



## Garden Club of New Jersey

# News Leaf

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Deadline for next issue is April 1, 2016, covering the months of May, June and July



## President's Message



"Youth is the pollen that blows through the sky, and does not ask why."

*Stephen Vincent Benet*

The New Year has arrived and **Garden Club of New Jersey is on Facebook!**

You are able to post your garden club pictures, events and stay in daily contact (if you desire) with National Garden Club or GCNJ and with gardening friends

everywhere! This is a fresh face for GCNJ and a real service to all club members.

In addition, congratulations to Jeannie Geremia, who led GCNJ's fight to designate the Black swallowtail Butterfly as New Jersey's official State Butterfly! As she says on page 7, **"Yes, We Did It!"**

2016 celebrates 100 years of Rutgers Gardens, "Honoring Our Past, Cultivating Our Future". GCNJ will offer "Dig It at Rutgers Gardens, Part II", an educational workshop, "Pruning Pointers", on Thursday, March 3 at 10 am. Rain/snow date is Friday March 11. Registration form is on the GCNJ website at [www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com](http://www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com). Just imagine following Rutgers Gardens Director, Bruce Crawford, around the beautiful gardens, learning and then applying various pruning tips to help with your landscape needs. Last autumn's Bulb workshop's participants demanded an encore! Come and join the excitement.

A **Youth Conference** at Holly House is in the planning stages. Learn how to plan youth activities to engage the younger generation and lead them to a love of all things green. Gardens, from "Fairy" to "Rain" and gardens where bees and native plants thrive, will be covered so that we may reach our youth. This conference is open to those who would like to know more about GCNJ as well as Master Gardeners and other garden organizations. Gardening opens whole new areas of exploration,

*continued on page 2*

**SEND ALL  
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*President's Annual Message (continued)*

awareness, enjoyment, amazement and learning for children. Attend the Youth Conference and learn how to spark an interest and love of nature in children, not only to improve and maintain our environment but for the sheer fun of 'digging in the dirt'. **"Youth Lead the Way"** to all things beautiful.

GCNJ District meetings are being planned by your District Directors. Please note: These gatherings are for all members of garden clubs, not just presidents/officers. It is a great opportunity for networking and bringing innovative ideas back to your club and also gives you some social contact with other clubs and members in your district.

May 2-6, 2016, brings the NGC's National Convention to Grand Rapids, Michigan. Experience incredible tours, the best speakers our country offers and just plain fun. **Warning: It is addictive due to the extreme excellence of the experience!**

This past holiday season, Drumthwacket was once again beautifully decorated in botanical wonder by New Jersey garden clubs. Under the strong leadership of Elizabeth 'Tille' Emmert, our talented garden club members created a breathtaking display. Put it on your bucket list for 2016! Contact Tille at [temmert4@optonline.net](mailto:temmert4@optonline.net) to let her know if your club would like to be part of the celebration in this coming holiday season.

The preparations for our February State Flower Show, "CELEBRATE! – A Party for the Senses", sponsored by Townsquare Expo are going full force. The powerhouse here is Jeannie Geremia who helps to organize the extreme talent and creativity in our clubs and individual members. What an opportunity this provides to highlight our organization for thousands of fascinated attendees.

NGC sponsored Environmental Studies School, Series I, Course III, will be held on March 21-22 at Holly House. In addition, Flower Show School, Course III, will take place at Holly House on April 5-7. Please don't miss this opportunity to educate yourself and enhance your club.

And as the culmination of a great year, GCNJ will hold its Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 9, at the Bridgewater Marriott featuring Kirk Brown presenting Frederick L. Olmsted, the great American Landscape Architect. It promises to be a historically fascinating and dramatically inspiring performance by this friend of GCNJ. Anne M. Bucher, our CAR Director, will also join us. Anne believes that by encouraging and teaching our members how to serve as leaders, we will strengthen our clubs and thereby secure our heritage.

Oh, and by the way, the boutiques at the Annual Meeting are shopping heaven.

Warmest regards,

*Susan*

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."

*Marcus Tullius Cicero*



## Judges Credentials

The GCNJ Symposium is scheduled for May 17-18, 2016, at the National Conference Center located at the Holiday Inn in East Windsor. Two outstanding instructors, Char Mutschler and Gay Austin, will be joining us. Anyone may attend and all garden club members are urged to come.

Judges who plan to take the Symposium for credit should note the following:

1. Accredited Judges who are refreshing must submit a completed FSS Form #13E, a Symposium Registration Form and the \$190 fee to me.
2. Life Judges who are moving up to Master status must submit a completed FSS Form 15E, a Symposium Registration Form and the \$190 fee.
3. Master Judges who will audit the Symposium must submit a completed FSS Form #15E and the \$180 fee.
4. Life and Master Judges require one horticulture exhibit and one design exhibit per year since their last Symposium.
5. All Forms, Symposium Registration Forms and check must be received by May 2, 2016. Signed Schedules and entry cards are not required to be included in the mailing.

The brochure with information on the hotel, time schedule, registration form and all pertinent information on the Symposium can be obtained on the GCNJ website, [www.gardenclubofnewjersey.org](http://www.gardenclubofnewjersey.org). If you are unable to obtain the brochure, contact Brenda Bingham, Symposium Chairman, at [bbing@com-cast.net](mailto:bbing@com-cast.net) for a copy of the brochure including the registration form. **Do plan on joining us for two educational and fun days.**

Jane Bersch  
GCNJ Judges Credentials Chair  
Symposium Registrar  
[janebersch@aol.com](mailto:janebersch@aol.com)



## CAR AWARD RULES FOR PERENNIAL BLOOM AWARD HONORING LONG-TIME GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS

We, in our garden clubs, have been privileged to have long-time members who, like the faithful perennials in our gardens, have made our clubs grow and bloom with their continuous support of our goals and objectives. Serving as officers and chairs over the years, their love of gardening has planted many a seed for garden club programs and events, while their enthusiastic leadership has inspired members to nurture these seeds into successful bloom.

In grateful appreciation for their years of support, a PERENNIAL BLOOM AWARD is to be presented to them and a tree or shrub is to be planted in their honor. The Applications and Certificates are available on the CAR Website at [www.ngccar.org](http://www.ngccar.org). Clubs may give more than one Award. Club Deadline is March 1.

### TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR GOLDEN PERENNIAL BLOOM AWARD:

1. Clubs must choose their PERENNIAL BLOOM candidate by March 1 and have the option of sending the candidate's application to the District director by **April 1**. Up to 4 pages of supporting data may be included, as well as a picture of winner.
2. District Directors, after reviewing all club applications, must select ONE winner and send this application to State Awards Chair by **May 1**.
3. State Awards Chair will select ONE State Winner, and send this Application to CAR Perennial Bloom Chair, Adrienne Langan, by the deadline of **June 1**. Applicants for this award are not eligible for the NGC Award of Honor, which has broad requirements.





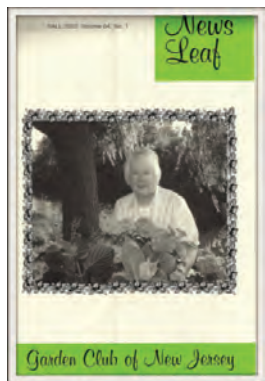
## Holidays at Drumthwacket Continues 25-Year Tradition



The *Holidays at Drumthwacket* take a nostalgic look back at the more than 25-year tradition of decorating the Governor's official residence in Princeton. The Drumthwacket Foundation continued the annual custom by partnering with the Garden Club of New Jersey and Garden Club of America to adorn the residence for the holidays.

The Garden Clubs decorated the residence using organic arrangements to festively adorn each room. In addition to the Seaweeds Garden Club of Bay Head and Mantoloking, the Garden Club of Mountain Lakes, the Keyport Garden Club, the Warren Garden Club and Chair, Tille Emmert and other members of the Executive Board of Garden Club of New Jersey, the Garden Club of Somerset Hills and the Garden Club of Morristown, from the Garden Club of America, participated for the first time.

In recognition of this year's nostalgic holiday theme, GCNJ honored Wini Applegate, of the Seaweeds Garden Club of Bay Head and Mantoloking, who made it possible for GCNJ to have a significant role in decorating Drumthwacket each holiday season. For over 25 years, due to Wini, we have had the privilege of showcasing the New Jersey Governor's residence. Wini, (picture to the left) a past president of the GCNJ, has been the magnet for this time-honored project. In 2003, she guided the GCNJ in decorating to the theme of, "Christmas Around the World".



