

Ringwood Garden Club

Ringwood, NJ 07456



Artist: Jane Nielsen

2025-2026

Member of The Garden Club of New Jersey

District 1

Ringwood Garden Club
2025-2026 YEARBOOK
Ringwood, NJ 07456

Founded
March 1973

Federated
May 1978

Membership
24

Member of:
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The Garden Club of New Jersey
District 1

Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs,
Inc. (CAR-SGC)

New Jersey Botanical Gardens / Skylands
Association, Ringwood, New Jersey

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President's Message

Welcome! Ringwood Garden Club Members,

I'm filled with pride and gratitude for the incredible journey our club has taken together. We've grown in so many meaningful ways, welcoming new members who bring fresh ideas and expertise, and deepening the bonds that make our club so special.

There's something truly magical about the way gardens and flowers unite us, casting sunshine into our days and inspiring connection through beauty. We're fortunate to have a remarkable group of members who continually share their talent - from informative programs and engaging workshops to imaginative floral designs that spark joy and creativity.

Our reach has also extended far beyond our personal gardens. Through seasonal plantings at the Ringwood Public Library, support of the New Jersey Botanical Garden Holiday Fundraiser, and indoor gardening initiatives, we've touched lives across the community -bringing color, care, and inspiration wherever we go.

I'm excited to see where we'll blossom in the coming year. It's an honor to be part of this phenomenal membership, and I feel truly blessed by kindness, encouragement, and camaraderie we share.

Wishing each of you a vibrant year ahead - one filled with new opportunities, shared celebrations, and the enduring spirit of togetherness that makes our club flourish.

Warmly,

Pam

Ringwood Garden Club

50 Years

1973-2023



ON THE COVER

The Ringwood Garden Club cover drawing is designed by Jane Nielsen, one of the Ringwood Garden Clubs active members since 2008 and a past president for the club in 2010-2012. Jane has actively served as chair for various committees in the club over the years and continues to chair and design a display case regularly featured at the Ringwood Public Library.

Jane, a self-taught artist, early on as a child had an eye and intrigue for art and a gifted talent to share. Jane has achieved several awards in numerous juried art shows. Her works have been proudly displayed in exhibits in the Ringwood Public Library, The West Wing Gallery at Ringwood Manor, Skylands Manor – Holiday Open House and in public and corporate offices.

We are privileged to have an original of Jane's drawing of The West Wing at Ringwood Manor to proudly display on this year's yearbook cover.

The Ringwood Manor is a National Historic Landmark District, and today is part of the Ringwood State Park and administered by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry.

The Ringwood Manor has historical importance spanning from Native American inhabitation through the early 20th century, with original structures, gardens and landscapes of over 528 acres.



THE RINGWOOD GARDEN CLUB **GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY 2023**

Established 1973

The Ringwood Garden Club promotes an avid interest in all areas of gardening, local beautification, and community outreach while fostering long-standing friendships which have nurtured and supported each member throughout the years.

RINGWOOD GARDEN CLUB

OFFICERS

President	Pam Tokarczuk
Vice President	Christel DeSimone
Treasurer	Ceazonia Dyer
Rec. Secretary	Jean Stark

COMMITTEES

Budget	Pam Tokarczuk/Executive Board
*Civic Development:	
Ringwood Library	Ceazonia Dyer/Jean Stark/Gerry Shuman
Wanaque Library	Gerry Manzi
Communications	Pam Tokarczuk
*Conservation	Mary Jo Sichak
Garden Tours	Mary Jo Sichak
*Historian	Ceazonia Dyer
*Hospitality	Club member rotation
*Membership	Carol Wrede
*Newsletter	Pam Tokarczuk
*Programs	Gerry Shuman
*Publicity:	
Face Book	K. Hetherington/M.J. Sichak
Library Display Case	J. Nielsen
Tri-fold Pamphlets	Ceazonia Dyer
Skylands Liaison	Deb Manfredonio
Skylands HOH	Pam Tokarczuk/Club members
Sunshine	Karen Vieth
Therapeutic Horticulture	Gerry Manzi, Pam Tokarczuk
*Yearbook	Pam Tokarczuk
*Standing Committee	

NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND STATE HEADQUARTERS

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Website: www.gardenclub.org
Address: 4401 Magnolia Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110-3492
Tel: (314) 776-7574
Fax: (314) 776-5108
National Gardner: (800) 550-6007
Subscription
President: **Donna Donnelly (2025-2026)**
Theme: *"PLANT AMERICA for the next 100 years"*
Address: 4494 McCords Ferry Road
Elloree, SC 29047-9781
Tel: (843) 864-7594
Email: dmdonnelly@gardenclub.org

Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc. (CAR-SGC)

Website: www.car-sgc.org
Address: PO Box 693
Millsboro, DE 19966
Director: **Beverly Kazickas (2025-2027)**
Theme: *"PLANT AMERICA: Gardening for a Healthy
Mind, Body and Soul"*
Address: not available
Tel: not available
Email: carsgs.regiondirector@gmail.com

NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND STATE **HEADQUARTERS**

The Garden Club of New Jersey Inc.

