

LGC Newsletter



February 2020



Image by Ronnie Schoefzel

Message from the President

Dear Member,

There is no regular meeting this month, which is probably a good thing, because the LGC calendar is absolutely full of events!

- make your Founders Fund choice
- attend a workshop (web, hort, conservation)
- visit or enter the [Hartford Flower Show](#)
- prep your photography sweeps
- go on a conservation field trip

This month is also a good time to

- put your ice skates on and enjoy some fresh air (and the newly refurbished benches!) at the town skating rink
- register for the [March GCA on the Road](#) event in New Haven

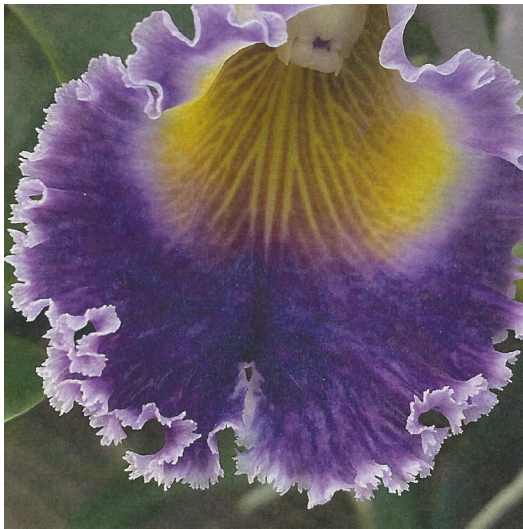
- register for the April and May [Beyond Beginning Design Workshops](#) which will be coming to Litchfield (thank you, Polly, for the hard-fought lobbying to bring these workshops here!)
- register for the [Middletown Garden Club](#) June flower show
- send me the name of your favorite perennial if you haven't already

Stay warm and enjoy this fun, busy month!

Annie

A huge thank you to Sue Kennedy for her engaging, entertaining, and informative presentation on orchids!

Sue made beautiful note cards featuring her orchid photographs which were sold at our meeting. She donated all the proceeds to the LGC. So very generous, thank you Sue! There are still a few packages available (10 cards and envelopes for \$10), please contact [Sue Kennedy](#)



For Reto Morosani's Memorial - 22 LGC friends collaborated to supply materials and design an arrangement at St. Michael's Church for the service of Reto Morosani, dear husband of Polly Brooks. This effort cheered the spirits of all involved. Material included daffodils, witch hazel branches, pheasant and turkey feathers, pussy willows, white flowers (tulips, lisianthus, roses, chrysanthemums) and various greens (hemlock, white pine, boxwood, and others). See images below



Committee Reports & Announcements

2020 Founders Fund Grant

The GCA Founders Fund Committee is pleased to present this year's finalists.

This grant is special because it is the only GCA award that is voted on by each and every member of the GCA member clubs. The first Founders Fund award was granted in 1936 in the amount of \$700. GCA has come a long way since then as today the winning proposal receives \$30,000 with \$10,000 granted to each of the 2 runners up. This year's three finalists represent a tremendous commitment to their communities - please register an unbiased vote for finalist.

- CheerMobile Farm: Zone II
- Growing It Green in Paterson, NJ: Zone IV
- Permaculture Sanctuary: Zone VII

TO VOTE

STEP 1: REVIEW THE PROPOSALS

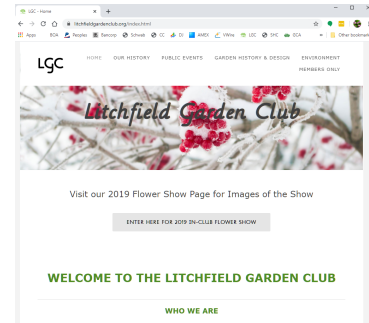
Click [HERE](#) for full descriptions and photographs of each project. Please read the 500-word descriptions in either the attached document or the GCA Bulletin you received in the mail. For a summary, click [HERE](#).

STEP 2: CAST A VOTE

Please email [Susan Magyar](mailto:Susan.Magyar@GCA.org) with your vote by March 15th. After all our Club votes are tallied, Susan will submit our selection to GCA. Our Club vote is due April 1.

Website Workshop

If you have ever struggled to navigate our LGC website or wondered what in the world a browser or a header or a footer might be, then we have got just the workshop for you. On Thursday, February 20th, Joan Burgess is holding a workshop just for those of us for whom computer jargon is a second language at best. She promises to gently teach us the meaning of such terms as "linked", "drop downs", "homepage", "landing page", and so much more. Joan will explain about buttons on a web-page, logos that are linked and how to find, navigate and print out our LGC calendar. Plus, she will be there to answer all those other questions we all have and make it fun and easy to understand even for those of us who have very little computer experience.



