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# D I G E S T

## Director's Message

It is another warm morning here as I write this Director's Message to go in the next Digest. I am enjoying the beautiful fall colors. As we drove to Saugerties yesterday to attend the Fall District Meeting the colors were just right. When I arrived home there was an e-mail from my elder daughter who lives in Brazil. Their seasons are changing also, but since they are below the equator they are going into summer as we progress into fall.

The meeting was great! We held our elections for a new District Director and her board. Congratulations to all of them! The room where we met was beautiful. The tables were all set in a wall of windows so we could see the water, the swans and the manicured golf course. The food was delicious! I had the lobster croissant, and it was the biggest croissant I had ever seen and filled to overflowing with lobster meat. Yummy!

The speaker was also outstanding. We keep having floral designers, hoping that your club will catch the bug to produce a flower show or, at least, introduce some arrangements into your library or historical home. The room was large enough so that we didn't have to sit at the tables as the speaker presented. We had chairs arranged in front of him, so it was easy for us to see and hear everything..

District clubs have had some great flower shows this season—Germantown, Pine Plains and Kinderhook among them. Did you put aside some time to visit them? To do your own judging? Or to congratulate them on their great work? Be sure to do that soon.

Congratulations go to our Kinderhook and Saugerties clubs, which are both 90 years old! Isn't that exciting? My own Greenbush club is celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year! How about the rest of you? Do you have a big one coming up?

The question of having a workshop meeting was brought up, and it looks like the next one will include questions and answers as to why we are Federated, plus learning exactly what each board chairman and each club

*continued on page 2*



A slate of District officers to serve two-year terms beginning in April, 2015, was elected at the District Fall Meeting in Saugerties. To be installed at the Spring, 2015, District meeting are:

**Director (pictured at left)**  
**1st Asst. Director**  
**2nd Asst. Director**  
**Recording Secretary**  
**Corresponding Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**Asst. Treasurer**

**Camille McComb**  
**Heddy Qualtieri**  
**Diana Buchan**  
**Erna Gundlach**  
**Joan Satterlee**  
**Diana Madden**  
**Gary Barrack**

Continued from page 1

officer really should be doing for the District or for their club. Sound good? We will announce it shortly.

Three clubs have done great work with youth this year. Guilderland met with the middle school and asked for volunteers to design the cover of their next year book. They had 12 cover designs submitted, and the club had a reception to announce the winner and the two honorable mentions. (see page 9) All the artists were invited as were their families. It was held at the town library and every design had been framed and hung on the walls. We also saw the new year book with the winning cover.

The Greenbush club offered grants of money to schools and libraries to submit plans for gardens in which the local children could work with the adults to plant, care for and harvest vegetables. Three organizations took them up on the offer and the gardens were a huge success.

The Athens club worked with their public schools on the poems and Smokey the Bear posters. They evidently did a good job because they received awards when they were given out at the meeting.

Enjoy your autumn and let us know what you are doing.

*Olive Felio,*  
Director

## Scholarships

College students always appreciate a monetary aid to further their education.

National Garden Clubs, Central Atlantic Region and Federated Garden Clubs of New York State have scholarships to offer. Anyone who has completed at least one year in a college program and who expects to continue in one of the following fields is eligible to apply: horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, botany, plant biology, forestry, conservation, agronomy, environmental studies, city planning, land management, wildlife science or other allied subjects.

### FGCNYS School Scholarships

These scholarships may be awarded through each District and are non-competitive. One paid full

course scholarship per calendar year will, upon application from the District Director, be granted to a member of each District to attend one course in any Landscape Design Study School, Gardening Study School, Environmental Studies School or NYS Horticulture School.

Each FGCNYS School Scholarship includes the fee for the course and may include the examination fee, but does not include transportation or other expenses. The scholarship may NOT be used for a symposium taken for credit or in any school as a refresher.

### Grants

Colleges, botanical gardens and other worthy institutions are invited to apply for a FGCNYS grant to continue their enhancement projects.

For additional information and application forms for any of the above, contact:

Jean E. Stapleton  
FGCNYS Grant/Scholarship Chair  
725 Johnson Avenue  
Herkimer, NY 13350-1641  
(315) 866-1642

## Design



Photography has been added to flower shows, and is included in the Special Exhibit Division. In the Summer 2014 issue of *The National Gardener*, on page 35, are the criteria for rating the photography.

