



Trumpet Vine

Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania District VII



OCT, NOV, DEC, 2014 **Jackie Stempfer, Editor**
If only I could grow green stuff in my garden like I can in my refrigerator.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear District II Garden Club members,
Several days ago I was installed as the new District Director at the District Annual Meeting held at the Edgewood C.C. The theme for my term will be "Why not?" (try it). The Meeting was attended by our State President, Betsy Smith and her two Vice Presidents, Sharon Brown and Christine Leskosky. They spoke to us about our state organization the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania. One of the talks was about the GCFP schools. Did you know that currently there are several schools being offered in Pennsylvania? Flower Show School (Course II) is being held October 14-16 in Wyomissing, Landscape Design School (Course III) will follow on November 16-18 Lancaster. If these are too far, Garden Study School (Course II) is set for March 25-26, 2015 in Bedford. I took Course I in August, it was very informative and I am looking forward to Course II. You can begin a school with any course, they do not have to be in numerical order. You should take a look at the course descriptions and plan to begin soon. It usually takes two years to complete a school. In two years you will be two years older whether or not you take a course, why not be more informed about something you have an interest in? Why not??

In closing, it would be wrong to forego some words of thanks. First to my Mom, Mildred Schorr, for being the best inspiration a daughter could have. In her nineties Mom is still a hands-on member of the Burrellton G.C. We have shared many hours working on Club projects since 1981. I would also like to acknowledge my predecessor, Iris Cisarik, for keeping me by her side and re-introducing me to District VII following my retirement from teaching.

I look forward to being invited to your clubs, meeting each of you and working with you for the next two years.

Remember to ask "Why not?"

With highest regards,
Leeanna Ryba, Director, District VII, rybar@nb.net

BURRELLTON GARDEN CLUB



- Oct 14:** Bees and Butterflies "Pollinators"
Drew Bell, B.S. Entomology
Nov 11: Horticulture/workshop
Nov 29: Annual Christmas luncheon and
installation of 2015 officers.

GARDEN CLUB OF MONROEVILLE



- Oct 8:** Earthworms
Nov 12: Building a cornucopia
Dec 10: Christmas party

GARDEN CLUB OF FOREST HILLS



- Oct 2:** Fall Fest; Special Event of 2014
Amy Shugerman Glasser will demonstrate
a fall arrangement.
Nov 6; "Care for Holiday Plants & Greens
By Dave Buresch
Dec 4: Holiday Luncheon

GARDENS LIMITED



- Oct 14:** Green Oaks
Nov 11: Phipps
Dec: Holiday party

GARDEN CLUB OF MCKEESPORT



**Our 30th Annual Holiday Sale will be held
December 4th- 7th**

The sale will take place at our Clubhouse
and we will be open from 10am until 6pm
each day. We will have live greens and
wreaths, Holiday designs and gifts, Garden
Art, Pressed florals, Kids Korner, floral
designs, and even a Bake Sale. All
proceeds go into the upkeep of our beautiful
Arboretum and Rose garden. For more
information you call 412-672-1050, or visit
our web site at
www.gardenclubofmckeesport.org. Our
address is 1400 Pinoak Drive, McKeesport
Pa. 15132

HIGHLAND PARK GARDEN CLUB



**"CONGRATULATIONS ON
OFFICALLY BECOMING A
DISTRICT-7 MEMBER
WELCOME ABOARD"**

HOME GARDENER'S GUILD



- Oct 9:** Harvest Wreath
Nov 13: Making decorations for Renzie
Christmas Tree
Dec 11: Installation of Officers

JOYFUL BLOOMERS



- Oct 1:** “She who loves the colors of fall” – Nature prints by Sally Buchleitner
Nov 5: “She who loves to decorate a tree” – Tree ornament workshop
Dec 3: “She who loves to be Merry” – Christmas Party and installation of officers

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SOCIETY OF WESTERN PA



- Oct 17:** Visit to Phipps Conservatory and outdoor garden

MURRYSVILLE GARDEN CLUB



- Oct 2:** Presidents Luncheon – “Flowers on Broadway:
Nov 6: Nature Printing – Gudrun Garkisch
De 4: Holiday party

The club participated in the local Community Day Event



Grow Pittsburgh hosts a series of free gardening workshops. The next available workshop is *School Gardens: From the Ground Up*, 9:30-11:30, Saturday, Oct. 25. Are you interested in increasing your participation in the Junior Gardeners program? Then this workshop may be for you. For more information and to sign up, go to www.growpittsburgh.org/2013cge/

