



February 2022



Members,

There is an old Yiddish proverb that states *The wagon rests in winter, the sleigh in summer, the horse never.* That could apply to the Mountain View Garden Club! We are looking ahead to the Plant Sale, the Nature Walk, the Pot Luck Dinner, Vegetable Gardening, Care of Gardening Tools and BINGO PARTY! Did someone say BINGO? Yes! For Plants, Gardening Stuff and fun!! Stay tuned.

As we work and strive to regain normalcy this year, the Program Committee, as usual, has once again done an outstanding job to adapt to the needs and interests of our membership and the changes of our ever-changing world environment.

The Old Farmer's 2022 Almanac tells us to "observe nature around you!"

- Bluebirds are a sign of spring, warm weather, and gentle south breezes bring them.

- Are worms and grubs reappearing? The March full Moon is called the "Worm Moon" for that very reason.
- Are you noticing that the days are getting longer? Did you know that the increasing amount of sunlight inspires birds to sing? Cool, eh?
- Can you feel the Sun getting warmer? The longer days bring higher temperatures. Both we and the animals around us discard our warm cloths and heavy coats!

So as we begin a new garden club year, I wish you happy planting, rich soil, many blooms and a plentiful harvest.

Mary Parise Tomaine

President

Dreaming of Spring



*On a frozen twig,
The little bird dreams of spring.
Oh! To see the sun!*

~Hedgehog Haiku 5 by Kerry Hartjen

Mountain View Garden Club

Programs for 2022

March 15

Welcome Back Social Time

Update on Spotted Lantern Fly and Asian Jumping Worm

April 19

Garden BINGO

BINGO with garden prizes!!

May 17

Vegetable Gardening

Gary White, Lackawanna County Master Gardener

June 5

Plant Exchange and Market Place

June 21

Nature Hike with Lynn Conrad

July 19

Pot Luck Picnic at Clifford Park

with Flower Pounding Project led by Louise Guzick

August 23

Luncheon at Camp Bluestone

September 20

Make your own Hydrangea Wreath

Led by Ann Marie Noone

October 18

Caring for Garden Tools

with Trevor from Corkey's

November 15


Swag Making

December 13

Holiday Party

Garden Club programs are generally on the 3rd Tuesday of the month and start at 6:45 at the Clifford Township Fire House. Please check your email and future Newsletters for updates and additional details.

Thank you, Janelle! You and your committee have arranged enjoyable and exciting programs for the coming year. We look forward to the meeting and events.



Don't FORGET!

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!

Dues are \$30.

The Plant Exchange and Marketplace is the MVGC's premier community event and is always eagerly awaited by both members and local gardeners. The following piece, send by JoAnn Hall, suggests ways that you,

as members, can contribute to the success of this annual event.

The garden's club annual Plant Exchange/Sale & Marketplace will take place on Sunday, June 5 at the Clifford Township Community Center. Vendors will be selling their wares from 11 'til 3 and the plant exchange/sale will be from 1 'til 3.

As always, the success of this event depends on our membership and is a wonderful gift to our community. And during these winter months, it's comforting to know that this too shall pass and we'll eventually be out in our gardens digging and potting perennials for our annual sale.

Once again, vendors will be scattered around the park as well as in the garage. We're hoping to have some scheduled tours of the park and surrounding property and would also like to have some demonstrations at specified times that will be posted in our publicity. If you know of any vendors who might like to join us (and especially some who would have a product that could be demonstrated for the public), please let one of the plant exchange committee members know.

And, of course, we will have 2nd Hand Rose housed in the garage. So when it's time for spring cleaning (or midwinter cleaning because it's too cold to do anything else) don't forget to put things aside for our sale.

The plant exchange committee consists of JoAnn Hall, Katie Cicilioni, Janelle Zigon, Louise Guszick, Mary Ann O'Pecko and Susan Haff. The 2nd Hand Rose flea market will be chaired by Ethel Breuche.

We so appreciate the support of our membership for this project each year as well as the support from the community.

We will have sign-up sheets at the meetings throughout the spring so club members can sign up to help make it a success again this year.

