

# The Digest

THIRD DISTRICT FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF NYS, INC.



NOVEMBER 2018

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## Editor's Note

It's that time of year when we gardeners are finally putting our gardens to bed, so to speak. Did anyone notice that some of our plants just didn't want to give up?

Here it is in the middle of November and I still have some blooms on my Phlox. So, no, I can't cut them down. And my Snapdragons are still blooming!

My garden calendar tells me it's time to chop things down. But my flowers have a different agenda.

Speaking of a different agenda, I wanted to let all of you know that going forward, for our February edition of *The Digest*, we will have a different format.

Since most clubs don't meet in the winter and because it makes an extra burden on clubs to provide content for a February issue of *The Digest*, it has been decided that it makes sense to have a limited edition for this month.

Starting in 2019, the February issue will only be about our Spring District Meeting.

You will have to wait to hear from me to beg for your club's submissions for our April edition. That deadline is March 15.

Happy Holidays and Happy Gardening!

Karin Janson, Editor, *The Digest*  
kjanson@aol.com

## *From the Director*



As the 2018 Garden Club year comes to an end, I want to thank all of our members for their unwavering support in furthering the mission of Federated Garden Clubs. Our clubs are actively engaged in conducting world-class Flower Shows, Civic Beautification Projects, Youth Outreach, Garden Therapy, World Gardening, and Scholarship and Educational Programs to name a few. There is another aspect of what we do that often times does not receive the attention and publicity that it rightly deserves. Clubs are active in providing assistance to those in need.

Whether it is organizing food bank drives, conducting programs at nursing homes during the holidays, visits to the sick at Veteran's Hospitals, or just brightening someone's day with flowers, garden clubs are what America needs, now more than ever. November is a time to reflect on our accomplishments and give thanks for the many blessings that we enjoy in this great country of ours. My best wishes to all for a Happy Thanksgiving and holiday season with family and friends.

Our 'Foliage of Fall' District meeting and Horticulture Specialty Show was held on October 20, 2018, in Kingston, NY. Those who attended seemed to agree that it was a huge success. The feedback received by the Board was extremely positive. Over 95 members from 18 of our 24 clubs attended. The Horticulture Show was the highlight of the event, as more than 100 entries were evaluated and judged. We thank Chairman Lynne Arnold and the members of the Judges Council for their enthusiastic work in planning, classification, staging, publicity, and scheduling of this event.

*(cont. on pg 2)*



*At our Third District Fall Meeting, I was proud to award my club's longtime Civic Beautification Chairman Norman MacLeod of the Tioronda Garden Club with a First-Place NGC award for Civic Beautification.*

(Director's Message from pg 1)

We were once again honored to have as our guest New York State President Monica Hansen. Her presence added even more to the excitement and success of the meeting and the show. Delegates at the meeting also voted on a new slate of highly qualified Officers for 2019–2021.

I was pleased to report an increase of 21 new members for 2018. Third District Clubs are doing a phenomenal job in this respect. Only with new and increased membership will we continue to grow and remain relevant in the years to come. We have increased our financial position, greatly improved communications, streamlined many procedures, and cut operational costs. Our clubs continue to receive many District, State, and National Awards for outstanding performance in every aspect of garden club activities.

Our Spring District Meeting will be held on April 25, 2019. Please note that this is one week later than our customary third Thursday of the month. The installation of new officers for the 2019–2021 term of office will take place at that time. We look forward to yet another year of extraordinary growth and achievement for the clubs of the Third District. Please always keep in mind our positive theme, “the best is yet to come!”

Take care,  
Gary Barrack, Director

## WAYS & MEANS AND RAFFLE ITEMS: HELPFUL GUIDELINES FOR DISTRICT MEETINGS

We are including this helpful chart again to help you with planning and preparing your 2019 Yearbook and for planning your participation for the upcoming meetings.

### Ways & Means

Items clean and gently used, no clothes, and PRICED AT HOME BEFORE THE MEETING. Please remember to take home items left over. Marie Muller is the contact person: email: [bearly@midtel.net](mailto:bearly@midtel.net) or phone: 518-295-8698.

### Raffle Items

\$25 value, new items, wrapped nicely in a bag or basket. Camille McComb is the contact person: email: [seatoile@gmail.com](mailto:seatoile@gmail.com) or phone: 518-378-2480.

### Chart for District Meetings

This handy chart shows the dates of when your club will be responsible for providing either the Ways & Means items or for securing the Raffle bags/baskets.

