

# LGC Newsletter



May 2022



## Message From The President

Finally, real spring and warmth! Cheers to the season. Speaking of cheers, we had a wonderful gathering at my home on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The daffodils were in full bloom, and we had a great turnout of members and guests. Our Hospitality team outdid themselves with an array of delicious hors d'oeuvres. Sylvia Abbott orchestrated a lovely sweeps of Buds and Blossoms, judged by Ronnie Schoelzel. To view the photos of the event view the hospitality page [HERE](#).

Our gratitude goes out to all who donated to the LGC Centennial Fund. Those donations will be matched dollar for dollar, thanks to a generous anonymous matching grant of \$10,000. To contribute click [HERE](#). Our fundraising effort will continue through the end of the year, at which time we will begin the process of evaluating distributions to worthy community projects. Martha Phillips is heading up the Centennial Fund Committee which will make everything happen!

April was a busy month. Our Earth Day celebrations took place on a beautiful sunny Friday. Grace and her Conservation crew planted a peach tree in the

Tapping Reeve Meadow. And thanks to Emily Dalton, I was able to tape a video for the Oliver Wolcott Library which went live on Arbor Day (4/29). It detailed the club's history of trees in our town and, of course, the Treescape project. Click photo below to view the video.



We are currently talking with the Litchfield Historical Society about co-hosting a walking tour of significant trees in town this coming summer. Drew Harlow and Ellen Oneglia and the Projects Committee went to Center School on April 25<sup>th</sup> for a book presentation to the second graders. Afterwards, members went to four classrooms and read to the children from the Alphabet Flower book we donated (complete with personalized LGC bookplates!). Joanne Moore, the Center School librarian, helped us in this effort. The above activities are all part of our club outreach to other organizations in town, something we hope to do more of in the future.

The highlight of this month is our annual Business Meeting on May 19 at 10:00 am at St. Michael's church house. Do be sure to attend! We will be looking over next year's budget (for a vote in July), and also our Strategic Plan for 2022-2025. You can read the Strategic Plan [HERE](#). Member participation has been vital to this effort. Emily Dalton and members of the Committee will be reviewing the Plan and are anxious to hear your further comments and questions.

**[Susan Magary](#)**

***May Monthly Meeting  
10 am May 19, 2022  
St. Michaels Church House***



Dear Members,

It's that time of year again. Please join your club for the May business meeting at St. Michaels Church House.

We kindly request that all regular voting members attend this meeting either in person or via Zoom (link below) as there will be a budget review and voting will take place for the election of officers and for the Strategic Plan proposal.

Hospitality kindly requests that 3-4 members act as hosts, bringing coffee and a bite to eat, and to help set up the space for the meeting with tables and chairs.

**Please RSVP to Nan Skeie with your preferred attendance type and if you can volunteer as a host by clicking [HERE](#).**

**Sweepstakes: Horticulture and Photography  
(see details in their respective reports below)**

**[Julia Metcalf](#)**

To Join Zoom Meeting click link below:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85698819032?  
pwd=c2NPRWpGbvHRCopnK2ZVQTNZNVNhUTo9](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85698819032?pwd=c2NPRWpGbvHRCopnK2ZVQTNZNVNhUTo9)

Meeting ID: 856 9881 9032  
Passcode: 673090  
One tap mobile  
+16465588656,,85698819032#,,,,\*673090# US (New York)

Dial by your location  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
Meeting ID: 856 9881 9032  
Passcode: 673090

## Committee Reports & Announcements

### Conservation

#### LGC Celebration Earth Day 2022

On April 22, 2022 we gathered at Tapping Reeve to plant our Earth Day peach tree (*Prunus persica*) at the foot of the stone wall in the meadow. The peach tree will grow 10 to 15 feet tall and can yield 300 peaches as well as providing homes and food for bluebirds, hummingbirds, ladybugs, praying mantis and lacewings.



Phil Samponaro, Alan Sherman, Lynne Sherman, Frank Fontana, Kate Jamison, Grace Yagtug, Drew Harlow, Kate Fahey, Fran Devlin, Meredith Penfield, Cathy Oneglia at our happy 2022 Earth Day tree planting

Did you know that one mature tree produces 260 pounds of oxygen? Two mature trees produce enough oxygen for a family of four for a year. We keep taking small conservation steps together!



