

West Newbury Garden Club Newsletter • October, 2016



SAVING BEES AND POLLINATORS

Bees and other Pollinators continue to be on a decline for numerous reasons, but, you can make a difference in your own back yard.

Go Native - Choose native plants in a variety of shapes and colors to encourage diversity. Native wildflowers will be better adapted to your climate than exotics. There are over 4,000 bee species in North America, ranging from two millimeters to an inch (2.5 centimeters) long, so blossoms should vary in species and size.

Keep It Blooming - Make sure something is blooming each season (spring, summer, and fall). Some bee species are active all year, others only in April and May, still others in July and August, and all need to feed regardless of the date.

Save the Queen - Newly emerging bumblebee queens need spring-blooming flowers, shrubs, and trees. Bumblebees, unlike, honeybees, have an annual cycle. New queens are born in the fall, and after breeding they find a place to hibernate for the winter. When the insects emerge in spring, they need nectar and pollen sources—or they can't start their colonies.

Plant Milkweed - Adding milkweed to your garden provides food for monarch butterfly caterpillars, but don't forget nectar sources for the adults, such as flowers that bloom in late summer. Adults get especially hungry in the fall as they head south to their overwintering sites in Mexico.

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NEXT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Oct. 6, 2016, 6:45 pm

Town Offices Annex
381 Main Street, W. N.

Hosting the meeting

Chair: Sarah Robinson
Lori Boudrow
Elisa Colstad
Helena Dion

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

Confessions of A Seed Snatcher

Marie Patrice Masse, an enthusiastic gardener and nature lover, has collected seeds for many years and more often than not can be found tending her 4500 square foot organic flower and vegetable garden at the Stow Community Garden. *Confessions of a Seed Snatcher*, will include a slideshow and lecture. It is a humorous and insightful journey of discovery into the world of seed saving-- from seed biology and politics, to seed quirkiness and adaptability.

If you've not already done so, please also remember to bring your annual dues payment of \$30.

www.wngc.org

Looking For WNGC Photos

Marie and Alison Scher did a heroic job of sorting photos and preparing a slide show for our 80th Anniversary Celebration. Many photos have been taken over the years. Some are in our newsletters, some in Club scrapbooks, and others in our own collections.

Photos don't last, and scrapbooks spend more time on shelves than in view. Marie is willing to digitize, i.e. scan, and preserve WNGC photos for a more permanent club archive. If you have photos you are willing to share, please bring them to a future monthly meeting. Make sure that your name is on the envelope, and it would be helpful to identify the event and members pictured. The photos will be returned. An advanced "thank you" to Marie Scher for taking this project on!



Celebrating 80 Years with our many "sparkling" members!



Photos by Barbara Merrill

LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Celebrating 80 Years!

The first meeting of the year celebrated our club's 80th anniversary. Festooned with balloons, ribbons and numerous strings of white lights, the West Newbury Town Hall Annex looked dazzling as nearly 50 members and guests mingled and chatted. A home cooked potluck dinner, accompanied by appetizers and a huge birthday cake was enjoyed by all the party goers. On hand to celebrate with the members were Town Selectmen Glenn Kemper and Joe Anderson who presented the club with a \$300 donation courtesy of Green Stride, a group that organizes marathons and other racing events.



Following the socializing and buffet dinner, President, Kathy Mandeville, thanked the Selectmen of West Newbury and Green Stride for their contribution, introduced guests Carole Ward, President of the Newbury Garden Club and Karen Houston, President of the Newburyport

Horticultural Society. Kathy also recognized the newly elected officers and board members, as well as highlighted some of this year's upcoming programs and hands on activities listed in our beautifully designed club program booklets. New this year will be a Garden and Arts Tour in June, 2017. Thanks to Joan Tranfaglia for the beautiful mums at the Annex entrance. Many thanks to the 80th Anniversary Committee Chair, Anne Jarzowski, and members Dot Cavanaugh, Evelyn Thornton, Dianne Faulkner, Jeanne Pucci, Carrie Hometh, Kathy Mandeville, Carrie Crowley and Peg Duchemin for planning decorations and festivities.

Thanks for Pruning in Front of Page School

Many of us who frequently drive by the entrance to Page School on Route 113 have been distracted by the massive overgrowth of trees, vines, bushes and weeds to the left of the school's driveway. This all changed the last week of August when the town's Department of Public Works, under the direction of Gary Bill, brought in staff and shredders to get this area back into shape. It took days to do, but they uncovered the stone wall and improved the look of the area tremendously. If you have a chance, send a note of thanks to [Gary Bill](#) for tackling this project.

