

CAR Review



Monica Hansen, Director



From Our Director:

**Theme: TOGETHER WE’LL PLANT AMERICA
FOR A CLEANER, GREENER
AND HEALTHIER WORLD!**

Central Atlantic Region of State
Garden Clubs: www.car-sgc.org

Delaware Federation of Garden
Clubs: Ginny Cardona
www.delawaregardenclubs.org

Federated Garden Clubs of
Maryland, Inc.: Susan Middleton
www.fgcofmd.org

National Capital Area Garden Clubs,
Inc.: Barbara Kiker
www.ncagardenclubs.org

The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.:
Beverly Kazickas
www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com

Federated Garden Clubs of New York
State, Inc.: Donna Sessa
www.fgcny.com

Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.:
Kathy Wagner
www.gardenclubofohio.org

Garden Club Federation of
Pennsylvania: Leeanna Ryba
www.pagardenclubs.org

Thank you to each of you who have worked so hard to make our Region a wonderful and inspiring place to live, share and belong. I have been so fortunate to have been invited to many of our States to join them at their various meetings and events and it is so exciting to see and experience all that you do. I honestly can’t say enough about how proud I am to be part of our Region. As I have mentioned in the past, as a Region we are here to work with all our members, share knowledge with each other, and serve as a resource to enhance and grow our membership. So as a Chairman on our Board, please reach out to our various State Presidents and your counterparts in our states. If you’re not sure who to connect with, please contact me and I’ll work with you to make these connections.

In addition to our theme of “Together we’ll Plant America for a Cleaner, Greener and Healthier World” I’d also like to reiterate my request that we focus on a goal of “Planting the Seeds of Membership” in our garden clubs and would like to challenge each garden club to make membership a focus of each meeting. To remain strong as a Region and to accomplish much, we need to make a concerted effort to attract and retain new members. You may not want to go to the extremes of “curb crawling” as our fellow Board Member and my friend Tony Antes calls my efforts, and which I’ve often talked about when visiting our various States, but again sharing and being open to different ideas with each other, is another aspect of this growth. And what benefits our garden clubs, benefits our communities.

And last but certainly not least, we are all so excited about our upcoming CAR-SGC Fall Conference being held in New Jersey, October 22 – 23, 2024. Our theme is “Wonders of the Garden State,”

Caroline Carbaugh, Editor
cscarbaugh@verizon.net

hosted by the Garden Club of New Jersey and chaired by Mary Warshauer and Florence Leysse. Please take a peek at our CAR-SGC website (www.car-sgc.org/) for further information. Many have signed up and we would love to have you join with us to enjoy our fabulous speakers, workshops, vendors, and trips and what I consider so important, spend time getting to know and connecting with our Region members. Enjoy the rest of your summer and I hope to see many of you join us at this exciting Fall Conference. Thank you again, for all you do for our Region.

Monica Hansen,
CAR-SGC Region Director 2023-2025

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CAR-SGC Conference 2024

October 22-23, 2024

The Olde Mill Inn, Basking Ridge, NJ

Come join us in the historic Somerset Hills in autumn!

Theme: Wonders of the Garden State
Speakers-Workshops-Vendors-Trips

Hosted by the Garden Club of New Jersey

Conference 2024 Chairmen: Mary Warshauer & Florence Leysse

GCNJ President: Beverly Kazickas

From Our States:

Delaware



What's up in Delaware? Everything! Like many states, Delaware was seeing a slow decline in membership, as well as participation in State and National activities. The DFGC Board and club Presidents discussed strategies for membership

Ginny Cardona retention and leadership development. On the state level, to retain members, and to interest new members, we planned meetings that were interesting, engaging and fun to attend. Attendance is up 15-20% and membership is almost at pre-pandemic levels.

At our April 2024 State meeting, we were dazzled by Julia Clevett's designs. Julia's program was entertaining and educational, and everyone came away inspired, with new knowledge of mechanics, design and choosing flowers. A lucky few went home with Julia's designs.



