

Judges Credentials

Two of our Accredited Master Judges have been elevated to the status of Emeritus Master Judge:

Kae Fleming has devoted 31 years of service to the Flower Show School program and **Beverly Jeck**, 40 years.

Nancy L. Gahtan
nlgahtan@msn.com
FSS Judges' Credentials Chair

Listings appropriate for "**Coming Events**" column are major special events of interest to the general public—garden tours, plant sales, fundraisers, schools, flower shows—not routine monthly programs on a garden club schedule.

All submitted articles must be typed. All copy is subject to cut/change. Deadlines are strictly enforced.

Please submit to the **Editor of News Leaf** at ruthkorn@verizon.net.



President's Message



It is indeed a privilege for me to be the new president of The Garden Club of New Jersey. I am honored to have been elected to this position and I am committed to working with our organization and member clubs so that together we can attain our goals and objectives. Since I became president, I have recently visited a few clubs and was very impressed with the membership and the projects sponsored by them. It was a pleasure to visit with them!

I thank Mary for her outstanding leadership over the past two years. She has done a marvelous job in guiding this organization and we thank her for the wonderful programs established and accomplished by her in that time. She will be a "tough" act to follow.

Thank you to all new board members for your generous support and willingness to serve for the next two years. To all retiring board members you have my thanks and appreciation for your dedicated service to this organization.

The National Garden Club President, Shirley Nicolai, has chosen as her theme, "Proudly Serving our Members and Communities." My theme is "Boot-Up the Beauty Through Service!" This ties in with Shirley's theme of service both to our communities and to our members. Could there be more worthy aspirations? As suggested by Shirley, our new projects promote "Plantings for Public and Special Places", "Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems" and "Photo Archiving of Accomplishments" and they are being organized under the capable leadership of very talented chairpersons. Container Gardens and "Wreaths Across America" are also projects to be promoted in addition to our current service endeavors.

We provide opportunities for learning through the Flower Show School, Landscape Design School and Gardening Study School. These are ways we serve you! Take advantage of these wonderful opportunities for learning!

Club Presidents, plan to attend "Districts in the Gardens" with one other representative from your club on September 13, 2011. You will learn more about our plans for the next two years and how you and your club might be a part of this experience. The rain date is September 14.

Service is what it is all about!

"He that plants a tree loves others besides himself."
(English Proverb)

Vivian

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is the last hard copy (paper edition) of News Leaf that will be sent to you. The next issue—our winter edition—will be sent to each member of GCNJ via email. You will be able to read it on your computer screen or print it out, if that is your preference.

If you do not have a computer and/or a printer, we have asked that your club president appoint a member of your club to assume the duty of running off copies for those who cannot.

We thank you for your help in this transition. It is for the fiscal benefit of the Garden Club of New Jersey.

News Leaf

FALL 2011
VOL. 72, No. 1

THE GARDEN CLUB OF
NEW JERSEY, INC.

Holly House (732) 249-0947
website: www.GardenClubofNewJersey.com
126 Ryders Lane,

E. Brunswick, NJ 08816-1331
President - **Vivian Morrison**, 2 Washington
Avenue, Basking Ridge, 07920-1730

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Oct. 10	Winter	Dec.-Jan.-Feb.
Jan. 10	Spring	Mar.-Apr.-May
Apr. 10	Summer	June-July-Aug.

Before Deadline: Send copy by mail or e-mail to **Editor** listed below. All copy subject to cut/change. **News Leaf is not responsible for any copy or advertising submitted or printed.**

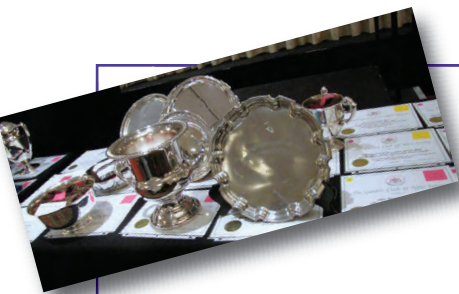
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GCNJ 2010 Annual Meeting Awards

- 1* The Medal of the Garden Club of New Jersey – Bruce Crawford
- 3* GCNJ Continuing Project Award of \$100 – Navesink GC
- 4* Helen Hull Silver Bowl – GC of Long Valley
- 5* Mrs. David L. George Silver Cup - GC of Long Valley, Greater Woodbury GC, New Vernon GC
- 10a* Mrs. Reginald Wilson Memorial Trophy – Debbie Abrams - GC of Long Valley
- 11* Myra Brooks Memorial Trophy - Sandra Nielsen, GC of Long Valley & Doris Dinsmore, New Vernon GC
- 12* World Gardening Silver Trophy - GC of Fair Haven
- 13 The Thomas Turner Cooke Memorial Award - Bridgewater GC
- 14a The Hazel Browne Sternat Civic Beautification Trophy - Elizabeth GC
- 15b The Myra Brooks Garden Therapy - Bridgewater GC
- 16b* Doris L. Cavanaugh Membership Participation Trophy - Rake & Hoe GC
- 17* The Lenore Pletcher Trophy - Jill Sitcer
- 18* The Dorothy M. Schick Trophy - West Trenton GC
- 19 Ruth B. Somerville Silver Trophy - Little Silver GC
- 20 The Marquerite & Vincent T. Mulligan Perpetual Trophy - Bridgewater GC
- 21* The Amelia Stewart Perpetual Trophy – Karin Schluer, GC of Long Valley, Joyce Connelly, Greater Woodbury GC, Barbara Harrison, New Vernon GC
- 22 Clara Hunter Garden Therapy Perpetual Trophy - Warren GC
- 23 The Violet M. Bennet Environmental Trophy - Warren GC
- 26 East Orange Silver Trophy - Neshanic GC
- 27 Lillian C. Koelsch Trophy - Moorestown GC
- 28* Membership Award for Highest Increase in Members
Under 50.....Island Heights GC
Over 50.....Maplewood GC
- 29* Glenn Ferrari Memorial Trophy - Nancy Blazer, GC of Long Island; Joan Almond, Greater Woodbury GC; Barbara Harrison, New Vernon GC
- 30* Marilyn J. Litvack Trophy - Susan O'Donnell
- 31 Basking Ridge GC Trophy - Warren GC
- 32 Panther Valley GC Trophy - Bridgewater GC
- 34 GCNJ Award - Neshanic GC
- 35 The Holly Club of Sea Girt Trophy - Moorestown GC
- 36 The GC of Toms River Trophy - Bridgewater GC
- 37* Elizabeth GC Flower Show Trophy - Navesink GC
- 38* GC RFD Trophy - Greater Woodbury GC
- 40 Moorestown GC Trophy -GC of Westfield
- 41 Pines Lake GC Trophy - Neshanic GC
- 42 Hanover GC Trophy - Navesink GC
- 43* GC of Westfield Trophy - Karen Gallaway & Monika Karoly (GC of Long Valley)
- 44* Doris R. Galione Collector's Showcase Trophy - Joyce Connelly, Greater Woodbury GC
- 48 The Community GC of Hunterdon County Silver Trophy - GC of Spring Lake
- 49 The Woodbridge GC Trophy - GC of Spring Lake
- 52 GCNJ Special Award - Demarest GC (Medium Club)
- 53* Demarest GC Yearbook Awards -
Large Club: Moorestown GC, Bernardsville GC, Neshanic GC
Medium Club: GC of the Caldwells
Small Club: East Brunswick GC
- 54 The Edison GC Trophy - Washington Valley GC
- 58* Pines Lake GC Trophy - Teddie Falcone, GC of Long Valley
- 59 Bernardsville GC Trophy -
Large Club: Neshanic GC
Small Club: Elizabeth GC
- 61 The GC of Long Beach Island Award - Neshanic GC
- 63 Medford Lakes GC Silver Trophy for a Native Garden - Navesink GC
- 64 The Jane S. R. Bersch Trophy - Seaweeders GC of Bayhead & Mantoloking
- 65 Ringwood GC Trophy – Moorestown GC
- 67 The GC of Westfield Trophy – Neshanic GC
- 68* The Roberta McNally Table Artistry Trophy - Shirley Robinson, Greater Woodbury GC; Elaine Grillo, New Vernon GC
- 69* Doris Bryan Educational Exhibit Trophy - Diane Walsh, Greater Woodbury GC

GCNJ Youth Awards Juniors

- *1a Katherine Cutler Junior GC of the Year Silver Trophy-The Sprouts of Long Valley
- *2a Ann De Roner Junior Horticulture Silver Trophy - The Seagulls of Seaweeders GC
- 6 Certificate of Merit with Gold Seal-Neshanic GC
- 7 Dr. Bernard Pollack Trophy-Nicholas Fezenko and Katherine DellaRova, GC of Long Valley

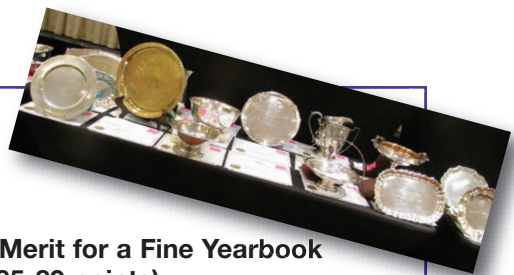
Intermediate

- *1 GC of Toms River - Rake & Hoe, GC Youth
- *2 GC of Watchung - Mara Stahlhut, GC of Long Valley
- 3 Certificate of Merit with Gold Seal - Rake & Hoe GC

High School Gardeners

- 4 Certificate of Merit with Gold - Warren GC, Terra Nova GC

*No book of evidence required.



GCNJ Yearbook Awards

Certificate of Merit for an Excellent Yearbook with Gold Seal (95-100 points)

District I - Demarest GC, GC of Oakland, Pines Lake GC, Ramsey Area GC, Ringwood GC, The Riverview GC, Sun Dial GC, Women Gardeners of Ridgewood, Wyckoff Area GC, **District II** - GC of Caldwell's, GC of Essex Fells, MapleWood GC, GC of Montclair, Rolling Hills GC, Town & Country GC, **District III** - All Seasons GC, GC of Florham Park, Hanover GC, Home GC of Morristown, Montville/Valhalla GC, GC of Mountain Lakes, **District IV** - Bound Brook GC, Bridgewater GC, Chester GC, Community GC of Hunterdon County, Hunterdon Hills GC, GC of Long Valley, Neshanic GC, Panther Valley GC, Warren GC, Washington Valley GC, **District V** - Basking Ridge GC, Bernardsville GC, GC of Cranford, Elizabeth GC, Green Thumb GC, New Providence GC, Rake & Hoe GC, GC of Watchung, GC of Westfield, **District VI** - Dogwood GC, East Brunswick GC, GC of Metuchen, Piscataway GC, Rocky Brook GC, Royal GC by the Bay, Terra Nova GC, Woodbridge GC, **District VII** - Countryside GC, Haddonfield GC, Moorestown GC, Mount Laurel GC, Pinelands GC of Medford, West Trenton GC, **District VIII** - Allenhurst GC, Bayberry GC, GC of Fair Haven, Fairways GC, Holly Club of Sea Girt, Jumping Brook GC, Little Silver GC, GC of Long Beach Island, Navesink GC, Oceanport GC, Seaweeders GC of Bay Head & Mantoloking, Shrewsbury GC, GC of Spring Lake, GC of Toms River