Website: www.GardenClubofNewJersey.com

Address: Holly House
126 Ryders Lane
E. Brunswick, NJ 08816

Tel: (732) 249-0947

President: Susan Berdahl (2025-2027)

Theme: *"The Importance of Pollinators – Go Native."*

Address: 72 Beechwood Drive
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

Tel: (732) 688-2029

Email: Sue.berdahl@gmail.com

GCNJ District 1

Director: Evelyn Pachner

Address: 157 Washington Avenue
Hillsdale, NJ 07642

Tel: (L) (201)666-7675 (C) (201) 887-5494

Email: repachner@verizon.net

KEY EVENTS 2025-2026

September 2025

September 22, 2025

GCNJ Executive Board Meeting
Holly House

October 2025

October 1, 2025

GCNJ Judges Council

October 19-22, 2025

CAR-SGC Annual Conference &
Tri-refresher, Cambridge, MD
“America in Miniature”

November 2025

November 5, 2025

Design Study

November 24, 2025

GCNJ Executive Board Meeting
Holly House

December 2025

December 2025 TBD

GCNJ Luncheon & Trip to
Drumthwackett - Princeton, NJ

January 2026

January 20, 2026

Judges Council

January 26, 2026

GCNJ Executive Board Meeting
(Zoom)

February 2026

No noted meetings

Continued...

KEY EVENTS 2025-2026

March 2026

March 18, 2026

Design Study

March 23, 2026

GCNJ Executive Board Meeting

Holly House

April 2026

April 13-17, 2026

Flower Show School

April 21, 2026

GCNJ Judges Council

April 27, 2026

GCNJ Executive Board Meeting

Holly House

May 2026

May 4-6, 2026

NGC Annual Conference

St. Louis, MO

June 2026

June 3, 2026

GCNJ Annual Conference

Old Mill Inn, Basking Ridge, NJ

All events are held at Holly House, 130 Log Cabin Road, East Brunswick, NJ unless otherwise noted.



Photo courtesy of Pam Tokarczuk
NJBG Gardens in early September

RINGWOOD GARDEN CLUB OBJECTIVES

1. To promote education in all facets of horticulture, botany, and conservation.
2. To promote beautification of the Ringwood area and the New Jersey State Botanical Gardens at Skylands Manor.
3. To promote active engagement in environmental issues primarily the preservation of the New Jersey Highlands, Sterling Forest, and the wetlands.
4. To promote an understanding of the therapeutic effect of being in close contact with the natural world through gardening.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Board Meetings

1st Tuesday of each month at 1:30 PM

Location:

Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive,
Ringwood, NJ 07456- Conference Room

General Meetings

3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM

Location:

Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici
Drive, Ringwood, New Jersey 07456-
Lower-Level Meeting Room

NOTE:

Exceptions for dates and locations are noted in the calendar. Email notices are sent out in advance of any changes.

By-Laws:

An electronic or a printed copy of the current By-Laws is available from the RGC President. Each member was provided with a copy of the Revised By-Laws (dated 7/2025).

PROJECTS 2025-2026

1. **Civic Development:** Members continue to design, plant, revise, and maintain garden planters incorporating annuals and perennials outdoors and arrangements indoors at:
 - Ringwood Public Library located at 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ 07456
Ceazonia Dyer, Jean Stark, Gerry Shuman Chairs (28%)
 - Wanaque Public Library located at 616 Ringwood Avenue, Wanaque, NJ 07465
Gerry Manzi, Chair (10%)
2. **NJ Botanical Gardens at Skylands Manor, 5 Morris Road Ringwood, NJ 07456:** Members contribute volunteer hours in: administration, spring plant sale, Holiday Open House, docents, Board of Directors and various gardens, including: the Lilac, Annual, and Perennial Gardens as well as the volunteer greenhouse. (36%)
3. **Holiday Open House at Skylands Manor, 5 Morris Road, Ringwood, NJ 07456:** Members design, hand craft decorations and install decorations for a themed room. Members volunteer as docents during the annual Holiday Open House at Skylands.
 - Pam Tokarczuk, Chair (100%)
4. **Therapeutic Horticulture Workshops:** average four per year for residents at an assisted living center, adult memory care center. Van Dyk Park Place, 644 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ 07506
 - Gerry Manzi, Pam Tokarczuk, Chairs (50%)
5. **Senior Living Garden Club:** initiated by Ringwood Garden Club. Ringwood Garden Club members coordinate interactive garden discussions, workshops, presentations and

planting with senior residents of the assisted living community.

Van Dyk Park Place Assisted Living, 644 Goffle Road,
Hawthorne, NJ

- Pam Tokarczuk, Chair (35%)

6. **The Ringwood Public Library located at 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ 07456:** Members arrange a two-month display in the library highlighting gardening activities, floral displays, and/or club activities.

- Jane Nielsen, Chair (15%)

7. **Center for Food Action:** Members collect and donate money to support food pantry and Thanksgiving food baskets for the Ringwood Community in need.

