



September 6 70th Anniversary Party

This year's opening meeting is going to be a very special evening, thanks to the continuing hard work of our 70th Anniversary committee. They have planned an elegant, interesting night of celebration starting with a wine and cheese social hour followed by a catered buffet. We will be celebrating our years of service and our friends in our (hopefully) newly painted Annex, whose colors have been chosen by the Committee.

What a group: **Dianne Faulkner, Cyndy Bourquard, Linda DeCoste, Virginia Hallman, Linda Jackson, Kathy Krajeski, Gloria Kuran, Pollyann Statom and Priscilla Styer.**

There will be a commemorative booklet to take home to help you remember the evening, prepared by Virginia.

The program for the evening looks like this...

6:00 **Wine and Cheese Social**

6:30 **Dinner Buffet** of Waldorf Salad with Chicken, Salad, Pasta Primavera, Grilled Vegetable Salad, Fruit, Rolls and Butter

7:15 **Induction of New Officers**

7:30 **Welcome** and Introduction of our Guests

7:45 **Citation Presentation** from Celeste Wilson, First Vice President of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

7:55 **Citations** from Representative Harriet Stanley & Senator Steven Baddour

8:15 **Honor Ceremony** for the WNGC's Golden Ladies by Committee members

8:40 **Coffee and Cake**

We sincerely hope everyone can make it to this very festive night as we kick off the next 70 years of friendship and gardening.

We will also try to wedge in our normal opening night business of yearbooks and dues, and we will have our Fall Bulb Sale orders (see pp. 2-3), possibly a few tote bags for sale, and an information table, as well. So take a nap in the afternoon...



It will be a swell night for everyone and one we will all happily remember.

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From *A Gentle Plea for Chaos*:

"For I have come to understand that gardening is not just a putting into the earth of some frail greenery, but like a stone thrown into a pond, garden thoughts ripple outwards towards a limitless horizon."

— Mirabel Osler, 1989

Gardening **Fall Bulb Sale**

Is it ever too early to think of Spring!? Here are the offerings from the Bulb Sale Committee, so get out that planner, and lick your pencil! Bring the enclosed order form to the Party on the 6th, or send it to Maguy Thomson at 124 Main Street in W. Newbury **before September 10th.**

Muscari Comosum Plumosum 10 bulbs \$4 →

Synonym: The Feather Hyacinth. Circa 1612, these fine, **feathered plumes of reddish-violet** are unusual and **good for cutting.**

Bulb size: 8 cm/up

Late May 10"

Isn't this enchanting? Don't you need at least 30 right away?



← Camassia Blue Melody 9 bulbs \$8

Dark blue with white-edged foliage.

Bulb size: 6 cm/up

May/June 15"

Camassia is so reliable, and so welcome in the spring!



Narcissus Pineapple Prince 5 bulbs \$8 →

New! Sumptuously colored, this **huge, 5" reverse bicolor** has a rounded, bright pineapple-yellow perianth and a **rolled and frilled** trumpet-shaped cup that matures to bright white with a lustrous yellow throat.

Bulb size: 14/16 cm **April**

16" to 18" HZ: 3-7



← Narcissus Palmares 10 bulbs \$8

An ivory perianth with an apricot-pink, split, frilled cup.

The flower is about 3" across. *These 2 look good enough to eat!*

Bulb size: 14/16 cm **April** 16" HZ: 4-8



← **Narcissus Limbo** **10 bulbs \$9**

This **sultry beauty** has up to **4" flowers** with a **burnished-orange** perianth and a shallow, bowl-shaped, **brick-red** cup.
 Bulb size: 16/18 cm **April** 14" to 16" HZ: 3-7

Looks like a traffic stopper to me

Narcissus Pheasant's Eyes →
10 bulbs \$6.50

Synonym: Poeticus Recurvus. **Late-** blooming, it has large, white, reflexed petals and a small, yellow cup, edged red with a green eye. *Fragrant*

Bulb size: 14/16 cm **April/May** 14" HZ: 3-7



← **Allium Combination!**
10 bulbs (5 of each) for \$7
 or

20 bulbs (10 of each) for \$13

Allium Atropurpurea

Circa **1800**, compressed, 2" umbels of **deep maroon-purple** florets.
 Bulb size: 10 cm/up. **June** 24" to 34" HZ: 4-7

Allium multibulbosum

Syn: A. nigrum. Multi-flowering, **compact spheres of white to pale lilac florets with green mid-veins and eyes.** Bulb size: 12 cm/up.

