

This issue:

Winter Issue Feature

Deep Cut Orchid Society Show

KGC Trip Committee's First "Pop Up" Trip Event of 2024

Written by Sue Buccellato

Not even snow can keep KGC members away from flowers. It may mess up our plan a little, but one way or another we will get to those flowers!



The trip committee's first "Pop-Up" trip of 2024, to Deepcut Orchid Society Show at Dearborn Market in Holmdel, NJ, was set up for our "group" to meet between 10-1 on Saturday February 17th. Mother nature had other plans for us though. The prediction of snow altered our plans to meet as a "group", but we all made it to see this show in person, on our own time. Some of the informative lectures also had some scheduling changes as well, due to weather.



Flower Photos by Patty Colson



The bursts of color against the bleak winter gray and white, gave refreshing reminders that spring is around the corner. Despite the blustery weather, the show was well attended. There was even one attendee that took a train all the way from Chatham NY, just to attend the event!



If you didn't get there this year, perhaps these photos will inspire you to mark it on your calendar for next year. It's FREE, it's three days, and it's local.



Visit www.deepcutorchidsociety.org for more info!

additional photos by Sue Buccellato & Xan Yanosh

- Feature Story
PAGE 01
- Community Giving
PAGE 2
- Trip Committee News & Events
PAGES 3 & 4
- Committee Spotlight
PAGE 5
- Vegetable of the Month
PAGE 6
- Winterscape in NJ
PAGE 7
- Drink of the Month
PAGE 8
- Flower of the Month
PAGE 9
- Green Team News
PAGE 10
- KGC Membership
PAGE 11
- Education & Speakers
PAGE 12
- Seasonal Produce Guide
PAGE 13
- Photo Gallery
PAGE 14
- Food for Thought
PAGE 15
- Important Club Dates
PAGE 16
- Elizabeth Street Community Garden
PAGE 17
- Additional Announcements
PAGE 18

Winter Issue - Other Events & News



THESE BEAUTIFUL FEBRUARY ARRANGEMENTS ARE A LOVELY TESTAMENT TO KGC'S COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY IN ACTION. WE THANK ALL THE PARTICIPANTS OF THESE COMMITTEES FOR THEIR CREATIVITY, TIME, AND ENERGY IN SUPPORTING THE SUCCESS OF THESE GIVE BACK PROGRAMS IN 2024 AND BEYOND.

February Cup of Cheer



December Cup of Cheer arrangements were crafted by KGC member & trustee, Anne Marie Tormo-Reedy. They are sure to warm the hearts of the Anchor Care Residents

February Library Arrangements



The February Library arrangements, greeting every library patron, were also created by KGC member and trustee, Anne Marie Tormo-Reedy.



KGC TRIP Committee News

Information on 2024 Committee Plans/Trips



Mark your calendars! Save the date!

Our big bus trip this year is almost completely confirmed.
September 27, 2024 for a KGC bus trip to Chanticleer Gardens in Wayne, PA.
More details and info will be available soon!



KGC trip committee hopes to organize a group pop up trip (self driven/carpool)
on June 8, 2024, at a BYO picnic trip to
Rudolf W. van der Goot Rose Garden,
at Colonial Park in Somerset NJ
for the Rose Day Festival.

This event is ***FREE*** and runs from 11AM-5PM

“Celebrate peak bloom in the Rudolf W. van der Goot Rose Garden with live music, picnicking on the rose garden lawn, artisan craft vendors, rose sales, and fun kids’ activities. BYO lunch or try out one of the visiting food trucks. For all ages. Note that pets are not permitted in the Rose Garden. No registration necessary.”

Some other possible trip suggestions were:

Holland Ridge Farm- To see the tulips (April)

Sunset View Farms- Dessert in the Dahlias (August)

Frelinghuysen Arboretum

Central Park Conservatory Gardens

Drumthwacket Mansion- Holiday Decor Tour (December)

The main goal of the trip committee is to seek out fun places for the club to explore as a group. We would love for other members to share their ideas of places to explore.

