



The Community Garden Club of Cohasset Massachusetts

March 2009

www.communitygardenclubofcohasset.org

Diane Benson, Newsletter Editor

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Message from the President

In between snowstorms this winter we have had some of the most beautiful days with clear spectacular blue skies. It seems Mother Nature has been reluctant this year to remove her blanket of snow. Many of us are getting anxious to see the sprouts coming out of the ground.

With Spring come thoughts of our Flower Show and Annual Plant Sale. Included in this edition of the newsletter is the schedule for the Flower Show that will be taking place May 14-15 at Glastonbury Abbey. Now is the time to start planning your Horticultural and Design exhibits. As you pick the Design Class you wish to enter, please inform Lee Drew as there are only 4 entries in each class.

This Spring will be an especially active time the Club with the celebration of our 50th . As our Snowbirds return and we come out of hibernation, we hope that all of you will take an active role in the upcoming events – The President’s Tea, the Commemorative Celebration at the Historical Society, the Flower Show and the Plant Sale. If we haven’t specifically called you to do anything yet – don’t be shy. Let us know what you would like to do, e.g. baking, hostessing, making ribbon rose pins, helping to make arrangements for the President’s Tea or celebration at the Historical Society, preparing plants for the Plant Sale, working behind the scenes at the Flower Show. Remember this is Your Club and our success depends on the input of all our members. Lee

Lee Jenkins
2009 Club President



Mission Statement

The object shall be to promote interest in gardens, their design and horticultural perfection; to promote interest in conservation of our natural resources; and to conduct formal programs for the advancement of these and related items.

Executive Board 2009

President	Leonora Jenkins
1st Vice President	Willoughby Hood
2nd Vice President	Mary Hickey
Recording Secretary	Dolores Roy
Corresponding Secy	Jane Corriveau
Treasurer	Maureen Adams
Directors:	Mary Eisenhaure
	Marcia Diekmann
	Fran O'Toole
	Annette Sechen

1st Outdoor Living Extravaganza

April 25 — Foxboro, MA
@ Christina' Function Facility
2 Washington St.—Route 1

Learn from experts about creative new ways to use color, the easiest way to grow plant varieties by P. Allen Smith, *The Today Show's* gardening expert. Also, Ron Walder "How to Design and Maintain beautiful Containers"; Jane McKeon, from Nature's Garden; John Gaydos , Director of Product Development from Proven Winners, "Making the Cut". Receive a goody bag, Continental breakfast, lunch, beverages, snacks and chances to win prizes and a plant. To register call 877-865-5818 or go to www.provenwinners.com

In Memoriam

The following books have been given to the Paul Pratt Memorial Library:
Making the Most of Shade is in memory of **Boo Leach** and *The Well Tended Perennial Garden* is in memory of **Eleanor Thistlethwaite**.

Community Garden Club

www.communitygardenclubofcohasset.org

Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

www.gcfm.org

March

- 3 **Executive Board** @ Lightkeeper Cottage 9:30 am
- 9 **Junior Gardeners** "From Little Seeds..." Deer Hill School Cafeteria 2:30-3:30 pm
- 10 **Horticulture** "Making More Plants" seed starting Workshop for spring flowers. @ Lightkeepers 9:30 a
- 11 **Garden Therapy** "Shamrocks Abound" @ Golden Living Center 2-3 pm
- 14-22 **New England Spring Flower Show**, Bayside Expo
- 17 **Design Workshop** "Spring Flower Show Prep" @ Lightkeepers Cottage 9:30-11:30
- 24 **Monthly Meeting** "Invaders @ the Gate" with Carol Stocker from the Boston Globe. Climate change, vanishing predators, pollution and new invasive. 2nd Cong. Church 9am coffee; 9:30 program

