

Northern Exposure



Newsletter of the New England Garden Clubs, Inc.

**Connecticut – Maine – Massachusetts
New Hampshire – Rhode Island - Vermont**

February 2018

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Happy 2018 to everyone in the New England Garden Clubs!



No matter what your affiliation, please keep on top of all the environmental changes that have been affected by the present administration in Washington, DC. There are many options open to you to help sustain our surroundings and hopefully garden club members will stand by their own club's mission as well as the National Garden Club's mission. "NGC provides education, resources and national networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design and civic and environmental responsibilities." NGC also involves "members who create a powerful voice and expansive network for advancing common interests." Please heed these statements when planning your club's upcoming meetings, as we can all do our part in helping to maintain a healthy environment for us and future generations.

Last week the NGC Executive Committee had its first teleconference taking the place of the former Winter Board Meeting. Previously these meetings were held in warm and sunny environs, but the cost became a problem for NGC and the board members. Eighteen of us were on the line at the same time, and surprisingly the two hour meeting went off without a glitch . . . and without 18 people talking all at once! During the teleconference, we approved many bylaw changes that will be voted on at the NGC Convention in May by all the members, and President Nancy Hargroves talked about the Plant America Project. That morning all the winning Plant America Project applicants received letters of acceptance for their projects. It's wonderful to note that 441 applications were received by the committee; however . . . only 28 of those received the \$1000 award. I hope that we have several clubs in our region that have received this award. They

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE – continued

should be very proud of their plan to work with a community group to complete their project by summer. We'll have some of those winners talk about their projects in the May Northern Exposures.

The NGC Convention in Philadelphia on May 20-25th promises to be an exciting meeting. Tours are planned before and after the business meetings, so members and guests may appreciate the wonderful historic sites and popular gardens in the area. Please check *The National Gardener* or the NGC website for the schedule of events and plan to join us for this meeting.

Again, please remember to invite your regional officers to your state meetings, flower shows and any other memorable activity. Enjoy your seed catalogues while hunkering down through the winter and make plans for your bountiful gardens this summer!

Happy gardening,
Susan

A P.S. from Sue Hinkel that will brighten your day!

The following is taken right from "Keeping In Touch" February 2018 edition . . . and part of NGC President Nancy Hargroves message. I'm sure she won't mind that I'm copying it to you!

March will also bring another new venture for National Garden Clubs. P. Allen Smith has generously offered to provide an opportunity for NGC to raise funds for the **PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants. Several types of plants including a gift item, will be available for purchase from P. Allen Smith using a code that will be given to NGC members. Final details will be emailed to each state president to send out to all of the clubs, as well as being posted on the NGC website and NGC's Facebook page. If your club would like to be added to the email blast that will be sent to all of the states, please send your club's email address to Katie Roth at NGC Headquarters, kroth@gardenclub.org.**



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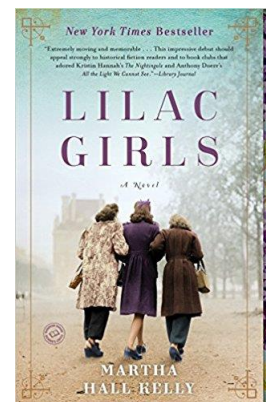
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Bellamy-Ferriday House & Gardens

The recent, powerful best-seller, *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly, takes its title from the lilac collection in the Connecticut home of Caroline Ferriday, a property now known as the Bellamy-Ferriday House and Gardens in Bethlehem, CT. Inspired by actual events and the life of a real World War II heroine, *Lilac Girls* is based on the lives of three women, American (Caroline Ferriday: 1902-1990), German and Polish during World War II, and reveals in historical detail the incredible story of love, redemption, and terrible secrets that were hidden for decades.

