Subj: Plainfield Garden Club Newsletter, October 2002

Date: 10/08/02 10:37:25 AM Eastern Daylight Time

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President's Message

Once again The Plainfield Garden Club members have gone above and beyond the call of duty. Your participation at the Harvest Show was outstanding. Every morning of the plant sale I arrived and had the help of at least one of you. Susan Fraser, of course, was the ultimate organizer of the whole operation. The N.J. Committee is eternally grateful. Thank you, Susan Tucker, Nina, Sally Booth, and Joan, your transporting the extra plants was really a huge undertaking. After such a busy week, your taking the extra time out of all of your busy schedules was greatly appreciated. Thank you to all who contributed plants. Having good plant material is what makes the sale a success.

We are really off to a roaring start. Think of all we've done since the second week of Sept!!! Our first meeting was great. What a beautiful day.

I have heard the High School project looks wonderful. Thanks to all who helped with the work this past weekend. I can't wait to see it on Wed. I seem to be going on and on and this is only our first newsletter!!! Welcome back to another Garden Club Year! Mary

Hort News

Thanks again to everyone who donated plants for the Harvest Show. Our club made a very nice contribution of beautiful, healthy specimens. Many thanks, too, to all the volunteers from our club who worked at the show.

We still have a few places left for anyone who would like to attend the woody plant propagation workshop scheduled for Thursday, October 17 from one to three PM at the Frelinghuysen arboretum. We'll be propagating plants for the annual meeting plant exchange. This year's theme is, "Shrubs and Tress for Public Places." Last year our plants received 12 out of 14 possible points (judged by GCA hort judges.) This year we're aiming for 14 points, and I must tell you that only a few clubs received a score of 14 last year. The judges look for healthy plants but they're also interested in as much helpful written information that you can include on the entry cards. Those ladies who have signed up for the workshop are: Sally Booth, Betty Hackman, Jeanne Turner, Jane Burner, Nancy Plumeri, Darlene Kasten, Bernadette Neill and Phyllis Alexander. Don't forget to bring clippers and gloves.

It's not too soon to being thinking about our in-club Horticulture show scheduled for April 16 at the home of Barbara Sanford. This is earlier than usual; but we hope to have plenty of daffodils in bloom. Now is the time to plant daffodils and other early spring flowering bulbs in anticipation of our show. Don't forget to label your bulbs! We're also planning a terrarium workshop in January, TBA, and hopefully our terrariums will be included as another class. I plan to schedule a meeting of the hort committee to develop our show schedule, so start thinking about some ideas for classes. Ladies who have volunteered for the hort committee include: Jane Burner, Bernice Swain, Berry Hackman, Evie Madsen, Joan Viman, Peggy Tyler, and Diana Madsen. Please let me know if you would like to volunteer for the hort committee.
Civic Project News

PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL GARDEN IS PLANTED AND GORGEOUS!!!

After the mighty band of club members (Kathy A., Judy B., Bernice S., Sally B., and Betty H.) weeded and prepared the garden on Wed morning, everything was set for Sat. Sept. 28th. John Garrahan and his men were at the high school before 8 ready to bring in the top soil, plants and mulch. I would recommend John to anyone in need of a landscaper. He did an extraordinary job and with his partner, our incredible member Susan Fraser, put a jewel of a garden in the middle of a bleak and needy school for all to enjoy.

I want to thank the members who came on Wed. and the following members who were there on Sat. Tucker T., Nancy P., Kathy A., Betty H., Diana M., Judy B., and Joan V. They helped John and Susan digging, arranging and planting and the garden was created in one spectacular day.

And we even have a watering system that is functioning.

Our Civic Project Committee will meet Ms. Johnson and her students hopefully this Wed after we go to the Shakespeare Garden. We plan on working with the students checking the plants, weeding and starting a journal (another wonderful idea of Susan's to stimulate interest and knowledge of gardening)

I have never enjoyed working with someone as much as I have with Susan. Don't delete this Ms. Editor!!! She is an inspiration and knowledgeable teacher who shares her talents. How lucky we are!! Please come see the garden whenever you can. Nina
(Editor's Note: Many members have inquired about John Garrahan's professional landscape services. His telephone number is 908-851-2792. He is a master pruner and turf specialist. He did an incredible job at the high school, running out and purchasing 5 more shrubs in the middle of the day because "it didn't look right" and adding 12 mums. Make sure you tell him you are from the Garden Club!)

