



Country Clippings

Easton Garden Club Newsletter

October 2002

Editor: Robin Kallfelz
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Wednesday, October 9, 2002 – 7:30pm

Oakes Ames Memorial Hall

“An Emerald Necklace in Boston”.....Alan Banks

(A lecture on the informal, natural setting F.L. Olmsted made popular in American Landscaping)

- Exhibits:** *“Sailing”*
An arrangement using boating or seafaring motif
- Horticulture:** *“Aster, Zinnia, Dahlia, Chrysanthemum”*
- Topic:** *“Winter Care of Roses”*
- Refreshments:** Stacy Naumes, chair
Donna Cassaro, Maryann Small,
Gail Devins, Rosemary O’Malley
- Table Arrangement:** Marilyn Falzone



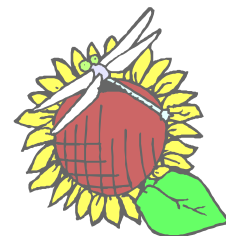
DATES TO REMEMBER

September 30 – October 5, 2002 (Monday thru Saturday) 9am – 5pm
NRT Harvest Fair workshops for EGC Fundraising Booth
Carriage House, NRT Sheep pasture

October 5, 2002 (Saturday) 9am – 1pm
Set up booth and tents for the NRT Harvest Fair
NRT Sheep Pasture

October 6, 2002 (Sunday) 10am – 5pm, rain or shine
NRT Harvest Fair – EGC Fundraising Booth
NRT Sheep Pasture

October 23, 2002 (Wednesday) 7:30pm
Board Meeting at the home of Denise Batchis



EGC News

EGC News



EGC/NRT Harvest Fair: This is the week! As we have for the past few years, we will be assembling wreaths, bouquets, and arrangements for our NRT sale booth at the carriage house at the Sheep Pasture. The building will be open for us to work from **9am to 5pm, Monday, September 30th through Friday, October 4th**. We hope all of our active members will participate, so that we can make this a successful fundraiser. No experience is necessary to pitch in and help. There is something for everyone to do. Please come down and give it a try. We have lots of fun learning how to make many things and getting to know each other.

We also need volunteers for set up day, **Saturday, October 5th, 9am to 1pm** and the fair day, **Sunday, October 6th, 8am to 5pm**. Please come and volunteer for a couple of hours, or all day. We will feed you! ***Please note:** During the workweek, please do not park your car across from the carriage house unless you have an NRT member sticker. All others please park in the visitor car lot near the foundation. Also, if you have saved and dried flowers, especially roses, or if you have hydrangeas in any color available, please bring them with you to the carriage house this week. We are still in need of silver king or silver queen artemesia, dusty miller, lambs ear, Chinese lanterns, any tall grass (such as miscanthus), sweet annie, yarrow, sumac, rose hips green or red, statis, pussy willows, sunflowers, grapevine, any gourds that we can put on wreaths, any dried or fresh herbs, or anything that dries well.

Board Meeting Memos: Two expenditures were voted at the September board meeting. For village improvement, the board approved a proposal from Henderson's Nursery for the summer and autumn of 2003 for \$3865.00. This will provide us with similar plantings to what they did for us this year, with the addition of the trash planters and several more window boxes.

Also approved was a proposal to increase our donation to the Easton "Habitat for Humanity" house from \$300 to \$450. This will enable us to add a tree to our landscaping plan, which includes dwarf Alberta spruce, rhododendrons and hydrangeas, as well. We hope to complete all the planting in the coming weeks.

New Members: Two new members were voted in at the September board meeting. We are pleased to welcome Monica Saba of South Easton, and Solveigh Vinchese of North Easton.



www.eastongardenclub.org

Events in Our Area



Fall Seminar and Tour — Fall Bulbs

Saturday, October 12, 2002, 9 AM

Fall Bulbs: Bulbs can take center stage in your landscape in springtime. Weston Nurseries will teach you the secrets of successful bulb planting and care.

Free admission

Tent in front of Weston Nurseries, 93 East Main Street, Route 135 West, Hopkinton MA 01748
508-293-8010, katieb@westonnurseries.com, <http://www.westonnurseries.com>

Shades of Autumn: Celebration of the Harvest Season — Tower Hill

Saturday, October 12, 2002 - Monday, October 14, 2002, 10am - 5pm

BOYLSTON—Tower Hill will host Shades of autumn, an annual celebration of the harvest season. Tower Hill will be turned into a virtual farmland, with a petting zoo for children, featuring farm animals; beautiful displays of garden produce; and taste-testing tours of the famous antique apple orchard, with 119 varieties of pre-20th Century apples.

Tower Hill Botanic Garden is a perfect place to spend the weekend with family and enjoy the glorious colors of fall in New England. Admission is free for the residents of Boylston, Berlin, and Sterling. Tower Hill is located at 11 French Drive in Boylston, MA, 3 miles north of Exit 24 from Route 290. For a complete schedule, call 508-869-6111 or sign on to www.towerhillbg.org. \$7 adults, \$5 seniors, \$3 youth, under 6 free

Fall Open House — Weston Nurseries

Saturday, October 19, 2002, 9 AM to 5 PM

Big event with hot air balloon rides (\$5), hayrides, many vendor demonstrations, tastings, and samplings. Garden seminars, landscape competition with silent auction on winning landscape, mounted police, railway gardening demonstration, water gardening, horticultural organizations, moonwalk, face painting, 3 bands, nursery tours and demonstrations of harvesting, production, and propagation. Raffle for free tree. Free parking and free admission. Free except for hot air balloon (\$5)

Weston Nurseries, 93 East Main Street, Route 135 West, Hopkinton MA 01748, 508-435-3414
customerservice@westonnurseries.com, <http://www.westonnurseries.com>

Fall Family Festival — Garden in the Woods

Sunday, October 20, 2002, Noon to 4 PM

Come to the Garden in the Woods with your family to join our Fall Festivities. Go on a scavenger hunt, try a family craft, attend a wild animal program, and meet some surprise creatures in the garden.

Free admission to the Garden courtesy of the Boston Globe.

Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham MA 01701
508-877-7630, bdrexler@newfs.org, <http://www.newfs.org>



Continued...
...More Events



Herbal Harvest Fair

Sunday, October 27, 2002, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Elm Bank (Home of the Mass. Hort. Society)

When one season ends, another begins. Join us as we celebrate the end of the growing season with our Herbal Harvest Fair. Proceeds from this fund-raiser will help support our Teaching Herb Garden at Elm Bank. We'll feature ongoing craft demonstrations. The marketplace will showcase hand-crafted items, which will include decorative herb tiles, ornaments, wreaths, bath and beauty products, dream pillows, sachets and potpourri.

Kids and kids-at-heart are invited to join MHS for its third annual Jack-O'-Lantern Festival, which also takes place in the Hunnewell Building. Celebrate the American tradition of the Jack-O'-Lantern by bringing your creations to be illuminated and displayed for all to see and enjoy. Storytelling, children's crafts and Halloween-inspired activities will be available. Votive candles will be supplied by MHS and snacks will be enjoyed.

Ongoing lectures (in the Education Center) will feature a talk on "Seed Saving--Keeping up the Cycle" by Dr. Seija Hälvä and a talk by Marie Stella Byrnes on "Using Color for Dynamic Effect in your Herb Garden." See the Mass Hort fall-winter class schedule for more details on the lectures. The New England Unit of the Herb Society of America is a non-profit educational society. Proceeds from this event will help support our Teaching Herb Garden at Elm Bank. **\$1 to enter the MHS pumpkin contest, other activities, demonstrations and lectures are free.** Hunnewell Building & Education Center, Elm Bank (Home of the Mass. Hort. Society)
900 Washington Street (Route 16), Wellesley MA
781-837-6143, Rhaavisto@aol.com, <http://neuhsa.homestead.com>

Call to Fall Conference

Club Presidents, Federation Executive Board Members, Garden Club Members and Guests
Please Join President Teddi Hickey on Wednesday, October 23, 2002

REGISTRATION/LUNCH FEES: \$38.00 if postmarked on or before October 9th, \$45.00 if postmarked on or before October 16th, \$50.00 if postmarked after October 16th, or walk-in. Sorry. No Refunds.

Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 99 Erdman Way, Leominster, MA. 01453

Make checks payable to GCFMA, Inc. and send to: Anne Motta, Registrar, 390 Middleboro Avenue,
E. Taunton, MA 02718

Tentative Schedule:

8:30 A.M. Registration, Coffee and Boutique Shopping

9:30 A.M. Welcome, Announcements and Business Meeting

10:00 A.M. Featured Speaker: Marcia Wilson, "Alaska Wilderness: A Canoe Journey into the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge"

11:15 A.M. Social Hour and Boutique Shopping

12:15 P.M. Luncheon

1:15 P.M. Design program: "An Elegant and Whimsical Holiday Showcase" presented by Dana Markos and Susanne Csongor

2:30 P.M. Registration Report

2:45 P.M. Adjournment



Spring Plant Sale 2003

I would like to make this coming year's plant sale bigger and better. One of the ways to do this is to prepare well in advance. There are many desirable plants that we have in our gardens that either need time to root, or must be dug up and potted in the fall. This can be a very easy task if you know how.

If you plan to do any dividing in your flowerbeds now, you can really help out with a minimum of fuss. Dig up the plants you are moving or dividing. Before you replant them, put a plant or two (or three or more) into a pot of soil. Use the size pot you would be likely to purchase yourself, if buying the plant in the nursery. Plant your specimen at the correct depth into the pot. Find a sunny but out of the way place in your yard and plant the pot. Keep the pot top several inches above the soil level. Water it a few times while the weather is still warm, and let it be for the winter. In the spring you can rock the pot out of the hole you put it in and presto! Ready to sell.

TOP OF POT _____

Irises can be treated this way, but make sure that you remove any damaged or bug infested tubers first. Peonies can also be potted up like this. Your plants will have almost no transplant shock.

TOP OF SOIL LINE 3-4 INCHES _____

BOTTOM OF PLANTED POT _____

If you are moving or dividing shrubs or trees you can treat them in a similar fashion. There are some lovely shrubs and trees that will root from cuttings placed either in water or directly into soil. Shrubs and trees that root in water include forsythia and willow (curly, black, weeping, etc.). Just cut 2-4 foot branches and strip the leaves off of the bottom 6 inches. Place the stripped ends into a heavy vase and fill to just below the leaf line with water. These can stay outside. Make sure to position your container so it won't tip over. Check it once a week for roots and to top off with water. When you see roots of several inches, pot up as described above.

Harry Lauder's walking stick, leucothoe, and boxwood also root easily. You may first dip the ends into rooting hormone (purchased at any nursery cheaply), tap off the excess hormone, and plant in a reasonably sized pot. People have told me they do not use rooting hormone or soil-less mix at all, but just put the cutting into a pot of soil. These pots can be "planted" as above. Keep them watered once or twice a week until it gets cold. Other shrubs, such as roses also root easily. Identify the branch to be rooted, make an abrasion on the underside of the branch where it can be placed in contact with the soil and pin it into place with a cut coat hanger. This should be rooted by the spring. If you need help or don't have a place to dig plants into, let me know. **Joyce Holster, Plant Sale Chairperson 508.586.4156**

Garden Gimmicks



A brown paper bag is your best friend when it comes to collecting your own seeds for next year's garden. In late summer to fall, when annuals like poppies, cleome, marigolds, zinnias, and others go to seed, take a supply of brown bags and a black marker to your garden to harvest the beginnings of next year's flowers. Bend the seedheads into the bag, and then give the stems a vigorous shaking to free the ripe seeds. Label each bag as you collect the seeds so they don't get mixed up, or shake a mixture of flower seeds into a single bag and plant a cottage garden jumble next year. After you're done collecting, pour the seed from the bags into labeled envelopes, picking out any bits of debris or stray insects, and store in a cool, dry place until planting time next spring.