

THE GARDEN GATE

FGCNYS District IV Newsletter

Winter 2023
www.nydistrictIV.org



Message from District IV Director Charlanne McDonough



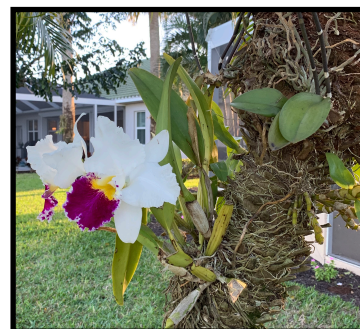
Dear District IV Members,

The cold temperatures have settled into the north country. Hopefully all our garden plants and bulbs have their “winter jackets” on and are zipped up tight!

This is the time when all clubs in district IV begin the work of publishing the new yearbooks, filling each page with innovative programs, flower shows, field trips, and activities to keep the membership productive and most of all happy to be a member of a

garden club in New York State!

Speaking of another state, this director is enjoying Florida for three months. This director had the privilege of play golf with the “Orchid Lady of Forest Glen”, Rae Jean Walker. The course is a hidden treasure of orchids growing on the trunks of palm trees on every hole! At the end of every season, before the snowbirds go back home, Rae Jean will plant any indoor orchids they give her around the golf course. Rae Jean tucks the sturdy roots in the nooks of trunks and low branches of various trees on the course. Rae Jean notes, “before your eyes the orchid roots fan out and the blooms keep opening”. Now this director has two things to look for on the golf course - my ball and orchids!



The FGCNYS Annual Convention is May 23-25, 2023 at the Hyatt Regency Long Island Hotel in Hauppauge, NY. Installation of the Board of Directors and District Directors will be Wednesday, May 24. This district IV director has come to the end of her two terms. This director is confident a new district IV director will be installed at the District IV Meeting and Luncheon, May 1 at the Embassy Suites in Saratoga Springs. Please consider the position and become one of nine district directors in the State of New York.

The Garden Gate

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(518) 796-1777
Published 3x per year
Next Deadline: June 1, 2023

District IV Officers

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

Schuylerville Garden Club

www.schuylervillegardenclub.org

Our November meeting was led by Tin Healy owner of the Posey Peddler. He demonstrated a holiday center piece which could be changed from season to season. Each member left with their own creation.

In December members met at Mary Seymours home to decorate wreaths and distribute them to areas of the village.

Some members gathered for lunch afterwards to continue conversations.



On Dec. 5 a large group brought refreshments and sang Christmas songs at Morgan's Run Senior Housing. On the 14th, we celebrated with a party at Long Fellows

restaurant. Games and gift exchange were enjoyed by all.



In January, Judith Fetterley presented "Winter Interest in the Garden". Her power point presentation showed the many aspects of winter

beauty. She shared advice on plants and trees to plant for added interest.

We have already had 2 meetings to plan the flower show in July. "A road trip in New York". Liz Gee has set up 2 days where she will demonstrate designs for the flower show in July.

On Feb. 8 we will learn about pollinators from Sue Beebe a master gardener from Cornell Cooperative in Saratoga Co.

March will be our winter picnic / covered dish luncheon.

The program committee is working on diverse programs related to gardening for the new year. There will be speakers, demonstrations, and road trips.

- Sharlene Pendrak, Correspondent

Glenville Hills Garden Club of Saratoga

www.glenvillehillsgardenclub.org

October's meeting about Camp Colby was well received. In January, member Amy David held an information/movie meeting about Camp Colby for interested parents and students. We are now in the process of selecting seven students, ages 11-13 years of age, to attend the camp this summer.

Members Tari Lee Sykes and Jules Constantine led a workshop in November on holiday greens and bow making to be used for Wreaths for Veterans and decorating the Village Park Gazebo. After our meeting, volunteer members placed the "bowed" greens in the Village Park.





December's Holiday Party at Nancy and Ralph Caparulo's home offered a smorgasbord of members creative and delectable appetizers as well as a congenial social atmosphere.

On December 10th, our annual Wreaths to Honor Veterans took place at six local sites, each with their own demonstration of remembering the sacrifices made. Bagpipes were played by member Sue VanOmmeren's daughter, Trudi in Charlton. Boy Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance in the Village Park. At the high school, The Star Spangled Banner was sung by Kim Martin, grand daughter of member Lyn Liuzzo. A group from the American Legion came to pay their respects at Town Hall.



