

# Garden Club News

## February 2013

PO Box 3253 Teaneck, NJ 07666

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

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### Calendar: February 2013

The next meeting of the Garden Club of Teaneck will be Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 – 9:00PM, at the Teaneck Rodda Center. Our guest speaker that evening will be Chris Rubino of Monrovia Growers. He will speak to the club about new plants for 2013.

The next meeting of the Greenhouse Committee will be at 10AM on Saturday, February 2<sup>th</sup>.

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**There are still seats available on the bus to the Philadelphia Flower Show. The situation is we have a deadline of February 4 to get a minimal number of passengers on the bus. If we do not, we either lose Garden Club of Teaneck money or we cancel the trip. We need an additional 15 or more people. Please do not wait until the last minute or we may have to cancel this trip. Contact Aura Altieri, 201 923-7028; email [Bus.PhilllyShow@yahoo.com](mailto:Bus.PhilllyShow@yahoo.com) or see p. 6 poster of this newsletter for payment&departure details.**

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### Member News

#### Message from Debbi Morgan, President

Greetings and Happy New Year to all my gardening friends! By now you're happily perusing flower and vegetable catalogs and thinking about what to grow in 2013. Hopefully I will see you on the 14th where we will hear about all the new plants for 2013. Although it is only January, the calendar is quickly filling up with tasks. Starting February 3rd or 4th, the Greenhouse will get the first of several shipments of plugs for our annual plant sale in the spring. I am happy to invite each and every member of the club, whether you belong to the Greenhouse or not, to bring your gloves and join us to help plant/transplant. Times will be posted on the Greenhouse bulletin board and we'll have bagels and coffee on Saturday and Sunday. The Philadelphia Flower show trip will be on a Wednesday, March 6th. Don't wait too long to decide - the theme this year is Gardens of England. I am

still looking for volunteers to help plan for the anniversary of the Garden Club of Teaneck. We had to cancel last year for lack of response. Please don't let that happen this year. I know you all know how to throw a good party! Any and all suggestions will be greatly appreciated. I will see you all on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Yours in gardening, Debbie.

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#### Message from Len Schwartz, Greenhouse Director

The greenhouse has a new supplier for our soil, pots and other non-plant purchases. Our former supplier, W.H. Milikowski was purchased by a larger competitor, Griffin, who has promised to send our existing order in time to meet our needs. So far 60 bales of growing mix has arrived and has been stacked in the back room. Some extra bales are available for members wishing to purchase growing medium at the club cost of \$28/bale.

With the completion of the new door, the process of separating the front meeting room from the greenhouse proper is finished. The door should be kept closed to keep the plant area warm. The meeting room thermostat should be kept at the minimum setting when the room is not in use. Despite being "fixed" the meeting room heater still does not stay on dependably. We will continue to try to get it working better.

The Wednesday Maintenance Group is now working on the overhead watering system used for watering the plant sale hanging plants. Despite looking "loopy" the system still works. However, the Maintenance Group has decided to rebuild some sections one at a time.

Anything that needs repair or attention should be reported to me via email or the white boards in the meeting room. Len

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### **Message from Joe Papa – Horticulture Director**

The propagations for the plant sale will be in full swing starting with our receipt of Geraniums the first week of February. We will be receiving most of our plants in the month of March. This year we will be adding more edibles, specifically herbs and pepper quantities. We have increased our numbers and selection of Begonias, Coleus, Marigold and Wave Petunias. We have purchased plant labels, which will describe species, shade or sun tolerance, height and spread, uses and care. We have also purchased the Ball Redbook of Greenhouse Plant Propagation describing the proper watering and fertilizing needs of the varieties we will be growing. We will be posting those requirements for all to see in the greenhouse. This year we will be featuring Coral as a color theme across all flowering plants and it will represent about 20% of our offerings. We will receive more than 20,000 plugs between February 4<sup>th</sup> and March 25<sup>th</sup>. We will need assistance from everyone to help

with the plug replanting. I will be working with all the Groups. In addition, we will be replanting on each Saturday and Sunday in March from 11:00 to 1:00 PM. I encourage all members to consider these weekends particularly if you have difficulty working with your Group during the week. Joe

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### **Message from Susan McGibney, VP of Membership**

We currently have 71 members in the Teaneck Garden Club. Attached to last month's newsletter was a complete listing of all our member's contact information.

