

# CAR Review



Betty Cookendorfer, Director



**From Our Director:**

**Theme: PLANT AMERICA; LET'S GET GROWING!**

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

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

Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.: Anna O'Kelly  
[www.fgcofmd.org](http://www.fgcofmd.org)

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

The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.: Cecelia Millea  
[www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com](http://www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com)

Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.: Lynne Arnold  
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Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.: Marlene Hatton  
[www.gardenclubofohio.org](http://www.gardenclubofohio.org)

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- includes all aspects of gardening and horticulture and growing our Region membership

Greetings and what a Super CAR-SGC Conference 2022, *"7 Super Blooms that Changed Our World"* at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in the beautiful Laurel Highlands, hosted by the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania!

**7- Super Blooms + Seven States + Seven Springs = A Winning Combination**

Thank you to the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania for hosting the Conference and to the Conference Committee led by Nerita Brant, Chair and Mary Jo Gardill, Co-Chair for their planning and showcasing of their talented state members and beautiful area. The Conference was well attended and had outstanding Educational Exhibits, Floral Tributes, Vendors and more.

One hundred thirty-three members joined the tours, the six workshops, the dinner Design Program by Tom Huston, the Wreath Design program by the seven States Presidents, several business meetings and social events that were held during the two days, November 3-4, 2022. Many friendships were renewed, and new acquaintances were made.

More than 30 CAR-SGC Awards were presented and checks totaling \$1,100.00 were presented with the awards that have monetary premiums assigned to them. A College Scholarship of \$2,000.00 was presented to a deserving student entering the freshman year of college.

We were privileged to have our National Garden Clubs (NGC) President and former CAR Director, Mary Warshauer, attend the Conference for the two days. She shared information about NGC

projects, virtual programs including Membership Monday, grant opportunities and awards on Thursday evening at the Design Dinner. President Mary Warshauer was applauded enthusiastically for the achievements and accomplishments by NGC during her term of office.



**Honor Design for Mary Warshauer**

I would also like to thank each of you for attending our conference. You are truly our greatest asset today and tomorrow, and we could not accomplish what we do without your support and leadership. Thank you for the honor of presiding as CAR-SGC Director and having the opportunity to be with you at Seven Springs.

It was a delight to have **Vikki Bellias, Chair of the CAR-SGC 2023 Conference & Tri-Refresher**, announce the

Together we had a great success and enjoyment in participating in the CAR-SGC Conference 2022, following a three year wait to meet in-person, because of the cancellations of Conferences in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic. Special thanks to Pennsylvania President Shelia Croushore for her leadership and attention to detail at the Conference.



dates and schedule for the Conference in Corning, New York, **“SEVEN STRONG ON A FALL ADVENTURE.”** The dates are October 23-26, 2023 and will incorporate a Tri-Refresher.

**Honor Design for Betty Cookendorfer**

**Wishing a Happy Holiday Season to all of you,  
Betty Cookendorfer,  
Director CAR-SGC 2121-2023**

**CAR-SGC DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR 2023-2025**

It is my pleasure to inform the CAR-SGC Membership of the new Director and Assistant Director for the 2023-2025 upcoming term. They come from the great state of New York and have been officially approved by the governing body of that state.

They are: Monica Hansen, Director  
Victoria (Vikki) Bellias. Assistant Director

They will take office in May 2023. Please join me in congratulating our Director-Elect and Assistant Director-Elect.

**Photos by Caroline Carbaugh**

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**CAR-SGC Presidents at the November Conference**

CAR- SGC Conference  
Seven Springs Mountain Resort



From National Capital Area



From Delaware



From Maryland



Arlene Stewart & Monica Hansen



Cecelia Millea, Vikki Bellias,  
Mary Warshauer,



From National Capital Area



Marlene Hatton and Cindy  
Kosakewich



Anna O'Kelly & Lynne Arnold



Caroline Carbaugh, David Healey, Mary Williford and  
Margaret Woda receive Director's Citations

Photos by Caroline Carbaugh



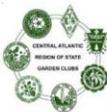
PLEASE SAVE THE DATES

**SEVEN STRONG**

**ON A FALL ADVENTURE**

Our Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs will be holding our 2023 Conference in Corning, New York October 23 - 26, 2023. We will be incorporating a Tri-Refresher at this Conference.

