

### NEXT MEETING

DATE: **Wednesday, September 30**  
 PLACE: **The Conference Center, Planting Fields Arboretum**  
 (Driving directions are on the website under the "Programs" menu.)

TIME: **7:00 pm**  
**Panel of Experts - TBA**  
 Horticulture Q & A

TIME: **8:00 pm, Business Meeting & Main Program**  
 SPEAKER: **Richard Weir, Horticulturist, Lecturer, Professor**  
 TOPIC: **Spring Blooming Bulbs**



**THANK YOU TO ALL  
 THE GENEROUS MEMBERS  
 WHO BROUGHT AN ABUNDANCE  
 OF PLANTS FOR OUR JUNE RAFFLE.**

We were able to raise \$170 from the raffle this month, money that goes to our scholarship fund.

Also we had a wonderful array of goodies for our refreshment tables as we celebrated our 75th Anniversary. Delicious and plentiful, the food brought many request for recipes. If you brought in something for the table and would like to share your recipe, please contact **Vicki Sommer**, our editor, who will print them in our September issue.

*Regina*

*Thanks to all who served on the scholarship committee: **Vinnie Drzewucki, Mikki McCullough, Regina Watkins, and Laura Weill.***



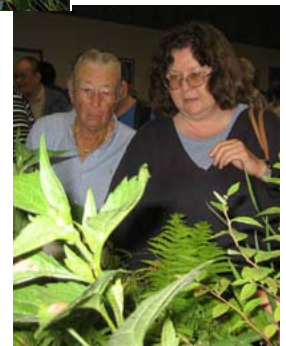
### Garden Visits

Last summer we had the pleasure of visiting many delightful and beautiful gardens of our members. Let's do it again this year. If you would like to arrange a visit to your garden contact our trip coordinator **Barbara Levine** at 516-741-3386 or [barbara@lihort.org](mailto:barbara@lihort.org) to arrange a visit.

**Please welcome these new members at future meetings:**

**Nancy Lanigan, Fort Salonga**

**Elyse C. and Eugene Magram, East Northport**



## Editor's Corner

Both my daughters wanted a big backyard graduation party this year. We picked a date and made a list. At the top of the list was "a sunny day." As time passed I changed that to "a day with no rain."

A week before the party I went to the local nursery and bought a few perennials already in flower. I wanted to fill a few spots in my garden. I brought the plants home and was about to place them when I realized how overgrown my garden was. Maybe lush is a better word. So I did what I usually do when I need more room to plant, I pulled out handfuls of vinca and tossed it. Years ago when I cleaned out my perennial bed and pulled all the vinca, I planted a bit of it off in the corner - - - just in case. That one little bit took over my garden again. The same goes for the fern fronds that **Gerda Lord** gave me years ago. This year between the vinca, the ferns - oh, did I mention the lily-of-the-valley, - and, of course, all my perennials and shrubs that are happy as can be with all the rain, my garden looks great!

The party was last weekend. The sun was shining, not a drop of rain. And not one person was bothered by the bees hovering all around.

Enjoy the summer,

*Vicki*



*Patricia Porcelli, Nanci J. Allen, & Roswitha Friend - - Thanks for your help in judging the horticultural competition.*

**The deadline for the Sept. issue is August 19**



## Congratulations Peter Couchman, 2009 Scholarship Winner

At our 75th anniversary celebration meeting on June 24th, Peter was awarded a \$2000 scholarship to pursue his study of horticulture at the New York Botanical Garden's School of Professional Horticulture.

*Vinnie Drzewucki of Hicks Nursery presents the scholarship to Peter Couchman. Laura Weill, scholarship chairperson, is on right.*

## UPDATE ON THE 2010 ENGLISH GARDEN TOUR

We have now confirmed that our next garden tour to England will be June 4 - 12, 2010. Our base will be Newfield Hall in Malamdale in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales. There will be a good mix of gardens, large and small, public and private, as well as visits to historic stately homes, a chance to explore quaint little villages, and perhaps some time to linger over an afternoon tea. If you saw the movie *Calendar Girls* starring Helen Mirren, you'll know how spectacular the Yorkshire scenery is. (If you haven't seen it, rent the DVD.) The girls' village is only a few miles from where we will be staying!

