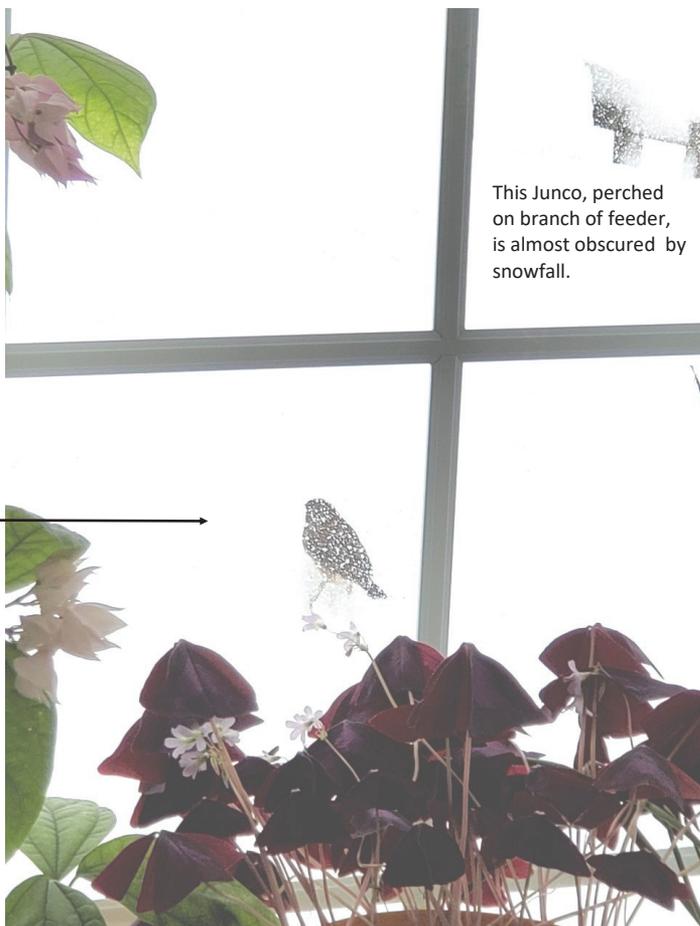




Figure Eight

January, February, March 2023 Volume 69 Number 5



This Junco, perched on branch of feeder, is almost obscured by snowfall.

This Junco is perched on 77" of snow, level with the window sill.

From their indoor window box, an Oxalis and a Clerodendron, cheered on a Dark-eyed Juncos foraging for seeds during the *Josh Allen S'no-venember storm*.*

Photo submitted by Wendy Zebebaz, Orchard Park Garden Club

*Here's one for Bills Fans: When the snowfall was recorded at 77" in Orchard Park, Kevin O'Neill, Ch 2 meteorologist and reporter, converted the official inches to Bill's Quarterback Josh Allen's: 6'5" and dubbed the storm: *Josh Allen S'no-venember*.

Enough "Digging out" ... Turn to the Centerpiece to see members "Digging in" to a myriad community activities. .

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FIGURE 8 DEADLINES

Deadline for next Figure 8...March 1, 2023
(Articles received after 3/1/23 will be saved for the next issue)

FIGURE 8 ADVERTISING

(Donations as listed)

1/4 page -	Garden Clubs	\$25 per issue	\$80 for 4 issues
	Other	\$30 per issue	\$100 for 4 issues
1/2 page -	Garden Clubs	\$50 per issue	\$175 for 4 issues
	Other	\$60 per issue	\$200 for 4 issues
Full page -	Garden Clubs	\$100 per issue	\$350 for 4 issues
	Other	\$125 per issue	

Back Cover Full Color \$50 per issue
2½" wide by 3 inches high at the left side or 1" high x 8 inches long

PLEASE BE SURE TO PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS!

Club Presidents, plan ahead, make sure that you use this newsletter to advertise your upcoming events and fund raisers. All copy must be camera ready. Deadline for advertising is the same as for editorial copy.

Judy Weinstock, Advertising Editor; 648-6669

Figure 8 is published four times annually by the Eighth District Federated Garden Clubs of New York State. 28 Clubs. Member of Federated Clubs of New York State, Inc., National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Director: Annette Kuhn
315 Woodland Drive, Buffalo 14223
email: akuhn43@yahoo.com phone: (716)-913-1179

Director's Message



*Winter comes and Winter goes,
With the last red berries and
the first white snows.
With night coming early,
and dawn coming late,
ice in the bucket and frost by the gate.
The fires burn and the kettles sing,
The earth sinks to rest until next spring.*

I paraphrased this poem from Clyde Watson because it is exactly how I am feeling. But we can't rest until next spring. Many of us would like to be dreamers; in 2023 let's become doers. We need this time to plan our year. In the great words of Yogi Berra, "If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else!" Get requests from your members. What would they like to see or do in 2023?

Try It! Don't dismiss any of these suggestions because you tried it before and it didn't work. Some of the circumstances may have changed or the players may have changed. What did not work three years ago just might work today. This is a brand-new year.

Remember to login to our ZOOM Board meeting February 9th at 10 am, and then April brings our District Spring Meeting and Luncheon on the 13th at The Columns Banquet Facility. At that time the installation of the 2023-2024 District Officers will take place. Be there to welcome in our new board.

