



The Community Garden Club of Cohasset Massachusetts

October 2008

www.communitygardenclubofcohasset.org

Diane Benson, Newsletter Editor
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Message from the President

I can always tell when the lazy days of summer are coming to an end by the beginning of "The Grape Wars". The grape vines along the back patio are chock full of activity from the 5:00 a.m. raccoon visits, through the day watching the various birds fly in and then the foxes looking for the fallen fruit in the evening. In between, I'm gathering from the lower branches.

At this time we also have the rewards of the hard work Vi Farrell and Debbie Jenks, our Yearbook committee. Our beautiful newest edition is now available. Be sure to look at the yearbook calendar to plan your club activities for the year. Our board members have been diligent in providing many ways in which you can actively participate.

Please notice that there are many opportunities offered by the Garden Club Federation to pursue your interests in design, horticulture, landscapes, historic preservation and environmental issues.

With anticipation, we all have been thinking of designs and have contacted Fran O'Toole about our entries for the *Books in Bloom* exhibit at the Paul Pratt Library, October 15-17. This is such a wonderful venue to let loose our creative spirits.

Lee Jenkins
2008 Club President



Lee Jenkins

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 2008

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

October Meeting

featuring garden historian
Allyson Hayward

"Norah Lindsay: The Life and Art of a Garden Designer"

Slide lecture includes archival and current images of gardens designed by Lindsay in England and Europe. The book will be available for purchase.

Hospitality: A. Sexton, M. Ward, B. Lombardy, R. Lualdi, E. Marshall, S. Marten, T. Massa, K. Marcus, M. Mascart, E. McBride, H. McCarthy, P. McCarthy

September Meeting:

"Apples, Apples, Apples"

Nancy Hubert offers an overview of the natural, social and economic history of the apple with slides, anecdotes and recipes on the social and economic history of the apple.

Hostesses: H. Arnold, D. Benson, S. Cameron, B. Canney, D. Dutton, C. Graham, J. Joyce, M. Londergan, E. Rutledge, J. Todd, E. Morse

IN MEMORIAM

Former Club President 1969-70 **Tish Grinnell** passed away on August 1 in Cohasset. In her honor, three gardening books for children have been given in her honor to the Paul Pratt Library: "Gardening with Children", "Roots, Shoots, Baskets & Boots" and "Sow and Grow"

Calendar of Events

Community Garden Club

www.communitygardenclubofcohasset.org

Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

www.gcfm.org

September

- 22 **Junior Gardeners:** "Our Books are Blooming" in the Deer Hill School Cafeteria from 2:30 to 3:30 pm
- 23 **Monthly Meeting** — 9:00 a.m. Bates Hall, 2nd Congregational Church, 43 Highland Ave "APPLES, APPLES, APPLES" with Nancy Hubert

October

- 7 **Executive Board Meeting.** Lightkeepers Cottage @ 9:30am. Hostesses: K. Woerner, J. Carroll, P. Cammett
- 8 **Garden Therapy:** "Ghosts and Goblins" @ Golden Living Center from 2 to 3 pm
- 14 **Horticulture**—"Tricks of the Trade" @ Lightkeepers Cottage 9:30—11:30 am
- 15-17 **Flower Show** "Books in Bloom" Paul Pratt Library, Wed. & Friday 10:00 to 5:00 pm; Thursday 10—8 pm
- 20 **Junior Gardeners:** "Putting the Courtyard to Bed" Deer Hill Cafeteria, 2:30-3:30pm
- 21 **Design Workshop:** Vivien Bobo demonstrates Stretch Design @ Lightkeepers 9:30—11:30 a.m.
- 28 **Monthly Meeting** — 9:00 a.m. Bates Hall, 2nd Congregational Church, 43 Highland Ave. "Norah Lindsay" by historian Allyson Hayward

