



## REMINDERS

### 1. Next General Meeting –

May 8 - Senior Center.  
Anyone who wishes can come any time from 5:30 on. Those who are bringing exhibits should be there no later than 5:45. The general meeting will start at 6:00.

### Hostesses-

Barbara McCann

Nancy Azzaro

Emi Lydem

Barbara O'Connor

**(It would be helpful to have a small notecard on the table to identify your appetizer or dessert.)**

2. Thursday May 23  
Ways & Means 4:30  
followed by Board Meeting 5:00 -7:00  
Booth Library  
Gathering Room

### 3. Plant Sale

May 18 - 10-2:00

### 4. Installation Dinner

June 12 - 6:00

Sal-e-pepe

### 5. Field Trip June 20

Elizabeth Park Rose  
Garden



## *Town & Country Garden Club*

### *Newtown Connecticut*

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

**April 2024**



Fellow Gardeners:

Many things can be said about the month of April -- depending on who's talking -- but the one thing it is NOT, is boring.

A WEATHERMAN, for example, is sometimes able to forecast ALL four seasons in the same day; an ASTROLOGIST is likely to enjoy more meteor showers than other months; MOTHER NATURE is making April's showers bring May flowers; the FLOWER, itself, senses that it's time to WAKE up, SOAK up, and POP up ... and to a GARDENER (like us), it's the time that lures us gleefully outside with sunshine, then sends us reluctantly back inside with rain. But, along with all of its unpredictability, this unique time of year ushers in the promise of a fresh start, new life and renewal, and eye-catching blossoms and colors that cannot help but bring on a smile.

A few hints on what we should be doing on our property, in April, early May.

- Order mulch now, preferable in bulk (skipping all those plastic bags).
- Gently remove matted leaves to uncover early Spring ornamentals (wait for several 50+ degree days to allow the hibernators and beneficial overwintering insects to awake and escape).
- Empty bird nest boxes of old nests.

I'll see all you "worn-out gardeners" at our next May meeting.

Chris

## Karen Fowler



Karen was born in Bridgeport in 1937. She spent her early years practicing acrobatics and ballet. She attended Harding High school where she performed at halftime shows for the football team. She then attended and graduated from the University of Bridgeport with a bachelor's degree in teaching and went on to earn her master's degree and sixth year certificate from Fairfield University.

Karen and her husband Dick raised their family in Trumbull. She taught at Samuel Staples Elementary School in Easton. While there she also directed several school plays, making a deep impression on her students. She was also an avid gardener with a green thumb and loved nothing more than spending time in her gardens growing beautiful flowers and wonderful vegetables. Day lilies were among her favorite, and she grew many varieties. Her sons remember that at one point even she kept a chart on where each grew and when it came into bloom. She also loved traveling, watching and feeding the birds, singing, writing birthday poems and cheering for the UConn women's basketball team.

Karen loved spending time with her children Christopher and his wife Lynn, David and his wife Debbie and her seven grandchildren, Camden Colby, Chelsea, Annie, Wade and Bradley. She loved nothing more than pitching in with the grandchildren in any way she could.

After retirement she and Dick moved to Newtown and spent their winters in Siesta Florida. She was very friendly and joined many organizations including the Newtown Congregational Church and Town and Country Garen Club, which she joined in 2002 and remained in until the present.

Karen passed away on April 10. She was a friendly, active member of our club for many years and will be missed by us all.



Mike passed around a honeycomb for us to see.



At the end of the presentation, he had many honey products for sale.



## April 10 General Meeting

There were no artistic designs brought in, and Barbara McCann brought in her hyacinth horticulture sample.

Program Mike from Mikes Bees in Torrington, gave a presentation on bees and beekeeping.

## May 8 GENERAL MEETING

### Exhibits: Jungle

Artistic – Multi-Rhythm- using vines, curly wire or ribbons to create 2 or more different lines. One line must dominate.



Horticulture - Flowering shrub or tree branch.

### PROGRAM

Stephen Martin from The Audubon Society of Fairfield CT will present a program called “Birding”

## SPRING CLEANUP ON THE ISALNDS

Members from the Island 1 team got together on April 8. We raked, trimmed plants and removed a large section of blue switch grass, which grows 4-5ft high and was blocking the sun from the other perennials. We potted up over 20 sections of it to be sold at the plant sale.

