



SAVE THE DATE

MG meeting - Tuesday, Oct. 24

1 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack
1st-floor meeting room

**Refreshments at 7 pm; announcements
at 7:20 pm; program to follow**

Hackensack Riverkeeper Bill Sheehan:

A virtual tour
of the Hackensack River watershed



Captain Bill Sheehan, the Hackensack Riverkeeper, will describe how the Hackensack River, once polluted with heavy metals, toxins, and debris from neighboring factories, was transformed over time into a refuge for birds, fish, and plants.

Captain Bill, as he is known to most people, has lived most of his life in Union City and Secaucus. He holds a 25-ton Launch/Tender Master's license from the U.S. Coast Guard, which he earned in 1995. He's a dedicated conservationist who founded the [Hackensack Riverkeeper](#) organization in 1997 and is its executive director. The organization celebrates 20 years of clean water advocacy this month.

In addition, Bill is current chair of the [Meadowlands Conservation Trust](#), which is charged with acquiring, holding, and managing conservation properties in the

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Click the links in [blue](#) for more information.

Meadowlands and throughout the Hackensack River Watershed.

Hackensack Riverkeeper employs a fourfold strategy of environmental action, advocacy, education, and litigation to defend the Public Trust resources of the Hackensack River Watershed.

From the President's Desk

If you haven't heard, the Class of 2017 is off to a terrific start as Master Gardeners. This energetic group has worked countless hours from Joel's class and his work details to the Bergen County Fall Festival. I'm pleased to announce that two MGs will carry on their enthusiastic work with the Master Gardeners of Bergen County Board and Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE).



- **Patrick Lull** of Hackensack has agreed to be our equipment manager and serve on the Publicity Committee. He is a graduate of Ramapo College. See the [September 2017 Potting Shed](#) for a wonderful interview with him.
- **Karen Riede** of Ridgefield has agreed to be the Bergen County RCE horticultural assistant, following in the large footsteps of Dail Reid and the late Joe Papa. After graduating from the Rutgers College of Nursing in 1980 Karen spent 20 years in nursing.

She was a member of the Ridgefield Environmental Commission from 2004-2014 and serves as an adviser to the commission. She participated in the Rutgers Environmental Steward Program in 2005 and is proud to be an RCE Certified Master Gardener, Class of 2017.

Please join me in congratulating Patrick, Karen, and the Class of 2017.

Sincerely,

- Joseph Cooper

MG OF BC NEWS



Meet Lillie Steinberg, Class of 2006

By *Miriam Taub*

It's easy to spot Lillie Steinberg's home in Teaneck: It's the only one on her street with a pergola in the front yard. Step along Lillie's front walkway and you inhale the fragrance of lavender from the

border of her neat-as-a-pin property where she's lived since 1986.

Born in Barranquilla, Colombia, Lillie and her three siblings learned English at a private school there. After high school, she studied psychology at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia in Bogota.

While Lillie was at the university, her parents decided to move the family to the United States for business reasons. Her parents, siblings, and other family members immigrated to New York City where her father worked as a custom tailor, a skill he learned in Colombia. Lillie, however, chose to complete her degree in Colombia before immigrating. When she applied to the U.S. Consulate after her college graduation, she was told that since she was over 21, she must have a contract of employment before she'd be permitted to enter the United States. Her married sister — pregnant at the time — provided the contract stating that Lillie would have a baby-sitting job in the United States.

The baby-sitting job lasted only a short time when Lillie embarked on a social work career and, along the way, became a U.S. citizen. Lillie worked for the South Bronx Concentrated Employment Program for four years. Then a former colleague told her about a job as a mental health counselor at Catholic Charities for the Diocese of New York. Lillie got that job, which she held for 30-plus years.

Just as she was considering retirement, a family friend persuaded her to manage his dental office. She told him she had no experience in office management, but he convinced her that if she could manage her household bills, she could manage his office. She held that job for three years before retiring.

