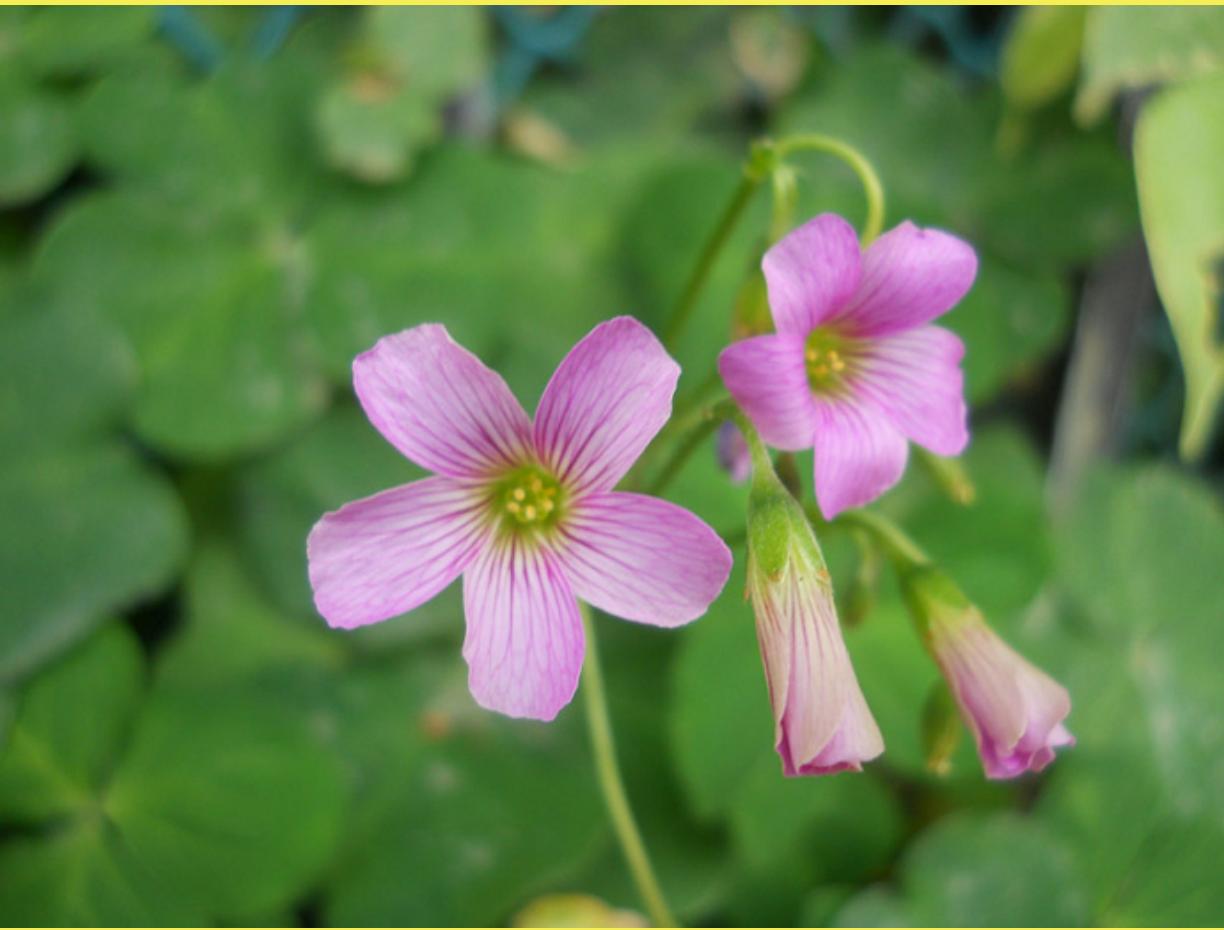


# LGC Newsletter



## March 2022

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### Message From The President

A busy month! Our live program on March 17 features a flower arranging demonstration by designer Claire Won Kang. This promises to be an exciting program for members, as well as guests and prospective members. Note that the LGC policy of mask wearing has not changed, even though the Community Center has relaxed its requirements.

Our Strategic Planning review meeting on Feb. 22 was well attended and Emily Dalton's presentation was informative and comprehensive. More details follow in Emily's VP report below.

Following the Strategic Planning meeting, the EC held a Special Meeting to discuss a letter from Emily Dalton submitting her resignation as Vice President, effective July 21, 2022. Emily finds that due to other significant commitments in her life, she is unable to fulfill her obligations to the club. For this reason, she is ending her term early to help ensure a smooth transition for the next Vice President (and hopefully, President). Very regrettably, the EC accepted Emily's resignation. Thankfully, she will be continuing on as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, and also as an involved member of Flower Show 2023.

The Nominating Committee has been apprised of this development. That Committee is chaired by Doreen Tango Hampton, and consists of Members Sara Gault, Nancy Post, Jane Hinkel, and Lainie Witherspoon. They will present the slate of new officers to the EC at the March 14 EC meeting, and it will be published in the April newsletter for a vote at the May Meeting.

