

The Digest

THIRD DISTRICT FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF NYS, INC.



NOVEMBER 2021

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From the Board



Dear Fellow Garden Club Members,

Happy November! I am certain all of your gardens are put to rest. Mask wearing continues in public, but the numbers of the Covid virus are continuing to improve! As you know we have had to cancel our fall meeting due to the virus.

However, the planning for the spring meeting is going forward. Save the date of April 21, 2022 for this and circle it on your calendar!

More exciting news to share is that our FGCNYS annual convention will be held in our district in June 2022 in Poughkeepsie! Planning is underway to organize garden tours, a cocktail party, and dinner with a speaker. Also a luncheon for convention attendees will be at The Culinary Institute of America and a symposium is in the works for later in the week.

What did you do with your garden over the past summer? Anything new? I decided to try out my gardening skills with straw bale gardening. I had read about it and it sounded like a great idea! First, I bought a straw bale and a bag of blood meal for fertilizer. Then I poked holes in the bale and added fertilizer slowly over a few weeks. Water can be added, too. As the bale gets ready for the planting of seedlings, adding water is not essential since the bale stores plenty of water for the plants. I chose to plant beets, lettuce, and herbs. For the first year the bale experiment was successful since I harvested them. I expect next year will be even better!

I would like to share a lovely poem for your reading pleasure.

FALL, LEAVES, FALL

by Emily Bronte

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;
 Lengthen night and shorten day;
 Every leaf speaks bliss to me
 Fluttering from the autumn tree.
 I shall smile when wreaths of snow
 Blossom where the rose should grow;
 I shall sing when night's decay
 Ushers in a drearier day.



My straw bale garden.

Have a beautiful Thanksgiving with your families and friends!

Cynthia Teator

First Assistant Director, Third District

CLUBS IN DISTRICT III

District Three Clubs, by County

Albany: Blue Creek, Guilderland, Helderview

Columbia: Germantown, The Garden Club of Kinderhook

Dutchess: Tioronda

Greene-Schoharie: Athens Community, Clematis, Schoharie Valley

Rensselaer: Greenbush

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

Ulster: Community Garden Club of Marlborough, New Paltz, Saugerties Society of Little Gardens, Shawangunk, Ulster

Save the Dates!

Hudson Valley FGCNYS Annual Convention

June 13 & 14, 2022

Poughkeepsie, NY

The FGCNYS will hold its annual Convention and Annual Meeting in Poughkeepsie in 2022. In addition to the business of the organization, there will be fascinating speakers and a floral design presentation by one of our region's top AIFD floral designers.

Special Guest: Mary Warshauer, President of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Hostality—a FGCNYS, Inc. Symposium

June 15 & 16, 2022

Poughkeepsie, NY

All are invited to join the Symposium. For the judges amongst us, this is a good time to get Symposium credits!

The floral focus is titled "Featured Plant and Multi-Rhythmic Design Types" with Allied Topics: Mechanics 7 Tools & Fantasy Forms. The horticultural focus is on hostas and cut ferns.

Additional information on both events will be provided soon.



Third District Needs You!

by Karin Janson

These unprecedented times have caused a lot of changes in our lives and in our Garden Clubs. A few years ago, it would be unheard of to have to attend on the same day an Annual District Meeting online, participate in a virtual Flower Show, or look at a Flower Arranging Demo on YouTube. But due to the pandemic, that is what we did to stay viable to our members and we all 'made it work,' as Tim Gunn would say.

As these challenging times move forth, our Third District needs to do so as well. You all know that we really need some new people to help with our vacant committees. It's imperative that our District stay viable as there are many vacancies. These committee vacancies include: Director, Historian, Horticulture, and Scholarship.

I fear, if we can't fill these vacancies, and in this age of Covid issues making up give up many of the social areas of our lives, that Garden Clubs will go 'Bye, Bye.' I sure as heck don't want that to happen.

Please consider stepping up to your club positions and especially looking at taking on a role at the District III level. You are the roots that make us grow and continue to make Garden Clubs blossom.

