

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

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The Garden Path Newsletter

www.westtrentongc.org

NOVEMBER 2022

Dear Garden Club Friends,

As we enjoy the vibrant colors of autumn, driving through the backroads or taking a walk through a park or garden, we think about preparing our own gardens for winter. The balmy weather we've been having is great for enjoying the outdoors.

A special "thank you" to Helga Fontus for the very informative program she presented at our October meeting. She detailed the various divisions and sections for the Flower Show and told of upcoming workshops that will help us prepare for our entries. I encourage all members to take part in our "Back to Paris!" Flower Show next May.

Our special project – creating a beautiful garden around the entrance sign of the Ewing Public Library – is complete! Recently, several members and myself planted the shrubs, perennials, and flowers for community members to enjoy. It looks wonderful! Special thanks to the committee and the planters for their efforts – chaired by Barbara Bernhard and Iliana Okum. I'm sure the West Trenton community will enjoy our efforts each time they visit the library!

Lastly, mark your calendars for our next meeting on November 7 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at our new location at Hollowbrook Community Center on 320 Hollowbrook Drive, Ewing NJ 08638. The program, presented by floral designer Deborah Pomroy, will focus on Designing Holiday/Winter Containers for your home. She will be demonstrating her skill by creating several containers and providing tips for us to do the same at our homes.

.Enjoy and 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, NOVEMBER 7, 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 October 3, 2022 at 6:44 p.m. by President Lorraine Persiani. Lorraine thanked Heidi Furman for arranging to have our meeting at her church, Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, after the fire at the Ewing Community Center. Lorraine went on to relate that the WTGC also lost the shed in the fire that was located on the property. The shed contained a lot of the WTGC's flower show display items that would be used in the upcoming show. She asked that everyone please sign up for the flower show. Lorraine also thanked Jeff Tryon for a very nice newsletter.

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 \$8,131.24 in the club's account. There was income of \$135 meeting revenue. Expenses totaled \$60.73 for orchids for the last meeting. Hearing no additions or corrections, the amount will be filed as reported.

CORRESPONDENCE

Corresponding Secretary, Iliana Okum reported that a Get Well cards were sent to Georgiann Cook and Grace Starrett. Eileen Keenan sent a lovely note which was read at the meeting. Please give Eileen a call.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bulb Sale – Chairs Susan Fair and Sharon Johnson reported that 24 members participated which was up from last year. There were still bulbs left for purchase during the meeting.

Birmingham Park Library Box – Chair, Rick Lazarick reported that he and Jeff Tryon installed the library box on top of a pole in the garden. The library box was painted by Ingrid Fair. Please stop by to take a look or donate a book!



Birmingham Park Maintenance – Chair, Heidi Furman reported that clean up time is upon us and she is looking for a sunny day and volunteers to come out to help.

Ewing Library Sign Landscaping – Chair, Barbara Bernhard reported that the planning was done with a targeted completion date being the end of October. The recent rain is going to be helpful with the excavation which is going to start this week. Volunteers will be needed to help plant.

Photo Consent Form – Camille Rainiero reported on the board's discussion concerning Photo Consent forms. Consent forms would be completed when taking pictures of people and property. This would be for non-garden club members. The WTGC has adopted the state form for this purpose. Nancy Grant will be forwarded the form for any pictures put on the website of gardens in the area.

Display Board – Camille Rainiero presented the details of a proposed purchase for a double sided display board. The board is weather proof and perfect for events especially the upcoming Flower Show. The cost is \$165. It was decided to purchase the board.

Trenton Psychiatric Hospital Donations – Chair, Iliana Okum reminded everyone that the list of requested items will be in the newsletter. These items are well received by the hospital and especially by the clients who need support during the holidays.

Flower Show – Chair, Helga Fontus provided sign-up sheets for members who wish to participate in the flower show. Helga talked about the different sign-up sheets and what they entailed. There was also discussion about replacing the displays that were lost in the fire.



Photos courtesy of Jeff Tryon



Photos by Devah Brinker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items for the newsletter are due to Jeff Tryon by the 15th of the month. The next Regular Meeting is November 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hollowbrook Community Center with a program to follow on “Designing Holiday/Winter Containers for Your Home” with floral designer Deborah Pomroy. Guest fee \$5.

With no further business to discuss, Terry Palise motioned the meeting to be adjourned at 7:05 p.m. and seconded by Anne Chmielewski.

Our program for the evening was “Back to Paris!” A Special Preview of our Spring Flower Show. Helga Fontus presented photos of various flower display’s that members could submit and Lorraine Persiani presented photos from her visit to the Naples Botanical Gardens Flower Show. Our hospitality committee provided a delicious spread of fall themed goodies for the membership.

— Monique Bonnier, Recording Secretary

“Thank you to all the members who participated in the Bulb Sale this year and to those who donated to Birmingham Park. Our total sales were \$1,018 giving us a profit of \$523! (Highest amount yet for the bulb sale).”

