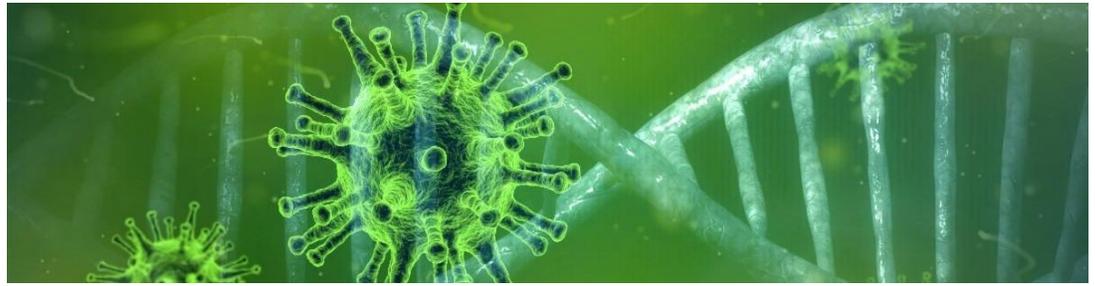




DFGC September 2020 Newsletter



President Message

Our DFGC Executive Board decided to create a newsletter for September to reconnect with our members. We chose not to do a May newsletter due to the unexpected health crisis. Little did we know in May that circumstances would still prohibit us from gathering in the Fall. Six months is a long time to be “sheltered in” or as I prefer to say “stay home”. What can be better than enjoying your home and family? “Together is our favorite place to be.” My family has been blessed to not experience the virus. I hope you have remained well during this trying time.



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Mirror by Cary Fellman

*My face in the mirror isn't wrinkled or drawn.
My house isn't dirty, the cobwebs are gone.
My garden looks lovely and so does my lawn.
I think I will NOT put my glasses back on.*

Not having the time to complete our work is no longer an excuse. Even though we may not be motivated we must still be disciplined to complete our chores. During this “lost year” we have learned new skills and fine tuned

some lifestyle changes. We no longer go to the grocery store. On Sundays I create a menu for the week. Two or three nights a week we purchase take out meals to support our local restaurants. I find it challenging to plan lunches and dinners for 7 days a week. I have found quiche as my “go to” meal. It is delicious with a salad for dinner and the remaining portion makes a great lunch. I have included the recipe for you to try.

My Favorite Quiche Recipe

*1 unbaked 9” pie crust
1 cup shredded Swiss or Cheddar cheese
2 green onions, sliced then,
4 eggs, slightly beaten
1 ¼ cups half and half
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon nutmeg*

*Mix all ingredients together and bake on lowest rack in 350° oven for 1 hour. Let stand 10 minutes before cutting. Enjoy!
Optional additions: 3 ounces diced ham, broccoli, sundried tomatoes.*

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Every two weeks we purchase groceries through the internet and they are delivered to our door. There is an additional cost involved but the money I am saving on gasoline helps defray the cost. Speaking of saving money, we are certainly saving on the costs of makeup, hair appointments, and clothes! Jeans (yes, they still fit) work just fine and don't require ironing. I have found that bread frozen when it is fresh is delicious and will keep for months. Drive through windows work great at the pharmacy and bank. Staples, Sam's Club, and Amazon will mail anything you need (or want).

We have adjusted and thought things were going pretty well until Tuesday, August 4th at 9:00 am. A series of tornados came through our area. A neighborhood across the street from our community and adjacent to Moores Lake was devastated. Many homes were condemned. Massive trees were uprooted. Fortunately there were no injuries or casualties. We were fortunate that our home was spared but we lost 22 mature trees in our yard. We were in the house when the tornado arrived. Ten minutes later it was completely gone! We are still having trees and roots removed. We look forward to replanting in the Fall.



Gardening has been limited to existing plants. The container of petunias returned from last year's seeds. The pink hydrangea bloomed for the first time in 3 years. Houseplants seem to be thriving from the additional attention. An African violet is blooming nonstop. My favorite foliage plant for the summer is so easy to maintain. In June I prune our aucuba shrub and place the branches in water. Over the summer they sprout roots. In the fall I have numerous specimens to plant outside. A win win!



The support of our clubs and members has been greatly appreciated. Even though we have not had our usual meetings and activities we have kept in touch. Our November 2020 statewide meeting has been canceled. We hope to meet on April 21, 2021. Please save the date and we will keep you posted. Our next newsletter is planned for February.

I wish you a Healthy, Safe, Fall, Winter and Happy Holidays with your families!

First Vice President Message

DFGC Meetings 2020 - 2021

I am pleased that the September newsletter will be published. I am looking forward to read what some clubs may have been able to achieve in these times.

As First Vice President of the DFGC one of my responsibilities is to arrange programs for the DFGC state meetings. These are different times. The meeting venues are still closed, but if they open we are tentatively ready. The speakers are not contracted as there are too many unknowns. That said, the following programs may or may not happen, but their description may provide a glimmer of what might be.

Kirk R. Brown National Outreach Coordinator for America's oldest garden Magnolia Plantation in Charleston, S.C. who was to be our speaker last April may be able to be our speaker this April. I have asked his main program this year to be in person as John Bartram America's Master Gardener. I'm sure he will speak a little about Magnolia Plantation also. Kirk is a recipient of the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association's "Green Achiever Award" for advancing horticulture in Pennsylvania. Kirk delivers more than 150 lectures across the country to the green industry association as America's Master Gardener, John Bartram, as the country's leading landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead and as himself on topics ranging from the History Garden in America to Landscape design. Kirk also teaches many of the certified classes for the National Garden Club's Landscape Design Schools.

Dottie Howatt may do a program on "How to do Fun and Easy Centerpieces for Events". Dottie is an Accredited Master Flower Show Judge, an NGC Flower Show School Symposium Horticulture Instructor, is responsible for DFGC judges credentials and is also a former DFGC President.

I hope all are well and have adjusted to the way things are now, and hope to see you soon!

The First Vice President is also responsible for inspirations at each DFGC meeting. I hope you enjoy what I would have repeated for the November meeting which is not happening:

May your stuffing be tasty, May your turkey be plump.
May your potatoes and gravy have nary a lump.
May your yams be delicious and your pies take the prize,
And may your Thanksgiving dinner stay off of your thighs.

