



**THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER**

DR. HUBERT LING *presents*

**SHADE GARDENS**

**MARCH 2 AT 7:30 PM**

Does your yard have shady areas where not much of anything grows? Well many native shade plants and spring ephemerals can fill the niche. We will discuss who they are, where to get them and why they are important. We will also discuss how to

grow them and fill up your bare spots with color and interest!

**BIOGRAPHY** Hubert has been excited about nature starting in his youth when he had to pass a test to go to a nature camp. His interest led him to an M.S. in Botany, a Ph.D. in Biology, and an RN. He went on to work in industry and academia focusing on microbiology, mycology, botany, and general biology. He has served on the board for the NJ Native Plant Society almost since its inception and is a past president. He is an avid native plant gardener who has shared his expertise as consultant, speaker, and field trip leader for various organizations. He is now retired from academia and nursing, but he is the NPSNJ Horticulture Chair and a monthly contributing writer for the "Gardener News."

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Monday, March 2 at 7:30 pm**  
Woodland Parlor  
60 Woodland Road, Maplewood

**March 3 @ 9:30 am**  
**Philadelphia Flower Show Trip**  
Maplewood Pool Parking Lot  
187 Boyden Avenue

**Beginning Saturday, March 14**  
**Potting-up Parties**  
Upper Greenhouse behind  
Town Hall

**May 7 - 9**  
**89th Annual Plant Sale**  
Maplewood Pool Parking Lot  
187 Boyden Avenue



**MGC's 89th ANNUAL PLANT SALE: MAY 7 - 9**

The **2026 Maplewood Garden Club's 89th Annual Plant Sale** returns **May 7, 8, and 9** at the Maplewood Community Pool

parking lot. **Opening day is Thursday at 12:00 noon—don't miss it!**

Plant Sale activities begin **Saturday, May 2**, with site pre-sale tasks and end on Sunday, May 10. Our sign-ups will once again be handled via **SignUpGenius** with invitations emailed to members soon. Please respond as early as possible and consider helping with any phase of the sale.

We especially need able-bodied volunteers for setup tasks such as moving plants from the greenhouse, setting up tables and canopies, and general display preparation. Friends, neighbors, and loved ones are welcome to lend a hand—and if your preferred time slot is full, please come anyway. There is always plenty to do!

**This Plant Sale is our MAIN fundraiser**, supporting both community programs and the operating expenses of our Club. If you have questions or would like help navigating SignUpGenius, please feel free to call or email me.

~ **Lisa Lackey** (917) 334-9265  
[ljlackey6@yahoo.com](mailto:ljlackey6@yahoo.com)



# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

MARCH 2026

**BRRRRRR...THAT WAS A COLD JANUARY AND FEBRUARY!** New Jersey is not used to having such cold temperatures. Neither are we use to having snow stay around for so long. My dog was visibly stressed by the snow and cold temperatures. He was "off-line" and couldn't check his pee-mail, critter account, or smellbook. He is a mixed Lab/Black and Tan Coon Hound so sniffing is his THING! He was visibly frustrated when he couldn't get to the berms or patrol "his" backyard. I had to find ways to keep him mentally stimulated so that he wouldn't make mischief like dumping the garbage can. He could smell the smells in the air but couldn't get to the covered familiar smells. Just taking him out was a challenge some days. I know other dog owners can relate to this.



**SO HAPPY TO WELCOME IN MARCH!** I call March Green Month. We start to see green popping up all over. Our Gardens are waking up! I am very eager to be able to bring my plants outside again. I lost a few house plants this winter. As some of you may know, I decided to keep a kitten that I was fostering. I spent the winter being amazed by his curiosity and explorations. He has gotten into EVERY space within his range and dug up quite a few plants. He also has warmed my heart with his cuteness and affection. I suppose the death of a few houseplants is a tolerable loss.

**BACK TO MARCH.** I hope that you were able to get your bulbs planted in the fall. Your reward for that hard work should be coming soon. I don't think that we will have to worry about a dry spring. We should have very lush spring growth. Enjoy the spring blooms. Get your hands in the soil at our "Potting Up Parties." Start surveying your gardens but leave the dead leaves and branches a little bit longer for those insect eggs. I will be adding compost to my flower beds and veggie garden as soon as the soil is workable. This way the soil will be ready for planting in April and May and the perennials will get a good feeding.

