



Left to right: Ms. Keum Haeng Heo Lee, Mr. Keunho Shin, K.C. Kim, Frank Mirovsky, Board Chair and Susan Lacerte, Executive Director

Cosmos Night Celebration

Cosmos Night, held at the Garden on October 7, 2004, was a wonderful evening conceptualized and organized by The Korean Friends of Queens Botanical Garden. The group honored Dr. Joon J. Bang, past president of the Korean Friends of Queens Botanical Garden and former QBG board member, with an appreciation award, and Msrs. Kichol Kim, Jun Tak Kim, Young Hwa Ha and Ms. Grace Kwan with the 2004 Cosmos Night award. QBG wishes to thank all the guests and donors for helping to make the Third Annual Cosmos Night so memorable.

Event donors included:

Korean Friends of Queens Botanical Garden	\$7,500
Charmer Industries	\$700
Grace Pharmacy	\$500
Hilton Fort Lee	\$500
Tacodapu Inc.	\$500
Korean American Dry-Cleaners Association	\$361
Korean American Nail Salon Association of New York	\$300
as well as other individuals	

Staff News

The Garden is pleased to announce several staff additions. Sandra Sbar has joined us as Senior Director of Development & Marketing. Ms. Sbar previously worked for the Girl Scout Council of Greater New York, Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, and other nonprofit organizations.

Other new staff include: Jacquie Gregor, Grant Writer & Manager; Max Joel, Capital Projects Assistant; William Perez,

Gardener; Evonne O'Dwyer, Assistant Gardener; Gennadyi Gurman, Compost Project Coordinator/Instructor.

The Garden wishes In Soo Song all the best in his future endeavors. Mr. Song, Assistant Botanical Garden Maintainer for seven years, retired November 1st, 2004.

- Audrey Sequeira-Butaney, *Director of Administration*



New Grants Received

The Zoos, Botanical Gardens, and Aquariums Grant Programs of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation \$72,331 for collections care and interpretation
 Hon. Barry Grodenchik/New York State Assembly/Community Capital Assistance Program - \$100,000 for exhibits and signage
 HSBC in the Community (USA) \$50,000 for the Children's Garden
 Aurelio Family Charitable Foundation \$10,000 for General Operating expenses
 H. Ford Dickenson Foundation \$2,500 for General Operating expenses
 The Federated Department Stores/Macy's \$1,000 for General Operating expenses
 Goldman Sachs Group \$5,000 for corporate membership
 Independence Community Foundation \$25,000 for oversight of the Green Design Capital project
 Walter Kaner Foundation \$6,000 for Programs for Children with Special Needs
 Kiwanis Club of Cambria Heights \$300 for support of the Garden
 Newsday Charities, a fund of the McCormick Tribune Foundation, \$10,000 for Senior Programs
 Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust \$13,000 for a horticulture intern
 H.S. & Helen R. Scheuer Family Foundation \$1,000 for General Operating expenses
 Frank J. Antun Foundation \$10,000 for General Operating support
 Pfizer \$10,000 for General Operating expenses
 Estate of Joseph Watts \$10,000 for General Operating expenses
 Kupferberg Foundation \$10,000 for General Operating expenses
 Great Eastern Bank \$1,000 for General Operating expenses
 TIAA-CREF \$6,000 for Education
 Verizon Foundation - employee/volunteer gift \$500 for General Operating expenses
 Scheuer Family Foundation \$1,000 for General Operating expenses

Calendar of Events

March 19, Plant Shop reopens opposite the temporary parking lot
 April 3, Spring Talk: Herbal Home Spa
 April 16, Spring Talk: Backyard Composting
 April 17, Spring Talk: Plant Propagation
 April 23, *Just for Kids!* Nest Building with Recycled Materials
 April 24, Spring Talk: Understanding Herbal Medicine
 May 1, Gardening Day - Catch the *Eco-tude!*
 May 6, Arbor Day - Open to school groups. Reservations are required.

May 8, Spring Talk: Medicine Cabinet in Your Kitchen
 May 21, *Just for Kids!* Making Paints from Nature
 May 22, Spring Talk: Making Herbal Medicines
 June 9, 2005 Rose Ball
 June 12, Spring Talk: Greening on a Budget
 June 18, *Just for Kids!* Garden Sun Prints
 June 26, Spring Talk: Wonderful Weeds



Queens Botanical Garden Celebrates Lunar New Year February 12th was a special day in Queens. The Garden joined the festivities by taking part in the parade that heralded the Year of the Rooster!

