

**THE GARDEN GATE**  
FGCNYS District IV Newsletter  
Winter 2018-2019  
[www.nydistrictIV.org](http://www.nydistrictIV.org)



**Message from District IV Director Judy Esposito**



Dear District IV members,

There is a garden blog that I belong to called "It's a Garden Thing" and there are gardeners from across America who belong to it. It's a more laid back site with pictures of gardens and often questions on problems and asking for advice. This year I realized that many times I can actually answer some of the questions and so it is with garden clubs! Your fellow members, whom you know, can answer your questions or there might be a speaker or a visit to a garden that may meet your needs. There's something for everyone in a garden club! We need to make sure that member's needs are being met and that we follow the mission

statement of our clubs as we make our program list for the coming year.

I hope you all have your calendars marked for our spring luncheon on May 14th. The date was moved to the 2nd Tuesday to accommodate the facility where the Lake George Garden Club will host the meeting overlooking Lake George. At this meeting, the new slate of officers will be voted upon and installed. Please show your support for this event by planning to attend, you will learn so much!

Our future plans include updating the By Laws of the district and the Awards to better align with the FGCNYS awards and the activities of the clubs.

Please remember to send me the names of new club members so I can send them a welcome postcard from the district. We have trifolds available and these will be printed if you need more so again, please contact me with your needs.

I have been asked by 3 clubs to install their incoming officers and it is an honor to read the duties that the officers are responsible for and to encourage the officers in their new activities. Meeting your club members is encouraging because you are the most important part of our garden clubs.

In the last newsletter, we had given information on a DEC Campership that the FGCNYS was providing to each district. District IV was given 2: Sam Estill, Grandson of Karen Estill from the Schuylerville Garden Club was the original recipient and Liam Fahey Stock of Lake George was also given a campership. We look forward to hearing about their experiences in the fall.

The Plant America Grant program MAY have awarded a club in our district a grant - more news to follow!

**The Garden Gate**

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(518) 796-1777  
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**Next Deadline: June 1st, 2019**

**District IV Officers**

Judy Esposito, Director  
Charlanne Ryan-McDonough, Assistant Director  
Mary Anne Brown, Recording Secretary  
Martha Van Patten, Corresponding Secretary  
Barbara Millington, Treasurer

Three clubs in our district laid a wreath at a memorial in December to decorate their memorials to remember the fallen. Thank you for your time to do this during the busy December. Many clubs had holiday luncheons, gave to food pantries, gave to holiday gift programs for the needy and I commend you all for your community service, thank you.

In conclusion, I say that it has been quite an experience to be your District Director for 2 terms! I don't know about Robert's rules though, even though I tried!!!! I have enjoyed going to the FGCNYS meetings representing the district and I can't say enough about how much I learned. These conferences are open to all, except for the board meetings & they are soooo educational. They are a nice get away so consider attending and you will want to go again! Same with our District Luncheons in the Spring and Fall: These are for you members to educate you and relay important information for your club & community and environment. For you creative people, there's the FGCNYS Flower Show schools, garden design and horticulture schools. Lastly I say - spread the word "There's something for everyone in a garden club!"



**“Pitcher Perfect”**  
**Federated Garden Clubs of**  
**New York State**  
**District IV**  
**Spring Meeting and Luncheon**

**Hosted by Lake George Community Garden Club**

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

Lake George Club  
 4000 Lakeshore Drive  
 Diamond Point, NY 12824

9:00 Registration 10:00 Business meeting 11:30 Social Time 12:00 Luncheon 1:15 “Flower Arrangements by John Cleveland”
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<b>Entrée Selection (Choose One)</b> \$35 per person  Chicken Piccata Grilled Salmon Wild Mushroom Risotto (Vegetarian)
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**Reservation deadline: May 6, 2019**

Please send a list of attendees from your club with entrée selections and one check payable to the

**LGCGC to:**  
**Joan Jenkin**  
**269 Chestnut Ridge Road**  
**Queensbury, NY 12804**

Members please bring an item for the Ways and Means Table and a  
 Gift Basket valued at \$25 for the Benefit Drawing

**Lake George Community Garden Club**

The Lake George Community Garden Club reconvened in October after a wonderful summer full of fun activities. In fact, the Club, seventy-four members strong, never stops in its quest to learn more about plants, gardening and surrounding area attractions and to support their communities.

