



Garden Club News

June 2009
Spring /Summer

P.O. Box 3253 Teaneck, NJ 07666

www.gardenclubofteaneck.org/

Calendar: June 2009: Spring Luncheon & Meeting June 13 Details Inside, *RSVP Immediately*



Summer Time and the Livin' is Easy!

Away we go to vacations, warm breezes, hammocks, flowers, vegetable gardens, and lazy al fresco dinners..... Thanks to all members who have given their time, talent and good will this year. We have seen new plants on Greenhouse benches, heard ideas from speakers and one another in Club lectures---and had a profitable SALE! Look and see the gardens next to the Greenhouse with rhubarb clustered in corners, ruffled leaves spread out. Have a relaxing summer----see you next Fall!

Fall 2009 Schedule:

Next Greenhouse Committee Meeting: First Saturday, 10 AM, Oct 3: The meeting will be convened at the Teaneck Greenhouse, located at the foot of Lindbergh Blvd.

Next Garden Club Meeting & Program: Second Thursday in October 2009 : Oct. 8.

All Garden Club Meetings & Programs: 7:30 PM Rodda Community Center, 250 Colonial Court, Teaneck, N.J., unless noted otherwise.

Newsletter: Resumes in late September. Check for both Garden Club and Greenhouse meeting details. Send gardening & horticultural stories, pictures, etc. during the summer for the "What-I-Did-on-My-Summer-Vacation" issue.

Interview: Lou Schwartz

Where to start... Lou has been an organizer all his life; the word "organization" flows through his descriptions of action, of which there are many. His occupational background is in plumbing (Plumbing Inspector, Plumber's Union.). Lou worked on the World Trade Center.

He also is self taught in so many things, describing himself as "*interested in learning.*"

...Civic roles? His civic affiliations are many. Lou was a member of the Town Council, has organized sports for kids (including having girls on every team.) Also notable was his institution of equity for all: every player got to play at least 1/2 a game.

...Membership in the Garden Club? Lou has been a member of the Garden Club for thirty five years. When he first applied, there would be "*some ladies who came to visit you to see if you were 'good enough'.*" He "*started fresh*": "*Where do you put a plant in an apartment?*" He has been President of the Garden Club--he was 'good enough'!

...Director of the Greenhouse? First, it was Assistant Director, then as Director, changes were made. Lou increased the Greenhouse space for members. At that time, officers had privileges--which he removed. All Greenhouse members paid dues then of \$3.00. "*When I was a Director, I was here very often because I was retired. When I came in, everyone got very busy.*"

...Sales? *When I was Assistant Director, Sales were done in front of shopping*

centers; they were quite small." Lou convinced others to have the Sales at the Greenhouse.

One thing that is your mark are the pipes that became stair railings in the Greenhouse...

"Yes, [I] put railings in, hotbed in when I became Director... put in the bathroom, too."

... Tell me about your work with kids. Lou originally went into the classrooms at Hawthorne School, and "*gave them the basics*" **Which were...** "*the importance of plants, the very simple cycle of life, life can exist between plants and animals, how you water...*"

How DO you water? "*Lift up (the potted plant) to see if it is heavy, put your finger in the soil to see if it needs water. Watch out for overwatering!*"

...And your interests in gardening? "*I'm interested in vegetable gardening---plants and the exercise, which I need.*" Lou grows tomatoes, beans, peas, squash, peppers---at both a home and a Greenhouse garden. "*I can do less!*"

...How did you learn what to do in a garden?"

"I took a couple of courses, gardening..." And learn well, he did, enough to teach others. In an interview for this **Newsletter**, in April, 2001. Rosa Fobbs reported on a tour of Lou's "yarden" that included a strawberry patch, a bonsai area that was his son's, and azaleas. "*The thing to watch out for (and a lot of people don't know this), very often your azalea gets big and you want to trim it down, you must not cut it until after it blooms! If you prune it before it flowers, you cut off all the buds.*"

Lou is the youngest 96 year old ever seen in this Garden Club and an inspiration to all.

EXECUTIVE BOARD President: **Aura Altieri**. 1st Vice President: **Deborah Morgan**. 2nd Vice President: **Catherine Lloyd**. Treasurer: **Sara Jones** [temp.]. Recording Secretary: **Stella Franco**. Corresponding Secretary: **Ann Hirsch**. Board Member: **Elyse Constantin**. Board Member: **Victor Plummer**. Greenhouse Director: **Dania Cheddie**. Immediate Past President: **Pat Pacheco**. Newsletter Team: **Patricia O'Brien Libutti**, Editor, **Stella Franco**, Circulation.

Events

New York Botanical Gardens, Bronx, NY
www.nybg.org. **Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden:** Tour more than 3,000 rose plants, 600 varieties of roses.

Rose Garden Tours: Saturdays and Sundays, 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Home Gardening Demonstrations
:Saturdays and Sundays, 2 p.m.

Wine and Roses. Fri., June 5, 12, 19; 6–8 pm.

