



Vernonia noveboracensis
New York Ironweed Seedheads



GARDENEWS

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THE FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF MARYLAND

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office@fgcofmd.org

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4915 Greenspring Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21209
410-396-4842

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 65172
Baltimore, MD 21209

President

Susie Middleton
sjm21613@gmail.com

Editor

Tina Swanson
gardenews@fgcofmd.org

GARDENEWS Representatives

District I

Trish Reynolds
pkr26998@gmail.com

District II

Shirley Santora
shysanta@verizon.net

District III

Judy Walter & Toni Serruto
judywalter1@verizon.net
tserruto@towson.edu

District IV

Katherine Edwards
katherine.s.edwards@gmail.com

District V

Genecile Weston
olemissbelle76@gmail.com

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FGCMD President ..Susie Middleton

*Forest Fires, Flooding in the Desert and New York City.....reading the Weather Headlines
is certainly cause for concern, and highlights the need for all of us to take action.*

This month I'll share some ideas for your clubs.



Plant a Tree! Scientists will tell you that planting a tree is one of the healthiest actions we can take, because they:

- Cool our cities and streets by blocking sunlight and providing shade.
- Improve our air quality by filtering harmful dust and pollutants such as ozone, carbon monoxide, and sulfur dioxide from the air we breathe.
- Give off oxygen that we need to breathe.
- Mature trees protect communities against flash floods and landslides.
- Many species of wildlife depend on trees for habitat by providing food, protection, and homes for many birds and mammals.

Recognizing the importance of trees, our State has rolled out the **Five Million Trees Initiative**. "The 5 Million Trees Initiative was mandated by legislation, the Tree Solutions Now Act of 2021. Part of this legislation included an historic directive to plant **5 million native trees** on public and private land by 2031. These trees are in addition to standard state planting levels - so with more than six million people living in Maryland, at least one tree will be planted for each resident by 2031." There are several programs for individuals and Garden Clubs that help you purchase trees at a reduced cost:

Get a Marylanders Plant Trees coupon for \$25 off the price of one tree at participating nurseries: dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/MarylandersPlantTrees/Print-Your-Coupon.aspx.

TREE-MENDOUS MARYLAND, a program of the Maryland Forest Service, is aimed at helping citizens restore tree cover on public land and community open space in Maryland. To date, they have assisted more than 3,000 towns and communities, parks, and schools planting trees and shrubs. The hope is to assist local governments and community groups to plant trees at a reduced cost to benefit every Marylander".

Details: <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/treemendous/default.aspx>

Sustaining Maryland: One Action at a Time - UPDATE!



Project Wild: 20 participants from clubs across the State attended a day of training to give Wildlife and Aquatic education programs to youth from K to Grade 12.

Ideas for Change: My project asked each of you to change one thing.

Shelley Johnson shared the **"Recycle On Us" Program** from Crest and Oral-B: Because some oral care waste cannot be processed through traditional recycling, they accept toothbrushes, brush heads, toothpaste tubes, mouthwash containers, floss containers and floss picks. How can you get started? It's easy! Request a free shipping label from their website below, gather and put your materials in a box, and send them to be recycled and turned into useful items like park benches, clothes and more. Think of this as a project for your club. Click on this link to learn how <https://oralb.com/en-us/recycling/>

Check with your local Home Improvement Store: most will accept the empty plant pots for recycling!

(continued on page 2)



FGCMD State News



Marcia Richard1st Vice President

If your club is looking for a project, think about the **Sustaining Maryland - Grants for Garden Clubs**. This is an initiative from our Federation President Susie Middleton President's Project. The application is located on our website: <https://fgcofmd.org/president/> This is an opportunity for your club to receive financial resources to implement a project and apply for a State award.

Sustainability is important not only to the environment, but to the clubs within the Federation. It is sad to see three clubs resign through membership attrition and leadership void. In addition to the health of our environment, we need to be aware of the health of our clubs. On the positive side, there has been traffic on the NGC membership site, and contact information is then forwarded to our State Membership Chair who contacts the interested party to see which clubs are within their area. All clubs have challenges in recruiting members and keeping members. Limits in meeting space and the cost of leasing space affect the number of members a club can have. Then, too, members need to step up to take a leadership role. There is so much support from the Federation to help those in leadership roles. There is a major source of talent out there, and we need to tap into it and offer the opportunities for new people to join. The health and the growth of garden clubs is dependent on increasing membership.

Has this ever happened? Your garden club Program Chair gets the call or an email that the program for your upcoming club meeting might not happen, as the guest speaker or presenter is unable to make it. What is the program planner to do? Never fear, the Federation is here! A wonderful ZOOM presentation by Leah Brooks, a delightful speaker, on **"Beautiful Native Plants Year-Round"** from Mt. Cuba is available for your use at a wonderful cost - a donation to President Susie Middleton's project on Sustainability. Leah Brooks presentation was originally viewed on June 7, 2023, in celebration of NGC Garden Week. The Federation has the recording for future use, so please contact the Federation Office or Susie directly on how to access the recording.

State President Report *(continued from page 1)*

Congratulations..... "Sustaining Maryland" Grants Awarded!

Queen Anne's Garden Club/District I received an award to plant a variety of trees, as a backdrop to the Fallen Heroes Memorial on Route 18 in Centreville.

Mountain Laurel Garden Club/District V received funding to hold a Native Plant Symposium for the community "The Power of Native Plants", on April 11, 2024. Award funding helps pay for the speakers and their travel.

The deadline for the next awards is February 28, 2024.

See <https://fgcofmd.org/president/> for rules and the application.

Environmental Education:

The Climate Action Group of FGCMD announces a series of 1 hour ZOOM events.

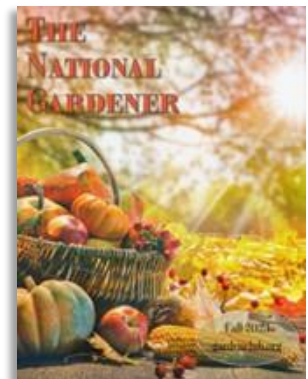
Wednesday, January 17, 2024 "Bio Diversity-Loss of our Species" Scientists are increasingly concerned with the loss of plants and animals due to climate change and shrinking habitat. Kerry will cover the importance of diversity in genetics, our species and their ecosystems. **A live ZOOM Presentation** by Kerry Wixted, **Amphibian & Reptile and Invasive Species**, Program Manager at Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies.

With more ZOOM events to come!

NGC, Inc. Magazine

The National Gardener
2023 <https://fgcofmd.org/president/> **Fall Issue!**

[The National Gardener | National](#)



Support our FGCMD Scholarship Fund ... and become a Life Member!



