

# LGC Newsletter



February 2019

**Dear Member,**

Ok, we need to look on the bright side...In February we pass the midpoint of winter and hopefully slide downhill into spring. In February I harvest my first crop of pussy willows and force forsythia branches. Both of these will fare better if cut when the temp is above 40. February is when we start our early seeds and, if we have a warm spell, prune grapes and wisteria. Given our weather right now, we hunker down with a pot of soup and wait. In February (along with November) we don't have a meeting, but garden related activities continue. Your catalogs have arrived, and I have found that if you want a specific plant, order it now. The most popular or unusual things sell out first. So stay warm, drive carefully and enjoy winter dreams of joyful flowers to come.

Best, Diane



There is NO PROGRAM this Month  
But there is a Trip to  
THE HARTFORD FLOWER SHOW  
"APRIL IN PARIS"  
See below/Visiting Gardens Report

## Committee Reports and Announcements

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## Committee Reports and Announcements

### **Horticulture: Julia Metcalf**

My fellow Co Horts:

*Gavel Challenge Seeds:* I hope all of you that took the Gavel seeds for the Zone Challenge are underway!

*THE HARTFORD FLOWER SHOW* is fast approaching, and I hope to see many members participating! Please contact me if you want to submit an entry. As you will see in the following details, there are many possibilities for you to try, so come on and join the fun.

Click [HERE](#) to visit the Flower Show page - you do not need to be logged into the *The Federated Garden Clubs of CT* website. Although, if you want to visit the members side, for access to the [FGCCT](#) website: from the home page, go to the top right. Click on Members' Area. The User name is: fgct. The password is: charteroak.

Click [HERE](#) for Hort General Rules. Click [HERE](#) for the Flower Show schedule.

Advance Registration is required by Friday, 2-15-19.

To enter, please Contact Horticulture Entries Chairman, [Jessica Fischer](#) or call 203-272-8315. Please enter any horticulture which you think may be ready at show time. There is no penalty for withdrawing material that is not show ready. Please include the following information on the computer-generated entry card which will be available upon arrival. Name, Address, Phone, Email, Garden Club or Plant Society, if member, Class, Section Numbers, Botanical and Common Names of Specimen. Walk-in Entries on Tuesday only. Late Entries will not be accepted.

*For our April Horticulture Workshop:* We will be making stuffed topiaries

Click [HERE](#) for a link to purchase your stuffed topiaries, I think it best for all members to purchase their own figurine. I recommend purchasing these items by Feb 15 as they take about 6-8 weeks to ship and deliver.

Please email me when you have purchased your item...

I recommend a small dog, kitten ,turtle, frog, sizes close to 14" or less. I recommend selecting an animal that is smaller than your largest tipper tub or bucket (unless you want to use your laundry tub or bathtub). Once we complete our topiaries, you will need to fully submerge these animals once a week. You will also need to care for the plant life growing on it, so be thoughtful about the overall size. I may do a swan for example. Shipping isn't cheap. If you want to pair up with a buddy to place your order, go ahead!

*Garden Club of America Healthy Yard Pledge!* WHY TAKE THE HEALTHY YARD PLEDGE - The Great Healthy Yard Project is a way you, your family, and your community can improve your water quality without any extra time, work, or money. [Read more](#) and click [HERE](#) to take the pledge.

Hope to see you all at the Hartford Flower Show!

[Julia Metcalf](#)

**Hospitality: Lisa Horne & Margy Miner**

Please sign-up to hostess at one of our spring meetings. The easiest way to sign-up is online - click [HERE](#) or send [Lisa](#) an email or call 860.567.8216. You can sign up to bring a sweet, savory, fruit or make a centerpiece. Thanks in advance.

Lisa and Margy are looking forward to hearing from you!

**Photography: Cathy Oneglia**



Jim Lamond's garden - image taken by  
Cathy Oneglia

Busy, curious thirsty fly!  
Drink with me and drink as I:  
Freely welcome to my cup,  
Couldst thou sip and sip it up:  
Make the most of Life you may,  
Life is short and wears away.

Wm. Oldys  
(1687-1761)

The month of March, the Photography Committee holds our third sweepstakes of the year. The program is Bugs and Biodiversity presented by James Sirch of the Yale Museum of Natural History. Please, everyone, dig deep and pull out your gorgeous photos of our industrious and environmentally helpful insects, birds and wildlife from shoots in beautiful gardens, woodlands and open spaces, wetlands and wonders. We want to have a large and colorful display of images to entice spring back to Litchfield. Or, roam around in our winter landscape and find a few early birds or winter wildlife. Also included is a Class dedicated to the many buildings of historical significance in Litchfield in preparation for our September flower show in celebration of the Litchfield Tri-centennial.

All entries should be no more than fifty inches in circumference, flush mounted on black or white foam core. There is a supply of foam core for sale at the Litchfield Community Center. Any questions regarding presenting your photo, call Cathy at 860 921-7280. You may enter in TWO of the classes.

Class I: Since they need adequate food and shelter, we know that our bird population and wildlife presence indicate a healthy environment for biodiversity in Litchfield. Many depend on insects for survival. Please enter a local scene that includes a bird or birds or of our precious wildlife (even a bear). Color

Class II: Please enter a macro or close up image of an insect or "bug" going about his daily life, for instance, a pollinator at work. It will probably ipso facto include a flower or plant, tree, leaves, vegetables, grass, water, etc. Color

Class III:

- A) Please enter a seasonal scene that includes one of Litchfield's homes, churches or buildings that is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The image does not have to include the entire building, for instance, it could be an interesting door decorated for Christmas. Identify the building and location. If we have enough entries, the judge may, at her discretion, divide the class into two, one for entire buildings and one for aspects of a building. Color
- B) Same as above, but in black and white or monotone, sepia, etc.

