



Memorial Day is coming! Here are our Members walking in the 2023 Memorial Day Parade.

DON'T STOP READING UNTIL YOU GET THIS MONTH'S MEMBER TIPS!

We look forward to seeing you at our MAY ANNUAL MEETING 11:00am Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at Rumson Country Club – Riverhouse

RSVP TO MAY MEETING HERE

Schedule: 8:30-9:00am Passing 9:30-10:30am Judging 11:00am Business Meeting followed by Lunch (*\$30 per person*) Please bring a check for \$30 made out to RGC.

MAY SCHEDULE

PASSERS:

FLORAL DESIGN: STELLA RYAN, TAPHY HARCSAR HORTICULTURE: CYNTHIA LABRECQUE, CHRIS HETZLER PHOTOGRAPHY: LINDSAY BRANIN, LIZ DUSKO

CLERKS:

FLORAL DESIGN: JUDIE OPPENHEIM, MIMI CARRINGTON (GC OF MORRISTOWN) HORTICULTURE: SARAH FLEMING, HEATHER CADRANELL (SHORT HILLS GC) PHOTOGRAPHY: SHEILA EHRENBERG, PARI HARRISON

JUDGES:

FLORAL DESIGN: GCA JUDGES: LISA GADSON (SHORT HILLS GC), CLAIRE GUADAGNO (SHORT HILLS GC) HORTICULTURE: GCA JUDGES: ANNE GATES (STONY BROOK GC), ANNIE BIGLIANI (GC OF ENGLEWOOD)

PHOTOGRAPHY: GCA JUDGES: PAT LAZOR (GC OFMORRISTOWN), DEBBIE LAVERELL (THE GARDEN WORKERS), BARBARA TODD (GC OF SOMERSET HILLS)

Please take a moment to download, print, and fill out your entry cards prior to dropping off your entries. If you need entry cards or have questions, contact our Staging Chairs: Wendy Wilt (wendytwilt@gmail.com) or Mary Brodsky (mary.brodsky@foxroach.com)

FLORAL DESIGN:

Gracious Dining

"A gorgeous, thoughtfully set table with floral components can artfully elevate the meal." – Rebekah Lowin

(GCA Judges)

MARY OWEN BORDEN BOWL

Class 1 Open to all members

A silver bowl awarded to the member with the best formal arrangement for a 66" round dining table covered with a white tablecloth. Fruit, accessories and multiple containers are permitted.

Please email or call to register entry: taphy.harcsar@gmail.com or 732-842-8570.

MAY SCHEDULE CONT.

HORTICULTURE:

(GCA Judges) All entries must always be properly identified.

RITCHIE MOORE TROPHY

Class 1 Open to all members. Any plant propagated since June 2023. Clay or plastic pots permitted. Pots not to exceed 4" in diameter. Maximum three pots per member. Points from the October 2023 and May 2024 exhibits will be combined to award the Ritchie Moore Trophy in June. Propagation cards are required.

MARY OWEN BORDEN AWARD

Class 2 Open to all members. Four different kinds (genera) of flowering specimens. One stem or branch of each, to be displayed in four RCG containers.

CONTAINER GARDEN AWARD

Class 3 Open to all members. A silver bowl awarded to the member exhibiting the best container garden with a single color scheme, including three or more rooted plants labeled correctly, to scale. Other plant material may be added like mosses or alpines. No artificial props allowed. The maximum pot size is 16". To be judged 70% on horticultural merit, 30% on artistic merit. A 4 x 6 white key card is required. Must be owned for a minimum of 3 months.

PAEONIA (PEONY)

Class 4 One herbaceous stem, disbudded*, with foliage, to be displayed in a RGC container.

Class 5 Novice. Same as above.

Class 6 One woody stem (tree peony), disbudded*, with foliage, to be displayed in a RGC container.

Class 7 Novice. Same as above.

ALLIUM

Class 8 One stem to be displayed in a RGC container. Flower head up to 4" in diameter.

Class 9 Novice. Same as above.

