

# CAR Review



Monica Hansen, Director



## From Our Director:

### **Theme: TOGETHER WE'LL PLANT AMERICA FOR A CLEANER, GREENER AND HEALTHIER WORLD!**

Central Atlantic Region of State  
Garden Clubs: [www.car-sgc.org](http://www.car-sgc.org)

Delaware Federation of Garden  
Clubs: Ginny Cardona  
[www.delawaregardenclubs.org](http://www.delawaregardenclubs.org)

Federated Garden Clubs of  
Maryland, Inc.: Susan Middleton  
[www.fgcofmd.org](http://www.fgcofmd.org)

National Capital Area Garden Clubs,  
Inc.: Barbara Kiker  
[www.ncagardenclubs.org](http://www.ncagardenclubs.org)

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*Caroline Carbaugh, Editor*  
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Wow, spring has arrived - well maybe! As I write this, I'm looking out the window at a sprinkling of snowflakes while the other day it was 73 degrees! But the daffodils, hellebores and forsythia are out so we know the weeds won't be far behind!

I have been so honored to be invited to many of our State Garden Clubs' Annual Meetings and have thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many of our members – it has been a wonderful opportunity to hear about all the projects our member Clubs are involved with. We are such a creative and caring group and I'm so pleased to be a part of it. Sharing these ideas and activities among each other is so important to keep us strong and growing.

While I was our FGCNYS President, we began our State Family Outreach project. Our Clubs worked with local libraries to provide cute bags, along with fun and educational seasonal gardening supplies available for children to keep when they borrowed books. This is another way to teach children as well as their parents about the importance of saving our environment for the future and advancing our goals to Plant America for a Cleaner, Greener and Healthier World!

I wanted to implement something similar for CAR and asked Arlene Stewart, our "bag lady" from our National Capital Area, to work on this project. Since many of our members have purchased the NGC books that our NGC President Brenda Moore has written, we thought we'd focus on those to get us started. Arlene has produced a worksheet for each of these four books and on these samples, she has provided ideas about this project and creative ways for the children to expand their thinking and other fun activities.

Arlene has more detailed information in this edition of our CAR Review and further information will be posted on our CAR-SGC website shortly.

And Jo Sellers, our “bean lady” also from NCA, has a Bean Baby Project which will also be fun to incorporate into your activities, leading to a Cleaner, Greener and Healthier World.

Again, I ask that all of you be ambassadors for our entire organization and share the information you have received through publications, through talks and informative sessions or simply by interacting with each other.

**Monica Hansen,  
CAR-SGC Region Director 2023-2025**



*Allee of spring blooms at Oak Spring Garden, Home of Bunny Mellon in VA*

## CAR-SGC Conference 2024

October 22-23, 2024

The Olde Mill Inn, Basking Ridge, NJ

*Come join us in the historic Somerset Hills in autumn!*

**Theme: Wonders of the Garden State  
Speakers-Workshops-Vendors-Trips**

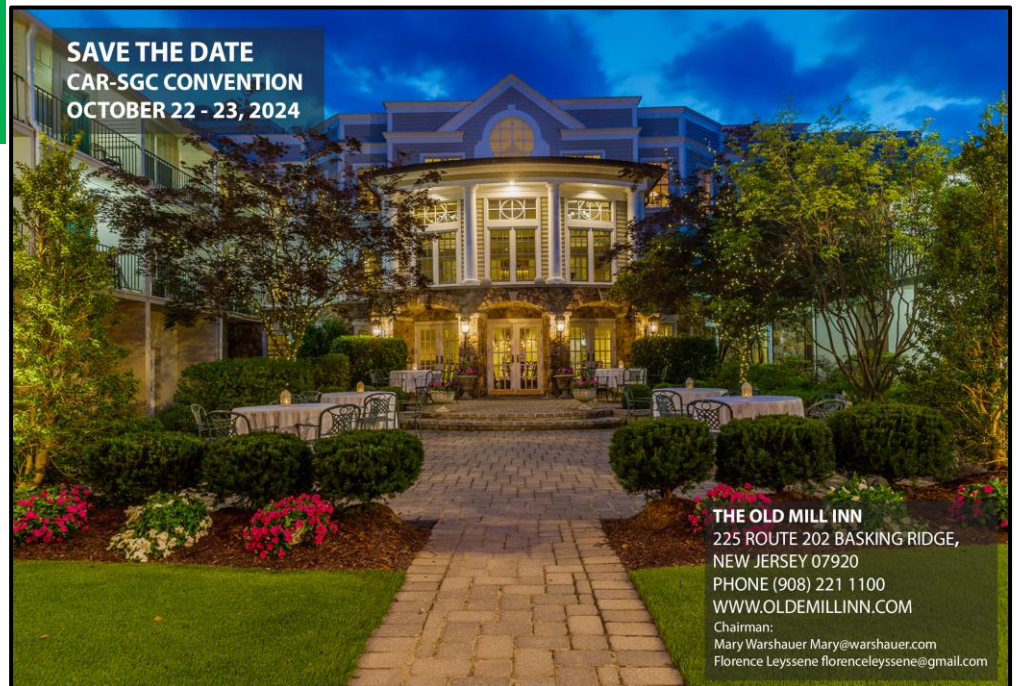
**Hosted by the Garden Club of New Jersey**

