

# CLUB ACTIVITIES

## Section 1: Joan Bradley, Chair

### Highland GC

**GC of Peekskill** The club enjoyed a lecture and slide show by Ken Uhle from Westchester County Parks on the many parkland the county maintains. Our October meeting was held in the evening as a public outreach program to familiarize the community with the Peekskill Garden Club and offer new attendees an invitation to join the club. In November our own Danny Meyer presented a greenery workshop. Members will use the greenery in the upcoming holidays by changing adornments as they move from one holiday to the next and into the New Year. We held our annual holiday tea at a private home while enjoying warm rum cider from our exquisite silver punch bowl and nibbling on goodies produced by our own members. Decorations for the home are done by members and our last Water for Sudan donations were collected. Our horticulture group visited the Kendal Sculpture gardens, planted pots of allium and discussed the new Flower Show handbook in preparation for an upcoming show.

**GC of Yorktown** Annual luncheon and election of officers took place in member's beautiful home in October. Delicious sweet and savory creations were enjoyed. We all shared some garden wisdom and a lucky member won a donated gift certificate to Blossom Knolls Nursery, Yorktown. Maintenance of town gardens continues. November meeting was held in a lovely member's home. Plans for 2018 were discussed as was new and old business. In early December creative members brought greens, tools and holiday cheer to make holiday wreaths for local veteran's and town buildings. Holiday luncheon followed at Furci Italian Restaurant.

**Brewster/Carmel GC** It is fitting in November, the month of Veterans' Day, to report on the Brewster / Carmel GC's project to erect a Blue Star Memorial in Carmel. A Blue Star Memorial was dedicated in October, 2008 at the "Triangle" located at the Metro-North Station in Brewster. The GC now wants to honor the veterans of Carmel. Support for this project has been received from the County Executive, the Highway Department, and the Director of Veterans Affairs. The final site is yet to be determined. A committee is now seeking funding for the project. Hopefully, Spring of 2018 will be the date of the establishment of anew Blue Star Memorial.

**Lake Mahopac GC** Since I missed the date for sending in our fall activities to the Grapevine, I'd like to quickly review the major events we held. Our September 15<sup>th</sup> flower show, "Autumn Chores" was a success, although we did test the patience and energy of our judges by the number of our horticulture entries. Because we used the new division, "Botanical Arts," we did not offer as many awards this year. However, we did earn a point score of between 90 and 95. Our October tea was very well attended – over 80 guests. In step with our very popular themed tea of 2016, we chose "Through the Looking Glass" for our theme this year. We've discovered that people love to dress in character for these events. This is our major fund raiser each year, and we were very happy with our return. In November our Planning Committee met to discuss our 2018 Yearbook. We should have that finalized by the end of December, and our Yearbook designer, Donna Reilly should have the contents in her hands by January 1. Six of our members attended the 9<sup>th</sup> District Flower Show School in Chappaqua. Three of the members took the test. Our Trip Planner Challen Armstrong organized an outing at the newly opened Sculpture Garden at Pepsico in Purchase, NY in October. New officers were announced at our Bi-Club meeting with Brewster and Carmel in November. We will have co-presidents for 2018-19 – Lois Chanofsky and

JoAnn Carpanzano; Vice-president Phyllis Hoenig; Secretary Wanda Finger; Treasurer Linda Signorini and Corresponding Secretary Lorraine Stern. After the business meeting we gathered in the Community Room of the Mahopac Library for a sumptuous luncheon hosted by Brewster/Carmel garden clubs. Their program was *Floral Arranging* by Kent floral designer Leah Kennel. The December Christmas Party was held at member Rose Runco's lovely home. As usual, there was way too much food to tempt us all, but we rose to the occasion! We held a "Wreath Making" workshop on December 5<sup>th</sup>, and also made wreaths for Veterans. Our Annual Luncheon, where every member brings a dish, was in January. We skipped the month of February for our meeting. (Brrr - too cold – never know if it's going to snow.)

