



Garden Club News

November 2013

PO Box 3253 Teaneck, NJ 07666

www.gardenclubofteaneck.org

Calendar: November 2013

The next meeting of the Garden Club of Teaneck will be on Thursday, November 14th, at 7:30pm at the Rodda Center. Our guest speaker that evening will be Niaz Ali owner of the Teaneck Flower Shop. He will demonstrate to the club flower arranging and holiday decorating. Several of his creations will be raffled off to the membership after his presentation. (See additional details below).

The next meeting of the Greenhouse Committee will be at 10AM on Saturday, November 2nd.

Member News

Message from Pat Fromm, President

I would like to start out by whole heartedly welcoming all the new members who joined the Garden Club of Teaneck since the May Plant Sale: Irene Andrews, Deborah Bejar, Angela Cozzolino, Debby D'Amico, Anne Ediger, Clara & Ramon Fournier, Denise George, Michael & Mary Goins, Martha Rodriguez Hunt, Ute Illie, Jarmila Karas, Nancy Lichtenstein, Lisa Lurie, Risa Marlen, Sydelle Postman, Timiko Sakazume, Ruffi Santos, Steven Schwart, Donna Snyder, Tai Sohn, Miriam Taub, Barbarann & Tracy Wacha. Welcome All of You!!

Second, my congratulations to Garden Club of Teaneck members Dania Cheddie and Denise George, who have just graduated from the Rutgers Master Gardeners Program.

November brings Thanksgiving and "Thanksgiving" for me means being aware and expressing gratitude for my blessings. YOU can stop by some of the shops on Cedar Lane between now and November 28th to express what you are grateful for via the "Gratitude Graffiti Project". Let your inner child's creativity reign as you write on the window of your favorite business.

I'm grateful for the way the Garden Club of Teaneck has worked together with other Teaneck organizations to give back to our community. This past month the Garden Club of Teaneck has:

- Purchased grasses for landscaping of the Band Shell at Votee Park, at the request of the Rotary Club of Teaneck. Thank you Larry Bauer for the invite.
- With generous contribution of Ted Capriotti and County Lane Landscaping, the grasses were planted to beautify the Rotary Band shell at Votee Park. Thank you Ted!
- Members donated a bushel of fresh and canned food to the Helping Hands Food Pantry. Thank you members!
- We nurtured native trees via Bergen Audubon for Teaneck Creek Conservancy from our native plant garden. Thank you Don Torino for your guidance.
- We helped sponsor the upcoming Teaneck International Film Festival for which we have two tickets to the upcoming opening night gala to give away at our November 14th meeting. (must be present to win)

I'm hopeful that we will carry on this working together attitude and I'm grateful to have such a wonderful group of members to share my interest in, and love of, Gardening! Happy Thanksgiving! Pat

Message from Len Schwartz, Greenhouse Director

We welcome Robin Jackson as Recording Secretary, replacing Pat Fromm. We thank you Pat.

Starting this year anyone who makes an approved purchase for the greenhouse must complete a greenhouse payment voucher which is available from Sara and at the greenhouse. Please fill out the voucher, attach your receipt and give both to Sara for reimbursement.

All members are required to be in a work group and participate in our plant sale. The proposed eight work groups this year are: Sunday AM, Sunday PM, Monday AM, Tuesday PM, Wednesday AM, Thursday AM, Thursday PM, and Friday PM. Please make sure that you belong to a group and know when it meets. We are going to return to our regular practice of requiring weekly attendance from all members. Our rules specify that up to three hours a week may be required in your work groups. The work groups will start meeting the week of Oct 20th. Our immediate task is to get our building into shape. This year the work groups will take responsibility for maintaining the cleanliness and order of the meeting room and greenhouse. A list of duties and responsibilities is being prepared, and the executive committee will be discussing how to share these equitably. It is not expected that any single group do everything on the list. It is expected that each group will identify something which needs doing and accomplish this activity during their meeting.

