



NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER (abbreviated version)

A Letter From Our Presidents

Even though the temperatures have been saying "summer", the calendar tells us it really is autumn and time to prepare for winter. Liz Orteig and her Traveling Trowels are still busy transplanting and tidying up, Eileen Boehme and Ann Brookshire have chosen the flowers for the hanging baskets for next spring, and Kathy, Faith, Yvonne, and their volunteers continue their work in Lee Garden. Our members are still busy.

This month, Ty Tan and Liz Mallozzi will conduct a bow-making workshop on November 6 in preparation for the Holiday Greens Workshop on November 29. (The information for these events can be found in this newsletter.)

Thanks to the Program Committee for another interesting speaker on November 1. Between the deer and drought we are all more aware of the necessity to be mindful of the environment and how we can become eco-friendly. Karen Bussolini's talk on the first addressed these issues well.

After Peggy Dannemann's many, many hours of work, progress is being made on the Lee House project. Hopefully we will have this new work space completed by next summer, and our Lee Garden volunteers will have much nicer working conditions.

As we approach the upcoming holiday season, we hope that you will be able to enjoy time with family and friends. Let's all count our blessings as we celebrate Thanksgiving.

Happy Thanksgiving! Barbara and Karen

UPCOMING EVENTS



Holiday Bows Workshop

Monday, November 6, 2017

2:00 - 4:00 pm

Waveny House Dining Room



Holiday Greens Workshop

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

8:30 am - noon

NC Nature Center



January Program Our Amazing Stone Walls: What They are and Where They are Going with Sylvia Reiss

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

9:30 - 11:30 am

NC Nature Center



Victorian Tea

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Waveny House



Welcome New Member!

Kit Devereaux

HOLIDAY BOWS WORKSHOP

Monday, November 6, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

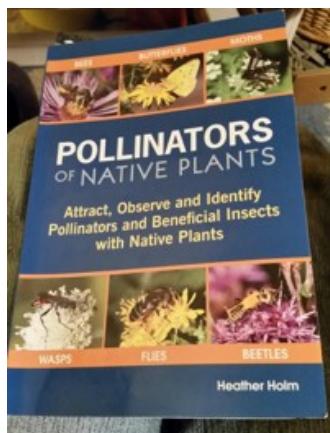
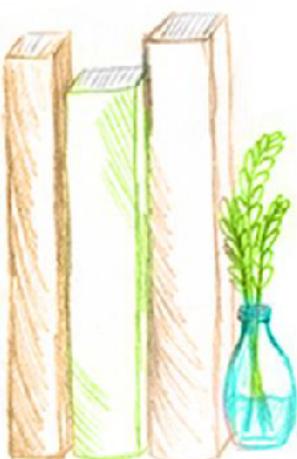
Waveny House Dining Room



Come help us make bows for the wreaths that will decorate our town for the holidays!

Ty Tan and Liz Mallozzi
Holiday Greens Chairs

Addition to Our NCBL Library!



Our NCBL library was gifted a new book by member Susan Bergen. "POLLINATORS of Native Plants: Attract, Observe and Identify Pollinators and Beneficial Insects with Native Plants" is written and photographed by Heather Holm.

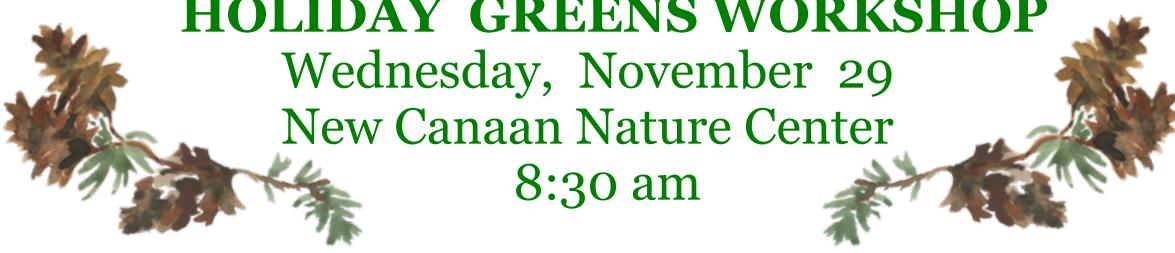
Susan finds this to be her go to book in working with native landscapes and gardens. To borrow this book, contact [Faith Kerchoff](#).

