

Connecticut Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER

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Serving Horticulturists Since 1887

October 2016

Great Bulbs that Last

by Karen Bussolini – an excerpt from “The American Gardener” magazine

The best surprise of the first spring in my new home in Connecticut many years ago was a mass of shaggy, fragrant daffodils that bloomed like crazy in a mountainside seep where they should have rotted. They were growing all over the neighborhood, but I couldn't find them in any of my books or catalogs. Eventually I learned that my mystery daffodil was *Narcissus 'Van Sion'*, (also known as ‘Telamonius Plenus’), an heirloom cultivated since the 1600s. Twenty-five years later, they're still going strong. I appreciate such durable bulbs, which come up every spring, bloom with no effort on a gardener's part, and then quietly fade away as later-emerging perennials fill the space. That's what I call a bulb that lasts.

In my search for bulbs as forgiving as ‘Van Sion’, I managed to kill quite a few. Along the way, however, I learned to read between the lines of catalog prose; search the internet for subjects like “hardy bulbs for shade,” “deer-proof bulbs,” or even “poisonous bulbs;” pay attention to what thrived in untended places; and apply a rudimentary knowledge of bulb biology.

Before going further, let's clarify that



I'm using the term “bulbs” loosely here to include corms, rhizomes, tubers, and other geophytes that store water and nutrients in swollen underground organs that allow them to go dormant during adverse seasons of either drought or cold, then re-grow when favorable conditions return. Some are widely adaptable, others have very specific requirements. All bulbs must replenish food stores via photosynthesis, so it's important to leave their foliage in place until it dies back naturally. So repress the neatness gene; no trimming foliage, tying it in knots, or braiding it before it withers. Later-emerg-

ing plants can help conceal the unsightly dying-back process although too much surrounding foliage can inhibit the process of replenishing bulb food reserves. Bulbs also have different mechanisms for reproducing. Brent Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs in Gloucester, Virginia, points out the difference between naturalizers—bulbs that reproduce by seed—and perennializers—those that persist and spread, like perennials, but don't set seed. “Many small bulbs such as *Chionodoxa*, Siberian squill (*Scilla siberica*), *Scilla bifolia*, and *Crocus tommasinianus* do wonderfully in lawns,” says Heath, “but you have to allow the foliage and seeds to mature.” This means cutting the grass no less than three to three-and-a-half inches tall for six weeks or so, or letting it grow and then using a trimmer or mulch mower later. “And, of course, you can't apply herbicides or other chemical treatments to the grass,” reminds Heath.

Bulbs are an essential and versatile component of any garden. Maximize their potential by selecting ones that return reliably year after year.

The terms “naturalize” and “perennialize” are commonly used interchangeably, and in some cases bulbs use both mechanisms

(continued on page 7)

The Hummers are Gone

by Sarah Bailey

It's a crisp sunny September morning, one which promises to be summer-hot by noon. There's plenty of gardening to be done over the next six weeks, yet I am feeling Jack Frost's fingers on my shoulder.

Throughout the summer my feeder has been regularly visited by three Ruby-throated Hummingbirds; one male and two females. (Do I know they were the same three all the time? No, but there are three that clearly worked my feeder into their daily routine.)

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Membership Dues:

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2016-17 Scholarship Recipients

by Elaine Widmer, Scholarship Committee Chairperson



From left to right: Ken Stubenrauch, CHS President, Dr. Mark Brand, Mehliquist Award winner, and scholarship recipients: Emily LaFlamme, Brendan Lyga and Seamus Kelly

For more than 50 years, The Connecticut Horticultural Society has awarded scholarships to local horticultural students. Scholarships are funded by proceeds from the semiannual Plant Sale & Auctions. We are grateful to all local businesses and members who contribute plants to our Spring and Fall Plant Sale & Auctions, and to those of you who purchase these plants, as you enable CHS to assist local students and further horticulture in Connecticut. We could not do this without you...thank you for helping out.

