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



(Serving the greater capital region)

Celebrating 78 years of service to our community

(First Chartered 1936)

VOLUME 78 NO. 5

May, 2015

DATE & TIME: Thursday, May 28th @ 6:30 pm -

May is our traditional "**Ladies invited night**" Ladies - please join us - we need you

PLACE: Best Western Sovereign Hotel, 1228 Western Ave., Albany

APPETIZER: Garden Salad

ENTREE: Chicken Marsala
Seafood Stuffed Sole
Meatloaf

DESSERT: Chocolate Cake

Price: \$ 22.00

PROGRAM: Our guest speaker will be **Christine Young**, the Executive Director of the Rensselaer Land Trust. Our fellow gardener gone to rest, **Kenneth York** gave one of his final contributions to the world thru the Rensselaer Land Trust. According to his obituary, "He believed in beautifying New York and recently made his final contribution to the Rensselaer Land Trust." **Christine** is going to help us understand the processes of **Mr. York's** actions, and explain how we may benefit or be interested in this kind of plan of action. The mission of the Rensselaer Land Trust is to conserve the open spaces, watersheds, and natural habitats of Rensselaer County, for the benefit of our communities and future generations. To date the Trust's efforts have protected over 1000 acres, over the past 25 years.

Christine has been working with the Rensselaer Land Trust for the past 6 ½ years, beginning as a volunteer, providing pro bono legal services. She also has her own law practice focusing on estate planning, estate administration, elder law and real estate including conservation easements.

Christine is a Cum Laude graduate of Albany Law School, holds a MBA from Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh Scotland, and a BA in Cultural Anthropology from Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

You can find **Christine's** full biography on the Club's Twitter feed,

https://twitter.com/mgca_albanyny

RESERVATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL:

A caller should reach you prior to the meeting for your dinner reservation and your choice of entree. If a caller leaves a message, please make every effort to return their call. If a caller does not reach you (**one week prior to the meeting**) by **Thursday, May 21st**, please call Russ Greenman at 477-8321 - Note: Callers – Please call **Russ Greenman** with your group's reservations. You are reminded that if you make a reservation for dinner you will be expected to honor your commitment.

April Program - Thank You

Our guest speakers at our April dinner meeting were **Debi Chowdhury**, chair of the Hudson Adirondack Daily Lily Society and **Cathy Fruhauf**- Master Gardener from Saratoga county.

Debi showed us pictures of wildlife in a South African nature reserve outside of Cape Town, South Africa, and **Cathy** showed us pictures of some of the native trees and flowers of the area. We thank them so much for their sharing their trip with us and are looking forward to seeing the rest of their program at a future date.

Harris Memorial Centerpiece

Thanks to the **Harris kids!**

Each month, the **Harris family, Phil, Dave** and their sister **Diane** design and create a beautiful centerpiece to honor their parents. Since **Phil** is in room 315 of Eddy Heritage House Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 2920 Tibbits Avenue, Troy, NY 12180 he was unable to attend our meeting. Every month one of their masterpieces has been raffled off since 1980 - **YES, That's 35 Years!!!** and the money goes into our Memorial fund. The more I think about it, the more amazed I am at how much time, talent and money goes into each one of the centerpieces that **Phil** and **Dave** have been bringing, to every meeting, for more years than I can remember. What talent and generocity that family has. We can't begin to thank all of you for all you have done for us over the years.

Thanks again to the Harris kids!



Harris Memorial Centerpiece
Made by Dave Harris for 4/23/2015

Membership

Please welcome our newest members:

Gerald Dwileski - East Greenbush, NY

Brian Hennigan - Rensselaer, NY

Peter Myer - Albany, NY

John Ryan - Valatie, NY

We sure hope we will see you this month and get some time see how our club members can help you to achieve your gardening goals.

