

Topiary Times

A New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation

www.womengardenersofridgewood.com

92nd year, since 1925



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

Village Hall Senior Center, Library Garden

Board Meeting 10:30 Luncheon 12:00 Noon

HANDS ON PRUNING

Patrick Burke from Bartlett

Tree Experts will demonstrate pruning.

Please dress for the outdoors.

Business Meeting

HOSTESSES: Martha Blanco, Janel Clinch, Irene deCastro,
Linda Steffens and Jeannette Wiener*If unable to attend, please notify Carol Lehmann, c4141@aol.com*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back members! We are off to a stylish start this September thanks to hostesses Maria, Toni & Catherine. What a lovely tableau they set for us at HealthBarn, and what delicious dishes we enjoyed thanks to members A-G. Most enjoyable, though, was being in each other's company once again! This comraderie is what makes our club so special, in good times and bad... thank you ladies.

Please read the Topiary Times carefully as it is chock full of all that is new to WGR -- speakers, workshops, trips, our website and the opening of our new Resource Room, the Garden Gate! Our ongoing projects will continue to thrive with strong leadership and your help, so please volunteer your time for Green Kids, our 4 community gardens and Van Neste holiday decorating. Mother Nature may be winding down her Summer & Fall show but we will have much to keep us busy. I look forward to our year ahead and welcome your thoughts and suggestions on all club matters.

Warmly yours,

Jenny

GREEN KIDS - THURSDAYS, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM at the Stable

Anyone who would like to help at any of the classes please contact Anthea Luter at abluter@hotmail.com or (201) 857-5063 or Leslie Kolvek at lesliekolvek@verizon.net or (201) 447-1841.

SEPTEMBER 28 - Earthenware, Clay Pinch Pots
OCTOBER 5 - Log Planter
OCTOBER 12 - Fall Daffodil Planting
OCTOBER 19 - Gourd Bird Houses
OCTOBER 26 - Herb Wreaths

WORK DAY AT THE STABLE GARDEN - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 - Please help get the garden ready for "Green Kids".

RESOURCE ROOM - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 - Open to the public 1-3 PM. Volunteer: Ginny Bryan

The Garden Gate Resource Room is open to all Garden Club members any weekday, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. It is an excellent place to have small committee meetings, hostess meetings, library foyer display meetings, etc. There are four folding chairs in the small closet, so up to 12 members can be seated comfortably. If anyone has any WGR items to be stored in the closets, please contact Judith Field at judithwfield2@gmail.com. Arrangements will be made to help you carry them upstairs and find space for storage. Gardening books, magazines, etc. would be greatly appreciated.

The door plaque for the Resource Room, was painted by Liz O'Leary. The name, Garden Gate, was the winning entry, and was suggested by Carol Pegoraro. Way to go Carol!!!



WORKSHOP - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 6:00 PM - 9:00 p.m. at Hillcrest Gardens, 95 W. Century Rd, Paramus
This will be a Fall & Holiday Design Show, featuring Ron Johnson AIFD, with appetizers before the 7 p.m. program. The cost is \$10. Prepay Debbie Engel at the October meeting. There will be special discounts, vendor offerings and shopping.

GROUP LIBRARY ARRANGEMENT - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

Maria Gilosa, Leigh Goodson, Marianne Maher, Irene Palatucci and Mary Vermlyen

LIBRARY DESK FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS ON THURSDAYS

10/5 Ginny Bryan 10/26 Janel Clinch

TRIP - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5 to the NY Botanical Garden to visit the Chihuly exhibit. Leave from Betty's house at 4:30 p.m. for an early dinner on Arthur Avenue. The cost is \$38. Contact Betty at bgwiest47@gmail.com or (201) 652-0858.

CHANGES FOR 2017/2018 YEARBOOK

Please contact Judith Field, judithwfield2@gmail.com, with any corrections, changes or additions for the yearbook. Also, you might have noticed that the husbands' names are listed separately from the women's names this year. Many of you did not originally provide a husband's name; so, if you would like it listed, please email Judith. It will then be added so it will be printed in next year's book. It helps to know his name if you are phoning the member and he answers. If there is a husband's name listed and you do not want it to be, also email Judith.