**Make peace with your past
so it won't spoil the present.**



PUCKETOS GARDEN CLUB



Oct 6: (President's Invitational) Garden History & Design in Western Pennsylvania – by Carol Chernega

Nov 3: The Outposts of Protection in the Valley – by Rev. Reid Stewart

Dec 1: Christmas party



Pucketos Garden Club Has Double Celebration - Area Youth and Memorial Day

Pucketos Garden Club celebrated two wonderful events on May 16, 2014 – the awards program for poetry and poster contest participants and winners and Memorial Day. The third-grade children at two local elementary schools, Fort Crawford and Martin, both located in New Kensington, participated in the events at their respective schools. Also participating were Ranger Brian Vinsky as well as the JROTC Cadets from Valley High School, under the supervision of Major John Skovran. Pucketos Garden Club members, Dorothea David, Marsha Ewing, Althea Joseph, Judy Rhine, Judy Schaffer, Teddy Emberg, and Gretchen McKelvey were also in attendance.

The programs began with the JROTC Cadets and Major Skovran presenting the colors. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and words of appreciation to the students and teachers for their participation in the contests. Ranger Brian Vinsky next reminded the students of the safety measures that must be practiced when camping, in the home, in parks, and anywhere where fire is being used.

Following the presentation of awards for participation and winning, the JROTC Cadets told the students about the observance of Memorial Day. This was followed by a question-answer session, during which students who answered correctly were given a small prize. The Cadets then demonstrated how to properly fold the American flag. Every student was given the opportunity to fold the flag with the Cadets. The colors were then retreated.

The teachers from Martin Elementary School whose students participated in the contests were Mrs. Carrol, Mrs. Erg, and Mrs. Malitis. The following students were winners: Best Message Awards – Dylan Gentile, Mia Katona, and Zack Doran; Bold and Fresh Awards – Ethan Marclrode, Oona Fleischman, and Crystal Savko.

The teachers from Fort Crawford Elementary School whose students participated in the contests were Mr. Kissel, Dr. Chicka, and Ms. Miller. The following students were winners: Best Message Awards – Henry Young, Ethan Navaleski, and Nick Swierczewski; Bold and Fresh Awards – Grace Josefoski, Athena Burns, and Cade Robertson.

Fort Crawford School also had two state winners: Athena Burns won First Place in the third grade category, and Ethan Navaleski won Second Place in the third grade category. Both children were students of Dr. Chicka.



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



According to Albert Einstein, if honey bees were to disappear from earth, humans would be dead within 4-years.



Keep that amaryllis going! by Kitty Pottmeyer

If cared for properly, amaryllis will last up to forty years, producing larger leaves and multiple stalks over time. The trick is to simulate the weather cycles that trigger bud formation and blooming. Once the flowers are spent, cut them off with pruning shears. The bulb should be nestled in soil up to its shoulders in a pot two inches wider than the bulb. Disturb the roots as little as possible if repotting. In winter, place the pot in the sunniest spot in the house, watering and feeding it with a balanced fertilizer. The strap-like leaves should emerge. In summer, move the plant outdoors and continue this regimen. About 18 weeks before you'd like the bulb to bloom, stop watering and fertilizing the plant entirely. Move it indoors to a dark dry place no warmer than 68° for at least 8 weeks. About 10 weeks before you'd like the plant to bloom, bring it back into a warm, bright room, and resume watering. Keep the soil barely moist until the flower bud emerges, and then keep soil evenly moist. The bloom will last longest in a cool spot that is bright but not in direct sun. When the flowers fade, your amaryllis can begin the cycle anew.

"The philosopher who said that work well done never needs doing over, never weeded a garden."

Judy's Jottings



“Everybody Needs Some Garlic”



Do you have GARLIC planted in your garden?

Whether you grow it to cook with or to ward off the evil spirits, garlic is a gardener's must!

“You can never have enough garlic. With enough garlic, you can eat the New York Times.” - Morley Safer

Since I don't have an actual garden and you know that I don't cook, I buy garlic to hang in my apartment, especially during late fall around Halloween. (A braid of garlic currently costs \$9.99 in my local supermarket) Vampires Beware at Judy's Place!

