

# The Digest

THIRD DISTRICT FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF NYS, INC.



AUGUST 2017

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## Editor's Note

I think this summer has been great for our gardens. Yes, I know that we have had many days of rain. But as a gardener, I am thankful for that. I remember last year's terrible drought in August. In my gardens, a lot of the perennials that I didn't think would survive have indeed come back and are thriving.

Which brings me up to what our clubs in our district are doing to 'thrive.'

I hope all of our clubs in the Third District are sending out press releases to their local papers about what they are doing in their communities. Doing this is a great way to get the word out there about what you do and most importantly, to help your club get new members.

I also hope your club has a Facebook page. It is really easy (and free!) to set one up. All you need is a dedicated member to take the helm and be in charge of this.

Another way to grow your membership is to sponsor talks at your local library. You can invite local gardening authors to give a talk and provide a way that they can sell their books.

The more fun and interesting talks you provide to your members mean that you can also invite the public to attend. And you just might get new people to join your garden club.

Karin Janson, Germantown Garden Club  
kjanson@aol.com

## From the Director



I hope you are enjoying what is left of the summer as we head toward fall and harvest time. I recently attended our summer board meeting in June and took part in a portion of the Tri-Refresher Course held in Albany. Our new State President Monica Hansen conducted the meeting. We are very fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated State President. Hopefully, at some point in time, you will all get a chance to meet her. One of her initiatives is an increase in club membership. Here in the Third District, I am asking each club to try to increase membership by a net of at least two new members per year.

Members need to work with their club's president to achieve this goal. Several of our clubs have already reached or surpassed this membership initiative, and for that, I am extremely grateful.

On the national level, Nancy L. Hargroves of Richmond, VA has been installed as our 45th President of National Garden Clubs, of which we are members. The theme for her administration is "Plant America" which focuses on gardens and gardening. Gardening is once again at the forefront in America, with a renewed awareness and popularity of home vegetable gardening. In conjunction with this new "Plant America" initiative, NGC is launching a project to provide financial support to member garden clubs, with grants up to a total of \$1,000 for new or existing projects to support community gardening efforts. This can include, but is not limited to, beautification and/or restoration projects, community gardens, landscaping of Blue Star Memorial Markers, or a horticulture or environmental event for the public and/or youth.

*(cont. on pg 2)*



*At the Tri-Refresher Course participants visited the Albany Pine Bush Preserve.*

*(Director's Message from pg 1)*

I strongly encourage all clubs to take advantage of this program. The application deadline is November 1, 2017, for the first round of awards. Recipients of grants will be notified, and all money will be awarded by January 31, 2018. The application form is quite simple to prepare. Applications are available in a Word document at [www.gardenclub.org/projects/plant-america-community-project-grants.aspx](http://www.gardenclub.org/projects/plant-america-community-project-grants.aspx), or if you wish, I can send one directly to you. Just contact me by phone or e-mail with your request.

**Coming events:**

Our District is sponsoring a trip to the Wethersfield House and Gardens in Millbrook, NY on Thursday, September 7, 2017. Wethersfield occupies 1,200 acres and consists of the main house, gardens, carriage house, and the farm. Situated at an elevation of 1,200 feet, it offers panoramic views of the Catskills and the Berkshire Mountain range.

On September 17–19, 2017, the FGCNYS will hold its annual Fall Conference at the Kingston Best Western Hotel and Conference Center just off exit 19 on the Thruway. It should prove to be an exciting conference with many interesting topics, workshops, speakers, and educational displays. And the best part is that it is being held within the boundaries of our District.

Our Third District Annual Fall meeting 'Golden Harvest' will take place at the same venue on October 19, 2017.

Details on all of these events can be found in this issue of the Digest.

Last, but not least, I want to congratulate the Schoharie Valley Garden Club on the occasion of their 70th Anniversary of service to their community. Over these many years, their members have accomplished great things, beautifying and enhancing their community and our environment. So please join me in congratulating them with best wishes for another 70 years of dedicated service and membership in FGCNYS.

Take care,  
*Gary Barrack, 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, 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

# Save the Date!

## Third District Trip Wethersfield House and Gardens, Millbrook, NY

Thursday, September 7, 2017

Car pool to Wethersfield arriving a 11:30 a.m.

Catered box lunch at picnic area: \$16

House Tour: \$20/\$15 Seniors

Tour times (up to 15 people): 1:15 p.m. and 2:15 p.m.

Garden only: \$5

Please send your paid reservations by August 28 to  
Joan Satterlee, 164 High Hill Rd., Catskill, NY 12414

518-945-2772

jsatterlee164@gmail.com

Wethersfield, located 10 miles northeast of Millbrook, was the country estate of Chauncey Devereux Stillman (1907-1989). Wethersfield was left to Homeland Foundation, a not-for-profit organized by Mr. Stillman in 1938. After Mr. Stillman's death in 1989, Wethersfield was opened to the public for open space and scenic enjoyment.

Wethersfield occupies 1,200 acres in Northeast Dutchess County and consists of Wethersfield Main House, Gardens, Carriage House, and Farm. The House and Gardens are situated at an elevation of 1,200 ft., the highest point in the region, which provides panoramic views of the Catskills to the west and the Berkshires to the north.



# *You're Invited*

## **Federated Garden Clubs of New York State 67th Fall Conference and Meeting**

September 17–19, 2017

Best Western Plus

Kingston, NY



### *'Plant America—For a Cleaner, Greener, and Healthier World'*

Enjoy the Hudson Valley scenery, history, and the arts while in Kingston, NY. You'll have two days to network with colleagues, participate in the Judges' Council, enjoy vendor shopping, attend fabulous workshops and demonstrations, and experience the business of the FGCNYS, Inc.

This State meeting is right in the neighborhood of District III and we hope to have all of our clubs attend.

**Monica Hansen, State President  
Camille McComb, Chairman**

(See page 14 of this newsletter for registration form)





# Using Natural Practices To Create Healthy Environments

By Barbara Shepard, NGC Chairman: Organic Gardening Practices

By definition, the word organic means “relating to or derived from living matter.” In order to be sealed with the USDA organic sticker, produce must have been grown on soil that has not been treated with synthetic fertilizer for at least three years. Organic farmers use natural substances as much as possible. What this means for the home gardener is that gardening organically is easier and less expensive than not.

Growing a truly organic garden requires some thought and mindfulness from the gardener. All materials used should be as close to naturally from the earth as possible. Purchase organic soil and plant in raised beds in order to ensure your crop will be healthy. Plants need healthy soil to grow and thrive, and it can be timely to test your backyard soil, so it is better to purchase your soil from a trusted distributor.

When fertilizing, consider the source. If using manure, make sure it comes from

organically fed livestock, preferably local.

Organic gardens have to start somewhere. Buy seedlings that were organically raised, without chemical fertilizers or pesticides. Without the help of pesticides, it helps to have a green thumb, or especially easy crops to grow. Tomatoes, beans, zucchini, swiss chard, sugarsnap peas, carrots, radishes, and mushrooms are all great starters for a beginner gardener. Save the seeds from this year’s crop to be used again next year.

To save water, use recycled rainwater. Not only does this promote a healthy ecosystem, but it will come as close to air temperature as possible, which plants prefer.

Weeding by hand is absolutely essential to an organic garden. Eliminating weeds through chemical use defeats the purpose of an organic garden and cancels out any and all hard work. Plus, getting outside and tending to a garden the natural way will help a gardener get more exercise and fresh air!

The same goes for dealing with pests. Releasing natural predators like frogs, ladybugs, and birds into a garden can help solve the problem of predators, naturally. Purchase cans of ladybugs at a local nursery and set out water to attract birds and frogs. Make sure the water is emptied and replaced regularly to avoid attracting mosquitoes.

Going organic can be a long-term health investment. The compounds that organically grown plants produce in order to survive can provide health benefits for humans, as well. In an interview with NPR, Carlo Leifer, a professor of agriculture at Newcastle, said that going organic provides “significantly higher amounts of antioxidants and omega-3 fatty acids.”

At NGC, we encourage clubs and individuals to practice organic gardening not only to benefit their own health, but to promote a healthy and safe environment.

## DON'T FORGET TO APPLY FOR AWARDS FOR YOUR CLUB!

by Patricia Blundell, District III Awards Chair



Every month of the garden club year has its own agenda, but summer is probably the busiest time of all. Members are outdoors working on projects to beautify their villages and holding Plant Sales to cover the expense of these projects.

The final rewards are very gratifying.

This, of course, brings us to applying for awards. No one is really looking for praise for all this hard work, however, we should

look upon it as sharing these beautiful accomplishments with fellow gardeners.

The District is anxious for clubs to share their expertise by applying for all the various awards that are out there. These include Civic Concern Awards, Roadside Beautification, and many others.

Documenting your club’s projects with photos, etc. should be done at the start of each project and ongoing through completion. This will help with your awards application.

Application forms are available at FGCNYS.com. Complete the form, include a

description of your project, and include photos, letters of appreciation from local officials, and any other information that can support your activity.

Note: Up to two additional sheets of paper is allowed. Use of only one side of each page is the rule.

Letter of Intent is due to this Chairman by **September 1, 2017**.

Completed form and all details should be sent to this Chairman by **October 1, 2017**.

Looking forward to hearing from you. floralartistry01@hvc.rr.com

## GARDEN STUDY CLUB OF ALBANY

ALBANY COUNTY

*by Ronnie Blendell*

The Garden Study Club of Albany had a bus trip to the New York Botanical Garden and the Chihuly Exhibit on June 23. Dale Chihuly is an American artist who has mastered the translucent and transparent qualities of ice, water, glass, and neon to create works of art that transform the everyday experiences. He has exhibited in museums and gardens worldwide. This was his first major garden exhibition and was presented at the New York Botanical Gardens. It showcased more than 20 installations. The gardens dramatic vistas were living canvases for works created especially for the New York Botanical Gardens.

For our July meeting, we visited “Rogerland” the private gardens of Roger Cooper in Arlington, Vermont. The unique design concept of the owners was the result of a desire on the husband’s part to create a structured, English garden, one where he could also enjoy golf and lawn bowls, and his wife’s desire for a more traditional, less structured, and minimalist garden. Construction began in 1996, and today, the garden features topiaries, wide flower beds, and a 5,000 square-foot putting green, complete with two sand traps and a chipping area.