Preconference events, October 23, 2023  
 Conference, October 24 and 25, 2023  
 Exciting tours, October 26, 2023.



The Federated Garden Clubs of New York State is pleased to announce the 2023 CAR-SGC Conference, “Seven Strong on a Fall Adventure”. FGCNYS is the host state and we are excited to invite our Seven Strong garden club members to join the fun!

The CAR-SGC 2023 Annual Conference & Tri-refresher will be held at the Radisson/Doubletree Hotel in Corning, NY. The Main Conference will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 24-25, 2023. We have fun and spooky activities on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> and an exciting fall adventure tour planned for Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. We are combining the requirements for a tri-refresher into the conference program with interesting speakers on a variety of topics. There will be a featured design presentation and a special appearance by Brenda Moore, author of the NGC Children’s Book series and President-Elect of NGC.

Our Fall Adventures include:

- A pumpkin blowing session to make your own glass pumpkin. Corning is famous for expert glass working and you will participate in a glass studio experience.
- The Awaken the Spirits Ghost Tour is a presentation of the Corning Historic Society in the Heritage Village. After your spooky adventure, enjoy dinner in town with CAR-SGC friends.
- A Leaf Manipulation workshop will give ideas for flower shows and the design speaker will inspire your creativity.
- Our Thursday bus trip features various sites such as Taughannock Falls with terrific views and a park ranger tour/talk, Cornell University botanical gardens and a vineyard tour to learn and enjoy the area.

Participants are welcome to attend all activities and trips regardless of plans to take the tri-refresher for credit. We can’t wait to have you visit beautiful Corning for a fun Fall Adventure!

**Victoria Bellias, CAR-SGC 2023 Convention Chairman**

## From Our States:

### Delaware



**Barbara DeRue**

The CAR-SGC convention held November 2-3 was quite interesting, educational and fun! I'm looking forward to New York next year for the conference and to meet together again.

Delaware clubs continue to meet in person using zoom by choice if convenient. We are looking forward to our November State meeting and seeing the final club entry in the "Trash to Treasure" centerpiece contest. The "Trash to Treasure" centerpiece design contest was proposed and demonstrated by the late and profoundly missed Dottie Howatt at last year's November State meeting. The designs are constructed of recycled/repurposed materials including some flora.

Milford Garden Club held a Small Standard Flower Show "Autumn Joy" in October. Linda Peters shared a few pictures from the show: A fall display by Holly Heverly, a design in the Class "Mums the Word" by Judy Morris and a hydrangea entered from Mary Lou Justinano's garden. We are looking forward to the two scheduled flower shows next year and hopefully more flower shows will be scheduled.



Delaware Garden Clubs are truly enjoying their outdoor projects. Brandywine Garden

Club held their biennial plant sale which featured clivias and daylilies. Middletown-Odessa continued

their crop swap exchange every two weeks. Coastal Gardeners continue their work in their Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids project at Philip Showell Elementary. Gardeners By the Sea received a matching funds grant to have 23 native trees planted in Evans Park and Spade and Trowel held a "Design and Dine" program. Many Clubs scheduled garden tours, and all enjoyed "Playing Outdoors".



Delaware has Blue Star Memorials planned to happen. Four Seasons Garden Club has received their marker and are scheduling the marker assembly and dedication. Milford Garden Club has a marker on order.

Looking forward to continuing and new projects!

**Barbara DeRue, President,  
Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**

### Maryland



**Anna O'Kelly**

With the holidays approaching, many clubs in Maryland are preparing to decorate historic homes, host greens workshops and fundraisers, and plan the design for their Christmas tree or wreath that will be displayed in the State House in Annapolis.

In September, we completed Course 1 of Gardening School at the Cylburn Arboretum in Baltimore, and 45 students attended in person, including several from other states. We will offer Course 2 of Gardening School next April 12-13 at the Cylburn Arboretum. We held a well-attended Environmental Action Day titled 'Sowing Seeds for Tomorrow' which featured five different topics. Judges Council symposium was held at the Bowie Comfort Inn. Darlene Newell and Julia Clevett were the instructors.

Green-Walled Garden Club, Lutherville Garden Club, Four Rivers Garden Club, Charles County, St. Mary's Garden Club, and District I all held flower shows in

September and October. The District I show, “Harvest Highlights” was held on a Saturday at the Chesapeake College. The estimated 800+ attendees were greeted by a Botanical Arts class of life-sized garden goddesses. Several workshops were offered and the day was a resounding success.



