



THE FLOWER PRESS

PENN-CUMBERLAND GARDEN CLUB MARCH-APRIL 2020
Member of District IV, GCFP, CAR & National Garden Clubs, Inc.
penncumberlandgardenclub.org

"Sixty Years to Sparkle – Another Year to Shine"

President's Corner

Take this quiz!! What kind of a member are you?! Give yourself one point for every one of these items. Check your score at the bottom.

Do you pull in front of the borough hall to quickly unload and then move your car promptly, so others can pull in and drop off members? (Also note that the Camp Hill borough does not allow parking there during the meeting.)

Do you turn off/ silence cell phones? (While your rock and roll ring tone is slightly amusing it is mostly disruptive.)

Do you "whisper" when the person giving a report is speaking? (You may think you are whispering but the whispering is quite loud and quite distracting. No talking unless you have the microphone or have been "given the floor").

When giving a report, do you use the microphone? (Members want to hear your report and the microphone makes it so much easier to hear. When you do not use the microphone, you are saying to your fellow members that 'my desire to not use the mic is greater than your need to hear').

Do you help to tidy up? (We must fold up the chairs and stack at the end of the table after lunch. Also make sure your paper towel actually gets in the trash can in the bathroom. Close enough to the trash can isn't good enough.) We are very fortunate to have a beautiful meeting space to use for minimal expenses. Let's do our best to respect our meeting space.

Do you remember to take home all your belongings? (Did you bring dishes, coats, umbrellas? If you forget to take it home, it becomes another member's problem).

Do you wear your nametag? Introduce yourself to others? Help new members learn what all goes on at our meetings?

Do you bring your "listening skills" to committee meetings, board meetings and at the monthly meeting?

Did you score a 10? Great job! You are a conscientious member and you are very much appreciated!

Did you score 7 or below? Oh no! We love having you as part of PCGC, but girlfriend, up your game a bit!

We have an active, busy and engaged club. We have much to accomplish and communicate at our regular monthly meetings, committee meetings and activities. It is very important that all of us are always mindful of some of the very basic rules of etiquette for a good meeting.

Susanna

February 24th Meeting – Dare to Be Tick Aware



Our speaker will be Lisa Rocuskie of the PA Department of Health. She will help us learn about ticks and their habitats, as well as prevention tips in your yard for you and your animals. She will also address what action should be taken if you or a pet is bitten. We will also learn what types of ticks live in our area, what types of diseases ticks may carry and who is at the highest risk for being bit and contracting Lyme Disease.

Lisa is scheduled to speak at 10 a.m. Plan to arrive before that time to sign in, pick up your nametag, buy raffle tickets and your pressed flower merchandise, peruse our special exhibits and chat with your friends! Look for clipboards to sign up to participate in various club activities as well. Come early to view the flower show. Voting for your favorite flower show designs will begin at 9:30 a.m.

The **Bloom and Grow Mini Show** this month IS indeed a flower show of “petite floral designs.” The theme is: “It’s a Small World.” Anyone is welcome to sign up for one of the 3 classes. The schedule has been sent out via email. There are still some open slots. Contact Judy McGinnis at 717-486-5315 with questions. Designs will be accepted between 9 and 9:30 a.m. prior to the meeting.

For our **Sharing Garden Wisdom** table please bring favorite gardening magazines and/or books for others to peruse. (These are not give away publications. It’s a sharing of what you subscribe to or have purchased that you find useful).

February is one of our “soup” months so remember to bring a bowl or mug for soup in addition to your place setting and cloth napkin.

March 16th Meeting – Native Plants for Nesting Birds

Derek Stoner is a lifelong outdoorsman with a deep passion for connecting people to nature. During a fifteen-year career with the Delaware Nature Society, he managed and led environmental education programs ranging from summer camps to major international ecotours, while also managing the 860-acre Middle Run Natural Area and overseeing the planting of 25,000 trees for habitat improvement. The award-winning Middle Run Birding Trail in Delaware is his creation, and is regarded as a premier location for experiencing the spectacle of songbird migration.



