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<http://www.gardenclubofthecapitaldistrict.org>

(Serving the greater capital region)

Celebrating **86** years of service to our community

**VOLUME 85 NO. 4**

(First Chartered 1936)

**April/May, 2022**

**DATE & TIME: Monday, May 2 @ 5:00 pm**

**Program:** For the month of May, we are offering an outdoor event now that Spring has arrived. Please join our club members and members of their family or friends, as we take a guided tour of the beautiful flower beds at Albany's Washington Park. The City Head Gardener is offering free group tours at select times in the week leading up to the Tulip Festival.

**When: Monday, May 2 at 5:00pm.** The tour will last approximately 1.5 hours.

**Where: We will all meet at the large Moses statue near the center of Washington Park.** You should be able to find parking spots inside the park along the perimeter roadways.

**If you plan on attending,** please contact our club Vice President, **Greg Goutos**, who is coordinating the event. Email him at: [ggoutos@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ggoutos@nycap.rr.com), or call him on his cell at (518) 495-0148.

We need to provide a head count, and should it need to be cancelled due to inclement weather, he needs a way to reach you to let you know. Hope you can come and enjoy the beautiful tulips!

**Follow-up to last Program:**

On March 24, our club had a timely presentation held by Zoom from **Amy Castillo**, who is the Nursery Manager at **The Gade Farm** located in Guilderland. Together we learned about the new perennials and annuals that she recommends, that will thrive in our growing zone. All these plants will be readily available at their garden center.

If you were on that presentation Zoom, you know that **Amy** is very passionate about sharing her love of plants and for carefully selecting the plants they stock at **The Gade Farm** garden center. If you are like me, you were probably taking notes during the presentation. Most of the plants they grow themselves in their many greenhouses on their premises.

We thank **Amy** for taking the time to share her wealth of knowledge with our club members, and also for **The Gade Farm**, who have been supporters of our club for many decades.

**Youth Gardening - on a BIG scale**  
**Bill Stoneman's [The Vegetable Project](#)**

**Evening in the Garden Wednesday, May 4 -5:30 to 7 p.m**

**At the garden at Myers Middle School**

Open to the public - please spread the word



Dear Friends,

The Vegetable Project's fifth (almost) annual Evening in the Garden is coming soon, on **Wednesday, May 4**, at the garden at **Myers Middle School**. We sure hope that we will see you there. **It's free**. It's open to the public. But you need to mark in on your calendar – **5:30 to 7 p.m.**, and the following day in the event of rain.

The food – from [Druthers Brewing Company](#), [Albany Ale & Oyster](#), [Caffe Italia](#) and culinary students at **Albany High School's Abrookin Career & Technical Center**, to name a few of the contributors – will be great. We'll show you around the garden. Meet our special guest, **Kee Kee Soto**, Albany's own incomparable **Urban Girl Gardening** on just about every important social media platform. And with Mother's Day right on the heels of our bash, we will have all the pansies you can imagine for that special person.

Please see the attached flier or find [details here](#). And we would be so pleased, while you are looking at the lineup, if you would show your support for the all-volunteer Vegetable Project by becoming a member of the event's honorary committee. The honorary committee is not a working committee, though we welcome participation in one of those, too. Rather, with a \$25 contribution, we'll include your name in an event program as a standing up and being counted as a friend of the Vegetable Project. You can join the honorary committee [here](#).

The Vegetable Project gets Albany students outside – because fresh air, sunshine and contact nature is good for our health. We have been digging in the dirt with Albany kids since 2009 – because we know that teaching and learning that's built around doing and touching and tasting and experiencing really works.

Many thanks for many years of support.

**Bill Stoneman**-- Creating hands-on learning opportunities

[www.vegetableproject.org](http://www.vegetableproject.org)

[www.facebook.com/vegetableproject](https://www.facebook.com/vegetableproject)

**Youth Gardening - on a BIG scale - continued**  
**Bill Stoneman's [The Vegetable Project](#)**

Dear Friends,

A number of thanks are in order as we wrap up our milk jug greenhouse project, which without doubt was our biggest undertaking since we started digging in the dirt with Albany students in 2009.

