

The Digest

THIRD DISTRICT FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF NYS, INC.



AUGUST 2016

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Editor's Note

You will notice that we have a new logo for Third District in the masthead. I was not aware that we couldn't include the FGCNYS's logo in our newsletter (only state sponsored communications can use it). Which led me to research and design a new logo for our Third District.

First, I discovered that Third District did have a logo design. However, it was a copy of a copy of a copy—meaning it did not reproduce well anymore. The original logo included an iris in its center. I decided that before I could start any redesign, I would need to find out any history about who, what, when, or where this original design came from.

I discovered that the logo was designed in or right around 1985 by a member of the Claverack Garden Club (which is now non-existent).

So you can see that I had to make things up using what I knew. I knew that the Iris flower was important to include. And I needed to include a connection to the FGCNYS logo. As a result, we have an iris in our new logo, using the purple colors found in the majority of irises and the green colors from our state logo.

Below, you can see the original logo and our new one. I think our new logo is more contemporary and easier to read. Let me know what you think.

Karin Janson, Germantown Garden Club
kjanson@aol.com



Original Logo



New Logo

From the Director



Summer is my favorite month as I enjoy the longest days, sunshine, gorgeous flowers, shrubs, and fresh vegetables. Life is carefree with picnics, gardening, vacations, bike rides, concerts, day trips, and just relaxing. Whatever you choose to do this summer, I hope it is fun and carefree and filled with wonderful memories.

My perennial gardens are in full bloom despite the drought. Vegetable plants are growing nicely with daily watering and weeding as needed. We love to grill, especially pizza, which our family and friends enjoy. The simple things in life bring great pleasures to many.

As director, I have been very busy since the last issue of *The Digest*. Attending plant and bake sales at my own club and visiting clubs throughout the district have been wonderful. Enthusiasm prevailed—which resulted in positive sales and something for everyone.

June was the month of the District Fundraiser at my home. A district trip to Congress Park in Saratoga Springs and lunch at Scallions was just a delightful way for 20 members to spend the day. The summer board meeting for the FGCNYS, Inc. was attended by a huge crowd where we received updates on what's happening at the state and national level. Don't forget to attend the NGC-CAR Conference from October 24–25 at The Gideon Putnam Hotel. New York is the host state, which means we will be ensuring members from the other six states have an experience not to be forgotten. Please check the state website for more information on 'Treasures of New York,' sign up to attend a luncheon, meet new people, share ideas, and have a wonderful time.

(cont. on pg 2)



Our district trip to Congress Park in Saratoga Springs was delightful. Twenty members enjoyed the sights of this great park.

(Director's Message from pg 1)

Club anniversaries were celebrated by the Greenport Garden Club—40 years, and the Garden Study Club of Albany—85 years. Congratulations to both clubs, members, and their communities which have supported them throughout the years! We thank you for everything you have done to ensure the success of your clubs.

Just as nominations for the district level are being sought, the same is for the state board. Try to take an active part in this process and nominate someone you know who would be an excellent candidate. We're all in this together as a TEAM, the TEAM is responsible for the success or failure of the organization, not just one person!

Exciting news for the district, we have a new Third District logo created by Karin Janson, *The Digest* editor which you will notice on this issue. Its simple elegance, clearly defined, will be appreciated by all. Don't forget to let Karin know your thoughts and thank her for a job well done!

I am in charge of favors for the NGC-CAR Conference in October. My team has met once and we have designed beautiful fascinators for the Tuesday dinner to coordinate with the 'Night at the Races' theme. My fellow directors will also be entertaining the guests with our own version of 'New York, New York,' with an emphasis that reflects the Saratoga heritage. Did I ever think my community acting career would surface again? No, but as the saying goes, 'The Show Must Go On!' Life is short, so why not enjoy every fun opportunity that comes your way and put a smile on someone's face and maybe elicit a laugh or two.

Hope you can attend the conference. Talk it up with your club, carpool, and clap when you see us dance the night away! Thank you once again to everyone for sharing your wonderful talents with your clubs. Memories are being made and we will have these to look back at next year.

Take care,
Camille McComb, Director

CLUBS IN DISTRICT III

District Three Clubs, by County

Albany: Blue Creek, Garden Study Club of Albany, Guilderland, Helderview, Town and Country

Columbia: Germantown, Greenport, The Garden Club of Kinderhook

Dutchess: Tioronda

Greene-Schoharie: Athens, Clematis, Coxsackie, Schoharie Valley

Rensselaer: Greenbush

Schenectady: Garden Explorers, Country Garden Club of Clifton Park, Glen Oaks, H. Gilbert Harlow, Hugh Plat, Western Hills

Ulster: Community Garden Club of Marlborough, Hillside Acres, New Paltz, Saugerties Society of Little Gardens, Shawangunk, Ulster, Woodstock



Five Wednesday mornings and a few afternoons Camille McComb, Director of the Third District, hosted Diana Buchan, Saugerties Society of Little Garden Clubs; Hedy Qualtere, Hillside Acres Garden Club; Judy Esposito, Director of District Four; Merrill-Lee Lenegar, Kris Vogt, Judy Golimbowski, and Maureen McNamara from the Guilderland Garden Club, who all participated in creating "Designer's Choice" fascinators for the upcoming NGC-CAR Conference. Above, left to right: Diana Buchan, Judy Esposito, and Camille McComb.



