



JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

Read the full newsletter on our website

<https://www.newcanaanbeautification.org/newsletters>

Dear Members,

Now that the holiday decorations have been put away and "thank you" notes been written, we can attack all those projects we save up for those wintery January days and begin to think of our spring gardens.

The Beautification League has two opportunities to brighten up the month - our program on January 9, "Impressionists in The Garden: From Vista To Vase", and a hands-on workshop at Copia Home and Garden on Tuesday, January 29. See below for the details on these events.

We want to give a big "thanks" to Karen Mactas who organized our shopping event at *Against The Grain* on December 13. The owner, Chris Meier, agreed to donate 10% of all sales made between 4:00 and 8:00 pm that evening. We had a nice turnout of members who enjoyed wine, hors d'oeuvres, and gift buying, and we received a check for \$150. Again, nice job, Karen!

In January we will also gear up for our Annual Appeal. We ask each member to address envelopes and will have bags of them available at the January meeting. Thanks to Rose Bauersfeld's superb organization and the stuffing party at Lapham (which was lots of fun), the envelopes are ready to go and only need addressing. We need the participation of all our members to make our 2019 Appeal as successful as last year's appeal. Thanks in advance for your help.

The date for the celebration of the 80th anniversary of the founding of the New Canaan Beautification League is Sunday, April 28. We will have a meeting in January to form committees for the event. Please contact us if you would like to help.

Hope to see you at the January 9th meeting.

Barbara and Karen

UPCOMING EVENTS



January Program Impressionists in the Garden: From Vista to Vase with ArtScapades co-founder Robin Hoffman

Wednesday January 9, 2019

coffee: 9:30 am | program: 10:00 am

New Canaan Nature Center



Workshop: Create a Living Centerpiece

with Jenn Cipriano

Tuesday

January 29, 2019

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Copia Home and Garden



February Program Spring Wildflowers of the Northeast: A Natural History with Carol Gracie

Wednesday

February 6, 2019

coffee: 9:30 am | program: 10:00 am

New Canaan Nature Center



March Program The Gardener:

Enjoy the award-winning film about Les Quatre Vents

Wednesday

March 6, 2019

coffee: 9:30 am | program: 10:00 am

New Canaan Nature Center



April Program The New Shade Garden: Creating a Lush Oasis in the Age of Climate Change with Ken Druse Wednesday

April 3, 2019

9:30 - 11:30 am

New Canaan Library

Joint meeting with NCGC



New Canaan Beautification League presents:

ArtScapades

Bringing you to galleries . . . or galleries to you.

**Impressionists in the Garden:
From Vista to Vase**

**Wednesday January 9, 2019
coffee: 9:30 am | program: 10:00 am
New Canaan Nature Center**



Celia Thaxter's Garden
Childe Hassam, 1890



Red Poppies and Daisies
Vincent van Gogh, 1890

Flowers are made for Impressionism. When we think of the Impressionists, images of vibrant landscapes and beautiful bouquets come to mind.

In a special lecture ArtScapades has developed for gardening groups, Robin Hoffman will discuss how gardens and flowers played an important role in the periods of French Impressionism, Post-Impressionism, as well as American Impressionism.

ArtScapades will present works by Claude Monet, Auguste Renoir, Vincent van Gogh, and Childe Hassam, paying special attention to the flowers they painted.



Robin Hoffman and Jodi Stiffelman, of ArtScapades, began teaching art appreciation in 1998. They have presented at libraries and museums in Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, and Florida, and are delighted to have been asked to speak at the New Canaan Beautification League.

**Attend a hands-on workshop, meet other members, and
make something beautiful this winter:**

special workshop for NCBL members:
**Create a Living Centerpiece
with Jenn Cipriano of Copia**

Tuesday, January 29, 2019, 7 - 9pm

Copia Home and Garden

475 Smith Ridge Road, South Salem, NY

RSVP to: beautificationleague@gmail.com (space is limited)

send \$65 workshop fee to: Betsy Sammarco, 54 Toquam Road, New Canaan, CT

Get together with your
NCBL friends and make
new friends at this
hands-on workshop!



Create a living centerpiece
to brighten your home
during the winter months!

Light refreshments provided!

NCBL will be celebrating 80 years of service in 2019! Stay tuned for more
information on how you can celebrate with us!



