

Patchogue Garden Club's

# Garden Gazette

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

**2006 Board Members:**

**President:**

Karen Ferb

**First Vice President:**

Carol Tvelia

**Second Vice President:**

Mary Ann Tchinnis

**Treasurer:**

Marita Morello

**Recording Secretary:**

Joanna Drake

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Lynn Kane

**Parliamentarian:**

Sandra Franco

**Historian:**

Josephine Miller

**Immediate Past Presidents:**

Barbara Gustafson

Kathy Marcus

June 2006

## Greetings from the President

Do you think that maybe, just maybe, we overdid the rain dance thing? We need to exercise more caution in the next monsoon lest our poor gardens drown. Speaking of gardens and water, on May 7 five intrepid (Bill now refers to ours as the "hardcore garden club"—how's that for a reputation?) members braved the nor'easter and headed up to Wading River to see Bill and Ronnie Schiavo's (Shoreham Garden Club) water garden. If I counted right, there are four ponds, three waterfalls, and a meandering dry (well, not dry on that particular day) streambed of river rocks and boulders. It is truly lovely and well worth the drive up to see it. We are invited to come "any time", so we'll try to schedule another visit, preferably on a sunny day, so that more of our members can participate. I thought it might be nice to pair it with a visit to the Peconic Herb Farm, which is more or less on the way, and a picnic lunch.



## Mark the Date

- ☑ Saturday, June 25, 9:00 a.m. until ?  
Garden clean-up day
- ☑ Tuesday, June 27, 7:00 p.m.  
June general meeting to be held at the North Patchogue Fire Department. Ann Carpenter, Master Gardener, will speak to us about shade gardening.
- ☑ Saturday, July 1, 9:00 a.m. until ?  
Let's all chip in and help get the garden into shape for the Garden Tour!
- ☑ Saturday, July 2, 9:00 a.m. until ?  
Another date to help clean up the garden for the Garden Tour
- ☑ Friday, July 7, 9:00 a.m. until ?  
Last chance to help spruce up the garden for the Garden Tour!
- ☑ Saturday, July 8, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Garden Tour. More information is inside.
- ☑ Thursday, July 13, 9:00 a.m. until ?  
Garden clean-up day
- ☑ Saturday, July 22, 9:00 a.m. until ?  
Garden clean-up day
- ☑ Saturday, July 22, 6:00 p.m.  
Annual pot-luck dinner at Paula Murphy's house, 125 Smith Street, Patchogue. This is a great spot for viewing the fireworks, which begin at 9:30 p.m.



**Garden Gazette Editorial Staff:**

Josephine Brennan

Dianna M. Popp

Ruth Shackelford

Richard Waldman

Please email submissions to

karenferb@hotmail.com

Or mail to:

Garden Gazette

P.O. Box 3030

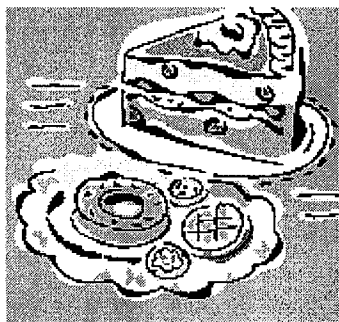
Patchogue, NY 11772-0887

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

## Hostesses for the June Meeting

Barbara Coulton, Janet Heyer and Anne Rubbo have volunteered to hostess the June meeting. Two more are needed. If you can volunteer, contact Joanna Drake at 289-6935. Volunteers are reminded to arrive by 6:20 p.m. to begin preparations.

## May Meeting in a Flash



- ❖ First Vice President Carol Tvelia stood in for Karen Ferb, who was attending another function for the Garden Club
- ❖ Marita Morello gave the Treasurer's Report, which showed an ending balance of \$6,108.59 with another \$2,017.23 in our savings account.
- ❖ Lynn Kane reminded members that payment for the Club's T-shirts are due at the June meeting. When you write your check, please indicate in the memo line of your check that it is for a T-shirt.
- ❖ Joanna Drake reminded members of the importance of volunteering to be a hostess for our meetings. Please put your name on the sign-up list!
- ❖ Carol Tvelia also reminded members that everyone should set aside at least a half hour a month to help clean up and maintain the Club's gardens. If you can't come on the days set aside for clean-ups, come when you have time with gloves and a garbage bag, which can be left at the garbage pail nearest the shed.
- ❖ Lynn Kane reported that Danielle Rufrano from Patchogue-Medford High School had been selected to receive our scholarship. Her guidance counselor says she wants to become a master gardener.
- ❖ Kelleen Guyer gave an update on the club's Web site, which can be accessed at [www.patchoguegardenclub.com](http://www.patchoguegardenclub.com). It's awesome--check it out! Many thanks to Kelleen for her great work.
- ❖ Members agreed to hold a tea in September (date to be determined) to celebrate the club's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A committee needs to be formed, so please sign up to chair or participate.
- ❖ Last but not least, Steve Nowotarski spoke on the care and growing of dahlias and gave a demonstration of ways to use them in container gardening.