In total, we created 160 fascinators, seen here. All coordinate with the 'Night at the Races' theme that reflects the Saratoga heritage.



FALL DISTRICT MEETING: **Autumn Moon**

Camille McComb, Director, Third District, Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.

Warmly invites you to the Fall District Meeting

OCTOBER 20, 2016

Pegasus Restaurant, 10885 State Route 9W, Coxsackie, NY 518-731-9200

REGISTRATION: 9 a.m.–throughout the day

BUSINESS MEETING: 10–11:15 a.m.

LUNCHEON: 12:15 p.m.

\$27 (prepaid by October 3rd)

Menu: Coffee, tea, and pastries on arrival. Lunch: Tossed salad, rolls/butter. Choice of Chicken Piccata, Salmon with Dill Sauce, or Eggplant Parmigiana; mashed potatoes, broccoli, and strawberry layer cake, coffee/tea

VENDORS, WAYS AND MEANS, AND EXHIBITS:

from 9 a.m.

RESERVATIONS: Send names of attendees and menu choice with one check per club to **Yetta Teo, Registrar;** 4193 US Route 9, Hudson, NY 12534.

Phone: 518-828-3706. Make checks payable to Third District, FGCNYS, Inc.

A FUN ACTIVITY AND SOMETHING DIFFERENT FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN:

Create a Halloween-themed fascinator. A fascinator is a type of millinery accessory. It can be created on a headband, decorated with flowers, feathers, beads, etc. or on a small form with same decorations. It was popular at different times throughout the years especially in the 1990's. Fascinators will be judged and prizes given!

DIRECTIONS: From the north and south: I-87 (Thruway) to Coxsackie exit 21B, Left onto Route 9W South for approximately 5 miles.

(See last page of this newsletter for registration form)

PROGRAM: Maria Kolodziej-Zincio

Maria Kolodziej-Zincio, a member of the Greenport Garden Club, is a local artist, beekeeper, wife, mom, and grandmother. She was awarded an Individual Artist Tier Grant from the NYS Council on the Arts and completed an art project titled "The Lost Holocaust—A Family Story." The project, revealed in a photo encaustic documentary, tells the story that her mother told her over the years. Her family's epic journey of deportation, imprisonment, and freedom traces a painfully tender story of both personal and socio/historical relevance. Maria has captured and created this powerful time in history through an art form that is centuries old, unique, and beautiful—the art of encaustic. She maintains an active exhibition presence in Albany, Columbia, Greene, Dutchess, Ulster, Saratoga Counties, and in New York City. Her exhibition was recently on display at the Living Room Art Gallery at the historic St. Agnes Cemetery in Menands, NY. She has been featured in the *Times Union*, *Metroland*, *Hill Country Observer* and published in North Light Books *The Art of Story Telling*. She is a member of various county, state, and national art organizations and holds membership with the prestigious National Association of Women Artists. The twenty-piece encaustic works on canvas incorporates archival family and researched photographs encased in layers of beeswax, imbedded with found objects, and painted with encaustic medium and pigment oils.

Floral designs will be created enhancing Maria's talk and raffled off at the end of the meeting.



Two of Maria's encaustic paintings from her show "The Lost Holocaust—A Family Story."

Highlights from the Third District Fundraiser

The Third District, FGCNYS, Inc. fundraiser was held on June 7, 2016 at Director Camille McComb's home with 67 attending from 15 clubs. The event was catered by Riverview Cafe in Stuyvesant. Chef Meghan Van Alstyne shared her story of the restaurant. Farm-to-table, locally sourced organic items of the highest quality for the diner to experience is the mission statement of this restaurant, as well as a gorgeous view of the Hudson River, Catskill Mountains, and occasionally a train going by.

The Kinderhook Daisy Scouts designed colorful drawings for the craft-paper table-toppers with farm-themed pictures. A live auction was held and we had a jewelry vendor available for members to purchase from.

The weather was a true test for everyone, ranging from sunny to cloudy, to thunderstorms, to sunny again. It didn't seem to bother anyone as smiles were on faces as members chatted with new and old friends. And did I forget to mention how much everyone appreciated the TENT? Excellent decision to order one!



Garden club of Kinderhook members, Pat Leary, Sandy Wooding, Pat LaFountain, Carol Seastrand, Fran Heaney, Vivian Wachsberger, and standing, Cynthia Bogardus.



