Trev#se NEW Horticultural Society

April 2024 NEWSLETTER

Our 100th Year www.trevosegardeners.org





General Membership Meeting Tuesday, April 16 7 *PM* Bensalem Senior Center Plant Swap/Sale Saturday, May 18 11:30 AM 225 Front Street Feasterville, PA

Cannabis

"Cannabis" will be the featured topic of the Trevose Horticultural Society monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00 PM at the Bensalem Senior Center, 1850 Byberry Road, Bensalem, PA.

In a Power Point presentation, guest speaker, Carla Garzon PhD, will introduce the scientific perspective of Cannabis and hemp. Her broad selection of topics includes their ancient and recent history to current knowledge about their pharmacology, medicinal and industrial applications. Garzon's research focuses mainly on indoor crop management and diagnosing plant diseases.

Dr Garzon is a Delaware Valley University K.H. Littlefield Endowed Professor of Plant Science in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture. Her focus is on building a controlled environment for ornamental, vegetable and medicinal herbs.

Arranged by Cookie Woodson Edited by Marie Cartwright

7 ou are cordially invited to attend our

Annual Plant Sale scheduled for May 20 at 11:30 Cookie Woodson, AM. THS vice-president, will be hosting the plant sale at her home at 225 Front Street, Feasterville, PA. Whether you are selling, swapping or just coming to socialize, it will be great to get out and say hello to fellow THS members.



Popular sellers are vegetables, house plants, and unique plants. In past years, tomato plants and pepper plants have always sold well. All of us have a few overgrown house plants that could be divided and brought to our plant sale. Please be sure that the plants you are bringing are rooted!

Please label and price all plants. All plants must be in clean pots. Include any useful information. Try to use the Horticultural names and common plant names. Bring boxes and plastic trays to carry home your swaps or purchases. All unsold plants and packaging materials must be removed by the person who brought them!



President's Message Hello Spring!

pring has finally arrived and THS is gearing up for its annual Plant Sale on May 18 at Cookie's home starting at 11:30. It's a great way to pick up annuals and perennials from fellow THS members. Please consider bringing some plants to sell.

Just a reminder that we feature a Little Show every month! All are welcome! Your Spring bulbs are in full bloom this month so why not bring them to the next meeting? We want to see your tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, muscari and forsythia! Please use their botanical names, if possible. Let's fill the Senior Center with the colors and scents of Spring!



We will be taking orders for the NGC Vision of Beauty Calendars this month. Please see Lenis with your \$10 for a copy! It's full of great NGC designs. The calendar is a great source for ideas when creating a design. The calendar will arrive in September after the District XI Annual Meeting.

Don't forget Earth Day on April 22! Our planet is an amazing place, but it needs our help to thrive! That's why each year on April 22, more than a billion people celebrate Earth Day to protect the planet from things like pollution and deforestation. The first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970, when a United States senator from Wisconsin organized a national demonstration to raise awareness about environmental issues. Rallies took place across the country and, by the end of the year, the U.S. government had created the Environmental Protection Agency. By 1990, Earth Day was an event celebrated by more than 140 countries around the globe. Here are 10 easy ways each of us can celebrate Earth Day every day.

- 1. Follow the 3 R's. Look for ways you can Reduce, Reuse and Recycle throughout your home. You'll save natural resources, energy and money, and you'll reduce waste sent to landfills.
- 2. Conserve energy at home. From turning off lights and electronics when not in use, to using a programmable thermostat, to changing your air filter regularly, there are many small things you can do to save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while saving money on your utility bills.
- 3. Reduce paper waste and junk mail. Think twice before printing things at work and home. You can reduce your mail by using online payment options that avoid paper bills.
- 4. Recycle your electronics. Your old, unused or broken computers, tablets, phones and other electronics can often be recycled for free by stores, manufacturers and local governments, which saves natural resources while also reducing pollution.
- 5. Give your car a break. Walk, ride a bike, carpool or take public transportation. You'll save money, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and get more exercise.
- 6. Turn off the tap. Whether you're brushing your teeth, washing dishes, or taking a shower, turn off the water when it's not needed.
- 7. Replace your bulbs. Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and LED bulbs may cost more than incandescent bulbs, but they will save money over the long run, last longer, and use up to 90 percent less energy.
- 8. Bring your own bags to the store. Use a backpack or bag from home, or buy reusable bags that you can keep in your car and use again and again.
- 9. Buy local. Buying local produce and other items reduces shipping distances from food sourced overseas, and also supports local businesses and communities.
- 10. Act local. Get involved in environmental work in your local community. Local schools, governments, and non-profit organizations often offer opportunities for volunteers to get involved in cleaning up parks, restoring habitats, and other efforts to make communities greener.

