



Garden Club News

May 2017

PO Box 3253 Teaneck, NJ 07666

www.gardenclubofteaneck.org

GARDEN CLUB OF TEANECK CALENDAR MAY 2017

Thursday, May 4th, 2017, MEMBERS ONLY Pre-Sale, 5-8 p.m. Greenhouse.

May 6th-14th, 2017, Garden Club of Teaneck Plant Sale. Greenhouse.
Saturday & Sunday: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.,
Monday, Wednesday: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.,
Tuesday, Thursday, F: 5-8 p.m.:

Thursday, May 20, 2017, GCT Meeting, Greenhouse, 10 a.m.
Last meeting of the 2016-2017 year.

Thursday, June 15th, 7:00 p.m. Annual Dinner. See details in second column, p.1

Saturday, August 19, 2017. Harvest Fest 4 p.m. Greenhouse Grounds.



A Letter from Robin Jackson, GCT President

Hello GCT,

Our big event - the plant sale--is almost here! Your continued support for this important yearly activity is appreciated and needed. Please sign up to work during the sale, pass along advertising flyers, and definitely enjoy shopping through our wide selection of plants.

As we begin to close out this year of meetings and very interesting activities, to each executive committee member, group member, volunteer, and member-at-large, thank you for your participation in the Club. GCT executive committee, you epitomize the word "team"! Thank you again.

Please look out for upcoming emails announcing our last business meeting, annual dinner, and other information.

Happy Gardening! May your seeds sprout, flowers bloom, and your plants grow strong!

Garden Club of Teaneck Annual Dinner at International Buffet

Thursday, June 15, 7:00 p.m.
595 South Washington Ave.,
Bergenfield, NJ 07621,

\$20 per person. "All you can eat" buffet!
(Tax, tip and beverage included.)

RSVP BY June 8, 2017 to:

gardenclubofteaneck@gmail.com

Further details: Look for the follow-up email.

Menu for "All You Can Eat Buffet":

[http://www.internationalbuffetbergenfield.com/
menu.aspx](http://www.internationalbuffetbergenfield.com/menu.aspx),

Select "All You Can Eat Buffet."



**ANNUAL
GCT PLANT
SALE
MAY 6th
to 14th
See p.2**



**Report from
Len Schwartz,
Greenhouse Director**

The plant sale sign up sheets are on the high counter in the meeting room of the Greenhouse. Please write your name clearly and remember that each box is a commitment to work three hours at either the **Front End Checkout** or the **Greenhouse Floor**, helping to sell plants. This year's plant sale is starting later than our usual May first weekend, but we will be ending on Mother's Day again. We will see if this timing has any effect on the sale.

Our MEMBERS ONLY pre-sale is from 5 to 8 pm on Thursday, May 4 ONLY. No one is allowed to buy or remove sale plants before that date nor on Friday, May 5th. At 6:00, Doug will present information about different plants so members can know something about the plants we are selling. Each member will be permitted to take one free 4" pot of their choice.

Our last meeting for the season will be at 10 am, May 20th. We will celebrate our success and decide what to do with any leftover items, which we hope will be few in number. A date has not been set for the column repair job to start. In fact, as of now no contract has been signed. But all plants will probably have to be removed from the Greenhouse by very early June.

Welcome, New Members

Yvette Beasley,
Frank & Patricia Burrowes
& Juliana Edwards

GCT COMMUNICATIONS

Garden Club Newsletter May 2017

Editor: Patricia O'Brien Libutti. Proofs: Anne Ediger, Bruce Libutti. Masthead logo: Marty Steeil. Graphics: Anna Kurz. Publication: 1st of the month, September-June. Article deadline: 22nd of the previous month. Article length maximum: 1 column (265-270 words.) Email contributions to the Editor, libutti@gmail.com, by the 22nd of the month before publication.

Garden Club of Teaneck website. Webmaster: Anna Kurz. <http://www.gardenclubofteaneck.org>

GCT on Facebook. Page administrator: Denise George. <http://www.facebook.com/gardenclubofteaneck/>

**FROM DOUG'S DESK
It's Plant Sale Time!!!
Are you ready???**



I'm more than ready to see all of our work come to fruition with a Glorious Sale. Things are coming into bloom just in time: petunias, marigolds, geraniums, begonias: all look resplendent for our opening day.

Bob O'Brien has produced more than 1600 beautiful tomato plants for sale. We have parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme to offer as well as various interesting plants from members' own propagations. I hope for a successful and joyful culmination to our endeavor.

Please weed the underneath area of your bench--weeds harbor bacteria, which we do not want in the Greenhouse.

Thank you all,
Doug



Photo: Pat Fromm. Branch Brook Park

POST TALK

by Mark Penchinar
Edith Wallace on
"Trees in Bloom
throughout the Year"

Dr. Edith Wallace gave a talk that was chock full of unexpected information and personal anecdotes. She spoke of plants and places, starting with January's white flowered wintersweet, ending with November's witch hazel. Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, NY Botanic Gardens, Skylands, Branch Brook and Glen Rock were some of the places where her pictures were taken.

