



The Trumpet Vine

Special Edition – 2021 Re-cap

A publication of

The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania - District VII
*A member of the Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc of
National Garden Clubs, Inc*

A free newsletter for 286 District members distributed via
Club Presidents, GCFP Website and

http://www.gardenclubofmonroeville.org/trumpet_vine_gcfp_district_vii_newsletter

Interim Editor: Marilyn C. Backus

January 19, 2022

GCFP:

www.pagardenclubs.org

CAR-SGC:

www.car-sgc.org

NGC:

www.gardenclub.org/

DISTRICT VII

2020-22 OFFICERS

District Director (DD)

Marilyn Backus

GC of Monroeville

Asst District Director

Sharon Bryner

Joyful Bloomers GC

Recording Secretary

Haddie Weber

Home Gardeners Guild

Treasurer

Arlene Madray

GC of Monroeville

Corresponding Sec.

Valerie Wilson

Murrysville GC

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear District VII Club Members,

At the September 2020 Annual Meeting, the club presidents elected District VII Officers (listed on left) from different clubs in eastern Allegheny and western Westmoreland Counties for a two-year term (2020-2022).

Eleven Club Presidents, seven Standing Committee Chairs and the five Officers are the Board of Directors of District VII who lead the District according to its Standing Rules. The Presidents are key communication links to members to and from the District and GCFP. With the knowledge they gain by networking with GCFP clubs, they can help any member to GROW: to expand friendships and skills, be part of exciting activities, access valuable training opportunities, give back to the community and visit new places.

It's TRUE...Use it or lose it, whether "it" be talent, skills, knowledge or time! Consider the invitation (on p.7) to participate on the Board of Directors and/or on the 93rd annual GCFP 2023 Convention Team (p.8). The Convention will be held Friday-Sunday, April 21-23, 2023 at the Monroeville DoubleTree. We need your help to show off our part of Pennsylvania! Join us at our next Convention Committee meeting on February 8, 2022 (11AM-1PM) by Zoom (or TBD). Call me or your Club President for details!

Marilyn C. Backus (District VII Director and 2023 Convention Chair)



First Convention Committee Chair Meeting at Monroeville Double Tree Aug. 2, 2021. See p. 8 for the listing of our Chairs.

2021 In Review - Club President Reports

Burrellton GC (Co-Presidents Rosalie Kupec and Patti Giordano)

On March 18, members assembled 120 daffodil bouquets for distribution to seniors at two Meals on Wheels programs in Lower Burrell. In April all members participated in a program presented by member Nancy Shremshock to paint flowerpots to fill for sale at the May Mart. A tree was planted as part of the Perennial Bloom Award presented to Mildred Schorr last year. Members of the Burrell High School Community Service Club assisted in the planting at Mildred's church. A plaque will be placed at the tree commemorating this award. Another tree was planted at Burrell Lake Park for Arbor Day, again with the assistance of the Burrell High School students. On May 8, all members participated in a very successful Annual May Mart at the City of Lower Burrell's garage. On May 11, member Nancy Baker presented a "making seed bombs" program where all members participated. It was a "blast"! All members prepared, planted, and continue to maintain all Civic Improvement Garden locations at Burrell Lake Park Bandstand, Pollinator Garden, Lower Burrell City Hall planters, Route 56 Triangle and Breast Cancer Awareness circle, Lower Burrell War Memorial, and Braeview Park planter. (They used seed money to upgrade the Pollinator Garden.)

On May 29, a Blue Star By-Way Marker was unveiled by District VII Director Marilyn Backus and Leeanna Ryba, who chaired the committee and is 1st Vice President of GCFP. Many other garden club leaders, veterans, scouts, and political leaders attended. In June, an Eastern Monarch Migration program was presented by Master Gardener, Patty Schildkamp. Another planter and garden were added at Lower Burrell City Hall. July's program was Pigeons and People presented by the Audubon Society of Western PA. Burrellton Garden Club was recognized and honored by a City of Lower Burrell Proclamation. In August the club celebrated, belatedly, its 65th Birthday. In October members participated in the Fall Plant Sale at Lower Burrell's Farmers' Market for fun and community awareness. November's program was creating Christmas Tree bookmarkers for Meals on Wheels in Lower Burrell and Kinloch. In December there was a Christmas Party, installation of 2022 Officers by Margie Wolff and a Christmas donation to the Hope Center.



Leeanna with Board's District Service and Hummingbird Awards



(L-R) Rosalie, Marilyn, Rep. Bob Brooks, Leeanna, Patricia at Stewart School's new Blue Star Marker in Lower Burrell

ATTENTION ALL DISTRICT VII CLUBS!!

Prepare now to send by Email 1-5 pictures, with captions, of your club's people and/or activities. Accordingly, be sure those pictured have given permission to be pictured or named in the photo(s).

All of District VII club pictures will be featured on the GCFP website on the Photo Gallery beginning on June 17, 2022!!



The GC of Forest Hills (President Sandra Brake; 2022 Linda Phelps)

The March Garden Club meeting was held over zoom, but met in person the remaining months. The Board continued to meet over zoom until the Borough opened the community room. The programs continued their high quality and were very well received. We learned about plant classification, pollinator perennials, spring flowers, bee care, made bee baths and enjoyed honey tasting. The Program Chair organized a wild flower walk in April and a tour of her beautiful native gardens in May as optional programs, which were well attended and greatly appreciated.

June and July included a tour of native plants at Beachwood Farms and tours of members' gardens. The plant sale was very successful, with beautiful "Plant of the Day" emails issued to area garden clubs in advance of the sale. Many of the plants were sold out prior to the sale. Board members reached out by phone to all club members to see how they were doing and updated them on club activities. The 2021 Yearbook was completed and distributed. The gardening team did an excellent job preparing and maintaining its hillside, avenues, grass beds and lily community gardens. The GCFH booth was at the fall Community Day and plant sale. The Club held a successful NGC fall flower show, "Hide and Eek" with Halloween themed titles for its classes (*and Iris on L!!*)



L-R: Sandra Brake., Joan Stein, Iris Cisarik, and Linda Phelps "back" 2021 District Perennial Bloom Joyce Peterson at the Annual Meeting



Annie Loub, Helen Naimark, Janet DeCecco (Co-VPs and President)



Holly-Pop Card

GC of Monroeville (President Janet DeCecco)

The club met at a Church Hall from October-January and then at Pavilion #4 at Community Park West from April-September. On May 22, the Club held its most successful (4th) Annual Plant Sale to date. Painted terra cotta pots holding marigolds were distributed to Independence Court. Several club members met with Spectrum Charter School for Autistic Children and attended Highland Park GC’s Secret Garden Tour. Club members managed a table for potting succulents with 65 kids on June 12 for Monroeville’s *Kids Art in the Park* and was invited to host a table at Monroeville Historical Society’s Heritage Day on October 2. The club attracted many children to a free “*Landscape your Log House*” using two log house replicas with Powhattan Indian and Jamestown settler action figures, miniature trees, plants, colored pebbles and flowers in tabletop sand boxes.

Members cared for gardens at Boyce Park Nature Center, Monroeville Library, Elliot/Illini Intersection and Beatty/College Park Intersection. They donated \$500 to GCFP Scholarship Fund in honor of Sara Bonomo, a former member who passed on at 102 yr. old.

GCM held its second annual *Greens Sale* at Community Park West in conjunction with Monroeville Parks and Recreation’s Santa visit with the kids. After two hours, GCM ran out of 250 recycled holiday card fronts marked “Holly Pop Greetings from the Garden Club of Monroeville” on the back while the front held a decorated dum-dum. GCM successfully sold fresh-cut evergreens to make swags, wreaths and kissing balls. Artificial wreaths were also created from recycled artificial flowers and greens.

