

Coastal Gardeners  
Meeting Minutes  
Millville by the Sea Clubhouse  
April 20, 2026

**Program:** Jan Poli from Berlin, Md. demonstrated some ideas for creatively filling garden containers with plants and other items collected from nature.

**Business Meeting:**

- Michele welcomed two potential members.
- Mary Kunst reported on some of the discussion from the April DFGC (Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs) meeting which she had attended:
  - The DFGC hopes to install a welcome/therapy garden at Dover Air Force base. The garden would serve families of service members killed overseas whose remains are traditionally returned to Dover before transfer to their families. Club members present at our meeting appeared to be in favor of supporting this effort through fundraising.
  - DFGC discussed the need to recruit younger members.
  - Clubs are being asked to create a holiday themed arrangement for the November flower show.
- As Nominating Committee Chair, Mary also explained that all Executive Board members will complete their terms this year, and that the positions will need to be filled by other club members.
- Michele brought up the possibility of a club “hot dog sale” (at someplace other than Millville by the Sea) for Memorial Day, with the profits going to the proposed DAF garden.
- There was discussion regarding the idea of our club creating a community garden nearby. Michele and Deb K. will look into this, and report to the club with any further information.

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Membership: Linda Barbour/Lynne White/Ruth Boggs/Robyn Zagone**

- Lynne and Ruth reported that the recipes submitted by members will be compiled into a cookbook to be available on our club website.
- Ruth noted that the “welcome table” is once again being utilized at meetings, with all members checking in.
- Sandy Daniels reminded mentors to interact with their new member mentees and to encourage them to participate in club activities.
- Lynne mentioned that our website includes a “Coastal Gardeners Overview” which can be helpful to new members. [coastalgardeners.org](http://coastalgardeners.org)

At this point in the meeting, Linda Barbour (Treasurer) explained for new members the purpose of our monthly collection jar, which is to support scholarships for students pursuing studies related to gardening/horticulture/landscaping.

### **Fundraising: Darlene Boerlage**

- Darlene will be the new Fundraising Chair. Michele explained how our Dine and Donate fundraisers work, for the benefit of the new members present, and that the recent D&D at Matt's Fish Camp should make between \$500-\$600.

### **Social: Janet Green/Joyce Keller Uy/Susan Dohony**

- Joyce reminded members of the May 8th container planting event at Bear Hole Farms. The event starts at 3:00; participants should bring a container pot no larger than 14"; food will be served; BYOB; the cost is \$35, cash or check. Members may bring a friend, if you like. Joyce suggested that members visit the Bear Hole website for more info about the owner and her business. There will be a club meeting at the event.
- Cape Water Tours Cruise: Monday, June 15, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The narrated tour starts in Lewes and cruises the Bay. We can bring our own beverages, as well as food to share. The cost will depend on how many people sign up, ranging from \$30-50. We need to arrive by 6:45. Spouses and friends can be invited as well.

### **Community Projects: Bev Boies/Chris Coppa**

- ***Adopt A Highway (Jackie Dietrich/ Joyce Keller Uy):*** The next cleanup is scheduled for 5/16 at 9:00 am. Jackie will supply trash picker tools. Participants should bring hats, gloves, and water.
- ***Beach and Bay Cottage Tour:*** If interested in participating in this event, members can contact Sandy Daniels or Lynne White. Someone from the club is needed to coordinate our members.
- ***Beebe Pots (Pat Ranier/Cathy Veale):*** Pat explained the project to new members, and asked for people to sign up to help with the watering of the pots. Current members can offer a "tutorial" for those who sign up to help but are unfamiliar with how to do it. The committee will focus this summer on red, white, and blue plantings in honor of the USA's 250th birthday.
- ***Biden Center (Terry Czerwinski):*** The next steps for this project involve preparing the garden bed, buying the plants, and planting them. Our club is waiting to hear when we are needed to help with the planting.
- ***Dagsboro Town Hall (Jackie Dietrich/Beverly Bois):*** Jackie reported that the plot was decorated a little bit for Easter and Spring, and that Spring planting would maybe take place in Mid-May.
- ***Tower Road (Sandy Daniels/ Mary Alice McNamara):*** Sandy explained this project to new members. This year, we will have plant ID signs for the plot. Spring cleanup is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5th at 9:00 am, and planting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12th at 9:00 am. Members are encouraged to sign up to help water throughout the summer. Also, Sandy requested permission to explore partnering with "Friends of Holts Landing" to do planting there.
- ***Backpacks for Kids (Robyn Zagone/Beth DeFrances/Tina Siatkowski/Mary Alice McNamara):*** Mary Alice may bring a list of needed supplies to our June activity.

**Additional Business**

Deb Kleiner informed members that the Frankford Library is holding a “Plant Palooza” on May 23rd, with plant swaps, giveaways, Master Gardeners, and children and youth activities.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Minutes submitted by Cathy Veale

**Additional Information:**

Passwords: Coastal Gardeners Website-Gardeners123  
Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs Website-DFGC-3210