

Sometimes good things fall apart so better things can fall together." -Marilyn Monroe

Even as we enter our 80<sup>th</sup> year in business we still are looking for ways to improve and enhance Bayport Flower Houses. If you get a moment, stop in and see the changes we have made to help make your experience at Bayport Flower Houses more enjoyable. Not only have we changed our store but we have also changed our online store at Bayportflower.com. The new website is loaded with informative features and a great new shopping experience.

I'm not quite sure how the spread of "cabin fever' is progressing...with all this beautiful weather this winter, but I assure you that if you need a blast of spring and a connection with plants then we are the place. As our motto says "Growing since 1932"...and yes we are!



## Poems Among The Plants

## Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm

Join us for a wonderful afternoon of poetry, tea and cookies in the beautiful setting of our tropical greenhouse.

**Charles Fishman reads from** In the Language of Women,

his latest book of poems. He will also discuss what moved him to write this book. & will have copies available for purchase and signing.

Charles Fishman created the Visiting Writers Program at Farmingdale State College in 1979 and served as director until 1997. He also developed the Distinguished Speakers Program for Farmingdale State and led that program from 2001 through 2007. In addition, he was cofounder of the Long Island Poetry Collective (1973), a founding editor of Xanadu magazine and Pleasure Dome Press (1975), and originator of the Paumanok Poetry Award competition, which he coordinated for seven years (1990-97). He has also been series editor of the Water Mark Poets of North America Book Award (1980-83), associate editor of The Drunken Boat, and poetry editor of Gaia, Cistercian Studies Quarterly, the Journal of Genocide Studies, and New Works Review, and he is currently poetry editor of Prism: An Interdisciplinary Journal For Holocaust Educators and consultant in poetry to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

Among Fishman's most recent awards and honors are the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association's Long Island Poet of the Year Award (2006) and the 2007 and 2010 Paterson Award for Literary Excellence. His books include Mortal Companions (1977), The Death Mazurka (1989), an American Library Association Outstanding Book of the Year that was nominated for the 1990 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry, and Blood to Remember: American Poets on the Holocaust (2007). His most recent poetry collections are Country of Memory and 5,000 Bells, both 2004, Chopin's Piano (2006), Water under Water (2009), In the Language of Women (2011), and Fatal Angels: Selected Poems, which will be released by Time Being Books this summer.

Charles lives with his wife, Ellen, in Bellport, a short walk from the Great South Bay.



Super Saturdays

preregistration is **required** for all classes 631.472.0014

## Terrific Terrariums Sat., March 3th at 10 am

The days of Peace~Love~Happiness are back with a vengeance! We welcome back the Terrarium from the 1970s updated and more stylish than ever!. The cost for this hands-on groovy class is \$38 per person.

## Let's Get Gardening Sat.. March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 am

Consider this your prep-course for a successful gardening season! Join Karl as he gives tips & gardening wisdom with a heavy emphasis on earth-friendly gardening! There is no charge for this class but registered guests will get a free shamrock in honor of St. Patrick's Day!

## **Beautiful Begonias** Sat., February 18th at 10 am

Tried and true, lasting from generation to generation...Begonias are the of the plant world. Join us and learn just how wonderful Begonias can be as both an indoor and outdoor plant. Got a neat begonia at home? Please at Bayport Flower Houses share...with a leaf or a picture. There is no charge for this class AND, for this day only, All Begonias will be 50% Off.

## Spring Wreath Sat., March 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am

Bring on the Spring with a beautiful Spring Wreath for your front door! Design your own unique grapevine wreath using colorful spring blooms such as forsythia, crocus, dogwood, hydrangea and much more! The cost for this hands-on class is \$38 per person.

## **Fairy Gardening**

Sat., March 17<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm A lucky day indeed for those who love these magical creatures. Join our expert, Mireille, and create your own indoor fairy garden. With a sprinkle of imagination, lush miniature plants and a magical treat or two, your fairy garden will be sure to delight.

The cost for this hands-on class is \$38 per person. Additional Fairy Garden merchandise will be available at a discount for participants.



We're so excited to offer our 1st ever, Growums Gardening Class for Kids! Kids can pick from one of six gardens to plant here. Then, characters such as Zombie Corn, Elvis Parsley and more, guide them through the growing process at home via the Growums website! There are games to play, reminders about your garden, and lots to learn all free. The cost for this hands-on class is \$12 per child.