Garden Study Club of Albany, Greenport Garden Club, and New Paltz Garden club members.



Daisy Scouts decorated the 'table cloths.' Iced tea with lemon and mint plus cucumber water were a welcomed refresher.



Carole Garvar, Athens Garden Club, Sandy Arlund, Past Director, and Jean Horn, Clematis Garden Club.



Guilderland Garden Club members, Merrill-Lee Lenegar, Maureen McNamara-Gardner, and friend.



Meghan Van Alstyne, chef from the Riverview Cafe, sharing her story.



Auction items available to bid on.

GARDEN STUDY CLUB OF ALBANY

ALBANY COUNTY

by Jean Dearstyme

The Garden Study Club of Albany visited the private gardens of Margaret Roach, a prominent garden blogger and former editorial director for Martha Stewart.

Located in Copake Falls, NY the garden is set on 2.6 acres nestled on a hillside near the Taconic State Park, along with her farmhouse and outbuildings.

The Garden Study Club of Albany held an informal Flower Show on July 25 at The Beverwyck in Albany, NY. A business meeting was held first, residents were invited to view the floral designs and enjoy refreshments afterwards, and have their names entered in a raffle for the designs.

Below left: Members who visited Margaret Roach's garden.

Below right: President, Jean Keefus (center) with members Jean Dearstyme and Pat Bult at the Flower Show.



YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!

by Patricia Blundell, District III Awards Chair

The August publication of *The Digest* is a great resource for me, as the Awards Chairman for District III. The timing is a perfect opportunity to reach out to our club members.

Question: Why?

Answer: The August issue is so close to the due date of September 1st, which is one of the required dates regarding district awards.

September 1st is the date clubs should notify me of their "Intent to Apply" for specific awards.

October 1st is the due date clubs mail a completed Awards Application to me, plus two 8-1/2 x 11 sheets containing documentation of information pertinent to the award desired.

November 1st is the due date various State Awards Chairmen receive the entries from all the Districts.

This Chairman's previous Third District Awards Report—"You have to be in it to win it"—outlined all pertinent information regarding applying for district awards.

Please contact me if you need any additional information at: floralartistry01@hvc.rr.com

Phone: 845-246-2611

Looking forward to hearing from you.



GERMANTOWN GARDEN CLUB

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Fran Bufi

June was a very busy month for the Germantown Garden Club. The club made a field trip to Naumkeag, a quintessential country estate of the Gilded Age designed by Stanford White, situated in Stockbridge, MA. The club toured the house and grounds. The summer retreat was owned by the Joseph Choate family. The stunning collection of gardens were created by Miss Mabel Choate and Fletcher Steele over thirty years.

At the June meeting, Mark Adams of Adams Fairacre Farms gave a presentation. Mark with his wife Sue, oversee five acres of greenhouses and a production area where over 2 million bedding plants are grown annually from seed as well as 300,000 hardy perennials and more. Mark brought several dozen examples of plant specimens from the greenhouses. He gave a presentation about how to incorporate annual plants in the garden with an emphasis on beneficial varieties. He discussed which annual plants are best to attract 'good' insects, bees, and birds.

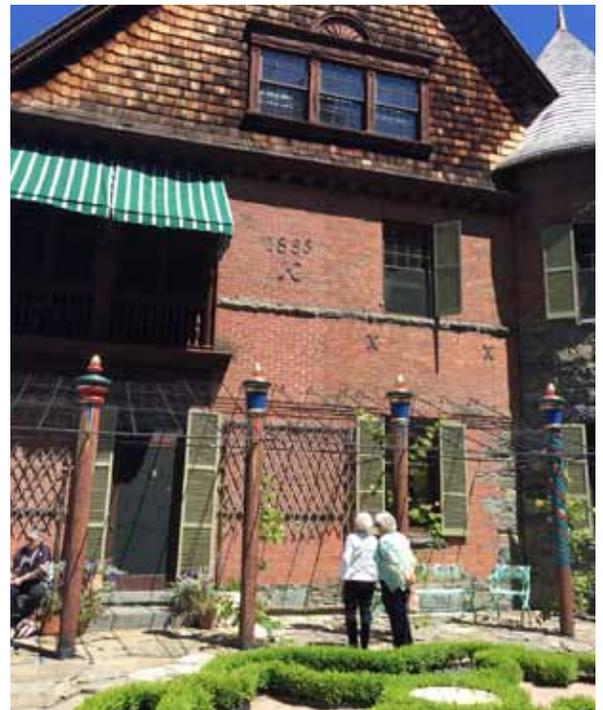
The Germantown Garden Club created floral decorations for the Germantown Central School High School commencement ceremonies with flowers and foliage from members gardens. This is an annual project of the club.

