



MAYFLOWER

The Newsletter of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

Summer 2019



NATIVE SHRUBS: Bayberry (*Morella pensylvanica*)



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MAYFLOWER

Official Publication of The Garden Club Federation
of Massachusetts, Inc.

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174 clubs

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Shrubs and Trees”

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Theme: “Planting the New England
Victory Garden”

EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING DEADLINES

June 10th – Sept./Oct./Nov. Issue

September 1st – Dec./Jan./Feb. Issue

December 1st – March/April/May Issue

March 1st – June/July/August Issue

MISSION STATEMENT

The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc., is dedicated to assisting our member clubs with education and appreciation of Horticulture, Landscape and Floral Design, Gardening and Environmental concerns.

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The *Mayflower* will not publish information on any youth under the age of 18 without the signed permission of the child's parent or legal guardian. A release form is available at

<http://www.gardenclub.org/resources/ngc-publication-release-fillable-01.pdf>.

To list an event in the Calendar:

Send date, time, location, sponsoring club, event or program title, cost (if applicable) and contact person's name, email and/or telephone # to:

CalendarEditor@hotmail.com

President's message



Welcome Summer! It is time to enjoy a slower pace and reflect on all of your wonderful accomplishments this year. Our Federation is truly a powerhouse of creativity, community service and team work. Congratulations to all of you and thank you!

I am honored to be your new President and inspired by our far reaching potential. As gardeners, we are important Stewards of the Land. It is our responsibility to model ecologically sustainable habits within GCFM and beyond.

As an ecological gardener, I understand that native perennials, shrubs and trees play an essential role. Plants are at the base of the food web. When we bring native plants into our yards, we support a healthy environment for pollinators, beneficial insects and the baby birds.

I encourage all gardeners to discover why native plants are important to them. Are you a bird watcher, adore bumblebees, butterflies, or simply enjoy the beauty of wildflowers? Whatever your reason, everyone is invited to join the new **GCFM Native Plant Challenge**.

The Native Plant Challenge is a two year President's Project and is open to all individuals, garden clubs and districts. It will be supported by a broad array of GCFM sponsored resources including workshops, online seminars, lectures and garden tours. We are collaborating with The Native Plant Trust and Grow Native Massachusetts for the benefit of all participants. Our hope is that by 2021 hundreds of new native plant gardens will have

been created and existing gardens will be supplemented with 50% or more native perennials, shrubs and trees. All participating gardens will be recognized in the Spring of 2021.

Watch for more detailed information about the Challenge on the GCFM website and remember, Massachusetts loves native plants so **GO NATIVE!** with **The Native Plant Challenge**.

I look forward to seeing everyone in September and hearing about your latest adventures in the gardens.

Bonnie Rosenthal

Creating Sustainable Landscapes by Doug Tallamy

There is a growing awareness among scientists and the public that our age-old practice of segregating humans and nature isn't working. In far too many places, there is no longer any place to segregate nature to. We are losing species from our local ecosystems left and right, something that is not sustainable, because those are the species that create the ecosystems that produce our life support services. We are an integral part of nature and are utterly dependent upon it. For that reason alone, we must put an end to our destructive relationship with nature before it puts an end to us.

Because more than 85 percent of the United States is privately owned, successful conservation efforts in the future will rely on effective conservation on private lands. So how do landowners do this? How can landscapes be designed that enhance local ecosystems, rather than degrade them? The following three suggestions are an excellent way to start.

SHRINK THE LAWN

Most suburban, rural and corporate landscapes have more space dedicated to lawn than anything else. Every square foot in lawn is a square foot that is degrading local ecosystems. Yet, turf grass is the perfect plant to walk on because it can take light to moderate foot traffic, without dying. A general rule of thumb, then, might be to reduce your lawn by half. Restrict turf to wide paths that guide you through your landscape, that draw the eye to a featured aspect of your design, or that define beds, tree groves, or various hardscapes as being purposeful and cared for. Thomas Rainer and Claudia West, two voices in building ecologically sound landscape environments, suggest we think of lawn as an area rug - not wall to wall carpeting. Superb advice!

REMOVE INVASIVE SPECIES

There is room for compromise when choosing plants for our landscapes, but not when it comes to plants that have a history of spreading to our natural areas at the expense of native plant communities. This is a no-brainer when we think of what invasive plants do; they are ecological tumors that spread unchecked into our local ecosystems, castrating their ability to function. Over time, we can get control of this problem but not until we stop planting such species as ornamentals and start investing the time and energy required to remove those we have already planted. For most homeowners, this can be

accomplished without too much blood, sweat and tears. For folks who own larger properties, it can be a substantial challenge. Yet, if every property owner removed the invasive plants from his or her land, the goal of ridding the nation of these troublemakers, or at least reducing their seed rain to manageable levels, would be 83 percent realized. We could then focus on public lands at our leisure.