The Right Reverend Joseph Bellamy selected Bethlehem in 1744 to establish a theological school and settle his family. One hundred sixty years later, New York industrialist Henry Ferriday purchased the property, and it was his wife, Eliza, who added a garden designed to imitate an Aubusson carpet that once rested at the entrance to their NY townhouse. As with that design, the garden was arranged with strong lines of box parterres and pastel blooms. Eliza planted white roses and a lilac collection against the dark evergreen hedges, peonies, and herbaceous plants. Her daughter, Caroline, meticulously cared for and added to the garden, which was eventually turned over to a non-profit trust, Connecticut Landmarks. Although the garden was developed at the same time as other private gardens created by well-known landscape architects and garden designers, this garden is uniquely an expression of Eliza and Caroline Ferriday.



Bellamy-Ferriday House & Gardens – continued



The house is open to the public. The best view of the garden, with its rich tapestry, is from the second-floor bedroom, which was Caroline Ferriday's. Miss Ferriday, an actress, conservationist and philanthropist, supported the Free France Movement during World War II, was a leader in securing help for Ravensbruck Concentration Camp survivors and involved in the Civil Rights Movement.

Beyond the lilac and rose collections, the garden hosts magnolias, a fern meadow with wildflowers, and several mature trees, including a large Paulownia which blooms in mid-May.

NOTE: The Bellamy-Ferriday House & Gardens, 9 Main St., Bethlehem, CT 06751 (203) 266-7596 (in northwestern Connecticut), can be visited by groups with an advance reservation.

Open hours:

May - Sept: Thurs, Fri, Sat & Sun 12 noon to 4 pm

Oct: Sat & Sun 12 noon to 4 pm

Sandi Tinyk
NEGC Historic and Public Gardens
Chairman



PRESIDENTS REPORTS

Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut President's Report

Many of our Connecticut Garden Clubs were actively involved over the holidays by either decorating their town buildings or planters along their streets or by sponsoring a festive holiday luncheon fundraiser featuring a prominent designer as their program speaker or setting up a candlelight walk along Main Street in their town or running a town-wide holiday door decorating contest, with photos of the winners' award ceremony published in their local newspaper.



One event that stood out was the annual practice involving several area garden clubs of decorating the Osborne Homestead Museum in Derby for the holidays. Each year the four or five participating clubs are given a theme to interpret their holiday decorations, such as "Holiday at the Opera." Here is a representative sample from Verdi's Masked Ball. The museum was open for tours for several weeks.

Preparations are currently in full swing for our major Connecticut fundraiser – the 37th Annual CT Flower and Garden Show – to take place February 22-25, 2018. Entries for Designs, Artistic Crafts, Photography and Educational Exhibits can all be worked on in the privacy of our homes or garden centers but to try to come up with something that is show worthy in Horticulture always creates a big challenge, especially with mounds of snow covering our gardens and the temperature way below zero for several days. But in the end,

Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut Report – cont.

Connecticut gardeners always seem to come through from year to year. You wonder, how do they do it?

My President’s Theme of “Plant Connecticut – Be a Conservation Champion by conserving water, assisting pollinators, and gardening naturally” involves two contests that our garden clubs may participate in by creating either a Xeriscape Garden or a Pollinator-friendly Garden in their town. A second contest is open for individual garden club members by creating a Xeriscape garden on their property.

Our State Projects Chair Holly Kocet has already received registrations from several garden clubs and one individual who plan to enter the contests. Entrants are encouraged to take



photos before, during and after. Award applications will need to be submitted by February 2019 and gardens entered will be judged in time for our 90th Annual Meeting, at which time an engraved marble plaque will be presented to the winner in each of the four club size categories and to six private garden winners.

Just thinking about the upcoming CT Flower Show which promises to be warm and bright with gorgeous flowers, and about implementing ideas and plans we have for our

garden contests helps bring us through the long winter season.

Inge Venus,
FGCCT President



New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs

President's Report

Last fall the NHFGC Executive Board held its October 25th meeting off-site in Conway, NH, rather than the customary and more central location of Bow. The Board plans to continue doing this into 2019. This change in venue was for the purpose of making board members more accessible to their member clubs, to further open up dialogue between the clubs themselves and the Board and to promote idea exchanges as we approach the second half of the 2017-2019 term. The Board has future off-site meetings planned for locations in District 2 and District 4 in April and June of this year, respectively, and will be selecting a meeting date and location for District 3 in early 2019. (District 3 will be in the midst of planning and hosting the NHFGC Annual Meeting this year).

