

Springfield Garden Club January 2020 President's Newsletter

Happy New Year! It's the traditional time to write a new chapter – or to begin again with a clean slate. SGC will surely have another banner year in 2020, with interesting programs, important community service projects and fun and friendships. I toast you, my friends, with this Irish Blessing, which felt pertinent to what SGC does and who we are: "May love and laughter light your days, and warm your heart and home. May good and faithful friends be yours, wherever you may roam."

SGC wrapped up 2019 with much to be thankful for. In addition to an extremely successful and well-attended Festival of Trees, we welcomed two new members. Please add their names and contact information to your program books and reach out to them when you can. We are delighted that they've joined us!

- ✓ **Katherine Parker**, 142 Union St., Springfield, 918-752-4326, 802-885-2992, katherineparker761@yahoo.com.
- ✓ **Louise Roberts**, 66 Cooper St., Springfield, 802-885-6191, lweez54@yahoo.com (That's a lower case L in the beginning of Louise's email, not a number one.)

You no doubt noticed that **Nell** missed our FOT activities this year due to a number of reasons. We've missed her friendship and the talents she brought to so many critical FOT functions. **Sandy Mac** delivered one of our lovely Creative centerpieces to Nell to be sure she knew how much she's been missed. Nell extends her many thanks to SGC for the thoughtful gesture. We hope it's not long before Nell is back.

We were delighted to see one of our state garden club (FGCV) co-first vice presidents at our Festival. Margery Salmon lives in Shrewsbury with her husband Gary and belongs to the Rutland Garden Club. It was nice to share our event with a fellow FGCV member and we appreciate her support.



What a lovely idea **Rosann** and **Lynn** had when they hung two wreaths on the wrought iron gates at the Plaza garden. Very festive and much appreciated. We have generous and creative members!

I'm continuing to see fantastic and informative Festival publicity in the newspapers. **Jean** worked hard to make sure we got lots of quality coverage. Thanks Jean, for advocating our cause to the media and letting the world know what we do.

2020 SGC CALENDAR

Jan. 4 – FOT Takedown Day, Great Hall, 441 River St., 9:00 a.m.

Jan. 15 – Winter Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m. at Claremont Savings Bank

Feb. 11 – (Tuesday) "Everything You Need to Know About the Birds and the Bees", Henry Homeyer, 2:00 p.m., Nolin Murray Center. Co-sponsored with OLLI.

March 11 – "All About Azaleas", Doug Switzer, 2:00 p.m., Nolin Murray Center.

April 8 – "A Year in My Rose Garden", Teresa Mosher, 2:00 p.m., Nolin Murray Center.

April 15 – Spring Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Claremont Savings Bank.

May 13 – Annual Meeting and Spring Luncheon. Business Meeting and Installation of Officers. Sumner House, Main Street, Charlestown. 11:00 a.m. Social, 11:30 a.m. Meeting, 12:30 p.m. Luncheon.



We ended the year with 26 people having great fun at our Holiday Luncheon at MacLaomainn's Scottish Pub. Thanks to **Karen** again, see all the great photos to the right and below. The food was delicious and we had an interesting time trying to identify members' gardens in our "Guess Whose Garden" contest. Congratulations to **Bonny** who was the contest winner. She guessed all seven gardens correctly! Thanks to **Lee** for all she did to organize this event, including choosing the menu and keeping track of RSVPs. Thanks to **Deanna** for creating the "Guess Whose Garden" display and figuring out how the contest should work.

\$\$ - February 1st, our annual membership dues are due for payment. If you haven't done so already, please send your payments to **Barb Lacey** at 141 Baker Road, Springfield, VT 05156. The cost remains the same at \$25 for regular membership and \$35 for supporting membership. Our organization is only as strong as it's members. We need everyone's financial support as well as everyone's ideas and volunteer hours. Our valuable community service projects and scholarship program simply can't exist without YOU!

IMPORTANT: What goes up, must come down, said Sir Isaac Newton and **Sandy MacGillivray!** Sandy reminds everyone that **FOT Take-Down Day** is Saturday, January 4. Meet at the Great Hall at 9:00 a.m. sharp. **Be sure to refer to FOT Take-Down Instructions sent in a separate email.** All Festival decorations must be packed up at the Great Hall and transported back to Lane's storage at 441 River Street. Just like Moving Day, we need trucks, ladders, tools, spouses and friends. This project can be completed by Noon if everyone pitches in.

Reminder: Our Program Committee will begin their work in January, putting our 2020-2021 program schedule together. The Committee would love to hear your program suggestions. Please send your ideas to Lynn at likus@me.com.

If you're looking for ways to fill these cold wintery days, there are quality garden-related classes offered online. Some are free and some require fees. It's worth exploring what's available. Here are two options.

- Native Plant Trust offers many horticulture and design classes, both online and on location in Massachusetts. See their website for details: <https://www.nativeplanttrust.org/education/classes/>. Native Plant Trust is located at Garden in the Woods in Framingham, MA and has an interesting story. Garden in the Woods looks like a great option for a spring or summer visit and garden walk.
- North Carolina State University has many good programs. The University is partnered with the famous Longwood Gardens. Check out their website: <https://go.ncsu.edu/eg-online-classes>.

Enjoy these January days, whether you're skiing or staying in with a good book or, if you're lucky enough to be wintering in the south, soaking up the sun during a long warm walk.

Enjoy!
Cheryl



Seven lovely entries in the "Guess Whose Garden" contest



Val, Ginny, Wes, Karen, Alicia, Grace, Sue



Jocelyn, Cheryl, Deanna, Carol C., Mary, Sandy B.



Guest Wendy Stephens, Carol E., Margaret, Rosann, Jean, Bonny, Lee



Barb L., Therese, Margery, Lynn, Barb R., Katherine