

# Master Gardeners of Bergen County

## October 2022 – Potting Shed Mid-Month Update



Photo by Joseph Cooper, Class of 2008

Part of the MG of BC's 2021 display in the Great Hall.

### Volunteers wanted for Skylands Manor Holiday Open House Dec. 1-4

Join MG of BC volunteers during the Skylands Manor Holiday Open House, a fund-raising event sponsored by the Skylands Volunteer Association to benefit the New Jersey Botanical Garden. The event is scheduled Dec. 1-4 at Skylands, 5 Morris Road, Ringwood.

This year's theme is "A Holly Jolly Holiday." The MG of BC's Decorating Committee will re-imagine the Manor House Vestibule, Ladies Parlor, and Front Hall as "Christmas Eve at the Clauses".

Volunteers are needed to aid the committee in assembling and decorating trees, stringing lights, and placing theme-based decorative items throughout the rooms and areas. In addition, volunteers are needed as docents at the event to ensure the safety and security of both attendees and the decorative items in the displays and to answer questions.

Depending on the quantity and size of some of the decorations, there may be an opportunity to earn volunteer hours by helping at the drop-off Nov. 27, but this will be decided later. If so, a request for help will be sent at that time.

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Links are clickable and are noted in [blue](#).

### Meeting reminder: Tuesday, Oct. 25

Announcements at 7:20 pm; program to follow.

Click [here](#) to join the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Meeting ID: 926 9258 8641; password: 692429

### Fred Carl: A Rainbow of Dahlias

Since the late 1930s, five generations of the Carl family have raised dahlias. Based in Ocean Grove, the family had flower fields in Oakhurst and later Wall Township. While the fields are no more, Fred Carl continues to raise dahlias on his own property in Ocean Grove and those of his neighbors for a total of about 120 plants. In addition, he said, another dozen plants will be installed on the grounds of the Historical Society of Ocean Grove.



Fred Carl

Fred Carl was born and raised in Monmouth County. He taught high school science before joining the computer industry in 1980. Currently, he's a project controls specialist at Princeton University.

However, during that time, he ran Jersey Dahlias, a family seasonal business started in 1928 by his grandfather. Fred grew dahlias on a seven-acre farm in Wall Township, and the family supplied cut flowers to local florists.

The election of treasurer, recording secretary, and corresponding secretary will precede the presentation.

## WEBINARS

*For your convenience, all times are Eastern.*

**Oct. 18, 2:30 pm:** University of Illinois Extension sponsors Using Fresh Produce. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

**Oct. 19, 5-6 pm:** AARP Virtual Community Center sponsors Gardening: Success with Potted Herbs. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register. AARP membership not required.

**Oct. 19, 7 pm:** Native Plant Society of New Jersey sponsors Knockout Natives From Mt. Cuba's Trial Gardens. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

**Oct. 20, noon:** Smithsonian Gardens sponsors Winter Garden Maintenance for Wildlife Friendly Habitats. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

**Oct. 26, 6:30-7:30 pm:** AARP Virtual Community Center sponsors Fantastic Fall Foliage. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register. AARP membership not required.

**Oct. 26, 7-8 pm:** Penn State Extension sponsors Know Your Natives: Seeds. Fee: \$5. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

**Oct. 26, 8 pm:** Iowa State University Extension and Outreach sponsors Spooky Plants. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

**Oct. 27, noon:** Smithsonian Gardens sponsors Native Plant Alternatives to Replace Invasives in Your Garden. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

**Nov. 1, 2:30 pm:** University of Illinois Extension sponsors Deep Bark Secrets of Tree Selection. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

## EVENTS

### Native Plant Society plant sale, conference

Start or supplement your native plant collection at the Native Plant Society of New Jersey's plant sale from 10 am-2 pm, Oct. 22 at Whittemore CCC (Community, Culture & Conservation), 7 Rockaway Road, Lebanon.

You can buy plants on site or preorder from four native plant nurseries. Click [here](#) for more information and links to the four participating nurseries. Oct. 20 is the last day to preorder.

Meanwhile, registration is open for the NPS's annual conference Nov. 5 from 9 am-3 pm. The theme is Sustaining and Restoring Life. It's virtual this year and free. The event will be live and won't be recorded.