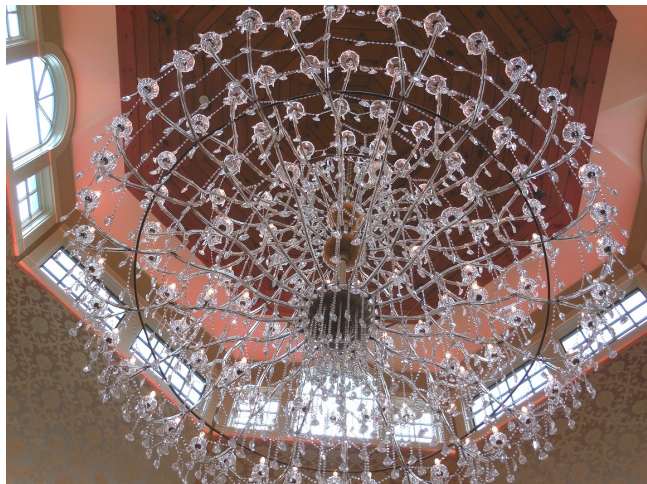
Dorothy Yard, NGC FSS Chair, lists the grading as follows:

Conformance.....	5
Class Interpretation.....	10
Composition.....	25
Artistry/Creativity.....	25
Tech. Achievement.....	25
Distinction.....	10

*Antoinette Bab6*  
Design Chair

# Third District Fall Meeting

## The Lazy Swan, Saugerties



attended by 119 members from 22 District clubs



Presenter David Sider and some of his designs



*It's never too early to start thinking about next year's garden*

## Planning a Wildflower Border

Clear area of weeds and vines. Set plants in a empty bed or in established garden, covering new additions with branches and leaves to camouflage and protect plants from animals. For a woodland border use an existing tree to shade new additions or plant one appropriate to site along with a shrub(s) and wildflowers. For an open area, plants may be set in the existing sod or an area cleared and replanted with both plants and seeds. Dead head and remove weeds to allow growth of new planting. Some suggested plants:

### Woodland

Fothergilla  
 Cercis canadensis  
 Lindera benzoin  
 Kalmia latifolia  
 Gillenia trifoliata  
 Viola labradorica  
 Mertensia virginica  
 Dicentra cucullaria  
 Uvularia grandiflora  
 Hepatica nobilis  
 Sanguinaria canadensis  
 Polygonatum canaliculatum  
 Digitalis purpurea



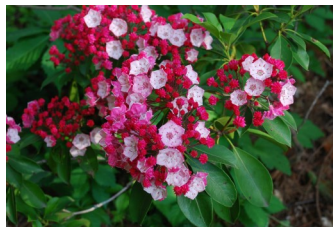
### Moist areas, stream and pond margins

Amelanchier canadensis  
 Lindera benzoin  
 Viburnum trilobum  
 Clethra alnifolia  
 Lobelia cardinalis  
 Lobelia siphilitica  
 Caltha palustris  
 Podophyllum peltatum  
 Chelone glabra  
 Tradescantia virginiana  
 Iris versicolor  
 Lysimachia clethroides  
 Geum rivale



### Open Areas

Aquilegia canadensis  
 Iris cristata  
 Geranium maculata  
 Anemone canadensis  
 Penstemon digitalis  
 Asclepias syriaca  
 Asclepias tuberosa  
 Rudbeckia hirta  
 Oenothera fruticosa  
 Monarda didyma  
 Monarda fistulosa



