

# Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey

## Minutes of September 4, 2018 RMGANJ Meeting

Pat Schanzlin called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

Terry Zane, Vice President greeted the group. She noted that there were no new faces at the meeting this month. Terry thanked everyone who helped her with her monarch caterpillars.

**Secretary's Minutes from August 2018 Meeting:** Tricia Deering, Recording Secretary, reported that she had emailed out the August RMGANJ minutes and did not receive any comments. Two counties noted that they have their reports available now, but they were not available earlier in the month and would like them to be included. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes with the added county reports.

Pat Schanzlin reported that there is an issue that some County Master Gardener coordinators feel that they are not informed about what happens at RMGANJ State meetings. Access to the RMGANJ minutes was discussed. Some coordinators feel that by the time the minutes are posted on SAKAI too much time has passed. Discussion followed including the options of sending the minutes directly to the coordinators in draft and/or final form. Many members said that they have good communication with their coordinator, however it was felt that in some counties there is a communication issue between the coordinator and the RMGANJ county representative. In this case sending the minutes early to the coordinators will not solve the problem. It was decided that Jan Zientek will forward the final minutes to the coordinators. The draft minutes will not be sent to the coordinators.

### Attendance:

Atlantic:	
Bergen:	Carolyn Gretchen, Melody Corcoran, Joe Cooper, Karen Pennell
Burlington:	Terry Zane, Nick Hendershot, Marilyn Bidrawn
Camden:	Diane Shonyo
Cumberland:	
Essex:	Jane Kinkle, David Haines
Hunterdon:	Tricia Deering, Dewey Goodman
Mercer:	Betty Scarlata
Middlesex:	Kathy Dopart, Dale Duchai, Jerri Barclay
Monmouth:	Gayle Williams, Bob Magovern, Jay Schaeffer
Morris:	Marion Ceruzzi
Ocean:	Roberta Quinn, Suzanne Keane
Passaic:	
Somerset:	Linda Madretzke
Sussex:	Jane Gardner, Pat Schanzlin
Union:	Dolores Batz-Culp
Rutgers University:	Jan Zientek

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jane Gardner, Treasurer, reported that the current balance is \$3939.25. Room rental and other items are still outstanding. The number does not include Eventbrite costs. A motion to approve was made and carried.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Pat Schanzlin discussed conference items which are covered in the Old Business section.

**MASTER GARDENER'S COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** Jan Zientek reported on the State Coordinators meeting. Topics of discussion included changes in demographics reporting, more consistency among State Master Gardener programs, and possible changes to certification training for Master Gardeners including more evening training, joint training, better use of technology and opening training up to the general public. Going forward, coordinator meetings will be rotated throughout the state. The Master Gardeners for the

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hosting county could be invited to give a presentation at the meeting and thus will meet the other coordinators. Jan reported on his desire for Rutgers Master Gardeners to be the go-to in the state for School Gardens. He reported that on 11/8 there will be a School Gardens program at Turtle Back Zoo for teachers. More information to follow..

### **Old Business**

Marilyn Bidrawn reported that she is out of 30-year pins. A motion to order 20 was made, seconded and approved.

### ***Conference Duty Assignments:***

- ***Awards Booklet: Ocean*** – Suzanne Keane reported that the booklet is at the printers.
- ***Bookstore: Mercer***. Betty Scarlata reported that Barnes and Noble has a list with 22 books. There won't be a room since Garden Market has been eliminated due to the sales tax issue, so the books will be sold in the lobby. Mercer asked for a table, so they can have information on their spring event and sell lanyards. They will also set up in the hallway.
- ***Catering: Burlington*** – Terri Zane reported that she will handle the final list for the food order. She believes the cutoff is the Friday before the conference. Final count is due 10/3 or 4. She needs a spreadsheet with last name, first name, amount paid (for both registration and lunch) and lunch choice. Pat Schanzlin asked if we can reduce the number for breakfast if we end up with fewer than 300 registered?? Marilyn Bidrawn will call and find out what the latest date for the breakfast count is. We will want to reduce the number if we do not get enough registrants. Marilyn asked if this means there needs to be a PO change. Jan Zientek said he does not think a PO change is required.
- ***Door prizes: Somerset*** – Pat Schanzlin from Sussex reported that she does not yet have the items for door prizes from All Colors and will have to mail or hand deliver them to Somerset to be wrapped.
- ***Evaluations: Atlantic*** – The evaluation form is complete.
- ***Facilities: Essex*** – David Haines reported that the county coordinators who are presenting at the conference have requested clickers for surveying the participants, but conference tech support is unable to provide them. He also reported that we are waiting to hear back from facilities on a video jack for Kirk Brown. Pat Schanzlin reported that the permanent registration counter is no longer there. Tables will be set up for registration.
- ***Facility cleanup: Passaic*** - This task has been assigned and is in good shape.
- ***Financial: Sussex***
- ***Garden Market: Bergen*** – There is no garden market this year due to the sales tax issue.
- ***Master Gardener Merchandise Sales: Sussex*** - The web site for ordering Master Gardener merchandise is now closed and will reopen in the Spring.
- ***Program Flyer: Cumberland*** – The flyer is done.
- ***Program Speakers: Hunterdon***; Dewey Goodwin reported that all the speaker paperwork is in and their A/V requirements are known. Their lunch orders still need to be reported to Marilyn Bidrawn
- ***Registration Desk: Morris*** – Everything is good.

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- **Registration Folders: Camden** – Diane Shonyo reported that everything is good.
- **Signs: Middlesex** – Kathy Dopart reported that everything is good.
- **Speaker Gifts: Monmouth** – Gayle Williams reported she has the gifts and all she needs to do is wrap them.
- **OPCE/Registration: Essex** – As of Friday there were only 117 registrations. Members should encourage their counties to sign up. Jan Zientek has sent a message to the coordinators. At this time last year we have close to 200 registrations. Jane Kinkle reported that there are some problems with the paper registrations and also issues with how the coordinators should submit their registration, so they can get paid. There will be a meeting this week to straighten out these issues. There is a hidden site for those with free registration - Jane sent an email to those who need to know about it. All in all, we are in good shape.
- **“Educational Opportunities” timeslot speakers: Pat Schanzlin** – this is under control
- **Publicity Poster: Placement in RCE Offices** – This item is complete.
- **Video: Bergen** Joe Cooper reported that he believes he has photos from all counties. He will begin working on the video this week.

**Break: from 11:45 to 12:00** Thank you to Burlington County for today's break food. Camden County is responsible for refreshments for the October meeting which is on October 2 at 10am in the RCE Conference Center.

### New Business:

Pat Schanzlin reported on the meeting dates for 2019. The normal meeting date is the first Tuesday of the month, but Jan Zientek has a conflict with that day. After discussion, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday was tentatively set as the 2019 meeting day. Pat will check on the room availability and report back.

Dolores Batz-Culp asked for a poll of the counties regarding whether being a State Rep gives them voting permission on their county's executive board. The response was: 5 yes, 2 no, 1 don't know, and 4 not applicable (because the county does not have an executive board).

Bergen County reported that the Bergen County Fall Festival is September 29,30.

Jan Zientek reported that Passaic County has hired a Master Gardener Coordinator.

### COUNTY REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

**Atlantic** – The county met for its monthly get together on August the 10, 2018. There was no educational presentation and the meeting was shortened since our coordinator, Belinda Chester, was very involved in the 4H fair on that particular days and those surrounding it.

The results for the PAHS awards are still not available, however, judges were busy at our two library gardens, demo garden, members' homes and other sites during July. Our Horticulture therapy program at Seashore gardens completed their tastes and smells of summer with 57 residents.

Our summer tours at member sites was successful despite very bad weather that forced some cancellations.

Our trip committee coordinator reported a native plant sale in Woodbine on August 17-18; and reminded everyone of the lecture at the Mays Landing Library on September 19, 2018 by Fine Gardening editor, Steven Aiken "Ten Questions to ask about your Garden Design." Open to the public.

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We continue to advertise and push the State October Master gardener conference.

Plant sale committee is gearing up for their first meeting in August or September. They sent around an email about dividing perennials in preparation for the sale "NOW" & attached an article from Fine Gardening "DIVISION FOR GARDENERS."

