



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

Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 38

Issue 3

June / July 2011

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

Dear BCAHS Members,

Please join me in extending a warm welcome the new Director of Bayard Cutting Arboretum, Nelson Sterner. Nelson is a returning Long Islander who has much horticultural experience at a number of places on Long Island as well as, most recently, upstate at Olana in the town of Hudson. I have had the opportunity to meet with Nelson and look forward to BCAHS and the arboretum having a wonderful relationship under his leadership. More good news - Kevin Boone is staying with us!

What a busy time this has been while I have been learning this new job! I have learned much more about the inner workings of plant sales. This year's Plant Sale Committee worked hard to put together another grand event. Under the organization of Kate Phelan, Tony La Scala, Karen Connelly, Anita Bischoff and the watchful eye of our treasurer Joan Wiecks, our plant sale was a great success. These industrious and dedicated volunteers visited vendors, ordered plants, designed the layout, recruited volunteers all while attending to the myriad of other details necessary to put together a successful sale. Thank you to the Plant Sale Committee and to all who volunteered. You did a great job!

Our next project is to decide what to do to celebrate the fall here at the arboretum. We are looking for new ideas and new volunteers as the new president along with the board and new director plan our future. Your input is important and welcome.

As we go forward together,
Janice Mancini



*"Morning is the best of all times in the garden.
The sun is not yet hot. Sweet vapors rise from the earth.
Night dew clings to the soil and makes plants glisten.
Birds call to one another. Bees are already at work."*

~William Longgood

A Special Thank You

We wish to extend our gratitude to members who have moved on to other ventures: **Phyllis Paccione and Gerald Sabatino**. Phyllis and Jerry have devoted much time and effort to benefit our society and the arboretum.

Phyllis has been our decorator extraordinaire as a designing force behind many activities: the Fall Flower and Harvest Show, Christmas decorating and renovating the kitchen for the Manor House, Santa's House for the Tree Lighting ceremony, plant sale, as well as teaching many classes for our Education Program and much more.

Jerry has also been active in many facets of our society. He was a board member and vice president, one of the planners behind the redeveloped the Fall Flower and Harvest Show and Friendship garden, plant sale chair and much more. As MC Jerry was also the voice behind our parties and raffles with his sonorous tones.

We again say **THANK YOU TO Phyllis and Jerry** for the many and varied contributions they have made. We are grateful for their many untold hours of planning and effort on behalf of the hort society. We look forward to seeing you remain active members of our society and wish you well as you go forward with new undertakings.



T H A N K Y O U

Plant Sale Thanks! Your Efforts Helped Make Our Plant Sale a Success Tony La Scala and Kate Phelan, Plant Sale Co-Chairs would like to thank their committee members Anita Bischoff and Karen Connolly for their many hours of work in planning for the plant sale. We'd also like to thank the many volunteers who donated time to set up and work during the actual sale as well as the staff of the arboretum for all of their help. Thanks to Granny herself, Evelyn Bozler, and her Grannies-in-training. Thanks to Chris Ayasse and Karen Connelly who kept us fed and happy. Thanks to all who unloaded trucks, lifted, lugged, swept, watered, advised and helped our patrons. It was a good deal of work but also a good deal of fun being together and working for one purpose

Chris Ayasse
Ralph Ayasse
Emily Botti
Judy Buitenkant
Ann Marie Calabrese
Pat Calabrese
Marie Camenares
Lorrie Clifford
Nancy Conboy
Aagun Connell
Brenda DePetris
Fran DePetris
Frank Ellito
Patti Fox
Diana Fratello

Susan Gainey
Carolyn Gauntlet
Helen Gronus
Faith Groody
Diane Haug
John Hoffman
Chris Holvik
Carol Kirschner
Judy Larsen
Janice Mancini
Jane Manning
Gloria McCullough
Julie Milcetic
Kathy Muller
Carol Murphy
Marjorie Noulis

Joan O'Grady
Dot Oliveri
Phyllis Paccione
MJ Picken
Marge Potash
Barbara Reitz
Barbara Renner
Danny Saparito
Paula Schlicht
Lorraine Seus
MaryAnn Touchet
Bob Veit
Diane Veit
Joan Weicks
Bill Wolkoff

For On-Going Support BCAHS would like to thank the following businesses for their generous support of our activities.

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

Daisy Garden, Gillette Avenue, Bayport - 363-2708

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

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

Spring Garden Greenhouses, 45 Carleton Avenue, E Islip – 277-5986

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.