In her personal life, it was when she worked for the employment program that Lillie met Arnold Steinberg, the coworker who would become her husband. They married in 1974 at the United Nations. Arnold was born,

raised, and worked in the Bronx and had no intention of leaving. However, Lillie had other ideas for herself and their two daughters. Monthly traffic accidents outside their Bronx apartment prompted her to look west for a new home. She chose Teaneck for the school system and had to threaten to move herself and their daughters before Arnold agreed to relocate.

(Daughter Alexandra is a lawyer for the FDIC and lives in Virginia with her husband and two grandsons, while Karla is a social worker for the Visiting Doctor's Program at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York and lives in Bergenfield. Arnold died in 1993.)

The new location was quite a contrast to the old. At the old, Lillie said she had to accompany her daughters everywhere. One evening when they were new to Teaneck, Lillie said she walked Karla, then age 6, to dinner at a neighbor's house two doors away. Lillie explained that she wanted to be sure her daughter got safely to her destination. The neighbor, as she recalled, laughed and said "This is Teaneck, not New York City."

In 2005, Lillie saw an ad about the MG program in the local weekly paper. She remembered going to her interview with check in hand. She credits Dail and Joel with "instilling in me a passion of gardening," which deepened during her MG classes. Until last year, Lillie, 75, volunteered at the 911 Memorial in Overpeck Park in Leonia. That work stopped when Bergen County outsourced the upkeep of the memorial. Now Lillie volunteers in the Mary S. Topolsky Memorial Garden at the Hackensack River Greenway in Teaneck.

Lillie's other hobbies include embroidery; her pet African gray parrot, Kenyita; and classical music. She volunteers to feed the homeless at the Housing, Health, and Human Services Center in Hackensack and at her synagogue, Temple Sinai of Bergen County in Tenafly, which is one of the congregations that hosts homeless families on a rotating basis through the Family Promise program. As Lillie explained, volunteers will make the beds, cook, clean up, and socialize with the homeless as needed.

Recognition pins will be distributed in October

By *Donna Karpel*

The annual process of confirming individual members on their anniversary of becoming a Master Gardener of Bergen County is finished. Recognition pins for Bergen County MGs who have completed five, 10, 15, and 20 years are ready to be distributed. Attached to the email with this issue of the *Potting Shed* is the list of members who'll be receiving a pin for their anniversary. A second attachment lists those who were eligible for recognition pins in 2016.

If you're eligible to receive a pin in 2017, or were eligible in 2016 and didn't pick up your pin, and you'd like to pick up the pin at the Oct. 24 MG meeting, please let me know prior to noon Monday, Oct. 23, and I'll bring the appropriate anniversary pin to the meeting. (My contact information is below.)

Both lists of eligible MGs are also available by clicking on the Happy Anniversary! link on the home page of our [website](#).

Help keep our lists current. Please view both lists and contact me if you can provide the following information:

- If you notice that former classmates or friends on the lists have moved, let me know. If you have updated contact information, let me know that also.
- If you notice that members of your class aren't on either list, it may be because I don't have any contact information for them. Should you have contact information, I would like to have it.

If you're unsure whether you are to receive a pin (from this year or last year), feel free to contact me at donna9189@gmail.com or 201-327-8835.



Photo by Donna Faustini.

Eric Kunz of Seemore Carnivorous Gardens on Long Island, who spoke at September's MG meeting, poses with a pitcher plant. He donated 10% of his sales that night to the MG of BC. For tips on the care and feeding of carnivorous plants, visit his [website](#).

Wanted: Speakers and writers

Do you have a talent for writing or speaking? Do you have expertise in any or all things related to the great outdoors? Are you passionate about flowers, shrubs, trees, honeybees, bats, birds, or even weeds? How about rain barrels? Garden tools? Indoor plants?

Our Writers Bureau and Speakers Bureau are seeking members who have expertise in one or more garden-related subjects and can volunteer their time and energy, all while earning volunteer hours.