***What follows is a description of what attendees saw as they walked through the first floor of the***

***Governor's residence in Princeton. Look for a Smilebox of **Holidays at Drumthwacket** on the opening page of this mailing.***

**Foyer:** The Garden Club of Somerset Hills supported the "pollinator movement" in their entry hall design. Ornamental honeybees, Monarch butterflies, cardinals and Downy woodpeckers on garlands covering stair banisters and lintels, nestled in a standing Christmas tree and provided dashes of color to a simple scheme using green, white and brown. Orchids and amaryllis massed in graceful containers along with fresh evergreens strewn with pine cones and fruit, white poinsettias and touches of brown satin ribbon completed the elegant design.

**The Dining Room:** The Seaweeds drew their inspiration from the hand-painted wall panels commissioned by the Drumthwacket Foundation in the 1980's. Focusing on the panel's green background and the peach flower blossoms, the peach hue was darkened to a sienna/cinnamon shade in keeping with the season. With this color scheme in mind, the Seaweeds worked with five different evergreens and berries for the floral arrangements. Mint julep cups with boxwood topiaries were at each place setting, as well as throughout the dining room. The seashell and pine cone ornaments on the tree were a nod to The Seaweeds' home.

**Parlor:** The Garden Club of Morristown created festive floral decorations for the parlor using a preponderance of natural material. A color combination of green, white and gold complemented the period furniture, rugs and historic colors used throughout the c. 1835 residence. The floral decorations were positioned to accommodate holiday entertaining at Drumthwacket. The two mantles were adorned with white orchids, greens, lemon topiaries



*continued on page 5*

## Holidays at Drumthwacket (continued)

and other natural material. Smaller arrangements were placed on the lamp and side tables. The addition of graceful garden ornaments added elegance.

**Music Room:** The Executive Board of the Garden Club of New Jersey was excited to enhance the music room, Drumthwacket's largest open space. Exquisite orchids set the mood for a symphony in elegance upon entering the room. Orchids lined the mantelpiece complimenting orchid plants on the piano.

**Library:** The Garden Club of Mountain Lakes festooned the magnificent library in traditional holiday style. The salmon, pear green, red and burgundy colors played beautifully off the stone and woodwork in this wonderful space. The three holiday trees were brimming with classic ornaments and glistening natural touches, while the soaring fireplace rang in the season with its spectacular wreath, highlighted by fresh blooms.

**Governor's Study:** Keyport Garden Club, which is situated on the Raritan Bay, cut and dried hydrangeas and luminaria from their members' gardens which were then artfully turned into elegant holiday pieces. Preserved cream-colored roses and orchids were interspersed throughout their arrangements to add elegance and brightness to the Governor's Study. Dogwood red twigs, also from a Keyport Garden Club member, created a gentle flow to the arrangements. In addition, the white vestibule was decorated by the club to entice visitors into the Governor's Study.

**The Residence Wreaths:** The Garden Club of Warren designed simple yet elegant wreaths to enhance the beauty of Drumthwacket and compliment the designs provided by the other participating garden clubs. The wreaths were found on the windows throughout the various areas which the public visited and also at the entrance gate.

More information about Drumthwacket may be seen at [www.Drumthwacket.org](http://www.Drumthwacket.org).



### The Allenhurst Garden Club

Presents:

#### "A Walk Down Memory Lane"

Vintage Fashions from 1860's-1950's

Luncheon and Boutique

**Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at  
11:30 AM**

Mr. C's Bistro on Allen Avenue  
and the Ocean in Allenhurst

\$40.00 per ticket

Checks are payable to Allenhurst Garden  
Club, PO Box 282, Allenhurst, NJ 07711

Limited Seating

For further information call  
732-531- 0221

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## Unfluttering support for native Jerseyan; accessibility gives black swallowtail the edge as New Jersey's official butterfly!

*By James M. O'Neill of The Record*

The Legislature was unanimous in choosing the black swallowtail as the state's official butterfly. It lives its entire life in New Jersey and is found in all 21 counties. Finally, something New Jersey's Democrats and Republicans can apparently agree on - a butterfly.

The Assembly, in an impressive lockstep vote of 68-0, crowned the species the state's official butterfly this month, despite plenty of other worthy options, among them the tiger swallowtail, great spangled fritillary and Hessel's hairstreak. The black swallowtail topped the fluttering heap for a number of reasons. It spends its entire life cycle in the state; it is easy to attract to suburban gardens, and it is ubiquitous, living in all 21 counties, including Bergen and Passaic. With the designation, the black swallowtail joins the ranks of New Jersey's other "official" symbols: the state tree (red oak), bird (eastern goldfinch), flower (violet), bug (honeybee), animal (horse), fish (brook trout), fruit (blueberry), and, yes, even the state shell (knobbed whelk).



"It's a great choice, especially for a state that's so built up, because you can find it in any back yard," said Don Torino, President of the Bergen County Audubon Society. "I see them in my yard in Moonachie, and we get them in our butterfly gardens in Teaneck and Overpeck County Park."

The species, found in much of the United States east of the Rockies, has a wingspan of 3 inches. Its wings are black with a blaze of blue between two rows of yellow spots. There is a bright red spot with a black bull's eye at the bottom of the wings. The larva — or caterpillar — is green with black bands and yellow spots.

The black swallowtail's flight to elevated status began in 2013, when Jeannie Geremia of the Garden Club of New Jersey read an article on butterflies in *Birds & Blooms Magazine*. She was shocked to learn that 27 states had official state butterflies — but not New Jersey. She phoned the Garden Club's President, Barbara Mullin and said, "Let's launch a campaign to designate a state butterfly." Geremia and Mullin thought the black swallowtail would be the ideal choice. "It's just beautiful, and the easiest species for anyone to follow through its life cycle, especially for schoolchildren," Geremia said. Since the species can be brought inside as a caterpillar, fed, stored in a cool area during its chrysalis phase, then brought back into the classroom in spring as it emerges as a butterfly, it is an excellent species for educators to use as a teaching tool.

What's more, it is easily spotted even in the state's urban areas, including North Jersey. "The favorite host plants for their caterpillars are parsley, dill and fennel, so anyone with a spice garden could find it munching in their yard," said Mike Gochfeld, a Rutgers professor who has co-written a book about New Jersey butterflies. It also likes Queen

*continued on page 7*





## Unfluttering support for native Jerseyan (*continued*)

Anne's Lace, a common roadside weed.

Geremia brought her idea to the North Jersey Butterfly Club. "They were thrilled that we were pushing this," she said. The club discussed the matter at several of its meetings, as did local garden clubs and butterfly lovers across the state.

Though she had seen a black swallowtail only in photos, Assemblywoman Marlene Caride (D-Ridgefield), was the prime sponsor of the bill that the Assembly passed. The State Senate had approved a companion bill 28-0 last year. "With this designation we're trying to teach the public about the importance of pollinators and how their decline is significant for New Jersey because they contribute to our ability to produce the fruits and vegetables of the Garden State," Caride said.

### Worthy rivals

Another species that was discussed as potentially worthy was the now-threatened monarch butterfly, famous for its annual fall migration through the United States to wintering grounds in Mexico. "I have nothing against the black swallowtail, but the monarch is being most threatened with extinction," said Jeff Tittel of the New Jersey Sierra Club, a monarch backer. But the iconic orange and black monarch is most prevalent in the Midwest. "It belongs to everybody and is not a particularly New Jersey species," Gochfeld said. "Besides, seven other states have already designated it as their official species," he added.

The bright-yellow tiger swallowtail was another option — but five states had already declared it their official butterfly. "What's more, it feeds in the tops of sassafras and tulip trees, so they are less visible in the caterpillar stage," Gochfeld said.

The great spangled fritillary, a colorful orange species with black and white spots, was also promoted. A selling point was that, in the caterpillar stage, it feeds on the leaves of violets — the state flower. "But they feed at night and people don't see them that much," Geremia said, "And the butterfly doesn't live in South Jersey."

Some fans pushed for the Hessel's hairstreak, which, while not unique to New Jersey, was first discovered as a new species in the state in the 1950s. It is the size of a thumbnail and its wings are a distinctive green — but it feeds only on white cedars in the swamps of the Pine Barrens and is not easily accessible to the general public.

No butterfly species is endemic, or unique, to New Jersey, but a few live in the state and in only a few other places. These include the Georgia satyr and the dotted skipper. But because they are less common — and, with their gray and beige coloring, not particularly attractive — they did not gain support. "They're not very prepossessing in appearance," Gochfeld said diplomatically.

"There were other worthy candidates, other nominees," Gochfeld said. "But like a political race, the black swallowtail quickly garnered a lot of support."

