



# Garden Club of Darien

Gardenclubofdarien.org



Monthly Newsletter

April 2013

Volume 4, Issue 8

## From the President

So Many Gardens, So Little Time...



Scot Medbury's excellent presentation at our joint meeting with New Canaan Garden Club last week put a visit to Brooklyn Botanical Garden (among others) on many to-do lists, I'm sure. Scot's slides, particularly those documenting the construction of the roof garden, the amazing field of bluebells in bloom, and his recounting of the history of the Garden were fascinating.

With Spring now officially here, however, we tend to be focused on our own gardens and perhaps looking for inspiration in catalogs, local nurseries, beautiful coffee table books, and lectures at NYBG, the Bartlett Arboretum, the Garden Education Center, Federated Garden Clubs, to name a few.

With garden and backyard cleanups, as well as the ever-important pruning, early planting, and fertilizing processes underway or soon to be, our lives are perhaps a bit busier than usual. With some hesitation then, I ask the following:

- (1) Please think about which committees you wish to serve on next year -- one civic (Memorial Herb Garden or Pleasure Through Plants) and one club (Conservation, Floral Design, Horticulture, Hospitality, or Photography) and be ready to sign up at our April 9<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.
- (2) Please also sign up for our **May 23<sup>rd</sup> Membership Meeting** at the Grolier Club to view GCA's rare book collection followed by a tour and lunch

at GCA headquarters in New York. The Grolier tour will take place at 11:00 am and lunch will follow. The cost of the tours and lunch is \$30.00 per person. Please give or send a check to Susan Balloch to reserve your spot. (Final count due by early May.)

- (3) Consider whether you would like to attend the Dedication Ceremony of GCA's Founders Fund Project in Central Park on June 3. This project is described in detail in the February/March Bulletin and will attract garden clubbers from all over in this special Centennial year.

Thank you everyone for your continuing hard work in so many areas of our club. And with regard to sign-ups, I'd like to remind the **Associates** and **Affiliates** that they may serve on almost any committee and are encouraged to do so. The more the merrier! Also, with our flower show coming up in October, it would be helpful to have as many people in the groove and on deck as possible.

Warm Spring greetings - Janet

## April Program

Debbie Murray and Sheryl Lincoln

Please join us for the April Membership Meeting on Tuesday April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30, coffee, 10:00 meeting at the DCA House. We will welcome Stacy Bass, a contributing photographer for At Home Magazine who has also appeared in Westport Magazine, Greenwich Magazine, Garden Design among several others. An exhibition of her work, called "First Light"

## GCD Calendar

### Monday, April 1st

Board meeting at the home of Emily D'Andrea, 9 Hamilton Lane, 8:45 coffee, 9:00 meeting

### Tuesday, April 9th

Membership meeting, DCA, 9:30 coffee, 10:00 meeting

### Monday, May 6th

Board meeting at the home of Margaret Smith, 147 Long Neck Point Road, 8:45 coffee, 9:00 meeting

### Thursday, May 23rd

Field trip to NYC in celebration of GCA Centennial. This **replaces** the previously scheduled May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### Monday, June 3rd

Board meeting at the home of Debby McLean, 45 Contentment Island Road, 8:45 coffee, 9:00 meeting. New and old Board members are invited.

### Tuesday, June 11th

Annual Meeting, DCA, 10:00-1:30

### Wednesday-Friday, October 2nd-4th - birdsong

GCD Flower Show at the DCA

## May Newsletter Deadline

Monday, April 29

[gcdnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:gcdnewsletter@gmail.com)



## April Program (cont'd.)

appeared at Gallerie Je Reviens in Westport, CT in 2007. She is author of the book "In the Garden". She will give a lecture followed by a book signing where copies of her book will be available for purchase. We hope you can join us.

## Flower Arranging

Gwynne Tibbetts and Kate Kane



This month we are featuring a **Hummingbird Workshop** on Monday April 8th at 12 noon at Gwynne Tibbetts' house, 18 Sherry Lane. It will focus on creating a "small" floral design.

A light lunch will be served! Join us for some fun! We will send an email blast to get a head count on who can join us - so please sign up when you see it!! Then those who come to the workshop will have an entry for this month's **Hummingbird** in-club competition the next day!

For April's meeting, we will have an in-club competition, called "**Hummingbird**". This is identical to our Birdsong Flower Show Floral Design Class V, and again, it will be an opportunity to play with this particular design idea. The arrangement should be a small design measuring: 11" tall, 7" wide and about 7 1/2" deep. Viewed from three sides. We will provide a sample niche so you can see what your arrangement looks like, but it will not be judged in the niche at our meeting. Entries in place by no later than 8:45.

## Horticulture

Carol Caulfield and Bridget Rudner



Topiary Workshop (March 26) at Bridget's house

We were excited to have 8 people at this workshop. We created some fun and different topiaries!



Monday, April 8th: Daffodil Grooming Workshop with Jennifer Brown

Join Jennifer Brown for our annual Daffodil Grooming Workshop. Jennifer is an expert on all things Daffodil and will instruct us on how to get our Daffodils ready for the in-club competition on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Bring Daffodils from your garden and your snips! 9:30 - 11:00 at Bridget's house at 5 Nolen Lane.

Tuesday, April 9th: Club Meeting-DCA

In-club cut Daffodil competition. Check the Daffodil section on the hort front page for detailed descriptions of the classes: Division 1: Trumpet Daffodils, Division 2: Large-cupped Daffodils, Division 3a: Small-cupped Daffodils, Division 4a: Double Daffodils, Division 4b: Double Daffodils, Division 5: Triandrus Daffodils, Division 6: Cyclamineus Daffodils, Division 7: Jonquilla and Apodanthus Daffodils, Division 8: Tazetta Daffodils, Division 9: Poeticus Daffodils, Division 10: Bulbocodium Daffodils, Division 11a: Split Corona Daffodils, Division 11b: Split Corona Daffodils, Division 12: Other Daffodils. Please have all Daffodils in place no later than 8:45. Remember to plan extra time as you have to stage your entries in bottles for judging.

**Note for Entry Cards: *Narcissus* is the botanical name and daffodil is the common name.**

April 24th-26th: CT Daffodil Show sponsored by The Greenwich Daffodil Society

Christ Church, 254 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich

Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>: Trough Workshop at Oliver Nurseries with Lori Chips

Get ready for birdsong and discover the new plants and gravel for 2013. Refresh old troughs or buy a new one. (Lori promises lots of new shapes and a great inventory.)

Friday, May 3rd: Plant Dividing Workshop with Cyndy Stamm

Get ready for the plant exchange on Tuesday, May 14 (time TBA)! This year the above workshop will be held at Carol Caulfield's house at 10 Wildcat Road at 9:30 am.

## Photography

Danielle Granath and Tracy Drippé



There is still room in both of our upcoming competitions. Please enter one or both!

April 9th

Focus on Light - where light is a major element in the photograph.



### Photography (cont'd.)

The April 9th competition coordinates with our April speaker: Stacy Bass, a contributing photographer for At Home, Westport Magazine, Greenwich Magazine, Garden Design as well as several others. And her exhibited work called "First Light".

#### June 11th

Roses: Digitally manipulated or not. We will have at least 2 classes for this competition for those that wish to experiment with the photos and those that do not.

Both competitions are color photographs only. Single matted and not to exceed 11"x14". The matte size, shape and color and the surface finish of the photograph can be decided by the photographer. All photos must be delivered to Danielle the night prior to the competition or they will not be accepted. Please email me [danielle515@gmail.com](mailto:danielle515@gmail.com) to reserve an easel or if you have any questions. We hope you'll enter!

### Pleasure Through Plants

Susan Doelp and Audrey Cadwallader

The attendees at the Senior Center this March were all so enthusiastic and participatory. The Club's leaders were Frances Wilson, Peggy Peoples and Pat van den Broek who helped guide the group in arranging their flowers with a St. Patrick's motif. Everyone left with a smile on their face on a rather grey day.



### Conservation

Gigi Garnett and Margaret Smith



A continuation of our series, featuring native plants. . .



*Erythronium americanum* Ker. Gawl. At this time of year where we all look forward to those early flowering bulbs, here is a tiny lily only six to ten inches tall that is found in humus rich soil. This beautiful member of the Lily Family has many common names including Trout Lily and Dog-tooth Violet. This charming native is pollinated by ants and after a seed is planted, it can take up to seven years to make a mature plant. Only plants with two leaves will flower. The mature plant has two mottled basal leaves, and a small lily nodding from the top of a leafless stem. The lily is yellow on the inside and purplish brown on the back. It opens each morning and closes each night, but during the middle of a bright day the petals open so far that they curve backwards to look like a shooting star. The plant grows from a deep rootstock thus creating colonies of trout lilies. They grow best in a deciduous woodland environment where they receive filtered light in the spring.

### GCD Flower Show - "birdsong"

October 2nd-4th, 2013

Debbie Bussey and Lisa Brickman



We have been busier than ever meeting with each Flower Show Committee to establish a game plan and understanding of each committee's expectations during the upcoming 6 months in preparation for the October show. Everyone has been terrific and receptive which is what makes a show like this "go on". If you have not yet signed up to enter Floral Design, Horticulture, Photography or Botanical Arts please consider doing so and remember how wonderful our show will be with everyone's participation. If you are out and about interacting with other garden clubs please do advertise our show and invite the ladies to enter. Also don't forget to begin gathering pieces of nature to create a Fairy House for the DCA Meadowlands Bird Sanctuary. As always don't hesitate to contact us with your questions and concerns.

