

Dig This!



Newsletter of the Exeter Area Garden Club
March/April 2014

[HTTP://EXETERAREAGARDENCLUB.COM/](http://EXETERAREAGARDENCLUB.COM/)

>>>> CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR PROMISE TREE UPDATES <<<<

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE LUNCHEON & AUCTION, WEDS, JUNE 18, 2014

President's Message

Patti Elwell

Hello EAGC Gardeners!



Tired of winter yet? I know I am. We still have a few days left before it is officially spring, but as I write this, I look out at a foot of snow and hear reports of more to come!! It certainly doesn't seem like spring will arrive, but I have the staple crop of gardeners: HOPE. I know in my heart that spring will come, followed by the heat of summer, it just may take a little longer than my patience extends.

For me, the problem with a long winter is that, once my seeds have been ordered and sit waiting with my seed-starting supplies for the right time to start growing, I begin to dream bigger than just my plants. I start to look at other "projects." It starts off fairly reasonably: how to sharpen my tools, add hinges to the cover of my cold frame, and think about where to add a hook to hold my watering can. But then, the list begins to get a little more impressive: if I really want to try to get control of the fungus that attacks my tomato plants, why not a drip irrigation system?

As more storms drop more snow, I start to read more gardening magazines with articles showing wonderful ways to reuse pallets to create everything from planters to wall art. I find directions on how to build my own tuteur and, I even buy the wood! I look over my well-read books like, "The Well-Decorated Garden", "Simple Fountains", "Topiary", "The Vegetable Gardener's Book of Building Projects". They call to me. What else can I add to my garden that would be useful, pretty, fun and/or unique?

This year, by far, has been the worst. A long winter plus the discovery of Pinterest equals obsession. Just in case you haven't ventured into the world of Pinterest on the computer, here is a quick explanation: Pinterest stands for Personal Interest. It is a simple enough concept; you use it like an online scrapbook to save information you see on the internet that you would like to be able to access again. You will find recipes, ideas for holiday decorations, home décor, art, gardening, etc. Hundreds of thousands of photos of beautiful gardens, wonderful gardening tips, new plants, and "projects" can be found on Pinterest.....and my list of ideas grows.

I know that many of the projects on my list will not get completed this year, or maybe even the next, but some of them will. I know that at least one of the ideas I have for container planting will happen! I have a little added incentive to create something for the June EAGC Container Show that I will be able to use at my home after the show.. My ambitious plans will not all be in vain, but I sure do hope that spring gets here before I get to a third page on my list!

Speaking of the Container Show, are you thinking about entering a container? Maybe you, too, have been on Pinterest this winter! Don't forget to check out the newly offered Promise Tree event in early April, the fun "Container Crawl" adventure, as well as other new events and items. New spring shows and activities are also showing up on the website calendar as well. We may still need to be wearing our boots to get to some events, but we are New England gardeners-- full of HOPE!

~ Patti

No matter how long the winter, spring is sure to follow. ~ Proverb

Civic Beautification

Nance Jordan & Melanie McGrail

It's a quiet time for the Civic Beautification Committee, but with spring around the corner, we are thinking about and looking forward to beautifying the Bandstand.



Environment & Conservation

Betsy Vershay & Jill Compton

The E & C Committee members have been busy planning for the upcoming spring and summer seasons. In March, we are presenting a "Plant This, Not That" display offering tips on replacement plants, shrubs and trees for those that are invasive species, boring plants that EVERYONE plants, or are ill-suited to your soil or conditions. Make sure you stop by and take a look.



At the general meeting on April 17th, we will have our ANNUAL POT SWAP. Bring anything garden-related that you no longer want or need. And take home something someone else doesn't want or need. Recycle. It's good for the soul.

In May, it's back to those annoying critters we all love or hate; chipmunks, moles and voles. Exactly how much damage do they do? LuAnn has a solution.



In June, we will be gathering items for our Fabulous and Not-so-Fabulous baskets. These will be raffled off at the Luncheon on June 18th to those of you who have been bringing your coffee mugs to the general meetings and have had your card stamped by Betsy. Don't forget to get them stamped in March, April and May. Fewer paper coffee cups = good for the environment!

And then, ta dah! The Environment and Conservation Committee will be hosting a PEACH PARTY on Wednesday, August 6th. This Promise Tree event promises to be a sweet time for all: Contests, Prizes, Food and Drink.... Who could ask for anything more? Details will follow but mark your calendars. The more the merrier.

And last, but not least, have you submitted a mini-grant application? They are due April 1st. Please submit to Betsy Vershay, 29 Old State Road, Epping, NH 03042. The application form is on our website.

Is it spring yet?

Membership

Mimi Brett & Jann Bova

We are delighted to welcome the following 3 new members:

Emily Powley
16 Summer St,
Exeter, NH 03833
empow514@aol.com
919-793-3585

Mulqueen, Randi
98 Dudley Rd.
Brentwood, NH 03833
rmulqueen12@gmail.com
603-580-5598
609-304-1029

Committee: Civic Beautification

Barb Girard
21 Trevett Ave.
Lynn, MA 01904
617-794-0835
barbgirard@gmail.com

Committee: Herbs, Environment & Conservation

Please add the above new members to your yearbook and, make the following changes as well:

Linda Sadlock lindasadlock@comcast.net
Lynda Broadbent lynandbob@comcast.net

"The deep roots never doubt spring will come."

