

# GRAPPEVINE

WINTER  
2020  
9<sup>th</sup> District

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*9<sup>th</sup> District Happenings...*



*Hello Dear Members,*

*It was very heartening to read about the many activities our clubs have been engaged in over the past few months, as you continue to reach out to your communities and keep members involved, be it indoors or outside. It seems that there is some silver lining to our present health predicament in that we are reaching into our character to find that perseverance and creativity are major attributes of the successful gardener. Of course, they are!*

*I hope you will join us on January 25 for a Zoom General Meeting and the election of our officers. Our program has not been decided yet but we will get that information to you as soon as the presenter agrees.*

*As we look forward to some merriment this Holiday Season, I wish for you and all your families a very blessed time together.*

*Warmly,*

*Rosemary*

9<sup>th</sup> District minutes are available on the 9<sup>th</sup> District website – so catch up with the 9<sup>th</sup>! Just click "For Members Only", password "lasdon" then click on "9<sup>th</sup> District Minutes". Or simply click on this link <http://www.district9fgcnys.com/For-Members-Only.html>

**\*WINTER\* \*IMPORTANT DATES\* \*WINTER\***

<b>January 25, 2021</b>	<b>General Meeting &amp; Election of Officers Guest Presenter – Wendy Murphy</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>February 1, 2021</b>	<b>Judges Council</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>March 8, 2021</b>	<b>Board Meeting</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
<b>April 19, 2021</b>	<b>General Meeting &amp; Installation of Officers</b>	
<b>April 22, 2021</b>	<b>FSS Handbook Exam</b>	



## ACTIVITIES : October, November, December 2019

### Section 1: Trina Hiemcke, Chair

**Brewster Carmel** The club had two zoom meetings, one in October and one in November. Our spring plant sale was discussed and we decided to go ahead with it because it is held in a park and because it is a major fundraiser for us. We also discussed the possibility of doing a garden tour again. We did one in 2019 and it was very successful. The discussion was tabled until our February meeting when we see what is happening with the pandemic.

We discussed outreach and updating our current brochure so we could recruit new members. A new potential member has volunteered to update our Facebook page so we could advertise our activities and make it more interactive and more user friendly. Civic committees cleaned up our civic gardens and awards were given to three businesses for their beautiful gardens and landscaping.

**Lake Mahopac September** - The LMGC held our first monthly meeting, since NYS went in to lockdown due to the COVID-19 virus, at our President's home, Lorraine Stern. The program was "How to decorate birdhouses with dried material." Presenter was member Lois Chanofsky. October - We held our monthly meeting on member Lois Chanofsky's spacious deck where there was plenty of room to be spaced properly and, of course, we wore our masks. We were fortunate that it was a beautiful day for making pressed flower pictures, Chanofsky was our instructor and presenter. We brought flowers that we had dried for the occasion, and took home framed pictures of them. We also zoomed with the committee chairs of the Civic Gardens of Mahopac to discuss issues pertaining to the gardens, Later in the month Chanofsky invited members to her house to view a movie. "Wicked Plants," narrated by Amy Stewart, and filmed by the Norman Bird Sanctuary. November - We met, yet again, at Chanofsky's house (what would we do without her?) for our monthly meeting. The business meeting was followed by a program on how to decorate fall wreaths with dried material. All of the above projects had people volunteer to enter their wreaths, pictures, and birdhouses at our scheduled Lake Mahopac Garden Club flower show in September 2021. Two Christmas wreaths were donated by the Club to the Putnam Community Hospital. December - Member Marie Braun will be decorating the fresh Christmas wreaths for Montrose Veterans Hospital. A Christmas party will be held at Rose Runco's spacious home. Our next meeting will be in March 2021.

