



# GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION OF PENNSYLVANIA

## DISTRICT I NEWS

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2020

### DISTRICT I OFFICERS

#### DIRECTOR

Maryann Desanto  
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#### ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

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#### TREASURER

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#### RECORDING SECRETARY

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### DISTRICT I CLUBS and PRESIDENTS

GARDEN CLUB OF BALA CYNWYD  
Lorraine Trioano

COUNTRY GARDENERS OF LIMA  
Sarah Farnsworth

ELVERSON GARDEN CLUB  
Paul Sheetz

FOUR SEASONS GARDEN CLUB  
OF KENNETT SQUARE  
Beth MacMillan

CLUB OF THE LITTLE GARDENS OF  
MALVERN  
Anja DiCio

OLD EAGLE GARDEN CLUB  
Margaret Samman

SPADE & TROWEL CLUB  
Debbie Ferrell

THE GARDEN CLUB OF  
SPRINGFIELD  
Jane Nyiri

UWCHLAN GARDEN CLUB  
Thea Mahard

VILLANOVA GARDEN CLUB  
Marge Kennedy

WAYNE WOODS GARDEN CLUB  
Anne McCrary

### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



District I began the new year on September 10 with our Annual Meeting. Our call for the meeting was **See you in September,** since most of us hadn't been in touch with one another since March. We continued the back-to-school theme with our invitation printed on college-ruled filler paper, and our schedule for the meeting in roster form. Our meeting was held virtually on Zoom, and minus a delicious lunch in an elegant setting, we were able to accomplish everything as we had at past meetings.

GCFP Officers **Sheila Croushore** and **Leeanna Ryba** attended. Sharon Richardson and Linda Southerling gave their remarks with Sheila performing the installation of our new Executive Board. New board members installed were:

District Director	Maryann DeSanto, Garden Club of Springfield
Assistant Director	Nancy Cuttic, Wayne Woods Garden Club
Treasurer	Eleanor Tickner, Country Gardeners of Lima
Recording Secretary	Pat Sheetz, Elverson Garden Club



Our Laurels and Award recipients were announced as their photos appeared as part of our school-themed PowerPoint presentation. The meeting ended with our program, a video presentation of **Foliage Manipulation** by Cres Motzi, Longwood Floral Design Instructor.

All of our District meetings this year have been held on Zoom. After our November business meeting we enjoyed a PowerPoint presentation by the **Garden Club of Springfield** on the benefits of initiating a Horticulture Therapy program for your club.



To keep our members interested, while not able to meet together, we have planned an additional Zoom meeting in January. We are fortunate to have been able to schedule a program offered by Scott Arboretum, **Gardens of Portugal**. This presentation combines horticulture with travel photos taken by the Scott horticultural staff on their visit to Portugal.

In these ever so changing times, we are constantly trying to stay connected, continue activities in a safe way, and share ideas and programs with other clubs. We are all looking forward to a safer, healthier and happier new year. ~ Maryann ~



**GARDEN CLUB OF BALA CYNWYD** has resumed Board meetings and general meetings at Merion Tribute House. We meet safely following the Pa. Gov. guidelines. Hospitality has been suspended at this time. Our November Board is by Zoom and the December general meeting may be as well.

Member of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania (GCFP) and the National Garden Clubs (NGC)

We had **Andrew Bunting** from PHS do a presentation on Trees for Landscape.

We also had **Ben Labowitz** 484-453-8721 from Wild Birds Unlimited Havertown give a presentation on birds.

The **Butterfly Guy, Rick Mikula** is scheduled for April.

**Lisa Roper** from Chanticleer Garden is scheduled for a presentation in May on Photography Techniques for Garden Photos.

We anticipate an entry to **The Philadelphia Flower Show 2021** when the schedule is available.

We are also scheduled to participate in the **Longwood Flower Show** September 2021.

The Club will have a flower show, "**Harvest Moon**" scheduled for October 2021 at Ludington Library.

**Louise Heilig** is chairing the event.

**Harriton Gardens** is maintained by a group of members from our club led by **Jan Goren**.

Our club is celebrating a **90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** this year as members of GCFP. The club was founded in 1925 and is 95 years young!

**Lorraine Troiano, President**



**THE FOUR SEASONS GARDEN CLUB OF KENNETT SQUARE** has canceled most of our in-person activities this year, but we were able to replace our in-house flower show with a virtual show that was shown twice over Zoom for our members' enjoyment. Club members submitted pictures of individual flowers, garden designs, container gardens and an arrangement that were collated by **Mary Ann Hanagan** into a beautiful, informative package of our accomplishments this growing season. Several members expressed interest in trying something they saw in the presentation next summer, so it ended up being more than just pretty pictures; it was a great outreach and educational opportunity.