Class 10 One stem to be displayed in a RGC container. Flower head larger than 4" in diameter. **Class 11** Novice. Same as above.

MAY SCHEDULE CONT.

HORTICULTURE: CONT.

IRIS

Class 12 Bearded. Class 13 Novice. Same as above. Class 14 Non-bearded. Class 15 Novice. Same as above.

HOSTA

Class 16 Three different varieties of Hosta leaves displayed in three different RGC containers. **Class 17** Novice. Same as above.

RHODODENDRON

Class 18 One truss (flower cluster); should be shown half in blossom and half in bud; leaves should entirely surround the bloom.

Class 19 Novice. Same as above.

NATIVE ****PLANTS**

Class 20 One stem each of three different flowering genera, to be displayed in a RGC container.

Class 21 Novice. Same as above.

Class 22 PAR

A rooted plant of exceptional horticultural merit, which does not qualify for entry elsewhere in the Horticultural Division. Entries in the Par classes must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months and can only contain one type of plant. Cut specimens, orchids, hanging baskets, and plants trained as bonsai are not permitted. Discreet stands, stakes and ties allowed. The Par class should not be used as a catch-all class. The entries in a Par class are judged individually against perfection rather than against each other.

*Disbudded: to remove superfluous or unwanted buds from a plant.

**Native plants, for the purpose of this schedule, will be defined as 'native to New Jersey' according to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center or the JerseyYards.org Native Plant Database. Please visit these sites to verify the eligibility of your specimens.

MAY SCHEDULE CONT.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

(GCA Judges)

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Class 1 Talking Flowers. Color Photograph. Take a photograph of your favorite pansy. **Class 2** It's then, only then, that you'll find Wonderland. Color Photograph. Take a photo that is inspired by your interpretation of the movie.

Class 3 Same as Class 1. Novice.

All entries should be submitted by May 7th. Please contact Lindsay Branin at Lbranin@spencerstuart.com

RGC "On the Road"! A spring visit to the Javits Center!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Our Annual Meeting is here! Our biggest Show of the year with chances to enter Floral, Hort and Photography. We have the Mary Owen Borden Bowl for Floral; the Ritchie Moore Trophy, Mary Owen Borden Award, and Container Garden Awards for Horticulture. We will also be voting on three submissions for the Helen Hurd Award.

I'm looking forward to announcing our members who have earned GCA Honors and Awards this year as well as recognizing two local High Schoolers who are the recipients of our Scholarship Awards. I'm also so excited to initiate and welcome our five accomplished new members (who you can read about on the next page). We are lucky to have these fabulous women joining our Club!

After our Business Meeting, catch up with one another and socialize while enjoying a delicious lunch. I hope you ALL can make it! We have changed the format this year having our Club Awards given at the June Cocktail Meeting. Avery Brighton has kindly offered to host it at her house – it will be a wonderful evening celebration on June 11th (please note the new date!).

Our Plant Sale is coming together. We need all hands-on deck so please make sure to sign up for the time slot that works best for you. The sign-up link is <u>here</u>.

I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, May 21st!

Best wishes, Susan **∮貸 ≋**

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER: (See Committee Reports for full details)

Wed. May 15 - Monmouth Day Care summer planting (Civics) Thurs. May 16 - Greenwood Gardens Trip (Visiting Gardens) Fri. May 17 & Sat., May 18 - Rutgers Spring Garden Days Plant Sale Sat. May 18 - Deep Cut Gardens Native Plant Lecture (Conservation) Sat. May 18 - Brick Home Garden Tour (Conservation) Mon. May 27 - RGC Walking in the Rumson Memorial Day Parade! Wed. May 29 - Oceanic window box summer planting (Civics) Fri. May 31 - Last chance to donate for this year's Growing Fund (NJ Committee) Sat.June 1 - Rumson Eco Fest (Conservation) Sat. June 1 - RGC PLANT SALE! @ Rumson Borough Hall Wed. June 5 - Kayak to Gunnings Island (Visiting Gardens) Sat. June 15 - NPSNJ Jersey Shore Chapter Garden Tour (Conservation) Mon. June 17 - Show & Tell your Native Plant Garden (Visiting Gardens) Sat. June 22 - Deep Cut Gardens Native Plant Flower Arranging (Conservation) Sun. June 23. - Pennington Watershed Institute Walking Tour (Conservation) Tues. June 25 - Canoe the Pine Barrens (Visiting Gardens)



PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS 2024!

