



Figure Eight

July, August, September 2023 Volume 69 Number 3



Debbie Braun 1960-2023

Well done, our good and faithful friend,
May you rest in the most beautiful of gardens.

This photo of Debbie was taken after the set up of the Fair Flower Show in 2019.

FIGURE 8 **EDITORIAL STAFF**

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FIGURE 8 DEADLINES

Deadline for next Figure 8...September 1, 2023

(Articles received after 9/1/23 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

\$80 per issue

2 1/2" 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: Melissa Marcus

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Director's Message

I recently attended the FGCNYS Annual Meeting and Installation on Long Island that was co-chaired by our own Nancy Kalieta. It was an exciting, informative event. Speakers included guest speaker Kevin Weeks who presented an interesting program on Bayard Cutting Arboretum and a wonderful Design Program with Erin Meany from the flower shop 'Topiars'. The incoming and outgoing District Directors had a chance to meet and exchange ideas. District 2 presented a spectacular Flower Show, "Let the Trumpets Sound." On the way home we visited Bayard Cutting Arboretum and Queens Botanical Garden.

Meanwhile, back at home, Garden Clubs were busy having plants sales, Flower shows and maintaining Civic Plantings.

Upcoming events include the District VIII Board Meeting and Picnic Lunch with "Garden Gallery" on July 13 and a Life Member's Luncheon on July 27. August 9-30 is the Erie County Fair. Thank you to Monica Hansen and all members who help make the Flower Show a success. I look forward to seeing your designs and horticulture specimens.

Looking ahead to the District VIII Fall meeting and Luncheon and the CAR-SGC Convention and Tri-refresher in Corning, NY. It will be fun and informative, and our own Monica Hansen will be installed as CAR-SAG President.

Hope to see you soon,

Melissa Marcus

TIP of the HAT
with THANKS & APPRECIATION to



- ➔ Linda Blyth, Figure 8 Editor
 - ➔ Susan Loughran, Website Manager
- ...because communication is so important!



EIGHTH DISTRICT FALL MEETING & LUNCHEON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 2023



**The COLUMNS BANQUETS
2221 TRANSIT Road, Elma, NY 14059**

**9:00 am Registration (coffee & tea)
10:00 am Business Meeting
12:00 noon Luncheon \$32.00 per person
followed by Presentation**

Menu choices:

Chicken Souvlaki (Marinated Chicken Tenderloins with roasted baby potatoes and steamed string beans)

Caesar Salmon Salad

Special Dietary Request (Vegetarian, Gluten Free, Dairy Free, etc.)

Note: All entrees include Lemon Chicken Rice Soup, Rolls and Butter,
Baked Apple Crisp, Coffee/Tea

Program: “Holidays Ahead” Two Designers, Brooke Unversaw of Queen B’s Cottage and Linda Moscati of Vintage in the Loft, both in Lewiston, will create tablescapes for the holidays featuring everyday objects and home decor.

Table Design: For Fall, the design should include at least one pumpkin and designer’s choice of other components. Place your design in the center of your table by 10:30 am for judging.

Registration Form

Fall Meeting and Luncheon, Thursday, October 12th, 2023

Registration Deadline is **September 12th**, 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: Julie Furminger
89 Melody Lane, Tonawanda, NY 14150-9107

Club Name: _____

Club President: _____

Number attending: _____

Life Members: _____

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

Get Your Garden Ready for Visitors

To keep your garden looking **GREAT** (or at least presentable) all summer:

- Deadhead spent blooms and get rid of the weeds.
- Keep the edges looking crisp-clip the grass around the edges of your garden(s)
- Pull out or cut back anything that is not performing well; a wilted or dying plant is an eyesore and becomes a focal point.
- Limit tchotchkes (lawn & garden ornaments). Ask a trusted friend to tell you the truth about whether you've overdone it.
- Use organic mulch in your flower & vegetable garden to limit weeds and conserve moisture.

Don't forget to take advantage of the many weekend garden tours and Open Gardens on Thursdays and Fridays in July... quite a few 8th District members participate in Open Gardens. Check

www.gardensbuffaloniagara.com online for where to purchase a guidebook.

Important! Make sure to take the time to enjoy the fruits of your labor: sit, look, listen, inhale and enjoy your summer garden!



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Directory Additions & Corrections

Joan Portik - Speaker Resources, email correction:

joanportik2100@gmail.com

Adrienne Pasquariello - change of address: 74 Arborwood Dr. Lancaster
NY 14086-4460

Environmental: Anne Dyet

Parliamentarian: Anne Dyet

Awards Co-chairs: Sue Rudnicki, Sarah Tobin

Awards Meeting Representative: Susie Maron

Reservations: Julie Furminger

Vendors: Mary Fran Lovelace

Meeting Coordinator: Frank Enders



Remembering Debbie

submitted by Monica Hansen

Debbie Braun, my very good and close friend, passed away peacefully on Saturday, May 13 following a long and hard-fought battle. Now she can rest and spend time with all the family members and pets who have gone before her.

Debbie spent so much of her life volunteering and sharing with others. Although Debbie truly enjoyed the time spent with our garden clubs, Debbie had been the driving force behind Paws for Love, in connection with the SPCA, for several years before becoming involved with our garden clubs. Most of us know that other than her family, Paws for Love was her real passion. But true to form, once Debbie made a commitment, she put the time and effort into it to make sure it became the best it could be. Neither of us had been in garden clubs too long and before we knew it, we were working on the registration for the NGC Convention held here in Buffalo in 2012. I remember the hours and laughter we shared together, wondering how we became so involved. Shortly after that, Debbie was on her way to becoming our District VIII Director. She thoroughly enjoyed her time as our District Director, working with and meeting our members. And then the Erie County Fair Flower Show! True to form, she put her heart and soul into making that something our members could both enjoy participating in and be proud of as well. I think that whenever we think about our Flower Show at the Fair we will automatically think of Debbie as the inspiration behind making it what it is today.

As I've mentioned to some of you, I wriggled out of being co-chair to the Erie County flower show while Debbie was our District Director and I was FGCNYS President, but Debbie promptly brought me back in to work with her as co-superintendent following our terms. Now I picture her sitting on the edge of heaven looking down at me to make sure I don't goof up!



Youth Report

Dorothy Julius, Chair

As a young girl I remember my Mom starting a sweet potato suspended with tooth picks in a cup of water on our windowsill. Out of the eyes of the potato we would watch new shoots pop up. Little did I know my Mom was teaching me the lesson of **Reduce, Reuse & Recycle**. It is a great and fun way to teach our children how to regrow veggies out of kitchen scraps plus it is environmentally friendly. Instead of throwing those scraps in the garbage why not try to start new plants.

There are a number of vegetables you can regrow which include green onions, celery, Romaine lettuce, potatoes (both white and sweet), herbs, etc.

1. **Green Onions:** Save the root end of your onions and place a shallow dish of water in the sun. New greens will sprout to use in your salads.
2. **Romaine Lettuce:** Cut a 1" to 2" off the base. Place in shallow dish of water. Once it starts to grow new leaves plant it in soil. I have found if you add a spoon of soil to the water the root system is stronger for transplanting. For the best flavor harvest the leaves when they are 8 - 9" tall.
3. **Celery:** Same method as Romaine lettuce. Grows best in cooler conditions.
4. **Ginger:** Next time you have extra ginger root, don't freeze it. Instead plant it in soil indoors. I let the root dry a day prior to planting it. In a couple months you can harvest some.
5. **Root Vegetables:** Vegetables like beets, carrots, parsnips and turnips can be grown for their leafy greens. Place a 1 " piece of the vegetable top in a shallow dish of water in the sun. Use in your salads and sauté.
6. **Herbs:** Cuttings of herbs like basil, mint, and cilantro can be easily started in water. Cut just below a leaf set. Remove the bottom leaves and place in water. If you can use root tone or cinnamon. To avoid contamination always pour some on paper and roll stem in it. This will promote growth and less contamination. Plain water works well too.
7. **Potatoes:** Cut the potato into pieces with a couple of eyes on each piece. Allow the cut end to harden and dry a couple of days before planting in soil. This will prevent rotting.
8. **Sweet Potato:** With tooth picks suspend the potato in a cup of water. When the shoots are 4" tall, Twist them off and plant into soil. The shoots will produce new potatoes.

NOTE: For us gardeners we can start new plants with this same method on our dahlias. New plants can be started by taking cuttings from our plants. At the end of the season, you will find new tubers to save.

*Remember the seeds we sow today will become
the flowers of tomorrow.*

Happy Gardening!

**Life membership
SUMMER LUNCHEON**

Thursday, July 27th, 2023

In the Garden of the Twentieth Century Club

595 Delaware Ave. Buffalo, NY 14202

11:30 Arrival

12 noon Luncheon

Deadline for reservation is June 30th

**Now is the time to think about
a Life Membership.**

Your one-time donation of \$100.00 goes toward the FSCNYS membership fund.

Benefits of membership:

- support and maintain scholarship awards
- horticulture, design, conservation and landscape projects
- education
- prime seating at District luncheons, if you wish

Applications are available on the FGCNYS website.

Please feel free to contact me with questions.

Jolaine Houghton (Chair)

jolainehoughton1@yahoo.com

(716) 432-3319



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8th District HONOR ROLL



With Appreciation:

Honoree

Debbie Adams
MaryAnn Ansell
Eileen Carrier
Danielle Dezik
Nancy Kalieta
Darcy Krull
Annette Kuhn
Dorothy Romanczuk
Sue Vantine

In Remembrance:

Honoree

Debbie Braun
Debbie Braun
Debbie Braun
Debbie Braun
Marylou Chamberlain
Pat DiSarno
Judith Holtho
Mildred Lewis

Terry Skura, Chair

Donor

Maryann Jumper
Forest Stream GC
Terry Skura
Hamburg House & Garden
Hamburg House & Garden
Terry Skura
Maryann Jumper
Maryann Jumper
Hamburg House & Garden

Donor

Dorothy Julius
Maryann Jumper
Jeremiah Miller
Terry Skura
Darcy Krull
Amana GC
Darcy Krull
Darcy Krull

August 26, 2023 is the deadline for submissions to appear in the fall issue. Honor Roll grants will be awarded at the District Spring meeting in April. Please know that all funds stay in the District.

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.

BOOKS IN BLOOM

SMALLWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Presents a

Standard Flower Show

Saturday, September 23, 2023
2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Sunday, September 24, 2023
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Audubon Library 350 J J Audubon Parkway Amherst, N Y 14228
Free and Open to the Public



EIGHTH DISTRICT FGCNYS

Summer Board Meeting &
Picnic Lunch

Thursday, July 13th, 2023
Amherst Presbyterian Church
151 Youngs Road
Williamsville, NY 14221

Business Meeting 10:00 am

Lunch 12:00 n

Theme: "Garden Gallery"

Please bring a piece of art from your home that speaks to you of gardens or flowers. Write a short explanation about your choice on a card to be displayed with it. Examples: a painting that inspired you, an embroidered tablecloth or a photo of a special landscape

"The Best Reuben Sandwich in WNY"

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Ground Cover Beyond Pachysandra

Plants to cover bare soil have long been a staple of any garden.

Basically, any plant that covers the ground can be used as groundcover. It doesn't have to be low growing. Groundcover provides all sorts of benefits to a garden including less weeding, protection from soil erosion, reduction of water evaporation, softening edges, and protection of perennials from harsh winter temperature fluctuations.

Ground covers also act as a living mulch to improve soil and can be a beautiful addition to any garden by adding interest, texture, and beauty.

The following are some alternatives for pachysandra, myrtle, and ivy. They are all deer resistant.

Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*) is an outstanding shade native for hard to grow sites. It forms a dense cover with somewhat large attractive heart shaped leaves about 8-10 inches high. Better used around a tree than interspersed with other plants.

Astilbe is a shade-loving flowering plant that comes in a variety of sizes and colors of bloom. *Astilbe chinensis*, has low growing foliage, 6 – 8 inches, with a spike of lavender bloom in late summer when not much is blooming. It makes a great dense ground cover for the front of a border.



Gold Star (*Chrysogonum virginianum*) is an excellent native ground cover for sun to shade. It has deep green textured leaves

with lovely yellow blooms in spring with a smaller rebloom in late summer. An aggressive grower that will quickly cover an area.

Japanese Painted Fern (*Athyrium niponicum*) makes a lovely color and texture addition to any shade garden. It is lower growing than many ferns (about 12-16 inches) and has graceful arched fronds as opposed to the upright fronds on many ferns. It is not aggressive so can be used among other shade perennials. Prefers moist soil.

Lungwort (*Pulmonaria*) is a lovely spring blooming perennial that comes in a variety of bloom colors. The mottled leaves add great visual interest. It grows well in shaded areas and is not aggressive so won't take over.

Dwarf comfrey (*Symphytum grandiflorum*) is a real work horse. It's low growing deep green leaves cover ground quickly. It will do well in part sun or shade and has lovely bell like blossoms in spring. This plant is slow to establish but spreads well once it does.

Bugle weed (*Ajuga*) is a fast spreading, low growing plant for sun to shade that has a lovely purple to lavender upright bloom in the spring. It comes in a variety of foliage colors from "chocolate" to variegated. It is an aggressive spreader once established and not a good choice for between other perennials. It also works well in blooming or bee lawns.

These are only a few of the many possibilities for ground cover. Think outside the box!

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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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What's the Buzz?

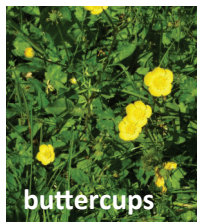


11th District
Erie County
Legislator,

John Mills issued NGD proclamations
to honor Eden Garden Study ,
Orchard Park ,and Evans Garden Clubs.

Photo taken at the Eden Central Jr. Sr.
High school Green House shows: L to R:
Dawn Seggio, Lana Gardener, 2023-24
Co-Presidents and Marlene Sullivan,
2020-2023 President

Photo and caption info: Michelle Wilson



buttercups

Perennials:



English Daisies



National Gardening Day Surprise !



MORE RECOGNITION... East Aurora environmental group ACES (Aurorans for Climate and Environmental Sense) recently acknowledged East Aurora Garden club with an official "Bring your own container" sticker. EAGC members have been bringing their own utensils and table settings as a best practice for years. No paper OR plastic has been used, keeping meeting trash out of landfill. *Photo and info : Esther Kopp*

AMANA DOES IT AGAIN...

WHATZ THIS?



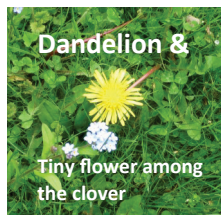
...THIS (ARTICHOKE) DRIED.



PREPPING FOR A STANDARD FLOWER SHOW...

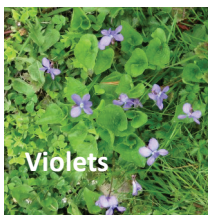
Smallwood Garden Club, under the direction of Kathy Massing with assist by Diane Sippel presented a workshop for members on traditional and creative design for their upcoming Standard Flower Show.

Centerpiece Left



Dandelion &

Tiny flower among the clover



Violets



Loveliest weed ever

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. These are just some of the “charming” results from choosing to celebrate pollinators by participating in No Mow May.
- Carol- Jo Pope/OPGC



It's official

The newly Installed District 8 Board: Front L to R: Frank Enders, Recording Secretary; Garda O'Keefe, 3rd Ass't Director, Melissa Marcus, District Director; Back L to R: Dorothy Romanczuk, Corresponding Secretary and Debbie (show me the money) Adams, Treasurer.

Melissa's Installation Reflects Her Thoughts...

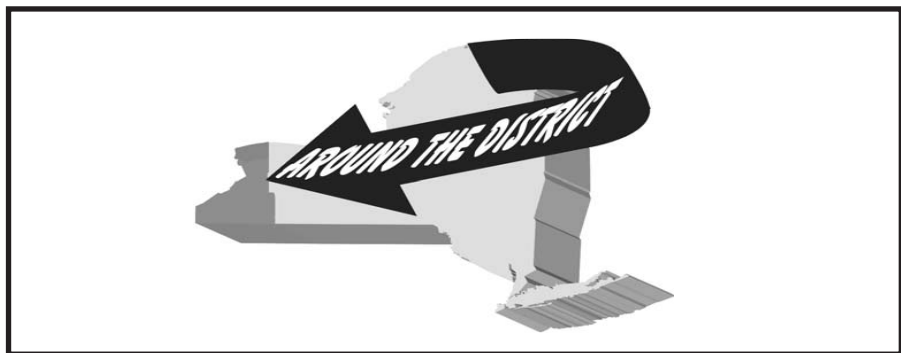


Above: Family table: L to R: Kathy and John Lazararus, Dan and Melissa Marcus, (standing) Mary Yager, The Prices: Richard, Maureen, David and Nancy.

In her “Director-Elect” Message (Figure 8: April, May, June 2023), Melissa reflected: “I’ve been thinking about our connections to family and friends, our Garden Clubs, District 8..., our gardens, nature and the environment.” In one line, Melissa included us all.

Melissa’s installation ceremony echoed those sentiments: *Top left photo: Anne Dyet and her son, Tim , serenaded our new District Director with a song “The Beautiful Niagara River” composed by her late father, Richard Price, as an engagement gift to Melissa’ Mother.*

Photo credit from video taken by Eileen Carrier, District 8 Historian Photographer



Club activities for July, August, September 2023

Erie I Peggy Koppman, Section Chair

Cinderella Isle GC (President: Pat Fabin) The annual picnic will be held in July at the home of a member. A patriotic theme is planned along with a White Elephant sale. In August the club will visit a local garden site to be determined. July and August gatherings will also include the Lunch Bunch program with visits to member gardens, some garden talk, and lunch. Fall Fabric Pumpkins are the project for September.

East Park GC (President: Rose Mary Madejski) The July meeting will include a tour of member gardens. President Rose Mary Madejski will host the annual picnic at her home in August. In September the club will meet at the home of a member to prepare for the October Fall Decorations workshop and to create fall centerpieces for the Community Missions of the Niagara Frontier.

Erie II Lily Zendano, Section Chair

GC of the Tonawandas (Debbie Proefrock, President) *Meetings –3rd Thursday at 6:30pm.* During the months of July and August no official meetings are held, as members are busy tending to their gardens. Several members will be participants of either the North Tonawanda Garden Walk held on July 8th and 9th, from 10 a.m.-3:00 p.m. both days or the garden walk in Tonawanda held on July 14th for Friday Night Lights from 8:30 - 11:00 p.m. and July 15th from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. On September 21, Geri Hens of Hens' Honey Bees will be speaking about the advantage of bees and other insects in maintaining a proper environment for growing plants.

Kenmore GC (Julie Furminger, President) *Meetings -2nd Tuesday at 10AM* Our annual tour of gardens will end at Frank Enders

continues on next page

home for a bag lunch. A bus trip to Hurd Orchards will take place in August. There will be a speaker on Monarch butterflies followed by a multi-cultural lunch. Members will promote our garden club at the Farmers Market at the Kenmore Village Green on August 20th. At our general meeting in September, Kristen Rosenburg will present a program on "Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve". It will include a general history of Reinstein Woods, flora and fauna, invasive species and information on the importance of using native plants. Activities include a workshop on making Kokedama Moss Balls and making decorations for the TR Site Victorian Christmas.

Ken-Sheriton GC (Therese Malchiore, President)

Meetings—2nd Tuesday at 7pm July is our Summer Picnic held at a member's home. We will also be touring several gardens of Kenmore Garden Club. August is preparation and implementation at the Erie County Fair. September we will gather at the church to plan the last quarter and look ahead to 2024.

Erie III Dorothy Romanczuk, Section Chair

Eden Garden Study (President Dawn Seggio) *Meeting 2nd Thursday - 7:00 p.m.* In July, members will tour some of the open gardens in the area and return to President Dawn's house for a potluck picnic. They will bring a garden item for their Live Auction fundraiser. August is busy with a table at the Corn Festival, many entries in the EC Fair including their first try at the outdoor garden, and an outing to Henry's Cutting Garden. Colleen Gaskill, a Landscape Design Specialist, will talk on "Putting Our Gardens to Bed" in September.

Evans GC (President Kathy Connolly) *Meeting 2nd Tuesday 7:00 pm* Evans GC annual picnic will be at the Evans Town Park on July 11th. Former president Miriam Oster previously made all members a dish caddy to enforce the environment theme. In August, the speaker will be Sara Sorci from Sweetflag Herbs. "Putting the Garden to Bed" is the September theme with members sharing their gardening tips.

