

West Virginia
GARDEN NEWS

MEMBER OF NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS

Winter 2025 • Volume 92, Number 1



"To plant a garden is to dream of tomorrow."

- Audrey Hepburn

West Virginia Garden News
69 Clubs & 1,352 Members



Volume 92, Number 1
Winter 2025

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WVGCI website: www.wvgardenclub.com

NGC President
Brenda Moore

709 Edgewood Drive
Oak Hill, WV 25901
bmoores@gardenclub.org

SAR Director
Carcille Burchette

717 Redbird Place
Corbin, KY 40701
carcilleburchette@l.com

WVGCI President
Martha Hilton

1034 Washington St.
East Lewisburg, WV 24901
marthawvgci@gmail.com

Editor
Tina Kauffman

tina@mercensburg.net

Circulation Manager
Dina Braniff

493 Walker Lane
Washington, WV 26181
dina.braniff@gmail.com

Copy Coordinator
Vickie Stedman

1810 Myers Bridge Road
Martinsburg, WV 25404
GardenNews@wvgardenclub.com

PUBLICATION OFFICE
1810 Myers Bridge Road
Martinsburg, WV 25404

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Dear Fellow Members:

It's hard to believe that I'm writing my last message to you! You all have so inspired me over the last several years. Your passion, your community work – your friendships! I truly do believe that the vast majority of the folks that live in your neighborhood, have no idea what their communities would be like without you!



We may not be as vocal as others, but your impact is awesome – please continue to do the projects that enhance where you live as well as find other ways to inspire those around you through gardening.

I know that those coming after me will have awesome ideas to keep us all motivated and looking to make Garden Club a way to brighten and enhance communities. Do know that I will continue to show up and participate when I hear of opportunities to see you in action!

Thank you for allowing me to be of service to you - thanks for letting me get to know you and your communities through Garden Club!!

— **Martha Hilton**
President, WV GCI



WV GARDEN CLUB CREED

In the garden of life, we will join together in service to protect and respect our environment, to model compassion and generosity in our communities, and be dedicated to the beautification of this garden and the education of its occupants.

Carolyn Zwior and Jean Petti

“Swing Into Spring”

Hosted by West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.

March 28-30, 2025

Days Inn Convention Center, Flatwoods

The West Virginia Garden Club, Inc. convention committee is excited to invite you to the 95th Annual convention at Days Inn Convention Center, Flatwoods. This year’s theme is *“Swing Into Spring”*. We are pleased to welcome Brenda Moore, NGC President to our convention. In keeping with our new tradition, Friday night will be a fun night for everyone to connect. The theme is *“Roaring Into Spring”*; come dressed appropriately. The various workshops and speakers are described in the following pages.

Hotel

All hotel reservations should be made directly with the Days Inn Convention Center, Flatwoods by 1-866-700-7284 and mentioning **WVGC convention**. Room rates are \$138.54 inclusive of 20% service fee and 6% sales tax for a single/double room. Reservations must be made before March 7, 2025, to receive our rate.

Speakers



NGC President: Brenda Moore, is honored to serve as the 48th National Garden Clubs, Inc. President, and to promote her theme of “Go Green – Plant America” representing West Virginia Garden Club, Inc. Brenda’s love for all things outdoors began when she first joined a garden club in 1994. Never did she dream, by accepting an invitation to join a garden club, she would become a club president, a district director, the West Virginia Garden Club President and now the National Garden Clubs’ President.

Brenda has a special passion for unusual and native plants. The Moore’s have a certified West Virginia Wild Yard, a National Wildlife Federation Certified Yard, a Certified Monarch Way station and now an NGC Certified Pollinator Garden and an NGC Certified Wildlife habitat. Being a good steward of our Earth is very important to her. She is an NGC five-star member. The four NGC Youth books were authored or co-authored by her.

Luncheon speaker: Rebecca S. Linger, Ph.D.



Rebecca Linger received her Ph.D. in Medicinal Chemistry from the department of Medicinal Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology at the Purdue University School of Pharmacy. In 2006, she began teaching at the University of Charleston School of Pharmacy where she began her studies into the biological and pharmacological effects of Appalachian plants, fungi and

microorganisms by understanding the ways that these natural products were used by the peoples of Appalachia.

