



# Greensburg Garden Center

## October, November 2017 Newsletter

### “Where Gardeners Grow”



#### Calendar Corner

Oct. 3	Annual Membership Mtg. 11:00 AM Luncheon & Program by Jessica Walliser
Oct. 5	Christmas Sale Workshops begin
Nov. 7	Membership Mtg. 11:00 AM Program—Kissing Balls
Dec. 1-2	Holiday Greens Sale
Dec. 5	Membership Mtg. 11:00 AM Program—Sock Snowman


#### Membership Meetings

**Nov. 7....** Watch as members Jane Petrovich and Carla Rusnica create a mini kissing ball with simple materials. Use greens from your backyard and materials from your cupboard to create a simple, pleasing decoration for fall or the holiday season.

**Dec. 5...** Glenda Testa will demonstrate how to make an adorable sock snowman. Details will be in the next newsletter on materials you can bring to create your own. Also, it's our Christmas Party Luncheon! Bring a dish to share and the RECIPE.

**Come Join Us.....** Are you looking for a way to have fun, meet people, stretch your talents and help the Greensburg Garden Center? Plan to participate in one or all of our Christmas Sale Workshops. They will be held in the downstairs workroom every Tuesday and Thursday 10:00-2:00 beginning October 5th. Bring a sack lunch—coffee and tea provided. All skill levels needed and appreciated. No experience necessary! Come for an hour or stay all day!!

#### WE LOVE PINE CONES!!

 The group of gals who create unique, one-of-a-kind Christmas trees and holiday decorations love to incorporate pine cones in the designs. They snow them, spray them, and glitter them!! When they are done with that step, they wire them, glue them, and cut them apart!! So, we love pine cones! If your property or your neighbor's property has pine trees, we would be happy if you would gather some and share with the Center. Just drop them by the office.

#### ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON GREENSBURG COUNTRY CLUB TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

“Forgotten Garden Combinations”  
By **Jessica Walliser**

11:00 AM – Meeting  
12:00 Noon – Lunch  
1:00 PM – Program

Our Annual Meeting is one of the highlights of the GGC year and will feature the election of new officers for the 2018 year, a tasty luncheon at the Greensburg Country Club, and an educational and informative program by Jessica Walliser.

The cost of the lunch and program is \$30, or enjoy the program only for \$12.

Jessica Walliser is well known to gardeners nationwide and especially in the Pittsburgh area. She is regularly heard on KDKA-Radio's Sunday morning program “The Organic Gardeners” and has a weekly column in the *Tribune-Review*.

Program attendees will be treated to her presentation on “Forgotten Garden Combinations” and will have an opportunity to purchase her popular books, “Good Bug, Bad Bug” and her latest, “Attracting Beneficial Bugs to the Garden”. She will be glad to autograph your copy.

Don't miss a chance to see and hear this amazing gardener in person and glean new ideas for your own garden. Remember those flowers your grandmother had in her garden. (Those hardy blooms you haven't seen in years. Ah, nostalgia!) This is your chance to see and hear why those flowers were popular “back then”.

Seating is limited, so be sure to make your reservation soon!



**The Fall Raffle** ticket winners will be drawn, you still have a chance to purchase more!

## Hints for Taking Calendar Photos

The Calendar Committee greatly appreciates the effort put forth by each member who takes and submits photos for the calendar. Here are a few tips to help you have your photos selected for publication.

- Remove distractions such as garden flags.
- Don't let white flowers make your photo overexposed.
- Use a steady hand for a well focused photo. Vertical photos do not take up the whole page, horizontal are best.



Realizing they are not as easy to take as individual flowers, photos of your garden are greatly appreciated. Your chances of having your photo used are greater if you take a spring,

fall, or winter shot. There are three winter months, two fall months minimum, and two spring months minimum. That's seven months needing season appropriate photos. Usually the majority of photos that come in can only be used for summer months, a maximum of five months.

The Committee also wants to encourage everyone to patronize our sponsors when shopping. Tell them you appreciate their support of our calendar project and use the coupons. The sponsors contributions to the project ensures it is a profitable one for GGC.

**So clip out those coupons found just before the month of April and get shopping!**

## Scholarship Winner!

The Greensburg Garden Center is pleased to announce this year's recipient of the Katherine M. McKenna Scholarship. This annual scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 was awarded to Jacquelynn Blume of Ligonier, PA.

Jacquelynn is enrolled in the College of Agricultural Sciences at Penn State University majoring in Plant Sciences. As a transfer student from Westmoreland Community College, she has done very well academically. This past spring, she completed her first year at Penn State University campus on the Dean's List with a GPA of 3.97. She plans to graduate early next spring by carrying a heavy class load.

As a student she has been involved in independent research projects where she has learned about greenhouse management and plant breeding. She is an active member of the student farm club and horticulture club. During the past three summers she has worked at Ridgeview Acres Farms and Flowers in Stahlstown, PA.

Her objective upon graduation is to work in the horticulture industry with an interest in plant breeding. She spoke to me about contacting various seed companies now for possible employment upon graduation.

