



Garden Club of Teaneck News

November 2010

PO Box 3253 Teaneck, NJ 07666

www.gardenclubofteaneck.org

Calendar: November 2010

The Garden Club of Teaneck will meet on Thursday, November 18th at 7:30pm. The meeting will be held at the Rodda Center at 250 Colonial Court. Our Speaker will be Michael Wilson. Michael will speak to the club on the ABC of Rock Gardens (please see his bio below).

The next Greenhouse Committee meeting will be held at the Greenhouse, on Saturday, November 6th, at 10:00 am.

Member News

Message from Debbie Morgan, President:

Greetings & Salutations:

That time of the year is upon us already, No, not the annual cleaning of your garden beds, your Garden Club Membership Dues! Please send in your dues and membership application as soon as possible. An application is enclosed with your newsletter. By the way, if you can receive the newsletter by Email, it will go a long way to keeping costs down. Repeat: Send your money in today- Individuals \$20.00 & couples \$35.00. The memberships list will be mailed in December.

I am happy to report that all is going well with the Garden Club of Teaneck. The October

Message from Christina Mackensen, Greenhouse Horticultural Director:

Fall is upon us!

Fall is an excellent time to do the chores that will come to fruition next spring.

presentation on photographing flowers was very informative. The greenhouse has had its 1st meeting and groups are starting to meet.

I am happy to announce that we have started a partnership with Teaneck High School where we will be the recipients of Senior Services. The Seniors will probably begin with the Children's group in the Spring.

Please continue to send in questions and information to share with all.

Happy Thanksgiving ☺

Debbie

One such activity is lawn fertilization. The cooler temperatures of fall will aid in restoring the lawn, and fertilization at this time replenishes nutrients that were lost during the hot summer months. The grass roots keep growing, even in cooler weather, so food for nourishment at this time is welcome.

Another fall activity is planting an assortment of bulbs for spring color and enjoyment. If early, mid, and late- season bulbs are planted, something would be blooming from late February to May. After the long, cold winter months, we eagerly await the first signs of spring with budding snowdrops and crocuses. Now is the time to plant those bulbs.



Being raised on a farm made me remember that fall is also the time to sow cover crops. Sowing cover crops such as rye, wheat and oats, or clover, beans and peas, as well as mustard and buckwheat, is an excellent organic way to make the soil more fertile. Rye especially is a good crop to use on soil that in the spring will be used for tomatoes. Considering that many of our members have a garden plot, sowing a cover crop will not only fertilize their lots but at the same time beautify them by keeping the weeds out.

To enjoy the autumnal look inside your home now, a floral arrangement made with a pumpkin as its base is an inexpensive way to get seasonal decorating color. All that is needed is a small to medium size pumpkin that has its top cut off and has been hollowed out. A small plastic cup that holds water and some floral foam if available should be inserted in the center of the pumpkin.

Then insert some small twigs of colorful leaves around the base and fill in the center with mums, asters, or other interesting fall plant material that is available in the garden. *Voila!* You just created a beautiful flower arrangement that should last a



week or longer, depending on the room temperature of where it is placed.

The greenhouse is beginning to look inviting again, since most of the tropical and house plants have found their winter home here. Soon, cutting and propagating activities will start again and the participation of every member is crucial to the success of our endeavors.

The geranium and tuberous begonia order has been placed which will soon be followed by that of annuals. Last year's best sellers such as sweet potato vines and angel wing begonias will be ordered in bigger quantities this year so that the supply will last for all three weekends of the sale.

In the meantime, best wishes to all for a happy, peaceful, and relaxed Thanksgiving.

November GCT Speaker

At the Garden Club of Teaneck Meeting & Program on Nov.18, 2010: Mr. Michael Wilson will be our guest speaker.

Mr. Michael Wilson began his career in horticulture in 1986 at the New Jersey Botanical Garden at Skylands. In 1989, he became the Horticultural Utility Foreman for the Frelinghuysen Arboretum in Morristown, New Jersey and has recently retired from the Morris County Park

Commission. He has degrees in Horticulture, Environmental Studies and Environmental Management.

Michael's topic is The ABC's of Rock Gardens. This slide presentation explains three critical subjects for the successful culture of alpine plants in New Jersey. Alpine Ecology gives an understanding of the native habitat, while Building and Maintaining explains growing alpine plants at low elevations. The Compendium of Plants gives a list of plants that perform well in New Jersey.

Recipe of the Month

Reprinted from Land O Lakes
Submitted by Sara Jones

SAVORY OVEN BAKED CHICKEN

Preparation time: 15 minutes
Baking time: 25 minutes

Ingredients:

1/2 cup dried breadcrumbs
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh parsley
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup Land O Lakes Butter, melted
2 teaspoons finely chopped fresh garlic
6 (4-ounce) boneless, skinless chicken breasts

Preparation:

Heat oven to 375F. Combine breadcrumbs, Parmesan cheese, parsley, pepper and salt in shallow bowl; set aside.

Combine butter garlic in 9-inch pie pan. Dip 1 chicken breast at a time into butter mixture; place into breadcrumb mixture, turning to coat evenly. Place chicken breasts into ungreased 13x9-inch baking pan. Drizzle with any remaining butter mixture.

Bake for 25 - 35 minutes or until chicken is lightly browned and juices run clear when pierced with fork.

6 servings

Tip: Adding herbs to a recipe can change the way it tastes. For flavor variations, try mixing 1/2 teaspoon dried herbs, such as rosemary or sage, into the melted butter mixture.

Ask Sara

Our "Ask Sara" question this month comes from Mary Jane Tipton.

Hi Sara,

My name is Mary Jane Tipton. I am George Tipton's daughter. My problem is my rose bush. It was beautiful until all of a sudden it got all these holes in the leaves, almost like a lace effect. I don't see any bugs? Any suggestions?

Hi Mary Jane,

Here goes. Common Name: Black Spot on Roses
Fungus: Diplocarpon rosae.

Control Practice: Black spot fungus thrives in acidic conditions. Baking Soda is alkaline and neutralizes leaf surfaces and keeps the fungus away. A homemade spray of 1 gallon of water, 1 tablespoon each of baking soda, dishwashing detergent and summer weight horticulture oil sprayed on the underside of leaves is prevention, not a cure.

In addition, spores are spread by splashing water, so the fungus is worse in periods of rain or high humidity. It is therefore important to water roses at the base and not from overhead. One last control practice is to plant roses that are resistant to the black spot fungus, such as Alchymist, Alba Semi-Plena, Madam, Plantier, Stanwell Perpetual, Ballerina, Belle Poitevine, Graham Thomas and Parade.

Sara

If you have any questions for Sara please send them to Debbie Morgan (debmor@optonline.net, 833-8208) You can also send in your questions by regular mail addressed to the Garden Club's post office box.