Phil Harris is now in room 315 of Eddy Heritage House Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, [2920 Tibbits Avenue](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2920+Tibbits+Avenue,+Troy,+NY+12180), Troy, NY 12180. Please try to get out there to help cheer up our friend.

Gardeners - Gone to Rest

I'm so sorry to report that we have lost three terrific men that did so much for the communities they lived in as well as the world. Like many MGCA members these men were true gentlemen and a great friend to many.

Ken Abele

Memorial Service - Saturday, May 16, 2015, starting at 1 p.m.



Abele, Kenneth SARASOTA, Fla. Kenneth W. Abele, 96, died peacefully Thursday, March 19, 2015, at his home in Sarasota. Ken was born in New Rochelle in 1918. He was the son of the late Frederick and Ada Wagner Abele. Ken graduated from New Rochelle High School, and after attending the [General Motors](#) Institute in Detroit, he settled in Albany, and married his wife of 63 years, the late Thelma Miller Abele. At that time Ken was employed by William Miller at Millers Garage and Machine Shop on Everett Road in West Albany. This was a business established by Thelma's grandfather in 1872; the company later would be named Abele Tractor and Equipment Company. Their company played an important role in many building projects, including the Empire State Plaza, the New York Thruway and the network of arterial highways in New York State. Ken was proud of his achievements in the farm and commercial equipment business. He was a member and past president of Eastern New York Equipment Dealer Association. With his retirement in 1983, the business was positioned to become one of the major heavy construction equipment businesses that have attained an international presence. The company that he and his family built carries on Ken's spirit. Ken and his late wife Thelma were patrons of many organizations. These include the Boy Scouts, Salvation Army, the Red Cross, and the New York State Teachers college at Albany. Ken was a long-time member of several organizations. He joined the Albany [Rotary Club](#) in 1958 and was a past president. He was a member of the West Albany Fire Company No. 1 for 72 years where he and his father-in-law, William Miller, built two pieces of fire apparatus and donated fuel for emergency vehicles. He was also a member of the **Albany Garden Club**, the Masons and Toastmasters. He served on the curriculum advisory board for the New York Agricultural College at Cobleskill and BOCES of Colonie. Ken was a trustee of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Albany for several years. He was also on the board of directors for many years at Camp Agawam in Raymond, Maine, a boy's camp he attended and loved in his youth that was also attended by his sons and grandsons. Ken enjoyed his retirement in Florida where he attended the Sarasota Sunrise Rotary Club and the Church of the Palms. He loved classical music and theatre. He and his wife Ruth Thelma were very devoted to their pug dogs, Harry and Charlie. In addition to his parents, his wife, Thelma Miller Abele, and his brother, Warren Abele, predeceased him. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Thelma Abele of Sarasota; sisters, Norma Abele of New Rochelle and Zelda Gordon of San Francisco; sons, Warren (Pamela) Abele of Troy and Rod (Sharon) Abele of East Greenbush; grandchildren, Janice (Eric) Cohen, Susan Kelley, Peter Abele, Matt Abele, Jeffrey (Kristine) Abele; great-grandchildren, Reece and Regan Abele; stepson, David (Robin), and stepgranddaughters, Gina and Tiffany. Relatives and friends are invited to a **memorial service** at Westminster Presbyterian Church located at 85 Chestnut St., Albany, on **Saturday, May 16, 2015, starting at 1 p.m.** Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the West Albany Fire Company No. 1, 113 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205, Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society, 3 Oakland Ave., Menands, NY 12204 or [charity of your choice](#). To leave a special message for the family online, visit [NewcomerAlbany.com](#).

