



# VIEW FROM THE GARDEN

News from the Wolfeboro Garden Club

VOL.2,

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APRIL 2023



**JOHN FORTI, THE HEIRLOOM GARDENER**

**IS OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH**

There will be a board meeting at 11am

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## Presidents Message April 2023

Dear Gardeners,

As winter leaves us, I look at my well-worn hands and acknowledge that I use them as gardening tools. My hands are a mess - skin dry, fingernails cracked and crooked fingers. Still I am ordering flower seeds and looking forward to being in my garden. I itch to get my hands into the soil knowing the warm, top few inches of dark soil will energize me. As we prepare for the upcoming gardening season, let's plan well. Martie and all the members of the Beautification Committee are developing goals for the public gardens and their own gardens. We tend to forget the hard work of past years and the problems Mother Nature causes. Let's plan well, then relish the experiences of planting, tending, and harvesting our gardens.

Susan and Shelly's presentation in February raised our awareness of native plants, pollinators and planting non-invasives. There is confusion and debate about some plants being native or non-native. As the native plants die off, they remove an important food source. For example, lilacs. Lilacs have been adopted as an official state symbol for New Hampshire and an unofficial state symbol for Maine. Lilacs are primarily from Eastern Europe, even though they have been here for at least 200 years and are now often considered to be native. They do not exhibit any aggressive, invasive tendencies.

Is lupine a good guy or a bad guy? Lupine confuses even some botanists. Lupine is defined as a perennial plant that has palmately compound blue-green leaves and narrow clusters of pea-like flowers that are usually deep blue, but can also be purple, pink, or white. It blooms from mid-spring to mid-summer and attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and other pollinators with its nectar. It produces hairy seed pods that eject the seeds forcefully and are eaten by birds and small mammals. It is a cool season plant that dies down in the heat of summer and a nitrogen fixing plant that grows from a taproot.

The fact is the lupine that blooms on the roadsides of New England in June is not native to New England. This lupine, *Lupinus polyphyllus*, migrated from the Western states during the past century. We do have a native lupine, *Lupinus perennis*. This wild lupine is the only host plant for the Karner Blue butterfly, *Lycaeides melissa samuelis*. A telltale sign of the decline of the native lupine is the disappearance of the Karner Blue butterfly which is now on the endangered species list. This New Hampshire state insect feeds on the native lupine and lays its eggs on the plants' leaves. Without their food source, the insects that depend on particular plants for survival, can't survive.

If wildflower restoration and preservation of species are your goals, never use hybrid lupine seeds for planting in meadows and other wild areas. These plants will quickly revert to their original parent species, which are often non-native. And these "invaders" can crowd out the true native wildflowers, including *L. perennis*. Instead, buy seeds for the species that you know is native to your area.

Deborah

The Newsletter can now

Be found on our Website!

<https://wolfeborogardenclub.org/>



Next page 2



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SO MUCH STUFF GOING ON... HERE IS THE LIST

WE NEED YOUR INVOLVEMENT

- WE HAVE TO FIND **NEW BOARD MEMBERS** THIS YEAR because term limits have expired!!
  - APRIL 11—**John Forti**, speaker. Guests Welcome!
  - Members approve **2023-24 budget** at the May meeting
  - We have a Beautiful **Library Display** this month that needs tending
  - We are re-establishing the **Helen Forman Memorial Garden**,
  - Martie looking for additional members for the **Beautification Teams**
  - **Call Martie for more info and to offer assistance**
  - **Dues** are \$30 this year. Due June 1
  - We need new email address' if you have changed yours.
  - **June** Luncheon at Bald Peak is on this year. June 16
  - Not too early to think about the **July 4 parade "Float"** Bobbie's Gator is available
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## 2023-2024 Membership

**DUES ARE DUE! By June 1 this year.**

**Wolfeboro Garden Club, P.O. Box 1786, Wolfeboro, NH, 03894**

Ensure your membership by sending in your information before June 1st!

> Name \_\_\_\_\_ New member \_\_\_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_\_\_

**You need to fill out the following questions only if you are a new member or your information has changed.**

**Make out your \$30 check to the Wolfeboro Garden Club and mail**

These **changes** will be reflected in the yearbook.

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ (please print clearly)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

House phone \_\_\_\_\_

I will volunteer to help with one or more of the following:

Board Member   Hospitality   Our Gardens   Programs   Social Media

**Send me pictures of OUR ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS, AND GARDENS, FOR OUR WEBPAGE!!**

**SEND PICTURES TO BOBBIE STAVE   [bastave@metrocast.net](mailto:bastave@metrocast.net)**

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBPAGE— We have LOTS of good pictures on the pages**

**<https://wolfeborogardenclub.org/>**