

THE GARDEN GATE

FGCNYS District IV Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2021
www.nydistrictIV.org



Message from District IV Director Charlanne McDonough



Dear District IV Members,

You know the saying, “Just wait a few days...”. Who knew it would be over a year! Activity is back in full swing in District IV. The 6 clubs are very busy sprucing up their downtowns, offering plant sales, and planning summer meetings and field trips. Assistant District IV Director, Annette Newcomb and I visited three plant sales June 12: Glenville Hills G.C. of Saratoga, Ballston Spa House and G.C., and Heritage G.C. had a wide variety of plants for sale at great prices. Schuylerville G.C., Sacandaga G.C., and Lake George Community G.C., also, had successful plant sales in May and June. Their communities are lucky to have such dedicated members working to make their surroundings alive with color and beauty.

FGCNYS District IV conducted a Zoom Board Meeting April 19, 2021. The Board voted to distribute a \$400 grant to each club in district IV for educational purposes. The grant was a give back thank you for all their work in the communities and efforts to meet during the pandemic. Liability insurance increase was discussed. Barbara Millington asked several members to explore lower cost plans. The options will be reviewed and presented at the fall board meeting. A new club may be forming in Waterford. This district director is in contact with the group in Waterford to assist and support their efforts to form a garden club and join the federation.

A new FGCNYS slate of officers was installed at the Annual Meeting via Zoom May 4, 2021. President Lynne Arnold’s theme is *Plant America: Homes and Gardens Across New York*. We wish Lynne and her officers, district directors, and committee chairmen a successful term in office.

District IV received kudos from the state office for paying our state dues on time...100%! A big thank you to all the treasurers for the timely payments. This director wishes each club a successful summer of meetings, trips, and good conversation.

The Garden Gate

Charlanne McDonough, Editor
charlanne@roadrunner.com

(518) 796-1777

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District IV Officers

Charlanne McDonough, Director
Annette Newcomb, Assistant Director
TBA, Recording Secretary
Sharon Meyer, Corresponding Secretary
Barbara Millington, Treasurer

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Glenville Hills Garden Club of Saratoga www.glenvillehillsgardenclub.org

January's Zoom Meeting was "A Time to Share". Topics included: books we've read, activities we've experienced, projects we've worked on, or programs we've attended. Members recommended books, shared gardening tips, poems, and stories.

Houseplants by Jessica Holmes, Horticultural Educator for Saratoga County Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) and Master Gardener from Warren County CCE was featured by Zoom presentation for February. We enjoyed a very informative program. For advice on care or problems with any houseplant, we were invited to take a photo and send it to Jessica at jmh452@cornell.edu.

In March, A Radical Perennials Webinar presented by Kerry Mendez provided a wonderful opportunity to invite friends, family, and neighbors to sign in and join us on our meeting date, or anytime thereafter at their convenience. As usual, Kerry inspired us to add new, unusual and colorful additions to our own gardens.

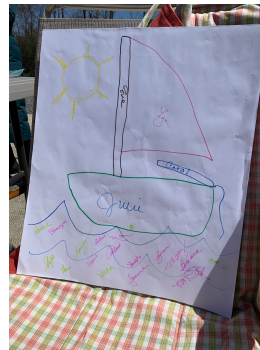
Our Installation of Officers' Luncheon in April was changed from our chosen restaurant to The Outdoor Pavilion at Dockstader



Recreation Fields in Galway due to Covid restrictions. Members bundled up in winter hats, parkas and afghans. They brought chairs and beverages to complement previously ordered salads or sandwiches by Panera's. Officers were installed by our hardy District IV Director and good sport,

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Charlanne McDonough. Glenville Hills Garden Club has a practice of bringing non-perishable food products to any meeting where we are eating together to be donated to the Galway Food Pantry.



Our May spring clean-up day in the village was done by club members. They weeded, raked, pruned, and planted annuals at various sites in and around Galway Village. We missed our 6th grade students but hope they will be able to join us next year.

Since our town Memorial Day Parade was cancelled, our usual Plant and Pie Sale will be held June 12th at Galway's Outdoor Pavilion from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



A field trip to visit Into the Woods Farm is planned in mid-June. Owner Phaedra Stasyshyn will guide our group on a deep-woods walk with the farm's goats. There is a Heron rookery on site.

Our "Celebrate Summer" Potluck Picnic will be held at member Nancy Caparulo's lovely home. Members will look forward to time to relax and reminisce about the past and outline the future years over our delicious meals.

Blueberry Picking at a hidden beautiful facility in Galway will be our July activity. Chuck and JoAnn Fetter will lead us on a tour of their Star Farm Blueberries on Galway Road. A patio lunch at Cock'n Bull afterward will be enjoyed by members.

In August, our field trip will take members to Pitney Meadows Community Farm in Saratoga Springs. A

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working farm since 1862 run by the Pitney family, it was purchased in 2016 by the Open Space fund for \$1.13 million to protect the open space homestead from development. Our guide Joyce Carroll will accompany us as we tour the not-for-profit farm and learn first-hand its many missions and programs available to the residents of the Saratoga area.

Finally, September will take members to Bob's Trees Lodge for a program on Flowering Shrubs by Stacey Simmons.

Lenore Lanka, Correspondent

Lake George Community Garden Club

www.lakegeorgecommunitygardenclub.org

The Lake George Community Garden Club has come out of its winter hibernation and has welcomed spring as it revitalizes its programs, community offerings, and club gatherings.

At the beginning of May, we began to plan for our annual plant sale. A group of our members met at the home of Apryl Kingsley and were able to help her clean up her garden. As a result, we received over 50 plants to sell at our plant sale.



We were able to hold a very successful plant sale on May 21-22 at St. James Episcopal Church in Lake George. Thanks to all our members who contributed plants from their gardens. Our efforts realized over \$1700. This money will be used for community service initiatives, programs, and scholarships.

