

# LGC Newsletter



March 2020



## **Message from the President**

Greetings,

Open meetings are a special opportunity to share our club's mission with others. This month's meeting is not only open, but a truly unique program. Dr. Megan Parker of Working Dogs for Conservation will share how dogs can be trained to assist in global conservation.

Invite your friends and neighbors. Spread the word! We're guaranteed to experience a new way to approach conservation.

See you there,

Annie

Conservation Speaker, Dr. Megan Parker  
Working Dogs for Conservation

Litchfield Community Center  
March 12, 2020  
12:00 p.m.

Click [HERE](#) for more information

If you haven't already, Please RSVP to [Emily Dalton](#)

## Committee Reports & Announcements

### 2020 Founders Fund Grant Reminder

If you haven't voted yet, please do so by March 15th. This year's three finalists represent a tremendous commitment to their communities - please register an unbiased vote for finalist.

- CheerMobile Farm: Zone II
- Growing It Green in Paterson, NJ: Zone IV
- Permaculture Sanctuary: Zone VII

### TO VOTE

#### STEP 1: REVIEW THE PROPOSALS

Click [HERE](#) for full descriptions and photographs of each project. Please read the 500-word descriptions in either the attached document or the GCA Bulletin you received in the mail. For a summary, click [HERE](#).

#### STEP 2: CAST A VOTE

Please email [Susan Magary](#) with your vote by March 15th. After all our Club votes are tallied, Susan will submit our selection to GCA. Our Club vote is due April 1. Please take the time to fully read the submissions and cast your vote!

### Conservation



Exciting events for the Litchfield Garden Club 50th Anniversary Earth Day Celebrations! April 19 - April 22, 2020

Visit our [website](#) for details and schedule of events.

**Pollinator Garden Expansion** - After a very successful meeting with the White Memorial Conservation & Land Planning Committee and the White Memorial Committee, we received both the land use change and the final approval for our Pollinator Garden Expansion program at the White Memorial site near Ongley pond.

We also agreed on the following list of native species for planting. A call to all our gardeners! - do you have any of these plants in your gardens that you are willing to share, or planning to divide this Spring? Please consider donating them so that your garden will then become part of the Pollinator Garden Expansion! Click [HERE](#) for the list of plants.

Please put on your calendars upcoming 2020 Conservation meetings: March 20th, and April 17th, 12:30 pm @ the Oliver Wolcott Library.

[Grace Yagtug](#)

## Floral Design

**Floral Design Sweepstakes - *Spring in the Garden*, a Pot-et-Fleur which interprets the theme of the class title.** The exhibit may not exceed 24" in width, no height restriction.

A pot-et-fleur is a design combining at least two rooted, growing plants in soil, and fresh cut flowers and/or foliage artistically arranged together in one container. The cut material must be in water (i.e., tubes or oasis) or conditioned to remain fresh for the duration of the exhibit. The material should be in one container of any style and type (i.e., basket, ceramic, metal, etc.) Accessories are allowed. Plants may be any combination of fresh, dried, and/or man-made materials. No artificial plant material is allowed. No painted or dyed, *fresh* plant material is allowed - if dried, it is OK.



Please bring your entries to the Community Center by 11:30 AM on March 12th.

Click [HERE](#) to see images of the pot-et-fleur workshop.

There is a Design Workshop at the Community Center, March 25th from 9:30-11:30 am for the Fine Art and Flowers PowerPoint presentation. All are welcome to come.

[Sylvia Abbott](#)

## Garden History & Design

Save the date for the next GH&D committee meeting - April 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 at Jane Hinkel's garden at 149 Old South Road. All interested members are invited. Drop me an email if you can come.

[Diane Stoner](#)

## Horticulture

Do I dare say "Happy Spring!?" Easter is in the stores and Primula too. The daffodils are pushing up and maybe crocus and other minor bulbs as well. So spring is definitely on the way.

Speaking of growing, we had a wonderful combined workshop between [Conservation](#) and [Horticulture](#) - visit websites. Grace outdid herself in the hostessing department, providing us with wonderful treats and seemingly unlimited supplies, all while demonstrating the way to grow seeds in milk jugs for no fuss seed growing outside. We all learned something new and came away with milk jugs planted with vegetables and flowers to transplant in our gardens. Thank you Grace!

We will have a Division workshop in April to learn about various perennial plants and understand how and when to divide them. I have been collecting seed from the natives in my garden, but there are many *happy growers* we can split too!

The Boston Flower Show is having an Amateur Horticulture division. They are encouraging people not only to enter the show but also to help as a volunteer if that will help you learn the ropes and gain the courage to enter shows! Shifts will start on March 8<sup>th</sup> and run through March 9<sup>th</sup>. Being a volunteer allows you free admission to the show. Please reach out to [Arabella Dane](#) or [Libby Moore](#) for direction.

For those of you interested in Native Plants, there will be a plant sale sponsored by the Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. More info to follow, or [email CT River Coastal](#) or call (860-346-3282).

Lastly, have you sowed your Capsicum "Hot Pops Purple" yet? It's time! I handed them out at the January meeting in preparation for the Gavel Challenge for the Zone II Annual Meeting in October. Each club has to enter a plant, so let's make sure we have lots to choose from! Thank you.

Best, [Kate Jamison](#)

## Hospitality

A note from Hospitality! We wanted to thank everyone for making our job so easy! And please send suggestions to us. Also we wanted to remind everyone

that the March meeting is an OPEN one, and we will have sandwiches in addition to hostess-provided sweets. Yummy!

