



Garden Club Newsletter

January/February 2010

Theme Issue: Greening the Greenhouse

www.gardenclubofteaneck.org

P.O. Box Teaneck, NJ 07666

Calendar: JANUARY-FEBRUARY -MARCH 2010

Greenhouse Executive Board Meeting: January 27, 7:30 pm. Greenhouse.

Greenhouse Meeting: February 13, 2010, 10 AM. Greenhouse.

Garden Club of Teaneck Meeting: Thursday, February 18, 2010, 7:30 PM. **Wiebke Hinsch, Speaker on "Bulbs for the Spring Garden."** *Though the season for planting bulbs is gone, we will enjoy the first early spring flowers and then a succession of spectacular blooms that will last into late fall, all growing from bulbs! Learn from Wiebke's experience in gardening with bulbs so you are prepared for the next season.*

Wiebke Hinsch came to the States from her native Germany twenty years ago and was confronted with a neglected "bachelor's garden" After working through the weeds and thickets she wanted to know more about plants and planting. She went to the New York Botanical Garden for training as a docent and got hooked on botany and gardening. After a few years of giving tours she became a Bergen County Master Gardener. Since 2005, her garden is regularly featured during the Garden Conservancy Open Days, a showing of America's private gardens. This year the Open Day will be June 5th, 10-4.

Garden Club meetings & programs are at 7:30 PM at the Rodda Community Center, 250 Colonial Court, Teaneck, N.J., unless noted otherwise.

Places to Go, Gardens to See: JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH 2010

Come to our own Greenhouse in bloom: Birds of Paradise, orchids, blooms on an over 30 year old JADE TREE, several scented geraniums, a flurry of geraniums and forsythia. More emerge each day. Make plans for a mid-Winter break: go and see the Flower Shows!

February 18-21. New Jersey State Flower & Garden Show macevents.com/show.cfm/eventID/121 Come and love a flower!

February 28th -March 7. Philadelphia International Flower Show. *There will not be a Garden Club Tour this year.* If you are going on your own, bear in mind that club tours are traditionally on Tuesdays of the Flower Show week. The theme this year is "Passport to the World" www.theflowershow.com

March 11-14: Sussex County Fairgrounds: SpringFest. Augusta, NJ. www.springfestgardenshow.com

March 29-34th Annual Home Gardeners School. <http://www.cpe.rutgers.edu/brochures/intros/homegardeners.html> \$49.00 before March 5, 2010.

Member News

Helen Hurlbut is at home, The Garden Club continues to offer both Helen and Paul their love and concern. Two new Greenhouse Committee members are **Jan Silverstein** (Sunday Group) and **Ho Wan Ching**, Friday Group). Pat Libutti is the group leader for the Thursday Morning Propagation Group, taking over for **Irwin Brownstein**, whose leadership and teaching skills are greatly missed.

Theme Issue: “Greening” the Greenhouse”

The Greenhouse Committee is the largest one in the Garden Club, and is involved in numerous approaches to support the continuation of the Greenhouse. As many will recall, the month of September brought us the news that the payment of utilities by the Township was in jeopardy. Both actual work in the greenhouse and prospecting for funds were done recently.

The **Maintenance Group**, led by Fred Dolch together with the Teaneck DPW, replaced the south wall in the greenhouse. The new wall replaces a metallic structure with Plexiglass, ensuring better insulation against south winds. The Garden Club wishes to thank the crew and the Township Manager, James Broughton, for their support. Members of the Maintenance Group also sealed the walls with foam insulation, providing yet more greening of the environment. They will be comparing the utility bills to last year’s from this point on, to assess the difference the insulation work made in the bottom line.

A Short Guide to Looking for Funding Resources for the Greenhouse

Looking for resources to fund the greenhouse can be compared to looking for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. But that gold is there, say all leprechauns. To begin, take the time to look at greenhouses on the web (NJ) and see how others support their greenhouses.

