



Buds & Blossoms May 2020

News from GCFP District II/III Joyce Milberg, GCFP President

Director's Message

I am writing this article on April 22, the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. One year ago on this date Tom and I were in Kruger National Park, in South Africa. Tom recently had a picture on his phone of the lions of Kruger sunning themselves on the park roads. A year ago we had to search for a sighting. Tonight on television they showed how the cities like Milan and New Delhi shrouded in fog pre-pandemic and now the cities are fog free. It just shows how much pollution there is in the atmosphere. At this time of year clubs in our district are engaged in Arbor Day activities with tree plantings, but like many activities they had to be postponed. As gardeners we are in tune with Mother Nature and the beauty that she gives us.

ZOOM is the way that groups are communicating during this pandemic. I personally want to thank Linda Pinto who is the ZOOM guru for District II/III. We had a district board meeting via ZOOM, and I was able to install the officers of South Schuylkill Garden Club via ZOOM, because of Linda's expertise.

Burpee Seeds' generous donation could not have come at a better time. I hope that everyone who can take advantage of the seeds will do so. I am anxious to see the results of your efforts. Upper Perkiomen Valley Garden Club received the Ames Tool Grant. They will put these tools to good use. Last year they maintained a vegetable garden that produced 774 pounds of produce which they donated to a local food pantry.

In this article I would be sharing the awards our district had received at the State Convention. Unfortunately, because the convention was cancelled we will have to wait and see. The awards will be presented at our annual meeting in September.

As I read your president reports, these were some programs that were recommended by the different clubs in the district. Floral Designer Jane Godshalk –[https:// rootstoblooms.com/tag/jane-godshal/](https://rootstoblooms.com/tag/jane-godshal/); and Mike McGrath host of the nationally syndicated Public Radio "You Bet Your Garden" were speakers for the Bethlehem Garden Club. Milford Garden Club had Marta McDowell, author of All of the Presidents' Gardens, who presented a program on Frederick Law Olmstead - www.martamcdowell.com. Milford hosted a tea where Marta Hallett, publisher at Glitterai Editions, previewed a first edition book Into the Garden. Matt Radar, President of the PHS, spoke to the Monroe Garden Club. Cindy Thomas of Dan Schantz Greenhouses, Allentown, discussed and brought new "trail" plants to a Parkland Garden Club meeting. Pottstown had a program on "How to Attract Butterflies" by Ron Richael 610-323-3805. Julia Erhardt of the Tyler Arbortum, spoke to the Garden Club of Reading. Eileen Resetar, member of the Hazleton Area Garden Club, had a program on the beauty and versatility of moss.

Just a reminder the Legacy Award application is due to me by May 15, 2020, and the District II/III meeting will be held June 23 hosted by the Montrose Garden Club. The annual meeting will be held on Sept. 14 hosted by the Bethlehem Garden Club.

Show kindness toward our planet and every creature that inhabits it.

Barbara Campbell

District Director II/III

Club and Committee Reports

Bethlehem Garden Club Although the sensible restrictions on large group gatherings has prevented our club from holding our general meetings, and hearing from the interesting speakers planned for each program, the BGC is not completely shut down. Monthly Board meetings continue on-line, even though we have canceled our speakers through the summer, and sadly, also our annual July Luncheon. On a positive note, we are still planning for our December Holiday luncheon, should the storms clouds over our great nation part before the New Year. Regardless of events beyond the control of the BGC, we will still award our annual scholarship to a local graduating high school senior pursuing an agricultural, horticultural or environmental area of study in college. We are currently reviewing the applicants for the scholarship and will make the award (safely at a social distance) before July. One important decision made by our Board, meeting for free via the Zoom platform (via computer, smart phone or land-line), is to offer a fifty percent reduction in dues for the 2020-21 membership year. We hope to both encourage renewal of all current members, and hopefully draw some new members. All agreed that in light of the cancellation of so many meetings (saving on speaker fees) , this was an appropriate gesture, while still being fiscally responsible. BGC has started a YouTube channel accessible via our website for our members to post short videos of their gardening, horticultural, or other artistic projects at home. Guests can access the channel via a link on our home page www.bethlehemgardenclub.org Our Horticulture Therapy friends are well, although we cannot visit them for activities at the care homes until it is safe to do so. We hope, if it is safe and sensible, to resume our workshops in September with the residents of both Cedarbrook Bethlehem and Allentown. Moving outside, our Miller's House Garden crew has carefully begun the spring work necessary to maintain this long running community project. Sharon Donchez reports "...we are working at the garden on Tuesday mornings, masked and gloved and practice social distancing. Next week we will shop separately to buy the flowers needed for the herb bed, cutting bed and anything else needed to replace plants lost over the winter or just something that catches our eye and will enhance the beauty of the garden. We also have two new members bringing our total to 19. The Miller's House Garden will be on Historic Bethlehem's 'Rooms to View' Virtual Outdoor Room & Garden Tour, June 5th, 12th & 19th. We will be featured in a short video on the Planting of an Herb Garden. Please see the link posted on the BGC website for more information on this exploration of spectacular estates and historic gardens. The series will include culinary and floral demos, gardening tips!" Planting around our Blue Star marker in the City's beautiful Rose Garden will continue, despite the

