



# Garden Club News

## September 2016

PO Box 3253 Teaneck, NJ 07666

[www.gardenclubofteaneck.org](http://www.gardenclubofteaneck.org)

### GARDEN CLUB of TEANECK CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER 2016

**Thursday, Sept. 8th, 2016, 7:00 PM.** *Garden Club meeting, Speaker series:* Kate Copsey on "A Shrub for All Seasons". Rodda Center (Multipurpose room 2B), 250 Colonial Court, Teaneck, NJ (enter from Palisades Avenue.) There is accessible parking. Access is from the senior lot up the hill, all the way at the back. Refreshments.

**Sunday, Sept. 25th, 2016, 12:30 PM.** *Greenway Dedication, Mary S. Topolsky Garden and Trail.* See p 4.

**Saturday, Oct. 1st, 2016, 10 AM.** *First GCT Business Meeting, Greenhouse, next to 296 Lindbergh Blvd.*



**Pat Fromm  
Recognized  
for Leadership  
in GCT**

*l to r: President Robin Jackson, Pat Fromm (holding award of gratitude from GCT), and Joe Papa, presenter*

Pat's extraordinary dedication, energy and organizational skills were the subject of a tribute by incoming President Robin Jackson at the June 9 "Hand the Gavel Over" dinner at Rose's.

The acknowledgment by the Club of Pat's contributions continued on August 20th at The Harvest Fest, which she had chaired. In recognition of her skill in making the Garden Club an inviting organization, Joe Papa presented a plaque to Pat (photo above.) She now begins a term as Immediate Past President, and will continue to contribute meaningfully to GCT.

### Executive Committee 2016-2017

The passage of the *Constitution & Bylaws* last spring resulted in this Garden Club Executive Committee.

President: Robin Jackson

Vice President: Peggy Hazard

Program Director: Mark Penchinar

Greenhouse Director: Len Schwartz

Horticultural Director: Doug Raska

Corresponding Secretary: Anne Ediger

Treasurer: Joe Papa

Publicity & Communication Director: Anna Kurz

Newsletter Editor: Pat Libutti

Monday Group Leader: Bob O'Brien

Tuesday Group Leader: Ron McKay

Wednesday Group Leader: Len Schwartz

Thursday Group Leader: Dania Cheddie

Friday Group Leader: Aura Altieri

Sunday Group Leader: Amelia Huser

Herb Garden Group Leader: Nancy Cochrane

School Program: Olga Newey

Junior Garden Club: Myriam Fieulleateau

Immediate Past President: Pat Fromm

### PROGRAM SEPT. 8th, 2016: Learn About "All-Season Shrubs" from Kate Copsey

On September 8, 2016, The Garden Club of Teaneck invites the public to hear Kate Copsey's talk on "A Shrub for All Seasons: A Full Year of Color from Shrubs and Small Trees Through Flowers, Berries or Leaf Color." Some shrubs give more than one season of interest and all the selections are suitable for modest suburban gardens. Kate has published *The Downsized Veggie Garden: How to Garden Small Wherever You Live, Whatever Your Space* (Feb. 2016) and *Month by Month New Jersey and New York* (Aug. 2016.) She also contributes monthly articles to Burpee.com and writes a weekly column in *Renaissance* magazine.

Kate, a freelance garden writer, is a Master Gardener who resides in Central New Jersey. She remains active as a Master Gardener in Georgia. She is a member of The Herb Society of America, The Garden Writer's Association and The Southern Garden History Association. Website: [katecopsey.com/](http://katecopsey.com/) . Mark Penchinar, Program Director

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**Message from Robin Jackson,  
President,  
Garden Club of Teaneck**

Garden Club of Teaneck members,  
I hope you are having a fabulous gardening season and are enjoying the fruits of your labor. Your commitment to the Club and its objectives is inspiring.

Members' efforts are highlighted by our many activities, which include, but are not limited to, educational programs for youth, guest speaker series, maintenance of the Greenhouse and surrounding grounds, management of the Memorial Herb Garden, workshops, plant sale and propagation activities, and this wonderful newsletter.

In this upcoming Club season (2016/2017), we seek to enhance the experience of members and the Teaneck community at large by continuing to engage in activities that "stimulate the interest in and spread of knowledge of gardening in the community" (Article II, *Constitution & Bylaws*, 2016.)

