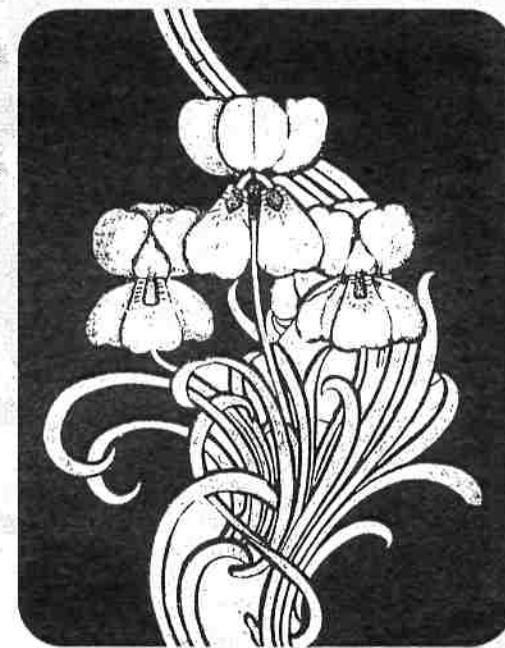


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June 29, 2003

Dear Fellow Garden Enthusiasts,

We are glad to announce that it is time for the thirteenth annual Mt. Lebanon Library Garden Tour. After one of the worst winters for combined cold weather and snowfall, we have special reason to look forward to the tour this year. We are certain that you will be pleased with the featured private and public gardens that are on exhibit. As usual, there will be a plant sale at the Library during the tour with items donated by local gardeners available for purchase. After this winter you can be assured that any plants that are offered are winter-hardy for our region!

The 2003 tour is once again the result of the efforts of the many volunteers who devoted their time, starting with the gardeners themselves whose hard work will provide for all of our enjoyment, and the garden selection committee, who located these wonderful properties. After twelve successful tours with around seventy gardens displayed, the diversity in the gardens that continue to be developed for the tour is always a wonderful surprise. We also want to thank the advertisers and donors for the program booklet, along with the supporters of the plant sale, all of whose contributions will add up to the tour's success in supporting the Library. The rest of the Garden Tour Committee, often laboring in the background, deserves much recognition as well. Finally, we also appreciate you, the ticket buyers for the tour, who give it its purpose and its final achievement of helping Library programs that in turn help us all!

We hope that your visit to this year's gardens continues to provide excitement, ideas and incentive for your own gardening interests. As we always like to suggest, if you only get one idea from each of the yards that you will see this year, it is certain to keep you busy with new projects for months to come.

Sincerely,

*Mary Lu and Bob*

Mary Lu and Bob Quehl  
Garden Tour Chairs

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*Flowers are sunshine, food  
and medicine to the soul.  
~Luther Burbank*

## One Year I Could Not Weed the Garden

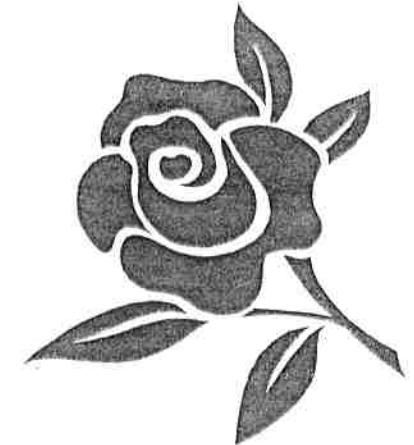
One year I could not weed the garden.  
Emerging from winter pale and lean  
uncertain of returning light  
so grateful for the color green  
I could not bear to tear the dandelion  
from its space  
disrupt the bindweed's delicate entangling  
embrace  
or amputate the rampant runners from the  
chokecherry.

By Fall the garden would be overrun, of course  
but for this one season  
no life force  
for any reason  
would be judged unqualified to live or come to  
harm through me.

*Paulette Kohman*  
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Garden Tour!



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# Booklist for Garden Lovers

## Non-Fiction:

**The Artist & the Garden** by Roy Strong—759.2 S76

**The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World**  
by Michael Pollan—581.6 P64

**Eminent Gardeners: Some People of Influence and Their Gardens, 1880-1980**  
by Jane Brown—635.09 B75e

**The Gardener's Book of Verse**—Helen Van Pelt Wilson, editor—808.81 W57

**The Ingenious Mr. Fairchild: The Forgotten Father of the Flower Garden**  
by Michael Leapman—92 Fairchild

**My Garden (Book)** by Jamaica Kincaid, illustrations by Jill Fox—635 K55

**The Orchid Thief** by Susan Orlean—92 Laroche

**Second Nature: A Gardener's Education** by Michael Pollan—635.9 P64s

**Sleeping with a Sunflower: A Treasury of Old-Time Gardening Lore**  
by Louise Riotte—635.02 R55s

**The Sweet Breathing of Plants: Women Writing on the Green World,**  
Linda Hogan and Brenda Peterson, editors—635.9 S95