Please join us or send ideas to one of the committee leaders.
Email us with suggestions/thoughts: kgctrips@gmail.com



Garden & NJ Event Resources



Other Links of Interest

[HTTPS://WWW.GARDENCLUBOFMONTCLAIR.COM/CALENDAR](https://www.gardenclubofmontclair.com/calendar)

[HTTPS://WWW.REEVES-REEDARBORETUM.ORG/CALENDAR/](https://www.reeves-reedarboretum.org/calendar/)

[HTTPS://EVENTS.RUTGERS.EDU/PDFS/UNDERSTANDING_SOIL_COMPACTION_-_2023.PDF](https://events.rutgers.edu/pdfs/understanding_soil_compaction_-_2023.pdf)

[HTTPS://MORRISPARKS.NET/INDEX.PHP/PARKS/FOSTERFIELDS](https://morrisparks.net/index.php/parks/fosterfields)

[HTTPS://LONGWOODGARDENS.ORG/EVENTS-PERFORMANCES/CALENDAR](https://longwoodgardens.org/event/s-performances/calendar)

[HTTPS://WWW.NYNJTC.ORG/HIKE/JAKES-BRANCH-COUNTY-PARK-LOOP](https://www.nynjtc.org/hike/jakes-branch-county-park-loop)

[HTTPS://WWW.JENKINSARBORETUM.ORG/](https://www.jenkinsarboretum.org/)

[HTTPS://WWW.ALLTRAILS.COM/TRAIL/SCOTLAND/ABERDEEN/LEUCHAR-MOSS-Forest-WALK?U=1](https://www.alltrails.com/trail/scotland/aberdeen/leuchar-moss-forest-walk?u=1)

[HTTPS://WWW.MONMOUTHCOUNTYPARKS.COM/PAGE.ASPX?ID=2483](https://www.monmouthcountyparks.com/page.aspx?id=2483)

[HTTPS://NJBG.ORG/CALENDAR/](https://njbg.org/calendar/)

[HTTP://NJFORESTRY.ORG/MYBACKYARD/](http://njforestry.org/mybackyard/)

[HTTPS://WWW.NJ.GOV/DEP/ENFORCEMENT/PCP/PCP-IPM.HTM](https://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/pcp/pcp-ipm.htm)

[HTTPS://WWW.NJHIKING.COM/](https://www.nj hiking.com/)

KEY EVENTS IN NEW JERSEY

[HTTPS://VISITNJ.ORG/NJ/EVENTS](https://visitnj.org/nj/events)

KEY EVENTS IN MONMOUTH COUNTY

<https://tourism.visitmonmouth.com/>

KEY EVENTS IN KEYPORT, NJ

[HTTPS://WWW.VISITKEYPORT.ORG/EVENTS/](https://www.visitkeyport.org/events/)





Featured Committee of the Month

JOIN A PROJECT! SIGN UP TODAY.

Keyport GardenWalk

PLANS FOR KEYPORT GARDENWALK 2024 ARE WELL UNDER WAY! OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS, LEAD BY CURRENT COMMITTEE CHAIRS, KIM MUNDRANE-TUOHY AND LISA SESSA, HAVE BEGUN THE PROCESS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THIS MUCH ANTICIPATED BAYSHORE GARDEN EVENT! ONE, THAT TAKES MANY MONTHS OF PLANNING AND PREPARATION. THE CULMINATION OF ALL THEIR DEDICATED WORK IS FELT IN THE HAPPY RESPONSE OF OUR GARDEN EVENT VISITORS.



Special Thanks to Renee Heri-Taylor on behalf of KGC & KGW, for her past efforts as the KGW volunteer manager at the Gazebo.

WWW.KEYPORTGADENCLUB.COM



February Vegetable of the Month

Sweet Potato

Recipe for Sweet Potato Pancakes

Ingredients

- 1 3/4 c. all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 2 tbsp. packed brown sugar
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg
- 1/4 tsp. ground ginger
- 1 3/4 c. buttermilk
- 2 small sweet potatoes, roasted and pureed until smooth (about 3/4 cup puree)
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- Butter, for cooking and serving
- Toasted pecans, for serving
- Maple syrup, for serving



Instructions:

1. In a large bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, brown sugar, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, and ginger.
2. In a separate bowl, whisk together buttermilk and sweet potato puree, then add eggs and vanilla.
3. Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and stir with a wooden spoon until just combined.
4. Melt butter in a large nonstick skillet or griddle over medium heat. When butter is foamy, reduce heat to medium-low and ladle a scant 1/2 cup pancake batter into skillet. Cook until bubbles start to form in batter and pancake is golden underneath, about 3 minutes, then flip and cook other side until golden, another 3 minutes.
5. Repeat with remaining batter.