Germantown Garden Club To Hold Flower Show as Part of the Town's Apple Festival

For 88 years, the Germantown Garden Club has held an annual Standard Flower Show. This year it will take place on Saturday, September 17 from 1–4 p.m. and on September 18, from 1–3 p.m., at the Palatine Parsonage, 52 Maple Ave., Germantown. The show will feature flower arrangements, educational displays, and horticultural specimens. The title, "An Apple a Day," serves to remind us that the Hudson Valley, where we live, is apple-growing country.

Our flower show will be part of the town's Apple Festival celebration which takes place on September 17. The show will be one of the featured events at the festival. We plan on making the show prominent for the festival by adding lots of signage to direct people to visit. .

The design division will feature fresh and dried flower arrangements in eight major groups. The horticulture specimens division will include individual flowers, herbs, branches, and container-grown plants as well as vegetables. The show is open to the public and admission is free. It's a great opportunity for everyone to see the different types of horticulture available at this time of year, to see beautiful and inspiring flower arrangements, and to visit Germantown's premier historic site and maybe learn something new, too! For more information, please call Fran Bufi at 518-537-4868.



*Top and center: members on their visit to Naumkeag.
Below: Mark Adams shares some great plants with member Irene Clum.*

GREENPORT GARDEN CLUB

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Maria Kolodziej-Zincio

Greenport Garden Clubs Begins Their Civic Beautification

The Greenport Garden Club annually rolls up its sleeve at the Greenport Town Hall to prepare and plant flower beds. From May till September garden club members take turns in preparing beds, planting, transplanting, weeding, and deadheading annuals and perennials at the Town Hall's entrances. With the summer months heat they are well attuned to the importance of watering and maintenance to keep these beautiful flowers looking their best. The Civic Beautification Committee is chaired by club member, Carolyn West and includes garden club members Yetta Teo, Cindy Hockenberry, Sue Dillhoff, Cecelia Sinclair, Cynthia Atkinson, Lynn Kowlaski, Agnes LaSalvia, Nancy Westbrook, Cindy Teator, and Sylvia Macheski.

Greenport Garden Club Celebrates 40th Anniversary

The Greenport Garden Club celebrated four decades of promoting the love of gardening, floral design, civic and environmental responsibility, and beautifying personal and community spaces. For forty years the Greenport Garden Club has served the City of Hudson and the Town of Greenport in its civic beautification projects. The Fortieth Anniversary Party was held at the home and gardens of Agnes and Tony LaSalvia in Ancram on June 24th. Members from the Kinderhook, Germantown, Woodstock, and New Paltz Garden Clubs of the FGCNYS Third District attended in celebrating the club's milestone achievement. A cocktail hour and buffet was prepared by Greenport Garden Club members. Photo albums, press releases, and nostalgic photographs were on display depicting the clubs growth and compassion for its organization. For five months the Greenport Garden Club Anniversary Committee organized, planned, and prepared for this event. The Fortieth Anniversary Committee included members Kathy Bucholsky, Yetta Teo, Lynn Kowalski, Cynthia Atkinson, Cindi Hockenberry, Nancy Westbrook, and Agnes LaSalvia. A special thanks went to Erin Brady, floral designer, for providing flowers for the table centerpieces, Kelsie Nack for the beautiful cake embellished with violets—the club's signature flowers, Maria Kolodziej-Zincio for publicity and design of the invitations, and JoAnn Concra for all correspondence. "I would like to express my appreciation for all the hard work everyone did to make this event so special. I hope the garden club continues to grow in the years ahead" states Kathy Bucholsky, Greenport Garden Club president.

Make Your Yard a Cutting Garden

Greenport Garden Club hosted a workshop on "Make Your Garden a Cutting Garden" presented by Ruth Tourjee of the Germantown Garden Club. Ruth, a versatile expert gardener, shared her experience in making a garden with a bounty of flowers. She presented an array of perennials, annuals, flowering shrubs, and trees that gardeners can enjoy in all seasons. Discussion on this topic included germination, hardiness, and maintenance of flowers to make sure they thrive in our gardens. Ruth also discussed the importance of when and how to cut flowers to ensure they stay on our table looking fresh and beautiful. Planting your garden with flowers that will bloom from spring through late summer will keep you in business all season long.



Top: Creative planting in barrels at the front entrance to ProPrinters shop in Hudson with GGC members Sue Dillhoff, Kathy Bucholsky, and Cynthia Atkinson.

Center: Carolyn West, chair of the Civic Beautification Committee, puts the finishing touches to flower beds at the Greenport Town Hall.

Bottom: Attendees at Greenport Garden Club's 40th Anniversary Party acknowledges the hospitality of Agnes and Tony LaSalvia. Standing left: hostess and GGC member Agnes LaSalvia.

THE GARDEN CLUB OF KINDERHOOK

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Sue Chiafullo

Members of the Garden Club of Kinderhook traveled to the Berkshire Botanical Garden in Stockbridge, MA. The group experienced a guided tour of the gardens and gained new knowledge of horticulture practices.

