

# The Garden Club of Princeton Newsletter

December 2016 - January 2017

Volume 17, Issue 4

## Dates to Remember:

December 2 **POSTPONED** (to Jan. 19)  
Garden History & Design  
@ Glovier

December 8 10:00 a.m.  
Executive Meeting  
@ Griffith

**December 13 9:30 a.m.**  
**GCP Meeting & Christmas**  
**Workshop (Please bring greens)**  
**@ Terhune Orchards**

January 10 9:30 a.m.  
Tutorial workshop/field trip  
"Organizing your photos on your iPhone,  
Mac or iPad"  
@ Apple Store, Quakerbridge Mall  
**This replaces Photography**  
**Workshop on Adobe Lightroom 2**  
**@ Sedgewick**

January 12 10:00 a.m.  
Executive Committee  
@ Griffith

**January 17 10:30 a.m.**  
**GCP Meeting & Luncheon**  
**Floral Design Speaker:**  
**Rusty Thomas, Floral Designer**  
**& Event Planner Extraordinaire**  
**@ Watershed**

January 19 Noon  
Garden History and Design  
@ Closser

January 24 7:00 p.m.  
Conservation Speaker: "River Friendly  
Certification"  
@Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Ass.

February TBD TBD  
Conservation movie night  
@ Sieck

**February 1**  
**Preliminary Proposal Form to**  
**Membership**

February 7 9:30 a.m.  
Photography Entries due

## President's Message

*Waking up this morning, I watched the sky as it graduated from lavender to violet to pink to white as the sun rose behind us. The water is calm as it is early and there is just a bit of a breeze. And then as it gets lighter, I am reminded that the ground below is gnarled and grassless and the overhead oak canopy is see-through. The bulkhead is broken and jagged like an old shipwreck. Dismal, yes, however, as we all have to make choices about how to move forward, I am already working on the new plan to "bring it back". More native plants, less grass and bigger beds with low maintenance grasses will work in the new year plan. Our island has lost an estimated 150,000 trees, mostly pine, live and pin oaks!*

*And in the Garden Club of Princeton, we have a new year coming as well and amazing adventures to share with you. And the planning that goes into making our club educational, as well as fun, is extensive. I am excited about what we have in store. Now that Thanksgiving has just passed, we are thinking about decorating for Christmas and the holidays and gift giving and celebrating the New Year. Our floral design committee has orange pomanders for you to make which will perfume your home. This activity follows our Christmas Workshop, which may be the most fun event of our year. Sitting side by side by current and potential new members at Terhune's, we make small visions, which are bound to make our home-bound happy. As we turn the year's page, are you getting your photographs ready for entry into the Photography show in February? It is going to be a beautiful show in our dedicated space at the Watershed. I am looking forward to celebrating the show with you over a cocktail shortly thereafter.*

*Mark your calendars with the events of 2017. They are not to be missed. My wish for you is a healthy and creative new beginning where the seeds that we are planting now will put up healthy new shoots. Arbor Day is just around the corner.*

*Sincerely, Betsy*

## MINUTES OF THE NOV. 15, 2016 GCP GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Submitted by Robin Gosnell, Vice President for Tracy Sipprelle, Secretary

**WELCOME:** President Betsy Griffith called to order the General Meeting of the Garden Club of Princeton held at D & R Greenway. She thanked hostesses Betsy Hoover and Mary Hulme as well as Program Chairmen Mary Funsch and Piper Burrows. Betsy applauded Penny Thomas for volunteering to serve as chairman of the Morven Festival of Trees. She noted that since Penny has enlisted the assistance of two friends, the club has the "best design team ever."

**ATTENDANCE** was taken and a quorum established.

**MINUTES** of the October meeting were approved.

**PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Betsy opened the meeting with excerpts from George Washington's "Rules of Civility & Behavior in Company and Conversation." The 110 rules proclaim our respect for others and ultimately for ourselves. They embody the courtesy we should strive to show one another.

Betsy announced that there would be a meeting at her house at 10:00 a.m. on November 16 to assemble the garlands and trees for the Morven Festival of Trees and that the installation of these items would take place on November 21. She complimented the design team on a simple, elegant concept based on the theme of starry, starry night.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Archives:** Martha Sword requested members to provide her committee with any spare long, hanging Oxford Pendaflex files in their possession.

**Conservation:** Betsy informed members that the week after Kathleen Biggins' presentation of the "C Change" team's climate report to our club, the group was invited to GCA headquarters to repeat the presentation. Kathleen reported that the GCA was impressed by the "non-partisan, non-political, basic facts" approach of the talk. The GCA then asked Kathleen and her team to open the NAL conference. The GCA believes that the presentation sets the neutral tone that the organization hopes will explain its focus on climate change to delegates from across the country and the political spectrum.

**Communication:** Barbara Morrison advised members to read the instructions in the October Newsletter on how to access the GCA website. She asked members who had not yet had their photographs taken to find her after the meeting. Barb has uploaded the photographs already taken to members' personal profiles online. Barb urged members to update their profiles.

