

Shoreham Garden Club

<http://shorehamgardenclub.com>

Volume XXIX No. 3

Fall 2014

Co-Presidents' Messages -

Dear Shoreham Garden Club Members:

I can't remember a nicer summer in years and like most of you I'm wondering where all the time went.

September 23 starts the fall season, my favorite with beautiful weather and magnificent colors. We get a reprieve from the crazy busy summer and the equally busy holiday season.

It is a time for visiting fairs and farm stands without feeling guilty about leaving our gardens unattended. A time to enjoy and reflect on what we might do differently next summer.

Our club will kick off the season with a General Meeting on September 20th, with a talk given by member Yonda Ashley on "The Art of Rain Gardens".

One last thought, we will need to fill a number of positions that will become available for committee chairs and officers on

the Executive Committee in 2015, please consider volunteering for one of these positions.

Pat Thompson



Love, Love, Love

Perhaps a little too strong, but when you have a fondness for plants and houses, it just seems like the right words to describe how I feel about a newly erected greenhouse.

I fell in love with a greenhouse a few years ago....started researching them until the right one popped up on the screen. It was economical (not really) and aesthetic.

Investing in the 8x10

structure was rewarding. It adds storage, beauty and of course learning to grow from seed. The primary reason for getting plants and food from the soil to the table.

It came in a kit with so many numbered pieces that you needed a Patent Accountant to separate the numbered A, B, C's before connecting one piece to another part... tedious, but accurate. With the wisdom and patience of a good friend and a wonderful brother, we raised the completed beauty.

It's unheated as of yet...will see what the winter brings. We will be adding a water spigot for easier access...I'm water girl-ing it!!!

If you are thinking of buying one....do it!!!!
Jean Ozol

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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

Our 200' Garden by a Stop Sign
By our Community Project Chair, Judy Faraone

September marks the one year anniversary of our Duck Pond Parking Lot community project in Wading River. What a wonderful, rewarding project it has been! Residents of Wading River and Shoreham pull over while we work to remark how lovely the corner looks and say it is an asset to our community. These compliments bring smiles to the faces of our club gardeners. After all, isn't making the world a more beautiful place one of the goals of a gardener? While our gardeners are weeding and planting we enjoy the camaraderie and have conversations with each other. If I bring my iPod box, we work to good old fashioned rock and soul music by U2, Sly, The Beatles, Rolling Stones, Beach Boys, and other upbeat groups. It hardly seems like work at all!

In the fall of 2013, we weeded, roto-tilled, added compost, peat moss, and lime to the soil. Club members weeded and weeded, divided existing day lilies that were root bound, and trimmed shrubs and vines. We worked 6 hour days! We then planted 10 White-Out rose bushes, various grasses, shrubs and perennials, lastly we laid down newspaper and mulched the area. Our club spent only \$250 because we bought plants wholesale and got generous donations from Wading River Gardens and Felix Perennials in Riverhead. Barbara Goldstein worked tirelessly with me throughout the project and we had a ball deciding what plants to purchase and where to place them. By the month of October we looked at our project and smiled. In December I decided to surprise residents and decorated the trees with ornaments! In January 2 elves, Carol and Ed, took them down and saved them for this year.

A new year meant a new budget of \$250, and anyone who knows me knows I love plants more than shoes. It was a harsh winter and we did lose some of our plants, but we planted 2 flats of pansies for some spring color. We got a cold snap and they did not do well. The month of May and warm weather arrived and we planted Pink Muhly grass and some marigolds. At that time we used organic fertilizer, Millorganite, bone meal and blood meal to give our plantings a needed boost. Everything that survived the winter began to flourish. In the month of August, Andrews Farm donated over 8 flats of annuals, but alas they did not do as well as we hoped.

Our garden is between a parking lot and a road. It is where the town piles up the snow in the winter. It becomes saturated with water at times and the soil is clay and less than perfect. Our first year was a learning curve. Every good gardener knows you sometimes need to change your strategy. Roses, shrubs, marigolds and grasses were the winning combination. Our last purchase was more Pink Muhly grasses, orange butterfly weed aka Asclepias, Agastache that is purple, and white Echinacea. Your Pets Best Friend gave a donation which allowed us to purchase 3 red Knockout rose bushes.

Please take a drive down to the corner this fall when the Beauty Berry will be a bright purple and the grasses and roses in their prime. Drive by in December to see how we have decorated the trees. And then stop by next spring and summer to see what a beautiful garden the Shoreham Garden Club has created! The bees and butterflies also appreciate our efforts.