Barbara DeRue
First Vice President



I thought this might be a good time to review parliamentary procedure for Club meetings.
~Dottie Howatt

Club Meeting Etiquette and Motions



- You may only speak if recognized, by name, by the Club President
- Only one member may speak at a time
- No cross conversations or side comments

Basic steps in presenting a motion

To present a motion a club member must:

- Stand and be recognized by the Club President
- State the motion (just necessary information) beginning with “I move”....
- To move forward with the motion another club member, first recognized by the Club President, must **second** the motion. It does not mean that that person is necessarily in favor of the motion just that he/she wishes to hear and discuss the motion. If no one seconds the motion, it may not be discussed.
- If it is moved and seconded, the Club President will so state and it will move on to discussion beginning with the member that made the motion.

Club Presidential Authority

No report, list, letter, request or email may be disseminated within the club, state or region without first going through the Club President. The Club President is the ultimate club authority and thus legally/ethically responsible for all actions, written or spoken by club officers or members.

2020 CAR-SGC CONFERENCE



It was with much thought and deep sadness that the 2020 CAR-SGC Conference, scheduled for October 18-20, was cancelled after a year and a half of work. Speakers and presenters were lined up, the two and a half day schedule had been approved, and the Family Tree Flower Show schedule had been finalized. There was also with much work done on welcome bags, vendors, centerpieces, tours, pricing, meals, etc. Then after three months of anxious waiting for the pandemic to ease, it became clear in June that in the best interest of our members, we had to pull the plug.

We would like to express our deep appreciation to all the people who worked so hard to put on a vibrant and dynamic conference. To our advisors, Lisa Arni, Dottie Howatt and Mary Noel. To the CAR-SGC Director, Gail Corle Manna, for all her advice and approvals. To Dottie Howatt and Lisa Arni for a fabulous Flower Show Schedule and great plans. To our wonderful committee chairs who gathered in Dover for two meetings with ideas and warm support: Margie Hutzinger, Marie VanDerWall, Alva Hutchison, Debbie Darr, Connie Raymond, Elva Davidson, Wanda Davis (Parliamentarian), Janet Point, Ginny Cardona, Mary Williford, Rosemary Campbell (Secretary), Judy Dayhoff, Barbara Boyce, Marybeth Johns and Carole Rompala.



We feel there are two silver linings amidst the sadness of cancellation. First, friends from garden clubs across Delaware worked together, strengthening friendships and creating new friendships. Second, Delaware will long be remembered for the “Come Together in Delaware” skit performed at the 2019 Conference. The seven state Presidents were presented with hats decorated with their state flower and other state symbols while the CAR-SGC Director received a hat with all the state flowers, representing a Coming Together in Delaware. We hope that all the Presidents in their hats, and all of you, can Come Together at the 2021 Conference in Pennsylvania.

Please stay well and stay safe until we can all gather together again.

Oksana Hoey, Chair

Margaret Woda, Vice Chair



The Big BLOOMS

The 7 Big BLOOMS that Changed Our World

Hosted by
The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania

2021 CAR-SGC CONFERENCE
November 2&3, 2021

Seven Springs Mountain Resort
777 Waterwheel Drive
Seven Springs, PA 15622



Awards

Barefoot Gardeners

First #1 Birds & Butterflies
First #3 Conservation
Second #4a Horticulture Therapy
First #10a Special Achievement
Third Yearbook

Brandywine Garden Club

First #1 Birds & Butterflies
First #5b Decoration Historic Building
Second #2 Civic Achievement
First #6 National Garden Week
First #2 Civic Achievement (STEMH)

Coastal Gardeners

First #2 Civic Achievement
Second #8a Website
First #9a Roadside Achievement
First #9b Roadside Improvement
First #10a Special Achievement
First Yearbook

Countryside Garden Club

First Landscape Award
First Attendance
First #5a Horticulture Preservation
Second #9a Roadside Beautification
Yearbook

Four Seasons Garden Club

HM Yearbook

Garden Gate Garden Club

Second \$5a Historic Preservation
Third Yearbook

Gardeners By The Sea

First #2 Civic Achievement
First #4a Horticulture Therapy
First #9b Roadside Improvement
First #10b Special Achievement-Holiday
Second #10b Special Achievement
First Yearbook

Hoe & Hope Garden Club

Second #8a Newsletter
First Yearbook

Middletown/Odesa Garden Club

First #2 Civic Achievement
First #3 Conservation

Middletown/Odesa Garden Club

(continued)

Second #5a Historic Gardens
First #5b Holiday
First #7 Holiday Public Education
First #8a Newsletter
First Yearbook
Second #7 Public Education
Second #10a Special Achievement (MOGC Crop Swap)
First #10a Special Achievement (Pocket Park)
First #11 Native Plant Pollination (Adopt-a-seedling)

Milford Garden Club

Second #2 Civic Achievement
First #6 National Garden Week
Second Yearbook
Second #8a Newsletter
First #10b Special Achievement-Holiday

Moonflower Garden Club

Third #9a Roadside Improvement
Third Yearbook

Plantation Lakes Garden Club

First #4b Horticulture Therapy
Second Yearbook
First #7 Public Education
First #8a Newsletter
First #8b Website
First #8c Publication (other)
Third #10a Special Achievement
First #10b Special Achievement

Potpourri Garden Club

First #1 Birds & Butterflies
First #5b Holiday-Woodburn
First #4a Horticulture Therapy
Third #5b Holiday-Woodburn-Dover
Second #7 Public Education
Second #5b Holiday-Dickinson
Second #10a Special Achievement
HM Yearbook

Spade & Trowel Garden Club

Second #2 Civic Achievement
Second Yearbook

Sussex Gardeners

First #2a Civic Achievement-Holiday
First #4 Horticulture-Holiday
Second Yearbook

*(HM-Honorable Mention)

Submitted by Maureen Eisenhart, Awards Chair

Horticulture

During this time of NOT attending events, NOT travelling, NOT being in large groups, may I offer some horticultural options that you CAN do.

The Number One thing for any gardener to do is “play in the dirt.” You can wander your garden, set up a new container, plant some seeds, bulbs or a tree, water some thirsty plants, or even pull weeds. There are chemicals in good soil that have been proven to improve mood and the sense of well-being. You should get your hands dirty, just wash them well when you come inside. Remember the nail brush and to sing “Twinkle, Twinkle.”



