



# GARDENEWS

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The summer season is upon us but that doesn't mean that our members are on vacation from gardening. We must still tend to the weeds and keep watering our gardens so that they will reward us with beautiful blooms and edibles to harvest. Many clubs have enjoyed end of year celebrations in the form of garden parties and tours. It is gratifying to see members coming together after so many months of being unable to meet.

When the last issue of Gardenews was published, we were busily preparing for annual meetings. The State Annual meeting was a great success as members were finally feeling comfortable gathering and those that attended enjoyed a flower show presented by the Judges Council, awards presentations in recognition of the hard work of our clubs, a great program from garden writer and author Page Dickey, and shopping with many new and returning vendors.

The President's Project at The SEED School of Maryland continues to progress thanks to your many kind donations, and we were able to install a labyrinth in April. The next phase will include the installation of pollinator beds that will be planted in the Fall.

Course IV of Landscape Design School was completed, and we welcomed several new members to the Landscape Design Council.

You can read about the tri-council tour of Glenstone Gardens and Museum in this issue.

Hill and Stream GC installed the state's 43rd Blue Star Marker, and Kent Island GC installed the state's 3rd Gold Star Marker, both on Flag Day.

The Central Atlantic Region-State Garden Clubs has started offering a virtual program once a month, featuring each of the seven states. Maryland was the first presenter, and our program was presented by Terry Holman on the topic of growing microgreens. New Jersey featured an 'arbornaut' and Delaware sponsored "The Misadventures of Peter Rabbit in Farmer McGregor's Garden" in June. If you are interested in viewing them, the edited videos are available on the CAR-SGC website. In November, CAR-SGC will have their first convention since the COVID outbreak. The Registration flyer is included in this issue. Anyone is welcome to attend, and it sounds like a great line-up of programs and speakers.



President Anna O'Kelly and Sheba



SEED School Labyrinth

*Continued on page 2*

*Continued from page 1*

The National Garden Clubs held their convention in May in Orlando, and Maryland received first and third place awards for the youth poetry contest. NGC has been offering virtual presentations, Membership Mondays, with ideas on how to Recruit, Retain, and Revitalize members. The presentations are on hiatus until August when the program will focus on Parliamentary Procedure. NGC has hosted some popular virtual presentations including a series with tips on how to understand and utilize technology. Visit the [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org) website, member resources tab, Video Café to catch up on any programs that you missed.

It has been so rewarding for me to visit many of our clubs and districts and meet our members. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions. I look forward to hearing from you!

Anna O'Kelly



FGCofMD President Anna O'Kelly and NGC President Mary Warshauer

## Save the date: September 29, 2022

### “Sowing Seeds for Tomorrow”

#### A Conservation and Environmental Day

FGCMD will again be sponsoring a **Conservation & Environment Day** at the Vollmer Center at Cylburn Arboretum. Please join us for “SOWING SEEDS FOR TOMORROW”, where we will have informative and engaging speakers, interesting vendors, as well as seeds and bulbs to plant for next year. Plan to come and join us for a time of fellowship and learning as we explore the latest information on Climate Change, Native Bees and other pertinent topics. More information will follow.

## Mackenzie Ridenour is Recipient of Town and Country Garden Club Awards Scholarship 2022 Award

Hagerstown's Town and Country Garden Club recently presented its 2022 Scholarship to Mackenzie Ridenour, a graduating senior from Clear Spring High School.

Mackenzie, a Funkstown resident, will attend Delaware Valley University, in Doylestown, PA in Fall 2022 to pursue a degree in Animal Science as her next step towards a career goal of becoming an Equine Veterinarian.

She will graduate with a 4.06 GPA and having served as President, Vice-President, and Secretary of the Clear Spring FFA chapter. She has also served her high school as a Class Officer and actively participated in the Washington County 4-H as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Mackenzie has provided service to her community by volunteering at the REACH Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, and the Hagerstown Rescue Mission, all while working part-time at a local horse barn where she helped ensure the proper care for boarding services.



Attached photo: Mackenzie Ridenour, Kim Ridenour (aunt) and Mary Heizer (T&C Club President) at the scholarship presentation.

