

Director's Message

Whew! I have so many things to tell you that I'm afraid that it will get toooooo long!

First, are you taking advantage of all that the other clubs in this District are offering? We have had a busy summer so far, and I am hoping that many of you are visiting the clubs who are offering activities which you can attend. Maybe your own club is so busy that it's hard to fit anything more in, what with your own gardens to care for and your club gardens to work in. That does happen!

We have two Flower Show Schools coming up this fall. Flower Show Course 1 will be held in Rochester on October 15, 16 and 17. If you need a flyer please call or e-mail Patsy Moran at 1 (585) 244-8585 or pgmoran@rochester.rr.com. Flower Show Course IV will be held in Great River, NY on September 30, October 1 and 2. Marion Romeo is the registrar; she can be reached at (516) 785-7851 or marionfromeo@aol.com. I am hoping that by this time your club president has received the flyers. If not, please check with your District Director.

The state of NY is sponsoring a Tri-Refresher for consultants of Environmental Studies, Gardening Studies and Landscape Design Schools. This one will be held in Canadaigua and Geneva on September 8 and 9. It is titled "Renewing Our Focus." Mary Kofron is the registrar, so if you need more information, please contact her at 1 (585) 865-4574 or mfkofron@rochester.rr.com and she will help you get what you need.

Elaine DiPietro is asking for recommendations for state officers. She has a form for you to fill out. The deadline to get it back to her is August 20. Her phone number is (716) 681-1473; her e-mail is edipietro33@aol.com. Get busy on that now.

FGCNYS is once again offering a poetry contest, open to youths from preschool through high school ages. To get your information and the form you will need, get in touch with Barbara Millington, State Youth Chair, at 546 County Route 76, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 or bmillington@nycap.rr.com.

Our fall District III meeting will be held on October 16 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. It will be at The Lazy Swan, Golf/Country Village, 1754 Old Kings Highway in Saugerties. We will have designer David Siders as our speaker, which promises to be outstanding. Your club president should have received all the information and the necessary form for registration. (See p. 4)

Many clubs have contacted me as to how to get more members. I have a number of ideas which came from Marisa F. Katsurin, a NYSNGC chairperson.

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Co-chairs Pat Leary and Renee Benenati display some of the components to be used in Design Division of the Garden Club of Kinderhook's upcoming Celebration90 Standard Flower Show (see p. 9)

1) Organize a "Get to Know Us" event at the public library.

2) Have your garden club beautify a blighted or unattractive area of your town with the cooperation of other groups, or do it alone if you can.

3) Host a member garden tour - include a water garden, a vegetable garden, a shade garden, a rose garden...

4) Sponsor a hands-on flower gardening workshop in a public area.

5) Sponsor a hands-on flower/gardening workshop at a public school.

6) Have your meetings in a public spot like a library and invite the public to join you.

7) Set up one-day events in which the public is

invited to participate.

8) Consider having your meetings at night. That is when the younger people who work are interested in attending. If you older members still want to meet in the daytime then have some of your members start another club which meets at night.

9) Set up displays of pictures of club members showing the public what you do for the community.

Hope this helps,

Olive Felio

CALENDAR GIRL

Hi, everyone – the new garden clubs year is here!

The Calendar Girl needs information for the upcoming year.

Send the club's yearbook or note with events and horticulture plans.

Please have the garden club's name on the note.

Starting this September, the calendar will be sent with the notice for the spring and fall luncheons.

This way all members of the Third District FGCNYS receive the information.

The calendar helps clubs with ideas and news of other clubs.

When you send a yearbook or note, cross out the programs that are not open for visits.

PLEASE GET BACK TO ME

Marilyn Ryan
72 Wilderness Lane
Valatie, NY 12184
(518) 758-7625
mryan014@nycap.rr.co

Greene-Schoharie County Day August 21, 2014

“Beauty of the Hudson River Valley”

9:30 AM – Visit Cedar Grove, home of Thomas Cole, father of the Hudson River School of Painting located at 218 Spring Street, Catskill. Included is a lecture, and a film highlighting the life and work of Thomas Cole, whose student Frederick Church became a renowned artist. A guided tour through the museum, home and gardens will follow.

11:30 AM - Arrive for lunch at Pegasus Restaurant located on Route 9W in Coxsackie. Mingle and chat with friends. View exhibits, the Benefit and Ways and Means tables. Register for door prizes and purchase raffle tickets. Cheeses, Crudités, and Fruits will precede lunch.

12:30 PM – Luncheon
Choices are Roast Beef, Chicken Piccata, or Salmon with Dill Sauce served with Rolls and butter, salad, mashed potatoes and vegetables. Dessert –Peach Cobbler with ice cream, coffee and tea.

1:30 PM – Door prizes and benefit drawings.

2 PM - “21st Century Damsels and Dragons”

Power Point Presentation by Larry Federman, Education Coordinator for Audubon New York’s Rheinstrom Hill, Buttercup Farms, RamsHorn-Livingston Audubon Centers and Sanctuaries.

Larry is a “dyed in the wool” birder” who has embraced the study of odonates, (damsels and dragonflies). After birds have settled down for the day odonates take to the air.

The presentation will introduce you to their wonderful world.

Send reservations to Carole Garvar, 149 Sleepy Hollow Rd, Unit 1149, Athens, NY 12015, by August 15th. Cost is \$25 per person. Make check payable to Greene Schoharie County Garden Clubs. Please send one check per club. List names and menu choices.

For any other information call 945-3739



Federated Garden Club of New York State
Third District Director, Olive P. Felio

"HOLIDAY ON PARADE"

October 16, 2014 – 9 AM-3:30 PM

The Lazy Swan

Golf / Country Village, 1754 Old Kings Highway
Saugerties, New York 12477

Registration – 9 AM
Luncheon & Program \$33

Program

9-10 AM	Ways & Means Benefit Table Vendors
10-11:30	Business Meeting
12 PM	Lunch
1:15-3:15 PM	Speaker

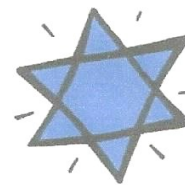
Designer David Siders

is based in Schenectady, NY. He freelanced as a designer and instructor before joining forces with Rudy Grant to establish Experience and Creative Design, Ltd. His numerous accomplishments include designing for Presidents Reagan and Carter and a number of Rose Bowl Parades. He has been a member of the American Institute of Floral Design (AIFD) since 1982. His presentation at the National Symposium of AFID is considered among the finest in its 48-year history. This year, David took Best of Show at the Philadelphia Show.

9. MENU

Salad: Garden tomatoes and fresh vegetables
Entree: 1. Lobster Croissant with slaw & sweet potato
2. 8oz. Cheddar Burger, maple bacon, cheese, pickles, lettuce, tomato, onion, ket-mayo with fries.
3. Grilled Chicken Sandwich, lettuce, tomato, red onion, avocado, chipotle mayo with slaw & fries.
Veggie Sandwich available, with fries.

Individual House Dessert
Coffee, tea and soft drinks
served throughout



Our Clubs

3. Catskill

On Friday, August 1, the Catskill Garden Club had a special luncheon to honor our Past President Camille Yandeau, who will be moving from the area. Camille was a very important influence in the revitalization of Leggio Park on Main Street and the Blue Star Park on West Bridge Street in Catskill.

On Saturday, August 2, we participated with Cultivate Catskill in the monthly "Trunk Sale," providing treasures for the public to purchase and again giving the club visibility in the community.



Catskill Garden Club members spend many hours maintaining four prominent parks in the Village of Catskill including Policemen's Park, honoring the fallen heroes of the Catskill Police Department, our Park at Dutchmen's Landing, Leggio Park, and the Blue Star Park.

Catskill Garden Club does Garden Therapy at The Pines in Catskill with the residents every year in July. This is a great opportunity for the Club to interact with the Senior Citizens and bring back fond memories of their love for nature.

LouElla Lane



Clematis

Our club has awarded Garden of the Month citations to special gardens in the communities we serve, worked on planning a children's garden, supported landscaping and beautification in six local towns, maintained our two Blue Star Memorial Monuments, tended to our own gardens and had fun!

