



# From the Potting Shed August 2019

Master Gardeners of Bergen County

## SAVE THE DATE

### Saturday, Oct. 5 2019 Rutgers MG fall conference

Three Rutgers professionals will speak on the theme of "How Did Climate Change My Garden?" at this year's Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey Annual State Conference. The event is scheduled for 8 am-3:30 pm Saturday, Oct. 5 at the Cook Student Center, 59 Biel Road, New Brunswick.

Dr. Anthony Broccoli will speak about "New Jersey's changing climate: Past and future" in which he'll summarize past and projected changes in climate focused on New Jersey. Dr. Broccoli is a professor of atmospheric science and chair of the Department of Environmental Sciences at Rutgers, where he also serves as co-director of the Rutgers Climate Institute. His primary research interest is climate dynamics, especially the simulation of past climates and climate change.



Anthony Broccoli

"Your climate-resilient urban grassland" is the topic of Richard Buckley, director of the Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Laboratory, who will discuss how you can realize the



Richard Buckley

environmental benefits of well-maintained turfgrass with the least input. Buckley lectures on disease and insect pest problems in turfgrass and ornamental plants and provides plant diagnostics and integrated pest management solutions.

Dr. William Sciarappa (pictured on page 2) is an associate professor and agricultural and resource management agent in

the Rutgers Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. New and improved indoor cultivation

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## From the President's Desk

*By Carolyn Gretchen*

Summertime is officially in full swing! Have you noticed any changes this year? Are you watering more frequently than years before? Are some of your plants already bloomed out? Or, are they perhaps getting a little more stressed than usual? If your answer is yes to any of these questions, then you will definitely want to attend this year's RMGANJ fall conference Oct. 5. Its very appropriate theme is "How Did Climate Change my Garden?"



Registration is currently open, and continental breakfast and lunch are both included in the registration. Click [here](#) for the webpage, and click "register" on the top bar. Attending will earn you five CEUs.

Don't forget our Bergen County Fall Festival at Van Saun Park Sept. 20-21. This year the fall festival comes before our September meeting, so please contact [Jeff Chan](#) or [Karen Riede](#) to volunteer, earn hours, and support our Class of 2019. They have excellent projects for you to admire and to educate the public.

August is a time to plan for your spring garden, plus don't forget to shop the end-of-season sales for the best bargains in perennials, shrubs, and trees. You can also order your spring bulbs for planting in the fall. If the weather continues to be hot and dry, water your most important plants first. Our gardens will continue to bloom well into September, so keep deadheading for continuous bloom.

For you lawn lovers who didn't "meadow plant," let your grass go dormant. It will green up when it cools down and rains. Remember, continue to mow high and leave your grass clippings on the grass. Growing vegetables? You can reseed in August for more cooler-weather crops.

Hope to see you at the conferences. Happy summer gardening!

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methods with aeroponics, hydroponics, and geaponics have created learning, teaching, and outreach opportunities for the MG curriculum. Dr. Sciarappa's topic is "Incorporating indoor cultivation techniques with aeroponics and hydroponics into Master Gardener activities."



**William Sciarappa**

**Conference details:** Registration is \$45 per person and includes a continental breakfast and boxed lunch. Click [here](#) to register either online or by mail/fax. The registration deadline is Oct. 1. No walk-ins will be permitted. Earn 5 Rutgers MG CEUs for attending this conference.

## MG OF BC NEWS

### Meet Pauline DuBois, Class of 2015

#### *By Miriam Taub*

Turn one way on Pauline DuBois' property and there's a neat-as-a-pin hosta garden. Go in another direction and you'll find the herb garden. Continue along the dense growth of forsythias that shield the property from the street and you'll find a very private sitting area. Creating a hummingbird garden is next on her garden to-do list.



**Pauline DuBois**

Pauline has owned the triangular-shaped property in Paramus since she was 21 years old. She was born in Queens, moved to Englewood Cliffs when she was 10, and graduated from the Academy of the Holy Angels (located in Fort Lee at the time). Recalling what she did after high school, she said matter of factly: "If you had a boyfriend you got married." Pauline had two children and one on the way when she "did the math" and calculated that she and her husband

could handle a mortgage that didn't exceed their current rent. With a down payment from her mother-in-law, they moved from an apartment in New Milford to a two-bedroom ranch in Paramus.

Four more children followed. Pauline summarized the tight fit in their household this way: All the kids slept in

one bedroom and "our back touched the doorknob" when six kids and two adults sat at the kitchen table. They added a dining room and kitchenette to the first floor and expanded upward to include a second floor with a half-bath. The two girls shared one of the original bedrooms while the four boys had the entire new second floor to themselves. Three of her boys served in the military. She has five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Pauline left the boys' clean clothes on the stairs. "I never went up there," said Pauline, explaining she is a firm believer in privacy. Once, when she did venture upstairs, she was surprised to find that one of her sons had made a table and headboard out of Coke cans. She said she had very few rules, one of which was "Don't lie to me because then you have the lie to contend with and *me* to contend with."