All twelve members of the Board (Officers and District Directors) carpooled from their respective towns, some as close as 30 minutes to several others being up to 3 driving hours away, to hold their bi-monthly meeting with the District 1 clubs of Ashland, Mountain (Mt. Washington Valley), Littleton, and New Hampton Garden Clubs. In addition to their presidents, the clubs were well represented by nine additional garden club members.



Members of District 1 meet in a class room at the Tech Village in Conway, New Hampshire for a "learning exchange" session.

The half-day meeting included an informal agenda where attendees were encouraged to ask questions and give their opinions in regard to the subject matter presented. A PowerPoint presentation outlining the resources and opportunities available to all members via both the NHFGC and National Garden Club's website was shown and discussed with a lively and informative Q & A following. Attendees were given some valuable insight as to how the state organization functions and what is available to them in the way of instruction, resources and ongoing valuable information pertaining to member retention, available awards and their criteria, standing committee chairmen assistance, etc.

Following a buffet lunch provided by Board members as well as some important social time, the meeting reconvened where the club presidents were asked to discuss some of their

New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs Report - continued

club's successes in regard to membership, fundraising, projects, educational programs, etc. and virtually everyone came away with something new to try in their own club.

In "a nutshell" the off-site meeting held in Conway was extremely well received with a considerable amount of information being presented to attendees and important and helpful feedback being generated from the meeting's participants, making the time and travel expended to hold this off-site meeting well utilized.

Joyce Kimball, President
NH FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
PLANT NEW HAMPSHIRE Plant Today for Tomorrow



Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs President's Report

Happy New Year to all. RIFGC is thrilled to be able to invite you to *Springtime Floral Fusion*, an All-Design Standard Flower Show from April 5-8 at the Rhode Island Convention Center. We have partnered with Rhode Island Builders Association and our show will be featured as a part of the 68th annual Home and Garden show.

We see this as a fresh and exciting partnership of new opportunities. Working with the hundreds of students that participate in the Home Show through work-based learning

Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs Report - continued

initiatives perfectly parallels our outreach and education efforts over the past 88 years. Sharing our passion and love for design, the environment, and horticulture has always been our mission. At the RI Home and Garden Show we are able to do that in a relevant, inspiring, and meaningful way.

Bringing together designers from all over New England and nationally accredited judges, *Springtime Floral Fusion* will be our largest and most creative Flower Show EVER. We expect over 48 contemporary and traditional designs will be on display for your delight and inspiration. Artistic creations of all sizes, shapes and colors will make you see horticulture in ways you never imagined! We welcome your participation and entries- please visit our website for the Flower Show schedule and details <http://rigardenclubs.org/>

The Education Border - Bringing the outside in and the inside out! In keeping with our goals of connecting people to nature we are also creating a colorful and educational garden border. Within the gardens you will find elegantly dressed tables for alfresco dining inspiration. Whimsical Fairy houses created by local students will be tucked in throughout the plantings and will delight all ages. And of course, the elegant featured plantings will not only beautify your landscape but also support local birds, wildlife, and pollinators.

We hope you can join us for contemporary floral artistry that is sure to inspire, excite, and delight our visitors.

Warm regards,
Blakely Szosz

<http://ribahomeshow.com/>
Design created by Vicki Iannuccillo



Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont President's Report

Following a cold icy winter, the FGCV will start the year with a spring meeting. I as State President will travel to the three state districts in April and meet with the Club President and Board members. This gives each club and board member an opportunity for sharing and a more informal meeting structure for our Spring board meeting.

The FGCV annual meeting will be hosted by the Southern district to be held Monday, June 4 at Hildene," in Manchester, VT, the home of Robert Todd Lincoln, only child of Abraham Lincoln to live to adulthood. We are honored to host our National President: Nancy Hargroves.

One activity that has been occurring recently is what I am calling: "*The Saga of a Missing Blue Star Marker.*"

While in the process of trying to locate the placements of all Blue Star Memorial and Byway Markers within the State of Vermont during the past couple of years, several have come up missing.