Serve with more butter, toasted pecans, and maple syrup.

(photo and recipe courtesy of delish.com)

Egyptian Garden Club
THE VINE

Winterscape in New Jersey

written by **Dennis McNamara**
Agriculture Associate, Rutgers Cooperative Extension



Hellebore. stock photo: pixabay.com

Here in New Jersey, late February can tend to be gray and slushy. Personally, the most relaxing activity for me is to curl up with a good book, a warm cup of tea and occasionally stoke some burning logs in the fireplace. But when venturing out is necessary, some magical colors can be found to contrast with the gray. Among the first colors I encounter down my front stairs, peeking out by the dark green yews, are the pinkish white flowers of Helleborus, common name Hellebore. Hellebores, in the Buttercup family, brave the elements when few others do. This perennial is long-lived, prefers evenly moist but well-drained, sandy, humus-rich soil in light to partial shade. Living close to the bay, my hellebore thrives in the winter and seems to enjoy the shade from the yew in the summer. It grows one to two feet tall and wide. Through trial and error, I've found it does not take kindly to neighboring floppy plants. A Spring chore on my list is to clear the encroaching rhizomes from other emerging flowers creeping into the area around my Hellebore.

Another winter flowering plant seemingly telling the world it is almost Spring is Eranthis, common name Winter aconite, also a member of the Buttercup family. This small, perky plant can be found in sunnier locations that grow from small tuberous roots. It is only two to four inches tall and four to six inches wide with yellow, up-facing cups. It prefers rich humus or loamy soil in a spot with plenty of spring sun. The winter aconite is a robust plant that will self-sow, potentially forming large sweeps of congested colonies if not tended to.



Winter Aconite. Stock photo: Pixabay.com

Just beyond the Hellebore and yews in my garden is my Hamamelis tree, *H. virginiana* (common witch hazel). It grows in full sun on the upper edge of my rain garden, receiving a liberal amount of moisture. It doesn't typically require pruning, but I like to keep it just under twelve feet tall. Mine has small, yellow-curved blossoms that appear when the tree is leafless. I find the blooms to be unique and very unusual. The blossoms open and close in response to warm and cool days. Witch hazel gets its name from the fact that the forked twigs are sometimes used as divining rods in seeking water underground. Besides enjoying the blooms, for years, I have distilled the twigs to use as a lotion after I shave.

The bloom that signals the end of winter and the start of a new gardening season is the Crocus. A squat groundcover in the Iris family growing four to six inches tall and wide. They are yellow-throated with a blush of white and lilac-purple petals. These tough but attractive blooms are seldom damaged by a dusting of late-winter snow adding a beautiful lavender to the winter scape. Along with the crocus as a Spring harbinger is the Narcissus, common name Daffodil. They are in the Amaryllis family. The tips of the gray-green foliage first emerge, often as early as January. As temperatures moderate, the elongating foliage tufts for the teardrop-shaped buds signal the end of winter. The flowers have a ring of three petals and three petal-like sepals. In the centers of the flowers are funnel-shaped cups of varying length called the corona. Together they form flowers that vary in size, shape, and color according to species or hybrid origin. There are over fifty naturally occurring species readily available as nursery-propagated bulbs. Daffodils prefer full sun to partial shade in moist, well-drained, humus-rich soil. They mix well with shrubs and perennials or naturalize them in rough grass in a meadow or lawn or use the smaller species in rock gardens.



Crocus and Daffodil. Stock photo: Pixabay.com

A winter species that I do not yet have but is on my list is the indigo-blue flowers of Blue Jasmine, common name is Clematis. This is an herbaceous climber, some with bell-shaped, others with star-shaped blue flowers measuring one to two inches each. The flowers open in succession into the summer. Most species of Winter Jasmine prefer a cool, moist humus-rich soil for their root system and full sun for their blooms. They are best with some support systems for the vines to grow and partner well with shrubs and small trees.

