

LGC Newsletter



July 2023



Larkspur

JULY

July Flower: Larkspur

Message From The President

Well, we did it! Flower Show Mania has come and gone, and Litchfield Garden Club staged one of its most successful events ever! *A Tapestry of Nature* came to life with its exceptional floral displays, horticulture, photography, and educational exhibits. Not to mention the fabulous Silent Auction held at the Gala preview party. We are grateful to all participants, including the donors and sponsors, who contributed to our success. Be sure to look at the superb photographic renditions of the Show on our Instagram account and the LGC website [HERE](#).

This month, we hold our Annual Awards Luncheon at the Litchfield Country Club on July 20. In addition to recognizing worthy LGC recipients, we will welcome our new Provisional Members and Honorary Members. It will be my great pleasure to present the President's bowl to Sara Gault who will lead the Club from 2023-25.

The Nominating Committee has approved the following Slate for 2023-25. This announcement will serve as notice of a Special Meeting to approve the Slate, which we will vote on at the Annual Luncheon.

President, Sara Gault (2 year term)
Vice-President, Julia Metcalf (2 year term)
Treasurer, Diane Stoner (to fill unexpired 1 year term)
Assistant Treasurer, Susan Kendall (to fill unexpired 1 year term)
Corresponding Secretary, Jane Hinkel (2 year term)
Recording Secretary, Peggy Terhune (continuing a 2 year term)

It has been an honor to serve as your President these last two years. I look forward to passing the torch to Sara and the other new Officers who are giving generously of their time to enrich our beloved Club.

[Susan Magary](#)

July 2023 Program Notice



Annual Luncheon, July 2022

Annual July Luncheon Meeting Litchfield Country Club 20 July 2023 at 10:45 am

Please join your fellow members for the Annual July Luncheon Meeting.

There are no Sweepstakes scheduled for this event!

The meeting will begin promptly at 10:45 am with the Awards ceremony, followed by group pictures, so wear your favorite frock. Arrival at 10:30 am is suggested. Please carpool if you can as it is summer at The Club and parking is occasionally limited.

There will be a served, sit down luncheon in the dining room following the Awards ceremony. To reserve your place at the luncheon and to insure that we have an accurate count for the meal preparation, please take the following 2 steps:

- **RSVP** to Nan Skeie regarding your attendance along with any dietary concerns (vegetarian or omnivore or allergy) by clicking [HERE](#).
- **Pay in advance** by mailing a check for \$40, made out to the Litchfield Garden Club to:

Rosamond Quay
P.O. Box 686
Litchfield CT 06759

[Julia Metcalf](#)

Committee Reports & Announcements

Communication



Fundraising Update

While the final fundraising numbers will be available in September, Kristen and I wanted to share a few of the key data points from this year's event:

- Over 200 people attended the Gala Preview Party, a club record, thanks to our electronic invitations and the ability to pay for tickets online.
- The silent auction tent was busy all evening and the final numbers are still being tallied. By all accounts it was a great auction and a really spectacular party!
- Over 360 people attended the Flower Show on Saturday. There was a constant flow of people viewing the exhibits and a constant flow of rave reviews! I met people there from all over the state of CT.
- Drawing tickets were sold on both days of the show. There were 7 winners and 4 of the 7 were LGC members. This drawing raised over \$2000 thanks to the generosity of Windy Hill Farm, Bartlett Tree Experts, DPZ, and Hugh Schoelzel who donated one of Ronnie's topiaries. In addition, notecards created and donated by MaryEllen O'Brien were also sold at the flower show raised over \$500.
- Please remember to thank the local businesses who sponsored our event. We had 29 sponsors and raised \$20,000 in sponsorship dollars. They were all very generous!

It was a very successful fundraising effort and Kristen and I appreciate all who helped to make it so. It truly does take a village!

Lastly, thank you everyone who has supported my efforts these past two years as I strived to make this newsletter a tool that everyone could use as a resource and to keep up to date on LGC's many activities. Happy Summer!

