

Nottingham Garden Club
Switlik Club House
March 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by president Jay Derrico with the flag salute. An inspirational message was read by Theresa Turner

Guest speaker, Kelly Rypkema from the *Tulpehaking* Nature Center. This is the educational center in the Abbott Marshlands in Hamilton Township NJ. She noted that the center is open Wed., Thurs., Fri. 10-4 and Sunday 12-4. There are walking trails, guided nature walks and hands on programs for children on Sundays. She is a member of the Native Plant Society of NJ. She stated that as of June 20th a law will go into effect which will prohibit nurseries from selling invading plants. She showed us some examples of these and harm they can do to birds, wildlife and bees.

Business Meeting

Membership: Patrish Shalestik reported that 32 members were in attendance and 1 guest

Sunshine: Darlene Chamberlain passed around cards for Bill Bailey and Eileen Geoghan

Sayen Garden Azelea Festival: Jay Derrico mentioned that the NGC will have a table at the festival on Mothers' Day and will sell plants. She is looking for members' donations of baskets and plants for the sale.

Treasurer's Report: Elaine Garrison reported a balance of \$4,900

The club was made aware that there is Grant money available. Melissa Cacace applied for a grant for the Blue Star Memorial and the club was awarded \$800, which will be used to purchase plants and supplies for the Blue Star Memorial Garden.

Arbor Day - Kristine Geck announced that the plan is to plant trees at Crockett Middle School on April 21.

Jay Derrico stated that a gardening Question and Answer program will be held at the Hamilton Township library on April 8 at 6 PM.

Our club will host a District 7 meeting on May 13 from 11-1 at Switlik Park details to follow

June Garden Tour - the committee is looking for sponsors for the event

Reminder - Membership dues are \$25 and should be mailed to Patrish Shalestik asap if they weren't paid at the meeting.

All members are to purchase 2 Garden Tour tickets. The cost is \$15 each. Esther Whelan can be contacted for the tickets

Nick Truhan and Faye Rotunda ended the meeting with the raffle

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Dahlgren, co-secretary