

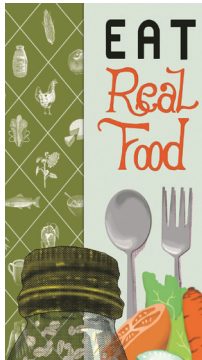


arboretum leaves

winter 2021

Friends of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum

11th Annual Community Garden Conference



The Friends of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum and Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Morris County are teaming up to present their Annual Community Garden Conference for the eleventh year in a row. It's

going to be virtual this year but we have an impressive list of session speakers, all experts in their field, who will cover topics relevant to community gardeners, garden managers, and those trying to establish a new community garden. Some of the sessions will be live and others recorded so you can watch at your leisure.

The topics for the 2021 conference include:

- Keynote speaker Ken Greene, founder of Hudson Valley Seed Company
- Ask the Experts with County Agent and Rutgers Vegetable Expert Peter Nitzsche and Kris Holmstrom, Rutgers Vegetable IPM Expert on Understanding Disease Management in a Community Garden
- Food Safety in Community Gardens by County Agent Meredith Melendez
- Seed Starting by Rutgers Master Gardener Grace Tshanakas
- The Pest Patrol: Discovering Pests and Diseases in Community Gardens by Rutgers Master Gardener Community Garden IPM Team
- The Coordinator's Round Table moderated by Ned Gardner, Co-manager of the Ted Largman Community Garden
- Vegetable Garden Planning for Community Gardens by Rutgers Master Gardener Brian Monaghan.

Some of the sessions will be recorded prior to the conference so you will be able to watch them at your leisure and some will be live with a Q&A in real time on March 6.

This program is eligible for 5.0 Rutgers Master Gardener CEU's.

Date: Saturday, March 6 *Time:* 9:00 am *Cost:* \$25

calendar of events

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notes from the board

Dear Friends,

I hope you navigated the choppy waters of 2020 in good health. I'm happy to see it go. But I was shown something this year, and it fills me with pride. The Friends' Staff, Board of Trustees, and our Support Services Contractors all threw in together to develop an operational strategy and a toolkit that will allow us to engage the new year with enthusiastic vigor and adaptable, collaborative spirit. Work accomplished in the past year will ensure that, in some way, our mission of building awareness and educating the public about horticulture, and supporting The Frelinghuysen Arboretum and Morris County Park Commission's other horticultural sites will continue.

With some help from the Friends, and a little patience from the public, the greatly reduced staff at The Frelinghuysen Arboretum was able to maintain the sweeping, manicured lawns and beautiful garden beds that so many of you enjoy, often on a daily basis. What a talented crew the MCPC has in Ann Fahey, Gwen Montgomery, and Mark Inzano to mention only a few.

The Gingerbread Wonderland Committee mounted a concerted, months-long effort to keep the gingerbread event alive until we can return to an on-site venue. Our Plant Sale Chair single handedly developed a Bulb Sale Fundraiser and combined it with related free learning experiences. Programming has continued virtually and, in some cases, expanded beyond our usual borders.

Over the next several months look for our Virtual New Year event, botanical drawing classes with Katy Lyness, the ever-popular Community Garden Conference which is so expertly coordinated by Cynthia Triolo, and the return of our first weekend in May Plant Sale! It will be a socially distanced version of the Plant Sale and will offer an option to order plants with a pick up at the Frelinghuysen tent. More on that in the next newsletter! And again, lots of learning opportunities to discover the plants that will work in your landscape or on your deck. Oh, and don't forget to sign up for Chef Cynthia Triolo's cooking classes.

The Friends are moving forward into 2021 and we count on you to continue your support. Do you have the ability to raise your level of membership this year? That would be wonderful! Perhaps you have an interest in serving? We have places to fill on the board, specifically on the Program Committee, the Membership Committee, and the Finance Committee. Would you like to be a volunteer once we return to on-site programming? That would be great too. Let's talk!

Be well and do good work.

Yours in horticulture,
Heather Emelander
President, Friends of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum

Member's Only New Year's Party



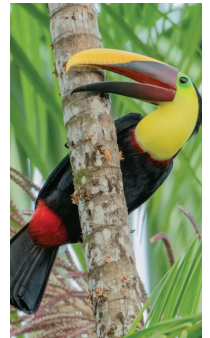
A Virtual Tour of the Flora and Fauna of Costa Rica

Phil and Becky Witt are volunteer associate naturalists at New Jersey Audubon's Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary, where they help lead photography workshops. Becky and Phil started as birders while in graduate school and have continued their love of nature by traveling from Antarctica to Tanzania to photograph the world's wonders. This program will show a composite of a number of their trips to Costa Rica, a mecca for birders and nature photographers. Because of its diverse habitats, ranging from tropical lowlands to chilly 13,000-foot-high mountains, the flora and fauna of Costa Rica are equally diverse. Please join Phil and Becky on this virtual journey of some of Costa Rica's natural wonders – you won't regret it!