Listed here are the open positions and a brief description of what they do. If you are interested in being the chair of any of these committees, please reach out to Cindy Teator at cteator3@gmail.com.

Director

Are you a take charge person? Does organizing give you happiness? Then you might like to be the District Director. This position has supervision over the activities of the member garden clubs of the District. The District Director is responsible for distributing all the Federation materials, notices and goals to member garden clubs and for bringing to the attention of the Federation Board of Directors the needs or requests of the member garden clubs.

Historian

Love history? Are you fascinated with census roles? Then you might want to consider this position. The Historian keeps a record of the events and activities of the Federation and its members. Such records are the property of FGCNYS.

The Historian files with the NGC and CAR-SGC the history of the two years of each administration as requested by NGC and by CAR-SGC respectively. The short form state history is submitted to NGC by March 15th.

Horticulture

Love botany? Well then, this might be perfect for you. This Chairman's responsibility is to stimulate interest in all phases of horticulture as horticulture is stated in the Bylaws to be one of the basic objects and purposes of FGCNYS.

The Horticulture Chairman may accomplish this through lectures, workshops, programs at state meetings, articles in The Digest, etc. and shall serve in an advisory capacity to member garden clubs.

Scholarship

Would you like to help students in need get help going to college? Then this chairman position might be up your alley. The Scholarship Chairman is responsible for promoting the growth of the FGCNYS college student scholarships. Individual donors and contributing clubs are to receive a certificate. Donor names are also to be inscribed in a College Scholarship Benefactor's Book kept at FGCNYS Headquarters, published on the web site and annually in *The News*.

Please consider taking on one of these positions to further advance our Garden Club goals. Contact Cindy Teator at cteator3@gmail.com. if you are interested.

GERMANTOWN GARDEN CLUB

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Fran Bufi

Our club's 93rd annual Standard Flower Show took place on September 11 and 12, 2021. The show was called "The Flower Power of Gardening." Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Delta variant surge, we had to move our show to a venue that was more conducive for social distancing in a large and open space.

The flowers, plants, and designs that helped us through the pandemic and increased our awareness about the changing environment inspired our Flower Show. Our titles for the different sections and divisions used this theme to showcase all the different factors that gardeners are engaged with in their love for gardening. The show was held at our town's Community and Activity Building, in Germantown, NY.

Our standard flower show consisted of a Design Division with six design classes, a Horticulture Division, two Educational Exhibits, and a Botanical Arts: Photography Division. This year there were 159 entries in the Horticulture Division. The show was judged by six Accredited Flower Show Judges.

The top winners in the Design Division were; Andrea DiPace, Design Excellence, Tri-Color Award, and Sweepstakes Award; and Mimi Brauch, Designer's Choice Award. The top winners in the Horticulture Division were: Triona Fritsch, Horticulture Excellence Award and two Awards of Merit; Mimi Brauch, Grower's Choice Award and an Award of Merit, and the Horticulture Sweepstakes Award; and Irene Clum, Arboreal Award. Mattie Gifford and Ann Bloom each won an Award of Merit.

Considering the pandemic and the change of venue, we had many visitors that came to our show. We offered hand sanitizer and masks for people who forgot to wear one. We also had a table that included information about our Garden Club and what we do. Most importantly, we included a sign-up sheet for people who were interested in joining the Club.



Our 2021 Flower Show's theme was "The Flower Power of Gardening." We had to move our usual venue to the town's Activity Building due to Covid. It turned out to be a good thing.

One thing that we took away from changing our venue was to realize that having our Annual Flower Show at the town's community building made staging the show much easier. In the past we staged the show in our town's historical building which while nice to make use of it, was really too small. It was also much easier for visitors to view the show. At the historic site, we had to separate the Design Section to the Main building and the Horticulture was staged in a garage. We consider the last minute change of venue to be a positive change for our club going forward.

