



OCTOBER 2018 ABBREVIATED NEWSLETTER

See the full newsletter on our website

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

Presidents' Letter

Hi Everyone!

The Lobsterfest is over--many thanks to all for your assistance--and it's officially autumn, the uniquely colorful season of New England. Do take a walk or ride to soak in the glory before getting bogged down with winter. All the rain we have endured supposedly bodes for a leafy rainbow this year.

You might begin with a visit to Lee Garden where a group of volunteers led by Faith Kerchoff, Yvonne Hunkeler, and Kathy Lapolla have planted and pruned all summer, and the garden looks great. The train station and the mail box drop-off area on Pine Street look well tended thanks to Liz Orteig and her Traveling Trowels.

Of course this means we have seasonal chores, including storing everything we used all summer! We hope you have better luck with wintering your dahlias when they are finished than yours truly. Send us your photos. And keep weeding!

Our dedicated Annual Appeal team will be starting soon. Many thanks to Rose Bauersfeld, Dody Whitehurst, Eva Wingate, Tonya Gwynn and Karen Hanson. We hope you can pitch in to help us raise the funds that enable us to do so much throughout the year.

Because both Waveny House and the Country Club of New Canaan are undergoing construction, some of our traditional events in 2019 will be held elsewhere. Be sure to check the newsletter and website to verify events and locations. Thank you Betsy Sammarco, editor-in-chief, and Lisa Ferrante, webmaster extraordinaire, for keeping us informed.

Don't hesitate at any time to contact us or anyone on the board. We're here to help!

Barbara and Karen

UPCOMING EVENTS

November Program

City Green: Public Gardens of New York with Jane Garmey

Wednesday

November 7, 2018

coffee: 09:30 am

program: 10:00 am

New Canaan Nature Center

Holiday Wreaths & Greens Workshop

Wednesday

November 28, 2018

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

New Canaan Nature Center

more info to come

January Program Impressionists in the Garden: From Vista to Vase

Wednesday

January 9, 2019

coffee: 09:30 am

program: 10:00 am

New Canaan Nature Center

more info to come



Welcome Our Newest Members!

Susu Hamady
Eniko Szatai



Robin Bates-Mason, Fanny Moran, and Libby Butterworth staffed our table at the Farmers Market on September 22.

November Program

Discover New York City's Secret Gardens



City Green:

Public Gardens of New York
with author Jane Garmey

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

coffee: 09:30 | program: 10:00

New Canaan Nature Center

This will be our third visit from renowned garden writer Jane Garmey. She is delighted to share her garden knowledge and experience with NCBL members and friends at our November meeting.

Jane explores not only the well-known, but the under-visited gardens of New York City, and details the vitality, variety, and beauty of the city's landscapes and the growing appreciation of how gardens enhance the quality of urban life.

Hospitality Volunteers Needed



Hospitality volunteers needed: we need 3-4 people to help with food items for our November 7 meeting!

If you can help, please email Cindy Still, stillcj@aim.com. Indicate if you can bring a sweet or savory to serve 10-12 people. Suggested items include; coffee cake, cheese plates, breakfast breads, muffins, fruit platter, deviled eggs, or similar items.

Purchased or home made items are welcome and please bring on serving platter. Thank you!

A Thank You from our Autumn Luncheon Chairman

Our 2018 Autumn Luncheon was a success! None of it could have been done without our chairman, Gloria Simon. Thank you again Gloria for a wonderful event. Photos and information from the luncheon will be posted in our November newsletter. In the meantime, here is a note of thanks from Gloria:

I want to thank everyone who helped make the October 4 Luncheon at Woodway Country Club so successful.

First, my appreciation to Lisa Ferrante, Robin-Bates Mason, and Betsy Sammarco who did such a great job publicizing the event. Thank you to Jacqueline Harmody for the magnificent flower arrangements at each table.

As always, Carol Seldin, Gerda Smith, Jolly Frank and Nancy Malling found us an outstanding speaker who wowed us with her knowledge about the history of the White House gardens.

