

**Federated Garden Clubs of New York State**  
**Eighth District**



# **Speakers List**

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS  
Speakers List**

**Name:** Joanne Bassett  
**Address:** 11837 Parker Rd., East Aurora, New York 14052  
**Phone:** 716-652-2569;      **E-mail:** none

**Credentials:**

American Iris Society Garden and Show Bench Exhibition Judge  
Growing Iris of all varieties, specializing in Japanese Iris, Siberian Iris and all forms of Bearded Iris.

**Topics/programs available:**

1. How to Grow Iris Successfully
2. When and How to Divide Iris
3. Soil, Fertilize, Water

**Fee:** Negotiable

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Linda Blyth  
**Address:** 939 Delaware Rd., Buffalo, NY 14223-1007  
**Phone:** 716-873-5447; **E-mail:** [songnbird@aol.com](mailto:songnbird@aol.com)

**Credentials:**

Gardener for over 30 years; co-owner of Song 'n Bird Gardens; member & past president of Kenmore Garden Club; editor of Figure 8 (8th District publication); participant in National Garden Festival & Ken-Ton Garden Tour

**Topics/programs available:**

All programs are PowerPoint presentations and include a photographic tour of our gardens. Handouts are provided for all programs. I have my own laptop computer and projector.

1. Unusual and Late Blooming Perennials
2. Growing Your Own Plants from Seed - How to do it and why you would want to.
3. Gardening 101 – Tips for Starting and Maintaining Your Garden.
4. Creating a Memorable Garden - Do's and Don'ts.

**Fee/s and/or mileage:**

\$60 within 25 miles driving distance; \$10 additional for every 10 miles

**Tours of Song 'n Bird Gardens are available free of charge.**

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Mary Jane Bolo  
**Address:** 9998 Clarksburg Rd., Eden, NY 14057  
**Phone:** 716-992-9456; **Email:** [performingatyourpeak@gmail.com](mailto:performingatyourpeak@gmail.com)

**Credentials:**

Master Gardener 2001  
University of Delaware B.S.  
The Lord's Garden owner/operator [www.thelordsgarden.com](http://www.thelordsgarden.com)

**Topics / programs available:**

1. Perennials- My Faithful Friends
2. Biodiversity – the Importance of Planting Native Plants
3. Garden Design – The Three Rules to Increase Your Curb Appeal
4. Bugs and How They Enhance Your Garden

**Fee:** \$50.00

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Anne Brierley / Steps and Stones  
**Address:** 337 Parkside Ave., Buffalo, NY 14214  
**Phone:** 716-836-1470; **Email:** none

**Credentials:**

I have made and sold hypertufa pots for ten years; and have presented programs at garden clubs and The Keenan Center in Lockport, NY.

**Topics / programs available**

1. How to Make Hypertufa and where you can take the product using your imagination and using simple household tools.
2. Stepping Stones / Garden Leaf Troughs using mortar mix

**Fee/ mileage:** Negotiable

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Lyn Chimera  
**Address:** 170 Pine St., E. Aurora, NY 14052  
**Phone:** 716- 652-2432; **E-mail:** [lyn@lessonsfromnature.biz](mailto:lyn@lessonsfromnature.biz)

**Credentials:**

Lyn is a retired Kindergarten teacher. After retiring she followed her lifelong love of nature and gardening and received her Master Gardener certification from Cornell and began a garden consulting business, Lessons From Nature. Lessons From Nature provides on-site garden consulting and site assessment as well as selling organically grown perennials and native plants. Lyn is also an active volunteer for the Master Gardeners teaching and manning the hot line phones

**Topics/programs available:**

1. **Fall Gardening** – covers annuals, perennials, trees & shrubs, bulbs, tubers, when & how to divide, wintering over, weeds and protecting plants for winter.
2. **Spring Gardening** - What to do and when to do it in the garden in spring. A lot depends on the weather, but this program will cover the sequence of chores and how to do them.
3. **Five Steps to Better Gardening:** The program will cover the basics of successful gardening including:
  - a. Understanding your site and what will thrive there
  - b. Make a plan
  - c. Tools
  - d. Plant Care basics from purchasing and planting to dividing
  - e. Compost & mulch
4. **Gardening on a Dime with Less Time** – Covers many hints for saving time & money while improving your gardening.
5. **Gardening without Chemicals** - How to garden without harming the environment; an eco-friendly approach to gardening—saves time and money and improves your garden's sustainability. This program covers basic gardening principles that will enable you to have a healthy garden and lawn without using environmentally harmful products. The specific areas covered are:
  - a. Lawn care - starting a new lawn, maintaining an existing lawn, mowing, fertilizing
  - b. Watering perennials.
  - c. Insect and disease management
  - d. Composting: basics and how it improves your garden
6. **Creating A Natural Landscape** - How to utilize plants that will survive in your habitat with a minimum amount of care.

