



**REMINDERS**

**1. Next General Meeting –**

November 9- 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-**

Judy Beers  
Lynne Farah  
Betsy Rickert  
Jennifer Mosey

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

**2. Thursday Nov. 17**  
Board meeting  
5:30 – 7:30  
Genealogy Room



**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*

**October 2022**



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**Chris Lincoln**

Dear Members:

This month, October, is always special and one of my favorites, not just because of the many delightful changes - - golds, oranges, yellows, and reds, everywhere you look—but because of the crisp, fresh, invigorating air (that gives us new energy) replacing the hot, dry, often oppressive heat (that drains our energy). It's certainly a month where we need all the momentum that we can find, with leaves to be raked, gardens to be gently put to bed, new shrubs and spring bulbs to plant.

We can all be proud of this past month. After losing a long-time member and good friend, we were able to seize the opportunity to bring her gardens back to the condition that she expected of herself, as well as to help her family by creating beautiful flower arrangements for the Memorial Service. Not to be too sappy, but It just shows how impressive this club is, how much we care about one another and (collectively) what a big heart Town & Country has.

Let's all enjoy this special club and this beautiful, colorful Fall season.

Chris Lincoln



**Arline Shanley**

I was born June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1946. I've been a member of our club for approximately thirty-two years.

I along with my parents, and four brothers and sisters, lived in Bridgeport on the border of Trumbull, near Beardsley Park until I was eight years old. My father worked for Sikorsky Aircraft perfecting the lift for helicopters along with Igor Sikorsky back in the 1930's-40's. My Mother was concerned that with five children, he would crash, and insisted he choose another profession. That is how we got to move to Newtown in 1954. They purchased a poultry farm in Newtown. My parents owned and operated the farm (3-5,000 hens) for over twenty-five years, and my siblings and I helped run the farm.

We attended Hawley, Middle School, and the High School when it was on Queen Street. When I graduated from Newtown High School I took a job as a secretary in Danbury for Sperry Rail Service while I was attending Danbury Business School evenings for two years. I met my husband Ed, and we were married in 1965 at St. Rose Church. We had an apartment on South Main Street in Newtown while we were building our current home and moved into our home in 1968.

Our daughter, Audra was born in 1967. I chose not to work full-time until Audra was eight years old, and volunteered at Middle-gate school, then worked as a secretary at middle school part-time and then full-time so I was able to be with Audra and have the summers off. I also had a small shop at my home and taught ceramics and China painting for a few years. By the time I started a full-time secretarial position I took a job with Temple-Eastex, a paper company out of Texas but it lasted one year as the company moved back to Texas. I was so glad because everyone in the office except me SMOKED and I was so glad it ended

With Audra in high school, I took a job as an Executive Secretary to the Vice President at Gateway Bank's Operation Center (which is now the new Police Department). I was there for twenty years.

When the bank was acquired by another bank, I took a year off, and then found myself applying for a position at TLG Services which is a Nuclear Operations Center in Bridgewater, CT working for Nuclear Engineers as Administrative Assistant to the President for 21 years. I took numerous computer courses to keep up with the industry to further my education. We did cost estimating to decommission Nuclear Power Plants. It was an amazing opportunity along with traveling to Captiva Island, Florida to produce conferences for Nuclear Power Plant owners around the world. We were/are the Number One Decommissioning Company to decommission nuclear power plants in the world. The original owner of the company wrote the regulation rules for the NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission). I retired seven years ago.

My husband Ed, and I continue to live at 7 Little Brook Lane, Newtown. We've been in our home for fifty-three years. I enjoy cooking and entertaining, gardening, and travel, (our daughter lives in Munich with her husband so we go to visit them as often as we can). Gardening is my love, and I am fortunate my husband enjoys it as much as I do.

As I've mentioned several times in our meetings – we have a wonderful group of talented women in our club that I've enjoyed working with. I'm proud to be a member of The Town & Country Garden Club.

**Michelle  
MacKinnon**



If your hydrangea is one that has the ability to change color, you can check out the web address below and follow the steps on what to do to change the color.