There were no other reports due to the abbreviated meeting without our coordinator. More will follow in my next minutes.....such as the participation in the 4H show this year. In addition I would like to mention that our coordinator and volunteers have been very involved in the design, installation and planting of a school garden at the Pomona School in Galloway. My husband and I went out to see the garden in preparation for our county trip to Monmouth Co. Master Gardeners this coming Wednesday, September 5th. Knowing that I would be hearing about Monmouth's experiences with school gardening programs, I thought it might be helpful for me to experience one of our new projects since it is not an area that I have worked with through the years. I am even more excited now to hear about other counties experiences in this field since my husband and I were so impressed in what our team had accomplished at the Pomona School. The children will arrive to a beautiful assortment of pollinators, vegetables and herbs in varying degrees of maturation. How exciting to begin the school year and be introduced to such a wonderful horticulture resource.....and, they can take the school year to become more educated and be ready to anticipate Spring of 2019, I love cheering on our team in Atlantic County, but this project certainly deserves kudos.

### ***Bergen – Volunteer Site News:***

Fall Harvest Festival will be held September 28 & 29<sup>th</sup> at Van Saun Park and includes Master Gardener and 4-H exhibits with many hands-on activities. This is our largest MG outreach event of the year. Additionally there will be crafts, carnival rides, farmers market, animals, music, food trucks and entertainment.

### *Volunteer Site News:*

Garretson Forge and Farm has been able to make weekly donations of fresh, organic vegetables and herbs to a local food pantry. This season's harvest includes red onions and heirloom varieties of tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, and long beans — all organically grown on the farm.

### Hackensack River Greenway through Teaneck

*Friends of the Hackensack River Greenway through Teaneck will clean up the Andreas Park trail on Sept. 23. Bring gloves, shovels, loppers.*

The Hermitage is having a garden party tea on Sept. 30 in the herb and perennial gardens. Guests will eat finger sandwiches and sweets on the grounds of the National Historic Landmark, which was a tea room a century ago. Tea for the event will be brewed from herbs grown at the Hermitage. Space is limited to 50 guests who are invited to dress in period clothing if they wish. Or, guests can borrow a Victorian hat decorated with dried flowers from the Hermitage gardens. MGs will give tours of the Victorian kitchen gardens and teach guests about the "language of flowers," which Victorian elite used to send coded messages to their lovers and friends. You may cut some herbs to make your own flower message. Your ticket includes an indoor tour of the Hermitage, witness to centuries of American history including the 1782 marriage of Aaron Burr, the third vice president of the United States.

### New Jersey Botanical Garden/Skylands

*Fall wildflower walk:* Join the wildflower team on Sept. 8 to check out the magical sights and sounds of fall in the woodlands of the wildflower garden. *Potluck lunch for volunteers:* NJBG volunteers are invited to the annual get-together to celebrate another great season in the garden on Sept. 12. Bring a bowl of something tasty to share and meet fellow volunteers. *Family woodland hike:* Stretch your legs during an easy hike in the garden's woodlands on Sept. 16. Learn about the plants and animals around you in a hike designed to fit the group. *First day of autumn nature walk:* Bergen County Audubon Society will lead a walk through the gardens and fields on Sept. 23. Participants will look for and identify migrating birds and butterflies that visit the NJBG. The group will discuss the many important trees, shrubs, and plants that provide much-needed food and cover during migration.

### Teaneck Creek Conservancy

Bird walk with Audubon Members of the Bergen County Audubon Society will lead a bird walk around the 46-acre Teaneck Creek Conservancy on Sept. 4.

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Washington Spring Garden in Van Saun Park has thrived this summer with the perfect mix of sunshine and rain. The mature rhodies and azaleas are so lush and are eager to put on another beautiful display next spring as are the younger plants that we have nursed back to health. In addition, the perennials have pleased so many walkers, who express their appreciation when they see us at work. Our dedicated volunteers accomplish so much to keep the garden looking fresh and tidy.

### **Burlington –**

We have a new BlogSpot page featuring our articles published in the Burlington County Times newspaper.

You say tomato, I say tomahto- either way on Saturday, September 1<sup>st</sup> the farmers market at Burlington County Community Agricultural Center celebrated the First Annual Tomato Bash. Several of our master gardens participated in provided information on Jersey's favorite crop.

Agricultural Agent, Bill Bamka will conduct an IPM session on August 30 and another is scheduled for September 6<sup>th</sup>.

If you like us, join us on Facebook.

Project reports:

### **Butterfly Garden at Smith Woods –**

- We had an abundance of butterflies in August. Each time at the garden, we have been greeted with monarchs and more caterpillars on the milkweed.
- We added more host and nectar plants for our visiting varieties.
- We continue to weed, water and monitor each of the twelve plots.

