

# 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*

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# The Garden Path Newsletter

[www.westtrentongc.org](http://www.westtrentongc.org)

SEPTEMBER 2020

*Dear Garden Club Members,*

Here we are, almost at the end of Summer 2020! Although it has been a very different summer, we have survived and can now move on to the colorful season of Fall. Most of us have been staying in, but hopefully finding ways to socialize, be it by phone, email, or socially distant visits. It is very important to have hope and keep on connecting with friends and loved ones. They need you as much as you need them!

We will continue to have our Zoom meetings for as long as necessary, since the churches have not opened up for public meetings. The club is fortunate to have Rick Lazerick, who has been keeping us connected with Zoom. As always, many thanks, Rick! Anne Chmielewski and Pat Bowker have arranged several guest speakers for our future meetings, including the design program for November.

So, we have lots of good things to look forward to!

Heidi and her team have been working up a storm, transforming Birmingham Park into a lovely place to sit and enjoy nature. Several people have already been seen sitting on the park benches, which was our goal. Heidi, along with Rick Lazerick, Anne Chmielewski, Camille Rainiero, June Rosso, Fredricka Billups, Iliana Okum and Terry Palise have worked their magic, and for this, the WTGC extends our utmost gratitude. On many of your work days the temps were in the high 90s. Please accept our appreciation for all of your hard work and for answering my call for help! To Heidi, a special thank you for taking on this responsibility as Chairperson of Birmingham Park. You are truly a perfect fit!

Helga is busy preparing the 2020-2021 Yearbook. We will notify everyone when it has been printed. Perhaps we can do a curbside pickup, like we did with the flower sale. Many thanks to Helga, our Yearbook for 2019-2020 received a Certificate of Merit from the GCNJ with a score of 99! Congratulations, Helga, for a job well done!

If anyone is interested in working on "The Festival of Trees" for Morven, please contact Heidi Furman, Chairperson for this event. I don't believe Lorraine has heard anything more on Drumthwacket.

Birthday wishes go out to the following members celebrating in September:

Carolyn Kane – 9/3; Gail Magee – 9/7; Linda Reasoner – 9/18; Lynn Aspinwall – 9/21; Sharon Guiliano – 9/22; David Chmielewski – 9/25



**NOTE: WE WILL CONTINUE  
WITH OUR ZOOM MEETINGS ONLINE  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14!**





It's time for our Annual Flower Bulb Sale. A gentle reminder, please take note! Since this is a fundraiser, our members are expected to take part by purchasing bulbs or making a monetary donation. Perhaps we could accept any donations, (bulbs or money) and use it to continue to beautify Birmingham Park in the Spring. This is a great way to participate, and you won't even have to plant the bulbs! Win! Win!

Sue Fair will be chairing this event. Remember how beautiful all of your bulbs looked this past spring?

**Our next Board Meeting will be held on:  
Monday, August 31 @ 7 PM Zoom**

Please contact Lorraine Persiani to add items to the agenda.

**Our next Regular Meeting will be held on:  
Monday, September 14 @ 7 PM Zoom**

The guest speaker will do a program entitled:  
Herbal Houseplants for the Kitchen and Beyond  
presented by Gert Coleman

The WTGC will be participating in the "All Around Town Scarecrow Scavenger Hunt 2020" with Sustainable Ewing Green Team. The scarecrows will be on display from Thursday, October 1 to Thursday, October 29. More information to follow.

That about covers things for now. Enjoy the final weeks of summer. Stay healthy and safe!

Missing you,  
*Barbara Bernhard, President WTGC*



Photos courtesy of Rick Lazarik



Photo by Jeffrey Tryon

### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The West Trenton Garden Club Meeting was held via the internet as a ZOOM meeting on August 3, 2020. Twenty-two members participated. President Barbara Bernhard called the meeting to order at 6:35. She welcomed members and gave birthday wishes to August birthday members. Barbara gave congratulations to Helga Fontus for recognition from the Garden Club of New Jersey for an excellent yearbook.

Barbara also thanked Terry Palise, Iliana Okum, Camille Rainiero and June Rosso for their efforts to weed and clean up Birmingham Park. Barbara also thanked Heidi Furman for agreeing to be the Chairperson for Birmingham Park.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Linda Gerasimowicz reported the minutes of June's ZOOM meeting could be read aloud if any member would like, but the letter the President had emailed to all members covered everything that had been discussed. No members requested the minutes to be read.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Sue Fair reported a balance of \$8,822.07 in the Club's account.