The late winter landscape here in New Jersey bursts with colors and life. Besides the special flowers with their blooms, there is the evergreens mixed with the berries on the hollies, the bark of the trees, the seed heads on the dune grasses frequented by birds. All to be taken in on a simple winter stroll. Of course, afterward there is the cozy chair, warm cup of tea and a good book back beside my blazing fireplace.

February Drink of the Month

Dove Love Paloma

Ingredients:

- 2 oz. Tanteo Jalapeño Tequila
 - 1 oz. fresh lime juice
 - 2 oz. grapefruit juice
 - ½ oz. agave nectar
 - Ice cubes
- Jalapeño or Lime garnish (optional)



Instructions:

1. Add all ingredients to a shaker with ice.
2. Shake well.
3. Strain the cocktail into an Ice filled Rocks Glass.
4. Strain the cocktail into an Ice filled Rocks Glass.
5. Optionally, garnish with a jalapeño or lime slice on the rim of the glass.



Images Courtesy of: Tanteo.com
Recipe Courtesy of: www.thedailymeal.com

Keystone Garden Club
THE VINE

Flower of the Month

Violets (*Viola Sororia*)

The state flower of New Jersey, Common Blue Violets adorn yards in early spring, providing an important food source for emerging bees. In Victorian times, violets represented true love.

Enfleurage Cold Press Technique

Enfleurage is one of the oldest practices to making perfumes. It is a process that uses odorless fats that are solid at room temperature to capture the fragrant compounds, such as volatile oils, produced by plants. The process can be "cold" enfleurage or "hot" enfleurage.

Ingredients

- Wild or Greenhouse Grow Violets (non-chemical treated), about (4) cups of petals or more
- (1) jar Organic Coconut Oil

Also needed:

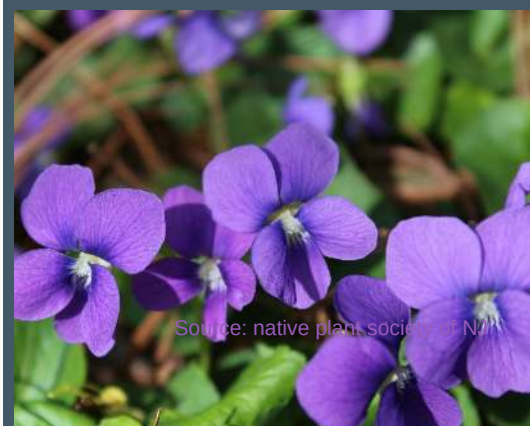
- (2) Baking Trays
- Saran Wrap

Steps

1. Scoop out coconut oil onto baking sheet and spread with clean hands or gloves, into a uniform layer, covering the entire sheet
2. Once sheet is covered in the oil, spread fresh violet petals over the oil, in a nice thin layer.
3. Begin pressing the petal layer gently down into the coconut oil.
4. Once all petals are pressed into the oil, place the 2nd baking sheet on top. This pan will press down on the petals. Cover both pans completely and as tightly as possible with saran wrap.
5. Allow pans to sit for 48 hours.
6. After 48 hours, unwrap the trays and carefully pick out and remove the spent petals, being careful to leave the oil behind.
7. Once all/most removed, spread a new layer of violet petals over the oil. Repeat the hand press process. Rewrap with Saran Wrap, and allow to sit for another 48 hours.
8. It is generally recommended to repeat the process at least (3) times.
9. After your last press, remove all petals, and place the violet perfume oil into a glass or tin jar of your choice, with a lid. Dark color glass is recommended, but if using clear, just plan to store your jar in a low light storage area to ensure uv rays do not alter the product.
10. **Enjoy!** Scent and condition your skin with natural products that you made! You can use just about any flower with a good scent factor. This oil makes a great handmade gift!

****Note.** You can gently warm your coconut oil in the microwave or in a double boiler on the stove, until just melted. However, a true cold process does not include this. It is, however, an acceptable option for a low heat method.

