



# DFGC 2018 NEWSLETTER

www.delawaregardenclubs.org Volume 7 Issue 30 October 2018



**A recent photograph of a small portion of the Piet Oudolf meadow at the Delaware Botanic Gardens.**

**Photo by Ken Arni.**

Our TREE-mendous tree planting at the Delaware Botanic Gardens project has contributed 112 tree plantings and counting! At the first annual DBG dinner at the garden the DFGC was listed as a sponsor for all our TREE-mendous efforts to fill the Woodlands with flowering trees. The dinner and the gardens were lovely and about 300 guests attended. Not only was the DFGC name listed in the literature given to each attendee but our engraved bench with DE Federation of Garden Clubs was proudly displayed in the garden on the way from the meadow to the woodlands. The bench was made possible by donations from our DFGC current board members and will be a lasting reminder of our collaboration with DBG.

We are happy to report that Llangollen Garden Club has returned as a DFGC member club! We welcome all the members of our newest addition garden club and look forward to helping them increase their membership in the New Castle area. With the NGC board meeting behind us, we look forward to our CAR-SGC conference in Ohio at the end of October. Remember our November 14 DFGC meeting is our Jewelry Jumble and we are asking you to bring a guest to this meeting. Not only will you be able to purchase jewelry priced right and ready for holiday gift giving but also you will hear from Gregg Tepper, Horticulture Director of the Delaware Botanic Garden as well. Gregg will be giving us an update on the happenings at the DBG. In addition, we will hear a behind the scenes pictorial lecture on decorating the White House during the holidays by talented designer Claire Jones, a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland.

Please make your reservations early and arrive early for best jewelry selection!

Lisa





# *Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs Meeting*

*Wednesday, November 14, 2018*

*Executive Banquet and Conference Center, 205 Executive Drive,  
Newark*

*9:00-Registration-Deadline November 2, \$30 pp, Guests Wel-  
come*

*10:00-Business Meeting*

*11:30-Luncheon*

*1:00-Program*

*“White House **Christmas**”-Behind the Scenes*

*A fascinating look at how Christmas is planned and celebrated  
in the “People’s House”.*

*Presented by Claire Jones-Master Judge chosen to decorate the  
White House in 2011, 2015, and 2017, a horticulturist, landscape  
design consultant, and floral designer.*



*Throughout the day we will sponsor our famous  
“Jewelry Jumble”  
a fundraiser featuring 10 Tables, over 1000 Pieces of  
Jewelry priced to sell*



**DFGC November 14, 2018 Meeting**

(The luncheon date is the 2<sup>nd</sup> vs 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday due to Thanksgiving)

**Location:**    **The Executive Banquet and Conference Center**  
                  **205 Executive Drive**  
                  **Newark, Delaware 19702**

**Highlight:**   **Jewelry Jumble Fund Raiser**

DFGC meeting registration opens at 9AM on the day of the meeting. There will be coffee, snack available, and **jewelry** to shop. The meeting starts at 10 followed by a served lunch and then the program. You are welcome to invite a friend to this meeting to enjoy the lunch, program and shop jewelry. The cost is only \$30 per person. All reservations must be made through your club's treasurer!

Please write your check to your garden club to attend the November DFGC meeting. Your Club Treasurer will then submit one check and a list of attendees to the meeting registrar to be received by Friday November 2, 2018. Your treasurer will also email the registrar at [DFGCregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:DFGCregistrar@gmail.com) the list of your club attendees and advise the registrar of any food restrictions. The registrar will confirm receipt of the reservation email. If your treasurer does not have email access your treasurer must call the registrar 302 239-8535 when the check is sent.

The Host Club for the November meeting is Countryside Garden Club. The registrar for this meeting which will be held on November 14<sup>th</sup> is Ginny Cardona. The deadline for meeting reservations is Friday November 2.

