

THE TENdriL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GARDEN CLUB
FEDERATION OF PENNSYLVANIA,
DISTRICT X.

Member, National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Volume 22 Issue 1
March, 2022
Editor, Helen Galluppi
Hlg632@gmail.com



THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Submitted by Kay Bair, District X Director

DISTRICT X BOARD Officers

Director

KAY BAIR

Town & Country GC

Co-Assistant Director

DEBORAH DAVIS

Martha Washington Garden
Club

Co-Assistant Director

MARDELL PAGE

Valley GC

Recording Secretary

LINDA COLEMAN

Martha Washington G C

Treasurer

SANDRA GRILLI

Martha Washington GC

GCFP District X Annual Spring Tea Wednesday, March 16, 2022

***Mon Valley YMCA**

[101 Taylor Run Rd, Monongahela, PA 15063](#)

[Held in the Gym, so dress warmly.](#)

Registration – 9:30 AM

Coffee and Rolls upon arrival.

Business Meeting – 10:00 A.M.

President's Reports

Judging of the Trash to Treasures Entries

*Theme: “**Framed Floral Masterpiece**”*

*Also bring a photo of the Floral Masterpiece which was the inspiration for
your design.*

(Each club participating should bring ONE entry)

The winning entry will go to the 2022 GCFP Convention

Lunch – NOON

*District X Board Members provide lunch, free of charge. Hostess – Giant
Oaks Garden Club*

Town & Country Garden Club providing teapots for the tables

PROGRAM 1:00 PM

Susan Weimer of Martha Washington Garden Club will
present a Powerpoint program “Weeping Conifers”.

Mark your calendars and plan to be there. Bring a new friend.

Presidents - please RSVP **the number and names** of your Club members that
will be attending, by Wednesday, March 9, 2022

E-MAIL INFORMATION TO:

Kay Bair - teba@windstream.net 724-966-5856



DISTRICT X GARDEN CLUB PRESIDENTS

GARDEN CLUB OF MUNHALL

Meet 4th Tuesday, at 7 PM

Michael Sarraino

<http://www.facebook.com/GardenClubofMunhall>

Web site: <http://www.gardenclubofmunhall.com>

GIANT OAKS GARDEN CLUB

Meet 1st Thursday at 11:30 AM

Judie Ball and Kay Brennan

Facebook: Giant Oaks Garden Club

GREAT MEADOWS GARDEN CLUB

Meet 4th Wednesday at 10:30 AM

Wanda Sherry

<https://www.facebook.com/gmgc1957>

GREEN GARDENERS OF UNIONTOWN

Meet 1st Friday (for lunch)

Paula Flaherty

MARTHA WASHINGTON GARDEN CLUB

Meet 3rd Tuesday at 12:30 PM

Carole Malmgren

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

MON VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Meet 1st Monday at 6:30 PM

Alice Harris

PLEASANT HILLS GARDEN CLUB

Meet 2nd Monday at 12:30 PM

Louise Humphreys

<https://www.facebook.com/Pleasant-Hills-Garden-Club-111595013758659/>

Web site: <https://pleasanthillsgc.org/>

TOWN & COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

Meet 3rd Thursday at 6 PM

Dianne Nicholson

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

UNIONTOWN FLOWER CLUB

Meet 2nd Friday at 1 PM

Sharlene Lehman

VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Meet 2nd Thursday at 10 AM

Roxanne Huss

2022 IMPORTANT DATES

Mar 16	District X Spring Tea , Mon Valley Y Activity Room, 10:00 AM, Giant Oaks Host
Apr 3-5	GCFP Convention , "Celebrating Natures Masterpieces," Desmond Hotel, Malvern.
Apr 18-29	GCFP Tour – The Floriade, Holland and Belgium River Cruise.
Apr 26-Tues.	Wildflower Walk , Fort Necessity Battlefield, Farmington, PA. 9:00 AM
Apr 28-May 1	Flower Show School Course I, DoubleTree, Plymouth Meeting, PA
May 17-20	NGC Convention, Orlando, FL
May 23	District X Board Meeting, Mon Valley Y, LaCarte Room, 10:00 AM
June 6-7	GFCP Board Meeting, Wyndham Garden State College, Boalsburg, PA
June 5-11	National Garden Week
June 11-17	Philadelphia Flower Show, FDR Park
June 15, Wed	District X June Fundraiser , Valley Brook Country Club
Aug 22	District X Board Meeting @ Angie's Home
Sept 6	Annual District Meeting , Valley Brook Country Club, Installation of New Officers and Program. 9:00 AM
Oct 10-11	GCFP Board Meeting, Wyndham Garden State College, Boalsburg, PA

When you fill out the "Officer Change Form" to notify GCFP when your Club President changes, please also send copies, with the updated contact info, to the District Director and TENDril Editor.