**New Horizons GC** October's program "Succulent Planter Workshop" by Pam Wright was outstanding. Pam's knowledge, thoroughness and abundance of supplies let participants create an original succulent design themselves that may be displayed for weeks to come. Several succulent planters will be available for sale at the upcoming Fall fundraiser on November 16<sup>th</sup> for \$25.

## Section 2A: Chris Wolff, Chair

### Briarcliff Manor GC

**Chappaqua GC** will host a holiday luncheon for its members in December.

### Section 2B, Mary Bailly, Chair

#### Green Acres GC

**Hopp Ground GC** Winter can be so fickle and many times over the past several years we've been forced to cancel our January meeting due to bad weather. So an executive decision was made to no longer have a January meeting with the fringe benefit being that our members get to rest up from the hectic holiday season.

**Pound Ridge GC** In Oct. Tony Palmieri AFID gave a wildly popular presentation on floral designs for the flower show. Many photos were taken of his very creative designs which were auctioned off after the meeting. In Nov we have a senior outreach project followed by a luncheon at a members home. In Dec we have our annual holidays greens workshop in which we make swags to decorate the street signs in town. This is followed by our annual holiday luncheon.

## Section 3: Yvonne Avant, Chair

**Ardley GC** In October the Ardsley GC enjoyed Chef Rob Handel. His topic was "Rethinking Garden Weeds – Nuisance to Nourishment". Tastings were brought to nibble on. A field trip to the Untermyer Park was also on the agenda in October. November was busy with our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual fundraiser, November 5<sup>th</sup>, that benefits village programs (a great success) and Elly Akhavan, program "Floral Designs for the Holiday Season" was on the 14<sup>th</sup>. We finished out November decorating holiday wreaths and swags for the village and Ardsley Community Center. The Ardsley GC Pollinator garden is now open to the public at the Ardsley Library.

**Garden Club of Dobbs Ferry** In October we had a tour of Chihuly in the Conservatory at the New York Botanical Garden by one of our members. At our November meeting, our lecturer was Arnie Friedman, master gardener, who spoke on landscape design. In December we celebrated the holidays with our wreath workshop, created packages of cookies for Meals on Wheels and had lunch at one of our local restaurants.

**Little Gardens of Tarrytown** October started with members actively engaged in preparations for our yearly tag sale-fundraiser which was another very successful event. Following in October, member Monique Kozlowski invited members to her home to view and explain the garden she and her family designed and built over the summer featuring a small wall filled with vegetable plantings along with perennials and

annuals. It was very interesting hearing the details of such a task. Later in the month several members continued with the ongoing maintenance of our Native Plant Garden and milkweed garden in Neperan Park getting ready for winter. Some of the grasses were left tall for the birds, insects and winter interest. November included a crafts night making bows and pics for our wreaths and poinsettias, and blue ribbons for Phelps Hospice. A wreath was also made and presented for Veterans Day festivities. In early December members decorated wreaths for the Veterans at Montrose and various locations in Tarrytown. Poinsettia plants were also prepped with ribbons and taken to Phelps Hospice for the patients in hospice care. Trimming the holiday tree at Phelps Hospital is always special and looked bright and cheerful after members finished decorating. The busy month ended with our festive annual Holiday Party for members and guests at the home of Valerie Kopelman and enjoyed by all!

**Parkway Gardens/Parkway Homes (PGPH) GC** Since our successful presentation of our annual Fall Flower Show, members have been busy preparing for our two major community projects. Club members will design and donate centerpieces to the Theodore D. Young Community Center in Greenburgh for their Annual Senior Thanksgiving Lunch on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Shortly thereafter we will hold our annual Holiday Design Workshop for the residents at The Knolls, a rehab/nursing facility in Valhalla. Our Club donates all containers and plant material and assist the residents in creating beautiful holiday arrangements for their rooms. Following this event, the PGPH Garden Club will recess for the winter months of December 2017 thru February 2018.

**White Plains GC** The November meeting was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with Lorraine Hart giving a lecture and demonstration on making holiday decorations. As we have done in prior years, donations were made to the local shelter rather than exchanging gifts among ourselves for the holiday. Our December meeting was limited to our Christmas party. No formal meetings scheduled for January and February.