However one such Marker has recently surfaced. It was found residing in a barn on the Calvin Coolidge Estate in Plymouth VT. The convoluted business of finding out, where, who, what and how has started.

A VT State Historical preservation person contacted NGC which then directed the call to Andrea Little the NGC Blue Star chair and so the chain started.

The missing Marker was one of four that traverse the highway Rte. 4 within Vermont. It originally had been located in West Rutland, VT and to the best of our knowledge must have been removed during highway construction, several years ago.

Now the process of relocating this Marker is underway. Many people are involved in this process and the Town Manager of West Rutland is picking up the Marker in March. A location of a new site needs to be established. Permanent placement of the Blue Star Marker is planned for spring. Rutland Garden club members are taking the lead to bring the Blue Star Memorial Marker back to its home and remain vigilant to follow through to the conclusion of the relocation.

The process is one of patience and perseverance. Hopefully, I will have pictures for the next publication.

Caroline Frey
President FGCV



Langdon Street Bridge, Montpelier, Vermont, February 14, 2014

Garden Club Federation of Maine, Inc. President's Report

I'm proud to announce the dedication ceremony for Maine's first Gold Star Marker on June 23rd at the P-3 Park in Brunswick. As a retired Naval Officer, this project affects me in ways that I cannot express. I have come to realize that the program is relatively new, so my purpose in the next few paragraphs is to share our process with you so you can use some of the framework as a guide should you want to bring a Gold Star Marker to your community and state.

It is important that I recognize Suzanne Bushnell, former GCFM President (2015-2017), and the Harpswell Garden Club for championing this endeavor and working with key members of the Brunswick community to bring it to fruition. I have asked Suzanne to put pen to paper so her experience isn't forgotten and that you don't have to start from scratch if you chose to honor the families of our fallen in this way.

Judith Tarbox
GCFM President

The Road to a Gold Star Marker for Maine

At the NGC's 2015 Convention in Louisville, KY, the assembled membership voted to accept a proposal, brought to our organization by the non-profit group *Gold Star Families*, to create two new markers. The markers – the *Gold Star Families Memorial Marker* and the *Gold Star Families By-way Marker* – would come under the umbrella of the NGC *Blue Star Marker* program in existence since the 1940's. For those unfamiliar with the Gold Star Marker project, the new markers are meant to honor the families who have lost loved ones while serving in the Armed Forces in defense of our country. By honoring the families, we're honoring the ultimate sacrifice given by those who defend our freedom as well as those who are left behind as survivors. In the 2½ years since the additional marker project was started, the NGC's member garden clubs and their federations have erected 28 markers across the country.

Oftentimes it's hard to get a project off the ground. But Suzanne Bushnell had given much thought to the acquisition of a Gold Star marker for her Federation. She'd even started a letter, while she was still President, to seek the assistance of Morrill and Karen Worcester, the husband and wife team who founded Wreaths Across America in the small town of Columbia Falls, Maine. Suzanne had heard Karen give an emotional speech about the program at St. Croix District's Annual Meeting in Columbia Falls (Maine) and thought she might have found the perfect partner to start the Gold Star project for Maine. Wreaths Across America brings Christmas wreaths not only to Arlington National Cemetery, but also to other National cemeteries across the country. Part of the Wreaths program outreach includes working with Gold Star families to bring them to Maine and have them accompany the truck caravans before the Christmas holiday to Arlington National Cemetery.

But Columbia Falls is located WAY Down East in the State of Maine, and doesn't get the exposure that another more prominent location in Maine might get. So, after going back to

