



REMINDERS

1. Next General Meeting –

October 11- 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-

Alesis Capaldo,
Betsy Rickert,
Densie Rod,
Lynne Farah
(It would be helpful to have a small notecard on the table to identify your appetizer or dessert)

2. Thursday October 26- Board meeting
5:00 – 7:00
Genealogy Room

3. The budget is attached to the newsletter



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

September 2023

Chris Lincoln



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I always find it a little tough to greet September because it means saying “goodbye” to summer. But, on the other hand, it was very nice to say “hello” to so many of you at our first September meeting on the 13th. It was also nice to use our newly approved, unlocked back entrance, with easier and closer access.

If you weren't at the meeting, just drive past the senior center, around the back (ignoring the “do not enter” sign) and enter through the back door which will remain open. My new OLD AGE motto is “Easier is always Better.”

The Board has worked hard to make this an interesting and stimulating year. We'd like it always to be open to new ideas and suggestions, as we all want different things from the groups with which we choose to spend our valuable time. Speak up, use our suggestion box, and ask questions. We're all here to learn - - and, fortunately, we can learn from each other. Welcome back to a new year!

Chris

Reminder:

The FGCCT Awards Luncheon will be held October 25th at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT. Members planning to attend should email Chris Lincoln. The deadline for reserving a table is October 14th or sooner. The cost of the luncheon is \$45 per person, which includes salad and breadbasket, choice of Entrée- NY strip steak, salmon, chicken, or eggplant, dessert, coffee, and tea. A cash bar is available.

HILLARY GOLDSTEIN BIOGRAPHY



Hello everyone, my name is Hillary Goldstein (you may see me on Social media as Hillary Solaski, I'll explain shortly), I've only been in CT for 7 years, I grew up in Spring Valley NY and raised my 3 daughters in Nyack NY. Last year I got married (hence the new last name, too lazy to officially change it) to Steve, the man of my dreams. I feel very fortunate to be so close to my girls; Rachel and Amanda are identical twins 29, and Sophie lives in LA and is 25, and now so lucky to have 2 stepsons; Ian 29 and Harry 27.

I went to FIT for Fashion Business, and worked in wholesale women's apparel then I stayed home for a while to raise the girls and when Sophie was in Kindergarten, I went back to work part time in retail.....never left. Had a great career, most recently I was a Gallery Leader for Restoration Hardware in Greenwich CT and was with RH for 10 years. Last year I retired to follow my passion and love of gardening and growing cut flowers, also the 3 hour a day commute was a killer. You can say I am following in my Mother's footsteps; she was a Certified Master Gardener, and her passion was the same, huge footsteps to follow, but I know she guides me through. Currently I am trying to make a go of a Flower business, booked a few events at local Breweries and Winery, still finding that path.

I am very grateful to be part of the Garden club, I know I told some of you, but my husband and I would pass the islands with some of you in there, and he would always say, "that will be you"... that day came sooner than I expected, so thank you for having me.

At our first meeting Michelle MacKinnon presented **Pollinators for Perfect Gardens, via Zoom**



Michelle outlined the five steps for creating the perfect pollinator garden. She also provided follow up information sent to the membership.

October 11
Speaker



Lorraine Ballato will discuss how we can use shrubs to get color, interesting foliage, and flowering with little maintenance.



Horticulture –

Any annual, 1 stem
if large, 3 stems if
small

September 13 GENERAL MEETING

EXHIBITS: MEADOW

Artistic -Creative Line Design using flowers and plant material gathered from your yard or supermarket.



Josie Schmidt



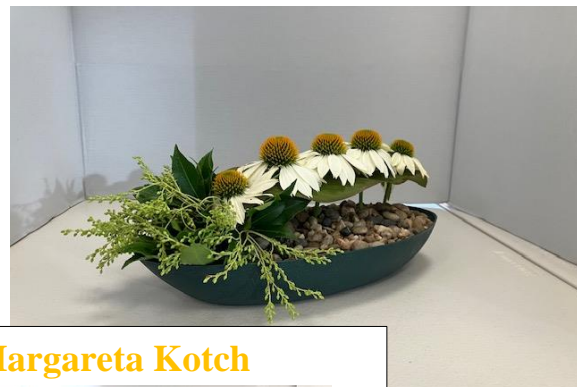
Peggy Townsend



Barbara O'Connor



Jane Vouros



Margareta Kotch



Any perennial-1 stem if large 3 stems if small.

