



Trumpet Vine

Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania District VII

FEB-MARCH - 2014

Jackie Stempfer, Editor

Heal the past, live the present, dream the future.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone is bearing up well and braving the cold wintry days unlike the snowbirds who have left us. But spring **will** come back (March 20th if you wondering) and with it our 2014 GCFP State Convention, April 6, 7 and 8th. We hope you are registering early because rooms fill up fast. You need to register for all the activities including meals with the exception of the flower show which is free and open to the public. If you are interested in entering the flower show in Design or Horticulture you can obtain a complete flower show schedule, "**MY FAIR PITTSBURGH**" from your club president. Also, there is the **Trash to Treasure, BEES IN YOUR BONNET** contest which is a statewide contest. The rules are available in the latest issue of the **Keystone Gardener**, from your club president or the state website, www.pagardenclubs.org. The convention programs and workshops are outstanding - the workshop fee is only \$5.00 per workshop in addition to your registration fee.

I cannot emphasize enough the wonderful opportunity all garden club members have in this area and surrounding areas by having the state convention right in our own backyard. It will be quite a long time before it will probably be in Pittsburgh again so take advantage of this very interesting, educational and entertaining GCFP Convention. There is something here for everyone. Plenty to take away in inspiration but also wonderful merchandise waiting to be purchased. So come one, come all!

See you at the Doubletree,
Iris Cisarik, District VII Director



GCFP DISTRICT VII MEMBERSHIP TEA

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014 – COST \$5 - DEADLINE MARCH 7TH

PLACE: SAMPSON MILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1665 LINCOLN WAY, WHITE OAK

RESIGTRATION 9-9:30 A.M., BUSINESS MEETING 10 A.M.

**Trash to Treasure Judging, Centerpiece Design Judging, Report of Club President,
Program: 11:15**

FOR RESERVATION CALL:

LEEANNA RYBA (724-337-8372) OR IRIS CISARIK (412-621-0954)

(Remember to bring jewelry for fund raiser.)



I give up...

I wanted to start 2014 with a new format and begin with a directory and information of each club - but sorry - can't wait any longer. Some of you may not have your officers for this year, or perhaps they are the same ones, but I was hoping at least for confirmation and "general" information (meeting time and place at least). The following is what I've either had or received and hopefully the clubs I have nothing for will fill in the blanks for next quarters Trumpet Vine. THANKS

BURRELLTON GARDEN CLUB: ORGANIZED: 1950

MEETS: 2ND TUESDAY

TIME: 7 P.M.

PLACE: GRACE COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: MILDRED SCHORR

V. PRES: MAGGIE DAVIS

SEC: DIANA ACRE

TREAS SUSAN GRAHAM

HISTORIAN: JOANN LAMBERMONT

GARDEN CLUB OF FOREST HILLS: ORGANIZED: 1923

MEETS: 1ST THURSDAY

TIME: 9:30 A.M.

PLACE: HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, FOREST HILLS

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: KATHY KOROSKENYI

1ST V. PRES: IRIS CISARIK

2ND V. PRES: SALLY SABINO

SEC: JOYCE KAREEM

TREAS: KATHY BAUER

March: Plants for your 2014 garden, Penn Hills Lawn and Garden Center.

April: Native Bees and Honey Bees, host to plant a garden to attached bee friends.

GARDEN CLUB OF MCKEESPORT: ORGANIZED:

MEETS:

TIME:

PLACE:

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

V. PRES:

SEC:

TREAS:

Hands on rose pruning demonstration:

April 5th and 12th at 1 p.m.

Annual plant sale and creative design sale May 3rd

Enchanting garden teas:

June 12. July 10. Aug 14 and Sept 11

GARDEN CLUB OF MONROEVILLE: ORGANIZED
MEETS: 2ND WEDNESDAYS OF MARCH, APRIL, MAY,
JUNE, SEPT, OCT AND NOV (JUNE/JULY FIELD
TRIP)
TIME: 10:30 AM TO 2 PM
PLACE: GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH,
4530 OLD WM PENN HWY, MONROEVILLE
OFFICERS:
PRESIDENT: SHIRLEY BRODY
V. PRES: MARILYN BACKUS
RECORDING SEC: Lynn Chandler
CORRESPONDING SESC: MARILYN BACKUS

GARDENS LTD: ORGANIZED:
MEETS: 2ND TUES
TIME: 11:30 A.M.
PLACE: ROTATES
OFFICERS:
PRESIDENT: ELLEN PRIMIS
CO. PRES. ESTHER AMPER
SEC: MIMI HALPERN
TREAS: INA SABLE



