

## News Leaf - Summer 2018

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From: Garden Club of NJ (gardenclubofnewjersey@wildapricot.org)

To: kazickas55@aol.com

Date: Monday, May 7, 2018 at 01:04 PM EDT

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Contact News Leaf by emailing: [newsleaf.gcnj@gmail.com](mailto:newsleaf.gcnj@gmail.com)

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# NEWS LEAF - May 2018

Summer Issue

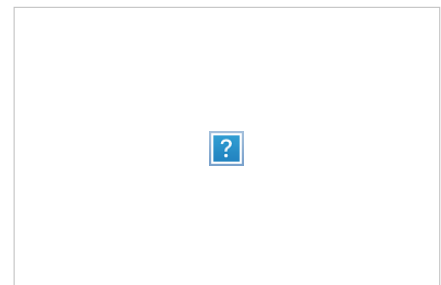
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## President's Letter

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### “Supporting Our Local Clubs”

Our local clubs continue to impress, with their projects and the impact they make in their communities. One club recognized a blighted street in their community; gardens were unkempt, homes were in disrepair, several houses were for sale. The club members wanted to make a difference, and they came up with the idea of placing planters with beautiful flowers along the street. Slowly, homeowners started improving their properties, repairs were made, houses for sale were purchased and today it is a street where residents want to live and are proud of their neighborhood. Another club noticed an outpatient mental health facility that had little to no landscaping. The club received permission to plant in an atrium area. Club members decorated seasonally with plantings and gardening accessories. Slowly, all sorts of wonderful things began to happen. Employees, their families and patients began adding to the garden, pumpkins in the Autumn, bulbs in the Spring, evergreen in the Winter. One of our club's, located at the shore, has a primary fundraiser in the form of a donation letter sent to the residents. Their community is so pleased with all the garden club does to beautify their community, they are happy to provide the financial support. Most of our shore clubs plant and maintain the many planters we enjoy at the Jersey beaches.



Thank you to all our clubs who continually find ways to make a difference with “Flower Power”.

*Louise Davis*

## Magical Moments

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Jane Bersch, Judges Chair  
Pat Bowker, Clerks Chair

Members of Garden Club of New Jersey indeed created “Magical Moments” for all who visited the New Jersey Convention and Expo Center in late February. Chaired by Carol English with an enthusiastic and talented Committee assisting her, the Standard Flower Show was a delight to see. A pair of castle towers welcomed the visitors and set the mood. Congratulations are extended to the many winners in the Design Division, the Horticulture Division, the Botanical Arts Division, the Youth Division and the Education Division.

Top Award winners were:

### Design Division:

Pat Bowman: *Designer’s Choice Award, Award of Design Excellence*  
Seaweeder’s Garden Club of Bay Head and Mantoloking: *Club Competition Award*  
Gail Bassolino: *Petite Award*  
Jane Bersch: *Table Artistry Award*

Diana Reinhardt: *“Magical Moments” Flower Show Award*  
*Blue Ribbons*: Florence Leyssene, Alice Dickson, Cecelia Millea, Teddie Falcone, Peggy Koehler, Helga Fontus, Rita Smith, Marina Kerber, Cythia Corhan-Aitlem & Barbara Baletti  
*90+*: Cranford Garden Club, Navesink Garden Club, Carol English(2), Louise Davis, Debbie Moran, Sandra Nielsen(2), Gail Bassolino, Marina Kerber, Mary Anne Finch, Mary Warshauer, Jeannie Geremia, Pat Bowker(2), Pam Sutton, Barbara Mullin, & Teddie Falcone

### Horticulture Division:

Katie Oh: *Award of Horticulture Excellence & Grower’s Choice*: Euphorbia milli ‘American Beauty’  
Cecelia Millea, D. Swaim, Florine Lewis, Teddie Falcone, Allen Juba & Debra Rzemichlewski: *Grower’s Choice Award*  
Jean Pizutelli, Jane Bersch and Beth Siano: *Arboreal Awards*  
*Blue Ribbons*: Mary Carpenter(2), Peggy Koehler(2), Ann Harris(2), Debra Reinhardt(2), Louise Davis(2), Elaine Jungunet(2), Gene Reinhardt, Marian Nation, Luann Dewolfe, Barbara Majewski, Charlotte Ryden, Jean Pizutelli, Jane Bersch(2), Gail Bassolino, Mary Anne Finch, Gotti Kelley(2), Barbara Zielsdorff, Peggy Smith(2), Stephanie Karoly, Ingrid Fair, Debbie Moran(2), M. Carpenter, B. Brighan, Alice Dickson(2), A. Vacciaro(3), Allen Juba(10), D. Cunniff, Toni Ward(2), Mary McGeown, J. Mattia(2), Florine Lewis(3), Pamela Siana, Mary Lou Phifer(2), Alicia Vacchiano(2), Chuck Gill, Marianne Smoke, Joan Lippi(2), Debra Rzemichlewski, K. Wintersteen  
*90+*: Pat Scarano(2), Toni Ward, M. Carpenter, D. Cunniff, Alice Dickson, P. Kubdrudge-Inger, Allen Juba(2), Alicia Vacchiano(2), Barbara Mullin(2), Peggy Koehler(2), Teddie Falcone, Jill Brown, Stephanie Karoly, Linda Williams, Florence Leyssene