On October 4 at the home of member, Deanna Payne, the Perennial Planners gathered to set plans with co-chairs, Greta West and Diane Morency, for the upcoming “Festival of Trees”, a traditional competition at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Fall, which takes place each year on the weekend after Thanksgiving.



At the October 17 meeting at the Lake George Senior Center, the members enjoyed an informative presentation by Suzanne Balet Haight, owner of Balet Flowers and Design in Malta, NY. Suzanne showed us how to make Edible Windowsill Gardens to cheer and feed

us through the long, cold days of winter. She planted in a variety of containers herbs, veggies and flowers, and at the end of her presentation, some lucky members took home Suzanne’s beautiful, freshly planted containers.

Member, Annette Newcomb, invited Perennial Planters into her home on November 7 to cover small wooden birdhouses with peanut butter and bird seed. Twelve members



enjoyed making and taking home their birdhouses to hang outdoors for fortunate birds, squirrels or (in some areas) bears!

On November 21, before the regular meeting, members gathered at the Lake George Senior Center to decorate seventeen wreaths, which are donated annually by the Club to area libraries, post offices, nursing homes and fire houses.



Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly!!

The Lake George Community Garden Club enjoyed a fabulous Holiday Luncheon at the magnificently decorated Log Jam Restaurant in Queensbury. Entertainment at this festive event was an all-women barbershop quartet called the “Mad Caps”. They were wonderfully entertaining with clever arrangements. The Club members gave cash and food donations to support area charities. The Club treasurer, Joan Jenkin, later sent a check to Open Door Mission for \$231.80, which was most appreciated. In the interest of recycling, each member donated an item from home to the “gift exchange” table. With the draw of numbers, members chose from the display and left with a newly acquired possession. Holiday fun was had by all!

On January 9 at the home of Club President Charlanne McDonough, the Perennial Planners met and brought glass vases, bottles, goblets, etc. to paint with decorative motifs. Members, Liz Markwith and Joan Jenkin, gave expert guidance to all, and the results were spectacular!

At their regular meeting on January 16 at the Lake George Senior Center, members were enthralled by

## The Garden Gate

Winter 2018-19 (4)

Environmental Educator, Peter Oleshenski of “Up Yonda Farm”, which is located in Bolton Landing, NY. He gave the history of the farm, which was purchased in the 1930’s by Alice and John Scott as their personal haven. Distressed by the land use and massive building projects in Lake George, Alice Scott left the 75-acre estate to Warren County with a secure trust to preserve the land forever and keep out of private hands and to use it as an environmental education center.

On February 6 at the home of Deanna Payne, Perennial Planters will meet to hear Dorothy Bert talk about “beneficial house plants in the winter home”. The Annual Covered Dish Luncheon will be held at the regular monthly meeting on February 20, 2019.

*- Scheryl LoMonico, 2nd Vice President*

## Schuylerville Garden Club

In September the Schuylerville Garden Club hosted Denise Maurer from Cornell Coop Extension who discussed forcing flowers indoors.

November was our centerpiece workshop. Everyone left with a great creation.

Our Christmas luncheon was held at Long Fellows. Everyone enjoyed a great meal and gift exchanged.

At our January meeting we heard Laurel Gailor talk on Natives versus Invasives.

Our Feb.meeting will be presented by Demecia Lloyd from Revibe specializing in local hand crafted products. March will be our winter picnic and installation of officers.

Our year book committee is hard at work planning next years programs and plans are under way for the flower show in July.

*- Sharlene Pendrak, Correspondence*

## Glenville Hills Garden Club of Saratoga

In October, Susan Beebe from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County gave us an enlightening program on Wild Parsnip and Other Toxic Plants.



Boxwood tree arrangements were created by club members in November in preparation for the Holiday season. Our instructors included a teacher and students from Galway High School.

Our Yuletide party in December included a catered meal at member Mari Fettke’s elegantly decorated home. It was a delightful way to begin the Holidays!

Also in December, our annual Wreaths to Honor Veterans took place at six local sites. Club members,



town officials, family members and local residents gathered to thank “Those who Served.” Songs were sung, prayers were said and heads were bowed as we reflected on the freedoms we enjoy paid for by the sacrifices of the brave.