**Lyn Chimera cont'd**

7. **Using Native Plants in Your Garden** - The importance of using natives as well as a large variety of native plants that will grow successfully in our area.
  - a. What is a native plant vs. a weed or an invasive.
  - b. Advantages and disadvantages of growing natives.
  - c. How to grow native plants.
  - d. Where to get native plants.
  - e. Power Point program showing photographs of many natives grown in my yard growing requirements, and native range for each plant herbal properties where appropriate.
  - f. Attendees will receive an outline of the presentation as well as a complete list of plants covered.
8. **Pruning** - The how and why of good pruning technique and the tools you need. Excellent for late winter.
9. **Site Assessment** - A program from Cornell covering how to judge what will grow successfully on your property.
10. **Seasonal Assessment of a GC Member's Garden** - GC meets in one of their member's gardens and Lyn guides the group through a series of suggestions for maintenance, improvements, and seasonal chores.

**I can design a program to suit your needs.**

**Fee/mileage:** \$100

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Sally Cunningham  
**Address:** 1335 Blakeley Road, East Aurora, N.Y. 14052  
**Phone/s:** (716) 998-1573; **E-mail:** [sallylacewing@aol.com](mailto:sallylacewing@aol.com) (best communication method)

**Credentials:** Book author (*Great Garden Companions*), columnist (Buffalo News), TV gardening expert (WIVB-TV, Channel 4), former Cornell Cooperative Extension Agent, CNLP (Certified Landscape Consultant), consultant/educator at Lockwood's Greenhouses, Director of National Garden Festival.

**Topics/programs available:** (All PowerPoint style programs unless indicated otherwise; require your screen; prefer your digital projector/laptop but can supply them. Talks can be adapted for general audiences, keynote dinner programs, or for professional learners.)

- 1. Great Garden Companions:** Sally's book of the same name has now sold 44,000 copies nationally. The book and program present a chemical-free system of gardening with a focus on *companion* plant combinations—herbs, flowers, vegetables—that attract beneficial insects and other garden helpers. Get to know your beneficial insects! Originally written for vegetable gardeners, the book and talk also help flower gardeners create a biodiverse, nature-friendly yard. Book signing/sale follow.
- 2. Lessons from Garden Walk Gardens:** Garden Walk Buffalo, the largest event of its kind in the country, garners national publicity and attracts over 55,000 people. Upon its shoulders we've built a National Garden Festival. So *what makes one garden a "Wow" and another just 'rather pretty'? How do those gardeners get so much bang out of a small space—and in urban conditions? What plants, art, and artifacts really perform?* Let Sally show you gardens through new eyes as you "garden-walk" with her.
- 3. Native Plants and Eco-friendly Landscapes:** Suburban and urban homeowners have important roles in replacing the rapidly disappearing habitat upon which our birds and animals depend. Consider with Sally the plants and garden/landscape styling that work. Features underused native and some exotic, high-performing perennials, shrubs and trees. *During some seasons actual plants may be shown.*
- 4. More Bang with Perennials:** The American front yard lacks flowers all too often. This program shows professionals, gardeners and homeowners new ways to use perennials around their property. Sally recommends superior perennials (less known and newer to the market) for wet, droughty, shady, hot, or difficult places. *During some seasons Sally can bring perennial examples to show and sell afterward (optional).*
- 5. What Every Gardener and Homeowner Should Know:** Sally covers what everyone should all know (and so many don't) about the soil, trees, shrubs, flower beds and plant care—including plant selection, landscape design and eco-friendly "green" choices (low-care composting, water-wise plans, lawn alternatives). This high-energy; fast-moving talk is suitable for general audiences or any gardener who will be teaching and influencing others; time for questions. *No digital; classroom style, can be done outdoors; handouts.*
- 6. Great Plants/Great Gardens (with plants\*)** Choosing great plants is the secret of success, but how can you choose among so many new annuals, trees, shrubs, and improvements on the old perennials? Sally recommends superior plants for shade, sun, and other conditions, with tips on keeping them healthy. *Questions welcomed; handout and door prizes; no pictures; gardening season only; plants shown and available for sale.*

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Sally Cunningham cont'd.**

**7. What Every Landscaper (and Homeowner) Should Know:** Intense basic training for landscapers, CNLPs in training, consultants, or homeowners who want to take ownership of the landscape; will help you work with a landscaper as well. The talk also updates what longtime veteran landscapers and gardeners once learned about soil, amendments, trees, flowers, pests, pruning, and cultural/site problems. Includes the most-asked consumer questions. (Straight teaching, extensive handouts or notebook; no or very little digital; 1 to 3 hour choice; fee may vary)

**Fees:**

In Greater Buffalo/Niagara area: \$135 plus mileage at \$.50 per mile from home in East Aurora (for talks beyond 15 mile radius)

In nearby counties, Rochester, NW Pennsylvania (Drive over 1 hour; half day required): \$200 plus mileage (Longer distances, other states negotiable).

