



Shippan Point Garden Club

Stamford, Connecticut

Newsletter
April 2018

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting

April 10th @ 7 PM at Barbara LeCornec's, 61 Seaview Avenue #62

Please RSVP and let Barbara know if there is anything you would like to get on the agenda, barbara_lecornec@pepperidgefarm.com.

Hort & Design Group

April 17th @ 7 PM at Erna Szekeres's, 70 Ocean Drive East

Refreshments will be served. This meeting is informal, free of charge, and all members are welcome.

- Maureen Carson will discuss transplanting, refreshing houseplants, and over-wintered plants to prepare them for the next growing season. She will touch on what to do with amaryllis bulbs to try for rebloom next year. FGCT Judge's Counsel is doing a chrysanthemum challenge for the October Awards Meeting and extra mums are available for around \$2 each. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the meeting and mums will be distributed towards the end of April. If anyone has a horticulture question please email Maureen in advance of the meeting. She will try to have answer to share with the group.
- Georgia Nostrand will demonstrate parallel designs to showcase Holland as the country of focus in April.
- Thanks to Erna for opening her home and to Angela Swanepoel for serving as co-hostess!

April Flower Design

Design Theme:	Holland
Type:	Parallel
Size:	36" high, 24" wide, and 24" deep
Plant Material:	Fresh
Staging:	Background and underlay recommended but not required

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Botanical Arts

We will not be featuring a botanical craft project for April, but members are welcome to consider an educational entry. Please refer to SPGC website for [rules regarding educational entries](#). One entry per exhibitor is permitted.

Membership Meeting and Dinner

April 26th @ 12 PM at Stamford Yacht Club, 97 Ocean Drive East

Submission of Exhibits — 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM (no late entries accepted)

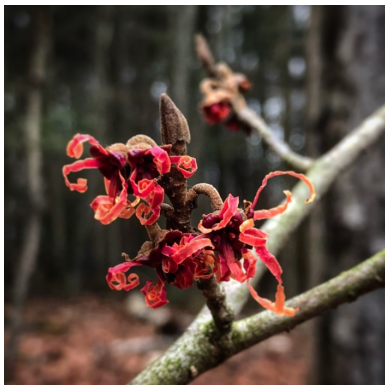
Membership Meeting and Luncheon — 12 Noon at Stamford Yacht Club. Please call the club at 203-323-3161 for luncheon reservations.

Guest Presentation by Steve Silk — 1 PM

Thanks to Amanda Cook and Rusty Ruth for hosting.

Garden Photography: Seeing the Picture

This garden photography workshop is not as much about the technical nuts and bolts of photography but instead emphasizes “seeing” the picture. Because if you can’t “see” a picture, that is, recognize the elements of a strong composition and portray your subject in a visually pleasing way, then it really doesn’t matter how fancy your equipment may be—you’re simply not going to take a good picture. Steve Silk will talk about composition, lighting, vantage point and color. And he’ll tell us about taking phone pix—fun apps to try and techniques to make the most of the simplest cameras out there.



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Steve Silk became interested in plants more than 30 years ago, during extended travels in tropical South America and Southeast Asia. Some of the tropical plants seen during his journeys, along with hundreds of other plants from all parts of the world, now grow in his ever-expanding Farmington, Connecticut garden. After 15 years as an award-winning photographer and travel writer at the *Hartford Courant*, Steve moved to *Fine Gardening* magazine, where he was Managing Editor and later spent 10 years as a Contributing Editor. He now spends most of his time writing about, photographing, and re-inventing his own back yard. His photography has garnered two Garden Writers of America awards for best portfolio. He collaborated with Sydney Eddison on *Gardens to Go* as well as *The Gardener's Palette: Creating with Color in the Garden*. Steve has appeared several times on HGTV's "Gardening by the Yard." He is a past President of the Connecticut Hardy Plant Society and of the Connecticut Horticultural Society. He often serves as a Photography Judge for FGCCT Photography exhibits in major flower shows.



All members/friends are welcome to attend the presentation. If you would like to attend the presentation without having lunch, please let Nolini Barretto know; we'll make sure there are chairs available for you. Nolini can be reached at 203-353-0309 or barretto.nolini@gmail.com.

May Market Plant and Tag & Jewelry Sale

May Market – Tag & Jewelry Sale

May 5th from 9 AM – 2 PM at Ginny Fox's, 165 Van Rensselaer

With thanks to Ginny for opening her garage and yard for the tag sale. Donations for the tag sale can be brought to Ginny's house after April 5th. Jewelry donations can be dropped off at Diane White's house located at 35 Ralsey Road as soon as possible.

May Market – Plant Sale – **NEW LOCATION!**

May 12th from 10 AM – 3 PM at Shippan Landing, 208 Harbor Drive – Parking Structure, Level 2, Stamford

Our various committees are hard at work preparing for May Market. We will have annuals, perennials, herbs, vegetables/edibles, hanging baskets, and various "Nook" items for sale as well as delicious homemade soups, sandwiches, and snacks available at our café.

With thanks to Maureen Carson and her scouting efforts, SPGC will be hosting May Market in a covered garage space at Shippan Landing. Signage will be available to direct folks to the new location, but please pass the word onto friends and family in the neighborhood!