*See the lovely blooms of spring.*

*Leave them outside please.*

*Although they make my heart sing, I have a cat.*

*He will discover them. He'll jump. He'll spring and that will be that.*

*No plants with this cat!*

**HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!**

~ Virginia Nordberg

[president@maplewoodgardenclub.org](mailto:president@maplewoodgardenclub.org)





## STILL TIME TO SIGNUP FOR 'POTTING UP PARTIES'!

Many thanks to everyone who signed up for the March 'Potting Up Parties' at our February meeting. For those of you who missed the signup sheets at the meeting, there is still a chance to get your hands dirty and help prepare for the Plant Sale. Please sign up to help on these days:

**Saturday, March 21 ..... 10 am - Noon & 2 pm - 4 pm**

**Sunday, March 22 ..... 2 pm - 4 pm**

Please contact me via email ([nial590@verizon.net](mailto:nial590@verizon.net)) or call (973) 762-4136 to sign up. I will also have the signup sheets at the March meeting. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in the warmth and sunshine of the Upper Greenhouse (behind Town Hall).

~ *Laura Nial* (973) 762-4136 [nial590@verizon.net](mailto:nial590@verizon.net)



## PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW TRIP

**TUESDAY, MARCH 3 AT 9:30 AM**  
**MAPLEWOOD POOL PARKING LOT**  
**187 BOYDEN AVENUE, MAPLEWOOD**

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO HOP ON BOARD AND EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC!**

Tickets are still available for our Maplewood Garden Club Trip. The costs remain the same: \$70 for MGC members and \$85 for non-members, which includes transportation, entry to the show, and light refreshments (to be provided on the bus.)

Feel free to ask a friend to join us. If interested, please contact Gary Bierman at [gbird101@aol.com](mailto:gbird101@aol.com) or call (917) 975-5255. The official deadline for receipt of payment has been extended to Feb 26. Please make your check payable to "The Maplewood Garden Club" and mail to Gary Bierman, 14 Highland Place, Apt J, Maplewood, NJ 07040.

Payments via VENMO are also accepted.

~ *Gary Bierman* (917) 975-5255 [gbird101@aol.com](mailto:gbird101@aol.com)

## MAPLEFOOD YOUTH GARDEN PROGRAM

Calling all garden educators! I am planning the spring season for our MapleFood Garden and am calling on volunteers to help in the garden and work with kids this spring, summer, and fall. The MapleFood garden teaches kids and families about how to grow and maintain vegetables organically.



We harvest the food for kids to take home and deliver food to the community foodbanks and community fridge on Springfield Ave.

If you would like to volunteer or know kids/families who would like to participate in our program, please reach out to me at [youthgarden@maplewoodgardenclub.org](mailto:youthgarden@maplewoodgardenclub.org).

~ *Monika Hannemann*

[youthgarden@maplewoodgardenclub.org](mailto:youthgarden@maplewoodgardenclub.org)



## SAVE THE DATE FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL (INCLUDES HORTICULTURE)

TUESDAY, APRIL 14 and WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15  
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY - HOLLY HOUSE IN EAST  
BRUNSWICK, NJ

Interested in further education in floral design and general horticulture? The Garden Club of New Jersey is offering classes April 14 and 15, and our Club members can sign up to take classes one or both days for **\$90 per single day or \$170 for both days**. It's a lot of fun and a great opportunity to pick up new ideas on floral design and general horticultural practices while also learning what judges are looking for in your exhibits. Participants can take the course for credit towards becoming a flower show judge or as a learning experience.

### April 14: Horticulture Curriculum

The horticulture curriculum consists of basic general information on proper gardening techniques from seed / plant selection to plant culture and control of problems. Information is also presented on cultural needs of specific perennials, annuals, trees and shrubs, as well as fruits, vegetables and nuts, and how to grow superior container plants.

### April 15: Design Instruction

Design instruction covers traditional floral arrangements through contemporary styles and even designs incorporating lights and motors. Many attendees are particularly interested in table setting designs showing coordination of floral centerpiece, linens and dishes. Vignettes, small segments of rooms, also give ideas on interior decorating.

Classes are held at Rutgers University - Holly House in East Brunswick, NJ. If interested in attending, contact Sue Tully for more information or go directly to the GCNJ website at [www.gardenclubofnewjersey.org](http://www.gardenclubofnewjersey.org) and look for "Schools" in the black banner. Upon opening "Flower School Show," there is a link to the registration form that gives more information.

~ Sue Tully (862) 266-3991 [stullynj@gmail.com](mailto:stullynj@gmail.com)

FOR DISPLAY ONLY AT FEBRUARY MEETING:



## STAGHORN FERN (*PLATYCERIUM BIFURCATUM*)

Also known as an Elkhorn Fern, the tropical epiphyte grows on trees and not in soil. The fern uses its host tree to reach bright dappled light. Tree debris from decayed leaves can provide the fern with nourishment.

The fern has two types of fronds, fertile branched ones that produce spores to reproduce, and flat, sterile fronds that dry, spiral and curl around a tree branch to attach and hold the fern firmly in place. Mature plants can grow to be quite large and heavy.

This specimen is growing in light expanded clay aggregate (LECA). By Spring, the fern will entirely cover the pot and will need to be divided or reset, pot and all, into a larger container.

~ Bob Iglesias

## CONSERVATION CORNER

MARCH 2026

While you may know by now that I am a **fanatic** about composting you may not know that for almost 40 years I have worked to promote composting as a valuable way to reduce waste and enhance soil health. Although food waste composting has advanced in many states over the past 20 years, in New Jersey it has remained

stubbornly difficult to get facilities permitted that allow for the composting of our precious and valuable food scraps. In fact in NJ it is technically illegal for community gardeners to bring their vegetable scraps to their

community garden to compost, or for one neighbor to accept the food scraps of another neighbor in their backyard compost bin. I kid you not.

It is for this reason that I am SUPER excited to share that as part of a flurry of legislation (120 bills to be exact) signed on his last days in office Governor Phil Murphy signed S2426/A2090 which aims to advance food waste reduction in the following ways:

- 🌱 By requiring NJ counties to develop strategies to reduce food waste disposal by 50% of 2022 levels by 2035.
- 🌱 By recognizing food donation, composting, anaerobic digestion and landfills generating

renewable natural gas as strategies that reduce food waste.

- 🌱 By expanding the definition of Food Waste in the existing law to include “post consumer food waste.” Previously, and unique to NJ, the definition weirdly only included “preconsumer food waste.”
- 🌱 NJDEP must publish a menu of implementation measures that counties can use, including education and outreach.
- 🌱 NJDEP must create a tiered regulatory structure for composting facilities. While this sounds super bureaucratic, it is actually very important so that barriers to permitting can be removed, and we can develop a network of all different kinds and sizes of composting facilities throughout the state—yay!

This will no doubt all take some time to develop and advance, but just knowing we could soon be burdening our Ironbound neighbors with much less food waste and creating more beautiful compost brings joy to my heart. Meanwhile you can always start or expand your backyard compost pile, or contract with Java's Compost for drop off service (Maplewood residents) or collection service (any town). [www.javascompost.com](http://www.javascompost.com).

I'm happy to talk composting anytime. Please reach out at [virginialamb1@yahoo.com](mailto:virginialamb1@yahoo.com).

~ Virginia Lamb [virginialamb1@yahoo.com](mailto:virginialamb1@yahoo.com)



## THE BEE ORCHID

Did you know that there's a terrestrial orchid, *Orphrys apifera*, that uses a rather remarkable method to achieve pollination? The bee orchid “cosplays” as a queen to deceive male drone bees.

The scent pheromones, body shape and color patterns, even the tiny hairs at the flower's “thorax” closely resemble a queen bee. Remarkably, the orchid flower releases its enticing pheromones within the period between hatching out



and swarming of male drones and the eventual nuptial flight of a queen bee.

As an excited male bee is fooled into trying to mate with the flower, a sticky pollen bundle hanging overhead attaches to the drone. When the frustrated male suiter finally tries its luck elsewhere (at another alluring bee orchid), a successful transfer of pollen takes place between two orchid plants.

~ Bob Iglesias

## How Does Your Garden Grow?



The month of March is sometimes a missed opportunity to get some beautiful flowers started earlier. That way you can have some cutting flowers in the earlier part of Spring while you're waiting for your showier flower types that bloom later in the Summer.