**Conference 2024 Chairmen:  
Mary Warshauer & Florence Leysène**

**GCNJ President: Beverly Kazickas**

**Contents:**

- Director’s Column ..... 1
- 2024 CAR Conference ..... 2
- States ..... 3
- Container Gardening ..... 9
- Sustainable Gardening ..... 9
- Herbaceous Perennials ..... 10
- Youth Books ..... 11
- National Garden Week ..... 11
- Youth Sculpture Contest ..... 12
- CAR-SGC Life Members ..... 13
- Schools .....13



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## From Our States:

### Delaware



**Ginny Cardona**

Our Delaware Garden Clubs are busy with their plans for community gardens, projects, and flower shows. The beneficiaries of their energy are too numerous to list. As a Federation, there are four organizations we support on a state level with our time and expertise.

The Delaware Nature Society was founded in 1964 and is the state affiliate for the National Wildlife Federation. It is known for its educational programming, conservation, and advocacy. DFGC Board member Suzanne Smith serves on the Nature Society Board. DFGC members volunteer at the numerous nature centers, parks, and a working farm in addition to enjoying the fun and interesting programs.

The DFGC was a founding member of the Delaware Center for Horticulture in 1977. The DCH is the only statewide nonprofit membership organization that focuses on community greening of urban environments. DFGC Board Member MaryBeth Johns represents the DFGC on the Board of Directors and is co-chairing the current capital campaign. Other DFGC members serve on the Council of Advisors.



**Delaware Center for Horticulture Garden Club members at the October Hard Hat event**

**Photo by Ginny Cardona**

When a small local group decided to form the Delaware Botanic Gardens in 2012, DFGC members were on board. The TREE-mendous Tree Project began as Lisa Arni's President's Project in 2017 and raised thousands of dollars to plant the woodland area adjacent to the meadow. In addition, club members donate countless hours to maintain the Botanic Gardens. We are all looking forward to the DBG's newest project, the Eagle Cam, to watch the local wildlife.



**Delaware Nature Society Movable chicken house at Coverdale Farms**

**Photo by MaryBeth Johns**

The Memorial Garden for the Families of the Fallen at Dover Air Force Base also began as a DFGC President's Project. The garden serves as a place of quiet reflection as family members await the return of their fallen loved ones. Alice Witterholt's idea was funded with grants and generous donations from Garden Clubs throughout the country. Since the garden's dedication in 2011, the DFGC continues to maintain the garden with those initial donations, and Board member Regina Brown works her magic to navigate the maze of military protocol. We hope to continue to maintain the Memorial Garden for many years.

**Memorial Garden for the Families of the Fallen**

**Photo by Ken Arni**



Our diverse club projects showcase our varied interests, but our longstanding DFGC projects unite us as the Federation.

**Ginny Cardona, President,  
Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**

## Maryland



**Susie Middleton** March is Maryland’s Month to hold all of our Annual Meetings – that includes five Districts and ends with the State Meeting. In addition to a Business Meeting, each group has their own traditions including awards a memorial service, centerpieces for sale, vendors, silent auction, lunch and ending with a speaker and presentation. One of our Districts broke off from the traditional method of having clubs report by asking three of them to create educational exhibits showcasing their club, an activity or a project. Members manned their exhibit, answering questions and frequently selling items they had made. It is a great way to make the reporting process interactive.