The next best option for gardeners is to watch someone else “play in the dirt.” There are numerous gardening sites and YouTube abounds in self-proclaimed garden experts. Some are much better than others. The best videos/classes offer a decent presenter who can offer valid, science-based gardening information. The ones I prefer tend to have .edu in their address. Regional examples are ext.vt.edu, extension.umd.edu, ext.vsu.edu, extension.psu.edu, njaes.rutgers.edu, udel.edu. Some sites are much easier to navigate than others.

Various commercial facilities offer programs on **Facebook Live**. Two for our general area are East Coast Garden Center every Thursday at 11:30AM and McDonald Garden Center on Wednesdays at 11:00AM.

I offer the computer options for when the weather is not cooperative to be able to do the first choice. When looking for good sites, I have spent way too much time not getting the best gardening experience. My go-to site for entertainment and learning is joegardener.com with Joe Lamp'l of Growing a Greener World on Public Television. Great gardens, good information, and well presented. Let us know your favorite. Keep playing in the dirt, but if you can't, visit a good garden site – real or virtual.



Margie Huntzinger
Horticulture Chair

As Membership Chair, I'd like to know how you were led to join a garden club.

What makes you keep your membership?

What committees and projects are most meaningful to you and your Club?

I first joined a small Federated Garden Club on Kent Island in Maryland when my neighbor Barbara Ware invited me to join. I was a stay at home Mom, with two young daughters. I learned so much! I have a favorite coral bells (heuchera) in my garden today which came from a member of that Club. Nearly forty years ago Ellen Klages gave me a division of her plant, which had been in her mother's garden. Truly, a legacy! Ellen took the time to share with me the basics of the mechanics of floral arrangements. She passed her love of gardening and floral design to me. Fast forward, a few years ago Barbara moved to Delaware from New Hampshire and joined our Club, Gardeners by the Sea.

Members Matter Most is the theme our National President Gay Austin chose. I had the privilege to serve as the page for Gay Austin when she came to Delaware in November 2019 for our state meeting. Gay uses this theme to remind us that **ACTIVE** membership is the Key to Success! We want your love of Garden Club to blossom and grow!

In the words of our National President, "If we all share our passion for our organization, it will become a way for us all to bloom and grow together". She reminds us that all Club members deserve a well-run organization. Invite others to JOIN US!

I look forward to reading the reports of the Clubs in this newsletter to see all of the creative ways you have stayed in touch with your members during this pandemic. Earlier in the summer, Janet Point of Sussex Gardeners reached out to other presidents of the Clubs in Sussex County to gather suggestions for this coming year. We can learn from one another!



MEMBERS MATTER MOST!

ACTIVE members are the key to our success! YOU are the key to our success!



DFGC LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life Membership is an appropriate, appreciated, and affordable way for a local club and DFGC to say "Thank You" to a club founder, an out-going president or a hard-working volunteer. The one-time \$50 membership fee helps to fund the DFGC Scholarship Program.

For more information about DFGC Life Membership, please e-mail me at: abhutchison47@gmail.com

Alva Hutchison
Membership Chair

Many of our Clubs have had administrative changes during this past year. Not only new Presidents but Publicity Chairs as well. Sometimes the Newsletter Guidelines are passed on but sometimes they are not so I thought this may be a good time to see that all Clubs have this information for future issues.

Guidelines for Articles Submitted for Inclusion into the DFGC Newsletter



Photos and images should be in .jpg format.

Please insert the photos in their proper place in the article. If you are not able to do so, please let it be known where they are to appear.

Submitted articles should be created in either MS Word, MS Publisher or as an Adobe PDF file.

Format: Arial font - size 12 - single spaced.

Garden Club articles are limited to one page.

Officer and Committee reports or articles are not limited in size.

The newsletter will be created in MS Publisher but it will be distributed in Adobe PDF format by the DFGC President via e-mail to all Club Presidents.

Please submit articles to Judy Dayhoff at judy@dayhoff.org before each deadline.
Questions? Phone: (302) 988-2061

Deadline Dates: February 1st - May 1st - September 1st
Publish Dates: February 15th - May 15th - September 15th

**The editor reserves the right to make editorial changes but the content will not be changed.

Judy Dayhoff
Newsletter Editor

Delaware Judges Council

Some good news for five Delaware Judge's Council members. The following ladies, who submitted designs for the 2021 Vision of Beauty Calendar, have had their design photos accepted. This is the first time Delaware has had five member's selected in one year by the NGC Vision of Beauty Calendar committee. This is truly a honor for Delaware Judge's Council. Congratulations Ladies.

The calendars, which usually are on sale now from NGC Member Services on line, have been delayed from the printer because of the pandemic. But the printing presses should be up and running by now. To order on line, type in <http://www.gardenclub.org>. Click on member and you will be asked for user name (conserve) and password (nature) click on "Our Store". Last year's 2020 calendars are sold out.

Karen Batt's son Jeffrey, was the professional photographer who made the designs look fabulous. He is a talented photographer who understands design and works well with color and produces photos with sharp edges. Many thanks to Jeff for his artistry.



Joy Ericson



Alice Witterholt



Dottie Howatt



Joy Ericson



Connie Raymond



Marty Rushlow

Scholarship

It is always exciting to receive information from former scholarship recipients. I recently received an update from Mark Meloni. Mark was our 2017 and 2018 scholarship winner and was also a NGC winner both years. Mark wrote, "I just finished my first few weeks as an Environmental Control Tech with Delaware Public Health Laboratory. My job is to collect water samples from public water systems.

Thanks again for the financial support through college. It has made a world of difference."

Congratulations to Mark for a job well done!

Elva Davidson, Scholarship Chair



Delaware Nature Society

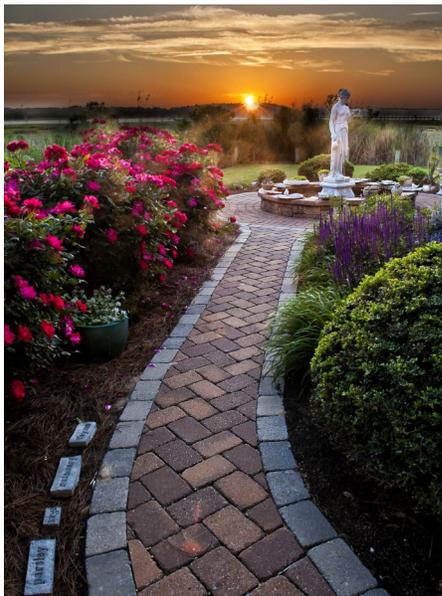


I have received an e-mail from Emily Knearl, Director of Advocacy and External Affairs stating that the Centers have survived the tornado that came down near Ashland and are busy planning a slate of social distancing appropriate fall events. Ashland trails are open but walkers are urged to stay on the paths.