*Lynne Arnold,*  
**Wildflowers Chair**



# Awards

presented at Fall District Meeting

*From the Spring, 2014, State Meeting*

**Flower Show Schedule:** "A Taste of Herb" - Second Place. Germantown GC

**Standard Flower Show:** "A Taste of Herb" - First Place, Citation and Small Tray Germantown GC

**Small Standard Flower Show:** "Illuminations" - First Place, Citation and Small Tray, Community GC of Marlborough.

**Garden Therapy Citation:** Van Rensselaer Manor Nursing Home. Greenbush GC

**Historic Preservation:** Landscape Design - First Place, Greenbush GC

**Historic Preservation:** Landscape Design - Second Place, Clematis GC

**Historic Preservation:** Church Gardens - Second Place, GC of Kinderhook.

**Historic Preservation:** Historic Decorations - Second Place, GC of Kinderhook.

**Civic Concern:** Historic Preservation - First Place, Guilderland GC

**Civic Development:** - First Place: Clematis GC

**Increased Membership:** Athens Community GC, Catskill GC, Clematis GC, Greenbush GC, Tioronda GC

## **World Gardening**

**Certificates:** Coxsackie GC, Hillside Acres GC, Greenbush GC, Clematis, GC, New Paltz GC, Shawangunk GC, Catskill GC, Country Gardens of Clifton Park, Greenport GC, Schoharie Valley GC. Athens Community GC, Guilderland GC, Claverack GC, Tongore GC, Community GC of Marlborough, Saugerties Society of Little Gardens, Germantown GC, GC of Kinderhook, H. Gilbert Harlow GC and Marion Tate

**Largest Contribution by a Club-Award #14-Di:** Shawangunk GC

**Largest Contribution Increase- Award #14-C:** Shawangunk GC

**The Annual Lucy Staley Memorial World Gardening Award:** (plus a check for \$25, given to the club with the highest per capita contribution): Shawangunk GC.

**Largest Contribution by a District:** District III

**Peg King Memorial Flower Show Citation:** (an unsolicited District award given in the form of a citation and a \$50 check) GC of Kinderhook.

**Youth Citations:** Athens Community Garden Club.

Smokey Bear Contest Citations - 1. Ayden Osstrander , Gianna Greco Bryee Tallman

*From the FGCNYS Fall Conference in September:*

**Club Recognition:** Catskill GC, Clematis GC, Germantown GC, Greenbush GC, Marlborough GC, Saugerties Society of Little Gardens

**Club Anniversary Citations:** 40 years-Hillside Acres GC; 80 years-Pine Plains GC; 85 years-Shawangunk GC, 90 years-GC of Kinderhook and Saugerties Society of Little Gardens



### **Yearbooks - District and State Awards**

**Class 1** (under 20 members) **State:** Schoharie Valley GC, Second Place; **District:** Schoharie Valley GC, First Place; Catskill GC, Second Place

**Class 2** (20-29 members) **District:** Greenport GC, First Place; H. Gilbert Harlow GC, Second Place; Garden Explorers, Third Place; Guilderland GC, Honorable Mention

**Class 3** (30-44 members) **State:** Germantown GC, First Place; **District:** Germantown GC, First Place; New Paltz GC, Second Place; Athens Community GC, Third Place; Community GC of Marlborough, Honorable Mention

**Class 4** (45-69 members) **State:** Shawangunk GC, Honorable Mention; **District:** Shawangunk GC, First Place; GC of Kinderhook, Second Place; Clematis GC, Third Place; Tioronda GC, Honorable Mention

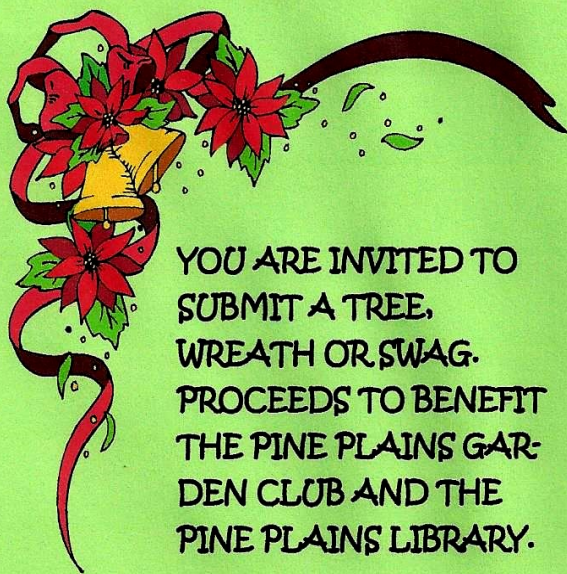
### **National Garden Clubs Awards**

**Certificate of Commendation** — Landscape Design for Church Gardens: Greenbush GC

**Certificate of Commendation** — Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker: Clematis GC

**NGC Award #44B, Press Book** — Central Atlantic Region: First Place, Group of Clubs: Columbia County Garden Clubs

**NGC Award #44-Ai, Press Book**— Central Atlantic Region: First Place, Small Club: Greenport GC



YOU ARE INVITED TO  
SUBMIT A TREE,  
WREATH OR SWAG.  
PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT  
THE PINE PLAINS GAR-  
DEN CLUB AND THE  
PINE PLAINS LIBRARY.