Now a single parent, Pauline said she needed to get a job. She took a computer programming course at a school at the Garden State Plaza. One interviewer (in those days they all asked whether she had kids) advised her that, as a programmer, she'd have to be available 24/7. He suggested data entry as a field less likely to require round-the-clock availability so she would have some time for her kids.

Pauline found a data entry job with Bogen Photo Corp. (now Bogen Imaging) in Englewood. She started in data entry in the days of punch cards and worked her way up to the accounts receivable manager by the time she left in 2008 after 31 years with the company. In brief, "I collected the money," she said.

Two events, Pauline recalled, put her on the garden path — literally. First, as a child, she and her Girl Scout troop members were given ivy to present to their mothers for Mother's Day. "Of course it was the wrong kind of ivy, but it got me into all kinds of stuff," she said. Second, her father raised lettuce, tomatoes, and radishes in the backyard. She remembered thinking how smart he was to be able to grow vegetables.

As a child, Pauline said that her family would spend her father's two weeks of vacation at his parents' 100-acre farm in Schenectady, NY, to help with the haying. She and her four siblings would ride on a hay wagon pulled by "two old nags," she recalled. Workers would pick up the hay and transport it to the barn, while the kids would climb to the barn's second floor and jump on the hay to compress it. "Grandpa did not have an easy time," she concluded.

Years later, Pauline learned about the MG program from an article in *The Record*. She was interviewed by Joel several years before enrolling in the Class of 2015. For

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her volunteer hours, she said, she works as a docent at the NJBG's Holiday Open House and at its plant sales. She also likes special projects, such as the creation of the Master Gardener Secret Garden at McFaul Environmental Center in 2018. She has planted peas at Garrison and volunteers at Van Saun and Washington Spring Garden. In addition, she participates in the Hackensack Riverkeeper cleanups in River Edge.

Outside of gardening, Pauline enjoys kayaking at Wawayanda State Park, Overpeck Creek, and Lake Hopatcong. She's a member of the St. Peter's Singles Support Group and plays mah jongg.

Pauline's a member of the Circle Eights Square Dance Club that meets in Hillsdale, and she dances three nights a week. She learned the dance steps at classes sponsored by the Paramus Community School. Club members attend dances at local square dance clubs and carpool to dances at clubs in other parts of the state. "You can dance all over the world," she explained as square dance steps are called in English. While some people go for the refreshments, she said, she's there to dance.

### **Volunteers needed at Bill Kolvek's nursery**

Can you devote a few hours to tidying up Bill Kolvek's nursery in Chestnut Ridge, NY?

A work crew is needed to assist Bill, an area nurseryman and long-time friend of the MG of BC, the weekend of Aug. 17-18. Volunteers will remove dead plants from containers, weed, and make small repairs, such as to deer fencing. Bring gloves, water, and a hoe. **Note:** Your time does *not* count toward MG volunteer hours.

Work will begin at 10 am both days and continue until it's completed. Volunteers are asked to work a minimum of two hours. The address is 5 DeSalvo Court, Chestnut Ridge, the first property on the right when you turn onto DeSalvo Court. The mailbox at the property's entrance has the number "16" on it and the words "The Ranch."

To volunteer, send a text to Maria Wind, a friend of Bill's and owner of [Wind Garden Design](#), at 201-982-0561 with your name and preferred date and time to work. Maria will coordinate volunteers and contact you in case of any change, for example, if all work is completed in one day. "Your work is highly appreciated and it's for a good cause," she said.

### **Are you missing a platter?**

An ivory, oval-shaped platter was found after the MG barbecue at Rohsler's Allendale Nursery in June. Contact Donna Karpel at [donna9189@gmail.com](mailto:donna9189@gmail.com) or 201-327-8835 to arrange pickup.

## **OUT AND ABOUT**

*Duke Farms is offering two programs for orchid lovers: A three-part program for the serious grower and a single session for those who want to begin their orchid education. Duke Farms is located at 1112 Dukes Parkway West, Hillsborough. This site makes a great day trip. Visit the [website](#).*

### **For the serious orchid grower**

Duke Farms will sponsor a three-part program for the serious orchid grower who has gone beyond the beginner stage. Classes meet one Saturday a month from 9-11:30 am.

**Aug. 10:** "It's all in the flower" focuses on the features of orchid flowers and associations with pollinator partners as well as relationships between different orchid species and genera.