**Shakespeare Garden**

We need everybody out to work now at the end of the season. The watering system is wonderful and the garden looks great, BUT we do have a lot of weeds which we should get rid of NOW. We would like a big turnout for the next few Wednesdays. We look forward to seeing everyone. Sally
Flower Arranging

Here is the schedule for our November 20 In-house Flower Show.

The show will be staged at the Plainfield Country Club (where our meeting will be) in the Lower Cocktail area (to the left as you enter the Club.)

BE THANKFUL

Class I
A miniature arrangement of dried and/or fresh material, not to exceed 5" in any direction. Design to be displayed on a white cloth 42" from the floor. (These will be placed in the alcoves on either side of the fireplace.) 4 entries.

Class II
An arrangement of fresh material, using a fruit or vegetable as a container, not to exceed 20" in any direction. Design to be placed on a banquet table 30" from the floor with a white tablecloth. They will be placed in a row on the table allowing adequate space between them. 4 entries

Class III
An arrangement of fresh material, to be displayed on a pedestal 40" from the floor, with an 11" square top. Container to be given out to entrants by the Flower Arranging Committee. 4 entries.

All entries to be in place and passed by 9:15. Judging to start at 9:30.

All GCA rules apply. Please see Flower Arranging Committee with any questions.

Also, there will be a flower-arranging workshop at Tucker Trimble's house on Monday, Nov 4., at 1:00. Please call ahead to reserve a space.

Thank you! Tucker

CONSERVATION REPORT

Nancy and Darlene planned an excellent opening meeting. All those who attended enjoyed our hike in the Edwin B. Forsythia National Wildlife Refuge Center and our meeting at the Mantoloking Yacht Club. What a beautiful day! Contributions may be made to SAVE BARNAGAT BAY in honor of our speaker, William DeCamp, Jr., President of the group. The mission of this not-for-profit environmental group is to conserve undeveloped natural land and clean water throughout the Barnegat Bay watershed. See Elisa, Nancy, or Darlene for details if you wish to contribute.

The first meeting for Conservation for our zone will be on October 10. I will be bringing back information about New Jersey projects and GCA's involvement in these issues following the meeting. On the national level, GCA is grappling with issues such as global warming, the Kyoto Protocol which deals with climatic changes ("greenhouse gases"), the California condor count, threatened wildlife habitats, and battling fire ants and other pests. The topics we need to come up to speed on is mind-boggling!

Here in New Jersey emphasis for our clubs focuses on the Highlands Stewardship Act which has been introduced in Congress to provide $25 million annually for 10 years to preserve critical lands in the NY, NJ, CT and PA for the 2 million acre Highlands region. This is the watershed area for half of New Jersey's residents for their drinking water.

The New Jersey sponsors for this legislation are: Senators Corzine and Torricelli and Representatives Frelinghuysen, Holt, and Roukema. Please see me for information about how to support the Highlands Coalition in this endeavor.

Continuing with the preservation of our most precious natural resource theme, the drought is the most important issue for us as garden club members and as citizens here in New Jersey. Even with the rainfall of last week resulting from tropical storm Isidol, we continue to be in the third year of a severe drought. The entire state of New Jersey is considered to be in an emergency status. At our local level we can, and do, act to combat environmental problems such as this and set examples for others to follow. Our job is to teach those around us to conserve our water and to teach them why this is important.
Water restrictions have once again been imposed as of Aug. 20. We will be able to have our new high school project watered because this is new construction. Please check the following sources routinely to be apprised of the current restrictions. The New Jersey drought hotline is: 1-800-ITS-DRY or check: www.njdrass.org.

