



West Newbury Garden Club Newsletter • February, 2015

WINE & CHEESE TASTING A GREAT SUCCESS

Traditionally, our annual holiday party has been a potluck dinner. This year, members were treated to a lively and informative presentation by Luca Mignogna, cheesemaker and proprietor of Wolf Meadow Farm in Amesbury. Luca grew up in an agricultural region of Italy. His family owned a restaurant, and he developed a passion for nature, sustainable agriculture and quality food. Over the years, Luca had the opportunity to work in many distinguished international restaurants and hotels, but time spent in his uncle's cheese factory as a youth prompted him to follow his own passion for creating Italian artisan cheeses. In 2013, Luca opened Wolf Meadow Farm, located at 91 High Street in Amesbury. All cheeses are made on the premises, with milk from West Newbury's very own Artichoke Farm on Rogers Road.

Luca described, then shared, samples of each of the cheeses made at Wolf Meadow Farm, including Mozzarella, Ricotta, Caciocavallo, Caciotta and Scamorza. Members enjoyed not only the cheeses, but wines recommended to accompany each cheese. Further information on the dairy and store can be found at: www.wolfmeadowfarm.com/index.html (continued p. 2)

NEXT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Feb. 5, 2015, 6:45 pm

Town Offices Annex
381 Main Street, W. N.

Hosting the meeting

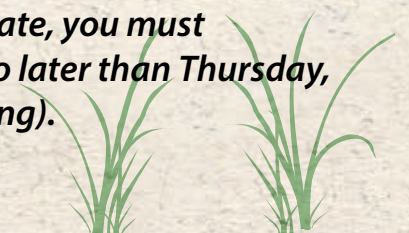
Chair Kathy Krajeski
Lynn Boyd
Karen Diombala
Gloria Kuran
Joan Quackenbos
Tracy Peter

Need a ride to the meeting?
Call Linda Schaeffer at
978-363-5251

Flower Arranging Workshop

The wind is howling, temperatures are dropping, and dedicated gardeners turn to creative indoor endeavors. The February speaker is talented West Newbury Garden Club member, Priscilla Styer. Priscilla will lead members in creating small flower arrangements. The cost is \$10.00 per person. Priscilla will provide both the container and flowers. Participants will need to bring their own flower clippers, and may bring branches under 15" in length if they would like to include this element.

If you did not sign up, and wish to participate, you must contact Linda Schaeffer (978-363-5251) no later than Thursday, January 29th (one week prior to the meeting).



Holiday Party Highlights

Thanks to the Holiday Party Committee, chaired by Linda Schaeffer, the annex was transformed into a glittering hall of holiday cheer. Tables displayed beautiful flower arrangements that members had made for the Cushing House. Club Chair, Jane Jeffers announced rules for the Yankee Swap, and amid laughter and good cheer, members exchanged gifts. Committee members also included Linda DeCoste, Carrie Hometh, Mary Kemper, Kathy Mandeville with help from Kathy Krajeski. Thanks also to Donna Greene who coordinated the wine tasting. Visit the back page for a list of wines served at the party!



LAST MEETING'S HIGHLIGHTS Holiday Wreath Workshop

Members trudged into December's meeting carrying clippers and gloves; pine, balsam, spruce and arborvitae boughs, winter berry branches, and decorations. It was our annual Holiday Wreath Workshop. Wire rings were soon transformed into thirteen wreathes that were later hung throughout West Newbury. Chr. Susan Dougherty, and members Peg Duchemin, Barbara Haack, Jeanne Pucci, and Barbara Warne provided refreshments.

Leftover wreath materials did not go to waste as member Cyndy Bourquard coordinated a holiday decorations workshop for West Newbury seniors the following day.

This annual event is an opportunity for members to teach and learn about the art of wreath making, but as importantly, to share conversation, promote friendships and wish each other the best for the holiday season.

Don't Miss This Event

Growing Native in New England: A Beginner's Guide to Cultivating Biodiversity in Your Garden

Thursday, March 19, 2015 6:30-7:30pm
G.A.R. Memorial Library, West Newbury, MA

Integrate your inner gardener with your inner naturalist! Presenter, Michele Augeri, is an avid gardener and amateur naturalist who has been habitat gardening for over 20 years. This program will introduce you to the many aspects of creating a landscape which nurtures both its human and non-human inhabitants with native plants. For further information, call 978-363-1105 or sbabb@mvlc.org.

Board Meeting Highlights

Planning Ahead

The Board met on January 8th. A suggestion was made that next year's Holiday Wreath Workshop should begin with a brief review on wreath-making assembly. Also, members of the Newburyport Horticultural Society have been invited to join us for our March meeting presentation "America's Romance with the English Garden".

Member News

We're always interested in keeping our members informed and included. If you know of any members who have special events going on in their lives, please tell one of the Board members.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

(Titles below are hot web links)

Keepsake Annuals Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 1:00 pm
Tower Hill Botanical Garden, Boylston, MA
Presentation included with cost of admission.
Barbara Pierson graduate of Cornell's School of Horticulture, Nursery Manager at White Flower Farm and frequent TV and radio guest will discuss the best old-fashioned annuals for beds and containers and the new versions of some our favorites. Whether you like fragrant heliotrope or self-sowing verbena, she will cover the A-Z of easy care heirloom types and showcase combinations that work.
Click on title above or visit Tower Hill website for details & registration.

The Right-Size Flower Garden: Kerry Ann Mendez Book Signing
Wednesday, February 8, 2015 5:30 – 8:00 pm
Hunnewell Carriage House, 900 Washington St., Wellesley, MA 02482
Kerry Ann Mendez, a frequent TV guest, will speak on the subject of her new book, "The Right-Size Flower Garden: Simplify Your Outdoor Space with Smart Design Solutions and Plant Choices." This inspiring lecture provides easy-to-follow right-sizing strategies, recommended no-fuss plant material, and design tips for stunning year round gardens that will be as close to 'autopilot' as you can get.
5:30 Wine & Cheese Reception 6:30 Presentation & Book Signing
Click on title above or visit Mass Hort website for details & registration.

Boston Flower Show Wednesday - Sunday, March 11-15, 2015
This year's theme is "Season of Enchantment" and will again feature garden designers, floral arrangers, photographers and amateur horticulturalists as well as top garden writers, industry experts, local chefs and a marketplace. Daily admission is \$20, and \$17 for seniors. Tickets may be purchased online or at the show. Further information can be found at: <http://www.bostonflowershow.com>

88th Annual Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill Annual Tour
Thursday, May 21, 2015 Boston, MA 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Rain or Shine
Self-guided tour through twelve private gardens. Advance tickets at \$10 savings are available online at: www.beaconhillgardenclub.org or
Tour Day tickets \$45 on the day of the tour.

GCFM Historic Gardens Conference and Tour
Thursday, May 28, 2015 10:00 am-3:00 pm
St. Bridget Church Parish Center Hall, Lexington, MA
The featured speakers are from Old Sturbridge Village and Historic New England. Lecture will be followed by lunch and tour of four (4) gardens in Lexington, MA. Program registration form can be found at: gcfm.org. Registration of \$37.50 includes lunch.
For further info contact: Winnie Fitzpatrick at rfitzpa24@aol.com or call 508-457-6246. REGISTER EARLY! Note: Jane Jeffers will be going and is interested in carpooling.

Garden Planning

The holidays have come and gone. Now's the time for that hot cup of tea and a pad and paper. Will you be repeating, reducing or expanding your garden this year? Will you be adding a new garden? What might you start from seed or plan to buy as seedlings? Here are links to articles that can get us dreaming and planning:

Organic Seed Catalogs

- [Mother Earth News](#)
- [Organic Gardening Magazine](#)
- [Source for Garden Catalogs](#)

No space? No problem!

- [Growing Vegetables, Herbs and Annuals in Containers](#)
- [Growing Potatoes in Containers](#)



How to best organize the space:

There are a number of combinations that will grow better and work together in the garden.

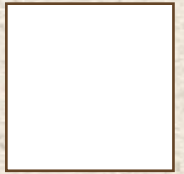
- [32 Companion Planting Tips Chart](#)
- [Vegetable Companion Planting Chart](#)

"A garden is half-made when it is well planned. The best gardener is one who does the most gardening by the winter fire."

Liberty Hyde Bailey



West Newbury Garden Club
P. O. Box 11
West Newbury, MA 01985



Visit our website TODAY!
www.wngc.org

You will find links to upcoming events and gardening resources as well as copies of newsletters, the club's history, and much more.

WINES SERVED AT THE HOLIDAY PARTY

Côtes du Rhône Belleruche 2012 M.Chapoutier

Grape: Grenache, Syrah-Shiraz
Taste: A superb wine with rich aromas of dark fruit, earthy minerals and spice. Soft and round on the palate with smooth tannins, rich blackberry and cherry fruit, hints of liquorice and a substantial finish.
Nose: A very well balanced wine with good fruit (black currants, cherry) plus liquorice undertones.
Mouth: this wine has a great structure with firm and silky tannins.

Angelini - Veneto Pinot Grigio IGT

Type: White / Pinot Grigio Year: 2012
Region: Veneto Varietal: 100% Pinot Grigio
Color: Straw yellow with golden reflections.
Bouquet: Intense and persistent with a light fragrance of bread crust. Taste: A soft, well balanced and dry white wine with flavors of tropical fruit and a clear, fresh finish; hinting of white peaches.
Serving Temp: Chilled: 55°F (13°C) Aging: 1-2 years

Chilensis Reserva Chardonnay 2012

This Chardonnay is a bright golden-yellow in color. The nose offers aromas of pear and tropical fruit such as banana and pineapple accompanied by subtle touches of white peach, mineral notes, and vanilla. The palate is medium-bodied and delicate, with high acidity and good persistence.

Nicosia Nero d'avola 2012

Color: dark ruby red. Nose: typically fruity, with touches of morello cherry. Palate: the fruity aroma can be tasted in the mouth, warm and lingering.