**Presenters at Environmental Action Day: Connie Schmotzer, Mike Raupp, Sam Droege and Intern, Lynn Walter-**

**Chairman, State President Anna O’Kelly**

**Photo by Susie Middleton**

During the first year of Governor Hogan’s term in 2015, the FGCMD was invited by Mrs. Hogan to decorate themed Christmas trees representing each of the Maryland counties and Baltimore City. Over the years we have seen trees that highlighted interesting facts the counties are known for...Queen Anne, Harriet Tubman, Annie Oakley, and the list goes on. This is the final term of Governor Hogan, **Photo by C. MacGlashan** and likely our final year to participate.



Several clubs will again participate in the Wreaths Across America program. They have worked hard to raise funds to ensure every marker has a wreath and will volunteer in the actual placement of the wreaths in local Veteran’s cemeteries on December 17.

**Anna O’Kelly, President, Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland**



### National Capital Area

NCAGC has been very busy getting back to gathering together and gardening. In August we hosted a CAR-SGC Zoom program by Dr. Harlan Svoboda, Curator of the US National Arboretum Herbarium.

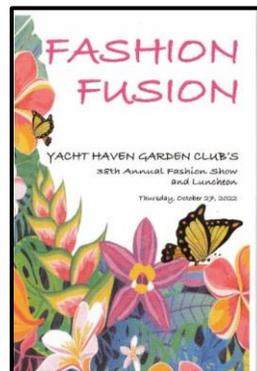


**Arlene Stewart**

Our four districts held fall meetings and they were each very different. There was a meeting and tour at Woodend Sanctuary (Audubon Naturalist Society HQ in Chevy Chase, MD), a program on *Autumn Color: Creating Color and Interest with Fall Garden Plants*, a floral design fund raiser, and a hands on workshop for entering horticulture in a flower show.



Our clubs have come up with a variety of ways to raise money and awareness. Yacht Haven Garden Club held a Fashion Show. Centennial Garden Club held a Garden Fair featuring brunch, demonstrations and sales. Ayr Hill Garden Club raised money through a Bulb Sale. Centreville Garden Club dedicated a bench in honor of a long time, active member at Elenore Lawrence Park.



District 1 and Paint Branch Garden Club hosted a bus trip to the Delaware Botanical Garden at Pepper Creek.



NCAGC Judges' Council hosted a Symposium. NCAGC offered Environmental School on Zoom and Landscape Design School in person at the US National Arboretum. The NCAGC Webmaster held two Zoom sessions on Creating a Garden Club Website. Club members have participated in Plant Society Flower Shows by planning, entering and judging for the Chrysanthemum Society, the Lily Society and the Dahlia Society.

Happy Holidays

PLANT AMERICA for Flowers, Fun and Friends

**Arlene Stewart, President,  
National Capital Area Garden Clubs**

### New Jersey

The Garden Club of New Jersey held a symposium in October after a two-year delay due to the pandemic. Flower show judges from NJ and five additional states attended. Thank you to the entire committee for organizing a very successful symposium.



**Cecelia Millea**

November 2 and 3 at the Seven Springs Resort in PA was a welcomed opportunity to gather with fellow CAR state presidents. It was a busy two days packed full of meetings, workshops, programs, tours and visits to the vendors

for retail therapy. I commend the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania for leaving no stone unturned in hosting this event.



**GCNJ's Educational Exhibit by GCNJ President-elect, Beverly Kazickas explored the World of Poppies.**

Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial markers were dedicated at the Veterans Cemetery in Gloucester County, NJ on October 30. I was honored to speak about the history of the Blue Star Memorial marker program, and share with those present its beginning, in 1944, by the Garden Club of New Jersey and the NJ Highway Authority. It is the goal of GCNJ to have, at least, one marker in each of New Jersey's twenty-one counties by 2025, which will be our 100th anniversary.



