



*"Awareness through Education...
Responsibility through Involvement"*

Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 38 Issue 4 August / September 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear BCAHS Members,

Variety and change is the spice of life, so they say. I am excited about the coming change in projects for the fall and for the holidays. A team comprised of representatives from the arboretum, Long Island Railroad Society and the Dahlia Society and a committee our members led by Karen Connolly, Pat Calabrese and Joan Wiecks will plan the events and line up of volunteers. I am excited by the many new ideas are being considered. For the fall, the proposal is for an outdoor festival type celebration with strong horticultural and educational themes.

There will be a preliminary meeting for all who are interested in being involved in the fall and/or holiday projects. We will meet on Monday, August 8 at 10:00 in the lower carriage house. Bring your willingness and creativity with you as we brainstorm for these upcoming projects. If you cannot make it on the 8th, please send us an email and let us know of your interest and any ideas you may wish to bring to the discussion. We will add your name to the roster.

Nelson Sterner, the new director at BCA is eager and excited to work with us and is looking forward to developing a volunteer corps for a variety of things that have to be done, both in the house and on the grounds. Look for further details on this in upcoming newsletters, email blasts and signs in the Manor House.

*As we go forward together,
Janice Mancini*

COMING SOON

New Education Brochure The new *Autumn/Winter Education Brochure* will be mailed in the next few weeks. You will receive an email notice on the day it is at the Post Office. It will also be posted on our website bcahs.net on that day. Hopefully this will alleviate some of the postal delivery problems we had with the last brochure and all members will have an equal chance at registering for their desired programs. Some programs that are occurring very soon that you should be aware of:

- **FOUR FARMS FORAY to the NORTH FORK – 9/24** – more information and the registration form is available on our website: bcahs.net on the Announcements page
- **BUS TOUR - NEW YORK CITY GARDENS, LUNCH AND HISTORY CRUISE – 9/9** -- Details will be available as soon as the brochure is mailed.
- **SARAH PRICE, LANDSCAPE CURATOR AT OLANA – SATURDAY, 9/17** in the Upper Carriage House. She will speak on landscape design as it relates to Frederick Law Olmstead's design at Bayard Cutting Arboretum. More info in upcoming Education Brochure

WELCOME RENEWING MEMBERS

Renewing Members

Bette Baran
Maria and Joseph Catania

Kathleen Gordon
Geri Bennett

Rosemary McGuinness
Maryann McGahey Ann Robins

THANK YOU

For Our New Registration Procedures We wish to extend our gratitude to Kate Phelan who has passed on mantle of responsibility for Education Program Registration over to Julia Brown and Darida Juneja and our phone to Kathy Muller and Anita Bischoff. Kate Edits the newsletter and will continue to be our Webmaster.

Kate spent many, days and weeks and hours answering the phone and relaying messages as well as developing the new computer registration records we now use... and spent just as much time implementing them. Julia and Dari bring to the job
(Cont. p. 2)

an expertise in computers that will be adding to our society's knowledge in this area, while Kathy and Anita will keep the information flowing.

Thank you, Kate, for your all hard work and thank you, Julia, Dari, Kathy and Anita and for taking on these all-important jobs which keep our Education Program running smoothly.



For On-Going Support BCAHS would like to thank the following businesses for their generous and continuous support of our activities. Please keep them in mind when you are shopping.

Bayport Flower Houses, 940 Montauk Hwy, Bayport 472-0014

Daisy Garden, Gillette Ave, Bayport 363-2708

G. Fontana & Sons (Concrete), 890 Montauk Hwy, Bayport 472-1600

Joseph's Garden, 525 Smithtown Ave, Bohemia 567-0292

Spring Garden Greenhouses, 45 Carleton Ave, E Islip 277-5986

Whole Foods Market, New Moriches Rd, Lake Grove 588-1466

We also want to thank the **New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation** for their continued support of the BCA Horticultural Society's activities.

For Support of Our Spring Party Raffles We would like to give our thanks to the following donors for their support of our raffles. Please keep them in mind when you are shopping

Alpine Pastry, Smithtown

Angel Plants, Deer Park

Applebee's Restaurant, East Islip

Applebee's Restaurant, Lake Grove

BJ's Warehouse, Islandia

Café Joelle, Sayville

California Pizza Kitchen, Lake Grove

Cheesecake Factory, Lake Grove

Cold Stone Creamery, Patchogue

Costco, Nesconset

Crickets Restaurant, Sayville

Edible Arrangements, Bayport

Father Nature, East Islip

Hooters Restaurant, Islandia

L.I. Hardware, Bohemia

Starbucks Coffee, Bayport

NEIGHBORHOOD CALENDAR

At the Arboretum

For more info, call 581-1002. Admission is free except where noted. NYS \$8 parking fee may be in effect.