B I T S & P I E C E S

Arbor Day Celebration We were rained out in April, but that didn't stop the adorable little boys and girls from The Islip Nursery School from enjoying our rescheduled celebration on May 11th. BCAHS donated the beautiful tulip tree on the front lawn close to the house on the left. The children helped to plant the tree, listened to a story, and had a nice snack. Afterwards they were thrilled to get to walk under the magnificent weeping beech. Many thanks to helpers Karen Connolly and Sue Randazzo.

Christina Ayasse

Clay Pots The staff at the arboretum could use your old clay pots to place in the Lilac Garden. If you have any used clay pots and would like to donate them, please drop them off at the Manor House or the Maintenance Barn.

Old Education Brochures We are looking to update our history by completing our set of Education Committee Brochures; however, we are missing brochures from the years 1980 to 1997. Do you have any of these? Would you like to donate them? You can bring them to a meeting or leave them at the desk in the Manor House labeled for the Education Committee. Thank you.

Volunteers to Help with House Tours We are looking for people to help backup the house tours. Backup volunteers are stationed at the rear of the tours to see that the group stays together. If you are interested, please call the arboretum at 581-1002 and leave your name and a message. We will contact you.

WELCOME NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

NEW

Alba & Julie Milcetic
Ann Schremp
Ellen Parratt
Frank & Evelyn Schirall
Franklin Egitto
Georgiana Crowley
Rita A. Schmidt
Susan Koprowski
Marie & Salvatore Catania



RENEW

Beth Reilly and John Rose
Carolyn & William Carty
Dean & Marie Camenares
Diane & Kevin Reilly
Jane & John Manning
June Redgate
Lois Weinstein
Mary Ederle
Rita Fishedick
Julia Brown
Sue Randazzo
Ann Robinson

COMING SOON

Spring Party – Room Still Available There is still some room at the Spring Party which is on June 8 at 6pm in the Manor House. RSVP via e-mail to bcahs@optonline.net. Give your name, telephone number, and what you are bringing - entree, side dish or salad. (No more desserts, please). Hope to see you then.

Director's Walk Nelson Sterner, the new director of the arboretum, will lead us on a tour of the grounds. Join us as we get to know him and better understand the grounds at our favorite arboretum. This will be a general tour of the garden with a special focus on the Firs of the Arboretum.

Meet on Wednesday, July 13 at 6:00 pm at the gazebo near the Manor House. Light refreshments will be served afterwards. This walk will replace our July General Meeting.

Dahlia Walk The Long Island Dahlia Society has graciously offered to host our Annual Dahlia Walk, which will take place at the William Wolkolf Dahlia Garden at the arboretum on Wednesday, August 10 at 6:00 pm. Please join us to share in the beauty of the dahlias and the camaraderie of our fellow arboretum society. Members of LIDS will bring us up-to-date on horticulture in their corner of the world. This walk will replace our August General meeting.

PROGRAM SPACES STILL AVAILABLE

Friday, July 22. *Introduction to Bees and Beekeeping with Ray Lackey.*
A self-drive tour meets at the beekeepers home.

Saturday, August 6 *Advanced Hypertufa*
Make and decorate a lightweight hypertufa trough planter

Call 631-579-7551 for information or email us a bcahs@optonline.net

NEIGHBORHOOD CALENDAR

A t the Arboretum

For more information about any of the events at the arboretum, call 581-1002. Admission to the events is free except where noted, but the New York State Parks parking fee of \$8 may be in effect.

House and Grounds Tours

Saturdays, 1:00 pm; Sundays, 2:00 pm through June 19

By Reservation only (for 10 or more people)

Reservations are 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 for private tours). Pay at the desk or mail to the arboretum at : **BCA at PO Box 907, Great River, NY 11739. Note new arboretum address.**

Regular House Tours

Private Grounds Tours

Art Shows Saturday, June 4 through Sunday, June 12
Saturday & Sunday, August 13 & 14

Sumi Art

Christie Edwards

Annex

River Room

www.bcahs.net

- 3 -

bcahs@optonline.net

Summer Theatre Productions

Saturday, June 25 @ 2:00pm
Saturday, July 9 @ 2:00 pm



Bring a blanket or a lawn chair

Bye Bye Birdie
Wizard of Oz

Oak Park
Oak Park

Islip Arts Council Summer Concert Series

Sundays at 2:00 pm, July 24 through August 28.

Performances TBA

Oak Park



round and About

A

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.

Long Island Native Grass Initiative Native Plant Sale, June 3-4 and 10-11, 9am to 1pm or by appointment through fall. Eastern Campus Greenhouse Suffolk County Community College, Riverhead.
PollyW@suffolkcountyny.gov.

Sagtikos Manor Historical Society, Montauk Highway and Manor Lane, West Bay Shore. For more information: 854-0939 or www.sagtikosmanor.com. Entrance Fees from \$3.00 - \$7.00.