**Joan Cichalski, GCNJ Blue Star Chair; Cecelia Millea, GCNJ President; Lois Johan, NJ DOT; Mary Smith, Haddonfield GC President at the Blue Star Memorial dedication in Gloucester County NJ.**

The Garden Club of New Jersey recently held a virtual Leadership Conference for Club Presidents. The

purpose of the conference was to acquaint the presidents with our state organization and assist them in their leadership role. The agenda began with a presentation, by this president, about the qualities of an effective leader followed by other speakers who provided information about many aspects of GCNJ. We have found this format to offer club presidents, new and seasoned alike, knowledge and support in their position.

Two New Jersey Garden clubs celebrated significant anniversaries. The Westfield Garden Club recently celebrated its 100th anniversary while the Garden Club of Toms River celebrated its 70th anniversary. Both anniversaries are a testament to the hard work and dedication of their members over the years.

**Cecelia Millea, President,  
Garden Club of New Jersey**

### New York



New York State is up and running again. We're generating new clubs and new members. Our Districts have held events on floral arranging, Blue Star memorials and Horticulture. Floral showcases have been popular. A few clubs dedicated their third and fourth

**Lynne Arnold** Blue Star gardens. The district boards enjoy meeting with their club presidents at special programs including teas, potluck luncheons and Zoom get togethers. There our presidents are recognized for their hard work and creativity and share ideas with other presidents in their districts.

At least ten of our clubs are celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary while our state is celebrating being incorporated for just 97 years. Club programming includes Flower Shows, plant sales, historic home and garden restoration, pollinator gardens, bird and butterfly gardens and garden therapy programs for the elderly. Photography continues to be of interest to our members. Speakers on photographing gardens, plants and flowers get us ready to exhibit photos in our flower shows.

NGC schools online have been well attended and NY has completed schools in Landscape Design,

Gardening Studies and Environmental Studies all during Covid. Garden Club Members have learned the trick to live and enjoy life in the present. All our efforts will leave a legacy of beauty and conservation.

We are so pleased to announce Monica Hansen as the next CAR-SGC Director from New York. Monica is a former New York State President and is the NGC Recording Secretary. She initiated "Planting the Seeds of Membership" which encouraged clubs to successfully find ways to increase membership. We wish her the best of luck in her upcoming 2023-2025 term.

**Lynne Arnold, President,  
Federated Garden Clubs of New York State**

### Ohio

I am pleased to report that we, in Ohio, have successfully weathered the pandemic and our 3,000 members are experiencing a renewal of enthusiasm evidenced by the number of flower shows, district meeting attendance, community projects and awards.



- We have conducted several schools this year and have more in the works. **Marlene Hatton**
- We are proud to currently lead the nation in the number of blue and gold star memorial memorials.
- We held a Symposium in Cleveland this year and are making plans for another in 2023.
- Members have responded to the challenge to reduce plastic waste by using reusable tumblers, grocery bags and refusing plastic straws. Members across the state are collecting plastic lids and sharing them with the clubs that are recycling these, with the help of our youth, into benches for schools and other public spaces.
- We partner with the Columbus Zoo's Partners in Conservation. We collect seeds that grow well in Rwanda. Those citizens grow and sell the produce to provide a living. They fight over the seed packets with the lovely pictures and even paper their wall with them.

- Please join us for any of our Zoom schools, we would love to have you!

**Marlene Hatton, President,  
Garden Club of Ohio**

## Pennsylvania



**Sheila Croushore** Shansville ,PA. This is a Chapel that was used right after the Flight 93 Crash to help console families.

In September, my Vice Presidents and I traveled to all 10 Districts for their Annual Luncheons. We were entertained by Elvis, Olmstead, Herbalists, and Designers. We heard firsthand from our Club Presidents about their outreach programs in their communities. These clubs are diligently working to attract new members and continue to keep their current membership active. Over the past year, we had one club add over 56 members. Our Districts and clubs continue to offer local tours, overnight Garden tours, arboretums, and museums. Our clubs have civic development projects in their communities totaling of more than 300 garden areas.

Also, in September, NGC held its National Board Meeting in St Louis, Mo. The CAR-SGC Presidents were able to discuss many topics and ideas of how we work within our States. What a fantastic meeting.

At the GCFP Fall Board meeting in October, the GCFP State Judges Council presented an NGC Petite Design Specialty Show, "Rock & Roll". The designs were spectacular, and the designers' outfits superb!