*Members visited the New York Botanical Garden to see the glass art of Dale Chihuly.*

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## CLEMATIS GARDEN CLUB

GREENE-SCHOHARIE COUNTIES

*by Jean H. Horn*

Our Clematis Garden Club, located in Greenville, chooses a ‘Garden of the Month’ during the summer from June through September and sometimes October if the weather stays nice. The Garden of the Month Committee accepts suggestions from members for each month and then travels to check the nominated garden. If acceptable, an attractive sign is posted on the property, pictures are taken, and a descriptive write-up is done and sent to local newspapers.

Our Clematis Club has members from Greene, Schoharie, and Albany Counties, so we can choose from a large area. Publishing our Gardens of the Month in local newspapers is a great way for us to advertise our club and attract new members.

### July Garden Of The Month

This remarkable and well-tended perennial garden has white cleome, orange butterfly weed, and pink penstemon placed between two cranesbill geraniums. Behind are purple irises and shasta daisies just to name a few!





## GERMANTOWN GARDEN CLUB

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Fran Bufi

The Germantown Garden Club held its annual standard flower ‘Gardens, Gardens, Gardens.’ The title for this year’s show was an extension of the club’s theme for 2017 ‘Creating Special Gardens.’ The Design Division consisted of 24 design classes, the Horticulture Division had seven classes and included perennials, roses, bulbs, herbs, cut branches, and containers. There were 126 entries in Horticulture. This was one of the highest numbers of entries for our flower show.

Horticulture awards went to: Jane Dooley, Horticulture Excellence and an Award of Merit; Irene Clum, Arboreal Award; and Fran Bufi, Grower’s Choice and an Award of Merit. Mimi Brauch won two Awards of Merit and the Sweepstake Award for the most number of points in Horticulture.

Design Division awards went to: Linda Saulpaugh, Tri-Color Award; Kate Kennedy, Design Excellence and Designer’s Choice Award; and Mimi Brauch, Sweepstakes Award.

The People’s Choice award sponsored by the club and voted on by the public went to Mary Puskar.

### Club Trip to Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site

Each year in keeping with one of the aims of the Germantown Garden Club to broaden the gardening knowledge of its members the club visits a local landmark garden. This year the club toured the home and gardens of the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site in Hyde Park, NY. This historic site is one of the region’s oldest Hudson River estates. Built by a grandson of the famous Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt, the estate is a beautiful example of the lifestyle of the rich and famous during the early part of the twentieth century’s America’s ‘Gilded Age.’ Frederick Vanderbilt, who was an avid gardener himself, established an Italian-style, terrace garden containing many varieties of roses, annuals, and perennials.

A tour of the mansion conducted by Mike, a Park Ranger, was included in the activities of the day. Garden club members learned about the original construction of the mansion and heard many stories about the Vanderbilt family and their life in the Hudson Valley. The mansion had electricity designed by Thomas Edison and included central heating and an elevator.

### Library Book Donation

The club’s March meeting featured author Bettina Mueller. Ms. Mueller gave a presentation on how to create a Japanese tea garden in your landscape. As a result, the club’s annual gardening book donation to the Germantown Library for 2017 was *A Tea Garden in Tivoli: American Garden Design Inspired by the Japanese Way of Tea* by Bettina Mueller which was a silver award winner for Best Garden Book of 2016 from the Independent Publishers Awards.



Member Kate Kennedy standing beside her Design Excellence award-winning design: a Functional Bistro-type table for two themed ‘Japanese Tea Garden.’



Germantown Garden Club members listening to tour guide Mike, at the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site.



Presenting the club’s annual book donation to the Germantown Library. Pictured l-r: Germantown Garden Club member Elke Crane, Club President Fran Bufi, and Germantown Librarian Lynn Place.

## GREENPORT GARDEN CLUB

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Maria Kolodziej-Zincio

### The Coming of Roses

In June it was all about roses and the club held a workshop on 'All You Ever Wanted to Know About Roses.' Ed Schindler, a resident of the Firemen's Home in Hudson is an expert on roses. He shared his wealth of knowledge with the Greenport Garden Club reminiscing on his early childhood and how he learned about roses from his grandfather. "My grandfather was a rose enthusiast and that's how my love for roses began." Today you could call him the 'Rose Whisperer.' Members of the Greenport Garden club had the privilege and joy of hearing Ed speak and share his knowledge about old fashioned roses, the rose family, selection, care, and culture. It was a day of roses we all remembered.

### Caring is Sharing

From June through September the club provides fresh bouquets of flowers picked from members' gardens for the lobby of the Columbia County Department of Human Services. This program has been a club activity for nine consecutive years, spearheaded by Coordinator Cynthia Atkinson. Members take turns delivering a new arrangement every Monday morning. It's a wonderful way to give to the community with bounties from the garden. It also gives us the opportunity for visitors to learn and see what the club is all about. And after all, isn't caring about sharing?

### A Flower Show in a Shop

The Greenport Garden Club and Verdigris Tea & Coffee Shop joined together for the popular "Belo 3rd Stroll" event held on June 23–25. Throughout the weekend an explosion of floral arrangements was on display at the shop created by club members along with floral demonstrations. Fresh-cut flowers from their gardens were displayed in a wide variety of containers that presented customers and strollers with how and when to cut, care, and create a tabletop arrangement. Twelve gorgeous arrangements were displayed throughout the space that embraced the ambiance of the shop's nostalgic tea and chocolate theme. "The partnership between the Greenport Garden Club and Verdigris Tea & Coffee Shop was a wonderful endeavor and we hope to do this again next year," states Kathy Bucholsky, club president. Participating club floral designers were Kathy Bucholsky, Angela Rapp, Maria Kolodziej-Zincio, Cynthia Atkinson, Carolyn West, Sue Dillhoff, Cindy Teator, Agnes LaSalvia, Amanda Henry, and Lynn Kowalski.