#### Peekskill

**Yorktown** A zoom business meeting was held in October where members discussed tending town gardens and their fall clean up. Plans were also made for making wreaths for town buildings and veterans. Individuals volunteered to make wreaths on their own and deliver to proper locations. The club will again decorate town barrels with greens and cheer for the holidays. It is hoped that 2021 will bring more opportunities for gardening, learning and celebrating together.

### Section 2A: Marj Trainor, Chair

**Briarcliff Manor** November 11, 2020 - BMGC held a Zoom Meeting with a presentation entitled "Forcing Paperwhites". In addition, BMGC will be creating and distributing holiday wreaths for Briarcliff Manor public buildings, schools, the Blue Star Marker and the Veteran Hospital Montrose.

December 10, 2020 - BMGC will hold a festive holiday Zoom Meeting, featuring holiday horticultural surprises.

**Chappaqua** On November 7th members of the Chappaqua Garden Club participated alongside several other volunteer groups [planting tree saplings](#) at Gedney Park as part of the Trees for Tributaries program. Our general meeting on November 18th will feature a Zoom demonstration in flower arranging in [All About Mums](#). And back by popular demand we will be doing our [Thanksgiving Centerpieces](#) workshop virtually this year. Our virtual Winter Book Club will discuss *Planting Natives to Attract Birds to Your Yard* by Sharon Sorenson. This book reminds us that while it's helpful to provide birdseed in winter, our gardening choices greatly impact the quantity and quality of food available to baby birds. It's almost time for our annual Holiday Greens and Wreath fundraiser. Details for programs, orders for the holiday greens sale and registration for all programs can be accessed through our website [ChappaquaGardenClub.com](#)

### Section 2B: Mary Bailly, Chair

**Hopp Ground** The Hopp Ground Garden Club has adapted to socially distanced gardening (and socializing)! In September, our Kick Off meeting, typically an indoor wine and cheese event, was outdoors in a local park on our own camping chairs with individual thermoses of coffee. It was wonderful to see everyone even if we kept our distance. Because our Hopp programs were all cancelled due to the pandemic, Hopp Ground donated our program funds to local food pantries and other local charities helping serve the people during this traumatic time.

In October, we conducted an outdoor meeting at the John Jay Homestead (which we streamed via Zoom) and enjoyed a guest lecture on using gourds as elements of design.

In November, our annual Thanksgiving Workshop, when we make elaborate Thanksgiving centerpieces, was conducted via Zoom. If requested, we ordered flowers for club members from Alders and designed our own centerpieces from the comfort of our homes while socializing and showing off our creations via Zoom. Also in November, the Northern Westchester Community Center donated meals to families in need and HGGC members got together (socially distanced, of course!) to make beautiful centerpieces to accompany the delivered meals.

Our December Holiday Workshop will once again feature an assortment of different craft projects. Club members can choose a craft (or all the crafts) and the tutorial and assembly will take place via Zoom enabling members to socialize while creating.

In January, the board will meet to plan the rest of the Hopp year. Our flower show, which was cancelled in April, is back on the calendar again at the Katonah Village Library April 15-18. 2nd time will be the charm!

**Pound Ridge** November: Our club will be planting another *Cornus Florida* "Rubra Pink" at our town hall to join the other dogwoods previously planted by us. We intend to create a dogwood grove in our club's name.

December: Since we are unable to invite the public to in-person meetings we came up with the idea of a holiday mailbox decorating contest. The contest will be open to all town residents and there are no design restrictions. The winner will be chosen by our awards chair and will receive a gift card to a local store. Holiday Swag Project: Every December our club gathers to make holiday swags from fresh greens which are decorated with red bows and hung on the street signs around town; along with wreaths which are hung at our town hall. This year we will have a zoom instruction meeting and members will pick up their greens "socially distant" to complete and hang on their assigned streets.

### **Section 3: Yvonne Avant, Chair**

#### **Ardasley**

**Dobbs Ferry** In December the Garden Club of Dobbs Ferry was happy to be able to continue our holiday traditions. Packages of candies and our homemade cookies for Seniors were delivered through the Greenburgh Nutrition Program. Also, we continued participating in the Wreaths for Veterans program. In addition, we were so pleased to have added a new member in December.

In the new year, we will continue with our monthly zoom programs for Winter (vertical and trellised gardens, unusual perennials). We are blessed that all of our members are still in good health

**Little Gardens of Tarrytown** We have had a number of garden maintenance days at both Neperan and Patriots parks. It was nice to see each other, outdoors, doing what we love. Patriots Park looked especially beautiful in time for Veterans Day services. Many members attended the service and we provided a grapevine wreath for the occasion.

The club continues to meet monthly via Zoom. October's speaker was Sue Avery on Waterwise Gardening and in November we heard from Tony Antes on Violets. We will gather in small groups spanning multiple nights in December to decorate 22 holiday wreaths for Montrose VA, Tarrytown municipal sites and other veteran memorial sites within Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow. We have canceled our annual holiday party unfortunately due to COVID concerns. The board will meet in early January to focus on programming and a slate of officers in anticipation of our February elections.

**Parkway Gardens/Homes** In November the Town of Greenburgh's annual Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon was cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns – no centerpieces were needed. The Club will hopefully participate with decorations for Spring 2021 Easter luncheon. In lieu of our annual hands-on floral arranging activity that is usually held at The Grove Nursing Home in Valhalla, PG/PH GC had a wreath and centerpiece making session on Zoom. Wreaths and centerpieces were donated to The Grove staff to decorate the facility. Wreaths were also decorated to donate to the Veteran's at Montrose and for our community gardens and Blue Star Memorial Garden.

### **Section 4: Gloria Bisaccia, Chair**

**Boulder Ledge** The Boulder Ledge Garden Club (BLGC) of Bronxville, N.Y., has been back in full action this past fall and early winter. With a built-in out-of-doors mission, members have had little trouble gathering this fall, both for educational meetings; fantastic trips to area Hudson River gardens; and to get down in the dirt and ready area gardens for the winter. It also, with everyone pitching in to provide seating, held its opening meeting out-of-doors on what was a beautiful late-summer day. The BLGC has also been making use of technology when it served the club's needs: The gardens of Katie Ritter were toured virtually in October and this "outing" was very well-received by members. In December, the club enthusiastically convened around outside work tables to assemble Christmas wreaths for the Veterans Home located in nearby Montrose, N.Y. The scents of pine, the silver and gold ribbons, and green and red adornments made for a sweet launch into the holiday season for the numerous Veteran residents. Members then came together for the BLGC annual holiday luncheon, with potter Frances Palmer the guest speaker.

For the 2021 winter months, BLGC sketched out the winter months as a perfect time to do a series of educational online events, while in April and May, the club will convene as usual for the Spring clean-up of Bronxville gardens.

#### **Larchmont**



## ***Section 5: Yolanda Gorman, Chair***

### **Baychester**

**City Island** In October and November, the Garden Club of City Island was able to hold its monthly meetings outdoors (with masks and social distancing) on the waterfront at City Island Yacht Club. It was wonderful to see each other and to connect personally on two beautiful days. With the colder weather in November, the Garden Club held its November 2 meeting via Zoom. Throughout the summer and fall, the club continued to maintain its 30 containers on City Island Avenue with summer plants and then winter greenery. In October, the containers at the gates of Pelham Cemetery were replanted with miniature evergreens and pansies. The City Island Post Office garden got a good weeding this fall, showing off its colorful mums and oak leaf hydrangea with deep purple leaves. The club distributed 40 decorated holiday wreaths to our public spaces, including the post office, library, fire station, nautical museum, school, cemetery, and parks. These projects were made possible by the generous donations by residents and businesses to our Beautification Fund this year.

