

President's Message

By Eileen Avia

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Wednesday
March 12 @
9:30am

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Enjoy the photos in this
newsletter from the Philadelphia
Flower Show – "Articulture"



Speaker Kerry
Ann Mendez
in her garden

It's Here!! Our Annual Fundraiser!

Probably our most important event of the year is **HERE!**- **Our Annual Fundraiser on Wednesday April 23rd @ 10:00am at the Wyckoff Library!** Make sure you have your tickets! **ORDER FORM** on pg 7. We have an exciting speaker- **Kerry Ann Mendez** instructing us on what we all want to learn more about – **'Design Tips for Easy Care GORGEOUS Gardens!'**

And of course, we will have the loveliest and most unusual plants for sale at amazing prices, along with great prize raffles and a 50-50 raffle! This year we will also have our first **Jewelry Sale!** Which promises to be a popular item with the ladies 😊

Read more about **Kerry Ann Mendez** on page 4.

April Greetings to all my Gardening Buddies,

Please excuse the brevity of this message; on Thursday, March 27th, I underwent basal joint surgery on my left hand and will be in a hard cast for six weeks. While my gardening chores have been put on hold awhile, I was at least able to finish making two decorative birdhouses which will serve as raffle items for our April 23rd Fundraiser with guest speaker, Kerry Ann Mendez. The members of this committee, with Kathy Derderian at the helm, have been arduously working to provide our members and guests with a morning replete with gardening advice, raffles, door prizes, homemade baked goods, tea sandwiches, and jewelry and plant sales. I hope all of our members will invite family and friends to join with us for this educational, yet fun-filled event.



Looking forward to seeing you on the 23rd!

Eileen



Beautiful Hand-made Birdhouses to be raffled off at our Annual Fundraiser! Made by our very own President – Eileen Avia☺



*Upcoming Meeting
Reminder: Dues are
Due - \$35
Please Bring To
Meeting*

**Wednesday April 9th @ 7:00pm
at Wyckoff Library, Monroe Room**

*Arrive at 7:00pm to socialize;
program begins at 7:30pm.*



**Hostesses for the April
meeting**

**Catie Farabat, Lauren Faustini,
Arlene Meier, Joan Ramsey*

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

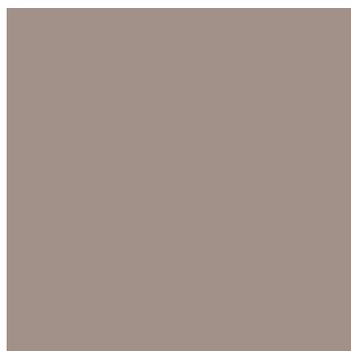


**Program: “Creating a Water
Garden” —John Meeks Jr.**

Blue Meadows Landscaping

*John will discuss siting and
installation basics with an
emphasis on plants and fish so you
can create your dream water
garden.*





Caterpillar at Philadelphia Flower Show 2014

Dates to Remember

Get Your Advanced Tickets to the Fundraiser/Plant Sale/Guest Speaker Event!

\$20 in Advance or \$25 at the Door (see pg 7 for Order Form)

Wed. April 23rd at 10:00am at Wyckoff Library.

Kerry Ann Mendez: She has over 25 years of hands-on experience as a perennialist gardener. As a garden author, consultant, designer, teacher and lecturer, she specializes in low-maintenance garden and landscape design, incorporating perennials, ornamental grasses, flowering shrubs, bulbs, and no-fuss annuals. She has authored two hot selling books: *The Ultimate Flower Gardener's Top Ten Lists* and *Top Tens Lists for Beautiful Shade Gardens* and her website – **Perennially Yours** (www.pyours.com) is featured in the Spring 2014 issue of *Amazing Gardens Magazine*.

Mar 1 - Apr 14 The Orchid Show,
NY Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY
Always fabulous!

www.nybg.org

Leonard J Buck Garden Club is having their **Plant Sale and Earth Day Celebration** on April 26 and 27.

Information at

www.somersetcountyparks.org or call

908-234-2677

GROWING OUR CLUB

Reminder to our members: Please bring your annual dues of \$35 to the meeting

Out and About



City Green 2014 Volunteer Season Begins Wed April 9th

Volunteers play an integral role in City Green programs and food production. How will you lend your talents to City Green in 2014 to further facilitate the establishment of urban farms and gardens in northern New Jersey's cities to enrich the lives of inner city residents, while cultivating education in public health, nutrition and the environment? Email info@city-green.org and type "Add me to Volunteer e-Blast" in subject line.

Volunteer Opportunity

Chore of the Month

From *awaytogarden.com* Visit the website for additional information.

THOUGH 'FRANTIC' IS PROBABLY the more accurate adjective to describe me right now, adopting a "strategic" attitude would get me a lot farther, faster, in the face of April's heroic list of garden chores. Let's start with 10 steps that I try to stick to, as I get started erasing winter's havoc.

Chore of the Month



1. **Start cleanup near the house.** Having the beds along the most-traveled front walkway tidied up early reminds me that I *can* do this, a little at a time. Walking past a mess every time I leave the house: not so inspiring! Work out from there gradually.

2. First things first. In the edible garden, why prep the tomato row when you haven't even planted the peas or spinach? **"Spot clean" key areas at the start of the bigger cleanup**, so earliest crops can get sown, then double back later.

3. Similarly: **Gently remove matted leaves to uncover early spring ornamentals first**, such as spring bulbs and ephemerals. Start cutbacks by trimming battered leaves from semi-evergreen perennials, such as many of the hellebores and epimedium and gingers—and with ornamental grasses.

4. **Stay on track with seed-starting.** Either make a list of what to sow when, indoors or out, or organize packets week-by-week, perhaps in an accordion file or

old recipe-card box.

Remember: move any packet that's best sown a little at a time *ahead two weeks* in the filing system after you use it. That means a staggered supply of salads, carrots, radishes and such.

5. As soon as possible, **make space in the compost heap for incoming debris** you'll be generating fast. Extract (and preferably screen) finished material from the bottom to topdress beds as you clean them.

6. **Order mulch now, preferably a bulk delivery**—skipping all those plastic bags, and ideally choosing a locally produced material.

7. **Empty nest boxes of old nests**, and maybe add more birdhouses.

8. **Muck out water gardens**, removing floating de-icers. Get pumps and filters going again.

9. While doing all that: **Never** walk, or work, in mucky soil.

10. **Treat** yourself to a little color- pansies or violas, for instance.

WAGC Fundraiser Ticket Order Form

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

at the Wyckoff Library

Kerry Ann Mendez

“Design Tips for Gorgeous Easy Care Gardens”

Doors open 10 am; program begins 11 am

Raffles, door prizes, plant sale, jewelry, refreshments

1. Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

If purchasing multiple tickets, please print the name of the other attendees; their ticket will be held under your name

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Cuttings

Mail check payable to:

Wyckoff Area Garden Club

Mail this order form and check to:

164 Greenhaven Road

Wyckoff, New Jersey 07481

ADVANCE TICKETS: \$20

*Checks must be received by **April 9** for the advanced price of **\$20**;*

*Or at the door: **\$25***

Please come and join us for a morning of fun, learning, and gardening companionship after a LONG winter!!!!