

**WELCOME TO
THE 88TH GCFP ANNUAL CONVENTION
A Floral Tri-fecta
The DoubleTree by Hilton
Pittsburgh-Meadowlands
Washington, PA
April 15 – 17, 2018**

The Garden Clubs of DISTRICT X cordially invite you to attend the 88th Annual Convention of The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, April 15-17, 2018, at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Pittsburgh-Meadowlands, in Washington, PA. All garden club members, as well as family and friends, are welcome to attend. Come and enjoy the many programs and workshops that offer opportunities to learn about the many aspects of gardening, horticulture, floral design and related subjects: "Growing Your Own Medicine", "Straw Bale Gardening", "How to Grow Your Dinner", "Cannas", "Succulents" are the titles of some of the workshops being presented by knowledgeable/experienced gardeners. Even more educational workshops: "Care of your Hand and Power Tools", "Milk Jug Mini-Greenhouses", and "Figs".

"Making the most of the possibilities...Are you up to date?" will help to answer many of the questions you may have about the new NGC Handbook for Flower Shows. And...you won't want to miss the opportunity to see floral design at its best: "ON with Winning Design" and "Winners Through the Years...Creative Designs". A special MASTER CLASS in floral design is being offered to the first 25 registrants. Make sure you register early!

You won't want to miss the opening event: Sunday night's banquet honoring Life Members and Youth, including GCFP Scholarship winners, plus the special entertainment feature, "Charlie Chaplin Silent Picture Show".

Of course, you will want to attend the Annual Business Meeting...important, and not too long...and take advantage of the shopping at "Bet You'll Love It Shoppe", as well as the nearby Tanger Outlet Mall, just across the highway (access via complimentary hotel shuttle). The shuttle will also provide transportation to the Meadows Racetrack & Casino, just next-door. (Sorry, there are no pre-arranged tours, this year.)

Wow! Convention 2018 will be great, especially because of its location at the newly updated DoubleTree by Hilton, with all its desirable amenities. Come and enjoy the warm chocolate chip cookies that will be waiting for you on arrival. Phone for room reservations, NOW!

Haddie Weber, Chair 1009 Broughton Road Pittsburgh, PA 15236 412-655-3469 cell 412-897-8002 haddie.weber@verizon.net

Karl Casey, Co-Chair 628 Royce Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15243-1150 412-400-2954 CaseyKarlA@gmail.com

Pre-registration for ALL of the workshops, programs and meals you plan to attend is mandatory.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
2018 GCFP ANNUAL CONVENTION**

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018

9:00 AM – 6:00 PM REGISTRATION
 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Vendor & Educational Exhibits Set-up
 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Hospitality
 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM Submit Trash to Treasure Entries
 12:30 PM – 6:30 PM *Bet You'll Love It Shoppe*
 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM **WORKSHOP** *Straw Bale Gardening* Judith Schaffer
 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Hospitality
 3:45 PM – 4:30 PM GCFP Finance/Investment Committee Meeting
 4:30 PM – 5:15 PM Executive Committee Meeting
 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM Social Hour – CASH Bar
 7:00 PM **EVENT** Honoring Life Members, Youth & Scholarship Awards
PROGRAM Tom Roberts *Charlie Chaplin Silent Picture Show*

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018

6:30 AM – 9:00 AM Full Complimentary Breakfast for Hotel Guests
 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM REGISTRATION
 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Hospitality
 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM *Bet You'll Love It Shoppe*
 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM OFFICIAL OPENING of 88th GCFP Convention
Annual Business Meeting (All registrants should attend)

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM WORKSHOP SESSION A

A1 *Are You Up to Date?* - Dorothy Yard
 Master Flower Show Judge/Instructor
 A2 *Succulents* - Autumn Harris
 A3 *Growing Your Own Medicine* - Jen Dalke