— Sue Fair



DESIGNING HOLIDAY/WINTER CONTAINERS FOR YOUR HOME

PROGRAM BY: DEBORAH POMROY

NOVEMBER 7, 2022 | 6:30 p.m. | GUEST FEE: \$5
(RAFFLE WILL BE HELD FOR DEBORAH'S DESIGNS)



Shutterstock.com

We are pleased to welcome back and have a demonstration by talented floral designer, Deborah Pomroy, showing members how to create winter containers featuring evergreens from the garden and holiday florals. We will raffle off three fabulous holiday containers. Come on out and have some pre-holiday fun.

Deborah Pomroy is affiliated with Seasons Garden Center in Washington Crossing, PA and has been a floral designer for over 35 years. After owning her own floral shop for 17 years, Deborah moved to freelance wedding floral design in the tri-state area. She is an adjunct professor at Mercer County Community College where she teaches the Floral Design program classes. She has a BS in Ornamental Horticulture (Floriculture emphasis) with a Business minor from Delaware Valley University.

NOTE: As in previous years, TPH donations will be collected by Iliana Okum at this meeting. Thank you.

FLOWERS FOR THE EWING LIBRARY



Photo by Grace Starrett

Here is an arrangement by club member Grace Starrett, using plant material that was gathered by her husband Bob over the years on his walks. Grace has many boxes of useful botanicals.

The next “Flowers for Ewing Library” will be by Susan Fair.

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>

Alicia Magee has set up our club photos on the following three Facebook pages: Ewing West Trenton Better Community Update; Ewing Gardens and Gardeners; Ewing New Jersey - Our Town

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROJECT IS A BIG SUCCESS AT EWING TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

BY ILIANA OKUM, PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON



Photos courtest of Iliana Okum

This past summer the Ewing Township Library manager, Jackie Huff requested the help of the West Trenton Garden Club to create a planting bed at the entrance to the library where the library signage is located.

Barbara Bernhardt reached out to Iliana Okum and Devah Brinker to discuss the request to see if the West Trenton Garden Club members could enter into partnership with the library to participate in such a project. After discussions and several meetings, it was decided that we could put a plan together, but we also reached out to a local Ewing Township nursery, Bountiful Gardens, to provide some help and guidance in selecting the plants and shrubs. It was clear from the beginning that outside help would be needed to prepare the planting bed by removing all the grass, compacted soil, and tree roots to create a planting bed suitable for planting new shrubs and flowers. We also needed help in identifying plants and flowers that would be winter hardy, drought tolerant, and deer resistant, colorful, and easy to maintain. We also requested help in estimating the costs associated with this type of project.

Once a proposal was developed and a budget was created it was made clear that each member of the partnership would contribute to the project success. The plan was then approved by the Ewing Township Library and the West Trenton Garden Club board members, a timeline was set for initiating the project. Because August was a very hot month and there was a long drought, it was decided that no planting would take place until the fall when there is more rain. In addition, the Mercer County Library CFO made a request to have PSEG check the area to make sure there were no wires or other utilities that would interfere with the digging of the planting bed.

In September, Barbara Bernhard and Iliana Okum visited Bountiful Gardens and met with Ross Sheasley to select the plants and shrubs to be included in the garden. The garden plan was then completed, and a date was confirmed for the planting to take place in October.

On October 20, the work crew from Bountiful Gardens initiated the preparation of the planting bed at the library. They removed the grass, dug out many tree roots and amended the soil so that the garden could be created. On Saturday morning, October 22, 2022, a West Trenton Garden Club team composed of Barbara Bernhardt, Iliana Okum, Lorrainer Persiani, Terry Palise, Rick Lazarick, and Jeff Tryon, met bright and early and worked together to plant the new shrubs and flower plants that would make up the new garden bed. Iliana Okum created a colorful map showing where each plant and shrub would be located. After planting, mulching and watering the plants in, the WTGC team felt a sense of accomplishment that the partnership concept was a real success. The West Trenton Garden Club came together to respond to a request from a community partner, the Ewing Township Library, and by using our skills and also capitalizing on the help of an experienced nursey, Bountiful Gardens, we were able to create a garden that everyone in the library community will enjoy.

DONATIONS FROM WEST TRENTON GARDEN CLUB FOR TRENTON PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

Items for Women and Men: Pajamas, nightgowns, sweaters/ sweat shirts, gloves/ knit hats, ankle socks, knit tops or blouses, hair bows, pony tail holders, cosmetic bags, cosmetics (lipstick, make-up, nail polish),
Larger sizes of clothing preferred.

Items for Men: Sweat shirts, pants, jogging pants, wallets, coin purses, pocket tee shirts, men's knit hats, sport shirts, sport socks, flannel shirts, sport or baseball caps XL and XXL sizes most needed

For Recreational Therapy: Playing cards puzzle & word search books, model cars, trucks, planes, Dominoes, chess, group games, Scrabble, Checkers, Monopoly, Yahtzee, writing paper, pens, coloring books, boxes of crayons, glue sticks, construction paper.

