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[Test] This Week at Giants Neck Beach

Giants Neck Beach Association <website.gnba@16054043.mailchimpapp.com> Sun, Sep 1, 2024 at 10:15 PM
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This Week at Giants Neck Beach

July 15, 2024

[Upcoming Meetings/Events](#)

July Association Meeting 7/20/24 9:00 am

BINGO at the Clubhouse 7/24/24 7:00 pm

Men's Club Dinner 7/26/24 6:00 pm

Special Meeting Regarding Pickleball 7/31/24 6:00 pm

Board of Governors Meeting 8/7/24 6:30 pm



**Giants Neck Beach
Men's Club**

Dinner

Join Us

Friday, July 26

6:00 PM — Clubhouse

\$35.00 Per Person



Enjoy the **Rolling Tomato Pizza Truck!**

Over 50 pizzas will be served with 15 different types of pizza, including hors d'oeuvres, Caesar salad, desserts.

Beer, wine, water, and soft drinks will also be provided!

Feel free to bring other libations and cigars!



Due to the fact Alcohol is served "no one under 21" will be permitted to attend.

Please **RSVP** to mario.harris@gmail.com by July 20th if you are attending.

Any questions, please call Mario Harris (516) 238-8793.

We look forward to seeing you at this second Men's Club dinner.

Rich Corona, Ernie Annibale, Steve Spano, and Mario Harris

[News](#)

PWC Sale-GNBA Merchandise

You can still get your swag if you missed last week's sale! Contact Mary Ann Heenehan (609-658-5471) or heenehacnj@gmail.com.

Items include note cards, cocktail napkins, adult tees, sweatshirts, and warmup jackets!

GNBA Committee Chairs

Please plan to attend the 7/20 Association meeting to provide an update on your committee's work. If you are unavailable, please send someone from your committee to report.

The 2024/2025 budget voting tally is [attached here](#) and available online at giantsneckbrach.org.

The GNBA's Zoning Committee and ZEO Jim Ventres have been hard at work revising the zoning regulations. Please [click here](#) to view the current proposed changes. There will be opportunities to discuss the proposed changes.

[Giants Neck Beach - A Natural Beauty](#)

July 12, 2024

I've been enjoying all the hummingbirds coming for a visit to my garden. I hope you have been able to do the same at your places. I love how they hover in my yard, and I look forward to their visits from the moment they head for warmer climates until they return in the late spring. I used to bribe them closer with sugar water that we would carefully prepare and put into our freshly sanitized hummingbird feeders. Then I heard about diseases spreading at feeders and thought about how plants offer more nutrition than plain white sugar...so first I headed for my gardening books for ideas and then to local plant sales and nurseries! I'd love to share some information on the plants the hummingbirds visit at my house.



The top plant in my garden that attracts these graceful fliers is *Lonicera sempervirens*, also known as Coral Honeysuckle. This native plant is known in my garden as “Major Wheeler.” I grow this plant supported on an arbor (made by Tom) in our yard and can watch my friendly visitors enjoy it from two areas where I sit outdoors. The plant leaves stay green even into the winter, blossoming most of the summer, and are a true gem in my garden. This plant loves a sunny spot and adequate drainage, so it is in an area with rich soil but a raised garden. I’ve heard that if you chew up a leaf or two and apply it to a bee sting, you will find relief, but I have never tried this! If you look carefully at the picture, you will see a hummingbird



ready to take a sip.

A second favorite plant of mine is *Crocsmia* 'Lucifer'. I usually opt for native

plants, but this plant is from South Africa and can overwinter here. *Crocosmia* grows from a bulb in the ground and will multiply (here in Connecticut, it is not considered to be invasive as it is in California). When planting, remember to place it behind plants that have a more sturdy support system, and you will not have to prop it up, as I have some of mine.



A third plant that I love (and this is native) is Cardinal Flower—*Lobelia cardinalis*! This beauty of a plant loves to have wet “feet” and thrives in the sun. It’s a perfect plant for a depression in your yard that collects water. You can also help this plant by leaving pulled weeds on the ground to help keep your garden from losing moisture out of the soil (this also helps decrease the loss of nutrients). It grows from a rhizome (like the knotweed I mentioned another week) and can shoot up a new plant feet from the original plant. It starts blooming at the end of the *Crocosmia*’s blooming season and keeps the birds returning for more. This flower can grow to a height of 4-5 feet.



One more flower I will recommend is the native Bee Balm, *Monarda didyma*. This plant grows 3-5 feet tall (Ask for shorter varieties if that is important). They blossom from July to September, but to keep the flowers coming, make sure to deadhead the flowers that have been spent. Of course, hummingbirds like red flowers, but we even see them at these slightly pinkish flowers. Bee balm (whose leaves can also help soothe bee stings) can be known as bergamot or Oswego Tea (early colonists and indigenous Americans used the leaves for tea) and is a member of the mint family so that it may spread rapidly. If they are kept in the sandy soil near the street, they spread less quickly as they

would much rather have their “feet” wet in a rain garden. This plant must be divided every three years (you can share them with neighbors!).



Which plants are you noticing hummingbirds around your yard or in our neighborhood? Have you seen any near the petunias or lantanas in our large planters? Near the Trumpet Creeper on the bridge on Hilltop? I'd love to hear! Whatever you do, enjoy Giants Neck Beach and the natural beauty surrounding us!

- Lisa Doggart

Have a great week!

visit us on the web

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Our mailing address is:

P.O. Box 226 Niantic, Connecticut 06357-0026

Our private Facebook group is:



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