Each year the Town and Country Garden Club offers a \$1000 scholarship to a Washington County student pursuing a degree or certificate in horticulture, agriculture, landscape design, or a related field at a college, university, or institution of higher education.

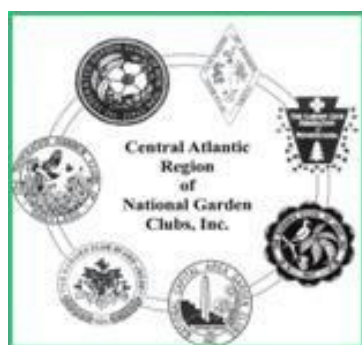
“We are delighted to have the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing education of such a deserving Washington County student,” said Mary Heizer, President of the Town and Country Garden Club.

“The Town and Country Garden Club's objectives include furthering the interests and understanding of horticulture and conservation of our natural resources. Our annual scholarship is one of the ways in which we fulfill this objective,” Mary added.

## **Garden Clubs of Pennsylvania will host the first Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs (CAR-SGC) conference since 2019 on November 2-3, 2022**

at the 7 Springs Resort in Champion, PA. Several workshops will be offered as well as optional tours to Fallingwater or the Flight 93 National Memorial. The Keynote Speaker at the Thursday dinner will feature Tom Huston- 'Roses and Tulips and Sunflowers – Oh My!'...and of course, **Vendors!** The resort was remodeled recently and offers many amenities.

All are welcome to attend! Bring your spouse or a group of friends and join us for a couple of days of fun, sharing, and learning.



# **CAR-SGC Conference**

## **Super Blooms that Changed Our World**

Seven Springs Mountain Resort, November 2-3, 2022

**Join us in beautiful Laurel Highlands for a Super Conference!**  
**7 Super Blooms + 7 States/Areas + 7 Springs = A winning combination**



### **TOURS**

The Flight 93 National Memorial

Fallingwater – a Frank Lloyd Wright house



### **WORKSHOPS**

Seasonal Succulent Designs - Tonya Young

Planting for Birds and Pollinators - Marcy Cunkelman

New and Exciting Houseplants - Ron McIntosh

NGC Exhibition Table Designs – Chris Leskosky

Williamsburg Christmas – Janice Davis

Creating from Your Own Garden – Fran Landsberry



### **DINNER SPEAKER**

“Roses and Tulips and Sunflowers – Oh My!?” – Tom Huston

Hotel reservations may be made for November 1-4 at special conference rates by phoning

Seven Springs Resort at 814-352-7777

**The registration form is available on our website: [www.fgcofmd.org](http://www.fgcofmd.org)**

## Councils and Schools

### Continuing Education Opportunities Sponsored by the Councils

#### Landscape Design School

Course 4 of Landscape Design School was held on May 24 & 25 at Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City. This course was attended by 40 people; 13 that refreshed, 17 students, and 10 that became Landscape Design Consultants. Most everyone was from Maryland, but we did have four visiting from The Garden Club of York in Pennsylvania. Jennifer Evans taught two of our classes and let the two garden tours at the Howard County Conservancy and at her own property. She instructed everyone on how to evaluation a landscape, which everyone had to do for each property. It was a very successful course. This was the fourth and last landscape design school course for a few years. But National Capital Area Garden Clubs is starting up a new series at the US National Arboretum in Washington, DC this fall.

#### Gardening School

A new series of Gardening School courses will begin with Course 1 scheduled for September 14 & 15 at the Cylburn Classroom. This course will offer classes in basic botany, soils, techniques for growing outdoor flowers, and plant propagation, including a propagation workshop (hands-on project). The school brochure provides plenty of information for those that are interested in attending. This is usually a very well attended educational event, and we already have 23 people registered, so please register soon to save your place. The school brochure and registration can be found at the FGCMDC website on the calendar and Council pages, or by contacting Linda Harris at [lindaharris355@aol.com](mailto:lindaharris355@aol.com).