- Can you write an article for the Potting Shed or the MG of BC website on a seasonal topic of interest, for example? Photos are a plus.
- Are you willing to share your expertise and experiences by speaking to area garden clubs and organizations? Have you visited one or more gorgeous gardens or arboretums you can "show and tell" to others? Our Speakers Bureau is looking for members who can volunteer to speak in front of a group.

If you're interested, but perhaps hesitant, we can provide instruction or coaching. Please contact the following:

- For the Writers Bureau, contact Miriam Taub at Miriam.taub@verizon.net.
- For the Speakers Bureau, contact Arnie Friedman at arnie1@mindspring.com.

Useful links

Many local garden centers give discounts to MGs. See the list on our [website](#). Bring your membership card when shopping.

SHOWS, CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

New Jersey Master Gardener Conference Oct. 7

Oct. 2 is the deadline to enroll for "Treasure Our Trees," the Rutgers Master Gardeners Association of New Jersey's annual conference to be held Saturday, Oct. 7 at the Cook Student Center, 59 Biel Road, New Brunswick. The conference begins at 8 am and ends at 3:30 pm.

This annual conference gives Master Gardeners throughout New Jersey the opportunity to meet other MGs as well as hear and learn from experts in the field of horticulture. A highlight of the conference is the annual state awards given to individual and team MG efforts as nominated by their county program leadership.

Registration is \$35 per person with a \$12 optional lunch. Registration closes Oct. 2, and no walk-ins are permitted into the conference. To register, click [here](#).

- MGs who attend the conference will receive 4.5 CEUs (continuing education units) toward your Master Gardener education hours.
- MGs who serve on your municipality's Shade Tree Commission or Shade Tree Advisory Board also will receive 4.5 CEUs toward your Shade Tree Certification. Sign-in sheets for Shade Tree CEUs will be located at the conference's Garden Market.

Oct. 13, 12:30-3:30 pm: Drawing workshop at Laurelwood Arboretum

Andrea Geller, a professional artist and university art educator, will lead a workshop titled "Plants: An expressive drawing workshop" at the Knippenberg Center Educational Greenhouse of Laurelwood Arboretum, 725 Pines Lake Drive West, Wayne. All skill levels are welcome; space is limited.

Cost: \$55. To register, click [here](#). Registration and payment are required to reserve a spot. A materials list will be provided when you register.

Oct. 21, 10-11:30 am: Meet the invaders at Van Vleck
"Hitchhikers" have landed on our shores putting our gardens, environment, and economy in danger. Join like-minded gardeners at the [Van Vleck House](#), 21 Van Vleck St., Montclair, for an overview of current and emerging threats posed by non-native pests and diseases. Who are they? Why are they here? How can you spot them? And, once we've made their acquaintance, how can we stop them? We can all help protect our gardens, crops, and forests.

Cost: \$15 Friends of Van Vleck; \$20 others. Register by Oct. 18 by sending an email to education@vanvleck.org or by calling 973-744-4752.

Oct. 21, 1-2:30 pm: Appreciate shade at Frelinghuysen

Jenny Rose Carey, an educator, historian, author, and the senior director of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Meadowbrook Farm in Jenkintown, PA, will lecture about shade gardens. Her new book, *Glorious Shade*, is a stunning look at the world of shade gardens including techniques and design and maintenance tips to turn a shady yard into a sumptuous garden. A book signing follows the lecture in the arboretum's Haggarty Center, 353 E. Hanover Ave., Morris Township.

Cost: \$20 members; \$25 non-members. Register by Oct. 14. This program counts toward 1.5 Rutgers Master Gardener CEUs. To register, click [here](#) and scroll down to "Oct. 21" in the left column. Then click on "Register

with PayPal" at the bottom of the event description. You don't need a PayPal account to register.

VOLUNTEER SITE NEWS

Garretson Forge and Farm

[Garretson Forge and Farm](#), 4-02 River Road, Fair Lawn, will celebrate its annual Harvest Festival on Sunday, Oct. 8 from 10 am-4 pm. Activities will include re-enactors; open hearth cooking; tours of the homestead and gardens; and the sale of organic herbs (fresh and dried); organic jams; potatoes; winter squash; mini pumpkins; lemon grass; and hops.