Congratulations to this year's award recipients:

Brian Bostrom of Berlin, a horticultural student at UConn, owns his own business – Bostrom Lawn Care – but also works as a laborer for Bostrom and Son's Tree Farm, Bostrom Dairy Farm and Soneson Lawn Care. Brian also finds time to work as a Camp Counselor for Hunters Golf Club and makes Thanksgiving meals for the homeless at St. Paul's Church in Berlin. Brian's goal is to teach Agriculture.

Gabriel Derosa from Vernon is a senior majoring in Horticulture at UConn and is an active volunteer, leading an internship program at Spring Valley Student Farm and teaching sustainable farming methods at a youth program in Windham. Gabriel is secretary of UConn's Horticultural Club and works at UConn Blooms providing plant care and maintenance. He has also worked at Fresh Farms Aquaponics as an intern and at Massaros Community Farm.

Seamus Kelly of Waterbury attends Naugatuck Valley Community College and his goal is to perform horticultural research in the state.

Emily LaFlamme of Granby is a sophomore majoring in Horticulture at UConn. Since 2003, Emily has been involved in Granby 4-H, she is a member of the National Honor Society and the World Language Honor Society. She has worked at Bosco's Garden Center and, while in high school, maintained school landscapes and production fields. Emily is an avid volunteer at her church, at Granby Food Bank and in the Town of Suffield.

Brendan Lyga from Southbury was a student at Naugatuck Valley Community College (NVCC) this past year and recently transferred to UConn. He was a student ambassador for the NVCC Horticultural Program.

Perennial Spring-Flowering Bulbs in the Landscape Thursday, October 20

with Karen Bussolini, Garden Coach and Educator



Gardening is in Karen Bussolini's DNA. Her grandmother, Luiga Bussolini brought tomato seeds and rosemary cuttings with her when the family came to Avon from Italy, seeking a better life. Her maternal grandfather emigrated from Sweden, carrying similar hopes, and settled in Collinsville. Karen continues to nurture and treasure his peonies - now over 100 years old. She remembers them blooming in his garden when she was just a little girl and the vase he always kept filled on the dining table now graces her home. Both families gardened to put food on the table but it also brought great pleasure. It was an essential thread in the fabric of life - as was sharing the bounty. Nobody ever showed up at anyone's house without an overflowing basket of fresh-picked vegetables, fruits and flowers.

One of the things that Karen's grandparents found humorous about gardening in America was when the concept of 'organic gardening' took hold. Nothing new to them, as that's just the way things had always been done in the old country - what other way was there to garden?!

As often happens, Karen's career evolved over time, taking her in directions she never imagined. While studying painting in art school, Karen became fascinated with the study of architecture. After college, she settled in Stony Creek landing a job as an assistant to an architectural photographer

whose clients included such prestigious publications as "House and Garden," "Metropolitan Home" and "The New York Times."

In the 1980s, there was a resurgence of interest in gardening and Karen found herself presenting story ideas to editors who were eager to publish articles on this latest revival. Her suggestions were well-received and Karen found herself writing the articles, not just providing the photos for them. Once she gained popularity as a garden writer and photographer, the next logical step was to begin the presentation circuit. No easy task for someone who is naturally shy! But like everything else Karen set out to do, she put her head down and succeeded! She now weaves her gardening knowledge, design sense and life experiences together as an eco-friendly gardening coach and designer.

When it comes to bulbs, Karen feels that a lot depends on breeding, site conditions, origin and palatability to critters. With a commitment to sustainability and preference for conserving time and money, she has come to depend on an array of bulbs that come up every spring with no effort, bloom their heads off, disappear without much fuss to make room for successive plantings and increase year by year.

On Thursday, October 20th, Karen will share her seductive photos of long-lasting bulbs in real gardens and landscapes from all over the country. She will explain why some bulbs persist in the garden, while others disappear. You may have expectantly watched some of your bulbs emerge, elongate and develop fat promising buds that sadly ended up as deer candy before they had the chance to open. Or, you may have found some bulbs are great the first season, okay the next and totally wimp out after that. Others are so enthusiastic you wish they would wimp out. Karen's presentation will include advice on selection, siting, bulbs for difficult conditions, naturalizing, perennializing and artfully combining bulbs with perennials for seasons of non-stop blooms.

Just a friendly reminder.....to renew your membership.

If you haven't done so already, please renew by Oct 31:

1. Renew and pay online at cthorthort.org/join
2. Pay by mail with a check and your completed membership form. Form was included in September's newsletter or you can find a form online at cthorthort.org/join.



CHS Program Meeting

Meetings are open to everyone with a drop-in fee of \$10 collected at the door from non-members. For more information, visit www.cthort.org.

Date: Thursday, October 20, 2016

Time: Program starts 7:30 p.m. Come early - 6:45 p.m. - to socialize, browse CHS library books, participate in raffle items, see travel fliers, ask questions.

Location: Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Dr., West Hartford

Speaker Feedback

Please tell us how the speakers are doing. Your candid feedback will help assure that future speakers will discuss topics of interest. It takes only a minute to answer four questions to let us know what you think. Here's how:

- Visit our website - cthorthort.org
- Click on 'Speakers'
- Click on the link at the end of each speaker's posting to evaluate

Thank you for providing feedback.

Horticultural Happenings & Announcements

Note: Happenings are listed on a space-available basis. Please include the title, location, time, date and any fee associated with the activity. Kindly format the announcement to resemble the entries below and email it to news@cthort.org. Deadline for the Winter issue is October 15.

Thursday, Oct. 6, noon – **The West Hartford Garden Club** welcomes **Patricia Klindienst**, author of “**The Earth Knows My Name**” who will discuss ethnic and immigrant gardeners and gardening practices, the subject of her book. Copies of the book will be available at the meeting at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2080 Boulevard, West Hartford. **Fee:** Guest donation – \$10 for light lunch and speaker. Reservations required – (860) 561-0724. Visit www.westhartfordgardenclub.org for more info.

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. – The **Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG)** will present a symposium at the Student Union, University of Connecticut in Storrs. The symposium theme is Invasive Plants in Our Changing World: Learn from the Past, Prepare for the Future. People with all levels of interest and experience are invited to attend. This 8th biennial conference features national, regional and local experts as well as citizen volunteers sharing practical solutions for invasive plant management and actions needed to promote native species and improve wildlife habitat. Symposium agenda and online registration are available at www.cipwg.uconn.edu. **Fee:** \$60. Student fee (with valid

student ID) is \$25. Fee includes parking and lunch. Pesticide Recertification and other Continuing Education Credits will be available. **Attendees are advised to register early** – last symposium had record attendance and sold out. Online registration is preferred but if you'd rather pay by check, please visit the CIPWG website at www.cipwg.uconn.edu to download the registration form and mail it in with your payment. For additional information, contact Donna Ellis at (860) 486-6448; donna.ellis@uconn.edu.

Monday, Oct. 17, 2016, 11:30 a.m. – The **Simsbury Garden Club** presents Chris Prosperi, Chef and Owner of Metro Bis Restaurant, Simsbury. **Seasoning from the Garden**, Herb Luncheon Apple Barn, 60 Old Farms Road, West Simsbury. For more information, please visit simsburygardenclub.org

Thursday, Oct. 20, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (with optional Luncheon from 12:45-2:00 p.m.) – **Perennially Yours** is pleased to announce an exciting fall gardening colloquium at the historic Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge, Mass. Nationally renowned speakers and authors **Karen Bussolini**, **Jan Johnsen** and **Kerry Ann Mendez** will share time-tested pointers for gorgeous flow-

er gardens that provide non-stop color plus are plant- and eco-friendly. **Fee:** \$56 per person (limited to 100 people). The luncheon with speakers is \$32 per person (limited to 40 people). To learn more about the speakers, lectures, agenda, luncheon and to register, visit Kerry Ann's web site (Perennially Yours) www.pyours.com/events.

