

Trevose



Horticultural Society

Our 100th Year
www.trevosegardeners.org

DECEMBER 2023
NEWSLETTER



HOLIDAY GET TOGETHER TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023 6:30-9 PM

Please bring something sweet or savory to share with fellow THS members. THS will supply the paper products and cutlery. Don't forget your festive, holiday hats!

I need 2-3 people to volunteer to set up and organize the food table while we set up for the workshop. Please let me know if you can help! (kwychock@verizon.net)



DECEMBER WORKSHOP

(NO LITTLE SHOW IN DECEMBER)
FREE WORKSHOP FOR THS MEMBERS
WREATH OR CENTERPIECE
\$25 FOR GUESTS

In order to get everything done, we need everyone in their seat ready to start at 6:45.

Registration for the workshop was required by November 14.

If possible, bring along garden sheers, some evergreen tips 6"-8" in length, small pine cones, holly, green floral wire, etc.





*Have a
Happy Holiday
Season and a
Healthy
New Year!*



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

Trevoise Horticultural Society
Calendar for 2024 (tentative)

- January - no general meeting
- February 20
- March - 19
- April - 16
- May - 21
- June - 18
- July - 16
- August - 13
- September -17
- October -15
- November - 19
- December - 10 (Holiday Get Together!)

**2024 THS
BOARD MEETINGS
(TENTATIVE)**

**12:30 PM
BENSALEM SENIOR CENTER
ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

**JANUARY 11
APRIL 4
JULY 11
SEPTEMBER 5**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Elections will be taking place at our December meeting. Our proposed slate of officers is listed on page . We still have a number of committee positions that need to be filled. Please consider helping fill these positions. We will be discussing these open positions at our next board meeting on January 11.

District XI will be hosting the GCFP Convention entitled, "A Gardening Revolution" in April of 2025. I am chairing this statewide event and need your help along with all of the garden clubs in District XI. We have already put together our convention committee and secured The Alloy Hotel in King of Prussia as our location. The convention will be a mix of our Colonial History and gardening.

Please consider supporting this event by purchasing an apron, canvas bag or T-shirt! Order forms are available at every meeting. All make great birthday and holiday gifts! The blue bell was chosen for our logo because it will be blooming in Valley Forge Park during the time of the convention.

May the Holiday Season fill your home with joy,
your heart with love, and your life with laughter.

Happy Holidays!
Karen





**ELECTION
OF OFFICERS 2023**

We will be having our elections at the December meeting. No one has come forward to take the president's position. I will be incredibly busy with the 2025 GCFP Convention so I will need help. Please consider adding your name to one of the committee positions. We can't run a club without our members taking some amount of responsibility. Ask yourself, "Why am I a member of the Trevoze Horticultural Society?" "How can I contribute to its success in the next 100 years?"

PRESIDENT

Candidate - Karen Wychock
Responsibility: Submit something to newsletter every month, prepare an agenda for the meetings, preside at the meetings, sign all leases and contracts approved by the THS Board, represent THS at District Meetings. In the past we have had co-presidents so there is a possibility for you to consider.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Candidate - Karen "Cookie" Woodson
Responsibility: Preside at meetings in the absence of the President, notify members if a meeting must be canceled. The specific duty follows the District rules and this person arranges for the programs. Everyone should help with this important task by attending meetings and events other garden clubs have and personally evaluate them and pass on the information to the first vice president.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Candidate - Ann Krull
Responsibility: Take the minutes at the meetings. Send minutes electronically to the president for distribution.

TREASURER

Candidate: Lenis Van Aken
The responsibility of a treasurer is to manage the financial affairs of THS. The treasurer collect dues, disburses funds, generally keep an accurate record of all financial transactions and report periodically to the council members.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Candidate - Karen Wychock
Responsibility: Prepare the monthly newsletter.