Date	Ways & Means	Raffle Items
Spring 2019	Greene/Schoharie & Board	Rensselaer & Board
Fall 2019	Albany & Columbia GCs	Greene/Schoharie
Spring 2020	Dutchess Co. GC	Schenectady Co. GCs
Fall 2020	Ulster Co. GCs	Columbia Co. GCs
Spring 2021	Columbia Co. GCs & Board	Albany Co. GCs
Fall 2021	Schenectady & Rensselaer	Dutchess & Board

## CLUBS IN DISTRICT III

### District Three Clubs, by County

**Albany:** Blue Creek, Guilderland, Helderview

**Columbia:** Germantown, Greenport, The Garden Club of Kinderhook

**Dutchess:** Tioronda

**Greene-Schoharie:** Athens Community, Clematis, Schoharie Valley

**Rensselaer:** Greenbush

**Schenectady:** Garden Explorers, Country Garden Club of Clifton Park, Glen Oaks, H. Gilbert Harlow, Hugh Plat, Western Hills

**Ulster:** Community Garden Club of Marlborough, Hillside Acres, New Paltz, Saugerties Society of Little Gardens, Shawangunk, Ulster, Woodstock

## WORLD GARDENING

Thank you to all who have contributed to our two projects: Water for South Sudan and Dig Deep. You still have time to send your checks to my attention:

Marie Celeste  
World Gardening Chair  
39 Donegal Ave.  
Troy, NY 12180

The deadline is December 31. Checks are then forwarded to Chairperson Lucille Bauer.

# CHANGE THE DAY PROJECT

*This information appeared in our FGCNYS The News, Spring, 2018.*

*You can read about the entire project at [www.Marthastewart.com/1524287/how-to-fight-plastic-pollution-straws](http://www.Marthastewart.com/1524287/how-to-fight-plastic-pollution-straws)*

## Let's talk trash for a moment.

Think about the last time you ordered a smoothie from your favorite juicery or picked up your morning iced coffee. Now, think about what you did after you finished your drink; chances are you threw everything—your cup, lid, and straw—into the trash. Or perhaps you thought, since it's plastic, it could be recycled. However, according to a recent global analysis of the effects of plastic pollution, a whopping 91% of all discarded plastic never actually gets recycled. As a result, a majority of all plastic will end up in landfills or, more likely, the ocean. "Plastic does not disappear. It does not go away,"

Nicholas Mallos, program director for Trash Free Seas at the Ocean Conservancy, tells us. "And the same qualities that make it so useful in our everyday life—it's cheap, it's strong, it's light—make them just as hard to break down."

Life Cycle of a plastic straw: During a Trash Free Seas program in 2017, volunteers picked up 125,973 straws on American beaches alone. (I know... who counts?) EVERY DAY more than 500 million! single-use plastic straws are tossed. AND the sad fact is that, with the exception of a medical condition, single-use plastic straws are not required to sip your favorite drink! Your discarded single-use straw finds its way into the ecosystem. Fish may not ingest a large straw. The straw does break down into small pieces like the pesky eggshell sized pieces that we can remove (well maybe) from our omelets. Unfortunately, sea animals suck up these small pieces. It's a fact! By 2050 the oceans will be home to more plastic than fish. And there you have it. A food chain started by us.



It's so easy to stop this practice. We all know the 3R's: Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling... The article suggested adding a fourth: REFUSE. The next time you are in a restaurant, BEFORE you place even your drink order, request that you do not want a plastic straw. It's a fact! There are currently (only) 1,800 restaurants, organizations, and schools worldwide that have either implemented a straws-by-request policy or have gotten rid of them all together (including Miami, Los Angeles, NYC, and D.C.). France has already decided to ban single-use plastic straws. Très bien.

Do you love sipping with a straw? Consider investing in your own reusable straw: stainless steel or bamboo. Refusing a single-use straw does not sound like much, but consider if 100,000 or a million others refused a straw in the same week: definitely an impact. This comes down to a choice to be sustainable when you have the chance. Make a pledge to be plastic straw free for a week or forever. "This is a people problem. We manufacture straws and use them. We can fix it." It's a fact: Yes, we can.

