



Membership Yearbook 2025-26

Published July, 2025

The purpose of the Stonington Garden Club shall be to educate and encourage interest in the environment, conservation, and community projects and to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening among its Members and the members of the community.

Club Affiliations

The Garden Club of America (GCA)

The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.
(FGCCT)

National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC)

New England Garden Clubs, Inc. (NEGC)

P.O. Box 385, Stonington, CT 06378

www.stoningtongardenclub.org

stoningtongardenclub@gmail.com

The Stonington Garden Club is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization; EIN: 06-6080377



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Please refer to the "Members" pages of our website for the following information and updates.

- Application for admission to the Club
- Approved Budget
- Bylaws and Standing Rules
- Calendar of Meetings and Events - updated
- Community Projects (past and present)
- Committee Pages
- Grants Program
- List of Former Presidents
- List of Master Gardeners
- Membership Directory - updated
- Member Resources
- New Member Program
- Newsletters
- Past Awards
- Press Releases/Clippings
- SGC Library
- Student Scholarship Program

BRIEF HISTORY OF STONINGTON GARDEN CLUB

The origins of an informal Stonington Garden Club date back to the early 1900s, but the first recorded account was July 6, 1926, when "Mrs. Frank L. Henderson won first prize in a rose contest," according to The Stonington Chronology 1649-1976. In 1929, this casual group became one of the charter members of the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut. During World War II however, it disbanded to put energies into knitting for troops abroad and planting personal Victory Gardens to grow produce for residents in the UK bombed under the Blitz attacks during the war.

Reorganized in 1958 with 30 members, its charter was "to stimulate interest in gardening, to encourage civic planting and to promote measures for the protection of wildflowers, native plants, birds and wildlife." In 1996, with the active membership limited to 48 people and an unlimited number of Friends, the membership voted to change the Club's objectives: "to educate and encourage interest in the environment, conservation, civic beautification and to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening." This is still the Club's purpose.

In 2000, the Stonington Garden Club joined The Garden Club of America, increasing membership to 55 and expanding committees. In 2019, the limit of the total number of members was increased to a maximum of 125.

The Club's archives are stored at Historic Stonington's Woolworth Library. The earliest periodical clippings date from 1934. Key documents have been saved in the Archives. Photographs document activities, and the volumes tell of the Club's help with the beautification of both the Town and the Borough.

MEMBERSHIP BASICS

Active Members:

- Maintain the operations of the Club.
- Serve on the Board and/or Chair a Committee(s).
- Accept appointments to leadership positions.
- Participate in all club activities and events.
- Serve on at least one committee and one community project each year.
- Attend monthly membership meetings of the Club.

Monthly membership meetings are generally scheduled on the second Wednesday of each month. Members are asked to promptly RSVP to the “Evite,” a paperless online invitation sent by email with specific details about each meeting.

Guests are welcome at most membership meetings and committee meetings unless otherwise noted. Guests are also welcome on our Club field trips, as space is available, giving priority to SGC Members. A resident of Stonington or its immediate vicinity may be a guest twice during the Club’s fiscal year. They may attend more meetings if they are being considered for Club membership.

Member safety and well-being are our highest priority. The Club adheres to all current local health and safety guidelines of the Town of Stonington and the Ledge Light Health District (LLHD).

OPERATING RULES FOR ALL MEMBERS

Solicitations and Fundraisers

No member will hold events or solicit funds in the name of the Stonington Garden Club without prior approval of the Board.

Accepting Gifts

No member can accept tangible gifts for any Stonington Garden Club activity or project without prior approval of the Board.

Representing the Club

No member may take a position in any public forum or on any issue for the SGC or make any representation of authority to speak for or on behalf of the Club without specific prior authorization or approval by the Board or the Membership.

No member may register for an event as a Club delegate without the permission and approval of any anticipated expenses by the Club President.

Membership Directory

The Membership Directory's contact information is solely for the use of our members and not for commercial purposes or sharing with any other individuals or non-profit/for-profit organizations.

CLUB WEBSITE AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

To access the SGC Members' pages on our website:

- Website: www.stoningtongardenclub.org
- ID: the one you created
- Password: the one you created

If you forget your ID or Password or have any issues with the Website, please contact the Website Chair for assistance.

Important SGC email addresses:

- General: stoningtongardenclub@gmail.com
- President: stoningtongardenclubpresident@gmail.com
- Membership:
admissionstoningtongardenclub@gmail.com
- Treasurer:
treasurerstoningtongc@gmail.com
- Communication Secretary:
newslettereditorsgc@gmail.com
- Recording Secretary: recordingsecretarysgc@gmail.com

GOVERNING BOARD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Co-Presidents | Jill Corr, Pam Wright |
| 1 st Vice President | Susan Alston |
| 2 nd Vice President | Kathy Worthington |
| Treasurer | Helen Garten |
| Assistant Treasurer | Diana Beck |
| Recording Secretary | Mary Suter |
| Communications Secretary | Dodie Bump |