Hope to see you,

Annette

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

**EIGHTH DISTRICT FGCNYS
Summer Board Meeting & Lunch
Thursday, July 13th, 2023
Amherst Presbyterian Church
151 Youngs Road, Williamsville, NY 14221
10:00 am Business Meeting
12:00 noon Lunch**



**EIGHTH DISTRICT
 SPRING MEETING & LUNCHEON
 THURSDAY, APRIL 13TH, 2023
 THE COLUMNS BANQUETS
 2221 TRANSIT ROAD, ELMA, NY 14059**



- 9:00 AM Registration (coffee & tea)
- 10:00 AM Business Meeting
- 12:00 Noon Installation of Officers
- 12:30 PM Luncheon (\$32 per person) followed by presentation

Menu choices:

Oven Baked Haddock topped with warm tomato bruschetta & spinach
Chicken Chardonnay topped with artichokes, spinach, sundried tomatoes & white wine cream sauce

Special Dietary Request (Vegetarian, Gluten Free, Dairy Free, etc.) Chef's choice information due to Debbie Braun no later than March 23rd, 2023)

NOTE: All entrées include Fresh Garden Salad, Roasted Red Potatoes, Green Beans, Broccoli & Carrots, and Chocolate Mousse for dessert.

Our Presenter will be Peggy Koppmann with her presentation **“Meatballs, Volcanos and Other Gardening Malpractices”**. Peggy was a volunteer at the Buffalo Botanical Gardens where she specialized in documenting the Shrub Garden. She is the past president of Cinderella Isle Garden Club and coordinates their planting of the gardens at the Grand Island Memorial Library. As a Maser Gardener, Peggy is co-chair of the Education Committee, active in the Master Gardeners Plant Sale, and is a speaker on a variety of topics. She is also a founding member of the Grand Island Garden Walk.

Table Design: **‘Spring is in the Air’** Be creative with colors and materials. Place your design in the center of your table by 10:30 am for judging.

Registration Form

Spring Meeting & Luncheon Thursday, April 13th, 2023
 Registration Deadline is March 23rd, 2023

1. Make one check from each club payable to “District VIII FGCNYS”
2. List names of all members attending and their menu choices
3. Forward check and information to: Debbie Braun
 99 Pheasant Run, Lancaster, NY 14086 Phone: 716-462-3659

Club Name: _____

Club President: _____

Number attending: _____

Life Members: _____

(Specify if Life Members wish to sit at the Life Member Table)

From the Editor's 
PESK
by Linda
Blyth

MEET CONNIE!

My name is Conservation, but you can call me Connie. I hope we can become friends. You as avid gardeners and I as a keeper of your garden environment are closely linked together. When a lot of people hear my name they moan and groan feeling powerless to reverse the “sins” of their forefathers: careless water usage, soil erosion, air pollution, extinct animal life, invasive plants, etc. I am here to tell you that all is not lost; together we can reverse some of these “sins”.

First of all, let me define myself. I am a noun and I mean preservation, protection and restoration of natural environment, wildlife and the repair of archeological sites and artifacts. Pretty important, aren't I? Through me (and with your help) we can protect the ozone layer, maintain the human food chain, preserve potable water and make use of nonrenewable resources.

I am quite similar to my buddy called Preservation. We both relate to the protection of nature. We just accomplish the task in different ways. I seek the sustainable use of nature by humans for fishing, hunting and mining. Preservation involves protecting nature from human use. Preservation, you and I can do this one step at a time! Every pond, river, lake and ocean started with one drop of water; surely we can handle one drop!

Let me know if you'd like to hear more; I'd like to outline some steps that you as a gardener can make to conserve your water usage and combat pollution. Also, I am involved in a revolutionary project to save our water. It will take your breath away but keep those masks handy because it doesn't smell too good.

Guest editorial by Joan Heath, Kenmore Garden Club

TIP of the HAT
with **THANKS & APPRECIATION**
From Annette Kuhn to:



to Nancy Kalieta for organizing the continuing Environmental Lecture series

Youth Report

Dorothy Julius, Chair

As I look out my window I see my oak tree full of leaves surrounded by the snow. The mighty oak tree is a symbol of strength and nobility. Amongst the oak leaves the moths and other insects (including the pollinators) lay their eggs for the winter. As I dream about my gardens next year, I think "What can I do now?"

It is a great time to make seed tape and seed balls/bombs with your children, grandchildren or the kids next door. The following are some easy recipes.

FLOUR SEED BALLS/BOMBS: Mix 1/2 cup of flour with 1 cup of either potting soil or compost. I like using a mixture of soil and compost. Add 1 tsp of seeds. If using small seeds, use 1/2 tsp. Add water gradually one tablespoon at a time until it forms a dough. If too wet, add more soil. Divide and roll into balls. Let the balls dry a couple of days. Store in a paper bag in a cool, dark dry place. Zinnias, cosmos, calendula or wildflower mixes will attract pollinators.

SEED TAPE: Mix equal parts of flour and water to make a glue-like mixture. Use a piece of toilet paper the length of your desired seed tape. Cut the toilet paper in half lengthwise. Using a small paint brush dab some glue on the toilet paper 1/4 of the way in from the edge at the desired spacing. Place one or two seeds on the glue. Then fold over the toilet paper so that the seeds are between the layers of the toilet paper. Keep the tape flat on the table until it is dry. If not using right away, roll up and store in a paper bag. Note: you can use Elmer's Glue.

Let's make a difference by teaching our youth about the benefits of nature. Remember the seeds we sow today, will be the flowers of tomorrow.



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Mary Jane Bolo
Master Gardener

Plan your Spring, Summer and Fall "Teas" now
Call (716) 992-9456 for more information

Scholarship Report

Jody Bailey, *Chair*

District Eight College Stipend

District Eight continues to offer a \$1,000 stipend/scholarship to a graduating high school senior who will enter college in 2023. Applicants must be planning to major in Agriculture, Botany, Conservation, Environmental Science, Forestry, Horticulture, Land Management, Landscape Design, Wildlife Science or a field related to these subjects.

In January, guidance counselors in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie & Niagara counties received letters asking for their assistance in informing students in their schools of this opportunity. Full information about the stipend is available on the District web site, www.gardenclubsofwny.com under the scholarship tab. Applications may be downloaded and must be postmarked by March 31, 2023.

