



Fall Bulb Sale

This year the Fall Bulb Sale becomes an annual event, designed to give members the chance to purchase top quality spring-flowering bulbs at wholesale prices. The committee members have been hard at work selecting another fabulous array of gorgeous, little-known bulbs, setting prices, and printing up order forms. See page 2 for the full-size photos, and see the attached order form for the full descriptions.

Please look over the information and make your selections. These prices are impossible to beat, and those who saw the results of last year's Bulb Sale can verify the results. Remember Narcissus Manly? Hoo-whee! Tête à tête?

Bring your completed order form and a check for the total to the September meeting. Prices already include the shipping and handling costs.

If you cannot make the meeting, mail your form and a check to Maguy Thomson at 124 Main St, West Newbury, MA 01985 by September 10th.

Once all our orders are in, the committee will place the order, bag and label the bulbs when they arrive, and have them ready for pickup at the October 5 meeting. Plant and enjoy!

Event Announcement

Pettingill's Farm in Salisbury: A Garden Flea Market, September 16, 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Embellish your garden with some of their re-cycled garden and barn treasures. Do some fall gardening and take advantage of the 50% plant sale. Shop early for Christmas decorations. There will be dealers who sell garden related materials, as well.

September 7 Annual Kickoff at Nancy's

Once again we will be starting off our year at Nancy Perkins' Green Tree Farm at 6 Brush Hill Road in Merrimac. Rather than try to shout over a hapless speaker, we will spend the evening taking care of dues and yearbooks and name tags and discount cards and order forms for the Annual Fall Bulb Sale and talking and wining and dining.

We will have a Pot Luck Supper, so bring a favorite appetizer, main dish or salad for everyone to enjoy, along with all your summer tales of adven-

ture to share. Hospitality will be provided by Priscilla Styer, Maguy Thomson Linda DeCoste, Kathy Krajieski, and Nancy, of course.



Nancy Perkins' Green Tree Farm on Tour in June

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And two very sad announcements:

Irene Kent passed away late this summer after a lengthy illness. We will miss her good cheer and her smiling face.

Joe Sforza, owner of Sforza's Nursery, died this summer, also. He generously gave his time, his plants, and his wisdom to our Club and to the children of the town, for many years.



Yes, this IS a narcissus, not a peony. Acropolis is 5" across and 20" tall.



Split-cup Narcissus Sorbet is 4" of gossamer and butter.



Got Allium? What a punctuation mark for your late May garden.

Check them out online at www.vanengelen.com

What a girly thing! N. Ice King comes to you straight from Les Folies Bergère.



Did you try Tete a Tete last year? Did you love it? More miniature narcissus for the pixie in you.



And back by popular demand. Try it alone or with a pure white daff like Ice Wings.

Members in the News **Wonderful Garden Tour**

The "Members' Tour" was hailed as a great success! Not only did we have beautiful gardens to visit, but we were blessed with the first truly lovely day of the summer.

We started with breakfast in Amesbury at Marsha's garden on the river, and traveled to Nancy Perkins' terraced gardens at her farm. With a stop at Chris MacMillan's shop on Route 110 the shoppers in us had a fabulous selection to browse among, and then on to Jane Jeffer's garden and antique tavern for a beautiful lunch on the lawn.



Marsha Cope's riverside breakfast spot



Haven't we seen that coffee cake before?



Lisa Arnold's stunning Long Border



Amazed by the woodland spaciousness...

Suitably refreshed, our caravan crossed the river to Lisa Arnold's garden between the woods and the river, then motored off to visit Donna Greene's lovely hillside setting. Slightly breathless (from the accumulated beauty, of course) we chugged over to Virginia Hallman's romantic glade and more (absolutely neces-

sary) refreshment. **A huge thank you** to everyone who made this new tour a smashing success! It looked seamless and effortless, but the organizing committee of Cyndy Bourquard, Donna Greene, and Jane Jeffers put in many hours, some of them very late, to make sure we were all properly cared for. Many of us called on spouses, guests, and friends who aren't even members of the club to pull off three delightful sit-down

treats for the fifty-odd people who attended. Audrey and John Dimitry elevated the tone of the entire day with their open touring car, and Virginia said **that** was the high point of her day!

I can't wait til next year's tour! Let's do it all over again, with other gardens, and more good food!



Virginia Hallman's Romantic Garden



Who brought the breadcrumbs?



WEST NEWBURY GARDEN CLUB

30 Merrimac St
Amesbury MA, 01913-4009

Phone: 978 388-2076
E-mail: bpgroup@verizon.net
Website: www.WNGC.org

Gardens for beauty, learning, and sharing

The West Newbury Garden Club was founded in 1936 to encourage and cultivate an interest in gardening, to aid in protecting and conserving our natural resources, to further the study of horticulture and flower arranging, and to promote civic beauty. For more information, please contact Marsha Cope at 978 388 2076, at bpgroup@verizon.net, or at 30 Merrimac St, Amesbury MA, 01913.

Extra

Next Board Meeting
September 14, 2006 7:00pm

Ask Peony **Tornadoes and The Russian Sage**

Dear Readers,

Peony's back in town!

This year I learned that it might be nice to know if we are living in the path of a hurricane, tornado, flood or earthquake. Author Brendan I. Koerner did some research for us. He concludes that **Storrs, Connecticut**, is America's best place to avoid death due to natural disaster. Storrs, best known as home of the University of Connecticut, is in Tolland County. Go Storrs! This information has to be important to someone. Somewhere. Some time.

Dear Peony,

My Russian sage (Perovskia) is not performing well. It is supposed to be an easy plant, and I have great success with other perennials, but the Perovskia has kerplunked. What's up?

Not Necessarily Sage

Dear Kerplexed,

Here is the common wisdom on your plant, stolen from various sources:

Perovskia, commonly called Russian Sage, is a woody subshrub with long panicles of lavender-blue flowers that become increasingly brilliant as they open. When fully in bloom it looks like a purple haze. It should bloom from July until fall.

It tolerates poor soil, a range of pH and drought. Give Russian Sage good drainage and full sun. The plant's woody stems can die back to the ground in colder climates. Pruning down to 8 - 10 inches in early spring encourages new growth and profuse blooms. Perovskia has very few pest problems. Even deer don't like it. You won't need to divide your Russian Sage, but you will get a few welcome volunteers.

Problems: It gets leggy if it doesn't get enough sun. Make sure it is planted in well-drained soil, or it may get root rot. So, word to the wise- plant it, water it, ignore it until very dry and cut down in late fall or early spring. Good luck!

It's good to be back with you. Keep those questions coming, friends.

As always,

Peony