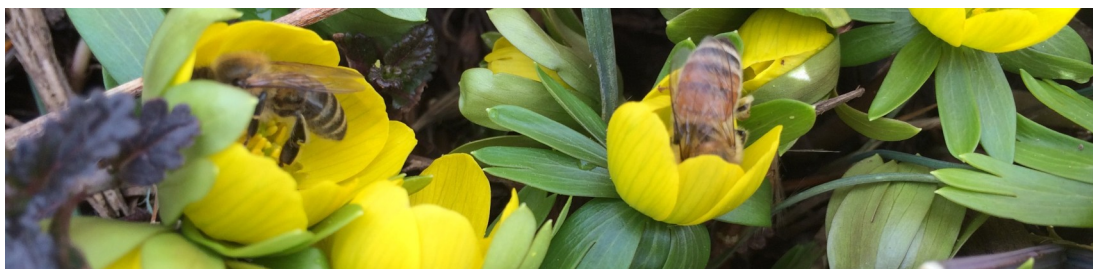




DFGC 2020 Newsletter



~President's Message~

Fall was a very busy season for DFGC. In September I attended the NGC Annual Fall Board meeting in St. Louis. I was honored to be present for the Dedication Program of the renovated garden at the National Headquarters. Our headquarters is adjacent to the Missouri Botanical Gardens, a beautiful place to visit. Throughout the building there are carpets displaying the state flower for each state. The Fall board meeting for 2020 will be held in Fargo, North Dakota.



The Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs held its annual conference in Arlington, Virginia in October. National Capital Area Garden Clubs hosted the event. Dottie Howatt and Joy Ericson created an outstanding floral tribute. Sharon Christopher and Karen Coffman prepared an education exhibit about the Nanticoke Indians and their role in the history of Delaware. Oksana Hoey and Margaret Woda, 2020



CAR Conference chairmen, extended a warm invitation to attendees to visit the 2020 Conference in October at Dover Downs. Their invitation included the 7 CAR state Presidents and the Director. Each President and the Director was presented with a lovely hat displaying their state flower, state bird, and state flag! They were a huge hit with the crowd.



Inside this issue:

Presidents Message	1
2019 CAR-SGC Conference	3
Delaware Botanic Garden Event	4
DFGC Life Membership	5
Key to Success	6
2020 CAR-SGC Conference	7
DFGC April General Meeting	8
Clubs News	9
President's Project Application	23
TREE-mendous Tree Planting Application	24
Delaware Towns Word Search	25

(Continued from page 1)



In November the DFGC welcomed our National Garden Club President, Gay Austin, to Delaware. My husband and I greeted Gay at BWI Airport on Tuesday, November 19. Tuesday evening members of our Board had dinner with the President at McGlynn's Restaurant on Silver Lake in Dover. Alva Hutchison, our Membership Chairman, stayed at the hotel and transported Gay to the dinners and our meeting. On Wednesday at our statewide membership meeting, Gay discussed the importance of our members and the challenge we face to increase our membership. Dottie Howatt designed a lovely tribute to display the structure of the

NGC. Joy Ericson created several holiday wreaths that were auctioned. Marge Kafader donated a hand created wreath of vintage ornaments. The wreath was auctioned and the money donated to the Children's Garden. (President's Project) Following the meeting, Gay visited the Memorial Garden for the Fallen at Dover Air Force Base. Former DFGC Presidents joined us for the opportunity to see the Garden. Our Garden Chairman, Ginny Leczner, arranged the visit. Wednesday evening the Board joined the President for dinner at Cool Springs Restaurant. Thursday morning, before Gay returned to Mississippi, she told me how much she enjoyed her first visit to Delaware.



I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays. As a new year begins we can anticipate many events on our calendar. Thank you to our club members who are working diligently to make the CAR Conference in October a success. Under the leadership of our Chairman, Oksana Hoey, and our Vice Chairman, Margaret Woda, Delaware will present an outstanding experience. Programs, workshops, tours, vendors, and much more will be offered. Mark your calendars and plan to attend October 18, 19, 20 at Dover Downs Hotel.