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We have several community service projects ongoing. We have planted a new perennial garden at the Bay Road Presbyterian Church.



We will also be planting annuals at Caldwell Lake George Library and St. James Church in Lake George.



Our Perennial

Planters group has resumed its monthly activities and will be meeting at the home of member, Carolyn Rudolph, for a tour of her beautiful gardens.



A schedule was set up to assist members who are unable to tend their gardens due to illness. Members are asked to sign up to weed for a couple of hours during the summer and fall months. This program will keep our gardens looking great and give cheer to our ailing members.

Our July and August meetings will be held at members' home on Lake George. Both meetings will be held out of doors. We always enjoy these summer meetings as we get the added bonus of a wonderful day at the lake. We want to thank Theresa Rescorl and Kim Cavarretta for their generous hospitality.

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Hopefully, we will be able to resume our scheduled fall programs at the Lake George Community Center. We will all be grateful to get back to our normal lives.

- Annette Newcomb, 1st Vice President

Schuylerville Garden Club

www.schuylervillegardenclub.org

Covid precautions continue to keep us masked up and apart for the most part. Hope everyone is getting their vaccine and is feeling a little safer.



Our April meeting was presented by Sue Beebe, Master Gardener for Cornell Cooperative Extension. She presented various ways to do and use container gardening.

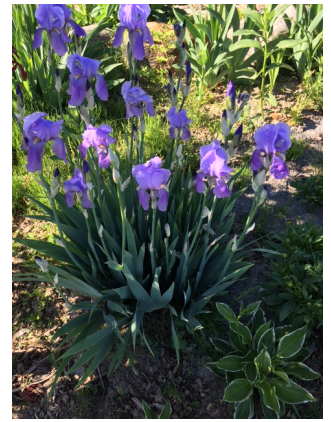
At the May meeting, Liz Gee demonstrated two

of the designs we had hoped to use at the July flower show. (Cancelled again due to Covid restrictions.) Liz is so great! She demonstrated and shared photos of two designs: a reflective design and a framed spatial design.

The club has adopted an area at Hudson Crossings Park and gathered May 18 to work on the area with the coordination of the park employees. On May 21, we will weed the Herb Garden at the Schuyler House to ready it for summer visitors and on May 28 our group will plant flowers in the village of Schuylerville.

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Since our Christmas party was cancelled in December, we are having a make-up party. We have planned a luncheon and a plant exchange in June at the Basin Grill overlooking the Hudson River.



Our regular June meeting will be led by Sharon Gavitt, a certified yoga trainer. We will reach for the sun and get grounded to earth with some fun in between. We are again making arrangements for Schuylerville High School Graduation.



The August meeting is planned for Hudson Crossing Park with Sue Fero demonstrating how to make "Bulb Lasagna" a 'how to' get last year's amaryllis to bloom again. In September, the club plans to cruise the Hudson River thru lock 5; a great way to enjoy the fall colors.

Mary Malicki is creating an exhibit to be in the Schuylerville Library for National Garden Week.

Stay safe and enjoy the summer.

- Sharlene Pendrak, Correspondent

Heritage Garden Club

www.heritagegardenclub.org

The Heritage Garden Club has had some different venues for its meetings this year. We had a good meeting in a pavilion in Spa State Park; met via

Zoom several times in our homes; and in May, we met at Prime Restaurant of Saratoga National for our Spring Luncheon. Spirits were high at that event and the members were excited and appreciative to actually be together.



The three gardens that our club takes care of are now receiving that care, so these parts of the city are coming to life and color: the garden at ROC at Saratoga Hospital, the garden at the Saratoga Heritage Visitor Center on Broadway, and the Gideon Putnam Burying Ground on South Franklin Street.

On June 5, the intrepid group of 5 die-hard gardeners were planting the gardens at the North Broadway home with little pink begonias, which will make a beautiful and impressive picture a bit later in the summer.



The annual Herb, Perennial Plant and Garden Decor Sale will be held on June 12. The sale will be held from 9 to noon at the Italian-American Center on Grand Avenue. The plants come from members' gardens and the club members' craft the garden decor items.



The Soroptimist Secret Garden Tour will take place this summer on July 12. The club's Memorial Garden at the Saratoga Heritage Visitor Center will be included on the tour. Club members will be available to answer gardening questions.

- Martha Van Patton, Correspondence

Sacandaga Garden Club

<http://sacandagagardens.blogspot.com/>

The Sacandaga Garden Club had their first meeting outside at our member, Ellen Taylor's home. We decided to continue meeting thru the summer.

We gathered on June 3rd at our new member, Shirl Doherty's home for an in house flower arranging class. The class was lead by Leslie Bare and Janet Mitchell. We have many new members who needed basic arrangement information and our other members helped by sharing their expertise.

We held our annual plant sale on Saturday June 5th. We plan on meetings thru the summer at other members homes so we can tour our members gardens. We are all so glad to be able to meet again.

- Janet Mitchell, President

District IV Calendar of Events2021

August 1	Yearbook Judging Deadline
September 22-24	NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri
September 27-30	Gardening School Course 3 (evening course)
Sept. 29	FGCNYS Board Meeting via Zoom or in-person - Albany
October 5-8	Environmental School Course 2 (daytime course)
October 15	Plant America Grant Application Deadline
October	District IV Fall Meeting & Luncheon - Hosted by Heritage G.C. Event cancellation is under review.

2022

February 1-4	Environmental School Course 3
April 26-29	Environmental School Course 4
May 17-20	NGC Annual Convention, Orlando, Florida
June 12-16	Annual Convention and Symposium, location TBA
September	NGC Board Meeting

2023

May 2-5	NGC Convention, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia
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