(Page 11) Karen Fox's cell number should be 201-362-9191 and her email address is Karenvfox4@gmail.com.

(Page 11) The last cell number, 201-294-1619, for Marge Garfield should be dropped down to be included in Maria Gilosa's info.

(Page 18) Dale Berian's summer address is no longer valid.

THE NATIONAL CONSERVANCY'S OPEN DAYS

Contact Sharon Gilsean for discounted tickets. Google Garden Conservancy Inc. for details and photos about the open days for gardens in our area, and their educational programs called "Digging Deeper". Below, October 1 is a "Digging Deeper" program.

Sunday, September 17, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. The Mountsier Garden, 205 Rutgers Place, Nutley, NJ (\$3.50, reg. \$7)

Sunday, September 17, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Greenwood Gardens, 274 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ (\$3.50, reg. \$7)

Sunday, October 1, 10:30 a.m. A Workshop with Lynden Miller, 1 Williams Road, Sharon, CT (registration required, call 888-842-2442, \$30 from Sharon Gilsean, reg. \$35)

Saturday, December 2, 10 a.m. -3 p.m. Atlock Farm, 545 Weston Canal Road, Somerset (Free admission)

LIBRARY GARDEN WORK SESSION - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, photos by Judith Field



Irene deCastro, Debbie Engel, Eileen Dowling, Judy Collins, Diana Perog and Judith Field work in the garden

UPCOMING LIBRARY GARDEN WORK SESSION, OCTOBER 17, 9:00 AM-11 AM, rain date 10/18

LIBRARY GARDEN UPDATE *by Debbie Engel*

WGR is getting a lot of 'new lookers' at the Library Garden...LOL.

Photo submitted by Debbie Engel



The butterflies, the birds and even the bunnies are lining up to take a look at the new planting and design here...How Sweet!

2018 SECRET GARDEN TOUR UPDATE, by Maria Gilsosa

As mentioned at the luncheon last week, we are pleased that we have all our public and private gardens lined up for the tour. We'd like to thank everyone who has volunteered so far to help with the many committees making up the Garden Tour. However, we still need a volunteer for Publicity and Sponsorship to work with our Publicity Chairman, Marianne Maher. If anyone is interested, please email Maria at mariagilosa@mindspring.com. Additional information will be provided as we continue to plan for the tour.

FOR THE GARDEN TOUR POTTING SHED IN JUNE

As you are pruning back your perennials and ornamental grasses for the end of the season, please pot favorites for the club to sell at the garden tour. Label with a Popsicle stick or plastic knife and put in an unheated garage to overwinter. Water periodically. Quart to Gallon sizes are easiest to handle. Call Debbie Engel for help.

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUNDRAISER DINNER - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 10:00 AM at Indian Trails Country Club
Jeannette Wiener is requesting volunteers to help create floral arrangements for the annual Children's Aid and Family Services Fall fundraiser dinner. If interested please contact Jeannette at 201-670-6737, jeannettewiener@gmail.com.

FALL LUNCHEON - SEPTEMBER 8 at the HealthBarn, Habernickel Park, *photos by Judith Field*



Catherine Donnelly, Toni Cohen and Maria Gilosa are hostesses. Rosemary Arndt slices ham. Barbara Ferrante, Betty Wiest, Marianne Maher, Debbie Engel, Irene deCastro, Judy Scanlan and Linda Steffens help themselves to lunch.



The Women Gardeners of Ridgewood are enjoying visiting with old and new friends at the first fall gathering.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST GENERAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

Present: Betancourt, Blanco, Bryan, Clinch, Cohen, Collins, J., de Castro, Donnelly, Dowling, Engel, Ferrante, Field, Folger, Fox, French, Garfield, Gilosa, Gilseman, Given, Halaby, Heilborn, Hyslop, Kolvek, Luter, Maher, O'Leary, Perog, Scanlan, Steffens, Unver, Vermynen, Wiener, Wiest, Wirtz.

