

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club, Inc. of Westfield, New Jersey



**A History of the Club's
Flower Shows and Home Tours
1954 - 2018**

INTRODUCTION

AS THE RAKE & HOE GARDEN CLUB, INC. OF WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY launches its archival project, to bring together the many documents that contain the club's history, what stands out is the impressive participation and commitment of members past and present.

This chronological narrative looks only at the club's two biggest ongoing fundraising events, the Flower Shows and the Home Tours. A complete history of the Rake & Hoe Garden Club would include notes on membership, special events, awards, and the community, charitable, and educational activities that have made our club special. However, those aspects of our club, notable as they are, are not part of the scope of this report.

The success of this endeavor has been made possible by those who kept documents over the years, regardless of inconvenience, and by those members with long memories. There are events that we know took place, for which there are presently no supporting documents. As those items surface, and as new events take place, it is the author's hope that this document will be updated.



THE 1950s - GOING PLACES

LOOKING BACK at the club's history, it is amazing to see how much was accomplished in the first couple of years. So many of the club's traditions started early on, including the creation of the administrative structure of committees and special events, and it is a wonder that the members were able to tackle the flower shows and tours.

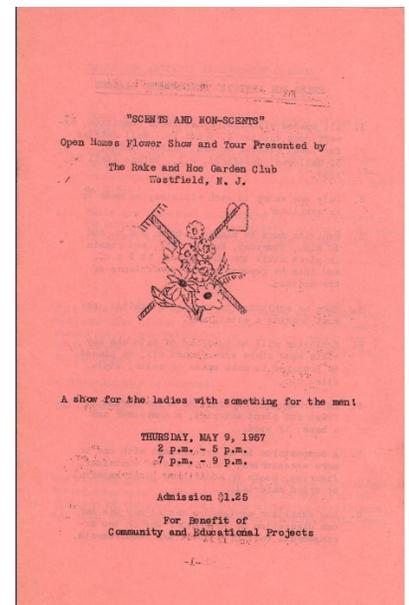
1954. "Living for Young Homemakers" was the first flower show of The Rake & Hoe Garden Club of Westfield. The club had just celebrated its first anniversary when it unveiled this fully accredited and judged "Closed" Open Homes Show on June 8th. The Chair reported: *"This was our own modesty showing, afraid we weren't good enough to invite and charge the public. Afterwards, regrets that we had not had more confidence in our ability."* In addition, during the year, members participated in several open classes of four neighboring shows, with five members winning blue ribbons. In October, R&H became a fully accredited member of the Garden Club of New Jersey, being sponsored by The Garden Club of Westfield and the Mountainside Garden Club.

HOMES	Ethel Howe, Betty Hinton, and Edythe Dugan (R&H President)
CHAIR	Edith Tonnessen

1956. "Now is the Time." A precursor to flower shows as we know them was a "Garden Center" in February, and 600 people attended. According to Kay Cross, who was to join R&H in 1980, *"A Garden Center was typically presented in a parking lot and probably was coordinated with the annual plant sale R&H conducted every Saturday before Mother's Day. It would have been booths, with our members who would answer questions about the plants we were selling or any general question someone may have. Garden clubs still have them."* For excellence in design, the club received the first **"Elizabeth Hood Silver Pitcher for the Best Garden Center of the Year in New Jersey."**

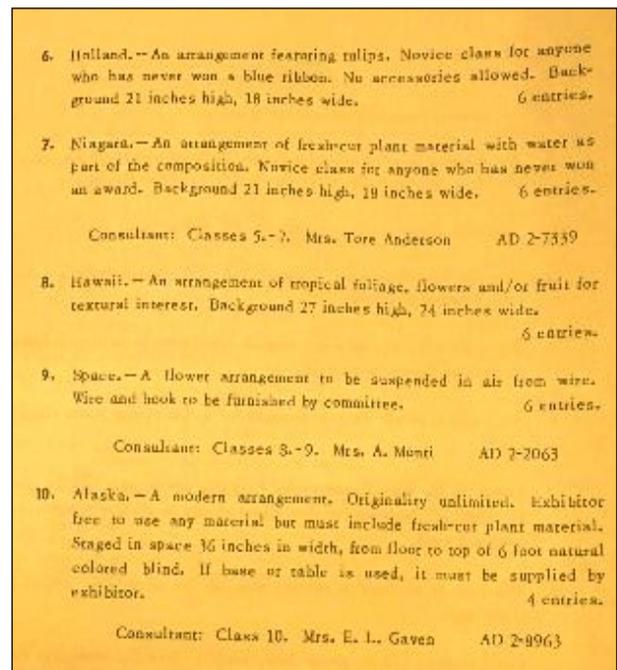
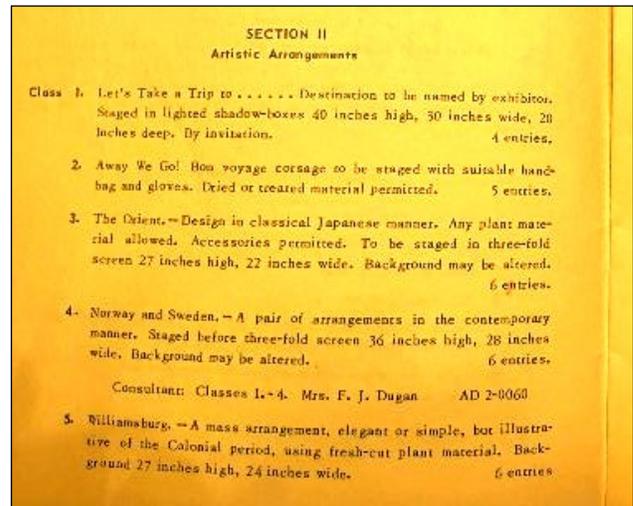
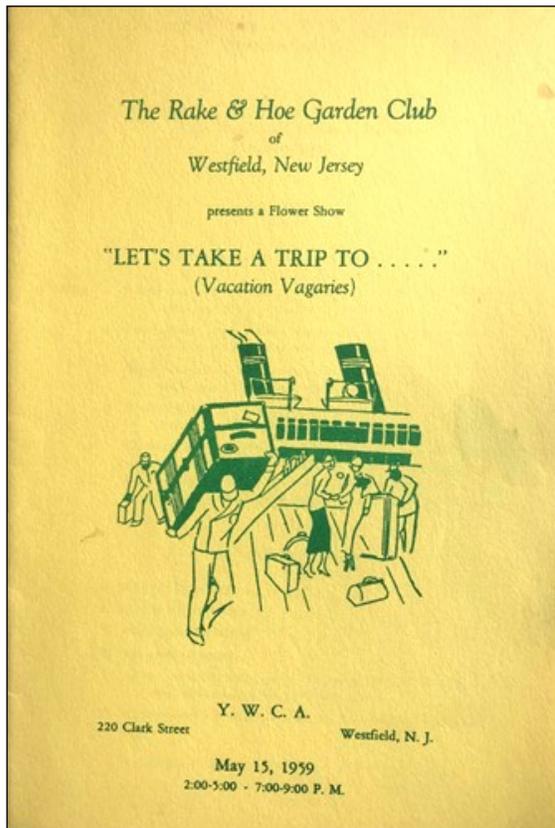
1957. "Scents & Non-Scents." The Rake & Hoe Garden Club was adventurous in choosing to launch its first open flower show as A Standard Accredited Flower Show and Tour. The Schedule (i.e. program) gives us a good idea of what the show was like. It was held on May 9th to attract Mother's Day celebrants. The tour included three homes and a flower show staged at the YWCA. Exhibits included orchids, herbs, new shrubs, Wedgewood, and table settings. It seems as if all of Westfield participated, including Shepard's Garden Center, Williams Floral Farm, Thomas Young Inc., and Central Garden Center. Mother's Day floral arrangements were exhibited by five of Westfield's flower shops: Doerrers Flowers, McEwen Flowers, H. Vance Flowers, Weber's Crystal Stream Florist; and Westfield Flower Shop. Although the R&H Juniors would not be officially recognized by the Garden Club of New Jersey (GCNJ) until 1969, they were an active group and had entries at one of the houses. Admission was a bargain at \$1.50.

