

# Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey

## Minutes of May 9, 2019 RMGANJ Meeting

Dennis Lenahan, Vice President called the meeting to order at 10:00 and greeted the group. He asked if there were any new attendees. There were none.

**Secretary's Minutes from the April 2019 Meeting:** Tricia Deering, Recording Secretary, reported that she had emailed out the April RMGANJ minutes version 1 and did not receive any comments or corrections. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept version 1 of the minutes. Bob Robinson brought up a concern that the April Minutes included a County Newsletter as a county report and he feels that the minutes are not an appropriate place for County Newsletters. Discussion followed about what is appropriate for county reports. A motion was made to limit the county reports to no more than one page with no pictures. It was seconded and approved unanimously. Tricia also noted that she has received a few county reports as PDFs, which require special software to incorporate into the minutes. She asked that members send their county reports as WORD docs or email text which can be cut and pasted into the minutes.

### **Attendance:**

Atlantic:	
Bergen:	Joe Cooper
Burlington:	
Camden:	Patrick Goughary
Cumberland:	
Essex:	Alice Poueymirou
Hunterdon:	Tricia Deering, Dewey Goodman
Mercer:	Betty Scarlata, Bob Robinson
Middlesex:	Jerri Barclay, Kathy Dopart
Monmouth:	Gayle Williams, Bob Magovern, Jay Schaeffer, Sandy Wolfe
Morris:	Deidre Gallagher
Ocean:	Roberta Quinn
Passaic:	Rick Sneyers, Jim McHugh
Somerset:	Cindy Hedin
Sussex:	Jane Gardner
Union:	Dennis Lenahan, Dolores Batz-Culp
Rutgers University:	Jan Zientek, Nick Polanin

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jane Gardner, Treasurer, reported that the current balance is \$14,287.20 with no change since last month. A motion to accept the budget was made, seconded and approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Pat Schanzlin was not in attendance.

**MASTER GARDENER'S COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** Jan Zientek thanked everyone who helped with the NJ Plant and Flower Show. There were some glitches and support for the program in the future is being reconsidered. A member reported that she attended the show and was quite disappointed. Jan reported that he finally received a quote for registration for the fall conference from OCPE which was \$4100 for 300 attendees, Nick Polanin has taken the quote up to Brian Shilling. Jan pointed out that we are not required to use OCPE and can use Eventbrite if necessary. At this point, Nick Polanin joined the meeting and reported that Brian assured him that the Director's Office will cover the OCPE expenses for the conference. Jan also reported that the service pins are being designed by Mike Green's office. He has asked for clear images of the existing pins. Dolores Bates-Culp has the pins with her, so she will give Jan one of each. They hope to have the new pins in two or three months.

Jan reported that the Cape May Ag Agent has left for a position out of state and Rutgers has initiated a job search for a quick staff replacement. Also, Rutgers is moving forward to fill the open Ag Agent positions in Monmouth and Salem.

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### Old Business

**Pins:** See the Coordinators report above for the pin status.

**Conference:** Dennis Lenahan thanked Hunterdon and Mercer Counties for agreeing to have their International Master Gardener Award winners speak during the county segment of the October State Conference. A third county is still needed to speak. Jan Zientek reported that he will cover it at the coordinators meeting next week. The question of whether it was OK for the award-winning counties who are speaking to bring the poster that they have developed for the International conference into the state conference. IT was agreed that they should.

**Sales Tax Issue and Garden Market:** Jan Zientek reported that there is still no resolution to the Garden Market sales tax issue with the Rutgers Business Office. The suggestion that we pursue expanding what Barnes and Noble can provide in addition to books and put them in the George H. Cook room was briefly discussed with no resolution. Dave Haimes secured the room which we can use if needed or it can be canceled up to 60 days in advance.