Hamburg House & Garden (NEW President Michelee Hietanen) *Meetings: 4th Wednesday* July's program will be a tour of Linda Blyth's beautiful garden with lunch at a nearby restaurant. The August picnic will be at former president Carolyn Sheehy's home in Langford with a self-tour of grounds and view of the reservoir. Member's themed horticulture exhibits include their place settings with a floral arrangement. Audubon

continues on next page

Society's "Sustainability with Backyard Birds" is the theme for September.

Hamburg GC (Co-Presidents Paula Gober & Jan Evert) *Meeting 2nd Wednesday - 10 a.m.* A trip to The Blueberry Treehouse Farm is on the agenda for July. There will be an HGC tent at the Buzz Around Hamburg Garden Walk on July 8 & 9. In addition to an August trip to the Sunflowers of Sanborn, members will be entering the EC Fair as well as preparing their outdoor garden entry. September's Salad Bar Luncheon features a bring your own place setting with a floral design. Jeanne Burke, a Judge's Council judge, will critique the table settings.

Erie IV Evelyn Mietlowski, Section Chair

Amherst GC (Ruth Barone and Sandra Moesch, Co-Presidents) Evelyn Mietlowski will host a get together in her garden in July. There are no meetings in August. Jeannie Burke, an NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge, will do a presentation on how to dry plant material and use it in arrangements.

Cheektowaga GC (Cindy Zaborowski and Eileen Beiter, Co-Presidents) We are planting the pots around the town that are near the "Town of Cheektowaga" signs. In July, we may be going on a field trip. In August, Cindy Zaborowski will host the members' picnic at her home. Plans for our September meeting are yet to be confirmed.

Forest Stream GC (Nancy Trimble and Joann Puccio, Co-Presidents) Our Club continues to maintain The Meeting House gardens in Williamsville and is participating in the Williamsville Garden Walk July 15 and 16. In September we will have our potluck dinner and bring in our dwarf sunflowers horticulture project for informal judging.

Smallwood GC (Maria Lamb, New President) In July we will embark on a field trip to the Erie Basin Marina with our guide Stan Swisher, supervisor of University Trail Gardens. These gardens test new introductions of annuals from hybridizers in the U.S., Europe, and Israel. Followed by luncheon downtown, this promises to be an informative and truly enjoyable summer outing. In August members will have a respite to enjoy their own gardens, enter floral exhibits in the Erie County Fair, and attend Urban Farm Day on August 27th for a free, self-guided tour featuring 18 area urban farms. In September, Mark Yadon, Mischler's grower and manager, will talk about planting bulbs and bringing plants indoors for the winter at our general meeting. And then comes the event we've spent months preparing for:

continues on next page

Our Standard Flower Show called "Books in Bloom". It is open to the public September 23rd from 2-6 p.m. and September 24th from 1-3 p.m. at the newly renovated Audubon Library in Amherst.

Erie V Carol Ottaviani, Section Chair

Bowmansville GC (Exec. Board: Judy Visco, Judy Cavagnaro, and Michelle Smith) On July 10th, club members will tour the gardens and the first floor of the house at Graycliff designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Ryan Gravel, director of operations will conduct the tour. On July 13, members will attend the District VIII Picnic. On July 27th "Life Members" will attend the luncheon at the 20th Century Club. On the last weekend of July, ladies of the Bowmansville GC will tour Garden Walk Buffalo. On August 2nd club members will tour The Farmhouse at 5943 Genesee St. in Lancaster. Several members will take part in Erie County Fair Flower Show, "It's a Holiday Palooza". On September 11th the business meeting will commence at 6:30 PM in Linda Setter's backyard where NGC accredited Flower Show Judge and Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener, Evelyn Mietlowski will be presenting "Violets on the Couch"; a one act play.

Lancaster GC (Devon Fialkowski and Debbie Page, Co-Presidents) There are no regular meetings in July or August. A field trip to Lasting Dreams and Daylilies on Abbott Rd. in Orchard Park is planned for July 26th. Lunch on your own at a local restaurant. Ten members will participate in the Erie County Fair Flower Show; co-presidents Devon and Debbie are chairs of the outdoor garden.

South Town Gardeners (President Nancy Pankow) On the weekend of July 29th and 30th, several members will attend Garden Walk Buffalo. During August there will be a field trip to Sonnenberg Gardens in Canandaigua. The September 8th meeting will take place at the West Seneca Senior Center at 9:30 with a local beekeeper as the guest speaker.

Town & Country GC (Joy Sarkesian, President) On July 14th, club members will visit two places of interest in Gasport, N.Y. The first tour is "Gardens By The Mill" at the home of Dave & Carrie Snediker. The second tour will be "Heartland Organic's Mushroom Farm" led by owner, Elaine Barnet. Tours will be followed by lunch and a business meeting at a local restaurant.

Erie VI Esther Kopp, Section Chair

Amana GC (Janice Frasier, President) *Meetings 2nd Wednesday at 11:00 AM* July – there is no regular meeting, but members will be enjoying the Open Garden Tours. August - again there is no regular

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meeting, but members are encouraged to check out the Erie County Fair. September – the program will be about the herbs that members grew over the summer for an herbal tea tasting in February. Also, will be working on the "Leaf in a Frame" workshop with the leaves and ferns they have pressed all summer.