**Be safe on the roads today! My car just slid into the garden center's parking lot again!**



**Alexis said that she had such a good laugh when she read this, because she feels like this is her every spring when she see the flowers in the nursery!**



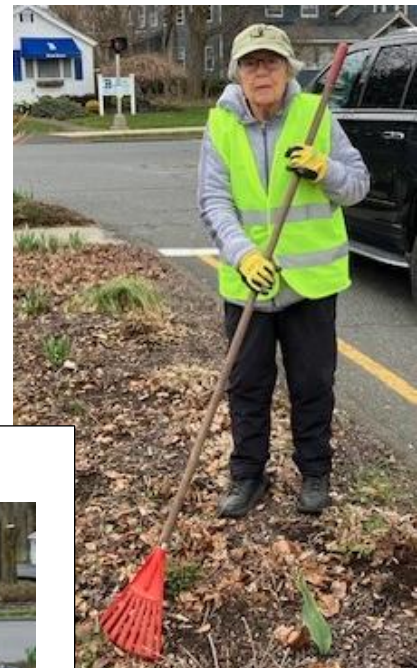
Mae and Mary Ellen



Joy



Josie



Gail



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**MEMBER**  
**GARDEN TOUR**

**Take a relaxing stroll through our member's gardens Thursday, June 27, Starting at 5:00 p.m.**

Arline Shanley  
7 Little Brook Lane  
Newtown

Susan Day-Adams  
1 Twist Hill Road,  
Newtown

Hillary Goldstein  
43 Mt. Nebo Road,  
Newtown

Refreshments will be shared at Hillary's the end of the tour.

More details to follow.

Members of Island 2 will be getting their Island spruced up and ready for the mounting of the brass plaque awarded to them from the Arts Commission for Flintstone Gearbox stationed on Island 2.



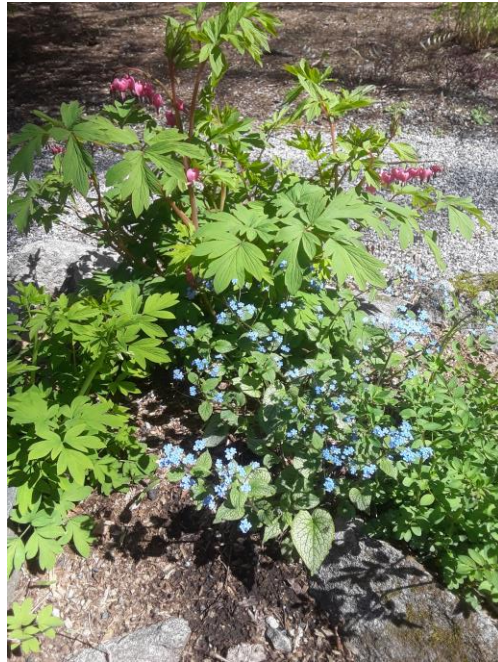
Members of Island 3, Chris, Barbara, Judy Arline, Jan and Hillary were out cleaning up Island 3 on a beautiful spring day.



MEMBER GARDENS BEGINNING TO BLOOM

Judy Beers

hyacinths



bleeding hearts and brunnera

pulmonaria



pulmonaria and Japanese forest grass

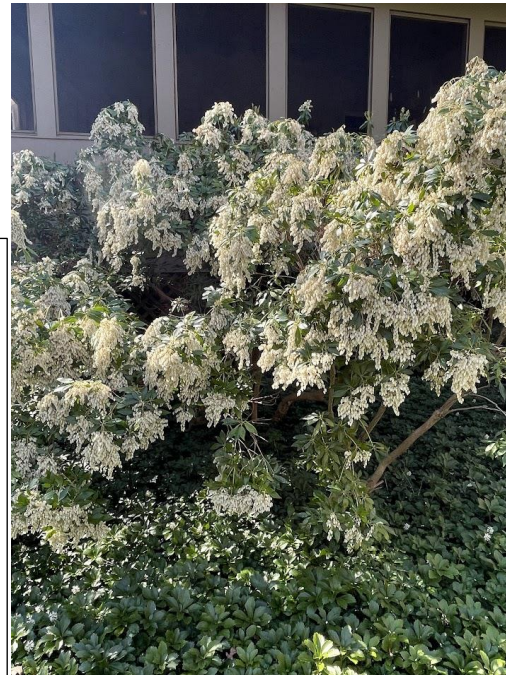
## Mary Ellen's hellebore



## Nancy Azzaro's azealas



Jan Gardner says her myrtle is beautiful and last year she cut off the andromeda flowers after they bloomed to promote new growth and this year the flowers were abundant.