The 2013-2014 budget was approved with a slight increase over the previous year. Hospitality for our November second meeting

will be hosted by the Thursday PM work group. Please keep it simple and at \$30 or less. Three new members are starting their three month probationary period. They are requesting benches and only one bench is available. Please bring your plants in and make sure that your bench is being used. It will be very bad if we have new members waiting for a bench, while older members have half empty places. Please contact me if you can share your bench. I will see you all on November 2th. Len

Message from Aura Altieri – VP of Membership

Every club needs new members and new members offer fresh ideas, lend a hand with current projects and suggest additional ways to make a difference in the community. If you have a neighbor, friend or colleague that has an interest in becoming a member, please invite him/her to the next meeting. **I need your help spreading the Garden Club of Teaneck success stories and our mission;** these may be just the inspiration people need to get started. Ideas or comments about how we, as a Club, can work together to increase the number of members we currently have are welcome; I would love to hear from you, for I value all your input and respect your ideas. I also want to remind everyone about The Garden Club Teaneck membership dues. **Please pay your membership dues by no later than November 20, 2013** for the new calendar year that started Sept. 1, 2013 through Aug. 31, 2014. If you want to fully participate in all our programs, please mail in your payment as soon as possible. I hope to see all of you at our next Greenhouse meeting on November 2nd at 10am. Thank you. Aura

Message from Joe Papa – Horticulture Director

Our light days are diminishing as the trees accelerate the shedding of their leaves. These leaves are a great source of carbon, which

could be incorporated into your composters. The ideal carbon nitrogen ratio is 25:1, when this ratio is too low the conversion to compost by the bacteria, fungi and other microorganisms is impeded. As temperatures decrease so does the composting processes. However, it is still a good time to collect, integrate and store leaves for future use. I still have kale, radicchio, Bok Choi and lettuce in the garden and I will use row covers when frost is forecasted to extend their life. We will be unearthing our Cannas, which we will prepare for over wintering and the plant sale. Joe

Message From Pat Taaffe – VP of Programs

In coming months there will be three workshops:

1. A Photograph workshop with two sessions: The first session will be about various techniques of taking good pictures. The second, a week later, we will do a critical analysis of our photos of the previous week.
2. An Artisan bread making class (at the Rodda Center): An actual hands on, basic, easy, step by step no-knead bread making class, where you will make, and take home and bake various types of dough for Pizza, Focaccia, Ciabatta, Brioche, Boule, and Asiago cheese bread. Two classes.
3. Making Jam and other Preserves for the Holidays: Items you can use as gifts or just to learn the process of making jams and chutney.

If you are interested in any or all of these workshops contact me at programstgc@gmail.com for more information. Finally, if you know a speaker or have a topic of interest for a future meeting of the club please email me your ideas. Pat

The Junior Garden Club of Teaneck By Olga Newey

The Junior Garden Club will hold its last session of the initial year on Sunday,

November 10th. We are excited, as we are planning a party with refreshments from the kind of veggies we had planted. We have invited the parents to participate and they are making the food. We plan garden-themed games and a short presentation of what the children learned about horticulture. During the last session on October 27th we harvested beets, radishes, and some carrots. We then planted buckwheat as a cover crop. We talked about herbs, looked at the Hawthorne School herb bench, arranged by Pat Libutti, and planted mints in containers supplied by Home Depot, and assembled by Myriam, Nancy and I. We have all learned a lot and hope our second year will be even more successful as our first. Olga

Guest Speaker Biography

Mr. Niaz Ali will be our November speaker. He is the owner of the Teaneck Flower Shop at 1324 Teaneck Road. He will be making several Holiday Floral Arrangements, which will be raffled at the end of the presentation.

Mr. Ali has been serving the Teaneck Community with floral and gift needs for over 60 years. He has held flower arranging classes at his shop for the Garden Club and general public. He is one of the outstanding businessmen in Teaneck. For more information please go to www.teaneckflowers.com

Final Word

Please remember those less fortunate this Thanksgiving with a generous contribution of food items. All canned and dry food items are welcome. You may bring your donation to the meeting on November 14 at the Rodda Center or leave them in the kitchen at the green house by November 22, and we'll get them delivered in time for Thanksgiving. Pat Fromm

Everyone please have a Healthy, Safe and Happy Thanksgiving. Marty Steeil