

The Buzz



Volume 2: Spring.2024

Letter from the editors:

The purpose of **The Buzz** is to give you a brief description of events, workshops, Zoom meetings, etc. that are happening on the State, Regional, and National level. We plan to give you enough information to pique your interest and a place to go to find out more information. We are also hoping that each district will give us information about events, fund raisers, or membership drives that were successful. **The Buzz** will not be full of long articles and beautiful pictures. That occurs in the national and regional publications for you to enjoy. Our goal is to provide you with a great deal of information in a quick read and one that is easy to print for future reference.

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Message from the President:

Welcome to **The Buzz**, your online and email hub for updates on the happenings within the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State. As the new president I have designated my theme as "Pollinator Pathways weaving a green tapestry across New York State and beyond". Join my team and help connect the dots. More information will be coming to you from "Polly Pollinator".

Stay connected to stay informed about initiatives benefitting you and your clubs at the state level. All members are encouraged to participate at any level. Take a school course, apply for a "Blue Star" Memorial, exhibit at a flower show, plant a pollinator garden, photograph a magnificent landscape in your community, contribute to our scholarship fund and become a life member. Many opportunities to make this earth a better place for future generations.

Donna Sessa
FGCNYS President



Watch for Polly

Membership Track:

Your dues include membership in your club, your district, the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State (FGCNYS), the Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs (CAR-SGC), and the National Garden Club (NGC).

*Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.
William James*

TRIVIA QUESTION: What does the word “anemophily” mean? (see answer below)

FGCNYS: www.fgcny.com **password: bloom**

The website has a wealth of information about Awards, Youth Contests, Projects, and much more. Plus, you can connect to both CAR and NGC.

Plans are being made to host Flower Show School. If interested, please contact Kim Thomson at thomask@mac.com

There are some lovely pins left commemorating the 100th anniversary of the FGCNYS. If interested, please contact the office at 518-869-6311.

CAR-SGC: www.car-sgc.org **password: 2325@CARegion**

Link to “**CAR Review**” the quarterly publication full of educational articles plus information from each of the seven states that make up our region.

Click on **Resources** and then **Helpful Links** which is a list of links to gardens to visit in the 7 states that make up our region. Use it to plan your summer and fall travels.

Upcoming convention: October 22-23,2024 at the Old Mill Inn, Basking Ridge, NJ

NGC: www.gardenclub.org

Schools on ZOOM. Each school contains 4 courses which may be taken in any order.

Landscape School: topics include landscape design & theory, designs for specific areas and uses, and current trends.

Course 2: October 9-10,2024 hybrid

Contact: atwelln@aol.com for more information

Environmental School: topics include environmental literacy, sustainable development, land conservation, water conservation, air quality, and much more.

Course 3: September 19-20, 2024, on zoom

Contact: gimy.casanova@ctgardenclubs.org for more information

NGC continued:

Go to **Member Resources** then **Video Café** then **NGC Video & Webinar Menu** to find videos about Gardening Tips, Floral Design, Techy Tips and much more.

Again, go to **Member Resources** then **Member Resources Library** for information about Parliamentary Procedures, A Guide for Club Presidents, and more.

More from the NGC website: Handbook for Flower Shows

If you are planning to stage a flower show or entering a horticultural or design exhibit in a show, you might want to check out the NGC Handbook for Flower Shows. It is easily accessible on the website.

On the website click on **Schools**, then **Flower Show School**, then **Flower Show Procedure** and the handbook is listed at the bottom of the paragraph. The most current updated version is there for you to read.

More from the NGC website: Awards and Grants

Espoma Grant: \$250 grant for Espoma plant food and Potting soil. **Deadline: May 31**

Plant America Grants: up to \$2000 for garden projects. **Apply: April 1 – October 15**

Native Plants & Wildflowers: \$500 direct expenses for an educational program.

Vision of Beauty Calendar:

If you would like to submit a photograph of your design or garden to be considered for inclusion in the VOB calendar the due date is August 15. Your design could be traditional, creative, abstract, botanical, artistic craft, or seasonal. Perhaps you have a small garden area that you might want to photograph now in the spring, or early summer to enter. Complete entry information is on the last pages of the Vision of Beauty Calendar.

Miscellaneous Information:

Department of Environmental Conservation www.dec.ny.gov

Information about outdoor activities, webinars, NYS animal & plant species protection, and much more. Information about Electronic Recycling Locator Map, Textile Donation & Recycling Map, and Reuse Locator Map.

New York State Integrated Pest Management (NYSIPM) <https://cals.cornell.edu>

Learn about sustainable ways to manage pests that minimize environmental, health & economic risks.

New York State Department of Tourism www.iloveny.com

Summer Getaways: Places to Go, Things to Do, Events, & Places to Stay

Fascinating Facts About NY State

Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems in the world and New York State has an estimated 2.4 million acres of them spread across the state.

More than one-third of the species listed as endangered or threatened in the United States live exclusively in either tidal or freshwater wetlands. They also provide food, shelter and nursery grounds for marine and freshwater fish by supporting the life cycles of 75 percent of the fish commercially harvested in the country and up to 90 percent of fish caught recreationally.

Food for thought if you enjoy a Friday night fish-fry.

Also, 61% of NY is forested (19million acres). In Cairo, NY (40 miles south of Albany) is 385 million years old making it the world's oldest forest. Wow!

District News

From Pat Frank, Membership Chair of Garden Club of Yorktown District 9:

"I believe the following activities increased our community exposure which in turn lead to increased membership:

1. In May 2022 we launched our website which includes a 'How to Join' button, making it easy to find & join the garden club.
2. Introduced a garden club email newsletter with seasonal tips.
3. Exhibited garden club membership, plant & bulb sale information in our local bank lobby & library.
4. Held library & zoom garden lectures open to the public with an emphasis on native plants.
5. Increased the selection of native plants at our Annual Plant Sale. Usually we have 1-2 new members join at our plant sale.

We also plant & maintain 4 roadside gardens in town that are visibly identified by the Garden Club of Yorktown logos and now it's easy to find out more about the club on our website.

Facebook & Instagram posts may influence some subscribers. "

More District News

7th District is presenting an NGC Standard Flower Show "A Floral Century" as part of their centennial year celebrations. The date is Thursday, July 18th at the Webster Golf Club, 449 Salt Road, Webster, NY 14580 from 1pm-5pm. All are welcome.

Final Words:

You received this email through Brevo which is a cloud-based membership platform used to send communications through email directly to all members of FGCNYS who provided an email address with their membership dues.

Trivia answer: anemophily means pollination by the wind.

*The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.
Dolly Parton*