Certificate of Merit for an Excellent Yearbook (90-94 points)

District III - Rockaway Valley GC, New Vernon GC, **District VII** - Allentown GC, Greater Woodbury GC, Medford Lakes GC, Northfield GC of Atlantic County, **District VIII** - GC RFD

Certificate of Merit for a Fine Yearbook (85-89 points)

District III - Central Sussex GC, **District V**-Floraphile GC

National Garden Club Awards

Publicity Press Book Award-Medium Club in C.A.R.- Navesink GC

Second Place Award & \$100-for support of Renee Blaschke's Project, "Beautify Blight" in C.A.R. - Terra Nova GC

SFS Achievement Award - "Fall Reflections"-GC of Long Valley

Youth Poetry Contest - "Thousands of Daffodils"- Kathryn Terrezza, Youth GC of Warren GC

\$3500 NGC Scholarship - Caitlin Campbell

2012 Calendar Flower Arranger of Year - Deirdre Gross, Pinelands GC of Medford

Certificates of Appreciation: GC of the Caldwell's, East Brunswick GC, Bernardsville GC, Neshanic GC, Seaweeders GC of Bay Head & Mantoloking, Moorestown GC

Central Atlantic Region Awards

Awards for support of projects to increase membership: GC of Toms River-First Place for Small Club-\$50

GC of Harrington Park-Second Place for Small Club Allentown GC-First Place for a Medium Club-\$50 Fairways GC-First Place for a Large Club-\$50

Ruth W. Paul
Chairman, Awards

VISIT HOLLAND IN PEAK TULIP SEASON

April 15-23, 2012
7 Nights, Land & Airfare
\$3,390 pp

Guided tour of top highlights includes

Keukenhof Garden
"Flower Parade 2012"

Floriade World Horticultural Expo

Palace of Het Loo- Royal Garden of Queen Emma

Maximum 45 people

Contact : *Diana Reinhardt, Past President Neshanic Garden Club @ 908 369-4362 reinhardt9@verizon.net*

-- Fashionably Late

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A Self-guided Tour Of Five Gardens in Morris County

Saturday, September 17th 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Reserve a ticket by mailing a check for \$25, payable to 'Home Garden Club of Morristown' with your name, address, and phone number to: HGCM, 22 Crestwood Drive, Madison, NJ 07940. See our website for further details, or call 973-520-8112 or 908-879-0232.

www.homegardenclub.org



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GCNJ Scholarship Recipients

Our Endowment Funds and the money given to the Scholarship Funds from garden clubs and garden club members has allowed us to distribute \$21,000 this year. This is an increase of \$4,500 over last year. Thank you all for your generosity.

STACY BRODY will be starting her senior year at Rutgers University this fall. After she finishes her undergraduate education, she wishes to work in a field related to plant science and agriculture. She is the recipient of the **Gene M. Oneal Scholarship** of \$1000.

As a junior this year at West Virginia University, **DEAN BROWN** is a candidate for the School of Landscape Architecture. He is the recipient of the **Laurene S. Reade Scholarship** of \$1250 and the **New Jersey Flower & Garden Show Award** of \$250.

CAITLIN CAMPBELL is the recipient of the **Dorothy Campbell Scholarship** of \$1000 and a **NGC Scholarship** of \$3500. She is a sophomore at Moravian College and majors in environmental communication. She is currently at Glacier National Park working as a "real park ranger."

This summer **SEAN DOVE**, an incoming sophomore at Coastal Carolina University majoring in marine science, is interning on an ocean-related job for the summer. He is the recipient of the **Leon Shen Scholarship** of \$2000.

NANCY FIORAVANTI is receiving the **Helen S. Hull Scholarship** of \$1000. She is now attending Montclair State University and enrolled in the Department of Earth & Environmental Studies.

MORGAN EMILY FURZE will be starting her senior year this fall at Bucknell University and will pursue a PhD in Ecology upon graduation. She is receiving a \$3000 **Adella L. Wotherspoon Scholarship**.

JILLIAN GALL's studies of human ecology at the College of Atlantic is strong in research in botany and environmental concerns. Jillian is the recipient of the \$1500 **Former GCNJ Presidents Scholarship**.

LAUREN MALONEY is earning a Master's Degree from the University of Michigan and her concentration is in Conservation Biology. She is receiving the \$1000 **Life Members Scholarship**.

ARI NOVY is in his final year of PhD studies in Plant Biology at Rutgers University. He is receiving a \$3000 **Adella L. Wotherspoon Scholarship**. This summer he will submit a paper for presentation at a conference in Rome, Italy, entitled "Sustainability and the Bio-economy."

