

Newsapes

National Garden Clubs Landscape Design Consultant's Council News

Editor Janice Doyle Spring 2010

FROM OUR NGC LD CHAIRMAN

"The Late Show Gardens" exhibit took place late in September, 2009 in Sonoma, California (60 miles north of San Francisco) with a theme of 'tomorrow's gardens'. Sustainability is the key word in contemporary landscape design. But this show goes a step further to show how sustainability can work with nature and the environment. Climate change and renewable resources as well as sustainable practices were emphasized. A comprehensive speaker program was part of the three-day event.

If this event is repeated it would be an excellent venue for a tri-refresher program pertinent not only to California's milder climate but for our other regions as well.

Another 'should not miss' urban development site is the recently opened "High Line Park" area on the west side of New York City. An elevated railroad bed, 29 feet above taxis and traffic below, was built originally to prevent pedestrian/rail accidents on the cities streets in this Meat Packing District. These tracks carried freight from the 1930's to the 1960's; the last train rumbled through in 1980. Thus being no longer in use the area had become unsightly with overgrown weeds, debris, etc.

With a great deal of imagination and foresight two young men established a foundation and with the cooperation of the City of New York led a movement to prevent the razing of this elevated, abandoned railway. This group raised funds and enlisted landscape architects as well as Netherlands plantsman Piet Oudolf to design a naturalistic park which would be part restoration and part park.

The result is a visual masterpiece that is used by children, nearby office workers and the neighbors. It is a resounding success!

And then there is Millennium Park on Chicago's lake front - another very successful and beloved urban space. We are fortunate to have so much talent in our midst and also that the public can enjoy the fruits of their labors.

Marion Ryan, NGC LD Chairman

Dear School Chairmen -

There has been some confusion regarding credit for non-garden club members attending the Landscape Design Schools.

The \$5 credit processing fee is mandatory for anyone taking the exam, whether a non-member or garden club member. This then covers the future situation if the non-member joins a garden club.

Form 8a is being updated to cover all students taking the exam.

The procedure for **non-garden club members** taking the course and the exam who later become garden club members and want to be certified as LD consultants is as follows:

(1) If the non-garden club student has attended all of the course, passed the exam and has not paid the \$5 credit processing fee, her records would be kept at the state level on Form 6a (Student Roster of Non-Members) as well as being included on Form 8a (Registered Attendance Summary)

(2) If the student becomes an NGC garden club member later and wishes to qualify as a landscape design consultant (having successfully completed the course):

- a) Submit to Headquarters:
Form 6a with the notation "Amended Roster"
Copy of Form 8a from this previous course
TNG label (if not submitted previously)

- b) Submit to Appropriate Accrediting Chairman:
a copy of Form 6a
(This information can accompany the data for the current course being submitted for registration.)

(3) Credit will be recorded at headquarters in St. Louis and by the appropriate Accrediting Chairman .

Also please note the following email changes:

Marion Ryan, NGC LD Chairman

FROM THE INSTRUCTORS' CHAIRMAN

Six Landscape Design Courses were held January – March with seven more courses scheduled for April and May. The interest in Landscape Design Schools is gratifying for those of us who are on the committee. Thanks go to all of the state and course chairmen who spend so much time in preparing and holding these courses.

In order to make it easier to run these courses start three to six months before the date set for the course. All of the forms needed for the courses are on the NGC website: www.gardenclub.org/schools/landscapedesign/forms. Make sure you have a copy of FORM LDSP 17, PROCEDURE FOR COURSE ORGANIZATION, which will guide you through the course preparation step by step to its completion. And, make sure that all course and state chairmen have the newest copy of the LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDY PROGRAM OPERATIONS GUIDE. The guide can be ordered from the NGC Sales Office.

It is very important that Form LDSP 1, EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PUBLICATION IN THE NATIONAL GARDENER, along with the \$5.00 registration fee, be sent in to the NGC Schools Secretary. Having the course information on the website is important. Consultants who need to refresh for credit may need to take that credit out of their state. Also, the committee depends upon that form for information in preparation for approval of the courses. The committee members who are to receive the specific forms are named at the top of each form.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact a committee member. We are working for you.