PINE PLAINS  
GARDEN CLUB  
&  
PINE PLAINS  
LIBRARY  
FESTIVAL OF  
TREES

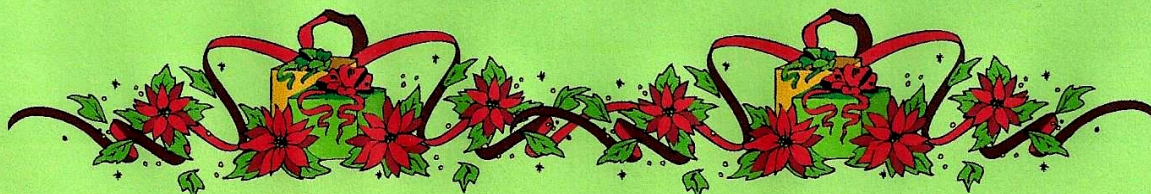
SILENT AUCTION

NOVEMBER 8 -29, 2014

Held @ Pine Plains

Library

RULES & ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE @ THE LIBRARY



# In Our Clubs

## Greene-Schoharie County Day...

"Beauty of the Hudson River," held on August 21, was a great success. The tour of the Cole House, home of Thomas Cole, father of the Hudson River School of art, drew rave reviews. The luncheon at Pegasus Restaurant in Coxsackie was delicious, and the speaker, Larry Federman, was educational and enlightening. Larry is the Education Coordinator for three Audubon preserves and is an expert on birds. His PowerPoint presentation featured "21st Century Damsels and Dragons," otherwise known as odonates, or dragonflies and damselflies.

Larry Federman



Seventy-two people attended, including District 3 Director Olive Felio. At least 12 people from the Albany area joined us. In a spirit of cooperation all five garden clubs worked together to create a unique and rewarding event.

*Mary Lou Nahas*

## Athens

The Athens Community Garden Club is gearing up for its annual Holiday Luncheon and Auction at noon on November 13th at Pegasus Restaurant, Route 9W, Coxsackie.

Chairperson Anita Benjamin describes this event as an Auction for Everyone. In addition to the excitement of a live auction, beginning at 1:30 p.m., Ms. Benjamin will also be overseeing both Chinese and Silent auctions starting before lunch at 11:30 a.m.. Club members have been encouraged to provide an array of "make or bake" items to tempt the audience but as usual, the *super-secret* Terry Baker items will garner the most good-natured competition from the audience before the gavel falls.

This popular garden club activity is open to all, and anyone interested in attending is encouraged to contact Ms. Benjamin at (518) 945-1117 for more details. The \$19 luncheon menu will feature a choice of salmon, pork loin or a vegetarian special. Checks payable to the Athens Community Garden Club should be mailed to P.O. Box 233, Athens, NY 12015 indicating the menu choice for the luncheon. Come alone to meet old and new friends or put together a group looking for a lively and fun-filled afternoon.

*Jane Hale*

## Clematis

Clematis Garden Club presented Garden of the Month awards from June through September to individuals in the communities which the club serves. Recipients cannot be garden club members. This garden in Oak Hill was recognized in September. Last year the site was a barren hillside. This year it is a garden the community is proud of.

At the October meeting Clematis member Jane Hershey presented a PowerPoint program on the topic "Inviting Pollinators into our Gardens." She stressed the importance of pollinators for food production and viable seeds





and illustrated what happens without sufficient pollination.

Clematis officers for 2015 elected at the October meeting are from left Clara Potter, corresponding secretary; Mary Heisinger, president; Cathy McEneny and Jean Horn, vice presidents; Marie Hennings (in front) treasurer; and Jeanne Strausman, recording secretary. Officers will be installed by County Chairman Carole Garvar at the November luncheon meeting at the Freehold firehouse. Members will bring centerpieces for the tables.