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Conservation | Terri Brennan |
| Floral Design | Shonah Drakos |
| Horticulture | Valerie Kelsey |
| Photography | Jill Corr |
| Visiting Gardens | Anna Bell McLanahan |

APPOINTED POSITIONS & CHAIRS

ADMINISTRATIVE

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Archival Historians | Alice Houston Anna Bell McLanahan |
| Awards | Kathy Conger |
| Flower Show & Judging | Pam Wright |
| GCA Bulletin | Dodie Bump |
| Hospitality | Dorie Singer Carole Nossek |
| Membership | Susan Alston |
| Newsletter | Dodie Bump |
| Nominating | Kirby Williams |
| Programs | Melinda Mears |
| Social Media | Jill Corr |
| Website | Anna Bell McLanahan |

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Amaryllis Workshop | Jan Chamberlain Lisa Szaro |
| Community Wreaths Workshop | Susan Alston |
| Community Gardens | Laura Metzger |
| COMO Children's Learning Garden | Meredith Falvey Kathy Worthington |
| Deck the Walls Wreath Workshop | Mary Boyer, Mary Suter |
| Greens Workshop | Allegra Griffiths Anna Bell McLanahan Alejandra Welch |
| July 4 th Parade | Pam Wright |
| Native Plant Project | Elizabeth Johnstone Kirby Williams |
| Stonington Free Library Flowers | Betsy Bowman |
| Stonington Village Fair Flower Booth | Kristi Andersen Lisa Gardiner |
| Winterfest Member Celebration | TBD |

GCA, FGCCT, and NGC POSITIONS

Garden Clubs of America Zone II National

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| President's Representative | Kathy Conger |
| Communications Representative | Kirby Williams |

Judges – Garden Clubs of America

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| Jill Corr | Photography Prospective |
| Shonah Drakos | Floral Design Prospective |
| Pamela Wright | Horticulture Prospective |

Judges – National Garden Clubs

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Mary Lynn McRee | Accredited Life Judge |
| Pamela Wright | Accredited Master Judge |

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

July 2025 – June 2026

| Date & Meeting Title | Time & Location* |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Wednesday, September 10 <i>Nature's Bounty Brunch & Meeting</i> | 10 am -12 pm Stonington COMO |
| Wednesday, October 8 | 10 am -12 pm |
| Wednesday, November 12 | 10 am -12 pm |
| Wednesday, December 10 <i>Meeting and Greens Workshop</i> | 10 am -12 pm |
| No January Membership Meeting | |
| Wednesday, February 11 | 10 am -12 pm |
| Wednesday, March 11 | 10 am -12 pm |
| Wednesday, April 8 | 10 am -12 pm |
| Wednesday, May 13 | 10 am -12 pm |
| Wednesday, June 24 <i>Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon</i> | 11 am – 1 pm TBD |

*All Membership meetings will be held at the La Grua Center, 32 Water Street, Stonington, unless otherwise specified.

Please refer to the SGC website calendar for up-to-date information on membership meeting programs and other Club events.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

---Includes Year Joined SGC---

A=Active F=Friend N=New Member S=Secondary
L=Lifetime

🌻 Master Gardener ⚙️ Past President

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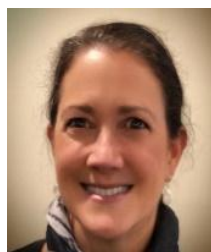
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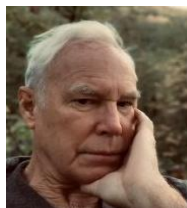
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AFFILIATE GARDEN CLUB ORGANIZATIONS

The Stonington Garden Club values membership in affiliate organizations whose missions are compatible with the Club's purpose. Participation in the member education activities of the organizations listed below serves our members, broadens the Club's community impact, and assists us in advancing and achieving our purpose. We encourage our members to visit the websites below as resources. The Stonington Garden Club is affiliated with the following organizations:



The Garden Club of America
Website: www.gcamerica.org
Login ID: Your email on file with GCA
Password: The one you created when you joined SGC

Zone II: The Stonington Garden Club is located in Zone II. Zone meetings are held annually. The Stonington Garden Club will host in 2031. Please refer to the GCA website for a listing of the Zone II Garden clubs.



The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.
Website: www.ctgardenclubs.org
Login ID: fgctt
Password: Charteroak*2022

Organized with 31 garden clubs on April 30, 1929, FGCCT joined twelve other states to form the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., now known as National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). The FGCCT and all its Connecticut members belong to both NGC and New England Garden Clubs, Inc.

AFFILIATE GARDEN CLUB ORGANIZATIONS



National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Website: gardenclub.org

Login ID: member

Password: pumpkin

This organization offers a wide range of member education opportunities through its schools and programs. Please check the website to learn about the Landscape Design, Conservation, Gardening, Environmental, International, and Flower Schools.



New England Garden Clubs, Inc.

Website: newenglandgc.org

Comprised of Federated Garden Clubs in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts, this organization operates under the umbrella of the National Garden Clubs, Inc.