



REMINDER:

The September meeting will take place at 1 pm on September 15th at McCutcheon Park

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

My dearest fellow garden club members:
What a joy it is to look out into the garden. To see and hear the bees buzzing and the birds chirping, the butterflies swaying back and forth and the chipmunks, rabbits and squirrels munching on the sedum. Sedum? Yes, sedum! Who knew?

What a joy to reflect on our flower show -- a success by every measure: full club participation, beautiful entries, specimens, and exhibits, delicious food, lively music and wonderful company at our preview party, and to top it off -- financially successful. I am grateful to each of you for your contributions to making the show simply marvelous!

What a joy it is to plan for our next year. Kim Wuestefeld, our new Vice-President, Jane Harris our Past-President, and I have been meeting to plan the events of the coming year. A program schedule will be included with this Cornus and we will go over the program in more detail at our September 15, 2022 meeting to be held at 1pm at the pavilion at Ron McCutcheon Park in Middletown.

Before our first meeting, however, I would encourage you all to attend the Pollinator Pathway presentation on September 10,

2022 at CF&P at 10 am, by entomologist Kimberly Stoner.

This year there are 4 major initiatives supported by the Club:

1. **Pollinator Pathways**; support Kathy Meyering and her efforts to expand and enhance pollinator pathways in Middletown. Support the efforts of an Eagle Scout to expand MGC's pollinator garden at Harbor Park. Jane, Kathy, and Patsy are assisting with this project; please contact them if you'd like to help.

2. **Garden Bridge across Route 9 to Harbor Park**: as with all things related to the riverfront, Laney Bank will lead the charge. Please speak to Laney if you would like to get involved.

3. **Food for the ages, or at least for three days, in Hartford in 2024 at the Garden Club of America's annual meeting**. Our own Patsy Mylchreest has been tasked with sourcing the food for breakfasts and lunches at the annual meeting. As you know, Patsy is always super-organized and when she calls you to help, please do so 😊

4. **Entering the Federated Show in February**. This show is huge and always interesting. This year the schedule includes

a club tabletop challenge. Ona and Rhea will be heading up this effort and the first organizational meeting will be held at my house on 9/16/22. All are welcome.

Our October meeting will be held at "The Farmer's Daughter" in South Kingstown, Rhode Island. There we will tour the farm and look at the displays and the fabulous nursery. We will hopefully then adjourn to the Matunuck Oyster Bar for lunch. We will need 8-10 drivers to make this program work. So please let me know if you can drive (1 ¼ hours each way) and how many people you can accommodate.

The Garden Club of America's Zone II meetings have been scheduled for September 19 and 23rd at the CT Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven. If you have received notification for a workshop and you are no longer the Chair, please forward the information to the appropriate club member.

Copies of the membership list and committee assignments are attached. We are still looking for people to chair: Program, NAL, Conservation, and Garden History and Design.

What a joy it will be to see you all in person on the 15th!

With much love,

Maria



MIDDLETOWN GARDEN CLUB MINUTES, MEETING OF 6/2/22

President Harris called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. at the East Haddam Historical Society. Elaine moved and Sally Cornish seconded the approval of the Minutes as published in Cornus. Passed.

The Treasurer's report involved the proceeds from the Flower Show. The tickets brought in \$16,200, and the auction \$5,500.

Show expenses were \$7,400. Treasurer Mary Xenelis explained that the operational expenses were separated out; social occasions are separated from Program. New is the Civic Projects line, such as Pollinator Pathway. For the next year, monthly reports will be different. She will send explanations out in June so we will know how to read the information, especially the investment reports. Statements will be sent quarterly. This new budget was moved by Mary and seconded by Rob. Passed.

Two letters were read complimenting the Flower Show. Flower Show Chairman Maria thanked everyone for their help, especially Rob, Judy and Laney for the Hort part, Anne for the work she did with the Judges, Ona and Sally for their work with Floral Design. Zone II Flower Show Rep Valerie Meade evaluated the club: we received a Judge's Commendation in regards to the Show, and another one for exceptional hospitality for the Luncheon. Lynn's panels were considered excellent. The Marian Fuller Brown Conservation award was given MGC. Jane mentioned the lovely Preview Party and thanked Patsy for arranging it.

Hetti spoke of the Visiting Garden trip for 6/16 to the Bridge of Flowers in MA. It will be about a 1 and 1/2 hour trip, and some non-Garden Club folks will attend.

Judy and Laney thanked everyone who exhibited in Hort. Laney thanked Jane for

encouraging Jim Landry to exhibit. He owns Evergreen Landscaping. Judy brought plant divisions to share, and told us that Pat Fernandes of the Newport Garden Club lent some of their glassware for the Hort part of the Show. So very helpful.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. Kathie moved to adjourn; Rob seconded.

