

LGC Newsletter



June 2023



June Flower: Sweet Honeysuckle

Message From The President

After years of planning, our Flower Show is finally here. On Friday, June 16, we will hold a Gala Preview Party from 6-9; and on June 17, the Show will be open

to the public from 10-4. Please sign up for the party if you haven't already and do volunteer if someone asks for help. This is our first Show in 4 years, and it promises to set a new gold standard for garden club shows.

Last month's business meeting covered a full agenda. We revised the LGC ByLaws and Handbook, in accordance with changes made in the Strategic Plan and Task Force Recommendations. Thanks to Martha Phillips for her great editing work, and to Joan Burgess, our website guru who has already posted the new documents.

We also elected our new Slate of Officers, headed by Polly Brooks as President, Julia Metcalf, Vice President, and Diane Stoner, Communications Secretary. This is a very talented group of members who will lead our Club in the next 2 years, and we wish them all the best!

On the Awards front, we jumped the gun a little, when Kristen surprised Sylvia with a 50 year of service award, and also presented Jay Abbott with an Honorary Membership. Talk about a deserving couple! We also honored Joan with a Certificate of Appreciation for all her excellent work on behalf of LGC. There will be other awards presented, as usual, at our July 20 Annual Meeting. Mark your calendars!

Susan Magary



Joan Burgess received the Certificate of Appreciation for her hard work (that expands well beyond the website) on behalf of the Litchfield Garden Club. Thank you Joan.



Sylvia Abbott received her 50 years of service award, recognizing her dedication to LGC and beyond. Jay Abbott received an honorary membership for his years of support for Sylvia and the efforts of the LGC.

June 2023 Program Notice

Dear Members:

There will be no Membership meeting in June as we will be hosting our GCA Flower Show, "A Tapestry of Nature" on June 16th (Gala Preview Party) and June 17th (Flower Show, Open To The Public) at the Litchfield Community Center.

As a reminder, all members or those who want to attend the Gala, should pre-purchase their tickets! Please do so ASAP as we must alert the caterer to the number of attendees shortly. Tickets can be purchased online via your invitation and on the [LGC website](#). You have the option to pay by check or via Credit Card or PayPal.

Committee Reports & Announcements

Communication

Preview Party Fundraising Update

Sponsor Update

Our committee has raised **\$20,000** in sponsorships from our local business community in support of our civic and beautification projects. We are so grateful to them for their generosity and appreciation of our work in the community.

Please patronize these businesses, and be sure to thank them for their support of LGC.





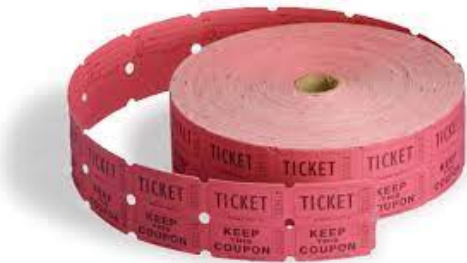
Silent Auction and Cocktails Under the Tent

41 fabulous items have been curated for the Silent Auction at the Gala Preview Party. They include a variety of entertainment options, private tours, products and services, jewelry, and art! We are certain you will all find something interesting to purchase while supporting our cause!

Thanks to Joan Burgess' hard work, you can preview the auction items [HERE!](#) Please take the time to check them out!

Note: *The Silent Auction will end at 8:00pm on the night of the Preview Party. While payment with a credit card will be an option via SQUARE (thank you Sara Gault and Rosamond Quay), we ask that you PLEASE BRING CASH and CHECKS, as that will be our insurance against any technology glitches and allow for faster check out.*

We look forward to seeing you.



LGC Drawing

Drawing tickets will be sold at the Flower Show and at the Preview Party. You can enter to win a fruit espalier or a pair of winterberry bushes (donated by Windy Hill Farm), as well as some other nature inspired surprises!

**1 chance to win for \$10 or
3 chances for \$20.**

CALENDAR

Flower Show



As we ready for our upcoming Gala, Silent Auction and Flower Show, a few reminders:

- Please be on time for your work and exhibits.
- Please bring lots of horticulture so we have a great showing for our visitors!
- Do come to celebrate at the Gala Preview Party and toast our LGC's 110th anniversary!
- Bring a check with you to cover the costs of the Silent Auction items you will be purchasing.
- Enjoy the show and the results of all our hard work and planning for the past 1-1/2 years!

[Sylvia Abbott and Kate Jamison](#)

Horticulture

Thank you to everyone for making our May sweepstakes a great one. I appreciate everyone's efforts in participating and it was a great turn out! We needed just a few more points to eke out our novice winner. Since we've been practicing both April and May on entering sweepstakes, hopefully now we are more prepared for our June flower show.

As I have offered before, if there's anything I can do to help you have the courage and confidence to enter in A Tapestry of Nature please let me know. I do house calls! Happy summer!

Kate Jamison

Photography

A big thank you to everyone who participated in the May sweepstakes. The ribbon winners are:

Class I

First Place/Best in Show: Betty Wu
Second Place: Crystal Carminati
Second Place: Lynn Chapman
Third Place: Susan Magary
HM: Doreen Tango Hampton

Class II

First Place: Doreen Tango Hampton
Second Place: Crystal Carminati
Third Place: Betty Wu

Class III

First Place: Sue Kennedy
Second Place: Rose Brooks
Third Place: Lynn Chapman

The Hollister House joint Workshop with Garden Club of Hartford and Washington Garden Club was well attended. Six LGC members joined in the fun with photographer Rich Pomerantz: Kathy Thompson, Sue Kennedy, Susan Magary, Betty Wu, and Diane Cicchetti. In addition, George Schoelkopf, Hollister House owner, joined us for an hour.