DEC Environmental Education Camp Scholarship

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's summer camps are scheduled to be held this summer. At the time of the publication of Figure Eight, there was one applicant for the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State's DEC program for youths 14-17.

Notice to all 8th District Garden Club Members!!!
Judges Council will sponsor a Standard flower show
PLANTASIA 2023

“New Twist on an Old Classic”

Held in the Event Center, Hamburg Fairgrounds

Entry day March 15, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. – noon

Show Chairman: Evelyn Mietlowski (716) 836-5397

EMAIL: evelyn523@gmail.com

Co-Chairman: Marilee Farry (716) 668-1789

EMAIL: farmare@aol.com

Design Chairman: Kathy Massing (716) 689-2084

Contact the Design Chairman or Co-Chairman if you want to make a reservation for a design or if you need more information

DIVISION I: HORTICULTURE “Timeless”

Eligible for the Award of Horticulture Excellence

Plants in Sections A, B and C should be in clay or cache pots

Section A: “Hot Stuff” *Eligible for Growers Choice Award*

Cacti and Succulents. Maximum diameter of container 12”

Class 1: Cactus

Class 2: Crassula

Class 3: Haworthia

Class 4: Any other Succulent

Section B: “Oldies but Goodies” *Eligible for Growers’ Choice Award*

Plants grown primarily for foliage. Maximum diameter of container 12”.

Class 5: Araceae (Philodendron)

Class 6: Begonia

Class 7: Palm Family

Class 8: Any other foliage plant

Section C: “Show Off” *Eligible for Growers’ Choice Award*

Plants grown primarily for flowers and must be in bloom. Maximum diameter of container 12”.

Class 9: Gesneriad (Gloxinia, Streptocarpus, etc.)

Class 9 (a) standard size, **Class 9 (b)** dwarf

Class 10: Orchids

Class 11: Bromeliads

Class 12: Any other flowering plant

Section D: “That Something Special” *Eligible for Arboreal Award*

Cut branch, maximum length 30” from cut end to tip.

Note: Classes 15 & 16 will be exhibited in committee provided bottles. All others will be exhibited on a white lattice panel.

Class 13: Juniperus, Juniper, 1 branch

Class 14: Picea, Spruce, 1 branch

Class 15: Pinus, Pine, 1 branch

Class 16: Any other needled evergreen, 1 branch

Class 17: Any other broadleaf evergreen, 1 branch

Class 18: Any forced flowering branch, 1 branch

DIVISION II: DESIGN “Flashback”

Eligible for the Design Excellence Award

Note: All Designs must be composed of fresh and/or dried or treated dried plant material and other components.

Section A: “All the Rage” *Eligible for the Designer’s Choice Award*

Class 1: “Innovative”

An Abstract Creative Design of fresh and/or dried plant material staged on a white skirted table 30” high; space allowed is 22” wide by 24” deep. Exhibitor to provide a 30” high staging panel and underlay.

4 reservations

Class 2: “Classic Beauty”

A Functional Table for One with decorative unit of fresh and/or dried plant material. Design staged on a white skirted table 30” high. Space allowed is 22” wide by 24” deep. Exhibitor to provide an underlay.

4 reservations

Class 3: “Retro”

An Exhibition Table with components related to food service but in a non-functional manner. Fresh and/or dried plant material must be used as needed for overall design. Design staged on a white skirted table 30" high. Space allowed is 22" wide by 24" deep. Exhibitor to provide 30” high staging panel and underlay.

4 reservations

Section B: “Trendy” *Eligible for the Petite Award*

Note: All classes in this Section will be staged on a white skirted table with a black cover and black background. Table is 30” high.

Class 4: “Sophisticated”

A Traditional Line Mass Design of up to 12” in height of fresh and/or dried plant material. Staged on a white skirted table 30” high with a black cover and black background. Space allotted is 12” wide by 12” deep. Exhibitor may provide a staging panel and underlay but it may not extend beyond the allotted width and depth.

4 reservations

Class 5: “Minimalist”

A Creative Line Design of fresh and/or dried plant material must not exceed 12” in height. Staged on a white skirted table 30” high with a black cover and black background. Space allotted is 12” wide by 12” deep. Exhibitor may provide a staging panel and underlay but it may not extend beyond the allotted width and depth.

4 reservations

Class 6: “Fresh Idea”

A Framed Spatial Design of fresh and/or dried plant material suspended in a committee-provided black 7” standing hoop. Design may not exceed 5” in height, width or depth.

4 reservations

Erie County Fair Flower Show

The logo for the Erie County Fair features the words "ERIE COUNTY FAIR" in a stylized font. "ERIE COUNTY" is in white on a blue banner, "FAIR" is in large blue letters with an orange outline, and "Est. 1820" is in a gold circle. Below the main text, "HAMBURG, NY" is written in small black letters.

by Debbie Braun and Monica Hansen, Fair Superintendents

It may be winter, but we have been busy working on the schedule for the upcoming Erie County Fair Flower Show. The theme is “**It's a Holiday-Palooza**”, an upbeat and fun theme that will incorporate all the various holidays. We will have our popular classes back, with some fun new additions. Artistic Crafts will also be back as they were very popular with our members and the general public.

The outdoor fair gardens are offered to the clubs that did them last year first - Lancaster GC, Hamburg GC, and Ken-Sheriton GC. These clubs need to notify either Debbie Braun or Monica Hansen **by February 1st** if you would like to do a garden. We do have at least one opening for another garden. All clubs that are interested in doing a garden please notify Debbie or Monica at the contact information below. Remember it is a great fundraiser for your club with a minimum prize amount of \$700 up to \$1000 if we have all four gardens filled.

