

WEST NEWBURY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Issue 8

From the Editor

As I write this, golden and orange colored leaves are drifting down in shafts of sunlight. I've moved the potted mums and geraniums in and back out three times to escape frosty nights. The fall season here is one of amazing colors, dwindling warm days, and busy garden preparations for the coming winter. This issue celebrates fall's beauty and looks forward to...Spring!

Virginia Hallman

November Meeting Plant Weaving

November 5, 6:45 PM at the **West Newbury Town Hall**

Wondering what to do with those iris, daffodil, and similar type leaves that stay long after the flowers they graced have folded? This month's speaker, Patricia



Morton of Merrimac, has a unique answer that she'll share with us. To her they are a resource for fiber which can be woven into cloth. She'll show us how using a loom from her own company, Treeditions. for a sneak peek, go to:

<http://www.paleotechnics.com/Articles/Irisarticle.html>

Hosting the November meeting will be Cyndy Bourquard along with Marie Anderson, Joan Colby, Janet Gilchrist, Debbie Niman, and Helen Thumser.

Need a ride? Call Linda Schaeffer, 978-363-5251.

WNGC's Daffodil Giveaway

Thanks to Don Fowler of the West Newbury Food Mart for again hosting the Giveaway next to the store's entrance on Saturday, 10/17. And thanks to everyone who helped—Ellie Bragg, Claire Flaherty, Mary Kemper, Kris Pyle, and Linda Schaeffer. We look forward to seeing all 600 bulbs in full bloom come spring.

In addition to the community giveaway, another 400 or so bulbs including some tulips will be planted at a half-dozen outlying intersections (Page 3) and in-town locations by board members Karen Doliber, Kathy Krajieski, Liz Scheld, and Joan Tranfaglia. We all look forward to an extra colorful and festive West Newbury spring!



Moving On — You should all have heard the news by now, either by phone or by email, that future Club monthly meetings will be held in the West Newbury Town Hall. Read all the details, including where you can park, on Page 2.



Daffodil Giveaway — Thanks to Maguy Thomson for once again initiating, organizing, and running the Club's give-back to the community in the form of free daffodil bulbs. Shown here, Claire Flaherty helps another family go...Yellow! Read more at right.

Our Club's Purpose

To encourage and cultivate an interest in gardening, to aid in the protection and conservation of natural resources, to encourage the study of horticulture and flower arranging, and to promote civic beauty.

WNGC Move *Reminder & Details*



The WNGC Board has voted to honor the Selectmen's request to move its storage items to and hold future club meetings in the West Newbury Town Hall building instead of the Annex. This allows the town to move election events to the Annex and store the voting machines and other voting equipment and supplies there. For some of us, this is a return to a familiar WNGC venue with a New England historical presence. Happily, we are assured a new heating system has been installed since we met there last. The town will continue to set up the room on our meeting days. There is ample storage room and current storage items from the library will be moved elsewhere. The chairs are fixed and...historical...so we are hoping to arrange Annex type seating for workshop events.



LOCATION: For anyone unfamiliar with the Town Hall, it's a bit further north on the same street as the Annex and directly across from the Library and the Training Field, where we hold our plant sale. The address is 491 Main Street.

LEFT SIDE PARKING: Notice the several parking spaces on the left side of the building. They provide access to the ramp that runs up that side of the building for those who are trading the stairs for the ramp. Otherwise, please do not park here.

EARLY BIRD PARKING: Down the right side and in the rear of the building is the parking lot, said to hold up to 30 cars. It's all yours.

THE REST OF US: You can park the length of the West side of the Training Field, and on the side street that runs past the library, but leave library patron space open.



Questions or Concerns?