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS  
Speakers List**

**Name:** Dave Davis, Queen City Nursery  
**Address:** 4000 Harlem Road, Snyder, NY 14226  
**Phone/s:** 716-839-2626; **E-mail:** none

**Credentials:** Owned Queen City Nursery for over 56 years

**Topics/programs available:**

1. A Year in the Rose Garden
2. Lawns

**Fee/s and/or mileage:** \$85.00

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Nell Gardner  
**Address:** Graycliff Estate, 6472 Old Lakeshore Rd., Derby, NY 14047  
**Phone/s:** (716) 947-9217; **Nell's E-mail:** [ngardner@darwinmartinhouse.org](mailto:ngardner@darwinmartinhouse.org)  
**Group Tours E-mail:** [grouptours@graycliffestate.org](mailto:grouptours@graycliffestate.org)

**Graycliff Estate Website:** [www.graycliffestate.org](http://www.graycliffestate.org)  
**Darwin Martin Website:** [www.darwinmartinhouse.org](http://www.darwinmartinhouse.org)

**Credentials:** Horticulturist Darwin Martin House and Graycliff Estate

**Topics/programs available:** The Graycliff Gardens, Cutting Gardens, Pruning and tools class, House and Garden Tours, others upon request

**Group Tours:** We offer group tours of the Martin House, so Garden Clubs could come here as a group and receive a discounted price. Those arrangements can be made through **Evan** who coordinates the Tours **(716) 947-9217 or at the group tour e-mail listed above**. The tour will allow us to answer questions about the gardens and integrate the Landscape aspects throughout the tour, especially in relation to the architecture and intent of Wright's design.

**Group Class: Sharpest Tool in the Shed:** Lecture and sharpening demonstration to gain a comprehensive understanding of the "tools of the trade." Learn how modern technology has changed gardening since the turn of the last century and get tips to strengthen your gardening skills.

**Price:** Priced at booking, to be determined

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS  
Speakers List**

**Name:** Colleen Gaskill, Landscape Design Specialist  
**Address:**  
**Phone:** 716-628-9023  
**E-mails:** cghummingbird7@gmail.com or colleen@adamsnuseries.com

**Credentials:**

**Topics/ Programs**

1. Butterfly Garden
2. Garden Paths
3. Grass Gardens
4. Kids Garden
5. Ponds
6. Pruning
7. Putting Your Garden to Bed
8. Sitting Garden

**Fee and /or mileage:** \$75

## **Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS Speakers List**

**Name:** Albert J. Gilewicz  
**Address:** 191 Huxley Drive, Snyder, NY 14226  
**Phone:** **Cell:** 716-523-9887; **E-Mail:** [ajgilewicz@gmail.com](mailto:ajgilewicz@gmail.com)

## Credentials:

BS Civil Engineering - Union College, Schenectady NY; MBA Loyola University, Chicago, IL

35 years of practical environmental experience providing consultation to individuals and major corporations. Instructor of hands-on practical environmental courses for all skills & ages.

**Topics/Programs Available:** All programs presented at garden club meeting location.

## The Garden Revolution: A Call to Trowels:

Designed specifically for the home gardener, this presentation focuses on the potential impact 90 million gardeners in the United States could have on climate change following the concept of "think global and act local". Even if you do not believe in climate change, this compelling presentation will prompt you into action and in the process show you how you can save money at the same time. Attendees are encouraged to bring at least one family member, relative or neighbor to understand how the active gardener's close relationship with nature can help solve what is predicted to be the largest problem facing the world in the near future. You will walk away with a list of actions easily taken to reduce your own carbon footprint. (35 minutes plus Q&A)

## What is Your Carbon Footprint?

Not a day goes by without some media outlet discussing our carbon footprint and the consequences of failing to take action to reduce our carbon emissions. Severe weather conditions. Rising water levels in the oceans. Warmer summers. 97% of all scientists believe that mankind's carbon footprint may be at the core of these environmental impacts.