Gardeners "Show-and-Tell" Potluck Luncheon will be featured in February. Besides a luncheon entree, members are asked to bring their favorite gardening or flower arranging item – a tool, book, gloves, vase – whatever. Then, a sharing about the item and why it is special will follow.

Catherine Gilbert, the Executive Director of the Environmental Clearinghouse (ECOS), will give a presentation on their programs for our March

meeting. ECOS provides environmental experiences and education for youth and adults to develop enjoyment and understanding of the natural world and foster action to preserve it.

Our April Installation of Officers Luncheon will take place at the Charlton Tavern.

- Lenore Lanka, Correspondent

The Ballston Spa House and Garden Club **www.bshgc.org**

The surprisingly warm autumn was welcomed by all! We enjoyed a seasonal project lead by a crafty member at our November meeting.

In December, we met outdoors at a member's country house for a fun afternoon of wreath making with grapevine bases that she cut and twined and beautiful fresh greens offered by another member.

Also in December, we placed a wreath in honor of our fallen heroes in a small ceremony at the Ballston Spa flagpole.



We enjoyed a wonderful holiday party in the beautiful home of one of our newest members. We shared good food, homemade cookies and warm camaraderie.

In January we met for a cozy lunch together at The Factory in Ballston Spa. Our food outings are always well-received!

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Our February project was terrarium building lead by the local shop owner of DB Trends Boutique. Fun to get our hands in the soil again!



We have enjoyed staying connected with our Wednesday Winter Walks on the Zim Smith Trail in Round Lake followed by scones and tea at the Whistling Kettle. Probably our favorite part!



Like all clubs, all our committees have had numerous meetings to put in place our programs, committees and yearbook as well as preparing for the district luncheon. Gardeners never sleep!

In March we look forward to a vegetable gardening program presented by Cornell Cooperative Extension.

April's program is still in the works but as long as it's April we will be happy!

On Monday, May 1 the BSH&GC will host the District IV meeting and luncheon at the Embassy Suites in Saratoga. Should be another fun event!

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Other people may think this is a slow time of the year for gardeners but as we all know, this is not so!

- Linda Fay, President

Lake George Community Garden Club

www.lakegeorgecommunitygardenclub.org

October 2022 featured Mark Brown of Brown's Family Tree Farm in Warrensburg, NY. A Santa look- alike his talk about living on a tree farm for 70 years kept us entertained as he showed the tools he used to maintain the trees as well as branches of different species of "Christmas trees".



November was wreath decorating time. With wreaths we purchased from our October speaker, Mark Brown, members decorated and distributed 17 wreaths throughout the community to libraries, post offices, and nursing homes. The club's support of Prospect Child and Family Center, were member created centerpieces that were sold at the Festival of Trees at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls. The proceeds from this annual event benefits the work of Prospect for individuals with disabilities.

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Our Perennial Planters group (a division of the Garden Club) met in October to try our hand at making concrete leaves for our home gardens. Perennial Planters also gathered to make centerpieces for the Festival of Trees held at the Queensbury Hotel. The creative juices were running wild!



December was the month of our Holiday Luncheon at the Log Jam Restaurant in Lake George. Not only did we enjoy lunch but also sang and danced to the tunes of entertainers Bobby and Suzie Dick. We also collected socks to distribute to local shelters and monetary donations as a thank you for our monthly meeting site.



January's speaker was all about house plants. A master gardener from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County took us through the ins and outs of growing houseplants. She covered everything from selection of plants, potting containers and soil,

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fertilizing and watering. Club officers were also elected at the January meeting.

For those members who wanted to try their hand at sketching, the Perennial Planters sponsored a teacher who taught participants how to draw flowers.

February's meeting is a covered dish event and a time for members to "show and tell" their favorite garden tool.

- Anita Cartin, 1st Vice-President

Heritage Garden Club

www.heritagegardenclub.org

Fall Garden Therapy took place on October 3rd at Woodlawn Commons. Residents created a variety of fall arrangements of dried material gathered from members yards which residents were able to take back to their rooms and enjoy throughout the fall season.