Check out the
Trevose Horticultural Society
website at
www.trevosegardeners.org
for our latest
Calendar of Events and
newsletters!





Please welcome Patty and Nat to THS!

Patty Appel & Nat Bosco 355 Saly Rd. Yardley PA 19067-1979 908-770-6780 zottipizzute@AOL.com

2024 THS Officers and Committee Chairs

Officers

President - Karen Wychock
Vice-President - Karen "Cookie" Woodson
Treasurer - Lenis Van Aken
Recording Secretary - Ann Krull
Newsletter - Karen Wychock
Corresponding Secretary - Ruth Dorn
Members at Large
Choony Choi, Rae Glasgow

Committee Chairs

District XI Representative - Karen Wychock Flower Show Chair - Karen Wychock Membership - Dick Longcoy, Ruth Kurtz Membership List - Marie Cartwright Greeters - Choony Choi, Rae Glasgow, Lori Mueller

Historian - Lynn Kay
Little Show - Ruth Dorn and Ron Cliggett
Little Show Judges -

Marie Cartwright, Lenis VanAken, Choony Choi
Publicity - Marie Cartwright
Scholarship - Jim Kates, Phyllis Ashcraft
Awards - Karen Wychock
Ways and Means - Jim Kates
Picnic - Cookie Woodson
Spotlight - Phyllis Ford, Ann Krull



2024 Calendar of Events

Monthly Meetings

April 16 "Cannabis"

May 21 "Vegetable Gardening 101"

June 18 "Design it, Grow it, Show it!"

July 16 "Tiny Forests"

August 13 Bingo!

September 17 "Storing Tender Bulbs"

October 15 "Pruning Demonstration"

November 19

December 10 Holiday Get Together!

2024 Board Meetings

April 4 July 11 September 5

Plant Sale May 18

Annual Flower Show August 23-24



Refreshments anyone?

As a member of the Trevose Horticultural Society, everyone is expected to volunteer for refreshments once a year. Please sign up at one of our upcoming monthly meetings.

March 19 Lisa Contino, Lynn Contino

April 16 Ruth Kurtz, Dick Longcoy, Dee Crawford, Alice Szarek

May 21 Choony Choi, Diana Raudenbush, Lori Mueller, Cookie Woodson

> June 18 Cookie Woodson, Joe Heald

July 16 Marie Cartwright, Lenis VanAken

> August 13 Ruth Dorn

September 17 Phyllis Ford, Phyllis Ashcraft, Phyllis Dietz

> October 15 Gegi English, Lynn Kay, Mary and Erin Wagner

> > November 19

December 10 Holiday Get Together!

February 2025 Diana Raudenbush, Karen Wychock



Trevose Horticultural Society
"Bee Inspired!"

Standard Flower Show August 23-24, 2024

he Trevose Horticultural Society is celebrating its 100th birthday this year. Trevose is a member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania. Our most ambitious endeavor is the staging of our annual Standard Flower Show which will take place on August 18 and 19, 2023. This year's theme is "Rooted in History." Funds generated from this event help to support annual scholarships awarded to deserving tristate area college students who are majoring in horticulture related studies.

To help defray the cost of our show, we are asking for donations from our members and from area businesses to create 15-20 beautiful gift baskets. Would you please consider donating a gift certificate or item for our baskets? We would greatly appreciate any and all donations. Please phone Karen Wychock (chairperson) at 215-460-8853 if you are able to help support our show. You can also mail a gift certificate to her directly at 108 Lyric Way, Warrington, PA 18976.

