


# Alpine Line

NEWSLETTER

## ALLEGHENY CHAPTER NORTH AMERICAN ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2025








### Message from the Chair

-  Leslie Kaplan speaks to the membership on plans and happenings.



*Conifer use in the rock garden: American Conifer Society*

### In this Issue

-  2025 Meeting Schedule
-  Facebook and Instagram
-  Aviary Rock Garden Update
-  Focus on Silenes
-  Plant Sale Prep & Planning-
-  New Members Introduction
-  Tell Us About It- An Interview with Esther Benedict

Our Allegheny Chapter often sources hard-to-find plant material from Esther Benedict for our annual plant sale. This section is Esther's interview reprinted from the NARGS Rock Garden Quarterly magazine.

-  Plant Show and Photo Entry Guidelines



**TURN YOUR PREPARED CONTEST PHOTOS IN  
BEFORE APRIL 27, 2025**

*Upcoming Meetings at locations listed. This schedule is current plan. Changes to schedule will be updated in newsletters or email.*

**APRIL 6, 2025 – 2PM**

Amanda Haney, “Wildflowers of Iceland”, - Plant raffle

Location: National Aviary

**MAY 4, 2025 – 9AM**

Rock Garden Plant Show and Sale

Location: Soergel’s Garden Center

**MAY 10, 2025 – 9AM-2PM**

Garden Fest

Location: O’Hara Twp Community Park

**JUNE 8, 2025 – 9:30AM**

Breakfast Social at DJ’s Greenhouse and Gardens

**JULY 12, 2025 – 10AM**

Tour of Leslie Kaplan’s Garden in Point Breeze

**AUGUST 17, 2025 – 2PM**

Annual Picnic; Plant Auction

Location: Sue Colaizzi’s Garden

Bring a covered dish; the club provides chicken, ribs, and drinks.

Bring labeled plants for the swap and a special plant or item for the live auction. Prizes are awarded for members’ favorite troughs.

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 – TIME TBD**

Planting a Crevice Garden, Kevin Kelly

Location: HUB in West View

Join Penn State Master Gardener Kevin Kelly for a presentation about Crevice Gardening. Kevin will take you through the process, of creating a crevice garden in a front yard or container and ideal “beginner” plants for this type of garden.

**OCTOBER 19, 2025 – TIME TBD**

Alpines from Around the World- Gardens of Scotland

Julia Corden, U.K. horticultural consultant and botanical & garden tour guide

Location: Beechwood Farms

**NOVEMBER 9, 2025**

Annual Awards Banquet/Highlights from Members’ Garden

Location: Tentatively St. Joseph Church

**DECEMBER 2025**

NARGS Seed packing at the West View HUB

**Meeting locations:**

West View HUB

435 Perry Hwy

West View, PA 15229

National Aviary

700 Arch St

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Soergel’s Orchards and  
Garden Center

2573 Brandt School Rd

Wexford, PA 15090

O’Hara Twp Community Park

330 Fox Chapel Rd

Pittsburgh, PA 15238

DJ’s Greenhouse & Gardens

1004 E Lake Rd

Transfer, PA 16154

Beechwood Farms

614 Dorseyville Rd

Pittsburgh, PA 15238

St. Joseph Church

342 Dorseyville Rd

Pittsburgh, PA 15238

Leslie Kaplan’s Garden

Sue Colaizzi’s Garden

“May will be a busy month for the chapter with three major events—the Master Gardener’s Garden and Landscape Symposium, our own Show and Sale and Gardenfest.”



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The anticipation of Spring got me through the cold grey months of winter. Now, as I clean the leaves off my garden beds I find surprises, like this *Hepatica nobilis* var. *japonica* in full bloom –I forgot it was even there. I watch the large magnolia across the street to see if the blooms will make it to full glory this year (looks like a ‘yes’!) and always enjoy the long-lasting bloom of the Hellebores.

Spring may be off to a slow start, but there are lots of exciting happenings in the coming months! Our April 6 meeting at the National Aviary is a perfect time to see the Chapter’s Rock Garden in full bloom and take a few photos. Amanda Haney will be speaking about a fabulous rock garden she visited in Iceland and also about local native Icelandic plants. Also at this meeting, we will host our usual raffle, but this month we will focus on plants only. Dig up something cool from your garden and bring it for the raffle.



