$AT\,HOME\,$ words and photography by Laura ekstrom



Kim Van Fossan, Sally Douglas, Amy Wickstrom, and Bette Bilton on the Bramsen walk.

The Garden Club of Barrington Explores and Enjoys Two Local Country Gardens

N MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2021, The Garden Club of Barrington went for a garden walk at the home of Elizabeth and James Bramsen in Barrington Hills. Their lovely and picturesque gardens are nestled in a pastoral farm setting adorned by chickens, horses, and an orchard of apple trees, as well as a lovely pool, whimsical pool house, tennis courts, and even a gypsy wagon for the grandchildren to play in. As lifelong conservationists, the Bramsens epitomize a homestead that embraces both the natural environment and equestrian tradition of Barrington Hills.

Next stop was the charming country garden of member PattiAnn Miles, where members enjoyed an al fresco luncheon around the pool. Dessert was then served in the "Victorian Tea House" next to her iconic bocce court. PattiAnn's garden mixes the traditional structure of boxwood with masses of flowering perennials accented by beautiful and eccentric potted plants.

For the members of The Garden Club of Barrington, it was one of the first opportunities to escape the "Zoom Room" and once again explore and appreciate real gardens and landscapes together. All in all, it was an inspirational and beautiful day that reminds us all of what is truly important—the beauty and restorative value of a country garden!



Kate Mitten and Cindy Seibert at the Bramsen wagon.



The peaceful pool on the Bramsen walk.



Mary Botte and Kari Frankenerg pause on the Miles walk.



A garden vignette on the Miles walk.



A gorgeous display of color on the Miles walk.



