

# Membership Yearbook 2025-26

Revised October 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 <a href="The Stonington Chronology 1649-1976">The Stonington Chronology 1649-1976</a>. 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: <u>www.stoningtongardenclub.org</u>
- 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

Pamela Wright

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Susan Alston

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Kathy Worthington

Treasurer Helen Garten

Assistant Treasurer Diana Beck

Recording Secretary TBA

Communications Secretary Dodie Bump

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Conservation Terri Brennan

Floral Design Shonah Drakos

Laura Hall

Horticulture Valerie Kelsey

Photography Jill Corr

Visiting Gardens Anna Bell McLanahan

#### APPOINTED POSITIONS & CHAIRS

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE</u>

Archives/Library (paper/digital) Alice Houston

Anna Bell McLanahan

Awards Kathy Conger

Flower Show & Judging Pamela Wright
GCA Bulletin Dodie Bump
Hospitality Dorie Singer

Carole Nossek

MembershipSusan AlstonNewsletterDodie BumpNominatingKirby WilliamsProgramsMelinda 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

Grants Lois Cole

Greens Workshop Allegra Griffiths

Anna Bell McLanahan

Alejandra Welch

July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade Pam Wright

Native Plant Project Elizabeth Johnstone

Kirby Williams

Scholarships Terri Brennan
Stonington Free Library Flowers Betsy Bowman

Stonington Village Fair Flower Booth Kristi Andersen Lisa Gardiner

Winterfest Member Celebration TBD

## GCA, FGCCT, and NGC POSITIONS

## The Garden Club of America (GCA) Zone II

Zone II Co-Chair Kathy Conger Communications Representative Kirby Williams

### <u>ludges - The Garden Club of America (GCA)</u>

Jill CorrPhotography ProspectiveShonah DrakosFloral Design ProspectivePamela WrightHorticulture Prospective

#### <u>Judges - National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC))</u>

Mary Lynn McRee Accredited Life Judge
Pamela Wright Accredited Master Judge

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

Landscape Design School Chair Deb Dodds

# MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS July 2025 – June 2026

Date & Meeting Title	Time & Location*
Wednesday, September 10	10 am -12 pm
Nature's Bounty Brunch & Meeting	Stonington COMO
Wednesday, October 8	10 am -12 pm
Wednesday, November 12	10 am -12 pm
Wednesday, December 10	10 am -12 pm
Meeting and Greens Workshop	
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	11 am – 1 pm
Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon	TBD

<sup>\*</sup>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 upto-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 🔻 П Judge

Adam, Cindy 2024 A ♣ P.O. Box 782 Stonington, CT 06378 C (415) 717-4769 Cadam2014@gmail.com



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Alston, Susan 2021 A 18 Mary Hall Road Pawcatuck, CT 06379 C (413) 531-7614 sjasgc@gmail.com



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Beck, Diana 2018 A 170 Water Street Stonington, CT 06378 C (608) 469-5278 aspenvt@gmail.com



Born, Annette 2019 A 52 White Place Brookline, MA 02445 C (617) 308-0750 bornal@msn.com



Bowman, Betsy 2018 A 9 Mystic Point Lane Mystic, CT 06355 C (203) 216-5839 betsybowman32@aol.com



Boyer, Mary 2022 A 37 Quanaduck Road Stonington, CT 06378 C (860) 235-3407 maryboyer4@gmail.com



Brennan, Terri 2022 A P.O. Box 214 Stonington, CT 06378 C (860) 877-5260 terrimbrennan@me.com



Brown, David 2021 A 67 Collins Road Stonington, CT 06378 C (301) 518-1964 Dblane88@gmail.com



Buffum, Ann 2002 A 43 Tipping Rock Road Stonington, CT 06378 H (860) 535-4864 C (860) 460-2154 annbuffum@comcast.net



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Corr, Jill 2018 A Π P.O. Box 522 Mystic, CT 06355 C (860) 961-2256 jillcorr22@gmail.com



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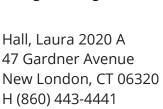
Graham, Kay 2017 F ♣ 103 Main Street #1201 Stonington, CT 06378 C (808) 597-8826 kgraham5155@gmail.com



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Groton, Alice 2000 F 86 Collins Road Stonington, CT 06378 H (860) 535-7246 C (860) 271-1573 alicegroton@gmail.com



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Sullivan, Wanda 2020 A 103 Main Street, #2202 Stonington, CT 06378 C (202) 438-9870 wsullivan15@comcast.net

Suter, Mary 2020 A 15 Mystic Point Lane Mystic, CT 06355 C (860) 558-5176 mlabellesuter@gmail.com









Szaro, Lisa Hewes 2018 A 20 Canyon Drive Westerly, RI 02891 C (401) 559-6157 <u>lisa.szaro@gmail.com</u>



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Visscher, Linda Thacher 2017 A 41 Ocean View Avenue Mystic, CT 06355 C (860) 608-9898 lvisscher@snet.net



von Walstrom, Vivie 2017 A P.O. Box 167
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Wright, Pamela 2021 A Π 285 River Road Pawcatuck, CT 06379 C (914) 260-9799 wrightjpamela@gmail.com



#### 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: fgcct

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.