

The DIGEST

MAY 2010

Director's Message

Spring greetings to all!

What a joy it is to see the trees blossoming and the flowers blooming. Another winter has passed and we are thinking of all the gardening which needs to be done and the new plants we would like. Have you noticed our bodies seem to get tired quicker? Wonder why?

As I write this *Digest* article I am pondering the District's dilemma over the cost of publishing the *Digest*. As with everything else the cost has risen and the District is losing money. Each member was asked to pay \$4 for a year's subscription. Very few have subscribed. Club presidents and board members receive them free. However, most of the board members buy the *Digest*. We encourage everyone to subscribe.

The *Digest* contains great information and is a link between the clubs and the District. Individuals can submit material to the editor, Maryann Weber. She is always delighted to receive these articles. So — why not send your \$4 in to the District Treasurer, Marge Lansing. Some clubs include the cost of the *Digest* in their dues and the entire club subscribes. It is so important that we all keep well informed and take advantage of this. Being a part is what garden clubs are about.

On a lighter note, I had a chipmunk who I thought was so cute. He would sit near me when outside and look up as if to say "hello." Well, I don't think he is so cute anymore. I was recently at my son's home in south Jersey. I bought several dollars worth of beautiful pansies. I came home and set them on my garage floor until I



Some award winners at the Third District Spring Meeting April 15th at Pegasus Restaurant. pose with Director Marie Muller (center). For more pictures, see pages 4 and 5.

could plant them. The next day, I drove in and there was not one flower left on them and many were eaten nearly off. What a gourmet salad he had eaten. Right now he sits outside my sliding glass door on the deck looking in as if "where is my dinner?"

Wasn't our District meeting on April 15 great? A special thanks goes to Renee Benenati for all. Of course, thanks go to all those who worked on the

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event. Tell your friends about our Fall meeting on October 21, 2010. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Until next time — have a great gardening experience this summer. Remember we must all participate in the District and FCCNYS activities to really enjoy garden clubbing. Why not ask a friend to a club meeting or event. They might want to join.

Your District Director,

Marie

Enter to Win! Yearbooks

Club yearbooks for the annual contest should be sent to Barbara Campbell, 14 Deerpath Drive, New Paltz, NY 12561-2811 by June 1, 2010.

Note change: Please send **four** copies

New State Office Hours

Effective immediately, the State's business office, located in Guilderland, NY, will be open Tuesday and Wednesday only for the months of June and July from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. During the remainder of the year, the office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office manager, Jack Holmes, may be reached during those hours at (518) 869-6311.

Landscape Design

Garden Magicians

Vines, like magicians, can perform marvelous feats in the landscape. Vines can provide privacy for a desired area without waiting for trees and shrubs to grow tall, can give shade to sit under in a sunny spot by growing over a pergola or other type of frame. can camouflage almost anything that the gardener doesn't want to look at. Vines can give a riot of color, delicious fragrance, cover a blank wall or fence or make a needed focal point in the landscape.

Garden books show pictures of the glory of an ages-old wisteria vine, the spectacular autumn color of a wall covered with flaming Virginia creeper, or of an intimate seating area sheltered by clematis vines. Browse to see which vines most appeal to you.

Vines differ in the ways they climb and attach to whatever support they are to cover. Some have stems that twine around the support, some have tendrils that grow around the support, and some have root-like adhesive hold-fasts that cling to brick, stone or masonry walls.

It is important to know how the vine you plant grows and climbs — whether it is a grabber, a twiner or a clinger. References such as *America's Garden Book* provide this information, as well as cultural needs and uses.

In a nostalgic mood, a gardener remembers a particular vine from a long-ago garden ...heavenly scented morning glories, moonflowers or honeysuckle, perhaps. Planting the right vine is a very personal choice for any gardener.

Helen Nelson

(reprinted from May 1996 Digest)



Arboreta

This month the Cary Arboretum is featured. Also known as the Institute of Ecosystems Studies, this is a 2024-acre research property in Millbrook, NY.

Searching for a weekend retreat, Standard Oil heiress Mary Flagler Cary and her husband Melbert purchased 14 farms and other properties in the vicinity of Mary's childhood home. These properties contained many maple frees which Mary called her favorites.

After the couple's deaths, the Cary Trustees chose the New York Botanical Garden to be custodian of the property. Under the direction of Dr. Gene B. Likens an Institute of Ecosystems was formed and to this day, conferences



and continuing education programs are held at the Institute. There are five miles of paved roads, two nature trails, experimental gardens and an often visited fern glen. Many of the events held at the arboretum are free and open to the public. Schedules and other information can be accessed on the web at: <http://www.ecostudies.org/events.html>.

