

Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey

Minutes of October 2, 2018 RMGANJ Meeting

Pat Schanzlin called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. She asked for volunteers to help stuff the folders in the back of the room during the meeting.

Terry Zane, Vice President greeted the group. She noted that there were no new faces at the meeting this month.

Secretary's Minutes from August 2018 Meeting: Tricia Deering, Recording Secretary, reported that she had emailed out the September RMGANJ minutes and received a few comments and county reports. She sent out revised minutes with the changes. Burlington would like an updated county report included.. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes with the revised Burlington county report.

Attendance:

Atlantic:	Mary-Lou Monihan
Bergen:	Carolyn Gretchen, Melody Corcoran, Joe Cooper
Burlington:	Terry Zane, Nick Hendershot, Marilyn Bidrawn
Camden:	Diane Shonyo, Patrick Goughery
Cumberland:	Carol Henry
Essex:	Jane Kinkle, David Haines
Hunterdon:	Tricia Deering, Dewey Goodman
Mercer:	Betty Scarlata, Bob Robinson, Sudi Solomon
Middlesex:	Kathy Dopart, Jerri Barclay
Monmouth:	Gayle Williams, Bob Magovern, Jay Schaeffer
Morris:	Susan Post
Ocean:	Roberta Quinn, Suzanne Keane
Passaic:	Barbara Cook, Darlene Nowak
Somerset:	Linda Madretzke, Cindy Hedin
Sussex:	Jane Gardner, Pat Schanzlin
Union:	Dennis Lenahan
Rutgers University:	Jan Zientek

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jane Gardner, Treasurer, reported that the current balance is \$4776.45. Based on the registration numbers it looks like we will be OK financially this year.. A motion to approve was made and carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Pat Schanzlin reported that the weather for the conference has changed from rain to clouds.

MASTER GARDENER'S COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Jan Zientek reported that Brian Schilling, the new Director of Extension as of 7/1, will be at the conference on Saturday. Jan feels that Brian has already been good for the Master Gardener Program. Jan will have his second meeting with the State Coordinators soon. Many of the coordinators will be taking online training in volunteer management. Pat asked Jan for feedback from the Coordinators for a theme and format for next year.

Old Business

Conference Duty Assignments:

- **Awards Booklet: Ocean** – Suzanne Keane reported that the booklet is complete

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- **Bookstore: Mercer.** Bob Robinson reported that he was finally able to get in touch with Barnes and Nobel. He was able to give Tricia Deering the names of the books that they are bringing.
- **Catering: Burlington** – Marilyn Bidrawn reported that she upped the number for catering to 230 and added a cheesecake (it had been reduced after the last meeting due to the low registration). She must have the lunch orders by Wednesday morning. Terri Zane reminded everyone that the cutoff is Friday to get her catering choices. She needs a spreadsheet with last name, first name, amount paid (for both registration and lunch) and lunch choice.
- **Door prizes: Somerset** – Winners will be drawn at lunch time and posted on the screen in the front of the room and also on the door. If folks leave before it is posted, we will pick another winner at 2:30. Apparel items were received from the vendor. Terry Zane will give Joe Cooper the door prize numbers to display.
- **Evaluations: Atlantic** – The evaluation form is complete.
- **Facilities: Essex** – David Haines reported that the final bill is \$1629.00. There will be an additional \$10 for each table needed, one for Barnes and Noble and one for Leda Meredith for book signing. He will also find out about the audio jack for Kirk Brown. There was discussion about whether we should stick with 300 chairs. It was decided to leave as is.
- **Facility cleanup: Passaic** - This task is in good shape.
- **Financial: Sussex**
- **Garden Market: Bergen** – There is no garden market this year due to the sales tax issue.
- **Master Gardener Merchandise Sales: Sussex** - The web site for ordering Master Gardener merchandise is now closed and will reopen in the Spring.
- **Program Flyer: Cumberland** – The flyer is done.
- **Program Speakers: Hunterdon;** Dewey Goodwin reported that all the speaker paperwork is in and their A/V requirements are known. The audio jack for Kirk Brown still needs to be resolved. There was discussion about Leda Meredith bringing the books that Barnes and Noble is not selling. Jane Gardner suggested that Leda could bring an order form.
- **Registration Desk: Morris** – Sue Post reported that everything is good.
- **Registration Folders: Camden** – the folders are being stuffed in the back of the room
- **Signs: Middlesex** – Kathy Dopart reported that everything is good.
- **Speaker Gifts: Monmouth** –Gayle Williams reported she has the wrapped gifts and will bring them to the conference and give them to Dewey Goodwin..
- **OPCE/Registration: Essex** –. Pat Schanzlin thanked Jane Kinkle and Chris Gaffney for all their work on registration under very difficult circumstances. They have been outstanding. Currently there are 241 registrants. Jane reported that registration, which was temporarily shut down, has been reopened including lunches. The lunch registration will close today, all registration will close on Friday. There was a problem with the lunch list for members paid for by their counties, but it has been resolved. Post conference visits are sold out. Four Master Gardeners for the Living Wall and two for Rutgers Gardens have been closed out. Pat will make an announcement at the conference that if you were shut out you can come anyway. All in all, we are in good shape.
- **“Educational Opportunities” timeslot speakers: Pat Schanzlin** – this is under control

