

# LGC Newsletter



May 2020



## Message from the President

Dear Member,

First and foremost, I miss you all! I can't wait for when we can get together as a club and friends again. With all the extra time available to spend in our gardens, I can only imagine how over-the-top our sweeps would be!

For now, these new times require new ways for us to continue our club work and mission. Since we cannot be together, our annual May Business Meeting will be virtual. The way of meeting is different, but the business is the same. We will vote on the slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee and review the proposed budget for fiscal year 2020-2021. Please take a moment to preview the budget and Sara's treasurer's message - the presentation format is new. Click [HERE](#) for 2020-2021 Proposed Budget.

Also, if you are new to GoToMeeting, see below the helpful 'How To' Joan has put together for us.

Annie 

**The Nominating Committee** is very pleased to present the following slate of officers for 2020-2022

Treasurer: Sara Gault  
Assistant Treasurer: Rosamond Quay  
Recording Secretary: Kristen Kraut

Respectfully Submitted:

Rose Brooks  
Emily Dalton  
Nancy Rath  
Doreen Hampton

Virtual Business Meeting  
May 21, 2020  
2:00 PM  
GoToMeeting

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone

Click [HERE](#) to Login on May 21st

**OR**

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: +1 (872) 240-3212

Access Code: 734-084-829

Please [RSVP](#) for the Virtual Meeting

(it is necessary for us to have an attendance list for the meeting)

## Virtual Meeting - How To

Are you new to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/734084829> . You can join the meeting from your Mac or Windows desktop or just about any smartphone or tablet.

- The invitation email or message will include a link to the meeting
- Join the meeting by [clicking the link](#).
- The invitation will also include instructions for using the phone or your computer's mic and speakers (VoIP) for audio

- Join the meeting a few minutes early to make sure you have everything you need

**Please NOTE** that you should either login to website **or** dial in using your phone.

Click [HERE](#) for additional information on a GoToMeeting.

## Committee Reports & Announcements

### Vice President

April was the month of LGC Giving! In the midst of the pandemic, we marshaled together and showed our generosity of spirit. We made a Club donation to the Litchfield Community Center "Community Essential Needs Fund", a food bank for needy Litchfield citizens. In addition, we delivered flowers and cards to our own members in need, including Honorary Members John Acerbi Sr. and Jr. The EC, under Annie Borzilleri's superb leadership, established a call list to reach out and check on all our members, and just chat too! These important initiatives attest to our commitment to one another and our community.

[Susan Magary](#)

### Conservation Committee

The Committee has been very busy on three projects - The Pollinator Garden - Rain Garden, White Memorial 6th Grade Environmental Education Series and the Blue Birds of Happiness Project. The Pollinator Garden needs your help...as you divide your perennials this season, please consider donating some of them to our Pollinator Garden. Your blue bird nesting boxes have already been made and will be delivered as soon as Sharon Audubon, whose offices are now closed, allows us to pick up the boxes. We will contact you so you can call Rosie Furniss and pick up your boxes at her home. Please click the links/ pictures below to learn more.

[Grace Yagtug](#)



[White Memorial 6th Grade Environmental Education Series](#)



## Garden History & Design

We had to cancel our April meeting at Jane Hinkel's garden but will reconvene as soon as possible. Stay tuned for news when the quarantine is lifted.

[Diane Stoner](#)

## Horticulture

Ah yes, everything seems to have gone virtual. Meetings are through Zoom (card games too like bridge and Mahjong); we can share information and conversation on our Blog (which is such a great idea!); and we can shop for plants and even cars online!

Some things, however, haven't changed. In spite of this raw challenging weather, we still have our gardens to coax into perfection. We are still starting seedlings, bulbs and cuttings under lights, and we are stuck figuring out ways to share these gems with friends. Yes, I miss the comradery of friends working together on projects like dividing and sharing our perennials for a fundraiser or celebrating Earth Day and Arbor Day. But for now, let's just stay safe and keep our spirits high through growing and creating so that we can get back together soon. We can maybe look forward to showing off plants at a June sweeps instead of May, or perhaps try something virtual? This has been a long cool spring, so there should be many cut specimen opportunities!

