



*LITCHFIELD GARDEN CLUB
September Meeting Newsletter*

*Garden History and Design
Presentation by Emily Kelting*

*DATE: September 17, 2015
TIME: 2 pm
Location: Litchfield Community Center*

Hort Sweepstakes

*RSVP
Ellen Ebbs
(860) 567-4175*

*Hostesses: Cathy Oneglia, Ronni Anderson, Ellen Oneglia and Susan Jordan
Floral arrangement: Bibby Veerman*

A bit about Emily Kelting: She is an author, landscape design teacher and owner of GreatScapes, a landscape design firm in southern Connecticut. Emily's talk, Why We Garden, will explore the gardens we make from a somewhat philosophical perspective. Hopefully, this conversation will inspire some thought on the plants we choose, why we are drawn to them, and how the designs of our gardens-be they large or small-improve our lives.

Emily is a member of the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD), the Garden Writers Association (GWA), the New Canaan Garden Club, the New Canaan Alliance of Business Professionals, the New Canaan Nature Center's "Secret Garden Tour" Selection Committee, and the Kiwanis Club of New Canaan. Emily is a candidate to become a national photography judge for the Garden Club of America.

Message from our President:

In last month's Newsletter I asked about your dahlias. Well, I have seen the most spectacular Litchfield grown dahlias ever! As you know, this is certainly their best month. Café au lait

seems to be the most popular one grown by our members with Bride to Be a close second, both seen by me in Ronnie's spectacular garden. A sprinkle of Sulfur and then a wrapping of Saran Wrap from last year's tubers actually worked. And with quite a bit of skepticism from me! My favorite tuber was and still is Nancilee because it is bright and bold, fuchsia with white in the center. It adds punch to an arrangement.

And, now for "The Little Shop of Horrors" oh, my! Susan Kendall and I have been growing Angelica gigas for a number of years, both of us purchasing the original from White Flower Farm. It is a biennial and we don't know how many generations we have - Hello Ancestry?

Susan has titled this horticulture feature and it is so perfect! We have never seen so many bees, wasps, and even the ever lingering Japanese beetle working the tiny white buds. We think the bees are coming from every hive in our town. Both of us will have many babies next spring and please remind us if you wish to try this plant. We will happily share with you. Click [HERE](#) for the images.

I had my first EC meeting August 17th and I thank all for volunteering for the Litchfield Garden Club. You are a mighty group so the LGC gavel is useful!

The big news is that our Projects Chair, Victoria Sansing, reported that in two weeks the island in our Center between At the Corner Restaurant and the Litchfield Historical Society will be dug up and replaced. This will cost the LGC \$8,000.00 which has been budgeted and comes from our Civic Fund. Thank you all for supporting the LGC over the years by buying flower show preview tickets, boutique sales, plants sales and all other fundraisers. What you give, goes into our Civic Fund and then into our town. Nothing can be better! You give, we give.

Best,
Barbara

COMMITTEE REPORTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION/PROJECTS

Thank you to the following members who are watering our troughs this month.

Norfolk Road

- August 23 - September 5: Hitchy Rahilly & Nancy Rath
- September 6 - 20: Doreen Hampton & Peggy Terhune

Western Green

- August 23 - September 5: Lynne Sherman & Joan Burgess
- September 6 - 20: Meredith Penfield & Rose Brooks

If you would like to help with the watering this fall, please email Victoria Sansing @ 567-9747.

CONSERVATION

There will be no official new work in the Pollinator Garden this month, but anyone interested is welcome to go weed.

What GCA is watching right now - must reads!

- Check website for the most recent Legislative Update - Clean Power Plan-ACT NOW!
- Check website for the most recent Current Status Chart

HORTICULTURE

Hort Sweepstakes for the September 17th Meeting

Class 1. Dahlias

- a) Single specimen, disbudded, one set of leaves required
- b) Collection of 3 different cultivars, all disbudded, exhibited in one clear glass container

Class 2. Grasses

- a) Single specimen
- b) Collection of 3 different species/cultivars, exhibited in one clear glass container

Class 3. Annuals

- a) Single specimen
- b) Collection of 3 different species/cultivars, exhibited in one clear glass container

Class 4. Perennials

- a) Single specimen
- b) Collection of 3 different species/cultivars, exhibited in one clear glass container

There will be a joint Hort/Floral Design Committee Meeting on September 8th at 9:30 am at the Community Center to discuss the upcoming sweeps and make plans for the year. RSVP to Ronnie Schoelzel or Nancy Post. Will be a good meeting - all are encouraged to attend.