Countryside GC (Annette Walter, New President) *Meetings 2nd Wednesday at 10:00AM.* July – The members will be visiting some of the Open Gardens in the Hamburg/Eden area and have lunch at a local restaurant. August - Members will be going on the Buffalo River History Boat Tour with lunch afterward at a nearby restaurant. September – Will be another neat tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's Graycliff with lunch afterward at a local restaurant.

East Aurora GC (Ellen Moomaw, President) *Meetings 2nd Monday at 12 noon.* July- “Botanical Theme” presented by a speaker provided by Buffalo and Erie Co Botanical Gardens. August – Annual Old-Fashioned Picnic and Auction of reused unwanted gently used items from club members. September – Field trip to Mischler's Garden Center in Williamsville for a Greenhouse tour followed by a house plant presentation. Winner of the \$1,000.00 EAGC Carol Hasselback Scholarship Award for 2023 to be announced. The “Let's Go Group” (a side spin-off group of members) will tour some of the Open Gardens, be visiting the Providence Farm Collective farmer's market in Orchard Park and hike at the Knox Farm State Park. The EAGC continues to plant and do seasonal maintenance of the gardens at the East Aurora traffic circle and pocket park as well as the Millard Fillmore House and Museum Gardens.

Holland GC (Barb Brant, President) *Meetings 3rd Wednesday at 11:00 AM.* No report

Orchard Park GC (Mary Ann Agnello, President) *Meetings 1st Thursday at 11:30 AM.* July – Annual picnic in Chestnut Ridge Park starting at noon; past club presidents will be honored. August – Program topic is “Practical Gardening Advice” presented by Nora Saintz, owner of Gardenette Design. Winners of the two \$1,000.00 scholarships awarded this year to graduating seniors will be announced. September - Program is Interactive Horticulture when members bring cut specimens from home gardens. Judges are OPGC members.

Niagara I Barbara Stafford, Section Chair

Lewiston GC (President Sharon Low) In July, we will gather in the

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garden of member Nicole Johnson for an informal plant swap and social hour. In August, there is a field trip to the Lockport escarpment home of Lewiston Tops proprietor Anthony DiMino, where we will view the extensive perennial garden. At September's meeting, members will create their own flower arrangements using hydrangeas and other fall bloomers they've brought from home, along with a variety of additional materials. Throughout the summer, we will continue to maintain flower beds and containers at Hennepin Park, the Historical Museum, and the Lewiston Public Library, as well as several other gardens in Lewiston.

Youngstown GC (President Rose Livingston) We will be on the road in July, heading to Darien Center for a tour of Draves Arboretum to view the hundreds of woody species from all over the world and learn about the arboretum's history. This summer, Club members will participate in two community events (7/22 Youngstown Festival of Arts and 8/5 Village Music Fest) to promote membership and programs. Our annual potluck picnic will be held at Faulkner Park on the evening of August 9 where Club member Pat England will give the program: Super Pollinators - Nesting Mason Bees. She will address the benefits of attracting these bees to the garden and threats to their sustainability. We will end the night by enjoying the sunset on Lake Ontario. In September, we will have our marching shoes on as we participate in the annual Youngstown Labor Day Parade which starts at the entrance to Old Fort Niagara and proceeds down Main Street. For the first time, we will enjoy a "game night" at our September meeting to help members, new and old, to get to know each other better.

Chautauqua Marcia Becker, Section Chair

Bud 'n Bloom GC (Judith Wilcox, President) Visiting the Westfield Nursery with a presentation on Native Species followed by a luncheon and business meeting at the St. Stephen's Hotel in Brocton. July 13th we will be Touring Graycliff in Derby, NY with a landscape tour of the history and restoration journey of the historic gardens. This 90-minute tour also includes the first floor of the house. August 9th is a tour of the private garden of Marv Bjurlin at 25 Maple Avenue in Fredonia. The gardener at Chautauqua Institute will be giving a tour of the gardens for our September meeting.

Fredonia GC (Deb Messere and Shaun Lord, New Co-Presidents) July - Picnic Lunch, (White Arrangement) August - Blueberry Tree House Farm in West Falls NY, followed by lunch and tour Blue-Fields Chautauqua County. September- program: DEC speaker regarding Lake Erie. Shaun Lord will arrange the meeting.

Jamestown GC (Sharon Reed, New President) no report

Erie County Fair Flower Show



Monica Hansen, Fair Superintendent

The Erie County Fair NGC Standard Flower Show and Horticulture Specialty Show will be held from August 9th- August 20th this year. The theme of the show is **“It's a Holiday Palooza”**.

Help Wanted for the Erie County Fair Flower Show!

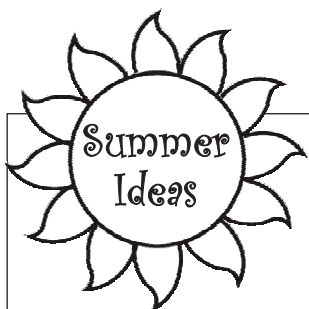
Would you like to make a few extra dollars this summer? We have paid openings for workers at the Erie County Fair. We are looking for classification runners (Monday, August 7th), clerks for judging day (Tuesday, August 8th), and workers throughout the fair (Wednesday, August 9th– Sunday, August 20th).