Organic hard-neck garlic will be available in time for fall planting. Plant now, and harvest next summer. Garlic is one of the easiest crops to grow and the critters don't seem to like it, a big plus. Come celebrate the harvest with us. Admission is free.

- *Lida Gellman*

New Jersey Botanical Garden - Skylands

Volunteers are always welcome at the [NJBG](#) to work in the gardens, give tours, manage projects, and help participate in events and provide services to the public. For information, call 973-962-9534 or send an e-mail to info@njbg.org.

Ribbons and ladders and scissors, oh my

Volunteers with a talent for climbing ladders, making bows, and skills with scissors and other tools are needed for the upcoming Skylands Holiday Open House. (And you earn volunteer hours.) The set-up/decorating will take place:

- Monday, Nov. 27: 9 am-4 pm;
- Tuesday, Nov. 28: 9 am-4 pm; and
- Wednesday, Nov. 29: 9 am-4 pm.

Volunteer docents are needed in two-hour shifts to monitor the room:

- Thursday, Nov. 30: 10 am-4 pm;
- Friday, Dec. 1: 10 am-4 pm;
- Saturday, Dec. 2: 10 am-4 pm; and
- Sunday, Dec. 3 for the cocktail party; hours TBD.

Breakdown will be done Monday, Dec. 4 from 9 am until done. For more information or to sign up, send an email to Barbara Johansson at barbjohansson@optonline.net. More details will be available in the November *Potting Shed*.

- *Barbara Johansson*

Skylands Manor tours Oct. 1

NJBG volunteer docents will lead visitors on a tour of the architecture and history of Skylands Manor from 11 am-3 pm Sunday, Oct 1.

Cost: \$7 adults; \$5 seniors and students ages 13-18; \$3 ages 6-12; free under 6.

Harvest Fest Oct. 14-15

Hayrides and pumpkin painting are just the start of a fun-filled family weekend from 10 am-5 pm Saturday, Oct. 14 and Sunday, Oct. 15. Among the activities are games, face painting, applesauce making, music and dancing, great photo ops, free garden tours, booths, exhibits, food, and an autumn plant sale.

Parking and admission are free. This event will be hosted by the NJBG and the Ringwood Chamber of Commerce.

Thielke Arboretum

Weed Warrior Day Oct. 7

We need volunteers for our seasonal Weed Warrior Day stewardship project from 9 am-noon Saturday, Oct. 7 at the [arboretum](#), 460 Doremus Ave., Glen Rock. Even if you can't tell one weed from another, our knowledgeable volunteers will be on hand to share their wisdom about invasive plants, some of which may be homesteading on your property.

No experience is necessary. Wear boots and dress according to the temperature. Bring gloves, kneelers, pruners, and drinking water. (We'll have extras if you don't have them.)

Rain date is 9 am-noon, Saturday, Oct. 14.

- *Bruce Walenczyk*

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, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders. 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.

FARMERS MARKETS

Englewood Farmers Market, N. Van Brunt Street and Demarest Avenue; through Oct. 27; Fridays, 11 am-6 pm

Fort Lee Farmers Market, Fort Lee Community Center outdoor plaza, 1355 Inwood Ter.; through Nov. 19; Sundays, 8 am-2 pm

Glen Rock Farmers Market, Borough Hall parking lot (1 Harding Plaza); through Oct. 15; Sundays, 10 am-2 pm

Hasbrouck Heights Farmers Market, Central Avenue and the Boulevard; through mid-October; Tuesdays, noon-6 pm

Oakland Farmers Market, Borough Hall lot on Route 202; through Oct. 26; Saturdays, 9 am-1 pm

Paramus Farmers Market, Petruska Park north parking lot, 471 N. Farview Ave.; through Oct. 12; Wednesdays, 2-6:30 pm

Ramsey Farmers Market, Main Street train station; outdoors through Nov. 26; Sundays, 9 am-2 pm

Ridgewood Farmers Market, train station parking lot, Godwin and W. Ridgewood avenues; through Oct. 30; Sundays, 9 am-3 pm

