

2021



Fairy Houses of Westfield NJ



2021



Fairy Houses of Westfield NJ



Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield NJ



Welcome!

Join us on this tour of hidden fairy houses and gardens. Let your imagination take you into the realm of these tiny magical folk. They say fairies live under the petals of flowers and leaves of plants, but that can only be the ones that have never come upon houses as wonderful and as welcoming as these. Take a look in your own garden. If you do not see a fairy house, perhaps you should build one for them.

FOREWARD

Most of the fairy houses in this publication were created by the Junior Gardeners of the Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield NJ. They were featured on two garden tours in May of 2021. Additional houses are included that were made by garden club members.

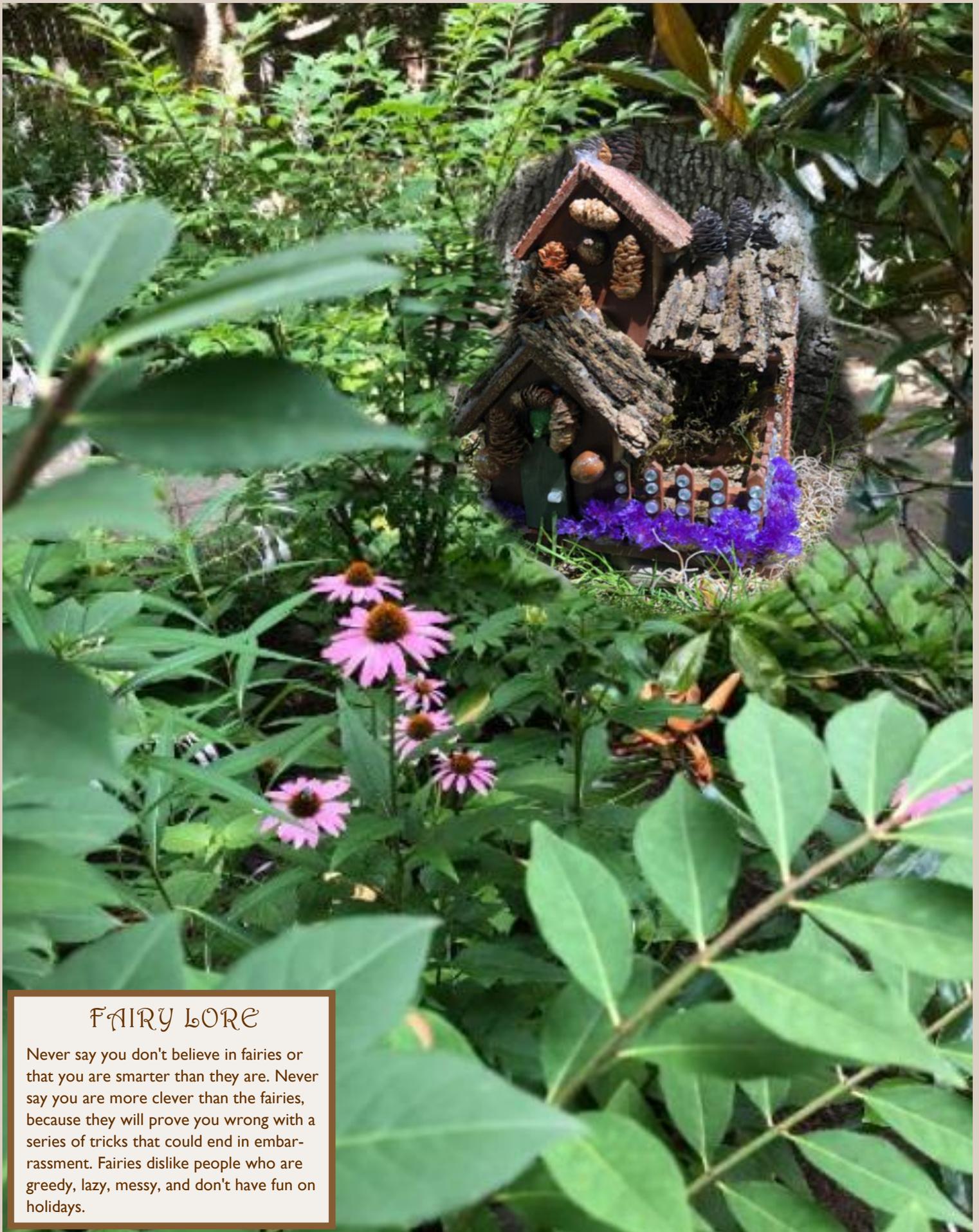
To keep these wonderful creations from disappearing after the tours, they have been preserved in this booklet, which resides in the RHGC's online archives.



FAIRY LORE

Fairy houses are made from natural materials that can be found in your garden, on beaches, and in nearby forests. Some of the materials fairies love to use when building a fairy home include moss, twigs, flowers, feathers, crystals and other shiny objects. Fairies love gardens and nature. They especially love gardens that are a bit disorganized and overgrown but have lots of beautiful flowers. If you have a yard, plant lots of flowers. When you see butterflies and birds in your yard, that usually means it is the type of place that fairies will enjoy, too.

If you would like to attract fairies to your garden, creating a fairy house is a good place to start. Not all fairies are natural builders, and they are happy to find a new house ready for them to move in. Fairy houses come in all shapes and sizes, and they are all beautiful and stylish. You will likely find a fairy house in your garden if fairies find the right environment for a house. They love the sound of wind chimes, so it is a good idea to have a few of these around as well. Flower fairies are gentle spirits of the earth and live among the flowers and near the bottom of trees.



FAIRY LORE

Never say you don't believe in fairies or that you are smarter than they are. Never say you are more clever than the fairies, because they will prove you wrong with a series of tricks that could end in embarrassment. Fairies dislike people who are greedy, lazy, messy, and don't have fun on holidays.



FAIRY LORE

As magical creatures, fairies have almost unlimited power. They can fly. They can make flowers bloom. They can conjure up gold. They can glow in the dark. They can create and cast new charms for any situation, and their curses can last for hundreds of years.

FAIRY LORE

Some fairies are helpful. They guide travelers who are lost in the forest. If they like you, they might lead you to a treasure, give you magical gifts, or cast a lucky charm over your life. To befriend a fairy, leave a saucer of milk, cream, or butter for the fairies to enjoy at night.



FAIRY LORE

“I took my tea out into the garden and watched the bees zipping in and out of the hives, filling the air with their low-pitched purring, just as the peach-coloured roses that hung over the nearby apple tree filled it with scent. The insects danced as they came back in, shimmering their tiny plump bodies, clustering round each other as though in deep conversation.”



FAIRY LORE

During the Victorian Era, fairytales for children became popular. Fairies were previously thought to be human-size but are now tiny size and often dressed in tiny clothing. Fairies with wings also became more popular, especially after the publication of JM Barrie's *Peter Pan*.





FAIRY LORE

Fairies do not like to be seen by humans. Although they live in every rock and tree, it is within their nature to hide from mortals. Fairies that fly need to know they are safe from birds and humans so they are sure to be rarely seen. Perhaps it is because fairies never grew and so are like shy children.



FAIRY LORE

"My name is Twinkle and I am 9 years old. I love to play on my swing and spend time outdoors in my garden where I grow a magical plant called a Pickleberry Bush."

FAIRY LORE

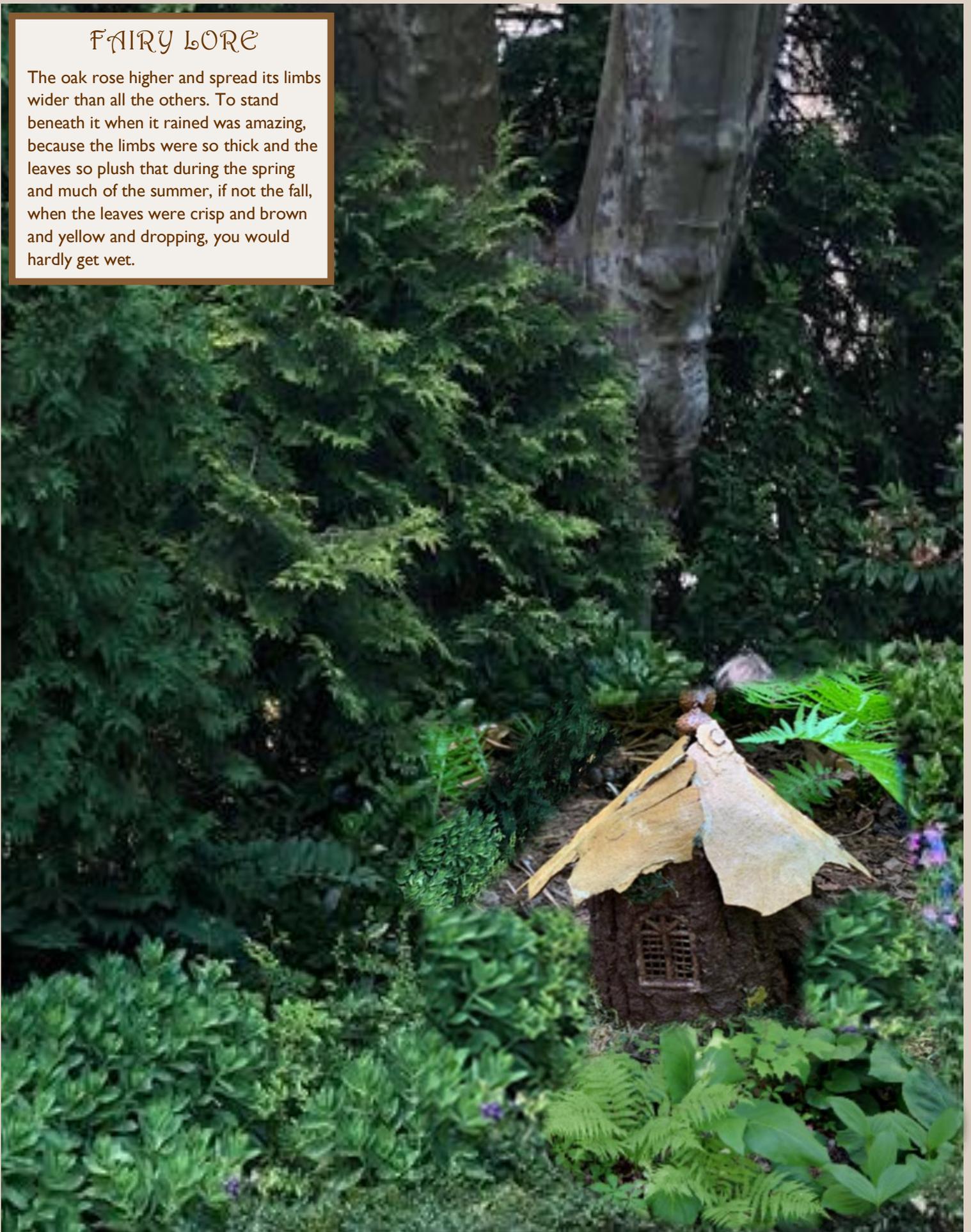
“There were “summerhouses,” arbors covered with vines or flowers, or shady bowers encircled with trees and flowering shrubs, each of which was formed in a different taste. In the borders were arranged every kind of flower, one would think, that nature had ever produced, and with the utmost display of fancy, as well as variety.”