Now working for the Pennsylvania Game Commission as an Outreach Manager, he continues to share his knowledge of the outdoors through programs focused on hunting, wildlife education, and conservation.

Derek's writing and photography work appears in Outdoor Delaware magazine, Wild Delaware and Wild Delmarva books, Pennsylvania Game News, and the News Journal newspapers. A resident of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, he lives on his family's farm with his wife Hilary, where they manage the land for the benefit of wildlife.

April 20th Meeting – Plant It and They Will Come



Jane Shull, Perry County Master Gardener, will have photos of butterflies and their food sources with a narrative about the needs of butterflies.



Membership

In 2019 we installed sixteen new members ending the year with 124 members. Out of the sixteen new members, thirteen were a result of referrals from our members. Congratulation to the following members who took the time to bring in new members and help our organization grow. *Louise Bianco, Susan Wilder, Lisa Garrison, Sheri Goff, Susanna Reppert-Brill, Susan Watchorn, Bonnie Guyer, Randi Lorah, Karen McAulliffe and Karen Schwarzbauer.* **Special kudos to Louise Bianco who brought in three new members!**

So far this year we added two new members to bring our current membership total to 126. Please add the new members' information in your yearbook.

Linda Zimmerman

10 Orvis Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-4864
Phone: 717-829-6548
Email: lindazimmerman@verizon.net

Carol Groff

1 Chelton Circle
Camp Hill, PA 17011
Phone: 717-737-9757
Email: groffcj/@gmail.com



There is one email address change. Jackie Fosselman's new email address is: jessfosselman@gmail.com.

If you have any changes for our records, please contact me at betpisano@aol.com or call 717-732-4631.

Betty Pisano, Membership Chair
Sandy Green, Co-Chair

Travel Committee – Friendship, Flowers and Fun Tour

PCGC Travel Committee is pleased to present the trip of the club season for members and their guests.

Wednesday, April 29th at 8:00 a.m. we will depart from the Radisson Hotel in Camp Hill

Boarding begins at 7:40 a.m. with seat selection on a first come basis

\$60.00 per person will provide you the opportunity to tour native gardens, idea gardens and reference library plus shop for native plants at **Bowman's Hill Nursery and Wildflower Preserve** in **New Hope**. We will stop nearby for lunch on your own and then continue to historic **Stoneleigh Gardens** in **Villanova**.

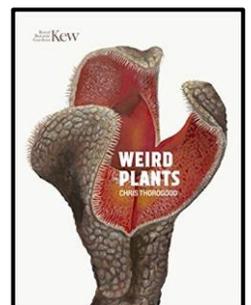
Payment by March 5th. Check-made out to PCGC. Mail to: Norma Frame, 91 Courtyard Dr., Carlisle, Pa. 17013

Norma Frame and Judy Patrick – Travel Committee Co-Chairs

Upcoming Library Programs

March 16th, 6:30 p.m. – New Cumberland Library and April 8th, 7:00 p.m. – Simpson Library

Again this year we are participating in the **Longwood Gardens** book events. Our members will be presenting unique and unusual plants in conjunction with the book, **"Weird Plants"** by Chris Thorogood. A review of a SciFi book **"Semiosis"** by Sue Burke will also be given. A drawing for tickets to Longwood Gardens will be part of the evening's presentation. Come out and support our club and enjoy learning about new books!



Recycling with PCGC

National Garden Council Conservation Pledge:

"I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forest, land and wildlife."



In keeping with our national organization's pledge and policies, we do as a club attempt to do our part. Above is our President, Susanna, surrounded by what we used to be able to bring in for recycling – cellophane type bags as in chips, pretzels, insides of cereal boxes, etc. Susanna loaded these and took them home and boxed them up to send to **Terracycle**. We earned money from this endeavor and we were pleased to be keeping these products out of landfills. Unfortunately, these products are no longer being accepted. However, the products shown/listed below ARE able to be collected and recycled.

