

The DIGEST

AUGUST 2012

From the Director

Savoring summer when it's hot and dry is somewhat difficult, but memories will linger when days become cool. Every day is a wonder with gardens to behold, enjoy and appreciate. Mine, however, has been neglected, with weeds being triumphant.

This Director attended the National Garden Clubs convention "Explore the Wonders" in Buffalo in May and experienced a beautifully organized Conference in an attractive large hotel. Imagine planning for 500 attendees and getting 999!!! It was an interesting, enthusiastic group of women from all over our country who were smart and friendly. The "centerpiece" of the meeting was the flower show, which featured arrangements from every state.

This Director took photos and will share them at the Fall District Meeting - Autumn in New York"

In June, several members and this Director traipsed through the Pine Hollow Arboretum led by Dr. John Abbuhl, who pointed out the "pedigree" of each tree and shrub. Plan a trip with your club to see the varied collection he has amassed.

Then this Director hosted the "Tea with Roses in the Garden" (picture at right) under a tent on a beautiful

sunny day during National Garden Week. Sixty-two women came to enjoy each other's company. This Director is grateful for help with refreshments from the Garden Club of Kinderhook.

After this, the focus shifted to the bus trip to the Newport Flower Show "Salsa." Forty-two women viewed the colorful and exotic show. Photos of this event will also be on display.

This Director attended a State Board meeting in Guilderland and gave a report.

Although nine members had signed up, only three went and were overwhelmed by the tremendous display of roses in Schenectady's nationally-recognized Central

(continued on page 2)



Park. Little-known is that one aspect of the park is devoted to plantings in memory of crime victims. David Gade was a very knowledgeable guide and is the "backbone" of that garden. This Director would definitely advise a club to view this fantastic rose garden in mid-June next year. (Photos were taken).

Summer will soon dissipate into cool, colorful autumn. There will be a Dried Flower Workshop in Renee's Barn on Thursday, Sept. 20, at 10 a.m.

Finally, everyone should attend the Fall District Meeting "Autumn in New York", where there will be a presenter, a flower show, an election, vendors, ways and means, displays and friendly people. There will also be sign-ups for requested November workshops.

See you there,

Reneta Benenati

Columbia County Garden Club Week

The Garden Club of Kinderhook kicked off the week-long celebration with a Standard Flower Show, "Down on the Delta," held at the Kinderhook Village Hall.

On Monday, June 4, Patrick Grattan, Chairman of the Columbia County Board of Supervisors issued a proclamation declaring Sunday, June 3 through Saturday, June 9, Columbia County Garden Club Week.

On Tuesday, June 5, the Claverack, Greenport, Germantown and Kinderhook clubs came together to celebrate Columbia County Day with a festive luncheon at the Winding Brook Country Club in Valatie. Designer Erin Brady demonstrated her floral arranging concepts.

The Germantown Garden Club hosted a gardening therapy event at the Senior Residence at the Palatine Manor on Wednesday, June 6.



Yetta Teo helps floral designer Erin Brady demonstrate how to make nosegays at Columbia County Day.

Members of a number of Third District clubs joined in celebrating this special week with "Tea with Roses in the Garden," on Thursday, June 7, at the home of Director Reneta Benenati. (see picture page 1). Earlier that day, the Claverack Garden Club participated in a civic beautification project at the Philmont Library, making planter boxes and large flower pots.

On Friday, June 8, the Greenport Garden Club gardened at the Greenport Town Hall in a civic beautification project and presented gardening books to the Hudson Area Library. Also that day, there was a Container Garden Workshop by Marilyn Burke at the Classic Country Shop in East Chatham, owned by Meg Strattan.

On Saturday, June 9, the Garden Club of Kinderhook presented gardening books to the Kinderhook Memorial Library.

Fran Heaney

Note: Fran has volunteered to be the Third District press book compiler and needs your help. Please send press clips about your garden club to Fran Heaney, 2148 county Route 9, East Chatham, NY 12060.

Greene-Schoharie County Day

August 23, 2012 - Pegasus Restaurant

“Spanning the Continents”

9 AM Registration

Coffee, tea and pastry; mingle and chat with friends. View exhibits, visit the benefit table and ways and means.

10 AM Melissa Rosa presents “Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees.” Melissa is the owner of Garden Works and is a landscape designer. She will speak on how to feed birds throughout all seasons. With bee hive collapse such a serious problem, she will address ways to promote a healthy environment for bees. A question and answer period will follow. Melissa has generously donated a two- hour consultation to one lucky winner.

