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



(Serving the greater capital region)

Celebrating **80** years of service to our community

VOLUME 79 NO. 9

(First Chartered 1936)

November, 2016

MGCA November dinner meeting

DATE & TIME: Thursday, October 17th @ 6:30 pm

PLACE: [Prime at the Beltrone Living Center](#) 6 Winners Circle Albany

From Wolf Road turn East onto Metro Park Road (across from the Speed Way Gas Station that is on the West side of Wolf Rd.) Take a LEFT onto Winners Circle. At stop sign take a RIGHT continuing on Winners Circle and Follow the signs for The Lakeview Restaurant & The Beltrone Living Center. Enter the building at the #1 South entrance.

APPETIZER: Caesar Salad

ENTREE: Braised Beef Stew
Pan Seared Salmon Fillet
Chicken Parmesan with Linguine

DESSERT: Chocolate Mousse **Price:** \$ 25.00

PROGRAM: The Art and Fun of Bonsai: Explore this great form of horticulture with **Pauline Muth**. Pauline has been creating bonsai for over 40 years and teaching it world wide for 26 years. She has served on the executive boards of local, regional, national and international bonsai organizations. Currently she maintains her collection and bonsai teaching studio and nursery in West Charlton New York.

Reservations are required for the dinner

A caller should reach you soon for your reservation. If a caller leaves a message, please make every effort to return the call. If a caller does not reach you by Saturday, November 12th, please call **Russ Greenman** at 477-8321 – Note: Our intent is to call every member that is interested in our dinner meetings to get their reservation(s). If you are not getting called, and would like to be called prior to each dinner, please let Russ know.

Membership

Sadly we have lost another great man and active volunteer in the community. **Ed Brohm** passed away earlier this year and had most recently been at the Villa Mary Immaculate Nursing Home.

Sal Schiavo is in the Villa Mary Immaculate Nursing Home
301 Hackett Boulevard, Albany, NY 12208

I'm sure **Sal** would appreciate a visit as it can get lonely being away from home and unable to drive. I'm sure he could use your encouragement, thoughts and prayers.

2017 Proposed Slate of Officers			
President	Don Wreiden	2019 Directors	Bill Stoneman and Bill Danish
Vice Presidents	Greg Goutos and Joe Herman	2018 Directors	Jack Meagher and Chuck Scott
Recording Secretary	Tom Baker	2017 Directors	Joe Huth and Bruce Wilcox
Treasurer	Russ Greenman	Regional Directors	Tom Baker and Bob Ireland

October Program - Thank You!

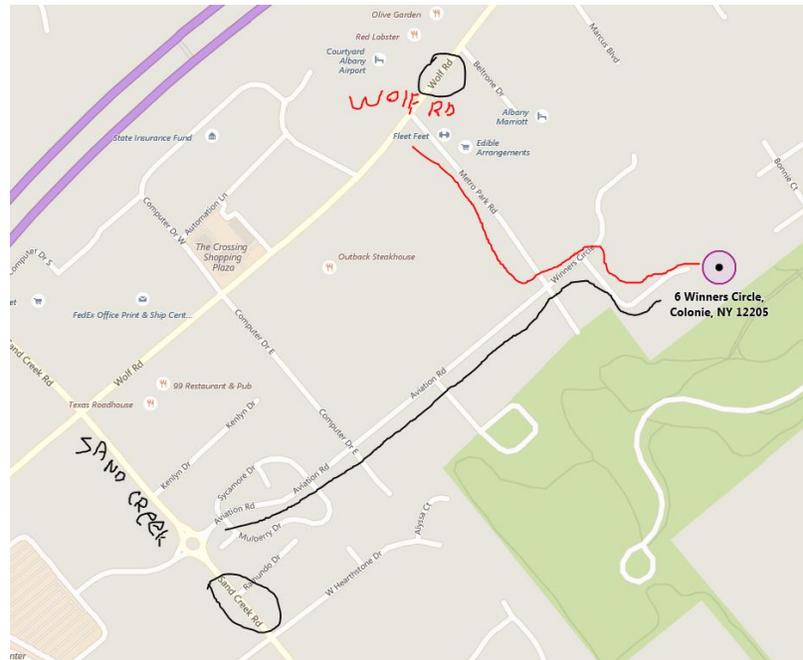
Gardens of the Hudson Valley – Presented by David Chinery

No surprise here... **David Chinery** took us on an awesome tour of 24 gardens between Manhattan and the Albany area. We started with a The High Line, a relatively new garden that is a 1.45 mile-long linear park built on an unused elevated section of the New York Central Railroad in Manhattan. This garden alone gets over 5 Million visitors per year. Then we worked our way up North visiting gardens of F.D Roosevelt, the Vanderbilt Mansion and even the home of Samuel Morse at Locust Grove. We ended up at the Master Gardener Demonstration Garden at the Robert C. Parker School in Rensselaer County where admission is free. Everyone commented on how fantastic the program was. We owe **David Chinery** a big Thank You for this program as well as the informative articles he has provided to us for use in the DIRT.

