

THE DIGGERS

Dorchester Garden Club

Spring-Summer 2023



Cover Photos

- *Judy Slaughter and Susie Middleton share memories and laughs before Susie's February DGC Meeting Leaf Manipulation demonstration*
- *David Adams graciously accepts a number of DGC awards at the District I March meeting, Jeanne Bernard's last meeting as District I Director*
- *Installation of 2023-2025 officers at March DGC Annual Meeting: Pat Jones Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Massetti Treasurer, Connie Glover Recording Secretary, Sandy Lucas Vice President, Kay Karminski President*
- *Outgoing DGC President David Adams presents DGC President's Pin to Incoming President Kay Karminski*
- *2022-2023 First Place Winners at DGC June Annual Picnic and Awards Ceremony: Cookie Brohawn Division I Top Horticulture Lednum Cup, Kay Karminski Division II Top Design Tawes Bowl, Cheryl Willey Top Rosa Kathryn C. Holt Cup*



- *And we sadly said farewell to club member, Martha Keating in May. Martha and her husband have moved to their new home to be closer to family. Martha has been such a wonderful part of our club with a long list of contributions, her "can do" attitude and million dollar smile. Club members created the floral arrangement for Martha at the May meeting as a surprise. We will miss you, Martha, and hope you'll come visit!*

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From DGC President, Kay Karminski



Dear DGC Members,

Even the weather is cooperating with our motto for the year, A New Beginning.

A drought threatened our Gardens and environment, but the recent rain has rejuvenated everything. The flowers are standing tall and the weeds that were not there yesterday are taller than I am (a little exaggerated)!

DGC has also seen a new response to the urging for participation in our mini flower shows. Congratulations to all of our recent efforts to make this so successful.

Though July was a month when we are at rest as a club, the Committees have been busy planning. Gardens that are maintained by the club have been tended and beautified. Karen Cartwright and her husband did a wonderful job at the Cambridge Library. Volunteers can be proud of their work. The youth program at the Y has been extremely successful.

I look forward to seeing you in August with a renewed spirit for all of us.

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Leaf Manipulation in Floral Designs – February 10th meeting at CYC

Susie Middleton always makes it look fun and easy!!!! Beautiful, informative demonstration and designs!



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February Division II Design "Reflections of a Winter Day" - Reflective Design



Judy Slaughter, 1st Place



Cheryl Willey, 2nd Place

And some Division I Horticulture...



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March 1st District I Semi Annual Meeting – Prospect Bay Country Club

The District I Semi Annual Meeting was held at the Prospect Bay Country Club on March 1st and was well attended by Dorchester Garden Club Members.

It was a great opportunity to recognize outgoing District I Director, our own Jeanne Bernard, for her service to District I and to welcome the incoming officers for 2023-2025.



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Kay Karminski, left, has seat of honor at the District I Club Presidents' Table



David Adams participates in the Lighting of Candles for members lost in 2022, a lovely tradition, begun by Jeanne Bernard.

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David Adams received 4 state awards that were presented to the Dorchester Garden Club by District I Director, Jeanne Bernard, left and Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, President, Anna O'Kelly, right.

The awards included: Judging Holiday Window Displays in Downtown Business District; Civic Development Harriett Tubman Memorial; Garden Therapy; and the 2022-2023 DGC Club Yearbook, which David designed and produced.

