

West Trenton Garden Club

Barbara Bernhard,
President

Lorraine Persiani,
Vice President

Linda Gerasimowicz,
Recording Secretary

Iliana Okum,
Corresponding Secretary

Susan Fair,
Treasurer

Jeffrey Tryon,
Newsletter Editor

Contents

President's Message.....	1
Leadership.....	2
Meeting Minutes.....	3-4
Program.....	5
Community.....	6
Dates to Remember.....	8

The Garden Path Newsletter

www.westtrentongc.org

MARCH 2021

Dear Garden Club Members,

March is upon us! We know what that means – Spring will soon be arriving. Alas, won't that be a welcome site?! It will be time to get back out in our gardens to do a little spring cleaning and prepare them for the future flowers that will soon adorn them.

Maybe some of you have already received your COVID vaccines or at least have an appointment to do so. Anything to get us one step closer to normal!

The WTGC dues are due in the month of March. They are \$30 per person and \$45 for a family. More information will follow in the newsletter. Please be sure to send in your checks! Thank you!

Also, speaking of Spring, Sue Fair will be sending out the order forms for our Spring Flower Sale. She's still waiting to receive the information from Davino's, as to what will be available this year. All pertinent information will be included with that email. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year. Please support our club! Once again, we will be accepting donations for Birmingham Park to continue beautifying the garden, if anyone so chooses! Thank you all, in advance. I know the flower sale will be a huge success!

Iliana Okum is including an order form from the Rose Society in this newsletter. Any of you who have order roses previously, know just how beautiful they are. They are also offered at a reasonable price. If you need some roses, Iliana is your girl!

Happy Birthday wishes to the following members:

Mary Pat Voorhees – March 16; Carol Bozarth – March 23; Sharon Johnson – March 25; Eileen Kaluzny – March 27; Jo Ann Seaman – March 29

Our next general meeting will be on Monday, March 1 @ 7:00 pm. Anne Chmielewski will be doing a program on growing your own flowers and vegetables from seed. Sounds like fun, Anne, and thank you for your presentation!

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY to ALL!

Continue to stay healthy and safe, and above all, happy!
Best regards,
Barbara Bernhard, President WTGC

 **NOTE: WE WILL CONTINUE WITH OUR ZOOM MEETINGS ONLINE MONDAY, MARCH 1!** 



President	Barbara Bernhard
Vice President	Lorraine Persiani
Immediate Past President	Camille Rainiero
Recording Secretary	Linda Gerasimowicz
Treasurer	Susan Fair
Corresponding Secretary	Iliana Okum
Club Parliamentarian	Maggie Kramer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Two-Year Term	Ginny Sari (2nd Year) Diane Sanchez (2nd Year) Rick Lazarick (1st Year) Anne Chmielewski (1st Year)
One-Year Term	June Rosso Dolores Brezak
Nominating Committee	Carol Bozarth (Chair) Zofia Jablonski Feulner Gerree Pecht June Rosso Anne Chmielewski



Photos by Devah Brinker



Photo by Devah Brinker

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The West Trenton Garden Club Meeting was held via the internet as a ZOOM meeting on February 1, 2021. Twenty-eight members participated. President Barbara Bernhard called the meeting to order at 7:06. She welcomed all members back for the start of a new year-2021, as well as our guest speaker Hubert Ling. She announced that Jeannie Geremia, the President of the Garden Club of New Jersey is ill and if anyone wants to send her a get well card her address is in our yearbook. Barbara thanked Camille Rainiero and her committee for a wonderful ZOOM Holiday Party. She also thanked Terry Palise and Janis Stia for their good work with the Poinsettia Sale. Barbara also gave birthday wishes to January and February birthday members.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Linda Gerasimowicz reported there were no meetings since November and the November meeting minutes were in the Newsletter. Hearing no additions or corrections, the minutes will be filed as reported.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Susan Fair reported a total of \$7,698.60 in the Club's account. Hearing no concerns, the amount will be filed as reported.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Corresponding Secretary, Iliana Okum reported sending a get well card to Jeannie Geremia.