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- **Publicity Poster: Placement in RCE Offices** – This item is complete.
- **Video: Bergen** Joe Cooper reported that he needs someone to review the video. He is missing Jay Scott from Middlesex. Kathy Dopart will send it.

Marilyn Bidrawn reported she has the award pins and folks should get them from her.

Pat Schanzlin reviewed the to-do list. Pat has a list for 25/30-year awards which will be read and recognized at the conference. Jan will do that, and Joe will change the video to have a separate slide for the 25/30-year attendees. One name is missing from the booklet. Pins will go to the Counties. Pat will send out the names on the 25/30 awards list to all the RMGANJ members.

Pat reminded everyone of the need to put Poll Everywhere on your phone for the coordinators talks. Other details were discussed and reviewed.

Pat reviewed the meeting dates available for next year. As a reminder the normal meeting date is the first Tuesday of the month, but Jan Zientek has a conflict with that day. At the last meeting we agreed to move the meeting to the second Thursday of the month. March is not available, and October is after the conference. The March meeting will be Monday 3/18. The October meeting will be on Tuesday 10/1 before the conference.

Pat reported that a nominating committee is needed for VP, Secretary and Treasurer. The volunteers are Karen Pennell (chair), Kathy Dopart and Suzanne Keene.

Break: from 11:10 to 11:25 Thank you to Camden County and Terry Zane for today's break food. Cumberland County is responsible for refreshments for the November meeting which is on November 6 at 10am in the RCE Conference Center.

New Business:

Steve Yergean from Ocean County has a rolling presentation on Water Conservation which will be set up in the break area.

Terry Zane reported that she has the updated Membership list and asked if anyone objected to her sending it out. There were no objections, so she will send it out.

COUNTY REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

Atlantic – Our Coordinator in Atlantic County has announced that there are several winners this year for the PHS

Gardens of Distinction:

our Atlantic County Demo Garden

Public Space awards: the pollinator gardens at the Mays Landing Library and

Egg Harbor Township Library

Individual Flower Garden award winners: John Collette and

Mary McDermott

Our county is working with the landscape design graduate students on the AC Golf Course (Greentree) this fall. We toured with them last Monday and talked with them about ideas, spent time with plant/tree/shrub ID. They will be creatisingns, a group of our Master Gardeners will meet with them again at midterm and choose a design. Hopefully, depending on the funding process, they will begin the project. It is a fun collaboration that allows our MG's to learn more about the ecological landscaping and the grad students to learn more about creating ecological landscaping in coastal environments.

Our county is renting a van to take its members to the conference.

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One of our members has been competing in the Philadelphia Flower show for years and reviewed with our members "need to know" information if they had interest.

our new class begins February 5th and this year will be a day class vs last year's evening classes. it will include a plant sale project that all new students will take on as part of their curriculum.

All projects are in full swing; a group has begun another library project in conjunction with the Brigantine Green team.

Bergen – Volunteer Site News:

Speakers: The meeting was cancelled due to flash flooding.

Fall Festival Sept. 29, 30: The Bergen County Fall Festival took place in Van Saun Park, Paramus. Working in conjunction with the County of Bergen and the Bergen County 4-H, Master Gardeners provided beautiful exhibits including many hands-on crafts for children. The festival featured delicious food, craft vendors, live music, a carnival and 4-H exhibits.