Mail reservation list and check to:

Ginny Cardona  
146 Dantes Drive  
Hockessin, De 19707

Email registration list:           [DFGCregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:DFGCregistrar@gmail.com)  
Phone:                               302 289 8535

## Trees A New Holiday Tradition

Christmas is coming and with it the holiday Christmas tree. While some prefer the ease of an artificial tree, there are still many traditional live tree enthusiasts. And most of the live tree group purchase a cut tree. But here's a thought for both groups to ponder.

Now I realize that most of today's Christmas trees are special raised for the occasion so usually no forests are being decimated in the process. And that most areas have tree collection points where the trees are recycled into mulch. So there is no real argument concerning despoiling the forest or disposal of the trees after the holiday. However the fact remains that you basically pay to "rent" the tree for the holiday season. Why not turn that rent into an investment?

Rather than purchase a large cut tree, consider a smaller plantable tree with a root ball. Yes, it will not be as impressive in size, but a cute smaller tree also makes a memorable scene. There is less tree to make a mess and since it has the roots intact, can better take up water, stay hydrated and drop less needles in the home.

After the holiday season you simply plant the tree in your landscape. Turn it into a family affair and now you have a remembrance of that holiday season. Any youngsters in the family can compare their growth with the trees each holiday to see who grew more, and you add an accent to your yard.

My only suggestion is that you dig the hole for the tree now, before the ground freezes if you plan to plant immediately after Christmas. We have done it then with success but if you do, the less time the tree spends inside the better its chance for survival. We usually put it up 2 to 4 days before Christmas and take it down 2 to 4 days after New Year's Day. We also water well when planting.

You can also keep it until spring for planting. We have kept it in the garage, in a cool dark room in the house, and in a well-lit room in the house. With each we have had more successes than failures. The only cautions are to insure it does not dry out and that no matter which of these choices you make, you will have to gradually acclimate the tree to the full sun in the spring, just like tomato plants started indoors.

So this year, consider a rooted tree for Christmas. It's an addition to your landscape, a reminder of holidays past, and an environmental plus as a carbon collector. (You really didn't think I could write this without an environmental angle did you?)

John Kramarck  
E/L/C Chairman





# Youth Activity Deadlines 2018-19

CONTEST	DEADLINE	THEME for 2018-19	MORE INFO*
Poetry	January 1, 2019	<i>"Pop Goes the Seed"</i>	K thru 9th grades (including Special Ed and ESL)
High School Essay	January 1, 2019	<i>"The Impact of Bottled Water on the Environment and the Water Supply"</i>	9th thru 12 grades; \$1000 scholarship to national winner; 600 to 700 words
Sculpture	January 1, 2019	Encouraging youth to keep our planet green.	4th thru 8th grades; must fit on 8-1/2"x11" piece of paper
High School Distinguished Service Project	Early December	No theme. Any civic project that makes significant public improvement to environment, landscape, horticulture, recycling, etc.	9th thru 12th grades; \$100 for 1st place; \$50 for 2nd place
Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster	Early January	No theme. Allows students to show their understanding of wildfire protection and basic environmental principles.	1st thru 5th grades

\* Full details on all of these contests on the National Gardening Clubs website ([www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)).

**For more information contact:**

Barbara Boyce, Youth Activities Chair  
302-743-6336, [barbarab@systemsapproachltd.com](mailto:barbarab@systemsapproachltd.com)