- Ceazonia Dyer, Chair (100%)

8. **Annual Member Garden Days:** Members volunteer to open their home gardens for visits by other members.

- Mary Jo Sichak, Chair (members invited to participate) (25%)

9. **Seed Bank:** In participation with the Ringwood Public Library, garden club members contribute seeds, bulbs, and tubers which the community can take home, expanding locally native and pollinator friendly plants. Ringwood Public Library received grant funding sustainable Ringwood. (33%)



Contributions 2025-2026

- ❖ Local Center for Food Action
- ❖ Ringwood Public Library
- ❖ Outreach donation projects to a Van Dyk Assisted Living, Hawthorne, NJ for garden programs
- ❖ The Garden Club of New Jersey Annual Raffle
- ❖ New Jersey Botanical Gardens
- ❖ Wanaque Public Library
- ❖ Donation of items for CAR Conference Raffle supporting scholarships & education

AWARDS

The Garden Club of New Jersey Membership

2009 Highest Increase in Membership for a Small Club

Publicity Press Book

2009/2008 Certificate of Merit
for Excellent Publicity Press Book

2007/2006 Certificate of Merit with Gold Seal

for Excellent Publicity Press Book

2005 The Garden Club of Westfield Trophy

“Finest Press Book”

Yearbook

2025/2021/2020/2019/2018/2017/2016/2015/2014/2013
2012/2011/2010/ 2009/2008/2007
Certificate of Merit with Gold Seal for Excellent Yearbook
2024/2023 /2022/2006/2005
Certificate of Merit for Excellent Yearbook

Civic Development

2010 CAR 1st Place for Civic Development or Improvement
2009/2007 The Pinelands Garden Club Civic Beautification
Trophy in honor of D. Evert

AWARDS

Horticultural Therapy

- 2025** Certificate of Appreciation for Mind, Body and Soul Greenery Consultation and Installation at Van Dyk Park Place Assisted Living, Hawthorne, NJ
- 2024** Certificate of Appreciation Van Dyk Park Place Assisted Living, Hawthorne, NJ
- 2023** Certificate of Appreciation Van Dyk Memory Care, Hawthorne, NJ
- 2011** Cert. of Recognition Bald Eagle Commons Seniors, West Milford, NJ
- 2008** Myra Brooks Garden Therapy Award
- 2007** The Woodbridge Garden Club Trophy

Decoration of a Public Building

- 2024** Certificate of Appreciation for HOH, NJBG
- 2010** Certificate of Appreciation for HOH, NJBG
- 2010** Continuing Project Award for a decade of dedication to the planting and maintenance of the Ringwood Library Courtyard Garden
- 2008** The Ringwood Garden Club Trophy for Holiday Open House at NJBG/Skylands Manor

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

- 2006** Improvement Award, Medium Club, Hon. Mention
- 2006** Cert. of Commendation 2nd Pl. Press Book
- 2005/2004** Certificate Increased Membership

Ringwood, New Jersey Proclamation

2023 Ringwood Garden Club 50th Anniversary
Mayor of Ringwood, NJ and Council Proclamation for
Community Service, contributions to horticulture
education and civic involvement.



THE RINGWOOD GARDEN CLUB
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2025-2026



Calendar Legend

CAR	Central Atlantic Region. For more information go to www.carsgc.org
GCNJ	Garden Club of New Jersey. For more information see GCNJ News Leaf or go to www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com
NGC	National Garden Clubs, Inc. For more information see NGC Keeping in Touch or go to www.gardenclub.org
NJBG	New Jersey Botanical Garden. For more information on events see NJBG Journal or go to njbg.org
RGC	Ringwood Garden Club: General Meetings are held at 6:00 PM in the Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive in Ringwood, NJ (dates and locations as noted in the following monthly calendars). For more information, go to Face Book (RGCNJ).



SEPTEMBER 2025

Sept. 2

Executive Board Meeting – 1:30 PM

Conference Room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Sept. 16

General Meeting – 6PM

Lower-level Meeting Room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Program:

Wonderful World of Ferns

Presenter:

Suzy Ludwig

Suzy Ludwig, a Master Gardener and former Vice President of the Fern Society at The New York Botanical Gardens, brings a wealth of knowledge and creativity to her work. She currently shares her talents as a floral and wreath designer at Stone House Nursery, Wyckoff, NJ.

In her upcoming presentation, Suzy will guide us through the expansive world of ferns, introducing new and unique varieties perfect for our gardens. As a generous gesture, she will gift our

Continued..

club two hardy ferns - and to add a bit of fun, we'll hold a raffle at the end of the program!

Sweet or Savory:

Gerry Shuman

Beverages:

Kathie Hetherington

Florals:

Carol Wrede



Photo courtesy of Pam Tokarczuk



OCTOBER 2025

Oct. 7

Executive Board Meeting - 1:30 PM

Conference Room-

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Oct. 21

General Meeting - 6pm

Lower-level meeting room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Program:

Pumpkins Celebrate the Season

Presenters:

Pam Tokarczuk

Caroline Carter

Pam is president of the Ringwood Garden Club and an active member of the RGC since 2006. As a passionate garden admirer, garden traveler, and farm to table enthusiast, Pam loves to host gatherings using nature's freshest bounty and share garden experiences.