Minimum wage is paid plus you get free admission/parking to the fair! You can work as little or as much as you would like! If you work 7 days or more (counting the days before the fair) you get a free 12-day admission and parking pass! These positions are open to non-garden club members as well, so ask your family or friends and have fun at the fair!

This year we will be having a hands on “touch table” with different plants and educational materials for the fair patrons. It would involve purchasing the plants, composing a short educational flyer, bringing the plants to the fair, and setting up the table on August 7th. All expenses will be reimbursed so please save your receipts.

Do you like to iron? We are looking for a few people to iron tablecloths on Friday, August 4th. Should be a few hours of work and would be most appreciated!

Spread the word! If you would like more information, please contact Monica Hansen at johnmonica@verizon.net



from our Section Chairman Coordinator, Marcia Becker

As our summer months heat up, and our gardens are blooming, this is a wonderful relaxing time to get together with the garden clubs in your section.

Please consider this unwinding and slowing down as a way to share information regarding speakers, club programs and projects, even a shared fundraiser, flower show, community garden or work within your communities.

Some great ideas for your get together:

Share pictures and videos of your garden...

Invite friends and neighbors over for a glass of wine and a garden tour

Share your extra plants with someone who could use them

Give a bouquet of fresh herbs or flowers from your garden.

Friends form long-lasting bonds by working together.

Scholarship Report

Jody Bailey, *Chair*

There were 52 individuals from 34 different schools throughout Western New York who applied for this year's \$1,000 college stipend. To be eligible, a student must be a graduating senior planning to attend a two-year or four-year college and major in an environmental or plant-related field.

This year's recipient of the \$1,000 college scholarship is Lorna Becker from Royalton Hartland High School. Ms. Becker is going to Allegheny College and will study environmental science and sustainability. In her application, Ms. Becker said that "being raised on a farm, working on a farm, having a garden, working in floriculture and going on hikes have had a huge impact on me. I am hoping to make a positive impact anywhere I can." Ms. Becker has an impressive academic record along with her extracurricular and work activities.

Many thanks to this year's judging panel: Jane Montgomery, Ann Posner and Susan Wisniewski from the Smallwood Garden Club. Thank you to them for their efforts.

On another note, DEC recently announced that due to extreme staffing shortages only Camp Rushford will open in 2023. FGCNYS' DEC camp scholarship from District 8 went to Kye Petri, who is currently a grade 8 student at St. Gregory the Great School in Amherst. FGCNYS had 5 campers total from various districts trying to register and only 1 of them was successful. Unfortunately, Kye was not successful. This was very disappointing to everyone involved.

Conservation

Joan Heath (AKA Connie)

What is the Color of Water?

I had the pleasure of attending the District 8 spring luncheon, and while there I took a brief survey about the color of water. Of twenty-five answers 20 said colorless, 3 said blue and 2 said gray. People tend to respond negatively to recycled water. Countries like Israel successfully investigated wastewater treatment years ago. Toilet to tap is a difficult concept! Yet we use manure to fertilize and feed the world. Black water from sewage is useful but not palatable. Gray or white water from laundry wastewater is a good way to go. Use a valve or laundry waste line to release water for soil irrigation. Use an aquifer to further irrigate spinach, peaches, etc..The installation of a valve can be done by a plumber or a general handyman. However, those "bozos" are unwilling or incapable of doing the work, I strongly suggest finding a lover. Think about it: passion, romance, conservation... "Who could ask for anything more."

2023 CAR-SGC CONFERENCE IN CORNING, NY

The Federated Garden Clubs of New York invite all CAR-SGC members to attend "Seven Strong on a Fall Adventure" -- the 2023 CAR-SGC Conference and Tri-Refresher in Corning, New York.

SAVE THE DATES:

- Monday, October 23 - Pre-Conference Event
- Tuesday and Wednesday, October 24-25 -Conference and Tri-Refresher
- Thursday, October 26 - Tour

FUN ACTIVITIES:

- A pumpkin blowing session to make your own glass pumpkin. Corning is famous for expert glass work and you will participate in a glass studio experience.
- The "Awaken the Spirits" Ghost Tour is a presentation by the Corning Historic Society in the Heritage Village. After your spooky adventure, enjoy dinner in town with CAR-SGC friends.
- A Leaf Manipulation workshop will give you ideas for your next flower show and the design speaker will inspire your creativity.
- Our Thursday bus trip features various sites, including Taughannock Falls with terrific views and a park ranger tour/talk, Cornell University botanical gardens and a vineyard tour to learn and enjoy the area, a lunch stop at a local vineyard where you have an opportunity to visit and shop at their wine tasting room.

We can't wait to have you visit beautiful Corning, New York for a fun Fall Adventure! More information will be posted on the CAR Web site as it becomes available: Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs | National Garden Clubs (car-sgc.org)

FGCNYS District VIII

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES SPRING 2023

On April 13, 2023, District Director Annette Kuhn called the Annual Meeting of District VIII NGCNYS to order at 10:10 a.m. at The Columns Restaurant in Elma, NY. The meeting preceded the Spring Luncheon. The blessing was given by Joan Heath, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dorothy Julius. District Director Annette Kuhn introduced former District Directors Babbidean Urban-Huber, Marsha Becker, & Adrienne Pasquariello. District Director Kuhn had information on native plants which will be on the District website - www.gardenclubsofwny.com.