On August 8 we will have our annual club picnic at the Athens Riverside Park, and on August 21 we will participate in County Day, with a tour of Cedar Grove, the home of Thomas Cole, and hear a program on 21st Century Damsels and Dragonflies by Larry Federman, Education Coordinator for Audubon New York. On September 12 Neil Schoenfeld will speak to us about native plants, and on October 10 club members Jane Hershey and Christine Odell will discuss ways to entice and keep bees, butterflies and birds in our gardens to pollinate the blossoms of fruit, flower and vegetable plants. Guests are invited to all our programs. Contact President Mary Lou Nahas (518) 722-8073 for more details.



A visit to Blithewood Manor Garden at Bard College.

Roberta Nunn and Joan Radley, chairman for our fifth annual garden tour.



Planters: Carolyn Sadowski, Mary Lou Nahas and Jean Nolan

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 May plant sale was a big success. This is our major fundraiser for the year, and we had a very good turn-out. In June, we held our annual luncheon at Savona's Trattoria, in Kingston. Everyone had a great time.

One of our favorite philanthropic endeavors is to decorate the graduation ceremony with flowers. We provide fresh floral arrangements for Germantown High School's graduation. This year, members Ruth Tourjee, Melanie Nelson, and Linda Saulpaugh (with help from Linda's granddaughter Morgan) designed all the arrangements for the ceremony. Another one of our philanthropies is to donate a book each year to the Germantown Library. This year we donated "Foraging & Feasting—A Field Guide and Wild Food Cookbook" by Dina Falconi.



Club president Fran Bufi (right) donating the book "Foraging & Feasting" to librarian Lynn Place of the Germantown Library.



Germantown Garden Club arrangements for Germantown High School Graduation.

At our July meeting, we featured a presentation on "The New Naturalistic Garden Style" by Robert Clyde Anderson, manager and plant buyer for Pondside Nursery in Hudson. This illustrated talk served as an introduction to the ideas behind this growing gardening movement first started in Europe. We took a look at plants used and saw examples of public and private gardens that express this style and philosophy of naturalistic planting.

Our big project this year is our annual flower show. Our club has held a flower show every year since 1928. This year will be our 86th show! It will take place on September 13 and 14 at the Palatine Parsonage in Germantown. Our theme this year is "Into the Wild." Curious about this topic? Come to our show to find out. We have added a bulb and corm horticulture section to our show for the first time. For more information call Fran Bufi at (518) 537-4868.

Karen Janson

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.

Patricia Blundell,
Awards

Greenbush

In May the Greenbush Garden Club held a very successful plant sale at the Elks Club Pavilion in East Greenbush. The club is trying something new this year. Rather than a scholarship for one high school senior, the profits of the plant sale were used to fund a grant program for gardening programs for children. The annual picnic was held at Joan Giordano's home again this year. At the picnic, grants of \$250 each were awarded to representatives of Castleton Elementary School, Green Meadows Elementary School and the Friends of the Rensselaer Library.

Eight club members attended the outstanding 90th Anniversary party at Renee Benenati's home in Kinderhook and had fantastic time. Wow!

While visiting a loved one in Van Rensselaer Manor this spring, one of member noticed the courtyard garden in the Alzheimer's wing could use a bit of TLC, so the club rallied its forces and cleaned up the garden and filled the planters with colorful annuals.



With the help of some children, a 3 sister's garden (corn, beans and squash). was planted at Fort Crailo.



Many club members enjoyed the Cornell Cooperative Extension Garden tour in June and a trip to Wethersfield Garden in July. Pictured left to right are: Diane Madden, Joan Giordano, June Kosier, Carol Mastromarchi, Linda Plue, Marie Celeste, Anne Douglas, Teresa Murphy and Susan Sagarin. More adventures are being planned for later this summer.

Diane Madden

5.

Hugh Plat



At Kinderhook's Celebration 90: Back row—Sue Bushman, Fran Scafford, Hannah Pavoldi; Front row—Avis Mullholland, Jackie DeSanti

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Club members display their tea cup arrangements.



