



## MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER - Abbreviated Version

Dear Members,

April showers bring May flowers, and we are so ready!

First, a big shout out to all our new members. Contact any of us at any time with questions, suggestions, ideas. We would love to hear from you.

We have a lot going on: Our diggers, planters, weeders, planners, and others are hard at work all over town. Under Peggy Danneman's tutelage we are making enormous progress at the Lee Memorial Garden shed. Members are hearing praises from drivers by and it's not even finished. And the "grounds" folks there, under Faith Kerchoff, have managed an enormous cleanup for which we are so very grateful.

Annually anticipated, our baskets are ripening for the hanging and members will meet at Eileen Boheme's on May 18 to assemble them. Do drop in to help!

Our newest venture is the Farmers Market! We hope to be there on alternate weeks both sharing our expertise and showing our faces closeup, ie not bending over the earth. We would love to have more members join the camaraderie. Robin Bates-Mason is scheduling, so contact her if you are interested.

The recent joint program with the Garden Club was a great hit thanks to our program planners. Thank you Carol, Gerda and Jolley, and our great hospitality team. More programs are planned for the future, so keep reading.

Headed by Rose Bauersfeld, our Annual Appeal team has done a great job and according to their keeper of the funds, Karen Hanson, the donations are ahead of last year. This is what enables us to accomplish everything we do, so thank your friends and neighbors--and yourselves as well.

Grab your rakes! We are anticipating a fun-filled brigade as we march for the first time in the Memorial Day Parade. Robin Bates-Mason is spearheading this for us. Lets have a super turnout and strut our stuff.

If anyone has any ideas for a field trip -- of any sort, anywhere -- just let us know. Objects of Desire, Style for the Garden and Home is June 2 and 3 at the Wilton Historical Society.

Give your Mom a gift and bring her to Lee Memorial Garden on Mother's Day or visit on Azalea Festival day, May 20!

Barbara and Karen

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **May Program What Do I Do Now? Revitalizing a Mature Landscape with Nancy King**

Wednesday  
May 2, 2018  
9:30 am - 11:30 am  
NC Nature Center

### **Rake Decorating Meeting**

Wednesday May 9, 2018  
10:00 am  
Faith Kerchoff's house

### **Victorian Tea**

Wednesday  
May 16, 2018  
11:30 am - 2:00  
Waveny House

### **Hanging Baskets**

Friday  
May 18, 2018  
9:30 am until finished

### **Azalea Festival**

Sunday  
May 20, 2018  
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
**Lee Memorial Garden**  
**89 Chichester Road**

### **NCBL**

### **Marching in Memorial Day Parade**

Monday  
May 28, 2018

### **Annual Meeting Landscaping for Birds, Bees, & Other Critters with Patrick Comins, Executive Director of the CT Audubon Society**

Wednesday  
June 6, 2018  
9:30 am - 11:30 am  
NC Nature Center



Annual Meeting  
& Program  
June 6, 2018  
9:30 coffee  
10:00 meeting &  
program  
New Canaan  
Nature Center

Landscaping for  
Birds, Bees & Other  
Critters  
with Patrick Comins  
Executive Director  
of CT Audubon  
Society

Patrick will speak to us at our Annual Meeting on June 6 at 10 am on improving your backyard habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Patrick has two decades of experience in habitat restoration and design of habitats with birds and pollinators in mind. Adding native plants to your landscape design can bring your yard to life with colorful native birds, butterflies and other wildlife. Many of our butterflies, moths and other insects have adapted to specific native plants for larval food and nectar sources. Including native shrubs, trees and other plants in your yard can attract the beneficial insects and serve to provide seeds and fruit that our birds have become accustomed to seeking out throughout their annual life cycles. Native plants in your yard can make even the most suburban of neighborhoods a much more friendly place for nesting and migrating birds alike.

Certain trees, such as flowering dogwood, time their production of fruit to when bird species such as Scarlet Tanager and Wood Thrush are passing through in migration. Their bright red berries catch the bird's eye and provide the fat and other nutrients need for their long migratory journeys. Others, including American holly and winterberry, produce berries that are less palatable and linger through the winter to provide food in late winter when other food sources are lean.

Come learn how native trees, shrubs and other plants can help bring your yard to life!

