



SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday September 27

MG meeting



The New Jersey Highlands: Treasures at Risk by George M. Aronson

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

**Refreshments at 7 pm
Announcements at 7:20 pm
Program to follow**

George Aronson is a Morristown-based photographer who specializes in nature, scenic, and landscape photography. His program will illustrate the abundant scenic, natural, and historic gems of the North Jersey Highlands: roughly 900 square miles consisting of seven northern counties of sparkling lakes, swift-flowing streams, reservoirs, wetlands, forests, rocks, and mountains. They have been aptly called New Jersey's "last frontier." This area contains most of the remaining large areas of open land to be found in the entire metropolitan region and is home to the black bear, bobcat, and coyote.

This land is mostly privately owned and is disappearing at the alarming rate of 5,000 to 10,000 acres per year. Legislation has created a means of slowing down this rate, but the land is still under great controversy. So come and see this beautiful area where our own NJ Botanical Garden is located.

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

From the President's Desk



As the saying goes, "When one door closes, another one opens." After the announcement that Pat Fromm was stepping down as Community Outreach chair, we thanked her for the three years of service she has given us and have been looking for a suitable replacement for months. It is with great enthusiasm that I announce our new chair of Community Outreach, Dail Reid. Just because she retired from Rutgers Cooperative Extension in June doesn't mean we can let her get away from the Master Gardeners of Bergen County.

Oh, and if Dail offering her talent, experience, and wisdom of horticulture was not enough, she also volunteered her husband to help us at the Thielke/Glen Rock Arboretum and the McFaul Environmental Center.

Congratulations! And a huge thank you to Dail and Tony for their selfless volunteerism!

- *Joseph Cooper*

Bergen County Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office

Joel Flagler Agricultural/Resources Management Agent & County Extension Dept. Head 201-336-6780
Joe Papa Horticulture Consultant 201-336-6788
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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Honoring Carol Thielke



Carol Thielke, the inspirational visionary of the Thielke/Glen Rock Arboretum, was recently honored for her outstanding efforts to bring the Arboretum to its current place of quiet recreation, education, and serenity. Approximately 60 Master Gardeners, volunteers, members of the Arboretum's Board of Trustees, friends, and family

attended the ceremony at the Arboretum July 9.

Long-time friend and fellow MG Lucy Malka presented Carol with a picnic table, purchased through the generous donations of fellow MGs and friends. The table, placed on the Arboretum grounds, is symbolic of Carol's extraordinary ability to accept all people and bring them together to form a community dedicated to the Arboretum. A plaque imbedded in the table reads "Carol's Table. Some people, like flowers, give pleasure just in being. Master Gardeners of Bergen County and Friends."

The borough of Glen Rock purchased the property that is now the Arboretum in 1954. It was declared a park in 1959. The Glen Rock Garden Club, of which Carol is a member, proposed that the park be declared an arboretum based on its many varieties of trees and shrubs. In 1963, the town officially declared that piece of land the Glen Rock Arboretum.

Carol's love of the Arboretum began when she enrolled in MG training in 1992. As a result of her dedication and impressive work, the Arboretum became an MG of BC volunteer site though Glen Rock still owns the property. Once designated, Carol had more resources and volunteers to assist her in expanding the Arboretum into what it is today with its beautiful gardens, trails, gazebo, fountain, and its various educational and workshop programs.

In 2009, Glen Rock honored Carol's contributions by changing the name from the Glen Rock Arboretum to the Thielke Arboretum. Carol's latest quest, through the Friends of the Glen Rock Arboretum, is to build an environmental education center to educate both children and adults in the importance and wonders of our natural environment and how to conserve it for future generations.

Perhaps the greatest honor of all, though, is the one bestowed on us, and that is to know Carol as a friend, mentor, and fellow MG. She continues to grace and enrich our lives.

- *Carolyn Gretchen, publicity chair, Thielke/Glen Rock Arboretum, and Lucy Malka*

MG OF BC TRIPS AND TOURS

Sleepy Cat Farm

September 13, 10:15 am

Address: 146 Clapboard Ridge Road, Greenwich, CT.
Charge: \$250 for the MG group. Amount will be divided among participants. (i.e., \$250 divided by 10 participants = \$25 per person).

Registration deadline is August 31. To register, send an email to josie_ko1@hotmail.com. Josie will total the number of participants when registration is completed. When registering let her know if you will drive and take passengers. Josie will coordinate rides, if available, for anyone who needs a ride. The tour will be led by owner Fred Landman.