During January I met with representatives of Brecknock County Park to discuss a "wish list" and sponsorships for the Children's Garden. We are researching the costs of equipment and plant material and I will email the list to the club Presidents.



Our next statewide DFGC meeting will be April 15 at the Modern Maturity Center in Dover. We are excited to host Gail Corle Manna, our CAR Director. Gail is assisting us with the October conference and will share information about our region. Our June meeting will be June 17 at the Executive Banquet and Conference Center in Glasgow. We will present clubs with the awards they have earned throughout the year. I look forward to seeing you at both meetings. Please join us for an informative program, delicious lunch, and a wonderful opportunity to network with members of different clubs!

See Page 8 for more information on the April 15th Meeting.

A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows.
~Doug Larson~

State Flowers and Vintage Hats

Delaware extends invitation to the 2020 CAR-SGC Conference

The 2019 CAR-SGC General Meeting in Arlington, Virginia, concluded with an invitation from Oksana Hoey, Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs, to attend the 2020 Conference in Dover, Delaware. Each state president stepped to the front of the room one by one to be presented with a vintage felt hat that was adorned with her state flower. CAR-SGC Director Gail Corle Manna received a colorful hat that featured flowers representing all seven states in the region.

Delaware's invitation was a subtle but wonderful visual representation of the theme for next year's Conference, "Come Together in Delaware."



Pictured left to right: Presidents of Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, National Capital Area and New York garden clubs with CAR-SGC Director Gail Corle Manna

"Come Together in Delaware" will take place October 18-20 at Dover Downs Hotel & Casino. Hotel reservations will be available in January and Conference Registration will begin in May 2020.

Mark your calendar now and watch for more details regarding the speakers and activities on our website at CAR-SGC.org/Conference.

Delaware Botanic Gardens, a Celebration of Delmarva's Beautiful Coastal Plain



After eight years of planning, a dream has become a reality and a botanic garden has opened in southern Delaware. Explore the beauty of Delaware Botanic Gardens through the seasons and learn about the diverse ecology of this unique site. An update on projects, programming and garden events will be shared by Brian Trader, Deputy Executive Director and Director of Horticulture of Delaware Botanic Gardens. This event is being hosted by the Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs, Brandywine Garden Club, Delaware Botanic Gardens and Delaware Center for Horticulture.

Date: March 31, 2020

Time: 1:00-2:30

Location: Delaware Center for Horticulture
1810 North DuPont Street
Wilmington, DE 19810

Registration cost: Member Price: \$10.00 Non-Member Price: \$15.00

Register Online at: www.thedch.org/activities-events/calendar-events/event/presentation-delaware-botanic-gardens-celebration-delmarvas-

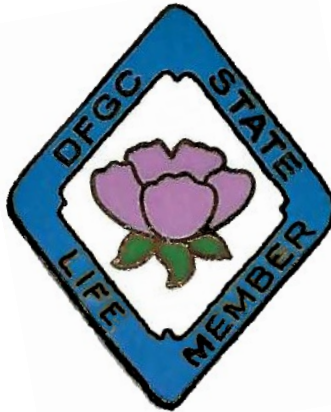
Or call 302-658-6262 ext. 103



DELAWARE
BOTANIC
GARDENS
AT PEPPER CREEK

DFGC LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Delaware Federation of Garden Club Life Membership is a recognition of Delaware garden club members to honor outstanding service to their communities, local clubs, or the state organization.