12:30 PM Luncheon

Mixed greens with a choice of dressings; rolls and butter; chicken fraicaise or salmon with dill sauce, served with mashed potatoes and stir-fried vegetables or pasta primavera. Coffee or tea and peach cobbler.

1:30 PM Door prizes and benefits drawings

2 PM Chris Nahas “Is Iceland Really Icy?”

Chris, a native New Yorker, has made Iceland his second home. He visits several times a year and often leads groups to tour the country. He will narrate a Power Point presentation and speak on the history of Iceland, its people, topography, climate and flora and fauna. A discussion will follow.

Send form below to Carole Garvar, 149 Sleepy Hollow Rd, Unit 1149, Athens, NY 12015, by August 17th. Cost is \$19 per person. Make check payable to Greene-Schoharie County Garden Clubs. Please send one check per club. List names and menu choices.

DETACH HERE

Greene-Schoharie County Day, August 23, 2012

Club Name _____ Contact person _____

Number attending _____ Amount enclosed _____

Save the
date

Fall District Meeting - October 18

Save the
date

Holiday Inn, Kingston

“Autumn in New York”

Speaker: Andrew Koehn, Garden Manager at Mohonk Mountain House

“Let the Flowers do the Talking”

Small Standard Flower Show, sponsored by Judges Council

Vendors

Ways and Means

Schedule - Small Standard Flower Show

sponsored by Third District Judges Council

Autumn in New York

Thursday, October 18, 2012 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn
Washington Avenue, Kingston, NY 12401

Open to the Public Admission Free

General Rules

1. The use of plant material in any Division of the show must conform to the "New York State Protected Native Plants": list, dated 2001.
2. No artificial plant material or embellishment of fresh plant material may be permitted in any division of this show. All designs must contain plant material.
3. The standard System of Awarding of National Garden Clubs, Inc., will be used and awards given only when merited. The decision of the judges will be final.

First: Blue Ribbon (exhibit scoring 90 or above)

Second: Red Ribbon (exhibit scoring 85 or above)

Third: Yellow Ribbon (exhibit scoring 80 or above)

Honorable Mention: White Ribbon (exhibit scoring 75 or above)

4. Tables will be covered with gray plastic material.

Division I: Horticulture

Horticulture Rules

1. Horticulture specimens must be fresh plant material grown by the exhibitor. Container-grown plant must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for at least three months.
2. This Division is open to all amateur gardeners.
3. Horticulture exhibits are educational and should be correctly named by exhibitor with genus, species and variety/cultivar when available. Common names may be added. Provided all other factors are equal, preference in judging will be given to correctly named specimens.
4. Exhibitor will furnish clear glass containers for all cut specimens. Plastic wrap wedging material will be supplied by the committee.
5. All specimens should be free from disease, insects and spray residue.
6. Classes may be subdivided according to genus, species, variety, cultivar, type, size or color at the discretion of the Classification Committee..
7. More than one entry per class may be made by the exhibitor, provided each is a different genus, species, variety, cultivar, type, size or color.
8. Branches are not to exceed 20" from cut stem to tip. Ranches must include several nodes and an apical tip.
9. Container-grown plants: pots from 6-12" inside diameter.
10. Scale of points for Horticulture specimens are found in *The Handbook for Flower Shows*, 2007 revised edition, pp. 298-300.
11. Entry cards must be filled out by exhibitor and checked by the Classification Committee. The placement committee will place entries.
12. Exhibits to be placed Thursday Morning Oct. 18, 2012 8:00-9:30 AM.

Horticulture Classes

Foliage in the Valley

Class 1 "Last Bow"

Annuals: large specimen 1 stem, small specimen 3 stems

Class 2 "Keep Coming"

Perennials: large specimen 1 stem, small specimen 3 stems

Class 3 "Beauty in Green"

Broad leaf Evergreens

Class 4 "Feathery Attraction"

Needled Evergreens

Class S "Jeweled Berries"
Berried branches

Class 6 "A Special Place"
Container-grown Plants

Division II: Design

Design Rules

1. Plant material in this Division need not have been grown by the exhibitor.
2. All plant material must be listed on entry card. A separate 3x5" card of explanation may be used.
3. Each design must be created and placed by one exhibitor.
4. Advance entries are to be made in all design classes with the Design Consultant not later than October 8, 2012. Design Consultant: Barbara Campbell - (845) 255-7446; BCDeerpath@aol.com.
5. If an entrant is unable to exhibit, she must provide a substitute and notify the Design Consultant.
6. Fresh plant material may not be embellished or decorated. This include artificial coloring.
7. No landscapes or scenes are permitted.
8. Scale of Points for judging designs is found in *The Handbook for Flower Shows*. 2007 revised edition, p. 303.
9. Space for design exhibits is width 24" x depth 30"; height unlimited.
10. Each class is limited to four entries.

Design Classes

Harvest Time in the Valley

Class 1. Wealth of Valley Crops
Line Mass Design. Designer has choice of plant material

Class 2. Color Abounds
Multi-Rhythmic Design. Designer has choice of plant material.

Class 3. Holiday Time
Creative Design. Designer to state holiday being depicted.

The Runt

One October, some years ago, I was in rescue a plant mode and stopped at Hewitts to see what sad specimens were in dire need of adoption. I settled on a scrawny little shrub maybe two and a half feet tall; its tag said it was a viburnum. The tag also told me that its original price of \$25 had been reduced to \$10.

When I brought my selection to the clerk, he looked at it and frowned. "You know, I don't think that one will make it through the winter," he said. "Tell you what - I'll let you have it for \$5." Not the way bargaining works, in my experience, but hey... I took my new shrub home, dug a hole in an out of the way sheltered area where survival rate had been good, though only one azalea ever showed signs of thriving, and planted it.

During the winter, I learned more about my acquisition. Its full name is *Viburnum plicatum* var. *tomentosum*, 'Mariesii.' "An aristocrat among flowering shrubs," Michael Dirr calls it. I checked it out the following spring, still alive but not noticeably larger or happier, and said, "You? Really?"



It is, however, gorgeous: blankets of white flowers in spring, then an abundance of red, turning to black berries, which birds, squirrels and chipmunks love to munch on, good fall leaf color. The neighboring Mugo Pine isn't too happy with its encroachment, and my husband complains that some lower branches block his view from the patio of our lovely little Japanese maple. So far, they're coping.

Maryann

Well, I thought, if I've got an aristocrat here, it deserves a proper site, where people can see it. So I dug it up and replanted it in a more congenial spot. Perhaps a little too congenial, it would turn out.

My aristocrat among flowering shrubs didn't bloom that first growing season, but it certainly grew. The next year, a few flowers and lots more growth. The picture in Dirr's book should have alerted me, but it was not until a couple of years later, when I saw a full-grown specimen at Stonecrop Gardens in Cold Spring, that its size potential really registered. Simply put, when it's happy, this shrub will grow vigorously in any direction it can find room.



In the Clubs

Claverack

To celebrate National Garden Week the club planted flowers at the town library. Pictured, left to right, are: President Patricia Sama, Sylvia Schaumann, Chairman Susan Ihlenburg and Marcella Guertin.



Helping at the club's annual plant sale are, left to right: Elizabeth Katsivelos, Joanne Armstrong, Renee Maxwell, Regan Maxwell, Marcella Guertin, President Patricia Sama, Louise Bliss, Marge Chippari, Joan Alexander and Sylvia Schaumann

The club will participate at the Columbia County Fair with an exhibit booth and demonstration over Labor Day weekend. Upcoming are: September 13th - a program about hummingbirds; October 11th - a program about the importance of bees in our gardens; and in November a program on creating boxwood trees.

Marge Chippari

Country Garden Club of Clifton Park

The Country Garden Club of Clifton Park celebrated its 60th anniversary year at an Open House and Tea on Sunday, June 24, at Historic Grooms Tavern in Rexford. The event featured garden demonstrations and displays, door prizes from local nurseries, and refreshments of tea and pastries.

Catherine Fruhauf



Germantown

This fall, the Germantown Garden Club will continue with its theme for the year of "Back to Basics: Gardening 101." From learning about gardening skills that some of us might not know about, to being a refresher course for the more advanced, the programs this year have been very interesting.

This past summer, we had two informative field trips. On May 15, we visited The Climbery, in Livingston, NY, a private seven-acre garden that has the largest collection of clematis in our nation! Barbara Packer, the gardener/owner, gave us a tour and talked about clematis and tree peonies and how to grow these wonderful, yet sometimes temperamental plants.

On June 26, the club visited the gardens of Frank Almquist, in Kingston. Frank and his wife Peggy are Master Gardeners in Ulster County and are members of the American Hemerocallis Society. Their garden consists of approximately 150 daylily varieties! And what a garden it was. Only encompassing a little more than an acre, it included a koi pond and many beds devoted to not only daylilies, but great hosta varieties and other perennial plantings. It was incredible how they could fit so many beautiful specimens of plants into a suburban backyard. Pictured, from left to right, member Linda Kline, Peggy Almquist, Frank Almquist, members Kate Kennedy, Fran Bufi and Elizabeth Maher.



We also offered some great "101" themed programs this past spring and summer. At our April meeting we had Master Gardener Bob Beyfuss give a presentation about "Shrubs 101." For our July meeting we had a very interesting presentation by Master Gardener Gloria Kadish, who gave a talk about "Weeds and Weeding 101." Both programs provided insight about the basics of these topics and taught us about advanced methods that we could use to increase our gardening skills.

One of our biggest events of the year will take place on September 22-23 at the Old Parsonage, 52 Maple Ave, Germantown: our annual flower show. This year's theme will be "ABC 123," a perfect fit to think of learning and back-to-school days. All the exhibits presented will follow through with a school theme. We are busily preparing for the show and plan on having Barbara Campbell, a NGC master judge and past president of FGCNYS give us a presentation on "Designing Arrangements for Flower Shows" at our August 21 meeting. This meeting will help us with arrangement ideas for our more creative exhibits. Please plan on coming to our flower show. We count on other clubs to visit. You might be inspired to see what we have to offer.

We are also in the planning stage for our display contribution to the Columbia County Fair, which will be held August 29-September 3 in Chatham. The theme this year will be "Community Outreach—Join a Garden Club." In addition to our display we will offer an educational demo to fairgoers.

If you are interested in growing daylilies, you might want to attend our October 23 meeting, at noon at the Old Parsonage. Frank Almquist will give us a talk and presentation on "Daylilies 101." His presentation will cover the many different varieties of daylilies and how to plant and care for them.

Karen Janson

Greenbush

The Greenbush Garden Club held their annual plant sale at the Elks Club on Columbia Turnpike in East Greenbush on Saturday, May 19. The plants were dug from members' gardens and this year there were some generous donations from people in the community. In an effort to generate interest in the club, a table was set



up with membership information, photos of the club's projects and recently acquired FGCNYS awards. Jan Hartmuller assembled a beautiful raffle basket containing lots of garden items and tools donated by club members. At the sale members proudly wore their new Greenbush Garden Club forest green shirts with the club logo on the front. \$1000 of the proceeds of the sale was used for the scholarship fund. The winner of the scholarship this year was David Michael Vlieg, a graduate of Columbia High School who plans to attend St. Johns Fishers College. The award was presented on June 8 at the club's annual picnic which was held in the beautiful garden of Bernice Leone.

On June 10, a group of club members visited Central Park Rose Garden in Schenectady and were taken on a tour by David Gade, the Grounds Operation Supervisor. It was absolutely breathtaking to see thousands of gorgeous roses all in bloom. Members who attended "Tea with Roses" in Reneta Benenati's garden and the "Salsa" Flower Show in Newport (picture below right) had a wonderful time. Thank you Director Benenati!

The club's next undertaking will be a wreath workshop on August 11 to assemble autumn wreaths and arrangements which will be sold at the Harvest Fair at Fort Crailo on September 15.

And the survey says: In order to be more responsive to their opinions and abilities, the members of the Greenbush Garden Club were asked to complete an anonymous survey indicating which projects they liked or disliked and which they would be willing or able to participate in. The results were quite positive. There was also an opportunity to make suggestions and comments, many of which were quite interesting and constructive. The results of the survey were discussed at our monthly meeting in May so they might be taken into consideration in planning the upcoming year.



Theresa Murphy

Greenport

Greenport Garden Club members rolled up their sleeves to prepare flower beds at the Greenport Town Hall. The annual spring cleaning and planting are done by the club's Civic Beautification Committee. The beds are prepared with flowers to greet customers this summer and fall. Pictured left to right: Kathy Buchosky, Charlie Dillhoff, Sue Dillhoff and Judy Zink.

Sue Dillhoff, chairman of the committee states "We look forward to doing this every year. We also do the barrels at the Columbia County Council on the Arts and often we help other members with their gardens who are not able to do so as part of the "Helping Hands Project."