## Yes, We Did It! The Black Swallowtail Butterfly is New Jersey's Official State Butterfly!



Congratulations to New Jersey and the GCNJ, as our long, proud history of advocating for nature, wildlife and the environment in our great Garden State has culminated in another success. The GCNJ helped to have the goldfinch designated as New Jersey's Official State Bird in 1935 and then again in 1950, we helped to have the red oak designated New Jersey's Official State Tree. Our predecessors would be proud that we were able to get this historic Bill S939/A2913 passed. You might be surprised to know that there were 9,069 bills introduced in the 2014-2015 New Jersey State Legislature and only 385 were passed into law—including ours.

We did it and can do even more. Go to NGC's website at [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org), click on the News & Events section on the Home Page and then click on "Million Pollinator Garden Challenge". Scroll down to Resources and then to "Inviting Butterflies into Your Garden". You will find a 16-page booklet that has just been published containing all the information you need to create butterfly gardens. It costs \$3.00 in hard copy or it can be downloaded.

Twenty-eight states currently have an Official State Butterfly and New Jersey will now be able to join that list, knowing that GCNJ was instrumental in making it happen.

Jeannie Geremia  
GCNJ Butterflies & BeeGAP Chair  
[jeannie42@earthlink.net](mailto:jeannie42@earthlink.net)



## “Celebrate! – A Party for the Senses”

“Celebrate” is the Word of the Year for 2016, and we will be starting the party at our Garden Club of New Jersey Standard Flower Show. If you’ve never attended one of our flower shows, trust me, you don’t want to miss this one. It’s our 14th flower show with MacEvents and now Townsquare Expos. For those of you who haven’t attended this event in a long time, you are in for a major surprise. It has grown by leaps and bounds and we are pulling out all stops this year as we celebrate the Black Swallowtail Butterfly as the new official New Jersey State Butterfly. See my article on page 7.

You will be inspired by each and every Division of this fabulous flower show. Pat Bowker has written an amazing schedule and included every holiday and celebration you can think of. Diana Kazazis has written a youth schedule with “Bugdominiums”, “Butterfly-ing in the Courtyard”, a youth photography section, visits from Smokey the Bear and Woodsy Owl and so much more. Our Youth Chair, Bob Markey, will oversee the fantastic “Great Zucchini Race” – a “Grow-em, Race’em, and Eat’m Competition” brought back by public demand!

Come check out our spectacular Design Division where we’re in the Holiday Party mood. You’ll come away with terrific ideas for your own holiday parties for sure. Joan Lippi has an amazing array of innovative classes in the Horticulture Division including a new Club Competition in Displays. Meet and greet our members from clubs throughout the state and even take part as an exhibitor or docent. You’ll be glad you did. We still have openings, so check out the schedule on the GCNJ website at [www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com](http://www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com). Click on “Flower Shows” on the listing on the left side of the page and then click on the schedule.

Jeannie Geremia  
GCNJ 2016 Flower Show Chair  
[jeannie42@earthlink.net](mailto:jeannie42@earthlink.net)





Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.  
[www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com](http://www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com)  
Member of Central Atlantic Region &  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Presents...

### “Celebrate – A Party for the Senses”

A Standard Flower Show



As part of The New Jersey Flower and Garden Show  
Sponsored by Townsquare Expos  
**February 11 – 14, 2016**  
The New Jersey Convention and Expo Center  
93 Sunfield Avenue  
Edison, New Jersey 08837

Entrance Fees: [www.macevents.com](http://www.macevents.com)

Standard Flower Show Dates and Times:  
Thursday, February 11 (1 pm – 8 pm)  
Friday, February 12 (10 am – 8 pm)  
Saturday, February 13 (10 am – 8 pm)  
Sunday, February 14 (10 am – 5:30 pm)





Can't wait to race!



## Tips for Entering Horticulture at the GCNJ Flower Show

The GCNJ Standard Flower Show in Edison is just around the corner and the theme is "Celebrate! A Party for the Senses." The event's website is <http://njflowershow.com/> and the GCNJ Flower Show has been getting better and better with each passing year. If you've never come out to enjoy all the talented designers and the beautiful flowers, please consider attending or entering this year because it is always a most welcome breath of spring.

Most of us have some wonderful houseplants keeping us happy through the winter. Maybe it's time you consider entering these gems at the Flower Show. Participating is a lot of fun as well as educational for both you and the public that attend the show. There are many GCNJ members available to assist you and answer your questions both ahead of time and on the day of entry (2/10/16). Here are a few tips to help you to feel more comfortable as you navigate the waters of a flower show.

1. **The schedule:** First, and foremost, **read the schedule**. See pages 4 and 12 for rules. An updated schedule can be found at <http://floramity.com/Alt/Host/GCNJ/FS-2016-Schedule-121515.pdf>.

2. **Conditioning:** Containers should be clean and in proportion to the plant. Top-dress the pot for neatness of appearance. If the plant is staked, the stakes should not go above the foliage and should be unobtrusive. Remove spent leaves and blooms, dust, debris, evidence of disease or insect damage. Leaf margins may be carefully trimmed to remove damage, retaining the natural shape. Clean leaves with a nylon stocking, soft cotton, or spray with soapy water and quickly rinse. Use no commercial shine products.

3. Cut specimens will be displayed in containers supplied by the Committee.



**See picture on left.**

4. For **Begonia, Cacti and Saintpaulia (African violet)**, follow the conditioning rules in #2. For **Evergreens** select a symmetrical, balanced specimen. Cut longer than needed, but at least 10". Do NOT trim apical tip. Wash in tepid water with mild soap to remove dirt, spray residue and debris and then

rinse. **See picture on the right.** For **Ferns**, clean the container and remove injured, dried roots and loose leaflets. Rhizomes should be unbroken. Finally, for **Orchids**, clean the container with a soft, damp cloth. Use no Leaf Shine. Aerial roots extending from the pot are allowed and should be plump and firm. If they are not, trim neatly.



5. On a special entry card, you will need to supply the correct binomial name(s) of the plant material. Use reference books or online sources such as <http://www.plants.usda.gov/java/> to obtain the name(s). The common name(s) can be given as well; but to receive a top award, the specimen must have the correct binomial name. A binomial name consists of the genus and species names and may include the variety or cultivar as well. Please write these names on your entry card according to the following rules: Binomial names:

Genus (capitalized & underlined)  
species (not capitalized, but underlined)  
 variety (not capitalized, not underlined)  
 'Cultivar' (capitalized and in single quotation marks, not underlined)

Correct format:

Genus species variety/'Cultivar' (Common name)

Example: Narcissus 'Itzim'

Hedera helix 'Gold Dust'

You may use name and address stickers to quickly fill in your name and address on your entry card.

6. Transport your specimen in a box or basket generously stuffed with newspaper or plastic bags surrounding the container. Support foliage and cover loosely to protect from the cold temperatures.

If you have any questions, there are consultants listed (with their contact information) for all the Horticulture classes. Please refer to the schedule link listed in #1 above. We are all looking forward to seeing the beautiful entries from our talented garden club members!

Alice Dickson  
 Horticulture Chair  
[aliced922@gmail.com](mailto:aliced922@gmail.com)



# The Frelinghuysen Arboretum Upcoming Programs



**21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL PLANT SALE**  
**Saturday & Sunday,**  
**April 30 & May 1**

**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!

**THIS YEAR'S FOCUS:**  
**THE COLLECTOR'S GARDEN**  
**PURSUE YOUR PASSION FOR PLANTS**

- Cash, Check & Credit Cards •

## **PLANT BREEDING FOR THE HOME GARDENER** **(FEBRUARY 20)**

Rutgers professor and plant geneticist, Tom Orton, outlines the basics of plant breeding so you can execute your own home breeding program

## **BENJAMIN BLACKBURN LECTURE (FEBRUARY 13)**

Award winning author and arborist, William Bryant Logan, speaks on "Oaks—The Frame of Civilization," at this scholarship supporting event

## **6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARDEN CONFERENCE** **(MARCH 5)**

Keynote speaker—acclaimed urban gardener, Karen Washington, and a roster of great vegetable-specific sessions

## **GROWING IRIS IN THE HOME GARDEN (MARCH 10)**

Presby Memorial Iris garden staff explain the ins and outs of Iris culture and how to use them to their best effect in your garden

Plus a bevy of fabulous crafts, cooking and literature classes.



All programs require pre-registration.  
Visit [arboretumfriends.org](http://arboretumfriends.org) for details.