April

- 7 **Executive Board** @ home of Mary Eisenhaure, 9:30a followed by New Members Tea.
- 8 **Garden Therapy** "Tulip Time" @ Golden Living Center 2-3 pm
- 13 **Junior Gardeners** "Designing for Show" @ Deer Hill School 2:30-3:30 pm
- 14 **Horticulture** "Basic Landscape Design" Barbara Dillon & Annette Sechen share info on principles of designing your garden. @ Lightkeepers 9:30-11:30a
- 21 **Design Workshop** "Pre-Flower Show Design Clinic" with Vivien Bobo, Nancy Gilmore & Annette Sechen @ Lightkeepers 9:30-11:30 am

May

- 5 **Executive Board Meeting** @ Lightkeepers 9:30 am
- 11 **Junior Gardeners** "Flower Show Finishing Touch" @ Deer Hill School 2:30-3:30
- 12 **Horticulture** "Water Gardens" @ Kennedy's, Rte 3A Scituate 9:30-11:30 am
- 13 **Garden Therapy** "Spring Blossoms" @ Golden Living Center 2-3 pm
- 14-15 **Standard Flower Show** @ Glastonbury Abbey

March

- 4 Simpson Park GC "Bees and Beyond" 7pm @ St. Andrews Church Hall, Maple St. Framingham \$5, Contact Sue @ 508-877-9692
- 5 Taunton GC "Table Setting Demonstration @ First Parish Church 7pm \$3, Call Valerie @ 508-824-1976
- 10 Crystal GC Reading "Art in Bloom" @ Senior Center, 49 Pleasant St. Reading. Contact Joyce @ 781-942-0895
- 12-15 Celebrate the Federation's 80th Birthday at "Blooms!" @ One International Place, Boston; Free to public www.masshort.org for details
- 25 Awards Workshop, Espousal Center 10 am; Civic Development Workshop, 10 am

April

- 2-4 Garden Study School, Tower Hill
- 6 Arts & Crafts Workshop, Espousal Center 10 am
- 7 Design Workshop II, Espousal Center 10 am
- 13 Horticultural Morning, Espousal Center 10 am
- 22 Designing Principles, Espousal Center 10 am
- 24 ARBOR DAY

May

- 5 Design Workshop III, Espousal Center 10 am

13-18 NATIONAL CONVENTION, Houston TX

June

- 3-4 **Annual Meeting** @ Regency Hotel, Westford, MA

Please refer to the Federation website for more details

Happy St. Patrick's Day



Horticulture Workshop

The workshop for Tuesday, March 10th will be "Making More Plants". We will be starting seeds and talking about taking cuttings of soft wood spring plants. Please bring seed pots, peat pots, or some container for getting seeds started as well as a tool for getting the dirt into the pots. The dirt to fill the pots will be provided. Please bring a packet of seeds to share and we'll all have a variety of plants to start. The program will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 at the Lightkeepers Cottage.

Judy Dickstein 781-383-7058; Marie Sullivan 781-545-0655

Flower Show — May 14-15, 2009

We will need an additional 4 card tables for the Special exhibits at the flower show in May. Anyone who can loan a card table, please call Judy Dickstein - 781-383-7058.

Also needed will be help in transporting the staging materials to Glastonbury Abbey. **Call Judy** if you are able to help bring such things as pedestals, table tops and bases from the barn and back again.

CONSERVATION: by Barbara Canney

Garden Club to Help Community Through Recycling!

Where do you think those printer cartridges, laptops, video games, cell phones etc. go after we take them to the "dump"? Yes, usually into the plastics bin, The Boutique, or the garbage. I am in the process of putting together a recycling program for inkjet cartridges, laptop computers, cell phones, ipods, video games, and digital cameras. The collection boxes will be set up at the Cohasset Recycling Center.

Thanks to Scituate Garden Club's MaryEllen Ross who created this program in Scituate, I was able to put this together much more quickly than I thought. We will be paid a minimal fee for the items we send to a private recycle company in Colorado. They will reuse what they can and recycle the parts that cannot be reused. They are essentially giving these items a second chance.

Payment can be anywhere from .10 cents for a print cartridge to \$3.00 for a workable 3 plus megapixel digital camera to \$25.00 for a blackberry. Definitely better than "tossing" it! We hope to put the funds toward our community in the interest of Conservation. I will put an article in the Mariner when I have a collection box and work with the DPW to place the box in a convenient location. We'll see how it goes. Let's think positive. Once we're underway, Conservation Committee may need some help with this project.

