



REMINDERS

**Installation – Dinner
Wednesday June 14,
6:00**

Sal-e-pepe

Here are three reminders from the Treasurer as our fiscal year winds down (because we begin again July 1st):

1. If you have incurred any expenses on behalf of the club, now is the time to get that information to me for reimbursement.
2. If you are attending our annual dinner meeting at Sal e Pepe on June 16th, please send your entree choice and check (\$35) to me by June 5th.
3. If you bring your membership check (\$40) for the 2023-24 garden club year to the annual dinner meeting, you won't have to mail it. NOTE: Checks should be made *out to TCGC*.

*Thank you,
Joy Kopesky
Treasurer*



Town & Country Garden Club

Newtown Connecticut

*Member of The Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc.
New England Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc*

May 2023



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and fellow gardeners (or gardener wanna-be's):
Finally, the month of May is here. May is not only the month that (finally) we can feel safe to plant those beautiful flowers we've been admiring and impatiently waiting to purchase. May is not only the month that brings out the hummingbirds, feasting on the eye-catching blossoms, but (listen carefully) changes the tune of all our treasured feathered friends from chilly and nervous to sweet and content - - at least, that's my opinion. May is the month that brings us into easy-living, warm and pleasant summer days. May is the month for Spring cleaning (and I don't mean indoors).

As you know, May was also our last meeting of the year - - giving us time to garden and listen to our sweet and more-content birds. In June, we'll gather at Sal e Pepe's to celebrate our selected Officers and Chairmen (who keep this extraordinary group going) - - See you at 6:00 on June 14th.

We don't intend to stop bothering you, though, as you'll be receiving more information on any upcoming community volunteer initiatives, our Field Trip to Elizabeth Park Rose Garden on June 28, our own little member-garden tour (TBD) and our Summer Picnic on Lake Lillinonah on July 16th.

So, gardeners (or wanna-be's), it's MAY. Get on out there - - right after your trip up to Shakespeare Gardens, of course.

Chris Lincoln

PROGRAM May 10 GENERAL MEETING Why Doesn't My Hydrangea Bloom?



Lorraine Ballato gave a well-attended presentation on hydrangeas. She broke the talk down into- Why doesn't my big leaf hydrangea bloom, fertilizing, and weather issues. She handed out fact sheets and also information about her website - www.lorraineballato.com/lorraine-ballatos-hydrangea-blog/

Rosemary-Salvia Rosmarinus



Rosemary is an aromatic, evergreen shrub with needle-like leaves. It is native to the Mediterranean region. It is a member of the sage family. The plant flowers in spring and summer in temperate climates and flowers can be white, pink, purple or deep blue.

Rosemary has been used since ancient times. It arrived in the Americas with the European settlers.

Rosemary is used in chicken, pork, turkey, and lamb dishes to add flavor. It has also been used since ancient times for its medicinal benefits. In Europe it is often used to treat indigestion. Rosemary is rich in antioxidants, which help boost the immune system.

Nancy Azzaro

CUT YOUR OWN FLOWERES



Looking for something fun to do close by? Barbara McCann found this link to places in Connecticut where you can cut your own flowers.

<https://www.ctinsider.com/connecticutmagazine/article/ct-pick-your-own-flower-farms-17901992.php>

EXHIBITS May 10 SPRING DESIGN

Artistic Design- BRANCH OUT

Creative Line Design - to include one or more branches, using all fresh and dry plant material.

HORTICULTURE

Orchid

Lilleba Peterson



Perennials

Barbara O.



Peggy Townsend

This design was the only true creative line design, while the other three were beautiful examples of line design.



Josie Schmidt



Jane Vouros



Barbara McCann



ISLAND 1 SPRING CLEANUP



Island 1 workers: Teri, Joy, Gail, Josie, Jane, Denise, Mae, and Mary Ellen out cleaning up the island and transplanting some of the plants.

ISLAND 3 SPRING PLANTING

Chris photographed Elaine Sullivan, Jan Gardner, Arline Shanley, Barbara McCann, Hillary Goldstein, and Emi Lydem after they completed the Island 3 spring planting.



apartmentharvest-
I'm all
for upcycling, but
this is.....



MEMBER GARDENS

Judy Beers

**Brunera –
(forget-me-nots)**



**Japanese
forest grass**



Shade Garden



Bleeding Hearts

Holly has a memory garden for her sister with bleeding hearts and forget-me-knots.



BE LIKE A TREE

Stay grounded.
Connect with your
roots.
Turn over a new
leaf.
Bend before you
break.
Enjoy your unique
beauty.
Keep growing.

