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President

Camille Rainiero
Vice President

Rick Lazarick
Treasurer

Monique Bonnier
Recording Secretary

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*Corresponding
Secretary*

Barbara Bernhard
*Immediate Past
President*

Maggie Kramer
*Club
Parliamentarian*

Jeff Tryon
Newsletter Editor

Lynn Grillo
Newsletter Design



The President's Message

April 2024 | Lorraine Persiani, President

April Showers Bring May Flowers! So true, and so exciting! Our garden club is having a great year! Our biggest achievement is the completion of our Birmingham Park Enhancement Project. You've been hearing about the project as it developed — very exciting! I hope all of you have saved the date of Thursday, May 23, for the celebration. Invitations are being extended to several dignitaries. Mark your calendars!

The programs for our monthly meetings have been enjoyable and very informative. We've learned about winter sowing for our spring gardens, the art of Japanese Bonsai, making beautiful holiday arrangements, fragrant garden plants, and deer-resistant gardens. Thank you, Iliana Okum, for planning such great programs.

The program for our next meeting on April 1 will be on "How to Keep Hydrangeas Blooming and info on New Varieties." Hydrangeas are a favorite flower of many of our members, who will be eager to hear this presentation.

I am sad to report that we lost another dear member of our club. Sharon Guiliano passed away on March 17. She became a member of the WTGC in November 2001 and enjoyed many years as a member. Our thoughts and prayers go to her family and friends.

*Remember to Live Life in Full Bloom,
~ Lorraine Persiani*

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2024 | Monique Bonnier, Recording Secretary

Meeting Called to Order

The West Trenton Garden Club Meeting was called to order on March 4, 2024 at 6:31 p.m. by Vice President Camille Rainiero. Camille welcomed our guests and wished a happy birthday to our March members.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Monique Bonnier reported that the minutes of the last meeting were in the newsletter. Hearing no additions or corrections, the minutes will be filed as reported.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Rick Lazarick reported a total of \$7,832.11 in the club's account. There was revenue collected from the 50/50, the Holiday Party, and dues. Hearing no additions or corrections, the amount will be filed as reported.

Correspondence

Iliana Okum sent out three cards to cheer up members. She reminded all members to let her know if anyone needed cheering up.

Committee Reports

Birmingham Park

Chair, Rick Lazarick reported that he is working on the invitations for the celebration.

Spring Plant Sale

Chair, Gabrielle Belcheff reported that the list of available plants has been emailed to all members in the last newsletter. Orders are due by April 15th. Pick up is May 3rd. Volunteers are needed to help unload the truck and sort

the orders. A sign up is available. Payment is due either at time of order or pickup..

Scholarship Breakfast

Chairs Barbara Bernhard and Linda Reasoner will be organizing a breakfast on May 11 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Hollowbrook Community Center. Books of tickets have been given to all members. Books will consist of 5 tickets at \$7 each. Please mail your ticket money or donation back by May 6th to Linda Reasoner, 76 Lochatong Road, Ewing, NJ 08628. Volunteers will be needed to help at the breakfast and to create baskets for the raffle. Volunteers are also needed to contact local businesses for donations.


Nominating Committee

Positions are open for nominations for President, Vice President, and Secretary. Please submit names for nominations.

Rose Sale

Iliana Okum has emailed the members a wonderful list of beautiful roses available for purchase from the Rose Society's Rose Sale. There are descriptions of the roses with pictures. Order forms are due by April 21, 2024. Check your email, as quantities are limited!

Other

A House Plant Survey was distributed and returned at the meeting. Results would be used for the April General Membership special presentation. 

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2024 | Monique Bonnier, Recording Secretary

Announcements

- Items for the newsletter are due to Jeff Tryon by the 15th of the month. The next Regular Meeting is April 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hollowbrook Community Center with a program to follow “Hydrangeas - How to Keep Them Blooming and New Varieties.”
- Special thanks to Nisha Khanna for her wonderful presentation on “Deer Resistant Gardens with Native Plants.”
- The Q & A portion of the meeting was held with members asking questions of the members.
- With no further business to discuss, Carol Bozarth motioned the meeting to be adjourned at 6:54 p.m. and seconded by Monique Bonnier.
- Our hospitality committee provided a delicious spread of St. Patrick’s Day-themed goodies for the membership.

Alicia Magee | Flowers for the Library



Happy Birthday!

- Victoria Rivera-Cruz - April 4
- Mary Corrigan - April 21

Don't Forget!

Flowers for Ewing Library

Anne and David Chmielewski

Hospitality Committee

Linda Gerasimowicz (Chair), Zofia Jablonski Feulner, Harry Gamble, Matt Kowalski, Rita Obed, and Angela Proctor-Weaver.

Newsletter Deadline

Submit all info to Jeff Tryon by the 15th of the month via email wgtcnewsletter@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendar

April 1

WTGC Monthly Meeting
6:30PM - Hollowbrook
Community Center
“Hydrangeas - How to Keep
Them Blooming and New
Varieties.”