Raymond F. Bell



Bell, Raymond F. DELMAR Raymond F. Bell, 80, died at home, April 3, 2015, after a lengthy illness. He was the son of the late George T. Bell and Alma E. Trulson Bell. Born in Newton, Mass., and raised in Waltham, Mass., he was a longtime resident of Delmar. He was predeceased by his wife of 42 years, Jane Lawrence Bell. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Closson Bell, his daughters, Andrea (Thomas) Howard of Delmar and Jennifer (Edward) Ganley of Claremont, Fla., and his brother, Donald (Daphne) Bell of Lexington, Mass. He is also survived by four grandchildren, Michael Howard, Rebecca Howard, Stephen Ganley, and Shannon Ganley, and a stepson, Adam Closson, as well as nephews and nieces. Ray was a graduate of Northeastern University and was a member of the Army National Guard during his college years. He received a master's degree in civil engineering from RPI. He had a long career as a licensed civil engineer for New York State in different departments, retiring from the Department of Environmental Conservation in 1995. Ray was a lifelong athlete. He played varsity hockey for Waltham High and Northeastern University and later refereed Division I Hockey in New York state for many years. Ray was a hiker and outdoor recreationist, who completed the Adirondack 46, the Appalachian Trail, and the highest peaks in Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. He was a longtime member of the Albany Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club and a member of the Central New York Chapter of the North Country Trail Association. He was active in supporting the development of the North Country Trail through the Adirondacks and was a member of its Founders Circle. He was a fan of the Boston Bruins and Boston Red Sox. He enjoyed skiing, ice skating, swimming, fishing, and golf. He got a hole-in-one that he said was mostly due to luck. When not involved in sports Ray enjoyed, traveling, especially on Amtrak, participating in the local magic club, and growing roses. He served on the board of the Capital Region Rose Society and was a member of the Albany Men's Garden Club. He held an amateur radio license. Ray's avocation was Toastmasters which he first joined in 1967. He founded the Bethlehem Toastmasters Club in 1996. He achieved the highest level in Toastmasters, and served the organization on many levels. In addition to the Bethlehem club, Ray belonged to the Foliage Toastmasters of Apopka, Fla., in the winter and the Stratton V.A. club. For many years Ray helped old and new members alike achieve the various levels of Toastmasters speaking and leadership skills. He was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Bethlehem Toastmasters in December 2014. Ray had a positive attitude toward life no matter what the obstacle. He was always interested in learning and in new experiences. He set goals for himself and worked hard on them. One new endeavor was his learning to play the piano which he started five years ago. He will be sorely missed by his family and many friends. The family wishes to express deep appreciation to Ray's doctors who treated him with skill and compassion during his illness: Dr. Anthony Cagino, Pulmonary Care, and Dr. Roy Fruiterman, Primary Care. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 18, at 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Delmar, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar. applebeefuneralhome.com

John Hauf "Jack" Gade Jr.



Gade, John "Jack" Hauf Jr. GUILDERLAND John "Jack" Hauf Gade Jr., owner of the Gade Farm in Guilderland, died Friday, April 17, 2015, in Ellis Hospital after a long battle to recover following a stroke. He was 85. He was born January 3, 1930, the son of John Gade Sr. and Elizabeth Thornhill Gade. He was raised on the farm, and lived his entire life within a few miles of it. He was a farmer and entrepreneur.

