

X District NEWS

August 2025 – Vol. 1 – Issue 3

Hello all,

I'm sorry my illness in June kept me from my first meeting with many of you as District Director. I have made a full recovery and I've been busy planning our upcoming District Luncheon at Limoncello for Wednesday, October 1.

So, please make sure you save the date, bring a friend and register when you get the registration email. I'm very excited we'll be able to get together in this relaxed atmosphere; renew our friendships with other club members and hear about what's planned for the upcoming holidays and 2026!



Betty



**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025
DISTRICT X FALL LUNCHEON
AUTUMN SURPRISE**

AT

Limoncello

At the Orange Inn
159-167 Main Street
Goshen New York 10924

Cash Bar Cocktail Social Hour Special Program
Buffet luncheon

Basket Drawings 50/50 Garden delights



Club News Recap...April-June 2025

Artful Gardeners (Jane Madis & Sue Trager Co-Presidents)

In April Officers for the 2025–2027 term were installed at the Bottoms Up Restaurant. Community gardens were planted and work to revitalize the Community Vegetable Garden was started with a portion of Grant from the Upper Delaware Scenic Byways spearheaded by our new member Jennifer Hahulski. Speakers from Cornell Cooperative Extension presented a Power Point program on Native Plants.

Clarkstown GC (Helen Delargy, Co-President)

A program by Dana Harkrider from Nyack Pollinator Pathways spoke on pollinator-friendly gardening practices. Plants from members and donations were sold at the St. Francis Yard Sale. The New City Children's Librarian is educating children in the preparation, planting and maintenance of flowers in the walled garden at the Nanuet Library. The Member-to-Member Garden Tour was a club highlight.

Community GC of Liberty (Dana Schelin, Co-President)

The Club hosted the Tenth District Annual Meeting, Luncheon and Installation of District Officers in April which was well attended. The guest speaker, Carolyn Summer, presented a program on Pollinators. Nancy Hajeski, District Horticulture Chair presented a program on "Yards Gone Wild". The club had a Plant and Bake Sale Fundraiser in June.

Community GC of Pine Bush (President Lucy Bojsiuk)

The April program was by Chris Gendron, Head of Horticulture for Hudson Yards, NYC on identifying plants and using the correct garden soil. The club hosted a successful tea on May 18 and planted the Main Street barrels. The club donated a bench for use in the Blue Star Memorial in the Garden of Hope at Alice Court. Two scholarships in the amount of \$250.00 each were awarded to two graduating seniors continuing education in Horticulture and Agriculture fields.

Cornwall GC (Co-President Nancy Faust)

This Garden Club was thrilled to receive the Tenth District Grant which was used for the supplies for new raised beds, and pollinator plantings in the garden at Colonial Sands Ring. Their Annual Plant and Bake Sale, with a Silent Auction, was held on May 10th to support club educational programs and Scholarships. Monthly Programs included Members Favorite Gardening Tools, Beekeeping, guidelines for Social Media Photos and mentoring new members were reviewed. In June the program included Wind Pollination and Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener spoke on Native Grasses.

Roscoe-Rockland GC

An entertaining program by member Nancy Hajeski on "The Rocks of Roscoe" on the use of rocks in the garden. The club's Annual Spring Luncheon program presented by Master Gardener Gerta Krogsland included the history of flowers as gifts in Victorian times and demonstrated how to make a Tussie Mussie. The first Roscoe-Rockland Plant Sale was held with plants donated by members. The club continues planning to work with youth at the school playground area planting Blueberry bushes.

The Garden Lovers' Club, Middletown (Co-President Antoinette Sardella)

The club continues to work on the gardens at Thrall Park, Hill Hold and Mulberry House. Club members designed 30 floral arrangements for the SUNY Orange 75th Anniversary Gala. Field trips included Midsummer Farms and The Mount, home and gardens of Edith Wharton. The club hosted their Annual Hidden Gardens Tour on June 28. A Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00 was presented to Francescha Valencia, a student at SUNY Orange.