<https://www.lorraineb.allato.com/changing-the-color-of-your-hydrangeas/>

**PROGRAM October 12**

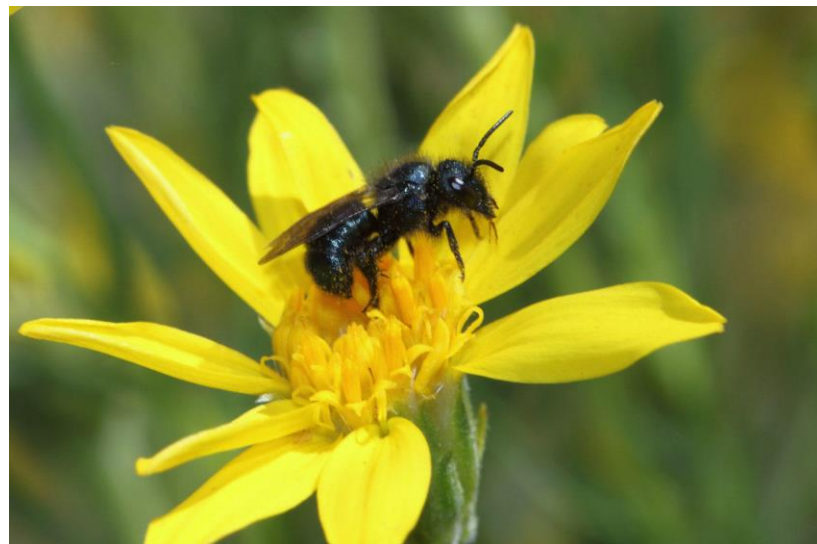
**“Bulbs: The Bold and the Beautiful”**

Michelle presented a program on flower bulbs. She told us the best bulbs to plant in the fall and the how to. She explained why tulips usually do not come back. She gave us ideas on several different kinds of allium we could try. She also suggested that buying from a plant catalogue gives you many options.

**November 9 Program “The Marvelous Mason Bee”**



Sally Brockert, a member of the Daytime Gardeners of North Haven will give a presentation on the life and behavior of mason bees. Mason bees earned their name from how they cap their nesting materials with silt or clay-derived mud, a common binder used in the masonry trade. Not only do they cap the ends of nesting cavities in the wild, but they also build “partitions” of mud to divide each egg with its respective food source (pollen). Mason bees are one of the more active bee species in early spring.



**Horticulture**

One shrub or tree branch, with colorful berries or leaves. (Not more than 30 inches long.)



**EXHIBITS: Bewitched**

**Artistic** -Creative Mass Design using orange, white and black - all fresh or dry plant material.



**Josie Schmidt**

**Arline Shanley**



**Barbara O'Connor**



**NOVEMBER**  
**HORTICULTURE**

**Houseplant**

a. Grown for bloom



b. Grown for foliage



**NOVEMBER 9 MEETING EXHIBITS**

**ARTISTIC** – Theme “One Design at a Time!”

This month Cascade Design -featuring an “Antique” item as your container OR as an accessory with your arrangement. All fresh or dry plant material.

A Cascade design is a design with an emphasis on a downward rhythm which can be curved, straight zigzag, interrupted or a combination.



## ENTRY FOR THE 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL SCARECROW CONTEST

The team members for this project were:  
Chris L, Josie S, Gail D, Teri D, Mary Ellen W, Denise R. Elaine Sullivan, Barb M. Barb O.

Some members put the pot lady together on October 6 and other members worked on the wheelbarrow section.



Then on October 10 the committee members got together at FFH to put the display together.



## Fall on Parmalee Hill Road



## CHURCH FLOWERS FOR DIANA

Arline Shanley, Barbara O'Connor, Margareta Kotch, and Peg Townsend volunteered to make the floral displays for the memorial service. They also made bouquets of fresh flowers in the following church reception.



Planters Choice and Castle Hill Farm have come through once again, to help us with the transformation of our islands from Summer to Fall. Planters Choice has kindly donated a variety of cabbages and Kale for planting on all three of our islands, and Castle Hill Farms has donated pumpkins, cornstalks, and a hay bale for the third year, to help decorate, as well as add to our FFH scarecrow display to promote our club. These two entrepreneurial businesses exemplify the meaning of community involvement and constant support. Check out their web sites and see if we can thank them in some way.