He was the third generation of Gades to run the farm business, overseeing its transition to a retail farm market and nursery on the family homestead on Western Avenue. Jack made his living with his powerful hands, his ingenuity and vision for the farm business, and his physical strength. He loved his family and the farm, and the two were inextricably linked throughout his lifetime. He was a graduate of Cobleskill College and Milne High School. He was a lifelong member of the Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church in Guilderland, and served as a church deacon. He was on the board of directors of the Capital District Farmers Market in Menands for 47 years, and the board president from 1987-2002. The regional market, owned by local farmers as a cooperative to sell their produce, was started in the 1930s. Among the market's founders was Jack's father, John Sr., who was on the original board of directors. Jack's tenure of leadership in the market reflected his commitment to his father's legacy and the success of all produce growers in the Hudson and Mohawk valleys. He was a guiding hand in the market for nearly a half-century. He served for many years on the Prospect Hill Cemetery board of directors, also a service his father had done in the mid-20th century. He gave back to his community, donating produce to food kitchens and supporting more than two dozen groups and organizations in the Guilderland area. He loved baseball, and played centerfield for the Guilderland Indians, a perennial power in the Helderberg League after World War II and the 1950s. He coached little league and Babe Ruth baseball teams in the Pine Bush league in the 1960s. As a parent and grandfather, he regularly attended baseball, football, lacrosse and softball games in which his family participated. His extended family gathered at his home every Sunday for dinner, which was routinely followed by pinochle, a family ritual that has been passed through several generations. He is survived by his wife, Louise (Tants) Gade; two sisters, Greta Radley of Guilderland and Nancy Hollomon of Boston; five children, Peter Gade of Norman, Okla., Susan Gade Marcucci of Altamont, and John Gade III, James Gade and Mark Gade, who continue the farm business in Guilderland. He is also survived by son-in-law, Derrick Marcucci, and daughters-in-law, Susan Winters Gade, Diane (Stahl) Gade and Kellie (Coup) Gade. He had 14 grandchildren, Nicole, Sam and Jack Marcucci; Emma and Joseph Gade; Tim, Matt, Thomas, James and Caroline Gade; Mary, Molly and John IV Gade; and Jessi Coup. A public viewing will be held 4 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, April 21 at DeMarco-Stone Funeral Home, 5216 Western Ave. (Route 20), Guilderland. Funeral service is at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 22, at the Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church, 2291 Western Ave., Guilderland. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of John Gade Jr. to Sunnyview Hospital Foundation, 1270 Belmont Ave., Schenectady, NY, 12308. To add to his online memorial, please go to demarco_stonefuneralhome.com.

In Lari We Trust



It's nice to hear good news at the beginning of a new year. I like it even better when I hear it from an entomologist who is battling one of our worst bugs. Cornell researcher Dr. Mark Whitmore, who seems to do a good job staying positive even while surveying the devastation of such tremendous pests as the emerald ash borer, is upbeat about the chances of reining in hemlock woolly adelgid, yet another bad actor in the forest.

Hemlock woolly adelgid only attacks hemlocks, so other needled ever-greens – the pines, spruces and firs – are safe. The telltale sign is a white blob of fluff the size of a cotton ear swab tip made by the adults to hide the eggs. These white puffs, attached to the hemlock's delicate twigs, are easily seen without a magnifying glass. Eggs become feeding nymphs and then adults, which attach to the tree's twigs and reproduce. Gradually, needles and branches die, and the tree becomes denuded. It is difficult to imagine that this tiny thug, which makes a living sucking sap, can bring down huge, stately specimens, but it has been doing so since shortly after arriving in Virginia from Japan in the 1950's. Fanning out north and south, it is currently lurking from northern Georgia to southern Maine. We're finding increasing evidence of it here in the Capital District, and it has spread out into central New York and the Finger Lakes. Yet there is no need to surrender just yet, as most of our hemlocks are still pest free, and a little guy named Lari is on the way.

Formally known as *Laricobius nigrinus*, "Lari" is a small, rather non-descript black beetle. Most in this genus feed on fungi, giving them the common name "tooth-necked fungus beetles," but our Lari has a passion for adelgids. Most of the time predators are native to where their prey comes from, but Lari is from the Pacific Northwest. Female adult Laris (should we call them Larettes?) lay eggs in the spring, and their new larvae feed on adelgid eggs. When mature, the larvae drop to the ground and pupate in the soil, then emerge as adults in autumn. These adults come out hungry, and feed on adelgid nymphs to the following spring. It's a nice system, since both larvae and adults attack the pest.