**Speakers:** Dewey Goodwin reported that all the speakers have all been contacted and he is asking them about books.

**AV support:** Essex reported that the issues are being addressed with facilities.

**Lunch ordering process:** Jane Gardner suggested that we include lunch in the conference fee and be done with it. There was discussion about how that would work, especially with respect to a price increase and a cut-off date for lunch ordering. Registrations received after a certain date would not include lunch. There was a motion to include lunch and only increase the cost by \$5 since we have extra \$\$ from registration. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

**Parking:** It was agreed at the last meeting that there will be no parking attendants.

**County Awardees:** There is no budget to cover admission for awardees in the conference budget. County coordinators will take responsibility for their awardees as they believe appropriate. The process for registering, ordering lunch and paying for awardees will be discussed at the next coordinators meeting. It needs to be clarified since there have been so many problems in the past.

Speaker Gifts: This will be tabled until the June Meeting

Historian Role: This will be tabled until the next meeting.

### New Business:

The price on the Save the Pate poster will need to be changed to say \$45 lunch included. Roberta Quinn will handle this.

**Break:** There was a break from 10:55 to 11:15. Thank you to Monmouth County for the refreshments. Mercer County is responsible for refreshments for the June meeting which is on Thursday June 13 at 10am in the RCE Conference Center.

Mercer County reported that they will have their first garden tour on June 8.

Essex asked to share speaker suggestions for good speakers. County reports often include this information.

### COUNTY REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

## Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey

### **Atlantic –**

The county successfully supported ACUA Earth Day celebration, giving away Rutgers tomatoes and pepper plants.

Our mobile helpline is busy and generating lots of visits and calls into our headquarters.

The green markets are up and running in our county and the Master Gardeners are there!!!!

All gardening projects are up and running and busy.

A trip was taken to the Cape May Plant Center

We are ready for our Plant Sale on May 18th.....from 9am until 3pm at the David C Wood 4 H Center 3210 Route 50 Mays Landing NJ..... flyer to follow.

Our classes for this year finished on May 9th and there will be a graduation at the Agriculture Station in Mays Landing in June.

### **Bergen –**

Charlie Nardozi, a nationally known garden writer, speaker and radio/TV personality presented: The Container Garden Revolution at our annual joint meeting with Master Gardeners of Passaic County. Charlie covered different types of containers; how to match the plant with the right container; potting soils; and watering, fertilizing, and pruning. He offered many tips and showed examples of container garden designs.

<https://gardeningwithcharlie.com>

Recognition pins for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of service will be distributed at the May meeting.

Lida Gellman, Class of 1999, has been named a “Lifetime Member” of the MG of BC. This designation is given to those who’ve been members of the MG of BC for 20 years and have performed more than 1,000 hours of volunteer service. She has been site coordinator of

Garretson Forge and Farm for 10-plus years and was one of the MG of BC’s two winners of the 2015 Award for Excellence.

### Volunteer Site News:

Garretson Forge and Farm: MG volunteers celebrated Garretson’s 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the annual spring festival on May 4. The festival featured open-hearth cooking demonstrations; spinning demonstrations; members of the 3rd New Jersey Regiment Revolutionary War re-enactors; Maypole dancing; tours of the home and gardens; and the annual organic herb and native perennials plant sale.

The Hermitage: On May 4<sup>th</sup>, the Hermitage was one of 12 sites to visit during History Day 2019 sponsored by the Northwest Bergen History Coalition. In addition to the Hermitage, each of the following historic sites featured unique textiles, artifacts, and ephemera and shared information about Northwest Bergen County’s history: John Fell House, (Allendale); Mahwah Museum, Old Station Museum (Mahwah); Van Allen House (Oakland); Old Stone House (Ramsey); Schoolhouse Museum (Ridgewood); Hopper-Goetschius Museum (Upper Saddle River); Waldwick Museum of Local History, Harvey Springstead Memorial Museum (Waldwick); and

Wyckoff Historical Society, Zabriskie House (Wyckoff).

Overpeck County Park: The Hackensack Riverkeeper and Teaneck Creek Conservancy — along with the Bergen County Parks Department — will sponsor the 6th annual EarthFest Overpeck celebration on , May 19 at Overpeck County Park. Events include NJ batman Joe D’Angeli of the Wildlife Conservation and Education Center; birds of prey presentation by Flat Rock Brook Nature Center; children’s activities; a rain barrel workshop; “green” and non-profit vendors; and food trucks.