Life Memberships may be purchased for \$75 per individual. Proceeds go entirely to the FGCMD Life Member Scholarship Fund, which awards scholarships annually to qualified students in accredited U.S. colleges and universities.

Life members receive a **Black-eyed Susan pin**.

Application link fgcofmd.org/membersupport/



A Wealth of Garden Club
information available
for you!



National Garden Clubs, Inc. Website:
[Homepage | National Garden Clubs, Inc.](#)

Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs:
[Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs | National Garden Clubs \(car-sgc.org\)](#)

FGCMD State News

Alice Rush McKeon Tree Plantings - 2022 and 2023*Susie Middleton***The Alice Rush McKeon Tree Planting Program**

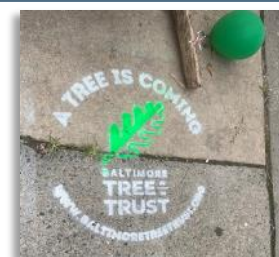
Since 1979 the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland has sponsored an annual tree planting program. Funded by a bequest from Alice Rush McKeon, the program carries her name. This is an event that passes sequentially to each of the five districts of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland.

The **District IV 2022 Planting** was delayed, but took place mid-September in the Marble Hill Neighborhood of Baltimore. Spear-headed by the Bolton Hill Garden Club, partnering with the Historic Marble Hill Community Association, the City, and the No Boundaries Coalition, 18 trees were planted in new tree wells in the 1400 & 1700 blocks of Druid Hill Ave. They stimulated interest in the project by painting the locations where the trees were to be planted.

District V 2023 Planting The initial native tree planting was held on September 30, 2023 at Gilmore C. Trout Memorial Park. Garden Club members collaborated with Walkersville Community leaders and citizens, and members of the Department of Natural Resources. The TREEmendous MD tree program allowed them to purchase the trees at a great discount and thus they had sufficient funds to plant in two additional sites. The September event was an actual planting of 24 native trees, so it was all-hands-on deck, attended by garden club members and their family members, boy scouts, high school students with their teacher and his 1-year-old toddler, members of the Forestry Service, and members of Walkersville Parks and Recreation. Additional plantings took place at the FCPS Earth, Space and Science Lab Arboretum (8 trees) in Frederick and 25 trees were planted in a Thurmont park.

One of the most important things about the District IV and District V Tree Planting projects was the collaboration with local community organizations and leaders. Because of that, they were able to accomplish much more.

Photo: Mason Carter, Frederick County Council; Diana Bonner, Past FGCMD President; Patty Kettlestrings, District V Civic Improvement Chair; Anna O'Kelly, Past FGCMD President; Susie Middleton, FGCMD President; Shelley Johnson, Director District V FGCMD, Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, Walkersville Commissioner, Chad Weddle, Walkersville Burgess; Mary Ann Simmons, Taskers Chance Garden Club; Sonia Demiray, Chair, Frederick County Forestry Conservancy Board; Anna Twigg, Tree Planting Specialist, MD Forest Service, MD Department of Natural Resources

**Unity Gardens' Grant and Community Collaboration Enable a "New Native Plant Garden"**

Bayside Bloomers GC, District II was awarded a generous **Unity Gardens' grant** to purchase 70 native shrubs and trees to replace mature, non-native, and aggressive landscaping in 1,400 square feet of foundation beds at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Severna Park.

The Club's "Operation Plant Native" recognizes the church's service to the community. The church founded "Serving People Across Neighborhoods" and provides a food pantry and an emergency assistance network to help residents. It also administers a highly regarded preschool, sponsors a boy scout troop, and provides free meeting space for several FGCMD-affiliated garden clubs and other groups.

The Bloomers kicked off its project in consultation with Alison Milligan, a nationally known expert and native plant champion, who serves as a Maryland Master Gardener, Master Naturalist, and an Anne Arundel County Watershed Steward. Selection of native plants specifically addressed site conditions to create habitat and food for wildlife and pollinators. Project volunteers, including Club members and others recruited by the Club, worked diligently for 2 months in the oppressive August heat to remove ivy and common periwinkle rooted in weed-barrier 6-inches under the soil and deep, tangled shrub and tree roots.

At the end of September, the volunteers planted natives, installed soaker hoses, amended the beds with 10 cubic-yards of Leafgro, laid cardboard, and spread 8 cubic-yards of mulch. For spring color and to coincide with the District II Daffodil Show, volunteers also planted more than 300 daffodil bulbs.

The project was made possible by assistance of six non-profits, including Unity Gardens, Good Neighbors Group, church volunteers, Scouts, Maryland Reentry Resource Center, along with donations from: Anne Arundel County Farm, Lawn & Garden; Patuxent Nursery; Homestead Gardens; and Sam the Stumpologist. The Bayside Bloomers' partnerships created a powerful network to plant native in Maryland!



FGCMD State News

Bylaws Committee ... Chair Jackie Handley, Vice Chair Chris Myles-Tochko

FGCMD Bylaws updates! Club Presidents, as you know there were several significant amendments to the FGCMD Bylaws at our Annual Meeting in March. Some of these may affect your Club Bylaws. The new FGCMD Bylaws are on the fgcofind.org website under “Member Support”. fgcofind.org/membersupport/

If your Club uses **Article II – Section 1. – B – Purposes, Prohibitions and Provisions for Dissolution** in your bylaws, you will need to change that Section to read **“To create civic beauty and to work for the improvement and protection of roadsides and parks.”**

Bylaws referring to communication – if your Club uses electronic notifications and communications, and your bylaws states by written or by mail – you will need to change those sections to **electronic or electronically**

Electronic/Virtual Meetings – if your Club Bylaws do not state that you may conduct meetings Electronically/Virtually you will need to change that section(s) in your bylaws. Below is the new FGCMD Bylaw referring to this to give you an example:

Meetings of the Board of Directors, all Committees and the FGCMD Membership may be conducted through the use of virtual meeting services designated by the President or the Chairman calling the meeting. **These virtual services shall only be used in case of an emergency, support anonymous voting and support visible displays identifying those participating, identifying those seeking recognition to speak, showing (or permitting the retrieval of) the test of pending motions, showing the results of votes.** These electronic meetings shall be subject to all rules adopted by the Board, or by the Committee, to govern them, which may include any reasonable limitations on, and requirements for members’ participation. Any such rules adopted by the Board shall supersede any conflicting rules in the parliamentary authority but may not otherwise conflict with or alter any rule or decision of the FGCMD. An anonymous vote conducted through the designated virtual meeting service shall be deemed a ballot vote, fulfilling any requirement in the bylaws or rules that a vote be conducted by ballot.

(Maryland State Code requires this provision.- for an incorporated entity.)

FYI – Districts Organization; Officers and Board; and District Meetings and Voting were all revised in the new FGCMD Bylaws.

