

# Wyckoff Area Garden Club Newsletter May 2011

## President's Message

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*Hope you got to some of the local plant sales on the list that Jeanne compiled and emailed. The best part for me is hitting the members' plants tables to see (and buy) what other gardeners have. Sue Acheson, the author of the article on how to shop at a plant sale that was included in that*

*email, is the president of the Friends of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum. The sale there, as well as at Skylands, Buck Gardens and Rutgers, are super for their offerings of unique plant materials. Also, if you see something in catalogs, ask our local nurseries to get it for you. Their suppliers often have larger sizes available for an equivalent or even better cost when you factor in S&H in the catalog price.*



*We met this year's goal of reaching our area youth with two programs in April. Early in the month we partnered with the environmental clubs at the two FLOW high schools for a showing of TAPPED, a documentary about the big business of bottled water and we ended the month with our plant and craft sale, followed by an afternoon for younger children with butterfly speaker, Rick Mikula, and butterfly information booth staffed by Joan R. Even though I thanked everyone who worked on these events, I must single out Carol D., Bea and especially Jeanne for their time and efforts in making these community service projects a success.*

*In between these projects (which she attended or worked), Joy managed to chair our in-house member plant sale and even said she'd do it again next year. Thank you Joy!*

*In the last newsletter, I said I'd write more about becoming a Master Gardener. Besides the summary that follows, learn more by talking to one of our nine members who are graduates of the program. Look for them in the member directory portion of your handbook. MG appears after their name.*

- 1. Complete the Bergen County Master Gardener program offered through the Rutgers Extension Service. There is a \$225 fee to cover material and program costs. The classes are held in Hackensack at the County Administration Building and run from 10AM to noon starting the first Friday in October and ending in June. Coursework covers fundamental principles of home gardening, including growing and caring for perennials, shrubs, woody ornamentals and*

vegetables, pest control, and soil science. Students must also complete a voluntary internship of 60 hours beginning in April that includes staffing a consumer hotline answering questions about home gardening projects and doing hands-on gardening at approved community sites. The volunteer service must be completed prior to the Certified Master Gardeners graduation ceremony which occurs in September.

2. To maintain yearly certification, MGs agree to complete 25 hours of volunteer work in community based projects such as giving presentations to community gardening groups, answering questions on a garden hotline, working in community and urban gardens plus they must accrue 10 hours of education per year. (Attending programs sponsored by garden clubs qualifies as fulfilling this requirement.)

3. Applications can be obtained from Dail Reid, Horticultural Consultant, by emailing her at [reid@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto:reid@njaes.rutgers.edu) with your name and mailing address or by calling her at 201-336-6788. Interviews begin September 1 for placement.

We'll be voting in our new slate of officers at the general meeting this Wednesday. With the exception of Paul and Lelia taking the positions of Vice President and Assistant Treasurer respectively, the rest of the board is returning in various capacities. Janet S. comes back after a stint as District 1 Chair for the State to serve once again as President. Fran moves from Membership Chair to Treasurer and Lucky takes over for her in Membership. Joan R. continues as Recording Secretary and Anne becomes Corresponding Secretary. It's a great mix of talent and experience and I'm looking forward to casting my vote in support of this team.

Since it is also the beginning of garden tour season, take an armchair version of "masterful, expressive gardens" (their hype not mine) in Avon, Ct. by clicking on:  
[http://www.whiteflowerfarm.com/video-gardening-inspirations.html?utm\\_source=12MB+Active&utm-medium=email&utm-campaign=2011+04+14](http://www.whiteflowerfarm.com/video-gardening-inspirations.html?utm_source=12MB+Active&utm-medium=email&utm-campaign=2011+04+14)

At the end of this video are thumbnails of other garden videos to also view. Enjoy!

Fondly,

Barb

## **May Meeting of the Wyckoff Area Garden Club**

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**Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at the Larkin House, 380 Godwin Avenue, Wyckoff**  
**Arrive 7:00 to socialize, program begins at 7:30 p.m.**

**Program: "Woody and Herbaceous Companion Plantings"** by Bruce Crawford

The Director of Rutgers Gardens will recommend what plant material to add to round out the landscape.

Officers for the 2011-2013 term will be elected at this meeting.

We'll have a drawing at the general meeting for two admission tickets to Skylands. They came as a gift for our membership donation to NJBG.

"Deck the Halls" is the theme for this year's holiday open house at Skylands. There are just 5 rooms yet to be assigned: the entrance, the staircase, the ladies parlor, the dining room and the study. Janet S. will be giving more details at the general meeting as to what is involved if the club wants to consider adopting a room. Several members have helped on this yearly event in the past and it is very enjoyable to see the rooms come together.

Please plan on arriving early for a little socializing and catching up since our last meeting. Don't forget to 'lug a mug'!

**Hostesses for the May meeting:**

**Eileen Avia, Lois Horowitz, Fran DiGiorgio**

**Just a reminder** – hostesses are expected to come early to set up and stay after to clean up.

## **Out and About**

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**Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1:30 p.m.:** Paul Mast, our incoming VP and a MG, will be leading a program for adults on identifying trees by foliage, bark, etc. at Thielke Arboretum in Glen Rock.

**May 15-May 30, Skylands: Wildflower & Rhododendron Wonders.** The Wildflower Garden is at its best, with bright pink Japanese Primroses lining the paths. The big, showy blooms in the Rhododendron Garden are a sight to behold. *Free.*

**May 21<sup>st</sup>, 10 am, Skylands: Children's Gardening Workshop.** Join Nancy Cochrane in the Carriage House to explore the fun of gardening by planting a little veggie garden to take home with you. Then you'll take a walk in the Garden if the weather allows. Ages 8-16; children under 14 must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Reservations recommended. *\$10 members, \$15 non-members.*

## **Cuttings**

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Time to clean your birdfeeders again. **Saturday, June 4 10-2 at Wild Birds Unlimited**

189 Rt 17S (between Midland and Century Rds.), Paramus.

\$4 each feeder, make check payable to Bergen County Audubon

When you consider you have to disassemble the feeder, soak it in a bleach solution, then oftentimes still need to scrub, air dry and reassemble it, this is truly a blessing for the price.

## **Looking Ahead: June Meeting of the Wyckoff Area Garden Club**

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Wednesday June 15<sup>th</sup>, Noon. Installation Luncheon at Jeanne's house. In case of rain this meeting will be held at McFaul's at the same time. Look for an email about this luncheon closer to the event.

For questions or comments on the newsletter, please contact Jeanne at [jamuller@optonline.net](mailto:jamuller@optonline.net)