HOMES	M/M Edgar Lobkowitz 18 Mohawk Trail Westfield	M/M John Krooss 9 Mountainview Drive Mountainside	M/M John McDonnell 1070 Wychwood Road Westfield
CHAIRS	Mrs. Frank J. Dugan and Mrs. Edward L. Gaven		



1959. “Let’s Take a Trip To...” (*Vacation Vagaries*) followed two years later. This flower show featured educational exhibits dealing with the Jersey Shore. They were the work of several R&H committees: Birds; Books; Conservation; Community Projects; Ways & Means; and Wayside. The show was enhanced by the participation of many of the same local florists as in 1957.

CHAIRS Mrs. Thomas Q Gilson and Mrs. Frank J. Dugan



PLACES TO GO

Various venues have been used for the club’s flower shows. In the early years, the YWCA was the preferred location. Aside from the YWCA and Trinity Orthodox (again in 1974), other sites used for shows and boutiques have been: Trailside Nature Museum (1985); St. Paul’s Episcopal Church (1990); the Westfield Community Players Theater (1998, 2002); Hetfield House (2008); First United Methodist Church on East Broad Street (2012); The Presbyterian Church on Mountain Avenue (1980, 1988, 1997, 2005, 2017), the Scotch Hills Country Club for the 2018 DTH Boutique. And, of course, many, many private homes.

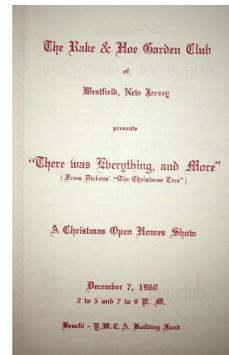
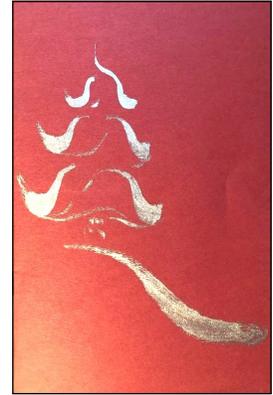


Traveling First-class

THE 1960s - SIMPLE GIFTS

1960. "There Was Everything and More," a Christmas Home Show, kicked off the new decade. The title was taken from an 1850's story by Charles Dickens, "The Christmas Tree." Four beautifully decorated homes were toured by 750 visitors, who enjoyed a cup of cheer from the Wassail Bowl and homemade cookies. Proceeds of \$1,000 were presented to the YWCA for their building fund.

HOMES	M/M Robert C. Mervine 3 Hawthorne Drive	M/M Charles L. Warnecke 102 Jefferson Avenue	M/M John F. Boyer 40 Norman Place
	M/M Robert H. Mulreany 36 Norgate	M/M Gordon W. Duncan 780 Norman Place	
CHAIRS	Mrs. Milo L. Schaefer and Mrs. Frank J. Dugan		



1963. A Flower Show, with the simple title "May-1963" was held on May 8th at the YWCA, the new home of the R&H Garden Club. Floral arrangements celebrated various occasions throughout the month, including Straw Hat Day, Little League, and Mother's Day, of course. Other arrangements celebrated expressions associated with May, e.g. "May Flowers," "May Wine," and "The Merry Month of May."

CHAIR	Mrs. John S. Breitenstein.
	Vice-chair: Mrs. Thomas Q. Gilson

		-3-	ENTRIES
Class 3. MAYTIME	- An arrangement suggesting rhythm. Accessories permitted. Three-fold screen 27" x 27".		6
CONSULTANT:	MRS. CLARENCE E. HEMARD (AD 2-7628)		
4. THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY	- Arrangement to suggest gaiety. Open to anyone who has not won an award in accredited show. 21" x 18" space.		5
5. QUEEN OF THE MAY	- An arrangement featuring a Madonna. 21" x 18" space.		5
6. SIDWALK ART SHOW	- An interpretive arrangement including a painting to be supplied by exhibitor. Painting to be placed on easel; arrangement on table below. Tools and accessories supplied by the committee.		5
CONSULTANT:	MRS. JOHN M. PARKER (AD 2-8873)		
7. MAY BLOSSOMS	- An arrangement of flowering branches in the Oriental manner. Space allotted not to exceed 30" width and 6' in height from floor. Base or table and background to be supplied by exhibitor.		6
(Invitation Class)			
8. ALL 'ROUND THE MAYPOLE	- A small arrangement not to exceed 5" in any dimension. To be staged on individual stands around a maypole.		8
9. MAY WINE	- A line arrangement using wine bottle as container. 27" x 26" space.		5
CONSULTANT:	MRS. ARTHUR MACAULAY, JR. (AD 2-8218)		
10. JUNIOR PROM	- A corsage or wristlet suitable for Prom.		6
11. PICNIC	- Table setting suitable for outdoor supper. Committee will supply table, or exhibitor may furnish her own table.		5
12. MOTHER'S DAY	- A mass arrangement. Accessories permitted. Notice of mass for anyone who has not won a blue ribbon. 27" x 26" space.		5
CONSULTANT:	MRS. J. REICHLIND WESS, JR. (AD 2-4157)		
JUNIORS: 13. LITTLE LEAGUE	- An arrangement using container or accessory suggesting a sporting activity. Age 10 to 14.		5
14. IN THE MIDDLE OF MAY	- An arrangement with water showing. Age 10 to 14.		5
15. STRAW HAT DAY	- An arrangement using straw hat or basket as container. Age 5 to 9.		5

The Garden Center

JOHN K. MEEKER, INC.
1100 SOUTH AVE. WESTFIELD, N.J. 07091
AD 8-9117

"May 1963"

FOR ALL YOUR GARDEN NEEDS

FERTILIZERS

WEED KILLERS

INSECTICIDES

it's not a home

PLANTED

for Beauty - for Shade

PLANT TREES

for Color & Blossoms

PLANT ROSES

MULCHES & SOILS

ANNUALS - PERENNIALS

WILKINSON'S WEED REMOVERS

JACKSON & PERKINS

VIGOROUS ROSES

Go Go Go!!! To Meekers

GREETINGS: To all members and friends of the "RAKE and HOE GARDEN CLUB of WESTFIELD" in their new home at the new YWCA. We of Meeker's Garden Center, who have served so many of you for so many years, wish you every success in all your commendable projects.

GREETINGS: To all newcomers in the surrounding areas we would like to introduce ourselves: We are the largest and most modern garden center in the area and have served Westfield and neighboring communities since 1926. Besides the stock of the nationally known brands of lawn seed and fertilizers, we carry our own blends which have proven to be so successful in this area.

In addition you will find the best in tools, insecticides, trees, annuals, bulbs, perennials and flowering shrubs.

For the indoor gardeners we have house plants and all the growing materials needed. For the flower arranger, all the necessary mechanics.

We are an authorized "SCOTT LAWN PROGRAM CENTER".

We cordially invite you to visit us at anytime.

Jacobsen
Lawn and Garden Equipment for '63

Back Cover of Program

1966. *“These Are a Few of My Favorite Things.”* Members took a breather for a year or so, but they were soon hard at work on a big project: A Standard Placement Home Show and Garden Pilgrimage. Admission was still \$1.50 donation, and the club netted just over \$500.

The Broadway musical, *“A Sound of Music,”* had opened on Broadway in the fall of 1959, with the cast album released a few weeks later. The movie was released in 1965, and by then nearly every person in America had seen the show and could sing the songs. It was the perfect time for Rake & Hoe to

ride the wave of the show’s popularity. In October, over 500 people made the “garden pilgrimage” journey to five homes and gardens, where floral exhibits reflected the lyrics from the various shows by Rodgers & Hammerstein. Because of the later film, most people think of Julie Andrews as Maria von Trapp, but it was legendary Broadway star Mary Martin who created the role. Her co-star, as Baron von Trapp, was the famous folk singer Theodore Bikel.



Photographs of the Broadway production were sent to the club by the attorney for Rodgers & Hammerstein, with permission to use the song lyrics for the display classifications.



HOMES	M/M Alpheus H. Albert 23 Hawthorne Drive, Westfield <i>Home and Garden</i>	M/M Henry L Jamieson 3 Hawthorne Drive, Westfield <i>Home and Terrace</i>	M/M Robert J. Boutillier, 920 Minisink Way, Westfield <i>Home and Garden</i>
	M/M Claude L. Bigelow 787 Knollwood Terrace, Westfield <i>Home and Garden</i>		M/M Paul J. Burr 776 Norman Place, Westfield <i>Home</i>
CHAIR	Mrs. Charles R. Mayer. Honorary Chairman: Mrs. Maurice E. Thompson		

1968. *“Mini Show”.* The final show of the decade was a Standard Flower Show in April for members only, entitled *“Spring Potpourri.”*

THE 1970s - HOME, SWEET HOME

The 1970s saw Rake & Hoe become an increasingly active club, with three of the five flower shows combined with house tours. Interaction with other garden clubs in the area was also a hallmark of this period.