### Botanical Arts Division:

Linda Pastorino: *Botanical Arts Artistic Craft Award*  
Kerstin Katko & Stephanie Karoly: *Botanical Arts Horticulture Award* (2 awarded)

**K. Smith: *Botanical Arts Design Award***

*Blue Ribbons:* Debbie Moran, Alicia Vacchiano, Janine Voell, Eileen Sniffen, Teddie Falcone(2), Joan Lippi, Peggy Koehler, kay Cross, Toni Ward, Nancy Nicholls

*90+:* Alicia Vacchiano, Pat Scarano, Jill Brown, Peggy Koehler, Stephanie Karoly, Linda Williams, Florence Leysene

**Barbara Balotti: *Botanical Arts Photography Award***

*Blue Ribbons:* Barb Spellmeyer(2), D. Swaim, Diana Reinhardt, Janine Voell, M. Czachowski

**Youth Exhibits:**

Abby Brown, Lila Spadaro, Nicole Fezenko: *Youth Top Exhibitor Award in Horticulture* D. Karthikeyan, S. Nicholoso, A. Sabe: *Youth Top Exhibitor Award in Design*

L. Spadaro, R. Dupois, E. Sylvester: *Youth Top Exhibitor Award I Botanical Arts* J. Ouma, E. Sylvester:

*Magical Moments Youth Award for Photography* (only 2 awarded) Karen Nash Memorial Butterfly Garden Club: *Youth Top Exhibitor Award for Educational Exhibits*

*Blue Ribbons:* Arline Bound, E. Sylvester, N. Fezenko, E. Wei, S. Lopez, J. Taneja, S. Marcella, A. Stumpf, A. Strauss, R. Dupois, C. Strauss, G. Dooley, M. Law, M. Morabito, L. Spadaro, A. Saba, L. Holiday, N. Kahn, M. Marino, C. Sbar, I. Marotta, J. Borin, L. Miles, M. Hann, N. Boms, C. Szabomarch, J. Marrucca

**Education Division:**

Blue Star Exhibit: J. Cichalski & Lois Johann *Educational Top Exhibitor Award*

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## GCNJ Insurance

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Many of our clubs provide insurance for their members/events through GCNJ. It is provided by Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. at a cost of \$5.00 per member. Our agent is Joanie Silver [Joanic\\_Silver@aig.com](mailto:Joanic_Silver@aig.com).



Questions frequently arise concerning the insurance. *From our agent: The intent of the policy is to cover the premise and club members for property and liability. The intent is to cover small events at or near the insured's premises as it involves the insured and its members. While it is not excluded on the policy specifically, the intent is not for bus trips into NYC for non-members. If your dues are not paid to GCNJ you will not be able to obtain certificates of insurance, in essence there will be no coverage.*

**To request a certificate- send to [certrequests@aig.com](mailto:certrequests@aig.com). Turn around time is 24 hours from receipt of request.** If your request is urgent, please indicate as "Rush" to receive within 1 hour

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## NGC Award Winners

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**Espoma**

Congratulations to the Wall Township Garden Club who received a \$250 grant from Espoma.

Their grant will be used for plantings around a human sundial project they are doing in partnership with their town community farm.

### **Plant America**

The Green Thumb Garden Club of Cranford received a NGC Plant America grant to revitalize a water feature in their Community Center. They are partnering with two other garden clubs as well as a number of community groups to complete this project. NGC received 418 grant applications and only 28 grants were awarded. Congratulations!



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## **GCNJ Board Openings**

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Would you like to join the GCNJ Board? There are a few openings. If you are interested, let me know.