Scientists have been studying Lari for decades to learn the basics about its biology. When it was determined that Lari could be a helpful adelgidaid and not a public nuisance, the first releases of laboratory reared beetles were made in 2003, with many more sent forth since. Success has been reported in North Carolina, but in Kentucky this spring researchers found no Laris alive, blaming the polar vortex. Mark Whitmore first released Laris at six sites in the Finger Lakes in 2009, and reports that third-generation beetles have been recovered in two places. He warns that it takes years for insect predators to establish, so I'm staying upbeat and pulling for Lari.

Text by David Chinery

Meet **Lari**, the hemlock's best friend. Source: www.nyis.info

History - 25 years ago - May 3, 1990

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF ALBANY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Thursday evening, May 3, 1990 in the Cerebral Palsy Center for the Disabled. President **Wally** called the meeting to order at 7:35 The Secretary' Report was approved as read by **Tom Baker**, Secretary, with the amendment which reads, \$4,267.45 goes to the Endowment Fund. And, \$1,000 goes in the General Fund.

History - 25 years ago - May 3, 1990 - continued

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented by our Club Treasurer, **Al Miller**. The Bank balance was \$863.69 in the General Fund. The balance in the Memorial Fund was \$761.50, and there was no change in the CD accounts.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Delmar Plant Sale: **Don Stevens** reporting. **Don Lewis** and **Charlie Schade** will be collecting plants, as well as others, including **Ferd Johnson**. **Avrom Koblenz** will pick up boxes but will not be available to deliver them. **Don Otterness** will pick them up. Martha Washington Geraniums will be available again this year.

Guilderland Plant Sale: **Don Otterness** reporting. **Joe Huth** will not be available to work at either sale, but has been working on preparations. Thousands of plant markers, have been purchased and **Don Stevens** will pick up some for the Delmar Sale.

* **Don Lewis** suggested having the caller contact all members to see which plant sale they will be working at.

* **Herm Mau** has accepted the Chairmanship for the Delmar Sale for next year.

Regional Meeting: **Bob Ireland** reported that here was nothing new to report, but did remind us that the cut off date for reservations is May 25.

Gardening From The Heart: **Al Miller** reporting. **Scott Borisoff**, and Staff co-coordinator has said that the Center has made \$600.00 available for our outdoor projects at the Downtown facility. Our Club, many months ago voted \$400.00 for the greenhouse and raised beds.

* **Joe Raggio** expressed his concern over the gross lack of progress in the CP project. Therefore, Joe made the motion, seconded and carried to the effect that, the Club should produce the necessary funds to construct the raised beds. No amount was stated.

Bulb Sale: **Joe Raggio** reported that the Bulbs have arrived.

* **Don Lewis** presented the problem of the quality of last year's bulbs; 30 to 35 percent of the bulbs he planted did not come up. **Joe Raggio** said that he would notify Langfeld of this problem.

Program: December 12, 1990 is the date we will be celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of the Men's Garden Club of Albany. This is a Wednesday, and all members should be reminded of this change from our usual Thursday meeting night. This is due to the fact that this date is open for the Wolfert's Roost Country Club where the event will be held. **Ken York** and **Edgar Tompkins** will work on program, speaker, etc. Black Tie was pretty much ruled out! Outside dignitaries might be invited to accentuate our 50th Anniversary.

Photography: **Bill Philippi**, Chairman, with **Warren Able** and **Ken York** will present a "HowTo" manual on proper photography techniques. The Sept. Auction may have a slide show if enough members have slides to show.

Awards: **Glen Witecki**, chairman, reporting. In the Fall, **Glen** plans to award Bronze Plaques, Certificates of Appreciation and Beautification Awards especially to club Members.