In future years, we shall give the garden out labor and love, but it will be supported entirely by donations from the community. Because we will need to maintain this garden our 2015 project will be short term, but a winning project none the less.

Thank you to the members who worked hard to make this garden a beautiful addition to our community!



A RECAP OF CLUB EVENTS

PLANT & TAG SALE

Our major fund raising event, the Plant and Tag sale was held on June 14th at Peter Kahn's home. Many thanks to Peter and all the members who diligently raised or dug up and potted the plants for the sale.

It gave some members an opportunity to clean out your attic and basements to round-up the tag sale items. It was a lot of work but we had fun. The proceeds from the sale were \$455

MIDSUMMER NIGHT

The Midsummer Night Garden Party was on June 21st and white was the color for the night. Didn't everyone look handsome under the lanterns strung through the trees the lakeside yard. The night was perfect. The food was delicious, the weather ideal and the company as always stimulating.

What a wonderful setting to get to chat with one another and discover many of us have more in common than just gardening. We are truly an eclectic group of talented individuals who now know how to enjoy the richness of life.

Thanks to Dawn Marie for making this event possible.

THE DANZ GARDEN

On Saturday, August 30th Romy & Felix Danz invited our club to tour their garden. Their garden is an amazing collection of plants and garden structures, many that came about due to destruction of trees from nature's storms and pest damage. It is truly a beautiful place to stroll and see all the creative ideas she has put into her garden. Romy is a garden designer and gave us lots of hands on information about plants, soil and pest control. She & Felix gave us a demonstration of the way they designed the concrete disks for their patio. We watched as they flipped the cured concrete discs over and peeled the actual leaves off leaving the impressions of the leaves in the concrete. They were beautiful. Her garden has many tables, stepping stones, a bird bath all using the impressions of these leaves.

We had wonderful food, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was a lovely afternoon.





"Seasons of mists and mellow fruit-fulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For Summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells."

- **John Keats, To Autumn**



"My heart is a garden tired with autumn,
Heaped with bending asters
and dahlias heavy and dark,
In the hazy sunshine, the garden remembers April,
The drench of rains and a snow-drop quick and clear as a spark;

Daffodils blowing in the cold wind of morning,
And golden tulips, goblets holding the rain --
The garden will be hushed with snow, forgotten soon, forgotten --

After the stillness, will spring come again?"

- **Sara Teasdale, The Garden**

Comfort in my mind.

Faint and far away their ancient griefs appear:
Yet how near
Is the tender voice, the careworn, kindly face,
Of the human race!
Let us walk together in the garden, dearest heart,
Not apart!
They who know the sorrows other lives have known
Never walk alone.

Henry Van Dyke

Youth is like spring, an overpraised season more remarkable for biting winds than genial breezes. Autumn is the mellow season, and what we lose in flowers we more than gain in fruits.

Samuel Butler

Calendar of Events

- September 20th : General Meeting, 10:00 am
A presentation given by Yonda Ashley: 'The Art of Rain Gardens.'
- October 14th: Executive Board Meeting, 7:00 pm Jean Ozol's home
- November 6th: Executive Board Meeting, 7:00 pm Pat Thompson's home
- ◆ November 20th: General Meeting, 10:00 am Program TBA



Gardening for the Birds Liz Miller, Adams County Master Gardener

Why even bother to garden for birds, you might ask? Well, for one thing, many bird species are dwindling in numbers. By establishing a bird sanctuary in your backyard, you and your family will attract a variety of birds. In addition, it is fun to garden for the birds. The joy of attracting birds to your backyard is open to everyone, and creating a garden that welcomes birds is a relatively simple task. You can attract birds by planting a variety of trees, shrubs, and flowers that provide good nesting sites, winter shelter, places to hide from predators, and natural, year-round food supplies.

Here are the types of plants that are important for creating a good bird habitat.

Conifers

Conifers are evergreen trees and shrubs that include pines, spruces, firs, arborvitae, junipers, cedars, and yews. They bear leaves throughout the year and offer a good source of berries, seed-filled cones, sap and buds. These plants are important as escape cover, winter shelter, and summer nesting and breeding sites. Birds need cover to hide from their enemies and from weather extremes. In the very cold regions, dense evergreens shelter birds and actually insulate them from frigid temperatures and icy winds. In hot areas, birds get protection from the sun and heat. In the spring, the same cover provides nesting places for them.

Grasses and Legumes

Grasses and legumes can provide cover for ground nesting birds--especially if the area is not mowed during the nesting season. Some grasses and legumes provide seeds as well. Use native grasses as accent plants and in wildlife meadows as native grasses provide seeds for the birds to eat. If you're not worried about a few weeds, leave a patch of ground somewhere out of the way where you don't mow, and native sparrows will line up to eat the weed seeds. Are you tired of raking all those leaves up in the fall? Then leave some on the ground for a change. Insects are attracted to leaf litter, and you'll be feeding lots of birds by leaving the leaves right where they are.

Nectar-Producing Plants

Nectar-producing plants are very popular for attracting hummingbirds and orioles. Flowers with tubular red corollas are especially attractive to hummingbirds. Other trees, shrubs, vines and flowers can also provide nectar for hummingbirds. Examples of North America native nectar-producing plants include coral-bells, trumpet creeper, red yucca and scarlet sage.

Summer-Fruiting Plants

This category includes plants that produce fruits or berries from May through August. Among birds that can be attracted to these types of plants in the summer are brown thrashers, catbirds, robins, thrushes, waxwings, woodpeckers, orioles, cardinals, towhees, and grosbeaks. Examples of summer-fruiting plants are various species of cherry, chokecherry, honeysuckle, raspberry, serviceberry, blackberry, blueberry, grape, mulberry, plum, and elderberry.

Fall-Fruiting Plants

This landscape component includes shrubs and vines whose fruits are ripe in the fall. These foods are important both for migratory birds which build up fat reserves prior to migration and as a food source for non-migratory species that need to enter the winter season in good physical condition. Fall-fruiting plants include dogwoods, mountain ash, winter-berries, cotoneasters, and buffalo-berries.

Winter-Fruiting Plants

Winter-fruiting plants are those whose fruits remain attached to the plants long after they ripen in the fall. Many are not palatable until they have frozen and thawed numerous times. Examples are glossy black chokecherry, Siberian and "red splendor" crabapple, snowberry, bittersweet, sumacs, American high bush cranberry, eastern and European Wahoo, Virginia creeper, and Chinaberry.

Nut and Acorn Plants

These include oaks, hickories, buckeyes, chestnuts, butternuts, walnuts, and hazels. The meats of broken nuts and acorns are eaten by a variety of birds. These plants also provide good nesting habitat.

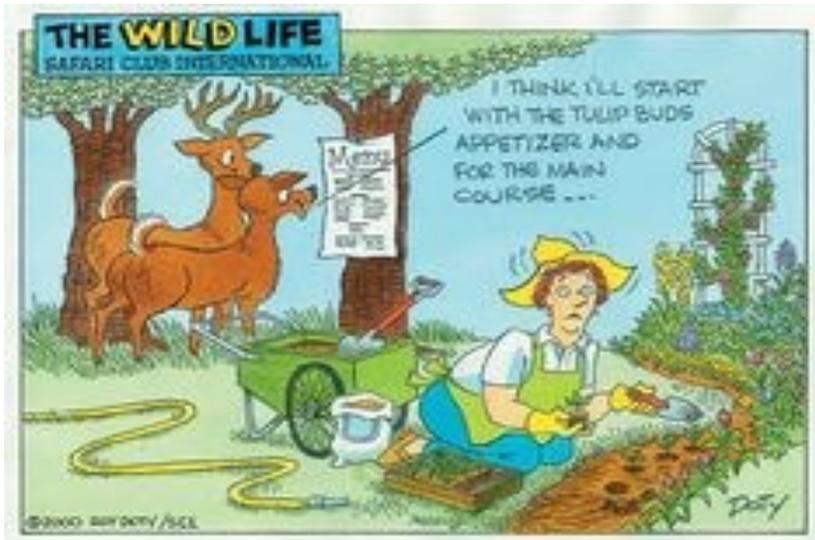
Perennials and Annuals Plants

A yard or garden filled with a wide selection of perennials and annual flowers will also provide essential food for birds. Perennials that can be counted on as food sources for birds include asters, chrysanthemums, cone flowers, coreopsis, goldenrod, milkweed, penstemon, salvia, sedum and verbena. All-purpose annuals that are good food sources consist of bachelor's buttons, cleome, cosmos, flowering tobacco, marigolds, sunflowers and zinnias.

And what if you have only a small yard without many well established trees and shrubs? You can still attract birds by planting a few containers of flowers or by adding a few hanging baskets on your deck or patio. Whether tiny, huge, or somewhere in between, the haven you create will entice and welcome birds. They will come to your garden month by month, season by season, all year round.

GARDEN HUMOR

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

*The Shoreham Garden
Club was organized in
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