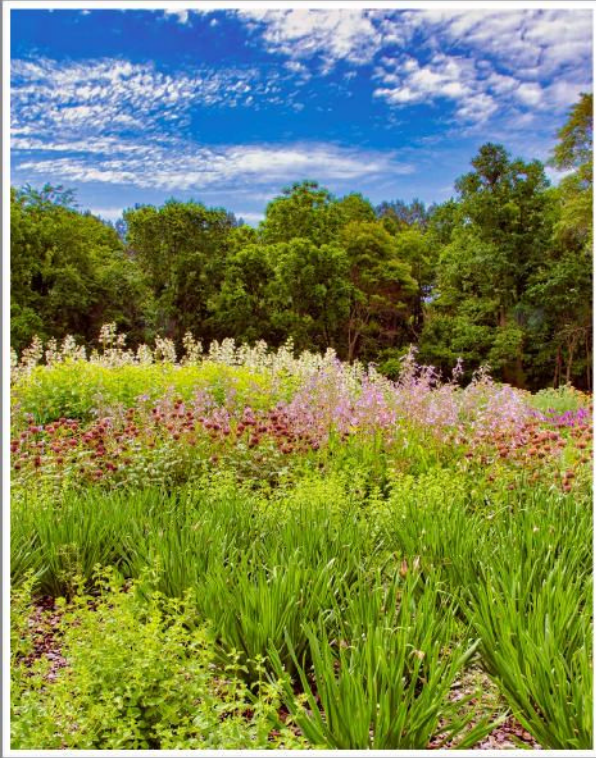
# TREE-mendous Delaware Tree Planting at Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek

Members of Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs (DFGC) raised over Eleven Thousand Dollars since April 2017 to purchase trees for the Woodland Garden at Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek. That's more than four times our original goal for the project and we look forward to ongoing contributions by Delaware Garden Clubs in the coming months. Members also volunteer year-round at the site by planting, weeding, and performing other tasks as needed.

TREE-mendous Delaware Tree Planting at Delaware Botanic Gardens is a high-profile project for DFGC - one that earned Delaware the 2017 NGC National Award of Excellence, National Garden Clubs' highest award for a project by any garden club in the country.

DFGC can be extremely proud of our important role as fundraisers and hands-on participants in bringing this world-class garden to life.

Gates will open to the public in 2019.



This photo of the Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek is featured on the home page of the [DelawareGardenClubs.org](http://DelawareGardenClubs.org)

Please visit [DelawareGardenClubs.org](http://DelawareGardenClubs.org) for more information, and download the beautiful trifold brochure in the Members section of our website for distribution by your garden club.



Hoe 'n Hope Garden Club  
presents

## Fashion & Flowers

a program by  
**Karen Jessee**

“Fashion and Flowers” is a media presentation of Karen’s collection of historic and vintage clothing combined with the unique photographs she took in England. The program presents the iconic images of women’s fashions by decades from the 18th to the 20th centuries connecting the silhouette with the history that inspired it.

In addition to Karren’s excellent program, Designers from Delaware’s Flower Show Judge’s Council will present floral their interpretations of floral arrangements in keeping with the time periods of the fashions in our program. You won’t want to miss this unique opportunity!

Join Hoe 'n Hope Garden Club on November 12, 2018 at 1pm, Limestone Presbyterian Church 3201 Limestone Road, Wilmington Delaware. The doors will open at 12:30 PM with desserts and coffee before the program. The cost is \$5 per person. Reservations recommended.

For more information, contact Peg Irish:  
302 239 9837, [peganni@comcast.net](mailto:peganni@comcast.net)

Our speaker, Karen has taught English, theatre, writing and playwriting. She has also worked and taught behind the scenes in the area’s regional theatres.

Her love of theatre and costuming has led her to the role of Living History Presenter. Her collection of vintage fashions led directly to the development of this award winning presentation. Karen even traveled to England to do extensive research for this historical tribute to fashion.

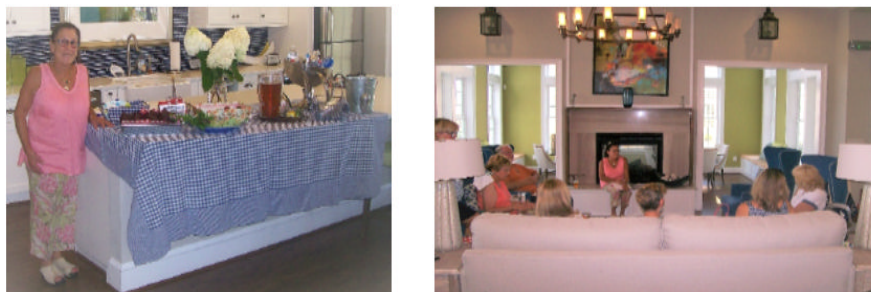




## COASTAL GARDENERS



In June, Laura Martin and Steve Zimmerman hosted *Mimosas on the Deck*, in their lovely yard replete with myriad species of plants and trees. Members mingled and enjoyed Laura's delicious baked goods, cocktails and entrees. In August, our President, Sally Scarangella, organized a *Cape Tours* music cruise and fundraiser. Members took in the sunset as they sailed the Delaware Bay and passed the Delaware Breakwater East Lighthouse. Both events were a huge success!