Julia Clevett and Design



Centerpiece Challenges



Photos by Peg Irish, Ginny Cardona, Pat Minnigh, and Sue Giusto

We are sad to report the passing of former DFGC President Alice Witterholt on May 1. Alice was DFGC President from 2009 to 2011 and it was during her term that the Memorial Garden for the Families of the Fallen was conceived. Alice was a former President of Garden Gate Garden Club, a flower show judge and was honored by the CAR-SGC with its Perennial Bloom Award.

In June, club Presidents participated in a centerpiece design challenge, providing centerpieces for the State meeting. Every club in attendance participated and the results were amazing! Cash prizes were awarded for the top three designs.

How do you raise money for the scholarship fund, learn about horticulture, and provide the opportunity to purchase rare and unusual plants? Gregg Tepper, Senior Horticulturist for Laurel Hill Cemetery, provided several dozen plants – some from his own garden – and auctioned them to benefit our scholarship fund. Bidding wars added to the fun of the afternoon. At the end of the day, the auction raised enough money to fund two scholarships.

Delaware is looking forward to continued growth in the next year and beyond.

**Ginny Cardona, President,
Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**

Maryland

**Okay Summer. We know you're hot.
Please stop showing off.** (unknown)



Susie Middleton

The sustained high temperatures were hard on people, wildlife and our plants. This makes it even more important that we look for ways to expand our tree canopy, increase the use of native plants and look for ways to implement sustainable practices.

TREES: The legacy of former President Alice Rush McKeon gave us an investment fund to plant native trees. The program has expanded from roadsides to include parks and public areas. This event passes sequentially to each of the five districts of our State. This program with other State discounts allowed us to plant 53 mature native trees in 2023 with another 118 native trees coming this year.



Group picture participants left to right
Mason Carter, Frederick Co. Council; Diana Bonner, Past FGCMD Pres.; Patty Kettlestrings, District V; Anna O'Kelly, Past FGCMD Pres.; Susie Middleton, FGCMD Pres.; Shelley Johnson, District V, Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, Walkersville Commissioner, Chad Weddle, Walkersville Burgess; Mary Ann Simmons, Tasker's Chance GC; Sonia Demiray, Chair, Frederick Co. Forestry Conservancy Bd; Anna Twigg, MD Forest Service
Photo by Jerry Johnson

PLANTING NATIVE: Many of our clubs sponsor Native Plant Sales. Plants are started from seed, dug from member gardens or purchased from specialty wholesalers. We have seen public awareness of their importance to the eco-system grow. Mountain Laurel Garden Club sponsored a full day symposium on native plants for their community– the 200-person event sold out in two weeks.



Mountain Laurel Native Plant Symposium
Photo by Linda Harris

SUSTAINABILITY: We are embracing Sustainability with our everyday practices.

- Crofton Village Garden Club has gone zero waste in its meeting practices. They still have refreshments, but they practice recycling, and collect silverware that a volunteer takes home to wash.
- The Fall District I Flower Show has banned the use of the old green Oasis and design entries must employ sustainable design mechanics.
- District V created a competition to see which club can collect the most soft plastic materials like plastic shopping bags which aren't permitted in most recycling programs. The winning club gets a park bench made from recycled materials from the NEX-TREX company. Interested?
<https://nextrex.com/view/recyclingchallenge>
- Oxford Garden Club created an organic vegetable garden with produce being donated to a local food bank.



Oxford Garden Club Community Garden
Ready for Planting, after removing weeds, tilling and amending the soil and installing a fence.

Reenie Rice, Dorothy Williams and Jane Selden.
Photo by Marilyn Reedy

Susie Middleton, President,
Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland



National Capital Area



Eight members of the National Capital Area attended the NGC Convention in June. We networked with club members from all over

Barb Kiker

the country. Learned a lot in workshops, went on excursions, and met a famous celebrity!



The National Capital Area Garden Clubs celebrated their awards at the four district meetings in June. Our talented members are inspiring!

We are finding that creativity and fun activities attract members.

Potomac Village (District IV) had a wonderful community event at the Potomac Library (Potomac, MD), releasing many, many butterflies (Painted Lady) with a really wonderful turnout of children and parents and of course garden club members.



