

# The Garden Club of Princeton Newsletter

**April 2016**

**Volume 16, Issue 7**

## Dates to Remember:

April 1 Membership  
Final date to request change in status  
Final date to submit seconding and support letters to Mary Hulme

April 1 Beds and Boarders  
Deadline: Submit orders to Betsy Hoover

April 5 9:30 a.m. – 12:30  
Photography Workshop – Frank Barbella  
iPhone Photography Workshop, Part 2  
@ McGraw Rink classroom, PDS

April 8 10:00 a.m.  
French Market Meeting  
@ Tracy Sipprelle

April 12 8:30 a.m.  
Conservation Field Trip to AeroFarms  
@ Kathleen Biggins

April 12 **TIME CHANGE** 9:30 a.m.  
Executive Committee Meeting  
@ Debbie Jordan

APRIL 12 11:00 a.m.  
Program Planning Meeting  
@ Debbie Jordan

April 13 9:30 a.m.  
Memorial Park Clean-Up Day

**April 19 10:30 a.m.**  
**GCP Meeting Speaker: Peter Ham**  
**Horticulture and Floral Design Shows**  
**@ D&R Greenway**

April 22 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
French Market – Mercer Island Park  
Topiary Workshop – Mary Hulme

April 26 noon  
Conservation Planning Meeting  
@ Kathleen Biggins

April 28 9:30 a.m.  
Memorial Park Clean-Up Day

April 29 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
French Market – Mercer Island Park

## President's Message

From my April garden,

April is one of my favorite times of year. Is there a garden that is not beautiful in April, once it is tidied from winter's debris? Is there anything more perfect than bare earth and new growth, with its vivid colors, flawless surface, disease free and perky, confidently greeting the world, unaware of the blight, drought, weeds, storms and trampling feet that await it as it grows? April is a promise – a hint of the growing season to come.

Although April marks the beginning of the garden season, it also marks the beginning of the culmination of our garden club year. On April 5 our cell phone photographers will gather for Part 2 of the Ins and Outs of Cell Phone Photography. On April 12, our Conservation Committee will travel to AeroFarms in Newark to study vertical, aeroponic farming, providing fresh produce to NYC. Also on April 12, Execs and our major committee chairs will gather to plan the calendar for 2016-17. On April 22 and 29, we will bring blooms and divided plants from our gardens to Mercer Island and create the French Market. On April 13 and 28 we will gather at Mercer I. and Memorial Park to clean up and plant our annuals to create a beautiful display. At our April Membership Meeting on April 19, 2016 at the D&R, we will enjoy our spectacular "Daffs and Friends" Horticulture Show and hear Landscape Gardener Peter Ham discuss "Politics in the Garden: Development of the English Naturalistic Landscape Garden Style in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century." At the April Meeting, due to the college graduation of her son Hunt in May, I will pass the President's gavel to GCP's incoming President, Betsy Griffith, with my congratulations, thanks and best wishes for her term.

In a nod to Peter Ham's subject, I offer the following poem of William Wordsworth, originally published in 1807 and revised and re-published in 1815, describing the April view enjoyed by Wordsworth and his sister as they walked along the water's edge in England's famed Lake District. Panned by contemporary critics, the poem is one of the most loved in the English language and is widely taught to English school children today.

Fondly,  
Debbie

**I Wandered Lonely As A Cloud (Daffodils) - Poem by William Wordsworth**

I wandered lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host, of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle on the milky way,  
They stretched in never-ending line  
Along the margin of a bay:  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they  
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:  
A poet could not but be gay,  
In such a jocund company:  
I gazed- and gazed- but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude;  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
And dances with the daffodils.

**HISTORIAN: Sandi Tatnall**

In March 2010 The Princeton Packet wrote an article about our French Market which began "Each spring and autumn, a little slice of Paris comes to Princeton. Modeled after the flower stalls at L'Eglise de la Madeleine a Paris, the Garden Club of Princeton's French Market has brightened spirits for more than nine decades..."

This year the Market will be opened only in the spring but our intent and purpose remains the same. The Market was founded during World War I for French War Relief and later became the club's source for our gifts to Civic Projects. One of our earliest gifts was to the Princeton Hospital and the Princeton Public Library.

In an early description of the Market, dated 1915, two of our members, Harriette F. Armour and Jessie P. Frothingham, described it this way: "One of the most charming and useful developments of the fashionable Garden Club is the democratic flower market. It has the main element of a popular fete - the spectacular - and appeals to a common love of growing things. There is hope and promise that it will prove one of the practical ways of encouraging communal interest and pride in gardening."

Well, we're still at it and perhaps our goals have changed a bit, but I think we have remained true to the ideals set forth 101 years ago.

See you at the Market!!