Presently, the GCT Junior Garden Club is in full swing – their gardens are bountiful and beautiful. In July we held a rededication ceremony for the Grace Kriegel Memorial Herb Garden, and on August 20, we held the fifth annual Harvest Festival. If you are interested in participating in more activities within GCT, please speak to an Executive Committee member and join in!

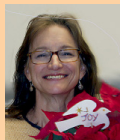
I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming meetings and activities. I would like to hear about your gardening successes, lessons learned, and gardening ideas for next year. Thank you all for making GCT an enduring and wonderful organization!

See you soon, Robin

**Members! Dues are Due**

Save yourselves a stamp and bring your dues check to the Garden Club meeting on September 8th. Dues are \$20 (individual), \$35 (dual.) Deadline: October 31. See the form enclosed with this newsletter mailing.

---Peggy Hazard, VP, Membership



**Greenhouse  
Director's Report**  
Leonard Schwartz



Kudos to the members who kept actively working on the Greenhouse during this terribly hot summer. I'm talking about Carmin and me, but mostly about Doug, who has been pushing all kinds of improvements, some of which are easy to spot and some of which are not.

It was Doug who was instrumental in elevating the entrance path so that water will drain off in winter and who, with Carmin, organized the tools at the entrance to the meeting room. It is also Doug who is creating an amazing formal garden, along with other plantings along the eastern side of the Greenhouse and in the front garden.

Thanks again to Peter for the major lighting job he did in the meeting room last spring.

Please do not stop weeding your garden. We still have at least six weeks of growth.

We are in the process of numbering each outside plot and later, perhaps, each inside bench as well. We are about to thoroughly clean the Greenhouse. Please remove anything you want to keep.

We have an old greenhouse and like an old relative, it needs a lot of tender loving care and perhaps an operation or two. But it is all we have.  
Len

**GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER 9/2016**

**Editor:** Patricia O'Brien Libutti. **Proofreader:** Bruce Libutti. **Contributors, articles:** Robin Jackson, Peggy Hazard, Len Schwartz, Mark Pechinar, Doug Raska, Peter Goldman, Olga Newey. **Graphics & photos:** Anna Kurz, Pat Fromm, Elizabeth Vasquez. **Masthead logo:** Marty Steeil. **Publication Schedule:** First of the month from September through June. **Article deadline:** 22th of the previous month. **Article length:** 1 column (265-270 words.) Please **email your contribution** to the Editor, Pat Libutti, libutti@gmail.com by the 22nd of the month before publication.



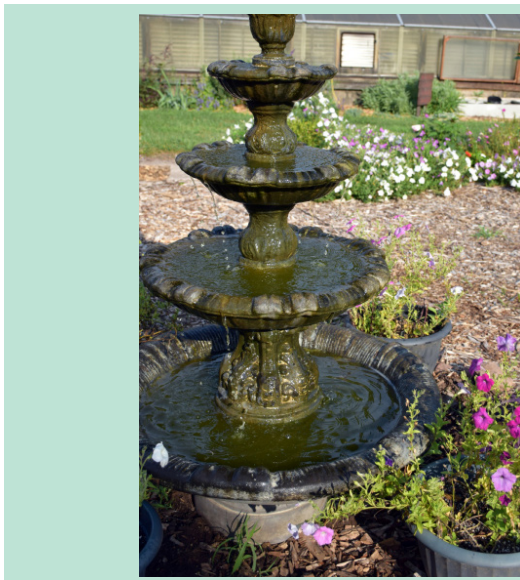
**From the Desk of the  
Horticultural Director  
Doug Raska**

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For most people Autumn is a time of endings. The summer is over, the leaves are falling and our gardens move inexorably toward hibernation.

For us in the Garden Club, it's a time of planning and new beginnings. Joe Papa has given us a well-organized and systematic plan of operation. I'd like to build on that to include more member participation, growing a lot more of our production from seeds and cuttings while continuing our successful bread and butter production from plugs.

I'd like to meet with each group in the near future to discuss how everyone can contribute to the success of OUR Teaneck Garden Club.



The fountain in our formal garden originally came from an estate in Westchester. According to Doug Raska, "A gardener in Westchester was selling his estate and moving to Florida. He wanted the fountain to go to an appreciative owner and sold it to us at a bargain price." Photo: Pat Fromm



**GCT on Facebook:**  
<http://www.facebook.com/gardenclubofteaneck/>



**GCT  
and  
Community  
Gardens**

*"To forget how to dig the earth and to tend the soil is to forget ourselves."*~Mahatma Gandhi  
Besides the Greenhouse Gardens, there are three community gardens where people can remember how to dig the earth.