This coming year **MARY VITALE** will start a Masters program at Johns Hopkins University, in Applied Environmental Engineering. She is interning this summer at an environmental engineering firm. She is the recipient of a \$3000 **Adella L. Wotherspoon Scholarship**.

LISSA DIEYE is a senior at Rutgers University double majoring in Landscape Architecture and Sculpture. She is receiving the \$1000 **Elizabeth S. Merriam Scholarship**.

Another Rutgers University student, **JOSEPH POLACEK**, is receiving the \$1000 **Florence S. McNeil Landscape Architect Scholarship**. He is working almost full time for a design firm as well as studying landscape architecture at Rutgers.

ERIN GRACE GREENWOOD is also a Rutgers University student. She is receiving the **Dr. Charles H. Connors Scholarship** of \$1000. Erin has plans to receive a Master's degree in Landscape Architecture.

Janet Kinney
GCNJ Scholarship Chair



Left to right: Nancy Fioravanti, Lissa Dieye, Morgan Furze, Joseph Polacek, Ari Novy at GCNJ Annual Meeting June 8, 2011

Plantastic

Beginning next year, Pepsi bottles will start moving beyond oil. Pepsi's new plastic bottles, set to hit shelves in 2012 in a trial run of a few hundred thousand, will be made entirely from plant materials like switch grass, pine bark and corn husks. In the future, the company hopes to fashion its bottles from orange peels and oat hulls from its Tropicana and Quaker brands. All will be fully recyclable.

Sierra Magazine



DISTRICTS IN THE GARDENS

Dear Club Presidents:

Please join GCNJ for "Districts in the Gardens" at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 13, 2011. **Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.** The rain date is September 14, 2011, at the same time. The event will be held at the Pavilion in the Rutgers Gardens. You are invited to bring your vice president or one other representative from your club to this meeting. Posted signs will guide you to the Pavilion. For directions to Holly House and the Rutgers Gardens, please refer to the GCNJ website, www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com

This meeting replaces the district meetings held every fall as well as the Fall Conference/Presidents' Day. Topics to be discussed will be membership, the new website, News Leaf and the new projects suggested by the NGC President, Shirley Nicolai. It will be an educational day as well as an opportunity to meet your district directors and the other club presidents in your district. Lunch will be served followed by an opportunity for you to attend one of two workshops or go on a tour of the gardens led by Bruce Crawford. The workshops will be held at Holly House and will focus on Youth (led by Carole Kurtz) and 501© (3) status (led by Debi Harris and Ilona Ontscherenki). They will run for about one hour. If we do not have enough participants to make the workshops possible, they will be cancelled. This is a chance for you to make one trip to Holly House instead of our scheduling another date for these workshops.

The registration deadline for attending "Districts in the Gardens", the workshops, or the tour is **August 25, 2011**. Many of your clubs will have new presidents. Therefore, September is a good time to share information and learn more about the benefits that GCNJ offers. Please register with Maryann Wholley at mjwho@verizon.net or 908-647-2844. **When registering, please indicate which workshop you would like to attend, or if you would like to take the tour with Bruce Crawford.**

****Reminder:** If your club would like to have your yearbook judged, and save postage, bring five copies to give to the Awards Chairman.

I hope to see you there on September 13!

Vivian



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TROPHIES & AWARDS RETURNING YOUR TROPHY

Return dates are Mondays-11/7, 11/14, 11/21 and 11/28 from 10AM-1PM.

Please return the trophies clean, polished, and in its protective bag. Also, please bubble wrap and put into a box with your club's name on it.

Return box to Holly House. The GCNJ office is located on the left side of the building adjacent to the parking lot.

Ring the bell at the door toward the front of the house.

2011-2012 AWARDS DEADLINE DATES

NGC Awards Year: Jan. 1-Dec. 31

GCNJ Awards Year: Feb. 1-Jan. 31

Go to www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com to download application forms, details, instructions and due dates. At our website, you will also find a complete Awards Booklet and forms when you click on "Forms/downloadable documents" (listed on the menu on left side of the opening page of the website).

Yearbooks-Due Date: Sept. 30, 2011 **(Please note date change.)**

Bring 5 copies to Districts in the Gardens Meeting 9/13 or mail to State Awards Chairman, Susan Peterson, 2 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822.

National Garden Clubs Inc. Awards: Due Date: November 15, 2011

Send to State Awards Chairman, Susan Peterson (address above).

Standard Flower Show Achievement Award: Due Date: Dec. 15, 2011

Send to State Flower Show Evaluation Chairman, Florence Leysene, 61 Mountainview Drive, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009.

Publicity Press Book: Due Date: January 25, 2012

Send to State Publicity Chairman, Helen Luecke, 831 Nancy Way, Westfield, NJ 07090.

GCNJ Awards & American Horticulture Society Perennial Award: Due Date: February 15, 2012

Send to State Awards Chairman, Susan Peterson (address above).

GCNJ Youth Awards: Due Date: February 15, 2012

Send to State Youth Chairman, Carol Kurtz, 1 Old Farm Road, Little Silver, NJ 07739-1805.

Please note: Applications for the C.A.R. Awards are made through the State Awards Committee. Those books of evidence will be sent on to the C.A.R. Awards Chairman after they are read for the GCNJ Awards.

Susan Peterson
susan@teaberrys.com
Awards Chair

KIDS CAN.....

