



NOVEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

(simplified copy | for complete newsletter see our emailed version)

UPCOMING EVENTS



November Meeting & Program: The Inspired Landscape with Susan Cohen

Wednesday
November 2, 2016
9:30 am coffee
10:00 am program
New Canaan Nature
Center



Flower Arranging 101 Workshop

Tuesday
November 8, 2016
10:00 - noon
Waveny House

A Letter From Our Presidents

What a challenging and crazy fall it has been. It is surprising how good New Canaan looks despite the lack of rain. The hanging baskets (all 207) were taken down October 11 and none too soon with the area ban on watering. We don't like to wish for rain and snow, but we need it.

The Welcome Back Luncheon and Program *Heaven is a Garden* with author Jan Johnsen was a resounding success! Jan was a terrific speaker with great analytical command of her subject. Her slides were lovely, and she gave a new perspective on gardens. Her approach was inspiring and totally engaged the audience. Jan generously donated a copy of her book *Heaven is a Garden* to our lending library.

Thanks to Gloria Simon for arranging Woodway to have the black-out curtains made, and for organizing and selecting the delicious food for our luncheon. Thank you also to Karen Mactas and Gloria for coordinating the reservations. We had about 78 people attend.

**Annual
Holiday
Wreaths and
Greens
Workshop**

Thursday
December 1, 2016
8:30 am - noon
NC Nature Center



**January
Meeting &
Program:
Waveny Park
Conservancy: For
New Canaan
Forever**

Wednesday
January 4, 2017
9:30 am coffee
10:00 am program
New Canaan Nature
Center

Our next program, *The Inspired Garden* by author Susan Cohen, is on Wednesday, November 2 at the Nature Center. Susan is an award-winning landscape architect, teacher, and author who will feature the creative work of 21 landscape architects from around the world, highlighting their creativity and tracing it through the stunning landscapes they have created. *The Inspired Garden* won't be televised so this is your only chance to see this program. Thank you to our wonderful program team of Margit Mills, Carol Seldin, and Gerda Smith for bringing us such excellent programs. A special thank you to Lisa Ferrante, Betsy Sammarco, and Carol Seldin for their help with publicity.

Flower Arranging 101 is being offered again on November 8. Some people may call it Election Day, but we'll just call it Flower Arranging 101 Day! It was so popular and so much fun last year that we convinced Susan Bergen and Shirley Stancik to lead it again. It will help give you the floral tips and confidence to make your own flower arrangements for your home or to make arrangements for Waveny Care Center. Give yourself something to look forward to and sign up for Flower Arranging 101!

Angie Brenninkmeyer and Karen Hanson reported that last year's Annual Appeal had raised \$50,300, an eight percent increase from the previous year. Bravo!

We now have a membership of 149! Terrific work by our membership team - Becky Barlow, Valerie Monaghan, and Susan Smith. Hope you all have received your wonderful new directory that Valerie meticulously created. Faith Kerchoff has designed a green and white NCBL car magnet with our emblem as a gift for every member. They will be available at the November 2 meeting. Wear it proudly on your car!

We have a lot to be thankful for, including any rain we get. Let's all concentrate on the positives in our lives and be grateful for the bounty of nature that surrounds us.

Sara and Faith



presents our November program:

Susan Cohen

**Finding Design:
Landscape
Architects and the
Creative Process**

Wednesday

November 2, 2016

9:30 am coffee

10:00 am presentation

NC Nature Center



Our November program features acclaimed Greenwich-based landscape architect, Susan Cohen. Susan is known for her award-winning simple and elegant designs in harmony with the character of each landscaped site. She will present how some of the world's most successful landscape architects find inspiration for their designs in art, nature, culture, myth and personal history.

Susan's book *The Inspired Landscape* will be available for purchase and signing.
This New Canaan Beautification League program is open to the public.



Susan and Shirley from last year's workshop.

FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP 101

Tuesday
November 8, 2016
10 am - noon
Waveny House

Forget about politics for a couple of hours this day and join NCBL members **Susan Bergen** and **Shirley Stancik** for another hands-on workshop to create your own flower arrangement.