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

No report

### AGENDA ITEMS

President Barbara Bernhard reported OLGC renovations are continuing at least until October 1st. No meetings can be held at Incarnation since only a maximum of 25 people can be in the hall.

### MEETINGS

Next Board Meeting will be held August 31st. Next Regular Meeting is September 14th. We will continue with our ZOOM meetings.

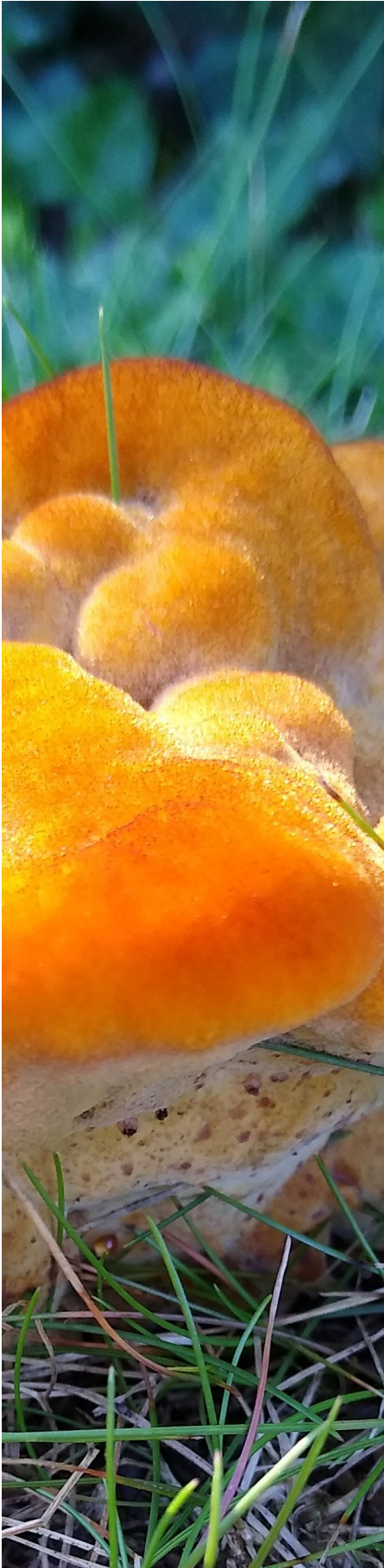
### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Birmingham Park** - Heidi Furman is taking over as chairperson. Heidi thanked Susan Smiley for her hard work on the Park as past chairperson. She stated she has educated herself about the history of the Park. She promises to keep the Memorial neat and clean with colorful native flowers. She hopes members will participate in weeding and will set up a sign up schedule.

**Member Mailings** - Sue Fair will take over the mailings to members with no EMAIL availability.

**Flowers for the Library** - Alicia Magee had contacted the Library to possibly post monthly pictures of flowers on their website but the Library refused.

**Yearbook** - Helga Fontus thanked everyone who sent information and pictures for the yearbook. She reported she needs pictures and write ups on the Blue Star Memorial and Drumthwacket. She also needs a picture for the cover and will send an EMAIL to all members to submit pictures for the Board to choose.



**Programs** - Barbara Bernhard reported for Pat Bowker and Anne Chmielewski that she will post upcoming programs in the newsletter.

**Morven** - Heidi Furman reported receiving an information packet on the tree decorating. Paperwork and the theme for decorations is due on 9/15. Heidi is asking members for any ideas for the theme.

**Drumthwacket** - Lorraine Persiani reported she hasn't received any update on decorating a room.

With no further items to discuss Lorraine Persiani motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 and was seconded by Carolyn Kane.

**PROGRAM**

Horticulturist Nanci Angle presented a slide program on Urban Habitats for migratory butterflies, birds and pollinators.