#### Tri Council

Landscape Design, (Dottie DeMarr – Chair) Environmental (Jackie Handley – Chair)& Garden (Carolyn Braverman- Chair) Councils

#### Glenstone Museum Tour: Tri Council Tour

On June 2, the Tri-Council group met for an expansive, private tour of the 300-acre Glenstone Museum in Potomac, Maryland. Grounds Superintendent Matt Partain gave us a tour of the wooded understory and the meadow where Matt strives for deer resistant, big aggressive native plantings, but isn't always successful. Drifts of penstemon digitalis, rattlesnake master and



Figure 1 "Split Rocker"

coreopsis lanceolata provided focal points to the meadow. While wildflowers abounded, we enjoyed the many sculptures dotting the Glenstone's paths. A behemoth structure at the top of the hill called "Split Rocker," designed by artist Jeff Koons, is comprised of 24,000 thousand annual plants, attached manually. One side of the "Rocker" represents a horse, the other a dinosaur. The best time to see "Split Rocker" is in July when the flowers are in full bloom, with hot colors dominating one flank, complemented by cool colors on the reverse.

After our tour, Matt left us to enjoy the art museum. It was a welcomed stop, not only for the unique art but for the air-conditioning! We had plenty of time to enjoy the phenomenal water gardens as we moved from gallery to gallery.

Afterwards, we enjoyed a lovely lunch at Hunters Inn Grille in Potomac Village. Glenstone is a dynamic symbol of art, architecture and nature. A well-worth adventure at any time of year!

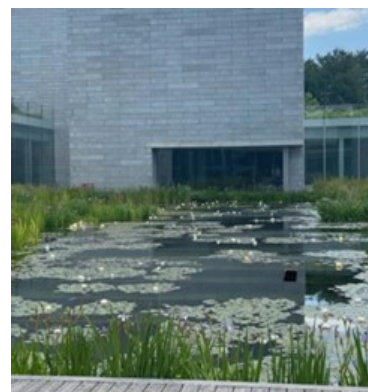


Figure 2 Interior Water Gardens

## Flower Show News

### District I September Standard Flower Show

In preparation for District I September Standard Flower Show, "Harvest Highlights," a Grower's Challenge Fundraiser was conducted this spring offering dahlia tubers and mini gourd seeds which will be featured in two of the classes. Much preparation is underway for the September 24th event to be held at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills. The Show Schedule has been reviewed and is approved for release (electronically). We believe Harvest Highlights will be unique, educational and able to draw a lot of public participation given its Saturday time frame and prominent location. Financial and in-kind sponsors have been lined up to underwrite all show costs and, in addition to vendor shopping and food options, an afternoon of demonstrations is planned to include creating a succulent planter in a pumpkin, floral design using 'supermarket' flowers, integrated pest management and recommended fall gardening tasks. The schedule is available on our website : [www.fgcofmd.org](http://www.fgcofmd.org)

## What a great idea!

### Our Franklin Garden Club began preparing for a Flower Show in the Spring of 2018.



Since I suggested the show, I ended up Chairman. Having no experience and a lot to learn, we set the date for May 2020. Over the next 2 years we had several speakers and workshops in preparation for our show. Finally by early Spring 2020 we had things in place, Judges, ribbons, a venue, participants, enthusiasm and on and on. We were ready to go. Enter COVID 19. Within a few days we had to cancel our Show. So, we changed our date to May 2021. (On the date of our original show we did have a semi virtual show where members sent pictures of flowers and designs they would have entered. We had well over 100 pictures.)



Jump ahead to Spring 2021. We had a repeat of 2020, including another semi virtual show. COVID still looming. It's now January 2022, our 1st meeting back. Our membership changed, our numbers were down and 4 years later our enthusiasm had diminished somewhat. Our new members didn't even know what a Flower

Show was and what it entailed. Hence, we cancelled our 2022 judged Flower Show.

After speaking with many members, District Directors and judges, we decided to hold our Flower Show, but with a different format. We decided to set up the show as planned but very laid back and informal- no judges, no ribbons, no awards, no pressure, and a little less attention to detail. We encouraged everyone to participate, even in the smallest way. Our goal was to help everyone visualize what it means to put on a Federated Small Standard Flower Show. The date was set - May 19, 2022. The day came. It was beautiful (NO COVID cancellation).



