



SAVE THE DATE

Be Somebody — Grow Garlic

MG meeting - Tuesday, Oct. 25
1 Bergen County Plaza
1st-floor meeting room, Hackensack
Refreshments at 7 pm
Announcements at 7:20 pm
Program to follow



Garlic may seep from your pores and give you bad breath, but besides being somewhat of a social hindrance, it's one of the strongest cancer-fighting agents in the natural world. Not only that, garlic has many other incredible properties that have been used by ancient healers to keep the body healthy and heal infections. After you learn about the incredible benefits of this antiviral plant, you may think twice about saying, "hold the garlic." This is a food that adds flavor and only does good things for your body, health, and mind.

Roman Oscada is a garlic farmer from Newton. He wasn't always a farmer though. He worked for a major pharmaceutical company for many years, retired, and starting growing garlic, which became his passion. Roman will tell his story about garlic and how we should grow our own, when to plant it, the types to plant, soil conditions, and when to harvest.

Garlic bulbs will available for purchase to eat or to plant.

Useful Links

Many local garden centers give discounts to MGs. See the list at mgofbc.org/useful-links.html. Bring your membership card when shopping.

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Links are clickable and are noted in blue.

From the President's Desk



On Saturday, Oct. 1, the Rutgers Master Gardeners Association of New Jersey (RMGANJ) will hold its annual conference and — along with our Award for Excellence winners — the association will also recognize four individuals from Bergen County for being Master Gardeners for 25 years.

Please join me in congratulating:

- Janet Austin;
- Mary Bergonzi;
- Joe Lamela; and
- Walter Traubel.

Thank you for your years of service!

- Joseph Cooper

Bergen County Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office

Joel Flagler Agricultural/Resources Management Agent & County Extension Dept. Head 201-336-6780

Joe Papa Horticulture Consultant 201-336-6788

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, the State University of NJ, US Department of Agriculture, and Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension educational programs are offered to all without regard to race, religion, color, age, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability. Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

VOLUNTEER SITE NEWS

Garretson Forge and Farm

Fall Festival

Sunday, Oct. 16, 10 am-4 pm

Activities will include re-enactors representing the War of 1812, Civil War, and Spanish-American War; open-hearth cooking featuring 19th Century recipes; tours of the homestead and gardens; and the sale of organic herbs, lavender sachets, organic raspberry jam, and late summer vegetables as well as organic hard neck garlic just in time for fall planting. Plant now, harvest next summer. Garlic is one of the easiest crops to grow and doesn't appeal to garden pests. If you can't make the festival, you can pick up some garlic on Thursday, Oct. 13 from 10 am-1 pm. Garretson is located at 4-02 River Road, Fair Lawn. www.garretsonfarm.org

NJBG/Skylands

Harvest Fest

Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 1-2, 10 am-5 pm

Hayrides and pumpkin painting are just the start of a fun-filled family weekend. There'll be games, face painting, applesauce making, tasty food, music and dancing, great photo ops, free garden tours, booths, an autumn plant sale, and more. Parking and admission are free. This event is hosted by the NJBG and the Ringwood Chamber of Commerce.

Skylands Manor Tours

Sunday, Oct. 9, 11 am-3 pm

NJBG volunteer docents will lead visitors on a tour of the architecture and history of Skylands Manor. Fee: \$7 adults; \$5 seniors and students ages 13-18; \$3 ages 6-12; free under 6.

Carriage House Concert: Arlon Bennett

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2 pm

Come to hear timeless songs that evoke a little Harry Chapin and maybe vintage James Taylor. Click [here](#) to purchase tickets: \$15 in advance + a \$1.75 per ticket handling fee; \$18 day of show at the door, subject to availability. Limited to the first 75 responders. Visit Arlon Bennett's [website](#).

Family Woodland Hike

Sunday, Oct. 16, 1 pm

An easy, child-friendly hike in the garden's woodlands where you'll learn a bit about the plants and animals around you during a hike designed to fit the group. Small children may need to be carried. Wear sturdy shoes. Meet at the Carriage House Visitor Center. Rain cancels. Free.