April 8-12

GCNJ Flower Show School
Course I - Holly House

April 22

Earth Day 🌍

April 22

GCNJ State Board Meeting
10 AM - Holly House

April 22

WTGC Board Meeting
7PM - Via Zoom

April 27

Arbor Day
9:30AM-12:00PM



Hydrangeas - How to Keep Them Blooming and New Varieties

Program by Steven Kristoph | April 1, 2024

With so many gorgeous cultivars, old and new, hydrangeas are the focal point of many gardens. If you have a hydrangea in your garden, you look forward every summer to the beautiful blues and pinks of the macrophylla variety or perhaps the creamy light green of the newer 'Limelight' cultivar. Then there are the Oakleaf hydrangeas with their large leaves and pointed off-white heads that turn pink and brown over the summer. Steven Kristoph will present them all and give us maintenance tips. He will also advise us on which varieties are best suited for our gardens. Two Hydrangeas will be raffled off after the presentation. You might be the winner of a new variety to take home. At the end of the meeting, some lovely perennials will be available for purchase.

Steven Kristoph received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Horticulture from Rutgers University. He owns and operates a nursery in Millstone Township in Monmouth County, NJ where he grows many types of ornamental trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials. He has also been an adjunct instructor at Rutgers for over 40 years. Steve is passionate about plants and likes to share his knowledge with others.

Scholarship Fundraiser Continental Breakfast

Sat. May 11, 2024

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Hollowbrook Community Center

Our breakfast has been scheduled for Sat., May 11, 2024 from 9 a.m.–noon at the Hollowbrook Community Center.

The tickets—5 per member at \$7.00 each—will be distributed at the April meeting. If you aren't at the meeting they will be mailed to you. Tickets and payment can be mailed back to Linda Reasoner or returned at the May meeting.

The gift baskets that are raffled off make a large profit towards the scholarships. If you feel inclined to make a basket for the event please sign up on the sign up sheets that will be available at the April meeting. Baskets are due by May 1st and may be dropped off at Linda Reasoner's home. Please give this some consideration as the raffle is a big event at the breakfast. Attendees love and look forward to it.

For questions please call:

Linda Reasoner:

H: (609) 882-2943 | M: (609) 851-7520

lindar75@verizon.net

Camille Rainiero:

H: (609) 890-0368 | M: (856) 465-5241

crainiero129@gmail.com



Garden State Iris Society

Sat. May 11, 2024

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Burlington County Library

See gorgeous iris flowers in a wide variety of colors and patterns in this show sponsored by the Garden State Iris Society (GSIS). These stunning garden beauties are surprisingly hardy and easy to grow. Colorful tall bearded iris, as well as smaller species irises, will be on display. It's an opportunity to find varieties that will grow well in your garden.

Anyone can enter or view the show. Entries are accepted from 10 to 11 a.m. on the day of the show. Interested in exhibiting blooms from your garden? See the GSIS website for details: www.jerseyiris.org. Exhibitors should cut an entire bloom stalk close to the ground and put it into a glass container with water. The best stalks are ones with newly opened flowers on top.

Once the flowers have been judged and awarded ribbons, the show will open for viewing. The Garden State Iris Society, which includes all of New Jersey, is an affiliate of Region 3 of the American Iris Society. The group holds regular meetings with programs related to all phases of iris culture. Educational functions include garden tours, flower shows, iris rhizome sales, awards luncheons, and informational presentations.

Although you don't have to be a member to participate in GSIS activities, we encourage membership in the AIS to support iris culture and to get benefits such as colorful, informative iris bulletins. Join the American Iris Society at www.irises.org and you will automatically be enrolled in the Garden State Iris Society.

2024 WTGC Flower Sale

Order Form - Order due April 15, 2024

Member? Yes | No

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

HERBS & ANNUALS	\$ EACH	# WANTED	TOTAL
Basil (4" Pot)	\$3.50		
Lavender (4" Pot)	\$3.50		
Asparagus Fern (4" Pot)	\$3.50		
Dracaena Spike (4" Pot)	\$3.50		
Vinca Vine (4" Pot)	\$3.50		
Potato Vine - Purple (4" Pot)	\$3.50		
Potato Vine - Green (4" Pot)	\$3.50		
Geraniums - Red (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Geraniums - Pink (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Geraniums - Violet (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Geraniums - Salmon (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Geraniums - White (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Ivy Geraniums (Assorted Colors) (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Premium Coleus (Sun/Shade) (No Color Choice) (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
New Guinea Impatiens - Red (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
New Guinea Impatiens - Salmon (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
New Guinea Impatiens - Pink (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
New Guinea Impatiens - White (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
New Guinea Impatiens - Orange (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
New Guinea Impatiens - Purple (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Sun Impatiens - Red (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Sun Impatiens - Pink (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Sun Impatiens - White (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Sun Impatiens - Deep Rose (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Calibrachoa (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Kong Coleus (Sun/Shade) (No Color Choice) (5.5" Pot)	\$4.50		
Celosia (5.5" Pot)	\$4.50		
Dragon Wing Begonia (5.5" Pot)	\$4.50		
HANGING BASKETS			
10" Fuchsia (1.5 gal)	\$15.00		
10" Confetti Mix (1.5 gal)	\$15.00		
10" Geranium (No Color Choice) (1.5 gal)	\$15.00		
WINDOW BOX			
24" Geranium Window Box	\$18.50		
24" Annual Mix Window Box	\$18.50		
ANNUAL FLATS			
Flowering Vinca (8 4 packs)	\$14.00		
Marigold African (8 4 packs)	\$14.00		
BIRMINGHAM PARK DONATION			
Cash donation for purchasing park plants, primarily native perennials	Any amount		
TOTAL			