12:00 PM – 2:30 PM **EVENT**
PROGRAM George Weigle *How to Grow Your Dinner*

2:00 PM – 6:00 PM REGISTRATION

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM WORKSHOP SESSION B

B1 *Are You Up to Date?* - Dorothy Yard
 Master Flower Show Judge /Instructor
 B2 *Cannas* - Alice Harris
 B3 *Growing Your Own Medicine* - Jen Dalke

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Hospitality
 4:15 PM – 4:45 PM District Directors and Assistants, Club Presidents
 and Vice-Presidents meet with GCFP Officers

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM Social Hour – CASH Bar
 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM **EVENT** Recognition of District Directors, Assistant
 Directors, and Club Presidents; and Awards
PROGRAM On Thai, *ON with Winning Design*

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018

6:30 AM – 9:00 AM Full Complimentary Breakfast for Hotel Guests
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM REGISTRATION
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM *Bet You'll Love It Shoppe*
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM Judges Council Board Meeting
8:30 AM – 9:15 AM Judges Council Annual Meeting
9:30 AM – 10:45 AM On Thai Master Class

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM **WORKSHOP SESSION C**

- C1 *How to Care for Your Gardening Power Tools* - Andy Amrhein
- C2 *Milk Jug Mini-Greenhouses*
Laura Delach, Washington County Master Gardener Program
- C3 *Figs* - Irene Fostyk, Penn State Extension Master Gardener

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM Judges Council EVENT/PROGRAM

Winners Through the Years...Creative Designs - Lynn Fronk, NGC Master Flower Show Judge/Instructor

2:00 PM Convention Business Resumes

Invitation to the NGC Convention in Philadelphia, PA

Invitation to 2019 Convention, District VI, Altoona, PA

Official Closing of Convention

DOUBLETREE PITTSBURGH MEADOW LANDS

340 Racetrack Road, Washington PA 15301
724-222-6200 724-228-0709

DEADLINE for hotel is MARCH 1, 2018.

Guests may call the hotel directly and use the **group booking code GAR**
724-222-6200 or toll free 1-800-Hiltons. Rate is \$129 + tax.
Free, full complimentary breakfast (hot and cold) for paying hotel guests.
Free Parking

DIRECTIONS From Pittsburgh - Approximately 25 minute drive

Through the Fort Pitt Tunnels, Parkway West I-376 onto 79 south - Take the Racetrack Road (exit 41). Turn right onto Racetrack Road - hotel is ¼ mile off exit on left.

From Washington - Approximately 10 minute drive

I-79 North to Racetrack Road exit 41. Turn right onto Racetrack Road - hotel is ¼ mile on left.

From Pittsburgh International Airport - Approximately 30 minute drive

Take 376 West (Old 60 south) to I-79 south. Take Racetrack Road (exit 41). Turn right onto Racetrack Road - hotel is ¼ mile on left.

From PA Turnpike: New Stanton (Exit 8) - Approximately 40 minute drive

Take I-70 West to I-79 north. Take Racetrack Road (exit 41). Turn right onto Racetrack Road - hotel is ¼ mile on left.

From Wheeling, West Virginia - Approximately 35 minute drive

Take I-70 East to I-79 North. Take Racetrack Road (exit 41). Turn right onto Racetrack Road - hotel is ¼ mile on left.

PROGRAM/EVENT SPEAKERS

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018 7:00 PM Evening Event/Program

Tom Roberts *Charlie Chaplin Silent Picture Show*



Tom Roberts is a leading exponent of early jazz piano and a versatile music historian with special focus on the Early Jazz era. He's played everywhere from New York's Carnegie Hall and the Tonight Show to the major jazz clubs in the French Quarter. Tom has recorded over 40 albums and has performed throughout the United States and Europe. He has particular interest in the silent films of Charlie Chaplin and has written new original scores for many of his movies, including *The Pawn Shop* and *Kid Auto Races*. He has performed alongside these films everywhere from the Hollywood Theater to Heinz Hall. Tom will be playing along with the movie on his keyboard.

