

Carnival of Flowers Garden Tour 2015

A carnival is a traveling show—a place of amusement and feasting. As you travel to the gardens listed below be ready to feast your eyes on some beautiful displays. While you many begin anywhere, the gardens are listed in order of proximity to one another. Wishing you much amusement and happy travels!

1. Ann and Matt Bieber

**5271 Creekview Dr.
Orefield, PA 18069**

This Grim's Landscape designed property of our creek view home begins with carpet roses and daylilies framing the patterned concrete side entrance way. A sweeping natural stone wall lines the backyard and separates the main awning covered patio from many sun loving perennials and mature shrubs including butterfly bushes, spireas, pachysandra, golden cypress, yews, viburnums, and burning bushes. Following this wall leads to a paved side patio surrounded with hosta, daisies, hydrangeas, English yews, and ornamental grasses. Moving to the front of the home, the porch and walkway are highlighted by a weeping blue spruce and weeping Norway spruce surrounded by azaleas, rhododendrons, holly, English yews, and barberry. This beautiful one acre property is bordered on the north and south with blue spruce trees and on the west by a row of forsythia bushes.

Directions: From Route 309 north turn left onto Kernsville Rd. (Right turn from 309 south). In one mile turn right onto Jordan Rd. and then right onto Creekview Dr. Property is on the left side.

2. Debbie and Dr. Neal Stansbury

**2867 Apple Valley Estates Dr.
Orefield, PA 18069**

Our home was built in 1996 on the site of a portion of Mohr's orchard, with apple trees planted in the 1930's and left untended in the 1970's. We were able to save 2 trees on our two acres, which still produce tasty apples annually. Otherwise, our yard began as a blank slate, with views eastward over the Lehigh valley.

Our backyard was built in 2 stages, designed by ourselves with technical help from landscapers. Choosing plants which could tolerate high winds and variable temperatures of a hilly environment has been challenging, especially considering the previous winter! Three levels of patios, a fireplace, hot tub and pool with a combination of evergreens and annuals provide a comfortable resort-like ambiance. Sitting outside on a summer evening watching the swallows dive for drinks from the pool drives away any cares of the day.

Directions: From Route 309 north turn left onto Kernsville Rd. (Right turn from 309 south). In 1.7 miles at the top of the hill turn left onto Old Mile Hill Rd. and then right onto Apple Valley Estates Dr. Property is the 2nd house on the left hand side. (From Property #1 turn right out of Jordan Rd. onto Kernsville Rd. Old Mile Hill Rd. is 0.7 mile past Jordan Rd.)

**3. Peace Garden, Jordan UCC Church
Church Road & Walbert Ave.
Allentown, PA 18104**

Our travels now take us to an ongoing labor of love and renewal. In 2005 a logging company harvested a grove of mature oak trees which left a large project for a group of dedicated volunteers to manage and they began work on the Peace Garden in 2006. The main entrance is approached from the church parking lot. The garden is a circle to walk through. Ahead, you will see the beginning of Inspiration Trail and bridge near Dawn's Gazebo. You will travel through ferns at the gazebo and turning to your left, you will approach the Rose Garden and Rock Garden and the Spring Hill Section. Continuing up the trail are wildflowers on the way to the Vesper Vail area. You will come across a peace sculpture surrounded by wildflowers. Next is the Biblical Garden which you will enter through an arch and discover a memorial cross made from an old barn beam. Continuing on you will note the well maintained border beds in front of the shed, with the Circle of Fire and memorial benches. Turn to your left and walk through the Circle of Fire Arch and continue right down the Boulder Trail passing the Bonsai Garden and mini rock beds of the Rock of Ages. You have come full circle to Dawn's Gazebo. (A full history of the creation of the Peace Garden will be available on site).

Directions: From Rt. 309 turn east onto Walbert Ave. and then a quick left onto Church Rd. Immediately bear to the right into the church parking lot. The Peace Garden is on the right. (Handicap accessibility information will be available at the parking lot).