### **Donation Garden at Medford Leas –**

- Groundhogs, deer and human visitors seem to be getting much of our garden produce.
- We are discussing adding a higher fence in more sections of the garden. As well as adding locks on the fence gates.
- We have donated about 450 pounds of produce so far this year.

### **IPM and Demonstration Plots at BCCAC –**

- The month of August is a very busy month at BCCAC.
- We are picking and watering the various crops.
- Next month we will report on the results of our tomato production.

### **Pinelands Preservation Alliance Kitchen Garden –**

- **Herb Garden:** This year the herb garden has done very well. We planted numerous types of sage, creeping thyme, lavender, lemon balm, chives oregano and basil. We will be harvesting these plants at the beginning of September, drying them and then in November packaging them for sale at The Green Trading Post at PPA. At the Trading Post we have lavender eye pillows, smudge sticks made with traditional white sage, small sachets filled with lavender and loose herbs which can be used for a number of things. One of these is for use as a natural insect repellent. Everything we sell is labeled "not for culinary use."
- **Pollinator Garden:** The other part of the garden is planted with grasses and perennials as well as some flowering shrubs, and a shade garden with pulmonaria (lung wort), solomon's seal, hosta, sweet William and heuchera. The mix of perennials and grasses gives the garden a peaceful place to just sit and enjoy your surroundings.
- The plants in both the herb garden and pollinator garden attract a lot of different butterflies from their egg stage all the way to the time they hatch into adults. The larval stage especially loves dill and fennel. We plant them especially for the butterflies and within hours they are covered with larvae happily munching away.
- We have been working on the Gardens at PPA for fourteen years with many different Master Gardeners. Everyone has worked very hard to create the garden that we have today—many thanks to everyone

### **Rancocas Nature Center**

- The weeds are doing great. We have a few flowers blooming, New York Iron Weed, turtle head, and obedient plant.
- About 100 campers enjoyed learning about gardening during our camp sessions.
- Participants in the final session made salsa and pesto from the garden plants.
- Some carrots were left in the ground so the fall groups of Lil' Sprouts can collect seeds.

### **Up-coming events –**

- September 11<sup>th</sup> – Quarterly Meeting
- September 25<sup>th</sup> – Recognition Dinner
- Date to be determined - Trip to Belview Winery in Landisville, NJ

### **Camden –**

### **Help Line**

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The help line is fully staffed by interns and certified Master Gardeners. The amount of contact has been less than July.

### **Greenhouse**

The Greenhouse committee is meeting to plan future seed purchases. They are preparing plants to be sold at the Camden County fair in September as part of the Master Gardener display and help-table.

### **Educational Gardens**

The Garden committee has met to prepare for the upcoming October 3 Harvest Festival in the gardens. There will be food, a presentation of the five-year goals and designs for the garden, a garden tour and music for the guests. An appreciation plaque will be given to the American Water Company of South Jersey for their generous \$10,000 grant to the gardens. The Freeholders of Camden County have been invited as well as county workers and Master Gardeners.

The Monarch caterpillars exceed 40 on two of the milkweeds. They are forming crystalli throughout the structures of the gardens.

The fall vegetables have been seeded.

### **Community Outreach**

Nothing to report. Quiet month

### **Programs**

The program committee is advertising for the September "Sedum Make and Take" workshop in local publications.

### **Upcoming Nominations for the Board**

The Board has interviewed all the current nominees and has finalized the slate to be presented at the general meeting in October.

### ***Cumberland:***

#### **Cumberland County Fair**

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, four MG manned the butterfly tent with help from Alice Phillip's 4H goat club. It was great fun and a wonderful experience seeing the awe in children's eyes when holding a Monarch! And it was amazing how knowledgeable the children are on butterflies! The Butterfly Committee has done a great job educating children at schools, events, etc.

#### **Butterfly Tent Venues**

4H Camp – On Wednesday, August 15th five MG joined Pam and Brandi Williams for hours of fun in the butterfly tent, hand painting, celery art, and pipe cleaner butterfly and bee art.

August 16<sup>th</sup> – Sarah Tarpine and her husband presented campers with a day filled with Sheep knowledge.

Bridgeton Library's Monday Funday – Held on the grounds of the CC Library on August 27<sup>th</sup>, this was a grand butterfly learning program.