Kate Zullo and Frank Fontana getting ready to plant our 2022 Earth Day peach tree (*Prunus persica*)



Kate Jamison and Frank Fontana putting the finishing touches on the tree planting.



Worms! Beautiful, glorious, worms.

#### Grace Yagtug

## Floral Design

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

Members of the four divisions of the flower show - Floral Design, Horticulture, Conservation/Garden History and Design, and Photography, have been very busy firming up the schedule for our 2023 flower show. In 2023 will be celebrating 110 years as a great garden club! What a happy event!

The first draft has been sent for review to the Zone II FS Rep. After the review, we will send it on to the national schedule readers who will give their final approval. Emily is working on the graphics to enhance the schedule, and the Design members had a delightful meeting to pick out 8 paintings that exhibitors will choose from for one of our classes. Horticulture has workshops planned to go along with the schedule and it is never too early to start purchasing some container grown plants to exhibit in the horticulture Par Class which has an ownership requirement of one year. Soon you will hear more from Kate Jamison and Ronnie on that. Cathy has some terrific classes in Photography and Grace, Kate Fahey and Frank are working away on plans for their educational exhibit. We hope to be able to give a quick run through at either our May or June meeting to whet your appetites!



Magary Daffodils ~ Photo credit: Doreen Tango Hampton

## Floral Design Committee

The April Sweepstakes, "Spring Buds and Blossoms", called for a Small Design 12" or under and we had four brave members who exhibited their very delightful spring creations at the Saturday April 23rd cocktail gathering at the home of Susan and Sky Magary. The designs added to the festive, spring atmosphere as everyone enjoyed the refreshments, daffodils, and each other's company after a long winter hiatus. Kudos to Susan Magary, Susan Fearey, Seton O'Reilly, and Ronnie Schoelzel. Be sure to check the designs out on the website [HERE](#). The committee will meet in late May to plan for our June Sweepstakes.

[Sylvia Abbott](#)

## Horticulture



Everything is growing, both outside and in!!! I hope the attendees of the seed workshop have had the opportunity to sow some of the seeds you took home. It's such a great experience to grow things from seed and expand your garden with those babies.

## Horticulture Sweeps May 19th

We will be having another Sweepstakes at this month's membership meeting. I am hoping that Mother Nature will have given us many wonderful things to cut and bring to the show. We will also have a no points, judged class for our propagated succulents from the November workshop, for educational purposes to see how we are doing in growing the succulents from our workshop last fall. We will be having a class for them in our flower show next year. Click [HERE](#) to see the schedule for our May sweepstakes on the LGC website.

Please print out your key cards and fill them out in advance to simplify set up. Please use a clear bottle for your cuts best presentation. Diane Stoner, Rose Brooks and I will be there to help you place what you bring! Passing and entering will be between 8:30 and 9:15.

Thanks everyone! Drop me a note with any questions!

[Kate Jamison](#)

## Photography



Central Park, NYC. Photo credit: Crystal Carminati

### Photography Committee Meeting Litchfield Community Center May 10th, 3:30pm

Mark your calendars for a May 10th presentation by Jill Corr, our Zone II Photography Chair. Jill will cover the details of understanding the schedule of a major GCA show, defining photography terms in the GCA that are sometimes confusing, such as the difference between monochromatic and black and white, close-up versus macro.

Jill will explain how to label a file in addition to resize photos for digital submission. Also included is a video on the best way to frame shots. She will then entertain questions and discussion of all things photography. This will be an in-person meeting for us at LCC to view Jill's presentation, ask questions, and enjoy some refreshments together.

### Cathy Oneglia

### Photography Sweeps May 19th Meeting St. Michaels Church House

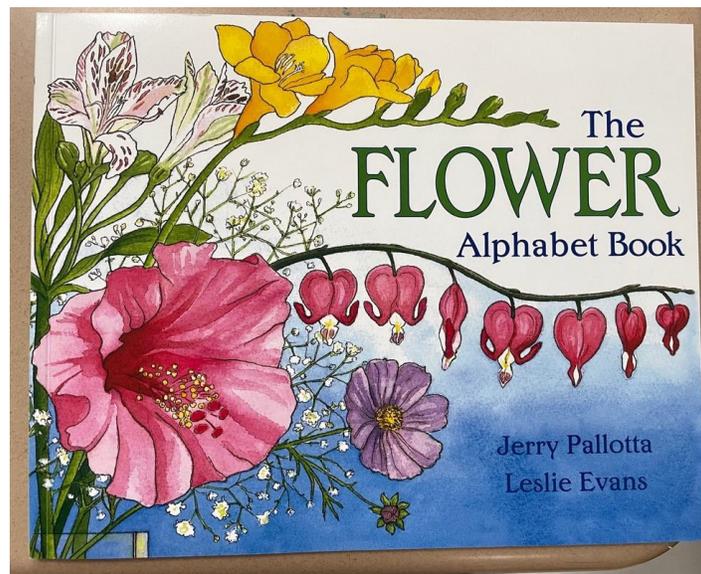
You can view the schedule for the sweeps on the LGC website [HERE](#).

Images (**jpeg**) need to be sent to me via email by Monday, May 16th by clicking on my name below or send to **coneglia@gmail.com**. Please copy Joan Burgess on that email or send your jpeg images to Joan at **joangyorbουργess@gmail.com**. This will assure that all images get posted on the LGC website after judging results are revealed.

In addition, you will need to bring a copy of your photo to the meeting at St. Michaels by 9:30am. Photographs must be flush mounted on black mat board and may not be over-matted. Overall dimension of entry must be a minimum of 36" and not exceed 50" in total perimeter measurement. We are recommending that you use black paper mat board, as foam core is NOT recyclable. All post processing must be the work of the entrant.

**Cathy Oneglia**

## Projects



Students assembled in the gym.



Joanne Moore showing LGC members a second grade class's slide show presentation.



LGC Members Margy Miner, Drew Harlow, Cathy Oneglia, Nancy Post, Doreen Tango Hampton and Susan Magary at Dunkin Donuts "after-party" (slim pickins' on a Monday) - Drew's treat.

Photo Credit: Doreen Tango Hampton

## Center School Book Reading and Donation

Ellen Oneglia, Susan Magary, Margie Miner, Nancy Post, Drew Harlow and Doreen Tango Hampton went to Center School for a book reading with second graders. The Litchfield Garden Club gave each student a copy of "The Flower Alphabet Book" by Jerry Pallotta and Leslie Evans. The children presented a wonderful video they prepared on planting seeds. A fabulous morning was enjoyed by members with the future gardeners of Litchfield!

The Projects Committee has been doing some spring cleaning.....Frank Fontana and Nancy Post pruned the Rose of Sharon bushes at the Community Field with the help of Gary Rodgers from Professional Outdoor Services. Also, several fun decorated rocks by members were added to the planter at Meadow Street. Several have been taken to enjoy.....”Think Spring”.

Sara Gault and Ellen Oneglia will be gathering plants for the planters/troughs. They hope to have them ready by the end of May. Members of the Projects Committee will help plant. ***But we need your help watering our plantings!*** All members are asked to go to sign up for a one-week watering commitment. Please sign up [HERE](#).

[Drew Harlow](#)  
[Ellen Oneglia](#)

## Public Relations

This **NEW** section of the Newsletter will let everyone know about recent Public Relation items for LGC. Thank you Doreen!

### LitchfieldBZ

To view coverage of our reading of "The Flower Alphabet Book" at Center School in litchfield.bz click [HERE](#). They have also posted this on their FB page.

[Doreen Tango Hampton](#)

Litchfield Garden Club President Susan Magary and club members Margaret Miner, Drew Harlow, Ellen Oneglia, Nancy Post and Doreen Tango Hampton made a stop at Center School on Monday to help the school celebrate Earth Day.



## Scholarship

Given our recent meeting focusing on Beatrix Ferrand and her designs, I thought you might be interested in knowing what one of the GCA Fellowship

Scholar recipients is doing now.

Thaisa Way, a 2015 GCA Scholar in Landscape Architecture, is now the Director of Garden Landscape and Studies (GLS) at the Dumbarton Oaks, a Harvard University research institute, museum, library, and garden located in Georgetown. She is responsible for leading the programming for GLS including the fellowship program, meetings, and all visitors and events.

