



MARCH 2026
Vol. 5, Issue 1



OFFICERS
2024-2026
President: Terry Miller
Vice-President: Karen Yoder
Treasurer: Carolyn Schreffler
Recording Secretary: Connie Peterson
Corresponding Secretary: Dolores Knight

A Message from Your President Terry Miller

Greetings, fellow floral enthusiasts-
What a winter it has been! As I write this, there is still a major amount of snow on the ground. It is going to be above freezing today for the first time in some time. It is very surreal to celebrate 32 degrees, but at least the days are getting longer. I have my seed catalogues, and visions of heirloom tomatoes dance in my head.

I will get through this icy time, for I know that the winter aconites will be the first to adorn the withered lawns with their kisses of gold. Snowdrops are rehearsing under the icy blanket, readying themselves for the opening performance of their dance. Hellebores quiver beneath the snow waiting to burst upward to announce the Lenten season which shares their moniker. And then comes the grand parade of crocuses, hyacinths, daffodils, tulips, anemones, and irises. The trees begin to don their resplendent floral apparel as magnolias, flowering cherries, redbuds, dogwoods, and others join in the symphony that climaxes in a crescendo of Spring. Flowers, shrubs, and trees all vie for attention as if daring to ask "Who's the fairest of them all?"

So, I will do my usual and head for the Philadelphia Flower Show to quell my yearning for the vernal season. It's an annual "sister day" outing that Holly and I share, and she delights in the successes of my garden club friends as much as I do. She was so proud of our Club win last year, but her favorite memory continues to be the butterfly dress created by Wendy and Maria a few years ago. UGC does not have a club entry this year, but we can celebrate our colleagues who are entering in different categories.

UGC will roll into high gear in preparation for the Plant Sale on May 9th and the Garden Party in June. We will need many hands to pot up and label garden donations, and once that blanket of white disappears, we should start monitoring our gardens for possible specimens to share. The UGC members who have opened their beautiful landscapes for the Garden Party may need our help preparing for the tour. We will also require manpower the day of the event as hostesses at the various homes. Stay tuned for more information!

I will not miss the cruel cold of this winter, but I will savor the beauty that is to come even more than usual. I will rejoice in the splendor that is Spring.

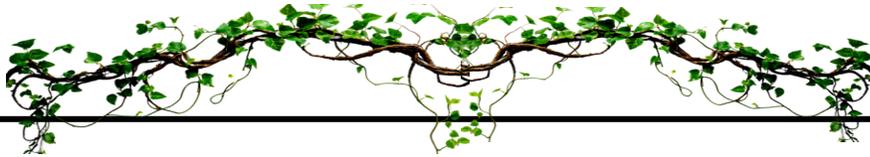
Bring on the Equinox!



## Meet Our New Members

**Suzanne DiJiacomo** - As gardeners, we know, "For everything there is a season". Carrie has invited me over the past few years to join the garden club because of our shared joy of gardening. This past year I was widowed and consequently asked myself, "What to do?" since my five children are adults with families. Gardening not only provides pleasure and satisfaction but also graces of awe, wonder, and gratitude. So I now am a member of your hospitable and embracing community.

**Lucille Jackson** - To begin, I have three fantastic children, eight wonderful grandchildren, and three delightful great-grandchildren. I am so fortunate and happy to be so blessed. Also, I have lived in my home on Marshallton-Thorndale Road for fifty years. My career was an English high school teacher for thirty years. I spent my last twenty-three years of teaching at Coatesville Area Senior High School. I received my BA from Thiel College in Greenville, PA. I continued on to earn my Masters degree from Villanova University. Unfortunately, I have been a widow for twenty years. I lost my precious husband to pancreatic cancer. I have traveled to South Africa and Brazil as a missionary sent from East Brandywine Baptist Church. In addition, my travels to Israel and Hawaii have been awesome. I enjoy reading, gardening, traveling, and taking trips to the beach with my family! I am honored to become a member of the Uwchlan Garden Club.



*Spring is nature's way of saying  
"Let's Party!"*

*Robin Williams*

## Snippets About the Meeting House *MJ Schlomann*

This year we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our independence and the 270th birthday of the Meeting House. Mary Whitesel has attended a meeting of the Uwchlan Historical Commission, and information will be coming about planned events at the Meeting House.