Warwick Valley Gardeners (President, Pat Reinhardt)

The club hosted a speaker on Vertical Living Walls. Club members participated in the Annual clean-up of the gardens at the cultural center; Pachem in Terris. Arbor Day was celebrated with a tree planting ceremony, including an educational program for elementary school students. Garden Therapy continues with the residents of Schervier Senior Center. Decorative pots for the Village of Warwick were planted. A Memorial flag installation with the American Legion was held at the 9/11 Garden, maintained by WVG. Multiple Garden Tour meetings were held leading up to their Annual Countryside Garden Tour with an After Tour Party honoring the Homeowners.

At the District X Board Meeting, former District Director, Debbie Morris, handed out many deserving awards to our clubs! The new Awards Chair, Susan Parry, assisted.

Congratulations!



AWARDS 2024

FGCNYS, Inc. Flower Show Schedule Award and an NGC Flower Show Award: Artful Gardeners for Beloved Port Jervis.

Yearbook Awards by club size: 1 st place: Artful Gardeners GC, Cornwall GC, and Warwick Valley Gardeners

Environmental and Conservation: Warwick Valley Gardeners

Community Enhancement and Native Plants and Wildflowers: Warwick Valley Gardeners

Publication and Magazine Articles in the Community: Warwick Valley Gardeners

World Gardening Donations: Community GC of Pine Bush (largest donation), Artful Gardeners, The Garden Lovers' Club of Middletown, Cornwall Gc, Roscoe-Rockland GC

THE GREEN PATH (Nature's Way)

Jane Madis

I was reading an article in Nature Magazine that bought me back to my childhood, and not in a good way. The article was titled. *"How to Build a Firefly Sanctuary."* When I grew up, it was a time when the parents refrain was "Don't come back in until it's dark!" As there were 200 children on my block, we greatly outnumbered any danger so there was never a thought not to pursue our directive!

Back to Fireflies. Capturing them in a mason jar was thrilling. What came next is atrocious. We would pull off their lights, place them on our fingers and boast "LOOK AT MY DIAMOND!" Maybe, it was growing up with all brothers or the lack of any common sense, probably the latter, but we never gave our cruelty a second thought.

Fast forward to the 21st century. These luminescent little creatures are disappearing due to habitat loss, light pollution, and an abundance of pesticide and chemical use to maintain weed free lawns.

Here are some simple ways to create a sanctuary for Fireflies.

A Lawn is great for running around in barefoot, but you do you really need an acre of bug-free, weed-free bright green grass? Leave a little green to help sink the carbon from the atmosphere, but please find ways to plant the rest of your property in nature. Plant a tree, Oak if you have room. Add a water feature such as a bird bath or a pond. If you have a pond; you will attract Damsel and Dragonflies and Fireflies, which eat slugs, Hosta lovers have your ears perked up now? Plant an abundance of Native plants that act as host plants that provide for many types of pollinator larva. Remember, little is more magical to children and adults alike than those beautiful little yellow lights floating above on a summer night.

WHO-ME? WHAT-DESIGN? ENTER A FLOWER SHOW????

Sue Trager, Judges Council

What is so terrifying about entering a flower show? EVERYTHING - **UNTIL** you know the purpose is to:

1. Educate club members and the viewing public
2. Stimulate interest in horticulture and floral design
3. Provide an outlet for creative expression
4. To communicate NGC goals and objectives

I think if we remember why we have flower shows, the stress becomes less and we can enjoy more! How often do we work in our gardens and admire our plant choices? That stunning rose or daylily handed down from your neighbor or mother? The annual you grew from seed that brings a smile to your face as you weed around it? Or the bouquet that you just happened to throw together that is not "just a bunch of flowers" but is known in floral design as a traditional mass that has dominance, balance and rhythm? Not so intimidating... Take a look at your gardens and see what gem you would like to share with your garden club or even at the next district luncheon? I know I would love to see what's been hiding in our gardens!

Be part of our DX Newsletter!
Send information and pics to district.x.fgcny@gmail.com
Our next newsletter is scheduled for NOVEMBER 2025



Enjoy the pictures from the 31st Annual Warwick Valley Garden Tour



Thank you Ling Chow, WVG Member, for sending these photos in!