We suggest you review Nomination Procedure in your Club Bylaws. This Article is completely revised in the FGCMD Bylaws. This will give you an example which could be shortened in your bylaws if you have Standing Rules or Policies in your Club.

Officers Elections and Terms of Office We suggest the that Club Bylaws state how your slate is presented and voted on, as well as the length of term of office.

Amendments to Bylaws – Club Bylaws need to state the procedure of how the Amendments to your bylaws are conducted.

Amendments to Bylaws Declared Emergency

Your Club Bylaws need to state how your Club would handle and Annual Meeting, should there be an emergency. FGCMD now states: If a FGCMD annual meeting cannot be held, in the event of a National Emergency, these Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote by balloting using an Internet service that supports anonymous voting following the procedures outlined in ARTICLE IV.

Should you have questions, please contact us by email.

A Special Issue of Gardenews will be published in December!

A December 2023 Gardenews *special edition* will feature photos of Maryland First Lady Dawn Moore’s “Holiday Trees & Wreaths Exhibit” at the Maryland State House, Main Hall Rotunda, in Annapolis.

The trees and wreath are designed and created by garden club members from Maryland’s 23 counties & Baltimore City. ...a fabulous display!

Visit the State House in Annapolis from Nov. 30 to Dec 31, 9 am-5 pm

Admission is free



Maryland State House, 100 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401

Note: The State House will be closed on Christmas Day.

Conservation and Environmental AwarenessChair Carolyn Braverman

By now, the first Zoom meeting of the **Climate Action Committee's "Gardening in the Age of Climate Change"** has taken place. We hope many of you enjoyed Sara Via's presentation of *Climate Change Is Already Here: The Problem, Its Impacts and How We Solve It*. Next up is a Zoom presentation on January 17 with **Kerry Wixted**. She names her talk: **"Double Trouble: Climate Change, Biodiversity Loss, and What We Can Do."** Her premise is that Climate Change and Biodiversity are inextricably linked.

The details and registration link for the January 17th event: fgcofmd.org/calendar/

Plastics! What to do about them?

They are here to stay, in more ways than one. They can be called "Forever Plastics". They never break down and are found in our bodies, our clothing and our food. But we do have some control over our use of them. We can choose when and what we use. Obviously, we don't have a choice in the doctor's office or in the hospital, but we can make different choices in our day-to-day lives. Do you use reusable shopping bags? Do you return to the store any bags you do get? Do you store your leftovers in plastic or glass containers? Do you use Saran or plastic wrap? Do you buy your fruits and vegetables in clamshells? Is there a farmers' market where you can buy your produce "loose" i.e. not prepackaged? Do you reuse those plastic pots you get your plants in, or return them? If we try to think about what is sustainable, what is recyclable, we can reduce demand. It doesn't hurt to ask – please don't send me the merchandise wrapped in plastic. Please don't use Styrofoam peanuts in the packing material. The power of one, and all of us together, can make a difference.

CAR-SGC ConferenceSusie Middleton "Seven Strong on a Fall Adventure"

The title of the October 23-26 conference in Corning, NY refers to the seven states in our region:

(l-r) **Brenda Moore**-NGC President; **Kathy Wagner**-Ohio; **Leanna Ryba**-Pennsylvania; **Ginny Cardona**-Delaware; **Monica Hanson**-CAR-SGC Director; **Susie Middleton**-Maryland; **Barbra Kiker**-National Capital Area, **Beverly Kazicks**- New Jersey; **Donna Sessa**-New York .



Anyone can attend these conferences and you should seriously consider it.



Here are a few of the programs I participated in:

- (1) **Glassblowing:** Most important lesson..don't inhale!
- (2) **Birds of Prey:** Big and Small presented by Ryan Donnelly of Tanglewood Nature Center. They rescue injured birds. For many, their injuries are too severe to be released so they give them a home. Ryan brought several and talked about their habitats.
- (3) **Leaf Manipulation:** we watched a demonstration but then had the materials to try our hand.



SAVE THE DATE:
for the 2024
CAR-SGC
Conference
in
Basking Ridge
New Jersey



THE OLD MILL INN
225 ROUTE 202, BASKING RIDGE,
NEW JERSEY 07920
PHONE (908) 221 1100
WWW.OLDMILLINN.COM
Chairman:
Mary Watschauer Mary@watschauer.com
Florence Leysene florenceleysene@gmail.com

FGCMD State News

The SEED SchoolPast President Anna O'Kelly's Project

In late June, two 10' x 20' pollinator gardens were installed at the SEED School by Howard Ecoworks, a landscape company that specializes in planting native gardens. This was phase two of the enhancement to the entry of the school. The labyrinth was installed in Spring of 2022. Plant labels with QR codes were added to complete the project and provide a learning opportunity for the students.

The school is very happy with the new look. During my recent visit, the garden was looking great; the asters were covered in bees and the asclepias plants sported huge seed pods. We have reduced lawn, created a wildlife habitat, educated students about biodiversity, and created a welcoming front yard. Special thanks to all clubs, councils, and individuals that contributed to the 2021-2023 President's Project!

**FGCMD Annual Meeting!** Chair Betty Reeves

Please Mark Your Calendar! The 95th Annual Meeting of the Federated Garden Clubs of MD, Inc. will be held on **Tuesday, March 26, 2024** at the Turf Valley Resort & Hotel, 2700 Turf Valley Rd, Ellicott City MD, 21042. There will be a pre-dinner meeting on Monday evening, March 25, and the business meeting luncheon and program presentation will be on Tuesday.

We are very fortunate and pleased to have well known floral designer **Jane Godshalk** as the program presenter, **"Designs Inspired by Nature"**. Jane Godshalk, AIFD, earned a MBA in Organizational Behavior before discovering her life's passion, working with flowers. At first, Jane was totally immersed into the study of floral design, including certificates from Longwood Gardens, the Stoas University in the Netherlands, and a fourth level teaching certificate in Sogetsu Ikebana. She is an Artistic Judge for the Garden Club of America and a Certified Evaluator

for the American Institute of Floral Design. Her book **"Flower Arranging Secrets"** demystifies the art of floral design in an eco-friendly way. Jane has represented the USA at the Chelsea Flower Show in London and as an international demonstrator at the World Association of Flower Arrangers in Dublin. Both the American Horticultural Society and the Garden Club of America have recognized Jane with national medals. She has served on the board of the Garden Club of America and the Philadelphia Flower Show.



Jane Godshalk

You will also have an opportunity to shop many vendors, some new & many returning, as well as purchase tickets for the many raffle prizes. Jane Godshalk's book will be available for purchase.