*Linda Gerasimowicz,  
Recording Secretary*



Photos by David Chmielewski



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**WEST TRENTON GARDEN CLUB PRESENTS**

## Herbal Houseplants for the Kitchen and Beyond with Herbalist Gert Coleman

**MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 | 7PM ZOOM**

The first plants welcomed indoors, herbs were used first for medicine, then for flavor, scent, foliage, and fun. But not all herbs make good houseplants. Bay is a beautiful indoor tree, while rosemary can be a failure for newbies and seasoned gardeners alike. Herbalist Gert Coleman will present the benefits and challenges of adding herbs to your sunny windowsills.

Passionate about herbs, Gert Coleman loves, grows, eats, and reads avidly about them. Retired Associate Professor of English at Middlesex County College in New Jersey, she lives on 106 acres in Middlefield, New York where she and her husband are fixing up yet another old house, training a new puppy, and planting herbs, flowers, trees, and at-risk native plants. She edits the IHA Herb of the Year™ books (Cilantro & Coriander; Hops: Brewing and Beyond; Agastache: Anise Hyssop, Hummingbird Mints and More; Rubus; and Parsley), and frequently writes about the legends, lore, and poetry of herbs.

Gert is a board member of the International Herb Association and co-chair of the IHA Horticultural Committee; member of the Herb Society of America, North East Herb Association, and United Plant Savers. She frequently lectures on various aspects of herbs and teaches workshops on nature writing.

**[WWW.WESTTRENTONGC.ORG](http://WWW.WESTTRENTONGC.ORG)**



## Mark Your Calendar

**SEPTEMBER 14:** GCNJ State Board Meeting - 10 AM - 12 PM  
(Virtual Zoom Meeting)

**SEPTEMBER 14:** WTGC Monthly Meeting (Virtual Zoom Meeting) -  
7PM Program: "Herbal Houseplants for the Kitchen and Beyond."

**SEPTEMBER 15-18:** GCNJ Flower Show School IV - postponed

**SEPTEMBER 23-26:** NGC Board Meeting, Fargo, ND - canceled

**SEPTEMBER 28:** WTGC Board Meeting - 7PM - Host - Rick  
Lazarick. Location: Ewing Senior & Community Center or via Zoom.

## Happy Birthday!

Carolyn Kane – 9/3; Gail Magee – 9/7; Linda Reasoner – 9/18;  
Lynn Aspinwall – 9/21; Sharon Guiliano – 9/22;  
David Chmielewski – 9/25

## Don't Forget!

**FLOWERS FOR EWING LIBRARY** – Library Closed

**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE** – Eileen Kaluzny (Chair), Dolores  
Brezak, Carol Bozarth, Linda Geiger, Rose Riccio, and Grace  
Starrett.

**BIRMINGHAM PARK MAINTENANCE** - Help our team at  
Birmingham Mini-Park! Contact Heidi Furman for details:  
hfurman11@comcast.net

## More Online Offerings:

**Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve** | <https://bhwp.org>

**Chanticleer Gardens** | <http://www.chanticleergarden.org/>

**D&R Greenway Land Trust Plant Sale** | <https://drgreenway.org/shop/native-plants/>

**Duke Gardens** | <https://gardens.duke.edu/videos>

**Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space** | <https://www.facebook.com/FoHVOS/>

**Jenkins Arboretum** | <https://www.jenkinsarboretum.org/jenkins-at-home/>

**Longwood Gardens** | <https://longwoodgardens.org/our-gardens-your-home>

**American Orchid Society** | <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>



### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Please submit all info for *The Garden Path* to Jeff Tryon by the 15th  
of the month. [wtgcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wtgcnewsletter@gmail.com)

# The Scarecrows are Coming this October...

## 2nd Annual All Around Town Scarecrow Scavenger Hunt

### CASH PRIZES AWARDED

\$200 Drawing for Grand Prize

\$100 People's Choice (2)

\$100 Green Team Award

Prizes & Drawing Winner Announced

October 31st

Visit [ewinggreenteam.org/scarecrow](http://ewinggreenteam.org/scarecrow)  
for details and to sign up

### Create Your Own Scarecrow!

Open to Ewing residents, businesses,  
schools and organizations  
Display on your lawn, store or  
location

Sign up to participate by  
September 10th

### Hunt for Scarecrows!

From Oct 1st - 29th, closing at 4:30 pm

Ballots available online & paper (TBA)

Open to all living/working in Ewing



Bert Steinmann, Mayor