The fair schedule information will be sent out to Club Presidents and placed on the District website early in 2023. We will notify club Presidents by email when it is on the website so they can notify their members.

We'd like to go back to having in person Club sign-ups and more information on this will be sent to Club Presidents early in the year.

We look forward to another fantastic Erie County Fair flower this coming August!

If you have any questions/concerns, please contact Debbie Braun at 716-462-3659 or dlfb2@msn.com (preferred) or Monica Hansen at 716-380-8663 or johnmonica@verizon.net.

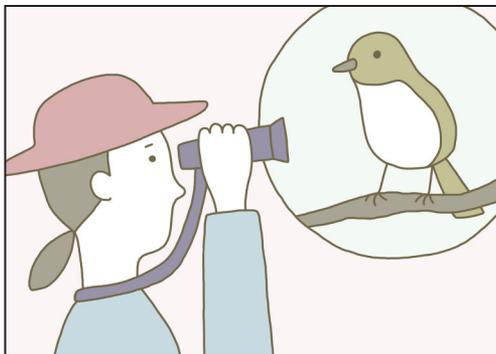
Birds, Bugs & Butterflies

by: Marilee Farry

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations.

Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days

of the four-day event and report their sightings online at birdcount.org. Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts, and you can participate from your backyard, or anywhere in the world.



Each checklist submitted during the GBBC helps researchers at the National Audubon Society, Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Birds Canada learn more about how birds are doing, and how to protect them and the environment we share. Recently, more than 300,000 participants submitted their bird observations online, creating the largest instantaneous snapshot of global bird populations ever recorded.

The 25th annual GBBC will be held Friday, February 18, through Monday, February 21, 2022. Please visit the official website at birdcount.org for more information.

Great Book Suggestions

A few weeks ago, one of our readers suggested I write about Doug Tallamy and his amazing books. For those of you who aren't familiar with his work, his first book, [Bringing Nature Home](#), was the first garden related book to be a NY Times best seller. Tallamy is responsible for making people aware of the importance of the backyard garden and its effect on nature. He stresses "productive" plants, shrubs, and trees which feed, shelter and offer habitat for offspring. Native plants being the most appropriate. The best part about his books, besides the message, is they are very readable and full of beautiful photographs.

The following are the books he's written:

[Bringing Nature Home](#) which describes how and why native plants support nature, stressing birds and the insects they need to feed their young. Did you know a clutch of chickadees needs over 6,000 caterpillars and other soft bodied insects to feed their young! Where do they come from...native plants. Since non- native plants didn't evolve with native insects,

birds, and animals they either aren't recognized as food or can't be utilized or digested. A must for anyone interested in birds.

[Nature's Best Hope](#), another NY Times best seller, introduces a new approach to conservation that starts in your yard. He calls this "Homegrown National Parks". It's an easy way for gardeners to support the ecosystem while having a beautiful yard. If everyone added just a few native plants, trees &/or shrubs it would offer habitat covering large areas and help reduce the decline in songbirds and pollinators.

[The Living Landscape](#) co-authored with Rick Darke who did the amazing photography. It offers a model anyone can follow to create a beautiful landscape that also supports nature. The book discusses the differing layers of a landscape from ground covers to treetops and everything in between with lots of plant and planting suggestions. The index includes an extensive listing of plants by region and what parts of nature they support.

continues on next page

Arboriculture,
continued from previous page

The Nature of Oaks,

Tallamy's latest book, describes the rich ecology of the most important species in the plant kingdom, providing food for more than 500 species from insects to mammals. He follows the oak through the seasons including how to successfully grow them. If you didn't appreciate the mighty oak before you will be amazed at its versatility and longevity.

It's not necessary to read them in a particular order. Each book stands on its own. Give one or more a try. You will be glad you did and so will nature!

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Dorothy Romanczuk, *Chair*

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(Buffalo City Mission)

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INCREDIBLE GENEROSITY.**

**BECAUSE OF YOUR KIND
SUPPORT, WOMEN AND CHILDREN
IN WNY ARE ONE STEP CLOSER TO
A BETTER LIFE.**

From the moment an individual walks through the doors at Cornerstone, they are shown loving acceptance, acknowledging their worth and dignity as a valued child of God. Often, it's the first time they have been treated with deep, honest respect...it's a healthy pathway for building a promising future.

Buffalo City Mission's Women and Children's Shelter (Cornerstone Manor) is not simply a place which offers food and shelter to those in need, it is a place that provides a safe haven for which women and mom's with children can have the opportunity to transition safely and successfully through the Mission's Transitional Housing Program, where sorrows can be turned into joy so hope for a better tomorrow can begin.

Log onto
www.buffalocitymission.org to see what's on their wish list, i.e., underwear, diapers, pj's. You can place an order on-line. Specify it's for Cornerstone.

*Questions? E-mail me at
droman13@verizon.net*

Snapz



August 11: Town and Country members are demonstrating another way to Dig In... club members gathered for a garden tour of member Sharon Johnson. *Shown left above... Left to right:* Janice Rogers, Pat Burrows, Joy Sarkisian, President, and Kathy Kensity, Vice President. On August 30... club members gathered again to "dig in"... this time as caretakers of Town of Amherst Clearfield Library's garden areas. *Shown right above:* Is Vicki Carr, club member and Master Gardener sprucing up one of the multi-level containers.

Photo credit and submission credits to: Linda Ascombe



SEPTEMBER. Members of the Cheektowaga Garden Club selected a geranium seedling in the Spring and grew them for a club project. Among the luscious plants grown by members, these place winners were exhibited by Sally Hayes, Joe Babulski, and Carol Szczepanski for prize consideration.

Photo submitted by Eileen Beiler.