GCFM President's Report: The Road to a Gold Star Marker for Maine – continued

the drawing board, Suzanne came up with a different plan. She sits on the Board of Directors of the Brunswick Naval Museum & Memorial Gardens. This small museum in the town of Brunswick is the site of the former Brunswick Naval Air Station's Chapel and is adjacent to a large park where a couple of historical markers and a retired P-3 Naval aircraft are located. Also, because of her own club's long history with the Navy (her club created the current Memorial Garden that sits in one of the courtyards of the Museum), she knew she'd found a solution for an appropriate location for the planned Gold Star Families Memorial Marker. After getting the approval of her Club's Board of Directors in October to sponsor the marker as a club and do all the fundraising, she brought it to her own Federation's Board a few weeks later



to let them know the Gold Star marker project was now going to become a reality. She then obtained the approval of the NGC's Blue Star Marker Chairman Andrea Little on the location (in the existing P-3 Park) and then went to the owner of the Park to ask for its approval. The land the Park sits on is owned by the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority, the entity appointed by the Federal Government to redevelop the former Brunswick Naval Air Station which was shut down as an active Base in 2011. After getting their approval and promise to help in any way they could, Suzanne then started the fundraising and outreach to other veterans' organizations. In just one month's time, enough funds were raised to pay for the marker with more contributions still coming in. In the three months since getting the project off the ground, the marker is now ordered and planning for its dedication is well underway.

GCFM President's Report: The Road to a Gold Star Marker for Maine – continued

A more difficult task has been locating Gold Star families who still live in Maine. With the assistance of Patti Smith of Brimfield, Illinois, the founder of the *Gold Star Families* organization who also is the NGC's Chairman of Gold Star Families, Patti was able to give Suzanne a couple of names of Gold Star mothers in Maine. Suzanne has reached out to the mothers and heard back from one of them who promised to put the announcement of the dedication ceremony in their Gold Star Families newsletter. Because of privacy issues, the Gold Star mother who answered Suzanne's e-mail indicated she's not allowed to give out names and addresses of the families. But she seemed appreciative of the efforts the Harpswell Garden Club and the Garden Club Federation of Maine were undertaking on behalf of Gold Star Families. Suzanne hopes that Gold Star families who read their group's newsletter will ultimately reach out to her so she can invite them to the ceremony now scheduled for Saturday, June 23rd at 10:00 a.m. Ironically, 2018 is also the 50th anniversary of the Memorial Garden at the Naval Museum. In that garden are the names of 89 airmen who lost their lives while attached to squadrons based at the Brunswick Naval Air Station. So, after the dedication of the Gold Star Families Memorial Marker, the attendees will walk next door to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the garden created five decades ago by the Harpswell Garden Club. Afterwards, everyone will celebrate two great occasions at a reception hosted by the Club and the Brunswick Naval Museum.

Suzanne Bushnell



Camden, Maine, Snowbowl site of the US National Toboggan Championships every February

Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts President's Report

It feels like miles since we all gathered in Rhode Island in November for our Regional meeting. It was wonderful to meet members from NEGC clubs, renew friendships, and, as I'm still new to all of this, see who was who. It was a great meeting and I'd like to extend thanks to the Rhode Island Federation lead by the fearless Blakely Szosz. Congratulations on a hard act to follow.

Massachusetts has been busy getting ourselves tapped into the technology of the moment. Following the lead of the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, we are finally updating our website. With help from professionals or team is setting out to update and upgrade. This will make it easier for GCFM members to access information, links to forms, and associated websites. We are looking forward to more immediate communication with member Clubs and individuals, faster subscriptions, and immediate payment.

All of this leads to the growing concern of 'going green.' Many Clubs now publish their newsletters and yearbooks in an on-line only format. With the advent of the upcoming new website, GCFM will be able to publish our quarterly magazine, the *Mayflower*, in an online-only format allowing us to better balance our budget and set forth a greener footprint. Coupled with the new website, this is expected to be a bit of a learning curve for all of us. Clubs and members will be able to interact, react, and share ideas and experiences on a platform that hopes to inspire and become a vehicle for sharing ideas and projects.

We are calling for exhibitors once again at the Boston Flower Show. The show "Savor Spring," in collaboration with the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, will be at the Seaport World Trade Center for March 13-18th. It's a large undertaking as Divisions II and I have been split into two spectacular display areas. I looking forward to reporting to you on a successful and beautiful show.