If you are interested in taking out an ad in our flower show schedule you can do so. A full page ad runs \$100. A half-page ad runs \$55. A business card runs for \$35. Please contact Alice Szarek at 215-357-8789 if you have any questions.

Thank you for considering our request to make a donation toward our flower show. We hope to see you at this year's show, "Rooted In History!"

St. Ephrem Catholic Church
5400 Hulmeville Road
Bensalem, PA 19020
August 18-19, 2023
Friday 4-8 PM, Saturday 10 AM - 4:30 PM

ADMISSION IS FREE

Over 135 classes of Horticulture, competitive Floral Designs, a Junior Division, Educational Exhibits, Garden Market and Bake Sale!



ou're invited to celebrate Trevose Horticultural Society's 101st Birthday on August 23-24, 2024. Our show, entitled "Bee Inspired," will once again take place at St. Ephrem Church on Bensalem, PA.

As usual, we need your help in making this another great flower show! Please consider volunteering your time to the show in a way that fits your interests and time. Can you help set up the show? Can you donate a gift basket? Can you volunteer to clerk the show? Can you act as a hostess/host? We have a job for everyone!

Gift Baskets: Ruth Kurtz is once again chairing the gift baskets. We all love "end of the season sales" so please keep your eyes open for all of those great buys. We have people of different ages and people with different interests attending our show.



We are asking you to put together a themed basket with approximately \$50 worth of items and bring it to the show. If you have an individual item or want to make a cash donation toward a basket, please bring them to the

meeting. If you have any questions or want to discuss an idea, please call Ruth Kurtz at 215-674-9720 or email her at rek302@gmail.com.

Donation Letters: In trying to complete our gift baskets, we ask local businesses for donations. Donations may be in the form of gift cards to local garden centers, building supply stores, restaurants, etc. A letter of introduction is already written for you and available from Karen Wychock at all meetings. The deadline is May 1, 2024.

Market Place/Food Table: As usual we need homemade food items such as cakes, cookies, candy, jams and jellies! Visitors love homemade goodies! Our "white elephant" table can also use donations. Rummage through your closets, attic and garage for any unwanted garden pots, hand tools, garden decorations, books and jewelry! Please see Ruth Dorn with any questions.

Plant Table: Our visitors are always lined up for one of Choony Choi's great floral designs! She can always use vases, potted plants, and cut flowers/greens from our gardens.

Hospitality: As always, we need greeters! Our visitors need a warm welcome from one of our members. A smile goes a long way when someone is not quite sure of their surroundings. Won't you help in donating an hour of your time? If available, please contact Phyllis Dietz at 215-676-1375.

Clerks: Have you ever dreamt of following the judges around our show? If so, your dream has come true! Simply let Karen know that you would like to be a clerk at this year's show! No experience necessary!

Challenge Seeds: You can pick up the challenge seeds at our monthly meeting. These seeds are available for any member who would like to try to grow them and enter the specimens in our August Show. Challenge seeds this year include Flower, Tropaeolum, (Nasturtium) 'Cherrelle', Burpee Seeds,

1 stem; Vegetable, Daucus carota, (Carrot), 'Short 'n' Sweet',

Burpee Seeds, 3 specimens displayed on paper plate; Potted Plant, Herb, Petroselinum crispum, (Parsley) Double Curled, Burpee Seeds in 8" pot.



Trevose Horticultural Society

Bee Inspired

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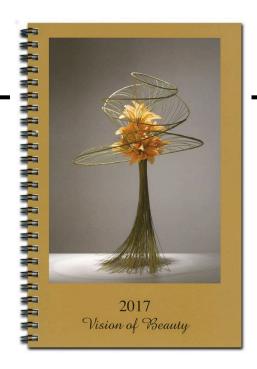
Over 135 classes of Horticulture, competitive Floral Designs, a Junior Division, Educational Exhibits, Garden Market and Bake Sale!



2024 Vision of Beauty Calendars Order your copy today!

A Flower Arrangement and Engagement Calendar created by the National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Please fill out the form below and return it to Lenis Van Aken with your \$10.



Deadline for ordering is May 16, 2024.