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- Gardening and horticulture knowledge
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- Environmental responsibility
- Community involvement
- Appreciation of nature's wonders
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And You Can.....

Make it happen by—

Having a **Youth Garden Club**

During or after school,

As a community club,

With scout groups, community gardens, etc.

Find out how.....

Attend the **YOUTH WORKSHOP**

September 13 at 1pm at Holly House.

Youth Workshop

Are you interested in starting or learning more about an Escot (PreSchool/Kdg.), Jr. Gardeners (Gr1-6), Intermediate or High School Youth Club? Presidents and youth chairpersons (present or potential) are invited to attend the Youth Workshop scheduled after the Districts in the Gardens meeting on September 13 at 1 pm at Holly House. Registration is necessary because of limited seating. Please call Maryann Wholley at 908-647-2844 or write to her at mjwho@verizon.net indicating that you wish to attend. **The deadline is August 25.**

This helpful, one-hour workshop will feature exemplary Youth Club presentations. You will meet the leaders of these groups, learn about their successful projects and how they did it. You will receive information with ideas, projects and suggestions for conducting a successful Youth Club within your own local garden club.

Carol Kurtz
Youth Chair

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

“THE PAST SUPPORTS THE FUTURE” as we build on what has been before.

Congratulations to the Elizabeth GC (District 5) for their splendid project, the Sheridan Park Triangle Beautification, that enabled them to win the Hazel Browne Sternat Civic Beautification Award at GCNJ's 2011 Annual Meeting. The complexities of this project truly made it quite special.

Robin Blair, *Historical Preservation Chair*
robinblair15@gmail.com

The Frelinghuysen Arboretum Fall Calendar



Sunday, September 18, 2011

353 East Hanover Avenue • Morris Township, NJ 07962

2pm to 5pm

Stroll the grounds of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum and enjoy a variety of music, light refreshments and matching wines. Classical, Latin, Blue Grass, Jazz and Caribbean sounds will fill the arboretum's beautiful garden "rooms," each accompanied by a specially chosen wine and hors d'oeuvres.

What better way to spend an autumn afternoon than at one of New Jersey's finest botanic gardens?

Purchase tickets at the Haggerty Education Center, via PayPal at www.arboretumfriends.org or at the Arboretum on the day of the concert.

The Friends of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum



www.arboretumfriends.org



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Bruce Crawford

As late summer and fall draw near, the garden is often still a riot of color, with the summer annuals holding their own while the perennials are beginning their ode to fall. The problem with many a garden at this time of the year is the location of the color. Until fall color begins, the color is located primarily on the floor plane of the garden with little appearing at higher heights. One of the beauties of spring is the layering of colors between the floor plane and the canopy. This repetition and positioning of colors gives the spring garden a truly magical quality. However, not all is without hope! Indeed, a few virtuous shrubs that bloom during late summer and fall add a wonderful element of color to the garden. The **Chaste Tree** is a great plant for adding this taller element of color. Given the botanical name of *Vitex agnus-castus* by Carl Linnaeus and a member of the Verbenaceae or Verbena Family, it is a wonderful plant that has yet to obtain mainstream success. However, we can change that!

Chaste Tree is a common name that certainly contrives all sorts of connotations. One must first realize that it is not a tree. The plant at Rutgers Gardens was planted around 1940 and is currently a mere 14 feet tall by 20 feet across, so Chaste Shrub might be a more appropriate common name. Then, one must wonder why this plant is chaste? Perhaps it does not set fruit. Chaste Tree is native to



Chaste Tree

Southern Europe and Western Asia, and from ancient times it was used for various herbal and medicinal applications. Dating back to the period of Hippocrates (460 BC – 370 BC), it was noticed that mild doses of the plant reduced the “romantic desires” of individuals. In fact, another common name is Monk’s Pepper. By lessening the drifting thoughts of the monks, it allowed them to focus upon more virtuous matters at hand. *Agnus* is Greek for chaste or

pure, while *castus* repeats the same meaning in Latin. During the Greek festival of Thesmophoria, when married Athenian women gathered for three days apart from their husbands, they preserved their “purity” by casting leaves of *Vitex* upon their beds or by using *Vitex* to stuff the mattress. Little is written about this festival but this may have marked the start of ladies’ night out!

Vitex is not the most pleasant sounding of names. It comes from the Latin *vieo*, meaning to weave together or to stitch. Much like Willows, of which the leaflets of *Vitex* bear a striking similarity, *Vitex* was used to weave basketry and other household items and furniture. Obviously, this is a plant that is rich in history, but what does it do for the garden? It does nearly as much as its history is rich!

As mentioned, Chaste Tree is actually a large shrub, with each leaf consisting of five slender gray-green leaflets arranged palmately. The leaves and stems are aromatic, due to the presence of various chemicals, which have in fact been shown to impact hormonal levels! The benefit to gardeners is that



deer do not like the aromatic qualities and it is resistant to deer browse! Mid July through September, the tips of the stems are clothed with 3-8” long racemes or spikes of blue to violet flowers that are lightly fragrant. The effect is much like a very large Butterfly Bush and coincidentally, *Vitex* is very attractive to butterflies and other pollinators! Hardy to Zone 6, the plants are also very responsive to heavy pruning, and since they flower on new wood, the stems can be pruned back to 12-18 inches in late winter. This will maintain the overall summer height of the plant to 6-8 feet and usually postpones the start of the first bloom until late July. The selection named ‘Shoal Creek’ has the tendency to rebloom in October, which can be enhanced if the plant receives a light haircut after the initial summer bloom.

Vitex thrives in very hot, dry and sunny locations. In fact, those areas subject to the reflective heat and light from the southwestern side of buildings are ideal locations for this plant. Pair this plant with late summer yellow or purple perennials and the summer blooming Golden Rain Tree (*Koelruteria paniculata*), particularly the selection named ‘Rose Lantern’, and you will have a late summer garden that once again boasts the virtue of color from the ground to the canopy!

Bruce Crawford
Director, Rutgers Gardens

Gardening Study School
Course 2, Series VII
October 11-12, optional exam on October 14
Holly House, 126 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick, NJ 08815

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____
 Garden Club _____ District _____
 Circle past courses taken: 1 2 3 4
 NGC Life Member # _____
 Master Gardener Y N Other _____

Course fee (2 days)	\$85.00
1-day fee - Tuesday or Wednesday (circle day attending)	\$50.00
Exam fee	\$15.00
Refresher fee	\$15.00
Buffet lunch (optional) Tuesday	\$10.00
Wednesday	\$10.00
2 for 1 Club Special	\$85.00

Club Special attendees receive no credit for day and fee must be paid with your club's check.

2 for 1 Student Names

Total enclosed: _____ \$ _____

Registration must be received by Oct 1; no refunds after Sept. 24.

Make check payable to GCNJ and send to Registrar, Ilona Ontscherenki, 10 Pond View Road, Chester, NJ 07930.

Required Reading (necessary for exam); The National Gardener Magazine Subscription available through Member Services 1-800-550-6007 x17.

Students taking the course for credit and those refreshing must attach a current National Gardener label (three-year subscription). Consultants must provide a Life Member number, a current label from "The National Gardener", or a new three-year subscription application, with payment of \$18, available at the registration table.

To see the curriculum, please go to the Gardening Study School tab on our website —

www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com

Ilona Ontscherenki
Gardening Study School Chair
 email ontscherenki@yahoo.com
 908-879-0232

2011/2012
Nominating Committee

CHAIRMAN: Louise Davis
 106 Old Denville Road
 Boonton, NJ 07005-8835

Marie Abberley
 35 Deerhaven Lane
 Newfoundland, NJ 07435-1303

Terry Blake
 22 Heritage Drive
 Shrewsbury, NJ 07702-4046

Chris Endris
 306 Main Street
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Carol English
 406 Casino Avenue
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Jeannie Geremia
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Carole Kurtz
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Kay McCormack
 12 Revere Court
 Metuchen, NJ 08849-1632

Caron Menger
 PO Box 437, Sand Spring Rd.
 New Vernon, NJ 07976-0437

Denise Roddy
 1 Spring Lane
 Linwood, NJ 08221

Mary Warshauer
 57 Buena Vista Avenue
 Rumson, NJ 07760-1202

**GCNJ Community Gardens/
Jersey Fresh/Jersey Grown Project**

GCNJ, Inc. is embarking on a new community garden project. We hope to help communities and organizations statewide organize community gardens for the benefit of our citizens by providing seed money and volunteers to promote this healthy, physical and social activity. This will, in turn, encourage a greater understanding and appreciation of nature, encourage community spirit and increase patronage to our local garden centers, nurseries and farmers' markets. GCNJ was notified by the NJ Department of Agriculture that our grant application was approved in the amount of \$9,300.00, and will be forwarded to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for final approval. This grant will help provide monies to cash-strapped municipalities and groups in getting their community gardens up and running, provide materials for our districts to promote community gardening. The project funding will run from January 1, 2012, to September 30, 2014. GCNJ will establish a "Community Garden" section on our website with guidelines and information on steps involved in establishing a community garden, photos of established ones and more. Our ultimate goal is to increase membership for the GCNJ and customers for our New Jersey Agricultural Industry by "getting out there, and making a difference"!

For more information, contact **Jeannie Geremia**, GCNJ Community Garden Chair, via email at jeannieg42@earthlink.net.

GCNJ CHILDREN'S GARDEN

GCNJ has been a dedicated and committed partner with the Rutgers Gardens and has helped keep the gardens alive and growing for future generations. As part of our commitment, we are developing a special garden located in the Native and Regional Plant Garden to honor our children.

Did you know that GCNJ is raising funds to purchase a very special children's statue to be placed in the center of that garden to honor our children of today and tomorrow?

Many contributions have been received BUT more are needed. Any individual or garden club may contribute to this cause. It is a very exciting project that needs YOUR SUPPORT.

A most sincere thank you to the following garden clubs for their donations that will go towards the purchase of the statue and native plants for the garden: **GC of Bay Head and Mantoloking, Pinelands GC of Medford, MAC Events, Floraphile GC of Cranford, Bridgewater GC, Holly Club of Sea Girt.**

If EVERY member of GCNJ gave JUST one dollar, we would be well on our way to reach our goal. Please consider donating. No amount is too big or too small. Send your checks made out to **GCNJ-Children's Garden Fund** to Onnolee Allieri, 552 Powerville Rd., Boonton, NJ 07005.

