

LGC Newsletter



November 2023
Happy Thanksgiving



Message From The President

Welcome to November, shorter days, crisp air, and falling leaves. And, of course, Thanksgiving and the start of the holiday season.

There is no monthly meeting this month. We look forward to our Holiday Tea in December.

I wish you all the best on these last days of fall. I hope you have a lovely Thanksgiving holiday.

Sara Gault

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Announcements & Articles of Interest

Monthly Floral Design "IDEAS"

Idea #4, Another Halloween Ghost Story!

MaryEllen O'Brien

Another Halloween Ghost Story



Tools

Clippers

Supplies

18-24+” clear cylinder vase
18” diameter clear glass vase for the base

Plant Materials

2-3 Stems of Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)
24+ Mini White Pumpkins (*Cucurbita pepo*)

Technique

- Here is a really quick and so easy Autumn design. You will have it completed in minutes. Gathering your materials will take a bit longer.
- Now is the time to collect your Milkweed pods/stems. They are ghost-like as they open to expel their seeds on the wings of the white, fluffy hairs (also called the *floss*, *pappus*, *coma*, or *silk*) that are attached to each seed and facilitate their wind dispersal.
- Make sure you have adequate number of the Mini White Pumpkins to place around the base glass vase.
- Yes, just these two items are all that you need for your all white, ghostly apparition design.
- HINT: Be sure to remove the white fluff from all the pods that will sit outside of the vase. They can easily become airborne inside your home. Keep the opened and escaping seeds inside the tall cylinder where air currents will not affect their movement, by keeping them inside the glass.
- Place your mini white pumpkins around the base container AND... Viola! your design is complete. Your design will last into the Autumn and when Winter arrives substitute pine cones for the pumpkins and the milkweed fluff can begin a new life as it imitates snow. A design for many seasons. Have fun.

November 2023 | Another Halloween Ghost Story

IDEAS from the Floral Design Committee | Uitchfield Garden Club

[Click here to view in larger format](#)

Mark Your Calendars for These Exciting Upcoming Meetings:

January 25, 2024 (Note New Date for the luncheon)
Soup Luncheon and Projects Discussion, “A Project Spanning 100 Years”
11:30 am, The Forman School

March 21, 2024, Keynote Speaker, Celebrity Gardener, Kent Russell
“Sensational Spring Pots”
2:00 pm, Litchfield Community Center
Open Meeting, Bring a Friend!
[Read more](#) about the Open Meeting.

CALENDAR

Committee Reports

Communication

Take a look at the updated Committee pages: [Design Workshop](#), [Horticulture Workshop](#), and images of our October Open Meeting on the [Hospitality Page](#).

Our Blog page has been updated with new entries, [take a look](#). Do you want to make a post? Email Joan (click below) to send her an image and comments on an interesting local gardening event or your garden activity.

[Joan Burgess](#)

Floral Design

On October 11th, the Floral Design Committee met for its first meeting. We all gathered at St. Anthony’s (basement meeting room) that afternoon for a delightful time.

The meeting began with a talk and handouts from Sylvia Abbott on the importance and best practices for clerking at a flower show - click [HERE](#) for the clerking handout. She gave us many hints and offered some thoughtful ideas. She ultimately reminded us that clerking is an opportunity to learn more since clerks listen and write comments on what the judges think. That is first-hand advice that can help anyone become a stronger flower show participant no matter what discipline they are clerking for: Floral Design, Horticulture, Photography, Botanical Arts, or Educational Exhibits. When asked to clerk, say yes! And start to become a more confident flower show exhibitor.

Next, members considered the upcoming December 14th Sweepstakes. It was overwhelmingly decided to use our knowledge gained from our October meeting with Botanical Arts artist, Sarah Boynton, to have a Botanical Arts design for our December Sweepstakes. The sweepstakes is entitled: **Holiday Gift Boxes**. Members may choose to do a B.A. embellished box or a box decorated with fresh plant materials...or both! Click below for details.