**Teaneck Community Gardens (TCC)** just to the north of the GCT Greenhouse, is administered by the Teaneck Township, which provides support for the efforts of community gardeners. TCC has 85 plots, each 16' x 15', provided by "first come first served." Some GCT members have served on the TCC Committee, some have gardens here, the GCT invites TCC to the Harvest Fest.

**The Michelle Obama Interdisciplinary Outdoor Garden** opened on Earth Day (April 22, 2015.) The Michelle Obama program "Let's Move" inspired the start of the garden. GCT members acted as consultants early in its development. GCT members provide labor, along with other supporting groups, such as the Puffin Foundation. The Garden measures 20' x 30' and is located on the south side of TJ. Vegetables are farmed by the students. You will be welcomed by the graphic sign Bob O'Brien designed.

The newest community garden in the Teaneck area is the **Bogota is Beautiful Garden**, which opened on June 11. It is supported by Bogota, grants, and community groups. GCT members acted as consultants as the garden emerged in 2015-16. The 16 individually gardened raised bed plots are on River Road, bordered by railroad tracks. The decorated rain barrels, painted by Bogota high school students, serve to help water the vegetables in the raised beds. The first harvest is in, gardeners plan for next year.

---Pat Libutti, Editor



## Rededication of the Grace Kriegel Memorial Herb Garden: July 17, 2016

Nancy Cochrane talked about the garden at its best-and at its "overgrown" stage (many milkweeds, many garlic chives.) Now it is beautiful, with herb labels and a wide array of herbs, maintained by the Herb Garden Group. It is a delight for people of all ages to tour.



Kay Roseen, Children's librarian, spoke about her use of the Garden with children. It is used as both backdrop and objects for exploration in recognition of colors, scents, and shapes. And stories were read to toddlers in this garden!



Skip and David Kriegler, Grace's sons, entertained all with their memories of Grace planning the garden. David displayed Grace's wooden box filled with herbal recipes.



Herb Garden Group: Peggy Hazard, Robin Jackson, Peter Goldman, Olga Newey, Nancy Cochrane (with Carmin Costa, next to Robin.) Photos: Elizabeth Vasquez



### Junior Garden Club Contributed to Food Pantry

Brielle Weissman (center) was at the Food Pantry with Nancy Cochrane, Myriam Fielleuteau and members of the Food Pantry. Brielle showed the zucchini the Junior Garden Club harvested and contributed (with other produce) to the Pantry in August.

### ADA Wheelchair-accessible Trail Part of Mary S. Topolsky Garden and Trail

Friends of the Greenway are planning a dedication ceremony of the Mary S. Topolsky Garden and Trail at 640 River Road on Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 12:30 PM. The Friends have been working with Mary's family on the program. Sen. Loretta Weinberg, a friend of Mary's, will speak, as will Mary's husband.



Mary Topolsky with Christina Mackensen in 2010, holding the drawing of the Library Garden she designed.

The Township Council named this site "The Mary S. Topolsky Garden and Trail" after our Garden Club member who used her skills as a landscape designer. She developed the plan to make this property into a welcoming area for residents and a native habitat for wildlife.

The Friends of the Hackensack River Greenway has been working on a project with the Township of Teaneck to construct a native garden and ADA wheelchair-accessible trail along the Hackensack River in the southern end of town. The walking trail has been completed. The elderberries on the trail came from GCT.--Via Peter Goldman and Master Gardeners of Bergen County's Potting Shed, 8/2016.





# 2016 GCT Harvest Fest Celebration



1

3: Doug waiting to welcome others to join him at table

1, 2: Members and guests socializing and queuing for Five Star Fare prepared by members for our annual event



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4: some of what we grew and 5, 6: some of what we made



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8: Mary Jane and John, 9: Al, 10: Joe



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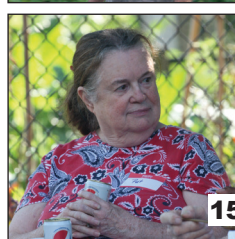
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11: one of the centerpieces, 12: Victor, 13: Phill

14: Frank, 15: Pat L.



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16 Anna and Tom Bender 17: members & guests at table enjoying Lucullan fare; 18: star of Junior GCT, Myriam

19: Olga, Bob, Greg



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7: Joe presenting Pat F. gifts at award ceremony (see p1, Sept 2016 Newsletter for full story)



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