District II invited its members to make a small arrangement from donated flowers and small containers with oasis at their Awards Meeting. Everyone got involved in the fun activity. A creative way to celebrate.



Day bus trips continue to be popular. Districts and Councils continue to sponsor these trips with great success. Two recent ones were Chanticleer, and Bunny Mellon’s Estate. District I is sponsoring a trip to Lewis Gintner Botanical Garden in September and District III is sponsoring a trip to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in October. These trips are fun and raise morale.

Other upcoming events include manning a booth at the DC State Fair in September, Judges Council’s Morning of Design in November, and our NCA Flower Show in November.

**Barb Kiker, President,
National Capital Area Garden Clubs**

New Jersey

It is looking like Summer 2024 will go into the record books as some of the hottest and wettest months ever recorded in New Jersey. It has also been a productive one for GCNJ.

On May 20, the GCNJ hosted a gathering of scholarship recipients, their families and our board members for a presentation of awards. A summary of each scholar was read, photos taken and refreshments served. It was a wonderful event.



Beverly Kazickas



GCNJ Scholarship Winners for 2024

On June 18, the GCNJ held their Annual Meeting at Rutgers Gardens with the temperature reaching a steamy 92* Even though we spent the day outside in a warm pavilion, the meeting was a wonderful success with a big turnout of members from our 100 affiliated garden clubs. Highlights of the gathering included a presentation by CAR Director Monica Hansen, awards, reports, vendors and a picnic lunch. Attendees also had free access to the gardens for a self-guided tour.

L-R: Terry Blake, Sue Berdahl, Beverly Kazickas, Judy Bonanno Ellen Preissler

Also coming up this fall, the GCNJ looks forward to hosting the CAR 2024 Conference on October 22-23 in Basking Ridge at the historic Olde Mill Inn. Conference chairman Mary Warshauer and her committee have put together a wonderful selection of workshops, speakers, tours, vendors and more. Hope you register to attend!



L-R: Barbara Meyer, Beverly Kazickas - Presentation of the GCNJ Perennial Bloom Award.

Photos by Amy Richardson



Marissa Russo with Mary Warshauer. Winner of NGC's Mary Warshauer Scholarship Award

Beverly Kazickas, President, Garden Club of New Jersey

New York



Donna Sessa

The year 1924 was significant for New York State. One hundred years ago the Federated Garden Clubs came into existence uniting existing and newly formed garden clubs 24 in all to become charter members of the FGCNYS Inc.

The GCNJ Headquarters is located at Holly House in Rutgers Gardens. Currently, the space is undergoing renovations so Zoom Meetings have become an important option. In September, the Board Meeting and Presidents Fall Meeting will be held virtually. Thankfully, the GCNJ's Flower Show School Course 2 is scheduled for an in-person session the week of September 23.

The Shrewsbury Garden Club - winner of a GCNJ President's Project Award

Theme: Gardening for a Healthy, Mind, Body and Soul



At the Desmond Hotel, Albany in May we celebrated our 100th anniversary. At a celebration Gala on May 7 the following clubs received citations for 100 years of uninterrupted membership in the FGCNYS; Staten Island Garden Club, Inc., Rochester Garden Club, Port Washington Garden Garden Club of New Rochelle, Garden Club of Larchmont, Garden Club of Dobbs Ferry and the Douglaston Garden Club Inc.



Former presidents who attended: Barbara Campbell, Lynne Arnold, Donna Sessa (President 2024), Jeanne Nelson, Monica Hansen, Victoria Bellias, Patricia Cargnoni.

The celebrations are continuing as individual clubs plan luncheons, dinner dances and cocktail parties throughout the year. We also have a number of clubs who have celebrated 100 years or more but joined Federated a bit later joining in on the fun.

As we move into the next 100 years, we bring new ideas and new goals. In the planning stages is a Flower Show School for spring 2025. Pollinator Pathways are spreading throughout the State, and we are promoting more in person opportunities for our club members.



**Donna Sessa, President,
Federated Garden Clubs of New York State**



Ohio



The Garden Club of Ohio is proud of all our clubs for continuing their community support, through garden projects, Blue Star Markers, and establishing memorials for a beloved club member who has passed.