Volunteer Site News:

Garretson Forge & Farm, an 1800's Farm will celebrate a Harvest Festival on Oct 14th with Civil War re-enactments, open hearth cooking featuring 19th century recipes, activities for kids and tours of the homestead and gardens. Admission is free.

NJBG Harvest Fest. Oct 13-14th. Hayrides and pumpkin painting are part of this fun-filled family weekend. There'll be games, face painting, applesauce making, tasty food, music and dancing, great photo ops, free Garden tours, booths, exhibits, an autumn Plant Sale and lots more! *Free parking & admission.* info@njbg.org to register or for additional information.

The Hermitage *Behind the Scenes Tour* and *Ghost Tours* will take place this October. While the 39th Annual Holiday Craft Show at the Hermitage will run October 27th through December 2nd.

Thielke Arboretum is introducing a new monthly program: *Nature Nerd Night*. High school, college students and adults will learn about nature by collecting data and specimens at the Arboretum. Participants will work alongside scientist mentors using professional methodologies to compile and assess data and maintain specimen collections.

Burlington –

We kicked off September with our quarterly meeting. In addition to the usual updates on various business matters, project leaders presented a special area of interest in their respective gardens.

During our recognition dinner, master gardener's hour of service was presented. Lyn Avale and Joan Johnson are the 2018 awardees of the RMGANJ Award for Excellence.

Master gardeners toured the Bellview Winery in Landisville, NJ. The tour consisted of an hour walk through the vineyard and processing area guided by a staff member. We learned about the varieties being grown, the growing methods and various issues with pests and disease.

If you like us, join us on Facebook.

Project reports:

Butterfly Garden at Smith Woods –

- This month the garden was extremely wet, so wet that seed gathering from the perennials has been delayed until mid-October.
- Everything is very lush especially the nectar plants, so the butterflies have had plenty to eat.
- Swallowtail caterpillars are on the host plants of parsley. Commas, swallowtails, monarchs, admiral, skippers and cabbage whites continue to visit the nectar plants.
- People visiting the garden are provided information about the native plot, host and nectar plants. Questions are answered by master gardeners during our work days.

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- Two mailboxes by the garden gate are filled with fact sheets from Rutgers for the public to take with them.

Donation Garden at Medford Leas –

- The garden production is winding down for this growing year.
- So far, 550 pounds of produce has been donated to several local food banks.
- There are a few stragglers and a few cold weather crops left to harvest.
- Over the winter, the garden will be covered with an old pool cover to kill the weeds.
- Some of the onions will be over wintered.

IPM and Demonstration Plots at BCCAC –

- One of the projects this season was to compare 3 great tasting hybrid tomatoes of the 1950's and 60's, brought back by Rutgers to 3 heirloom tomatoes. Comparison would be done using three criteria...yield, disease resistance and taste. The three hybrids were Moreton F1, KC-146 and Ramapo. The three heirloom plants were Black Krim, German Johnson and Cherokee Purple. A total of 413 tomatoes were harvested with the edge in terms of yield went to the hybrids...231 to 182. In terms of disease resistance, both groups suffered from septoria leaf spot due to heavy rains and high humidity. In terms of taste, the tasters preferred the heirloom varieties.

Pinelands Preservation Alliance Kitchen Garden –

- Master Gardener, Nick Hendershot, has taken the lead to research plants and garden designs as we move forward in developing the Colonial household kitchen gardens. The goal is for the garden to reflect that which would be found at the time the house and property were settled in the 1700's.
- Weather permitting, harvesting of the herbs and plants will begin in preparation for PPA's Green Trading Post.

Rancocas Nature Center –

- Weeding and cleanup of soggy dead plants continues.
- The Lil' Sprouts, a pre-school group, is meeting weekly and learning about the gardens. They will be hunting for plants to match with color cards and making rubbed bookmarks with the flowers/plants.
- We continue to raise caterpillars and release the butterflies into the gardens.
- After the first frost in October, plants will be cut back.

Up-coming events – None at this time

Camden –

Help Line

The help line made 51 contacts for the month of September.

Greenhouse

The Greenhouse committee is meeting to plan future seed purchases. They sold plants at the Camden County Fair. The hydroponics is up and running and producing 35 pounds of greens per week. The food is given to the Cathedral Kitchen in Camden and will provide greens for the primates at the Philadelphia zoo.

Educational Gardens

October 3 was the date of the Harvest Party to celebrate the first year of the educational gardens. Freeholder Jeff Nash and a representative from the American Water Company were there to honor and thank the American Water Company for its grant to the gardens. A commemorative plaque was given to the American Water Company. More than 45 people attended the event which included tours, music and food. Master Gardeners, county workers and family members attended.

The committee will schedule an October meeting to outline future projects for the gardens in 2019.

Community Outreach

The major event for community outreach was the Camden County Fair. 241 contacts were made-which set a record for our fair outreach.

There were two other events we attended at various Community venues and in total we made 338 contacts for the month.

An active speaker's bureau has been established with a set of five presentations ready for presentations.

Programs

45 Master Gardeners attended the presentation entitled "Tropical Plants of South Jersey" on September 25 as part of our general meeting

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15 people attended the evening Homeowners workshop on "Make and Take Sedums" given by two Master Gardeners.

Upcoming Nominations for the Board

The Board has interviewed all the current nominees and has finalized the slate to be presented at the general meeting in October.

Cumberland:

2018 Award of Excellence Luncheon Helpline on the Road

September 29th and 30th – Greenwich Artisans Faire- Pat Stella has added a seasonal recipe exchange to help draw people in to meet us. She also ran off fact sheets relevant to the Fall season.

October 6th – WheatonArts Fine Art Festival – Same draws as Greenwich. Pat will have an oral report on both of these events at our meeting.

Cumberland County Fair

On July 5th, four MG manned the butterfly tent with help from Alice Phillip's 4H goat club. It was great fun and a wonderful experience seeing the awe in children's eyes when holding a Monarch! And it was amazing how knowledgeable the children are on butterflies! The Butterfly Committee has done a great job educating children at schools, events, etc.

Butterfly Tent Venues

4H Camp – On Wednesday, August 15th five MG joined Pam and Brandi Williams for hours of fun in the butterfly tent, hand painting, celery art, and pipe cleaner butterfly and bee art.

August 16th – Sarah Tarpine and her husband presented campers with a day filled with Sheep knowledge.

Bridgeton Library's Monday Funday – Held on the grounds of the CC Library on August 27th, this was a grand butterfly learning program.

Greenwich Artisans Faire – On September 29th, the butterfly tent was a main attraction at this faire. MG also had the Helpline on the Road Table and craft for the many children in attendance.

Hops Picking

Rabbit Hill Malt Farm in Shiloh taught MG how to harvest hops and members then did this for two days. Hillary Bakker Barile and Abe Bakker also gave us a tour of the farm that included the process of preparing hops, barley, and wheat to brew beer. We got to taste the differences that the grains make in the beers. This was a great learning experience

On September 11, 2018, Cumberland County Master Gardeners hosted its 2018 Awards Luncheon. Pam and Brandi chose luscious foods – paninis, salads, and deserts, and the decorations and tablescapes were gorgeous! Thank you both for all you did.

Susan McKenna was Master Gardener of the year, and the team award rightfully went to the Horticulture Enrichment Team at the Veteran's Home. The team members are Marianne Bagliani, Marilyn English, Susan Evans, Lynn Houck, Jan LoBiondo, Dolores Misiewicz, Sam Pace, Sarah Tarpine, Jen Sutton, and Keiko Warner. Remembered was Suzanne Cavanaugh who started this program seven years ago.

Pepper Trials

Members assisted Wes Kline on three occasions with picking and grading peppers. There was just one small plot to harvest this year, but we had another good learning experience. And the trials this year were for Phytophthora resistant plants.

Propagation Team

Five members of the propagation team met with Pam on September 5th to decide if MG would again sell plants at Eco Fair 2019. We have been a presence at this event for the past 12 years, and many come just
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for the Rutgers Tomato Varieties that we grow. Thus, we will scale down this year growing only 4 pack tomatoes, popular herbs, and native plants. Sam Pace and Carol Henry will be co-chairs. Pam will talk to RAREC to see if we can have one green house for herbs/plants, and Carol will see if the County College will allow us use of their space.

Trip Committee

June – 2018 Pam let a group of MG and friend on a CC Agritourism trip down the Maurice River departing from Millville. It was a brilliant experience!

October 18, 2018 – Guided tour of the Monroeville vineyards and winery starting at 1PM. We will meet at the RCE and carpool to the winery – those interested in this transport, let me (Barbara McOscar) know, and plan to leave at 12 Noon. Anyone else interested in coming on this tour, please let me know.

December 13, 2018 - Holiday House Tour of Mansions in Fairmont Park – Strawberry Mansion and Laurel Hill Mansion; Cost \$63 with checks payable to CC Board of Ag. This trip will also include stops at the Reading Terminal Market, Christmas Village, and the Comcast Light Show. Hopefully, I will have more information by our meeting date.

Press

Marianne Bagliani has been carrying the load for press this year. She has sent out the following to all sources:

*Some pictures of the Veterans Home participants in the monthly Horticulture Enrichment activity specifically the Spring wreath they made in April and the June planting of tomatoes and herbs in their courtyard garden.

*There was the notice for the Monarch Teacher network which was cancelled afterwards.

*The Wheaton Arts clean-up crew in the garden there before the Eco fair.

* The picture of the 2018 Intern graduates taken at the luncheon.

*The Maurice River Cruise in June?

*Pictures and write ups on Award Luncheon and recipients

Essex –

Master Gardeners of Essex County Meeting Schedule and Speakers:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Subject</u>
9/15/2018	None	General Meeting, 2018 Class Graduation, Party and Awards
10/13/2018	Marc Zukovich	Fall Fertilization of Trees, Shrubs and Lawns
11/10/2018	Ruth Hayden	Private Gardens of China – Principals of Design we still see today
12/8/2018	None	General Meeting and Holiday Party

Horticulture Workshops for Seniors – Fall/Winter 2018

SENIOR CITIZENS OF ESSEX COUNTY YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN HORTICULTURE WORKSHOPS PRESENTED BY THE RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MASTER GARDENERS OF ESSEX COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 17 “See You in September” with a program about native plants and using them in flower arranging. (reserve by September 11)

OCTOBER 15 “Harvest Moon” and an introduction to Lavender. (reserve by October 9)

NOVEMBER 19 “Autumn Leaves” and pumpkins and mums. (reserve by November 13)

DECEMBER 17 “Warm in December” with holiday arrangements to share with friends. (reserve by December 11)

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ALL PROGRAMS TAKE PLACE ON MONDAYS, 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.
GARIBALDI HALL, 621A EAGLE ROCK AVE., ROSELAND
PROGRAMS ARE FREE. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE EARLY.
SPACE IS LIMITED. WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT RESERVATIONS
ONCE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IS REACHED!

MGEC Volunteer Hub – Weather and Season Permitting

404 Community Garden,

404 14th Avenue, Irvington, contact Keisha Newell at
404communitygar-den@gmail.com.

Branch Brook Park Cherry Tree Pruning Team

Meets weekly to prune historical collection of 5000 cherry trees. To volunteer call Lois Young 973-744-5696 or helle-borus133@vizon.net.

Branch Brook Park -Prudential Concert Grove - (Southern Section)!

We lead volunteers in weeding, pruning, planting and trans-planting perennials and shrubs. ! Come join us any day from October 2nd through November 6th, Monday through Friday from 9:30 through 12:30 (or whatever time to you care to give). We will also be working with volunteers on Saturdays: 10/28 - 9:30 to 12:30; 11/4 - 11:00 to 2:00.

Meet at the “Lions” and bring tools and gloves. !

For more information contact Kasey Goger at kgoger@verizon.net or Mary Jedrezjewski at maryjed@optonline.net

Brookdale Park Pruning —ongoing pruning of Trees, to volunteer contact Pat Hewitt 201-913-8419, or hewitt36@verizon.net.

Caldwell Pollinator Garden - Creating new gardens. Contact Warren Marchioni. wmarchioni39@gmail.com

Education Outreach

Projects in schools. Contact Fran Kroeckel 973-744-6547, robertkroecel@comcast.net

Giving Garden an *A Lot to Grow* community garden that grows produce for the food pantries and soup kitchens in the Nutley area. Contact Elizabeth (Liz) Li-loia: eliloia@aol.com

Glenmont Project

Thos. Edison Nat'l. Historical Park in West Orange, Amy Trimarco, aatri-marco@comcast.net, 201-600-8656;

The Greenhouse has plenty of room for those that want to transplant and water. Contact Gail Chmura, chmurag@verizon.net or Pat Hewitt, hewitt36@verizon.net

Grounds Around Garibaldi Hall — help maintain and beautify. Meet Tuesday morning-early. Bring your gloves/tools. Contact Tony Oszmianski (973) 226-1351.