## Jane Sharpe's tulips



Joy Kopesky says that this forsythia serves two purposes - camouflage and beauty.



Arline Shanley



violets

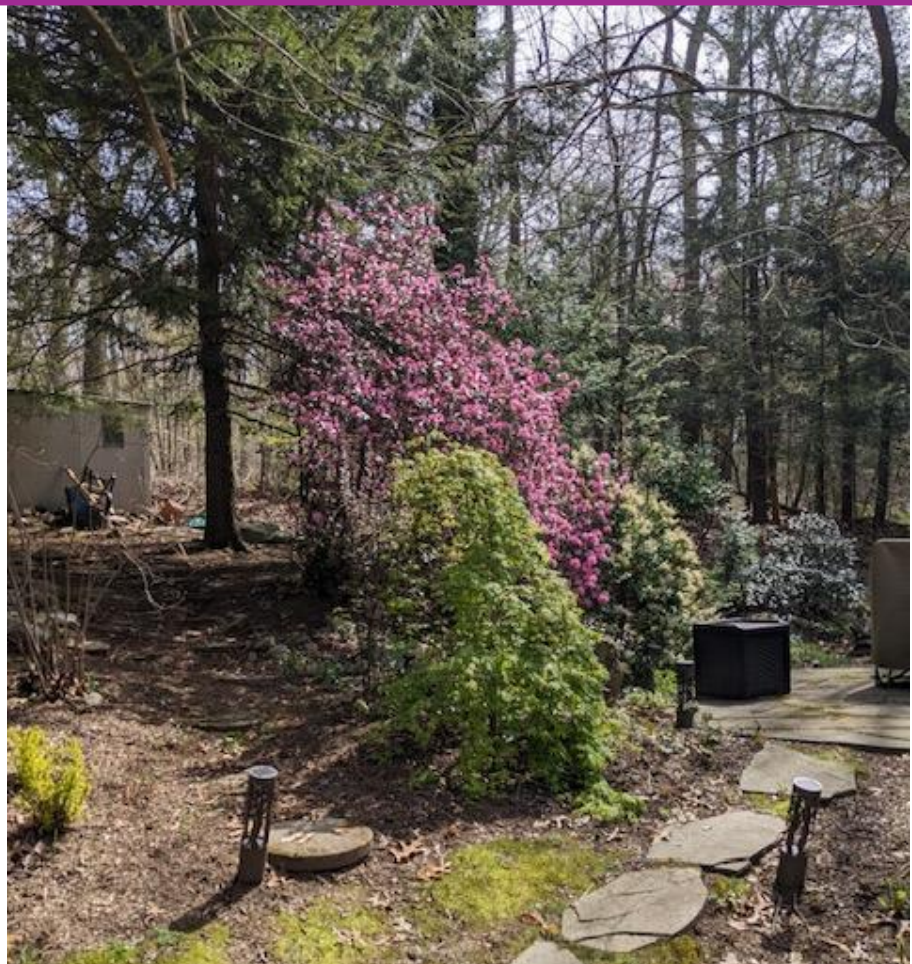


checkered lily

grape hyacinths



Barbara  
O'Connor



aglo rhododendron and weeping green Japanese maple



Josie Schmidt

Donna Miklaszewski

Donna said that she got so tired of the deer eating her tulips as she and Ed are always away in Feb/March when they need to be sprayed. She came up with the perfect solution and now plants them inside of her vegetable garden with deer fencing for protection.