Save the Date

April 28, 2019

Celebrating
80 years!



February Program

Brighten up your winter days and come to a presentation on: "Spring Flowers of the Northeast: A Natural History" by Carol Gracie. Carol will talk about these ephemeral beauties which will soon make their appearance in our landscapes.

Brighten up your winter days:

Spring Flowers of the Northeast: A Natural History with Carol Gracie



**Wednesday
February 6, 2019
coffee: 9:30 am
program: 10:00 am
New Canaan Nature Center**



Acclaimed naturalist, photographer, and author, Carol Gracie, spotlights the northeast's most spectacular native spring wildflowers: their references in history, literature, and art, and their medicinal uses.

Books by Carol Gracie will be available for purchase.

ANNUAL APPEAL



The Annual Appeal Committee has been busy preparing for the 2019 Annual Appeal. We plan to send over 6,800 envelopes to local residences, and it couldn't be done without your assistance. Due to the fabulous turnout of our members, the Stuffing Party was a huge success. The next phase is "bag" distribution for addressing envelopes. **We will be distributing volunteer bags at the next NCBL meeting on Wednesday, January 9 at the New Canaan Nature Center.** All bags can be returned at the following NCBL meeting on February 6. Volunteers will be emailed a reminder on Friday, January 4. If you need to make other arrangements for pick up or drop off, you can respond to the email at that time. A big thank you to all the volunteers in the past and future for making the Annual Appeal a success!

Any questions can be emailed to Rose Bauersfeld at rbauersfeld@yahoo.com

HOSPITALITY HELP NEEDED



The hospitality committee needs volunteers to bring food for the February and March program meetings. Please email Cindy Still at stillcj@aim.com if you can help and indicate which month and what you can bring. Suggestions include coffee cake, fruit, deviled eggs, cheese plate, donuts, muffins, egg dishes or other items. Home made and store bought are welcome!

South Avenue / Gerdes Road Triangle

Joan Hayenga, Brian Hollstein, David and Sara Hunt, Faith Kerchoff, and Kathy Lapolla planted the South Avenue/Gerdes Road triangle with Red Gnome dogwood (*Cornus alba* 'Regnzam'). These shrubs will grow to about 4 to 4-1/2 feet tall and will bloom late spring with white flowers on bright red branches. What a lovely choice to plant on this triangle that already sports a bright red "Welcome to New Canaan" sign!



Lee Garden Report

Winter is a great time for taking walks at Lee Garden. If you happen to travel our woodland paths, feel free to pick up fallen sticks and remove the dead leaves from the azaleas. Watch for group walks in early spring as the ephemerals start to come alive.

On a recent walk, one of our members spotted a lot of activity near the bridge. A flock of robins were eating the winterberry fruit from the shrubs in that area.



Brightening the Days at Waveny Care Center

Our league brightened the days of the Waveny Care Center residents with dining room table arrangements in December. This completes our service commitment until June. Reflecting on the past months of service, Chairperson, Betsy Bilus writes:

I want to thank all the volunteers who shared their flower-arranging talents with the Waveny Care Center to make beautiful centerpieces for the dining room and other areas of the center. Your efforts were warmly appreciated by the residents and staff. What a lovely way to beautify our New Canaan community! Thank you to those who helped this past season: Eileen Boehme, Judy Gilroy, Faith Kerchoff, Liz Kunz, Megan Morales, Liz Orteig, Amy Reid, Bianca Romano, Betsy Sammarco, Margo Sisson, Anne Tropeano, and Susan Weatherley.

We will have a few more chances to participate in this fun and gratifying service project in June. I will circulate a sign-up sheet in May.

Thanks to all! Betsy Bilus





Welcome Our New Member!

Karen Johnson

Shopping at *Against the Grain*

Members and residents came to a shopping event at *Against the Grain* and made some great purchases for the holidays. There were unique bowls, cutting boards, bird houses, games and gadgets, and so much more. It was a wonderful time and we are so appreciative of *Against the Grain* for donating a portion of their sales to NCBL that evening.



Cindy Bamatter, Carolin Buttrick, Carol Seldin, Faith Kerchoff, Karen Sneirson, Chris Meier (*Against the Grain* owner), and Lisa Ferrante.