In 1967, members of our parent club, The Woman's Community Club of Uwchlan (WCCU), were asked to open the Meeting House on Chester County Day. With 100% participation of the club members, there was an outstanding exhibit of artifacts indigenous to our community, including original meeting house shutters. The event was complete with pony rides and demonstrations of weaving and candle making. Members' husbands cooked apple butter in a huge iron pot over an open fire, and we could smell the aroma for miles! They sold 100 jars that were prepared in advance, in a clean kitchen! Members dressed in colonial garb, and they sold baked goods and dried and fresh plants. Money that was raised is believed to have been used for the kitchen, which was updated that year.



# Sprouts and Seedlings Bird Feeder Program *Kate Morrison-Teeter*

On Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Uwchlan Garden Club hosted a hands-on bird feeder program for 15 children as part of the Sprouts and Seedlings series. Participants created bird feeder pinecones and crafted decorative strings of dried oranges and cranberries using yarn and wired millet seeds snips.

A special bird observation handout was provided to the children, encouraging them to watch the birds visiting their backyards and to draw pictures of the birds they observe.

The success of this workshop was made possible by the dedicated efforts of our volunteers: Darlene Synder, Colleen Bruno, Helene Reid, and Peggy LaRosa.



## Downingtown Library Community Planters

*Kate Morrison-Teeter*

On Saturday, February 7, the Downingtown Library planter boxes were refreshed with suet cages, millet seed snacks, and bird-seed pinecones to help feed winter birds. The project was completed in conjunction with the **Sprouts and Seedlings** hands-on workshop. Despite snowy conditions, Darlene and Stephan Snyder shoveled their way into the planter area to install the bird bounty. Our young participants were then encouraged to keep an eye out for the newly enhanced planters and the birds they attract.



## Must Have 'Tools'

*MJ Schломann*

As I have grown older, I learned to garden smarter. I have many old trees that shed twigs and branches when it is windy. Two 'tools' that I find helpful are:

- a battery operated mini-chainsaw to cut up branches that are too large for my loppers
- An electric chipper/shredder/mulcher to clean up small branches and twigs.



## 2026 Plant Sales *Sharon Richardson*

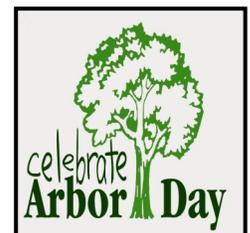
- April 25 University of Delaware AG Days <https://canr.udel.edu/udbg/> 10am-3pm
- April 25-27 Delaware Valley Rhododendron Society Plant Sale, Berwyn Baptist Church <http://dvchapterars.org/events.html#anchor> 9am-4pm
- April 24-26 Jenkins Arboretum Sale grand opening, remains open until the fall <https://www.jenkinsarboretum.org/plantsale/>
- May 2-3 Chester County Master Gardener Plant Sale, E. Bradford Twp. Building Saturday, May 2, 9am-4pm and Sunday, May 3, 9am-1pm.
- May 2 Horn Farm Plant Sale, 9am-3pm 4945 Horn Rd, York
- May 2 LaDew Garden Festival 8am-3pm <https://www.ladewgardens.com/gardenfestival>
- May 1-3 Tyler Arboretum Plant Sale 8am-2pm <https://tylerarboretum.org/special-events/>
- May 7 Philadelphia Chapter of the Herb Society, Historic Yellow Springs Meadow, 10am-2pm
- May 8-9 Herb & Garden Faire, Landis Vally Village and Farm, Landisville
- May 9 Dahlia Society Tuber Sale in front of Longwood Gardens Visitor Center
- May 9 Delaware County Master Gardeners Sale, 9am-1pm, Delaware County Extension office grounds, Smedley Park, 20 Paper Mill Road, Wallingford, PA 19064
- May 9 Uwchlan Garden Club Uwchlan Meeting House, Lionville
- May 9-10 Brandywine Conservancy Wild Flower, Native Plant, and Seed Sale <https://www.brandywine.org/conservancy/events/wildflower-native-plant-and-seed-sale>
- May 16- 9am-1pm. Montgomery County Master Gardeners, Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 1015 Bridge Road, Collegeville, PA



