



August 2024

"One must maintain a little bit of summer, even in the middle of winter."

—Henry David Thoreau

Summer, the pinnacle of seasons in our neck of the woods, seems to pass so quickly with festivals, reunions, vacations, and those balmy nights that we long for. For us gardeners, it's the dreams and plans we have held in our minds through our winter hibernation coming into bloom. One of my favorite events of the summer is our Garden Hopping. It's such a treat to have guided tours of our members' gardens and be inspired. In addition, I enjoy the chance to see a majority of our members attend and to sample a few pot-luck treasures, which include the bounty of produce, herbs, and edible flowers that are growing on their properties. It's like a colorful harvest explosion. I want to thank Carolyn J. and Louise G. for opening their homes to us this year and Janelle and the Planning Committee for another successful "Hop!"

Please join us for our August Field Trip to upstate New York; final details to follow via email.

Looking forward to growing with you,

Katie Cicilioni, President

Our 20th Anniversary Celebration

We have been “sharing our knowledge and love of gardening while beautifying the Elk Mountain area and surrounding communities” for almost 20 years. It’s almost time to celebrate our anniversary!! How should we recognize this milestone? Share your ideas and we can work together to make it memorable!



We wish H el ene Tinsley a speedy recovery from her recent surgery. H el ene felt that she would not be able to fulfill her duties as president while she is recuperating, and “passed the baton” of the presidency to Katie, her vice president. We thank Katie for, once again, accepting the role of president of our wonderful Mountain View Garden Club. We hope that H el ene will be able to join us again in the very near future!

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 20

All Day Trip to Cutler Botanic Garden (Binghamton) **and Gourdlandia** (Ithaca), with a lunch stop (**members only**). Check future emails for updates.

SEPTEMBER 17

All about Honey Bees, Presentation and honey tasting with Ohna Clum

OCTOBER 15

Educational Grant Presentation with the three recipients of our education grants.

NOVEMBER 19

Kissing Ball Project presented by MVGC members Louise Guszick and Janelle Zigon (**members only**)

DECEMBER 11

Holiday Party (Wednesday) time and place to be determined (**members only**)

A queen honey bee can live for up to 5 years. She is most active in the summer months, when she can lay up to 2,500 eggs a day!



Gourdlandia

Join your fellow Garden Club members on Tuesday August 20th for a trip to Ithaca, NY to visit Gourdlandia where we will be able to view the gourd filled gardens and perhaps spend a bit of time crafting a night light or necklace from a dried gourd. Please RSVP as soon as possible if you plan to attend. (See July 30th email from MVGC for details)

Juliana Piccini grnfld453@yahoo.com

Susan Haff suze.haff@gmail.com



Welcome

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to the Mountain View Garden Club!

Nicole Crawford

Erin Daniels

Rachael Knowlton

Jennifer Mayers

Janet Murray

Diane Sysko

We look forward to seeing you at our future meetings and events.

Happy Birthday

August

Janet Murray – 7th

Lynn Conrad – 8th

Julie MacDowell – 9th

Elaine Burman – 18th

September

Colleen Bobrovcam – 1st

Norma Genevich – 10th

Deb McNamara – 26th

October

Marianne Belcastro – 10th

Katie Cicilioni – 21st

Tammy Burdi – 25th

Faith Waters-Kimes – 28th

November

Linda Leber – 1st

James OPecko – 6th

Shannon Madden – 7th

Jennifer Mayers – 15th

Nancy Ross – 22nd

Joyce Lomma – 23rd

CLIFFORD CLEAN-UP

May 21, 2024



Thanks to all our members who joined us for the cleanup at the Clifford Community Center and Fire Hall.

Spotlight on Members

All of our members have wonderful and personal stories to share about their love of gardening. We thank John Stahl for sharing his with us.

John Stahl was raised in a small town in northern New Jersey called Mountain Lakes. He had his first garden at the age of 6 when he threw seeds into his parent's compost and grew squash and cucumbers which he sold in a little red wagon to his neighbors. Thus began a lifelong passion for gardening. Upon graduating from Susquehanna University with degrees in Accounting, Economics and Spanish he was hired by Ford Motor Company, Lincoln Division into their marketing and sales division out of New York. When they wanted to move him to Detroit he decided to leave the company and went into the retail side of the car business. After 20 years as a General Manager of two dealerships, one on Long Island and one in Princeton, NJ he left the car business. He decided that after working weekends for so many years it was time to have a life like normal people. Through those years he always owned properties that often had the nicest flower and vegetable gardens in the neighborhood. His passion for plants both indoor and outdoor has often been a burden to his partner.

Besides his work life and garden he has been very active in charity work in his communities. He has been on three YMCA board of directors including chairman of the board of the Princeton YMCA and many other boards. He has been on one YMCA

charity fund for almost 40 years and is its current Chairman. He feels he has been very fortunate and has an obligation to give back to others.

Nineteen years ago he moved to north eastern PA with his husband, Joe Metzler, to become a house flipper, landlord and now contractor. He has owned 30 plus properties (8 currently) and loves watching the progress of an ugly duckling becoming the swan on the lake. Whenever he sells a property he makes sure the gardens and landscaping are the first thing people see making them welcoming to the next home buyer. Curb appeal is the best way to get someone look at your house!

In lieu of the over exaggerated housing prices for the past several years he does a lot of construction work at three different clothing optional campgrounds building structures, decks, outdoor kitchens, bathrooms and complete gutting of older trailers. It makes for an interesting job site. If all goes well within the year he will be retiring so he can continue to expand his gardens at Acre Lake, Kingsley and doing side jobs for friends and family. He and Joe enjoy traveling and see themselves seeing more of the vast world we live in and experience other cultures and food.



Mushroom Walk

At the Home of Sally Fischbeck

May 18, 2024



Our guides Jennifer & George Linsenbiger



Nancy Ross shares a memento - a mushroom inscribed and dated



Chicken of the Woods, harvested by Lynn Conrad



A few examples of the mushrooms we found on our walk



Sun and Moon Panther



Artist Conk



Dead Man's Fingers

PLANT SALE/EXCHANGE AND MARKET PLACE

June 2, 2024

Setting up for the big day



Unpacking boxes for Second Hand Rose



Plant dig at Laurie Graham's beautiful garden



Labeling and pricing the plants for sale or exchange



Unloading plants from the many digs



Ready to Go!



MUSIC IN THE PARK



SOME OF OUR VENDORS



CUSTOMERS EAGERLY AWAITING THE OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW OUR PLANTS



SEARCHING FOR BARGAINS AT SECOND HAND ROSE



Garden Hopping

July 16, 2024



Enjoying appetizers at Carolyn Johnson's home



Enjoying desserts at Louise Guzick's home



Carolyn takes us on a tour of her garden



Members admiring Louise's vegetables



Carolyn by her favorite, a Button Bush



Louise poses by a Weeping Red Bud