David McCullough “The Pioneers.”



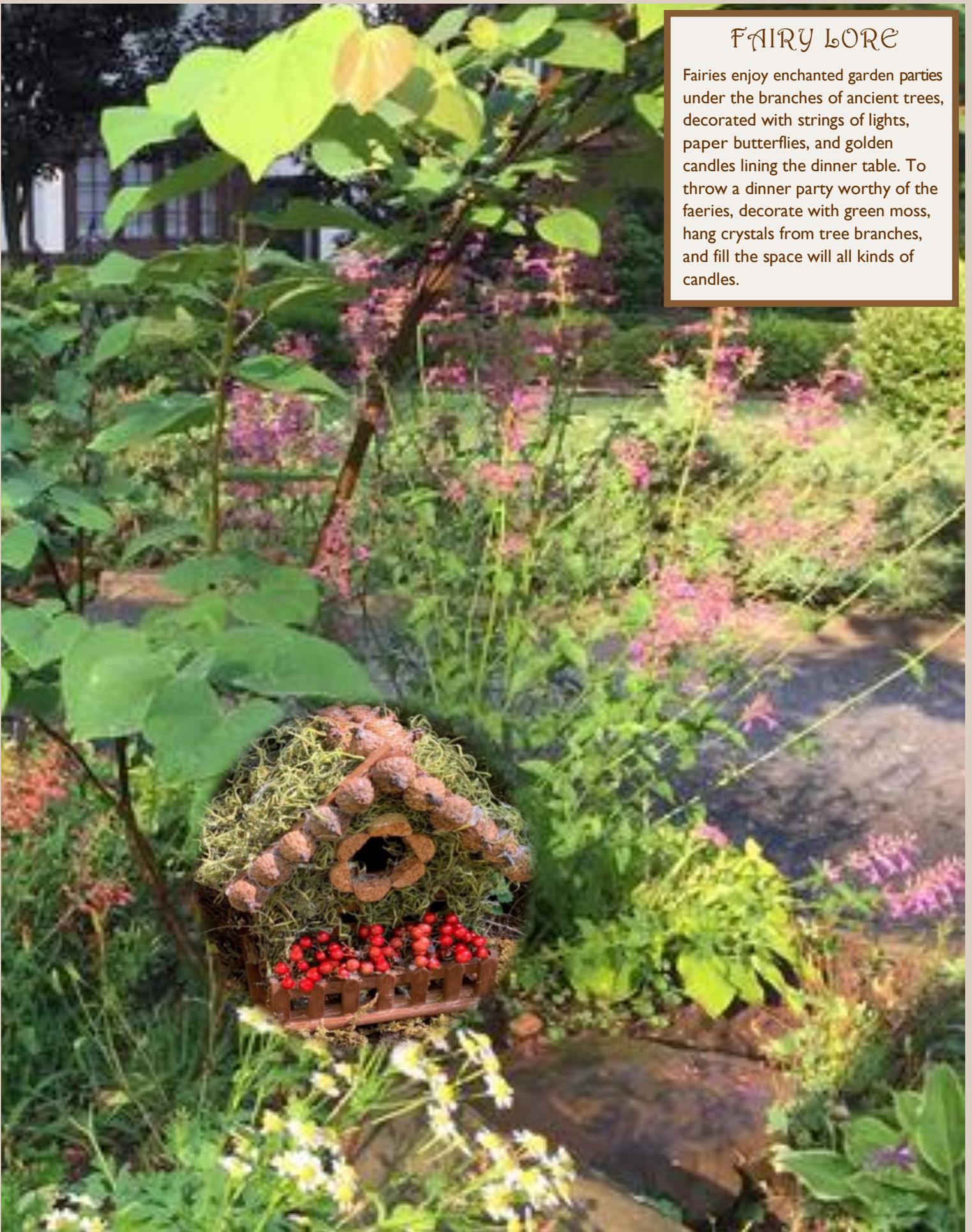
FAIRY LORE

The oak rose higher and spread its limbs wider than all the others. To stand beneath it when it rained was amazing, because the limbs were so thick and the leaves so plush that during the spring and much of the summer, if not the fall, when the leaves were crisp and brown and yellow and dropping, you would hardly get wet.



FAIRY LORE

Fairies enjoy enchanted garden parties under the branches of ancient trees, decorated with strings of lights, paper butterflies, and golden candles lining the dinner table. To throw a dinner party worthy of the faeries, decorate with green moss, hang crystals from tree branches, and fill the space with all kinds of candles.



FAIRY LORE

For a festive tea party, fairies integrate edible flowers—like hibiscus, rose, and orchid—into their recipes, such as lavender shortbread cookies. For dessert they make candied violets and clear lollipops filled with dried flowers. Tea parties are adorned with pink and purple flowers, tea cakes, and platters of fruit.





FAIRY LORE

Some fairies are mischievous. They like to taunt animals, pinching horses to make them gallop, stealing milk from cows, and playing cat-and-mouse with cats. There are things you can do to keep mischievous fairies away.

Marigolds, primroses, four-leaf clovers, and St. John's wort can all be worn or hung over doors to repel them.

FAIRY LORE

It's the fairies that make the flowers blossom, the sun shine, the mountains rise and fall. In essence, it is fairies that make the world beautiful. Fairies are artists, and they love what they consider beautiful which is shown by their love of song, poetry, and dance.



FAIRY LORE