HOLIDAY GREENS WORKSHOP

Wednesday, November 29

New Canaan Nature Center

8:30 am



Come and join us on Wednesday, November 29, at 8:30 am at the New Canaan 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 and gloves. There is no reason to call in advance. You can just show up!

When finished with the wreaths, and weather permitting, we will be then going to the Town Hall to add evergreens to the large rounds planters by the new entrance and rectangular planters by the old front door. Dress for the weather if you can help us with this part of the holiday decorating.

Ty Tan and Liz Mallozzi
Holiday Greens Chairs



GOT GREENS?

Are you pruning your evergreens this year? If so, bring your branches to the Holiday Greens Workshop. They will be used to create the wreaths that will decorate our town!

Waveny Care Center Arranging:



The following is our upcoming flower arranging schedule for December:

December 4: Judy Gilroy
December 11: Faith Kerchoff
December 26: help needed

Thank you to all who have volunteered for this worthwhile cause!



Flower Arrangements Wanted for Program Dates!

We are looking for volunteers to make arrangements for our refreshment table for our program meetings this year. Contact Bianca Romano if interested. You will be able to use budgeted money for this activity.

Future Program Dates arrangements are needed:

January 10, 2018 : Joan Hayenga
March 7, 2018 : arrangement needed
April 4, 2018 : arrangement needed
May 2, 2018 : arrangement needed
June 6, 2018 : arrangement needed



Help make our program meetings beautiful and fun, as our arrangements are raffled off in our "Members' Raffle" following each program.

Meet our Presidents!

We welcome our Co-Presidents, Barbara Beall and Karen Sneirson as the leaders of our Board of Directors this year. We asked both of them some questions, to get to know them better.

Here are the answers from Barbara Beall:

1. **Where are you from and where have you lived?** I grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area and lived there until 1977 when my husband Jim and I moved with our two young sons to Paris for 3 years. We then moved to New Canaan and have lived here for 38 years.
2. **Tell us a little about your family.** Our son, Kit, lives in Boulder with his wife and 3 daughters. Our younger son, Jeff, lives in San Francisco. We would love to have them closer, but at least they live in fun places to visit.
3. **How long have you been a member of the Beautification League?** I have been a member of the Beautification League since the early 1990's. I would have joined sooner, but thought that my garden would have to meet strict standards. After being assured that this was not a requirement, I was delighted to become a member. I really enjoy being a part of an organization whose members are dedicated to making New Canaan such a wonderful place to live. I am constantly impressed with the time and energy our members put into our mission.
4. **What is your favorite time of year in New Canaan?** Coming from a climate where the change of seasons is not as dramatic, I love spring, summer and fall here. Winter would be ok if the snow didn't fall on streets and sidewalks. I still love living in New England after all these years!
5. **If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?** I am always torn between visiting favorite places and discovering new ones. Visiting Morocco is on my wish list, and we never pass up an opportunity to spend time in France.

OCTOBER HAPPENINGS

Autumn Luncheon

A wonderful time was had by all at our Autumn Luncheon. We had a record number of attendees! Our speaker, Sara Cedar Miller was quite the expert on Central Park.



Just a few of the many interesting facts we heard from Sara include:

- Central Park is 100% man-made.
- The design of Central Park was a result of a worldwide competition and won by designers Olmsted and Vaux.
- It was a grass roots push spearheaded by Betsy Rogers in 1980 to restore Central Park to its original vision and design.
- The largest standing group of American Elms in the world exists in Central Park.
- There are 280 species of birds, many of them migratory, to be found in Central Park.
- A secret cave exists in Central Park.
- The Central Park Conservancy leads tours of the park.