**The Writer in the Garden**, Jane Garmey, editor—810.W73

## Fiction:

**Along Came Mary: A Bad Girl Creek Novel** by Jo-Ann Mapson

**Bad Girl Creek** by Jo-Ann Mapson

**Garden Tales: Classic Stories from Favorite Writers**, photographs by Jane Gottlieb

**Gardener to the King: A Novel**, Frédéric Richaud, translated from the French  
by Barbara Bray

**The Lost Garden** by Helen Humphreys

**An Ocean Apart** by Robin Pilcher

**Rose's Garden** by Carrie Brown

**Second Thyme Around** by Katie Fforde

## Mystery:

**Celia Grant Botanical Mysteries series** by John Sherwood

**China Bayles Herbal Mysteries series** by Susan Wittig Albert

**Creeping Venom: An Irish Gardening Mystery** by Sheila Pim

**A Deadly Bouquet** by Janis Harrison

**Louise Eldridge Gardening Mysteries series** by Ann Ripley



## Garden of

Meredith Taylor & Andy Dulick  
386 Morrison Dr.

Andy and I both love the outdoors and entertaining outside in nice weather. So, in 1977, we ended up buying our house at 386 Morrison partly due to the potential of the backyard—it was a large grassy yard with good sun that was perfect for the outdoor living space we envisioned. We built the multi-tier deck first, then embarked on the pool building adventure in the summer of '98. Then came the gardens.

Always loving plants, but not really ever having the opportunity for a garden (we had lived in a townhouse before), we have learned from trial and error. The overall theme of the flower beds is a cottage garden in pinks, blues and whites. (There are still some orange daylilies left from the original yard.) Mostly perennial, there is a wide variety of phlox, roses, lambs ear, hydrangeas, lilies, dianthus, hostas, iris, and peonies. We also have added a weeping cherry, a lilac, and several rose of Sharon over the years. Andy and I have done most of the work ourselves, adding the various beds a little at a time.

The “hardscape” is also an important part of our backyard. For privacy, we’ve added a hammock arbor, several trellis walls, and last year built a bed in the back, bordered by a stone wall, that we planted with emerald green arbs, a magnolia, Japanese lilacs, hostas and a large birdhouse. All the stones were originally in the yard, and we’re proud of building the wall ourselves. Over the last three years, we’ve also added a flagstone patio, a hot tub, and a pond with a stream and two waterfalls.

Container gardening is also really important in our backyard since we have the large deck and the concrete pool surround. I do many planters—all with the same white, pink, and blue color scheme—to try to soften all the patio areas.

We’ve worked really hard to create an enjoyable outdoor space, and we’re delighted to share it with you.



## *G*arden of

Barbara & John Dittmer  
611 Royce Ave.



## *G*arden of

Linda Pretz & Ira Spill  
375 Avon Dr.

Our garden has been 29 years in the making and has changed and evolved over the years to reflect our interests. Because of our limited space we have had to be creative in adding planting areas. Most beds have been totally redone more than once over the years. We are active members of the Pittsburgh Iris and Daylily Society and the Daffodil & Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania so our garden reflects those major plant groups.

Late March and April is highlighted with over 250 varieties of daffodils. They, along with other spring bulbs, bring about 8 weeks of bloom to the spring garden. Late April into May the over 300 types of hosta begin to unfurl and the 60 varieties of miniature iris are blooming. A tri-color beech and a white fringe tree are at their best in mid-May. Pulmonaria, primroses, and heuchera are also blooming at this time. Late May and June is the time to really enjoy the beauty of the hosta as they reach their mature growth; a Kousa dogwood and a stewartia tree add to the beauty of early summer. Late June and July the 400 varieties of daylilies bring new glory every day. We are a national display garden for daylilies so are always adding new cultivars. In August the annuals seem to "strut their stuff" and the hosta are blooming. Fall brings mums and the fall colorations of the hosta. The garden also has other perennials, several kinds of ferns, and some specimen trees. There is always something to look at in the garden.

We were on the first Mt. Lebanon Library tour and are pleased to welcome you again to our garden. Hopefully, there should be some daylilies in bloom for you to enjoy!