Design Tips for Traffic-Stopping Curb Appeal

Saturday, Oct. 22, 2 pm

This eye-opening presentation will cover easy-to-implement design steps for enhancing your home's curb appeal. Included will be top-performing perennials, annuals, flowering shrubs, evergreens, and ornamental trees for head-turning foundation beds. Nationally known speaker and author Kerry Mendez has more than 25 years of experience and is a "passionate perennialist" who enjoys mixing humor with practical information. Seating is limited and will be on a first-come, first-served basis. A \$5 donation is requested.

- **Dania Cheddie, NJBG/Skylands**

compnet299@optonline.net or 973-962-9534 or info@njbgo.org

Volunteers Needed for Holiday Open House

Help set up, be a docent, and/or clean up for the annual holiday open house. Set-up dates are:

- Monday, Nov. 28, 9 am-4 pm;
- Tuesday, Nov. 29, 9 am-4 pm; and
- Wednesday, Nov. 30, 9 am-4 pm.

Docents will be needed for two-hour shifts on the following dates:

- Thursday, Dec. 1, 10 am-4 pm;
- Friday, Dec. 2, 10 am-4 pm;
- Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 am-4 pm; and
- Sunday, Dec. 4, evening hours TBD.

Breakdown will take place Monday, Dec. 5 from 9 am until done. To volunteer, or for more information, contact Barbara Johansson at 201-664-2698 or barbjohansson@optonline.net.

- **Barb Johansson**

Thielke Arboretum

Weed Warrior Day

You're invited to Thielke/Glen Rock Arboretum, 460 Doremus Ave., Glen Rock, on Saturday, Oct. 15 from 9:30 am-noon for the seasonal Weed Warrior Day stewardship project. This time we'll be targeting porcelain berry and privet. Rain date is Saturday, Oct. 22.

Porcelain berry is a highly invasive vine from Asia that looks very much like our native grapevine. Privet is a commonly planted shrub that invades our woodlands, though most nurseries sell it and most landscapers plant it. Learn to ID these plants from their first leaves as a seedling to maturity.

In addition, our expert ecologist from Rutgers, volunteer Jean Epiphan, will be on hand to share her wisdom about these and other invasive plants that may be homesteading on your property, such as Japanese

honeysuckle, Asiatic bittersweet, wisteria, English ivy, myrtle, and amur honeysuckle.

No experience is necessary. We'll train you on site to help restore a healthy balance to our environment. Wear boots, long pants, and long sleeves. Bring gloves, kneelers, pruners, and drinking water.

For more information about the arboretum, or how to become a member, visit our website, www.glenrockarboretum.org, or join us on Facebook.

Annual Bulb Planting

The Thielke/Glen Rock Arboretum will hold its annual bulb planting on Sunday, Oct. 30 from 1:30-3:30 pm. Rain date is Sunday, Nov. 6, same time. This year, you'll not only plant those gorgeous daffodils, but you'll also be introduced to other early-blooming bulbs such as deer- and squirrel-resistant glory of the snow (*Chionodoxa*); striped squill (*Pushkinia*), those beautiful, easy care, and economical bulbs that are perfect to adorn the feet of the daffodils; and Siberian squill (*Scilla*), which is actually a bulb-forming herb offering some of the best blues you'll find among the early bloomers.

You'll also learn the nuances of planting. Volunteers of all ages are invited to participate in a variety of tasks, for example, counting the bulbs, digging the holes, and planting the bulbs. Bring your trowel, garden gloves, water, and kneeler.

Fall StoryWalk

The fall StoryWalk book, "Tap the Magic Tree" by Christie Matheson is on display. Christie Matheson is the author of many adult books and magazine articles, but she is best known for her innovative children's books. This beautiful, magical book invites children to help one lonely tree change with the seasons. See the blossoms grow, apples appear, and the leaves swirl away with the autumn breeze. The collage and watercolor art will appeal to children of all ages and their adults.