We were fortunate to have Regional Director Monica Hansen attend our State Meeting and assist in presenting our Awards. Several of our awards are large silver trophies. They used to go home “on loan” to the winner.....until we had them appraised. Now the winner gets to hold them for a photo op.



*Governor’s Beautification Bowl - Four Seasons Garden Club “Earth Day Project with Girls Scouts”  
I to r Susie Middleton, Anne Heavner, President Four Seasons, Monica Hansen Photo by Jenny Henry*

Maryland is focusing on all we can do to be more environmentally conscious.

- Our annual meeting speaker, Jane Godshalk, demonstrated 5 different eco-friendly design techniques.
- We created a Climate Pledge for Clubs and Members.
- We have given 7 grants to clubs for projects designed to improve the environment or educate the community.
- On May 1<sup>st</sup> we will hold “Campaign for Nature” a one-day environmental event with five speakers followed by Garden School Course 4 and then Environmental School in the Fall.
- Spring is the time for Plant Sales – many featuring native plants. One of the clubs shared this advice. Don’t organize plants in alpha order, sales improve when they are organized by growing conditions.
- Our daffodils are in bloom and we have two Daffodil Flower Shows this spring.

In short, we are back! Our garden clubs are doing more than ever and having an impact.



**Jane Godshalk design  
Photo by Gail Willen**

**Susie Middleton, President,  
Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland**

## Daffodils in Maryland

The arrival of Spring heralded the annual Federated Garden Clubs of MD District II/American Daffodil Society Daffodil show. Last Fall, Bayside Bloomers planted 700 bulbs coordinating bloom times to coincide with the show on the church property where the show is held. Almost all clubs in the district participated in some aspect of the show. Despite the

unseasonably warm weather and three days of rain, many daffodil growers from across Maryland and beyond entered almost 250 horticulture entries. Several daffodil collections received top ADS awards including the Marie Bozievich Ribbon and the Elise Havens Ribbon.



**Capital Columns at the National Arboretum**

The National Capital Area had its General Spring Meeting at the National Arboretum which featured an Ikebana program and the Awards.



The design section was outstanding.

**Best of Show Design winner Ann Street's Exhibition Table**

*Photo by Anna O'Kelly*



**Arlene Stewart demonstrating floral design**



**A sampling of entries**  
*Photo by Allison Williams*

**Anna O'Kelly, Chairman, FGCMJ Judges Council**



**Daffodil entries at a Flower Show**

## National Capital Area



The clubs in the National Capital Area celebrated spring with floral shows, daffodil horticulture shows, floral demonstrations, and club anniversaries.

**Barb Kiker**



**Flower Show design**

We are continuing to support 2 of our scholarship winners and have added 2 others. Lani Furbaur will attend the Culinary Institute of America and will study sustainable food in America, and Meg Smulinsei will attend Notre Dame and study plant science and Landscape Architecture. Each student will receive a \$5,000 grant.

We were delighted to award Connor Lyon, grandson of an NCA member, the Youth Poetry Award!



**Barb Kiker, President,  
National Capital Area Garden Clubs**

### New Jersey

Spring and all its beauty have arrived in New Jersey ... so has a busy schedule as the GCNJ plans for a number of upcoming events. In April, GCNJ will hold Flower Show School, Course 1 at Holly House, East Brunswick. Flower Show Procedures will be held via zoom followed by Horticulture and Design which will be held in-person.



**Beverly Kazickas**



**District VIII Meeting March 2024**

Also coming up, GCNJ's District Spring Meetings hosted by our District Directors. Two meetings were already held in March with two more meetings scheduled for April and four meetings planned in May.

**District  
IV  
Meeting  
March  
2024**

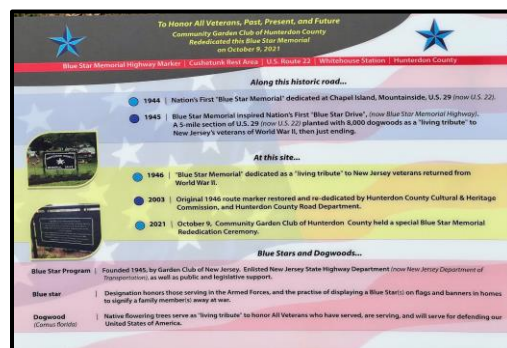


The Blue Star Memorial program is a great source of pride for New Jersey, with the project originating here back in 1944 as a remembrance of veterans from World War II. Dedication ceremonies for two Gold Star Memorials and two Blue Star Memorials are planned for this spring. Blue Star markers will be dedicated in Sussex County on April 27 and in Hudson County on May 4.

Today, Blue Star Memorial markers are scattered throughout New Jersey with at least one memorial installed in every one of the state's 21 counties. Additionally, New Jersey has 2 Gold Star Memorial markers with the first one installed in Gloucester County in 2022 and a second Gold Star Memorial installed in Sparta Township being dedicated on May 18.

**GCNJ's historic Blue  
Star Memorial Drive  
established in 1946**

**Photos by Beverly  
Kazickas**



**Signage in Whitehouse Station outlines the GCNJ's origination  
of Blue Star Memorial markers dating back to 1944**

The GCNJ's 98th Annual Meeting will be held at Rutgers Gardens on June 18. Our theme "Picnic in the Garden" will emphasize the informal gathering while including a business meeting, awards, scholarships, installation of officers, and program on Rutgers Gardens followed by a tour.

Lastly, the GCNJ looks forward to hosting the CAR 2024 Conference on October 22-23 at the historic Olde Mill Inn in Basking Ridge. The committee has put together a wonderful line-up of speakers, workshops, vendors and much more. Hope to see you there!

**Beverly Kazickas, President,  
Garden Club of New Jersey**

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## New York



**Donna Sessa**

The Federation of Garden Clubs of New York State (FGCNYS) is gearing up for a historic Celebration as it marks its 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary with a grand Gala on May 7, 2024 at the prestigious Desmond Hotel in Albany, New York. This

landmark event promises to be a memorable occasion, filled with elegance, nostalgia and a deep appreciation for the organizations century long commitment to fostering a love for gardening and environmental stewardship across the state.

One of the highlights of the evening will be the special tribute to all the Past Presidents of FGCNYS, whose leadership and dedication have played a pivotal role in shaping the organization over the decades. Among the esteemed honorees is Jeanne Nelson, former FGCNYS President and former Central Atlantic Region Director, who has left an indelible mark on our legacy. In addition to honoring Past Presidents, the Gala will also have a commemorative tribute journal, showcasing historical highlights, and memories.

The Gala at the Desmond follows the 2024 Annual Convention May 6-7 which will feature several prominent photography experts. Lori Adams will speak on Composition and Color in Botanical Photography, and Carl Heilman II delivers "Perfect

Pictures Every Time". A Washington Park Tulip Festival tour and Photography Workshop will follow.

Highlights of the convention include Michele Peters, Owner and Designer, Ambiance Florals and Events who will design wonderful arrangements for a celebration. Kerry Mendez, our keynote speaker will speak on POWERING UP GARDEN BEAUTY, POWER DOWN GARDEN MAINTENANCE.

Making this week in May even more important in New York State is the Celebrate, Go Wild, Grow Wild Symposium May 8-9 at the Desmond. With speakers Darlene Newell, David Robson and Frances Trash this promises to be an extremely timely and informational meeting for all CAR-SGC members.

Come join us in Albany for all or part of these wonderful events as FGCNYS embarks on its next century of empowering gardeners, preserving natural resources, and nurturing the beauty of landscapes. We honor the past, celebrate the present and embrace the future of garden clubs of NGC, CAR-SGC and FGCNYS.

For more information about how to participate, please visit the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State website at [www.fgcnys.com](http://www.fgcnys.com).

**Donna Sessa, President,  
Federated Garden Clubs of New York State**

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## Ohio



**Kathy Wagner**

The Garden Club of Ohio is excited about our 96<sup>th</sup> Convention being held this month in Cleveland. The committee have planned three fun-filled days - workshops include, Making Luminaries with Pressed Flowers, and

Speaker Programs on Wildlife Restoration and Urban Food Recycling.

Our six districts have planned their spring meetings for May. This year's program is presented by Cleo Lehman, fellow member of GCO, Horticulturist and Master Judge. We will look forward to her program "Let's Talk Containers."

As Garden Club of Ohio President, I am very pleased to announce the CAR-SGC Perennial Bloom Award Winner is Karen Martens. She is a member of Northview Buckeye Garden Club - Columbus District. Her club members describe her as a valuable, dependable member who fits the criteria of the Perennial Bloom Award. Congratulations Karen!!

Several of our clubs have celebrated many years of club membership. We are so proud of all their accomplishments - they are dedicated and committed to GCO and all that it represents. They have celebrated 25-95 years of club membership.