Don’t forget to bring your printed and mounted photos for the show in May. Nancy Knauss will have extra foam core boards available for mounting your photos. Your images will inspire others to try rock gardening! Details about the photo contest are included in this newsletter.

. This is the 54<sup>th</sup> year for the Plant Show and Sale and we are working to make it one of the best. To get some publicity for the sale, we are hoping to have a table at the Symposium. We would have some plants to offer and a couple of troughs as examples and pass out ads for our Show and Sale.

We had a great turnout for the pot-up day and all the plants are now in the care of members until the sale on May 4<sup>th</sup>. We have ordered wildflowers from Arrowhead Alpines that will be potted up as soon as they arrive. The chapter has also purchased plants from a grower in Indiana and we are also depending on choice selections from members’ gardens. See Nancy’s article in this newsletter for more information on how you can be involved.

The Plant Show and Sale will be followed by Gardenfest on May 10 at O’Hara Twp. Park. This is an opportunity to reach new members and sell any remaining plants. Volunteers are needed to help—please contact Sue Colazzi if you can assist.

And finally, in June we have a break and can enjoy a relaxing morning and have fun shopping at DJ’s Greenhouse and Gardens. DJ hosts the chapter and generously offers a hearty breakfast for the members. DJ also shares his expertise and will tell us about some new varieties and those stalwart performers that should find a place in our gardens. Leslie Kaplan, Chair



Have you seen the postings Barb Kline is doing on social media?  
We have never looked so good!!  
Great people working together to make beautiful environments  
through gardening with rock garden plants.

### Check it out!

Barb Kline, Allegheny Chapter's dedicated champion of social media continues to post pictures on our Instagram (IG) account (*allegheny\_chapter\_nargs*) and making waves on our Facebook (FB) page with pics and posts <https://www.facebook.com/NARGS.AlleghenyChapter/>.  
Please continue liking, commenting and especially sharing posts to your personal pages. This will help our outreach and membership to grow.

Share the message that rock gardening, well, ROCKS... Send Barb photos and a bit of text to identify

Come see Amanda Haney's talk on wildflowers photographic during a trip to Iceland

## Aviary Rock Garden Update



March Clean-up Crew  
Celebrate the Rock Garden together



Eranthus hyemalis Winter Aconite

**Sunday, April 6, 2:00 p.m.,**  
National Aviary

Speaker: Amanda Haney,  
NARGS member

Topic: *Botanic Garden and*  
*Wildflowers of Iceland*

Plant Raffle

April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
10 & 24	8 & 22	12 & 26	10 & 24	14 & 28	11 & 25	9 & 23	13

The largest public rock garden in Western Pennsylvania is adjacent to the National Aviary's outdoor bird cages (700 Arch Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212) in Allegheny Commons West Park. This luxurious destination point is full of gems from the high mountain regions of the world - our own Rocky Mountains to the Himalaya Mountains of India and China. Come often to discover the year-round beauty of lovely plants and shrubs through the changing of the seasons.

Volunteer members of the Allegheny Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS) maintain this lovely rock garden for the public to enjoy. These delightful folks are available the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings of every month from 10am to 12pm, March through November, to discuss their gardening knowledge and the cultivation of rock garden plants as they tend to the maintenance of the garden.

## PLANT FOCUS - SILENES

*Silene* is a genus of flowering plants in the family Caryophyllaceae. Containing nearly 900 species, it is the largest genus in the family. Common names include campion and catchfly. Many *Silene* species are widely distributed, particularly in the northern hemisphere. (Wikipedia)



A curious piece of info...

Based on information from Namebaby.com, the name *Silene* is a girl's name meaning "sloshing in the wine trough". A flower name derived from the Greek Seilenos or Silenus, a tutor and companion of the Greek wine god Dionysus. Campion flowers belong to the genus *Silene*.



*Silenes* are perennial with long-

blooming flower colors range from pink to red. Some common names for this plant include common catchfly, small-flowered catchfly, and windmill pink. Preferring good drainage and full sun, it is good for rock garden planting.