Continued...

Caroline is an active member of Pines Lake Garden Club, Wayne, NJ since 2020. A passionate gardener and watercolor artist, Caroline brings her gifted talent, expertise and guidance utilizing watercolors.

From the humble pumpkin patch in a garden or farm field, to the glowing jack-o-lantern on a front porch, and the elegant floral arrangement on your Thanksgiving table, pumpkins hold a special place in our hearts! Join Pam as she delves into the fascinating history of pumpkins, explores various pumpkin varieties, discusses their nutritional benefits, and provides tips on growing and harvesting pumpkins in your backyard. Along the way, she'll share some fun and intriguing pumpkin facts. Let your creative energy flow as Caroline, a watercolor artist, guides you through painting a frameable pumpkin watercolor for the autumn season. With her instruction and encouragement, you'll create a beautiful piece of art to celebrate this versatile and beloved gourd.



Watercolor by Caroline Carter

<u>Sweet or Savory:</u>	Ceazonia Dyer
<u>Beverages:</u>	Pam Tokarczuk
<u>Florals:</u>	Gerry Manzi

Continued...

October 23, 2025 2PM

Location: Van Dyk Park Place Assisted Living, 644 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ

Ringwood Garden Club & Van Dyk Park Place: A Blossoming Club

The Ringwood Garden Club is delighted to launch a meaningful new extension of our club with Van Dyk Park Place residents. Through this initiative, the residents of Van Dyk Park Place will be welcomed as **honorary members** of the Ringwood Garden Club, bringing our shared love of nature, creativity, and connection into their home.

As honorary members, Van Dyk residents will enjoy the full benefits of our club's offerings - including **presentations, hands-on workshops, and seasonal socials** - all hosted within the comfort of Van Dyk Park Place. This collaboration reflects our commitment to cultivating joy, learning, and community across generations.

Together, we're planting seeds of friendship and growing something truly special.

Join us! **Carpooling is available:** We will leave from Pam Tokarczuk's home 1PM

Address: 147 Edward Drive, Ringwood, NJ.

If driving on your own: Program starts at 2PM

Location: Van Dyk Park Place Assisted Living, 644 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ

Continued...

Program: Pressed Flower Arranging- Beautiful Botanical Art

Presenter: Renate Gudat, MG

Renate began gardening as a child, planting corn in a sunny patch gifted by her mother – a quiet beginning to a lifelong bond with the earth. As part of the inaugural Passaic County Rutgers Master Gardener program in 1996, she embraced horticultural education and later earned emeritus status.

Her home garden, now certified as a National Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation, is a haven for native flora and fauna. Free of herbicides and pesticides, it offers water features, nesting boxes, brush piles, and stone walls that invite everything from birds and butterflies to foxes, deer, and bears.

As a member of the Ringwood Garden Club since 1983, Renate has long cultivated community and creativity. She ran the garden club's Therapeutic Horticulture programs in assisted living and nursing homes for 13 years, blending compassion with cultivation to bring healing and joy through nature.

For our inaugural extension to the Ringwood Garden club and the residents of Van Dyk Park Place, members of the Ringwood Garden Club, Renate will guide participants in creating their own framed pressed flower artworks. Using blooms lovingly gathered from Renate's garden and those of our club members, residents will craft meaningful keepsakes that reflect the beauty of nature and personal memory. An interactive discussion of the various flower types will invite reminiscence and storytelling, celebrating gardens from their homes and the wider community.

Continued

Sample of the pressed flower art previously created by Ringwood Garden Members.



Photo courtesy of Pam Tokarczuk



NOVEMBER 2025

Nov. 4

Executive Board Meeting - 1:30 PM Conference Room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Nov. 6

Ringwood Garden Club meets with Van Dyk Park Place- 2 PM

Location: 644 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ

This month members of the Ringwood Garden Club will bring the talent of wreath decorating to the residents of Van Dyk Assisted Living. Residents will have grapevine wreaths and a choice of acorns, pinecones, pods and novelties to decorate a holiday wreath for their apartments.

Carpooling is available: Meet at 147 Edward Drive, Ringwood, NJ at 1 PM.

Continued

Nov. 18

General Meeting - 6 PM

Lower-level meeting room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Program:

Holiday Open House Workshop

Preparation for "A Wonderful Holiday"

Member participation



Holiday decorations are hand crafted by garden club members using dried garden flowers and greens for holiday tree ornaments and tabletop displays.

Please bring scissors, glue gun, and floral wire

Sweets or Savory: Christel De Simone

Beverages: Christel De Simone

Florals: Janice Schwartz

Center for Food Action- Annual member monetary collection for the Ringwood Local Food Pantry- serving individuals in our local town in their time of need.