**Kathy Wagner, President,  
Garden Club of Ohio**

### **Pennsylvania**



**Leanna Ryba** Pennsylvania's members have been enjoying the hospitality of GCFP District IV, located in and around Lancaster, PA. The 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Petals & Patchwork, was held from April 7-9 in Lancaster. Activities offered included an NGC Standard Flower Show, a Tri-refresher, and the eclipse of the sun. District IV had it all!

Monica Hansen, CAR-SGC Director, was our honored guest. She enjoyed interacting with GCFP members and members attending were happy to meet and share her company.

Program speakers were Karl Gercens of Longwood Gardens who spoke about "Dessert Plants for Your Garden", Andrew Bunting of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society whose presentation was "Flourishing Through Sustainability" and Dr. Richard Olsen, Director of the U.S. Arboretum who took us on "An Arboreal Amble". On Tuesday the Judges Council presented "A Perfect Harmony: Floral Designs Inspired by Quilts". Darlene Schardt of the York Co. Quilters' Guild and Steven Cox Floral Designer at Longwood Gardens combined their talents.

GCFP concluded Course IV of NGC Flower Show School in October 2023. There are twenty-two new

Student Judges working on Accreditation. The NGC Standard Flower Show offered them the opportunity to earn blue ribbons in design and horticulture. Everyone attending the Convention took pleasure in the Petals & Patchwork Show.

**Steven Cox,  
Longwood  
Gardens**



**Darlene Schardt, York Quilters' Guild**

The thirteen GCFP Scholarships were awarded by Sandra Hendricks, Scholarship Chair and her Committee. We are proud to support high school, university, and graduate students in their studies of garden related subjects by offering this financial assistance.

Our Gold Seal Award recipient was Marilyn C. Backus of District VII. The Gold Seal Award is awarded to an individual garden club member whose efforts toward the advancement of garden club work have had far reaching influence. Activities of the individual should extend beyond the immediate garden club and community and into other portions of the state or beyond. These efforts should have a lasting influence and should enhance the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania and its objectives.





**Marilyn Backus, Gold Seal  
Award recipient and Leeanna Ryba**



The GCFP thanks Convention Chair Joyce Crider and her two Co-chairs Delores Nolt and Tonya Young for thinking of everything, even solar eclipse glasses, to make our visit to Lancaster memorable.

**Leeanna Ryba, President,  
Garden Club of Pennsylvania**

### **Why Grow Your Own Basil, Oregano & Thyme?**

Need a little incentive to plant patio or garden herbs this year?

Lisa L. Gill's article published in the November 2021 Consumer Reports magazine reported the results of testing 126 products (15 types of dried herbs and spices NOT usually used in baking) from McCormick, Trader Joe's, Whole Foods, Great Value (Walmart), and others. Testers found that 40 had heavy metal (arsenic, lead and cadmium) levels high enough to raise neurological health concerns in children and even adults. If the spices are consumed regularly, that is, ¼ teaspoon or 0.5 g per eating event. In 31 of these products, lead was so high that it exceeded the amount anyone should have in one day. All of the thyme and oregano products were most concerning. A significant finding was that there was no single predictor to signal which products contained higher levels of heavy metals since the brand name, "organic" or "packed in USA" did not correlate to toxicity. The article recommends that anyone using a lot of basil, oregano and thyme should grow and dry their own! Central Atlantic Region Club members are encouraged to grow all three this summer as thrillers, fillers and spillers in a very large patio pot with well-

drained soil under full sun, and then harvest and dry their young leaves as gifts for the kitchens and health of friends and family.



*Herbs in a too small pot (L to R): lemon thyme, Italian parsley, oregano, chives, English thyme, and basil) that will occupy different spaces as they grow.*

### **Healthy Herb Tonic**

*(from Container Garden Magic by Jerry Baker)*

Mix the ingredients listed below in 1 quart of warm water and mist herbs every week:

- 1 Tablespoon of liquid dish soap
- 1 Tablespoon of antiseptic mouthwash
- 1 Tablespoon of ammonia, and
- ¼ cup of tea

The mist takes care of any insects and diseases while giving the plants a gently nutrient boost.

**Marilyn C. Backus, GCFP  
Container and Indoor Gardening**

### **Sustainable Gardening**

The single most important requirement for a lush garden is soil. Soil is the medium in which plants grow. Do you know what type of soil you have?

