

The Digest

THIRD DISTRICT FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF NYS, INC.



FEBRUARY 2026

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CLUBS IN DISTRICT III

District Three Clubs, by County

Albany: Blue Creek, Guilderland, Helderview

Columbia: Germantown

Dutchess: Tioronda

Greene-Schoharie: Athens Community, Clematis, Schoharie Valley

Rensselaer: Greenbush

Schenectady: The Garden Explorers

Ulster: Community Garden Club of Marlborough, New Paltz, Saugerties Society of Little Gardens, Shawangunk



From the Director



Greetings to all as we begin the start of our 2026 Garden Club Year.

This issue of The Digest is dedicated mainly to the announcement of our annual Spring District Meeting. The meeting will take place on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at Anthony's Banquet Hall, centrally located just off Exit 21 of the NYS Thruway at 746 County Route 23B, Leeds, NY. Our meeting theme is "Spring into America 250" and will feature local vendors, raffle baskets, and a chance to win some cash with

a 50/50 raffle drawing. Our program speaker is Denise Van Buren who will present "Key to the Continent: The Hudson Valley in the American Revolution." Denise is a well-known author, historian, Honorary President General of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, and serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the National Doughboy Foundation. This is a program you will not want to miss as we begin our celebrations for the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Assistant Director and Conference Chair Linda Levitt from the Germantown Garden Club has been diligently working to prepare for this event, while keeping costs at a minimum to encourage as many members as possible to attend. The meeting agenda flyer can be found on page 2 and the registration form can be found on page 4. Our goal is to have participation of members from all 14 clubs in the Third District. This year, in place of our Educational Displays, each club is asked to bring 2 copies of their 2026 Yearbooks to the meeting to share with other members to gain insights and ideas on the happenings of District 3 member clubs. Each club attending is also asked to bring a nicely wrapped raffle basket gift with a minimal value of \$30 to help defray the cost of this luncheon. The District Board of Directors are grateful for your continued support.

On June 14 -16, 2026, FGCNYS will hold its Annual State Convention at the Desmond Crown Plaza Hotel in Albany, NY. This will be a unique opportunity for District III members to attend the convention at a venue close to home. Please mark your calendars for this exciting and informative event. More information will follow as the date approaches.

On behalf of the District Board of Directors, we look forward to seeing you on April 16 as we mark the official beginning our new garden club year.

Wishing all our members a beautiful spring and a rewarding gardening season,
Gary Barrack, District Director



SPRING DISTRICT MEETING: Spring Into America 250

Gary Barrack, Director

Third District, Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.

Cordially invites you to the Spring District Meeting

April 16, 2026

Anthony's Banquet Hall

746 Route 23B, Leeds, NY | 518-943-9765

REGISTRATION: 9–11 a.m.

BREAKFAST BAR: Upon arrival.
Assorted pastries, coffee, & tea

VENDORS, EXHIBITS, BEVERAGES:
Throughout the day

FUNDRAISING & RAFFLE TABLES:
9 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING: 10–11 a.m.

BUFFET LUNCHEON: 11:45 a.m.
Menu: Salad Bar, Chicken Francaise,
Stuffed Sole (with Shrimp & Crab),
Penne with Vodka Sauce, Mashed
Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables.
Dessert: Strawberry Shortcake &
Coffee served table-side.

RAFFLE DRAWING: 12:45 P.M.

RESERVATIONS: \$40, PREPAID &
RECEIVED BY MARCH 20, 2026.
Complete registration form and
follow mail instructions. Please give
sufficient time for mail delivery.

DIRECTIONS: Take NYS Thruway North or
South Bound. Get off at Exit 21, Catskill.
Take a right at the traffic light and you will
see Anthony's Banquet Hall on your right.

PROGRAM: 1 p.m.

**KEY TO THE CONTINENT:
THE HUDSON VALLEY IN THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

Presenter: **Denise Doring VanBuren.**

Denise is the Honorary President
General of the National Society of the
Daughters of the American Revolution.
She is also the Board Chairman for the
Doughboy Foundation (National WW
I Memorial), Beacon Historical Society
President, 2024–2026, NSDAR Honorary
President General, and NSDAR Honorary
NY State Regent.

MEETING ADJOURNS: 1:30 p.m.

Clubs' Calendar 2026

March 27–29

Capital District Garden and Flower Show
Hudson Valley Community College, Rt. 4, Troy, NY

April 16

Third District Spring Meeting
“Spring Into America 250”
Anthony's Banquet Hall
Route 23B, Leeds, NY

May 4–6

NGC Annual Convention
Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark
1 S. Broadway, St. Louis, MO

May 16

Germantown Garden Club Plant Sale
8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Palatine Park, Palatine Park Rd., Germantown, NY

June 14–16

FGCNYS Annual Convention
Crowne Plaza Desmond Hotel
660 Albany Shaker Road, Albany, NY

October 15

District III Fall Meeting
Pegasus Restaurant
10885 State Route 9W, Coxsackie, NY

PARTING SHOT



Hope you can join us at Anthony's Banquet Hall for the Spring Meeting!

The Digest Online is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of the month before each issue (January, April, July, and October). The February Digest only features the Spring District Meeting.

Please send news of your club's activities, events, and plans—it's a great way to share what you are doing with other clubs. Unlike print newsletters, there is no prohibitive cost factor for using color, so send in your photos. Articles on various gardening and flower arranging topics are especially welcome.

Material for *The Digest* should be sent to Karin Janson via email at kjanson@aol.com.

To access *The Digest*, go to district3fgcnys.org/about-us. Scroll down to download the current issue.



Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc. Third District
Spring Meeting and Luncheon • April 16, 2026
Anthony's Banquet Hall, 746 Route 23B, Leeds, NY

Registration Form

- ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE PREPAID AND RECEIVED BY MARCH 20, 2026.
- Mail form and check to Third District Registrar: Lorna Silinovich, PO Box 726, Saugerties, NY 12477
- Enclose one check covering the group amount, payable to: Third District, FGCNYS, Inc.
Cost for luncheon is \$40.
- Questions regarding registration? Contact Lorna Silinovich at 518-947-6286 or email:
ralphswoman72@yahoo.com
- Diet restrictions can be accommodated by submitting a written request with this form.
- Note: ALL SEATING WILL BE ASSIGNED

Club Name: _____ Date: _____

Name/Contact Person: _____ Tel: _____

Number Attending: _____ X \$40/pp = _____ Check Amount

Members Names (Please Print):

Continue on back of page. Thank you!

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