Thank you to Mara Sfara of Garden Club of Hartford and Pam Moffett of Hollister House for putting together this event.

Cathy Oneglia

Projects

It has been a very busy time for our committee. In April we celebrated an Earth Day Event at the Litchfield Community Center where we had an LGC table and offered 50 seed packets (graciously donated by John Scheepers Inc.) to the public. Tierney Moran created a beautiful basket of spring flowers for our table. At an Arbor Day event at the Tapping Reeve House we celebrated the planting of the propagated sycamore tree planted in front of the house. A bronze plaque was placed stating that it was propagated from the original 1779 Oliver Wolcott, Jr. tree planted in honor of his father, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Check the BLOG Page for photos.

On May 10th a white oak tree, donated by the LGC, was planted in front of the Bronson House on North Street in honor of Ronnie Schoelzel. Ronnie's husband Hugh and members of LGC gathered to celebrate the event. Check the [BLOG](#) page on the LGC website for photos.

Spring Planting for the town planters also took place in May. Rose Brooks and Nan Skeie selected several plants from Litchfield Hills Nursery. Dianne Cicchetti, Ellen Oneglia, Drew Harlow, Susan Magary, Sue Kennedy, Nan Skeie and Rose Brooks helped with the plantings. Three club logo signs have been placed in the planters to give our club recognition. Check the [BLOG Page](#) for photos.

Drew Harlow and Ellen Oneglia

Upcoming Projects

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. Watering starts the week of June 6th and goes thru September 1st. Please sign up by clicking [HERE](#).



Summer Tree Walks
Litchfield History Museum
7 South Street
Registration Requested: Click [HERE](#)

A "Tree Walk" sponsored by the Litchfield Historical Society and the LGC will be held at 1PM on June 3rd. Margy Miner will represent LGC and talk about LGC's Treescape and the many trees we have planted in town. An August 19th walk is planned with Susan Magary

For over 100 years, the Litchfield Garden Club has planted and cared for hundreds of trees in town. Join the Historical Society and Garden Club for a tree tour visiting a selection of notable trees and sharing stories of the people and events surrounding them.

The walk will begin at the Litchfield Historical Society and lasts approximately 1 hour. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a bottle of water. Walking Tours are sponsored by Berkshire Alarm.

[Drew Harlow/Ellen Oneglia](#)

Treasurer

Reminder from the Treasurer

The annual dues for the Litchfield Garden Club are \$175 and payment would be appreciated 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: If paying via PayPal the fee is \$5.50.



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

Send your check to:
Sara K. Gault, Treasurer
PO Box 848
Litchfield, CT 06759

[Sara Gault](#)

Visiting Gardens



Philip Johnson's Glass House

**Visiting Gardens Day Trip
Reserve Your Space
Friday, June 30th**

Registration Deadline: All reservations must be received by June 12

To make a reservation, send a check made out to Litchfield Garden Club for \$45 (Adult) or \$40 (Senior) and send it to:

Nancy Post
12 Sarcka Lane
Litchfield CT 06759

Feel free to contact me with any questions by clicking on my name below.

TRIP DETAILS: We will travel to New Canaan to tour Grace Farms and Philip Johnson's famous Glass House. Our day begins at Grace Farms Foundation, an 80-acre cultural and humanitarian center set into the existing habitat where visitors experience the Foundation's 5 initiatives: nature, arts, justice, community, and faith. The River Building is designed by SANAA, a Pritzker Prize-winning Japanese architectural firm. While there, we will take their 90-minute tour devoted to sustainable gardening. Following the tour, we will enjoy lunch in Grace Farms Commons.

In the afternoon, our tour will take us to The Glass House, a National Trust Historical Site. The house sits on 49 acres with 13 other structures including several Galleries. We will have a 1-hour tour of the house and learn about Philip Johnson and his interesting and controversial life. The Glass House was built between 1949 and 1955 and serves as a catalyst for the preservation and interpretation of modern architecture, landscape and art as a canvas for inspiration and experimentation.

Itinerary:

8 am-Meet at St. Anthony's parking lot and then drive to New Canaan
10:30-Tour of Grace Farms
12:00-Lunch at Grace Farms
1:30 or 2:30-Tour of The Glass House
3 or 4:00-Leave for Litchfield

Cost:

Grace tour \$20 Adult or \$15-Senior
Glass House-\$25
Lunch additional

[Nancy Post](#)

Member News and Upcoming Events

Check out this article by Tovah Martin in the Washington Post

"How to turn your garden into a buffet for pollinators"

Before leaping at a new variety of your favorite plant, consider whether the change in shape, color or bloom time may alter its appeal to pollinators.

Click [HERE](#) to view article.

YOU ARE INVITED!
Washington Garden Club

The Washington Garden Club Presents
 COLOR . TEXTURE . FLORAL DESIGN 
A Program & Demonstration By Professional Floral Designer
LORETTA STAGEN

June 8th, 1pm
Salem Covenant Church
96 Baldwin Hill Road
Washington Depot

Be Our Guest for Tea and Be Inspired by the Wonderful Summer
Arrangements
All for Raffle



RSVP: jamington@aol.com

June Memorial Services

June 3rd: There will be a Memorial Service for Janet Gurniak at St. Michael's Church on June 3, 2023 at 2 pm. Any and all members are welcome to pay their respects to this exceptional woman who remained loyal to LGC throughout her lifetime.

June 17th: There will be a "Celebration of Life" for Bronwyn "Ronnie" Schoelzel, from 11 am-1 pm at Ronnie's Garden. Please RSVP to Hugh Schoelzel.