Early settlers of this area confronted with illness and disease discovered a wealth of useful therapeutic herbals. The empirical knowledge of these medicinal substances and their toxic potential was passed on by oral tradition and sometimes recorded in herbals and other texts on Materia medica.

Dr. Linger has mined these sources along with the scientific record to publish a book, "A Guide to the Toxicology of Select Medicinal Plants and Herbs of Eastern North America." She has published 14 peer-reviewed articles on topics related to medicinal chemistry and has given talks on medicinal and edible plants throughout West Virginia for the past 16 years. She is a certified West Virginia Master Naturalist (WVMN), coordinator of the Kanawha Valley chapter, and state President of the WVMN Program.

"Landscaping with Pollinator-Friendly Medicinal Plants"

It is possible to beautify your home with plants that are useful to both you and the environment, especially pollinator species. In this talk, I will offer suggestions to make your garden more pollinator-friendly, the importance of planting native species, and the medicinal uses of several lovely flowering plants. While the talk will not go deeply into the preparation of plants for medicinal use, I will have copies of my book on medicinal plants available for sale.

Workshops and Projects:



Friday Workshop #1: *"Houseplant Oasis"* Jennifer Friend, Harrison County Extension Agent. *"Pollinators are key to our survival on Earth. One of the ways that we can help our pollinators is by providing wildflower habitats which provide food, nectar, and shelter not only for adult pollinators, but for larvae as well."*

Jennifer Friend received her Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and Extension Education from West Virginia University. She then attended Colorado State University through their distance education program and received a Master in Extension Education. She taught high school agriculture education in Nicholas County. Currently she is the WVU Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent in Harrison County. Her educational programming focuses on horticulture, livestock production, youth agriculture and financial literacy. Jennifer's love for agriculture began at a young age, and she continues to be involved in her family's cow/calf and sheep operation.

In recent years, houseplants have become increasingly popular among new plant owners and seasoned gardeners alike. They are a great option for those who want to channel their green thumb that may not have the space or ability to have outdoor gardens. This session will help you create a houseplant oasis in your home as you learn about basic care tips and some insight into some of the most popular plants to add to your home.

Project: *Braxton Health Care Nursing home project—Raised planter bed*

The planter will already be constructed and in place outside along a section of the building at the nursing home where there are several other assorted planters.

Ours will be 12'x4'x2'. Soil will need to be added, and plants placed. A variety of plants will be added: some daffodils bulbs, small shrub type plants toward the back of the planter, plants chosen for ease of care that bloom as long as possible. Perhaps some decorative pieces also. mulch will be added where appropriate. All materials will be on site. We are providing the labor and creative design.

*****Remember to bring work gloves, hand trowel, small shovel, appropriate work clothes.**

Saturday Workshop #2: *“Flower Arranging Basics”* Maria Elena Baldini from Donna Flora Floral Shop in Clarksburg. In this workshop you will be shown all the tricks of the trade while teaching basic flower arranging. The skills you learn here will be put to choice in Workshop #4. Plan on attending both to get the full experience.

Saturday Workshop #3: *“Let’s Talk Orchids”* Paula Marsh from Hillbilly Orchids. She has been growing orchids for over a decade in a Grow Space (spare bedroom) with LED growing lights. So in searching for “how to care for phalaenopsis orchids” on YouTube, some big names taught myths on how to grow orchids and wouldn’t answer a newbie asking general new grower questions. Rick L Orchids on YouTube taught me the proper way to grow that I will be sharing with you. I grow several different genera of orchids and tell you how easy they are to grow and thrive if you give them what they need and it’s not a lot.

Saturday Workshop #4 *“Hands On Flower Arranging”* by Donna Flora Floral Shop in Clarksburg. This workshop is a continuation of Workshop #2 but now you will be making your own arrangements. All materials will be supplied. It is not required that you attend workshop #2 but it will be most helpful to having success with your design. \$50 fee.

