

# The Garden Post

DISTRICT I

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA GARDEN CLUBS INC. —CENTRAL ATLANTIC REGION—NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC

## Set a Goal and Watch it Grow

## This Issue

[Busy Bee Awardees](#) p. 2-4

[Awards Listings](#) p. 5-6

[Upcoming Events](#) p. 6



A big thank you to the garden clubs for attending the District I Awards meeting and getting recognized for your achievements this past year. So proud of each of you. Congratulations to the “Busy Bee Awardees.” Each of you has helped your

garden club grow.

I thank you for giving me the opportunity to have served as your Director. It has been a pleasure to have gotten to know each of you. Visiting your clubs has been a joy for me. It gave me the opportunity to meet your club members and hear what your club was doing to promote education, community involvement and what you are doing to preserve the environment. I am in awe of what each of you are accomplishing.

District I is very fortunate. Diana Morse, the current Assistant Director, has agreed to fill the two-year term of Director. Diana will also be serving a two-year term as president of Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club and as the secretary for the Gardening and Environmental Consultants Council. Because of her busy schedule, and the fact that there is no Assistant Director, Diana is going to need the help of each of the wonderful District I Garden Clubs for next two years. How you can help will be determined at the Presidents’ Tea on Saturday June 8, 2019 starting at 10 a.m. and ending at 1 p.m. The Presidents’ Tea will be held on the fourth floor at the Cheverly Methodist Church located 2801 Cheverly Ave, Cheverly, MD 20785. More information about this meeting will be forthcoming. Enjoy our beautiful spring.

*Julie*

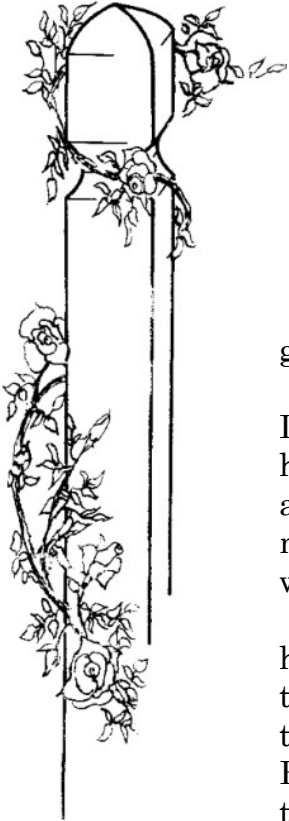
Julie Harrison

The new NCAGC site has launched!

We are awaiting the names of the new NCAGC Communications Chair and NCAGC webmaster.

In the meantime, Danielle will respond to webmaster emails (NCAGCwebmaster@gmail.com) up until April 30, 2019. Presidents will receive an email with the login credentials.

[NEW Look to  
NCAGC Website](#)



## BUSY BEE AWARD WINNERS

### 2018-2019

#### Acorn Garden Club

**Ellen Maxwell** joined The Acorn Garden Club in 2008 and jumped in with both feet to take on the publishing and updating of our Acorn Garden Club handbook. She willingly and happily kept up this commitment for 10 years. She has been a constant contributing Acorn, serving on the Executive Board as Treasurer for four years, as well as on the Membership committee, Community Projects and Program committee. Her history with our club has always provided us with her keen sensitivity to our club's Mission and our goal for continued growth. Her good nature, team spirit and always being available to help when needed is an asset to us. I remember when I was a new member and when I took on a new committee, I could call her anytime for advice and she was always there for me. (Submitted by Karen Snyder)



Our Two Busy Bees, Lydia and Pamela, who attended the District I March Meeting!

#### Capitol Hill Garden Club

Our BUSY BEE is **Teri Speight**, who has belonged for only a few years but has jumped in with enthusiasm to fill the gaps and keep the club on track. Teri is a garden speaker, writer, Master Gardener, and former head gardener for the City of Fredericksburg. She chairs the club's communication committee and she produces our monthly electronic newsletter. She has presented a program on the Gardens of France, facilitated a club roundtable on member gardening, and assisted with the annual Deck the Halls Workshop. Most recently she has agreed to fill the unexpired term of our Vice President. A Busy Bee, indeed. (Submitted by David Healy)

