

## **GUIDELINES FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS OF THE GARDENERS**

**The objective of this club**, which is called “The Gardeners,” shall be to increase enthusiasm and knowledge of horticulture, floral design, horticultural photography, and conservation of the natural world, within the 90 person membership and the community.

**The purpose of a Provisional-Year Program** is to encourage a Provisional member to fulfill the membership requirements of active members; this orientation program is supervised by the Admissions and Membership Committee working together with the candidate’s proposer. If, after a year, the Committee feels that the Provisional has met the requirements, the Provisional will be invited to become an Active member; however, if the Provisional has not fulfilled the requirements, she shall be asked to remain as a Provisional for a second year or she may resign.

**An Active Member** must have a real interest in at least one of the following fields: horticulture, floral design, personal gardening, photography, civic engagement and beautification, and/or conservation of the natural world. She must be able and willing to take part in the affairs of the Club and to work harmoniously with other members.

**Active and Provisional members must attend at least six (5) monthly meetings each year** or perform a suitable amount of work for the Club during the year. Members must be willing to serve on committees and enter the activities of the Club. Members submit an entry in at least one (1) of the Club flower shows or make decorative arrangements at the Christmas workshop. Those Provisional Members reported as frequently absent, for reasons not known to the Executive Committee, shall be contacted by the Membership Committee Chairman to ascertain their status. Members who no longer have a garden, but who continue to show an interest in activities of the Club and can serve on committees, shall rank as Active members.

### **ANNUAL HOSTESS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR EVERY MEMBER**

Once a year every member is a refreshments hostess at one of our meetings. Exceptions are made for the President of the Club and those hosting events at their homes. Further exceptions may be made by the President for members giving extra service in a particular year.

The name of the head hostess for each meeting will be the first listed name in the program. She is responsible for organizing refreshments and costs with her fellow hostesses. The member listed “(CG)” is the “coffee gal” who will supply regular and decaf coffee, cream, sweeteners, napkins, and cups before the meeting.

At the conclusion of each meeting, the sign-up sheet for attendance at the next meeting will be passed to the head hostess for the next meeting by the Program Chairman. Any member who is not in attendance needs to RSVP personally to the head hostess of that next meeting. The hostesses will provide and share in the expense of refreshments and paper goods. Refreshments do not have to be elaborate and can be homemade. It is helpful to divide up responsibilities. Finally, all hostesses will clean-up following the conclusion of the meeting.

## **MEMBER VOLUNTEER DUTIES IN THE COMMUNITY**

To protect The Gardeners tax-exempt status, it is essential that an accurate record be kept of the volunteer hours of members that are spent on community projects. **Every active member is expected to volunteer at least two hours a year in one of the following projects:**

### **Civic Engagement**

The Gardeners have a service project at Stoneleigh in Villanova, updating and renovating gardens on the first Tuesday of the month from April through November.

### **Physic Garden at Pennsylvania Hospital**

This garden, located at 5th and Spruce Streets, is a project of the Philadelphia Committee of the Garden Club of America. Workdays are held from April through November. Contact the President for more information.

### **Magnolia Tribute Garden**

Featuring thirteen Magnolias to honor our original thirteen colonies, this park was donated to the Independence National Historic Park by the Garden Club of America in 1959. Today the Park and ten member clubs of the Philadelphia Committee of the Garden Club of America maintains the garden. The Gardeners workday is set by PCGCA in October.

## **OTHER VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Members can exhibit at the Philadelphia Flower Show; make floral arrangements for the families of patients at the Ronald McDonald House and for those at nursing homes and decorate for the Fairmount Park House Tour for the holidays.

### **Fertilizer Fund**

It is expected that all members of The Gardeners will make a tax-deductible contribution to this annual fund, which underwrites the projects of the Philadelphia Committee of the Garden Club of America.

### **Philadelphia Flower Show**

All Gardeners are expected to support a Club's entry in the Philadelphia Flower Show held each March

### **Annual Party/Fundraiser**

All Gardeners are expected to contribute to the annual fundraiser that financially supports all the club's activities throughout the year. See program for date, time and location.

### **Monthly Meetings**

Members are required to contact the head hostess to RSVP their attendance at meetings in a timely fashion.