We are going to have a very exciting announcement next week that gardeners would love to hear!! Visit our website: www.delnature.org for more news. They have heaps of programs and even some recipes.

Joy Ericson, Delaware Nature Society Chair

Late Breaking Good News



"Sunset Over the Bay" by Ken Arni

Back in June I entered the PHS (Philadelphia Horticulture Society) Outdoor Garden virtual garden contest. Applicants could enter up to 10 pictures of their garden and the pictures were judged.

They received over 500 entries! I was just informed that I received a 'Blue Ribbon' for my 'Old World Style Pollinator Garden'. Certainly some good news in the midst of this stay at home madness.

The photo was taken by my favorite photographer and husband - Ken Arni (no surprise there).

And yes, it is the photo chosen by Maureen Ryan for this year's Gardeners By the Sea yearbook cover!

Submitted by Lisa Arni
Former DFGC President

The DCH Board Meetings were put on hold and immediately the Executive Director, staff, and the Board began working on funding, not knowing how long the pandemic might go on. A huge Fundraiser, the Rare Plant Auction, at Longwood Gardens was canceled and hopefully, will take place next year. As of this date, due to the excellent leadership of Vikram Krishnamurthy, the organization is stable. Zoom board meetings began in May where we discussed a number of changes in how the public can continue to benefit from DCH's education and other programs.

Since April, a number of virtual education seminars were conducted each month. I personally attended the seminar on "How to Use Clematis in Your Garden Design" and another on perennials in the garden. Free Clematis were given out to the public after the seminar. Throughout the month of May, a series of "Garden Walks" were scheduled for the community to tour garden designs in the Wilmington area. Attending some of these, I was impressed with DCH's concentration on safety. Masks, social distancing, and all garden hosts had sanitizer available for us to use. All of the gardens were unique in their designs, but also in their use of interesting garden art. In September, DCH is sponsoring two more garden walks, educational sessions on planting bulbs, as well as a Fall bulb sale.

DCH partnered with Pennsylvania Horticulture Harvest 2020 program. The program organizes thousands of individuals to grow food to donate to food pantries. DCH has received numerous calls about the donation of their vegetables and together we are addressing food insecurities created by the pandemic.

A Virtual Garden Contest took place over the summer. DCH asked for the community to submit photos of their gardens to be judged in three different areas: flowers, indoor plants and vegetables. This is another creative way to keep gardeners engaged during the pandemic.

In conclusion, I will leave you with this article by one of the DCH staff persons. It is the description of his Virtual Garden Contest Entry.

My Happy Place

By "Lo-Raine" by Gordon | Aug 3, 2020 | VGC 2020 - Flowers, Virtual Garden Contest 2020

Garden description: "My Happy Place" has been personally crafted with an array of colorful flowers and greenery that creates an atmosphere of warmth, calm, and peacefulness. The breathtaking view of the sunset connects me to a place and time where my spirit is captured by the beauty of nature. My Happy Place

Who are the gardeners: I am the hands-on gardener with a passion to create life and love into each plant and flower so that it may flourish with enrichment and beauty to enhance the environment.

Why do you garden: I garden to connect with the beauty of the universe which allows me to wait for daily visits from my favorite spirit animals Butterflies, Dragonflies, and Hummingbirds. I enjoy the scenery of watching the Hummingbirds quench their thirst throughout the day. As I sit in-home office, I am mesmerized by the view of flowers blooming. "My Happy Place" affords me the opportunity to unwind and meditate. Sunbathing, watching the sunrise and sunset is one of my greatest treasures. While enjoying all the pleasures of my Happy Place, I indulge in my favorite all-natural hand-crafted Ginger Beverage "Jinjaluv."

How has gardening impacted you during this time: Gardening has impacted me in a positive way during this unprecedented time. It has allowed me to stop and watch the flowers bloom; provided so many opportunities to slow down and realize the simple things in life. Life has been the Best Ever, not being caught up in the hustle and bustle from the outside world.

What do you have in your garden? "My Happy Place" boasts with five colorful variety of Canna Lilies, three vibrant colors of Hibiscus, along with a Perennial Hibiscus, Palm Trees, Ferns, Caladiums, and two Hardy Banana Trees.

Do you have any problems with disease or pests? If so, how are you dealing with this problem? Two Lantern Flies made it into my My Happy Place. Fortunately, they did not make it out. As fast-moving as they are, I was able to quickly stomp them to the ground.

Submitted by Marybeth Johns, Chair



BAREFOOT GARDENERS



Since our last newsletter in February, many of our planned activities and community service events have been can-celled. We did, however, get to share a morning outdoors with Catherine Winkler of Roots Garden Center in Selbyville, Delaware learning all about growing vegetables in gardens and in pots and which soils work best.

Our Club was also pleased to announce the recipients of our 2020 scholarship program. Two outstanding Indian River High School seniors were selected to receive our scholarship checks. Abigail West of Frankford received a check in the amount of \$1,000. Abigail will be attending West Virginia University pursuing a degree in agribusiness to one day become a farm loan officer. Conner Jensen of Selbyville received a check in the amount of \$500. Conner will be attending Kansas State University pursuing a degree in horticulture to eventually own a hydroponic business. Our Annual Plant Sale during Mother's Day weekend is the main fundraiser for our Scholarship Fund. Because of Covid-19, the plant sale was cancelled. Fortunately, we had enough resources from last years fundraisers to allow us to grant two scholarships. This is always very special for us to be able to help these young, talented students enter into agricultural studies.



A big thank you to Janet Hess and our Civic Development Committee for continuing to keep the town pots throughout Fenwick Island beautiful and growing.

As everything seems to be moving to a virtual format these days, our President Debbie Micsky organized a virtual flower arranging class. Many in our group tuned in and some very beautiful arrangements were created (see photos). Nice job ladies!



Design by Barbara Wilson



Design by Lizbeth Lear



Design by Debbie Bennitt

Happy Gardening!