### **Burlington –**

Congratulations to our interns for completing the horticulture and helpline training. They are eagerly involved in our various projects.

Our quarterly meeting was well attended with the focus on learning how to use “Better Impact”.

### **Project Reports:**

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**Gardens at Burlington County Fair Grounds** – With the help of two interns, we removed the liriopse from the flagpole garden. Little Blue Stem and four varieties of sedum were planted. A meeting is scheduled for later this month to develop a plant list and plan for the entrance gardens.

**Butterfly Garden at Smith Woods** – This month we finished cleaning up on the gardens started identifying the plants coming up and began tallying - recording butterflies. We received our delivery of perennials and cobblestones for the garden. We also established an experimental bed of wildflowers from seed.

**Donation Garden at Medford Leas** – The Donation Garden has been very busy considering we're still a couple weeks away from the last possible frost date. The gardens are planted with many kinds of salad greens, including several kinds of lettuce, spinach, Bok Choi, collards, Chinese cabbage, kohlrabi, etc. and even a trial gourmet dandelion! Our peas and rhubarb doing well, and a trial gutter garden just starting greens, strawberries and garlic. We have an assortment of onions, some that have been overwintered.

We have been very excited about our new deer fence but unfortunately we are still battling the critters, as we now have mice eating seeds planted in the greenhouse! Yes, we've set mouse traps.

**IPM and Demonstration Plots at BCCAC** – April is always a busy month for gardeners and this year was no different. The Ag, Center group cleaned up the raised beds, the kitchen garden and the ten demo plots. The strawberries and blueberries were fertilized.

The compost was turned and the plot weeded.

The hops were painstakingly weeded and tied.

We also planted some of the herbs in the kitchen garden.

A very productive month.

**Medicinal/Culinary Colonial-Era Garden at Pineland Preservation Alliance** – No report.

**Pinelands Preservation Alliance Kitchen Garden** – Workdays are scheduled to repair and replace the gardens.

**Rancocas Nature Center** – No report.

### Upcoming Events:

- Plant/Garden Expo Schedule – Saturday, May 11, 2019
- **8:00am** Run Club
- **8:30am** Garden Expo/Farmers Market Opening Day & Plant Sale Commences!
- **9:30am** *Workshop #1* Butterflies in the Garden with Bonnie McNamee
- **10:00am** *Workshop #2* Seed Starting in Meeting Room B
- **10:00am** Cooking Demo in the Farmhouse Kitchen with Farmers Against Hunger
- **10:30am** *Workshop #3* Native Plants with Bobbie Herbs
- **11:00am** *Tour #1* Demo Plots with Lise and John
- **11:30am** *Workshop #4* Rose Pruning Demonstration with Rose Society
- **12:00pm** *Succulent Workshop* with Pop-Up Greenhouse in Meeting Room A
- **12:30pm** *Workshop #5* Varmints in the Garden with Emily Trossbach
- **1:00pm** *Tour #2* Demo Plots with Lise and John

**Camden** – No report

**Cumberland:** No report

**Essex** – No report

### Hunterdon –

- Our Giving Garden Team is working with a local food bank to establish a vegetable garden at their site.
- Our Outreach Teams are preparing presentations for various community events.
- We continue to have great speakers at our monthly meeting.
- Training has started for "Better Impact"

## Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey

**Mercer** – Last fall, there was no new class because of the retirement of Barbara Bromley. This fall, there will be a new class started now that we have a new Mercer County Horticulturist and RMG coordinator, Margaret Pickoff. This is a very welcome development! The interns contribute a lot of very important efforts to our program and ensure that it will continue in the future.

In conjunction with this being our 25th anniversary year, we are planning an anniversary dinner in the fall. Our annual Plant Expo was held on Saturday, May 4. The weather cooperated, the crowds came, and it was quite successful. Some 448 cars and 670 people showed up. We had 1979 plants of 164 varieties donated by Master Gardeners, a group of vendors that left happy, and a very popular secondhand sale.

