

# The DIGEST

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## Director's Message

A survey at the Spring Meeting showed that many desired a day-trip, and that wish was fulfilled on Friday, June 24, when 39 passengers (including 21 Third District members) traveled to Rhode Island to the Newport Flower Show, *Entertaining - Newport Style*, a wonderful day at Rosecliff. (No rain!!!) Earlier that week, participation in the Landscape Design Refresher in the New Paltz area, chaired by Barbara Campbell and Marge Lansing, under the direction of State Landscape Design Schools Chairman Antoinette Babb, was another informative as well as entertaining day.

The week before, this Director attended the WAFA (World Association of Flower Arrangers) show *This Glorious Earth* in Boston for two days with the FGCNYS trip and tried to capture it on photos that will be on display at the Fall Meeting in Kingston. This was an unusual and inspiring show with great arrangements.

This Director paid a visit to the Germantown Garden Club's flower show at the Old Parsonage. Lovely show... Talented, creative ladies. She also joined 28 members of her own club (G.C. of Kinderhook) in a visit to Martha Stewarts gardens in Katonah, NY (pictured at right). Everything was beautifully planned, planted and presented. There were beautiful peonies (lots of them), alliums, clematis, etc. Great day! Impressive! She was pleased to be invited by Schoharie-Greene County Chairman Carole Garvar to be present at the President's Day Meeting, hosted at her lovely home. It was great to meet the presidents and vice-presidents of Schoharie and Greene County clubs.



The State Fall Conference, *Creative Hands and Minds*, will be held on the campus of R.I.T. in Rochester on September 12 and 13. Check out the bright lime green brochure. The Federation Directory can be purchased from the State Office for \$7.00. It contains the names of all the chairpersons on the State Board and all the District chairmen, judges and State and National Life members. It's a good resource for all garden clubs.

*The News*, the official publication of FGCNYS, will be published electronically four times a year. Our Third District newsletter, *The Digest*, is available in online form at [www.fgcny.com](http://www.fgcny.com) - select the District III page. It is in color and has additional articles and many pictures. (editor's note: *The electronic version can be downloaded and printed from your computer either in its entirety or as selected articles or pictures.*)

Third District's scheduled visit to the Pine Hollow Arboretum in Slingerlands on Thursday, July 21, had to be postponed due to excessive heat warnings posted for that day. It has been rescheduled to September 8. Also

(continued on page 2)

rescheduled, from September 15 to September 22, is the Dried Flower Workshop in Renee's barn. The sign-up list has been filled, but the date change may force cancellations, so if you're interested, call (518) 758-7789 to be placed on a waiting list.

This Director makes reports at the State Board Meetings and gleans the information about local garden club activities from yearbooks, soooooo - if you haven't already done so, send yours to the Director soon. She also needs updated Change of Officers forms, so that mailings can be sent to the correct officers.

The Fall District Meeting, *Autumn Magic*, will be held in Kingston on Thursday, October 27. (Note - 4th Thursday) There will be speakers, vendors, exhibits and an emporium.

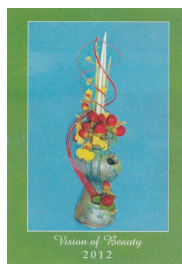
The National Garden Clubs, Inc. 83<sup>rd</sup> annual conference, *Explore the Wonders*, will be held on May 18-19, 2012, in Buffalo, NY. Attendees will be able to view or enter the National Flower Show and will have a choice of eight tours and five seminars, a tri-refresher and more. Plan on going!!! Third District is considering sponsoring a bus to the conference. Early-bird rates are \$119.00 before November 1 or \$129.00 after that date. If you are interested in attending, you may wish to participate more actively by helping with duties such as serving as a hostess for a luncheon or dinner. Adrienne Pasquariello (716) 681-1047 or apasuarie@roadrunner.com, would appreciate hearing from you.

F.Y.I. this Director is also the State Pressbook Chairman for 2011-2012 and is alerting all the clubs in District III to have a publicity chairman who issues information to newspapers, etc. This chairman should complete a pressbook and submit it after Dec. 31, 2011. Publicity alerts the public to the activities of the local garden club and could attract new members.

*Renee Benerati*

## 2012 Vision of Beauty Calendar: Order Now

For only \$6 each, you can enjoy and give to others the beautiful 2012 *Vision of Beauty* calendars, published



by National Garden Clubs. This sale is a fundraiser for Third District. Reserve copies now by email to Elane Seltzer at fredelan@mhccable.com. Include your name, address, telephone number, email address and how many copies you are purchasing.