The 13-acre gardens of Sleepy Cat Farm have evolved over the past 18 years through a close collaboration of the present owner and Virginia-based landscape architect Charles J. Stick. The most recently developed portion of the landscape, which borders Lake Avenue, includes an extensive greenhouse and potager.

The newly constructed "barn," distinguished by its half-timbered French Normandy vocabulary, is surrounded by thyme-covered terraces that provide an elegant stage set for a fine collection of garden ornament, sculpture, and boxwood topiary. The visitor's experience of the garden unfolds as pathways lead from garden room to garden room in a carefully orchestrated series of discoveries.

The central portion of the garden is distinguished by two parallel garden spaces. The first is dominated by a long reflecting pool, terminated on the north end by a wisteria-covered arbor and on the south end by a pebble mosaic terrace and fountain basin. One of the great surprises of the tour is the adjacent garden space.

Bordered by a precisely clipped serpentine hornbeam hedge, the green architecture of this room is meant to frame the view to the Chinese pavilion (Ting) positioned on a small island in the middle of a pond teeming with koi.

The north end of this garden is terminated by an impressively scaled statue of Atlas. The heart of the original garden of six acres is most joyfully experienced along the “golden path,” a granite dust pathway that leads from the main house and formal terraces on top of the hill out into the native New England landscape.

As it winds through the oak and beech woodland, the path engages a rose and wisteria arbor, a small fruit orchard, fountains, statuary, an iris garden traversed by a Japanese spirit bridge and planted with 10,000 Siberian and Japanese iris, and, finally, a rustic stone grotto and fish pond, the source of the woodland stream that is bordered by native azaleas and a collection of spring flowering trees and bulbs all planted for enjoyment throughout the year.

The most recent additions to the property include a limonaia used for the winter storage of citrus trees, a new fruit orchard, and a sacred woodland grove, which is enjoyed from a series of pathways that radiate from a newly planted meadow. The southern expansion of the property over the past two years has added a new dimension to the overall landscape experience of Sleepy Cat Farm.

Federal Twist outing



From left: Noel Schulz, Monica Buesser, Lynn Curtin, James Gouldon (Federal Twist), Lucy Malka, Donna Karpel, Melody Corcoran, Olga Newey, Kathleen Sullivan, Christa Brannan, and Kathy Skidmore.

Photo supplied by Karen Pennell.

FARMERS MARKETS

Closter Farmers Market, 20 Legion Place
Through November; Sundays, 9 am-2 pm

Englewood Farmers Market, North Van Brunt Street and Demarest Avenue
Through Oct. 28; Fridays, 11 am-6 pm

Fort Lee Farmers Market, Fort Lee Community Center outdoor plaza, 1355 Inwood Ter. www.fortleenj.org
Through Nov. 20; Sundays, 8 am-2 pm

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

Nyack Farmers Market, Main Street parking lot
www.nyackchamber.org
Through Nov. 26; Thursdays, 8 am-2 pm; Saturdays, 8 am-1 pm

Paramus Farmers Market, 475 Farview Ave.
www.paramusborough.org
Through Sept. 30; Wednesdays, 2:30-6:30 pm

Ramsey Farmers Market, NJ Transit Railroad Station, Main Street (outdoors) www.ramseyfarmersmarket.org
Through Nov. 27; Sundays, 9 am-2 pm

Ridgewood Farmers Market, NJ Transit Railroad Station (Garber Square) www.ridgewoodchamber.com
Through Nov. 1; Sundays, 9 am-3 pm

River Vale Farmers Market, 406 Rivervale Road
Through Oct. 30; Thursdays, noon-6pm

Rutherford Farmers Market, Park Ave at the Williams Plaza www.downtownrutherfordnj.com
Through Oct. 29; Wednesdays, 11 am-6 pm; Saturdays, 8 am-2 pm

Teaneck Farmers Market, Beverly Road and Garrison Avenue www.cedarlane.net
Through Oct. 27; Thursdays, noon-6 pm

Useful Links

Many local garden centers give discounts to MGs. See the list at mgofbc.org/useful-links.html. Bring your membership card when shopping.

VOLUNTEER SITE NEWS

Garretson Farm



Garretson Farm needs you! Summer is a busy time for gardeners as we all know. Garretson has been busy harvesting vegetables and

fresh herbs for the St. Paul's Community Development Corporation Food Pantry. This week's basket includes cucumbers, yellow squash, tomatoes, Swiss chard, basil, and mint.