BRANDYWINE GARDEN CLUB

Despite the pandemic, Brandywine Garden Club has found a way to keep up our Children's Garden project behind the Brandywine Hundred Library thriving. Social distancing was practiced and new native perennials were added in the spring to try and attract more pollinators. Cleanup in the spring, weeding and mulching was carried out while staying far apart. Later in May, colorful annuals were added to line the sidewalk and the ends of the concrete amphitheater. The lawn mowing by the county has been less frequent and the weeds growing on the edge of the lawn were making our garden look seedy, so our club purchased a battery weed trimmer to cut them down ourselves. We have a schedule made up for each week. Our garden has never looked so beautiful as it has this year, despite the drought earlier in the summer and the floods later on. A couple of members also painted words on rocks with book titles or encouraging words and designed a mosaic with a dragonfly to place throughout the garden.



We managed to meet through our March meeting and hold our library design demonstration given by Karen Batt and Carol Callaghan before everything closed down. We had to cancel our April meeting and our biannual plant sale, but we did meet by Zoom in May. We held another planning meeting the end of July to get ready for next year. We have a couple of meetings planned outdoors and on Zoom for the near future. We have to be creative in these times. Fortunately, our club numbers are small enough to manage doing this and all are able to participate in Zoom.



Our club is now working on improving growing space for the Short Term Ministry Housing project that we help with. The children were delighted with the vegetables grown in the space created for the houses a year or so ago. Now they will have more room to plant herbs or other vegetables in new planter boxes installed this week. We are looking forward to our planned activities in the upcoming year while still being thoughtful of our fellow members health and safety. 2020 will be a year we will never forget! Keep those gardens flourishing!

COASTAL GARDENERS

May 20, 2020

We did our Adopt A Highway clean up on Piney Neck Rd leading to the Delaware Botanic Gardens. We had 6 volunteers and collected 8 bags of trash. We followed all safety rules and regulations concerning COVID-19. Pictured from left to right: Jackie Dietrich, Joelle Ward, Sandy Daniels, Sally Scarangella, Geri Grammes, and Cheryl Quirk



May 27 to June 28, 2020

Plantings were done at the Tower Rd State Park entrance oceanside by our club. Plantings were also done by the Club at Dagsboro Town Hall. Again observing safety rules and regulations. The club has continued to water all summer with beautiful success!



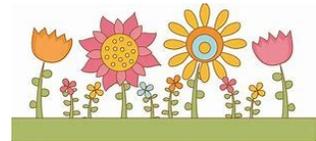
Joelle Ward, Sandy Daniels, Doug Long (State Park Superintendent) and Liz Nalle



Sally Scarangella



COUNTRYSIDE GARDEN CLUB



Countryside Garden Club of Hockessin has only missed two meetings thus far due to COVID 19, our May meeting and June picnic BUT in July we gathered at a member's house outside, with masks and at a social distance as best we could for a Kokedama workshop given by another member and a lovely garden tour! WE ALL were enlightened and inspired by our workshop and truly happy to be together in a different way!



The Inspired Backyard Group



Beautiful Results

What is Kokedama? You might ask. So after looking it up on Wikipedia, this is what I found.

Kokedama

Kokedama (in English, literally "moss ball") is a ball of soil, covered with moss, on which an ornamental plant grows. The idea has its origins in Japan, where it is a combination of the nearai literally "root wash," but meaning "no pot" bonsai and kusamono planting styles. Today, it is very popular in Japanese gardens. Kokedama is also called poor man's bonsai. It's made of wet akadama soil and keto (peat) formed to a ball. The plant is set into the ball and afterwards the moss is wrapped around. Aluminum wire or nylon wire fixes the whole bundle, and is sometimes used to suspend the Kokedama in the air. Here are other examples.





*The Garden Club
Of Wilmington*

In response to the COVID19 pandemic, the Garden Club of Wilmington has gone virtual.

This fall, our monthly club meetings will be held on Zoom. In anticipation of this event, our members started working with scheduled speakers last spring to assure that their programs could be presented virtually. We will have a practice meeting for all members later in September, followed by our 2020 awards presentation which was postponed from June.

We are also holding committee meetings, our fall flower show, our fall photography show, and a variety of workshops virtually. The silver lining to this is that all club members, even those who live far away, can participate.

Additionally, the GCW has expanded its website for both the public and its members. We are offering more horticultural and conservation information to our members online, and plan to showcase members' gardens for the public beginning this fall.

We hope to be able to meet in person in 2021, but plan to remain flexible in the event that meeting virtually is the safest and best option for our members.

Lucinda Laird
President
Garden Club of Wilmington



POTPOURRI GARDEN CLUB



Not much happening in our Club during the Covid-19 Pandemic, but since we are cooking at home more, I did want to share a recipe with you. Every time I make this recipe, I feel like we are eating in a restaurant. That's important in today's world!

CHICKEN PARMIGIANA

½ cup dry breadcrumbs

3 tablespoons parmesan cheese

¾ teaspoon Italian seasoning

½ teaspoon garlic powder

½ teaspoon salt

¼ cup egg substitute

4 boneless skinless chicken breast halves

1 jar meatless spaghetti sauce (or your own sauce)

¾ cup shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese

¼ cup shredded Parmesan cheese

In a shallow bowl, combine bread crumbs, grated Parmesan cheese, Italian seasoning, garlic powder and salt. In another bowl, beat egg substitute, then roll chicken in crumbs. Place in a 13" x 9" x 2" baking dish coated with nonstick cooking spray. Bake uncovered at 375° for 10 minutes. Turn chicken and bake for 10 more minutes. Pour spaghetti sauce over chicken; bake 5 minutes. Sprinkle with cheeses, bake 10 minutes longer until the juices run clear. Serve with a side of spaghetti.

Stay safe, Ginny Leczner

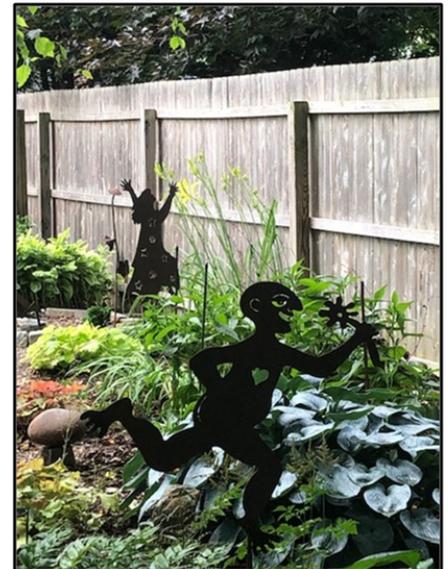


GARDEN GATE GARDEN CLUB



We never realized how much we enjoyed seeing our friends each month for meetings until we couldn't see them. Everyone was feeling pretty lost this spring so our president, Elaine Hickey sent out a request to the members to let her know if anyone would be open to having members stop by and see their gardens. Since we were all stuck at home, this was an opportunity to see friends and their gardens. It was a great reprieve to the cabin fever we were all experiencing. The idea snowballed into having two days of garden tours at our homes. A schedule was set up and we would visit each home consecutively throughout the day. We made sure we were all wearing masks and social distancing. Lee Kallos and Marian Simpson held the last tour of the day and provided a wonderful al fresco meal that we enjoyed in the garden.