myrtle



pulmonaria

phlox, fern and lily of the valley



bleeding hearts



donut peach tree

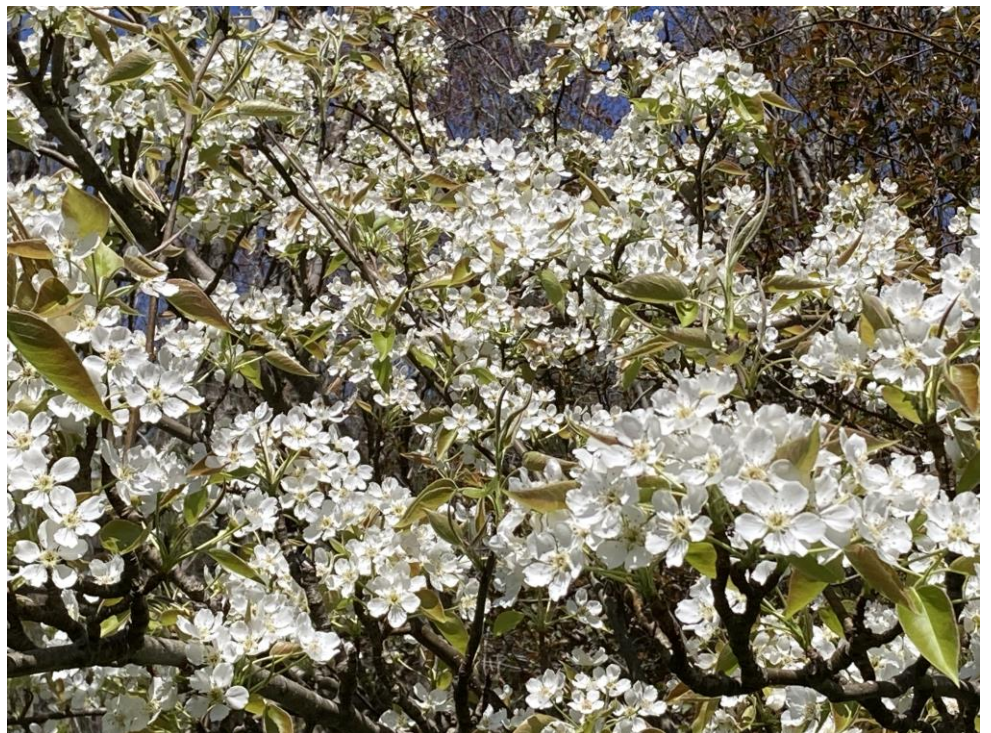


Quince

## Mae Grant



peach tree



Asian pear

**Jane Sharpe has offered to host the summer picnic at her home at 62 Underhill Road in Sand Hook. It will be held on Sunday July 21 at 4:00. You are welcome to bring your spouse or a friend if you like. Her furniture is out. docks are in and are ready.**



## Earth Day Saturday April 28

Club members Chris, Peggy, Jan, Denise, Barbara McCann, Jane Vouros, Nancy, Joy, Arline and I helped promote our club on Saturday for Earth Day at the Newtown Middle School. We gave out several brochures explaining the club, sold some of our cute bird feeders and violas and also gave out all of the free trees that we got from the Lions Club.





*Spring is an awesome time of year! It's a unique time that seems to offer a fresh start, with renewal all around us and eye-catching blossoms that can't help but bring a smile to your face. But for gardeners (like us) it also brings aching muscles and joints, sore backs and all-around worn-out bodies. And especially disturbing is that worn-out body having to make dinner.*

**HELLO ?!**

**Who needs to cook when we have Newtown's very own treasure – Sal e Pepe's Italian Bistro.**

Go from this



to this



**In JUST a few minutes and JUST a few miles**

**HELLO?**

**Enjoy the peace, comfort, and**

**Revitalization of Angelo's Sal e Pepe's restaurant**

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

*Chris*



*Shakespeare's*

**GARDEN**

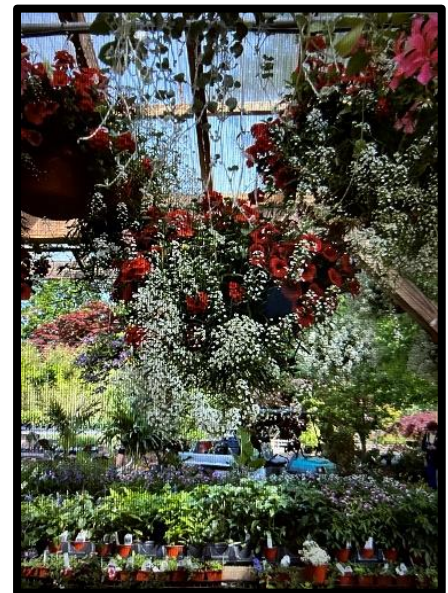
**25 Obtuse Rd. S. Brookfield, Ct**

**(203) 775-2214**

SPRING ! Beautiful, eye-catching, picturesque Spring! Arguably the most beloved season of the year ! Whatever we may think of the unpredictable northeastern weather of Spring, we can all agree it's a unique time of year that promises a fresh start and new life.