Native Orchids... Saving our 52 Native Maryland Species ... Tina Swanson

I attended a presentation by Dr. Dennis Whigham from the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, MD discussing the decline of the 52 Maryland native orchids and roughly 250 native orchid species in the U.S. and Canada.. The Orchidaceae family has at least 25,000 species worldwide (*the largest plant family on earth*). 50% of all orchids are tropical epiphytes... the type you see on display at botanic gardens and can buy from florists, grocery stores, etc. Our Maryland native orchids have a very complex life cycle involving a wide range of interactions with plants, animals, and especially fungi and are very sensitive to environmental changes. Dr. Whigham refers to orchids as a "canary in the coal mine" plant. 57% of our country's orchids are listed as threatened or endangered on the local, state, or federal level.

The **Smithsonian Native Orchid Conservation Research Center** is in phase 2 of its 3 phase plan that includes:

1. Partnerships, creating an interactive website featuring all of the native orchids in the U.S and Canada, develop plans for orchid seed and fungal banks and orchid propagation.
2. Establish regional, national, and international partnerships to collect samples for seed & fungal banks and initiate propagation, develop K-12 and inter-generational group educational activities, and expand native orchid and fungi research.
3. Establish endowment to assure long term success, establish sustainable populations of native orchis in botanic gardens in U.S. and Canada, continue research, restore native orchids in the wild.

Visit the website (*very comprehensive and still in development*): [Go Orchids: North American Orchid Conservation Center](https://www.northamericanorchidcenter.org)

([northamericanorchidcenter.org](https://www.northamericanorchidcenter.org)). You can find information for any native orchid in the U.S and Canada by: orchid name, state location, or use the "simple key" answering questions about plant characteristics.

View a very short video by Dr. Dennis Whigham about native orchid decline: [Video | Facebook](#) ...spread the word to save our native species!



FGCMD State News

HEIRLOOM GARDENINGJoan Walker, Chartwell GC

Imagine growing a pumpkin that was also present on the Pilgrim's table at the first Thanksgiving dinner! How about eating a tomato that shares the same seeds that Thomas Jefferson planted in his garden at Monticello?

You may have eaten Heirloom tomatoes in your summer salad or enjoyed Heirloom roses in your garden this summer. The definition of Heirloom is: something handed on from one generation to another. In horticulture, heirloom is any vegetable or flower that the seed has been saved and grown over many years. The seeds are preserved and passed down by the gardener.



Nasturtium

Heirloom flowers and vegetables have been raised in gardens since the 1850's. However, age alone doesn't qualify a flower or vegetable as an Heirloom. All Heirloom flowers and vegetables are "open-pollinated," which means they are pollinated as nature

intended – by insects, birds, wind – not through human intervention with the pollination. The resulting generation thus breeds true, with roughly the same characteristics as the parent plant. Sometimes vegetables look odd because they are not grown for uniform size or shape, but for their unbeatable taste, as in Heirloom tomatoes. Unique and flavorful vegetable varieties have

been around for some years. Heirlooms also include plants developed by seed companies and market gardeners in the past. Some beloved backyard mixes have emerged from home gardens and been carefully saved and passed along to become commercial varieties. Some commercial heirlooms are imported from Europe, South America and Asia.



Heirloom Tomato varieties

Hybrids came along in the 1950 -1970's. Vegetable hybrids were created for better shipping, durability, disease resistance and marketability. However, they often lack the taste and character of heirlooms. Hybrid flower varieties were developed for desired traits such as color, heat resistance and height.

Heirloom products are often more expensive because they aren't mass produced. There are fewer supplies on the market. Farmers must dedicate more time and resources to carefully harvesting fragile hybrid products.

Some popular Heirloom flowers are: zinnia, sunflower, poppy, cosmos and nasturtium.

Some popular Heirloom vegetables are: tomatoes, cucumbers, asparagus, beets and corn.

Photography Tips! Chair Mary Ellen Pluemer

Hide a document on your phone! Any items you want available but not in public view (ex: passport, vaccination document, boarding passes, applications, etc.)? Set up a Hidden Album! Take photo. Tap on the photo. Tap on the three dots icon at top right of page. Tap 'Hide'. The photo will go into a hidden album for only you to access as needed!

Why are my photos blurry???• **Lens is dirty!**

Solution: Clean it regularly!

• **Movement if hands are not steady,** especially in low light!

Solution: Keep arms close to body. Or, use 3 second timer setting setting to delay shutter opening.

• **Focus not set correctly!**

Solution: Auto focus usually works. Objects close to your iPhone screen may need focus adjustments. Choose the object to focus on. Tap the screen when object is in position. Tap the yellow box that appears. This will direct the focus to the chosen image.



Clean Your Lens You can see the difference!



Join the NGC, Inc.

"Photography Facebook Group"

[Photography | National Garden Clubs, Inc.](#)

FGCMD State News

Judges Council ...Chair Anna O'Kelly

We reviewed how to create and judge **Exhibition Tables** at our recent Judges Council meeting. Master Judge Paula Winkler created an example for discussion. The next time you are having a flower show, why not consider a class of Exhibition Tables? You may wonder **“What are Exhibition Tables?”**

Exhibition Tables according to the NGC Flower Show Handbook,

1. They are created artistically to suggest the service of food with no requirements as to the type or number of table appointments,
2. Schedule may not specify table components or their numbers,
3. Plant material must be used as needed for the overall design.

Whereas **Functional Tables** are:

1. Planned and set for the actual service of food,
2. Convenience and sense of order must prevail,
3. A completed floral design must be included.

The biggest difference between Exhibition Tables and Functional Tables is that they are not meant to be functional!

Photo: Anna O'Kelly

**Landscape Design Council** ...Chair Betty Reeves

The fall meeting of the Landscape Design Council's new administration met on Zoom, September 20, 2023. Members from the Environmental and Gardening Consultants Councils were also invited to attend. The program, **“Nature & Flowers”** was presented by Northern Baltimore County professional photographer, Debbie Payne. Debbie gave excellent tips about using both cell phones and cameras for taking award winning photographs.

Following the presentation, the Landscape Design Council held a short business meeting. Chairman, Betty Reeves introduced the LDC Executive Committee: Assistant Chairman, Lenore Mirski; Secretary, Nancy Fayer; Treasurer, Donna Miller; Advisor, Dottie DeMarr; Credentials and FGCMD Schools, Linda Harris.

The next LDC meeting is in the planning stage, and it will be an in person meeting at the Paca Gardens in Annapolis on May 15, 2024. Please mark your calendar and watch for more information.

Christmas Cactus??Tina Swanson

So..do you actually have a Christmas Cactus ...or is it a Thanksgiving or Easter Cactus? The three cacti are closely related species. They are all tropical epiphytic cacti, native to the coastal mountains of south-eastern Brazil. Thanksgiving cacti flower from mid to late November into December and Christmas cacti flower mid to late December into January. Easter cacti flower from March to May. These species are very easily propagated. Some have been passed down in families though generations for more than 100 years.

