

LGClippings

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LINCOLN GARDEN CLUB, vol. X X I

Winter 2010

The President's Message

The last three months of 2009 were busy and exciting. The culmination of our Roadsides Project gave us reason to be proud of our accomplishments. Mary Helen Lorenz did a fantastic job of writing and compiling the final report (see her article), and Terry Accola proved to be a computer and linguistic whiz in transposing the report to the web site. Linda MacNeil helped with the photography and put together the appendix on roadside plantings. We are deeply grateful to these members and to the others on the Roadsides Committee.

The November panel on roadsides was another success story, and thanks go to Janet Ganson for her organizing skills. We were amazed and pleased to read Neil Feinberg's subsequent column about the meeting and our efforts. For example, he wrote "Monday night's informative meeting about how to preserve Lincoln's roadsides is one sign that there may be the makings of a new energized political force to be reckoned with... What I particularly like is that the report talks about proposed improvements, projects and guidelines in voluntary terms. New mandatory rules, regulations and guidelines either are not planned or not planned as of yet." He concludes by saying "The growth of the Lincoln Garden Club's reach and stature is another positive step in that process [i.e. non-governmental organizations providing services to the town]." It was good unexpected publicity.

The holiday tour and luncheon were wonderful. The members who helped decorate the mantels were very creative. The decorations that other members had put up at the Pierce House contributed to the festiveness. And the food was delicious. We missed those who did not attend but hope that we will see you at the February meeting.

The winter and spring events promise to be both interesting and informative. The plant sale is always a big event. Many hands are needed, so mark the date (May 8) on your calendar.

I, for one, am looking forward to the May trip to Cricket Hill Tree Peony Farm and White Flower Farm, two places I have never been. Annual meeting at Long Hill in Beverly promises to be another highlight.

Beth Ries



Pruning Workshop Cut at Last Moment
Our pruning workshop was to be held on Oct. 17, but weather and conflict with the State of the Town meeting led to a postponement. Unfortunately, the following Saturday Jonathan Bransfield was ill and couldn't conduct the workshop. We will reschedule it sometime in the spring.

May 8 Garden Club Plant Sale

Before you know it, we'll be digging again and not in the snow! As you start planning this spring's planting, don't forget to think about those plants you can pot up and provide for the May 8 plant sale. We'll also need lots of help on Friday, May 7th, as well as on the day of the sale. Clip boards will be available soon for volunteer tasks, but don't hesitate to contact Claire Mount or Kim Buell if you'd enjoy helping in the early planning stages regarding publicity, a children's project, a raffle, and possible other fundraising items. Meanwhile keep an eye out for interesting containers or other garden treasures as pre-potted planters are always popular. This biannual event is the Club's major fundraiser and a Mother's Day weekend activity anticipated and enjoyed by many.

Kim Buell

Membership News

It is with great pleasure that the Lincoln Garden Club welcomed the following new members at our December meeting:

Sara Brown, 24 Tower Road, 781-259-7967
Barbara Cappucci, 8 Huntley Lane, 781-259-0478
Mary Lou Gauvin, 68 Winter Street, 781-259-9092
Kathy Shortsleeve, 4 Granville Road, 781-259-7135

We would like to welcome more members in the future. If you know of someone who might be interested, do bring him or her to a meeting. Call me should you have any questions.

Diana Smith 259 9759

WINTER/SPRING PROGRAMS

The Winter and Spring programs will fascinate us with intriguing detail of plants as Julie Shapiro shares her amazing photos of seeds for Herbaria, like Harvard's, and Francis Clark shows us how to identify spring native flowering plants through photographs and inspection of live plants. On the pragmatic side we will learn about climate change and plant cultivation from Scott LaFleur, and about plant solutions to landscape problems from David Hancox. The final program will be a tour of gorgeous Long Hill in Beverly in with roses and peonies at their peak, followed by our Annual Meeting luncheon. The speakers web sites are included if you want to find a little more about the speakers. Mark your 2010 calendars now so you don't miss any of these programs.