# Slate for New Canaan Beautification League Board 2018 – 2019

(to be voted on at our June Annual Meeting)

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| President                    | Barbara Beall, Karen Sneirson  |
| Vice President               | Judy Bentley   |
| Secretary                    | Karen Mactas   |
| Treasurer                    | Rob Carpenter  |
| VP Civic Beautification      | Faith Kerchoff, Rob Carpenter  |
| Triangles                    | Kathy Lapolla, Brian Hollstein   |
| Traveling Trowels            | Liz Orteig   |
| Flower Arranging             | Meetings/Events – Jacqueline Harmody, Gay Clarke<br>Waveny Care Center - Betsy Bilus |
| Hanging Baskets              | Eileen Boehme, Bianca Romano, Barbara Wilson   |
| Holiday Decorations          | Ty Tan, Jill Ernst   |
| PR/Publicity                 | Robin Bates-Mason  |
| PR/Photos                    | Michele Sloan, Peter Hanson  |
| Webmaster                    | Lisa Ferrante  |
| Newsletter                   | Betsy Sammarco   |
| Programs                     | Carol Seldin, Jolley Frank, Nancy Malling  |
| Hospitality                  | Cindy Bamatter, Cindy Still, Robin Miner   |
| Hospitality (Special Events) | Gloria Simon   |
| Membership                   | Libby Butterworth, Sara Hunt, Margit Mills   |
| Annual Appeal                | Rose Bauersfeld, Dody Whitehurst, Tonya Gwynn, Eva Wingate                           |
| AA Treasurer                 | Karen Hanson   |
| Lee Garden                   | Faith Kerchoff, Kathy Lapolla, Yvonne Hunkeler                                       |
| Executive Counsel            | Faith Kerchoff, Sara Hunt  |
| Finance Chair                | Judy Bentley   |
| Nominating Committee         | Jill Ernst, Eva Wingate  |



## It's Hanging Baskets Time Again!

The prettiest hanging baskets in the town of New Canaan will be the ones YOU helped put together! Get ready to accept the compliments!

Please join us for the hanging baskets workshop on Friday, May 18 at 9:30 AM at Eileen Boehme's house, at 91 Fox Run Rd.

To get to Eileen's house (from East Avenue, CT 106) drive east about 1.5 miles. Turn left onto Valley Rd., turn right onto Mariomi Rd., and left onto Fox Run Rd. 91 Fox Run Rd. is on the right.

Bring wire cutters, gloves, pliers and a smile.

There will be coffee, goodies and a great opportunity for both old and new NCBL members to get to know, and help one another.

So, come when you can, leave when you must, and many, many thanks!

Ann Brookshire and Eileen Boehme Hanging Baskets Chairs



## We Are Marching in the Memorial Day Parade!



Everyone loves a parade, and we are going to march as the group who Beautifies New Canaan!

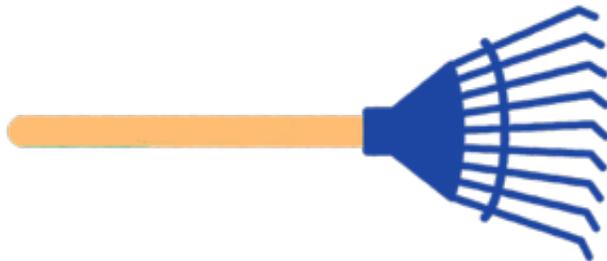
Let Robin Bates-Mason know if you'll be joining us by contacting her at [rbatesmason@gmail.com](mailto:rbatesmason@gmail.com) by May 3.

### Marching Plans:

We will be wearing white pants, a NCBL green t-shirt or other solid color shirt, colorful garden gloves (we have these for you) and carry a rake that has some silk flowers on it.

### Rake Decorating Meeting!

To prepare our rakes, join us for a quick rake decorating meeting on Wednesday May 9 at 10am at Faith Kerchoff's house:  
47 Kelley Green



## Centerpieces needed!

We are looking for members to arrange flowers in a tea pot to bring to the Victorian Tea for our table centerpieces.

