

Patchogue Garden Club's

# Garden Gazette

"All the dirt you need to know . . . and a whole lot more!"

July 2008

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Garden Gazette

P.O. Box 3030

Patchogue, NY 11772-0887

Submissions must be received two weeks before the general meeting in order to appear in that month's edition of the *Garden Gazette*.

## Greetings from the President

Dear Garden Club Members,

Congratulations to Paula Murphy and her entire committee for a successful eighth annual garden tour. The selected gardens showcased a variety of gardening "micro-climates" beach, shade, sun, and sun/shade. The gardens were as varied as their owners. It was hard not to come away without coveting yet another plant, ornament, or perhaps a total re-do of a small part of your own garden.

Thank you also to Carolyn Young for again having an Open Garden tour for her magnificent daylilies.

Water, water, water seems to be the mantra of the past few weeks. Although there were many thunderstorms and downpours all around us in the past two weeks, especially to the north and west, our marine climate conditions have kept all rain away from the Patchogue area. This is very reminiscent of last year's summer weather. Remember to water early in the day, longer, deeper watering is much more efficient and beneficial, than daily short bursts. Three to four inches of mulch will conserve water, and keep down the weeds. Do not mound your mulch around your tree trunks, as you often see in homes/commercial spaces that are "professionally" maintained. You will eventually smother your trees and they will start to experience dieback. You should keep a large circle around the base of your tree mulch free and be sure the dirt does not surround the root collar.

## Enjoy your summer, Carol



## Mark the Date

- Tuesday, July 22, 2008, 6 PM, in the lovely garden of June and Angelo Petrucelli, 111 Monroe Ave., Patchogue, 730-1091. Take North or South Ocean Avenue to Roe Blvd. and turn west. Turn north onto Monroe. Jennings is the street before Monroe. Bring a chair if you want a guaranteed place to sit.



*V. carlesii* 'Compacta'



*V. dilatatum* 'Henneke'

What dreadful hot weather we've have! It keeps me in a continual state of inelegance.  
- Jane Austen



*V. dentatum* 'Blue Muffin'



*V. plicatum*, doublefile viburnum



July Happy Hostesses, appreciated, as always:

Lynn Kane  
Marita Morello  
Paula Murphy  
Carla Steward

## Plant of the Month and Book Review: Viburnum

The viburnums are a versatile, diverse—around 150 species-- and adaptable genus exhibiting fine forms, sweet scents, and beautiful fruits attractive to birds. There is scarcely a garden that couldn't use one or more of these valuable pest- and disease resistant shrubs, some of which are native. Dr. Michael Dirr, a distinguished woody plant authority, has written "Viburnums: Flowering Shrubs for Every Season", Timber Press, 2007, \$39.95, but as low as \$23.98 at Amazon, or browse for free via Patchogue-Medford Library Interlibrary Loan.

Viburnums adapt well to most soil conditions and light exposures, but ideally prefer well-drained acid soil and full to part sun. They tolerate pruning well. They are versatile in many landscapes, so can be used in formal or informal hedges, screens, and barriers as well as in foundation and mass plantings.

These lovely shrubs range in size from about three (the fragrant *V. carlesii* 'Compacta', dwarf Korean spicebush) to twenty feet (*V. sieboldii*, siebold viburnum).

Many have outstanding fall color, all have large, beautiful flowers, and the fruits are dark or brilliant blue, yellow, or red in late summer to early fall.

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## Recipe of the Month: Fruit Kebobs

2 bananas	8 strawberries
1 apple	8 pineapple chunks
1 orange	1 cup plain, vanilla, or fruit yogurt
1 cup seedless grapes	1 tablespoon honey
	1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

Vary the fruit according to what is best in season—think peaches, nectarines, plums, pears, kiwi, raspberries, etc. Cut the fruit into bite-sized chunks. Mix yogurt with honey and cinnamon. Thread fruit chunks onto eight wooden skewers, alternating with different types of fruit. Enjoy your creations dipped in cinnamon-honey yogurt. For an extra sweet treat, brush skewers with yogurt dip and roll in your favorite granola.



Margaret Roach



## Serious Dirt from Richard Waldman

A WAY TO GARDEN (DOT COM) blog and Q&A forum is the latest horticultural incarnation of Margaret Roach, whose life list also includes stints as garden editor at *Newsday* in New York, one of the country's largest daily newspapers; and *Martha Stewart Living*, where she was the magazine's first garden editor and until 2008 editorial director of all of the company's content: magazines, books, and Internet. She recently retired (at a very young age, thank you) to her 2.3-acre garden in a Zone 5B area of New York State, which was the subject of her book "A Way to Garden" (named best garden book of the year in 1998 by the Garden Writers Association of America and now a collector's item). The garden has been open for ten years for tours as part of the national Open Days visiting scheme of the Garden Conservancy; check their site for upcoming dates. Want to know more about her and her relationship with both sides of the gardening equation, the hands-on and the touchy-feely? Check out <http://awaytogarden.com/>.



