

Peg Campbell-Archival Moment

I'm sure the membership was excited when a Virginian joined the Garden Club in 1961. Her enthusiasm, dedication and leadership inspired the others throughout her sixty plus years. In the twenty-year history that we were able to find, Peg held almost every position in the Club! Peg sat on the membership committee four times, Assistant and Treasurer, Secretary, Chair of Phelps Triangle, Chair of Awards, Chair of Programs, Immediate Past President and President! I am sure that she did much more than what we are aware.



Peg has always exemplified the mission of the Garden Club of New Haven – which, as we all know, is:

“Promoting knowledge of gardening, preservation of natural resources, and civic horticulture work in the Greater New Haven area”.

She certainly has promoted her knowledge of gardening, from the New Haven School students at the Long Wharf Nature Preserve, to her very own children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren! She and her friends in the GCNH have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance open spaces,

Some examples include:

Phelps Triangle, returning New Haven Green to the “Elm City” it is known as and judiciously planning for the continuation of the beatification of the Green that continues today.

Maintaining flower boxes at City Hall, mini-parks throughout the city, planting hundreds of tulip bulbs at Audubon Street Mini-Park.

Participated in “Project Trees” planting of 25 Elms, 19 Dogwoods and two specimen trees on the New Haven Green in the '80s.

Decorated the Ronald McDonald House for resident’s Christmas party.

Flower shows throughout New Haven every year, and at every meeting - always spreading beauty around the city.



While Peg was President, the Club continued its Civic involvement, from installing a new computerized watering system at Phelps and working with Department of Transportation to acquire land to add to the Long Wharf Nature Preserve.

The Club voted to allow men to join, our first male member was Richard Ballard, who all say had a fabulous garden!

We all know how difficult it is to change our by-laws; Peg did that too while president.

Started a Club newsletter that continues today and updated the Garden Club logo.

The Club was recognized with GCA honors and Federated honors throughout her Presidency.

Peg and the Club were very busy during those years!



Besides sharing her organizational talents with the Club, she has always been a teacher of gardening beyond the members of our Club and Community.

We are told that Peg would always have a single pale rose from her garden in a silver bud vase in her daughters' bedrooms. She filled her house with heirloom peonies, that now grow in her daughter's garden.

She taught her daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren how to prune, deadhead and even how to compost the cuttings. Peg was composting long before it was popular to do so. Peg even taught her children how to create flower arrangements and how never to plant in a straight row! The Garden Club of New Haven gave Peg a 10" crepe myrtle that continues to thrive today at a mere 16 feet, as an example of her green thumb!

We are fortunate to have Peg as member, friend, mentor and leader of our Club.

We thank you Peg from the bottoms of our hearts.

Now it is with great with pleasure, Lisa will continue-



To introduce to you a new Garden Club of New Haven award: **The Campbell Centennial Award**

This award has been created to honor Peg.

The award celebrates the accomplishments of living members who have served the club over many years with active committee involvement offering wise counsel and historical perspective to our members, particularly our Presidents.

Please join me in showing our appreciation to Peg as we present to her this new award in her honor.