

DGC September Newsletter

Life begins the day you start a garden.
Chinese Proverb

Dear Members,

Welcome back to a great year ahead for the Douglaston Garden Club. Our Board has been working hard all summer to plan interesting programs, workshops, trips, and events for your enjoyment.

Our first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17 at 1:00PM in the CCD Parlor. Our program this month features Cathy Grizzardo who will speak about "Growing Roses on Long Island". Also, please remember not to park in the numbered spaces in the parking lot

Our Program Schedule has been put together by Carolyn Brink. It looks like another great year of informative and interesting programs. Cindy McCann, our graphic artist has once again done a beautiful job collating and editing all the information into a beautiful schedule. I hope you all have received it and will keep it as a handy reference.

This month's hospitality:

Tea Sandwiches:

Mary Tobacco
Evelyn Wynn
Patricia Yoon
Annette Aloisio

Cookies:

Catherine Touwsma
Johanna Abramo
Gloria Brehl

Centerpiece:

Maura Wyrnn

Thank you in advance for your delicious goodies. Remember, disposable platters only. Please bring your hospitality offerings to the meeting no later than 12:30PM.

For our Ways and Means table this month, Mary Taylor has suggested we bring in small, "specialty" items. Be creative!

Our donations are veritable treasures, so come and shop until you drop!

Looking Ahead:

September 21 - 2nd District National Garden Club Standard Flower Show - "A Social Whirl". Contact gardenexpeditions@gmail.com if you are interested and have not already done so.

September 21 - Queens County Farm Country Fair and Flower Show - check out queensfarm.org for information. Volunteer judges are still needed for the flower show. Contact Chris Barry at barfam22@gmail.com or Doug Montgomery at douglas@homeny.com.

October 15 - 9:30AM - Workshop by Fred Gerber from Queens Botanical Gardens - He will guide us in creating a cacti and succulent dish garden. This workshop is limited to 25 participants.

October 15 - 1:00PM - General Meeting in CCD Parlor. Our program will be by Bill Erdmann of Hidden Ridge Plants - Perennials, "The Good, The Bad and The Invasive".

October 19 - Douglaston Garden Club Bake Sale

October 28 - 2nd District Leadership Council, Old Bethpage, NY

See you on the 17th!

Best Regards,
Lori Hinchey
President
Douglaston Garden Club

HORTICULTURE TIDBITS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2019
BY: MARY TOBACCO

Welcome back! I hope you had a restful summer along with beautiful and exciting adventures

In September it's cooler and easier to work in our gardens. Let's rake and discard fallen leaves and plant debris. Repair the lawn by thatching and seeding. Deadhead all spent flowers. Leave peonies alone',but if needed **NOW** is the time to divide or move them. Day lilies can also be moved and used to fill gaps. It's important to mulch (don't suffocate the roots). **FLOWERING TREES AND SHRUBS SHOULD NOT BE PRUNED OR FERTILIZED NOW** (removing the buds means fewer blooms **NEXT YEAR**). Ordering your spring bulbs and annuals should be done for your fall planting. Rinse outdoor plants and check for insects before bringing inside.

I've reported on these **fascinating facts for plant lovers**.
BUT IT'S SO IMPORTANT TO MAKE OUR NEW MEMBERS AND ALL, AWARE OF THEM AGAIN.

10 plants that are poisonous when eaten are:

caladium,dumbcane/dieffenbachia,elephant ear, tieto [esp.berries], monkshood[esp.roots], oleander, philodendron, poinsettia, poison ivy and oak [also to touch],and rhododendron.

12 plants with poisonous parts are:

autumn crocus - the bulbs, **bleeding heart** - the leaves and roots, **castor bean** - seeds, **daffodil/narcissus** - bulbs, **English ivy** - leaves, berries, **foxtail** - leaves,seeds, **hyacinth** - bulbs, **hydrangea** - bulbs,leaves,branches, **iris** - stems, rhizomes, **larkspur** - seeds, young plants, **lily of the valley** - leaves,flowers, and **snowdrop** - bulbs.

15 medicinal plants are:

aloe - fights wrinkles, baldness, and heals burns, **anise** - cures indigestion, **basil** - relieves headaches, **bay leaf** - cures deafness, **chamomile** - relieves stomach ache and insomnia, **fennel** - controls the appetite, **garlic** - increases physical strength, **marigold** - improves eyesight, **oregano** - aids digestion and stimulates the appetite, **parsley** - sweetens the breath, **rosemary** - improves memory, **sage** - cures fever and epilepsy, and prevents plague, **summer savory** - relieves bee and wasp stings, **sweet marjoram** - relieves chest congestion, **thyme** - controls coughs, acts as a deodorant, **Lilac** is thought to evoke memories in ALZHEIMER'S patients.

18 plants you can use to brew tea are:

Leaves:

Angelica, bergamot, catnip, dill, lemon balm, lemon, verbena, marjoram, mint, rosemary, sage, strawberry, and thyme.

Flowers:

Chamomile, goldenrod, hibiscus, jasmine,rose,

To brew:

Use 2 to 3 teaspoons of fresh leaves, or flowers [1 to 2 teaspoons dried] per cup. Cover with boiling water and steep 5 to 10 minutes, strain. Make tea with single herbs or blend them together. Don't forget **FLOWERS** have power---to inspire,convey messages,and evoke emotions.

The first source of providing a healthy living for our environment starts right beneath our feet. The soil and vegetation of the earth provide amounts of harvested crops and plants that create organic ways to replenish the earth.

LET'S DO OUR PART TO CREATE A MORE SUSTAINABLE ORGANIC GARDEN.

It requires effort, time and labor, but it benefits, not only people, but we'll have more insects, birds and other crawling and flying organisms, which help our environment.

DON'T FORGET GO NATURAL

If gardening help is needed contact: CORNELL1-516-565-5265 NYS dept. of environmental protection 1-866-640-0652 or get professional help. **DON'T GET HURT!**

Have a blessed month **HAPPY GARDENING**, Mary Tobacco