A recent meeting of the Germantown Garden Club featured a program titled "How Gardeners Can Minimize Their Impact on the Environment." The talk was led by Mary Ann Iaccino, Master Gardener Volunteer, Cornell CED. Science. She has taught school, written educational programs for seminars, and created, designed and presented programs as a museum educator. Her presentation included how gardeners can limit their impact on the environment in this world of climate change. She spoke to some of the choices we gardeners have such as maintaining healthy soils, using compost, planting the right plant in the right spot, smart watering, and rain gardens. A lively question and answer period followed.

The agenda included a discussion of the upcoming annual holiday activities. The club's annual Open House on December 4 and 5 will feature hand decorated fresh wreaths and table arrangements, the sale of holiday house plants, a bake sale, and boutique table of eclectic items.



*Best In Show Winner:
Andrea DiPace won the Design
Excellence Award for her
arrangement that included
Coleus scutellaroides and
Iris leaves.*

GUILDERLAND GARDEN CLUB

ALBANY COUNTY

by Michele Santoli and Merril-Lee Leniger

The most wonderful season of autumn is winding down. The vibrancy of the landscape will certainly be missed. However, we basked in its glory, especially on sunny days.

The fall has been beautiful here in Guilderland. All our gardens have been prepared to face the winter because of the work of those dedicated members who cared for them all spring and summer. Thank you all! We've been holding meetings at the Town Hall recently since the outdoor meetings have become challenging because of weather conditions. We were able to go on a field trip to the gardens at the Ten Broeck Mansion and Myers House (an underground railroad-safe house) in Albany. Both were enjoyed by all.

The club participated in the Altamont Fair. Several of our members entered different categories including Floral, Baking, and Painting. The club also had an exhibit at this event.

October found us creating Fall Centerpieces after our monthly meeting. We created and decorated "pumpkins" which actually were old paperback books that we cut and glued into spheres. Laughter and many OOHS and AAAHs could be heard as each creation was completed. Fun was had by everyone!

Due to Covid, our Open House Holiday Showcase has been cancelled. In an effort to continue funds growing for our charity donations, we will be having a Holiday Wreath and Craft Sale. This proved to be quite successful last year. So it's returning on Dec 4 from 10 am-2 pm at the Mynderse-Frederick House in Guilderland Center.

Everyone here at the Guilderland Garden Club wishes everyone a Happy Holiday and great New Year. Stay safe and healthy.



Top: Our Garden Club Exhibit at the Altamont Fair.

Top Center: Club member Donna Mohr's Blue Ribbon winner for Succulents at the fair.

Far Right Top: Decorating "pumpkins" which actually were old paperback books that we cut and glued into spheres.

Bottom right: Final 'pumpkin'.



NEW PALTZ GARDEN CLUB

ULSTER COUNTY

by Margaret McDowell

We have had a busy Fall, starting with our successful trip to the Mohonk Mountain House Gardens and Greenhouse. The resident gardener gave us an inspired and informative tour of the gardens and greenhouse. He shared information on how the annual theme for the gardens are selected and the impact that the COVID-19 crisis has had on the Mohonk Property. Most notably, the pandemic has affected availability of staff and its impact on services such as the greenhouse. We were grateful for his time and expertise.

Since we are celebrating our 75th Anniversary Year, we have tried to incorporate that theme into all our activities. At the two community events held in September, the Historic Huguenot Street's Applestock and the Library Fair - we distributed free seeds and a postcard about the Garden Club and our 75th Anniversary. Additionally Hudson Valley One (a local weekly newspaper) featured us in an article on the first page. It was in the 10/20/2021 edition and was a well-written and factual article on our club - both past and present.

In October, we visited Victoria's Gardens in Rosendale, a beautifully equipped outdoor garden space and shop. The owner gave us a tour of her property and offered many helpful hints on planting in the Hudson Valley. For November, we will again offer the 'Holiday Troll' workshop featuring a handmade Troll on a wire cage decorated with pine branches.

All year we have been reaching out to members regularly so those who haven't attended meetings feel connected.

Finally in December, we'll have a special Holiday Party that also commemorates our 75th Anniversary. Next year we will plan on more garden visits, some craft workshops and programs on local climate change initiatives and composting.

