

LEXINGTON FIELD & GARDEN CLUB  
139 YEARS OF MAKING LEXINGTON  
MORE BEAUTIFUL



Volume 6 Issue 2 October 2015  
Email: LFGC024@gmail.com

**Letter from the President:**



Fall greetings! We are happy to be back in the swing of things. This season is full of activities for our pleasure and enlightenment. I hope you will participate in as many as possible. One of the opportunities which is not usually on our radar are the conferences offered by the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts. These are open to all club members and are good sources of information and fellowship. Other opportunities offered by the Federation are the schools. This fall you can attend the Landscape Design School and the Environmental Studies School. Information about all three of these follows in this newsletter.

Our programs are always open to guests at no charge. Of course, we hope they will join us as productive members. Also, remember that the programs offered by the sub-groups are open to all of you if there is space. Please contact the chairman before coming.

*God made rainy days so gardeners could get the housework done. ~Author Unknown*

Mary

**It's Not Just Pumpkins**

Some gardeners know how to keep their gardens colorful and even interesting in the fall. The Lexington Field & Garden Club is beginning to study this with the hopes of having a fall garden tour in September 2017. A small committee (Kerry Brandin, Ruthann Igoe, Mary Nokes, Ashley Rooney, and Ann Webster) are visiting different gardens and finding some beauties. If you would like to know more, sit in on some discussions, and meet some new friends, contact Ashley Rooney at [earooney27@gmail.com](mailto:earooney27@gmail.com).



**Plant Sale 2016**

We all agree that gardening with friends is far more fun than gardening alone. Well, the plant sale is the perfect opportunity to meet some new gardening friends. There will be many ways to get involved. Perhaps you enjoy digging and dividing plants, potting up donated plants in the spring, working on the various publicity activities, planning and set-up for the sale, etc. For a successful sale, we need all of you to donate your various skills and enthusiasm, so be thinking about ways you can participate. We'll be calling to ask your help, but really appreciate hearing from you even before we call. No prior experience necessary, just your time and enthusiasm, and let's have some fun together. Please contact co-chairs Meg Himmel, [mhimmel@mit.edu](mailto:mhimmel@mit.edu) or Leslie Masson, [chaco2aztec@gmail.com](mailto:chaco2aztec@gmail.com).

**CALL TO FALL CONFERENCE  
THE GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION OF  
MASSACHUSETTS, INC.**

**Monday, October 26, 2015**

At the

Framingham Sheraton Hotel & Conference Center  
1657 Worcester Rd.

Framingham, MA 01701

Highlights include a Floral Design Program – *Winter Arrangements for Your Home*, Luncheon and Speaker Penelope O’Sullivan presents: *“Fabulous Foliage: Year Round Color with Trees & Shrubs”*

Registration form:

<http://gcfm.org/Meetings/FallConference.aspx>

**THE RUGE LECTURE**

My mother, Florence Ruge, became a member of the Lexington Field and Garden Club in 1958 and of the Morning Study Group in 1966. She was an avid flower and vegetable gardener as well as a flower arranger.

After she passed away in 1975, my father made a donation to the Club. Several years later, board member Ellen O’Connell suggested using the money to establish a memorial fund to pay for one annual program. It would be known as the Ruge Lecture. After I became a member of the Club, I was given the honor of selecting the program each year from those scheduled by the program chair. I always try to choose a topic that would have been of special interest to my mother. Our family is delighted that this tradition has continued for so many years.

Claire Bertucci

*Editor’s Note: The Ruge lecture this year was our first speaker, Kerry Ann Mendez*

**October Calendar**

3-13 Topsfield Fair

14 7 p.m. From Lincoln St. Dump to a Composting Facility, St. Brigid, Keilty Hall

19 Back to Basics 1

20 MSG Lincoln Park Talk

21 WW Visit to Fruitlands

26 Monday Evening, Flora and Fauna of Alaska

26 GCFM Fall Conference

29-31 Landscape Design School

There will be a memorial service for Marilyn Williamson at 1 p.m. Saturday, October 3 at the Church of our Redeemer

**Education Opportunities This Fall**

When I went to refer you to page 7 of your yearbook for a list of LFGC members who are consultants in the schools, I realized that there are no page numbers!

This will give you something to do while you watch TV.

**Landscape Design School** will be held Thursday and Friday, October 29 and 30, with an exam Friday after class or Saturday morning—your choice.

**Environmental Study School**, chaired by our own Bonnie Rosenthal, will be held Saturday and Sunday, November 7 and 8. Information and registration forms for both schools can be found at

[www.gcfm.org/Education/Schoolsandregistration.aspx](http://www.gcfm.org/Education/Schoolsandregistration.aspx)

Both will be held in Wellesley at Elm Bank. I am the registrar for both schools, so you can save a stamp by bringing your registration and check to a meeting.

