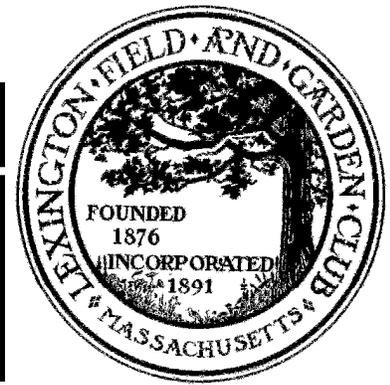


OVER 130 YEARS OF MAKING LEXINGTON MORE BEAUTIFUL

Lexington Field & Garden Club



Dear Fellow Members:

For years the early signs of fall excited me, as they heralded the start of a new school year. They weren't so pleasing once I was in the working world. But after I joined LFGC, those telltale sights and smells became exciting again! I look forward to seeing the friends I've not over summer, the many things we'll learn and accomplish together over the year, and the fun we'll have in the process. I hope you feel the same way.

This fall is extra special to me as I assume the honor of being your President. I hope I will not disappoint you, and I hope you will not be shy about offering me feedback. I also hope you will not be shy about offering your time and expertise. Our club has so many needs and opportunities for your participation. Please consider taking on an additional task or two over the year and/or assuming additional responsibility on a favorite project team. Beyond sustaining a wonderful variety of activities, our many hands and voices will make light work and lots of laughter.

Speaking of sustaining activities, I congratulate all our garden teams for overcoming very challenging weather to keep their gems alive and cheery this summer. Thank you for delighting the admirers and making your fellow members proud once again.

As you can see in the yearbook, we have a wonderful set of programs lined up for the year, followed by our biennial garden tour. We aim to add at least a couple more field trips into the schedule. Stay tuned. (Hint: Would you like to organize one?) Two major events in September will get the good times rolling—a super program at the main meeting on the 8th and Art-A-Blooming on the 24th-26th. I hope to see you at both. Read on for more details and other news.

Welcome back, and thanks in advance for your continuing help and enthusiasm!

Ann

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Inside this issue:

Art-A-Blooming	2
Looking for Tour Gardens	
Native Tree Contest	
Email and Newsletters	
Plant Sale News	3
Horticulture Minutes	
We Remember	
October Preview	

September 8: National Heritage Museum 9:30 am refreshments, 10 am meeting/program



Mystery, Mayhem, Murder, Money and More!

Our first meeting of the year gives star billing to a favorite flower, the tulip—just in time and with plenty of incentive for the bulb planting season. Enjoy a fascinating, colorful historical trek from Asia through exotic Persia and eventually to Holland with the principal actor in an economic drama of major proportion.

Ila Cox, our storyteller, weaves together this fabulous tale in a lively premiere presentation especially created for LFGC.

For those interested in doing some advance reading try “Tulipomania,” by Mike Dash, for a delightful tiptoe through the tulips preview.

Blooming Fabulous!

11th Art-A-Blooming is Sept. 24-26

Art-A-Blooming is coming once again. Our collaboration with the Lexington Arts and Crafts Society will be held on:

Friday, September 24th, 11 am - 4 pm

Saturday, September 25th, 11 am - 4 pm

Sunday, September 26th, noon - 4 pm

If you've ever been to Art in Bloom at the Museum of Fine Arts you know just how beautiful floral interpretations of artworks can be. Thanks to the founding efforts of Club members Virginia Carabbio, Lillian Cohen and Barbara Labitt, we have our own version, focusing on the work of the talented artists from the Lexington Arts and Crafts Society and flower designers from the Lexington Field and Garden Club.



This biennial event will be the 11th Art-A-Blooming held. There will be 28 unique floral displays to view. Our arrangers have complete artistic freedom to come up with a floral interpretation of the art object of their choice, which has resulted in ever increasingly colorful and inventive arrangements.

Make a day of it and invite your family and friends. Admission and parking are free at the Lexington Arts and Craft Building at 130 Waltham Street.

For more information, call one of our Co-Chairs, Harriet Hathaway and Teresa Deible.

Still Looking for Great Gardens

Thanks to those of you who have already suggested gardens for our tour next June. To ensure a good variety that will look attractive simultaneously, we still need more candidates! Please reflect on all the beautiful gardens you've seen around town and give your suggestions ASAP to our tour co-chairs, Joan Farr (jgardener33@aol.com) and Linda Peters (lindaepeters@hotmail.com). Please don't delay. We need to make decisions before the gardens get completely exhausted. We appreciate your help!

Planting Native Trees?

As announced last spring, the Garden Club Federation of MA is sponsoring a native tree planting contest. You can help us try to win by telling Jewel Kuljian about any native trees planted on your property, a public space or in cooperation with a school or civic group between November 2009 and April 2011. **See the insert for full details and a list of trees native to this area.** The list is also a great reference tool for any future tree planting you may have in mind.



Saving Trees—and Keeping Your Email Up-to-Date

Did you receive this newsletter by email recently? If not, the Club does not have your current email address and/or your spam blocker is shutting us out!



To make sure you don't miss any Club news, please put our email address in your email address book: **lfgc024@gmail.com**.

To update your email address with us, just send us your new one.

Now that we send newsletters by email, some members have asked us to stop sending them paper copies. We'd be happy to honor this request whenever possible and save some trees in the process. **To stop the paper copies, please send an email to the Club address.** Simply put "Stop Paper Copy" in the subject line and your name and address in the message.