James Rose House: Prior to the meeting Judy Scanlon introduced the club to our speaker who spoke about the James Rose House located on East Ridgewood Avenue. They are looking for volunteers to help with the garden there. The house is going to be visited by a committee from the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation who may consider adding the Rose House to the stable of properties that they list in their portfolio. The Rose House is looking for help to plant perennials and clean-up the property on 9/9 and 9/10 as well as 9/16. The committee is visiting on 9/17. Judy has a sign-up sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Jenny Given, President. Jenny welcomed everyone and encouraged everyone to let her know if they had any ideas or suggestions for programs or plans for the coming year. Jenny thanked Judith Field for stepping in and compiling the Yearbook. The new Yearbooks will be distributed today. Jenny noted that the by-laws are no longer in the Yearbook and are now posted on the web site. This change along with fewer pictures resulted in considerable savings. Also, she noted that floral arrangements for the Library are no longer voluntary, but are listed in the Yearbook. Jenny noted that at the GCNJ Annual Meeting in May our last Yearbook received a certificate of excellence. Jenny let the members know that Joan Kokoska had been working all summer with our web designers to get our new web site up and running. In addition to our by-laws there is a lot of current club information on the site and pictures will be added shortly. Members can access the Yearbook on the website by using the corresponding tab. By-laws and member listings are located in the Members Only tab, password: 1925. The site is very easy to use. Jenny thanked the hostesses and all the members A-G who made the food for the luncheon.

Programs: Barbara French and Debbie Engel called members attention to two important changes for the fall meetings. The October meeting will be held at the Senior Center at Village Hall and the program for that meeting will be on pruning and that will be held in the Library garden. The November meeting will be held at 10 AM and will include light refreshments. Both these changes are noted in the Yearbook. Debbie Engel let members know that they have arranged for us to attend the fall and holiday design show at Hillcrest Gardens featuring Ron Johnson on October 11 from 6-9 PM. The topic is fall and holiday floral designs. There is a \$10 fee and Debbie is collecting the money. There will be many vendors as well as time to shop. Barbara added that they are trying some new ideas for programming such as the program on farming that will be held in the spring.

Treasurer's Report: Eileen Dowling reported that our balance on 6-30-17 was \$12, 559.54 and the balance on 8-31-17 was \$11,284.11. Eileen reported that the budget for the calendar year 2017-2018 will be \$8,875.00. This is less than previous years' budgets due to less income from the last garden tour and ed day. The club will be looking at ways to try to increase revenue and get donations. The budget was published in the Topiary Times.

Executive Vice President: Sharon Gilsenan reported that WGR had joined the national Garden Conservancy. This enables us to acquire discount tickets for their open days as well as their directory. We can also have access to their education programs such as "Digging Deeper". They have trips we can take as well. A copy of the directory will be in our Resource Room. If we are interested, we could submit one of our public gardens for inclusion in one of the "Open Days". The next "Open Day" for northern New Jersey is Saturday, Sept 9. Sharon also reported that she had attended the Village Council meeting on Sept. 6 with Lisa Betancourt and Cynthia Halaby, who was representing the Conservancy as well, in support of Frank Mortimer, who is the President of the Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers Association. He was asking the Village Council to support his proposal that the village become the first "Bee City" in New Jersey. The Village Council voted to support that request and donate \$200 to the project.

Gardens:

Van Neste: Cynthia Halaby reported that the in-coming head of Parks and Rec in the village was an enthusiastic supporter of continuing efforts to improve Van Neste and he seemed very willing to form a genuine partnership with the Club to continue improving the gardens there. Cynthia also reported that Lisa Betancourt had contact with the American Legion and the VFW and that they were very willing to try and help with efforts to improve the area around the war memorial. They might be willing to go to the Rotary Club to ask for donations to support that work.