If you do not use email, please send a note with that information to Elane Seltzer, 36 Joann Drive, Hudson NY 12534. If you mail the order to her, please include a check for the total amount made out to Third District, FGCNYS. Those who email their orders will be contacted about payment. Calendars will be available for pickup at the Third District Fall Meeting October 27 at the Holiday Inn in Kingston.

Elane Seltzer

### The Saugerties Society of Little Gardens

welcomes you to join us:

Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.  
at the Saugerties Public Library, Washington Avenue, Saugerties, NY, for a program:

**"Putting Gardens To Bed"** by Bob Beyfuss, columnist, Master Gardener, and past Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Leader from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Greene County.

Seating is limited, so please call Jeannine B. Kennedy at (845) 331-3410 if you are interested in attending. We look forward to seeing everyone!



## *This Glorious Earth*

A few of the many diverse floral arrangements from all over the world exhibited at the WAFA (World Association of Flower Arrangers) show in Boston. WAFA rules are somewhat different from those for our standard flower shows, and the arrangements reflected a wide range of national styles.

This was WAFA's first exhibit in the United States - the next show will be in Ireland in 2014.



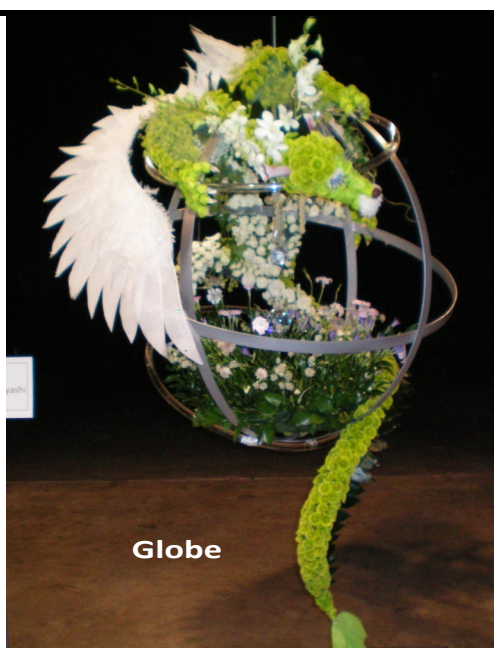
Fire



Mosaic



Dance



Globe



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X-ray



Fireworks



## Pine Hollow Trip

The rescheduled date to tour the Pine Hollow Arboretum at 16 Maple Ave., Slingerlands, is Thursday, September 8. This arboretum encompasses 25 acres of trees and shrubs gathered from the temperate climate areas of the world.

The guided tour will begin at 10:00 a.m. Please bring a brown-bag lunch and wear long pants and sleeves to protect yourself from any ticks. Contact Renee Benenati at (518) 758-7789 to make reservations and arrange to carpool.

### ATTENTION: DIGEST PAPER ISSUE SUBSCRIBERS

The mailing label on your current issue of the Digest has a code in the upper right hand corner that indicates the expiration date of your subscription. The letter is for the month of the subscription year (F - February; M - May; A - August; N - November) and the two digits indicate the year (11 - 2011; 12 - 2012, etc.) If you wish to continue your paper issue of the Digest, please send a \$4.00 check payable to 3<sup>rd</sup> District FGCNYS, Inc. to Marge Lansing, Digest Circulation Editor, 17 Comely Lane, Latham, NY 12110 within 30 days of your subscription expiration.

## Traditional versus Creative Design

The traditional design has one center of interest near the area in the design where all the plant material is located as it emerges from the container. There are also other requirements to our *Handbook for Flower Shows*, pp 181-182.

Muli-rhythmic design stresses the line. It may be vertical, horizontal or diagonal, and the design will have two or more lines. Several examples are listed in the book *Designing by Types*.

*Antoinette Babb*

## Club News

### Greenport

The Greenport Garden Club held a workshop at their May meeting in horticultural activities for nursing home settings, presented by Kim Yaffee, certified Horticultural Therapist. Ms Yaffee's program included demonstrations and hands-on projects for members. The workshop presented members with a host of ideas for the club's committee on garden therapy, which is among the club's many programs in servicing the community.

*Maria Kolodziej-Zicio*

### Shawangunk

The club had an educational and fundraising booth at Ellenville's Annual Blueberry Festival on August 13. Dale Craft will lead the September 6 meeting, and club members Susan Cioffi and Joanne Everett will direct the members in a pressed flower name tags workshop. The program for the October 3 meeting, presented by Lorraine Lewis, owner of Lorjon Nurseries in Pine Bush, will be about grasses.