On December 12 the club will meet for a roundtable discussion, sharing what worked best for them in the garden this year and their plans for next year. Members are encouraged to bring holiday floral arrangements to inspire others to create their own and to bring greens to swap and wrapped gifts for nursing home residents.

*Mary Lou Nahas*

## Germantown



This year, the Germantown Garden Club came up with a great theme for 2014: "Gardening Gone Wild." For our programs and activities, we are looking at gardening differently and in unconventional ways.

Our 86th annual Flower Show took place on September 13 and 14 at the Palatine Parsonage in Germantown. Our theme this year was "Into the Wild." We included a bulb and corm horticulture section in our show for the first time. We had a good showing of this offering. Usually we include roses in all our shows, but we learned from our judges that it is best not to include plants that would not be at their peak performance. So a good take away to everyone—offer roses in a June show, don't offer them in September when they are not at their peak.

*Mimi Brauch's winning Still Life exhibit "Around the Campfire" won the Award of Design Excellence at this year's show.*

In September, we participated in the Columbia County Fair. Our exhibit was all about our Gardening Gone Wild theme. We presented plants that could be foraged from our gardens, lawns and landscapes. The exhibit included a wild cat taxidermy that fit in nicely.



For October, our club visited a very unusual park, OMI International Arts Center, in Ghent, NY. OMI is situated on 300 acres of rolling farmland with spectacular views of the Catskills and the Hudson River Valley. The Fields Sculpture Park is a public exhibition space featuring over 80 contemporary sculptures. The park provides thousands of visitors the opportunity to experience the impact of important international contemporary sculpture in a striking natural setting. We had an enlightening time visiting this park to see the impact of how art in a natural environment can be so related.

This December, the club will hold its annual holiday open house. For the first time, we will feature a mini horticultural display on what plants to give as presents for the holidays and how to take care of them. The show, called "Houseplants for the Holidays," will take place on December 6, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and on December 7 1-3 p.m. at the Palatine Parsonage, 52 Maple Ave., Germantown. A sale of wreaths and table arrangements created by members will also be held. We hope you can join us! For more information, call Fran Bufi (518)-537-4868.

*Karin Janson*

## Greenport



The Greenport Garden Club has been "greening" the community. Our activities have included: placing a weekly floral arrangement at the Columbia County Health Consortium lobby July through September into October. One of these arrangements is shown at left.

The Greenport Town Hall gardens have been cared for through the season - planted, maintained and cleaned to be put to bed for the winter.

Erin Brady from Crazy Daisy guided us through a club project of making autumn wreaths that transition the season beautifully as they dry. Pictured, left to right, with autumn wreaths: Paige Dasilva, Cindi Hockenberry, Lynn Kowalski and Carolyn West

The Arts Walk in Hudson in October provided a perfect place for our club to introduce to many our hand-crafted hypertufa. Several club members crafted the planters, planted small plants/succulents in them and headed for the Seventh Street Park to sell them. Many visitors had never seen the beautiful planters before, and they were snapped up by college students and seasoned gardeners, alike.

For the Christmas season we will be continuing our community "greening" efforts - floral design for the Health Consortium lobby, swags for the Greenport Town Hall, several entries for the Gallery of Wreaths and decorating for Winter Walk in Hudson.



*Yetta Teo*

## Guilderland

In 1964 a group of ladies with a love for gardening, flower design and making floral arrangements established the Guilderland Garden Club. In celebration of its 50th anniversary, the club sponsored an art contest over the summer to create an original design for the cover of our Anniversary Yearbook. Requirements for the contest were developed with the help of Sheila Elario, Instructional Administrator for Art in the Guilderland Central School District. The contest was open to all students entering grades 6, 7 or 8 at the Farnsworth Middle School in September. The cover design had to be original work done by the student and promote the love of gardening and/or floral design. Judging of the entries was done by a committee consisting of Sheila Elario, Guilderland Garden Club President Merril-Lee Lenegar and Maureen McNamara, coordinator of the contest. Twelve entries were received. All were displayed at the Guilderland Public Library in September, and on September 23 a reception was held at the library for the students and their family and friends. The winning entry was done by Anna Brust, a seventh-grade student. She was awarded a \$50 gift card.



