



Garden Club News

May 2009
Spring

P.O. Box 3253 Teaneck, NJ 07666

www.gardenclubofteaneck.org/

Calendar May 2009

Garden Club Meeting & Program May 14, 2009: Folklore of Trees, Steven Kristoph

Did you know that in ancient times the Yew (Taxus) was viewed as protector of the dead? Or did you know that if one were to place witchhazel twigs in their hair and make a wish, their wish would come true? How about this one, the most widely distributed tree in North America is not maple but aspen. In his presentation, Steven Kristoph hopes to entertain you with some of the more curious, unique and somewhat strange legends of trees. Folklore and fun facts can be great dinner conversation with family and friends. And with TV shows such as Who Wants to be A Millionaire, The Cash Cab and Are You Really Smarter Than a Fifth Grader you may even be called upon as a life-line.

*P. Steven Kristoph received his Bachelors and Masters degrees in horticulture from Rutgers University. He has been an adjunct instructor at Rutgers University for over 30 years. In addition, Mr. Kristoph owns and operates a nursery in Millstone Township of Monmouth County NJ where he grows many types of ornamental trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials. Steven is passionate about plants and likes to share his passion with others. Plant walks with him are always an adventure. It's not uncommon for Steve to stop at a big beech or oak tree and give it a hug. Taking time to smell all the roses is important to him and you can bet if there's an indumented rhododendron leaf close by it's likely to get a gentle caress.---from www.pstevenkristoph.com. **All Garden Club Meetings & Programs: 7:30 PM Rodda Community Center, 250 Colonial Court, Teaneck, N.J., unless noted otherwise.***

Greenhouse Committee Meeting: Saturday, May 23: The Greenhouse Committee is convening the **Saturday, May 23, 2009** meeting at 10:00 AM at the Teaneck Greenhouse, located at the foot of Lindbergh Blvd. Wear your ready-to-work clothes; the last meeting of the year has traditionally included clean-up time.

Garden Club Spring Luncheon: Saturday, June 13

The date has been chosen, so mark your calendars for the annual luncheon. Relax, see fellow gardeners in a pleasant atmosphere. Where that will be is an item of careful thought. The restaurant will be announced.

Elections 2009: The Greenhouse has a two year cycle, and had elections in 2008. The Garden Club has the office of Treasurer open; expect discussion at the May 14 meeting.

Plant of the Month: Poppy (Papaver rhoeas, red field poppy.)

The flower symbolizes the sacrifice of veterans in the various wars. The flower can be found all over Europe, and is considered a wildflower.

Canadian soldier John McRae's WW I poem begins with the memorable lines
"In Flanders fields the poppies blow/ Between the crosses, row on row."/



Plant Sales in Bergen County: May 9 is Super Sales Day !

Demarest Garden Club. Friday, May 1· 2 PM – 8 PM & Saturday, May 2, 9 AM – 2 PM. Items: members' plants, perennials, flats of flowering annuals and vegetables, hanging baskets. Location: Demarest United Methodist Church parking lot, 109 Hardenburgh Rd. Demarest

Garden Club of Bergenfield. Saturday, May 9th, starting at 8 AM. Items: 10" Hanging Baskets of New Guinea Impatiens, Ivy Geraniums, Fuchsia, etc. 48-count Flats of Bedding Plants, 4½" Pots and Peach Baskets of zonal Geraniums. Location: Cooper's Pond Park (Church St., across from Old South Church) Rain or Shine.

Garden Club of Oakland. Saturday, May 9· 8 – 1:00 P.M. Hanging Baskets, Annuals, Vegetables, perennials from members gardens, flowers in ceramic containers. Location: Ponds Church parking lot on Route 202, Oakland.

Ramsey Area Garden Club. Saturday, May 9, 9:– 3. Items: Perennials: Heuchera, Euphorbia, Clematis, Astilbe, Campanula, Penstemon, Members Plants, Hanging baskets of annuals. Location: Ramsey Train Station, Main Street, Ramsey.

Sundial Garden Club. Saturday, May 9, 8 AM – 3 PM. Items: select members' plants, annuals, perennials, herbs, vegetables, hanging baskets, raffle for hanging baskets. Location: Hillsdale Train Station.