Kathy Wagner

Ridgewood Garden Club of Parma, was recently presented with the Citizen of the Month and the Business of the Month Awards in July by the Mayor and City Councilman for their commitment to beautifying the City of Parma.

The Garden Club of Ohio has implemented a partnership with the Ohio Natural Areas and Preserves Association (ONAPA). Over 40 natural areas, and preserves are recognized in Ohio. ONAPA works with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to identify projects in fens, bogs, preserves and natural areas.

Congratulations to our clubs who were presented NGC Awards at the Convention in Denver, an outstanding accomplishment for a job well done.

**Kathy Wagner, President,
Garden Club of Ohio**

Pennsylvania



The Garden Club Federation of PA Board met in Boalsburg, outside of State College in June. The weather, at that time, was a little chilly, so the board members enjoyed the view of Mt. Nittany from indoors. Our meeting runs all

day Monday and into Tuesday morning. The after-dinner activity was a review of the GCFP's May trip to English Gardens and the Chelsea Flower Show. Twenty-three travelers spent ten days touring London, Stourhead, Hidcote, Sissinghurst, The Lose Gardens of Heligan, The Eden

Leeanna Ryba

Project, as well as Windsor Castle and Tea at Kensington Palace. There were also opportunities to see plays in London's Theater District on a couple evenings. Kudos to GCFP Tours Chair, Sharon Richardson.



On August 12, the Somerset GC sponsored the dedication of Pennsylvania's first Gold Star Memorial. Patriot Park, located directly across from the entrance to the 911 National Memorial site, was the perfect place. The mission of Patriot Park is to honor post 9/11 veterans of the Global War on Terrorism and their families. A field of over 7,000 American flags, one for each post 9/11 service man or woman who has given their life to protect our freedom, is certainly poignant. Congratulations to The Somerset GC and GCFP Blue Star/ Gold Star Chair, Karen Faust for this first Gold Star Memorial.



Photos by Leeanna Ryba

**Leeanna Ryba, President,
Garden Club of Pennsylvania**

NGC Schools

Schools (Environmental, Gardening, and Landscape Design) continue to be offered. Please make sure that you check your consultant expiration date. Those of you who attended in 2019 MUST REFRESH THIS YEAR. So hopefully you have jumped into a course. There are not only in person but also Hybrid and Zoom offered this fall. ES (C 3 for NGC is Zoom in Oct, plus C 3 in Sept from CT), GS Zoom C1 Florida (OCT) and C1 CT (Sept); LDS C2 in ME in Oct and MA in Oct). There are in person in all three schools also. These all offer you the opportunity to extend your Good Standing date. Continue to check the NGC Website (www.gardenclub.org/school).

State Chairmen: There are now 3 ways to fill out Form 5 – the roster. You may obtain an approved spreadsheet from your regional accrediting chairman; You may create one from Google Docs that your registrants fill in all the required information through the link you send them, and the sum of the responders may then be turned into a spreadsheet; or you may continue to use Form 5 as is. Training help is always available through your contacting myself or your Regional Chairman. It will take a while to become comfortable and have everything with exactly the required information. A cover sheet along with the spread sheet will help us all.

Keep learning, Share that knowledge, and thank you for continuing to support schools.

Pat Rupiper

Sustainable Gardening

Living in the East to the Mid-East is not for sissies! Not only have we had heat, rain wind and hail, but also another fun creature to contend with!

Asian Spongy Moths. These invasive caterpillars, *Lymantria dispar Linneaus*, have this moniker due to their ‘Spongy’ appearing egg masses. They are on the DEC Invasive Species list <https://dec.ny.gov>.

The newly hatched caterpillars appear first in spring as miniscule black insects and they leave horrible

itching welts from their sting. These stingers are on the tips of their spines.



I have upwards of 30 oak trees in my yard and they have been decimated! In the photo on the left you can see the chewed leaves.

The female moth is pictured on the right. Females do not fly. The males are a tan/brown color.

The females lay their egg masses (containing 600-700 eggs) on the bark of the tree, where they overwinter; hatching a new brood in the spring.