The Smallest Blessings

*Did I forget to thank Thee, Lord,
For things that may seem small
A flower by the wayside,
A wild bird’s lonely call;*

*For all the daily happenings
That we call commonplace,
For sunrise and for sunset,
For a neighbor’s smiling lace?*

*For life is made of little things,
So let me not forget
To count my smallest blessing,
And before the sun has set.*

*To thank Thee, Lord, for every
one
That adds a note of cheer,
And my blessings will be
multiplied
Before another year.*

By Lola Geil

Gardens Ltd. (President Sondra Glasser)

Gardens Ltd. is our largest District VII club with 54 members and a waiting list! The club’s first in-person meeting after one and one-half years was July 13 at Panera Bread in Fox Chapel, featuring “*The Kitchen Garden*” program presented by Marilyn Backus. In return, a donation was made to District VII’s 2023 Convention. In following months, Gwen Miller, a 2021 Daffodil Awardee at the September 9 District VII Annual Meeting. Gwen organized a wonderful bus trip to Beechwood Farms and then again to Sand Hill Farm in Mt. Pleasant.

*L-R: Blue Lobelia;
Cardinal Flower in
bloom at Beechwood in
August.*



HPGC receives donations in return for multi-year planting and caring of Bryant Street business district planters.



Members working at Highland Park's Secret Garden Tour



Home Gardeners at The Palms



Joyful Bloomers GC at Greenock 1790 Log House Days

Highland Park GC (President Diana Pelletier)

Meetings usually fall on the third Saturday of the month, beginning promptly at 10 am, and will include a guest lecture or crafting event, with a sale of raffle tickets, and a business meeting. Monthly Programs were JAN. 16: *HPGC Botanical 'Cocktail/Mocktail' Party* via Zoom when members shared favorite botanical cocktails, mocktails, and appetizer recipes in a 'show and tell' during the party. FEB. 20: Past President Susan Ryan introduced via Zoom *GrowPittsburgh*, an amazing local resource for gardeners and urban farmers. MAR. 20: Art King of *Harvest Valley Farms*, a fourth-generation family farm in Valencia, PA, described the what, how and why of their sustainable growing practices and the many local products at their Farm Market and Bakery. APRIL 17: Chris Kubiak, Director of Education at Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania presented *Native Plants and Pollinators in our Gardens* via Zoom. She described a welcoming habitat for native plants, pollinators, beneficial insects and birds to the garden. MAY 15: HPGC Horticulturalist Rachel Kudrick presented *Fairy Gardens for all Ages* via Zoom and described how found items are useful fairy garden components. HPGC's Nancy Levine presented *Edible Landscaping – Integrating Perennial Herbs and Fruit in our Gardens* via Zoom to enhance culinary creations! SUN. JULY 11: was the highly successful (and first) *Highland Park Secret Garden Tour*. AUG. 21: was a Field Trip to *GrowPittsburgh*. SEPT. 18: HP resident Laura Valentine, Penn State Master Gardener, and Permaculture Design Specialist with a MS in Sustainable Food Systems presented *The Imperfect Garden: Experiments in Urban Permaculture and Chicken-keeping!* OCT. 16: Jessica Graves, Founder + CEO of Una Biologicals Medicinal Plants presented *Top 10 Herbs for At Home Herbal Remedies* with a focus on herbs that grow well in PA, yield enough for herbal medicine, and can be used to make easy herbal remedies. Discussion includes medicinal benefits for first aid, immune support, and long-term wellness as well as basic remedies, including herbal salves, tinctures and teas. NOV. 20: Diana Pelletier presented *Everything you Wanted to Know about Hardscape (Paths, Patios, and Raised Bed Gardens)*.

Home Gardeners Guild (President Haddie Weber)

Home Gardeners focused on projects for the Palms in McKeesport. In the fall, members made centerpieces with Kleenex boxes and fall faux flowers. Six members and a former member (who may rejoin the club) celebrated with a Christmas lunch at the Betsy Shoppes.



Nancy Price, Bonnie Stern, Kathy Ingel

Joyful Bloomers GC (President Lana Kling)

The American eagle was the focus of the June 2nd program followed by a workshop where members made bird feeders using water bottles, and a hummingbird swing using twigs and wire with beads. Members and their gardens held a July 7 flea market/plant sale in front of Kane Regional Hospital. Proceeds benefitted Kane and Joyful Bloomers GC.

The Confederation of McKeesport awarded Joyful Bloomers \$1,000.00, which enabled their refurbishing of the two courtyards at Kane Regional Hospital and supplying bud vases with seasonal silk flowers for its residents dining room tables!

Three Daffodils and one Laurel was awarded to members at the Annual Meeting. On September 26, Club members raffled an Italian basket and sold plants at the *Greenock 1790 Log House Days* fundraiser. Club members attended a Tea at the Garden Club of McKeesport club house, took a rose garden tour and made trip to the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden. The November meeting focused on the decorations for a tree entry in McKeesport's *Festival of Trees* at Renzie Park.

Pittsburgh Area Judges Council (PAJC)

Officers

Director – Margie Wolff

Vice Director –

Mary Ann Artman

Treasurer – Susan Luisi

Rec. Secretary –

Marilyn Backus

The GCFP's PAJC met July 21 at Community Park West to discuss the upcoming Laurel Highlands-Pittsburgh Area Judges Council Flower Show, "New York, New York" that will be free and open to the public at 1-2 pm at Greensburg Garden Center on August 18.

They met again Sept. 22 at Mary Jane Martucci's home and set 2022 meeting dates:

*Designers' Guild hoped to meet in 2021 to learn and practice various types of floral designs featured in flower shows. One only needs interest to join. **See you in 2022?***

2021 LOCAL FLOWER SHOWS

- Weeders and Seeders of Ligonier "Getting to Know the Natives" on July 24 at Ligonier Library
- Great Meadows GC "Fun and Educational Exhibition" on July 27th at Uniontown
- Laurel Highlands and Pittsburgh Area Judges Councils on August 18 at Greensburg Garden Center
- Martha Washington GC on October 8-9 at Washington
- GC of Forest Hills "Hide and Eek!" on October 29 at Forest Hills

Landscape Design Society of W. PA (President Angie Raitano)



WANNA-BE DAY TRAVELERS! Unlike other clubs, the members of this club from District VII, IX and other districts do not have business meetings, but do meet to travel to a variety of western PA gardens. They typically share lunch to expand their knowledge of landscape design and to stoke their creativity. Anyone wishing to take these educational day trips with the group is invited to join.

Murrysville Garden Club (President Barbara Cseh)

New 2021 officers were installed by the DD Marilyn Backus via Zoom:

Barbera Cseh, PRESIDENT

Margaret Wolff, VICE PRESIDENT

Nina Damato, RECORDING SECRETARY

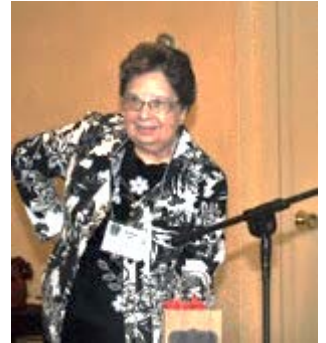
Judy Kosslow, ASSISTANT TREASURER

Diana Citriniti, TREASURER

Jackie Kozbelt, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Valerie Wilson, PARLIAMENTARIAN

The first membership and Board meetings were held at an outdoor pavilion on a main road in Murrysville. Since noise and traffic were issues, membership and Board meetings were held at two local churches. This continued to be a big issue because of scheduling conflicts, pricing increases, and other restrictions by facilities.



The MGC had a successful "light" plant sale this year in May for one day only and featured annuals. The member meetings have featured guest speakers on various topics. The Earth Team and Garden Therapy Team are on "hold" because of restrictions on nursing home and school visits. There was not a Flower Show or Garden Tour this year. However, several of the MGC members attended the annual District VII meeting in September. Daffodil and Laurel Awards were distributed to several members, and Camille Erb was honored with placement on the GCFP Honor Roll of Exceptional Horticulturalists.

Pucketos Garden Club (President Martha Sproul; 2022 Betty Grossheim)



Martha

On June 5 the club participated as vendors in "An Herbal Affair" held at the Knead Community Cafe in New Kensington. It was the first event for both Knead and PGC. Members distributed brochures and sold some plants.