In preparation for the Plant Expo, the MEG garden committees have been very active, and the gardens were in great shape - except for the annual garden, which naturally is to be planted later, on May 14, past any danger of frost.

Our Community Education program continued on April 27 with a presentation on pollinators and pollination strategies, presented by Mary Ann Borge, a Mercer County naturalist, held in conjunction with the Tulephaking Nature Center. It included a talk and a guided walk through the Abbot Marshlands in Trenton. A group of RMG's participated in an annual field trip to the Pine Barrens, organized by our butterfly committee, on April 29. This is a very popular event - a chance to enjoy the natural beauty of the pine barrens and the butterflies that congregate there in spring.

In summer, we have a series of very popular programs for inner city children at the historic Trent House in Trenton. We are aiding the Trent House gardener with preparation and planting of the colonial kitchen garden, and general work to prepare the grounds for these programs.

At our May meeting, Sabrina Terpak, Principal Technician at the Rutgers Plant Pathology Lab, presented a program on the insect pests of vegetable crops, which was very informative.

We have a number of Community Outreach events planned. On May 12, we will be at the Sayen Gardens Azalea Festival, in Hamilton, and on May 18, at the Pennington Day event.

Beginning on May 30, we are presenting the first of a series of eight Saturday morning Community Education programs to be held during the summer. The first topic will be "Managing the Pests in Your Garden and Landscape by Nature's Signs". It will be presented by Amy Ricco, Prof. and Director of the Horticulture and Plant Science Programs at Mercer County Community College. It will be held at the College.

A garden tour is planned for Saturday, June 8. The tour will visit a number of Master Gardener's gardens, and also include visits to the historic Trent House, a garden planted by students we have worked with at Riverside Elementary School, and our own Mercer Educational Gardens (MEG). It will run from 10 am to 4 pm, and the cost is \$20.

**Middlesex** – The following free workshops will be presented at the EARTH center on Riva Ave in South Brunswick - call 732-398-5262 to register

- May 8 @ 6:30 pm Gardening in the Extremes-too wet, too dry, too shady? What can one do?
- May 11 10-noon Backyard Beekeeping A "hands on" tutorial with basic equipment
- May 18 9-11am Growing the Best Tomatoes and Strawberries in the Home Garden

The Butterfly House will open June 1. You can visit Saturdays and Sundays during June, July and August from 10-12.

On May 14th at 6pm there will be a Memorial Tree planting for Larry Haas and Marshall Nazin. Two Scarlet Fire Dogwood trees will be planted in their memory in the Evergreen Garden of Memories at the EARTH center.

Master Gardeners are planning a bus trip to Bartram Gardens in Philadelphia on Tuesday July 9, 2019. Bartram Gardens is the oldest surviving botanic garden in North America. The trip includes a guided house and garden tour for \$70. If interested contact Pat Scarano at 732-257-6246

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On May 23rd from 9am-2:30pm we will be hosting the McKinley School for a tour of the EARTH center and its gardens.

On May 16th the clients at Parker Adult Day Care Center will be planting their vegetable garden in their elevated raised bed. Much planning has gone into this and they have decided to plant basil, tomatoes, peppers, green beans, eggplant and zucchini.

### **Monmouth –**

Our first session of the Junior Master Gardener class went beautifully! Despite the dismal, damp day, the new students were eager to learn and had a wonderful time in the garden! In the weeks to come, they will continue to learn best practices for vegetable gardening, tend their garden (they will even weigh the weeds for poundage!) and harvest their produce. Graduation from the Program is scheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup>, however students are encouraged to come back every Saturday to weed and harvest. Just before the County Fair mentors and students will meet in the garden and select vegetables for judging. In the past, they have done extremely well with their entries! Many thanks to all of our MGs who have volunteered to help in anyway with our JMG Program!