# AWARDS

by Patricia Blundell, Awards Coordinator



## THIRD DISTRICT CITATIONS

### Civic Concern:

Garden Club of Kinderhook—Roadside Beautification  
Garden Club of Kinderhook—Civic Development  
or Improvement  
Garden Club of Kinderhook—Youth Education

### Publicity—Newsletters:

Germantown Garden Club

### Standard Flower Show Schedule:

Garden Club of Kinderhook—'Playground Floral Fantasies'  
Germantown Garden Club—'Let's Celebrate'

### Horticulture Speciality Flower Show Schedule:

Third District Judges Council—'Foliage of Fall'

### Standard Flower Show:

Garden Club of Kinderhook—'Playground Floral Fantasies'  
Germantown Garden Club—'Let's Celebrate'

### Horticulture Speciality Flower Show:

Third District Judges Council—'Foliage of Fall'

### Horticultural Therapy/Garden Therapy:

Garden Club of Kinderhook—From Our Garden with Love  
program

### Historic Preservation:

Garden Club of Kinderhook—Martin Van Buren grave site

### Memorial Gardens:

Guilderland Garden Club—memorial garden at Mercy Care  
Life Center

### Yearbook Citations:

#### Class I

First Place: H. Gilbert Harlow

#### Class II

First Place: Garden Explorers

Second Place: Schoharie Valley Garden Club

Third Place: Greenport Garden Club

#### Class III

First Place: Athens Community Garden Club

Second Place: Germantown Garden Club

Third Place: Tie—Guilderland Garden Club, New Paltz  
Garden Club

#### Class IV

First Place: Shawangunk Garden Club

Second Place: Tie—Clematis Garden Club, Tioronda  
Garden Club

#### Class VI

First Place: Garden Club of Kinderhook

## FGCNYS, INC. AWARDS

### Club Recognition Citation:

Germantown Garden Club  
Guilderland Garden Club  
Shawangunk Garden Club

### Yearbook Citation:

First Place, Class 4: Shawangunk Garden Club  
Second Place, Class 1: H. Gilbert Harlow Garden Club  
Third Place, Class 3: Athens Garden Club  
Honorable Mention, Class 5: Garden Club of Kinderhook

### Special Recognition Award—'Planting the Seeds of Membership':

Garden Club of Kinderhook

### Certificate of Achievement Award—Youth Poetry:

Athens Community Garden Club, Poetry Publication:  
33 Certificates of Appreciation  
Athens Community Garden Club, Poems by NY Poets:  
39 Poetry Books

## NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB AWARDS

### Standard Flower Show Achievement Award:

Germantown Garden Club: Standard Flower Show—  
'Gardens, Gardens, Gardens'

### Publication—Tommy Donnan Certificate of Merit:

Garden Club of Kinderhook—*Flourishing Futures*  
cookbook

### Community Beautification:

First Place: Tioronda Garden Club

Special thanks to all the clubs who shared their wonderful  
projects with us by applying for awards.



# FALL DISTRICT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: *Foliage of Fall*

OCTOBER 20, 2018

On October 20, 95 members representing 18 clubs, attended the Third District Fall Meeting at the Best Western Plus in Kingston. The Horticulture Show was the highlight of the event, as more than 100 entries were evaluated and judged. Participants took advantage of the opportunity to try to win one of the many raffle baskets provided by Ulster County Garden Clubs and individual members, as well as shop the Ways and Means provided by Schenectady and Rensselaer Garden Clubs and Vendors. Many awards were presented including Citations from the Third District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, Inc., and National Garden Clubs, Inc. Following lunch, members viewed the Horticulture Show to find out who won the top awards.



# WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO RECYCLING?

by Barbara Campbell



## WE CAN:

- Reduce
- Reuse
- Cut back on packaging
- Throw out less
- Share ideas

Since the 1960's when my husband started recycling at our town landfill every Saturday morning with a group of high school students—known as the Earth Committee—we have come a long way. But have we? Many are eager to take their recyclables to the commingle single stream container and happily leave it curbside. Feeling rather pleased, they put it out of their mind.

But did you know that over 50% of these commingled recyclables go from the processing plant to the landfill? They are often contaminated and cannot be recycled. One greasy pizza box can destroy an entire bale. A whopping 91% of plastic winds up in the landfill according to *National Geographic*. Most plastics are neither degradable nor recyclable. The *New York Times* states that 100,000 sea mammals are killed each year by plastic in the oceans. Over 56% of New York City 'recyclables' wind up in the landfills and 70% of all wine bottles end up there as well. Some say plastic should go in the trash and others say it should be safely burned. "When in doubt, throw it in the trash," is what we are hearing from experts. Many facilities can only recycle clean, empty, clear glass bottles with all the colored bottles going to the landfill.