The response to our first announcement has been excellent and the trip is sold out at the moment. However, we are still taking names for a waiting list. We hope to have more information, and the cost of the trip, in time for the September newsletter.

To add your name to the waiting list, email **Barbara Loechner** at [gardendbee@verizon.net](mailto:gardendbee@verizon.net), or call 516 735-8465.

**Members receive a 10% discount** at Main Street Nursery, 475 W. Main St., Huntington (631-549-4515) and, also, at Paul's Nursery, 841 Pulaski Rd., Greenlawn (631-261-1148.) Just show your LIHS membership card.

## HOSPITALITY TIDBITS

Thanks to all who brought snacks & signed **The Cookie List** at the June meeting: **Regina Watkins, Mikki McCullough, June Conticchio, Jane Manning, Jeanette Bacon, Muriel Drew, Audrey Rydzewski, Dorothy Titus, Roswitha Friend, Fay Paquette, Jean Canarick, Marianne Feller, Doreen Banks, Judy Basse, Laura Weill, Rosemarie Papayanopulos, Rosemarie Quinlan, Jeanne Eklund, and Roberta Roberts.**

Pick up a FREE raffle ticket & sign the Cookie List when you bring in snacks so we can acknowledge your contribution.

**Can tabs are no longer being collected** for sending children to the camp. I'd like to thank everyone for their past donations.

*Bob Weschler*

Thank you to all who contributed to the June raffle: **Lorraine Loughlin, Dorothy Titus, Wilbur Davidson, Laura Weill, Brita Okin, Mary Burke, Wilma Wasner, Regina Watkins, Fay Paquette, Yen Ming Mung, Mr. & Mrs. D. Papayanopulos, The Garden Library, and Charlie Becker.**

*Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## President's Message

This spring I had the opportunity to teach a program called Kids' Garden at Old Westbury Gardens. Developed by Ariana Rickard, Environmental Educator, and Maura Brush, Director of Horticulture, Kids' Garden brought four classes of second graders from the Park Avenue School in Westbury to learn about growing vegetables. After our introductory session at the school, we met at Old Westbury Gardens every Monday, alternating two classes each week for a total of eight weeks. Working with teachers' support, Ariana and I taught basic plant parts and types of soil best suited for seed germination, experimenting by planting seeds in samples of playground soil, pond soil and garden soil, and discussed what plants need to grow and how to set seedlings out in the garden. Many of the children had never seen vegetables growing and were thrilled to see the red shoulders of their radishes shrugging out of the earth and the tendrils of peas climbing up the supports. When time ran out on planting day and the kids had to get on their bus, they made me promise to go back to the garden to water their plants. Teachers emailed me the next day to ask for assurance that I had!

In the garden we had the bonus of seeing a pair of owls and their two fledglings in the nearby tulip tree. We examined holes made in the tree by the yellow-bellied sapsucker (photo supplied by Ariana) and learned about the asset of having worms in our garden. Each class was so proud to find worms in their section. They learned to wait patiently for the strawberry patch to develop from just leaves to blossoms to berries. Strawberries were the hit of the tasting experience

on our last day with sugar snap peas being a close second. Radishes got mixed reviews as did leaf lettuce. Every week I learned something from these beautiful children, and they nurtured me as much as we nurtured our vegetables.

One day when I was making the point that we eat different parts of the plant depending on the vegetable, I asked for a show of hands as to who had ever eaten a potato. Very few hands went up. Surprised, I changed the question to "Who has ever eaten fries?" Of course, every child had. I then realized that most didn't know that fries are potatoes and certainly didn't know that a fry started its life growing in soil.

Now that we are in the midst of summer, I encourage you, our generous members, to share your skills and knowledge with those who have yet to experience the satisfaction of a productive garden. Perhaps you might simply share your garden's bounty with others who have only experienced "store-bought." Maybe a friend or neighbor would like to learn by your side as you tend your garden. I know that many of our nearly 400 members have much to offer in helping others learn and enjoy horticulture. I'd love to hear about your experiences with your children or grandchildren, your neighbors and friends. Have a wonderful summer.

*Regina*

### A Garden Is Not Just Blossoms

*By Grace Mathews Walker*

There's myst'ry in a garden ---  
Healing sunshine, growing things,  
Stately trees with playing shadows  
Make for joy and my heart sings.