House and Grounds Tours

Saturdays, 1:00 pm; Sundays, 2:00 pm, September 3 - October 30

Regular House Tours

By Reservation only (for 10 or more people)

Private Grounds Tours

Reservations recommended for all tours, are required for private tours and will be made at the time payment is received.

Fee: \$6 pp (Min. charge \$60/private tours). Pay in Manor House or mail to **BCA, PO Box 907, Great River, NY 11739**

Art Shows

Saturday & Sunday, August 13 & 14

Christie Edwards

River Room

Saturday & Sunday, September 10-11

LI Photo Gallery Show

Carriage House

Islip Arts Council Summer Concert Series

Sundays at 2:00 pm through August 28.

Oak Park

8/7 Pat Victor, Country, Gospel, Blues

8/21 Mark Shilansky and Julie Hardy, Jazz

8/14 Union Jazz Coalition, Eclectic Jazz, Blues

8/28 Long Island Brass Guild, Standard/New Brass

Around and About

These events are listed as a courtesy to our members. For more information about any of these events, please use the contact number, website and/or e-mail address given by the organization.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Suffolk County: ccesuffolk.org and www.cce.cornell.edu

- Saturday, August 13, 11:00am – 12:30pm: Butterfly Adventure -- Learn about local butterflies and ways to attract them. Suffolk County Farm and Education Center, 350 Yaphank Ave., Yaphank. Call 631-852-4600 to register.
- Saturday, August 13; Thursday, August 18 or Thursday, August 25 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm: Preserving It Right! – Learn the basics of home canning and preserving. \$20 fee includes supplies. Call 631-727-7850, ext. 356 to register.

Long Island Daylily Society: www.lidaylily.org

- Saturday, August 20: Annual Plant Sale at SUNY Farmingdale. Contact stantonr@stjohns.edu for more info.

Long Island Botanical Society: www.libotanical.org

- Tuesday, September 13, 7:30 PM.: Andrew M. Greller: "Galapagos Natural History". Learn about Darwin's 'Classroom in Evolution'. Location: Bill Paterson Nature Center, Muttontown Preserve, East Norwich.

Long Island Dahlia Society: www.longislanddahlia.com

- Saturday and Sunday, September 3 & 4: LIDS Dahlia Show. Vases of dahlias will be available for sale during the show. Raffles to win a dahlia garden will be held. All Show Dahlias will be sold at 4PM on Sunday. It will be take place in the lower level of the Carriage House in Bayard Cutting Arboretum.

West Islip Beautification Society: www.westislipbeautification.org

- Sunday, September 25: Fall Plant Sale at the West Islip Country Fair -- on the West Islip Library grounds.

Old Westbury Gardens: www.oldwestburygardens.org

- Thursday, September 15, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm: Garden Tea - Spend a gracious afternoon at the Gardens. Enjoy an elegant tea at Orchard Hill, followed by a seasonal tour. Registration and pre-payment required. Please call (516) 333-0048 Ext. 301 or register online. \$35.00; \$30.00 Members.
- Friday, Saturday & Sunday, September 16 - 18, 11:00 am - 4:30 pm: 15 Years to Life, The Education of a Painter, An Exhibition and Sale of Paintings by David Peikon. 30% of all sales will be donated to Old Westbury Gardens.

Fall/Holiday Decorating - A Planning Meeting

**Interested in being involved?
Join us at a planning meeting**

**ON: Monday, August 8
AT: 10:00 am IN: the Lower Carriage House**

New ideas are welcome!

Email us at bcahs@optonline.net if you will attend. If you are unable to make it, email us about your interest and let us know of any ideas you wish to contribute. We will put your name on the volunteer list and keep you informed.

RAVE REVIEWS & MEETING NEWS

Garden Tea and Talk – 6/16 If you missed the Garden Tea on June 16th, you missed a special moment in time. As we entered her garden gate, we were transformed into another world...an elegant and beautiful setting of ferns, flowers, rock walls, gazebos and a fishpond. You could rest and sip a variety of teas. Tables set with white linens, china and glasses filled with homemade strawberry jam were just waiting to be enjoyed.

Thank you to Karen Connolly and friends who helped make all the delicious tea sandwiches, scones, and endless amounts of desserts we had to choose from. Thank you also to the friends who helped in the kitchen, the ladies who served us, set up the table arrangements and did the cleaning up.