The Cary Arboretum is located in northern Dutchess County, approximately 70 miles north of New York City and more or less the same distance south of Albany. The Plant Science Building, Auditorium and Gifford House are on Sharon Turnpike, also known as Route 44. From April 1st to October 31st, the trails are open from sunrise to sunset. The internal roadway gates open at 8:30 a.m.; gates are locked at 7 p.m.

Janet Wierzchowski

NOT FOR PROFIT STATUS

Listed below are the Third District clubs that have been included in the FGCNYS, Inc. group exemption inclusion to qualify as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Each club has been notified in writing as to their status. This group exemption inclusion does require that each club in the inclusion file an "e-postcard" with the Internal Revenue Service by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of their fiscal year. Each subsidiary is deemed to have the same fiscal year end as the parent i.e. the last day of February. This filing is done online at the IRS website — www.irs.gov. There is no fee to file and no penalty for failure to file. However, failure to file for three years will terminate the club's not-for-profit status.

The Clubs in the inclusion for the FGCNYS, Inc. year ending February 28, 2010 are:

Coxsackie Garden Club, New Paltz Garden Club, Greenbush Garden Club, Schoharie Valley Garden Club, Greenport Garden Club, Shawangunk Garden Club.

If you have any questions, please contact Marge Lansing, Finance Committee, FGCNYS, Inc. at 518-785-6312 or grannymar2@nycap.rr.com.

Marge Lansing

Spring District Meeting



Representatives of the four Columbia County garden clubs that participated in the award-winning "The Vanderpoel Christmas Tea," a holiday Standard Flower Show staged in a historic Kinderhook house.

Director Marie Muller with Brett Van Zandt, who spoke to attendees about creating a regional botanical garden in the Capital District area.



Featured
presenter
Carl Lemanski
and some of
his creations.



Club News

Athens Community Garden Club

Students of the E. J. Arthur Elementary School in Athens were recently the recipients of poetry awards for poems written in the spring of 2009, a project sponsored by the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State and the Athens Community Garden Club. Carole Garvar, President and Olga Cascione, Poetry Chairman, presented 109 citations to the students; some have moved on to the Middle School and have had their own ceremony. Of the 109 poems, 25 have been published in the New York State Anthology of Poetry, and the E. J. Arthur School is the only one represented. New poems have been written for the 2010 contest.

Gene Marie Green



Greenport Garden Club



Photo by Yetta Teo

At the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State Third District Spring Meeting held at Pegasus Restaurant on April 15th, the Greenport Garden Club received five state awards. "We also received eleven design awards last December for the Columbia County Christmas Tea Flower Show held at the Vanderpoel House.

Pictured from left to right are Cynthia Atkinson, Maria Kolodziej-Zincio, Cecelia Sinclair, Yetta Teo, Sue Dillhoff, Dorothy Brown, Carolyn West, Marge Groll and Kathy Bucholsky.



Pictured are some of the arrangements Columbia County Garden Club members created to interpret exhibits at the New York museum's February New York in Bloom show.

The event featured over 100 spectacular floral arrangements, each one designed to interpret a museum exhibition. It is the museum's signature fundraising event for recognized after-school programs for children and teens.



An Invitation



Dear Garden Clubs:

Your garden group shares a common interest with the Vanderbilt Garden Association — the nurturing and love of gardens. Our Association members have been engaged in the rehabilitation of the formal gardens at the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site for over 25 years. These terraced gardens encompass several levels, featuring annuals, perennials and roses. You can preview our gardens through our website at <http://www.vanderbiltgardens.org> as well as on Facebook.

Although the photographs and descriptions on these sites give you an idea of how the gardens look, there is nothing to compare with seeing the gardens in person. Our Association wants to share these beautiful gardens with as many people as possible. We will be giving tours for the general public on the third Sunday of each month from 1 p. m. to 4 p.m. beginning in May and concluding in October. And, we are happy and eager to do individual tours for garden groups such as yours.

We hope you will accept our invitation to schedule a tour for your group this year. You may either telephone or e-mail me (845) 473-5957 or sgillespie@hvc.it.com. We will be delighted to welcome you, walk with you through the gardens, and share their history as well as our experiences in their ongoing rehabilitation and maintenance. There is no charge for tours, but as a self-sustaining organization we welcome and appreciate donations to support this challenging project.

Sincerely,

Susan Gillespie,
Volunteer Guide Coordinator

Awards

FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF NYS

Flower Show Schedules

Second Place: Group of Clubs — Award #314A.b.d:
"Celebrating Hudson: The Dutch Connection"
Greenport and Claverack Garden Clubs

First Place: Award #31 A.d: .1-29 members
"400 Years On The Hudson"
Germantown Garden Club

First Place: Award #31A.b.d: 100+ members
"The Vanderpoel Christmas Tea"
Columbia County Garden Clubs

Flower Shows

Honorable Mention: Flower Show in a Public Building:

Germantown Garden Club

Second Place: Holiday Show Citation #38:
Columbia County Garden Clubs

First Place: Flower Show in a Public Building:
Claverack and Greenport Garden Clubs
Also given to each of these clubs is Award #40,
which includes a check in the amount of \$25.

Miscellaneous Awards

Second Place: Youth Achievement Award #91:
Greenport Garden Club

Second Place: Publication Award #76B,a.5-Calendar
Germantown Garden Club

First Place: Publication Award #76A.1.a-Leaflet
Germantown Garden Club

Pressbooks

Small clubs up to 29 members):
Honorable Mention: Catskill Garden Club
Second Place: Greenport Garden Club
Group of Clubs, Councils, Districts
Second Place: Columbia County Garden Clubs
Medium Club: 30-39 members)
Honorable Mention: Germantown. Garden Club

World Gardening

Water for Sudan

Award #18e — Largest Contribution by a Club:
Athens Community Garden Club
New Paltz Garden Club
Tongore Garden Club

individual World Gardening Citations:

Mary R. Ginouves, Elane L. Seltzer, Patricia Sama, Jennie Kenas, Mary Roff, Margaret Chippari, Catherine Azzone. Joanne C. Armstrong, Carole Garvar, Erna Gundlach, Ursula Feeney, Bonnie Finkenaur

Citations for Various Clubs — Donation of \$25 or more:

Athens, Catskill, Clematis, Community GC of Marlborough, Country GC of Clifton Park, Coxsackie, Dutchess Garden Study, Kinderhook, Greenbush, Greenport, Germantown, Glen Oaks, Guilderland, H. Gilbert Harlow, Helderview, Hillandale, Hillside Acres, Little Gardens of Kingston, New Paltz, Saugerties, Schoharie Valley, Shawangunk, Tongore

World Gardening Citations Presented to Third District:

Award #18a — Outstanding program of activity in promoting World Gardening
Award #18c: Largest monetary increase in club contributions in a District
Award #18d: 100% of club contributions
Award #18e: Largest contribution by a District

CENTRAL ATLANTIC REGION

High School Essay

First Place, and a check for \$100:
Vivian Chen, Grade 12, sponsored by Country Garden Club of Clifton Park

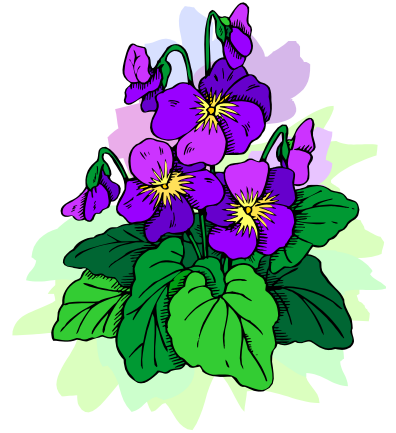


Patricia Blundell

Horticulture

Among the first signs of spring in many of our gardens are the leaves of violets (*Viola odorata*) peeking up from the newly thawed soil.

Violets spread easily in most fertile soils that are somewhat acidic (pH 5.5-7.0) and have a preference for partial shade. They are good groundcovers under trees and shrubs. A number of violets are tender in this area and may be grown either in a greenhouse or cooler areas of the home, such as a sun-room or bright window. These plants should be container-grown and planted in a mixture of bark, peat and sand. Water them regularly and fertilize in spring fertilization after they bloom.



Insect problems are not numerous. Outdoors, slugs and snails can be troublesome, while red spider mites must be guarded against with container-grown plants.

Elizabeth Hain

If you'd like to be alerted when future Digests become available online, let me know at junco@fairpoint.net. I'll also welcome news of your club's events, pictures and suggestions for stories you'd like to see in upcoming Digests.

Maryann

Coming Up

May 20	Third District Board Meeting, Pegasus, Coxsackie
June 14-16	State Symposium, Holiday Inn, Binghamton
July 15	Deadline for August Digest copy
	Columbia County Day, Dutch Reformed Church, Claverack, 11 a.m.—3 p.m.
Sept. 13-15	State Fall Conference, Otesaga Inn, Cooperstown

To list your club's events on the next **Digest** calendar, send information to editor Maryann Weber, 2300 Spruce Drive, Valatie 12184 or e-mail junco@fairpoint.net by July 15, 2010.