

# Shoreham Garden Club

<http://shorehamgardenclub.com>

Volume XXIX No. 2

June 2014

## Co-Presidents' Messages -

Dear Shoreham Garden Club Members:

Spring finally arrived, with some really warm days, and some not so warm. Everyone is anxious to get busy on their gardens.

Our club has also been busy. Ronnie and Bill Schiavo held their second consecutive "Garden Conservancy" tour, on May 17<sup>th</sup>, kudos to Ronnie and Bill.

For Duck Pond Day, May 18<sup>th</sup>, Judy Faraone along with her band of merry helpers did a fantastic job completing the Duck Pond parking field project for the big day.

Sheila Sussman, Joanne Johnson, Annette Pirrotta and Jo Alio worked diligently to get our club's booth up and running, by creating artistic items to raffle and environmental informative handouts. Joanne and Tim Johnson volunteered their vintage car for display. Other

club members volunteered to help on the day.

Carol Ryan has planned another one of her fun tours for club members on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

Our annual Plant and Tag sale is on scheduled for June 14<sup>th</sup> at Peter Kahn's home. Club publicity obtained by these endeavors will serve us well.

Have a wonderful time planting and dreaming about what's to come in our gardens.

Pat Thompson



Jean has been using her creative energy to build a hot house.

We know that she along with the rest of us are glad the summer is here and busy in her garden.

She wishes everyone a great summer.



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### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Co-Presidents:  
Jean Ozol & Pat Thompson

Vice President:  
Joanne Johnson

Co-Treasurers:  
Jack Barone & Dawn Marie Piazza

Secretary: Elaine Squires

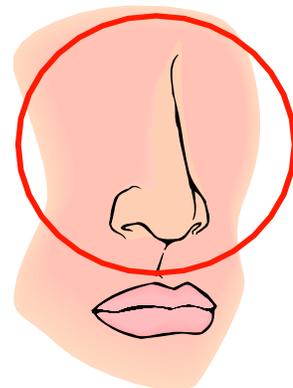
Program Chair: Carol Ryan

## A GARDEN WORTH TEN SCENTS

By Dr. Leonard Perry, Extension Professor, University of Vermont

How do YOU describe scents or fragrance in flowers? There are probably as many ways as there are people, scent being very subjective. Scent varies with personal likes and dislikes, whether it is close or far, or depends on the emotions it evokes. Scientists have devised various means to categorize scents, but one scheme is most common.

It was in the Victorian times at the end of the 19th century that fragrance in the garden became really popular for just that, not for any functional use. Prior to that time, fragrance was used medicinally and to mask unpleasant odors. It was also at this time (1893) that scents were first categorized by Count von Marilaun into six groups.



### The Nose

Since then, these have been expanded to ten scent groups, all of which are used for flowers. These groups are based on common essential oils for each group of plants. It is the volatile compounds from these oils that our noses register as "scents."

The indole group has flowers smelling like and resembling decayed meat or carrion, such as the skunk cabbage (*Lysichiton*) and a wake-robin (*Trillium erectum*), and attracts dung flies for pollination. The aminoid group also smells unpleasant to attract flies, smelling of decayed fish or ammonia, and includes many umbel flowers such as giant fennel. The heavy group smells similar to the last, only sweeter, and includes some of the oldest known fragrant flowers such as some lilies and narcissus.

The aromatic group has some of the most pleasantly scented flowers with scents of vanilla, balsam, almond, and cloves such as in some primroses, peonies, stocks, and pinks. The violet group and smell is, of course, present in violets. Smelling of damp woodland moss, it attracts no insects as the flowers are self-pollinating.

The rose group is pleasant and found in roses in addition to some peonies and scented geraniums. The lemon group is more often found in leaves but also in some water lilies and evening primroses. The fruit-scented group includes many roses and some minor bulbs.

The animal-scented group usually is unpleasant and may smell of musk as in some roses, human perspiration as in valerian and ox-eye daisy, and animal fur as in crown imperial. The honey-scented group is similar to the last, only sweeter, and often more pleasant. Some examples are the butterfly-bush (*Buddleia*), showy stonecrop (*Sedum spectabile*), and meadowsweet (*Filipendula*).

As seen in most of these flower scent groups, insects or pollinators are the main reason for scent. It basically attracts pollinators specifically needed to pollinate a flower, and at the right time. Usually if a flower is not ready, or past the time, for pollination, or has been pollinated, it won't have much fragrance. If a flower is fragrant at night, odds are that it is pollinated by moths or even bats. Sweet scents generally attract bees and flies for pollination, while those with fruity or musty-smelling flowers may attract flies or beetles for pollination.