Yes, there are types of soil.

There is clay soil. This is heavy soil that retains water and cracks when dry. It is difficult to dig and inhibits plant growth. During the frequent heavy rains the northeast has been experiencing, this type of soil is not a gardeners' friend! Adding compost or worm castings will help break up the soil and provide nutrients. Using a pitchfork and someone with a strong back will aid in digging a hole!

There are some plants referred to as “clay busters” these are plants with fibrous root systems which consist of multiple, fine roots that spread out allowing the plant to absorb water and nutrients. Artichokes and Daikon Radish are two vegetable examples. There are many perennial flowers; Aster, Amsonia, Baptisia, Bee Balm, Black Eyed Susan and Coral Bells (Heuchera) to name a few.

Another type of soil is sandy. This soil is quick draining and does not hold water so plants often die from lack of water. Bearded Iris, Blanket Flower, Butterfly Bush, and Butterfly Weed are all examples that do well in sandy soil.

The last soil types are silt and loam which are composed of mostly sand and a smaller amount of clay. Silty soil becomes powdery when dry. Loamy soil breaks apart easily if formed into a ball.

If you don’t know your soil type there are inexpensive test kits available online or you may want to check your local nursery.

Early spring is a perfect time to take some soil samples so you can plant the right plant in the right place and later enjoy the beauty of a thriving garden.

**Jane Madis,**  
**Sustainable Gardening and Xeriscaping**

### **Wanted: Herbaceous Perennial Flower Show Entries**

The *NGC Handbook for Flower Shows* defines an herbaceous perennial as “a plant with soft, succulent tissue (non-woody) usually dying to the ground during the winter in colder climates”. If an NGC Flower Show has exhibits with at least 20 herbaceous perennials during 2024, it is eligible for CAR-SGC’s American Horticultural Society Herbaceous Perennial Award. Documenting photos and a list of botanical names are required. Each of our 7 states can have a winner.



Club, district and state shows are eligible. See the website for details.

Photos and a list of botanical names can both easily be obtained



on the day of an NGC Flower Show. Gathering information later is more of a challenge.

We have one applicant for the 2023 calendar year. Let’s have seven for the 2024 calendar year. Applying is Easy!

**Shirley Nicolai,**  
**AHS Regional Perennial Award Chair**

### **Air Quality/Water Conservation**

Latest data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and university researchers show that global ocean temperatures have been breaking daily records. Average ocean temperatures were 0.25 degrees C warmer than the previous year.

Aside from the effects on extreme weather which the US has been enduring with more powerful hurricanes, intense rainfall and heatwaves, the warmer ocean is also having a disastrous effect on global marine life. Recent reports from Australia show the Great Barrier Reef is currently experiencing its seventh mass bleaching event and expectations are it will continue.

Approximately 90% of the world’s excess heat produced by fossil fuels is stored in the oceans. NOAA says we will continue to break records as long as greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere continue to rise.

Food for thought if you are lucky enough to enjoy the ocean this summer.

**Anne Johnston,**  
**Air Quality/Water Conservation Chair**

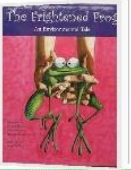
**Garden at Bunny Mellon’s farm in VA**



### Youth Books and Activity Sheets

If you're looking for an easy way to engage youth, and possibly their parents, why not start with a book? NGC has 4 youth books available that cost only \$10 each, and you can print a free activity sheet from the NGC Website which corresponds to each book. The book and activity sheet combination can be used by members of your club who have young children, grandchildren, or neighbors. Does your club have an interest in forming a Junior Garden Club? Start out as a book club and watch it grow. The activity sheets provide topics of discussions along with activities and suggestions for further reading. On the back of each sheet, you can find even more suggestions of activities to engage youth.

**The Frightened Frog | by Brenda Moore, and Jean Ohlmann**



**Summary:**  
Frogs do a lot for our environment, but their homes and lives are in danger.

**Science Topics:**

- Life cycle
- Human impact on nature

**Questions to Discuss:**

- What are some ways the frogs could be helped? Go back through the book and think about solutions to each problem.
- In what ways do frogs help people?
- How do people impact frogs?