AGENDA ITEMS

Morven- Barbara Bernhard congratulated chair Heidi Furman and her committee for placing 1st in the Morven Holiday Tree Decorating. The Club's tree received 260 votes which was more than the 2nd and 3rd place trees combined. Heidi stated the Club has already received an invitation to participate this coming year.

Birmingham Park-Rick Lazarick informed the members of a project to identify and label the plants and shrubs at the Park. He states it will be a 3 step process. First, identify the plants and shrubs- he will need help from the members to do this. Second, put these on a plot plan with labels so the public can identify them. Third, put something on our website and eventually a QR code to click on with your phone which would connect to our website. This will be an ongoing project and will need volunteers.

Chair, Heidi Furman states she will need volunteers to help with clean up at the Park, probably in March.

Committees-Pat Bowker will be moving out of the area and several committees chaired by her will need to be filled. Linda Gerasimowicz has volunteered to chair Hospitality, Iliana Okum has volunteered to co-chair Programs. Barbara stated a chair and possibly co-chair are needed for the Flower Show. Pat has volunteered to compile a



Photo by Jeffrey Tryon

detailed list of what this entails and will meet with whoever volunteers to take on this position. She has several storage bins with flower show supplies as well as Hospitality items.

Grant for Nursery Signage-Helga Fontus stated she applied for a grant to help educate the public about plants that attract pollinators by putting signage at area Nurseries. The Club did not receive the Grant money because the State said the Club did not dedicate enough of it's own money to the project.

Spring Flower Sale-Chair, Sue Fair states she finally was able to speak with someone at Davino and hopes to get a price list soon. She states there will be the option to donate flowers to Birmingham Park again.

Scholarship-Chair, Camille Rainiero states she sent applications to Ewing High, Villa Victoria, Steinert and the Sypek Center. A discussion ensued as to why it was opened up to schools other than Ewing High. The reason for offering the scholarships is to promote study of sciences involving horticulture, landscape design, etc. The amount of the scholarships will depend on available funds. The Board approved \$1,000. There is a \$2,000 amount in the yearly budget. Applicants have to submit a transcript, essay, letters of recommendation and proof of college they are attending. Camille states she does have a committee to help with the selection process.

Flowers for the Library-Chair Alicia Magee states we are still placing pictures in Marazzos in Ewing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barbara Bernhard announced the next Board Meeting is February 22nd and the next General Meeting is March 1st. Newsletter items need to be sent to Jeff Tryon by February 15th.

Iliana Okum stated the Rose Society is selling roses again and she is sending the form for Jeff to try to attach it to the Newsletter.

Fredricka Billups motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:41. It was seconded by Iliana Okum.

Program-Co-chair Anne Chmielewski then introduced Hubert Ling who was presenting a program on Native Wildflowers for the Home Garden.

— *Linda Gerasimowicz,*
Recording Secretary

GARDEN VARIETY AND BEYOND

By Anne Chmielewski



Shutterstock.com



Shutterstock.com

During the long days of January, colorful seed catalogs and websites showcase pictures of luscious vegetables and vibrant flowers. This is the time when everyone dreams of warm, sunny days with a garden filled with color, insects and produce. This presentation focuses on those tried-and-true plants along with some overlooked gems for your garden. Step beyond the purchase of plants from a big box store garden center. Grow your own. Seed starting tips will be reviewed and seeds provided upon request. (mailed or delivered)!

