

West Newbury Garden Club Newsletter

Editor's Notes

It's a privilege to serve as this year's newsletter editor. Kudos to previous editor Alison Scher for her amazing work and great results.. I look forward to working with all of you to ensure our newsletter is useful and interesting to all members.

Are You a Storyteller?

Of course you are! We all share all kinds of stories with family, friends and others daily although we may not think of them as such. The newsletter's page 4 is reserved for member stories—for your story, in fact. Tell or send me your story and I'll feature it on Page 4.

Contact Me

Have suggestions/input for the newsletter? Share them with me anytime—in person or in writing at a meeting, by phone at 508-361-1442, or via email at: vahallman@comcast.net.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

NOTE: Photos appearing in the newsletter are mine unless otherwise noted.



Welcome To A Great Year Ahead!

Here's a handy guide to our upcoming Program Year. Meetings are on the first Thursday of the month except for April. (See the 2017-2018 Yearbook for more detail on each program).

September 7, 6:00 Welcome Back and Annual Pot Luck Dinner (Bring an appetizer, main dish or desert to share and dues—\$30)

October 5, 6:45 Isabell Steward Gardener enactment by Jesse Piaia

November 2, 6:45 Thanksgiving Centerpiece (Demo followed by hands-on workshop)

December 7, 6:45 Decorate Holiday Wreaths for Town Sites Workshop

February 1, 6:45 Invasive Plants by member and Wildlife Biologist Nancy Pau

March 1, 6:45 Japanese Garden Inspirations by garden designer Nathan Wilbur

April 17, 6:30 Your House as a Garden Design Element by garden designer Gordon Hayward (*joint garden clubs meeting; location in Newburyport*)

May 3, 6:00 Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner (Bring an appetizer, main dish or desert to share.)

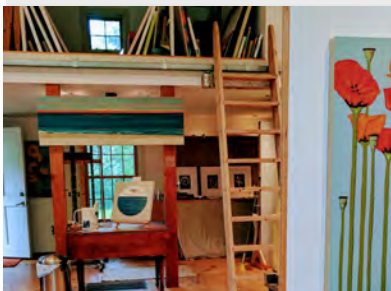
June 7, 6:45 Annual Plant Swap

September Meeting Hospitality Members

Chair Anne Jarzowski

Anne Burrell
Sharon Dahn
Irene Harnett
Joan Quackenbus
Jerusha Ryan
Evelyn Thornton

Art in the Garden Pics



September 7th Meeting Details

Welcome back! Bring your favorite appetizer, main dish or desert to share and join your fellow club members as we catch up on summer adventures. Remember to bring your \$30 (check or cash) dues for the upcoming year, pick up your Yearbook, and check your committee and hospitality assignments for the year. Call Linda Schaefer at 978-363-5251 if you need a ride to the meeting.

August 10 Board Meeting Highlights

The first order of business at the August 8th Board Meeting was welcoming New 1st VP Jane Jeffers and new Corresponding Secretary Carrie Hometh. As 1st VP, Jane wears the Program Chair hat. Following that, board members reviewed and commented on plans, progress and status of the club Yearbook and the slate of monthly programs, and selected May 19 for the club's annual Plant Sale. Also mentioned during the meeting was West Newbury's upcoming 200th anniversary of its incorporation in 2019. The club is expecting to participate in the celebration. The Town is in the early stages of planning. Details about the club's role will be provided as it becomes available.

June's Art in the Garden Tour

Thanks to everyone who came and/or was actively involved (and the weather!), the June 17th's joint WNGC/West Newbury Cultural Council Garden Tour was a big success. Not only did it raise visibility of the two organizations and participating local artists, it treated 231 appreciative visitors to an outstanding array of wonderful local gardens. It was a success as a fundraiser also, with each organization receiving over \$2,000 from ticket sales and art commissions.