I am currently helping organize gardens for touring this summer through the group Mad Gardeners. For me, this is just one of the many things to look forward to in the (hopefully) near future.

[Kate Jamison](#)

## Photography

### Photography Notes for May

With cool temperatures, plenty of moisture and longer hours of daylight, the daffodils, jonquils, and narcissi are enjoying a tremendous season. I hope you will join in our celebration and enter the **Sweepstakes for May**, or just send [Joan Burgess](#) some fun pix for the webpage or blog. Or both. Share your knowledge, your favorite narcissus, your joys and woes of growing them.

The Sweeps will be judged online. Our judge would like to work with one class per day before our "Go to Meeting" annual business meeting on May 21, when

we will hopefully have a great slideshow of our beautiful photos. **The photos for Class I are due in Cathy's email inbox Sunday evening, May 17 by 8:00 PM, Class II photos are due in Cathy's email inbox Monday evening, May 18 by 8:00 PM, and Class III photos are due in Cathy's email inbox Tuesday evening, May 19 by 8:00 PM.** Shoot me some jpegs! If you have any questions about this new way of sweepstake-ing, please ask. You can fill out a regular entry card and email it to me or just send me information and I will get it in: Your Name, Class entered, botanical name of your narcissus if you know it, where you shot the image, any comments. Obviously, your images do not have to be printed and mounted at this time. The hope is that we can do that in July for our Annual Luncheon and share them with our membership.

Photo Tip: If you do not want to lie on the ground and shoot up at the daffodil and the blue sky, put a mirror on the ground and shoot the reflection, rotate it in your computer or phone to be right side up. Go to [ePHOTOzine.com](http://ePHOTOzine.com) and search for "17 Top Tips on How to Photograph Daffodils.

**Class I:** A Landscape featuring daffodils, jonquils, narcissi

**Class II:** An Image of daffodils that includes another feature, i.e. wall, rock, fence, tree, duck, bird, dog, friend, child, you get the idea.

**Class III:** A Close-up or Macro image of your most cooperative, favorite daffodil.

**Please note** that this information is a little different from what we published in last month's Newsletter concerning the May sweeps. The time-frame for entries has changed because I don't need to drive the mounted photos to the judge in the southern part of the state. She will judge them all online, and no one needs to run around for printing or materials in this upcoming extended shelter in place time-frame. Just send jpegs to Cathy by email.

[Cathy Oneglia](#)

## Projects and Civic Beautification

Extraordinary times calls for extraordinary measures. Therefore, due to social distancing, Dale and I believe it will be much safer for all involved if we plant the containers this season.

The containers have been cleaned and ready to be planted. But the weather is not co-operating this spring. I have it on good authority, from my weatherman, that the North Atlantic oscillation is strongly negative which helps to force the polar vortex south over New England. We hope to plant in the 2nd or 3rd week of May.

We are in charge of Murphy's, the trough on the Green, Information Booth planters (just for this year) and Norfolk Road urn. The trough will be planted with edibles. We have chosen rosemary, chives, parsley, thyme and

nasturtiums. We need your input for flowers for the other containers. Please help with choosing the flowers and think Thriller, Filler and Spiller. You can email me at [lynne.sherman@yahoo.com](mailto:lynne.sherman@yahoo.com). A watering schedule will be set-up at a later time.

In October 2019, the Projects Committee planted 400 daffodil bulbs in the Litchfield Community Field. Three hundred were for the 300th anniversary of Litchfield and the other 100 for the 100 anniversary of the Suffragettes. As you can see, these plants look extremely healthy and should be in full bloom shortly.

[Lynne Sherman](#) & [Dale Ryan](#)



Plaque at the Litchfield Community Field



Plantings at the Community Field

## From the Communications Desk

The Litchfield Garden Club Blog has been very active. Click [HERE](#) to visit the page and see what club members have been up to in their gardens.