Here Are A Few Tips:

1. Specimens are best if cut in the very early morning, or just before dark.
2. Check for insects, insect damage, torn leaves, bent petals, or weak stems. Each flower on every stem should be in good condition.
3. Remove any leaves below the water. The water should be tepid and put your cutting in a cool dark place if possible.
4. Plant should be 1.5 - 2 times the height of the container. The Dollar Store usually has a good selection of clear glass containers.

October 11 MEETING EXHIBITS

ARTISTIC – Parallel Design



A parallel design is a creative design consisting of three or more groupings of plant material and optional components with a strong placement in a single container or base.

1. Multiple containers/bases may be used if combined to appear as one unit.
2. Parallel direction may be vertical, horizontal, or diagonal within the allotted space.
3. The overall effect must appear parallel. Groupings need not be equidistant from each other.
4. A connective/may be used at the base of the design.



OUTREACH
IDEA

1. Help maintain the library by volunteering for weeding, raking, shoveling etc. - fill out an application and return to the circulation desk. **ya@chboothlibrary.org**

2. Ben's Bells.org Paint "clay" flowers or work on a variety of art projects. Volunteer Hours T, W, TH 12-6 Saturday 10-2 Email - **CT@bensbells.org** \$5.00 donation



On September 21st, our club members were invited to Peggy Townsend's informative talk on Understanding a FGCCT Flower Show. It was sponsored by The Garden Club of Brookfield. Her audience asked many questions and responded warmly to her humorous delivery style. She brought many, many different display category samples with her, a few of them seen here, and used them to demonstrate what to do and what not to do in preparing an entry.



Kindness Garden at the Children's Playground In Dickinson Park

Nancy Scallon, wearing her Town & Country shirt, was at Dickinson Park on September 27 to take part in planting of the Kindness Garden.