“They saw a profusion of plants blooming and greening...there were bromeliads, ferns, and palms pushing against the walls, orchids hanging and cantilevering from the high ledges, outcroppings of passionflowers and hibiscuses.”



CREDITS

These fairy houses were first featured on the members-only garden tour on May 14, 2021. A week later, they were on view to the public in the Claire Brownell Memorial Wildflower Garden, at an event co-sponsored by the Rake and Hoe Garden Club and the Westfield Historical Society. Additional houses are included that were made by garden club members. They have been preserved in this booklet to keep them for posterity. We thank everyone who participated in the tour, the crafts, and the publication.

Barb Spellmeyer
Page 1/2



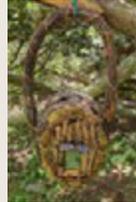
Emma Sylvester
Page 3



Sophia Poeschl
Page 4



Sharon Shiraga
Page 5



Barb Spellmeyer
Page 6



Clare Minick
Page 7



Arabella Morabito
Page 8



Alissa Stumpf
Page 9



Lila Spadero
Page 10



Sharon Shiraga
Page 11



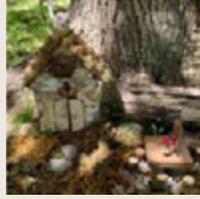
Sharon Shiraga
Page 12



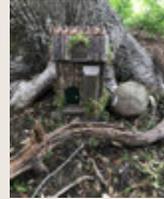
Malissa Morabito
Page 13



Clare Minick
Page 14



Sharon Shiraga
Page 15



Riley Dupuis
Page 16



Clare Minick
Page 17



Photographers: Nina Sylvester, Sharon Shiraga, Clare Minick, Barb Spellmeyer, Joe Da Rold

Juniors Mentors: Sharon Shiraga and Alice Cowell

Booklet Design: Joe Da Rold

Text: "Fairy" by Prof. Geller, on mythology.net; and anonymous Internet sources.

Text: Page 7: Sharon Bolton, *The Craftsman*; Page 12: Joe R. Lansdale, *Rusty Puppy*; Page 17: Dominic Smith, *The Electric Hotel*.

May 30, 2021 Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield NJ