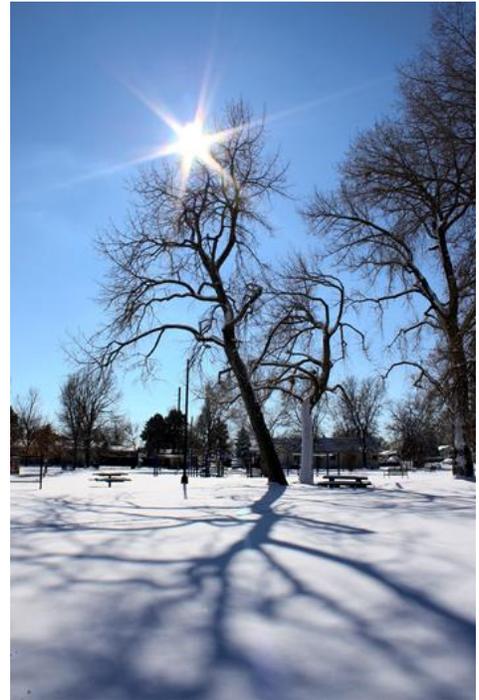


THE EARTHWORM:
NEWSLETTER OF THE WINDSOR GARDEN CLUB
FEBRUARY 2016

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**"THE BIRDS ARE GONE, THE GROUND IS WHITE,
THE WINDS ARE WILD, THEY CHILL AND BITE;
THE GROUND IS THICK WITH SLUSH AND SLEET,
AND I BARELY FEEL MY FEET."**

- **WINTER POEMS**

Dear Windsor Garden Club Members:

As you all are aware, our next meeting for **Soup Talk** was moved to **Monday, February 8th**. **Soup Talk** is a wonderful meeting of our membership and guests sharing delicious food with good and new friends, along with discussing matters of gardening, new program ideas, and civic endeavors etc.

The Executive Board had a wonderful meeting on January 16th. An abundant amount of input came about with a lot of great ideas and updates on committees and programs.

We have agreed that our purpose is to do more good for others such as our: Scholarship Program; 2016 Garden Mart; Hands-on Program; and Town of Windsor Civic Endeavors in this upcoming year. We also received updates on our upcoming Garden Tour in 2017 which is working with the Windsor High School students. After all, we won't be just benefiting those we help, we'll be benefiting our Windsor Garden Club.

As you all know volunteering can give us a sense of purpose, increase our self-esteem, and make us all happier. In 2016, get a "Helpers High" by Volunteering! on a committee or program.

Many thanks,

Laura

LAURA JARY, WGC PRESIDENT



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 8th MEETING - 6:30PM

Please note that the scheduled date of this meeting has changed from the date originally published in the annual Club booklet!

Annual "Soup Talk"

This is the annual "soup talk" meeting during which members engage in dialog about gardening topics. No question is too simple to ask us. We encourage first time gardeners to attend and bring your questions. Also, there will be some discussion about future endeavors of the club. This special informational garden meeting is held while warming up with a variety of homemade breads, soups and more, shared by our members. Please bring your favorite crock or loaf and the recipe! Paper and plastic ware will be available, but your own mug and spoon might be more convenient.

MARCH 14TH MEETING

Welcoming Spring with Floral Arrangements for Our Homes

Spring is finally here! Let's learn how to create a lovely table decoration to welcome the season. The March 14th meeting of the **Windsor Garden Club** welcomes Jim Palmieri. Palmieri, a 1973 UConn graduate, and a third generation florist/grower, brings floriculture, or growing ornamental plants to UConn Blooms, where he serves as manager. Jim ran Palmieri Florist in Southington for twenty-two years and did other floral work throughout the State. In addition, he started teaching students floral design at UConn beginning in 2004. Palmieri oversees the daily operation of UConn Blooms and arranges many of the colorful flowers sold.

APRIL 11th MEETING

Getting to Know Northwest Park

Ford Parker, director at Northwest Park, will present to the April 11th meeting of The Windsor Garden Club. Parker will discuss the wide array of opportunities presented at the 473 acre facility. Parker will focus on the wildlife and bird species that make their homes in the park.

MEETING INFORMATION

- For additional program information, please call 860-305-7306, or search windsorgardenclubct.org
- Club meetings are *typically* conducted on the second Monday of the month.
- Meetings begin at 6:30 PM with social time, followed by the evening's guest speaker beginning at 7:00 PM. The business portion of the meeting completes the evening.
- New members are always welcome.
- Meetings take place at the L.P Wilson Community Center, 599 Matianuck Avenue, Windsor, CT, in the Senior Center Room, which is located on the front left side of the building.
- During the months of June, July and August, club meetings are informal and are typically held at member's homes.
- Please check the calendar page to verify all meeting dates.
- These meetings are free of charge. The programs will begin at 7:00PM.