New Jersey Botanical Gardens (Skylands) www.njbg.org

Skylands Manor Tours. Historic tours guided by NJBG docents. *Donation.* June 7, July 12, August 2. Takes 45 minutes. 12 pm until 4 pm. **Garden Tours**, descriptions: <http://www.njbg.org/tours.shtml#garden>

Wave Hill Riverdale, NY. www.wavehill.org
Herb and Dry Garden. Look at the herbs and ornamental plants that conserve water.

Chronicles of the Garden Club

“We of the Garden Club of Teaneck offer this gift to the Township with the hope that it will serve as a living memorial to all that was fine in our colonial past and to the spirit that is still strong in all of us to make democracy work by exemplifying what people acting together can accomplish.”
---Grace Kriegel, *Teaneck News*, May 26, 1976.

“ On April first, 1975, then-Mayor Eleanor Kieleszek turned over the first spade full of earth for the Bicentennial Celebration Herb Garden, located on the Municipal Green. But work on the project really began two years prior to that date. A group of Garden Club members, headed by Grace Kriegel, prepared a plan for a permanent garden as a gift to the township. The garden would be composed of an “Inner Knot Garden” based on authentic colonial designs and bordered by a four foot brick walk. Surrounding the walk would be an “Outer Garden” composed of culinary, decorative, medicinal and aromatic herbs. Plants would be indigenous to the northeastern area, with minor exceptions for educational purposes. Most of the plants would be propagated at the township greenhouse. There were many hours of painstaking research and trips to sample gardens in NJ, NY, CT, and PA.

A small group of members began to create the inner knot garden in the Spring of 1975. They were joined by several Cub Scout Den members on Saturday mornings, learning how to plant, mulch, weed, rake and water a garden. In April of 1976, the hopes of having the garden enclosed by a brick path were realized through the helpful efforts of Miss Olive Tamborelle of the Teaneck Public Library. An anonymous contributor donated two thousand used bricks and Mr. Ed Carratura generously contributed the labor. The outer garden was soon completed. Twenty years later, the garden still retains most of the original design.”

“...A special thank you to the Monday Herb Group--Angie Torrieri (Group Leader), Ida Caselli, Helen Humphreys, Helen Hurlbut, Paul Hurlbut, John Lewis, Catherine Lloyd, Emma Mutchler, Monica Oscarsson, Lenora Wesl and George Zourdos for their tireless work in maintaining the Garden twelve months of the year and whose efforts, along with those of Rosalie Beffa, Helen Bove (posthumously), Nancy Cochrane and Julia Condit, made today's dedication a reality.”
From the program for the *Dedication of the Grace Kriegel Memorial Herb Garden, October 5, 1996, 1:00 PM, Township of Teaneck, Municipal Green.*

Chronicles of the Garden Club will be included when original papers, photos, letters, etc. are found. This one is from Helen Humphreys' collection.

The GC in Action

At the Sale on Mother's Day: Jane Furman, Christina Mackensen, Debbie Morgan, Michael Ponticorvo, Sarah Jones and Stella Franco.



Debbie and customer at the Sale.



Susan Carden looking at her garden.



Jon Ross gathering chips for his garden.

Art in Bloom- Montclair Art Museum, May 7th.(paired art and flower arrangements).Pat Pacheco's favorite piece.



Pat Libutti's favorite iris from Presby Gardens, Memorial Day weekend.

GARDEN CLUB OF TEANECK

SPRING LUNCHEON & MEETING

WHEN: Saturday June 13, 2009

TIME: 12:30 noon – Cash Bar 1:00 - Lunch

WHERE: Amarone Ristorante

63 Cedar Lane (Adjacent to the Municipal Bldg on Cedar Lane)

Teaneck, NJ www.amaroneristorante.com

COST: \$25.50 Per person (*Includes LUNCH, GRATUITY & TAX.*) *

Send the check to:

Aura Altieri

154 Ft. Lee Road

Teaneck, NJ 07666

Phone: 201-692-0034 Home

201-923-7028 Cell.

OR

Call **Aura** & let her know you are coming and how many people by

THURSDAY, June 11.

PARKING: In MUNICIPAL LOT, IN CHURCH LOT across the street or STREET

MENU: ON REVERSE OF PAGE

*(Only Greenhouse members will get \$10 back).

Party Menu 2009:

First Course: You may choose one item:

Salad : Mixed green lettuce in a light champagne vinaigrette dressing

Soup of the Day : Chef's choice

Main Course: You may choose item from any entree:

Penne Alla Mozart : Pasta sauteed with shallots, green sweet peas, and light cream of tomato pink sauce

Pollo al Capari : Breast of chicken sauteed with shallots and artichoke hearts in a white wine capers sauce

Farfalle Bersagliera : Bow tie pasta, in a fresh tomato sauce with capers & gaeta olives

Sole Oreganato : Broiled filet of sole with bread crumbs oregano in a wine garlic sauce

All entrees are served with **potato** and **vegetable, assorted fresh fruit platter, coffee** or **tea**.

A GARDEN CLUB MEETING will conclude this party. Business from May '09 and future directions are part of the Agenda. All are encouraged to attend this segment of the Party and vote on issues of interest.