Photo courtesy of Pam Tokarczuk, Ringwood Garden Club Holiday Open House 2023

DECEMBER 2025

Dec. 2

Board Meeting 1:30 PM

Conference Room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30
Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Dec. 1-4

HOH Set-up Days at NJBG Skylands - 9AM

Location: 5 Morris Road, Ringwood, NJ

Dec. 5-8

Holiday Open House NJBG Skylands

Volunteer Docents

9AM - 4PM

Location: 5 Morris Road, Ringwood, NJ

Dec. 9

HOH Take Down Day Skylands

Time 9AM

Location: 5 Morris Road, Ringwood, NJ

Dec. 14

Holiday Gathering- 3 PM

Location: to be determined

(Refer to Ringwood Garden Club newsletters
for further info.)

May the joys of this holiday season be plentiful!



JANUARY 2026

Jan. 6

Executive Board Meeting - 1:30 PM

Conference Room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30
Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Jan. 20

General Meeting -6 PM

Lower-level meeting room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30
Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Program:

Workshop Designing a Winter Swag

Presenter:

Renate Gudat

Renate is a founding member of the Passaic County Rutgers Master Gardener program (1996), she later earned emeritus status.

Continued

Her certified National Wildlife Habitat Garden, free of herbicides and pesticides, welcomes birds, butterflies, and even foxes and bears with native plants, water features, and natural shelter.

Since 1983, Renate has enriched the Ringwood Garden Club with creativity and care, including 13 years leading Therapeutic Horticulture programs in elder care settings—bringing healing through the power of plants.

Celebrate the textures of the season by crafting a beautiful swag from dried plant materials, guided by the creative touch of Renate. Using natural elements such as grass plumes, lavender, hydrangeas, baptisia, seed heads, and pods, members will arrange their materials into a stunning botanical accent.

To complete each creation, participants are asked to bring ribbon that complements their design—adding a personal flourish to a piece that can be displayed on a mantle, door, wall, or tucked artfully into a vase.

To prepare, members are encouraged to go into their gardens and begin drying their own plant materials, letting nature inspire their unique arrangements.

<u>Sweets or Savory:</u>	Jean Stark
<u>Beverages:</u>	Christine Liptak
<u>Florals:</u>	Theresa McCabe



FEBRUARY 2026

Feb. 3

Board Meeting Ringwood Library 1:30 PM
Conference Room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30
Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Feb. 17

General Meeting Ringwood Library 6 PM
Lower level meeting room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30
Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Program:

Plant and Container Exchange

Presenter:

Club Members

Break away from the winter blues! This mid-winter gathering will showcase our members' house plants and flowerpots.

Each member will choose from their home a plant and a flowerpot to enter into an exchange with members during the meeting.

Continued

A lottery method with free tickets will add to the fun.

Everyone attending please bring a favorite snack or dessert to add to the special event.

Refreshments: Membership

Beverages: Paula Evans

Florals: Jane Nielsen



MARCH 2026

March 1

Annual Membership Dues are due

March 3

Board Meeting Ringwood Library 1:30 PM
Conference Room

Location: Ringwood Public Library
30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

March 17

General Meeting Ringwood Library 6 PM
Lower-level meeting room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30
Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Program:

"The Tick Talk"

Presenter:

Rashmi Dhekne

Rashmi is a Master Gardener. She holds a Bachelors and Master of Science in Zoology with specialization in Genetics. Rashmi has worked with plant tissue culture, cell injection and Molecular biology. Rashmi is a member of the Pine Lake Garden Club.

Continued...

Rashmi will discuss the types of ticks in NJ and their impact on humans.

Sweets or Savory: Karen McNiery-Eskholme

Beverages: Barbara Sanford

Florals: Anet Mandarano

<u>IMPORTANT REMINDER:</u> RGC dues (\$35) are due March 1st. Please send check payable to Ringwood Garden Club to Carol Wrede, Membership Chair. Address in club directory.
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APRIL 2026

April 7

Executive Board Meeting- 1:30 PM

Conference Room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30
Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

April 21

General Meeting - 6 PM

Lower level meeting room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30
Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Program:

Tour of European Gardens

Presenter:

Arnie Friedman, MG

Arnie Friedman is a Master Gardener and certified landscape designer, with formal studies at the New York Botanical Garden. He teaches part-time at NYBG and serves as a guest lecturer for the Rutgers Master Gardener program. He is the former president of the Bergen County Master Gardener Association and spent ten years as Chairman of the Upper

Continued...

Saddle River Shade Tree Commission. Additionally, he served for five years on the Saddle River Zoning and Planning Board.

Join Arnie Friedman for a captivating journey through some of Europe and England's most enchanting gardens – both grand and intimate – seen through the eyes of two seasoned garden designers. With a deep appreciation for horticultural artistry and an adventurous spirit, these designers explore the enduring beauty of classical landscapes alongside the innovation of contemporary garden design.

Sweet or Savory:

Marilyn Fedele

Beverages:

Karla Nugent

Floral:

Renate Gudat



Photos courtesy of Pam Tokarczuk

Continued...

