

OVER 130 YEARS OF MAKING LEXINGTON MORE BEAUTIFUL

Lexington Field & Garden Club



My Dear Fellow Members,

Well we don't have to "Think Spring" anymore, it's definitely here and its arrival is almost worth all that rain! One of my favorite spring things to do is the Plant Sale Potting days. See the list on page 3 and do your best to attend as many as you can. And, since you're going to be in your garden anyway, how about dividing those perennials and bagging them up for our sale. A list of the plants that sell best, and how you should label them, is on page 4.

If you've never been to the Althea Phillips awards ceremony at Minuteman Regional High, you've missed out on a very rewarding experience. One hardworking and excelling student of the Landscaping Design program will be presented with a \$1000. check to help him on his way to further education. The kids are really marvelous and so appreciative. We usually get a tour of what's new, and then have a wonderful lunch at their Culinary Arts program's restaurant-YUM! Call Caroline Nijenberg for details and I hope to see you there. On Wednesday April 28th, Ann Webster will take us on a Horticultural Trip to Tower Hill's Dafodil week, and we'll have a lecture on "Late Summer Gardens".

Please read this issue carefully and mark your calendars because there are so many Club activities going on in April, I wasn't able to fit all the other town and horticultural activities I was asked to publicize in our *What's Going On* Section. Here are a couple:

The Annual combined Plant Societies Spring Sale on April 24th, 10AM to 3 at the Josiah Smith Barn at 358 Boston Post Road in Weston. Call Wanda Macnair 617-867-1356.

General Meeting
April 14th
<i>Honoring</i>
<i>Past Presidents</i>
<i>of the LF&GC</i>
9:30 AM
Refreshments
10:00: Meeting
10:30 Program
"Beginning With Color"
<i>with</i>
Robin Murphy
<i>(See inside)</i>

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There's also the **Cary Library Art Sale and Soiree on Sunday May 2nd** at 6:30-9PM. Please call Ashley Rooney, 781-861-9511 for more info.

I want to remind you again **Dues are due by April 30th**. Please send your check to Mei Shei, so your name does not appear on the list of those who have not paid by the first week of May. I know, I'm a meanie. On a happier and exciting note, our Annual Meeting will feature the skit "Our Growing Years" and this year's lunch will be held in the Farr Room afterwards. See the reservation form you can fill out and send to Priscilla McDewell inside. Seating is limited and you won't want to miss out on the "Mad Hatter Luncheon" fun. The price is only \$15.00.

A Very Happy Spring to You All!

Kate

Kathleen.Gill@verizon.net



“Beginning With Color”

Our April program is an exploration of floral design by Robin Murphy. Before we notice the flowers, the container, or the design it is usually the color that attracts our eyes. Robin will explore the magic of color with flowers and help us expand our personal color palettes. Robin has been an adult education educator for over 25 years, she is an accredited National Garden Club judge, and a frequent exhibitor at flower shows.

Citizens for Lexington Conservation

CLC invites the public to its annual meeting to be held on April 27, 7:30 PM at Brookhaven at Lexington, 1010 Waltham Street.

Scott LaFleur, Director of Horticulture for the N.E. Wildflower Society, will give a talk about the value of selecting native species in the garden, especially to replace some of the overused (Kousa Dogwood) and invasive species (Burning Bush). Nell Walker 781-862-6943

Althea Phillips Award

The Althea Phillips scholarship will be awarded at the Minuteman Regional High School. The Ceremony is at 10:00 AM on Thursday, April 15, 2010. Following the ceremony, we will have lunch in the Fife and Drum Restaurant. We will have sign up sheet and more information at our March meeting. Please contact Caroline Nijenberg at 781-862-4465 or email her at carolinen@rcn.com if you want to sign up for the event.

Memorial Service for member, Dick Farr

April 17th, 11 AM Saturday, at the
First Congregational Church (781-933-1642)
322 Main Street, Woburn,
Second Floor Sanctuary.
Refreshments will follow in the first floor vestry.

Art-A-Blooming



Attention Flower Arrangers!!

Now is the time to sign up for Art-A-Blooming, our 6th collaboration with the Lexington Arts & Crafts Society.

ANYONE who enjoys flower arranging should sign up at our April 14th Garden Club meeting. **NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY.** Our creations are not judged.

On Saturday morning, April 24th we will go to the Arts & Crafts building to choose the painting or craft we wish to interpret. A photograph will be provided so we can dream and plan during the summer.