1. Examples of NJ Municipal Greenhouses from the Internet

Maplewood NJ greenhouse contains some ideas that could be adapted to Teaneck: These include renting out spaces to citizens, first come first served, for vegetable and plant growing. Greenhouses are on town property and maintained financially and otherwise by the Garden Club. This club, started in the 30s, received a national award for the effort. <http://www.maplewoodgardenclub.org/index.php?page=about-the-mgc>

Belmar, NJ: Started in the 80s. Municipally supported. Club also rents space to people for gardens, as well as indoors. <http://belmar.com/municipal/municipal-boards/environmental-commission/magical-garden>

2. Grant Resources: You have to dig in here, with a focus on looking for grant opportunities that meet our purposes. Grants get given for limited periods of time, for specific purposes and usually are quite competitive. Usually, grants from the US or State governments are given to groups with well established reputations (university, research, etc.) An exception is in education, in which numerous mini-grants are tied to elementary education. Community groups are eligible for some. Any such award would need members who know how to write curriculum and specify standards.

Learn about proposal writing: A Foundation Center Free Course Online. Then the resources below will make more sense. <http://foundationcenter.org/getstarted/learnabout/proposalwriting.html>. I have downloaded a number of proposals that show good ideas that won grants. One was to use computer heat to warm up a greenhouse (Indiana, 2009.) If you are interested, write me (libutti@gmail.com.)

State links: there will be qualifications, deadlines and forms. <http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/grants/> A whole section concerns Greenhouse Gas Emission studies. The deadline has passed for the pre-grant application stage. (No, that is not an odoriferous greenhouse!) The methods being proposed to reduce the amount of carbon-based energy and still achieve lighting and heating are exceptionally creative.

Federal links: This is the largest grants database available for free. The Foundation Center’s database costs \$2,000 a year to support looking for opportunities in the corporate and non profit world. Look at qualifications, forms, amounts, deadlines: <http://www.grants.gov/> and estimate what to start with--usually, a well thought out problem statement or proposal.

Associations: Some garden associations have mini-grants for working with children. Connect with The National Gardening Association of America and look at their listing of grants. Kids Gardening has a listing of these on <http://www.kidsgardening.com/grants.asp>.

University Agricultural Sciences Subject Guide:http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/rr_gateway/research_guides/ag/federal.shtml brings you to: http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/rr_gateway/research_guides/ag/databases.shtml#hort You will find horticulture, environment, water use, etc. in the databases assembled here for ideas. if you are interested, click in the link above to get to the Rutgers University Libraries site, Agriculture, Subject guide. The **Plant**, **Water** and **Agriculture** databases provide many high quality studies shared by the USDA.

4. Corporate Resources. Considering the amount of literature from companies done with university partners for energy efficiency, it is wise to look at company and university research literature. For instance, following “drip irrigation “will bring you to Clemson University and all the links assembled on the subject. One is the Center for Irrigation Technology (<http://cati.csufresno.edu/cit/proj/index.html>). Look at what is being funded and by whom.

5. Books. *Foundation Directory. Part 2: Guide to Grant Programs, \$25,000-\$100,000.* Call Number:REF 061 FOU PART 2 2009 ED This directory includes foundations by name, state, subject---and has material on what organizations were funded, with how much in funds. Restrictions are listed: you will be surprised how many small foundations there are, as well as the activities they support. -**Patricia O’Brien Libutti**

Executive Board of the Garden Club, Teaneck, New Jersey

President: Aura Altieri. 1st Vice President: Deborah Morgan. 2nd Vice President: Catherine Lloyd. Treasurer: TBA 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.

Close up of a Teasel Seed Head. (***Heirloom Gardener***, Oct. 17 2009..<http://heirloomgardener.blogspot.com/2009/10/teasel-seed-head-on-lilac-hill.html>). **Look for a teasel seed head in The Grace Kriegel Herb Garden.**

