

The Garden Path

West Trenton Garden Club Newsletter

Website: www.westtrentongc.org



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December, 2013

President's Message

Dear Members:

What an amazing program we had at the November meeting: "Artful Designs for the Holidays" by **Eric Roberts** from **Jardinière Florals**! I couldn't decide which arrangement I liked the best, but I did put my beautiful pink rose in a vase by my bedside and enjoyed it for more than a week. Thanks Helga for another great program!!!

At our meeting in November, our delicious refreshments were presented by **Anna Adomaitis** and her Hospitality committee: **Fredricka Billups, Dorothy Chrambanis, Cathy Gillmer, Gerree Pecht, June Rosso and Joyce Russell**. Thanks ladies! You took it to the next level. I've noticed that many people just have a light dinner if at all so they can indulge in the fabulous spread. The Birthday cake was a really nice touch! Let me know how you liked moving the refreshments to follow the business meeting--so far I have heard a positive response.

The "Wreaths Across America" Garden Club program brought to us by **Nancy Brown** and **Pat Bowker** was able to purchase 20 wreaths. This is amazing! Thanks to all for supporting this noble effort. More information is attached concerning the Wreath Laying Ceremony on December 14.

Also, a few more reminders about the Holiday Party on December 2nd, pick up for Poinsettias and the Topiary Design Workshop that are coming up.

Decorations at the Governor's Mansion, Drumthwacket with the theme for the Music Room: Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer are well underway. The description for the Drumthwacket Foundation is as follows:

Hello Rudolph! It is amazing to see you all dressed up and updated just ready for the Holidays!!!. Your whimsical wonderland is filled with sophisticated white orchids and silver mercury glass with red-nosed accents. There are lyrics from your song to sing and musical instruments to play. Our theme of **"Choices Make Changes"** (TM pending) is evident throughout the room and in the cracker presents we have for the children and for your friends, Dasher and Dancer And Prancer and Vixen, Comet and Cupid And Donner and Blitzen! Have a safe trip!!!.

I would also like to extend a sincere "Thanks" to **Terry Palise** for her tireless efforts on the Award Winning Newsletter, Poinsettia Sale and Rose Garden Tour to name a few of the great things you do for our club! Members like you make our club the Best.

To follow up on my theme of "Choices make Changes" (TM pending), I ask you to try to keep these ideas going for the holidays. Some suggestions are using recycled wrapping papers which you can make from previously used papers, etc. Also, you can give the gift of "promises" to your friends and loved ones. For example, if you know that someone really needs help with a chore, you can offer to do it for them. Last year, I promised my husband that I would put my dishes in the dishwasher and not the sink...He loved that!!!. (It was hard to do.) Now, I have to work on the kids...For our anti-aging tip this month, I ask you to keep

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hydrated especially as the heaters come on for the winter. Try a humidifier and drink extra water but watch out for bottled water since so much plastic is involved. Could you consider using a filter and carrying a BPA free reusable bottle?

Looking forward to seeing all of you in December for our Holiday Party brought to us by Pat Bowker, our ultimate Past President and her committee. Think about a recycled or up-cycled gift to bring to share!

Dianne Dickinson, President

West Trenton Garden Club Minutes

November 4, 2013

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The West Trenton Garden Club met on Monday, November 4, 2013 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church. President **Dianne Dickinson** called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

Diane welcomed all to the meeting and announced birthday wishes to those celebrating November Birthdays: **Anne Chmielewski, Joyce Russell, Karen Gottlieb, and Maggie Kramer.**

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes of the October General Membership Meeting were filed as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer, **Sharon Johnson** reported a balance of 5,743.58. The report will be recorded and filed.

REMEMBRANCE - COMMUNICATIONS: Diane read correspondence from the District VII Director, **Jolene Dalzell**, in reference to the 60th Anniversary Party. Jolene thanked all for their work and commended the WTGC for a successful celebration. **Carolyn Cane** read correspondence notes sent from JoAnn Seaman thanking and commending all for a successful 60th Anniversary celebration.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements were made to the general membership that **Jim Keenan** had knee surgery and was doing well, that well wishes and thoughts should go to **Pat Bowker** as her husband was hospitalized; and that **Ginger Young** was undergoing throat therapy – there was no cancer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BULBS: Angela Topley updated all on the bulb fundraiser and encouraged all to purchase extra bulbs on sale this evening.

