

# Topiary Times

A New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation

[www.womengardenersofridgewood.com](http://www.womengardenersofridgewood.com)

93rd year, since 1925

**FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 12:00 NOON**Ho-Ho-Kus Inn  
1 Franklin Turnpike  
Ho-Ho-Kus**YEAR-END LUNCHEON**Wrap up another  
worthwhile year with WGR friends**Business Meeting**HOSTESSES (*flowers only*): Marge Garfield, Diana Perog  
and Lyn Wirtz*If unable to attend, please notify Carol Lehmann, [c414l@aol.com](mailto:c414l@aol.com)***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Our Secret Gardens Tour will be here before you know it and with that -- another WGR year will be over! Reflecting on this past year, I am amazed at how much we've done as a club -- we've gained some valuable gardening knowledge from interesting speakers, gone on some fun trips, gotten our hands dirty at our 4 community gardens, educated some lucky "Green Kids", done some festive holiday decorating, launched a new website, opened a Resource Room and consumed many homemade savories and sweets, not to mention making library arrangements and lobby displays! On top of it all, we've been there for each other, and will soon come together to put on our signature Secret Gardens Tour on June 3rd, where our club really shines! Thank you all for your participation this year and I hope you had fun while doing it! Special thanks to Sharon Gilsenan for serving by my side and best wishes to her next year. You are a special group of ladies and it has been my pleasure and an honor to serve as your President.

Wishing you a sensational summer, a glorious garden and some well deserved R & R!

Jenny

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**LIBRARY DESK FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS ON THURSDAYS**

6/7 Jenny Given

**GROUP LIBRARY FOYER DISPLAY, MAY 17- JUNE 3**

Martha Blanco, Eleanor Collins, Judy Collins, Irene deCastro and Lyn Wirtz

**YEARBOOK** - Please contact Judith Field, [judithwfield2@gmail.com](mailto:judithwfield2@gmail.com), with any corrections, changes or additions for the yearbook.

(Page 14 – add) Nancy Ricca, 42 Heights Road, Ridgewood NJ 07450  
Phone: 201-805-2514 E-mail: [nancy.ricca@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.ricca@gmail.com) Husband: Gregory

**DAFFODIL FESTIVAL & EARTH DAY FAIR - APRIL 22 - photos by Maria Gilosa & Rurik Halaby**



Sharon Gilsenan, Lisa Betancourt, Jenny Given and Joan Kokoska were at the festival on a beautiful Sunday.

**JAMES ROSE CLEANUP - APRIL 29 - photos submitted by Maria Gilosa**



Maria Gilosa with assistant director Kevin McIlmail. Dick Gilosa, Debbie Engel, Marianne Maher, Leigh and Bill Goodson and Toni Cohen. Not pictured are V. Udishi and Jenny Given.



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**DAY TRIP - APRIL 29 - White Garden in Lewisboro, NY - photos submitted by Betty Wiest**



Baarbara Hyslop, Gail Modelski and Betty Wiest visited a garden of 300,000 daffodils.

### **GARDEN TOUR UPDATE**

Tour Tickets are on sale now through PayPal on our website, at local vendors, Backyard Living, Bookends and Mango Jam and by mail. We've had a number of purchases so far, which is great news. **Please consider ordering a box lunch for the Garden Tour.** It is being offered for the first time as a convenience for tour goers as well as busy Garden Tour docents! It also helps support our club!! All lunches include a quinoa salad, fruit, cookie & water and your choice of roasted turkey & brie sandwich, tarragon chicken salad wrap or hummus & fresh veggie wrap. Each order costs \$14 and can be picked up on the day of the tour at Catchy Cafe, 614 N. Maple Ave in Ho-Ho-Kus between 11am - 2pm, for dine-in or take-out. Order online at [www.womengardenersofridgewood.com](http://www.womengardenersofridgewood.com) or contact Jenny Given @ [jgivfam@gmail.com](mailto:jgivfam@gmail.com).

### **DOCENTS FOR TOUR UPDATE**

All active WGR members are expected to work one of three shifts during the Garden Tour. The exceptions include members helping with the Potting Shed, Hospitality and with the boxed lunches from Catchy in HHK. If you have scheduling concerns or a special request, please contact Barb Masarky at (201) 390-0303 or email [bmarsarky@tarvinrealtors.com](mailto:bmarsarky@tarvinrealtors.com). If by chance you are out of town that weekend, please find a replacement docent. All docents, including members and volunteers, will receive a complimentary ticket for the tour!! The docent schedule for the June 3rd Garden Tour will be forwarded to members shortly. There will be three shifts: 9:45 AM-12:30 PM, 12:15-2:30 PM & 2:15-5 PM. Docent instructions will be forwarded to all before the tour and will also be found in the 'docent instruction envelope' at each house on tour day. Please notify Barbara Masarky of any shift exchanges between members by Tuesday, May 29. Remember that a 'veteran' WGR member must be present at every shift.