353 East Hanover Avenue • Morristown, NJ 07962  
973.326.7603 Registration/Membership

*enjoy the  
experience*  
morris county park commission

## Backyard Wildlife Habitat Goals

Fellow garden club members, we have our work cut out for us! We must join the millions of people across this great nation of ours that will sign onto the "Million Pollinator Garden Challenge" and register our gardens. Many of you have done so already, including GCNJ President Susan O'Donnell. Saving our environment from our own ill-advised methods of eliminating unwanted "pests", including weeds, bugs and more, has resulted in doing grave harm to our pollinators, amphibians, insects and birds. You name it--we're destroying it!



What will our legacy be to our future generations? It's definitely not too late. The great news is that we are members of the world's largest and greatest gardening organization, National Garden Clubs, Inc., who are founding members of the National Pollinator Garden Network. Check it out, register your garden and then go to <http://www.nwf.org/CertifiedWildlifeHabitat/UserAccount/SignIn> and get your yard and garden certified as an official Wildlife Habitat.

We have seen the power that GCNJ has had in

helping to obtain an Official State Butterfly, but there's so much more we can do. Please be aware of what is happening in your area. Does your municipality spray pesticides and herbicides along the roadsides, sports fields, common areas and parks? Are they mowing native plants and weeds unnecessarily? Along about July and August, do your roadsides look like a brown scorched earth, a veritable blot on the landscape? Make no mistake about it, this is an attack on the beauty and health of our pollinators, our wildlife, our pets, our children and grandchildren and, yes, us.



Why do they spray and who is doing the spraying? Is it your municipality, the power company, your neighbor, or your lawn service company? You have the power and the right to do something about it, as it is so detrimental to our health. Please help to stop it by taking action. Help us make a difference!

Jeannie Geremia  
NGC Backyard Wildlife Habitat Chair  
[jeannie42@earthlink.net](mailto:jeannie42@earthlink.net)





## Our Environment: Mindful House Cleaning

While we are enjoying the abundance of this beautiful season, let us pause and think of ways to enhance the quality of our earth. Please consider the use of the following **non-air polluting cleaners and disinfectants**, when cleaning your home.

Commercial furniture **polish** contains **poisonous solvents** that are released into the air. To avoid this, make your own! Blend 1/2 cup of lemon juice with 2/3 cup of olive oil. This mixture leaves **no wax build-up!** Dr. Bronner's **Peppermint Soap** (available in health food stores) not only cleans your kitchen and bathroom leaving a beautiful scent; it also removes pesticide residue and wax from fruit and vegetables. **Grapefruit Seed Extract** is a very potent germ killer, effective against virus, fungi and bacteria strains. **Tea Tree Oil** is a natural antiseptic, antimicrobial and antibacterial. Bon Ami Cleanser contains no **toxic chemicals**. Baking soda deodorizes and cleans.

One cup of white vinegar blended with one cup of water will clean your windows and mirrors. **Club soda** cleans and polishes stainless steel, sinks and kitchen appliances. To clean flatware, soak in club soda a few minutes, then rinse and dry.

**Make your own drain cleaner** by pouring 1/2 cup baking soda into drain; then adding 1/2 cup white vinegar and covering the drain. After 15 minutes, flush with hot water. For a **mildew and mold** cleaner, mix one tablespoon **Borax** with one cup of water.

**Chlorine** is our most dangerous **toxin**, so to whiten your laundry, add one cup of hydrogen peroxide. **Borax** is also a natural stain remover. Adding one cup of **white vinegar** to your rinse cycle will not only soften your washables but it will also remove any traces of soap.

Pet and other **stains on your carpet** are easily removed with undiluted vinegar, then "blotted" with cold water.

**Silver tarnish remover:** mix white toothpaste with a few drops of olive oil. Rub until clean and rinse in hot water.

**Brass and copper cleaner:** Two teaspoons salt, one teaspoon flour and enough vinegar to make a paste.

**Air fresheners** only "cover" offensive odors, while releasing toxic chemicals into the air. To **freshen the air naturally:** blend one cup of water with a few drops of **lavender or citrus oil**. Place in spray bottle or atomizer. Soak a cotton ball with your favorite scented natural oil and add to your vacuum cleaner bag. The entire house will smell wonderful. The scent will last at least one week with daily vacuuming.

After a day of **mindful housecleaning**, add some lavender oil to your potpourris. Lavender oil is soothing, cleansing and relaxing.

*Humankind has not woven the web of life.  
We are but one thread within it  
Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.  
All things are bound together. All things connect.  
Chief Seattle*

Ingrid Justick  
732-922-2935



### Garden Club of Spring Lake

Annual Seaside Garden Tour

Wednesday, June 29, 2016

Tickets \$25/ Day of Tour \$30  
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  
For Advance Tickets/Info call: 917-579-6213

Or visit our website at:

[Gardenclubofspringlake.org](http://Gardenclubofspringlake.org)





## The Fascination of Succulents



One group of plants that took me time to embrace was the succulents. I always thought they were interesting, but I was initially drawn to hardy perennials and woody plants. I felt the more demure succulents were best left to the specialist or collector with a greenhouse. Never, did I consider bringing them into the home for the winter nor the ease of care or propagation! How age helps to broaden our outlook on plants!

Granted, not all succulents make excellent house plants, but most will at least survive through winter's fury in a sunny southern or western windowsill before heading back outdoors come May. According to Meriam Webster, a succulent is a plant "*having fleshy tissues that conserve moisture*". These fleshy tissues actually consist of cells within the leaves or stems that are capable of expanding with the absorption and conservation of water. Botanists include modified underground structures, such as bulbs, within this category, although most gardeners isolate this group as a separate category. During the absence of rain, succulents slowly remove the water from the cells in their leaves or stems and, following extended periods of drought, the tissues look reminiscent of raisins. With rainfall, the cells rapidly reabsorb water and once again become 'plump'! The very name comes from the Latin *sucus*, meaning juice or sap, describing the watery consistency of these cells. There is no specific epicenter in the world for succulents. Instead, they are native to areas with limited rainfalls, well-drained soils and temperatures that remain above freezing – in some cases, in regions where the temperatures never dip below 40!

However, this does not infer that they are only located in hot, desert locations. Many are located at high elevations on hillsides and cliffs where the temperatures are cooler. As a result, many succulents prefer light shade during the summer months to replicate their cooler native habitat and an eastern or western windowsill during the winter.

Soils should be drained well, whether located in a container or in the ground for the summer. Irrigation should be kept to a minimum, although most plants are very tolerant of summer rainfalls, providing the

soil drains readily. Come autumn, containerized plants can be brought indoors, which is why I typically only plant one or two succulents per container in order to allow for long-term growth. Those planted in the ground can be lifted, repotted and brought indoors; or they can be propagated by leaf or stem cuttings, with the cuttings potted up and overwintered. During the winter, it is very important to keep the soil relatively dry with a thorough watering every two to three weeks, depending upon the container size. Come late March, as daylight becomes both stronger and longer, begin fertilizing monthly with a liquid fertilizer that is diluted by 50% and start to water every other week as the plants recommence growth. If the plants are to remain in containers, continue this regiment until late June or July, when seasonal growth typically slows.

One of the interesting adaptations for succulents is the leaf morphology. Most leaves of flowering plants have veins that extend throughout the leaf in a planar or 2-dimensional arrangement. The function of these veins is to bring water and minerals from the roots to the cells in the leaf and to transfer the sugars produced in the leaf to the roots. Since most leaves are only several cells thick, a 2-D arrangement works very efficiently. However, in the leaves of succulents, the leaves are thicker; the distance from a central vein to a more distal cell becomes greater when all the cells become enlarged with water, making the transfer of water, nutrients and carbohydrates less efficient. In order to improve this efficiency, the arrangement of the veins is radial or 3-dimensional, reducing the distance to the cells. Ingenious!

Contrary to what one might suspect, there are actually a huge number of plants that have adapted to these challenging sites. One of the more popular garden selections is the genera *Aeonium*, the Tree Houseleek. *Aeonium* is characterized by rosettes of paddle-shaped leaves, with roughly 35 different species that vary in height and form from ground cover to shrub. They are relatively slow growing as is evident in the etymology of the name as it comes from the Greek *Aionos* or ageless! Supposedly, the Greek botanist Pedanius Dioscorides (40-90AD) first assigned this name to the plant. *Aeonium* is primarily native to the Canary Islands, but various species are also found in Madeira, Morocco and Ethiopia. *Aeonium* is described as being monocarpic, meaning



## The Fascination of Succulents *(continued)*

that it only flowers and produces seed once in its lifetime before that individual stem and rosette dies. Fortunately, the plant produces numerous offsets at the base of the rosette, which can be separated and repotted or merely left to spread and develop a larger colony.