**4. Fred Buse
4115 Knauss Circle
Allentown, PA 18104**

As we continue on our traveling show of beautiful gardens we come to a home in a cul-de-sac circle in West Allentown. This $\frac{3}{4}$ acre property with a semi-wooded three level stone tiered garden has been developed over 46 years by Fred, a master gardener. These gardens provide a feast for our eyes and ears. A feast as well for the wildlife that visit the property. Note fish ponds and falls with croaking frogs, seven bird feeders, and over ten bird houses. This yard receives over 10 species of birds per day. Vegetable gardens were put in both the back and front yards. The raised garden bed in front is located to receive more sun. (Perhaps you will catch sight of a candy-apple red cardinal during your visit).

Directions: From Walbert Ave. turn south onto Springhouse Rd. After passing under Rt. 22 turn right onto Kilmer Ave. Then turn right at Lowell Street and then left onto Knauss Circle. Property is on the right side of the cul-de-sac.

Or from Tilghman St. turn north onto Springhouse Rd. In about 1/2 mile turn left onto Kilmer Ave. then right at Lowell Street and then left onto Knauss Circle. Property is on the right side of the cul-de-sac.

**5. Sue and Ron Geist
1420 N. 28th Street
Allentown, PA 18104**

We invite you to share our ongoing labor of love of the past twenty four years. Upon entering the front gate you will be greeted by two majestic Dawn Redwoods. Be sure to say "Hi" to Earl and Oscar our resident gargoyles who watch over us. As you stroll our property you will encounter raised stone lined gardens brimming with perennials and many different shrubs. Also on your path you will find urns and planters filled with annuals, weeping pines, Pee Gee hydrangea, Japanese maples and Alaskan Cedars. Fiona, our resident backyard gargoyle guards her shady home filled with Hostas, Skip Laurels, and Solaman Seal. Feel free to spend some time relaxing near our soothing fountains.

Directions: From east on Tilghman Street turn left (north) on 28th Street. After passing under Rt. 22, property is on the left.

**6. Kathy Monahan and John Kepic
925 N. 21st Street
Allentown, PA 18104**

Merrily moving along you are in for a wonderful treat...

In the heart of Allentown you'll find a tiny 68 year old cape cod set in the middle of the city block. When the owner purchased the property, 30 odd years ago, it was a neglected rental property in need of attention both inside and out. The 'eye sore' of the neighborhood, the owner slowly began its transformation. With only clay for soil, weeds substituting for grass and infested fruit trees, the owner slowly removed every tree and shrub (except the two red maples in the front yard) and added sand and manure to begin improving the most basic, yet important, ingredient of a yard and garden.... healthy soil! In the 90's an addition, patio and shed were added to expand this tiny house. The owner designed the new living space to embrace the (soon to be added) garden. Every tree, shrub and plant were transported in the back of the owner's little station wagon. The hand laid stone wall was originally a walkway from a family member's backyard. Rather than adding curtains or blinds to the back of the house the owner used trees for a natural backdrop. A small water fountain and many birdhouses make this a favorite location for our feathered friends. Because of the tiny nature of this property, the owner uses many annuals for continuous color, some in elevated containers so they are more easily viewed from all areas of the property. Along with the annuals you will find rhododendrons, azaleas, roses, and hydrangeas making up most of the perennials. This do-it-yourself garden is filled with sentimental touches and is a favorite gathering spot for family and friends.

SILENT AUCTION: Items for the silent auction will be displayed at this home and here is where you will make your bids. We hope you find something to your liking. The bidding ends at 3:00 pm.

Directions: From east on Tilghman Street turn left (north) on 21st Street. Property is on the right between Greenleaf and Livingston Streets.

**7. Ronnie and Milton Sheftel
227 N. Main Street
Allentown, PA 18104**

The house was originally built in 1929 and contains many original features, but has been modernized and expanded over the course of the next 85 years.

The homeowner's have been gardening here for 50 years, since purchasing the house and near acre (.98/acres on three building lots) in 1964. They are the third owners of the property.

Tucked off the Living Room patio is a quiet Japanese garden, defined by a gorgeous Japanese Red Maple, one of the earliest plantings in the Garden.