#### Cheverly Garden Club

**Oliver Wendell Smith** has served in so very many roles with the Cheverly Garden Club, District 1 and NCAGC, Inc. For many he is probably better known for his photography. For our club, we are just happy that in many instances he has kept us going. Oliver lost his son, Oliver Jr., a DC police Officer during a robbery that resulted in his death. Many of the services that Oliver has been involved with revolve around this instance. Our club for many years has made corsages to honor the mothers and wives of police killed in action in May of each year when they come to Washington DC. Because of his activity our club donated money and bricks to the garden in Prince George's County in front of the Court House dedicated to homicide victims. He is responsible for helping a number of actions to be passed in Maryland Government. Oliver has served as Program Chairman, Vice President, Speaker and film maker recording our activities. He also has taken pictures for the State and won a blue ribbon for photography in the State Flower Show at the Arboretum. Oliver encourages us to participate in so many activities, and he works right along with us. His wife Cynthia and Oliver have been long-time and ACTIVE members of the Cheverly Garden Club. (Submitted by Ann Gardenhour)

#### Gardeners of the Junior League

The Gardeners of the Junior League of Washington (GJL) are pleased to nominate **Elizabeth (Betty) Dietel** for the "Busy Bee Award" for 2018. Betty Dietel joined the GJL in 1984. This was just four years after having been President of the overall Junior League of Washington (JLW), which had about 1,800 women members at the time. She then went on to become Treasurer of the JLW for two years. Needless to say, Betty came to the 'Gardeners,' a subset of 45 of those women, with very strong organizational, leadership, and financial skills in the non-profits world! During her 35 years in the GJL, she has performed duties in most official capacities. As the submitter of this nomination I will focus more on her roles during the last 10 years where I have personally seen the benefits of her actions to the organization.

Betty served very effectively and efficiently as Vice President of the GJL from 2009 to 2011 and then as President from 2011 to 2013. Since then her primary official position has been to produce the members' Yearbook. Each year she pulls in all the updated contact information on our members, elected officers, and appointed committee chairs; enters the details of all the planned GJL meetings; updates our By-laws and Procedures as approved by the Board; adds our list of awards and recognitions earned in the previous year; retrieves all the relevant information on NCAGC leadership and calendar of events; and puts all this data together to be produced in a handy and attractive Yearbook in time for the first meeting in October after resuming from the summer break. This document is like our GJL 'bible,' containing most of the important info we all need throughout the year.



She also conceived of the wonderful idea to creatively use photographs of the biennial flower show winners as 'artwork' on the cover of our yearbooks. As the years have gone on, she has refined the process and the Yearbook looks so professional. I can only imagine how much work is involved and yet how much time she has saved our group by continuing to provide this critical job every year so that someone new doesn't have to learn how to do it!

Building upon the database infrastructure she already maintains for the Yearbook, she volunteered to help us move closer toward a web presence. GJL effectively has two parent organizations. Many of the other NCAGC garden clubs maintain web sites or use Facebook, but we were not quite ready to take on that effort and had privacy and security concerns. Our other 'parent', The Junior League of Washington (JLW), maintains a password-protected, members-only area of their website that we have been able to use. Betty worked with the site administrator and identified the specific members in the GJL. She then populated the calendar with details of our planned meetings for the year. The site provides the mechanism for us to upload and store meeting minutes and photos. So ever so slowly we are working toward more effective electronic efficiencies, in large part made possible with Betty's help!

No one from our club volunteered to help chair our flower show for 2018. Betty was instrumental in cleverly getting a few other longtime members to form the "Committee of the Whole," effectively a steering committee to plan and execute a very successful small standard flower show. It was brilliant! It was held at a small assisted-living home in Bethesda, MD, where one of the GJL members is the director of the facility and lives on the premises. And when it came time to write up the report of the flower show and submit it for NCAGC award recognition, it was again Betty that graciously volunteered to do that work!

Our special and evolving relationship with Seabury at Friendship Terrace senior living facility, where we have held Valentine's Day themed workshops with the residents there for the past five years sprang from Betty's professional association. She has served on the Board of Governors for Seabury Resources for Aging for many years. We have built upon that initial introduction and have now grown very sweet memories and friendships!

