



June 2016 Newsletter  
Abbreviated and Simplified Version

**A Letter From Our Presidents**



**Old Board /  
New Board  
Brunch**

Wednesday  
June 15, 2016  
9:30 am  
Faith Kerchoff's  
House



**Autumn  
Luncheon**

Wednesday  
October 5, 2016  
Woodway Country  
Club

June is in bloom, and spring is tumbling into summer faster than we can catch it. We want to savor the blooms and enjoy the surprises that pop out daily. "Did I plant that?" is often the first reaction to a new bloom in the garden. There is always a delightful surprise here and there.

May was busy! Tulips bloomed at Town Hall, and daffodils and many other flowers are blooming in our triangles. Our speakers were so inspiring and knowledgeable. We went to the Colorblends Home and Spring Garden, and hope to go again next year. The first New Canaan Flower Market bloomed at the Pop Up Park, with a percentage of the sales made going to our group as the designated non-profit (no results in yet). Charlie Woodman, a stellar volunteer for the NCHS SLOBs, won an award for the most volunteer hours this year. His prize was a donation to an organization of his choice, and he chose the NCBL! Thanks Charlie! He and the SLOBs helped us spread wood chips on the paths on two Saturdays this spring.

Hanging Baskets had a record crowd of 27; later the town crew came to get them, and the next day they were up! The following week eight volunteers planted a variety of flowers in the planters on Pine Street (in front of Mrs. Greens) and on Elm Street (used in the Pop Up Park). There are new plantings in the two big round Town Hall planters too! Our Triangle volunteers have been wonderful in keeping the whole town looking beautiful!

We hope to see all volunteers at the 3rd Annual Mead Park Breakfast on June 6th. It is our way of thanking all involved, especially the Triangle volunteers, Traveling Trowels, and the town crew. Join us!

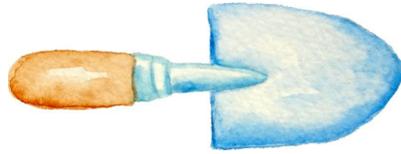
Good news! The Planning and Zoning commission approved our request for a change of use permit for the Lee House property. The vote was unanimous and the commission commended the garden, how it works into open space requirements, and complements the residential feel of the Chichester Road area.

This is our last newsletter of the year, but we will keep in touch via blasts and Facebook when we have something to share. You should all be proud of the work the NCBL does for the town. Pat yourselves on the back!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark and Sara". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

# Let's Make the Train Station Beautiful for Summer Visitors!



Liz Orteig and Barbara Beall will be weeding the train station garden on Wednesday, June 8 at 9:30 am

Come help!

Contact [Liz Orteig](#)



## Welcome New Members!

A big welcome to our newest members:

Deborah Rose  
Sarina Vetterli

# Autumn Luncheon

We've secured the date and place, so mark this on your calendar!  
More information coming soon!



## Have You Seen?

The Town Hall planters were planted just in time for Memorial Day. Due to the rain, the Memorial Day ceremony was held at the new Town Hall entrance this year.



## Thank you to our photographer!

The person taking the photos is usually not in the photos herself! We need to give Michele Sloan a round of applause for taking so many photos of our events and activities throughout the year. Thank you also to her trusted backups, her mom Ceci Murray and her sister Megan Steele.



## Wowed by Grace Farms

Our last meeting of the season was held at Grace Farms. After the business meeting, voting on our new NCBL Board nominations, and seeing Faith's wonderful slide show of our NCBL year, we heard from Lisa Lynne Kirkpatrick and Mark Fowler from the Grace Farms Foundation.

Lisa talked about the history of the property, the development of the site and building, and the goals of the Grace Farms Foundation. Mark talked about growing up in New Canaan with his well-known family and his work and plans as Nature Ambassador with the Grace Farms Foundation.

## Hanging Baskets

It was a beautiful day, and all of our 207 baskets were hooked and wired and ready to go in record time! We had a record number of volunteers that day also, and had a non-member (Simin Zendeherouh) come by to help!

This year's baskets contain pink dragon-wing begonias, white petunias and a new variety this year, the petchoa. The petchoa is a hybrid cross between a petunia and a calibrachoa and exhibits the best features of both flowers.

After all the baskets were planted under the guidance of NCBL co-chairs Libby Butterworth, Sara Hunt and Eileen Boehme, men from the Department of Public Works picked them up in town trucks and hung them on lampposts the following day. These men included Walt Jaykus, Jimmy Peck, John Mitchell and Highway Superintendent Mose Saccary. As part of the collaborative project, town employees will water the baskets three times a week throughout the summer.



## Triangles

As we drive around town, we appreciate the triangles that dot our landscape. Each triangle is lovingly tended and has its own special features and personality. The plantings of our triangles and municipal areas is just one of the things that makes New Canaan special, and it's our Triangle Committee that makes it all happen. A big thank you to our Triangle Committee and its chairs: Kathy Lapolla and Tracy Phillips.



## New Canaan Flower Market

The clouds broke just in time for a beautiful Sunday in town. The Flower Market was a first attempt of this kind in New Canaan!

Thanks go out to our helpers that day:  
Sara Hunt, Kathy Lapolla, Bianca Romano, Betsy Sammarco,  
Lisa Ferrante, Tracey Phillips, Joan Hayenga, and Karen Mactas.

## Learning & Laughing with Lee Reich, PhD

While we certainly learned a lot about adding edibles to our landscape, we laughed a lot too as Lee Reich was a RIOT!

Many thanks go out to our program chairs, Carol Seldin and Amy Weber Reid for organizing this program and ALL of our wonderful programs this year.



## Colorblends Trip

The weather was "iffy", but the four members who traveled to the Colorblends House and Spring Garden Tour had a great time. Faith Kerchoff, Sara Hunt, Tonya Gwynn, and Susan Bergen arrived at the Bridgeport location for a tour of the garden and antique house. We plan to do this again next year and give plenty of notice this time, so watch your newsletters in order to get it on your calendar.



## SLOBs Award Recipient Honors NCBL!

Charlie Woodman was the recipient of the award for the most charitable hours for the SLOBs organization and has received a monetary award to be donated to a philanthropy of his choice. He has elected to donate his award to the NCBL in order to help us with the work we do in New Canaan.

## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST



### Garden Conservancy Open Days

Several of the speakers from past Beautification League Programs are graciously opening their gardens for touring as part of the Garden Conservancy Open Days Program. Entrance fees are typically \$7 per person. For more complete listing please check: [opendaysprogram.org](http://opendaysprogram.org).

You may purchase a copy of The Garden Conservancy's Open Days 2016 Directory at Elm Street Books.

Here are a few suggestions to get you started.

Saturday, July 9: Jane Garmey's garden in West Cornwall, CT

Saturday, July 30: The Montgomery-Glazer Property with Larry Weaner in Lakeville, CT

Saturday, August 13: Carol Seldin's garden, Dogwood Hill, in New Canaan

Saturday, August 20: Margaret Roach's garden in Copake Falls, NY



### Ikebana : Japanese Art of Flower Arranging with expert Shoko Iwata

Meadow Ridge Auditorium

100 Meadow Ridge Road, Redding, CT

Friday, July 8, 2:30 pm

This is a FREE event.

For more information contact [Wally Meyer](#).