Contact information for each new member can be found in the Membership Directory on the RGC website.



LISA ATTALAH Proposer: Mary Heins Seconder: Cynthia Labrecque

Lisa and her husband Steve live in Locust, after previously residing in Rumson where they raised their three now grown boys. Lisa enjoys tennis and paddle; however, her true love is her garden and greenhouse where she tackles vegetables, herbs and flowers with a keen respect for the environment.

LAURIE ELLIS BRUCKMAN Proposer: Avery Brighton Seconder: Ibby Hertz



Laurie grew up on the New Jersey shore and moved to Vermont to attend Middlebury College. She raised her children and animals on a working farm while working as a natural science illustrator. Today, Laurie and her husband Bruce live on West River Road where she tends her beautiful gardens and continues to paint. Take a moment to look at her website <u>brushandbone.com</u>.



LAURA HAAREN Proposer: Pat Pritchard Seconder: Jeanne Shanley

Laura and her husband Jeffery have lived in Rumson for 40 years, where she has held many leadership roles at Seabright Beach Club and Seabright Lawn Tennis and Cricket Club. In addition to spending time with her children and grandchildren, she enjoys tending to her own garden. Laura has run her landscaping business, Garden Keepers, for 25 years.

> NATASHA HALBOUT Proposer: Susan Robertson Seconder: Taphy Harcsar



Natasha and her husband David are originally from the Ukraine and have called Red Bank home for the past 25 years. Natasha has pursued her passion for textiles, working toward a Master's Degree at FIT. Her other love is gardening, and she enjoys using her plants to make the dye for her handmade silk accessories. She also designs knitwear and felting using natural fibers. The proceeds from the sale of her artwork go towards trauma supplies for Ukrainian medics and raising awareness of the war in the Ukraine.



MARIAN MORAN Proposer: Pari Harrison Seconder: Leslie Hitchner

Marion Moran is a devoted mother of four boys and the loving spouse of Sean Moran. Her love of gardening, cultivated with her mother through her childhood, is now evident in the care she gives to her property at 9 North Ward, where she takes particular pride in the revival of two exceptional trees, a Japanese Hornbeam Maple and a Japanese Trident Maple, both rarities in the United States.

FLORAL DESIGN:

Flora - the Mary Owen Borden Bowl

This merry month of May, please decorate our luncheon tables with your beautiful formal centerpieces on a 66" round table with a white cloth. Fruit, accessories, and multiple containers are permitted. We will have GCA judgtes.

Please RSVP to register entry: <u>taphy.harcsar@gmail.com</u> 732-842-8570

HORTICULTURE:

There is something for everyone at the May meeting! This is your chance to show off your best peony, allium, iris, hosta, rhododendron and native plant trio and par entries. We will also see who has best nurtured their container garden planted in February and will take home the silver bowl! Please share you garden's bounty !!

The Hort committee is excited to welcome outside judges for the important May Show. If you have accrued Hort points from outside shows, please advise Missy Falkenberg so that you can be credited properly -- missyfalkenberg@gmail.com.

Also, if you're able to clerk or pass, please let Sheila Ehrenberg know, it's an important aspect of making the Club work well!



Is Avery in Holland?? No! Her backyard in Rumson - sharing just one of her many talents and hobbies!