The answer might be to try direct sowing some hardy flower perennial seeds in early Spring. They can live for several years and they flower annually. They stand up to late Winter/early Spring temperatures and frost without needing protection. They emerge from dormancy in early spring, giving them a head start on establishing strong roots before the more rapid growing season later on. With proper care and positioning, these resilient plants will reward you with vibrant blooms year after year.

As long as your soil is not waterlogged or frozen, March is an ideal time to plant hardy flowers in the garden. If the soil is muddy and sticks to your tools, wait until it is dry enough for the soil to crumble.

There is still the chance of a cold snap at this time of year, so it is essential that the flowers are of a hardy variety. Timing: when attempting early seed sowing, many of these seeds need to be planted as soon as the ground is workable. So don't delay to get a good head start!

Early spring direct sowing is best done 2-4 weeks before the last frost (roughly late March to mid-April). These seeds can handle, and often prefer, cool soil and light, late frosts to germinate.

Examples you can try: Sweet Peas, Poppies, Larkspur & Delphinium, Bachelor's Buttons, Calendula (Pot Marigold), and Borage.

~ Anne Simms

## FEBRUARY EXHIBIT WINNERS

### ARTISTIC DESIGN

**Theme: Ice Storm Warning: Monochromatic – White and/or Lightly Colored Flowers and Spiky-Shaped Flowers or Foliage**

**Challenge:** Parallel Design

1st: Kathy Kohlman

2nd: Sue Tully

3rd Tie: Vicky Borrone

Liz Demkin

**Intermediate:** Reflective Design

1st: Christina Ainge

2nd: Jennifer Richardson

**Novice:** Transparency Design

No Entries

**Open:** Designer's Choice

1st: Liz Demkin

2nd: Christina Ainge

### HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITS

**1. Vining plant:**

1st: Steven Kuiper – *Hoya Carnosa*,  
Krimson Queen

**2. Aloe leaf:**

No Entries

**3. *Santpaulia ionantha* (African Violet):**

1st: Christina Ainge

**4. Open:**

1st: Susan Darwin – *Kalanchoe diademontiana*

1st: David Nial – *Ludisia discolor*

1st: Vicky Borrone – *Philodendron variegated*

**For Display Only:**

Bob Iglesias – Staghorn Fern

### ~ REMINDER ~

The deadline for the April newsletter is  
**Friday, March 6.**

Send your news items and photos to  
[dianemcollins@yahoo.com](mailto:dianemcollins@yahoo.com)

## MARCH EXHIBITS

### ARTISTIC DESIGN

Please read “Artistic Division Rules” on page 13 in the current yearbook, as well as the 2017 revised edition of the *Handbook for Flower Shows* (see above).

**Theme: Heavy Rain in the Forecast:  
Dark Colored Flowers**

**Challenge:** Underwater Design, see *Handbook*, p. 79.

**Intermediate:** Parallel Design, see *Handbook*, p. 75.

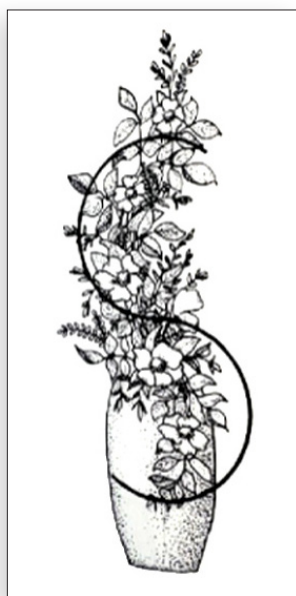
**Novice:** American Traditional Line Design - S Curve, see *Handbook*, pp. 70 & 71.

**Open:** Designer’s Choice (one entry per member)

### HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITS

Please read “Horticulture Division Rules” on page 13 in the current yearbook, as well as the 2017 revised edition of the *Handbook for Flower Shows* (see above).