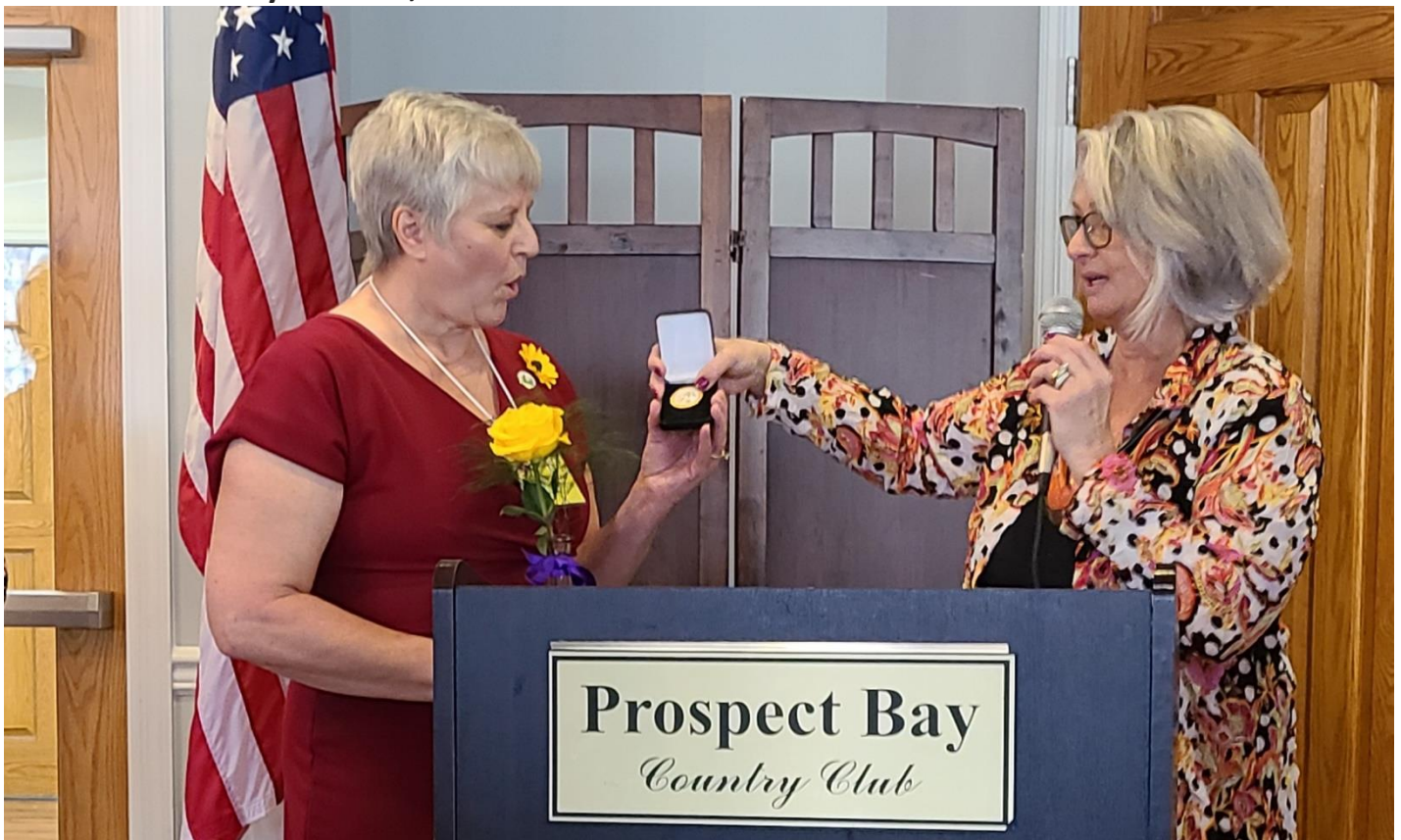
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Installation of new District I officers for 2023-2025, left to right Anne Foss Corresponding Secretary, Linda Elias Recording Secretary, Pat Jessup Treasurer, Ann Street Assistant Director and Terry Holman, Director



Outgoing Director, Jeanne Bernard, right, presents District I Director pin to incoming Director, Terry Holman

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...And Terry presents Jeanne with a commemorative flag for her 2021-2023 service



A Floral Design Presentation by guest speaker, Claire Jones, rounded out the day

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The March 10th Dorchester Garden Club Annual Meeting – Cambridge Yacht Club

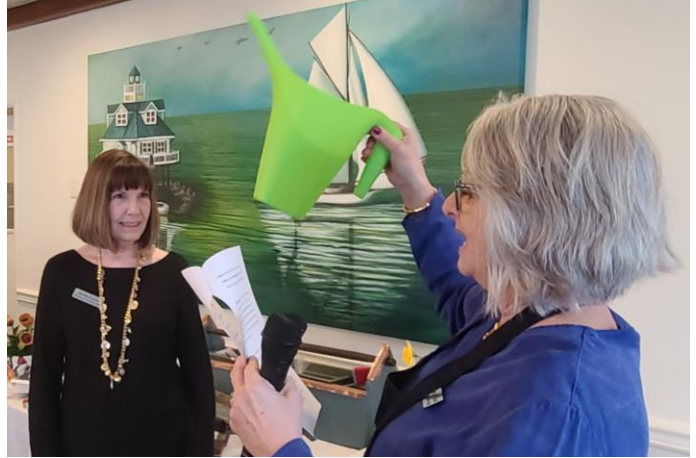


Jeanne Bernard, far right, does the honors of installing the 2023-2025 DGC officers...