CONSERVATION:

May 18 @ 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown: Monmouth County Native Plant Lecture and Exchange- Attend a free native plant presentation by NPSNJ Monmouth's own Ann Sherwood and exchange native plants from your garden with others. Details here

May 18 @ 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Brick: Home Garden Tour- Join the NPSNJ Jersey Shore Chapter for a tour of the beautiful native gardens at Kelly and Peter Balon's home in Brick. <u>RSVP here</u>

June 1 @ 9:00 am - 12:30 pm Rumson: Eco Fest! Please contact Piper Leddy via email or phone to sign up for a time slot! We will be making Native Plant Seed Balls! piperbrighton@gmail.com; 732-859-0734

June 15 @ 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Freehold: Join the NPSNJ Jersey Shore Chapter for a home garden tour at Skip and Angela Byrnes' property in Freehold. Their property is covered in native perennials, trees, shrubs, grasses and vines. Gardens abound and lawn takes a back seat to the many unique native plantings throughout the yard and nestled within their woodlands. <u>RSVP here</u>

June 22 @ 10:00 am – 11:30 am Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown: Floral Arranging with Natives! Prepare for the Monmouth County Fair Native Flower Arranging Competition, or just learn how to make a beautiful native plant arrangement for your home. Stephanie Horton will lead the hands-on workshop on the basics of flower arranging and how to construct beautiful arrangements using native materials. You will go home with a creation of your very own. \$55.00, <u>Get tickets here</u>

June 23 @ 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Pennington: Tour of Watershed Institute. Participate in a walking tour of the Watershed Institute guided by NSPNJ and Watershed Institute Staff members. <u>RSVP here</u>

Stay tuned for a May Walk & Talk!

CONSERVATION: CONT.

If you haven't already... Text Governor Phil Murphy to help get the stalled Invasive Plant Bill over the finish line!

- 1. Text the Governor at (732) 605-5455
- 2. Copy and paste the text below:

Dear Governor Murphy,

"The Invasive Plant Bill S2186 passed almost unanimously in NJ in December 2023, but we understand it was vetoed due to language misunderstandings. NJ is one of a handful of states that does not regulate the sale of invasive plants. We in the Rumson Garden Club see the costly ands devastating damage that invasive plants and species cause in our forests and our backyards. I understand new formal versions of the bill are hung up in the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), but four long months have passed without a firm bill. Please expedite any remaining issues with the DEP regarding a new, more comprehensive version of the S2186 Invasive Plant Bill. and personally facilitate it becoming a passed bill. We need this groundbreaking bill now before more damage is done to our lovely Garden State. Thank you so much for your support and help."

Full background on the Bill:

New Jersey is one of a handful of states that do not regulate the sale of invasive species, which are wreaking havoc in our state parks and wildlife management areas. The legislation passed almost unanimously in both houses of the Legislature, but the Governor said it improperly infringed on some of the powers of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Members of groups who advocated for the bill and worked with the executive branch think there may have been confusion with the May version of the bill, rather than the one ultimately passed, which they believe addressed this concern.

It seems that now, the NJ Department of Environmental Commission (DEP), Senator Smith's office and the Governor's office are communicating, and newer amendments are being discussed. Supporters of the bill have been in continuing discussions with Senator Smith's office. The Governor's support will help assure that the new bills move quickly through committee and to passage. A4137 was introduced and referred to the Assembly Commerce, Economic Development and Agriculture Committee, not yet scheduled for a hearing. S1029 was introduced and referred to the Senate Environment and Energy Committee, not scheduled yet for hearing (Senator Smith chairs this committee). The Governor can also make sure DEP works expeditiously to resolve any remaining issues.



Piper and Tama Matsuoka Wong at the April book signing

COMMITTEE REPORTS: CONT.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Calling all photographers! You don't need to be a professional to enter your photo in May's Photography Show. We will have GCA Judges so this is a great opportunity to represent RGC with your interpretation of 'Alice in Wonderland' in nature or to capture the beauty of a colorful pansy. Please drop off your photo to Lindsay Branin's house:

237 Oxford Avenue Fair Haven

Feel free to call Lindsay (917-960-0179) or Liz (917-355-4872) with any questions. Thanks and see you on May 21st!



A happy ladybug in the rain garden!

CIVICS:

Oceanic Library window boxes are being planted for summer on Wednesday, May 29th at 9:30am. We will be taking out the phlox and repotting for the plant sale, refreshing the soil and planting summer annuals.