River Vale Farmers Market, 406 Rivervale Road; through Oct. 26; Thursdays, noon-6 pm

Rutherford Farmers Market, Park Avenue at the Williams Plaza; through Oct. 28; Wednesdays, 11 am-6 pm; Saturdays, 8 am-2 pm

Teaneck Farmers Market, Beverly Road and Garrison Avenue; through Oct. 26; Thursdays, noon-6 pm

Tenafly Farmers Market, Washington Street and Tenafly Road; through Oct. 28; 10 am-2 pm Sundays

HORTICULTURE GRAPEVINE

- Oct. 2** **11:30 am, Tenafly Garden Club**, Davis Johnson Park and Gardens. Speaker: Michael Ruggerio, NY Botanical Garden lecturer. Topic: A year in the life of a modern rose. Registration required by calling 201-568-8254; non-members \$10. Proceeds go to the Rutgers Gardens Scholarship Fund.
- Oct. 2** **7 pm, Sundial Garden Club**, Meadowbrook Elementary School, 50 Ruckman Road, Hillsdale; Speaker: Wiebke Hinsch. Topic: Gardening with bulbs.
- Oct. 5** **7:30 pm, Garden Club of Harrington Park**, Harrington Park Library, 10 Herring St. Speaker: Marc Zukovich, founder, Sterling Horticultural Services, Flanders. Topic: Azaleas and rhododendrons - selection, planting, and care.
- Oct. 6** **2 pm, Demarest Garden Club**, United Methodist Church Social Hall, 109 Hardenburgh Ave. Speakers: Arlene Macallister and Jeree Harms. Topic: Grow plants and orchids using the hydroponic method.
- Oct. 11** **7:30 pm, Bergenfield Garden Club**, Coopers Pond clubhouse, 133-153 W. Church St. Speaker: Susan Golden. Topic: Ways to help make our world more green.
- Oct. 12** **7 pm, Leonia Public Library**, 227 Fort Lee Road. Speaker: Arnie Friedman. Topic: Applying the historic roots of design to the home garden.
- Oct. 12** **7 pm, Teaneck Garden Club**, Rodda Center, multipurpose room 2B, 250 Colonial Court (enter from Palisade Avenue and park up the hill behind the building). Speaker: Bob Malgieri, tree and shrub care manager, Borst Landscaping Design, Allendale. Topic: Pruning tips.
- Oct. 17** **7:45 pm, Glen Rock Garden Club**, Municipal Annex, 678 Maple Ave. Speaker: Tom Bender. Topic: Pruning.
- Oct. 18** **7 pm, Hasbrouck Heights Garden Club**, Hasbrouck Heights Library meeting room, 320 Boulevard. Speaker: Gerri Gibney. Topic: Creating a fall cornucopia with natural materials.
- Nov. 4** **10 am-4 pm, Native Plant Society of New Jersey fall meeting**, Raritan Valley Community College, 118 Lamington Road, Branchburg. List of speakers and vendors being developed; plants for sale. Contact president@npsnj.org. Visit the [website](#).
- Nov. 6** **11:30 am, Tenafly Garden Club**, Davis Johnson Park and Gardens. Speaker: Arnie Friedman. Topic: Less lawn and the native meadow movement.

Deadline for the Horticulture Grapevine is the 25th of the prior month.

- To submit information about garden club meetings, contact Josie Ko at josie_ko1@hotmail.com.
- To submit information about plant society meetings, contact Catie Farahat at cwfarahat@scatteringlight.com.

The Master Gardeners of Bergen County does not share or sell its email/ mailing list to non-members or to other organizations. Our membership information is confidential and for use by members for official MG use only. Please don't share our list with non-members or use it for any unauthorized purposes. When sending an email to the MG list, address it using the "bcc" option instead of "to" in order to keep the list of recipients from being visible.

Please share photos of your volunteer work or of your garden. When submitting photos, please identify everyone in the photo. Submit photos to janet-schulz@yahoo.com.