Good Grooming Gifts are Appreciated: Regular size shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, combs, brushes, after shave creams, toothbrushes, regular size toothpaste, cologne, perfume, hand lotion, tissue packets, lip balm.

Other Items Requested: Umbrellas, costume jewelry, soft candy, used luggage (in good repair), Christmas gift wrap, used tote bags (in good repair), soft cuddly animals, teddy bears, etc.

Thank you for your generosity.

**Please bring items to the NOVEMBER MEETING
where they will be collected.**



Photo courtesy of Shutterstock.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DON'T MISS OUT! ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS NOW! SEE ATTACHED FORM.

HOLIDAY DONATIONS: Please bring unwrapped gift items for the patients at the Trenton Psychiatric Hospital THIS MONTH. Check the newsletter on PAGE 8 for a list of suggested items.

NOVEMBER 1 - WTGC Board Meeting - 7 p.m. - Via Zoom.

NOVEMBER 2-3 - CAR Conference, Seven Springs Resort, PA.

NOVEMBER 7 - WTGC Monthly Meeting - 6:30 p.m. (Hollowbrook Community Center); Program: "Designing Holiday/Winter Containers for Your Home" Guest fee: \$5. All designs will be raffled off. SEE PAGE 5 of newsletter.

NOVEMBER 24 - Happy Thanksgiving!

NOVEMBER 28 - GCNJ State Board Meeting - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Anne Chmielewski - November 1
- Lalita Lalla - November 4
- Devah Brinker - November 10
- Maggie Kramer - November 13
- Jennifer McKeever - November 13
- June Miller - November 19
- Susan Chrystal - November 22

DON'T FORGET!

FLOWERS FOR EWING LIBRARY: Susan Fair

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE: Camille Rainiero (Chair), Pat Bowker, Victoria Rivera-Cruz, June Rosso, Anne Skalka, and Janis Stia.

BIRMINGHAM PARK MAINTENANCE: Contact Heidi Furman.

HOLIDAY PARTY: Please bring your check and completed reservation form for the holiday party. Questions? Please contact Barbara Bernhard.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



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

2022 WTGC ANNUAL POINSETTIA SALE

It is time to order the Poinsettias that are going to brighten your home during the holidays, that will make great presents, and that will help to support the fundraising for our club. The choices for this year’s Poinsettia sale are as follows: **red, white, pink, and Jingle Bell speckled poinsettias**; sizes: **6” for \$6, and 8” for \$14.**

Please call or email Janis Stia with your order at our meeting on **Monday, November 7, 2021 BUT NO LATER THAN November 11, 2022.**

Janis Stia at home (609-882-3862) or email stiajd5@aol.com

You may use the order form below for your order. The delivery date will be **Friday, December 2, 2022** starting at 10 am at Terry & Frank Palise’s home at the address listed below:

Terry & Frank Palise’s home:
 24 Hopkins Drive, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648,
 Cell telephones: **609-439-7154 (Terry) after 10 am or 609-575-7493 (Frank).**

Terry Palise & Janis Stia, Co-Chairs



WEST TRENTON GARDEN CLUB 2019 POINSETTIA SALE

NAME: _____

TELEPHONE #: _____ E-Mail: _____

WTGC MEMBER: YES or NO

Poinsettia Color/Size		# of 6 Inches/\$6	#of 8 Inches/\$14	TOTAL \$ FOR PLANTS
RED				
WHITE				
PINK				
JINGLE BELL (Speckled)				
TOTAL # OF PLANTS ORDERED FOR EACH SIZE:				

CHECK WILL BE NEEDED ON DAY OF PICKUP FOR ENTIRE ORDER MADE OUT TO:
 “WEST TRENTON GARDEN CLUB”

WEST TRENTON GARDEN CLUB HOLIDAY CELEBRATION



December 5, 2022
6:00 PM

Revere Restaurant & Bar
808 River Road
Ewing, NJ 08628

Menu

Starter

*Imported cheeses and cured meats,
roasted red peppers, olives
Hoboken Bread
Mixed Greens Salad*

Pasta

*Penne Vodka and Alfredo
(served family style)*

Entrée choices

*-Chicken Francaise
-Grilled Salmon
-Eggplant Parmigiana
(includes seasonal vegetable &
potato)*

Dessert

*Assorted pastries
Coffee & Tea (Cash bar available)*

COST \$45 (Cash or Check payable to West Trenton Garden Club)

Donated homemade and/or garden related items will be raffled as a fundraiser

Name _____

Entrée Choice _____

I am bringing a raffle item: _____ Yes _____ No

Cash or check for Holiday Celebration Dinner and meal choice is due by the November meeting. If you cannot attend the November meeting, please mail this form to:

BARBARA BERNHARD • 141 POINT COURT • LAWRENCEVILLE • NJ • 08648