#### **Section 4: Suzanne Clephane, Chair**

**Boulder Ledge GC** In October, we toured the Brooklyn Grange a 2.5 acre organic rooftop garden in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. We Learned so much about urban gardening, sustainability and community supported agriculture. Also, in October, we met at Bicentennial Park for fall clean-up. We were fortunate to have Ani Adishan, the landscape designer who helped us with the original plan, join with any suggestions in getting it ready for winter. The park has a long history in the Bronxville community and is a popular spot for Village residents to sit and visit. Our November meeting was held at a member's home, at which time we decorated wreaths for veterans. Our Holiday Lunch was held on December 6. Our Speaker, Meg Critchell, of Meg Critchell Events based in Greenwich Ct. was enjoyed by all. This is always a joyous occasion to usher in the Holiday Season!

**Ceres GC** kicked off the fall season with their annual fundraiser,



"Pumpkins Plus...other Surprises" at the Rye Farmers' Market. Shoppers purchased many beautiful autumn floral arrangements and other handmade items created by our members. Proceeds support our many projects, such as the seasonal hanging baskets

throughout downtown Rye and the "Blue Star Memorial" at City Hall, a tribute to the Armed Forces of America, past, present and future. At our October meeting, members made

Halloween and Fall inspired tray favors for Meals on Wheels, an activity which we will continue at other holidays throughout the year. We look forward to our November meeting, when members will enjoy creating their own project at our Kokedama workshop. Our holiday "pot luck" luncheon in December always allows us to sample and enjoy our members' favorite recipes, as we make holiday tray favors for Meals on Wheels. At our January meeting, we eagerly anticipate our workshop on floral arrangements presented by Laura, owner of Blooming Buds.

#### **GC of Larchmont**

#### **Section 5: Mary Bowles & Yolanda Gorman, Chairs** **Baychester GC**

**Luther Burbank GC** The Luther Burbank garden club had a very successful Membership Drive. We surpassed our goal of four new members and added 5! Welcome all. Our Annual Therapy meeting and pot luck was a success. Our club wrapped 200 gifts for local hospitals. We will be decorating wreaths in November. Clubs are invited to our annual Rumsey Road Tree Lighting December 6, 7:00 (south end Rumsey Rd) with reception at the Park Hill Racquet Club. Join the community for dancing, singing, hot cocoa, and cookies. Happy Holidays! Corinna

**Morsemere GC** In October the members were treated to a tour of the spectacular Untermyer Gardens in Yonkers. The fall colors and magnificent views of the Hudson River added to the splendor of the day. Following the tour the members enjoyed a delicious luncheon at Gianna's Restaurant. At the November meeting, hosted by Carol Herrion and Marie Peluso, at Philipse Manor Hall in Yonkers, the members created Christmas tray favors for the patients at Rosary Hill. Members also joined other garden clubs at the 9th District Luncheon and Designer's Holiday Showcase at the Mt. Kisco Country Club. After Thanksgiving, in keeping with the long standing tradition of the club, members decorated Philipse Manor Hall in Yonkers for Christmas. December was a busy month for the club consisting of a most enjoyable Holiday Luncheon at Zuppa's Restaurant in Yonkers. Wreaths were decorated for the 9th District Veterans Wreath collection and delivered to Muscoot Farm. At the club's meeting a Boutique Auction of donated new and gently used items and a delicious luncheon was held at the beautifully decorated "Christmas" home of Beth Fitzgerald.

**GC of City Island** Our October meeting featured the return of Daryl Beyers, author and landscape design instructor at the New York Botanical Garden, for Garden Design, Part II. He presented examples of the design elements harmony, scale mass, balance and design intention. At our November meeting, Trevor Hall, Certified Arborist with Bartlett Tree Experts, presented on keeping trees healthy. At our December meeting representatives of the NYC Composting Program explained the new program to both club members and the public. All learned how kitchen scraps and garden trimmings become compost creating "black gold" and how they could participate. The project's goal is to improve the soil by harnessing the power of compost in our neighborhoods. The finished compost is distributed to community greening groups and through volunteer powered stewardship events. This is a step in New York City's program to eliminate waste. The club's containers along City Island Avenue have been refurbished by club members and the Helping Hands auxiliary with fall pansies followed by winter foliage, pinecones and other found natural materials. The Avenue's local businesses along with club members shared the task of caring for the planter boxes. Members decorated holiday wreaths for local places of worship, the NYC Public Library and American Legion to name a few. Our members-only holiday luncheon was a great time to get together and share some holiday fun.