And a personal word of praise to Libby Butterworth for aiding with the many tasks that helped the event run so smoothly.

For all of you who attended: your spirit and enthusiasm made the day a fun one to remember for us all.

-- Gloria Simon, Chairman, Autumn Luncheon

Fall is For Planting ... Bulbs!

There will be some bulb planting opportunities both at Lee Garden and at Town Hall. Watch for email blasts! Many hands will make for a blooming spring!



GOT PLANTS?

Are you dividing, pulling, digging your plants this fall?

If you are working on your own gardens this fall, we may be able to use the plants you are throwing away. Before tossing them, give our Civic Beautification chairs, or our Triangle chair an email or call to see if they can be used around town.

Civic Beautification: Faith Kerchoff or
Rob Carpenter
for Triangles contact: Kathy Lapolla

Waveny Care Center Flower Arranging

Thank you to the following members for volunteering in October and December:

October 15: Betsy Sammarco and Anne Tropeano

October 22: Liz Kunz

October 29: Bianca Romano and Eileen Boehme

December 10: Megan Morales

December 17: Judy Gilroy

December 24: Megan Morales

December 31: Liz Kunz

Betsy Bilus will be sending out our 2018-19 Guidelines along with a blank expense form and information on where to obtain flowers. Betsy is available to answer any questions that may arise.



Faith Kerchoff made the arrangements above and Liz Orteig made the arrangements left. Both of these were done in September.

Triangle Report

Our triangles all over town are looking happy and well cared for in spite of challenging weather this summer. Notice the spectacular elephant ear plants (*Colocasia*) Claude Colabella planted at the Oenoke and West Road triangle. The Collabella's planted elephant ear plants in two areas on the triangle. When a breeze blows through, or a car drives by, they sway gently as if waving to say hello.



There is a beautiful succession of plants at the Thrift Shop triangle: daffodils and grape hyacinth start the season, followed by yellow loosestrife (*Lysimachia punctata*) and evening primrose (*Oenothera*). The obedient plant (shown above and below) blooms late summer into fall. Liriope lines the edge of the area.



You may have noticed the spectacular black-eyed Susan plants on the Carter Street and Route 123 triangle, tended by Faith Kerchoff and Bianca Romano. They compliment the bright red color of the "Welcome to New Canaan" sign. Brian Hollstein, Joan Hayenga, and Sara Hunt decided to do a similar planting on their triangle (that also has the same red sign) at Gerdes Road and South Avenue.

Welcome new triangle volunteers: Jill Ernst, Fanny Moran, Deborah Rose, Simin Zendeherouh, Sarina Vetterli, and Judy Gilroy. Watch for a new plantings on County Club Road and Route 123, thanks to Sarina Vetterli. We currently care for 28 triangles. Approximately 17 have one volunteer, so there is always need for more help, and it's always fun to work with a partner.

The Town Hall in Fall

Our container plantings and landscaping along the Town Hall wall were full and colorful even in September.



The Terrace at Lee Garden

The terrace is done! We were very happy to have Stecks Nursery of Bethel as the best bid contractor for the new terrace. The terrace was made with pavers that look like bluestone and is porous to absorb the rain. It is from this terrace that George Lee wanted his garden to be seen, especially by his wife, Olive.



Lobsterfest Centerpieces

Traditionally, NCBL provides centerpieces for the Annual Rotary Club Lobsterfest. This year Betsy Bilus, with Ann Brookshire and Debera Prosek Simpson, decorated mums and ornamental kale for the tables. After the event, the plants were planted at God's Acre and the Town Hall by Kathy Lapolla and Tracy Phillips.



What to See In Lee Memorial Garden Now

Various critters inhabit our woodland garden on Chichester Road. Yvonne Hunkeler took this photo of a spotted salamander (left) that Faith found while digging around in the garden in September. Betsy Sammarco lifted a rock to find two redback salamanders (center).

Autumn is the time to see seed pods in the garden, and seed pods can be beautiful! Take a look at those from a *Cimicifuga*, hosta, and jack-in-the-pulpit below.