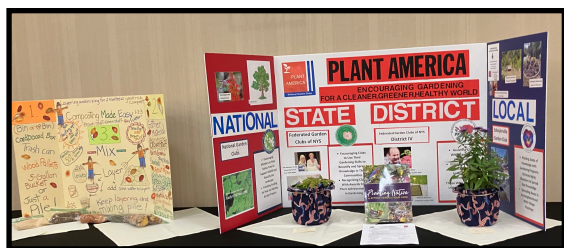


District IV Meeting and Luncheon took place on October 4th at the Embassy Suites in Saratoga Springs

hosted by the Heritage Garden Club. The luncheon was very well attended



and members were able to meet and mingle with other club members. Beautiful baskets, raffle prizes, a variety of fall wreaths and decorations were available for sale as well as a baked items donated by members.



The Heritage Garden Club sponsored a Card Party and Luncheon, November 9th at the Knights of Columbus hall in Saratoga Springs.

A lunch of sandwiches and soup were served and members and guests played a variety of cards and games and had an enjoyable afternoon.



Holiday Tree and Wreath Decorating Garden Therapy took place on December 5th at Woodlawn Commons. Club members assisted residents in decorating a miniature Christmas tree or a wreath. Residents had a great time creating their arrangements.

Holiday Luncheon was held at Longfellows Restaurant on December 20th. Members had a delicious luncheon and enjoyed a game of Secret Santa where gifts were exchanged.

Our January 9, 2023 meeting was held at Knights of Columbus. A floral demonstration by Chris Grigas of Samantha Nass Florals of Saratoga Springs was presented. Members enjoyed his presentation of how to arrange a centerpiece from woodland material from our own backyards.

Future projects for Heritage Garden Club include a presentation given by Brookside Museum on the

early history of "farm to table" of the hotels in Saratoga Springs and Ballston Spa.

Our May spring luncheon will be held at the Saratoga Golf and Polo Club date and program has not been determined.

A Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park walk through identifying wildflowers and animal tracks is planned for Spring.

The Herb, Perennial Plant & Garden Decor sale is planned for June 10, 9:00 to sold-out held at the Italian American Center, 247 Grand Ave Saratoga Springs. Perennial plants, herbs, and garden accents will be available for sale.

- Mariann Gold, 2nd VP

Sacandaga Garden Club

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

Sacandaga Garden Club was busy in October planting dozens of daffodil bulbs in Northville. We had our annual luncheon in October.

At our November meeting our members made wreaths and gnomes.



We had our Holiday Party in December. We had lots of food fun and a Yankee Swap.

Our January meeting was used to plan our year's schedule.

This week we will have a meeting at Northampton State Park in Northville.



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We plan on some snow shoeing and snowmobiling and any other fun we can think of this winter.

We will be having a horse and wagon ride and visit Edward's Maple farm in March.

At the April meeting we will be making spring gifts for a nursing home and we hope to visit a bee apiary in May.

Our membership continues to grow. We have had new members every month.

- Janet Mitchell, President

District IV Calendar of Events

2023

May 1	District IV Spring Meeting and Luncheon - Embassy Suites, 86 Congress St., Saratoga Springs - Hostessed by Ballston Spa House & Garden Club - 9:00 am
May 2-5	NGC Convention, White Sulfur Springs, West Virginia
May 23-25	FGCNYS Annual Convention, Hyatt Regency Long Island Hotel, in Hauppauge, NY.
June 9	Perennial Plant Sale - Ballston Spa House & Garden Club, 48 Chapman St., Ballston Spa, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
June 10	Plant Sale - Heritage Garden Club, Italian American Center, 247 Grand Ave., Saratoga Springs
June 10	Plant Sale - Glenville Hills Garden Club of Saratoga County, Dockslater Pavillion, 5078 Sacandaga Road, Galway, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
June 4-10	National Garden Week
July 9	Sorotimist Secret Garden Tour - Saratoga Heritage Visitor Center, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
July 22-23	Schuylerville Garden Club Flower Show - "Road Trip, NY" - Town Hall, 12 Spring St., Schuylerville, Saturday - 1:00 - 5 pm, Sunday - 12:00 - 4:00 pm
Oct. 23-26	CAR-SGC Convention, Corning, NY