

Member Recognition Awards

The South Surrey Garden Club (SSGC) is committed to recognizing the contributions made by its members towards sustaining and improving the garden club for the benefit of all members. The culture of the SSGC is one of supporting individual members' efforts and thanking those members for their contribution. Therefore, awards are given only to those who, over a period of time, have contributed either in a leadership role or in sustained service to the SSGC. These awards are not necessarily given every year.

There are currently two awards that have been established to fulfil the SSGC's commitment: the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Outstanding Service Award.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is the highest award given to a member by the SSGC. The recipient must be a SSGC member in good standing for 10 years or more, fulfilled one or more Executive positions, or some other position of responsibility over a period of years, and made a positive impact on the Club.

The Outstanding Service Award is a recognition of a member who has contributed many hours over a period of years to the Club in the areas (although not exclusively) of meetings, plant sales, workshops, writing articles, plant propagation, working in the kitchen, organizing field trips. The candidate must be a member for 5 years or more, have made significant contributions to the SSGC, and not previously received the award.

Award Process

1. SSGC Members will be encouraged to nominate suitable candidates prior to December 1. The Nomination Process will be announced at the September and October meetings and posted on the website and in the newsletter. The names of past recipients will be also publicized so that nominators will be informed. The Membership Secretary generates a list of members who have joined each year, which can be used as a reference point for years of service.
2. The Nomination Deadline is December 1 of each year. Nominations must be in writing, using the accepted form (attached) or by email. The names of the nominator(s) should be clearly visible. Although members of the Executive may submit nominations, the Awards Committee members cannot nominate.
3. The awards will be adjudicated by a Committee which will be formed annually before November 1. The Committee will consist of a minimum of three members – the current Past President plus one other Executive member plus one person who has received an award or who has served on the Executive at one time.
4. The Chair of the Committee will be the Past President. This person is responsible for:
 - Starting the nominations process, by announcing the process to the SSGC membership
 - Determining, with the Membership Secretary, the membership numbers that would pertain to persons being members for 5 years and for 10 years and to notify the membership
 - Choosing a minimum of two other members to be part of the Committee
 - Receiving the nominations

- Convening a meeting of the Committee after December 1 to review nominations
- Conveying the decisions of the Committee to the SSGC Executive

5. The decisions of the Committee will be final.

6. No more than two candidates can be approved for each award per year. Names of the nominees who were not chosen will be forwarded to the incoming Chair of the Committee for consideration for the following year. Persons who have won the Lifetime Achievement Award would not be considered for another award. It is acceptable that no awards be given.

7. The recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award will receive a gold coloured badge with the SSGC logo, Lifetime Member, Name and member's number enscripted on it, along with the gift of no longer paying yearly membership dues.

The recipients of the Outstanding Service Award will receive a green coloured badge with the SSGC logo, Outstanding Service, Name and member's number enscripted on it.

8. Awards will be presented by the Past President at the January General meeting.

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