

OVER 130 YEARS OF MAKING LEXINGTON MORE BEAUTIFUL

Lexington Field & Garden Club



Learning, Fellowship & Service

My Dear Fellow Members,

Welcome back to what I promise is going to be a very exciting year for our club. Lots of changes are in progress. This Newsletter was written and produced by our new Communications Committee. They have also been working on a "broadcast email list" that will allow us to send you important information between Newsletters and meetings. More on that soon.

Excited to start the new year, I have begun to think of priorities for our club. How do we make the club better for members and better serve our community? The answer to this question is the question itself. When members become more involved in club activities they are more likely to enjoy the experience, and this in turn helps to better serve our community. Everybody joined this club hoping to learn more about their passion for gardening, and maybe to make friends with like-minded gar-

deners. We learn from each other whether it's how to divide and pot plants for our annual plant sale or making wreaths and boxwood trees for our Greens Sale. These events, in turn, provide money to buy plantings for our projects and help to support the Museum, which is an important asset to us and our town.

This past summer, I asked the Membership Committee to come up with a plan that will help to promote immediate participation of new club members. Barbara Labitt, Christina Gamota and Mei Shei have enthusiastically responded and given up their summer to hold meetings with Committee Members and others to create ways to get new members into the flow of club activity as soon as possible. I'm asking all of you to step up your involvement as well, not just because the club needs you, but because that's what our club is all about: learning, fellowship and service to the community.

Not all of us can get down on our hands and knees to work (or easily get back up), but there are so many

General Meeting

September 9th,
9:30 AM

Refreshments

10:00: Meeting

10:30 Program

"Habitat Landscaping"
with Ellen Sousa

(See Page 2)

other helpful ways for you to join in. Call Ellen Purinton, our Hospitality Chair, and offer a floral arrangement or refreshments. Join Mary Gillespie to decorate the Museum in December, and participate in the many workshops Ann Webster and Sue Bush are scheduling for our Greens Sale. Call to ask how you can help. It could be as simple as passing out event posters, mailing postcards or making name tags, but it will make a difference for you and the club. However you participate, you will set the example for others in our club and community while helping to beautify our town. I promise you will have fun, and I will leave my second year smiling and thankful for your efforts.

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WHAT'S INSIDE

Getting to Know you	2
Habitat Landscaping	2
Energy Fair	2
Garden Tour a Blooming Success	2
Local nursery discounts	3
Horticultural Events	3

"Greet our New Greeters"

Beginning in September, New Club Members will join existing members to help in greeting you and the public for our General Meetings. This is a great way for you and our New Members to get acquainted. Please be sure to introduce yourself and welcome them.



Kate

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“Getting to Know You”

Remember when you first joined our club? General meetings were a bit daunting what with all those people seeming to know everyone else but you. Our Membership Chairs Christina Gamota, Barbara Labitt and Mei Shei have devised a way for you and our newest members to get acquainted. New Members' green badges will have color-coded flowers to indicate their interests, so you can talk to them about your involvement in related club activities.

- **A terra-cotta flower indicates an interest in Horticulture, so they might be interested in activities like plant grooming at the Museum or potting plants for the Plant Sale.**

“Habitat Landscaping” with Ellen Sousa

Ellen's program this month includes a slide presentation which illustrates how to invite the sights, sounds and scents of nature into your life by landscaping your property as a natural habitat. Photos will demonstrate how a well-designed and thoughtfully planted garden can provide food, shelter and housing for many birds, pollinators, and other "friendly" forms of wildlife, as well as creating a peaceful oasis for your family to connect with nature and escape from the frenzy of our busy lives. Ellen Sousa is a writer, educator, and garden coach living in Spencer, Massachusetts on a small



Global Warming Action Coalition Energy Fair

Our Lexington Global Warming Action Coalition is putting on an **Energy Fair** at the Depot on Sunday, October 4. Our Club will have a table with information on ways to garden, such as composting, which are energy-friendly. This will be a good publicity opportunity for us. If you are interested in planning and/or staffing this, please contact Mary Nokes, Sekon_mary@yahoo.com, 781-863-1203.