VISITING GARDENS

Trip-Sunday, September 13th
Open Conservancy Day
Maywood Gardens
52 Cooper Road
Bridgewater, CT

Gardens are open to the public from 10:00 AM to 4:00PM on Sunday, September 13th. If you would like to carpool, meet at the Litchfield Firehouse parking lot at 9:30 AM.

*Please let Nancy Rath know if you wish to carpool so we will wait for you.

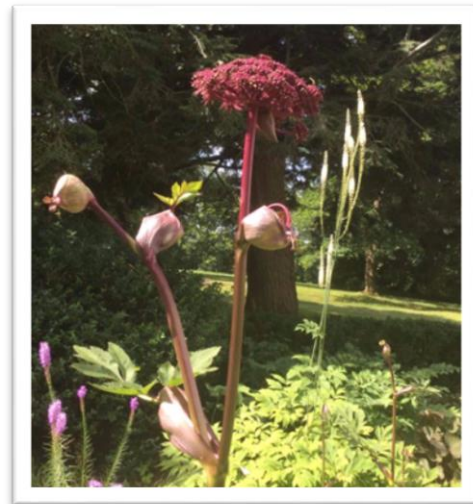
Maywood is a private estate located in Bridgewater, CT. Its classic architecture combined with several traditional gardens grace the property and its panoramic views of the Berkshire foothills. The gardens surrounding the main residence are formally structured and lead out to more naturalized gardens and woodland trails. There are also various gardens, which produce fresh cut flowers and vegetables for the family and to be sold at the local market, and a 4,000-square foot-greenhouse. Cost/Donation: \$7.00 per person

HORTICULTURE CORNER



Dahlia workshop - November 2014 results:
Take a look at the result from the November, 2014 dahlia workshop hosted by Diane Stoner. Additional images are on the website.

Below are examples of Angelic gigas!



This hedge (*Hibiscus syriacus* – Diana) was planted at the Litchfield Community Field by the LGC in 2010. Funds from our Civic account were used for the plantings. We should be very proud of all our work!



UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEMBER NEWS

The Lenox Garden Club, Zone I, held a GCA Flower Show in conjunction with the Berkshire Botanical Garden, August 8-9 titled: 'RAINWATER: weather or not'.

Nancy Post, Sara Gault, Sylvia Abbott and Tonja Curry, entered the horticulture division and brought home 29 ribbons - just an amazing count! Two of our members, Sylvia Abbott and Polly Brooks entered the floral design division and each brought home a ribbon: a blue for Polly's exquisite underwater design and the Harriet DeWaele Puckett Creativity Award for Sylvia. This is Sylvia's THIRD Puckett Award. Novice designers in the show received a Judges' Commendation for their exhibits which the judges felt to be highly distinctive, so special congratulations are due to Polly for her first place. A Novice in a Garden Club of America Flower Show is one who has not previously received a blue ribbon in the division entered in a GCA approved flower show. Tonja received a commendation for growing her zinnias from seed.

These extraordinary awards just keep on rolling in! The entire Club congratulates and salutes you!

Sylvia received a blue ribbon in the Thunder and Lightning class. It was staged on a 15" cube. Polly received a blue ribbon in the Rain, Rain Go Away - an underwater design class.

Our program got off to a delightful start with a field trip to Guy Wolff's Studio in Bantam on August 20th. Well-known to many of our members, Guy dazzled the overflowing crowd with his craftsmanship and stories of his long-standing love affair with clay.

Environmental Studies Schools

ESS are a series of four courses in environmental studies. Students completing the courses may become NGC Environmental Consultants.

Environmental Studies School, Course I, will be offered October 6-8, 2015. Martha Phillips is giving two of the lectures: Networking and Outreach and Historic Environmental Actions and Leaders.

If you have further questions regarding the school, please call Polly Books, Chair, ESS, @ 860-567-4292. Visit the FGCCT website and learn more about the Environmental Studies Schools.

Diane Stoner invites LGC to:

Mediterranean Watercolors, by Diane Stoner
Pinacoteca Gallery, 896 Bantam Road (next to Bantam Borough Hall)

Please Join Us For the Opening: Thursday, September 10th, 5-7 pm

These beautiful *plein air* works done in France and Italy will be on view September 11th to 19th, Friday through Sunday.
Hours 1:30 to 5:30 pm

Cultivating a Century of Inspiration: The Litchfield Garden Club, 1913-2013.

The long-awaited book written by Lynne Brickley about the history of the Litchfield Garden Club is available online directly from the publisher, Blurb.com. Hardcover @ \$85 + \$6 shipping. Softcover @ \$68 + \$6 shipping.

Meeting Notice Information, contact Susan Jordan @ (860) 866-6707: