Long Island Master Gardeners



President's Line January 2022

Welcome to the beginning of the 2022 season of Long Island Master Gardeners. The members of your board and I extend our best wishes to each of you and your families for a more secure year. There is no doubt that these past two years have been a profound burden on our individual daily lives. During these years we all may have had to make at times simple or radical adjustments in order to continue any sense of normalcy. That sense of normalcy I fear may still evade our grasp as this year unfolds. I, like all of you am committed within the LIMG membership to the safe resumption of our monthly meetings and all the individual joy that the meetings would impart to us. To that end I believe that by combining our mutual input we can overcome and return our once vibrant partnership.

We had a general Zoom meeting on the 19th and I thank those of you who attended. I urge as many of you as possible to familiarize yourselves on how to utilize that format. It has proven to be a vital element in reinforcing organizational coherence.

The 2022 garden year may contain recurring delights and unfold new treasures, so let us continue our journey as the Long Island Master Gardeners. George Costa







Current LIMG Board of Directors

| President: | George Costa |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Vice President: | Tania Entwistle |
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| Communications Directo | or: Peter Herron |
| Member at Large: | Helen Gao |
| Member at Large: | Janice Alto |
| Member at Large: | Mary Winn-Ball |
| Member at Large: | Millie Meyer |
| Member at Large: open position | |



Many of us received various holiday plants and given the proper care will continue to highlight our indoor environment. Though it may only last for a few minutes this poinsettia's late evening sunlight reflection has been a wow.



Several Christmas cactus have been gracing our home, the above one for a few decades now. GC

Resumption of Normal Meetings

We all, I believe, realize that this has been an unprecedented time we have been experiencing. How we navigate our daily cycle of life has no doubt been altered, and unfortunately truly stabilizing outcomes to this calamity seem to somehow evade humanity's efforts. The LIMG membership is beginning its third year of having to deal with that realization. I believe that I am speaking on behalf of the entire Board when I state that we will do all we can to insure your safety whenever we are able to have a collective gathering. We can accomplish this by instituting our own safety protocols and adhering to safety requirements requested of us by others we may utilize throughout the year.

Once again your safety is our prime concern so I ask that you work with us as we progress into the 2022 season. GC

Gardening Time Line

The 12 months that we navigate through in a year may encompass a multitude of possibilities for us to explore. That individual involvement would naturally be determined by many factors. If we are active gardeners we generally have a gardening time line wired into ourselves. I am not saying that we can predict like Phil the groundhog, but we do have past experience to rely on. By the way do you know the name of Brookhaven's own spring predictor? This early in the year we have a multitude of gardening options to consider and formulize, here are just a few. I stress one important point though, prepare only for what you personally think you can handle and accomplish.

1) Seeds and plants prices have sky rocked so shop wisely.

2) If you keep a written or photo log you have a source of information on your past years plants.

3) Don't throw away those packets of left over seeds. They will come handy in that you can take a small sampling say 10, plant them now, germinate them indoors and see if they are still viable.

4) If you have stored bulbs such as dahlia, begonia, cannas, elephant ears or any other non winter hardy bulb check them throughout the next 4 months.

5) If you're in a deer zone, remember its winter and they will now devour plants that they normally wouldn't touch. Continue to spray a reliable repellent.

6) These cold dreary days are perfect for going on line and discovering what's new in seed varieties or perennial plants.

7) You Tube is a source of videos for various topics.8) Suffolk County Cornell Cooperative Extension web site also contains a wealth of information. By the way, what year did they initiate its Master Gardner Program?

These are just a few ideas on how to prepare early for insuring a successful year. I am sure that you could contribute some of your own ideas to this list. GC

Member Gardening Contributions Page

Here is an opportunity for you to contribute a gardening note or picture to the LIMG Newsletter. You're welcomed to email me your entry request and I will try to edit it into a future newsletter. A picture or two and a brief description of your entry will do. As we hopefully progress with the newsletter we may be able to add addition entries to it. GC



A welcoming Lady at our Entrance Gate



Sunset view over home



Master Gardeners 1989 display @ Planting Fields

New Life for those unused Shoes



GC



Home we bought 49 years ago this March



Evolution of a home

Long Island Master Gardener www.limastergardner.com

You're welcomed to visit our website to increase your involvement within the organization. The latest updates on finalized meeting dates, trips, Zoom meetings, pending speakers, and other LIMG information and will be posted there.

I hope that you will enjoy this first issue. It will no doubt evolve as we progress and again your input is important.

George Costa: President gclv2