There's beauty in a garden ---  
Hate can never find a place;  
Hope with love and peace unending  
Shine from every blossoms face.

Kindness woven with a magic,  
All that maketh life worth living ---  
God has planned a garden so.

For a garden's not just blossoms,  
Birds, and shrubs or velvet sod,  
but a place where weary children  
Can go alone to talk with God.

~ Read at the June meeting  
by **Bob Weschler**,  
LIHS Poet Laureate

### Summer Reading

Here's some recommended botany/garden related summer reading from a librarian at the Atlanta Botanical Garden in Georgia. As we do not have these in the Garden Library, try your local bookstore, Borders, Barnes & Noble, or Amazon.

*Eucalyptus: A Novel* by Murray Bail

*Waking Up In Eden: In Pursuit of an Impassioned Life on an Imperiled Island* by Lucinda Fleeson

*Orchid Fever: A Horticultural Tale of Love, Lust, and Lunacy* by Eric Hansen

*Stranger In The Forest: On Foot Across Borneo*  
by Eric Hansen

*The Sweet Breathing of Plants: Women Writing on the Green World* by Linda Hogan and  
Brenda Peterson

*Stinging Trees and Wait-a-Whiles: Confessions of a Rainforest Biologist* by William Laurance

*Rosemarie Papayanopulos, Librarian,  
the Garden Library at Planting Fields*

To reduce mosquito populations, make sure bird baths and pet bowls are changed frequently . . . Prune summer-flowering trees and shrubs after flowering. . . Before going on vacation arrange for someone to water.

## Own-root Roses or Grafted

You may have heard people refer to “grafted” and “own-root” roses and not know what all the fuss was about. It is basically about the propagation method used to produce roses for retail sales. Do not confuse own-root roses with bare-root roses. Bare-root just refers to the method of shipping roses without soil, not to the propagation method.

A grafted rose has roots of one variety of rose with the top cut off and replaced by a graft of the desired rose. The union of these two roses is a large knot near the base of usually boxed or bagged roses. Typically they reach maturity in 2-4 years.

Own-root roses are typically grown from cuttings of the desired rose, and the cutting grows roots of its own so that the entire plant is a single entity of one rose. These plants usually take 2-5 years to mature but usually flower during this time. When you order from a mail order source, the roses arrive as baby plants from cuttings (depending on the age of the plants).

There are pros and cons afforded each type of propagation:

- Own-root roses are usually more winter hardy; they are virus free if the parent plant was healthy (so know your source and use reputable companies); they don't grow suckers which can weaken the plant; they are most true to type; they are longer-lived; and they are healthier plants. There is no knot or bud union to create an opening for insects and diseases.
- If the plant does suffer die-back, it will grow back and it will be the same plant with the same flowers.
- There are many more varieties available as grafted roses (mainly Hybrid Teas) and they grow much faster than own-root roses into a saleable plant. Though they grow larger faster, they are not as long-lived as the own-root roses. Grafted roses are usually from one of three common rootstocks, and those rootstocks are terribly infected with the rose mosaic virus. Also, the knot or bud union is susceptible to cold conditions, insects, and diseases.
- When grafted roses suffer die-back in a hard winter, they may re-emerge as the rose of the rootstock (usually Dr.Huey) not as the Hybrid Tea that you purchased.

If own-root roses are created from plants that carry viruses, the new cuttings will also be infected. Knowing reliable sources for your roses is a very important aspect of purchasing health, long-lived roses.

There is no one who can guarantee that a source is 100% safe; however, some companies that have been reputable are: High Country Roses ([www.highcountryroses.com](http://www.highcountryroses.com)), Chamblee's Rose Nursery ([www.chambleeroses.com](http://www.chambleeroses.com)), Roses Unlimited ([www.rosesunlimitedownroot.com](http://www.rosesunlimitedownroot.com)) (864-682-7673), Ashdown Roses ([www.ashdownroses.com](http://www.ashdownroses.com)), Heirloom Roses ([www.heirloomroses.com](http://www.heirloomroses.com)), The Antique Rose Emporium ([www.weareroses.com](http://www.weareroses.com)), and Sam Kedem Nursery Garden ([www.kedemroses.com](http://www.kedemroses.com)).