Bloom Calendar

April: Daffodils, Japanese flowering cherry trees, magnolia, empress tree, skimmia, amelanchier, Harry Lauder's walking stick, lesser celandine, bergenia, Lenten rose, pulmonaria, PJM rhododendron.

May: Azaleas, brunnera, clematis, columbine, crabapple, dogwood, pansies, redbud, lilacs, peonies, primrose, tulips, viburnum, wisteria, wood hyacinth, hawthorn, scotch broom, deutzia, enkianthus, lencothoe, privet, magnolia, spirea, epimedium, alchemilla, bleeding heart, myrtle, tiarella, golden chain tree, Oriental poppies, persimmon, penstemon, star of Bethlehem, hesperis, wallflower, lily of the valley, cranesbill, Virginia bluebells, forget-me-not, sweet woodruff, viola, daphne, fringetree, pink flowering almond, fothergilla.

June: Rhododendron, roses, dogwood, iris, astilbe, foxglove, cotoneaster, lavender, osage orange, firethorn, Japanese snowbell, yucca, kousa dogwood, ajuga, coral bells, baby's breath, meadow rue, poppies, mountain laurel, linden, dianthus, lilies, Virginia sweet spire.

General Information

Spring and Summer Hours (April through September): Tuesday through Friday, 8 am to 6 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 8 am to 7 pm. Closed Mondays except for legal holidays

Plant Shop: Opens on weekends on March 19. Starting March 26, the Plant Shop will be open Tuesday to Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm.

Compost information: compost@queensbotanical.org; 718-539-LAWN (5296) x222

QBG website: www.queensbotanical.org

Getting here: QBG is easily accessible by car, bus and train. Admission is free. Parking is \$5/\$3 members; days and hours vary by season. For complete travel directions and further information, call 718-886-3800.

New Members

Yu Hang Chan
Barbara Chu
Hsiu Mei Chu
Vincent Costa
Wokie David
Nick DeCicco
Georgia Delano
Dany Eliacin
Marie Gavroy

Irma Johnson
Yuna Kim
Shirley Klein
Sarah Labarr
Elizabeth Letterese
Chi Chiu Mui
Elaine Narain
Brenda Nardella
Cesar Perez, Esq.

Carolyn S. Ryan
William J. Smith
Michael Sperendi, Esq.
Robert A. Ward, III
Michael and Joan Weston
Sui Man Wong
Antony Woo, P.E.
Linda Zvonik

Plant Your Legacy where it will...



Produce

Your bequest will provide funding for the Garden's annual programs

Endure

Your bequest will help meet the future needs of the Garden

To learn more about the Queens Botanical Garden's planned gift program call Sandra Sbar at 718-886-3800 ext. 202.

Why Not Become a Member Today?

Individual: Member benefits include 4 free parking passes, QBG seasonal newsletter, invitation to events, free plant, discounts on programs, 10% shop discount, member only plant sale, seasonal e-mail greetings and 1 free admission to an adult program.

Individual Senior: Includes all the *Individual* benefits for adults age 62 and older.

Dual: Includes all the *Individual* benefits for 2 adults in a household with the addition of 2 free parking passes (total of 6) and 1 additional free admission to an adult program (total of 2.)

Dual Senior: Includes all the *Dual* benefits for 2 adults age 62 and older in a household.

Family: Includes all the *Dual* benefits for 2 adults and 4 children in a household with the addition of 4 free parking passes (total of 10), 2 free admissions to *Just for Kids!* workshops and seed and planting instructions.

Supporting: Member benefits include free parking, QBG seasonal newsletter, invitation to events, free plant, discounts on programs, 10% shop discount, member only plant sale, seasonal e-mail greetings, 2 free admission to an adult program, 2 free admissions to *Just for Kids!* workshops, garden tour and a special QBG gift.

Friend: Includes all the *Supporting* benefits with the addition of members' luncheon and discounts on space rentals at QBG.

Patron: Includes all the *Friend* benefits with the addition of priority seating at the gala and other events.

Life: Includes all the *Patron* benefits with the addition of lunch with the board chair.

Organization: Includes QBG seasonal newsletter, invitation to events, free plant, seasonal e-mail greetings and discounts on space rentals at QBG.