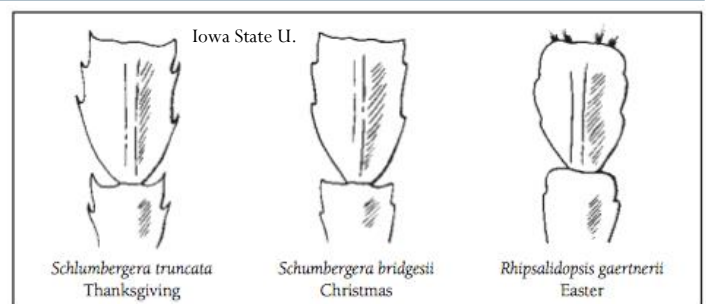
In their native tropical habitat, the epiphytes grow on other plants and in trees like orchids. Their shallow root system helps the cacti cling to the host plant. Epiphytes take in nutrients and water through their leaves and shallow roots from the air, rain, and organic matter that collects on the host plant. Loose, sandy soil that drains well is the best choice for your holiday cactus.

For more details: identification, care, propagation, etc., use these links. Enjoy your epiphytic cactus!

[Holiday Cactus: A Case of Mistaken Identity // Missouri Environment and Garden News Article // Integrated Pest Management, University of Missouri](#)

[Is it a Thanksgiving, Christmas or Easter Cactus? | Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Linn County \(iastate.edu\)](#)

(Very confusing taxonomy! The species have been reclassified over the years and Easter cactus has moved back & forth between *Rhipsalidopsis* & *Schumbergera*)



Thanksgiving Cactus

News from Around the State

District I - Eastern Shore Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, Worcester Counties

...Trish Reynolds pkr26998@gmail.com



District I Director Terry Holman

District I had a successful Semi-Annual Meeting on October 4, 2023, at the Oxford Community Center in Oxford. We thank the Oxford GC for hosting this event. We featured GC Presidents Maribeth Lane, reporting on Talbot Co. GC's Civic Garden Projects, Worcester Co. GC Suzy Young, who shared successful activities in reactivating Garden Therapy Projects, and Queen Anne's GC Laura Blaylock, who shared strategies for bringing new members into the club. Our Speaker, NGC Flower Show Judge Tonya Young, presented a demonstration of "different" mechanics for floral designing that are easily & affordably obtained from hardware stores! **Wreath's Across America** efforts to bring in monies for our Veteran's Graves in the Hurlock Veterans Cemetery has been successful, thanks to Robin Lanham of Queen Anne's Co. GC leading this effort. We have already raised all the monies required to place a wreath on every veteran's gravesite at the cemetery this year. Fundraising for this fall will go towards next year's December placement of wreaths. Our Horticulture Chair Reenie Rice plans a workshop "Sustaining the Eastern Shore – Gardening for Wildlife" \$10. Contact Reenie. We were also very pleased to present the **Johanna Tilghman Award** to Beryl Kemp, Chestertown GC, and the **District I Perennial Bloom Award** to Mackey Dutton, Chestertown GC for their extraordinary work for the District and for their Club.



Perennial Bloom Mackey Dutton
Pat Jessup, DI Awards Co-Chair



Terry Holman, Beryl Kemp, JTA
Trish Reynolds Award Co Chair



groups to explore plant life along the bike path on one of the year's hottest days. Educational, fun, and lots of laughing!

Dorchester GC is alive and well. Our busy schedule offers lots of new opportunities to shine within our own community and be a contributing influence. Cheryl Willey recently created a lovely horse in flowers arrangement to deliver to a sick patient in the hospital. The patient was a long-time horse owner and lover. This is just one of the thoughtful members of DGC. Our club always has lots of creative ideas for our monthly meetings.

When the standard shows come round, the experiences of our mini flower shows prepares members to be ready to create our best. Contact us for information about our "**Christmas Gala 2023**", a **Holiday Luncheon Event**.

Four Seasons GC met September 15, at the Poplar Hill Mansion with their "Cuppa Tea" luncheon to welcome back members and guests. Prior To The Meeting: In Keeping with our State President, Susie Middleton's Project: **"Sustaining Maryland: One Project at a Time"**, President Anne Heavner introduced our speaker, Mr. Joe Jankrowski, Director of the Protectors of the St. Martin River, who gave a presentation on the *Oyster Restoration Project* that he spearheads. He secures baby oysters, which he distributes to volunteer oyster growers. Our President and her husband, Jeff, participate in this project each year by growing approximately 150 baby oysters for the Maryland Coastal Bays. After the baby oysters have matured, the oysters are returned to Joe, who delivers the oysters to the Maryland Coastal Bays for their oyster beds. Club members voted to sign the **FGCMD Healthy Planet Pledge** to improve planet health.



Oyster spat

Kent Island GC The fall program kicked off in September with Judy Wink, Executive Director Emeritus of CBEC, leading a discussion on the importance of Gardening for Pollinators. In keeping with a Halloween theme, Else Murdoch, owner of Murdoch Florist in Centerville demonstrated how to decorate a pumpkin with succulents and other plant material for home fall decoration.

Oxford GC Our September meeting featured a design challenge in which three experienced designers were paired with a new member, given the same plant material and container, and "challenged" to create a floral design. This program was designed to educate members about floral design using a variety of techniques and approaches. The result yielded three entirely different designs. The designs were then given to sick or homebound members.



Queen Anne's CGC In September, the club was pleased to welcome Laura Zimmerman of *Cool Hollow Flower Farm* to speak about her family farm and her passion for growing flowers. At that meeting we celebrated **Jane Chamber's 50th Anniversary with our club!** Later, on a beautiful October Day, we had a picnic and a lovely guided tour of the Adkins Arboretum.



News from Around the State

Somerset CGC Following State President, Susie Middleton's Project: *Sustaining Maryland One Action At A Time*, the club met at *Sugar Water Manor* on October 2, the home of member, Dana Zucker. Dana introduced our club members to the UMD Extension **Sustainable Horticulture Course**, which she had taken online. She explained her "Bay-Wise" Program Final Project by



Dana Zucker is Bay-Wise Certified!

giving each person a copy of the "Bay-Wise Maryland Yardstick" application. She shared the steps she took to meet the Maryland Bay-Wise Certification requirements. Much to her surprise, a guest, Thom Stroschein, presented Dana with her Bay-Wise Certificate and Plaque! After the meeting, Dana gave a tour of her lovely grounds pointing out the changes/additions she has made to meet the Bay-Wise Yardstick. It's fair to say that Dana and her husband, David, are good stewards of the earth and are doing their part to help Maryland and Chesapeake Bay.

