

The BAILEYAN

<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/LHBGC/>

The Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club of Ithaca meets each month on the Second Tuesday at the Horton Room in the Floriculture Greenhouse, Tower Road Cornell University Ithaca, New York. The Club is open to all gardeners. Visitors are welcome.



Swallowtail

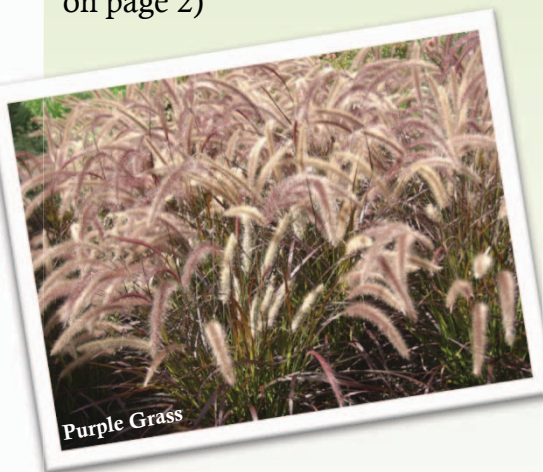


Save the Date!

August 10th at 6:00 PM

Ornamental Grass Tour – by Jim Mack

Cornell Plantations (See details on page 2)



Purple Grass

September 14th

Plant Exchange at the Horton Room

** All photos are courtesy of Ed Cobb unless otherwise noted*

Volume 50, Number 7

From the President's corner

Dear Members,

I hope everyone and your gardens all survived the record July heat without too much stress. The late arrival of rain and cooler temperatures was much appreciated. I regret the July meeting had to be cancelled at the last moment.

Our August meeting will feature a talk on ornamental grasses. Ed Cobb is lining up the speaker and location and will list the information in the August issue of the Baileyan. I will be away the last week of July and the first week of August but will be back by August 10th, so I hope I'll see you all at that time. Until then – happy gardening.

Bob Hillman, President

July's President corner

Dear Members,

Our July gathering will be for a picnic at upper Enfield Park. Directions will be found later in the Baileyan. Please bring a dish to share as well as eating utensils. Dining will start about 6 pm so come early to enjoy a walk thru the park and visit to the falls.

The berm at the Farmer Market is looking good but we will need volunteers to monitor the weeds throughout August. There will be a signing sheet for those who missed the early opportunity to help or if anyone wishes to repeat this fantastic experience. Not everyone can say they pulled weeds at the Farmer's Market.

As for news items involving club members, Helen Swank, our treasurer had a knee replacement June 21st and is scheduled to be released from the hospital June 30th. Everything seems to have gone well and we are hoping she will be recovered enough to join us at the picnic.

I'm sorry we missed the visit to the Ringwood Bog but I heard it was a very nice experience. We were in Washington, DC assisting our daughters move into her new home. She moved in June 1st and delivered a baby boy June 19th. Both mother and baby are doing fine but busy times!

Looking forward to seeing you all at the picnic at upper Enfield Park on July 13th.

Bob Hillman, President

Ornamental Grass Tour – Jim Mack

Jim Mack will give the Ornamental Grass Tour at the Cornell Plantations at 6 pm on August 10th. We will meet at the tent near the pond area of the arboretum (see map and pictures below). The tour will largely take place in the Zucker shrub garden.

Tent Placement



Japanese Forest Grass



Molinia caerulea



Cornell Plantations
F.R. Newman Arboretum
Facility Rental



Purple Grass



Purple Grass



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,

Pizza in the Garden

Sunday, August 8, 1:00-2:30 pm.

Ithaca Children's Garden – Rt. 89 at Cass Park, Ithaca, NY 14850

Garden fresh pizzas made by you and cooked at the Ithaca Children's Garden. Join Children's Garden volunteer Raf Chew for a workshop on how to prepare and cook pizza on an outdoor grill. Harvest your favorite ingredients from the Edible Garden and learn pizza-making tips and tricks. We'll cook and eat our pizzas in the Garden and there will be recipes to take home. For ages 3 and up with an adult. Please pre-register by calling 272-2292.

Art in the Garden

Mondays, August 9, 16, 23 & 30, 10:00-11:00 am.

Ithaca Children's Garden – Rt. 89 at Cass Park, Ithaca, NY 14850

Find your muse in the Garden. We'll collect inspiration and materials to make beautiful art in and from the Garden. A new project every week. For ages 4 and up with a caregiver. Cost is \$2 per child. No need to register.

Farm City Day

Saturday, August 14, 11:00 am-4:00pm.

Sweyolaken Farm, 380 botswick Rd. Ithaca, NY 14850

Spend the day on a working dairy farm: learn about cows and crops and meet the people who care for them. Activities for the day usually include a farm tour, a sheep and border collie demonstration, and cheese and milk samples with the Tompkins County Dairy Princess and her court, who make and serve a giant ice cream sundae for the crowd. Food concession and silent auction featuring goods and services donated by local businesses benefits the Tompkins County Ag-in-the-Classroom-Program in local schools.

Kitchen Garden Tour, Danby

Monday, August 16, 6:00-8:00 pm.

Meet at Station Rd. and Rt. 96, West Danby, NY.

Tour this garden in West Danby, and see how this homesteader has grown fruits and veggies for 30 years in a cold site. Tree fruits, berries, grapes, large vegetable garden, and asparagus all thrive (along with flowers). Years of experience have shown which varieties are productive and relatively problem-free! We will also tour the simple but efficient root cellar constructed in the basement, learn the other food storage options used, and see the deer fence that has proven effective the last few years.

Plants for Dry Sites

Tuesday, August 17, 6:30-8:30 pm.

A hot, dry, sunny site is just what some plants need to thrive. Dry shade is a little more challenging! We will cover many plants that love heat and sun, and water-saving strategies such as mulch. We will also discuss plants that can withstand dry shade, with a little help. Fee: \$5. Pre-registration preferred.

Compost with Confidence: Is it Done? & Compost Uses

Saturday, August 28, 12:00-1:00 pm.

Ithaca Community Gardens Compost Demo Site. Rt. 13 and Carpenter Circle, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Local compost experts will provide information and give hands-on demonstrations to help you set up and manage a compost system in any setting. Each class of the series (last Saturday of the month, noon - 1pm) will cover composting basics. In addition, the August class will focus on compost maturity and uses. How do you know when your compost is ready to use? And if it is ready, what are some of the ways that we suggest using it? The class will be taught by a team of Tompkins County Master Composters, who are prepared to answer questions. Sign-up for this FREE class by emailing Liz Falk, erf59@cornell.edu or call (607) 272-2292.



Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club 2010 Meeting Schedule (and refreshments)

January 12th: Meeting cancelled

February 9th: History of the Cornell

Conservatory Greenhouses – Ed Cobb (Beverly Hillman)

March 9th: Vegetable variety selections for the Ithaca area – Ruth Doll (Ray Fox)

April 13th: Gardening with edible fruits – Marvin Pritts (Ken & Ruth Devine)

May 11th: Plant Auction Horton Room (David & Arnaud)

June 5th: Tour of the local natural area – Anna Statler (Ed Cobb)

July 13th: Cancelled

August 10th: "Ornamental Grasses" – Jim Mack (Elke)

September 14th: Plant exchange at the Horton Room (Don Williams)

October 12th: Dish to Pass Dinner

November 9th: Election (Beverly Hillman)

December 14th: Holiday Decorations (Ruth Doll)

Late Blight Found in Upstate New York

Ithaca Journal Article from July 29th, 2010

<http://www.theithacajournal.com/article/20100729/NEWS01/7290334/1126/nletter01/Late-Blight-Found-in-Upstate-New-York>

Tompkins County Cornell Cooperative Extension has received a report that Late Blight has been found upstate for the first time this year, in a home garden in Norwich in Eastern New York. Late Blight has not been found in Tompkins County.

Gardeners here may wish to apply a protective fungicide spray to tomatoes and potatoes, according to Monika Roth, Agriculture Program Leader at CCE-Tompkins. Protective sprays include copper (organic) or daconil (not organic). When spraying, it is very important to get good coverage as an infection can begin any place a spore lands that is not protected.

Home gardeners are advised to check tomato, potato and tomatillo plants weekly for symptoms of Late Blight. According to Roth, Late Blight generally begins at the top of the plant, not the bottom. Leaf samples can be taken to CCE-Tompkins at 615 Willow Ave. for confirmation, but tomato leaves brought in by gardeners thus far have all been affected with Septoria Leaf Spot, not Late Blight, Roth says.

Books recently recommended to us as we've gone on our nature walks...

Courtesy of Babara Littlefair

Here are some book references and web links you might find useful.

At the end of a recent walk around Ringwood Ponds with members of the Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club and led by Anna Stalter, Anna recommended the following books that we might like to have as good reference resources - they are:

- Newcomb's Wildflower Guide. Lawrence Newcomb. 1989.
- Wildflowers in the Field and Forest: A Field Guide to the Northeastern United States. Steven Clemants and Carol Gracie. 2005.

Anna said we can find a list of these and other field guides, at: <http://www.flnps.org/artshow>. Click on Botanical Resources.

Anna is with the Department of Plant Biology, Cornell University - project Tompkins County Flora Project <http://www.plantsystematics.org/tompkins.html>

I've found Field Guide to the Cayuga Lake Region, its flora, fauna, geology, and history by James Dake (forward by Warren Allmon) (Mary Lee Noden recommended to us when she took us on a tour of Cornell's Wildflower Garden recently) to be really useful - I keep it next to my computer for quick reference. As I was bookmarking the various web links recommended I copied them and made the list below. Perhaps you will find this list useful too:

- Cayuga Nature Center (<http://www.cayuganaturecenter.org/>)
- Museum of the Earth (<http://www.museumoftheearth.org/>)
- Finger Lakes Native Plant Society (<http://www.fingerlakesnativeplantsociety.org/>)
- Wildflowers of the Northeastern and North central U.S.A. (<http://www.dclunie.com/eshelton/wildflow/wildind.html>)
- Tompkins County Flora Project (<http://www.plantsystematics.org/tompkins.html>)
- Tree Fact Sheets (<http://www.cnr.vt.edu/dendro/dendrology/factsheets.cfm>)
- USDA Plants Database (<http://plants.usda.gov/>)
- Vanderbilt University, Department of Biological Sciences (<http://www.cas.vanderbilt.edu/bioimages/frame.htm>)
- Mushroom Expert (<http://www.mushroomexpert.com/>)
- Butterflies and moths of Tompkins County (<http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/map?si=33&x=135&y=154>)
- Insect identification for the casual observer (<http://www.insectidentification.org/>)
- Cornell Lab of Ornithology - All About Birds (<http://www.allaboutbirds.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=1189>)
- Animal Diversity Web (<http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/index.html>)
- New York Waterfalls and Nature (<http://nyfalls.com/>)



Chosen News and Articles from other Garden Clubs

❖ **Thoughts on Raised Bed Gardening – Bob Oberst** (June, The Spreader, Men's Garden Club of Syracuse)

A raised bed garden is an enclosed garden built on top of an area of native soil. They can be contained, such as when you build a wood or stone structure to keep the bed intact or they can be more free form, with soil piled several inches high (A hill).

- Benefits: Raised beds warm up faster in spring for a longer growing season. They drain quicker for better drainage. They have ease of access and are easier on your back. The soil is less compacted and easy to change and improve once built. Raised bed fits in available space (even small spaces). After it is built it is less work to maintain. Raised beds increase yields. Easier to control pests and disease. Looks good with many possible designs. Easy to build.

- Steps to build: 1) Select your location. Flat with sun for eight hours with access to water. 2) Make a plan as to size, kind (flower or vegetable) and shape of your raised garden. 3) Prepare your site. Turn over the soil add good soil and add amendments. 4) Construct the bed. Rot resistant wood (cedar). 5) Level your frame. 6) Fill your garden. 7) Maintain your garden.

❖ **Gardening Tips for August** (August, Romin'Gardener)

While the list of gardening tasks for August is shorter than in many months, there are still ongoing tasks to perform in the garden. The hot temperatures of mid summer make it tough to spend much time working in your garden, so take advantage of any cooler days to take care of grooming and weeding. Right now, your *primary* concern will be assuring an ample supply of water for your plants. Weed control is also very important, because with the warmer weather and increased watering, weed seeds will germinate and grow faster, and mature to the point of producing more seeds.

❖ **Watering the Garden** (August, Romin'Gardener)

Watering can be the biggest task this month particularly if the weather gets hot. Vegetable gardens, most flowering plants, and the lawn all need about one inch of water every week to keep them green and looking nice.

Be sure to water *thoroughly, and deeply* each time you water. When possible, do your watering in the morning or early afternoon so the soil has a chance to warm up before the cooler evening hours set in. Deep watering will induce the plant's roots to grow deeper, where they are less likely to dry out, as well as the added benefit of anchoring the plant into the ground better. Light, surface watering actually wastes water, because the water never actually reaches the root zone of the plant, and the moisture rapidly evaporates from the top inch of soil. The best way to tell if your plants are receiving enough water is to take a trowel or shovel and dig down a few inches. The soil should be moist at least 3 or 4 inches deep to insure that the water is reaching the root zone of the plants. Of course, if you planted drought resistant plants in your garden, you won't have to water as often, but the principal of deep watering still applies

Be sure to check the hanging baskets and container grown plants every day during hot weather and about every second day on moderate summer days. Don't just check the surface... Push your finger an inch or two into the soil to be sure there is adequate moisture below throughout the root area. Water them thoroughly each time you water, but be careful not to overwater them.

❖ **Perennials, annuals and bulbs** (August, Romin'Gardener)

Take out a few minutes to pick off the old dead flowers on your annuals, as well as the spent flowers on perennial plants. A little time spent on grooming the plants will make a big difference in the overall appearance of the garden. By removing the spent flowers, the plants will not go into the seed producing stage and should continue to flower longer into the season.

Perennial and biennial plants can be started from seed sown directly into the garden this month *or next*.

Fall blooming Crocus should be planted this month, to give you an extra week or two of flowers after the main garden plants have finished for the year.

Spring flowering perennials can be divided and transplanted this month *or next*. Be sure to do this during the coolest part of the day and water the plants *thoroughly* after transplanting.

❖ **Shrubs and Trees** (August, Romin'Gardener)

Summer blooming shrubs should be pruned for shape after they have finished flowering. Remove any dead or diseased branches.

❖ **Fruits and Veggies** (August, Romin'Gardener)

Now is the time to start your fall and winter vegetables. Plant starters or seeds of green onions, carrots, beets, lettuce, spinach, radishes, and winter cauliflower directly into the garden early this month.

Letters to the Garden Club

❖ **From the Department of Veterans Affairs** (Medical Center, 400 Fort Hill Avenue, **Canandaigua**, NY 14424):
 “On behalf of the Canandaigua-Upstate NY HCS patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation to you for your donation of forty geraniums. Your thoughtfulness reflects the concern that you felt for our veterans and for the service they provided to all of us while in service to our country.

Without your support, we could not provide for the smaller niceties that make hospitalization more bearable. Your thoughtfulness also reflects the concern and compassion that our community feels for our veterans.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely – Robin Johnson”

❖ **From the Department of Veterans Affairs** (Medical Center, 800 Irving Avenue, **Syracuse**, NY 13210):
 “Our sincere appreciation goes out to you for the donation of flowers for the veterans at our Medical Center.

Your thoughtful contribution has enhanced the morale and well being of our Veterans. We are indeed grateful for the unselfish support shown by your organization to help our hospitalized Veterans.

Please be assured of our heartfelt gratitude for your contribution. We look for your continued support to our Medical Center.

Sincerely – James Cody”

Other Events of Interest

❖ **The New York State Fair** – New York’s largest annual event!

Every year, nearly one million people experience this affordable, 12-day celebration of delicious food, eye-opening exhibits, captivating entertainment and outrageous fun. The Fair showcases thousands of animals, hundreds of commercial attractions, scores of exciting midway rides and dozens of big-name national entertainers. And it’s all just a short trip away from wherever you live in New York State. <http://www.nysfair.org/>

❖ **2010 Farm Trail Open House** – “Down on the Farm” – A driving Tour of Farms in Cortland County. (607-753-8463)

Enjoy an afternoon visiting farms for a FREE behind the scenes look at both small and large farms, coordinated by the Cortland County Visitors Bureau. Visitors can tour local farms and see the wide variety of agriculture in Cortland County. <http://www.experiencecortland.com/index.php>

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