On Thursday, September 23rd the arrangements and art work will be put on display in the Arts & Crafts Society's gallery. Art-A-Blooming will then be open to the public free of charge September 24th – 26th. It is always a beautiful and festive time! For further information call Harriet Hathaway 781-862-2977.

Tour and Lecture at Tower Hill Botanic Garden

On Wednesday, April 28 at 9 am we will depart Lexington by carpool for Boylston, MA. We will return to Lexington between 1 pm and 3 pm, depending on participants' interests.

We'll begin our visit by touring the orangerie and varied gardens, including the "amazing" daffodil collection just days before the annual daffodil show. At 11 we'll stop for a lecture by Tower Hill's horticulture director on late summer glories for our gardens. Thereafter we'll do more touring and/or have lunch in the Tower Hill restaurant, Twigs Cafe.

Costs: No charge for admission or lecture. Contribution to transportation expenses. Lunch, if desired, \$10-\$15.

Sign up at the April meeting or by contacting Ann Webster (annwebst11@gmail.com or 781-862-1605).

Lexington Field and Garden Club Annual Plant Sale

Wednesday, May 19, 2010 from 8AM to 2PM

We welcome all hands to help out on the day of the sale as well as for potting up plants, transporting plants to the Museum, setting up and breaking down the site. There is a task for everyone in the club - we hope you'll all volunteer to participate in one way or another. There will be sign-up sheets at the next club meeting, or you can call or email Jessie to sign up. Jessie Foster: Foster863@rcn.com

Please help distribute flyers which will be available at the April meeting. Give them to your neighbors, post them in your car window, or post them in stores you visit. We need everyone's help in getting the word out about the Sale.

If you plan to pot your own plants please refer to the directions in this issue. Ready-potted plants must be brought to Jessie's home at 6 Coach Road before Friday, May 14th, so they can be priced and labeled before being taken to the Museum.

PLANTS THAT NEED POTTING: We will be potting up plants on the days listed below. Please bring your plants to Jessie's (6 Coach Road) just before a potting session - we especially welcome your plants before the first session on April 20. When dropping your plants off, please be sure to attach the following information: **name (common and Latin if you know it), color, bloom time, conditions (sun, part-shade, shade)**. The success of the Sale depends on us offering a wide variety of good quality plants to our customers. **PLEASE** look around your garden for plants that need dividing or that you would like to share with others.

HOUSE PLANTS: will be for sale again this year. Please bring your houseplants, especially unusual varieties, to *Harriet Hathaway's glassed-in porch, 66 North Street*. Harriet will transport them to the Museum for the Sale. Please include a card with each plant giving its name and the care you suggest.

GENTLY-USED TOOLS: Do you have unwanted or surplus garden tools? Harriet will also collect these for the Plant Sale. They too may be dropped off at her porch. (No baskets, please.)

If you need help, have ideas or questions; call **Harriet at 781-862-2977**.

PLANT SALE POTTING DAYS ARE COMING

Potting Days are a fun opportunity to meet and get together with other club members. You can learn about dividing and potting plants or you can share your knowledge with those less experienced. We need volunteers to, dig and collect plants from people's gardens, pot plants, groom already potted plants, and water plants.

Come out and join the fun at **Jessie Foster's home, 6 Coach Road**.

Sign up at April's meeting, or contact **Jessie Foster863@rcn.com or 781-863-5206**.

Mark your calendar and sign up for one or more. Be sure to bring potting tools (clippers, knife, small saw, trowel) and gloves.

Tuesday	Apr. 20 th	1:00 – 3:30 PM
Monday	Apr. 26 th	1:00 – 3:30 PM
Thursday	Apr. 29 th	9:30 – 12:00 PM
Saturday	May 1 st	12:00 – 2:30 PM
Tuesday	May 4 th	9:30 – 12:00 PM
Friday	May 7 th	9:30 – 12:00 PM





Directions For Home Potting



Since some newer members may have questions about what to do to get plants ready for the sale, the following is information to help. First, provide as much information as possible about the plants you pot or bring to potting days (the common and Latin names if you know them; the color of blooms; preferred growing conditions - sun, part-shade, shade, moist or dry). We will make labels from this information.

We want to end up with plants that any gardener would like to add to their garden. First and foremost, the plants need to look healthy and full in the pot. The following guidelines should help us present consistent attractive plants that our customers will love. Plants being potted at home need to be potted no later than Friday, May 14th. We cannot be sure that plants potted any later than this will actually survive once people get them home. We want our plants to look their best and to survive in our customer's gardens. Remember, it is a reflection on us if plants are not healthy.