Let [Joan](#) know if you are planning to attend, or just drop in. Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you there.

When: February 20, 2020

Time: 1pm

Where: Litchfield Community Center (Community Room)

Conservation

Bluebirds of Happiness

We have already sold 31 bluebird boxes, and the winter is still upon us! We recommend buying them in groups of three in order to create a "neighboring" environment where the bird families can look out for each other as the parents forage for food. The nesting boxes will be installed in the Spring. To purchase your bluebird nesting boxes, created for us by the Sharon Audubon, please contact [Rosie Furniss](#).





Above: Frank Fontana buying bluebird nesting boxes from Rosie Furniss - pure happiness!!

Please put the following dates for upcoming 2020 Conservation meetings on your calendar and note the changes: March 20th and April 17th at 12:30 pm at the Oliver Wolcott Library.

[Grace Yagtug](#)

Garden History & Design

The Garden History & Design Committee had their first meeting of the year in January. We are finishing up our documentation of Jane Hinkel's Ethan Allen garden this spring and considering new projects to undertake when completed. GH&D is a combination of horticulture, garden design and history with the side attraction of garden photography. Any interested members are invited to join us. Please drop me an email, and I will include you in our emails.

[Diane Stoner](#)

Horticulture

Thank you so much to everyone for participating in our January Horticultural Sweeps! Even our judge who came up from Greenwich was impressed, enough so that she recommended a formal commendation on one of the Topiary classes!

February will be a bit quieter with two major exceptions:

- The Federated Garden Club's flower show in Hartford (Feb. 20-23 - additional info below). Hopefully most everyone will have a chance to visit or place an entry in the flower show which is so spectacular. It is such a kick to see all that greenery and so many flowers in February.
- And our own propagation workshop hosted by Conservation and Horticulture (February 13th). It will be a real hands-on workshop, we will meet at Grace's home (her barn actually) to learn how to sow seeds in milk jugs. It should be very educational and loads of fun. Details below - Upcoming Events/Member News.

[Kate Jamison](#)

Photography

LGC SWEEPSTAKES - PHOTOGRAPHY IN WINTER

March 12, 12:00 PM

Litchfield Community Center Class

Class I: Winter presents us with many challenges, both physical and emotional, but offers us, as photographers, so much opportunity to find our creative best self.

Our sweepstakes for our March 12 Open Conservation meeting will comprise an eclectic collection of winter photography. Please enter your current favorite winter image, the only requirement being that it show some plant life, something natural and growing. Hopefully, we will have a wide variety of shots — landscape, close up, midrange, environmental portrait, water, clouds, reflections, architecture, ice and snow, the sky is the limit.



Class II: Our speaker, Dr. Megan Parker, Co-founder of Working Dogs for Conservation, tells how dogs she and her associate train help with conservation. She takes dogs' "innate inability to quit" and their resilience and willingness to tell us what they know to amazing levels of contribution in conservation efforts. Please enter your favorite picture of a dog. This image may show activity or not, show dogs alone or with people or other animals. It should produce an emotional response in the viewer; for instance, warmth, sympathy, affection, empathy, playfulness, admiration, etc. Have fun photographing "Man's Best Friend"!

All images need to be between 36" and 50" in total length and width, flush mounted on black foam core. All post-processing needs to be the sole work of the entrant. Printing and mounting may be done professionally. Our judge will organize the images into relevant groups for judging and award a number of

ribbons. We thank Grace Yagtug for this innovative way of structuring the sweepstakes to emphasize individual creativity and to have fun and play with photography in winter.

Please bring your photograph to the Community Center by 10:00 AM on March 12.

Photography Committee click [HERE](#) for details on upcoming meetings.

[Cathy Oneglia](#)

Vice President's Message

Another successful meeting with our new members, this time with President Annie Borzilleri explaining the benefits of membership in the GCA and Federated Garden Clubs. A most informative session! We look forward to Joan's February 20th workshop on navigating the websites of these organizations. Details to follow.

[Susan Magary](#)

Visiting Gardens

Join us for a trip to The Hartford Flower and Garden Show (additional info below) on Friday, February 21st. We will meet at St. Anthony's parking lot to carpool at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$18 for an adult; \$16 for seniors.

Please let Nancy know if you would like to attend. Call 860-567-8475 or email [Nancy Post](#)

From the Communications Desk

Reminder: There have been several email changes in the LGC Directory. Please note: Annie Borzilleri - annborzilleri@me.com, Marie Kennedy - mariekennedy226@gmail.com and Victoria Sansing - victoriabsansing@gmail.com

Do you want to be part of a LGC Committee - and be included on the committee mailing list? Visit our [Clipboard](#) page to learn more.