April 23: **Ringwood Garden Club meets with Van Dyk
Park Place club meeting- 2PM**

Location: Van Dyk Park Place
644 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ

Program: Flowers, Gardens, Nature's Masterpieces

Presenter: Pam Tokarczuk, President Ringwood Garden
Club

Pam Tokarczuk is a devoted garden enthusiast, captivated by nature's magical wonders and inspired to preserve them through photography.

Join Pam for a delightful photo gallery featuring gardens near and far - from local landscapes to coastal retreats and international travel. You'll also enjoy stunning images of prize-winning blooms and cherished garden scenes from our very own Ringwood Garden Club members, each beautifully captured through the lens of her camera.



*Photo taken at Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morris County, NJ
Courtesy of Pam Tokarczuk*



MAY 2026

May TBA

NJBG Plant Sale Skylands Carriage House
Times and Events TBA

Location: NJBG, 5 Morris Road, Ringwood, NJ

May 5

Executive Board Meeting -1:30 PM

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

May 19

General Meeting - 6 PM

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

Program:

Little Island

Presenter:

Orrin Sheehan

Orrin Sheehan is the Head of Horticulture at Little Island in New York City.

Orrin will take gardeners on a compelling look into the innovative landscape of this floating public park on Pier 55. Little Island is a cultural haven built on the idea that nature and art should be accessible to all. *Continued...*

Orrin will share the story behind its architecture, its immersive views of the Hudson River, and the horticultural principles that make it a vibrant urban sanctuary.

Sweets or Savory: Karen Vieth
Beverages: Deb Manfredonia
Florals: Mary Jo Sichak



*Orrin Sheehan (back row) with his team at Little Island
Photo from Little Island NYC- Facebook*

May 27 **A hands-on workshop at an Van Dyk Memory Care, an adult day memory care program. 2PM**
Location: Van Dyk Memory Care Center, 644 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ
Meet at the white Farmhouse
Presenter: Pam Tokarczuk, RGC President, Certified Dementia Practitioner

Pam Tokarczuk has devoted her career to compassionate healthcare leadership. As a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator and Assisted Living Administrator, she has been a steadfast advocate for the dignity and well-being of every resident in her care. Her expertise as a Certified

Continued...

Dementia Practitioner led to a notable recognition in 2021: she was honored to present at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference, the world's largest and most influential forum on dementia science and clinical practice.

Social interaction and gardening are proven opportunities to enrich the mind, body, and soul. Share time and joy while assisting a memory care community plant an annual herb garden for a farm to table experience of the senses.



Photo courtesy of Pam Tokarczuk
Raised garden at Van Dyk Memory Care

Carpool arrangements to the memory care center are available. Please meet at: **147 Edward Drive, Ringwood, NJ at 1 PM.** We will drive to **Van Dyk Memory Care Center 644 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ.**



JUNE 2026

June 2

Executive Board Meeting - 1:30 PM

Conference Room

Location: Ringwood Public Library, 30
Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ

June 9

**Garden Club Tea Party with Residents at
Van Dyk Park Place 2PM**

Location: Van Dyk Park Place Assisted
Living, 644 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ

Carpool is available: please meet at Pam
Tokarczuk's home, 147 Edward Drive,
Ringwood, NJ at 1pm.

June 11

**A trip to Van Vleck House & Gardens –
9:30AM**

Location: 21 Van Vleck Street, Montclair, NJ

We will take a trip to Van Vleck House and Gardens located in a residential neighborhood of Montclair, NJ. Originally a 12-acre private estate more than 140 years ago in 1868. We will

Continued ...

visit the U-shaped Italianate villa, home to Howard Van Vleck and his family and meander through the manicured gardens.

Following our morning visit to Van Vleck we will stop for lunch in one of the many great restaurants in Montclair. (TBD) Note: Members will pay their own lunch bill.

Carpooling will be available: Please meet at 147 Edward Drive, Ringwood to join. Meeting time: 9:30 AM.

June TBD

End of the Year Gathering Date, Time, etc.
TBA



Photo courtesy of Pam Tokarczuk

Acknowledgements

“When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.”- Maya Angelou

We are so thankful and grateful for the following friends.

Hospitality

To all the garden club members who bring a taste of home to each month club meetings.

And, to each garden member who decorates the business meeting refreshment table with creative floral and plant displays.

Holiday Open House

Thank you to all the Garden Club volunteers who brought beauty and cheer to the NJBG Skylands Manor this November. Your creativity and care in decorating for the Annual Holiday Open House transformed the Manor into a festive wonderland. We’re also deeply grateful to those who served as docents, warmly welcoming guests and sharing the magic of the season. And to the volunteers who thoughtfully restored the Manor to its natural splendor—your efforts ensure its timeless grace endures.

A heartfelt thank you to our Master Gardener, **Deb Manfredonio**, who serves as Chair and Director of the NJBG Annual Holiday Open House. For 20 years, Deb has been a faithful steward of this cherished tradition, guiding its growth with vision, care, and unwavering commitment. Her leadership continues to inspire and enrich our community year after year.