Looking ahead, please **Save the Date** for our April Meeting, a fundraiser for the LGC Centennial Fund, to be held at the Magary home on Saturday, April 23 from 5-7 pm. More details will follow in the April Newsletter. In the meantime, cheers to the return of Daylight Savings Time on March 13, and the beginning of Spring on March 20!

**Susan Magary**

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## Meeting Notice



**March Membership Meeting  
March 17th**

## **Litchfield Community Center 10am**

**We will also host this meeting via Zoom using this link:**

[https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/8699672554?  
pwd=OEFzbHhJbkZkLopBN05RaHVWRFhvdz09](https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/8699672554?pwd=OEFzbHhJbkZkLopBN05RaHVWRFhvdz09)

**This is an open meeting and guests, prospective garden club members, and members of other garden clubs are invited.**

**We hope you will join us. Click HERE to RSVP to Nan Skeie**

### **March Sweepstakes: Horticulture and Photography**

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Dear Members,

We are pleased to have Claire Won Kang as our Keynote Speaker this year. Throughout her career as a floral artist, Claire Won Kang has achieved the highest accolades in her endless pursuit of artistic expression. Her last 30 years are marked by exceptional and lasting contributions to the floral design industry.

Please read more about Claire's impressive bio and outstanding contributions to design by clicking [here](#).

Claire's designs and containers are being donated to the LGC and there will be an opportunity to make a \$5 donation for a chance to take one home! A drawing will take place at the end of her presentation.

Refreshments will be served after the program. Please stay and socialize with your fellow members and our guests!

### **Julia Metcalf**

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### **Message from the Vice-President**

Many thanks to all who attended our Membership Survey Presentation on 2/22! 42 members were in attendance (in person and virtually) to hear the detailed input from the survey conducted in November and December 2021. A total of 51 members completed the survey and provided rich and constructive feedback, particularly in the areas of member engagement and member recruitment.

The discussion at the presentation was full of energy and positive thoughts! If you would like to receive a copy of the presentation, please send me an email by clicking on my name below.

## Next Steps:

- A 3-year Strategic Plan will be drafted by the Strategic Planning Committee based on the extensive member input, and presented to the Executive Committee in March.
- Once the plan is approved by the EC, it will be shared with the entire membership in April, and voted on at the May business meeting.

Thank you for your support and commitment to this important planning process!

**Emily Dalton**

## Committee Reports & Announcements

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### Conservation

#### Earth Day Celebration

**Tapping Reeve House  
&  
Law School  
Friday, April 22, 2022  
82 South Street  
Litchfield 06759  
12.00 - 1.00**



Join us for our 2022 Earth Day Celebration to plant an Earth Day tree on the front lawn of the Tapping Reeve House & Law School. Our best laid plans to plant an Earth Day tree in 2020 were thwarted by covid, and now we can share in an outdoor event and begin anew with this tree planting celebration.

**Grace Yagtug**

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### Floral Design



Image: Gustav Klimt Flower Garden

## LGC Flower Show 2023 *A Tapestry of Nature*

Two meetings (one for the *Horticulture Division* and one for the *Design Division*), were held in February to start organizing the classes for our 2023 flower show, *A Tapestry of Nature*. Initial plans are coming from Conservation and Garden History and Design. With many members away, the next meetings are scheduled for early March. Meanwhile, administrative details are being worked out. The Committee list will be published in March. Ideas are still welcome!

Reminder: The Floral Design Sweepstakes will be in April with a planning meeting held in March.

**Sylvia Abbott**

### **Horticulture**

**Horticulture Workshop  
"Growing for a Show"  
March 11th  
St. Anthony's Church basement  
1:30-3:00pm**

We look forward to coming together for this workshop to brush up on our grooming and show entering skills. So bring your ***almost*** beautiful plants and let's clean them up together. Let's learn some tricks of the trade and about what tools will do the work for you.



This workshop takes place just in time to help prepare your entries for the horticulture sweepstakes on March 17th. Be sure to check out the horticultural sweepstakes page [\*\*here\*\*](#) to view the wide variety of class options for this Sweeps. Hopefully there are some sweet spots for everyone!

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## **Horticulture Sweeps March 17th Membership Meeting**

Remember, you can fill out and print hort entry cards for the Sweepstakes on the LGC Website Horticulture Committee page by clicking [\*\*here\*\*](#). There will also be some on hand at the LCC if needed. Entries for the Sweepstakes will need to be brought to the LCC between 9:30 and 10:00am.

Please come to both of our horticulture events, and let's have fun!

**Kate Jamison**

### **Membership**



#### **GCA Profile Updates**

It has come to my attention that a lot of our members have not been updating their profiles on the GCA website, including me!

To update: Go to the GCA home page by clicking [\*\*here\*\*](#). Then click on the "Members Area" and login. Once you are logged in, you will find "My Profile" at the top of the page. Click that to update your info.