### Tour of Black Dome Valley Farm in Maplecrest

At their July meeting, one not so typical, club members took a trip to a small hamlet in the Catskill Park called Maplecrest. This hamlet, one of Windham's three hamlets, lies in the valley or "hollow" surrounded by the Blackhead mountain range of the Catskill Mountains. For GGC member, Angela Rapp, Black Dome Valley Farm has been in her family for 85 years. This is where Angela grew up tending to the farm animals and her mother's gardens. Walking through her house was like walking through a museum—everything was intact as it was back then and the little restructuring did not change the ambiance of the farmhouse. Members gathered to enjoy a picnic that turned into a bountiful meal with an array of salads, pickled condiments, corn bread, chateaubriand, and the most delicious eggplant parmesan made by Angela and her cousin in her nostalgic farm house kitchen. We also celebrated the coming of a new arrival with a baby shower for club member, Stephanie Teator, who is expecting to deliver in late September, at home and accompanied by a midwife. It was a wonderful way to celebrate life in many forms in the middle of the magical mountains of the Catskills!



Top: Greenport Garden Club Members Judy Zink, Cecelia Sinclair, and Cheri Ferris-Oughton with workshop presenter Ed Schindler.

Center: Kathy Bucholsky demonstrates at Verdigris Tea & Coffee Shop.

Bottom: GGC at Maplecrest 'Black Dome Farm.' Lynn Kowalski, Angela Rapp, Stephanie Teator, and Kathy Bucholsky. Behind them is the oldest shed in Maplecrest.



## GUILDERLAND GARDEN CLUB

ALBANY COUNTY

by Merrill-Lee Lenegar

In May members of the club participated in the Garden Show at Our Lady of Mercy Life Center. We brought flowers and herbs which we planted in raised beds and explained to the residents and visitors what they were. Nancy Stahl and Maureen McNamara did a show and tell as they put together a floral arrangement. Some of the residents had raised flower and vegetable plants from seed that were available for purchase. The day included music provided by a harpist, a raffle, and an opportunity to make seasoning kits from dried herbs.

On June 12 our meeting was held at the Landis Arboretum in Esperance, New York. Fred Breglia, Director and Arborist at the Arboretum, gave a wonderful program on Promoting Plant Health Through Proper Pruning for the sixteen members in attendance. His presentation included information on proper pruning techniques for trees and shrubs, how to shape espalier trees, and the 'must have' tools for the gardener. Members had the opportunity to visit the gardens and enjoy the spectacular view of the mountains.

A free house and garden tour was held at the Historic Mynderse-Frederick House in Guilderland Center on June 17 as part of the New York State Path Through History Weekend. Members of the club and the Guilderland Historical Society were present to guide visitors through the house which was built in 1802. They learned about its historic and architectural significance and how the people who lived there shaped local history. There was a photo exhibit on Guilderland's cobblestone architecture, focusing on Guilderland Center's one room school and tours of the award-winning perennial gardens.

The July meeting was at the Mynderse-Frederick House. Diane Madden, Master Gardener with Rensselaer County Cornell Cooperative Extension, gave a presentation on The Allergy Fighting Garden. She provided an overview of trees and miscellaneous vegetation, types of pollen generated and how to select plants that minimize allergic reactions. We also had a presentation from Russell DeOrezio from the Altamont Fair. The Guilderland Garden Club will again this year have an exhibit at the fair which is on August 15–20. Russell encouraged the members to submit entries to be judged.



*Top left: Nancy Stahl and Maureen McNamara explain how to put together a floral arrangement and what flowers they are using to the residents of Mercy Care Life Center. Bottom left: Display of the flowers and vegetables raised by the residents.*



*Top right: Floral arrangements that were made by members of the club to decorate the Mynderse-Frederick House were given to the new Town Historian, Ann Wemple Person, who is standing with Club Vice President Maureen McNamara, the Town Supervisor, Peter Barber and Mrs. Barber (in background), and officers of the Historical Society.*

*Bottom right: Members of the club and the guest speaker, Diane Madden, enjoy the wonderful refreshments made by Kris Vogt and Susan Cole and the beautiful flower arrangement also made by Susan.*



## HUGH PLAT GARDEN CLUB

SCHENECTADY COUNTY

by Mary Ann DeFonce

The May 19th meeting of the Hugh Plat Garden Club was hosted at the home of our treasurer, Fran Fazio.

We spent a delightful afternoon creating Tussie-Mussies. It was a Victorian custom to create these nosegays from small flowers, paper, lace, and ribbons, and give them to someone you admired on May Day. Fran's dining room table became a kaleidoscope of colors, with snippets of colored paper and bits of ribbon everywhere. The sweet paper cones filled with spring flowers just lifted the soul!