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As is tradition, each officer is presented with a gift symbolizing their new roles



And here are the officers, left to right Pat Jones Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Massetti Treasurer, Connie Glover Recording Secretary, Sandy Lucas Vice President and Kay Karminski, President

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David Adams presents Kay Karminski with the DGC President's Pin



David receives a token of appreciation for his service as DGC President



Ken Morgan, Owner of Robin's Nest Presented "Waking Your Garden For Spring"



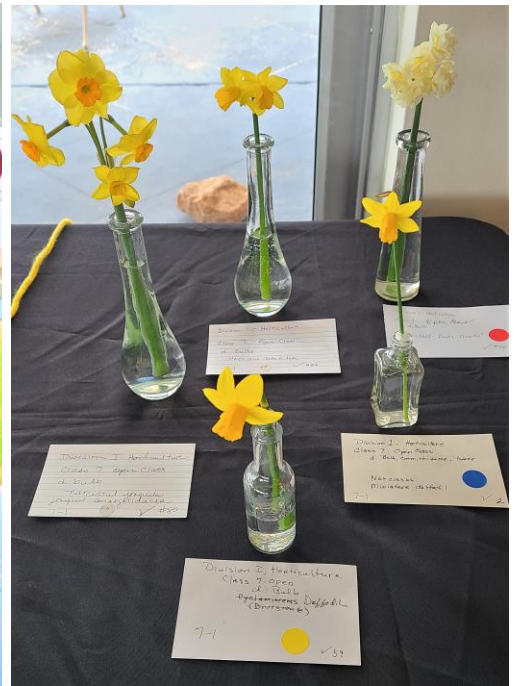
Sandy Lucas won this beautiful floral arrangement from Robin's Nest as her birthday was the most recent! (March 9)

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Some of the March Mini Flower Show Division I Horticulture Entries...



March Division II Design "She's Irresistible" Featured Plant Material



1st Place Kay Karminski

2nd Place Wanda Ciekot

3rd Place Cheryl Willey

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April 14th DGC Meeting: “Benefits of Adding Native Species to Your Garden”



Suzanne Pittenger-Slear, President & CEO Environmental Concern, St. Michaels – and a member of the Dorchester Garden Club, shared her thoughts and research about the compelling benefits of adding native species to our gardens with an informative, hands-on presentation.

The meeting was held at Immanuel Church of Christ in Cambridge.

It was the first meeting of the 2023 Program Year. And Suzanne brought some beautiful native plants for members to purchase!



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April Division II Design Class 1 "Bunnies are a Hopping" Creative Design



Sandy Lucas, HM Diana Brooks, 3rd Place Judy Slaughter, 1st Place Wanda Ciekot, 3rd Place

Class 2 "Spring is a Foot" Designers Choice



Judy
Slaughter 1st
Place (Left)

Diana Brooks
2nd Place
(Right)

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Some April Division I Horticulture Entries...



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Susie Middleton's Installation as President of Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland Turf Valley March 28th

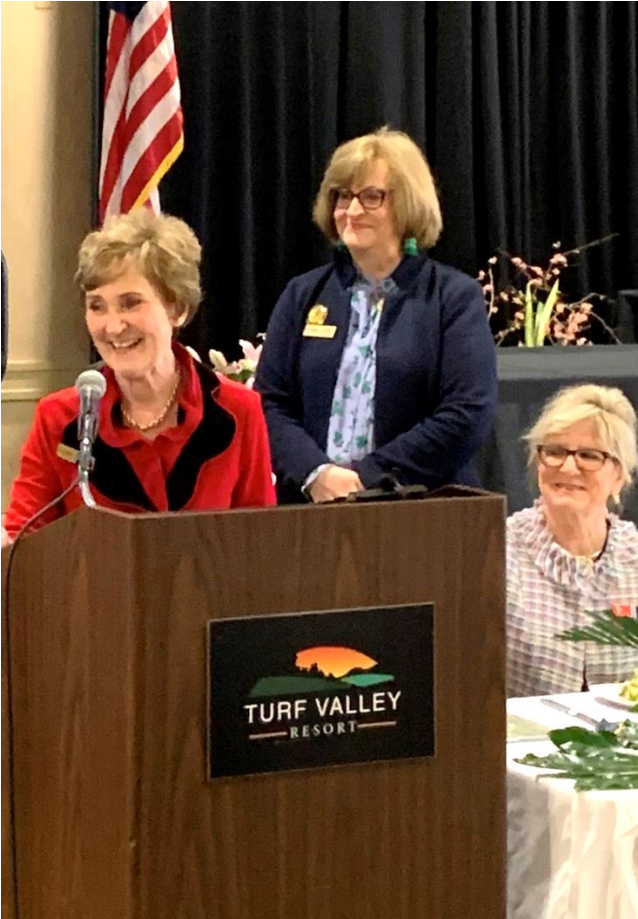
Friends and family were there to celebrate Susie's installation as President of Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland. Thanks to David Adams for capturing photos!



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May DGC Meeting A-Buzz at CYC



Mike and Allison Blankenship, Beekeepers from Preston, Maryland provided a fascinating look into the world of beekeeping and the inner workings of a bee colony – and the secret lives of bees – and the crucial role that bees and beekeeping play in our lives and Maryland agriculture.

They are owners of 3B's Honey – named for their three kids aged 3, 6 and 7. They were generous to share their time and passion with us at what is a busy time of year in the beekeeping world. They do all their own honey extraction, bottling, candle making, lip balm and other products, and brought along some of the delicious bounty of their beekeeping! I will never buy a store-bought jar of honey again!!!!



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At this meeting, club members were also challenged to work together to create unique floral arrangements with floral materials provided.

(We later learned that the true purpose was to create a special send-off for Martha Keating as this was her last DGC meeting!)



Pat Beck, Barbara Massetti and David Adams hard at work on arrangements

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May Division II Design – Class 1 “Honey, I’m Home” Illuminary Design



Diana Brooks, 1st Place



Fay Singer, 2nd Place



Cheryl Willey, 3rd Place



Shirley Chatham, HM

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Class 2 "April Showers Bring May Flowers" Underwater Design



Mary Ann Moore
3rd Place

Diana Brooks
2nd Place

Rege Butler
1st Place

Sandy Lucas
HM

Fay Singer
HM

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Some of the many beautiful Division I Horticulture Entries at May DGC Meeting



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June Annual Picnic and 2022-2023 Awards Ceremony

Once again, Helen and Jack Saum opened their lovely home and gardens for the DGC Picnic and Awards Ceremony. The event was well attended, and as always, the food was delicious and plentiful! The weather, picture-perfect!



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Members' Horticulture Exhibit

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Kay Karminski gets the awards underway... beginning with special thank you to Helen and Jack Saum for their hospitality



... And this year's Perennial Bloom Award to Lynne Davis for her many years of service and support to the DGC

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Kay Karminski and Linda Chandlee recognize the 2022-2023 Mini flow show award winners including Cheryl Willey, Cookie Brohawn and Beverly Shelly. And everyone's favorite, pup Missy Saum, is wondering where her prize is!

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This year's top award winners: Cookie Brohawn Division I Horticulture Lednum Cup, Kay Karminski Division II Design; Cheryl Willey Rosa Kathryn C Holt Cup.

Runners up:

Division I Horticulture 2nd Place Cheryl Willey, 3rd Place Beverly Shelly, Honorable Mention Fran Collins.

Division II Design 2nd Place Judy Slaughter, 3rd Place Cheryl Willey, Honorable Mention Jeanne Bernard.

Rosa Section 2nd place shared by Patti Hopkins, Sandy Lucas, Sandy Johnson, Mary Etta Creighton. 3rd place shared by Barbara Massetti and Helen Saum. Honorable Mention Lynne Davis, Carol Smith and Mary Ann Moore.

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DGC once again shows its support for the community...

Youth Gardening Chairman Mary Ann Moore and her DGC team have developed a youth project at the local Y. The children have had training in the composition of soils, watering, and fertilization - and have planted, labeled and tended lettuce and other vegetables.