Talbot CGC has a very active and enthusiastic Young Gardner Program that operates during the school year. On Oct. 18th, Young Gardeners learned "All About Bulbs" under the tutelage of TCGC's spring bulb expert Trish Reynolds.



After the boys and girls, painted their pots, (yes, fun), they planted the bulbs in layers with daffodils, tulips, chionodoxa or "Glory-of-the-Snow", crocus, and grape hyacinths... when completed the kids went home with their containers with the hope that come spring they will be bursting with summer bulbs.

Worcester CGC has been busy "Growing Relationships Through Gardening." A program on *Sustainability Practices* at Salisbury University on September 11 allowed members to engage with environmental science students during a campus tour that included a visit to its green roof. A *Garden Therapy workshop* on September 19, partnered members with residents at *Gull Creek Senior Living* to make fall floral arrangements. Members also joined in celebrating the official opening of *Gull Creek Garden* on September 28, during which owners William and Alexandra



Daugherty's presents check to President Suzy Young,

Daugherty presented a \$5,000 personal donation towards the club's scholarship program. Next up, on October 17, members will receive a private tour of historic *Rackliffe House* and hear Executive Director Tina Busko speak about kitchen gardens.

District II – Southern Maryland Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, St. Mary's Counties ... *Shirley Santora shysanta@verizon.net*



District II Director Shirley Santora

Friday the 13th was a lucky day for District II. Our District II Semi-Annual Meeting was a huge success. The Business Meeting featured our Awards Recipients. Calvert GC and the Naval Academy GC were recipients of National Awards. Calvert GC received three Youth Poetry Awards, Honorable Mention in Grades 1, 2, and 4. The Naval Academy GC won a "Certificate of Merit Patriotic Standard Flower Show" for their Flower Show "Patriotic Music in Harmony with Nature's Beauty". Paula Winkler, Charles County GC, was our Perennial Bloom Winner. The afternoon program featured Virginia floral designer David Phippen, who created six designs in a "Designer's Challenge" from the plant materials provided by District II.

Bay-Wise The DII 2023 Bay-Wise Challenge is complete. DII GCs have been waiting a long time for this challenge to finally be in full swing, winner announced, and the presentation of the \$200.00 award, offered by Crofton Greenery GG and DII. Several clubs entered and there were a good number of certifications in each of these clubs. A few noteworthy were Calvert County GC, with 45% of their members Bay-Wise certified and Bayside Bloomers, with 50% of their members Bay-Wise certified. Thank you for your awareness and commitment to protect our Chesapeake Bay. Our winner is **Moonflower GC** with an impressive 63% of their members now Bay-Wise certified.

Wow!

Calvert GC's long-standing tradition is the Greening of the Courthouse Square and Main Street located in Prince Frederick for the Christmas Holiday. Nearby, Boyd King Park and Linden, a historic home that is the Historical Society's headquarters, are decorated as well. This is a club activity with all members participating in creating and assembling the decorations. These decorations include beautiful wreaths, swags, roping, and a Della Robbia wreath containing fruit and foliage in a lush arrangement. Recently, our county introduced a new project to "Light up Main Street" with activities and additional decorations. They have reached out to our club to create the decorations for the freshly cut 17-foot Christmas Tree which will be on display at Courthouse Square. We are currently creating decorations which will be representative of our County. These decorations will be on display until the new year for all who visit the area and attend the festivities taking place during the holiday season.

Photo: Carol Frederick



News from Around the State

Chartwell GC has several holiday traditions members look forward to being a part of each year. The club meets “rent free” at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Severna Park. To show our appreciation for this privilege, members of the club create a 21 inch Advent wreath for the church. Greens from members’ gardens including Leyland cypress, yew, and Chamaecyparis are cut and conditioned in late November. The construction of the wreath takes several hours and the results are beautiful. The club is also continuing its tradition of sponsoring a family for Thanksgiving and Christmas through the SPAN Holiday Caring



Photo: Liz Williams

program. A workshop where holiday greens and mechanics are provided to members is held in early December. Each year two wreaths are donated to the State Circle Wreaths project for decorating lamp posts in Annapolis.

Four Rivers GC is excited to celebrate its 100th Anniversary (in 2024) and has reached out to local organizations it has worked with over the years and made donations. Our history with the Helen Avalynne Tawes Garden started in 1976 when members helped with the planting of the garden. It has continued through monetary contributions and donated greens & arrangements for the Holiday Greens sale each December. Working with the Friends of Helen Avalynne Tawes Garden in celebrating the

garden’s 125 Birthday on Wednesday, Oct 11, a garden sculpture “Black-eyed Susan with Butterflies” donated by Four Rivers GC was dedicated. The Naval Academy GC and Shipley’s Choice GC provided reception arrangements and thanks go to Rose Gazarek for her financial support for the arrangements. Philip Tawes, grandson of Helen, shared stories of his grandmother for reception attendees and everyone enjoyed cookie made from Helen Avalynne Tawes own recipes.



St. Mary’s County GC organizes the annual County Fair Flower Show. The underwater floral design, Snorkeling in the Blue Seas, by Kathy Glockner won top honors in the design division. Duffy Boyd’s entry in the Beach Blanket Picnic won the Table Artistry and design excellence.



District III Baltimore & Harford Counties ... Judy Walter judywalter1@verizon.net and Toni Serruto tserruto@towson.edu



District III Director Randy Low

District III has been busy. We had a well-attended Presidents’ and Delegates meeting at the beginning of September where lots of information was shared on membership, fund raising, flower shows and internet use. Hats are off to all the presidents who shared club practices. As well as getting their clubs back in-swing after the summer, members have been working on our upcoming Pumpkin Decorating Workshop and other meeting. The board will be doing more planning soon for meeting and events to further my theme of “learning to garden sustainably in order to preserve the earth, nature and man”. Stay tuned to see what we come up with.

Bent Twig GC of Catonsville has been working at the entrance of the #8 Streetcar Path at the intersection of Edmondson Ave and Dutton Road, behind the famous snowball stand “Opies” since 2013. . This 1/3 mile paved trail originated in 1899 as the #8 Streetcar Path in Baltimore County. Our Club has weeded and added many shade tolerant plants donated from gardens of our members for that area. Each spring we add annuals to enhance the area with color. We use the color of pink to help bring awareness to Women’s Breast Cancer. Many thanks go to members Rose Eiker and Jody Frazier for their many hours of weeding, planting and

watering this area. We also thank Catonsville Rails to Trails Organization (Maureen Sweeney Smith, President) for covering the cost of our annuals and mulch. What an honor it is to work with our community leaders to help beautify our local historical areas that are well travelled in a community that is appreciative of our efforts.