Click [here](#) for the schedule, description of the presentations, speaker bios, and registration link.

*(Holiday Open House, continued from page 1)*



*Photo by Joseph Cooper, Class of 2008*

Another view of the Great Hall at Skylands Manor, a room decorated by the MG of BC Decorating Committee in 2021.

The Holiday Open House is an opportunity to earn required volunteer hours for 2022. It's also a great way to meet other MGs, and it's fun!

Here is this year's event timeline:

- Drop-off: After 1 pm, Sunday, Nov. 27;
- Setup: 10 am-4 pm Monday, Nov, 28 and Tuesday, Nov. 29;
- Holiday Open House event: 10 am-4 pm Thursday, Dec. 1; Friday, Dec. 2; Saturday, Dec. 3; and Sunday, Dec. 4.

Volunteer shifts for setup are four hours long, while docents at the event will work in two-hour shifts. In addition, you can include travel time to and from Skylands when reporting volunteer hours. Prior to starting a shift, volunteers sign in at the Carriage House. Be sure to include shift hours and travel time when signing in.

To volunteer your time at setup or as a docent, contact Sue Sheridan, Class of 2013, at 201-664-2120 (home), 201-281-0639 (mobile), or at [swsheridan78@gmail.com](mailto:swsheridan78@gmail.com). Sue will be coordinating shifts.

## MEETINGS AND PRESENTATIONS

**Oct. 20, 7:30 pm: Garden Club of Teaneck**, second floor, Rodda Center, 250 Colonial Court, Teaneck. Speaker: Ron Binaghi, owner of [Stokes Farm](#), Old Tappan. Topic: Farming in Bergen County, NJ. Can It Be Done? Refreshments at 7 pm.

**Oct. 27, 7 pm:** Westwood Library, 49 Park Place, Westwood. Speaker: Janet Schulz, Class of 1988. Topic: Preparing for Winter.

## MG OF BC NEWS

### 6 topics added to Speakers Bureau roster

The MG of BC Speakers Bureau has added a new speaker and six presentations to its roster.

Lynne Proskow, a recently certified MG from the Class of 2022, is available to present four topics (see below).

Lynne is a lifelong organic gardener who is passionate about healthy food, healing nature through eco-restoration, and teaching others the benefits of regenerative gardening practices.



**Lynne Proskow**

She earned a BA degree from the University of Massachusetts in sustainable food systems and holds certificates in Sustainable Food and Farming (from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture) and Teaching in Nature’s Classroom (from the Wisconsin School Garden Network). She is a member of the Society for Ecological Restoration. Welcome Lynne!

Lynne’s presentations are:

- Container Gardening in Small Places and Introduction to Self-Watering Containers;
- A Natural Journey, Enjoying Herbs, Bee-ing Curious;
- Crazy Composting Year-Round - Ins and Outs; and
- Regenerative Gardening: How You Can Help Create Biodiverse Ecosystems.

In addition, Arnie Friedman, Class of 2004 and Speakers Bureau chair, is available to speak on two new topics:

- Gardens on Tour Europe and North America; and

- Beginner’s Bonsai. (Arnie spoke at our March meeting about how he’d been bitten by the bonsai bug, as he called it.)

Visit the Speakers Bureau section of our [website](#) and then click on “View current speakers and list of presentations.” *When your garden or other club or local library needs a speaker, think of the MG of BC Speakers Bureau.* Our presentations are free though donations are accepted.

Janet Schulz, Class of 1988, graced the cover of October’s issue of Wyckoff Living magazine. Congratulations! (Apparently, there’s no online version.)

**Congratulations to our newly certified MGs**

**From the Class of 2020**  
Pat Brady, Terry Cohn, Chris Kozar, Anita Pazcoquin, Christa Ross, and Ben Weiner

**From the Class of 2021**  
Martha Carlucci, Gimai Ma, Mark Oliff, Gary Puzio, Paul Sisko, Nicola Tutschek, and Bernadette White

**From the Class of 2022**  
Karen Dennis, Anita Hall-Davis, Lynne Proskow, and Anne-Marie Romano