It was quite interesting to see how each garden matched the individual personality of the owner. Every garden was special and gave us so many ideas for our own gardens. I think this will become an annual tradition of the club and was truly a respite in these difficult times.



GARDENERS BY THE SEA

Gardeners by the Sea starts the year with new officers: President: Alva Hutchison, Vice-President: Maryanne Green, Corresponding Secretary: Rosemarie Kistenmacher, Recording Secretary: Ellen Dowling, Treasurer: Carolyn Clipp.

New President Alva Hutchison delivered her President's Message to members both electronically and via a handwritten note forwarding a newly created newsletter entitled "The Latest Buzz: Members Matter Most." The newsletter gives an overview of GBTS Officers, Committee and Project Chairs, and a year-at-a-glance of our upcoming activities beginning September 2020. In addition, two newly created business cards (one for themselves and one to hand out to prospective new members) were provided.



Alva Hutchison

Ongoing Meetings: In keeping with the "Members Matter Most" theme, we embraced videoconferencing (Zoom) to stay connected with Members. We held our June meeting, Board meetings and several committee meetings by Zoom. Moreover, September and October meetings are planned Zoom videoconferencing meetings and our respective planned Program speakers will provide videos of their presentations for our members to learn and enjoy.



GBTS Facebook Page: Our GBTS Facebook page was created a little more than one year ago and has served as a mechanism to share information such as meetings, events, new membership outreach, and continuing education videos. We challenged our members to submit photographs of their gardens and activities, etc. We are thankful that gardening was NOT canceled in 2020! Our Members truly have beautiful gardens! Follow us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/Gardeners-by-the-Sea-Garden-Club-Delaware-103745384363320>

GBTS Website: New Membership Pictorial Forthcoming: GBTS members do miss the comradery of getting together. In order to stay even more connected, we are in the midst of creating a GBTS pictorial that will be on our GBTS Website -- Members Only Section. This will be a welcome addition for all members to know one another, especially our newest members. Please visit: www.gardenersbythesea.com

Membership – Even though we are unable to meet in person, the enthusiasm of our members and activities featured on our Facebook page and website inspired interest in joining our Club. The Membership Committee is planning a Mentor Program to help our new members get to know GBTS and intentionally enhance the experience for all.

Horticulture Specialty Show entitled "The Language of Flowers," Plant Sale, and Garden and Art Tour: "The Language and Flowers" is rescheduled to Saturday June 12, 2021. In addition, we have added a Garden and Art Tour, scheduled for Friday, June 11 and June 12 that will showcase 4-7 lovely gardens in Ocean View. GBTS members have been in full swing working on the preliminary arrangements already! Mark your calendars!



We are excited that the Ocean View Historical Society is partnering to have the Historic Village open with docents as part of our Garden and Art Tour. In addition, a member planted a new herb garden in the Village as our newest Community Project. Members plan to hold a workshop to make wreaths for the Village for this Christmas holiday season.

Plan to visit our Blue Star Memorial Marker in Bethany Beach!





MIDDLETOWN-ODESSA GARDEN CLUB



Who's ready for a new year? Although this garden club year may look a bit different, our members have been busy planning fun, informative and most of all, safe meetings and activities.

Members were able to come help maintain the Native Gardens at the Corbit Calloway Memorial Library, the historical Corbit Sharp Gardens in Odesa and the Cochran Square in Middletown. No amount of heat or bugs kept our members away from beautifying and maintaining our public gardens. We are grateful to all who participated.



Crop Swap has been a very successful outreach program to our community even despite Covid. The Crop Swap has met safely every other week throughout the summer on the grounds of the Corbit Calloway Memorial Library. The library was very happy to have this program still continue on their grounds since the library has been closed since March.



Our Club continues to plan meetings and limited excursions the safest way possible and continue to keep our members informed of conservation efforts and community engagement. We look forward to another fun, informative year!

MILFORD GARDEN CLUB

Over the summer, members of the Milford Garden Club (MGC) have worked in small, masked groups at continuing community service projects, met to plan the upcoming Club year, and enjoyed an outdoor Social.



At the Delaware Veterans Home several MGC members were able to plant red, white, and blue annuals in numerous containers, as well as, vegetable plants and seeds in large grow boxes.

Twice each month MGC helps maintain downtown gardens at Milford Senior Center and the Riverfront Theater, even as the facilities are closed due to Covid-19. At present, one of the planting beds at the Senior Center is being reimaged into a sustainable, natives-only education garden. Plans are in hand and the physical work will progress as the weather cools.

After several meetings and many emails MGC has completed its 2020-2021 Yearbook. Thank you to my Board and a special thank you to Linda Peters for her very incredible talents as Editor-in-Chief. We may, or may not, get to do what has been projected, but we have hopes. Due to uncertainties of the pandemic, many of our programs are based on the bountiful knowledge of Club members rather than guest presenters.

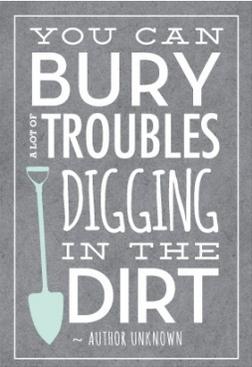
Excerpt from the Milford Senior Center Newsletter

**“A BIG SHOUT OUT TO THE MILFORD GARDEN CLUB”
WE APPRECIATE IT HERE AT THE MILFORD SENIOR CENTER.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR DEDICATION
AND HARD WORK!**



“If you can be anything, be Kind”

In early August MGC met at an informal Garden Social in Holly Heverly’s back yard. We set the seats in a BIG open circle, did all the proper mask wearing and social distancing, and enjoyed the morning out immensely. A great time to chatter and catch up as a group! Our last meeting had been on March 4, 2020, before all our lives changed.



The Milford Garden Club is moving forward with hope, caring for our community, and still playing in the dirt.

