Plainfield Garden Club General Membership Meeting
January 16, 2002

The regular meeting of the Plainfield Garden Club was called to order by President Mary Kent at the Crescent Avenue Church at 10:25 AM. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Recording Secretary Elva Busch and approved as read. The Treasurer's Report was given by Mary in the Treasurer's absence. She reported a balance as of Nov. 30, 2001 of $851.15 in the General Account and $3722.11 in the Community Account. Mary thanked today's hostesses: Anne Shepherd, Susan Fraser, Jennifer Higgins, and Bernice Swain.

The following committee reports were given:

**Conservation.** Susan Fraser reported that she needs a picture of the Plainfield High School project for the upcoming zone meeting.

**Flower Arranging.** Tucker Trimble complemented the group on their entries in the flower show being held today. She invited all present to enjoy the show following the meeting. She reminded members that our club needs an entry in the flower show for the zone meeting.

**New Jersey Committee.** Nina Weil thanked Susan Fraser for her efforts and for members filling in for her during her recent absence. Nina displayed the design for the high school project. She announced that the grant request from the New Jersey Committee for $6000 for the project has been honored. A sprinkler system will be installed at the school in the courtyard. The school principal and science department chairperson are interested in requesting additional funding from other sources.

**Program.** Karen Delaney announced that our next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Madison and Summit Garden Clubs. Karen will serve as hostess for our club. Members are requested to respond to Karen as to whether they are attending. Danielle Mellican will be speaking on Botanical Prints.

**Public Relations.** Sally Kroll gave a presentation of what the Founders' Fund is. Our club will be voting on the Founders' Fund soon.

**Newsletter.** Jennifer Higgins reported that there has not been a newsletter last month because of a computer problem she is having. She announced a one week deadline for entries in the next newsletter attempt. Please provide Jennifer with new e-mail addresses. Jennifer shared with the group her desire to affiliate with the Short Hills Garden Club in the near future.

**Nominating.** The committee has decided that Phyllis Alexander will be our club's delegate, along with Mary Kent, to attend the national meeting of GCA in Texas.

**Horticulture.** Phyllis Alexander reported that she has seeds for plants for the plant exchange. They are for geum and potentilla plants that are in the rosea family. She
reminded us to begin thinking about next year's plant exchange which will be trees and shrubs for public places. She also reminded members to take their seeds out that are being refrigerated after planting at the recent workshop. She discussed plantings from the propagation workshops. A schedule for the horticulture show at the Zone IV Flower Show will be in the newsletter.

**Newark Conservancy.** Nancy Plumeri spoke about the Gala for the Conservancy which will be April 26. She stated her appreciation for the club’s support in regards to the table arrangements. She discussed the work of the Great Newark Conservancy. Robin Dougherty, the Director, will be invited to an upcoming meeting.

**Visiting Gardens.** Bernice Swain shared details of the upcoming GCA sponsored tour in Spain. Elva Busch distributed listings of other Shakespeare Gardens throughout the country to visit.

**Announcements:**
Mary announced that Diana Madsen has been named Zone VI Director for the next term. Diana will serve as a liaison between the Zone Representatives and GCA. Her two year term begins in July, 2002. Also, Mary announced that Tucker Trimble has been asked to serve on the House Committee at GCA headquarters to provide arrangements there for approximately eight functions a year. Both members were congratulated on these appointments.

There being no further business before the club, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM. The program followed. The speaker, Marta McDowell, spoke on the gardens of Bamboo Brook in New Jersey. Refreshments were enjoyed and members then viewed the entries and results of the judged in-house flower show.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Busch
Recording Secretary
Plainfield In-House Show  
Wednesday, January 16, 2002

All entries will be passed at 9:00 am.  
Judging will begin at 9:30 am.

A CELEBRATION

Class I
Celebrate Life: Breakfast In Bed 
An arrangement of fresh flower material in a teacup, displayed on a tray. To be shown on a table covered with green material, 29 inches from the floor. Accessories permitted. Four entries.

Class II
Celebrate Manhattan
An arrangement of fresh flowers evoking the spirit of Manhattan to be displayed on a white pedestal 42 inches high with a 14 inch square top. Accessories permitted. Four entries. Note card with statement of intent required. Four entries.