Oct 19 District X Board Meeting, Mon
Valley Y, LaCarte Room, 10:00
AM

Nov 1-3 CAR-SGC Conference, Seven
Springs PA



2022 DISTRICT X BOARD MEETINGS

All Board meetings begin at 10 a.m.

May 23 District X Board Meeting, Mon
Valley Y, LaCarte Room.

Aug 22 District X Board Meeting , Angie
Raitano's Home.



DISTRICT X CLUB NEWS

GIANT OAKS

Submitted by Barbara Jo Nerone

Giant Oaks has been collecting clean, counted plastic lids and bottle caps. To date we have collected over lids from various containers. Our club is sending them to New Jersey where they recycle them.

It was expensive to purchase the cardboard containers to collect them and mail them in so we were lucky enough to find a man who has an apartment in our community and lives in NJ. He takes all of our caps with him. We have no idea how long he will continue to do this because I do not think he expected us to collect so many. At our Feburary meeting we filled a six foot table top and under it with them. It is wonderful to see the members so enthusiastic about recycling and doing some thing for our community.

We also had a clothing drive for the homeless shelters in Washington County and collected over forty bags of gloves, socks, jackets and other warm items. They were so pleased to receive these donations.

GREAT MEADOWS

Submitted by Wanda Sherry

Ten Interesting Facts about Butterflies

Who doesn't enjoy witnessing a butterfly in flight. From their brightly colored bodies to the effortless motion that seems in sync with some unheard symphony. Butterflies are insects each of us can appreciate.

Butterfly wings are transparent. Before you feel the need to schedule an eye exam, let me explain, the wings of a butterfly are covered in a multitude of miniature scales, thousands of them. And those colors you see when a butterfly flies across your yard are the reflection of various colors through these scales. The wings themselves are made up of a protein called chitin, which is the same protein that forms an insect's exoskeleton. Chitin is transparent.

There are almost 20,000 butterfly species. There are 575 species that may be seen in your yard this spring and summer. Butterflies use their feet to taste.

A butterflies daily activities consist of eating and mating, both of which require landing, even if it's only briefly. When food is a priority, those taste receptors help the butterfly locate the right plants and the nutrients it needs for survival. Many people wonder what it means when a butterfly lands on them, the truth being is it's probably just hungry.

Butterflies only live for a few weeks. The average lifespan of an adult butterfly is roughly 3 to 4 weeks, however, the entire lifespan can last anywhere between two and eight months. As with anything there are always exceptions to the rule. Some species live for only 24 hours, where the monarch, which is a migratory butterfly can survive for nearly 8 months.

The most common butterfly in the United States is the cabbage white. The cabbage white may not be the most colorful butterfly in your yard or garden, but it's the most common. The male cabbage white has one prominent black spot on each wing, while the female has two.

Some butterfly species migrate from the cold.

Although in many cases cold weather will end the already short life of a butterfly by rendering them immobile, others take the dropping temperature as a signal to move. Butterflies are cold blooded and require a body temperature of approximately 85° to activate their flight muscles. As the weather changes some species simply migrate in search of sunshine. The monarch can travel an average of 2,500 miles.

One of the largest butterflies is the giant swallowtail. Its wingspan is between 4 and 7 inches, its name fits its dimensions. The swallowtail gets its name from the swallowtail bird, thanks to the long tails on its hindwings.

Butterflies have a liquid diet. In fact, they simply don't have the necessary apparatus for chewing. Using their proboscis, which functions in the same way you might use a straw, butterflies drink nectar or some other variation of liquid substance.

Butterfly wings help protect them against predators. Staying alive for as long as possible allows the butterfly additional opportunities to mate, and continuing the existence of its species which is of utmost importance. Butterflies frequently use their wings as a defense mechanism. Either by folding to blend in with their surroundings, or wearing a full spectrum of colors and patterns to frighten predators, a butterfly's wings are often their best protection.

Butterflies actually have four wings not two. Despite how they may appear in motion, or in drawings or paintings you may have seen, butterflies have four separate wings. The wings closest to his head or called the forewings, while those in the rear are called the hindwings. Thanks to strong muscles in the butterfly's thorax, all four wings move up and down in a figure-eight pattern during flight.

UNIONTOWN FLOWER CLUB

Submitted by Sharlene Lehman

The Uniontown Flower Club held a Valentine Tea Party at our home base of Mt. Saint Macrina. Along with lots of tea and goodies, program chair, Toni L'Hommedieu created a wonderful program on winter flowers. Committee member, Nanci Myers, gave the presentation and members learned about the wonderful world of winter flowers that brighten

even the dreariest days. Hellebores, witch hazel, and many more along with the old standbys crocuses and daffodils were discussed with tips on starting a winter flower garden and maintaining it.

March will also find members learning how to start variegated ivy for spring planting. In April, we will install our new officers and discuss programs for the upcoming year.

A recent Penn State Webinar presented a program on the importance of continuing to care for our winter birds throughout the spring and early summer. Despite warmer weather, spring brings the babies, and they always have their little mouths open. Give mom and dad birds a break and help with suet and bird feed to get the little ones off to a good start.

"The deep roots never doubt spring will come."

PLEASANT HILLS

Submitted by Louise Humphreys

Pleasant Hills Garden Club has 28 members who (usually) meet the on the second Monday of each month. We recently lost long time member Ron Lichalk. Another long time member, Elaine S. Brown, has moved to be closer to her daughters. We will miss them both.

Pleasant Hills Garden Club is one of the recipients of a Plant America grant in the amount \$1,000 requested for the beautification of the entry and front of Thomas Jefferson High School. The Pleasant Hills Garden Club will act in an advisory capacity. Students will plant and maintain the greenery.

The PHGC is having a Small Standard Flower Show on Saturday, August 13th with the theme "Fairy Tales." We are fortunate to have an Accredited Life Judge, Marie Mueller, who is quite an asset to our club with her knowledge and sense of design. Marie and Helen Galluppi are co-chairing the event.

Other events/speakers this year include Backyard Composting, Edible Flowers, our annual Plant Sale, a field trip to Garden in the Woods, and Bird Friendly Gardens. Marie will be giving several

presentations on design for our flower show. We will also be touring members' yards.

Our regular projects – the Pleasant Hills Library, the Let Freedom Ring Garden at Bill Green's, and the Arboretum – are being carried on with beautiful results! We have some hard workers with a good eye for gardening.

We continue to assist with the development of a butterfly garden in the Pleasant Hills Arboretum. We presently have two members on the Arboretum committee/board.

Helen Galluppi is maintaining our Facebook page and has done a fantastic job of posting information. View the page at

<https://www.facebook.com/Pleasant-Hills-Garden-Club-111595013758659>

TOWN & COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB of RICES LANDING

Submitted by Dianne Nicholson

In November, we celebrated 70 years of being federated with G.C.F.P. We were served a High Tea at Kathy's Tea House of Waynesburg. Mentors and long-time members were honored.

In December, a program on forcing hyacinths was given by Club member Sue Swala. A gift exchange followed with a lite lunch.

Just a tip, any Club doing a field trip, there is transportation available. Did you know, First Student does community service for FREE. In July, our Club will be on the bus headed to Pittsburgh to the Botanical Gardens. Come join us, just let me know and I will give you all the details.

March 17th - A KDKA personality is coming to our meeting. He is always interesting and full of knowledge about gardening. So come join us-6 p.m.

We have been gifted with a large donation of seeds. I will have them at the Spring Tea.

MARTHA WASHINGTON

Forget-Me-Not-Award

Submitted by Kay Bair

The 2021 Forget-Me-Not Award for District X goes to Vina McCleod Rudolph of the Martha Washington Garden Club. Vina will be honored with this award at the GCFP Convention, in April. Congratulations Vina!



Criteria for selection is to be a member in good standing for 10 plus years; active participation in club activities and community activities; regular attendance at meetings and functions; promotes GCFP, CAR-SGC, and NGC values; and loves her garden, big or small.

CHROME Federal Credit Union Random Acts of Kindness Award

Submitted by Carole Malmgren



Mary Dobich, member of the Martha Washington Garden Club was the first-place winner of the CHROME Federal Credit Union Random Acts of Kindness Award. Mary is one who is always going above and beyond for those in need. Besides doing projects for shut-ins with the Martha Washington Garden Club she volunteers at the Marianna Library, works with the North Tenmile Baptist Church, Washington Christian Outreach and the Washington County Food Bank. Mary is a joy to have in our club and she is always willing to help with any project. Mary was nominated for this award by her son, who is very proud of his mom.

VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Submitted by Roxanne Huss, President

50th Anniversary



Time flies when you are having fun. Mardell Page and Chris Whiteko can attest to that. They are two of the original Valley Garden Club members and still very active members. They are past presidents, as well as current members, Janice Yeaton, Angela Raitano, and Roxanne Huss. Between these

five women, there are thirty-four years serving as president.

Other members have served as officers and supported efforts at the local, District X, state, and national level. Many have received awards and recognition from their peers.

The club started in 1972 and joined the federation in 1974. The club has a long history of service to the Mon Valley. Over the past twelve years, scholarships were given to local college bound senior high students. Two Blue Star Memorial markers were installed in the area. The club received the Governor's Trophy for the best small club. Many flower shows showcased the design and gardening talents of the members. The longest ongoing service project is the maintenance of the Mon Valley YMCA Garden. Many charities are also given donations each year.

Members celebrated the 50th Anniversary by enjoying a delicious cake and sharing memories of the past 50 years. Most of all, the members continue to share their commitment to the stated objectives of the club, which are to share ideas about gardening and to HAVE FUN.

Pictured are Mardell Page, Roxanne Huss and Chris Whiteko.



SPRING PLANTING

Submitted by Mardell Page



Common buckthorn buds
Terminal buds and thorn look like a "buck" track

Spring is time to plant trees. Arbor Day is coming up in April. Some trees to avoid are: Red Oak, Sweet Gum, Bradford Pear, Lumbardy

Poplar, Ginkgo, Mulberry, Weeping Willow, Silver Maple, Mimosa, Golden Rain Tree, and Buckthorn. The Buckthorn is from Europe making it non-native. It crowds out everything else around it.

It emits a chemical called Emodin which kills off the other trees, creatures and wildflowers.



If you remove a small piece of bark, you can identify the tree by the yellow or orange lining under the bark.

The berries are red or black and a very strong laxative. The goats in Frick Park help to keep the Buckthorns in control by eating them. It is also



identified by the bud which looks similar to a deer's hoof with a thorn in the middle, thus called Buckthorn.



WILDFLOWER QUIZ

Submitted by Diane Hughes,
Wildflower Chair

What flower has a name which is the same, or sounds the same, as the following descriptions?



1. A punctured organ.
2. The tail of a reptile.
3. Might be found on a lamp.
4. The tail of a pet.

5. A weed that might be found in a blast furnace.
(See page nine for answers)



Submitted by Grace Mitchell

POLLINATORS

Submitted by Martha Alexander

Flowering trees are an important source of pollen and nectar for pollinators. They are especially important in spring, when tired, overwintered bees emerge and need food. Maples, willows, and Eastern redbuds provide an early supply of food. Apples and cherries bloom a bit later, providing beautiful blossoms, and good food.

Flowering trees are also great for pollinators because they provide a large amount of food at one time. American basswood is one of the best nectar producers you can have. When an American basswood is in full bloom, it attracts many bees and other pollinators

Other trees that are good for pollinators include tulip trees, fruit trees, dogwood, wild black cherry, common choke cherry, catalpa, black locust, and many lindens.

Oaks trees are strong, steadfast, and unmatched in terms of biological wealth. According to Doug Tallamy, oaks support more life forms than any other North American tree genus, providing food and protection for birds and countless insects. Of the food eaten by insects, birds and other animals, 75% comes from a few types of trees, with oaks leading the list.

Some hybrid ornamental trees have blossoms that look pretty, but don't provide nectar for pollinators. If you have a small space and want to maximize the pollinator food that you provide, trees like those listed above are usually your best option. In a larger space, an oak tree can't be beat. It can be as cheap as planting an acorn you have collected. When in doubt go for native trees!

It's dead. After months of work and sweat, but mostly pleasure, it's gone. My garden. Thousands of zinnias, all colors - now all brown. Save some seeds and hope for future germination. Gorgeous 8 foot tall cannas - now squish. Cut down, dig, drag to basement and hope for survival. Some saved-too many to dig them all.

Pole beans, so generous in their production - now wrinkled brown leaves. Some saved in freezer for winter meals.

Volunteer tomato plants, still with fruit not ripened - now flattened. Some saved in basement, hoping to ripen and not rot.

Ten kinds of sunflowers, so beautiful - now standing like a fence row of tall bowed heads. None saved because birds eat fast, not saving anything for later.

Castor beans, green and purple, planted for no good reason except for their giantness (that means big) - now only dead tree trunks. Some seed pods saved, but fear not mature enough to be good. Such is the downside of horticulture. You love it and it comes to an end. But, the first '22 seed catalog came today!!!!!!