### **Luther Burbank**

**New Rochelle** During the Fall months a couple of us weeded the Shakespeare Garden on a weekly basis. It consists of 4 garden areas outlining a rectangle and planted solely with plants mentioned in Shakespeare's writings. This lovely garden overlooks a majestic view of the Long Island Sound and is located within Davenport Park.

GCNR had a September meeting in which we "painted with flowers", 'Petal Painting' hosted and supplied by our very own Judie Phillips.

We skipped October and then met again in November at which time we made small centerpieces from the many cuttings of Judie's garden (again). Wreaths went to local spots as well as Montrose. We met again in December for our festive "Silent Auction" to replace our annual Visiting Nurse Baskets. Due to Covid, the Visiting Nurse Service declined our offer. (The first time after a decade plus of donations.) We suspended our February meeting and meet again in March.

### **Manor Club of Pelham**

**Morsemere** In October, MGC enjoyed a tour of the fabulous Untermyer Gardens, which looks even more beautiful than ever this year! November saw us back to Zoom, enjoying a program about the Caretaker's Cottage at Philipse Manor Hall. In December, the club decorated Philipse Manor Hall with period decorations, spreading the work over three days to maintain small groups and social distancing. We decorated our wreaths for the Montrose Veterans' Hospital at the same time. Although we couldn't celebrate the holidays with our traditional December luncheon and auction, the club enjoyed a special Zoom meeting that included break-out rooms for socializing and some MGC trivia for entertainment.



## Calendar of Events : December, January, February & March

<b>December 4-31 (weekends)</b>	<b>Lasdon Holiday Train Show</b>	Weekends* Tickets are available online only. COVID-19 precautions are in place for safe viewing. Please visit the website for details. <a href="http://www.lasdonpark.org">www.lasdonpark.org</a>
<b>December 8- January 2</b>	<b>Holiday Tours at Philipse Manor</b>	Morsemere GC – Yonkers Daily Tours at noon. Self-guided tours available.
<b>Candlelight Tours beginning December 15-19</b>		Daily Tours begin 7pm Philipse Manor, 29 Warburton Ave. Yonkers. Call (914) 965-4027 for details and reservation information.
<b>Now-January 31</b>	<b>NYBG Holiday Train Show</b>	NYBG, Bronx NY Limited ticket sales. Some dates already sold out. COVID-19 safety protocols in place. See website for details. <a href="http://www.nybg.org">www.nybg.org</a>
<b>Now – January 9</b>	<b>NYBG Glow</b>	NYBG, Bronx NY
	<b>An Outdoor Color and Light Experience</b>	This holiday season, let it <i>GLOW</i> at The New York Botanical Garden in an all-new outdoor experience illuminating NYBG's landmark landscape and Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. See website for online ticket sales & information <a href="http://www.nybg.org">www.nybg.org</a>
<b>Now – January 20</b>	<b>Bronx Zoo – Holiday Lights</b>	Bronx, NY <a href="https://bronxzoo.com/holiday-lights">https://bronxzoo.com/holiday-lights</a>
<b>January 25, 2021</b>	<i>9<sup>th</sup> District General Meeting</i> <i>9<sup>th</sup> District Election of Officers</i> <i>Guest Presenter – Wendy Murphy on beekeeping: “Hive Society”</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
<b>February 1, 2021</b>	Judges Council	Zoom
<b>March 8, 2021</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> District Board Meeting	Zoom
<b>June 5-13, 2021</b>	Philadelphia Flower Show	Outdoors! <a href="http://phsonline.org">phsonline.org</a>

\*\*\* THE CONNECTICUT FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO PANDEMIC\*\*\*

Shopping for the holidays?

Use the link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/13-1663223> and a portion goes back to FGCMYS Happy Holidays!!!