1970. *“So Proudly We Hailed”*, a Standard Flower Show, was held at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church on Gallows Hill Road. The Staging Committee called it an excellent site. The theme was patriotism, and 609 tickets were sold, still at \$1.50. A full contingent of 69 members participated with enthusiasm, entering 320 horticulture entries. The Juniors participated in four classes. Although they had been a part of R&H flower shows since 1957, they had just received official recognition from the Garden Club of New Jersey in January of 1969.

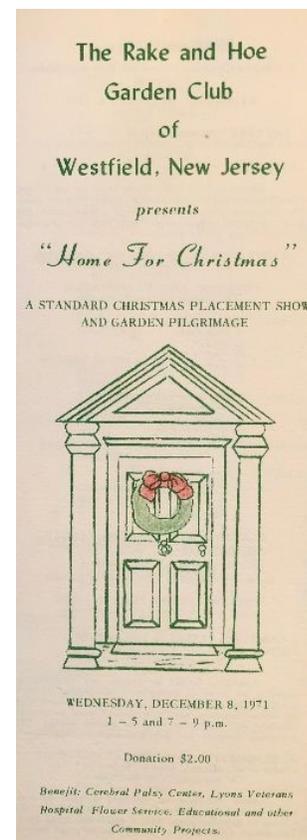
CHAIR	Martha (Mrs. Charles R.) Mayer
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1971. Christmas came early for R&H this year. *“Home For Christmas,”* a Standard Christmas Placement Show and Garden Pilgrimage, proved to be a blockbuster. Extensive publicity proved to be the key. Even with the ticket price up to \$2.00, over 800 tickets were sold, and an estimated 1,000 visitors made the “pilgrimage” to four houses and two gardens. Helping boost attendance was the requirement that each R&H member sell a minimum of five tickets. Also, four other garden clubs were invited to participate in the “Christmas Tree By Invitation”: The Garden Club of Westfield; The Gardenaires; The Club of Little Gardens; and The Mountainside Garden Club. Four individuals were selected to create the front door decorations for each of the homes. An eye-catching feature was the lamp post at each house decorated as a bird feeder. The entire Horticultural Division, the Artistic Designs, the Junior Show, and special exhibits were all staged at one of the homes, and the Boutique was staged at another. Visitors were delighted with the boutique of handcrafted items, which raised over \$1,500 – a large amount at the time. All told, the event recorded a profit of over \$2,100 to support its charitable, educational, and community projects.

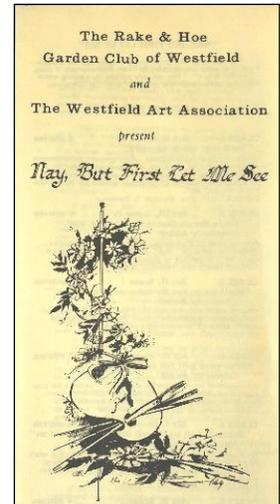
HOMES	M/M Frank M. Grecco 781 Norgate <i>Home and Garden</i>	M/M Robert H. Mulreany 736 Norgate <i>Garden</i>	M/M John F. Boyer 740 Norman Place <i>Garden</i>
	Dr./M Clarence J. Chehayl 840 Cranford Avenue <i>Home</i>	M/M Terence C. Brady, Jr. 805 Ramapo Way <i>Home</i>	M/M Charles R. Mayer 420 Roanoke Road <i>Home</i>

CHAIRS	Mrs. William A. Thawley and Mrs. Peter J. Hydock. Honorary Chair: Mrs. Hugh W. Tribble.
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1974. "Nay, But First Let Me See." This year's Flower Show was a springtime event, co-sponsored with the Westfield Art Association, with the floral arrangements interpreting the artwork of area artists. The show's theme was inspired by the "mirth and fine satire" of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night. However, the quote "Nay, But First Let Me See," has to be one of the oddest ever selected: the line appears in a note written by a lovelorn character contemplating suicide. In a more lighthearted vein, the show featured a friendly "competition" of Garden Club exhibitors. The Garden Club of Westfield won first prize over Mountainside Garden Club, The Gardenaires, and The Elizabeth Garden Club. R&H raised nearly \$900.

A STANDARD FLOWER SHOW
at
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, N. J.
TUESDAY, APRIL 23rd, 1974
1:00-5:00 PM 7:00-9:00 PM
Donation \$2.00 Tea
Benefit Community Projects



CHAIRS	Mrs. Herbert F. Sailer, Jr. and Mrs. Clarence J. Chehayl
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1976. "In the Course of Human Events" was a Standard Home Show and Garden Pilgrimage presented in May, just in time for Mother's Day. It featured four homes and two gardens. Bird sanctuaries were created at each of the homes. A redwood wren house was hung on a tree, with a small stone bird bath placed near a tree. Total income of over \$3,100 was noteworthy, enhanced by a Boutique, but expenses far exceeded those from previous shows, and it could not match the success of the 1971 show. In the end the club netted only \$968, and the show's chairman considered the event to have been a failure. Although members were tasked with selling seven tickets each, the slightly elevated price of the \$2.50 ticket could not account for the fact that only 166 tickets were sold.

HOMES	M/M Holger A. Froden 700 Clark Street, Westfield <i>Home and Garden</i>	M/M Chauncey M. Depew 630 Clark Street, Westfield <i>Home and Garden</i>
	Dr. & Mrs. John T. Harrigan 725 Dorian Road, Westfield <i>Home</i>	M/M Robert H. Mulreany 736 Norgate, Westfield <i>Home</i>

CHAIRS	Mrs. Edward A. Collins III and Mrs. Robert E. Wallace
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Terrariums made by the junior members, ages 8-12, will be displayed in the Rake and Hoe Garden Club home show and garden pilgrimage May 5 in the home of Mrs. H.A. Froden, 700 Clark St. Pictured, from left, are Mrs. Chauncey Depew with her daughter, Judy, and Mrs. Terence C. Brady Jr., at right, with her daughter, Wendy.



Displaying a poster heralding the Rake and Hoe Garden Club's home show and garden pilgrimage on May 5 are, from left, Mrs. David H. Gilderislow, Mrs. Lawrence A. Stone and Mrs. G. Carter Pratt. Flower arrangements will interpret phrases from the Declaration of Independence. The show, titled, "In the Course of Human Events," will run from 1-5 and 7-9 p.m. in four homes.

Four Homes, Tent to House Rake-Hoe Show on Wednesday

"Meet me under the big top" could be the cry on Wednesday, May 5 when the Rake and Hoe Garden Club holds its standard home show and garden pilgrimage entitled, "In the Course of Human Events," from 1-5 and 7-9 p.m. The yellow and white striped tent to be raised at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mulreany, 736 Norgate, will house the show's horticulture division. Three other homes will be used also to illustrate beauty in an ever changing world. Competing for awards, members will design flower arrangements interpreting phrases from the Declaration of Independence. As a tribute to the nation's Bicentennial, a set of 12 parade size Revolutionary War flags, made by Mrs. Leslie Morgenweck of Cranford, will be displayed at the Chauncey M. Depew's, 630 Clark St. In the pool area at the Depew's will be a sale of unusual lawn and garden ornaments including frogs, owls and mushrooms, also hanging baskets and potted plants.

Nearby at the Holger A. Froden's house, 700 Clark St., the Rake and Hoe Club's junior division will be made up of flower arrangements, horticulture specimens and an educational exhibit. Visitors are invited to enjoy the gardens at the Froden and Depew houses.

Dressed in colonial costumes, members will serve refreshments in the English Manor house of Dr. and Mrs. John T. Harrigan, 725 Dorian Rd. Flower arrangements will enhance each home. Guests may start the tour at any of the four houses. Tickets for the pilgrimage are available from all Rake and Hoe members, from the desk at the YMCA which sponsors this garden club, or at the doors of the show homes.

Proceeds will benefit the educational and community projects of the club which is a member of the Garden Club of New Jersey.



