

West Trenton Garden Club

Lorraine Persiani,
President

Camille Rainiero,
Vice President

Barbara Bernhard,
Immediate Past President

Monique Bonnier,
Recording Secretary

Iliana Okum,
Corresponding Secretary

Rick Lazarick,
Treasurer

Maggie Kramer,
Club Parliamentarian

Jeffrey Tryon,
Newsletter Editor

Contents

President's Message.....	1
Meeting Minutes.....	2-3
Program.....	4
Community.....	5
Dates to Remember.....	6
Additional Materials ...	7-10

The Garden Path Newsletter

www.westtrentongc.org

APRIL 2023

Dear Garden Club Friends,

Spring is finally here and the world is waking up from a long sleep. Our bulbs are popping, the trees will be budding soon, and we are weeding our gardens and preparing to plant them in the next few weeks! You can start your gardens by ordering plants from our annual Spring Plant Sale. The order forms have been distributed and are due by April 14, 2023. Please support our club with an order.

The time is fast approaching for our exciting Flower Show in May! Helga and her committee, along with many volunteers, are working their magic to make this year's Flower Show one of our best! By now many of you have signed up to enter creations for several categories, from photography — to horticulture — to floral arrangements — to table setting displays. Helga and Iliana have presented workshops to help members with their arrangements. A special “Thank You” to them for doing this!

This Flower Show will be something to see! We are advertising the event but word-of-mouth is the best way to spread the word to our community. So, have your friends and family mark their calendars for May 19-20 to visit our exhibit. They'll be so glad they did!

Remember to *Live Life in Full Bloom*,

— Lorraine Persiani, President WTGC

NOTE



We will NOW be meeting at the
HOLLOWBROOK COMMUNITY CENTER
320 Hollowbrook Drive, Ewing 08638

NOTE



ON MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2022, AT 6:30 p.m.

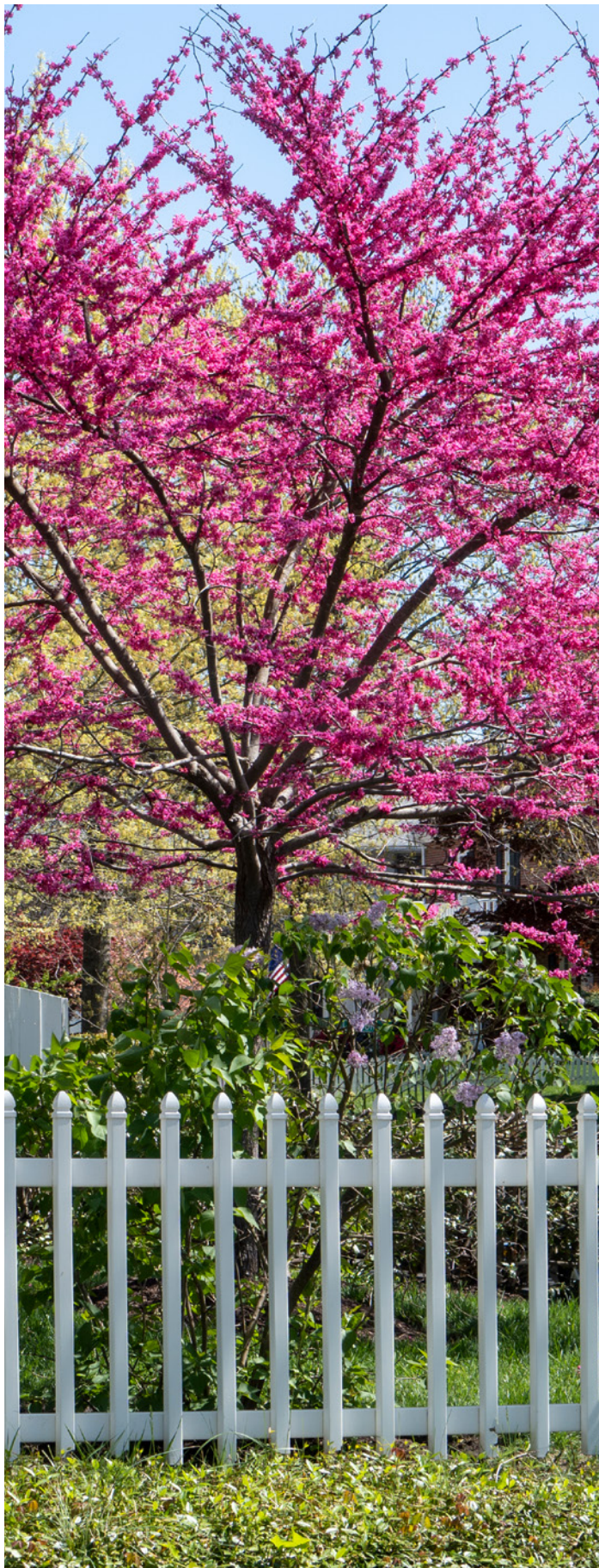


Photo courtesy of Shutterstock.com

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The West Trenton Garden Club Meeting was called to order on March 6, 2023 at 6:42 p.m. by Vice President Camille Rainiero. Camille welcomed our new guests.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Rick Lazarick reported a total of \$9,317.22 in the club's account. There was net income of \$1,112 from dues, the Plant America Grant and February 50/50. Expenses totaled \$451.95 for the February Program, flowers, and a Drumthwacket expense reimbursement. Hearing no additions or corrections, the amount will be filed as reported.