Between our Member Education Committee and the Trips and Tours Committee, several trips or classes have been set. A class on propagation taught by Steve Kristoph will begin on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, a trip to Lyndhurst Estate in Tarrytown, NY is scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Our Speakers Bureau has been busy and already has eleven scheduled presentations in the month of May! Our Spring Garden Days plant sale will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> where free presentations will be given by our Speakers Bureau on both days. From bothersome bugs to attracting hummingbirds and pollinators to your garden to drip irrigation, there will be something of interest for the many attending the plant sale!

Our interns have been working tirelessly in the PAR and it is looking great! With warmer weather coming, the produce should be right behind! It is so good to see happy little plants! The Helpline is active with all of the usual questions and we have been asked to setup our Helpline for various community events. The School Programs Committee continues to work with Belmar Elementary School, Spring Lake Heights Elementary School, the MF Atchison Elementary School (Tinton Falls) and Earth Day at the Avon Elementary School. Whether planning a school garden or teaching lessons to students, our School Programs Committee is well appreciated in our community and does an outstanding job!

In the forefront, our immediate attention is to our annual plant sale. Featured are: annuals, perennials, small trees and shrubs, fruiting plants, hanging baskets, vegetables, plants donated from MGs that have been divided from their own gardens and, a favorite...Trash to Treasure! Informative presentations will also be given during these two days as well as tours of our on-site gardens for those interested. Rain or Shine...be there or be square...May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM at the Ag. Building, 4000 Kozloski Rd., Freehold! Many thanks to all of the MGs participating in this event and to Jim Seidel Chair and Bill Schutte, Co-chair for their guidance.

In the wings is the preparation of our annual children's event, Bugs, Birds and Beyond held on August 17<sup>th</sup> from 12 PM to 4 PM at the Ag. Building. This is always a wonderful day filled full of crafts, games, animals, pollinators, raptors and who knows what else! Working with us is our group of 4-Hers who are fabulous with animal facts and furry friends. Rain or shine...a day of education and no one would suspect it's so much fun! Come and join us!

### **Morris –**

Speakers Bureau: The Speakers Bureau program continues to receive more requests for presentations in 2019. It definitely has become one of our most popular programs, for speakers and the amount of residents who view these presentations.

Helpline has been very busy the last few weeks and volunteers have almost completely filled in all shifts in May.

Rutgers Master Gardener Classes: Our 18 interns have enthusiastically started volunteering in many projects now that the classroom portion of their training is now complete.

Community Garden Detectives: The Community Garden Detectives have begun inspecting the Community Garden demonstration plots in Madison and Morristown. The reports included all the pests and diseases that were found along with the Rutgers fact sheets and solutions to the problems. The final reports are shared with 35 other community gardens in northern New Jersey.

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Community Garden Demonstration Plots: This year in our plots we are demonstrating straw bale gardening and ways to successfully grow potatoes. The straw bales have been prepared (fertilized and watered) and we are growing some of the plants we will be planting after the last frost date of May 20, 2019. The information gathered is shared with our network of community gardens in northern New Jersey.

Snyder Farm: Hopefully, another WPS (worker protection standard)/ Food Safety training class can be scheduled out at Snyder Farm in May. The training is mandatory for any volunteers working in the greenhouses or in the fields at Snyder Farm or preparing food at the farm.

Projects We are currently working on many new projects for this year and we will announce them when they are finalized.

### ***Ocean –***

All our interns passed their exams.

Community gardens participating in the Community Garden Network of Ocean County have been receiving help from MGs, including an IPM workshop for them.

There are eight Speakers Bureau presentations in May.

There were four Community Outreach events in April, with interest in Earth Day, and seven scheduled for May.

Helpline and Diagnostics dealt with a lot of weed questions and why certain plants are brown. Plant issues were Cytospora on spruce, winter burn or dieback, and some cedar apple rust. Diagnostics roundtables for training purposes are scheduled once a month through October. Participants have to find, research, and diagnose a plant problem, insect problem, or unidentified weed or plant.

For fun, some MGs visited Steve Kristoph's nursery. A winery tour is scheduled in May.