COMMITTEES:

Please review their tasks and consider signing up for one of the important committees in our club. All Members are encouraged to participate in one committee, if possible.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA REVISIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP REVIEW

- In past years one of the CRITERIA for the WGC scholarship was having a "C" average or better. After discussion at the Executive Board meeting and correspondence following, the suggestion is to change that requirement to a "B" or better. This would go into effect for the 2016 scholarship with WGC approval.
- In the future, we would like to consider raising the scholarship from \$700 to \$750.
- Also, a proposal has been made to offer smaller grants for high school students when there are unused monies in a fiscal year. More details to come.

The scholarship information will be mailed to the appropriate schools, after the February meeting's decisions. The Application Deadline is April 1, 2016. If you are aware of an interested senior student, the information is available on the WGC website.

GARDEN MART COMMITTEE

Volunteers are being asked to sign up for the 2016 Garden Mart held on May 7th, 2016.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Hospitality will be signing up Volunteers for March, April and May at the February meeting.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS COMMITTEE

- As a future project, the Deerfield Globe, located in the Deerfield area of Windsor, is in need of a spruce up in the spring. Volunteers will be sought when a date is arranged.
 - A proposed civic endeavor is a bench from the WGC for Northwest Park. The Executive Board has selected a bench from the style and size that the Park allows.
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GARDEN TOUR 2017 COMMITTEE



July 15, 2017 Garden Tour:

***Down Memory Lane, And Still Growing –
Celebrating 80 Years of the Windsor Garden Club***

- The committee has decided on the pattern for the stakes that will be put at each tour participant's home for the 2017 tour. They will be made by students from Windsor High School Technology Wood Shop.
 - The committee will also seek members for various jobs that need to be done for the tour.
 - Any garden club member thinking about sharing their gardens on the 2017 tour, or who knows of anyone interested in our tour, should contact Cindy Daniels. 860-219-9489 Thanks so much!
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MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

We have several new members since the publication of the 2015-16 booklets, so please update your Directory with the latest information from Diane Bernier at each meeting.

Winter is on my head, but eternal spring is in my heart. ~Victor Hugo

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Food Donations: Please remember to bring a non perishable food item for the Windsor Food bank. Their clients' needs are all year round. Donations can be left at the table where you check in.



On December 7th The Windsor Garden Club Celebrated Community Giving

Club members and visitors at this meeting enjoyed refreshments and decorated wreaths, purchased by the club to be given to and hung at public buildings throughout Windsor. As always, the many talents of our fine membership produced stunning arrangements. We are so lucky to have so many creative artisans. Thanks to all who contributed to the festive and delicious refreshment table.

GARDEN TIPS

Seeds That Shouldn't Be Covered

You may do everything else right when starting seeds, but some simply won't sprout unless they see the light - literally. There are some seeds that need exposure to light, in order to germinate. If these seeds are covered in soil, chances are good they will never sprout. These seeds should only be pressed onto the surface of the soil and kept moist, to germinate. **They include:**

- Ageratum
- Balloon Flower
- Begonia
- Browallia
- Coleus
- Columbine
- Geranium
- Impatiens
- Lettuce
- Lobelia
- Nicotiana
- Osteospermum
- Petunias
- Poppies
- Savory
- Snapdragons



For more of this article go to: http://gardening.about.com/od/seedstarting/a/Seeds-That-Need-Light-For-Good-Germination.htm?utm_content=20160113&utm_medium=email&utm_source=exp_nl&utm_campaign=list_gardening&utm_term=list_gardening

Tips: If anyone has any helpful gardening hints, horticultural places to recommend, or links worth sharing, please send the information to me at rosenick10@yahoo.com. Share those new and old ideas with other members.

Submission Deadline for March 2016 Earthworm: February 19th

If you would like to include one of your garden or event photos, an announcement, or any suitable information, please email it by this month's deadline.

Thank You! Rose
Rosenick10@yahoo.com

Town of Windsor Information for Homeowners

Home Repair Loan Program

The Town of Windsor is providing low interest loans for homeowners in Windsor who need to make repairs to their homes. Home improvement loans include items such as new roofs, boiler/furnaces, siding, waterproofing basements, plumbing, hot water heaters, electrical upgrades and other miscellaneous repairs. The program is income based, and for a family of four the maximum income allowed is \$65,800. Please call Diane McDougald for more information at (860) 285-1984. Ms. McDougald will be happy to assist with the paperwork.

FIELDTRIP INFORMATION

The October private, guided tour of the Governor's Mansion Sculpture Garden was cancelled until Spring of 2016. Please watch for further announcements.

"If apples were pears
And peaches were plums
And the rose had a different name.
If tigers were bears
And fingers were thumbs
I'd love you just the same."
- Valentine's Day Songs and Poems



"The flowers of late winter and early spring occupy places in our hearts well out of proportion to their size."

Gertrude S. Wister