

# Topiary Times

A New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation

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

94th year, since 1925



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back fellow gardeners to our garden year ahead! The closing days of summer are upon us, a summer that has been both weird and wonderful at the same time. Extremes of weather, hot days interspersed with strong storms, and the beautiful blooms of nature!

I would like to thank, first of all, Jenny Given for her strong leadership, unwavering support and friendship to all of us in this past year. Congratulations to Maria Gilosa and her committee, Lisa Betancourt, Toni Cohen, and Jenny Given and all of our committees for a highly successful 2018 Secret Gardens Tour.

Of special note this summer the WGR received two awards at the June GCNJ annual meeting: The Bernardsville Garden Club Trophy for an outstanding project in civic or environmental improvement for the Renovation of the Entry garden to the Village of Ridgewood Library, and The Youth Lead the Way Award (which included a \$200 prize!) to our Green Kids program for the recycled log planter, planted to teach sustainability. Congratulations to Debbie Engel and Judy Collins, our Library Garden Chairs, and Nancy Bigos, Lesley Kolvek, and Anthea Luter, our Green Kids Program Chairs for 2017-2018. Congratulations to all!

Judith Field, Barbara French, and Liz O'Leary continue to improve our Resource Room with a new (gently

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 12:00 NOON

Health Barn at the Gatehouse  
Habernickel Park  
1057 Hillcrest Road, Ridgewood

### FALL LUNCHEON

Members H through Z please bring:  
a main dish, salad or dessert

Start a new year with great anticipation,  
while reconnecting with old and new friends.

*No guests please*

### Business Meeting

HOSTESSES (*flowers and coordinate food*)  
Mandy Clark, Eleanor Collins and Marianne Maher

*If unable to attend, please notify Carol Lehmann, [c414l@aol.com](mailto:c414l@aol.com)*

---

used) bookcase, while organizing and categorizing our garden book donations to our expanding garden book library. Thank you! Betty Wiest never ceases to amaze us with her outstanding trip series to the Hudson River Valley this summer. It is always an adventure. Thank you Betty!

A big Thank You to Judith Field, who has spent many hours throughout her summer working on our Yearbook as well as forwarding Garden Conservancy and club emails to our membership. In addition, Judith does a splendid job compiling and editing our newsletter, the Topiary Times.

Thank you to all of our members who maintained our gardens throughout the summer and to everyone who has stepped up to Chair or work on a committee for the coming year.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead. Debbie Engel, Barbara French, and Martha Blanco have been busy planning a varied and enjoyable year of Programs and Workshops. To welcome all of our new members, there will be a New Member Tea on October 9th, details to follow. Gardeners Day (formerly known as Ed Day) chaired by Maria Gilosa, Leigh Goodson and Jeannette Wiener will take place on Wednesday, April 10th featuring Tovah Martin, a noted horticulturalist and author. Our first evening meeting will take place in May, and a Members Only garden tour of our Member Gardens will be a highlight in early June. Janel Clinch has been busy planning our overseas trip to Portugal departing on May 14th and returning on May 22nd. Much to look forward to!!

In closing, I would like to thank Debbie Engel for all she has done for WGR over the past years, including Publicity, The Potting Shed for the 2018 Secret Gardens Tour, and the four season garden renovation at the Library Garden, we will all miss you! Happy Gardening in Texas!

Barb Masarky and I look forward to seeing you all for our fall luncheon at the Health Barn September 14th!

Enjoy these last days of summer!

Sharon

**BOARD MEETING** - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 10:00 AM at Sharon Gilsenan's home

**GROUP LIBRARY FOYER DISPLAY**, MAY 17- JUNE 3 – *photos by Irene de Castro*



Martha Blanco, Eleanor Collins, Judy Collins, Irene de Castro and Lyn Wirtz created this library foyer display.



---

## LIBRARY DESK FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS ON THURSDAYS

9/13 Betty Wiest

9/20 Jeannette Wiener

9/27 Mary Vermilyen

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

(Page 18 - change) Adele Hoffmeyer's new info is P.O. Box 29651, Henrico, VA 23242, cell 201-519-1627.

**SPRING TRIP** - Beacon Hill Garden Tour, Boston, May 16-18 – *photos by Betty Wiest*



Betty Wiest, Judith Field, Carole Pegoraro, Chantal Cannon, Liz O'Leary, Eileen Dowling, Diana Perog enjoy the tour.