September

- 20 Norwell GC "Autumn Fair" @ Jacobs Pond, Norwell; 10:00 - 2:00 Contact: Lois Athanasiou 781-659-7866
- 24-26 Flower Show School Course IV, Holiday Inn, Taunton (9-24 and 9-25 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM; 9-26 Exam 8 AM - 12 NOON) Contact: Bobbie Lingard @ 508-759-5052
- 26-28 Lexington Field & GC, "Art-A-Blooming" @ Lexington Arts & Crafts Society; Hours: Sept 26 & 27 11AM - 4 PM, Sept. 28, 1 PM - 4 PM; event open to the public & no admission charge.
- 27 Arlington GC, "Garden Tour", 10 AM - 4 PM rain or shine \$20 advanced sale/\$25 (day of tour); Contact: Risa Edelstein @ redelstein@comcast.net

October

- 2 House and Garden Club of Wellesley "50th Anniversary House & Garden Tour" 9:30—12:30 and 12:30—3:30. Contact Dee @ 781-431-6463
- 3-13 Topsfield Fair "Discover your Roots" a standard flower show. Contact Ellen Todd at ellen.todd@comcast.net
- 19 Walnut Hill GC of Hanover "Hanover Holidays" six homes decorated for various holidays. Contact Marguerite Sarson 781-878-1847 or walnuthillma@hotmail.com

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 @ 781-383-9234



Horticulture

The previously scheduled program for October — Plant Identification — has been cancelled. We will, however, have an interactive program of “Tricks of The Trade”. This is an interactive program, sharing our own garden practices and secrets of successful plant growth. Do you have great success with Roses? How about poppies? Hollyhock? Are you growing something unusual? What are your organic practices? Do you have a favorite tool that’s made your life easier? We each have a garden cure, soil enhancement, or pest management that we employ. Bring your cures, questions and curiosity along with your favorite garden books and tools to share. Questions: call Judy Dickstein, 781-383-7058 or Marie Sullivan, 781-545-0655.

Take Advantage of the Federation

The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts offers a variety of courses and workshops. Environmental Studies Schools cover all facets of environmental issues. Flower Show School is a complete program for growing, showing and judging horticulture and design. Gardening Study School presents basic garden information by specialists in the field. Landscape Design School is a comprehensive overview of landscape design and its history. All courses are accredited and taught by National Garden Club approved instructors. See more on the Federation web site: www.gcfm.org

The Asian Longhorned Beetle By Barbara Canney

Look up! Look Down! Look all around! BE AWARE— the Asian Longhorned Beetle is threatening our hardwood trees including maples, birch, horse chestnut, poplar, willow, elm, and ash. This beetle has the potential to cause more damage than Dutch Elm disease, Chestnut blight and the gypsy moth combined.

The Asian Longhorned Beetle, which probably entered the U.S. in solid wood crates used for importing goods from China, was first sighted in 1996 by a man in Brooklyn, New York. Earlier this month, Sept. 2008, a sighting was reported and confirmed by the USDA in Worcester, Ma. where 33 square miles have been quarantined. Inspection crews will perform surveys in suspected host trees by groundwork, specially trained tree climbers and bucket trucks. They will have to cut and burn infected trees.

The Asian Longhorned beetle has a distinct appearance — big, shiny, and black with white spots all over. It has black and white banded antennae shaped like the horns of Longhorned cattle. A mature beetle measures 1 to 1 1/2 inches long, perhaps the length of your thumb joint to the tip of your nail.

One female will chew a depression in the tree bark and lay 35 to 90 eggs. In 10 to 15 days, white, grub-like creatures hatch and become caterpillars (larvae) that crawl deep beneath the bark where they feed and develop during the winter. When summer arrives, the adult beetles emerge from within the tree bark by boring a round exit hole in the tree. They will feed off the twig bark and leaves for several days. The adult beetle will be active all summer until frost. In the fall, they perish. This breeding process interferes with the tissues that carry water and nutrients from tree roots to the trees leafy canopy. Once the beetle has sufficiently disrupted the tree’s survival paths, the limb or the entire tree will die. At home, we can unknowingly move the pest in firewood and fallen timber. It is important as homeowners and a community that we keep a vigilant eye out for signs of this treacherous creature.

