



Lexington Field & Garden Club

140 Years of Making Lexington More Beautiful

Volume 7 Issue 1 • September, 2016

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September 2016 newsletter

Welcome back! I hope you all had a successful summer in the garden, superior relaxing vacations or staycations, and kept cool. Now we hope you are eager to participate in our many scheduled meetings and events from September through May for your entertainment and education. Many are described in this newsletter. PLEASE volunteer as much as you are able, since these activities cannot happen without your help. We know many of you have spent a lot of time this summer keeping Lexington's gardens and traffic islands vibrant and beautiful. Thank you for your dedication.

For those of you who do not have email but do have access to a computer, please check our website, <http://lexgardenclub.org/> and our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/LexGardenClub, for updates. Although the monthly newsletter has all the information, we also send information via email, and we don't want you to miss out on anything. If you have not received your new green yearbook, email LFGC024@gmail.com

This month we start our programs with a talk about our environment. Three special events are our biennial Art-A-Blooming, a new member social, and a field trip to the Lexington Composting facility. ✓ **My environmental tip:** Put a bowl in your sink to catch water as you rinse food, then use it to water houseplants. — *Mary*

Quentin Prideaux to Discuss Global Warming



On **Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 10:15 a.m.** (Refreshments at 9:30, business at 10 a.m.) at the Scottish Rite Museum and Library, Quentin Prideaux will present and discuss global warming, science, and the implications for Massachusetts and the North East.

Most Americans know that global warming is happening, that we are causing it, and that it is a bad thing. Already Lexington families have installed solar panels, buying more efficient cars, and changing light bulbs. As a country we still have to do more.

A trained presenter for The Climate Reality Project and for Climate Voices, Prideaux's presentation combines powerful images of the early effects of climate change with concrete data on what is happening right now. His highly informative presentations are visually appealing and even funny! Quentin Prideaux is COO of SaveOhno —



a climate-change platform, a Partner in the management consulting firm Alder Associates, and has a degree in physics from Bristol University and an MBA from Ashridge Management College. He is currently enrolled in the Masters' program for Sustainability at Harvard Extension School. He lives in Wellesley with his wife and two children.

 **Harriet Hathaway will be available before our September meeting** 
to answer your gardening questions.

Art-A-Blooming Exhibit

Three Glorious Days • September 23, 24, & 25 11 am-4 pm
 130 Waltham Street, free parking & free admission

"This is a unique display of art with dramatic, colorful floral arrangements created by nearly 30 of our Garden Club members, and inspired by the paintings, needlework, sculpture, and crafts made by Lexington Arts & Crafts artists.

For 14 years this beautiful bi-annual show for lovers of art and flowers has been on display in Lexington; a mini MFA "Art in Bloom". Arrangers have complete artistic freedom to come up with a floral interpretation of the art object or painting of their choice. Come and bring your friends to enjoy this beautiful, colorful, and inventive show."

Here are some of the arrangements from 2014.



**Arranger Caroline Nijenberg,
 Artist Mildred Barte
 "Early June"**



**Arranger Marilyn McWeeney,
 Artist Lynne Yansen
 "Chiesa Farm View, Lexington"**



**Arranger Kathy Leva
 Artist Milton Schmidt
 'Red Bellied Woodpecker'**



**Arranger Joanne Plank, Artist Alison Lauriat
 'Trio Conversation'**



**Arranger Barbara Shafer, Artist Myrna Herniter
 "Tray"**



New Member Social

4-6 pm Tuesday, Sept 27
75 Outlook Drive, Lexington

Welcome New Members

Marcia Gens

and

Trelawney N. Goodell,



Wed. Sept 28

Field Trip to Lexington Composting Facility

The Hartwell Ave. facility is not only a place to drop off yard waste, but it also provides free unscreened compost and wood chips and now solar energy. If you have always wondered what was up that big hill, today's the day to find out. Sign ups, car-pooling (from St. Brigid), and closed-toed shoes are necessary. 9:00 am. Rain date Oct 5.



Home for the Holidays: Festive Traditions in Lexington

Sunday, December 11, 2016

1 – 5 PM

A magical day and a delight for the senses! We will showcase six lovely Lexington homes, each beautifully decorated for the holidays. Advance tickets will be \$25 for Members, \$30 for Nonmembers (\$30/\$35 day of).



🌿🌿🌿🌿 Back to School 🌿🌿🌿🌿

Fall is not only time for the children to return to school. You should go too!

The Garden Club Federation Of Massachusetts offers a variety of courses. Environmental Studies Schools cover all aspects 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.

Upon successful completion of two courses, you may become a provisional member of Landscape Design Council, Gardening Study Council, or an Environmental Studies Council. After completing three courses of Flower Show School successfully, you become a Student Judge and a provisional member of Judges' Council. After passing all of the prescribed courses in a subject area, you become a full member of these study groups.

Two of the four schools will be held this fall. If you have questions, ask **Mary Nokes, sekon.mary@gmail.com** LFGC offers scholarships for all the schools. The application deadline is March 1, 2017 for schools in 2017

🌿 LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

Series 15: Course III • October 27 to 29, 2016

Massachusetts Horticultural Society • 900 Washington Street Wellesley, MA 02482

For more information:

<http://gcfm.org/Portals/0/LDS/2016%20Course%20Trifold%20LDS.pdf>

🌿 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY SCHOOL

Series 5, Course I: The Living Earth

Thursday & Friday, November 3 – 4, 2016 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

For more information:

[http://gcfm.org/Portals/0/ES/2016_ESS_registration_form%20\(1\).pdf](http://gcfm.org/Portals/0/ES/2016_ESS_registration_form%20(1).pdf)

✓ Hot Green Tips from Christel McCarthy

After the most unusual winter and spring, we have to deal with record breaking drought this summer. Hopefully we managed to keep our gardens alive.