OCTOBER 1& 2: Some Fredonia GC members took a brief break from their annual fundraising sale during the Forestville Fall Festival. *Shown left to right:* Rosemary Mancuso, Beverly Smith, Annabelle Hahn, Aimee Rogers, Kathy Buckley.

Photo submitted by Chautauqua Section Chair Marcia Becker.

A sample of Holiday OMG! Design moments.



East Aurora GC... wreath on leaded Glass window in North Hall.



Exploration Room decorated by Ken-Sheriton GC. Shown: detail from fireplace mantel.



A Bowmansville GC swag incorporates the designated colors for 2022 in 2nd floor door-



Each dining room chair was decorated with satin ribbons, live holiday greens, and jeweled swags.



The Reception Room hearth was ablaze with Butterfly Weed seed pods; Ornamental Peppers were the “flames”; Sweet Gum tree seed pods created the “embers” and white pine emitted a scent of Christmas.

Among the *OMG!* moments of TR site were the decorative details of the first Floor Dining and Reception Rooms... created decorated by Smallwood GC and Orchard Park GC respectively.

Photos submitted by Cynthia Miranda (SGC) and Wendy Zebebaży (OPGC)



This chandelier was just a hint of the spectacular designs created for the front entry and staircase by the Hamburg Garden Club.

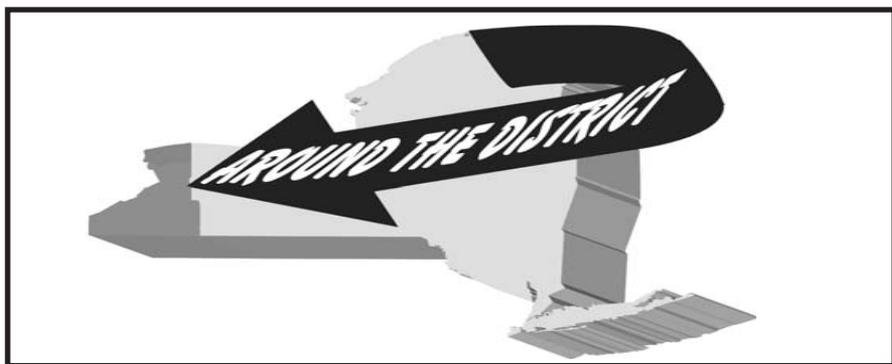
Photo credit: Debbie Adams

Southtowns Garden Club decorated public spaces at Hospice & Palliative Care.

This year members were able to return the facilities to bring Holiday Cheer to all.



Photo credit: Patty Terranova



Club activities for January, February, March 2023

Erie I Melissa Marcus, Section Chair

Cinderella Isle GC (Meeting Chair Pat Fabin) The January meeting will be a Soup Fest with fun activities and sign-up sheets for the upcoming year's activities. The February meeting will feature Mark Yaden of Mischler's Florist presentation on Indoor Plants. Carol Ann Harlos, A Master Gardener and Garden Writer will give a video presentation about downsizing your garden at the March meeting.

East Park CG (President Rose Mary Madejski) All members will participate in a planning session for the 2023-2034 Yearbook at the January meeting. The February Meeting will be a Potluck Dinner Meeting. The Plantasia Flower show will be discussed at the March meeting.

Erie II Lily Zendano, Section Chair

GC of the Tonawandas (Debbie Profrock, President) January - We will be making milk jug greenhouses out of a one-gallon jug. We will be sowing seeds in the jugs and placing them outside throughout the winter with the intention of the seeds sprouting as the weather warms. They then can be planted in the garden or planters.

February - In conjunction with the Quilters Guild of the Tonawandas, members will be stuffing and sewing pillows for breast cancer patients. This is our yearly Therapy project. March - The annual banquet will be held for members to attend.

Kenmore GC (Julie Furminger, President) Peggy Koppman, Master Gardner, will give a PowerPoint presentation in January on the many plants that can be grown in our shady gardens. In February, Carol Ann Harlos will present "Garden Pests...the good, bad and the ugly" and how to deal with them. Linda Blyth will show us a PowerPoint presentation of the plants available for our May plant sale. Our

March Awards Presentation and luncheon and the Year in Review will be held at the Buffalo Launch Club on Grand Island.

Ken-Sheriton GC (Therese Malchioro, President) meets on the second Tuesday at 7:00 pm at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 576 Delaware Road, Buffalo, NY 14223 January - Members will not meet in January. Time will be spent browsing seed catalogs, planning summer gardens and winter sowing. February - We will be creating Seed Balls for summer gardens and cleaning out the garden clubs closets and preparing for our Chinese Auction in March.

March - Our Chinese Auction will be held at our Tuesday meeting from 7 - 8 pm at the above address. All clubs are invited. Plantasia preparation and installation of officers for 2023 - 2025 will be held.

Erie III Dorothy Romanczuk, Section Chair

Eden Garden Study (Co-President Sue Eye & Marlene Sullivan) Meeting: 2nd Thursday-7:00 pm . January finds the board members planning the year's programs. In February, co-presidents Sue Eye and Marlene Sullivan will present "Creative Flower Designs on Note Cards" program. The new slate of officers will be voted on. JP's Pub is the venue for the March Installation of Officers. They will be planting the Town baskets and planters.

Evans GC (President Miriam Oster) Meets 2nd Tuesday-7:00pm Members will receive information in January and February via their monthly "Daisy Chain" newsletter. In March, at the annual meeting, they will be planning for their annual plant sale.

Hamburg House & Garden (President Sue Van Tine) meets 4th Tuesday-7:00pm January finds members perusing seed and flower catalogues. In February, Nancy Kalieta will be showing a PBS movie, "Our World from Above"; it tracks people, animals, and waterways and shows how these movements affect our existence. March is an open month with members looking forward to spring.