#### **Hops Picking**

Rabbit Hill Malt Farm in Shiloh taught MG how to harvest hops and members then did this for two days. Hillary Bakker Barile and Abe Bakker also gave us a tour of the farm that included the process of preparing hops, barley, and wheat to brew beer. We got to taste the differences that the grains make in the beers. This was a great learning experience.

Greenwich Artisans Faire – On September 29<sup>th</sup>, the butterfly tent was a main attraction at this faire. MG also had the Helpline on the Road Table and craft for the many children in attendance.

#### **Tomato Harvesting**

Syngenta asked MG to help with their tomato studies at RAREC. We picked two different fields and graded them by rolling them on a pool table type board with holes for Jumbo, #2, #1, and cauls. We also got to take these fruits home to enjoy.

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work continues on all the gardens at the extension center.

**Essex –**

### **Master Gardeners of Essex County Meeting Schedule and Speakers:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Subject</u>
9/15/2018	None	General Meeting, 2018 Class Graduation, Party and Awards
10/13/2018	Marc Zukovich	Fall Fertilization of Trees, Shrubs and Lawns
11/10/2018	Ruth Hayden	Private Gardens of China – Principals of Design we still see today
12/8/2018	None	General Meeting and Holiday Party

### **Horticulture Workshops for Seniors – Fall/Winter 2018**

*SENIOR CITIZENS OF ESSEX COUNTY YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN HORTICULTURE WORKSHOPS PRESENTED BY THE RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MASTER GARDENERS OF ESSEX COUNTY*

SEPTEMBER 17 “See You in September” with a program about native plants and using them in flower arranging. (reserve by September 11)

OCTOBER 15 “Harvest Moon” and an introduction to Lavender. (reserve by October 9)

NOVEMBER 19 “Autumn Leaves” and pumpkins and mums. (reserve by November 13)

DECEMBER 17 “Warm in December” with holiday arrangements to share with friends. (reserve by December 11)

ALL PROGRAMS TAKE PLACE ON MONDAYS, 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.  
GARIBALDI HALL, 621A EAGLE ROCK AVE., ROSELAND  
PROGRAMS ARE FREE. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE EARLY.  
SPACE IS LIMITED. WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT RESERVATIONS  
ONCE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IS REACHED!

### **MGEC Volunteer Hub – Weather and Season Permitting**

#### **404 Community Garden,**

404 14th Avenue, Irvington, contact Keisha Newell at

[404communitygar-den@gmail.com](mailto:404communitygar-den@gmail.com).

#### **Branch Brook Park Cherry Tree Pruning Team**

Meets weekly to prune historical collection of 5000 cherry trees. To volunteer call Lois Young 973-744-5696 or [helle-borus133@verizon.net](mailto:helle-borus133@verizon.net).

#### **Branch Brook Park -Prudential Concert Grove - (Southern Section)!**

We lead volunteers in weeding, pruning, planting and trans-planting perennials and shrubs. ! Come join us any day from October 2nd through November 6th, Monday through Friday from 9:30 through 12:30 (or whatever time to you care to give). We will also be working with volunteers on Saturdays: 10/28 - 9:30 to 12:30; 11/4 - 11:00 to 2:00.

Meet at the “Lions” and bring tools and gloves. !

For more information contact Kasey Goger at [kgoger@verizon.net](mailto:kgoger@verizon.net) or Mary Jedrezjewski at [maryjed@optonline.net](mailto:maryjed@optonline.net)

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**Brookdale Park Pruning** —ongoing pruning of Trees, to volunteer contact Pat Hewitt 201-913-8419, or [hewitt36@verizon.net](mailto:hewitt36@verizon.net).

**Caldwell Pollinator Garden** - Creating new gardens. Contact Warren Marchioni. [wmarchioni39@gmail.com](mailto:wmarchioni39@gmail.com)

### Education Outreach

Projects in schools. Contact Fran Kroeckel 973-744-6547, [robertkroecel@comcast.net](mailto:robertkroecel@comcast.net)

**Giving Garden** an *A Lot to Grow* community garden that grows produce for the food pantries and soup kitchens in the Nutley area. Contact Elizabeth (Liz) Li-loia: [eliloia@aol.com](mailto:eliloia@aol.com)

### Glenmont Project

Thos. Edison Nat'l. Historical Park in West Orange, Amy Trimarco, [aatri-marco@comcast.net](mailto:aatri-marco@comcast.net), 201-600-8656;

**The Greenhouse** has plenty of room for those that want to transplant and water. Contact Gail Chmura, [chmurag@verizon.net](mailto:chmurag@verizon.net) or Pat Hewitt, [hewitt36@verizon.net](mailto:hewitt36@verizon.net)

**Grounds** Around Garibaldi Hall — help maintain and beautify. Meet Tuesday morning-early. Bring your gloves/tools. Contact Tony Oszmianski (973) 226-1351.