Of the selections available, *Aeonium arboreum*, which hails from gritty hillsides of the Canary Islands, is one of the more popular. As the species epithet implies, the plant becomes branched and assumes the form of a small tree. Plants can reach 3-4' in height, with the rosettes of foliage atop the long bare stems creating a striking addition to containers. *Aeonium arboreum* 'Atropurpureum' (pictured at right) is a 'catch-all' name for any



form that exhibits deep purple foliage. A very attractive selection from this 'catch-all' group is 'Zatkop' or 'Schwarzkopf', with the Dutch and German names respectively translating to Blackhead, a rather unflattering description for the handsome, dark purple foliage (pictured at left). When the panicles of small yellow flowers appear above the foliage, a very dramatic display results. The green forms of *Aeonium arboreum* will grow fine in partial shade, but in order for the selections

of 'Atropurpureum' and 'Zatkop' to develop the best color, they must be sited in full sun during the summer and given as much light as possible during the winter! If you wish to propagate *Aeonium arboreum* or any of its cultivars, wait till late winter and remove the more slender branches of the 'tree' (around 3/8-1/2" in diameter). Lay the stems on a benchtop in a shaded location, allowing the stem to callous over for several days, and then stick the cutting in barely damp, well-drained potting soil. Within several weeks, the stem will have rooted.



colors transitioning to crimson along the margin. As the leaf ages, the chartreuse becomes a deeper green, but the red margin is retained. The leaf rosettes can reach upwards of 5" across, although 2-3" is more common. The plants increase in size through the production of pups at the base, which root upon contact with the soil and permit the plant to spread. They typically reach around 12" in height in containers, although where hardy, it can reach heights of 36".

Another vast family of succulents is found within the genus *Echeveria*. Similar to *Aeonium*, it too is a member of the Crassulaceae or Jade Plant Family.

*Echeveria* is native from Mexico south to N.W. South America and contains approximately 180 species with numerous cultivars. It was named after the 18th century naturalist and botanical artist Atanasio Echeverria Y Godoy (1751-1808) in 1828 by the Swiss botanist Augustin Pyramus de Candolle (1778-1841) who was highly impressed with Echeverria's drawings of this plant. The flowers are typically orange in color and appear on short spikes or cymes that arise from the leaf axil. In general, the



plants are easily propagated from leaf cuttings or from offsets that appear at the base of the plant. In fact, often a leaf will fall to the ground or table top and within a few weeks it

will begin to generate roots without any prompting (photo above left)!

Although this genus grows in warm equatorial locations, it does not prefer a garden location in full baking sun, but rather a site in partial shade.

*continued on page 14*

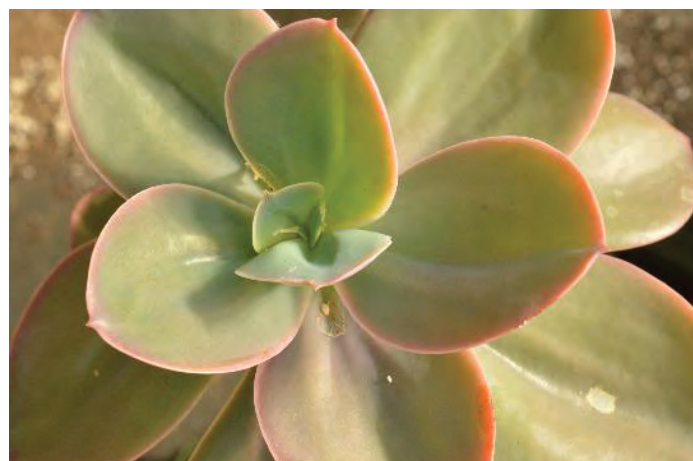




*Echeveria ellegans*, the Mexican Rose, is native to near-desert regions of Mexico. Plants retain their leaves for several seasons and care should be taken not to damage the foliage or allow the plants to become damaged by an early frost. The foliage is arranged in a very organized whorled rosette, appearing very much like a rose to the casual observer and prompted its common name. The species epithet of *ellegans* is Latin for the neat and elegant arrangement of those very same leaves (pictured on right). *Echeveria* as a group are polycarpic, describing its ability to flower and set seed multiple times throughout the life of an individual rosette – a major distinction from *Aeonium*.

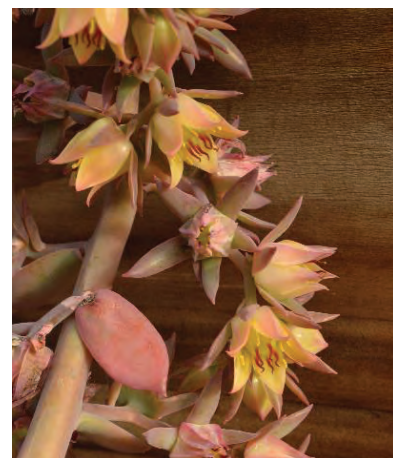


For the Mexican Rose, the 6-8" long flower stems or cymes mystically arise from between the leaves and are draped with very attractive campanulate or bell-shaped orange-pink flowers with light yellow margins (pictured at left). Flowers typically appear in late fall and throughout the winter, adding charm to the winter windowsill plant collections. Typical to the genus, Mexican Rose prospers in a lightly shaded location during the summer and then, with the weaker sunlight of winter, a window with a western or



southern exposure. The plants only manage to reach 6-8" in height, but similar to many of the plants within *Aeonium*, the plants increase in girth through the production of offsets from the base.

A cross that has certainly proven its worth over time is *Echeveria* x 'Perle Von Nürnberg'. This hybrid was a cross conducted during the 1930's between *Echeveria ellegans* and *Echeveria gibbiflora* 'Metallica' by Richard Graessner of Perleberg, Germany. The rosettes of foliage have a very handsome metallic, gray-blue blush (pictured below left) and normally reach 3-4" in diameter, although they can reach upwards of 10" with additional fertilizer. Aside from attractive foliage, the plants are also very easy to grow, since unlike most succulents, the plants are far more tolerant of moister soils during the growing season. During the winter, as typical of succulents, plants should be watered sparingly. The yellow campanulate flowers appear from late summer through winter upon arching spikes to 20" (pictured at right). Enhancing the beauty of this selection is the unusual number of flower stems, with upwards of 3-4 stems appearing at once!



Clearly, learning all the varieties of succulents to add to your garden may initially appear as daunting as learning hardy perennials and woody plants! The joy of this group of plants is the ease of care, since they actually grow better under neglect than when pampered. In addition, they provide interest and color during the winter, a season when the gardener has time to learn and develop a whole new fascination about this amazing group of plants!

**Bruce Crawford is the managing Director of Rutgers Gardens, a 180 acre outdoor teaching classroom, horticultural research facility and arboretum; an adjunct professor in Landscape Architecture at the Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences; regularly participates in the Rutgers-Continuing Education Program and is the immediate past-president of the Garden State Gardens Consortium. Contact Bruce at 732-932-8451.**





**GCNJ**  
**Nominating Committee Report**  
**2016-2018**

The following slate of nominees for the GCNJ 2016-2018 term:

**Second VP:** Kay Cross

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield

**Third VP:** Gotti Kelley

The Navesink Garden Club

**Treasurer:** Jane Bianco

The Terra Nova Garden Club of Edison

**Assistant Treasurer:** Kathleen Mullarkey

The Garden Club of Fair Haven

**H&E Trustees Three (3) year term 2016-2019**

Chris Endris

The Garden Club of Hunterdon Hills

Debi Harris

The Garden Club of Fair Haven

Barbara Mullin

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield

**District Directors:**

**District 2:** Karen Donovan

Maplewood Garden Club

**District 4:** Linda Williams

The Community Garden Club of Hunterdon County

**District 6:** Dottie Bukowski

The Piscataway Garden Club

**District 8:** Marina Kerber

The Navesink Garden Club

**Nominating Committee:**

**District 2:** Florence Leyssene

Montclair Garden Club

**District 4:** Sandra Nielsen

The Garden Club of Long Valley

**District 6:** Diana Cedenio

The Dogwood Garden Club of Princeton

**District 8:** Carole Kurtz

The Little Silver Garden Club

Mary Warshauer

GCNJ Nominating

Committee Chair

[oonie56@aol.com](mailto:oonie56@aol.com)



**SPRING**  
flower fair

Rutgers Gardens **Members Only** May 5, 2016  
for more information visit : [rutgersgardens.rutgers.edu/membership.htm](http://rutgersgardens.rutgers.edu/membership.htm)  
Open to the public May 6,7,8, 2016

Ultimate Plant Sale, Benefiting  
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Choice Perennials and Annuals, Woody Plants,  
Heirloom Vegetable Plants, Bamboos  
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For more information please visit:  
<http://www.rutgersgardens.rutgers.edu/springflowerfair>

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey 112 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901



## INSTRUCTORS

**Dr. Jean Marie Hartmann**, Department Chair,  
Department of Landscape Design, Cook College  
Rutger's University.

**Johnny Quispe**, graduate student, Department  
of Landscape Design, Cook College, Rutgers  
University

**Zenon Tech-Czarny**, graduate student, De-  
partment of Landscape Design, Cook College  
Rutger's University

### Directions to Holly House

From the south- NJ State Parkway to Route 18N  
to US #d1 (Exit South toward Trenton), Pass  
Sears on right. Take second turnoff (East  
Brunswick, Milltown) just beyond overpass.  
Turn right onto Ryders Lane and move to left  
lane immediately. At the end of the road divider,  
crossover straight onto Log Cabin Road. At T  
make left and follow the road to Holly House on  
the right

From the north- Route 287 south to River Road  
exit ( Highland Park). Take right onto River  
Road. Make a right onto Route 18. Take right  
onto US#1 ( South toward Trenton.) Proceed as  
above.

