



Lexington Field & Garden Club

140 Years of Making Lexington More Beautiful

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January 2017 newsletter

Welcome to 2017! I hope your holidays were enjoyable and peaceful. We exited 2016 with several exciting activities. First came the Greens Party. And then our inaugural Home for the Holidays house tour was a phenomenal success. Rounding out our month many of us enjoyed the gracious hospitality of Marianne Abate.

This new calendar year promises more events to increase our knowledge and friendships. Please participate as much as you are able. Page one of your yearbook lists scheduled events. Complete information for LFGC activities is available elsewhere in your yearbook. While there, please change the date on page 1 and page 25 for the bus to the Boston Flower Show to March 23.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: THE PLANT SALE WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 20

This is more convenient for the DPW and should help with parking. Mark your calendars

— *Mary*



Landscape Designer to Talk on Inviting Front Yard Gardens



For many people, the front yard garden starts and ends with covering up the foundation. Landscape designer, consultant, and teacher Laura D. Eisener will describe how to create an inviting focal point with just a few changes in the front yard in the January 11 meeting of the Lexington Field & Garden Club. She will examine what can be salvaged from out-of-date overgrown shrub beds, what to salvage, and what can be done with that blank slate.

Ms. Eisener says: "In my garden design I like to combine interesting and unusual trees, shrubs, and perennials to provide interest all year, and arrange outdoor living spaces so that they are convenient, comfortable, and encourage more contact with nature. ... Landscape design provides an awareness of the natural environment and the opportunity to improve the way the landscape functions, from increasing the number and diversity of wildlife it supports to providing more incentive for the property owner to spend time outside and enjoy it."

The meeting, which is open to all, takes place at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum at 10 am. For more information, visit www.LexGardenClub.org.



Home for the Holidays



We are extremely pleased with our first-ever holiday house tour on December 11. Many club members contributed time and effort to make this tour a successful, fun event. Many thanks to co-chairs Anne Lee and Nicole Abair for turning an idea into a popular and festive event. Ashley Rooney, Christina Gamota, Ruthanne Igoe, Greta Ljung, Leslie Sargis, and Bridget Galdes were the hard-working committee. Ann Webster, Jane Halverson, Christina Gamota, and Corrine Steigerwald supervised the crafting of our boutique items. Siobhan Rooney photographed the event. Our deep gratitude goes to our six homeowners who so generously opened their doors to over 350 guests, who marveled at the diverse mix of decorating styles, the personal touches, and the amount of work required to create some of the displays. Members Nicole Abair, Marianne Abate, Ruthanne Igoe, and Andrea Jackson opened their homes. Many garden club members volunteered their time as hostesses, staffed our headquarters, provided refreshments, generated publicity, handled ticket sales, and designed dozens of greens arrangements and over 200 handcrafted decorations for our Holiday Boutique. It was truly a team effort!

We benefited greatly from our generous sponsors: Barrett Sotheby's International Realty, Robin Gannon Interiors, the Inn at Hastings Park, William Raveis, Wagon Wheel Nursey and Farm Stand, and Wilson Farm. We also thank the Church of our Redeemer for providing the facility for our ticket and boutique sales and reception.



This Bavarian Village has been lovingly collected and displayed by Marianne Abate. In addition to opening her home for the tour, she also invited club members to a holiday party on December 15.



Items handmade by our members



Be sure to check Lexington Field & Garden Club on Facebook for gardening tips and news

SignUpGenius tip of the month:

✿ More and more members are using online sign ups, but occasional problems pop up as we're learning.

If you have difficulty, please send an email to **LFGC024@gmail.com** or call **Mary Nokes** to let us know the details (what you tried, what did or didn't happen, what device you were using.)

Here's one tip...

✿ Have trouble signing up from your mobile phone? Try clicking "go to full site" and see if things are easier.

✿ Or, look for a Sign Up Genius User at a future meeting and go through it together.

✿ We'll appreciate your teaching us what's going wrong. We can solve the problems if we understand what they are. And when it works, it's so easy! Thanks for supporting this new tool to make event organizing easier for the Club.

Welcome New Members

Linda Lindell

Kathleen Mislán

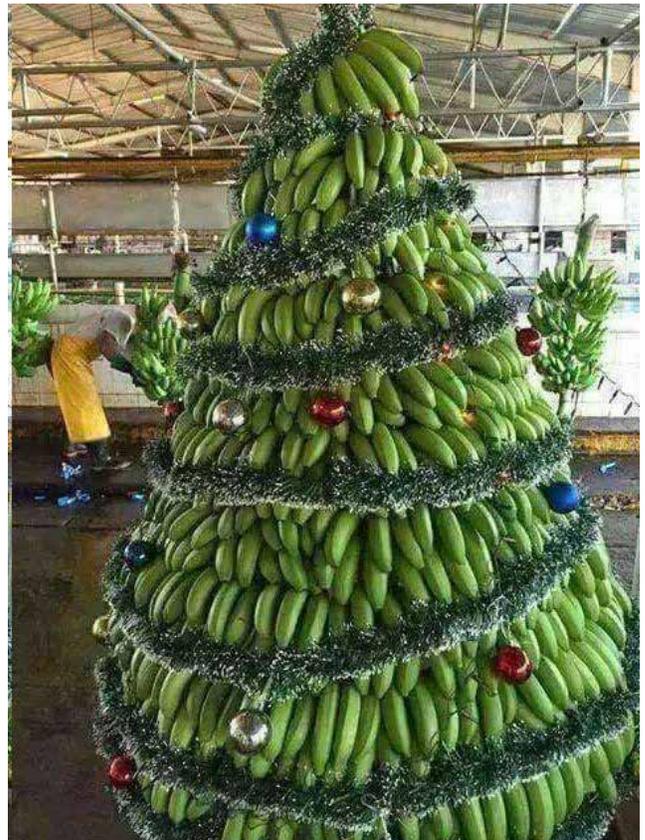
Pamela Richter

Meeijih Sun



In order to keep your yearbook up to date, please add new members as they appear in the newsletter.