Tenafly Garden Club. Mother's Day Plant Sale. Saturday, May 9, 9 AM – 2 PM. Items: Perennials from members' gardens, hanging baskets, tomato/herb garden pots, Gift baskets. Location: Davis Johnson Park, Engle St & Westervelt, Tenafly

Ho-Ho-Kus Garden Club . Saturday, May 16, 9:00AM-1:00 PM (Raindate, Sunday, May, 17.) Items: ferns, perennials, annuals, baked goods and gently used household and decorative items. Location: The Ho-Ho-Kus Green: at the intersection of Franklin Turnpike and Sheridan Avenue. All proceeds to go to the Ho-Ho-Kus Garden Club's Scholarship Fund.

Saddle River Garden Club. Saturday, May 16, 9:00AM – 3:00 PM. Location: The Bishop House: 176 East Saddle River Road, Saddle River. All proceeds to go to the Saddle River Garden Club's Scholarship Fund. ---From Susan Gurak, Master Gardeners.

Aura's Niche

It Is spring! In the morning we can see those shining crystals of dew drops and we know that what lies at the end of April's rain is the sweet lilac air and the aromatic viburnum flowers. Only gardeners know that in good times any seedling grows. Please come and see for yourself how the new seedlings are growing in the greenhouse.

Also I want to remind you that we need volunteers for the Grace Kriegel Memorial Herb Garden at the library. Please contact Pat Libutti (201-836-6165.)

Member News The Garden Club extends its heart-felt condolences to Ray & Eleanor Kieliszek on the loss of their daughter, Mary Elizabeth. Born July 4, 1949, Mary Elizabeth died March 27, 2009 in Manhattan. Her strongest asset was her ability to teach English as a foreign language.

If you have a garden and a library then you have everything you need.--Cicero (Marcus Tullius) 106 BC-43 BC

Sent in by Marguerite Ross

Events

Wave Hill Riverdale, NY www.wavehill.org

Yoga in Nature. Sunday & Tuesday
Starting Sunday, May 3.

New York Botanical Gardens, www.nybg.org

Weekly Bird Walks

Each Saturday through June 27

George Ehret, The Greatest Botanical Artist of the 1700s. April 18-July 19.

Montclair Art Museum: *Art in Bloom*

Thurs. & Fri., May 7 - 8: Noon - 7 p.m., Sat.,
May 9: Closed . Sunday, May 10: Noon - 5
p.m. www.montclairartmuseum.org

Brooklyn Botanic Garden: www.bbg.org

May 6, 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM Plant Sale
New Jersey Historical Society, 52 Park Place -
Newark, NJ . www.jerseyhistory.org

Feast Your Eyes: The Unexpected Beauty of Vegetable Gardens traces the visual appeal of vegetable gardens across centuries and cultures.

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

(Sunday). 12 noon-4 pm. **Skylands Manor Tours.** Historic tours guided by NJBG docents. Donation.

May 1: **Plant Sale.** Member's preview.

May 2-3: **Plant Sale** 10-4.

May 10. **Lilac Weekend**

May 16-17: **Wildflower Weekend.** *Spring Wildflower Walk.*

Rutgers University: May 9-10 Plant Sale. Rutgers Gardens.

There are enough tomato varieties to satisfy most gardeners-over 28 varieties. Check list: <http://rutgersgardens.rutgers.edu/spring.html>

Presby Memorial Iris Gardens,

474 Upper Mountain Ave. Montclair, NJ
www.presbyirisgardens.org. May 16-June 7: Bloom Season. 10 AM-8 PM daily. **Memorial Day Weekend:** Tours, "Cultivating Iris" Workshops.

We are all waiting until it is 50 degrees at night, when we put the tomatoes in the garden.



Then we wait and water --- aiming for the taste of the year, that luscious moment.

Tomatoes are the most popular vegetable grown (but--isn't it a fruit?)

Rutgers University has been confirming the favorites by holding Tomato Tasting Festivals in August for the last few years, inspired by the re-introduction of the Ramapo Tomato.

The most popular Heirloom Tomatoes, voted on in 2008, were in three categories. The Large favorites were: *Cherokee Purple, Mortgage Filter, Hawaiian Pineapple, and Prudent's Purple.* Medium -sized favorites were *Eva, Purple Ball, Arkansas Traveler, Box Car Willie, Lemon Boy, Costoluto, Ramapo, Brandywine Red, and Green Zebra.* And the Cherry Size Small Heirloom Favorites were *Snow White, Isis Candy, and Yellow Pear.* Do you have any of them targeted for your garden?

