

OVER 130 YEARS OF MAKING LEXINGTON MORE BEAUTIFUL

Lexington Field & Garden Club



Opportunities to Grow!

My Dear Fellow Members,

I am excited to announce our newest way to keep our members up-to-date with broadcast email. Now, between meetings and Newsletters, we will be able to contact you with important news via our G-mail account.

This summer, we established the Communications Committee with volunteers Gail Harris, Sue Harris, and Joan Stoner, under the leadership of Varda Haimo, who is the Chair. They are all enthusiastic members who joined within the last year. Their Committee has taken over the job of publishing the Newsletter, and creating a G-mail distribution list, so that all of you with email can be notified of any important Club events. Please be sure we have your current email address. If you have a new email address, please alert Mei Shei who maintains our membership records. Also, please enter our G-mail address into your address book so your spam filter doesn't block our messages. It is: lfgc024@gmail.com I want you to know we will use this email broadcast sparingly.

Only the President and the Communications Committee members will have access to this account. I promise you will not be bombarded with redundant or useless information-I hate that too!

I know the success of our club is due to our many talented members. So many of you bring skills developed in other parts of your life to the garden club to help us organize and work more efficiently as a group. A very good example is our Treasurer, Ann Webster. Our Club has benefited greatly from her expertise in finance, and we are most pleased to announce she will succeed me as President in May of next year. So that means we are looking for a new Treasurer! If numbers are your special skill, please let me or Harriet Hathaway, (Chair of our Financial Advisory Council) know of your interest.

I have found great satisfaction in each of the jobs I've done within the club, and you can enjoy these opportunities as well. With over 300 members, it is nearly impossible to call

Annual Evening Meeting
 October 14th,
 6:30 PM
 Refreshments
 7:00: Meeting
 Followed by the
 Program
"Changes in Flora and Fauna from Thoreau's Time to Today"
 With Peter Alden

**Farr Room
 National Heritage
 Museum**

each of you to find out what you'd like to do to help. This coming May, many of our Board members' terms will be expiring. I invite and encourage you to tell me if you would be interested in being a Board member or being part of one our standing committees. We also need a club photographer and someone to help our Webmaster. As you can see, we have many opportunities for you to reinvent yourself or to hone your skills

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in a new and fun environment. Please feel free to contact me by phone or email to chat about your interests. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kate
Kathleen.Gill@verizon.net
781-863-0670



**“Changes in Flora and Fauna from Thoreau’s Time to Today”
With Peter Alden**



Peter Alden will present a talk entitled *"Changes in Flora and Fauna From Thoreau's Time to Today."* Our New England landscape has gone from tundra to boreal forest to temperate woodland since our most recent glacier. This talk will explore how our ecosystems and major species of mammals, birds, trees and wildflowers have changed over the centuries and why. Where did all these invasive plants come from? Are they a threat to entire ecosystems and habitats or last homes of rare plants and animals?

Peter Alden, of Concord MA, helped to organize the first Biodiversity Day at Walden Pond in 1998. He carried out the first ever town-wide inventory of all populations of invasive alien trees, shrubs, vines and herbs in Concord. He is a popular lecturer at schools, colleges, garden clubs and nature groups. His *National Audubon Society Field Guide to New England* documents 1000 species of plants, birds, butterflies and animals.

Before You Put Your Gardens to Bed.....



The cool nights and shorter days are finally here. After such dismal weather over the summer, I am hopeful that we can now enjoy some beautiful fall days. Many of your plants will be looking spectacular right about now. Take a minute to walk around your garden and mark ones that can be donated to the Sale next May.

Fall bloomers probably won't look like much in May, so take a photograph of them now when they are in their glory. Consider putting the photograph in plastic and donating it along with the plant so customers can see what it will turn into. Although we can show customers catalog pictures of plants in bloom, it makes a good impression to be able to show them the plants blooming in members' gardens, under local growing conditions.

Make sure plants you plan to donate are properly named and labeled with their bloom color - it's easier to do this now when they are in bloom. (Of course, the photograph will help with the color issue.) Often we are given plants with no information and while we are pretty good at identifying plants, we sometimes get it wrong - and seldom know the color of the bloom.



Fall is a great time to divide and/or pot up plants for the sale. You don't have to worry about getting out in the cold and wet of April/May and it helps to ready your garden for winter. Consider keeping a 'nursery' area in your garden with labeled plants ready to be given to the Plant Sale in May. Many plants "overwinter" nicely and pots can be put right in the ground to protect them from the elements. Of course if you would like us to "overwinter" your donations, please give me a call and I will be happy to make arrangements with you.

Do you have something a little unusual to donate? Of course, we will welcome your European Ginger, Hosta and Day Lilies, etc., but we would like to widen the assortment of plants and educate our customers to other possibilities. If you are unsure if a plant would be appropriate, give me a call and I will be happy to discuss it with you.

