



FGCMD District I

Sept.-Oct. 2022

Issue #25

Well we are finally back, not exactly on track of producing Garden Basket monthly, but we hope to get back into the swing of things soon.

This has been an incredibly busy time for so many of us.....first we had our fantastic, over the top, Flower Show, *Harvest Highlights* in September, followed closely by fabulous District I Semi-Annual Meeting at the Hyatt in Cambridge, featuring Sylvia Deck, floral designer and then club activities and meetings resumed for all of us.

Wow thinking about all this just makes me exhausted!!

This issue of *Garden Basket* will be a bit different than previous ones as we are going to concentrate on the activities mentioned above....so it will be more pictures than text. For those of you that were able to attend the various activities we hope it brings you back some fun memories, and for those of you that missed one or two, we hope you will enjoy seeing what your fellow District I members have been up to these past two months.

Next month we will get back to our usual format, and also concentrate on the upcoming holiday season.

So sit back with a cup of coffee or hot tea in your garden if it is not too chilly, and enjoy!

Irish Reynolds, Gardenews/Publications Chair



Director's "Mini Basket"

You've heard me say before that **District I is the best**, but after our amazing Standard Flower Show, '*Harvest Highlights*,' and our Semi-annual Meeting at the Hyatt featuring nationally-known designer Sylvia Deck, all I can say is **Wow, Wow, Wow!**

The Flower Show was very well attended (an estimated 800-900 attendees) and the venue (Chesapeake College) worked out beautifully. There was lots of garden club participation, the entries were wonderful, creative and diverse, the workshops essentially standing room only andI could go one and on. Thank you to everyone (list is too long to name) who made these events the successes they were. You'll see photos and hear more about the events in this issue.



I do want to acknowledge the winners of multiple top Flower Show Awards from our District:

- Susie Middleton, member of Dorchester, Oxford and Talbot County GCs *and* incoming president of FGCM, walked away with the Award of Horticultural Excellence, The Grower's Choice Award the Susan B. Whitaker Perpetual Award for her most creative Petite Design! An incredible showing on her part.
- Frances Follmer of Somerset and Four Seasons GCs won the Award of Design Excellence and the Designer's Choice Awards.
- Ann Street, also of Somerset and Four Seasons, won multiple awards as well—the Design Petite Award and the Evelyn Williams/Joanna Cato Perpetual Award for the blue ribbon design which demonstrated the most creativity.

Well done ladies! All three of these exhibitors are Flower Show judges having completed the NGC Flower Show School.

- Carolyn MacGlashan, Chairman of the Flower Show and member of Queen Anne's GC apparently didn't have enough to do with her chairmanship duties so she also entered the show and was awarded the District Director's Award for the Gourd Growing Challenge and an Award of Merit for Horticulture.
- Congratulations as well to Pamela Keaton, Sandy Wrightson, April Walter, Karen Collins, Monica Mooney, Jackie Davies, Robin Lanham, Karin Brimar, Paula Kumar, Julia Miller, Carol Jelich, Jane Thompson, Gail Willin, Laura Blaylock, Susan Coomer and Nancy Bennington—all of whom won top awards. Thank you and congratulations to all those who entered, whether you won a ribbon or not, as you so positively reflect the talents of District I gardeners and designers.

At our **Semi-annual Meeting**, Sylvia Deck created numerous designs for holiday celebrations from Halloween to New Year's Day. She wowed us with her vibrant color choices, some unusual floral material (like an amazing purple anthurium, gorgeous coral roses and stunning blue delphinium) and some of the most creative containers--including a fish poacher! She finds many of her containers at thrift or discount shops and her large, three-tiered urns were purchased at Aldi!

Sylvia was very generous with her designs and what she made available for raffle to a number of very lucky members! Our 50-50 raffle yielded a pot over \$500—for the winner (same amount for our District) and over \$1000 were raised in the club raffle in which all ten clubs donated lovely prizes.

Congratulations to Pat Jessup for winning the District's Perennial Bloom award and to Anne Foss who was awarded the Joanna Tilghman award. Both well-deserving winners serve on the current District Board.