### ***Passaic –***

The Master Gardener Plant Sale initially scheduled for May 18 had to be canceled. Passaic County is renovating the building and grounds where Master Gardeners have been located. The help line and offices have moved to another county building located at 930 Riverview Dr., Totowa, Suite 250. Due to limited space at the new location, the Master Gardeners' research materials were placed into storage. The renovations may take 2-3 years.

New Jersey Botanical Gardens in Ringwood held their plant sale on May 4, 5, and 12 with a members' preview sale on May 3.

Laurelwood Arboretum held their plant sale on May 11.

***Somerset***– Fourteen enthusiastic graduates from our 2019 MG Class are eagerly participating in MG activities. A celebratory luncheon capped the graduation ceremony for Christina DelGiorno, Diana Romero, Corinne Egner, Laureen MacEachern, Patricia Krossen, Ellen Hesse, Amy Xiang, Vanessa Sciorra, Janelle Kirk, Lynne Adler, Kathleen Marschall, Karen Davis, Juliana Farrell and Sandra Rhue, our new interns.

On April 10, we honored our hard-working, long-serving members. Gail Smith received the Award of Excellence, Karen D'Ambrosio the Master Gardener of the Year 2018 Award, Pat Miller was recognized for 25 years of service, and awards of merit went to Dottie Cassimatis, Diane Deutsch, Daina Tekla-Gulbis, Joanne Hashway-Rowe, Cindy Hedin, Bonnie Johnson, David Johnson, Carol Murphy, Lauren Randolph, Thomas Reeder, Patrice Rossetti, Ann Marie Savoye and Patricia Singley.

Our Speakers Bureau has offered several lectures including Composting 101, Preparing for Your Veggie Garden, Seed Starting Indoors, Planting a Butterfly Garden and Containers For All. Attendance has been excellent, mostly full houses. Looking ahead, the schedule includes talks on native plants, chrysanthemums and advanced vegetable gardening.

The Ways & Means Team has filled a bus for a trip to Chanticleer in Wayne, PA. And looking to the fall, there will be a trip to a cranberry farm and a winery. For next spring, Mt. Cuba and Philadelphia area gardens are on the Destination List.

A newly formed team planning trips to local venues of horticultural interest, Our Self-Drive Trip Team has already organized groups to visit a butterfly gardening lecture in Flemington, and tours of Buck Garden in RMGANJ May 8, 2019 Minutes Final

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Far Hills and the Holland Ridge Tulip Farm in Cream Ridge. Future destinations include Presby Iris Garden in Upper Montclair and the Keyport Gardens Walk & Talk.

"Beneficial Insects-Lacewings" and "Hydrangeas Found in New Jersey" were 2 of the many excellent articles in our most recent newsletter which also keeps readers informed on local and not-so-local garden-related events: sales, tours and lectures. Lauren Randolph and George Daniel lead this very competent team.

Planting and transplanting continue apace, weather permitting, at our newly enclosed demonstration garden. Mary's Garden plantings are growing vigorously and are being supplemented with transplants from the previous Mary's Garden site. Planned for the summer are a sunflower cave and a demonstration containerized potato planting.

Workshops for Seniors have been held at the Quail Brook Senior Center and the Stein Residence. Spearheaded by Pat Rossettie, opportunities to collaborate with senior centers around the county will continue and expand.