The sunken English Garden is distinctive for it's use of a "dirty mortar" technique, frequently used in Britain, but not commonly found in American masonry. The center of the Sunken Garden is defined by a fountain, now dry. Seems the cost of restocking fish that local birds had found irresistible, became too expensive to maintain.

Directions: Turn south off of Tilghman Street onto Main Street. (Main Street is between 28th and 29th.) Follow Main Street for a few blocks. Property is on the left near Parkway Blvd. along Cedar Creek Park.

or turn north off of Parkway Blvd. Property is on the right.

**8. Dawn and Len Sonntag
2868 Edgemont Dr.
Allentown, PA 18103**

Located in the Meadowbrook area of Salisbury Township, this garden has been developed over a period of 25 years. The rear yard contains an extensive rock garden built into a downward grade, two patio areas, a Koi pond with two water falls, and a formal water feature with a fountain. There are many plants for birds, butterflies and humming birds. There is a woodland area of hostas and native plants. A small garden railway runs along a portion of the garden.

Directions: Located in Meadowbrook off of Cedar Crest Blvd. From Hamilton Blvd. go south on Cedar Crest Blvd. to Lindberg Avenue. Bear left onto Lindberg Avenue, continue to Meadowbrook Circle West. Bear right onto Meadowbrook Circle West and continue straight directly onto Edgemont Drive. Property is on the left.

**9. David Shimp and Greg Woods
1847 17th Street SW
Allentown, PA 18103**

Continuing on our way to the unexpected and beautiful attractions of our Carnival of Flowers, we will be able to experience a demonstration as well as discover a lovely garden through verse written by this creative host:

A little home of our own,
A fence of real wood picket,
A grill out on the patio,
A greenhouse in the garden,
In a tract house that we share,
Somewhere in south Allentown.

He rakes and trims the grass,
He loves to mow and weed,
To keep it neat and clean,
A picture from a garden magazine.

As the sun sets in the west,
We certainly couldn't lie,
This truly is a beautiful plot,
Somewhere in Little Lehigh,,,,

Creative Demonstration: David Shimp of Phoebe Floral and Greenhouses will be making a presentation entitled "*Using Architectural Elements and Salvage in the Garden*". This will be an hour-long talk beginning at 11:00 AM.

Directions: From Lehigh Street turn west onto 17th Street SW. Property is on the right side just after Catalina Avenue. **Parking is available on Catalina Avenue.**

**10. Georgie and Doug Patt
1821 Woods Hollow Lane
Allentown, PA 18103**

The excitement and anticipation for something special continues with our travels to the next garden... Our rock garden began 26 years ago along with the construction of the Patt Residence in Woodhaven, located in Lower Milford, Lower Macungie and Salisbury Townships. As the development began, much bedrock was discovered and Georgie asked that it be saved and placed at the west corner of the house to create a rock garden. This brought back many childhood memories of playing for hours with her twin Sister in her Mother's rock garden and also gave her an opportunity to transfer many of her Mother's bulbs and perennials into her new garden. Collecting perennials became a passion and gardening was learned from trial, error and much reading. As trees and shrubbery grew, walnut and ash trees were removed, a sprinkling system was added as were a pond, seating area and large flagstone patio all focused on the maturing gardens. The perennial garden is a "carnival of flowers" which change throughout the growing seasons. The orchestrated "shows" which change from spring to fall with all their perennial variety of plants and colors exhibit God's artistic creations to the fullest. We have been blessed to have two of our children's weddings at the rock gardens, which have helped make our house a home. We trust you too will enjoy the gardens, patio and koi and goldfish pond as much as we have.

Directions: From Lehigh Street south just past South Mall turn right onto Bevin Drive at the light. Then turn left onto Country Club Rd. and then left onto Woods Hollow Lane. Property is on the left.

Or from Cedar Crest Blvd. south turn left onto Riverbend Rd. After crossing the iron bridge over the stream, turn left onto Country Club Rd. and then right onto Woods Hollow Lane. Property is on the left.