FLOWER DESIGN WORKSHOP

March 17 9:30 - 11:30 at Lightkeepers Cottage

In preparation for our spring flower show Annette Sichuan will demonstrate a Hanging Design. This is one of six designs we will be seeing in our flower show "A Golden Retrospective", celebrating our past fifty years. Come and learn a new design with Annette. For more information call Carol Graham 383-3442, Nancy Wholley 925-4944 or Lee Drew



The General Meetings are open to the public. Please invite friends who have expressed an interest in joining.

To receive a membership application, visit the website, email mflaherty311@comcast.net or call Maureen Flaherty @ 781-383-9234

Partial Program for the May Standard Flower Show @ Glastonbury Abbey

Shining Season after Season: Division III: Horticulture

Section A - Wealth from the Earth Bulbs, Corms and Tubers (one stem unless otherwise noted)

Class 1 - Tulipa (two leaves on stem)

Class 2 - Narcissus

Class 3 - Hyacinth

Class 4-Iris

Class 5 - Minor Bulbs (3 stems)

Class 6 - Exhibitor's Choice

Section B - Simply Spring Flowering Branch (not to exceed 30")

Class 1 - Cytisus (Broom)

Class 2- Kerria

Class 3- Cornus (Dogwood) Class 4- Pieris

Class 5 - Syringa (Lilac)

Class 6- Viburnum

Class 7- Rhododendron including Azalea Class 8 - Malus

Class 9- Exhibitor's Choice

Section C – Enduring Gifts Perennials (1 stem)

Class 1 - Dicentra (Bleeding Heart)

Class 2- Polygonatum (Solomons's Seal)

Class 3- Pulmonary (Lungwort)

Class 4- Polemonium (Jacob's Ladder)

Class 5- Iberis (Candytuft)

Class 6- Exhibitor's Choice

Section D – Pots of Gold Container Grown Plants (Container width 10" or less)

Class I - Grown for foliage

Class I - Grown for bloom

Class 3 - Cacti and Succulents

50 Years of Transformation -- Division IV: DESIGN

Class 1 – 1959 - 1969 “We Shall Overcome” 4 entries

A Creative Mass Design staged on a 30” high table backed by a 36” white backdrop. Table is covered with a cream cloth. Space allotted is 30” w by 30” d

Class 2- 1969 – 1979 “A Bicentennial Celebration” 4 entries

A Creative Line Design staged on a 36” high round cream pedestal with a 16” square top.

Class 3 – 1979 – 1989 “Yuppies and Their Glitz” 4 entries

A Functional Table Design for 2 or more persons on a 36” round table, 31” high draped with a cream tablecloth. May use an overlay.

Class 4 – 1989 – 1999 “The High Tech Superhighway” 4 entries

A Hanging Design staged in a frame 30” wide by 3 1/2” Deep on a table top draped with a cream cloth. Space allotted is 30” deep by 36” wide.

Class 5-1999 – 2009 “America Recycles” 4 entries

A Stretch Design staged on a 30” high table draped with a cream cloth. A 36” high white display board is used in the back. Space allotted is 30” d by 36” W

Class 6- 2009 “The Greening of America” 4 entries

A Mono-Botanic Design staged on a 14” round pedestal. Two pedestals are 43 1/2” high and two are 39” high.