At our June meeting, members were treated to not only an informative program but a delicious one as well. Award winning author, blogger, and chef, Kevin Jacobs, creator of the popular website *A Garden for the House* presented a farm-to-table cooking demo using recipes from his soon-to-be-published cookbook. Kevin featured ingredients and preparation techniques as he made a four-course meal in 40 minutes. Club members enjoyed it at the demo's conclusion.

At the July meeting, members Anne Schomaker, Sue Chiafullo, Kathy Biggs, and Heddy Roz, presented a design workshop in preparation for the club's bi-annual standard flower show. These members have been first-prize winners in various categories in previous flower shows. They presented ideas on what makes a good design, their thought process, and flower selection using examples for a hanging design, a mass arrangement, a petite design, and an underwater design. The club's standard flower show will be held in the Martin H. Glenn Town Hall, Church Street, Valatie on Saturday and Sunday, September 24 and 25.



Farm-to-table presentation. Left to right: Cynthia Bogardus, program chair; Kathy Biggs, hospitality; presenter Kevin Jacobs; Sue Chiafullo, hospitality.



Members enjoy a day at the Berkshire Botanical Garden.



Flower show demonstration. Left to right: Eileen Szpessy; Heddy Roz, Kathy Biggs, Sue Chiafullo, Tina Lang, and Anne Schomaker. Eileen and Tina are Flower Show Chairpersons.

Save the Date!



**Federated Garden Clubs of New York State
66th Fall Conference and Meeting**

September 11–12, 2016

Radisson Hotel Utica Centre, 200 Genesee Street, Utica, New York 13502

'LINKING TOGETHER TO INSPIRE OUR FUTURE'

Guest Speaker: CATHY MILLER

Cathy is an avid gardener, lecturer and writer. Her creations and articles have graced dozens of national magazines including *Family Circle*, *Better Homes & Gardens*, *Gardening & Outdoor Living*, *Victorian Accents*, *Bride's* and *Woman's Day*. Cathy has appeared on the Bill Boggs TV show, and Saturday Morning Live. She has received many blue ribbons including the coveted Tricolor and Creativity awards. However, she believes her greatest accomplishment was creating 54 dried garden flower arrangements for the White House.

SHAWANGUNK GARDEN CLUB

ULSTER COUNTY

by Helene Morris

In July, a group of 16 members went on a field trip to the Vanderbilt Mansion gardens in Hyde Park, NY. A tour guide took us through five tiered gardens. Afterwards, we enjoyed lunch at The Culinary Institute of America's American Bounty restaurant.

On August 13, we will participate in the town-wide Wild Blueberry Festival located on Canal St. in downtown Ellenville. Our club booth will offer advice on gardening with free take home educational materials. Home-grown plants will be for sale as well.

On September 17, we will hold a Victorian Tea called "Arts & Flowers" at the Terwilliger Museum in the Ellenville Public Library located on 40 Centre St. in Ellenville.

Our meeting on October 3 is open to the public. It starts at 7 p.m. in the Community Room adjacent to The Ellenville Public Library. Guest speaker, Paul O'Neill, Commissioner of Jurors for the Ulster County Courthouse will speak about Kingston's buried treasures, a look back at the early history of Ulster County.

The Shawangunk Garden Club: Celebrating 90 Years

2017 will mark the club's 90th birthday. Plans for the celebration are still being decided.

On April 8, 1927 a group of eight ladies met by invitation at the home of Mrs. Chester Young in Napanoch to discuss the formation of a garden club. Two weeks later, at the home of Mrs. William DuBois in Ellenville, "The Ellenville-Napanoch Garden Club" was formed. On June 18, 1928 they joined the New York State Federation of Garden Clubs. In August of 1928 the name was changed to "The Shawangunk Garden Club" with 30 active members and five associate members, some of whom were men. Meetings were held monthly, except in the summer, at a member's garden. They were a formal social affair with white gloves, hats, and tea and pastries.

Visit to Congress Park, Saratoga

by Camille McComb, District III Director

The Third District, FGCNYS, Inc. trip to Congress Park in Saratoga Springs on June 16 was attended by members from the Garden Club of Kinderhook, Garden Study Club of Albany, Greenbush Garden Club, and the Guilderland Garden Club.

Members enjoyed a guided tour of the Saratoga Springs History Museum which

included highlights of the city's history and it's permanent collections. These included the 'Telling the Story of Saratoga', the High Stakes Gambling Room and the Canfield Casino. Self-guided tours of the second and third floors included the Belter Room and the Walworth Memorial Museum.

A garden tour was enjoyed by all. We also visited the Congress Park Carousel.

Enclosed in glass, it was built in 1910 by Marcus Charles Illions, who carved 28 horses with the intention of "wowing" children of all ages.