Whether you believe in climate change or not, this presentation will explain what makes up your carbon footprint and more importantly, practical actions you can take while saving money and maintaining your current lifestyle. This presentation will provide you with the ability to complete an inventory of your current carbon footprint, identify areas to reduce your carbon footprint and calculate your individual monetary savings. All attendees will be provided with a small take home booklet as a guide through the process and to monitor progress. (60 minutes w/5 minute break plus Q&A)

<b>Fee Structure:</b>	The Garden Revolution: A Call to Trowels	\$40
	What is Your Carbon Footprint?	\$50

**Mileage Surcharge:** Erie Co. \$ 0  
Niagara Co. \$15  
Chautauqua Co. \$20

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS  
Speakers List**

**Name:** Geri Hens  
**Address:** Hens Honey Bee Farm, Pendleton, NY  
**Phone/s:** 716-625-9322 or 716-439-0870: **E-mail:**  
**Website:** [www.henshoneybeefarm.com](http://www.henshoneybeefarm.com)

**Credentials:** VP WNY Honeybee Producers Association, 1999-2009  
Bee Specialist for Cornell Cooperative Extension - Niagara County

**Topics/programs available:** Pollinators

**Fee/s and/or mileage** \$75.00

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Conrad Jason

**Address:** 9415 Steffi Drive, Angola, NY 14006

**Phone:** None;      **Email:** [jaslife@verizon.net](mailto:jaslife@verizon.net)

**Credentials to be noted:** Naturalist, Coordinator for NYDEC Water Assessment Program, Coordinator for NYDEC Environmental Programs (PTL), Cornell University online courses on climate change, teach numerous wildlife and computer workshops.

**Topics/Programs with titles:**

1. Bird ID and Migration
2. Bugs/ insects, pollination, pollution,
3. Native plants
4. Climate change
5. Wildlife photography
6. Soil bio and roots, symbiotic and fertilizer in the garden

I have a number of PowerPoint presentations and can design a workshop to meet your group's needs.

**Speaking/Workshop Fee & mileage fee if applicable:** No fee if roughly 15 miles from Town of Evans

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Nancy Kalieta  
**Address:** 3166 Clearview Way, Blasdell, NY 14219  
**Phone:** 826-7462; **Cell** 435-4711; **E-mail:** nancyk212@aol.com

**Credentials:**

MS in Education, taught for 34 years; Volunteer coordinator Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens

**Topics/programs available:**

**1. Victorian Language of Flowers** (PowerPoint slideshow) approx. 45-50 min.

Brief summary of Queen Victoria's life

Presentation of Victorian homes and fashions

Discussion of social mores and courtship

Use of tussie-mussies to express sentiment

Flowers and their meanings

Legends associated with flowers

**2. Famous Crystal Palaces** (PowerPoint slideshow) approx. 45-50 min.

Visual tours of Phipps Conservatory, Longwood Gardens, Sonnenberg Gardens

Conservatory of Flowers, U.S. Botanic, Mitchell Park, Fairchild Gardens, Crystal Bridge and Brooklyn Botanic Gardens.

History of greenhouses and problems facing them today

**Fee/s and/or mileage:** \$50; Mileage negotiated over 25 miles

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Claudia Kolbe-Hawthorne  
**Address:** 3 Beale Avenue/ Cheektowaga, New York 14225-2008  
**Phone:** 716 491-5549, cell E-mail: [hdhckh@msn.com](mailto:hdhckh@msn.com)

**Credentials/Expertise:**

Horticulture, Niagara County Master Gardener

**Topics/programs available:**

- Spring garden: The spring garden, boasting an extensive array of bulbs has been featured in the Buffalo-Niagara Gardens digital magazine  
PowerPoint presentation on tulips available
- Summer garden: The Summer Garden is a Buffalo-Niagara Gardens Open Garden which has been a stop on several bus trips.
- Roses – PowerPoint presentation
- Personalized group tours.

**Fee/s and/or mileage:** Negotiable fee. No fee for travel expenses.

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Donna Lipowicz  
**Address:** 88 Basswood Dr., Buffalo, NY 14227  
**Phone/s:** Phone: 716- 479-7698; E-mail: ladysliper@roadrunner.com

**Credentials:**

Second year Student Judge for the American Orchid Society, studying at the AOS Judging Center in Toronto, Canada; judged shows all over Canada, New York, Ohio, Michigan, Florida, and Pennsylvania; 20 years of growing and showing orchids; own a collection of approximately 100 orchids including Ladyslippers, Vandals, Phalaenopsis, and Cattleya's.

I am a member of the Niagara Frontier Orchid Society which has the great privilege of not only caring for the orchid collection at the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, but holding two orchid shows per year in February and November at the beautiful century old Victorian style tri-domed glass conservatory in South Park.

**Topics/programs available:**

PowerPoint Presentations (I have my own projector would need a screen or a wall.)