*Dale Craft*

### Kinderhook

Following last year's successful *An Evening in Pink*, the Garden Club of Kinderhook has joined forces with the Friends of Lindenwald to offer *An Evening at Lindenwald*, a nineteenth-century style garden party benefiting the club's scholarship fund and the Friends' acquisition fund. The event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 6 to 8 p.m. on the grounds of Lindenwald, Route 9H, Kinderhook.

The evening will feature hors d'oeuvres by Good Food Catering, music by Jim Davis and house tours, with historically-inspired flower arrangements by garden club members.

Tickets are \$35 in advance or \$45 at the door. The reservation deadline is August 31. Make checks payable to The Garden Club of Kinderhook and mail to the club at PO Box 373, Kinderhook, NY 12106. Tickets will be held at door. If you provide an email address you will receive an email confirmation.

## Claverack

In May the club held a civic beautification and youth program at the Philmont Public Library. Club president Patricia Sama instructed ten 8- to 10-year-old children on how to plant marigold seeds in pots which the children were able to take home. They were given another packet of seeds and instructions on maintaining their plants. Then the children planted marigolds and sunflowers in the ground along the fence line at the library. Meanwhile club members planted annual flowers in the library planters.

For the Memorial Day weekend the club planted red, white and blue flowers in the memorial park in Claverack hamlet and annuals in Town Park.

The club arranged for a bus for 31 members and guests to attend the WAFA Flower Show at the Seaport World Trade Center in Boston, MA on June 17.

Marge Chippari



## Landscape



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## Refresher

Pictured above are two stops on the June 21 Landscape Design Refresher in the New Paltz area, organized by Barbara Campbell and Marge Lansing. On the left is part of the rain garden developed by Master Gardeners at the New Paltz Community Center. It makes use of underground drainage from the building's runoff to keep the plants watered. On the right is a section of the gardens at Mohonk Mountain House, designed by Andrew Koehn. This year's theme was *Candyland*. Andrew and Barbara Campbell are shown viewing the colorful plantings.

Other sites on the refresher were the lovely xeriscape garden on the grounds of Ulster County Community College; the CSA Brook Farm Project, a model of sustainable and organic agriculture; and the entrance garden at the Walkill Valley Rail Trail. Eight Landscape Design Consultants attended the refresher, plus four other interested parties, including our Third District Director Renee Benenati, who suggests that whether you're a Landscape Design Consultant or not, these refreshers are well worth attending. State Landscape Design Schools Chair Antoinette Babb has announced that all Third District Landscape Design Consultants have attained the status of Master.



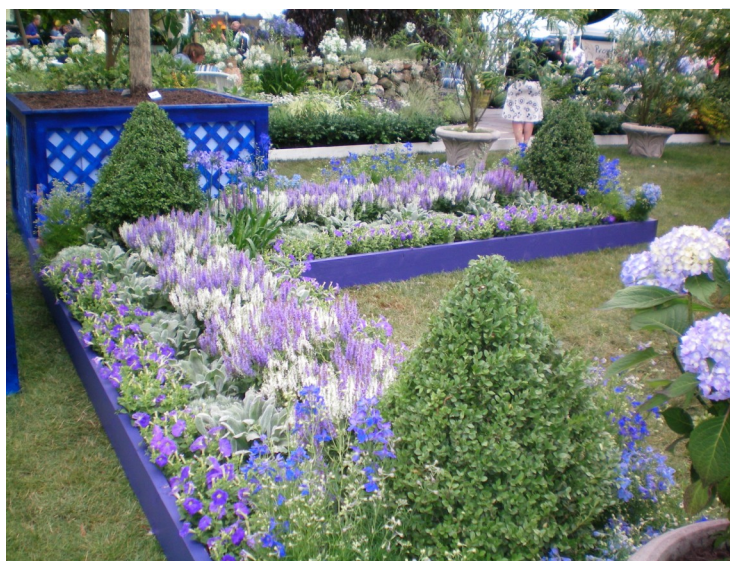
# Entertaining - Newport Style



A Celebration  
of Opulence

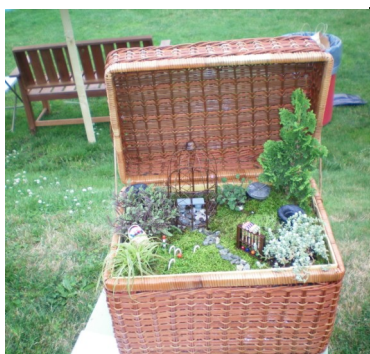


A tale of two peacocks; at left an multi-award -  
winning design and at right an amazing topiary  
blue-ribbon winner in horticulture



On the back lawn was a recreation of the famous Blue Garden create in 1913 for a popular Newport hostess. On the front lawn, overlooking the ocean, visitors could enjoy a variety of vendors' offerings while listening to a jazz combo.