The biggest problem is what to do with the tons of material. Until this year, China accepted 2/3 of the world's recyclable materials. As of January 2018, they instituted the 'National Sword' policy which has banned most plastic waste from import. China has stepped out of the

global recycle market. They have stopped accepting 24 categories of waste; including unsorted paper and plastic, citing they are too dirty.

Municipalities in NY have been trying to find new sources for their waste. Greene and Columbia counties are facing serious revenue losses because of this new policy. The Brookhaven recycling plant on Long Island has piled heaps of plastic outside their facility. Cardboard, that used to go for \$135 a ton, is getting less than \$55 because much is wet and/or dirty. Many communities are still committed but they cannot overcome the financial deficits this policy has created. They are scrambling to find alternatives. Some communities have had to close their recycling stations. This past week, Ulster County passed a ban on plastic bags to begin July 2019. They are the first county to ban these bags. Great, you might say...but did you know that research shows that single-use plastic bags have a significantly smaller carbon footprint across their life cycle than paper bags? We have a long way to go! The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on climate change warns us that the world has 12 years to act to prevent catastrophe. What can still be done?

I am hoping garden club members will send me suggestions on the website ([fgcnys.com](http://fgcnys.com)) 'contact me' page. I will post these suggestions and hopefully a dialogue between members may create good solutions.

## GERMANTOWN GARDEN CLUB

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Fran Bufi, President

In preparing for our upcoming flower show, we hosted a presentation by Accredited Flower Show Judge and former President of the FGNYS, Inc. Barbara Campbell. Barbara's presentation "Designing Arrangements for Flower Shows" featured demonstrations on how to create floral arrangements for the Design Division with a special emphasis on the Germantown Garden Club's 90th flower show titled "Let's Celebrate!" She shared ideas, tips, and talked about how to exhibit specimens for the horticulture division as well. Our club has staged an annual flower show for 90 years. More than once, during that time the club has been honored to receive a National Garden Club Award for a Standard Flower Show.

In keeping with the Germantown Garden Club's 90th Birthday Year, the club held its 90th flower show titled 'Let's Celebrate!' Our Standard Flower Show consisted of a Design Division with 6 classes, for a total of 24 designs, two Educational Exhibits, a Botanical Arts Division – Photography, and a Horticulture Division. This year there were 167 entries in the Horticulture Division—a record despite the inclement weather we experienced this season. The show was judged by six accredited flower show judges. The top winners in the Design Division were: Mimi Brauch, who received the Designer's Choice Award and the Award of Design Excellence for her Functional Bistro-type Table for two, titled "Special Anniversary." Mary Puskar won the Tri-color Award for her Cascade Design titled "Housewarming." Mary also won the Sweepstakes Award and the People's Choice Award.

In the Horticulture Division, there were 43 first-place ribbons awarded. The top winner was Mary Puskar, who won the Award of Horticulture Excellence, the Arboreal Award, an Award of Merit, and the Sweepstakes Award. Irene Clum won the Grower's Choice Award, and other winners of the Award of Merit went to Mimi Brauch, Carol Annas, and Karin Janson.

Our October meeting featured a hands-on wreath decorating workshop. "All Occasion Wreaths" was the subject and given by floral designer Erin Brady. Participants brought any type of wreath frame—straw, wire, twig, etc.—and decorations of their choice. Erin first demonstrated wreath-decorating techniques and then critiqued the wreaths made by the participants. This workshop was given in part to inspire members to create wreaths to sell at our club's annual Holiday Open House, our club's fundraiser which will be held on December 1 and 2 at the Palatine Parsonage on Maple Avenue in Germantown.



Barbara Campbell, Flower Show Judge, shows great examples about how to create floral arrangements for our upcoming show.



Mimi Brauch's winning Design Division titled 'Special Anniversary,' which won the Award of Design Excellence.



Right to left: Erin Brady, floral designer, members Rosalie Rossi and Mattie Gifford at the wreath workshop.



So many awards at the Fall District Meeting! Pictured left to right: Andrea DiPace, Irene Clum, President Fran Bufi, Gloria Cestero-Hurd, and Karin Janson.