Chairwoman, Sandra Daniels and her Community Project Committee, were busy visiting sites, and planning for civic projects. Sandra hosted two productive meetings and even shared her culinary talent with members. This committee was busy throughout the summer collaborating with community members and surveying sites in order to determine project need.



This summer members maintained their ongoing commitment to the Center for the Inland Bays by tending the landscape. Likewise, small groups of Coastal Gardeners worked in conjunction with staff and other volunteers in preparation for the September *Dinner Party in the Garden*, Botanical Gardens at Pepper Creek. Our club joined the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Delaware Coastal Clean-Up. We collected 7 bags of debris from Bethany Beach's shores. The year ahead is chock full of possibilities for keeping the First State beautiful! We look forward to working with Sussex County residents on civic projects that benefit all people. Happy Autumn!

# The Potpourri Garden Club

The Potpourri Garden Club of Dover has welcomed in our 2018-2019 club year. Our members are busy engaging in club activities. As our President Diane Crom has stated, some people may think that membership in a garden club isn't all that relevant in our fast paced world. We don't think that could be further from the truth. Although we still have luncheons and flower shows, that is only part of what happens in Potpourri Garden Club. We are busy sharing with senior citizens and with school children. We are raising money for our club projects and for tree planting at the new Delaware Botanic Garden. We are beautifying a number of historic buildings to enrich their visitors' experiences. We re learning from trips and speakers, thereby expanding our knowledge of the environment and how best to care for our beautiful blue/green planet. In the process, we are caring for each other as well.

In the next few months, Marianne Magee will be leaving us and we wish her well in her new home location of Los Angeles, California.



Marianne Magee



"Planting Spring Bulbs" by Beverly Gemmill



Youth Program – Seed Dispersal



Garden Therapy



Pollinator Garden



Garden Club Fundraiser



Bald Faced Hornet Nest



# Garden Gate Garden Club

On September 12, 2018 GGGC, Moonflower and Canterbury garden clubs held a spectacular flower show at the Delaware Center for Horticulture in Wilmington, DE. The Horticulture and designs were abundant and beautiful. It was very well attended due to the advertising support from DCH. All 3 garden clubs put months of preparation and diligent efforts into the show and it “showed”! The touch of humor on top of the gate was removed before the show.



## Barefoot Gardeners



Storytime in the Park, our summer youth Program which is on Wednesdays at our local garden, treated 57 local and visiting children to some wonderful summer memories. Beginning with a July 4th patriotic reading by none other than Betsy Ross (thanks to Barb McNulty) the children were also sent home with their own flag for the July 4th Holiday. Other activities included growing vegetables and herbs (tomatoes, cucumbers, dill and basil to name a few) to releasing butterflies which the children loved. What a wonderful job these ladies do each summer. Thank you to Sue Clark, Susie Henicle, BJ Houser, Mary Ellen Gonski, Barbara McCoy, Jeannie Nedwick and Barbara Wilson!

Our Operation SEAs the Day program kept our gardeners very busy. For the fifth year local homeowners in Bethany Beach, opened their homes to the Wounded Warriors and their families for Operation SEAs the Day. Our Barefoot Gardeners presented each family with a potted plant and card signed by the Gardeners with a personal note of gratitude for their service.



Several Barefoot Gardeners participated in the Adopt a Beach program sponsored by the State on Saturday, September 22nd. The event was originally scheduled for Saturday, September 15th but rescheduled due to expected inclement weather. Nine members of our group gathered at Dagsboro street and collected several large bags of trash along a five block area of Fenwick Island.