When this home was purchased in 1992, it was overrun with wild honeysuckle, raspberry vines, unappealing shrubs and several dead trees. This was offset by several large dogwoods, which unfortunately did not survive the blight of the '90s. Not until our rear addition was built in 1999 and the yard re-graded, with a new patio and retaining walls installed, did the garden start to take shape. Chinese dogwood replaced the now defunct dogwoods. Canadian Hemlocks, Black Pines and Japanese White Pines joined the towering pines that border the lot. Splashes of rhododendron and azaleas of various hues compete with early perennials, with daylilies and bright annuals anchoring the summer months.

Living in northern California while attending college imbued a lifelong interest in grasses of all types. The garden features over two dozen varieties with the search for new additions a constant endeavor. I especially appreciate the dried grasses poking through the snow during bleak winter months. Another favorite spot is a four-sided, recessed area next to the greenhouse and steps leading to the rear yard. An abundance of ferns nestle beneath false cypress and compliment lily turf in this shade garden. Its protected location provides welcome greenness at least until November and sometimes longer.

Having grown up on a farm in South Central PA, my garden is a reflection of my strong ties to the land. I hope that it will bring you as much tranquility and enjoyment as it does to me and my family.



### Directions to the Gardens

The following narrative is one suggested route, but feel free to visit the gardens in any order!

 Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd.

◆ 386 Morrison Drive: From the Library driveway, turn left on Castle Shannon to Washington Road. Make a left onto Washington and go through the double lights to the next light at Cochran Road. Turn right on Cochran. Stay on Cochran past Beverly Road (where 19 turns right). Continue on Cochran to Morrison Drive, which is the third right turn past Beverly. Turn right onto Morrison Drive. House is the 14th one on the left.

● 611 Royce Avenue: Continue on Morrison to Neulon, and turn right. Take Neulon to Midway, and turn right. Take Midway to Parker, and turn right. Take Parker to the traffic light at Cochran. Turn left onto Cochran. Stay on Cochran to Royce, which is the fourth right turn. Turn right onto Royce Avenue. House is 1st one on the left side.

▲ 375 Avon Drive: Continue on Royce, bearing to the left onto McCully and take McCully to the "T" at Cochran. Turn right on Cochran and take it to the "T" at Washington Road. Make a left onto Washington. Take Washington to Jefferson and make a right on Jefferson (at the Mission Hills sign). You must then cross over to the left to remain on Jefferson (if you see a street sign for Orchard, you missed the cross-over and need to turn around, or stay on Orchard as it eventually runs into Jefferson in a loop). Take Jefferson to Avon Drive and turn onto Avon. House is the 7th one on the left side.

■ 431 Avon Drive: Continue on Avon Drive to another stop sign. House is the 7th one on the left past the stop sign.

◆ 192—190 Castle Shannon Blvd., Vicar Antiques and Topiary Ltd.: Turn around on Avon, as it is a dead-end street. Stay on Avon to Jefferson and turn right onto Jefferson. Take Jefferson past Poplar to Hemlock, and turn right onto Hemlock. Take Hemlock to Castle Shannon and make a right onto Castle Shannon. Address is across the street from the intersection of Castle Shannon and Shady Drive East.

★ 550 Sleepy Hollow Road, St. Winifred's Church: *Please note that due to church services we ask that this garden be viewed after 1 p.m.* Continue on Castle Shannon (making a right when it intersects with Scott Road) to the traffic light at Anawanda. Turn left onto Anawanda. At the "T" intersection with Broadmoor turn right onto Broadmoor. Take Broadmoor to Briarwood, and turn left. Remain on Briarwood and watch for the church parking lot on the right (if you come to Sleepy Hollow Road you have gone too far). Turn right into the church's parking lot. The garden is behind the Parish House and Office Building.

◆ Mt. Lebanon Public Library: To return to the Library and check out the plant sale, leave the church's parking lot and retrace your route. Turn left on Briarwood and take it to Broadmoor. Turn right onto Broadmoor and take it to Anawanda. Turn left onto Anawanda and take it to the light at Castle Shannon. Turn right onto Castle Shannon and take it back to the Library.



## *Garden of*

Jack & Pam O'Brien  
431 Avon Dr.

Our garden invites you to the woodlot just behind the property. The invitation is subtle, but a persuasive slope gently coaxes you toward the hemlocks, flowering wild cherry and gnarled oaks in the adjacent "hundred acre wood." Bordering the lawn are ordered plantings of ground cover, shrubs and flowering trees that draw from the sights and textures of the woodlot.

The feature that best ties our garden in to the peace and quiet of the woods was created quite by coincidence. When we moved to Pittsburgh five years ago, we briefly tolerated a very difficult problem accessing our property. A poured concrete retaining wall along the driveway was leaning into the drive so far that we needed to fold in our side-view mirrors just to drive the car past the wall.