PGC's beautification project is an Herb garden and a Scented herb garden at the Peoples Library in New Kensington in addition to some plots of petunias and a perennial garden. On July 2 the Pittsburgh Symphony quartet performed in the courtyard. This garden is a nice addition to the renewal of the New Kensington community in addition to three other gardens under the club's care.

The garden therapy committee took steps to re-group and provide a "welcome gift" to new businesses. In August the club discussed working with Habitat for Humanity to provide a planter or window box for a

family.

In 2020, the club sponsored its junior member, Trinity Coury, 11, who won the Pucketos Garden Club's poetry contest for children by writing an original poem about adventures in gardening. She advanced to state and regional competition and was announced in 2021 a first-place winner in the National Garden Clubs' contest!

**Ideas for Horticulture
Therapy**
by Chair Judy Schaffer

Utilize paper towel or tissue rolls wrapped in wrapping paper for holiday ornaments and to “box” candy treats.

Use Kleenex boxes for holding artificial arrangements as centerpieces.

Give away “Kindness Cards” in packages and cards.

Sarris Candy Co, sells Pittsburgh Pot Hole Filler, i.e., caramel popcorn, and is a suggested gift for a speaker.

The Rockledge Garden Club (President Jim Lindsay)

The Club held its annual *Seeds for Teachers*, a 50+ year program. It celebrated 91 years and its goal is to reach 100 years. The club met in October at a member’s house to view and discuss “How to Make Trees and Shrubs Thrive” with Marilyn Backus. A donation was made to District VII’s 2023 GCFP Convention.



NGC/GCFP GOAL!

**UPCOMING AWARD
NOMINATION DUE
DATES**

Due Jan. 15, 2022:

GCFP Golden Seal
GCFP Silver Seal
GCFP Governor’s Trophy
(Medium Clubs Only)
GCFP Honorary District
Forget-Me-Not Awards

Due Feb 1, 2022:

GCFP Scholarship Application
(CAR-SGC or NGC
Scholarship Applications
if a college sophomore+)

Due Feb 15:

Seed Money Application

Due June 15, 2022:

Seeds of Service Project
Application

**FIND FREE GCFP EDUCATIONAL ZOOM LINKS at
Club Presidents' Information Package ,
scroll down, click on “GCFP Training Links”**

How to use Signup Genius
2021 GCFP Leadership Training
2021 GCFP Treasurers’ Training
Practice with a free ZOOM Account (2 Minutes)
Participant ZOOM Training (56 Minutes)
ZOOM Share Screen (11 Minutes)
(Navigating the) Website Program
(Tips to Participate Effectively in the new) Awards Program
Blue Star Memorial Markers
Grinning in the Greens

**NGC/GCFP
GOALS!**

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

**UPCOMING IN-PERSON NGC/GCFP SCHOOL FORMS at
<https://www.pagardenclubs.org/president-s-packet---forms.html>**

GCFP Flower Show School Course 1 April 28-May 1 at Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462.
Register by March 15, 2022

NGC Environmental School Course 4 March 28 &29 at Kennett Square, PA 19348.
Register by March 14, 2022

BOD STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- District Awards-Susan Ryan
- GCFP/NGC Awards V Chair-Marilyn Backus
- Conservation and Recycling-Leeanna Ryba
- Flower Show Schedule-Angie Raitano (Absent)
- Gardening and Health-Marilyn
- Garden Therapy-Judi Schaffer
- GCFP Club Yearbooks-Iris Cisarik
- GCFP Club Newsletters (MAE-4) Chair-Joyce Peterson
- GCFP Convention Coordinator-Judi Schaffer
- Pittsburgh Area Judges Council- Margie Wolff
- Programs-Iris Cisarik
- Flower Show Schedule-Angie Raitano

OPEN District VII Board Positions*

- Chaplain*
- Horticulture Chair*
- Membership Chair*
- Natural Disasters Chair*
- GCFP Scholarship Chair*
- Trumpet Vine Editor*
- Birds, Wildlife and Pollinators Chair*

**Interested? Call or Text Marilyn at 412-389-2113 and leave message.*

----- 2021 ANNUAL MEETING RE-CAP -----

Thursday, September 9, 2021 was District VII’s Annual Meeting at Jaden’s II Banquet and Event Center. There were 40 attendees, and all 11 District VII clubs were represented. All but one club president attended.