rest of the world standing still. We are so appreciative to the City of Bethlehem for preparation of the ground around the base of the marker so that this important remembrance of the sacrifices of our fellow citizens can continue to be honored. Hoping everyone has the opportunity to get some soil on their hands, or some other medium if your artistic talents lie elsewhere. Martin Romeril - President BGC

Allentown Garden Club We've been sheltering in place for several weeks now. Did you know that COSTCO delivers groceries to your front door? It was a delightful surprise yesterday to find a delivery of fresh vegetables and fruits, bread, dairy products and assorted pantry items delivered. We live in the boondocks so we never really believed that they would seek us out, but they did indeed. It was like CHRISTMAS MORNING! – EMBRACING CHANGE Given the current global/national crisis we ask you to embrace change - sheltering in place, staying safe and working in your home gardens. After careful consideration and discussion, the Allentown Garden Club (AGC) Board of Directors announced CANCELLATIONS of events planned through June 25th. SCHOLARSHIP - Given the early closure of schools and AGC's change in dues collection to Dec (2020), the AGC Board is canceling the 2020 Scholarship as well. THANK YOU In these uncertain times we appreciate your support. To aid in a seamless transition, President Rosie Ebersole agrees to continue her leadership role for now. We are a group of dedicated gardeners, but more, we are friends, neighbors, and world citizens. We want to stay safe so that others may be safe as well. With appreciation to all those essential workers who are making supreme sacrifices so that we might stay home. We honor them! NGC AND GCFP PLANT AMERICA WITH BURPEE SEEDS - Club President Rosie Ebersole has packets of vegetable, herb and flower seeds. All you need to do is request seeds (YES they are FREE), plant the seeds and, most importantly, photograph the results of your beautiful gardens. Any type of garden is acceptable – plant a community garden; have a "Burpee Challenge" in your next flower show; plant a historical site, highway, nursing home, container garden, or your own home kitchen garden. Please send a photo of your gardens to Rosie by Sept 1st (2020). Photos of your gardens, if chosen, may appear in the National Gardener Magazine, the Keeping in Touch Newsletter, the Keystone Gardener Magazine, and/ or on Burpee's social media site. Burpee feels that gardens fail due to inferior seeds, so their goal is for you to plant a beautiful garden using their superior, fail-proof seeds, so their goal is for you to plant a beautiful garden using their superior, fail-proof seeds. Let us show our garden-club friends across the nation what Pennsylvania can do when asked to "Plant America." Rosemary Gish Ebersole, (AKA Rosie), President.

Emmaus Garden Club We had to cancel our May, June and July meetings due to the coronavirus. We are hoping to meet on August 4 at which time we will have a picnic and present our scholarship to the recipient from Emmaus High School who will be attending Penn State University in the fall. Since we maintain several gardens in Emmaus, we were very happy to receive the seed money grant from the state garden club and also a very generous one from Emmaus' American Legion. Since the weather has finally warmed we are busy planting to beautify the area and support our environment. The pollinators are very happy with all the new flowers too! We are planning a