Hamburg GC (Co-Presidents Paula Gober & Jan Evert) Meeting 2nd Wednesday 10 a.m. January's program features a power-point program with Jason Henry of Ken Henry & Sons, detailing the running of their family wholesale greenhouse business. Slate of officers will be presented. Avid gardener Judy Horn will share her expertise in rescuing houseplants at the February Tea. "Save, Restore, Connect" is the March program with Kyle Semmel, WNY Land Conservancy.

continues on next page

Erie IV Shelly Gerovac, Section Chair

Amherst GC (Ruth Barone and Sandra Moesh, Co-Presidents) January is our annual election of officers. After the general meeting and election there will be a lunch of homemade soups. February is our birthday month. Our club will be 93 years old. There will be a presentation by Mark Yadon of Mischler's Florist & Greenhouses on perennials. March is our installation of officers month.

Cheektowaga GC (Cindy Zaborowski and Eileen Beiter, Co-Presidents) The club does not meet in January. We will celebrate the club's 76th birthday at our February meeting. In March, we will meet to plan activities for the rest of the year.

Forest Stream GC (Sue Goeckel & Liza Mitchell, Co-Presidents) January - We are having an informal luncheon. A casual get together so we can catch up on everyone after the holidays. February We will have our annual installation of officers. March - We are off to Mischler's to create a salad bowl and grow our own fresh salad greens.

Smallwood GC (Mary Teresa Platt, President) In January, Smallwood Garden club will be taking a respite after all the hard work the members did for our Winter Garden Gathering that was held at the Country Club of Buffalo. In February we are having a vintner coming in to discuss the growing of grapes and the wine making process. In March we have the crossover of the new officers and board as the current roster is retired.

Erie V Carol Ottaviani, Section Chair

Bowmansville GC (Exec. Board: Judy Visco, Judy Cavagnaro, and Michelle Smith) There will not be a meeting in January. The February 6th meeting is the club's annual Super Bowl Dinner at 6:00 PM. Members bring soup, bread and desserts to share. Each member will design their own functional place setting. The settings are critiqued and enjoyed by all. The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM. Meetings take place at Bowmansville Fire Hall.

Lancaster GC (Milissa Jurewicz, President) No meeting in January. Officers will be planning a Calendar of Events for the upcoming garden club year. The February meeting will be held on the 8th at 7:00 PM, at St. John's Lutheran Church, 55 Pleasant Ave. in Lancaster. Guests and new members are welcome. Club members will be doing a hands-on Community Service Project with a Valentine theme to benefit the Lancaster chapter of Meals on Wheels. March brings the club's traditional potluck supper. Members will bring a dish to share and a place setting with a coordinating floral design. Officers will be installed.

South Town Gardeners (President, Linda Meissner) The club does not meet in January but has a meeting of the Executive Board and new officers for 2023-24. In February the new officers will be installed at a luncheon and will take over at the March meeting. Meetings take place at West Seneca Senior Citizens Community Center, 4620 Seneca St. on the second Friday of the month from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM.

Town & Country GC (Joy Sarkesian, President) All members are invited to participate in a planning meeting to take place on January 12th for the upcoming 2023-2024 garden club year. The meeting will be held at Ransom Oaks Clubhouse in East Amherst at 2:00 PM. There will be a ZOOM club meeting chaired by Linda Anscorb in February to coordinate their plant selections from the Ken Henry Catalog. On March 16th, members will meet at Pegasus Restaurant at 11:30 for a business meeting before heading to Plantasia at Hamburg Fairgrounds.

Erie VI Esther Kopp, Section Chair

Amana GC (Janice Frasier, President) **January** - the executive board will meet and discuss the program schedule for the following year. **February** - Connie Trawinski will tell us how to plant and cultivate bleeding hearts. We will also critique a design theme "Celebrating American Leaders". **March** - Janice will show us how to make an artichoke into a flower. We will also have a Tool Talk 'show and tell' and a dried arrangement workshop.

Countryside GC (LuAnn Burghardt, President) **January** and **February** - no meetings scheduled since many members travel to warmer climates. **March** - A visit to the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens followed by lunch at a local restaurant.

East Aurora GC (Lori Britton, President) **January** – No regular meeting scheduled. **February** – Program will be “Valentine Arrangements”. Club members will make a small arrangement using materials from the member's gardens. These arrangements will be given to Adult Day Care of East Aurora and Absolute Care of East Aurora. **March** - Annual Potluck Salad Luncheon followed by Installation of Officers.

Holland GC (Tammy Schmidt, President) **January** – The program will be Part One of making a clay dish bowl. **February** – The program will be Part Two of making the clay dish bowl by decorating and painting it. **March** – The members will enjoy lunch at the Holland Willows followed by the installation of officers.

continues on next page

Orchard Park GC (Mary Ann Agnello, President) **January** - presenter Tanya Lowe, Curator and Education Director at Hawk Creek Wildlife Center, will be sharing how some wildlife nurture nature's control and design. **February** - Terry Skura, club member, presents rare and unusual way to use herbs for cooking, health, pest gardens around the globe. **March** - TBD

Niagara I **Barbara Stafford, Section Chair**

Lewiston GC (President Sharon Low) In January, the Lewiston Garden Club will welcome Albert Gilewicz, a civil engineer with 35 years of practical environmental experience. His topic is "The Garden Revolution— a Call to Trowels" The program focuses on the impact home gardeners could have on climate change. At February's meeting our members and Master Gardeners Darinda Hoffman and Liz Campbell will share their Master Gardener training experience. Members are encouraged to consider getting involved with this worthwhile endeavor! March brings Lewiston Garden Club's annual Installation Luncheon when members will gather to install officers for the coming year and recognize outgoing officers for their service to the club.