## Amusing Special April Dates - *Have fun with this Sharon Richardson*

April Holidays - April is Lawn and Garden Month

- April 5 - [National Dandelion Day](#)
- April 6 - [California Poppy Day](#)
- April 7 - [Caramel Popcorn Day](#) This tasty, chewy treat is great.
- April 13 - [International Plant Appreciation Day](#)
- April 16 - [National Orchid Day](#)
- April 17 [Herbalist Day](#)
- April 19 - [National Garlic Day](#) - How's your breath!?
- April 22 - [Earth Day](#) - Not really a gardening day, but an earthly environment holiday that all gardeners appreciate and support.
- April 23 - [National Zucchini Bread Day](#) - they hold this at a time when you are not sick of all that zucchini.
- April 24, Last Friday - [Arbor Day](#) - It's also called the "Tree Planter's Holiday."



# UWCHLAN GARDEN CLUB TO HOST BOOK FAIR AT BARNES & NOBLE

Sharon Richardson

As Chair of GCFP READS, I am delighted to announce an exciting fundraising opportunity with Barnes & Noble that will support both our local initiatives and our statewide efforts. This event allows us to educate the public about our mission, recruit new members, and promote our upcoming Plant Sale and participation in the GCFP Garden Party — all while advancing the GCFP READS goal of encouraging literacy in nature and gardening.

Our official Book Fair runs **March 20-27**.

On **March 20, 21, and 22**, members of the Uwchlan Garden Club will host an information table at Barnes & Noble, where we will engage with customers, share details about our upcoming events, and celebrate the joy of gardening and reading. We encourage you to invite friends and family to support our Book Fair by purchasing books for themselves or as gifts during this special week.

During the in-store event, we will give customers a Book Fair voucher to present at checkout so that a percentage of their purchases will benefit our club. Our Chair of Sprouts and Seedlings will also have a children's activity placed at the table, making this a fun and welcoming experience for families.

Supporters may continue to shop until **March 27** by presenting the Book Fair Voucher at checkout, ensuring their purchases are credited to Uwchlan Garden Club. Barnes & Noble has created a QR code that directs sales to our fundraising account.

Although our in-store presence is Friday through Sunday, we will receive credit for all qualifying in-store purchases made throughout the entire week until store closing on March 27th. (some exclusions such as gift cards and magazine may apply)

Please begin making your own list of books to purchase — for yourself, for friends, and for gifts.

Kindly bring your calendar to the **February 26th Garden Club meeting** and plan to sign up for a volunteer shift at Barnes & Noble. **Be sure to pick up a voucher and take a picture of it to share with family and friends.** This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the impact of our club, connect with the community, and share the enthusiasm and camaraderie that make gardening together so rewarding.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Barnes & Noble Voucher



BARNES & NOBLE  
**BOOKFAIRS**  
supporting

**Uwchlan Garden Club**  
Friday, March 20, 2026–  
Friday, March 27, 2026  
Exton  
301 Main Street



12938874

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your school/organization.\*

\*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks, video games, digital devices including NOOK®, purchases made at Cafés owned and operated by Starbucks, and other items Barnes & Noble may exclude from time to time in its sole discretion are not included in bookfair totals. Institutional discounts may not be applied. See BNCOM/bookfairs for more details and to shop online.

#BNBOOKFAIRS



## Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker News

MJ Schlomann & Becky Zeeger

Our NGC Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker was dedicated 10 years ago by the Garden Class of WCCU, our original name. The marker is a tribute to service men and women, past, present, and future. Our country is 250 years old this year and the marker will be re-dedicated on Sunday, July 5th, at 2:00pm, in celebration of this anniversary.

The NGC PLANT AMERICA Blue & Gold Star Memorial Beautification Grant is awarded strictly for cleaning up, planting flowers, and beautifying, (not for new markers) with a special emphasis on planting red, white, and blue flowers in celebration of America's 250th Anniversary. With help from Mary Whitesel and Sandy Hengst, an application was submitted and approved. Mary will be spearheading both the planting and the re-dedication.