**GREEN KIDS, MAY 17, at the Stable** - *photos submitted by Maria Gilosa*



The last Green Kids program for the summer was at The Stable, on May 17, with the "Release of the Butterflies" in the garden. This marked the close of the 10th Year of Green Kids! Honoring Leslie Kolvek on her last day at Green Kids were Maria Gilosa, Anthea Luter, Toni Cohen and Dorothy Folger.



---

**ANNUAL GCNJ MEETING IN BRIDGEWATER – JUNE 7, 2018** *photo submitted by Debbie Engel*

WGR received two awards. The first is the Bernardsville Garden Club trophy for an outstanding project in civic or environmental improvements - for the Renovation of Entry Garden to the Village of Ridgewood Public Library. The second is the Youth Lead the Way award for the Recycled Log Planter 12' long planted to teach sustainability, which included a check for a \$200 grant.



Sharon Gilsenan, Judy Collins, and Debbie Engel receive awards on behalf of WGR.

**LUNCHEON – JUNE 8, at the Ho-Ho-Kus Inn** - *photos submitted by Judith Field and Maria Gilosa*



Carol Lehmann and Marcia Frifield enjoy lunch. Outgoing President, Jenny Given, was presented with flowers as incoming President, Sharon Gilsenan looks on. Judy Collins shows GCNJ award for civic and environmental projects, the renovation of the Library garden.

---

**SAVE THE DATE – NEW MEMBER TEA, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1:00 PM** at Sharon Gilsenan's home. Join us in welcoming our new members to the Women Gardeners of Ridgewood, looking forward to our Garden Year ahead! Cookies, refreshments, tea and coffee served. Kindly RSVP to Carol Lehmann, Membership Chair, by October 1.

**NEW OFFICERS, ELECTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**OFFICERS**

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

Ridgewood Public Gardens

Habernickel	Toni Cohen Irene de Castro
Library	Judy Collins Open
Van Neste	Barbara Ferrante Jenny Given Judy Scanlan
Stable	Anthea Luter Open
Special Projects	Eleanor Collins Irene Palatucci
Website	Joan Kokoska Leigh Saltiel
Yearbook	Judith Field

**ELECTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Gardeners Day - 2019	Maria Gilosa Leigh Goodson Jeannette Wiener
Garden Tour - 2020	Lisa Betancourt Jenny Given
Green Kids	Toni Cohen Anthea Luter
Hospitality	Ginny Bryan Marge Garfield Diana Perog
Newsletter	Judith Field
Publicity	Open
Resource Room	Barbara French Liz O'Leary

**APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Book Reviews	All Members
Bylaws Revision	Toni Cohen Marcia Frifield Sharon Gilsenan Carol Lehmann
Courtesy	Janel Clinch
Day Trips	Betty Wiest
Environment & Conservation	All Members
Historian	Marcia Frifield
Mailing List	Joan Kokoska
Multi-Day Spring Trip	Betty Wiest
Overseas Spring Trip	Janel Clinch
Scholarship Awards	Mandy Clark Joan Kokoska Jeannette Wiener



**BUDGET** - Here is the budget for 2018-2019. Included is a \$300 donation from the Ridgewood Guild - \$200 went to Van Neste, \$100 to Library garden. Green Kids budget reflects the \$200 award received from the GCNJ last June 2018.

Hospitality	\$ 150.	Sunshine	\$ 300.
Programs	\$1500.	Website	\$ 400.
Yearbook	\$ 700.	Supplies- Aprons	\$ 500.
Van Neste	\$ 600.	Membership Affiliations	\$ 420.
Library	\$ 500.	Resource Room	\$ 200.
Habernickel	\$ 300.	Insurance	\$ 450.
Stable Garden	\$ 300.	Garden Club of New Jersey - dues	\$ 650.
Green Kids	\$ 700.		
Special Projects	\$ 500.	Total	\$ 9,670.00
Scholarships	\$1500.		

**WGR DAY TRIP**, JULY 27, to Weathersfield in Dutchess County, on the NY/CT border. This trip was the fifth in a series planned by Betty Wiest to explore Hudson Valley gardens - *photos by Betty Wiest*



Carol Lehmann, Lisa Betancourt, Sharon Gilsenan, Irene de Castro, Eileen Dowling, V Udeshi, Eleanor Collins and Betty Wiest (the photographer).

The ladies are relaxing next to the pool and V is enjoying the cutting garden.

To quote Carol Lehmann:  
“Beautiful day, beautiful scenery, good friends.”