A big one goes to **Leigh Hornbeck**, a Times Union writer/reporter, for capturing so well what the Vegetable Project does and what we've been talking about for many years in an article published on Sunday. Fairly sure we have something important to offer to Albany kids, we are always eager for a wider swath of the community to know about us. Please [read here from Sunday's newspaper](#).

Then, we are indebted to the amazing team of volunteers who guided every student in **19 classes** (two more to go on Thursday) and one

after-school program at **six schools** through **turning a gallon milk jug into a miniature greenhouse**. If someone else has produced as intensely hands-on teaching and learning in Albany schools as we just did, let alone for **500 students**, we would love to hear about it.

In alphabetical order, these 18 fine folks are **Sarah Burgess, Italyia Cir, Sean Cleary, Sue Dubois, Wini Eisan, Susan Fowler, Greg Goutus,**

**Russ Greenman, Malaysia Hector, Dave**

**Hopkins, Jenny McErlean, Kim O'Brien, Joe Raggio, Kee Kee Soto, Kate Steere, Perry Stout, Noah Tubbs and Don Wrieden.**



## Youth Gardening - on a BIG scale - continued



And finally, gratitude goes to the **Garden Club of the Capital District** (formerly the Men's Garden Club of Albany) for embracing the Vegetable Project. Among the 18 volunteers, Garden Club members **Greg Goutus, Russ Greenman, Joe Raggio and Don Wrieden** contributed hours upon hours to the milk jug project. Together, we make a difference in the lives of students with teaching and learning that is built around doing and touching and tasting and experiencing.

**Bill Stoneman**

## Seeking Scholarship Candidates

The Scholarship Committee is currently accepting applications from college students for a \$500 scholarship to be awarded by our club. The scholarship is available to a full-time student currently enrolled, or accepted to begin a college program, with the intent to pursue studies in a horticultural-related field; such as landscaping, agriculture, environmental studies, ecology, forestry or natural resources management. It is open to both male or female applicants of any age, preferably with home residency in the seven-county area of the Capital Region. Perhaps you have a relative, neighbor or know someone in your circle of friends, that would deserve to be given this stipend. The committee will recognize those candidates that have a direct connection to our club, and whom also meet all the application qualifications. For more information, or if you would like to request an application, please contact **Greg Goutos**, Chair of the Scholarship Committee. **Call Greg** at 518-495-0148, or contact him by email at [ggoutos@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ggoutos@nycap.rr.com). The application deadline is May 31, 2022.

## Club dues support community work

Garden Club of the Capital District members support educational programming, a scholarship program and youth gardening initiatives club dues. The club board of directors has established a new dues tier for 2022, reflecting our transition from the Men's Garden Club of Albany to the Garden Club of the Capital District.

In addition to our long-standing \$25 dues for individual members, we will now offer family memberships for \$30. We are appreciative of members paying dues early in the new year.

Please send your check - Payable to GCCD or Garden Club of the Capital District  
to: Russ Greenman GCCD Treasurer  
25 Worthman Lane  
Rensselaer, NY 12144

**History - 35 years ago –**  
**MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF ALBANY**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING**  
**APRIL 2, 1987**

The Regular Monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Men's Garden club of Albany, was held on Thursday evening, April 2, 1987, in the Cerebral Palsy Center for the Disabled.

The meeting was called to order by President **Joe Huth** at 7:37, with 15 Club members present.

The Minutes of the March 5, 1987 meeting were approved as read by the Club Secretary, **Tom Baker**.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read by **Paul Hughes**, the Club Treasurer. As of March 31, 1987, in the General Fund there was a total balance on hand of \$1,732.74, and in the Advantage Account there was \$5,364.47.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Bob Ireland**, Chairman, reporting. We have a total membership of 96 members, 17 of which are Life Members. He is also working on a new membership application form.