Janet Kinney, LDSP Instructors' Chairman

FROM THE READING/LITERATURE CHAIRMAN

Looking up and down my street after an unusual record breaking snowfall reminds me how important maintenance is in the landscape design scheme. Across the street one of a pair of large live oaks was topped, leaving shapeless scraggly limbs impossible to prune into a shape to match the second tree. A short drive around the block when the ice melted showed other very large limbs broken off in crucial places.

Other than judicious pruning or tree removal, not much can be done to bring these trees back to their original symmetry, but we can review what needs to be done to ensure they are getting the proper fertilizer and watering care that will make them stronger and better able to withstand nature's traumas.

Many trees are being removed; some are being trimmed to a shapeless form. If damage is severe, a certified arborist might be able to save a mature tree. The larger the tree, the more beneficial it is in removing poisonous gases and we should try to save it.

If a tree must be replaced, we consider more than curb appeal: its maturity, placement for providing shade or if deciduous its ability to let us bask in the winter sun. After planting, we need to be diligent in following a watering program if one is needed in the area, fertilizing and weeding. Good care makes strong trees, better able to withstand future onslaughts of the weather. We can't stop the storms but we can make sure we've done all we could to minimize the damage.

Lucy Hendy, Chairman, LDSP
Reading/Literature



FROM AN ACCREDITING CHAIRMAN

LDSP State Chairmen in the South Atlantic, Deep South, Central Regions

It is such a pleasure working with all of you. Please remember that I am at your service to answer any questions which you may have regarding your students', consultants' and master consultants' records.

Please let me know if you need refresher cards which are to be issued under your signature for state sponsored courses/refreshers: Consultant Refresher Cards (yellow) and Master Consultant Refresher Cards (white).

Patricia Clayes, NGC LDSP Accrediting
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FROM THE EDITOR

GOING GREEN IS NOT JUST FOR FROGS!

"GOING GREEN" seems to be a very popular phrase these days. Is it all that NEW or is it a catch phrase for something we have been doing for a long time. These days we see this slogan on everything from a grocery store bag to advertising for Landscape Design Firms.

Whether it is an old or new idea doing sensible "green" landscaping is certainly the "way to go." We should not consider just planting something for its aesthetic benefits only these days. In these hard economic times planting in a way to save money on your utility bill makes a difference.

From an overall environmental standpoint good landscaping can minimize the need for mowing and other lawn/gardening care. To save on the sky high costs of gas it may be of benefit to use a battery-operated mower or to get exercise by using a push mower.

Then again maybe using landscaping other than having a GRASSY lawn yard is best. I feel like I am preaching to the choir now since most of us do prefer other landscaping than a huge expanse of grass.

Proper landscaping includes the use of ground cover, dwarf and full-sized shrubs. Now the CHOICE of ground cover can certainly vary from climate to micro-climate in your yard. Will it be stones, ground cover plants, climbing vines, or low growing shrubs? The location will dictate that to you. Grass takes more regular care than most other plantings but may be the perfect fit for a child's or pet's play area.

In most humid climates placing low-growing ground covers near the home will help to keep it cool during summer. The leaves block the sun's rays from being absorbed into the ground and the leaves give off moisture (transpiration). Using gravel will prevent the need for watering but will absorb the heat causing the heat to last well into the evening. If watering is required, group plants together that require the same amount of watering.

Planting low growing shrubs at the home's foundation will help cut utility bills, allow for air filtration, and keeping away the force of winter wind. Planting small shrubs to the north west of larger plants will help as well.

Vines can be of great help in cutting summer cooling costs. They can be grown in pots and then the pot removed to provide for winter sunshine.

The biggest cost cutter is the tree. Evergreen trees are helpful for northwest to north east side of the property. During the winter the sun does not shine from those sides. Deciduous trees can be planted elsewhere to shade from the summer sun. Leaving a gap to the southwest can allow summer breezes.

So to "BE GREEN" or to cut your utility bill thinking about beneficial landscaping makes sense.

Janice Doyle, Editor

Credit to: **Northern Neck Cooperative Living** March/April 2010 by James Dudley

**NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
2009-2010 LANDSCAPE DESIGN
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For your reference and for a call for help, your LD committee is here for YOU.

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LAUGH-IN

FROM MUFFY THE LANDSCAPE DESIGN CAT
(Muffy is Janice's 5 month old kitten)



"Now if I use this sphagnum moss as mulch, will that keep my plant cool this spring?"



Muffy says, "This Bleeding Heart Vine (*Clerodendrum thomsoniae*) will go outside to create shade on the sun porch to cut summer cooling costs." Right now I will 'loosening the soil'."

NEWS FROM OUR STATES

The Garden Club of **Alabama's** LDSC is alive and well with plans for our forthcoming School 4, Series XI, coming up on May 4-5 in Auburn at the Auburn University Campus. Dr. Dave Williams has supplied wonderful professors from Auburn for previous Series XI schools and we know that we will not be disappointed with School 4. Linda Stephens for Ann Houston, President of the AL LDCC.

They are featuring LD in our Spring Hortensia (GCA publication to every member) with the front cover a color picture of those attending LD course III at Auburn University, Auburn Alabama. Also we have 3 photos with a 2 page article (Vines: Grabbing a Tiger By The Tail) written by Dr. J. David Williams, Professor and Head Department of Horticulture, Auburn University and GCA's Landscape Design Consultants Advisor. Ann Daniels

The **California** Landscape Design Council continues to give certificates for outstanding projects. Among the 20 recently presented were residential and public gardens. A sampling of these are described below: A San Clemente homeowner and a designer worked together to turn a Ranch style house into a Southwestern garden during a landscape renovation. Success was achieved by using rock, water features, and captured rainwater to set the stage for the succulents and cacti.

During a Council meeting, the San Diego Botanic Garden (formerly known as Quail Gardens) was honored following a slide presentation. Attendees toured the gardens as the guests of SDBG. Their new Hamilton Children's Garden includes a tree house,

garden rhythms, quail haven and "Incredible Edibles".

Monrovia Nursery was thanked for their plant website which includes information on plant selection, garden design, and appropriate plant locations. They have provided many workshops and tours for CGCI members.

Following a tour of the gardens in Healdsburg, the Arista Winery, which is open to the public daily, was honored. Renowned Japanese Landscape Architect Harry Sumigawa designed the gardens with a waterfall, stream, and ponds that are surrounded by natural rock formations.

While there are no Landscape Design Study Courses currently planned, discussions are underway for a Study Course to be held in Southern California. Please look for more information on this incredible learning experience.

All Landscape Design Consultants should look for information on the Tri-Refresher planned for the upcoming CGCI Convention to be held in Westlake Village, June 4-7, 2010. The refresher activities will be open to all Convention attendees. If you'd like more information on either The LDSP or Tri-refresher, please feel free to contact Alexis Slafer, CGCI LDSP Chair at (323) 292-6657 or aslafer@ca.rr.com.

The **Connecticut** Flower and Garden Show, an annual event in Hartford, always holds out the promise of spring to the 34,000 attendees who anticipate the beauty of the many landscapes built by area landscapers. The Flower Show theme, "Spice of Life" lent itself readily to many interpretations from "welcome home" themes to "outdoor rooms" to "water garden" scenes showing "The Spice of Life."

Connecticut Horticulture Society envisioned the winning entry-side by side gardens of three neighbors who share everything except garden style. Their gardens featured three unique styles-"Earthy and Fairy-like", "Formal and Refined", and "Fabulously Flamboyant". Connecticut's Landscape Design Council members met at 7:30 AM to begin judging nineteen landscapes before the show opened at 10 AM.

Donna Nowak

Central Atlantic Region's Landscape Design School Series X111, Course 1, was successfully held on November 10 - 12, 2009 at their new 'home' at the Hilton DC/Gaithersburg. The seven new instructors presented their ideas and viewpoints of the 10 required subjects with enthusiasm and polished one hour lectures. This material stretched our knowledge about their areas of expertise. Drawing from National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc. and Federated

Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc. they had registered attendance of 32 new students and 30 refreshers. All of the new students passed the exams and the refreshers produced two new Master Status Consultant's.