Special Garibaldi project workdays scheduled throughout the year. **Contact Suzanne Broullon.**

GROW Community Out-reach Program., 3-4 Sessions a year, half-day long, recent Graduates become involved. Contact Mike Mallette (973)230-4266 mfieldhand@verizon.net

Helpline volunteer-- Con-tact Lynda Meehan at (973) 228-5806 or lyndam1112@gmail.com, or **call the Help Line at 973-228-2210; mastergar-denerec@gmail.com**

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Horticulture for Seniors meets monthly with seniors. Contact Helen Kesner (973) 731-0717, hkesner@comcast.net

MGEC Bee Keepers at Garibaldi Hall. Beginners must observe until the proper course is taken and equipment purchased. Contact David Haimes, dhaimes@comcast.net.

Pollinator Garden In Brookdale Park
For information contact Blanca Gerard at mygerard30@verizon.net

Rose Garden in Brookdale Park NEEDS HELP, lots of get down in the dirt type of work, pick days/time
Contact Susan Jankolovits (973) 783-0977 sjankolovits@hotmail.com

South Orange Elks Rent Party Garden Community garden whose produce goes to food banks. Contact Karen Rutberg, at krutberg@aol.com.

Speakers Bureau is part of our community outreach. Choose a topic of interest and become an active speaker. Contact Jan Zientek at Zientek@NJAES.Rutgers.edu and let him know what topics you can give programs on to other organizations.

The Teaching Garden
At Presby Memorial Iris Garden in Montclair. Contact Fred Solomine at fsolomine@gmail.com.

MGEC – What’s Happening

OPEN GARDEN DAY AT SILAS MOUNTSIER’S GARDEN —VOLUNTEER!

The Master Gardeners of Essex County have been asked once again to help out at Silas’ beautiful garden at 205 Rutgers Place, Nutley NJ. On Saturday, September 8, 2018, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. We collect tickets and money from people visiting the garden. You can sign-up for a 2-hour shift or stay as long as you would like. And the best part is you can take a tour of the garden for free. This is a beautiful large garden hidden on a residential street in Nutley.

Fran Kroeckel is coordinating this event. Contact Fran at 973-744-6547 and let her know what time you would like to come. Graeme Hardie says “the garden has never looked lovelier”.

The Caldwell Pollinator Garden

This summer has seen both positive and negative news from the Caldwell Pollinator garden. The positive is that the garden’s perennials have shown off their successive flowering displays in a spectacular way and lured many diverse pollinators with their nectar. Janet Markman, a local photographer, has diligently captured images of the winged visitors. A Boy scout troop in the community volunteered to create gravel pathways in several of the gardens. A sign with a descriptive narrative of the history and sponsors of the garden was installed near the flag pole. Volunteers have helped in weeding and additional planting. This was all good.

On the other hand, the main negative news has to be the extreme rainfall on one day in August which resulted in considerable damage to the town of Caldwell and other communities in the area. Five inches of rain in two hours produced a raging, temporary river that lifted up the pavers which formed the downward-slanting pathway around the centrally located meadow and sent many of them down to the end of the property. The damage made it dangerous for visitors to tour the gardens so that the town was forced to install police tape across the entrance. Volunteer workers, however, continue to maintain the grounds. We have hope that the town will hire a contractor to repair the pathway. We need more volunteers, so MGs are requested to contact me at 973- 226-6246 or email to wmarchioni39@gmail.com

We will persevere. Warren Marchioni

Summer at Glenmont

The members of the Glenmont crew have certainly earned their service hours as we pass the three-quarter mark of Year 10 of the Glenmont Project. The first frost and the “big dig up” will be here before we know it. Members of the crew are in maintenance mode right now with the excessive heat of summer finding our gardening time outdoors shortened and the need for watering more than usual. With only Wednesday as a set day, the crew was told to treat the gardens of Glenmont as they would their own—get out early on whatever day they can and water and weed and check for beetles and weed and deadhead and weed and replant and weed and, of course, there is always weeding! The butterfly bushes are in bloom adding a color

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lushness and a bee haven to the site. The beautiful dish size Edison Dahlias are about to bloom, and the gardens are giving pleasure to all the visitors to the Park.