HIGHLAND PARK GARDEN CLUB:
APPLIED FOR FEDERATION 2013

MEETS:
TIME:
PLACE:
OFFICERS:
PRESIDENT: ELIZABETH
LARMAN
V. PRES
SEC:

HOME GARDENER'S: ORGANIZED
1959
MEETS: 2ND THURSDAY
TIME: 10:30 A.M.
PLACE: MCKEESPORT GARDEN CENTER
OFFICER
PRESIDENT: HADDIE WEBER
V. PRES: NANCY PRICE
CORRES SEC: KATHY INGE3
REC SEC: GERRY PETRICK

JOYFUL BLOOMERS: ORGANIZED 1972
MEETS: 1ST WED FEB-DEC
TIME: 10 A.M.
PLACE:
OFFICERS:
PRESIDENT: RUTH CARROLL
V. PRES: BETTY LUCOT
REC SEC: LANA KLING
CORRSP SEC: ANDREA RICE
TREAS: DIANA SOLTIS

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN SOCIETY OF
WESTERN PA:**
ORGANIZED
MEETS: 2ND THURSDAY
TIME:
PLACE: MCKEESPORT GARDEN CENTER
OFFICERS:
PRESIDENT:
V. PRES:

MURRYSVILLE GARDEN CLUB: ORGANIZED 1952

MEETS: 1st THURSDAY - MARCH THROUGH
DECEMBER

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: MURRYSVILLE COMMUNITY BUILDING,
CARSON STREET, MURRYSVILLE

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: MARGIE WOLFF

V. PRES: BARBARA CSEH

SEC: KATHY OSTROWSKI

PUCKETOS GARDEN CLUB: ORGANIZED 1933

MEETS: 1ST MONDAY EXCEPT JANUARY AND JULY

TIME: 11:00 AM

PLACE: THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW
KENSINGTON,

601 FIFTH AVE, NEW KEN

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: MARSHA EWING

V. PRES: MILLIE PIPMAN

SEC: SUSAN BUELL

TREAS: BETTY GROSSHEIM

PARLIAMENTARIAN: GRETCHEN MCKELVEY

Winterthur and Longwood Gardens bus trip: May 3 and 4th

Price \$278 pp/double, \$359 single:

Includes: 1 night hotel room, breakfast/dinner, bus and tour

Reservations due by March 3rd

Call Millie at 724-339-7185 or 724-882-8000 or

724-339-7017 or 724-882-8010

ROCKLEDGE GARDEN CLUB (no yearbook):

ORGANIZED

MEETS:

TIME:

PLACE:

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: DANA OVERMYER

V. PRES:

SEC:



STATE CONVENTION MONROEVILLE, APRIL 6-8, 2014

The GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION of PENNSYLVANIA will hold its 84th ANNUAL CONVENTION, Sunday-Tuesday, APRIL 6-8, 2014, at the DOUBLETREE HOTEL, 101 Mall Boulevard, MONROEVILLE, PA 15146.

Featured floral designers will include: ERNIE NELSON and DOUG KOVACH of “*Pretty Petals Floral and Gift Shoppe*”, Brownsville, PA; ON THAI, award winning floral designer and owner of “*Surroundings Floral Studio*”, Schenectady, NY; MARGE McGOFF, Master Flower Show Judge and outstanding floral designer, *who represented National Garden Clubs at the Chelsea Flower Show in 2000 and will have the repeat honor at the World Flower Show, this year in Dublin, Ireland.*

Another featured speaker will be: BARRY GLICK, renowned horticulturalist and lecturer, who has traveled and taught in England, and owner/founder of *Sunshine Farm and Garden*, in Greenbriar County, West Virginia, where he has a plant collection of 10,000+ taxa, focusing on hybridizing Hellebores.

There will be educational workshops: VICKI BEUTH has developed the “*Forget Me Not*” line of dried flower arrangements; ROXANNE UHRIN specializes in making nosegays, *Tussie Mussie*, floral gifts; CHRIS HOLT, retired art instructor from Shady Side Academy, creates commissioned one-of-a-kind metal works for homes and businesses; CAROLYN MONYOK, outstanding Rosarian and member of McKeesport Garden Club, will speak on “*Springtime Care of Roses*”; FRANK PIZZI, Curator of Horticulture and Grounds at the Pittsburgh Zoo, will speak on “*Gardening on the Wild Side*”; and finally a speaker from Pittsburgh’s National Aviary will speak on “*Gardening to Attract Birds and Butterflies*”.