CORRESPONDENCE

Iliana reported on the note that was sent to Grace Starrett's daughter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Birmingham Park – Chair, Heidi Furman reported that the strip mall was doing some work but it was under control. A brick sale fund raiser for the park was discussed. The donator's name would be engraved on the brick. Heidi will send an email to solicit volunteers to help clean up the park.

Flower Show/Design Class – Iliana Okum reminded everyone that the show is quickly approaching. Helga will be sending out more information via email. Iliana reminded everyone on March 11th at 1 pm at the Ewing Library there will be a design workshop for those exhibiting at the flower show. Bring your materials that you plan to use and she will be happy to discuss ideas and share lots of photos. Snacks provided. Everyone had a great time at the last workshop.



Photo courtesy of Shutterstock.com

Plant Sale – Chair, Ingrid Fair distributed the order forms. Orders are due by April 14th and the plants will be available for pick up at Ingrid’s house, 6 Honeywood Lane, Ewing on May 5th from 1-7 p.m. and May 6th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Arbor Day – Chair, Anne Chmielewski reminded everyone that Arbor Day is April 28th the last Friday in April. She will be handing out trees at the Ewing Library.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dues are due!! \$30 for a single and \$45 for a family membership.

Anne Chmielewski brought seeds for a growing challenge. Everyone who wants to participate please see Anne for seeds.

April is “Sustainable Hospitality”. Please check your email for more information.

Items for the newsletter are due to Jeff Tryon by the 15th of the month. The next Regular Meeting is April 3rd at 6:30 p.m. at the Hollowbrook Community Center with a program to follow “How to Prepare Horticulture for Blue Ribbons in a Standard Flower Show”.

With no further business to discuss, Camielle motioned the meeting to be adjourned at 7pm and seconded by Monique.

Our program for the evening was “Wildlife Habitat Gardens a Visit to Model in our Community”. The presentation was very interesting and provided information about “Homegrown Parks” and gardening with natural plants to our area.

Thank you to our Hospitality Committee for providing delicious treats with a St. Patrick’s Day theme.

—Monique Bonnier, Recording Secretary

HOW TO PREPARE HORTICULTURE FOR BLUE RIBBONS IN A STANDARD FLOWER SHOW

PROGRAM BY: ANNE CHMIELEWSKI

APRIL 3, 2023 | 6:30 p.m.



Shutterstock.com

What do you need to know to enter your house plants and garden horticulture specimens in the spring flower show? How do you correctly complete your entry tags? Come on out and get tips on preparing your house plants to win some blue ribbons. Also learn tips on identifying and cutting horticulture specimens from your garden and review the criteria used by National Garden Clubs, Inc. Accredited Judges to award ribbons. This is your chance to get ready for our flower show.

Copies of the flower show schedule Horticulture Division and entry tags will be available for practice.

Anne Chmielewski has a wealth of knowledge and experience in preparing our membership to meet the requirements of the horticulture section of the annual garden club flower show. Anne is our resident expert on all things related to identifying horticulture specimens and preparing the best possible displays. She is familiar with the criteria used by the judges and will provide guidance and tips for our members to ensure lots of ribbons and success.

MARCH FLOWER-ARRANGING WORKSHOP





Photo courtesy of Shutterstock.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

APRIL 3 - WTGC Monthly Meeting - 6:30PM (Hollowbrook Community Center); Program: "How to Prepare Horticulture for Blue Ribbons in a Standard Flower Show." See page 4.

APRIL 9 - Easter Sunday

APRIL 17-21 - GCNJ Flower Show School Course IV - Holly House

APRIL 22 - Earth Day

APRIL 24 - GCNJ State Board Meeting - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

APRIL 24 - WTGC Board Meeting - 7 p.m. - Via Zoom.

APRIL 26 - GCNJ Judges Council - 10 a.m.-12 p.m. - Holly House.

APRIL 28 - Arbor Day

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

APRIL 2023

• Victoria Rivera-Cruz - April 4

DON'T FORGET!

FLOWERS FOR EWING LIBRARY - Barbara Bernhard

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE – Iliana Okum (Chair), Barbara Bernhard, Zofia Jablonski Feulner, Heidi Furman, Chris Kamping, and Rick Lazarick.

IMPORTANT: Please bring (or mail by 5/1/23) all outstanding receipts and invoices to WTGC Treasurer Rick Lazarick so that the year can be closed out. Thanks!