In January, we will enjoy a Potluck Luncheon and elect officers. Also, our creativity will be called upon

## The Garden Gate

as we share a memory, observation or experience related to gardening, conservation or the environment. We are invited to recommend a book, read a poem, tell a story or describe a nature craft in any unique way we choose.



“The Tulip’s beauty is in its head; its color varies from yellow to red. Find a color, find a room, leave it there and it will bloom” – Thomas B . Davies .

February’s meeting will be a DVD presentation of the Keukenhof Gardens, near Amsterdam Holland, ablaze with millions of tulips and other spring flowering bulbs.

Our March meeting will find Margo Bloom Olsen, Director of the Wilton Wildlife Preserve, sharing information on the ecology of the Saratoga Sandplains, an area of ancient sand dunes and wetlands that supports the Karner Blue Butterfly and other endangered species. We will also begin to think of potting plants for our Memorial Day Plant Sale, weather permitting!

The Installation of Incoming Officers and recognizing outgoing officers Luncheon will take place at The Bridge Walk at the Perthshire in April.

May is a busy month as members, volunteers and local sixth grade students participate in the Galway Village Clean Up. This is followed by the Memorial Day Parade and our popular Plant and Pie Sale.

*- Lenore Lanka, Correspondent*

## **Heritage Garden Club**

The members of the Heritage Garden Club were very generous with their donations for our three

Winter 2018-19 (5)



recipients: a local Nursing Home, Shelters of Saratoga, and Division Street Elementary School.

We had a very informative talk by Karen Totino of Green Conscience, a shop in Saratoga Springs, about air pollution inside our homes: what causes it and how to minimize it.

The February meeting will have Charlie Kuenzel discussing the Mineral Waters of Saratoga Springs and their effects on the past and future of the city.

In April the members will hear from Melanie Mason about Daylilies in the North Country.

May will see the annual Spring Luncheon at Saratoga National Prime Restaurant. Also in May we will have the Spring Garden Therapy program for the Woodlawn Commons residents, where they plant blossoming plants in containers for their apartments. This is one of three Garden Therapy programs held for the residents each year. We are very pleased to say that these Garden Therapy programs are being funded by an Alfred Z Solomon Charitable Trust grant again this year. Also included in the Grant funds is the care of the three gardens that Heritage Garden Club members are responsible for: the Garden of Hope at the Saratoga Hospital Radiology-Oncology Center, the Memorial Garden at the Saratoga Heritage Area Visitor Center and the Gideon Putnam Burying Ground on South Franklin Street. The Solomon Trust fund also contributes to the scholarships that the club provides for students at

B.O.C.E.S and to Camp Colby. The Heritage Garden Club members are most grateful for these contributions and support of their programs and projects by the Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Trust.

- *Martha Van Patton, Correspondence*

### **The Ballston Spa House & Garden Club**

Remembrance Day was observed with the laying of the wreath at the Memorial Park in Ballston Spa. Veteran's and the village mayor led the ceremony. After the ceremony refreshments were served in the library's community room. Many items from World War One, honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, were displayed for everyone to inspect. Lorraine McPherson organized the event that was very successful. Thanks, Lorraine!

Members brought items to be donated to "Scotties Closet" in December. A request was made for teenage size clothing and items for Christmas gifts available for the Ballston Spa School District. There has been a shortage of larger sizes in the past. Club members were very generous in their support.

A Holiday Lunch was held at Barbara Devlin's beautifully decorated home in December. It was a fun social time for all. Items for the Food Pantry were donated.

Josh Ness, a Skidmore professor and Outreach Director of Friends of the Kayaderosseras, spoke on how the organization protects and preserves the Kayaderosseras Creek. Members were invited to participate in the study of plants in Kelly Park when the snow melts. Members are looking forward to be part of this project.

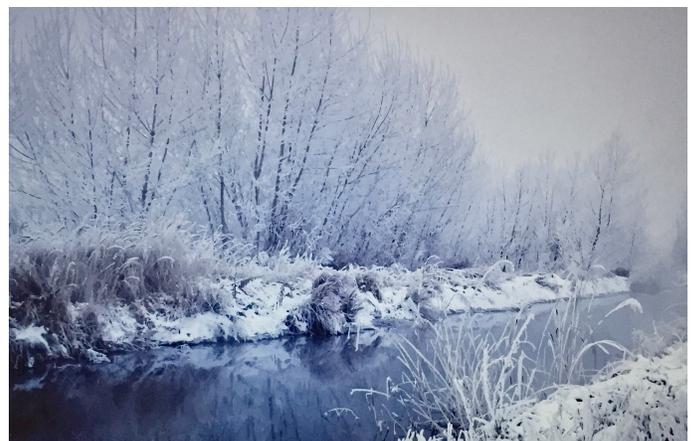
Celebrating Valentine's Day, the club will have a tea and learn the health benefits of drinking various teas. Snacks will be provided to accompany the different types of tea.