**GARDENING FROM THE HEART: Al Miller**, Chairman, reporting. The National Gardening from the Heart Committee is in the process of raising money for a Scholarship Fund pertaining to Therapeutic Gardening Education. **Al** has envelopes for the purpose of making Memorial contributions. These Memorials may be for such things as Birthdays, Anniversaries, Deaths, Etc.

Also: **Wally Dillenbeck** reported that **Heather Iffland** of Schenectady, presented him with a check for \$10.00 to be used at the Center Project. She earned this money by making and selling Brownie Cookies. (the Club Secretary has sent **Heather** a letter of thanks.) this young Girl Scout learned of our project from **Jerry Flax's** article in the area News Papers. **PLANT SALE COMMITTEE: Herman Mau**, Chairman, reporting. It is requested that the callers for the Ladies Night Dinner ask the members what and how many plants they are going to bring to the sale. Also: **Don Stevens** is taking orders for Tuberous Begonias; at \$1.25 for each or \$5.50 for 5 plants.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Don Lewis**, Chairman, reporting.

1. April 25, Ladies Night, at the Albany Marriott. Social Hour at 6:00 pm with dinner at 7:00 pm. The price is \$15.00 for London Broil or Filet of Sole Almandine. The speaker will be **Warren Abele** who will show slides with his talk on wild Flowers.
2. May 28, at 7:00 pm in the Ten Broeck Mansion. **Richard Anderson** will discuss his plans for renovating the Rose Garden. Business meeting after a tour of the grounds.
3. October, this meeting is tentatively planed for the Normanside Country Club.
4. December 17, Ladies Night tentatively set at the Turf Inn.
5. August 2, Summer Picnic will be held at the **Russ Miller** Estate. Further plans will be formalized in the near future.

## History - 35 years ago – continued

### OTHER BUSINESS

**Wally Dillenbeck** reported that the Special Museum project has been given the "Go ahead." We will be informed as to what will be expected of us at the Ten Broeck Mansion.

**Wally** also informed us that **Paul Steinkamp** has agreed to help the group who will be putting up a display in the Lobby of the Museum in July.

**Don Lewis** has once again invited the Board of Directors to meet at his lovely home at our regular May 7 meeting at 5:00 pm.

Our Tax exempt situation is still pending.

### FROM AL MILLER

The Regional Meeting will be held at Cortland on May 16 and the cost will be \$10.00. The Social Hour will be a 9:00 am and the Business meeting will be a 10:00 am.

At the Ladies Night, Merchandise (Jackets etc.) will be on display and **Al** will be glad to take any orders at the time.

Rain gauges will be sold at \$3.50 each, and plant ties will be sold at \$1.00 each.

NATIONALLY:

\* A mock-up of the Calendar is ready and it should be a great seller because it contains only pictures taken exclusively by Garden Club members from all over the U S A.

\* National dues undoubtedly will have to be raised to \$15.00. This will have to be approved at the National convention.

**Al** suggested that it would be advisable to have an Associate Editor of the Dirt when he takes over the National Presidency.

### NEW BUSINESS

The suggestion was made that **Glen Witecki** would be a good man for the Awards committee because he has made an overture to this effect. President **Joe** will take this into consideration.

**Don Gwinn** once again has suggested that **Roy Boutard** should definitely be considered for a Bronze Award.

The problem of what to do about markers for our Memorial Plantings was briefly discussed. This to will be brought up again at a later date.