What a work of love at every turn with all the beautiful floral and plant settings in each nook and cranny of her yard! And, we were also serenaded during our tea by a lovely singer, Kristin Rock.

Our new BCA director, Nelson Sterner, stopped in to say "Hello" and Tony La Scala gave an informative demonstration on planting a large container for the patio or garden. He demonstrated the use of colorful flowering plants that included the "thriller, filler and spiller" flowers in the pot! He told us that the container, with plants matured, will be raffled off at the Directors Walk in July. Thanks Tony for the beautiful arrangement. Can't wait!

As the happy guests were leaving I overheard lots of raves and thanks to Karen for being such a gracious hostess and making this event so enjoyable. I am looking forward to next year's tea!

Mary Ann Touchet



Spring Party – 6/8 It was a lovely spring day with a breeze on the porch which made the party a delight. The committee came and hustled to set up the tables. Special thanks to Judy Buitenkant, Karen Connolly, MJ Picken, Barbara Renner, Catherine Romano, Diane Scotto

and Lorraine Seus. I want to thank them for a job well done. As the party guests arrived the dinner and dessert tables filled and they beckoned us to try all.

The Sunnyland Jazz Band played music that made us fantasize about being with the Cutting family on the porch. Also providing entertainment were the geese with the goslings feeding very near the porch and the fox checking out what he could have for his dinner.

On behalf of our society, Tony La Scala presented a donation of twenty-five hundred dollars to BCA director Nelson Sterner to be used for special projects within the arboretum. Nelson spoke on behalf of the arboretum and his plans for the future and thanked the hort society for our support of the arboretum's move toward the future.

Coleus plants were given out as door prizes. The raffles, many of which were gift certificates, were pulled and the lucky winners and happy partygoers went home smiling.

Carol Kirschner,
Spring Party Chair

Director's Walk – 7/13 At 6:00 pm our new director Nelson Sterner took a large group of about members on a very informative and fun tour of our arboretum. No matter how many times I participate in a tour like this, I am always surprised to see things I have never seen before - and this visit did not disappoint!

Nelson discussed some of the challenges he is facing. Luckily he is filled with ideas and plans. One of his ideas is a more structured volunteer program that will offer many different ways that we can help on the grounds. There will be more info on that coming soon.

Congratulations to Danny Saporito for winning the beautiful arrangement Tony made at the Garden Tea.

Thanks for a lovely evening. It was especially good of the organizers to arrange for the nice cool breeze that made our walk comfortable and pretty much bug free. Thanks to Karen for bringing the cookies and juice.

Christina Ayasse





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UPCOMING EVENTS

GENERAL MEETINGS – Upstairs in the Carriage House. All meetings begin with a social at 7:30. Business meetings start at 7:45 followed by the evening's program at 8:00.

9/14 Margie Potash – *Interior Plant Horticulture*

SPECIAL EVENTS

8/10 Dahlia Walk

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

8/24 Self-drive: *Four Farms Foray to the North Fork*

9/9 Bus Tour and Cruise: *Little Known Gardens, Lunch and History Cruise in Manhattan*

9/17 SARAH PRICE, *landscape curator at oOlana*

NEWSLETTER

9/14 Next deadline

Late Blight Warning and Cornell's Call for Help

Late blight has been found in tomato crops on the South Fork. Gardeners need to know so they can inspect their plants to find out if they already have the disease and they can start a management program to protect their tomato and potato plants. While I am especially eager to reach gardeners on the South Fork, late blight could be occurring elsewhere on LI as well - the rainy weather has certainly been favorable.

I would really appreciate help from gardeners to determine the initial source of this outbreak. To accomplish I need to know where late blight is occurring. This is really important to do because if we do not figure out the source and thus understand specifically if and how the pathogen is surviving over winter on LI, then late blight is more likely to keep reoccurring (you cannot manage well what you do not understand). I am working with farmers to determine if it could have started on their farms but gardens are also a possibility. The outbreak last June on LI was in a garden and probably was due to affected potato tubers being used to start new potato plants.

Also, I need leaves (and stems if possible) with late blight symptoms from affected plants wherever late blight is occurring. This is needed to determine specifically what strain of the pathogen is present. I am involved with a big, 5-year national project on this disease that is just starting. Studying occurrence, pathogen survival and movement, plus management are some of the activities. It is a federally funded, competitive grant project - so tax-paying gardeners can feel some ownership!

I have some new information at my web site that gardeners might find useful:

<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/lateblight>

Meg McGrath <mtm3@cornell.edu>

"A Garden is a Place of Healing for the Soul." Harriet Beecher Stowe

Submitted by Jane Manning