## Islands Get Some Fall TLC

### **Island 1**



### **Island 2**

Peggy, Barbara, and Gail



### **Island 3**

Donna, Arline, Chris, Elaine



Arline & Jan





**Fall Maintenance**  
**Tips for Your**  
**Garden**

1-Clean up your vegetable/herb gardens-Remove all dried plants & weeds.

2-Prepare your perennial plants for winter-Remove all weeds & any parts of plants with disease or pest damage.

3-Consider planting spring-blooming bulbs while the soil is still warm.

4-Prepare your shrubbery for winter-add a fresh layer of mulch around the base of trees. Do not cover the trunk as this can cause rot.

5-Consider planting a cover crop. This can prevent erosion and weed growth.

6-Plant fall crops. Frost-tolerant crops for fall planting include broccoli, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, parsnips, garlic, cabbage, collards, and spinach.

7-Apply Fall Fertilizer-Many trees and gardens can benefit from fall fertilizing. Best applied before first frost.

(Suggestions excerpted from Newsday article, "Fall Garden Maintenance Tips" (9/14/22) More [ideas-  
www.sodsolutions.com](http://www.sodsolutions.com)

**Emi Lydem**

Emi says that the bees love the Pinky Winky Hydrangea.



These are Heuchera Autumn Bride a favorite of hers.



and outside looking in!

This is Barbra's Aconitum Monkshood, an old-fashioned heirloom perennial steeped in folklore traditions, but not seen often in modern gardens.



Judy Beers is enjoying these last dahlias from her yard.



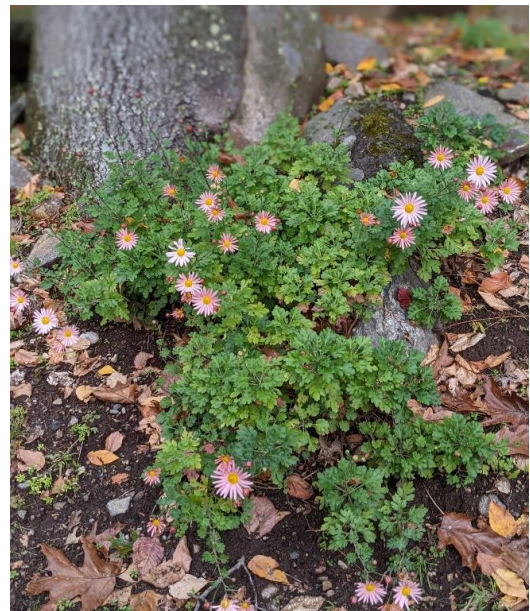
**Barbara O'Connor** took this photo of native asters against a background of poison ivy in its golden fall colors while walking along her road around 4:30 in the afternoon.



These are one of the latest blooming *Leucanthemum* Sheffield. Barbara says that they were never watered during the drought, and she thinks they didn't bloom as profusely but did survive.



She was surprised to see this owl. He didn't move a muscle and didn't answer her hoot, hoot, hoooo.



## Medicinal Plants and Herbs


By Nancy Azzaro

**Onions**-(*Allium cepa*)  
Onions belong to the *Allium* family of plants. Garlic, chives, and leeks also belong to this family of vegetables. The most common types of onions are yellow, white and red. Onions have many health benefits. There is evidence that consuming allium vegetables prevents cancer. Onions are high in Vitamin C. But they also contain compounds that fight inflammation, lower cholesterol levels, and help prevent heart disease. Eating vegetables such as onions and garlic has been shown in studies to lower the risk of certain cancers, including stomach and colorectal cancers.

Onions can be added to soups, sautéed in olive oil as a basis for soups or sauces. Red onions are often added to salads. Try adding cooked onions to egg dishes such as omelets or quiches. Adding onions and garlic as well, to your cooking, will enhance the flavor and also add rich nutrients as well.



# BARNWOOD GRILL



Many members (and friends) enjoyed a lunch or dinner at the Barnwood Grill on Wednesday, October 19 for our first fundraiser of this fiscal year. Sophia and Denard (owners) have been cooperative and receptive to this event for the second time, and we appreciate their partnership and collaboration. We can thank them with our patronage and recommendations. They've been quite busy opening a new restaurant at 68 Stony Hill Road (Bora Restaurant & Bar), (previously Prime Pub). Keep an eye out for their opening on or around November 5th. We earned \$500 for that event.