***Sunday, June 5: Green for Greens.** Plant sale: divisions from "Friends of the Manor Gardens" (FMG), some specialty plants, and a VERY limited supply of Peony plants from original stock in the walled garden. **Reserve by June 4** at 665.6975 or e-mail sagtikosfmq@verizon.net or download reservation form.

***Sundays at 12:30 pm, June 26, July 24, and August 7: Cultural Landscape Tours**

***Sunday, June 12 – 2 tours: Peony Path Tours** in Walled Garden - 10:30 am-12:30 pm & 1:00-3:00pm. \$8- \$10.

Old Westbury Gardens, Thursday, June 16, 10:00am and 1:00pm: Everybody Loves Roses. Rose types, designing with roses, organic and traditional rose care, pruning, deadheading and maintenance in a two-session presentation. Registration and pre-payment required, please call (516) 333-0048 Ext. 301 or register online \$15.00 per session; \$5.00 Members. www.oldwestburygardens.org

The Madoo Conservancy, Saturday, June 18: "Much Ado About Madoo" daylong fete. Sagaponack. www.madoo.org

Southampton Rose Society 35th Annual Rose Show, Saturday, **June 18 from 1:00 to 4:00pm:** Rose Art/Photography Competition. Rogers Memorial Library, 91 Coopers Farm Road, Southampton. Info at events@southamptonrose.org

Newport, R.I. Flower Show, Sunday, June 26 - Mon June 27: Overnight trip with LI Master Gardeners. Contact Barbara Renner at 631 472-4314. Cost pp \$197 double occupancy, \$244 single occupancy

Long Island Daylily Society – Contact Pamela Milliken, President at pamlu@verizon.net

***Saturday & Sunday, July 9 & 10 :** Flower Show at Planting Fields Arboretum in Oyster Bay

***Saturday, July 23:** Open Gardens – various locations

Celebration of North Fork Tourism/Agriculture, Saturday, July 16: Tour of the NFBBA's b&b's, gardens & vineyards, visiting [Cornell Cooperative Extension's](http://www.cornellcooperativeny.org) gardens, meet local farmers showcasing their produce, dine at your choice of 10 local restaurants, dance the night away at [Martha Clara Vineyard](http://www.marthaclaravineyard.com). North Fork Bed & Breakfast Association (NFBBA) nfbba.org/blog/2011/05/nfbba-2011-summer-event.

West Islip Beautification Society Garden Tour, Sunday, July 17: Garden Tours in the West Islip area. Call our Garden Tour Chair, Dolores, at 586-8599 or e-mail info@westislipbeautification.org

Long Island Horticultural Society, December 28, 2011 -- January 3, 2012. Trip to California for Tournament of Roses. LIHS has arranged special activities. For more details go to their website www.lihort.org

F

armers Markets - 2011

For a complete listing of Suffolk County Farmers' Markets, go to www.agmkt.state.ny.us/ap/communityfarmersmarkets.asp#SuffolkCounty



Correction - Beginning Basket Weaving

The author of this Rave Review in the last issue of the newsletter was misnamed. It should have read

Liz Mongavero.

Soothing, Smoothing Herbs for Gardeners –

3/30 On Wednesday morning we met to explore a variety of herbs and create herbal concoctions with Paula Bivona (www.thegratefulgardener.com). In a delightful class, Paula explained how to harvest, preserve and store flowers and herbs for culinary, cosmetic and decorating use. She described in depth the beneficial properties, uses and preparations for calendula, plantain and comfrey, noting there are many more herbs and plants that can be used for external as well as internal conditions. The class ended with the participants completing an herbal scrub for gardening hands made with organic sugar, virgin olive oil, baking soda and an essential oil that each person was able to select from among a lovely variety. Our last project was mixing up an herbal soothing salve which left everyone with hands as soft as silk.

Lois Weinstein

Spring Container Workshop - 4/2

Everyday I open my front door and am welcomed with a bright, cheerful bouquet of fresh spring flowers. Marge Potash has done it again; she had wonderful flowers of many colors for us to plant in nice containers. Everyone left the carriage house with a proud smile and a beautiful container of flowers that will last for a long time. Last year my container bloomed all summer. What a neat way to start the season!

Kathy Muller

Baking with Yeast – 4/8

We met today at the home of Lois Weinstein to learn about baking with a living organism – yeast. Participants began by rolling out and filling risen dough and forming it into cinnamon buns and coffee cakes. The bakers later were able to take these home to bake in their own ovens. Then the instructor demonstrated how to start the yeast, how to make and how to knead the dough. Afterward, everyone enjoyed cinnamon buns and a coffee cake that had been baking while the class was in session.