We are always delighted to present our yearly scholarship to a local student who will be furthering their education in an area associated with environmental studies. This year's recipient is Vance Atkins a local student who is attending Del Tech and majoring in agricultural production.

Along with our philanthropic and community service projects, our Club was treated to many educational and informative programs. Many guest speakers included Judy Pfister from the Sussex Master Gardeners who spoke of "Native Plants in Landscaping". The topic of our July meeting, which was held at East Coast Garden Center, was "Heat and Salt Air Tolerant Planting". Ruth Clausen, our friend and master gardener from the Delaware Botanical Gardens, visited to discuss "A Glorious Last Hurrah—The Garden From Labor Day and Beyond. Ruth also brought along copies of her book of which she donates the proceeds to the Delaware Botanical Gardens.

Our September meeting was held at the Lewes Public library with our friends the Gardeners by the Sea and Coastal Gardeners. We were treated to a wonderful PowerPoint presentation by Holly Shimizu. Her program was "The Best Herbs for Flavor & Fragrance". Holly was kind enough to offer a walking tour of her garden. Although the weather did not cooperate, those who ventured over were treated to Holly's gardens and kind hospitality.



*Happy Gardening from the Barefoot Gardeners*



## PLANTATION LAKES GARDEN CLUB

**NOV 3rd “It’s All About Veterans” Event** promises to be an interesting evening of fellowship, wine and cheese pairings, coffee and desserts, and Delaware history. This event will help Plantation Lakes Garden Club fund the installation of a Blue Star Memorial and Garden, to be located on Route 24 across from our community. The event will be held at the historic home of the late Senator John J. Williams and his wife Elsie, and the evening will include commentary from its curator, Terry Johnson. This home is not open to the public, so the evening provides attendees a rare opportunity to explore local history while honoring our Veterans. Ticket purchase includes admission, refreshments, and a tour of the main level of Senator Williams’ home, a step back in time in décor and political memorabilia from Williams’ four terms in the U. S. Senate, from 1947-1971.



**When: Saturday, November 3, 2018 7-9 pm**  
**Where: The John J. Williams Conference Center**  
**105 State Street, Millsboro, DE 19966**  
**Tickets: \$30, Advance purchase required Order on**  
**Plantation Lakes Garden Club website**

PLGC has “adopted” **Atlantic Shores Rehab & Health Center** as our community outreach project. On Sept. 27th, Mary Balasi and 10 PLGC members engaged patients at the facility in a floral arrangement project, bringing a bit of joy to their day, and brightening their rooms with the finished floral arrangement.



On Oct. 3rd, Janet Parham organized a group of willing members for a project of weeding and planting mums donated from our Fall Plant Sale, beautifying the Patient Gardens at the facility. Well done ladies!

Debbie Darr, Ways & Means Chairperson, organized another successful **Fall Plant Sale**, offering residents of Plantation Lakes an opportunity to buy greenhouse quality chrysanthemums, pansies, ornamental kale, and pink tulip bulbs. Taking advantage of the flow of people through the community center, PLGC had an informational table highlighting our active projects, including Penny Pines, (\$26 donated), TREE-mendous Delaware, “Our Salute to Veterans,” Atlantic Shores Garden Therapy, and “Plant It Pink.” This two day event was serviced by a hardworking committee and many volunteers, raising \$850 for PLGC projects while helping beautify the community!



## Sussex Gardeners



### GARDEN THERAPY

On the second Friday of each month members of Sussex Gardeners work with the clients of Gull House, Beebe Adult Day Care, in Lewes to create floral arrangements with greens and flowers provided by the Gardeners. The July session included volunteers from the club from left to right:

Elsbeth Wahl, Diane Hudson,

Joan Sundstrom, Carolyn Walsmith, Betsy Hansot, Beth Giacoma, Marty Last, Ann Lyons, Debby Quinn, Pat Monaghan. Gull House recently relocated from Rehoboth Beach to Lewes. Garden Therapy Chairs Ann Lyons and Judy Pinsdorf designed a flower planter and presented it to Gull House for their new location. It was placed in the "Green Room."