***Silene stenophylla*** grows in the Arctic tundra of far eastern Siberia and the mountains of northern Japan. Frozen samples, estimated via radiocarbon dating to be around 32,000 years old, were discovered in the same area as current living specimens and, in 2012, a team of scientists successfully regenerated a plant from the samples.[Wikipedia]



*Silene gallica*  
By © Hans Hillewaert, CC BY-SA 3.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=15061851>



## PLANT SALE PREPARATION



### ROCK GARDEN SHOW AND SALE – Important Information for Members!

For those of us new to the club, our show and sale is in its 54<sup>th</sup> year! That's Impressive! Once again, the event will be held from 9AM to 3PM in McIntosh Hall at Soergel's Orchards and Garden Center, 2573 Brandt School Road, Wexford.

Thank you to all the members who participated in pot-up day. The weather was



perfect and with many hands, the plants were repotted in record time. The plants were distributed among the members and are being cared for until the sale. If you are caring for plants, please arrange to have them at Soergels by 8 a.m. on Sunday, May 4 so they can be priced. Volunteers are needed to help set up for the show

and sale at 7 a.m. Sunday morning. Please consider coming early, as there is much to organize! The success of the sale also depends on member plant donations as we make the best profit on these plants. Also, please consider a donation to the raffle table. We are also looking for unique donations—maybe you have a choice plant that can be divided, or you find an unusual plant at a garden center. The morning of the sale is hectic, so again, arrange to have your plants at Soergels by 8 a.m.



One of the best features of the event is the show. Both members and guests have the opportunity to see some of the finest examples of mature rock garden and native plants that they may be thinking about growing. It is not so much about winning an award but sharing your knowledge and a “piece of your garden” with others. Please consider entering at least one plant this year! The rules for entering the show are available on our website and questions can be directed to Michele Newton, the show chair. <https://nargspittsburgh.wixsite.com/>

If you don't have space for a rock garden, consider entering the photography contest. Again, the rules for entering are included on the website. We will have foam boards for mounting and entry forms available at the April membership meeting at the Aviary. Completed photos can be brought to this meeting. The photos will be judged before the show, so they must be submitted to the photo chair, Sue Colaizzi by April 27.



Finally, invite friends and family to the show and sale, share our Facebook and Instagram posts, and talk it up. We will have a table at the Garden and Landscape Symposium sponsored by the Penn State Master Gardeners of Allegheny County and will need volunteers to staff it throughout the day. Thank you all for your participation!



# Welcome Joyce DiNardo

GET TO KNOW THE NEW  
MEMBERS



Hello, my name is Joyce DiNardo and as a new member I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know everyone by attending future meetings and by volunteering for the various upcoming projects.

**Tell us about yourself and gardening.**

I've always enjoyed gardening (flowers, bushes, trees) for as long as I can remember. I am not a master gardener and pretty much learned some things by trial and error over the years. My career was in accounting/auditing working for Deloitte as a CPA. In addition to auditing full time, I would organize and bring 100+ Deloitte employee volunteers to the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden (PBG) for Deloitte's annual "Impact Day".



Upon retiring, I volunteered full time at Pittsburgh Botanic Garden organizing all aspects of the Garden's volunteer programs/needs (corporate, individuals, schools...) including obtaining donations of supplies. One particular corporate event brought 565 volunteers to the Garden for Earth Day, 2014. I met and worked with the most amazing and generous volunteers at the Garden. Since then, I have had the pleasure of continuing to meet with various members of the former PBG Plant Sale and Garden Tour committees.

**If you could choose anyone as a gardening mentor, who would it be?**

Witnessing first hand their vast knowledge, hard work, generosity, and creativity at the Garden and elsewhere, and by our occasional get togethers, it is with great confidence that I would select Phyllis Gricus ( January speaker) and Tristan Stayduhar ( current NARGS member) as individuals that I would be honored to have as a garden mentor.