**RESOURCE ROOM** - The Resource Room on the 2nd floor of the Health Barn at Habernickel Family Park will be open to the public on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 1-3 pm. It will not be open in December, January or August. All WGR members are welcome ANYTIME to come to the Resource Room to look over garden books, old yearbooks, albums of our trips, and many photos of members from way back when. Our members may also take out gardening books to look over at home. Please leave the title of the book, the author, and the date on an index card in the wooden box provided. Take the book back when you are finished looking at it, and remove the card after returning the book to the shelf where you found it.



Better shelves display the books.



White board will be useful for meetings.



Sign-out box for books.

## **MINUTES FROM THE LAST GENERAL MEETING - JUNE 8, 2018 at Ho-Ho-Kus Inn**

Attendance was not taken at this meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Jenny Given, President.

**President's Report:** Jenny thanked the hostesses for the flower arrangements on each table. Jenny asked Carol Lehmann to introduce our two new members, Chantal Cannon and Pat Hanley. Carol had welcome gifts for them.

Jenny reported that at the annual meeting of the Garden Club of NJ we had been given two awards. Sharon Gilsenan, Judy Collins, and Debbie Engel attended the annual meeting on June 7th. Sharon said that the renovation of the Library garden had received an award for civic and environmental projects; and the Green Kids had won an award - "Youth Leads the Way" - for the cut out log planter they had planted near the patio behind the Stable. The award was for sustainability and came with a \$200 grant.

**Executive Vice President's Report:** Sharon Gilsenan reminded club members that the Garden Conservancy held open days all summer and into the fall. Sharon has tickets for \$3.50 which don't expire if anyone is interested in planning some summer outings.

Sharon and Jenny noted that this was Debbie Engel's last meeting before she moved back to Texas. They thanked Debbie for all her contributions to the club and wished her well.

Sharon asked all committee chairmen to get their year-end reports in to her by June 25th. She said they are very helpful for planning next year. They will be stored in the Resource Room for future reference.

**Treasurer's Report:** Eileen Dowling had a preliminary report on the garden tour. We had total income from sponsors, ticket sales, the potting shed and vendors of \$15,136.23. And we had total garden tour

---

disbursements as of 6/8/18 of \$2,036.65. Eileen reminded everyone that not all the bills have been submitted yet. Eileen noted that the potting shed had made \$1506.25. She estimates that we sold about 308 tickets. It was a very successful garden tour.

**Public Gardens:**

Library Garden - Judy Collins passed around a sign-up sheet for members to sign up for a week to do weeding and dead-heading over the summer.

Van Neste - Barbara Ferrante told members that they had scheduled a very quick clean-up, weeding and clipping session for Monday, June 11 at 9:30. She said this would be the last clean-up until the fall.

Habernickel - Irene de Castro said that the Village had mowed the lawn and was beginning to take away some of the fallen branches and limbs. She and Toni Cohen would be planting some perennials down the driveway median and watering over the summer.

Stable - Anthea Luter told the club the rain barrel had been installed and the invasive ground cover had been weeded out and the garden looked beautiful for the garden tour.

**Yearbook:** Judith Field told the club members that the deadline for getting information into the upcoming yearbook is July 15.

**Topiary Times:** Judith Field said the deadline for the September issue of the Topiary Times is August 15.

**Garden Tour:** Maria Gilosa thanked everyone for all the hard work and help she got putting the tour together. She reminded everyone that it is truly a club wide effort and would never have gone so smoothly without everyone contributing. She said she had gotten wonderful feedback, and in particular the James Rose House and the Health Barn were so appreciative of being included. Jenny, Sharon and the club members congratulated Maria on a job very well done.

**Trips:** Betty Wiest told the members that she has planned some summer trips to the mid-Hudson valley. Most of them are day trips with one overnight trip. They include some unusual and little known gardens, as well as, the Vassar and Bard college campuses. Betty has sign-up sheets, and she has sent an e-mail outlining the trips and she will contact members by e-mail as the trips come up. Some WGR members will be leaving Sunday afternoon, June 10, for the Lake District in England.

**New Business:**

Lisa Betancourt gave Jenny flowers from WGR and her President's pin from the Garden Club of NJ, and she thanked Jenny for a wonderful year.

Jenny asked for a motion to accept the 2018-2019 slate of officers and committee chairmen as sent in an e-mail to the membership in the spring. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the 2018-2019 slate of officers and chairmen.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Toni Cohen,  
Co-Recording Secretary