Vision of Beauty Calendars \$5.00 (Checks made out to THS) NAME:	
Number of Copies:	
TOTAL:	-

Trevose Horticultural Society Garden Party Plant Sale



Saturday, May 18 11:30-2:30 PM 225 Front Street Feasterville, PA Rain or Shine!

Annuals, perennials, houseplants and vegetables

Membership Dues Your 2024-25 dues are now due.

Send your check to:

Lenis VanAken 68 Murray Road Holland, PA 18966-1740



Membership cards will be available at our next meeting for those whose dues payment is received prior to the meeting.

THS 2024-25 MEMBERSHIP DUES PAYMENT

Individual (\$30)Family	7 (\$40)
Name:	Birth Date (Month/Day):
Address:	Apt. #
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:Email:	
PLEASE WRITE YOUR CHECK OUT T	nge in information from last year) TO TREVOSE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (THS) FORM WITH YOUR CHECK
In order to insure that you are included in the S you support the show by being a sponsor, or me	ORM FOR FLOWER SHOW BOOK Sponsorship of our 2024 Standard Flower Show, we ask that emorializing a dear friend or relative or in celebration of an ed form below along with your donation to:
68	enis VanAken Murray Road nd, PA 18966-1740
	SOR IN THE 2024 THS FLOWER SHOW BOOK BY APRIL 16, 2024)
NAME:	PHONE:
SPONSOR'S NAME IF DIFFERENT:	
"IN MEMORY OF" or "IN CELEBRATION O	F" (SPECIFY EVENT: ANNIVERSARY, ETC.)
AMOUNT ENCLOSED:	



Birth Month Flowers and Their Meanings

Long before email, texting, instant messages or even phone calls, people used flowers to communicate. The language of flowers — also known as floriography — was popular in the 18th and 19th century. While we now have more ways to communicate, the messages told with flowers are as meaningful today as ever. Each birth month flower has a unique meaning, and is sure to make the recipient feel extra special.



pril's birth flowers are the daisy and the sweet pea. The daisy symbolizes purity, true love and innocence. There are five common types of daisies with petals ranging in color from white to pink, around a bold yellow center. In Old English, people called daisies the "day's eye," since the petals closed around the yellow center at night and reopened during the day. Daisies are great flowers to show your undying love.

Sweet peas symbolize blissful pleasure. Sweet peas are known for their sweet fragrance, and are a great way to make your home smell like spring!

Happy April Birthday to the following THS members:

April 8 Amethyst Bush

April 24 Karen Wychock

April 25 Ann Krull

April 30 Lenis Van Aken





Plant pansies, snapdragons, dianthus and dusty miller for early-spring color.

Plant new trees, shrubs and perennials and transplant/divide existing ones.

Plant any of the edibles that could have been planted in March. Or make a second planting of any of these for a staggered harvest.

If you under did it with bulbs, add instant spring color by planting blooming, potted bulb plants from the garden center. These are ideal for early-spring flower pots, too.

Start cutting back early bulbs, but only after the foliage has at least begun to yellow. Brown is better.

It's OK to snip off flower stalks as soon as the blooms fade.

From mid-month on (once soil has warmed a bit), mulch new beds and cultivate and top off mulch on beds that were mulched in previous years.

Direct-seed beets and carrots.

Immediately after blooming, prune early-spring-flowering trees and shrubs such as forsythia, redbud, star magnolia, viburnum, cherry, pear and bridal wreath spirea. Evergreen hedges also can be sheared.

Early in the month, prune roses right before new growth gets going. Start your spraying and fertilizing program as soon as the roses leaf out.

De-thatch, aerate and/or rake lawn, if needed. Begin cutting as grass begins growing. After the first cut or two, move the height up to $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches. Cut high all summer.

This is a great month to seed thin or dead patches in the

lawn. (Do NOT use crabgrass preventer if seeding new grass.) Use sod for quick spot patching.

Dig out or spot-spray weeds. Last chance to put crabgrass preventer on lawn (except for Dimension, which can go on in May).



Apply weed preventers such as Preen or corn gluten to shrub and perennial beds.