Leeanna Ryba (L) was the guest GCFP Officer (1st VP), who was awarded with the District Hummingbird Award certificate and pin as well as a certificate for her District VII Board service of over ten years. Joyce Peterson of Forest Hills received District VII’s Perennial Bloom Award certificate and a bouquet. Camille Erb of Murrysville and Nancy Shremshock of Burrellton were recognized as GCFP Exceptional Horticulturalists.

There were 22 Daffodil and 36 Laurel awardees who were given a daffodil bulb and croci bulbs, respectively. Their Awards were read aloud in lieu of Club Presidents’ Reports. The Program was the Gold and Silver Award winning gardens of the *2019 Chelsea Flower Show* accompanied by music, which enabled attendees to comment to each other while Program Chair, Iris Cisarik, provided facts about the show.



L-R: Leeanna, Marilyn and Nancy

There were ten chrysanthemums distributed as door prizes. Three raffle winners each won \$50 bills while one 50/50 winner won \$71. All attendees received a free Pennsylvania Recipe booklet. Free GCFP holiday purple bulb ornaments were distributed to club members. District VII realized a profit of \$246.04.

Thirteen new members joined District VII between August 31, 2020-2021 and each received a welcome gift of a red tulip as a remembrance from the District:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Burrellton G C | Kelly Dunn |
| Highland Park G C | Susanne Colvin |
| Highland Park G C | Deborah Barr |
| Highland Park G C | Sybil McKeegan |
| Highland Park G C | Liz Foley |
| Highland Park G C | Liz Ehrhart |
| Highland Park G C | Seth Finn |
| Highland Park G C | Ben Busby |
| Monroeville, G C of | Patricia Meek |
| Pucketos G C | Kathleen L Kistler |
| Pucketos G C | Cherilynn Mosley |
| Pucketos G C | Carmen Johnson |
| Pucketos G C | Joan Scott |



2023 CONVENTION CHAIRS/TEAMS

Registrar Committee: Jan DeCecco, Helen Naimark and GC of Monroeville

Floral Design and Honor Designs: Joyce Peterson, Iris Cisarik and GC Forest Hills

Hotel Entrance AND Program Book Ads:
Haddie Weber

Education Exhibits: Roz Markovitz and Gardens Ltd.

Hospitality, Pages, High Tea: Martha Sproul, Betty Grossheim and Pucketos GC

President's Reception & Record Book: Rosalie Kupec, Pat Giordano and Burrellton GC

Ways and Means Used Jewelry, etc.: Lana Kling and Joyful Bloomers GC

Club and Vendor Raffle Items/Setup: Joan Moore and The Rockledge GC

OPEN Roles*

- *Convention Rec. Secretary*
- *Camera/Video/IT Recording "Experts"*
- *Convention Facebook Admin.*
- *Amateur Photographers*
- *Properties Chair*
- *Log House Tour Chair*
- *Convention Publicity Chair*

Will you help? Call or Text Marilyn at 412-389-2113 and leave message.



2023 CONVENTION PLANNING RECAP

Chair Marilyn Backus and Co-Chairs Haddie Weber and Sharon Bryner welcomed 28 Convention Chairs at our first meeting on August 26 at the Monroeville Double Tree with GCFP President, Sheila Croushore, in attendance. Also attending were the Convention Treasurer (Arlene Madray), Registrar (Linda Phelps) and Advisor (Angie Raitano). Each

Club President, with at least 5-6 of their club members, will work together on an aspect of our April 21-23 Convention for its success. However, we still need for a few more volunteers for some unique roles (see side-panel on left).