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Pre-sale Delivery Volunteers Needed

May 7th, Time TBD

We would welcome some volunteers to help unload the truck and sort the pre-sale orders. Dianna Dwyer and Maureen Carson are Co-Chairs of annuals; Diane Deegan is the new Herbs Chairman; and Kristen Hayes is the new Vegetables/Edibles Chairman, coordinating vegetables/herbs in the cell packs with Diane's larger herbs to keep track of inventory for Edibles. If you're available to volunteer, please contact Maureen at maureenscarson@aol.com.

Raffle & Silent Auction Donations – **URGENTLY NEEDED BY APRIL 10th**

Very few donations have been received and many more are needed for the raffle. The deadline is April 10th. Please contact Barbara LeCornec at barbara_lecornec@pepperidgefarm.com with your donations. Raffle tickets will be distributed at the membership meeting on April 26th.

Perennial Potting Parties

Saturdays: April 14th, 21st, 28th, May 5th, and May 9th, 10th, and 11th if necessary.

10 AM to 2 PM, with a lunch break at noon, at Jackie Connolly's, 34 Downs Avenue.

All are welcome to help—you do not have to be on the Perennial Committee. Newer members—please try to come to at least one Potting Party. It is a great time to meet members informally and get to know more about the plants in your garden.

We are looking for donations of pots—6" and up (but not huge). Please also be looking at your gardens as they start to appear to see what plants you can donate. If you need help with digging, please e-mail Anne Cheng at annekcheng@gmail.com. If you have a quantity of a plant to donate, call Jackie (203-324-0290) or Anne (203-570-3548) first—we may already have a lot of that plant or it is not a plant that sells well.

Other News

Environmental Studies Scholarship Applications – Due by April 27th

SPGC is offering a \$2K Scholarship for Environmental Studies. If you know of any candidates for the scholarship, please contact Marty Cokin, SPGC Scholarship Chair at 203-978-1812 or mjcokin@optonline.net. Deadline for all applications is Friday, April 27, 2018.

Civic Planting Work Days

Spring clean-up in the gardens kicked off on March 27th at the Katrina Mygatt, Welcome, and Gateway Gardens. Led by Maureen Carson, Dianna Dwyer, Krystyna Vaughan, Janet McCabe, Nolini Barretto, and three men from Jaime's crew, the group accomplished quite a lot in 3 ½ hours! Please keep an eye out for information on Castle Garden and Traffic Circle Garden work days.

Civic Tree Planting

The trees that were not planted in the fall of 2017 are scheduled to be planted this spring. There are other trees that will be planted this season due to the loss of some trees in yards due to the weather events in April. The city landscaper has advised that the trees can be planted as late as the first week in May. If anyone in the club has need of a tree or has a neighbor who needs one, please contact Nancy Saiers at saiersnancy@yahoo.com. The Shippan Point Association also has funds for tree planting so together we have the means to purchase the needed trees and get them in the ground this spring.

Stamford Neighborhood Grant Program

Janet McCabe submitted an application for funds from the Stamford Neighborhood Grant Program and should hear if we won in early April. The request is for a \$4K grant to make a major improvement to the Welcome Garden; the goal is to replace the wooden fence and existing shrubs/plantings. The fence is the cornerstone of the garden. The 18-year old fence has outlived the normal life of a wooden fence by eight years. We plan to replace the fence with a durable PVC product with a similar design and size. We also plan to replace existing tired shrubs with an eye towards improving seasonal views of the garden.

Zinnia Planting Project

Members should start their zinnia seeds if they have not done so already. Any member who did not get seeds at the January meeting can pick them up on Maureen's front porch (1335 Shippan Avenue). One packet per member please—there is no cost. Any questions please contact Maureen at maureenscarson@aol.com.

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Czescik Marina Spring Clean Up

April 22nd – Earth Day @ 11 AM

If you are able to help, please join Friends of Czescik Park and Harbor Conservancy, for a park clean-up. The group's goal is to complete the clean-up before the bird nesting season. If you know of any students seeking volunteer credits, the group will sign their credit forms. This is a great activity for older grandchildren, so please bring them. All volunteers are welcome, even if you only have an hour! Please contact Kathleen Mathews at klmath1234@gmail.com to RSVP and she will add you to the volunteer list and provide additional details and updates.



Federated Garden Clubs of CT (FGCCT) News

Annual Meeting

April 18th at the Aqua Turf Country Club, 556 Mulberry Street, Plantsville, CT

9 AM – 10 AM: Registration, Exhibits and Demonstrations

10 AM: Meeting

Karen Bussolini, nationally renowned garden photographer, writer, speaker, and eco-friendly garden coach, will present “Naturescape Your

Yard.” Naturescaping is landscaping with nature—attracting and sustaining wildlife, using native and well-adapted plants, using resources wisely, and avoiding environmental pollution. From 9 AM – 10 AM before the meeting starts, Judges Council members will present “up close and personal”, a floral design techniques demonstration. Demonstrations may include abstracting of plant material, leaf manipulation, and the latest trend in the use of fiber arts in design.

RSVPs are due by April 13th. For more information and to register online, go to <https://ctgardenclubs.org/events-overview/annual-meeting/>.

Flower Show School III

June 5th – 6th, with optional exam on June 7th at The Kellogg Environmental Center, 500 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT

For details, go to <https://ctgardenclubs.org/education/schools/flower-show-school/>.

Respectfully submitted by SPGC Corresponding Secretary,
Birlie Lau