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 February 2023, Zoom Winter Board Minutes as printed in the Figure 8 April, May, June 2023 issue. There being none, minutes approved as printed.

Treasurer - Debbie Adams. The checking balance was \$14,670.12 on 2/9/23; Encumbered Funds & Income \$4,659.00; Expenses \$1,549.73; Balance of checking 4/13/23, was \$17,779.39. Balance of Savings Account \$2,899.19 for a total all funds - \$20,678.58.

Second Assistant Director - Section Coordinator & Vendors. Miriam Oster. Miriam introduced the Section Chairs present and they in turn introduced their club presidents in attendance.

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: Awards were given out by the following: Dorothy Julius with the Awards from District VIII; Judges Council Awards by Melissa Marcus; TR Site Awards by Judy Cavagnaro and Adrienne Pasquariello; Stanton Hudson for TR Site Awards.

ERIE COUNTY FAIR FLOWER SHOW: Monica Hansen & Debbie Braun. This year's **Erie County Fair Flower Show schedule for "It's a Holiday-Palooza"** is available on the District website, gardenclubsofwny.com. Entry contact is Monica Hansen at johnmonica@verizon.net or 716-380-8663. If you contacted Debbie Braun to sign up, you need to forward that email to Monica. April 24 is the sign-up deadline.

HONOR ROLL: Terry Skura. No applications for Honor Roll grants were received.

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JUDGES COUNCIL: Sue Suchak thanked exhibitors and designers who participated at Plantasia in March. A special thanks to Evelyn Mietlowski for chairing the show and to the team of judges. JC is looking forward to working at the Erie County Fair in August. Judges are continuing their botanical studies.

LIFE MEMBER: Jolaine Houghton. Information is in the current Figure 8 for the Life Member luncheon to be held on July 27, 2023. Handouts were available at the meeting along with Life Membership applications.

PARLIMENTARIAN: Babbidean Urban-Huber: It was this Chairman's pleasure to serve District Director Annette Kuhn. Babbidean leaves with two important reminders, 1. If you wish to speak at a meeting, raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the chair. 2. Practice proper protocol by addressing "Madame Director" as you begin your report or comment.

PLANTASIA: Evelyn Mietlowski. Evelyn appreciated all entries in the Flower Show at Plantasia. Photos are on the district website gardenclubsofwny.com. To keep future Flower Shows vibrant, more members need to enter the design classes.

SCHOLARSHIP: Jody Bailey. District VIII FGCNYS There were 52 qualified individuals from 34 different schools throughout Western New York who applied for this year's \$1,000 college stipend. A review of applications is on-going by the panel of judges from the Smallwood Garden Club. DEC recently announced that due to extreme staffing shortages, only Camp Rushford will open in 2023. Disappointingly, only one applicant was chosen from the five FGCNYS District winners and it was not our District VIII winner.

TR SITE/VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS: Judy Cavagnaro. "A Christmas Treasured" is the 2023 Victorian theme with colors of ruby, amethyst and gold. Judy will send Presidents information needed for on-line registration.

The Spring Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. Luncheon was served after the 2023-2025 executive board was installed by Gail McGee with Melissa Marcus as the new District Director. Honoring our new District Director, Anne Dyet sang "Beautiful Niag'ra River", a song written by Melissa Marcus's father. Appreciation and gifts were given to outgoing District Director Annette Kuhn. Master Gardener, Peggy Koppmann gave an enlightening power point presentation on "Meatballs, Volcanos and Other Gardening Malpractices". Attendees at the luncheon - 129.

Dorothy Romanczuk, District VIII Recording Secretary

CHECKLIST FOR PRESIDENTS

- ✓ Provide a copy of your club's yearbook to Melissa Marcus, District Director, your section chair and Linda Blyth, Figure 8 editor.
- ✓ Please remember to update your club's website information. If your club has its own website, please let Susan Loughran, Website Manager know and she can link the address to your club's name on our Eighth District website.
- ✓ Send in your Club's District VIII Liability Insurance Check to Debbie Adams by October 1st. See Insurance reminder in this issue.
- ✓ Remember to invite our new director to a club meeting or function, so she can meet and interact with your members.

LIABILITY INSURANCE NOTICE REMINDER TO CLUB PRESIDENTS

Please be aware that the District VIII Liability Insurance for each Club is due on October 1st, 2023. The cost has been increased to \$6.00 per member due to rising insurance costs.

The District has covered substantial shortfalls for the past 3 years. The last time there was any increase was in 2017.

Forward your Club's check made Payable to:
District VIII FGCNYS, Inc. (Federated Garden Clubs of NYS,
Inc.)

Send to: Debbie Adams, 5410 Roberts Road,
Hamburg, NY 14075

Thank you.

Calendar of Events 2023

July 13

8th District Summer Board Meeting & Lunch
10 am - Amherst Presbyterian Church,
151 Youngs Road, Williamsville

July 27

Life Member Luncheon 11:30 am

August 9-20

Erie County Fair & Flower Show

September 23-24

Smallwood GC Flower Show "Books in
Bloom" (see ad in this issue)

October 12

8th District Fall Meeting & Luncheon

October 23-26

CAR-SGC Convention and Tri-refresher
Corning, NY

EIGHTH DISTRICT FGCNYS
5410 Roberts Road
Hamburg, NY 14075

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