Please start saving now and go through your cupboards and drawers and see what you have that fits into this category. It is helpful to have your items separated ... **hard bottle caps** from laundry soap, peanut butter, milk, orange juice, etc. as well as spray bottle tops in one container. In a separate container can go **pens, markers, tooth brushes**, used **toothpaste tubes** and empty **dental floss containers**.



Bring to regular meetings and place inside the door in the lobby. Following each meeting, one of our members will pack items in boxes, affix a **Terracycle** postage free mailing label from the Internet and ship it to the **Terracycle** Company. The **Terracycle** Company, headquartered in Trenton, NJ, responds by sending PCGC checks once or twice a year.

Terracycle is a global leader in recycling hard-to-recycle materials. Terracycle rewards non-profit organizations for their participation. **Terracycle recently sent PCGC a check for \$170 for items we sent in 2019.**

Horticulture Committee Special Event



Please join us for a fun "Create and Take" succulent dish planter workshop. The workshop will be conducted by **Plantscapes By Design**. The workshop will be held on **April 21st from 7p.m. - 8:30p.m. at the Camp Hill Giant upstairs, Room A**. The cost is **\$25 payable by check or cash to Carol Hollis**. There will be a signup sheet at our February and March meetings. Examples of the planters are pictured here. Checkout **Plantscapes By Design** on Facebook. There are many examples pictured. Hope you will join us for a fun evening of satisfying our Spring fever!

Carol Hollis, Horticulture Committee Chair

Conservation – Now is the Time to Consider Planting for Wildlife

The United Nations recently released a report about rapidly declining plant populations around the world. “Humans are transforming Earth’s natural landscapes so dramatically that as many as one million plant and animal species are now at risk of extinction.” This crisis isn’t just a global problem - it is occurring in our backyards as well. At this time one third of all wildlife species in the United States is at increased risk of extinction.

National Wildlife Federation suggests that one way we as gardeners can help is by planting seeds of native wildflowers that support birds, bees and other wildlife. If you grow plants from seed, you can boost the genetic variation of local plant populations and their capacity to adapt to rapidly changing environmental conditions. Also, by growing plants from seed obtained from a known source, you can make sure the seed is appropriate for your region and that your source is using sustainable practices.



Make sure the seed is organic – unless they are labeled organic, seeds sold by commercial sources may be treated with pesticides – including neonicotinoids – insecticides that have been implicated in the decline of bees and other pollinators. Good seed sources include native plant societies, nature centers, fall and winter seed swaps that promote genetic diversity and many public gardens.

The easiest way to germinate native seeds is to sow them outdoors. Many plants need a cold period to germinate and should be sown in fall or early winter. Milkweeds and coneflowers are best sown in fall or early spring. When sown in winter, some woodland wildflowers, including trilliums and Solomon’s seal do not germinate until the second spring. Seeds can be sown in flats or pots at least 3 inches deep – or in a germination bed. Use a weed-free, compost-based potting mix. Sow seeds as deep as they are wide and 1/8 to 1/4 inch apart. Cover with a thin layer of coarse sand or sawdust to prevent seeds from splashing out in rain. Woodland wildflowers should be sown in full to part shade – and those plants that require dry, sunny conditions should be sown in full sun. Keep soil moist by watering when it begins to dry out.

We will learn more at our garden club program in March that will address native plants for nesting birds. If you have success with your seeds, perhaps you will have plants to share at our plant sale on May 16! Plants that provide food for pollinators will provide the pleasure of watching life unfold – both in a tiny seed and in the wildlife that will benefit.

PCGC Conservation Committee

Susan Wilder, Conservation Committee Chair

A Moment in Pressed Flower History...