Do you need help in logging into the GCA website? Each member has her/his own user name and password. Do you need the password for The Federated Garden Club of CT? Check with [Joan](#) if you need help.

Don't see something but want it posted or have a question - contact [Joan](#). Need LGC information - use our website! It's all there and easy to find.

Upcoming Events for your Calendar & Member News

SAVE THE DATE

Think Spring!

Litchfield Garden Club Fundraiser

Saturday, April 25, 5-7 pm

At the Home of Susan & Sky Magary

\$35 per person

Cocktails, Hors D'oeuvres, and Drawing
(Needlepoint rugs and objets d'art)

Event Open to Club Members, Families, and House Guests



LGC Conservation & Horticulture - *Seeds Are Smart!* seminar

February 13, 2020

12:00 pm

Meet at The Gray Barn, 191 Fern Avenue, Litchfield



Horticulture and Conservation invite you to a *Seeds Are Smart* seminar to learn how to plant seeds in jugs and set them outside until the Spring.

All supplies are provided, just bring your curiosity and willingness to plant some seeds! We will work inside the barn by the warmth of the wood stove, and you will return home with your jugs of planted seeds to set outside until the Spring.

Please let [Kate Jamison](#) or [Grace Yagtug](#) know if you are coming. We look forward to seeing you there!

Join us for a trip to the Hartford Flower and Garden Show on Friday, February 21st. We will meet at St. Anthony's parking lot to carpool at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$18 for an adult; \$16 for seniors. Please let [Nancy Post](#) know if you would like to attend.



Kate Jamison and Ronnie Schoelzel will be happy to transport horticulture entries for exhibitors. Click [HERE](#) for the schedule. Click [HERE](#) to pre-register your entries. Contact [Ronnie Schoelzel](#) if you would like your entries transported.

Thanks!
Ronnie

Spring into Connecticut for the 39th annual Flower Show of the Federated Garden Clubs of CT., Inc at the Convention Center in Hartford - a NGC Standard Flower Show "Spring into Connecticut" from February 20 – 23, 2020.

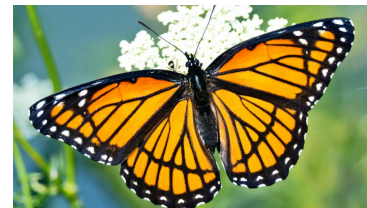
You'll get that first taste of Spring that we all need in late winter as you enjoy more than 60 creative floral designs inspired by Connecticut's Cityscapes, Orchards, Rivers and the Shoreline.

Visit ctgardenclubs.org for additional information

LGC Conservation Field Trip

February 28, 2020 - note rescheduled date
12:00 pm

We were not intrepid enough to brave the strong winds and weather when field trip was originally scheduled, so the butterfly field trip has been rescheduled to February 28. Please register with [Grace Yagtug](#)



Meet at St. Anthony's Church parking lot for car pooling.

What better way to bring in the New Year than to spend time in a warm, magical butterfly house in the company of over 200 tropical butterflies!

The butterfly house at the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford, Connecticut has up to 50 different species of butterflies and 30 different nectar growing plants, including a butterfly nursery.

You may even have the great fortune of having a butterfly alight on your shoulder if you are quiet and still. Enjoy the moment! Taking photos is encouraged.

Contact [Grace Yagtug](#)

LGC Open Conservation Meeting - March 12, 2020. Speaker is Dr. Megan Parker - *Working Dogs for Conservation*. Noon at the LCC. [Learn more.](#)



Upcoming GCA On the Road trip to Yale School of Forestry, March 16, 2020. A note from [Susan Magary](#): I will be driving to the Yale event on March 16 and can organize other carpools as needed. Please let me know if you have trouble signing up for the trip on the [GCA website](#) (you must be logged into the GCA website), and I will walk you through it! It should be a marvelous day, Conservation-wise.

YALE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES... *in Zone II*

New Haven, CT | Monday, March 16, 2020 | 11:00am to 3:00pm | Max: 70

Spend a stimulating day learning from faculty and researchers at this notable institution whose graduates include Aldo Leopold and Frances Beinecke. Learn more about invasive plants in urban public spaces, new urban conservation initiatives, biological disruptors, and the role of a university botanical garden. Enjoy lunch in and tour Kroon Hall, a Platinum LEED building.

REGISTRATION OPENS 12/1/19

[Read more](#) about all the GCA On the Road Trips.