In addition, a number of people received **District Director's Certificates of Appreciation** for their various contributions: Susie Middleton and Terry Holman for producing excellent video training programs on horticulture and design flower show entries; Diana Bonner for the Kent Island Gold Star Dedication Program; Carol Jelich for organizing our very successful field trip to Salisbury University Arboretum, Carolyn MacGlashan for her superb chairmanship of Harvest Highlights, Ellen Higgins for serving as 'team photographer' for our various events and Michelle Hall, Event Manager at Chesapeake College, who so ably assisted and supported in the planning and execution of our Flower Show.

The **Slate of Officers** for the next administration term (**2023-2025**) was formally nominated at this meeting and accepted unanimously by those in attendance:

- Terry Homan - District Director
- Ann Street – Assistant Director
- Pat Jessup - Treasurer
- Linda Elias - Recording Secretary
- Anne Foss - Corresponding Secretary

The vote on these nominees will be taken at the Annual Meeting in March at which time I will be happily passing on the torch! In the meantime, Terry will be assembling her Board, specifically the committee chairs. If anyone has an interest in serving on the Board—it is a great opportunity to meet people from across the district and to learn a lot—please contact Terry.

Also at the Semi-annual meeting, we asked attendees to contribute 'loose change' (more like dollar bills!) to **Penny Pines** so that we could contribute funds to reforest national parks sites in Florida after the recent catastrophic hurricane. I'm pleased to say we will be making **two** separate contributions based on the funds raised--\$68.00 for each contribution. Thank you to all those that donated to this worthy, emergency cause. I encourage all clubs to consider passing the Penny Pines jar so that you can make your own donations to the cause of your choice.

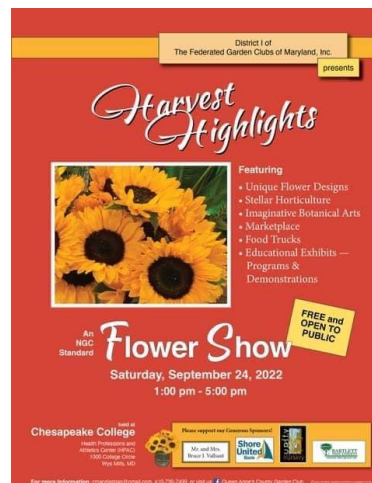
The District and some clubs have donated in the past in memory of deceased members, but you can also choose to honor someone by planting new trees through the NGC Penny Pines Program.

Once again, after a hiatus of a couple of years due to Covid, the **State House Display of Trees and Wreaths** created by garden clubs is back on. This program was created by Governor and Mrs. Hogan but, as Governor Hogan cannot run for re-election, we do not know if the next Governor will continue with the display. I'm pleased to say that nearly all our clubs are participating and the two counties on the Shore not being represented will likely have an entry created by one of our members so no one will be left out. Set-up for the display is November 28th and 29th. I encourage you to stop by during the month of December to view all the beautiful, creative trees.

Part I - District I Flower Show - Highlights

The District I Flower Show took months to create....there are so many parts to a Flower Show of this size....choosing your theme, lining up the location, setting up your committees, beginning with the Show Chairmen, writing the schedule, getting gals to be consultants, publicity, judges, staging, funding, sponsors, and then getting the actual participantsI could just go on and on.

And then the day comes.....and what a day it was. It was a beautiful September day, just perfect for a fall themed Flower Show. The stage was set, the Designs complete, the Horticulture was displayed, Botanical Arts were out there for all to see, Educational exhibits were there for the public, and the Classrooms were ready for the afternoon classes.....



*FS General Chairman -
Carolyn MacGlashen*



FS Vice Chairman - Jane Thomson

The Beginning.....Division I Horticulture Entries, Classification, Placement



Horticulture on the Floor Waiting to be Judged



And the Winner is Susie Middleton

Susie Middleton, member of Dorchester, Oxford and Talbot County GCs and incoming president of FGCMMD, walked away with the Award of Horticultural Excellence, The Grower's Choice Award

Division II Design - The Design division of a flower show brings out the creative talents of the participants – and this show had a bit of everything for our amazingly talented designers.....from Traditional designs, to Creative, to Petite, to a Table Design and even a section for Novices, ie designers who had not won a blue ribbon in a NGC Standard Flower Show.