**What do you do when you are not gardening? Other hobbies, travel, sports....**

In addition to gardening, I enjoy swimming laps, bicycling (biked Pittsburgh to DC last May), reading with my book club friends, quilting, volunteering at: Raccoon Creek State Park, South Side Park, Hope Grows...yoga, traveling, and especially spending time with my friends and family.



Aquilegia desertorum



Draba compacta



Geranium nigricans



## **Robert Morgan Lynch**

October 5, 1943 - January 19, 2025

Robert Lynch, a dedicated and long-time member of NARGS and the Allegheny Chapter, passed away on January 19, 2025. Bob and his wife, Sylvia, hosted the club at their home a number of times. Their woodland garden and rock garden were beautiful and inspiring, and their backyard deck was an exceptional location for a spring meeting. In past years, Bob also shared his love of plants and gardening by volunteering at the Aviary rock garden and serving as a judge at our annual plant show.

Obituary: It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Robert Morgan Lynch of Penn Hills. A beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend who left this world peacefully with his wife by his side on January 19, 2025 at the age of 81. His unwavering love, strength, loyalty and humor will forever be remembered by all who were fortunate to know him.

Born to Edward and Lillian Lynch on October 5, 1943 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Bob's life would continue to center around this great city. He graduated from Central Catholic High School where his son and son-in-law also attended. His grandson is currently following in his footsteps in the halls of Central this very day.

After enjoying college at The Pennsylvania State University, Bob became an electrical engineer at Westinghouse. He continued his career at Contraves and Neuro Kinetics, Inc. His work contributed to projects at NASA, the development of the MRI and an author of the Balance Function Assessment and Management textbook. The latter portion of his career was spent developing and writing software for eye-tracking technology in neuroscience to advance innovative products that aid in the diagnosis and monitoring of neurological injury and disease.

While in ninth grade, he met the love of his life, Sylvia Visco, who lived nearby in Penn Hills. They celebrated 57 years of marriage and friendship during their lifetime together. A devoted husband and Catholic, Bob's life revolved around his family, his church and his beautiful backyard. He found immense joy in gardening, dinners out, playing games, downhill skiing and good beer.

Bob is survived by his wife Sylvia (Visco), children Stephanie (Donald) Fraley of Point Breeze, Pennsylvania and Brendan (Janea) Lynch of Parker, Colorado. He is also survived by his siblings Mary Pat McLaughlin, Anne (Rick) Jacobus, Jim (Amy) Lynch and Kevin (Sherrie) Lynch along with many nieces and nephews.

His final weeks were spent with his favorite people on this planet, mainly his grandchildren Lilly, Jake, Morgan and Sophie. They enjoyed two weeks on Marco Island building puzzles, laughing and playing games with their grandfather until he sadly passed shortly afterwards.



**TELL US ABOUT IT - A CONVERSATION WITH ESTHER BENEDICT**

Interview by Joseph Tychonieich

"Originally published in The Rock Garden Quarterly of the North American Rock Garden Society in the Fall/2022 Issue, Volume 80 Issue 4" Reprint by permission of Esther Benedict and Joseph Tychonieich

# A CONVERSATION WITH ESTHER BENEDICT

INTERVIEWED by JOSEPH TYCHONIEVICH

*Please introduce yourself.*

I live on a small farm in northern Indiana with my husband, Robert. I am a self-taught gardener, gleaned information from books, magazines, trial and error, and many wonderful people who are willing to share their knowledge. Robert and I enjoy seeing plants in their natural habitat, and visiting botanical gardens, nurseries, and private gardens. We belong to the Great Lakes Chapter of NARGS.

*How did you get into gardening in general, and rock gardening in particular?*

I grew up with gardening. Every year, my mom would let each child pick something exotic or fun from the seed catalog. I can remember vegetable spaghetti, peanuts, Indian corn, gourds, cotton, cacti, and giant watermelons. Rock gardening came much later, after marriage and buying a property. While raising a family, the gardening was centered



Esther in her garden



Top: *Daphne* growing in tufa:

Bottom: Esther's garden in the summer



*Physoplexis comosa* in peak bloom.

around veggies and annuals, but then I started branching out into seed starting and perennials. I saw a brief article in a gardening magazine about rock gardening and one of the sources mentioned was Trenoll Nursery near Trenton, Ohio. We visited there and I was introduced to alpines by the owner, Dorothy Parker. I made a sizable purchase and, as we were leaving, Dorothy stuffed a grocery bag in my arms. It was half full of NARGS quarterlies, each full of pictures of incredible plants that I never dreamed existed... I was hooked!