Signs to look for: *Yellow or drooping leaves in tree canopy in dry weather; coarse sawdust in branch crotches or at base; sap flows may appear; round exit hole in trunk; oval pit where female chewed to lay eggs.*

CALL THE USDA IF YOU SUSPECT THE PRESENCE OF THE A.L.B. IN YOUR AREA: 866-702-9938. Information online at: www.aphis.usda.gov

CARING FOR WHAT WE HAVE TODAY, SO WE LEAVE THIS WORLD BETTER THAN WHEN WE ARRIVED.



CORRECTION TO SUMMER NEWSLETTER ARTICLE: News from Nagoya: Third paragraph, 7th line down should read "shoinzukuri style".

Interested in subscribing to the **Mayflower** (the Federation’s publication) mail it a check to me at 252 Old Oaken Bucket Road, Norwell, 02061. The publication is free for the current club president, State Federation Board Members and Federation Life Members. For everyone else it is \$8.00 for 6 issues. Please make checks payable to Garden Club Federation of MA, Inc

Been wondering about the tree trunks wrapped in cloth along Rt. 228 in Hingham?

They are to protect the trees during road construction presently going on.





Coltsfoot *Tussilago farfara*



The history of coltsfoot goes back over 2000 years as a treatment for coughs and other respiratory ailments. Native Americans and American colonists both thought highly of Coltsfoot when it came to treating coughs and congestion. It was determined that the best way to utilize the throat soothing Mucilage contained in the plant was to steep parts of the plant in water to make a tea. Other methods of accessing the Mucilage were tried - smoking the leaves and inhaling Coltsfoot saturated steam - but neither proved effective. Coltsfoot was also used externally as a poultice made of crushed leaves for such ailments as inflammations, swellings, burns and wheals. Along with Mucilage, sugars, insulin, flavonoids and tannin, Coltsfoot contains pyrrolizidine alkaloids which, in testing, proved to be a toxic to the liver and potential a carcinogen. The USDA has labeled Coltsfoot as an herb of “unknown safety” and

in today’s modern herbal armamentarium, Coltsfoot is no longer considered appropriate therapy. The plant is unique in that its flowers emerge before there is a hint of a leaf. In the early spring, woolly, scaly shoots emerge from the roots and each will produce a composite yellow flower. Once the flower fades, the hoof-shaped leaves appear from the base of the stem. The plant is a tough, invasive perennial which spreads by a system of underground roots. It is native to Europe, Asia and parts of Africa, but naturalized in North America. It is hardy in zones 4-6 and can be found along sunny stream banks, wastelands and in sandy soil. Because of its invasive tendency, this may not be a guest you want to invite into your herb garden.

Submitted by: Judy Dickstein

Flower Design Workshop — October 21 @ Lightkeepers 9:30-11:30 a.m.