We rely on all of you to make the Plant Sale a success. Once again we had over 1000 plants this past year. Many of you stepped forward and helped out and it was greatly appreciated. But, we are a large club and we need everyone's help. How about every member making the effort to donate at least five plants in 2010? That would give us over 1800 plants - what a spectacular event that will be.....Happy gardening!

Jessie Foster, Plant Sale Chair 781-863-5206

Holiday Open House & Greens Sales Volunteers Needed

Holiday Open House

Mary Gillespie (781-862-9166) needs your help to decorate the National Heritage Museum, the **first weekend in December**. Mary is holding a planning meeting at her home, on Wednesday October 7th at 1:00 PM for everyone who wants to find their inner elf.

Greens Sale

Please postpone your pruning of winter greens until the end of November. The varied greens from our yards are critical to our success. We're now collecting ideas and dry materials for this year's workshops. We'd really appreciate any of the following:

1. Ceramic or metal containers for small to medium arrangements.
2. Baskets with a holiday motif or without handles.

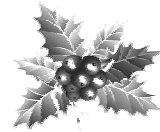
3. Decorations for arrangements and wreaths—ornaments, decorative picks, spools of ribbon, etc.
4. Surplus supplies such as wreath frames, centerpiece bases, new candles, picks, and spray paint.
5. Pine cones (*excluding pitch cones*) and other interesting dry natural materials.

Workshops will be held throughout the week after Thanksgiving and on selected dates in November. Specifics will be announced in the next few weeks. We aim to have a great time again this year!

Please contact Sue Bush or Ann Webster if you have items to donate or suggestions for workshop projects.

sue_bush@yahoo.com 781-861-8418

annwebster@rcn.com 781-862-1605



Horticulture Workshop-Thursday, October 8th Make a Hypertufa Trough

Seija Halva will show us how to make a lovely trough. This workshop is "back by popular demand," and priority will be given to members who did not participate in the 2006/07 workshops.

10 am - noon

Cost: materials fee TBD,

Limited to 10 members

Contact Sandra Natale: 781-861-8066

sandra.natale@rcn.com

Horticulture Tour-Wednesday, October 28th Behind the Scenes at Winston Flowers

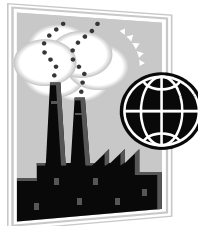
One of Winston's Special Events Designers will lead a private 90-minute tour and Q&A session at the company's corporate headquarters and central design studio. This tour also is "back by popular demand," and priority will be given to members who did not participate in the Jan 2009 tour.

Approximate timeframe: 8:45 am to 12:30 pm

Cost: \$10 + contribution to carpool driver

Limited to 20 members

Contact Sandra Natale 781-861-8066



Global Warming Action Coalition Energy Fair

The Lexington GWAC is holding an **Energy Fair** at the Depot, Sunday, October 4th, 11-4. We will have a

table with information on ways to garden, such as composting, which are energy-friendly. Please call Mary Nokes 781-863-1203 if you are interested in helping.



Attention: The *Landscape Design Study Program* will be held October 15th-17th at Regis College in Weston. The *Environmental Study School* will be held November 7th and 8th in Hull, MA. For more information contact Mary Nokes. *Sekon_mary@yahoo.com*, 781-863-1203.

Volunteers are needed to help weed on Belfry Hill Thursday October 15th at 8:30 AM.
Contact Anne Senning 781-862-1099.

What's Going On ?

Events and Happenings To Mark On Your Calendar

Oct. 4th, Sunday, Lexington Global Warming Action Coalition Energy Fair, 11- 4 at the Lexington Depot. Check out this website for more information: Lexgwac.org

Oct. 8th, Thurs. Hypertufa Trough Workshop, with Seija Halva. Call Sandra Natale: 781-861-8066

Oct. 15th, 16th, 17th, MA Landscape Design Study Program, Regis College, Weston, MA. 781-383-1143

Oct. 14th, Wed. 10 AM - 12 PM, Designing Principles, Floral Arranging Demonstrations and Lectures. The Espousal Center in Waltham, MA

Oct. 14th, Wed. **Annual Evening Meeting (6:30pm)** "Changes in Flora and Fauna from Thoreau's Time to Today" With Peter Alden. Farr Room-National Heritage Museum.

Oct. 20th, Tues. 10 AM - 12PM, Design Workshop, Hands-on workshops for beginner and intermediate Floral Arrangers. The Espousal Center in Waltham, MA. 508-429-4936

Oct. 28th, Wed. Behind the Scenes at Winston Flowers. Horticultural Tour. Call Sandra Natale: 781-861-8066

Nov. 7th - 8th, MA Environmental Studies School, Nantasket Beach Hotel, Hull, MA. 781-367-0626

Lexington Field and Garden Club

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