Our June 16th meeting was scheduled to be a visit to Shades of Green, an incredible shade garden nursery in Charlton, and then lunch at the Charlton Tavern, a circa 1787 saloon. But as luck

would have it, we were met with a very rainy day! So, unable to visit the shade garden, we had lunch at the tavern, and then drove through an area of lovely homes in Burnt Hills, admiring all their gardens. The very wet spring here had produced lush gardens. We especially enjoyed the superior blossoms of the Dogwood trees. We agreed that they were the nicest we had seen in many years.

June and July are recharging months for Hugh Plat Garden Club, time for us to tend and enjoy our own gardens. We look forward to September when we will again decorate the porches of the Schenectady County Historical Society for their WALKABOUT.



Left: Sue Bushman and Fran Scrafford, enjoying the Tussie-Mussie workshop. Center: All done! Completed Tussie-Mussies. Right: Fran Fazio, hard at work.



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## SCHOHARIE VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

GREENE-SCHOHARIE COUNTIES

by Anne Bielawski

Here's what's going on with SVGC.

August 2, (monthly meeting): 70th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon: Noon at The American Hotel, Sharon Springs, NY. We will be celebrating Schoharie Valley Garden Club's 70th anniversary. Invited guests.

Sept 6, (monthly meeting): Medicinal Herbal Workshop with Geri Manchester at the Middleburgh Library, 1 p.m.

Sept 9: Garage Sale, Plant, and Bake Sale. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. at Marie Muller's house, 139 Bridge Street, Schoharie.

October 4 (monthly meeting): Felted Flowers Workshop at NYS Power Authority, Blenheim, 1 p.m. Includes wreath making.

Nov 1 (monthly meeting): Holiday Luncheon Favors Workshop at Schoharie Presbyterian Church, Main Street, 1 p.m.

Nov 16: Christmas Season; Holiday Decorations at Schoharie Library; Corner of Bridge Street and Knowler Avenue; time to be announced.

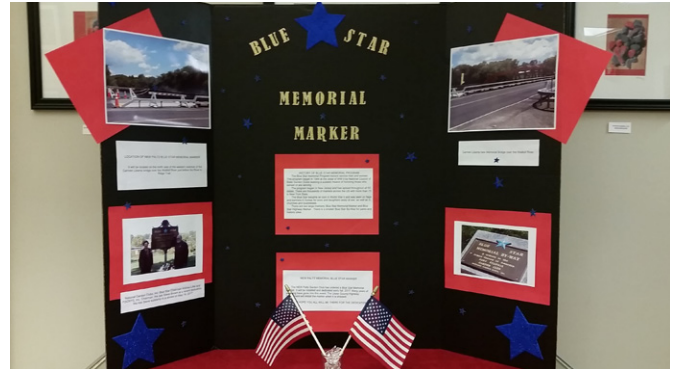
Dec 2017: Festival of Trees. Tree decorating at NYS Power Authority, Blenheim.

Dec 6: Holiday Luncheon and Boutique. 'HO HO HO'; Noon–4 p.m., Inn at Cobleskill, 121 Burgin Drive.

## NEW PALTZ GARDEN CLUB

ULSTER COUNTY  
by Barbara Campbell

On July 7 and 8 The New Paltz Garden Club held a Small Standard Flower Show at the town library. The title of the show was 'Our Valley.' One hundred twenty-seven people signed the guest book. Here are a few photos: winning table, Best in Show for Design featuring the new Cascade design, and horticulture.



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## TIORONDA GARDEN CLUB

DUTCHESS COUNTY  
by Gary Barrack

Our club recently installed 55 hanging flower baskets along Main St. in Beacon, along with 10 terra cotta pots at several prominent corners along the mile long stretch of the Main St. business district. This year the Tioronda Garden Club celebrates its 88th Anniversary with its theme 'Beautifying Beacon since 1929.'

On July 12, we held our annual picnic meeting, hosted by the men of the club. The picnic featured grilled hot dogs and hamburgers along with salads and dessert in the gardens at the Howland Cultural Center. On August 2, the club will take a garden tour of Stonecrop Gardens in Cold Spring, NY followed by lunch at a local restaurant.



*Left: Civic Beautification in Action—A view of some of the 55 Hanging flower baskets adorning the lampposts of the downtown business district.*



*Above: District Director Gary Barrack with club members take part in the annual landscaping and planting of flowers at the Howland Cultural Center, which is home for the Club's meetings.*





FALL DISTRICT MEETING:  
**Golden Harvest**

*Gary Barrack, Director, Third District, Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.*

*Invites you to the Fall District Meeting*

**OCTOBER 19, 2017**

*Best Western Plus, 503 Washington Ave., Kingston, NY, 845-338-0400*

**REGISTRATION:** 9:30–11:30 a.m.

**VENDORS, EXHIBITS, COFFEE, TEA, AND WATER**

**STATION:** throughout the day

**WAYS AND MEANS AND RAFFLE TABLES:** 9:30 a.m.–noon

**BUSINESS MEETING:** 10:30–11:30 a.m.

**LUNCHEON:** Noon

\$30 (prepaid by October 2)

Menu: Choice of Herb-crusted Salmon, Chicken Marsala, or Vegetarian Lasagna; served with house salad, seasonal vegetables, rolls and butter, lemon meringue pie, iced and hot tea, and coffee.

**RAFFLE DRAWING:** 1 p.m.

**PROGRAM:** Denise Doring VanBuren, 1:15–2 p.m.

**RESERVATIONS:** Send Registration Form with attendees' name and menu choice with one check per club payable to Third District, FGCNYS, Inc. to:

Cindy Teator, Registrar;

8 Catskill Dr., Kinderhook, NY 12106

518-755-7086, [greateating@yahoo.com](mailto:greateating@yahoo.com).

**DIRECTIONS:** I-87 (Thruway) south and north to Exit 19.

Follow traffic circle (rotary) to Washington Ave. Hotel is on right, watch for sign!

**PROGRAM:** Denise Doring VanBuren—Historical Landscape Design in the Hudson River Valley

Denise Doring VanBuren is the Vice President of Public Relations for Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation, which she joined in 1993. A former radio and television journalist, she holds an undergraduate degree in Journalism and a Master's in Business Administration. An active community volunteer, Denise is a published author who currently serves on the boards of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce, Dutchess Tourism, Boscobel, Fishkill Rural Cemetery, and the Hudson River Valley Institute of Marist College. In addition, she is the elected first Vice President General of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and has served as Editor-in-Chief of the DAR's award-winning *American Spirit* magazine since 2004.

(See page 16 of this newsletter for registration form)

# GARDEN CLUBS OF GREENE-SCHOHARIE

*Carole Garvar, Chair*

Athens, Clematis, and Schoharie Valley Clubs have each enrolled three new members in the effort to sustain and grow membership.

**Athens Community Garden Club** was founded in 1941, 76 years ago and federated in 1973. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Zion Lutheran Church located at 102 N. Washington Street (Rt. 385) in Athens. Meetings are open and the public is welcome to attend. For information contact President Katherine Montag at 718-637-3101 or montagk@gmail.com. Community gardens are planted, holiday decorations are created and adorn public spaces, and an annual award contest is held for a private garden within the community. A scholarship of \$150 is awarded each year to a graduating senior and renewed for up to 4-years of continued education in a subject related to an appropriate field of study. September 14, noon: 'Delicious Living,' a luncheon with Kevin Jacobs, award-winning food and gardening guru will cook with local seasonal ingredients. October 19, 1 p.m.: 'Hydroponics: Growing Plants Without Soil' presented by Greg Draiss, lawn and garden business owner. Nov. 17, 11:30 a.m.: annual luncheon and auction will be held at Pegasus Restaurant located on Rt. 9W in Coxsackie. For reservations contact Anita Benjamin at 518-621-1554. Dec. 21, 1 p.m.: 'How to Build a Terrarium' by Laura Erwig and Mimi Greenfield, garden club members.

**Clematis Garden Club** was founded in 1940, 77 years ago and federated in 1961. Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Greenville Library. Meetings are open and the public is welcome to attend. For information contact President Jean Horn at 518-966-4260 or jhorn@aol.com. The club maintains

gardens in six surrounding communities. 'Garden of the Month' is awarded to best garden nominated in these areas from May through September. A horticulture award of \$200 is presented each year to a graduating student pursuing an education in this field. September 8, 1 p.m.: 'Newfoundland and Iceland,' a presentation by Joan Satterlee, a member of Clematis and Athens Garden Clubs. October 13, 1 p.m.: 'A Votre Sante—A Drink to Your Health.' Dwight Grimm and Leigh Van Swall will present a brief history of botanical spirits for medicinal and recreational purposes. November 17, noon: holiday luncheon for members at Mountain View Brasserie. December 8, 1 p.m.: Mary Lou Nahas, club member and her family will share a presentation of early decorations and Christmas trees from 1820 through the 1920s.

**Schoharie Valley Garden Club** was founded in 1947 and celebrated its 70th anniversary on August 2 at The American Hotel in Sharon Springs. Marie Muller a 50-year member was honored. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. and are held in public spaces or at the homes of members. For information contact President Anne Bielawski at 518-295-8809 or tom-anne@midtel.net The club plants at public places in five communities. Residential 'Garden of the Month' awards are presented from May through September. September 9: Garage plant and bake sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 139 Bridge Street, Schoharie. November 16: Annual flower show is held at the Schoharie Library corner of Bridge Street and Knower Avenue. December 6: Annual holiday luncheon and boutique. For more info call Marie Muller at 518-295-8698.

## WILDFLOWERS AND NATIVE PLANTS GARDENING

*by Doris Jackson, NGC Chairman: Wildflowers & Native Plants Gardening*

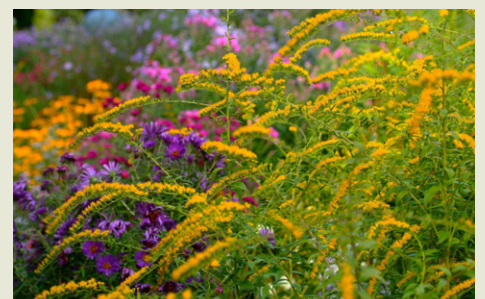
Wildflower and native plant gardens provide a unique, colorful landscape that is pollinator friendly and hardy in nature. Once plants have been established, these gardens require very little maintenance, yet provide vivid color and wildlife habitat for many years. Wildflowers are generally resistant to disease, and native plants have evolved to survive in their particular local climate.

It's easy to introduce wildflowers and native species to outdoor gardens, especially with a little research. Plant flowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees that are native to your area for a reliable base. Then feel free to experiment with other varieties that interest you that may be native to a warmer, or colder, climate.