Special Garibaldi project workdays scheduled throughout the year. **Contact Suzanne Broullon.**

**GROW** Community Out-reach Program., 3-4 Sessions a year, half-day long, recent Graduates become involved. Contact Mike Mallette (973)230-4266 [mfieldhand@verizon.net](mailto:mfieldhand@verizon.net)

**Helpline** volunteer-- Con-tact Lynda Meehan at (973) 228-5806 or [lyndam1112@gmail.com](mailto:lyndam1112@gmail.com), or **call the Help Line at 973-228-2210; [mastergar-denerec@gmail.com](mailto:mastergar-denerec@gmail.com)**

**Horticulture for Seniors** meets monthly with seniors. Contact Helen Kesner (973) 731-0717, [hkesner@comcast.net](mailto:hkesner@comcast.net)

**MGEC Bee Keepers** at Garibaldi Hall. Beginners must observe until the proper course is taken and equipment purchased. Contact David Haines, [dhaines@comcast.net](mailto:dhaines@comcast.net).

### Pollinator Garden In Brookdale Park

For information contact Blanca Gerard at [mygerard30@verizon.net](mailto:mygerard30@verizon.net)

**Rose Garden** in Brookdale Park NEEDS HELP, lots of get down in the dirt type of work, pick days/time Contact Susan Jankolovits (973) 783-0977 [sjankolovits@hotmail.com](mailto:sjankolovits@hotmail.com)

**South Orange Elks Rent Party Garden** Community garden whose produce goes to food banks. Contact Karen Rutberg, at [krutberg@aol.com](mailto:krutberg@aol.com).

**Speakers Bureau** is part of our community outreach. Choose a topic of interest and become an active speaker. Contact Jan Zientek at [Zientek@NJAES.Rutgers.edu](mailto:Zientek@NJAES.Rutgers.edu) and let him know what topics you can give programs on to other organizations.

### The Teaching Garden

At Presby Memorial Iris Garden in Montclair. Contact Fred Solomine at [fsolomine@gmail.com](mailto:fsolomine@gmail.com).

### MGEC – What's Happening

OPEN GARDEN DAY AT SILAS MOUNTSIER'S GARDEN —VOLUNTEER!

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The Master Gardeners of Essex County have been asked once again to help out at Silas' beautiful garden at 205 Rutgers Place, Nutley NJ. On Saturday, September 8, 2018, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. We collect tickets and money from people visiting the garden. You can sign-up for a 2-hour shift or stay as long as you would like. And the best part is you can take a tour of the garden for free. This is a beautiful large garden hidden on a residential street in Nutley.

Fran Kroeckel is coordinating this event. Contact Fran at 973-744-6547 and let her know what time you would like to come. Graeme Hardie says "the garden has never looked lovelier".

The Caldwell Pollinator Garden

This summer has seen both positive and negative news from the Caldwell Pollinator garden. The positive is that the garden's perennials have shown off their successive flowering displays in a spectacular way and lured many diverse pollinators with their nectar. Janet Markman, a local photographer, has diligently captured images of the winged visitors. A Boy scout troop in the community volunteered to create gravel pathways in several of the gardens. A sign with a descriptive narrative of the history and sponsors of the garden was installed near the flag pole. Volunteers have helped in weeding and additional planting. This was all good.