1. **Oxalis plant**, potted (container not to exceed 10” radius)
2. **Bromeliad**, potted (container not to exceed 10” radius)
3. **Philodendron**, potted (container not to exceed 10” radius)
4. **Open** (maximum 2 entries per person)



S-Curve Design example



Parallel Design example

## EXHIBITORS CORNER

All designers should refer to Chapter 7 of the latest version of the “National Garden Clubs, Inc., *Handbook for Flower Shows*”, (revised July 2024), for more detail. The *Handbook* is available on the MGC website [maplewoodgardenclub.org](http://maplewoodgardenclub.org) under, **Calendars** → **Design Exhibit Schedule** → **National Garden Club-Handbook for Flower Shows** ([blue link](#)). Not all design requirements are listed in this newsletter.

Note that the designs are listed for the physical pages of the *Handbook*, the online counter adds another 11 pages, i.e., page 71 of *Handbook* is page 82 of page counter on website.

**ARTISTIC DESIGN** March’s theme is “Heavy Rain in the Forecast – Dark Colored Flowers.”

**Novice** designers are to create a “American Traditional Line S-Curve Design.” This style conforms to the characteristics of American Traditional styles with great restraint in the quantity of plant material used. A linear pattern is dominant which forms the shape of an “S”. See the example below.

**Intermediate** level designers are to create a “Parallel Design”. A Creative Design consisting of three or more groupings of plant material and optional components with a strong parallel placement in a single container and/or base. See the example below.

**Challenge** level designers are to create a “Underwater Design”. A Creative design in which all or some of the plant material and optional components are submerged in water.

## REMINDERS:

- **Judging starts at 7:15 pm.** Please clear the area of the exhibit tables so the judge and exhibit team can score your plant material and designs.
- Please do not interrupt the team while they are judging; they are working as quickly as possible so that the guest speaker can begin.

Thank you for bringing in your horticultural exhibits and floral designs for all to see! The Exhibits team deeply appreciates your involvement in the monthly exhibits.

~ [Vicky Borrone \(973\) 763-0633 mborrone@hotmail.com](mailto:mborrone@hotmail.com)  
[Sue Tully \(862\) 266-3991 stullynj@gmail.com](mailto:stullynj@gmail.com)

# FEBRUARY 2026 EXHIBITS



*Kathy Kohlman - 1st Challenge*



*Sue Tully - 2nd Challenge*



*Liz Demkin - 3rd Challenge*



*Vicky Borrone - 3rd Challenge*



*Jennifer Richardson - 2nd Intermediate*



*Christina Ainge - 2nd Open*



Liz Demkin - 1st Open



Christina Ainge - 2nd



Vicky Borrone - 1st



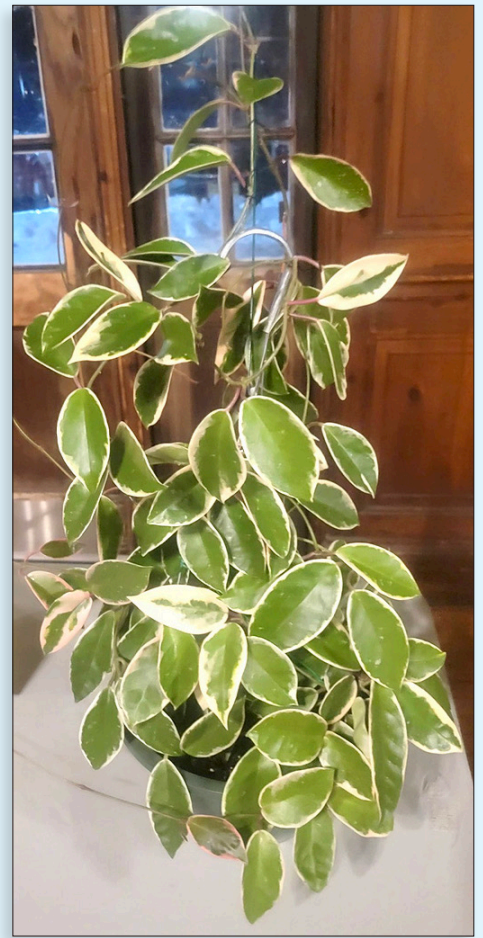
Christina Ainge - 1st Novice



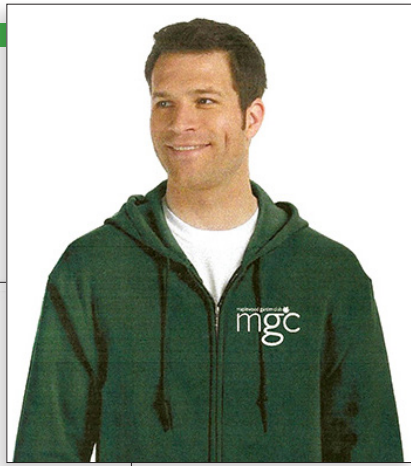
David Nial - 1st



Susan Darwin - 1st



Steven Kuipers - 1st



## BUY YOUR MGC APPAREL NOW!

Orders for MGC T-shirts, sweatshirts and hats are being taken this month. These are available for Garden Club members only.