Margie Huntzinger
MGC President





“RECYCLE THIS, NOT THAT!” featured at PLGC 3rd Annual Education Program

On March 5, just before the COVID Crisis hit, our Community Center was standing room only for a presentation by Stacey Helmer, Sr. Education & Outreach Coordinator for DE Solid Waste Authority. Congrats to the Program Committee for an event that generated widespread interest from community residents.

Creative leadership kept PLGC programs, projects, activities alive and active

April and May PLGC meetings were cancelled due to COVID restrictions, but members were excited to see one another at our June meeting, socially distanced, in the parking lot. The following activities/projects were adapted.

MAY BASKETS 2020

On May 1st, PLGC celebrated our **5th Annual May Basket event**, making it “a beautiful day in the neighborhood.” Our plans for a community May Basket demonstration had to be cancelled, but PLGC Website instructions and photos were a helpful substitute. With folks stuck at home, we had more participation from non-member residents this year, making it a successful event, and bringing a touch of joy and beauty to an otherwise difficult Spring.



THE CHILDREN’S GARDEN

PLGC's newest Service Project is the brainchild of Peggy Kircher, and was scheduled for plot preparation and Spring planting in May. For several months, Peggy worked to merge the efforts of PLGC members and the Plantation Lakes Community Events Committee in a collaborative project for the benefit of the children in our development. To counter the disappointment of putting this project on hold until Spring, 2021, PLGC provided mini-flats of four begonias to the children in our community, delivering plants to 40 children. This Fall we will be offering free Spring bulbs, hoping to keep up the interest of the children until The Children's Garden is available for planting next year.

ATLANTIC SHORES Health & Rehab Center; visits restricted



photo by
Debbie Darr

Patient therapy workshops had to be cancelled, but PLGC’s “Color A Card” project brightened the day for 150 patients and staff with flower themed drawings hand colored by club members and community residents. COVID access restrictions prevented us from our spring planting of patient gardens, but that did not deter PLGC members! After learning that low risk patients and their families were able to visit one another outdoors on the patio, we went into action. We planted two large containers and a few small ones to spruce up the patio, adding a touch of cheerfulness to an otherwise drab area. It took only a few committee members, and a willingness to see the need and find a solution, to brighten the day for our friends at Atlantic Shores. Photo on the left: Patient Activities Chair Mary Balasi, Atlantic Shores rec therapy director Brenda Zullo, and Gardens Chair Janet Parham.



Salt Air Gardeners (SAG) – New Executive Board 2020 – 2022

Oksana Hoey was elected as our new president and we also said goodbye to one our original club founders – Lois McNamara. Oksana and the dedicated and talented Board are already tackling the new challenges and creating new ways to continue staying connected.

Using Zoom Technology to Stay Connected



We have conducted several meetings using Zoom. This allowed us to conduct club business; share updates on our various projects; and

we also played Gardening Trivia utilizing the Zoom polling function.

New SAG Facebook Page Launched

Topics shared include updates on projects, points of interest in our area, tips from gardeners, and interest stories from other gardening clubs. We launched “How Does My Garden Grow” to feature plants in our gardens. Search for @saltairgardeners and like our page.

Bethany Fenwick Chamber of Commerce



After a short delay due to restrictions, weeding, mulching, and planting were completed this spring.

Indian River Life Saving Station



Our team spruced up the landscape beds and the rain garden. New stone borders and pine straw were added to finish the beds on the side of the building (phase 3 area).

Barbara K. Brooks Transition House

Vegetable plants, tools, and materials were delivered to the home. For safety, this year the women at the house will do the planting by themselves. We later checked back, and the garden is flourishing.



Bay Forest Circle Project



Many of our members live in the Bay Forest (BF) Community. We partnered with the community to improve the appearance and natural beauty of the circle on Bay Forest Drive.

Feed the Healers

Early in the Covid-19 crisis, SAG members donated \$1,250 to Beebe Healthcare workers for meals.



SPADE & TROWEL GARDEN CLUB

Spade & Trowel Garden Club of Seaford sponsored a bus to the Philadelphia Flower Show on March 3 and gathered for our regular club meeting on March 10. Little did we realize then that a novel coronavirus from the other side of the world would disrupt our lives so much. Meetings were cancelled. Our year-end picnic and plant auction were cancelled.

Because plants had been ordered - and grown specifically for us by hort students at Del Tech in Georgetown - for our downtown beautification projects, several members of the club, wearing masks and socially distancing as much as possible, planted annuals in baskets on the bridge near Nanticoke Memorial Hospital and on the railroad bridge. Containers were replanted for participating businesses and at City Hall. When a few of the plants disappeared from the bridge, people took notice - and took action. An employee of Home Depot in Dover arranged a donation of some \$500 worth of plants and potting soil. A friend of the club had banners made thanking medical professionals and essential workers, which was fastened to the bridge.

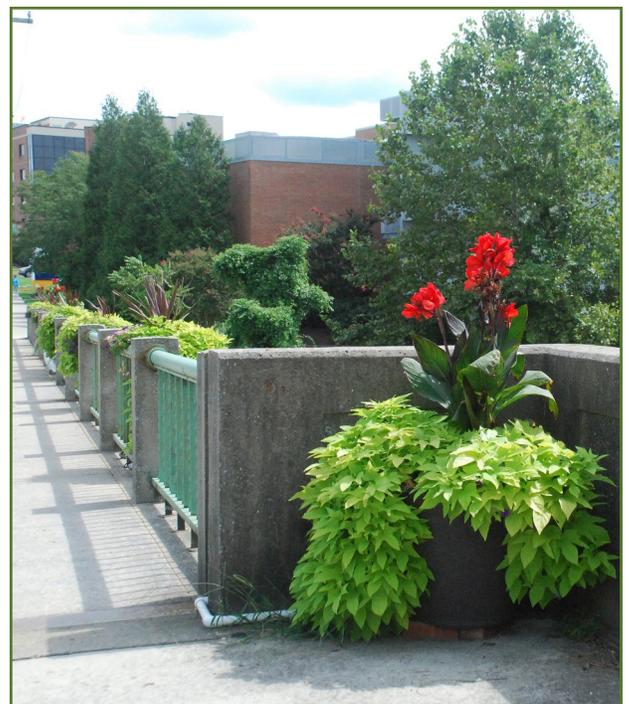
With children out of school and facilities on lock-down, service projects such as the youth garden club and gardens the Teen Challenge Home of Hope were put on hold. The club decided that a planned major fundraiser in late spring, with a speaker on floral design and a luncheon at the new Ross Station, would not be successful, even in a modified form, so it was cancelled.