I didn't know what to expect. We set up the room the day before at the Historic Emory Grove Hotel in Glyndon, Md. The room looked beautiful when I left. High, high ceilings, floor to ceiling windows, light pulled back curtains and everything in place. Now just praying we would fill that room.

The day came. So did all the entries. 16 designs, a table full of beautiful houseplants, and well over 100 bottles of assorted and varied horticulture specimens. I was overwhelmed by the participation

especially with the new members. We spread the word and had a large number of guests visit the show, one of whom was Liz Williams who mentored me and worked along with me and all my questions over the 4 years. I am so glad we did our show this way under the circumstances. So many members have told me how anxious they are to do another. - **Lynn Owings -Franklin Garden Club**



## News from Around the State

**District I - Eastern Shore**

Caroline, Cecil,

Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Worcester

Trish Reynolds [preynolds@goeaston.net](mailto:preynolds@goeaston.net)

Jeanne Bernard, District I Director

In early spring, St. Patrick's Day to be exact, District I held their annual meeting featuring a design program called, "It's Not Easy Being Green." Four teams of two were provided the identical 'recipe' of green & white floral material, mechanics and containers. They designed



unique and beautiful arrangements over the course of 30 minutes in front of a live audience. Two emcees fielded questions and solicited commentary from the designers during the program. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this entertaining and educational design challenge and the four designs were raffled off to lucky recipients.

On May 7th, The Talbot County Garden Club participated in the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, opening 8 exquisite properties to over 1,000 visitors on what was otherwise a



cool and rainy day. Still the homes were breathtaking, the gardens spectacular and the floral designs gorgeous. TCGC has participated in the pilgrimage since its inception in 1939, this year raising funds to support the renovation of St. Joseph's Cottage (c 1797-1798) at the Talbot Historical Society as well as the club's many other civic projects.



in Stevensville, MD. . The unveiling of the marker actu-

A third Gold Star Memorial Marker was dedicated in District I on Flag Day, June 14, sponsored by the Kent Island Garden Club and the American Legion Post 278

ally took place on a television screen because of the weather! The program was very well executed under the leadership of KIGC President, Diana Bonner, and was attended by many Gold Star Families, veterans and many garden club members.

**District II - Southern Maryland**

Anne Arundel,

Calvert, Charles County, Prince George's, St. Mary's County

Rose Gazarek [rosegazarek@gmail.com](mailto:rosegazarek@gmail.com)

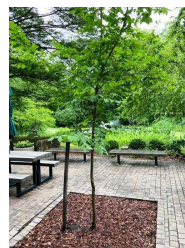
Carolyn Leahy, District II Director

The Helen Avalynne Tawes Garden was founded in partnership with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and District II of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland. The District continues to maintain the partnership with a dedicated committee chairman who serves as a liaison to the Friends of Tawes Garden.

Past Directors are recognized when trees are planted commemorating their terms in office. Recently Liz Williams, Anna O'Kelly and Ronda Goldman Thompson were honored at a tree planting ceremony. Hop hornbeam trees, a native understory tree, were planted in the picnic area.



Director Carolyn Leahy and past Director Donna Roberts planned a reception. Guests included several past DII Directors and members of the District board.



Located at 580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401 on the grounds of the Tawes Office Building, the 5 acre garden has several areas that represent the variety of habitats across Maryland. It is open 10 am-2 pm. Monday through Friday. Admission is free and it is handicap accessible.



## News from Around the State

**Save the Date!** The District II Semi-annual meeting will be Friday October 14, 2022 at the Comfort Inn in Bowie, MD. Neal Sanders, nationally known speaker and mystery writer, will present "Gardening is Murder", a humorous talk on gardening. Sanders has written 15 mysteries with garden and garden club related themes, all inhabited by strong women.



### District III - Baltimore and Harford Counties

*Diane Perkins pahperkins@msn.com*



*Claire Jones, District III Director*

Members of **Lutherville Garden Club (LGC)** visited the gardens of Walnut Hill in Ruxton on May 31, 2022. These beautiful gardens, owned by A.C. and Penney Hubbard, were featured in the book On Walnut Hill: The Evolution of a Garden by Kathy Hudson. After reading the book as part of LGC's book club, members

were excited to visit the gardens in September of 2021, and were invited back to see the stunning spring gardens in bloom.