**Environmental Study Schools are open to all**  
—garden club members and non-members.  
Anyone wishing to become an Environmental  
Consultant accredited by NGC, Inc. must com-  
plete all four courses and pass an open book  
exam following each course.

**ESS Mission** is to teach environmental literacy  
to cherish, protect and conserve the living earth.  
Environmental literacy is a learning process  
concerned with the interrelationship within and  
between the various components of the natural  
and human-made world producing growth in the  
individual and leading to responsible steward-  
ship of the earth.

**Rutgers Master Gardeners-** Attending on  
Monday, March 21 earns you 4.0 CE hours. At-  
tending Tuesday, March 22 earns you 2.0 CE  
hours. Attending both days earns you 6.0 CE  
hours.

## “THE LIVING EARTH”

### ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES SCHOOL

#### SERIES I, COURSE III

**March 21-22, 2016**

**Holly House  
East Brunswick, NJ**



Sponsored by

**Garden Club of New Jersey**

### Monday, March 21, 2016

7:30 a.m. Registration and coffee  
Holly House  
8:00 a.m. Welcome and Introduction  
8:15 a.m. Ecology- Air  
9:15 a.m. Plants- The Rain Forest  
10:15 a.m. Break  
10:30 a.m. Environmental Ethics  
11:30 a.m. Lunch  
12:00 p.m. Initiating School Programs  
1:00 p.m. Environmental Science  
2:00 p.m. Break  
2:15 p.m. Nature Discovery Field Trip  
4:30 p.m. Wrap-up

### Tuesday, March 22, 2016

7:45 a.m. Registration and coffee  
8:00 a.m. Welcome and Introduction  
8:15 a.m. Earth Stewardship  
9:15 a.m. Art in Nature  
10:15 a.m. Break  
10:30 a.m. Wildlife- Endangered  
11:30 a.m. Lunch  
12:00 p.m. Exam

### **Exam-**

For more information please contact:  
ESS State Chairman  
Louise Davis 106 Old Denville Rd.  
Boonton Twp, NJ 07005 973-402-4043  
[ldavis106@gmail.com](mailto:ldavis106@gmail.com)

### Required Reading

*The National Gardener* (1 year) 4 issues/year  
One year Subscription \$6.50  
Order from Member Services NGC, Inc.

*Living in the Environment* – G. Tyler Miller, Jr.  
Available from NGC, Member Services, the In-  
ternet and bookstores. You will need the Sev-  
enth Edition or later.

Seventh Edition - Chapters 6,10,11,21,25,26  
Eighth Edition - 6,10,11,22,26,27  
Tenth Edition - 12,14,15,16,17,28  
Eleventh Edition - 15,16,18,19,24,26,29  
Twelfth Edition - 1,6,15,17,18,22,26,27,28  
Thirteenth Edition - 6,17,18,22,27,28  
Fourteenth Edition -  
1,2,4,5,6,8,11,12,13,14,15,17,18,29,21,22,24,25,  
26,27,28  
Fifteenth Edition -  
1,2,3,4,5,7,11,15,19,20,22,25,26  
Sixteenth Edition - Chapters 1, 18, 19, 23, 24  
Plus Supplement 7 & Glossary  
Seventeenth Edition - 1,18,19,23,24 plus  
Supplement 7 & Glossary

### Vocabulary List

From *Living in The Environment*

Acid deposition, Aldo Leopold, anthropo-  
centric, atmosphere, biocentric, Clean Air  
Act, econcentric, epiphytes, ethics, extinc-  
tion, extraction reserves, first law of ecol-  
ogy, fossil fuel, global warming, green  
house effect, oxygen cycle, photochemical  
smog, primary air pollutant, rain forest, Re-  
source Conservation and Recovery Act, Su-  
perfund, thermal inversion, threatened spe-  
cies, wildlife management, weathering

### ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES SCHOOL SERIES I, COURSE III March 21-22, 2016 REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Club \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ \$ 105.00 Course Fee- exam extra  
\_\_\_\_ \$ 60.00 Monday  
\_\_\_\_ \$ 60.00 Tuesday  
\_\_\_\_ \$ 5.00 Exam or Refresher Fee  
\_\_\_\_ \$ 10.00 Monday Lunch  
\_\_\_\_ \$ 10.00 Tuesday Lunch

Total Registration Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Make check payable to Garden Club of NJ Mail  
registration form and check to (ESS Registrar)  
Carol English  
406 Casino Ave.  
Cranford, NJ 07016  
[overbrook@comcast.net](mailto:overbrook@comcast.net)

No Refund after March 15, 2016

\_\_\_\_ Please send Lodging Information.



**Environmental Studies School**  
**Series I, Course III**  
**March 21-22, 2016**



**You may ask--Why attend this school?**

- As gardeners, we all strive to respect and enhance our environment. By attending this school you can learn new approaches and techniques.
- You will take a two-hour guided nature tour of the Carpenter Estate and Arbor Trail.
- You will experience the special topic area, "Art in Nature".
- You will learn about biomes and how choices we make can create a positive impact.
- You will meet people who share your passion for ecological/wild-life issues.
- You can take an open book exam.
- You will love the School, including the exam, as it is completed in two days. **PLUS-if you are a Master Gardener** - You will earn 6 continuing education points.

**IT'S A GREAT DEAL! JOIN US!**

Louise Davis  
*Environmental Studies School Chair*  
[Ldavis106@gmail.com](mailto:Ldavis106@gmail.com)

## Spring Plant Sale at Buck Garden --and Earth Day Celebration! April 23 & 24, 2016

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, alpines, and woody plants, as well as troughs.

Free guided tours of Buck Garden; lectures by Rutgers Master Gardeners of Somerset.

**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](http://www.somersetcountyparks.org) or call 908 234-2677 for more information.





## Instructors

### Darlene Newell- Horticulture

Darlene Newell is a NGC Master Flower Show Judge, Landscape Design Consultant, Master Gardener, Horticulture, Flower Show Procedure, and Symposium Instructor. She was a presenter at the Instructor's Symposium in Tampa, Florida and Las Vegas and has lectured in fifteen states. She is a life member of WVG and NGC, a member of the American Horticulture, Fern, Gourd and Daffodil Societies and is an ADS Daffodil Judge. She serves on the NGC Board of Directors on the Flower Show Committee as an Accrediting Committee Chair for the Northeast and Central Atlantic Regions and on the state level as Flower Show and Symposia Chair. As a retired registered nurse and nursing home administrator, she enjoys working with hospice patients as a visiting and vigil volunteer.

### Judy Binns-Design

Judy served as President of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. from 2011-2013 and is a NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge and NGC Flower Show School Design Instructor. She was awarded the National Garden Clubs Member of Honor Award for the South Atlantic Region for All-Around Excellence in 2006 and has served on the National Garden Clubs Board of Directors since 2007. She has exhibited designs in "Fine Arts and Flowers" at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and has given floral design programs and workshops in Virginia as well as North Carolina and West Virginia. She is a member of the Virginia Flower Show Judges Council, Creative Floral Arrangers of the Americas and National Flower Arrangers.

### Purpose and Goals of Flower Show School is

- to teach and accredit prospective judges and provide opportunities for Accredited Judges to expand their knowledge and remain in good standing.
- to create increased interest and knowledge in horticulture and design for all garden club members whether or not they are seeking to become NGC Accredited Flower Show Judges
- to provide greater understanding of standards of exhibiting and judging of a Standard Flower Show as clarified in the Handbook For Flower Shows.
- to promote shows of the highest quality and educational value

## General Information

Flower Show School Course III is the third in a series of four courses. Courses may be taken in any order. Attendance is open to all garden club members and guests. To receive credit toward becoming an Accredited NGC Flower Show Judge, one must attend the full two-day course at the cost of \$125, pass the written exam on Thursday, April 7, be an active garden club member, read The National Gardener and own the current updated NGC Handbook and any printed changes. The exam is optional for those who are attending for enrichment only.

