

LEXINGTON FIELD & GARDEN CLUB

137 YEARS OF MAKING LEXINGTON MORE BEAUTIFUL

Volume 5 Issue 1 September 2014 email Lexgardenclub.org



President's Message: Dear Fellow Members,

Who doesn't love fall? Not only is it a return to "normal" schedules and cooler temperatures, it is a chance to get together with friends who have been out of town. Why not start by coming to the September meeting and, to make it merrier, invite a neighbor or friend to join you? As you can see from our yearbook, Mary Nokes has done an exceptional job in lining up speakers for our programs, many of which are based on your dues envelope suggestions and requests. We know you have program ideas, so please continue to share them with us.

Resilient and cheerful, our plant sale committee did an outstanding job in planning and running this year's very successful plant sale. Thank you to all who joined in the tasks and the fun.

Compliments and positive comments are still coming in about this year's double seating annual luncheon. All this because of the vision and skillful planning of Janet Erickson, Sue Harris, Shirley Ament-Bergey and their committee. Thank you.

To all of our community gardeners who have planted and nurtured gardens on the traffic islands and on historic sites, thank you for being ambassadors of our club.

There are so many good reasons to be a member of the LFGC.

Thank you for living my theme "Learning—Sharing—Doing".

See you soon. Sue



September 10, 2014

Floral Designs Inspired by Fabulous Gardens II Annual Ruge Lecture

Thelma Shoneman, who previously shared with us Floral Designs Inspired by Fabulous Gardens I, will return with the next installment. Her program features floral designs inspired by 6 gardens that she has recently visited. Each arrangement includes a different leaf manipulation or design method, which she will demonstrate. She will talk about each garden and the unique attraction which inspired the 'floral arrangement'!

**Art-A-Blooming this September 12, 13, & 14
11 am to 4 pm at the Lexington Arts & Crafts Building, 130 Waltham
Street.**

**Remember our free passes to Tower Hill and Garden in the Woods.
Contact Ann Webster to borrow.**

At the June GCFM Annual Meeting, the LFGC received recognition for presenting programs on protecting and conserving our natural resources. By promoting education on water, forest, land and wildlife, our club supported the NGC President's Projects. The LFGC also received a certificate of merit for the yearbook for a club with 300 or more members.

Mayflower is now available free on line. Mailed paper copies still require an \$8.00 subscription. Federated GC members can access the e-Mayflower by going to www.gcfm.org and clicking on the Mayflower tab at the top of the home page for a link to the online publication. The e-Mayflower can be read online, printed (one page or all pages), and/or downloaded to your personal computer. If you currently subscribe to the print edition, nothing will change—you can continue subscribing AND you will also have access to the “e” edition. Contact gcfm@verizon.net if you have any questions.

***Looking for the LFGC bylaws? They can be found on our website,
Lexgardenclub.org**

***Email policies: new and reminders**

Over 80% of our members now use email and it is an increasingly important way we communicate amongst ourselves. So we continue to update our address lists and our policies.

If you did not receive this newsletter by email, the Club does not have your current email address and/or your spam blocker is shutting us out. Please put our email address, lfgc024@gmail.com in your email address book and be sure to update us if you change your email address. If you want to switch to email copies only, email the club and put “Stop Paper Copy” in the subject line.

***Plant Sale: Thank you to all who dug, donated, potted, labeled, counted, watered, transported, set up and dismantled everything that was needed for this year's plant sale. Over 1,000 potted plants found new homes. The funds raised (over \$6,000) are used to help run the club. This is a big help since dues cover only a little over half of our operating expenses.**

As we enjoy our gardens in full bloom, note which plants can be divided/donated to next year's sale. If you have the time and space, plants can be potted up now and sunk into the ground to

HELP WANTED: The Garden of Colonial Flowers at Munroe Tavern needs help. If you would be interested in getting or making labels for the flowers there and getting them into the garden by next May when the Federation group on historic garden preservation comes to Lexington, please call Kris Burton.

Horticulture

Suzy Andrego, New Mexico Garden Club:
“If you told me I could have only one additive for my garden, magnesium sulfate is the ‘one thing’ I would choose. My ‘go to’ remedy for my garden!

So, what is magnesium sulfate? It is an inorganic salt (chemical compound) containing magnesium, sulfur and oxygen with the formula $MgSO_4$. It is commonly called Epsom Salt. Its name comes from a bitter saline spring in Epsom in Surrey, England, where the salt was produced from the springs that arise where the porous chalk of the North Downs meets the non-porous London Clay.

Composed almost exclusively of magnesium sulfate, Epsom Salt is really rich in the two minerals that are crucial for healthy plant life. These same minerals are beneficial for bathing and using around the house. And, unlike common fertilizers, Epsom Salt does not build up in the soil over time. It is very safe to use.

With the recent push towards ‘green’ living, Epsom Salt is an ideal answer to a variety of organic gardening needs. Both cost effective and gentle on your greenery, Epsom Salt is an affordable and green treatment for your well-tended plants—both indoors and out.

In simple terms,,Epsom Salt promotes root growth and green[s things up. I broadcast Epsom Salt around my entire yard three times annually. My garden beds get it about six timers per year.

This seems like a lot, and also costly. But, it is not. Great roots mean healthy plants!

The benefits are even more than root growth and lush green color. Epsom Salt prevents the appearance of slugs, keeps my lawn lush and green and helps my 400+ roses produce incredible blooms! I purchase larger quantities at the local nursery at a cost much less than all those other garden and lawn foods. Using Epsom Salt is not dangerous to my health. I can breath it in, and touch my skin with it, without worrying. And, if there is any left, It makes a great additive to my bath for all those sore muscles I get from gardening so much!”

(From the 2014 National Garden Club

***Three of the NGC schools are scheduled for this fall. Now is the time to sign up.**

Flower Show School, Course I, “Growing, Staging, Exhibiting & Judging”, October 8-10

Landscape Design School, Course I, October 30-November1

Environmental Studies School, Course III, “The Living Earth—Air & Related Issues”, November 8-9 For details & registration, visit www.gcfm.org>education>schools & registration

2015 LFGC NGC schools scholarship forms available for club members. April 1, 2015 deadline. See Mary Nokes for details

What's Going On?

September 10, Wednesday, Club meeting, 9:30 am, "Floral Designs Inspired by Fabulous Gardens II

September 12-14, Art-A-Blooming

September 20-21, Tower Hill Botanic Garden Begonia & Gesneriad Show

September 20-21 & 27-28, October 4-5. & 11-13 Tower Hill Botanic Garden Harvest Weekends

September 29, Horticulture Morning

October 3-13, Topsfield Fair Flower Show

October 6, Back to Basics #1

October 8, **Wednesday Evening meeting, 6:30 pm**, Keilty Hall, St. Brigid Church

October 8-10, Flower Show School, Course 1

October 14, Design Workshop #1

October 20-21, New England Regional Meeting, Burlington, VT

October 28, GCFM Fall Conference

October 30-November 1, Landscape Design School, Elm Bank



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