**GCFP Board Members Dressed for Rock 'n' Roll Flower Show**

**Photo by Sheila Croushore**

**Chris Leskosky at Rock and Roll Flower Show**

**Photo by Mary Hetrick**



Lastly, GCFP hosted the CAR-SGC Conference at Seven Springs. We connected with friends and made new ones. We hope everyone enjoyed our workshops, speakers, tours, and the wreath challenge.

What a pleasure it is to represent such a fantastic organization.

**Watch us BLOOM!**

**Sheila Croushore, President,  
Garden Club of Pennsylvania**



**Wreaths made by State Presidents**

**Photo by Caroline Carbaugh**

**Apply for the AHS Herbaceous Perennial Award**

As most of you realize, the term herbaceous perennial refers to plants that die down to the ground and reappear in the spring. In addition to a variety of 20 or more herbaceous perennials, some past applications have focused on *Narcissus* and *Hosta*. If you have photos and a list of pertinent entries, this award is easy to win. If you don't have photos and a list of pertinent entries, plan for next year.

A garden club, group of garden clubs, a district, council or state can win the American Horticulture Society's Herbaceous Perennial Award for an NGC Flower Show held during the current calendar year. Each state awards chair is to submit the winning entry from applicants. That submitted entry will be one of 7 potential CAR-NGC winners.

"The overall exhibit must be of outstanding quality and include a minimum of 20 specimens." Specimens are to be listed with botanical names and documented by a clear photo or photos. A maximum of 3 pages is allowed for the application, whose deadline is April 1, 2023. Each CAR-SGC state is eligible to win 50 dollars. Please read the complete (and easy) requirements after clicking "Who We Are" and then "CAR-SGC Awards" on the unrestricted home page of [www.car-sgc.org](http://www.car-sgc.org).



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

**Penny Pines**

NGC and the USDA Forest Service Program have formed this partnership with the goal of sustaining our national and urban forests through reforestation /education programs.

Your Garden Club can participate in this meaningful conservation project by contributing \$68.00 to a Penny Pines plantation as part of the costs of replanting replacement trees indigenous to a

particular damaged area. Whether by fire or by other natural catastrophe, pine trees and other trees are replaced. The plantations are a part of the regular National Forest reforestation program planted on burned-over and brush-covered areas which are potentially productive timberlands. Planting sites are selected by the Supervisor of each National Forest.



Contributions must be a minimum of \$68.00 (or multiples of \$68.00). Donations may be made online, or by check made payable to "NGC-Penny Pines" and mailed to National Garden Clubs, Headquarters. You may also check with your state's designated PENNY PINES Chairperson for specific Penny Pines donation instructions.

**Kay John, Penny Pines Chair**

**CAR Scholarship Patronage Program**

The following people have made generous contributions to the Scholarship Patronage Program:

Platinum Donor:

- \$1000 Constance Taylor in Memory of Marge Stevens
- \$1000 Robin Hammer in Honor of Connie Taylor

Gold Donor: \$500 Gail Manna

- Bronze Donors: \$100 Victoria Bellias
- In Memory of Marge Stevens: \$50 Poss Tarpley
- \$100 Caroline Carbaugh
- \$100 Robin Hammer
- \$200 Shirley Nicolai
- \$200 Mary Thomas

Donors were recognized at the conference in November 2022. You can continue to support this program by donating today. All information about the program is on our website. Please consider making a personal donation or a donation in memory of or in honor of a beloved garden club member. Your donation will have a lasting impact on the future of worthy college students. Please continue to donate!

**Connie Taylor,  
CAR Scholarship Patronage Program**

**State Floral Tributes**



**Delaware - Rose**



**Sunflower – New York**



**Maryland - Tulip**



**Pennsylvania - Lily**



**National  
Capital  
Area – Lotus**



**Ohio – Orchid**



**New Jersey–Poppy**

**NGC LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

Being a National Life Member is becoming part of a special group of people. People who want to give back to our Youth and Membership--- People who strives to maintain and encourage NGC projects and goals.

Your donation of \$200 aids two wonderful programs that benefit local clubs, your State and your youth:

THE PLANT AMERICA COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND and  
THE PERMANENT HOME AND ENDOWMENT FUND which aids NGC’s Scholarship Fund.

Don’t you want to be part of this prestigious group?

Join today or better yet, give a gift membership to any individual, a group deserving an honor or remember someone in your community who shares your passion for garden club interest. New Life Members are out there. Applications can be found on the NGC website under Member Resources.

