In 1956, Mrs. Elizabeth Waterman presented a silver Revere bowl to the Garden Club of New Haven, to be awarded by a Trophy Committee for the most noteworthy accomplishment during the year.

Mrs. Waterman was an active member of the club, and it was her desire to stimulate interest in all phases of garden club work. She suggested several categories for which the presentation might be made, but felt that the committee must be free to choose the field of endeavor.

In looking back through the Waterman Bowl committee book, previous recipients have indeed been involved in many different projects. We honored members such as Mrs. Audrey Sargent, who was awarded the trophy for the revision of the standing rules and by-laws of our club (something that I think a lot of us would say we would never want to be involved in); Anne Bell for her work in 'Operation Transplant' which involved moving wildflowers from a site in Milford recently zoned for industrial development to the West Rock Nature Center; and Bonnie Arneill and Karen Grey, for their staging of the Garden Club of America section of the 1986 NY Flower Show 'Garden Fantasies.' The list of recipients goes on and on, and while varied, the common denominator is that our club has benefitted from all their work.

This year's recipient is celebrating 15 years of membership. During those 15 years, she has served the club in many capacities - Chair of Phelps Triangle, Chair of Scholarship, and Asst Treasurer. She was even a member of the Waterman Bowl committee, helping choose the recipient in 2005. Previous recipients describe her as someone who is level headed, and 'always silently there offering to help in any way she can, even with a busy work schedule.' I think she has really flourished through her involvement in photography.

GCA introduced Photography as a field of interest over 10 years ago. One of its objectives is to 'promote the art and science of photography at all skill levels through education.' This year's recipient has indeed accomplished that feat. As current Chair of Photography, she has held high standards of commitment and responsibility. She organized photography workshops, pre-meetings, and field trips (all well-attended), generated enthusiasm among our members, and made photography an important part of our Club's activities.

It is with great joy and pleasure that I award the Waterman Bowl to Vickie DiSesa.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Lovejoy - Chair of the Waterman Bowl Committee

Waterman Bowl Committee - Lisa Lovejoy (Chair), Jennifer Radford, Nancy Ahlstrom, Carol Ross, Susan Ehrenkranz, Carol Ross, Debbie Edwards, Mikey Hirschoff