Woodland Magic at Lee Memorial Garden

Much has been done at our Chichester Road woodland garden this October. The area near the street has been cleaned and weeded. Lee Garden fans have cleared the lovely boulders from ivy and new azaleas and rhodendron have been planted. Four *Helleborus 'Pink Frost'* were planted in the front garden by the new birdbath.



Helleborus 'Pink Frost' will be a stunning early bloomer and has been planted in the perfect spot, next to the front garden birdbath. *photo: WhiteFlowerFarm.com*

Lee Memorial Garden is beautiful in the fall. You can see nature spreading its seeds before going to sleep for the winter.



These unique seed pods can be found hanging from the branches of the many Carolina silverbell trees in Lee Memorial Garden.

photo taken @ Lee Memorial Garden

"Mums" the Word

Have you spotted the mums from the Lobsterfest that we have transplanted around town?



Dedication of the Silvermine-Fowler Preserve

The dedication of the Silvermine-Fowler preserve Saturday, Oct. 21, was a perfect warm fall day. Close to a hundred people came to celebrate and hear Jim Fowler regale the audience with stories and pleas to save nature for future generations. His family around him, added more thank yous and observations of growing up in the days of "Wild Kingdom".

All agreed that this preserve would not be possible without the efforts and negotiating talents of Chris Schipper, the New Canaan Community Foundation, the New Canaan Land Trust, the Trust for Public Land, and the Town of New Canaan.

Seeing so many young people, scouts and high schoolers help reinforce the fact that land stewardship needs to be taught to the next generation.



We can help the New Canaan Land Trust win \$10,000!

The video linked below, created by NCHS alum Connor deMayo, features footage from the NC Land Trust's Silvermine-Fowler Preserve, and is narrated by Jim Fowler (of Wild Kingdom fame). This video has been selected as a finalist - and the video that gets the most votes before November 17th will win the contest. If the film wins, Connor will be awarded \$2,000 and the New Canaan Land Trust will be awarded \$10,000!

It is super easy to vote - just click 'vote for this video' at the link https://www.landismy.org/content/land-my-legacy-0?from_page=super-gallery/2017&anchor=video-178



Reminder! Storm Drains lead to our ponds and rivers!

This is just a reminder that the storm drains on the streets outside your property empty into our local ponds and rivers. Help keep our waterways clean by keeping your storm drain clean from leaves and debris, and never dump trash or toxic chemicals in them. To read more about what our storm drains mean to our personal and environmental health, click our New Canaan government page online.

how do our gardens grow?

photos & stories from our members' gardens



This month, we heard from Faith Kerchoff who is showing off one of her autumn blooming plants. Her 'Sheffield' daisy was obtained as divisions from another member's plant. Faith must have planted it in just the right spot as it has already spread in her own garden.



Its pale pink flowers greet visitors to the front door and cars to the garage.

Chrysanthemum koreananum 'Sheffield' is a tough plant, tolerating drought, blooming through freezes, and spreading easily by both roots and by spreading seeds. Seedlings may produce flowers that have a different appearance, particularly in their color.



Pollinators love this plant, and Faith has had recent visits from bees and monarchs this fall.

A hardy and prolific perennial, this plant is easily shared among friends! Thank you Faith for letting us see this wonderful plant in your garden.

EVENTS OF INTEREST AROUND TOWN



WAVENY: NOW AND THEN

THROUGH DECEMBER 22

The New Canaan Historical Society presents an art show and sale celebrating the 50th anniversary of the town's purchase of the Lapham Lloyd estate.



New Canaan Nature Center

Eat, Drink & Learn Series

Wise Trees

**A lecture & book signing with
Diane Cook and Len Jenshel**

Sunday, December 3, 2017

4:00pm

New Canaan Nature Center 144

Oenoke Ridge

New Canaan, CT

\$20 Per Person

RSVP by November 30 /Wine and Hors d'Oeuvres will be served.

Sorry, no children at this event.