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The Spade and Trowel Club of Kennett Square, organized in 1939, has given out its first college scholarship to Kennett High School senior Jacob Hohner, who will be studying Plant Science at Penn State at the main campus in the Fall.

In interviewing Jane George, the past Recording Secretary of the club and key advocate for starting a scholarship award, said that she and her fellow members celebrate the initiative as one of extending the club's nurturing of plants and flowers to nurturing a human being—our future generation.

The annual \$1,000 scholarship is designed to select a student who will pursue studies in Horticulture and/or Environmental Science. The recipient, Jacob Hohner, expressed his interest in horticulture since he was a child, when visiting Disney World and asking to view the beautiful Disney gardens in place of another amusement park ride. He has had some experience as a summer employee at Longwood Gardens and is ready to delve into the field of horticulture.

Spade and Trowel Club, a member of the Garden Club Federation of PA, is an organization that stimulates interest and knowledge in gardening, flower design, and conservation for the benefit of their membership and the community. Jane explains that there are eleven districts in the Garden Club Federation of PA and their club is in District I.

Jane George became a member of the Spade and Trowel Club in 2019, after her retirement. She was invited by her close friend, Sue Soraruf, who has been a member for over 30 years. The club maintains a membership of thirty-five people, not wanting to be larger, so that they can meet monthly at one of the member's homes whenever possible. Jane said this promotes getting to know each other and she enjoys the friendships she has made since she joined.

Maybe you have wondered who has planted and maintained the beautiful Waywood Garden at the entrance of Kennett Square; yes, the Spade and Trowel Club.

How about the kitchen and herb garden at the Barns Brinton House located in Chadds Ford? Yes, the Spade and Trowel Club.

There are the flower arrangements for the Car Classics at Brantwyn Mansion in Wilmington, Delaware to benefit the Kennett Symphony on Oct. 4; yes, the Space and Trowel Club.

They have a Tree Sapling Giveaway at the Creamery in April to celebrate Arbor Day.

The Club steps out to involve children at the Montessori and Head Start programs to teach them how to arrange flowers. They advocate that it is never too young to appreciate a flower and how a flower compliments each bouquet.

Seniors are not forgotten with the holiday arrangements that are distributed to Friends Home residents in December, along with deliveries to Heartland Hospice Services.

There are other active garden groups in Kennett Square and the Spade and Trowel Club joins with the Four Seasons garden club, and the Kennett Square Beautification Committee to plant street barrels in the spring and summer in Kennett Square. These barrels line State Street and every year seem to become more elaborate and decorative.

Bill Reynolds from Pratt's Greenhouse has been a primary contributor of the plants they sell at the annual Kennett Square Beautification Plant Sale and the garden club members donate plants from their gardens as well. Proceeds from the sale pay for the planters and hanging baskets that adorn the town and help cover other expenses.

After retiring from a career in medical administration, Jane expresses the good feeling of making something beautiful through gardening. She sees it as an act of nurturing which she has carried out in other roles as a mother and caretaker. Jane with Bob George have four children and eight grandchildren

For now, Jane George said the Spade and Trowel Club is looking forward to participating in the Longwood Flower Show, which will be joined by six other clubs from District 1. The theme will be: "From Sea to Shining Sea." It will take place at Longwood Gardens, September 10th and 11th. The flower show is open to the public. It is not necessary to be a garden club member to exhibit horticulture in the show. Entries will be accepted on Friday, Sept. 9 from 1 pm to 4:30 pm and Saturday, Sept. 10 from 7 am to 9:30 pm. Check out: <https://www.spadeandtrowelgardenclub.com/contact.html>

*"The Story of Kennett – Shaping the future one child at a time" Joan Holliday's & Bob George's book on Kennett may be purchased on Amazon and at the Mushroom Cap or Resale Book Shoppe in Kennett. You may contact Joan Holliday at: dochollisv@aol.com*