- 1) Orchids for Everyone: Easiest Ones to Care For.
- 2) Antelope Dendrobiums
- 3) Paphiopedilum sukhakulii

Hands-on Workshops:

- 1) How to Repot an Orchid
- 2) How to Mount an Orchid

I could prepare something in particular if there was a request, with some lead time of course.

**Fee/s and/or mileage:** \$75; mileage for travel over 20 miles from (South Cheektowaga)

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Master Gardeners of Erie County Speakers Bureau  
Lorraine Van Slooten, Coordinator, Outreach Speakers Bureau

**Address:** Cornell Cooperative Extension  
21 South Grove St. East Aurora, NY 14052 (716) 652-5400

**Phone:** 716.652.5400 ext. 177

**Email:** sin2@cornell.edu or mgerie@cornell.edu

**Credentials:**

Looking for speakers for your garden club? Master Gardeners of Erie County can provide a speaker on most any gardening related topic. Our members have received comprehensive training, have access to current research from Cornell University, and keep up to date on a variety of topics of interest to gardeners.

We can also customize a presentation to a particular topic or area of interest to your Garden Club. We welcome your interest and are happy to answer any questions you might have.

**Topics/programs available:**

- A Visit to English Gardens
- Beyond Impatiens: Using Annuals in the Garden
- Caring for Houseplants, Identifying Plant Problems
- Creating Color Combinations in Containers
- Emerald Ash Borer: Choosing Replacements for Lost Trees
- Fragrance in the Garden
- Good Bugs, Bad Bugs: Organic Gardening & Integrated Pest Management
- Herb Gardening
- Hypertufa Containers
- Monarch Madness: Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden
- Multiply & Divide: Making New Plants for Your Garden
- Native Plants for Western New York Gardens
- Perennials for Every Garden
- Seed Starting: Getting a Head-start in the Garden
- Soil, Compost & Mulch: Why Dirt Matters
- Spring/Fall Garden Maintenance
- Winter Sowing: Low cost planting in milk jugs

**Fees/mileage:**

The suggested donation for Master Gardener speakers is \$50-75. All proceeds go to advance the programs and projects of the Master Gardeners, a program of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County (CCE Erie).

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Cathy McGovern, Owner Trillium's Courtyard Florist  
**Address:** 2195 Kensington Ave., Amherst, NY 14226  
**Phone/s:** 716-839-2033 **E-mail:** [cathy.mcgoran@trilliumfloral.com](mailto:cathy.mcgoran@trilliumfloral.com)

**Credentials:**

Has owned and operated Trillium's Courtyard Florist since 1980.

**Topics/programs available:**

Call to discuss topics

**Fee/s and/or mileage:** Negotiable

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS  
Speakers List**

**Name:** Julie Mc Indoo  
**Address:** 12200 Taylor Rd., Lawtons, NY 14091  
**Phone/s:** 716-337-2531; **Cell:** 716-479-3552; **E-mail:** [j.mcindoo@att.net](mailto:j.mcindoo@att.net)

**Credentials:**

Retired art teacher and life-long gardener with 18 perennial beds and a 66' x 100' picking garden on a 50 acre farm; studied to be a Master Gardener through Univ. of Guelph, Ontario, CAN; presently operating Mc Indoo Farms- Arts & Flowers giving adult education classes in watercolors and providing flowers for special occasions and weddings.

**Topics/programs available:**

1. "How to Have a Continuous Blooming Garden" – includes a 4 page handout of plants to grow in zone 4. Slides or computer projection
2. "How to Put Your Garden to Bed" - Slides or computer projection
3. "Edible Plants, Flowers & Herbs" - Slides or computer projection
4. "How to Be a Successful Artist" – putting your garden first to create art
5. "Travels to Monet's Garden" - Slides or computer projection
6. "Travels to Italy in the Tuscan Region" - Slides or computer projection
7. "Travels to France – Provence" - Slides or computer projection

**Fee/s and/or mileage:**                   \$100.00 per lecture/slide presentation  
  \$10.00 per person garden visits

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS  
Speakers List**

**Name:** Carole Melnik, A Snails' Place  
**Address:** 6550 Seneca St., (between Transit and Jamison Rd) Elma, NY  
**Phone/s:** 716-652-3355; **E-mail:** SPFlower@aol.com

**Credentials:**

Floral design – Society of American Florists; 35 years in retail sales; frequent District 8 speaker

**Topics/programs available:**

You are invited to a shopping and instructional outing at **A Snails Place** with at least 12 guests but no more than 25. We provide refreshments from our gourmet section as well as a short, lively, floral demonstration in our design studio based on time of year and level of skill.

Fun with Fruit  
Japanese Kenzans  
Holiday Easy Table Ideas

Early booking is advisable. Store hours: 11 am to 6 pm  
Call the store for more information. We'd love to have you visit.