Katherine W. Green, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MIDDLETOWN GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL MEETING, JUNE 2, 2022

President Harris called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. The Annual Meeting Minutes of 2021 were approved on a motion by Patsy, seconded by Rob.

In the absence of the Chair of the Nominating Committee, the President read the slate of officers for the next year: Maria Holzberg, President; Kim Wuestefeld, V-P; Jane Harris, Recording Secretary; Ona McLaughlin, Corresponding Secretary; Mary Xenelis, Treasurer.

There were no nominations from the floor.

Jane moved the nominations, Elaine seconded and the motion passed.

Incoming President Maria Holzberg spoke of goals and said she thought the Pollinator Pathway Project should revitalize the club.

Committee Chairs were reminded that their annual reports should be given to the past President.

Members were reminded also that if they want their garden included on the Pollinator Pathway map, to inform Kathy Meyering.

AWARDS: Patsy and Lynn gave the first award for 25 years of service to Rob; Kate and Nancy received 50 years of service awards.

Middletown residents Doug Brown and Dottie Souza have worked very hard at the Trees of Honor, and received Civic Improvement awards for that. Deb Patrician won an award for the wonderful trips she planned and as chair of Visiting Gardens. Kathie G received the club appreciation award.

Submitted by Kathie Green, Recording Secretary.

Attendees: L. Bank, J. Bell, E. Carella, S. Cornish, M. Giamei, K. Green, J. Harris, R. Higgins, L. Johnson, R. Kelley, M. Holzberg, A. McCloskey, H. Motoc, P. Mylchreest, D. Patrician, E. Ranganathan, R. Rickenback, J. Schoonmaker, D. Shapiro, K. Wuestefeld, M. Xenelis

Excused: A. Albert, S. Cunningham, N. D'Oench, E. Dzialo, M. Kalayjian, M. Roberts, S. Worm



HORTICULTURE:

Goldfinches are having a feast in my garden, stripping dead flower heads for seeds. Before they consume all those seeds, now is the time to go out in your gardens and harvest seeds from your favorite annuals and/or perennials. We are going to have a winter sowing workshop in January! Leave some for the birds, of course, but do not delay or there will be nothing left!

Some good candidates for January sowing include coneflowers, beebalm, rudbeckia, heliopsis, poppies, cardinal flower, lobelia, and asters. You can also get ready with set-

ups for later plantings of cold weather vegetables and herbs, and annuals.

Winter sowing is like creating your own mini-cold frames out of milk jugs, clamshell packages (salad, rotisserie chicken, etc.) or even 2-liter soda bottles. Save a few of them as we move into fall. More details to follow!

~ Kathy Meyering

FLOWER ARRANGING:

Durham Agricultural Fair, September 22, 23, 24, 25, 2022

Durham Agricultural Fair Flower Department

2022 Theme: *Ladies and Gentlemen: The Beatles*

There are ten classes. **One** entry allowed per class. Each entrant may enter more than one class. Some classes allow accessories, some not. Flowers must be garden-grown.

Registration by Friday, Sept. 16 is required. Click on the Durham Fair [website](#), (Info, Exhibitor, Plant Science, Flowers) for the descriptions. Register [here](#) as an exhibitor. You do not have to attend the fair to exhibit.

Completed arrangements are to be delivered to the fairgrounds on Wednesday, September 21, 3:00 - 8:00 pm. Entries may be picked up on Sunday, Sept. 25, at 6:00 - 8:00 pm or Monday, Sept. 26, at 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

~ Ona

ARCHIVES:

I'm looking for some help with Archives. It's not hard but there are a few items that need to be accessioned and filed. If you are interested in helping, please let me know. Thanks.

~ Kathie Green

ROOFTOP:

Activity at the CHC rooftop continues. So far, our harvest contribution to Amazing Grace Food Pantry is approaching 300 pounds. As always, we could use more hands, especially when we close down the garden at the end of October.

~ Jane



August

Silence again. The glorious symphony
Hath need of pause and interval of peace.
Some subtle signal bids all sweet sounds cease,
Save hum of insects' aimless industry.
Pathetic summer seeks by blazonry
Of color to conceal her swift decrease.
Weak subterfuge! Each mocking day doth fleece
A blossom, and lay bare her poverty.
Poor middle-aged summer! Vain this show!
Whole fields of golden-rod cannot offset
One meadow with a single violet;
And well the singing thrush and lily know,
Spite of all artifice which her regret
Can deck in splendid guise, their time to go!

~ Helen Hunt Jackson, 1876

A note from Lynn: "Thank you to Rob and Tina for bidding on the boat ride! A great day on the water - eagles, kingfishers, herons, egrets and ospreys galore."