“LIFE MEMBERS DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

Any questions? Contact Gail Manna, NGC Life Membership Chair 2021-2023.

814-932-3231 or gcorle1214@gmail.com

**Gail Manna**

**CAR-SGC Life Membership Report**

The CAR-SGC gained 10 new life members this year. During the Wednesday, November 2 luncheon at the CAR-SGC conference at 7 Springs, Champion, PA Betty Cookendorfer recognized Carolyn Braverman and Cherie Lejeune for their help to the CAR-SGC, Carolyn as Secretary and Cherie as Virtual Resources and ZOOM Chair with a life membership. Treasurer Mary Williford was also recognized by her own garden club, which she founded, with a life membership. Here is a listing of the newest life members:

- Sharon Christopher, DE given by Spade & Trowel Garden Club 2022
- Bette Lewis, NCA 2022
- Barbara Kiker, NCA 2022
- Jan Davis, PA 2022
- Mary Kay Covington, OH 2022

Donna Sessa, NY 2022  
 Mary Williford, DE given by Plantation Lakes Garden Club 2022  
 Judith Schaffer, PA 2022  
 Carolyn Braverman, MD given by Betty Cookendorfer 2022  
 Cherie Lejeune, NCA given by Betty Cookendorfer 2022

**Claire Lechliter, CAR-SGC Life Membership**

**Membership  
 Membership Increase Award**

The Membership Increase Award is given to the State showing the greatest percentage increase in paid memberships to NGC. I am pleased to announce, that after the pandemic loss of members, we are starting to show an increase in membership. Two states had an increase but unfortunately only one certificate is given. Second place with a .02% and no certificate is the Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs. This year the Membership Increase Award with a .08% increase goes to Garden Club of New Jersey. Congratulations to both!!

**Elva Davidson,  
 Membership & Membership Increase Award Chair**

**Schools Being Held by NGC in CAR**

**Environmental School**

Jan. 10 -18, 2023 – Washington, DC – Zoom – Course 3 (Tuesday and Wednesday evenings only)

**Flower Show School:**

February 27 – March 2, 2023 – Roanoke, VA – In-person - Course 4  
 April 13 - 16, 2023 – Plymouth Meeting, PA – In-person - Course 3  
 April 15 – 20, 2023 – East Brunswick, NJ – 4/15 Zoom – 4/19-20 – In person – Course 4

**Flower Show Symposium:**

None scheduled in CAR

**Gardening School:**

April 12 -13, 2023 – Baltimore, MD – In-person – Course 2

**Landscape Design School:**

March 30 – 31, 2023 – Louisville, Ohio - Zoom – Course 1  
 May 22 – 23, 2023 – Alexandria, VA (NCA) – In-person – Course 2

**Sustainable Gardening and Xeriscaping in the City**

Port Jervis, NY was once a thriving city known as a transportation hub; located on the Delaware River and still part of the Erie Railroad System, it is also the first exit in NY from PA on Interstate 84.

Cooper Boone, an entrepreneur, had an idea for revitalizing Jersey Avenue/Front Street, Port Jervis, NY. Foundry42 was established in 2016 as a place “to spark creativity, gather, eat, shop and learn.” Gardens along Front Street adjacent to Foundry42 were created in his honor in 2018, using natural plantings.



Since then, the gardens have become overgrown with weeds overtaking the original plantings that have not been maintained. Members Artful Gardeners Garden Club are in the process of evaluating the gardens which extend over a large area. Our plan is to start to this area with natural plantings that are optimal for xeriscaping and sustain the beauty of the landscape.

**Jane Madis, Chair,  
 CAR-SGC Xeriscaping and Sustainable Gardening**

### **Scholarship Winner for 2022/2023**



The CAR-SGC Scholarship winner for 2022/2023 was submitted by The National Capital Area Garden Clubs. This year's winner is **Brendan John Connolly**. Brendan is a second year graduate student at Northwestern University, Chicago, IL pursuing a Master's

of Science in Plant Biology and Conservation. Brendan has a 4.0 GPA.