Each week, Garretson is able to make a donation due to the dedication of the many Master Gardeners who volunteer their time. There is still so much to do. Please join us on Thursdays from 10 am to 2 pm. Bring lunch, and enjoy good company under the shade of a giant chestnut tree.

- **Lida Gellman**, lbg922@gmail.com

Hackensack River Greenway

Friends of the Hackensack River Greenway Through Teaneck has been working on a project with the township to construct a native garden and ADA wheelchair-accessible trail (see photo below) along the Hackensack River in the southern end of town. Last fall, invasive plants were controlled, and some native plants were transplanted from the Teaneck Garden Club to the stream bed near the river. The walking trail was completed. We're awaiting construction of a stone sitting area closer to River Road. To complete the project, bird boxes and more native plants will be added. The Township Council named this site the Mary S. Topolsky Garden and Trail after a township resident who, using her skills as a landscape designer, developed the plan to make this property into a welcoming area for residents and a native habitat for wildlife.



A dedication ceremony will be held Sunday, September 25 at 12:30 pm. The site is located at 640 River Road, opposite Kipp Street in Teaneck. Parking is available on side streets. All are welcome.

- **Rich Karp**

New Jersey Botanical Garden/Skylands

Note: A parking fee of \$5 for NJ-registered cars and \$7 for non-NJ-registered cars is charged on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays through Labor Day.

Friday, August 5 Rave On! concert, 6:30 pm. Classics from the legends of early rock and roll; great tunes, great memories! Bring a lawn chair. Concert moves to the Carriage House in bad weather. \$5 donation requested.

Sunday, August 7 Skylands Manor tours, 11 am-3 pm. NJBG volunteer docents lead visitors on a tour of the architecture and history of Skylands Manor. \$7 adults; \$5 seniors and students ages 13-18; \$3 ages 6-12; free under 6.

Saturday, August 13 summer craft fair, 11 am-4 pm. Tons of fun for the whole family. Lots of booths with beautiful crafts, including jewelry, pottery, sculpture, art, kids' stuff, and all kinds of unusual goodies. Lots of great food and drink, too! Free admission to craft fair and garden.

Sunday, August 14 Audubon Butterfly Festival, noon-3 pm. Join us for a celebration of NJBG's beautiful flying jewels! Guided butterfly walks all afternoon, information on starting your own butterfly garden, and more. Meet at the Carriage House. Presented by the Bergen County Audubon Society. Free admission. Rain cancels.

Friday, August 19 Loretta Hagen concert, 6:30 pm. A rising folk music star, her lilting sound will charm you. Bring a lawn chair. Concert moves to the Carriage House in bad weather. \$5 donation requested.

Sunday, August 21 gardening, 1:30 pm. Weekend garden volunteers meet on the third Sunday of each month for a convivial gardening session in the gardens. Meet at the Carriage House. Bring gloves if you have them, and dress to garden. Rain cancels.

- **Dania Cheddie**

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

2016 NJ State Conference

Rutgers NJAES Cooperative Extension
Food for Thought

Rutgers Master Gardener Association
of New Jersey



October 1

Course Code: AH0203IA17

Register at
<http://www.cpe.rutgers.edu/rmganj/>

Fall Conference 2016: It's an exciting day each year where we learn gardening techniques, meet Master Gardeners from around the state, and honor those from each county with the Award for Excellence.

In addition, there's the Garden Market, a place where a gardener can find one-of-a-kind plants, books, and tools.

Donations needed

This year Bergen County will have a table at the Garden Market. Please bring your extra bulbs, cuttings, root stock, and seeds to the September MG meeting. Or, contact John Walters at 201-965-6546 or jwaltersrealestate.com for pickup.

MG OF BC NEWS

You're invited!

Take a tour of the Edgcroft, Virginia Korteweg's magnificent home, 800 Summit Ave., River Edge on Friday, August 19. You can come for the home and garden tour beginning at 11 am or the garden tour only, which begins at noon. Visitors will be offered a glass of sangria.

Reservation deadline is August 10. To register, contact Joe Papa at papa@aesop.rutgers.edu or 201-336-6788. Specify if you will attend the house tour at 11 or both the house and garden tours.

If you have any questions about the tour, contact Joel Flagler at flagler@njaes.rutgers.edu or 201-336-6780 or call Virginia Korteweg at 201-265-4911.

Speakers Bureau

The Speakers Bureau is your organization's outreach to the community. We now have a small but good list of speakers willing to talk to community and school groups about many topics related to horticulture, landscape design, and working with the community. If you are a member of a garden club or other organization in need of a speaker, contact Arnie Friedman at arnie@arniesgardens.com for a list of speakers and topics.

