



REMINDERS

1. Next General Meeting –

May 10- Senior

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

Hostesses-

Barbara McCann

Arline Shanley

Gail Diminico

Teri Doern

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

2. Mulching

Wednesday

May 24

3. Thursday –

May 25 6-8

Board meeting -
CT Library

4. Installation –

Dinner Wednesday

June 14



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

April 2023



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Chris Lincoln

Hey, Hey, it's APRIL !! Did you know that April is National Gardening Month (4/12 – 4/18 being National Gardening Week) - - so, what are you waiting for? **GET OUT THERE !**

When I look out my window and see how much there is to do with just my lawn alone - - picking up pinecones, little sticks, big sticks, raking dead leaves and debris, getting it ready to mow - - before even inspecting my gardens, it's a daunting sight. Regarding gardens, there are some MUST DO's, SHOULD DO's and NICE TO DO'S. So, prioritize and do it at your own pace. If you haven't been out there in March and still have to "Clean up the garden" the MUST DO'S are:

- Rake out dead leaves, stems, old mulch, dried flower heads – anything that is not going to grow.
- Cut back perennials if you have left stems standing to create interest in the winter.
- Prune back woody perennials once new growth appears. (Butterfly bush, Caryopteris, Lavender, Russian Sage, Montauk Daisies)
- Gently pull back or remove mulch as new growth appears to uncover emerging plants.
- Cut down ornamental grasses.
- Weed, Weed, Weed. Whatever doesn't get removed now will turn into an unwanted focal point.

It doesn't matter what kind of garden you have, or none at all, relish the beauty of the growing season. Gardening adds years to your life, and life to your years. We hope to see you at our May 10th meeting, which is our last until September (leaving the summer free to **GARDEN ON**, - - do the SHOULD DO'S AND NICE TO DO'S (and perhaps travel a bit).



April 12 GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

Michelle MacKinnon gave a talk on dahlias' which she explained were her favorite flowers since she was a child, and she said this was the gateway to gardening for her. She presented details on how to plant dahlias successfully, and how to cut and display them. At the end of her presentation, she raffled off 10 dahlia tubers.



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



Lorraine Ballato is an instructor at the New York Botanical Garden and in the Connecticut Master Gardener Program as well as for the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut will present measures we can take to improve the odds that our hydrangeas will bloom every year. Lorraine will draw on her vast expertise to teach us everything we need to know about hydrangeas including when and how to prune.

**Horticulture -
Bulbs any
variety**



EXHIBITS April 12 BOOT OR BUCKET

ARTISTIC –Traditional Mass Design

Arline
Shanley



EXHIBITS May10

Artistic Design- BRANCH OUT

Creative Line Design - to include one or more branches, using all fresh and dry plant material. The line is dominant, emphasized by using a limited number of components and plant material, organized in a linear direction. Line may be vertical, horizontal, diagonal, or circular.



HORTICULTURE – Perennial:
African Violet

orchid



APRIL 6 FLORAL WORKSHOP



Arline Shanley started out the workshop by demonstrating how to create a horizontal design. The first step was to add the greens and then the plants. After the demonstration we all got to create our own horizontal design with help and support from Arline, Barbara, and Margareta. We each walked out with beautiful center pieces for our table.





Lynne



Peggy



Jane



Jan



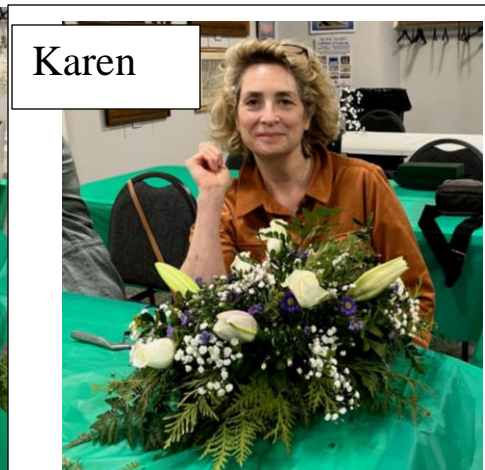
Nancy



Mae



Gail



Karen



Alexis



Betsy



Josie

ISLAND MULCHING MAY 24th

Jim and Austin, owners of Cutting-Edge Lawn Service



Mark your calendar for May 1 if you are interested in celebrating this holiday. No pictures please.



This is a reminder for you to please mark your calendar for May 24 when it will be all hands on deck to mulch our 3 Traffic Islands. The rain date will be May 25. This will start at 6 pm on Island 1, then Island 2 and finally Island 3. Times will be determined by captains of Islands 2 and 3. The members assigned to each island should be there to help with the mulching.



Island 2 workder Barbara O'Connor, Jane Sharpe.and Peggy Townsend got a head start a few weeks ago to clean up Island 2. The other Islands will follow suite, and Island 1 workers will be out Saturday, May 6 working on their spring clean up.

EARTH DAY APRIL 22

Arline, Holly, Jan, Judy, Joy, Teri, and I all worked at our booth on Earth Day. We made a little money for our coffer, met a few perspective new members, and enjoyed hanging out together.