Congratulations, Jacquelynn on a job well done! We encourage you to keep in touch with our organization. We like to hear from our scholarship recipients and learn of their pursuits outside of school.

Deneise Snyder, Scholarship Chairman

## Where are we on the internet?

The Greensburg Garden Center currently has three areas on the internet. One is our website and the other two are within the Facebook application.

The website can be viewed from any computer/phone connected to the internet. Just type in the Address (URL) into the address bar. This is the more formal and structured area. The site is maintained by a GGC member and the fees are paid by the organization.

The **Facebook** page is our organization's free public profile in Facebook. It contains official announcements, events, additional photos plus member supplied gardening tips/articles. The page is updated by a GGC member.

The Facebook group is a community of "like minded" Facebook users. This community shares information about the organization, member gardens, gardening tips, photos etc., but in a more relaxed manner. The group is monitored by one of our GGC members and is free. *Stop by and read all about us!*

The following are the addresses:

### Website Address

<http://www.greensburggardencenter.net/home.html>

Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/GreensburgGardenCenter/>

Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/greensburggardencenter/>



## The Monarch Butterfly Release At Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve



August 12 was a perfect Saturday at the Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve. Perfect too to release 250 Monarch butterflies. The gardens there are lovely and those who wished were treated to guided tours by WPNR staff and volunteers.

Approximately 600 people enjoyed two presentations by "Butterfly Guy" Rick Mikula. Always entertaining, Rick presented two separate programs, both filled to capacity. Children and adults learned about the life cycle of butterflies and the migration of the Monarchs. After each release, he autographed his popular, educational books purchased by the eager crowd: "The Family Butterfly Book" and "Butterflies of the World" Fandex.

Many, many thanks to Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve for sponsoring the Butterfly Release. In addition to the entire facility, they invited vendors who sold refreshments, scones, jewelry, plants, and offered FREE photographs.

WPNR and GGC volunteers offered free children's crafts and face painting. GGC sold butterfly novelties, flower wands and PBJ sandwiches. WPNR displayed aquariums with Monarch caterpillar larva for all to see this different stage of the Monarch.

Many thanks to all the volunteers of GGC and the staff and volunteers of WPNR for the hard work and effort put forth to make this event a HUGE success!

### DO YOU KNOW.....that there is a *local active Floral DESIGN STUDY group?*



**DESIGNERS GUILD** originated in Greensburg Garden Center (not sure when, but over 40 years ago!) and is still active, today, with members from District VI, VII and X, who meet four times a year at Greensburg Garden Center to study/practice the art of floral design. We all share a love for Design and we want to keep learning. Each year we decide what type/style of design to do for each meeting, or what Principle or Element of Design to focus/feature and we meet, design, and discuss/critique and consider possibilities for improving each design. Maybe YOU would like to join us?

DESIGNERS GUILD is planning a **Design Workshop, "COME...LEARN...Watch...Do!": Monday, October 16, 2017; at Greensburg Garden Center; from 10:00 AM -1:00 PM; Donation: \$5.00.** Designers Guild Members will discuss the designs they do, following which they will assist others in doing a design. COME to Watch and LEARN, or COME and Do a design. If you plan to Do a design, bring a container and some plant material. \*\*Please pre-register: Angie Raitano - 724-483-6724, [angie.raitano@comcast.net](mailto:angie.raitano@comcast.net)

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### "Catch the Spirit"

#### Christmas Sale

**Friday, December 1 - 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm**  
**Saturday, December 2 - 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**



A brightly decorated wreath. An aroma of fresh pine. A sparkling tree with dozens of lights. If you're smiling, you're catching the spirit. Big red bows. Lots of glitter. A garland on your mantle

or around your door. Ah, smiling again, right? Yes! You're catching the spirit!

Be sure to save the dates to come shop the Christmas Sale and ....catch the spirit!!

More information will be in our winter newsletter. Or, if you want to order live greens or a custom designed tree or decoration, call the office for more information.

### New Members....



Iris Cisarik  
Christine Larry



**New Officers for 2018-2020** will be announced at the Annual Meeting for the membership to vote on. They are Donna Lee, 2nd Vice President; Theresa Rodgers, Assistant Treasurer and Nancy Nemeth & Mary Louise Silvis, 2 yr. Directors. They will be installed at the January Membership Meeting.

**For those who plan early...the date for the Spring Tea is April 21, 2018.**

The Nominating Committee, Diane Dale, Jane Petrovich & Marian DeBone

**Greensburg Garden Center**  
**951 Old Salem Road**  
**Greensburg, PA 15601**

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00-3:00  
Phone: 724-837-0245  
www.greensburggardencenter.net  
email: ggc951@live.com

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

### **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.*

### **GREENSBURG GARDEN CENTER 2017 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: \_\_\_ Horticulture/Gardening \_\_\_ Floral Design \_\_\_ Education \_\_\_ Workshops  
\_\_\_ Committee participation \_\_\_ Landscaping \_\_\_ Arboretum