Dumbarton Oaks garden is perhaps the last remaining landscape in North America that closely resembles the original Beatrix Farrand design; and in 2014 National Geographic named it as one of the best ten gardens the world!

### [Nancy Rath](#)

## Visiting Gardens



### **Friday July 8, 2022 Wethersfield Estate and Gardens**

Announcing a Visiting Gardens Trip to Wethersfield Estate and Gardens in Amenia, N.Y. Wethersfield was the home of Chauncey Stillman and reflects his love of Italianate garden design, creating formal landscapes with an emphasis on straight lines and vistas incorporating Italian sculptures and frescoes. Wethersfield was featured in Oprah Magazine and is truly a treasure. More details to follow in the June newsletter.

### [Nancy Post](#)

## From the Communications Desk...

### LGC Newsletter Member Profile

**Sharron Hatfield**  
**LGC Member Since 2016**



*When did your interest in gardening initially blossom?*

*When I moved to the East coast. Spending most of my childhood in a desert climate in Arizona was very different than experiencing the seasons here in CT. I instantly preferred flowers over cactus!*

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

*My absolute favorite plant is Seven-Son Flower which is a small tree. It produces flowers with a divine scent, it has great bark and so many different appearances throughout the year. No matter how I prune it, it always bounces back and looks terrific.*

*What is your favorite garden tool?*

*Anything that will cut or trim. I enjoy pruning and have an army of hand clippers ready for the season.*

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

*After moving here from NYC and not having any gardening experience, a landscape designer told me only buy plants that work in your zone and be honest about the amount of light you get in the area. If you do that, you have a good chance in having a successful garden. That tip has saved me lots of money and heartbreak.*

*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.*

*Bunny Williams!!! I have visited her garden several times over the years and it never disappoints. Bunny has such flair as an interior designer and her garden is just an extension of her talent. Walking thru her property always gives me great inspiration and makes me look at my garden and think...I'm not even close to being done.*

**Crystal Carminati**

**LGC Website**

Please visit the **Hospitality page**, there are many images of our April meeting at the Magary's.

You can also check out the images from the April Sweepstakes on the website by clicking the [Floral Design page](#). There are also many images of our Earth Day activities on the [Events Page](#).

While on the website, check out the [Blog page](#), as it has several new entries!

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](#)

## In Memorium Anita Oneglia Torizzo



## Calendar

### Member News and Upcoming Events

***Spring is here and so are many programs pertaining to our passion for nature and gardening. Please check out the invitations to upcoming events below.***

### Flower Show School

The FGCCCT is pleased to offer the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Flower Show School, Course I. Registration is open to any Garden Club member. The course will be at Kellogg Environmental Center in Derby, CT from **June 7-9, 2022**. Registration must be received by May 15th.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

## **Berkshire Botanical Garden 45th Annual "Plants and Answers Sale"**

This year's Plant Sale features hundreds of perennials, annuals and vegetables with a focus on diversity and nature-based landscaping, a trend toward gardens that are exuberant and alive, out of the uniform and into something comfortable, and welcoming to birds, bees and butterflies. The popular "Ask Me" staff and volunteers will be on hand to provide expert advice. All proceeds from the Plant Sale support the Garden's horticulture and education programs.

**Early buying for BBG Members only Friday May 6, 9 am - 12 pm.**

**Hours for the general public: Friday May 6, 12 pm - 5 pm, Saturday May 7, 9 am - 5 pm.**

**Admission and parking are free.**

*For details click [here](#)*

## **Spring Fling with Kent Russell**

**Thursday May 5th  
4:30-7:30pm**

If you are looking for a fun evening with the flamboyant celebrity gardener, Kent Russell, he will be speaking at a fundraising event hosted by the Connecticut Valley Garden Club at the Hartford Golf Club.

## **Hollister House Garden Garden Study Weekend Symposium**



Join gardeners and garden lovers for a day of learning, inspiration and networking as the annual Garden Study Weekend returns on Saturday, September 10, 2022. Registration is now open. Click [HERE](#) for more info.

[LGC Website](#)

[GCA Website](#)

[FGCCT Website](#)

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

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