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 6-8 p.m. – **Broken Arrow Nursery** presents their **2017 New Plant Preview** – Get a sneak preview of the new plants planned for next spring. Those who attend will have the unique opportunity to learn about the exciting and unusual treasures that will debut in the pages of the 2017 catalog! A select group of these rarities will be available for purchase. **Fee:** \$15. For details and to register visit: www.brokenarrownursery.com/events.html.

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7 p.m. – **The Hardy Plant Society** presents **Nancy DuBrule-Clemente** who will discuss **How I Spent My Summer Vacation** – a tour through the garden mecca of England. Nancy is the owner of Natureworks in Northford. You won't find a more enthusiastic or knowledgeable speaker. **Fee:** Free to members. Suggested donation of \$10 for non-members. For more info visit www.cthardyplantsociety.org.



who have joined over the summer:

- Mark Brand, Storrs
- Tia Cintron, West Simsbury
- Shirley Hall, Federated Garden Club of Connecticut, Wallingford
- Vickie Hart, East Hartford
- Hellner Lawn Works, Burlington
- Jane Romano, New Hartford
- Amy and Allan Trotochaud, Storrs

Seeking Communications Committee Members

Do you have an interest in or opinion about what is communicated in the CHS Newsletter, on our website and Facebook page? Think we should be active on Pinterest or Instagram? Let your voice be heard and join the Communications Committee. Email Barbara at news@cthort.org to join the discussion. Thanks! 🌿

the marketplace

CHS Nursery 10% Discounts

Show your membership card *before transaction*. Please assume discount applies to non-sale items.

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simsburygarden.com

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1376 Hopmeadow St., Simsbury 06070
(860) 658-2428, boscosgardencenter.com

Botticello Farms

209 Hillstown Road, Manchester 06040
(860) 649-2462, botticellofarms.net

Broken Arrow Nursery

13 Broken Arrow Road, Hamden 06518
(203) 288-1026, brokenarrownursery.com

Butler's Florist & Garden Center

416 Park Road, West Hartford 06110
(860) 561-2148, butlerforestandgarden.com

Cricket Hill Garden / Peony Heaven

670 Walnut Hill Road, Thomaston 06787
(860) 283-1042, treepeony.com

Cropley's Garden Center & Landscaping

1262 Boston Tpke., Bolton 06043
(860) 649-6364, cropleysgardencenter.com

Edmondson's Farm Gift Shop & Florist

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http://goorganicllc.com

Gotta's Farm

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hoprivernursery.com

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(860) 343-0360, stonepostgardens.com

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The Variegated Foliage Nursery

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Woodland Gardens

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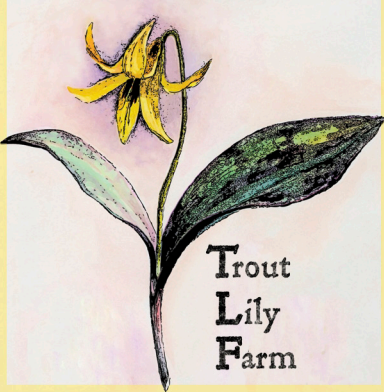
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TRUSTED - LOCAL - FRESH

The Hummers are Gone, from page 1

This year the male claimed the feeder as a prime location, often perching on the top of the shepherd's crook hanger and driving off all who wanted a drink. This is normal behavior; males claim a feeding territory of approximately a quarter-acre and females establish a nesting territory to defend. They are not a gregarious bird and do not develop any long-term bonds.

The feeder's location off the kitchen deck provided plenty of space for the aerial sparring that ensued. A hummer would come in for a drink and a green and red flash would dive down from the heavens – or at least the high maple branches nearby. A pas de deux would follow, with both birds hovering vertically near the feeder, dancing in three dimensions, before one would falter, only to be chased off over the house or across the meadow. The victor would return for a triumphal drink before settling in to wait once more.