## A Plea for Help!

Carolyn Young is in need of volunteers to help prepare her garden for the open garden days of the American Hemerocallis Society. The open days are July 9 and 16, 12:30-4:30 p.m. The days she needs help are July 8, 13, 14 and 15. Please give her a call if you have any time at all to help. Her gardens are at 95 Bellport Avenue, Medford, on the east side of Bellport Avenue just north of Long Island Avenue and just south of the south-bound service road of the LIE.



## Another Great Success!

A great big "Thank you!" to all who contributed time, effort, money and stuff for the annual Plant and Yard Sale. This event netted the Club \$1,172.70. Special thanks go to Carl Unger for his wonderful contribution of a variety of plants, and to Carolyn Young for her many pots of daylilies, coreopsis, and sedum.

## Sixth Annual Garden Tour Coming Up!

It's our annual don't-miss event! Please help spread the word to your friends and neighbors. Gardens will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 8. Tickets for the tour can be purchased in advance for \$12 by sending a check to the Patchogue Garden Club at P.O. Box 3030, Patchogue, NY 11772. Tickets also can be purchased at Four Sisters Recreation Center at 96 South Ocean Avenue, at Fantastic Gardens at 67 Avery Avenue in Patchogue, and at the Patchogue Chamber of Commerce at 15 North Ocean Avenue. On the day of the tour, tickets can be purchased for \$15 at the gazebo in the Terry Street Garden.



Members please take note: Volunteers are needed to sit in the gardens on the day of the tour. If you can help, or if you have any questions about the tour, please call Paula Murphy at 289-0234.

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## Serious Dirt from Richard Waldman

### It Really Is Fantastic!

Some people like the anonymity of shopping in warehouses where human contact is minimal and you need a GPS unit to track where you parked your car. In Patchogue we are fortunate to have tucked away at 67 Avery Street just north of Montauk Highway a nursery that is aptly named, "Fantastic Gardens." You could come with a list of specific annuals, perennials or shrubs you have copied from the latest issue of your favorite gardening magazine, but I suggest putting the list back in your pocket as you stroll up and down and across the aisles where unusual varieties of annuals and perennials are placed right next to the old standards. New greenhouses went up a few years ago to add to the selection as you meander through with your red wagon. I often have boasted to friends about the surprisingly low price I have paid when they admire the unusual annuals I have purchased here.

Many of us who have participated in the numerous Garden Club garden installations are aware of the unstinting generosity of plant material from Fantastic Gardens. The people at Fantastic Gardens always have been great supporters of the many activities of the Patchogue Garden Club--I don't think there has ever been a time when we have gone away empty handed or been given false promises, and the notices for the annual Garden Club tours are always right at the register for all to see. This is a great place to meet friends and neighbors, as well as to find some choice bargains. Don't look for a Web site, just mosey on down to 67 Avery Avenue (631-475-7118).

### Garden Conservancy Open Days Program

In the throw away society that we live in, we are starting to appreciate and find ways to keep the physical surroundings intact to pass down to future generations. Now there is an organization that was founded solely to preserve American gardens of interest for the public to enjoy and learn from. The Garden Conservancy ([www.gardenconservancy.org](http://www.gardenconservancy.org)) has identified gardens all through the country of merit that need to be preserved. To help raise awareness of America's garden heritage, they are hosting an "Open Days Program." This year, gardens in Eastern Long Island will be open on July 15 and 16. Just as our annual garden tour allows us to trod through our neighbors' gardens to get landscape hints and ideas, the Open Days Program allows us to appreciate gardens just past our own fences too. Check out their website ([www.gardenconservancy.org](http://www.gardenconservancy.org)) for further information, including locations and directions.





### Tilling and Toiling in July

- Water lawn with 1 to 2 inches of water per week when rainfall is lacking.
- Stake tall annual and perennial flowering plants to prevent them from flopping over.
- Fertilize flowering plants.
- Continue to secure tomato stems to stakes.
- Prune evergreens by mid-July, if needed.
- Fertilize rose bushes.



**Nuts and Bolts** Please add these new members to your membership list:  
Joan Kattau, 47 Center Street, Patchogue NY 11772, telephone 475-5443  
Guy Vitale, 36 Grove Avenue, Patchogue, NY 11772, telephone 730-8124



## Patchogue Garden Club

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

"Come grow with us"  
Founded 1996

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 27, 7:00 p.m., at the North Patchogue Fire Department.

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I know that if odour were visible, as colour is,  
I'd see the summer garden in rainbow clouds.

~Robert Bridges, "Testament of Beauty"