WWW.WESTTRENTONGC.ORG

FLOWERS FOR THE EWING LIBRARY

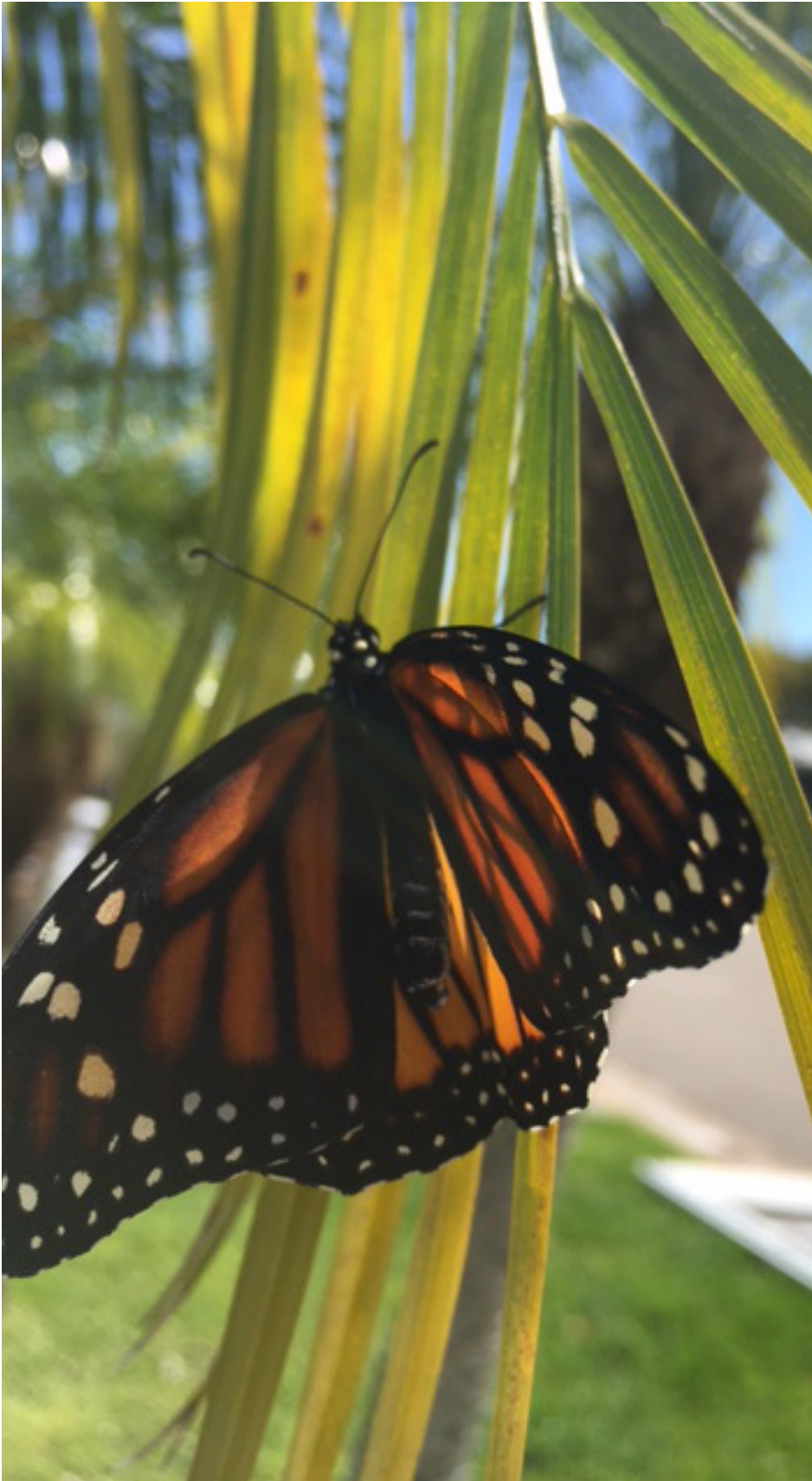


Photo by Devah Brinker

←A lovely butterfly from
Devah Brinker.

Until further notice, the library is not accepting displays as they would need to be regularly sanitized. Our local supermarket, Marrazzos, has a very nice locked display board in the front hall and the Manager has agreed to let us put our monthly photos there. Accompanying the photo is the following note:

**West Trenton Garden Club
Welcomes New Members!**

Virtual meetings the first
Monday of the month
at 7:00 PM.

You can see more
about us at our website:
www.westtrentongc.org

— Alicia Magee

Ewing Branch Public Hours:

