

Greensburg Garden Center

April/May 2020 Newsletter

"Where Gardeners Grow"



MAY MART !!

FRIDAY, MAY 1 – 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM

SATUDAY, MAY 2 – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM



No one wants to miss May Mart! The May Mart tradition lets us enjoy the magic of the Spring season by purchasing quality plants at a fun outdoor venue. Think positive! The early spring weather will give you a jump start on your garden plantings. And, you can plant those tender plants without worry of frost. (Ok, maybe a little worry about frost!)

By shopper's request, we will have separate areas for shade, sun & shade, deer resistant, and butterfly/pollinator plants. Easier to find the plants that fit your garden design.

Herbs have been ordered to satisfy a variety of culinary tastes. Fresh parsley, basil, chives and more make cooking more flavorful. Or, plant some dill to invite a black swallowtail butterfly to lay eggs.

This year we are also providing some annuals. Annuals give immediate color and attract birds and butterflies all summer long.

There are not many plants that deer won't eat. Dusty Miller, Russian Sage, Snapdragons, Verbena and Ageratum are a few flowers that are supposed to not provide tasty treats.

Be sure to look for our cement troughs (Hypertufa). They look lovely as fairy gardens, with alpine plants and tucked into a garden space as a special interest.

Don't forget! Master Card and Visa are always welcome!

Should the coronavirus pandemic still be a concern for safety, Greensburg Garden Center will publish the cancellation of the May Mart Thursday, April 23, 2020 and Thursday, April 30 in the Tribune Review Ticket Section.

Calendar Corner

April 7	Membership Meeting Cancelled
May 1	May Mart 1:00—7:00 PM
May 2	May Mart 9:00 AM—1:00 PM
May 5	Membership Meeting 11:00 AM "Canna Bulbs"
June 2	Membership Meeting 11:00 PM "Flower Show Guidelines"

Membership Meeting....



Our May 5 meeting will feature Master Gardener Dee O'Hara. She will talk about how to grow canna bulbs, when to fertilize and everything you will need to know to grow this beautiful plant.

Come out and join us, bring a friend. As always, our programs are free and open to the public.

A Tour & Tasting in Old Allegheny
Saturday, June 20, 2020
12:00 Noon – 6:00 PM



Ride along with us to “Millionaire’s Row” in Pittsburgh’s smallest historic neighborhood and share the rich history of a bygone era. This event has limited tickets and is held by the Allegheny West Civic Council. Starting at Holmes Hall, a docent will guide you through the neighborhood to six additional homes and gardens.

Guests will have their palates delighted with small plates from some of Pittsburgh’s great eateries and complemented with perfectly paired wines. This “Tour & Tasting” continues to grow as one of the premier experiences in Pittsburgh. This is a walking tour which takes place over approximately 6 square blocks and lasts about 4 hours. Many of the homes are accessed by steps that must be negotiated. Appropriate shoes and ability to climb stairs is necessary.

Cost: Members - \$ 120.00 Non-Members - \$ 130.00—Price includes bus transportation via Elite Bus, entrance ticket with food and wine at each home.

Reservations due March 31! Hurry! The bus holds 20. The tickets are limited and are selling fast!

The tour is held rain or shine. Tickets are non-refundable unless we can fill the spot cancelled.

The State Tree



The hemlock (*Tsuga Canadensis* Linnaeus) became the official State tree of Pennsylvania by an act of the legislature approved June 22, 1931.

Annual Spring Tea Wrap-Up
“MARCH” Into Spring



SOME did make the “MARCH into Spring” GGC Annual Tea, and ALL who did did enjoy the beautifully decorated tables, soothing tea and tasty treats, raffle baskets, and one-of-a-kind jewelry “fashion” show. More than that, EVERYONE enjoyed being together before the “shut down” of so many public places.

The most beautiful aspect of the TEA is the evidence of the positive spirit among GGC members and volunteer participants, as well as those in the community that continually support GGC activities and goals.

“THANK YOU” to ALL who participated, ALL who supported, and ALL who attended. YOU make GGC a SUCCESS!