Arrangements will be displayed at the Saturday evening banquet for all to enjoy. Possible people’s choice competition.

Saturday Workshop #5 *“Essential Oil Rollers and Inhalers”* Lisa Tyte from Jessi Layne Apothecary. She uses all Mother Nature offers to help the body heal. She grows and dries all her own medicinal plants, herbs and make oils. She will be talking about essential oils and having a bar set up where you will make your own. \$20 fee

Meals:

Friday Night: Chicken Buffet (Breaded Chicken, Mashed Potatoes)

Saturday Breakfast: Hotel Buffet in Restaurant. Included in your room fee.

Saturday Luncheon: Build Your Own Salad Buffett

Saturday Banquet: Buffet with Veg Penne Alfredo, Herb Roasted Pork Loin, Beef Pot Roast, Loaded Baked Potato Casserole, Toasted Brussel Sprouts, House salad, Assorted cakes.

Sunday Breakfast: Hotel Buffet in Restaurant. Included in your room fee.

Cash bar — No credit cards accepted; cash only! Only available with dinners.

Visor



— 2025 Convention Schedule —

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2025

10:00-5:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
10:00-11:00 am	Finance committee
11:00-12:00 pm	Executive Committee
1:30-2:30 pm	Board of Directors
2:30-3:30pm	2023-2025 and 2025-2027 District Directors Mtg
2:30-3:00 pm	Past Presidents' Advisory Council
4:00-5:00 pm	Workshop #1 "Houseplant Oasis" Jennifer Friend, Harrison County Extension
6:00 pm	Social Hour <u>Cash bar—No credit cards accepted</u>
6:30 pm	Dinner "Roaring Into Spring"

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025

7:00-8:30 am	Hotel Breakfast Buffet in Restaurant
8:00-5:00 pm	Convention Sales & Boutique Open (closed during meetings and lunch)
8:00 -10:00 am	Registration Desk Open
9:00-11:00 am	Business Meeting
11:30 am	Luncheon <i>"Landscaping with Pollinator-Friendly Medicinal Plants"</i> Rebecca S. Linger, Ph.D.
1:30-3:00 pm	Braxton Health Care Nursing home project Raised garden/planter bed
2:00-3:00 pm	Workshop #2 <i>"Flower Arranging Basics"</i> Maria Elena Baldini from Donna Flora Floral Shop
2:00-3:00 pm	Workshop #3 <i>"Let's Talk Orchids"</i> Paula Marsh from Hillbilly Orchids
3:00-4:00 pm	Workshop #4 <i>"Hands On Flower Arranging"</i> Maria Elena Baldini from Donna Flora Floral Shop
3:00-4:00 pm	Workshop #5 <i>"Essential Oil Rollers and Inhalers"</i> Lisa Tyte from Jessi Layne Apothecary.
5:45pm	Pictures (Incoming Officers and Incoming District Directors)
6:00 pm	Social Hour <u>Cash bar—No credit cards accepted</u>
6:30pm	Dinner & Installation <i>"Hats off to Spring"</i> Speaker: Brenda Moore, NCG President

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025

7:00-8:30 am	Hotel Breakfast Buffet in Restaurant
8:45-10:15am	Awards
10:30-11:30am	2025-2027 Board of Directors meeting



WEST VIRGINIA GARDEN CLUB CONVENTION

March 28-30, 2025

Ninety Fifth Annual Convention, Flatwoods Days Inn Conference Center
"Swing Into Spring"

Registration: Please complete form; make checks payable to "WVGCI" and mail both to: Faith Moore, 445 River Bend Estates Rd., Parsons, WV 26287

Email: faithkmoore1@gmail.com **Phone:** 304-476-2095

Postmark by March 7th for on time Registration.

THERE WILL BE NO REGISTRATIONS ON SITE

Last Name _____ First _____ Middle Initial _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Garden Club _____ District _____

Please check if we may email your acknowledgement to the address above.

Step 1: Select Full Convention or from A la carte List but not both.