Board Meeting Highlights

The Board met on September 8th. The 80th Anniversary/first meeting was well attended, and comments reflected a great start to the year. Board members supported a garden assessment survey that would be conducted by each town garden committee this Fall. Results should help prioritize needs of town gardens in the coming year. The Yearbook was well received with few corrections, and thanks to editors Marie Scher and Alison Scher. Kathy Mandeville and Marie Scher will attend a GCFA Northern district meeting in October.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

(Green titles below are hot web links)

Perennials Webinar by Kerry Mendez of Perennially Yours

Thursday, Oct. 27, 2016 2:00 PM EST Fee: \$7.00

Radical Perennials: Nonstop Color! No-Fuss! Environmentally Responsible! Showcases superhero perennials that provide superb color through flowers and/or leaves month after month.

Preregistration required through the website: pyours.com/webinar

Participants will receive a downloaded link to the webinar to review the presentation later at their leisure.

Great Gardens & Landscaping Symposium, Woodstock, VT.

Registration is now open for the Great Gardens and Landscaping Symposium held April 21 and 22, 2017 in Woodstock, VT. Information on speakers for both Friday afternoon and Saturday can be found on the website: pyours.com/symposium. This event sells out quickly so early registration is suggested.

GCFM National Garden Club Symposium Advanced Study for Flower Show

Darlene Newell, Horticulture "Ferns & Chrysanthemums";

Allied Subject "Bee - It's Good to be Queen"

Mary B. Huntoon, Design "Ins and Outs of Space"

Kaye B. Vosburgh, Allied Subject "Design Influences - East Meets West"

Attend for credit, enlightenment or fun!

You will enjoy stimulating presentations, camaraderie and delicious culinary offerings by the Hotel's renowned chef!

October 18-20 at the Doubletree in Milford, MA.

Please see GCFM.org for more details.

Lake Street Gardens Annual Tree and Shrub Sale

Sept 15-28th - 25% off Sept 29 - Oct 12th - 30% off

Oct 13 - 26th - 40% off Oct 27 - Nov 9th - 50% off

at Lake Street Garden Center, 37 Lake Street, Salem, NH

Topsfield Fair and The GCFM present a standard flower show, "Treasures from Our Past," September 30, 2016 – October 10, 2016

GCFM Fall Meeting

October 25, 2016 Boxborough, MA

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Save Money on Mulch - Leave bare ground. Most species of bees are solitary, and some 70 percent of them dig a nest in the ground to raise their young—something they can't do if mulch is in the way.

Many good mail-order companies, such as White Flower Farms, sell select groupings of plants to attract pollinators. Here is also another such resource, www.northeastpollinator.com.

Excerpts from Jennifer S. Holland, National Geographic, 5/24/15

Updates and Details

Welcome back to returning member Sharon Dahn

Yearbook Corrections:

Member News

Lynn Boyd sings and dances with a group called **Voices of Hope** which is performing at the North Shore Music Theater on Oct. 15, 2016. Voices of Hope will be performing a magical night full of all your Broadway favorites! From the soaring melodies of Rodgers and Hammerstein, the tuneful wit of Cole Porter, and the rock n' roll rhythms of Leiber and Stoller, to contemporary selections - there's something for everyone in this musical celebration; "Broadway for Life!" Voices of Hope productions benefit cancer research at the Termeer Center at Mass General Hospital. If any one is interested in attending, tickets can be purchased from the North Shore Music Theater website.

Carrie Crowley will be taking the Landscape Design for Homeowners course being offered this Fall by the Newburyport Adult and Community Education.

Tracy Peter will be participating in the April courses of the GCFM Garden Study School

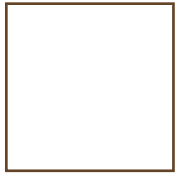
2016-17 Newsletter Team

Layout: Alison Scher

Contributors: Kathy Mandeville, Virginia Hallman (articles) and Jane Jeffers (upcoming events.)



West Newbury Garden Club
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Visit our website
www.wngc.org

Facebook
www.facebook.com/westnewburygardenclub

BACK TO THE FUTURE!



*Story and photos by
Virginia Hallman*



Last March I saw a flyer advertising a presentation on Winter Moths. Several Saturdays later, on a seasonally cool morning, two dozen or so of us listened to local tree expert share his considerable knowledge of the moths and damage control. The setting was a working farm in Boxford. A warming fire crackled in the ample stone hearth of the restored dining room (circa 1790) and a tiger cat occasionally wandered in for a pat. Discussion and substantial snacks followed, plus an invitation to take a guided tour of the grounds. This is how I met iFarm, LLC, a local venture into the world of Permaculture.

Space doesn't permit more than the briefest of descriptions of this approach to sustainable living and its practice in farming. Experiencing the farm is a step into a past informed by nature's wisdom and 1900's style human effort under an encompassing ethics set. It felt alive and fertile, from the awakening plants and pair of draft horses to the renewed farmhouse. Today it thrives as both classroom and working model. The energetic, dedicated force behind iFarm is GM Christine Barenfeld, who purchased the 17 acre farm from a developer in 2009. Years of historically accurate renovations followed, resulting in National Register for Historic Places status. The original 200 acre farm was owned and farmed by the Towne family (1777-1932). Learn more on Google, and about future events at www.iFarmboxford.com.