**Related Activities:**

- Draw a picture of the frog's life cycle. Remember to include the egg and tadpole stages.
- Visit a local park or nature preserve to observe frogs in their natural environment.
- Check out the workbooks at [gardenclub.org/kids-publications-and-activity-books](https://www.gardenclub.org/kids-publications-and-activity-books)

**Keep Reading:**

PreK-K	1-2	3+
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tadpole to Frog by Lisa M. Harrington</li> <li>• Frog on a Log by Wes Gray</li> <li>• Nature Stories: Little Frog by Katie Taylor and Wednesday Jones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From Tadpole to Frog by Kathleen Weidner-Zesford</li> <li>• What About Frogs? by L. Ben Michaels</li> <li>• Frogs and Toads and Tadpoles, Too by Allan Fowler</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Geographic Kids Readers: Frogs! by Elizabeth Carrey</li> <li>• Frogs by Mic Bishop</li> <li>• One Small Hop by Madelyn Rosenberg</li> </ul>

Are you looking for a way to attract new members? Plan a weekend event for youth and adults, possibly using one of the books and a related activity. As a follow-up, invite the adults to visit your garden club. Find out about their interests and availability and then add new activities to your calendar that they can participate in.

This project was inspired by a NY State project called the Book Bag Project. A book, a bag and an activity were donated to local libraries. As the book was checked out, it came in a fun bag and included an item related to the story. The child could keep the item when the book and bag were returned to the library.

The library staff would replace the giveaway item and the book would be ready to be checked out again.

If you like any of these ideas, you can always take the concept and make it your own. Change up the activities and suggest different books. The NGC youth books and activity sheets can be found at: <https://www.gardenclub.org/kids-publications-and-activity-books>.

Please contact me with questions and ideas.

**Arlene Stewart, Book Bag Project**  
amstewart4@aol.com



**NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK**  
**June 2-8, 2024**

Sponsored by  
**National Garden Clubs, Inc**  
[www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

PLANT AMERICA  
National Garden Clubs

### National Garden Week

I'm looking forward to getting back out in my garden in New Jersey. As the days get longer and the temperatures get warmer, please remember, National Garden Week, June 2-8, 2024, is just around the corner.

A pdf Poster is available on the NGC website under the Forms Library.

<https://www.gardenclub.org/school/forms-library>

Scroll down to National Garden Week where you will find 2 posters. One is fillable so you can add your garden club's name.

Please email me photos of the projects you have done during that week, include the state, name of the club and the project. It will be fun to share these activities with one another from across our region.

As always, Enjoy the love of Gardening,

**Jan Warshauer,**

**CAR-SGC National Garden Week Representative**

[jwarshauer@aol.com](mailto:jwarshauer@aol.com)

### **2024 NGC Youth Sculpture Contest**

The winners of the 2023 NGC Youth Sculpture Contest will be announced at the NGC Convention in Denver. The 2022 first place winner was a fourth grader who created an owl with ten recycled items some of which were egg carton, plastic forks, soda can and pipe cleaners. CAR-SGC had very few entries. Our goal for this year is to have an entry from each state in our Region and we need your help to accomplish this. The contest rules are simple:

- Children in 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade are eligible.
- Sculptures must consist of recyclable, reused and reduced materials.
- Width of the sculpture can be no more than 8 ½ X 11 inches and height should be in proportion to width.
- Entries may include as many photographs as can be printed on the back of the entry form, but two 4x6 photographs are recommended. THE SCULPTURE ITSELF IS NOT SUBMITTED.
- Entries must be sent to the State Youth Chairman observing State Deadlines.
- The State Youth Chairman sends the state first place winner to me, CAR-SGC NGC Youth Sculpture Contest Chair, after the selection has been made, but no later than the end of the year.

The Entry Form is on the NGC website and is easy to complete. In addition to name and contact information, include a list of materials used, describe

the sculpture in 3-5 sentences, send photographs and that's it.

This is a fun and conservation awareness project to do this summer with grandchildren, other young relatives or even neighborhood children. A club or club member may sponsor any of these creative students. Beginning this year, all state first place sculpture winners will receive a CAR-SGC Certificate of Appreciation for entering the contest.

State Presidents, please share this article with your State Youth Chairs.

**Diana Bonner,**

**CAR-SGC NGC Youth Sculpture Contest Chair**

[debonner@verizon.net](mailto:debonner@verizon.net)

(List Subject As Sculpture Contest)

### **Zoom Presentations**

I am a member of the Binghamton (NY) Garden Club and a Master Gardener at Broome County Chapter of Cornell Cooperative Extension. I do Zoom presentations. Here are some of the topics:

Apples, Bogs, Bulbs, Corms, and Tubers, Celebration of St. Valentines Day in Plants, Creating a Butterfly Garden, Grasses, Hostas, House Plants, Hydrangeas, Perennial Gardening, Plant Diseases, Putting Your Garden to Bed, Shade Gardening, Succulents, The Story of Christmas in Plants, Unusual Perennials, Who's that "Shady Lady"?

Times vary. Minimum would be 30 – 35 minutes; maximum 75 minutes. Someone other than me would act as host. They will mute all participants. Questions would be asked when, periodically, I have a "Are there any Questions?" slide. Alternately, as "chat" to the host. The host reads them to me one-by-one, and I answer.

Our Master Gardener program indicates that there is no "admission", but a donation in the amount of \$2.00 P/P is considered satisfactory. Please send a check made out to "Broome County CCE". Mail to: Anthony Antes 545 Conklin Forks Rd. Conklin, NY 13748-1631 [aantes@stny.rr.com](mailto:aantes@stny.rr.com) 607-775-3831 (no text please)

### **CAR-SGC Life Membership Report**

The CAR-SGC has welcomed one new life member since our fall conference. She is Joan Davis, a 54-year member and past president of Presque Isle Garden Club in Erie, PA. She was honored by her club for her dedication as a chair of the plant sale for many years. Her membership fee of \$50 goes directly to the CAR-SGC scholarship fund.

**Claire Leichter,  
CAR-SGC Life Membership Chair**

### **NGC Life Membership**

NGC Life Members are a special group of people. They are people who want to give back to our Membership and our Clubs. People who strive to maintain and encourage NGC projects and goals.

The donation of \$200 aids two wonderful NGC programs that benefit local clubs, our States and all our fellow members: **THE PLANT AMERICA COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND** and **THE PERMANENT HOME AND ENDOWMENT FUND**.

This Fiscal year we have 35 new Life Members with three coming from our Region, the Central Atlantic Region.

So let's get busy! Join today or better yet, give a gift membership to any individual or group deserving an honor or remember someone in your community who shares your passion for garden club interests. Life Members do not need to be a Garden Club Member. A gift for a spouse or family member is always a special way to recognize someone you love.

Applications can be found on the NGC website under Member Resources.

#### **LIFE MEMBERS DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Any questions? Contact Gail Manna, 814-932-3231 or [gcorle1214@gmail.com](mailto:gcorle1214@gmail.com).

Remember all new Life Members in attendance are recognized at the National Convention in Denver this June 2024. Wow!! What an honor .....

**Gail Manna,  
NGC Life Membership Chair, 2021-2025**

### **Vision of Beauty Calendar**



Just a reminder. Please consider taking a photograph or having a photograph taken of your spring or summer floral design(s). It is flower show time. Enter a show and photograph your design. Perhaps you might want to take a photograph of your garden. Spring and summer gardens are my favorite gardens. Your photograph could be considered for inclusion in the Vision of Beauty Calendar. Challenge yourself. Take a picture and submit your photo. Perhaps your entry will be chosen for inclusion in the VOB calendar.

Your design could be traditional, creative, abstract, botanical, artistic craft, seasonal ++. Photographs of a design must be taken in front of a blank seamless background. Do not include any flower show ribbons or entry cards in the image taken.

Complete entry information is on the last pages of the Vision of Beauty Calendar. All submissions are sent and emailed to the **National Garden Club Vision of Beauty Calendar chair Nancy Voyles**.

Vision of Beauty calendars for 2024 are available for \$10 each (+shipping) in the National Garden Club store on [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org).

**Barbara DeRue,  
CAR-SGC VOB Calendar**

### **Schools Being Held by NGC in CAR**

#### **Environmental School:**

Sept. 18 – 19, 2024. McHenry, MD – In-person – Course 4.

#### **Flower Show School:**

None scheduled.

#### **Flower Show Symposium:**

May 1 Zoom and May 8 – 9, 2024. Albany, NY – In-person – **Register:** Laura McLaughlin  
[laurakingmclaughlin@gmail.com](mailto:laurakingmclaughlin@gmail.com)

#### **Gardening School:**

May 08 – 09, 2024. Columbia, MD – In-person – Course 4.

#### **Landscape Design School:**

None scheduled.