zoom board meeting next week. Stay well everyone! Becky Short, President

The Garden Club of Reading Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and mandatory distancing, our gardening hopes have been dashed. We had to cancel our spring meetings for March, April, and May. For the June, I intend to have the Board meeting at my residence, in my garden which offers adequate space to administer the mandated social distancing that we anticipate will be the protocol for gatherings moving forward. Our March meeting was to be Decorative Arts. The program would have been presented by our own Club Member and Flower Show Judge, Martha Lehane. She would have discussed the new Federation flower design category “Decorative Arts”. This was intended to be a section in our fall 2020 Flower Show which will be rescheduled. Martha has been a judge at our horticulture and Little Show at each General Meeting. It is with deep regret I am announcing that Martha Lehane has resigned as an active member of our Garden Club. She must now serve as a fulltime caregiver for her loving husband. She has been a guiding light for our club, a true professional, resourceful and mentor. She will be sorely missed. I did have the opportunity to attend the 2020 Galanthus Gala in Downingtown PA, March 7, 2020. <https://www.galanthusgala.org/> and had the opportunity to learn more about Snowdrops and meet numerous vendors and Galanthus enthusiasts. Our April program was to be Bees, Bees and Bees. Devon Paderewski of Greenway Apiaries, a family owned honeybee farm with a big commitment to the planet was to inform us about the importance of bees to our wellbeing and what we can do to help bees survive at this critical time. The farm practices natural treatment free beekeeping and harvests these pure bee products from honey to wax, pollen and propolis. Our May program would have been host to Debra Pomeroy Moyer, Floral Educator and Special Events Designer was going to demonstrate her organic floral designs. In addition to the General Membership meetings, we had planned other tours including South Eastern PA Orchid show, tour of David Culp’s Brandywine Cottage Garden and Morris Arboretum of Univ of Pa tour were all cancelled and will be rescheduled for next year. An event that I orchestrated for our members that works in conjunction with the social distancing mandate is our “Burpee Challenge”. This program involves thirteen of our Members, to whom I have distributed 12 random assorted Burpee seed packets comprised of flowers, herbs, and vegetables. The challenge for our members is to work their magic with them and in September, present their “Victory Gardens” via photos and specimens. May the best “Green Thumb” win! In conclusion, our plans are to reschedule all the above events when we can once again come together as gardeners, smell the fresh air, dig the soil together and continue to expand our knowledge and love for gardening. Maria DiCecco, President

The Hazleton Area Garden Club started its year off in March with an interesting and informative program, “Life Inside Saguaro, Cacti, Plants and Wildlife” presented by Jacqueline Evans. Jackie holds a degree in Graphic Design and a minor in Photography. She shared photos of Saguaro National Park, and spoke on how cacti provide shelter for animals, during and even after they are no longer growing. Evans exhibited samples of dried cacti “nests”, made from the sap they emit after birds’ burrow into the core of the Saguaro, and also showed slides and National Park

Guidebooks. With much anticipation the club still plans to hold a Blue Star Memorial Marker dedication on May 25th in conjunction with the West Hazleton Borough Council. The marker will be placed at the Vietnam War Monument, Rt 93 and 15th St., West Hazleton. Club members made donations to purchase the marker in memory, or in honor, of their loved ones. A considerable amount of money was raised above the cost of the marker. The extra money will be used to place flowers at the monument throughout the year as needed. Club Garden Consultant members; Chris Leskosky, Chris Gresh, and Laura Hackney along with Horticulture Chair, Sandy Visintainer and Vice-President, Theresa Evans presented the Hazle Township Supervisors with a proposal and a name for a new garden to be located at 23rd and Laurel St., Hazle Township. The garden will be named Hazle Township Inspirational Park, using one of the symbolisms of the Hazle tree, which is inspiration. The garden will consist of Corylus (hazle bushes), roses, a dogwood tree, hydrangeas, lilies and hostas. Also included in the park will be a gazebo and benches. An evergreen tree will be planted in memory of the deceased club members. The Standard Flower Show which was slated for July has been postponed until next year due to the timing the club would have to prepare for the show. Several day trips are scheduled for the summer months and plans are underway for the clubs Holiday Tea in November. June's meeting will be Pamela Hubbard, a garden writer, blogger and speaker. Pamela will discuss how to create an English Cottage Garden. A tour to her lovely garden is planned for club members in July. Email is the way the HAGC keeps members informed of club, district, state and national news updates. How lucky are we as gardeners to be able to go outside and silence ourselves from all the troubles of the world. In our gardens we find refuge and peace. The Hazleton Area Garden Club wishes all our garden club friends health and happiness. Ann Schneider, President