My role in the Bridgewater Garden Club is chairing the Federated clubs' statewide project of registering our yards and gardens as Backyard Wildlife Habitats. This is a program of the National Wildlife Federation. There is little doubt that virtually all of the Plainfield club members' residences would qualify for this program. Please see me if you would like an application for this worthwhile endeavor. I will be happy to assist you with any help you need to have your property registered as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat. Elva

Programs

We were happy that so many members were able to attend the September meeting. We had a picture perfect day and it all went off without a hitch. In addition to our membership, we shared the walk with the Seaweeder Garden Club of Bay Head and Mantoloking. For those of you who could not attend, Save Barne2at Bay has a website which you can access to see where we walked and find out about their conservation efforts. It is www.savebarne2atbay.com and contributions are gratefully accepted.

Now on to October. Our October meeting will be held at Reeves-Reed Arboretum on Hobart Avenue in Summit on October 16. It is a workshop featuring award-winning nature photographer, Dwight Hiscano. We learned about Dwight from the Garden Club of the Oranges who had him lead a workshop for their club last year in October. They gave him their highest recommendation, so it promises to be a great day. We will meet at the Arboretum at 9:30 for coffee. The workshop will begin at 10:00 with a slide presentation and then some field work on the grounds of the Arboretum so wear comfortable shoes and attire. Bring your camera and film, any accessories you may have such as a tripod, and your photographer's eye. After we take our pictures, we will have the film shuttled to a nearby one-hour processing center while we have lunch and a business meeting inside. Bring a brown bag lunch. After the meeting, Dwight will critique our developed pictures and give us suggestions on how to improve our photography. Who knows? We may get an award winner that very day for our in-house photography show in February. The cost for the program is $20 per person. Please respond promptly to our hostesses. We will be inviting other clubs to participate and you are encouraged to bring guests as well. We would like to accommodate as many of our members as we can.

Thank you. Darlene and Nancy

Membership

The board accepted Jennifer Higgin's resignation with regret. "I have learned much from the collective wisdom of the 'small but mighty' Plainfield Garden Club and will always be grateful for the time spent as one of your members."

E-Mail Addresses: Phyllis Alexander: palexander42@yahoo.com
Bernadette Neill: Houston460@aol.com

Calendar To Do List

Wednesday, October 9
Shakespeare Garden

Wednesday, October 16
9:30 AM Reeves-Reed Arboretum
Dwight Hiscano "Nature Photography Workshop"
$20 per person -- plus film developing
Bring a brown bag lunch for lunch meeting
Photography critique after lunch
Hostesses: Mrs. Robert Busch
Mrs. Nicholas Rogers
Mrs. William Peek

Thursday, October 17
1 - 3 PM Frelinghuysen Arboretum
Propagation workshop- woody plants
See "Hort News"

Wednesday, October 23
Shakespeare Garden

Wednesday, October 30
Shakespeare Garden

Monday, November 4
1:00 PM Tucker Trimble’s Home
Flower Arranging Workshop

Wednesday, November 20
9:00 AM Plainfield Country Club
Flower Arranging
Sally Humphreys & Melinda Moitz
"Table Decorating & Holiday Centerpieces"
Raffle of Arrangements
Hostesses: Mrs. William Weil
Mrs. Laurence Andrews
Mrs. Christopher Fraser

Wednesday, December 18
9:00 AM Plainfield Country Club
Robin Dougherty "Greater Newark Conservancy"
Hostesses: Mrs. Duncan Alexander
Mrs. Edward Samek
Mrs. Frederick Beuhler

The Plainfield Garden Club
Prospective Candidate Information

Date:

Name of Prospective Member:

Nickname (if any):

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

(No member may propose or second a candidate until she has been an active member for at least two years.)
Qualifications/Personal Information:

Please send completed form to: Mrs. M. Peter Madsen, II
415 Wychwood Road
Westfield, NJ 07090
(fax: 908-233-1938)
(tel: 908-233-6211)
email: madsend@comcast.net
Plainfield Garden Club's October Meeting