**Fee/s and/or mileage:**

No charge for visiting the store  
Speaker fee for out-of-store programs is **\$50.00**  
Mileage for distance more than 25 miles

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS  
Speakers List**

**Name:** David Newman  
**Address:** 12645 Rt 78, East Aurora, NY, 14052  
**Phone:** 716-652-9120  
**E-mail:** newmiesbees@verizon.net

**Credentials:**

Beekeeper since 2014. Currently manages about 20 bee hives in Erie, Wyoming and Cortland Counties in New York State. President of the Western New York Honey Producers Association (WNYHPA) – A local beekeeping club; [www.wnyhpa.org](http://www.wnyhpa.org)

**Topics/programs available:**

All About Honey and Bees – Presentation gives an understanding of honey bees and their relationship to flowers. How bees make honey. What honey consists of and many uses of honey are discussed.

**Fee/s and/or mileage:** \$65

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS  
Speakers List**

**Name:** Robert Poczik  
**Address:** 8670 Howard Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221  
**Phone/s:** 716-632-7617; **E-mail:** [rpoczik@gmail.com](mailto:rpoczik@gmail.com)

**Credentials to be noted:** M.S. in Education

**Topics/programs available:** Japanese Gardens; Frederick Law Olmsted

**Fee/s and/or mileage:** Negotiable (generally \$75)

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Kathy Guest Shadrack  
**Address:** 8399 Zimmerman Road, Hamburg, NY 14075  
**Phone/s:** 716-94-6167; **Email:** irisborer@aol.com (preferred method of contact)

**Credentials:**

Currently Recording Secretary Hosta Society, board member Buffalo Botanical Gardens, and co-author of *The Book of Little Hostas* (Timber Press). Kathy is an avid plantswoman collecting iris, hostas, daylilies, ephemerals, epimediums, ariseamas and many dwarf plants. She is a knowledgeable and engaging speaker.

**Topics/Programs available**

- 1. Honey, I Shrunk the Hostas:** 1 hour - (slides) Based on *The Book of Little Hostas*. A review of small and mini hostas, their shapes and colors that are available in the market; where to display them to best advantage, and special cultural needs including winterizing. Mike Shadrack helps with this talk.
- 2. Shady Characters:** 45 Min. There is more to the shade garden than hostas. Consider the lesser known shade tolerant plants; epimediums, ariseamas, disporiums and ephemerals. An overview of plants that are not difficult but may not be commonly grown.

**Fees and Expenses:**

\$100.00 plus traveling expenses (negotiable). A screen and dark room is required. Equipment will be provided. A table from which books can be sold and signed would be appreciated.

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Name:** Mike Shadrack  
**Address:** 8399 Zimmerman Road, Hamburg, NY 14075  
**Phone/s:** 716-941-6167; Email: [h8staman@aol.com](mailto:h8staman@aol.com) (preferred method of contact)

**Credentials:** Currently Vice President American Hosta Society and the author and photographer of several books. Mike is a knowledgeable, engaging and humorous speaker who has gardened on both sides of the Atlantic and who has previously given talks in England, The Netherlands, Canada, and 20 of the 50 states.

**Topics/Programs available:**

- 1. Hosta - The Flowering Foliage Plant:** An introduction to the joys of hostas. A talk geared to garden clubs and plant society members.
- 2. Chelsea Flower Show:** A review of the history, organization, set-up and ambiance of the world's best and most famous flower show (this talk can exceed 1 hour)
- 3. Eric Smith, Master Hybridizer:** An in-depth look at the life and works of this famous British plant hybridizer, known for his work with perennials, especially hostas and for his association with the famous gardens at Hadsden House.
- 4. A Wander Through English Gardens:** A lighthearted tour through the gardening obsession in the UK showing famous as well as private gardens
- 5. 'H2O' (Hosta, Hemerocallis and Others):** a look at the organization of horticulture in the UK
- 6. Hostas in the English Garden:** A review of English gardens and how hostas feature in English gardening.
- 7. Plant Photography:** A simple talk about getting the best from your photographic equipment when photographing hostas and other plants by a dinosaur who is still using slide film
- 8. Little Wonders:** The charm of very small and mini hostas - an exploration of growing the smallest hostas... special cultural needs, container growing and selections.
- 9. Eight English Gardens:** A tour of four pairs of gardens in different corners of southeast England that have totally different gardening styles and contents.

**Fees and Expenses:**

Fees vary from \$100.00 plus traveling expenses to \$400.00 plus expenses

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

depending on the size of the anticipated audience. Mike has no objection to organizations charging an audience entry fee. A darkened room and a screen are required. Other necessary equipment will be provided. A table from which books can be sold and signed would be appreciated.