Newsletter

Thank you to **Renate Gudat** for generously sharing her gardening wisdom through sharing insightful articles in our newsletter. Her thoughtful contributions not only enrich our readers' knowledge but also deepen their enjoyment of the natural world.

Thank you to **our members** who share photos of their gardens and travels to botanical locations.

Programs

With deep appreciation to **Mary Jo Sichak** – Master Gardener, Naturalist, and Photographer – whose scholarly and engaging horticultural and environmental programs have greatly enriched the RGC. Through her workshops and presentations, Mary Jo offers invaluable guidance and insight, deepening our understanding of the natural world and inspiring our gardening journey.

Thank you to **Renate Gudat**, Master Gardener, for leading nature-inspired workshops that beautifully incorporate elements from the garden. Her creative sessions offer both joy and inspiration, enriching the experience for RGC members and guests alike.

Gratitude to **Kathie Hetherington**, Master Gardener and Kathie's husband Rich for individually constructing wooden birdhouses and guiding a hands-on workshop on crafting the optimum birdhouse. Kathie's blend of practical expertise and artistic flair made the session both informative and delightfully engaging.

Ringwood Public Library

We are deeply grateful to **Jane Nielsen** for her thoughtful design of the annual themed display case at the Ringwood Library, created especially for our neighboring community. Her work beautifully blends artistic creativity, educational insight, and a spirit of awareness—shining a light on the mission and activities of the Ringwood Garden Club.

Christel DeSimone, Ceazonia Dyer, Renate Gudat, Gerry Shuman, Pam Tokarczuk for volunteering to enhance the Reading Garden at the Ringwood Public Library through expert gardening selections, pruning, and planting.

Van Dyk Assisted Living, Hawthorne, NJ

Kathie Hetherington, MG, Karen Vieth, Ceazonia Dyer, Gerry Shuman, Pam Tokarczuk for the expert guidance and selection of greenery to enhance indoor gardening and beautification within the assisted living community.

Yearbook

Jane Nielsen, for her artistry and skillful design of the club's logo and cover to the yearbook.

Dan Tokarczuk for his creative technical contributions.

Ceazonia Dyer for being the second set of eyes to proofread this year's yearbook.

RINGWOOD GARDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY



Legend

C	Cell Phone
L	Landline Phone
HLM	Honorary RGC Life Member
MG	Master Gardener
MJ	Master Judge
PP	Past President RGC
SPP	GCNJ Past President

Dawson, Joan

(C) 973-767-6788

59 Windbeam Ave

Ringwood, NJ 07456

dawsong@optonline.net

Member since 2025

DeSimone, Christel - PP

(L) 973-556-5555

73 Catherine Court

(C) 201-841-9341

Ringwood, NJ 07456-1840

cds0800@hotmail.com

Member since 1983

Dyer, Ceazonia (Frank)

(L) 973-962-4461

185 Lakeview Ave

(C) 551-579-1887

Ringwood, NJ 07456-2108

cea430@optonline.net

Member since 1992

Evans, Paula (Steve)

(C) 973-800-3168

73 Dale Road

Ringwood, NJ 07456

Pevans68@optonline.net

Member since 2020

Fedele, Marilyn

(C) 201-406-6520

21 Courter Place, Unit 116

Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

mdfedele@yahoo.com

Member since 2012

Gudat, Renate - MG (Albert) (L) 973-962-7145
31 Cliffside Drive
Ringwood, NJ 07456-2703
rgudat@optonline.net
Member since 1983

Hetherington, Kathie - MG (Richie)
49 Andrew Avenue (L) 201-644-8194
Oakland, NJ 07436-3820 (C) 201-887-0117
27KH@webcircle.com
Member since 2012

Liptak, Christine (Kenneth) (C) 201- 970-0648
151 Edward Drive
Ringwood, New Jersey 07456 -2708
kczlliptak@gmail.com
Member since 2023

Mandarano, Anet (L) 201-337-7285
31 Andrew Avenue
Oakland, New Jersey 07436
5amandarano5@gmail.com
Member since 2024

Manfredonio, Deb - MG (Mike) (L) 973-728-4509
20 Belmont Drive (C) 973-202-7901
West Milford, NJ 07480-1408
Deblynn0000@gmail.com
Member since 2003

Manzi, Geraldine (John) (L) 973-839-0376
190 Meadowbrook Avenue
Wanaque, NJ 07465-1208
gingergerrywawa@yahoo.com
Member since 1999

McCabe, Theresa (L) 973-962-6599
67 Kraft Place (C) 973-809-7088
Ringwood, NJ 07456
twm51252@aol.com
Member since 2025

McNierney- Eskholme, Karen
(Mark) (L) 973- 839-8734
24 Ridge Place
Ringwood, NJ 07456
Member since 2024

Nielsen, Jane (John) – PP (L) 973-962-4489
5 Walker Drive
Ringwood, NJ 07456-1802
janeniel43@gmail.com
Member since 2008



