



February 2023

Welcome back Members,

I trust you had a wonderful holiday season and are enjoying a time of rest!

Speaking of the two, each new year my husband and I take time to rest and reflect on the different areas of our lives, preferably in a warmer climate. I find that nature is continually teaching me lessons. One day while watering my grouping of pitiful indoor plants, I looked at them and exclaimed, “*Are you surviving or thriving?*” I suspect I’m not the only one who talks to their plants. I barely watered or fed them any nutrients, which stunted their growth. Then, like a slap in the face, it hit me, “*Well, Katie, what areas of your life are you just surviving and not thriving?*”

Ouch! Needless to say, it was time to make some New Year’s resolutions. In turn, I hope in 2023 you are thriving and looking to improve, not only in your gardening knowledge, but in all areas of your life.

Coincidentally, we’re calling all to bring those pesky indoor plants to our first meeting where they’ll be put through a full physical inspection and check-up. Our Board and Committees have been working hard behind the scenes and have a fantastic 2023 Schedule (see the next page) with intriguing topics, field trips, and make-and-take crafts. Preparations have already begun for our annual fundraising event, the Plant Sale / Exchange & Marketplace. Please mark your calendars to be a part of all of these exciting events!

Looking forward to another year of growing with you,

Katie Cicilioni, President



Mountain View Garden Club 2023 Programs

MARCH 21

House Plant Clinic presented by Kristin Armstrong of Peaches Greens, Carbondale

APRIL 18

Native Plants vs Invasives presented by MVGC member, Carolyn Johnson

MAY 16

Garden Tour and Art with MVGC member John Stahl at Acre Lake

JUNE 4

Plant Sale/Exchange and Market Place

JUNE 13

Field Trip to Tannersville Cranberry Bog and Lunch, tour begins at 10:30

JULY18

Lavender Farm and Luncheon, Mountain Springs Lavender Farm, Tunkhannock

AUGUST 15

An Evening of Garden Hopping, visit the gardens of three of our members

SEPTEMBER 19

Mushrooms, Jennifer Ezman Allen will discuss foraging wild mushrooms

OCTOBER 17

Bingo with garden prizes

NOVEMBER 21

Holiday Wreath Making with MVGC member John Stahl

DECEMBER 13

Holiday Party (please note that this is a Wednesday)

Unless otherwise noted, the Mountain View Garden Club meets at the Clifford Township Fire House at 6:45 on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Be sure to check your email and future newsletters for updates and additional information.



Dues are due!

Checks can be mailed to:

**Mountain View Garden Club
PO Box 81
Clifford, PA 18413**

Or better yet, bring them with you to the March meeting!

Janelle Zigon's creativity, persistence and hard work have resulted in the many informative programs and fun activities that we at the MVGC have enjoyed over the years. Janelle has graciously agreed to share some of her history and background with us.

Gardening is therapeutic! I'm a big fan of that sentiment!

I first became passionate about gardening after getting married and moving into my own home in Harleysville, PA in 1986. I took an adult evening course in home landscaping and began adding flower beds, trees and shrubs to my new yard. Before that I had role models of gardeners in my parents, grandparents and even a friend's parents who had a beautiful property of self-hybridized rhododendrons.

During my career as an Occupational Therapist, working primarily in Mental Health, I frequently incorporated gardening and other horticultural activities into treatment. After graduating from OT school at Temple University, I started my career at Norristown State Hospital, where I worked for 17 years. After moving to the Harrisburg area I transferred to South Mountain Restoration Center where I worked for 2 years. When my husband and I decided we weren't thrilled about the change in location or jobs he suggested a move to this area. Since he grew up in Vandling and Forest City, and Clark Summit State Hospital was nearby, and I was able to transfer once again, we settled on the move to Clifford. During my time at CSSH I was able to pursue registration as a Horticultural Therapist and for the last few years of working, ran the Greenhouse Program there, designing and implementing treatment and supervising patient workers.

Soon after moving to Clifford I saw a flyer in the market about a plant exchange! I took a couple perennials to Vicki Lewandowski's house and joined the club!

I have enjoyed being a member of MVGC since, and have been able to be increasingly involved since my retirement from work 5 years ago. I've also taken advantage of the extra time to get involved with the Master Gardener program.

We moved from Clifford to Vandling in 2018, leaving behind lots of shade, few neighbors, and acquiring a smaller lot with lots of sun and close neighbors. I miss the ferns, moss and salamanders, but enjoy the smaller lot, town walks and having friends close by!

Besides gardening, I enjoy bike riding, especially on the rail-trail which is so close by, hiking, skiing at Elk Mountain and traveling whenever the chance presents itself. Visits with my stepson and daughter-in-law are infrequent but a special treat now and then. On a regular basis I enjoy cozy evenings on the couch with my husband and cat!

I also spend time volunteering for Meals-On-Wheels, the Carbondale Library and my church.

Help Wanted!

The annual clean-up at the Clifford Community center is scheduled for Tuesday May 23 and at the Clifford Fire House on Thursday July 20, both at 10:30. Grab your garden gloves, rakes and clippers and join your fellow members in beautifying the surrounding community. Lunch to follow!