**Sept. 28:** "Growing orchids in tune with nature" features how different orchids grow in their environments and how that translates into growing practices. This class includes information about orchid partnerships with fungi, orchid pests, and integrated pest management.

**Oct 12:** At the "Potting and troubleshooting" session, participants who have a concern about their orchids are encouraged to bring in one or two plants for a diagnosis. Problems are addressed, including the need for repotting. After a repotting demonstration, orchids will be supplied for participants to repot, which they'll take home. Orchids that have particular issues in the greenhouse also may be examined.

**Cost:** \$45 for the series. Click [here](#) to register.

**Notes:** Arrive at the Duke Farms orientation center at least 20 minutes early because the van leaves for the Orchid Range promptly at 9 am. Dress in layers as the greenhouses are warm. Dress appropriately for the repotting workshop.

### **Meanwhile, learn the basics about orchids**

This program — from 9 am-1 pm Saturday, Aug. 31 — is designed for those who are new to orchids and would like to learn more. Join the orchid specialists of Duke Farms as they teach the basics of orchid care. Participants will get an introductory tour of the Orchid Range and Native Orchid Nursery Bed and the chance to see some of the 1,500 orchid varieties grown at Duke Farms. Participants will learn, hands-on, to repot an orchid to take home and enjoy.

**Cost:** \$35. Click [here](#) to register.

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**Notes:** This orchid program is offered monthly, but space is limited and registration is required. Bring a small snack to eat during break, if needed. Arrive at the Duke Farms orientation center at least 20 minutes early because the van leaves for the Orchid Range promptly at 9 am. Dress in layers as the greenhouses are warm. Dress appropriately for the repotting portion of the class.

### Frelinghuysen Arboretum

Learn to increase your garden harvest by extending the growing season through the fall and winter from 1-2:30 pm Sunday, Aug. 11. For seven seasons, [Matt Mayernik](#) has harvested kale, carrots, parsnips, beets, greens, and other plants well into November and sometimes as late as December in his North Haledon garden.

Learn about his techniques and what plants he has found to be the most successful. The class will include a recommended schedule for seedling germination in the summer to prepare for the fall.

**Cost:** \$12 members/\$15 non-members. To register, click [here](#). Then scroll down to Aug. 11 in the left column. Earn 1.5 Rutgers MG CEUs. This event will be held in the Haggarty Center. Frelinghuysen Arboretum is located at 353 E. Hanover Ave., Morris Township.

### Hackensack River Greenway through Teaneck

Help remove trash and invasive plants at either of two clean-ups along the Hackensack River Greenway through Teaneck.

- Sunday, Aug. 4, 10 am-noon, Mary S. Topolsky Garden. Meet at 640 River Road, Teaneck; park on a side street. Bring gloves, rakes, and loppers, if you have them.
- Saturday, Aug. 17, 10 am-noon. Meet at the south end of Riverside Drive in Teaneck; park along Pomander Walk. Bring gloves, loppers, and clippers if you have them.

Check the [website](#) for any changes or cancellations due to weather conditions.

### NJ Botanical Garden/Skylands

*The NJBG is located at 2 Morris Road, Ringwood. On Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day, a State Park parking fee of \$5 for NJ-registered vehicles and \$7 for non-NJ-registered vehicles is charged. Visit the [website](#).*

**Audubon butterfly walk**

Join the Bergen County Audubon Society at 1 pm Sunday, Aug. 11 to walk the gardens and fields to identify the many butterflies that visit the NJBG. The group will discuss the host plants and nectar sources crucial for their survival. Meet at the Carriage House. Rain cancels.

### Concert: From opera to Broadway

Soprano [Justyna Giermola](#) and baritone [James Michael](#) offer an evening of opera arias and Broadway show tunes — everything from Mozart to Gershwin — beginning at 6:30 pm Friday, Aug. 23. Bring a lawn chair. The concert will move to the Carriage House in bad weather. A \$5 donation is requested.

### NY-NJ Trail Conference

Become a Habitat Helper by joining members of the Bergen-Passaic Chapter of the Native Plant Society to plant, remove weeds, and learn about the native plants at the NY-NJ Trail Conference headquarters on the following dates:

- Sunday, Aug. 4 and Sunday, Aug. 18: 9 am-noon.
- Monday, Aug. 26, 4:30-6:30 pm.

Wear long pants, and bring gloves, water, bug spray, and your favorite garden tools. The address is 600 Ramapo Valley Road (Route 202), Mahwah. Park in the lot or the Ramapo County Reservation, a short walk through the woods.

Click [here](#) for more information. Then click on “more details” to sign up for each date’s crew. You’re asked to register so the organization will know how many people to expect and to notify you of any weather-related updates.