Wednesday, October 16
9:30 AM Coffee
Reeves-Reed Arboretum
Hobart Avenue
Summit, New Jersey
Arboretum Telephone: 908-273-8787

Our Speaker will be Dwight Hiscano
An award-winning nature photographer
The title of his workshop "Nature Photography"
Workshop will begin with a slide presentation at 10:00 AM

We will then go out on the grounds of the Arboretum with our own cameras to do some "field work" so wear proper attire and comfortable shoes

Bring cameras, film and any accessories such as a tripod

Club Meeting following our "shoot"
Bring a brown bag lunch

While we dine and discuss club business, our film will be processed and returned. Mr. Hiscano will then critique our developed photographs.

In February, an in-house photography show is scheduled so we will be looking for entries!

Program Costs: $20 per person

Guests Welcome
Other clubs have also been invited to participate

Please RSVP to our Hostesses:
Mrs. Robert Busch, 908-541-0450, rbusch@bellatlantic.net
Mrs. Nicholas Rogers, 908-389-9485, NVRoger@comcast.net
Ms. William Peek, 908-232-7923, Peekdawson@aol.com

Directions:
Take Springfield Avenue east in Summit and make a left on to Hobart. Arboretum is on the right, across from the Beacon Hill Club and right before you reach Route 24

What to Bring:
Camera
Film
Camera accessories
Comfortable shoes and outdoor attire
A guest
$20 per person
Brown bag lunch
Subject: November 2002 Plainfield Garden Club

Date: 11/2/02 10:29:10 AM Eastern Standard Time

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President's Message

It was a great meeting on the 16th in spite of the rain. I already know of a few items I am asking from Santa for Christmas. I am taking my old Canon, totally manual camera, out of mothballs. Great Job, Program Chairs!

I know we are all looking forward to our flower show in November. Perfect timing for a speaker on holiday table arrangements. Hope to see you all there.

Remember Board Meetings are the Mondays before our Membership Meetings as usual unless otherwise notified.

Mary

Conservation

As those of you who attended the Oct. Meeting at the Arboretum know, our club has decided to join the Highlands Coalition, a group dedicated to protecting the two million acre Highlands region which includes portions of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. Other GCA clubs in our zone are doing so as well. I outlined the reasons this is so critical at the meeting. If any member needs further information about the Coalition or the Highlands Stewardship Act which the coalition supports, please contact me.

Of note:
For those of you who continue to fight the battle of gardening with deer on your property, I bring to your attention an article in the December, 2002 issue of Fine Gardening. The article, entitled "Getting to Know the Enemy: Proven Strategies to Deter Deer," clearly discusses the annual cycle of the deer and how we can repel them at the various times in that cycle.

Conservation Quiz

At the last board meeting, we discussed having a monthly Conservation Quiz. I have decided to institute this idea to help us all learn more. I will pose a conservation question each month in the newsletter. Each member who answers (by e-mail or phone) with the correct answer receives a point. The person who responds correctly first will receive two points. At the time of our annual meeting in June, a prize will be awarded to the conservation "scholar" who has the most points.

Here is the first question:
What is the correct name for the order of birds of prey which live on other birds and animals? They have strong curved sharp pointed beaks and they are armed with long, strong, and crooked talons. Eagles, vultures, and falcons are examples of birds in this group.

More about these birds when the correct answer is printed in the next newsletter.

E-mail me at rbusch@bellatlantic.net or call 908-541-0451 and leave a message if I'm not home.

Good luck to all!
Flower Arranging

We are very excited about our Flower Show this month. We still need a clerk to assist the judges. If anyone is willing to do this, please call me. Keep in mind that you learn so much from aiding the judges, but the downside is you miss part of the meeting! Please have all entries in place and passed by 9:00 am, so out judges can start on time. Also, our workshop is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 4, at 1:00 PM at my home. Please bring your ideas, questions, and any containers and flowers for practice. Laurie Appel will be here to demonstrate miniatures. It should be fun! Please call me with any questions.

Tucker Trimble

Hort

I attended an interesting and informative Horticulture Zone meeting last week at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum. Barbara Stern is our new Zone Chairman. One of the topics of discussion was the Annual Meeting Plant Exchange, which may be discontinued or changed in the future. Concern about the spread of pathogens from one part of the country to another, and the issue of invasive plants are two reasons why the "PX" as we know it, may change. Invasives vary from one zone to the next, and some plants that are considered invasives in one zone may not be in another. The GCA wants to keep clubs interested in propagating, so they are considering a "Virtual Plant Exchange." We would do everything in the same way, but bring pictures to the PX instead of actual plants.

The Horticulture Committee is interested in documenting any mature PX plants from former exchanges that we may have thriving in our gardens. Do you have a PX plant growing in your garden? Please let me know if you do, and we will send a photograph to Katie Heins (PX Co-Chairperson) for the Rye, New York Annual Meeting.

We are interested in submitting a nomination for the Freeman Horticulture Medal, an award that will be presented at the Annual Meeting. The purpose of this award is to promote the cultivation and use of plants: Trees, shrubs, ground covers, vines, and perennials that are little known but deemed worthy to be preserved and propagated. We are looking for plants that are outstanding or unusual species or cultivars of North American native plants. The award goes to the plant. Let me know if you have any ideas for nominations.

One day in the garden, Mary Kent and Sally Booth told me about a delightful and informative newsletter, "The Avant Gardener." It has lots of articles that I look forward to reading each month. One recent headline that caught my attention was, "Crime Goes Down as Green Goes Up." This involved a study done at the University of Illinois on buildings in Chicago public housing projects. Those surrounded by greenery had 56% fewer crimes and 40% less property crime than buildings with little greenery. In some slum areas in Pakistani cities the creation of parks brought such social, economic, and health benefits that creating parks in now considered a high priority in Pakistan. If you are interested in subscribing to this newsletter, write to "The Avant Gardener" and send a check for $24.00 to P.O.Box 489, New York, New York 10028.

Our hort committee propagation workshop held a few weeks ago was attended by a small group, but was most enjoyable. Pam Wilson of the Frelinghuysen gave a good presentation with very explicit directions that were easy to follow. Let's hope we get some good results!

Phyllis

Membership

I am sorry to report that Elizabeth Cochran died in early September, one day before her 95th birthday. A memorial service was held for her on October 19 at Crescent Avenue Church. She had been a member of the Garden Club for 50 years.

Jane

Programs
October Recap
Thank you to all the hearty souls who braved the Nor'easter to attend the October meeting and program. Luckily, the weather was not as bad as was forecast and it turned out to be a very pleasant way to spend an otherwise dreary day. Dwight Hiscano was delightful and informative. We will bring his book, "New Jersey, The Natural State," to the November meeting to share with members who were unable to attend.

Our first in-house photography show will be in February and we will be able to put our newfound knowledge to the test. See the associated article in this month's newsletter.

November Meeting
In November, we come in from the outdoors and start setting the table for the holiday feasts of the season. No garden club table would be complete without a lovely floral arrangement and our November speakers will take us through some suggestions for fabulous holiday table centerpieces. Some lucky ladies will be able start the season early by buying raffle tickets for our "arrangement auction." We will be selling raffle tickets during the business meeting and we will have our speakers draw the winning tickets after their program. Tickets will cost $5.00 for 5 chances and $10.00 for 12 chances. Proceeds will go back into the club's program budget.

Refreshments begin at 9:00 with a meeting to follow at 9:30. Our speakers will begin at 11:00. Please respond to your hostesses promptly – hope you can make it!

Plainfield Garden Club Meeting
"Table Decorating & Holiday Centerpieces"Flower Show"
Wednesday, November 20
Plainfield Country Club
AGENDA
Coffee served at 9 AM
Meeting to begin at 9:30
Program begins at 11:00
Raffle drawing afterwards

Our Hostesses are Mrs. Nina Weil, Mrs. Kathy Andrews & Mrs. Susan Fraser
Please RSVP by November 13

December Meeting
It is also not too early to start saving tuna or cat food cans for our December charity workshop. We will be making centerpieces again for Mobile Meals. We would like to make enough centerpieces for the entire Mobile Meals constituency which totals about 100. So plan on saving 4 or 5 cans for the December charity workshop.

February In-house Photography Show
In February in-house Photography Show In February, we will have the first PGC in-house photography show. Speaking with GCA headquarters, I found that while clubs are having photography shows which are being judged by GCA judges, the criteria for judging photography is in flux. GCA has appointed a task force of members who are reviewing the criteria for photography judging and will not have the new criteria ready until next year at the earliest. So the show in February will be a practice show in anticipation of the completion of GCA's new judging guidelines. We will have a professional photographer who is a GCA member come to our meeting in February and give us a pressure-free trial judging. Next year, we can repeat the show with the same or a similar schedule, new GCA guidelines and GCA judges. You can even enter the same photographs if you choose. I will bring the schedule to the November meeting, so start taking pictures!

Carlene & Nancy

Shakespeare Garden
FLASH

Due to the cold rainy weather we have yet to put the garden to bed. Therefore we are planning to meet on Thursday, Nov. 7th at 11:00 AM in the garden to finish up all that has to be done. We
hope that by 11:00 it will have warmed up a bit and that it is a lovely sunny fall day. Please try to come. The more hands...the
...the work is finished. You could bring a sandwich if you fear hunger pangs will get to you. We look forward to seeing
you. Sally will be in the garden also on Wed. if you want to come then too.

Sally and Mary
Subject: Plainfield Garden Club Newsletter December, 2002

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To: Houston460

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President's Message

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I certainly did. It was wonderful to have a few days without the usual hectic routine. I was thrilled about our last program and Flower Show. There were only three members who did not attend. I think that is amazing!! It was a great program and the arrangements for the Show were really outstanding. I was especially fascinated by the miniatures. I was so sorry I was unable to attend the workshop Tucker had. Also we will have to figure out a way to give members and guests more time to look at the show. The class which used vegetables as the container was also wonderful. congratulations to everyone who entered. A great job was done by all.

I think we are as finished as we can be putting the Shakespeare Garden to bed. I'm sure we could keep working through Dec. Actually the work in any garden is never done as many of you know!! What we need now is a nice blanket of snow to finish the job. I will be giving out notes to those who have not fulfilled the required working days. Please give your checks to Anne as soon as possible.

See everyone on the 18th!! The Holidays have begun. Lady Mantle advises us to remain cool, calm, and collected during these hectic three weeks. The perfect sedative is to attend our meeting to make something for someone less fortunate.

Mary

CIVIC PROJECTS

On Nov. 5th, Kathy, Betty, Mary and I met with the Plainfield High School teachers, Jim Watson and Mary Booton, and some of their Honor Society students. These students will help keep the garden clean of litter and maintain it in the spring. The students will be starting an anti-litter campaign which is just what we need for the garden.

We explained our reasons for creating the garden for the high school, not just for its beauty but for educational purposes - study of hort and conservation - and to have pride in their school.

Mr. Watson will be working with the Shop class to make legible signs for each section of the garden so that everyone can read the plant names. The students that were with us started writing the names of the plants on a graph that Mary had identified. The day was mighty cold so we will have to save the graphs for warmer weather.

Nina
CONSERVATION

Upcoming Meetings
Lobbying in Trenton on conservation issues will happen in January. While a definite date has not been set, the potential dates are Mon. Jan. 13, Thurs., Jan. 16, or Mon. Jan. 20. Would another club member care to join me for an exciting day of government in action at our state capitol? Please call me if you would like to be included.

The Annual GCA Legislative Meeting in Washington will take place from Feb. 25-27. Our club is registered for a spot and a hotel reservation has been made for a delegate. I cannot go this year because of a prior commitment. Is there a member of the club who would be willing to attend this meeting for the club??? The deadline is rapidly approaching, so please contact me ASAP if you would like more info.