**Charlie Schade** has been appointed as chairman of the Calendar committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted by,  
**Tom Baker**, Secretary

\*\* Editor's note: **Tom Baker** faithfully documented our minutes since way before he had personal computer - but somehow he managed to digitize all of the minutes he had taken over the years and we now include them in our newsletter under the heading "History - 35 years ago" **Thanks, Tom Baker!!!**

## Private/Limited Garden Tour – Thursday Evening, June 23<sup>rd</sup>

Registration requested



Beginning at 6:00 pm (Rain date of 6/24) Lead by our own **Dave Jennings** at their Garden they have affectionately named their own private “Half Acre Woods” in Malta, NY. This won’t be a traditional “Open House” as **Dave** will be leading a small group of 25 or so individuals around the Garden Beds commenting on his favorite varieties and answering questions as he goes. **Space will be limited so you must pre-register as soon as you are sure you can attend (First come/First Served) by emailing [DaveJenningsNY@aol.com](mailto:DaveJenningsNY@aol.com)** with your name, cell phone number, email address and how many guests you will be bringing with you. Once you pre-register, directions and detailed info will be emailed to you a couple weeks before the Tour.

**A Blast from the past - 50 years ago –  
My Grandfather - Carroll W. Greenman**

*Silver Award*

Granted by the  
*Men's Garden Clubs of America*  
to

*Carroll M. Greenman*

*In recognition to his untiring labors, devotion and distinct achievements in outstanding projects of service to the Men's Garden Clubs of America.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the president of the Men's Garden Clubs of America, duly authorized, has hereunto affixed his signature and the seal of the organization, this *twelfth* day of *April 1972*

Men's Garden Clubs of America

*John Philip Baumgardner*

President



## GARDEN CLUB of ALBANY CLUB ACTIVITIES

### Adopt-a-Highway - 25 years

We had a good run... We started our Adopt A Highway program back in 1994 by building a raised bed out of Hemlock and lots of rebar. Ten years later in 2004 - we built a raised bed that would last a lifetime. Unfortunately when construction started on the Exit 7 bridge off of I-90 our concrete base, block structure, soil and flower bulbs mysteriously disappeared leaving only the steel we drove down 5 feet to keep the Very thick concrete base from heaving.. **Ken Abele** played a key role in the design and construction of our second raised bed on I-90 at Exit 7

Westbound. Built to last This was build as a Memorial to an outstanding member - **Mr. Conrad (Connie) Robert**. This project took years to get State and Federal approvals and lots of hard work from members of the Garden Club of Albany. ps. If you know who borrowed our several thousand pound raised bed - **please ask them to return it**. Perhaps someone with big boy toys on site while working on the bridge knows. Thanks!!!

Built to last... Destroyed in hours



**Someone that was working on the bridge at Exit 7 of I-90 knows where it is.  
This was our Memorial to Mr. Conrad (Connie) Robert**

**Albany International Airport  
Don Wrieden – Chairman**



**Memorial Garden**

At the Albany County Cooperative Extension  
15 Martin Road Voorheesville, NY

**Joe Huth / Chuck Scott** Memorial Garden  
Chairmen

For many years, our club has maintained a beautiful Memorial Garden as a tribute to our "Gardeners Gone to Rest."



Along with perennials, shrubs and trees, there are plaques that lists the names of our club members that have Gone to Rest.

**Joe Huth  
Summer  
2021**





**President  
Joe  
Raggio  
Summer  
2021**



**Memorial Garden  
At CCE Albany  
the early days**



**Memorial Garden  
At CCE Albany  
Joe Herman  
Al Miller**





## **Gardening from the Heart - 35 years** at the **Center for Disability Services**



Volunteers include: **Russ Greenman, Greg Goutos, Joe Huth, Jack Meagher, and Don Wrieden.**

35 = years supporting one or two locations every Wednesday for 35 years

4 = the (low) average number of MGCA volunteers on site

50 = sessions per year and for years 100 sessions per year (50 /site)

2 = Hours on site per session – 9:00am – 11:00am

= ~15 years x 50 weeks/year x 4 people / site x 2 sites === 6000 volunteer hours

PLUS

= 20 years x 50 weeks/year x 4 people / site x 1 sites === 4000 volunteer hours

===== **10,000 hours of volunteer's time supporting the Gardening From The Heart program at the Centers for Disability Services by members of the Men's Garden Club of Albany.** =====

Add to that, prep time, construction of a huge greenhouse and many raised beds and you'll see that the 10,000 hours is only a portion of the time our members have spent supporting this great program.

We owe a big thanks to **Al Miller** and **Tom Baker** for initiating this project back in 1984.

**Tom Baker** and **Al Miller** started working on founding the Gardening From the Heart program way back in 1984 but he may say that it really didn't start until 1985. Originally our club had two teams of members that would teach classes, every Wednesday, at two locations with the adults at 700 S. Pearl St. in Albany and with the children at 314 Manning Blvd in Albany, NY. COVID-19 restrictions kept us out of the building, and we're waiting to hear what the next steps are for our activities at the 700 South Pearl St. location.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Today!</b>	<b>Please visit our friends that need our visits and cards</b>
Monday, May 2 <sup>nd</sup> 5:00 pm	Guided tour of the beautiful flower - Tulip Festival - beds at Albany's Washington Park. Given by The City Head Gardener
Wednesday, May 4 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Evening in the Garden - Myers Middle School</b> <b>The public is encouraged to attend</b>
Thursday, May 5 <sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm	<b>Director's meeting</b> – via Zoom. Members are welcome to join in. Reply to this email and we'll send you the link when it becomes available.
Tuesdays 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Myers Middle School Garden Club <b>The Vegetable Project at Myer's Middle School</b> 100 Elbel Court, Albany 12209 Please reach out to <b>Bill Stoneman</b> prior to attending: <a href="mailto:thevegetableproject@gmail.com">thevegetableproject@gmail.com</a> or 518-728-6799
Thursday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 23 <sup>rd</sup> reserved with the 24 <sup>th</sup> as a Rain Date	Garden Tour <b>Dave Jennings</b> , Master Gardener Volunteer for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County <b>Pre-register by</b> <b>emailing <a href="mailto:DaveJenningsNY@aol.com">DaveJenningsNY@aol.com</a></b>

Editor: **Russ Greenman**

**Please support research for ALS** (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis - Lou Gehrig's disease) in memory of one of our most active members - **Mr. Bill Town**

Click on this link to read his story: <http://community.als.net/teamtown>

Special thanks to **Paul Zimmermann** for our terrific website

<http://www.gardenclubofthecapitaldistrict.org/>

Go ahead - click on it - you'll be glad you did.

Thanks **Paul Zimmermann!!!**

We continue to welcome 501(c)3 deductible donations that can be dedicated to support our **Memorial Garden**, or the **Joe Herman Scholarship Fund**.

Please send your 501(c)3 tax deductible donation to **Russ Greenman** GCCD Treasurer

Please call **Russ Greenman** at (518) 477-8321 for details

*In Memory*  
*Of My*  
*Loving Wife, Young*  
*Bruce Wilcox*

*In Memory of*  
*Louis Meo*  
*&*  
*Richard Stankus*

*In Memory of*  
*Al & Barbara Miller*  
*Dave & Phil Harris*  
*Bill Barr*  
*Christian & Mildred Lebrecht*  
*Ed Tompkins*  
*Avrom Koblenz*

*In Memory of my parents*  
*John and Carrie Meagher*  
*They both loved Plants and Flowers*  
*Jack Meagher*

*In Memory of*  
*Grandpa & Great Grandpa*  
*Carroll W. Greenman*  
*Russ, Maria, and Carl*

*In Memory of*  
*Wally Dillenbeck*  
*and*  
*Don Otterness*  
*By Tom Baker*

*In Memory of*  
  
**Bill Town**  
*Joe Herman*

*In Memory of*  
*my Dad*  
  
**Carroll W. Greenman**  
*Bob*



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