



November 2023

Dear Members,

It's hard to believe my "presidency" has come to an end. I've truly enjoyed serving our Club, beautifying and educating our local communities, and forming closer relationships with you.

We've covered some fascinating topics in the last two years like: Asian Jumping Worms, Flower Pounding, Cleaning and Storing Tools, Invasives, Garden Art, and Mushrooms. Some of my favorites have been the House Plant Clinic with the comical Kristin Armstrong, who told us to "Stop watering our plants," our delightful field trips, and our popular Garden Hopping.

I'm looking forward to our new school connections as we provide Educational Grants in 2024 and to see the next generation of gardeners form. Like my Mother always said, "Choose hobbies and sports that you can enjoy for a lifetime." A fine example of this is our active member, Nancy Ross, who celebrated her 90th birthday recently and who is highlighted in this newsletter.

As I pass the gavel to the talented Helene Tinsley, I wish you a wonderful Holiday Season and as always " I look forward to growing with you!"

Katie Cicilioni, President

## JINGLE & MINGLE



Wednesday, December 13 at 5:00 p.m.

**Montdale Country Club**  
1452 Country Club Road, Jermyn, PA

Dinner is \$35.00 per person, cash bar

Please RSVP by December 1, 2023

We will collect donations for the  
Susquehanna County Interfaith Organization.  
They have requested plug-in  
nightlights and body lotion to include in their  
gift bags to Seniors.



The dues for the 2024 year are currently being collected! They can be sent to:

Mountain View Garden Club  
PO Box 81  
Clifford, PA 18413

Or bring them to the  
"Jingle & Mingle"

Dues are still \$30!



## November:

Linda Leber - 1<sup>st</sup>  
Nancy Ross - 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Joyce Lomma - 23<sup>rd</sup>

## December:

Sally Roberts - 1<sup>st</sup>  
Rachel Bembas - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Helene Tinsley - 4<sup>th</sup>  
Irma Schnessel - 8<sup>th</sup>  
Mary Hayes - 21<sup>st</sup>  
Mary Pucul - 24<sup>th</sup>  
Lynne Bott - 29<sup>th</sup>  
Maureen Kupiec - 30<sup>th</sup>

## January:

Janelle Zigon - 11<sup>th</sup>  
John Stahl - 27<sup>th</sup>  
Judy Borosky - 28<sup>th</sup>  
Kim George - 30<sup>th</sup>

## February:

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

Welcome

to our newest member, Lynne Bott!

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

The Mountain View Garden Club  
sadly reports the passing of founding  
member, Kathey Frey. A donation  
has been made in her name to  
Hawaii's People Fund to benefit the  
victims of the Maui wildfires. Her  
obituary can be viewed here:

<https://www.brennanfuneralhomes.com/obituary/Katherine-Frey>



### Winter Haiku

winter climbs to eaves  
icicles growing longer  
dripping tears of joy

~L. Milton

## NANCY ROSS CELEBRATES HER 90TH BIRTHDAY!

Nancy, who is a founding member of the Mountain View Garden Club, was born on November 22, 1933 (who could forget 11/22/33).

Nancy Lee Wind was born in Short Hills, New Jersey in a maternity home, the thought then being a hospital was for the sick and dying.

She lived in Newark, NJ through Kindergarten, where her only memory of that school was the plaster ceiling falling in the girl's bathroom. Additionally, she recalls returning daily from school and yelling "Chicken Noodle Soup!", which apparently was something she enjoyed, and her grandmother liked to prepare for her.

The family then moved to Chatham, NJ, where she attended school from grade 1 through grade 12. She graduated from Chatham HS in 1951. Nancy attended Skidmore College for 2 years before marrying Charles Sebert Ross (Bruce) on August 19, 1953. She was 19 years old.

Nancy and Bruce had 4 children, Elliot, Hilary, Jeff, and Jessica. When her youngest (Jessica) entered first grade, Nancy resumed her college education at Fairleigh Dickinson University, taking night classes, and graduating in 1970 with a B.A. in Psychology. She immediately enrolled in Newark State College (now Kean University) to pursue a master's degree in education which she received in 1972.

She began working as a School Psychologist in the fall of 1972 for the Montville, NJ

School System, K-12. In 1977, the school hired a second School Psychologist, and Nancy's responsibility was then K, and 7 to 12. She retired in 1985.

Nancy and her family moved to Elk Mountain in 1985.

