

The Garden Club of Hyannis Club Clippings



February 2025

President: Linda Kiley
Editor: Elena Ahlin

Upcoming Events

February 17, Functional Table Design “Decorative Unit”. Details inside

March 17, Design Workshop 201. Details inside

April 2025, Books in Bloom at Hyannis Public Library. More details to come.

May 1, Art in Bloom, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. More details to come.

“In February, nature reminds us that even in the coldest moments, beauty can still flourish.” Gabriella Aleman

Cold February sunny days are a great time to hit the beaches before the crowds come in the summer. It starkly reminds us of the beautiful place in which we live and how important it is to care for our environment. The Association to Preserve Cape Cod works hard to keep our environment healthy and also regularly informs people of their activities. You can sign up for their newsletter at <https://apcc.org/>. I am looking forward to this month’s meeting where the gifts and talents of our members will once again be shared. Our design committee will be putting on the program, emphasizing the creativity and various interpretations of floral designers when presented with a challenge. Hopefully, this will put our members in the mood to sign up for a new club event - **Books in Bloom**. Ann Marie Carlson is organizing this event with the Hyannis Public Library and will give us the details at the meeting. I am sure there will be a huge response from our members! As noted in our February meeting agenda, we need to take a re-vote on changing the by-laws relating to membership requirements. Officially, members need to be given the proposal in writing before taking the vote. Please check the attachments to the February agenda to review this change.

Linda

MEMBERSHIP – Mel Morency

Welcoming Our Newest Members!

We are pleased to welcome three new members to our club! Many of you met them at our January meeting and we look forward to including them in our upcoming activities. Their name tags will have a special pink dot. Please reach out to say hello when you see them!

Please add their contact information to the New Member page (p.30) in your Yearbook:

Karen Butterworth

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Liz Leduc

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HOSPITALITY - Angela Lipínski

I would like to thank the following members for the phenomenal job they did at our January luncheon. The food and desserts were delicious. The floral arrangement was beautiful. Thank you to: Candi Hurwitz, Nancy Wong, Betty Logan, Sally Cameron, Cheryl Baer, Nancy Walsh, Ann Marie Carlson, Debby Falconer, Nancy Beless, Betty Brodd, Diane Cochran, Deborah Coleman, Sharon Cornelius, Catherine Crum, Linda Lord, Elaine Carter and Joyce Kelleher. Also, thank you to Nancy Bailey for being the co-hostess of this event.

OUTINGS - Angela Lipínski

This is a heads up on our March Outing. Our March 21st Outing is a Policemen Appreciation Day. We are asking members to help us thank the men and women that put their lives on the line every day for us. We will be sending out a flyer in a couple of weeks detailing this event. Last year's Firemen Appreciation Day was well received. Please help us thank the officers of the Barnstable and Yarmouth Police Department. Watch for the flyer.

The Outings Committee would like to thank Nancy Wong for putting together the Outing at Kappy's Liquors on January 14. She coordinated the details between the speaker, Kim Larkin, and the Manager of Kappy's, Todd Cohen. Also, thank you to Todd for underwriting the cost of the liquor that we sampled at this event. Mr. Cohen has always been kind and helpful to the Garden Club of Hyannis. Great job, Nancy!



GARDEN THERAPY – Kathy Clay

January had a large group of future florists at the BACC. Thirteen folks did a lovely and artistic job with the help of Dolores Ahern, Ginny Waterman-Casey, Elena Ahlin and one of our brand new members, Liz LeDuc. Liz took many pictures for us. Thank you, Liz.



HORTICULTURE HIGHLIGHT – Elena Ahlin

My oldest surviving plant is a Christmas cactus, *Schlumbergera buckleyi*. She was a gift to me twenty-three years ago and we've had a fraught relationship until the last few years since I joined this club. Being part of a garden club forced me to face the fact that I was not treating her with the respect she required to flourish. So, I went to Google. Now she blooms on time, and I learned how to prune her by twisting off a few segments where they join. She looks a lot better. She receives a feeding of half strength fertilizer in spring and early summer. In late September she comes in and receives diffused light and about twelve hours of darkness each night. She is now an easy plant to have and has grown beautifully. This was her best flowering ever. We're both happy.



Floral Design - Nancy Costa

Beginner Floral Design Workshop Session 3: February 17, 9:00 AM

A Table Design, Table set for two*

Note: Even though the Yearbook states: table set for one; *we will make table set for 2.

Participants make the design at home and bring to class, completed.