Date: Sunday, January 10

Time: 4:00 pm

Cost: Free to members,
but registration is required



Virtual Botanical Drawing for Beginners with Katy Lyness



Do you ever wish you could capture the details of a plant long after you've seen it? This introductory virtual class will teach you how to make realistic drawings of plants using a variety of techniques. Learn to draw a selection of plant parts, including branches, stems, leaves and flowers, for pleasure or to expand your drawing skills.

Artist Katy Lyness is a passionate home gardener and teaches botanical illustration at the New York Botanical Garden. She has been represented in international exhibitions and is active in the Tri-State Botanical Artist Group. She received her MA in Art Education from Columbia University Teacher's College. A Materials list will be provided at registration.

Dates: Four Saturdays, January 9, 16, 23 and 30

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Cost: \$80 members / \$120 non-members
for the series of four classes.

Cooking Demonstrations:

Register for our virtual cooking demonstrations through the Friends website.

Cost: \$10 members / \$15 non-members

January – Bread

We'll make James Beard's oatmeal bread that you're sure to love.

February – Soup

Lentil soup is healthy and so comforting, especially in the dead of winter. Make a big batch and freeze some for a later use.

March – Spring Peas

Risi e bisi is a traditional Italian dish similar to a risotto. It is best made in early spring when fresh peas and their tendrils are available.

Shepherd's Pie

For the potatoes:

- 1 ½ pounds russet potatoes
- ¼ cup half-and-half
- 2 ounces unsalted butter
- ¾ teaspoon kosher salt
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 egg yolk

For the meat filling:

- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 carrots, peeled and diced small
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 ½ pounds ground beef, lamb or turkey
- Salt and pepper
- 2 teaspoons tomato paste
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme leaves
- ¾ cup fresh or frozen corn kernels
- ¾ cup fresh or frozen English peas

Directions:

Peel and dice the potatoes. Place in a medium saucepan and cover with cold water. Cover and bring to a boil then simmer approximately 10 to 15 minutes until very tender. Place the half-and-half and butter into a microwave-safe container and heat in the microwave until warmed through, about 35 seconds. Drain the potatoes in a colander and then return to the saucepan. Mash the potatoes and then add the half-and-half, butter, salt and pepper and continue to mash until smooth. Stir in the yolk until well combined.

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

While the potatoes are cooking, prepare the filling. Heat the oil in a large saute pan. Add the onion and carrots and saute just until they begin to take on color. Add the garlic and stir to combine. Add the beef, salt and pepper and cook until browned and cooked through. Add the tomato paste, chicken broth, Worcestershire, rosemary, thyme. Bring to a boil, then simmer slowly 10 to 12 minutes or until the sauce is thickened slightly. Add the corn and peas. Spread evenly into an 11 by 7-inch glass baking dish. Top with the mashed potatoes, starting around the edges to create a seal to prevent the mixture from bubbling up. Bake for 25 minutes or just until the potatoes begin to brown.



The Benjamin Blackburn Scholarship is being postponed until 2022 due to the stresses of the virtual learning experience for County College of Morris students.

Virtual Plant Sale Preview

The Plant Sale team will preview their favorite plants ordered for the annual sale and share planting tips to help shake off your winter doldrums and look forward to our fun spring event.

Each talk is eligible for 1.0 Rutgers Master Gardener CEU's.

More details to come after the new year.

Time: 7:00 pm

Cost: FREE, but registration is required

Four Seasons of Interest: The Best Trees and Shrubs for Your Garden

The Plant Sale team will provide a tantalizing walk through the year highlighting a variety of trees and shrubs that thrive in NJ gardens. Blooms, berries, and leaf color will be the focus on how to make your garden a welcoming destination throughout the year.

Thursday, February 18

Deer Resistant Plants: How to Bamboozle Bambi and Enjoy Your Garden Again

The Plant Sale team, with decades of experience battling Bambi and other critters in their own gardens, will share their advice on plants that need minimal or no intervention to withstand the heavy deer browse pressure in northern NJ.