A group from the Laurel Garden Club in Scranton visited last year's Plant Exchange. As expressed in the following note sent to JoAnn they were quite impressed with our efforts. It is indeed an inspiration to continue with the Plant Exchange and strive to make it an even better event!

Joann,

Thank you for the experience of the beautiful, exciting Plant Exchange/Plant Sale. It was perfect in every way. You must thank all the volunteers that I met/saw working for the good of the Club.

The vendors, the music, the tag sale, the plants for sale ... a lot of work.

Many of our members visited earlier in the day. Each was very impressed.

We are having our small plant auction next Saturday. We hope next year to expand a bit. Your club really is a fine example for us. Hope next year we'll stretch a bit.

Congratulations on a beautiful event.

**Patty Lawler, President
Laurel Garden Club**



Farro Pesto



February:

JoAnn Hall – 4th

Mary Monahan – 4th

Susan Haff – 13th

Matilda Gavalis – 23rd

Louise Venturella – 26th

March:

Ann Marie Noone – 4th

Ethel Breuche – 10th

Kim Ezman – 14th

April:

Ann Marie Warren – 3rd

Mary Ann O'Pecko – 20th

May:

Bobbi Achey – 3rd

Rene' Shaver – 8th

Juliana Piccini – 9th

Judie Senio – 9th

Thanks to Louise Gusick for the following recipe. She has, on several occasions, suggested that the Farro Pesto is both delicious and healthful.

1 1/2 cups whole farro
1/2 tsp salt plus 1 tbsp for farro water
2 cups fresh basil leaves
1 1/2 cups baby spinach
2 cloves minced garlic
1/4 tsp pepper
1/2 cup virgin olive oil
1/3 cup plain yogurt
1/2 cup Parmesan cheese
1/2 cup roasted sunflower seeds
12 oz cherry tomatoes cut in halves
2 cups artichokes packed in water, rinsed, patted dry and quartered

Bring 4 quarts of water to boil. Stir in farro plus 1 tbsp water. Return to boil. Cook until tender with slight chew 15-30 minutes. Drain. Spread on cookie sheet. Cool 20 minutes.

Pulse basil, spinach, sunflower seeds, salt, pepper, grated Parmesan cheese in food processor. Slowly add oil and yogurt until incorporated.

Toss cooled farro with pesto until combined. Stir in tomatoes and artichoke hearts. Add warm water 1 tbsp at a time until desired consistency if needed. Enjoy.

Tinsel Trail



Janelle Zigon, Maureen Kupiec, Bobbi Achey and Louise Guzick decorate the Garden Club's Tinsel Trail Tree.

At the Holiday Party items appropriate for teen-aged girls were collected to support the Susquehanna County Interfaith Christmas program.



A few of the items collected at the Holiday Party

Holiday Party

at Oliveri's Crystal Lake Hotel



Janelle introduces the rules for the "Which Character Am I" ice breaker game.

Katie Cicilioni reports that Interfaith sent a:

THANK YOU to those who gave to make Christmas a little brighter and sweeter for the teenage girls of Interfaith Christmas Bureau program. Together over 1,800 people were reached in Susquehanna County, with gifts, food, and hope."



A Yummy Favor

Fun Science Fact



Bees' antennae are used to smell, taste, perceive humidity and temperature, feel, monitor gravity and flight speeds, and detect sound waves. To keep this vital equipment clean, bees have an 'antenna cleaner' on each of their two forelegs; these cleaners are made up of a notch in the basitarsus, which is fitted with stiff hairs, and a corresponding spur on the tibia. Bees regularly use these appendages to clean pollen and dust off of their antennae to keep them functioning in tip-top shape.

~The Daily Atom Sunday, February 20, 2022

Basitarsus: The last large segment on the middle leg of the bee.

Honey Bees A (Haiku) Poem

By James McLain

Leaving the safety
Of the hive one bee dances
Around each flower

What's Growing On...

Although it might not seem that spring will be here soon, it is just right around the proverbial corner. Forsythia and daffodils will be blooming; robins and humming birds will be returning. Please send pictures of your spring garden to suze.haff@gmail.com and they will be included in the next MVGC Newsletter.