Full Convention (\$145.00) includes registration and all meals - Workshops are additional
..... \$145.00

After March 7th add additional \$50.00 _____

A la carte List - must include registration

Registration before March 7th (\$35)..... \$ _____

Registration after March 7th (\$50) \$ _____

Friday Night Dinner (\$35) \$ _____

Saturday Luncheon (\$35)..... \$ _____

Saturday Banquet (\$50)..... \$ _____

Step 2: Select workshops/projects.

Project Saturday 1:30-3pm Braxton Health Care Nursing home project
no fee — check if participating..... _____

Workshops (circle one activity per time slot)

#1 Fri. 4-5pm "Houseplant Oasis" no fee—check if participating _____

#2 Sat. 2-3pm "Flower Arranging Basics" no fee—check if participating..... _____

#3 Saturday 2-3pm "Hillbilly Orchids" no fee—check if participating _____

#4 Saturday 3-4pm "Hands On Flower Arranging" @\$50 \$ _____

#5 Saturday 3-4pm "Herbs & Essential Oils" @\$20 \$ _____

Step 3: Purchase WVGCI visor Pink @\$15..... \$ _____

TOTAL INCLUDED \$ _____

MEALS: No requests for substitutions will be accommodated at the time of meal service. We will make every effort to accommodate your medical allergies but will not be able to accommodate individual dislikes. Please indicate special diet restrictions here.

Diet Restrictions: _____

Press Release

Lewisburg House and Garden Club

November 30, 2024

The Lewisburg House and Garden Club met November 20 at Carnegie Hall to “Decorate the Hall for the Holidays.” Suzanne Perilli and her mother, Martha Perilli, coordinated the event. Using the decorations purchased by the club last Holiday Season, the talented Perilli’s worked with club members to make the Hall merry and bright. When the decorating was completed, the members joined together for a Dutch-treat lunch. The club will not meet again until March, 2025.



Members participating in decorating the Hall: Martha Perilli, Suzanne Perilli, Karen McClung, Judy Deegans, Debbie Floyd, Joan Montgomery, Mary Lindquist, Carol Olson, Sue McKinney, Suzanne Cronquist, and Sharon Holladay. They were assisted by Michael Kincaid, Facilities Manager and John Arnold, Custodian.

North Hills Garden Club

The North Hills Garden Club meet at DaVinci's Restaurant in Williamstown, WV on Thursday December 12 for our annual Christmas dinner.

From left (front to back) and right (back to front) are:

Member: Amy Hupp

Spouse: Adam Hupp

Spouse: Martin Ols

Member: Rosemary Shrewsberry

Member: Terry Hardman

Spouse: Steve Hardman

Spouse: Harry Albaugh

Member: Karen Anderson-Albaugh

Member: Peggy Burton-Ols

Member: Roann Wojcik

Member: Ann Beecher

Member: Mark Beecher

Each member took home a beautiful Poinsettia Center Piece and a great time was had by all.



Shenandoah Garden Club Holds November Meeting

The Shenandoah Garden Club held its November meeting at the home of member Susan Guay.

A delicious lasagna lunch was prepared by versatile Club President & Chef Carol Hill. Assistant Chef Pat Magnone provided a variety of desserts and dishes from pickled beets to pumpkin pie.

Club member Cathy Burcham gave a presentation on “Floral Design Inspiration.” She asked, “What do you think of as the definition of inspiration,” and “What inspires you?” She discussed design principles and displayed several whimsical holiday arrangements which she had made. A simple gathering of long-needed pine branches was spangled with silver roping and sparkling sequins. A small white vase held greenery interspersed with “Starlight Mint” candies. A pink elephant added a touch of fanciful color, and a golden candle a touch of elegance. Everyone was “Inspired” to create arrangements to dress up the home for the upcoming holidays.

Three members were assigned a design for the month: “Serenity.” The arrangement could contain any type of plant material, with the only requirement being that it must include an angel. Each of the three imaginative and stunning creations were strikingly different. One, in a lovely blue bowl, contained a tiny fountain, with a stained-glass angel and a beautiful bouquet of hydrangeas. In a second design, a rose, carnation, and baby’s breath bouquet were held in an angel vase. The third, in a brass vase, was brimming with color—alstroemeria, vivid red hypericum berries, fresh hydrangea, and was topped by a petite china angel.

