

## **HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE**

The Horticulture Committee Chair provides general encouragement of horticultural activities, including broadening plant knowledge, encouraging plant propagation, and enhancing garden maintenance skills. This is accomplished through a variety of workshops and also the selection of challenge plants to coordinate with the upcoming flower shows for that year. Occasional introductions of plants during a regular meeting may also be provided (particularly when seasonably appropriate).

The Horticulture Chair meets with her committee in the spring to plan events, workshops and challenge plants. She confers with the Program Chair for dates of horticulture events.

The Horticulture Chair provides Print and Publications with the dates of workshops and other activities for inclusion in the Program Book. She must proof the Program Book checking correctness of all Horticulture Committee entries. Her approval is sent to the President in advance of a printing order.

Workshop types may include plant propagation methods, pruning skills, garden maintenance methods, or an in-depth focus on a particular type of plant (e.g., bulbs, ferns, succulents, etc.).

Field Trips may be arranged by her committee for visits to local nurseries and horticultural attractions, including members gardens.

The Horticultural Chair advises the Flower Show Committee on horticultural categories, as well as ensuring an appropriate category for the challenge plants selected. Photos of horticultural exhibits in Club Flower Show can be forwarded to the Website Administrator as appropriate.

The Horticulture Committee works closely with the Program and Flower Show Committees to coordinate activities.

Photographs of workshops and activities should be sent to the Website Administrator for posting.

At the end of each program year the Chair is responsible for preparing a year-end report of the activities of the committee to be presented at the Annual Meeting. This should be provided to both the President and the Recording Secretary 1) electronically in advance of the meeting and 2) brought to the meeting as a hard copy. A hard copy should be handed or sent to the Archivist/Historian. Confer with the Archivist/Historian about providing her with hard copies of other materials to be archived.

After the Annual Meeting each year and before July 1, the Chair should confirm with all those listed on her committee to be sure they want to remain active. She should take this opportunity to add to the committee as appropriate. The list of committee

members, as it is to be printed in the Program Book, should be forwarded, by the Chair, to the President who will approve it and forward it to Print and Publications

## **Ideas:**

### Include in a Horticulture Report at most Weeders meetings:

- Timely Tips – what to do in the garden now; pests to watch for
- Show and Tell - favorite plant or tool to recommend
- Encourage doing new things:
  - Grow a plant you've never grown before
  - Learn about a new plant genus
  - Try a new maintenance method
  - Interesting plant combinations

### Workshops to teach basic as well as specialized skills:

- Propagation
- How to garden and/or maintain a lawn without chemicals
- How to build, maintain and use a compost pile
- Pruning
- Bonsai; topiary; terrariums; wreaths; dried flowers; roses; lilies; fruits; vegetables; herbs; alpine; perennial borders; living succulent wreaths; window boxes and containers; orchids; Hydrangeas; outstanding annuals; garden photography; building and maintaining a garden pool; conifers; trough gardens; fluorescent light gardening

### Plant Sale:

- An occasional event where Weeders bring seedlings and divisions from their gardens to sell to each other.

### Field Trips and Outings:

- Weeders gardens open for browsing.
- Greenhouse visits.
- Buying trips – i.e., Lancaster County
- Better-known and/or local gardens and arboretums such as Chanticleer, Jenkins, Morris and Scott Arboretums, Rodale, PA Hospital Physic Garden, etc.
- Educational trips, for example:
  - Nursery visits to learn about planting, growing, digging, and migrant labor issues
  - Hawk Mountain – fall migration
  - Pine Barrens – microenvironment and specific plants
  - Phillips Mushroom Farm