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NEWS LEAF - March 2018

Spring Issue

President's Letter

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The Garden State is fortunate to have over 100 local garden clubs that, in the aggregate, comprise nearly 5000 members. Our clubs come in many sizes and are as diverse as the communities they serve. Local club involvement allows members to conveniently explore a wide range of interest right near home. This grassroots approach makes each of our clubs special in its local knowledge and community impact. This traditionally begins with regular meetings of the club's members with speakers and workshops focusing on members' interests. From there it typically expands to the community where members share their love of gardening through youth programs, civic beautification, garden therapy, environmental concerns and other programs that foster engagement. It is important for Garden Clubs to recognize and not miss the opportunity to make a difference in their communities.



Local Garden Club leadership should consider regularly reviewing what they are focusing time and resources on and think about its effectiveness. Is it what their members want...or is it the way things have always been done? Success comes with focus...so be sure to spend some time thinking/talking about each of your clubs committees/projects. When doing so, make sure you have a cross section of your membership- both interest and time in the club. You'll be surprised what you learn.

For instance, one club had a tradition of not meeting during the busy gardening months so they could focus on YOU GUESSED IT GARDENING. But then it occurred to them that it is also a great time to spend time with fellow gardeners, share their successes and challenges and have speakers with great ideas and inspiration.

Another club discovered whereas traditionally they met in the evening, now their membership preferred day meetings. The opposite was also true for another club. And a third club found splitting between day and evening meetings worked best for their membership.

Garden Club of New Jersey is here to help. Talk to your District Director, attend our Spring District Meetings and our Fall President Workshops.

Louise Davis

Garden Therapy at Lyons

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hospital to End

Ending? This would be a huge loss for the veterans who look forward to the regular flower program. Unless a volunteer(s) comes forward to help with this program, it will be discontinued as of June 2018. It would also be a loss for Garden Club of New Jersey who has been very proud of this affiliation. If you're willing to help, contact the chair, Ellen Bogusky at ellenbogusky@hotmail.com.

From the Nominating Committee

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The 2017-2018 Nominating Committee recommends the following nominees to be elected and installed at the Annual Meeting of The Garden Club of New Jersey on June 7, 2018 at the Bridgewater-Marriott Hotel in Bridgewater, New Jersey, to serve for a two-year term:



- **Second Vice President:**
Carole Iuso, The Bridgewater Garden Club
- **Third Vice President:**
Jane S. R. Bersch, Pinelands Garden Club of Medford
- **Treasurer:**
Alison Stellita, The Garden Club of Toms River
- **Assistant Treasurer:**
Kathleen Mullarkey, Garden Club of Fair Haven
- **District 2 Director:**
Caron Menger, The New Vernon Garden Club
- **District 4 Director:**
Teddie Falcone, The Garden Club of Long Valley
- **District 6 Director:**
Patricia Scarano, The East Brunswick Garden Club
- **District 8 Director:**
Diana Halliwell, The Garden Club of Toms River
- **Headquarters and Endowment Trustees** (to serve for three year terms):
Brenda Bingham, The Garden Club of Montclair
Gotti Kelley, The Navesink Garden Club
Ruth Paul, The Garden Club of Westfield
Vivian Morrison, Chair

Recommended By-Law Change

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The Board recommends the following change.

Article VI- Officers and District Directors; Insert new section 2 to read: No Elected officer shall hold more than one elected office at a time.

Renumber Sections 2-5 (2 becomes 3, 3 becomes 4 etc. Rationale- to conform to long standing GCNJ custom. It will be presented to the membership at the June 7, 2018 Annual Meeting for vote.

GCNJ Partners with YMCA

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Youth Groups

Two years ago the GCNJ Board approved a pilot program with the YMCA Youth Square Foot Gardening program. Three YMCAs' have successfully introduced the program and looked for a GCNJ club to sponsor them. The Garden Club of Essex Fells is sponsoring the East Orange Y Square Footers, the Piscataway Garden Club is sponsoring the Rahway YMCA Super Secret Square Foot Garden and the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA Camp is still in need of a sponsor. Cumulatively this adds 360 more youth to GCNJ



Wini Applegate Bequest

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GCNJ lost a long time Board member and great friend in October. In her Will, Wini requested a donation be made to the Garden Club of New Jersey. In speaking with her family, it was agreed the money donated would become part of the Plant America New Jersey fund. This fund was created at the recommendation of our National President Nancy Hargroves and will be used to fund gardening projects in our state.



Mark your Calendars

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The Garden Club of New Jersey
93rd Annual Meeting
“Back to the Shore”
Thursday, June 7, 2018
Bridgewater Marriott
Bridgewater, New Jersey



Speaker

Sharon McGukin AIFD, AAF, PFCI

Sharon inspires others to celebrate life with flowers. Sharon is known nationally for her floral expertise, southern charm and energetic connection with audiences as an entertaining and informative speaker.

We look forward to welcoming her to NJ.

Judges Credential Report

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The following NGC Master Judges have chosen to become Master Judges Emeritus: Marilyn Litvack, Adrienne Langan, Myque Koenig and Nancy Gahtan. We appreciate their many years of contribution to the Flower Show Program.

Pat Bowker and Mary Warshauer are now Accredited Judges, having passed the October 2017 Reading Exam.

GCNJ currently has 20 Master Judges, 7 Life Judges, 10 Accredited Judges and 2 Student Judges.

Upcoming Flower Show

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School

What: Flower Show School I

When: May 2-3 exam day May 4.

Where: Holly House

Who: Garden Club members as well as the public

Why: Have fun while learning about horticulture and design

For anyone wishing to become a judge, Course 1 must be taken first.



For full details and to register go to our website www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com

Membership Registration Changes

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As mentioned in the last issue of Newsleaf, the Garden Club of NJ has been piloting a new registration system called Wild Apricot, with very good results. As a reminder, annual membership dues are required by April 1, 2018, and on this date, Membership Chairs of each garden club will be registering their club's members by going to this new website portal. On March 15th, Presidents of each garden club will receive an email with their membership invoice based on the number of members currently enrolled. Each garden club Membership Chair will review the members enrolled, located online at the membership registration website and make changes, if needed. Opportunities for training will be available at the District meetings as well as a watching an online video being created for this purpose. The payment process is not changing at this time, and will continue with sending the garden club check to GCNJ. More details will be announced soon. This new method will provide streamlined processes for all involved. Exciting times for GCNJ!



Youth Awards

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The Garden Club of New Jersey will award three monetary awards of \$200 each at the 2018 Annual Meeting to 3 Garden Clubs that create new projects involving youth.

The age groups may be pre-school, elementary, middle school or a combination of age groups.

To apply go to the website www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com and click youth.



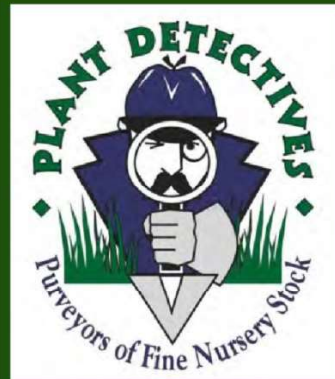
Spring Plant Sale at Buck Garden --and Earth Day Celebration! April 21 & 22, 2018

11 Layton Road, Far Hills, NJ
Saturday 10am - 5pm Sunday 12pm - 5pm

Enhance your garden with spectacular new plant treasures, and help celebrate Earth Day. Plant sale will feature many choice selections of perennials, ferns, native plants, alpines, and woody plants, as well as troughs.

Garden Lectures begin at 1pm; Free Guided Tours at 2pm.

*Co-sponsored by the Watnong Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society and Somerset County Park Commission's Leonard J. Buck Garden.
Please visit www.somersetcountyparks.org or call 908 234-2677 for more information.*



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The Frelinghuysen Arboretum Upcoming Programs



23rd ANNUAL PLANT SALE
Saturday & Sunday,
May 5 & 6
9 am - 3 pm

*What will you find at The Friends
of The Frelinghuysen's Plant Sale?*

- 1000's of well-bred plants for your garden
- perennials, annuals, shrubs, trees, vines, tropicals, herbs, and deer resistant plants too!

JOIN US FOR TWO TALKS:

APRIL 14TH— Plant Sale Preview and Preorder
APRIL 21ST—PHS Gold Medal Plants
Check our website for all the details

- Cash, Check & Credit Cards •

WHEN GARDENS DON'T HEAL (MARCH 17)
Dr. Robert Lyons, former Director of Longwood Gardens Graduate Programs in Public Horticulture, talks about the role of gardens in recovery following personal loss.

PRESSED BOTANICALS WORKSHOP (MARCH 20)
Make a bookmark or collage with Botanical Artist Beth Murphy, using pressed leaves, flower petals, and grasses.

GROWING SMALL FRUIT (APRIL 12)
Peter Nitzsche teaches you how to grow strawberries, blueberries, blackberries and more. Take home Rutgers Scarlet strawberry plants.

TUBBS LECTURE AT WILLOWWOOD (APRIL 29)
Allan Armitage, perennial plant guru, renowned author and entertaining lecturer, on "Tales from the Garden."

THE WORLD OF PEONIES (MAY 20)
Dan Furman lectures on botany, history, and cultivation of peonies, with plants to buy from Cricket Hill Nursery.



All programs require pre-registration.
Visit arboretumfriends.org for details.
353 East Hanover Avenue • Morristown, NJ 07960
973.326.7603 Registration/Membership

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morris county park commission



Garden Club of Spring Lake

Annual Seaside Garden Tour
Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Tickets \$30/ Day of Tour \$35

Purchase Tickets in Spring Lake at
Kate&Co Camel's Eye
J.Mclaughlin Frederick Galleries
Clayton Limousine
Day of Tour at Spring Lake Train Station
Warren Avenue

For Advance Tickets/Info call:
908-415-9802 / 732-882-6281
Or visit our website at:
Gardenclubofspringlake.org



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*The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt,
head in the sun, heart with nature. To
nurture a garden is to feed not just the
body, but the soul.*

— Alfred Austin

“Supporting Our Local Clubs“

[Garden Club of New Jersey Facebook Page](#)

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