Youngstown GC (President Rose Livingston) In January the Youngstown Garden Club will hold a pot-luck lunch devoted to planning programs and organizing events for the upcoming year. A follow-up meeting will finalize programs, committee assignments, and budgetary needs. Meanwhile, members will be preparing for February's WinterGreen Fundraiser and Auction. Functioning as both a membership recruitment and fundraising event, it will include light refreshments, a make-and-take garden themed craft and a garden-focused auction. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the World Gardening Project. In March the club holds its annual Installation Dinner, honoring outgoing officers and installing the new officers.

Chautauqua **Marcia Becker, Section Chair**

Bud 'n Bloom GC (Judith Wilcox, Co-President) No report

Fredonia GC (Brenda Antolini & Kathy Buckley, Co- Presidents) In January we will be meeting twice to plan garden club activities for 2023. February will be a luncheon meeting. In March we will meet at the home of Barb Lehen to paint shamrock pots and plan to visit Plantasia.

Jamestown GC (Patty Idzik, President) No report

WORLD GARDENING

Sharon Low, Chair

Reminder: District 8 is still sending donations to World Gardening.

Checks should be made payable to FGCNYS and sent to
Sharon Low, District 8 Chair
5251 Bronson Dr, Lewiston, NY 14092.

Please mention in the memo section where the donation should go, either Water for South Sudan or Dig Deep.



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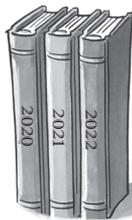
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Remember Your Valentine
February 14th

Yearbooks

Kathy Massing, Chair



May 15th is the deadline to submit 4 copies of your club yearbook to Kathy Massing at 108 Hickory Hill Rd. Apt B., Williamsville, NY 14221-2540 for judging in the district and possibly the

state. Check the district website for information. For any questions email her at kathysgarden155@gmail.com or call (716) 689-2084.

District Yearbook Awards – Kathy Massing, Chair

Class I – 19 and under members

1st place – Town and Country Garden Club

2nd place – East Park Garden Club

Class II – 20 - 29 members

1st place – Holland Garden Club

2nd place – Bowmansville Garden Club

3rd place – Eden Garden study Club

Class III – 30 - 44 members

1st place - Youngstown Garden Club

2nd place - Smallwood Garden Club

3rd place – South towns Gardeners

Class IV – 45 - 69 members

1st place - Kenmore Garden Club

2nd place - Hamburg Garden Club

Class V – 70 - 99 members

1st place – East Aurora Garden Club

State Yearbook Awards – Nancy Kalieta, Chair

The process of evaluating the yearbooks for state awards is done. The committee worked long and hard to determine the winners. The competition was intense because all the yearbooks were well done.

Class 1 - under 20 members

1st: Town & Country Garden Club

Class 2 - 20 - 29 members

None for district 8

Class 3 - 30 - 44 members

1st Youngstown Garden Club

Class 4 - 45 - 69 members

3rd Kenmore Garden Club

Class 5 - 70 - 99 members

3rd East Aurora Garden Club

8th District HONOR ROLL

Terry Skura, Chair



With Appreciation:

Honoree

Annette Kuhn

Donor

Maria Gerbracht

In Remembrance:

Honoree

Mary Ann Ball

Elinor Deeb

Rosemary Hayes

Judith Holthoff

Deborah Kingan

Marge Kostek

Linda Welka

Donor

Evans Garden Club

Garden Club of the Tonawandas

Maria Gerbracht

Orchard Park Garden Club

Evans Garden Club

Evans Garden Club

Evans Garden Club

February 22, 2023 is the deadline for submissions to appear in the spring issue.

Remember to honor someone for the contributions and hard work done to further the success of your club. Consider submitting names to the Honor Roll with a \$10 donation. Forms are available on the district website: gardenclubsofwny.com.



Winter District VIII Board Meeting Thursday February 9th, 2023



The winter board meeting will be a ZOOM meeting, starting at 10am, February 9th, 2023. Please send your report to Annette Kuhn (akuhn43@yahoo.com) and Dorothy Romanczuk (droman13@verizon.net) no later than 5 days before the meeting (by Saturday, February 4th).

The meeting will be followed with an introduction of the 2023-2024 slate of officers. You will be able to ask them questions or just offer them your congratulations.

District Director,

3rd Assistant Director,

Recording Secretary,

Corresponding Secretary,

Treasurer,

Melissa Marcus

Garda O'Keefe

Frank Enders

Dorothy Romanczuk

Debbie Adams

The Botanical Gardens



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EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

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Select Nights Jan-March

Love Week: Feb 13-19

Wegmans Family Nights: Feb 20-22

Orchid Show and Orchids After Dark March 3-5

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FGCNYS District VIII

Minutes of the 2022 FALL MEETING

On October 13, 2022, District Director Annette Kuhn called the Fall Meeting of District VIII to order at 10:10 a.m., at The Columns Restaurant in Elma, NY. The meeting preceded the Fall Luncheon. DD Kuhn reminded members to vote at the Voting Table for the 2023-25 officers. The blessing was given by Marcia Becker, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Eileen Beiter. District Director Annette Kuhn introduced former State President and newly elected CAR President Monica Hansen and former District Directors Babbidean Urban Huber, Debbie Braun, Nancy Kalieta, Marsha Becker, & Adrienne Pasquariello. Dorothy Grant and Anne Johnston, Director & Past Director of District VII were guests.

Board Members Present – District Director Annette Kuhn, Miriam Oster, Cindy Miranda Woods, Dorothy Romanczuk, Debbie Adams, Marty Mummery.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Recording Secretary - Dorothy Romanczuk asked for corrections to the July 14, 2022, Summer Board Minutes as printed in the Figure 8 Oct/Nov/Dec. issue. There being none, minutes approved as printed.