## GREENPORT GARDEN CLUB

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Maria Kolodziej-Zincio

### Garden Club Awards Youth Scholarships

The Greenport Garden Club and General Roll Leaf Manufacturing Co. Inc., awarded Hudson High 2018 graduate Brianna Tsitsera, a \$2,000 post-secondary scholarship at their Youth Awards Dinner held on August 2 at the Greenport Community Center. Selection of the award is based on the student's essay, post-secondary educational goals, and teacher recommendations. Brianna will be pursuing the Environmental Studies and Philosophy Program at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia. The Greenport Garden Club and Roll Leaf Manufacturing Co. Inc. is an annual joint sponsorship program.

The club also awarded the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Camp Colby Award to Hudson Middle School student Aliyah Camacha at their Youth Awards Dinner. The \$350 grant provides for transportation fees and a week-long program in July at Camp Colby in the Adirondacks. For one intensive week selected students from around the state gather to learn about wildlife and preserving the environment. The selection process is based on teacher recommendation, character and extracurricular activities. The club has supported this program for fifteen years through its fund-raising events for youth scholarships.

### Garden Club at the Columbia County Fair

"Keep America Beautiful and Green" was Greenport Garden Club's theme at this year's county fair held in Chatham NY. The club's booth design represented the green landscape that marks the tapestry of the Hudson Valley. Assorted trees, shrubs, bushes, and fall flowers embraced the club's signature banner with an image of the flower beds that are maintained by the club at the Greenport Town Hall.

### Garden Club Field Trip to FDR National Historic Site

Greenport Garden Club members visited Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Historic Site with its beautiful rose and annual gardens. Members walked the grounds that were lined with flower beds bursting with annuals and perennials selected for their soft color harmony, bloom, and texture. Along the path at the Senator Robert S. Kerr Memorial Garden stood a life-size sculpture of Franklin Delano and Roosevelt. The field trip also included a tour of the Presidential Home, Grave Memorial, Coach House, and Stables, Library and Museum.

### Garden Club Designs Banner

As part of the club's Civic Beautification Project, the Greenport Garden Club designed an 8 ft. banner that is being used in their presentations. The banner, with an image of the Greenport Town Hall entryway which greets thousands of town residents annually. The photograph was taken by Maria Kolodziej-Zincio, Publicity Chair and printed by Pro Printers of Hudson. The club maintains the flower beds at the Greenport Town Hall and the visual design with their theme "Keep America Beautiful and Green" reflects the club's visions and goals. The banner was displayed at the Columbia County Fair and District III "Foliage of Fall" conference at the Best Western Plus in Kingston, NY.



Top: At the Youth Awards Dinner, (l. to r.) Peter Budelman, Erin Tsitsera, Brianna Tsitsera, and Tom Budelman.

Second from top: DEC Camp Colby Award, (l. to r.) Karen Antonelli, Aliyah Camacha, Michelle Camacha

Middle: Greenport Garden Club's exhibit at the Columbia County Fair

Greenport Garden Club Members at the Home of FDR: (l. to r.) Cindy Teator, Kathy Bucholsky, Maria Kolodziej-Zincio, Agnes LaSalvia, Angela Rapp, and Barbara Hapeman



## GUILDERLAND GARDEN CLUB

ALBANY COUNTY

by Merrill-Lee Lenegar

The August meeting of the Garden Club was held at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Delmar. We were amazed at what we learned about the Owls in New York State. The presenter, Kitty Rusch, had a game for all to participate in to see how much we paid attention to what she told us.

From August 14–19, we participated at the Altamont Fair. To let visitors know about the Club and the Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, Inc., we had a table display in the Fine Arts Building with handouts promoting both groups. Members of the club were at the table to answer questions and to explain in more detail what the club and the FGCNYS are all about. In addition, several of our members entered the Horticulture competition and won ribbons. We also had members who exhibited original paintings in the Arts and Craft category.

Thanks to winemaker Joe Messina, the club had a great day on September 10 with a tour, lunch, and wine tasting at the Amoric Vineyard in Valley Falls. Joe gave a presentation on the vineyard's bio-dynamic approach to growing food: no chemicals, pesticides, or fertilizers are used.

Eight members of the Club attended the Fall District Meeting on October 18. Club members did very well at the first Horticulture Specialty Show held in conjunction with the meeting. Craig R. Waltz, Jr. and Nancy Stahl took home first prizes in their category.

Linda D'Orazio-Miller, President of the club, accepted an award for our Yearbook and a citation for work done at Mercy Care Life Center. Merrill-Lee Lenegar, past president, was given a District III Citation for work as chairman of the District Conference.

