

GARDEN CLUB OF NIAGARA NEWSLETTER **January 2017**

A Message from your President

The members of the Garden Club of Niagara are all set to enjoy the exciting challenges that are planned for 2017! We enjoyed a well deserved rest after the frenzy of decorating at McFarland and Bende House. Many thanks to our fearless leaders, Ruth Boulton, Kit Thompson, Louise Van Atte, Barb Bedell, and Lil Haworth! With these ladies guiding us, the ladies of our club put their hearts into creating fabulous designs, sitting in the houses to answer lots of questions from the visitors, and countless other jobs that are all required for our successful installation! We were fortunate to have our hard work recognized by Theresa Forte in the newspapers! We also had wonderful food and great fellowship at our celebratory luncheon at Pillar and Post. Many thanks to Carol Williams for organizing that event. November and December seemed to be a blur! But now we are back, full of renewed energy and excitement.

Our meetings continue to provide interesting speakers and demonstrators with the addition of workshops for twenty lucky members most months. Each workshop focusses on different skills while providing a lovely design to take home. What could be better? Our December design was spectacular but the lucky attendees had to navigate a very icy world due to some early winter weather. Luckily, we all got home safely with designs intact...at least I hope! We have several exciting things planned in the next few months. Stay tuned! This year is going to be very busy.

Finally, I'd like to wish everyone a very happy, healthy, New Year. I think it is shaping up to be awesome!

Yours in flowers!
Lindy Fedchun
President

Please remember to : wear your name tag, bring a coffee mug and your parking pass and check out Garden Club of Niagara on gardenclubsofontario.ca for updates.

Upcoming Dates at a Glance

January 23rd - GCN general meeting and workshop

February 27th - GCN general meeting and workshop

March 13th - GCN executive meeting

Art & Blooms - April 21 - 23 at Riverbrink

UPCOMING MEETINGS

General Meeting, **January 23rd**, 1:00pm - please note this is the 4th Monday of the month not the last Monday of the month

Programme: **Tillandsia - Air plants** - Scott Rushton

Workshop - prior to the meeting at 10:00 am

General meeting, **February 27th**, 1:00pm

Programme: Paula Berketo- the Oakes Theatre Garden and the Secret Garden

Workshop - prior to meeting at 10:00 am

Workshops: Lillie Haworth

The January 23rd workshop will be held as usual at NPSH downstairs at 10am. Lindy Fedchun will lead this workshop on the wiring technique and the resulting design.

Please bring: cover for work area, secateurs, scissors or wire cutters to cut thin wire, rag to clean up, water picks/aqua piks (if you have any bring 3 to 5, otherwise we will supply), a box to transport design and cover (plastic bag, etc.) to protect design from the cold and wind.

Cost \$10.00. If you signed up and find you are unable to attend please let me know by Friday, the 20th, as others would like to attend, otherwise you will be asked to pay the fee and the materials will be kept for you.

This workshop is filled, but often there are cancellations, if you would like your name on the waiting list please be in touch; ljhaworth@sympatico.ca 905 945 2433

There will be a workshop at February the 27th meeting. More information will be available at the January meeting and by email.

Ways and Means - Francine Williams

Happy New Year Ladies!

January of course means Ways and Means book sale. With so many new members, we have the opportunity to pass along our treasured books relating to gardening, plants and arranging. If you have books or magazines in need of fresh eyes, please bring them to the meeting. They will be sold, as usual, \$2 for hard covers, \$1 for soft covers and magazines 4 for \$1 or else as priced (for those exotic design magazines).

A new January feature is our White Elephant Sale. If you are looking to make space, or just feeling particularly generous, bring in containers, mechanics or anything related to flower arranging. Save your wheel barrows and gardening tools for the spring clearance sale. Please price your gem(s), or place them on tables marked 50 Cents, \$1.00, \$5.00 or the ubiquitous, Price as Marked. And by all means, bring your money: there is always something you never knew needed until you saw it.

McFarland House Report - Kit Thompson

Regards from Ruth Boulton, Louise van Atte and Kit Thompson.

McFarland is done for 2016. We want to briefly say that there were so many good comments on a successful participation in the Rotary Christmas House Tour. It was gratifying that all your hard work was appreciated.

Hopefully those who did not have the opportunity to work on the house were able to tour on the Sunday after the main events. It certainly showcased the talents of all involved.

If you could not make it, you can have a chance to see what it looked like. There will be in the library CD's of photos for the years from 2008 till 2016 of McFarland and the alternate houses, generously given by Barb Bedell and Louise van Atte. Check them out.

An excellent article featured in the St. Catharines Standard and the Niagara Falls Review with photos by Theresa Forte highlighted many special areas in the house will also be available in our archives or the library.

Look for more about next year's tour in the coming months.

Art & Blooms 2017: Lillie Haworth

The Garden Club of Niagara worked with RiverBrink Art Museum, Queenston in October 2011 to stage an Art & Blooms event at the Gallery. They have asked that we work with them again in 2017 and we have accepted the challenge. The event will be the weekend of April 21st/22nd/23rd.

Art in Blooms has Garden Club members do a design to complement/be inspired by a piece of art. The Gallery staff and Garden Club committee have accepted over 20 designs to select from for display.

This is not a judged flower show, but rather an opportunity to display design. Members are encouraged to work together, either in pairs and/or with assistance from others, if desired! Containers, etc. can be borrowed and there can be discussions about our designs prior to the event.

At the January meeting we will have photos of the art work and we would like you to get together/or alone pick a piece of art you would like to work with. Barbara Bedell and I will be heading up this committee and we will have more information when we know what is needed!!

Constitution

Every member of the club should have a copy of the constitution. It was last revised in 2012. A copy will be sent in a separate email following the newsletter .