**Horticulture:** Kathy Enquist offered a creative way to begin our club's new focus on trees. She explained that the oak is the national tree, and the red oak is the New Jersey State tree. Kathy has collected acorns and prepared materials for us to grow oak trees. At the back of the room, there are plastic bags, sphagnum moss, assorted acorns and instructions. All the acorns are native except those from the saw tooth oak, which has often been planted in this area. Kathy did not include pin oaks, because those oaks are especially susceptible to bacterial leaf scorch. The basic instructions are as follows: Dampen the moss, put it and an acorn in a plastic bag, label the bag with the name of the oak, and place the bag in the refrigerator for several months until the acorn begins to sprout. Remove the bag from the refrigerator, plant the acorn in a pot filled with soil, water regularly, and wait until spring to replant the oak tree outside. Kathy reminded members that gardeners use soil, not dirt. For those who would like further information on oak trees, she recommended "The Sibley Guide to Trees."

## MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2016 MEETING, continued

**Membership:** Betsy and Barb Morrison encouraged members to introduce themselves to the guests attending our meetings; and to bring prospective new members to the December meeting at Terhune Orchard. Barb has membership forms.

**Fall French Market:** Christina Calloway and Betsy Hoover showed members the holiday packaging for the Amaryllis bulbs on sale this fall. The festive boxes include bulb, pot, soil, and instructions. Members should contact Christina or Betsy to pick up their bulbs if they did not attend the meeting. Betsy noted that there are fifteen extra bulb kits available for purchase. She thanked Emily Firmenich for providing the opportunity to sell 75 of the bulbs at a Christmas luncheon at Stuart Country Day School. Betsy anticipates sales of 300 bulbs. The profits from the sales will benefit the club's civic projects. Betsy alerted members that she will be taking orders for Beds and Borders plants at the January meeting. She will try to forward pictures of the available offerings to members, but also encouraged members to examine the Beds and Borders catalogue online. To increase revenues, Stony Brook Garden Club has been invited to participate in the Beds and Borders sale. Friends are welcome to buy plants as well.

**Floral Design:** Stephanie complimented entrants in the Floral Design "Centerpieces Abound" show. She noted that all the provisionals had submitted arrangements. Members asked several questions regarding the show the answers to two of which Stephanie wanted to share with everyone. First, judges do not like to see invasive plants, like ivy, in arrangements. Ivy, although pretty, should therefore be avoided. Secondly, to date, members have been forbidden to use fruits, vegetables and accessories in arrangements unless otherwise specified. In the future, members will be allowed to use whole fruit and accessories. These guideline changes will be further explained in the next newsletter. There will be a workshop at Terhune Orchard after the December meeting on the many uses of orange pomanders. The cost will be \$25 per person. Friends are welcome.

**Newsletter:** Submissions are due on November 22, instead of November 24, because of Thanksgiving.

**Photography:** Linda Sedgewick suggested members visit the Carmen Herrera exhibit at the Whitney Museum. Both the photographs and the installation are magnificent. Linda also recommended an exhibit at the Barnes foundation entitled "The Masterworks of French Photography, 1890-1950." She and Maureen will contact the membership if they can organize a trip to the Barnes. Linda encouraged members with iPhones to take advantage of the photography classes offered at the Apple stores in Bridgewater and Quakerbridge Malls. Go to education at apple.com to see the available classes. Maureen Stellato encouraged members to take photographs and to consider entering the Photography Show to be held on February 21. Submissions are due by February 7. Maureen and Linda are delighted to answer questions. The protocols for photograph submissions set forth in the Green Book are incorrect. The Photography Committee will publish the updated guidelines in the next newsletter. In the meantime, members should note that photographs should be mounted on black foam board instead of being matted. The Committee will hold a workshop on the use of Adobe Lightroom at Linda's house on November 29.

**Announcements:** As there were no announcements, the meeting was temporarily adjourned until the program could begin.

**Program:** Born in England, Caroline Seebohm is a novelist, journalist, biographer, and researcher. She explored the topic of her most recent book, "Rescuing Eden: Preserving America's Historic Gardens."

The meeting was adjourned.

## PHOTOGRAPHY: Linda Sedgewick and Maureen Stellato

On Tuesday, January 10, we have arranged a “hands on” tutorial workshop/fieldtrip at the Apple store at the Quakerbridge Mall for an hour session on “Organizing your photos on your iPhone, Mac, or iPad. This will be limited to the first 10 people to sign up. Please contact Maureen or Linda ASAP to secure your place. Please note that this will be in place of the previously scheduled workshop on Adobe lightroom in our green book.

As a resource to why photography is important, please go to <http://100photos.time.com/> for an inspirational overview on the best 100 images of all times.

We trust you are taking lots of photographs on your smartphone or digital camera, do remember to familiarize yourself with our upcoming February Photography Show. All classes can be found on page 18 of our green book, If you are confused about “Chiaroscuro”, please see examples on <http://www.thephotargus.com/35-gorgeous-examples-chiaroscuro-photography/> to give you guidance.

Please review carefully the following rules before submitting your photograph(s) on Tuesday, February 7, 2017. To note, special emphasis to bullet points 2, 6 and 9.

### GCP Photography Guidelines for 2017

- Photography classes designated “novice” are for competitors who have never won a blue ribbon.
- An exhibitor may make only one entry in a class but may enter more than one class up to a total of four entries per show.
- Photographs that have won a blue ribbon in a Garden Club of America Flower Show or a Major Flower Show may not be entered again.
- Any kind of camera and film may be used.
- The photographs must be the work of the exhibitor. Matting, mounting, and printing may be done professionally.
- Any manipulation at the time of exposure, in the darkroom, by computer, or in the printing process is allowed in all classes, and must be the work of the exhibitor. This includes cropping of image, enhancement for color or clarity, removal of a part of the image, combining images, or distorting the original subject.
- All photography entries are limited to the subjects outlined in the purpose of The Garden Club of America such as horticulture, flower arrangement, gardens/landscapes, conservation/the environment, historic preservation and civic improvement, unless a non-complying class is in the schedule.
- If plant material in the image is identifiable, the common and botanical name(s) are required on the entry card and on the back of the photograph.
- Photographs must be flush mounted on black foam core with a total perimeter dimension **no larger than 50” and no smaller than 36”**. Frames and glass are not permitted.
- Each entry must be labeled on the lower right back of the mat with the exhibitor’s name, orientation of the photograph, class and section. Exhibitor’s name must not be visible on the front of the photograph or mat.
- All photographs will be passed by the Photography Co-Chairs to verify that all class specifications have been met.

The Photography Chairs may reclassify an entry, but only with the permission of the photographer. The Photography Chairs may subdivide a class, but the judges may not reclassify an entry.

## FLORAL DESIGN: Jennifer Fenton, Stephanie Wedeking

Congratulations and thank you to all who participated in our November show: Centerpieces Abound. The show was spectacular and we received a Judges Commendation! Well done, ladies!

December Workshop:

Please join us for a light lunch and tons of fun following the [December 13](#) meeting for our Floral Design Workshop: Orange Pomanders. We will be making aromatic orange pomanders and showing you how to display them in your home during the holidays. All materials provided. Your check for \$25 will reserve your space. Sign up by emailing [stephanie.wedeking@mac.com](mailto:stephanie.wedeking@mac.com).

January Floral Design Program: [Behind the scenes with Rusty Thomas](#)

Rusty Thomas, floral designer and event planner extraordinaire, will enchant us with his stories and photos about his experiences with his high end and glamorous clientele during the height of NYC glamour, and the Wildflower Project in Bucks County, behind which he is the major force.

## MEMBERSHIP: Barbara Morrison

"Tis the Season" ...to introduce friends and family to The Garden Club of Princeton! Our December 13 meeting and Christmas workshop provides a fun, casual way to meet and greet potential new members. The January meeting's program on floral design provides another opportunity to introduce guests to our membership.

Barb Morrison will have preliminary proposal forms at the upcoming meetings. Please let her or someone on the membership committee know if you are considering proposing someone for membership. Please let our club president and hostess know in advance if you are bringing a guest.

Important Dates to Remember:

February 1: Final date to submit preliminary proposal forms

April 1: Final date to submit completed proposal and letters of support

## COMMUNICATIONS: Barbara Morrison

*Social Media Mavens? Read Here, Stay in the Clear (from GCA eNews, November)*

Enthusiasm for the GCA, its purpose and accomplishments, and our participation is absolutely understandable, but we need everyone's help in safeguarding the GCA brand and privacy of individuals. When posting to your personal public Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and other accounts, please refrain from using the GCA name or logo, sharing the business of the GCA, identifying GCA individuals in photos without their permission, and posting photos of children involved in a GCA program or project. For more information, visit the GCA

website: [https://www.gcamerica.org/members/natl-org-gca-policies#101\\_177\\_399](https://www.gcamerica.org/members/natl-org-gca-policies#101_177_399)

## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBER: Mary Bryson



Holiday Show  
of  
Small Paintings  
by  
Mary Bryson

Dec. 1-Dec. 31, 2016  
Buck's Ice Cream & Espresso Bar  
25 Bridge St, Lambertville, NJ 08530  
Preview paintings at [marybrysonart.com](http://marybrysonart.com)

"Whole and Exposed" 6" x 6" framed \$150.00  
All framed paintings are \$150.00 each



## 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 be sure to let the hostess know if you are not staying for lunch.



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

GCP blog page link: <http://gcaprincedonlocavores.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, Cecelia Mathews, for assistance.

**Horticultural Activities and Expectations:** We encourage members to visit the web site, “Barbara Bromley’s Monthly Tips for Mercer County, NJ,” at [www.mgofmc.org/monthlytips.html](http://www.mgofmc.org/monthlytips.html). The helpline phone number is 609 989 6853

**December 13 GCP Meeting & Workshop - Members are strongly encouraged to bring greens from their yards to decorate our increasing number of Christmas workshop visions for Meals on Wheels. Holly, winterberry, evergreens of all kinds, magnolia are needed to make our arrangements.**

Deadline for the next Newsletter: January 24, 2017

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