1978. "Suddenly, It's Christmas" heralded the final years of the decade. R&H again invited other garden clubs to participate. The Dig and Delve Garden Club of Cranford was the new kid on the block, and along with The Gardenaires of Westfield, the Mountainside Garden Club, and The Garden Club of Westfield, they were asked to trim the Christmas trees in each home. Inflation saw the ticket price jump to \$3.50, but ticket sales were brisk, and 699 tickets were sold. Honored guests, members and families brought attendance to over 800. The club netted just over \$900.

HOMES	M/M Frank Grecco 781 Norgate, Westfield <i>Home and Garden</i>	Mrs. A. J. Sargent, Jr. 935 New England Drive, Westfield <i>Home</i>
	M/M Harry Osterman 925 Minisink Way, Westfield <i>Home and Garden</i>	M/M Herbert Wright 555 Birch Avenue, Westfield <i>Home</i>
CHAIRS	Mrs. Gerald Monaghan and Mrs. Albert D. Nostrand	

Top Awards In Rake And Hoe Flower Show

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield's Home Flower Show and Garden Tour "Suddenly, It's Christmas" was visited by over eight hundred people.

The show was judged by seven panels of accredited judges consisting of twenty-one people. Three highly coveted awards were given in the artistic division. The Trillium Award to Mrs. Frank J. Dugan, the Creativity Award to Mrs. Peter J. Hydock and the Award of Distinction to Mrs. Sida Kravitz, all of Westfield.

The Artistic Award was presented to Mrs. George Minise of Berkeley Heights. Miss Alison Trean won the Award of Merit. Mrs. Harry Whittaker won the Sweepstakes Award for the most blue ribbons in the Horticulture Division.

"The Endangered Species" an educational exhibit prepared by the Rake and Hoe Juniors under the direction of Mrs. Grant Risch, won a junior achievement award. Patricia Monaghan, a junior gardener, won a blue ribbon and a junior achievement award in the artistic division.

Blue ribbon winners in the artistic division were Mesdames Robert Stanton, Frank J. Dugan, Bernard Apel, James G. McElroy, Arthur Macauley, Sida Kravitz, Grant Risch, Peter J. Hydock, James Corple, Robert Boardlier, Harold Ebslyne, Steven Moran, William Wallace and Byron Martin.

First place winners in the horticulture division were Mesdames William Barrianni, William Bartigan, Edward Engel, B. Twombly, Vincent Cooke, Bernard Apel, Frank Grecco, Phillip Oppenheimer, Sida Kravitz, Harold Ebslyne, Albert D. Nostrand, Harold Templeton, Herbert Wright, Robert Mulreany, Robert Boutlier, Enos Westrich, Harry Whittaker and Charles R. Mayer from Mountainside, Mrs. C.G. Eves, Berkeley Heights, Mrs. George Minise and Mrs. Arlene Robinson of Westfield.

Junior division blue ribbon winners were Larolce Riber, Susie Sauslow and Patrice Monaghan.

Horticulture blue ribbons winners included Susie Sauslow, Carolee Riber, Elizabeth Wilson and Darragh O'Brien.

The Christmas trees in each home were trimmed by Dig and Delve Garden Club of Cranford, The Gardenaires of Westfield, Mountainside Garden Club and The Garden Club of Westfield. They were presented awards of appreciation.

Door decorations at each home, created by invitation, were by Mrs. Charles Cadworth of Bridgewater, Mrs. William Degen of Westfield, Mrs. Charles H. Robinson of Glen Rock and Mrs. Anthony Bennett of Hackensack. They also received Awards of Appreciation.

The purpose of the show is to promote interest in the art of arranging flowers, the proper horticulture care of plants, shrubs, trees and conservation of natural resources. All proceeds will go for educational and community projects.

DECEMBER 13, 1978 SUBURBAN NEWS

THE WESTFIELD (N.J.) LEADER, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1978

The Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield, New Jersey

Presents

"SUDDENLY IT'S CHRISTMAS!"

A Standard Home Flower Show and Garden Tour



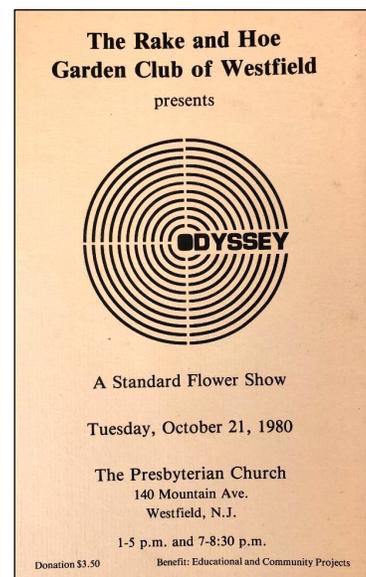
Wednesday, December 6, 1978
1-5 and 7-9 p.m.
Donation \$3.50
Educational and Community Projects

THE 1980s - NON-STOP ACTIVITY

The 1980s decade was one of the club's most active periods in terms of fundraising. Again, there were five flower shows, two of which included house tours, and in 1986 the very first "Deck The Halls". The name became a tradition and indicated the event was a house tour and boutique but without an accompanying flower show. Some members apparently felt they were not busy enough, and in March of 1982, the club held a Victorian Luncheon fundraiser.

1980. "Odyssey," a Standard Flower Show, was originally planned to be held at the Congregational Church in November, but scheduling problems ruled that out, and the show was held at the Presbyterian Church in late October. Previewing the "Odyssey" flower show, a mini-flower show was held at the September meeting entitled "Ought-a-See." At the October show, Juniors presented an educational exhibit demonstrating the stages in the making of a terrarium. Following past practices, R&H invited an organization devoted to a specific flower or subject to participate, and the NJ State Chrysanthemum Society placed an educational exhibit in the show. The chairman indicated she was pleased with the look of the show and the "esprit de corps" engendered, but she also expressed disappointment that only 412 tickets were sold, only two-thirds of expected sales. However, additional net income of nearly \$1,100 came from the raffle of an appliqued quilt handmade by Fran Kravitz. It was so beautiful, a person who lost commissioned Fran to make another and donated the amount of the raffle.

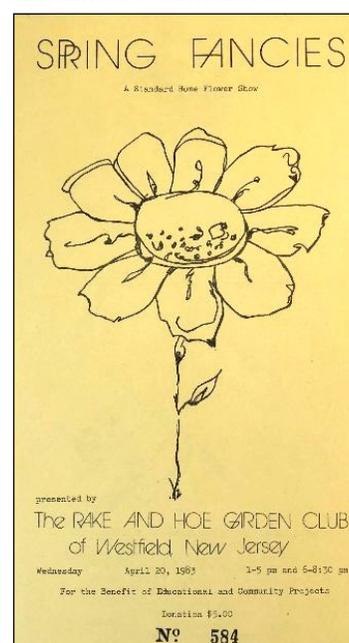
CHAIR	Peggy Cruger
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1983. "Spring Fancies" was that most ambitious of flower shows, combining a Standard Flower Show, with a house tour, and a boutique. To select the houses, the committee drove around town and surveyed members' homes. The public was invited to submit entries for Horticulture Division. Only six non-members did so, but it had been a cold, wet spring, which interfered with the usual spring glories of home gardens. Educational Exhibits were shown at the Perry home, featuring Composting, World Gardening, and an Awards Display. The chairman took a leap of faith and announced the ticket price would be \$5.00; 518 tickets were sold. The Boutique, which was held at the YWCA, raised \$500 and helped the show exceed its projected budget by \$10, with a net profit of \$1,160.

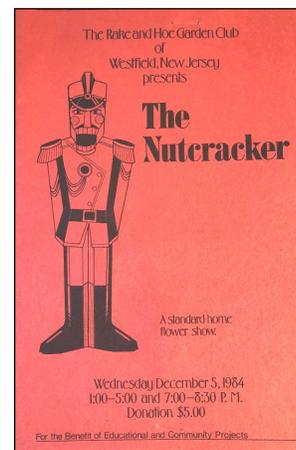
HOMES	M/M Milton Kupfer 972 Cherokee Court, Westfield	M/M Stephen Perry 775 Knollwood Terrace, Westfield
	M/M Sidd Kravitz 424 Roanoke Road, Weeld	M/M Ronald Posyton 319 Sinclair Place, Westfield

CHAIR	Kay (Mrs. Richard) Cross
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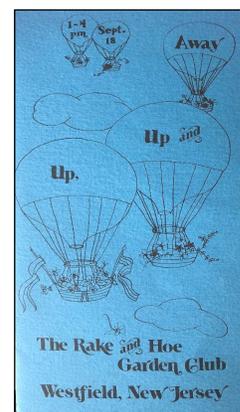
1984. "The Nutcracker," a Standard Home Flower Show and House Tour, was held in early December. The show attracted 662 visitors and raised a substantial \$3,680 for the club's projects. The Boutique, held at the YWCA, accounted for \$1,911 of the total proceeds. To help members prepare their horticultural entries, flower arranging workshops were held for members in advance of the event.