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018 12:00 NOON

George Weigle presenting *How to Grow Your Dinner*



George holds a BS in journalism from Penn State University and is a Pennsylvania Certified Horticulturalist. He is a garden columnist for the *Harrisburg Patriot News*, *Pennsylvania Month-to-Month Gardening*, and *Mid-Atlantic Month-to-Month Gardening*. He was PA editor of *People, Places and Plants* magazine and won Garden Writers Association Awards for one of the five best garden columns in America. In 2016, he was awarded the GCFP Award Of Excellence - Non-member, and National Garden Clubs Inc. awarded him an Award of Excellence, which is the highest honor the NGC gives to non-members. He was sponsored by Penn-Cumberland GC.

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018 6:30 PM EVENING EVENT/PROGRAM

On Thai, presenting *ON with Winning Design*



On Thai is the owner of Surrounding's Floral Studio located in Schenectady, New York. He continues to be active in local and regional competitions and has won numerous awards for his entries, including the Teleflora's People's Choice Award, and Best in Show in the Albany International Flower Show and the Capital District Garden and Flower Show. Some of his major accomplishments are designing the floral décor for the National Racing Museum and the Hall of Fame Annual Ball, and the National Dance Museum Ball. On demonstrates regularly to garden clubs in Rhode Island, N.Y, N.J, PA and Massachusetts and the Garden Club of America in Seattle, WA. He also executed a design presentation for the Creative Floral Arranger of America in Orlando, Florida.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018 11:00 AM JUDGES COUNCIL PROGRAM

Lynn Fronk presenting *Winners Through the Years...Creative Designs*



Lynn is a National Garden Clubs Master Flower Show Judge, Flower Show Schools Design and Flower Show Procedure Instructor. She has judged major flower shows in the United States such as the Philadelphia Flower Show, Newport Flower Show and the Rhode Island State Flower Show. Lynn is currently serving as Immediate Past President of Garden Club of Ohio and Symposium Chairman. She is Accrediting Chairman for the Flower Show Schools Committee and a member of the Data Entry Committee for all the schools for National Garden Clubs. She is currently Central Atlantic Regional Conference Chairman for 2018 and a member of the National Flower Arrangers. She is the author of *Merry Christmas from My House to Yours*, a small booklet on Using Natural Materials for Holiday Designs.

WORKSHOPS

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018 1:30 - 2:30 PM

Judith Schaffer, *Straw Bale Gardening*

Judith will explain the technique developed by Joel Karsten in his book, *Straw Bale Gardening Complete*. She has utilized his procedure successfully for three years on her concrete parking lot in front of her apartment. NO DIGGING IN THE DIRT REQUIRED! Judy is the current GCFP Convention Coordinator and was the chair of the 2014 Convention held in Monroeville, PA. She is a Past District VII Director and writes gardening-related articles for their newsletter, *The Trumpet Vine* under her column's title, *Judy's Jottings*. She is a past president of Pucketos Garden Club and serves as their current Horticulture chair. Come and learn about this breakthrough gardening method!



MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018 WORKSHOPS A1-3 10:45 - 11:45 AM

**Dorothy Yard *Making the most of the possibilities...Are you up to date?*
Workshops A1/B1**

Dot is a former past president of the Garden Club Federation of PA. She is currently serving on the Advisory and Finance Committees for GCFP and is Chairman of the NGC Flower Show Schools Committee. She was advisor to the new Handbook and Green Manual committees. Dot is a Five Star Member of NGC, having attained Master level in all four schools: Garden School, Environmental School, Landscape Design School and Flower Show School. She is an instructor for Horticulture and Flower Show procedure for NGC. Dot will highlight the new possibilities for Flower Shows that became effective in July, 2017 with the advent of the new Handbook for Flower Shows.



Autumn Harris *Succulents* Workshop A2

Autumn is a local horticulturalist with years of experience in the cultivation of succulents and other tropicals. She is a 2012 and 2013 graduate of California University of Pennsylvania, where she focused her formal studies in the areas of Business, Marketing, and Environmental Sciences. Autumn is a member of the Mon Valley Garden Club. Autumn's workshop will provide information on different types of succulents, pest management, different techniques of propagation and more.