- Susan Ryan, Diana Pelletier and Highland Park GC members are looking for more suggestions for outstanding vendors for the Friday-Sunday April 21-23 2023 Convention so that they may reserve the dates.
- Barbara Cseh, Margie Wolff, Valerie Wilson, Joanne Murray, Camille Erb and the Murrysville GC members seek your recommendations for outstanding, unusual Program Speakers and Presenters for presentations, programs, demonstrations, make and takes and workshops.
- Joan Moore and The Rockledge Club will solicit raffle baskets or items valued at \$50-\$70 from District Clubs, businesses and vendors.
- Roz Markovitz and Gardens Ltd. are looking for organizations interested in setting up a table or two to exhibit their interests to our state gardeners.



Haddie, Marilyn and Sharon

Thanks to our talented Convention volunteers for the time, energy and experience they are bringing to the 2023 Convention Team.

All are welcome to the third Convention Chair Meeting, Feb 8, 11-1, place TBD.

+++

2023 DISTRICT VII EVENT CALENDAR

- **Fri., January 28 Board Meeting: (12:30-2:30) (Zoom or In-Person TBD)**
- **Tues. Feb 8 3rd Convention Committee Chair/Team Meeting:, 11-1, at Di's Kornerstone or by Zoom, depending on the weather.**
- Wed. Feb 9 PAJC meeting at Mary Jane Martucci's house (10:30-Noon?)
- **Sat. March 19 Annual Membership Tea: (10-2) New Hope Presbyterian Church Hall (tentative)**
- Mon.-Tues., March 28-29 Environmental School Course 4 at Kennett Square
- **Sun.-Tues. April 3-5 GCFP 2022 CONVENTION AT MALVERN**
- Thurs.-Sun. April 28-May 1 GCFP Flower Show School Course 1at Plymouth Meeting
- **Sat. May 21 GC Monroeville Plant Sale (10 AM-2PM) Pavilion #4 Comm. Park West**
- Tues. May 24 PAJC meeting at Angie Raitano house (10:30-Noon?)
- **Tues. June 21 Board Meeting (11-1) Pav. #2, Betsy Shoppe, Di's Kornerstone Diner?**
- Wed. July 27 (Noon-1 PM open to public) Flower Show at Greensburg Garden Center
- **Fri. August 5 Board Meeting (11-1) Pav. #2, Betsy Shoppe or Di's Kornerstone Diner**
- Thurs. September 8 Annual Meeting (10:15-2:15) Jaden's I or II?
- **Wed. October 19 PAJC at TBD**
- **Fri. October 28 Board Meeting (11-1) Betsy Shoppe or Di's Kornerstone Diner**
- **GC Monroeville Greens Sale: Sat, Dec 3 at Pavilion #1 Community Park West**

2022 TRUMPET VINE NEWSLETTER

January-March Issue

Articles due: Feb 15
TV Distributed: Mar 1

April-June Issue

Articles due: May 15
TV Distributed: June 1

July-September Issue

Articles due: August 15
TV Distributed: Sept. 1

October-December Issue

Articles due: November 15
TV Distributed: Dec 1

**Greensburg Garden Center
District VII's Affiliate**

*Co-Presidents Carla Rusnica
and Diane Dale*

The GGC hosted many elegant events in 2021, beginning with its Annual Spring Tea, bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show, May Mart in Lefevre Garden, a July Garden Tour, the Monarch Butterfly Release, Autumn Annual Meeting and Program, October Annual Luncheon, a "Perfect Holiday Party" in the evening, and the annual Christmas Sale. It also sponsors an annual student scholarship!

Our Affiliate obviously shares GCFP and NGC goals of education, conservation and environmental awareness!

**NEW CONVENTION 2023 FUNDRAISER DECAL
"JOIN A GARDEN CLUB"**

- Attract more members to the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania (GCFP)
- Encourage others to "Join a Garden Club" under the nurture of GCFP.
- A timeless message NEEDS displayed by current and future members!
- Colorful, fade-resistant 4"x4" decal
- Attaches to glass, metal and plastic – on automobiles, windows, doors, mailboxes, old faded magnets and I-pads.
- Great gifts for club members, and other supporters of Garden Clubs (neighbors, relatives, businesses).
- Order individually, or with others for **quantity discounts**.
- **Proceeds support the 2023 GCFP Convention in Monroeville, PA!**



# Decals	\$ Cost	\$ Cost per Decal
1	\$4	\$4.00 each
5	\$18	\$3.80 each
10	\$35	\$3.50 each
20	\$65	3.25 each
50	\$150	3.00 each
100	\$225	2.25 each
200	\$400	2.00 each

Text/Contact Marilyn Backus with your order at 412-389-2113. Make checks payable to "GCFP 2023 Convention." Send to 925 Wood Street, Pitcairn, PA 15140-1614.