On the other hand, the main negative news has to be the extreme rainfall on one day in August which resulted in considerable damage to the town of Caldwell and other communities in the area. Five inches of rain in two hours produced a raging, temporary river that lifted up the pavers which formed the downward-slanting pathway around the centrally located meadow and sent many of them down to the end of the property. The damage made it dangerous for visitors to tour the gardens so that the town was forced to install police tape across the entrance. Volunteer workers, however, continue to maintain the grounds. We have hope that the town will hire a contractor to repair the pathway. We need more volunteers, so MGs are requested to contact me at 973- 226-6246 or email to [wmarchioni39@gmail.com](mailto:wmarchioni39@gmail.com)

We will persevere. Warren Marchioni

Summer at Glenmont

The members of the Glenmont crew have certainly earned their service hours as we pass the three-quarter mark of Year 10 of the Glenmont Project. The first frost and the "big dig up" will be here before we know it. Members of the crew are in maintenance mode right now with the excessive heat of summer finding our gardening time outdoors shortened and the need for watering more than usual. With only Wednesday as a set day, the crew was told to treat the gardens of Glenmont as they would their own—get out early on whatever day they can and water and weed and check for beetles and weed and deadhead and weed and replant and weed and, of course, there is always weeding! The butterfly bushes are in bloom adding a color lushness and a bee haven to the site. The beautiful dish size Edison Dahlias are about to bloom, and the gardens are giving pleasure to all the visitors to the Park.

This year has been a little different in that we discovered the Brazilian Skipper butterfly, or larger canna leafroller, voraciously eating the canna leaves in the canna bed in back of the mansion. Initially, we blamed deer. However, with the first 4 caterpillars found, we called the Help Desk to ID our find. Jean Greeley was on duty that day, and her excitement was almost contagious if not for the destructive work of this invasive pest! She reported the find to Jim Springer of the North Jersey Butterfly Association. The leafroller is found in Florida and the Southwest US. The only sighting at that point in NJ was in Cape May County. Subsequently, Jim has informed us that the little devil has been found for the first time in Cumberland, Salem and Middlesex Counties, including the Rutgers Gardens! Could the cause of this unusual migration be the result of Global Warming?

The crew went on to discover 11 more caterpillars that were destroyed with the first 4 before Jean came on site and rescued 3 more. These were sent to Jim who managed to observe their transformation to full-fledged butterflies. Thankfully (and thoughtfully) he released them in South Jersey and did not return them to their origin (Glenmont).

No room to post pictures of the Skippers but will bring the articles to the Help Desk. The sites for pics and more info are

[http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/orn/brazilian\\_skipper.htm](http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/orn/brazilian_skipper.htm)

[https://aggie-](https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/weekly_Q&A/f&b_11.htm)

[horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/weekly\\_Q&A/f&b\\_11.htm](https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/weekly_Q&A/f&b_11.htm)

<https://northjerseybutterflies.org>

Fall plans include readjustments and additions to the sites—purchasing mums, yarrow and other perennial plants. Ongoing pruning of the rose arbors and the wisteria. The gardens at Glenmont are the peoples' gardens and the MGs are their caretakers. Can't promise to enjoy this excitement every year at Glenmont, but watch this space!

Amy Trimarco 201-600-8656

**MGEC Save The Date**

RMGANJ September 4 Minutes Final

## Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey

October 24

MGEC Bus Trip to Storm King

**Hunterdon** – MG community activities are at their season peak, including the 5-day 4H & Agricultural Fair and the Rutgers Tomato Tasting Event which is held locally. We're looking forward to our September Pot-Luck volunteer recognition luncheon, and RMG classes are set to start in two weeks with a class of 22 new interns..

### **Mercer** –

Three summer camp days were held at the historic Trent House on July 31, August 7 and August 14 for the YMCA Day Camp, Home Front and Ewing Recreation.

A celebration for retiring county horticulturist Barbara J. Bromley was held on July 12 at Mercer Oaks Golf Club. Approximately 200 attendees celebrated Barbara's long career. Speakers included Nick Polanin, Meredith Melendez, county freeholders and family members.

Our move is on schedule for October/November. An intern training class will not be offered this year. County Agent Meredith Melendez has scheduled advanced training for current master gardeners through the end of the year.

Our annual Insect Festival is coming up September 8.

A tour of Willowood Arboretum and Bamboo Brook in Chester Township is planned for September 25.

### **Middlesex** –

The EARTH center Open House Garden Field Day and Folk Festival on Saturday, August 18 was well attended and enjoyed by all.

The EARTH Center was host to Eco-Ventures - a fun, educational summer program focusing on conservation, the environment and ecology. The very popular program was August 27-31 for preteens and teenagers.

With Labor Day comes the end of summer and the closing of the Butterfly House. They marked another successful season.