Important Notice: If you have a change in your email, mailing address or phone number, please send this to **LFGC024@gmail.org**



Christel McCarthy sends this picture of a Christmas tree from Panama in place of her column this month.

Lexington Field & Garden Club General Meeting Minutes November 15, 2016

President Mary Nokes called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., thanking Wednesday Workshop members Janice McDonough and Trelawny Goodell for greeting and Cheryl Fouche, Sue Hays, Sandra Natale, Ann Webster, Bridget Galdes, Julia Francis, Marianne Abate and Marta Ash for refreshments. Lillian Cohen provided a stunning flower arrangement, which she donated to the raffle. Mary reminded the group about the Holiday Greens Party to be held Wednesday December 7th, which is open only to members. Home for the Holidays, a house tour, will be held on Sunday December 11th, the first of its kind for our club.

The presentation entitled Winter Holiday Floral Design was given by Linda Ladd and Elaine Di Giovanni, both nationally accredited master flower show judges, who have given joint presentations for years. Linda and Elaine created a variety of intriguing and beautiful Thanksgiving and Holiday designs and also entertained the group with their humorous banter. The arrangements were raffled off to attendees.

—Deborah Thomson



Treasurer's Report

Happy New Year to all! Just a quick update on the very busy month of December. Thanks to the fantastic stewardship of Nicole Abair and Anne Lee, Home for the Holidays was hugely successful. The event recorded net proceeds of \$12,028. Ticket sales, sponsorship and "boutique" sales resulted in revenues of \$13,487 while expenses were \$1,459. The other main event of the month was the Holiday Greens Party. Once again this program was a smash hit with our members thanks to the leadership of Ann Webster and Jane Halverson. Due to the generous contributions by our members the cost of this program was only \$200. The last of the expenses this month was \$282 for Post Office plantings by Karen Blake. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

—Leslie Sargis

We are saddened by the death of long-time member **Charlotte Ford**.

Her memorial service will be at 2 p.m.
Saturday, January 14 at Hancock Church

House Plant and Begonia Sale

Saturday and Sunday

January 14 and 15

9:30 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

Lyman Estate Greenhouses
185 Lyman St., Waltham, Mass.

Let's go green to get our globe clean

GARDEN OF THE MONTH

Hancock-Clarke Herb Garden

The garden of traditional herbs of the 1775 period At the Lexington Historical Society's Hancock-Clarke House was created and is maintained by the Garden Club's Morning Study Group. Due to the relocation and restoration of the house, this is the third Morning Study Group herb garden; the first having been started over 50 years ago.

The present Garden is divided into three sections; culinary, medicinal, and aromatic-household with 42 herb types. The uses of these herbs have been carefully researched. Plant labels show the common name, the Latin name, and the 1775 uses. For example:

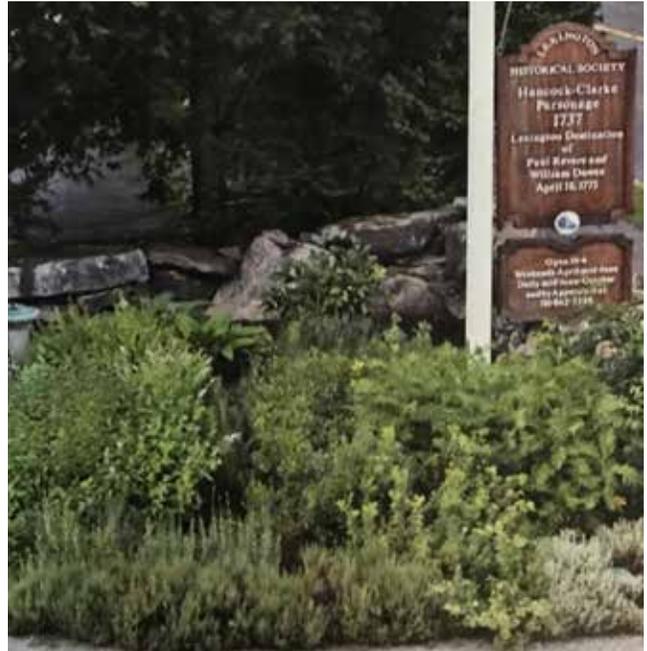
Lemon Balm

Melissa Officinalis

1775 Medicinal Herb

for sores, insect bites, and
overcoming melancholy

Called the "elixir of life"



The eight member herb garden committee meets spring and fall to review the progress of the garden and to plan herb programs, projects, events, and tips for the Morning Study Group and the workers. An impressive 30 members of Morning Study work in pairs on two-week shifts April to November to keep the garden well-maintained.

The garden has won two awards and is toured by other garden clubs interested in establishing colonial herb gardens. Visitors to the Hancock-Clarke house often pause sitting on our stone bench, to admire and to learn about these fascinating herbs.

Herb committee:

Co-Chairs: Harriet Hathaway and Barbara Mix; **Members:** Bobbie Best, Kitty Galasitis, Christina Gamota, Gail Harris, Meg Himmel, Ruthanne Igoe



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 Botanic Garden.

WWW.TOWERHILLBG.ORG/ <http://massmastergardeners.org/>
<http://www.massshort.org> www.newenglandwild.org/ <http://gcfm.org/>
<http://grownativemass.org/> lexgwac.org