TOWN AND COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

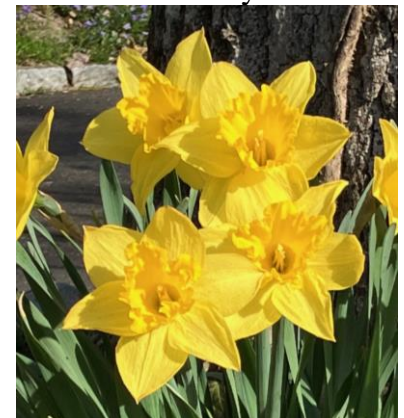
MEMBERS SPRING FLOWERS

Daffodils are of the narcissus genus and are flowering perennial plants of the amaryllis family. The flower has various common names, including daffodil, March lily, narcissus, and jonquil. There are many sizes, shapes, and bloom colors within the over 10,000 different daffodil varieties.

Nancy got these daffodil bulbs from Arline.



3 varieties of my daffodils



HAVE A CUP OF TEA



Tea (*Camellia Sinensis*)

Camellia Sinensis is a subtropical evergreen plant or small tree in the flowering plant family-Theaceae. All "true" tea is harvested from this single plant. The leaves can be processed differently and determines whether it will be black, green, white or oolong tea. Tea leaves are picked, withered, and then are rolled.



The word "tea" is often used to refer to many different types of herbal teas and botanicals that are brewed with hot water and are often used for health benefits but technically they are not "true tea."

There are many benefits of drinking herbal tea. Ginger and Peppermint tea are often used for digestion and nausea relief. Chamomile tea can help with relaxation and to promote sleep.



According to Harvard Health, true tea contains substances linked to a lower risk for heart disease, cancer, and diabetes. The main health enhancing substances in tea are polyphenols. So, enjoy a hot cup of tea and get the health benefits from it as a bonus.

— *Nancy Azzaro*

LOOKING FOR A HAND?

Here Are Some Club Member Recommendations:

1. George Papajani-contractor, home projects-painting & repairs. licensed & insured
203-996-6643- recommended by Arline Shanley
2. IT person for computer, TV, Home phone problems & set-up-Brian Mullins 203-300-4060 - recommended by Arline Shanley
3. Mason work- sidewalks, patios, stone walls-George Pani- 203-482-5589 - recommended by Arline Shanley
4. TEED AND BROWN “Lawn Doctor”- recommended by Peg Fillion
5. Danny Casarella DMC Painting Inc.
914-623-2798 (it has a 914 exchange, but has moved to Monroe)- Barbara McCann
6. George Earl 914-384-4882 Georgearljr@outlook.com. Car service. Holly
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
info@deluciaconstruction.com or ddelucia61@yahoo.com - Chris
He built her deck and 4 season sunroom.
9. Joe Butkus (203) 525-3253) Chris says he’s the best plumber.



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

As we all know, April is National Gardening Month and many of us (as garden enthusiasts) are scrutinizing our property for new signs of life - - and wondering what we can do, undo, cut, plant - - while picturing how we can improve our beloved surroundings. It's an exciting time of year! MY thoughts always go immediately to my favorite "Go To" garden center (Shakespeare's Garden) where I get my best ideas.

Steve & Mark, owners, and their experienced and knowledgeable staff, are always looking for new ways to enhance their business and service.

So, what's new at Shakespeare's? For one thing, they intend to be a vendor at their favorite trade show which they have admired for years but found difficult to participate in because of May's time restraints.

"Trade Secrets Rare Plants & Garden Antiques Sale"

Sunday, May 21st in Lime Rock Park, 60 White Hollow Rd, Lakeville, CT
Approximately 1 hour from Newtown

Check out their website at: <https://tradesecretsct.com>

Trade Secrets is the principle fundraiser for Project SAGE (women's support services & domestic violence) serving NW CT

And, of course, Shakespeare's have been getting deliveries daily of obelisks, garden decor, containers, and the perennial and tree & shrub departments are filling in quickly! Greenhouses are bursting (a bit too soon for the summer annuals to be out), but Spring veggies and herbs are in and waiting for you !

Consider taking a nice drive to visit their booth at Trade Secrets.....or their Brookfield facility and leave with new enthusiasm and ideas.

Chris Lincoln





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



Did you know that YOU are Royalty? Sal e Pepe's restaurant thinks you are - - or at least wants you to be. Actually, they'll treat you like royalty whether you are in the program or not but if you are, you'll experience the feeling of royalty in quite a few different and unexpected ways:

- They'll celebrate your anniversary
- They'll celebrate your birthday (& half birthday)
- They'll give you free delicious desserts
- They'll reduce your bill with discounts
- They'll give you \$5 for Lunch, \$10 for dinner

You deserve to feel special ! Go to
<http://www.salepeperestaurant.com>
And sign up for their Royalty Rewards Program.

Monday | CLOSED
Tuesday -Thursday | 4:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Friday | 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Saturday | Lunch 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Dinner 3:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Sunday | 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Enjoy a SCRUMPTIOUS Italian American Dinner at:



The Staff may even BOW when you leave!



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

Upcoming State Events

1. [Judges Council Meeting](#)
May 16
2. [Flower Show School, Course 3 \(virtual\)](#)
May 24 • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
3. [Flower Show School, Course 3 \(in person\)](#)
May 31 - June 2
Kellogg Environmental Center, [+ Google Ma](#)

Events Around Us

1. [Versatility and Diversity of Succulents' – Pomperaug Valley Garden Club](#)
May 9 • 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Emergency Services Building, [+ Google Map](#)
2. [Cell Phone Garden Photography : Wallingford Garden Club](#)
May 9 • 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
St Paul's Episcopal Church, [+ Google Map](#)
3. [Mother's Day Plant Sale – Wilton Garden Club](#)
May 12 - May 13
Wilton Town Green, [+ Google Map](#)