Volume 49, Number 11

From the President’s corner

Dear Members,

The holidays are fast approaching and it soon becomes a very busy time of year for all of us. Remember to take a moment and enjoy the beauty of the season.

The Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club has had a good year. Each of us has had challenges in our gardens this year due to the weather. Hopefully the gardening season next year will be kinder and gentler for each of us.

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank each of you for the camaraderie and support provided to me and to others in our club. We are all better for it. I have appreciated the opportunity to be your president and as the torch passes to our new president, Bob Hillman, please take a moment and think about how you can provide input and assistance to him to make the job easier.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season.

Ken Devine, President
**November ’09 Meeting Minutes**

Ken Devine called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

Helen Swank reported that the City of Ithaca Natural Areas Commission reviewed the LHBCG railing proposal and supports it in concept. A letter from the acting chair of the NAC is forthcoming. The next step is to present the proposal to Board of Public Works. Thanks to Helen, Olivia and Dave for moving this project forward.

Dues for 2010 membership should be remitted to Helen Swank; forms were made available. Helen also reminded members that Garden Club calendars will be available at the December meeting. Each calendar costs $3.50.

Debi Lampman reported that the Syracuse Garden Club will not have a booth at the NY State Fair in 2010 as they have in previous years.

The election for Officers was held with all candidates receiving unanimous approval. Bob Hillman was elected President for 2010, and Ray Fox was elected First Vice President. All other officers have retained their positions from 2009.

Ed Cobb showed several P. Allen Smith instructional videos on holiday decorating with wreaths, garlands, and door swags.

The next meeting will be held on Dec. 1 at 6:30 at which we will make our own holiday decorations. Please bring your own greens or wreath and accessories.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.
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

Evergreen Wreath-Making Workshop
Thursday, December 3, 6:30-8:30 pm
Make a beautiful evergreen wreath to decorate your home for the holidays! Fresh-cut greens, ring, wires, and ribbons supplied. Bring any special decorating materials you like to personalize your wreath. Wear casual clothes and bring pruning shears and gloves. Fee: $16. Class limited to 20. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Call 607-272-2292.

3rd Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Bazaar
Saturday, December 5, 10:00 am -3:00 pm
Local arts and crafts vendors will offer for sale a wide range of craft items. Check back for specifics! Bake sale and refreshments for sale by the 4-H Cultural Exchange Club. For more information, or to sign up as a vendor, contact Debbie Teeter at 272-2292 or email dlt22@cornell.edu.

Harvest Dinners on the Farm
Sunday, December 12, 6:00 pm
Red Newt Wine Cellars & Bistro along Seneca Lake
Experience an elegant 4-course dinner prepared by Chef Deb Whiting with wines by Dave Whiting of Red New Wine Cellars. Dinner is prepared entirely from locally produced foods from CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) farms including: West Haven Farm, Stick & Stone Farm, Sweet Land Farm, Three Sisters Farm, Early Morning Farm, Kestrel Perch Berries, Cayuga Pure Organics, and The Piggery. All proceeds benefit the Healthy Food for All Program, a collaborative effort of local farms and Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County to provide subsidized CSA shares to low-income families in our community. Tickets are $75/person and may be purchased using PayPal at www.healthyfoodforall.org. Reservations are required and seating is limited so don’t delay. For more information, please visit Healthy Food for All or contact Liz Karabinakis at 607-272-2292 or evk4@cornell.edu.

Carrot Cake Recipe with Frosting
from Debi Lampman (“Moist and Tasty!”)

3 eggs beaten
3/4 cup oil
3/4 cup plain yogurt
2 tsp. vanilla
2 cup sugar
2 cup flour
2 tsp. cinnamon
2 tsp. bk. Soda
1/4 tsp. salt
1 cup fine diced pear
2 cup shredded carrots
1 cup almond flour or just finely chopped nuts
1 cup unsweetened coconut
1 cup chopped dried cherries soaked in amaretto

• Mix well eggs, oil, yogurt and vanilla till creamy.
• Then sift in dry ingredients.
• Stir in fruit, nuts, carrots mix well.
• Pour into greased 9x13” pan bake @350 for 50-55 min [reduce heat by 25 degrees if in glass pan].
• Insert toothpick, should come out clean.
• Cool.

Frosting
1/2 cup butter
8 oz. cream cheese
2 tsp. vanilla
1 # confect sugar [opt] 2 tbl. milk if needed
• Cream together butter, cheese, vanilla
• Then mix in sugar till blended
• Ding milk if too stiff.
Our annual Garden Crusader Awards program was established to honor individuals who are improving the world through gardening. These enthusiastic men and women are gardening beyond their own backyards to grow food for the hungry, beautify their communities and help friends and neighbors discover the rewards of gardening.

2009 Garden Crusader Taja Sevelle

After being discovered by Prince in 1987, releasing a hit single, recording three albums, and seeing the world, singer Taja Sevelle has returned to her childhood love: botany.

Her journey back to her roots began in 2004 when she was recording music in Detroit. “I had never seen a city with so much vacant, unused land, and there was so much poverty and job loss,” she said. The next year, she helped plant three gardens in the city.

Four years later, the nonprofit she founded, Urban Farming, has helped plant 600 gardens in 17 cities and five countries. And they’ll keep expanding until their mission is accomplished: “We want to eradicate hunger, and we really think it is possible,” she said.

For her work in planting inner city gardens all over the country and working to eradicate hunger, Taja Sevelle has been awarded the top Garden Crusader award by Gardener’s Supply Company.

From Music to Gardens

Taja grew up in Minneapolis, where she was signed by Prince’s music label. Her first single, “Love is Contagious” was a Billboard hit in 1987. She continued singing, recording and writing music. And when she founded Urban Farming, her connections to the music industry proved useful.

In 2006, Atlantic Records adopted Urban Farming as their corporate charity. That meant money and publicity. “Atlantic has been a big, big blessing. They have really gotten their artists involved. And that is a big help, particularly when you’re dealing with the teenage demographic. It can be tough to get teenagers out in the garden; they tend to feel like it isn’t cool. But as soon as they hear their favorite artist is involved, they’ll give it a try. And once they get in the garden, many will come back,” she said.

Taja now spends much of her time on the road, visiting gardens and partner organizations around the country. Her gardening side project has become all-consuming. “I put everything into Urban Farming now,” she said. “There isn’t a lot of time for singing.”

Thank you to Barbara Little for sharing this link.
You can read more about Taja and the other 4 2009 winners at: