

**THE EARTHWORM:**  
NEWSLETTER OF THE WINDSOR GARDEN CLUB  
MARCH 2017



PRESIDENT: DIANE BERNIER  
VICE PRESIDENT: MAUREEN VAGNINI  
TREASURER: JIM BENNETT  
RECORDING SECRETARY: LAURIE DURANT  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: ERIN BOURDON  
PAST PRESIDENT: LAURA JARY  
EARTHWORM EDITOR: ROSE STEPNIK

**Welcome to early spring everyone. If only it would last.**

Thank you everyone that made soup, bread and desserts for our February soup talk meeting. We had over 30 people and the room was buzzing with conversation.

- We had guests that night from the board of education and Poquonock School who presented our club with a proposal to help them and the students put in a vegetable garden. About seven members signed up to help with this project that will happen later in spring.
- Again Cindy Daniels asked members to sign up to volunteer for the garden tour.
- We are very fortunate to have Mary McQuarrie, a lovely artist willing to paint clean pots to be sold at the Garden Mart in May. Please bring clean pots to the March meeting so she has plenty of time to get these done. If not at the March meeting you can bring them to her directly.
- I have investigated places for our holiday lunch and reserved **Track139** for **December 10**.
- This fall we will be celebrating our 80th anniversary.
- We discussed possible town projects such as planting bushes to beautify the Wilson library, improving the rose garden at Washington Park and possibly improving the entrance to Deerfield Drive.
- As a celebration for our members and spouses we will have a gathering at Walden Woods meeting house on September 23 from 4 to 7; more info to follow.

It was a great meeting to catch up with our garden friends.

See you in April!

**Diane Bernier,**  
**Your President and Friend**

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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### MARCH 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 MEETING

**Meet Tom Hazel, Environmental Planner and Wetlands Agent for the Town Of Windsor**

Tom Hazel, will have open discussions regarding his current role. Come and learn how he administers and enforces the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission regulations and as liaison in reviewing plans for environmental impacts as well as admitters' environmental education and conservation programs.



Anyone interested in this program and learning more about Mr. Hazel's role, or learning about The Windsor Garden Club are welcome to attend this meeting at no charge. **Guests that would**

**like to attend this program should please contact Judy Linton at 860-298-9550 for reservations.**

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## APRIL 10<sup>th</sup> MEETING



### **Kitchen Gardens: History, Growing and Using, by Gordon Kennerson**

After getting his degree in horticulture, Mr. Kennerson worked 30 years in retail, lectured, taught Master Gardeners, and appeared on radio and TV, including his show, "On the Grow".

At our April meeting Gordon will touch on the history, culture and design of the kitchen garden as well as take our questions.

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## **MAY 8<sup>th</sup> MEETING – Members ONLY Meeting WGC GARDEN MART PREP MEETING & Member Plant Swap**

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## **MAY 13<sup>th</sup> – THE WINDSOR GARDEN MART**

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### **MEETING INFORMATION**

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- For additional program information, please call 860-219-1419, 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. BYO chair and a treat to share.
  - Please check the web site calendar page to verify all meeting dates.
  - These meetings are free of charge. The programs will begin at 7:00PM.
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### **COMMITTEES:**

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**All Members are encouraged to participate on a committee.** *Please sign up and help.*

At our meetings there will be a volunteer binder with all the committees listed, and upcoming events that members may sign up for. Please consider helping out on one of our committees this year. It is a great way to get to know your garden club members better.

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### **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:**

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**Thank you** to all the cooks who brought delicious soups for our February meeting.

Thanks in advance to Judy Linton, Edith Glanz, Dick Rosman, Margaret Taff and Heidi Kraushaar who signed up to bring the March meeting goodies!

Hospitality Co-chairmen Wendy Mitchell and Joan Lynch, along with committee member Debbie Baker, would like to remind us to look for **sign-up sheets** to volunteer to bring goodies for our next several meetings. Please contact them by email or a quick call if you need more information.

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### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

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**2016-17 Membership renewal forms.** A link to the forms can be found on the website. Individual memberships are still \$20.00 while family memberships are still \$35.00.

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**WWW.WINDSORGARDENCLUBCT.ORG**

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## GARDEN TOUR 2017 COMMITTEE

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**March 13: The Garden Tour Committee will meet before our March meeting at 6:30. Thanks!**

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Hi everyone,

Our 2017 Garden Tour is fast approaching! The committee has been working to complete necessary tasks. Please support this wonderful project by signing up to represent the Windsor Garden Club at a home on the tour. Having done this 5 times, it is fun and very supportive to our club. We also need people to help by providing snacks for the Garden Tour snack stop. Maureen Vagnini has the signup sheet. Please see her to support your Garden Tour.

Thank you! Cindy

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## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

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The Windsor Garden Club is offering a \$700 scholarship to a high school senior who is a Windsor resident. The student must plan to attend either a two or four-year college with the intention of pursuing studies in agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, landscape architecture, forestry, environmental science, environmental engineering, or a similarly related study.

One of the Windsor Garden Club's resolutions is to award a scholarship each year to a deserving Windsor student. The scholarship is funded through the Club's annual sale of plants at its Garden Mart in May. Thanks to the many dedicated and hardworking club members, and to all the enthusiastic townspeople who attend our fundraisers and make this scholarship possible.

Announcements have been sent to guidance departments of the schools below and a press release has been submitted to the local papers.

Windsor High School

CREC

Loomis Chaffee School

Northwest Catholic High School

Metropolitan Learning Center

Medina Academy

Applications and more information are available on the Windsor Garden Club website.

**Deadline for receipt of applications: April 15, 2017**

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## STRONG HOUSE HERB GARDEN COMMITTEE

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- **Our committee is in need of one more member to join our committee.** I will be contacting Gordon Kenneson who came up with the original site plan at the Herb Garden to discuss some of plant and soil concerns that are committee came up with at the final clean up last October.
- In April our committee will meet at the Windsor Historical Society (usually on a Saturday morning around 9 a.m.) At that time all members are requested to attend to help do a Spring clean up of leaves and cut back some of the plants that are overgrown if needed. With a total of 10 members....it doesn't really take very long. We also will develop a monthly assignment for each member to work at the garden i.e. Two members teams will check in at the Herb Garden for the month they have chosen to volunteer (May thru September).
- We do replace plants as needed in keeping with the historical aspects of the garden. We also assure correct labeling.
- As the Strong House Herb Garden Chair I will serve as liaison between the Windsor Garden Club and the Strong House Board of Directors.
- We do hope that someone will be able to join us. If you are interested in joining our committee please contact: **Laura Jary via email at [lfjary@gmail.com](mailto:lfjary@gmail.com) or leave a message on my home phone at 860-688-7145.**

Many thanks in advance for your consideration.

Laura Jary

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## COMMUNITY SERVICE

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A friendly reminder and request from Jim Bennett that he is still seeking clear plastic jars such as 16 oz size peanut butter jars, 16 oz dry roasted peanut jars and 16 oz apple sauce jars.

These containers will be used to hold and sort, the [New England Air Museum's](#) vast inventory of nuts, bolts, screws, washers and spacers used in the [Restoration Program](#).

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## GARDENING TIPS

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*The [blue hyperlinks](#) are there for you to seek more information online. Have fun!*

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### Making Sense of a Seed Packet

**These small envelopes offer a surprising amount of information for a gardener**

[http://www.houzz.com/ideabooks/80332131?utm\\_source=Houzz&utm\\_campaign=u4746&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=gallery11&newsletterId=4746](http://www.houzz.com/ideabooks/80332131?utm_source=Houzz&utm_campaign=u4746&utm_medium=email&utm_content=gallery11&newsletterId=4746)

Sowing seeds is an easy and inexpensive way to get a garden going. Make the most of your experience by starting with an in-depth look at what your seed packets can tell you. Then, when it's time to start sowing seeds, either indoors before your final frost date or outdoors when the soil is warm enough, you'll be ready.