QBG MEMBERSHIP FORM

- | | | | |
|--|------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Senior | \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dual | \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dual Senior | \$45 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | \$1000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Organization | \$150 |

Please call me about the Adoption Program

My check is enclosed, made payable to:
Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main Street,
Flushing, New York 11355, 718-886-3800

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

e-mail _____

The Queens Botanical Garden, an independent not-for-profit institution located on City-owned land, is governed by a volunteer board of trustees. It is partially supported by public funds through the New York Department of Cultural Affairs; the Zoos, Botanical Gardens, and Aquariums Grant Program of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation; Queens Borough President Helen Marshall; the New York City Council; State Senator Frank Padavan; State Senator Serphin R. Maltese; and the New York State Assembly Queens Delegation. Additional support through private sources includes contributions from corporations, foundations, and individuals.



Queens Botanical Garden

43-50 Main Street
Flushing, New York 11355
718-886-3800
www.queensbotanical.org

Join us for Gardening Day
Sunday, May 1, 2005 Noon to 5 pm

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #433
Flushing, NY

Stefanie F. Handsman
Board Chair

Susan Lacerte
Executive Director

Sandra C. Sbar
*Senior Director of Development & Marketing
Editor*

Gardening Day – Catch the Eco-tude

Changes at the Garden

Attend our Exciting Workshops!

Just for Kids!

Seeds for Seniors

And More...

The Queens Botanical Garden News is published seasonally by the Garden. Printed on recycled paper.



GARDEN NEWS

QUEENS BOTANICAL GARDEN NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2005 VOLUME 11 ISSUE 2



Gardening Day 2004
Photo: © Jason Green

Gardening Day Programs Inspire *Eco-tude*

Excitement fills the chilly early spring air in anticipation of seeing the progress of our green design construction project. A temporary parking lot is now located on Crommelin Street and the Plant Shop has a new home. The Garden's changing landscape is the perfect venue for this year's Gardening Day, a day to be filled with family-fun entertainment and education aimed at inspiring *eco-tude*.

Eco-tude, an enlightened *attitude* about our environment, drives QBG's Plan for the Future of the Garden. It's a new way of looking at Mother Nature's systems and cycles and using her examples as we build our man-made environments. On a higher level, *eco-tude* is a holistic approach to all aspects of our lives and survival. This approach respects and conserves all of what nature provides while maintaining a sustainable balance of what people need. On a more down to earth level, anyone can acquire *eco-tude*. Being *green* comes with *eco-tude* and that can be reflected in everyday approaches that anyone can do. Reusing items instead of tossing them away, rejecting over-packaged products, recycling, composting, using water wisely, collecting and harvesting rain water, planting low-maintenance landscapes, eliminating toxic chemicals, and investing in energy saving appliances and fluorescent lights are just some strategies that can impact the environment in a positive way. There is no minimum level of commitment to being *green*—even small changes help.

QBG has chosen to pursue the highest level of achievement in *green* strategies in the care of its landscapes and in building its new facilities with the hope of inspiring the same in others. For those interested, the high-tech side is no longer out of reach. This has been a remarkable year for the *green-building* movement and it is becoming commonplace to see *green* technologies, such as photovoltaic panels converting sunlight to energy, solar hot water systems, and geothermal systems, using ground water for supplemental heating and cooling, employed not only in large building projects such as schools and office buildings, but in new single-family home construction as well. One huge incentive driving these technologies is the savings

in energy costs and an increasingly quick return on capital investment, especially as fuel and electricity costs escalate.

Sustainable practices are also emerging in New York City's landscapes. Rooftops are being transformed into gardens where vegetables and flowers grow, attracting birds and butterflies; old abandoned piers and elevated railways are being converted into public open space with plantings; ecologically sensitive wetlands are being restored along our shorelines and created along streets and highways to help alleviate storm water runoff and prevent street flooding; and our now closed landfill—Fresh Kills will have its tidal marshes, grasslands, and woodlands restored.