The National Register of Historic Places is America's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. It seeks to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. There are 12 such designations in the town of Litchfield, including the entire Litchfield Borough and Milton Center.

Please see online the [National Park Service](#) web-page for a complete listing of Litchfield sites registered on the National Register of Historic Places.

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An interesting read from the National Parks @ Night: January 26, 2019, MOON SHOTS: WHAT WE LEARNED FROM PHOTOGRAPHING THE 2019 LUNAR ECLIPSE by Gabriel Biderman

While lunar eclipses aren't as jaw-droopingly exciting as total solar eclipses, they are still an amazing thing to witness, as well as to capture as photographs. And a lunar eclipse comes with a big benefit: totality lasts much longer than during a solar eclipse, so you have more time to get creative as well as not stress out! [Read more](#)

[Cathy](#), Photography Chair

### **Visiting Gardens: Nancy Rath**

#### VISITING GARDENS TRIP TO THE HARTFORD FLOWER SHOW "APRIL IN PARIS"

*WHEN:* Our trip is for Thursday, February 21, Opening Day; the show itself runs from February 21-24, 2019.

*WHERE:* Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford

*TICKETS:* Discount Tickets were available through February 1, 2019. General admission at the door: \$18 (cash only) and Seniors (over 62): \$16 (cash only)

*FEATURES OF THE SHOW:* Over 300 booths overflowing with fresh flowers, plants, herbs, bulbs, seeds, gardening books, and equipment. View beautifully landscaped gardens and stop by the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut design and horticulture competition. For all other Flower Show information, please visit their [WEBSITE](#)

LITCHFIELD GARDEN CLUB has four Club Members entering: Sylvia Abbott and Ronnie Schoelzel are entering Design and Horticulture, and Sara Gault and Julia Metcalf are entering Horticulture.

OUR MEMBERS: Polly Brooks is currently 2nd VP of the *Federated Garden Clubs of CT* and in April will move to 1st VP. Ronnie Schoelzel is the Parliamentarian for *The Federated Garden Clubs of CT*. She and Sylvia Abbott are both *National Garden Club* Judges.

This "APRIL IN PARIS" trip is in lieu of a regular club meeting in February. We hope that as many of you as possible will come not just to see the incredible flowers and get inspired, but to support our members who are representing our club. It will be amazing!!!!

CARPOOLING DETAILS: It will be easy to attend, as we will be carpooling together! We will meet at St. Anthony's parking lot at 8:45 am on Thursday, February 21st. If you plan to carpool, please contact Nancy Rath to let her know if you can drive and the number of passengers you can take. PLEASE provide her with your cell phone number.

Nancy Rath, Visiting Gardens Chair  
E-MAIL: [Nrath007@me.com](mailto:Nrath007@me.com)  
CELL: 860.806.2998



**From the Desk of the Communications Chair: Joan Burgess**

The [Hospitality page](#) has been update with photos from our Holiday meeting and our January meeting. Take a look.

Another place to visit is the [Garden History & Design Page](#) and see the latest of the *ONE-MINUTE REPORTS* from the Smithsonian Institution's - [Bee-utiful Gardens: The Possibilities with Pollinators](#).

Visit the [Photography](#) home-page (scroll down) to see upcoming GCA Flower shows.

Another great read - From the Garden History & Design chair - [News: Millstones: No Burden in the Garden!](#)

Don't see something but want it posted or have a question - contact [Joan](#). Need LGC information - use our website! It's all there and easy to find.

**Upcoming Events & Member News**

**It is with sadness that we share - Lynne Brickley**, October 11, 1940 - January 30, 2019, died peacefully with her family around her. She was a very bright light in our club for many years - a member since 1986. Lynne brought her energy and considerable intellect to help make our club better. Her generosity and kindness were always evident in all she did. Her passing leaves a void in our membership. She will be sorely missed.

The family requests no flowers as they will be leaving town shortly. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Lynne's name to the Litchfield Historical Society. A Memorial Service will be in April or May, we will let our club members know when the date is set.

Cards may be sent to her daughter, Cori Field, 1843, Edgewood Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22903



**2019 CT Flower and Garden Show** - is at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford for the FGCCT Standard Flower Show "April in Paris" - The LGC February program is a carpooling trip to Hartford to see the show! Visit the [FGCCT Website](#) to learn more. Carpooling information is above in the Visiting Gardens report.

**Doreen Hampton submitted** an article into GCA Bulletin - "In September 2017, the Litchfield Garden Club's Civic Beautification & Projects Committee"...The article was published in the GCA Bulletin Winter 2019.

**GCA Visiting Gardens** presents Summer Gardens & Castles in Bavaria and Austria -June 22 - July 2, 2019. Click [HERE](#) for all the information on their scheduled tours.

## Connecticut Orchid Society Spring into Orchids Show & Sale



Bristol Senior Center  
240 Stafford Ave.  
Bristol CT  
(860) 584-7895

Saturday, March 30th, 10-5  
Sunday, March 31st, 10-4  
Displays, vendors,  
lectures, and raffles  
Admission \$5.00

### Quick Links

Please visit our [Website](#)

### Contact information

Email: [Susan Jordan](#) or phone (860) 567-2093

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