If you wishing to help with a talk on any related topic, please contact me, too.

Thanks and see you all in the fall with a complete list of speakers with great topics to choose from.

- **Arnie Friedman**, 201-707-5149
www.arniesgardens.com

HORTICULTURE NEWS

From the Green Side

Arnie Friedman

People, including myself, often find the world of hydrangea a bit perplexing. Some years we get great flower shows and other times nothing. Do we cut back the canes in winter? Do we leave the plant untouched?

These are the questions I hear regularly. One of the very reputable plant suppliers, Proven Winners, has made up a web page that helps to demystify hydrangea and provides pointers on care and pruning.

You don't have to buy the trademark cultivars as there are many other similar ones grown by lots of nurseries. The key is understanding the basic classifications of hydrangea and why each one is treated differently.

There are six main types of hydrangeas commonly grown in North American gardens (pictured on the following page).

For a web view of the following page, visit <https://www.provenwinners.com/Hydrangeas-Demystified>.



Bigleaf

Also known as florist's hydrangea, hortensia, mophead, or lacecap. *Hydrangea macrophylla*

- Hardy to USDA zone 5.
- Bloom on old wood; do not prune, protect in winter.



Climbing

Hydrangea petiolaris

- Hardy to USDA zone 4.



Panicle

Also known as peegee hydrangea. *Hydrangea paniculata*

- Hardy to USDA zone 3.
- Bloom on new wood; prune in late winter/early spring.



Mountain

Hydrangea serrata

- Hardy to USDA zone 5.
- Bloom on old wood; do not prune.



Smooth

Also known as Annabelle hydrangea. *Hydrangea arborescens*

- Hardy to USDA zone 3.
- Bloom on new wood; prune in late winter/early spring.



Oakleaf

Hydrangea quercifolia

- Hardy to USDA zone 5.
- Bloom on old wood; do not prune; protect in winter.

WHY ISN'T MY HYDRANGEA BLOOMING?

Which hydrangea do you grow?
(see reverse)

Smooth
(*H. arborescens*)
or **Panicle**
(*H. paniculata*)

Bigleaf
(*H. macrophylla*)
or **Mountain**
(*H. serrata*)

Climbing
(*H. petiolaris*)
or **Oakleaf**
(*H. quercifolia*)

How long ago did you plant it?

< 2 years
Needs more time to develop a root system. Mulch and keep well watered. It will bloom in time.

2+ years
How much light does it get?

4+ hours
Did you cut it back?

Yes
When?

fall
Deer damage or low light

Buds removed - blooming may be delayed or not occur. Prune in late winter or early spring.

< 4 hours
Needs more sun

No
Deer damage or low light

late spring/summer

Did you cut it back?

Yes
Oops! You cut off the flower buds. Avoid pruning.

No
Do you live in a cold climate?

Yes

Flower buds were killed by cold. Move to a more protected spot; protect plant on spring nights when frost or freeze threatens.

No

Too much shade or deer damage

But it's a reblooming hydrangea!

Not all reblooming hydrangeas are equal - some need to reach a certain height to set new wood buds. Let's Dance® reblooming hydrangeas were developed to bloom sooner.

How old is the plant?

< 5 years
These plants tend to need to be more mature to flower well. Give them more time.

5+ years
Did you cut it back?

Yes

Oops! You cut off the flower buds. Avoid pruning.

No

Deer damage or low light

Still have questions about hydrangeas or other Proven Winners ColorChoice Shrubs? We're here to help you be successful in the garden! Visit www.provenwinners.com/feedback.

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GARDEN CLUB GRAPEVINE

Contact Lucy Malka at lhalka@optonline.net or 201-791-3562 to supply information for the Garden Club Grapevine. *Publication deadline is no later than the 25th of the prior month.*

PLANT SOCIETY GRAPEVINE

Contact Catie Farahat at cwfarahat@scatteringlight.com to submit information for the Plant Society Grapevine. *Publication deadline is no later than the 25th of the prior month.*

As a reminder, the Master Gardeners of Bergen County does not share or sell its mailing list to non-members. We keep all membership information confidential and for use by members only. If you receive email from other organizations, we did not give permission for their use of our membership list. We would appreciate it if our members would not share our list with non-members or use it for any unauthorized purposes as it is for official MG use only. When sending an email to the MG mailing list, please remember to 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. We would all like to see photos of Master Gardeners at work either at volunteer sites or in home gardens.