"Tap the Magic Tree" was selected for the children's enjoyment by members of the Planning Team at the arboretum in collaboration with Sally Morgan, co-owner of the Curious Reader book store, 229 Rock Road, Glen Rock. The hardcover book is available at the Curious Reader in its entire interactive, magical format, which encourages the children to tap, clap, and wiggle and jiggle the pages, no app needed. In addition, Paul Duggan of Mail & More on Rock Road supports the StoryWalk literacy endeavor through the contribution of labor and laminating materials. Both businesses believe in supporting community activities and love to hear the positive StoryWalk comments from their neighbors.

The StoryWalk entrance is indicated by signage at the south end of the Glen Rock pool parking lot, located next

to the arboretum. The StoryWalk is free, but donations are appreciated.

- **Carolyn Gretchen, publicity chair**

Thielke/Glen Rock Arboretum, 201-991-8140

Washington Spring Garden

Pat Vellas, our iris guru (pictured below), has completed the laborious task of dividing the beautiful irises at Washington Spring Garden with help from Noreen Postman and Surinder Chada of the current MG class and our veteran, Freddie Levitan. The iris garden was planted more than 10 years ago and has been in desperate need of attention since several trees and shrubs have encroached on the iris's territory.



Last year, Pat recommended we divide the rhizomes and transplant them to a sunnier location, but due to a limited crew and so many other projects that seemed to take priority we put it off. Finally, this year with the assistance of our new volunteers we were able to divide them and get them in the ground by the end of August. Thank you Pat for teaching us how to divide and conquer.

- **Suzanne Danzig**

MG OF BC NEWS

Master Gardener Program - Fall 2016 Syllabus

The fall MG program will begin shortly. All classes are held from 10 am-noon in the 4th-floor Learning Center, 1 Bergen County Plaza, unless otherwise noted. The dates, topics, and instructors are:

Oct. 7 Orientation to course; introductions; Joel Flagler

Fall 2016 Syllabus (continued)

- Oct. 14 Integrated Pest Management Basics; Joel Flagler
- Oct. 21 Landscape IPM; Best Management Practices (BMPs); Joel Flagler
- Oct. 28 Fall Planting with Bergen County Environmental Council; Ridgewood Duck Pond, Saddle River County Park; 10 am
- Nov. 4 Ethnobotany and People/Plant Relationships; Joel Flagler
- Nov. 11 No class; Veterans Day
- Nov. 18 Soil Science; Joel Flagler
- Nov. 25 No class; Thanksgiving recess
- Dec. 2 Entomology Basics; Joe Papa
- Dec. 9 Horticultural Therapy, Aged, Developmentally Disabled; Joel Flagler

Winter recess begins Dec. 16; the spring semester starts Feb. 3, 2017.

Fall Harvest Festival at Van Saun Park

The annual Fall Harvest Festival is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 8 and 9 at Van Saun Park, Paramus, and you can help.

Volunteers are needed from 10 am-noon Oct. 8 in the MG tent. Students in the Class of 2016 have created projects on the following topics: Butterfly Gardens, Rock Gardening, Composting, Herbs, Garden IPM, Horticultural Therapy, Pruning Practices, and Incredible Insects: A Friendly Look.

The festival will also feature 4-H exhibits, a craft fair, hands-on activities for kids, archery, a farmers market, animals, face painting, pumpkin picking, and live entertainment from 10 am-6 pm on Saturday and from 10 am-4 pm on Sunday. Carnival rides are available and an evening movie will be shown. Admission and parking are free.

Stop by to greet our new Master Gardeners, admire their exhibits, and explore the rest of the festival offerings.

SHOWS, CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

Gardening Study School

Course III, Series VIII

October 4, 5, and 7 (optional exam)

Holly House, 126 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick 08816

More information is available on the Garden Club of New Jersey website at www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com. Click on "Schools/Scholarship" and then "Gardening Study Schools." For the 2016 brochure and registration form, click [here](#).