*Louise Davis*

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## **Our Environment: Celebrating Earth Day**

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*Excerpts from an article by Ingrid Justick*

Suggestions on how to keep our earth healthy:

- Buy Locally and Organically Grown Produce. It can take 1 gallon of gasoline for 30 pounds of food shipped across the country to reach your shopping cart.
- Do not buy bottled water. Plastic bottles do not biodegrade and our best recycling efforts cannot keep up with multitude of bottles created.
- Save water. A low flow showerhead can save 50% of the water used.
- Choose durables over disposables
- In your garden. Grow organic, plant heirloom seeds and increase biodiversity.



Reduce, Recycle, Repair.

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## **93rd Annual GCNJ Meeting**

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The 93rd Annual GCNJ Annual Meeting

"Back to the Shore"  
June 7, 2018  
Bridgewater Marriott Hotel

Hope to see you there!

For more information and to register go to our website: [gardenclubofnj.com](http://gardenclubofnj.com)

The registration deadline is May 31.

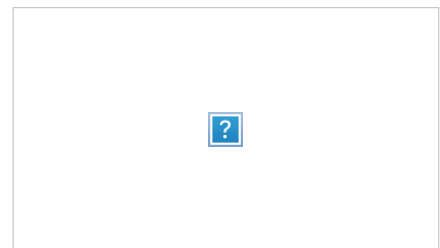
Please Note: all attendees must register online via the new GCNJ Registration system. You can pay online or pay by check, to be mailed, received by May 31st.

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## Calendar of Events

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A brand new Calendar of Events for our Local Clubs will be launched soon!. We are in the final testing phase of delivering a "robust" online calendar of events that will provide quick and easy facilitation and up to the minute news of what's happening at each club with regards to major events such as: fundraisers, garden walks and events open to the public. Each club president will be notified shortly on when and how to share their events. Exciting!