HOMES Boutique at YWCA	M/M William R. DiLouie 657 St. Marks Avenue, Westfield	M/M Lawrence Myers 300 Mountain Avenue, Westfield
	M/M David M. Mann 21 Bennett Place, Westfield	M/M Albert H. C. Wiegman 29 Hawthorne Drive, Westfield
CHAIR	Linda Parker	



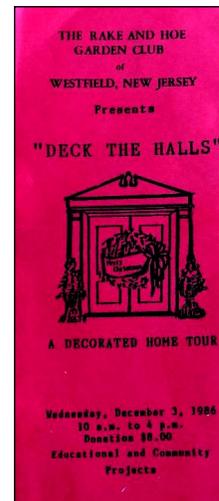
1985. "Up, Up, and Away." This flower show had a colorful story behind it and won a national award. According to the chairperson, "That flower show was one that members were not too crazy to have. So... I told them I'd chair it, write the schedule and only those who wanted to work on it would. Well suffice it to say, we were so having so much fun, the whole club came to help. We had it evaluated, got extremely high marks, so then had to make a book of evidence (BOE). We hadn't taken any pictures, so... we had to recreate all the pictures and had a ball doing that."

CHAIR	Kay Cross
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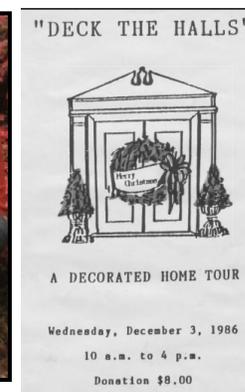


1986. "Deck the Halls". R&H launched its first officially named "Deck the Halls" Holiday House Tour this year. Although house tours had been a part of its flower shows since the beginning in 1957, this marked the first year that house decorations were the focal point, and the DTH name became a tradition. Boutiques were held in four of the houses. In one home, refreshments and the boutique were held in the basement as an enticement for visitors to see the Juniors' Flower Show that was on exhibit in that area.

HOMES (See also Addendum)	"Peaches & Cream" M/M Gary (Pat) Gadek 117 Linden Place, Westfield	"Apples & Gingerbread" M/M Hazen Short Woodland, Westfield	"Sentimentality & Romance" M/M Warren Rorden 848 Embree Crescent, Westfield
	"Dainty & Delectable" (Refreshments & Boutique) M/M Richard (Lois) Griggs 909 Wyandotte Trail, Westfield		"Fresh & Fragrant" M/M William (Sharon) Tittle 9 Hawthorne Drive, Westfield
CHAIRS	Mrs. David M. Mann and Mrs. Gerald J. Monaghan		

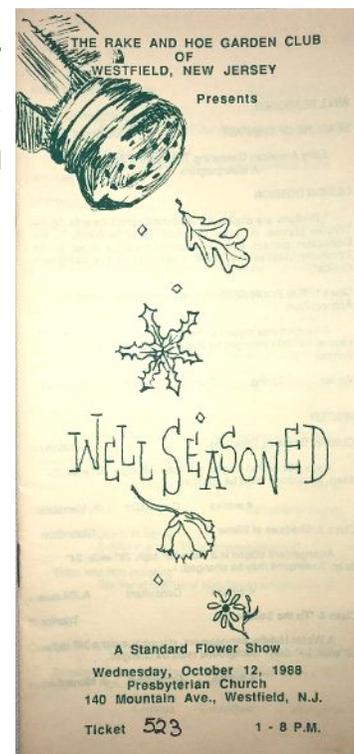
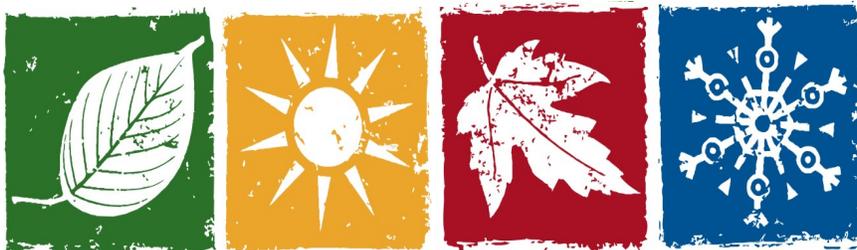


1986. "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" was a Standard Flower Show presented by the Rake & Hoe Junior Garden Club in conjunction with the DTH event. Each design division focused on a different traditional Christmas carol. The Juniors did so outstandingly, writing the schedule, getting the Judges, creating all the designs, bringing in the horticulture, things Junior clubs have never done, that they won NJ Junior club of the year. Held at the Griggs home, it featured 82 entries submitted by 14 girls and 2 boys.



1988. "Well-Seasoned," a Standard Flower Show, was presented on October 12th, at the Presbyterian Church Parish Hall. It was made possible through the efforts of 62 participants. Members were charged with significant responsibilities for this event: Sell 7 tickets; provide 2 dozen cookies; provide one item to be sold at the Boutique or attend one of three workshops; and provide 5 horticulture specimens. The Boutique was a success, generating over \$800 in sales, but ticket sales were projected only to cover expenses.

CHAIRS	Barbara James and Michelle Healy
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WELL SEASONED				
SEASONS OF THE PAST		Educational Exhibit		
Early American Gardening Through the Seasons A slide program				
DESIGN DIVISION				
* Designs are eligible for National Council Awards. In the Tricolor classes all plant material must be fresh. In the Distinction classes all plant material must be dried. In the Creativity classes the plant material is of the designer's choice.				
Class 1. THE FOUR SEASONS Non competitive Award of Appreciation				
Arrangements staged on black pedestals 37" high, top 16" square. Exhibits arranged by National Council Flower Show Judges				
Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	4 entries
WINTER				
Class 2. Season's Greetings		Creativity		
A vibrant design staged in a niche 40" high, 30" wide, 24" deep. Background must be changed.				
4 entries		Consultant	A. Mendoza	
Class 3. Shadows of Winter		Distinction		
Arrangement staged in a niche 36" high, 28" wide, 24" deep. Background may be changed.				
4 entries		Consultant	A. DiLouie	
Class 4. 'Tis the Season		Tricolor		
A Winter Holiday arrangement, staged in a niche 36" high, 28" wide, 24" deep. Background must be changed.				
4 entries		Consultant	J. Monaghan	

MIDWINTER VACATION		Educational Exhibits		
"Our songbirds in Winter" Exhibits in a tree. Floor dimensions 4' x 4'				
"Winter with Rake and Hoe" Display of Rake and Hoe winter projects and activities on an easel.				
SPRING				
Class 5. Spring into Spring		Creativity		
An interpretive freeform design to be staged on a white pedestal 37" high, top 16" square, to be viewed from the front.				
4 entries		Consultant	A. Mendoza	
Class 6. Season to Taste		Tricolor 2		
A luncheon table for two. Functional. To be set on a card table supplied by exhibitor. Cover, if used, to be supplied by exhibitor.				
4 entries		Consultant	J. Monaghan	
Class 7. Signs of Spring		Tricolor		
An enterpretive arrangement to be staged in a niche 36" high, 28" wide, 24" deep. Accessories may be used. Background may be changed.				
4 entries		Consultant	J. Monaghan	
SPRING BREAK		Educational Exhibits		
"Our Songbirds in Spring" Exhibit in a tree. Floor dimensions 4' x 4'				
"Rake and Hoe in Spring" Display of Rake and Hoe Spring activities on an easel.				
SUMMER				
Class 8. Fruits of the Seasons		Tricolor		
An arrangement featuring fruits and/or vegetables staged in a niche 27" high, 22" wide, 20" deep.				
4 entries		Consultant	J. Monaghan	

THE 1990s - WEDDING BELLS

Although there was only one flower show this decade (1997), club members did not let the grass grow under their feet. They also produced three *Deck the Halls* tours, and in 1995, they helped the Juniors present a standard flower show.

1990. “*Deck The Halls, II*” was a holiday house tour and flower show, presented on December 7, 1990, The four Westfield homes included a Georgian Colonial, featuring gilded angels, a Country Cottage, featuring handmade crafts and teddy bears, a Williamsburg Colonial, featuring fresh greens and fruit, and a Colonial Revival-style, where a Christmas wedding was held. A Flower Show was staged at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church by the Rake & Hoe Junior Garden Club. An afterparty took place on December 12th.

CHAIRS	Pat DeDuca & Karen Fowler
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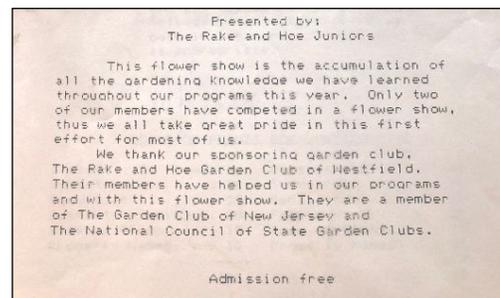
1994. “*Deck The Halls*” was held on December 3, 1994. The house on Tremont became known as “The Wedding House,” with holiday décor (including a “Wedding Gingerbread House”) in anticipation of a Christmas wedding at the house. The Spass home featured a Southwestern influence with luminaries and Hopi sand paintings. The Esposito home displayed a collection of Reed & Barton silver balls, collected over 25 years. At the Luka’s 19thc. Victorian home, the stained glass windows inspired the room themes. The DeMaio home was the site of the Boutique and Refreshments. The holiday event netted \$9,941.64.

HOMES	M/M Robert Spass 10 Floral Court	M/M Neal Vantosky 629 Tremont Avenue	Dr. & Mrs. Norman L. Luka 229 East Dudley Avenue
	Dr. & Mrs. John P. Esposito, Sr. 467 Hillside Avenue	Dr. & Mrs. Joseph DeMaio 705 Boulevard	

CHAIRS	Colleen Schmidt and Karyn Tate
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1995. “*That’s Entertainment*” was a Standard Flower Show presented by the R&H Juniors. It was held at the home of M/M Charles Maffey at 842 Winvah Avenue, Westfield. An interesting class was inviting all Rake and Hoe Juniors, past and present. In that class, we had Juniors that were age 16-50!



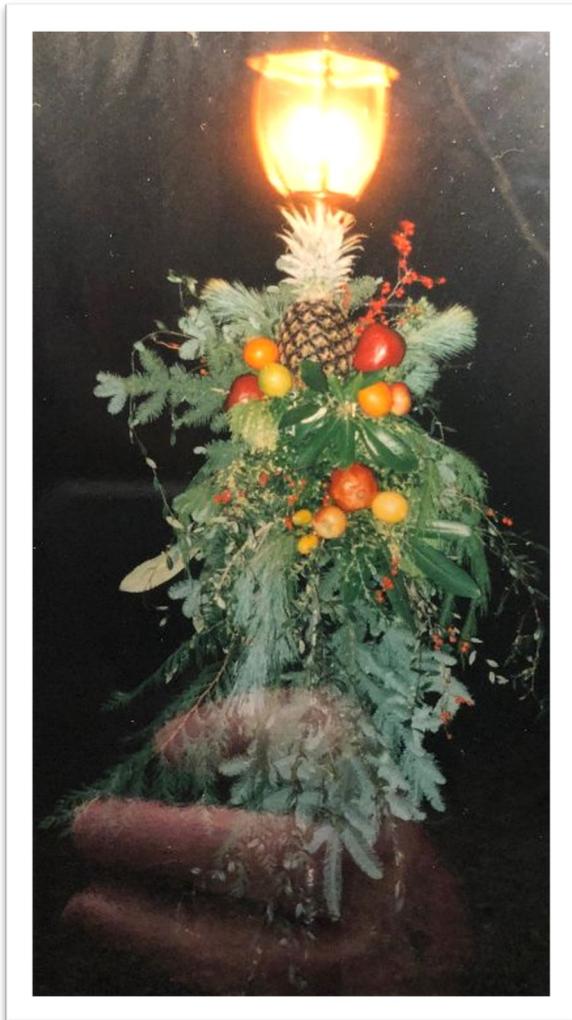
1997. Plans for “*Springtime in Westfield*” (aka “*Branches and Blossoms*”) were announced at the start of 1996, with the show to be held on April 23, 1997. The theme for this spring show was “Flowers and Trees of the Westfield area.” On April 21st it snowed, but the show was a great success. To help members hone their skills, the club held a “Mini Horticulture Show” at the March and meeting as practice sessions. There were 296 Horticulture entries and 77 blue ribbons awarded. R&H was honored with the 1998 GCNJ Helen Hull Silver Bowl for the Finest Horticultural Exhibit. This was the third flower show chaired by Kay Cross.

CHAIR	Kay Cross
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1998. "Deck The Halls House Tour" took place on Saturday, December 5, 1998, with another "wedding house." The houses included a 1930's cottage, two Colonials, and a gambrel-roofed turn-of-the-century. Admission was by \$15 donation. Members were asked to donate one item each to the "Holiday Inspirations Boutique," which was held at the Westfield Community Players Theater on North Avenue. A "Post House Tour Social" was held on December 16th to relax and review the success of the show.

HOMES	M/M Raymond McEntee Home 221 Jefferson Ave. <i>"Twas the Night Before Christmas"</i>	M/M William Longfield Home 4 Kimball Circle <i>"The Wedding House"</i>
	Callahan Home 29 Hawthorne Drive <i>"A Williamsburg Christmas"</i>	Zoidis Home 23 Stoneleigh Park <i>"Cranberry Christmas"</i>
CHAIRS	Pat DelDuca & Karen Fowler	



The Callahan Home: *"A Williamsburg Christmas"*



**THE RAKE AND HOE
GARDEN CLUB OF WESTFIELD**



PRESENTS
"DECK THE HALLS"
A HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR
DECEMBER 5, 1998

MANY THANKS TO OUR WESTFIELD HOMEOWNERS
FOR GRACIOUSLY OPENING THEIR HOMES.

MR. & MRS. RAYMOND MCENTEE
221 JEFFERSON AVENUE

MR. & MRS. WILLIAM LONGFIELD
4 KIMBALL CIRCLE

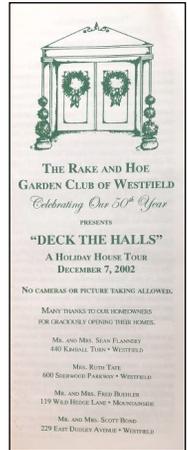
MR. & MRS. MICHAEL CALLAHAN
29 HAWTHORNE DRIVE

MR. & MRS. PAUL ZOIDIS
23 STONELEIGH PARK

THE 2000s - A NEW CENTURY

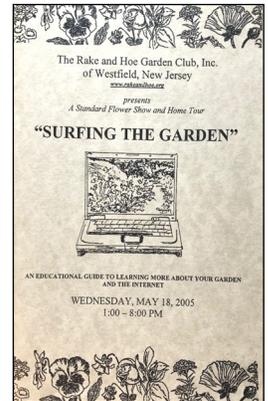
What an active decade this would turn out to be! With a burst of energy, members presented three house tours and two flower shows.

2002. "Deck The Halls Golden Jubilee House Tour" was held on December 7, 2002, with a candlelight tour for R&H families the night before. The Boutique was held at the Westfield Community Players Theater. A detailed photo album reveals each house in its holiday R&H glory. The celebratory event was a great success, grossing over \$15,000.



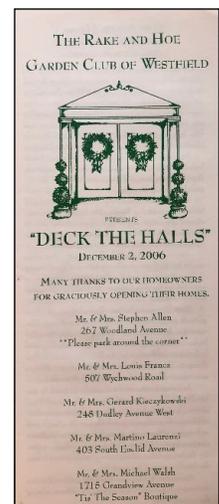
HOMES	"A Cup of Christmas Cheer" M/M Sean Flannery 440 Kimball Turn, Westfield	"Reflections of Christmas" Mrs. Ruth Tate 600 Sherwood Parkway, Westfield
	"By Invitation Only" M/M Fred Buehler 119 Wild Hedge Lane, Mountainside	"The Twelve Days of Christmas" M/M Scott Bond 229 E. Dudley Ave., Westfield
CHAIRS	Linda Parker and Colleen Schmidt	

2005. "Surfing the Garden" was an imaginatively staged Standard Flower Show and Home Tour, the club's first flower show since 1997. Visitors arrived at each participating home on May 18, 2005, to be greeted by a humanoid assemblage made from computer parts. With summer on the horizon, the theme of the Design entries was Vacationing. Each R&H member was required to sell 3 tickets @ \$15 and submit one Design entry. 119 Blue Ribbons were awarded. Eighteen Boy Scouts from Troop #72 participated to earn their Gardening merit badges.