Bird House Workshop led by Sally Avery





Golden Seal (*Hydrastis canadensis*) a plant indigenous to Canada and Eastern United States, was first introduced to the settlers of this country by the Native Americans. The Indians used it as a dye and a cure for just about anything that ailed them. It was used to treat everything from skin disorders, and digestive dyspepsia, to diarrhea, and eye irritations. It was so popular in the 1800's, it was thought to be a magical cure for many conditions including bladder infections, wound infections, sinus congestion, colds and flu. It was so popular that by the early 1900's it was harvested almost to extinction. More than 200,000 pound of the root could be harvested in a single season. The U.S. Department of Agriculture encouraged its cultivation by publishing information on how to grow Golden Seal. Being scarce, and not an easy plant to grow, it was a costly herb to buy. Recent information indicates that taken internally, Golden Seal has a cumulative effect and can be toxic if taken in large doses or over a long period of time. About the only treatment that really shows any promise is its use as an eye wash. It does make a good permanent dye when combined with a mordant, yielding colors ranging from pale yellow to orange and combined with indigo produces a lovely green. It has also been used in watercolor and oil paints. In the wild, Golden Seal is found in moist, rich woodlands and damp meadows. It is a small erect perennial with a round hairy stem growing out of a rhizome covered with a yellow-brown bark. Inside, the rhizome is bright yellow. Grown from seed, which is somewhat unreliable, it takes about 5 years to mature to the point of harvest. A better way to propagate Golden Seal is to take the 'buds' from the rhizomes and start a new plant from them. Golden Seal is a bit fussy about its location, needing filtered shade to thrive. Lath strips over the bed as it is getting started provide the required environment. A member of the buttercup family, Golden Seal does not make a statement in the garden. It is a good addition to a wildflower or native plant garden, but unless you want a real challenge, it might not be one to covet for your herb bed. **Submitted by Judy Dickstein**

News From Nagoya submitted by Takako Kohri

Our December general meeting was a Holiday Luncheon in an authentic Japanese tea house "Kamome" built with the traditional "Sukiya-zukuri" style of residential architecture. The word "sukiya" refers to the building in which the tea ceremony is performed, where the smaller and simpler is considered best design. During the mid to late Edo period (1750-1867) this style became popular for residences of townspeople. This is the style that most represents the traditional Japanese interior. It is also this style that has contributed to the compressed living space of Japanese life. The classical example of "sukiya zukuri" is the Katsura Imperial Villa (Detached Palace) in Kyoto built in the mid to late 1600's.



To enjoy such unique traditional atmosphere we chose this quaint tea house for our gathering of this year-end. The meeting started with a hearty thanks from Takako Kohri expressing her appreciation to executive officers who promoted our programs, to committee chairpersons who were deeply involved in each event and to all the members who supported them. Retrospectively she reviewed our program for the year of 2008 which began with a millennium commemoration of "The Tale of Genji."

Then she made a brief explanation how the Garden Club started in Athens, GA in 1891 by eleven ladies of ambitious enthusiasm who dedicated to rebuild the city with flowers and greens. She further referred to a short history of our Garden Club which started in February, 2002. Thereafter copies of the president's message of Lee Jenkins in the 2008-2009 yearbook of The Community Garden Club of Cohasset was distributed to all the members. Mieko Murase announced the program for 2009 and briefed several events. A toast was proposed by Kyoko Miyaguchi wishing everybody's good health, peace on the earth and quick recovery from very fiercely damaged world economy. Appreciating tidy and serene Japanese garden through the authentic dining room we enjoyed traditional Japanese haute cuisine and our year-end party.



The nestling location of the tea house is right in the center of the area stretching from Nagoya Castle to Tokugawaen which has been dubbed the Cultural Path of Nagoya in recognition of its nature as a treasure trove of historical assets. As befits such a moniker, a large range of tales of Nagoya's culture and history remain alive and lively in the Cultural Path area to be told and enjoyed, and one aim of the Cultural Path movement is to bring more people closer to this wonderful asset, as well as to preserve it and use it for good. These are a number of facets of the Cultural Path to enjoy. One of these is the quaintness and wonderful designs of the various buildings: the Cultural Path is lined with many striking structures that have survived from the Showa (1926-1988), Taisho (1912-1925), Meiji (1868-1911) and even Edo (1603-1867) Periods, not to mention fascinating cross-over examples of buildings incorporating changing architectural techniques over the eras. A leisurely stroll after the gathering through such magnificent buildings with that added extra flavor gave us really enjoyable time. In Edo Period, this district to the east from the castle was a samurai residential area, and it is here that the roots of the Cultural Path lie.