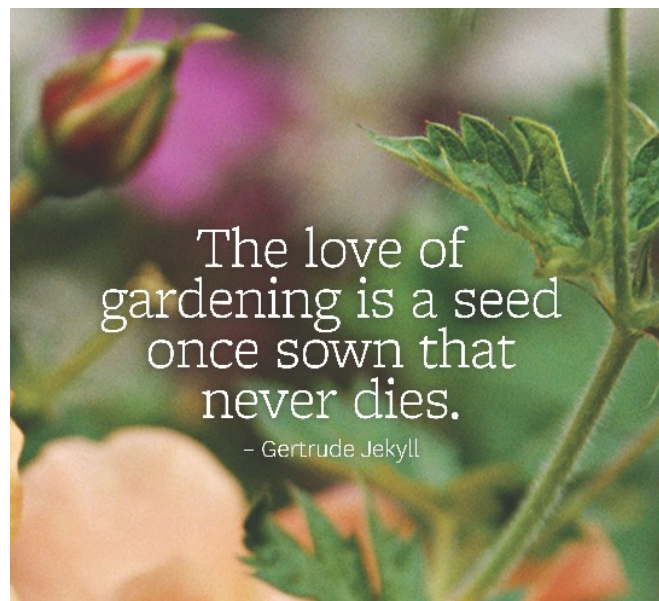


Life Membership is a special "Thank You" to an out-going president or a extraordinary volunteer. The Honoree will receive a certificate and pin presented by the State President at a DFGC meeting.

The one-time \$50 fee is the primary source of funding for the DFGC Scholarship Program. Our Scholarship is available to undergraduate or graduate students who are planning a career related to gardening, landscape design, environmental issues, horticulture or a related field.

For more information about DFGC Life Member application process and our Scholarship program, please visit our website. Life Member applications are accepted up to 10 days before the state meeting.

Alva Hutchison
Membership Chair, 302-841-3632
Abhutchison47@gmail.com



KEY TO SUCCESS! - MEMBERS MATTER MOST!

It was a privilege and delight to have the National Garden Club President Gay Austin with us at our DFGC November General Meeting!

Gay has a membership campaign of "JOIN US...as we PLANT AMERICA" with membership. The challenge of her administration is to increase membership 21% by 2021! She uses the slogan MEMBERS MATTER MOST!

Gay reminds us that no matter how important the work of your garden club is - no matter how vital the services your Club performs in your community - no matter how great the potential for fun, friends and fellowship...NONE of your club's strengths can be accomplished without ACTIVE membership. ACTIVE membership is the KEY to SUCCESS - MEMBERS MATTER MOST!

In Connie Raymond's acceptance speech as President, she stated a membership goal to reach 1000 members! At that time our membership was approximately 730. An increase of 21% would raise that number to 885 by 2021, making 1,000 members a Stretch Goal.

4 Strategies to Increase Membership in Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs:

- RETAIN THE CURRENT CLUBS. Support our Clubs. Keep them Active!
- ACTIVE PARTICIPATION of each and every member in our Clubs.
- ATTRACT and RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS
- NEW CLUBS. Starting new Clubs and recruiting non-NGC garden clubs!

Gay Austin, as NGC President, challenges us to reach out to the generations ahead of us by adapting to their interests. We may have to change meeting time and the formats of our meetings. Let's not be guilty of doing things a certain way "just because it's always been done that way". Be intentional. Reach out to potential new individuals, as well as strengthening the commitment of our existing members!

Pictured to the right is the favor that was given to all club presidents at their meeting in July 2019 as a token reminder.

"A happy, well-run club is a joy to behold!
And, it's something every member deserves!"

REMEMBER, Active Membership is the Key to
Success!

MEMBERS MATTER MOST!





Come Together In Delaware

To Plant, Protect, Create, Learn, Network

October 18-20, 2020
for the
2020 CAR-SGC Conference

Dover Downs Hotel & Casino

1131 North Dupont Highway
Dover, Delaware

- Conference Registration begins May 2020
- Hotel Reservations begin January 2020
- Conference updates on the CAR-SGC.org website as speakers and schedule are confirmed

Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs

General Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

9:00 am - Registration/Coffee

10:00 am - Meeting

Modern Maturity Center

1121 Forrest Avenue

Dover, De 19904



Gail Corle Manna



I am pleased to remind the membership of two special guests who will be attending the DFGC Meeting on April 15, 2020. Gail Corle Manna the Director of the Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs and Kirk R. Brown the National Outreach Coordinator for America's oldest garden Magnolia Plantation and Gardens in Charleston, South Carolina.

