DFGC September 2022 Newsletter

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President Message

Dear Garden Club Members,

We all endured a very hot summer and I am looking forward to fall with less humidity and cooler temperatures.

My heart is still heavy with the loss of Dottie Howatt. Dottie Howatt will always be remembered as a huge promoter of flower shows. Dottie was always available to provide design workshops/ show set ups, anything to support all clubs to have a flower show. The Dottie Howatt Flower Show Fund continues her dedication to promote flower shows. Garden clubs in Delaware and garden clubs in District 1 Maryland have the opportunity to apply for a $1,000 grant towards a flower show. The details for applications were sent out to club presidents in May but can be reviewed on the DFGC webpage in the members area, click on forms, the Dottie Howatt special flower show funds information is under Awards and Rules.

Many thanks to Middletown-Odessa Garden Club for hosting/providing the name tags, place cards and registering attendees for the DFGC State meeting in June. Middletown-Odessa was also the second of three clubs entered in the" Trash to Treasure" centerpiece contest which was promoted by Dottie Howatt. The centerpieces were quite delightful. The Trash to Treasure centerpiece contest will continue at the November Meeting. The winning club will be announced at the April 2023 State Meeting. Good luck to all the clubs that have entered!!

Reminder - My President's Project "Grow Locally" deadline was extended to November 15, 2022. Apply and use the grant to grow membership, awareness, or a garden. Don't forget to send a project summary with picture/s or some documentation of the project completion to the Presidents Project Chair Betty Kramarck.

Thank you to those who responded to information requested by me on behalf NGC respective to planted trees both native and not. A total of 509 trees were planted in Delaware. 425 of those planted were native. NGC has requested we continue the count of planted trees this year to be announced at the 2023 National Garden Club Convention.

The CAR-SGC memorial chair has requested deceased member's names from 2020 - 2021 - 2022 to be announced at the November conference. I have asked clubs to send their list to me. I have received a response from less than 20% of DFGC clubs.

The CAR-SGC newsletter was sent to club presidents to distribute to their members. The CAR-SGC August newsletter is also available on the DFGC webpage in the member's area under resources.
The CAR-SGC conference will be held November 2-3, 2022 at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Champion, Pa. The conference itinerary and the registration form are Included on pages 7 & 8,

The President's Award of Excellence application is included on page 9. You may want to review the application (which is not due until June 1, 2023).

Board Meeting Reminder - The October Board Meeting will be held via zoom on Wednesday October 19th at 10 am.

The DFGC Executive Officers for 2023-2025 shall be elected at the November State meeting. The Executive Officers nominating slate is as follows:

President - Ginny Cardona
First Vice President - Alva Hutchinson
Second Vice President – Sandra Fitt
Corresponding Secretary – Maureen Eisenhart
Recording Secretary – Linda Peters

The Nominating Committee Slate (for the 2025-2027 officers) will also be voted on at the meeting. The proposed nominating committee includes Marty Rushlow, Connie Raymond and Barbara DeRue

I am looking forward to gathering with you all again at the November State meeting!

Barbara DeRue
DFGC President

Acting Second Vice President

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming 2022 – 2023 State Meetings

November 16, 2022 State Meeting

Location: Lighthouse Cove Event Center at the Hyatt, 1301 Coastal Highway, Dewey Beach, DE 19971
Host Clubs: Countryside Garden Club and Salt Air Gardeners
Cost: $40
Program: *Holiday Designs for the Home*, Susie Middleton. Susie is the Past President of Federated Garden Clubs MD Inc, District 1, Past President of Dorchester Garden Club, Flower Show Judge, currently 2nd VP of the Federated Garden Clubs MD, graduate of Environmental School, Landscape Design School, and designer extraordinaire. Susie has a knack for teaching her design skills in a way that will inspire and leave you wanting to try designing at home. Designs will be auctioned at the end of the program.
We will be remembering members we have lost during the past two years with a display. (to be determined) Clubs will be asked to provide the names of members for the display.
RSVP to dfgcregistrar@gmail.com . Registration opens October 7th through October 26th.

April 19, 2023 State Meeting

Location: The Executive Banquet and Conference Center, 205 Executive Drive, Newark, DE 19702
Host Club: Countryside Garden Club
Cost: $40
Program: *The Hows and Wows of Longwood*, Jim Sutton, Display Designer at Longwood Gardens. Jim oversees themes and ideas for the world-class Gardens' horticulture displays and is an expert in floral design,

plant trials, plant selection, aesthetics, and design. He has served as lead judge for the Philadelphia Flower Show for the last 5 years and served as a judge for the Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena, California.
Installation of Officers
RSVP to dfgcregistrar@gmail.com . Registration opens March 18th through April 2th.

June 21, 2023 State Meeting
Location: Heritage Shores, One Heritage Shores Circle, Bridgeville, DE 19933
Host Club: Four Seasons Gardeners Garden Club
Cost: $40
Program: *The History and Horticulture of Laurel Hill*, Gregg Tepper, Senior Horticulturist, Laurel Hill Cemetery. With his enthusiasm for horticulture and engaging talks, Gregg is the most requested speaker for the DFGC. In addition to his current position at Laurel Hill Cemetery, Gregg brings his experience with the Delaware Botanic Gardens and Mt. Cuba.
Awards
RSVP to dfgcregistrar@gmail.com . Registration opens May 20th through June 3rd.

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are from 10 am to 2 pm. Registration opens at 9 am.

PLEASE TYPE dfgcregistrar@gmail.com INTO YOUR BROWSER AND DO NOT TRY TO LINK. E mails sent via link are not received.

