



Garden Club News

May 2013

PO Box 3253 Teaneck, NJ 07666

www.gardenclubofteaneck.org

Calendar: May 2013

The next meeting of the Garden Club of Teaneck will be Thursday, May 9th, 7:30 – 9:00PM, at the Teaneck Rodda Center. Our guest speaker that night will be Garrett Wilk. He will speak to the club about how weather affects your garden. In addition, elections will be held.

The last meeting of the Greenhouse Committee will be at 10AM on Saturday, May 18th.

THE ANNUAL GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE WILL START ON SATURDAY, APRIL 27th, AND RUN THROUGH THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY, MAY 5th.

Member News

Message from Debbie Morgan, President

Greetings to all at the Garden Club of Teaneck! This is my next to the last month as President of our organization. I can't wait until it gets warm around here. I will admit to at least 4 trips to nurseries, including HD. I am ready to plant! The Spring Luncheon is back on for June 1st at Vitales. Please give your \$25 check to either Christina or I as soon as possible. We have grand plans for this luncheon and a couple of surprises. I hope everyone can attend. Also installation of new officers will occur at the luncheon. For the first time in many years, several members have expressed interest in serving in various capacities. This is good news! It means that our club is vibrant and teeming with possibilities. I am very pleased to see the heightened interest. All the candidates are good people; some have excellent skills and all really care about the Garden Club. As you know, the membership is working on an application to become a nonprofit-501c3 organization. We will need all the good minds

and bodies to accomplish this task. I feel certain that the best candidates will prevail and encourage your attendance at the May meeting. Finally, don't forget the annual plant sale starts Saturday, April 27th thru Sunday, May 5th. I will see you all there! Yours in Gardening,
Debbi

Message from Len Schwartz, Greenhouse Director

The final preparations for our sale are being completed; we are in the busiest time of our year. The Plant Sale times are:

Saturday, May 27th 9 AM to 3 PM
 Sunday, May 28th 9 AM until 3 PM
 Monday, May 29th 9 AM to 12 noon
 Tuesday, May 30th 5 PM to 8 PM
 Wednesday, May 1st 9 AM to 12 noon
 Thursday, May 2nd 5 PM to 8 PM
 Friday, May 3rd 5 PM to 8 PM
 Saturday May 4th 9 AM until 3 PM
 Sunday May 5th 9 AM until 3 PM

Almost everyone has signed up for their two weekend assignments. You are also responsible for attending one midweek assignment preferably with your regular group. This Friday, April 26 we will hold our **members only** pre-sale from 5 PM to 8 PM. We will be selling our plants to ourselves in recognition of all the hard work we put in. The prices are not discounted, but we will have first choice. This is the only opportunity for members to obtain plants before the sale starts. No one will be allowed to remove plants or to put them on their bench before Friday evening. Our final meeting and celebration for the season will be on Saturday, May 18 at 10 AM and not on June 1 as formally planned. We will be evaluating how the year went, eating enough sweets to drive us all into diabetic comas, and **giving away all unsold plants to the members present at the meeting**. No unsold plants may be removed or claimed until May 18. Our new mini and micro outside gardens are being completed and a new bed along the fence is being planted with native plants that will attract beneficial insects. Len

Message from Joe Papa – Horticulture Director

As you know edible gardeners are always challenged by pests who attack our plants. Utilizing composting techniques we enable strong plants and their ability to fend off these pests but often this is not enough. To augment our defenses against these pests, we have to attract beneficial insects into our growing environment. We want to attract those insects that prey on the bad guys if you will. Each beneficial insect has different requirements in terms of plants they can feed on when the pests they prey on are in short supply. The type of plant, timing of bloom, shelter and nectar of the plants provide varies. For example, the minute pirate bug (scientific name: Orius Hemiptera) emerges in early spring and preys on aphids and needs early season pollen and nectar to survive. If we introduce cilantro, sweet

alyssum and other early bloomers, it will suffice until the pest population grows. This spring we will be integrating these Insectary areas throughout the periphery of our growing areas to not only encourage our pollinators but to provide a home and haven to other beneficial insects.

At this stage we are into full swing planting and transplanting some early lettuce and arugula. I have planted beets, carrots and will be planting beans successively (to maximize yield). I will plant Okra (beautiful flowers) as well and two varieties of Korean squash. I have a little planting spreadsheet that does all the calculations for you. To request the succession planting spreadsheet please email me at jp4urban@optonline.net. Have a great season.
Joe

**2013-2014 Garden Club of Teaneck
Officer/Director Nominations
By The Nomination Committee**

At the April Garden Club of Teaneck meeting, the Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers and directors:

President: Christina Mackensen
Pat Fromm

1st Vice-President for Membership:
Ho Wan Ching

2nd Vice President for Programs:
Pat Taffee

Recording Secretary:
Stella Franco
Robin Jackson

Treasurer: Dania Cheddie
Marty Steeil

Corresponding Secretary:
Anna Kurz

Directors: Elyse Constantin, John Lewis
Sarah Jones, Lou Schwartz

A ballot vote will be conducted at the May 9, 2013 meeting. More information, including biographies, will be sent out next week.

Grafted Tomatoes

By Sara Jones

This year grafted tomatoes can be purchased in your local garden stores. Some of the ones I like best are the Grafted Black Krim heirloom, Grafted Brandywine, Cherokee Purple and the Rose heirloom. These tomatoes are said to be more productive and proven to produce 50% or more fruit and are resistant to soil borne pests. Grafted plants are more expensive than traditionally grown tomatoes; they may be twice the cost. I do plan to try at least 4 plants to see for myself. To find out more about these tomatoes go to burpeehomeandgardens.com.
Sara

Final Word

The following pictures are of our greenhouse in full bloom before the Plant Sale.

On a personal note, I thank all my friends in the Garden Club of Teaneck for their condolences on the passing of my wife's Mother.
Marty Steeil