I was fortunate to meet up with Kirk when we visited the garden this past December. Magnolia has been selected as one of America's Most Beautiful Gardens (Travel and Leisure Magazine).

Kirk's main topic will be Sense and Sustainability. "*The inconvenient truth that our planet is in big trouble*". What are the steps that we can take to minimize the risks and maximize our world's life expectancy?



Kirk R Brown

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.

We are very fortunate that Kirk's schedule brought him to Pennsylvania which enabled him to arrange his schedule to speak to our members.

Please ensure your club's representative remits your club's check to the registrar by Friday, April 3, 2020 and emails the

list of attendees to: dfgcregistrar@gmail.com

Submitted by Barb DeRue



Magnolia Plantation Gardens



BAREFOOT GARDENERS



While a busy gardening season was coming to an end, the Barefoot Gardeners continued with their local community service. One of our most favorite days of the year is our annual visit to Brandywine Senior Living in Selbyville. On Saturday, November 9th was our 6th annual visit to Brandywine. We had over 22 members and at least 35 residents participate in making beautiful arrangements for the residents to enjoy throughout the holidays season. It's always fun to design and spend time with our friends at Brandywine!



At the November DFGC meeting four of our members were granted Lifetime membership. Congratulations to Judy Sharp, Jan Czerwinski, Karen Nowell and Debbie Micsky. Your service to our club is very much appreciated. Also at the meeting, the Barefoot Gardeners received two awards. First, was the Jean Ladson Outstanding Achievement Award given by the Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs for our Club's over 600 volunteer hours toward the completion of the Delaware Botanic Garden meadows. The second award our club received was a Certificate of Recognition for our contribution towards the DFGC President's Project "Dedicated to Delaware".



Our Civic Committee, on a very brisk day, was busy tending to the Fenwick Island town pots. For the Fall months the pots were adorned with Pumpkins and then, prior to the Christmas holiday, the pots were decorated with beautiful winter greens and a red bow. (pictured on left).

In August, the Barefoot Gardeners participated for the 6th year in Operation Seas the Day. Local homeowners in Bethany Beach open their homes to the Wounded Warriors and their families for a week of fun. Although the weather did not cooperate, we were able to deliver our potted plants and thank you cards to their group breakfast thanking them for their service.

Keep warm everyone and see you in the Spring!



BRANDYWINE GARDEN CLUB



Our club of 18 devoted members has incentives to give back to our community by donating items and helping maintain a small garden at a women's shelter. We also plant and maintain a children's garden behind the regional Brandywine Hundred library each year. We all are interested in learning more about ways to protect and improve our environment.



Standard Flower Show

Every other year we set up a flower show and alternate it with a plant sale with members' own divided perennials as a fundraiser. Last year we held our largest flower show ever, a Standard NGC flower show. Elaine Pataky did a stimulating design program for us. We also have had inspirational speakers about our ecology including invasive plants, bugs and plant diseases.



Karen Batt "Best in Show"

In September 2019, we took a tour of Philadelphia, PA Bartram Garden established in 1728 by John Bartram. He was a self-taught botanist that created informal garden habitats throughout his 45 acre property along the Schuylkill River. He sought out unusual plants all over the country and has the only *Franklinia*, a tree left from original seed. We got to see it sport a bloom. The photo on the right shows his hand-hewn system made out of rock for making apple cider.



Bartram Gardens, Sept 2019



Longwood, Dec 2019

Our club took a fun tour of Longwood Gardens for the holidays and had a fancy luncheon afterwards.



Ronald McDonald House Tree
Dec 2019

So far it has been a wonderful experience!
We even added a new member in January!
Happy Gardening!!

COASTAL GARDENERS



The Coastal Gardeners enjoyed the Dazzling Fall Soup n' Walk at Atkins Arboretum on October 19, 2019



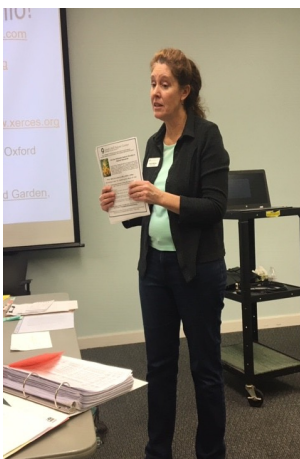
We continued with our Adopt A Highway project by cleaning up the road leading to the Delaware Botanical Garden in September and October.