### **POTTING SHED UPDATE**

Thank you for donations large and small .... They all add up to \$\$\$ for our club projects !

We can accept donations up thru Friday, June 1. Contact Debbie with any questions or if you need help.

#### Drop off Option 1:

On Friday, June 1, 2-5 PM bring donations directly to THE STABLE! Inside, 1st floor.

#### Drop off Option 2:

Drop at Judy Scanlan's garage (back of house), 212 N. Maple Avenue, across from the stable.

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**HOSPITALITY REQUESTS FOR GARDEN TOUR - SUNDAY, JUNE 3 at the Stable.**

It is requested that everyone in the club make 2 dozen cookies, bar desserts, or tea bread (cut small) with no added nuts for the Garden Tour. Please deliver your food to the Lester Barn at or before 9:30 am. For convenience place your finger food on an attractive disposable plate or platter.

**LIBRARY CLEAN-UP - MAY 9 - photo submitted by Maria Gilosa**



Judy Collins, Maria Gilosa, Debbie Engel, V Udishi, Marianne Maher are working in the Library garden- not pictured: Eleanor Collins and Irene DeCastro

**GARDEN GATE RESOURCE ROOM OPEN DAY - JUNE 12, at Habernickel Park**

The Resource Room will be open to the public the second Tuesday in June. WGR members will now be allowed to sign out books for reading at home. Cards must be filled out and filed in the box, in order to know where the book is. Please return the books as soon as you have had a chance to look at them, so others can take them home. Ask Liz O'Leary or Barbara French about the process. They will be the committee co-chairmen starting in June, and the room will be open to members all summer. You can use the room any day that the building is open. It is the time of the year to store "Garden Tour" supplies in the big closet in the Resource Room. Any place you find on the shelves where your item(s) will fit is okay. If you find we are running out of space, some of the empty bins can be removed, and others can be consolidated.

**HABERNICKEL CLEAN-UP - MAY 15**



This is a selfie by Maria Gilosa, who is standing in front of Jenny Given, Irene deCastro, Nancy Ricca, Toni Cohen and Betty Wiest. They worked cleaning up the Habernickel Park area.



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## NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK, JUNE 18-25

Ridgewood has been designated the first "Bee City" in New Jersey. This effort was spearheaded by Frank Mortimer, President of the Northeast NJ Beekeepers Association, who is a local beekeeper in Ridgewood. To raise awareness of the role of pollinators, the week of June 18th has been designated as National Pollinator Week. Many organizations, such as The Conservancy for Ridgewood Public Lands, HealthBarn, the Bergen-Passaic Native Plant Society, and the Ridgewood Public Library, have partnered to present a week of events. The Women Gardeners of Ridgewood is sponsoring noted guest speaker, Rick Mikula, "The Butterfly Guy" on Saturday, June 23rd, at 11 a.m. at Bookends. All costs for this event will be underwritten by the Northeast NJ Beekeepers Association. Maria and Eleanor have volunteered to help at Bookends. Please join us with your children or grandchildren for an informative and fun event!

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Chairmen, please submit your year-end reports by June 30th to Sharon Gilsenan. This information will be passed on to next year's committee heads and used for budget planning.

**GREEN KIDS**, APRIL 19 & 26, May 3,10 at the Stable, *photos by Maria Gilosa*

The last Green Kids program for the summer, will be at The Stable, Thursday May 17th, 3:30pm to 4:30pm "Release of the Butterflies" in the garden. We are proud to say, this will mark the close of the 10th Year of Green Kids! If the weather is fine, please drop by to watch this special moment!



"The Buzz on Bees" Frank Mortimer gave a presentation.



"Green Kids" weeding the Stable Garden.



Dan Timmeny of Ridgewood Water talked on conservation.



The children picked up wind chimes for Mother's Day.

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## WGR SURVEYS

As of 5/15 we have received only 21 completed surveys. If you haven't already, we encourage you to complete and submit yours asap to Jenny Given or Sharon Gilsenan. Your input is valuable and will be useful for next year's planning purposes. If you need a blank copy contact Jenny Given. Thank you!

## BUDGET

Our budget year ends June 30, so please complete your spending and submit expenses to Eileen as soon as possible.