During the business meeting, Susan Guay said that several awards offered annually by the WV Garden Club had been applied for. The first award applied for was in the category, “Yearbook, Small Club.” The yearbook is the booklet created each year by the Club’s Vice President. It lists the meetings and activities which will take place during the year, speakers and designers, where the meeting will be held, etc. Shenandoah’s yearbook contains many charming pen-and-ink illustrations done by Club member Lou Cox.

Ms. Guay also applied for four State awards for “Renovation of the Entler Hotel Gardens” project—a joint venture with the Historic Shepherdstown Commission (HSC). Early in the spring, Shenandoah applied for and was awarded a Small Project Grant from the Shenandoah-Potomac Garden Council. This \$1,000 grant was combined with matching funds from HSC; these monies were used to renovate the landscaping around the historic Entler Hotel in Shepherdstown.

The State awards that were applied for are: West Virginia Garden Club Award; Rockwell Small Club Beautification Award; Sara H. Townsend Landscape Award; and Stedman Historic Preservation Award. These award winners will be announced at the March WVGC Convention, which will be held in Flatwoods, WV.



“Flowers are restful to look at. They have neither emotions nor conflicts.” - Sigmund Freud



Fred Brooks Garden Club

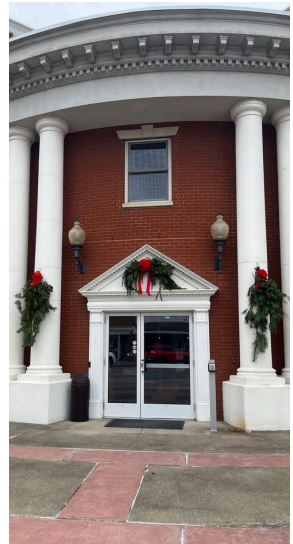
On Monday, October 14, 2024, members of Fred Brooks Garden Club assisted the Upshur County CEOs with their Breast Cancer Awareness program. The CEOs provide lunch and door prizes for those attending.

Fred Brooks Garden Club is responsible for the maintenance of grapevine wreaths decorated with pink roses; these wreaths are displayed at local medical offices and at Buckhannon City Hall & the Upshur County Courthouse for the month of October. Club members also hand out pink roses to breast cancer survivors who attend the ceremony.

Like most groups, FBGC has several members whose lives have been affected by breast cancer. The club is honored to help with this moving ceremony.

Fred Brooks Garden Club celebrated the season by making poinsettia ornaments for residents at St. Joseph's Skilled Nursing Facility & Serenity Care Home, compliments of the Garden Therapy Committee.

The club also created pine & holly swags for city and county buildings, including the Upshur County Courthouse & Annex. The final civic beautification project involved decorating the Christmas tree at the courthouse. The club enjoys helping the community celebrate the Christmas season.



Bluebell Garden Club

The Bluebell Garden Club was very busy the week before Thanksgiving getting ready for their Holiday Greenery Project. They decorated twenty-two downtown merchant's pots in Lewisburg which included Montwell Commons, the Greenbrier Historical Society, Carnegie Hall and the Greenbrier County Public Library.

Club members gathered white pine, magnolia, curly willow, box wood, and a variety of other evergreens. The greenery was then bagged for each pot. Twenty-one members participated and forty six pots were decorated.

It was a lot of hard work but everyone had a good time gathering and decorating the pots. Members received lots of compliments from people on the street while decorating.

Bluebell Garden Club had their Christmas Luncheon on December 19, 2024 at the French Goat in Lewisburg, WV. The food was delicious and the wait staff was excellent. The club has held their Christmas luncheon there for the past several years. There were twenty-one members in attendance, plus four guests. Everyone was in the holiday spirit and a good time was had by all.



Emma Scott Garden Club - Rosie The Riveter Statue Unveiling - April 14, 2025!!!!