On Saturday, September 15th the 4H is holding their annual yard sale fundraiser at 645 Cranbury Road in East Brunswick from 8am-2pm

Middlesex County Master Gardener program is a year-long program, offered in a day or evening session and goes from classroom to field experience. Orientation for this year's classes will be this Thursday September 6 at 6:30 pm or Friday September 7 at 9:30 am.

**Monmouth** – August 18, 2018 came with MG excitement and hundreds of community residents attending our free annual Bugs, Birds and Beyond event! With the help of over 120 MGs, our 4-H crew, the Tenafly Nature Center (Rappin' With Raptors), a live penguin show (there were 3 shows that day) and the Ladybug Lady a great day was had by all! Many educational displays, activities, games and crafts filled every nook and cranny of the Ag. Building with the fun of learning about bugs, birds, snakes, bunnies and much, much more! Folks could learn about vermiculture, composting and best practices for gardeners. Our Helpline was set up for those with any garden questions, and outside tours of the gardens were available along with a live butterfly tent set for a pure butterfly experience and even more crafts! Vendors were also on-hand for hungry guests who wished to purchase homemade ice cream or hot dogs or peruse handmade crafts for sale or honey from an MG/bee keeper. Overall, a very successful day thanks to our co-chairs: Maureen Eng, Chery Greenfield and Molly Kocsik...many thanks, Ladies and to all of our fabulous MGs!

Helpline has been busy, gardens are in maintenance mode and JMG children continue to come on Saturday mornings to weed and harvest their vegetables to the delight of all! Currently, we are getting

## Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey

ready for a visit from Atlantic County MGs on September 5<sup>th</sup> to learn more about our Junior Master Gardener and School Programs Committees. We are so glad to share!

September is also a time for our annual Recognition Picnic which we are all looking forward to and to sharing an afternoon of fun, food and, just really good company! This year our picnic will again be held at Mike Winchell's, one of our MGs...always a lovely spot for this occasion!

Our speaker, Dr. Changlu Wang, Rutgers Entomologist, spoke to us on the topic of "Ants." He was truly very interesting and gave many great IPM ideas as to how to eliminate them as well as many facts about ants we'd probably never thought of! He was well versed on the topic and would be welcomed back in the future. Our speaker for September will be Roman Oscada from Valley Hill Farm on "Garlic."

### ***Morris –***

Another edition of The Morris County Rutgers Master Gardener newsletter, The Garden Journal, was published in August.

Helpline: Has been very busy and the mentors have trained a dozen new interns to work on the Helpline next year.

Community Outreach Event: Our Library Outreach programs are in full swing at the Parsippany and Morris County libraries.

Rutgers Master Gardener classes: We have 23 new interns for the Rutgers Master Gardeners Class, which begins on September 10, 2018. Almost half of the last Master Gardener class is already approaching their 60-hour volunteer commitment.

Snyder Farm: The Great Tomato Tasting was held on August 29, 2018 and we had over 30 volunteers from Morris County. The Deer Resistant Garden at Snyder Farm looked great as we had, a small, but dedicated group of volunteers.

Projects

- The Community Garden Detective program continues to receive compliments for the great information being passed along to all the gardeners. The information they provide is shared with the local community garden managers in neighboring towns.
- Morris County Rutgers Master Gardeners are working on a new plant design for the Pequannock Library.
- The Great Swamp invasive plant removal program continues into the fall.

### ***Ocean –***

Our Outreach Committees continue speaking with and educating the residents and visitors to Ocean County. A project working with the Boy Scouts at their Jamboree assisting them with the garden badge is again happening this year. Our 2019 calendar is ready for distribution at our speaker and event venues. The Community Garden, shrub garden and perennial areas are in need of more consistent help and hope the cooler temperatures will allow more volunteers to assist these chairs. Our monthly Diagnostic Roundtables are well attended. This Thurs after our General meeting, there will be a talk on "Spotted Lantern Fly" given by Paul Kurtz. On Sept. 20, in the evening, there will be an RCE talk for residents on "Perennials" by MG Dr. S. Ann Earon. On Sept. 28, the Interns will present their class project Fall Garden Day, a day of horticultural talks and demos for our residents. The theme is "The Good Earth,...the Good Life".

***Passaic*** – No report

***Somerset***– No report

***Sussex*** – no report

***Union*** - No report

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM. The next meeting is 10/2.

Respectfully Submitted

**Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey**

Tricia Deering, Recording Secretary