So, how do you control these pests? Squish or stomp, and for the squeamish, the egg masses once formed are obvious on the tree, so they can be scrapped.

Sticky bands or barriers out of Duct Tape or purchase Tanglefoot. These barriers work on thin barked trees. If you do this the caterpillars will die on the tape and you will have the pleasure of removing it. YUK!

If you want to use insecticide, I recommend calling in a professional.

**Jane Madis,
Sustainable Gardening and Xeriscaping**

National Garden Week

Please send photos and reports of National Garden Week activities to

Jan Warshauer, jwarshauer@aol.com

Be an AHS HPA Winner!



The *NGC Handbook for Flower Shows* defines an herbaceous perennial as “a plant with soft, succulent tissue (non-woody) usually dying to the ground during the winter in colder climates”. If an NGC Flower Show had exhibits with at least 20

herbaceous perennials during 2024, it is eligible for CAR-SGC’s **American Horticultural Society Herbaceous Perennial Award**. Documenting photos and a list of botanical names are required. Each of our 7 states can have a winner. See the website for easy details.

Photos and the list of botanical names can both easily be obtained from registration sheets on the day of the event. Herbaceous perennials should be plentiful for late summer and autumn shows.

*Shirley Nicolai,
AHS Regional Perennial Award Chair*

Saving Chimpanzees

The Jane Goodall Institute at the Tchimpounga Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Center in the Republic of Congo has helped rescue and care for chimpanzees for over 30 years. The sanctuary is surrounded by 129,000 acres of dense rainforest and savannah. Increased forest patrols resulted in the arrests of over 100 people who were participating in illegal forest activities. Feeding these chimpanzees requires over 330,000 pounds of fresh food every year. 63,540 youth activists are taking conservation action through Jane Goodall Institute Roots & Shoots, which empowers young people to create change in their communities. Tchimpounga’s staff of 52 provide a combined 2,080 hours of care every week. 3.5 million acres of habitat are covered under the JGI Conservation Action Plans. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, over 25,000 students from 95 schools participated in environmental education

sessions. JGI increased protection of 1.3 million acres of forest in Tanzania through newly established reserves. Today, about 150 chimpanzees live at Tchimpounga, many of them recovering from injuries and illness. Today, the threats facing our closest living relatives in the animal kingdom are dire. So please contribute to the Jane Goodall Institute.

*Iris Cisarik,
Birds, Bugs, Butterflies and Endangered Species Chair*

Planting Native Shrubs

The Mountain Laurel Garden Club, Maryland Forest Service and Garrett College facilities department, aided by more than 40 Laker student-athletes, planted 113 native flowering shrubs surrounding the college’s recently developed turf field. The student-athletes included members of the baseball, women’s volleyball, wrestling and women’s soccer teams.

“I was expecting to be here until early afternoon,” said Katherine Phillips, the Marland Forest Service Western Region Urban and Community Forestry coordinator. “With so many people helping, we started planting around 10 a.m. and we were done before 11.” The Maryland Urban and Community Forestry Committee (MUCFC) awarded a \$1,000 tree planting grant to the Mountain Laurel Garden Club, which was matched by the college. MLGC contributed \$960 from the proceeds of their Native Plant Symposium held at Garrett College in April.

The native shrubs, including black chokeberry, red chokeberry, black haw viburnum, buttonbush, winterberry, witch hazel and New Jersey tea, were planted 28 per row surrounding the turf field. Linda Harris, project leader, said Garrett College Foundation Executive Director Cherie Krug, a member of MLGC connected the club with the college. We hope to continue working with these partners in beautification projects across the campus.

Richard Midcap, Garrett College president, said the shrub planting initiative “once again illustrates the value of partner-based projects. I greatly appreciate the collaborative efforts of the Mountain Laurel Garden Club and the Maryland Forest Service,” said

Midcap. "Linda Harris and Katherine Phillips were particularly instrumental in making this project a reality."



Linda Harris, Maryland

CAR-SGC Life Membership Report

We welcomed one new life member in June. She is Susan Glassmoyer from Penn-Cumberland Garden Club in Pennsylvania. She was honored by Damon Glassmoyer for her accomplishments of Environmental Consultant, Gardening Consultant, Flower Show Judge and former club president.