Betty is a quiet operative working behind the scenes who just helps in so many ways to make the organization run smoothly! She doesn't look for recognition, doesn't want to be assigned official roles, but is the voice of reason and experience that I listen to. She is the one who volunteers for the important jobs that no one else wants to do. She is the unsung hero, the Busy Bee, or the wind behind the sails (especially of this current GJL President!). (Submitted by Estelle Noone)

### **Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club**

Mount Airy Clay Breakers' BUSY BEE AWARD goes this year to Pamela Smart. Pam has invested time and energy in many club projects over the past 15 years. She monitors and helps to maintain our club garden at Holloway Park. For example, she transplanted a unique azalea in the garden in honor of a deceased member and coordinated with the Prince George's County Park and Planning Commission to provide free mulch. She contributes generously to our annual plant sale and assumed responsibility for hosting the sale at her home. As the club photographer, she is active at each meeting and submits her pictures to the editors of the club yearbook and newsletter. She recommended high-quality local speakers for two club meetings and arranged field trips to places such as the Patuxent River Park and the Suitland Bog. This past year she spearheaded the club's participation in the Maryland Home and Garden Pilgrimage, Prince George's County. She solicited, collected, and helped distribute floral arrangements made by club members to

a number of historic homes in Prince George's County. And, by the way, Pam also has a day job. We are fortunate to have Pam as our "busy bee." (Submitted by Esther Neckere)

### **New Carrollton Garden Club**

**Peggy Kwik** has been a member of the New Carrollton Garden Club since the late 1990's and has served as president going on four years. She describes herself as a liaison with the city of New Carrollton. She, along with the members of her garden club, participate at New Carrollton Community Day providing information, demonstrations, and plant sales. Peggy was consulted about New Carrollton City's proposed and established community organic garden plot. Peggy also assists at Carrollton Elementary School's Clean Up in April and October as a representative of her garden club helping students plant trees, shrubs, flowers, and bulbs on school's grounds and in its native plant garden. This year she was invited and joined New Carrollton's Green Team whose goal is to become a Maryland Sustainability Community.

Peggy has done an outstanding job of keeping the New Carrollton Garden Club with its eight members recognized for their participation in their community. (Submitted by Julie Harrison)

### **Paint Branch Garden Club**

The Paint Branch Garden Club wishes to submit the name of one of its most active members, **Mary Marshall Levy**, for a District 1 Busy Bee Award. "Busy Bee" aptly describes Mary Marshall's approach to her gardening activity. She joined the Paint Branch Garden Club in 2010 and--from the beginning--has participated in many of PBGC's signature activities; many of which she was the leader.

Throughout her membership, Mary Marshall has spearheaded participation in most of the PBGC's most highly visible Community Outreach projects. Both in the past, as in the present, she has enthusiastically led the task of creating and providing the Riversdale House Mansion--a national historic landmark--seasonal decorations. Furthermore, prior to serving as the PBGC's President, in 2016 thru 2018, Mary Marshall led both the Summer and Fall programs at the Hillhaven Assisted Living and Rehabilitation Center to assist residents in therapy sessions, in which the Hillhaven residents constructed seasonal arrangements, which they were able to enjoy in their rooms.

We, the Paint Branch Garden Club, submit that Mary Marshall Levy is an appropriate candidate to be designated a "Busy Bee!!!" (Submitted by Beth Alvarez)

### **Tanta-Cove Garden Club**

The 2019 Busy Bee Award recipient is **Lydia Barbour**. Lydia currently serves as our Treasurer; she continues to dedicate herself toward the betterment of our garden club, Tanta-Cove. Lydia facilitated one of our fall workshops, Building Bluebird Houses, which was a great success. Lydia also serves as our Nominating Chair, ensuring that next Executive Board will continue to deliver visionary success to our community. Lydia also volunteered to amend the worksheets for our club assignments. Lydia has been instrumental in providing sound advice on subject matters from attendance issues, job descriptions, to liability insurance issues. I am honored to present this award to Lydia Barbour. (Submitted by Eugene Thompson)

