

Shoreham Garden Club Newsletter

May 2008, Volume XXII, No. 3

President's Message

(Vicki McLane)

Happy Spring!!! Barbara Foley and Mimi Oberdorf and I went to the District II Spring Luncheon on April 14 at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Westbury.

The business meeting was followed by (as is usual) a design program. This year's designer was very entertaining, his designs were practical, and I would have loved to take home many of them myself. Unfortunately none of us was lucky enough to win one. He gave some advice on how to put flowers in vases so that they keep fresh longer. (See Preserving Cut Flowers, following.)

Barbara and I bought plants from The Plantage. They sell them at the District II luncheons at really good prices! One of the plants I bought is an *Aurinia Saxatilis* 'Dudley Neville', a variegated perennial Alyssum (see photo).

I am still hearing that the food pantries are having a hard time, so I would like to continue collecting at all our functions. Please try to bring one or two items to the Member's Workshop and Mid-Summer Night's Garden Party.



2008 Dues

Don't forget to pay your 2008 dues. You may bring them to the Member's Workshop or mail them to:

Treasurer, Shoreham Garden Club
P.O. Box 323
Shoreham, NY 11786-0323



Shoreham Garden Club Schedule 2008

May 17 th	Saturday	Member's Workshop , Karen Burnson's home, Shoreham
May 31 st	Saturday	Plant/Tag sale , Vicki McLane's home, Shoreham
June 20 th	Friday	Mid-Summer Night Garden Party , Karen Burnson's home. Shoreham
September 20 th	Saturday	10:30 Halama Speaker, John Potente, Backyard Wildlife Habitat .
October 18 th	Saturday	10:30 Meeting, Dan Pichney, Butterfly Gardens .
October 20 th	Monday	District II Fall Luncheon
November (TBD)	Tuesday	Three-Village Garden Club joint meeting
December 7 th	Sunday	Holiday Party & Annual Meeting , Carol Ryan's home, Wading River

Preserving Cut Flowers (Vicki McLane)

To preserve spring flowers, such as tulips, daffodils and hyacinths, put them in very cold water – even ice water. For other flowers use tepid water. Add **a drop** of bleach and **a pinch** of floral life. Remove foliage below water line, and cut flower stems at an angle.

April Meeting (Vicki McLane)

Our April meeting was sparsely attended, but those who came learned a lot about soil management from our speaker, Steven Watson, a certified landscape and nursery professional, sanctioned by the N.Y.S. Nursery and Landscape Association, and we each took home a packet of seeds. I intend to try the patio garden he suggested with the cucumber seeds I received. Pat Thompson and Gloria Affatato each took home a Primrose.

A good book on soil management, recommended by Mr. Watson, is **Teaming with Microbes: A Gardiner's Guide to the Soil Food Web** by Jeff Lowenfels and Wayne Lewis.

The proposal to increase dues in 2009 to \$30 was passed. The dues for two people in the same family at the same address will be \$50.

Thank you to those who brought food for the food pantry and ink cartridges to recycle.

Plant / Tag Sale

We will be holding our Annual Plant/Tag Sale on Saturday, May 31, from 10-3 at Vicki McLane's house. Please pot up whatever you're willing to part with, label it with the name and growing conditions, then bring it to Vicki's the day before (Friday). If you need pots, Vicki has some plastic and some clay.

Also, you can bring tag sale items to Vicki's anytime starting the Wednesday before. We prefer items that are garden or plant related, but will accept other items in good condition. Please put a price on them either before you bring them or Vicki will have price stickers for you to attach when you come. Anything not sold may be tossed out if it is still there on Sunday night.

We also need people to help out on the day of the sale. Contact Vicki and let her when you can work, be it one hour or all day.

Garden Conservancy Open Days Program (Sandy Romano)

Our first trip will be either Saturday, July 12th or Sunday, July 13th; details will follow in the next newsletter.

However, if you would like to get started on your own now, there are several beautiful gardens open on Saturday, May 3rd, as follows:

- Amagansett, Cobb Garden (239 Old Stone Highway)
- Cutchogue, Manfred & Roberta Lee Garden (26850 Main Road)
- East Hampton, Abby Jane Brody Garden (44 Glade Road)
- East Hampton, Margaret Kerr Garden (1006 Springs Fireplace Road)
- Montauk, Richard Kahn & Elaine Peterson Garden (224 West Lake Drive)
- Wainscott, Biercuk/Luckey Garden (18 Sayres Path)

On Saturday, June 21, there are several gardens in the East Hampton area.

Admission is usually \$5 per garden. You can call me for directions to the above gardens or you can look it up through MapQuest, or by visiting the following website which will also give you descriptions of each garden:

<http://gardenconservancy.org/opendays>

Further information and descriptions of the entire season's Open Days gardens can also be found at the Garden Conservancy Web site. Many of the gardens this year are new to the Open Days list. I'm looking forward to visiting them this summer, as well as some old favorites, and hope you will be joining us.

Contacts

Officers

President – Vicki McLane

Vice-President – Barbara Foley

Secretary – Carol Ryan

Treasurer – Mimi Oberdorf

Newsletter Editor – Diana Fuchs

www.shorehamgardenclub.com

Member's Workshop (Karen Burnson)

Come get your hands dirty at the Member's Workshop on Saturday, May 17 and leave with an herb garden. We will be making container gardens with a variety of herbs from our local nurseries. Make one for yourself and one to sell at the Shoreham Garden Club Plant and Tag Sale. Herbs and potting mix will be provided! Just bring your gardening gloves and pots or planters to fill. Those with an artistic flair can paint bird houses to sell or make the signs announcing the Tag Sale on May 31st.

The meeting starts at 10:30 at Karen Burnson's house, 9 Wardencliff Road, Shoreham.

Please contact Karen to let her know you will be coming, so she can have enough supplies for all. Phone: 744-3680; email: burnsonk@optonline.net

Member News

Welcome to our two new Associate Members, **Mark Smith** (husband of Donna and **Jim Baker** (husband of Judy).

Our condolences to **Gloria and Ed Affatato** on the death of Gloria's mother, and our congratulations to them on the birth of their new granddaughter.

Midsummer Night's Garden Party

The Midsummer Night's Garden Party will be held on Friday, June 20, starting at 5:00 p.m. at Karen Burnson's home in Shoreham. The cost will be \$20.00 for members and associate members or, \$10.00 if you also bring a dish. You may bring guests for \$30.00 each.

More information will follow in the June Newsletter.