Memorial: **Don Otterness** said the **Elliot Rowley** was our only death so far this year. He also suggested that other places may be used to plant memorials besides the Co-operative Extension. Families should be notified of this fact. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by **Tom Baker**, Secretary

** Editor's note: **Tom Baker** has been faithfully documenting our minutes since way before he had personal computer - but somehow he has managed to digitize all of the minutes he has taken over the years and we now include them in our newsletter under the heading "History - 25 years ago" **Thanks, Tom Baker!!!**

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB of ALBANY CLUB ACTIVITIES

Albany International Airport
Don Wrieden – Chairman



Adopt-a-Highway



Ken Abele – Hard at work



Ken Abele during construction of our second raised bed on I-90 at Exit 7 Westbound. Built to last with lots of steel, many yards of concrete, some fancy filter material that **Ken Abele** found to keep the soil from washing out between the blocks, 2" foam insulation (allows us to plant tulip bulbs closer to the edges), many blocks hauled by **Ken Abele** and many yards of nice soil from **Osborne Mills Nursery** on Everett Road in Albany. And most importantly, 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 Men's Garden Club of Albany.
ps. If you know who stole this - please ask them to return it
Thanks!!!

THE FRIENDS OF
PROSPECT PARK

Invite you to the 16th Annual

Hidden Garden Tour

*A self-guided walking tour of backyard gardens in the
Historic Sage, Washington Park, Think First, and
adjoining districts in downtown Troy.*

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015, 4 TO 7:30 PM
rain or shine!

Admission \$10; *all proceeds benefit ongoing
projects in Prospect Park.*

*Please enjoy and respect the beauty of these private spaces. As the
gardens are small, there is limited handicapped accessibility.*

Parking/Check-in: Near Russell Sage College parking
lot, corner of First and Division Streets.

*For more information, contact npattison@nycap.rr.com
or Marilyn Haliski at haliskim@verizon.net*



Follow us on Facebook

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.mensgardenclubofalbany.org/>
Go ahead - click on it - you'll be glad you did.

Plant Sale Thank You!

We want to thank all of the members that helped make this plant sale a success. **Don Wrieden** and **Jack Meagher** did a fantastic job of organizing the plant sale which is our ONLY fundraiser. This is so important to our club since we do so much for the community and a \$500 dollar scholarship each year is just one of the many things we use the money for. **Joe Herman** helped pick up and deliver plants to the sale as well as taking care of the cash box from early morning to the end - without a break. I'm out of room - but, we really can't do this without our members and you all pulled thru and helped make this a great success. Thanks!!!!!!!!!!!!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Today!	Please visit our friends that need our visits and cards
May 28 th @ 6:30pm	Monthly Dinner meeting - Ladies night Best Western Sovereign Hotel, 1228 Western Ave., Albany
Every Wednesday : @ 9:15 am	Gardening from the Heart Center for Disability Services 700 South Pearl St. Albany
May 7 th @ 7:30 pm	Board of Director's Meeting 314 S. Manning Blvd – All members are invited
May 16 th Memorial Service - Saturday, May 16, 2015 starting at 1 pm	 Ken Abele's Memorial Service Westminster Presbyterian Church located at 85 Chestnut St., Albany
May 21 st 4:00pm - 7:30pm	Hidden Garden Tour Near Russell Sage College - corner of First and Division Streets
July 23 rd @ 6:30pm	Annual Picnic / Memorial Service Albany County Cooperative Extension Martin Rd Voorheesville, NY

Editor: Russ Greenman

In Memory

Of My

Loving Wife, Young

Bruce Wilcox

In Memory of

*Louis Meo
&
Richard Stankus*

In Memory of

*Al & Barbara
Miller*

*Christian and Mildred
Lebrecht*

*Ed Tompkins
Avrom Koblenz
Jerry Flax*

In Memory of my parents

John and Carrie Meagher

They both loved Plants and Flowers

Jack Meagher

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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Carroll W. Greenman

Russ, Maria, and Carl

The following growers donated to our 2014 Plant Sale
Please help support them with your purchases

Faddegon's Nursery
Constantine Farm
Shaker Shed Farm Market
George's Market and Nursery
Valoze's Greenhouses
Troys Landscape Supply
The Gade Farm
Pigliaventos Greenhouses
Krug Farms