You can be *green* even with a small patch of herbs on a windowsill. Many people today indicate a desire to be *green* and list protecting the environment as a priority. Is having a worm bin under your sink to recycle food scraps into compost being *green* or does it require a larger, high-tech approach, such as digging a geothermal well to help heat and cool your home? Perhaps both technologies sound foreign but it's QBG's education mission to help demystify the high-tech and demonstrate how anyone can be *green*—all it takes is a little *eco-tude*. Please join us on Sunday, May 1, when QBG celebrates Gardening Day with a family-fun day aimed at growing your *Eco-tude*. Features include workshops and demonstrations for adults, showcasing Mother Nature's formulas and the *Eco-tude* Scavenger Hunt, veggie-print tee shirts, and sunflower seed planting for kids. QBG's Green Project Team will be on hand to answer your questions about *green* building technologies and products. It is sure to be a fun and exciting day! We look forward to seeing all our friends. Donations are welcome.

- Patty Kleinberg, *Director of Education*

Gardening Day 2005 is Sunday, May 1 from 12 noon to 5 pm
Admission is free.



Left to right: Renée Ring, Stefanie F. Handsman and Frank C. Macchio

QBG Welcomes New Board Officers, 5 New Members

New officers were welcomed to their posts at January's Board meeting when Stefanie F. Handsman, Vice President of the Bank of New York, took the helm as Board Chair of Queens Botanical Garden. A Board member since December 2000, Ms. Handsman has been involved in many activities at the Garden, including serving as Board Secretary, Chair of the Rose Ball gala and the development committee. Among Ms. Handsman's other roles include the position of being vice president of advocacy on the board of the National Council of Jewish Women. A native of Rockaway Beach in Queens, she is a graduate of Brooklyn College, and has worked in Queens for many years. Ms. Handsman, her husband and two daughters make their home on Long Island; however, Queens is always dear to her heart, especially the Botanical Garden.

"The Queens Botanical Garden is a 39-acre oasis in the midst of a bustling community. I am pleased to be in a position of leadership at a pivotal time for the Garden. The new Visitor/Administration Building will showcase energy conservation, storm water management and environmental stewardship. This project is a unique private-public partnership that will require support from many sources to be fully realized. The dedication of the Board, both past and current, along with a stupendous staff makes me very proud to be at the helm of this organization," stated Ms. Handsman.

Ms. Handsman succeeds Frank Mirovsky, supervisor of maintenance services for the Port Authority of NY and NJ at LaGuardia Airport, who served as Board Chair since 2001. At Mr. Mirovsky's final

meeting as Board Chair, City Council member John Liu presented him with a Proclamation in honor of his exemplary services to Queens Botanical Garden, and to acknowledge his long history of excellence as an employee of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Joining Ms. Handsman on the Board's executive committee are newly elected officers Frank C. Macchio, President of Construction Services Associates, who will serve as vice chair; Robert Schirling, partner of Ernst & Young, LLP, elected to another term as Board treasurer and Renée Ring, a corporate lawyer, elected as Board secretary.

The Board also welcomes the following five new corporate and community leaders as members of the Class of 2007: Nicholas DeCicco, CPA, a financial analyst for Vornado Realty Trust; Cesar A. Perez, Esq., an employee benefits attorney with Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.; Michael Sperendi, Esq., founder and partner of Limoncelli & Sperendi law firm; Patrick Sun, CPA, a real estate broker and consultant on development projects for downtown Flushing; and Antony Woo, a registered professional engineer and Vice President of Construction at Hugh L. Carey Battery Park City Authority.

The Garden expresses its deep appreciation for their dedication and partnership to Frank Mirovsky, Sylvia Weprin Feinstein, Ashok Bhavnani, George Meyer and Lola McLinden, Board members whose regular terms have ended but who remain in the service of the Garden as members of the Advisory Council.



Left to right: Antony Woo, Cesar Perez, Michael Sperendi, Nicholas DeCicco and Patrick Sun



On Wednesday, September 22, 2004, QBG held a Ground Honoring/Ground Breaking Ceremony to herald the start of its first-ever building campaign. The Board and staff of Queens Botanical Garden were joined by the borough president, Helen Marshall, former borough president, Claire Shulman, three state senators, two state assemblymen, three city councilmembers, three city commissioners, 230 adults, private funders, neighbors and 130 school children, who participated in a Ground Honoring event with school children from P.S. 499. Two members of the Red Hawk Native American Arts Council conducted a sage-burning and smudging ritual to purify the land.

Building for the Future

All the changes you've been reading about in the *QBG News* are happening! Construction kicked off on the Garden's new Visitor/Administration Building, Horticulture/Maintenance Building and Sustainable Landscapes. The Garden will remain open throughout construction, but there are a number of changes we'd like to make you aware of:

Parking:

The Dahlia Avenue lot closed on March 1. Please park (cars only) in the temporary lot accessible from Crommelin Street. Buses and limousines may drop off passengers at the Tree Gate on Main Street.