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## Membership Renewal

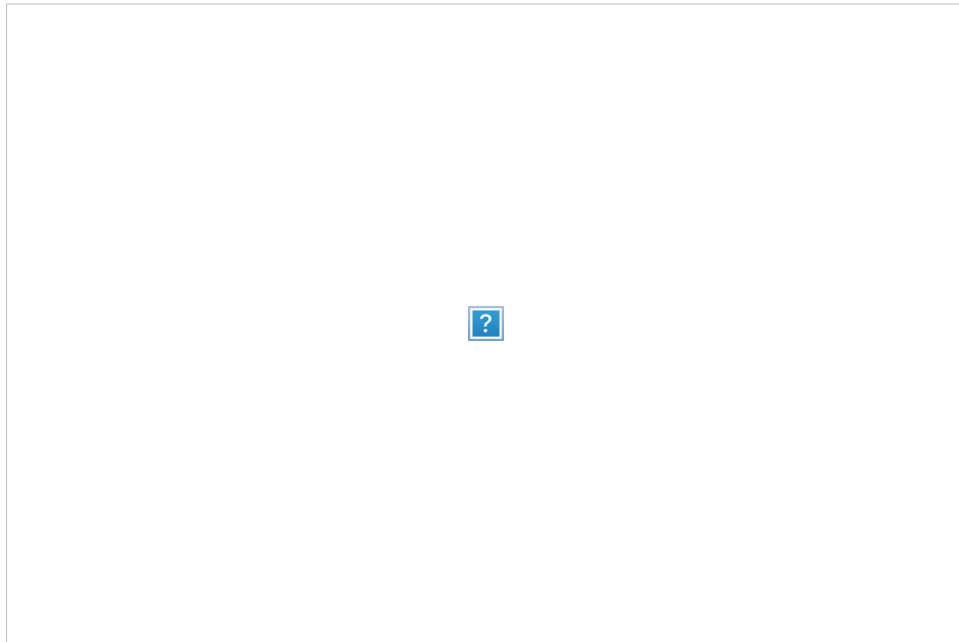
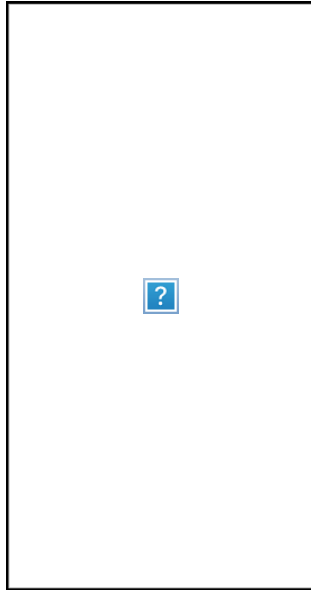
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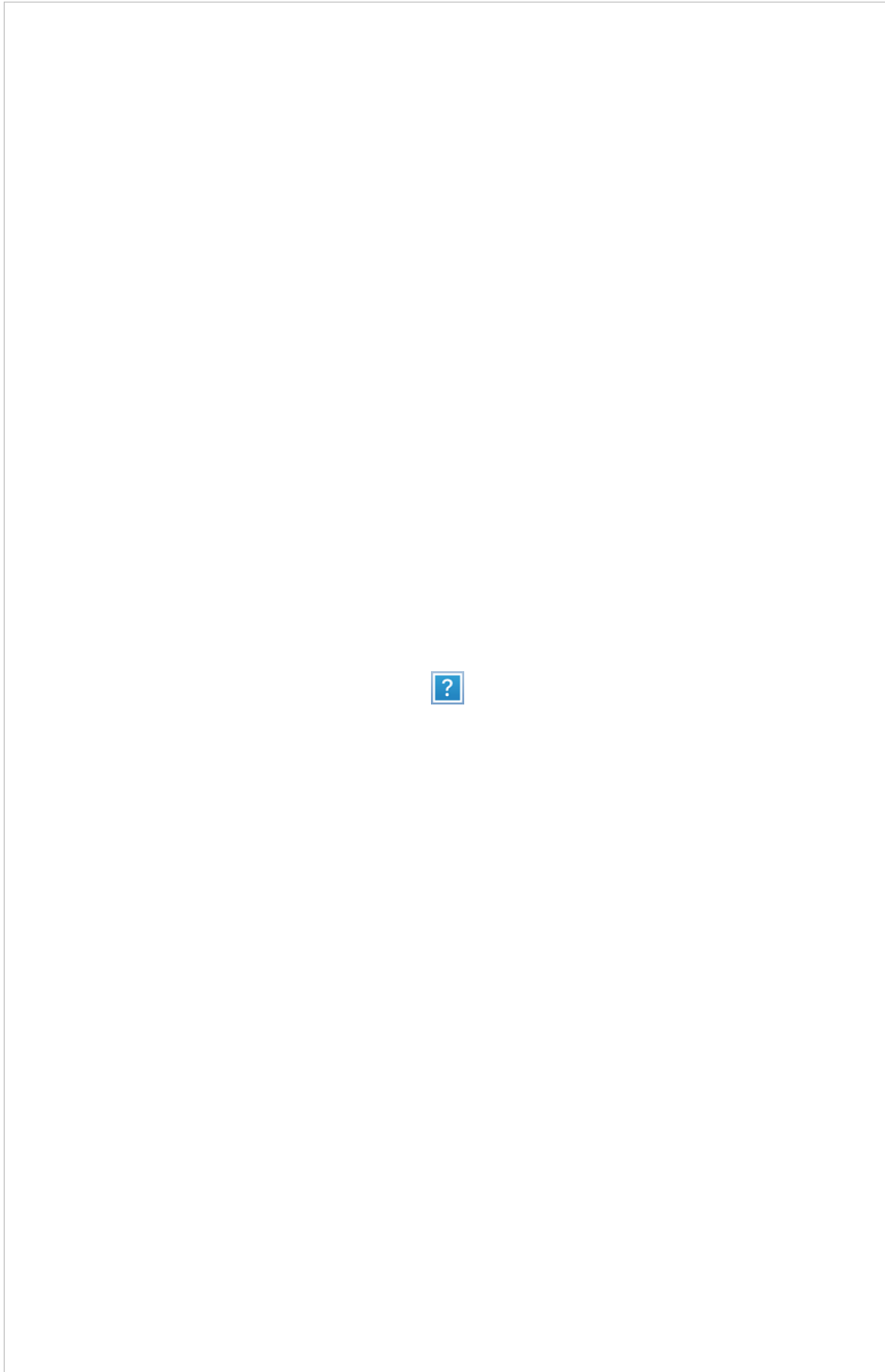
Membership Renewal is nearly finished. A special thanks to all our clubs for their assistance and support with our new registration system. For further information, send an e-mail to:

[Membership.GCNJ@gmail.com](mailto:Membership.GCNJ@gmail.com)

Note: The registration is a two step process:

1. After updating all your members names on the official roster, you simply press the "renew my membership" button in the system. This replaces the prior step of having to email your member roster to GCNJ
2. You send a check with dues payment to the current GCNJ Treasurer, as outlined in the registration tutorial. Please remember to write your club name and total members in the memo section of the check. Thank you!







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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“*

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