- **A green flower means Town Gardening activities such as Emery Park and Cary Library.**
- **An interest in Flower Arranging is shown with a yellow flower, so you can tell them about Art-A-Blooming, or our Greens Sale workshops.**

Barbara has created a chart for reference that lists the color-coded activities these members would like to know more about. Look for the chart where the badges are for Board Members and New Members. Or just be bold and ASK them what their interests are.



farm registered with the NWF as a Certified Wildlife Habitat. She has a certificate in Native Plant Horticulture and Design from the New England Wild Flower Society, a BA in English from Clark University, and is certified as a master Habitat Naturalist from Windstar Wildlife Institute. She writes regularly about habitat gardening for magazines such as *Massachusetts Wildlife*, *Back Home*, *Mother Earth News*, and *Birds and Blooms Extra*. Visit her website and blog at THBFarm.com

Garden Tour a Blooming Success

Congratulations and thanks to our many members who contributed to this success by serving on the Garden Tour committee or as a greeter on tour day. We are indebted to the eight gardeners who shared their works of art with us, including LFGC members Jim Keefe, Barbara Labitt, Christel McCarthy and Carol Stavenhagen. We are especially grateful to Dorothy Lally, for spearheading the garden selection, and to our tireless Tour Co-Chairs, Shirley Ament-Bergey and Meme Salisbury. Exquisite gardens, lovely weather and a great team effort made our 2009 Garden Tour a huge success. We sold 324 tickets and made just under \$5,800 in profit—25% more than two years ago.

Local Nursery Discounts

Below is a list of local nurseries who offer discounts to Lexington Field and Garden Club members and/or to Senior Citizens. A Garden Club member should show his/her name in the Yearbook to receive the discount. Seniors should tell the cashier before the purchase is rung up. Discounts can not be combined.

Mahoney's Rock Ledge, Winchester

10% discount on Tuesdays for Seniors (65+), not including sale items and bulk purchases such as mulch.

McCue's, Woburn

15% discount for Seniors(65+)Mondays.

New England Nurseries, Bedford

10% discount for Seniors (65+) and for Garden Club members with proof of membership not including sale items and bulk purchases such as mulch or stone.

Russell's Garden Center, Wayland

10% discount for Seniors (65+) on Wednesdays, not including sale items, no minimum purchase required. 10% discount with a minimum purchase of \$25 for card-carrying members of MA Horticulture Society, NE Wildflower Society, Tower Hill,



Botanic Gardens, Arnold Arboretum *People, Places & Plants*, and the radio stations WBUR and WCRB.

Seasons Four, Lexington

10% discount for Club members for everything for the garden except fountains. 10% discount on Wednesdays for Seniors (62+) on garden purchases.

Wagon Wheel, Lexington

10% discount for Club members for all plants and materials for gardening such as fertilizer, mulch, and loam. 10% discount on Wednesday mornings for Seniors (65+).

Wilson Farms, Lexington

10% discount on Wednesdays for Seniors(62+) for items in the Garden Shop only.

Horticulture Tour-Thursday, September 24 Essex River Cruise and Visit to the Gardens at Long Hill

A 90-minute narrated cruise of the Essex River tidal estuary. We'll explore scenic salt marshes rich with birds and unique wildlife and learn about the history and lore of the Essex area. After lunch at one of the nearby restaurants, we'll drive 6 miles to Long Hill in Beverly. This 114 acre Trustees of Reservations property has 5 acres of distinct garden "rooms" that include unusual perennials, trees and shrubs.

Approximate timeframe: 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Cruise fee: \$25, \$22 age 65+ Contribution to driver

Rain or shine. Sign-up at September meeting or contact Ann Webster: 781-862-1605 anniewebst@rcn.com

Horticulture Workshop-Thursday, October 8

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

Sign-up at September meeting or contact Sandra Natale: 781-861-8066 sandra.natale@rcn.com

Horticulture Tour-Wednesday, October 28

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 Sign-up at September meeting or contact Sandra Natale 781-861-8066 sandra.natale@rcn.com

What's Going On ?

Events and Happenings To Mark On Your Calendar

Sept. 9th, Wednesday, Club Meeting, 9:30 am, "Habitat Landscaping" with Ellen Sousa.

Sept. 23rd, Wednesday, New Member Orientation, Call Barbara Labitt or Christina Gamota.

Sept. 24th, Thursday, Essex River Cruise & Long Hill Gardens Horticultural Trip. Call Ann Webster.

Sept. 25th, Friday, (3-6pm) and **Sept. 26th**, Saturday, (8am - noon) The Middlesex Conservation District annual Fall Bulb and Perennial Sale at the 4H Fairgrounds, 51 South Chelmsford Rd, Westford, MA. For more information please call 978-692-9395 or visit middlesexconservation.org

Oct. 4th, Sunday, Lexington Global Warming Action Coalition Energy Fair, at the Lexington Depot. Time to be announced. Call Mary Nokes for details.

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