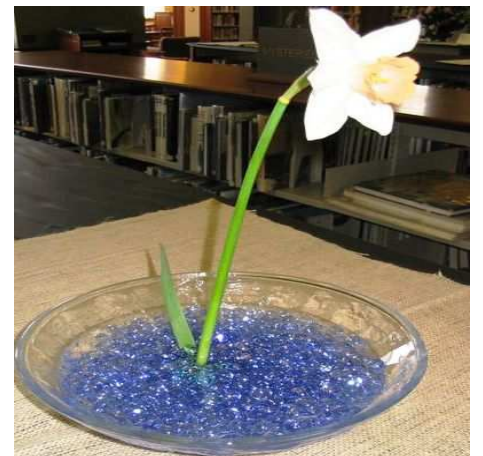
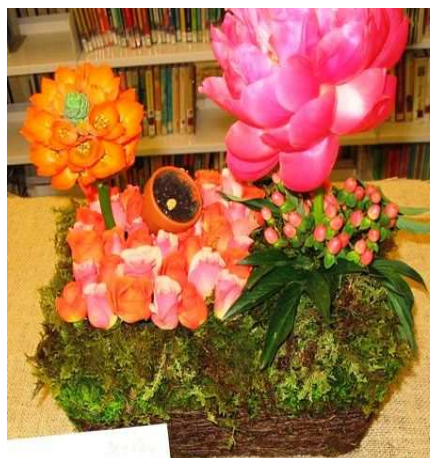
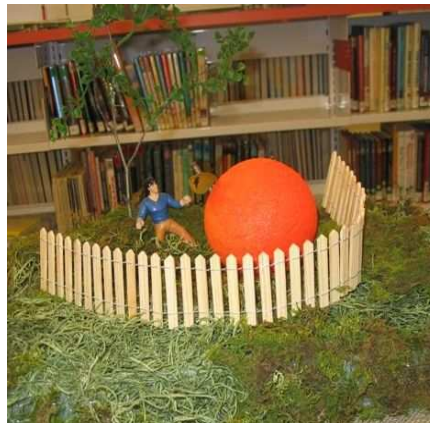
Preparation for spring standard flower show. Vivien Bobo, Master Flower Show Judge and past GCFM president will demonstrate a “Stretch Design”. This arrangement is a creative design in two units — one smaller than the other, having a prominent component connecting the two units. You will need two containers, one smaller than the other, flowers suitable for your containers, clippers, and a trash bag to take away your discards. We will have available items such as slinkies, coiled wire and plant material for you to use fo the connecting/stretch component. For more info, call Lee Drew 383-0361, Nancy Wholley 925-4944 or Carol Graham 383-3442

BOOKS IN BLOOM

Our fall edition of “Books in Bloom” will be October 15-17 at the Paul Pratt Library. Here is your chance to try your hand at creative design without the rules of a standard flower show. Your depictions can be simple from a bloom in your backyard to intricate combinations of flowers. You just have to choose a book title and go from there! Whatever you decide, jump in and have fun.

To let us know your book title, or if you want to help with the event or have any questions, please contact Fran O’Toole 383-6188 or Lee Jenkins 383-0024.

Clockwise from lower right: Trumpet of the Swan; The Empty Pot; James and the Giant Peach; How to Find Flower Fairies



The Community Garden Club of Cohasset Massachusetts

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October 2008

To:

Junior Gardeners



Know Your Garden Birds by Sally Avery

The Chipping Sparrow — As I look out upon my lawn and gardens during the late summer, a number of small birds foraging on the ground catch my attention. Together with a constant backdrop of quiet chips, the flocks are easily identified as Chipping Sparrows. Two things are evident to me: first, that Chipping Sparrows reproduce abundantly in my neighborhood as confirmed for the Breeding Bird Atlas in which I participate and, secondly, that our organic lawn with its plethora of broad-leafed, seedy intruders is most welcoming to avifauna. Chipping sparrows, which are summer inhabitants only, sport reddish caps and have a clear black eyestripe through an otherwise white face. Their breasts are plain gray and their backs streaky

bræown. Immature birds can be difficult to identify because both their crowns and breasts are streaked with brown. The birds choose bushes or dense trees in farms, yards, and pine woods to build their neat cup-shaped nests of grass, stems, and rootlets. On farms, these sparrows love to line their nests with horsehair but, in today's developed landscapes, they have to content themselves with any kind of hair (even human) they can find. Three to five pale blue-green spotted eggs are incubated for about two weeks, and hatchlings are attended to for 8-12 days before fledging. Chipping sparrows typically raise two broods per season all of which thrive on the plentiful seeds and insects which abound in their chosen habitat. In early summer, a dry, mechanical trilling, often from a pine tree, alerts you to the presence of these five-inch birds as they advertise for mates and pro-