MEMBERS AT LARGE (4)

Candidates - ???
Responsibility: Each person should volunteer for at least one specific job.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Adviser -
- Flower Show Chair - Karen Wychock
- Membership - Dick Longcoy/Ruth Kurtz
- Membership List - Marie Cartwright
- Greeters - Choony Choi, Rae Glasgow, ???
- Historian - Lynn Kay
- Little Show - Ruth Dorn and Ron Cliggett
- Little Show Judges - ???
- Publicity - Marie Cartwright
- Scholarship - Jim Kates
- Awards - ???
- Ways and Means: ???
- Picnic - ???
- Spotlight - Phyllis Ford & Ann Krull





GARDEN CHATTER

IF POSSIBLE, YOUR DECEMBER "TO DO" LIST

PLANT AND GARDEN CARE

Scout the yard for evergreen cuttings, holly berries, dried pods and any other natural materials you can use for decorating.

Dig a hole ahead of time and store soil in warm spot if you plan to use a live evergreen as a Christmas tree. Cover the hole with a board so no one falls in.



If you didn't already do it, make windbreaks for borderline-hardy broad-leaf evergreens, erect barriers over plants that have been flattened in the past by snow and ice sliding off nearby roofs, and wrap hardware cloth or similar protection around the base of young trees and shrubs

to protect from rodents gnawing.

Prevent frost cracks on thin-barked trees such as maples and fruit trees by wrapping trunks with tree wrap or by painting them with latex paint.

Poinsettias should be unsleeved in the store, but they should be sleeved for on the way home to protect from cold wind. Make sure water can drain out of poinsettia pots so the roots don't rot (use a tray underneath).



PLANNING

Collect new seed catalogs and put them aside for consultation after the hectic holidays are over. There will be lots of enticing new varieties of many of the vegetables and herbs you are already growing. Check your seed supply to make a list of what you'll need to order/buy new for the coming season.

Check out the garden centers for many other colorful live-plant options besides poinsettias, such as



ornamental peppers, kalanchoe, cyclamen, bromeliads, 'Diamond Frost' euphorbia, even blooming mini-cactus.

Last chance to get those last few spring-flowering bulbs in the ground.

Last chance to get the hoses, pots, ornaments and statuary inside before winter damage threatens.

Pot up more amaryllis, paper-whites or pre-chilled hyacinths for winter blooms inside.

Clean and store lawn mower and garden tools for the winter if you didn't do it last month.

Assess how gardens fared this past new year and make plans for improvements next season.

After Christmas, cut branches off your tree and interlock them around the base of roses or other tender plants for winter insulation. Chip/shred the branches as mulch in spring. Cut and dry the trunks for future firewood.

Make your Christmas list of gardening goodies.

GROOMING

Cut back the dead stems of plants in the garden for a final cleanup. To keep the area neat, pick up twigs and branches that drop from trees onto beds.

PROBLEM SOLVING

Snow is not a problem. The cover it provides insulates the soil and provides bulbs, seeds, and microbial life beneath the soil surface. It helps hold in moisture and provides more moisture when it melts.





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.

DECEMBER: THE NARCISSUS

The narcissus is the birth flower for anyone who celebrates their special day in December and stands for faithfulness, good wishes and respect. Most flowers of the narcissus genus bloom in the early spring but species like the paperwhite narcissus can be found in all their glory in cold winter months like December as well.



The December birth flower has a rich history and is very popular across the globe. Originating in the Mediterranean, the Narcissus was brought to Asia where it became widely spread across China. From there, the narcissus made its way into Europe via European colonists and eventually made its way into North America. Today, the Narcissus is mainly grown in Great Britain, Holland, and The Channel Isles.

The Narcissus birth flower commonly represents modesty, respect, and faithfulness within art and literature. However, as the flower traveled, what it symbolized evolved. For example, in China, the Narcissus flower represents wealth and prosperity while Victorians consider it to be a flower that represented egoistic personalities. In those situations, the Narcissus flower represents a chance for change and future success.

Now that you know what the December flower is as well as what it symbolizes we can explore how its meaning differs by color. Narcissus are generally white or yellow, but can also be orange or pink in garden varieties.

These are the perfect flowers to include in a birthday flower bouquet so your friend or family member knows how much you appreciate them. The extra thought you put into sending them flowers for their special day won't go unnoticed and it'll be a great conversation starter at their birthday party!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY GLORIA ENGLISH AND LINDA EAST!

