

President' Report
The Garden Club of Princeton
Annual Meeting
May 11, 2021

Last year at this time, we were beginning to plan for the many challenges our club would have to endure in upcoming new year. The biggest one was, how on earth would we carry on when we wouldn't be able to meet in-person? So many of the club's events and traditions are dependent on in-person interaction. We didn't immediately have the solutions to this issue, but what we did have is the desire for our club to move forward successfully. For all the hardship this new year ushered in, it has also provided us with a unique opportunity to reflect. The lessons we have learned are many. Here are a few that rise to the surface for me.

re·sil·ience

the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties.

This year hasn't been easy for anyone. We've dearly missed our face-to-face interactions. But in large part, we have adjusted. We've adapted and we will emerge with a far greater appreciation for a way of life that can be easily taken for granted and perhaps we will be less likely to do so in the future. We remained committed to our mission statement and achieved goals that could have easily been abandoned.

cre·a·tiv·i·ty

the tendency to generate ideas, alternatives, or possibilities that may be useful in solving problems.

We addressed this crisis with creativity and innovation, because we strived for hope, and had optimism for our future and the future of our club. Zoom became our communication platform and we became best friends with all sorts of new technology. We tried new things we never fathomed we would, and success grew out of these leaps of faith.

grat·i·tude

the quality of being thankful.

I want to highlight the extraordinary lengths our members have gone to this year to respond to never-before-seen challenges. Our committee chairs and co-chairs created virtual workshops and shows, granted us access to engaging program speakers and provided us with a year filled with enlightenment and education. Our member's perseverance to move forward is commendable and we will always be in debt to the individuals who blazed new paths for us.

Our new year promises to bring more opportunities, and having successfully navigated this most unusual year, we're poised to tackle them with continued optimism, creativity and a renewed sense of purpose. I thank you for your support and commitment to our club in this challenging year. I know I could list the many accomplishments our club has had this year, resharing the fantastic committee reports we have already heard. But what I want to share with you is a recap of our year in images, mind you, a year when we were unable to meet. It simply amazes me what our club has achieved this year, and it makes me believe our future has never been brighter.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer DelVecchio