Drought
Believe it or not, this is a subject still of interest to us as garden club members, in spite of the heavy rains this fall. The mandatory restrictions on water usage were lifted on Nov. 14 for northern and central New Jersey. The recent rains have improved the water shortage situation. However, the ongoing drought emergency persists for the entire state. In the past two months, we have experienced more rainfall than in the entire 6 mo. period of Sept. 2001 through Feb. 2002, which is normally our prime rainfall season. The bottom line is still that we need to conserve water and should still adhere to voluntary water conservation measures. All water use should be the minimum necessary to carry out your activity. The recovery of NJ's aquifer will take much longer than the current rainfalls (and snowfalls!) have added. During the period of Aug. 27 through Nov. 24, Union Co. had approximately 16.8" of rain, which is 6.1% greater than normal.

Deer
At the most recent GCA Conservation Meeting, there was spontaneous agreement that the GCA should address the huge problem of deer overpopulation which has occurred in nearly every state. In order to prepare a position statement, it is necessary to research population control of deer and the extent of damage the deer have caused to natural habitats and private property. While I am all too familiar with this problem here in Bridgewater, where I live, with my "salad bar" for deer, I am less familiar with what is going on in your areas. I live in the most westerly direction of anyone in the club. So I could use some help from the members who live in Plainfield, Edison, Scotch Plains, Westfield, et al. to how extensive the problem is in your towns and what steps are being taken, if any, toward management of the problem. We are losing our Northern deciduous forest and the understory with the over grazing by the deer and we are dooming the birds, butterflies, and small animals who live there. Please call or e-mail me with info about your backyards and your towns please so I may pass this information on. Thank you in advance.
908-541-0451 or rbusch@bellatlantic.net

Conservation Quiz
Last month's correct answer was "raptor." Barbara Peek was the first to respond with the correct answer. Congratulations to Barbara and the other members who responded correctly - Diana, Tucker, Betty, Phyllis, and Darlene. Nice going! Two members responded with the answer "falconiformes," which also is correct.

Now, more about where to learn more about raptors. Did you know that the Raptor Trust in nearby Millington, NJ is the leading raptor rehabilitation facility east of the Mississippi? The center has cared for thousands of injured and orphaned raptors and other wild birds each year. The Trust now includes a wonderful Education Center that groups and individuals can visit to learn about and see many different types of raptors. Since I moved to New Jersey, I have noticed how many large birds I see in my area. I believe it is because I am near the Raptor Trust and the birds know they are nearing a safe area of refuge. I encourage you to stop by for a visit. Don't forget to call them if you see or find an injured bird. Here is how you can find the Raptor Trust:

1390 White Bridge Road (near the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge)
Millington, NJ 07946
808-647-1091

Now on to this month's question:
The largest bird in North America has a wing span of nine feet! Name that bird.
Come on now, ladies. This is an easy one. Respond by e-mail (rbusch@bellatlantic.net or phone (908-541-0451) for conservation quiz points. Remember, first correct responder gets double the points!) More about the status of this bird in next month's newsletter.

Elva

Correspondence

Please update your Address Books with the following:

Mrs. Robert (Ginny) Loughlin's new E-Mail Address: GigGiLough@aol.com

Jane

Flower Arranging

We had a wonderful Flower Show at our November 20th meeting. Thank you to all the entrants! The entire show was just beautiful, so creative and sophisticated. I only wish Laurie Appel could have seen the miniature class...the results did credit to her workshop for us. Over all, I thought having the show at the Club worked out very well, but next time we'll know the window behind the miniatures was too bright, and the mirrored door behind the table-to arrangements was a no-no! The judges told me how impressed they were with all our entries. We had some first-time entrants, and I was so proud of them for being so enthusiastic and talented.

The theme of the show: BE THANKFUL

The results are:

Class I

A miniature arrangement of dried and/or fresh material, not to exceed 5” in any direction. Design to be displayed on a white cloth 42” from the floor. (These will be placed in the alcoves on either side of the fireplace.)