Photo courtesy of Renate Gudat
Renate Gudat's Itoh Peony

Nugent, Karla (L) 973-853-1032
8 Oradell Road (C) 973-214-7334
Hewitt, NJ 07421
misskahla@gmail.com
Member since 2025

Sanford, Barbara - MG (Greg) (L) 973-839-5872
80 Alta Vista Drive (C) 202-247-9662
Ringwood, NJ 07456-2002
basbas007@hotmail.com
Member since 2003

Schwarz, Janice (L) 973-839-4282
121 Dale Road (C) 973-557-5651
Ringwood, New Jersey 07456
janiceschwarz@hotmail.com
Member since 2024

Shuman, Geraldine (L) 973-962-6588
65 Windbeam Avenue (C) 973-951-1271
Ringwood, NJ 07456-1837
cupsawgerry@gmail.com
Member since 2008



Photo courtesy of Carol Wrede
Carol Wrede's mid-1800's Iris's

Sichak, Mary Jo - MG (Steve) (L) 973-616-9617
15 Reservoir Drive (C) 201-745-6534
Wanaque, NJ 07465-2415
mjsichak@me.com
Member since 2005

Stark, Jean (Tom) (C) 973-897-9145
40 Main Beach Road
Ringwood, NJ 07456
jean.stark46@yahoo.com
Member since 2012

Tokarczuk, Pam - PP (Dan) (C) 201-419-8241
147 Edward Drive
Ringwood, NJ 07456-2708
ptokarczuk@gmail.com
Member since 2006

Vieth, Karen (Carl) (L) 973-831-7679
150 Dale Road (C) 973-800-4933
Ringwood, NJ 07456-1002
karenavieth@icloud.com
Member since 2003



Ward, Elizabeth “Betty” (L) 973-962-6867

41 Woodland Road
Ringwood, NJ 07456-2319

elizward11@gmail.com

Member since 2015

Wrede, Carol (Harry) (L) 973-839-0332

377 Conklintown Road (C) 201-341-7588

Ringwood, NJ 07456-2415

wredekc@aol.com

Member since 2008



Photo courtesy of Pam Tokarczuk
Lilacs at NJBG



RGC PAST PRESIDENTS

1973 -1974	Henry and Selma Seligson
1974 - 1975	Selma Seligson
1975 - 1976	Mogen Giedekier
1976 - 1978	Ruth Saracco
1978 - 1981	Barbara Wood
1981 - 1983	Barbara Forbes
1983 - 1985	Joe Schwab
1985 - 1986	Mary Redling
1986 - 1988	Betty Post
1988 - 1990	Ilse Schnaitmann
1990 - 1995	Christel DeSimone
1995 - 1999	Sonja Vieth
1999 - 2001	Judy Hauser
2001 - 2002	Barbara Wood
2002 - 2003	Sonja Vieth
2003 - 2005	Pam Kern
2005 - 2007	Linda Tracy
2007 - 2008	Marilyn Gardullo and Pat Grossi
2008 - 2010	Pam Tokarczuk

Continued...



RGC PAST PRESIDENTS

2010 - 2012	Jane Nielsen
2012 - 2013	Eileen Hammond and Ilse Schnaitmann
2013 - 2014	Ilse Schnaitmann
2014 - 2019	Pam Kern
2019 - Present	Pam Tokarczuk



Photo courtesy of Renate Gudat, MG
Renate's Red Poppies



TELEPHONE CHAIN 2025-2026

(Area code 973 unless noted)

President Pam Tokarczuk 201-419-8241 calls:

- ❖ Vice President Christel DeSimone 556-5555
- ❖ Rec. Secretary Jean Stark 897-9145
- ❖ Treasurer Ceazonia Dyer 962-4461
- ❖ Carol Wrede 839-0332

❖ Christel DeSimone calls:

- Karen Vieth 831-7679
- Deb Manfredonio 728-4509
- Betty Ward 962-6867
- Anet Mandarano (201) 337-7285
- Theresa McCabe 962-6599

❖ Jean Stark calls:

- Renate Gudat 962-7145
- Gerry Manzi 839-0376
- Gerry Shuman 962-6588
- Karla Nugent 214-7334
- Karen McNierney-Eskholme 839-8734



❖ **Ceazonia Dyer calls:**

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| • Marilyn Fedele | 201-406-6520 |
| • Jane Nielsen | 962-4489 |
| • Barbara Sanford | 839-5872 |
| • Christine Liptak | 201-970-0648 |
| • Joan Dawson | 767-6788 |

❖ **Carol Wrede calls:**

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| • Paula Evans | 800-3168 |
| • Kathie Hetherington | 201-644-8194 |
| • Mary Jo Sichak | 616-9617 |
| • Janice Schwarz | 839-4282 |

❖ **Carol Wrede calls:**

- All newly joined members not listed.



This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

Calendars

2025

January						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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February						
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November						
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2026

January						
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February						
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May						
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July						
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August						
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September						
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29	30					

December						
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27	28	29	30	31		

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