Late in the month, fertilize lawn. Also fertilize trees, shrubs and perennials if you didn't do it in March. This is a good time to do a soil test of your lawn and gardens if you haven't done it in a few years. This will tell you exact fertilizer needs.

Scout for pest problems and treat as needed.

Watch for aphids on roses, burning bush and many other ornamentals; tent caterpillars on fruit trees; weevils on pines and spruce; mites on spruce and psyllids on boxwoods.

Begin regular spraying program for fruit trees. Do not use insecticides on fruit trees when they're blooming to avoid killing pollinating bees.

Begin feeding outdoor fish as they come out of dormancy and come to the surface. Remove pond heater and reconnect pumps for fountains and waterfalls.

Resume feeding houseplants. Wait until mid-May, though, to begin moving them outside for summer.

Remember, still no digging the soil whenever it's soggy. Wait until it dries a bit.

George Weigel https://georgeweigel.net

Hellebore The Lenten Rose

s their common names suggest, hellebores are cold season bloomers either the earliest or the latest flowers of the year, depending on what zone you're in and whether you go by the calendar or the spring equinox. The Christmas rose (*Helleborus niger*) may start anytime from November through January. The Lenten rose (*Helleborus orientalis*) gets going later in



February or March. Both species have an unusually long season of bloom, typically six weeks or more.

Hellebores are usually planted from potted nursery specimens, even when purchased from online retailers. Hellebore seeds are available, but they are sold in seed packets that include a mix of colors. If you want a particular variety, you will need to purchase potted nursery starts because they have either been selected or hybridized for specific colors.

Hellebores are very easy to grow in shady conditions where most plants struggle, provided they have some shelter from harsh winter winds. The only real maintenance the plants require is a little cleanup of their fading leaves. If foliage is winter-worn, it can be cut back to basal growth in the spring, before flowering.

Hellebores prefer partial to full shade. They can handle spring sun, but plant them in a spot that will become shadier as trees and other plants flush out. They grow best in soil that is rich with organic matter and well-draining. If your soil is acidic, consider adding lime, as hellebores prefer neutral or even alkaline conditions. Although they like some moisture, hellebores should not be allowed to sit in wet soil for a prolonged time or they will rot. Once established, they can handle drier soil. Hardiness will vary with species, but you can find hellebore suitable for USDA zones 3 to 9—most are hardy as far north as zone 4 or 5. In colder climates, protect hellebores from harsh winter winds. Hellebores tolerate a wide range of humidity.

Types of Hellebore

Hellebore is not to be confused with false hellebore (Veratrum viride). There are many wonderful hellebore varieties, often sold in a mix of colors. More and more hybrids are being offered in single colors. Here are some favorites:

'Anna's Red': This plant has rich red-purple blooms and leaves that are veined with pink. It is suitable for zones 4 to 9.

'Winter Jewels Amber Gem': Unique golden blossoms are edged with pink. Grow this plant in zones 5 to 8.

'Phillip Ballard': This variety has dark blue, almost black flowers. It can be grown in zones 6 to 9.

'Citron': This plant has unusual primrose yellow blooms and is suitable for zones 6 to 9.

'Angel Glow': The cultivar has pale pink flowers that fade to green as they age. Grow it in zones 6 to 8.

'Wester Flisk': These plants have a red tinge to the stems and leaf stalks. Flowers are greenish, edged with red and purple. It is suitable for USDA zones 6 to 9.

Pruning

The best time to prune hellebore is in late winter or early spring, when new growth begins to appear on your plant. The new growth should appear among the old leaves. When it does, cut away the old growth with sharp pruning shears. Cut the growth as close to the base as possible.

Propagating Hellebore

Hellebores can be propagated by division. The best time to divide is in early spring before they flower. It is easiest to dig the entire plant and shake or wash off the soil so you can see where the buds are on the crown. Make sure each division has at least 2 buds. (Helleborus foetidus and Helleborus argutifolius do not divide well and are best started from seed.)

Most varieties will reseed, but hybrids may produce seeds that don't "come true" to the parent plant. Seeds may produce plants that resemble one of the parent species, not the hybrid. You can move the seedlings to another location in the garden once they are large enough to handle and have developed true leaves.