**About
Judy Schaffer**

Judy is a member of Pucketos Garden Club who has provided many enjoyable, entertaining and educational articles for The Trumpet Vine readers for many years.

****Judy's conclusion to
"Fern Fever":**

"I have a wonderful fern in my apartment that is over 50 years old. It looks as good as the day that I bought it and requires no maintenance.

PERMANENT BOTANICALS are wonderful!"



Judy's long-lived fern is 50 years old and ...

Artificial!!

**Judy's Jottings
"Fern Fever"**

Do you have PTERIDOMANIA?

British Society around 1828 discovered that the polluted air in London made growing plants outside difficult. Nathaniel Ward created "Wardian Cases", a pro-terrarium designed to grow plants, especially ferns under glass.

Fern fever, pteridomania, raged amongst women as they began collecting specimens in the forests. Every house had potted ferns. Women used ferns as a covert way to express sexual desire. Moist, fringed and shady ferns were associated with the female nether region and many ferns were thus given female names. Collecting almost caused many species to become extinct or endangered.

Ferns are the oldest living plants with 10,000 species found round the world, 380 in North America. They do not produce flowers and reproduce by spores. They can live to be 100 years old under proper growing conditions. A quote by Sappho says---

"Ah, what art thou but a fern frond,
Wet with blown spray from the river,
Diffident, lovely, sequestered,
Frail on the rock-ledge?"

The Cinnamon Fern is a native perennial. It can grow up to 6 feet high with fronds forming a vase-shape clump. It needs moist soil, part sun or shade and does best when planted under tall trees. It can be an added feature around ponds, streams, water gardens, bogs and woodland landscapes. This type fern starts with fronds that produce fertile, silvery, furry fiddleheads. The fiddleheads become stiff, erect and covered with pinnae, which turns the upper portions into a thick spike of fruit dots turning from green to chocolate brown. This color, not a smell, gives it the name cinnamon fern.

Native Americans used a decoction of the roots to rub into aching joints and as a remedy for chills, headache or colds. The furry fiddleheads can be eaten and taste like asparagus.

A **cinnamon fern** is grown in rows in moist, humus-rich, acidic, to average soil. Mix compost into the potting holes and cover annually with 2 inches of organic mulch. The plant needs to be well-watered, at least once a week. It spreads slowly underground via rhizomes. These roots can be harvested and used as a potting medium for orchids. Dig and divide the ferns in spring just as the new growth arises. Good companion plants to this fern are---Joe Pye Weed, Iris, Lobelia, Hosta and other ferns such as: Holly Fern, Western Sword Fern, Japanese Tassel Fern, Hay-Scented Fern, Lady Fern, Maidenhead Fern, Osmunda Fern, Ostrich Fern, and the Wood Fern.

This type fern is sometimes not found in nurseries, but can be ordered online. They are not a hanging basket variety due to their height. Check out the following: Keystone Wildflowers, 675 Hill Road, Robeson, PA 19551

Many times, plants are named for special people. Lady Gaga, pop singer, because of her dedication to equality and individual expression was recently honored by naming a fern genus of 19 species, *Gaga*. Two new ferns are actually named directly for her ---

Gaga germanotta - based on her family name – found in Costa Rica
Gaga monstraparve – based on her fan's nickname – found in Mexico

Phipps Conservancy listed the Cinnamon Fern as their 4th Sustainable Plant of 2021. The selection is based on non-invasive habits and resistance to disease and insects. On your next visit, go to the Fern Room to view species from the Triassic Period growing in a controlled environment.

John Muir said this about ferns ----

"Only spread a fern frond over a man's head and worldly cares are cast out, and freedom and beauty and peace come in." ** (see column on Left)