So, we tore down the ugly concrete slab and replaced it with railroad ties. The demolished wall was recycled into a firm base for a patio at the rear of the property. Before the retaining wall contractor left, he dug a hole in the backyard. We later enlarged it and used the soil to build up and level the surface of the patio. There we enjoy cool evenings next to the chiminea. Jack enjoys carving stone sculpture, and, on any given day, you are likely to see a family of deer, a dozen squirrels, and a flock of turkeys parading, unaware of our presence, through the woods below.

The shallow hole in our backyard became our pond, an important element to us. We grew up near water and our last home, in Erie, had both a pool and a quarter-acre pond. Another water feature, a fountain, is located on the upper patio where the soothing water sounds can invite the muse while Pam works on her poetry or passes sunny summer days reading, correcting student essays, or relaxing.

The fountain marks one end of a brick path that takes the visitor to a bright red gate through a brick archway that opens into a small grove of trees that provide cooling and privacy to the front of the house. Along the wall leading to the gate, ferns transplanted from the woodlot take advantage of the shade and moisture captured in the close quarters.



## *Garden of*

Vicar Antiques—Kristin Nell  
Topiary Ltd.—Mare Barr  
192 & 190 Castle Shannon Blvd.

Tucked between Vicar Antiques & Gardens and the Topiary Garden Shop, just a two-block stroll from the heart of the Mt. Lebanon business district, a garden of colorful blooms from shrub, perennial, and annual bushes surrounds the perimeter of the properties, including the upper and lower parking areas.

Born in Spring 2000, the garden has established itself as a focal point to the neighborhood and the community. The Friedland Rose family, "Bonica and Belinda," along with the "Knockout," the Fairy and Climber Blaze, greet one all season long. Throughout the gardenscape is an assortment of Hydrangeas, purchased locally and from Oregon. The ever-popular Pee Gee and Nikko Blues are joined by Glowing Embers, Tardiva, Alpenglauen, Merritts Supreme, Domotoi, G.B. Kuhner, Miss Belgium and Mariesa Perfecta—varieties of mop heads, lace caps and panecutala cultivars.

Perennials have established their homes in all the garden rooms, including the pots that adorn the rear decks. There are Feverfew, Foxgloves, Spiderwort, Veronica, Salvia, Black-Eyed Susans, Ornamental Oregano, Meadow Phlox, and many more. Hollyhocks make their statement along the east side of the driveway.

The finishing brush of color is added by the annual palette. The owner and designer, Kristin Nell, loves to first see who and what naturally paint the surface from the previous season, be it Blue Victoria Salvia, Alyssum, Petunias and whoever else wants in the encore performance. Then every season, she interjects the annual "sprit." Favorite varieties with long-lasting color, bloom and hardiness, are families of zinnias, verbena, lantana, ageratum, alyssum, along with new members that catch her eye each year.

Throughout the garden there are ornamentations, such as containers, statuary, trellises, and topiaries. The decks surrounding the rear of the shops are decorated with containers of jasmine, hibiscus, gardenias, heliotropes and more, with finishing touches of draping annual colors. To Miss Nell, this ongoing work of love has its best moments from the appreciated comments by residents and visitors. This is the true joy and gift of gardening—sharing nature's colorful beauty.



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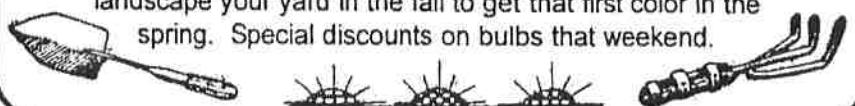
 **July 5 - Daylily Day** - Special discounts on Daylilies that weekend.  
 **July 12 - Perennial Day** - Gardening lectures by special featured speakers on perennials. Special discounts on perennials that weekend.  
 **July 26 - Herb Day** - A morning filled with herbal lectures. Learn how to grow herbs and preserve herbs. Special discounts on herbs that weekend.

 **August 2 - Shrub Day** - Gardening lectures by special featured speakers on shrubs. Special discounts on shrubs & trees that weekend.

 **August 9 - Shade Gardening Day** - A morning filled with gardening lectures on shade gardening. Special discounts on annuals, perennials, shrubs & trees that weekend.

 **August 23 - Fall is for Planting** - Fall is a great time to divide your perennial plants. Learn the different techniques to help put your garden to sleep for the winter. "Fall is for Planting" sale starts this weekend on perennials, shrubs & trees.

 **September 6 - Bulb Day** - Lectures on bulb planting. Learn how to landscape your yard in the fall to get that first color in the spring. Special discounts on bulbs that weekend.



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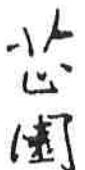
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