

West Trenton Garden Club

Lorraine Persiani,
President

Camille Rainiero,
Vice President

Barbara Bernhard,
Immediate Past President

Monique Bonnier,
Recording Secretary

Iliana Okum,
Corresponding Secretary

Rick Lazarick,
Treasurer

Maggie Kramer,
Club Parliamentarian

Jeffrey Tryon,
Newsletter Editor

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The Garden Path Newsletter

www.westtrentongc.org

MAY 2023

Dear Garden Club Friends,

May is finally here and our WTGC Flower Show is only three weeks away! It's wonderful to see a nice list of members who are preparing entries for the show.

A good deal of planning and research goes into the creation of our entries. Knowing the different divisions, sections, and classes will help each of us decide what our entries could be. It is so important to read our Flower Show Handbook to learn the requirements and details for each division. While reading the guidelines and rules you may be inspired to enter an exhibit in a particular division/section. Match your ideas with the "Back to Paris" theme and start the creative process. The final schedule with all the show and division rules is posted on our website.

Thank you to all the members who volunteered to set up the room and the backdrops for the exhibits, work the show during the public viewing hours, and help tear down the exhibits when our show concludes. Remember, "It takes a village" to have a successful event and I know our members will see this year's flower show become a huge success!

The amount of work it takes to put on an official flower show is monumental. A special "Thank you" to Helga Fontus and her committee for the outstanding effort they offered for this task. More than a year of planning is about to come alive. I hope to see all our members enjoy the Flower Show!

Remember to *Live Life in Full Bloom*,

— Lorraine Persiani, President WTGC

NOTE



We will NOW be meeting at the
HOLLOWBROOK COMMUNITY CENTER
320 Hollowbrook Drive, Ewing 08638

NOTE



ON MONDAY, MAY 1, 2022, AT 6:30 p.m.



Photo courtesy of Shutterstock.com

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The West Trenton Garden Club Meeting was called to order on April 3, 2023 at 6:39 by our Treasurer, Rick Lazarick. Rick welcomed our new guests and wished Happy Birthday to our April birthday members.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Monique Bonnier reported the minutes of the last meeting were in the newsletter. Hearing no other additions or corrections, the minutes will be filed as reported.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Rick Lazarick reported a total of \$10,012.10 in the club's account. There was net income of \$862.00 from dues, donations and the March 50/50. Expenses totaled \$167.12 for Drumthwacket and Morven expense reimbursements. Hearing no additions or corrections, the amount will be filed as reported.

CORRESPONDENCE

Iliana reported that she had spoken to Fredricka Billups and she was unable to make the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Birmingham Park – Chair, Heidi Furman reported that there is still a lot of work to be done. The township transplanted a tree, however, there are still plants to replant that are presently out of the ground. There will be an email coming out requesting volunteers to help with the transplanting and replanting. There is a team working on the grant award. We are working with Rutgers professionals on the plot plan. The goal is to have three seasons of color Red, White and Blue. The flags also need to be replaced before Memorial Day.

Flower Show – Helga Fontus reminded everyone that the show is quickly approaching. The boards are here to review and she is available to talk about design. She was happy to say that all of the classes were filled. Please take time to read the General Rules that were sent out. Please do not use any fake flowers or plant material. No Red White and Blue.



Photo courtesy of Shutterstock.com

The photography submissions are due May 1, please read the photography rules. There are positions available to help with set up and breakdown of the show.

Plant Sale – Chair, Ingrid Fair distributed the order forms. Orders are due by April 14th and the plants will be available for pick up at Ingrid’s house, 6 Honeywood Lane, Ewing on May 5th from 1-7 p.m. and May 6th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Arbor Day – Chair, Anne Chmielewski reminded everyone that Arbor Day is April 28th the last Friday in April. She will be handing out trees at the Ewing Library 9-12. After the library, Anne will proceed to Birmingham Park to kick off the grant and distribute trees there as well.

Nominating Committee – Chair, Anne Chmielewski reviewed the terms of the current officers and the open positions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dues are due!! \$30 for a single and \$45 for a family membership.

March “Pass the Can” resulted in \$33.16.

April is “Sustainable Hospitality.” Please check your email for more information.

Items for the newsletter are due to Jeff Tryon by the 15th of the month. The next Regular Meeting is May 1st at 6:30 p.m. at the Hollowbrook Community Center with a program to follow “Selecting and Growing Irises in Your Garden – Bearded, Siberian, Japanese, Louisianas are Just a Few You Can Grow!”

