pollinators. The blooms will cascade like a fountain over supporting tree branches.



Continues from page 16

A mature specimen of 'Rambling Rector' in full bloom is an impressive sight indeed. This rose produces multitudes of bright red hips, which are incredibly showy from fall into winter and provide an abundant food source for hungry birds.

### 3 Oddballs That Deserve More Love

Sometimes a rose just doesn't fit neatly into any particular box but is still a worthy garden addition. These plants will have garden visitors asking, "What is that beautiful variety?"



1. Father Hugo rose

Photo: courtesy of Scott Warner

**Name:** *R. xanthina* f. *hugonis*

**Zones:** 4–9

**Size:** 6 feet tall and 5 feet wide

**Conditions:** Full sun; average, well-drained soil

**Key attributes:** Very early bloomer; beautiful foliage; easy culture

Father Hugo rose is valued for its super-early bloom (mid-May on Cape Cod) and soft primrose yellow single flowers that are a perfect color complement to the pastel pinks and blues of the late spring garden. Its scent is light but sweet. Father Hugo is easy to please and tolerant of poor soil and drought. It forms a large, upright, manageable shrub that requires no real pruning and looks great year-round. Its foliage is particularly beautiful—finely cut and fernlike—and always completely healthy. In fall, the leaves turn a warm golden-yellow that contrasts nicely with Father Hugo's purplish-black hips. In winter its bare, reddish-brown canes look handsome in the low winter sunlight.



2 'Darlow's Enigma' musk rose

Photo: millettephotomedia.com

**Name:** *R.* 'Darlow's Enigma'

**Zones:** 5–9

**Size:** 9 feet tall and 7 feet wide when grown as a shrub, and up to 15 feet tall when grown as a climber

**Condition:** Full sun to partial shade; average, well-drained soil

**Key attributes:** Constant bloomer; strong fragrance; shade tolerance; informal habit 'Darlow's Enigma' is a rugged, versatile, relaxed, and natural-looking rose.

Continues from page 17

It bears clusters of small, white, powerfully fragrant flowers with bright yellow centers in great abundance. The bloom show begins in late spring and keeps occurring throughout summer. It can either be grown as a large shrub or trained as a climber. 'Darlow's Enigma' is known to be particularly shade tolerant. We use it as a climber on a north wall, partnered with a trumpet honeysuckle (*Lonicera* × *brownii* 'Dropmore Scarlet', Zones 3–9). We also grow it elsewhere as a large shrub, where it thrives under the shade of a mature tree. Its branches form a thick, protective tangle where a pair of catbirds makes a nest every year.



### 3 'Prosperity' hybrid musk rose

**Name:** *R.* 'Prosperity'

**Zones:** 6–9

**Size:** 6 feet tall and 5 feet wide

**Conditions:** Full sun to partial shade; average, well-drained soil

**Key attributes:** Early bloomer; attractive red spring foliage; white flowers that show well in the evening; steady repeat blooms until frost

Hybrid musk is a class of roses developed in England in the early 1900s that are characterized by their health, heady fragrance, and dependable rebloom. Bred in 1919, 'Prosperity' bears sprays of pure white, semi-double flowers accented by bright yellow

stamens that repeat throughout summer and into fall. It forms a medium-size shrub, wide as it is tall, and so is best used at the back of a border, along a fence, or as a stand-alone specimen. The emerging foliage of 'Prosperity' is a beautiful shade of burgundy, which looks great contrasted with the fresh greens of spring. It also comes into bloom on the early side, ushering in the June rose season.

### A "rambler" and a "climber" aren't the same

It's important to understand the distinctions between these two popular rose categories.

- Ramblers are more vigorous than climbers. They grow faster and get much bigger.
- Massive ramblers are perfect for covering a wall, climbing into a tree, or being trained along a fence. Want a rose to place on a trellis or a tuteur? A climber is the better choice.
- With rare exceptions, ramblers flower just once, while a wide variety of climbers rebloom during the season.
- Rambler flowers are smaller than those of climbers, and they are most often carried in numerous clusters.

Scott Warner and David Kirchner battle wind, salt spray, and sandy soil in order to garden in North Truro, Massachusetts.

*Photos, except where noted: Danielle Sherry*



**2023 CAR-SGC Conference and Tri-Refresher**



PLEASE SAVE THE DATES  
**SEVEN STRONG**

**ON A FALL ADVENTURE**

Our Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs will be holding our 2023 Conference in Corning, New York October 23 - 26, 2023. We will be incorporating a Tri-Refresher at this Conference.

Preconference events, October 23, 2023  
Conference, October 24 and 25, 2023  
Exciting tours, October 26, 2023.



### Reasons to Leave DANDELIONS

- They provide **early sources of nutrients** for bees and other pollinators before other flowers bloom.
- Dandelion **seeds and leaves feed** numerous species of birds, chipmunks, and other wildlife.
- Hummingbirds use dandelion down to line nests, and some **insects seek shelter** under their leaves.
- Dandelions **provide nutrients to soil, create drainage** in compact soils, and help **prevent erosion**.
- Chemicals used on lawns to kill dandelions are **detrimental to wildlife** and can impact water quality.
- Dandelions are **edible** and also have **medicinal value**.

### Buzzing Strikey Things Guide

 <b>HONEYBEE</b> - Excellent pollinator - Makes honey - Friendly unless provoked - Needs our help the most - Can only sting once	 <b>BUMBLEBEE</b> - Excellent pollinator - Very friendly unless provoked - Can sting multiple times - Will let you pet it most times - Basically a flying fat panda	 <b>CARPENTER BEE</b> - Lives in your fence/wood. - Males can't sting, but are the aggressive ones - Important pollinators - More of nuisance than threat	 <b>HOVERFLY</b> - Lives in your fence/wood. - Wears striped uniform to scare you - Can't sting - Follows you around if it likes you
 <b>PAPER WASP</b> - Look scary, but not much of a threat unless provoked - Build small nests that look like crumpled paper in corners - Can sting multiple times - Pollinators - No sense of personal space	 <b>PAPER WASP</b> - Also look scary, but won't attack unless threatened - Build nests that look like crumpled paper - Resemble yellow jacket - Pollinators	 <b>YELLOW JACKET</b> - Aggressive - Wants your food and will fight for it - Minimal Pollination - Typically live in the ground - Can sting multiple times - Primary focus is insects for food	
 <b>HORNET</b> - Big and scary - Mostly nest above ground in big ball shaped nests - Not aggressive unless provoked - Eat bees, other insects - Can sting multiple times, can be fatal	 <b>MUD DAUBER</b> - More interested in spiders - Nests look like mud "organ pipes" - Can sting, but extremely rare - Abandoned nests can become homes for other insects/wasps	 <b>CICADA KILLER WASP</b> - Looks like Satan's nightmares - Only eats cicadas - Dont care about you, but WILL sting if provoked	



**Photos from the GCFP Convention in Monroeville, April 21-23, 2023**

Some photos from the Judges Council Luncheon "Under the Rainbow" on April 23rd



The first few were from designers from District VI, Laurel Highlands Judging Council. Claire Leichter (red) and Judy Jackson (orange) from Bedford. Mary Lou Colussy and Fran Lansberry from Patton GC collaborated on the pink one. Deb Stumpf (teal) from Indiana.



Program designers from Dinner on Saturday with Angie Raitano, Mary Jane Martucci, and Diane Hughes



Afternoon Tea and Titanic Era Fashions



Memorial Service for Past GCFP Members led by Vina Rudolph McCloud, Chaplain



Photos by Marcy Cunkelman