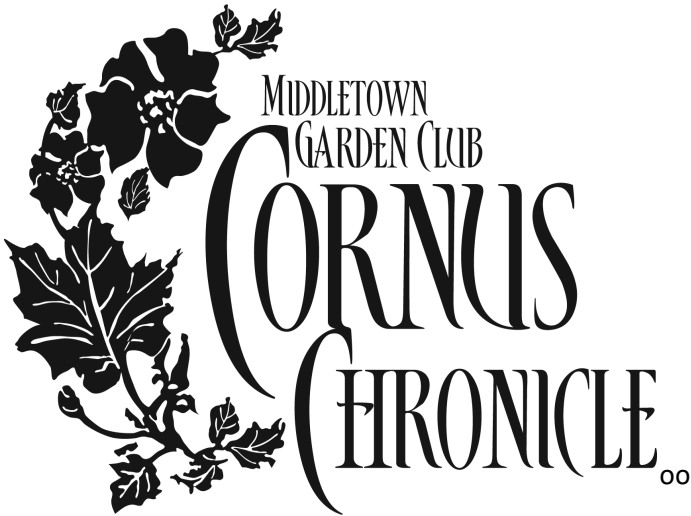


December, 2022



**REMINDER:**

The Holiday Party  
takes place on  
Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> at  
the Clinton Country  
Club, 6 – 9 pm

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

Happy Holidays to All!

This month is a busy one for the Club. So far we have decorated and delivered eleven wreaths to nonprofit organizations in Middletown. All expressed appreciation and I enjoyed telling people about the other community activities we do. I'd like to thank Kim, Ona, Pat, Lynn, Patsy, Renee, Judy and everyone else who worked so hard to make product for our booth at the Wadsworth Mansion Holiday Sale. Please attend on Sunday December 4th.

Delicious cookies, sandwiches, and pumpkin bread powered our wreath-making. Many thanks to Laney and Sally Cornish for their festive array.

Our Holiday Party Committee has worked hard to create a joyous party and I look forward to seeing everyone "down county" for the event!

Again, thank you all for your efforts to make the Club such a wonderful and dynamic institution!

~ Maria

**PROGRAM:**

For those who missed our November program titled "Entangled and Ingested" about the effects of plastics on marine life, here is a link to our speaker's [blog](#).

If you scroll down, you will find her presentation, which is similar to the one she delivered for us. This was an exceptional program, and I hope you will look through her other posts as well.

~ Jane

**DATES TO REMEMBER FOR  
DECEMBER:**

**December 4: Holiday Bazaar**

**December 14: Holiday Party**



## **MIDDLETOWN GARDEN CLUB MINUTES: NOVEMBER 16, 2022**

In the absence of President Holzberg, the meeting was called to order at 1:08 pm by past President Jane Harris.

Jane thanked the hostesses, Judy Schoonmaker and Kathie Green, for the beautiful buffet.

She introduced her guest, Lynne Garner, who helped to plant the pollinator garden at Harbor Park and worked tirelessly at the Pollinator Pathway booth at the weekly Farmers' Market all summer. Along with Kathy Meyering, she helped to distribute hundreds of free plants that were donated to the club.

A motion was made by Ona and seconded by Mary to accept the minutes of the September meeting as printed. Approved.

Elaine moved and Patsy seconded accepting the Treasurer's report. Approved.

Rockfall Foundation asked Jane and Maria to assist in planning a symposium on trees in the spring. Steve Cronkite, who guided us through Wickham Park last spring, will be involved also.

Ona asked for manageable pieces of greens, etc., for the Wreath Workshop on November 28th. Some greens will be saved for the MARC and Senior centerpieces. The Holiday Bazaar is December 4th. Set up is at 8 a.m. A sign-up sheet was sent around for workers for that event.

The Holiday party is Wednesday, December 14th from 6-9 p.m. at the Clinton Country Club. The cost is \$35.00 per person, with a cash bar. Festive attire is requested.

Debby reminded club members to send her any pictures or stories about the club for publication in local papers.

Pat reported that the Rooftop Garden yielded 300 pounds of produce this summer.

Kathy Meyering attended the Zone II meeting for club Hort chairs. She shared photos of the planting of the new pollinator garden at Harbor Park, and those photos are now on the GCA Zone II landing page.

She received heirloom sunflower seeds which we will grow for the Zone meeting in September.

Jane asked photographers to take pictures of our zone for the GCA Annual Meeting which will be in April of 2024. Kate offered her spare room for any attendee.

Laney advised the club that the Common Council is writing guidelines for private equity developers of the riverfront. The Bridge of Flowers question is whether our club will have design influence, etc. She mentioned Lisa Switkin, a former GCA Rome Prize scholarship winner who spearheaded the landscaping of the High Line. Laney has asked that the club visit the High Line, to meet with Lisa this Spring, possibly in April; she expects insights will be gained for planning the Bridge of Flowers.

Meeting adjourned at 2 pm for speaker Dr. Katharine Owens, who spoke on plastic pollution and its effects on marine life worldwide.

**Attendance:** L. Bank, J. Bell, E. Carella, K. Coley, S. Cornish, N. D'Oench, K. Green, J. Harris, L. Johnson, R. Kelley, O. McLaughlin, K. Meyering, P. Murawski, P. Mylchreest, E. Ranganathan, R. Rickenback, M. Roberts, D. Ryan, J. Schoonmaker, D. Shapiro, C. Wasch, K. Wuestefeld, M. Xenelis.

Excused: R. Higgins, M. Holzberg, A. McCloskey

Guests: L. Garner, H. Ryan, T. Christopher

~ Katherine Green, Secretary pro-tem



### CONSERVATION/NAL:

Two important Conservation and NAL events:

**Conservation Study Group, November 9**  
“Aloha ‘Aina”, which addresses sustainable uses of natural resources in an island environment, is still available on the GCA website. There are some excellent speakers on the agenda.

**NAL Conference – Live in Washington, D.C., from March 12 to March 15.**  
Registration opened on November 17<sup>th</sup>, but only 300 attendees will be

permitted. In-person attendance is a once-in-a-lifetime experience but must be coordinated through Sally and Maria. Preference is given to first-time attendees. Many events will also be live-streamed and will be available later via video. Meetings with legislators and their staff are only available to those attending in-person. ~ Sally Cornish

### HORTICULTURE:

Our club has several members on board for the Newport Flower Show’s propagation challenge. I have marked down Kathie G, Maria, Pat Murawski, Mary X, Jane Harris, and myself to receive bulbs of *Allium schubertii*. If any other members are interested in participating, please let me know.

Also, our January winter sowing workshop is coming up! Please collect one or two empty plastic milk/cider/water jugs or large salad mix clamshell containers to use for a “greenhouse.” I have included a link to a helpful website that describes the process and how EASY it is to sow your favorites and let them grow without fuss.

<https://extension.psu.edu/starting-seeds-in-winter>

I can provide seeds of several native and annual flowers, but you are welcome to bring your own as well. Check the list in the linked article to see if any of your favorite vegetables or herbs are good candidates for an early start.

Feel free to let me know if you have any questions. ~ Kathy M.

I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields, that it kisses them so gently?  
And then it covers them up snug, you know, with a white quilt; and  
perhaps it says, "Go to sleep, darlings, till the summer comes again."  
~ Lewis Carroll