*Josephine Borut, LIHS member*

### *Irene Virag's Garden Calendar*

Remember: Don't fall for imitations - - - there's still only one straight-from-Irene garden calendar and it's posted online at [www.irenevirag.com](http://www.irenevirag.com).

Pass it along to all your gardening friends. Tell them to sign up for my mailing list. And don't forget, the calendar is specially formatted so you can print it out for handy reference. Happy Gardening,

*Irene Virag*

### Still in Search of a Laptop

We are looking to obtain a laptop computer to be used for our guest speakers' presentations. The minimum hardware specifications are: a Pentium processor, disk drive, CD drive, and USB ports. The operating system should be Microsoft XP or newer.

If you have a laptop that you would like to donate, please contact **Don Houser** at 516-795-8361 or email him at [jdhouser89@verizon.net](mailto:jdhouser89@verizon.net).

**For up-to-date news** of LIHS meetings, activities, trips, etc., go to our website: **[www.lihort.org](http://www.lihort.org)**.

Check out our blog. It's a great way to exchange info & plants. If you have suggestions or comments contact **Barbara Elish:** **[webmaster@lihort.org](mailto:webmaster@lihort.org)**.

### Would you like to help to select our speakers for 2010?

If you would like to serve on a committee to set up and organize both our Education Program and the featured speaker roster for next year please contact **Steve Dougherty**. We will get started on this soon so that we can continue to bring our members informative and enjoyable meetings. *Steve can be reached at 516-676-3987 or email him at [spdougher1@aol.com](mailto:spdougher1@aol.com).*

## *Horticultural Competition*

Results from the June meeting:

<b>Best in Show:</b>	Live Arrangement below 24": Clematis 'Jackmanii', hydrangea arborescens, Verbena bonariensis, Osmunda regalis	Fay Paquette
<b>First Place:</b>	Live Arrangement below 10": Spiraea, Hydrangea, Euphorbia 'Diamond Frost,' Miscanthus 'Variegatus' Dahlia under 3": Rival Mignon Single Cut Flower Spray: Orange Lily Photograph: Papaver orientale 'Turkenlouis'	Chris DeAngelo Lorraine Loughlin Judy Basse Josephine Borut
<b>Second Place:</b>	Live Arrangement below 10": 3 pots of African Violets Rose - Hybrid Tea: The McCartney Rose Cut Flower Spray: Hosta 'Frances Williams' Small Fruit: Red Raspberries Photograph: Floribunda Rose 'Julia Child'	Laura Weill Judy Basse Judy Basse Lorraine Loughlin Ed Kenny
<b>Third Place:</b>	Single Cut Flower: Astilbe	Judy Basse

Thank you to the judges: **Patricia Porcelli, Roswitha Friend, Nanci J. Allen**  
and to the Competition Clerk, **Lynn Thomson.**

**EXHIBITORS' REMINDER:** Please remember to fill out a **GREEN SLIP** for each entry with **YOUR NAME** and the **PLANT NAME(S)** or **ARRANGEMENT DESCRIPTION(S)**. At the end of the meeting, leave the green slips on the table to be collected and entered in the record book. Thank you.

*All entries must be presented by 7:45 pm to be judged. Remember: no more than three entrees per member household are allowed. Plants must be in your garden or in your care for at least three months prior to judging in order to qualify.*

*The Horticultural Competition Rules & Section/Classes are available on our website. Copies will also be available at every meeting.*

The LIHS Horticultural Competition offers members the opportunity to enter favorite plants, blossoms, vegetables, arrangements, paintings, photos; there is an extensive list of categories. If you bring something that doesn't fit a standard category, the judges will create a new category for the entry. Any LIHS member may enter; you don't have to be a professional grower, florist, artist, or photographer. Participants earn points for each 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place ribbon. Extra points are awarded for "Best in Show." Entries other than plant material are eligible for points as well, but are of lesser value. Members with the highest cumulative point totals at the end of the calendar year receive certificates of recognition and cash prizes.

### **Rhapsody in Green: The Garden Wit and Wisdom of Beverley Nichols.**

Edited by Roy C. Dicks.

Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2009.