**Name:** Claudette J. Smith  
**Address:** 23 Thicketwood Place, Bayshore Village,  
Brechin, ON L0K1BO, CANADA  
**Phone:** 705-484-0173  
**E-mail:** [smithclaudeltj@gmail.com](mailto:smithclaudeltj@gmail.com)

**Credentials:**

NGCI Board of Directors - 2011-2013;  
Accredited NGC Master Flower Show Judge  
President, Ken-Sheriton G.C., District VIII FGCNYS  
International WAFA Designer 1993, 2002, 2009, 2011  
NGC International Affiliate Judge (Garden Clubs of  
Ontario/Royal Botanical Gardens - Canada)  
Member, Creative Flower Arrangers; National Flower  
Arrangers



**Topics/programs available:**

North American Design

Aroids Celebrating Club Anniversaries  
Basic through Advanced Design Course Series  
Design Techniques  
Duo Designs  
Exhibition Table Type II  
Fun with Flowers  
Fun with Foliages & Grasses  
Fun with Stems  
In a Blue Mood  
Mad Hatters  
Op Art" Designs  
Panel Designs  
Parallel Designs  
Reflective Designs  
Small Designs  
Would It Be Wood?

Contemporary Horticulture Containers & Special Exhibits

European Design

Contemporary Designs  
Construct & Invent (Belgian)

Sub-Tropical

Flora, Flora  
Caribbean Christmas

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
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Flowers in the City & Euroflora (Italy)	Dried Wreaths Cayman
Island style	
Green with Envy (Ireland)	Friends of the Arts Banquet
Designs	
Italian Modern Mass	Turks, Caicos Garden Club Arboretum of Grand Turk, TCI

**Fee:** To be determined with signed contract

**Name:** Sarah Sorci

**Address:** Gerry, NY 14740 (So. Chataqua County)

**Phone:** 716-997-2007

**E-mail:** [sarah@sweetflagherbs.com](mailto:sarah@sweetflagherbs.com)      <https://sweetflagherbs.com>

**Credentials:** Owner of Sweet Flag Herbs since 2015, specializing in herbal classes and educational resources. Author of Living Ancestry: Connecting with Cultural Heritage through Plants, Nature, and Our Senses. Author of the blog A Nourishing Harvest: Exploring Environmental Contamination Issues that Affect Gardeners and Foragers.

Completed Holistic Herbalism program at Blue Ridge School of Herbal Medicine in 2014. Clinical Herbalism student at the Eclectic School of Herbal Medicine. Certificate in Horticultural therapy, Colorado State/American Horticultural Therapy Institute (2014).

**Topics/Programs with titles:** (I'm happy to work with a requested topic as well)

- 1.) **Native Culinary Herbs for the Home Garden** - Native plants are gaining popularity for their support of wildlife, beauty, and adaptation to the local environment. However, native species are often absent from herb gardens and nursery herb departments. In this class, Sarah will spotlight several native plants that add flavor and flair to our dishes. We'll discuss growing conditions and how to use these plants in the kitchen. (See note about online course, #5).
- 2.) **Medicinal Plants for the Home Garden** - Whether you have a spacious backyard or a stoop for a few containers, you can enjoy beautiful, easy-to-grow plants with medicinal properties. In this class, Sarah will introduce you to safe uses of a few common ornamentals and introduce a several less-common plants as well. Sarah will include tips for cultivation and preparation after harvest.
- 3.) **Native Medicinal Plants for the Home Garden** - This class has a similar theme to #2, but we'll focus on plants that are native to the Eastern US.
- 4.) **Backyard Remedies of Western NY** - Wild edible & medicinal plants abound in Western NY. In this class, Sarah will focus on those that are easily found in lawns and gardens. Learn about identification and unique properties of plants like self-heal, burdock, violet, and more. We will discuss safe and sustainable harvesting, and what to do with these common "weeds."
- 5.) **Garden club members receive a 10% discount** on my upcoming online course: Native Culinary Herbs for the Home Garden.

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

Register at: [sweetflagherbs.com/shop](http://sweetflagherbs.com/shop) Use code at checkout: GARDEN10  
Course may be completed at one's own pace; no live sessions. Each student must have their own registration/account. Discount code may be used for other items in the shop.

**Speaking/Workshop Fee & mileage fee if applicable:**

45 min-1 hour talk \$150 including plant and/or recipe samples (if applicable for topic/season)

On Zoom \$120; For locations further than 20 miles from my Gerry home: add \$.67 per mile (Standard IRS).