As the growing season starts, you might want to check the site <http://njfarmfresh.rutgers.edu/JerseyTomato.html>. You will find a major collection of articles on the tomato, including members of the Agricultural School's considered opinion on growing the tomatoes upside down. There are pluses (no weeds!) and minuses (gravity) that should be considered---find out! It might lead to the *Best Taste of the Season.*

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.**



Verse: this is the garden

e.e. cummings

*this is the garden:colours come and go,
frail azures fluttering from night's outer wing
strong silent greens serenely lingering,
absolute lights like baths of golden snow.
This is the garden:pursed lips do blow
upon cool flutes within wide glooms,and sing
(of harps celestial to the quivering string)
invisible faces hauntingly and slow.*

*This is the garden. Time shall surely reap
and on Death's blade lie many a flower curled,
in other lands where other songs be sung;
yet stand They here enraptured,as among
The slow deep trees perpetual of sleep
some silver-fingered fountain steals the world.*

Rosemary & Thyme

How would you like your fare of mystery set in beautiful gardens in England? Enter **Rosemary & Thyme**, a series developed around the storyline of Laura Thyme and Rosemary Boxer, two horticulturists/detectives solving landscape problems--while running into mayhem.

Garden Club member **Hilda Berman** suggested we mention this one. The series is available in rerun on Channel 21 on Tuesday nights. For those who prefer an intense dose of enjoyment, go to the Library and get the DVDs of three season's worth of stories.Keep an eye on the background---as the producer states, "I thought the audience would be just as interested in the gardening problem the girls have got to solve as the murder mystery itself."

Recipe



Quick Herbed Cheese

(Taste-tested with fourth graders, Hawthorne School, Greenhouse Education Program, Herbs)

Ingredients:

Whipped cream cheese-one tub (8 oz.)
Minced herbs: 3 to 4 tablespoons
(Suggested herbs: Dill, Italian Parsley,Basil.)
Diced herbs for garnish.

Preparation:

Simply work the herbs into the cream cheese with a fork, making sure herbs are evenly distributed throughout the cheese. Place in a small serving bowl and garnish with herbs. This spread is good on crackers or on raw vegetables. Serve as an appetizer. ---Pat Libutti

Note from the Editor: Members, we can use your **creativity**. Please send articles, essays, book , website and blog reviews, stories, recipes, event notes, and especially member news to Pat Libutti, libutti@gmail.com or mail your typed item to **300 Van Buren Avenue, Teaneck NJ.** or call: **201-836-6165**. It is best to get your material by the 10th of the month.



The Garden Club of Teaneck's Annual Plant Sale Shopping List

Annuals

Ageratum
Arrow Plant
Begonias (*Wax, Wing & Tuberous*)
Celosia Coriander
Dill
Coleus
Dahlia
Dianthus
Dusty Miller
Eucalyptus
Gazania
Hypoestes
Impatiens
Marigold (*French & American*)
Nicotiana
Petunias
Purple Heart
Salvia
Snapdragons
Sweet Potato Vines
Verbena
Vincas

Geraniums (*red, white, pink, salmon*)

Perennials

Cannas
Daylilies
Hostas
Iris

Tomatoes

Big Beef
Brandywine
Celebrity
Polfast
Ramapo
Rose
Stupice
Sweet Millions

Herbs

Basil (*Sweet, Lemon, Cinnamon and Purple*)
Catnip
Chamomile
Coriander
Dill
Lavender *Spanish Eyes*
Nasturtium
Oregano (*Cuban, Greek*)
Parsley (*Curled and Italian*)
Rosemary
Sage
Salad Burnet
Scented Geraniums *Oak Leaf, French
Lace, Peppermint*)
Spearment
Sweet Marjoram
Thyme (*English, others*)

Baskets:

Parsley, Sage, Rosemary & Thyme

From The Grace Kriegel Herb Garden:

Daylilies
Figs

Houseplants

Aloe
Boston Ferns
Kalanchoe
Pregnant Onion
Spider Plants

Hanging Baskets:

Wandering Jew
Swedish Ivy

Vegetables

Eggplants
Peppers

Look for unlisted items at the Sale!