Read what Anne Raver said about Margaret's country dream and blog in the *New York Times*, June 19, 2008 at [http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/19/garden/19garden.html?\\_r=2&pagewanted=1&sq=raver%20roach&st=nyt&scp=1&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/19/garden/19garden.html?_r=2&pagewanted=1&sq=raver%20roach&st=nyt&scp=1&oref=slogin)

# 8th Annual Garden Tour Volunteers

A BIG THANK YOU FROM PAULA and the CLUB!

Arlene Lamberti  
Georgia Dulmovits  
John Dulmovits  
Pauline Carlton  
Carolyn Savastano  
Guy Vitale  
Karen Ferb  
Anne Rubbo  
Violet Mulligan  
Mark Jeffers  
Millie Zimmerman  
Marie Magnano  
Barbara Aragon  
Carol Tvelia  
Susan Scala  
Jo Miller  
Sandra Franco

THANK YOU, PAULA!



## MUCH APPRECIATED FAN MAIL

It was with great pleasure that I received the notice for this year's Garden Tour. I'm looking forward to it so much.

The past tours have been wonderful. There is something to be learned and admired at each one, and the hosts were all so helpful and hospitable.

The Garden Club is to be commended for all its fine works. It has added so much to the community (and in such a short time). Patchogue is very fortunate to have such a wonderful and active Garden Club.

The Spring Luncheon is a great way to start off the season. We look forward to it each March. The baskets are so beautifully put together. Your members (and donors) do a fantastic job, which I know involves an enormous amount of work.

The Christmas House Tour was another lovely event. Each home had such gracious hosts and festive, warm decorations. I hope that it will become an annual event.

Keep up your great work, please, and thank you for all you contribute to make our environment so much nicer.

The gardens at the Terry Street parking area is so very beautiful and should serve as a model for other villages that are interested in making their public parking areas attractive.

Long live the Patchogue Garden Club and its dedicated members!

Sincerely, Anita Tim



# PATCHOGUE GARDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

"Come Grow With Us"



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Dues: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Phone\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note: If you have an unlisted telephone number, may we distribute it to our members? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If a speaker requests the membership list (name and address only), do you agree to provide it? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Detach here

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We would like you to HELP US HELP YOU with your gardening issues by completing the following.

Please indicate your interest in the following categories by checking off all that apply:

- |  |                                 |   |
|--|---------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annuals/Biennials | <input type="checkbox"/> Trees  | <input type="checkbox"/> Knot Gardens         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perennials        | <input type="checkbox"/> Shrubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Container/Window Box |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulbs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawns  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Gardens         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruits/Vegetables | <input type="checkbox"/> Roses  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ponds                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Herbs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ferns  | <input type="checkbox"/> House/Potted Plants  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tropicals         | <input type="checkbox"/> Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Propagation          |

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in taking field trips with a focus on horticulture, e.g., flower shows and garden tours? If yes, where would you have an interest in going? Use back if needed.

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In order to help us schedule guest speakers, we would like to know what aspects of horticulture you would like to know more about. Use back if needed.

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Do you have a special interest in a particular plant or aspect of horticulture? If so, would you be interested in sharing your knowledge and experience with the members? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ My topic is \_\_\_\_\_

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Would you be interested in having members visit your garden? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Best time of year? \_\_\_\_\_

**Networking:** Hobbies, business interests, skills, etc. Please use back of page.

Please print and complete this page and return to Carol. Thank you for your interest and your participation in this survey.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Print \_\_\_\_\_



## Timely Tips for August

- ☀ Water plants: take advantage of cool morning hours, use daytime shade, use mulch, water plants deeply and less frequently.
- ☀ Manage cutworms, larva, grasshoppers, mosquitoes and other garden pests.
- ☀ Deadhead, deadhead, deadhead!!! Weed, weed, weed!!! (Same old story)
- ☀ Harvest and preserve extra fruits and vegetables.
- ☀ Read, listen to music, practice your musical instrument, relax, sleep in the shade, or whatever comes naturally during the dog days of August.



## Patchogue Garden Club

P.O. Box 3030  
Patchogue, NY 11772-0887

"Come grow with us"  
founded 1996



"Mosquito is out,  
it's the end of the day;  
she's humming and hunting  
her evening away.  
Who knows why such hunger  
arrives on such wings  
at sundown? I guess  
it's the nature of things."

- N. M. Boedecker, *Midsummer Night Itch*