Forsythia Forsythia Forsythia



ften called a harbinger of spring, forsythia bursts into a vibrant display of bright yellow blooms before any of its foliage emerges. This creates stunning spots of golden color throughout landscapes, breaking up the drab snow-covered ground with a promise of what's to come. With newer varieties that offer smaller, more manageable sizes, every landscape should have a forsythia to break out of the late winter blahs.

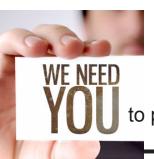
Late winter always makes gardeners antsy for spring. You've had your first few warm days and the sun is finally shining, but the weather is still too unsure to begin much else other than starting seeds indoors. Forsythia relishes this season, as if it's just as antsy to get started as any gardener. This shrub bursts into bloom in late winter, often when the ground is still covered in a blanket of snow and little else is showing signs of life. With their rich golden blooms, in shades from pale yellow to rich gold, these plants stand out. The foliage of forsythia is nothing particularly noteworthy. A deep green in color, the serrated leaves act as a neutral backdrop for perennials and annuals. After a good growing season, you can usually see some deep purple fall color just before the leaves fall.

These spring-blooming knockouts are easy to grow and quite adaptable. Forsythias prefer well-drained, evenly moist soil, but they are pretty tolerant of many different soil types. They can also handle drought fairly well once established and can even get along just fine in clay soils. For the best blooms, make sure to plant your forsythias in full sun. These versatile shrubs can handle part shade, but you will generally have fewer blooms come spring. The chance of fall color is also diminished in more shade.

Pruning Forsythia

Forsythias have a graceful natural growth habit that can be ruined with improper pruning. Because most varieties on the market today are a hybrid of a weeping type and a more upright shrub, they tend to have a slightly weeping habit that some may perceive as messy. To fix this, people tend to shear their forsythias, which works fine, but as new growth comes, it tends to be even messier. Sheared forsythias will benefit from regular shaping to maintain a neat habit. This should be done right after blooming to prevent removing any future buds.

The best way to keep forsythias maintained and to conserve their original habit is by selectively pruning out old wood after blooming. Remove any branches that look old and woody at the base of the plant. This will encourage the plant to branch at the base, preventing any erratic new growth from cut stems. If plants are truly out of control or just messy, forsythias can be refreshed with a harsh rejuvenation pruning. This can be done by cutting back the entire shrub to just above ground level. Harsh pruning will encourage the whole plant to re-flush, and can also bring back their old habit if the shrubs had been pruned poorly in the past.



Please consider taking part in our Little Show each month! We always offer 2 design classes and several horticulture classes. It's a great way to practice for our Annual Flower Show. Ruth Dorn always has entry cards available for you to use. You can also send me electronic photos for the newsletter (kwychock@verizon.net).

to participate in Our Monthly Little Show!

April Little Show

DESIGN - Earth Day

- 1. One or more recycled item/s
- 2. Anything Goes!

HORTICULTURE

- 3. Daffodil, trumpet, 1 bloom
- 4. Daffodil, short cup, 1 bloom
- 5. Daffodil, any type, 1 bloom
- 6. Daffodil, 3 blooms, 3 varieties
- 7. Tulip, 1 bloom
- 8. Any other bulb in bloom
- 9. Flowering branch, 1 specimen
- 10. Any other flowering specimen, 3 stems
- 11. Any flowering pot up to 12", 1 specimen



MAY LITTLE SHOW

DESIGN - 'Derby Day'

- 1. Decorate a hat with fresh and/or dried materials, just have fun!
- 2. Anything Goes!

HORTICULTURE

- 3. Cactus, 1 specimen, any size pot
- 4. Azalea, 1 spray
- 5. Rhododendron, 1 truss

(A truss is a cluster of flowers growing on one stem - not a branch!)

- 6. Flowering branch
- 7. Peony, 1 bloom
- 8. Spring flowering bulb, any type, 1 bloom or stem
- 9. Lily of the Valley, 3 stems
- 10. Iris, 1 stem or stalk
- 11. Perennial, other than listed above, 1 specimen
- 12. Collection of Spring flowering material from your garden, 3 or more varieties. Supply a list.

