



From the Potting Shed November 2020

Master Gardeners of Bergen County

Virtual meeting – Tuesday, Nov. 17

Announcements at 7:20 pm; program to follow
See the November mid-month update
for instructions to log in

Carrie Buchman presents: An introduction to the World of Orchids

Carrie Buchman has been growing orchids for more than 30 years and has almost 300 orchids from *Aerangis* to *Zygopetalum* in her collection. She keeps them in a converted sunroom that she describes as somewhere between a windowsill and a greenhouse attached to her home.



Carrie Buchman during the set-up of the 2020 Philadelphia Flower Show.

Her orchids have won ribbons in many shows, including the Philadelphia Flower Show, and she's earned flower, cultural, and botanical awards from the American Orchid Society.

Carrie, who was originally scheduled to speak at our March meeting, will cover orchid taxonomy, what makes an orchid an orchid, and what orchids grow well in New Jersey. Carrie will show orchids in bloom from her collection to illustrate their biodiversity. She welcomes you to bring your orchids to the Zoom meeting to display or discuss.

Carrie is the president emeritus of the North Jersey Orchid Society, co-chair of orchids at the Philadelphia Flower Show, and an associate judge in the American Orchid Society Judging Program.

Click [here](#) for Carrie's YouTube instructions to care for your phalaenopsis.

Contents	Page
This and That	2
Membership News	2
Horticulture	3
Webinars	3
Farmers Markets	4
Horticulture Grapevine	4

Links are clickable and are noted in [blue](#).

From the President's Desk

By Melody Corcoran, Class of 2016

The slate of officers presented to the board in September by the nominating committee of Master Gardeners — Kathleen Sullivan, Karen Pennell, and Janet Schulz — was approved by the general membership at the Oct. 20 virtual meeting. The following officers will serve a two-year term starting in 2021:



- Pat Vellas, Class of 2014, treasurer;
- Keith Mazanec, Class of 2019, recording secretary; and
- Miriam Taub, Class of 2011, corresponding secretary.

Welcome, Keith, as our newest board member. And thank you, Pat and Miriam, for continuing to serve on the board.

The board is always open to suggestions from all MGs. Being on the board lets one in on all that is going on in the background at the MG of BC. Are you interested in getting more involved? There are currently two openings on the board – Publicity chair and Trips and Tours chair.

The Publicity chair is responsible for publishing and advertising our events and volunteer works on our Facebook page, in local newspapers, and anywhere else we can get the word out about the Master Gardeners of Bergen County.

The Trips and Tours chair selects, organizes, plans, and executes trips and tours for the MGs. The chair also publicizes plans for the trips/tours at general meetings and in the *Potting Shed*.

If you or any MG you know is interested in either of these positions or wants more information, let me know. New faces and ideas are always welcomed. [Send an email to Melody by clicking [here](#).]

THIS AND THAT



Photo by Joseph Cooper

An online visit to Seattle's Kubota Garden

Kubota Garden, located in Seattle, WA, is a 20-acre Japanese garden and a registered historic landmark. The garden includes hills and valleys interlaced with streams, waterfalls, ponds, bridges, and rock outcroppings with a rich array of plant material. Major features include Kubota Terrace, Bamboo Grove, Necklace of Ponds, Mountainside, and a Stroll Garden. Click [here](#) to visit the garden via video by Joseph Cooper, Class of 2008. And visit the garden's [website](#).

Free background scenery for your next Zoom meeting

Download beautiful scenes from the Smithsonian Gardens for your desktop or a background during your next Zoom meeting by clicking [here](#).

Save the whales and other animals, or create a pumpkin centerpiece, or both

Watch people save animal in these YouTube videos. Click [here](#) and [here](#). Or, follow easy instructions to make a pumpkin flower [arrangement](#).

Event suspensions and site closures for 2020

All in-person events, classes, programs, club meetings, and other group activities organized by or under the auspices of Rutgers Cooperative Extension have been suspended through 2020. This includes all MG meetings and events. MGs are not required to submit volunteer hours for 2020.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Renew your membership for 2021, please!

It's been a tough year, but the MG of BC relies on your membership dues to keep the organization running. The membership renewal form was attached to the email with the *Potting Shed*.

You can print and complete the form and send with your check for \$20, made payable to the MG of BC. Mail to Terri Pegg, 54 W. Magnolia Ave., Maywood, NJ 07607. If you'd like, you can include an additional amount as a donation to the MG of BC. Donations are always welcome.

MG of BC meeting dates for 2021

Online? In person? We're not sure, but here's a list of our MG of BC meeting dates for 2021 to add to your calendar:

Jan. 26	May 18
Feb. 23	Sept. 28
March 23	Oct. 19
April 27	Nov. 18

"Zeke, you turkey! The mask goes over your nose as well as your mouth."



Photo by Miriam Taub

Have a safe, healthy, and happy Thanksgiving from the MG of BC.

HORTICULTURE

White snakeroot – has it made a home in your garden?

White snakeroot (*Ageratina altissima*) is found throughout eastern and central North America. The Brooklyn Botanic Garden named white snakeroot its “weed of the month” for October. Look closely at this photo and you’ll see the trails left by a species of fly (*Liriomyza eupatoriella*) that lays its eggs on the leaf. After they hatch, the larvae feed on the leaf tissue creating the tunnel patterns.



Photo by Melody Corcoran

Amaryllis is a holiday favorite

By Karen Pennell, Class of 2009

Amaryllis bulbs can be found in many stores, such as Costco and Trader Joe’s. Last year I was able to buy waxed dwarf amaryllis (below) whose four blossoms bloomed at three different times. Friends who received them as gifts from me experienced the same number of bloom times.

The waxed bulbs require little to no care and no water, and they look great on a hearth or as a centerpiece decoration. Your plant will go from no buds to blooms in four to five weeks. Once budding begins, the blooms will last for three to four weeks. [Editor’s note: The Art of Doing Stuff website demonstrates how to wax your amaryllis bulbs. Click [here](#) for instructions.]



Photo by Karen Pennell

Salvia – Rutgers ‘plant of the month’

Salvia, the largest member of the mint family, is the Rutgers Agricultural Experiment Station’s “plant of the month” for October. Salvia’s “biography” was written by Bruce Crawford, program leader in home and public horticulture. Read about salvia with its late-season color by clicking [here](#).



Photo by Bruce Crawford

Salvia Rockin® Deep Purple

WEBINARS

Nov. 2, 6:30-7:30 pm: Rutgers Environmental Stewards Earth Day Every Day sponsors Basics of Recycling. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register. Click [here](#) to view recordings of previous webinars.

Nov. 4, noon-1 pm: University of Maine sponsors Backyard Composting. Free, but a \$5 donation is suggested. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Nov. 5, noon-1 pm: Smithsonian Gardens sponsors Winning the War Against Weeds. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register. Click [here](#) to view recordings and Q&As from previous webinars.

Nov. 5, 6:30-7:30 pm: Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Middlesex County sponsors Indoor Seeding - Are You Prepared for 2021. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Nov. 11, 5-6 pm (join at 4:45 pm): Rutgers Home Gardeners School @Home sponsors Dirty Little Secrets - Top 10 Tips to Great Garden Soil. Fee \$35. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Nov. 19, 6:30-7:30 pm: Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Middlesex County sponsors Caring for Indoor House Plants. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Dec. 1, 1-2 pm (join at 12:45 pm): Rutgers Home Gardeners School @Home sponsors House Plants - Bringing the Garden Inside. Fee \$35. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

FARMERS MARKETS

All farmers markets are practicing social distancing, require masks to be worn, and require vendors to serve you (no self-service).

Oradell Farmers Market, 618 Veldran Ave. (post office parking lot); through Nov. 22; Sundays, 10 am-3 pm.

Ramsey Farmers Market, Main Street train station; through November; Sundays, 9 am-2 pm. For a complete list of rules and other information, click [here](#).

Ridgewood Farmers Market, train station parking lot, Godwin and West Ridgewood avenues; through Nov. 22; Sundays, 9 am-3 pm weather permitting.

Bergen County Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office

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

Karen Riede Horticulture Consultant 201-336-6788

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, the State University of NJ, US Department of Agriculture, and Bergen County Board of Commissioners. 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.

HORTICULTURE GRAPEVINE

Deadline for the Horticulture Grapevine is the 25th of the prior month. Submit information about garden club meetings that are open to the public to [Miriam Taub](#).

Nov. 5, 7:30 pm, Garden Club of Harrington Park via Zoom. Speaker: MG Arnie Friedman, Class of 2004. Topic: Stone in the Garden. Visit the club's [website](#) a day or two before Nov. 5 for instructions to join the meeting.

Nov. 10, 7 pm, Ramsey Area Garden Club via Zoom. Speaker: MG Arnie Friedman. Topic: Water in the Garden – Using and Building Water Features. Click [here](#) to join the Zoom meeting. Meeting ID: 947 7559 7303; passcode: 159990.

Nov. 11, 7:30 pm, Bergen-Passaic chapter, Native Plant Society of NJ via Zoom. Leaders: Tom Bender and Elaine Silverstein. Topic: Roundtable discussion of the 2020 gardening season. Click [here](#) to register. After registering, you'll receive an email with instructions to join the meeting.