— Marty Rubin

Thursday, March 20, 2014

"Shade Gardening" by Barbara O'Brien from Rye, NH

Hospitality Coordinator: Sue Bowman

Mary Trio, Nancy Peterson, Mimi Brett, Joyce Marshall

Thursday, April 17, 2014

"Artful Arrangers" - a mini "Art in Bloom" presentation by some of EAGC's talented members

Hospitality Coordinator: Abbie Jane Anderson

Ann Schieber, Betsy Vershay Maxine Forward, Mel McGrail

By the time you read this, our Election Day Bake Sale profits will be totaled up and added to our treasury - just in time for our Beautification Mini-Grant applications to be reviewed. The baked goods you've contributed look wonderful and are certain to be snapped up by the voters at tomorrow's election. Thank you for sharing your baking talents!

Ways & Means has two more fundraisers planned for this year. On **May 10** we will be renting tables at the Stratham yard sale - the third time we've participated in this event. It's a fun and easy way to add to the club's treasury, while helping our members shed their un-needed but still usable treasures.

Be certain to reserve **Saturday, June 28th** for a very special EAGC event. Plans are underway for a first-of-its-kind community activity to be held at the Municipal Center in Stratham. We'll be staging a "container show" at which both club members & other interested gardeners can display their special container creations. There will be judging, prizes, demonstrations, auction items and much more. Ways & Means is encouraging all members to contribute their ideas & suggestions - beginning with an exciting name that will capture the interest of the public. We can do better than "Container Show"! Put on your thinking caps. You'll be hearing more from us soon.

New leaves have been sprouting on the Promise Tree, including some interesting activities. Check out the Tree at our next meeting or on the website. And don't forget to add your leaf to the tree - share your time and talent with the lucky member who buys your leaf.



Item of Interest

UNH Cooperative Extension and Great Bay Community College present 8 hands-on workshops, "Grow a Bountiful Garden This Year". See Flyer at end of Newsletter.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March 20, 2014- Thursday 9:30 AM at Stratham Community Church Doors open at 9 AM	Coffee & General Meeting Program: ""Shade Gardening" by Barbara O'Brien, Rye, NH
April 17, 2014- Thursday 9:30 AM at Stratham Community Church Doors open at 9 AM	Coffee, Annual Pot Swap & General Meeting Program: "Artful Arrangers" – a mini "Art in Bloom" presentation by EAGC Members
May 10, 2014- Saturday Stratham Hill Park	Yard Sale-more info to follow
Please note: Churchill Gardens, Exeter, Rolling Green Nursery in Greenland and Wentworth Greenhouses, Rollinsford, NH All offer various notable events throughout March and April. For more information see vendors websites or http://exeterareagardenclub.com/ for more info	www.wentworthgreenhouses.com www.churchillsgardens.com/ see www.rollinggreennursery.com www.seacoastgrowers.org

This newsletter was edited by Hazel Reed-Goldstein. The next DIG THIS will be sent in early May, 2014

TIME TO GROW

HOME GARDEN WORKSHOP SERIES

Grow a Bountiful Garden

With these hands-on workshops sponsored by
UNH Cooperative Extension and Great Bay Community College

8 SATURDAYS
16 WORKSHOPS

Morning Session: 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Afternoon Session: 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

\$5 per session, payable at door

NEW LOCATION!

Great Bay Community College
Room 122, 320 Corporate Dr.
Portsmouth, NH

For more information or to register, contact Ron Christie at (603) 679-5616 or
ron.christie@unh.edu.

Sat., March 15 Workshops:

- 1 - Vegetable & Fruit Garden Planning
- 2 - Starting Transplants from Seed

Sat., March 22 Workshops:

- 3 - Healthy Soil for Happy Plants and Higher Yields
- 4 - Garden Fertility
(must attend the morning session)

Sat., April 5 Workshops:

- 5 - Cover Crops & Green Manures, Composting
- 6 - Container & Raised Bed Gardening

Sat., April 19 Workshops:

- 7 - Weeds, Pests and Disease
- 8 - Growing Apples and Pears

Sat., April 26 Workshops:

- 9 - Growing Stone Fruit (Peaches, Plums and Cherries)
- 10 - Blueberries, Raspberries and Strawberries

Sat., May 3 Workshops:

- 11 - Growing Your Favorite Vegetables; Tomatoes, Peppers and Eggplant
- 12 - Growing Your Favorite Vegetables; Root Crops, Greens, Squash, Beans & Peas

Sat., May 10 Workshops:

- 13 - Season Extension
- 14 - Building an Inexpensive Greenhouse

Sat., August 23 Workshops:

- 15 - Storing Your Harvest
- 16 - Closing Up Your Garden

**Membership Registration
2013-2014**
www.ExeterAreaGardenClub.com

Name: _____ **Spouse:** _____

Mailing/Seasonal Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Email: _____

(Most correspondence occurs via email; please let us know if you do not have email access.)

Member Since: _____

Current Office or Committee/s _____

Membership Levels: Single \$25 ____ **Couple \$30** ____ **Associate \$20** ____

Membership Responsibilities: All members are encouraged to attend monthly meetings and to assist the Hospitality Committee with refreshments. Members are required to join at least one committee and/or hold an office. Please see complete committee descriptions on the reverse.

There are currently openings in the following Committees: Awards, Herbs, Civic Beautification, Environment & Conservation, Membership and Ways & Means.

Committee Choice/s for 2013-2014: _____

If you have questions, please contact Membership Co-Chairs:

or Mimi Brett (770-3405) or Jann Bova (397-5354)

Please make checks out to Exeter Area Garden Club and mail with your registration form to: Mimi Brett, 16 Parkman Brook Lane, Stratham, NH 03885, or bring to our meeting.