CAR-SGC Scholarship Patronage Report

Gail Corle Manna made a very generous \$500 Gold level contribution to the Scholarship Patronage

Program in August. It is the only contribution to this fund this year so far.

*Claire Leichter,
CAR-SGC Life Membership Chair*

NGC Life Membership

Don't miss out being a part of a very special group of people who strive to maintain and encourage **NGC** projects and goals. Yes, join today. Become a NGC Life Member.

Your donation of \$200 aids two wonderful programs that benefit local clubs, your State and your youth: **THE PLANT AMERICA COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND** and **THE PERMANENT HOME AND ENDOWMENT FUND.**

This current fiscal year, starting June 1st, we already have 3 new NGC Life Members from our Region. Great Start. Keep them coming.

So don't miss out.....Join today or give a gift membership to any individual or group deserving an honor or remember someone in your community who shares our passion for garden club interests. New Life Members are out there.

Applications can be found on the NGC web-site under Member Resources.

LIFE MEMBERS DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

*Gail Manna,
NGC Life Membership Chair, 2021-2025*

Vision of Beauty Calendar



The 2025 Vision of Beauty Calendars are available for \$10 each (+shipping) in the National Garden Club store on www.gardenclub.org. The pictures of the designs and gardens are educational and inspirational! And,,,,,if you missed

getting the 2024 calendar they are available for \$3 each (+shipping).

Please consider taking a photograph or having a photograph taken of your fall, winter or spring floral design(s) or your garden. Challenge yourself. Take a picture and submit your photo. Perhaps your entry will be chosen for inclusion in the Vision of Beauty calendar.

Your design could be traditional, creative, abstract, botanical, artistic craft, seasonal ++. Photographs of a design must be taken in front of a blank seamless background. Do not include any flower show ribbons or entry cards in the image taken.

For more information respective to submissions please go to the NGC website and search photography. Click on photography, enjoy the pictures then scroll down to Photography Tips Part 3. You will find information on the Vision of Beauty Calendar including an entry form.

Details of entry requirements are also on the last pages of the Vision of Beauty Calendar. All submissions are sent and emailed to the **National Garden Club Vision of Beauty Calendar chair Nancy Voyles.**

*Barbara DeRue,
CAR-SGC VOB Calendar*

**Schools Being Held by NGC
in CAR and by Zoom**

Environmental School:

March 24 - 27, 2025. St. Louis, MO – Zoom – Course 2. Contact: Jan Conant, djconant@msn.com.

Sept. 19 – 20, 2024. Derby, CT – Zoom – Course 3. Contact Virginia C, ginnycasanova@ctgardenclubs.org.

Oct. 7 – 8, 2024. St. Louis, MO – Zoom – Course 3. Contact Pat Rupiper, patrupiper@gmail.com.

Sept. 18 – 19, 2024. McHenry, MD – In-person – Course 4. Contact: Linda Harris, Lindaharris355@aol.com.

Flower Show School:

Sept. 21, 24 – 26, 2024. New Brunswick, NJ – Course 2. Contact: Gail Bassolino, cbassolino@aol.com.

Flower Show Symposium:

Nov. 11 – 12, 2024. Roanoke, VA. In-person. Contact: Claudia Cosby, cosbych1205@gmail.com

April 29 – 30, 2025. Basking Ridge, NJ. Contact Gail Bassolino , cbassolino@aol.com.

Gardening School:

Sept. 11 – 12, 2024. Virtual – Course 1. Contact: Cindy Eadie, cindyeadie@ctgardenclubs.org.

Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2024. New Smyrna Beach, FL. Virtual – Course 1. Contact Sally Flanagan, sfflan@aol.com.

Landscape Design School:

Oct. 9 – 10, 2024. Falmouth, ME –Hybrid - Course 2. Contact: Nancy Atwell, atwelln@aol.com.

Oct. 29 – 31, 2024. Waltham, MA – Virtual – Course 2. Contact TBD.



Photos by Shirley Nicolai and Caroline Carbaugh

