

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

November 2006

Greetings from the President

The newsletter year screeches to a halt with this issue, so it is time to thank the staff for all their good work (applause, please). I also want to thank the members of the board for their fine job performances and their incredible support for the club events and activities (straight A's all around). And you, the members of this now officially venerable 10-year-old club, have been the sine qua non of it all. I cannot thank you enough for being there, as fine a group of people as I've ever known or could hope to know. Beyond the club, there are many to thank for their support and encouragement throughout the year, including the Village of Patchogue, our local nurseries, Pulte Homes, and the Patchogue-Medford Youth Council. I salute you, one and all, and I look forward to serving next year's board as the immediate past president.



Happy Thanksgiving To All!

Please Take Note!

This will be the final newsletter of the year, as members voted at the last meeting to forego the November meeting and we don't have a December meeting. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 23, 7:00 p.m. at the North Patchogue Fire Department. We know that's a long time from now with a lot happening in between, so we will send out a postcard in January reminding everyone about the meeting. In the meantime, the newsletter editorial staff sends wishes to everyone for a wonderful holiday season!

2007 Slate of Candidates

At the October meeting, members voted to accept the slate of candidates presented by Mary Ann Tchinnis, the Chair of the Nominating Committee. The new officers will be: Carol Tvelia, President; Mary Ann Tchinnis, First Vice President; Guy Vitale, Second Vice President; Paula Murphy, Treasurer; Sandra Franco, Recording Secretary; Diane Voland, Corresponding Secretary; and Barbara Aragon, Parliamentarian. They will take up their positions next year, beginning with the January 2007 meeting. Congratulations! We look forward to another prosperous and productive year under your leadership!



Garden Gazette Editorial Staff:
Barbara Aragon
Josephine Brennan
Carolyn Savastano
Ruth Shackelford
Richard Waldman

Please email submissions to
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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.



Holiday Workshop

Want to try your hand at making your own holiday decorations using fresh greenery? Sign up for the Centerpiece and Wreath Workshop to be given by Diane Schwindt Pisano on Tuesday, December 19, at 7:00 p.m. at the North Patchogue Fire Department. Friends and family are welcome, but note that all participants will pay a fee for workshop materials. For more information, and to sign up, call Ruth Szuminskyj at 744-1912 or 902-1262.

October Meeting in a Flash

- ❖ Members voted to give a donation of \$65 to the Patchogue Youth Community in recognition of their help in the Terry Street Garden.
- ❖ Members also authorized the payment of \$100 to maintain our membership in the Patchogue Chamber of Commerce.
- ❖ President Karen Ferb reported that Legislator Jack Eddington had offered to host a tea for the Garden Club to honor our involvement in the community. More information will be available at a later date.
- ❖ Karen also discussed the issues related to the Club achieving tax-exempt status. Rather than seeking tax-exempt status for the Club itself, Karen said it might be better for the Club to join the Greater Patchogue Foundation. This would allow a person to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Garden Club through the Foundation. The Foundation would keep part of the donation as their administrative fee, but most of the money would go to the Club. Karen will attend one of their upcoming meetings to see if this will be feasible.
- ❖ Karen then displayed to members the Proclamations we received from Senator Trunzo's office, from Brookhaven Town Supervisor Brian Foley's office and from the Village of Patchogue in honor of our 10 Year Anniversary. The Club also received a Citation from Assemblywoman Patricia Eddington's office.
- ❖ Sandra Franco was successful in getting members a discount at Great Gardens, a wholesale garden supply company on Horseblock Road in Yaphank, near the Brookhaven Town recycling facility. Members can purchase garden supplies when they show their Garden Club membership card. Way to go Sandra!



More Thanks to Members!