A sampling of  
the designs





## Maryann's Musings (a new and probably quite occasional feature of the online *Digest*)

In all the years - I'll probably be happier not figuring out how many - I've been editing the *Digest* I've rarely chosen to write anything for it, in spite of the fact that when asked what I "do," writing ranks right up there with gardening. But it's been an interesting summer, and I feel like sharing my take on one small segment of it.

First of all, I have a confession to make: It's not that I dislike flower shows (having remained in reasonably good spirits while co-chairing two for my club and serving in various capacities in a bunch of others). However, I'm not a big fan of them, either.

So what was I thinking, signing up for trips to two seriously major shows on succeeding Fridays this June? I mean, if someone told me that I would happily spend six and a half hours wandering around looking at flower arrangements I'd promise (insincerely) to put that experience on my bucket list - right after completing my first parachute jump, assuming the result of the jump included survival.

But that's what happened at the WAFA show over in Boston. My initial plan was to spend two hours, tops, at the show, and then catch the T into the heart of the city - do a little shopping, hit a museum or two. I never got out of the building. Such imagination, creativity, expressed in a wealth of designs, many of them reflecting cultures other than our own! I'm so glad the Claverack Garden Club sponsored a bus trip to this event - and that I had the good sense to join it.



The following Friday was Third District's bus trip to the Newport show. To be honest, I was more interested in experiencing the Newport ambiance than seeing a flower show, but the show did not disappoint. I loved the Blue (well, sometimes more like purple) Garden, and both the design and horticulture sections had many interesting exhibits. And talk about ambiance: that lawn overlooking the Atlantic, with its bright white vendor tents and a jazz combo accompanying our al fresco lunch...

Sandwiched between these two excursions was the Landscape Design Consultants Refresher organized by Barbara Campbell and Marge Lansing. You need to refresh every five years, which is certainly no chore. The refreshers I've attended have all been worthwhile - even the one Marge and I put together that fell on the weekend following 9/11. Our Staten Island contingent, uneasy about traveling, cancelled out, but for the rest of us it was good to take a break from immersion in that terrible tragedy and concentrate on gardens.

This refresher, based in the New Paltz area, offered opportunities to study a variety of gardening trend and applications (see page 5), not to mention a delightful buffet lunch at Mohonk Mountain House and a tasty boxed dinner provided by the New Paltz Garden Club at the Old Fort on historic Huguenot Street.

State Landscape Design Schools Chair Antoinette Babb later informed me that all of us Third District Landscape Design Consultants have now attained the status of Master. I inquired what perks might be involved. She said, well, there's the honor - but we'd still need to refresh every five years. Not a problem.

*Maryann*

# Space Available - Free!

Unlike its hard-copy counterpart, the online *Digest* is not restricted to a set number of pages, and color pictures do not run up the printing bill.

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Why not share your club's events and projects with other clubs in our District? And perhaps beyond - there are no restrictions on who can visit us online.

Plus there's plenty of room for gardening tips, verse, humor, discussion forums, more. We'd love to hear from you.

Copy should be emailed (junco@fairpoint.net) or snail-mailed (2300 Spruce Drive, Valatie, NY 12184) to Maryann Weber. Or call her at (518) 758-7189. Issues will continue to appear in mid February, May, August and November, and submissions should arrive before the end of the preceding months.

## Coming Up

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|-------------|---|
| Aug. 18     | District Board meeting, Director Reneta Benenati's home, Kinderhook |
| Sept. 8     | Pine Hollow Arboretum trip, see page 4                              |
| Sept. 10    | An Evening at Lindenwald, see page 4                                |
| Sept. 12-13 | State Fall Conference, R.I.T. campus, Rochester                     |
| Sept. 14    | Saugerties Society of Little Gardens program, see page 2            |
| Sept. 22    | Dried Flower Workshop, Renee's barn, Kinderhook, see page 2         |
| Oct. 21-23  | Central Atlantic Region Conference, Baltimore, MD                   |
| Oct. 27     | Third District Fall Meeting, Holiday Inn, Kingston                  |