## NOMINATING UPDATE

The Nominating Committee would like to thank our members who have agreed to take on positions for the upcoming year. WGR is a very active club. Thank you to our incoming and outgoing officers and committee chairmen who allow us to continue our various club activities and events. We are still in need of a Publicity Chair. This position could be filled with one, two or three people working together. We are also in need of a co-chair for the Stable Garden. This Garden is an integral part of The Green Kids program, so please give this position consideration as well. Please contact Anthea Luter at [abluter@hotmail.com](mailto:abluter@hotmail.com), Jenny Given at [jgivfam@gmail.com](mailto:jgivfam@gmail.com), or Sharon Gilsenan at [sfg165@gmail.com](mailto:sfg165@gmail.com) if you are interested. Many thanks!!

## NOMINATIONS

### Officers

President	Sharon Gilsenan
Executive VP	Barbara Masarky
First VPs & Program Chairs	Debbie Engel Barbara French Martha Blanco
Second VP Membership	Carol Lehmann
Treasurer	Eileen Dowling
Recording Secretaries	Toni Cohen Marcia Frifield

### Elected Committee Chairs

Garden Tour	Lisa Betancourt Jenny Given
Gardeners' Day	Maria Gilosa Leigh Goodson Jeannette Wiener
Hospitality	Ginny Bryan Marge Garfield Diana Perog

Green Kids	Toni Cohen Anthea Luter Nancy Bigos
Newsletter	Judith Field
Publicity	Open
Ridgewood Public Gardens	
Habernickel	Toni Cohen Irene de Castro
Library	Judy Collins Debbie Engel
Van Neste	Barbara Ferrante Jenny Given Judy Scanlan
Stable	Anthea Luter Open
Resource Room	Barbara French Liz O'Leary
Special Projects	Eleanor Collins Irene Palatucci
Website	Leigh Saltiel
Yearbook	Judith Field

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## THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY OPEN DAYS

Admission to each garden is \$7. Since WGR is a member of the Garden Conservancy, Sharon is able to purchase tickets in advance at half price - \$3.50 for each garden. These tickets are good for any garden and do not expire. This is a wonderful opportunity to see some spectacular private gardens. You may purchase tickets for yourself as well as your spouse, friends or family members. Please contact Sharon Gilsenan for advance ticket purchase so you can get the discount.

Saturday, June 2nd

Connecticut-Fairfield County  
Redding  
Ridgefield (3 private gardens)  
Wilton  
Litchfield County  
Litchfield  
Roxbury  
Washington  
West Cornwall

Sunday-June 3rd

Connecticut -Fairfield County  
Fairfield  
Westport (2 private gardens)

Saturday, June 9th

Connecticut-Hartford County  
Burlington  
Canton  
Collinsville

Sunday, June 10th

New York-Putnam County  
Cold Spring-Stonecrop Gardens  
Garrison

Saturday June 16th

Connecticut-Litchfield County  
Falls Village- BUNNY WILLIAMS  
Washington- (3 private gardens)  
New Jersey-Essex County  
Montclair

Sunday, June 17th

New York, Westchester County  
Bedford  
Bedford Hills  
Katonah  
Yorktown

Saturday, June 23rd

Connecticut-Litchfield County  
Kent

New Jersey-Bergen County

Allendale  
Mahwah  
Oakland  
River Edge  
River Vale

New York, Dutchess County

Millbrook  
Poughkeepsie  
Stanfordville

Saturday, June 30th

Connecticut-Fairfield County  
Sherman

New York-Dutchess County

Pawling

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC GARDENS PLEASE GO TO [www.opendaysprogram.org](http://www.opendaysprogram.org)

In addition all Garden Conservancy emails are forwarded to club members with further information on the gardens and programs available.

For more information on the individual gardens please visit the Garden Conservancy's website  
@ [opendaysprogram.org](http://opendaysprogram.org)



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**LUNCHEON - MAY 4, at the Library Auditorium - photo by Maria Gilosa**



Betty Wiest, Marianne Maher, Carol Lehmann, Phyllis Heilborn

**MINUTES FROM THE LAST GENERAL MEETING, MAY 4, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Jenny Given, President at 1:15 PM.

Jenny asked Carol Lehmann, Membership Chair, to introduce our guests at today's meeting. Carol introduced Roseanne Kramer, Mary Pollicano, and Pilar Segura who are attending their first meeting. She also introduced Chantal Cannon and Pat Hanley who are attending their second meeting. Carol then told the club that Nancy Ricca had been voted by the Board to be an active member and she gave Nancy a welcome gift.

**President's Report:** Jenny reminded club members to fill out the surveys from last month. She said she had gotten back 12 so far, and hoped more would be returned. Anyone wanting another copy of the survey can pick one up at the back table. Jenny said these surveys will be very helpful in planning for next year's programs and activities. Jenny also reminded club members that they can order a box lunch for themselves for the day of the tour. The box lunch costs \$14, there are 3 choices of sandwich, and they can be picked up the day of the tour at Catchy from 11 - 2 PM. Orders have to be placed before 5/24.