To Learn more about this NJ native plant, visit
<https://old.npsnj.org/articles/2018-poy-viola-sororia.html>

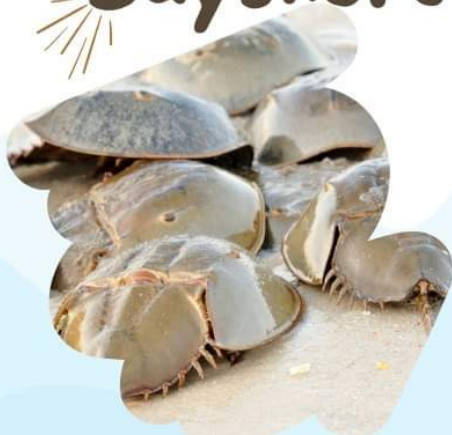


KEYPORT GREEN TEAM NEWS

From Sue Kleinberg
KGC Green Team Liaison

SAVE THE DATE
Wednesday February 28, 2024
6:30 PM at Keyport Borough Hall

Explore the Bayshore



All are welcome as we begin our effort to understand a nearby creature who has been here since long before us!

Wednesday, February 28th
6:30PM

**Come out of your shell and join us at
Keyport Borough Hall.**

The Keyport Green Team's
"Explore the Bayshore" Project

Over the coming months, we'll be introducing you to our closest neighbors -- the animals that live in Raritan Bay. And, to start off, we'd like to invite you to make the acquaintance of an animal that is as close to unique as you are likely to find anywhere - the Atlantic horseshoe crab, *Limulus polyphemus*. It is monotypic -- i.e., there is only one species in the genus. It is the only horseshoe crab found in the western hemisphere, and Raritan Bay is one of its prime habitats. Often described as a living fossil, it has been around virtually unchanged for the last 250 million years. Unfortunately, it may not be around much longer, as its conservation status is verging on threatened in some places and endangered in others.

Check out this spot by the middle of next week to find out why this is, why you should care and what you can do about it, and for the real skinny, be sure to come to Borough Hall at 6:30 p.m. on February 28 for a presentation on these creatures courtesy of Save Coastal Wildlife. Be there or be square!

Green Team February Tip of the Month

GARDENING IS NOT GENERALLY THE FIRST THING TO SPRING TO MIND WHEN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY IS MENTIONED, BUT BEING COOPED UP INDOORS WITH NOTHING BUT A FEW SPINDLY HOUSEPLANTS DOES NOT MEAN THERE'S NOTHING TO DO. ON THE CONTRARY, THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME TO START PLANNING THE COMING SEASON'S GARDEN, AND NATIVE PLANTS SHOULD GO AT THE TOP OF THE LIST. INASMUCH AS THEY ARE ADAPTED TO THIS HABITAT, THEY WILL NEED FEWER RESOURCES IN TERMS OF WATER AND FERTILIZER, WILL SUPPORT NATIVE WILDLIFE, INCLUDING POLLINATORS AND BENEFICIAL PREDATORS AND BE MORE RESISTANT TO PESTS. THE DRUDGERY INVOLVED WITH SUPPORTING EXOTICS, MOWING THE LAWN AND RIPPING UP INVASIVES MAY BE A DISTANT MEMORY NOW, BUT YOU'LL BE GLAD OF ALL YOUR PLANNING WHEN YOU'RE BACK IN THE GARDEN THIS SUMMER, SIPPING ICED TEA INSTEAD OF TEARING YOUR HAIR.

For more news and tips, visit www.keyportonline.com/greenteam

KEYPORT UNINCORPORATED
THE VINE



Considering a KGC membership?

Keyport Garden Club -Membership Information

To become a member of Keyport Garden Club

Visit www.keyportgardenclub.com
for the latest information & updates

As a reminder, Keyport Garden Club Membership
is open to all.

You do not need to reside in Keyport to become a member!

A passion for gardening and our wonderful
Bayshore community is the only requirement.

Education & Speakers

THE VINE NEWSLETTER

Do you have a garden question?
Reach out to the Monmouth county
Master Gardeners FREE hotline!