We encourage members to wear MGC logo T-shirts, sweatshirts and hats at the MGC Plant Sale and other Garden Club events and workdays.

**MGC T-shirts \$15 each** (available at the March meeting)  
MGC T-shirts are 100% cotton.

Ladies' T-shirt sizes are S, M, L, XL, XXL

Men's T-shirt sizes are S, M, L, XL, XXL

**MGC Hats \$TBD** (available at the March meeting)  
One size fits all and are adjustable

**MGC Sweatshirts \$TBD** (must be pre-ordered)  
MGC sweatshirts are 100% cotton with a center zipper, hood and kangaroo pockets.  
Regular sizes are S, M, L, XL

**Please note:** A minimum order of 12 sweatshirts is required to purchase from the vendor.  
Before I can order more, I will need at least 12 sweatshirts ordered.

For more information or to place your orders, please contact Juliet Powell by phone (646) 642-3228 or by email [julietpowellesq@gmail.com](mailto:julietpowellesq@gmail.com).

~ Juliet Powell (646) 642-3228 [julietpowellesq@gmail.com](mailto:julietpowellesq@gmail.com)

## PLANT SALE CASHIERS AND TALLY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

As you might have heard, the 89th MGC Plant Sale is happening on May 7, 8, and 9, and this is your opportunity to help out!

If you are comfortable with adding orders and/or receiving customer payments, please use **SignUpGenius** or contact Christina Ainge at (917) 292-1378 or email [christina@ainge.com](mailto:christina@ainge.com) to volunteer. We will have all the tools and provide training that you will need to do the job. It is lots of fun and you will get to work with other wonderful people from the Club. Thank you for your help and I cannot wait to hear from you.

~ Christina Ainge (917) 292-1378 [christina@ainge.com](mailto:christina@ainge.com)



## DO YOU HAVE A PLANT THAT YOU'RE WONDERING ABOUT?

Just send in a photo or even a description. Our knowledgeable Club members might be able to help you out! Send it to Diane at [dianemcollins@yahoo.com](mailto:dianemcollins@yahoo.com) with the subject line **Can you identify this plant?**

# 2026 MGC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Dear Members,

It is that time of the year again when we renew our memberships with the Maplewood Garden Club. It is important that we get all our renewals completed by April 30th when our membership roster is due to The Garden Club of New Jersey who provides us our insurance policy to which the member roster is critical. So please get your renewals in on time so we can include you on our roster with GCNJ. Any new members who joined after December 1, 2025 are considered already paid for 2026 and do not need to pay again. I will be at the meetings and if members don't want to make any changes, they can leave checks or cash with me.

Thank you,  
Christina Ainge  
MGC Membership Chair

**INDIVIDUAL: \$20.00**

**FAMILY: \$30.00**

Please make check payable to [Maplewood Garden Club](#), and mail along with this form by April 15th to:

**Maplewood Garden Club**, c/o Christina Ainge, P.O. Box 188, Maplewood, NJ 07040

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(please print)*

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(please print)*

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(please print)*

**Note:** Email is our preferred method of communication and for those members who give consent email addresses will be printed in the yearbook. *Please print clearly.*

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(All email addresses are used for Garden Club business and correspondence only)*

*Please check boxes:*

- I give MGC permission to also include my email address in the Club's yearbook.  
 I want to "Go Green", please email me my Maplewood Garden Club Newsletters.

*All email addresses are for the use of the Garden Club business and correspondence only.*

## INTERESTS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Plant Sale         | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Projects          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Durand-Hedden Herb Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly Meeting Exhibits  | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery Garden              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Propagation         | <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad Station Decorating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wreath Making             | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Garden                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horticultural Therapy     | <input type="checkbox"/> Green Day                   |

*If your circumstances have changed and you wish to resign your membership, please let us know by sending a note in the enclosed envelope, so that follow-up calls to you won't be necessary.*

## FEBRUARY RAFFLE

**WOW, it was frigid outside** for the February meeting but those who braved the cold got rewarded with a great talk about bees, some yummy snacks and a really great raffle that was all about gardening INDOORS. **Donovan Collins** and **Leilani Viney** will have some healthy, beautiful houseplants after winning Houseplant Care Kits. **Maureen McNulty** and **Francine Colon** will be planting away this winter but not making a mess because of their new “rollup” planting mats and organic potting soil. **PJ Adeniji** and **Debby Mainiero**’s plants will be hydrated because they went home with cute ceramic and copper watering cans. **Juliet Powell** will be having a Valentines Tea Party, winning a basket with a variety of teas, two pink cups and spoons, some heart shaped honey stirrers, cookies and floral napkins. **Sue Tully** and **Bob Iglesias** were our January and February Birthday raffle winners. They each got a gardening book and some fancy soaps. Happy Birthday to them and all our other birthdays!

**At every meeting** we have a FREE raffle of fun items which I try to coordinate with the season or the speaker. If you have something NEW or LIKE NEW that you would like to donate to the raffle, you can bring it to any meeting or drop it off on my front porch. This month, SIX of the eight raffle gifts contained something donated. THANKS to our benefactors.

*~ Karen Donovan (973) 762-5484*

Maplewood Garden Club



maplewoodgardenclub.org



Maplewood Garden Club  
PO Box 121  
Maplewood, NJ 07040





SOUH ORANGE-VAILSURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Rev. Dr. Ralph B. Terrell, Pastor, 150 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ 07079 973-763-0655



**Marilyn S. Schnaars**  
**December 22, 1932 – March 11, 2025**  
**A Life Well Lived Is Worth Remembering**

Dear *Maplewood Garden Club Members,*

Marilyn was a cherished member of our church for 87 years. She was known for her kindness and strong faith and through the years served the church in all capacities. She lived her entire life in South Orange and Maplewood and graduated from Columbia High School in 1951. Her many friendships were built on her loving, empathic, and loyal nature. She likely served your organization with the same dedication and enthusiasm as she did ours.

To honor Marilyn's positive qualities and the profound impact she had on all of us, our church is planning a memorial tribute and dedication ceremony to her on SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026. The Worship Service will begin at 10:00 AM; Dedication and Unveiling Ceremony will begin at 11:30 AM. We hope you and the members of your organization will come and celebrate with us. Let us know if you would like to share some of your treasured memories of Marilyn during the unveiling ceremony. To participate in the dedication ceremony contact: Cleo Burnett-Stewart, 347-286-3689, or Jean Gaillard-Johnson, 973-390-2739, by phone or text.

Please also consider a donation to the Marilyn S. Schnaars Legacy Fund which will be used to create an everlasting memorial to her. All gifts to the fund will be used to refurbish the church's chapel and purchase a memorial plaque naming the chapel in her honor. We hope you will help us reach our goal of \$20,000. Donations of any amount will be gratefully accepted. Anyone giving \$100 or more: Bronze (\$100 -150), Silver (\$151 -300), Gold (\$301-600), Platinum (\$601-1200); Diamond (\$1201- 2400) will be acknowledged in the Memorial Program. **To contribute** to the Marilyn S. Schnaars Legacy Fund send a check to the attention of Zella Felzenberg at the church. Make the check payable to the church and put "Marilyn Schnaars Fund" on the memo line. You can also use your credit card to contribute on the church's page at Givelify.com, Zeffy: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/dedication-of-the-marilyn-schnaars-chapel>, or GoFundMe: <https://gofund.me/c55151421>. If you have questions about giving to the fund, contact Zella Felzenberg by phone or text at 973-699-8670.

We thank God for the time we shared with Marilyn and for this opportunity to honor her. Your prayers, presence, and support will add to the success of this endeavor.

In Christ's love,

*Cleo*

Cleo Burnett-Stewart  
Co-Chair

*Zella*

Zella Felzenberg  
Co-Chair

*Jean*

Jean Gaillard-Johnson  
Co-Chair