From the President’s corner

Dear Members:

Fall has definitely arrived. The colors of the leaves are turning the countryside into a brilliant artists palette; many of the birds have started their winter migration and one of note is the hummingbird who is noticeably absent from its feeder. As the summer flowers are fading the chrysanthemums are providing a beautiful show of color for all of us to enjoy.

At our last meeting we had an abundance of fine plants that those who attended brought in to share with others. There was a great variety to choose from and for each of those who went away with a sample their gardens should provide a wonderful show of color next spring and summer.

We will meet this month on Tuesday, October 13, at our usual meeting place, the Horton Lab on campus, where we will enjoy our annual harvest dinner. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. We will all be ready to partake of the bounty at 6:30 p.m. A short business meeting will follow.

Regards,

Ken Devine, President
September ’09 Meeting Minutes

Ken Devine called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

The Upstate New York Regional meeting of the Men’s Garden Club will be held in Smyrna, NY on September 26, 2009. Registration info was made available at the August meeting.

The Ithaca Falls Committee, Helen, Olivia, and Dave, will meet with the City of Ithaca soon to discuss the railing proposal.

Ed Cobb contacted the gardener at Hospice to make plans for the upcoming bulb planting there. They were pleased with last year’s planting of peonies and daffodils near the entrance and prefer that location for further planting. The date of the planting is yet to be determined.

The berm at the Farmer's Market needs to be cleaned up. Ed will contact folks as the date approaches.

The Plant Exchange commenced and a great variety of plants changed hands. All present went home with a bit of gardening to do!

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club 2009 Meeting Schedule (and refreshments)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 13th:</td>
<td>Meeting cancelled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 10th:</td>
<td>Fruitwise apple tree grafting – YouTube (Ken Devine)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10th:</td>
<td>An Introduction to the Orchid Family: their history, taxonomy and cultivation – Alfonso Doucette (<a href="mailto:amd94@cornell.edu">amd94@cornell.edu</a>) (Ed Cobb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14th:</td>
<td>Forest Farming at the MacDaniels Nut Grove – Dr. Kenneth Mudge (Ruth Doll)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12th:</td>
<td>Plant Auction (David Hiner &amp; Arnaud Germain)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13th:</td>
<td>McLean bog habitat tour of native orchids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July:</td>
<td>No Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 11th:</td>
<td>Garden Tour (Don Williams)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8th:</td>
<td>Plant exchange Horton Room (Anna Statler)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13th:</td>
<td>Dish to pass dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 10th:</td>
<td>Election (Debi Lampman)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8th:</td>
<td>Holiday Decorations (Beverly Hillman)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Compost with Confidence: “Winter Composting”
Saturday, October 31, 12 noon-1:00pm
Ithaca Community Gardens, Carpenter Rd off the 3rd St Ext (near the Farmer’s Market)

Master Composters will teach you tricks to extend the composting season well into the cold months and the preparations necessary to ensure successful composting over the winter. Workshop is free and registration is not required. Contact Adam Michaelides at acm1@cornell.edu or 272-2292 x 124 for more details. The class will be taught by a team of Tompkins County Master Composters, who are prepared to answer questions. Registration not required - just show up!

Cornell Extension Activities
http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/tompkins/events/index.html

Unless another location is listed in the entry, events are held at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca NY

Spring Bulbs: Three Months of Bloom
Thursday, October 1, 6:30-8:30 pm
Pat Curran, Horticulture Educator, will discuss different bulb varieties, planting and growing tips, and suggestions for using bulbs in the landscape. Fee: $5. Pre-registration preferred. Call 607-272-2292.

Green Building Tour Pre-View Event
Friday, October 2, 6:00-9:00 pm
Roy H. Park Center for Business and Sustainable Enterprise, Ithaca College
At 6:00 pm, take a guided tour of the Park Center -- a LEED-Platinum-certified building. At 7:00 pm, see a slide-show preview of the homes and businesses on the tour and hear a panel of people who worked on them talk about the stories behind these projects - including design considerations, materials choices, and lessons learned. $5 suggested donation. Call (607) 272-2292 or email gm52@cornell.edu for more information.

Green Building Speaker
Saturday, October 3, 7:00-9:00 pm
Roy H. Park Center for Business and Sustainable Enterprise, Ithaca College
Mark Piepkorn, Associate Editor at BuildingGreen, LLC in Brattleboro, VT is at the forefront of the green building movement. He will talk about lifecycles of building materials and houses and simple basics of how to build (and rebuild) green. $5 suggested donation. Call (607) 272-2292 or email gm52@cornell.edu for more information.

Getting your Landscape Ready for Winter
Thursday, October 15, 6:30-8:30 pm
This class will cover when and what to cut back, when and how to mulch, how much to water, how to protect woodies from deer and rodents, and other seasonal tasks that will prepare your landscape plants for winter. Fee: $5. Pre-registration preferred. Call 607-272-2292.
Fall Garden Chores

Most gardeners know that fall is for planting, but there are also other chores to be done in the fall garden. Even the ants know when it's time to get busy and prepare for cold weather. Putting away the lawn furniture, harvesting vegetables, cutting the grass one last time, raking leaves and cleaning out the gutters are among the many things on the garden "to do" list for fall. By the way, speaking of leaves, don't throw those leaves away, you can use your leaves in the garden.

Plants are slowing down; and although they look like they're dying, they're just dying back, returning to the earth, and preparing for a long winter nap. They're not dead, just dormant. What's happening below the ground now will determine what happens above ground in the spring and summer next year.

One of the first things to be done is to take a walk around your property and survey the gardens. Take notes and record what didn't grow well, what has grown too large for its space, what plant combinations would work better together, and what needs to be divided and transplanted to another space. Making changes in the fall will give you an exciting head start for the Spring 2010 gardening season.

Don't just take a walk through the garden; take a walk through your local garden center and check out the gardening season. Combining plants into smaller groups that will work better together will help you give a head start to the gardens. Here are more important fall garden chores:

1. Divide Perennials (e.g.: hosta, astilbe, coreopsis, lythrum, perennial geranium, daylilies, and bulbs)
2. Transplant Perennials
3. Bring some annuals indoors
4. Fertilize your lawn
5. Fertilize perennials and shrubs
6. Prune and Winterize your roses
7. Compost your leaves
8. Make mulch from leaves
9. Cut Back your perennials
10. Lift and store tender bulbs (e.g.: Alocasia (Elephant's Ear), Anemone coronari (Windflower), Tuberous Begonias, Caladium, Canna, Crocosmia, Freesia, Gladiola, Gloriosa superba (Glory Lily)
11. Weeding: All weeds should be pulled. Many weeds are going to seed now, which will set seeds for next year. So weed the garden a few more times before winter, especially if temps go back up to 80 degrees.
12. Watering: Plants should be thoroughly watered before the first hard freeze. One of the most important ways to prepare all woody plants, especially evergreens, for winter is to make sure the soil has a reserve supply of moisture before the ground freezes. Winter winds whip the moisture out of shrubs and trees, causing them to freeze dry. This drying, more than the cold temperatures, is what damages plants in the winter.
13. Mulching: A layer of mulch (4-6 inches) will keep the ground from freezing too deep and protect the roots. Constant freezing and thawing will make plant roots leave out of the soil, and mulch insulates against drastic temperature changes. You can use mulch, hay, pine needles, wood chips or leaves.
14. Burlap: Plants may be wrapped loosely in burlap to allow air movement. Plastic should not be used, because it can get too hot under a bright winter sun and cause burning.
15. Wiltpruf: Wiltpruf is a product that you can use to spray on evergreens such as Rhododendron, to keep harsh winter temps from burning the leaves.