Plant Sale Thanks for 2010.....And Requests for 2011

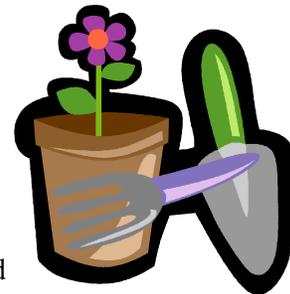


Big thanks to everyone who contributed their plants, time, expertise, strong backs, and good humor to our plant sale last spring. Thanks also to all members who patronized the sale. Despite a very soggy start to the day, we had another success, raising nearly \$5,600 to help us run the club. This is great news, as our dues cover only a little over half of our operating expenses.

We all must be especially grateful to our Plant Sale Chair, Jessie Foster, who worked tirelessly for weeks leading up to the sale and singlehandedly put away all the wet equipment after the rest of us had moved on to our gardens and other spring pleasures.

Also, let's not forget how lucky we are to take over part of her yard for most of the spring and her storage shed for all of the year! **Jessie needs and deserves more help**—so please start thinking about joining her committee next spring as well as donating plants and coming to potting days.

Speaking of potting, now is the perfect time to look around your garden and mark plants you're willing to contribute next spring, especially those that are late to emerge and unusual ones that will widen the assortment we can offer to our customers. Also consider doing your dividing this fall and overwintering your donations in a corner of your garden. This will make your spring work a snap, with no worries about the weather being too cold, hot or wet. Please don't forget to label your plants and note the bloom color. For plants in bloom now, a photo is easy and will be very useful to customers at our sale.



Wanted—Horticulture Minutes

Do you have a special gardening tip to share? Or a favorite plant about which you've become an expert? Or a new trick to keep creatures big or small from destroying your plants? Or some recommendations for particularly useful gardening books, websites or other sources? Or....?

We seek volunteers to share a couple of minutes of their knowledge at each of our main meetings. If you're willing, please contact Ann Webster or Judy Uhrig.

We Remember

We note with sadness the passing of Mudge Hall in June. Mudge was a longstanding and energetic member, including chair of the atrium plant team at the National Heritage Museum and a past co-chair of the Monday Evening Group. She also was the mother of fellow member Lisa Brown. We extend our sympathy to all her family and friends.

Coming in October ...

Our Annual Evening Meeting on October 13 will be unusual this year....We'll be at a **different location**, at the Visitors Center of Minute Man National Historical Park. There we'll have a special presentation, just for the Lexington Field & Garden Club, on the developing landscape of the Park—the challenge of creating and maintaining a sustainable site for the rich history while contending with the modern realities of a commuter artery, an airport and three separate local towns.

Might you need a ride to this meeting? Several members have already volunteered to pick up others who do not drive in the dark....More details in the October Newsletter.

At the October meeting we'll also be kicking off a Vases for Veterans drive. Recycle your surplus glass and other vases with a great organization....See page 4 for more details.

What's Going On ?

Events and Happenings to Mark On Your Calendar

- September 8** Welcome back! Our first meeting of the fall features "Tulipomania"—the fascinating history of tulips. National Heritage Museum. See page 1.
- September 14-16** Flower Show School, Course I See gcfm.org.
- September 22** MassHort and the Perennial Plant Association Seminar "Exploring Design, Plant Selection and Maintenance of the Mixed Border" at Elm Bank, 8am - 5pm See masshort.org.
- September 24-26** Art-A-Blooming at the Lexington Arts and Crafts Society See page 2.
- September 28** Floral Design Techniques Workshop (not for beginners), Espousal Center, Waltham
- October 4** Horticulture Morning—Ferns of New England, Espousal Center, Waltham, 10am



Don't Forget Our Free Passes to Tower Hill and Garden in the Woods

These are part of our memberships in the Worcester County Horticultural Society and the NE Wildflower Society. For details, refer to the May 2010 newsletter or call Ann Webster. Call Ann or Sue Hays to borrow a membership card.

Vases helping Veterans...A unique way to help Veterans and recycle your vases!

The Greenhouse & Gardens Program at the Brockton VA Medical Center provides rehabilitation and vocational training to Veterans living with mental illness, substance addictions and physical challenges. The program is staffed by one registered Horticultural Therapist and one Gardener. They are assisted by 3 - 5 compensated work therapy veterans and 2 - 4 part-time volunteers. There are 15 - 20 other veterans who work in the program 3-5 days a week, learning greenhouse and gardening skills which may lead to work in the community.

The VA provides them with the space, consisting of a large greenhouse and outdoor space for vegetable and flower gardens. Work activities offered to veterans include plant watering and feeding, transplanting and propagating, outdoor gardening (flowers and vegetables), landscaping (mowing, pruning, edging, weeding, watering), flower arranging and seasonal horticultural projects (seed starting, pumpkin decorating, poinsettia growing, holiday crafts, container painting, herb and flower drying and crafts, etc.).

Sales of vegetables and flowers grown in the gardens and greenhouse are held five days a week. Special plants are grown to sell for holidays (i.e., shamrocks, geraniums, mums, and poinsettias). Flower arrangements and plants can be ordered in advance for special occasions. Customers include VA Medical Staff, veterans and the general public. All sale proceeds support the program, providing funds to purchase seeds, soil, pots, gardening tools and all other items necessary to keep the program alive.

Teresa Deible will collect your vases for this unique program on a regular basis. There will be a special collection at the October Evening General Meeting. If you would like to make arrangements with Teresa to drop off or for pick up of your vases, please contact her at ated68@yahoo.com or 781-538-5438.