Ginny Cardona
Acting Second Vice President

Special Interest

From Betty and John Kramarck

CHECK OUT THIS GREAT WEBSITE FOR RECYLING QUESTIONS
Got something to get rid of but you're not sure if it's recyclable?
Go to https://recyclopedia.org/de/state
It's sponsored by DNREC. It has a large listing of common items.
Just click on a picture and it tells you if it's acceptable to go into the recycling.

TREE-mendous Tree Project

How can we honor someone with a TREE planting?
Just fill out the form on our DFGC website also attached on page 24.
Please consider a tree planting dedicated in honor of or in memory of some deserving person or your club or other organization.
We have received tree dedications from others outside our DFGC as well.
With the new improvements at the DBG such as the new restroom facilities, beautification of the entryway to the gardens, and other newly developing areas,
trees are needed to enhance these areas.
To date we are over 200 tree plantings sponsored by Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs state NGC award winning project.
Why not plant a tree right here in Delaware at the DBG!

Lisa Arni, Chair
Tree project at Delaware Botanic Gardens

~Committee Reports~

Environment/Conservation/Legislation

These are highlights of the recent legislative session and other key developments related to environment and conservation in Delaware.

Increase in Open Space Funding:
The Delaware Legislature approved an additional $10 million in funding to DNREC for open space protection in FY2023. The total amount available will be $20 million. The Delaware Land Protection Coalition has advocated for an increase since late 2021. This funding pays for land acquisition, conservation easements, and open space infrastructure. This funding is a positive step to protect lands for recreation, to mitigate effects of climate change, to provide clean water, and habitat for wildlife. *Delaware Land Protection Coalition members include the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, Delaware Wild Lands, The Nature Conservancy, the Kent County Conservancy, the League of Women Voters of Delaware, Ducks Unlimited, the Delaware Nature Society, the Sussex County Land Trust, Preservation Delaware, the Delaware Native Species Commission, Sussex 2030, the Land Trust Alliance and representatives from New Castle and Kent counties.*
Source: https://www.capegazette.com/article/delaware-approves-more-funding-open-space/242892

Senate Bill 305 – Climate Change Solutions Act - Status
This Act, introduced by Senator Hansen, known as the Delaware Climate Change Solutions Act, follows the issuance of Delaware's Climate Action Plan in 2021, and establishes a statutory requirement of greenhouse gas emissions reductions over the medium and long term to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change due to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions on the State, establishing a mandatory and regularly updated plan to achieve those emissions reductions and develop resilience strategies for the State, and requires State agencies to address climate change in decision-making and rulemaking. This bill passed the Senate with two amendments but stalled in the House. Look for this effort to continue in 2023.
Source: *https://legis.delaware.gov/BillDetail/109575*

Senate Bill 134 – Use of Single-Service Plastic Implements and Polystyrene Containers in Food Establishments
This bill passed the Senate in June, but the House failed to schedule this important bill for a vote. According to https://legis.delaware.gov/BillDetail/109523 it has been placed on the Ready List for next year's legislative session. Please consider contacting your state representative let them know how important this is to keeping plastic waste out of waterways (rivers, streams, bays, ocean). Tackling it at its source using effective legislation is paramount.
Plastic Bag Ban Evolves -- #BYOBagDE (Bring Your Own Bag Delaware)
As of July 1, 2022, retailers in the State of Delaware no longer provide a plastic carryout bag made from film at checkout. Instead, they now provide customers access to a reusable bag for purchases. In 2019, the Delaware General Assembly passed a law banning plastic carryout bags (82 Del. Laws c. 166) to help reduce beach and roadside litter, increase recycling efforts, and reduce the impact of plastic bags at regional recycling facilities that manage material from Delaware's Universal Recycling program. In 2021, the Delaware General Assembly updated that law expanding both the bags banned and the stores impacted by the law (83 Del. Laws c. 216). The original Plastic Carryout Bag Ban passed in 2019 was signed by Governor Carney and went into effect on January 1, 2021. In 2021, the legislature enhanced the Plastic Carryout Bag Ban by completely removing plastic film carryout bags regardless of thickness as well as expanding the ban to all retail stores within Delaware. Restaurants can still use plastic carryout bags of any description and are not required to have an at At-Store Recycling Program.
Source: *https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/outdoor-delaware/attention-shoppers-bring-your-own-bag-starting-july-1/*

The Spotted Lanternfly Has Invaded Sussex County
Beware the dreaded invasive insect which can damage orchards, flowers, and trees. This article recently printed in *The News Journal* explains the harm and how to handle the statewide quarantine that has been issued.

Helpful Resources from UD Cooperative Extension
There are abundant resources for gardeners and environmental stewards at UD's Agriculture and Natural Resources Cooperative Extension website. Topics include growing your own food, backyard composting, soil testing, and pest management. There is also information on the Master Naturalist program as well as Master Gardener and Master Food Educator programs.

Suzanne D. Smith, Chair
Environment/Conservation/Legislative

Horticulture

This summer a very important law for all gardeners came into effect. The Invasive Plants Law of Delaware is now in force as of July 1, 2022. By definition, an invasive plant is non-native plant that has the potential to "result in widespread dispersal and establishment, out-compete other species in the same area, exhibit rapid growth or high seed or propagule productions, and become established in natural areas in the State." There are currently thirty-seven plants on the Invasives List. They include non-native trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, perennials, and water plants. The internet address of the list follows this report. In my articles this year, I hope to offer you some better choices for your gardens than the black-listed plants that are dangerous to the natural environment. In this newsletter I will offer regional native alternatives to the trees and shrubs deemed illegal to "import, export, buy, sell, transport, distribute, or propagate" in Delaware. In February the invasive vines and groundcovers will be given options. Then in May the perennials (including grasses) will find better native plant choices.