Master Gardeners will receive 10 CEUs for taking the two-day course.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Meet Josie Ko, Class of 2013

By Miriam Taub

If you've ever gone on an MG trip or tour, you know Josie Ko. Josie says she was a "shoo-in" for the trips and tours chair because she had coordinated visits to the home gardens of her Class of 2013 members. When Risa Marlen, the previous trips and tours chair, moved to Florida in 2014, Josie took over the job.

Josie was born and raised in the Philippines and moved to the United States at age 31. She started working in the U.S. for a sweater company and wound up having a career on the technical side of the garment industry. Prior to retiring in 2012, she was the technical director for production and managed a staff of eight to 10 for Liz Claiborne (where she worked for 13 years) and later for Ralph Lauren. Her career allowed her to travel to locations where clothing production took place such as Hong Kong, China, Peru, and Turkey.

While three generations occupy the Ko home in Park Ridge — Josie, 65; her husband Albert, a retired engineer; daughter Cristy; and grandson Trevor, 17 — she's the only gardener in the family. Her property is on a cul-de-sac and the backyard borders a stream. Over the years, she has completed many a gardening project such as extending and reshaping beds, adding a "meadow" from seed, making an herb garden, creating a gravel walkway, installing a patio near the stream — all with the goal of having color and textural interest on her property in each season.

However, she says she realized “There’s more to planting than just going to the nursery and buying what you love.” During her local travels, Josie noticed the landscaping of a particular property in Woodcliff Lake. One day, she saw a woman in the garden and stopped to ask if she could take a picture. That woman turned out to be MG Leslie Maltz, who told Josie about the Master Gardener program. When Josie saw a story in the newspaper about an upcoming training session, she enrolled.

In addition to arranging garden tours, Josie volunteers at Skylands for the holiday decorating and at the Hermitage where she sets up teas. She is also a member of the Northeast Beekeepers of New Jersey and has two hives on her property, one of which generated 100 pounds of honey this year. 2016 was a “boom year” for honey, she points out.

Josie says she wishes more people would sign up for the MG tours. “If you’re going around the world to see gardens, join us,” she says. She points out that she arranges tours of private gardens not generally open to the public. On the recent tour of Sleepy Cat Farm in Connecticut, the group was given a private tour by the owner, saw the guest house, and had the opportunity to ask questions of the landscape architect – features not generally available during a public tour even during the Garden Conservancy’s Open Days. Another bonus of the tours: They count toward education hours.

FARMERS MARKETS

Closter Farmers Market

20 Legion Place
Through November; Sundays, 9 am-2 pm

Englewood Farmers Market

Corner of North Van Brunt Street and Demarest Avenue;
Through Oct. 28; Fridays, 11 am-6 pm

Fort Lee Farmers Market

Fort Lee Community Center outdoor plaza, 1355 Inwood Ter. www.fortleenj.org
Through Nov. 20; Sundays, 8 am-2 pm

Hasbrouck Heights Farmers Market

Central Avenue and Boulevard
Through mid-October; Tuesdays, noon-6 pm

Nyack Farmers Market

Main Street parking lot www.nyackchamber.org
Through Nov. 23; Thursdays, 8 am-2 pm; Saturdays, 8 am-1 pm

Paramus Farmers Market

475 Farview Ave.
Through Oct. 12; Wednesdays, 2:30-6:30 pm

Ramsey Farmers Market

NJ Transit Railroad Station, Main Street (outdoors)
www.ramseyfarmersmarket.org
Through Nov. 27; Sundays, 9 am-2 pm

Ridgewood Farmers Market

NJ Transit Railroad Station (Garber Square)
www.ridgewoodchamber.com
Through Nov. 1; Sundays, 9 am-3 pm

River Vale Farmers Market

406 Rivervale Road
Through Oct. 30; Thursdays, noon-6pm

Rutherford Farmers Market

Park Avenue at the Williams Plaza
www.downtownrutherfordnj.com
Through Oct. 29; Wednesdays, 11 am-6 pm; Saturdays, 8 am-2 pm

Teaneck Farmers Market

Beverly Road and Garrison Avenue www.cedarlane.net
Through Oct. 27; Thursdays, noon-6 pm

GARDEN CLUB GRAPEVINE

- Oct. 6** **7:30 pm, Garden Club of Harrington Park**, Harrington Park Library, 10 Herring St. Speaker: Jeffrey Van Pett. Topic: 10 top roses for your garden and their care.
- Oct. 10** **7 pm, Sun Dial Garden Club**, Meadowbrook Elementary School, 50 Piermont Ave., Hillsdale. Speaker: Douglas Goodell, nature photographer. Topic: Images of Costa Rica: Nature’s paradise.