Wildflower and native plant gardeners do their part to ensure our pollinators are safe. Local pollinating insects and animals are particularly drawn to native plants because they have coevolved with the species. In addition to being full of beautiful color, these gardens are a haven for bees, butterflies, and birds.

Planting native flowers and plants can make for a completely unique garden, but be careful that it doesn't become overgrown. Sometimes wildflowers and native plants can become invasive and problematic. Mowing around the perimeter of a wild garden can help solve this problem.

A wildflower and native plant garden can be a wonderful opportunity to teach children about the animal and plantlife that thrives around them. The wide variety of interesting species will draw their attention and give them a chance to better understand their native habitat.





# Clubs Calendar 2017

## September 7

Third District Field Trip  
Wethersfield House and Gardens, Millbrook, NY

## September 17–19

FGCNYS Fall Conference  
Best Western Plus, Kingston, NY.

## October 3–5

FGCNYS, Inc. Ninth District Flower Show School,  
Chappaqua, NY.

## October 19

District III Fall Meeting,  
Best Western Plus, Kingston, NY.

## October 25–26

Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Mini-Conference  
Annapolis, MD.

## November 16

Schoharie Valley Garden Club's Annual Flower Show  
Schoharie Library, Bridge St., Schoharie, NY

## WAYS & MEANS AND RAFFLE ITEMS: HELPFUL GUIDELINES FOR DISTRICT MEETINGS

### Ways & Means

Items clean and gently used, no clothes, and PRICED AT HOME BEFORE THE MEETING. Please remember to take home items left over. Thanks in advance!  
Marie Muller is the contact person: email: [bearly@midtel.net](mailto:bearly@midtel.net) or phone: 518-295-8698.

### Raffle Items

\$25 value, new items, wrapped nicely in a bag or basket. Thanks in advance!  
Camille McComb is the contact person: email: [cpmccomb@yahoo.com](mailto:cpmccomb@yahoo.com) or phone: 518-378-2480.

### Chart for District Meetings

This handy chart shows the dates of when your club will be responsible for providing either the Ways & Means items or for securing the Raffle bags/baskets.

Date	Ways & Means	Raffle Items
Fall 2017	Dutchess Co. GC	Albany Co. GCs
Spring 2018	Ulster Co. GCs & Board	Columbia Co. GCs
Fall 2018	Schenectady & Rensselaer	Ulster Co. GCs
Spring 2019	Greene/Schoharie & Board	Rensselaer & Board
Fall 2019	Albany & Columbia GCs	Greene/Schoharie
Spring 2020	Dutchess Co. GC	Schenectady Co. GCs
Fall 2020	Ulster Co. GCs	Columbia Co. GCs
Spring 2021	Columbia Co. GCs & Board	Albany Co. GCs
Fall 2021	Schenectady & Rensselaer	Dutchess & Board

*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](mailto:kjanson@aol.com).

To access *The Digest*, go to the State website—[fgcnys.com](http://fgcnys.com)—select District III on the home page and then select Digest Online.

## HOTEL INFORMATION

Best Western Plus  
503 Washington Avenue  
Kingston, NY 12401-2906  
845-338-0400

All hotel reservations are to be made directly to the hotel. To obtain the group rate, reservations are to be made prior to September 3, 2017. **Request the block of rooms listed for the Federated Garden Clubs of NYS.**

Located in the historic Stockade district of Kingston, the hotel offers a heated salt water pool, exercise room, full service bar and dining room, lounge area with fireplace, complimentary Wi-Fi, and concierge services. The First Capital Bistro serves a buffet breakfast from 7–10 a.m.

**Room rates:** FGCNYS: \$99 double room rate. Includes buffet breakfast for up to 2 people per room. Please reserve early.

**Directions:** By car, NYS Thruway Exit 19, second right on roundabout, hotel is ½ mile on the RIGHT.

## SPECIAL SELF-GUIDED TOUR

A self-guided tour of the historic Stockade District is available within walking distance from the hotel or if you prefer, drive with parking available. PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE NEXT PAGE IF YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT

## POSIES, PAINTINGS, AND POSTCARDS WORKSHOP

Create a personal posy postcard with Fran Heaney. Under Fran's tutelage, she will show you how to paint flowers and use your painting to adorn a postcard. PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE NEXT PAGE IF YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT.

## OTHER ATTRACTIONS

**Olana State Historic Site:** [www.olana.org](http://www.olana.org)

**Thomas Cole National Historic Site:**

[www.nps.gov/thco](http://www.nps.gov/thco)

## SPEAKERS

**Michele Peters**, AIFD, CFD was inducted into the American Institute of Floral Designers in 2016 as a Certified Floral Designer. She has been playing with flowers for over 30 years. She is the owner/designer of Ambiance Floral and Events located in Albany, NY. In addition, she was the chair of the floral design segment of the Capital Region Garden & Flower Show for many years, as well as the former chair of NY in Bloom.

**Dr. George W. Crosby** is a 1975 graduate of Chatham Central School and a 4-year recipient of a Garden Club of Kinderhook Scholarship. A member of the plant science faculty at SUNY Cobleskill, he teaches courses in Botany, Hydroponics, Greenhouse Management, Vegetable Production, and Irrigation. Since 2005, he has been involved with a vegetable production in Uganda, East Africa that includes growing moringa tree leaves to help combat nutrition.