ESGC has great news to share with each of you. The ESGC Rosie the Riveter statue and the black marble base she will soon stand on are completed and are being prepared for shipment to Elkins, WV.

This has been an exciting journey for the garden club as ESGC will be the first garden club in history to complete a project of this nature which will not only beautify the landscape, but will educate the public and

at the same time will honor the Rosie the Riveters that helped make America the beautiful country we live in.

David Kubichek of Mega Corp located in Elkins, WV is standing by to pick the statue up in Provo, Utah and deliver it to Elkins, WV where it will be stored until it is placed in the Veterans Memorial Field.

Rosie the Riveter stands as both a romantic and heroic figure from the World War II era. A former housewife turned war hero, Rosie, emerged from the kitchen to not only build the machinery necessary to fight but also cultivated Victory Gardens to feed the nation and troops abroad. She gave her all to help support the troops and win World War II. Posters depicting her image have become symbols of courage and patriotism.

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Emma Scott Garden Club (ESGC) of Randolph County, WV, the club deemed it fitting to honor and celebrate the remarkable women of WWII. ESGC anticipates other garden clubs nationwide will follow suit, placing Rosie the Riveter Statues in Memorial Fields across the country. The garden club commissioned Big Statues from Provo, Utah, to design and build a 6'3" tall Rosie the Riveter Statue. Additionally, the garden club commissioned a customized 3 ft base of black marble, inscribed with the names of Rosie the Riveters on it.

Following is a current picture of the site the ESGC Rosie the Riveter Statue will be placed on along with a current picture of the bronze Rosie statue. Larry Gouer the owner of Mary's Greenhouse, which is a local greenhouse in Elkins, will design an iconic garden for the site of the statue.

The bronze statue will stand 6' 3" on a 3' black marble pedestal infused with steel. The garden club is going with bronze since it will complement the Veterans Memorial and the future Goldstar Memorial Marker.

This stunning statue will require polishing once a year, which the local girl scouts will do in order to earn their badges. (The ESGC Committee recently discovered the

colored Rosie would have required repainting every 10 to 15 years, which would be too costly of a project for the garden club and could be too cumbersome).

All the Rosie the Riveters' names that were collected by the ESGC Rosie Team have been engraved into the front of the statue's marble base. Donors that contributed \$1,000 or more have been engraved into the back of the base.

The statue committee continues to work with Trasher Engineering and the Randolph County Commissioners on the completion of the site. The committee will keep everyone posted on any future developments.



Norborne Garden Club

Norborne Garden Club celebrated the Christmas season with three different events. We began the festivities with our annual workshop at the home of Janice Pinyan. While we were enjoying the delicious soup and sandwich luncheon, we produced 77 fresh tray arrangements to be delivered to recipients of the Martinsburg Meals on Wheels program. Our second Christmas celebration was at the home of Vickie and David Stedman where we enjoyed a festive Christmas Open House for members and spouses and each member received one of the beautiful WV state Christmas ornaments. Finally, we capped off the season with a fun and delicious luncheon at the Sycamore Restaurant. We are all looking forward to a big project we have planned for the spring at the historic Martinsburg Railroad Round House. This will be a major project, and we are excited to be joining forces with another local club, Olde Berkeley Garden Club, to make it happen.





Olde Berkeley Garden Club Celebrates 75 Years of Service and Fun

Olde Berkeley Garden Club has a long and proud history — going all the way back to May 13, 1949, when 12 local women met at Shenandoah Hotel in downtown Martinsburg to establish the club. The group soon became a charter member of West Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs (now West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.). One of the most tenured and beloved members was Mrs. C. Vincent Townsend (Sara), who joined Olde Berkeley in 1959 and was still a member when she passed away in late 2023 (64 years!).

In 1955, Olde Berkeley joined Shenandoah-Potomac Garden Council, which is comprised of garden clubs in both Jefferson and Berkeley Counties. The council is responsible for coordinating the annual House and Garden Tour, and Olde Berkeley has shown a house in every tour since its inception. Although it became necessary to cancel the tour during the pandemic, members were more than ready when the House and Garden Tour began again — as it is the primary fundraiser for area garden clubs and the funding source for many of the beautification projects in the community. Plus, Olde Berkeley's members love to make floral arrangements for the tour.

