

DGC May 2024 Newsletter

Happy Mother's Day

Dear DGC Members,
Please scroll down. There are 3 pages to Newsletter.

Parking in the back but please do not park in the numbered spaces

We will have a **special guest** at our May Meeting, **Elaine Shein**, from the Second District of the Federation. We are honored to have her do the installation of our slate of officers for the 2024-2025 year. Please give her our DGC warm welcome.

Programs – Our next meeting is @ 1:00 on May 21 and Program Chair Mary Taylor has provided us with a perfect Spring Program.

Growing Plants from Seeds: A Seasoned Gardener will show you How!
Dr. Joseph (he goes by J) Abularrage has a lovely garden in Douglaston. He uses seeds and grow lights to start the planting process and then transfers them into the garden. J will bring some examples of his seed techniques and the plants he has nourished. J asks that you wear your garden hat or visor and please bring gardening gloves. We will be seated at a table for this program.

Nominating Committee - The floor is open for any nominations. Please send your letter of interest to our Recording Secretary, Maria DiChiara. We will accept nominations up to the day of Installation which is May 21 at the general meeting. Congratulations and you all have our Support!
Our Nominating Committee has picked for your 2024-2025 Year the following

President – Barbara Buckley
First Vice President – Joan Hellmann
Second Vice President - Cecilia Cody
Recording Secretary - Maria DiChiara
Corresponding Secretary - Annette Aloisio
Treasurer - Gloria Brehl

Thank you so much for all your hard work and dedication to our club. You did an amazing job!

Joan Hellmann
Catherine Touwsma
Annette Aloisio
Claire Goldstein
Lori Hinchey

Audit of Treasurer Records – Annette Aloisio and Jeri Lynett will do an audit of our records at the closing of this year. After completion they will file a report.

Membership – On April 16, 2024 the membership voted unanimously to increase yearly dues to \$60.00. This will take effect on July 1, 2024 when your yearly payment is made.
A bill will go out and please complete the information and check to make sure we have all your updated information on our roster and there are no changes. Payment can be brought in at the time of the May Meeting or June Luncheon to our Treasurer if you do not wish to mail it. However, it is due July 1, 2024

WOMAN OF THE YEAR – Our own Sunshine Chairperson, Dorothy Mulholland has been named “Woman of the Year” She will be honored at our Little Neck Douglaston Memorial Day Parade. Dorothy we are so proud to have you on our board and a dedicated member of the Douglaston Garden Club.
Congratulations. Brava! Monday, Memorial Day, May 27th

Civic Beautification Patricia has on Thursday, Workshops at CWNV, Fort Totten. Check out the website. On April 27 we had Its My Park Day and clean up and planted Spring Plants at Catherine Turner Richardson Park with our members and the Parks Department all arranged by Patricia Yoon. There was also Udalls Cove Clean Up the week before. Pictures on website.

Bake Sale - The Bake Sale Thank you Jeri and Colleen for all your hard work. A wide variety of eclectic foods and a nice day to be with friends and members of the club. Total Profits was \$1661.00

Hospitality

Please bring in by 12:30 - Thank you for your donations!

The following members are on the Hospitality list

Cookies - Joan Curran, Bhanu Doshi, Barbara Buckley, Laurretta Mulholland
Fruit - Cecilia Cody, Anne Cody, Maria Falco
Centerpiece - Maria DiChiara

Spring Luncheon - Chairpersons Maura Wrynn and Gloria Brehl would like to invite you on Thursday, June 6, to the DGC Spring Luncheon Price \$85.00- Park in the lower level please. It will be held in the Stratmore Vanderbilt Country Club, Manhasset NY. Members please think of ideas for raffle baskets and advise Pam.

RSVP May 17 Mail your check made out to the DGC to Gloria Brehl.

We will have 50/50, vendors, raffle baskets and door prizes.

The Program is titled **Container Gardening** by Deborah Wrynn from Main St. Nursery, Huntington We are all working together to make our 100 Year Anniversary Luncheon a big success. We will also extend the invitation to our Second District Clubs of the FGCSNY. Thank you all for your hard work.

Ways and Means - We are going to have a **Costume Jewelry Sale for May**. We are asking each member to please look through your Costume Jewelry and kindly donate at least three items or more. May will be the last Ways and Means and we wish to keep it to small items and only Costume Jewelry. \$3.00 each piece and 4 for \$10.00 Now that is a good bargain and great Prices.

Looking ahead

May 21 DGC Planting from Seeds - Installation of Board

May 22 - Glen Garden Club Luncheon - *Manhasset Bay Yacht Club*- \$70.Payment already made.

May 27 – DGC Marching and distributing seeds to spectators. Douglaston/Little Neck Memorial Day Parade Honoring our member Dorothy Mulholland as Woman of the Year. Brava!

June 6 - DGC Spring Luncheon - Strathmore Vanderbilt Country Club, Manhasset \$85.RSVP May 17

July 1 – Membership fee of \$60.00 due to Treasurer

Tentative dates for next year meetings to pencil in your calendar are:

2024

September 17--October 15--November 19--December 17 Tentative Holiday Lunch (place and date can change)

2025

February 18--March 18--April 15--May 20

Please be sure to check our website, updated by Linda Akers and our Facebook page, maintained by Catherine Touwsma for photos and info regarding DGC activities.

At this time I wish to thank you all for an amazing two years of working with a remarkable team. Thank you for all your support.

With deep appreciation,

Sarah Milunec
President, Douglaston Garden Club, Inc.
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[facebook.com/douglastongc](https://www.facebook.com/douglastongc)

The Garden Club is a tax exempt organization under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Service code. Membership and donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Shared with Membership by Fran Bello with the deepest gratitude to all that have served.

Why The Red Poppy Flower Is Used For Military Remembrances

What is a Red Poppy Flower?

The red poppy flower, also known as the *Papaver somniferum*, is one of the world's most popular wildflowers. The red poppy is native to most of Eurasia and North Africa, but today is best known for its presence in Central Europe. This small flower ranges from 12 to 14 inches and 2 to 3 inches wide.

Red Poppy Flower Meaning – What Does The Poppy Represent

Red poppy flowers represent consolation, remembrance and death. Likewise, the poppy is a common symbol that has been used to represent everything from peace to death and even simply sleep. Since ancient times, poppies placed on tombstones represent eternal sleep. Additionally, poppies are used as a symbol around the world to remember those who died in military service.

How did the Poppy Flower become a symbol of remembrance for military

After the Napoleonic wars in the early 19th century, the land was destroyed as it was left desolate, arid and infertile. Shortly after, red poppy flowers magically grew around the bodies of the fallen soldiers. Poppies then became a symbol of hope and peace with an underlying meaning that the sacrifice of soldier's lives were for the greater good. Again in 1914, the fields of Northern France broke out in fighting as World War 1 began. Once the world war was over, one of the only plants to regrow were red poppy flowers.

Poppies And Their Cultural Reference

Poppies are significant because of cultural interpretation that these flowers promise resurrection. Red poppies flowers strongly became a symbol of remembrance because of Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae and American professor Moina Michael. McCrae was a poet and soldier during World War 1 and is best known for his war memorial poem "In Flanders Fields".

In this poem, McCrae referred to the red poppies that grew over the graves of the fallen soldiers and started the remembrance symbolism of the red poppy flowers. After the conclusion of World War 1 in 1918, Moina Michael wrote a response poem, "We Shall Keep the Faith", that officially declared that red poppy flowers would be a year-round honor for the soldiers who had died in combat.

Today, the remembrance poppy has become one of the world's most recognized memorial symbols for fallen soldiers. Even a century after World War 1 ended, people still continue to use the red poppy flower as a symbol for remembrance. Millions of people worldwide from the United Kingdom to Canada to New Zealand wear the flower every November 11th to commemorate the anniversary of the 1918 armistice, also known as Remembrance Day or Armistice Day.

On the contrary, in the United States the tradition has developed differently as Americans wear the red poppy on Memorial Day, the last Monday in May. In America, November 11th is formally known as Veterans day which honors all living veterans whereas Memorial Day is to honor the sacrifice of the men and women who have given their lives fighting for the United States.



Sum up

The red poppy flower is much more than a wildflower. From sleep to peace to death, the red poppy flower is a beautiful symbol of remembrance worldwide. Since World War 1 and McCrae's poem of the flowers, the significance is still felt a century later. All over the world the red poppy flower symbolizes remembrance for the fallen soldiers and will continue for generations to come.

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