An Irish themed pot luck luncheon is planned for the March meeting. Zinnia seeds, pots and soil will be given to everyone to start them for the June plant sale. Some of the seed will be "Saved Seeds" from the gardens of members.

The plant sale will be held in conjunction with the **Village Wide Garage Sale on Saturday, June 8th**. Member donate many varieties of plants from their gardens and the zinnias they have started. It will be held at the home of Liz Kormos at 89 Hyde Blvd., Ballston Spa. Come and pick out a new plant for your garden or patio. This will be held rain or shine. Geraniums will still be sold in May. Orders will be taken starting in early May. Judy Esposito can be contacted for further information -518-885-6416.

We were saddened by the loss of Diane Lang in December. She was a FGCNYS life member and a member of the Ballston Spa House & Garden Club since 1967. Diane and Mary Ortoleva, who also passed away, were two of the sweetest and supportive people that anyone could know. They will be greatly missed.

- *Barb Millington, Co President*



# 2019 FGCNYS GARDEN GETAWAY

THREE DAY COACH BUS TRIP  
FROM NEW YORK TO THE  
NEWPORT FLOWER SHOW



An elegant three day getaway featuring the fabled Newport Flower Show at Rosecliff Mansion and visits to Blithewold Manor Garden & other beautiful and unique gardens.

A New England Lobster Dinner, Garden Picnics,  
Two nights shared Hotel room with Breakfast, and Surprises included!  
This luxury coach tour will begin in Buffalo with pickups in Rochester, Syracuse and Albany. FGC members from other areas of NYS are welcome to join up with the tour in Newport, RI.

Wednesday to Friday, June 19-21, 2019

*Special Rate \$575, after April 1st \$625*

**Proceeds Benefit FGCNYS**

Call FGCNYS Garden Trip & Tour Chairperson  
Terry Sajewski with any questions (516)456-4991.

Signup at [garden-expeditions.com](http://garden-expeditions.com)  
or email [gardenexpeditions@gmail.com](mailto:gardenexpeditions@gmail.com)

### District IV Calendar of Events

March 26-28, 2019	Flower Show School Course IV - First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, NY 10514
April 16-18, 2019	Flower Show School Course III - Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church, Syracuse, NY 13214
April 3, 2019	District IV Board Meeting, Hosted by Ballston Spa GC
April 30-May 5, 2019	NGC Convention, Biloxi, Miss.
May 14, 2019	FGCNYS District IV - Spring Meeting & Luncheon, Lake George Club, Diamond Point, NY 12824
May 19-21, 2019	FGCNYS Annual Meeting - Hyatt Regency Long Island - Hauppauge, NY 11788
May 30, 2019	FGCNYS Poetry Contest - "How Does Your Garden Grow" Submit to Barb Millington
June 13-14, 2019	Schuylerville Standard Flower Show - <i>Games People Play</i> Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY
June 19-21, 2019	Newport Flower Show Trip - see flier on previous page for details
Sept. 18-20, 2019	NGC Board Meeting - St Lewis, MO
Oct. 24-25, 2019	CAR Conference, Arlington, VA
Oct. 25-26, 2019	CAR Symposium, Arlington, VA

### District IV Clubs

Ballston Spa House & Garden Club  
[www.bshgc.org](http://www.bshgc.org)

Glenville Hills Garden Club of Saratoga County  
[www.glenvillehillsgardenclub.org](http://www.glenvillehillsgardenclub.org)

Heritage Garden Club  
[www.heritagegardenclub.org](http://www.heritagegardenclub.org)

Lake George Community Garden Club  
[www.lakegeorgecommunitygardenclub.org](http://www.lakegeorgecommunitygardenclub.org)

Schuylerville Garden Club  
[www.schuylervillegardenclub.org](http://www.schuylervillegardenclub.org)