Superstitions and folklore abound through the ages around the subject of garlic. Did you know:

- + Egyptian slaves were given a daily ration of garlic, as it was believed to ward off illness and to increase strength and endurance. The slaves actually went on strike when garlic was to be eliminated from their diet while building the pyramids.
- + Fifteen pounds of garlic would buy a healthy male slave in Egypt.
- + Koreans of old ate pickled garlic before passing through dangerous mountain paths, believing that tigers disliked it and would leave them alone.
- + Roman soldiers ate garlic to inspire them and give them courage. Roman generals planted fields of garlic in the countries they conquered, believing that courage was transferred to the battlefield.
- + Central European folk beliefs considered garlic a powerful ward against devils, werewolves and vampires. To ward off vampires, garlic could be worn on one's person, hung in windows, or rubbed on chimneys and keyholes. I hang it in my front window!
- + Dreaming that there is “garlic in the house” is supposedly lucky; to dream about eating garlic means you will discover hidden secrets.

The ancient Greek word for garlic was scorodon. It was also nicknamed rose puante, or “stinking rose”. It has been used around the world to treat many conditions, including hypertension, infections, and snakebites. Garlic has a reputation for protecting people from mosquito bites – the “touch of the vampire”.

During World War I, the Russian army used garlic to treat wounds incurred by soldiers on the Front Lines. It became known as the “Russian Penicillin”.

Here’s another remedy found in this poem-----

If you’ve a cold inside your nose
Find a place where Garlic grows
With onions, simmered in a pot
Drink it while it’s nice and hot
If you partake of this fine soup
You will no longer feel like poop
Believe me for I know quite well
There’s more to Garlic than the smell.

Are you ready to plant some garlic?

Now is the perfect planting time – from September 15 to November 30.

Optimum time is October after the first light frost. With our strange changing seasonal weather, do it now! August was already showing early signs of fall this year.

Here are some tips for choosing the perfect garlic bulb:

- Select bulbs that are completely dry.
- Choose bulbs whose cloves are plumb and firm.
- Look for plenty of papery sheath.
- Avoid soft or crumbly cloves; spongy or shriveled cloves; bulbs or cloves with green shoots.

Where should you buy your garlic?

You can buy grocery-store garlic and plant it –it’s less expensive than garlic starts from a seed catalog – but the cents you save might not be worth the disease problems you can get. Go to a local feed store or buy from a reputable catalog. You’ll save all kinds of time and trouble in the long run. The problem with grocery-store garlic is that no one inspects it. That’s because they expect you to eat it, not plant it.

Garlic is a heavy feeder and likes a soil with a pH of about 6.5, loose and rich with lots of organic matter to provide good drainage. Plant the cloves root end down, pointed end up, 6 to 8 inches apart. Cover with 2 inches of soil and 6 inches of mulch.

Many gardeners want the fresh garlic flavor fast, thus they grow “green garlic”. Use the garlic cloves but space them closer together (less than 5 inches apart) Give them 2 doses of fertilizer per year (once when planting and then again in the spring). The curly stems which appear are called “Scapes” and form as the garlic matures. Cut them off after they are around 6 inches long. The cloves will again grow scapes several more times during the season.

Garlic greens make a quick solution when you get a craving for pesto in the early spring. Here is a recipe from Frank Pollock, a garlic grower from Pennsylvania:

Extra-Early (Garlic) Pesto

- 2 to 3 cups chopped garlic greens
- ¼ cup grated Parmesan or ¼ cup ricotta cheese
- Olive oil
- Salt
- Pepper

Chop the garlic greens in a blender and mix in the cheese. Blend in olive oil until the mixture becomes a smooth paste. Add salt and pepper to taste and serve over pasta.

Frank Pollock is a Westmoreland Native that became famous for his garlic growing. He graduated from St. Vincent's College in Latrobe in 1963. In 1980 he gave up a lucrative career to produce locally grown sustainable organic crops on his family farm called Rolling Hills located in Saylorsburg. He was known for his truck decorated with a huge garlic bulb replica from which he sold his garlic vinegar. He became well known as a expert garlic farmer in northeastern Pennsylvania and his products are still sold today. He was one of the founders of the Pocono Garlic Festival held annually at Shawnee Mountain. This year the festival was held August 30 and 31.

Add something new to your fall garden – plant garlic.