**Public Browsing – Now
Open For Longer**

Monday: 10 am to 5 pm

Wednesday: 10am to 8 pm

Friday: 10 am to 5 pm

Saturday: 2 pm to 5 pm

**Aged 65+ and
Immunocompromised
Individuals**

Monday: 10:00 am to 11:00 am

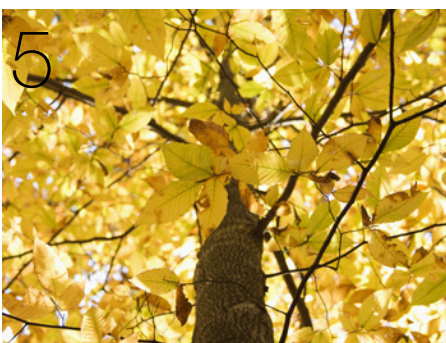
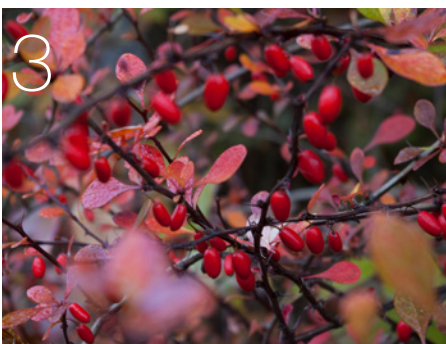
Friday: 10:00 am to 11:00 am

**Contactless Curbside
Pick-Up**

Tuesday: 10:00 am to 4:30 pm

Thursday: 10:00 am to 4:30 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am to 12:30 pm



Shutterstock.com

GCNJ ENVIRONMENTAL ALERT NATIONAL INVASIVE PLANTS AWARENESS WEEK

FEBRUARY 22-26, 2021

February 22-26, 2021 is National Invasive Species Awareness Week. Calls-to-action nationwide recognize the threat of invasive species to plants, birds, wildlife, and habitats.

Invasive flora and fauna negatively impact the balance of our ecosystems. Invasive plants include both native and non-native species. Invasives spread easily and grow densely by out-competing desirable vegetation for light and nutrients. Invasive varieties dominate an area by overrunning beneficial plants and preventing healthy regeneration.

Listed below are five common invasive plant species in New Jersey that should be removed and controlled. Unfortunately, some are standard nursery stock.

1. **Honeysuckle** — A non-native vine which includes multiple species, but mostly the tatarian variety should be removed.
2. **Buckthorn** — A non-native plant which includes the Common and Glossy varieties.
3. **Japanese Barberry** — A non-native shrub found spreading easily in forests, meadows, and wetlands.
4. **Hay-Scented Fern** — A native fern that grows in dense mats out-competing any desirable vegetation on the forest floor.
5. **American Beech** — A native tree that proliferates in both shade and sun out-competing surrounding forest. If kept in check, American Beech is an important habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Information provided by Beverly Kazickas, Environmental Committee Chair, Garden Club of New Jersey

Sources: The American Audubon Society and National Garden Club

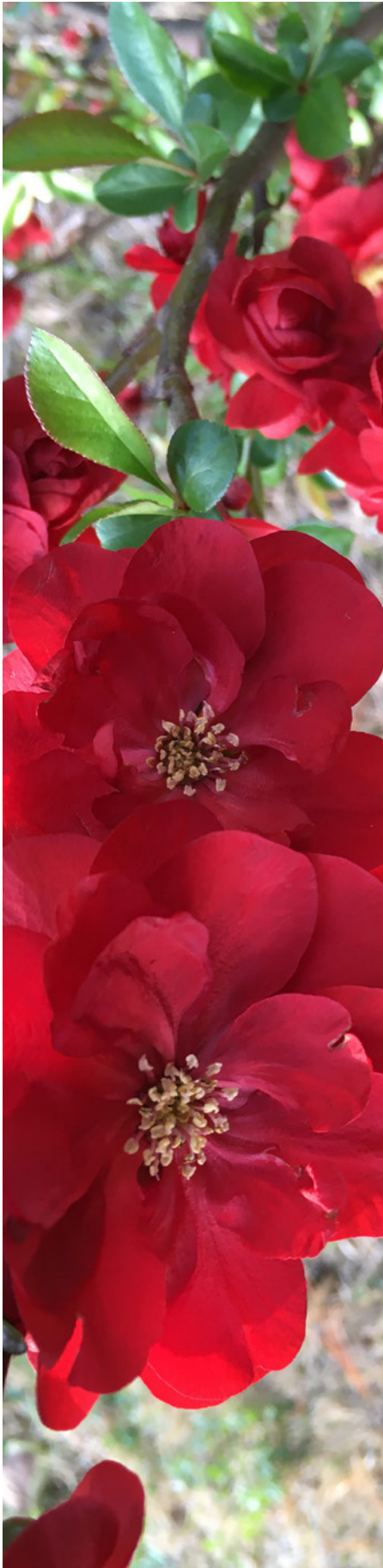


Photo by Devah Brinker

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MARCH 1 - GCNJ Deadline for Online Registration: "Go Wild Winter Festival."