If that’s not enough, there are Tours, meals, a Victorian Tea, the Annual Business Meeting, shopping at *Coventry Garden’s* many Vendors, and people to meet from all over the state.

All pertinent information is available from *The KEYSTONE GARDENER*... and on the GCFP’s website: www.pagardenclubs.org.

I hope YOU are planning to attend. This is a wonderful opportunity to become better acquainted with our Mother organization, its activities and goals. I will be there!

Angie Raitano, Program Chairman
GCFP 2014 Convention Committee

STATE CHAIRMEN EXHIBIT TABLES INCLUDE:

Blue Star Memorial Marker, Environmental Concerns/Litter/Recycling, Environmental Studies/School, Habitat for Humanity, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl, Flower Show Schedule, National & Regional Projects coordinator (Home & Community Gardens), Penny Pines, Rally our Region-Restore, Refurbish, Replant, and Club Yearbook.

Judy's Jottings
"That Little Yellow Box"

While checking my refrigerator to make up a shopping list, I spied a familiar little yellow box. I suddenly remembered that I should change the Arm & Hammer box of baking soda every three months to eliminate food odors. Of course, I couldn't remember how long that box had been in there.

How long since you changed your box?

The new boxes actually have a place to write down the date that it was purchased, but who remembers to do it. I found this test to use –

Pour a small amount of vinegar or lemon juice – a few drops will do – over ½ teaspoon of baking soda from the old box. If it doesn't bubble actively – it's too old.

Baking soda is actually the trade name for bicarbonate of soda and comes from the mineral, trona, which can be found in large deposits in only one place in North America – Green River, Wyoming. In 1839 a doctor named Austin Church joined with John Dwight, his wife's younger brother in a business venture to produce baking soda. They eventually chose Arm & Hammer as their trademark identity. It is one of the longest running and most recognized U.S. trademarks in existence for over 165 years.

The symbol represented on each box is the arm of Vulcan – the god of fire, blacksmith of the Roman gods. Their boxes have used recycled paper for more than 90 years.

A resurgent interest in baking soda developed as the public's interest in using products less harmful to our environment grew. Studies show that baking soda is environmentally benign. Home economists and environmentalists have known this for years and have recommended it as an alternative to more toxic, harsh chemical cleaners on the market.

A book which I found lately at a library sale, entitled BAKING SODA by Vicki Lansky offers over 500 fabulous, fun and frugal uses you've probably never thought of. I bought the book and just recently sat down to read it.

Here are some of her ideas:

COOKING TIPS – (which I never do and know nothing about)

- # Keep icing moist and prevent its cracking by adding a pinch of baking soda before spreading it on a cake.
- # To make a fluffy omlete, add ½ teaspoon of baking soda for every three eggs.
- # Avoid over cooking cabbage and make it more tender by cooking it in water with a pinch of baking soda added.
- # Get more from tea bags by adding a pinch of baking soda to the teapot while steeping the tea, and your tea won't cloud. This works for iced as well as hot tea.

HOME MAINTENANCE – (I do under protest)

- # Add a small amount of baking soda to your vacuum bag to fight the dirty smell that vacuums can sometimes get.
- # Fill old nylons with baking soda and suspend them from your basement ceiling to fight a damp and musty smell.

Add 2 tablespoons of baking soda to your bath water and you won't have to worry about ring-around-the-tub! Your bath water will be soft, too.

GARDENING – (Let me know if it works)

Get rid of backyard slugs sprinkling baking soda on them!

Tip – keep your baking soda in a flour shaker for outdoor use

Sprinkle baking soda lightly on the soil around tomato plants.

It sweetens tomatoes by lowering their acidity and discourages pests.

Clean clay flower pots – inside and out – with baking soda.

Rinse clean. There is no harmful residue to be absorbed by the clay.

Prevent grass and weeds from growing in sidewalk cracks by sprinkling baking soda on the cement and sweeping it into the cracks. The excess sodium is what does them in. It also works on moss growing on patio bricks.

If you want additional ideas, use the company website –
Armandhammer.com

Going to the local supermarket soon, add several boxes of baking soda to your shopping cart. Just putting a box in the refrigerator with all its innumerable uses around the house and garden, would be a waste.

In conclusion, here is “Ode By a Mother to Baking Soda “written by Jane Fraser who resides in Canada.

How do I use thee?

I can't count the ways...

You scrub my tub, presoak my clothes

Freshen my fridge, won't scratch stoves;

Eat odors in sneakers and diaper pails

Soothes bites and burns to stop kid's wails.

All of this without harming our earth,

You give far more than my money's worth.