**First Vice President's Report:** Sharon Gilsenan reported that the nominating committee had completed its work and all positions had been filled with the exception of a publicity chair and someone to help Anthea Luter with the Stable Garden. The slate has been e-mailed to everyone in the club and will be voted on at the June meeting.

Sharon has half-price tickets for the Garden Conservancy Open Days if anyone wants to purchase them.

Sharon reminded everyone that National Pollinators Week is June 18 - June 25. Ridgewood has been named a "bee city". The garden club will be hosting an event at BookEnds on Saturday, June 23rd at 11. Rick Mikula will be teaching kids how to make a bee habitat out of items bought from the Dollar Store. This event caps off the Pollinators Week.

**Treasurer's Report:** Eileen Dowling reminded everyone that they need to give her a check for \$32 for the June 8 luncheon at the Ho-Ho-Kus Inn. Jenny commented that the luncheon was a week later than usual because of the garden tour. The garden tour is on Sunday June 3rd. The June board meeting is on Wednesday, June 6th at Sharon Gilsenan's home, and the luncheon is on June 8.

**Garden Tour:** Maria Gilosa reported that she was working on getting us as much free publicity as she possibly could. We were part of an article on May 2nd in the Homescape section of the Record featuring 3



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garden tours. Maria has placed a notice of the tour with the Master Gardeners of Bergen County web site, and on the Ridgewood Patch. The on-line magazine Dig-it, is also mentioning the garden tour. We will be sending out an e-mail blast to everyone on our e-mail list as well as to the District 1 President. All of this is at no cost to us. The tri-fold mailing was sent out on April 23rd and the tickets are now available in stores. The sketches in the ticket that illustrate each garden write-up were done by Liz O'Leary and the original sketches will be matted and framed and given to the homeowners as a thank you gift.

On Friday June 1st we have arranged to have a cocktail party at Lisa Betancourt's home. The homeowners, sponsors, artists, and committee members are invited. The committee members will bring wine and appetizers.

The potting shed is still in need of more items. Things can be dropped off at Debbie Engel's home or brought to the Stable Friday afternoon after 2 PM, when the potting shed committee will be pricing and setting up. Tools, furniture, pots, and other garden items are needed.

Barb Masarky and Lisa Betancourt are putting together the docent shifts. Anyone who knows they cannot work a certain time should let Barb know. They will do the best they can to accommodate everyone. Any member who cannot work on the day of the tour must get a substitute to docent for her. The tour can use one or two more small canopy tents in case of rain.

**Green Kids:** Leslie Kolvek reported that the kids made bamboo wind chimes to give to their mothers for Mothers' Day. There are two more sessions. Next week they will discuss water conservation and see the new rain barrel bought for the Stable Garden, and at the final session they will release their butterflies. The kids also spent time in the garden weeding the path of the invasive ground cover that is growing there.

**Public Gardens:**

Stable Garden: Leslie Kolvek described how over-run the Stable garden is with an invasive ground cover. It is not possible to spray it with a herbicide as the area is a certified natural habitat, so the only way to remove it is to dig it up, a very time consuming and difficult task. As the Stable garden will be on the garden tour Leslie wants to get as much of the ground cover up as possible. What is left in the garden will be the topic of an educational sign describing invasive and non-native species. On May 18 Leslie wants as many members as possible to come to the Stable and work on weeding. She has a sign-up sheet.

Library Garden - Judy Collins said they would have a clean-up day scheduled soon and would send an e-mail to everyone.

Van Neste - All the bulbs are in full bloom now and the park looks beautiful. They will not be scheduling a clean-up day until the bulbs begin to die back. They will send an e-mail. Jenny commented that we had participated in the Daffodil Festival at Van Neste on Sunday April 22 and the park looked wonderful. We partnered with Goffle Brook Farm and gave out seeds and the tri-fold invitation to the garden tour. It was a very successful festival.

Habernickel - Irene de Castro said the Parks Dept has not cleaned up any of the large branches and limbs that came down in the March snowstorms and until they do we will not be working in those areas. Irene has bought vinca to plant around the front stone pillars and will send out an e-mail for a planting day.

**Special Projects:** Eleanor Collins told the members that all the special projects for the year are completed.

**Website:** The up-dated website is coming along. And PayPal is now available to buy garden tour tickets and order box lunches for the garden tour.

**Trips:** Betty Wiest has a trip set for Boston for May 16-18.

**Yearbook:** The deadline to get information into the Yearbook is July 15.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Toni Cohen, Co-Recording Secretary