In order to take full advantage of your membership, consider joining one of our groups that are seeking additional members. One group is Native Plants. This year's primary project is to design and plant a butterfly garden on the unused side of the greenhouse. If you are interested please contact Pat Taaffe at 201-931-6394 or [programstgc@gmail.com](mailto:programstgc@gmail.com) for more information. Please call and get involved. You and the club will both benefit. Susan

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### **Message from Pat Taaffe, VP Programs**

#### **Valentine's Day Garden Club Surprises**

All Garden Club of Teaneck members are invited to participate in our first flower arranging instruction workshop. This workshop will teach topics such as, "Introduction to Flower Arranging," "Making Gorgeous Bouquets and Centerpieces", plus a lot more. If you have any experience in floral arrangement and would like to help, or you are interested in participating, please contact me. My e-mail address is [programstgc@gmail.com](mailto:programstgc@gmail.com). Sample arrangements will be on display and raffled off at the Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> Garden club meeting. We are also going to have a Valentine's Day meeting filled with surprises that you won't want to miss.

### **February Garden Club Guest Speaker**

Also, on Feb.14, at the Garden Club meeting Chris Rubino from Monrovia will be speaking about the plants for this coming season. His topic will be "The Best New Plant Introductions for 2013". Monrovia is the Largest Nursery Grower in the United States with over 80 years of experience in producing innovations for your landscape. Monrovia is committed to enhancing the value and beauty of the North American Landscape, one garden at a time. They craft over 2500 varieties of plants and have over 250 new introductions for 2013, as well as will also be reintroducing over 100 old favorites. Chris is a native of Buffalo New York and a graduate of Cornell University. He has significant experience in all types of horticulture. Chris currently travels extensively to domestic and international gardens looking for new and improved plants to introduce to American gardens.

### **Native Plant Group:**

The group has about 140 plants potted and is presently undergoing its stratification process to be ready for the spring. Also work is just about completed (too cold for now) for our new Butterfly garden on the side of the greenhouse. In March we will be planting in about 100 butterfly bushes and will use them for our projects with the Bergen Audubon Society for both the Teaneck Conservatory and around town. If anyone wants to volunteer and help, you are all welcome. "Many hands makes less work."

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### **Outside Greenhouse Gardens** **Nancy Cochrane**

Despite the recent cold weather, it is already time to think about having an outside garden at the Greenhouse. Those who plan to continue to keep their garden, please contact me if you have not done so already. Those who plan on giving up their garden, please have it cleaned out by March 2nd. At the February 2nd Greenhouse meeting, a sign-up sheet will be

available for those who would like to have a garden or who would like to change their garden. Final assignments will be done after the March 3rd meeting. This year, there will be several smaller plots available for those who only want to grow a few plants or do not have time to maintain a larger plot. Happy gardening to everyone, Nancy.

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### **Junior Gardeners & School Program** **Olga Newey**

#### **Junior Gardeners Program**

The Junior Garden Club of Teaneck had its second open house on Sunday. It was very successful. Six children registered, two for Nancy's class and four for mine. We gave the families a tour of the greenhouse, had activities for the children, and registered both the children and their parents. We also gave the parents some information about how we plan to run the program. Everyone seemed positive and excited. Some members of the greenhouse were there and I thank them for their help. The following appeared in the "Suburbanite" and "Teaneck Patch":