Over the last 46 years, the Hubbards have amassed an outstanding collection of conifers, perennials, acers, rare and unusual trees and sculptures in their two-acre



property, resulting in a world class garden. Members of Lutherville Garden Club were thrilled to tour these beautiful gardens, led by Penney Hubbard and Kathy Hudson. (photos by Corinne Lears)



**Glen Arm Garden Club** focuses on its "local environment" in continuing and new projects that can incorporate safe social distancing and maximize member

participation. St. John's Lutheran Church provides the club with a meeting space, and members conducted a general cleanup of the church courtyard. New plantings, especially in decorative urns, resulted in a much livelier space. Two new projects at the church are planned for the coming year: the entrance to the building has been cleared of



old growth and replanted, with further landscaping and maintenance continuing in the future; additionally, the group will coordinate with St. John's pre-school management to create an "outdoor classroom" including a butterfly garden. The children and their teachers will be able to use this space to further environmental education.

### District V - Western Maryland

Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery, Washington



*Sue Christiansen, District V Director*

**Mountain Laurel GC** recently received several grants to underwrite local community projects. The Club received a 2022 Espoma Organic & National Garden Clubs Plant America Grant for \$250 of Espoma organic products, a \$200 NGC Youth Pollinator Gardens Grant, and a \$1,000 grant from The Pollination Project. The funds are to be used for fence construction and planting of a new native meadow at Hickory Environmental Education Center, a project in collaboration with Northern Garrett High School students. A \$1,000 grant was received from Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area in Garrett County Maryland for interpretive signage at Sang Run State

## News from Around the State



Park. MLGC also received a National Garden Clubs Plant America Community Project Grant of \$600 to kick off its Habitat for Humanity Project and purchase the plants. Two members of the club, Linda Harris and Donna Miller, attended an NGC

Landscape Design School and designed the native plant garden as their final project. In December 2021, Steve Bortz, Executive Director, Garrett County Habitat for Humanity (GCHF), Denise Kramer (MLGC President), Betsy Potts (MLGC Co-Vice President), and Greg Koehn (MLGC HFH Project Chair) met and created a three-part agreement among GCHF, MLGC, and the Habitat for Humanity Home Owners (HHO) to move the project forward. Various club members, along with the assistance of the local UMD Extension Office for soil testing, and the Nice family (the homeowners), ordered and hardened the plants, tested the soil, tilled the site, laid landscape blocks, amended the soil with topsoil and mushroom soil, and placed plant labels for the 64 plants representing 12 species of native plants. The club hopes to feature the property on a future garden tour and use it as a model for other HFH locations.

**Hagerstown's Town and Country GG** initiated a new youth project during its 2021-22 year. An ad hoc committee worked with the Boonsboro, MD 4-H STEM Club to design a two-part program introducing students (8 to 18), to diverse types of gardens.

In a classroom setting, the 4-H group learned about the conditions needed to support a garden: garden zones, the difference between annuals and perennials, how to decide whether to start a garden from seed or transplants, and how to maintain a flower or vegetable garden.

Members also learned about T&C's ongoing civic project, our year-long garden care to ensure residents can enjoy flowers and shrubs from their windows or by visiting the gardens at Hagerstown's Coffman Nursing Home.

The workshop continued with an introduction to Container Gardening with "thrillers, spillers, and fillers," as an approach to designing a garden in a pot. The participants brought their gloves and trowels to help weed and plant the colorful annuals. (*A service project for them.*) The session concluded with each 4-H member creating a small container garden to take home.



## Website Update

**The new FGCMF Handbook** was recently added to the Member Support page. [www.fgcofmd.org/membersupport/](http://www.fgcofmd.org/membersupport/) It is a comprehensive 'encyclopedia' of information covering all aspects of our organization. The table of contents is interactive making it easy to find topics.

The Calendar of Events is the master calendar of the Federation. When planning events please check the Calendar first to avoid scheduling conflicts. Guidelines can be found at [www.fgcofmd.org/calendar/](http://www.fgcofmd.org/calendar/). Requests to post information on the website can be sent to [website@fgcofmd.org](mailto:website@fgcofmd.org).