Thursday, March 4

Native Plants ARE BETTER: Born and Bred to Succeed in Your NJ Garden

The Plant Sale team will explore the breadth of beautiful ground covers, perennials, shrubs, and trees that will thrive in your NJ garden and focus on key features of each and their best growing conditions.

Thursday, March 18

Fun and Funny Plants for Your Garden

April Fool's Day seems like the perfect time to talk about having some fun in the garden. The Plant Sale Team will share some odd-looking plants to consider planting. It could be their flower or fruit or growth habit. Time to shift attention from your fire pit and have some living focal points in your garden this year!

Thursday, April 1

Volunteer Spotlight



— In Memoriam — Marge Van Ryzin

Margaret Van Ryzin of Gambrells, MD, a former long-time resident of Madison, NJ, passed away on August 8, 2020. She was 91.

Marge was born on February 21, 1929 in Milwaukee, WI. She was the seventh of eight children of Alex Bielinski and Veronica Chucka. In high school, she met her future husband Robert Van Ryzin. The two married in 1950 and had nine children, spending more than 30 years of their life together in Madison, NJ.

Marge was a mother, grandmother, homemaker, volunteer, sister, and friend. She was an avid gardener, both at her own home and as a volunteer with The Cross Estate Gardens in Bernardsville and The Frelinghuysen Arboretum. In 1998, the Friends planted a tree in her honor to recognize her 13 years of service as president of the board, secretary, and hospitality chair.

Marge was a life-long learner who greatly enjoyed reading, politics, and travel. More than anything, Marge will be remembered as a kind, generous spirit and the cherished matriarch of an ever-growing family. She valued people, hard work, and family above all, and she shared her optimism, wit, and wisdom with everyone who was lucky enough to know her.

Marge leaves an incredible legacy and is survived by her children Peter, Anne, Helen, Paul, John, Mary, Bill, and Jean, as well as 23 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Marge was preceded in death by her husband Bob, daughter Joan, and grand-daughter Lydia.

Rest in peace, dear Marge. It has been an honor knowing you and thank you for all of your contributions to the Friends of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum.

affiliate members

Non-profit organizations whose missions focus on horticulture and the natural world are Affiliate members of the Friends of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum. Following are descriptions of groups who responded to our request for information to include in Arboretum Leaves. We do have other Affiliate Members, i.e., Bartlett Tree Experts, the Garden Club of Morristown and the North Jersey Dablia Society who did not respond to our request. Take a moment to read about them and consider joining.

African Violet Club of Morris County

The African Violet Club of Morris County was started in the fall of 1994 and is an affiliate of the African Violet Society of America (AVSA). The purpose and goal of the group is to educate our members about the proper ways to grow African Violets successfully and to do the same for the public during our annual judged flower show. We support AVSA by encouraging membership and yearly donations. Contact info: Ginny Heatter, president, vaheatter@yahoo.com or Karyn Cichocki, secretary, kdc05@ptd.net

Frelinghuysen Arboretum Gesneriad Society

The Frelinghuysen Arboretum Gesneriad Society is a chapter of The Gesneriad Society. Our mission and goal is to educate not only our members but the public about the family of Gesneriads (family of plants that African Violets belong to), their cultural needs and propagation and to educate the public during our annual flower show. As a chapter of The Gesneriad Society, we support the society by promoting membership and making yearly donations, which promote Gesneriad research. Contact info: Ginny Heatter, president, vaheatter@yahoo.com or Jill Fischer, secretary, HFJG.Fischer@comcast.net

Great Swamp Bonsai Society

The Great Swamp Bonsai Society enjoys a membership ranging from beginners to artists of national and international renown, all dedicated to sharing our interest in, and enjoyment of, this fascinating art form. For more information, and to get our free newsletter, contact John Michalski at luonia@aol.com, or check out our Facebook Page (Great Swamp Bonsai Society).

Home Garden Club of Morristown

The Home Garden Club of Morristown, founded in 1925, welcomes members with all levels of gardening experience. We share interest in the advancement of horticulture, conservation and civic beauty in cooperation with the Garden Club of New Jersey. Meetings include lectures, hands-on workshops and trips to gardens. Some of our civic projects are planting urn displays at historic Acorn Hall, participating in horticultural therapy at Lyons Veterans Hospital and creating holiday wreaths for historic sites in Morristown. For more information contact Pam Venanzi at pdv51@optonline.net.