### **Woodmoor Garden Club**

**Sally O'Connell** is a longtime member of the Woodmoor Garden Club (WGC) and has enthusiastically served in various capacities including as corresponding secretary, Civic Committee chair, Awards chair, and served on the Membership Committee. Members enjoy her generous hospitality at her lovely home and gardens nestled alongside the woods of the Northwest Branch Park. For several years, she kept the Woodmoor community informed of club work and events with her monthly articles for the Woodmoor Community's News and Views newsletter. She has warmly welcomed new WGC members with a letter explaining the club's purpose, goals, and events. She plans for and works at the WGC's Annual Garden Walk and Plant Sale, our annual fundraiser. Most recently, in 2018, under Montgomery County's Adopt a Spot Program, she has managed the planning, development, and installation of a new native plant community garden in a Woodmoor traffic island. She continues to manage ongoing installation elements in 2019 and planning for maintenance. Sally enthusiastically rises to whatever occasion presented. She truly is a Woodmoor Garden Club Busy Bee. (Submitted by Betsy Scroggs)



## DISTRICT I AWARDS 2018

### Perennial Bloom Winner

Harold Belcher, Cheverly Garden Club

### Outstanding Garden Club Achievement

Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club (24 and fewer members)

Woodmoor Garden Club (25-39 members)

Tanta-Cove Garden Club (40-59 members)

### Garden Club Achievement Citation

Cheverly Garden Club

Fergie's Gardeners

Gardeners of the Junior League of Washington, DC

### Outstanding Garden Club Yearbook

Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club

Tanta-Cove Garden Club

### Yearbook Certificate of Merit

Paint Branch Garden Club

Woodmoor Garden Club

### Outstanding Club Newsletter

Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club

Tanta-Cove Garden Club



**Woodmoor President, Judy Berglund, receives award certificate.**

### Clubs with Council Members Citation

Capitol Hill Garden Club

Fergie's Gardeners

Gardeners of the Junior League of Washington, DC

Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club

Paint Branch Garden club

Tanta-Cove Garden Club



**Club Presidents received certificates from Awards Chair, Shirley Nicolai (far right) and Director Julie Harrison.**

### **Community Gardening Projects Citation**

Cheverly Garden Club (Memorial Garden)  
Evergreen Garden Club (Tregaron Conservancy)  
Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club ( DuPont Park ES Garden, Holloway Park Garden)  
Paint Branch Garden Club (Calvert Memorial Park)  
Tanta-Cove Garden Club (Swan Creek Roundabout, Blue Star Memorial Garden)  
Woodmoor Garden Club (Multiple local gardens in Woodmoor, Blair HS Labyrinth)

### **Floral Arrangements/Garden Therapy/Community Service Citation**

Cheverly Garden Club (Arrangements for shut-ins)  
Gardeners of the Junior League (Valentine Arrangement workshop  
with residents of Seabury at Friendship Terrace)  
Paint Branch Garden Club (Riversdale House Museum)  
Tanta-Cove Garden Club (Arrangements for Millennium Health Center)  
Woodmoor Garden Club (Valentine arrangements for shut ins, wreaths & swags for community signs)

### **Philanthropy**

Capitol Hill Garden Club  
Cheverly Garden Club (Life-long Learning Grant)  
Evergreen Garden Club  
Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club  
Tanta-Cove Garden Club  
Woodmoor Garden Club



**District Board Members receive “Thank You”  
gifts from Julie**

## **Upcoming Events**

Additional event information is found at: [ncagardenclubs.org](http://ncagardenclubs.org)

April 23, 2019: Biennial NCAGC Installation

May 16, 2019: Planting Day at Arboretum

May 21 & 22, 2019: Gardening School, Course II

June 8, 2019: District I President Tea  
10am—1pm

Cheverly Methodist Church

May 5: Woodmoor Garden Club  
Plant Sale & Walk

2-5pm

129 Lynnmoor Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20901

May 11: Cheverly Garden Club  
Plant Sale

9 AM until sold out

Town Park Pavilion

District I is always looking for club members that have ideas to share with all! The goal of the District is to provide an opportunity for the numerous clubs to gather and share ideas and resources as well as to continue our education as gardeners. Everyone has wonderful talents and we would love if you would consider sharing your talents with us. Please consider our open position:

**Assistant Director:** 2 year term. Responsibilities include planning speakers for the 4 District meetings.

For information about these positions please contact Danielle Brabazon: [Danielle.brabazon@gmail.com](mailto:Danielle.brabazon@gmail.com)

District Director, Julie Harrison:  
[robertha3@verizon.net](mailto:robertha3@verizon.net)

NCAGC President, Robin Hammer:  
[NCAGCPresident@gmail.com](mailto:NCAGCPresident@gmail.com)