"The Garden Club of Teaneck is a long-established organization whose main purpose is to promote and pursue horticultural interests. To that end, we are creating the Junior Garden Club of Teaneck. We will combine teaching experiences with hands-on activities that foster knowledge of horticulture, plant development, propagation, garden design, vermiculture, care of the garden and more. We will have a garden plot to grow herbs and vegetables and donate the yield to the Food Pantry. The Junior Garden Club of Teaneck will meet twice a month on the second and fourth Sundays of the month beginning February 10<sup>th</sup> at the Teaneck Greenhouse. We will have two sessions: 1-2 pm for kindergarten through second graders, 2:30-4 pm for third to fifth graders. The Junior Garden Club of Teaneck will run from February through the first half of November. There will be a charge of \$25.00 for the year per child and \$10.00 for each

additional sibling. Parents are required to stay for the younger group. Spaces are limited. Participants must live in Teaneck. Proof of residency is required.” The open house will be at the Teaneck Greenhouse at the east end of Lindbergh Boulevard. For further information, please contact Olga Newey at 201-833-1859, or at [teaneckjgc@yahoo.com](mailto:teaneckjgc@yahoo.com).”

### **School Program**

Our 2013 School Program will have 270 Second, Third and Fourth grade students. The program will start on March 6<sup>th</sup> and run through April 4<sup>th</sup>. Helen Humphrey’s will teach “Garbage Gardening”, Cynthia McKay will teach “Plant Propagation” and Olga Newey will teach “Herbs.” If anyone wants to be part of these efforts please contact me at 201-833-1859, or [teaneckjgc@yahoo.com](mailto:teaneckjgc@yahoo.com). I thank all of you who have volunteered to help us. Olga

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## **Garden Club History**

### **Patricia Libutti**

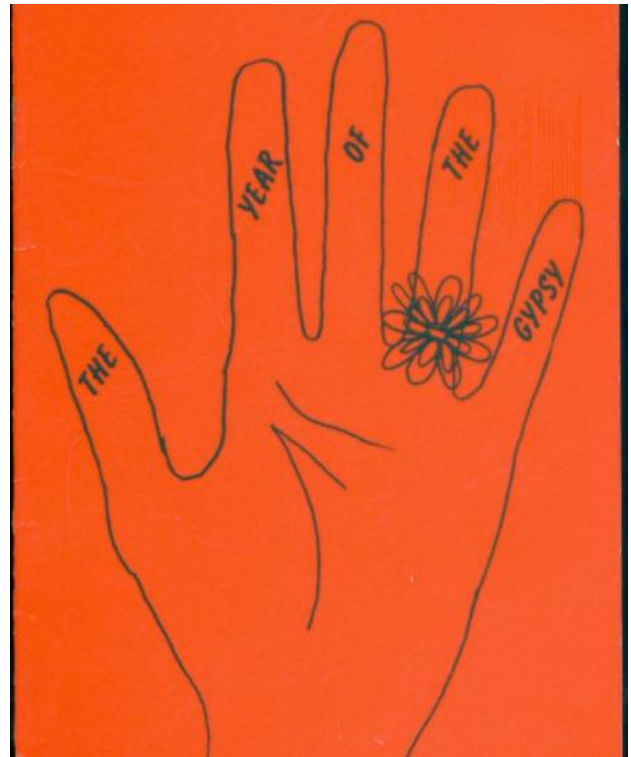
#### **Sixty Years in the Making**

As we approach our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary (incorporation: 1953, actual founding: 1932), the Garden Club of Teaneck looks back with respect at the accomplishments of our horticultural ancestors. Each month until June, I will look at a particular instance of our visibility in the community, whether it be flower shows, newspaper articles, Greenhouse sales or membership. By June, a small history will be on our Garden Club of Teaneck web site, which will incorporate these snapshots with a longer narrative. Any member who believes he/she has material to contribute is encouraged to contact me at [Libutti@gmail.com](mailto:Libutti@gmail.com) or 201-836-6165.