HOMES	M/M Seth Winter 295 New Providence Road, Mountainside	Dr./Mrs. Norman (Kris) Luka 525 Elm St., Westfield
	M/M Charles (Alice) Cowell 1417 Orchard Road, Mountainside	M/M Alan (Nancy) Smith 518 Tremont Ave., Westfield
CHAIR	Diana Kazazis	

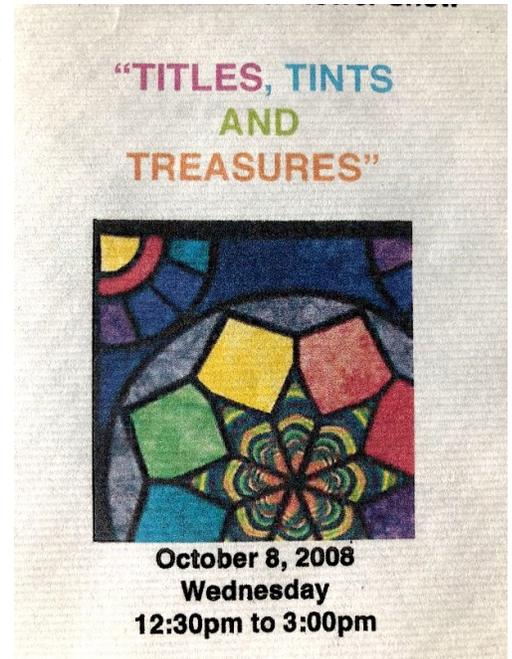
2006. "Deck The Halls" stepped up the club's traditions with imagination and enthusiasm. An ambitious membership of 50 tackled this design project of five houses held on December 2, 2006. A photo album captures the magic of every floral creation. 645 tickets were sold, and the net profit was \$18,075. A Candlelight Tour for R&H families the night before the event was a highlight.



HOMES	"Woodland Elegance" M/M Stephen Allen 267 Woodland Avenue		"Bermuda Holiday" M/M Louis Francz 507 Wychwood Road	
	"Home for the Holidays" M/M Gerard Kieczkowski 248 Dudley Avenue West	"Mediterranean Christmas" M/JM Martino Laurenzi 403 South Euclid Avenue	"Tis' The Season" Boutique M/M Michael Walsh 1715 Grandview Avenue	
CHAIRS	Nancy Smith and Maryann Pietruszki			

2008. “Titles, Tints and Treasures” was a Small Standard Flower Show (originally announced as a “Mini Garden Show.”) Held at the Hetfield House on October 8, 2008, this was an in-house Show, not open to the public.

CHAIR	Gayle Lechner
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**DIVISION I
DESIGN
“COLOR PALETTE”**

Color of class titles must be incorporated into design but do not have to dominate.

All designs eligible for the AWARD OF DESIGN EXCELLENCE

SECTION A “The Color Palette Primer”
 Consultant: Colleen Schmidt, 908-654-4590
 Eligible for the DESIGNER’S CHOICE AWARD in Classes 1, 2, 3

CLASS 1 The Scarlet Feather (4 entries)
 - Maeve Binchy
 A creative design, size restricted by location with underlay to be provided by exhibitor if desired. Designer’s choice of plant material.

a. Top of display cabinet, 35”w x 20”d
 b. Top of oval table in bay window, 39”w x 30”d
 c. Top of piano forte, left side, 31”w x 22”d
 d. Top of piano forte, right side, 31”w x 22”d

CLASS 2 Violets Are Blue (4 entries)
 - James Patterson
 A functional tray table design, 13 ½ “d x 19 ½”w, table provided by committee staged in the living room. Exhibitor to cover table with overlay. Designer’s choice of plant material.

To Our Club Members,

What a wonderful opportunity for us to educate, grow and enjoy – our very own, members only, small standard flower show. Your participation in any aspect of the show, be it a creative design, horticulture specimen or clerking for a judge – will encourage us all, I hope, to enter many future flower shows without any reservations. Please also enjoy the many “treasures” Hetfield House has to offer.

Gayle Lechner
Show Chair



CLASS 3 Whitethorn Woods (4 entries)
 - Maeve Binchy
 A mantel design, dimensions limited by width and depth of selected mantel. No underlayment allowed.

a. Blue mantel in the living room, 72”w x 9”d
 b. Blue mantel, downstairs meeting room, 62”w x 7”d
 c. Rust colored mantel in the kitchen, 86” w x 9 1/2”d
 d. Blue mantel in the upstairs meeting room, 72”w x 9”d

Designer’s choice of plant material.

CLASS 4 The Golden Orange (4 entries)
 - Joseph Wambaugh
Open to Novice designers only
 A traditional design, staged on one quarter of a 52” round table, dark green underlayment provided by the committee. (14” max. diameter) All fresh plant material.

THE 2010s - A NEW DECADE

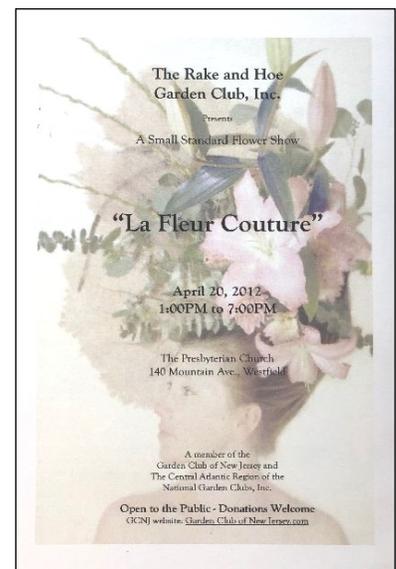
Another active decade, with five events in ten years. In **September of 2016**, the club moved into its new home at the Scotch Hills Country Club, where it was to hold the *2018 Deck The Halls* holiday event.

2010. Deck The Halls “Decorated House Tour” was held on December 4, 2010. Members were required to sell four tickets each, and 537 were sold. Net proceeds were close to \$16,000, of which \$3,000 was brought in by the Boutique.

HOMES	Eileen Perley 8 Cowperthwaite Square <i>“Great Things Come in Small Packages”</i>	Tammy Shields 634 Tremont Avenue <i>“A Bountiful Christmas”</i>
	Laurie Huber 854 Knollwood Terrace <i>“A Contemporary Christmas”</i>	Mary Beth de Brueys 940 E. Kimball Avenue <i>“A Christmas Celebration”</i>
CHAIRS	Kris Luka and Liz Dwyer	

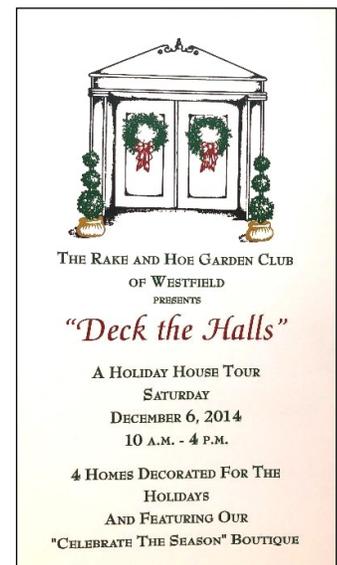
2012. “La Fleur Couture,” held on April 20, 2012, was a Small Standard Flower Show. The theme was “Fashion and Flowers with a French Flavor.” The show was held at the Presbyterian Church of Westfield, with 400 people attending. The show featured three educational exhibits, three invitational exhibits, and it was the first year for the photography category. The Tea and Boutique were both so popular that the Boutique sold out of many items. Due to R&H having received a \$1,000 HEART Grant from Union County, the club was not allowed to sell tickets, and the show ran a deficit of about \$570.