With no further business to discuss, Rick motioned the meeting to be adjourned at 7:10 p.m. and seconded by Monique.

Our program for the evening was “How to Prepare Horticulture for Blue Ribbons in a Standard Flower Show.” Anne Chmielewski conducted an extremely informative program on how to enter your house plants and garden horticulture specimens in the Flower Show.

Thank you to our Hospitality Committee for providing delicious treats.

—Monique Bonnier, Recording Secretary

SELECTING AND GROWING IRISES IN YOUR GARDEN - BEARDED, SIBERIAN, JAPANESE, LOUISIANAS ARE JUST A FEW YOU CAN GROW!

PROGRAM BY: CATHERINE BUTTON

MAY 1, 2023 | 6:30 p.m.



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Irises lovers across the state and nation collect both common bearded irises as well as rare Siberian, Japanese and Louisiana types, and in western states Pacific Coast specimens. A member of the State Iris Society will join us and familiarize us with all the different types grown in gardens in New Jersey and her own experiences competing in local and state shows. This presentation will also share information on how to select and plant irises in your own garden or grow in containers. Information on two local spring iris festivals will be shared: the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens in Montclair, and the Bordentown Iris Festival and Show. The Bordentown Iris Festival includes artist displays, vendors and an Iris Show each year.

Catherine Button is a member of the Garden State Iris Society where she has held elected positions and has helped to put on annual Iris shows. She is also a member of the American Iris Society (AIS) and serves as a certified Master Judge which includes horticulture and design judging at shows. She is also a long-term member of the West Jersey Rose Society and a talented floral designer where she participates annually in our design section of the show winning top awards. Cathy is certified as an ARS arrangement Judge. She is also an Ikebana designer and has been involved with the Sogetsu school of Ikebana for about 20 years.



Photo courtesy of Shutterstock.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MAY 1 - WTGC Monthly Meeting - 6:30 p.m. (Hollowbrook Community Center); Program: "Selecting and Growing Irises in Your Garden - Bearded, Siberian, Japanese, Louisianas are Just a Few You Can Grow!" See below.

- **MAY 1-5** - NGC Annual Convention, White Sulphur Springs, WA.
- **MAY 19-20** - WTGC Standard Flower Show. Mercer County Office Complex - 1440 Parkside Ave, Ewing NJ 08638
- **MAY 22** - GCNJ State Board Meeting - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MAY 2023

- Rick Lazarick - May 12
- Lorraine Persiani - May 14
- Linda Geiger - May 21
- Rita Obed - May 22

DON'T FORGET!

FLOWERS FOR EWING LIBRARY - Rita Obed

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE – Ingrid Fair (Chair), Lynn Aspinwall, Kevin Fair, Harry Gamble, Chris Kamping, and Ginny Sari.

SPRING PLANT PICKUP Pick up will be Friday, May 5th , from 1-7 p.m. or Saturday, May 6th, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.. All checks to be made payable to West Trenton Garden Club. PLEASE PAY AT PICK UP! Pickup will be at Ingrid Fair's home, 6 Honeywood Lane Ewing, NJ 08638.
Ingrid Fair: blondie2327@gmail.com (609)-462-2592.
Susan Fair: sfair17@aol.com (863)-258-1721.

IMPORTANT: Please bring (or mail by 5/1/23) all outstanding receipts and invoices to WTGC Treasurer Rick Lazarick so that the year can be closed out. Thanks!

**MCL EWING BRANCH
PUBLIC HOURS:**

Monday: 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 12:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

<https://mcl.org/branches/ewing>



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Please submit all info for *The Garden Path* to Jeff Tryon by the 15th of the month. wtgcnewsletter@gmail.com

**Garden State African Violet Club's 69th Annual Show and Plant Sale
Saturday, May 6, 2023**

12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

Mercer County Community College- Student Center
1200 Old Trenton Road
West Windsor, New Jersey

This year's show theme, "**Violets Light Up Broadway,**" will feature America's favorite houseplants — African violets — displayed in plant and design arrangements in the spirit of Broadway. Enjoy viewing award-winning African violet plants, creative designs and educational displays to help you grow your own beautiful African violets.

Don't miss the opportunity to see hundreds of judged plants on display, grown by local club enthusiasts and prominent growers. Experts will be on hand to answer your questions!

Plants will be for sale from commercial growers and club members. Remember, plants make great Mother's Day gifts!

Admission is free! For directions to Mercer County Community College, click [MCCC directions](#).

Follow the signs when you enter the campus, free parking is available.