There also appeared to be a hierarchy among the females. One was confident in her approach to the feeder and, if the male was not in defense mode, would take long drinks, even perching as she did so. Another was much

more hesitant, grabbing a sip then flying back a foot or so to look around. If no threat was seen, she would return for another quick sip, repeating the behavior several times.

In the last week or two, behaviors intensified as they prepared for the long migration to Central America. Sometimes three birds at a time would face off near the feeder. The male disappeared first, by Labor Day weekend.

Females tend to stay a week or so longer. The trigger to migrate is likely the change in day-length; leaving feeders up will not delay their departure. Some phenological sources also connect their departure with the height of the jewel-weed bloom. By this point I couldn't be sure that some visitors weren't birds already migrating from farther north, in which case my feeder was an easy-to-find energy source. They gather along the Gulf Coast shore before making a final flight to their winter grounds, either flying over the Gulf of Mexico or along a coastal overland route. According to Cornell's ornithology lab, there is evidence that more birds use the coastal route in the fall, perhaps to avoid hurricanes and tropical storms that

are common at this time of year.

As I write this on September 8, I haven't seen a hummer in two days. I will maintain the feeder for a week or so for any birds migrating through, but there is a decided cooling of seasonal energy without those little bundles of energy zipping around.

As our grey weather from the fringes of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Hermine started to clear, I refilled the feeder one more time. As I stepped out to hang it off the deck, a female hummer flew in and, with no concern for me, fed from all four ports as I held it still at shoulder height, less than a foot from my body. After feeding, she rose up and hovered in front of my face for several moments before zipping away over the fields.

I'd like to think she was thanking me for the summer's repast, and promising to return next May. It's a good thought to hold onto in the cold days to come.

Sarah Bailey is the Master Gardener Program Coordinator for Hartford County with the Cooperative Extension Service and has been a CHS member since 2001.

Great Bulbs, from page 1

to spread. The experience of one of my neighbors with Siberian squill helped me understand the difference. For many years, the neighbor divided and replanted clumps of the tiny bulbs in the lawn, trying to create a blooming blue spring carpet. They spread slowly, producing a mass more akin to a bath mat than a carpet, despite having everything they needed—winter cold, good drainage, and dry conditions during dormancy. It turns out that what they lacked in order to naturalize was enough time for the seed to ripen. Once the family began mowing the lawn later in the season, they seeded abundantly. Of course, there's a fine line between naturalizing and invasiveness. Bulbs such as star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum umbellatum*), which spread rampantly and can escape into natural areas, should be avoided. Before purchasing bulbs, check state and national weed lists.

MATCHING ORIGIN AND SITE

When selecting bulbs, it's important to pay attention to where they originate. "Americans still have a one-size-fits-all approach

to plants," says Russell Stafford, owner of Odyssey Bulbs in South Lancaster, Mass. "But plants have to match with garden conditions, so habitat has to be considered." Stafford specializes in uncommon cold-hardy bulbs that he mostly propagates himself. Stafford advises gardeners in areas with summer rainfall who attempt to grow bulbs from dry-summer areas to provide very well-drained soil whereas bulbs from summer-rainfall areas favor soils that remain moist in summer, so humus, mulch, compost, and summer watering are in order. In areas that face intense heat or cold, planting bulbs deeper than recommended and adding mulch helps insulate them from the extremes. Clearly, the selection of bulbs that last varies depending on where you live.

Karen Bussolini is a widely-published garden photographer, speaker, writer, NOFA-Accredited Organic Land Care Professional and eco-friendly garden coach. Visit Karen at www.karenbussolini.com. Read Karen's complete 'Great Bulbs' article from "The American Gardener" magazine at <http://kbussolini.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/Great-Bulbs-That-Last.pdf>.