Join the Audubon Christmas Bird Count  
December 14, 2020 – January 5, 2021  
For more information go to

<https://www.audubon.org/conservation/join-christmas-bird-count>

# THE 9<sup>th</sup> IN VIEW – Garden Club Spotlight

## Little Gardens of Tarrytown-Perspective Through The Decades

### Our Beginnings: Founded in 1924, Federated 1928

In April 1924, a charter meeting was held at Mrs. Emma Davis' home and at a subsequent gathering on April 27<sup>th</sup>, members chose our name. During the formative years, the club mostly participated in Flower Shows and Civic Improvement. We received awards in 1928 and 1929 from the Tarrytown Horticultural Society (these medals and other memorabilia are housed at the Historical Society on Grove Street in Tarrytown).

### 1950's & 60's:

The club focused on House and Garden Tours and plant sales, raising money for plantings in Patriots Park. Due to demand, a new club was formed (Hill and Dale, chartered in 1951) to accommodate newcomers to Tarrytown. We continued with Civic Beautification focusing on the Post Office and Window Boxes at the Train Station.

### 1970's through 2008:

Our outdoor efforts focused on the Train Station area, partnering with others to accomplish landscaping goals. We continued fundraising via plant sales and home/garden tours and established a tradition of decorating Holiday Wreaths for village sites. To keep up membership we went co-ed and started holding meetings in the evening.

### 2010's through Present:



### **Focus on Neperan Park and Native Plants**

The first native garden was established at the Neperan Road Park entranceway via a grant from The Principal Financial Group in 2009. A butterfly (swamp milkweed) garden was established in 2015 in another section of the park, assisted by a District IX Community Grant and member donation in celebration of our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A third Pollinator Garden was established in 2019 due to a NGC Plant for America Grant. In 2020 we expanded this latest garden with two wings, with the help of a grant from the local Rotary Club. Most of our club's resources focus on this park, with the help of

village volunteers and other partners. It is one of the village's designated sites for Earth Day each year where we "host" to coordinate maintenance and/or planting activities. It is also a "dot" on a map for a variety of Pollinator Pathway initiatives.

### **Focus on Patriots Park and Veteran's Monument area**

In 2018, we installed a Blue Star Marker and in 2019 we received a Rotary Grant for plantings at the site. The club, in honor of our 95<sup>th</sup> year of service, donated two granite benches with plaques honoring the Rotary Club and our anniversary, to complete the area. Each May we plant red, white and blue annuals with local Girl Scouts in time for Memorial Day Services, and in the fall, mums, for Veteran's Day Services.

Little Gardens of Tarrytown strives to continue to evolve in an ever-changing world and rough 2020. Our purpose is to provide an outlet that fulfills all club-members' wishes, whether social, educational (home or zoom meetings), environmental, beautification, honoring our military and other "do-good" community actions (scholarship, donations). As a club that averages around 23 members (approximately 15 truly active) it's a tall order. However we are fortunate to be able to partner with others (ie. village parks, Girl Scouts, volunteers), operate with about \$2K per year (sourced from an annual tag sale, dues collection, or grants as catalyst for special initiatives) to build momentum and successes. Little-by-little we are attracting more to our Facebook page and are experimenting with the "donation" button! We look forward to our next milestone – celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in April 2024.



## THE 9<sup>th</sup> IN VIEW - Around the District

Great job 9<sup>th</sup> District! Gloria Bisaccia collected 82 decorated holiday wreaths that were delivered to our Veterans housed at Montrose V.A.! Thank you Gloria and thanks to all the participating Clubs!



Morsemere Garden Club - Masked-up and on the move.... Untermyer Gardens



Parkway Gardens/Parkway Homes GC spreading cheer – Wreaths & centerpieces for The Grove Nursing Home at Valhalla



Hopp Ground around town - Holiday centerpieces for Northern Westchester Families



# \*WINTER\* \*IMPORTANT INFO\* \*WINTER\*

As we approach the holidays and gift buying time we wanted to share with you how you can help the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State.