HOW TO WRITE A SCIENTIFIC NAME

Submitted by Marie Mueller, Accredited Life Judge

As we approach the flower show season this year, you may want to keep this refresher on how to write a Scientific name for the horticulture specimens that you will place in a flower show. The research for finding the correct name should be done in advance of your show, as you will have an idea of what is in your garden. Then a few days before the show, check your garden to see if you have good specimens, and then fill out the cards, with a waterproof pen, before the set-up day. You can also use mail return labels for you name and address, which will save you time. Here are two good examples to follow:



How to Write a Scientific Name

The system of nomenclature used today is based on the binomial system of nomenclature, developed by Linnaeus in the late 1700's. The binomial system of nomenclature is structured so that the scientific name of a plant consists of two names: (1) the genus or generic name, and (2) the specific epithet or species name. There are rules to follow when writing a scientific name.

● Genus Name

1. The genus name is written first.
2. The genus name is **always** underlined or italicized.
3. The first letter of the genus name is always capitalized.

Example: Sansevieria or *Sansevieria*

● Specific Epithet

1. The specific epithet is written second.
2. The specific epithet is **always** underlined or italicized.
3. The first letter of the specific epithet name is **never** capitalized.

Example: trifasciata or *trifasciata*

● Scientific Name

The scientific name of this plant would appear as follows:
Sansevieria trifasciata or *Sansevieria trifasciata*

NGC NEWS

NGC President Mary Warshauer

April 26, 2022 is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted, renowned conservationist and landscape architect credited with having created public parks providing city dwellers "a sense of enlarged freedom," being restorative in nature and connecting communities. I'm delighted to share a video created by historian Kirk Brown to commemorate Olmsted's birthday. Kirk entertains and educates garden club members and history lovers with his energetic and passionate, horticulturally related presentations.

This is the first of a President's series planned for the next year that will entertain and educate National Garden Club members. This video will be available until May 11. You're welcome to share the link with your clubs until then. Enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwplhCANDMg>

NGC President Mary Warshauer

WILDFLOWER QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Bleeding Heart
2. Lizard Tail
3. Nightshade
4. Cattail
5. Ironweed



How to write a scientific name

- Use both genus and species name, ex: *Curcubita pepo* - This is the Binomial Name of a Zucchini.
- Italicize the whole Binomial name (genus and species). If hand writing the name, underline it, since you can not italicize it by hand. Capitalize only the genus name, ex. *Curcubita*. The Specific Epithet (formerly called species) is never capitalized. The cultivar is put into single quotes and is capitalized, but not italicized or underlined. Here are a few more examples of how to write it:
- *Rhododendron ferrugineum*, 'Azor' = This is the Binomial name (genus and specific epithet) and cultivar.
- *Lilium longiflorum*, 'Casa Rosa'. = This is the Binomial name (genus and specific epithet) and cultivar.
- *Hosta* 'Paul's Glory' = This is the Genus and Cultivar only, since some genus do not have a specific epithet.



WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP and WALK
Tuesday, April 26, 2022
FORT NECESSITY NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD
1 Washington Parkway
Farmington, PA 15437

This will be a great time to be out in nature after a gloomy winter, when early wildflowers are at their best blooming time.

Please take your seat in the Theatre of the Fort Necessity Interpretive Center early. The program will begin PROMPTLY at 9:30 a.m. with a Short Video titled, "Road of Necessity" and with Speakers from Great Meadows Garden Club.

- Chris Lentz – "Spring and Summer Wildflowers of Southwestern Pennsylvania"
- Martha Alexander – "How to Make Your Garden More Pollinator Friendly" (Co-evolution of Natives and pollinators)

A box lunch will be provided by Maywood Grill. We will eat at St. Joan of Arc, across the highway from Fort Necessity

After lunch, we will drive to Ohiopyle State Park to walk on the Great Gorge Trail and view the native wildflowers.

This event is hosted by the Great Meadows Garden Club, with Chair, Diane Hughes leading the Walk. The cost is \$25 and registration is required by April 12. Garden Club members and guests are welcome.

For more information or questions - send an e-mail to teba@windstream.net
Put "Wildflower Walk" in the subject line.

WILDFLOWER WALK - FORT NECESSITY NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Name: _____ Club _____

e-mail _____ Phone # _____ Guest _____

Amount enclosed - \$25 per person _____ **(Due by April 12, 2022)**

Make check out to: **DISTRICT X - GCFP - WILD FLOWER WALK**

Mail to: Kay Bair, Registrar -124 Tin Can Hollow Road, Rices Landing, Pa 15357



The deadline for submissions for the June 1 issue of the TENDril is **May 15**. Please e-mail your submission to hl632@gmail.com and put "TENDril submission" in the subject line. We welcome submissions from any District X garden club member.

The TENDril is published four times a year on the GCFP website, on March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1. Mark your calendar to access it then, by going to "Districts", and choose "District X".