We need a few more volunteers to join those who have volunteered already:

Faith Kerchoff  
Barbara Mechanic  
Liz Orteig  
Betsy Sammarco



Annual Appeal is Looking Ahead for Volunteers



Annual Appeal is recruiting volunteers to help with addressing envelopes next fall. If you already volunteer, thank you, no need to contact me. We are looking to recruit another 20+ volunteers. The more volunteers, the less work for all. We honestly couldn't do it without you.

Email me at [rbauersfeld@yahoo.com](mailto:rbauersfeld@yahoo.com).

Rose Bauersfeld

## Triangle and Traveling Trowels Volunteers Save the Date!



### Coffee in the Park

A Celebration for our Triangle and Traveling Trowels Volunteers  
and Town Employees

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

10:00 am

Rain date: June 13

Mead Park Colonnade

more info coming soon

### Waveny Care Center Arranging

Thank you to the following members for volunteering to make the  
flower arrangements for the Waveny Care Center Dining Hall in June.  
This certainly brightens the residents' days!

June 4: Betsy Sammarco

June 11: Liz Orteig

June 18: Betsy Bilus

June 25: Faith Kerchoff

Thank you Bianca Romano for organizing this activity throughout the  
year!

## LEE MEMORIAL GARDEN

Life returned to Lee Memorial Garden when spring finally arrived, quite late this year. We have tenants in the brown birdhouse (black capped chickadees), bulbs blooming, and many wildflowers and ground cover odroot flowers and blue-eyed- Mary.



Clockwise from upper left:

Chequered lily (*Fritillaria meleagris*)

A sweep of daffodils on Wood Road in the garden.

Blue-eyed-Mary (*Omphalodes verna*)

Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*)



Photographers, WE NEED YOU TO TAKE PICTURES! Does anyone want to do a video of the garden, or perhaps a drone flyover?

MAY 20 is the AZALEA FESTIVAL FROM 1 TO 4 PM.

We will be there to guide and answer questions, and the garden should be in full bloom!

The garden is open dusk to dawn every day -- do enjoy this month as it is the peak of the garden and eleven months in the making!

Much work has been done in the garden:

We have had SLOBS (Service League of Boys) spreading new chips on the trails. If you have teens or college kids who need projects, we still have more to do.

Two Eagle Scout projects are also unfolding:

Porter Roddy's Eagle Scout project is to remove stones that stick out in the middle of trails in order to keep visitors from tripping and to allow our carts to move through the paths more easily.



The other is ivy removal from certain areas, so that plants may thrive, and repairing the stone wall in front of Olive's bench, and to add more signage to paths in the garden.

Our big project:

The new barn is really taking shape. It is the answer to our needs for working in the garden. We can't ever thank Peggy Dannemann enough for her dedication to seeing this long project through to completion! THANK YOU PEGGY!

Also thanks to Gino Lanni and Peter Lanni of New Canaan. They are great guys and have been wonderful to work with. The new driveway is also underway. We will give a shout out when we are ready to work on the immediate 'yard' of the barn, as it needs a lot of work!

Submitted by Faith Kerchoff  
Lee Memorial Garden chair



North side of the new garden shed at Lee Memorial Garden. The round windows were salvaged from George Lee's original residence.

## APRIL HAPPENINGS

### Hanging Baskets are Growing at Valley View Nursery

Here are some previews of the baskets of flowers growing at Valley View Nursery. They will be delivered to Eileen Boehme's house in May for assembly!



### Charlotte Moss Entertains

Our April program held with the New Canaan Garden Club drew in a crowd of at least 160 members. Charlotte entertained us with her wit as she presented a pictorial of her professional and personal life full of beautiful place settings, decorated rooms, flower arrangements, and color.

A surprise to the audience and to Charlotte herself was having her newest book available for sale on program day, before its official sale date.





## Did you see us at the Farmers Market?

We attended the Farmers Market to field questions about what we do and who we are. It was a beautiful day!

Robin Bates-Mason, Libby Butterworth, and Karen Hanson talk to a resident at the Farmers Market April 28.



**Center Bell Triangle** Our Center Bell Triangle was beautiful on opening day of the Farmers Market. Here are a couple of photos captured that day.



## Newest Triangle Volunteer Spruces Things Up!

Join us in welcoming our newest triangle volunteer, Sarina Vetterli.

Thanks to Sarina, the Country Club and Route 123 triangle has had its spring clean-up and looks great!

Thank you Sarina and welcome to NCBL.