*Many NARGS members will be familiar with you as a vendor at various AGMs. How did you get started with the nursery?*

I enjoy seed starting and propagating and found out I could not only support my hobby but also expand it by turning it into a business. Sometimes it is a fine line between the two.

*You garden in northern Indiana, about as far from mountains as it is possible to be. Can you describe your climate and any challenges to growing alpines in these conditions?*

Describe the climate in Indiana? After a hot, dry summer in 2022, we received 5.5 inches (14 cm) of rain in one hour on the first of August. It's usually one extreme or the other. With well-drained potting mix and sand beds we can deal with the precipitation. It's the hot, humid, weather in the summer and freezing and thawing in January that cause the most damage.

*You grow some pretty amazing plants, but perhaps the most impressive is your incredible *Physoplexis comosa*. What's your secret to getting this beautiful species to thrive?*

I honestly don't know. Getting viable seed is the first hurdle. *Physoplexis* germination is easy with GA<sub>3</sub> and or chilling. Nursing the tiny little plants thru the first year is a challenge. After that, just watch out for slugs. And whatever you do, don't ever brag about blooming it! I did that the year it had 23 flower heads, and ever since it has produced just a measly three or four.

*If you had to pick just five must-have rock garden plants, what would they be?*

Everyone knows how difficult a choice this is, and it changes frequently. Today the favorites would be:

*Gentiana acaulis*, the rock garden classic with huge, blue flowers.

*Soldanella*, a native of European mountains with delicate lavender bells early in the spring.



Left: *Aquilegia scopulorum* Right: *Gentiana acaulis*



*Lewisia cotyledon* 'Regenbogen'

*Aquilegia scopulorum*, one of the dwarf columbines from western North America. It is one of the first alpines I bloomed from seed and still a favorite.

*Lewisia*, the western American succulent with spectacular floral displays.

*Corydalis hamata* is one that I've never grown, but it has been on my 'must get' list ever since I first saw pictures.

*I feel like every rock gardener has a different soil mix that they love. What's yours?*

For seed germinating, I use equal parts calcined clay, perlite, and commercial peat-based germinating mix. I use this for most seeds, even my vegetables. The mix falls off the roots at transplanting time; you can successfully transplant poppies out of it.

For pot growing, we have used several different mixes formulated for green roof plantings. The current one we are using has a large percentage of expanded shale plus a little bark.



Assorted lewisias in a strawberry pot

*And finally, if you could go back in time and visit yourself when you were first starting rock gardening, what advice would you give?*

Drainage, Drainage Drainage. I progressed from adding a little sand to my soil to just forgetting the soil and using the sand!

*Thank you Esther!*

*Know a rock gardener you'd like to see interviewed in the Quarterly? Let me know via the contact me page on [NRAGS.org](http://NRAGS.org)*

*“A pan is  
any  
container;  
a trough is  
a container  
that  
simulates a  
stone  
trough”*

**Chair's Choice  
Class 11**

*Iris cristata*

Dwarf Crested Iris

Entry judged best  
in class 11  
will receive  
traveling trophy  
and \$25 gift  
certificate.

**PLANT SHOW AND PHOTO CONTEST GUIDELINES**

**2025 Rock Garden Plant Show and Sale**  
**Sunday, May 4, 2025 at Soergel Orchards and Garden Center**

**Schedule**

8:00 – 9:00 AM	Entries received by show committee
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Plant sale and show open to public
10:00 – 11:30 AM	Judging of exhibits

**Rules**

1. Nonmembers of the Allegheny Chapter of NARGS are encouraged to enter but will not qualify for high cumulative score monies or trophies.
2. There are no limits on the number of entries per class.
3. The term "rock garden plant" shall mean any plant suitable for the rock garden – be it a bog garden, shade garden, native garden, or alpine house.
4. All plants entered for competition must be hardy to Zone 6 or lower.
5. All plants entered for competition must be the property of the entrant and must be in their possession for at least two months (60 days).
6. All plants entered for competition shall be identified on the entry card. Inaccurate identification shall not be grounds for disqualification.
7. The judges are the final authority for awards.
8. No exhibit shall be removed from the floor from the time of judging to the close of the show without express permission of the show chair.
9. The Allegheny Chapter will not assume responsibility for exhibits left on the tables after the show ends.

**Classes of Entries**

A committee will be available to assist exhibitors in the proper identification and placement of their entries.

Class #1- One pan rock garden plant in flower

Class #2- One pan native plant in flower, suitable for the rock garden

Class #3- One pan primulaceae in flower, including primula and androsace

Class #4- One pan bulbous or rhizomatous plant in flower, suitable for the rock garden

Class #5- One pan succulent including sempervivum, sedum, cactus, and crassulaceae

Class #6- One pan rock garden plant grown primarily for foliage, including hosta, saxifrage and ferns

Class #7- One pan dwarf shrub, tree, or conifer

Class #8- One bowl of cut flowers of rock garden plants, to be judged for quality, delicacy and artistic arrangement

Class #9- A trough of three or more distinct species rock garden suitable plants arranged for effect

Class #10- Miniature Garden: A trough of three or more distinct species rock garden suitable plants along with accessories arranged to create a miniature garden landscape

Class #11- Chair's Choice: One pan Chair's Choice plant grown by Allegheny Chapter member for current year's plant show. 2025 Chair's Choice plant: *Iris cristata*

## Awards

**Ribbons** – 1st (blue), 2nd (red), 3rd (yellow) if merited in each class. Honorable Mention may be given at the judges' discretion. More than one 1st (blue), 2nd (red), 3rd (yellow), or Honorable Mention ribbon may be given in a class depending on the specific merit of each plant. Best in Class shall be awarded to the 1st place entry judged as best within each class.

**High Cumulative Scores Awards** – Soergel's gift certificates: 1st (\$25), 2nd (\$20), 3rd (\$15). Total is based on 5 points for 1st place ribbons, 3 points for 2nd place ribbons, and 1 point for 3rd place ribbons. Also, 5 additional points for Best in Class plus an additional 5 points for Best Plant in Show.

## Specialty Awards

### **Best Plant in Show – Clare Williamson Award**

Entry judged best in classes 1-6. Sponsored by Dennis James, this award is presented in honor of a former Allegheny Chapter member. Winner will receive Best in Show ribbon, traveling trophy, and \$25 gift certificate.

### **Best Primrose – Al Deurbrouck Award**

Best primrose entry in show. Sponsored by Nancy Knauss, this award is presented in honor of a former Allegheny Chapter member for his outstanding leadership and service as chair multiple terms. Winner will receive a traveling trophy and \$25 gift certificate.

### **Best Fern – Len Lehman Award**

Best fern entry in class 6. Sponsored by Lyn Lang, this award is presented in honor of a former Allegheny Chapter member for his leadership, mentorship and generously shared expertise as an educator. Winner will receive a traveling trophy and \$25 gift certificate.

### **Best Dwarf Tree, Shrub, or Conifer in Show – Connie McKeever Award**

Entry judged best in class 7. Sponsored by Judy and Jim Adams, this award is presented in honor of an Allegheny Chapter member who grew choice dwarf conifers for many years. Winner will receive traveling trophy and \$25 gift certificate.

### **Best Cut Flower Arrangement – Judy Adams/Trish Abrams Award**

Entry judged best in class 8. Sponsored by Debra Meyer, this award is presented in honor of Allegheny Chapter members for the artistic skill they have displayed and inspired in the cut flower class. Winner will receive traveling trophy and \$25 gift certificate.

### **Best Trough in Show - Audrey Rauch Award**

Selected from classes 9-10. Sponsored by Patty McGuire, this award is presented in honor of an Allegheny Chapter member who pioneered the building and planting of troughs in the tri-state area. Winner will receive traveling trophy and \$25 gift certificate.

### **Chair's Choice Award – 2025 Plant: *Iris cristata***

Entry judged best in class 11. Sponsored by the Chair, Leslie Kaplan. Plants are chosen and distributed to Allegheny Chapter members each year by the Chair. Winner will receive traveling trophy and \$25 gift certificate.

**The Daffodil and Hosta Society of Western PA Award** - Sponsored by the Daffodil and Hosta Society of Western PA. This award is given for the Best Hosta or Bulbous Plant in the Show. Winner will receive a traveling trophy and a \$25 gift certificate.

**PHOTOGRAPHY  
CONTEST AWARDS**

*1ST, 2ND, 3RD FOR  
EACH CLASS, AND  
BEST IN SHOW*

**ENTRY FORM**

*NAME*

*EMAIL*

*PHOTO TITLE*

*CLASS*

*PLANT MATERIAL*

**Awards Table** - Comprised of all Best in Class awards and the Specialty Awards. All gift certificate awards will be given at the conclusion of the Show. All trophies will be presented at the Allegheny Chapter's Annual Awards Banquet. Traveling trophies will be held for one year and then passed on to the next winner.

**PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST RULES**

- 1) An exhibitor must be an active member of the NARGS Allegheny Chapter.
- 2) An exhibitor may submit only one entry per class.
- 3) A photograph previously entered in any NARGS contest may not be entered again even with slight alterations and/or reprinting.
- 4) Each photograph must be the work of the exhibitor under whose name it is registered. Any editing must be the work of the exhibitor. This includes enhancement for color or clarity, removal of a part of the image, combining images, or distorting the original subject. In manipulated photographs, any added imagery must be the work of the exhibitor.
- 5) Photographs must be flush mounted on foam core and may not be over-matted. The overall dimension of entry must be 8"x 10". Matte or luster finish printing is preferred. Glass and framing are not permitted. Mounting and printing may be done professionally. All photographs must be two-dimensional and printed on paper unless otherwise specified.
- 6) Each entry must have the entry form properly completed and affixed to the back of the photograph. The top of the photograph must be indicated. A title must be included on the entry form.
- 7) The photography chair will provide an entry card to be staged with each photograph. Identification of plant material on the entry card is required.
- 8) Printed and mounted photographs must be submitted to the photography chair by April 25.
- 9) Only the photography committee may reclassify an entry with the exhibitor's permission.
- 10) The photography committee and/or the judges may subdivide a class that has many entries.
- 11) Point Scale for Judging Photography:  
Creativity 25, Composition 25, Technical Skill 20 (focus, sharpness of objects),  
Conformance: 20 (follows class requirements), Distinction 10 (creative, unique photo).  
Total 100

**PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES**

- Class 1 Single plant or several of one variety in bloom or not.
- Class 2 Wide shot of a rock garden in a natural habitat or cultivated setting.
- Class 3 Close-up of a rock garden plant in bloom.
- Class 4 Container/trough with multiple plants in bloom or not.
- Class 5 An artistic interpretation of any one of the above categories but with Photoshop editing.

## OFFICERS

### CHAIR

Leslie Kaplan.....

### VICE CHAIR

Marie Tkacik.....

### SPEAKER COORDINATOR

Karen Schmidt.....

### SECRETARY

Joanne Burzese.....

### TREASURER

Patty McGuire.....

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### AWARDS

Patty McGuire.....

### BANQUET

Sue Warden.....

### FACEBOOK

Lyn Lang.....

Barb Kline.....

### LIBRARY

Patty McGuire.....

### MEMBERSHIP& PROOFREADER

Lyn Lang.....

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Marie Tkacik.....

### PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

Sue Colaizzi .....

### PLANT SHOW

Michele Newton.....

### PLANT SALE

Nancy Knauss.....

### PROPAGATION

Bill Barnes.....

### SEED EXCHANGE

Patty McGuire.....

### WEBMASTER

Lyn Lang.....

## NARGS ALLEGHENY CHAPTER ROCK GARDEN

The NARGS, Allegheny Chapter rock garden occupies a space next to the National Aviary on Pittsburgh's North Side. Members usually work at the garden the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