The next Floral Design Committee meeting and workshop will be organized sometime in 2024. The topic will be **Ikebana**, the centuries-old Japanese art of arranging flowers. The practice roughly translates to “*making flowers come alive*,” uses carefully selected blossoms, greenery, and other flora to convey a specific feeling or emotion to an observer... just as a painting or sculpture might. Stay tuned for more information or if anyone is interested in joining the Floral Design Committee, click my name below.

Sincerely,
[MaryEllen](#)

History & Archives

Please remember to send me any materials you think may be of importance to document/preserve. Our documents are held at the [Litchfield Historical Society](#). Click [HERE](#) to visit the LGC records.



We should look things over together before discarding...do not hesitate to contact me with questions or ideas. Click my name below to email.

[Victoria Sansing](#)

Membership

Do you have a friend or acquaintance you believe would be a good fit for our club? We are currently looking for prospective Provisionals.

I need three letters of support for each potential candidate snail-mailed to me (154 Old South Road) or emailed to: lynne.sherman@yahoo.com by January 15th.

When proposing, please remember that these candidates should NOT know they are being proposed for membership. I look forward to a healthy response!

Any questions? Please contact me from the above locations.

Thank You -

[Lynne Sherman](#)

Photography

Field Trip: The first visit to the Urban Mining/O&G Possotive plant took place on Tuesday, October 24. If you missed it and are interested, we are having a second visit on November 8. Meet at St. Anthony Church at 12:00 pm. Our tour will begin at 1:00. Municipal Recycling Facilities send recycled material to the O&G plant at 105 Berault Rd., Beacon Falls. It is sifted and cleaned and washed and tumbled. The end result is a “green” glass additive for cement. Traditional cement additives are becoming scarce and expensive, plus they emit CO₂ into the atmosphere. This new cement does not. Google it! It is a fun photo opp.

Workshop: Join us on November 11, 10:00-12:00 for a workshop with artist/photographer Jude Ansel at 33 Mountain Lane, Farmington, home of Mara Sfara, club photography chair of Garden Club of Hartford. You will go home with a work of art. You will learn how to:

- create textures and stencils on the gel press
- Photo image transfers
- incorporate the gel printing plate in art journaling and mixed media techniques

All supplies will be provided and are included in the cost of the two-hour class
Cost: \$125.00 Limited to 10 students per class.

Jude Amsel is a multimedia artist specializing in creating artwork through various printmaking techniques on different surfaces with a focus on the ceramic arts.

She has 25+ years of experience as an art teacher. Jude's artwork is represented in museums, public spaces, and notable private collections, and has been exhibited in galleries nationwide. She was selected by the State of New York to create a commemorative sculpture of the fallen firefighters of September 11, 2001, which is a permanent memorial display at [The New York City Fire Museum](#) in NYC, New York.



L to R: Anne Frazen, Cynthia Rubin, Cathy Oneglia, and Sue Kennedy.



Plant Manager, Jennifer Curcio and Sue Kennedy viewing MRF, municipal recycling facility remains.

Cathy Oneglia

Projects and Civic Beautification



The Fall Troughs were planted by Ellen Oneglia, Nan Skeie, Susan Latos, and Betty Wu.

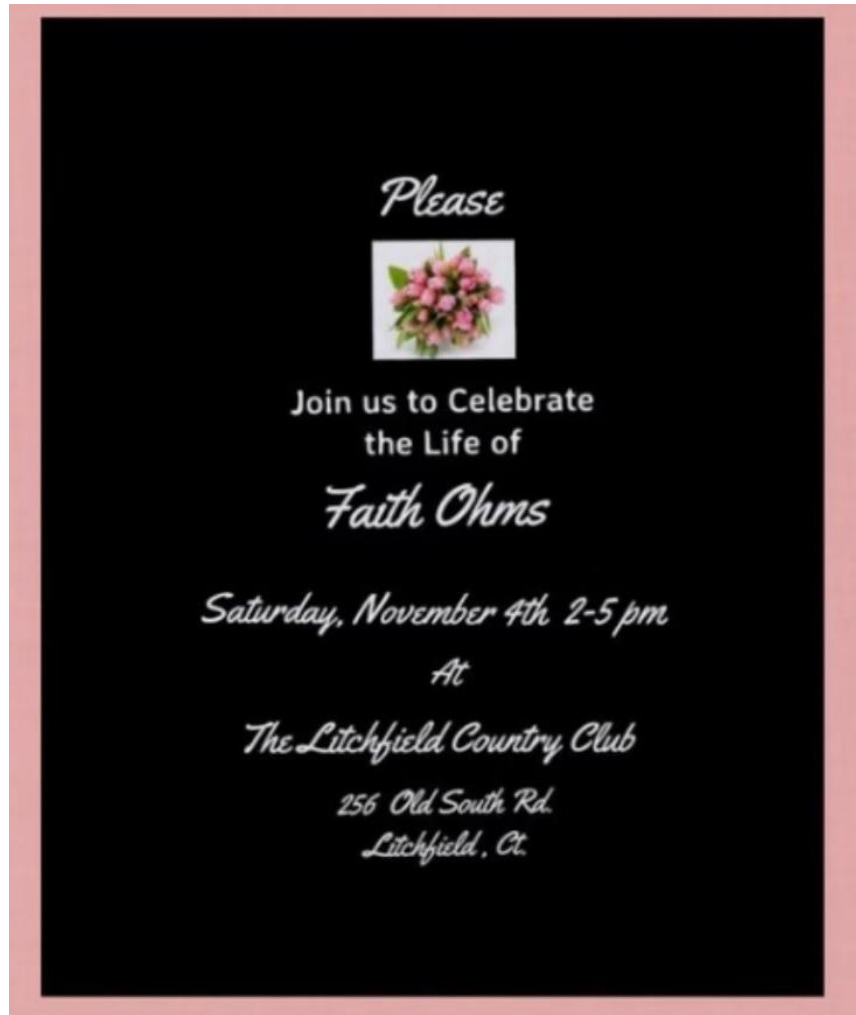
Sylvia Abbott came by to cheer us on and Drew Harlow was there with her camera to cover the action.

Many thanks to all, especially Rose Brooks who helped pick out the appropriate plant material. Click [HERE](#) to view more images.

The plans for the January Projects Membership meeting are well underway. Forman School has generously offered the use of their meeting space, complete with a soup lunch.

Seton O'Reilly

Member News and Upcoming Events



All club members are invited to attend the GCA's 2023 Garden History & Design Conference!



Embark on a captivating journey through some of the most exquisite gardens across America. Uncover innovative solutions for climate change, experience visionary designs, and have the privilege of meeting the pioneer behind the GCA partnership with the Smithsonian. Join us for an exceptional opportunity to engage with forward-thinking leaders and gain insights into the profound influence of garden design throughout North America.

Plan to attend two unique sessions, with a break in between:

- Morning session - **11 am ET** (10 am CT, 9 am MT and 8 am PT)
- Afternoon session - **2 pm ET** (1 pm CT, 12 pm MT and 11 am PT)

Click [HERE](#) to Learn more and Register



[Read more](#)



Do you want to be part of one or several LGC Committees - and be included on the committee mailing list? Just use the [ONLINE FORM](#) to select your committee of interest.



Hospitality - please sign up to host or provide refreshments for the January or March meeting. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

Follow us on Instagram!

The LGC is on Instagram and we love to post your news and photos! Please send upcoming events, club activities, civic projects, milestones, and hort tips. Include photos and a brief write-up of news on our club events you would like to share. The best format is text in an email with JPG photos attached. Take active photos showing members at work or showcasing beautiful gardens, flowers, and plants (please name the flower if it is a hort only photo).

Newsletter Submissions

Would you like to share an event for the newsletter? Send in any info or images to be included in our upcoming newsletter. Please do so by the 25th of the month.

Email Submissions

Do you need the password for our website, if so - click [HERE](#).

FGCCT Website

LGC Website

GCA Website

Conservation

GH&D

Projects

Hospitality

Photography

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