#### **Manor Club of Pelham Garden Section**



**Garden Club of New Rochelle** Blue Star Byway Memorial was planted with ornamental cabbages for Veterans Day. Our November project will be decorating 20 wreaths for local charities and organizations (Children's

Library, Hope Kitchen and Hope Pantry, Humane Society, etc., plus Montrose Veterans Hospital). For the December meeting, members donate holiday baskets filled with gifts and greenery that are not only useful but also bring joy to hospice and other homebound patients under the care of the Visiting Nurse Service of Westchester. And for club holiday cheer and celebration, there is a Chinese Auction fundraiser. No meeting in January.



Students from Flower Show School I – October 2017  
at First Congregational Church at Chappaqua

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## DECEMBER

- 4** **9<sup>th</sup> District Board Meeting-Wreath Drop-off Muscoot** 10 am
- 4** **GC Larchmont** Noon  
 Larchmont Avenue Church Traditional holiday workshop starts with a soup luncheon. After a brief meeting, Pat McNelis will assist us in making swags which can be hung on a door or used as a centerpiece. Reservations essential

## JANUARY

- 17** **Chappaqua Garden Club** 12:30 pm  
 First Congregational Church "Inspirations from Nature's Design" with Missy Fabel. The learning garden at the Horace Greeley Native Plant Learning Center at Horace Greeley High School combines the principles of ecological design and plant community function to create a dynamic mosaic of native plants that naturally grow together. All are welcome to the meeting and lecture.
- 22** **General Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> District** 10 am  
 TBD
- 29** **New Horizons GC** 10 am  
 Lasdon Driftwood Succulent Arrangement Workshop: You supply the driftwood – New Horizons the succulents! (driftwood base ltd. to 15" in length) Info & registration Call Auralie at 914.739.3469 **FEE \$20**

## FEBRUARY

- 5** **GC Larchmont** 1:00 pm  
 Senior Maggie Bridge from Sam Bridge Nursery, will demonstrate "How to plant your indoor herb garden".
- 5** **Judges Council Meeting - Lasdon** 10 am
- 12** **9<sup>th</sup> District Board Meeting - Lasdon** 10 am
- 13** **Hopp Ground GC**  
 "Designing with Succulents" with Xenia D'Ambrosi from Sweet Earth Co. will present a lecture and demonstration
- 19** **New Horizons GC** 10-12 pm  
 Lasdon Petite Workshop with Leah Waybright-Kennell Fee: \$20
- 24** **Ardley GC** 4-7 pm  
 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Irish Afternoon Dinner (Corned Beef, Cabbage & Bagpipers)  
 Reservations: Mary 914.693.4328

## MARCH

- 5** **GC of Larchmont** 1:00 pm  
 Larchmont Ave. Church Pam Wright of Terraria NY "How to assemble your Terrarium" presentation. Bring your own terrarium. Reservations essential
- 14** **Briarcliff Manor GC** 1:00 pm  
 "Unfussy Native Plants for your Garden" with Michael Hagen, NYBG's Curator of the Native Plant Garden and Rock Garden. A slide show presentation
- 19** **New Horizons GC** 10-12 pm  
 TBD Table Design Workshop Flower Show School II Prep Fee: \$20
- 20** **Hopp Ground GC**  
 Membership Open Meeting : Ellen Ecker Ogden Special guest speaker and author presenting a program on "The Kitchen Garden."

- 27-29** **Flower Show School II** **Contact: Chris Wolff @ 914.923.3238**  
 First Congregational Church Chappaqua