Milford Garden Club - As the new President of the Milford Garden Club for 2020-2021, I am pleased to report that our membership is 100 strong and we had our first meeting of the 2020 season March 10th with 52 members attending. Our program was a mini-field trip a mile or so away at our partner in beautification, Myer the Florist, our local greenhouse and florist. Bob Stewart spent 2 hours with our members, exploring and demonstrating a number of new and innovative ways to start growing. He shared with us many of his experiences and supplier contacts and plans for the coming year. A few days after the first meeting, our local area officials began asking us to begin social distancing and not meet in large groups in an effort to flatten the curve of the coronavirus wave, looking to be on it's way. Since then, the calls to stay home increased and I received an email from the Mayor of Milford Borough asking if the club might be willing to create some online presentations to offer on the Zoom platform to help give the community ways to stay socially connected during this time. I reached out to Linda Pinto, who of course, was up for the challenge and she reached out to members of Pike County Master Gardeners as well. We had 7 different programs proposed and we are starting off with two.....How to Get Your Garden and Yourself Ready for Planting with Linda and Ralph Pinto and How to Start & Store Seeds for Success with Stephanie Cavallero. Depending how long we need to stay at home, we will likely do more of these. We have had to cancel our April meeting and held our first Membership Meeting on Zoom for May, as well as our Board meetings. Other planned events of course, had to be cancelled or postponed and for all the rest of our planned events, we are taking it one day at a time. We do plan that come early June, we will be able to get out there in some socially distant fashion and plant our planters and parks

and community vegetable garden for our local pantry. Until then, stay healthy, stay safe and keep on planting! Liz Steen, President

The Garden Club of Montrose - I am the new President of The Garden Club of Montrose and I am off to a roaring STOP. The executive committee had several meetings in the beginning of the year to plan our year's activities. We all felt that it was going to be a wonderfully diverse calendar, with the highlights of being in the Fourth of July Parade with a float themed "Building Stronger Community", three Porch Parties, a tussey mussey design class, educational road trip to Cutler Gardens, Binghamton, NY. and that was just the beginning of the year. Our yearly fundraiser of our Plant Sale with the Master Gardeners was cancelled, but Thank God, we are ok financially for a while. Rethinking maybe we should have a Autumn Plant Sale, but that is the theme for this year....RETHINK! Even though we have not had an official meeting, we have added three new members, Hooray! Personally, I was previously Vice President for a wonderful woman. At first, I didn't want to move up, but did not want to leave the club either if I refused, because I knew it was expected for me to move up. I was encouraged to take the position and I put others commitments on the back burner to give as much as I could as President. But Covid 19 hit and everything I wanted to see happen came to a halt. We couldn't give out our Scholarship this year, because schools were canceled, most of our membership is older so we will not put them at risk, but we are thrughing on by staying in contact with each one by email and teleconferencing. I am disappointed, but this too shall pass, and we will be up and running as soon as it is safe. Our Civic Beautification is going forward, as planned, many have volunteered for the socially distancing task. We will have the town Memorial Gardens, Main St. planters, bump outs and front of the Court House looking Welcoming. Like I said, we will rethink what we need to do, as it comes along, and hope for a "Safe Normal" soon. Joanne Decker, President

PARKLAND GARDEN CLUB has had some major changes to our spring schedule- haven't we all? First we had to cancel our April 13 meeting which was to be Jim Gillespie speaking on Bonsai. Luckily our Program Chair, Darlene, was able to re-schedule him for a date in 2021. Our April 25 Arbor Day activities at the Lehigh Valley Zoo were canceled and our tree seedling giveaway and Arbor Day Programs at the 8 Parkland Elementary Schools had to be canceled too this spring. Our Garden Tour scheduled for July 11 is canceled. We felt with all the uncertainty it would be difficult to have it ready in time. And our May 27 bus trip to Chanticleer & Morris Arboretum had to be canceled too. Ugh! BUT... some good news! We have had a few meetings using the "Zoom" conference call platform (Our Garden Tour Committee and Board meetings) and plan to do our April Board meeting in that fashion also. We are encouraging our members to share what is happening in their gardens and their gardening world with us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ParklandGardenClub/>). So check us out and see! We all are hoping we can get back to our normal meetings and activities by May or early June, but in the meantime, stay safe, reach out to your friends and family, and find the joy in whatever you are doing to keep yourself sane at this challenging time. I am working remotely from home during the work week so my escape is walking around my yard each day to see what is

coming up and reaching out to co-workers and friends by phone and text. Thank you! Bonnie Keller, President