All of your personal information can be updated there, including addresses, and phone numbers, both cell and landlines. There is also an area to add a wide variety of information as it pertains to your membership in the LGC.

I really appreciate your help in getting this information updated as soon as possible. If you are unable to enter this information about yourself, please email any changes to me by clicking on my name below. Thank you.

**Lynne Sherman**

### **Photography**

**Photography Committee Meeting  
March 8, 2022 at 4pm**

## **Litchfield Community Center Zoom Option Available**

Our goal will be to work on the photography schedule for our 2022 Flower Show, *A Tapestry of Nature*. Come with your good creative ideas for classes. We will have six classes and your input is very valuable.

We will also attempt to help each other with any questions or problems presented by the March Sweepstakes, particularly Class 3, the creative challenge. Then, after all this work is done, we will be able to plan some fun field trips together. Where would you like to visit with like-minded photographers?

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### **Photography Sweeps March 17th Meeting Creative Class Challenge**

Please review the classes for the March Sweeps on the LGC website by clicking [\*\*here\*\*](#).

Photography judges in Zone II are quite busy, so I would like to gather JPEG entries for a virtual judging for this sweeps.



I will need receive your photos via email by March 15th. In addition, everyone will need to print their photos and bring them to Berta at LCC by end of day on March 16th so they can be displayed at our meeting the following day. Remember we have foam core for your use at the LCC.

**Cathy Oneglia**

### **From the Communications Desk...**

### **LGC Newsletter Member Profile**

#### **Susan Fearey LGC Member Since 2020**

#### ***When did your interest in gardening initially blossom?***

My love of plants started as a young girl. I grew up fairly free to wander with my friends through their parents' vegetable and perennial gardens and to be in nature.



Around this time, I discovered I could start new plants from cuttings....I especially liked Coleus plants, whose colorful foliage attracted me, and they were easy to start.

*Susan at Monet's Garden in Giverny, France*

My first real garden was a vegetable garden I planted in the spring when I was 19 and in college in Colorado. It was gratifying to watch the seedlings develop into full fledged vegetables. I found out there is nothing like homegrown tomatoes! After that, I was hooked, and that interest eventually expanded into perennials, shrubs and trees.

### ***What is your favorite flower and/or tree?***

My favorite perennials are peonies, with roses being a close second. My parents' gardens in California had some influence, as they had a wonderful enclosed area with deep, raised beds to grow roses, and they didn't have to fight with many bugs or mildew, since the climate is much drier and very sunny. The Rosa 'Peace' was a stand out in their garden, as I remember.

### ***What is your favorite garden tool?***

My favorite tool is the razor hoe, a triangular shaped hoe, with very sharp edges. It makes weeding go much more quickly, with not too much effort. They come in either a short or long handle.

### ***What is your favorite gardening tip or "trick of the trade"?***

I would say, what I think most gardeners already know, that having the right soil, amending it, if necessary, and having good drainage is what makes for strong, healthy plants.

### ***Who is your favorite "Gardening Guru"? This can be a person, a favorite book, or any garden-oriented website site you follow on social media or the internet.***

Visiting gardens have been a fun way to learn about combinations of plants that look nice together. My favorite so far is Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA. One of my favorite books is, 'The Layered Garden, Design Lessons for Year-Round Beauty from Brandywine Cottage" by David L. Culp.

**Crystal Carminati**

## LGC Website

Please visit the newly updated [GCA, NAL & FGCCT](#) web-page for upcoming events and news.

All *Blog submissions* should be sent to me at:  
**[joangyorburgess@gmail.com](mailto:joangyorburgess@gmail.com)**

Some members have expressed a desire to be notified when a new blog post appears on the website. If you are one of those who would like to be notified, please contact me via email by clicking on my name below.

**[Joan Burgess](#)**

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### In Memorium

**Helen Heilshorn**

**1929 ~ 2022**

It is with sadness that I report the passing of Helen Heilshorn. Helen was an active and loyal member of LGC for many years. Helen was devoted to Conservation causes, and to her lovely gardens at her home on North Lake Street. To read the full obituary click [\*\*here\*\*](#).



**Calendar**

## Member News and Upcoming Events

### ***Connecticut's Annual World Water Day Event*** ***March 21, 2022***

This year, Save the Sound, The Nature Conservancy, Rivers Alliance, Clean Water Action, CT River Conservancy, CT Land Conservation Council, CT League of Conservation Voters, Citizens Campaign for the Environment, and other partners are coming together for an online celebration exploring “**Groundwater - Making the Invisible Visible.**” We'll also be recognizing and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act.

Please join us on Monday, March 21, from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. for a free online event including:

- Remarks from Gov. Lamont
- A "Groundwater 101" presentation
- A panel discussion that will explore threats to groundwater and steps we can all take to ensure every Connecticut resident has access to clean water, now and in the future.

Click **here** for more info and to register for this event.