Lunch at Scallions Restaurant and shopping at Schuyler Pond at Scallions ended a beautiful day-trip enjoyed by 20 garden club members.



JUDGES COUNCIL PREPARES FOR SYMPOSIUM

by Patricia Blundell, District III Judges Council Chair

Third District Judges Council members held a meeting on June 7, 2016 at the home of member Jacqueline Petro. We followed our usual procedure, each of us creating a floral design. A creative Illuminary Design was the one planned for this meeting.

These are set up prior to our business meeting. It is a great way for each of us to keep up with actively working on design, following up with review, and critiques by members. We also bring a horticulture exhibit for review. This is necessary (and fun) to keep our credentials as Flower Show Judges current.

The business meeting involved discussion on various subjects. Number one on the list involved the Symposium which will be held in October. This symposium will be presented in conjunction with the National and Central Atlantic Region Meetings. The Gideon Putnam in Saratoga, NY is the location.

All of our Judges Council members are planning to attend. Since we usually meet in October and we will be at the symposium, it was decided that we would have two more “working” meetings, one in August and one in September. This is a change for our group. Next floral arrangements planned will be Creative Miniature and Creative Rhythmic designs.

As always, our members are available if you need information regarding Flower Shows, Schedules, Floral Design classes, etc.

Please Note:

As a reminder to our garden club members, you do not have to be a flower show judge to attend a symposium. Since this year’s symposium location is so close to our district, it is a perfect opportunity for our club members to attend. There are horticulture and design classes offered. For information, fees, etc. please contact this Chairman.



SOME THOUGHTS ON RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE

by Maryann Weber, District III Landscape Design Chair

The other day while walking in my neighborhood I started thinking about what people have chosen to make of their yards. In my area the strongest common element is foundation plantings, followed fairly closely by trimmed hedges and well-kept lawns. Some of my neighbors with small children have installed colorful play areas for them. Almost everyone has a visible gas or charcoal grill.

Here and there individual tastes and ideas are evident. Some results work for me, some not so much, but hopefully they are a source of pleasure to their owners. (My garden is vaguely cottagy, with lots of flowers.)

Some years ago I attended a Garden Conservancy Open Day at the lovely property of garden writer and photographer Starr Okenga, who cautioned us not to make our gardens so big we couldn’t take care of them. She didn’t follow her own advice. I didn’t follow it either, blissfully unaware that one’s capacity for physical labor tends to shrink with age. Thus my cottagy garden looks a little overstuffed this year.

I’m not much of a rules person, but if you’re setting out to make or redesign a landscape for yourself it really helps to start out with at least a general plan. It also helps to install your hardscaping early on, and to remember that foundation plants have a way of growing taller and broader than you anticipated. You’ll need to plan for maintenance. Killing a plant is not murder. And above all: try to create something you’ll really like. After all it’s YOUR garden.

SAVE THE DATES!

October 24–25
October 26–27

Come enjoy ‘Historic Treasures of New York’—the NGC-CAR conference on October 24–25. And then experience ‘Everything New’—our 2016 FGCNYS Symposium, October 26–27.

October is fast approaching. A \$10 CAR registration fee is offered to FGCNYS members who register before September 30.

The Gideon Putnam Hotel reservations are filling up so don’t miss this opportunity. All information is available on the NGC-CAR website: www.ngccar.org and our New York State website: www.fgcny.com

NGC-CAR Registrar: Mary Bowles,
mjbowles@gmail.com, 914-683-6254

Symposium Registrar: Laura McLaughlin,
laurakingmclaughlin@gmail.com,
631-666-0029

Don’t miss excellent programs presented by On Thai, Penny Decker, Dorthy Yard, and Jeanne Nelson.

—Jeanne Nelson, NGC-CAR 2016
Conference Chairman
Eileen De Ricco, FGCNYS 2016
Symposium Chairman

Greenport Garden Club: The Beginning of a Long Relationship

by Yetta Teo, Greenport Garden Club

What is the common thread that links the following: the Muppet show, Apple Computer, the bicentennial quarter, Rocky and Adrian, Family Feud, Laverne and Shirley, Roots, the end of red M&Ms, and the beginning of the Greenport Garden Club?

Answer: They all happened 40 years ago.



In 1976, the Greenport Garden Club formed as a result of the United States Bicentennial celebration. Mrs. John D. Weinman proposed that the club be established as an ongoing project of the Greenport Bicentennial committee. In order for a town to qualify for this, three conditions must have been met—one of which was the formation of an organization whose efforts would be continued in the years ahead. So the Greenport Garden Club was born! Electing officers on September 21, 1976, the club became a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State. The club had 39 active members and met monthly at the Mt. Pleasant Reformed Church in Greenport. First officers were Mrs. John L. Flynn, president; Mrs. Dom Shallo, vice president; Mrs. John Schaffer, recording secretary; Mrs. Robert Nack, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Gene Altman, treasurer.