Recently, as the lettuce has matured, children have received some of the produce to take home for consumption.

Soil, building supplies, fertilizer, seeds, and starter plants were generously donated by local businesses.



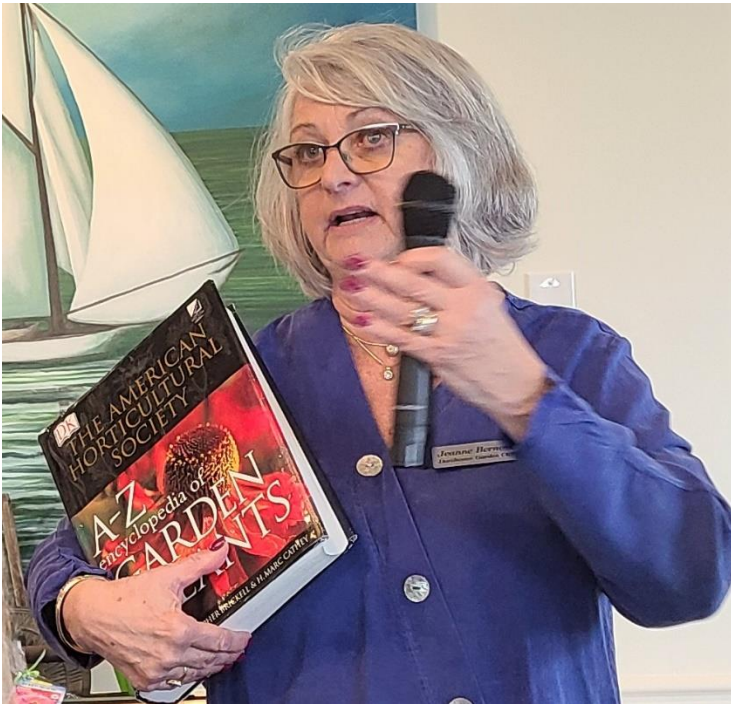
Karen Cartwright and her husband, Edward, have weeded, watered and planted beds at the Cambridge Library and hope to do more in the coming years, including installing native plants. Karen said "it's a token of appreciation for the library and its staff and we have received many compliments and thanks for this small slice of color." The library noted on their Facebook page "A big thank you to The Dorchester Garden Club for continuing to help beautify our landscape at the Cambridge Library!"

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Horticulture Article by Jeanne Bernard...



PLANT TERMINOLOGY - What's in a name?

Dorchester Garden Club members hold 'mini' flower shows monthly in order to learn more about horticulture and design and to better prepare them for entering National Garden Club (NGC) Standard Flower Shows, an activity replete with many rules and requirements. With this monthly practice of mini flower shows at meetings, our members learn a great deal and become very competitive in District and State flower shows.

Our club stresses accuracy when identifying specimens of plant material. In fact, the Handbook for Flower Show (The Handbook) by NGC states "in order to receive an NGC Top Exhibitor Award, the exhibitor must identify his/her entry by its binomial name or currently acceptable scientific designation."

To address confusion which sometimes occurs when preparing entry forms (cards that identify the entry by Division, Class and Species information—scientific (binomial botanical name) and/or common name. The following explanation should be helpful, not only for flower shows, but for anyone interested in understanding how plants are named.

There are two types of plant names gardeners may be familiar with—common name such as waterlily tulip or orange thyme, and botanical name--*Tulipa kaufmanniana* 'Scarlet Baby' or *Thymus fragrantissimus* 'Orangelo.' Each plant may have multiple common names, but it should have only one botanical name which uses Latin words to describe the plant. Latin, the language of scholars, is a dead language which gives plant terminology stability and is universally-used. As such, the botanical name is one recognized anywhere in the world whereas common names are specific to a particular language or region. If you travel abroad and ask for *Echinacea 2 purpurea*, your request will likely be understood. On the other hand, if you referred to a plant as a coneflower, it probably would not be recognized.

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PLANT NAMES Part 1: Binomial or Botanical Nomenclature

This is the “botanical system of dividing plants into hierarchical groups” (Handbook) first described by Swedish Botanist Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778). The Handbook further states: “Botanical nomenclature is the scientific naming of plants, creating a unique, universal name for an individual plant. Only one (1) plant may be so designated with the genus and specific epithet, and that name is recognized throughout the world.”