Joann Raptis



Perennial Geranium



GardensInspired.com

We may think we
are nourishing
Our garden, but of
course it's
our garden that is
really
nourishing us.

Jenny Uglow

My Gardens (Josie)



Mediterranean Bells



Margareta Kotch



This is a Weeping Norway Spruce, at Margareta's front steps. She says that she has never seen it with so many new shoots!



Don't forget to drink water and get some sunlight because you're basically a house plant with more complicated emotions.

Mae Grant



At the top of the photo, you see Jacobs ladder and bleeding hearts.

In the bottom right is wild ginger that Mae got last year at the Duck Race from Jan Gardner.

Her Azaleas in full bloom.



Tree Peony

Jane Sharpe



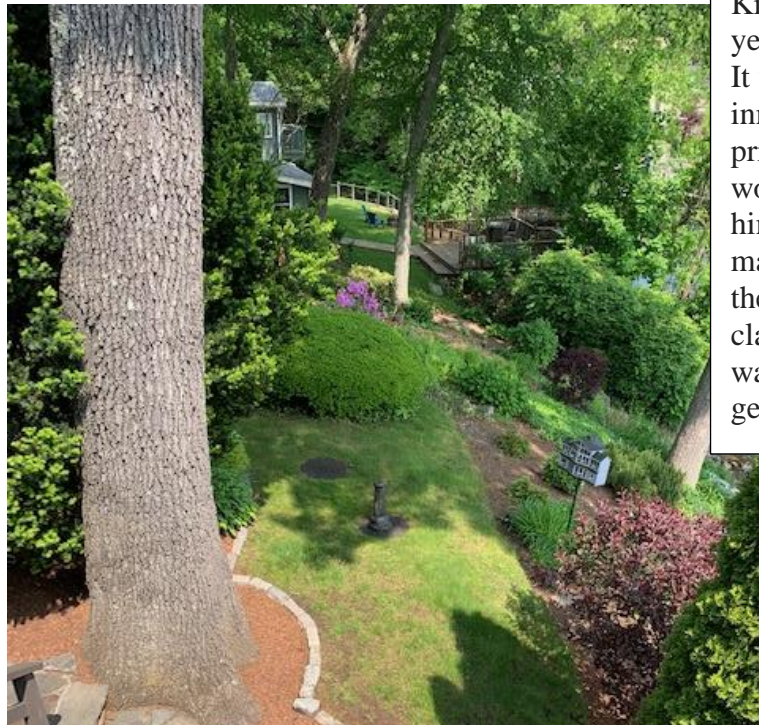
Jane recorded an hour-long blog with Guy Marra on Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate on May 9. It was centered on log cabin building. It was filmed, and later used in multiple clips. *(Of course, like all of us she was worried that the headphones would mess up her hair!)*

JANE SHARPE

This view should entice all members to make sure they attend the Garden Club summer picnic at Jane's on July 16.



This is a wood birdhouse Jane got from her daughter Kim. It's about 30 years old. It was made by an inmate at Garner prison, where Kim worked. She brought him a photo and he made and painted it in their woodworking class. It was a nice way for inmates to get extra cash.



**Joy Kopesky's
Tree Peony**



**Arline Shanley's
Jacobs ladder**



**and Japanese
Tree peonies**



**BARBARA
O'CONNOR**



Yaku Princess
Rhododendron

Rhododendron yakushimanum is named for its native Yakushima Island, Japan. It is a dense, mounding, evergreen rhododendron, hardy from -5 to -15 degrees F. Leaves are dark green on top, with a thick brown wool on the undersides, from 3 to 5 1/2 inches long. Flowers are borne in trusses of 5 to 10 blooms in mid to late spring.



Jan says the Allium is finally open and the Fountain garden is starting to flower!



ISLAND MULCHING MAY 24th

The weather was iffy and by the time we got to Island 3 it was raining, but Jim and Austin, from Cutting-Edge Lawn Service helped us to complete the task of mulching Islands 1 and 3 in less than forty-five minutes.



LOOKING FOR A HAND?

