



Well-Preserved

Newsletter of the
Neighborhood Gardens Association/
A Philadelphia Land Trust

Preserving community-managed green spaces since 1986

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Our Mission

The Neighborhood Gardens Association/A Philadelphia Land Trust (NGA) is a private nonprofit corporation founded in 1986. Its mission is to ensure the continuity and long-term preservation of community-managed gardens and green spaces in Philadelphia neighborhoods.

www.ngalandtrust.org

Thanks to all of NGA's friends and supporters who came out to help celebrate NGA's 20th Birthday at the Southwark Queen Village Garden on July 21st. The rain held-off long enough for us to enjoy live music, refreshments, birthday cake, and a raffle and silent auction. NGA was presented with a City Council Citation from Councilman Frank Rizzo's office congratulating NGA for 20 years of preserving community gardens. The money raised at the party will be used to preserve more neighborhood green spaces like Southwark.



**Southwark Queen Village Garden
celebrates its 30th anniversary in September**

SPOTLIGHT ON: *NGA Donors*

This issue's Spotlight focuses on NGA's contributors.

Of the handful of urban land trusts across the country, NGA is one of the only privately-funded ones. The Chicago and Los Angeles land trusts receive most of their operating support from local government. The City of Philadelphia has generously donated garden land, but NGA has always had to rely on a variety of non-governmental supporters to fund its operating expenses. For the first several years of its existence, NGA was supported by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS), the Pew Charitable Trusts, and the William Penn Foundation. PHS and the William Penn Foundation have continued to support NGA, but other donors were needed.

In 1992, NGA sent out its first fundraising appeal and began a partnership with gardeners and others from the city and suburbs who believed in NGA's mission to preserve some of Philadelphia's most important community gardens. Individual donations ranged from \$10 to a few thousand, and many of these initial donors have contributed to NGA every year since. Area garden clubs and family foundations are also among our supporters, and we are very grateful for their contributions.

Community gardeners have also contributed to the land trust. Although NGA does not charge gardeners annual dues or fees, several garden groups have agreed to reimburse some of the cost of acquiring their garden land, typically over a ten year period. The payments are placed in a revolving acquisition fund that can then be used to help purchase the next garden. Five land trust gardens have repaid funds ranging from \$8,000 to \$35,000. Gardeners raise the money using a variety of methods – flea markets, plant sales, donations from neighbors and the gardeners themselves. In some cases, land trust gardeners have contributed to the acquisition fundraising efforts of newer gardens, helping them to become preserved green spaces as well.

Community gardens exist due to the generous support and dedication of neighborhood residents. NGA and the land trust gardeners are grateful for all of the individual, business, foundation, and city support we have received over the years. Working together, we have all made Philadelphia a greener, more vital place to live, work, and visit. **Thank you.**



**Gardeners and supporters
at Aspen Farms**



*Learn about NGA gardens
on our website: www.ngalandtrust.org*

THANK YOU

**The Following Businesses
Generously Contributed to NGA's
20th Anniversary Celebration.
Please Support Them!**

AVEDA
Beau Monde Creperie
Blue Mountain Vineyards
Borders Books
Camden Riversharks
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Di Bruno Brothers
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Friday Saturday Sunday Restaurant
Gayle Restaurant
Great Wolf Lodge
Hello World
Hot Soup Studio
Iovine Brothers Produce
Kevin O'Brien Studio
Kiehl's Since 1851
Kimmel Center
Las Cazuelas Restaurant
Loie Brasserie and Bar
Lucky Strike Lanes
Mercato BYOB
Moore Brothers Wine Company
Mr. D's Plumbing Co.

Northbrook Canoe Co.
Pennsylvania Ballet
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
Philadelphia Trolley Works
Primex Garden Center
Ride the Ducks
Rittenhouse Sports Specialties
Ritz Theater Group
Salt & Pepper Restaurant
Schuylkill River Tours
Society Hill Beverage Co.
Sophie's Yarns
Southwark Restaurant
The Arden Theater
The Bridge Cinema
The Cookbook Stall
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Washington Square Restaurant
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Whole Foods Market
WXPN
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Southwark Queen Village Garden is NGA's newest solar-powered garden. Solar panels, below, were installed and collect energy to run power tools and provide electricity for special events.