Hope to see you in Philadelphia at the NGC Convention!
Suzanne McCance
President Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

Spring Flower Shows in New England and Pennsylvania

January is the time of year that you start thinking about gardens, plants and flower shows. Even if there is lots of snow on the ground the joy of perusing a seed or plant catalog or going to a flower show raises everyone's spirits.

One of the earliest shows in the spring flower show season is the Philadelphia Flower Show 'Wonders of Water' at the Pennsylvania Convention Center March 3-11, 2018. This show is always a highlight of early spring. Massive landscape displays, superior horticulture and a very fine design classes compliment a great show. I have had a chance to judge horticulture at this wonderful show and it is always fun and a great learning experience. (<https://theflowershow.com>)

The Boston Flower and Garden Show 'Savor Spring' will be held at the Seaport World Trade Center March 14-18, 2018 (www.bostonflowershow.com). There are opportunities for exhibitors to enter both design and horticulture classes. This show is a joyful beginning to spring!

March and April are the months when flowering bulbs begin to emerge in our landscapes. One of my favorite bulbs is the daffodil and springtime is daffodil show time! There are many daffodil shows all over the east coast. As an American Daffodil Society judge I get to go to many shows and I love them all.

Close to New England the first daffodil show is the Little Garden Club of Rye daffodil show on Thursday, April 19. The next show in NE is the Greenwich Daffodil Show held on Wed. –

Thursday, April 25 and Friday, April 26. I love all of these shows but one of my favorites is the Nantucket Daffodil Show held on the last weekend of April. This year the dates of the show are Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29. My husband and I spend the weekend in Nantucket and enjoy all the festivities involved with Daffodil Weekend.

The last daffodil show in New England, the Seven State Daffodil Show, is held at Tower Hill Botanic Garden (Saturday, May 5). The grounds of THBG are well planted with daffodils too. It is a great place to visit! (www.towerhillbg.org)



Narcissus 'Ellen'



Spring Flower Shows in New England and Pennsylvania – continued

All of the shows (including the daffodil shows) invite the public to (American Daffodil Society – daffodilusa.org/events-show-calendar).

Cathy Felton
NEGC Horticulture Chairman
NGC Master Judge
American Daffodil Society Judge

N. poeticus recurvus,
PHEASANT'S EYE



New Year's Resolutions for Gardeners

With thanks for NE Director Sue Hinkel for supplying the following:

The new year gives us an opportunity to reflect on the past and dream for the future and maybe set some new year's resolutions. These 12 ideas can help you be the best gardener you can be. Resolve to meet one goal each month, or simply use them as inspiration for your own list.

#1 Clean out the shed and go through old materials. We've all got it: that one place in the garage or shed where forgotten garden materials have piled up and now sit, unused. Resolve to clean out your garden shed, discard expired materials and clean up tools.

#2 Take a risk, plant something new. Or, don't plant something old, however you want to phrase it. As gardeners, we all have our favorites, but there's little to be gained from doing the same thing in the garden year after year. Challenge yourself to replace an old standby with something new.

#3 Add a new native species to your garden. There are so many benefits to planting them. Beautify your garden and attract pollinators by adding a native species to your garden this year.

#4 Plant something with a child. Whether it's your own children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or students, resolve to share the love of gardening with a younger person this year. Or, simply plant some beans in a cup on the windowsill and rediscover the childlike joy of seeing the first sprouts.

#5 Do some garden volunteering. Volunteers are the driving force behind many of the gardens that beautify our public areas. Make a resolution this year to volunteer in your local conservatory, cemetery, botanical garden or museum lands. While public gardening can be difficult, it can also be incredibly rewarding.

