

REMINDER:

The January meeting takes place at CFPA headquarters on the 19th at 1 pm.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

As we end one year and begin another it is helpful to look back on what an amazing year 2022 was for the Middletown Garden Club. The list of our accomplishments is impressive, not the least of which was the installation of a pollinator garden and bird buffet over 400 feet long at Harbor Park.

We received and distributed, with our friends at City yard and the Pollinator Pathway Project, over 8000 plants with a mere 3000 remaining! Thank you to all who came out to plant and to Casertano's Nursery for providing the plants!

We also received a commitment from the city to pursue a pedestrian bridge over Route 9 which will be a sort of "floating garden" like the Highline in NYC. Thank you, Laney, for shepherding this effort.

The Rockfall Foundation asked for help to create a symposium on climate change, trees, and forests. While plans are incomplete, the tentative date is May 12, and the location is Middlesex Community College. Jane Harris will be the liaison to this effort.

We have sent a letter of support for the Community Heath Center's grant application to the CT Department of Community Development's Community Investment Program 20/30 to construct a greenhouse on the corner of Grand and Main Streets. This greenhouse will be used to support nutrition in the North End and may provide seedlings for our Rooftop Garden.

We had a great trip to the Farmer's Daughter in October and ended our year with a fabulous Christmas Party at the Clinton Country Club. Thank you, Marcia, Patsy, Ona, Elaine, Melissa, Kate and Melanie! Awards were presented at the event to Albert Hamrah for his help in arranging the tour to the Bridge of Flowers and to Dave Mylchreest for his lifelong support of the Garden Club and in particular his help in planting the pollinator garden at Harbor Park. Sally D'Aquila received a GCA award for preserving the historical gardens at the Middlesex County Historical Society.

As we look to 2023, please keep in mind the many opportunities we have to support our club memberships in The Federated Garden Club and The Garden

Club of America. One such opportunity will occur in February, when our club will submit a TABLESCAPE (CLASS 13) entry to the Federated Show at the Hartford Convention Center, February 23-26. So mark your calendars and come cheer our success or at least our initiative!

I look forward to seeing you on January 19 at the Connecticut Forest and Park headquarters at 1 pm for our workshop entitled "Winter Sowing" led by our own Kathy Meyering. Fondly,
~ Maria

PROGRAM:

"Winter Sowing" is our program for January 19. Please save half-gallon or gallon milk, water, or cider jugs to bring that day. Large lettuce clamshells work well, too.

~ Kathy M.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR:

The Holiday Committee would like to thank those who set up, took down and sold like mad the items at the Mansion sale. When I walked in and saw how small our booth area was, I mumbled some not so G-Rated phrases and figured we were in big trouble! Instead, the set-up group was able to make the booth and our outside space look magical! In spite of the economy, the cramped space and cold we did well. After expenses we made approximately \$3433 - with some expenses (wire/glue/ribbon) on board for next year. I received positive

comments from some women in Old Saybrook who thought our booth and wares were beautiful, and plan on making it a group trip next year. Another group bought six cakes to begin the sale-then bought two more and left me with a hug and plans to stop and shop again next year. A lot of work goes into the wreath making and year-round gathering of objects, and the fact that we have repeat customers and lots of smiling faces proves we are doing something right!

Cheers from the Holiday Committee,
Lynn / Ona / Renee / Patsy / Kim / Pat /
Hidden Elves at Treasure Island



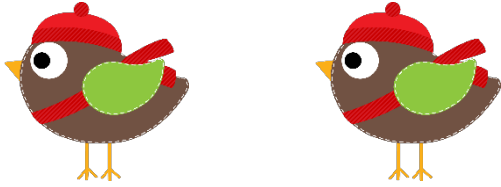
MIDDLETOWN GARDEN CLUB
MINUTES: No meeting was held in
December

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Remember to sign up for the Photography Conference on January 26, 2023. There are two sessions – 11 am - 1:30 pm and 3 pm - 5:15 pm. Since it is on Zoom it is easy to watch some or all of the sessions. On-line registration

closes on January 23, 2023. Go to the GCAmerica.org website to register.

~ Lynn



FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS MESSAGE:

I'm emailing all the Club Presidents to please ask your help in filling the hostess spots for the CT Flower Show, Feb. 23-26, 2023. We have shifts each day: 10-12:30, 12:30-3 and 3-5 with a maximum of 10 members per shift. Hostesses circulate on the floor of the Flower Show answering questions and watching to be sure the exhibits are kept safe and untouched. A briefing is given before

each shift. Hostesses are each given one admittance to the show on the day they volunteer. We have a hospitality room with refreshments and members are welcome to bring contributions for refreshments if they wish. Parking information will be forthcoming and I'll be in touch with all the hostesses before the show for more information.

Please have your members contact me at lindroth@aol.com with their first and second choice of shift and name of garden club. I'm happy to answer any questions.

~ Kathy Lindroth

CONSERVATION/NAL:

Have you taken the Healthy Backyard Pledge? It's been on the GCA website for a long time, but you will feel better if you do it now! Click on the link [here](#).



Winter Garden

Clouds purple where dusk and storm meet
Glazed December snow pellets

I take the box from under the stairs
Partial packets of last year's seeds

Without a shovel or a line of string
Start to garden, finger each envelope

Runner beans mottled violet and lavender
Shiny worry stones

Dusty with past distress
Gnarled blue maize kernels

Dormant bounty
Gray-rimed pea gravel

Golden heirloom tomato motes
Complete with tiny winter jacket

Paradoxical beet rubble
Blood and bone, fossil and future

Snow-white seeds like fingernails,
Beckoning to bed

~ Stan Galloway