Thanks **David Chinery** for a very educational and interesting program.

[Prime at the Beltrone Living Center](#) 6 Winners Circle Albany

The votes are in and we unanimously agreed that the [Prime at the Beltrone Living Center](#), atmosphere, food quality (by Prime catering), and the efficient and friendly staff have made our meetings very enjoyable. We look forward to many more meetings at the **Beltrone Living Center**.



Featured Article by our President, Mr. Paul Zimmermann

The Neglected Vegetable Garden

1 This past spring I started up my vegetable garden as usual. Then lightning struck and I found myself an absentee vegetable gardener. Here's what I learned over the past 5 months.

I should explain that I was only able to tend to the garden for about 3 hours a week, weather permitting. However with the extended dry spell we endured this summer, rain did not often present a problem. The lack of rain however, meant that at times I needed to expend precious time watering. So here's a summary of what I learned:

- No need to water established and thriving planting more than every other week. Focus on watering newly sprouted or transplanted vegetables.
- Mulch, mulch, and then mulch again. A heavily mulched bed can be ignored for weeks on end.
- Thin newly planted rows with a determination. Don't hesitate and don't show mercy.
- Don't sweat the weeds too much. Concentrate on weeding newly established rows, and let the more mature plants fend for themselves.
- Asparagus presents a real problem since it should be harvested daily. I clear-cut every emerging stalk even the smallest ones, but the results were still not very satisfactory.
- Once the tomatoes begin to ripen, remove them from the vine once they show any color. They'll ripen quite nicely once harvested. Do not refrigerate the tomatoes – they'll lose their flavor.
- Peppers on the other hand, are far more forgiving than tomatoes. If a few turn red, no big deal. Contrary to what you might have read, they keep coming and they're slow to rot.
- Raspberries, unfortunately, don't ripen once harvested and showing up once a week resulted in plenty of overripe berries. I just accepted the situation, but my harvest was off by 50%.
- Summer squash present a real problem once they begin to produce. In order to partially avoid super-sized (read inedible) fruit, I would remove all the flowers along with all the fruit (including the undersized ones). This helped, but still I found foot-long zucchini many times when I showed up the following week. As a result yields were about 25% of normal.
- Don't be afraid to leave winter squash in the garden for up to 2 weeks after clipping them off the vine.
- Harvested garlic should be covered with a tarp after harvesting. The subsequent week they should be moved to a dry, cool locale.
- Over-plant your fall greens. You're going to lose many of them, particularly if the weather is super dry. Mulching helps here too.
- Reduce your expectations. Your garden will not be nearly as productive as when you are in constant attendance.

Hopefully next summer life will return to normal and I can give my garden all the love it deserves.



History – 30 years ago

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF ALBANY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING NOVEMBER 6, 1986

The Regular Monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Men's Garden Club of Albany, was held on Thursday evening, November 6, 1986, in the Cerebral Palsy Center for the Disabled.

President **Ferd Johnson** called the meeting to order at 7:40.

The Minutes of the October 2, 1986 meeting were approved as read by the club Secretary, **Tom Baker**.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read by the Club Treasurer, **Paul Hughes**. As of October 31, 1986, there was a balance on hand of \$4,439.75.

Joe Raggio reported that the Club realized a profit from the Bulb Sale of approximately \$1,100. the Board voted to forward \$700.00 to the Berkshire Garden Center.

Al Miller gave an extensive report on the recent National Executive Committee meeting in San Antonio, Texas: National dues for 1987 will remain at \$10.00, these dues will advance to \$15.00 in 1988. Life membership will be \$150.00 in 1989. Local clubs may continue to admit women as associate members. This has been done on an experimental basis. Ladies may not hold office in either the local clubs or on the National level nor may they become Delegates at the National Convention. **WALLY DILLENBECK IS NEW LIFE MEMBER #6.**

This year's plans for Ladies Night were finalized, the date will be December 4, 1986 at 6:00 pm with a cash bar followed by Dinner at 7:00 pm in the Northway Inn. A major departure was agreed on, that being given a choice of three entrees to choose from instead of our usual two, the price will be \$12.50. **Wally Dillenbeck** volunteered to do the tickets for this function. The Choices, Roast Top sirloin, Stuffed Filet of Ocean Sole and Cornish Hen. The program will be a talk given on African Violets by **George Rodenhausen**.

At this meeting there will also be the election and installation of officers for 1987. **Paul Hughes** volunteered to call **Nancy Gordon** to have a Past President's Pin sent to us in time for our December Dinner meeting. No other business will be conducted at this meeting.