**Sylvia Hasenkopf** is a professional historian, genealogist, author, and lecturer specializing in the historic Hudson River Valley of New York State with a focus on the Colonial and Revolutionary eras. Her expertise includes projects for historic sites such as the Thomas Cole National Historic Site, as well as on documentary films. Sylvia is an officer of the Cairo Historical Society and chief editor of their quarterly publication, *The Cairo Herald*.

**Fran Heaney** is a member of the Garden Club of Kinderhook. She graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She is a two time Emmy Award winner. At WPIX she drew courtroom cases, including Son of Sam, David Berkowitz, and Sid Vicious. She went on to help design CNN in Atlanta, the original TV Food Network, and redesigned QVC. Fran loves to paint in and around Columbia County.

## Federated Garden Clubs of New York State



### 67th Fall Conference and Meeting

September 17–19, 2017  
Best Western Plus  
Kingston, NY



*'Plant America—  
For a Cleaner, Greener,  
and Healthier World'*

Enjoy the Hudson Valley scenery, history, and the arts while in Kingston, NY. You'll have two days to network with colleagues, participate in the Judges' Council, enjoy vendor shopping, attend fabulous workshops and demonstrations, and experience the business of the FGCNYS, Inc.

Monica Hansen, State President  
Camille McComb, Chairman



## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Sunday, September 17

- 2–4 pm Self-guided tour of the Historic Stockade District. See reverse side for details.
- 4–5 pm Relax, swim, and mingle
- 5–6 pm Executive Committee Meeting
- 6–8 pm Informal Dinner. Lynne Arnold will give a presentation on 'The Blue Karner Butterflies and the Blue Lupines in the Albany Pine Bush.'

### Monday, September 18

- 7–10 am Buffet breakfast at the First Capital Bistro (on your own, open to hotel guests only)
- 8:30 am Registration. The Corridor
- 8:30 am–9 pm Vendor shopping and Exhibits. Garden Courtyard
- 9:30–10:30 am Board of Directors' Meeting
- 10:45–11:30 am Reconciliation Ecology, Barbara Campbell, presenter
- 11:30–Noon Cash Bar/Social. First Capital Bistro
- 12–2:15 pm Luncheon/Program. Speaker Dr. George W. Crosby
- 2:15–3:15 pm Judges' Council Program, open to all.
- 3:30–4:45 pm Judges' Council Chairman's Meeting. Nancy Schopf, Chairman. Closed meeting.

- 5–6 pm Vendor shopping in the Garden Courtyard. Cash bar at First Capital Bistro
- 6:15 pm Dinner/Evening Program. 'The History of Wine Making in the Hudson Valley.' Sylvia Hasenkopf, presenter.

### Tuesday, September 19

- 7–10 am Buffet breakfast at the First Capital Bistro (on your own, open to hotel guests only)
- 8:30–11:30 am Registration. The Corridor
- 8:30 am–12:30 pm Vendor shopping and Exhibits. Garden Courtyard
- 9:30–10:45 am Fall Conference, General Session. Awards presented.
- 10:45–11:30 am Workshop: 'Posies, Paintings, and Postcards' with Fran Heaney. Garden Courtyard.
- 11:30–Noon Cash Bar/Social. First Capital Bistro
- Noon–2 pm Luncheon/Program. Michele Peters, presenter. Raffle drawing after.



## REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
District: \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply:  Former FGCNYS President, Officer, or Board Member;  District Director;  NGC, CAR, or NYS Life Member;  NGC Flower Show Judge;  Club President;  Garden Club Member;  Guest/Spouse

**Full-Time Conference Attendance** includes all fees, meals, and programs in one convenient price: \$145.

**Part-Time Conference Attendance** means you choose what you want and pay accordingly.

Check one:  Full Time Conference Attendance:  
Amount Paid: \$145  
 Part Time Conference Attendance:  
Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Check your meal choice regardless of whether you are attending Full- or Part-time. **Note that prices indicated are for Part-time attendees only.**

- 1) Sunday Informal Dinner: (\$30 for PT)  
 Penne ala Vodka;  BBQ Chicken;  
 Big Bowl Sante Fe Salad
- 2) Monday Lunch: (\$40 for PT)  
 Rigatoni with Broccoli;  Baked Cod Filet  
 Chicken Parmesan
- 3) Monday Dinner: (\$45 for PT)  
 Four Cheese Vegetable Ravioli ;  
 Chicken Milanese;  Prime Rib;  
 Herb-roasted Salmon
- 4) Tuesday Lunch: (\$45 for PT)  
 Chicken Francaise;  Vegetarian Lasagna  
 Filet of Sole

Please list any dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here to sign up for a self-guided tour of the Historic Stockade District. Sunday, 2–4 pm. No charge.  
 Check here to sign up for the Posies, Paintings, and Postcards workshop, Tuesday, 10:30–11:30 am. No charge.

**Mail this form with check payable to: FGCNYS, Inc.**

Lynne Arnold, Registrar, 68 Merritt Lane, Newburgh, NY 12550, larnold@ix.netcom.com, 845-787-5220

**Deadline for reservations and refunds is August 28.**

**Late fee after that date is \$20.**