Pottstown Area Garden Club had a fun meeting March 6th. We had learned previously about the Burpee Seed giveaway. Our member, Sandy Plotts, was given numerous clay pots and saucers and decided to run with the project. Scrubbing and disinfecting them all, bagging potting soil then bringing them to our meeting. Members picked out their choice of vegetable and flower seed packets. Sandy has been harvesting radishes and lettuce. What we need now is warmer weather to plant outdoors. Covid-19 did put a crimp in our plans. Our 2020-2022 slate of officers was to be installed at the April 3rd luncheon. Unfortunately it was cancelled as well as our May meeting. Last week Cheryl Avery called each of the elected officers and we were installed. We will have a more formal installation when we can meet again. Four members of the Civic Development Committee ventured out to Memorial Park to Spring clean the flower beds we maintain. Each bringing their own tools, masks and social distance requirement. The flower beds look great. The Horticultural Committee will be planting Manor Care's outdoor flower pots for the residents to enjoy just as soon as life gets back to 'normal'. Sally Schwartz - President

South Schuylkill Garden Club - It is freeing to be able to think outside the traditions of a garden club to attempt to insure that members feel connected. What would we do without email and the marvels of modern technology. To keep members connected, in addition to a monthly email newsletter, I issue a monthly update letter. In it is offered a monthly challenge for members to contact a randomly assigned garden club member to discuss current issues, such as the recent freeze. Getting gardens ready for spring continues with some modification. Those weeds keep coming. South Schuylkill GC butterfly, pollinator, and children garden projects are a good way to have fun (my strange concept of weeding) and mingling at an acceptable distance. Being creative meant addressing two situations with one outcome. Vegetable seedlings from a cancelled spring plant sale and a program on making salsa boxes at a cancelled meeting turned into salsa and bruschetta pots to be given to the intensive care staff at a local hospital. I reword taking a lemon and making lemonade into an overabundance of tomatoes and making salsa planters. How best for a garden club to show its appreciation than to share a miniature garden? It takes a special member to say no problem to 25 planters and come out with double that amount. The generosity of gardeners can not be curtailed! Jane Kruse, President

Upper Perkiomen Valley Garden Club Covid-19 restrictions put a stop to several of our planned UPV Garden Club events this spring but we were able to offer one of our programs to the public just prior to the shut-down of group activities. On March 10th, Pam Herceg, a Montgomery County Master Gardener, presented "Small Meadows-Big Impact". Converting lawn into meadow, even if only a small area, is a popular topic here in upper Montgomery County so the program was well attended and received. As a plus, Pam is an advocate of native plants so she had practical and environmentally sound suggestions for establishing a sustainable meadow. We have taken advantage of Pam and several other Master Gardeners who offer programs through our Montgomery County Master Gardener Speaker Program. The speakers offer their services as volunteers and the Master Gardener program requests a

donation for their services. Despite group events being cancelled, our volunteers continue to work on our Community Benefits Garden (CBG) and our Butterfly Garden while practicing social distancing. Spring cold crops were planted in early April and as our nighttime temperatures have been up and down, the volunteers have been busy covering, uncovering, covering, ... the plants. We intended to use our April meeting to announce our 2020 Planting Challenge of peanuts and to introduce the Burpee Seed Program. Since that meeting did not happen, we provided information to both our members and our wider email distribution. As a result we have good participation in both. We have 18 participants in the Burpee Seed Program, including test areas in both our CBG and our butterfly garden. Additionally, we have tomato and pepper seeds for 2021 for our gardeners who start plants inside. By mid-May we will decide the fate of two of our summer programs: an open house at the CBG and a visit to the yard of a local butterfly enthusiast to see the host and nectar flowers, shrubs and trees that attracted over 40 species of butterflies last year. Earlier in the year, we learned of the Ames Tools Grant awards sponsored by the National Garden Clubs and Ames Companies, Inc. Since we are in need of additional gardening tools for our expanded Community Benefits Garden, we applied and were informed recently that we were chosen to receive a grant. We'll share photos of our volunteers and their new tools when they arrive. Diana Rudloff, President.