Happy Holidays to you all and a safe New Year



Club members had a great learning experience at the Mohonk Mountain House Gardens and Greenhouse.

THE GARDEN CLUB OF KINDERHOOK

COLUMBIA COUNTY

by Cynthia Bogardus

The October meeting of the membership of the Garden Club of Kinderhook was held at the Valatie Senior Center, the first indoor meeting since March 2020. The guest demonstrator was Denise Pizzini of Damsel Garden, a flower farm located in Stuyvesant. Ms. Pizzini detailed her transition from working in the record industry to educator to flower farmer, fulfilling a childhood passion for all things floral. She explained the methods used on the farm for growing tulips, other flowers for cutting, and dahlias. She brought a beautiful array of dahlias and other fall-blooming flowers to create two lovely gift bouquets, which she donated to the club. Ms. Pizzini provided information about the flower share programs that are offered by Damsel Garden. Approximately 18,000 tulip bulbs will be planted this autumn for next spring's tulip share program. One of the tulip shares was also donated to the club.

In September, member Eileen McHugh Szepessy created and donated a memorial floral arrangement on behalf of the Club to honor those lost in the 9/11 attack. An event marking the 20-year anniversary of the attack was held at the Kinderhook Town Park, where more than 1,000 people gathered to remember the victims.

The Club plans to continue the tradition of creating boxwood trees and arrangements in December. Members will be able to purchase greens and other components to participate in a workshop at the Senior Center or on their own at home. They will be asked to submit photos of themselves with their boxwood creations or in any other festive setting. The collective photos will be made into collages, which will be used to thank President Sue Sweet, who has skillfully guided the Club through the difficulties of the pandemic.



Top: The memorial display marking the Patriot's Day's dedication.

Bottom from left to right: Jane Rose and Susan Sharp, who went home with the dahlia bouquets, Denise Pizzini of Damsel Garden, and Carol Seastrand, who will enjoy the five week tulip share in the spring.



TIORONDA GARDEN CLUB

DUTCHESS COUNTY

by Gary Barrack

The Tioronda Garden Club visited the gardens at Locust Grove in Poughkeepsie on a warm and sunny September morning. After viewing both the Dahlia and vegetable gardens, the members enjoyed a leisurely lunch at a local restaurant.

On Saturday, September 18, the club held its second annual mum sale. This major fundraiser was initiated last year by Club President Carol Demicco. Members sold a total of 274 mum plants in a variety of colors. Marketing the mums took many forms. Press releases, social media, and some old-fashioned face-to-face solicitations from local merchants helped raise over \$1,600 in profits for the club. President Demicco was thrilled with the huge success and the outpouring of community support for the club's work.

Also in September, the club received a Certificate of Mayoral Recognition at the Beacon City Council meeting. Accepting the award on behalf of the club were Club President Carol Demicco and Civic Beautification Chairman Norman MacLeod. The award states:

“This certificate is in honor of the Tioronda Garden Club's continued dedication to the City of Beacon. The Club has thoughtfully been beautifying Beacon for 92 years. Thank you for making our community a colorful, bright, and welcoming place for all.”

In place of its October meeting, the club held a Dessert Tea on the evening of October 13 at the Howland Cultural Center. Club sponsors thoughtfully set and decorated their respective tables in a particular theme as they determined. Entertainment was provided by soloist Diana Ferrara along with a pianist accompaniment which added a touch of glamour to this sold-out event.

November is busy month for the club as they prepare approximately 80 wreaths for Beacon's Main Street lampposts and decorate the historic Howland Cultural Center and Madam Brett Homestead. The December meeting includes the club's annual cocktail party and Santa's Holiday Decorating Workshop. The election of officers for 2022-2023 will also take place at this meeting as they close out another successful garden club year.

Top: Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou (left) presents the Certificate of Mayoral Recognition to Tioronda Club President Carol Demicco and Civic Beautification Chairman Norman MacLeod.