Jackie DeSanti

Kinderhook

The Garden Club of Kinderhook celebrated its 90th anniversary on June 5 with many members of the Third District socializing under a tent in Renee Benenati's backyard. The sun made an appearance as festivities commenced, with sweets and appetizers being enjoyed by all. The mayor of Kinderhook, Carol Weaver, presented the club with a proclamation and Mary Jo Gibson, wife of Congressman Chris Gibson, expressed her pleasure at being present at the celebration. A gentleman played tunes from the nine decades, and then a hat parade, organized by Pat Leary, provided additional entertainment.



The club has been the recipient of a distinctive honor. At its July meeting Mary Jo Gibson, wife of Congressman Chris Gibson, presented the club with a Congressional Proclamation for the commemoration of the club's 90th anniversary. The honor was due to the efforts of Congressman Gibson, and was accepted with much gratitude. It's a very special thing to be recognized by Congress.

Continuing its anniversary festivities, the club will present a Standard Flower Show, "Celebration 90," chaired by Pat Leary and Renee Benenati, on August 16 and 17 at the James Vanderpoel House on Rte. 9 in Kinderhook. Hours are 1 to 4 p.m. both days. Admission is free, and all members of the Third District are invited to view the horticulture and special exhibits and the floral creations interpreting the nine decades of the club's existence.

Renee Benenati

In the fall of 2013 I was busy in my flower garden, cleaning out the leaves, etc., when I came across the egg case of a Praying Mantis. I slid it off the blade of grass and placed it in a small glass bottle, with a lid.

Come spring, I took it to my garden club meeting to show the members. A few weeks later, I picked it up and opened the jar, not noticing that the eggs had started to hatch!!! About a hundred small Mantis were crawling all over each other and onto my hand. I went to show my daughter, as she had noticed two more egg cases on one of their shrubs last fall. Quickly she got her camera and began taking pictures.

I then went out to my flower bed and let most of the hatchlings disappear into the garden. Recapped the jar and spent time of observing those remaining in the jar. It was exciting—so small, and so like the adults. Since then several have been observed in the garden area. This is a good insect to have around.

When living in New Jersey back in the early forties, I was making supper when an egg case hatched. I opened the kitchen window to set them free. I often wondered if any made it into my cooking pots that night. The hatchlings were about half inch long and looked like mini adults. It is against the law to kill them in Pennsylvania. They destroy the "bad" bugs.

Betty-Jean Stinner

Pine Plains

The Pine Plains Garden Club has been busy this summer planting town flower barrels and maintaining the town tribute gardens.



Victoria LoBrutto



Shawangunk

The Shawangunk Garden Club is hosting its flower show "Glory of the Garden" on Friday, Aug. 8th from 2-8 p.m., and on Sat. Aug. 9th from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Mary & St. Andrew's Catholic Church Parish Hall located at 137 South Main St., Ellenville, NY 12428. (845) 647-6080. Open to the public, free admission. Refreshments will be served.

Helene Morris



Tioronda

Two of some 40 hanging flower baskets along Beacon's Main St. provided and maintained by the Tioronda Garden Club.



Gary Barrack

Towne and Country



Jackie DiSanti

Coming up

Meetings

- August 21 Greene-Schoharie County Day (see p. 3)
- Sept. 4 District III Board, 9 a.m., Pegasus
- Sept. 9-10 State Fall Conference, Geneva (see below)
- October 16 Fall District III meeting (see p. 4)

District Clubs' Flower Shows

- August 8-9 Shawngunk "Glory of the Garden" (see p. 10)
- August 16-17 Kinderhook "Celebration 90" (see p. 9)
- Sept. 13-14 Germantown "Into the Wild" (see p. 7)
- Nov. 21-22 Schoharie Valley "Bursting with Christmas Joy"

FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF NEW YORK STATE



FALL CONFERENCE

September 9 – 10, 2014

**RAMADA GENEVA
LAKEFRONT**

Join us on the shore of lovely Seneca Lake,
one of the most spectacular Finger Lakes,
home to many of the leading wineries and
micro-breweries in New York State.
Geneva is within reach of many interesting
places to visit and explore.

**"RENEWING
OUR COMMITMENT"**

If your club does not have
the complete flyer, you
can access it at
fgcnys.com

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. 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.

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 - select District III on the home page and then select Digest Online.

Happy rest of summer,

Maryann