Josephine Miller sends out thanks to all members of the Anniversary and Dedication Committee, and Joanna Drake also thanks those members who helped out preparing for and cleaning up after the reception. Everyone had a wonderful time, but without our terrific volunteers events like these wouldn't be worth mentioning. And while we are at it, let's send a great big "thank you" to the members who make ALL our events throughout the year worthwhile. Last but not least, let's thank the members who come out again and again to help keep our Terry Street Garden looking beautiful. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Serious Dirt from Richard Waldman

Garden Travel

I haven't heard any groaning yet from my mailman but the Christmas catalogs have started to arrive along with thick catalogs from travel companies with enticing photographs of far-away trips geared towards gardeners. Garden tours allow you to discover gardens not only in your own neighborhood but around the world. So while the weather here is getting colder and your own garden is moving into the hibernation mode, you might want to lay down on the couch, close your eyes, and imagine yourself walking through lavender fields in France or being amazed at the profusion of tulips and daffodils in the Netherlands.

If you don't mind dipping deeply into your retirement fund, you can make these dreams come true by joining one of the tours developed by *Horticulture* magazine and led by *Horticulture* magazine editors that take you to gardens all over the world. They are currently offering a tour to Chile and Patagonia in December—go to their Web site for more information, www.hortmag.com. Another group that arranges international garden tours is Academic Arrangements Abroad. Their current offerings include a cruise to the gardens of the Caribbean, a tour of private gardens in Umbria and Tuscany in Italy and a tour of English gardens that includes a privileged entry to the renowned Chelsea Flower Show in London. Go to www.arrangementsabroad.com for more information and don't faint at the prices! It doesn't cost anything to dream, though, and I know that in the next month or two I will be making more imaginary trips while I put my own garden to bed. My only question is, "How much do I tip the mailman?"

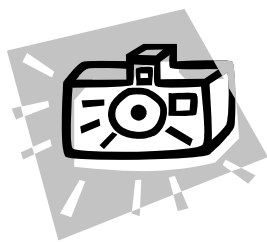
Horticultural Mystery

Barbara Aragon wants members to know about an English mystery series called "Rosemary and Thyme," which I also have watched. I assume that gardening is the number one hobby for most of us, but when I am not planting or shopping at nurseries, a good mystery with twists and turns and surprise endings gets my rapt attention. The plots of this show revolve around two friends, Rosemary Boxer and Laura Thyme, who have their own gardening business yet seem to find themselves where crimes have been committed and people are found dead. One by one the duo unearths (pun intended!) clues until the solution is found. Along the way viewers are treated to gardening knowledge and shots (another intended pun) of the English countryside. Season Two started on November 14; shows air on Channel 21 (WLIW) Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. To get caught up, visit their Web site at www.rosemaryandthyme.tv.



Plant of the Month: Heavenly Bamboo

Despite its common name, *Nandina domestica* is not a bamboo, but a relative of *Berberis*, the barberries. This well-behaved native of China will thrive in full sun or part shade in well-drained, moist soil. It is a shrub, growing up to 6 feet high, depending on the cultivar, with airy bright green leaves that turn reddish-purple in autumn and winter. The brilliant leaf color often remains all winter, and new foliage is also red. Plants produce clusters of small white flowers that are followed by very attractive long bunches of red berries favored by birds. Although it is a hardy plant, it should be grown in a sheltered spot as the growth can be damaged by hard frosts and icy cold winds. If that happens, it can be cut back, to the ground if necessary. Use as a specimen, hedge/screen, or container plant.



Web Site Update

Photos of the dedication of the extension to our community garden and of the reception at the Patchogue Theater in honor of the Club's 10th anniversary are up on the Web site, as are photos of our recent Harvest Dinner. Go to patchoguedgardenclub.com and enjoy!



Nuts and Bolts

Please add these new members to your membership list:

Margaret Atkinson, 65 N. Pinelake Drive, Patchogue, NY 11772, telephone 475-1137
Thadine Balsamo, 118 South Bay Avenue, Islip, NY 11751, telephone 650-1181
Dorothy Meehan, 90 Matsunaye Drive, Medford, NY 11763, telephone 289-9644



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

"Come grow with us"
Founded 1996

Please Note: No November or December meeting; next meeting is in January.



No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,
No comfortable feel in any member—
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds—
November!

—Thomas Hood