POINSETTIA SALE: Terry Palise asked all to place orders for the

December 6, 2013 starting at 10 AM at 24 Hopkins Drive, Lawrenceville, New Jersey.

HOLIDAY PARTY: Reminders were announced to make a reservation for the Holiday Party (Cost \$40). Diane announced that Janis Stia was taking reservations.

DRUMTHWACKET PROJECT: Diane reported on the **holiday decoration of the Music Room in Drumthwacket** at the Governor's Mansion. Preparations were moving along and there would be a sophisticated Rudolf theme ongoing.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: Diane announced the 50-50 would be going to Wreath's Across America. The club is sponsoring Washington Crossing National Cemetery in Newtown, Pennsylvania. Winners of the 50-50 would receive a wreath to be placed at the cemetery.

TOPIARY WORKSHOP: **Anne Chmielewski** announced we would again be having a workshop to build boxwood topiary trees. The workshop would take place on **December 7th from 9:00 am – 11:00 am** in the church meeting room. Additional information would be forwarded via email.

50-50 RAFFLE FOR GCNJ – Diane passed out raffle tickets to be purchased for the Garden Club of New Jersey.

NEW BUSINESS:

Diane announced at the board meeting of October 15 at **Grace Starrett's** house, it was discussed the WTGC would like to plant a tree in honor of the 60th Anniversary. They also discussed the possibility of a statue being purchased. **Gerree Pecht** asked about the possibility of decorating trees for the Festival of Tree Lights at Morven. Diane asked her to chair that project. Information will follow.

DIANE SHARED REFLECTIONS ON ANTI-AGING AND SUSTAINABILITY - Avoid hormones and antibiotics used in food production. (Clean eating) Hormones are implicated in many cancers. Antibiotics and over use increase the number of resistant bacteria occurring today. **"Choices Make Changes"** Turn off unused appliances such as can openers and toasters or computers. They draw power even when they are turned off. We saved over \$600 one year just reducing our energy use. **Planting Update –** We have had our first freeze of the season, so if you have not brought in dahlias and cannas, do so now! They can be stored in a cool dark place for planting next year. **Kitty Lou** puts her cannas in a box with newspaper in the basement or the garage – they are beautiful! If you use containers, the soil can be composted for use next year. Fall Clean-up continued. You can also do the fall fertilization of evergreens now, mound up rose plants and trim canes to four feet.

EVENING PROGRAM: Diane announced the program of the evening **"Artful Designs for the Holidays"** by **Eric Roberts** of Jardinière Floral located in the Glenrock Shopping Center in Ewing.

Respectfully Submitted
Camille Rainiero, Secretary

***The Auxiliary of
Trenton Psychiatric Hospital
Christmas Gift List***

<i>ESPECIALLY FOR LADIES</i>	
Pajamas, nightgowns	
Sweaters, sweat shirts	
Gloves, knit hats	
Ankle socks	
Knit tops	
Hair bows, pony tail holders	
Cosmetic bags	
Cosmetics (lipstick, make-up, nail polish)	
<i>LARGER SIZES PREFERRED FOR MEN</i>	
Sweat Shirts, pants	Wallets, coin purses
Pocket tee shirts	Knit hats, shirts
Sport shirts	Sport socks
Flannel shirts	Sport or baseball caps
<i>XL AND XXL SIZES MOST NEEDED</i>	
Playing cards	Deodorant, body wash
Puzzle & word search books	After shave
Model cars, trucks, planes	Cologne, perfume
Dominoes, chess,	ALSO REQUESTED:
Group games, scrabble	Umbrellas
Checkers	Soft Candy
Monopoly, Yahtzee	Christmas Gift Wrap
Writing paper, pens	Soft cuddly animals
Coloring books	Costume jewelry (in good repair)
Crayons	Used Tote Bags (in good repair)
<i>Good Grooming Gifts are Appreciated</i>	<i>2014 Calendars</i>
Shampoo, conditioner	
Combs, brushes	
Toothbrushes, toothpaste	
Hand lotion	
Pocket tissue packets	
Lip balm	
Umbrellas	Costume jewelry
Soft candy	Used luggage (in good repair)