Angie Raitano

Judy’s Chocolate Caramel Bars

- 1—14 oz. bag Kraft caramels
- 1—5 fl. oz. can evaporated milk
- 1—18.25 oz. package Betty Crocker Super Moist German Chocolate Cake mix
- 1/2 cup Parkay margarine, melted
- 1—6 oz. Package semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1/ cup chopped walnuts (optional)



Melt caramels with 1/3 cup evaporated milk over low heat, stirring until smooth. Combine remaining evaporated milk (1/4 cup), cake mix and margarine; mix well. Press half of the cake mixture into the bottom of an ungreased 13 x 9 baking pan. Bake at 350 for 6 minutes. Sprinkle chocolate pieces and 1/4 cup walnuts over the crust; drizzle with caramel mixture. Top with teaspoonfuls of remaining cake mixture. Press gently into caramel mixture. Sprinkle with remaining walnuts. Bake at 250, 18-20 min. Cool slightly, chill. Cut into bars.

Spread the word about this year's \$1,500 scholarship now!

SCHOLARSHIP



The Greensburg Garden Center is now accepting applications for the Katherine Mabis McKenna Scholarship until May 31st, 2020. This year's award is \$1,500. Applicants must reside in Westmoreland

or its bordering counties and have completed at least one year at an accredited college or university before the application deadline. Students pursuing a two or four degree in botany, forestry, landscape architecture, horticulture, or a related field should take this opportunity to apply. Graduate student applications are welcomed.

Don't delay in sharing this announcement with friends and family. The deadline of May 31st will come quickly. An application form and additional information is posted on our website greensburggardencenter.net. Copies of our colorful announcement will be available at our monthly meetings for those of you who can pass them around in our communities. Response last year was disappointing. Let's get the word out!

FREE SEEDS FROM BURPEE!!



The Burpee Seed Company has given seeds to the GCFP who is distributing them to all Districts. Each District gets 4,000 seeds which are divided among the clubs in their district. For District VII, which we

are in, each club receives about 280 seed packets.

Burpee would like pictures of their flowers/plants/etc. when they are growing and blooming. Please take pictures and send them to Nicky at the office so we can forward them. GGC will give these FREE seeds to members. The seeds include vegetable, flowers and herbs.

Stop in the office to pick up a packet or two.

Thank You!



In the last newsletter, the Greensburg Garden Center established flower levels of giving to allow those who give to recognize someone or give in memoriam. A member can give to recognize someone at any time throughout the year. We will publish their "flower" donation in the next newsletter after their request.

Since that newsletter article, we were happy to receive the following:

2 "Daisies" for Marian Foster from Walter Foster.

A "Sunflower" in memory of Carol Maloy from Betty Maloy.

A "Sunflower" in memory of Mildred Downing from Joanne Downing.

Prior to the flower levels, Capital Campaign donations were received from:

Carol Ross

Mr/Mrs John Boggess

Joan Downing

Iris Cisarik

Barb Cseh

Margie Wolff

Carla Rusnica

Mr/Mrs Charles Duritsa

Angela Raitano

Patricia Benson

Janet McNeel

Barbara Yohman

Peggy Annas

Sandy Truckner

Mary Ann Artman

Elizabeth Pesci

Jo Peterinelli

Nancy Nemeth

Scholarship specific donations were given by:

Sonnie Miller

Deneise Snyder

A sincere thank you to all who support the Garden Center and the efforts of its volunteers.

Membership Dues are now due for 2020. Associate Membership is \$15.00. Make checks payable to the Greensburg Garden Center or phone Nicky with a credit card payment. Thank you.



Welcome new members....

Georgie Beltz, Connie Cauvel and Daniel Laura.

Our mind is a garden,
Our thoughts are the seeds,
You can grow flowers
Or you can grow weeds.
"Ritu Ghatourey

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Co-Presidents: Carla Rusnica, Barbara Cseh,
1st Vice President: Judy Geary
Newsletter Editor: Diane Dale

GREENSBURG GARDEN CENTER 2020
ASSOCIATE MEMBER - NEW MEMBER RENEWAL FORM

Date: _____ Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: Home _____ Cell _____ Email _____

Type of Membership: New \$15 _____ Renewal \$15 _____ Student \$3 _____

Annual dues run from January 1 to January 1. Please make checks payable to:
Greensburg Garden Center, 951 Old Salem Rd., Greensburg, PA 15601

My interests are: _____ Gardening _____ Floral Design _____ Butterfly Garden _____ Workshops
_____ Grounds _____ Social Media

Our Mission Statement

The Greensburg Garden Center is a non-profit educational organization whose goals are to support and educate our members and the community in horticulture, conservation, and related areas and provide an annual scholarship. GGC serves Westmoreland County and surrounding communities.