



Spring/Summer 2006

HEDGEHOG HILL FARM NEWS

Hedgehog Hill Farm Events for 2006

Hedgehog Hill is a small farm nestled in the foothills of Western Maine. We grow a large variety of annuals and perennials, as well as herbs and everlastings. In the shop, there are several rooms filled with herbal wreaths, tables with dried flower arrangements, decorated baskets, bouquets, and swags. Also, a large array of unusual herbal teas, jams and

jellies, herbal vinegars and honeys, culinary herbs, potpourri, natural moth repelling herbs, catnip, and dried materials are all produced of harvests from the bountiful gardens at Hedgehog Hill. A dozen terraced display gardens around the buildings, interesting shade gardens on the grounds, and two grape arbors offer you delightful places for a cool summer picnic.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Open House - Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 5, 6, 7. This annual event starts at 9 a.m. and goes on until 5 p.m. Greenhouses are bursting with plants; thousands of field-grown perennials and shrubs on are on display. The grounds have several perennial gardens with hundreds of spring bulbs, and the shop will be filled with gifts.

Open Farm Day: Sunday, July 23, Hedgehog Hill Farm will be participating with over 80 farms throughout Maine which will be open to the public. Visit a farm and see what farm life is all about. Watch farm activities and demonstrations from milking to felting; pet farm animals, pick berries, tour a barn or go on a hay ride. There will be farm-raised products for sale, displays to see and samples to taste.

Common Ground Country Fair: On September 22, 23, 24, 2006 the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) will transform its year-round educational center in Unity, Maine into the Common Ground Country Fair, a celebration of rural, sustainable living. See Hedgehog Hill Farm in the Agricultural Booth Area next to FEDCO tent.

Thanksgiving Weekend Open House: November 24, 25, 26, 2006 Visit Hedgehog Hill Farm shop after the leaves have fallen off the trees, when there is a cool breeze in the air, and the country lane leading to the farm has acquired the delicate grey-green hues of the holiday season. Wreaths, arrangements, jams and jellies, bouquets of dried flowers, and swags are specially created out of the garden's summer bounty. Enjoy a lovely array of fragrances, colors, and textures.

Spring and Summer Hours

May 5-31: Tuesday-Sunday 9-5

June 1-August 31: Tuesday-Saturday 9-5, Sunday 12-5

BARTER DAYS FOR MAY AND JUNE

Now in its eighth year, the barter program remains as popular as ever. Here are more dates available in May and June.

Wednesday through Saturday: MAY 10 to MAY 13

Wednesday through Saturday: MAY 17 to MAY 20

Wednesday through Friday: MAY 24 to 26

Wednesday through Friday: MAY 31 to JUNE 2

Tuesday and Wednesday: JUNE 6 and JUNE 7

Wednesday through Saturday: JUNE 14 to JUNE 17

Wednesday through Friday: JUNE 21 and JUNE 23

The work during these seven weeks will vary broadly, depending in large part on the weather. It may include potting, garden maintenance, weeding, planting and mulching. Whatever the tasks, you will be working with a range of plant material and there will be time for discussions and questions. The exchange continues to be a day of your help on the farm in return for \$50 worth of plants. Days begin at 9:30 and end at 4:30, with a break midday when everyone gathers for lunch and relaxation. To register for the barter crew, call or send an e-mail **with day(s) requested, your name, address and telephone**. If you want a space, respond quickly, as dates fill almost as soon as these newsletters are received.

Yoga & T'ai Ji IN THE GARDEN

Yoga and T'ai ji, two different forms of exercise designed to promote relaxation and good health will be taught by Karen Vasil-Busch and Betsey Foster. Both classes will take place outdoors (weather permitting) or inside when necessary.

For Yoga, classes start at 6:30 in the evening and last an hour. Cost is \$60 for the six weeks from Monday, July 24 and going through August 28. Register by contacting Karen at: (207) 336-2065 or KarenV@megalink.net. T'ai ji is on Thursday evenings from July 13 through August 3. Cost will be \$45. FMI call Betsey at 875-2426 or e-mail bsf@megalink.net.

RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY

Receive your newsletters electronically: they arrive instantaneously; get advantage in **sales** of plants and products in the shop; get an early notice of **barter days**; and save trees. Notify us by e-mailing your address to info@hedgehoghillfarm.com. Expect no spam from us.



The best advertising is by word-of-mouth. Do you have a friend who has never been to the farm, who would enjoy the gardens, the shop, and the unusual plants that we offer? Bring your friend to the farm between May 5 and May 31, and, if he or she is not yet on our mailing list, we will offer each of you a free perennial (from a selection of our choice), with any purchase. Show your friends what national press has already discovered – that Hedgehog Hill Farm is an inspiring, peaceful, and singularly beautiful place.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE FOR 2006*

GARDENING WITH PERENNIALS: Saturday, May 27

This day-long class will focus on gardening with herbaceous perennials, information on periodicity of bloom, plant characteristics, design principles, color themes, and soil and site requirements, dividing plants, refurbishing areas, and identifying common plant diseases. Since we are an organic farm, we will also offer simple but effective solutions for dealing with plant diseases and predation.



MAKING HYPERTUFA GARDEN CONTAINERS: Saturday, June 3.

Make beautiful stone-like pots for your favorite plants - easy to fashion pots can be designed into a number of unique shapes. The day-long workshop is great fun. Of all the classes we have taught at the farm, this one is guaranteed to bring the most laughter, get you the dirtiest, and let you end the day with the satisfaction of having

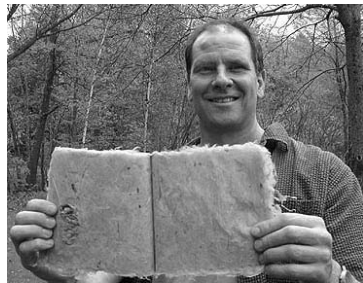
made a collection of unusual and usable garden containers.

DESIGNING EVERLASTING WREATHS AND ARRANGEMENTS: Thursday, July 20, Saturday, August 5.

Learn how to create beautiful works of art from flowers and herbs. You will complete either a wreath or a container arrangement to take home at the end of the class. We provide all the materials.



HAND-MADE PAPERMAKING:

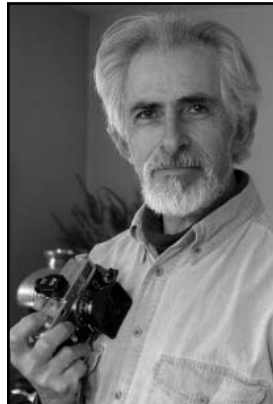


Thursday July 27 and Saturday July 29 with Jim Neal

Spend the day learning the ancient art of making paper by hand. Using natural fibers, herbs and flowers, create elegant papers as art, as decoration, or cards. Jim Neal, artist and craftsman, is also an owner of *Drop Me a Line*, a shop in Portland, specializing in hand-made papers and cards.

PHOTOGRAPHING NATURE USING DIGITAL CAMERAS: July 22.

Many aspects of film photography apply to digital photography - principles of technique and design. However, digital cameras allow the photographer to see images instantaneously and take pictures, knowing what will be on the canvas of the photograph. With new digital technologies - hardware and software, photographer may create images that alter the reality. You will learn the complimentary aspects of using digital cameras, photo imaging software, and the printer to design aesthetically exciting images. The class will be taught by Mark Silber, professional photographer, author, and owner of Hedgehog Hill.



WORKSHOP DETAILS:

COSTS: \$45.00 per person. The cost includes the class, all materials for the project, and a light lunch prepared at the farm.

CLASS TIMES: 9:30 until approximately 3:30.

REGISTRATION: Register in person, by phone, by mail, or by e-mail. Be sure to provide the workshop registration date(s), names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, and CC # (MC, Visa, AMEX, and Discover), or send a check.

*Workshops on a wide range of horticultural and associated topics are given at the farm. Speaking engagements at the farm or on location are arranged, on request. Call or e-mail for fees. More workshop details on the web.

SUNDAYS IN THE GARDENS AT TWO

The 2006 schedule for **Sundays In The Garden At Two** is detailed below. Programs are FREE and open to the public every Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. Post this schedule somewhere handy, and be certain to join in. Or better yet, pack a picnic lunch, wander through the gardens and make an afternoon outing at Hedgehog Hill Farm, any Sunday in **June, July, or August**. One hour lectures are held rain or shine.