**Here are some of Karen's favorite bulbs:**

- *Allium albopilosum* (used to be christophii); *A. zebdanense*, *A. afflatunense* 'Purple Sensation'
- *Anemone blanda*
- *Camass leichtlinii* 'Blue Danube'
- *Galanthus nivalis*
- *Iris reticulata*
- *Leucojum vernalis*
- *Muscari armeniacum* - straight species
- *Narcissus* 'Jetfire', 'Thalia', 'Hawera'
- Snow crocus: *C. tommasinianus* 'Barr's Purple' and 'Lilac Beauty'
- Species tulips: *T. batalinii*, *T. tarda* and near-species: *T. humilis* 'Eastern Star', *T. greigii* 'Quebec', *T. clusiana* 'Cynthia' or 'Lady Jane', *T. bakery* 'Lilac Wonder'
- Winter aconites - *Eranthus hyemalis*



Announcing a new CHS Feature: Ask Anita!



Mrs. Anita Ballek

Mrs. Anita Ballek, of Ballek's Garden Center in East Haddam will be penning a new column that will appear in the CHS Newsletter and on the website called, "Ask Anita!" In it, she will answer your gardening questions and offer time-honored, natural solutions for your plant predicaments. With 350 years of land stewardship behind the Ballek family, their commitment to organic and sustainable growing practices is undeniable. We're delighted that Mrs. Ballek is willing to share her practical knowledge with us in her upcoming column. Send your questions for Mrs. Ballek to: news@chhort.org, subject: Ask Anita!



Welcome to the 2016-17 CHS Leadership

by *Ken Stubenrauch*,
CHS President

Heartfelt thanks to the dozens of volunteers who contribute their time and resources to keep the Society running. Sending a special welcome to the newly elected Officers, Directors and appointed Committee Chairpersons.

Officers

Nancy Brennick finally gets to move to the Past President position as **Ken Stubenrauch**, former Treasurer, takes over the Presidency. **Brett Isaacson** fills the long empty Vice President slot and is also Chairman of the Program Committee and Tours Committee. **Karen Bachand** was elected Secretary by the Board after Diane Erling resigned to become Chairperson of the Education/Workshops Committee. **Heidi Wheeler-Isaacson** was elected to the very important Treasurer's job.

Directors

Mary Anna Martell and **Clare Meade** are new members of the Board of Directors and **Kevin Wilcox** has returned to the Board after a few years away. The other Directors are still fulfilling their three-year terms.

Chairpersons

Trish Lyons takes full control of the Auction Committee after working the past year with long-standing and outstanding Chair Leslie Shields. The Awards Committee, with **Kathy Niver** serving as Chair, is now separate from Scholarships, where Elaine Widmer continues as Chairperson. Joan Stubenrauch heads the Symposium 2018 Committee which is now separate from the Education/Workshops Committee lead by **Diane Erling**.

We are still looking for someone to fill the role of Hospitality Chair. Please contact an Officer, Director or the Office Administrator if you are interested. All other Chairpersons have remained in their positions. To get involved in a committee or offer a suggestion, please contact the person listed directly.

2016 – 2017 Connecticut Horticultural Society *Officers, Directors & Committee Chairpersons*

Officers

President.....	<i>Ken Stubenrauch</i>	(860) 633-6076
Vice President	<i>Brett Isaacson</i>	(860) 243-1630
Secretary.....	<i>Karen Bachand</i>	(860) 225-8852
Treasurer.....	<i>Heidi Wheeler-Isaacson</i>	(860) 263-0178
Past President	<i>Nancy Brennick</i>	(860) 665-0222

Directors

Term Expires

<i>Keri Milne</i>	(860) 986-1741	August 2017
<i>Elaine Widmer</i>	(860) 231-0015	August 2017
<i>Gail Bruhn</i>	(860) 429-0248	August 2018
<i>Myron Marshaus</i>	(860) 692-8390	August 2018
<i>David Witkins</i>	(860) 810-3388	August 2018
<i>Mary Anna Martell</i>	(860) 447-0414	August 2019
<i>Clare Meade</i>	(860) 978-8155	August 2019
<i>Kevin Wilcox</i>	(860) 243-5256	August 2019
<i>TBD</i>	August 2019