**PHOTOGRAPHY: Linda Sedgewick, Maureen Stellato**

If you own a cell phone you will want to attend the next meeting of the Photography Committee. Frank Barbella is returning to repeat his workshop on taking great photos on your telephone. Frank will give additional information on how to make adjustments to your photos after you have taken them to make them even more impressive. Any photo at all can be improved with these techniques, and Frank makes it all seem simple. We will be meeting on **April 5, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30** in the classroom at McGraw Rink, Princeton Day School campus. The fee for his presentation is \$20. Please email Maureen ([mstellato624@yahoo.com](mailto:mstellato624@yahoo.com)) or Linda ([lsedgewick@yahoo.com](mailto:lsedgewick@yahoo.com)) if you plan to attend.

## MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2016 BUS TRIP & MEETING

**WELCOME:** President Debbie Jordan called to order the General Meeting of the Garden Club of Princeton held on a bus en route to the Philadelphia Flower Show.

**ATTENDANCE** was taken and guests were introduced. A quorum was not established.

**THANK YOU:** Debbie thanked Jane Murphy and Mary Funsch for making the arrangements for the trip to the Flower Show. She also thanked Sophie Glovier, Barbara Chatham, Trudy Healy and Candy Walsh for providing box lunches for everyone.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Memorial Park:** There will be two clean-up days for Memorial Park. The first will occur on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 9:30 a.m., in advance of the first French Market.

**Floral Design:** Stephanie Wedeking announced that there are only a few openings left for the April 19 floral design show. She encouraged members to sign up for them.

**French Market:** A sign-up sheet was passed around the bus for those wishing to order container plant combinations from Beds and Borders. Orders are due by April 1.

**Horticulture:** Kathy Enquist informed us that Boxwood will be next year's Species of the Year. The following year, peonies will be the Species of the Year. She suggested that members interested in planting peonies this spring should check out "Peony Envy" at the Flower Show. Among other items, "Peony Envy" offers wonderful tree peonies which can be grown in containers - for those short on space.

**Visiting Gardens:** On behalf of Barbara Gallup and Barbie Bromley, Visiting Gardens Chairs, Debbie reported that on May 25, after the Zone Show, when we will all be ready to celebrate this year's accomplishments, there will be a tour of Glencairn Cathedral and Gardens in Pennsylvania. Some of the gardens were designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. This will be a day trip with lunch.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Stephanie Wedeking urged members to visit the Zone Flower Show in May. Stephanie Wedeking also solicited volunteers for the Zone Meeting and Show.

Pam Mount informed members of the Local Living Expo to be held on March 19 at the gym at Rider University. All the sustainability groups in Mercer County hope to participate. There will be a farmers' market, a petting zoo, lots of vendors and plenty of parking. The event is free. Pam encouraged members to come and bring friends.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Gosnell, Recording Secretary

## VISITING GARDENS: Barbie Bromley, Barbara Gallup

### May 25 – Trip to Bryn Athyn Cathedral and Cairnwood Estate

To celebrate the end of a fabulous year join us on Wednesday, May 25 for a FUN, RELAXED, and informative visit to Bryn Athyn Cathedral and Cairnwood Estate, a National Historic Landmark, in Bryn Athyn, PA. We will have a guided tour by the head gardener of the Cathedral, Cairnwood, and the extensive grounds, (influenced by Olmsted.) We have planned a fabulous lunch on the grounds. The cost is \$50, all inclusive. We will car pool as it is not far and depart around 9:30 a.m. and return by 4 p.m. Details to follow. Mark your calendars for a joyous day... Make your checks out GCP, and send to either Barbie Bromley or Barbara Gallup... Do Not Miss This Trip!

## ***ZONE IV MEETING APRIL UP-DATE: Molly Finnell***

### ***GCP and SBGC members!***

***You're invited to sign up for the open events for The Zone IV Meeting  
at Chauncey Conference Center, May 4-5, 2016  
Return of the Natives!***

### ***Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>***

- 3:00 – 5:00 Member gardens open for visitors                      No charge, no registration  
Tommye Schiro's garden, 145 Hodge Road  
Elizabeth Wislar's garden, 100 Quarry Lane  
Louise Wellemeyer's garden, 89 Rosedale Road
- 5:15 - 6:00 Flower Show Opening Reception - Brodsky Gallery, Chauncey \$35.00
- 6:00 – 8:00 Dinner in Garden Pavilion, Chauncey tent,  
featuring speaker Bill Cullina after dinner.                      \$60.00

### ***Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>***

- 9:00 – 1:30 Flower Show open to the public                      No charge, no registration
- 10:45 – 11:45 Speaker, Donald Leopold                      No charge, registration required  
Stony Brook room, Chauncey
- 12:00 – 1:45 Awards Lunch - Garden Pavilion, Chauncey                      \$35.00
- 2:00 – 4:00 Member gardens open for visitors                      No charge, no registration  
Tommye Schiro's garden, 145 Hodge Road  
Elizabeth Wislar's garden, 100 Quarry Lane  
Louise Wellemeyer's garden, 89 Rosedale Road

Registration for each of the events is handled by GCA headquarters on a first come first served basis within each club. Please sign up for each event you want to attend. **Starting on April 11<sup>th</sup>, please call (212) 753-8287, GCA Headquarters, and ask to speak to Lauren Drinker or Maggie Cruz who will take your registration.** We will make every effort to include everyone who wants to attend, but our space is limited and we may need to put your name on a waiting list.

If you would like to read more about the speakers and events, you can check out our invitation located on the Zone IV webpage on the GCA website. <https://www.gcamerica.org/index.cfm/members:news/get?id=808> Remember you won't be able to register for the whole meeting since that is only open to the invitees, but the invitation is a good place to see what will be happening on May 4 and 5!

## FLORAL DESIGN: B. Griffith, S. Wedeking, J. Fenton

We have an upcoming meeting, Horticulture Show and Floral Design Show on April 19. Our very exciting and poetically inspired Floral Design Show has three classes. Please review the classes in the green book and let [stephanie.wedeking@mac.com](mailto:stephanie.wedeking@mac.com) know in which class you would like to participate. Slots are filling up! Stephanie and Betsy are your show consultants, so please email/call them with questions, ideas, help, inspiration, etc.

### Horticultural Activities and Expectations

Barbara J. Bromley, Mercer County Horticulturist

Helpline Number: 609 989 6853

We encourage all members to go to the web site, "Barbara Bromley's Monthly Tips for Mercer County, NJ," at [www.mgofmc.org/monthlytips.html](http://www.mgofmc.org/monthlytips.html). There you will find her Mercer County Horticultural Activities and Expectations for the year and for each month.

## HORTICULTURE: Penny Thomas, Kathy Enquist, Louisa Clayton

### Garden Club of Princeton winners at the Philadelphia Flower Show:

Jeanette Ching - 2nd place in a daffodil novice class

Kathy Enquist - 3rd in a daffodil regular class

Cheryl Mooney - 3rd in a daffodil novice class

Jane Murphy - 1st in a daffodil regular class and 2nd in a regular tulip class

Penny Thomas - 2nd in a regular daffodil class and 2nd in an iris class

**Louisa Clayton reports:** The Ramapo Tomato seed-starting kits are flying off my front porch! Club members and their kids are starting these seeds with the hope to have hearty seedlings to show at the Zone Show in May. We also plan to be able to sell some of these young plants at the French Market this spring. Of course, each family should also have enough seedlings to keep some at home to grow their own plants and enjoy a tomato harvest over the summer. If you and a child are interested in a kit of your own, please contact Louisa Clayton ([lbcarchitect@gmail.com](mailto:lbcarchitect@gmail.com)).

**Coming up:** April 19, Daffs and Friends Horticulture Show. To prepare for this **BIG** show, we are reprinting from the April 2014 Newsletter, everything that you need to know to select, grow and enter handsome, winning specimens, especially if you check out the Utube links referenced below. **"Get Ready to Enter April's Daffodil Show"** is on the following page of this Newsletter. **We can't emphasize often enough that you must have the information for your entry card prepared in advance, as shown in the April 2014 Newsletter example, to avoid chaos during the short entry time frame. As stated in the green book, a daffodil identifier will help identify only one daffodil bloom per exhibitor, but only if the entry is submitted before 8:30 am. All other daffodil blooms must be identified prior to arrival at the show. If necessary, consult DaffSeek on the web.**

**Read the program book, bring your best, freshest blooms, groom them at home (space as well as time is short), and arrive EARLY. Plan ahead to avoid creating headaches by submitting just-under-the-wire entries.**

In researching information for the article on the following page, "Get Ready to enter April's Daffodil Show," we stumbled upon some helpful You Tube videos giving daffodil grooming tips and demonstrating flower manipulation techniques to improve a daffodil's form and pose. We strongly advise you to look at the videos before selecting your daffodils, as the videos are full of great information to improve the quality of your daffodil entries. Here are the hyperlinks to the videos:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vaM8rvRWVz4>

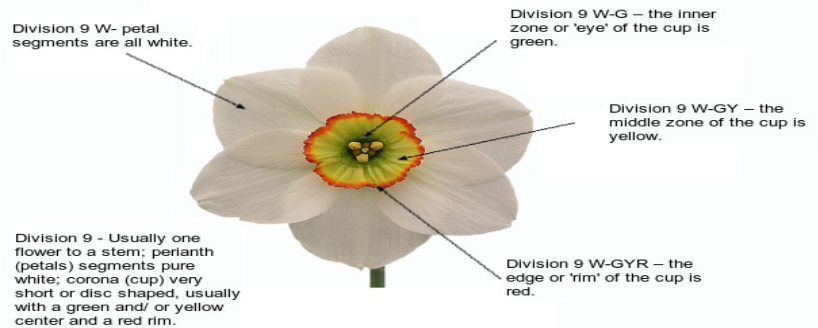
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Mjmfxl-uys>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gc5HKnLYYRs>