Garden Entrances:

The Tree Gate on Main Street, the College Point Boulevard Entrance, and the new Crommelin Street entrance will remain open.

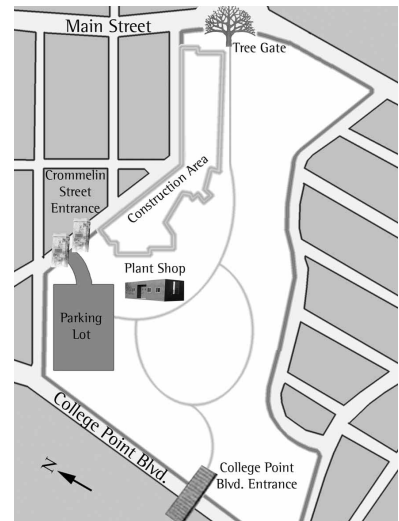
Plant Shop:

On March 19, 2005, the Plant Shop reopened in a new location near the temporary parking lot.

The buildings and landscapes are designed to invite visitors to enjoy comfortable and inspiring spaces created by considering sun, wind, water and plants. Sustainable practices in design, construction and operation are at the heart of the project—water is conserved, collected, cleansed and recycled; energy use is reduced; materials have been carefully selected to demonstrate responsibility for the environment and human health ... and much more!

For more information about the construction project, new facilities, and access changes, please pick up a free copy of "Building the Future," a brochure available at the Garden's front desk.

- Max Joel, *Capital Projects Assistant*



Compost news from *The Queens Compost Project*

Master Composter Reunion—On Tuesday, October 26, 2004, QBG trained, NYC-certified Master Composters gathered to celebrate and toast the return of the Compost Project to the Queens Botanical Garden. So much of the success of the original QBG Compost Project was possible because of the enthusiasm, positive energy and hard work of our Master Composters. After a two-year absence, the New York City Department of Sanitation, Bureau of Recycling, has reinstated the Project as an integral part of the city-wide strategy for waste management in New York.

Compost "Demo" Day—More than fifty hardy souls assembled at the Compost Demonstration site at the Queens Botanical Garden on Saturday, October 30 and braved the rainy weather as Director of Education, Patty Kleinberg, demonstrated various composting techniques to recycle plant material and food scraps into nutritious "black gold." QBG trained, NYC-Certified Master Composters were on hand to demonstrate equipment and answer questions.

Free Compost Giveback

The return of the "Free Compost Giveback" is just around the corner. In partnership with the NYC Department of Sanitation, we anticipate being able to offer free compost to NYC residents at special events this spring made from the leaves collected this past fall

Thank you Master Composters: Adrian Joyce, Tom Matamoros, Yen Ming Mung and Edward Pinsdorf, Jr.

Mulchfest—Residents across the City gave a valuable and long-lasting holiday gift when they brought their undecorated holiday trees and wreaths for recycling to selected parks throughout the city. Enthusiastic participants came on foot and by car with wreaths and whole trees of every size and shape. In return, they were invited to take home the fresh aromatic pine mulch that was chipped right before their eyes. Our own wonderful QBG trained, NYC-Certified Master Composters braved the inclement weather to answer questions and offer horticultural, mulching, and composting information at Cunningham Park, Forest Park and Juniper Valley Park.

Thank you Master Composters: Daniel Alfiero, Beth Forrest, Henry Gralton, Noreen Madigan, Angela Malanga and Anna Mardjanian.

- Lois Schuman, *Compost Project Manager*

and from holiday trees. Please call the Compost Hotline (718) 539-5292 or visit www.queensbotanical.org or www.nyccompost.org for locations, dates, and times.

Calendar of Programs

Spring 2005 Public Programs

Herbal Home-Spa

Sunday, April 3, 1 pm \$5, QBG members free

Treat yourself to the luxury of a day spa without draining your wallet. Many herbal treatments that cost a bundle at a professional spa can be created in your own home for much less. Learn to create herbal facials, hair treatments, and hand & body skin conditioners.

Backyard Composting

Saturday, April 16, 11 am to 1 pm Free*

Every gardener knows the value of *black gold*! Join Compost Project staff for an informative session on recycling plant and kitchen waste into compost—the amendment we affectionately call chicken soup for the soil. Interested participants are welcome to return on Sunday, May 1 for hands-on demonstrations of various composting techniques as a follow up to the classroom session.

*This program is offered at no charge thanks to the New York City Department of Sanitation who provides funding for the Compost Project.

Plant Propagation

Sunday, April 17, 1 pm \$5, QBG members free

The weather is warming up and it's time to shift outdoors and learn the different techniques of plant propagation, such as cuttings, division, layering, and direct seed sowing. Gardener emeritus Zofia Pienkos shares the secrets to lush gardens without the expense of buying new plants.

Understanding Herbal Medicine

Sunday, April 24, 1 pm \$5, QBG members free

How have herbs been used medicinally? In this class, we discuss traditional uses of herbs and the misconceptions that exist. We will also talk about how to use the basic, safe tonic herbs that have been used in tonics for years in herbal medicine.

Gardening Day

Sunday, May 1, 12 noon to 5 pm Fee: Free

The day's programming includes workshops, demonstrations, and entertainment for children and adults. Join neighbors and friends to celebrate the start of the 2005 growing season at QBG's annual community event.

Medicine Cabinet in Your Kitchen

Sunday, May 8, 1 pm \$5, QBG members free

Many of the herbs and spices that we have in our kitchens have a long tradition of medicinal use. Most of them are proven to be very potent in the treatment of colds, flu, external wounds, and chronic indigestion. Learn which herbs you've been cooking with and other ways they can be helpful. We will discuss where to purchase them and how to grow many of them.

Making Herbal Medicines

Sunday, May 22, 1 pm \$5, QBG members free

A natural conclusion to "Understanding Herbal Medicine" and "Medicine Cabinet in Your Kitchen" this class focuses on how to make herbal decoctions, ointments, tinctures and pills.

Gardening on a Budget

Sunday, June 12, 1 pm \$5; QBG members free

Tight on time and resources? Your garden can look great all year long with wise investments and resourceful plantings. Utilize proven performers that can stand the rigors of difficult weather, urban conditions, and lack of attention. Learn how to grow inexpensive plants that will tolerate limited maintenance and still look great.

Wonderful Weeds

Sunday, June 26, 1 pm \$5, QBG members free

Learn to appreciate and utilize the common garden weeds that we love to pull up. What do weeds tell you about your soil? Which weeds can actually benefit your lawn and garden? In this class we will learn to appreciate these weeds as friends and allies. Put away the herbicides and work with these friends to create a more balanced system within your garden.

SEEDS for SENIORS: A Gardening Series for Older Adults

This program is offered *free* to seniors age 60+ through a grant funded by the Jean & Louis Dreyfus Foundation.

Pre-registration is required. Contact Senior Coordinator Marianne Giacalone @ 718-886-3800 ext. 231. Class size is limited to 20 seniors and special needs senior groups are limited to 15 when functioning on a similar level. Seniors are limited to one workshop per season. Workshops are held in the Education Building.

Honeybees In Our Garden

Thursday, April 14, 2 to 3:30 pm

Learn why bees are important in the Garden and how honey is made. Participants will enjoy sampling the honey made by bees in our own Bee Garden and a spring tour of the garden to see the bees at work.

Leaf Cuttings and Plant Propagation

Thursday, April 21, 2 to 3:30 pm

Learn how to promote stem propagation, obtain leaf cuttings, and other propagation techniques, including layering and division. This workshop demonstrates use of appropriate starting media, containers and plant care. Every participant creates a "mini-greenhouse" to take home.

Making Teas and Vinegars

Thursday, May 12, 2 to 3:30 pm

Participants will choose from a selection of dried herbs to make their own custom herb tea blends and a selection of their own herbal vinegars. All herbs will be chosen for safety, fragrance, and health benefits as well as for interesting shapes and colors.

Exploring Herbal Creams and Lotions

Thursday, May 26, 2 to 3:30 pm

Learn about the traditional medicinal and cosmetic use of herbs for topical applications. Different oils and floral waters will be introduced and the differences between ointments, lotions, and creams will be explained. Participants will create their own herbal cream to take home.

Herbal Floral Arrangements

Thursday, June 9, 2 to 3:30 pm

Using fresh or dried herbs and flowers, participants will create small floral arrangements to take home. Colors, scents, and flower shapes will be explored as integral elements in the arrangement. Containers of various textures, colors, and sizes will be used to observe the relationships of proportions, overall shape and volume.