Allan Reese, Development Director for the Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids program, spoke to the Coastal Gardeners on September 18, 2019.



Some of the Coast Gardeners made arrangements for the Ocean View Cheer Center. Pictured from left to right: Cheryl Quirk, Jan Poli (floral designer), Janice Tyson, Susan Dohony, Sally Scarangella, Donna Buono, Trudy Guetler and Jamie Healey.



Alice Mohrman, the Education Coordinator, from Abbott's Mill Nature Center spoke with us about butterflies and native plants on January 15th at our monthly meeting.



We had a fun Holiday Party for our members in December that included delicious food and friendship with some new members.



Floral designer, Jan Poli, led the Natural Elements Fall Centerpiece class on November 24, 2019.



HOME AND GARDEN EXPO

**Heritage Shores Ballroom
1 Heritage Circle
Bridgeville, Delaware 19933**

**MARCH 14, 2020
9 AM TILL 6PM**

FREE ADMITTANCE
DOOR PRIZES SILENT AUCTION
MANY HOME AND GARDEN VENDORS



GARDEN GATE GARDEN CLUB



Garden Gate Garden Club has had a busy few months!

Tailgate Treasures Fundraiser - in October, Garden Gate held "Tailgate Treasures" outdoors at Christ Church. The club sold parking spots where the community could come in and sell items. Members made snacks to sell and donated goods to be sold at the Garden Gate table. We had a beautiful fall day and enjoyed the weather, browsing items for sale, and talking with the community about our club.



Support to DFGC – Two GGGC members Joy Ericson and Dottie Howatt provided the Tribute Design for DFGC President Connie Raymond at the CAR-SGC Conference. They also gave a design program at the November DFGC meeting.

Blue Star Marker at the Veterans' Hospital – GGGC honored Veterans Day by holding a Blue Star Marker Memorial Wreath ceremony in the hospital's Community Center, which many of the patients were able to attend. In addition to the wreath, we also provided a floral design for the cake table in the social hall.



Holiday Activities - we had a wonderful holiday party at Laura Snead Berry's home in Phoenixville, PA. The club donated canned goods to support Sojourners Place, a residential program assisting homeless women and men. GGGC members decorated a tree at the Ronald McDonald House with Noah's Ark felt ornaments made by the club. Members also helped decorate for the Holiday Season at the Hagley Museum.

Recycling - GGGC member Anne Aleman has been providing information on recycling and expanding our knowledge of the best recycling practices and local recycling facilities.

Gardeners by the Sea Garden Club sponsors Blue Star Memorial Marker in the Town of Bethany Beach



The Gardeners by the Sea Blue Star Memorial Marker wreath-laying ceremony was held on Saturday, November 9th, at 1:00 p.m. Gardeners by the Sea, in cooperation with the VFW Mason-Dixon Post 7234 and Auxiliary, and the Town of Bethany Beach, placed this Blue Star Memorial Marker close to the intersection of Kent Avenue and Garfield Parkway in Bethany Beach Park directly across the street from the Park now under construction.

A luncheon and Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication was also held at 2:00 pm at the Ocean View Presbyterian Church Memorial Hall. This dedication was attended by our area State Representatives, VFW Mason-Dixon Post 7234 Officers, Board and Auxiliary. Also in attendance was the Mayor of Bethany Beach, our DFGC President, Connie Raymond, and Gardeners by the Sea Garden Club members.

The Blue Star Memorial Highway Program is a program that honors all men and women that serve in the United States Armed Services. This program began with the planting of 8,000 Dogwood trees by the New Jersey Council of Garden Clubs in 1944

as a living memorial to veterans of World War II. In 1945, the National Council of State Garden Clubs adopted this program and began a Blue Star Highway system that covers thousands of miles across the Continental United States, Alaska, and Hawaii. A large metal Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker is placed at appropriate locations along the way.