**Sussex** – No report

**Union** –

**30th ANNUAL SPRING GARDEN FAIR: Sunday, May 19, 12-4pm.** Committee chairpersons had a meeting on April 28. Flyers have been distributed by Union County Master Gardeners to local libraries, community centers, garden clubs and stores. Copies have been posted to social media groups. **Grown in the MG greenhouse in peat pots:** **Sweet:** Banana Pepper, Jimmy Nardello, (heirloom sweet frying), **Mild Peppers:** Pepperoncini, **Hot peppers:** Cayenne Long Slim, Jalapeno, Habanero, Pablono, Rutgers Pumpkin Habanero (mildly hot), **Super Hot:** Carolina Reaper, Ghost; **Heirloom Tomatoes:** Brandywine, Black Krim, Big Rainbow, Cherokee Purple, Green Zebra, Mortgage Lifter, Oxheart, Pineapple (yellow red heirloom); **Container Tomatoes:** Better Bush, Lilliput, Red Robin, Super Bush, Tumbler, **Cherry Tomatoes:** Little Bites Cherry, Red Currant, Super Sweet 100, Yellow Pear, Juliet (grape style), **Other Tomatoes:** Lemon Boy (yellow), San Marzano (paste), **Jersey Tomatoes:** Rutgers 250' tomato, Ramapo, Jersey Devil (paste), **New for 2019: Jersey Boy Tomato** 8 oz. fruits hybrid- joins together 'Brandywine's sublime sweet-sour tang with 'Rutgers' classic rich color, shapeliness, yield and performance, indeterminate. **Vegetables:** peat pots of Zucchini and Yellow squash, Bush beans, Okra, 3 packs of Cantaloupe, Watermelon, Cucumbers. **Annual vines in peat pots:** Morning Glory, Moonflower, Bird House Gourd, Cardinal Climber, Scarlet Runner Bean.

**CUTTING GARDEN:** Irish Eyes Rudbeckia, Statice, White and Magenta Beauty Zinnias were started from seed.

**DEMONSTRATION GARDEN:** April 10 was the training meeting for partnership docents at Reeves-Reed Arboretum. Plant Sale Committee Kick-off Meeting was April 27. Plant Donations, Dividing and Potting Perennials and Prep Days were May 4 and 5. Plant sale pricing and setup days were May 11, 17 and 18. UCMG's advance sale and social is May 18.

**EDUCATION:** Bruce Crawford presented on April 9 at the Plainfield Public Library, "Plants That Deer Like Least!" Our own MG, Fred Taylor gave an educational talk on the Berry Patch. Fair Orientation Meeting is May 15 at 7:30pm.

**EAB:** County Agent, Madeline Dinardo reported the Ash Tree Survey is continuing in the Union County Parks.

**HELPLINE:** The County of Union has provided the Helpline with a new desktop computer. Madeline Dinardo noted that June 19 will be a Tick Training Day at the Student Center of the Rutgers Busch Campus.



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**HERB GARDEN:** A memorial plaque has been approved by the U.C.M.G. Executive Board for the bed being planned for Caryl Hanneman's favorite plants. If you would like to add to this list, please send an email to Dolores Batz-Culp: [dlbcc@yahoo.com](mailto:dlbcc@yahoo.com)

**HORTICULTURAL THERAPY:** Terrariums were made on May 8 with Jewish Family Services and their Holocaust Survivors Group in Elizabeth.

**NEW CLASS:** Visiting and Demo Garden Clean Up Day will be May 7 and 14 from 10am - 12:30pm. A Class Representative attended the Executive Board Meeting on May 1. Participated in Basic Plant Pathology joint county course with Essex and Passaic at Turtle Back Zoo on March 26.

**PUBLIC EVENTS:** Wild Earth Fest along with Touch a Truck was a cool, rainy April 28 with 12 MGs reaching 110 people (62 field table and 48 garden tour) and 3 soil test kits sold. Thursday, June 6 from 6 - 8pm. is the Invasive Plant Species Swap.

**SHARING GARDEN:** Seeds have been directly sown into the beds along with transplants. Lettuce varieties started in the greenhouse include Mottison, Lola Red, Lola Rosa Dark, and Red Sails. Tomatoes are Celebrity Big Brad,, Early Girl, Blue Blacky, Oregon Spring, and Jet Star. Other veggies include Early Jalapeno, King and Yellow Pencil Pod Beans, and California Wonder Sweet Peppers.

**ANNEX:** Yellow Pan Squash, Asti Lettuce, Siletz Tomatoes, Red and Green Okra are started in the greenhouse.

**MITVAH GARDEN:** Has San Marzano, Super Bush Boy and Celebrity Tomatoes started from seed.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 11:40. The next meeting is 6/13/2019.

Respectfully Submitted  
Tricia Deering, Recording Secretary

**Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey**