

Sutton Garden Club News

Jul/Aug 2011

website : suttongardenclub.com



If you would like to save the club money, time and become more eco-friendly, please let me know if you would like to receive the newsletter via email only (mrannikko@yahoo.com).

Several members attended the sand cast program at Bemis Nursery in Spencer in June. Leaves with large veins are preferred, such as hosta, rhubarb and burdock.

The basic steps to creating a sand cast are:

1. *Make a mound of sand.*
2. *Laying leaf on sand with top side on sand and backside of leaf upwards.*
3. *Mix Quikrete® Vinyl Concrete Patcher mixture with water until it has an oatmeal consistency.*
4. *Add cement on top of leaf and pat to smooth achieving 1.5-2 inch thickness.*
5. *Stop at least 1 inch from edge of leaf to avoid having sand on the outer rim of your leaf. If desired, fold leaf edges up.*
6. *Let dry for at least 3 days and then peel off leaf, using a wire brush to remove stems.*
7. *Brush or sponge on outdoor patio paint or watered down acrylic paint.*
8. *After paint dries, brush on clear cement sealer.*



Here are photos of different sand casts at the various stages.



Thank you to members for baking and providing delicious refreshments for the June program.

Looking for a special plant? Email me (mrannikko@yahoo.com) your requests by July 24 and I will send them out to the club prior to the picnic. If you have a plant on the "wish list", please consider dividing it for the auction. You know that special plant will be going to a good home.

August: Pot Luck Picnic and Auction

Tuesday August 3 Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

Location: 420 or 435 Putnam Hill Rd, Sutton, MA

Patti Weagle and Pat Nedoroscik are cohosting this year's summer event. They live within walking distance of each other. The exact address (Patti's or Pat's) has not been confirmed yet. Stay tuned to email or contact Patti at 508-476-2574.

We are looking for 1-2 volunteers who can arrive early and help set up. Let Patti know if you can help.

For the pot luck picnic, please bring dish determined by the first letter of your last name.

A-H : dessert I- P : salad Q- Z: entrée/casserole

What else to bring:

Plant or garden item for live auction

Chair

Bug spray



Recommended Garden Tour – Rockport, MA (Submitted by Liz Bradley)

July 8 and 9, 2011 (Friday and Saturday)

Information : rockportgardenclub.com



Last July, I went on a garden tour in Rockport, MA sponsored by the Rockport Garden Club. BEAUTIFUL!! We had some time before the tour started, so we parked along Broadway and Pleasant down town, and walked to the pier. Everyone was unloading their boats and heading for sailing. It was going to be a hot and sunny day, but with the ocean breeze constantly at our side, we easily made it through the tour. The gardens were excellent – all of them in bloom, lots of different designs, water features, small and large, formal and

“chaotic” (one self described gardener said). We enjoyed speaking with the hosts and garden owners. There was not a lot of driving. Some gardens were within walking distance of each other and all were easy to find. It was an awesome tour! See their website for pictures of the 2010 tour. The website also has ticket information for this year’s 2011 tour. Shopping and lunch were both available at one of the ocean view homes on the tour.

For a quick bite on the way out of town (or into town), stop at Willow Rest, 1 Holly Street, Gloucester (978-283-2417). Simple, delicious, and fresh!



Building a Raised Bed (part 2 of 2)

Submitted by D. Rafferty-her friend Bonnie was featured on this blog
<http://safe-fertilizer-reviews.com/blog/2010/07/an-interview-with-a-raised-bed-gardener/>

What is something you've learned about gardening because of using raised beds?

I think the best thing I've learned is that gardening doesn't have to be a tedious chore. It has actually become a pleasurable thing to do. Even the weeding has become an almost Zen-like experience. I look forward to walking out to the garden just as the sun comes up with a cup of coffee in hand and the birds singing their morning songs. It has become peaceful place to be.



Do you find that you use more, less, or the same amount of fertilizer with raised beds?

Without a doubt, less fertilizer. This year, I've used [Neptune's Harvest](#) with great success. I also find that it takes less water. I am able to water each individual box rather the whole plot.

What is one of your favorite vegetables to grow in your garden?

Well, that's a difficult question. They all have something to offer. This year, I would have to say it's tomatoes. I found a wonderful greenhouse in my area that offers heirloom plants. They had 50 different varieties of tomatoes this year! For our garden, I chose 14 different varieties to put in and have enjoyed watching the fruit develop into really cool shapes and shades. I am looking forward to taste testing them!



Bandstand on the Common

It is a pleasure to report that this spring the bandstand that was erected in 1998 has been restored to its original beauty. The handrails have been replaced with cedar and pressure treated wood was utilized for the interior of the posts. Shortly the bandstand will be painted. A fund was established to defray the costs of maintaining this structure for all to enjoy in the years ahead.

It was a lovely morning at the end of May when Pat Morse helped me plant flowers with no threat of tornado warnings. We were very fortunate in this area and although our flowers sustained a little damage, they are thriving today. KEOWN ORCHARDS supplied the flowers as always, we received a 20% discount.

Many thanks to the following Sutton Garden Club members who helped me maintain the bandstand: Paula Beauregard, Liz Bradley, Pat Morse, Marie Bastone, Dee Swatik, Marian King (new member), Kathleen Bergerson, Janet Whittier, Jeanne and Dick Fisette and Cindy Wolodkin. We are very grateful to these people who care enough to participate in this community project.

Also, the Club would like to recognize Chris Windle of WINDLE LANDSCAPING AND CONSTRUCTION, INC. who personally planted four 'Purple Gem' Rhododendrons. In April, lavender flowers will appear which will give some color along with the hosta. This dwarf evergreen rhododendron attracts birds as well as butterflies. Stop by in the fall when the foliage will change to bronze. Black forest mulch was spread and the area was edged by his crew. The Sutton Garden Club thanks Chris for his generosity.

Because of all of you, we are fortunate to have a beautiful common in our charming New England town.

Happy Gardening!

Cynthia Windle
Chairperson, Bandstand Committee



Please frequent these businesses as they are generous supporters of the Sutton Garden Club Plant Sale and our community activities.



JOHN DEERE

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146 Supply Center is an authorized John Deere dealer.

Offerings include repairs, electric motors, tractors, lawn mowers, landscaping supplies and equipment, snow removal equipment.

www.jddealer.deere.com/146supplycenter



29 North Brookfield Road • Spencer, MA • (508)885-4247

Bemis Nursery is a quality oriented retail plant garden center. Their nursery yard is nestled among shady pines and majestic oaks. Each season Bemis Nursery offers numerous workshops so you can create beautiful and unique indoor and outdoor decor. They also offer landscape design and installation services.

www.bemisfarmsnursery.com



203 Worc Prov Tpke • Sutton, MA • (508)865-1736

C.P. Dauphinais, Inc. offers the finest equipment and licensed operators for your excavation, delivery and landscaping needs. A wide selection of mulch, loam,

compost, colored stone, aggregates, concrete pavers, segmental retaining walls are available. Delivery services can be arranged. www.cpdauphinais.com



150 Millbury St • Auburn, MA 01501 • (508)832-2995

The Farmers Daughter a third generation family farm. It evolved from dairy farm of Guernsey milking cows in 1934 to a cow/calf beef farm with a garden center with, vegetable produce, and 14 greenhouses growing wonderful annuals and perennials. They have locally grown products of all types. www.thefarmersdaughterauburn.com



227 Putnam Hill Rd • Sutton, MA 01590 • (508)865-2111

Blackstone National Golf Club has created an environment for the game of golf that is challenging, fair, and aesthetically pleasing. It is a natural, classic course that blends with its surroundings. They host special events and outings such as weddings and proms. www.bngc.net

It's time to renew your membership in the Sutton Garden Club



*Sign up for another year of
interesting and educational speakers and hands-on-projects
helping and planning community beautification
annual plant sale
and.....the friendship of people who speak the Language of Flowers*

Please provide the following information for our membership and program booklet

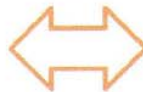
Name _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____

e-mail address _____

Newsletter Preference(please check one)



E-mail



USPS

OFFICERS (Please circle position of interest)

President Vice President Steering Committee
Secretary- Treasurer - Membership - Newsletter - Publicity

All members are encouraged to serve on one or more committees.
Please check any of the following items of interest to you



Bandstand - Planting - watering

Bandstand - winter decorate

Plant Sale

Programs / Events



Refreshments

Scholarship

Victorian Tea



Please list below any skills you might like to offer our club: i.e. Gardening expertise, computer skills, writing ability, event organizing, etc.

Dues are paid in April and May (for the coming year) to give the committee time to assemble our book for August distribution.

Dues: \$20.00 Individual, \$30.00 Family - Checks payable to Sutton Garden Club

Mail entire page to : Janet Whittier, 693 Central Turnpike, Sutton, Ma 01590



Sutton Garden Club
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693 Central Turnpike
Sutton, MA 01590