Contact Linda Schaeffer
978-363-5251 / linda-schaeffer@verizon.net

November Meeting HERE



Topsfield Fair, 2009 Horticultural Exhibits



Notes from the 10/8 Board Meeting

- **Announcement and discussion of the Club move from the Annex to the Town Hall was of course a major topic. Still to come are results of further discussion with the Town regarding concerns about outside lighting, chairs for workshop-type meetings, and lockable storage for our microphone & speaker set.**
- **As mentioned on Page 1, daffodils will grace more than community gardens next year. New locations planned or under consideration are:**
 - Indian Hill/Cherry Hill intersection
 - Ash/Middle Streets intersection
 - Ash/Maple Streets intersection
 - Sign at Mill Pond
 - Greenbelt at Indian Hill Road

Member News

- **Kudos to Pricilla Styer on her Blue Ribbon winning arrangement at this year's Topsfield Fair on behalf of the Club. Hooray!**
- **We are sorry to tell you that Bea Ropes is resting in bed at home after a recent bout with pneumonia. She'd enjoy a card from you.**
- **Several of Virginia Hallman's photographs are in the Newburyport Art Association's 10/25 - 11/7 Photo Interest Group's Show & Bin Art.**



The Explorer's Tales & Texts

In October, the Club enjoyed author Michael Tougias' stories, photos, and array of books on New England destinations off the beaten path and true life adventures. The meeting featured floral arrangements by Pricilla Styer and as usual, great refreshments!



Gail Dinero and Rosemarie McCobb visit with the author.



Out & About in Vermont

Vermont is irresistible in foliage season and so is Rocky Dale Gardens in Bristol, a destination nursery and display garden specializing in unique trees, shrubs, conifers, and perennials. Tucked into the foot of the Green Mountains' South Mountain, the gardens and garden staff offer a unique horticultural feast of plants and knowledge. Bristol is west of Montpelier VT and about four hours from Boston. Learn more about this special specialty garden and enjoy the many photos and links at www.rockydalegardens.com.



Show Theme: A Feast for the Senses!
MARCH 24-28, 2010
SEAPORT WORLD TRADE CENTER

BLOOMS!
 BLOOMS! 2010
 at the
 Boston Flower & Garden Show

Happily, it looks like plans are a "go" for the annual Boston Flower Show we all missed so much last year. It will be shorter than before and at a different venue. The event will also include last year's "Blooms!" event, which features smaller arrangements in Boston area hotels and Malls. Local garden clubs are invited to participate in an Amateur class. To learn more and keep up on all the details, visit: www.masshort.org.



Next Board Meeting:
October 8, 7:00 pm

At: Town Office Building
2nd floor Small Meeting Room

DEAR PEONY

I still feel uninformed and scared about pruning. Give me some advice, please.

Kathy de Vermass



Dear Kathy de V,

I see that you actually live in the State of Confusion. Are you moving around a lot? If you remain still, it is easier to see what has to be done. It's confusing, but rarely fatal. Pruning at the wrong time of year may result in fewer flowers and fruits, but it usually won't harm the plant in the long run. An exception is pruning too late in the season and encouraging a lot of tender, new growth that will be killed back with the onset of winter weather. A few "tips", if you'll pardon me, to make pruning "shear" delight (sorry):

- (1) Don't prune all your plants in spring. This should be easy because we're in autumn. How do you know when to prune? Bloom time!
- (2) A great many flowering and fruiting plants prefer to be pruned while they are dormant, in late winter through early spring. Still other plants need to be continually pruned and deadheaded, to remain vigorous and in flower.
- (3) Some, like spring blooming trees and shrubs, will start setting new buds as soon as the old buds have fallen. These will need to be pruned shortly after flowering, or you risk pruning off the new buds with the old.
- (4) Flowering trees and shrubs are most confusing. A general rule of thumb is to prune summer and fall flowering trees and shrubs in the dormant season (late winter / early spring) and to prune spring flowering trees and shrubs soon after their flowers fade.

If my readers would dare to name names, varieties, be more darn specific with questions on perennials, we would be delighted to answer as best we could. After all, Peony is writing about a traditional rite called "pruning", my fellow gardeners, not a purple/blue fruit that is dried and rather badly wrinkled!

As Ever Cuttingly Yours,
Peony

PS: Take a picture before and after. It will help next time.