Brendan's interest in the ecosystem started when he was very young gardening with his grandmother and exploring the woods behind her house. He's worked at The Dawes Arboretum, Ohio, and Nantucket Conservation Foundation (NCF). Working at these institutions provided an opportunity for him to lead education programs for adults and kids where he saw the power of horticulture to connect people in urban environments to conservation issues. At NCF he designed a research project of his own where he assessed the biodiversity of a retired cranberry bog. This left him with an insatiable desire to go back to school to learn more about plant ecology, research design and science communication. The Master's program with Chicago Botanic Garden and Northwestern University was the perfect fit for Brendan. Upon completion, it will provide an opportunity for him to become a full-time plant biology and conservation researcher. The scholarship provided by CAR-SGC will be used to offset some of the funding for his graduate research project.

Thank you to the federations for your support of the CAR-SGC Scholarship Committee. During these tough financial times for students, our scholarship aids them immensely in the pursuit of their education and career goals. Congratulations to the National Capital Area Garden Clubs for submitting the winning applicant. Special thanks to the judges who voluntarily support this committee year in and year out.

**Connie Taylor, Chair,  
CAR-SGC Scholarship Committee**

Here is an excerpt from Brendan's thank you note after we awarded him the NCA scholarship:

*Thank you again for the support of the National Capital Area Garden Clubs, this has made a HUGE difference in my ability to afford my dream program with Northwestern.*

*Please reach out to me if there is anything that I could do for the NCAGC. I would be happy to speak with other members or perhaps present my Master's research during a meeting if there is interest.*

Sincerely,  
Brendan Connolly  
MS Student  
Program in Plant Biology and Conservation  
Northwestern University and The Chicago Botanic Garden

### **CAR-SGC AWARDS 2022**

The list of award winners presented at the conference has been sent with this newsletter.

Here are a few changes/corrections to the Awards Rules for this year's submissions:

1. Please forward yearbooks to Mary Noel, Yearbook Chairman instead of to Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich as stated incorrectly in the rules.
2. Please select and send the name of your perennial bloom winner by April 1, 2023. This award traditionally requires submission in August of each year and the award was not presented until the following year. We are correcting this, for the coming year. Although you have already submitted a name in August of 2022, we are asking you to send in another name by April 1, 2023 and forever after submissions will be by April 1<sup>st</sup> and presented in the same year. This will avoid people receiving the award over a year after submission. Now the winners will receive their awards in the same year their names were submitted. Your state will have two winners presented in the fall of 2023.

**Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich, Chair  
CAR-SGC Awards**

**Roundtable Discussions**



**NGC Awards**



**Container and Indoor Gardening**



**Flower Show Schools**



**Environmental Conservation Concerns**



**Schools Environmental, Gardening, Landscape**



**Virtual Resources**



**Ohio Attendees**



**Plant America - NGC Grant Opportunity**

From *Iris Cisarik, Bee, Bugs, Butterflies and Endangered Species Chair*

**1. TIP OFF**  
To harvest seeds, crews snip off closed cones from ponderosa pine branches.

**2. CONE CONTRIBUTION**  
Cones are left to dry in the sun, where they open and release their seeds.

**3. COMING CLEAN**  
Seeds are machine-cleaned to remove the wings that help them disperse from their parent tree.

**4. SEEDS OF CHANGE**  
Seeds are potted and raised in a nursery for up to two years before being planted in the field.

## GROWING TOUGHER TREES

To restore fire-ravaged forests, TNC and Native American Pueblos start with seeds

**IN NEW MEXICO'S JEMEZ MOUNTAINS,** intensifying wildfires are driving efforts to make forests more resilient to climate change. In 2011, the Las Conchas fire burned 156,000 acres, leaving no surviving trees to naturally reseed the area. Now, The Nature Conservancy and members of the Santa Clara, Cochiti, Jemez and Santo Domingo Pueblos are gathering a million seeds from the healthiest trees in the hottest, driest sites.

"We're looking for trees that can withstand the harshest conditions, rather than those that grow the tallest," says Collin Haffey, forest and watershed health manager for TNC in New Mexico.

Seedlings are drought-hardened in the nursery and then transplanted to sites most likely to experience favorable conditions as the climate heats up.

The project aims to engage youth and develop a workforce that can replenish seed reserves that are now more than 40 years old—as well as prioritize tree species and reforestation sites that are as important culturally as they are ecologically.

"We're merging scientific and traditional knowledge to restore and protect a way of life," says Haffey. —KIRSTEN WEIR

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