Jen Dalke *Growing Your Own Medicine* Workshops A3/B3

Jen grew up in the South Hills of Pittsburgh and studied plant identification for over 10 years. In 2011, she attended schooling in Asheville, NC for herbal medicine. It was largely her mother's influence in gardening that piqued her own interest, and she began experimenting with gardening at a young age. Combining her knowledge of plant identification and foraging with her gardening experience and training in herbal medicine, she developed a class on how to grow your own medicine! For other gardeners, this class is a breeze. The focus is on growing wild plants which are often considered weeds! They require minimal care but offer maximum benefits for you and your family. She'll discuss how to make simple remedies from common plants, and attendees will leave feeling confident in using plants for common ailments!



Front cover design was drawn by artist Arlene Popko, Giant Oaks GC, District X and graphic artist Christi Carnahan of Shelocta, PA

WORKSHOPS

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018 WORKSHOP B1-B3 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Alice Harris, *Cannas Workshop B2*

Alice is owner and leader of the hybridization program at Karchesky Canna and Brugmansia. She has a lifetime of experience with growing tropical and unusual plants in cold-climate, as well as many years in the field of design. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Penn State/California University of Pennsylvania, and post-graduate education in horticulture design. Alice is President of the Mon Valley Garden Club. Alice's workshop will provide expert information on growing Cannas.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018

9:30 - 10:45 AM

ON THAI, MASTER CLASS LIMITED TO 25

Stimulate your creative instincts under the supervision and instruction of Master Designer, ON THAI. The registration fee for the Master Class will include all design components (container/plant material). Bring your own clippers, please.

9:45 - 10:45 AM WORKSHOPS C1-C3

Andy Amrhein *Care of Your Hand and Power Tools* Workshop C1



Andy Amrhein, known both as *Mr. True Value* and *Handy Andy*, fields calls from listeners as the host of *The True Value Home Improvement Hour* on NewsRadio 1020 KDKA. Owner of Evey True Value Hardware, in Bethel Park, Amrhein has over 44 years of experience. His hardware career began in 1973 at the young age of 13, when he mopped floors of Evey Hardware. He became a shift manager and eventually purchased the business from its founder in January, 1995. Amrhein can also be found explaining home improvement techniques and products on KDKA TV every Thursday on *Pittsburgh Today Live*. www.truevalue.com

Laura Delach *Milk Jug Mini-Greenhouses* Workshop C2



Laura Delach has served as the Master Gardener Coordinator with Penn State Cooperative Extension in Washington County for thirteen years. In this position she oversees the volunteer educational activities of approximately sixty-five Master Gardeners, including the Washington County Spring Gardening Seminar that draws over two hundred participants annually. She received her B.S. in Horticulture from Penn State University in 1983. Laura is also an avid gardener, cook, food preserver, and mom.

Irene Fostyk *Figs* Workshop C3



Ms. Fostyk is a graduate of Penn State University, where she earned a degree in Marketing. Her maternal grandfather, Louis DeGregory, influenced her love of gardening. A first generation American whose family emigrated from Italy, Louis maintained a fabulous vegetable garden and was especially proud of his fig tree, which was grown from a cutting brought from Italy. Irene worked with her grandfather in the garden where he taught her organic methods for growing and protecting the crop. She continued to develop her landscaping and gardening knowledge in southwest Pennsylvania by becoming a Master Gardener. Working with the hills in her area, she has created a terraced vegetable garden where she

is currently growing seven varieties of figs. Her perennial garden has received the Pollinator Garden Certification through the Penn State Master Gardener program.