Many of the plants on the Invasives List were at one time commonly recommended landscape plants. Often-used trees such as Norway maple and Callery (Bradford) pear, shrubs like common privet (hedges), Japanese barberry, and burning bush are now registered invasive plants. Are any of these in your garden? It is now time to keep them from spreading. How do we keep birds from eating the fruits and seeds then dropping them elsewhere? Or the wind from blowing the samara? On small plants we can cut off all the flowers before they become seeds, but it does not work past a certain point. Maybe it is time to renovate the garden. Here are some alternatives for planning a new one.

The trees on the current Delaware Invasives List are Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryans),* Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), and Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*). Three trees that are overwhelming our native populations since they spread quickly and crowd others out. Now look at some better choices for our gardens that are less destructive. To replace our overpopulating Bradford pear trees, try native trees that offer lovely spring floral displays. Some possibilities are the serviceberries, American dogwood, pagoda dogwood, American filbert, Eastern redbud, and Carolina silverbells. Other interesting alternatives could be Ironweed, American hornbeam, or sassafras. Likely native options for Tree of Heaven replacement could be smooth and staghorn sumac, hickory, green ash (unless there are borers in your area), butternut, and black walnut. Most of these get quite large similarly to the Tree of Heaven. The sumac trees tend to stay under 30 feet tall. The Norway maple could be replaced in an old garden design by many native forest trees, i.e., red maple, river birch, white oak, tulip poplar, black gum, hackberry, yellowwood, red oak or American persimmon. The conditions at the location will dictate which tree would best succeed. Trees are difficult to change out easily, but you ca keep thse options for a replacement or when starting a new garden.

Plants that allow a less intrusive change in your garden are shrubs. For the purpose of this set of recommendations, the three types of bush honeysuckle (Amur, Morrow's, and Tatarian) will be lumped

together since they are similar. The primary replacement choice is *Diervilla lonicera,* our American bush honeysuckle, and its mounting number of new selections. Southern bush honeysuckle and buttonbush have also been given as replacements for the Eurasian species. Many problem shrubs are found in our gardens, especially ones established more than twenty years ago when we just started understanding the problems they caused. Burning bush (winged euonymous – *Euonymous alatus*) is a major invader of natural sites. It has beautiful fall color but is a bully in the environment. The same is true for the three other shrubs on The List – Japanese barberry, European privet (hedge bush), Autumn Olive. These shrubs have long given color and form to many gardens but did not stay there. They wandered into woodlands and out-competed the local plants, thereby starving animals dependent upon them. Here is a listing of just some of our regionally native plants that could be very great choices for our gardens – large and small. The conditions each prefers will vary, so check out these American shrubs for which will best fit your garden. Many choices are available: ninebark, American witch hazel, red chokeberry, New Jersey tea, winterberry, opaca holly, Virginia sweetspire, yaupon holly, American beautyberry*, leucothoe*, i.e., Rainbow or Scarletta, Blackhaw, swamphaw, arrowwood, American cranberry, witch alder, inkberry, and more. Numerous great native plants work wonderfully in our gardens and help the pollinators, birds, and various parts of the ecosystem. Let us please follow the direction of this new Delaware law and, as gardeners, reduce or eliminate the harmful plants it specifies. Then install native alternatives to slow some of the damage we have created by our past gardens. Next time it will be options to some overused and nature-abusing vines and groundcovers.
I used primarily common names here but have the botanical names if you wish to contact me.
Read the law at this internet address: https://delcode.delaware.gov/title3/c029/index.html

Bradford Pear

Tree of Heaven

Creeping Jenny

Burning Bush

Scholarship

It is so nice to get back to "in person" meetings.
Virtual is great but being able to talk face to face is so much better!

Many THANK YOU'S to all the clubs that have given Life Memberships, you are supporting our Scholarship. Also THANK YOU to the following individuals and clubs that made direct donations during May and June – Betty Kramarck, Carol Callaghan, Kay Webster, Barbara DeRue, Toni Newman, Middletown Odessa Garden Club, Peg Irish, Nancy Stevens and Hoe'n Hope Garden Club.

Scholarship information has been sent to all parent companies of the newspapers in the state and to all financial aid advisors of the colleges. It is also in the DE Department of Education Delaware Scholarship Compendium and on our website. Talk to your friends, grandchildren, neighbor's children or if you are standing in line, waiting to be called for an appointment…talk about our scholarship…You never know when someone may be interested.

Our Scholarship winner receives $2,000 and their application is forwarded on to National Garden Clubs with the hope they win another $4,000. So, you see, it is well worth the time to fill out the application.

Elva Davidson, Chair
Scholarship

CAR-SGC Itinerary 2022

CAR-SGC Conference

7 Super Blooms that Changed Our World

Schedule for November 2-3, 2022

Wednesday Nov. 2	
Registration	8:00-11:30 am
Finance Committee	9:45-11:15 am
Workshops A and B	10:30-11:30 am
Lunch	11:30-1:00 pm
Vendors	1:00-7:00 pm
Executive Board	1:00-2:00 pm
Full Board	2:30-3:45 pm
Workshops C and D	4:00-5:00 pm
Workshops E and F	5:00-6:00 pm
Leadership Dinner	
(By Invitation only)	5:30 pm
Dinner on your own with friends	

Thursday Nov. 3	
Registration	8:00-11:30 am
Continental Breakfast	7:30-8:30 pm
Roundtable Discussion	8:00-9:00 am
Vendors	9:00-7:00 pm
General Membership	10:00-11:45 pm
Lunch	12:00-1:30 pm
Tours	1:30-5:30 pm
Cash Bar	6:00-7:00 pm
Dinner with Keynote Speaker	7:00-9:30 pm
Closing	

From the EAST – PA Turnpike to Somerset Exit 110, Get on RT 31 W

From the WEST – PA Turnpike to Donegal Exit 91, Turn onto RT 31 E to Seven Springs

Directions are clearly marked to the resort.