Class III
Celebrate Heroes
A contemporary design to be displayed in a 3-sided light gray niche (back wall measures L20” x H24” x D16”). Background may be changed. Niche to be displayed on a green covered table 29 inches from the floor. Accessories permitted. Note card with statement of intent required. Four entries.

All official GCA Flower Arranging rules will apply. 
Questions: Tucker Trimble 654-5455
Here are the winners of the show:

Class I Breakfast In Bed
1. Kathy Andrews
2. Darlene Kasten/Nancy Plumeri
3. Diana Madsen/Elva Busch
  H.M. Jane Burner/Barbara Feek

Class II Celebrate Manhattan
1. Ramona Ferguson/Carroll Keating
2. Tucker Trimble
3. Susan Fraser
4. Jeanne Turner

Class III Celebrate Heroes
1. Mary Kent/Sally Booth
2. Karen Delaney
2. Phyllis Alexander
Plainfield Garden Club General Membership Meeting
February 14, 2002

The regular meeting of the Plainfield Garden Club took place on February 14, 2002 at Frelinghuysen Arboretum. President Mary Kent called the meeting to order at 9:50 AM. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Recording Secretary Elva Busch and approved as read. Mary thanked Karen Delaney for hostessing at the meeting and for making the meeting arrangements.

Treasurer Anne Shepherd gave the Treasurer’s Report. In the Operating Account we have a balance as of Dec. 21, 2001 of $8607.15 and in the Community Account of $3813.29.

Anne presented the proposed budget for 2002-2003.

Admissions. Diana Madsen announced that Judy Buehler has accepted membership into the club. Judy will be present for the April meeting. She has been assigned to Civic Projects.

Conservation. Susan Fraser announced that members will be needed for a Saturday workshop at the Plainfield High School to assist with the courtyard project. She also announced that Sat., Feb. 16 work will begin on cleaning up the courtyard. She stated that the high school is most appreciative of the club’s efforts. There will be 168 plants added to the courtyard. Susan discussed the history of some of the plantings that have taken place in the past.

Flower Arranging. Mary Kent read a report from Tucker Trimble in her absence. Tucker thanked club members for their entries and conveyed the complementary comments made by the judges. She thanked those from the club who assisted with the show.

Announcements. Mary announced that the Somerset Hills Garden Club will have its House and Garden Tour on Thurs., June 6. Invitations will follow. Mary also announced that she will distribute a sheet for suggestions for field trips in a few months.

Plant Sale. Sign-up sheets for volunteers were passed for the plant sale on Sun., April 21. This will be the club’s only fund raiser.

Awards. Sally Booth displayed the engraved bowl given to Diana Madsen at the last club annual meeting.

Founder’s Fund. Entrees for this year’s Founder’s Fund were read by Sally Booth and Diana Madsen. The club voted for its selection. A vote for this selection will be cast by the delegates to the GCA Annual Meeting.

Budget. Following the members review, a motion was made by Barbara Sanford to accept the proposed budget. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Loizeaux. Motion carried.
Billboards. Barbara Sanford spoke about objections to billboards along the I-287 Highway.

There being no further business, the business meeting adjourned at 10:25. The group then convened with the Madison and Summit Garden Clubs to hear the speaker, Danielle Mellican, who spoke on "Botanical Prints."

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Elva Busch
Recording Secretary
Plainfield Garden Club General Meeting
April 17, 2002

The general meeting of the PGC met at the home of Phyllis Alexander following the opening spring clean-up in the Shakespeare Garden. President Kent called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Phyllis Alexander substituting for recording Secretary Elva Busch and approved as read. The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Anne Shepherd who reported a balance as of February 28, 2002 in the Operating Account of $7541.49 and in the Community Account of $3716.29.

Announcements
Mary reported that Jennifer Higgins is no longer writing the newsletter. Susan Frasier will take over, and her e-mail address is: SKF 729@aol.com. Hopefully Jennifer will pass on already submitted information to Susan Frasier.

Nancy Plumeri announced that she is selling raffle tickets for the Newark Conservancy Gala.