MARCH 1 - WTGC Monthly Meeting (Virtual Zoom Meeting) - Program: "Garden Variety and Beyond" by WTGC Member Anne Chmielewski. See description on page 5.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2 at 2:00 pm: Rose Workshop with Renowned Rosarian Michael Marriott at Morven! Michael Marriott, one of the world's leading rosarians, presents a rose growing workshop including history on some of Morven's roses. \$15; \$10 for Friends of Morven. Virtual program with Q&A. Registration required. Register at www.morven.org/rose-workshop-with-rosarian-michael-marriott

MARCH 10TH, at 11 am: Begin your day with David Wheeler, Executive Director of Conserve Wildlife Foundation, as he discusses "Helping Hands for Wildlife."

At 1 pm: Continue with Bruce Crawford, Director of New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES), as he speaks about "Designing Gardens to Support the Native Web of Life."

At 2 pm: Finish the first day with Mark Falzone, President of Scenic America, who will talk about "Creating a More Scenic America for All People."

MARCH 11TH, at 11 am: Sam Lemheney, VP and Chief of Shows and Events for The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, & Melissa Raffel, Director of Volunteer Programs, PHS, will tell you all about the "2021 Philadelphia Flower Show" and its theme-- "Habitat: Nature's Masterpiece."

At 1 pm: Sam Pesin of The Friends of Liberty State Park & Greg Remaud of NY/NJ Baykeepers will discuss why it is so important to support "The Liberty State Park Protection Act."

Register for these FREE PROGRAMS, go to www.gardenclubofnewjersey.org and then scroll to the "Go Wild Winter Festival." The deadline for registration is March 1.

MARCH 17 - HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH

Mary Pat Voorhees - March 16; Carol Bozarth - March 23
Sharon Johnson - March 25; Eileen Kaluzny - March 27;
Jo Ann Seaman - March 29

DON'T FORGET!

FLOWERS FOR EWING LIBRARY – Ingrid Fair



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



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



WEST TRENTON GARDEN CLUB, INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

APPLICANT INFORMATION

The West Trenton Garden Club Inc. was established for the purposes of informing its members of gardening techniques and the principles of flower design and encouraging civic improvement.

Meetings are held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church*, 137 West Upper Ferry Road, West Trenton, NJ at 7 PM on the first Monday of every month, August through June. The September meeting is held the second Monday. **Annual dues are \$30 (single membership) or \$45 (joint membership).** There is no meeting in January or July.

We welcome new members! Guests may attend a meeting except in December or June. Those interested in joining may contact the President of the Club or Membership Dues Chairman, noted below.

Name:

Birthday (Year Optional):

Current Address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

-

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Work Phone :

Member Since:

E-Mail Address: PLEASE INCLUDE – IMPORTANT CLUB INFORMATION IS SENT VIA E-MAIL

SPOUSE OR SIGNIFICANT OTHER INFORMATION - IF JOINT MEMBERSHIP

Name:

Birthday:

Cell Phone:

OTHER INFORMATION

How did you learn about the West Trenton Garden Club?

*HOPEFULLY, WE WILL BE RETURNING TO THIS LOCATION SOON. The West Trenton Garden Club, Inc. is not affiliated with any religious organization.

SIGNATURES

Signature of applicant:

Date:

Signature of spouse
(for a joint membership only):

Date:

For more information, contact Barbara Bernhardt, President, WTGC (609) 902-9708 – barbara.bernhard18@gmail.com or Pat Bowker, Membership Dues Chairman, Kellysaunt.pb@gmail.com (609) 506-7575

Checks can be mailed to: Sue Fair, 1122 Wheldon Shivers Drive, Ewing, NJ 08628-2422

CLUB DUES FOR 2021-22 – PLEASE MAIL TO SUE FAIR BY MARCH 19, 2021! THANK YOU.