Members of the Club worked for several hours on a cool day to prepare the gardens at the Mynderse-Frederick House for winter. We gathered some of the plant material to use in arrangements that we will make for the Open House, and put away the garden ornaments. The gardens were beautiful throughout the growing season thanks to the dedication of many of the club members who kept the plants watered, trimmed and weeds pulled.

We are well on our way with the plans for the annual open house co-sponsored by the Guilderland Historical Society scheduled for November 30 from 4–8 pm, and December 1 and 2 from 1–5 pm. The theme this year is Winter Wonderland. There will be free entertainment and refreshments. Ornaments, wreaths, and arrangements made by members of the club will be for sale. Visitors are asked to bring a nonperishable donation for a local food pantry. A portion of the proceeds from this event will be used to support a health and environmental education seminar for the general public on Lyme and other tick-borne diseases.



Top Left: Linda Miller and Donna Mohr at the exhibit table at the Altamont Fair.  
Center: Joe Messina explaining to club members the variety of grapes he grows to make his wine. Top Right: Christine Burdick, Sandy Hill, Linda Miller, Linda Greenberg, and Nancy Parry prepare the gardens at the Mynderse-Frederick House for winter.  
Left: Club members show off the awards we won at the Fall District Meeting.

## HUGH PLAT GARDEN CLUB

SCHENECTADY COUNTY

by Mary Ann DeFonce

Each September, the Hugh Plat Garden Club decorates the two porches of the Schenectady County Historical Society buildings for the Fall Walkabout. This year we were excited to be asked to also decorate, inside and out, the newly re-imagined interpretation of the Mabee Farm farmhouse building. The Mabee Farm is the oldest farm in the Mohawk Valley, dating to 1705. The Historical Society has also asked Hugh Plat to add the farmhouse building to the decorating we do for the Society's Festival of Trees, December 1 through 16. Our September 21 meeting at Panera Bread was planning for these upcoming activities. On September 29 found us hunting and gathering donated mums, cornstalks, hay bales, and pumpkins. October 3 and 4 were spent decorating the three locations. In mid-November, we will meet at the home of President Sue Bushman for design workshops, and then on November 28 and 29, the real fun begins as we fill the Society buildings and the Mabee Farmhouse with festive touches. Our theme this year, Frosty Forest, will evoke cheery settings of snowmen, greens, forest animals, and, of course, SNOWFLAKES EVERYWHERE!

### A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, SUE BUSHMAN:

The mission of the Hugh Plat Garden Club has always been the Schenectady County Historical Society. We went from providing bouquets and arrangements for the inside to beautifying the large front porch and back entrance. While we are doing our elf work, the neighbors walking by comment on and praise the outcome. Last year, the historical society added a house on North Church Street that was left to them by the owners. It is the oldest house in the city of Schenectady. This year they added the Mabee Farmhouse on the grounds of the historic farm in Rotterdam Junction. They love what our efforts add to their planned programs. We attempt to stay period with style and what we use in all of our decorations. They have now asked us to decorate the farmhouse for the programs they have planned for the holidays. This will take some studying on the decorations from the early 1700's.



Left: Club members Mary Ann De Fonce, Sue Bushman, Fran Fazio, and Fran Scrafford after decorating Schenectady County Historical Building for Fall Walkabout.

Top: A close up of porch decorations

Top center and below: Various views inside the Mabee Farm house.

## THE GARDEN CLUB OF KINDERHOOK

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Cynthia Bogardus

To raise money for their scholarship fund, the Garden Club of Kinderhook staged a 1920's-themed cocktail party at the home of member Anne Shoemaker. Attendees were encouraged to come in attire reflecting the Roarin' 20's and were treated to beverages, food, and decor showcasing that daring and fun-filled time. The fundraiser was a huge success!

The Club participated in the Columbia County Fair over Labor Day weekend, by decorating a booth and staging daily meet and greet opportunities with fairgoers. The committee was chaired by member Sue Sweet, who feels that exposure at the Fair is an excellent public relations tool for the Club.

Several months ago the Club lost a longtime member and beloved friend Maryann Weber. She was an avid gardener with a tremendous amount of knowledge, which she willingly shared. Maryann was also a valued member of the Ghent Playhouse. The garden club and the theater group combined to establish a permanent memorial to Maryann. An azalea shrub was planted in front of the Ghent Playhouse, with a plaque dedicated to Maryann. Maryann will be greatly missed.

