



# GROWING TOGETHER

Plantation Lakes Garden Club, Millsboro, Delaware

A Member of National Garden Clubs, Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, and Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs

## JANUARY 2022

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PAGE 1

### JANUARY PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES

PAGE 2

### EVENTS

PAGE 3

### NEWS FOR MEMBERS

PAGE 4

### THIS AND THAT



### January Celebrations

21<sup>st</sup> Janet Parham



### JANUARY PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES

#### Thursday, January 6 – NO IN-PERSON MEETING !!

DIY Workshop ~ Creating Door Decor

Grapevine wreath making. See page two of this newsletter and email from Debbie Darr regarding 'how to' participate.

Additional information is always available at:  
<https://www.plantationlakesgardenclub.org/members>  
(Password can be found in the handbook on page 36)

#### Thursday, January 20

6:00 pm Membership Drive Open House  
Flex Room, Lower Level, The Landing

Donate your coins for the National Garden Clubs' Penny Pines project – saving forests \$68 at a time.

<https://www.gardenclub.org/penny-pines>



Mary Balasi, PLGC Chair

# EVENTS

## DECEMBER 2021 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

A delightful afternoon with many laughs defines the PLGC holiday luncheon at Victoria's Restaurant in the Boardwalk Plaza Hotel - Rehoboth. The festive decorations, lively atmosphere and delicious meal options contributed to the total experience not to mention the man and woman at the table above who joined the party!

Our members did not disappoint with their creative talents for small holiday centerpiece arrangements. Each guest took home an arrangement made by another member.



Some of us practiced our newly learned photo-taking skill as evidenced in a few of these photos taken by Sylvia Heidbreder:



## JANUARY PROGRAM--DOOR DECOR

### A FUN WORKSHOP AT OUR JANUARY 6TH MEETING

PLGC will provide a 10-inch grapevine wreath for members to decorate. This is the perfect size for an interior door, window, or wall in your home - and it makes a great gift for someone who resides at an assisted living facility.



MEMBERS will provide their own bow (or wired ribbon for making a bow) and faux flowers, faux greens and other decorations for your own use. If you have leftovers from any prior projects, share with other members.

Other things you may need: scissors or a wire cutter, glue gun (to share with folks who don't have one), floral wire that you may or may not need.

There are several YouTube videos with tutorials on decorating grapevine wreaths, but this is our favorite (*click the box to skip the ad after the first few seconds*):

<https://youtu.be/NnRHypUbNm8>

# NEWS FOR MEMBERS

## Garden Club Members Wanted

**Positions Open:** Nature lovers, growers, bird watchers, designers and conservationists.

**Physical Qualifications:** Must be able to see beauty and colors; smell fragrance and clean air; touch earth, flowers and plants; and taste clean water.

**Age Limit:** From 6 to 106.

**Experience:** Must have walked barefoot in the grass, picnicked in the park, hiked in the woods and stopped to smell the roses.

**Beginning Wage:** A few aching muscles, plus a raise in spirits and a joyful heart.

**Advancement Opportunities:** May be asked to be a chairman of a project or an officer of a garden club.

**Fringe Benefits:** Social security – you have the security of social friendships with other garden club members everywhere.

**Retirement:** A wheelbarrow full of happy memories and perennial remembrances of worthwhile accomplishments.

---

To apply contact:

Margaret Woda  
Membership Chair  
301.346.2923  
mwoda@msn.com

---

## Next DFGC Meetings

### Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Time TBD “A Few of My Favorite Things”  
Small Standard Flower Show  
Presented by the Delaware  
Flower Show Judges Council  
Location TBD

### Wednesday, June 15, 2022

Time, Location and Program to be announced.

## Looking Ahead



## FEBRUARY 2022 PROGRAM

### Thursday, February 3 Monthly Meeting

**11:00 am** Discover “Moon Gardening”

Heidi Carey, a staff member at Lord’s Landscaping and lover of plants, nature and design, will share her ideas for creating a garden to enjoy after dark.

## PLGC Meetings and Events

Members are encouraged to bring a friend or neighbor to any garden club event whether a beginning gardener or an expert. Please remember to notify Margaret or Pat in advance so there are enough handouts for all guests. PLGC welcomes the opportunity to make new friends. Suggest that family and friends follow PLGC on Facebook.



<https://www.facebook.com/PlantationLakesGardenClub>





### ☞ Vacation Plant Care ☜

Whether you're going away for a few days, a week or, if you're lucky, south for a few months in the winter, several factors should be considered when deciding how to care for your plants while you are away from home. Depending on the type of plant, the time of year, and the length of time you'll be gone, different requirements need to be addressed. Of these, the time of year will be the biggest factor in determining just how much attention your plants need while you're away.

During spring and summer, temperatures are higher, days are longer, and plants are actively growing. They will need more water than in the winter when they are resting and not putting out new leaves. If you're away in the winter, most plants will be fine with a thorough water prior to your departure and then a dry-out period while you are away. Some may start to wilt near the end of the week, but they should perk back up when you return with your watering can. Succulents and air plants will be the most forgiving during this hiatus. If you travel frequently, these types of plants may be your best bets.

If you are going away for a week in the summer, you will probably need to have a plant-sitter check in at least once or use one of the vacation watering methods described below. Before you go, test your desired method to see if it works for you!

**Plant-sitter.** If you are able to enlist the help of a friend, provide them with a quick note about what needs to be done and when. Group plants with similar needs together before you go. Leave a full watering can next to your plants for easy access. Reward your plant-sitter with a cutting from one of your plants or a cute plant pot from wherever you've traveled.

**Automatic watering devices.** There are several types of vacation-watering tools available commercially. They all work similarly in that you fill a reservoir with water and insert it into the soil for a slow-release effect. Different sizes, materials, and methods are available. Terra-cotta stakes are perfect if you want to recycle a glass or plastic bottle. Simply fill the bottle with water, insert the bottle neck into the blunt end of the stake, invert, and push the stake into the soil. For glass bulbs, add water directly to the stem, invert and stick into your pot. These gadgets work best when inserted into pre-moistened soil.

**The yarn trick.** If you don't want to add more gadgets to your plant-care arsenal, you can make a DIY water-wick system with only a little counter space and a big jug of water. First, select a vessel that will hold enough water to sustain your plants while you're away. Fill it with water and assemble your plants around the vessel. Plants should be in pots with drainage holes and placed in a tray to catch any stray drops of water.

Next, cut enough pieces of yarn for each plant. The yarn should be long enough to hit the bottom of the large, water-filled vessel and have about one inch to nestle into the soil of each pot. Use a toothpick or chopstick to gently guide the yarn into the soil. Lastly, stretch the yarn from the plant pots up into the water reservoir. When each plant needs more water, it will pull from the reservoir through the yarn.

#### **REFERENCE:**

Doane, Morgan and Erin Harding. *How to raise a plant and make it love you back*. Laurence King Publishing Ltd. Reprinted 2018, 2019 (three times), 2020 (twice).