There were many questions thrown at her throughout her talk, which she deftly handled. Why do Glen Rock residents all have red maple, magnolia, cherry and dogwood trees on their properties? "Because the library has them and they stick with the theme!" Why the name "Maplewood"? "Because of all the silver maples." Why is there a white-flowered redbud? "Because we can make them!" Why is the tree called a yellowwood? "Because the heartwood is yellow." And finally, "If you want a pretty December tree, how about a Christmas tree?" She sure was funny. The evening was thoroughly enjoyable and informative.



Photo: Doug Raska. Brooklyn Botanic

By Imani Hardaway

This listing posts events of interest to Garden Club of Teaneck members. To be included, the post needs to be on a current event (occurring in the next month) and contain complete information (event title, location, date and time). Send details by the 22nd of the month to Imani Hardaway, imanihardawaymail@gmail.com

BERGEN COUNTY

Month of May: Plant Sales Galore See p. 4

Thursday, May 4th, Garden Club of Harrington Park 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Ellen Silverstein, "Easy to Grow Native Plants" The meeting will be held upstairs in the Harrington Park Library, 10 Herring Street, Harrington Park.



Ellen Silverstein

Ellen will be taking attendees on a trip through an entire growing season in her Glen Rock garden, discussing over fifty species of beautiful, colorful, easy-to-grow native plants.

Monday, May 22 , Ho-Ho-Kus Garden Club, 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Beverly Kazickas, "The Importance of Pollinators and Attracting Them." She is the former District 1 director. Ho-Ho-Kus Community Church, 333 Warren Ave., Ho-Ho-Kus. Entrance on Sycamore Avenue. Parking is on the street.

NEW JERSEY

Saturday, May 13th, 8:30 a.m. Spring Migration Birdwalk at Bonsal Preserve, Montclair, NJ. Join the Montclair Bird Club on a 2-hour leisurely walk through Montclair's Bonsal Nature Preserve, looking for spring migratory birds. Participants should bring binoculars and wear suitable shoes, as parts of the path may be muddy. Meet at entrance to Bonsal Preserve, Riverview Drive (off Alexander Ave). This is a free event. For details: montclairbirdclub.org

METROPOLITAN AREA

Shayne Dark at Brooklyn Botanic Garden, May 2 through September 2017. Canadian artist Shayne Dark is known for making complex sculptures from tree branches, trunks, and roots that evoke nature while taking on majestic new forms. https://www.bbg.org/visit/event/shayne_dark



Pickup Red. Source: www.bbg.org

SPRING PLANT SALES 2017

By Robyn Lowenthal

Can anyone really ever have enough plants? Here are some interesting plant sales to allow you to add to your collection.

May 5 - 6: Morven Gardens and Museum: A Celebration of Art, Craft and Garden. In addition to a beautiful selection of American-made fine crafts, this sale offers a huge variety of heirloom and new annuals, perennials, shrubs, herbs, vegetables, and shrubs. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. 55 Stockton Street, Princeton, NJ. www.morven.org

May 5, 6, 12, 13, and 14: Presby Memorial Iris Garden. Named potted and bare root irises, bearded and non-bearded. Some are historic and very rare. 474 Upper Mountain Road, Upper Montclair, NJ. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. www.presby-garden.org.

May 6: Garretson Farm Annual Spring Festival and Plant Sale. A large variety of native perennials and herbs will be available as well as milkweed seeds and plants. In addition, experience Colonial life at one of the oldest historic sites in Bergen County. 4-02 River Road, Fair Lawn, NJ. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. www.garretson-farm.org/calendar

May 6 – 7: NJ Botanical Garden Plant Sale. Perennials, annuals, vegetables, herbs, trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers, hanging baskets and potted plants. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. <http://www.njbg.org/events.shtml>

May 6 – 7: Freylinghausen Arboretum Plant Sale. An amazing variety of plants, specializing in color, texture and fragrance are offered, including trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals and herbs. 353 E. Hanover Avenue, Morris Township, NJ. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. www.arboretumfriends.org/events.

May 10: Brooklyn Botanical Garden Plant Sale. This spectacular annual event offers the

largest collection of plants in the metropolitan area and features free talks and workshops. 150 Eastern Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY. 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. www.bbg.org/visit/events.

May 11 - 13: Maplewood Garden Club Plant Sale. Plants, grown from seed, cuttings, division, and bare-root, are supplemented by wholesale orders and member-grown items. Annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs, trees, shrubs and container plants are offered. Bring your own cart. 187 Boyden Avenue, Maplewood, NJ. Check website for times. www.maplewoodgardenclub.org.