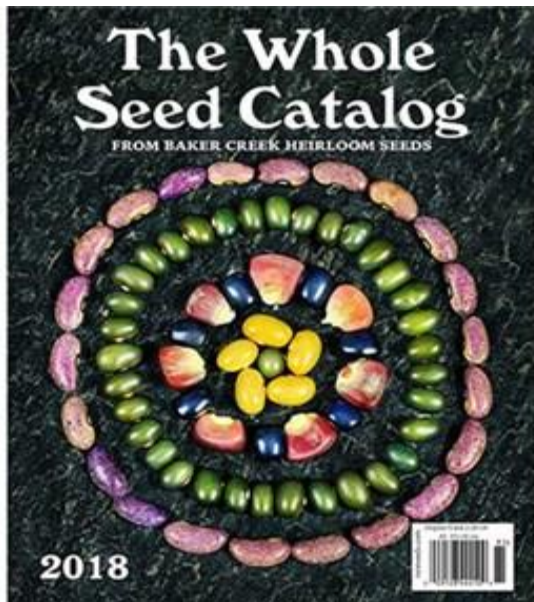
New Year's Resolutions for Gardeners – continued

#6 Learn something, teach something. We believe that when it comes to gardening, there is always something to learn and something to teach. See what classes are available in your area.

#7 Plant a food you haven't tried before. Whether it's a veggie, fruit or herb, resolve to grow a new type of food in your garden this year. Remember not to plant more than you can realistically use.

#8 Go on a gardening excursion. Broaden your horizons with a trip to a local botanical garden or arboretum this year. Use the trip for design inspiration, to learn something new, or to simply relax and enjoy the beauty of your surroundings.

#9 Treat yourself to a good gardening book. Gardening books are a great way to practice your hobby during the colder months or when the sun isn't shining. Resolve to read at least one gardening book this year and check out the American Horticultural Society's Book Awards for a list of good titles to choose from.



garden-related outing.

#10 Start something from seed. This is an annual resolution for gardeners. There's something intensely rewarding about growing from seed! If this is already a regular part of your gardening routine, we suggest trying something new, or simply brushing up on your knowledge on starting from seed.

#11 Invite people over to spend time in your garden. We love the community aspect of gardening. Beautiful gardens are something to be shared, so resolve to have a gardening get-together at least once a year. If you're an apartment-dweller or landless gardener, plan a

#12 Document your garden. Finally make a resolution to document your garden, either to track the progress of new projects or simply to enjoy. Take photos of your garden, or perhaps start a gardening journal.



Do you need help identifying plants?

If so, check out these apps.....



Zillions of electronic field guides such as **Leafsnap** (information at www.leafsnap.com) , **Plantifier** (information at www.mygarden.org/plants/plantifier), and **iPflanzen** (information at <http://www.ipflanzen.ch/pages/en/home>) exist to help us identify plants on the fly. Snap a plant's photo against a white background and submit it instantly for analysis. Or click through a list of characteristics (leaf shape, flower color, plant's height) to make the identification. Apps are available through itunes.apple.com

Join us for the NEGC Annual Meeting October 15-16 followed by the 2018 Connecticut Symposium October 16th-18th

Save the dates! The 2018 Connecticut Symposium will be October 16th – 18th at the fabulous Water's Edge Resort and Spa, 1525 Boston Post Road, Westbrook, Connecticut. Our Design Instructor will be Penny Decker from Florida for "Grouped Mass and Featured Plant Material Designs," two of the new designs debuted in the 2017 Handbook. Dorothy Yard of Pennsylvania., and NGC Flower Show Chairman, will teach Horticulture, featuring "Going Green: Broad Leaf Evergreens and Container Begonias," which are New England flower show favorites. Allied Topics will be Point - Counterpoint: Certified American Grown Flowers and The 21st Century Global Flower Market.



The Symposium is open to all Garden Club members who may attend for the entire time, or attend selected parts. The educational event will provide credit for those judges refreshing or just wishing to be current. Water's Edge Resort and Spa is located beachside on Long Island Sound, with beautifully landscaped grounds, amazing amenities and a warm ambience. Nearby are garden centers, lovely Colonial towns, outlet malls and much more. Water's Edge is easily accessible via I-95 and Route 1. Registration materials will be available in April.

For more information:
Trish Manfredi, Chairman
ptmanfredi@cox.net
860-657-8157

Kris Urbanik, Registrar
ptmanfredi@cox.net
860-659-1811

NEGC Calendar

Deadline for the May 2018 issue of Northern Exposure is April 30 – please e-mail articles or questions to editor Nancy Atwell at atwelln@aol.com

Regional Meetings

October 15 – 18 - NEGC Annual Meeting/Symposium in Connecticut.