- Oct. 11** **7 pm, Ramsey Area Garden Club**, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 55 Wyckoff Ave., corner of Woodland Avenue, across from the Ramsey Library. Speaker: Jim Wright. Topic: The nature of meadows.
- Oct. 12** **7 pm, social; 7:30 pm meeting, Wyckoff Area Garden Club**, Shotmeyer Room, Wyckoff Library, 200 Woodland Ave. Speaker: Dr. Hubert Ling. Topic: Shade gardening: Native wildflowers and ferns.
- Oct. 12** **7:30 pm, Garden Club of Oakland**, Oakland Senior Center, 20 Lawlor Drive. Speakers/topic: Four members of the club will speak on their favorite topics: NJ's native plants; habitat — success in the garden; invasives — what not to plant; and secrets to healthy houseplants.
- Oct. 13** **7 pm, Garden Club of Teaneck**, Rodda Center (multipurpose room 2B), 250 Colonial Court (enter from Palisade Avenue). Speaker: Mary Stone, landscape designer, garden coach, columnist, and blogger. Topic: The do's and don'ts of garden and landscape design. Bring your garden dilemmas or ideas to share.
- Oct. 18** **7:45 pm, Glen Rock Garden Club**, Glen Rock Municipal Annex, 678 Maple Ave. Speaker: Doug Raska. Topic: Natural holiday decorating with materials from your garden.
- Oct. 31** **7:30 pm, Ho-Ho-Kus Garden Club**, Community Church of Ho-Ho-Kus, 400 Warren Ave. Enter on Sycamore Avenue; street parking. Speaker: Bonnie Fitzpatrick, Ramsey Florist. Topic: Fall arrangements, one possibly be a vase arrangement and the other a cornucopia incorporating fruit and flowers. Arrangements will be donated for onsite raffle. Saddle River Garden Club will be our guests.

Contact Lucy Malka at lmalka@optonline.net or 201-791-3562 to submit information for the Garden Club Grapevine. *Publication deadline is no later than the 25th of the prior month.*

PLANT SOCIETY GRAPEVINE

- Oct. 20** **7 pm, Ramapo Orchid Society**, Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Nostrand Ave., Englewood. Speaker: John Rogan. Topic: Vitamins and hormones for orchids. Plant sale. Contact: Birgitha, 201-768-1272 or www.ramapoorchid.org.
- Oct. 26** **7 pm, Native Plant Society of Bergen Passaic Counties**, Bergen Regional Medical Center, 230 E. Ridgewood Ave, Paramus. Speaker: Dr. Randi Eckel, Toadshade Wildflower Farm. Topic: Who eats what! Which plants are favored by butterflies (and caterpillars), birds, wildlife, and people. Plant sale. Contact: bsuther@gmail.com.

Contact Catie Farahat at cwfarahat@scatteringlight.com to submit information for the Plant Society Grapevine. *Publication deadline is no later than the 25th of the prior month.*

As a reminder, the Master Gardeners of Bergen County does not share or sell its mailing list to non-members. We keep all membership information confidential and for use by members only. If you receive email from other organizations, we did not give permission for their use of our membership list. We would appreciate it if our members would not share our list with non-members or use it for any unauthorized purposes as it is for official MG use only. When sending an email to the MG mailing list, please remember to address it using the "bcc" option instead of "to" in order to keep the list of recipients from being visible.

Please share photos of your volunteer work or of your garden. We would all like to see photos of Master Gardeners at work either at volunteer sites or in home gardens.