



Gardeners' Guild of Braintree

October Newsletter 2015

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Gardeners' Guild of Braintree

<http://www.gardenersguildofbraintree.com/>

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WE NEED YOUR INFORMATION!

If you have events, news, stories or photos to share, please send them to rmzahran@yahoo.com.

Deadline for the next e-newsletter is October 16, 2015.

MEETING DETAILS

Program: "Gardening is Murder"

Guest Speaker: Neal Sanders

Are you ready for a great gardening mystery? Neal Sanders, local mystery novelist, humorist and popular public speaker, will share his unique and humorous observations on gardening and gardeners in his talk "Gardening is Murder". Neal will enlighten us about gardening from his own unique point of view as the spouse of Lifetime Master Gardener, Betty Sanders, and also share a bit about how gardening became the setting for many of his books, including "The Garden Club Gang" and "A Murder in the Garden Club". When not writing novels, Neal also is a contributor to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's newsletter, "Leaflet," and author of the popular blog, "The Principal Undergardener" (theprincipalundergardener.blogspot.com). A book signing will follow Neal's presentation. To learn more about Neal and his writing or to read excerpts from his books, visit www.thehardingtonpress.com. This presentation is open to the public with a suggested donation to the Gardeners Guild of Braintree of \$1.00.

Date: October 5, 2015

Time: 7:00 pm Gardener's Guild Business
7:30 pm Program

Place: Masonic Hall
403 Washington Street
Braintree, MA 02184

Membership and Remembrance Hostesses:
Stephanie Minchello and Cathy Toohey

Hospitality Hostesses: Ruth Aucoin and Linda Cozzens

Bakers: Catherine Avellino, Donna Banville, Gail Burns and Judy Caristi

Hospitality Chair: Sarah Sciascia

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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Hi Everyone:

I hope you all enjoyed this beautiful summer and everything it had to bring, and that you got some well-deserved R & R, and are geared up for fall. The Garden Guild of Braintree (GGB) is back in full swing, with its first house tour underway at Heather and Peter Thompson's.

We have some great programs scheduled this year thanks to our amazing Joan, who does such a wonderful job thoughtfully planning out the year for us. We are lucky to have her!

Our books for the schools have been delivered and I have heard that they have been very well received as they represent a wonderful selection of materials. Everyone is so pleased!! Thank you to all who were involved in that endeavor.

Our publicity chairs, Stephanie McLaughlin and Tina O'Brien are back at work getting the word out to the newspapers and local organizations about our upcoming meetings, and the Holiday House Tour event.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our October 5 meeting.

Go GGB!

Barbara

GGB MEETING DATES	COMMITTEE UPDATES
<p style="text-align: center;">2015</p> <p>October 5 <i>Floral Design</i></p> <p>November 2 <i>Bow Making Demonstration and Workshop</i></p> <p>November 30 <i>Christmas Greenery Workshop</i></p> <p>December 6 <i>Boutique and Holiday House Tour</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Old Time Christmas Visits Contemporary Elegance and Charm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">269 Peach Street</p> 	<p>Creative Potpourri</p> <p>Hope everyone had a fun and relaxing summer! Hard to believe that fall is right around the corner with such warm weather still lingering. Our season is about to jump back into full gear. As you may have noted on our BGG website, this year’s house is a beauty! Located across from South Middle School at 269 Peach Street, it will provide a beautiful setting both inside and outside this contemporary home. This year we will only be decorating the first floor which includes; 2 bedrooms, 1 master bedroom, a large family room area and living room area, large eat in kitchen (no dining room), foyer, and laundry room. The outside will be more extensive this year as there is a very nice, very large covered deck out back that is easily seen from a wall of windows/French doors. The owners of this year’s Holiday House are Peter and Heather Thompson. They are a very lovely couple with older children. We spoke to Heather Thompson earlier about her preferences for Christmas decor and colors, and she expressed a desire for a more traditional look with the more traditional colors. Our theme this year is “Old Time Christmas Visits Contemporary Elegance and Charm”.</p> <p>We look forward to seeing you all at the 2015 Holiday House!</p> <p><i>Your Creative Potpourri Chairs, Carole Wilson and Lauren Crook</i></p> <p>Ways & Means</p> <p>We have been busy over the summer months recruiting new vendors and securing many who have participated in the past. The hours of the event have been changed to 11:00 am - 4:00 pm to better line up with the house tour hours. Many of our favorite vendors will return!</p> <p><i>Kerri Eck, Karen Connelly, Diane Hanlon, Lisa Reid and Ginny Quinn</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2016</p> <p>January 4 <i>Potluck and Brown Bag Grab Auction</i></p> <p>February 1 <i>The Eyes See...the Heart Anticipates</i></p> <p>March 7 <i>Herbal Gardening for Kitchen and Health</i></p> <p>April 4 <i>Dividing and Transplanting Perennials</i></p> <p>May 2 <i>Annual Spring Banquet</i></p>	<p>Community Beautification</p> <p>Thanks to all members who were so responsible in planting and maintaining the gardens scattered around town. They were all beautiful—that is until the drought struck some! But some were more fortunate to have been watered and weeded and they still look awesome. It really is a pleasing sight to ride by Furlong Park and see it still in full blossom. They all show Guild pride and again we were able to beautify our Town! We appreciate all your efforts!</p> <p><i>Lucille Barton and Maggie Co-Chairwomen, Community Beautification</i></p> <p>Publicity</p> <p>We have been busy getting notices out regarding the scholarships that were awarded last spring to two Braintree High seniors, notices regarding the upcoming October meeting and scheduling the president's interview with Barbara. Braintree Public Schools have</p>

received the annual book donation from the GGB. We have also been hard at work writing our first article about the Holiday House Tour and Boutique. This will appear in the Braintree Forum, Patriot Ledger, Braintree Advertiser, Braintree Patch, and will appear on the GGB website and Facebook page.

*Steph McLaughlin and Tina O'Brien
Co-Chairwomen, Publicity*

Birthday Wishes

A very "Happy Birthday" to our members who have special days in **September and **October**:**



Donna Banville

Barbara Black

Judith Concannon

Linda Cozzens

Maggi Johnson

Karen Joyce

Carolyn Mahoney

Stephanie Minchello

Tina O'Brien

Gail Saccone

Sandy Young

BOOKS DONATED TO BRAINTREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Since 1992, The Gardener' Guild has purchased books for all public schools in Braintree (The Kindergarten Center, 6 Elementary Schools, 2 Middle Schools and Braintree High School). One of the objectives of the Guild is education and that starts with our children. We are all models for them and so we teach appreciation of nature and the earth they live on. Again this year, Cathy Avellino and myself had the wonderful task of choosing the books. We have found so many touching on all sorts of relevant topics ... from poetry to plant growth, from pollution to conservation and to the geographical regions in which we live. My friends, that's a "whole lot of books" over these past years and a tradition we are very proud of. I thank Judy Caristi for putting the Guild's nameplate in each one. The following list is our contributions for this year.

KINDERGARTEN CENTER:

- **Our School Garden** by Rich Swann
- **Secret Life of Squirrels** by Nancy Rose
- **Plants Feed Me** by Lizzy Rockwell
- **Gotta Go! Gotta Go!** by Sam Swope
- **Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt** by Kate Messner
- **From Seed to Sunflower** by Gerald Legg
- **Flowers** by Vijaya Bodach
- **Compost Stew** by Mary Siddals
- **From Seed to Pumpkin** by Wendy Pfeffer

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

- **Hollyhock Wall** by Martin Waddell
- **Spring Story** by David Updike
- **Rabbit School: A Light-Hearted Tale** by Albert Sixtus
- **Aztecs** by Rosemary Rees
- **Harvest Year** by Chris Peterson
- **Come Back Salmon** by Molly Cone

MIDDLE SCHOOLS:

- **Mayflies** by Ted Fauceglia
- **Hungry For Home: A Wolf Odyssey** by Asta Bowen
- **Restless Earth: Disasters of Nature** by National Geographic Society
- **Killer Bees** by Lawrence Pringle
- **Egypt: Land of the Pharaohs** Time Life Book

HIGH SCHOOL:

- **Handy Ocean Answer Book** by Thomas and Patricia Svarney
- **Our Living Earth: A Story of People, Ecology and Preservation** by Isabelle Delannoy
- **Coral and Desert – The Magic of the Red Sea** by Gianni Gvadalupi and Giorgio Mesturni
- **Three Seasons of Summer: Gardening with Annuals and Biennials** by Ethne Clarke



Plant Therapy

News from Plant Therapy

Carolyn Mahoney, Plant Therapy Chairperson, and Joan Hutcheon will feature famous gardens in our monthly member newsletters. Carolyn will write about gardens in America and Joan will cover gardens outside the USA. For October we have a brief overview of Kew Gardens in the UK.