Here is a good choice for summer reading! Beverley Nichols fans need no introduction to this author. This neat little book carries the superb meanderings of a great garden-flavored mind. The author's love of gardens and cats comes through in his many books. Here are three selections from the book to whet your appetite and clue you in to the lively writings of this man. This little gem has quotes from 15 of Nichols' books written from 1932 to 1974 (reprinted and available from Timber Press).

"A LAWN, WE MUST always remember, is not a natural creation; it is a luxurious artifice, which must be expensively fed and elaborately cosseted. A perfect lawn is a pampered lawn; and pampered lawns, like pampered people, are apt to develop a number of tiresome diseases." (Garden Open Tomorrow, p. 216-217).

"IF WEEDS ARE indeed flowers, and often very beautiful flowers, are we justified in excluding them from the garden scene? Does not the very fact that we do so argue a regrettable lack of imagination? It forces use to examine our whole sense of aesthetic values; it obliges use to ask whether we still have that 'innocence of eye' which is the essential of all artistic perception." (Garden Open Tomorrow, p. 138).

"CATS AND FLOWERS have played so large a part in my life that I can scarcely think of one without the other. In a cluster of wild hyacinths I can see reflected the blue eyes of my first Siamese; on warm May mornings he would wander to the shadow of an old wall where the hyacinths had come by chance, and dispose himself most elegantly upon them. If reproached for squashing the hyacinths, he merely blinked; the blue eyes and the blue flowers, mingling together, were so beautiful that there was nothing to be done about it. (Beverley Nichols' Cats X.Y.Z., p. 34).

*Rosemarie Papayanopulos, Librarian - The Garden Library at Planting Fields*

## GARDENERS' CALENDAR

- July 19 Talk & Tour: Daylily Walk, 2:00 pm. Old Westbury Gardens, free with admission, 516-333-0048.  
July 26 Talk & Tour: Lotus and Waterlilies, 2:00 pm. Old Westbury Gardens, free with admission.  
Aug. 2 Talk & Tour: Sundials, Follies and Greek Gods and Goddesses, 2:00 pm. Old Westbury Gardens, free with admission.  
Aug. 9 Talk & Tour: Shade Plants in the Garden, 2:00 pm. Old Westbury Gardens, free with admission.  
Aug. 26 Great Gardens of Eastern Australia, Vincent A. Simeone, 6:00 pm optional tour, 7:00 pm lecture and refreshments. Planting Fields Arboretum, \$10 fee. Contact Tracy Potavin at 516- 922-8676 or email tpotavin@plantingfields.org for more information.  
Aug. 30 Talk & Tour: Color in the Summer Garden, 2:00 pm. Old Westbury Gardens, free with admission.  
Sept. 13 Talk & Tour: The Formal English Garden, 2:00 pm. Old Westbury Gardens, free with admission.  
Sept. 20 Talk & Tour: Late Summer in the Walled Garden, 2:00 pm. Old Westbury Gardens, free with admission.  
Sept. 21 Small Cactus: Lobivia, Lithops, Lophophora, Leuchtenbergia, etc., 7:30 pm. LICSS, Kellenberg H.S. 1400 Glenn Curtis Blvd., Uniondale. Refreshments served. All welcome. For info call 516-921-2835.  
Oct. 19 Bulbs, Roots, Caudexes, & Stems, 7:30 pm. LICSS, Kellenberg H.S., 1400 Glenn Curtis Blvd., Uniondale. Refreshments served. All welcome. For info call 516-921-2835.

*Local plant societies and public gardens are invited to send information on upcoming events and programs of horticultural interest to the Gazette's newsletter editor at least two months in advance. Contact info below.*

**The John P. Humes Japanese Stroll Garden** features extensive use of moss, native & Asian plants, graceful bamboo groves, & a tea house overlooking a pond & waterfall. Wildflowers, azaleas & mountain laurels, etc. bloom from mid-April through May, followed by Japanese irises in June. Autumn brings the colorful foliage of numerous Japanese maples. It is located in the Village of Mill Neck and open to the public from 11:30 am - 4:30 pm, Saturdays and Sundays. Fee is \$7 per person. Public and private tours are available. For info call 516-676-4486 or visit [www.humesjapanesestrollgarden.org](http://www.humesjapanesestrollgarden.org).



[www.lihort.org](http://www.lihort.org)

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