# NGC School Information (Courses are In-Person unless otherwise specified)

## Gardening School

Course 1— None

Course 2— April 9-10, Derwood, MD (Hybrid)

Course 3— April 17-18, Sawyer, MI

Course 4— April 9-10, Chelmsford, MA  
June 10-11, Spartanburg, SC  
September 18-19, Sawyer, MI

## Flower Show School

Course 1— March 10-12, Tulsa, OK  
March 23-25, Ft. Payne, AL  
April 8-10, Milwaukee, WI  
April 13-16, Macon, GA

Course 2— March 8-10, Memphis, TN  
March 23-26, Norfolk, VA  
May 19-22, Boca Raton, FL

Course 3— April 13-15, Gettysburg, PA  
April 18-22, Voorheesville, NY

Course 4— April 11-16, East Brunswick, NJ  
April 25-30, Milford, MA

## Landscape Design School

Course 1— April 23-24, Traverse City, MI  
October 27-28, Charleston, SC

Course 2— March 25-26, Columbia, MD  
April 13-14, Richmond, VA  
August 25-26, Elizabethtown, KY

Course 3— September 28-29, College Station, TX

Course 4— April 27-28, Fairfax, VA (Hybrid)

## Environmental School

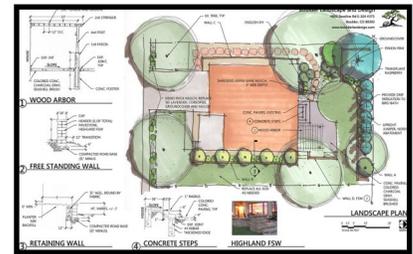
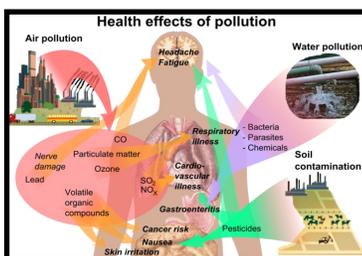
Course 1— None

Course 2— None

Course 3— March 16-19, St. Louis, MO (Virtual)  
April 6-7, Augusta, MI

Course 4— November 2-3, Augusta, MI

SCHOOLS MAY BE TAKEN IN ANY ORDER,  
IN ANY STATE, IN-PERSON, VIRTUAL, OR  
HYBRID (COMBINATION OF IN-PERSON,  
AND ON-LINE.)



## Become a Four & Five Star Member

Members completing all four NGC Courses may apply to become Four Star Members. Those Mastering each course may apply for Five Star Membership.



## Meetinghouse Moments, UGC Website & Facebook

**Meetinghouse Moments Editor**—MJ Schlomann  
mrsrags11@gmail.com, 610-246-0061

**Proofreader**—Terry Miller

Published quarterly: March, June, September,  
and December.

Deadlines: February 15, May 15, August 15,  
November 15

Please send articles in Word, with a title,  
author name, and credits (if copied from  
another source). Photos should be attached to  
the email.

**UGC Website**—[uwchlangardenclub.org](http://uwchlangardenclub.org)

**Webmaster**—MJ Schlomann

**Facebook**—Uwchlan Garden Club

**Moderators:** MJ Schlomann, Valerie Burgess,  
Mary Smith, Maria Jacobs

## Upcoming UGC Meetings & Programs

**Thursday, March 26, 11:00am**

- Meet Beatrix Potter! Learn valuable gardening tips and enjoy her presentation!

**Thursday, April 23, 11:00am**

- Steve Van Vallin "Romancing Your Garden with Fragrance!"

**Thursday, May 28, 11:00am**

- Tonya Young "Designing Arrangements for Competition!"

**Thursday, June 25, 11:00am**

- Susan Moyer-Glass "Ecology and the Environment" - a fascinating and timely topic, shared by a highly qualified Pennsylvania resident.



## Our Affiliations



National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC)  
President: Donna Donnelly  
<https://gardenclub.org/>



Central Atlantic Region of State  
Garden Clubs (CAR-SGC)  
Director: Beverly Kazickas  
<https://www.car-sgc.org/>



Garden Club Federation of PA (GCFP)  
President: Patricia Wolanski  
<https://pagardenclubs.org/>



GCFP District I  
Director: Pam Walsh  
no website

## GCFP District I Meetings

**District I Online Meeting**

- March 9, 6:30pm

**Presidents' Luncheon**

- June 5th, Chester County Solid Waste Authority, 7224 Division Highway, Narvon, PA 17555

**District I Annual Luncheon**

- September 10, Host: Covered Bridge Garden Club, TBA