State Garden Club Meetings

March 14 - Board Meeting at CAES, for more information contact Inge Venus at ihvplanet@cox.net.

April 18 – 89th Annual Meeting at CAES, for more information contact Nan Merolla at ncmerolla@aol.com.

April 23 – Garden Club Federation of Maine Board Meeting, Viles House, 71 Stone St., Augusta, Maine. Coffee at 9 a.m., meeting at 9:30 a.m.

May 16 – Board Meeting, for more information contact Inge Venus at ihvplanet@cox.net.

May 30 - NHFGC 85th Annual Meeting, Keene Country Club, Keene, NH

June 4 – Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont Annual Meeting

June 18-20 – Garden Club Federation of Maine Annual Convention, Sebasco Estates, ME. Marta MacDowell, author of *All the Presidents' Gardens* and *Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life: The Plants and Places That Inspired the Classic Children's Tales*, will speak.

September 19 - NHFGC Fall Meeting, location TBA

Environmental Schools

April 2-4 – Environmental School Course I at Kellogg's Environmental Center, Derby, for more information contact Jeanette Barrows at jeanette.barrows@gmail.com.

NEGC Calendar - continued

Flower Shows

February 22 - 25 – 37th CT Flower Show, Hartford Convention Center, for more information contact Cathy Ritch at cathy.ritch.ct@gmail.com.

April 5 - 8 - 68th Annual Rhode Island Home Flower and Garden Show featuring RIFGC's Standard Flower Show: *Springtime Floral Fusion*.



Flower Show Schools, Design Workshops and Symposiums

April 6 – Before Beyond Beginning Design Workshop at CAES, for more information contact Cathy Ritch at cathy.ritch.ct@gmail.com.

May 4 – Before Beyond Beginning Design Workshop at CAES, for more information contact Cathy Ritch at cathy.ritch.ct@gmail.com.

May 10 – Beyond Beginning Design Workshop at Acton Library, Old Saybrook, CT cathy.ritch.ct@gmail.com.

June 1 – Beyond Beginning Design Workshop at CAES cathy.ritch.ct@gmail.com

NEGC Calendar - continued

June 5-6 – FGCCT Flower Show School Course III, Kellogg's Environmental Center, Derby, CT. Contact Pat Dray at pbdray@optonline.net

June 21 – Beyond Beginning Design Workshop at Acton Library, Old Saybrook, CT, cathy.ritch.ct@gmail.com.

October 15 – 18 - NEGC Annual Meeting/Symposium in Connecticut.



Gardening Study Schools

October 1-2 - Gardening School Course I at The Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven, CT. For more information contact Katherine Patrick at kmpatrick@snet.net.

Judges Council Meetings

April 17 – Judges Council Meeting at CAES, for more information contact Trish Manfredi at ptmanfredi@cox.net.

May 15 – Judges Council Meeting at CAES, for more information contact Trish Manfredi at ptmanfredi@cox.net.

NEGC Calendar - continued

Landscape Design Schools

March 20 - 22 – Landscape Design School Course IV at CAES, for more information contact Susan Laursen at sklaursen@aol.com.

September 12 - 13 - Landscape Design School Course IV in Falmouth, Maine, for more information contact Harriet Robinson at harriettlewisrobinson@gmail.com

Native Plant Forum

May 15 – Garden Club Federation of Maine, in partnership with the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay, Maine, holds a day-long event dealing with using native plants in home gardens. Lectures on native plant propagation by Shawn Jalbert, landscaping with natives by Lois Berg Stack, using native seeds by Heather McCargo and CMBG research biologist Melissa Cullina will discuss the recent book on Kate Furbish that includes Cullina's essay and Furbish's drawings. Forum runs from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and includes a 2 hour docent led tour of the Gardens. Registration cost from \$20 - \$42, depending upon a person's membership in GCFM and/or CMBG. For more information and a registration form visit the GCFM web site at www.maineclub.org

Please note: CAES stands for Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven.

Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc. Presents an NGC Standard Flower Show

Breath of Spring

February 22-25, 2018