There are only seven individuals listed as members of the Landscape Design Council in **Delaware** and some of them have not been active. We are working on trying to get members to become judges and now have a few who are taking Flower Show school courses. The next step will be to try to interest members in the Landscape Design school.

Esther Martin, 726 Loveville Road, Cottage 19, Hockessin, DE 19707 keeps the information about the Landscape Design Council for Delaware. Alice E. Witterholt, President, Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs Delaware is hosting a spring tour. They will view Nemours on an escorted tour, seeing the restored house and French style gardens of the DuPont Estate, Winterthur. They will also pass through the countryside of the Brandywine River and see the Elizabeth Gardens before their final destination, the Philadelphia Flower Show.

Florida held a Tri-Refresher in Jan of this year in West Palm Beach.

In September the **Massachusetts** Landscape Design Council visited the home of Marie Stella, "Beaver Lodge" for a workshop day, "Learning Laboratory of Environmental Design." Marie has built a home which has been certified 'Platinum' by the LEED Program (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), the highest rating possible from the U.S. Green Building Council for Homes rating systems. The day was spent touring her wonderfully designed (energy efficient and 'green') home, built mostly with native materials or reclaimed materials, and looking at innovative uses of native plant materials, the design and use of rain gardens, green roofs, regetated walls, and rain water harvesting. It was a very informative day.

In October, MA LDC co-sponsored a special lecture by Lynden Miller who has changed the face of New York City's public places with her gardens. It was also a book signing for Lynden's new book **Parks, Plants, and People, Beautifying the Urban Landscape.**

Later in October, Course IV, Series 13 of the Landscape Design Study Program was offered to garden club members throughout the state.

The November program was a speaker, Lucia Droby, Executive Director of COG Design. COG (Community Outreach Group) is an organization which offers landscape design services pro bono to public and private schools, neighborhood parks, churches, municipal agencies, historic sites and community gardens. They also act as a catalyst for the installation and ongoing stewardship of beautiful, safe, and useful public green spaces in underserved communities.

In February, LDC members participated in an annual Judging Workshop at the Rhode Island Flower Show.

Our annual meeting is in April and will feature Elizabeth Vizza, a landscape designer, planner, and consultant to non-profit organizations, public agencies, and institutions. Her topic is, "Anatomy of a Park Partnership: Friends of the Public Garden."

The last meeting of the year for our group will be a tour of the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy's projects atop the space created by Boston's "Big Dig".

This year's Boston Flower Show is under management by a commercial firm. They have asked us to give three awards at the show. We will also provide three judges for the event. Nancy Hubert, MA LDC Chairman

Louisiana is having their state convention at the end of April. Plans for Landscape Design will take place at the meeting. Their state has made use of the money for trees that were planted after Hurricanes Rita and Gustaf. Mary Jane Peters is the Louisiana Council President. Clara Earl

During the winter in the Northeast, consultants have been enlightened to read a recent 2009 publication titled "Designing the **Maine** Landscape" by Theresa Mattor and Lucie Teegarden. "Designing the Maine Landscape provides a fascinating introduction to the range of designed landscapes in the State of Maine. It demonstrates the remarkable artistic skill and imagination that have been invested in our landscapes by generations of landscape architects and their patrons, both public and private."...Charles E. Beveridge, Series Editor, The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted. ISBN 978-0-89272-729-2 \$50.00

This publication is the result of many dedicated years and the respectful talents and leadership of the Maine Olmsted Alliance for Parks and Landscapes. MOAPL was formed in 1990 and just recently joined forces with the Maine Historical Society. I highly recommend this

book to Landscape Architects, Designers and Students who have a fondness for landscape history.

The study of Garden/Landscape History has taught us to respect the integrity of the masters who designed our living legacies. Today's challenge is to protect and preserve what we cherish as worthy, distinctive mirrors of our landscape heritage. Rebecca L. Linney, GCFM President RLDesigns@aol.com 207-361-2345

The Landscape Design Council of **Maryland** will have a bus trip to Delaware to see the Nemours House and Gardens on May 19, 2010. In the morning the Council will see the Nemours House and Gardens, and in the afternoon they will tour the Elizabeth Gardens designed by Bill Duncan, a well known landscape designer. The cost is \$60.00.

Awards presented by the Maryland Council to garden clubs at the March Annual meeting of Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc. were:

Hagerstown Garden Club, District V-For the Park Circle Fountain and Garden in Hagerstown, Maryland First place Landscape Design Council Award \$150.00

Queen Anne's County Garden Club, District I For creation at a Hospice Center of a pond-less water fall and gardens Second place Landscape Design Council Award \$100.00

Crofton Village Garden Club, District II For creating a new garden planted on Crofton's Village Green

Third place Landscape Design Council Award \$50.00

Gibson Island Garden Club, District II and Gibson Island Junior Gardeners for Phase V of a native garden for the Gibson Island Community Third place Landscape Design Council Award \$50.00.

Margye Hixson, LDC Chairman for Maryland

The Garden Club Federation of **Massachusetts** sponsored Course IV, the final course in Series 13, on October 15-17, 2009 at Regis College in Weston, Massachusetts. Sixteen new students began landscape design study and twenty-one students completed the series. Among the 89 participants from Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island were thirty-nine Landscape Design Consultants refreshing their credentials. Nine refreshers achieved Master Consultant status.

Massachusetts will begin a new series (14) with Course I on October 28, 29, 30, 2010 to be held at Regis College. If there is not a hard frost in this area of New England by then, participants will enjoy seeing the beautiful

foliage of the katsura trees (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*) lining the semicircular drive leading to the college. Michael A. Dirr, in Manual of Woody Landscape Plants; Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses, states that "in the fall it is absolutely unbelievable; worth first class airfare to see the spectacle."

On March 24, 2010 The Landscape Design Council (LDC) of Massachusetts announced the recipients of three awards it granted at the 2010 Boston Flower Show. Earthworks of Leverett MA won Landscape Design Award I and the Emily Seaber Parcher Award, and Michael C. Jardin Fine Gardens of Lakeville MA won Landscape Design Award II. The LDC panel of judges was made up of long-time council members Virginia Lopez Begg of Andover MA, Mary Bowen Nokes of Lexington MA, and Frances Y J Wheeler of Andover MA. LDC vice chairman Joan Butler of Holliston MA served as the panel's clerk. Terese D'Urso, Landscape Design Study Program; email tdurso98@aol.com; (781) 383-1143

In **Michigan**, plans are in place for LDS IV. Dates are April 28th thru 30th in Okemos on Michigan State University campus.

In other news regarding landscaping, I am happy to report news of a new botanic garden currently in planning stages for Traverse City. It will be located at the old Munson State Hospital grounds that are being turned into a public park. This botanic garden will partner with Little Artshram (a group that is dedicated to providing farming plots, growing veggies for local use and perma-culture projects) and SEEDS (a group that will provide ecologically sound gardening and farming principles) to make this park a want-to-see destination. With the old barns being preserved and ultimately used for events, the property will be landscaped with several individual gardens including a medicinal garden. This project is being supported by Traverse City, Recreational Board Authority and Garfield Townships.

The Botanic Garden is finished with phase I with the master plan completed by Nelson Byrd Woltz firm. Phase II will entail fundraising and beginning hardscape issues. The project is expected to be open to the public within 4-5 years. No admittance fees will be charged. They are only in phase 1 of the botanic garden, there is really nothing to see right now. There are trails for people to walk and an arboretum to explore all on the old state hospital grounds. Since this is a public park, no admittance fees will be charged. The Botanic Garden Society will charge for special

programs and special events, such as the "garden run" planned for late in Sept. for which there will be a registration fee. In our capital campaign which kicks off this year, we will be establishing an endowment to cover the costs of running and managing such a garden.

Landscape Design School III will take place Sept. 30th-Oct. 2nd. Kathi Dominguez is the chairman. It will be held at MSU's campus.

The Botanical Society of Northwest MI is partnering with Master Gardeners to present speaker, Tim Boland, September 9th from 7-9pm at the Leelanau Government Center. Tim is the Executive Director of the Polly Hill Arboretum on Martha's Vineyard. He was born and raised in Grand Rapids and Graduated from MSU. Topic is "Diversity Not Adversity Planting Native Plants to Enhance Your Backyard Habitat. \$15. per person and 2 for \$25. Information may be obtained from www.northwestmichigan.org . Terry Harding

The **Mississippi** Landscape Consultants held Course III at beautiful Lake Tiak-O-Khata Resort in Louisville MS on January 11,12, &13th. There were great lectures by professors from nearby Mississippi State University led by Dr. Sadik Artunc, Head of the Landscape Department. 15 people attended.

The next course will be July 11,12, and 13th in the same place. We have a Garden Tour scheduled as part of Course IV.

We are offering a Grant for Landscaping Habitat for Humanity homes and have given 2 this year. At their State GCM Convention they gave several awards. Elaine Thompson, Pres. MS Landscape Design Consultants Council, 409 Ackerman Street, Louisville, MS 39339 Phone 662-773-3538 jimlaine@bellsouth.net

There are 45 Certified Landscape Design Consultants in the State of **Missouri**. They work within our clubs assisting with many landscape design projects. Since the first of the year they have started getting numerous requests for garden tour evaluations. Assisting clubs with evaluating their private gardens is one of the largest projects.

Another large project that we are working on is a Refresher. The Central Missouri Landscape Design Consultants have put an Accredited Landscape Design Refresher together for June 18, 2010 in Central Missouri. The Landscape Design Council has been instrumental in financially supporting this effort. It will be a full day tour. The theme of the Refresher being

offered is "Go with the Flow" with water quality and management being discussed. The all day tour will be on an air conditioned tour bus through Eagle Bluffs Conservation and Wetlands Area which encompasses 4,431 acres and is home to many migrating waterfowl.

Next is Copper Stone Subdivision, the tour guide will be LD School instructor Tim Maloney. Tim will discuss how he designed the entry water feature and the subdivision to control water runoff.

Next stop will be a box lunch at the Stephens Lake Park and then all will have a walking tour of the 25 acre parks' many water features; spray ground area, rain gardens, waterfalls and 12 acre swimming/fishing lake.

Lastly, they will visit the Historic Flat Branch Park area. The park is the original site of the Columbia Market Square, established in the 1820's. Flat Branch Park is a community gathering spot, featuring 8.3 miles of waterway and walking trail. Some of the reclaimed areas now contain metal sculptures, a spray ground area, rain gardens and a walking trail that connects to the Katy Trail. Cost is \$50.00 including; meal, transportation, and knowledgeable speakers at each site and certification fee. Deadline for registering is May 14. Information and registration form are on the Missouri State Web Page www.gardenclubsofmissouri.org
Marie Pasley, FGCM LD Chairman

National Capitol Area has a new LDC president, Connie Dalpra . Her email is cdalpra@verizon.net. Her phone number is 301-627-0491. Dianne Gregg

New Jersey's Course II is scheduled for mid April – just in time for the spring garden awakening! Students look forward to these classes held at **Holly House** on the campus of Rutgers University and smack in the middle of outstanding **Rutgers Gardens**. These display gardens have been developed through the years and feature many collections, some decades old and others such as the Native Plant Garden just a few years old.

Visit here and you will encounter an evergreen garden grouped according to genus, mature specimens of woody shrubs, rhododendrons and azaleas, and lilacs being rejuvenated. Ornamental flowering trees decorate the scene with Rutgers developed dogwoods being a highlight.

A show stopper from spring through fall is the display garden of colorful tropicals joining the ever popular selections of annuals, vegetables

and herbs. The American Holly collection is among the largest in the United States and you will see varieties such as 'Dan Fenton' that came out of Rutgers research. Students enjoy their lunch and break times by making a dash for the gardens for a breath of fresh air and true inspiration! Open to the public year round, these gardens are a destination for those visiting the 'Garden State'.
Nancy Schmaltz, LDS Chairman, New Jersey

North Carolina is mourning the death of Cindy Finley. Cindy had been indispensable to their Landscape Design Program for many years. Cindy will be greatly missed.