Directors: Jan.8,1987 at C.P. Center: Dinner Meeting Jan. 22,1987: Veeders Restaurant.

Don Otterness reported that Spirea (snow-mound) have each been planted as Memorials for the following deceased member, who died in 1984: **Henry Achordate** of Delmar, **Christian Ott-Hansen** of Elsmere and **Eugene Plante** of Clarksville. The Club Secretary was advised to notify the families of our actions.

Memorials will be planted in the Spring for **Bob McNitt** and **Herb Swane**. **Don Otterness** advised the Board of directors that **Mrs. Mandell** a neighbor of **Herb Swane** intends to make a cash donation to our Memorial Fund in memory of **Herb**.

All advertising space for the Dirt has been sold, reported **Jack Spear**.

Ted Burns would make more meetings if someone could pick him up. This possibility is being looked into with maybe a transportation committee.

Committee chairman are reminded to write up the duties of his committee to be included in a handbook. **Al Miller** will receive these write-ups.

Wally Dillenbeck is looking for more help in our Gardening from the Heart.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05.

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 - 30 years ago" Thanks, **Tom Baker!!!**



MEN'S GARDEN CLUB of ALBANY CLUB ACTIVITIES

Albany International Airport Don Wrieden – Chairman

Did you know that **Don Wrieden** and his crew we recently planted 60 mums at the Albany International Airport? They have more work planned that will be scheduled within the next month or so.



Adopt-a-Highway

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 borrowed this - please ask them to return it.** Someone with big boy toys on site? Thanks!!!

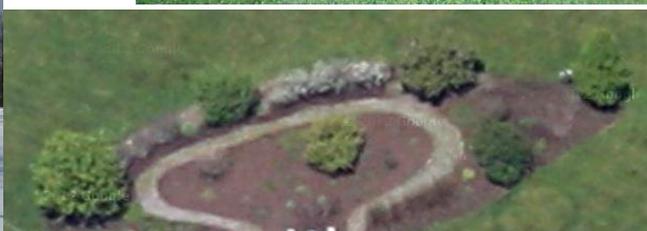


Built to last forever
Destroyed in hours
This was also our Memorial to Conrad Robert

I hope that ambulance was turning around



Memorial Garden
At the Albany County Cooperative Extension
Joe Huth / Chuck Scott Memorial Garden Chairmen



Ken Abele – Hard at work
Or should I say, making hard work easy?



Gardening from the Heart at the Center for Disability Services

Volunteers this October included: **Tom Baker, Russ Greenman, Maria Greenman, Joe Herman, Joe Huth, Jack Meagher, Bruce Wilcox, and Don Wrieden.** It is hard to believe that the weather has allowed us to continue working outside in



comfort. We're harvesting much of the remaining crop to make room for the mums we planted and we hope to plant some garlic and flower bulbs such as tulips and daffodils. We put the flower bulbs in pots that can be dug up in the Spring and the individuals take them home to their families. Thanks to the generous folks at [Goolds Orchard](#), we had a fantastic day picking apples while enjoying a colorful view of the mountains. After we made some apple cider with our wheels, we made a quick stop at the wheelchair wash and then we enjoyed some fresh apple cider and cider donuts. While we were buying cider and donuts to take home, I think

I saw a couple of our (MGCA) guys checking out the vino selection at [Brookview Station Winery](#). I guess there is something for everybody at **Goolds**.

If you have free time on Wednesday mornings – you could consider helping us out – I bet it will do as much good for you as it does for the individuals. – Contact anyone of our volunteers to find out more.



Harris Memorial Centerpiece

Thanks to the **Harris** kids!

Each month, the **Harris family Dave** and his sister **Diane** design and create a beautiful centerpiece to honor their parents – and now their brother **Phil**. Every month one of their masterpieces has been raffled off since 1980 - **YES, That's 36 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 **Harris** centerpieces that **Phil** and now **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 and donated by the Harris
family**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Today!	Please visit our friends that need our visits and cards	
November 17 th @ 6:30pm	December 15 th @ 6:30pm	Dinner meeting - @ the Beltrone Center – 6 Winners Circle Albany, NY
January 26 th @ 6:30pm	November 3 rd @ 7:30 pm	
November 3 rd @ 7:30 pm	December 3 rd @ 7:30 pm	
January 5 th @ 7:30 pm	Board of Director's Meeting All members are invited	
Every Wednesday : @ 9:15 am	Gardening from the Heart Center for Disability Services 700 South Pearl St. Albany	

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.mensgardenclubofalbany.org/>

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

Don't forget!

Dues (\$25) and advertisement payments are Due by January 1st 2017

In Memory

Of My

Loving Wife, Young

Bruce Wilcox

In Memory of

*Louis Meo
&
Richard Stankus*

*In Memory of
Al & Barbara Miller*

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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