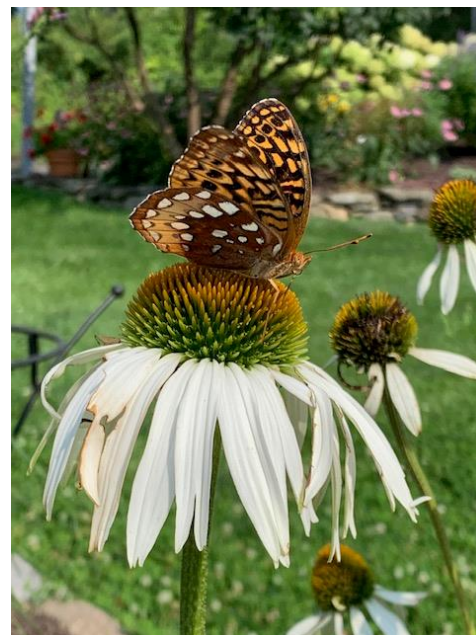


MEMBER PHOTOS

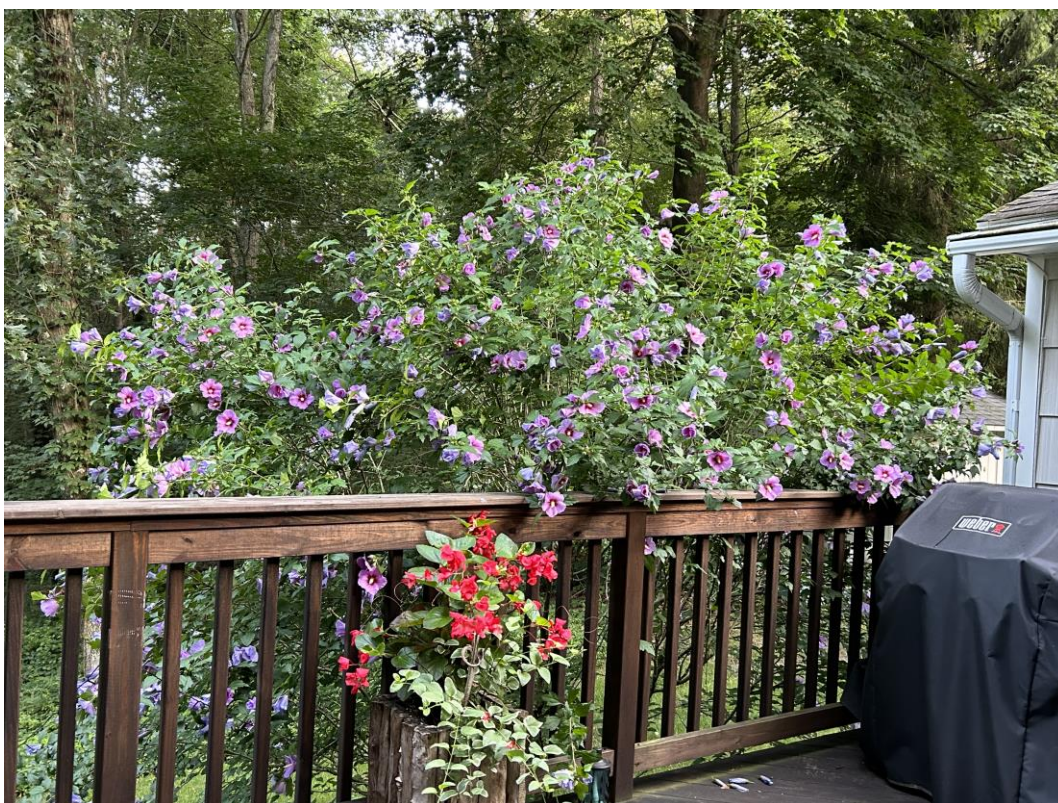
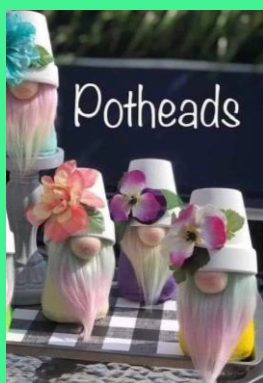
Mary Ellen found these Autumn crocus in here yard.



The last of Gail's figs ready to be picked.



Emi found this beautiful Great Spangled Fritillary butterfly on her White Swan Coneflower.



This is a picture of Chris's Rose of Sharon bush that the builder wanted to cut down when building her deck. She is so lucky that she disagreed.

Arline's - Clematis and hydrangea

Island 1 has a pumpkin growing from a wayward seed from last year's pumpkin decorations.



I planted three small New Guinea impatiens a few months ago. All of the rain we have had has made them really shoot up.

Josie



Arline and Ed Shanley visited her sister in Oregon. As they traveled the Oregon coastline they came upon these Filbert fields (Nutella) as far as the eye can see & the Oregon coastline.



1. Hazelnuts Are Named for Their Appearance
2. First European Hazelnut Tree in Oregon Was Planted in 1858
3. There Are Numerous Varieties and Species Grown in Oregon.
4. Eastern Filbert Blight Is One of the Hazelnut's Biggest Natural Threats.
5. Willamette Valley Provides the Ideal Climate for Commercial Growing.
6. Hazelnuts Bloom and Pollinate During Winter.
7. Hazelnut Trees Often Require Pruning.

