



North Shore Horticultural Society

P. O. Box 171 Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944

April, 2017 Volume XIX Number 7

<http://www.NSHorticulture.org/>

Meeting Preview

Tuesday, 6PM
May 23rd
Fred Rice,
Auctioneer
*Annual Auction
And Plant Sale*

Tuesday, 6PM
June 27th
*Tuck's Point
Pot Luck Picnic*

*All NSHS meetings,
except as noted, will
be held at the
American Legion Hall,
14 Church St.,
Manchester (behind
Town Hall).*

Board Meeting
Thursday,
May 11th
at the home of
Sue Trent
7:30PM

Manchester Historical Museum is doing an exhibit of the founding and history of the NSHS. The exhibit will open in late June and run through September. Stay tuned for more information.



ANNUAL MEETING and GARDENS OF EUROPE *Peter Bradford* **Tuesday, April 25th** **7:30PM**

It hardly seems possible but it is time for the NSHS's Annual Meeting which will take place during our April meeting. The election of members of the Board of Directors 2017-2018 will take place. The proposed slate is: President-Carol Battdorf; Vice President-Mike Mack; Secretary-Traci Sobocinski; Treasurer-Kay Joseph; and Directors Allison Cohen; Joan Johnson; Anne Mesgar; Sue Trent; Norm Weeks; Ruth Weeks.

Then NSHS's Peter Bradford will take us on a tour of European gardens. Over the last fifteen years he and his wife, Alice, have traveled extensively in Europe visiting famous large cities and quaint, quiet little towns. During these forays they have been very busy recording the horticultural wonders they were experiencing in France, Germany, The Netherlands, Austria and the Czech Republic. Come, sit and enjoy a glorious photo essay on the beauty of European gardens from side street window boxes to sprawling palace grounds.

REMEMBER TO VOLUNTEER **PLANT SALE AND AUCTION** **MAY 23rd**

We need volunteers for a myriad of tasks to make the Plant Sale and Auction successful: soliciting donations; publicity; setting up; staffing the event; and clean up. A sign up sheet was included with the March newsletter. Please complete it, and bring it to the April meeting or mail it to the P.O. Box 171, Manchester 01944. We can't do it without you!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *Carol Battdorf*

Happy April Everyone, April showers bring May flowers. Well, we have had quite a bit of rain, sleet, snow and whatever else came down these last two weeks. Hopefully we will have sufficient water throughout the growing season. The last four summers have seen drought conditions. Last summer the CSA I belong to lost at least half of their crops because they could not water enough. Think about water saving tricks. When I am waiting for warm water to come to the kitchen sink, I fill the indoor watering can and sometimes I have a bucket ready to take more water until the water is hot. Once it is habit you just automatically save the water for the plants. I think if we had to walk three miles for drinking water or carry all the water to the garden for subsistence gardening we may have a different attitude on how easy we have it and how wasteful we can be with drinking water. During the spring when all the April showers are coming down we sort of forget how dry things can get in the summer.

On the way home from work yesterday I heard the peepers singing. Their peeps are spring sounds to me, cheers me up. Just like crocus, snow drops, aconite and hellebores are the sure signs of spring in my garden. I hope you are seeing signs of spring in your gardens.

Our speaker for April, Peter Bradford, a member of the NSHS, will be taking us to gardens throughout Europe. I'm not sure if any of the gardens pictured will be during spring bloom but it will be fun to see what European gardens have to offer the garden visitor. I'm sure gardeners all over the world have certain

Pres. Letter continued on next page

President's Letter continued:

plants they always look for in the spring and once they see them they know that the gardening season has begun. Please bring a friend with you and come and join us on a tour of European gardens. Looking forward to seeing you and hearing about your gardens. The growing season has begun. See you at the April meeting. Carol

HORTICULTURAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Mike's HPOI this month will remind us of the care we should use when outside in areas where ticks could be. Also, even though we have had several inches of rain this spring...planting drought tolerant plants is a good option. All of Mike's HPOIs are on our website.

REFRESHMENTS

Thank you to Anne Fucillo, Liz Loomis, Anne Mesgar, Marguerite Schernig and Sandra Stolle for volunteering to bring treats to the April meeting.

NSHS SCHOLARSHIP

On Wednesday, May 3rd at the North Shore Community College Foundation Scholarship Awards ceremony, a worthy student of horticulture or floriculture will be presented with a \$1000 scholarship from the North Shore Horticultural Society. Monies raised from our auction and plant sale help fund the scholarship. A Board representative attends the ceremony and presents the scholarship.

ROAD TRIP TO BEDROCK GARDEN-LEE, NH

Saturday, June 17th

An oasis of art, horticulture and inspiration is how the gardens are described. Bedrock Garden is a private garden, only open to the public on specific dates. The website has wonderful photos. Go to <http://www.bedrockgardens.org/gardens.html> for a preview of the gardens. Located in Lee, New Hampshire, which is near Durham, about 1.2 hours and about 70 miles from the Legion. Sign up by calling 978-927-8829. Watch for more information in the May Newsletter.

COMPOST

At the March Meeting, Traci Sobocinski mentioned BBC "Gardeners' World" in which a new episode is available on YouTube every Sunday. Check out <https://www.youtube.com/watch?=HUc3nY7HotA> It is awesome!!

Member Fred Ehrhardt sent along these two links to UMass Amherst, Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment. The first one <http://ag.umass.edu/services/soil-plant-nutrient-testing-laboratory/ordering-information-forms> is general information about how you go about doing soil samples, costs, etc. This next one http://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/routine_home_grounds_050416.pdf is the form one would send in with the soil samples. Even if you don't do it, the site is interesting.

There are all kinds of things going on at The Trustees of Reservations. At the Stevens-Coolidge Place, 137 Andover Street, North Andover, Betsy Williams will be doing a **Potted Herb Garden**, Sunday, April 23, 1-3PM. Also at the Stevens-Coolidge Place, on May 6th, the **Tulip Festival Open House** will take place. The Senior Horticulturalist will be leading garden tours at 11AM and 1PM. For more information about these activities email kblock@thetrustees.org. At Appleton Farms in Hamilton, learn **Beekeeping Basics** on Saturday, May 6th, 10AM-1PM. Contact bzschau@thetrustees.org.

N.B. Here's an inducement and reward for those who receive the Newsletters electronically: you can copy and paste the links in this column to shortcut exploring these sites!! ;-)

MEMBER'S GARDEN TOUR

President Carol Batdorf will open her garden in May so that you can see her extensive collection of epimediums. At our April meeting, she will give us the date when she hopes the flowers will be visible. Notice will be posted on the website and those receiving the Newsletter electronically will be notified.