What we see today is a program that has expanded to include all men and women who had served, are serving or would serve in the armed services of the United States. Memorial Markers and By-Way markers were added to the Highway Markers, to be used at locations such as National cemeteries, parks, veteran's facilities, and gardens.

The Blue Star Memorial Markers are named for the blue star in the service flag. It became an icon in World War II and was seen on flags and banners in homes for sons and daughters away at war, and in churches and businesses. This program has been active all through the years to the present, a fitting tribute to our Armed Forces.



Gardeners by the Sea Garden Club decorated two trees for 2019's Hospice of Delaware "Festival of Trees"



Eighteen club members met at three full day "workshops" to design and create more than 120 handmade ornaments. Our theme was **"Elves at Work"**, we made: elf bellies, gnome, no face-elf heads, elf booties, ladders, workshop paint brushes, & Christmas trees, plus candy for the elves and pompom garlands to complete a tree full of elves, hard at work, getting ready for Christmas! Two trees were decorated on Wed. Dec. 4th. There was a **Festival of Trees Gala** on Dec. 13th where all the decorated trees were auctioned in a fundraiser after which the trees were delivered to local foster homes, safe houses & group homes for families to enjoy!





MIDDLETOWN-ODESSA GARDEN CLUB



In addition to the **Middletown-Odesa Garden Club** continuously maintaining the Middletown Pocket Park, Corbit Sharp Gardens and Middletown's Cochran Square throughout the year, our members went above and beyond to transform our local area into a magical wonderland. Several hundred red Christmas bows were made to put on the Cochran Square Christmas tree and our Main Street Pocket Park was transformed into a relaxing winter nook. Our final Crop Swap of the year was held which included a pot luck and exchange of plant divisions and holiday items looking for a new home.



Leading up to our annual participation at Christmas in Odessa, our members adorned the historic homes with beautiful, fresh outdoor swags and wreaths and decorated Old St. Paul's Church. We also helped to assemble 144 ornaments for the MOGC Christmas in Odessa tree to the theme of the book *A Child's Garden of Verses* by Robert Louis Stevenson. The day of the event was picture perfect weather and exuberant, roaming crowds.



Wreaths, centerpieces, swags and fresh greens were made and were being sold as quickly as they were completed. This day is a day to celebrate and to show the public our many wonderful talents that our Club has to offer. This could not be done without our Club members and the many volunteers and we are truly thankful for their help and dedication.



MILFORD GARDEN CLUB



The holiday season is a very busy time for the Milford Garden Club. The Milford Library hosts a Christmas Tree festival each year which is intended to raise money for a local needy family. Milford Garden Club has participated in this event for 20+ years. This year's tree was titled "Blossom and Bling" and was decorated with brooches with a garden theme and sparkly ornaments donated by members. Cindy Mularkey, a long time member of the club has headed up this project since inception and always has a winning entry.

Another project is the Poinsettia Tree constructed at the Milford Senior Center. The club creates display which decorates the lobby for the holiday season. The poinsettias are then sold as a fund raiser to benefit the Senior Center.

Finally, members come together for their annual cookie sale which benefits a college scholarship given to a worthy High School senior every year and other club projects. Each member bakes 8-10 dozen cookies and brings them to member Beverly French's home for an afternoon of packing boxes of 25 cookies. These cookies are so popular they are now sold by pre-ordering only and sell out quite early. It's a great afternoon of laughing and fellowship for the members.





PLGC members were joined by Plantation Lakes community residents in a bus tour to Longwood Gardens organized by PLGC Program Director Debbie Darr. It was a cold day, ending in a few seasonal snowflakes, but everyone seemed to really enjoy the spectacular display of Christmas in the Conservatory, and the private tour of the Conservatory and adjoining grounds. As you can see, we had a full busload!

RECYCLE THIS, NOT THAT!

On March 5, 2020, Plantation Lakes Garden Club offers its third annual educational program for community residents. Our guest speaker is Stacey Helmer, Senior Education and Outreach Coordinator for Delaware Solid Waste Authority. Stacey will educate us about the recycling process in Delaware and share her tips for better recycling practices.

CAR-SGC Conference October 18-20, 2020!

Hosted by DFGC at Dover Downs

The Conference promises to be a “don’t want to be missed” event! Members of the support team are Margaret Woda, Conference Vice-Chair, Marie Van Der Wall, chair of the both the Vendor Committee and the Center-piece Committee, and Debbie Darr, chair of the Welcome Bag Committee. Serving as CAR-SGC Treasurer, Mary Williford is an invaluable resource to the Conference Planning Committee. Thank you ladies for representing us so well!



**PLGC
Swag
Workshop
Dec. 6**



New PLGC members Joan Conrad and Nancy Vollmer join Jonnie Mann displaying their fresh greens mailbox swags created at the PLGC workshop led by Brenda Joyce and Jan Pallas-Dudley.



POTPOURRI GARDEN CLUB



Potpourri Garden Club Members in Action:



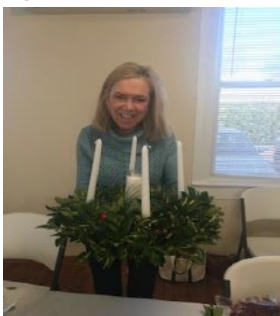
Act I – Decorating Dickinson Mansion



Act II – Decorating Woodburn and Hall House



Act III – Designing Advent Wreaths



INTERMISSION

Act IV - Garden Therapy



1ST Place Cowboy Tree

◀Act V
Youth Program



FINAL ACT▶

First Lady Tracey Quillen Carney
with Potpourri Garden Club Members





The **Salt Air Gardeners (SAG)** visited the Delaware Botanic Gardens shortly after its opening. Many of our members have volunteered and helped to prepare the gardens prior to its opening in September 2019.

In addition to community projects, a calendar of activities has been planned for 2020. They include presentations about birds, indoor plants, and bulbs; trips to DC to see the Cherry Blossoms, Lavender fields and a breakfast cruise; and a water container garden workshop. A spring tea, plant sale, and a dine/donate night are planned fundraisers. Here are updates on a few of our community projects and activities:

Bethany Fenwick Chamber of Commerce

A fall cleanup was completed to prepare the beds for winter. The seeds were left in place to provide a habitat for wintering critters.



Indian River Life Saving Station

This fall, native plants were transplanted from other areas. Flowers will be planted and mulch will be spread in the spring.



Brandywine Living at Fenwick Island

Member, Judy Stuhl, directed SAG members in helping residents decorate small boxwood trees for their rooms. Many residents enjoyed their trees for weeks.

Members Created Boxwood Trees

All SAG members were treated to a winter workshop to create beautiful boxwood holiday trees. Dianna Boehm, club member extraordinaire, taught 25 anxious learners how to build and decorate their trees.



Giving Back and Holiday Party

SAG members had a wonderful time at their third Holiday Party eating, drinking and contributing over \$600 to Children and Families First Charity.



SILVER PINE GARDEN CLUB



This past November, the gals from Silver Pine Garden Club in New Castle County, participated again in Delaware Hospice's "Festival of Trees," helping them raise over \$70,000 for their worthy non-profit. We decorated a 4-foot "Beach" themed tree incorporating sand dollars, starfish, seahorses, seashells, beach glass, fish nets, and even a salty sea captain sitting at the base with his catch-of-the-day! White lights highlighted the decorations and the tree was topped with a starfish STAR!

The club used our November meeting to make the decorations and then met to decorate the tree

at the venue at Brantwyn, near DuPont C.C. on Nov. 21. We received 2 lovely thank you letters from the Delaware Hospice committee thanking us for our participation again this year. The Festival is an annual Christmas kick-off activity for families and folks of all ages to get a jump on Christmas decorations and goodies of all types - or just to enjoy the festive work of so many volunteers!