Emeritus: David Berg, Rudy Favretti

Committee Chairpersons

Auctions.....	<i>Trish Lyons</i>	(860) 872-8810
Awards.....	<i>Kathy Niver</i>	(860) 965-9184
Scholarships	<i>Elaine Widmer</i>	(860) 231-0015
Education/Workshops	<i>Diane Erling</i>	(860) 970-5015
Symposium 2018.....	<i>Joan Stubenrauch</i>	(860) 633-6076
Finance	<i>Gail Bruhn</i>	(860) 429-0248
Flower and	<i>Keri Milne and</i>	(860) 986-1741
Garden Show	<i>Nancy Brennick</i>	(860) 665-0222
Historian	<i>Fairlee Latawic</i>	(860) 627-5277
Hospitality.....	<i>TBD</i>	
Library.....	<i>Bonnie Penders</i>	(860) 529-8713
Membership.....	<i>Lynn Cavo</i>	(860) 678-1601
Nominating	<i>Nancy Brennick</i>	(860) 665-0222
Planned Giving.....	<i>Herb Isaacson</i>	(860) 236-1143
Program	<i>Brett Isaacson</i>	(860) 243-1630
Plant Forum	<i>Kevin Wilcox</i>	(860) 243-5256
Raffles	<i>Sharon Mann</i>	(860) 242-1178
Tours.....	<i>Brett Isaacson</i>	(860) 243-1630
Welcoming.....	<i>Bonnie McLachlan</i>	(860) 673-7297
Communications.....	<i>Barbara Skomorowski</i>	(860) 561-5912

Director of Communications

Barbara Skomorowski.....news@chhort.org..... (860) 561-5912

Office Administrator

Bonnie Penders.....connhort@gmail.com..... (860) 529-8713

CHS Travel

Clermont Estate in Rhinebeck, New York

Wednesday, December 14



This enjoyable day trip will be sure to keep your holiday spirits high. Richly decorated with garland, poinsettia, and historic holiday cheer, the 250-year-old Clermont Estate is filled with the stories of the Livingston family who lived there from the 1740s to the 1960s. The Livingstons were noted for their critical role in the American Revolution and the forming of the new nation. Seven generations have lived in the Clermont mansion and have left their mark on the home.

We'll head into the Village of Rhinebeck for lunch at The Beekman Arms, America's oldest continuously operated hotel, where we'll dine in their cozy Tavern, a Colonial Tap Room. Your meal (chosen in advance) will include: Salad, Bread Basket, Choice of Roasted Chicken Breast with Lemon Beurre Blanc or Tournedos of Pork Tenderloin with Apple Chutney or a Vegetarian entrée of Pasta Primavera. Dessert, Apple Strudel with Crème Anglaise Sauce, Coffee, Iced Tea or Soda is also included.

We'll spend the remainder of the afternoon at the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College. The museum's collections chart the history of art from antiquity to the present and are comprised of over 19,000 works of paintings, sculptures, textiles, photographs and ceramics. The center has a wide range of European and American twentieth century painters that include an important group of Hudson River School paintings.

Fee: \$99 per person. CHS members receive a \$5 discount. **From East Hartford:** depart commuter lot at 500 Main Street at 7:30 a.m., return at 7 p.m. **From West Hartford:** depart Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, at 8 a.m., return at 7:30 p.m.

Philadelphia Flower Show

Sunday – Monday

March 12-13, 2017



This two-day adventure comes at a time when you'll need a welcome respite from the winter. The 2017 Philadelphia Flower Show, presented by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, will celebrate the wonders of Holland. From windmills, wooden shoes and cheese, to bicycles, canals and vibrant tulip and flower fields,

the largest flower show in the U.S. will share diverse stories of horticulture, innovative eco-design, and modern urban greening and sustainability efforts of the Netherlands.