Center: Members of the Tioronda Garden Club pause for a photo-op as they enjoy the beautiful gardens at the Locust Grove Estate.

Bottom: “September Song”—End of summer lingers on as flowers maintained by dedicated club members prepare for autumn's chill.



HUGH PLAT GARDEN CLUB

SCHENECTADY COUNTY

by MaryAnn DeFonce

Hugh Plat Garden Club spends many hours and several meetings each year planning and implementing period appropriate decorations for the fall and winter displays at the Schenectady County Historical Society buildings. We have two major sites that we decorate, and they are of two different time periods. The Mabee Farm, on the banks of the Mohawk River, is over 300 years old, and needs to be arrayed with rustic, natural items. The Society buildings in the Stockade area of Schenectady need a later period design with a bit dressier look with an 1800's, Victorian flair.

So this year for our winter theme we decided to have two themes: CALICO CHRISTMAS for the farm buildings and HOW LOVELY ARE IT'S BRANCHES for the buildings in the Stockade. It has been quite a challenge continuing to work through Covid conditions and expanding our project into two different themes. All of us have been working at home on garlands, trees of all sorts, wreaths, boughs, and bows!

Earlier in the fall we dressed the front porch and back door of the main Society building and front door of the oldest house in the Stockade area for the Fall Walkabout that they hold every year. We dressed the Mabee Farm buildings inside and out, as they conduct tours and programs all year, and have many fall events inside. THE SCHENECTADY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY website uses many of our photographs on their webpage. They are so appreciative of our efforts, which always spurs us on to work even harder through these challenging times!

We look forward to gathering for a holiday luncheon in December, but haven't chosen a definite date for that yet. That brings us to January, when we will meet to elect officers and generate our 2022 calendar. It is hard to believe that a new year will be upon us so soon. Stay safe everyone, and let us hope that the new year will bring us health and togetherness in our gardening pursuits.



Above top: Club President Sue Bushman working on a door wreath for the Farm building.

Above Below: The Schenectady County Historical Society building in the Stockade section of Schenectady that we decorated for the fall.

Left bottom: An overview of the Society Building, all decked out for Autumn.

CLEMATIS GARDEN CLUB

GREENE-SCHOHARIE COUNTIES

by Susan Cunninghame

We are lucky to be at the American Legion Post 291 in Greenville this year and next. It has a large pavilion and that allowed us to hold our meetings outside.

Stockbridge Trip

Members went to the Berkshire Botanic Garden on a beautiful sunny day. Club member and BBG volunteer, Pat Frik, organized this outing and was very instructive during the visit. It was a trip with lots to see and enjoy. Some members went to the Red Lion Inn and some of us stayed and enjoyed lunch at the BBG Cafe. This trip brought wonderful memories of our deceased Past President, Mary Heisenger. She brought us there years ago.

August 20: Annual Picnic. Members enjoyed a picnic at the pavilion of the American Legion Post 291. Many members attended and it was great to see each other for a fun afternoon.

September 17: Opus 40 in Saugerties. Members headed out on a cloudy and rainy threatening day to Saugerties. We enjoyed the amazing man-made stone works, ramps, platforms, and environmental sculptures.

October 15: the Club met at the American Legion for a presentation by our own member, Master Gardener, Cynthia Willis. The topic was on summer and winter bulbs. Cynthia brought with her many different bulbs, implements, and fertilizers. Although most of us have been gardening for many, many years, we had a lively discussion on proper planting techniques and problems. There were discussions on new types of bulbs, the use of newer fertilizers, different types of winter storage, shade and sun requirements, deer and critter repellents, and different experiences. The presentation was wonderful and we look forward to having Cynthia return next year for another presentation.

SCHOHARIE VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

GREENE-SCHOHARIE COUNTIES

by Susan Grupinski

2021 started off slow for The Schoharie Valley Garden Club, due to the pandemic, but we made it!

This year brought us field trips to Fort Plain, an Amish tour given by Marie Muller with gorgeous scenic views, visiting green houses, and purchasing plants and all kinds of canned goods.