Mary Nokes

**Next LFGC Program: From a Dump to a Big Time Facility**

Some Lexingtonians remember the old days when you used to drive down Lincoln Street and enter the dump with its old cars, tires, and garbage. Life changes, and we now have the Lexington Composting Facility. A major entrepreneurial force, it processes thousands of tons of yard waste, wood, and stone and turns them into saleable products, which are bought by other towns and companies. It also offers residents, free of charge, wood chips and compost. David Hathaway and Peter Lund will relate some stories about the "good old days" in the Lexington dump and Robert Beaudoin, Superintendent of Environmental Services, will tell us how our town is moving environmentally into the future with a windrow turner, solar development, and the Estabrook School project. This evening program for the Lexington Field and Garden Club is held Thursday, Oct. 14 at Keilty Hall, 7 pm.



windrow turner



## **Civic Gardening Group Update**

Bonnie Rosenthal and Raya Gildor

When our Lexington Field & Garden Club's meetings and programs come to an end, the work of the Civic Gardening Group is just beginning. Our

club is very fortunate to have so many dedicated members who help beautify Lexington by maintaining traffic islands and public gardens around town. Currently, all our locations have signage indicating that they are maintained by our club, and each and every one looked terrific this summer. We hope you've had a chance to see and appreciate them. I know residents do because we receive so many positive comments when working at these sites.

Throughout this dry and hot summer our portable water tank was put to good use at locations that do not have on-site water sources, and pruning was done as needed to maintain good visibility for drivers.

The beds in front of Cary Library underwent extensive work. Layers of packed mulch were removed, as well as several dead shrubs. Compost was spread, and new shrubs and perennials were purchased and planted.

It's been a pleasure working with the Lexington Department of Public Works. They have been very helpful, responding to our requests to pick up waste, prune trees and shrubs, deliver mulch, even offering to build two reproduction benches to replace those at Munroe Tavern.

The traffic islands and gardens will continue to be tended to throughout the fall, and finally put to rest for the winter. We will host a tea social to express our appreciation to the Civic Gardening Group stewards and volunteers in November.

### **Corrections to the yearbook:**

- Amy Breiting : abreiting@gmail.com
- Pam Pekich, 18 Winter St.
- Joanne Plank, 100 Newbury Ct, Suite 2220, Concord, MA 01742, 978-341-8832
- Cecile Platek, 30 Mill Street #126, Arlington, MA 02476 781-643-0401
- Bonnie Rosenthal: 7 Ponybrook Lane
- Eleanor Ruben 781-862-4404

### **Hot Green Tips**

After the "lull" of summer, we look forward to getting back to gardening and the chores that have to be done in October, while enjoying the last warm days.

At the end of October we have to take stock of our perennials. The large clumps have to be divided, you might even want to toss some out. Save the best performers in your garden for yourself to replant, which will help to rejuvenate your perennial borders. German Irises should be divided every 3 years. While doing so, check for Iris borer and rot in the rhizomes. Simply cut those imperfections out and replant in a sunny spot, close to the ground level barely covered with dirt.

Meanwhile what to do with the surplus perennials and those divisions you took??? I suggest you prepare a little section in your garden and replant them there, cover them with some leaves for the winter. Please, do label them with name/color. This will be your holding bin for next year's PLANT SALE. It will make it so easy to donate your plants next year.

Plastic Pots 6 to 10": if you have any to spare, please save and donate them for the PLANT SALE as well. This will keep our costs down.

After your dividing work is done, you might even want to contact Meg Himmel by e-mail or phone to tell her what you have available for the PLANT SALE, which will help her plan ahead.

Christel McCarthy

*I would like to thank everyone who sent get well wishes to me for my recent surgery. Joan Farr*



Arranger Kate Gill;  
Artist Shirley King



Arranger Angela Marcucci;  
Artist Lynne Fisher  
From Art-a-Blooming,  
September 2014

## Think Spring

We are collecting dahlia tubers for the Plant Sale next April. Please put them in individual brown paper bags, labeled with their color and size (both of the bloom and of the height - photos certainly help) and leave them at 20 Hancock St for replanting in March. Tubers should be dug after the first frost, left to dry out for several hours and then bagged.



Morning Study Group Eightieth Anniversary Celebration at the home of Christina and George Gamota



Arrangement by Meade Fasciano with dahlias from Ashley Rooney's garden.

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Lexington Field and Garden Club  
P. O. Box 133  
Lexington, MA 02421