Room reservation MUST be made by September 30 for special conference rate of $129 +11% tax per night for Nov. 1-4. 814-352-7777 or 800-452-2223 (sales)

CAR-SGC 2022 Registration Form

REGISTRATION – CAR-SGC CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 2-3, 2022

Hosted by the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania

"7 Super Blooms that Changed Our World"

7 Springs Resort, 777 Waterwheel Drive, Champion, PA 15622

Phone (814) 352-7777

Name: _____ Name on Badge: _____

Full Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ State Garden Club: _____

Medical/Dietary Restriction: _____

Credentials: (Please check all that apply)

_____ Garden Club Member

_____ Guest/Spouse

NGC:

_____ President

_____ Former President (Years) _____

_____ Board Member (Title) _____

_____ Life Member

CAR-SGC:

_____ Director

_____ Former Director (Years) _____

_____ Board Member (Title) _____

_____ Delegate

_____ Life Member

CONSULTANT:

_____ Flower Show Judge

_____ Environmental

_____ Gardening

_____ Landscape Design

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION (NOVEMBER 2-3): for Workshops, Vendors, Exhibits, 4 Meals

(Please check all that apply)

_____ Full (Both Days) $275 (Tours not included) $_____

_____ Part Time Registration Fee: $50 $_____

_____ Wednesday Lunch $40 $_____

_____ Thursday Lunch $40 $_____

_____ Tour - Flight 93 Nat'l Memorial $50 $_____

_ Tour – Fallingwater $82 $_____

Tours leave hotel center lobby at 1:30 pm and return at 5:30 pm

_____ Dinner & Speaker $75 $_____

_ Late Fee (after 9/30/22) $50 $_____

(Fuel surcharge maybe be required for tours) **Total $** _____

WORKSHOPS Wednesday

10:30-11:30 am

_____ A - NGC Table Designs by Chris Leskosky

_____ B – Planting for Birds and Pollinators by Marcy Cunkelman

4:00-5:00 pm

_____ C – Succulent Designs by Tonya Young

_____ D – New Exciting House Plants by Ron McIntosh

5:00-6:00 pm

_____ E – Williamsburg Christmas by Jan Davis

_____ F – Creations from Your Garden by Fran Lansbury

Return form to Registrar Rose Romboski at 118 Preserve Valley Rd, Cranberry Twp, PA 16066 Phone 724-772-7834. Checks should be made **PAYABLE TO: CAR-SGC 2022 CONFERENCE.** Deadline for registration for the conference and hotel is September 30, 2022. Full time registrations will have priority over part time registrations.

No refunds after October 15, 2022.

Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

President's Standard of Excellence Award

2022 – 2023

Club Name _____ Club Membership _____

Four Clubs will be selected based on Total Points Earned

Club Membership Participation

Calculate % of Club Members by dividing the number of participants by the Club membership (recorded above) then multiply by 100. Example 10 members participated from a 40 member club. 10 divided by 40 times 100 equals 25 percent. Multiply percent of attending members by point value. Points earned would be 500. (25 x 20).

	# of Members		**Point value**	**Points Earned**
DFGC State Meetings				
June 2022 (Modern Maturity)	_____	x	20	_____
Nov 2022 (Lighthouse Cove, Hyatt)	_____	x	20	_____,
April 2023 (The Executive)	_____	x	20	_____,
	Quantity		**Point value**	**Points Earned**
Number of Life Memberships Awarded 6/1/22 – 4/30/23	_____	x	25	_____
Garden Club submitted an Article to the DFGC Newsletter for May '22, Sept '22, Feb '23, (max submitted would be 3x50 or 150 points)	_____	x	50	_____
Garden Club Applied for a State Award For award year 2022	_____	x	25	_____
Garden Club submitted a summary/pictures or documentation of their "Grow Locally" Project to the President's Project Chair	_____	x	200	_____
			Total Points	_____

Applications must be received by the DFGC President by June 1, 2023.

Barbara DeRue

17 East Bullrush Drive, Milford, De 19963

Susan ~ Linda ~ Pat

What a wonderful year we had in 2021-2022 celebrating Delaware's natural wonders. From our "Discovering Delaware" Flower Show in September to our road trip to tour Delaware Botanical Gardens in April we delighted in the beauty of our state. We finished out our year in May with our biennial plant sale which was advantageously located at First Unitarian Church on Concord Pike. With daylilies and clivias as our specialty plants, this fundraiser was a great success both monetarily and by sharing our love of nature with the community.

Plant Sale Flowers

Although we don't formally meet during the summer, we're busy maintaining a Children's Garden at the Brandywine Hundred Library. Our members share the work load by committing to a weeding and watering schedule which keeps the garden beautiful for visitors to the library and the adjoining county park.

Additionally, members maintain 2 small front flower beds at the Martha Houses in Wilmington which provide transitional housing for women and their children. Each spring we purchase vegetables and annuals for their backyard spaces. Pictured is our spring flower and vegetable garden activity with some of the residents' children. The women and children maintain this area throughout the growing season. Also pictured are some lovely irises we've planted out front.

We're excited to continue to celebrate and explore the natural world all around us in 2022-2023 with a calendar full of wonderful activities to partake in. We're so fortunate to have such talented members, each with their own unique contributions, that make this an amazing club!

Coastal Gardeners

Coastal Gardeners members have been quite busy this summer.

Here we are at the opening of Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids garden plot at Philip Showell Elementary in Selbyville on August 23. Pictured L-R: Joan Clow, Sue Kohl, Wally Kohl, Cheryl Quirk, Darlene Boerlage, Mary Kunst, Arleen Inyard and Gordon Inyard. Later: Harvesting carrots from our Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids garden plot on June 7.