Evergreen GC of Harford County marked the end of our 75th Anniversary celebration with a trip to the Tyler Formal Gardens and the Ambler Arboretum at Temple University in June. This fall we are gearing up for several local projects: installing the landscaping for three new homeowners in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna; assisting Ladew Topiary Gardens with cutting and gutting pumpkins for their big Garden Glow event in October as well as decorating the front hallway of the Manor House for the holidays; and decorating a tree for the State House holiday display in Annapolis. In September, Harford County Master Gardeners came to tell us about a new Pollinator Garden

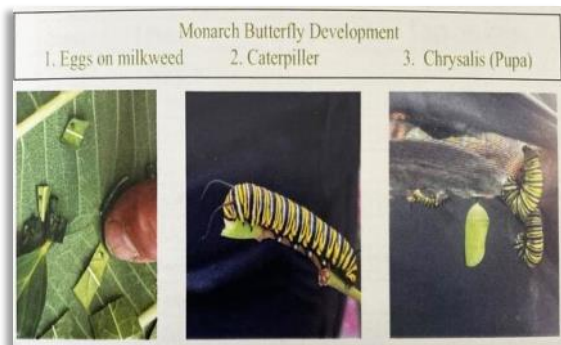
News from Around the State

Certification program they launched this summer. In October, Bailey Brewer of Marigold Flowers by Bailey, presented several floral arrangements following current trends in bridal design. Our president's theme is **"Taking Steps Towards Living Sustainably"** and challenged all members to give up plastic straws. It's a simple step we can all take!

Gunpowder GC has for more than thirty years, created and cared for the roadside gardens at the historic Monkton Station along the NCR trail. Renewal, renovation, remodeling are not new terms but they are current terms for these next several years. Recently, Mother Nature has made changes that affected the gardens and growth. A garden club "study" committee examined the gardens with different tools ...soil testing, notes of tree growth & plant life, identifying what thrives and struggles, recording changes in sun & shade in the gardens, noting animal tracks, and logging the public use of the park gardens. Armed with data from the field findings, the results demanded a CHANGE. The once sunny gardens were now a woodland park with much of the plant-life not thriving in shade but being "candy" treats for the deer. Helping Mother Nature with healthy soil became the most essential element. Beginning with an order of 12 yards of organic soil and the mighty energy power moving rakes, hoes, and wheelbarrows, a vital base was laid for new plantings and new beginnings. This "renewal", a work in progress, now boasts of walk through paths, sit down benches, indigenous woodland plants, green space, peace, and an oasis to welcome the public.



Hampton GC members recently went on a fascinating visit to Donna's Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary. Concerned about the threat to this unique species due to loss of habitat, Donna became a self-taught expert and operates the sanctuary from her home in Churchville, Maryland. Members were able to see all stages of the monarch butterfly's life cycle: from eggs deposited on milkweed



leaves, to caterpillars and the emerging chrysalis, through to the adult butterfly. Donna explained what we were seeing as well as all that it takes to protect and nurture these amazing creatures. *Photo: Mary Ellen Pluemer*

Wiltondale GC is happy to announce that funds raised through our plant sales have been put to great use to support our neighbors in Historic East Towson at Adelaide Bentley Park. The neighborhood dates back to 1829 when Maryland's 15th governor, Charles Ridgely of Hampton estates died, the terms of his will freed some of the hundreds of people he enslaved. The

neighborhood was decimated over the decades with development, roads, and even an electrical substation, yet it has remained a vibrant home to



many descendants of those freed slaves. On September 14, GWWO Architects' Baltimore office and non-profit NeighborSpace of Baltimore County committed to protecting and improving open space for small parks, came together to provide the labor and construction knowledge to put our Club's funding to use. Phase one of the two-phase project built the 'infrastructure' of the park, giving it an identity and defined its purpose. In one amazing day, volunteers constructed raised garden beds, a deck platform, benches for community gatherings, an arbor defining the entrance, and a tremendous amount of mulching, weeding, and planting. Our Wiltondale GC donated the cost of materials, and looks forward to working with the community to share gardening knowledge and projects for all ages in the future, as East Towson residents join together to plant in the garden beds.



Photo: Sally Waller

Woodbrook-Murray Hill GC visited Soldiers Delight Natural Environmental Area in Owings Mills for our October meeting. Soldiers Delight is the largest remaining serpentine grasslands area in the eastern United States. Paula Becker, Outreach Ecologist with the state Department of Natural Resources, spoke on the serpentine barrens ecology, the rare and endangered plants that grow only there, and the "prescribed burns" and non-prescribed fire of April 2023. Paula then led club members on a short hike to view the restored grasslands and endangered flora.

York Manor GC held its September meeting at the Herring Run Nursery. Rob Jenkins of Blue Water Baltimore (BWB) and Herring Run Nursery spoke enthusiastically about Bluewater Baltimore which is an environmental nonprofit organization working to keep the Chesapeake watershed clean. Herring Run Nursery is a program of BWB specializing in plants native to the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Club members toured the nursery which is open to the public. A focus of York Manor GC for the coming year is to increase membership. An exchange of fall plants will take place at the October meeting.

News from Around the State

District IV Baltimore City ...Katherine Edwards Katherine.s.edwards@gmail.com



District IV Director Gretchen Edwards

District IV recently held its semi-annual meeting of district presidents. Director Gretchen Edwards, reported on items of interest to the membership. The bus trip to the Arlington manor and bonsai exhibit at the Botanical Gardens went well. The Blue Star memorial near Rawlings Conservatory was recently damaged. Jackie Handley will be overseeing its restoration. Many of the clubs are busy with interesting lectures and garden tours. The District IV Annual Meeting will be held on March 19, 2024, at the L'Hirondelle Club.

Bolton Hill GC Grows Greening Projects & Partnerships in Baltimore City

Coming out of the pandemic, our club in Midtown Baltimore decided it needed to renew itself. It retooled its mission "to further horticultural education and environmental awareness", and made expanding the Baltimore tree canopy a special programming focus. Additionally, the club made the majority of its programs open to the public. Over a two-year period, this renewed focus was a key factor in doubling the club's size to over 100 members. The club's fundraising sales - Spring Plant & Garden Shed Sale, Fall Pansies Sale, and its Holiday Greens Sale are vehicles for supporting our Greening Grants program. This year the club awarded \$7,500 in greening grants for greening, beautification, and hardscape projects in the Bolton Hill

neighborhood. The club aims to increase this amount to \$8,500 in 2024. The club discussed ways of creating partnerships and helping our neighbors. We started by seeking out greening stakeholders in the city to give several educational programs on trees and their care and the Baltimore tree canopy. These included the Baltimore Tree Trust, Blue Water Baltimore, Midtown Community Benefits District, No Boundaries Coalition, Bolton Hill Community Association's park stewards, and neighborhood associations adjacent to Bolton Hill; Marble Hill and Madison Park. The District V Alice Rush McKeon fund was used in the adjacent Marble Hill neighborhood to expand that neighborhood's tree canopy. The club hopes to engage in future partnering efforts within Baltimore City.