We of course encourage you to shop local if possible, help our local farmers, garden stores and other local businesses. If you choose to use Amazon for some of your shopping, please consider using the Amazon smile url. This is the same store and prices that are on the regular site, but AmazonSmile Foundation will donate **0.5 percent** of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to our organization. Here is our link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/13-1663223>.

Continue to check our 9<sup>th</sup> District, State and National websites for current information.

[www.district9fgcnys.com](http://www.district9fgcnys.com) - for 9<sup>th</sup> District news, events and updates

[www.fgcnys.com](http://www.fgcnys.com) – for what’s happening around NYS

[www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org) – for national events and The National Gardener magazine

## **WANT ADS**

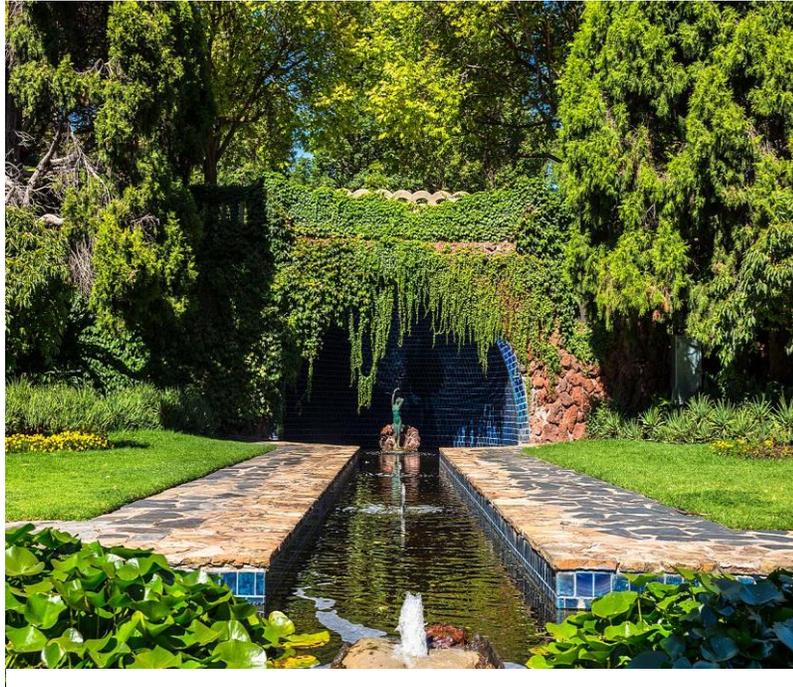
### ***CORRESPONDING SECRETARY!***

If you would like to be on the Executive Board of the 9<sup>th</sup> District in a creative position that will allow you to socialize with other members – consider being the new Corresponding Secretary!

Contact: Roxane Wasserman,  
Nominating Committee Chair  
for details

[roxanemw@gmail.com](mailto:roxanemw@gmail.com)

## *In Memoriam*



Silke Caltagirone, Briarcliff Manor Garden Club



Dearest Members, Friends and Honorary Members,  
It is with great sadness that BMGC informs you of the passing of Silke Caltagirone, our club's Co-President. She peacefully passed away December 6th at her home. She had been a valued member of our club for many years and will be greatly missed. Please keep Silke's family in your thoughts and prayers as they go through this difficult time. A spring memorial service is being discussed and we will inform you of that when more is known.

As your paperwhites bloom, think of Silke and the beautiful person she was.

Condolences can be sent to:  
Bill Caltagirone and Family  
[230 Watch Hill Road](#)  
[Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567-6406](#)

*Forever in our Hearts*



Do you have a real Christmas Tree?  
Don't forget to add water daily!

*Do you know who your  
Section Chair is and what  
they do?*

*They are your liaison to  
the 9<sup>th</sup> District. They  
are there to answer  
questions about the  
District and point you  
in the right direction.*



**It's Seed Catalog Season!!**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL



AND.....

HERE'S TO A HAPPIER & HEALTHIER  
NEW YEAR!