CHAIRS	Diana Kazazis and Nancy Smith. Honorary Chairwoman: Gayle Lechner
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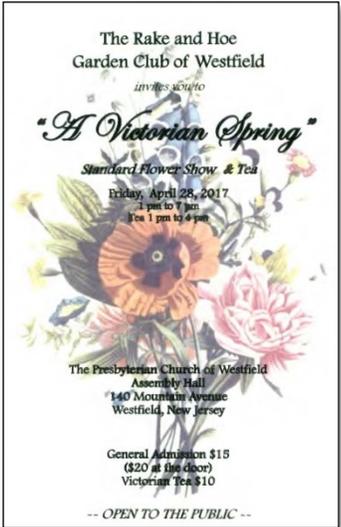
2014. Deck The Halls Holiday House Tour was held on December 6, 2014. Four distinguished homes were anchored by an award-winning environmentally conscious house and a house that won the Great American Home Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The event raised a whopping profit of \$31,204.31, with an approximately 690 tickets sold. Income was from ticket sales, house decorations sales, boutique sales, and ad book revenue. 2014 was the first year R&H emphasized house décor sales and incorporated ads into the Schedule. Tickets were \$35 in advance, \$40 at the event.

HOMES	<i>“A Visit to Old Westfield”</i> Jaruzelski 210 S. Euclid Ave., Westfield	<i>“A Tartan Christmas”</i> Joanne Womeldorf 288 Watchung Fork, Westfield
	<i>“Birch With a Twist of Moss”</i> Torricollo 625 Westfield Ave, Westfield	<i>“Enchanted Holiday”</i> Harrison 1011 Minisink Way, Westfield
CO-CHAIRS	Beth Siano & Pat Wilson	



2017. "A Victorian Spring," a Standard Flower Show, was held at the Presbyterian Church of Westfield on April 28, 2017. It featured a Victorian Tea, a Boutique, Special Educational Exhibits, and Tutorials (i.e lectures). Garden and Flower Photography expanded to 30 entries, the same number of Junior entries. The 20 entries of Artistic Crafts were the show standouts and audience favorites. The flower show exceeded financial expectations, with a net profit of \$5600. This was the third flower show chaired by Diana Kazazis.

CHAIRS	Diana Kazazis and Pat Wilson
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2018. Deck The Halls House Tour was held on December 1, 2018. Planning began nearly 12 months earlier, with selection of the co-chairs and the houses. Early on, we lost one co-chair and one house, but they were quickly replaced and everything moved forward. Exciting new artwork was developed to replace the logo in use since 1986. "Nature's Holiday Elegance Boutique" expanded with new concepts and doubled the boutique income from DTH 2014. Members of the R&H Junior Garden Club added their whimsical touches to the Elm Street house and the boutique. Tickets were \$35 in advance; \$40 at the event. The sale of 500 tickets was disappointing, as it was down from 2014, but there were a number of competing events in the area scheduled the day of our house tour. Total net income for the entire event was \$23,777.87, and the approximate attendance was 515.

HOMES	Theresa Hunziker 531 Bradford Avenue	Sydney Sherry 641 Elm Street	
	Betsy Ferguson 540 Highland Avenue	Christine & Don Ross 1 Stanley Oval	BOUTIQUE at Scotch Hills Country Club
CHAIRS	Sharon Shiraga and Susan Dinan		



**A History of the Club's
Flower Shows and Home Tours
1954 - 2018**

AUTHOR'S NOTES

This is an overview of the club's major fundraising events, not a detailed history. Descriptions of the DTH houses are not included here, but they appear in the event programs. Also, the Rake & Hoe Garden Club has presented other fundraisers from time to time that are not included here. For a few events there is an unfortunate lack of documentation, despite my having consulted the Yearbooks and local newspapers.

Except for some clip-art images, the images herein are from documents in the archives. For better resolution, digitized images might replace the present ones at a future time. Photographs have been used only as space permitted. A photographic history of the fundraisers would be a wonderful project but is beyond the scope of this work.

Special thanks to Kay Cross for her long memory in providing guidance and filling in blanks. Thanks to Kay and Inge Bossert for their expert editing, and additional thanks go to President Pat Wilson, who has painstakingly gone through boxes and boxes of President's files to help recover primary documents.

*Joe Da Rold
Rake & Hoe Garden Club Member
February 9, 2019*



ADDENDUM:

Memories of past events inspired by the reading of the above document:

With so many new members in the club, this provides an important history of what has come before so they and we can get a sense of how we got to where we are now and where we might want to go in the future. For me it was a wonderful trip down "memory lane." I joined the club as a result of the first "Deck the Halls" house tour [1986]. A good friend, Anne Mann was co-chairing the event and asked me if I would consider putting our small 100 year old house that my husband and I had been renovating on the tour. When the committee responsible for selecting the houses came through to see if ours would work the then President, Peggy Kruger, said "you should join the club and work on your own house!" And so I did. Loved seeing the names of many past members and their contributions. I have always told others what a remarkable organization Rake & Hoe is, and this report confirms this.

Sharon Tittle
2/14/19

THE HISTORY OF GARDENS

The earliest gardens were designed to create private areas of tranquility and beauty. The first recorded garden was in Egypt ca. 1500 BCE and contained thirty varieties of peonies. Descriptions of most early gardens mention few flowers other than roses. Some flowers, such as lilies, often appear in medieval coat-of-arms where they are known as the *fleur de lys*. Aside from some singular anomalies such as the Hanging Gardens in Mesopotamia, most gardens in ancient civilizations consisted of hedges, trees, and water features. These are the elements that the Roman conquerors brought to Britain in the 1st century A.D., i.e. symmetrical formal plantings of low box hedges split by graveled walks. The most prominent enhancement to this tradition, i.e. the knot garden, came from the Tudors by way of Italian influence. The spaces between the hedges were often filled with flowers, shrubs, or herbs. The Stuarts were influenced by the French fashion for formal gardens. An offshoot of the French style was provided by the Dutch, who advocated more water, flower bulbs, trees planted in tubs, and topiary. The Victorian era featured massed beds of flowers (raised in greenhouses), exotic colors, and intricate designs. Taste in the late Victorian period varied between formal and the "wild" garden, sometimes combined in the same garden. Now that we have gardens, we can have flower shows...

NOTABLE FLOWER SHOWS

CHELSEA. The famous Royal Horticultural Society's "**Great Spring Show**" debuted in 1862 in Kensington. The famous **Chelsea Flower Show**, which supplanted it, did not exist until 1913. While it is no longer Britain's largest flower show, having been overtaken by Hampton Court, it is still the most prestigious. *Trivia: The Chelsea rules forbid the use of colored sculptures, so garden gnomes (dearly beloved by the British) have been forbidden throughout its history. However, one frequent exhibitor is known to have smuggled a gnome into each of her exhibits.*

PHILADELPHIA. Surprisingly, American flower shows have longer histories. **The Philadelphia Flower Show** was started in 1829 by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. It is the nation's largest and longest-running horticultural event. The show features displays by the world's premier floral and landscape designers. The Philadelphia Flower Show has been honored as the best event in the world by the International Festivals & Events Association, competing with events such as the Kentucky Derby Festival, Tournament of Roses Parade, and other international celebrations. An intriguing prelude to the show is the **Bloom Philly Festival**, wherein local shops prepare one month ahead by presenting floral displays in order to win free tickets to the show.

BOSTON. **Boston Horticultural Society** was established in 1829, launching weekly exhibits of locally grown fruit and showcasing the newest horticultural techniques and breeds. With its first big display in 1836, it featured two beautiful orange trees and "some large, growing pineapples." Flowers soon came to occupy the center of the exhibition stage and that same year the *Phlox drummondii* first appeared, along with what the record calls "a bewildering display of dahlias". Most dazzling, though, was the appearance of the *Oncidium flexuosum*, with 97 fully expanded blossoms. Apparently, this was the first time that an orchid was publicly shown in America. The Society was renamed the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and presented its annual **New England Spring Flower Show** from 1871 through 2008. Financial insolvency caused the cancellation of the show in 2009, but it resumed the next year under its current name as the **Boston Flower & Garden Show**. MHS describes itself as the oldest formally organized horticultural institution in America, despite sharing an inception date with the Philadelphia Flower Show.

CHICAGO. The tradition of the Chicago Flower & Garden Show can be traced back to 1847 when it was created as an exhibition of prized fruits and flowers. The American Flower Show Series, a national horticultural program, began in July 1973 with its first flower show at the Chicago Botanic Garden and has flourished ever since. The Regenstein Center at the Botanic Garden quickly became the home for flower shows, and the Midwest Bonsai Society and Illinois Orchid Society, among many other groups, make it home for their annual shows.