Section A – Class 1 – Creative Design

A Multi-Rhythmic Design

Designer – Frances Folmer – Somerset GC
and Four Seasons GC

Blue Ribbon and **Award of Design Excellence**

Section B- Class 6 – An American Traditional Line Mass

Designer – Jackie Davies –Worcester CGC

Blue Ribbon and Tri-Color Award



Section C – Class 8 - Petite

Designer – Ann Street – Four Seasons GC

Blue Ribbon, Petite Award, and Evelyn Williams/Joanna Cato Perpetual Award for design that demonstrates the most creativity



Section D – Class !0 – Club Competition - A Functional Buffet Table



Designer – Pat Jessup, Oxford Garden Club
Blue Ribbon and Club Competition Award

Division III – Educational

Section A, Exhibit 2

Designer – Robin Lanham, QACGC

“District I – FGCM, Inc. – Patriotic Programs”

Blue Ribbon and Educational Top Exhibitor Award



Division IV – Botanical Arts

- **Section A, Class3**



Designer – Karen Brimer, Somerset GCG

A wreath using dried plant material

- **Section B, Class 4 – Create a Scarecrow**



Diana Bonner and Judy Tucker

These lovely ladies, ie the Goddesses, greeted all the show goers as they entered the lobby....certainly set the tone for the Show.....Wild and Wonderful....a real WOW!



Blue Ribbon & General Show Chairman Award- Chestertown GC - Susan Coomer and Nancy Bennington

- **Section C, Class C – Photography**

Class 8 – “Table Scape”

Photographer – Paula Kumar, QACGC

Blue Ribbon and Botanical Arts Photography Award



Class Room Demonstrations and Lectures –

As an added feature of this show District I included four classroom activities. Pictured to the right is Ken Morgan of Robin's Nest in Easton conducting his lecture on "Putting Your Garden to Bed for the Fall"

All were well attended with several standing room only!



One of the new things introduced with this Flower Show was to hold it on a Saturday....we hoped that we would attract a larger crowd by having it on a weekend.....results are in, we had between 700 and 800 people enjoyed the Show....terrific results!

I would say that "**Harvest Highlights**" was a tremendous success –Congratulations District I

Just in case I missed anyone, here is a complete list of the Flower Show winners (thank you Ann Street)

AWARDS **"Harvest Highlights"** **September 24, 2022**

NGC Top Exhibitor Awards

NGC Awards for this show were as follows:

- Division I – Horticulture
 - Award of Horticulture Excellence (*Susie Middleton – Oxford GC*)
 - Arboreal Award (*Pamela Keaton – Talbot GC*)
 - Award of Merit (5) (*Sandra Wrightson – Oxford GC, April Walter – QAGC, Karen Collins – Oxford GC, Monica Mooney – Kent Island GC, Carolyn MacGlashan – QAGC*)
 - Grower's Choice Award (*Susie Middleton – Oxford GC*)
- Division II – Design
 - Award of Design Excellence (*Frances Follmer – Somerset County GC*)
 - Designers Choice (*Frances Follmer*)
 - Tricolor Award (*Jackie Davies - Worcester County GC*)
 - Petite Award (*Ann Street – Four Seasons GC*)
 - Club Competition Award (*Oxford GC*)

- Division III – Education
 - Educational Top Exhibitor Award (*Robin Lanham – QAGC*)
- Division IV – Botanical Arts
 - Botanical Arts Artistic Craft Award (*Karen Brimer – Somerset County GC*)
 - Botanical Arts Photography Award (*Paula Kumar - QAGC*)
- NGC Recognition Awards
 - Award of Appreciation (*Barlett Tree Experts*)
 - Show Sponsor Awards (4) – (*Barlett Tree Experts, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Valliant, Unity Church Hill Nursery, Shore United Bank*)
- All awards were placed except for one Award of Merit, Division I, Horticulture, Section F which was returned to the FGCM Flower Show Evaluation Chairman.

