



Say Cheese!

Now that we have gotten most of our historical records together (see the article on page 3) we would like to add to our history by capturing today's members for posterity. **Jane Jeffers**, our publicity Chair, is making arrangements with Jen Solis of the Newburyport Daily News to attend our February 1st meeting and photograph all our members. The photo will run in the Daily News alongside an historical photo of the club members. The photos will accompany one in a series of articles written by **Virginia Hallman** on the history of the West Newbury Garden Club.

The series will feature an article every month or so on the club's history, its work in the community, its work with plants (including the Cherry Hill peonies and the plant sale), its members and

member activities.

Now, this is **not** the "Calendar Girls" so there will be no hiding behind the potted palms, no need for that strategically placed fan, and no need to be shy. Just search out your most flattering get-up and practice your smile, and since its February in New England, go a little heavy on the eyeliner and blusher!

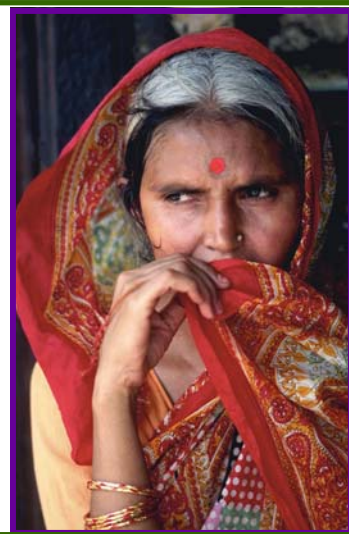
It would be just lovely if everyone could attend, to celebrate the success of a club which started out with just few members and has grown in recent years to include 70 members.

Hopefully the weather will cooperate, and if you need a ride, call a friend, or call Marsha, and we will make sure you are there for our "Photo Op."

February 1 Indian Gardens & Styles

Joyce Bakshi will introduce us to the floral designs of her native country, India, a rich and enduring culture. Joyce will bring several examples of Indian art and floral styles to show us, and these will be raffled off to some lucky winners, so crack open that piggy bank! She will lead a discussion, and show us a colorful and fascinating slide presentation on Indian garden styles and plants. If you have been to India, are planning to go, or will simply never get there, this is an evening for you. Don't let that cabin fever get you down; grab a friend and go to India for the night!

Hospitality will be provided by chairs **Lisa Arnold** and **Jane Jeffers** with Carol Hurn, Laurel Mackay, Terry Ritzel, and Deb Zoltai.



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"Never sow seeds on a waning moon."

This bit of wisdom dates back to the ancient Egyptians. Lunar fluctuations affect Earth's magnetic field, and its atmosphere, causing all water, including that in even the smallest living organism, to move in almost tidal fashion. This makes significant rainfall statistically more likely after a new moon.

— Tips from the Old Gardeners

Club Elections **New Officers and Directors**

Our Annual Meeting in May is not only a great party, it is the time when we elect our new Club Officers and Directors. The Club's Officers and Directors serve for 2 years, and then, for the most part, drift gently out of office with a sigh and a flutter.

Drifting gently offstage this year are:

President **Marsha Cope**

First Vice President **Priscilla Styer**

Second Vice President **Kathy Krajewski**

and 3 of the 4 Directors:

Nancy Perkins

Linda DeCoste

Diane Dobson

A **very big thank you** for all your enthusiasm, accomplishments, laughs, great work, and wonderful ideas. You made a huge difference to all our members, and we appreciate it!

So What Happens Next?

The outgoing president becomes a Director for a 2 year term, and, as **Kathy Krajewski** has already been nominated for First Vice President, we need nominations for 4 vacancies: the President and Second Vice President, and 2 Directors. The Board of Directors has proposed a nominating committee to locate nominees and oversee our election.

What Do the Officers and Directors Do?

The **President** chairs our regular meetings and the Board meetings, and supervises the general interests of the club. She works with the other officers to ensure the club runs

smoothly, and represents the club to the Federation. Although in the past the President has usually written and published the newsletter, it is not necessarily part of the job, and your current editor is willing to continue, with input from the new President, if she so desires.

The **Second Vice President** is responsible for the Hospitality Committee sign-ups, and making sure the monthly Chairs understand what to do to nourish the hungry hordes. **Kathy** instituted a new procedure this year, so the 2nd VP does not have to be at the Annex early to open up, or stay late to lock up, and the position is much less demanding as a result. She also wrote a description of the duties, so it's easier to get started.

Directors help bring new ideas to the club, and help keep us on track. They attend 9 or 10 BOD meetings per year, which are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., last a little over an hour, and generally include homemade cookies.

And What Should I Do?

Please consider volunteering for one of these positions, as it is a great way to have some fun, make great friends, and help the club, all at the same time. The roles are less work than they used to be, due to some changes made last year in the way we work and what the jobs entail.

If you know someone who would be a good candidate for one of these positions, please call a member of the Nominating Committee or an officer. The Nominating Committee is being pulled together as we go to press, and will be announced at the February meeting.

Horticulture **Farm Plants 10,000 Daffodils**

You may recall that at last year's plant sale, Arrowhead Farm donated a dozen or so \$25 Gift Certificates, a raft of discount vouchers, and several lovely plants to our sale. They were a relatively new operation, at the time, and certainly entered the Support your Local Garden Club effort with a splash.

This fall, they planted ten thousand daffodil bulbs, which in their first year will produce about 30 thousand blooms. According to an article in the Daily News, the farm has done this in anticipation of its 325th anniversary celebration in 2008. Arrowhead has been operated by the same family at its Old Ferry Road location in Newburyport since 1683. They run a crop rotation of fresh fruits and vegetables,

green-house grown garden plants, forage crops, livestock and forest products, which they either sell from the farm's retail location, or to wholesalers within a 100 mile radius of Newburyport.