After the success of the Virtual Flower Show, we are investigating using the Zoom platform for other opportunities to keep us in touch.

Our Sunshine Chair, **Jane Waterman**, has ensured that we are kept up to date on our members with health issues.

**Diane Siebold** arranged a replacement for our semi-annual Plant Swap and Garden Shed Clear-out effort by utilizing a large parking lot, where appropriately masked members brought plants, containers and tools for social-distanced swapping. We know the faces, but it was good to hear familiar voices, and several attendees were challenged to try a "new-to-you" plant.

**Beth MacMillan, President**



**THE GARDEN CLUB OF SPRINGFIELD** has been fortunate to have the use of the Township Building for our meetings. Although we are limited to 25 attendees, we have been able to safely distance and continue to meet in person. The Board was able to meet in late summer in the backyard of one of our members to plan for the year. During the summer and into the fall our members have continued to maintain public gardens in Springfield.

In September, we formally inducted our new officers. **Gregg Tepper** spoke to us about "Native Plants for Native Birds" in October.

We have modified our **Horticulture Therapy Program** by sending notes of caring and encouragement to the residents of a local nursing home.



In October we continued our relationship by making small flower arrangements for the residents. We were able to work outside for safety.

At our November meeting we will sign individual Christmas cards for the nursing home. Although some of these activities have little to do with gardening, they are a reflection of our sense of caring, which seems to be characteristic of most gardeners.

**Jane Nyiri, President**



At the **UWCHLAN GARDEN CLUB** our primary way of keeping in touch has been via email. We distribute photos of our gardens through the seasons and we have online flower arrangement "challenges" in which we create a flower arrangement at home and distribute a photo of it to all members.

We have had two Zoom meetings and decided that we like seeing each other that way as opposed to not seeing each other at all, so we will be having more of them. The next scheduled one is for November 19. We use the GCFP Zoom account to host them.

We had a few socially distanced "pop-up" garden tours when a member felt that their garden was looking particularly good. At each tour perhaps a dozen of us showed up with masks on. We socially distanced and did not stand around snacking and chatting the way we had in the past. I took photos at each tour and distributed them via email to the members who did not venture out.

We had a mask sale in which several volunteers made masks that were sold to the members. The sale was held outside.



We will be having a Christmas sale which will consist only of wreaths that will be sold to members. The smaller wreaths will be made by individuals in their home. The larger wreaths will be made by a very small group of us in the meeting house with masks on. The wreaths will be pre-ordered and we will put them outside for pick-up.

Time feels as though it is slowing down for us. We are all looking forward to when we can have regular meetings again.

**Thea Mahard, President**



**THE VILLANOVA GARDEN CLUB** has had two successful meetings this fall but is looking for ways to stay connected through the winter. We met outside at **Fenimore Park** in Wayne in September, which is a lovely setting and provides a number of walking trails around the lake. In October we met at the **Henry Foundation** in Gladwyne for a wonderful talk about the history of its founder Mary G. Henry and a guided tour around the property. Both of these events were held outside and masks were worn.

We are hoping that the **Bryn Mawr Film Institute** will honor us in the near future with the showing of "**Greenfingers**," a British film about a group of convicts who become prize-winning gardeners under the guidance of horticulture expert Georgina Woohouse.

We have cancelled our holiday party and have decided to try to have a garden party at the **Harriton House** in June as our fundraiser. As for 2021, we are waiting to see what happens with the covid virus. Our fingers are crossed that we can carry on.

**Marge Kennedy, President**



**WAYNE WOODS GARDEN CLUB'S** monthly meetings are being held on Zoom this year, and we've adapted our normal meeting activities for the virtual meetings.

Since we're not having refreshments, our **Hospitality Committee** is doing a recipe share each month with plans to create a cookbook at the end of the year. They are also hosting a **Member Spotlight** where one or two members talk about themselves, why they joined the club and what they enjoy about being in the club. We also have one member make a floral arrangement to show each meeting and talk a little about the inspiration behind it or how it was put together.

Our meeting presentations this fall have been led by various club members. Topics included a floral demonstration on **Fall Planters Three Ways** and a horticulture presentation on how our club **Revived**



**and Restored our Blue Star Marker and the Historic Old Schoolhouse.**

December's meeting will feature four different holiday arrangement demonstrations. We are very pleased that our attendance is about the same as it was for in-person meetings!

To give members an opportunity to connect, we planned four Sunday Strolls this year which are socially distanced group walks. Members gather at a designated garden or arboretum to enjoy the outdoors and walk together. We've held two so far, and the weather was beautiful for both!

And recognizing that our expenses this year will be less than usual, we reduced our membership dues by 50% for the year.

**Anne McCrary, President**