A recent meeting featured a presentation by Jenny Elliott of Tiny Hearts Farm in Copake, New York. Jenny delighted members with stories of how she morphed from a career in music as a city-dweller into a successful flower farmer and floral designer. Her infectious enthusiasm was contagious, and she shared many good ideas for the garden and design. As Jenny described her technique, she created a lovely arrangement which was taken home by (lucky) member Sandy Wooding.

Upcoming for the Garden Club of Kinderhook in November and December are a cornucopia workshop, the annual boxwood workshop, decorating Lindenwald for the holiday open house to be held on December 1 and 2, and the annual holiday tea.



*Top left: 1920's Spirit! Getting into the spirit of the theme were club members Kendra Kalsher, Carolyn Beveridge, Marge Calyer, Paula Pugliese, Bonnie Flynn, and Sandi VanAlstyne.*

*Top Right: Finalizing the booth decorations at the Columbia County Fair were Sue Sweet, Sandi VanAlstyne, Cynthia Bogardus, and Geraldine Smith.*

*Below left: A memorial to Maryann Weber. Taking part in the planting and dedication ceremony were Kathy Biggs, Pat Dorsey, Margot Allen, Carol Finkelstein, Gerhard Weber, DeNola Perreten, Cathy Lee-Visscher, Renee Benenati, and Wendy Spielmann.*

## TIORONDA GARDEN CLUB

DUTCHESS COUNTY

by Gary Barrack

The Tioronda Garden Club held its annual Autumn Wine Festival at St. Rocco's Hall in Beacon, NY on October 11, 2018. Over 140 guests attended the event which honored its longtime member Clara Lou Gould. Clara Lou joined the club in 1965 and has remained an active member for the past 53 years. During this time period, she served as the club's president for two terms and is credited with starting the Civic Beautification Program in Beacon. Clara Lou served as the City of Beacon's mayor from 1989 to 2008. She is a former Third District Director of FGCNYS and was a flower show judge for many years. Our club is preparing to celebrate its 90th Anniversary in 2019. In his remarks, President Gary Barrack stated, "What better way to start our 90th-anniversary celebration than to honor this incredible lady for her many years of outstanding and dedicated service to our club."



Top: Club members gather for a group photo at the 13th annual Autumn Wine Festival. Left: Former District Director, Beacon Mayor, Club President and longtime Tioronda Club member Clara Lou Gould accepts a standing ovation at the Autumn Wine Festival



Left: Annual Spirit of Beacon Day Parade. Club members join Vice President Geraldine Fuller (third from left) at the information booth along the parade route. Raffle prizes and information flyers publicizing the work of the Tioronda Garden Club were on display. The club's banner "Beautifying Beacon since 1929" attracted a large number of visitors to the table making the event a huge success.

## CLEMATIS GARDEN CLUB

GREENE-SCHOHARIE COUNTY

by Carole Garvar

Clematis Garden Club held its annual installation of officers and Holiday Luncheon on November 9 at the Shamrock House in East Durham. Carole Garvar, GC Chair presided over the ceremony. Clara Potter, who served as the corresponding secretary had resigned and was honored.

Officers installed included: Jean Horn, President; Joan Radley, Vice President; Janet Wierzchowski, Recording Secretary; Diana Marshall, Corresponding Secretary; and Marie Hennings, Treasurer. Following the ceremony, club members gathered for a group picture.





# Foliage of Fall



## District III Horticulture Specialty Flower Show

by Lynne Arnold, Judges Council Chairman

Our Flower Show was a success! The judges' council and district board members worked together on a flower show committee. We were pleased to bring to the District Meeting the brand new National Garden Club's Horticulture Specialty Flower Show.

Members of 12 clubs in our district attended the luncheon and meeting. They brought 109 exhibits, including 4 education tables and innovative staging. All the top National awards offered were given. The NGC Top Winners:

**Division I: Horticulture Division:  
Horticulture Excellence Award and  
Section C—Growers Choice Award:**

Joy Coletta-Oxford

Entry: *Sansevieria cylindrica* 'Dragon's Fingers'  
A succulent container grown plant

**Section A: Arboreal Award**

Barbara Campbell—New Paltz Garden Club

Entry: *Chamaecyparis* 'Nana gracilis'

A miniature conifer evergreen branch

**Section B: Arboreal Award**

June Agostino—Marlborough-on-Hudson Community Garden Club

Entry: *Lagerstroemia speciosa* 'Crepe Myrtle.'