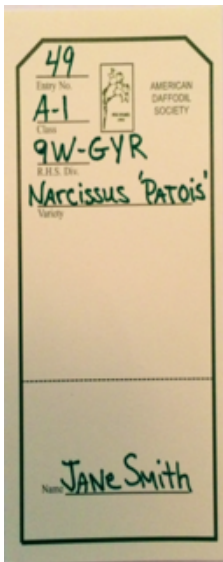
## Get Ready to Enter April's Daffodil Show

The first time you see a daffodil show, you may be amazed by how many different kinds are entered into the show, a bit confused by the daffodil classification system, and puzzled by how the judges could possibly choose one particular daffodil to win a blue ribbon when all of them were so beautiful. Knowing the classification system will smooth the entry process at the club's "Daff and Friends" horticulture show; and understanding the criteria used to judge daffodils will help us select and prepare the best daffodils for the show.

There are over 25,000 named cultivars of daffodils. The Royal Horticultural Society classifies them into thirteen divisions. The division number indicates a daffodil's form and the letters following indicate color of the perianth (petals) and corona (cup.) For example see *Narcissi 'Patois'* pictured at right. It has a RHS Division Code of 9W-GYR.



For April's daffodil show it is critical that you know the cultivar names of your daffodils before entering them into the show. By knowing the cultivar, the RHS Division Code can be found by using DaffSeek's daffodil database found on the Internet at <http://www.daffseek.org>. Passers will help identify ONE bloom per customer, but it behooves the exhibitor to do her own research on DaffSeek before coming to the show to avoid those last minute nervous breakdowns. Remember - the show entry card requires information on the variety (or cultivar) and the R.H.S. Division Code. See example of a correctly filled out entry card on the left.



Daffodils are judged according to eight criteria: Condition (20%), Form (20%), Substance and Texture (15%), Color 15%), Pose (10%), Size (10%) and Stem (10%). Of these criteria, Condition and Form are the most important.

Good condition means it should be fresh, clean and at the perfect stage of development. It should not show any faults such as injury, dirt, rain spots, pollen on cup, be too old or too young, anthers brown, ovary swollen, sheath badly mutilated or absent (never remove). Groom your entries before coming to the show. You can clean blooms with a moistened Q-tip or small paintbrush. Some experts swear by the use of skim milk to moisten the Q-Tips and others by their own saliva.

Good form means it should have petals that are flat and overlapping, balance of all parts to each other, and perfect roundness of the cup. Daffodil cups can be ruffled, serrated or notched and if they are any of these, they should be even and regular.

With a few exceptions, pose means the flower should be looking you right in the eye (or should we say, the judge's eye) and be on a straight stem. Triandrius daffodils (Division 5) are the exception and always face downward.

Explanations for each of the American Daffodil Society's eight judging criteria can be found on the Garden Club of Princeton's web site. Look for the link to Daffodil Judging Criteria on the Hort Committee page of the web site.

Daffodils symbolize rebirth and new beginnings. They are virtually synonymous with spring. We are certainly looking forward to spring this year, and to seeing your beautiful daffodil entries at the April horticulture show.

## FORGET-ME-NOTES

**Meeting RSVP Procedure:** All active, Sustaining and Provisional members RSVP regrets to lead hostess designated by an asterisk in the green book. Affiliate members RSVP acceptances.



**Please visit the following websites for updates and events:**

GCP blog page link: <http://gcaprincetonlocavores.blogspot> for a complete listing of all local farms, farm market schedules and a selection of recipes coordinated by our club. Send your recipe featuring local produce to: [farmmarketscnj@gmail.com](mailto:farmmarketscnj@gmail.com)

GCP Website: [www.gcprinceton.org](http://www.gcprinceton.org) Click on members section and sign in as: [members@gcprinceton.org](mailto:members@gcprinceton.org) Do NOT use your own email or set up your own password, as that will block out everyone else. Password is on page one of our green book.

GCA Website: [www.gcamerica.org](http://www.gcamerica.org) Please contact our club Administrator for assistance.

Return of the Natives! – Zone IV Flower Show: Flower Show schedule is on GCA website. All are invited to the Flower Show opening reception on Wednesday, May 4, 5:15 – 6:00.

Deadline for the next Newsletter: April 25, 2016

Please email entries to [tpms1206@aol.com](mailto:tpms1206@aol.com) in Arial font, size 11

Please write: GCP Newsletter – “Your Area” in subject line