Long before she began writing poems, Emily Dickinson, was a Presser. Dickinson created a herbarium (a collection of preserved plant specimens and associated data used for scientific study with the 424 flowers she collected in the Amherst, MA, region. Dickinson’s herbarium contains 66 pages with her elegant handwritten labels for each plant in a large leather-bound album. The original herbarium survives in the Emily Dickinson Room at Harvard’s Houghton Rare Book Library. Each of the pages can be viewed on the [Harvard Libraries website](#). Plus, Judith Farr discusses the herbarium in her wonderful book *The Gardens of Emily Dickinson*.



Karen Schwarzbauer – Pressed Flower Designers Chair



Civic Beautification Gains 2 More Gardens

Ames Community Garden



While the Community Garden Committee will continue to manage the raised vegetable beds, the Civic Beautification Committee will plant and maintain flower beds within and surrounding the garden. Randi Lorah, Head Gardener, will focus on native and pollinator plants.

Mechanicsburg Train Station

Throughout the years, PCGC has completed many planting projects at the train station. Head Gardeners, Karen McAuliffe and Fern Oram, will continue this tradition.

Karen Schwarzbauer, Civic Beautification Chair



Horticulture

It's that time of the year again when we begin to get the winter blues and look ahead to spring and preparing our gardens for summer. One way to consider combating the winter blues and the summer gardening itch is by creating a dish garden. Here are a few tips for creating a fun display that is relatively maintenance free. A dish garden is an indoor planting that imitates a scene from nature. Think of a theme – such as a desert, forest or just simply put a statement plant in a fun container.

- Find a shallow container that will accommodate the plants to fit your theme.
- Choose plants that will happily grow in the chosen container and stay small.
- Roots need some space to expand.
- Indoor potting mix works for most plants but a sandier blend is needed for succulents and cacti.
- Provide for drainage in the container by using small pebbles in the bottom of the container.
- Be careful to not over water.
- Enjoy watching your plants grow.

Spring is right around the corner. Stay tuned for upcoming events hosted by the horticulture committee. We are planning seasonal visits to members' gardens and another tour of the historic Harrisburg Cemetery when their beautiful trees are blooming. The **District IV Flower Show** will be Friday, May 29th –Saturday, May 30th. Consider entering the show for an enjoyable learning experience.

Carol Hollis, Horticulture Chair



Annual Bertha P. Reppert Herb Tea – May 18th



This year's Bertha P. Reppert Herb Tea will be held on May 18, 2020 in conjunction with the May meeting. This year we will be having a luau so get out your Hawaiian shirts, Mumu dresses, wraps or tropical garb so you are dressed for the party. Robin Reynolds of Garden Bouquet in Mechanicsburg will be giving a presentation, "Tropical Flowers for your Enjoyment."

This year we will raffling off the centerpieces provided by our Floral Design Guild members so we are requesting that you look through your home for non-transparent containers that the Flower Designer's Guild members may be able to use for the centerpieces. Bring to one of our upcoming club meetings and give to Judy McGinnis.

We are also asking for Hawaiian-themed items we could borrow for the day whether it be serving pieces, decorations or even tropical plants. We ask that you mark your items with address labels so we can identify the owners at the conclusion of the tea. We will have sign-up sheets at the February meeting for plants, decorations, set-up and closing down as well as help with decorating the room. We will have the recipes available at the March and April meetings.



Leah Hornung and Jan James, Herb Tea Co-Chairs

Awards and Grants Anyone?

The Garden Club Federation of PA offers many opportunities for Clubs to win awards or receive grants. Some of the awards we could apply for would be GCFP Social Media Award, GCFP Yearbook Award, GCFP Publicity Press Book Award, GCFP Special Publications Award, Newsletter Publication Award and many more. Creating new gardens in an historical place or a Special Publication about our Herb Tea could be opportunities as well. I'm here to help! Keep in mind if you are working with youth, or planning a special event check with me to see if there is an award available to apply for. I can be reached at eileenphoover@verizon.net or 717-545-1778. Committee Chairs: You can go to pagardenclubs.org and click on Education/Awards to see the types of awards available. To access national awards and grants go to gardenclub.org.

Eileen Hoover, Awards Chair

Susanna's Tussie Mussies go to

Pat Loomis and Paula Heckman for reviving PCGC Youth Gardening Programs.



Norma Frame and Kay Rowe for reviving PCGC Garden Therapy.



Plant Sale – N B Liebman – May 16th



Just a reminder to start thinking about what needs to be divided in your yard this Spring that you can pot up for our plant sale. House plants are included in this as well. Dollar Tree has twelve 3 ½ inch pots for one dollar! They are perfect for seedlings/plant starts. Starting plants from seed would be helpful also, especially if you are doing some for yourself. Add a few for the plant sale! Feeling creative? Dish gardens/fairy gardens are always a nice addition

Also, we are looking for gently used gardening items of all kinds including tools, books, pots, vases, planter boxes, shelving, baskets etc. for our ever-popular **Ways and Means** tables. You can even start baking now while you're confined to the house and freeze for our **Bake Sale**. So many easy ways to contribute to this sale even if you can't be there the day of the sale. Be watching for more details as we get closer to the date.

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 15th at 3 p.m. for set up and May 16th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Allocations for 2020

Each year our club considers suggestions from our membership for groups/causes to share our "treasure" with groups that are compatible with our mission and that of our state and national organizations. Below are the recipients for this year. Thank you to all who submitted nominations and information.

New Cumberland Library _____	\$400
Wildwood Park Nature Center _____	\$400
Harrisburg Cemetery (National Registry of Historic Places) _____	\$400
Central Pennsylvania Conservancy _____	\$400
PCGC Paver for Hoyt Reading Garden-Fredricksen Library _____	\$175
Capital Area Greenbelt _____	\$125
American Chestnut Foundation _____	\$100
Total	\$2,000



Attending - Carol Dillon, Wanda Godar. Susan Wilder, Kay Rowe, Ann Markley (Chair)

A Blast from the Past ... who is this budding designer?

In 1974, PCGC Junior Gardeners had their own flower show, not a small part of the adult show but their own flower show! This was a complete flower show with horticulture, design and educational displays. It was called "The Gang has a Flower Show" and was themed around the Peanuts characters and comic strip but for trademark reasons we couldn't use their names in the title. To fundraise for the show, the Junior Gardeners sold peanuts at the Benefit that year. This award was for a design using dried flowers and a recycled item. The recycled item was an old dirty car air filter balanced on a tuna fish can with dried flowers. You guessed it! This is our very own Susanna, Madam President!



My Gardening Passion "Nests of Imagination and Memory"

by Darlene Palanti

Gardens, especially our domestic ones, are intimate places that contain seeds of memory and imagination. The garden is a place that we experience and inhabit as embodied subjects. We actively participate in our gardens; we walk, repose, cultivate, dream, live and create in them. The garden is a lived-place in which we explore and interact with a multitude of things; birds, plants, fountains, stones, leaves, etc. These various perceived images can be seen as merely objective forms, "things," that we analyze or see geometrically or they can afford us an opportunity, through reverie of imagination and memory, to move us beyond the formal pictorial image into deeper changing imaginings. Imagining and memory work together to give meaning to our wellbeing, reconnecting us to the world around us.

The garden is full of sensuous images, the *scent* of flowers, the *sound* of the water fountain, the wind dancing between the branches of the trees, the chirping songs of birds, the *touch* of the earth in your hands, the soft *colors* of the flower petals, the *taste* of the sweet blueberry on your tongue, the *sight* of a bird's nest. We move toward one image in particular and suddenly an image situates itself in the center of our imagining being. It retains us; it engages us. It infuses us with being. The distractions of our daily life fall away, our self-absorbed egocentric mind is quieted and we are present, intimately aware, connected to the image before us. The image speaks to us, pulls us in and opens a deeper dialogue with the cosmic world around us