How to pot

- *Use pots that are generous for the plant. No pot smaller than 6"
- *Place one layer of newspaper, old phone book pages or facial tissue at the bottom of the pot
- *Select enough plant material to make a good-sized plant - a division at least 4" in diameter, or a group of at least 6 stems for non-clumping plants
- *Hold plant with roots hanging down into the pot and add dirt around the roots, gradually filling the pot. Top with soil and press down. When finished the soil should be about 1" below the top of the pot.
- *Water and set in shade.

Please drop off ready-potted plants at Jessie Foster's for pricing and labeling by May 16th. If you need assistance and would like someone to pick up any plants you have potted, please contact Jessie or **Diana Bailey 781-862-4649**.

Also, contact Jessie or Diana if you have plants you would like to donate but are unable to dig up and someone will assist you and get the plants to one of the potting sessions.

What to pot

The most desirable plants are unusual and/or easy to grow but not invasive. We will not take any plants that are on the Massachusetts invasive plant list. We would like any named varieties of plants such as hostas, day lilies (not common orange ones), Siberian (white) and bearded iris, and astilbes. In the past, the following plants have also sold very well: peony, European ginger, Japanese painted fern, coreopsis, sedum, double Shasta daisy, Jacob's ladder, pulmonaria, epimedium, centaurea Montana, corydalis, aster, heuchera, foxgloves, boltonia, monkshood, phlox divaricata, dianthus, amsonia, lady's mantle, sweet Cicely, bleeding heart, columbine, goatsbeard, black-eyed Susan, coneflower, campanula (non-wild), sweet woodruff, lobelia, malva, Solomon seal, bee balm, false Solomon seal, balloon flower, Veronica, perennial salvia, lavender, fern leaf yarrow, bugbane, hellebore.

If you are unsure about bringing a particular plant please contact Diana Bailey, the Potting Coordinator, before you bring clumps to potting days and she can help you determine if it is appropriate.

Note: Unpriced plants left on the day of the sale will not be sold. The day of the sale is very hectic and we will not have time to properly identify, label, and price plants then. Instead, please bring your plants to Jessie's in time for pricing and labeling by May 14th. *Above all - have fun!*

MAD HATTER'S TEA & LUNCHEON



Wednesday May 12, 2010

Time: 12:15- 2:00 p.m.

Following the Lexington Field & Garden Club meeting and Program

National Heritage Museum- Farr conference Room

Cost: \$15.00

Menu:

Fresh Fruit Salad

Assorted Finger Sandwiches

Relish Tray

Assorted Homemade Cookies, Brownies and Mini Pastries

Fresh Brewed Hot Tea

“Elegant and Whimsical Head Gear Encouraged”

Reservations are due by May 1, 2010

Mail your check along with this reservation form to:

**Priscilla McDewell
16 Lockwood Rd.
Lexington, MA. 02420**

**For information call:
Phone: 781-862-6584**



Reservation Form:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please make your \$15.00 check payable to:L.F. & G.C.

What's Going On ?

Events and Happening to Mark On Your Calendar

April 14th, "General Meeting Honoring Past Presidents of the LF&GC

April 15th, Thursday 10AM, Althea Phillips Award, Minuteman High. Call Caroline Nijenberg 781-862-4465.

April 16th-18th, Friday-Sunday 10 Am – 5PM Ikebana Show, Tower Hill. See Ikebanaboston.org for details.

April 24th-26th, Sat.-Mon., Art In Bloom at the MFA. LF&GC Arrangers are Denise Grenier & Lynda Gardner

April 24th, Saturday, 10AM-Noon, Lex. Arts & Crafts Center. Choose art for Art-A-Blooming. Call Harriet.

April 24th, Saturday, 9AM-Noon, Town Tree Nursery off East St. Volunteers to plant 50 Saplings. Call Jewel.

April 27th, Tuesday, 7:30PM at Brookhaven, CLC presents Scott LaFleur, "Landscaping with Native Plants".

April 28th, Wed. Hort. Tour and Lecture at Tower Hill's Daffodil Days. Call Ann Webster, 781-862-1605.

April 30th, Friday, 11AM Arbor Day Planting at Hastings Park in Memory of LF&GC deceased members.



April 30th, Club dues are due. See inside for POTTING DAY DATES IN APRIL & MAY.



Lexington Field and Garden Club
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