The plant sale will take place on April 28, 2002 at the Westfield Spring Fling. We probably won't do any perennials due to the drought but will try to get some unusual annuals that no one else has. Jeanne Turner is interested in heirloom tomatoes. Mary Kent reported that we would be the only garden club booth at the Spring Fling. The club will spend up to $800 to purchase plants from Molenar Nursery in Pa. Joan Vivian has offered to lend her tent. Diana Madsen will call GCA to obtain informative brochures to provide to the public. A sign-up sheet was circulated for work times on that day. Garden club members will wear green aprons. Other logistics of the plant sale were discussed.

Corresponding Secretary: Jane Burner announced that Penny Taylor will be taking a leave of absence from the club due to her responsibilities as a teacher at Evergreen School in Plainfield. Penny's name is now Ms. Penny Hewitt.

Second Vice President Jeanne Turner reported on the plans for Shakespeare in Bloom. The date is June 1, from 10 to 4 o'clock. Evie Madsen will hopefully give a talk about the history of the garden and Ramona Ferguson and Tucker Trimble will provide a flower arranging demonstration from Elizabethan times such as Tussie Mussels.

Announcements will be printed on bright yellow paper. It was agreed that we should do something special for the 75th anniversary of the Shakespeare Garden. We will serve cookies and punch and will have a tree planting ceremony and ask the public to join us.

Phyllis Alexander announced that the Garden Club table will sell homemade baked goods as done in the past. Suggestions will be provided at the May meeting.

Club members will wear comfortable clothes with aprons and garden hats.

A get-together supper will be held at the home of Anne Shepherd after Shakespeare in Bloom. We will sign up and make a financial contribution toward the dinner.
Plainfield Garden Club  
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**Admissions:** No report.

**Flower Arranging:** Tucker Trimble announced that the Zone IV show organizers would like more photography entries. The theme is a photograph incorporating water. The zone show will be held on May 21 and May 22. Tucker will be entering a miniature arrangement.

Tucker also announced that although the NJ committee did take a deficit from the cancellation of the plant sale, members generously donated over 20,000 to the Growing Fund. The committee was able to give out over $19,000 in grants.

**Horticulture:** Phyllis Alexander announced that our club received 14 out of 18 possible points at the Annual Meeting Plant Exchange. We received two merit stakrs for plants grown by Mary Kent and Phyllis. Members were encouraged to enter the Zone IV show.

Mercer O’Hara has agreed to do a terrarium workshop next winter. She would like to receive advance notice so she can grow plants for the workshop. The PX for 2003 is titled, “Trees and Shrubs for Public Places”. Phyllis will arrange a propagation workshop at the arboretum.

**Conservation:** 52 million dollars have been donated to the GCA for the Casey tree project to replant trees in Washington DC. Ms. Casey has requested that the GCA be in charge of this project.

**Civic Projects:** Nina Weil announced that $6000 has been received from the Plainfield Foundation for the Atrium project at PHS. We now have the $10,000 needed for this project. We will also apply for an addition $1000 from the Tyler foundation. These additional funds will be used to design benches and a walkway. The sprinkler system will be installed soon; we will wait and see about the drought before planting plans are made.

**Program:** Darlene Kasten and Nancy Plumeri have just about completed arrangements for the 2002-2003 program.

**Nominating:** Joan Vivian announced the nominating committee’s recommendations for officers: We are making a change, and Mary Kent will continue as president for the next two years.

First VP: Phyllis Alexander  
Second VP: Jeanne Turner  
Recording Secretary: Judy Buehler  
Treasurer: Anne Shepherd (Kathy Andrews has agreed to be assistant treas.)  
Corresponding Secretary: Jane Burner
Elva Busch has agreed to take over as Conservation Committee chairman since Susan Frasier will be doing the newsletter.

**Other announcements:**

The Daffodil Show will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 26 and 27.

Mary Kent passed out a sign-up list for working in different garden areas.

A clipboard was also circulated with a list of places to visit; members were requested to check their garden of interest.

We discussed the possibility of extending the watering system in the garden. If we plant Lonicera/“Woodbine” at the pergola it is going to need water. The new yews will also require watering. Bernice Swain asked if the money from the upcoming plant sale could be targeted for this purpose. A decision was not finalized.

Sally Booth gave some recommendations for hort. prep for our May show.