The board of directors met in late July to consider plans for the 2020-21 fiscal year. Although Vice President Mary Lynch Huberty had done an outstanding job of planning programs for the entire year, and securing commitments from speakers in these uncertain times, all meetings, workshops and trips have been cancelled through the end of December. The library, where we meet, could not tell us when the meeting room would be again available for public use. The 2021 schedule will be determined at the end of the year. The board voted to have dues which were paid in April cover two years rather than one. In lieu of publishing a yearbook, an addendum will be distributed to update the membership roster.

Two fundraising efforts will continue. Pecan sales can be done in relative safety, with no outside advertising done. Holiday wreaths, swags, centerpieces and cemetery mounds will be offered on a limited basis to previous customers only, many of whom have made their purchases part of Christmas tradition.

Members have kept in touch by email and phone calls. We have been saddened this year by the passing of several members, including former president Nancy Hickman, Faith Ewen, Ada Blazier, Betty Gast, and former member Dusty Betts.

Photos below show how well the plantings at the hospital bridge have done this year in full sun with irrigation.





Sussex Gardeners pressed PAUSE in mid-March. Then quickly pivoted with their usual energy and determination.

Although regular meetings were suspended, members have been kept engaged by receiving President Janet Point's **Monday Update** delivered to their email address weekly. Regular Facebook posts highlight great reads, gorgeous pictures, stimulating educational opportunities and thoughtful comments www.facebook.com/groups/www.sussexgardenersgardenclub.org

Dedicated Club Officers and Standing Committee Chairs have been holding meetings on Zoom. Program plans and numerous projects are under active discussion with a concern for safety.

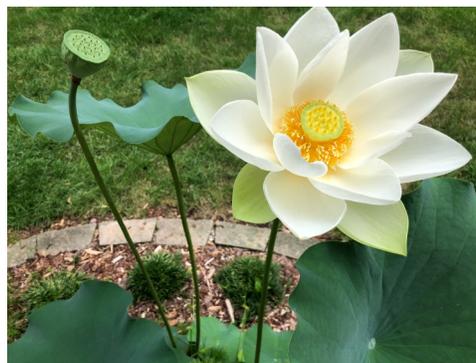


The Ways and Means Committee has been busy reviewing past fundraisers and are making plans for our return from the COVID-19 hiatus. Members Joan Sundstrom and Elaine Taylor (Treasurer) are pictured (October, 2019).

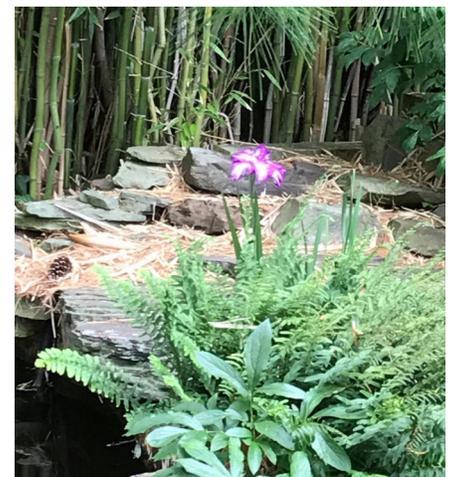
Members have been exchanging plants, produce, ideas and encouragement in the absence of meetings, projects and friendship lunches. "Show and Tells" shared on Facebook and by Email feature snapshots of flowers growing in our gardens.



Hibiscus 'Starry Starry Night'



'Alba Grandiflora' White Lotus



'Iris ensata' Japanese Water Iris

Photos by: Kate Matlock Renner, Donna Fellows, and Marty Last

Coming in September: Tour of Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek in Dagsboro



Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs “Dedicated to Delaware”

President's Project 2019-2021
Garden Clubs Creating Gardens!

Our members have the opportunity to develop the first public, free admission Children's Garden in Delaware! Our children are our future club members and the stewards of our world. Let's create a place where they can explore their world and let their imaginations soar!

Attracting new members is vital to our future. 2500 visitors tour the First State Heritage Park Welcome Center in Dover each month. Our Federation will have a visual presence in the Welcome Center Garden. Contact information will be available at a kiosk telling visitors about our Federation and how they may become members.

Please support these exciting garden projects! We are asking each club to contribute their ideas, time, and funds to make these gardens a success! We will be purchasing native plants and some annuals for additional color. Accessories for the children's garden may include benches, butterfly houses, stepping stones, and various items to enhance the garden. These gardens will be an ongoing project from July, 2019 through June, 2021. To begin the project I am asking each club to donate \$5 per member by September 30, 2019.. After the initial startup the clubs may make donations for specific items. All contributions will be gratefully acknowledged with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Club Name _____

Mailing address _____

Donation Amount _____

Submitted by (name of individual) _____ Date _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

Please make your check payable to **DFGC** and note on the lower left corner of the check which project you prefer. Please send your check and this form by September 30, 2019 to:

Connie Raymond, DFGC President
111 Pennwood Drive
Dover, DE 19901

Thank you for your generous support.



DELAWARE FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS
**TREE-mendous Delaware Tree Planting
 at Delaware Botanic Gardens**



When you donate \$100 to Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs (DFGC) in support of **TREE-mendous Delaware Tree Planting 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 flowering tree 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 Arn
 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)

Word Search - Discover Delaware II

N	A	M	R	E	K	C	O	O	L	R	N	W	B	R
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Tall ship
 State beverage
 Tavern in Leipsic
 Magazine-Delaware ----
 Local television station
 Bridgeville festival meat
 Designer of the Green
 Waterfront in New Castle
 Manufacturer of space suit
 3rd friendliest ---- state
 Native Indians in
 State dessert
 State fish

Tourist event-May, Sept.
 Gov. from Seaford
 "Dead Poet Society" school
 State wildlife animal
 July tourists go to Harrington
 College in downtown Dover
 Christmas in ----
 Current Governor
 Lake in Dover, Rehoboth
 Bird frequently seen in Delaware
 Transportation-Lewes, Woodland
 Kiplinger listed Delaware top state for ----
 Who cast deciding vote for Declaration of Independence

Local orchard
 First state capital
 Prominent Dover family
 First female governor
 3 bridges over D & C canal
 Location of Fort Delaware
 Museum of American Art
 State fruit
 Trees in Trap Pond