Onnolee Allieri,
Rutgers Gardens Liaison

DAFFODILBLOOMS

Sincerest thanks to all clubs and members who participated in Daffodil Blooms. This was a lovely special project created by President Mary Warshauer in conjunction with the National Project, "Golden Days."

The following clubs received a cash prize for planting the most daffodils this past year: **The GC of Fair Haven** received two awards—the club with 50 members and under and the youth group award. **The Bernardsville GC** received the award for the club with over 50 members. Congratulations to all our members who helped plant 56,269 bulbs in the past two years.

Dee Sincov
Daffodil Blooms Chair



Bernardsville GC gets award.

What's New!

The Vine-Ripened Wonder

A handful of studies now show that tomatoes not only guard against several types of cancer but may also reduce risk of heart disease, osteoporosis and even diabetes. The primary nutrient, lycopene, a powerful antioxidant, works by neutralizing free radicals (errant oxygen molecules that cause cellular damage in the body). Tomatoes help prevent heart attacks primarily by lowering cholesterol, and there is now preliminary research suggesting a link between dietary lycopene and increased bone mass. Another star nutrient in tomatoes is 9-oxo-octadecadienoic acid currently being investigated at Kyoto University in Japan.

Experts now say that three or more servings a week of tomatoes is optimal. We, as gardeners, should not have a problem with that! We know we can even eat "green tomatoes."

C.A.R. "PERENNIAL BLOOMWARD"

Many of our best-loved flowers are perennials that spring up afresh year after year, making an outstanding contribution to the beauty of our gardens.

We, in our garden clubs, have been privileged to have long-time members who, like the faithful perennials in our gardens, have made our clubs grow and bloom with their continuous support of our goals and objectives.

Serving as officers and chairpersons over the years, their love of gardening has planted many a seed for garden club programs and events while their contagious, enthusiastic leadership has inspired members to nurture these seeds into successful bloom. In grateful appreciation for their years of support, this "Perennial Bloom Award" will be presented to them and a tree or shrub is to be planted in their honor.

Please go to www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com, the state website, to find the application form and rules for the Perennial Bloom Award. Just click on "Central Atlantic Region News" on the menu on the left side of your opening window. Then scroll down to the Perennial Bloom Award Application and Rules.

Adrienne Langan
C.A.R. Chair

Betty Markendorf



Betty Markendorf, Second Vice President of GCNJ under Mary Warshauer, passed away peacefully at her home in Seabrook Village in Tinton Falls. Two activities closest to her heart were flower design and sharing her knowledge and expertise with others.

She was a member of GC RFD in Middletown and was their president from 1992 to 1996. She was an accredited National GC Master Flower Show Judge, Landscape Design Critic and Garden Consultant; Chair of Judges Credentials Committee, Flower Show Evaluation Committee and Landscape Design Consultant Council. She was also past president of Floralia of New Jersey, Chapter 22.

On September 15-17, the GCNJ District IV Flower Show at Willowood Arboretum in Chester Township will be dedicated to Betty. As Betty would have said to the designers, "Leave space in the arrangement for the butterflies to fly through."

Ruth Korn
Editor, News Leaf



Historical Fashion Show & Tea

Monday, September 26th - 12 noon & 3 PM



"Her Ladyship's Wardrobe"

This special event will feature museum quality gowns and accessories from the Gilded Age presented by fashion historian Sue Quincannon. You will be amazed with this fascinating glimpse into the Victorian and Edwardian eras by learning about the fashion styles and etiquette from the mid 1800s to the early 1900s. The afternoon tea party will include a three course tea service with special Victorian era treats.

NOTE: Teaberry's will present this program at:
43 Park Avenue, Flemington, NJ
(a.k.a. Flemington Women's Club House)

Program Cost: \$50 pp includes food, tax, gratuity and entertainment.
Prepaid Reservations Required - Call Teaberry's: 908-788-1010

Hydrangeas Can Heal

More medical buildings are getting pretty exteriors, thanks to the growing therapeutic-garden movement. Patients recuperate faster when they have access to a garden. Evidence: People recovering from surgery requested less pain medication and were discharged sooner if they could see trees from their hospital windows. Nature is "restorative."

GARDENTHERAPY

Community and Personal Designs
Heartfelt Appreciation to Our Volunteers



Thanks are due to all associated GCNJ clubs for their support of our American Veterans at the VA's *Lyons Campus* in North Jersey. Your dedicated time and effort, financial contributions plus many hours of volunteer work, continue to make this worthy program a success.

We meet weekly to design arrangements and fittingly enough, during this past **National Volunteer Week**, four of our members were awarded **Certificates for Outstanding Volunteer Achievement: Margaret Cenegy**

and **Dorothea Grippo** of the *Piscataway GC* who contributed 750 and 1,750 hours respectively, while **Amy Stadtmueller**, *Washington Valley GC*, contributed 2137 hours and **Ellen Bogusky** of the *Washington Valley GC* earned **Lifetime Achievement Presidential Award** for 4,000 hours.

Bouquets all 'round! Margaret Cenegy and Dorothea Grippo, Amy Stadtmueller and Ellen Bogusky surely do inspire us all. What more, indeed, could anyone of gardening *sense and sensibility* desire? Our thanks to all participants.

Terry Blake
Garden Therapy Chair

**WATER
CONSERVATION**
it's up to you



HOLIDAY LUNCHEON/ FUNDRAISER

December 1, 2011
\$45/ticket

The Dogwood Garden Club of Princeton's annual event at Greenacres Country Club funds horticulture scholarships & more. Holiday decor demonstration by renowned designer Tony Todesco. Silent auction, raffles & boutique. Call 609-921-3165 by 11/18/11.

COMINGEVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 7-8 Flower Show School, Holly House (Optional exam 9/9)
- 13 Districts in the Gardens Meeting, Pavilion at Rutgers, 10AM-2PM Register at 9:30AM. Lunch followed by workshops or garden tour. Contact Maryann Wholley at mjwho@verizon.net or 908-647-2844
- 14 Rain date for Districts in the Gardens Meeting
- 15-17 District IV Flower Show at Willowood, Bamboo Brook in Chester Township
- 15 Rutgers Gala at Rutgers Gardens, 5 to 9PM. Tickets: \$125
- 17 Home GC of Morristown Garden Tour Fundraiser of 6 gardens in Morris County, 10AM-4PM. \$25 a ticket. www.homegardenclub.org
- 18 September Serenade 2-5PM, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, \$35.00
- 26 Historical Fashion Show & Tea, "Her Ladyship's Wardrobe," 12 Noon & 3PM at 43 Park Avenue, Flemington (Flemington Women's Club House). Cost: \$50 with prepaid reservations required. Teaberry's - 908-788-1010
- 28 60th Anniversary of Terra Nova GC, Dinner at Pines Manor, Edison. Tickets: \$35. Marie Olivera - 732-321-4174, ReReRuby2001@yahoo.com
- 29 Judges Council

OCTOBER

- 3 GCNJ Board Meeting, Holly House
- 11, 12 & 14 (exam) Garden Study School, Holly House

Please don't miss
your first issue of
News Leaf sent by
email. Make sure
that your email
address has been
given to our
Membership Chair,
Peggy Koehler, by
your garden club.

koehlerpeggy@yahoo.com

- 21-23 C.A.R. Conference, Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel, Towson, MD. Reservations: 888-627-7147
- 23-25 C.A.R. Symposium, Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel, Towson, MD. Registration forms: www.pagardenclubs.org Reservations: www.sheratonbaltimorenorth.com or 888-627-7147
- 27 Holly Club of Sea Girt Annual Luncheon, "Entertaining Sea Girt Style", 11:30AM; Spring Lake Bath & Tennis Club, Ocean Ave, Spring Lake. Tickets: \$35. Barbara Sands 732-359-6915

NOVEMBER

- 2 The GC of Watchung presents "Holiday Designs"; The Primavera Regency, 1080 Valley Rd, Stirling; 11 AM. Lunch, "Falling Into Christmas", program by designer Richard Blauvelt, & Basket Raffle. Tickets: \$50. Colleen Mehegan 908-754-5766
- 11-12 District 3 Flower Show, "Happy Holidays!"; Montville Public Library. Carla Schan, 201-819-1317, or Justine Kovacs, 973-410-0045
- 16 GC of Oakland Fundraiser: Ken Norman Jr., floral designer, "A Williamsburg Christmas"; Oakland Senior Citizen Center, 20 Lawlor Dr, Oakland; 6PM. \$20 donation includes buffet, basket and arrangement raffle. 201-337-7285
- 16 GCNJ Board Holiday Party at Teaberry's, Flemington



Vivian Morrison, President
Garden Club of New Jersey 2011-2012



COMINGEVENTS

continued from page 11

DECEMBER

- 1 Dogwood GC of Princeton Holiday Luncheon at Greenacres Country Club; Holiday Décor Demonstration by Tony Todesco. Call 609-921-3165 by 11/18/11

JANUARY, 2012

- 23 GCNJ Board Meeting, Holly House (1/30 snow date)

FEBRUARY

- 16-19 NJ Flower Show, "Movie Magic" at NJ Convention Center, Edison, NJ. 1-800-332-3976 or www.NJFlowerShow.com

MARCH

- 14 District I Meeting; Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Hillsdale
- 20 District VIII Meeting; 10AM at Curtis House, Brielle
- 21 Floral Impressions Guild (FIG) - Holly House, 9AM-3PM; contact Anna Godwin at 732-270-0568 or annagodwin@msn.com
- 26 GCNJ Board Meeting, Holly House
- 27 District VII Meeting; Moorestown GC

PERIODICALS

APRIL

- 3 District VI Meeting; 9-1 at Holly House
- 10 District IV Meeting
- 17, 18 & 20 (exam) Landscape Design School, Holly House
- 20-25 NGC Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
- 24 Judges' Council, Holly House
- 25 Garden Education Day; Colonial Nursery, Lincroft
- 26 Floral Impressions Guild-Holly House, 9AM-3PM; contact Anna Godwin at 732-270-0568 or annagodwin@msn.com
- 27 District V Meeting; 6:30PM. Location to be determined
- 30 GCNJ Board Meeting, Holly House

MAY

- 1 District II Meeting, 10-12 noon; United Way Bldg., Montclair
- 16-19 NGC Convention; Buffalo, NY
- 22 Floral Impressions Guild - Holly House, 9AM-3PM; contact Anna Godwin at 732-270-0568 or annagodwin@msn.com

JUNE

- 3-9 National Garden Week
- 7 GCNJ Annual Meeting, Bridgewater Manor
- 25 GCNJ Board Meeting, Holly House

SEPTEMBER

- 26-29 NGC Annual Meeting, Little Rock, AR