February:

Joan Reading - 1st
Joann Hall - 4th
Susan Haff - 13th
Matilda Gavalis - 23rd
Louise Venturella - 26



We are pleased to welcome a new member
to the Mountain View Garden Club:

Dona Warner

We look forward to seeing you at our future
meetings and events.

March:

Ann Marie Noone 4th
Ethel Breuche 10th

AND

April:

Ann Marie Warren
Mary Ann Opecko 20th
Joanie Crowley 26th



May:

Bobbi Achev -3rd
Juliana Picccini -9th

It is with sorrow that we report the passing
of member **Judie Senio** in December.
Condolences have been sent to Judie's
family and a donation has been made in her
memory.



Bring a Plant to the March meeting

We also offer condolences to members
Louise Guszick, Deb McNamara and
Colleen Bobrovcan who have recently lost
their fathers.

PLANT SALE/EXCHANGE AND MARKET PLACE

SUNDAY JUNE 4, 2023

Save the date for the Garden Club's annual fundraising event. Join your fellow members at Clifford Township Community Park for this yearly event. Vendors, selling a variety of wares, will be in the park and the garage from 11 until 3, and the plant sale/exchange happens from 1 until 3. JoAnn Hall (who chairs the event) always stresses that this event is a gift to the community, and its success depends on the full support of the club.

What can you do?

- Dig and pot perennials from your own garden
- Come to the scheduled digs at members' homes
- Check your email for alerts of dates and times for the digs
- Clean and save pots for our digs.
- Spring cleaning? Bring unwanted items to the 2nd Hand Rose table (please, no books or clothes)
- Help set-up on Friday June 2nd and join fellow members early on Sunday June 4th to get things finalized
- Encourage friends and family to join us at the community center for plants, shopping, food and fun!

The Plant Sale/Exchange and Market Place committee is looking for additional vendors for this event. Do you know of a vendor who would like to be part of the Market Place? Contact JoAnn or a committee member and we will reach out to the vendor.

Grant Committee

The grant committee has been working to make mini-grants available to local teachers to enable enhancement of their instruction in areas of curriculum that support the mission of the MVGC. The details for the new Educational Grants will be finalized soon and grants will be made available to the teachers in our local school districts for the 2023-2024 school year. These grants are in addition to the Community Grants already available for beautification projects in neighboring towns.



Tinsel Trail

Monday December 5, 2022



JoAnn Hall, Louise Guszick, Juliana Piccini, Janelle Zigon and Sally Roberts decorate a tree for Carbondale's Tinsel Trail event. Proceeds support Upper Valley Project Hope to feed needy families in the Carbondale area.

Swag Making

November 15, 2022

The many hardy souls who braved the snow and wind were able to make a swag or wreath to decorate their homes for the holidays.



Sally Roberts carefully chooses her greens



Norma Genevich & Anne Marie Noone with their creations



Helene Tinsley with her lovely swag



John Stahl and his beautiful wreath

Another wreath making session is planned for November, be sure to join us then!

HOLIDAY PARTY

December 13th
Pettinato's Restaurant



Maize Gavalis and Nancy Ross show off their Christmas sweaters.



Katie Cicilioni welcomes members and guests



Gifts for the Women's Resource Center

It's almost spring and almost time to enjoy the abundances of the season. Try this recipe for shortcake (from Magnolia Journal) with freshly picked strawberries and whipped cream.

Simple Shortcake

Ingredients

1 1/3 cups all-purpose flour
2/3 cups sugar
2 tsp. baking powder
2/3 cup milk
1/4 cup butter, softened
1 egg
1 tsp vanilla
3 cups assorted fresh berries

Preheat oven to 350. Grease and lightly flour an 8-inch square or round cake pan.

In a medium bowl combine flour, sugar, and baking powder. Add milk, butter, egg and vanilla. Beat with a mixer on low until combined. Beat on medium 1 minute. Spread batter into prepared pan.

Bake about 30 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool cake in pan on a wire rack 10 minutes. Loosen sides of cake, invert onto plate. Cool 30 minutes or more. Cut into squares or wedges, split pieces in half crosswise serve with berries and whipped cream.

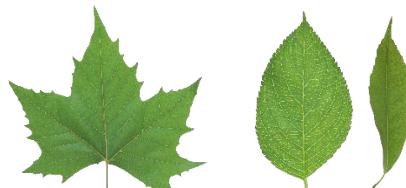


Fun Science Fact

Chlorophyll Makes Plants Green

Plants are green because their cells contain large amounts of chlorophyll, which is used for photosynthesis. Chlorophyll appears green because it absorbs blue and red wavelengths of light but reflects green wavelengths.

~The Daily Atom, January 18, 2023



The Mountain View Garden Club has a website. Visit it at

www.mountainviewgardenclub.org

for information and updates about programs and events, past newsletters, gardening tips and more.

Also visit the Garden Club's Facebook page and enjoy pictures from our members.