May/June 24" to 30" HZ: 4-8 *Your reputation as a designer is nailed!*

Event Calendar **Sculpture & Scavenger Hunt**

Bedrock Farm in Lee, NH: Fall Open House
 Saturday **September 8** 10-4 pm. **FREE** This was our Summer Safari in July, and if you have not yet been, grab a couple of friends and go! It is a wonderful sculpture garden of about 10 acres with a 400' allée, ornamental grass acre, 200' water course, a woodland waterfall, and many smaller gardens in the works. Following the Open House, there will be an event to support the Bedrock Farm Foundation to preserve the gardens, with a guided tour of the gardens beginning at 4 pm, and at 5pm, a concert with Oboe and Guitar playing the tango music of Astor Piazzolla, followed by a reception at 6:00. A suggested donation of \$15 is tax-deductible. <http://www.finegarden.com>



Pettengill Farm: Fall Garden Celebration Saturday, **September 15** 10-3pm **FREE** Includes an Adult Garden Scavenger Hunt for plant prizes, Shrub and Plant Raffles, Mini Flea Market, Food Booths, and plants on sale, this day only. There are several workshops as well:

Fall Garden Workshop at 11 am
 Fall Containers at 11:30 + 2pm
 Thrillin' Grillin' with Doug Morris at 1:30
 Fall Garden Makeover at 1:30

<http://www.pettengillfarm.com>



WNGC

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*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 President Linda Schaeffer at 978 363-5251 or at linda-schaeffer@verizon.net

Next Board Meeting
Sept 13, 2007 at 7:00pm



Ask Peony **Drought-Tolerant Plants**

Welcome Back, Dear Friends,

People often look at their gardens in dismay after a dry spell and ask, "What can I do?" We never know what kind of weather we can look forward to each year. Not every spring or summer will bring as much rain as plants desire. Considering this dilemma, I thought you might enjoy these drought-tolerant plants. They are great when watering isn't an option. Plants with grayish foliage, such as Russian sage and dusty miller, have a natural reflective quality that allows them to survive in low-moisture, high-heat situations. More drought-tolerant plants:

Allium: Most tuberous or bulbous plants are drought-tolerant.

Yarrow (Achillea) Plant almost anywhere, including full sun.

Cardoon provides a bold, structural effect.

The underside of **lavender's** leaves are gray, underscoring this plant's tolerance to drought.

Potentilla withstands dry conditions well. Soft colors such as 'Miss Willmott' are becoming more available.

The leaves of **euphorbia** are thick and store water well.

In spring, the foliage of **Lychnis** is dark bronze, giving this plant an extended period of interest.

Hawkweed (Hieracium villosum) has a long period of bloom as well as beautiful, hairy foliage.

Kansas gayflower (**Gaura lindheimeri**) combines beautifully with

ornamental grasses. It blooms throughout summer until frost.

Flax (Linum flavum), a perennial form, blooms 5-6 weeks in summer.

Butterfly weeds (Asclepias tuberosa), bear their flower clusters along and atop the stalks.

Fairies' thimbles (**Campanula cochleariifolia**) may look like a delicate plant but it's alpine and will tolerate a fair amount of drought.

Coreopsis (Coreopsis verticillata) tolerates dry situations. ('Moonbeam' offers a much softer yellow than the species.)

Most ornamental grasses are also drought tolerant.

And finally, from yours truly, an oddly tolerant plant that is hardy, even when planted outside during our winters- the prickly pear cactus obtained from our friends at the Herb Farmacy. I planted it in the big cauldron in my perennial garden. "In spring," they warned, "it will appear dried, dark, wrinkled- dead. But wait and see..." Oh my buds, have you ever! That cactus was a pitiful sight. I waited. I feared. I got stuck with my wheelchair by the garbage can, rounding the house, to have a closer look. Surprise! It was alive! Buds had grown all over. Last fall's buds had matured. It was green and prickly (don't touch without gloves). Now wouldn't that make a great monster movie? "It Lives Again and Again to Pierce Their Digits!"

I hope to provide information or solutions for prickly problems of the plant kind in future columns. Keep those questions coming.

Your Peony