There being no further business before the group, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Alexander for Elva Busch, Recording Secretary
2-14-02 Attendance:  
1. Nancy Blumer  
2. Susan Freese  
3. Sally Bosom  
4. E. Lojeaux  
5. M. Kent  
6. Barbara Landford  
7. Bernice Swain  
8. Kathy Andrews  
9. Diana Hadson  
10. Darlene Kesten  
11. Ken Delaney  
12. Evie Madken  
13. Qin Wiqton  
14. Betty P. Harkenson  
15. Evie Madken  
16. Ann Sheppard  
17. Joan Jurvan  
18. Allen Burch
Plainfield Garden Club General Membership Meeting
May 15, 2002

The regular meeting of the Plainfield Garden Club was called to order at 9:30 AM at the Crescent Avenue Church in Plainfield by President Mary Kent. A motion was made to defer the reading of the minutes. It was seconded and carried. Mary thanked the hostesses for the day: Nina Weil, Barbara Peek, Evie Madsen, and Elva Busch.

Treasurer's Report
Treasurer Anne Shepherd gave the following report:
Operating Account $7240.57
Community Account $3002.58

Shakespeare in Bloom
Chairperson Jeanne Turner distributed packets of flyers for the event. Sign-up sheets for workers were distributed. Garden tours will be offered from 10 – 1 and 2:30 – 4. The speakers will be members Bernice Swain and Evie Madsen. A tree planting will take place. There will be a garden club table. All members are asked to bring at least two baked items for sale. Members volunteered to provide the coffee service. Workers are needed in the garden for preparation the entire week before the event. A sign-up sheet for the after event party at Anne Shepherd's home was distributed.

Admissions
Chairperson Diana Madsen introduced new member Kathleen Smythe and announced that the other new member is Valerie Roger.

New Jersey Committee, Civic Projects
It was reported that $4000 has been received from the New Jersey Committee and $6000 has been received from a Plainfield Foundation grant. To date $2000 has been spent on the sprinkler system. Planting will be done in the fall, pending the drought restrictions.

Plant Sale
Carroll Keating reported on the successful Plant Sale held in Westfield on April 28. She thanked those members who helped with the sale in various ways.

Zone IV Meeting
Mary reported that the club needs an additional delegate for the Wed., May 22. Susan Fraser will be the delegate for Tues., May 21. Mary Kent, Diana Madsen and Tucker Trimble will be attending as well.

Announcements
Mary told the group that Peggy Tyler had surgery on May 14. A get well card was passed for her. Members were requested to try to assist Peggy during her recovery. Mary distributed a wish list for club field trips for next year.
Demetria “Meechie” Loosli
Barbara Sanford delivered a lovely tribute to former club President Meechie Loosli. The day’s agenda was moderated so that members could attend Meechie’s funeral being held at the same time as the meeting.

Nominating
Joan Vivian reported on the slate of officers for 2002-2003:
President Mary Kent
1st Vice President Phyllis Alexander
2nd Vice President Jeanne Turner
Treasurer Anne Shepherd
Assistant Treasurer Kathy Andrews
Recording Secretary Judy Buehler
Corresponding Secretary Jane Burner

There being no further business before the group, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM. The speaker for the day was Mr. Steven Kristoph who spoke on Indigenous Trees and Shrubs. Also, the club held its in-house Horticulture Show which was judged while the meeting was taking place. Following the speaker’s presentation, members viewed the show.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Busch
Recording Secretary
Plainfield Garden Club
5-15-02

1. Kathleen Smythe
2. Jeanne Turner
3. Barbara Handford
4. Ewe Madsen
5. Shevala
6. Jane Bumm
7. Bernice Swain
8. Nancy Plummer
9. Darten Kasten
10. Karen Delaney
11. Toclen Trimby
12. Kerry Anderson
13. Judy Buehler
14. Easter Buehler
15. Carroll Keating
16. Mary Kent
17. Phyllis Alexander
18. Sally Booth
19. Barbara Sanford
20. Joan Vivian
21. Betty Hackett
22. Nina Wei
23. Anne Shepherd
24. Barbara Peck
25. Diana Madsen
26. Susan Fraser
Plainfield Garden Club
Annual Meeting
June 5, 2002

The Annual Meeting of the Plainfield Garden Club was held on June 5, 2002 in the Shakespeare Garden, Cedarbrook Park, Plainfield, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 10:20 AM by President Mary Kent.

Minutes of the last annual meeting in June of 2001 were read by Recording Secretary Elva Busch. The minutes were approved as read. Mary stated that her President’s report, as presented at the GCA Annual Meeting and Zone IV Meeting, will be filed. Mary announced that committee chairpersons should submit their reports to her.

There being no further business before the group, the annual meeting was closed at 10:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Busch
Recording Secretary
Plainfield Garden Club  
General Membership Meeting  
June 5, 2002

The closing meeting for the year of the Plainfield Garden Club was held on June 5, 2002 in the Shakespeare Garden. The meeting was called to order by President Mary Kent at 10:00 AM.

Mary distributed a wish list for field trips for the upcoming year for members to add suggestions to. A listing of committees was distributed. Members were requested to sign-up for at least one of the committees. These include Civic Projects, Conservation, Horticulture, and Flower Arranging.

Mary thanked the hostesses for the day’s picnic to follow the meeting: Nancy Plumeri, Darlene Kasten, Joan Vivian, and Jane Burner.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Recording Secretary Elva Busch and approved as read. It was announced that Karen Delaney is moving to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and will be assuming affiliate membership in the club. Guests were introduced. They included Patty Gates, a guest of Nancy Plumeri and Jane Slote, the guest of Barbara Peek.

2nd Vice President's Report
Jeanne Turner thanked club members for their participation in Shakespeare in Bloom held on June 1. She thanked Elva Busch for publicity efforts, those members who ran the horticulture and garden club tables, and Bernice Swain and Evie Madsen for speaking at the event. She also thanked Nina Well for providing the signs for the event.

A discussion ensued about the future of the Shakespeare in Bloom event and the club’s involvement in the garden. Other club activity involvement was discussed as well. Following the discussion, a hand vote was taken and it was decided that Shakespeare in Bloom will not be held in 2003. The group then discussed possible fund-raising activities and the focus of the club.

Horticulture
Phyllis Alexander, Horticulture Chair, reported that Joan Vivian and Mary Kent received blue ribbons for their entries in the perennial class at the recent zone show. It was also reported that the video of TV spots done two years ago has been found. A workshop with Steven Kristoph will be held on Mon., June 17th at 9:30 AM.

Flower Arranging
Tucker Trimble reported on her first prize winning entry in the miniature niche class at the Zone Flower Shop.

Poem
Joan Vivian read an entertaining poem entitled, My Wife, My Gardener.” It will be printed in the newsletter.
Awards
President Mary Kent recognized three members of the club who became members in 1977 for their many contributions to the club over the years. These members, Barbara Peek, Jane Burner, and Anne Shepherd, were presented with floral arrangements.

Mary then presented several members with ABCD ("Above and Beyond the Call of Duty" Awards. Carroll Keating was honored for successfully running the plant sale as part of Westfield’s Spring Fling, a new endeavor. Elva Busch was recognized for several contributions to the club during the year. New members Nancy Plumeri and Darlene Kasten were honored for stepping up during their first year in many ways. All received containers for arrangements.

The Evie Madsen Award for Horticulture was given by Phyllis Alexander to Joan Vivian. She received the gift of hand care for gardeners. The Betty Hackman Award for Flower Arranging was given to Kathy Andrews for her entry at her first flower show. She received a vase. The Barbara Sanford Award for Conservation was given for Preservation this year. It was presented to Tucker Trimble for her efforts in preserving the reputation of the Shakespeare Garden. She received a bamboo container.

Sally Booth presented the Past President’s Award, an engraved silver bowl, to Joan Vivian. The Silver Trowel Award was given by Mary Kent to Susan Fraser for her many efforts this year including the Harvest Show preparations, the planning of the Plainfield High School project, and for editing the newsletter.

All receiving awards were congratulated.

There being no further business before the club, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM. Members then enjoyed a delicious lunch in the garden.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Elva Busch
Recording Secretary
Attendance 6/5/02:

Mary Kent
Tucker Trimble
Betty Hackman
Joan Vivian
Nina Weil
Anne Shepherd
Sally Kroll
Kathleen Smythe
Phyllis Alexander
Sally Booth
Jeanne Turner
Elva Busch
Darlene Kasten
Bernice Swain
Jane Burner
Valerie Roger
Anne Wigton
Evie Madsen
Peggy Tyler
MaryAnn Gonder
Kathy Andrews
Nancy Plumeri
Barbara Sanford