Members of the garden club have been taking turns watering Tower Road all summer and the fruits of their labor are paying off. All of our native plants are doing so well along with the beautiful animals. People driving into the Tower Road State Park comment on how beautiful it looks.

These potted plants at Beebe Healthcare in Millville have been planted and maintained by our garden club.

We participated in the "Millville Boardwalk Gives Back Evening" in June. Our club won $500.00 for our Healthy Food for Healthy Kids project. Pictured L-R: Jack Daniels, Liz Nalle, and Sandy Daniels

Members of the club also participated in the Bethany Beach & Bay Cottage Tour in July by hosting one of the houses on the tour. This benefits the South Coastal Library.

School supplies and cash donations for Phillip Showell Elementary School that were collected by Coastal Gardeners members in July and August. The supplies were delivered on August 16th before the start of the new school year.

On August 25 we participated in the "Adopt a Highway" pick up on Piney Neck Road going to Delaware Botanic Garden. We collected 6 bags of trash. We are also getting noticed by the Delaware Botanic Garden. They appreciate us keeping the road clean. Pictured L-R: Donna Buono, Joyce Keller, Jackie Dietrich, Cathy Veale, and Linda Barbour.

COUNTRYSIDE GARDEN CLUB

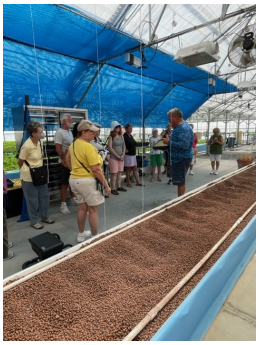
For Countryside Garden Club members, summer began with
a floral design workshop - an opportunity to "think out of the box".
We created our own designs inspired by the
Vision of Beauty Engagement Calendar
from the National Garden Club and
discovered some hidden talent in the process!

At the end of August, we took a tour of WynEden,
a private garden of Wayne Guymon.
This is one of the premier private gardens in the
Mid-Atlantic, with a 15,000 Hosta collection
and over 4,000 plants and cultivars.
The walk-through streams, ponds and fields of Hosta
was the perfect end to our summer program.

Countryside finished the year with our annual picnic
at the Auburn Mansion.
Sitting on the porch in the rain, we planned
for the upcoming year and enjoyed the picnic fare.
We honored the history of the mansion,
mills, and steam museum (pictured below)
in the Auburn Mills Historic District.
We enjoyed the history of how this land
was preserved for conservation.

The summer has been very busy for the Four Seasons Gardeners of Heritage Shores. At our June meeting we had a presentation from a local resident presenting a slide show from his recent visit to Longwood Gardens. We have been there many times but this was the first we saw Longwood in late spring.

July we took a field trip to Aquaponics. It was Exciting to see how they grow lettuce in recycled water from their fish tanks. They sell the fish when they get 9 months old and they harvest 500 heads of lettuce daily. It is extremely educational. I would recommend to all to visit. Located in Dover.



We finished the month of July with our Annual Garden Tour followed by a Wine and Cheese Nosh. We had over 67 residents participate with 10 gardens to view.

August was just as busy. Our regular meeting was held at our First VP home. The theme was Eat and Drink with Herbs. 30 of our members attended bringing all different drinks and food made with herbs they raised in their gardens. They distributed recipes to all. Everything was so very delicious and so varied. One of the members even made hand sanitizer with lavender, lemon and lime. We have so many talented ladies and gentlemen in our club.

We also learned how to press flowers which we will use at our next meeting to make beautiful pictures. We are awaiting our Blue Star Memorial plaque in hopes we can have a dedication on Veterans Day. In the meantime we are working with our military club and chorus on the dedication ceremony.

As you can see we are a very busy group. We have several bus and field trips planned for the next quarter including Grounds for Sculpture, Delaware Botanical gardens, and Odessa Mansion.

GARDENERS BY THE SEA

It was the 2022 Summer of Trees!

We applied and received a State Urban and Community Forestry matching funds grant in partnership with the Town of Millville to plant 23 native trees at the new Evans Park. Maureen Eisenhart, Maryanne Green and Lisa Arni worked endless hours during this grant process. Nine native species were planted in early June. The Honorable Ron Gray joined us at the dedication. Members gathered bi-weekly this summer filling jugs to water our trees, to give them the best opportunity to GROW! We are celebrating that the State recently gave final approval for the funds. Now, to help everyone learn what species were selected, each of our trees is labeled with the botanical name.

Kathy Lesperance at the water station

Sallie Melvin

Alva & Maureen preparing labels

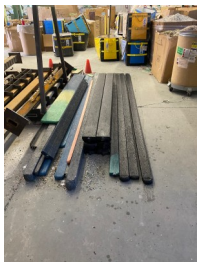
Blue Ice Cypress

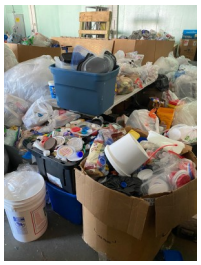
In June we held our annual Plant and Garden Auction at Evans Park to raise funds for our programs and projects. Brenda Wimperis and Steve Zimmerman were chairs. Cheri Dorfman and Ria Carraro served as our lively Auctioneers (pictured left). It was open to the public and a very successful, fun day. Every gardener *needs* more plants!

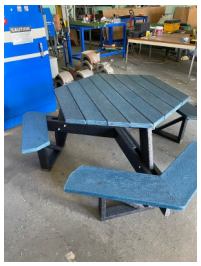
Summer at Bethany Beach means time for South Coastal Library's Beach & Bay Cottage Tour. This year was the 30th Annual Tour and GBTS once again provided hostesses for one of the houses on Wednesday, July 27th. Ria Carraro coordinated our volunteers and then hosted a party to thank everyone!

A group of members met at Delaware Botanic Gardens for a Tour of the Garden with docent Elizabeth Rives. Elizabeth is a certified naturalist and former environmental educator. Trees are her specialty! A group favorite was the Devil's Walking Stick, with very prickly stems and unique compound leaf structure. We always enjoy passing by signage recognizing the Delaware Garden Club's "TREE-mendous Project".

There is a new **CHALLENGE**! Each month members will have the opportunity to bring what they are growing, to share a floral design and/or display a photograph they took of something related to the mission of our garden club. It is a challenge for us to ***KEEP GROWING***, to grow our confidence and to learn from one another! It really is a GROW - SHOW and TELL. We hope every member will participate when their interest is piqued! Not Mandatory! Won't be judged, but it is an opportunity to brag just a bit! Stay tuned!







Hoe 'n Hope Garden Club

members recently took a very informative field trip to tour Eco Plastics of Delaware. We are so excited about our trip that we wanted to share our experience with you!

Co-owner Jim Kelley graciously told us of their mission and showed us how they turn many difficult to recycle waste products into useful items like benches and picnic tables. They even try their hand at artwork with the leftovers from their extruding machine! The enterprise is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. They rely on volunteers to help sort the donated plastic items by color and type, so you can do some pre-sorting to make it easier for them. Eco Plastics will give you a discount on any purchase of their products in return for donating a specified amount of plastic, which they weigh and record for your tally. Some of you are already taking advantage of their offer.

Also part of their mission is taking the opportunity to share what they have learned and help others to start similar ventures all over the country. Many have wished that there were somewhere in Kent and Sussex to donate their plastic items, but as of yet there are none. Eco Plastics would be only too glad to get interested parties up and running so that all of Delaware would be recycling more efficiently.

Their listing of welcomed plastic categories include: 2, 4, & 5 but there are many items that you may not be aware are included. Dry cleaning bags, grocery bags, Amazon bubble bags (don't worry about the shipping labels) and many packaging bags in your grocery items will be accepted. Bags that have had wet food items should not be forgotten. You might need to apply some soap and water to get them clean but it's worth the effort! These flat types of plastic won't be accepted by the county because they will tangle in their machinery. This is an excellent opportunity to recycle these normally wasted items! There are some instances when the can is a 1 but the lid is not. Most lids are useable. Be aware that mylar is NOT able to be used. It is used in chip bags and is silver on the inside.

Be sure to check out their website to learn more about this valuable resource for our state!

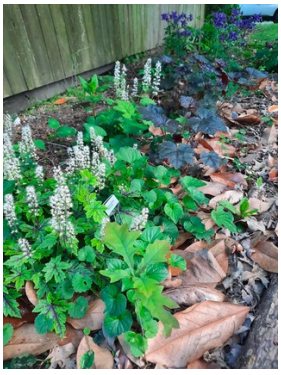
Yes-lid No-can

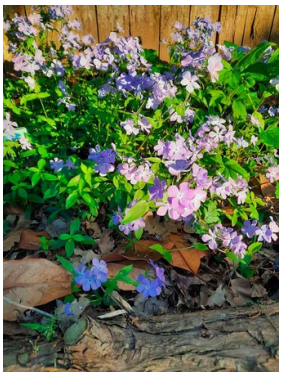
Middletown-Odessa Garden Club
September 2022

Middletown-Odessa Garden Club's Crop Swap for the past few years was such a huge success that we hosted it again this summer. Local gardeners are asked to bring their surplus vegetables, Flowers and plants to exchange with others every two weeks during the summer at the Corbit-Calloway Memorial Library in Odessa.

Native Plant Garden at Corbit-Calloway Memorial Library

A few years ago, Club members planted sun and shade beds and an entrance garden at the library featuring native plants. Large areas of invasive species have been removed and members attend for monthly clean-ups and general maintenance.





Throughout the summer months, members continuously maintain the Middletown Pocket Park, Corbit Sharp Gardens and Middletown's Cochran Square and look beautiful for all of the ongoing events in the MOT area. Weekly watering schedules and monthly clean-ups are well organized and attended.

Our final meeting in June invited members for a wine tasting and tour at Chateau Bu-De Winery & Vineyard followed by dinner at Crooked Hammock. It was a great way to wrap up the year.

Although our Club does not meet in the summer months, our members continue to keep everyone abreast of local initiatives and events including plastics free programs, environmental programs, gardening classes and so much more.

MILFORD GARDEN CLUB

Since last May Milford Garden Club has enjoyed some fun events and worked at our community projects. We have been planning the upcoming service and social events and, most especially, our Flower Show "Autumn Joy" in October.

Our Spring Plant Sale was cancelled due to severe weather just two days before the event. We had already collected many plants from our members. What to do? A member offered part of her yard to use during a large community yard sale, now plant sale. All the plants found new homes and didn't need to be cared for over the summer. Thank you to all who made this work.

In time for Memorial Day we planted the Delaware Veterans Home patio containers and portico area. Thanks to a couple donations we were able to replace several aged containers with lovely sturdy ones. Thank you. We, also, planted vegetable plants and seeds in grow boxes for the residents.

June brought our annual Picnic with the installation of officers by DFGC President, Barbara DeRue. A proclamation was presented to Milford Garden Club in honor of National Garden Week by our mayor. In conjunction with National Garden Week several MGC members set up a children's planting project at the Milford Farmers Market. This activity, our regular ongoing care of several gardens in the downtown area, and our Garden of the Month choices are community projects that keep members in touch during the summer. Our Beautification Committee is again recognizing some exceptional gardens with our Garden of the Month project. Each special garden gets to display a sign noting its recognition for the month, a frameable document and (usually) a picture and article in our local newspapers.

In July we had a Garden Tour for members and friends. We viewed four superior gardens – two in town and two in the neighboring countryside. It was a great day topped off with food and friendly chatter in the organizer's garden.

During July we saw the final step of our Grow Locally project - Updating the Entry Beds at Milford Senior Center – where we applied the DFGC President's Project funds. It has been completed in steps, beginning with removal of invasives last fall.

The final step had a donated stone plaque set in place stating MGC cares for the Milford Senior Center gardens.

August brought us together at our Summer Social in the back garden of our president's home. This is when we have time to catch up with past, present, and prospective members and renew bonds, and sometimes, bring them back onto the roster. A nice day to enjoy each other and another garden.

Now we are doing the final planning for our coming year.
But you will hear more of that later.

Moonflower Garden Club

Moonflower Garden Club finished out last year with 2 wonderful meetings. In May we had a tour of Goodstay Garden on the Wilmington campus of UD. It is open to the public and well worth a visit. A history of the garden was given by Beth Stark. She was very knowledgeable.

In June we completed the year with a tour of Coverdale Farm. We heard about their cutting garden, chicken coops and cows, changes in the way they grow and harvest to make their store, open on weekends to the public, more efficient.

At our April meeting each member received a variety of sunflower seeds as our way of wishing well to the people of Ukraine. Some were quite small and others will have plenty of seeds for Goldfinches. The bees have certainly had plenty of pollen to collect all summer.

We decided to join the Hockessin July 4th parade. Member Phil Worrel volunteered to drive his 1950 beautifully restored pickup truck. It only took 63 e-mails and 14 texts to make all the plans. Ann Perry, Tracy Lea-Dorsey and Jenna Christy had a workshop to make large tissue paper flowers.

Ellie Furry, Suzanne Smith, Sue Ellen Conway and Jenna helped Kathe and Phil Worrel decorate the truck and fill the carefully protected bed with pots and plenty of color. Ellie, Ann, Suzanne and Jenna walked alongside and gave out candy. Kathe handed out Moonflower business cards.

We had lots of fun spreading garden club cheer.

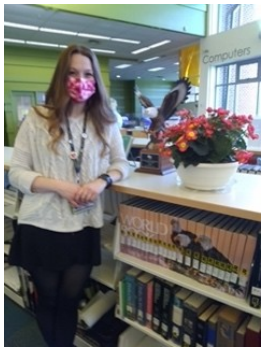
SPRING FUN – OLD DOVER DAY'S…….

SUMMER FUN - MEETING'S AND A NEW PROJECT……

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT – THRIVE AT NOBLE POND

RED CLAY GARDEN CLUB

Our Club is proud to have continued with activities, enhancing our members' education, selecting new officers and committee leaders as well as continuing to serve our local community.



Providing a beautiful flower to the Bear Library was front and center to welcome those visiting the library over the summer.

Club Members created cloth napkin folding flowers and iris folding Carnations for the cover page of their Garden Club Handbook.

We ended the season with a good ole' Americana picnic and the indoctrination of our new club officers, with a special guest from the Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs.

We are looking forward to upcoming, interesting programs in 2022-2023, especially with our new members.

Planting Native Wildflower Meadows for Pollinators

Helen Raleigh is on a mission to save pollinators and a rare breed of heritage cattle. And she's doing it the natural way, with native wildflowers and regenerative farming techniques. The owner of Storyhill Farm in Frankford, DE, shared her inspiring story at SAG's May membership meeting.

The small farm features more than 10 acres of natural wildflower meadows designed to attract all types of pollinators.

The farm also is home to a herd of distinctive black and white Randall cows, purebred American cattle developed by Everett Randall in Sunderland, Vermont in the early 1900s. Helen explained how she and her team created the meadows and use rotational grazing and other regenerative techniques to preserve the farm's ecosystem. She shared incredible pictures of the wildflower fields, butterflies, livestock, and farm store where they sell a variety of homemade and locally sourced products.

Storyhill farm is located at 34645 Winding Road, Frankford, DE 19945. For more information about tours, the store, and events, visit www.storyhillmoos.com.

Business and BINGO

Who says you can't have fun at a business meeting? SAG did both in June, with summer-themed décor, delicious homemade food, and spirited rounds of BINGO. After the business portion of the meeting, gardeners shared their ongoing projects over lunch. Then the games began! Bingo winners received garden-related prizes, including tools, gloves, and an apron with pockets.

Spring and Summer Community Projects

Our members were busy all spring and summer, planting and weeding at our many community garden projects.

Salt Air Gardeners and VFW Dedicate Blue Star Marker and Garden

On May 23, 2022, a crowd gathered at the corner of Route 26 and Woodland Avenue in Ocean View, DE, for the dedication of a Blue Star Memorial Byway marker and garden honoring veterans past, present and future. The ceremony was the culmination of a year's worth of planning, fund raising, and planting by the Salt Air Gardeners (SAG) in cooperation with the town of Ocean View, local businesses, and VFW Post 7234.

Members of SAG, the VFW, local and state officials, and representatives of the Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs attended the dedication. Program highlights included a rendition of the national anthem by an Indian River High School student, remarks from representatives of the participating organizations, a military tribute by a veteran, and a 21-gun salute by the VFW's color guard.

The Ocean View initiative kicked off in 2021 with a benefit concert that raised $6,800. Local businesses donated time and resources to prepare the site.

Once the plans were approved and the site readied, SAG installed a variety of perennial and annual plants to create year-round interest and color, including Soft Serve False Cypress, Black-eyed Susans, Shasta Daisies, Gaillardia, Vinca, Angelonia and Trailing Petunia.