New Jersey Mycological Association

The New Jersey Mycological Association is a non-profit organization whose aims are to provide a means for sharing ideas, experiences, knowledge and common interests regarding fungi, and to furnish mycological information and educational materials to those who wish to increase their knowledge about mushrooms. We run forays throughout the state where experienced club members and newer members find and identify fungi found in the woods. Annual membership is \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for families. The website is njmyco.org.

New Jersey State Chrysanthemum Society

The New Jersey State Chrysanthemum Society aims to stimulate, foster and increase interest and activity in the culture of chrysanthemums through educational lectures, instructional workshops, competitive shows and informal discussions among members, many of whom are expert growers. We welcome all who are interested in knowing and growing this quintessential queen of the fall: the chrysanthemum. Dues are \$25/year. For membership and/or more information, contact Karen Mastromano (973-992-6197; Kmastx@aol.com) or Cindy Hedin (908-655-6261; cphedinb@icloud.com)

North American Butterfly Association

The North American Butterfly Association (NABA) was created in 1992 by Jeffrey Glassman, who is the Association's President. The NABA was formed in order to promote awareness of butterfly conservation and the benefits of butterfly gardening, observation, photography and education. Garry Annibal is the President of the New Jersey Chapter of the NABA. Contact NABA at butterflyclubnj@gmail.com.

North American Rock Garden Society – Watnong Chapter

The core mission of the North American Rock Garden Society, of which the Watnong group forms a chapter, is the cultivation, conservation, and knowledge of rock garden plants, their value, habits and geographical distribution as well as interest in good garden design and the mutual exchange of experience and knowledge about gardening. However, the Watnong group also has programs about a variety of related topics, such as companion trees or native plants that mix well with rock gardens.

Dues are only \$10 per person or \$15 per couple; if you are interested in joining our group and activities, please contact the chair, Roxanne.hiltz@gmail.com.

Listing of affiliate members continued on page 6.

affiliate members

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Northeast Judging Center of the American Orchid Society

The Northeast Judging Center of the American Orchid Society, a 501(c)(3), sponsors monthly judging events on the third Saturday of the month. We have educational forums and discussions on a wide range of topics related to orchid judging starting at 10:30 am, followed by judging. Anyone may bring an orchid for judging, or come to observe and learn. In addition to our monthly judging, we participate in orchid shows throughout the region, providing AOS judging as well as ribbon and trophy judging at the show. While the Haggerty Education Center is closed, we are meeting at the Parish House of the First Presbyterian Church, Hanover NJ. More information can be found on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AOSNortheastJudging>

TriState African Violet Council and the New Jersey Council of African Violet Judges

Tristate African Violet Council members are representatives from affiliated clubs in New Jersey, southern New York and eastern Pennsylvania as well as others interested in the propagation of African violets. Individual membership is \$10.00 for two years, June – May, and family membership is \$15.00 for two years, June – May. For further information email Janet Riemer at j_riemer@comcast.net, or call 609-737-1699.

Tri-State Hosta Society

The Tri-State Hosta Society was founded in 1993 by 3 hosta lovers in New Jersey and Long Island. Originally intended as a society of like-minded gardeners in the New York Metropolitan area, our membership now includes hostaphiles in several other states as well, including North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Maryland, to name a few. Our dues are \$20 for a two-year membership or \$25 for a three-year membership. Membership includes the three meetings, one or more open member gardens in the summer, an annual picnic, and a quarterly award-winning newsletter. We proudly sponsor and maintain a public hosta display garden at the Skylands Botanical Garden in Ringwood, NJ. Further information and photos of our activities can be found on our website, www.tristatehosta.org, or on our Facebook page. Our current President, Dave Chopko has an outstanding hosta garden in Boonton and is an active member of the American Hosta Society. He may be reached by email at daveroc2@aol.com. We are always delighted to welcome new members and our Membership Chair is Gene Tappan in West Milford. His email address is genetappan@hotmail.com and a membership application can be found on our website.

*Morris County Park Commission continues to offer youth and adult programs.
For information and to register go to their website at www.morrisparks.net
or call 973.631.5396.*



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Lynn Shavelson, *Vice President*

Judith Snow, *Secretary*
Erin Rantas, *Acting Treasurer*

The Friends of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum and The Morris County Park Commission invite everyone to participate in their programs. If you require an interpreter for the deaf or other accommodations, please contact us at 973-326-7603 or TDD 1-800-852-7899. Please provide two weeks notice.