Monmouth Daycare Center: Wednesday, May 15th at 10:30AM. Transplanting perennials and thinning of seedlings. Planting cucumbers and peppers.

Many hands make light work, please consider coming to help! Please let Betsy Ford know if you can make it. <u>betsyford72@gmail.com</u> or 732 245 4555. Please bring gloves and a bucket.

Thanks, Betsy

COMMITTEE REPORTS: CONT.

VISITING GARDENS:



More pics from a day at the Javits Center!

RGC Members traveled NYC to experience the Javits Convention Center's "Lunch&Learn at the Farm" program which provided an inside look into their massive sustainable ecosystem located eight stories above the street level. Something special was understood as the group stepped off the elevator to be surrounded by sky and green infrastructure. The newly constructed rooftop has a 1 acre farm, a beekeeping setup, a greenhouse, aan orchard, aa native plant pollinator garden, and a 7 acre green roof. The group learned from experts that the solar paneled roof and LED technology have been the workhorses to reduce Jaavits' annual energy consumption by 26%. The sedum planted green roof absorbs 7 million gallons of stormwater runoff annually, provides a wildlife sanctuary for birds, bats and thousands of insects, and conserves the building's energy use by reducing the urban heat effect by nearly 2 degrees! All of this has drastically reduced the carbon footprint of the busiest convention center in America.

And, perhaps the highlight of the outing for the Garden Club members was to indulge in the farm's "roof-to-table" cuisine that was collaborated by the farmers and chefs to present as a 7 course lunch to the delight of the group!

*Note! Robbyn is putting together a September visit to the Javits farm. \$95/pp

Upcoming Summer Trips:

June 5 Kayak to Gunnings Island to birdwatch Meet @JoAnn Molnar's home 81 Waterman Ave, Rumson@ 1130a Come explore in our own backyard!

June 25 Canoe the Pine Barrens Robbyn is taking names to participate in a trip. Please email if you are interested

June 17 Show&Tell Your Native Plant Garden

For the past few years many of our members have added natives to their landscaping and it would be lovely to have the opportunity to take a peek and see what's blooming and who's pollinating in those gardens! Contact me if you would like your plot--small or large to be included. Sounds like fun!

August 25 Samantha Bean, "Natives in My Backyard" blogger is welcoming us into her garden in late summer when her native plants will be in the height of bloom. Limited to 10 participants! Sign up and follow Samantha's blog <u>www.flutterbymeadows.com</u> Fabulous photography! Samantha is a member of Trenton Garden Club in Zone IV email: <u>robbynoneill@gmail.com</u>

text@ 267-304-3101

PLANT SALE!!!

Plant Sale Update -

If you have pre-ordered Clethra (\$45 each) for our June Plant Sale, please send a check made out to RGC to Rumson Garden Club, P.O. Box 121, Rumson, NJ 07760 or to Christina McNamara Weber, 534 Locust Point Rd, Rumson, NJ 07760 directly. We have already paidin-full for the plants to the nursery.



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR PLANT SALE ON JUNE 1ST. MANY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR FOUR SHIFTS: FRIDAY AFTERNOON FOR SET UP, SATURDAY MORNING 9-10AM FOR FINAL SET UP, 10-12PM AND 12-2PM FOR PLANT SALE. LOOKING FORWARD TO A FUN FILLED DAY TOGETHER. SIGN UPS FOR SHIFTS WENT OUT LAST WEEK! THIS IS OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISER FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS. PLEASE PLAN TO PARTICIPATE. IT WILL BE FUN!

Elaine & Maya

RGC FUN THINGS TABLE!

It's time to look through your closets for the RGC Fun Things Table at the plant sale!

We have already collected some awesome treasures. Please bring your items to the Annual Meeting or we can arrange for a pick up at your house.