✓ This time of year is good to take stock of your plant performance, even though, we admit everything struggled to stay alive. But, if you plan to add something new to your garden, look at the plants that did well and you might want to plant more of those. Make a list of those and the new ones you might like and head for your favorite nursery in late Aug./early

Sept. Nurseries have their sales now and you find plants at a very good price. They might not look great, but their root system is well developed.

✓ There is a nice nursery called Millbrook in Concord, near the Concord Museum on the same road, with good stock and fair prices.

✓ If you want to feast your eyes, do visit Stonegate Gardens on 339 Great Road, Lincoln, MA., tel. 781-259-8884. They have everything your heart could possibly wish for, displayed in a most beautiful way.

✓ And lastly this month, visit 'Art a Blooming', Lexington's very own floral extravaganza.

The kiss of the sun
For pardon
The song of the bird
For mirth
One is nearer to god
In a garden
Than anywhere else on
earth
(St. Pierre cemetery, near
Bristol, England)

Welcome back to you
all and do not forget to
water.

— **Christel McCarthy**

Make your own flower food:

Mix a few drops of bleach or a clear spirit such as vodka or gin to help fight bacterial growth, add a few drops of soda or superfine sugar to feed the flowers, and then crush a vitamin C tablet and add it to lower the pH.

— From The Boston Globe, June 12. 2016

Useful links: Our area is rich with programs, lectures, and workshops of interest to gardeners. Rather than take space in this newsletter, we urge you to do your own detective work. Remember that we have passes to New England Wildflower Society and Tower Hill.

www.towerhillbg.org/
<http://massmastergardeners.org/>
<http://www.massshort.org>
www.newenglandwild.org/
<http://gcfm.org/>
<http://grownativemass.org/>
lexgwac.org

In Memoriam

Mary Gill

November 20, 1941 – June 10, 2016

A Very Special Thanks

Earlier this year a Tech Committee was formed to discuss ways to streamline our member information. **Janet Kern** and **Betsy Pollack** suggested “Little Green Light.” We looked into it and decided to try it. **Peter Jensen** and his member wife **Pat** volunteered to set it up. They have spent untold hours of time and effort to get it working. We believe it will greatly enhance our accuracy and be much more EFFICIENT. and so far this has proved to be the case. All of you received an email or letter asking you to confirm that the information we have is correct. We thank those of you who responded. Your areas of interest are particularly helpful to us as

we plan our programs and activities. We will be using more technological ways to sign up to volunteer or come to an event. Never fear those of you who are not inclined this way — there will still be sign-up sheets at meetings.



3 CHEERS GOES TO . . . **Peter and Pat**



And to **Donna Dennison** who used her expertise to format our yearbook!



*The combined Monthly and Annual Meetings of the Lexington Field & Garden Club
were held on May 11, 2016.*

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES:

President Mary Nokes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed our guests. She thanked our greeters Betsy Hansen & Janice McDonough, as well as Nicole Abair, Patricia Jensen, Muriel Meade, Jane Beswick, Sue Spicer, and Claire Bertucci for providing this morning's refreshments. President Nokes thanked Ellen Purinton for her lovely floral arrangement.

President Nokes reminded the group about annual dues that are currently due.

Barbara Shafer made announcements regarding next week's plant sale on May 18th at its new location at the Samuel Hadley Public Services Building, 201 Bedford Street. She thanked those who have already been helping with potting plants and reminded us that we can now use signupgenius.com to sign up for all the various plant sale tasks. Barbara distributed prizes (garden gloves, a LFGC apron, and a lovely succulent planter) for the three winners of the "signupgenius.com raffle".

The April meeting minutes and treasurers' reports, available on the website, were approved. The general meeting was adjourned.

—**Jane Beswick**, for Deborah Thompson



From our Treasurer, Leslie Sargis

Happy September! I hope everyone has had a fantastic summer and is looking forward to the upcoming LFGC year as much as I am. The summer has been quiet on the financial front. Here is a quick update on the year fiscal year thus far. We have collected \$6,355 in annual dues of which \$4,155 was collected in the previous fiscal year, \$2,200 since May 1. The year-end luncheon was a breakeven affair, which was the goal. This included a \$275 donation to the Church of Our Redeemer for allowing us to use their lovely space. The Plant Sale was a tremendous success and netted \$8,600 which is a 34% increase over the prior year. Kudos to everyone involved! Now for the bad news. The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library has begun charging us rent to use their space. In the past we have given them a \$3,000 year-end donation for the generosity of using the facilities. However beginning in September we will be charged \$600 (this is a discounted price) per event, therefore \$4,200 for the year as we have 7 programs scheduled in this space. This is quite a hit to our yearly budget. In rough numbers this means 60%, or \$15, of the single membership dues is needed to cover rent expense at the Museum. We also give a small \$250 donation to St. Brigid Church for the use of Keilty Hall. The Executive Board will be considering our space options for future years. Stay tuned and please feel free to send me an email voicing your thoughts on the current facilities situation. leslie.sargis@gmail.com