How and what to post? Take a look at what has been posted already, and that may spark a thought. Entries are up to approx 200 words. Send your image(s), article and article title to [Joan Burgess](#) for posting. You may make comments directly on the Blog site - click the comments link and follow directions. You can also view comments from other members.

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](#).

## News and Upcoming Virtual Events

**Annie Borzilleri and Susan Magary surprised Drew Harlow** on Earth Day with a GCA Club Civic Improvement Award for her work in fostering environmental efforts over many years. Drew celebrated this 50th Anniversary of Earth Day with her granddaughters Sloane and Palmer Lynyak, who decorated her front door for the occasion! Visit our [Blog Page](#) for more images.



**LGC Celebrated Earth Day** - The LGC Conservation Committee planned a week-long celebration of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, dubbed 'Earth Week'. Carefully planned events were orchestrated to gather, learn, and celebrate, and to include all ages, many forms of media, and collaborate with other town organizations. These events will be rescheduled for when it is safe to gather again.



As our club continues to 'stay home and stay safe' during 2020 Earth Week, there were suggested alternatives for each planned event. [Click Here](#) to see what the alternative plans were.

**GCA is happy to announce that the Zone II Meeting** scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in Greenwich, CT will also include a Zone Meeting Flower Show. The **CURRENT**, schedule has been uploaded to the Zone II landing page, under Zone II Upcoming Events as well as on the GCA calendar. Or click [HERE](#) for schedule.



**Susie Brewer, Zone II Chair writes: Colleen Miniuk** is an absolutely wonderful photography teacher and she's been a integral

party of many GCA photo trips. Now she is offering online classes - for \$5! Click [HERE](#) for her May 7th "Macro/Close-up Photography - The Joy in the Little Things" Webinar. Click [HERE](#) for registration. Visit Colleen's [WEBSITE](#)



Join us as we make  
**LEM****NADE**  
on the afternoon of  
**MAY 6th**

#### **An invitation from GCA -**

As we well know, so many events and meetings have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 coronavirus, so we simply decided to make lemonade out of lemons.

On the afternoon of May 6th, you will receive a very special invitation to the GCA's 2020 Annual Meeting, virtual style! All nearly 18,000 club members will gather around their respective computers to enjoy an annual meeting like none before.

We will learn who the Founders Fund winners are. We will get a glimpse of the GCA national medalists and honorary members. We will celebrate our recent achievements, and we will look to the future.

How to participate? You will need to login to the GCA website to participate in the fun, so in the meantime, please take this time to get set. If you have never logged into the Members Area, it's as easy as mixing lemons, sugar, and water — 1, 2, 3!

1. Go to [gcamerica.org/members](http://gcamerica.org/members)
2. Enter your email address and your password. Unsure of your password? Click the Forgot my Password link right below the password field, and it will be sent to you.
3. If it doesn't recognize your email address, email staff at [websupport@gcamerica.org](mailto:websupport@gcamerica.org) for personalized assistance.

I look forward to being with you on May 6th, so get ready to pour yourself a glass of lemonade and enjoy the show!

My best always,

Debbie Edwards  
GCA President

### Visit the [GCA Website](http://gcamerica.org)

Our members never slow down – even during the cold winter months. Have you read about the town skating rink project? Or Grace and Kate's 'Seeds are Smart' seminar? Or Sara Gault's top prize at the Hartford Flower Show? Or our Open Conservation meeting where the speaker had just arrived from Africa and two attendees flew in from Cleveland Ohio just to hear the presentation? Impressive. We selflessly share our myriad of talents year round. Don't miss out on any of the excitement. Visit the [GCA website](http://gcamerica.org) to read all about it!

*Zone II*  
**LATEST NEWS**

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 **Litchfield Garden Club Hosts Open Conservation Meeting**  
Mar 19, 2020

 **Litchfield GC Receives Top Awards at the Federated Garden Clubs of CT Hartford Show**  
Mar 19, 2020

 **Litchfield GC Restores Community Skating Rink Structures**  
Jan 29, 2020

 **February 2020 Featured Garden**  
Jan 13, 2020

 **Ridgefield Garden Added to the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens**  
Dec 19, 2019