Guilford GG has a long-standing partnership with the St. Francis Neighborhood Center in Reservoir Hill. They completed the first phase of a garden design and planting for the Center last spring.

Mt. Washington GC will be creating a tree to represent our district at the State House in Annapolis in December.

St. George's GC is celebrating its 95th year! They remain active in their work with the House of Ruth, where they are planning a Fall clean-up and planting. They held a Flower and Hort Show at Cylburn Arboretum on November 9. In December, a Garden Workshop will be making small holiday floral arrangements for Meals on Wheels.

District V – Western Maryland Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Washington Counties ...Genecile Weston olemissbelle76@gmail.com



District V Director Shelley Johnson

District V hosted the annual Alice Rush McKeon Tree Planting event beginning in September at several sites in Frederick County: Gilmore C. Trout Memorial Park in Walkersville, Frederick County Public School's Earth Space and Science Lab's Arboretum in Frederick City, and the

Thurmont Community Park in Thurmont were the chosen locations. Participants included garden club members, Boy Scout Troop 1011, Walkersville and Frederick County community volunteers, and representatives from Frederick County Forest Conservancy Board and the Maryland Forestry Service. The Maryland Forestry Service included this project as part of their

Five Million Tree Initiative to plant 5 million trees in Maryland by 2031. DV is proud of the initiatives of several of its members in starting the Climate Change Committee, Carolyn Braverman, Chair, Dorsey Hall GC and committee members Peggy O'Conner, Green-walled GC, Margaret Smith, Longfellow GC, Lynn Walter Silver Fancy GC.



Crossroads GC The Annual Greens Show is Sunday, November 12, at the Women's Club, 31 South Prospect Street in Hagerstown at 2 p.m. Link: gcofmd.org/calendar/

GC of Frederick participated in "The 2nd annual Back to School Inclusion Fest" at Sophie and Madigan's Playground (*an all inclusive public playground, 632 Contender Way, Frederick, MD*) on August 27. The event included children's activities, food trucks and displays highlighting resources for children and families. Our Club distributed "take home" bags of flower pots, seeds & soil with instructions on how to create a garden. Children picked out flower seeds and decorated bags. Wooden flower ornaments were provided for the children to color. "Nature Day" was held on July 18 in conjunction with the Frederick City Parks & Rec. Dept.

Children from summer park programs met in Baker Park. The GCF helped the children create flower arrangements and potted marigolds to take home. 80 enthusiastic children in 2 hours - a fun time for everyone!



News from Around the State

Green-walled GC participated annual Alice Rush McKeon Tree Planting event. This is part of the Maryland 5 Million Tree initiative. Twenty four native trees were planted by club members from Green-walled Garden Club, Taskers Chance, and The Garden Club of Frederick, community members from Walkersville, MD, Boy Scout Troop 1011, and the MD Forestry Service. To celebrate the accomplishment, a reception, organized by District 5, was held at the nearby Heritage Farm Park in Walkersville.

Howard County GC Club members recently weeded, pruned and cleaned up the Mary Jerdone Coleman award winning garden at the Patapsco Female Institute. This interpretive garden was planned by member Jennifer Evans, based on a list of pressed flowers found in the 1844 journal of PFI student Mary Jerdone Coleman and installed by our club. This was a joint partnership with Ellicott City 250, Inc., Howard County Recreation & Parks Heritage Division and the HCGC to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of Ellicott City and was dedicated in June 2022.



Creating a Wild Backyard

"Bad Plants Planted by Good People"

[Bad Plants Planted by Good People - Maryland's Wild Acres](#)

Maryland's Wild Acres "Landscaping for Wildlife"

[Maryland's Wild Acres](#)

Good People... *check the list!*

Longfellow GC will instruct and lead a Community Service project on November 9th, making Thanksgiving Centerpieces for the Howard County Office on Aging & Independence's Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon. Longfellow members and volunteers work together annually to fashion centerpieces out of fresh greens from member's gardens. The finished creations are enjoyed by senior adults. The project has attracted new members to our Club.

Mountain Laurel GG hosted a native plant sale on September 2nd as part of the annual Sang Run State Park (SRSP) Labor Day Weekend Corn Roast. The sale included 740 plants representing 23 species of native plants, all grown from seed by Linda Harris, MLGC Conservation Committee Chair and Co-President. After the sale, the club donated \$1000 from the proceeds to SRSP. The funds will be used toward replacing some of the \$400,000 of equipment and facilities lost during the devastating July fire at the park.



Donna Miller, Linda Harris,
DNR SRSP-Roy Musselwhite, Betsy Potts

Mt. Airy GC has partnered with the Town of Mt. Airy Beautification Commission to renovate Vest Pocket Park on Main Street in town to create a "Gardening for Wildlife" habitat. The project will demonstrate to our residents how incorporating native species can support pollinators and bird populations throughout the year. We'll register our project to be part of Doug Tallamy's "Home Grown National Park" initiative: [About Us - Homegrown National Park](#) We've removed **8 huge invasive** Burning Bushes (*Euonymus alatus*) and Japanese honeysuckle, allowing space to plant species that support wildlife. Educational signs for the public will be included in the project. Both organizations are funding the park renovation.



Tina Swanson
Gardenews Editor

Gardenews Submission Deadlines ...*Thank you all who contributed to this issue!*

Gardenews is published 3 times a year - February - July - November.

Club Submission Deadline: January 10, June 10, October 10.

District Gardenews Reps send submission requests to their district clubs on January 1st, June 1st, October 1st.

District Gardenews Reps Deadline: January 20, June 20, October 20

District Gardenews Reps send compiled reports & photos to the State Editor.

State Officers, State Chairs, Schools, Councils Deadline: January 20, June 20, October 20

Send your reports and articles to the State Editor.

Questions??? Contact Tina Swanson gardenews@fgcofmd

Promote Your Garden Club Events: FGCMDC Website Calendar and FGCMDC Facebook:

Calendar: Send details of Special Events, Flower Shows, Fundraisers, Bus Trips, and Plants Sales, etc, to: website@fgcofmd.org.

Send the event date and details, flyers will be posted on the website calendar page.

Facebook: Send Special Events, Flower Shows, Fundraisers, Bus Trip and Plant Sale advertisements to the fgcofmd Facebook page: facebook@fgcofmd.org

***Flyers must be pre-approved for posting and be sure to include photo credit with photos.**