Front seats will be reserved for students taking the course for credit. Those seats will be numbered and assigned in the order in which paid registration is received. Students must have their attendance card punched at the beginning of each session and may not leave until the conclusion of the class to receive full credit. The examination consists of 10 questions each in Flower Show Procedure, Horticulture and Design. The tenth question of each section will be taken from the required reading list.

Students should bring a clipboard, pencil and Handbook with updates. Outlines will be emailed upon paid registration to students and hard copies will be provided for all attending on the first day of class.

### DIRECTIONS to Holly House

#### From Garden State Parkway, North:

Take Exit 129 to NJ Turnpike South (Trenton). Take Exit 9 (New Brunswick) onto US 18N, quickly exit onto US 1 South then continue as below \*.

#### From Garden State Parkway, South:

Take Exit 130 to US 1 South \* Exit right onto Ryder's Lane via the jug handle under the overpass. Immediately move into the left lane to make the 1st left turn onto Log Cabin Road. Turn left. Follow the signs to Holly House. (Blue/grey building).

#### From NJ Turnpike:

Take Exit 9 (New Brunswick) to US 18N, quickly exit onto US 1 South then continue as above\*.

## Flower Show School Course III

April 5-6, Exam April 7

Holly House

130 Log Cabin Road

East Brunswick, NJ 08816



NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Sandra H. Robinson

President

Dorothy Yard

Flower Show School Chair

## THE GARDEN CLUB OF NEW JERSEY, INC.

Susan O'Donnell

President

Carol English, FSS Chair

406 Casino Ave.

Cranford N.J. 07016

908-931-1426

overbrook@comcast.net

Louise Davis, FSS Registrar

106 Old Denville Road

Boonton Township, N.J. 07005

973-402-4043

ldavis106@gmail.com

## Program

### Tuesday, April 5

7:30 AM	Registration
8:00-8:15	Welcome Remarks, Announcements
8:15-9:15	Flower Show Procedure (Newell) 1 hr.
9:15-10:15	Horticulture (Newell) 1 hr.
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-12:30	Horticulture (Newell) 2 hr.
12:30-1:15	Lunch
1:15-1:30	Announcements
1:30-3:30	Practice Point Scoring (Newell) 2 hr.
3:30-3:45	Break
3:45-5:45	Written Point Scoring Exam 2 hr.

### Wednesday, April 6

7:30 AM	Registration
8:00-8:15	Welcome Remarks, Announcements
8:15-9:15	Flower Show Procedure (Newell) 1 hr.
9:15-10:15	Design (Binns) 1 hr.
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-12:30	Design (Binns) 2 hr.
12:30-1:15	Lunch
1:15-1:30	Announcements
1:30-3:30	Practice Point Scoring (Huntoon) 2 hr.
3:30-3:45	Break
3:45-5:45	Written Point Scoring Exam 2 hr.

### Thursday, April 7

8:45 AM	Check-in for students
9:00-12:00	Exam

## Required Reading List, Course III

Books are available from the NGC, Inc. website:

[www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

Please allow sufficient time for delivery.

The National Gardener (TNG) is available on NGC

website. Username: member Password: flight

The Handbook for Flower Shows (2007)

with printed

changes from TNG (on line)

Chapters 1, 3, 11, 13, 14 Flower Show Procedure

Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, 14 Horticulture

Chapters 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14 Design

Outlines of Period Flower Arrangement (Hannay)

Designing by Types (Osborne)

Hortulana, The 21st Century Edition

Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging

### Design curriculum includes

Moderate to Dominance of Abstraction

### Plant Groups to be studied:

Container Grown Foliage Plants to Include:

Ferns/ Cacti Succulents

Combination Plantings

Terrariums/Dish Gardens/Troughs/Hanging Plants

### Hotel Accommodations

#### Days Hotel

195 Highway 18 S, East Brunswick, NJ 08016

Tel: 732-828-6900 Fax: 732-937-4838

A block of rooms has been reserved until April 25 at the rate of \$69.95 plus taxes, including continental breakfast. Please mention GCNJ.

## Registration Form

Flower Show School, Course III

April 5-6, Exam April 7

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

GC \_\_\_\_\_ Dist# \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration Deadline April 13, 2016

#### No refund after April 13

Two Day Course \$125 \_\_\_\_

Exam for Credit (Thursday) \$ 5 \_\_\_\_

Horticulture Day (Tuesday) Only \$ 65 \_\_\_\_

Design Day (Wednesday) Only \$ 65 \_\_\_\_

#### Two Day Club Special (Limit One per club)

Two people may attend each day

Not for credit. Club check only. \$125 \_\_\_\_

Refresher for Eligible Judges \$125 \_\_\_\_

Lunch Tuesday \$ 12 \_\_\_\_

Lunch Wednesday \$ 12 \_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO GCNJ

Mail registration form and check to

Louise Davis, Registrar

106 Old Denville Rd.

Boonton Twp., NJ 07005

Please keep a copy for your records.



## A Living Tribute

After the Allied victory in World War II, thoughts turned to ways to remember and honor America's men and women. Memorials had always used monuments made of stone or bronze or, perhaps, named a building for a war hero or a battle. During the spring of 1944, as our brave men were getting ready to storm the beaches of Normandy, the President of the GCNJ, Mrs. Lewis Hull, the Roadside Chair, Mrs. Vance Hood, and the Highway Commissioner, Spencer Miller, Jr., started to envision a "living" memorial. The plan sought to protect the beauty of the



countryside for the men and women of New Jersey who were at war. It called for a five-mile planting of flowering dogwood trees in a landscaped area along US Route 29 (now Route 22) between Mountainside and North Plainfield and the project was named the Blue Star Drive for the blue star in the service flag (see flag to the left). The flowering dogwood was selected because it was the state's most beautiful native tree—snow white blossoms in the spring and brilliant red berries in the fall. In June, 1944, with the slogan, "a dollar plants a tree on the Blue Star Drive," the project was launched.

Today, the Blue Star Memorial Highway is one of the most extensive projects ever undertaken by garden clubs and the first ever attempted on a nationwide scale. It crosses the nation east and west and north and south. Every state is crossed by at least

one such highway. It does not call for an uninterrupted planting across the country but a national road beautified at intervals with memorial plantings appropriate for location and featuring state trees or other plant material native to the area.

This past year, Little Silver GC placed flowers at their Blue Star Memorial Marker on Veteran's Day as part of Little Silver's celebration of the holiday. Washington Valley GC placed a wreath in the shape of a star on the Blue Star Memorial at the Lyons Veterans Hospital in a ceremony held with members and representatives of AMVETS Post #16.

And, the Grow and Show Garden Club of Interlaken, in cooperation with the Borough of Interlaken, dedicated a Blue Star By-Way Marker on November 7, 2015. The marker graces the municipal complex grounds at 100 Grassmere Avenue in Interlaken, NJ.

Co-Presidents Christine Papp and Joann Fischer, along with vice president Brenda Wityk, worked closely with GCNJ Blue Star Chair, Joan Cichalski, to bring this project to completion just before Veteran's Day. The ceremony dedicating the marker saw participation by Borough officials and local veterans, as well as several members of the New Jersey's Blue Star Memorial Committee. Many local residents were in attendance and the Grow and Show Club members hosted a reception with refreshments inside Borough Hall at the conclusion of the ceremonies.

Other GCNJ local clubs currently working to bring



*continued on page 20*





## A Living Tribute (*continued*)

the Blue Star program to their communities include the Garden Club of Toms River as well as the Garden Club of Long Beach Island. We look forward to seeing the Blue Star markers in more communities in 2016. For information on the Blue Star Program, check out the GCNJ website at [www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com](http://www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com) or contact Joan Cichalski, Blue Star Committee, 732-977-4477.



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## Are you ready for some good resolutions for 2016?

As we begin 2016 let us make a concerted effort to improve our environmental life! Much of the debris found on our streets and in our waterways and ocean is there because we have become a throwaway society.

The Atlantic and Pacific Oceans have major 'garbage islands' floating for miles and miles.