Definition of FUNCTIONAL TABLE Design from *Handbook for Flower Shows*, pgs 76 -77. "A FUNCTIONAL TABLE is for any number of persons, determined by the schedule. Table is planned and set for the actual service of food. Convenience and sense of order must prevail. Coordination of all components must be balanced within the allotted space. A **Decorative Unit** (*completed floral design with/without candles and other accessories*) must be included. A container-grown plant alone is not a design."

Feb. 17 a Functional Table Design including a "Decorative Unit"

Workshop times: 9:00 arrive/ setup - Club Meeting Room

9:30 begin

10:30 discussion/critiques

11:30 cleanup/ end

Balance and Rhythm are important in a successful functional table design. There should be a pleasing line and flow created by the table appointments. All table appointments work in harmony with the "Decorative Unit" or floral design on the functional table.

Include setting for 2 and Decorative Unit with the following 'Table Appointments':

- ☐ Dishes & Beverage service, coordinated with other appointments
- ☐ Flatware is not required. The Flower Show "Schedule" dictates whether flatware is to be included or left out. We say 'no flatware' for this workshop.
- ☐ Coverings: (your choice) tablecloth, placemats, runner and underlay, etc. Overhangs are good for unity in the class/group.
- ☐ Napkins: required for all functional tables. One or more napkins may be may be used together; placed where best suited for table design. (Napkins never placed on dishes in 'Tray Classes'.)
- ☐ "Decorative Unit" (floral design - never a potted plant alone) with or without candles and/or other accessories. When diners are seated for functional tables, Decorative Unit should not interfere with viewing or conversation across the table.
- ☐ Candles: allowed, unless prohibited by fire regulations. Wicks need not be charred and are never lit for safety reasons. "Flame" should be above or below eye level. Battery-powered candles are permitted.



Next series of 3 workshops - Session 1, "Floral Design 201" Please familiarize yourself with the many design types. [Download (free) or purchase] **Invest in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*** from the National Garden Club website: www.gardenclub.org "Our store"

March 17, "Design Workshop 201" Session 1 of 3 Parallel Design

*The design type has been updated from what was published in our Yearbook.

***A Parallel Design** - a Creative Design consisting of three (3) or more groupings of plant material & optional components with a strong parallel placement in a single container or base. Refer to *Handbook for Flower Shows*, pgs. 75 (Parallel Design) & 71-72 (Creative Design).

☐ **Novice/Beginner designers** use one container

☐ **Experienced/Advanced designers** please use multiple containers, combined to appear as one unit or parallel direction horizontal or diagonal

Session 2 - held January 20 "Beginner Design Workshop"

Basic Centerpiece, a Circular Design in a bowl/container. Participants brought containers, flowers and greens

☐ Designs created at using chicken wire mechanics

☐ In keeping with the "Rose" theme of the Program **"Forms are the strongest visual symbols in a design. Forms are either closed (solids, compact or mass) or open (spreading with space e**

HORTICULTURE – Elena Ahlin

Don't forget to bring in your garden plants for our Horticulture Table. We'd like to hear about your garden success stories and your garden problems and questions. Please let me know if you would like to tell us about a particular plant and its story in our Horticulture Highlight section. We have an opening in our March issue. Spring is around the corner.

MEET... Nancy Wong

Nancy Wong grew up in Brookline, Massachusetts, in a family of 8 children. In the 1930s, her parents left China to settle in the US. They expected Nancy to work in the family laundry, instead, Nancy went to Katherine Gibbs Secretarial School on a full scholarship! Then she went on to work at Boston University, where she met her husband, Don.

For many years, both Nancy and Don worked at Sikorsky Aircraft in Connecticut, but eventually, they returned to Cape Cod to open the “Tiki Port,” a small family restaurant. While working part-time in the restaurant, Nancy also worked as a real estate broker and paralegal, and with her husband raised her children in Marstons Mills.

In 2009, just as Nancy was retiring, her husband, Don, unexpectedly passed away. Fortunately, Jan Fournier encouraged Nancy to join the Garden Club of Hyannis, introducing her to club members and activities. Nancy has always loved gardening, especially flowers. The GCH opened Nancy’s eyes to so much more and Nancy remains grateful for her first design workshops with Dolores Ahern!

Nancy genuinely appreciates that the club fosters fellowship, and she gives back to the club. She has been the club’s Recording Secretary, Clippings Editor, and Email Coordinator and currently, is the Website Coordinator. Nancy discovered “the more you participate, the more you get out of the club.”

Outside of The Garden Club, Nancy volunteers at the Marstons Mills Library and at the Barnstable Senior Center. Nancy loves to hike in the woods, to kayak and play Pickleball! And every day, even in winter, she walks her 6 years old fox terrier, Pepper.

Terry Mallett