A fruited deciduous branch

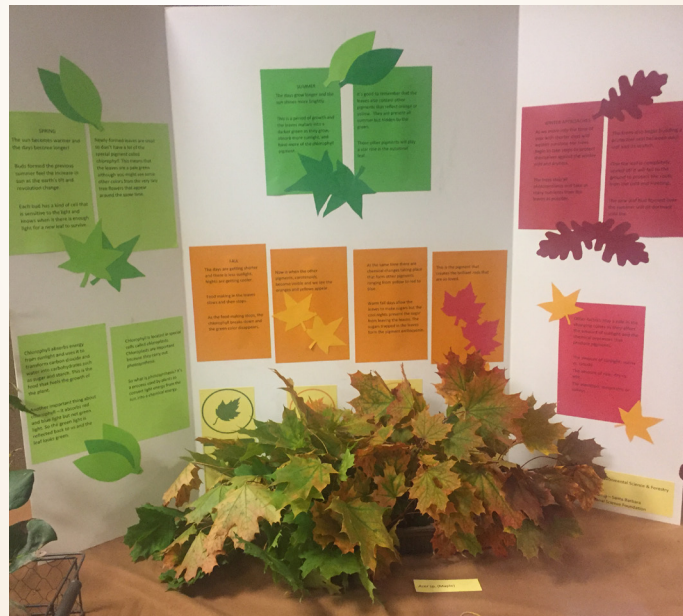
**Division II: Education Division**

**Educational Award**

Elizabeth Walker—Hillside Acres Garden Club

Entry: Changing Colors—An educational exhibit explaining the changes in foliage color.

During our meeting and awards program, the show was judged. After the luncheon, attendees were able to view the show. Thank you to all those who participated and supported the show by your attendance.



Top left: This *Sansevieria cylindrica* received the top award for Horticulture Excellence. Top right: the Educational Award went to this entry about *Changing Colors in the Fall*. Bottom left: This *Chamaecyparis* won an Arboreal Award. Bottom right: This *Crepe Myrtle* also won an Arboreal Award.

# Clubs' Calendar 2018-2019

## November 29

Athens Community Garden Club's Luncheon and Holiday Auction  
Pegasus Restaurant, Coxsackie, NY

## November 30 and December 1 and 2

Guiderland Garden Club's Annual Open House  
Co-sponsored with the Guiderland Historical Society  
November 30, 4-8 pm; December 1-2, 1-5 pm

## December 1 and 2

Germantown Garden Club's Holiday Open House  
December 1, 10 am-3 pm; December 2, 1-3 pm  
Palatine Parsonage, 52 Maple Ave., Germantown

## April 25, 2019

Third District Spring Meeting  
Save the Date!

## Highlights from the FGCNYS Fall Conference

by Barbara Campbell

Our recent FGCNYS 68th Fall Conference was held in Corning, NY. Participants got to blow glass pumpkins, see all the awards presentations, participate in instructional workshops, open judge's council workshops, and attend programs by an Ikebana instructor and special event florist. There were lots of hospitality and a welcoming for our National President, Nancy Hargroves, who was in attendance. It was a very busy event with business sessions and the nominating committee meeting to select a slate for FGCNYS 2019-2020. All members are welcome to attend these state meetings and so much is provided. It's a great thing to put on your calendars.



Top right: Gary with Monica Hansen and Camille McComb accepting a Special Recognition Award from FGCNYS for 'Sowing the Seeds of Membership' awarded to the Garden Club of Kinderhook. Bottom right: Gary with Monica, Camille, and NGC President Nancy Hargroves accepting an NGC award for Kinderhook's Cookbook, Flourishing Futures. Right: Gary with winning poetry entries sent in by the Athens Community Garden Club. There were 34 entries.

*The Digest Online* is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of the month before each issue (April, July, and October).

Please send news of your club's activities, events, and plans—it's a great way to share what you are doing with other clubs. Unlike print newsletters, there is no prohibitive cost factor for using color, so send in your photos. Articles on various gardening and flower arranging topics are especially welcome.

Material for *The Digest* should be sent to Karin Janson via email at [kjanson@aol.com](mailto:kjanson@aol.com).

To access *The Digest*, go to the State website—[fgcnys.com](http://fgcnys.com)—select District III on the home page and then select Digest Online.

