

February 2009 WINTER

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## Garden Club Meeting & Program February 12

Explore the use of conifers in your plant display -think balance in color, texture and space. Come and hear **Mark Rohsler** speak on "**Conifers in the Garden**." Mark is from Rohsler's Nursery,100 Franklin Blvd., Allendale, NJ (www.rohslers.com/.) He is a member of the American Conifer Society (www.conifersociety.org.) The nursery has a five generation history, beginning with Austrian immigrant Herman George Rohsler's plant in Garfield in 1913.

All Garden Club Meetings & Programs: 7:30 PM Rodda Community Center, 250 Colonial Court, Teaneck NJ.

## February 7: Greenhouse Meeting Cuppa-and More

The Greenhouse Committee is hosting a "Cuppa and More" at the beginning of the **February 7, 2009** meeting, 10:00 AM at the Teaneck Greenhouse, at the foot of Lindbergh Blvd. Come early, help set up, socialize and enjoy the atmosphere of a fragrant greenhouse in the middle of winter.

Greenhouse members are getting the Greenhouse ready for the soon-to be-arriving **seeds** and **plugs**. All members are asked to look out for instructions specific to certain seeds and plugs. Remember to label all packs. News from the January 3 Greenhouse meeting includes the tabling of the vote to allow one bench space per family instead of two benches. The consensus was that there were not enough people affected at this time.

## Help the Garden Club be Greener

Get this newsletter by email instead of by first class post. Contact Stella Franco (stellafranco@optonline.net) and you will receive PDF copies in the future. You will be able to see it in full color!











In an Herb Garden ....

# Interview: The Teaneck Gardener Janet Austin

This interview is the first of what is planned to be a Clubwide endeavor: tapping into the wisdom of our members about all things "garden". Please respond when you are asked!

Janet has been gardening since she was a teenager, taking over the family vegetable and flower garden in Sioux City, Iowa. She moved to Teaneck with her family and became a member of the Garden Club about 30 years ago. A Master Gardener, she has gardens in the Community Garden (vegetables) and around her home (flower perennials). Janet is well known for her humorous take on the passion with tomatoes, having started a "T" (for Tomato") Party in the mid-eighties as a joke. (The T Party continues.) She commented on the trials and joys of the Teaneck Gardener. Here is some of what she said:

Favorites: Janet went immediately to "Tomatoes!" as her favorite. She grows an eclectic mix, having experimented with heirlooms as well as the ususal garden variety. Vegetables of all kinds rank as her favorites; she has a 9 or 10 month garden, growing a wide variety of greens (mesclun, arugula, lettuces of all colors.)

Challenges? The Wary Garden Warrior, the Woodchuck, has been the bane of Janet's garden. She has tried everything:sound devices, electronic devices, critter chasers---with limited results. But she does celebrate the Groundhogshe has an elaborate party for gardeners who dislike-and like!-the critter, and swears she serves "Roast Hog". (For more about Groundhog Celebrations, check http.www.groundhog.org/info)



**Janet Austin** 

Recommendations? Due to the current economy, Janet recommends that the Savvy Gardener grow herbs. They are inexpensive in seed form, take little attention, can be grown on a kitchen window sill, and save big bucks. If you look at the costs in a local market (\$2.00-\$3.50 for a few sprigs; it's obvious it makes sense.) Herbs don't have to be wasted. Janet noted the practice of freezing the cut up herbs, with oil, in ice cube trays. Then, a pop of the cubes into soup or stews will bring fresh taste.

Where would you go shopping for winter vegetables? "That's easy---the Paterson Farmer's Market!" Thanks, Janet!

(The Market opened in 1932. Check www.patersonfarmersmarket.com/.)



**Members:** *Mary S. Topolsky* will be teaching the following gardening courses this spring at the Teaneck Community Education Center, One Merrison Road (Eugene Field School), Teaneck.**Vegetable Gardening:** March 30, 7:30-9:00 pm.**Turn Your Black Thumb Green:** April 6, 13 and 20, 7:30-9:00 pm.

#### **EXCURSIONS & DIVERSIONS**

Brooklyn Botanic Garden : www.bbg.org

Special Theme Tour: Chase Away the Winter Blues February 1; March 1 | 1 p.m.