Congratulations and a big thank-you to members of the Tour Coordinating Committee (Dot Cavanaugh, Helena Dion, Susan Dougherty, Jane Jeffers, Kathy Mandeville, Margo Pullman and Ginger Selman) and to the Tour Publicity Committee (Barbara Merrill and Alison Scher) for their dedicated work and great results.



Photo from Kerry Ann Mendez
website: Perennially Yours



Photo from Lake Street Garden
Center website



Elm Bank (above) Tower Hill
(below)



Welcome New Member:

Diane Baxter
19 Wharf Lane
Haverhill, MA 01830
978-270-9221
dianeabaxter@comcast.net

Gardening Events and Resources

Kennybunk ME garden designer, speaker and author **Kerry Ann Mendez** provides a wealth of information on her website. Sign up for her newsletter; attend a webinar; browse past postings and learn about upcoming events such as the October 6 Great Plants Symposium in Sturbridge, which some of our members are thinking of attending. Website: pyours.com.

In addition to its huge selection of plants, **Lake Street Garden Center** in Salem NH periodically offers workshops. Coming up are "Fall is for Planting" (9/9), "Putting the Garden to Bed (11/4) and "Holiday Centerpieces" (11/18). Call 603-893-5858 for times, cost and to register.

The **Massachusetts Horticultural Society** and its **Elm Bank Gardens** located in Wellesley are an ongoing source of courses, events, demonstration plantings and inspiration in general. View their many offerings online at www.masshort.org.

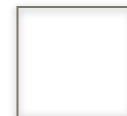
The Worcester County Horticultural Society's **Tower Hill Botanical Garden** in Boylston provides an extensive event calendar on its website at <http://www.towerhillbg.org/>. In addition to its outdoor gardens, it features an 8,000 volume book collection, a cafe, a garden shop and two large glass-conservatories that are open year round. Both Tower Hill and Mass Hort host Massachusetts Master Gardener classes.

Emerald Ash Borer Threat USDA Forest Service 3/14/16



Winter Moths, Gypsy Moths, and now... As you probably are aware, beginning in 2002 an insect native to Asia named the Emerald Ash Borer has been felling ash trees in states across the US. In our area, 2016 spottings have found this pest as near to West Newbury as Boxford and Haverhill.

Major infestations currently exist in portions of Ontario, Michigan, Ohio and Indianan. Isolated infestations are found in Illinois, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and parts of Quebec. Adults are smaller than a penny (1/2 in.), a bright metallic green and narrow in shape. They are most visible on ash tree trunks on sunny warm days from mid-June through mid-July when egg-laying between bark occurs, or feeding on ash tree leaves. It's the maturing beetles feeding on the phylum layer beneath the bark that causes tree death within 5 years. Notify the town tree warden of any sightings. If possible, capture and freeze a specimen beetle.



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westnewburygardenclub

Inspirations...

A space for members to share gardening stories of all kinds



A Gentle Giant by Virginia Hallman

For a dozen years or so, a tall (8'-10') plant with large leaves and yellow daisy-like flowers in mid to late summer has graced my back garden. I planted it after noticing one in a Perkins Cove, ME restaurant's garden.

"Cup Plant" and "Compass Plant" are common names for *Silphium perfoliatum*, a native perennial that stores numerous medicinal properties in its long tap root. At their base, instead of narrowing to stems its large leaves wrap around larger square main stems at the connection point forming small "cups" where rainwater and dew

gather. As a result, birds and insects visit the plant for sips of water as well as for pollen once the bloom cycle begins. Its seed heads are a particular favorite of chickadees.

Due to its tap root, the Cup Plant generally tolerates moderate dryness as well as wet periods well. It prefers full sun, though mine does fine with patches of afternoon shade. Average soil is fine. In some gardens it may become invasive but this has never been a problem in mine. Propagation is via seedlings in spring or collected seeds in fall. Cup Plants are available from selective nurseries. Rolling Green Nursery in NH recently had several in stock if you're interested or you might check with Lake Street Garden Center in Salem NH or Russell's Garden Center in Wayland MA.