



GRAPEVINE

FALL
2023
9th District

Director
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Hello Fellow Gardeners!

Fall is here! After a busy summer, I'll admit that I'm looking forward to sweater weather and hearty soups. Even with summer heat lingering, it's almost time to put away the lawn mower and take out the rake. Don't forget! Leave the leaves wherever you can! A light fall clean-up is easier on your back and better for the garden. Autumn means college is back in session and school buses are rolling. While I may not miss tuition payments, I do miss the excitement of the first day of school. So, I've replaced the joy of back-to-school shopping with the joy of baskets of fresh mums and asters!

Fall garden club activities have begun. After a season of flower shows, our club Presidents gathered for our annual Presidents' Luncheon on Monday, September 11. Linda Keil, President of Ardsley Garden Club, graciously arranged the use of the Purchase Friends Meeting House which was a lovely and serene venue. Thank you to all the Presidents and Board Members who attended.

During our *Getting To Know You* event, we shared fun facts. Of the clubs in attendance, Garden Club of New Rochelle, Section 5, is the oldest – founded in 1911! The baby in the bunch is Hopp Ground Garden Club, Section 2B, founded in 1975. Of 14 out of 18 clubs surveyed, Chappaqua Garden Club, Section 2A, is the largest with 77 members! The most petite club is Parkway Gardens/Parkway Homes, Section 3, with 15 members. Section 1 grew the most with 23 new members! Most all the clubs have a social media presence.

Our next District activity will be our General Meeting on Monday, October 16th, at the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers. Our meeting will be followed by a docent-led tour of the museum! Details will follow soon. It's not too late to register for the Central Atlantic Region Conference in Corning, NY, on October 23-26th. As is our tradition, we'll end the year with our Annual Veteran's wreath drop-off at Muscoot on December 4th.

Congratulations to the lucky 20 who snagged a spot for our October 19th guided tours of the High Line Park in NYC and Little Island at Pier 55. The High Line in fall is spectacular! Look for more tours in 2024, including a bus trip out to the North Fork, Long Island, for guided tours and a beach stop!

Let's take in the autumn beauty around us and notice the late season bees who are enjoying your garden, too! Late fall natives are a staple for pollinators who are the last to leave the buffet. When winter sets in and you begin planning for spring, remember to add native late bloomers (Solidago 'Fireworks', white wood asters, joe pyeweed, blue mistflower). Pollinators and overwintering birds will thank you!

Happy Harvesting!

Jacqui Bergonzi

Fall



CALENDAR



Fall

NGC offers Environmental, Gardening, and Flower Show School Classes all over the country!
Check out the calendar here: <https://calendar.gardenclub.org/events/list/offerings>

October 1	Due date for 9th District Membership Dues	
October 16, 10 am	9th District General Meeting Docent-led Museum Tour Hosting: Section 5	Hudson River Museum 511 Warburton Ave Yonkers, NY 10701
October 19, 10 am	9th District Walking Tour High Line and Little Island	New York City Miriam Yekutiel gardentours@aol.com
October 21	Lake Mahopac Garden Club Floribunda! Noon – 3pm Tickets \$40 Adults \$20 Youth (10-17) Rose Runco 914-806-7570 or Mary Ragonesi 201-218-8742	Mahopac Golf and Beach Club 601 North Lake Blvd Mahopac, NY
October 23-26	Central Atlantic Region Conference “7 States on a Fall Adventure” For details and registration: https://www.fgcny.com/CAR.html	Corning, NY
October 31	9th District Scholarship Applications Due http://www.district9fgcnys.com/Youth.html	

November 6, 10 am	Judges Council	Muscoot Activities Bdg 51 Rte 100 Katonah, NY 10536
November 8, 1 pm	Briarcliff Manor Garden Club Program: "A Thanksgiving Culinary Presentation" – Chef Dan Kaufman will prepare appetizers and desserts that we can make for the upcoming holiday. Open to 9 th District garden club members.	Briarcliff Manor Public Library William J. Vescio Community Center One Library Road, Briarcliff Manor
December 1	Winter Grapevine Submission Deadline	
December 4, 10 am	9th District Board Meeting Wreath Pick-up for Veterans	Muscoot Activities Bdg 51 Rte 100 Katonah, NY 10536
January 22, 2024, 10 am	9th District General Meeting Hosting: Section 1	TBD

For Newscape, The NGC LDS Newsletter, visit the NGC website and go to the Member Resources link at the bottom of the page. "Newscap" is listed with all the NGC publications. (<https://www.gardenclub.org/member-resources>)

www.district9fgcnys.com - for 9th District news, events and updates

www.fgcnys.com – for what’s happening around NYS

www.gardenclub.org – for national events and The National Gardener magazine

CLUB ACTIVITIES : September, October, November

Section 1: Trina Hiemcke, Chair

Brewster-Carmel We are still recovering from our very successful flower show, “Summer Reading,” in August. We are participating in the Brewster Fall Festival on October 6th. We sell flower arrangements, house plants, dried flowers, and garden related items. We are in the process of cleaning up our civic gardens in both Brewster and Carmel. Our October program “Healthy Foods for Hungry People” will be presented by Martha Elder, Executive Director of Second Chance Foods. She will be discussing rescuing unsold, un-served, and aesthetically imperfect food and distributing it to the needy. Cathy Rich will be doing our November program, which will feature floral designs to brighten your Thanksgiving table.

Lake Mahopac September – Our business meeting and program were held in the Airport Park facility. Details for our upcoming tea, to be held at the Mahopac Golf Club, took up most of the business meeting. Program was given by John Panagacos. He introduced us to hardy annuals such as zinnias and cosmos to use as flowers excellent to grow between the time it takes for bulb plants to die off. Always a problem for gardeners. LMGC took a table at the Community Day on September 10th in Mahopac. October - Our meeting will be held in Airport Park facility. The Business Meeting will deal with last minute details of the High Tea coming up shortly, Saturday, October 21. This event will have all the trimmings – door prize, raffle items, and a beautiful hat contest. This is our fundraiser for the year, so it is important that it be a success. The October program will be given by Marie Braun, experienced designer for LMGC, on Leaf Manipulation. November - The meeting will be held in Airport Park facility, where we will review the tea held on October 21.

Peekskill The Club held its public outreach program at the Peekskill Yacht Club the evening of September 12. Frank Goderre, a local historian, gave a slide presentation on the history of the Bear Mountain Bridge, which will celebrate 100 years since its opening in 2024. At our November 14 meeting, Officer nominations for the April 2024 through March 2026 term will be presented to the members.

Yorktown

Section 2A: Marj Trainor, Chair

Briarcliff Manor September - Presenter: Artist Jan Aiello will conduct a “Botanical Painting on Canvas Workshop.” In preparation for the 2024 BMGC June Flower Show, the theme of this workshop will be strawberries. October - BMGC Daffodil Expansion Project will plant 500 Marieke Daffodils in designated Briarcliff Manor public areas. So far BMGC has beautified the village with the planting of 2,000 Marieke bulbs, and this fall it will plant 2,500 bulbs. The October meeting program will be a Pumpkin-Floral Centerpiece Workshop, working with a pumpkin, beautiful blooms and lots of botanical, autumnal texture. Each member will take home their own crafted centerpiece. November - Program: “A Thanksgiving Culinary Presentation” - Chef Dan Kaufman will prepare appetizers and desserts that we can make for the upcoming holiday. Open to 9th District garden club members; details in calendar below. In November, the Club will also hold a Holiday Wreath Workshop to create wreaths for Briarcliff Manor public buildings, schools, Blue Star Memorial Marker, and Montrose Veteran Hospital.

Chappaqua

Section 2B: Mary Bailly, Chair

Hopp Ground Hopp Ground Garden Club members were busy during the summer tending to our 6 Civic Beautification sites and were excited to kick off a new year of gardening with a business meeting in September. Sandra Morrissey, President of the Sound Shore Audubon Society and founder of its Eastern Bluebird Project, will be talking to us in October about the successful efforts to return the once threatened Eastern Bluebirds to Westchester. We are looking forward to our Thanksgiving Workshop in November where members will create floral arrangements for their holiday tables.

Pound Ridge October: Our meeting will be for members-only as we have our biennial election of officers followed by a pinecone workshop. November: This meeting is our annual holiday workshop where our entire club gathers to create holiday swags, which are hung on the street signs around town. We also sponsor our annual "decorate your mailbox contest," which is open to Pound Ridge residents, and we award gift cards to the winners.

Section 3: Yvonne Avant, Chair

Ardsley The Ardsley Garden Club continues to maintain the gardens at the Ardsley Library where we are planting more native plants that are food and habitat for birds and insects. Weeding and removing porcelain berry vines and bittersweet are especially on the list to yank out. In November, the club again will decorate many wreaths for the Village and churches and for the Veterans Home in Cortlandt. The Club is always trying to find new members to increase our numbers.

Dobbs Ferry We are back together in September after our summer break. Our September program is a presentation by James Brayton Hall, President of the Garden Conservancy. He will speak on their Open Days program and new initiatives to further expand this program. October gives us a chance for a hands-on project with a mushroom cultivation lecture and workshop by organic mushroom farmer Aaron Hodgins Davis. In November, local farmer and floral designer Muriel Poure of Muriel Fleurs will demonstrate how we can use seasonal flowers and foliage to create beautiful arrangements. Many thanks to our Program Chairs Rachelle Filipek and Anne Schneider.

Little Gardens of Tarrytown We have resumed home meetings and have slated topics on Farm to Table Movement and Implications by Christine Gall and Apples by Tony Antes. In addition, we have garden maintenance and plantings to be done at Neperan and Patriots Parks, wreath making in time for Veterans Day and December, a bench dedication and installation in memory of long-term member, Beverly Jansen, who passed November 3, 2022, and continued planning for our 100th anniversary in 2024.

Parkway Gardens/Homes PG/PH GC ended the summer and welcomed the fall with a small standard flower show "Awakenings" on Friday, September 8th. President Sandrie McGarrell attended the 9th District's Annual Presidents Luncheon on Monday 9/11. We look forward to meeting during the fall as we continue to welcome new members. Two members will be attending the CAR-SGC conference in Corning in October. We hope to return to our usual senior citizen outreach programs during the holidays.

Section 4: Gloria Bisaccia, Chair

Boulder Ledge September - Opening meeting/lunch at a member's home with guest, Mayor Mary Marvin, who will share her annual state of the Village report. Of special interest is a new project, Maltby Park, an open green space being turned into a park. BLGC is being asked to sponsor a bed. To celebrate the 125th anniversary of Bronxville Village on October 1st, a few members will provide floral arrangements to interpret art in the Village Hall. October - Tour of the Javits Center's garden/rooftop farm and learning about their sustainability efforts. Afterwards, we'll have a "farm-to-table" lunch highlighting the JC garden produce. November - An evening meeting with wine and snacks at a member's home decorating wreaths for Montrose.

Larchmont September - Bulbs: Autumn's Prophets of Bloom – Carrie Sears. October - Annual Fall Luncheon, Oriental Beach Club. Speaker: Daryl Beyers, author of "The New Gardener's Handbook." November - Gardening in Small Spaces: Rethinking Your Garden by Judy Rozanski, Westchester Master Gardener.

Section 5: Kathy Ennis, Chair

City Island The Garden Club of City Island will host three great presentations at its general membership meetings this fall. In September, member and professional gardener, Mary Colby, gave a talk on her favorite gardening tools, where to purchase them, and how to take care of them. This was followed by a slide presentation of recent photos of her beautiful gardens. In October, member Hailey Clancy will give a presentation on the "The Whys of Native Plant Gardening," including photos of her native plant garden here on City Island. Then in November, member Barbara Dolensek will give an update on the activities of the City Island Oyster Reef. This organization is restoring oyster reefs to the waters around City Island with the purpose of cleaning the water and mitigating storm damage. The Club is also continuing its beautification activities. With the help of our local Boy Scout troop, the summer plants in our containers on City Island Avenue will be removed and members will install winter greenery. The club will also purchase 55 holiday wreaths to be distributed to local public spaces.

Luther Burbank

New Rochelle The New Rochelle Garden Club is starting calendar year 2023-2024, still going strong in our 112th year. We have a full schedule of presenters and programs planned in a new meeting space at the Monarch Coopers Corner located at 11 Mill Pond Road in the North End of New Rochelle.

Morsemere The September Meeting will be at the home of Shannon Daugherty, where club members will create Thanksgiving Table Arrangements for residents of Rosary Hill, plan activities for the coming year, and kick off our annual Bulb Sale. The Bulb sale serves not only as a Club fund raiser but also results in donations of bulbs for the Hudson River Museum Garden, which the club maintains. In October, Members will attend the Manet/Degas Exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art followed by lunch at the museum. The exhibit examines the close relationship and parallel careers of Edouard Manet and Edgar Degas by displaying their works side by side. Near his death, at 49, Manet created 16 still life paintings of flowers of France, his favorite being peonies, which he also grew. The November meeting will take place at the Will Library in Yonkers where Christmas Tray Favors will be created for the residents of Rosary Hill, a care facility for the terminally ill.

THE 9th IN VIEW

Don't forget!

9th District Membership Dues are due October 1.

Assistant Treasurer Janette Wilson
22 Monroe Place
White Plains, NY 10603
Jwilson3398@yahoo.com

Want to get more involved in the 9th District? **BECOME THE DISTRICT AWARDS CHAIR!**

Responsibilities:

Provide Clubs with the requirements and materials necessary to apply for District, State, and National awards.

Provide encouragement and assistance to Clubs applying for awards.

Interested?

Contact Jacqui Bergonzi jbergonzi@optonline.net

World Gardening

Chair: Gloria Bisaccia glowb@aol.com

The Federated Garden Clubs of New York State World Gardening Project supports two organizations: 'Water for South Sudan' and 'Digdeep/Navajo Water Project'.

By providing access to clean, safe water and facilitating hygiene education, Water for South Sudan sows the seeds for growth. Once a well is drilled, schools and markets follow. <http://www.waterforsouthsudan.org/>

Digdeep/The Navajo Water Project brings hot and cold running water to homes without access to water and sewer lines in Baca, New Mexico. www.Digdeep.org.

Please make your check payable to FGCNYS, memo line Water for South Sudan (WFSS) or Digdeep. Send donations to Gloria Bisaccia, 105 Corporate Park Drive, Apt. #2094, W. Harrison, NY 10604

Spotted Lanternfly:

The Spotted Lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) is native to China and was first detected in Pennsylvania in September 2014. It feeds on a wide range of crops and plants, including grapes, apples, hops, walnuts, and hardwood trees.

From [USDA.gov](http://www.usda.gov)

What you can do:

When preparing for the winter holidays, check outdoor items for spotted lanternfly egg masses. Scrape any egg masses into a plastic zippered bag filled with hand sanitizer, then zip the bag shut and dispose of it properly.

Inspect your trees and plants for signs of this pest, particularly at dusk and at night when the insects tend to gather in large groups on the trunks or stems of plants.

Inspect trees (in particular, tree of heaven), bricks, stone, and other smooth surfaces for egg masses.

Have you seen a Spotted Lanternfly? Let's check!

EGG MASSES: September - May
Found on tree bark, rusty metal, rocks, outdoor furniture, vehicles, and any flat surfaces. About 1" long and 1/2" - 3/4" wide. Masses have a mud-like covering, that varies in color from white to tan to grey or brown. Freshly laid eggs are often shiny and appear to have a waxy coating that becomes dry and cracked over time. Old egg masses can shed their covering and look like four to seven rows of seed-like eggs, 30 - 50 eggs total.

NYMPHS: May - September
Black with white spots without wings, becomes red with white spots and black patches as it matures. Fourth instar nymphs are over 1/2" inch long. Hop suddenly when approached or touched.

ADULTS: July - December
All first, grayish-tan pink wings with many round black spots. Wing tips are black and grey with a webbed appearance. Flying or startle: insect will show bright red hind wings that are 1 1/2" - 2 1/2" wide with wings spread. Adults are about 1" long and 1/2" wide with wings folded. Adults can hop several feet if startled.

To report a spotted lanternfly sighting, scan the QR code, or visit: <https://agr.culture.ny.gov/5f>

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets



LAKE MAHOPAC GARDEN CLUB
P R E S E N T S

FLORIBUNDA!



A Celebration of Flowers, Tea and other Delectables

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST · NOON-3^{PM}

MAHOPAC GOLF AND BEACH CLUB
601 NORTH LAKE BOULEVARD · MAHOPAC, NY

Tickets \$40 Adults \$20 Youth (10-17)

Wear a beautiful hat, and maybe win a prize!

To inquire and purchase tickets please call Rose Runco 914 806 7570 or Mary Ragonesi 201 218 8742

Illustration and design by J.P. Baker

Garden Club of Dobbs Ferry Celebrates 100 years!

Our 100th Luncheon on May 25th was a great success. We had a good turnout with former and current members as well as family and friends. Many thanks to Jacqui Bergonzi of the 9th District, Donna Sessa of FGCNYS, and Monica Hanson of CAR for your support and kind letters. Also, thanks to Brenda Moore and the National Garden Club for the Certificate of Merit and Mayor Vincent Rossillo and the Office of the Mayor of Dobbs Ferry for the Certificate of Appreciation.



Current and former members of the Garden Club of Dobbs Ferry



Shakespeare Garden
 Davenport Park, New Rochelle
 Throughout the summer, Andrea Boyer of Larchmont Garden Club and Yolanda Gorman of Garden Club of New Rochelle maintained the beautiful Shakespeare Garden located in Davenport Park, New Rochelle, with a view of the Long Island Sound.



Local artist Janette Aiello conducts a “Botanical Painting on Canvas Workshop” for the Briarcliff Manor Garden Club



Flower Shows

Morsemere Garden Club
presents



Time Flies

An NGC Small Standard Flower Show
Sherwood House Museum

Friday, June 9, 2023
Saturday, June 10, 2023



Awards

Design:

Design Excellence: Shannon Daugherty
Designer's Choice: Kathy Ennis
Marcella Saledino Petite Award: Shannon Daugherty

Teresita Mulia New Exhibitor Award:
Lorraine Lozito

Education:

Tob Exhibitor Award: Beth Fitzgerald
Horticulture:

Horticultural Excellence: Shannon Daugherty
Award of Merit: Roseline Morandin, Beth Fitzgerald, Shannon Daugherty, Lorraine Lozito

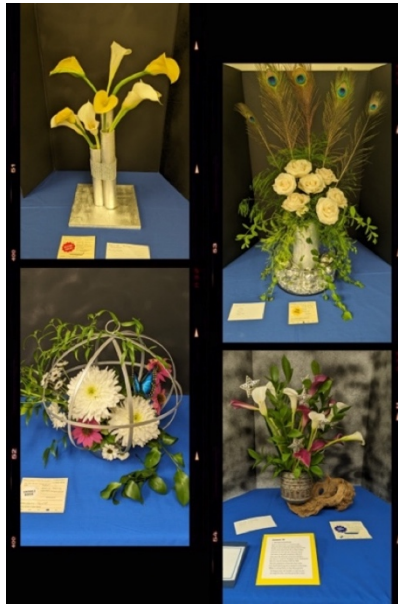
Arboreal: Beth Fitzgerald

Grower's Choice: Beth Fitzgerald

The Brewster - Carmel Garden Club
Presents An NGC Standard Flower Show
"Summer Reading"

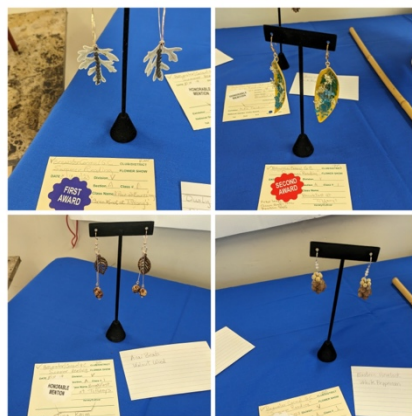
at
Trinity Lutheran Church
 2103-Route 6 Brewster, New York 10509

Free and Open to the Public
 Friday, August 18, 2023 2:00pm – 4:00pm
 Saturday, August 19, 2023 10:00am – 4:00pm
 Parking in rear of church



Awards

May Ratchford Award: Dee Harrison
 Horticulture:
 Award of Horticultural Excellence - Mary Bomba
 Horticulture Award of Merit- Rosaleen Byllardt,
 Trina Hiemke, Karen Scharf, Mary Bomba, Kathy
 Muentener
 Growers Choice Award - Pat Giovanoni, Mary
 Ann Taormina, Mary Bomba
 Arboreal Award - Dee Harrison
 Mabel Little Award – Mary Bomba
 Design:
 Award of Design Excellence - Evelyn Tapani
 Rosenthal
 Designer's Choice Award - Evelyn Tapani Rosenthal
 Petite Award - Chris Wolf
 Education:
 Educational Top Exhibitor Award - Mary Ann
 Taormina
 Botanical Arts:
 Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award - Joan Newman

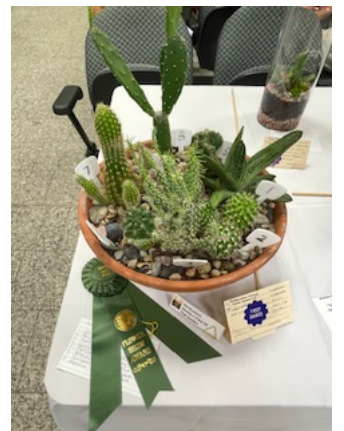


Parkway Gardens/Parkway Homes
Garden Club
Presents

Awakenings



An NGC, Inc. Small Standard Flower Show
Friday September 8, 2023
Greenburgh Town Hall



Spotlight on ...

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are a great way for clubs to encourage an interest in horticulture, flower design, and plant and environmental sciences – and they help to create a connection between your club and the local community!

Local scholarship winners make great candidates for 9th District, FGCNYS, and NGC Scholarships!

9th DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP

Chair: Trina Hiemcke
trinahem@aol.com

Who can apply?

NYS residents who have completed one year of college, have volunteered for community-based environmental programs, and are pursuing a course of study related to biology, botany, the environment, etc, are eligible.

How many scholarships are offered?

Two scholarships are offered each year, one in the spring and one in the fall.

How are the scholarships funded?

The scholarship funds are part of the 9th District annual budget. Donations to the Book of Tribute help to offset the cost of the scholarships.

Who was the most recent winner?

The 2022 9th District recipient was Molly Aguero. She applied after completing her first year at SUNY New Paltz and was referred by the Brewster/Carmel Garden Club. Her course of studies is geology and earth science. She planned to apply her \$500 award toward books.

How can students apply?

The application and additional details can be found on the district website:

<http://www.district9fgcnys.com/Youth.html>

FGCNYS: up to \$2000 to NYS residents who have completed one year of college and are majoring in plant or environmental sciences. Guidelines and application: <https://www.fgcny.com/application.html>

National Garden Clubs: up to \$4500 available to college juniors, seniors, and graduate students planning a career in plant or environmental sciences. Guidelines and application: <https://www.gardenclub.org/college-scholarships>

Lake Mahopac Garden Club

The Lake Mahopac Garden Club gives one scholarship of \$500/year as part of our mission to the community in which we live.

How is the scholarship funded?

We maintain a separate scholarship account that is invested and earning interest, refreshing the account as needed by our primary fundraising event, our High Tea.

How do you attract applicants?

We have two Scholarship Fund chairpersons who have established a relationship with the guidance counselors at Mahopac High School. The guidance counselors offer our scholarship form to be submitted to our club for consideration by students who are planning a career and/or seeking to further their education in such areas as environmental studies, horticulture, botany or biology, though not specifically for enrollment in a 4-year college program.

How do you choose your winner?

Our chairpersons choose the applicant who most closely reflects our club mission statement, which is to stimulate the knowledge of gardening and to aid in the protection of native materials. The selected applicant would then need to receive the approval by the garden club majority at either the May or the June meeting and the student is contacted and awarded the money at a Scholarship Presentation dinner held at the High School in June. We typically receive a thank you note from the award winner and have even had a few students attend a meeting to personally thank us for the award.

Garden Club of Peekskill

Each year, the Club offers a \$1,000 scholarship to encourage area high school seniors to pursue careers in horticulture, the environment, or forestry. Our 1992 scholarship winner, Chapman Manzer, is the successful owner of Manzer Landscaping Design and Development in Peekskill.

How is the scholarship funded?

We fund the scholarship with contributions to our Book of Recognition and annual plant sale.

How do you attract applicants?

In early December, the Chairman, Gail Tomasetti, sends a letter with an application and flyer to the guidance counselor at five area high schools: Croton-Harmon, Hendrik Hudson, Lakeland, Peekskill, and Walter Panas. The Chairman follows up with the guidance counselors to be sure students meet the April 1 application deadline.

How do you choose your winner?

The three members of the Scholarship Committee review the applications based on grades, expected field of study, extra-curricular work (especially if related to garden club interests), and financial need.

Who was your most recent winner?

This year, the Committee decided there were two outstanding seniors. The Executive Board voted to grant two \$1,000 scholarships in 2023: Brianna Ferguson, Peekskill High School, and Veronica Schnee, Walter Panas High School.

Brewster-Carmel Garden Club

Each year, the Brewster-Carmel Garden Club awards scholarships to two graduating high school seniors, one student from Brewster High School and one from Carmel High School, who plan to pursue studies in horticulture, environmental sciences, or a related field. In doing so, we hope to encourage future generations to care for our environment. Our club is very proud of its college scholarship program and of all the scholarship recipients through the years.

How do you choose your winner?

Our scholarship committee is very dedicated to choosing the most deserving candidates from among all the applicants. The scholarships are presented at the annual school awards ceremonies by a member of the Scholarship Committee. The scholarships are given in memory of Elaine Krueger, Scholarship Committee Chairperson for many years.

Who was your most recent winner?

This year, our club presented scholarships of \$750 each to Alexander Rienzi from Brewster High School and Anthony Briante from Carmel High School. Both candidates demonstrated concern for the environment through outstanding service to their schools and communities. Alexander will be attending Florida Atlantic University, pursuing a career in Civil Engineering/Environmental Studies. Anthony will be attending Catholic University, pursuing a career in Architecture and Landscape Design.

Morsemere Garden Club

The Morsemere Garden Club guarantees one \$350 to a Yonkers public school senior interested in studying horticulture, landscape or floral design, environmental sciences, or a related field. We require a short statement of interest, and there is a strong emphasis on community service. We usually award 2 -3 scholarships of \$350 to \$1000 each May.

How is the scholarship funded?

The \$350 is part of our annual budget. Once we've chosen our candidates, we collect additional donations to fund as many students as possible.

How do you attract applicants?

The Guidance Department of YPS maintains a scholarship book of local and regional scholarships that is distributed to seniors in the eight public high schools. We also reach out to two non-profit organizations that work with high school students – Groundwork Hudson Valley and Yonkers Partners in Education.

How do you choose your winner?

Our scholarship committee reviews the application, statement of interest, and recommendations, and chooses the strongest applicant(s). The full membership votes at the April meeting, where we also collect donations for additional scholarships. Awards are distributed to the students directly. We also include information in the award letter about District, State, and National scholarships available to college students. Two of our past winners have also received the 9th District Scholarship.

Who was your most recent winner?

In 2023, we awarded two scholarships: \$500 to Annabelle Bradley and \$350 to Sophia Lopez. Annabelle volunteered with the Luther Burbank Garden Club and the Food and Farm Hub at Riverdale Neighborhood House and plans a career in environmental science or agriculture. Sophia started a chapter of Westchester Green County at her high school and plans to study botany.



MGC Scholarship winner Annabelle Bradley, center, with co-presidents Susan Blanchard, left, and Beth Fitzgerald, right, at the MGC Flower Show "Time Flies."