This should be quite a spectacular display this spring, so mark your calendar!



Members in the News **Garden Club's History**

Among the numerous projects underway in celebration of our 70 years, collecting and organizing our historical documents may be the most daunting.

After much rummaging through our various attics and our closets' top shelves and all the other dusty corners of the homes and barns in West Newbury, we have finally pulled our records together in one place. **Maguy Thomson** (and the indefatigable **Tim**), **Ginger Selman**, **Dot Cavanaugh**, **Virginia Hallman**, **Linda DeCoste**, the gone-but-never-forgotten **Paula Howell**, and your smudged president, along with countless others joined in the treasure hunt, searched high and low, peered and squinted, and prevailed. We have almost all the records, minutes, photos, awards, and newspaper articles which capture the history of the past 70 years of the West Newbury Garden Club, as well as past yearbooks, newsletters, garden tour posters and plant sale flyers.

Our Motto: **Dusty But Undaunted!**

Pollyann Statom is currently sorting and filing the materials, and is looking for a permanent home for them, possibly in the GAR Memorial Library. If any of you should have any old items which you feel should be added to our files, please bring them to the next meeting. The 70th Anniversary Committee is planning an exhibition of our glorious past at the Library in late spring, and it may then migrate to the Town Offices in the summer.

Another, less tangible part of our history is in the hearts

and minds of our members, and three of our longest-standing members, **Bea Ropes**, **Joan Colby**, and **Nancy Perkins**, met at **Dianne Faulkner's** home to recount their stories and remembrances to be recorded as part of our oral history.



Shown above, from the left, are **Nancy Perkins**, who first joined the club in 1966 and who is the gracious hostess of our September Kickoff meeting, **Joan Colby**, our member with the most seniority, who joined in 1963, (44 years!) and **Bea Ropes**, an Honorary member, still twinkling after 41 years in the Club. Many thanks for taking the time to contribute such a personal touch to our celebrations, and to the historical record!

Club & Federation News **Annual District Lunch**



one earlier from **Marsha** (388-2076). If you are interested in participating in the Design Division, apply early, as the 4 slots in each class tend to go quickly.

The Danversport Yacht Club, located on the lovely Porter River in Danvers, will be the venue for the Northern District Annual Meeting to be held Tuesday, April 17. The meeting will run from 8:30 to 3:00 and lunch will be served. The Yacht Club has an excellent reputation for fine food, and the location is attractive, with wonderful views of the river.

A Small Standard Flower Show will be held at the meeting from 12:00 to 3:00, with Division I, Design, Classes 1-4, and Division II, Horticulture, Classes 1-24. Brochures will be available at our February meeting, or you can request

The Northern District Board decided to have each club in the district do a foam poster board 20" X 30" on our Club's activities this year, to be exhibited at the Annual District Meeting. It is a great way to share club doings and a chance to show off awards, projects in-progress or finished, and noteworthy events within the club. The WNGC Board felt this would be a great opportunity to display some of the 70th anniversary materials **Pollyann** is pulling together for the GAR Library exhibit.

If you can lend a hand, please call **Pollyann** at 462-8786.



WNGC

WEST NEWBURY GARDEN CLUB

30 Merrimac St
Amesbury MA, 01913-4009

Phone: 978 388-2076
E-mail: bpgroup@verizon.net
Website: www.WNGC.org

*Gardens for beauty,
learning, and sharing*

The West Newbury Garden Club was founded in 1936 to encourage and cultivate an interest in gardening, to aid in protecting and conserving our natural resources, to further the study of horticulture and flower arranging, and to promote civic beauty. For more information, please contact Marsha Cope at 978 388 2076, at bpgroup@verizon.net, or at 30 Merrimac St, Amesbury MA, 01913.

Next Board Meeting
February 8, 2007 7:00pm



Ask Peony

What was that Salad??

Even though I couldn't be there in person, my reporters brought news of the unseemly crowd hovering around **Carole Ward's** contribution to the Holiday Festivities at Donna's house in December. I **know** some of you went back for thirds, and I have your names. And I have a tape measure. Sure, Carole says it's not fattening ...

Cranberry-Broccoli Salad

Recipe from Carole Ward

Salad

- 1-1/2 c Fresh or Frozen Cranberries, halved
- 3/4 c Sugar
- 1 bunch Broccoli Florets (about 4 cups)
- 4 c Cabbage, shredded
- 1 c Walnuts or Pecans, in large pieces
- 4 slices Bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 1/2 c Golden Raisins
- 1 Red Onion, thinly sliced

Dressing (the proportion of these ingredients can be varied according to taste)

- 2/3 c Light Mayonnaise
- 1/3 c Non-fat Yogurt
- 1/3 c Sugar
- 2 tsp. Vinegar

Put the cranberries and sugar in bowl and set aside until sugar is dissolved. You can substitute Craisins for the sugared cranberries.

Cook the bacon, drain and crumble. (If not serving the salad the same day, save bacon until ready to serve.) Shred cabbage in food processor or by hand. Slice onion, very thinly.

In large salad bowl, mix cabbage, onion, broccoli florets, nut pieces, raisins, and cranberry mixture. Mix in the dressing and refrigerate for an hour or so. When ready to serve, crumble the bacon and stir in. The salad keeps several days in the refrigerator. This is a very tasty, very healthy dish, and it looks just gorgeous on the table.