This year has been a little different in that we discovered the Brazilian Skipper butterfly, or larger canna leafroller, voraciously eating the canna leaves in the canna bed in back of the mansion. Initially, we blamed deer. However, with the first 4 caterpillars found, we called the Help Desk to ID our find. Jean Greeley was on duty that day, and her excitement was almost contagious if not for the destructive work of this invasive pest! She reported the find to Jim Springer of the North Jersey Butterfly Association. The leafroller is found in Florida and the Southwest US. The only sighting at that point in NJ was in Cape May County. Subsequently, Jim has informed us that the little devil has been found for the first time in Cumberland, Salem and Middlesex Counties, including the Rutgers Gardens! Could the cause of this unusual migration be the result of Global Warming?

The crew went on to discover 11 more caterpillars that were destroyed with the first 4 before Jean came on site and rescued 3 more. These were sent to Jim who managed to observe their transformation to full-fledged butterflies. Thankfully (and thoughtfully) he released them in South Jersey and did not return them to their origin (Glenmont).

No room to post pictures of the Skippers but will bring the articles to the Help Desk. The sites for pics and more info are

http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/orn/brazilian_skipper.htm

[https://aggie-](https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/weekly_Q&A/f&b_11.htm)

[horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/weekly_Q&A/f&b_11.htm](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/weekly_Q&A/f&b_11.htm) <https://northjerseybutterflies.org>

Fall plans include readjustments and additions to the sites—purchasing mums, yarrow and other perennial plants. Ongoing pruning of the rose arbors and the wisteria. The gardens at Glenmont are the peoples' gardens and the MGs are their caretakers. Can't promise to enjoy this excitement every year at Glenmont, but watch this space!

Amy Trimarco 201-600-8656

MGEC Save The Date

October 24

MGEC Bus Trip to Storm King

Hunterdon – Class of 20 underway.

New project working with a community garden at the food pantry

We're in busy season for MGs volunteering at the Rutgers Snyder Research and Extension Farm, assisting in agricultural research and harvest is donated to local food pantries

Mercer –

Our annual Insect Fest was held on Sept. 8, at MEG. As usual, an enthusiastic group of kids (and adults) attended.

Four more RMG's from Mercer County achieved Gold Badge status this month.

On Sept. 25, there was a tour of Willowood Arboretum and Bamboo Brook, in Far Hills, NJ.

Many events are planned for October. On October 3, the Butterfly Committee and interested RMG's will be travelling to Cape May, NJ, to view the annual butterfly migration. On October 10, we are presenting a Community Education talk on "Trees in the Home Landscape", by Dr. Jason Grabowsky. Meredith Melendez will conduct an advanced training class for RMG's dealing with "Reducing Food Safety Risks in your Garden" on Oct. 18 at Extension. Since there will be no new class this year, a series of advanced training classes are planned.

On Oct. 23, we are having a seed exchange, and the graduation ceremony for the class of 2018 will be held on Oct. 24. On the same day, there will be an open house honoring Barbara Bromley, at Extension, from 11 am until 3 pm. Anyone who would like to wish Barbara good luck in her retirement, and thank her for her many years of service, is welcome to stop by and talk with her.

A tour of Ed Shinn's Japanese Maple Garden in Wall, NJ, is planned for October 30.

The move of Extension to our new facility is now scheduled for some time in November. That's the way construction goes!

Our 2019 Symposium will take place on March 16, 2019, at Stuart Country Day School. The theme will be "Returning to our Roots". More information on speakers and titles will be available soon.

Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey

Middlesex –

On September 23, Master Gardeners old and new gathered for a picnic at the EARTH Center to celebrate this year's harvest.

On Saturday September 22 a workshop titled Introduction to Backyard Beekeeping was offered at the EARTH Center.

On October 14, Sunday, at 10am a Garlic Growing workshop will be offered also at the EARTH center. Garlic takes up little space, has many uses in cooking and Fall is the perfect time to plant it.