Leaf scents fall into four main groups including the turpentine group (rosemary), the camphor and eucalyptus group (sage, catmint, scented geraniums), the mint group, and the sulphur group (mustard, onions, garlic). Of course, other leaf scents can be placed into the ten flower groups such as some scented geraniums in the lemon and rose groups.

Unlike trees and shrubs, whose bark and roots generally fall into aromatic or turpentine groups, most herbaceous perennials with scented roots fall into one of the flower groups, such as the rose scent of some stonecrop (*Sedum*) or violet scent of some iris roots.

While a species of plant may have fragrance, some of its highly bred offspring may not. These cultivars (cultivated varieties) may have been bred for other traits instead, such as flower size, shape, or disease resistance. Roses are a good example of a plant to pay attention to the fragrance of specific cultivars, if this is important to you. Often, where there are many cultivars to choose from, as with roses, peonies, daffodils or crabapples, some will have fragrant flowers.

If you want a fragrant garden, some of the best choices for spring are lily-of-the-valley, some primroses, and hyacinths. For annual flowers, consider sweet peas or stocks—both of which prefer cooler parts of the season, heliotrope, flowering tobacco, sweet alyssum (I find this fragrance best for flies), or dianthus. Fragrant summer perennials include bearded iris early in the season, tall garden phlox later on as well as some of the oriental lilies, and lavender (where hardy). For woody plants, consider roses, butterfly bush (where hardy), lilacs, crabapples, or the sweet autumn clematis at the end of the season.



## GARDEN MAGIC

This is the garden's magic,  
That through the sunny hours  
The gardener who tends it,  
Himself outgrows his flowers.

He grows by gift of patience,  
Since he who sows must know  
That only in the Lord's good time  
Does any seedling grow.

He learns from buds unfolding,  
From each tight leaf unfurled,  
That his own heart, expanding,  
Is one with all the world.

He bares his head to sunshine,  
His bending back a sign  
Of grace, and ev'ry shower becomes  
His sacramental wine.

And when at last his labors  
Bring forth the very stuff  
And substance of all beauty  
This is reward enough.

-MARIE NETTLETON CARROLL

## THE GARDENER'S MORNING

The robin's song at daybreak  
Is a clarion call to me.  
Get up and get out in the garden,  
For the morning hours flee.

I cannot resist the summons,  
What earnest gardener could?  
For the golden hours of morning  
Get into the gardener's blood.

The magic spell is upon me,  
I'm glad that I did not wait;  
For life's at its best in the morning,  
As you pass through the garden gate.

- Howard Dolf

“We gardeners are healthy, joyous, natural creatures. We are practical, patient, optimistic. We declare our optimism every year, every season, with every act of planting.”

— Carol Deppe, *The Resilient Gardener: Food Production and Self-reliance in Uncertain Times*

## GARDEN

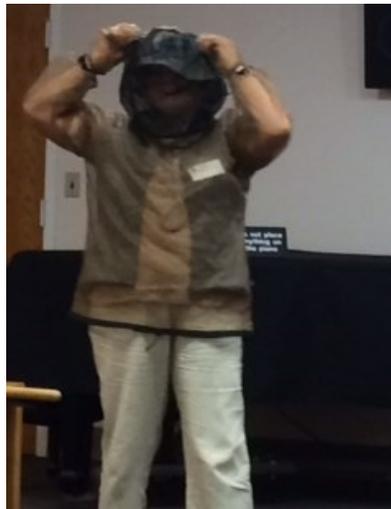
Throughout the world there are many different gardens that people have designed. In a Japanese garden, every tree is perfectly pruned, without a leaf out of place. Nothing is planted without forethought as to the exact place appropriate to it. There are English gardens that are famous for their roses and perfect lines of shrubbery. The number of garden types are too numerous to mention. One thing is true of all gardens. It is joint creation between man's intention to create a space of tranquility and nature's ability to comply.

Garden By Family Friend Poems / CC BY 3.0



# Calendar of Events

- ◆ June 14th: Plant and Tag Sale, 7:00 am—Noon, Peter Kahn’s home
- ◆ June 21st: Midsummer Night’s Garden Party, 5:00 pm, Location Dawnmarie Piazza’s Home
- ◆ July 12th: Tour of Members Gardens and lunch , Time and location TBA (July 19th rain date)
- ◆ Garden Tour: Romy Danz, time TBA
- ◆ September 9: Executive Board Meeting, 7:00 pm,, Thompson home
- ◆ September 20: General Meeting, 10:00 am



## Learning & Teaching



## A GARDEN EMBRACES ALL OF OUR SENSES

*By June Fuerderer, horticultural chairman of the Old Homestead Garden Club.*

A garden satisfies all of our five senses — sight, smell, sound, touch and taste.

Gardening can be hard work, but while we are performing this work we should be aware of all that surrounds us. And *then* we can fully enjoy the garden.

The most obvious sense is sight. In early spring we and the garden are awakened by the many bright, fresh colors. If you planned last fall to add more bulbs you will be rewarded by crocuses, daffodils, hyacinths, grape hyacinths and a number of small blooming bulbs. Each bulb when grown in mass provides a striking show of color. Keep this in mind when ordering more bulbs next fall.

Understandably, you won't get the same results as the beautiful gardens in Holland, for example. Nor do you have the staff and money to duplicate these gardens.

Spring flowering shrubs and trees, such as lilac, rhododendron, magnolia, crabapple and fruit trees all add color to the garden in the spring. And summer colors can't be forgotten, either, with flowering perennials, annuals, shrubs and roses.

Bright colors attract bees, butterflies and birds during the day, while night-blooming flowers attract moths. All of these pollinators are so important for the garden.

The brilliant fall colors are not to be ignored. Many fruit-bearing plants display bright leaves in the fall, such as blueberry bushes. When purchasing shrubs, bushes and trees, be sure to investigate what they will add to the garden all through the year. The green grass in and around the garden acts as a picture frame and helps to emphasize all of the beautiful colors.

Scent is another satisfying element of the garden. Take notice however that many hybrids do not have a definite fragrance. Some hybrids have been developed to produce plants with strong stems, sturdy flowers and to be resistant to many diseases — while sacrificing fragrance. The old-fashioned heirloom varieties still have that wonderful fragrance we remember, so if you are looking for fragrance be sure to select heirloom varieties. Space the fragrant plants where you can enjoy them the most, such as near a deck or patio. Some folks place flowering shrubs such as lilac or mock orange near a window. Imagine opening a window and being greeted with a delightful fragrance. Brushing against scented flowers or herbs along a pathway or steps is another way to enjoy their scent. When setting out plants with a definite fragrance, do not arrange too many different scents close together. You don't want the scents to compete with one another.

Take time to relax in your garden. Sit back and listen to the sounds of the birds coming and going from the feeders. I love to hear the honking of geese as they fly overhead. Add a fountain in the flower bed near a deck or patio. A pond with a small waterfall or a nearby stream will give a feeling of serenity. Who can resist touching the soft leaves of plant such as lamb's ear, rose campion, Dusty Miller or the fluffy petals of flowers? A gentle hand brushed against peppermint plants or fragrant variations of scented geraniums will release pleasant perfumes.

We can't forget taste. Small fruits such as blueberries, strawberries and raspberries picked fresh right out of the garden beat those that have been shipped for miles from out-of-state farms. Vegetables grown in home gardens can be enjoyed at their peak. Harvesting peas can be a great pastime, although it has been my experience that I have eaten many peas before they ever reach the kitchen! Other vegetables can be enjoyed while you are harvesting them — carrots, beans, basil and parsley to name just a few.

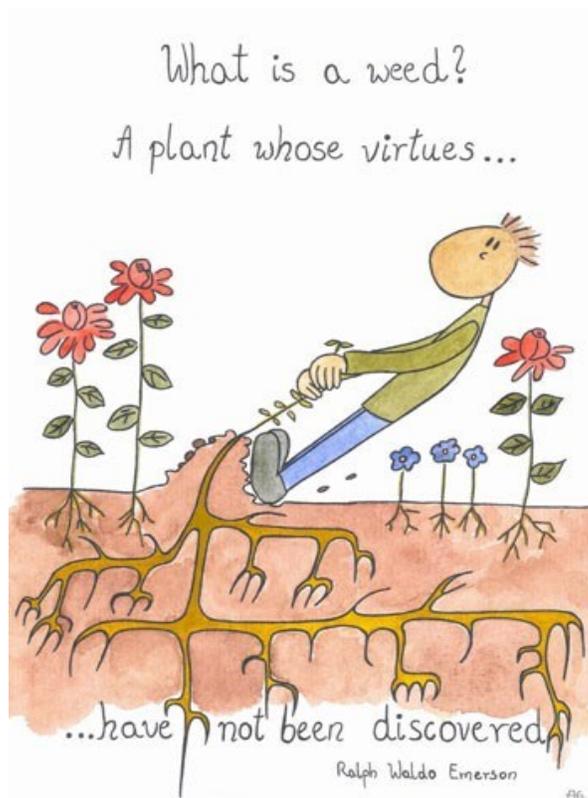
Gardening is great for body, mind and soul, so satisfy *all* of your senses.

# GARDEN HUMOR

## GARDEN HUMOR



The Gardening Cook



Shoreham Garden Club  
P.O. Box 323  
Shoreham, NY 11786

*The Shoreham Garden  
Club was organized in  
1929 and  
Chartered in 1949*

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