## WORKSHOPS

The Monarch Teacher Network and Master Gardeners of Monmouth County will sponsor a two-day workshop about monarch butterflies Aug. 19-20. The workshop — “Teaching and Learning with Monarch Butterflies” — will combine classroom and field experiences for adults interested in butterflies, gardening, nature, science, North American cultures, and environmental education.

Participants will include teachers, MGs, naturalists, retirees, and other adults. The information can be used by educators in all grades to teach essential skills in literacy, science, geography, math, technology, Spanish,

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the arts, and social studies. Both sessions are 8:30 am-4 pm in the Monmouth County Ag Building, 4000 Kozloski Road, Freehold. (For GPS, use 3000 Kozloski Road.)

**Cost:** \$99. For details and the enrollment form, click [here](#).

## HORTICULTURE

**By Edith Wallace**

Since 2005 there has been a “plant-of-the-month” displayed in the Glen Rock Library, thanks to two Glen Rock Garden Club members. In 14 years more than 160 different plants have been displayed. In recent years many of them have been contributed by Perry’s Florist in Glen Rock. In July, this spectacular Australian sword



fern (Kimberly queen fern, *Nephrolepis oblitterata*) was the star. This is an easy houseplant that may be put outdoors in the summer. If inside, give it indirect light and high humidity, 60 to 75 degrees. Water only when the soil is dry to the touch. Fertilize with half-strength plant fertilizer every three months.

## FARMERS MARKETS

**Allendale Farmers Market**, 500 W. Crescent Ave.; through October; Saturdays, 9:30 am-2:30 pm.

**Englewood Farmers Market**, Depot Square Park, North Van Brunt Street and Demarest Avenue; through October; Fridays, 11 am-6 pm.

**Fort Lee Farmers Market**, Plaza at the Fort Lee Community Center, 1355 Inwood Ter.; through October; Sundays, 8 am-2 pm.

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

**Oradell Farmers Market**, 618 Veldran Ave. (post office parking lot); through November; Sundays, 10 am-3 pm.

**Paramus Farmers Market**, Petruska Park north parking lot, 475 Farview Ave.; through October; Wednesdays, 2-7 pm.

**Ramsey Farmers Market**, Main Street train station; through November; Sundays, 9 am-2 pm.

**Ridgewood Farmers Market**, train station parking lot, Godwin and West Ridgewood avenues; through October; Sundays, 9 am-3 pm.

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

**Rutherford Farmers Market**, Park Avenue and Glen Road; through October; Wednesdays, 11 am-6 pm.

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

### Useful links

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

### 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, US 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.

# VOLUNTEER SITE NEWS

## The Hermitage

To volunteer, contact [Kathleen Sullivan](#) or [Lynn Curtin](#).



Cynthia Drennan



Arta Pagano

### Story and photos by Kathleen Sullivan

Our original vegetable garden was planted as a demonstration exhibit for the 100th anniversary of World War I (2017). Now we're planting the vegetables grown by the last owner of the Hermitage, Mary Elizabeth Rosencrantz. We're going to rename the patch "Mary Elizabeth's Garden." When she died in 1970 and bequeathed the Hermitage to the State of New Jersey, Mary Elizabeth left behind hundreds of years of lists and documents. Among these were lists of her vegetable plants, which sustained her family during years of poverty. There were many berry bushes on the property, so we've included highbush blueberries and wild raspberries in our efforts. So far, our harvests have been meager; we mostly distribute the yield to MGs. Our hope is to produce more every year and donate to the Center for Food Action in Englewood.

The Hermitage grounds comprise 4½ acres, much of which had been untended for years. It's a constant battle against the weeds. I'm pleased to say we're winning the battle with MG muscle and woodchips, which is what we need help with this summer. We have gotten truckloads of fragrant chips so we'll be ahead of the game next year if we manage to spread all of it.



Sal Lagattuta



Elizabeth Gil



Lynn Curtin

## Butterfly and Native Garden



Pat Knight (wearing a white cap and standing under the orange sign bearing her name) shares her knowledge of native plants — as well as a few laughs — with members of the Bergen County Audubon Society who toured the Leonia site where she's the volunteer site coordinator. For more information about this volunteer site, contact Pat at [gspmk@hotmail.com](mailto:gspmk@hotmail.com) or 201-848-0069.



The **Horticulture Grapevine** will resume in September. The deadline to submit information about garden club meetings that are open to the public is Aug. 25. Send your information to [Miriam Taub](mailto:Miriam.Taub).



The Master Gardeners of Bergen County doesn't share or sell its email/ mailing list/membership directory 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 or commercial 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 by first and last name. Submit photos to [janet-schulz@hotmail.com](mailto:janet-schulz@hotmail.com).**