When we refer to a general type of plant (daisies for example....we know there are lots of different kinds of daisies), we mean to say what is the species of daisy? The species is a combination of the genus (generic name) and the specific epithet (specific name; a subgroup of genus). As already stated, each plant species has only one botanical or scientific name and the botanical name has two parts (binomial meaning two names): the genus (or generic name) and the specific epithet. The first word is the genus and is always capitalized. The second part of the name, the epithet is typically an adjective in Latin form providing further description or identification (color, shape, size, etc.). The epithet is not capitalized. Both words are italicized or, if handwritten, underlined.

Example of a Binomial Botanical Name [According to the International Code of Nomenclature for Algae, Fungi and Plants] *Digitalis purpurea* • Common names of *Digitalis purpurea* include foxglove, common foxglove, purple foxglove, lady’s glove

- The binomial name, *Digitalis purpurea*, is the species.
- *Digitalis* is the genus.
- *purpurea* is the specific epithet.
- *Digitalis purpurea* or *D. purpurea* (can be written this way if it was previously identified as *Digitalis purpurea*) is the scientific/botanical name for this particular species.
- Etymology: *purpurea* is Latin for purple. You’ll see it used as the specific epithet for many purple plants.

PLANT NAMES Part 2: Variety and Cultivars

To be even more specific, the botanical name may or may not reflect the exact variety or cultivar of the plant which is defined below. Sometimes a plant does not have a cultivar or a variety. The Handbook defines variety as a “distinct group of plants occurring naturally within a species that have unique characteristics distinct from other plants in the species.” Varieties are found in nature, as opposed to being created by plant breeders. “The variety name is never capitalized, but always italicized if printed and underlined if handwritten. The variety name follows the specific epithet.”

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The term cultivar is shorthand for cultivated varieties and is a sport* of a species which will not come true when seeds are planted. Cultivar refers to plants that have been developed by plant breeders or discovered growing in nature and propagated by horticulturists. The plants are often propagated vegetatively, such as by rooting cuttings.

* In botany, a sport or bud sport, traditionally called *lusus*, is a part of a plant that shows morphological differences from the rest of the plant. [Wikipedia]

Many commonly available plants are varieties or cultivars with interesting features that make them more desirable than the straight species. A cultivar may have specific features such as a unique color, size or disease resistance. A cultivar should be uniform without variation between 4 individuals. Some cultivars are patented, making it illegal to propagate them yourself. The plant name may bear a trademark or registration symbol (™ or ®) and you may see a warning that propagation is prohibited. The cultivar is written after the genus and epithet, capitalized in single quotations.

‘Dalmation Purple’ is a cultivar which distinguishes this particular plant from other *digitalis* cultivars as previously referenced. The full name of the species is *Digitalis purpurea* ‘Dalmation Purple’ (genus, specific epithet, cultivar) In Flower Shows.... If you are asked to display a specific species in a flower show different cultivars, then the floral entry could be a common foxglove or *Digitalis purpurea*, but with different cultivar names as ‘Candy Mountain,’ ‘Primrose Carousel,’ or ‘Sutton’s Apricot.’ Again, these are different cultivars of *Digitalis purpurea*. There are a great many cultivars for this particular genus/epithet. Entering *Digitalis lanata* or *Digitalis obscura* along with *Digitalis purpurea* would be incorrect as these are actually different species— the genera (pl) are the same but the specific epithets are different.

How does this relate to your flower show entry?

In the horticulture division of a flower show, a class of herbs, for example, may specify “a group of three (3) cut specimens in one container.” The ‘sub-class a.’ may indicate the entry should be the same cultivar and ‘sub-class b.’ may indicate that the entry should be different cultivars. 5 If you are entering three stems of one species, the same cultivar, then the entry (e.g., variegated peppermint) should be all be *Mentha x piperita* ‘Variegata.’ Three stems as one entry—all the same. If the class specifies one species of herb, different cultivars, then your entry might include one stem each of *Mentha x piperita* ‘Chocolate,’ *Mentha x piperita* ‘Variegata’ and *Mentha x piperita* ‘Citrata.’