Master Gardener Helpline: 732-303-7614



or email them with photos
master.gardeners@co.monmouth.nj.us

<https://monmouth.njaes.rutgers.edu/master-gardeners/>

Seasonal Garden Guide

Gardening Notes for February

FEBRUARY IS THE MONTH TO FINALIZE ANY DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE YEAR TO COME SINCE MARCH BECOMES BUSY WITH GARDENING ACTIVITIES. THIS MONTH IS ALSO THE TIME TO COMPLETE THE ORDERING OF SEEDS, SINCE MANY OF THE MORE POPULAR VARIETIES WILL SOON BECOME SOLD OUT. ON WARMER DAYS, MAKE IT A POINT TO WALK THROUGH YOUR GARDEN, ENJOYING ITS BEAUTY AND GIVING THOUGHT TO EXCITING NEW SPRING IMPROVEMENTS. REREAD YOUR JOURNALS FROM LAST YEAR, AND FOCUS UPON HOW TO IMPROVE THOSE PARTS OF THE GARDEN THAT PERFORMED POORLY OR ON HOW TO REPEAT LAST YEARS' SUCCESS STORIES!

THINGS TO DO

- Sharpen pruners and handsaws in preparation of the many pruning tasks to come.
- Clean and sharpen the edge of spades, as well as make certain wheelbarrows and other tools are in good shape for the season to come.
- Start to prune fruit trees, including apple, pear and quince as well as grapevines. For budded fruit trees, including Pawpaws (Asimina), make certain to remove root suckers, since they are actually the understock and are not the plant/fruit variety that you wanted.
- Prune winter damaged branches if your garden experienced snow, ice or wind damage.
- Begin to prune multi-stemmed shrubs, such as Forsythia, Lilac, Deutzia and Weigela.
- Clean-up the greenhouse. Check on the heat mats and grow lights to make certain everything works and is clean. Check as well for sufficient potting soil, labels, fresh markers for labelling and pots for the seeding and potting tasks to come
- Near the end of the month, start to sow seeds indoors for cool season crops such as Broccoli, Cabbage and Leeks and for warmer season crops or ornamentals, such as Begonias, Eggplants and Hot Peppers.
- Finish ordering seed for spring. Go through your stored seed and discard packages that are over 2 years old. Or, you can place some of the older seeds on a moist paper towel and place in a warm spot (like on top of the refrigerator) to evaluate the percentage of germination. If few seeds germinate, discard the package. Organize them by sowing time to make life easier for April and May!
- Check on the bulbs that you have brought into the garage or placed in a protected spot outside for forcing.
- Check on stored tubers and corms, such as Canna or Elephant Ears. Discard any that are showing signs of decay.
- Cut back Lenten Rose (Hellebore x hybridus) foliage and other early bloomers, such that the foliage does not distract from the floral display. Watch areas where early spring bulbs are planted for some early color (and to avoid stepping on them!)
- Cut back any matt forming perennials, such as Nepeta (Catmint)
- Do not remove any temporary winter mulch on Perennial beds, such as the boughs from the Christmas tree, unless it is around those early spring blooming bulbs. Late February and early March can still be bitterly cold.
- When temperatures rise into the 40's, get a head start on edging those bedlines and spreading mulch where possible. Every day that you can complete a springtime chore will relieve some of the burden of the April panic to get everything done.

Source: Garden Club of NJ www.gardenclubofnj.org / Gardening Notes for February



Photo Gallery - Deep Cut Orchid Society Show 2024



Photos @Xan Yanosh

Support Horticulture
THE VINE



‘But these things also’ (1915)

By Edward Thomas

But these things also are Spring’s—
On banks by the roadside the grass
Long-dead that is greyer now
Than all the Winter it was;

The shell of a little snail bleached
In the grass; chip of flint, and mite
Of chalk; and the small birds’ dung
In splashes of purest white

All the white things a man mistakes
For earliest violets
Who seeks through Winter’s ruins
Something to pay Winter’s debts..

While the North blows, and starling flocks
By chattering on and on
Keep their spirits up in the mist,
And Spring’s here, Winter’s not gone.



sourced from www.warpoets.org/uk

Phillip Edward Thomas is British writer of Poetry and Prose. He is lesser known in the U.S. He started writing at age 36. Edward met his untimely death at age 39, a casualty of the First World War, in 1917 at the Battle of Arras, soon after arriving in France.

IMPORTANT Club Announcements



Next KGC Meeting: *NEW LOCATION*

Tuesday, February 27, 2024
7pm
at Gethsemane Lutheran Church
60 Maple Place
Keyport, NJ

****We ask that all attendees consider donating a canned vegetable to the Church Food Pantry****

2024 Membership

2024 Membership forms are now available on our website.

Please complete and submit your application at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions please address them to Donna by emailing
keyportgardenclub@gmail.com

Keport GardenWalk 2024!