Maria Kolodzie-Zincio

Pine Plains

The Pine Plains Garden Club will present a Standard Flower Show entitled "There's Music in the Air" October 5 from 12-6 and October 6 from 11-3 in the gymnasium of the Stissing Mountain High School. Our flower show is held every year during the Future Farmers of America Festival on Route 199 in Pine Plains. Our garden club was founded in 1930 and we currently have twenty-two active and associate members. For further information and directions please call Joan Syler, (518) 398-0964.

Joan Syler

Shawangunk

The Shawangunk Garden Club is having a reception for its Photo Flower Show on Saturday, August 18 from noon to 3p.m. at the Gallery, Ellenville Public Library and Museum, 40 Center Street, Ellenville. Club members are presenting framed photos of flowers that they have grown in their gardens. The show will be on view at the Gallery from August 1 to September 15. Call (845) 647-5530 for Gallery hours.

Dale Craft

Dried Flower Workshop

Thursday, September 20, 2012
10 a.m.

Renee's Barn
Rte. 9. Kinderhook, N. Y.

This is a repeat of last year's workshop, at which members created wreaths and small arrangements. The year before, the group made centerpieces for the Fall Meeting. Please start to collect plant material now and dry it. Save flowers from any arrangements and those from your gardens as well. Please bring clippers and a glue gun. A simple lunch will be provided. It is really lots of fun.

Some suggestions for dried materials:

Artemesia	Astilbe	Celosia	Baby's Breath
Eucalyptus	Acorns	Statice	Strawflowers
Chestnuts	Cattails	Zinnias	Money plant
Rose hips	Marigolds	Tansy	Japanese lanterns
Seed pods	Globe Thistle	Vines	Ornamental grasses
Small gourds	Mullein	Dock	Small pumpkins

.....and anything else you can think of.

Workshop is limited to 20 persons. Please sign up for inclusion. Questions? Phone Renee at (518) 758-7789

Did You Know? The Wild Turkey

Benjamin Franklin was so impressed with our native wild turkey that he wanted it to be named our national bird. He did not prevail but the bird, after being in danger of extinction due to deforestation and over-hunting, is thriving. It is estimated that there are seven million of these birds in North America today.

An adult wild turkey has approximately 5,500 feathers, weighs from 5 to 20 pounds and can live from three to five years. It has excellent vision during the day, sometimes superior to human vision, but as night its vision is very poor. Its diet consists of acorns, bugs, nuts, leaves, fern fronds and salamanders. The wild turkey has very strong and powerful legs and can run up to a speed of 25 miles per hour. Some have been clocked at 88 miles per hour in flight. A wild turkey's gobble can be heard one mile away.

In this area wild turkeys breed in early spring; in the South they breed in late February. Their nest is on the ground, made up of brush, leaves, vines and grass. The female prepares the nest and lays between 4 and 17 eggs. Once the eggs hatch, the chicks can walk and start foraging for food. The female watches over her brood, protecting them from predators. The young chicks stay with their mother until fall. The male bird plays no part in incubating or raising the young.

The wild turkey has played an important role economically, bringing in millions of dollars of revenue to states and private organizations. It has been introduced into many states, and reintroduced into others which had lost their populations of this bird.

Wild turkeys were first domesticated in Mexico and then exported to Europe. The settlers brought back these domesticated turkeys to the New World. The domestic turkey is bred for weight and thus is too heavy to fly. Every Thanksgiving since 1987 presidents and vice presidents of the U. S. each pardon two turkeys. Each year we Americans consume 18 pounds per capita of turkey meat.

So we own many thanks to the wild turkey of North America. In a way, its story has come full circle.

Pat Buchan,

Birds, Bats, Bugs and Butterflies

Awards

Now is the time to remind members of due dates for award applications:

September 1 is the date for clubs to notify the District Awards Chairman of the number and type of award the club wishes to apply for.

October 1 is the club deadline for sending completed projects/awards applications and books of evidence to the District Awards Chairman.

November 1 - after review by the District Awards Chairman and her committee, winning District entries are mailed to the appropriate State Awards Chairmen.

It would be an asset if each club had a member designated as its Awards Chairman. Every garden club is engaged in great projects. Awards are recognition of club members' projects and programs and also a way of sharing their talents and interests.

Patricia Blundell,
Awards Chairman

Calendar Girl Report

To include your club's information in the calendar, please send a copy of your yearbook to Marilyn Ryan, 72 Wil-derness Lane, Valatie, New York 12184 (518) 758-7625. For additional information about an event, contact the person listed at the end of the entry.

Blue Creek Garden Club

Oct. 4 Wreath Making Made Easy, by Joan Smith, at Pruyn House, 1 p.m. Call: Loretta (518) 785-0389.

Nov. 1 Holiday Design Arrangements by Michelle Peters, Pruyn House - 7:00p.m. Call: Angie (518) 463-4726.

Pine Plains Garden Club

Sept. 6 Floral Design by Joanne Scasso, at Country Gardener, Millerton, 12:30 p.m. Fee - \$5. Call: Nancy (518) 398-7328.

Oct. 5 & 6 Flower Show at Stissing Mt. Jr./Sr. High School, West Church Street, Pine Plains. Call: Joan (518) 398-0964.

Garden Explorers Club

Sept. 8 Tour of Hancock Shaker Village Gardens, Rt.20, Pittsfield, MA. 01201 at 10:30a.m. [Rain Date] Call: Joy (518) 265-9259. (\$25 charge).

Nov. 14 Evergreen Arrangement Workshop, [\$10 charge] by Mark Felthousen, at Felthousens, 1537 VanAntwerp Road, Niskayuna. Call: Clem (518) 393-7404.

Shawangunk Garden Club

Aug. 1-Sept. 15 Photo Flower Show, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at The Gallery, Ellenville Public Library and Museum, 40 Center St, Ellenville.

Sept. 10 A Progressive Blooming Garden : Planning and Planting for Late Summer and Fall Blooms, by Victoria Coyne, Community Room in the Ellenville Public Library, 40 Center Street, Ellenville, 7 p.m.. Call: Merle Hess (845) 647-5661.

Oct. 1 Harvesting the Garden for Fall Decorations by Chikako [Textile Designer], Robin Anderson [Horticulturist, Floral Designer] and Susan Cioffi [Garden at Moosebeck, Spring Glen, NY] 7 p.m., Community Room in the Ellenville Public Library. Call: Fran (845) 647-9059.

Claverack Garden Club

Aug. 29-Sept. 4 Columbia County Fair in Chatham NY. The Columbia County Garden Clubs [Claverack, Germantown, Greenport and Kinderhook] have exhibits at the Fair, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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Sept. 13 Hummingbirds program by Nancy Shaifer [Pres. of the Golden Agers Club] on habitat, travel patterns and feeding them, at the Reformed Dutch Church, Rte. 9H, Claverack, 1 p.m. Call: Alexandra (518) 828-7412.

Oct. 11 Bees program by Remoo Krafft, from Columbia County Cooperative Extension, at the Reformed Dutch, Rte. 9H, Claverack. Call: Joan (518) 324-1230.

Kinderhook Garden Club

Sept. 11 Program on bats by Carl Herzog, biologist with the Wildlife Diversity Unit of NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. Call: Vicki (518) 758-6869.

Nov. 23-25 Gallery of Wreaths, James Vanderpoel House, 16 Broad Street (Rte. 9), Kinderhook 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



County Chair Camille McComb at Columbia County Day with fellow Kinderhook Garden Club members Cynthia Tiano Bogardus, Lee Albern and Pat Leary.



Two winning exhibits from the Garden Club of Kinderhook's Standard Flower Show "Down on the Delta."



Geraldine Smith of the Garden Club of Kinderhook presents a book on gardening to Elizabeth Powhida, Librarian of the Valatie Free Library.



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.

Material for *The Digest* should be sent to Maryann Weber, snail mail 2300 Spruce Drive, Valatie NY, 12184; or email junco@fairpoint.net. Unformatted copy and jpeg pictures are easiest to work with, but I'll try to decipher whatever you send - and contact you if I'm stumped.

Happy rest of summer and fall,

Maryann

Coming up:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Sept. 10-12 | FGCNYS Fall Conference, Holiday Inn, Binghamton |
| Sept. 18-20 | Flower Show School, Oriskany |
| Sept. 20 | Dried Flower Workshop - Renee's barn, Kinderhook |
| Oct. 15 | November <i>Digest</i> deadline |
| Oct. 18 | Third District Fall Meeting "Autumn in New York,"
Holiday Inn, Kingston |
| Oct. 28-30 | Central Atlantic Region Conference, Embassy Suites,
Independence, Ohio |
| Nov. 14 | State Winter Board Meeting, State Office, Guilderland |
| Nov. 15 | Third District III Board Meeting & Workshops - TBA |