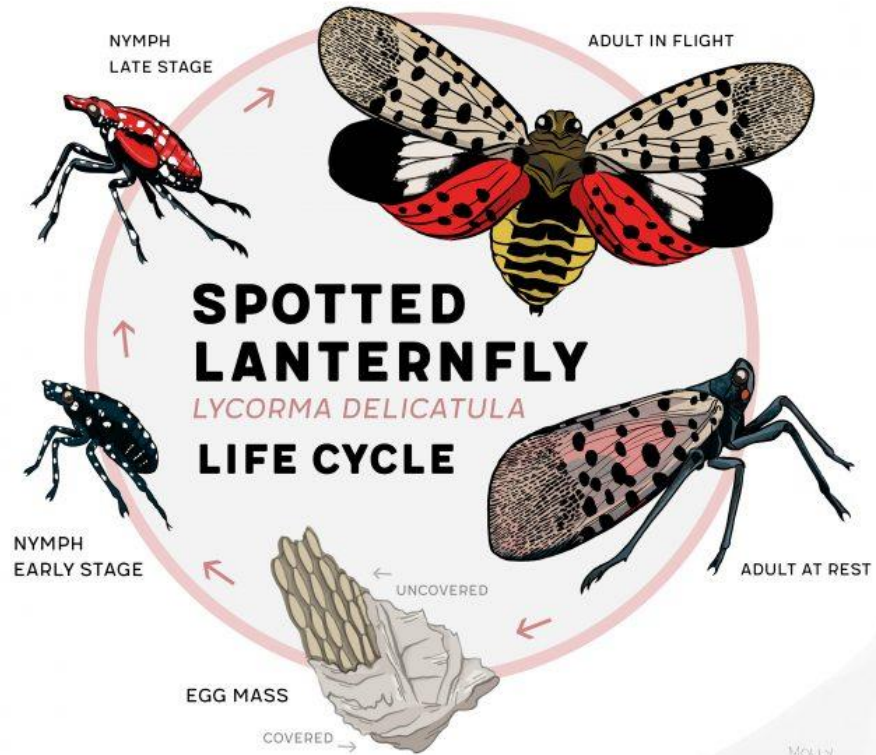
<https://www.mrtreeservices.com/blog/7-facts-about-hazelnut-trees-oregon/>



**BE ON THE
LOOK OUT**

The spotted lanternfly eggs masses are laid on practically any surface including trees, stones, trash cans, side of a house, etc. during the fall. Egg masses are yellowish-brown in color, and most are covered with a gray, waxy coating prior to hatching (USDA, 2019). They may appear wet or sticky when fresh. **You will see eggs from September to May.**

Conservation: At our September meeting, Nancy Azzaro explained the threat that the spotted lantern fly is posing to our state's fruit trees, ornamentals, and other trees. She described the cocoons as looking like a bit of mud and explained that the flies spread by catching a ride from place to place.



Adult and egg masses



Egg Masses

Oregano (Origanum Vulgare)

Oregano Vulgare



Oregano is an herb from the mint or Lamiaceae family. It is a woody perennial plant which also flowers. The Greeks and Romans equated oregano with joy and happiness. The name comes from the Greek words, "oros" meaning mountain and "ganos" meaning joy. It has been used for thousands of years to add flavor to meals and also for health benefits.

There are different types of oregano. Oregano Vulgare is the most common type. It is also known as Spanish thyme and wild marjoram. Throughout the Mediterranean region, people have used oregano, for centuries, for its enhanced health benefits. For instance, it is believed to have antioxidants which helps prevent cell damage, inflammation and cancer. It is also believed to have antibacterial properties. It can be used in tea, to help alleviate coughs.

Spanish Thyme or Cuban Oregano



You can include more oregano in your diet by adding it to pasta sauce, pizza, and soups. The fresh or dried leaves or dried spice can be added to vegetable, chicken, chili, lentil, chickpea dishes and a variety of soups.

Consider adding an oregano plant to your planted or potted herb garden next spring. This past Spring and Summer and now into Fall, I have used oregano leaves to add flavor and give a nutritional boost to my soups and sauces. I have also used it in tea, along with honey and lemon to soothe a cough.