Your first stop in the City of Brotherly Love will be to the Philadelphia Museum of Art where you'll be taken on a docent-led tour entitled 'Flowers in Art & Dutch Masters,' designed to complement the theme of the Flower Show. That evening, enjoy dinner at Positano Coast, a favorite restaurant of locals, and then experience one of Philly's newest attractions - One Liberty Observation Deck – where you'll be at the center of it all to appreciate remarkable views of the city. Monday will be devoted to the Philadelphia Flower Show where you'll enjoy acres of gardens, thousands of displays, over 180 shops in the Marketplace, interactive exhibits and MORE! **Fee:** \$399 per person for double occupancy; \$489 for single. CHS members receive a \$50 discount. A deposit of \$100/ person, secures your spot with full payment due by January 12, 2017. **Depart:** Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford where cars can be parked for the duration of the trip.

Sneak peek!!!

Best of the West

Monday, July 17 to Saturday, July 29

This spectacular 13-day, 12-night adventure takes you through the beautiful Northwest, starting in Montana and traveling through Northern Idaho, across Washington State, hop a ferry to Victoria, British Columbia and concludes in Seattle. Each day is filled with exciting activities that include:

- Tour of Glacier National Park
- Visit 'The Center of the Universe' in Wallace Idaho

- Cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene
- Spokane City tour including Manito Park
- Arbor Crest Winery tour & tasting
- Grand Coulee Dam visit
- Ferry and overnight in Victoria, BC
- Tour the world-famous Butchart Gardens
- Private garden visits in Victoria
- Guided Seattle city tour • And MORE!!!

Airfare, meals and lodging are included. A valid U.S. Passport is required. We are still developing the specifics for this adventure. Please call for detailed itinerary and pricing.

**To reserve your spot or for more information, please call
Friendship Tours at (860) 243-1630 / toll-free (800) 243-1630
or visit www.friendshiptours.net and select CHS Tours.**

CHS Calendar at a Glance

- Thurs, Oct 6** – CHS Board of Directors meeting, 7:00 p.m., Rocky Hill office
- Fri, Oct 14** – Winter Newsletter content deadline
- Thurs, Oct 20** – CHS Program meeting and Bulb Sale, 7:30 p.m.; Karen Bussolini – *Perennial Spring-Flowering Bulbs in the Landscape*

Dated Material  *Please Rush*

The CHS Newsletter is printed on recycled paper with soya ink.



It all starts now with the CHS Annual Bulb Sale

Thursday, October 20

At our October meeting, we'll have our Annual Bulb Sale featuring first quality varieties – some new bulbs, some old reliables; some not sold elsewhere and still others that Karen Bussolini will mention in her talk that evening! They're ready to plant this fall for spring blooming. Bring a check or cash, and arrive early for best selection. All proceeds help offset our Flower Show expenses.

Save the Date: Feb. 23-26, 2017 CT Flower & Garden Show

Volunteer alongside us! We will once again host the seminars at the upper level of the show. Co-chair Keri Milne will be contacting prior volunteers about this year's show. **New volunteers**, contact the CHS office at connhort@gmail.com to **get in on the fun!** We need hosts for our table and volunteers to introduce speakers.

Employment Opportunity – Office Administrator

Please respond by October 15th

CHS is looking to hire an Office Administrator.

Position overview:

- Part-time, about 50 hours/month, staffing the CHS Rocky Hill office for five hours each Tuesday and Thursday and attendance at night meetings in Rocky Hill and West Hartford, once monthly each for nine months.
- Candidate must be flexible, have excellent organizational skills, pay attention to detail, be deadline driven, be comfortable working independently, interact congenially with CHS members and the public, have an interest in horticulture, and the desire to become an integral part of the future of CHS.
- Qualifications include mastery of Microsoft Word, Excel and Access. QuickBooks experience is a plus.
- Visit www.cthort.org for a detailed job description.

If interested, please email your cover letter and resume to the CHS Search Committee at connhort@gmail.com by **October 15, 2016**.