# OUR SPONSORS



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

Shakespeare's Garden will be having a Christmas Open House on Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13. They're offering 20% off on all Xmas hard goods and ornaments inside the shop (doesn't include any greens, arrangements, wreaths, or live plants like amaryllis)). Of course, we can still get 10% off on all plant materials by using the coupon below.

October is a unique month in CT with its spectacular oranges, golds and yellows overtaking the trees, fields and, unfortunately, our yards. Shakespeare's Garden is equally as special as their property is filled with the same Autumn hues with hundreds of pumpkins, gourds, and Halloween decorations. If you can't find what you're looking for, to create the perfect Halloween or Autumn yard display, my guess is you won't find it anywhere.



As we all know (being the superb and expert gardeners that we are), Fall is the best time to plant perennials, shrubs, and trees. Shakespeare's Garden has everything you may be looking for to transform your property into the envy of the neighborhood. And we are very lucky to have the "real superb and expert" horticulturists and gardeners that make up Shakespeare's staff- - so close in proximity, so knowledgeable and experienced and so willing to recommend and advise - - as well as to plant, if desired.

One of my favorite things about this local business is their extraordinary selection of succulents. You'll see a collection that you'll not see anywhere else and that you'll find it hard to walk away from. You can create a conversation piece in your home or on your porch. Check them out on your next visit.



**SHOW THIS COUPON FOR A  
10% DISCOUNT**

**On all plant products**

**From Shakespeare's Garden to  
Town & Country Garden Club**





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

*If these dishes don't make your mouth water ....*

*You must be napping.*



*Pear & Beet Salad with Steak*



*Linguine with White Clam Sauce*

Most Newtown residents, and particularly Town And Country members feel lucky to have Sal e Pepe's Restaurant so conveniently located and so extraordinarily delicious. This Contemporary Italian Bistro, specializing in veal, steak, seafood, and pasta specialties - - feels like our own little local goldmine--- but brings in people from all over Connecticut.

They've been the recipients of many prestigious and coveted awards through well-known and competitive CT Magazine contests, (which just closed its voting for 2023). That's no small feat, considering there are almost 8,000 restaurants in this state. While Sal e Pepe began as a northern Italian restaurant, it has evolved into a Bistro with a more contemporary outlook that reflects the owner, Angelo's upbringing, love of diverse cuisines and passion for travel.

As a regular customer, it's hard to describe how much better their entrees, specialty drinks, home-made pastas and desserts are from other restaurants with the same choices. You'll just have to try them for yourself. It's no time for napping! You won't regret it, and it won't be your last visit.

*Chris Lincoln*



Meet our President

*FGCCT*  
*President*  
*Polly Brooks*  
*(2021 – 2023)*

First Vice President  
**Karin Pyskaty**

Second Vice President  
**Nan Merolla**

Recording Secretary  
**Kathy Feller**

Treasurer  
**Shirley Hall**

Corresponding Secretary  
**Lynda Brown**

Finance Officer  
**Terry Lubman**

Parliamentarian  
**Jean Stetz-Puchalski**



# The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.

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



Holly, Arline, Jan, Chris, Barbara McCann, Josie, Barbara O'Connor, and Jane attended the Federated Garden Clubs Awards Meeting on October 26.

### Upcoming State Events

1. [FGCCT BOD Meeting](#)  
November 16 • 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

### Events Around Us

1. ['Honey – Its History and a Tasting' – Pomperaug Valley Garden Club](#)  
**November 8 • 11:00 am - 12:30 pm**  
*Emergency Services Building, [+ Google Map](#)*
2. [Gardening with Climate Change in Mind: Wallingford Garden Club](#)  
**November 8 • 11:30 am - 2:00 pm**  
*St Paul's Episcopal Church, [+ Google Map](#)*
3. [Annual Luncheon and Boutique – Danbury Garden Club](#)  
**November 17 • 9:45 am - 2:30 pm**  
*Amber Room Colonnade, [+ Google Map](#)*

Barbara received a Club Certificate of Appreciation. The award recognized Barbara for being a tremendous worker, loved by everyone, who consistently takes on jobs that need to be filled