February 1, 9:30am @ Bemis Hall. Julie McIntosh Shapiro will speak on Seeds: Up Close and Amazing. Julie has worked on the horticultural staff at Dana Greenhouse of Arnold Arboretum and was a principal in the Seed Herbarium Image Project Initiative (SHIP) initiative at the Arnold. Julie travels throughout North America on botanizing expeditions, photographing plants and their fruit parts for her research. Her photographs are works of art. They show the seeds clearly, from microscopic to giant, and Julie's enthusiastic stories of how each seed's characteristics help it propagate in its own environment will keep your interest. After this talk you may want a magnifying glass handy as you start seeds this winter and spring. Website: www.gardenphi

March 1, 1pm @ Bemis Hall. David Hancox, David Hancox Landscaping Corp. will speak on Plants which Solve Problems. David started his business 30 years ago at the age of 16 doing landscape maintenance in West Natick. It funded his degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His firm is now primarily Landscape Design and Construction working closely with homeowners throughout eastern Massachusetts. He has wonderful before and after photographs and a comfortable delivery style. Bring your problems for the question and answer period. Website: www.hancoxlandscaping.com

April 5, 7pm @ Bemis Hall. Open to the town. A. Scott LaFleur, Climate Change: the plants, cultivation and techniques to manage it. Scott, the Horticulture and Botanic Garden Director of the New England Wildflower Society - in charge of the Garden in the Woods in Framingham, has daily experience knowing how to make native American plants thrive in eastern Massachusetts. He is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire horticulture program and worked on landscaping in the New Hampshire seacoast and Vermont before the Garden in the Woods. His access to the wonderful plant images at NEWFS insures a well illustrated talk; and those of us who have taken his horticultural courses know he is a wonderful speaker who explains the science of healthy plants in terms that amateur gardeners can understand and apply to their own landscape. His talk will enforce many of the points of our Roadside Study, especially use of native plants.

Website: www.newfs.org

May 3, 9:30am @ Thoreau Institute, Baker Farm Road. Frances Clark, Identifying Native Flowering Plants. Lincoln's Frances Clark is a Botanist and the owner of Carex, which provides environmental surveys. She is a frequent teacher of botany and plant identification at the New England Wild Flower Society, where she also serves as Chair of the Board. Frances will show us slides of the native flowering plants we might see walking in the trails around town, but will also have plants so she can show us the identifiers that distinguish different species. This lecture will be at the beautiful Thoreau Institute abutting the Walden Woods – the perfect place to try your new plant identification skills. Due to limited parking, we encourage carpooling with garden club friends.

June 7, 10am @ Long Hill, Beverly MA Tour, followed by lunch and Annual Meeting. Long Hill gardens received a Massachusetts Horticultural Society Award of Merit recognizing outstanding gardens to visit. In early June the tree peony collection should be in bloom. There are wonderful specimen trees, and a series of gardens on the 114 acre estate created by the Sedgwick family and now maintained the Trustees of Reservations. Tours will begin at 10 followed by lunch and our Annual Meeting. Meet at Pierce House at 9am for carpooling. Website: www.thetrustees.org/places-to-visit/northeast-ma/long-hill.html



Don't miss the tour of Long Hill in Beverly June 7 followed by our annual meeting.

HORTICULTURE TRIPS



In early October, 25 members made their way to Lee, NH for a tour of Jill Nooney's gardens and sculpture. It was a beautiful fall day to have a guided tour followed by a brown bag luncheon amongst Jill's wonderful grounds and art. Because the trip was enjoyed by all, most inquired about going back to Bedrock Gardens some spring day

If you know of a garden such as Jill's you think the the Garden Club would enjoy visiting, please share the name with either Linda or Wini.

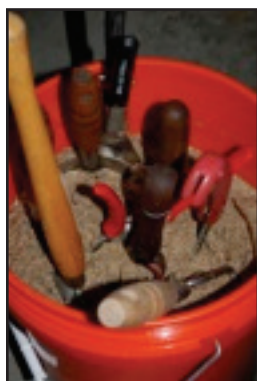


With spring on the horizon, open up your calendar to **May 12** and write in 'trip to WFF'. The Lincoln Garden Club will head to **White Flower Farm & Cricket Hill Garden**. Located in Litchfield, Connecticut, White Flower Farm is an incredible gardening center with vast display gardens and a large store for purchasing a variety of garden plants and accessories. During your self-guided walking tour, you'll see gardens full of blooming perennials and bulbs, Tree Peonies, Herbaceous Peonies, Siberian Iris, Wisteria vines, trees, and shrubs to mention just a few. The Farm is also staffed with knowledgeable gardeners willing and eager to discuss your gardening needs. Visit www.whiteflowerfarm.com for more information.

Cricket Hill Garden, just a 30 minute ride from Litchfield, is located in Thomaston. A plant nursery specializing solely in Chinese tree and herbaceous peonies offers visitors a wide range of peonies for purchase along with With 100's of different peonies blooming in the spring, their terraced woodland garden located on 7 acres is not to be missed! Have questions about your peonies, ask the experts on May 12. Bring a lunch and wear comfortable walking shoes. Plan on carpooling. Details later. www.treepeony.com



HORTICULTURE WORKSHOPS



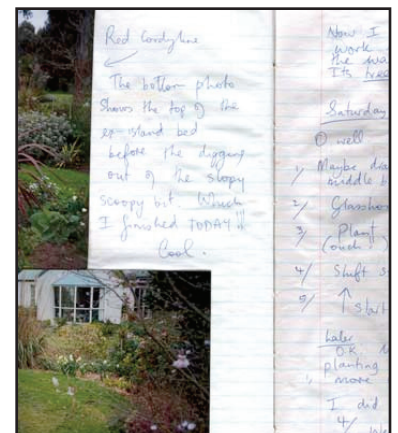
A two-hour workshop on Raised Bed Gardening, Tool Sharpening, and Soil Testing took place in the Tarbell Room on November 10. Fifteen garden club members watched demonstrations on testing soil and the sharpening and care of tools. Information about raised beds from design, materials and construction to utilizing space by proper planting of seeds was shared by all. If anyone builds and plants a bed this spring, would you share your experience with us in the fall? Hope so..

Creating Garden Journals

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 16 Tarbell Room - Lincoln Library - 10 am

Garden journals come in all shapes and sizes. Layout possibilities are endless. Information they hold varies from gardener to gardener. Being that all journals are so personal, how does one start creating one from scratch? Please come on February 16th to hear several members talk about their journal keeping. See various examples and then make your own with donated supplies and an assortment of templates. If you wish, bring your own crafty supplies to use in creating your ultimate garden journal.

Please bring any spring seed or plant catalogues to share ideas and planning. Questions? See Linda MacNeil or Phoebe McCarthy



LGC Library Flowers

Thank you so much for providing such creative and interesting arrangements for the Library each Monday this past year. The flowers are welcomed by the staff and patrons and create a lot of appreciation for the efforts of the Garden Club.

Look for the clipboard at the February meeting to claim your future date.

I will call or email on the Friday before your date as a reminder. If you cannot bring an arrangement on your assigned day, please find a substitute or let me know so I can find something in the greenhouse for that date.

Thanks,
Laura Eschenroeder
LaurEsch@aol.com
781 259-1464

New LGC Website

Approval to develop a "new and improved" Lincoln Garden Club website was passed at the November board meeting. The new site will be easier and quicker to maintain with timely information, updates and notices of cancellations and/or changes, and will have a "Members Only" section with password access for club-only information. The new site will continue to be accessed through www.lincolngardenclub.org and is planned to be completed this spring, so stay tuned to that url.

Terry Accola

Mission for Cheer

A dedicated group met on December 11, 2009. Together they made and delivered 51 arrangements which were, as always, well received by the community. Thank you to all who participated. We will meet again on March 31st at 10:00 AM at the Hartwell Pod.

Therese Flynn

Hypertufa Workshop

About ten members and guests gathered at Patty Hilpert's house on October 8th to make Hypertufas for both personal use and for containers to be used for sale at our plant sale next May. Those present allowed their inner child to emerge and enjoyed "making mud pies". Most of the containers came out all right. Patty did a super job setting up downstairs in her house. Because of the bad weather we were unable to work outside. Patty provided us with tables, containers and most of all her artistic guidance. A good time was had by all. We hope there will be some containers available for the spring plant sale.

Wini Blacklow

Clippings

The Lincoln Garden Club
P O Box 385
Lincoln, MA 01773

Next Meeting
Bemis Hall
Feb. 1, 2010
9:30 AM