Making things beautiful is what garden clubs are all about. As an early project, Olde Berkeley joined with garden clubs across the nation to plant dogwood and evergreen trees along U.S. highways as a tribute to the men and women who served during World War II.

After the war, memorial markers (later named Blue Star Memorial Markers) at interstate highway welcome centers were erected. Garden clubs from all over the country, including Olde Berkeley, continue to maintain gardens surrounding the markers. As a member of Berkeley County Council (comprised of all the garden clubs in the county), Olde Berkeley helps to maintain a Blue Star Memorial Marker on I-81 northbound at the Virginia state line and another on I-81 southbound at the Maryland state line.

Over the years, Olde Berkeley has completed many award-winning beautification projects in the county, including landscaping at schools, non-profit organizations, historic sites and local parks. Giving back to the region with projects at General Adam Stephen House, the public libraries in Martinsburg and Hedgesville, the W. Randy Smith Recreation Center, Ambrose Park and the Children's Home Society, Olde Berkeley has also planted a Rhododendron Garden at War Memorial Park and a Butterfly Garden at Poor House Farm Park.

As an active member of Berkeley County Council, members always decorate the downtown library for the holidays and plant spring flowers at War Memorial Park.

Annually, Olde Berkeley's members also fund a scholarship for an area student to attend 4-H camp; recognize Arbor Day and Earth Day by donating and planting a tree in a local park; and make donations to a Tiny Tim program, providing holiday meals to less fortunate families in the region.

Three quarters of a century after its inception, Olde Berkeley Garden Club's 22 active members and 3 associate members are still going strong, continuing with Go Green! initiatives and projects to improve the places where they live. Specifically, their mission is to enhance members' knowledge and love of gardening; to protect native habitats and the environment; to serve the community through gardening projects; and to have lots of FUN while doing all that. Happy 75th!



***“Watching something grow is good for morale.
It helps us believe in life.” -Myron Kaufmann***

Judy's Garden Club

Even during the cold month of December, Judy's Garden Club members from the Appalachian District were involved in contributing to the needs of the community. The streets of Sutton have large planters that had to look festive for the upcoming town parade. So, members Brittany, Pat and Beth provided greenery and holly while Jennifer Rhodes led the group in placing gold spray painted and glittered corkscrew willow branches and filling in with the greenery, making attractive displays for the town.

The mother of a local high school student reached out to members of JGC saying she would appreciate having starts of different house plants to create a unique Christmas gift as her daughter is very interested in growing plants! Judy's members accepted the challenge and donated a variety of over a dozen plants ranging from a Swiss Cheese plant to rare succulents as encouragement for the budding young plant lover! The family was grateful for the variety of plants and this amazing experience. The mother has expressed interest in joining the club since she has read many articles about the club's activities.

Judy's Garden Club Wreath Event

Judy's Garden Club members, Appalachian District, enjoyed a delightful morning with delicious brunch foods and a short December meeting followed by new member, Connie Moore, leading the group in creating beautiful winter wreaths. Connie organized the materials for easy assembly and created stunning bows for each wreath. The members requested this wreath activity following Connie's presentation on flower arrangements during the October meeting. Connie was impressed with our JGC members and joined the club! The special guest at our December meeting was Brenda Moore, NGC President. We were very excited to visit with her and she left us a copy of her "My Green Is Gone" book. The club will take a break for January, but they are planning for a rain barrel project in the spring.



Green Hills Garden Club

Since 2023, members of Green Hills Garden Club's civic committee have weeded, provided potted plants, and placed outdoor decorations at the local domestic shelter. A variety of spring, fall, and winter containers have been filled. Pictured with this year's Christmas tree are members Joyce Hamilton, left, and Cathy Wilmoth. Wilmoth, civic chair, and Amy Carpenter stand beside the Christmas urn at the front of the shelter.



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WEST VIRGINIA GARDEN NEWS

West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.
1810 Myers Bridge Rd.
Martinsburg, WV 25404
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