Fresh Flower Arranging

Thursday, June 23, 2 to 3:30 pm

Learn how to beautify your home with fresh flower arrangements. Participants will create a centerpiece to take home and will learn about flower types, treatments, color, balance, and how to create pleasing designs in arrangements that last.

Just For Kids! Programs April-June 2005

Nest Building with Recycled Materials

Saturday, April 23, 1 pm \$5, QBG members free

Build a nest, just like the birds do using recycled materials they find in their environment. In the spirit of Earth Day, we'll use twigs, dried grasses, scraps of paper, string, feathers, and mud to learn how birds construct their nests. In addition, we'll paint wooden bird's eggs to keep in our handmade recycled-material nests.

Making Paints from Nature

Saturday, May 21, 1 pm \$5, QBG members free

Learn how to make paints from plants such as carrots, grass, and beets or spices you keep at home such as paprika or curry. We will experiment using natural products like feathers and pine branches as brushes to paint with our homemade natural paints.

Garden Sun Prints

Saturday, June 18, 1 pm \$5, QBG members free

Come take advantage of the quickly approaching Summer Solstice, when the daytime hours are at their maximum and the sun is highest in the sky. We will make sun prints using items found in the Garden, and anything with an interesting shape that you want to bring from home.

Spring 2005 Adult Education Courses at the Garden Offered Through Queensborough Community College

QBG's Adult Education Courses are presented in coordination with Queensborough Community College. For fee schedules and to register for each course, contact Queensborough Community College at 718-631-6343. Spring offerings include:

Unusual House Plants and Their Care

Thursday, April 14, 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Most of our plants are showing a little wear and tear. Learn how to recondition them for the growing season. In addition to care of these plants, unusual house plants and their special requirements will be highlighted. Each student will propagate some interesting houseplants to take home.

Starting Flowers and Vegetables from Seed

Thursday, May 12, 7:30 to 9:30 pm

You will plant at least four varieties of flowers and/or vegetables in two mini greenhouses to take home, grow and transplant to containers or to your garden this spring. Planting mixes, watering and light requirements for indoor seed starting will be discussed. Varieties suitable for both the apartment dweller and the homeowner will be used. Written materials will be distributed.

Basket Arrangement of Flowers

Thursday, May 19, 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Beautify your dining table with exquisite baskets filled with seasonal flowers and spring foliage. Create arrangements using techniques of color, balance and flower and foliage preservation. Bring your own scissors.



Plant Shop Reopening Parking Lot Moved

Located in a trailer opposite the temporary parking lot, the Plant Shop will be open weekends starting on Saturday March 19. Starting weekdays on March 29, the shop will be open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm for the spring.

Starting Saturday March 19th, we will resume charging for parking on weekends. Parking is \$5 for nonmembers and either free or at a reduced rate for members.

Traditional Caribbean Healing

As a result of fieldwork conducted in the neighborhoods of Corona, Jackson Heights, and Elmhurst by the Research Department of the Queens Botanical Garden, a brochure containing valuable information on Caribbean healing is now available to the public. The study, supported by a grant from The J.M. Kaplan Fund, expands on work conducted on the pan-ethnic Latino communities of Queens, New York, focusing on ethnobotany, the cultural uses of plants by the local people.

The purpose of this research is to identify and explore traditional

healing practices and other traditional uses of plants by the people of the various Latin American communities in Queens. The full color, bilingual brochure, entitled, *Traditional Caribbean Healing in Queens*, is offered to the public in both English and Spanish languages in order to preserve and share local traditions and knowledge with our neighbors in Queens. If you are interested in receiving a copy of this brochure, please call the Queens Botanical Garden's Research Department at 718-886-3800 x 224.

- Jillian De Gezelle, *Cultural Researcher*



HSBC Children's Garden 2005

Open to budding horticulturists, ages 5 to 14, these outdoor adventures led by education department instructors allow kids to plant, maintain, and harvest flowers, vegetables, and herbs; design butterfly, rock, and herb gardens; collect insects; identify flowers; participate in workshops and craft activities; and more! To register, call the education department at (718) 886-3800, ext. 229.

The Children's Garden is enjoying lead support from HSBC in the Community (USA) Inc. in 2005.

Spring Session

April 23 through June 18

Saturdays, 9:30 am to 12 noon

Fee: \$80; \$60 QBG members