Treasurer - Debbie Adams stated that the checking balance was \$13,287.23 on 7/14/22; Encumbered Funds & Income \$8,646.50; Expenses \$5,008.81; Balance of checking 10/13/22 , \$16,924.92. Balance of Savings Account \$2,899.07 for a total all funds - \$19,823.99.

Second Assistant Director - Section Coordinator & Vendors. Miriam Oster had nine vendors present. She introduced the Section Chairs present & they in turn introduced their members present.

Third Assistant Director and Raffle Coordinator: Cindy Miranda Woods procured a raffle item from each of the vendors, plus had additional raffle items.

Corresponding Secretary - Marty Mummery. No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS: Kathy Massing announced the Awards from District VIII. Nancy Kalieta announced the State yearbook winners. First place clubs will be forwarded to Central Atlantic Region. A full report will be in the next Figure 8.

CALENDARS: Diane Szczepanski. 2023 Vision of Beauty Calendars were available for pickup at the meeting.

CORNERSTONE: Dorothy Romanczuk reminded members to include Cornerstone in their holiday donations either monetarily or gifts of pajamas, underwear and toiletries. More information will be sent to Presidents.

DIRECTORY: CORRECTION for Kathy Massing's e-mail: kathysgarden155@gmail.com.

ERIE COUNTY FAIR FLOWER SHOW Debbie Braun, Monica Hansen, and Nancy Kalieta thanked everyone who entered or worked at the Erie County Fair Flower Show this year.. Next year's fair information will be in the Winter Figure 8. A survey will be sent out to members soliciting ideas to make the 2023 flower show better than ever.

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FIGURE 8 – Linda Blyth's report reminded all that December 1st is the deadline for the Winter Figure 8 issue. Submit club photos to Carol Jo Pope (bobpope5@hotmail.com). Check the District website (gardenclubsofwny.com) for additional photos including from the Erie County Fair flower show.

JUDGES COUNCIL: Mary Brummer. The JC helped classify exhibited designs and horticulture at the EC Fair. Monthly meetings are now continuing. Floral Art Studio's two part session this fall focused on Illuminary Design and Abstract Design. After a nine year stint, FAS is ending, but Floral Design will continue instruction by JC in a different format.

LIFE MEMBER: Jolaine Houghton & Dianne Sippel: The Life Member Luncheon held in July at the Twentieth Century Club garden was attended by 29 members. A tour of some of the Buffalo Open Gardens was offered after the luncheon. An updated LM Roster will be available in 2023. Nancy Kalieta received her Life Membership card from 2020. Five new members were announced at the Luncheon.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE SLATE OF OFFICERS: Babbidean Urban Huber's slate of Officers for 2023-2025 was voted on by ballot and was unanimously accepted. The new officers are Director Melissa Marcus, 3rd AD Garda O'Keefe, Recording Secretary Frank Enders, Corresponding Secretary Dorothy Romanczuk, Treasurer Debbie Adams.

SCHOLARSHIP: Jody Bailey. District VIII FGCNYS is sponsoring a scholarship for a week of outdoor activities at a NYS Department of Environmental Conservation camp for youths 11-13 years old. Further information and application process may be found on the District website under scholarships. Applications must be submitted by November 25th. Also, FGCNYS sponsor a scholarship to DEC camps for 14-17 year olds. Last summer, District VIII's 2019-20 applicant, Alex Friedman, attended DEC camp.

TR SITE/VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS: Judy Cavagnaro. Theme this year is "The Wonder of Christmas". Clubs have received information regarding colors, decorating times, etc.

WAYS & MEANS: Kathy Kwiatowski. Ways & Means inventory, as discussed at the Summer Board Meeting, will now focus on garden and design elements. Therefore, donated items on hand were free at this meeting; remaining items were donated. Henceforth, if you bring an item to W&M and it doesn't sell, you must take it back.

WREATHS: Dorothy Romanczuk. The Wreath Order for this season is in the Fall Figure 8. One check per club.

The Fall Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. Luncheon was served at noon. Registrar Debbie Braun reported 119 reservations were made for the luncheon. The speaker was Christine Froehlich, garden designer and consultant, on "Gardening With What You Have".

Dorothy Romanczuk, District VIII Recording Secretary

CHECKLIST FOR PRESIDENTS

- ✓ Send any updates to your club's membership and Figure 8 mailing list to Melissa Marcus, District Director and Myretta Zimpfer, Membership/Circulation Chair. Also, send to Melissa and Myretta the name, address, phone number, and email address of your club's 2023-2024 President.
- ✓ Submit \$8.00 per member for State Dues to FGCNYS by April 1st
- ✓ Figure 8 subscriptions of \$5.00 are due to Myretta Zimpfer by June 1st (not the same as \$8 to the state).
- ✓ Encourage your club members to sign up for the PLANTASIA Flower Show. Contact Evelyn Meitlowski
Email: evelyn523@gmail.com (See the schedule in this issue)
- ✓ Send in your club's registration form for Spring Luncheon (see **AD** this issue)

Calendar of Events 2023

February 9	Dist. VIII Winter Board ZOOM Meeting
March 1	Spring Submission Deadline for The National Gardener
March 4-12	Philadelphia Flower Show " <i>The Garden Electric</i> "
March 15	PLANTASIA entry date
March 16-19	PLANTASIA "New Twist on an Old Classic" Note: the schedule is in this issue
April 13	Dist. VIII Spring meeting/Luncheon
May 2-5	NGC Annual Convention, Sulphur Springs, WV
May 3	District 7 Annual Meeting and Installation
May 22-25	FGCNYS Annual Meeting and Installation Hyatt Regency, Long Island, NY
August 9-20	Erie County Fair
October 23-26	CAR-SGC Convention and tri-refresher, Corning NY

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Is Wendy Zebehazy coming in? or going out? Either way, the window offered the best route to feeders. *Photo credit Mike*