**Planting guidelines.** In a very small amount of space, seed companies provide an easy-to-read primer on successfully growing your desired plants from seed. The information on the packets almost always includes the following:

**When to sow seeds indoors.** This is especially useful if you live in an area with a short growing season.

**When to sow seeds outdoors.** Often this will include a map or schedules based on your climate zone.

**How deep to sow the seeds.**

**How far apart to space them.** This is especially helpful if you don't plan to do any thinning.

**Days to germination.** If you're waiting for the first seedlings to emerge, it's nice to have a sense of whether you're just impatient or the seeds aren't germinating.

**When to transplant seedlings.**

**Cultivating guidelines.** While not as common as the planting information, many packets also include fairly detailed information on when to thin plants and even information on general garden care such as weeding, watering schedules, basic pruning times and when and how to harvest vegetables.

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### Flowers That Can Help You Sell Your Home

*..."Homebase, a British home improvement and garden center, conducted a survey to discover which flowers are most appealing to house hunters. In addition to trimming your trees and shrubs and freshening up your mulch, consider adding value to your home by adding one or more of these flowers to your perennial beds or front porch..."*

Roses

Lavender

Fuchsia

Tulips

Sweet Peas

Lilies

Jasmine

Pelargoniums

Hydrangeas

Sunflowers

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For the complete article, see the link below.

[https://www.thespruce.com/flowers-that-can-help-you-sell-your-home-1315918?utm\\_campaign=gardening&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=cn\\_nl&utm\\_content=8968533&utm\\_term=](https://www.thespruce.com/flowers-that-can-help-you-sell-your-home-1315918?utm_campaign=gardening&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cn_nl&utm_content=8968533&utm_term=)

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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**Dear Windsor Garden Club Members,**

This is the usual reminder to PLEASE remember to bring non-perishable food items to our meetings for the **Windsor Food Bank**. Their clients' needs are all year round. Donations can be left at the table where you check in. **Thank you!**



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**FIELD TRIP TO LOGEE'S GREENHOUSES**

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As a precursor to Spring, field trip coordinator Maureen Vagnini, organized a road trip across the state to Logee's Greenhouses in Danielson.



Following the visit to Logee's, the group enjoyed lunch at the Vanilla Bean restaurant.

*Page 5 and 6 Logee's photos courtesy of Diane Bernier*

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"No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn."

- Hal Borland



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**Submission Deadline for April 2017 Earthworm: March 24<sup>th</sup>** - If you would like to include one of your event photos, an announcement, or any suitable information, please email it by this month's deadline. Thank You! Rose  
*Rosenick10@yahoo.com*

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March, when days are getting long,  
Let thy growing hours be strong  
To set right some wintry wrong.

~Caroline May, 1887



"The word 'March' comes from the Roman 'Martius'. This was originally the first month of the Roman calendar and was named after Mars, the god of war. March was the beginning of our calendar year. We changed to the 'New Style' or 'Gregorian calendar in 1752, and it is only since then when we the year began on 1st January. The Anglo-Saxons called the month *Hlyd monath* which means Stormy month, or *Hraed monath* which means Rugged month. All through Lent the traditional games played are marbles and skipping. The games were stopped on the stroke of twelve noon on Good Friday, which in some places was called Marble Day or Long Rope Day. The game of marbles has been played for hundreds of years and some historians say that it might have been started by rolling eggs. In the past, round stones, hazelnuts, round balls of baked clay and even cherry stones have been used."

- Facts About March

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GARDEN TOUR 2017 COMMITTEE - SAVE THE DATE

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**Save the date!**

**Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 [rain or shine]**

Our Garden Tour featuring a self-guided tour of eight lovely garden escapes

***80 Years Down Memory Lane...and Still Growing***

*Presale tickets; \$10.00. Available at many Windsor locations,*

*And at our Annual Plant Sale on the Green, May 13<sup>th</sup>. 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.*

*Tickets day of tour; \$15.00, Available on the Windsor Green from 9:30-12:00*

Any questions, please contact Cindy Daniels, 860-219-9489 or 860-836-0280

[www.windsorgardenclubct.org](http://www.windsorgardenclubct.org)

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**WWW.WINDSORGARDENCLUBCT.ORG**

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