JUNE 11 SUSTAINABLE GARDENING: Soil preparation and soil health maintenance, seeding, planting, garden and plant health. Is it possible to have a healthy garden without having to eradicate all the weeds and insects?

JUNE 18 PERENNIAL GARDEN DESIGN: Site selection, preparation, plant choices, design principles, and maintenance.

JUNE 25 - HERBS FOR PLEASURE AND USE: Tours of herbs in the perennial border, in walkways, in culinary or cutting gardens, and in patio containers.

JULY 2 - GARDENING IN THE SHADE: A tour of several shade gardens at Hedgehog Hill, where common and uncommon plants are combined in pleasingly inspiring designs.

JULY 9 - SMALL FRUITS AND BERRIES: A tour of the grape arbor, raspberry, blackberry, rhubarb, and blueberry gardens, with tips on design, planting, and maintenance.

JULY 16 - CULINARY HERBS: See, smell, and taste a number of cooking herbs, from basil to angelica. Garner ideas for growing and using culinary plants.

JULY 23 - PHOTOGRAPHING IN THE GARDENS: A lecture and tour of the grounds for people who are interested in improving their skills with their own cameras. Bring cameras, "film", and join in the discussion and an hour of shooting.

JULY 30 - EVERLASTINGS ON DISPLAY: Tour the production gardens that include thousands of plants that can be air dried. Learn about harvesting and designing.

AUGUST 6 - FLOWERS FOR BEAUTY AND CUTTING: The brilliance of the cutting gardens is stunning at this time of the summer. See old favorites and new varieties. Take home ideas for next year's gardens.

AUGUST 13 - PRESERVING HERBS FOR USE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR: When and how to pick and preserve herbs for culinary use throughout the year. Unique tips for gardeners and cooks.

AUGUST 20 - SAVING SEEDS: Learn to gather, dry and store a variety of seeds from your own plants. Tips for cultivated and wild plant propagation.

For further information,

visit us: 54 Hedgehog Hill Road, Sumner, Maine 04292

visit us on the web: www.HedgehogHillFarm.com

e-mail: info@HedgehogHillFarm.com

call: (207) 388-2341

HEDGEHOG HILL FARM FEATURED IN THE PRESS

- "After visiting Hedgehog ..., a farm dedicated in large part to the culture of everlastings, I have come to think of them as not only beautiful when dried but even possessing in the field the subtle, leggy beauty of wild meadow flowers." **Horticulture Magazine**
- "Asking Mark and Terry Silber for tips on starting seedlings is like asking Julia Child if she has any good recipes for chicken." **Lewiston Sun Journal**
- "Visitors range from area residents to Boston chefs, with others coming from as far away as Chicago, slotting in a trip to Hedgehog as part of their vacations." **Portland Press Herald**
- "... a horticultural showplace. Thousands of visitors each year buy seedlings or dried flowers and herbs; attend classes... or simply revel in the botanical paradise." **Associated Press**
- "Hedgehog Hill, a 150-year old Currier and Ives farmstead at the end of a dirt road..." **Down East Magazine**

The Books:

- "A Small Farm in Maine adds new luster to the old phrase 'Yankee ingenuity.'" **Chicago Tribune**
- **The Complete Book of Everlastings:** "A bounty of information ... straightforward text, plenty to keep one busy while nestled indoors." **Christian Science Monitor**
- **Growing Herbs and Vegetables from Seed to Harvest:** "a wealth of knowledge to share, and their lifelong love of gardening spills readily onto the pages." **The Herb Companion** ...Just republished at a reduced price of \$30.00.

Buoyant Spirits.

Forests, Shimmering Leaves, Sprouting Seeds, and Blooms, Running Brooks, Longer Days, Greener

Come and join us in the Celebration of Fragrant

Open House MAY 5, 6, AND 7

START SPRING AT HEDGEHOG HILL

E-mail: info@HedgehogHillFarm.com

Website: www.HedgehogHillFarm.com

(207) 388-2341

Sumner, Maine 04292

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HEDGEHOG HILL FARM

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