The garden also features a walkway, a bench donated by the mayor of Ocean View, and a lighted flagpole that illuminates the marker at night. It's an inviting, comfortable space where people can pay their respects and reflect on the service and sacrifice of our nation's veterans.

Following the dedication, attendees enjoyed a lunch buffet at the VFW Post in Ocean View. The VFW Auxiliary surprised the SAG with a check for $500 to support garden maintenance in the years ahead.

Bebe Reines, head of the project for the SAG, said, "Installing the Blue Star marker and creating this beautiful garden was a real honor for us. So many people came together to make this a reality. We hope that visitors to the area will spend a few moments enjoying the garden and paying their respects to our nation's veterans."

SPADE & TROWEL GARDEN CLUB

The Spade & Trowel Garden Club of Seaford ended the 2021-2022 fiscal year with a picnic at the home of Carol Owens, despite downpours in the morning that threatened to cancel the meal and plant auction that followed. We were happy to install five new members at the picnic.

After reviving back into action after the pandemic, the club is kicking into high gear for next year, with two special events: an "Autumn Design and Dine" luncheon open to the public in October (see poster on next page) and a Small Standard Flower Show in June. Both of these events will be held at Ross Station in Seaford.

As winter approaches, we'll have our pecan sale, greens sale and Christmas decorating of the Ross Mansion, then our annual downtown Seaford Beautification Project in the spring. We continue with our youth garden program at the Western Sussex Boys and Girls Club.

We'll also be back on the road, with a repeat visit to Delaware Botanic Garden at Pepper Creek in the fall to see what has changed since June, an all-day bus ride to see holiday displays at Winterthur and Longwood Gardens on Nov. 29, and a carpool to the Lewes Tulip Festival in April.

New members were inducted by Membership Chair Carol Johnson at the June 2022 picnic at the home of Carol Owens. From left are Tammy Baker, Susan Jester, Lori Lynch and Peggy Breeden. Norine Donahue was unable to attend.

Members of the Spade & Trowel Garden Club were among those touring the Delaware Botanic Garden at Pepper Creek on June 9, 2022. We were pleased to see an area of trees paid for by donations to the DFGC TREE-mendous Delaware Tree Planting project.

Planting with Purpose

2022 Fall Garden Symposium

Presented by
Eastern Shore of Virginia Master Gardeners

Saturday, October 22 8:00am - 4:00pm
The Chincoteague Center

Featuring

Barbara Ellis **Diversity in the Garden**

Explore the value of diversity in the garden as well as the fun of maximizing the number of plants possible in your own garden.

Ginny Rosenkranz **Designing a Garden with Natives**

Learn to plan a garden of color from the promise of Spring, through the heat of the Summer and into the chill of Fall.

Douglas Tallamy **Nature's Best Hope**

Learn the simple steps we all can and must take to reverse declining biodiversity. Why we must change our adversarial relationship with nature.

Mikaela Boley **Native Seed Saving and Sowing**

Learn to speak the language of seeds and what it takes to sow and germinate some of our local plant species.

Tickets $75 and include a full day focusing on purposeful gardening and includes morning coffee/tea and pastry, a box lunch and afternoon snack, educational booths, a gift basket raffle and more for registrants to enjoy. Sales are exclusively online beginning June 5 through Sept 22.

No sales at the door. No refunds. Check-in begins at 7:30.
Gluten free and vegetarian options available.

Eastern Shore Virginia ESVMG Master Gardeners

DELAWARE FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

TREE-mendous
Woodland Garden Plantings
at Delaware Botanic Gardens

When you donate $100 to Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs (DFGC) in support of TREE-mendous Woodland Garden Plantings at Delaware Botanic Gardens, you will receive a certificate "in honor of" or "in memory of" someone you designate. 100% of your donation will go toward plantings in the Woodland Garden.

Please complete this form and mail it with your donation, made payable to Delaware Botanic Gardens, in the amount of $100 (or more in increments of $100). You may request an additional certificate for each additional $100 donation.

SEND TO:
DFGC c/o Lisa Arni
35548 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944

_____
Date

_____ _____
Name of Donor and/or Garden Club Amount

_____
Mailing Address or Garden Club of Donor

_____ _____
Email Address of Donor Phone Number of Donor

Name "In Honor of" Name "In Memory of"

_____ _____

Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs thanks you for your donation to TREE-mendous Delaware Tree Planting at Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek.

Certificates are distributed at our DFGC State meetings. You may request that your certificate be mailed to you.

Requested Date for Certificate:_____(must be at least 10 days from receipt of donation)

Learning Opportunity from the
Master Gardeners of Sussex County

Event Schedule

- 10:30 a.m. - Tour the Dry Shade Garden with MG John Ferrell -supported by the Hardy Plant Society/Mid -Atlantic Group
- 11:00 a.m. - Native Plant Education with MG Terry Plummer
- 11:00 a.m. - Tour of Small Fruit Demonstration Plot with UD Scientist Emmalea Ernest
- 11:30 a.m. - Planting an All-Season Container with MG Gainor Urian
- 12:00 p.m. - The Magic of Mushrooms with MG Michele Forzley
- 12:30 p.m. - Decorating Pumpkins with MG Mary Noel
- 1:00 p.m. - Decorate a pumpkin to take home
- 1:00 p.m. - Tour of Pole Lima Research Plot with UD Scientist Emmalea Ernest
- 1:00 p.m. - Tour of the Dry Shade Garden with MG John Ferrell supported by the Hardy Plant Society/Mid -Atlantic Group

Children's Schedule

- 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Painting a Mini Pumpkin
- 11:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Peter Rabbit Puppet Show
- 1:00 p.m. Web of Life Activity with MG Maureen Larkin