[Emily & Frank](#)

## Photography

*LGC SWEEPSTAKES - PHOTOGRAPHY IN WINTER*  
*March 12, 12:00 PM*  
*Litchfield Community Center*

Class I: Winter presents us with many challenges, both physical and emotional, but offers us, as photographers, so much opportunity to find our creative best self. Our sweepstakes for our March 12 Open Conservation meeting will comprise an eclectic collection of winter photography. Please enter your current favorite winter image, the only requirement being that it show some plant life, something natural and growing. Hopefully, we will have a wide variety of shots — landscape, close up, mid-range, environmental portrait, water, clouds, reflections, architecture, ice and snow, the sky is the limit.



Class II: Our speaker, Dr. Megan Parker, Co-founder of Working Dogs for Conservation, tells how dogs she and her associate train help with conservation. She takes dogs' "innate inability to quit" and their resilience and willingness to tell us what they know to amazing levels of contribution in conservation efforts. Please enter your favorite picture of a dog. This image may show activity or not, show dogs alone or with people or other animals. It should produce an emotional response in the viewer; for instance, warmth, sympathy, affection, empathy, playfulness, admiration, etc. Have fun photographing "Man's Best Friend"!

Class III: If you have escaped the winter scene and have traveled south or west or anywhere and would like to send your favorite "winter" photo that includes plant life from wherever you are, please do and our judge will create a class. Send photo to Berta Andrusis, Litchfield Community Center, 421 Bantam Rd., Litchfield, CT 06759.

All images need to be between 36" and 50" in total length and width, flush mounted on black foam core. All post-processing needs to be the sole work of the entrant. Printing and mounting may be done professionally. Our judge will organize the images into relevant groups for judging and award a number of ribbons. We thank Grace Yagtug for this innovative way of structuring the sweepstakes to emphasize individual creativity and to have fun and play with photography in winter.

Please bring your photographs to the Community Center by 10:00 AM on March 12, or make other arrangements with Berta. You may enter any TWO of the three classes.

[Cathy Oneglia](#)

## Visiting Gardens

A group of Litchfield Garden Club members ventured to The Hartford Convention Center to see The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut flower show. Pictured below L-R: Meredith Penfield, Nan Skeie, Annie Borzilleri, Sara Gault, and Rose Brooks. Also in attendance were Ronnie Schoelzel, Polly Brooks, Emily Dalton, and Nancy Post. It was a fine show and we all enjoyed a breath of spring.

Eight members of LGC exhibited in The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut flower show, "Spring into Connecticut" February 21-23. The ladies came home with the gold! [Read more](#) and see all the images.

### [Nancy Post](#)



## From the Communications Desk

Take a look at the [Conservation Page](#) / [Horticulture Page](#) for recent postings on the Seeds are Smart workshop.

Do you need help in logging into the GCA website? Each member has their own user name and password. Do you need the password for The Federated Garden Club of CT? Check with [Joan](#) if you need help.

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.

If you want something posted on the [LGC Calendar](#), please contact [Joan](#).

## Upcoming Events for your Calendar & Member News

**March 24, 2020, An invitation from The Garden Club of Newtown** for LGC club members to attend their 65th Anniversary Celebration.

Ellen Ecker Ogden will be the guest speaker at our luncheon, silent auction, and raffle to be held at Rock Ridge Country Club in Newtown, CT

We hope to see you there.

Peggy Jepsen and Kerri Williams, Co-Presidents

Click [HERE](#) for invitation letter

Click [HERE](#) for the registration form

*come Join us...*

  
The Garden Club of Newtown  
**CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THEIR**

*65<sup>th</sup>*  
*Anniversary Celebration*

*Guest Speaker*

*Author,  
Lecturer  
and  
Garden  
Designer*



**elleneckerogden**  
**The Art of Growing Food**

Designed for  
Cooks Who Love to Garden

*When:*  
Tuesday, March 24, 2020  
11:00 am to 2:30 pm

*What:*  
Luncheon, Cash Bar  
Raffle and Silent Auction  
Cost - \$55 includes  
10 Raffle Tickets

*Where:*  
Rock Ridge Country Club  
214 Sugar Street (Rt 302)  
Newtown, CT

**CONTACT: PEGGY JEPSEN, CO-PRESIDENT**  
PEGGYJEPSEN@FRONTIER.COM

**On behalf of the Ridgefield Garden Club,** we'd like to invite you, your club members & community partners to our upcoming Conservation Program at the Ridgefield Library on **Tuesday, March 24th at 1 p.m.**

We are thrilled to welcome this year's speaker, Scott Weidensaul, nationally recognized naturalist, ornithologist & author. Scott is an expert in the field of bird migration and habitats and a dynamic & inspiring speaker. His celebrated book, *Living on the Wind*, was shortlisted for a Pulitzer Prize in non-fiction.

This program is free and open to the public, though space is limited to 150 people. Those interested in attending click [HERE](#) for more information on the program and in registration.

Thank you & we hope to see you on the 24th!





**Zone VIII** is desperately in need of more entries in the botanical arts classes of their upcoming Zone Flower Show. At this time there are spaces available in all classes. They have changed the schedule to allow non-Zone VIII club members to enter. Click [HERE](#) for the schedule.

All the best,  
Etoile Holzaepfel, Area Vice Chair, Zones I & II  
Flower Show Committee

**Get your cameras ready!** Litchfield Garden Club 50th Anniversary Earth Day Celebrations - April 19 - April 22, 2020. We are encouraging members to photograph any and all of the Earth Day Events in April so that we have lots of pictures to choose from for our web-page. Also we will have a May Photography Sweeps using our photos from Earth Day events. Thank you in advance!

Cathy