What's changed since then? Meetings were

every fourth Thursday, now we meet the first Thursday of the month. There were no meetings in July, August, and January. We presently meet monthly except in January and February. Dues then were \$5 compared to \$20 today—still a bargain! In 1982, the yearbook changed from a small pocket-sized booklet with mimeographed pages and hand-designed covers, to a beautiful half-sheet sized booklet of 40-plus pages. Each year, the cover is given careful attention to preserve the uniqueness of the club and be representative of our programs. Many covers have been original artworks.



In 1979, the brand-new Greenport Town Hall opened. Club members were hostesses for the tours of the new facility open house. The Town Hall became the new location for our monthly meetings. That same autumn, was the club's very first flower show 'September Song.' The flower show has become an annual event for many years and is usually held in the summer.

In 1978, before the new Town Hall opened, two new members joined the club. Dorothy Brown and Joan Anderson were friends, both active as any farmer's wife can be, but both felt drawn to the garden club. When the new Town Hall needed mulch for the freshly established flower beds, Joan volunteered the use of her husband's new pick-up truck. She and Dorothy filled the truck with mulch on a hot summer's day and proceeded to create beautiful flower beds. As Joan and Dorothy stood back to admire their efforts, they looked at each

other, laughing, and in Joan's words "we looked like brown bears." Ah, the joys of garden clubs! Joan Anderson presently lives in Connecticut while Dorothy Brown lives in Greenport. Dorothy has the longest membership in our club having been a member for 38 years.



In 1986, the club celebrated 10 years at the same time that Columbia County celebrated its 200th anniversary. As a joint celebration, the club judged home and business landscapes, window boxes, and exhibits.

The Register Star newspaper announced in 1988 that the five garden clubs of Columbia County would exhibit at the Columbia County Fair. Greenport's exhibit that year was 'Knowing Your Trees,' with live, generously-sized examples of various local trees. The 2016 Columbia County Fair will have both Greenport Garden Club and the Garden Club of Kinderhook exhibiting booths—once again presenting the public with the allure of membership in an active garden club.

While the modes of communication have changed—hooray for text messaging and email, computers making printing and photography easier, and some white gloves being retired in favor of gardening gloves—much has remained the same. The love for all things 'garden,' floral design, community involvement, education, encouragement, and making new friends and trying new things has endured.

Long live garden clubs! Thank you Greenport Garden Club for all that you have given me personally, over the last 31 years.

GARDEN CLUBS OF GREENE-SCHOHARIE

Carole Garvar, Chair

The program for the **Greene-Schoharie County Day** “The History of Wine Making in The Hudson River Valley” will be held on Thursday, August 25, at Pegasus Restaurant in Coxsackie. The cost is \$22 for the meal. All are welcome to attend. Sylvia Hasenkopf, historian and author will give a talk and presentation. Several local wineries have donated door prizes. Contact Carole Garvar at 518-945-3739 for reservations.

Athens, Clematis, and Schoharie Valley clubs each donate a scholarship to a graduating high school senior pursuing an education in gardening related fields.

Athens Community Garden Club meets at the Zion Lutheran Church on the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. Meetings are open to the public. In July, officers were installed for 2016–2017 at the lovely home and gardens of member Olga Cascione. The board will remain unchanged with the exception of Steve Mann, who will be installed as Recording Secretary. On August 27, they will hold their annual bake sale at 48 N. Washington Street (Rte. 385) Athens, across from Stewart Shops. Meetings will resume in September with a Welcome Back Luncheon on September 15. On November 10, they will hold their annual fund raiser at Pegasus Restaurant in Coxsackie. This is always an exciting event with three types of auctions and a great place to do some holiday shopping.

President Marie Kadlick, of the **Coxsackie Garden Club**, has moved to Bethany Village Senior Housing. Her new address is 410 Bethany Village, West Coxsackie NY 12051.

Clematis Garden Club meets on the second Friday of each month at The Greeneville Library Community Room at 12:30 pm.

Meetings are open to the public. In July, member Joan Satterlee, a talented photographer, presented a slide show of four NY gardens—Wave Hill, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, The New York Botanical Garden, and a private garden in Westchester with acres of daffodils. In August, the club will hold their annual picnic which includes a tour of member Roberta Nunn’s garden. In September, there will be a ‘Show and Tell’—members will bring in plants and photos from their gardens. A garden of the month will be chosen. For October, there will be a program on the care and planting of bulbs by Peter Bowden. The club’s November Holiday Luncheon will be held at The Blackthorn Restaurant. Installation of officers will be held. In December, Melissa Rosa, owner of Garden Works, will present a program on decorating with holiday greens.