Pick up will be Friday, May 3rd from 1-7pm or Saturday, May 4th from 9am-12pm. All checks to be made payable to West Trenton Garden Club. **PLEASE PAY WHEN YOU PICK UP!** Pickup will be at Gabrielle Belcheff's home, 3 Riverview Drive, Ewing, NJ 08628, gabriellebelcheff@gmail.com, (732) 710-6905. Mail, email or call Rick Lazarick by April 15th with orders. Rick Lazarick, 8 Blackwood Drive, Ewing NJ 08628; ricklazarick@gmail.com (609) 433-1793

In Memoriam | Sharon Giuliano

Sharon D. Guiliano, 88, of Hamilton Township, NJ, passed away on Sunday, March 17, 2024, at home.

Born in Plainfield, NJ, and raised in New Market, NJ, Sharon moved to Ewing Township, NJ in 1966, and has resided in Hamilton Township since 2022.

Sharon worked at Art Color in New Market, NJ for several years, and was a secretary for Capital Heath – Fuld, in Trenton, NJ, Maintenance Department, for many years of service. Sharon then worked at Capital Health – Fuld in the Accounting Department.

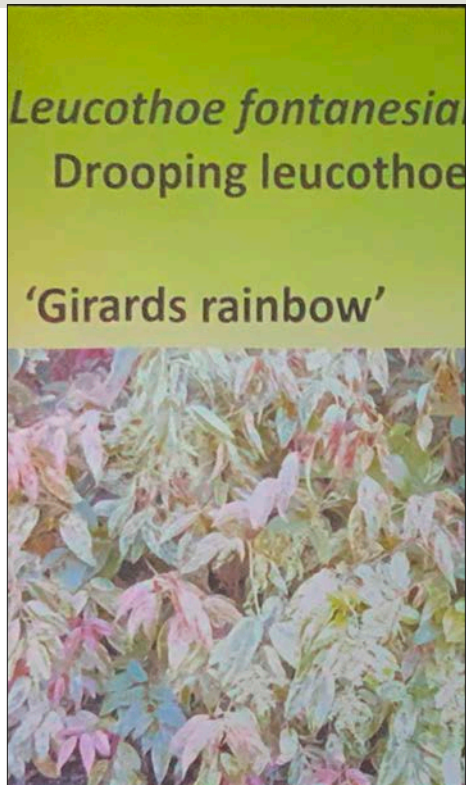
She was a member of the Ewing Woman's Club and the West Trenton Garden Club for many years. Sharon enjoyed antiques, flea markets, shopping, and spending time with friends.

Predeceased by her parents, C. Sheldon and Dorothy Pryor Dix, and her husband Gregory Guiliano, she is survived by her loving daughter, Amy and her husband Michael Amantia; and several cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made in Sharon's name for her love of cats and dogs to EASEL Animal Rescue League & Pet Adoptions at www.easelnj.org/dogs. To send condolences to the family, please visit www.brennafuneralhome.com

Gallery | Deer-Resistant Gardens with Native Plants

February Program by Nisha Khanna



Why Native?

- ****Sustain the food web****
- **Better adapted to local conditions**
- **Non-invasive (usually)**
- **“Nativars” – Native cultivars**

"If you have a backyard, this book is for you."
— RICHARD LUTY, author of *LandCharm*

BRINGING NATURE HOME
How You Can Sustain Wildlife with NATIVE PLANTS
DOUGLAS W. TALLAMY
Landscape Planting for Wildlife

RUTGERS New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

Home About Cooperative Extension Research Topics Career Options Services Giving Contact Us

Landscape Plants Rated by Deer Resistance

Search

Search Common Name or Latin Name

Search

- or -

Browse

Select Rating Category

All Ratings

Select Plant Type

All Types

Sort By

Rating

View

The following is a list of landscape plants rated according to their resistance to deer damage. The list was compiled with input from nursery and landscape professionals, Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) Cooperative Extension personnel, and Rutgers Master Gardeners in northern New Jersey.

Realizing that no plant is deer proof, plants in the Rarely Damaged, and Seldom Severely Damaged categories would be best for landscapes prone to deer damage. Plants Occasionally Severely Damaged and Frequently Severely Damaged are often preferred by deer and should only be planted with additional protection such as the use of fencing, repellents, etc. Success of any of these plants in the landscape will depend on local deer populations and weather conditions.

KEY:

- A** = Rarely Damaged
- B** = Seldom Severely Damaged
- C** = Occasionally Severely Damaged