I am writing this at my desk as I look out my window where my gaze falls upon an empty nest abandoned in the lilac bush, it is winter. A flash of memory washes over me. It is a summer day when I was a child and I am peeking into a nest with Robin eggs, the blue shells (bird houses) sparkled like the blue sky, the smell of freshly mowed lawn and the mother bird chirping her warnings in the branches above all lived in my nested world. I was happy, a found treasure, I was warm, I felt sheltered, protected and I stood there in what seemed like endless time before I backed away to let the mother bird nestle again on her eggs. Isn't it wonderful, our capacity to recapture the naive wonder we used to feel when we found a nest? This wonder is lasting, and today when we discover a nest it takes us back to our childhood or, rather, to a childhood;

to the childhoods we should have had. I experience my own discovered nest in my garden now or when I read poetic writings about nests and I can remember imaginings of my childhood memory when I first looked upon my first nest. These memories are always with me and return me again, and again, back to a childhood of innocent wonder when everything found was a treasure that held an egg of possibility, an invitation to the journey of imaginings. Back then, and now when I remember, I knew with certainty that everything had a home in a nest of childhood reveries.

The nest is a house, a circular dwelling place with blue round eggs nesting life within, promising a possibility of something to come. The nest is a house, a house is a nest and both provide a felt sense of security and protection in which to inhabit. We live in the nest. The bird makes her nest with her body. The female bird turning round and round presses against the sides of the nest with her breast to shape the soft circular dwelling that will provide a safe rounded place for her eggs. The house is a bird's very person; it is its form and its most immediate effort, an intimate physical act of creating an environment of caring, of love with her body. The shape of the inner nest will take on the shape of the bird's breast. Likewise, we move around, cultivate and design our garden nests. They are an extension of our bodies and will resemble our own material bodies. Our body identity (more ornate or less fussy) will reflect in how we inhabit our garden nests. Our bodies are the nest. We are not so unlike birds after all.

The nest lives in the branches of a tree that cradles and wraps soft green leaves around it; the tree is a nest. And the tree lives in the garden that lays down around its rich fertile earth, and embraces it with other plants and objects to keep it company; the garden is a nest. And the garden lives in the world nestled within the forests, waters, sky and air that surround it; the world is the nest of mankind. The air is a blanket that surrounds all our nests. The bird's nest, the tree-nest, the garden-nest, ourselves as nests, the world-nest are one nest that we can inhabit if we can imagine and remember in reverie.



Penn-Cumberland Garden Club – The Flower Press
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Newsletter Deadline: May/June – April 1st

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 24 – PCGC Monthly Meeting – Doors open at 9 a.m. – Program at 10 a.m. – Camp Hill Borough Building
- February 27 – Conservation Committee – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- February 29 – Philadelphia Flower Show opens – “Riviera Holiday”
- March 2 – Pressed Flower Designers, 9:00 a.m. – Noon, Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- March 9 – Horticulture Committee – 8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- March 9 – Board Meeting – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- March 9 – Civic Beautification Committee – 10:30 a.m. – Noon – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- March 16 – Regular Meeting – doors open at 9:00 a.m., Program at 10:00 a.m. – Camp Hill Borough Building
- March 19 – Longwood Garden Book Presentation – 6:30 p.m. – New Cumberland Library
- March 21 – Pennsylvania Bird Day
- March 23 – Floral Design Workshop – 9:00 a.m. – Noon – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- March 26 – Conservation Meeting – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- April 6 – Pressed Flower Designers - 9:00 a.m. – Noon – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- April 8 – Longwood Garden Book Presentation – 7:00 p.m. – Simpson Library, Mechanicsburg
- April 13 – Horticulture Committee – 8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- April 13 – Board Meeting – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- April 13 – Civic Beautification Committee – 10:30 a.m. – Noon – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor
- April 18 – Earth Day Celebration - Mechanicsburg
- April 20 – Regular Meeting - doors open at 9:00 a.m., Program at 10:00 a.m. – Camp Hill Borough Building
- April 22 – Earth Day
- April 24 – Arbor Day
- April 30 – Conservation Meeting – 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. – Giant in Camp Hill – Second Floor