Our 2020 New Year's Club resolution: To live more intentionally: drive less (target: 1 less trip per week, minimum, per person), plant more trees, walk or take a bus or train when possible, burn less outdoor or fireplace fires, use less electricity, eat less meat, compost more - to help reduce and remove carbon from our bit of the planet - and VOTE to elect people who will put our environment at the top of their commitments for improvements! If each of us improve our little corner and work to enlist others, it will be a start for a better tomorrow!



SPADE & TROWEL GARDEN CLUB

The Spade & Trowel Garden Club of Seaford started out a new year in September with an interesting talk on invasive plants and insects by Ashley Melvin of Delaware Forest Service. One of our gentlemen members, Zeeger deWilde presented the October program, sharing his experiences as a horticulturist which began in Holland and took him by way of Canada to the United States in 1968.

Our pecan sale was a tremendous success. We sold out almost immediately. We crafted centerpieces, wreaths, swags and mounds for Christmas in a spacious new location, Ross Station, which worked out well for us.

We returned to Ross Station for our Christmas party, where Madlyn McPartland, who has been a club member since 1984, received a National Garden Club life membership pin.

We plan to hold our February meeting at East Coast Garden Center, where we will have a program on house plants.

March will be a busy month. We'll start off with a bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show on March 5. Contact Mary Noel at (570) 239-7948 or mhnoel@earthlink.net to see if there is space available. Cost is \$60.

Our monthly meeting will be back at the Seaford Library where we will finalize plans for a day of workshops at Ross Station, which will be open to the public. The date is March 25. Attendees will rotate to their choice of stations where they can participate in hands-on activities such as flower arranging/design. At each station they will make an item to take home. Tickets will be \$30 and include a box lunch. Details will be posted on our website, www.seafordspadeandtrowelgardenclub.org. We hope you will come join in the fun!

In the photos below, Madlyn McPartland is on the right, with club president Sharon Christopher on the left. In the second photo, you will get an idea of how spacious Ross Station is. It was a pleasure to work there!





SUSSEX GARDENERS



The Board of Directors and Committee Chairs of Sussex Gardeners welcomed new members in September by introducing themselves and a variety of projects and programs planned for Fall 2019 into Winter 2020.

Here are a few:



Each month a Sussex Gardener volunteers to present a floral design. The arrangement serves as a centerpiece for the refreshment table. Marty Last shares seasonal treasures from her garden.



Members meet monthly to provide Garden Therapy at a local Adult Activity Center. Committee Chair Judith Pinsdorf and assistants provide beautiful flowers, fresh greens and oasis in a container. The smiles are as memorable as the 'make and take' arrangements.

Sussex County 4H Educator Jill Jackson spoke to members at our October meeting about activities supported in part by a generous contribution from Sussex Gardeners. Club Treasurer Elaine Taylor and President Janet Point hand Jill a check.



Zwaanendael Museum was decorated once again for the holidays. The displays showcased songs of the season under the direction of Chair Dianne Shawley. Publicity was found on Facebook, WRDE, Instagram, as well as in several state and local newspapers, courtesy of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.



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 - Delaware Towns

A	C	E	L	T	S	A	C	W	E	N
M	A	G	N	O	L	I	A	T	Y	E
N	I	R	E	H	O	B	O	T	H	W
O	F	D	R	O	F	L	I	M	O	A
T	R	O	D	E	S	S	A	Y	C	R
G	E	V	V	L	E	W	E	S	K	K
N	D	E	I	A	E	T	U	V	E	N
I	E	R	O	U	N	T	X	Z	S	E
R	R	A	L	R	I	R	O	M	S	D
R	I	N	A	E	O	M	Y	W	I	M
A	C	F	E	L	T	O	N	M	N	A
H	A	R	D	R	O	F	A	E	S	C

Cypress Swamp

Home of Dolle popcorn

Settled by the Dutch

Covers 2 counties

Town at Midstate road

Hub of Delaware

Small flower, in Kent

Named for southern tree

Capital

Located in 2 counties

Formerly Johnnycake Landing

"Christmas in _____"

Host of Hummers Parade

Home of Senator Coons

Former nylon plant

First state capital

Home of the Blue Hens

Home of Brecknock Park