JUNIOR GARDENERS — by Dolores Roy and Lorraine Legg

In February the junior gardeners worked with bulbs left from the bulb sale. We planted tulip bulbs in big pots supplied by Liz Richardson and planted hyacinth bulbs in jelly jars using toothpicks to hold them above the water level. Fingers are crossed with everyone hoping we get results! In addition to planting bulbs, the children made small posies as Valentine surprises for their mothers.

Thank you to Claire Tinory, Maureen Flaherty and Liz Richardson. Special thanks to Liz's husband, Mark, who took pictures and coordinated the tulip bulb planting.

The March meeting will be seed planting time. We expect to use some of the items we recycled at the January meeting as planters. Jackie Fitts is planning the program and Barbara Canney will be the program leader. Please sign up to help. Our junior gardeners are interested and interesting, and it's fun to work with them.

8th ANNUAL CIVIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The Civic Development Committee of the GCFMA

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 9 AM until 12:30 PM

The Espousal Center, 554 Lexington Street, Waltham MA

Color Jazz for Civic Spaces

Kate Cardamone

Master of Urban Studies, Boston University
Former Director, Urban Environmental Practices Program,
Roxbury Community College
Instructor, Landscape Institute, Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University
Landscape Design Consultant and Lecturer:
Parks, Historical and Environmental Restorations, and Residences
Principal, Verde Plantscape Design

A group design exercise will follow the talk;

Please bring colored pencils or markers!

Networking opportunities, refreshments,

and a chance to learn from each other! SPACE IS LIMITED, so register ASAP! Please fill out the form below and send it with a check for \$10 payable to GCFMA Inc. to:

Sally Muspratt, Chairman, Civic Development, GCFMA
10 Linnet Street
West Roxbury, MA 02132

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State and Zip: _____

Garden Club _____
telephone _____
e-mail _____

GOLDEN LIVING CENTER: VALENTINE'S DAY "Hearts and Flowers" PROGRAM



The Community Garden Club of Cohasset Massachusetts

D. N. Benson
172 Forest Avenue
Cohasset, MA 02025

MARCH 2009

To:



Know Your Garden Birds by Sally Avery

The Eastern Bluebird — In my experience, the mention of the bluebird brings a collective sigh of joy from any audience and evokes the phrase “bluebird of happiness!” The Eastern Bluebird a member of the *Sialia* family, is the species found east of the Mississippi while then Mountain Bluebird and the



Western Bluebird reside in our western states. All bluebirds went into serious decline around the middle of the 20th century because of the use of DDT and extreme competition for nesting sites. Being cavity nesters, bluebirds were muscled out by the introduction of the aggressive European Starling and House Sparrow competing for the ever less available dead and dying trees needed for nest sites. Cavities are a limited resource even in unmanaged areas, and as our land has been developed into well-manicured residential areas, rotting trees are considered a nuisance to be removed. Fortunately, enterprising groups in the ‘70’s realized the plight of these birds and erected Bluebird Trails , i.e. nesting boxes, across the country in suitable open-country habitat. Bluebird numbers have grown as a result and

we can now occasionally see birds scouting our neighborhoods. They seek open space bordering on wood lots to build nests where food and cover are adequate. They lay 3-7 pale blue eggs in a cup of grass placed in the cavity. The female incubates the eggs for about two weeks, and the young fledge in two to three weeks. Insects and spiders comprise the bulk of their summer diet, and it is common to see bluebirds repeatedly dive into tall grasses to forage for insects and then return to their perches on low branches of trees. As colder weather arrives, bluebirds add fruit to the menu and can often be seen foraging in flocks. World’s End and the Turkey Hill/Weir River Farm complex are excellent places to see these 6-7 inch birds in the fall and in mild winters. The orange breast and white belly is common to both sexes, but the female has a much duller plumage than the spectacular sky-blue male. The next time you are walking in an open area, keep your eye on activity in low branches of surrounding trees and you might be rewarded with the sight of a few Eastern Bluebirds glowing in the sun as they soar low over the fields