### REHOBOTH ART LEAGUE COTTAGE TOUR

The Sussex Gardeners once again made lovely floral arrangements and welcomed visitors to the Rehoboth Art League Cottage Tour on July 10 and July 11. Sussex Gardeners have been involved with the Art League since the 1950's. The floral arrangements inspired by the designated home are made and donated by club members. The annual event requires staffing of docents from the club to guide over twelve hundred visitors on their tour.

Left is the beautiful arrangement created by Marty Last of Sussex Gardeners.

### SUMMER SOCIAL

Marty and Norman Last hosted an afternoon tea in their garden in Lewes for members of Sussex Gardeners. The hosts, garden, pond, food, and guests were all outstanding. Thanks Marty and Norman for a wonderful event.



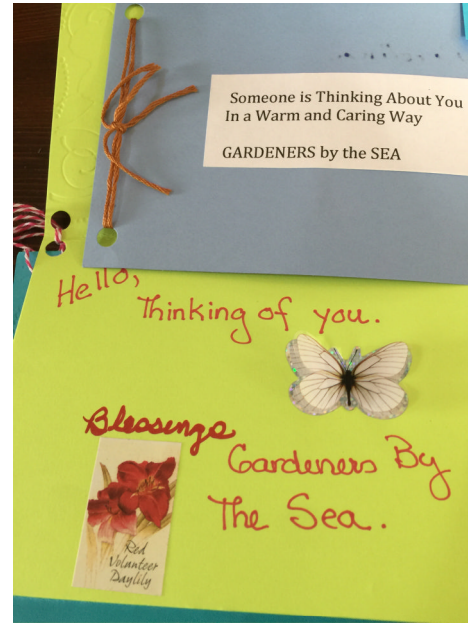
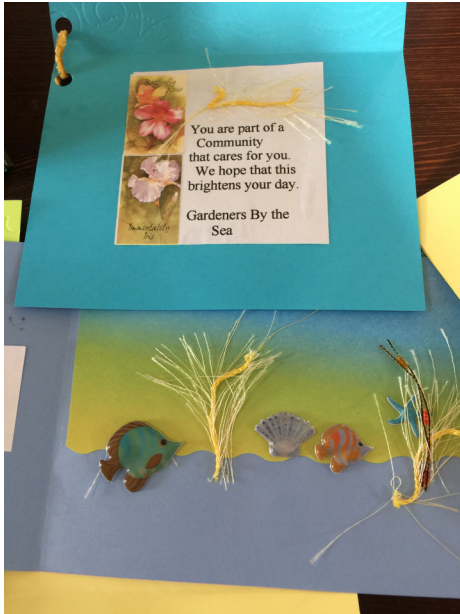


## Gardeners by the Sea

**Sunshine Committee** - On September 11th the Sunshine Committee met to discuss plans for the year and to create 50 cards for Meals-on-Wheels' recipients in the Ocean View Cheer Center.

Attending were Barb Kopey, Janet Thomas, Diana Ziegler, and Peggie Ravida. Creating cards and chatting about life is a fun way to spend an hour or so. During the summer cards from the GBTS club were sent to Betty Bloomfield, Cherie Dorfman, Sandra Lopez and Barbara Ware.

All members are asked to notify Peggie Ravida, Sunshine Chair, about members who would benefit from a cheery note from the club.



**Baywood Gardens** - GBTS sponsored a fundraising trip to tour the gardens of Baywood Green on Wednesday, September 19th. Twenty ladies went on the tour and then had a delightful lunch in the library. We had four (4) carts transport us through the development and then onto the golf course with two full-time horticulturists giving us the names of many

of the various plants and their contribution to the entire landscape. Ellen Dowling and Ria took notes and photos along the way. We had nine (9) members and 11 guests attend.