Crystal Carminati

CALENDAR

Conservation

Dale, Kate and I had quite the challenge to bring together both the Conservation and Garden History and Design Exhibit for our recent Flower Show. With the Smithsonian restrictions on the use of the photos we were very careful to comply with their guidelines. Ultimately, we were awarded the Ann Crammond Award for highlighting the importance of documenting gardens for educational purposes and the Marion Thompson Fuller Brown Conservation Award for an outstanding Conservation exhibit.

We are now looking forward to just enjoying our friends in the club and our gardens. Have a great summer and we will see you in the fall.

Margy Miner

Floral Design





Flower Show

We have had rave reviews from all over regarding the superb quality of our Gala Preview Party, Silent Auction, Flower Show, and our superb hospitality! Everyone is talking about the incredible creativity of the exhibits at the show, and the beauty and educational value of everything presented to the public. From the entryway, through the show into the auction tent, it was magnificent and we should all be so very happy with the results of our years of planning and organization. Statistics will be presented in September. Gratitude to everyone who worked on the event. We have increased the positive image of our club to new heights! What a great club we have and we will continue to go forward with new vigor and strength! To view more flower show photos click [HERE](#).

Thanks to all!

[Sylvia Abbott and Kate Jamison](#)

Horticulture



Kokedama class: Newport Flower Show, June 2023 Photo credit: Kate Jamison

Thank you to everyone for bringing their wonderful horticultural gems to our flower show, as well as for all the hard work you did. I was recently at the Newport Flower show, and I think our horticulture definitely compared well to theirs. Although they do always have a wonderful selection of roses, not surprising since they are harder for us to grow here than in Newport.

Important: Could everyone who has a kokedama from our workshop, please bring it to our July meeting? We are going to use them as our table centerpieces. Also speaking Kokedamas...there was a class at the Newport show. Many people had not ever heard of them before!

I do hope that everyone has taken away some great ideas and tips from our horticulture workshops and activities this past year.

Many thanks to all and happy summer!

Kate Jamison

Photography

Thank you to our 7 entrants in the Photography Division of “A Tapestry of Nature.” The photos received such rave reviews from all of the visitors to the show. I continue to receive notes from other garden clubs’ members saying how beautiful our photography division appeared. Special thanks to Martha Phillips, tireless and careful registrar. The Litchfield Garden Club entered 11 entries. We had three Blue First Place winners: Sylvia Abbott, Susan Fearey and Tierney Moran. That is first place in half of the classes. Tierney Moran also

won Best in Show for her backlit swan in Class V. Class V, “A Study for Audubon”, was awarded a Judges Commendation for the strength of the class. I commend all of you for persevering in the process of entering a GCA Flower Show in this way as well as hosting and preparing for the whole show in general.

Have a wonderful, restful, summer and take lots of pictures just for the pleasure of being alive. We will schedule a meeting of the Photography Committee for the first week of August when everyone can come and talk about what they would like to see happen and what they would like to do in the coming year. There is NO template, so do give it some thought as to what you personally would enjoy most.

Cathy Oneglia

Treasurer

Reminder from the Treasurer

The annual dues for the Litchfield Garden Club are \$175 and payment is due by July 15th. You may pay your dues by check or online through PayPal. If paying by check, click [HERE](#) for the mail-in form. If you're paying your dues online, please visit the LGC [WEBSITE](#) to pay with PayPal or Credit Card.

NOTE: There is a PayPal fee of \$5.50.

**Please make your check payable to:
Litchfield Garden Club**

Thank you to those who paid in advance!

Sara Gault



Member News and Upcoming Events



Watering of Town Planters

The Watering Schedule for the Summer 2023 is up on the website. Please sign up for a week of watering either the North Street planter or the Green horse trough and Meadow Street planter. There are still several weeks that need volunteers. Watering starts the week of June 6th and goes thru September 1st. Please sign up to water the planters by clicking [HERE](#).

LGC Website

GCA Website

FGCCT Website

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Litchfield Garden Club | P.O. Box 848, Litchfield, CT 06759