May 12 - 14: Rutgers Gardens Spring Flower Fair. Favorite varieties and unique, hard-to-find plants are offered, including trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, annuals, herbs and vegetables. Bring your own garden cart. 130 Log Cabin Road, New Brunswick, NJ. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. www.rutgersgardens.rutgers.edu/springflowerfair

May 12 – 17: The Van Vleck House & Gardens' Annual Plant Sale. Spectacular selection of plants, garden novelties and gifts. 21 Van Vleck Street, Montclair, NJ <https://vanvleck.org>

May 11 – 13, 18 – 20: Rare Find Nursery Open House Days. Unusual hardy plants, including rhododendrons, azaleas, native perennials, trees, shrubs, dogwoods, magnolias, conifers, Japanese maples, variegated plants, shade plants and deer-resistant plants. 957 Patterson Road, Jackson, NJ. <http://www.rarefindnursery.com>

May 19 – 20: D&R Greenway Spring Native Plant Sale. Native plants. Johnson Education Center, One Preservation Pl., Princeton, NJ. <http://www.visitnj.org/nj-events/dr-greenway-announces-spring-native-plant-sale#sthash.DZH2sDq2.dpuf>

May 20: Heirloom Tomato Plant Sale. Over 90 varieties of heirloom tomatoes, plus other vegetables and herbs. 24 N. Franklin Tpk., Ramsey, NJ in the parking lot of the Masonic Lodge. <http://www.jerseygrown.net/HeirloomTomatoPlantSales.htm>

In Kind Remembrance: Helen Humphreys

Helen Humphreys passed away on Saturday, April 21st, 2017. She had been a member of the Garden Club of Teaneck since 1990.

Everyone knew Helen--she was the Membership Chair who recruited new members in the supermarket. As Coordinator of the Hawthorne School program, she developed lessons for "garbage gardening" that were unique, saying: "Don't throw it--grow it!" Helen also represented our Club in the Teaneck High School Scholarship Program for many years.

She gave this interview for the Newsletter in March 2009.



Interview: Helen Humphreys, Coordinator, Greenhouse Children's Program

Reprinted from *Garden Club of Teaneck Newsletter* March 2009, p.2

...Your gardening--early history? Helen always had a green thumb, "ever since I was about 3 feet tall." Window sill gardening and weeding were her specialties---as was following her curiosity about all unusual plants. "You don't find philodendron at my bench!"

...History of the program? Lou Schwartz started the Hawthorne program in the early '80s, going to classrooms to see the children. Helen started as a teacher in the program in 1995-96.

Her interest in "garbage gardening" is one of the many things she has learned about plants. "You don't stop learning--it goes on all through life. I'm not a rocking-chair and TV person."

...Plants used in garbage gardening?

Helen used all kinds of plant seeds and roots to generate whole flowering and fruit-bearing plants. A gift of a coffee tree resulted in coffee beans, green, yellow and red ones. Avocado pits, ginger roots, pineapple tops, and ugly fruit seeds have all resulted in plants.

...A story about the children?

"A boy frantically looked around the table of plants for students and said, 'Last year you had it--this year you don't. Something to do with *canine*' I said, *Coleus canina*! So, I gave him two cuttings."

...Plants the children buy?

"The children buy 3 or 4 plants, something with bright colors, anything with flowers. I try to have something besides Anglo-Saxon plants--Cuban oregano, for instance."

...Tip for beginning teachers?

"You can't do it well unless you do it your own way."

...What motivates you the most?

"Children are wonderful and that's what I like."



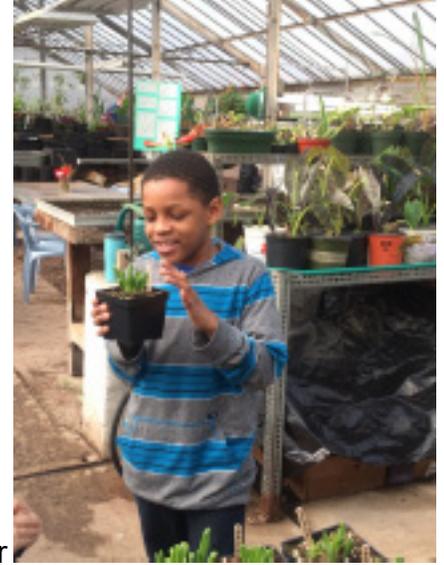
Helen, right, at 2007 Firehouse Planting. Photo: GCT Website

Memorial Service:
Christ Episcopal Church, May 12th, 10 a.m.
480 Warwick Avenue, Teaneck, NJ

Hawthorne School Program 2017



Finding the right plants.



Look at THIS one."

Hawthorne students studied plants and considered what plants to buy as their "take home." Kindergarteners through Fourth Graders had classes. These were *What is a Greenhouse?*, *Seeds*, *Parts of the Plant*, *Propagation* and *The Oak & the Acorn*. Thank you all for your part in its success.



Teachers Sydelle Postman and Olga Newey. Olga is wearing her "make-the-kids-laugh" hat.



Pondering the Perfect Plant



"That's the one I want!"



Happy (and more knowledgeable) Hawthorne students return to classroom.

Photos & Layout: Pat Fromm