Submitted by Judy Schaffer

Pucketos Garden Club



"There's one good thing about snow, it makes your lawn look as nice as your neighbor's."

Garden & Landscape Symposium of Western Pennsylvania and the Garden Marketplace!

The 19th annual **Garden & Landscape Symposium of Western Pennsylvania**, presented by Penn State Extension and Shady Side Academy, will be held Saturday, April 12, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hillman Center for the Performing Arts in Fox Chapel. Internationally acclaimed educators and authors will treat attendees to an entire day of presentations. This year's keynote speaker is the renowned Michael Dirr, legendary plantsman and author of the *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, a must-have reference for every serious gardener.

Horticultural experts will share their knowledge on a wide variety of topics, including Sinclair Adam, Penn State Extension educator speaking on *New Perennials for 2014: Plants of Promise for American Growers and Gardens*; Michael Dirr, retired professor of horticulture, University of Georgia will speak *In Praise of Noble Trees* and also *New Flowering and Evergreen Shrubs*; Maryann Frazier, Penn State Entomology Expert will address declining pollinator populations and how gardeners and landscapers can improve habitats and reduce risks with ~ *Will There Still Be Honey for Your Tea?*; and Jeff Gillman, Horticulture Instructor at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, North Carolina will present ~ *The Truth About Organic Gardening: Benefits, Drawbacks, and the Bottom Line*. The Symposium includes breakfast and lunch and plenty of time to shop at the Garden Marketplace.

The **Garden Marketplace** is free and open to the public as well as those registered for the Symposium from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Marketplace features unusual, hard-to-find perennials, annuals, shrubs, natives, lettuce bowls, terrariums, garden accessories and botanical artwork. The Garden Marketplace is entirely indoors, located in the Ice Rink Arena on the Shady Side Senior School campus. A new attraction this year is the annual Daffodil Show, hosted by the Daffodil and Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania. Parking is convenient, ample and free.

Register for the Symposium by visiting <http://extension.psu.edu/garden-landscape-symposium>. The fee is \$105 before March 1 and \$120 after March 1. Or call 412 / 473-2540 with questions.

About Our Speakers:

Sinclair Adam is a Penn State Extension floriculture educator in Lebanon County, and he manages the flower trials at the Landisville Agricultural Research and Extension Center. Previously, Sinclair was an adjunct professor in the Plant and Soil Science Department at the University of Vermont. From 1989 until 2010, Sinclair and his wife Kirsten operated Dunvegan Nursery until they joined forces with Vermont Organics Reclamation. Sinclair has 15 plant patents, and his passion for breeding native plants is known throughout the industry by such innovative introductions as Tiarella 'Erika Leigh', 'Laird of Skye', 'Brandywine' and 'Oakleaf'.

Michael A. Dirr is a legend in the horticultural world and has tremendous energy for teaching about plants, writing about plants, and especially for growing plants. Michael worked at a nursery and garden center to pay his way through university while earning his bachelor and master of science degrees at Ohio State. He went on to earn a doctorate in plant physiology at the University of Massachusetts and began his teaching career in 1972 as an assistant professor at the University of Illinois.

Michael has published more than 300 scientific and popular papers and articles. His teaching, lectures, seminars, garden study tours, and plant introduction programs have contributed enormously to greater horticultural awareness, and his book *Dirr's Hardy Trees and Shrubs* is one of Timber Press's best selling titles. He has received numerous awards and honors during his career, most recently the Liberty Hyde Bailey Medal from the American Horticulture Society. Today, he travels widely to lecture, teach, and form new opinions of plants.

Maryann Frazier received a B. S. in Agriculture Education from Penn State University in 1980. In 1983 she completed a Masters of Agriculture in Entomology, specializing in apiculture. She has worked as the assistant state apiary inspector in Maryland and for two years as a beekeeping specialist in Sudan and later in Central America. For the past 22 years she has held the position of Senior Extension Associate in the Department of Entomology at Penn State and is responsible for honeybee extension throughout the state and cooperatively across the Mid-Atlantic region.

Jeff Gillman is the author of five books on gardening and the environment. He is a former Associate Professor in the Department of Horticultural Science at the University of Minnesota, and is currently an Instructor in the Department of Horticulture Technology at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, North Carolina.



PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND ME YOUR SPEAKERS AND
THEIR INFO FOR THE DIRECTORY I'M HOPING TO
FORMAT – EVEN THOSE IN THE PAST.

*As long as we have memories, Yesterday remains;
As long as we have hope, Tomorrow waits;
As long as we have friendship, Today is beautiful.*