MCL EWING BRANCH

PUBLIC HOURS:

Monday: 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 12:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

<https://mcl.org/branches/ewing>



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Please submit all info for *The Garden Path* to Jeff Tryon by the 15th of the month. wtgnewsletter@gmail.com

Celebrating Earth Day and Celebrating Our Health-

Hospitality Can be GREEN!



To get us in the spirit of celebrating Earth Day while also celebrating our good health, we are moving towards a GREEN HOSPITALITY for our garden club members.

Here is how you can take part in our Green Hospitality and also win a prize at our April meeting.

Bring your own empty water bottle or non-plastic container for your beverage. We will be serving home made iced tea---plain or sweetened and water. Our beverages will be in glass pitchers- so your non-plastic beverage container will be filled with the beverage of your choice.

We mean a non-plastic container for beverages. 😊

Our Hospitality Committee will be serving home made cookies, cake or other desert placed on their glass or ceramic plates.

Fruit or veggie trays will also be served for your enjoyment.

Our goal is to celebrate Earth Day by not using any plastics and also eliminating waste and cutting down on trash for landfills.

Everyone who brings a non-plastic container for their beverage to the meeting will be entered in a drawing for one of **five door prizes**---all related to earth day and gardening.

LET's work together to improve our health and celebrate our beautiful earth.



Thank you, see you on Monday, April 3, 2023.

Hospitality Committee: Iliana Okum, Rick Lazarick, Barbara Bernhard, Zofia Jablonski Feulner, Heidi Furman, Chris Camping



Create a Flower Bed from Scratch

Tuesday, April 11, 6:30 pm

Create your own colorful garden bed at home! Iliana Okum and Barbara Bernhard of the West Trenton Garden Club, along with Ross of Bountiful Gardens in Ewing, will share photos and a list of plants used in the planting process. Questions will be answered and a list of plants and sources will be provided.

April is National Lawn & Garden Month

**Garden State African Violet Club's 69th Annual Show and Plant Sale
Saturday, May 6, 2023**

12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

Mercer County Community College- Student Center

1200 Old Trenton Road
West Windsor, New Jersey

This year's show theme, "**Violets Light Up Broadway,**" will feature America's favorite houseplants — African violets — displayed in plant and design arrangements in the spirit of Broadway. Enjoy viewing award-winning African violet plants, creative designs and educational displays to help you grow your own beautiful African violets.

Don't miss the opportunity to see hundreds of judged plants on display, grown by local club enthusiasts and prominent growers. Experts will be on hand to answer your questions!

Plants will be for sale from commercial growers and club members. Remember, plants make great Mother's Day gifts!

Admission is free! For directions to Mercer County Community College, click [MCCC directions](#).

Follow the signs when you enter the campus, free parking is available.

**2023 WEST TRENTON GARDEN CLUB SPRING FLOWER SALE
ORDER FORM – ORDER DUE APRIL 14, 2023**

Name: _____

WTGC Member: **Y** or N

Cell/Home Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

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		
Potato Vine – Purple (4" Pot)	\$3.50		
Potato Vine – Green (4" Pot)	\$3.50		
Geranium – Red (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Geranium – Pink (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Geranium – Violet (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Geranium – White (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Geranium – Salmon (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Ivy Geranium (No Color Choice) (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
New Guinea Impatiens-Lavender (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
New Guinea Impatiens-Orange (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 – White (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
New Guinea Impatiens - Pink (4.5" Pot)	\$4.25		
Calibrichoa (4.5" pot)	\$4.25		
Premium Coleus (Sun/Shade) (No Color Choice) (4.5")	\$4.25		
Celosia (5.5" Pot)	\$4.50		
Dragon Wing Begonia (5.5" Pot)	\$4.50		
HANGING BASKETS			
10" Fuchsia	\$15.00		
10" Confetti Mix	\$15.00		
10" Geranium (No Color Choice)	\$15.00		
WINDOW BOX			
24" Window Box Geraniums & Annual Mix	\$18.50		
ANNUAL FLATS			
Flowering Vinca (8 4packs)	\$14.00		
Marigold African (8 4packs)	\$14.00		
MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO BIRMINGHAM PARK SUMMER PLANTING PROJECT	Any Amount \$\$\$		
TOTAL			

Pick up will be Friday, May 5th, from 1-7pm or Saturday, May 6st, from 9am-12pm. All checks to be made payable to West Trenton Garden Club. **PLEASE PAY AT PICK UP!** Pickup will be at Ingrid Fair's home, 6 Honeywood Lane Ewing, NJ 08638. Mail, email or call Ingrid or Sue Fair by April 14th with your order. Ingrid Fair: blondie2327@gmail.com (609)-462-2592. Susan Fair: 1122 Wheldon Shivers Dr. Ewing, NJ 08628; sfair17@aol.com (863)-258-1721.