A trip to Empty Pockets Ranch, a veteran and family-owned homestead, located in Cobleskill, was such a fun and educational tour. It included seeing lots of farm animals, a You-Pick Sunflower Field, and a gift shop.

Our yearly Schoharie town yard sale held in September is always a fun event. All members participated at Marie Muller's home, selling baked goods, plants, and gently used items. It was hard work but such a fun and successful day.

We are having a great time making ornaments for The Festival of Trees held at NYS Power Authority, open for the month of December (trees decorated from all different clubs). It's worth a visit!

November is one of our busiest times preparing for our end-of-year Christmas luncheon. We look forward to meet newcomers and familiar faces.

The gals are having so much fun getting together to plan, make favors for table settings, making up raffle baskets, and so many other things.

We will start 2022 with our program committee in February to see what educational programs, speakers, and community projects we will be doing and to get started on our Yearbook .



“It’s Beginning to Look Alot Like Christmas!”



Schoharie Valley Garden Club Annual Holiday Luncheon & Boutique!

Wednesday, December 1st, 2021

“Sablewood” at Highview Springs Farm



(5038 State Route 30, Schoharie, New York, www.TheSablewood.com – Masks Required)

10:45 till Noon: Registration & Shopping

12 Noon: Luncheon catered by Bull’s Head Inn of Cobleskill

1:30: Program - Floral Design by “The Little Posy Place” of Schoharie

Start Your Christmas Shopping Early at our Holiday Boutique!

In addition to our traditional “Benefit” and “Ways & Means” tables, we welcome vendors:

Shops Open

10:45

(Bring Shopping Bag)

Susan Wissick:

Beautiful Handmade Quilted Items & More

Sarah Gardiner:

Delectable Homemade Chocolates

Cheryl Jones:

“Cool Beads” Handcrafted Bead & Stone Jewelry

Deborah LaBombard:

Stunning Fashions, Handbags and Accessories

Reservation & Payment DUE by Friday November 26, 2021

\$30 payable to: Schoharie Valley Garden Club

Complete this form & mail with payment to: Anne Bielawski, 103 Strawberry Lane, Schoharie, NY 12157 (Phone: 518-295-8809)

All seating reserved. If coming in a group of 2 or more & plan to sit together you must register together:

Group Leader _____ Phone: _____ How many? _____ Amount Enclosed _____

All Names in Group _____

If coming as an individual:

Name _____ Phone: _____ Amount Enclosed _____

GARDEN CLUBS OF GREENE-SCHOHARIE COUNTIES

by Carole Garvar, Chair

This has been a challenging year. Despite Covid, cancellations of scheduled meetings and speakers our clubs have had a good year and membership has increased. We are working on programs for the upcoming year and looking forward to our Spring District III Meeting when we can all get together again. We wish all of our fellow garden club members a very happy holiday season.

Athens Community Garden Club

In September, we celebrated the Athens Community Garden Club's 80th anniversary. Long-time member and past president Shirley Seipel spoke on the club's history, enlightening new members on how the club evolved. Greene County Historian Bob Hallock presented a program on the history of Athens. The program was followed by the Annual Members Tea.

On November 18, the club's major fund raiser, the Annual Luncheon and Auction was held at Pegasus Restaurant. As always, the event is a lot of fun and provides members and guests with the opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping.

December is the month when members gather to create swags to decorate village entrance signs and public buildings. A tree is decorated at the village Cultural Center and a contest judging holiday light display on private homes is held. The month ends with a meeting on December 16 with member Judy Cimmino demonstrating the use of pine cones in creating centerpieces.

Club meetings are held at the Zion Lutheran Church, 102 North Washington Street, Athens, on the third Thursday of each month at 1 PM. The meetings are open to all.

Clematis Garden Club

In August, club members gathered for their annual picnic at the American Legion Post in its outdoor area. There was a delicious variety of food and new President Susan Cunningham invited members to discuss ways to participate and share ideas for future club activities.