Thanks so much! Peeka Tildesley 732-208-9854 Gail Van Winkle 732-233-1955

NEW JERSEY COMMITTEE:

The Growing Fund campaign for the NJ Committee ends on May 31st. If you haven't already donated there is still time! We will be at the reception table at the Annual Meeting to assist you with your donation! Or just click <u>here</u> to access the New Jersey Committee website to make your donation! Best,

Cynthia and Kathleen



Contribute to the 2023-2024 The Growing Fund

Please complete this form, and make your check payable to the NJC of GCA
Please mail to: Fran Ciolino
49 Atton Drive
Florham Park, NJ 07932
YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS:

Garden Club of: _____

Thank you sincerely for your support! The NJ Committee of The GCA





MISSION Stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening Restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment in the fields of conservation and civic improvement. Fund projects that benefit the state of New Jersey



The Growing Fund of The New Jersey Committee of The Garden Club of America raises funds to provide Zone IV clubs with grant money to fund worthwhile projects within the state. The Growing Fund generates about \$25,000 a year through the generous donations of the friends and members of the Zone IV Garden Clubs. Over the years, every club in Zone IV has received multiple Growing Fund grants that have allowed them to actively pursue local endeavors that help educate others as well as to conserve, beautify, and restore our New Jersey environment. The Growing Fund has gifted over \$545,000 to support over 91 projects. Please make a contribution to help our Garden State flourish!



When you donate, please note your Garden Club Name. Contributions of *375 and over will be acknowledged*. We are a 501(c)(3) organization. Please consider us if your employer has a matching gift program Deadline for donations is May 31, 2024.





More signs spring has sprung in Rumson!



COMMITTEE REPORTS: CONT.

THE BIRD LADY:

"Asters, Mums and July 4th".

(Courtesy of my old long time friend, the Farmers Almanac).

It's been a long cool Spring and your asters, mums and other fall blooming perennials have been reluctant to show their heads But when they do, and they become more mature there is a chore that is really worth your while. In early June cut back the tops by one third. July 4th, Ah! Independence Day, if you're not too busy partying, cut back the tops by a further third. Then leave well enough alone. By Autumn you should have thick bushy plants that need no staking, just your full admiration

In case you are wondering what your bird lady is doing writing about mums and asters, well, I really liked them before I became obsessed with birds and pollinators of all kinds, especially bees. And bees are insanely attracted to asters, elbowing each other out of the way to get at the pollen. They are also obsessed with Joe Pye weed, cup plant aka sylphium, sunflowers, golden rod, coneflower, milkweed, mountain mint, cosmos, alyssum and quite a few others as I'm sure you've observed in your gardens. (Note to self, since bees love them so well, plant well away from seating areas).

And while we are on the subject of birds, yesterday morning I saw a male goldfinch all decked out in his golden feathers. Obviously had mating on his mind. And a pair of wrens had taken over the old nesting box that hangs from the crape myrtle. The red winged blackbirds, grackles and starlings are battling it out at the bird feeders. But where are the chickadees and tufted titmice? It's been ages since I've seem them. And someone mentioned seeing a hummingbird. So get out those hummer feeders. And be prepared for a lot of delightful activity.

So, even in this time of dire warnings about global warming, and in spite of this really cool spring the birds seem to be listening to a different authority.

Haiku. This spring is so cool It's global warming, they say Weird weather, I say.

Jan Glass. Bird Lady. Janbglass13@gmail.com

For further information: Jersey-Friendly Yards: <u>JerseyYards.org</u>

AmericanBeauties Native Plants: <u>abnativeplants.com.</u> For Bees and Butterflies Rutgers fact sheet for Pollinators, mid Atlantic region: FS#468, Xerces, 6:a Rutgers fact sheet for Native Plants for pollinators: FS#375, 6:a Rutgers fact sheet to attract Hummingbirds, Butterflies and Moths, FS#22 NJ-Aud-Soc, 9:d



Heather Robinson recommends this "Ted talk" and newsletter: <u>https://www.ted.com/talks/rebecca mcmackin let your garden grow wild</u>

Rutgers Master Gardeners Plant Sale Information from Maya Speelmans:



And Susan Olson shares this beautiful window box inspiration from Charleston, SC:



Have a quick tip to share for the next Heap? Email Anne at <u>annejdreiss@gmail.com</u>