Lois Weinstein

Fresh Flower Centerpiece – 4/16

From the moment we walked through the door, the sweet smell of roses and lilies let us know we were in for a treat! Marie Camenares provided us with an outstanding selection of spring flowers, a lovely twig basket and a handout outlining the "Do's and Don'ts" of Flower Arranging.

This workshop was delightful. Time swiftly passed as we were guided through steps to create lush displays of exquisite flower arrangements--each one beautiful and individual as our own personalities. Our baskets were worth well over \$100 at a florist, plus we had the fun of creating it ourselves! We couldn't thank Marie enough and are all eager to participate again next spring.

Patti Fox and Diane Veit

Wildflower Hike in Shu Swamp – 5/3

MaryLaura Lamont guided us through the Shu Swamp Preserve in Mill Neck. She pointed out many ephemeral plants, a number of which are rare and local. We saw wildflowers such as trillium, marsh marigold, dwarf ginseng and spring beauty. She also identified the trees and shrubs that abound and indicated where non-native invasive plants are crowding out the native treasures. The weather was just right as we all enjoyed the three-hour hike with such a knowledgeable guide as MaryLaura Lamont.

MJ Picken



April General Meeting – 4/13

Ahhh, Spring. Tom Stemmler of Daisy Gardens again introduced us to new and improved varieties of plants: buddleias; fragrant yellow Knockout roses; ever-blooming multicolored Double Delight and Peewee hydrangeas; hardy, non-stop flowering Cape Horn fuchsias; and slug resistant hostas and impatiens (*SunPatens®*). We are ever grateful to Tom for sharing his knowledge and donating the sample plants to our raffle. Many raffle tickets were sold and quite a few lucky new members got to take home these new beauties.

Judy Sykes

May General Meeting – 5/11

This was fun and informative meeting our spring Roundtable was. Hosted by Kate Phelan with Tamson Yeh and Marie Camenares as our experts, we had a lively discussion focusing on red maples, redbuds, and mulch. Tamson then identified some common weeds. She also advised against over-fertilizing as well as ineffectively using insecticides at the wrong stage of a pest's life cycle. Consult the Cornell website for helpful information as well as the correct active ingredients to use effectively.

Tamson personally does not favor fertilizing mature trees and shrubs as this can sometimes do more harm than good. Instead, test the soil pH and use compost. It is important not to suffocate plants with too much fine-particle mulch that compacts—she prefers to use fresh wood chips or bark to maintain good air circulation. Some good advice:

- ☛ If mulch you purchase smells sour, it is too acid to use and must be corrected.
- ☛ Don't volcano the mulch. Keep it from touching the trunks of trees or shrubs.
- ☛ Check for girdling roots.
- ☛ Scouting your property carefully for signs of winter damage in order to take proper and timely corrective measures.

Kate asked Tamson what she anticipated finding this season. "Very happy crabgrass and better bulb performance since they like to be 'baked then frozen'."

You just had to be there to get all the wonderful info!

Barbara Reitz



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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.

General meetings resume 9/14

SPECIAL EVENTS

- 6/8 Spring Party
- 7/13 Director's Walk
- 8/10 Dahlia Walk

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- 6/16 Garden Tea and Talk - FILLED
- 6/22 Ferry-Bus to Houses/Gardens in Hartford
- 7/22 Intro. to Bees & Beekeeping
- 7/26 Water Garden/BBQ - FILLED
- 8/6 Advanced Hypertufa

NEWSLETTER

7/13 Next deadline

IMPORTANT: Changes from the Education Committee

Many of our members experience post office delays receiving the education brochure and find that classes have filled even before their own brochures have arrived in their mailboxes. In exploring ways to compensate for this and the logistics of bookkeeping this will incur, we are making the following changes:

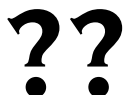
1. Our brochure and a down-loadable registration form will be available on our website on the day the brochure is mailed;
2. Registrants must include ***one check for each class with the registration form***;
3. The printed brochure will be published earlier than has been our practice.

The new Fall 2011-Winter 2012 brochure will be available after mid-July for programs beginning September 1. We will still honor the two-week pre-registration period exclusively for members-in-good-standing.

We are sorry for this inconvenience, but this will save our registration committee and treasurer many, many hours of work.

Barbara Reitz and Tony La Scala
Co-Chairs of BCAHS Education Committee

**DID YOU KNOW...
BY KATHY MULLER**



**... THAT ON OCTOBER 4, 1975 THE FIRST TRAINING SESSION
FOR THE OUTSIDE TOUR GUIDES BEGAN AT 10:00 AM???**
ALL INTERESTED MET IN THE PARKING LOT TO BEGIN TRAINING.