Some of her many accomplishments are:

- Elk Mountain Ski Patrol from 1967 to 1994
- Founding member of the bridge club
- Founded Rail Trail Council of NEPA in 1992
- Planned Parenthood (Scranton) volunteer for 15 years.
- Women's Resource Center (Scranton) volunteer for 24 years

Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother (she has 5 granddaughters and 3 great grandsons) Nancy is a vital member of our community, still working with Rail Trail Council, a political activist, and tending her beautiful gardens (she was part of the garden tour in August).

As Nancy once said, "My belief encompasses the energy of nature and my favorite place to be is in my garden and among my big old trees".

~Thank you Maureen Kupiec for collaborating with Elliot for this retrospect of Nancy's rich life.



Janelle Zigon made this beautiful cake to celebrate Nancy's birthday at the November MVGC meeting.

# Garden Club Updates

## Officers

We have a new President and Vice President. Thank you Helene Tinsley for taking on the important role of President. Thanks also to Katie Cicilioni for stepping up again as the Vice President. Rachel Bembas will remain as Treasurer, as will Maureen Kupiek and Juliana Puccini as Recording and Corresponding Secretaries.

## By-laws

The MVGC's by-laws have been reviewed and updated to reflect the club's evolving needs.

### Article IX - Fiscal Year & Dues

- Adjusting due collection period - Annual dues to be payable from Oct 1st to Dec 31st for the following year, rather than from Jan 1st - May 1st. This will help with budgeting and our membership phonebook printing.

### Article XI - Standing Committees

- Adding of a Chair position to the Membership Committee
- Subcommittee Addition - The Field Trip Committee/Chair will become a Subcommittee, added under the Program Committee/ Chair, as needed according to our Calendar of Events, and not its own Committee.
- Adding of a Committee - The addition of a Grant Committee/Chair is needed to manage our Community and Educational Grants

### Addendums

- Fee change - a \$75.00 honorarium will replace the current \$50.00 honorarium.
- Privacy of information - Members' contact information is for the use of our Club and not for solicitation.

## Budget

The Club's 2022 financial audit was recently completed and our finances are in good standings. Thank you Mary Pucul for volunteering to undertake this important job.

## Grant Committee

The Grant Committee reviews and evaluates requests for Community and Educational Grants. This year is the first time Educational Grants have been offered to local area teachers. Several teachers have taken advantage of the opportunity to apply for a grant of up to \$500 to supplement the educational programs in their classrooms. The recipients of the grants and a description of their projects will be announce soon. We are all excited about this opportunity to share our knowledge and love of gardening with area students and teachers. In addition, Sally Fischbech has recently joined the committee. Her experience and expertise in this area is a welcomed addition.



### Lend A Hand

As the adage says, "Many hands make light work." This is also true of the MVGC. There are many ways to help in the Garden Club. Members are always needed and welcomed to join in our many events and activities and there are many ways to lend a hand. Come to meetings, join in clean-ups and plant digs, help with the plant sale, volunteer to be a member of a committee. There are also added bonuses; you will gain insight into gardening topics, get to know our members, and you will even have fun.

# All About Mushrooms

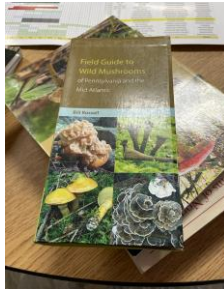
September 19, 2023

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Kingdom Mushrooms



Jennifer & George Linsenbigler shared their knowledge and skills about foraging for wild mushrooms. The meeting was well attended and included many members of the surrounding communities.

A current field guide to the local area is an essential tool in identifying mushrooms. Jennifer's favorite is Field Guide to Wild Mushrooms of Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic by Bill Russell.



Other useful tools include a knife, brush and collecting basket.



## Know your mushrooms is the key factor to remember when mushroom hunting!

The Linsenbiglers also pointed out several other things to keep in mind. The season, area and habitat are factors that affect mushroom growth and suitability for consumption. Know your area and eat only what you have positively identified.



Spore prints can also identify mushrooms

Examples of mushrooms their business grows



# B-i-n-g-o

October 17, 2023



Bingo packets, ready to go!



Our Bingo callers!



So many prizes!



Enjoying the game!



Delicious snacks!



The big winners of the evening!

# Wreath Making

November 22, 2023



After a one-day postponement due to the weather, John Stahl led members in constructing beautiful holiday wreaths.



*Thank you, John, for sharing your skills and expertise!*



*The snack table with a beautiful birthday cake for the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Nancy Ross!*