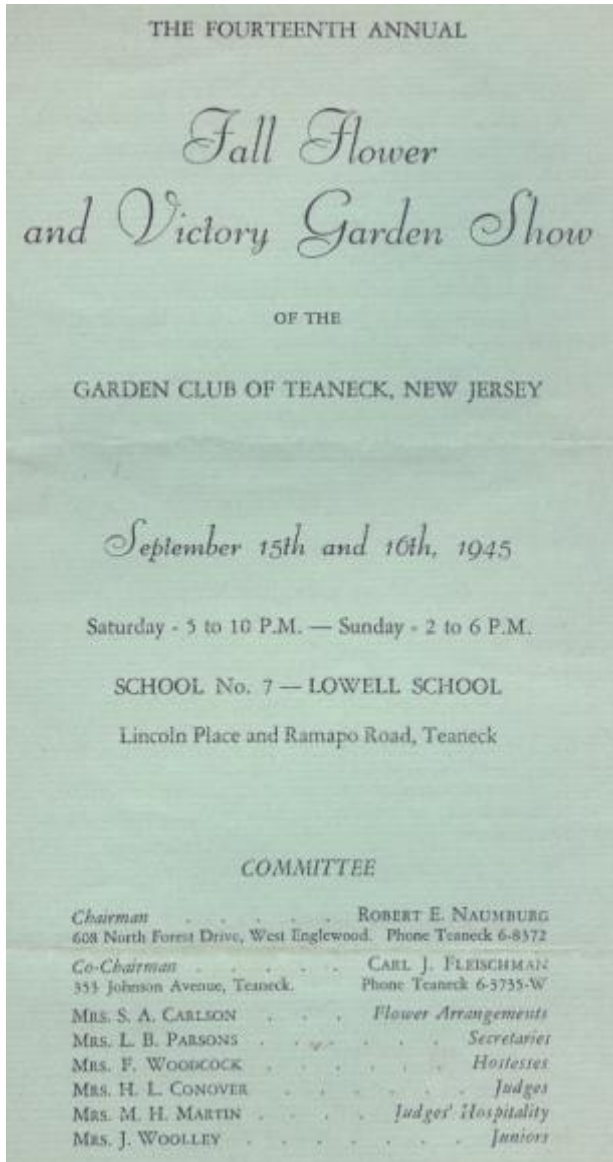
This month, **the flower show** is our focus. These flower shows, held twice a year, began shortly after the club was founded. The shows had programs, themselves an artifact of history and a work of art. All the participants, the

entries, the themes, local advertisers, and awards were listed, as well as Club members and their roles. We have a partial collection to use in recalling this event. Below you can see covers from 1945, which used a Victory Garden theme; a flower power cover (1969) and a holiday cover (1950.) The holiday shows were a part of the annual show cycle. A number of recent members served in these flower shows in the early 1950s, including Yolanda Napolieli, Warren Dierksen and Ray Kieleszek.

What were these shows like? What other clubs were involved? How did Teaneck fare in such exhibitions? When did these shows stop? Stay tuned; the file cabinets are being emptied onto paper in the next few months. Thank you all. Patricia O’Brien Libutti



1969 Garden Club of Teaneck Flower Show



1945 Garden Club of Teaneck Flower Show

## **Gardening Events in Our Area, Robyn Lowenthal**

The **Rutgers 37th Annual Home Gardeners School** is March 23, 2013. The Home Gardeners School offers you expert instruction in the most innovative gardening and landscaping subjects available. For more information and to make reservations please see website [www.cpe.rutgers.edu](http://www.cpe.rutgers.edu) or telephone 732-932-9271. Robyn



1950 Garden Club of Teaneck Flower Show

## **Garden Club of Teaneck's Roots Recipes Patricia Libutti**

Gather your recipes and give them to the Garden Club of Teaneck for publication on our web site. Patty Libutti is taking original recipes from your family, from an adaptation of something you saw, from something you devised, from a way you prepare something in your own words. The recipes will be first published on a blog called **Roots Recipes** <http://rootsrecipes.blogspot.com>. We then plan to connect our website to the blog.

Patty is preparing a section on Herb Cooking. Has anyone got any good recipes for tomatoes, zucchini, or squash or more herb ideas? Please send your recipes to [Libutti@gmail.com](mailto:Libutti@gmail.com).