**Name:** Jacqueline Swift, Owner, Rainbow's End Herbs

**Address:** 20084 Hooker Hill Rd. Perrysburg, NY 14129

**Phone:** 716-532-6022; **E-mail:** [jcourtneystaff@aol.com](mailto:jcourtneystaff@aol.com)

**Credentials:**

The 1840's farm and shop, Rainbow's End Herbs, has been in business since 1978 specializing in organic culinary, medicinal and fresh cut herbs and garlic. They offer classes, tours and consultations.

**Topics /programs available:**

- 1. Herbs for Women's Health** - Many herbs offer powerful effects for enhancing the function of the female body. Learn about plants for childbirth and lactation, menopause, breast health and more. One-hour talk.
- 2. Herbs Through the Ages** - A one-hour lecture with emphasis on past and present-day uses of herbs as healing agents for self-care. The talk includes suggestions and recipes. A workshop includes a second hour with a hands-on class in ointment and tea preparation. Materials fee.
- 3. Living in Balance** - The basics of good living are proper nutrition, exercise, sunshine, fresh air, inner peace and laughter. In this one-hour talk, we will explore how these work together and how herbs can enhance the process of living in health.
- 4. Herbs at Risk** - Over-harvesting, development and logging are threatening certain wild herb populations. Explore the problem and some valuable solutions. One-hour slide presentation.
- 5. The World Herb and Spice Industry** - A close look at the very large and important business of herbs and spices. Discussion of industrial processes, wide-scale cultivation and production of items such as morphine, digitalis, spice extracts and oils. One-hour talk.

6. **Other** - Other lectures and workshop topics: Basic Family Nutrition; Cooking with Natural-Foods; Culinary; Botany; Indian Harvests - Plants of the Native Americans; Winter Ailments; Colonial Heirloom Gardens; and The Art of Tea.
7. **Shrubs and Trees for Healing** – Elderberry, rose and hawthorn are just a few of the wooded herbs that provide good medicine. Learn about identification, folklore, harvesting methods and remedy preparation of many local species. One hour lecture/demonstration

**Fees:** Workshops: **\$40 per hr.** - minimum two hours, plus materials fee  
One-hour lecture: **\$75**; Mileage at **.50 per mile**

**Name:** Wild Birds Unlimited, owners Danielle Pecoraro and Marilyn O'Connell  
**Address:** 3835 McKinley Parkway, Suite 1, Blasdell, NY 14219  
**Phone:** 716-823-7889; **E-mail address:** [wbublany@verizon.net](mailto:wbublany@verizon.net)  
**Website:** [www.wbu.com/blasdell](http://www.wbu.com/blasdell)

**Credentials:**

We are Your Backyard Birdfeeding Specialists® who have owned and operated Wild Birds Unlimited in Blasdell for 14 years

**Topics/programs available:**

1. **Fall & Winter Backyard Birds** – Birds you can expect to see and what they eat. Slide show presentation is approximately 1 hour in length.
2. **Spring & Summer Backyard Birds** – Birds you can expect to see and what they eat. Slide show presentation is approximately 1 hour in length.

Both programs have gorgeous slides. We have our own projector but would need a screen or white wall. We travel to the club's location.

Programs are available Jan- April; Sept – Nov; evenings preferred

**Fee/s and/or mileage:**

\$75.00 (subject to change)  
Money goes directly to Messinger Woods Wildlife Rehabilitation.  
They help all injured and orphaned wildlife.

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS**  
**Speakers List**

**Eighth District, Federated Garden Clubs of NYS  
Speakers List**

**Name:** Jeannette Williams  
**Address:** 617 Mill Road, East Aurora, NY 14052  
**Phone:** 716-655-0340;      **E-mail:** williamsdi@roadrunner.com

**Credentials:**

Volunteer, docent, and instructor in botany at the Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens.

**Topics/programs available:**

- 1. Botany Workshop - Why Plants are Important?**
- 2. Interesting Facts About Vegetables, Fruits and Spices** - PowerPoint Presentation discusses where on the planet vegetables, fruits and spices grow.
- 3. Plant Propagation** – PowerPoint Presentation discussing methods of plant propagation with **How to Make a Cutting** a hands-on workshop activity (\$5.00 per person for supplies).
- 4. Pollination** - PowerPoint Presentation discussing pollination and **Taking Apart an Alstromeria Lily** a hands-on workshop activity (\$5.00 per person for supplies)
- 5. Taking Care of House Plants** - PowerPoint Presentation, discussing care and placement of plants in your house.

I have projector but will need large screen or a light colored wall space to project the PowerPoint Presentation and a table for supplies and projector

**Fee/s and/or mileage:**

Presentations: \$50:00  
Workshop activity: \$5.00 per person

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### **Speakers List**

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