Our first class was so well received that we had to do it again! Come and learn the basics of floral design. Get tips on where to buy flowers and floral supplies, and how to precondition your blossoms. **Please bring your own clippers and a selection of flowers you wish to use.** Glass vases and additional flowers and fillers will also be provided.

Please R.S.V.P. by November 4 to Shirley Stancik:
sjsjds@optonline.net or 203-966-5377

Hurry, as space is limited!





Wreaths and Greens Workshop

8:30 am

Thursday, December 1, 2016

New Canaan Nature Center

Come and join us on Thursday, December 1, at 8:30 am at the NC Nature Center to make the wreaths that decorate many of our public buildings in town. We will be working in partnership with the Garden Club, an annual tradition and great opportunity to mingle with our friends in New Canaan's other garden group. No experience is necessary as we will show you what to do. It involves attaching fresh cut greenery to wooden frames with staples. Bring hand pruners if you have them. Please let Liz Orteig know if you will be coming!

Liz Orteig

lorteig@gmail.com

203-966-2359



Welcome New Member!



Join us in giving a big hello to our newest member!

Robin Bates-Mason

Waveny Care Center Flower Arranging New Dates Available!

This is a wonderful opportunity to brighten the day for Waveny Care residents. Do it alone or with a friend. You are asked to make nine arrangements for the dining room tables and once signed up, the instructions and the reimbursement form will be sent to you. This is a rewarding experience, and you will be using the floral room at the center to create your arrangements.

We need volunteers for the following blank dates in November and December:

November 7

November 14 : Joan Hayenga and Eva Wingate

November 21

November 28

December 5 : Karen Mactas and Robin Miner

December 12 : Cindy Bamatter and Betsy Sammarco

Call or email **Bianca Romano** if you have questions or want to volunteer for any of these open dates.



Lee Garden

A lot of clean up, weed pulling, pruning, stick gathering, and plant moving has been happening at our favorite peaceful place. Come for a visit! If you'd like to help out in this beautiful woodland, give one of our chairs a call or email. There are all sorts of jobs (large and small) to be done. This garden can teach you so much about native plants and gardening in our area. And, as we often say ... "Lee Garden grows on you!"

Autumn is a wonderful time to see berries forming in the garden. Currently showing off its pretty red berries is the common winterberry in the wetland by the bridge. This shrub becomes even more striking when the leaves fall, as the berries remain on the branches through most of the winter. The berries provide food for birds, but is poisonous to humans.



Ilex verticillata (common winterberry)

Another plant noted for its berries, and found at Lee Garden, is white baneberry. This native plant is inconspicuous in spring or summer when its airy white flowers are in bloom. In the fall, its berries ripen from green to white with a black dot in the center, giving it its common name "doll's eyes". These berries are also eaten by birds, but are poisonous to humans.



Actaea pachypoda
(white baneberry
or doll's eyes)

Lee Garden chairs: [Yvonne Hunkeler](#), [Faith Kerchoff](#), [Kathy Lapolla](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

WATER CONSERVATION

We've been reading and hearing in the news and hearing from Aquarion Water Company that we are in very serious drought conditions in New Canaan. You can read Aquarion's statements and reports on the issue [HERE](#).

We have collected our own hints on water conservation. Here's what we've come up with:

- Collect rain water in buckets and use the water for your indoor or outdoor plants.
- When showering, turn the water off while you soap up.
- Turn the water off while brushing your teeth.
- Many newer dishwashers do not require pre-rinsing.
- Fix leaky faucets.



NYBG/125

educational classes at:



New Canaan
Nature Center

The New York Botanical Garden is holding classes at the New Canaan Nature Center! How convenient it is to get top notch training from some of the best instructors in the country right in our own backyard!

Upcoming classes are listed below. To read the class descriptions and to register, click [HERE](#).

Basic Pruning : Saturday, November 12, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Perennial Plant Combinations : Thursday, February 2, 10:30 am - 3:00 pm

Landscape Design : Thursday, May 9, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm