



FIRST DISTRICT
FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF NYS, INC.

NOVEMBER, 2017

The Garden Line

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 2

GraceAnn Morawek, District Director

Robert Bauer, Editor
Lucille Bauer, Production Asst.



Directors Message
By Graceann Morawek

Since April we have been very busy even though the summer is usually a quiet time. Our members attended many events and in the process tried very hard to entice people to join our garden clubs. To that end Bonnie Rogers, Denise Solomon, Lucille Bauer and Graceann Morawek organized various groups of members to attend Conservation Day at the Zoo, The Richmond County Fair and Festa Italiana. Information about all of First District, FGCNYS, Inc. Garden Clubs was distributed. Invite your neighbors and friends to attend a meeting. We, and many Garden Club members, attended the St. Paul's Fall Flower Festival on October 15th. 1st District Clubs did wonderful floral designs to decorate the windows. We attended the FGCNYS, Inc. Fall Conference in Kingston, NY September 17th – 19th with several state board members from First District. We discussed among other things increasing membership, and Plant America Environmental Camp Scholarship. Each district has an opportunity to send one student to camp. Please see the information in correspondence that has been emailed or call Graceann. Deadline for the application(s) to the District Director is November 1st. Carol Berardi, Mary Lou Terranova, Peggy Cullimore-Klein, Carol Boylan, Suzanne Quinn and Graceann Morawek attended the Flower Show School October 3rd - 5th in Chappaqua, NY. We learned about running flower shows, the horticulture and design aspects of the show, the schedule, evaluation of the entries and so much more. Some of us took the test to start on the road to becoming flower show judges. If anyone is interested in taking the course feel free to speak to any of us about it.

Remember also that Vikki Bellias, an FGCNYS, Inc. horticulture expert, is presenting a slide show on the new designs after the Board Meeting on November 6th. All members are invited. It will be very informative and useful especially since we will be having a First District Flower Show June 6, 2018. Vikki's presentation will start about 11:00 AM. Bring your Flower Show Handbook if you have one.

On October 16th seven of us from 1st District attended the 2nd District Luncheon and Design Presentation by Tony Todesco, floral designer and one of the authors of the new NGC Flower Show Handbook. It was fabulous!

We will be attending the FGCNYS, Inc. Winter Board Meeting on November 14, 2017.

WE NEED A CHAIRPERSON FOR THE FLOWER SHOW IN JUNE!

Please be an active (as much as you can be) member of our garden clubs.

Sincerely,
Graceann Morawek and Virginia Bodrate
Co - District Directors

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District Officers

Graceann Morawek
Virginia Bodrate
Co-Directors
Denise Solomon
Assistant Director
Marilyn Curcio
Corresponding Secretary

Bess Cordella
Recording Secretary
Bonnie Rogers,
Treasurer
Theresa Corey
Asst. Treasurer

Club Presidents

Castle Manor Lucille Bauer
Evelia Foster
Great Kills Marilyn Curcio
Richmond-Evergreen Linda Conlon

South Shore Gertrude Sokolowsky
Staten Island Teresa Torsney
Carolyn M. Brown –Rhodes

Upcoming Events

2017

Nov. 14th - FGCNYS Winter Board Meeting, Albany, NY

Dec. 4th - First District Holiday Party - Great Kills Moravian Church

Dec. 4th - Richmond Ever-Green GC - Holiday Party

Dec. 9th - South Shore GC - Holiday Party - Old Bermuda Inn

Dec. 13th - Great Kills GC - Holiday Party

Dec. 13th - Castle Manor GC - Holiday Party - Real Madrid

2018

Feb. 5th - First District Meeting at Great Kills Moravian Church 9:30 Coffee - 10am Meeting - Staten Island GC Hostesses

Mar. 5th - First District Meeting at Great Kills Moravian Church 9:30 Coffee - 10am Meeting - Castle Manor GC Hostesses

Mar. 8th - Philadelphia Flower Show Bus Trip - Great Kills GC

April 15-17—FGCNYS Annual Spring Conference - Binghamton, NY

April 26th - First District Semi - Annual Meeting and Luncheon - The Staaten

May 7th - First District Meeting at Great Kills Moravian Church 9:30 Coffee - 10:00 Meeting - Great Kills GC Hostesses

May 16th - Mothers Day Tea—Great Kills GC—Open Meeting

WEB LINKS

National Garden Clubs: <http://gardenclub.org> (Login with “member” as a user name and “world” as a password to access full site.)

Federated Garden Clubs of New York State: www.fgcny.com

District One, FGCNYS: sigardenclubs.org.

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Club News

Castle Manor

In **June**, members planted bulbs at our 9/11 garden at All Saints Church. In **August**, members helped to harvest the vegetables at the new garden at P. S. 37. Prior to our **September** meeting, our club offered to the district membership and the public a program titled "Preparation for Weather Disasters". This program was offered by the New York Division of Military & Naval Affairs. This very informative program offered advice on advance preparation for many emergencies, e.g., power outages, hurricanes, terrorism and the list goes on. Materials were also given out to all who attended to follow up at home. At our September meeting, members Fran Cackowski and Evelyn Koehler coordinated a program "Fun with Apples" and a report on the history of apples by member Evelyn Koehler.

On September 18-19, 2017, this president went with members of the district to the Fall conference in Kingston, N.Y. We had a wonderful time with a tour of the Kingston Historic District. Other programs were also offered along with conference meetings. Plus, we had beautiful weather.

October was a very busy month. On Monday, October 16, this club president attended the District 2 Luncheon with District Directors Graceann Morawek & Virginia Bodrate as well as Peggy Cullimore-Klein, Carol Berardi, Marylou Terranova & Stella Gasparo. Guest speaker was Tony Tedesco showing new designs from the new Handbook. At our October 18 club meeting, our guest speaker, Gert Coleman, offered a program titled "Halloween Herbs & Lore". At this meeting, our 9th Photo Contest entries were on display.

On October 19, members attended the District Meeting & luncheon. Our members were in charge of the Boutique and selling the home baked cakes donated by each club. What a great idea our member and Asst. District Director Denise Solomon came up with. Our club received a number of awards including a Garden Therapy Certificate, club entrant 1st Place Winner Emerson La Penna in the NYSFGC Poetry Contest, 2017 Club Recognition Award, and an Unsolicited Citation to other than a garden club member.

Additionally, members of the club designed windows for the annual St. Paul's Flower Festival and had a trip to Sleepy Hollow in Tarrytown, N.Y. We had a tour of the Washington Irving Home and a tour of the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery followed by lunch in this lovely town. Of course, there was time for shopping, too. Some members stayed overnight for the Pumpkin Blaze.

This month, Skye Suter of the SI Herb Society will offer the members a Thanksgiving demonstration for all the members to create Yankee Cornhusk Dolls & Flowers. These will look beautiful as part of our centerpieces for this holiday season. And, we'll collect canned goods for the food pantry at All Saints Church.

Our traditional holiday club dinner will be at the Real Madrid Restaurant. From our club to yours, best wishes for a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Lucille Bauer, reporting

Great Kills

In June members met at the Biddle House in Totenville. John Kilcullen, the Executive Director of the Conference House Park, gave us a tour of the historic house and garden. Lynn Rossi gave an informative talk on fires and Virginia Bodrate gave us instructions on how to divide our Iris at our July meeting. We enjoyed another outing in August. Eleanor DeJulio arranged for members to eat lunch overlooking the bird feeders at Blue Heron Park while Mike Shanley gave a power-point presentation on resident and visiting birds. We all brought home a flowered decoupage tile after Bea Nicholson instructed us on how to make it at our September meeting. Later that month we went on our trip to the beautiful Grounds for Sculpture in New Jersey. Everyone who went agreed that the gardens were magnificent. Members were also pleased to participate and decorate the window boxes at the St. Paul's Episcopal Church Flower Festival especially since Graceann Morawek, past president of Great Kills Garden Club and current co-District Director, was being honored at their tea. Great Kills Garden Club was thrilled to host the Fall Luncheon. Members checked in attendees and sold tickets.

Lillian Ferrelli, reporting

RICHMOND EVERGREEN

Members participated in the District Flower Show "Lights, Camera, Action" on June 17th. The following big winners were: Mary Lou Terranova (First & Lee Gugliada Award) for her Creative Design in "Road to Morocco", Carolyn Santoro (First & Novice Award) for Breakfast for One in "Sleepless in Seattle", Rosina Kiley (First, Table Artistry Award & Sue Fink Award) for her al fresco buffet table in

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"Moonstruck" and Maryann Burchie (First & Artistic Craft Award) for her decorated high heel shoe in "Footloose."

We learned how to press flowers from club member Dorothy Vaccaro and how to create a terrarium from Marilyn Curcio, President of Great Kills G.C.. Members decorated pumpkins for Halloween and will be doing wreaths for Christmas.

Invitations were sent out for our 14th Annual Tea at the Excelsior Grand this year on November 4 from 1-4PM. Tickets are \$60.00 and \$40.00 for children under 12. Look forward to seeing you there!!!

Our Christmas Party will be at The Stone House at Cloves Lake Park on December 4 at 6:30PM. Happy Holidays to all!!!

Doreen Bedford, reporting

SOUTH SHORE

In celebration of National Garden Week, club members filled two window boxes with herbs and flowers at our meeting hall, the Paul Kroon Center at the Messiah Lutheran Church. Our club hosted the Judges Luncheon at the District Flower Show held on June 17th. The lunch was delicious and very well received by the judges.

Club member Lori Burgess took 3rd Place in the "Beaury and the Beast" small design and Walter Burgess received a 1st place for horticulture at our recent District Flower Show. We continue to maintain the Blessed Mother Grotto at St. Joseph's Church. We place fresh flowers at the grotto each week and recently planted seasonal mums there. This project continues to be very well received by the church community. A summer executive board meeting took place in August to review goals and objectives for the remainder of the year. We also discussed our upcoming Annual Holiday Party on Saturday, December 9th. Special thanks to Lori Burgess, Emma Burgess, Debra O'Brien and Shirley Walsh for representing our club at the Richmond County Fair over Labor Day Weekend. Save the Date - our upcoming fundraiser, our Annual Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 9th from 12:00 noon -3:00 pm at the Historic Old Bermuda Inn, Cost \$40, For reservations, please call Gertrude 718.966.8164.

Gertrude Sokolowsky and Lynne McNamara reporting

STATEN ISLAND

A busy few months have passed since the June District I flower show, "Lights, Camera Action!" and we congratulate President Teri Torsney for her First Place "Easter Parade" decorated hat. She also received the Education Award for her informative display "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn". We commend all of our members who received horticulture awards as well. Also, club members distributed 200 begonias and marigolds to children at the Staten Island Zoo's Conservation Celebration. Flyers and bags promoting garden clubs, District I and individual club information were given to adults. Our June meeting included a picnic and plant swap at the Alice Austen Museum. The beautiful weather and spectacular views added to a pleasant welcome to summer.

Vacations, home gardens and family activities filled the warm months and we closed August by manning a booth at the Richmond County Fair. Distributing flyers and bags and chatting with the many visitors made for an enjoyable day. Even if we attracted few if any new members it was still nice to be a presence at the fair.

Our September meeting welcomed 2 speakers from the New York City Parks Department. They illustrated by PowerPoint the process of changing the closed Fresh Kills Landfill into a usable and beautiful park for future generations. A few days later Bonnie and Ned Rogers welcomed visitors to the Fresh Kills Discovery Day for an on-site glimpse into the park creation process that our guests explained. It was like a giant outdoor classroom.

Bonnie Rogers helped the Siller Foundation prepare for its 5K Tunnel to Tower Walk and Run. As they folded t-shirts and stuffed bags, Bonnie, Betty LaFemina from Great Kills Garden Club and Carolyn Pinto from Richmond Ever Green Garden Club happily and enthusiastically explained to other volunteers the many benefits of our garden clubs. We were surprised at how little these nice folks knew about us. They assumed we only planted vegetables. We three, from different clubs, were glad to leave a nice impression. Perhaps they will tell others.

October has put us in high gear. Five of our members helped decorate windows for the Saint Paul's Church Flower Festival on October 15. Many also attended the afternoon concert and tea which honored District I's Co-Director Graceann Morawek. It was a beautiful and successful fall afternoon. In a few days, 27 club members will attend the Semi-annual District luncheon on October 19. We all look forward to delicious food, wonderful raffles, a great boutique and a creative program given by noted floral designer Janene Puca. This month will conclude with our meeting. It will be a feast for the

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Staten Island G.C., continued

eyes but easy on the feet as Leslie and Joel Heffner present a video on the Philadelphia Flower Show. We look forward to their program and insider tips.

On November 11 our members will again distribute District flyers, educate the public, explain plant care and promote our clubs at Immanuel Union Church's Annual Fair plant table. Throughout the summer we have been rooting cuttings and preparing house plants for sale at this event. This is a win-win for everyone. The church earns a monetary profit and the fair has a special table. We talk about our love for gardening, the benefits of our clubs and a visible display of club camaraderie.

Bonnie Rogers reporting

Seasonal Gardening Tips

from Better Homes and Gardens

* Pull annuals and add them to the compost pile. For annuals that self-seed, allow seed-laden stems to remain in place unless you plan to sprinkle them elsewhere in your garden.

*Store breakable items, like terra-cotta pots and other garden art before hard freezes settle in.

*Fall can be a great time to cut back your perennials if you've got the time and energy to get it done. Make sure to leave 2-3 inches of the plant's stem to help protect fresh shoots from animal damage as they first emerge in the spring.

*Consider leaving some perennials like coneflower, black-eyed Susan and tall sedums standing. They add interest to the winter garden.

*Ornamental grasses should be left standing to protect their crown from a harsh winter.

*Keep water gardens covered with a net until gusty fall winds have settled down.

*Pull stakes and plant supports. Store where they'll freeze to help destroy overwintering pests and diseases.

Book of Recognition

If you would like to honor a member by recognizing their ability and dedication to your club, you may do so by adding his/her name to the FGCNYS, Inc. BOOK OF RECOGNITION. This can be done individually or by your club. You can download a form from the FGCNYS.com website in Applications and give it to Linda Conlon, the Book of Recognition Chair for District with a check, payable to FGCNYS, Inc. for \$10. .



World Gardening—Water for South Sudan

Since 2005, 300 wells have been drilled in South Sudan. Your generous donations have brought fresh clean water to tens of thousands of people transforming life in their villages. Please continue to support the FGCNYS World Gardening Project "Water for South Sudan." Donations can be sent to Teresa Torsney, District One World Gardening Chairman payable to FGCNYS, memo line "World Gardening."

Save the Date

FGCNYS Spring 2018

Annual Spring Conference

April 15-17, 2018

Doubletree by Hilton, Binghamton, NY

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District One Gardens and Projects

Our clubs maintain many gardens and carry out other projects around Staten Island that help beautify our neighborhoods. Below is a list of current projects being carried out by our clubs.

District Projects:

Healing Garden, Clove Road & Targee Street
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Flower Festival, St. Paul's Avenue
Blue Star Memorial at Ft. Wadsworth
First District Annual Flower Show

Castle Manor GC

Maintain 9/11 Manresa Council Garden
Plant and maintain 9/11 Garden at All Saints Episcopal Church
P.S. 37 - Landscape Project
Maintain Blessed Mother Statute at Cedar Grove Beach

Great Kills GC

Bloomingdale Park Garden - corner of Ramona Ave and Lenevar Ave.
Restoration of Seaside Nature Park Garden at foot of Nelson Ave. A
Annuals & small memorial garden at Seton Foundation for Learning - 850 Hylan Bvd.

Richmond Ever-Green GC

Plant & maintain Amundsen Circle Park, Clarke Avenue & Amboy Road
Silver Mount Cemetery, Victory Blvd. opposite Silver Lake Park
Plantings at Garibaldi-Meucci Museum, 420 Tompkins Avenue
Holiday Decorating at Garibaldi-Meucci Museum
Provide Floral Arrangements for home for Amethyst House members
A cornucopia of plantings in front of various fire houses
West Brighton Housing and PS 18 Memorial Garden

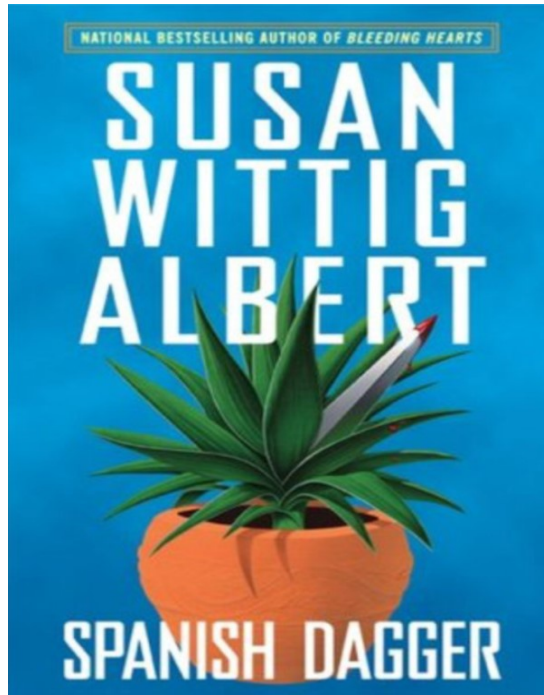
South Shore GC

Down Syndrome Herb, Vegetable & Flower Garden - 74 Pleasant Plains Avenue
Damiania's Secret Garden - 74 Pleasant Plains Avenue
Window boxes at Messiah Lutheran Church, Paul Kroon Center-199 Jefferson Blvd
Tommy Monahan Tree & Garden, located at the Conference House
St. Joseph's Church at Blessed Mother's Statue, Poplar Avenue

Staten Island GC

Alice Austen Grave - Moravian Cemetery
Alice Austen House Museum Grounds - 2 Hylan Blvd
Holiday Decorations at Alice Austen House Museum
Church of the Ascension Sept. 11 Memorial & grounds, 1 Kingsley Avenue
Firemen's Memorial at Church of the Assumption
Arbor Day Tree Planting at Alice Austen House Museum
NYC Greenstreets Projects on Slosson Ave & Todt Hill Road
Immanuel Union Church Grounds, 693 Jewett Ave

The Book Corner



Spanish Dagger by Susan Wittig Albert

Hey! China Bayles fans this is for you. Haven't met China Bales? Try this read for a delightful mystery / horticulture romp.

For more information and a full review refer to the current edition of The News on the FGCNYS website at www.FGCNYS.com

The Book Bag Project - a New FGCNYS Family Outreach Program Chairperson: Carol Brown

The idea for this program came from District 5 - Clinton Garden Club. They began to put book bags in their local library filled with gardening type books. Children borrowed the entire bag. Using a local printing company we created a washable book bag (see picture below). The Spring bag included a note to children and parents, two books: *The Frightened Frog* and *The Ugly Vegetables* both of which teach children about the importance of saving our environment and the fun of growing vegetables and flowers. The bag also included soil, peat pots, sunflower seeds and string bean seeds. The children kept the growing kits and returned the books. For the summer the book was changed to *Creepy Crawlers* and a magnifying glass for the kids to keep was included in the bag to encourage the children to look under rocks, leaves and around tree trunks for "creepy crawlers. There are many possibilities.

If you would like to start your own book bag program contact your local library. For additional ideas contact Lucille Bauer, 1st District Youth Chairman at 718-967-3842 or lucillebauer@hotmail.com



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Fort Wadsworth
Staten Island Unit
GATEWAY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

BULL BATTAL
MEMORIAL
U.S. NAVY

Michele Peters, Designer, at the
FGCNYS Fall Conference in Kingston,

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Photo Gallery



Members of Castle Manor GC Oct, 19th 1st District luncheon at the Staaten.



Great Kills GC members at Grounds for Sculpture in New Jersey.



Janene Puca, guest speaker and designer, at 1st District Luncheon at the Staaten.



Above are two of Janene's beautiful designs.

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Photo Gallery



Membership Co-chairs Denise Solomon & Lucy Bauer, volunteer Tricia Cali and helping hands from the Knights of Columbus putting up our canopy at the Richmond County Fair.



Members of Castle Manor GC at the home of Washington Irving in Sleepy Hollow, NY



Lucille Bauer, President of Castle Manor GC with co-District Directors Virginia Bodrate and Graeann Morawek at the 1st District Luncheon.



Assistant Director and luncheon Chair. Denise Solomon with FGCNYS 1st Vice President Lucille Bauer