



Bonnie Rosenthal
49th GCFM President
2019-2020
“Plant Massachusetts
with Native Trees and Shrubs”
174 Clubs
10,952 Members



Bonnie served only one year of her two-year term due to a family emergency. VP Jill Malcolm would step in to complete her term.

- Covid hit during this term and altered many in-person programs and expanding the use of virtual/Zoom programs. Design Mornings, Back to Basic, and Horticulture Morning held their in-person programs in the fall of 2019 and until March 2020 and then Covid ended in-person programs.
- The 2019 Fall Conference was held at the Hilton in Dedham and the Natalie Wolfe Forum was held there. The spring 2020 Annual Meeting was cancelled.
- Board meetings alternated between St. Brigid’s Church in Lexington and Elm Bank until Covid and then went to Zoom.
- A statewide native plant challenge was held to identify native plants in civic and private gardens and add natives, with clubs keeping track and reporting.
- 28 applications for civic and historic grants were received and 5 were given out.
- 4 NGC Plant America Grants were given to GCFM clubs.
- 11 GCFM college scholarships were given and two NGC scholarships
- The Youth Programs of the poetry contest and the Smokey Bear Contest were held
- Councils met in the fall of 2019 but come spring in-person meetings were cancelled. The same with the schools; fall schools of flower show and LDS were held, but the spring schools were cancelled.
- The 2019 SE District, Marshfield and Topsfield Fair flower shows were held, but the 2020 were cancelled.
- Clubs received NGC and NEGC awards. Two clubs received NGC yearbook awards. The Springfield GC won an NGC flower show award for their horticulture specialty show. SE District won a NE Flower Show schedule Award for their flower show.
- The June 2021, GCFM Annual Meeting, was held via ZOOM due to Covid. Wim Nijenberg, widower of Caroline, presented a sterling silver pin with emeralds representing Caroline’s love of green things - horticulture and frogs – for the First Vice President. Dr. Terrence Joyce, son of Sandi Joyce, our president from 1999-2001, announced the formation of the Sandra M. Joyce Landscape Beautification Grants to support horticulture in her memory. The speaker was Uli Lorimer, Director of Horticulture at the Native Plant Trust, who spoke on the Benefits of Ecological Horticulture.