Wyomissing Area Garden Club - Our regular March meeting took place and we used the pressed flowers that we learned how to make last fall. We made book marks, note cards or small picture. Our April and May meetings were cancelled because of Pennsylvania's stay at home order. Having everyone stay safe is most important at this time. May would have been our election of officers but since we couldn't meet, elections were held via email and phone. Votes were counted and our officers were elected. June would have been our installation luncheon but we haven't made a final decision on whether or not to have the meeting. If we do not meet, we will have installation of officers via phone. Our new president takes over officially July 1. Her name is Beverly Bowman and her email is bjbowman678@gmail.com . We hope we can return to more normal meetings and programs this summer or fall but we will do what is best for our members and follow the state's mandates. We hope everyone is safe and well. Fran Carroll, President

Barbara Campbell, Director of GCFP District II/III is proud to announce the following awards given to District II/III Clubs. Congratulations to All!

GCFP 100-299 Club members: Club Yearbook Award A 2nd Bethlehem GC

GCFP Extra- Large Club: Newsletter Publication Award 2nd Bethlehem GC

GCFP Extra-Large Club G-3 A: Therapy Gardens Award 1st Bethlehem GC

**GCFP Large Club Special Recognition State Award D:
Holiday Project / Event Decoration of a Historic Building - The 1803 House
1st Emmaus GC**

**GCFP Small Standard Flower Show Schedule Award for 50-99 Members
"Summer at the Seashore" 1st Emmaus GC**

**GCFP Medium Club Program Award C Garden Tour -
Individual 1st Karen Keiser The GC of Reading**

**GCFP Medium Club Program Award C Garden Tour -
Individual 1st Madeline Maize The GC of Reading**

**GCFP Medium Club Specialized Publication Award #8 Other
"Gardens on Parade" Tour Book 1st The GC of Reading**

**GCFP Medium Club Special Recognition State Award F - Garden Tour
"Gardens on Parade" Garden Tour 1st The GC of Reading**

**GCFP Medium Club Special Achievement Award -
Biennial Garden Tour 2nd The GC of Reading**

**Katherine L. Rieger 2020 GCFP Scholarship of \$1,000
Kimberly Ferrara Hazelton Area GC**

2019 GCFP Forget-Me-Not District Award: Arlene E. Deskus Monroe County GC

Monroe County GC II/III 90-Year Anniversary 1927 Organized 1930 Federated

The GC of Montrose II/III 90-Year Anniversary 1905 Organized 1930 Federated

**GCFP Large Club Specialized Publication Award #2 Educational
Ceremonial Tree Planting Pamphlet 3rd Parkland GC**

**GCFP Large Club Specialized Publication Award #8 Other
"A Kaleidoscope of Color" Tour Book 3rd Parkland GC**

GCFP 45-69 Club members Club Yearbook Award A 3rd Parkland GC

GCFP Large Club Publicity Press Book Honorable Mention Parkland GC

**GCFP Large Club Special Recognition State Award C - Tree Plantings, Arbor Day "Five Tree Plantings at
Trexler Zoo" 3rd Parkland GC**

**GCFP Large Club Special Recognition State Award D - Holiday Project or Event
"Night to Shine" Corsages and Buttoneers 2nd Parkland GC**

**GCFP Large Club Special Recognition State Award F - Garden Tour
"A Kaleidoscope of Colors" Garden Tour 1st Parkland GC**

**GCFP Large Club Program Award F - Horticulture Therapy
"Halloween Magic Mason Jars" 2nd Parkland GC**

**GCFP Large Club MP-4(A) Video / CD / DVD / Flash Drive
Public Garden Tour on Flash Drive 2nd Parkland GC**

**GCFP Large Club YR-1(A) Gardening Among Youth Award-
Sapling Distribution 2nd Parkland GC**

**Miriam A. Steel 2020 GCFP Scholarship of \$1,000
Matthew A. Stuetz Pottstown Area GC**

GCFP 30-44 Club members Club Yearbook Award A 3rd South Schuylkill GC

**GCFP Medium Club CS-2(A) Civic Achievement Award -
Building a Children's**

**2019 GCFP Small (<29) Club Membership Award 13 new members !
1st Upper Perkiomen Valley GC**

BEE GAP COMMITTEE

As the State Bee Gap Chairman, I need your help in compiling information from all the garden clubs that belong to the GCFP. I have some questions for you regarding any native bee program that you may have in your garden club, and then would you give to me the information via email.

Do you have a Bee Related program or committee?

What is the function of this committee and who is your chairman?