REGISTRATION FOR GCFP MEMBER/SPOUSE/GUEST
The 88th Annual Meeting of the GCFP
A Floral Tri-fecta
April 15-17, 2018

Make a separate copy (both sides) for GCFP member/spouse/guest before filling out OR get the form at www.pagardenclubs.org

Please print or type and complete BOTH sides and mail to:
Sue Ballas, Registrar Convention 2018

4135 Shady Avenue, Munhall, PA 15120-3448

Contact: sueballas1@gmail.com 412-461-1281 cell: 412-720-9546

Last name _____ First name _____

Name as preferred on name badge _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip code +4 _____

Confirmation will be sent to your email address _____

_____ PHONE _____

Garden Club(s) _____ District _____

Check all that apply:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> National President | <input type="checkbox"/> Current State Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> GCFP Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> or Board Member (GCFP | <input type="checkbox"/> Flower Show Judge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAR-SGC Director | position) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening Consultant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAR-SGC Board Member | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Consultant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State President | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Design Consult. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Former State President | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Club Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District Director | <input type="checkbox"/> National Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Guest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> CAR-SGC Life Member | |

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS
To register for a workshop you must also register for a meal that day.

REGISTRATION FEE FOR ALL ATTENDEES IS \$5.00 **ON OR BEFORE**
March 1, 2018
 FEE FOR LATE REGISTRATION IS \$25.00 **from March 2 to March 15, 2018.**

Early Registration for GCFP members, spouses, and guests is advised.

Registration closes March 20, 2018 - No refunds after March 20, 2018.

Please complete the next page to specify your choices and total your remittance payable to: "GCFP 2018 Convention".

PLEASE COMPLETE A SEPARATE REGISTRATION FORM FOR YOUR SPOUSE/GUEST.

If spouse/guest, name of Garden Club member sponsor _____

All others postmarked on or before March 1, 2018 \$5.00 _____

ALL late registrations postmarked on or after March 2, 2018 \$25.00 _____

To register for a workshop, you must also register for a meal that day.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018

1:30 - 2:30 PM *Straw Bale Gardening Workshop* Judith Schaffer \$5.00 _____

7:00 PM DINNER AND PROGRAM \$60.00 _____

Tom Roberts - *Charlie Chaplin Silent Picture Show*

Please circle food choice:

- A. Crab Cake B. Pasta Primavera C. London Broil Pizzaoli

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Workshop Session A \$5.00 _____

Please prioritize your choices for attending Workshops as 1, 2, or 3:

A1 *Are You Up to Date?* Dorothy Yard - Master Flower Show Judge # _____

A2 *Succulents* - Autumn Harris # _____

A3 *Growing Your Own Medicine* - Jen Dalke # _____

12:00 PM - 2:30 PM LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM \$45.00 _____

George Weigle - *How to Grow Your Dinner*

Please circle food choice:

- A. Grilled Chicken or Steak Pittsburgh Salad B. Chicken Fricassee over Egg Noodles
C. Vegetable Cannelloni

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Workshop Session B \$5.00 _____

Please prioritize your choices for attending Workshops as 1, 2, or 3:

B1 *Are You Up to Date?* Dorothy Yard - Master Flower Show Judge # _____

B2 *Cannas* - Alice Harris # _____

B3 *Growing Your Own Medicine* - Jen Dalke # _____

6:30 PM DINNER AND PROGRAM \$65.00 _____

On Thai - *ON with Winning Design*

Please circle food choice:

- A. Lemon Chicken Piccata B. Parmesan Encrusted Sea Bass C. Beef Tender Loin Medallions

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM On Thai Master Class LIMITED 25. \$100.00 _____

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Workshop Session C \$5.00 _____

Please prioritize your choices for attending Workshops as 1, 2, or 3:

C1 *How to Care for Your Gardening Power Tools* - Andy Amrhein # _____

C2 *Milk Jug Mini-Greenhouses* - Laura Delach, # _____

Washington County Master Gardener Program

C3 *Figs* - Irene Fostyk, *Penn State Extension Master Gardener* # _____

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM JUDGES COUNCIL PROGRAM AND LUNCH \$45.00 _____

Lynn Fronk - *Winners Through the Years...Creative Designs*

Please circle food choice:

- A. Salmon with Rice Pilaf B. Arcadia Grilled Chicken Salad C. Veggie Wellington

Specify dietary restrictions (Medical allergies only) _____

Total remittance (one check per person registered) Check # _____ \$ _____

Did you complete both sides of the form?