On October 30, Middlesex County Master Gardeners will gather for our annual "Howl in the Gardens".

Monmouth – On September 5, 2018 we welcomed the MGs from Atlantic County. The day began with garden tours of the eight gardens on the Ag. Building property. All are maintained and cared for by Master Gardeners and all of the garden chairs were there to give tours. After lunch presentations from our JMG (Junior Master Gardener) co-chair, Sandy Wolfe and School Programs Committee co-chair, Pat Eisemann were given as Atlantic County expressed that they would like to learn more about them. We were excited to share what we were doing, how we got started and gave information, helpful websites and handouts for both of these programs. We were so glad they came for the visit!

Currently, we are in the process of getting candidates for open-Board positions for terms that will begin in January 2019. Voting will take place in November.

Our PAR garden has experienced a lot of activity involving a multitude of breeding insects and tiny livestock that seem to be enjoying our intern's gardening efforts and veggie choices! Apparently, there's been rabbit races to see how much can be eaten as soon as the plants are planted! Despite that, over 1500 lbs. has already been harvested and delivered to foodbanks throughout the county.

Our Helpline has slowed some with summer's end. Our next MG trip is to Georgian Court and September's General Meeting speaker was Roman Oscada from Valley Fall Farm on "Garlic". Roman was very interesting and well versed on the topic.

Our JMG garden has been put to bed as the Program ended as of September. The other gardens will do the same in time as the weather cools. Until then, some weeding, a new plant here or there and perhaps a little pruning will be done to get through the winter.

Steve Rettke is coming on-board to the Monmouth County Ag. Building as Bill Sciarappa, our former Ag. Agent leaves us to take on his new job opportunity at Rutgers. We welcome Steve as he begins his new position here with us!

Finally, our Recognition Picnic was held on September 29th at MG Mike Winchell's house. We thank Mike and his wife, Donna, for the lovely venue and a place to chat, eat and play corn-hole for the afternoon! We were pleased to recognize the founders of our MG Program: Rich Obal, Ron Kudile and Mike Bennett along with Diane Larson, our coordinator, as they celebrate their 20th anniversary! Congratulations! Also recognized that day were some of the members of the first class (class of 1999) and our President's Award recipients: Geoff Bray and Marv and Isabelle Koren for their continued and steadfast service to our PAR and JMG Programs. All are very deserving for their time, efforts and dedication! Thank you and congratulations!

Morris –

September has slowed down a little at the Helpline, but it has been a very busy season. The mentors have trained a dozen new interns to work on the Helpline next year.

We had two outreach programs in September. One at the Great Swamp and one on the Green in Morristown. Both events were very busy answering resident's questions on a variety of subjects.

We have 21 new interns for the Rutgers Master Gardeners Class, which began on September 10, 2018. One-third of last RMG class has fulfilled their volunteer hours requirement and are now certified Rutgers Master Gardeners.

The volunteers at the Deer Resistant Garden at Snyder Farm are putting the garden to bed for the winter and we helped with the Honey-crisp apple research project in September.

Ocean –

Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey

Our garden committees are harvesting their cool-weather crops and beginning their Fall clean-ups. In spite of the weather conditions and some hungry animals, we had a pretty good season. Gleaning continues and will bring up our total number of donated pounds.

Outreach tables have been active throughout the county with 3 more events scheduled. Our Southern Diagnostic Clinic has completed its season and is evaluating the changes made this year and planning an expansion to other Southern libraries in 2019. Three of our MGs assisted Boy Scouts in completing their merit badge on Gardening at the STEM 2018 Merit Badge Academy held in Toms River last month.

The Interns' project, Fall Garden Day, an informational day for the public, was well received by all who attended. We received 7 applications for the 2019 class as a result of the Interns' enthusiastic participation in organizing this event. The main presentations were: Hummingbirds and Butterflies, Seashore Gardening and Beneficial Insects.

Helpline and Tick ID have only morning hours now.

In a few weeks, Oct. 25th, Ocean will have another all-day training called, "Midnight in the Garden". All are welcome.

Passaic – No report

Somerset– No report

Sussex – no report

Union - No report

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM. The next meeting is 11/6 at 10am in the RCE Conference Center.

Respectfully Submitted
Tricia Deering, Recording Secretary