Library Garden: Debbie Engel and Judy Collins reported that they had scheduled a work session for Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 9. They are going to remove the Spirea (which will go to Van Neste Park for transplanting). They will have two more work sessions in October and November. The transplanted trees are doing well and they continue to keep the red twig dogwoods cut back.

Habernickel: Irene de Castro reported that the Village had taken down one of the dead trees and had removed a large fallen branch. She said Habernickel could use some large straight branches for the border of the path. The

dogwood tree planted in the spring in honor of Maribeth Lane is doing well. There will be a clean-up day scheduled for the fall when we will plant daffodil bulbs donated by the Library garden.

Stable: Leslie Kolvek reported that she had help this summer from a young man who needed community service hours and so the garden had a good clean-up then. She has scheduled a work day for Friday, Sept. 22 at 9:30 to get the garden ready for the start of the Green Kids program.

Jenny Given announced that the National Garden Club had grants available for garden clubs doing work in public gardens. She will follow up on that so that we can apply for Van Neste and the Library garden and possibly some of the other gardens, also.

Green Kids: Leslie Kolvek said Green Kids would be starting on Sept. 28 from 3:30-4:30. There will be 6 sessions. The new day is Thursday. Leslie will need fresh herbs for the session on October 28 when they will be making fresh herb wreaths. She said she will also need black walnuts for the session when the kids make the meals on wheels favors.

Special Projects: Members need to start collecting boxes for the Van Neste holiday display. Barbara Hyslop volunteered her garage to store the boxes. The boxes will be wrapped on Nov 13 at 9 AM in the Community Room at the Stable and the installation at Van Neste is Nov 20 at 9 AM.

Jeannette Wiener announced that we will be making 30 small flower arrangements for the Children's Aid and Family Services dinner on Oct. 13 at Indian Trails Club. We will meet there at 10 AM. She will have a sign-up sheet at the October meeting.

Garden Tour: Maria Gilosa reported that the committee had made a lot of progress over the summer. We have 7 private gardens and two public gardens committed to the tour. Most of the committee spots have been filled. Debbie Engel has volunteered to be in charge of the Potting Shed with help from Janel Clinch and Judy Collins, so that leaves publicity and finding sponsors as the last important open spot. Maria commented that we are looking for ways to raise more revenue from the garden tour. The committee is considering having raffle baskets, plant sales, larger discounts for early ticket purchases, as examples of things we might consider. Any ideas are welcome.

Resource Room: Jenny thanked Judith Field and Liz O'Leary for all the work they did to get the Resource Room furnished and ready to open. It is located on the 2nd floor of the gate house at Habernickel. We are calling the room the "Garden Gate". Liz has made a sign for the door. A sign for the exterior of the house is still being worked on. The room is fully furnished with tables, chairs, lamps and bookcases. It looks beautiful and is very comfortable. It is ideal for small committee meetings. The resource room will be open to the public on the second Tuesday of each month from 1-3 PM, and a volunteer from the club will be available on that day in the room.

Trips: Betty Wiest announced that there will be a trip on Thursday, October 5 to the NY Botanical Garden to visit the Chilully exhibit. We will leave from Betty's house at 4:30 so we will see the exhibit at the end of the day and into the evening. The cost is \$38. Jenny Given has asked Betty to organize a spring overnight trip for the club. Betty is making plans for the club to go to Boston for three nights - May 16, May 17 and May 18. The trip would include the Beacon Hill backyards garden tour, Tower Hill and the Harvard collection of glass flowers. If time allows it might include a tour of Auburn Cemetery.

England (or Ireland) Trip: Anthea Luter announced that Carol Lehmann and Carole Pegararo would like to organize another trip to England (or perhaps Ireland). They would use the same company as was used last year and they would hire the same guide. They are considering going to the Lake District and perhaps include York. A trip to Ireland is also a consideration. They would plan the trip for the second week of June. They need 10 to 12 people to make the trip possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni Cohen,
Co-Recording Secretary