Schoharie Valley Garden Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at locations noted in their Yearbook. For their September meeting, they will hold a ‘Felted Flower Workshop’ at the home of Anne Bielewski. On September 11, they will have a ‘Garage, Plant and Bake Sale’ from 9 am to 3 pm at 139 Bridge Street, Schoharie. The October meeting will be a Festival of Trees Workshop at the NYS Power Authority. On November 17, 18, and 19 the club will hold their Flower Show at the Schoharie Public Library. The November meeting will be a workshop on creating Holiday Luncheon Favors at the Schoharie Presbyterian Church. On December 7, the club will hold ‘A Brush With Santa,’ a holiday luncheon and boutique to be held at noon, at the Inn at Cobleskill, 121 Bergin Drive.

PROMOTING EDUCATION

by Carole Garvar, Greene-Schoharie Chair

At our Third District Spring Luncheon we were fortunate to hear Dr. George Crosby talk about programs offered at SUNY Cobleskill. This is a unique agricultural and natural resources school. The college also houses a business, liberal arts and science school offering 50 academic programs.

The Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, Inc. encourages clubs to promote educational opportunities through scholarships.

Some of our local high schools have Future Farmers of America Clubs (FFA). Last year Clematis Garden Club had

several students from Greenville High School who are in FFA present an informative program regarding their activities. This club awards a scholarship to a graduating student every year.

This year, **Athens Garden Club** awarded a scholarship to a high school graduate attending SUNY Cobleskill this fall who is majoring in agriculture.

Schoharie Valley Garden Club also awards a scholarship each year to a student attending SUNY Cobleskill.

Contact the guidance department at your local high school with parameters for scholarship consideration.

If your local high school does not have a student interested in pursuing an education in a field relating to agriculture, horticulture, or a science-related field, why not consider a donation to a worthy student at SUNY Cobleskill? You can contact the school at www.cobleskill.edu or 518-265-5526.

Make a difference in promoting education.

Clubs Calendar 2016

August 25, 2016

Greene-Schoharie County Day 'The History of Wine Making in the Hudson River Valley,' Pegasus Restaurant, Coxsackie.

September 11–12, 2016

FGCNYS, Inc. Fall Conference, Radisson Hotel, Utica.

September 17–18, 2016

Germantown Garden Club Flower Show 'An Apple A Day,' Palatine Parsonage, 52 Maple Ave., Germantown.

September 24–25, 2016

The Garden Club of Kinderhook Flower Show 'This Land is Your Land,' Kinderhook Town Hall, Valatie.

October 20, 2016

Fall District Meeting, 'Autumn Moon,' Pegasus Restaurant, Coxsackie.

October 24–25, 2016

NGC-CAR Fall Meeting and Conference, 'Historic Treasures of NY,' Gideon Putnam, Saratoga Springs.

October 26–27, 2016

FGCNYS, Inc. Fall Symposium, 'Everything New,' Gideon Putnam, Saratoga Springs.

Historical Timeline of FGCNYS, Inc.

Here is a brief synopsis about how garden clubs in our state became part of the Federated Garden Clubs of NYS.

1923: Mrs. John Paris, former president of the Flushing Garden Club, formulated plans to federate all state garden clubs in NYS.

1924: In February, 43 people representing 20 organized garden clubs met and discussed forming a Federation.

1924: In March, the Federation was formed with 12 clubs. Twelve more joined in three months. These are the 24 charter clubs of FGCNYS, Inc.

1925: First Annual Meeting held at the Roosevelt Hotel, NYC

1928: First newsletter published.

1929: National group organizational meeting was held in NYC—it was named the National Council of State Garden Club Federations, Inc. FGCNYS was a charter member.

1930: National Council held first convention in Chicago.

1931: FGCNYS hosted its first course in judging flower shows. 153 people from eleven states attended.

1934: Name changed to National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.

1959: Headquarters moved from NYC to St. Louis, MO, with dedication of headquarters.

1999: Name changed to National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Here are the original Charter Clubs of FGCNYS: Staten Island GC, Community GC of Garden City-Hemstead, Douglaston GC, Port Washington GC, GC of Kinderhook, Katrina Trask GC, Ithaca GC, Rochester GC, GC of Dobbs Ferry, GC of Larchmont, GC of New Rochelle, Scarsdale Woman's Club—Garden Section, GC of Nyack.

—adapted from the FGCNYS, Inc. website:
www.fgcny.com/ORGANIZATION.html



The Digest Online is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of the month before each issue (January, April, July, and October).

Please send news of your club's activities, events, and plans—it's a great way to share what you are doing with other clubs. Unlike print newsletters, there is no prohibitive cost factor for using color, so send in your photos. Articles on various gardening and flower arranging topics are especially welcome.

Material for *The Digest* should be sent to Karin Janson via email at kjanson@aol.com.

To access *The Digest*, go to the State website—fgcnys.com—select District III on the home page and then select *Digest Online*.