Here Are Some Club Member Recommendations:

1. Helen, Seamstress. She used to work for David's Bridal
 - a. She charges \$12.00 to hem a pair of pants.
203-258-0750, 5 Hemlock Road
 - b. You can call and leave a message if she's not home. She will call you back.
2. George Papajani-contractor, home projects-painting & repairs. licensed & insured
203-996-6643- recommended by Arline Shanley
3. IT person for computer, TV, Home phone problems & set-up-Brian Mullins 203-300-4060 - recommended by Arline Shanley
4. Mason work- sidewalks, patios, stone walls-George Pani- 203-482-5589 - recommended by Arline Shanley
5. TEED AND BROWN "Lawn Doctor"- recommended by Peg Fillion
6. Danny Casarella DMC Painting Inc.
 - a. 914-623-2798 (it has a 914 exchange, but has moved to Monroe)- Barbara McCann
7. George Earl 914-384-4882 Georgearljr@outlook.com. Car service. Holly
8. Mike Bigelow 203-417-2922. Carpenter and miscellaneous small jobs. Great guy and great price – Holly
9. Dean DeLucia, Carpenter/Contractor (203) 258-1513
 - a. info@deluciaconstruction.com or ddelucia61@yahoo.com - Chris
 - b. He built her deck and 4 season sunroom.
10. Joe Butkus (203) 525-3253 Chris says he's the best plumber.



(203) 755-2214
25 Obtuse Road,
South
Brookfield, CT
06804

Finally, May is here. After patiently and reluctantly waiting through April, an often nice and warm, (but deceiving and unpredictable) month, it's time to purchase plants and flowers for your gardens and containers. The best time to plant in Connecticut is said to be mid-May, when the frost-free growing season starts. Planting during this time period allows you to avoid plant-damaging frost and frozen soil and gives your plants a better chance of flourishing.



As you can see, (although this picture above doesn't do justice), Shakespeare's Garden is over-flowing with flowering plants, containers and hanging baskets. Each is created by professionals with care, practice-makes-perfect experience and each resulting in splashing, cohesive colors and textures that please the eye and entice and excite the "gardener in us." For any gardener (or gardener wanna-be), it's an exciting place to stroll and absorb the brilliant colors, sights, and scents. Additionally, tomatoes and peppers will soon be ready to purchase. My recent visit showed more fountains, statues, and garden accessories, as well.



Take a drive up – take a pleasant stroll – feed your imagination.
Find your 10% DISCOUNT COUPONS AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER.

Chris Lincoln



203) 426-0805
97 South Main
Street
Newtown, CT

They say that a picture is worth a thousand words.



This appetizer (Calamari with your choice of marinara sauce, chopped olives, and Parmesan or Balsamic glazed with hot & sweet peppers) comes with a lot more than words. It comes with an aroma that will make your mouth-water. While you are comfortable, surrounded with pleasant ambiance and excellent service (always with a smile), you'll find that the stressors of this too-busy day begin to evaporate as you sip your choice of top-of-the-line wines, beer or out-of-this-world margaritas or martinis - - and you haven't even gotten to your entrée yet.



This could be it - - Baked Rigatoni with vodka sauce, sweet sausage topped with mozzarella, provolone & fontina.

Stop for a moment and *PICTURE IT!* then head on over to Sal e
Pepe's
To EXPERIENCE it

Chris Lincoln



**FGCCT
President
Karin Pyskaty
(2023-2025)**

**Wallingford
Garden Club**

**First Vice President
Nan Merolla
(Wilton Garden Club)**

**Second V. P.
Kelle Ruden
(Westport Garden Club)**

**Recording Secretary
Kathy Harris
(Evergreen Country
Gardeners Garden Club)**

**Treasurer
John Davis
(Quiet Corner Garden
Club)**

**Corresponding
Secretary
Lynda Brown
(Manchester Garden
Club)**

**Finance Officer
Terry Lubman
(Riverside Garden Club)**

**Parliamentarian
Jean Stetz-
Puchalski
(Easton Garden Club)**



The
Federated Garden Clubs
of Connecticut, Inc.

New Federated Garden Club Web Address
Username FGCCT and Password Charteroak*2022

Upcoming State Events

1. [Flower Show School, Course 3 \(in person\)](#)
June 2
Kellogg Environmental Center, [+ Google Map](#)
2. [Hudson Valley Tour](#)
June 6 - June 9
3. ['The Eye of the Beholder: Is It Messy, or an Acquired Taste? – CT Horticultural Society](#)
June 15 • 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Emanuel Synagogue, [+ Google Map](#)

Events Around Us

1. [“Fine Arts, Flowers and Verse” : Wallingford Garden Club](#)
June 2 • 5:00 pm
Wallingford Senior Center, [+ Google Map](#)
2. [66th Annual Grandiflora Garden Tour – The Greenwich Botanical Center](#)
June 9 - June 10
3. [Bethel Garden Club Plant Sale](#)
June 10 • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Bethel Municipal Center Lawn, [+ Google Map](#)



**SHOW THIS COUPON FOR A
10% DISCOUNT
On all plant products
From Shakespeare's Garden to
Town & Country Garden Club**



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