# Early Garden Planning

Are you dreaming of warmer days, enjoying the fruits of your hard labor, relaxing in your beautiful backyard, your neighbors green with envy? Even though it's only February, it's never to early to start your backyard and garden planning. Here's a nice article from Cornell University's *Garden-Based Learning*, http://blogs.cornell.edu/horticulture/ to help you get started.

Here, at Bayport Flower House, we are also anxiously awaiting the gardening season. Give us a call, 631.472.0014 and we'd be happy to help you with design and installation, and a wealth of horticulture knowledge.

### **Design** = **Assessment** + **Goals**

When we set out to design our backyards, and gardens, we are engaging in a multi-step process. In order to choose appropriate species, technologies, and strategies, we have to first understand the site conditions by undertaking an **assessment** of our surroundings for things like sun/shade patterns, water flows, existing species, and potential problems. This information can then be coupled with a detailed **goals** document that describes what we want to get out of the design and how we will achieve those outcomes. These two pieces allow us to sketch ideas on paper and work out the details until we have a **design** we are happy with, and one that will benefit our local environment.

### Assessment

When we assess a site, we are looking for the patterns and relationships that exist which will influence the way we design. Assessments help us choose species and elements that are appropriate to the environmental conditions and also help determine where to place them on the landscape to maximize production and minimize the expenditure of time, energy, and resources.

#### Some items to assess:

Climate - sun, shade, wind, rainfall, seasonal considerations Microclimate – cold air/frost pockets, sun/shade dynamics, soil & air moisture Landform – slope, aspect, elevation Water – runoff, erosion, pooling of water, access to reliable sources Vegetation and Wildlife – ecosystem type/composition, plant & animal ID Soil – types, mgmt history, nutrient levels, pH, organic matter, toxins Aesthetics and Experience – view lines, mood/feel of the site Access and Circulation – foot/cart/vehicle access, materials storage/flow, desire lines

### Goals

Goals help us to clarify what we want, and why. Spending time defining the goals in a garden or landscape is key to its success. During this process, here are some questions to consider:

1. What is your overall vision for the site?

2. What specific changes would you like to see in the short term? Longer term?

- 3. What do you like about the site? What do you dislike about the site?
- 4. How much time do you have?
- 5. What skills do you have? What additional skills are needed?
- 6. What amount of financial resources can be committed to the project?

### Design: Putting it all together

Design is where the patterns of the site and the goals of the people looking to develop it come together. It can be seen as a plan of how the designer is going to go about arranging access points, paths, centers of activity, tool/equipment storage etc in such a way that meets the needs of the humans involved and also supports a healthy overall ecosystem.

You will likely go through several drafts of your design before settling on a final concept. One way to help save time is to do an activity called **random assembly**:

1) Have a sketch map of your site

2) Create a list of ALL the potential elements in the system. Cut them out and move around to form possible arrangements

For example, here are some possible elements for a backyard garden:

- Tool shed Herb garden Berries Greenhouse Compost bins
- Cistern Chess Tables Forest Garden Outdoor Movie Screen Rain Garden

Annual Veggie Gardens Handicap Beds Herb Garden Quiet Sitting Area Pizza Garden Sounds Garden Touch & Smell Garden Bean Teepee Natural Play Structures

This type of activity helps keep a "brainstorm" mentality as you plan your site. Once you decide on where everything best fits, you can make a final map of your plan.

## Pantone Reveals Color of the Year for 2012:

Tangerine Tango Dance into the New Year with this vivacious and appealing *reddish orange* Tangerine Tango, a spirited reddish orange, continues to provide the energy boost we need to recharge and move forward.

"Sophisticated but at the same time dramatic and seductive, Tangerine Tango is an orange with a lot of depth to it," said Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute®. "Reminiscent of the radiant shadings of a sunset, Tangerine Tango marries the vivaciousness and adrenaline rush of red with the friendliness and warmth of yellow, to form a high-visibility, magnetic hue that emanates heat and energy." courtesy of Pantone LLC, an X-Rite company (NASDAQ: XRIT), and the global authority on color and provider of professional color standards for the design industries

Tangerine Dreams - so the Pantone Color of the Year is Tangerine Tango. How awesome for us! we've got shades of tanger-

ine all over the place..in the tropical greenhouse, in the annual house in the rose yard, and in the flower cooler. Get yourself some fresh-squeezed color today!





MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Don't Miss the Annual Bayport-Blue Point Chamber of Commerce St. Patrick's Day Parade Sunday, March 11 at 11:30 am Montauk Highway, Bayport, NY www.bayportbluepoint.com







visit our wedding portfolio at www.bayportflower.com