In September, members visited Opus 40 in Saugerties to view amazing stone works followed by lunch in local restaurants. The Garden of the Month was also chosen. This activity encourages residents to beautify their landscapes and takes place each month throughout the spring and summer.

In October, member and Master Gardener Cynthia Willis gave an informative lecture on bulbs.

In November, the club will hold its annual Holiday Luncheon at Furlongs Tavern and Restaurant in Durham.

In December, the program will be "Creating a Holiday Centerpiece." Pat Frik, a club member and volunteer at Berkshire Botanical Gardens has created numerous wreaths, swags, and centerpieces for the annual holiday sale and will share her expertise with club members.

The Club will resume meetings in March 2022 at American Legion Post 291, 54 Maple Avenue, Greenville, NY on the third Friday of each month.

The May meeting will be the clubs annual Tea Party. The speaker will Peter Bowden, of Hewitt's Garden Center, who is a famed television and radio host. Don't miss this event.

Schoharie Valley Garden Club

Despite a late start in meetings, the club has added new members. President Sue Grupinski and other members have been working on plans for their Annual Holiday Luncheon and Boutique, "It's Beginning to Look A lot Like Christmas" on Wednesday, Dec. 1, at "Sablewood" Highview Springs Farms, 5038 Route 30, Schoharie, N.Y.

This event is the club's major fundraiser and is always well attended. Reserve early if you plan to attend.

The club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Gathering Place (50 Plus Community Center). They are located at 127 Kenyon Road, Cobleskill, behind the Speedway minimart.



• THE GERMANTOWN GARDEN
CLUB INVITES YOU TO ITS

ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Featuring:

Decorated Wreaths
Table Arrangements
Boutique Sale

Hand Crafted Items
Houseplants
Home Made Baked Goods

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 / 10AM-3PM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 / 1PM-3PM

Location:

Palatine Parsonage
52 Maple Ave
Germantown NY 12526

• www.germantowngardenclub.org



PLEASE MAKE TIME TO VOLUNTEER IN 2022!

You've saved the date. Now it's time to volunteer to make the FGCNYS, Inc. Convention a special event that welcomes our fellow garden club members from around the state. There are a few areas where the planning committee could use your help.

- **CENTERPIECES!** We need some people to make the centerpieces for the lunch and dinner, about 10–12 of them, so a team of people would be great.
- **FLOWERS!** Most of the flowers will be provided, but supplemental material from our gardens is always welcome.
- **REGISTRATION/GREETERS!** We could also use a few people to work at the registration table on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday. Promise—you won't be stuck there all day!
- **BOOK SELLERS!** We'll have a limited supply of one of our speaker's books available for sale and need to have someone at the book table.

If you would like to help with any of these items, please get in touch with **Beth Walker**, 845-338-0207, Advisory Chairman



Invasive Species and Their Management

New York State's DEC has put together a wonderful video about invasive species and their management. The video, *Uninvited, The Spread of Invasive Species*, can be watched on YouTube and I heartily recommend it. There are numerous speakers in the video, including Doug Tallamy, author of *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard* and of *Bringing Nature Home*.

Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NKh8Lc31rm8>

Beth Walker

Native and Indigenous Plants Chairman

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 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.

To access *The Digest*, go to the State website—fgcnys.com—select District III on the home page and then select *Digest Online*.

Membership Monday

Membership Monday is a free monthly Zoom event for all garden club members. Join them on the 2nd Monday of each month from 2–3 PM Eastern Time. Learn new skills, share success stories, resolve commonly encountered issues, and brainstorm solutions with fellow members across the Americas.

The 3Rs Workshop on Membership Mondays will explore each aspect of Member Recruitment, Retention, and the Revitalization of shrinking clubs. Here is the link: <https://www.gardenclub.org/member-resources>

Each workshop will present a topic of the month with a special guest speaker, followed by an open mike for Q&A and member dialogue. Unlike other NGC workshops, (and there are plenty forthcoming) this will provide greater emphasis on participation and connection. We may not have every answer, but NGC Membership is committed to connecting us all together to explore solutions in a spirit of collaboration.