The **Ohio** Landscape Design Consultants Chairman is Renee Weaver. rweaver44707@yahoo.com. She's in the planning stages for the spring meeting. The Garden Club of Ohio sponsored their Landscape Design School, which completed Course II on October 11, 2009 with 16 registrants. Seven students are eligible to apply for provisional status with the Ohio Council of Nationally Accredited Landscape Design Consultants. One student completed the four courses, becoming an Accredited Consultant.

The next Course III, on April 16-18, 2010, will be held at the Norwich Township Safety Services Bldg. in Hilliard, Ohio. Course IV is scheduled for October 8-10, 2010. For information regarding our school go to GCO's website (www.gardenclubofohio.org) Registrar is Sandy M. Anderson, landers4@colbus.rr.com and Credentials Chairman is Marylane Conner. Jo'C Walker, Landscape Design Chairman jocwalker@centurytel.net

The **Texas** Landscape Design Council meets in conjunction with their state convention. The new chairman of their LD schools is Suzanne Milstead. Lucy Hendy

Virginia held Landscape Design School, Course III, Series XXIII on March 9 & 10, 2010 in Richmond, VA at The Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, 1800 Lakeside Ave, Richmond, VA. Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs has their headquarters there. Louis Ginter has many types of gardens including a healing garden. VFGC members and clubs donated the funds for the healing garden. These clubs and individuals in turn received personally engraved pavers and bricks in the garden. Bill Smoot

West Virginia will hold Landscape Design School Course I in Morgantown on May 19-21. Donna Davis is the chairman.

Wisconsin Garden Club Federation is

presenting Course III Series IX Landscape Design Study April 20 and 21, 2010 at the University of Wisconsin arboretum and Longenecker Gardens. Check our wisconsin garden club.org for more details. Contact Carol Catlin crcat@hughes.net for more information.

We will have a lecture on community based gardens and how they fit into a community. There are the Troy gardens in the city of Madison, WI. Plots are available for a small fee for gardening.

DID YOU KNOW?

Going Green: Questions and Answers

Information is from *Sierra Club's Earth Friendly Garden Knowledge Cards*

Can Cacti grow only in arid regions?

Although most of the nearly 2000 cactus species in the Americas grow only in arid climates, some 100 species including prickly pears (*Opuntia* spp.) will grow as far north as Canada. These hardy species don't need high temperatures, just full sun and good drainage. Cacti can be a gardener's delight. They're pest-free, you don't have to water them -ever- and they produce gorgeous flowers in spring. One species, the Indians fig (*Opuntia ficus-indica*) even produce sweet edible fruit, sometimes available in grocery stores as "cactus pear."

Cacti are locally ideal for gardens in dry areas and make a responsible green alternative in expanding urban areas, where water-conservation strategies are becoming ever more critical. Cacti are also great for xeric gardens.



REFLECTIONS

One of the most delightful things about a garden is the anticipation it provides
W. E. Johns

O, the green things growing
The faint sweet smell of the green things growing
Dinah Mulock Crair

Love of flowers and vegetables is not enough to make a good gardener.
He must also hate weeds. Eugene P. Bertin

**Garden Blessings* by Debbie Mumm

The Clematis

The clematis is constant-
I trim it back each year
And wonder if that gentle vine
will ever reappear.
But just as surely as the spring
Green twining tendrils say,
"My pretty purple petals
will return to you in May."

Ferns

A place in the shade becomes a wonderland
If well-placed ferns are used.
But so many varieties are offered
that I become confused.
There are parsley ferns, cinnamon ferns,
lady ferns- and today
I was introduced to a hay-scented fern
with the fragrance of new-mown hay.
I found the holly fern, the sensitive fern,
and the beautiful maidenhair fern.
But I chose the hardy Christmas fern-
It expects so little care.

**Where Mocking Birds Sing* by Reba Wall



Polystichum acrostichoides or Christmas Fern can be used in a "green garden" as a ground cover. This one is a foundation ground cover on north side of Janice's house to keep the house cool in summer.

The next issue of *Newsclapes* will be in the fall with information to be sent to the editor by September. Send to BDoyle7@aol.com