- When purchasing any item, consider how the remains can be discarded. Is it recyclable? Make sure plastic items are recyclable since this has become a major problem. Check for the recycling icon (see icon to the right). If it is not there, do not purchase the item. You usually see a number in the center of the recycling icon. That is the code. Check your township to see what code numbers they accept as recyclable.
- Avoid using any product that contains micro beads, such as the ingredients polyethylene and polypropylene.
- Look at your trash and take special note of items with excess packaging or any items that are single-use. Make a list of how many disposable items are in your trash. It's an eye-opener!
- Since plastic caps and lids cannot be recycled on containers, make a collection in your kitchen and find a company that will collect and reuse them in manufacturing.
- Avoid use of plastic straws. There are many reusable straw options, such as glass, stainless steel and bamboo.
- Clean your home using natural products such as lemons, vinegar and baking soda instead of purchasing harsh chemicals in plastic containers. (Check out Ingrid Justick's article on page 11.)
- Look 'online' for recipes using natural products.



**Considering your use of disposable items and using natural products is a step in the right direction and towards living environmentally safer lives. Be aware of the world around you and aim for a clean and healthy environment.  
The world is in your hands!**



Wini Applegate  
Environmental, Conservation Chair  
Protect Aquatic Ecosystem  
[winniapplegate@hotmail.com](mailto:winniapplegate@hotmail.com)



# Calendar of Events

## FEBRUARY, 2016

- 11-14 GCNJ State Flower Show in Edison. 1pm-8pm, Thursday; 10am-8pm, Friday; 10am-8pm, Saturday and 10am-5:30pm, Sunday
- 29 GCNJ Board Meeting at Holly House 10am. (Alternate date: 3/7 in case of snow.)

## MARCH, 2016

- 5-13 Philadelphia Flower Show. Theme is "Explore America: 100 years of the National Park Service"
- 14 District 8 spring meeting, 9:30 am, hosted by Grow & Show of Interlaken at Boro Hall, 100 Grassmere Avenue, Interlaken. Contact Sue Berdahl for further information at [sue.berdahl@gmail.com](mailto:sue.berdahl@gmail.com)
- 16 District 1 spring meeting, 10 am at Davis Johnson Park & Gardens, Tenafly. Contact Vivian DeMarco, Director for further information at [vivcape7@aol.com](mailto:vivcape7@aol.com)
- 21-22 Environmental Studies School, Series I, Course III at Holly House. Instructors are Dr. Jean Marie Hartmann, John Quispe and Zenon Tech-Czarny from Cook College, Rutgers University. Louise Davis, Chair, [ldavis106@gmail.com](mailto:ldavis106@gmail.com)
- 24 Judges Council at Holly House.

## APRIL, 2016

- 5-7 Flower Show School IV Course III — Holly House (exam on 7th). Design - Judy Binns; Horticulture - Darline Newell. Studying ferns, cacti, succulents and combination plantings. Carol English, Chair, 917-502-1270
- 18 GCNJ Board Meeting at Holly House at 10am.
- 20 Tenafly GC Luncheon at noon at Knickerbocker Country Club, Tenafly, with Carl Lemanski, speaker. Tickets: \$40. For more information contact Rita at 201-568-6067.
- 23 GC of Long Valley trip to David Culp's Gardens, Doylestown, PA. Ticket: \$75—includes bus, lunch, tour of gardens & a stop at Chadds Ford Greenhouses. Call 908-852-2611 for tickets & information.
- 23-24 Spring Plant Sale at Buck Garden, 11 Layton Rd, Far Hills, Saturday 10am-5pm & Sunday 12pm-5pm (see ad on 17)
- 28 Neshanic GC's Spring Luncheon, Neshanic Valley Golf Club, 2301 S. Branch Rd., Neshanic Station. Speaker- Bruce Crawford, New & Unusual Annuals for Summer. 12-4pm. Ticket: \$35. Call 908-359-6881 or 908-359-5708.

- 30-May 1 21st Annual Plant Sale at Frelinghuysen Arboretum at 9am-3pm. Visit [arboretumfriends.org](http://arboretumfriends.org) for details. (see ad on page 10)

## MAY, 2016

- 2-6 87th NGC Annual Convention-Bloomin' on the Grand. Grand Rapids, Michigan. Amway Grand Plaza Hotel. See GCNJ website for forms.
- 4 Allenhurst GC presents "A Walk Down Memory Lane" at 11:30am, Luncheon & Boutique at Mr. C's Bistro. Tickets: \$40 732-531-0221 for information. (see ad on page 5)
- 6,7 Garden Club R.F.D. Annual Plant Sale at Little Red Schoolhouse, Dwight & Middletown Lincroft Roads, Middletown.
- 6,7,8 Rutgers Spring Flower Fair, Ultimate Plant Sale Benefiting the Gardens Internship Program. Visit [www.rutgersgardens.rutgers.edu/springflowerfair](http://www.rutgersgardens.rutgers.edu/springflowerfair) (see ad on page 15)
- 11 Town & Country GC presents Marta McDowell, author of "All the President's Gardens" at Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 53 E. Hanover Ave, Morristown. Tickets: \$30; 11am-2pm; light lunch. Call Terry at 973-476-0518.
- 17-18 NJ Judge's Symposium at Holiday Inn in East Windsor. Instructors are Char Mutschler-Design and Gay Austin-Horticulture.

## JUNE, 2016

- 1 Navesink GC trip to Wave Hill, a public garden & cultural center in Riverdale. Cost: \$95—includes bus, access to Glyndor Gallery, Wave Hill House & Café, Perkins Visitor Center & Shop, 1-hour guided tour, boxed lunch. For more information, call Ronnie at 732-859-4366 or [r.j.lander@comcast.net](mailto:r.j.lander@comcast.net)
- 4-5 Keyport Garden Walk, 11am-3pm. Visit [www.keyportgardenwalk.org](http://www.keyportgardenwalk.org)
- 5-11 National Garden Week
- 5 The Women Gardeners of Ridgewood presents "Secret Gardens of Ridgewood 2016 Tour", 10am-5pm. Light refreshments. Cost: \$25 in advance. Contact Sharon Gilsenan at 201-445-1865 or go to [www.thewomengardenersofridgewood.com](http://www.thewomengardenersofridgewood.com) for details.
- 8 Home GC of Morristown presents "Foodscaping" with Charlie Nardozi at Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown, at 12:30pm with light refreshments. Cost: \$30. Call Betsy at 973-343-6261.
- 9 GCNJ Annual Meeting at Bridgewater Marriott, 9am-4pm.



# Calendar of Events *(continued)*

- 18 GCRFD of Middletown's 75th Anniversary Celebration.
- 20 GCNJ Board Meeting at Holly House at 10am.
- 25 Rocky Brook GC presents "June in Bloom"- A Garden Tour-10am-3pm (Rain or Shine). Features private gardens in Hightstown & Cranbury. Day of Tour Tickets: \$20 (Child, \$5) at Ely House, 164 N. Main St., Hightstown. Advance Tickets: \$15 at Weichert Realtors, 609-448-8388.
- 29 GC of Spring Lake presents Annual Seaside Garden Tour. 10am-3pm. Refreshments. Tickets \$25/\$30 Day of Tour. Visit [www.Gardenclubofspringlake.org](http://www.Gardenclubofspringlake.org) (see ad on page 11)

## SEPTEMBER, 2016

- 13 Leadership Workshop at Pavilion Cabin in Rutgers Gardens.
- 19-25 NGC Board Meeting in Portland, Maine. Tri Refresher included.

## OCTOBER, 2016

- 4,5,7 Garden Study School at Holly House (exam on 7th)
- 10 GCNJ Board Meeting at Holly House at 10am.
- 19-21 Landscape Design School at Holly House (exam on 21st).
- 23-25 CAR Conference hosted by The Federated Garden Clubs of New York State. Gideon Putnam Hotel, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 26-28 Symposium follows the CAR Conference at Gideon Putnam Hotel, Saratoga Springs, NY. Information for both events on CAR website, [www.ngccar.org](http://www.ngccar.org)

## NOVEMBER, 2016

- 7 GCNJ Board Meeting at Holly House at 10am.

## 2017

### FEBRUARY, 2017

- 9-12 State Flower Show at Raritan Convention Center in Edison.
- 27 GCNJ Board Meeting at Holly House at 10am.

### MARCH, 2017

- 27 GCNJ Board Meeting at Holly House at 10am.

### APRIL, 2017

- 10-12 Judges Council at Holly House
- 25,26,27 Flower Show School IV at Holly House.

### JUNE, 2017

- 8 GCNJ annual Meeting at Bridgewater Marriott, 9am-4pm.

### AUGUST, 2017

- 18-20 NGC Conference, Richmond, VA.

### SEPTEMBER, 2017

- NGC Fall Board Meeting at Rosen Hotel in Orlando, FL

### OCTOBER, 2017

- CAR Conference hosted by Garden Club of New Jersey