Another reason that Spring is MY favorite season is seeing the exciting changes that Shakespeare's Garden makes each year, after utilizing the slower winter months to gear up, spruce up, and act on their new ideas, gifts and products. The place never looks the same..... and I get new energy and ideas every time I visit.

Take a drive up to Shakespeare's Garden.  
Boy! have they geared up for your visit.



***I promise, you'll find it relaxing, inspirational and informative***

***Chris***



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

**Mission**



**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)**



The  
**Federated Garden Clubs  
of Connecticut, Inc.**



Joan Alexander, Chris Lincoln and Joy Kopesky attended the 95th Annual Meeting of the Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc. April 17, 2024 at The Aqua Turf. They heard a presentation from Art Chadwick of Chadwick Orchids and had some time for browsing the many vendors who were there.

**Upcoming State Events**

**1. FGCCT Board Meeting** May 14 • 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
*CAES/Jones Auditorium,*

**Events Around Us**

**1. Plant Sale – Long Hill Garden Club** May 4 • 8:30 am - 1:00 pm  
*Trumbull Main Library*

**2. Phelps-Hatheway House Opening Day – Connecticut Landmarks**  
May 4 • 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
*Phelps-Hatheway House, + [Google Map](#)*

**LOOKING FOR A HAND? HERE ARE SOME CLUB MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Simply Organized - club member Ellen Kutner's service to declutter and organize spaces  
www. simplyorg.com - [simplyorg521@gmail.com](mailto:simplyorg521@gmail.com) Garden Club Member
2. Helen, Seamstress. She used to work for David's Bridal  
203-258-0750, 5 Hemlock Rd Recommended by Barbara O'Connor
3.
  - a. George Papajani-contractor, home projects-painting & repairs. licensed & insured  
203-996-6643-
  - b. IT person for computer, TV, Home phone problems & set-up-Brian  
Mullins 203-300-4060
  - c. Mason work- sidewalks, patios, stone walls-George Pani- 203-482-5589  
**Recommended by Arline Shanley.**
4.
  - a. TEED AND BROWN "Lawn Doctor"- <https://teedandbrown.com>
  - b. [gmcarpentryremodeling@gmail.com](mailto:gmcarpentryremodeling@gmail.com) – Marcelo Guzman
  - c. [Makeahomect.org](http://Makeahomect.org) will pick up furniture for \$100 donation  
**Recommended by Peggy Fillion**
5. Danny Casarella DMC Painting Inc. 914-623-2798 **Recommended by Barbara McCann**
6. Mike Bigelow 203-417-2922. Carpenter and miscellaneous small jobs. Great  
guy and great price **Recommended by Holly Walczak.**
7.
  - a. Dean DeLucia, Carpenter/Contractor (203) 258-1513 [info@deluciaconstruction.com](mailto:info@deluciaconstruction.com)  
or [ddelucia61@yahoo.com](mailto:ddelucia61@yahoo.com)
  - b. Joe Butkus (203) 525-3253) plumber.
  - c. [Pilarhouseclean@gmail.com](mailto:Pilarhouseclean@gmail.com) 203-733-3594  
**Recommended by Chris Lincoln**
8. UBREAKIFIX\_in the Shoprite shopping center in Brookfield on Federal  
Road. Hours are Monday through Saturday 10:00 am to 7:00 PM.  
**Recommended by Barbara O'Connor**
9. M.G. Masonry new installations & repairs – email [mgmasonry76@yahoo.com](mailto:mgmasonry76@yahoo.com)  
**Recommended by Josie Schmidt.**

**CAN YOU HELP WITH A RECOMMENDATION?**

1. Judy Beers would like a recommendation for an electrician.  
[jbeers46@gmail.com](mailto:jbeers46@gmail.com), 203-364-6553