

Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.

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President



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Dear FGCNYS Board Members,

Trust this finds you well and surviving our New York winter this year. And for those of you enjoying warmer climates, please don't share that information with us! While our trifold for the May meeting in Long Island is not quite complete I wanted to give you a quick overview and share some of our plans.

Our meeting will be at the Hyatt Regency, Long Island, 1717 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, NY. 631-784-1234. some of you may remember this hotel from our meeting there in 2016. All reservations are to be made directly with the hotel and to obtain the group rate, reservations are to be made prior to April 27. The room rates are \$169. for a standard double room. Request the block of rooms listed under FGCNYS. Preferably, book using the link below. This confirmed rate is applicable three days prior through three days after the official meeting dates as long as the hotel is selling rooms to the general public. So please book early. <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/HAUPP/G-FGCN>

For those of you arriving on Sunday, May 19, we will be having a tour of the Long Island Native Plant Initiative on Sunday afternoon. We thought, due to traffic, it may be easier to come in during the day on Sunday and wanted to offer an interesting tour for you. Having this meeting in May should help ensure some good weather to enjoy these plantings.

Regarding our Conference schedule, our 2017-2019 Executive Committee Meeting will be held Monday morning, May 20, followed directly by our Board Meeting. Our luncheon for Monday will be an Awards Ceremony. We will all need to adjust a bit as we restructure our meetings for the Federation, relative to Awards received and presented. Awards we receive at the NGC Convention will be available this year for us to hand out as well as Club Recognition, World Gardening and others. Following this luncheon we will have a Judges Council event. Nancy Schopf Monday afternoon we will also have a talk, demonstration, and workshop teaching us about Artistic Crafts. This will sure to be exciting as many of our Flower Shows are adding this Section to their schedules.

Monday evening's dinner program is someone I've heard so much about and am looking forward to hearing - Neal Sanders, a gardening mystery writer. He has written such books as "Gardening is Murder", "A Murder at the Flower Show" and so on. Neal is from Massachusetts and comes with great reviews from my friends in that State. For those of you not yet familiar with him, he will have some books to sell that day.

Tuesday, May 21 in the morning will be our Annual Membership Meeting with the election of Officers and By Law changes. This will be followed by our design program, lunch, installation and another full day to enjoy. The 2019-2021 Board Meeting will be held Wednesday morning, May 22.

More details and reminders will be coming shortly, but wanted to give you an opportunity to make your travel and hotel plans before too much time slips away.

Thanks,

Monica