

Maribel's Garden Patch

Welcome to a new SGC season! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. To start this great year, I would like to welcome our new members: Sheila Billings, Maureen Dalton, Mary Ellen Halliwell, Mary Hayes, Kathy Homan, Helen Marcotti and Sophia O'Brien.

This summer has been a very fruitful time for us. Our tour was a success and everyone was delighted in our garden choices. Our community involvement project included a very successful window box/traffic island competition as well. Thank you all for the GREAT TEAM EFFORT!

We still have a lot of activities that we need to focus on. I would like to re-iterate the importance of getting involved. Please refer to our Program Book for various club activities and do not hesitate to let me know if you are interested in any of them.

I am sure, as always, this will be an enjoyable and rewarding SGC season!

Maribel Steadman
President



Making Salem Beautiful

The Salem Garden Club and the city of Salem sponsored the city's annual Window Box and Traffic Island Contest in July. Judges from SGC critiqued both home and business window boxes, traffic islands and other public planting areas around Salem.

The Garden Gate: Love that Plant

by Pam Jendrysik

If you have a Geranium plant or an Impatiens that is an especially hard to find color, or just one you have nursed all season and hate to see go now that it is finally big and beautiful, try taking a cutting.

Geraniums: Snap off some stems about 3-4" long. Strip off all but the top few leaves (3 or 4). Leave each stem to air dry for about a day, it helps keep the stem end from rotting.

Moisten each stem end a little and dip into rooting powder. It may work without the powder, but why chance it? Place the stem end in sand, and water every few days. In about three weeks the root should be about ½" long. Repot in potting soil and treat like a house plant.

An old-fashioned method is to remove the plant from the pot, clean all the soil from the roots. Remove all the leaves and hang upside down from a beam in the cellar. In March, repot in potting soil, cut back slightly and water. It will return to life, but slowly.

Impatiens: Impatiens can be treated in a similar way except plant immediately in potting soil. Pinch the tops back once it begins to get tall to encourage fuller growth.

Phlox: Propagate by stem cut. Dip a 2" stem cut into rooting powder, place in sand and water. Repot when the roots show. The new plants may not blossom the first year. When dead heading Phlox throw the heads away to prevent reseeding. The lovely colors we enjoy are bred. The seedpods still carry the genes of the wild, more hardy, dark purple phlox which may germinate and crowd out the preferred colors. Phlox should be divided every four to five years; fall is the best time for dividing.



Jeanne Charnigo's entry, at 18 Winter Street, which won the Best New Entry Window Box Category.

Good to be GREEN

by Heidi Milman

REMEMBER THE THREE R'S: REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE!

REDUCE your energy use by putting up a clothesline in your yard (if you have the space). Hanging your laundry out to dry saves electricity. Saving electricity helps the environment. If you are concerned about wrinkles, you can always line dry them until almost dry, and then put them in the dryer for 10 or 15 minutes. You will still save energy, and your sheets will smell great.

REUSE envelopes from bills, junk mail, etc. to write shopping lists and take phone messages.

RECYCLE old towels and blankets by donating them to animal shelters.



Costa Rican Trip

Announcing a very special trip to Costa Rica for orchid lovers this March 2010 with an exclusive visit with the founder of the Orchid Society of Costa Rica. Details can be found on my website: www.sensationaltravel.com

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Yesterday's Gardens

by Gail Sados, SGC Historian

As we look forward to the Salem Garden Club's 2009-2010 programs, I thought it might be fun to take a look back.

In August 1930 SGC sponsored a Playground Garden Contest. The first place prize went to George Taloumis for his garden at 221 Lafayette Street. And his prize... \$10! Old Salem Gardens was published in 1946 by the SGC. It sold for \$1.10 postpaid. Two of the September programs in the 1950s were "The Magic of Herbs" by Mrs. Ralph L. Smith of Marblehead and "Fall Care of Gardens" by Mr. Harold Bent. The 1960s, SGC was learning about bulbs with a program called "Forcing Bulbs for Winter Enjoyment". The 1980s location for the September meeting was First Universalist Church at 6 Rust Street and was a Boutique Workshop for Pine Cone Wreaths. During the 1990s, Dottie Curran hosted a meeting at her home entitled "Ecology and Recycling Talk".

Not much has changed. SGC continues its rich heritage by offering educational, civic minded and entertaining programs to our members, our guests and the community.

Treasurer's Green Report

The July Garden Tour was a huge success! Our net profit after expenses was \$5503.23! Fund raisers, such as these, are what allow our club to continue with the beautification of our city and maintain other projects. Our latest addition was the wonderful statue located on the Washington Street traffic island. At this time the Salem Garden Club has a net value of \$19,120.61.

Meg McMahan, Treasurer



Front, (l to r) Theresa Beaupré and Maribel N. Steadman. Back, (l to r) Meg McMahan, Roberta Clement, Betty Shea, and Dianne Skreslet.

Thanks!

A sincere thank you to the Brookhouse Garden helpers who are Lorelle Viscelli, Sara Whittredge and club nominee, Nancy Proudfit. Also, thank you to all who helped with the lovely Brookhouse Home Garden Tea on August 5th (once again weather kept the event indoors). The garden is now very colorful and all are invited to stop by and enjoy. We usually work early Tuesday mornings.

From Nancy Lutts, Garden Coordinator