Keyport GardenWalk will take place on June 1st & 2nd, 2024

***** PAVILLION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!*****

We need KGC representatives to meet and greet with the public at the KGW guide distribution table.

Please contact Kim or Lisa for more info keyportgardenclub@gmail.com

2024 Vine Editorial Team: Kimmy Sloan, Committee Lead/Contributor
Xan Yanosh, Editor, Contributor, & Layout Design

Have a feature idea or want to join our committee? Please email keyportgardenclub@gmail.com





ELIZABETH STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN

The origin story for Keyport's community garden begins in 2015, after demolition of a large water tower on property owned by the Borough at the corner of Elizabeth and Church Streets. With no defined plan for the newly demolished property, the Keyport Garden Club suggested a community garden. The Keyport governing body, authorized through Resolution 109-16, established the Elizabeth Street Community Garden (ESCG). Since 2016, the Garden has been successfully managed by ESCG Co-chairs Bill Shadel and Dennis McNamara of the Keyport Garden Club.

Elizabeth Street Community Garden has (30) thirty 4'x8' beds that are subscribed annually by Keyport residents beginning every year on March 1. Among the beds are two no-kneel beds built as part of an Eagle Scout project to accommodate gardeners with health challenges. Another Eagle Scout project at ESCG was the construction of a tool shed. It has a living roof on top that was designed by Bill Shadel.

To join the community garden, all gardeners must annually apply and sign an agreement form of rules and regulations. All forms are available on the KGC website. One essential rule from the outset of the garden establishment is every gardener must use only organically approved practices. Also, all gardeners are expected to participate in seasonal garden beautification work. Even with some sweaty exertion, these work parties tend to put more emphasis on the fun than the work. Gardening has a way of creating bonds with our fellow neighbors.

We look forward to meeting all interested Keyport gardeners looking to join the Elizabeth Street Community Garden. Enrollment is first come first served.

Dennis McNamara
Co-Chair of ESCG
KGC Trustee

Interested in becoming involved at ESCG?

Visit <https://keyportgardenclub.com/community-garden>

Any questions? Email keyportgardenclub@gmail.com for more information

Follow the Garden on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/elizabethstreetcommunitygardens



Additional Club Announcements

COMMITTEE UPDATES

MEMBERSHIP

We ask that all members please send in your Membership applications BY APRIL 1st. Please indicate the committee you want to participate on. If you already submitted your membership form, and didn't indicate a committee but you want to, contact Donna at drondi7@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We currently need a group organizer for the Spring Plant sale

The Spring Member Plant sale is scheduled for May 10th , delivery of plants 9:00 AM and Members pick up after 11 AM.

We also still need volunteers for the following committees: Parade and Festival committee, Town Beautification, Cuppa Cheer, Library Floral arrangement, Craft Project (for fundraising), Fundraising, and Grants.

KGC MERCH

NEW Keyport Garden Club Merch is now available! T-shirts in many styles, and much more!
Order yours today! <https://keyportgardenclub.com/merchandise>

BAYSHORE LUNCH BREAK PROGRAM

WE WANT TO THANK MANY OF OUR KGC MEMBERS FOR VOLUNTEERING TO HELP AT THE BAYSHORE LUNCH BREAK PROGRAM. THE BAYSHORE LUNCH BREAK PROGRAM PROVIDES FREE HOT LUNCHESES TO ANYONE IN THE COMMUNITY WHO IS IN NEED.

THEY STILL NEED HELPERS TO ASSIST IN PREPARING LUNCH, SERVING AND CLEAN UP. EVERYONE IS VERY NICE, AND IT IS A REWARDING EXPERIENCE.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP, PLEASE EMAIL DONNA.DRONDI7@GMAIL.COM
DONNA IS COORDINATING KGC MEMBERS WITH MARIANNE WHO RUNS THE PROGRAM.

DETAILS:

ARRIVE AT 10:00

BRING AN APRON IF YOU HAVE, NOT REQUIRED.

42 ELIZABETH ST. KEYPORT NJ

PARK IN THE LOT AND ENTER FROM THE FAR-LEFT RAMP TO THE DOOR.



photos provided by Donna Rondinelli Price