Submitted by Judith Schaffer
Pucketos Garden Club



GREENSBURG GARDEN CLUB

Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 11! Back by popular demand, the Greensburg Garden Center will sponsor a bus trip to the Stan Hywet Mansion for "Christmas Around the World". Key rooms in the manor will be decorated to reflect traditions of countries around the world. The estate will be decorated with 800,000 lights in the outdoor lighting display, "Dazzle". Musicians will perform in the music room and the new "Gingerbread Village" will be on display outside the conservatory. The bus will depart from the Garden Center at 12:30 pm and be back at approximately 10:00pm. Cost is \$75 for members, \$80 for non-members. Deadline for sign-ups is Thursday, November 6th. Please call GGC at (724)837-0245 for more details



?DID YOU KNOW?

FLOWER:

October: Calendula, cosmos

November: Chrysanthemum

December: Narcissus, holly

BIRTHSTONE:

October: Opal, tourmaline, pink sapphire

November: Topaz, citrine

December: Turquoise, zircon

MEANING:

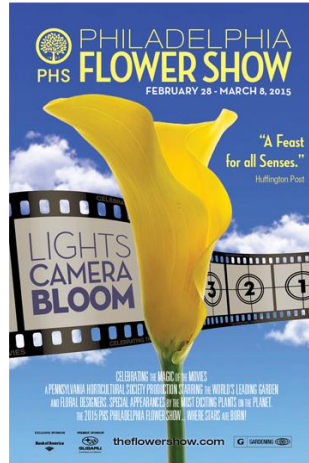
Hope

Fidelity

Prosperity

A few special and “odd” days for each month (there are many more):

- Oct**
- 1 [International Day for the Elderly](#)
 - 3 [World Smile Day](#) first Friday of month
 - 3 [Yom Kippur](#)
 - 8 [Sukkot](#) begins at sundown
 - 13 [Columbus Day](#) observed on second Monday
 - 13 Thanksgiving Day in Canada, 2nd Monday
 - 16 [Boss's Day](#)
 - 18 [Sweetest Day](#) 3rd Saturday
 - 24 [United Nations Day](#)
 - 25 [Make a Difference Day](#) 4th Saturday
 - 31 [Halloween](#)
- Nov**
- 1 [All Saint's Day](#)
 - 1 [Dia de los Muertos \(Day of the Dead\)](#)
 - 2 Daylight Savings time ends gain 1 hour of sleep
 - 3 [All Soul's Day](#) - usually on the 2nd
 - 4 [Election Day](#) -please exercise your right to vote
 - 11 [Veteran's Day](#)
 - 13 [Sadie Hawkins Day](#)
 - 20 [Universal Children's Day](#)
 - 27 [Thanksgiving Day](#)
 - 28 [Black Friday](#)
 - 30 [Advent](#) begins
- Dec**
- 7 Pearl Harbor Day
 - 12 [Poinsettia Day](#)
 - 16 [Chanukah](#) lasts 8 days
 - 21 [Winter Solstice](#) (shortest day of the year)
 - 23 [Festivus](#) -
 - 25 [Christmas](#)
 - 26 [Kwanzaa](#)
 - 27 [National Fruitcake Day](#)
 - 31 [New Year's Eve](#)



The PHS Philadelphia Flower Show is an annual event at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in March. It is the world's oldest and largest indoor flower show, attracting more than 260,000 people annually. The Show features large-scale gardens, elaborate landscapes, and over-the-top floral creations.

Visitors to the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show are treated to fabulous design, live entertainment, culinary demonstrations, gardening how-to workshops, and lectures by experts. Show week begins with an exclusive black-tie Preview Party and After Party, one of Philadelphia's premier events.

Proceeds from the Show support PHS, particularly the City Harvest program, which feeds more than 1,200 families each week during the growing season.

Dates & Times

The 2015 Flower Show opens on Saturday, February 28 and will close on Sunday, March 8. The Preview Party will be held on the evening of Friday, February 27.

Show Hours	
Friday, February 27 (PHS members preview)	12:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Saturday, February 28 (PHS members preview)	8:00 am - 11:00 am
Saturday, February 28	11:00 am - 9:00 pm
Sunday, March 1	8:00 am - 9:00 pm
Mon. - Fri., March 2-6	10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Saturday, March 7	8:00 am - 9:00 pm
Sunday, March 8	8:00 am - 6:00 pm