Featured Topic: Floral Designs

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London, United Kingdom



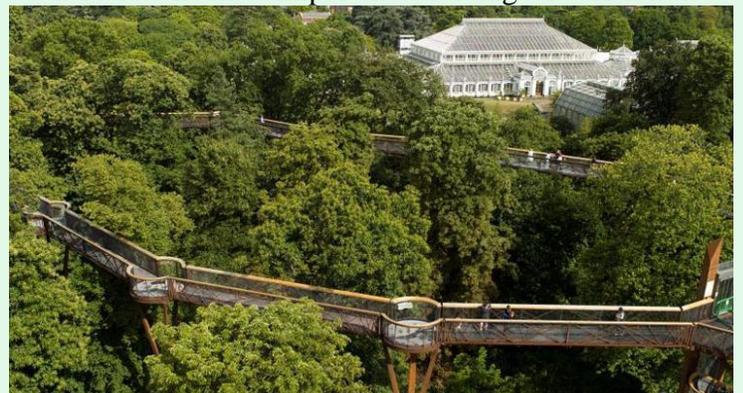
Founded in 1759, and declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2003, Kew Gardens in London and its country estate, Wakehurst Place, house the world's largest collection of living plants. There are more than 30,000 plants in the living collections and the herbarium is one of the largest in the world. Plant collections include carnivorous plants, cacti, arboreta, British natives, ferns, palms, grasses and economic plants.

Kew is a great place to visit at any time of year because the changing displays offer horticultural highlights during every season.

The huge palm house, above, dates to 1844 and is considered the most important surviving Victorian iron

and glass structure in the world. The Victorian glass Temperate House, below, which opened in 1863, is the largest Victorian glasshouse in the world and features a huge collection of semi-hardy and temperate plants.

This is a panoramic view of the treetop walkway standing 59 feet above ground and the Kew Gardens Temperate House beyond.



Ask a Master Gardener

Q: What are some recommendations for fall Perennial Garden care?

A: The following are a few helpful hints courtesy of the Farmer's Almanac:

- Water your perennials & flowering shrubs in the fall; they will thank you for it this winter.
- Once the ground has frozen hard, cut perennials back to 3 inches and mulch them with a thick layer of leaves or straw.
- If you plan to put in a new flower bed next spring, cover that area now with mulch or heavy plastic to discourage emergent growth when the ground warms up in the spring.
- Before a heavy snowfall, cover pachysandra with a mulch of pine needles several inches deep.
- Move potted chrysanthemums to a sheltered spot when their flowers fade. Water well and cover with a thick layer of straw to overwinter them.
- When a frost blackens the leaves of dahlias, gladioli, and cannas, carefully dig them up and let them dry indoors on newspaper for a few days. Then pack in shredded newspaper and store in a dark, humid spot at 40° to 50°F until Spring.

Tips for October

Zone 6 Seasonal Planting

- ❖ Plant bulbs to their tops are at a depth equal to three times their height.
- ❖ Do not prune spring flowering shrubs.
- ❖ Mow around fruit trees to eliminate hiding places for rodents.
- ❖ Bring clay pots in before a hard freeze.
- ❖ Mow over raked leaves before adding to compost pile – they'll break down faster.
- ❖ Start new amaryllis bulbs for holiday blooms.
- ❖ Be careful not to overwater house plants now.

Source: UMASS 2015 calendar

NOVEMBER MEETING: Workshop

November 2, 2015 *“Harvest Swag Workshop”*

Guest Presenters: Rob and Janet Lawatsch, Studio One Twenty Three West

We are thrilled to welcome back the very popular and talented Janet and Rob Lawatsch of Studio One Twenty Three West, specializing in all areas of floral design with an emphasis on events and weddings. Janet and Rob will teach us the art of creating a naturally beautiful and vibrantly colorful harvest swag using interesting naturally grown dried plant material such as seed pods, dried flowers and natural stems and branches suitable for either indoor or outdoor use. Then at Thanksgiving, embellish your harvest swag further with live blooms for a spectacular display. All dried plant material will be provided. Please bring pruners, gloves and an apron. Please join us for this exciting workshop to make your very own harvest swag. This is a member only workshop. The cost of the workshop is \$25.00.