District I Awards

District I Awards for this show were as follows:

- Division I – Horticulture
 - Margaret Roberts Yerger Perpetual Award – for the exhibitor winning the most blue ribbons for perennial exhibits (*Julia Miller – Talbot GC*)
 - District I Director's Award – two \$50 monetary awards offered to the exhibitors receiving the highest score in Division I Horticulture *Dahlia* Growing Challenge and *Gourd* Growing Challenge Sections (*Carol Jelich – Oxford GC & Carolyn MacGlashan -QAGC*)
- Division II – Design
 - Evelyn Williams/Joanna Cato Perpetual Award - awarded to the blue-ribbon exhibit which demonstrated the most creativity (*Ann Street – Four Seasons GC*)
 - Lou Whittington Perpetual Award – awarded to the exhibit which emphasized the most creative use of flowers from bulbs, corms, tubers, rhizomes, or any part of the bulbous plant (*Jane Thompson – Somerset GC*)
 - Myrtle Ashburn Polk Perpetual award – awarded to the exhibit which demonstrated the most dramatic use of color (*Gail Willin – Four Seasons GC*)
 - Mrs. Wilmer Fell Davis Perpetual Award – awarded to the exhibit that showed the most originality (*Laura Blaylock – QAGC*)
 - Susan B. Whitaker Perpetual Award – awarded to the most creative Petite Design exhibit expressing a sense of humor and wit (*Susie Middleton – Oxford GC*)
 - Linda Armiger Award - \$50 monetary award given to the exhibit with the most creative use of fresh plant material (*Queen Anne GC*)
- Division IV – Botanical Arts
 - General Show Chairman Award – awarded to the blue-ribbon winner of the Botanical Arts Division Scarecrow Companion Competition (*Susan Coomer & Nancy Bennington - Chestertown GC*)

Part II – District I Semi-Annual Meeting



Harvesting Happiness

'Tis the Season for Gathering

On October 5 approximately 150 District I members and State Officers

gathered together to enjoy fellowship and friendship and to hear all the wonderful things that have been going on in our District.



One of the highlights of the event was the awarding of two very special awards:

- **The Perennial Bloom Award** - Our Garden Clubs have been extraordinarily fortunate to have so many long-service and faithful members who have enriched our Clubs with their love of gardening, their enthusiastic leadership, their service as officers and chairmen of various committees at the Club, District, and State levels, and their dedication to the goals and objectives of NGC, CAR-SGC, and the Federated Garden Clubs of MD, Inc. They are always present to mentor new members, ensuring a strong garden club for years to come. All of us have benefitted immeasurably from these talented women. **This year's winner is Pat Jessup, Oxford GC.** (Unfortunately Pat was not able to attend due to Covid)
- **Joanna Lloyd Tilghman Award of Special Recognition** is presented to a member of District I who exemplifies the objectives of FGCMMD by special dedication to District I work. **This year's award went to Anne Foss, QACGC!**



District Director Awards of Special Recognition were also presented.



Susie Middleton, Ellen Higgins, Michele Hall (Ches College), Terry Holman, Carol Jelich, Diana Bonner, Carolyn MacGlashen

Following a bit of shopping, bidding on Auction items and lunch, we were entertained by Sylvia Deck, nationally-renowned floral designer,

Sylvia Deck. Sylvia wowed us, one stem at a time, with her holiday-themed floral creations which she hoped will encourage, inspire and educate as we embark on an eventful floral journey for the holidays. Sylvia will create designs for Halloween, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas and New Year's Eve, all of which will be raffled to lucky winners.



Here are Sylvia's fabulous designs.....congrats to the winners who got to take these home!





We hope you have enjoyed this issue of the District I's newsletter – *Garden Basket*.

Garden Basket is published and circulated to District 1 Club Members monthly. Input is welcomed from members in District I and should be sent to Trish, pk26998@gmail.com

Trish Reynolds

_____ Member of _____
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc.
Federated Garden Clubs of MD, Inc. – District I