Members of the Guilderland Garden Club (Tom Revitt, Joan Revitt, Marguerite Hill, Maureen McNamara, Merril-Lee Lenegar, Linda Miller, Wilma Marshall, Judi Golombiski, Nancy Stahl and Carol Samsonoff) were joined by Third District Director Olive Felio (fourth from left in the back) at the presentation of the award to Anna Brust.

*Merril-Lee Lenegar*

# Kinderhook

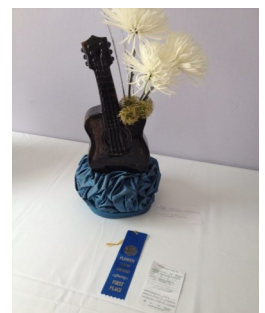
The Garden Club of Kinderhook had a busy summer celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. On June 5<sup>th</sup> the club held a "Celebration 90" party for members of Third District and was awarded a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration by Chris Gibson, a member of Congress. Then in August "Celebration 90," a Standard Flower Show, was held at the James Vanderpoel House in Kinderhook. Design class themes depicted events, fashions and trends of each decade of the club's existence. The show was enjoyed by not only its members but by the public as well. Thank you to all who came to view and those who participated.

*Renee Benenati and Pat Leary,  
Co-chairs*



Some of the club members who pitched in to make our "Celebration 90" SFS a real celebration.

*Editor's note:* Some of our decades had more than one representation—there were 16 design classes! Ours is a good-sized club, but we would be hard put to come up with 64 arrangements by members. Thus members of other District clubs and non-club local residents were invited to contribute. This broadened community interest in the show—we drew approximately twice as many attendees as at previous shows.



## To Members of Third District

**You are cordially invited to see  
Renee's lavishly decorated tree**

**Open house from one to four**

**Sweets, savories, camaraderie and more**

**On the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of December**

**At 18 Broad St. in Kinderhook – Remember?**



## From the Editor

As I write this, we still haven't had a hard frost so, technically, the 2014 growing season is not over. Quite a few leaves remain on the trees—the reds are particularly stunning.

Health problems have somewhat limited my gardening this year, but most plants managed to take care of themselves pretty well. Flowering shrubs were especially energetic. I've had lots of time to think about the plot of my fifth mystery novel, which I see no reason shouldn't be finished by the time spring rolls around. The other four are available on Amazon.



Last November I wrote about less than cordial relations with my new computer. Alas, things have deteriorated rather than improved. I used to be puzzled by friends who told me that they'd tried computing but just didn't care for it. How could they stand to miss out on the internet, email, social networks, all that good stuff? How could they not Google, Skype, have a digital field day with pictures?. Now I think I get it. I have this fantasy about picking up my uncooperative laptop and hurling it out the nearest window. I'm much too sensible to do that, of course, and anyhow, I'd want to wait for warmer weather to break a window. It's probably good brain cell exercise to figure out how to reroute things through one's iPad, but it certainly does slow one down.

Which is to say is that if material you've sent me for this Digest hasn't gotten included or is strangely garbled, you should blame it on Microsoft, HP, or my service provider. I intend to take that route.

*Maryann*

# Happy Holidays

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 with other clubs. Unlike in print newsletters, there is no prohibitive cost factor for using color. Pictures don't cost extra either, and they can be saved, downloaded and printed whenever you wish. Articles on various gardening and flower arranging topics are also welcome.

Material for The Digest should be sent to Maryann Weber, snail mail 2300 Spruce Drive, Valatie NY, 12184; or email [junco@fairpoint.net](mailto:junco@fairpoint.net). Unformatted copy and jpeg pictures are easiest to work with.

Some District III members seem to have trouble accessing this online version of The Digest . I'm not sure what the problem is, but perhaps they don't have an Adobe Acrobat Reader (free download from Adobe) on their computers, or some other program that can open PDF files. With that, you simply go to the State website - [fgcnys.com](http://fgcnys.com) - select District III on the home page and then select Digest Online.