Nancy Azzaro

Wild Marjoram



Ingredients For Pesto

- 1 cup fresh oregano leaves, no stems
- 1/4 cup pine nuts
- 2 cloves garlic roughly chopped
- 1/2 cup parmesan cheese grated
- 1 tbsp lemon juice from half a lemon
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/4 tsp salt or to taste
- 1/4 tsp pepper or to taste

Instructions

1. Add all the ingredients to a blender or food processor.
2. Pulse to blend the ingredients.

Optional: For the Pasta

- Farfalle
- Cherry tomatoes cut in half, optional
- Parmesan cheese grated, optional

**OUR
SPONSOR**



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

A visit to Shakespeare's Garden is a MUST in September, when the days get cooler, the gardens get tired, and the container flowers get a little leggy and gangly. If you're like me (thrive on color), you find it hard to give up on it until the snow is actually falling. This is the perfect time to regenerate your containers by trading out some summer blooms and adding a few fall-muted-colored plants. Shakespeare's, of course, has them all.



You might want to thank your Petunias, Begonias, and Impatiens (for a job well done) and replace them with some nice Mums, Cabbage, Kale, and Ornamental Peppers

Owners, Mark, and Steve will also tell you that it's the best time to add some perennials to your gardens, such as Sedum, Cone Flowers, White Heath Asters, Japanese Anemone, or Montauk Daisies that, once planted, will continue to give pleasure year after year... or ask advice on planting some new shrubs or flowering trees that you've been admiring lately.

We, Town & Country's enthusiastic gardeners, are lucky to have such a well-established, well-equipped, well-informed business, with an experienced and knowledgeable staff, within our reach and at our disposal. WHAT would we do without them? Take my advice and be the envy of your neighborhood. Call or visit soon !

Chris Lincoln



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

On all plant products

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



**OUR
SPONSOR**



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

We, (T & C Garden Club members) are starting a whole new year of learning, gardening activities, programs, and events, after a summer reprieve (to garden, rest, and vacation). As hard as it is to see summer ending, September is always an exciting and beautiful month - - and a great time to enjoy a dinner out - - often still warm enough to dine outside, preferably on Sal e Pepe's pleasant, covered deck.



Sal e Pepe Contemporary Italian Bistro (our right-around-the-corner, go-to place) has not only a new look - - with fresh new paint adding to their welcoming atmosphere - - but a new enhancement to their menu as well. In addition to their many delicious pasta recipes, (developed to perfection through the years), the foody-connoisseur in you can now “create your own” PASTABILITIES.

Choose from a large selection of dry or fresh pastas, complimented with your choice of many mouth-watering sauces, topped-off with your choice of extraordinarily- tasty meatballs, sausage, chicken, or shrimp, all combined with a soup or salad.

If you're a pasta-lover, you can have it THEIR way or YOUR way!

Either Way, You can't go wrong

*Make a reservation at www.salepeperestaurant
97 South Main Street
Newtown, CT
(203) 426-0805*

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 4 \(in person\)](#)
October 4 - October 6
2. [The New Beyond Beginnings Workshop](#)
October 24
St. Michael's Episcopal Church Community House, Litchfield,
[+ Google Map](#)
3. [FGCCT Annual Awards Meeting and Luncheon](#)
October 25
Aqua Turf Club, [+ Google Map](#)
4. [Kokedama workshop – Hardy Plant Society of New England, CT Chapter](#)
October 25 • 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Wethersfield Academy for the Arts, [+ Google Map](#)

Events Around Us

1. [‘What’s Up with Fall’: Wallingford Garden Club](#)
October 10 • 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Yalesville United Methodist Church, [+ Google Map](#)
2. [Scarecrows in Branford – Branford Garden Club](#)
October 13 - November 7
Branford Town Green, [+ Google Map](#)

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 Rd
 - 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
 - b.
7. Mike Bigelow 203-417-2922. Carpenter and miscellaneous small jobs. Great guy and great price – Holly
8. 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.
9. Joe Butkus (203) 525-3253) Chris says he's the best plumber.
10. Pilarhouseclean@gmail.com 203-733-3594 Chris says best house cleaning I've ever had.