Does your club have an area or gardens that you have put some bee hotels or houses?

What was your outcome.... did you have some Mason Bees' in your nest?

How about some leafcutter bees?

Or even the grass wasps?

When did you place the nesting houses? (up here in Erie, it doesn't keep 50 degrees until later in April).

What flowers did you notice they visited?

If you do not have a program/committee do any of your members try this on their own?

How successful were they?

Where did you obtain your information regarding the Mason Bees?

If you have any other comments or stories, please include this also.

I want to thank you for your participation into my little survey.

Please email your information to me at jumperbon@aol.com

At the convention, I was going to have a display about our native bees and have a few props. One of the props is a video that was going to run continuously. Even though it is filmed in the UK, it is a wonderful video of the bees making their nests, cocoons and hatching. It is too good to miss. So I

am providing the link here: <https://vimeo.com/129712987>

Bonita Herman, State Chairman of the Bee Gap Committee

It's Time to Send in Your Laurel Award Information
Honor Your Members

The Laurel Award is a nice way of saying thank you to your members. There is no limit as to how many you can give out except that the person cannot receive one in the last three years. Please send all of your Laurel Awards as attachments and in one email to avoid any confusion.

Please email your awards by the deadline to: tbcitee@ptd.net

I will respond to all emails sent with an, "I got it." This way all parties will be certain I have the information needed. If you don't hear from me, please contact me again.

The submission deadline for the Laurel Awards is August 1, 2020.

I am excited to be serving as chair on this committee and I hope to meet you at future meetings.

Sincerely,

Trieste Blasko

Chairman Laurel Awards

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE UPDATE ON RAFFLE TICKET DISTRIBUTION

I am in charge of the Ways and Means for our District 11/111 meeting in September. It was my intention to distribute the Raffle Tickets at our March 24th meeting. Presidents, I will contact you to make arrangements for their tickets to be delivered to their clubs, either by mail or in person. Thank you for your help. Stay healthy, Cynthia Dunton

Seed Money Awarded

The following clubs from District II/III will be receiving GCFP Seed Money. There were 49 awesome applications for all of GCFP for a total of \$2,500. Checks will be mailed to your club Treasurer. Good Luck with your projects and don't forget to show us your results!

District II/III: Emmaus G C, Hazleton Area G C,
Milford G C, Parkland G C, Upper Perkiomen Valley G C

Marjorie Stilwell Sears, Seed Money Chair

District II/III 2018-2020 Board

District Director Barbara Campbell (Parkland GC) Barbarac45@aol.com 610-432-3313

Assistant Director Linda Pinto (Milford GC) pinto.linda@gmail.com 570-491-7306

Recording Secretary Angelika Cornelius (Bethlehem GC) angelikac@rcn.com 610-882-2295

Treasurer Robert Cornelius (Bethlehem GC) rxcornelius@rcn.com 610-882-2295

Corresponding Secretary Liz Steen (Milford GC) peacegrl62@gmail.com 570-686-1080

August reports due July 27 to
peacegrl62@gmail.com Liz Steen

Club Presidents (new in Bold)

ALLENTOWN GARDEN CLUB	Rosie Ebersole	RGEbersole@aol.com
BETHLEHEM GARDEN CLUB	Martin Romeril	m_a_romeril@yahoo.com
EMMAUS GARDEN CLUB	Becky Short	shortgarden@yahoo.com
HAZLETON GARDEN CLUB	Ann Schneider	cams@ptd.net
MILFORD GARDEN CLUB	Liz Steen	peacegrl62@gmail.com
MONROE COUNTY GARDEN CLUB	Robin Teets	rteets@ptd.net
THE GARDEN CLUB OF MONTROSE	Joanne Decker	hairzoo@comcast.net
PARKLAND GARDEN CLUB	Brenda Aubert	baubert5@gmail.com
POTTSTOWN AREA GARDEN CLUB	Sally Schwartz	sallyschwartz827@gmail.com
GARDEN CLUB OF READING	Maria DeCecco	celebratedoccasions@comcast.net
SOUTH SCHUYLKILL GARDEN CLUB	Jane Kruse	pachejane@verizon.net
UPPER PERKIOMEN VALLEY GC	Diana L. Rudloff	diana.rudloff@outlook.com
WYOMISSING AREA GARDEN CLUB	Beverly Bowman	bjbow@gmail.com