From site: "Exposure to daylight, even on a cloudy day, can help restore energy, alertness, and contentment. Join Lynne Spevack, LCSW, a licensed psychotherapist and veteran Brooklyn Botanic Garden tour guide, for this hour-long, narrated wintertime walk designed to chase away the winter blues. Learn how to maintain a sunny outlook through dark, cold winter days, and discover the plants and animals that enliven the garden landscape even in the "dead" of winter. Tour is held rain, snow, or shine; dress warmly and wear comfortable shoes. Meet in the Visitor Center."

# New York Botanical Gardens www.nybg.org February Ongoing Exhibitions:

- ---World of Plants in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory and Plants
- ---The Life and Work of George Washington Carver January 17-February 22, 2009
- ---Moore in America (Extended through March 15, 2009).
- ---The Heirloom Tomato. Portraits of Historic Tomato Varieties from the Gardens of Amy Goldman .August 12, 2008–August 30, 2009. In the Arthur and Janet Ross Gallery.
- --Tomato Images & blooming Plants: Tomatoes:http://www.nybg.org/victor\_images.php IMAGE GALLERY. Find out what is blooming now: There are nine flowering plants currently in the Garden, including witch hazel (http://www.nybg.org/.)

Blanche E. Grant, 96, of Teaneck, Members: died peacefully on Sunday, December 7, 2008, at Hackensack University Medical Center at the age of 96 years. Born on April 18, 1912 in New York City, she was a long time resident of Brooklyn Heights, NY. She moved to the Classic Residence by Hyatt in Teaneck in the later years of her life. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Bryn Mawr College and her Master of Arts Degree from Teacher's College at Columbia University in New York. She worked for the New York City Board of Education and was a member of the Garden Club and Ethical Culture Society, both of Teaneck.--From http://www.gentilefuneralservice.com/Obituaries/ Grant,%20Blanche%20E..htm

## Skylands: www.njbg.org

February 22 (Sunday), 10 am-1 pm ADK Winter Hike. Enjoy the quiet beauty of winter on a hike at the Botanical Garden under the expert guidance of members of the Adirondack .Come prepared with sturdy hiking shoes, water, and lunch. This will be a moderate hike with upsand-downs, and some terrain may be rugged. Heavy snow cancels, Meet at the Carriage House. \$3 Donation (From site.)

## New Jersey Flower & Garden Show February 12 - 15, 2009: *It's A Colorful World!*

New Jersey Convention Center, Edison, NJ Tickets: http://www.macevents.com show.cfm/, Discount coupons/Directions: Check above web site.

## New Jersey Convention Center, Edison, NJ

Thursday 1pm - 9pm, Friday 10am - 9pm

Saturday 10am - 9pm, Sunday 10am - 6pm

Check the web site to see the 2009 *Garden Descriptions* before going..

#### The Snow Man by Wallace Stevens

One must have a mind of winter

To regard the frost and the boughs

Of the pine-trees crusted with snow;

And have been cold a long time

To behold the junipers shagged with ice,

The spruces rough in the distant glitter

Of the January sun; and not to think

Of any misery in the sound of the wind,

In the sound of a few leaves.

Which is the sound of the land

Full of the same wind

That is blowing in the same bare place

For the listener, who listens in the snow,

And, nothing himself, beholds

Nothing that is not there and the nothing that is.

### GARDEN CLUB OF TEANECK - ANNUAL TRIP TO

### THE PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW

## Bella Italia

Date: Tuesday, March 3rd, 2009

Where to meet: Southern Little League Parking Lot Glenwood Avenue, Teaneck

**Time:** Bus leaves promptly at 8:00 AM, Returns to Teaneck no later than 6:30PM

**Cost:** \$50.00 for Garden Club members,\$53.00 for non-members

Includes show admission, bus trip and snacks

### **SEATING IS LIMITED**

Send your check early to guarantee a seat

Reservations without payment will not be accepted

No cancellations accepted after Wednesday, February 25, 2009

### For Further Information:

Call: Debbie Morgan (201) 833-8208\



Make check payable to: Garden Club of Teaneck  Mail to: Debbie Morgan, 288 Maitland Avenue., Teanec	ck, NJ 07666
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