(<https://problog.ftdi.com/blog/birth-month-flowers/>)

FLORAL DESIGN CLASS

Members of THS and Old York Road Garden Club came together to create a beautiful holiday Mass arrangement on November 29. Karen Wychock gave a brief explanation and demonstration on mass arrangements and discussed the materials to be used. Attendees then had plenty of time to create their arrangement using a variety of evergreens (white pine, cedar, fir, juniper, etc.), red and white carnations and gold ornaments! They will make a wonderful addition to their holiday decor!

We hope to offer another design class in early Spring. We will keep you posted as to dates and times. Happy Holidays!



Two 2023 THS Scholarships Awarded

Submitted by James Kates

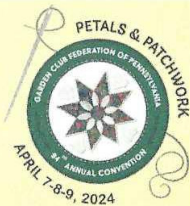
The Scholarship Committee consisted of Aurea Almazan, Phyllis Ashcraft and James Kates.

Four excellent candidates applied. All appeared to be excellent students with GPA's of 3.13 to 3.98. They all worked while in high school and in college to help pay for their education. They also participated in extra-curricular activities while in college related to their field of study.

Two \$1,000 scholarships were awarded. One was from a generous gift from the Sykes family to honor the 100th birthday of Betty Sykes. Betty was a past President of THS and is still a cherished member. The second one was from the proceeds of THS's Gift Baskets from our August Flower Show.

The Betty Sykes Scholarship was awarded to Charley Maria Silfee. Charley grew up on a Pennsylvania farm and starting earning money at an early age by raising hens to sell the eggs, as well as growing plants in a small greenhouse to sell. She has worked as a landscaper and an in-grounds maintenance at a Lavender Farm. Charley is a Freshman at Delaware Valley University Majoring in Horticulture with a GPA of 3.98. At Delaware Valley she is Secretary of the Plant Breeding Club, a member of the Floral Society, in the college honors program and a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honors Society. Charley's ambition is to become a Greenhouse Manager or get into large scale vegetable production, eventually running her own business.

Sadie Marie Duffy is an undergraduate student at Oregon State University with a double major of Botany and Horticulture. She has a 3.76 GPA. She has worked since high school to earn money for tuition. At Oregon State she is a student worker in the dining halls and at the universities' herbarium. In the herbarium, she works with the Oregon Floral database, physical specimens, specimen repair & photography. Sadie also volunteers with the USDA Germplasm Repository in Corvallis, Oregon. A Plant Geneticist from that facility wrote a letter of recommendation for Sadie stating that the staff rank her in the top 1% of volunteers. Sadie stated that positions that appeal to her now are plant breeder, greenhouse curator or a plant geneticist.



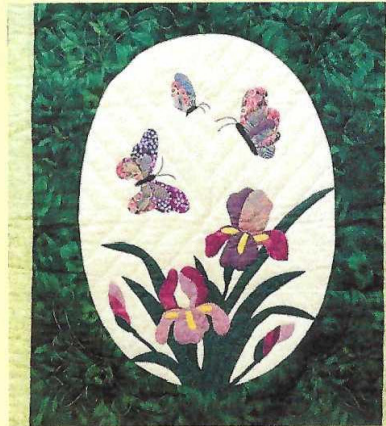
Are you feeling lucky? Do you love QUILTS?

TAKE A CHANCE TO WIN ... \$10.00 per ticket

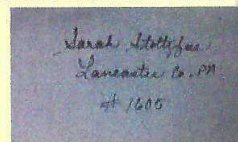
First Prize is a beautifully crafted **queen size quilt** made by Lancaster County Amish

Second Prize is a quilted **wall hanging** created by Lancaster County Amish

Third Prize is a gorgeous quilted **tote bag** made by Lancaster County Amish that has been signed by the maker



For **TICKETS** contact your
District Director or Club President



The drawing will be held during the 94th Annual Convention of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania at the Double Tree Resort by Hilton, Willow Street Pike, Lancaster, PA - April 9, 2024 @ 2:00 p.m.

You do not need to be present to win but we would love to have you join us in the heart of PA Dutch Country

These quilted pieces are excellent examples of the craftsmanship and quality common in this beautiful local art form. Good Luck!

Thank you for supporting the 2024 GCFP Annual Convention! See you in April!

I have 2 tickets left for the 2024 Convention Raffle.
Please consider purchasing one of them for these beautiful handmade items by Lancaster Amish.
See Karen Wychock for a ticket.