1st Nancy Plumeri and Darlene Kasten
2nd Phyllis Alexander
3rd Bernadette Neill
HM Judy Buehler
An arrangement of fresh material, using a fruit or vegetable as a container, not to exceed 20" in any direction. Design to be placed on a banquet table 30" from the floor with a white tablecloth. They will be placed in a row on the table allowing adequate space between them.

1st Elva Busch
2nd Jeanne Turner
3rd Diana Madsen
HM Valerie Roger

Class III
An arrangement of fresh material, to be displayed on a pedestal 40" from the floor, with an 11" square top.

1st Carroll Keating

2nd Mary Kent
3rd Tucker Trimble
HM Susan Fraser

Sally Humphrey's Arrangements:
The judges' comment on Carroll's was simply "Best In Show." It was truly stunning. Thank you also to the passers Nina Weil, Joan Vivian and Elisabeth Loizeaux, and to our Clerk, Sally Kroll. The show couldn't have gone on without you all.

Tucker

Program

Once again, we will have an opportunity to make someone's holiday season a little more festive by creating tray size centerpieces for Mobile Meals. Please bring the following to the December meeting:

- 4 - 5 clean tuna or cat food cans
- evergreen plant material, with and without berries (Elva, please bring your magnolia seed pods - we love them)
- apron and gloves (things could get messy)
- shears or clippers

We will provide ribbon and glue for decorating the cans and the oasis. We would like to provide centerpieces for the entire Mobile Meals constituency which is about 100 per day. Feel free to bring more than 5 cans if you have them.

Robin Dougherty, the Director of Greater Newark Conservancy, will also give a brief description of the work GNC is doing to promote gardening and nature conservancy in Newark and other urban areas in New Jersey.

We will also be passing the schedule around again in December for the February Photography Show. Thank you to everyone who signed up. There are still some spaces left in the first class, "Friend or Foe?" The schedule and requirements are found below. This is a great opportunity for novice photographers to get a gentle critique of your work. Please sign up and have some fun.

Photography Show Schedule
Show entries 9:00 - 11:00.

Color photographs only. All entries should be single matted in white or off-white, not framed. Overall size with mat, 8" X 10" to 14" X 16."

Class I : "Friend or Foe?" Gardens provide habitats for many creatures, two, four, and eight legged. Who has been visiting your favorite garden?

Class II : "A Garden in Winter." A color photograph which captures the beauty of a garden setting in winter. (Next year we will expand this category to "A Garden in Any Season.")

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!!!

Darlene & Nancy

Plainfield Garden Club Meeting
Greater Newark Conservancy

Thursday, December 05, 2002  America Online: Jcbuehler  Page: 9
Robin Dougherty, Director
Mobile Meals Charity Workshop
December 18
Plainfield Country Club

AGENDA

Coffee served at 9 AM
Meeting to begin at 9:30
Program begins at 10:30
Charity Workshop at 11:00

Our Hostesses are Mrs. Phyllis Alexander, Mrs. Martie Samek & Mrs. Judy Buehler

Please RSVP by December 11

Shakespeare Garden

The garden is peacefully sleeping awaiting spring.

A bit of a hort tidbit: I heard the other day that if you want to force daffodils, you do not need to plant in dirt in pots before cold treatment. You put the bulbs in the fridge for 14 weeks, then take them out and then plant them and they will come up. I haven't tried this. I think it is a bit late now ... in a bit more than 14 weeks some of them should be up. But it does sound like a good idea. I'll try it next year. I suppose by doing it this way you could have daffodils in August if you wanted them then.

Happy winter everyone, Sally

Announcements

Crescent Christmas Fair
Saturday, December 7th
9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church
Corner Watchung Avenue & East 7th Street
Plainfield, New Jersey
908-756-2468

The Flower Table offers many beautiful creations by our very own Plainfield Garden Club Members.

Proceeds to benefit the organ restoration fund.
Please invite a friend!

Betty

Editor's Note

Thank you for all the submissions for this month's newsletter. A special note of thanks to Diana Madsen who shared her beautiful photographs of the Flower Show. (A better viewing hint: Enlarge your E-mail Viewing screen to full size.)