PLANT KEYSTONE GENERA

Our research at the University of Delaware has shown that a few genera of native plants form the backbone of local ecosystems. Particularly in terms of producing insect-fueling food. We call these super plants "keystone genera," and landscapes that do not contain one or more species from keystone genera will not generate enough food for birds, butterflies or bees, even if the diversity of other plants is very high. Throughout most of the United States, native oaks, cherries, willow, birches, cottonwoods and elms are the top woody producers, while goldenrod, asters and sunflowers lead the herbaceous pack. You can find a list of both woody and herbaceous plant genera that are best at supporting local food webs in your county on the National Wildlife Federation website at "Native Plant Finder," <http://www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/>

Add these powerhouses to your landscape and you will be well on your way to a sustainable future.

This article is printed from the Winter 2019 issue of The National Gardener. The note below was written by Barbara Hadsell, Chairman, Gardening Schools and printed in the same issue.

Doug Tallamy is a professor in the department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware in Newark, where he has taught courses in insect taxonomy, behavioral ecology, humans and nature, and other subjects for 32 years. The author of 8 research articles, Tallamy's chief research goals include how to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities. He also has written the award-winning "Bringing Nature Home" which explores the unbreakable link between native plant species and native wildlife and co-authored "The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden," with Rick Darke.

COVER STORY

Morella pensylvanica

Morella pensylvanica is also called bayberry and is a dense-branching deciduous rounded shrub which grows 6-10' tall and wide. It is primarily found growing along the eastern coast from Newfoundland to North Carolina. It likes full sun to part shade, and tolerates both drought and wet soil. There are no serious insect or disease problems associated with this shrub.

Narrow, glossy, grayish-green leaves are up to 4 inches long and dotted with resin and aromatic when crushed. Male and female flowers appear in May on separate catkins on separate plants. Neither catkin is showy, with the male flowers a drab yellowish-green color. Flowers on female plants, if pollinated, are followed by attractive clusters of tiny, grayish-white fruits in late summer and last through the winter. The fruits are covered with an aromatic, waxy substance which is used to make bayberry candles, soaps and sealing wax. Fruits are attractive to many different birds.

Best in groups or massed, bayberry is a versatile shrub that can be used in woodland gardens, shrub borders, as a screen or informal hedge, in wet or shady sites, or on a bank for erosion control. Salt tolerance makes it appropriate for locations near roads that are salted in winter. Interesting plant for grouping in a corner of a large herb garden.

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ATTENTION GCFM BOARD of DIRECTORS

Board of Directors September Meeting will be held at

St. Brigid Parish Center Hall,

1995 Massachusetts Ave., Lexington MA 02421 on:

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 10:30 AM

Hazel Schroder, *Corresponding Secretary*

From the North:

Take exit 31A from I-95 S. Continue on MA-225 E/MA-4 S/Bedford St. Drive to 1995 Massachusetts Ave. 02421. Best entry into the parking lot is from the back side, on Worthen Road, immediately across from Douglass Funeral Home (51 Worthen Rd).

Handicapped parking and entry is available along the side of the Parish Center across from the Church. If necessary, additional handicapped access is available by parking on Mass Ave in front of the Parish Center building and entering via the front door

From South:

Via 95/128 North, Take exit 30 to merge onto MA-2A E/Marrett Rd. toward E Lexington. In a half mile, take Lincoln St to Massachusetts Ave. to 1995 Massachusetts Ave. 02421. Best entry into the parking lot is from the back side, on Worthen Road, immediately across from Douglass Funeral Home (51 Worthen Rd).

Handicapped parking and entry is available along the side of the Parish Center across from the Church. If necessary, additional handicapped access is available by parking on Mass Ave in front of the Parish Center building and entering via the front door

The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.

Southeastern District presents
“Celebrating Heritage!”



**An NGC Standard Flower Show at Heritage Museums & Gardens
67 Grove Street, Sandwich, MA on Cape Cod!**

The flower show theme is inspired by Heritage's 50th anniversary, 1969 to 2019.

17 clubs in the district will be interpreting nearly 20 of Heritage's attractions to honor this special Cape Cod icon!

The flower show is free with museum admission. Tuesday, July 16, 1 to 5 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, July 17-18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Horticulture Division I: “The Elements of Design”

Flowering branches of *Hydrangea*

Combination Planting: Dish gardens, terrariums, hanging gardens

Perennials Grown for Flowering: *Echinacea*, *Hemerocallis*, *Phlox*, *Rudbeckia*

Perennials Grown for Foliage: *Heuchera*, Fern, Ornamental Grass

Annuals Collections: *Cleomes*, *Cosmos*, *Zinnias*

Bulbs, Corms and Tubers: *Allium*, *Dahlia*, *Lilium*

Hosta: Giant, Medium, Small leaves

Design Division II: Section A “A Legacy to Capture” Designers Choice Award

Class 1: “Hidden Hollow.” Designer’s Choice.

Class 2: “Antique Automobile Collection.” Creative Design.

Class 3: “Nature’s Lines.” Multi-Rhythmic Design.

Section B: “The Glories of Heritage.” Tricolor Award

Class 4: “Flume Fountain.” Cascade design.

Class 5: “Cape Cod *Hydrangea* Society Display Garden.” Traditional Mass design.

Class 6: “Old East Mill.” Designers Choice.

Section C: “Natural Gems.” Petite Award

Class 7: “Wooded Trails.” Designers Choice.

Class 8: Labyrinth.” Creative Mass design.

Class 9: “Military Miniatures.” Angular Design.

Club Competition, Club Competition Award

Class 10: “Wedding Vow.” Buffet table for six.

Botanical Arts Division III: “Heritage Artistry”

Section A: “Cape Cod Artistry” Artistic Crafts, Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award

Class 1: “Donald Marvin Daylily Garden.” Garden Hat of dried and/or live plant material.

Class 2: “Flume Waterlily Pond.” A Brooch of dried and/or live plant material..

Class 3: “Je-Je’s Garden.” A butterfly of dried and /or live plant material.

Section B: “50 Years of Beauty.” Botanical Arts Design Award

Class 4: “Dexter Rhododendron Garden.” Plaque of dried and/or fresh plant material.

Class 5: “McGraw Family Garden of the Senses. Pot-et-Fleur.

Class 6: “1908 Charles Looft Carousel.” Mobile of dried and/or fresh plant material

Section C: “Framing Our Heritage.” Botanical Arts Photography Award

Class 7: “Native Beauty.” Black and White. Portrait orientation.

Class 8: “Heritage in Summer.” Color, portrait, or landscape orientation.

Class 9: “Spring Eternal.” Color close-up, portrait orientation.

Show Highlights: 16 design classes, including some exciting new design choices and old favorites as well!

Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts—AND Botanical Arts Design Classes, including a *challenging, but fun Mobile class and an array of Photography classes!*

27 Horticulture classes celebrating Cape Cod’s summer bounty and more!

Wish to volunteer and to hostess? Contact Leslie Avera, at Imaconsulting@SBCglobal.net.

Questions about Floral Design entries? Contact Kathleen Coyle, at kmcoyle2@verizon.net.

Questions about Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts, Design and Photography entries?

Contact Geri Williams, at geri3williams@comcast.net

Questions about the flower show, or the schedule? Contact Susan Dewey, deweysusanb@gmail.com

“Celebrating Heritage!” follows the flower show requirements of the NGC Handbook for Flower Shows, Revised 2017. To purchase the handbook, contact National Garden Clubs, www.gardenclub.org.

DISTRICT DOINGS

CENTRAL NORTH DISTRICT

Groton Garden Club

In February Groton GC along with the Nashua River Watershed Association sponsored an educational talk on “Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden”. 90 people from the surrounding area attended the lecture. Tom Sullivan of Pollinators Welcome, a design and consulting company focusing on native bee proliferation, was the speaker. Tom covered ways to encourage bees to live on your property. *(Pictured in photo are (l-r right) Priscilla Williams, Kate McNierney – NRWA, Lisa Murray, Tom Sullivan - speaker, and Donna Nowak.)*



In March, 12 members of the club visited Bonsai West in Littleton for a private tour *(see photo below)*. The highlight for many was watching the techniques used for transplanting a bonsai to a different sized pot. The most surprising thing they learned was that



a large part of the business comprises tree sitting and boarding, winter boarding, and hospital/spa stays for ailing trees. Bonsai West is open year round and many would like to go back in the summer when

the trees are displayed outside.

Holden Garden Club

The Holden Garden Club annually awards a grant funding up to but not exceeding \$1000 to Holden elementary and middle schools for the purpose of furthering studies in the disciplines of natural and environmental and horticultural sciences, conservation & renewable resources, landscaping or related disciplines. In March the club had a lecture by Thomas Mickey, author of “America’s Romance with the English Garden,” about dahlias and their history and how gardeners loved them.

Laurelwood Garden Club

In March Laurelwood GC partnered with the Fitchburg Art Museum for an annual spring presentation of Art in Bloom *(see publicity photo below)*. Garden club members, local florists and the public were invited to interpret artwork from the



museum’s collection and current exhibitions with flowers.

CENTRAL SOUTH DISTRICT

Springfield Garden Club

The Springfield Garden Club offers \$2000 in scholarships each year with a March deadline for submission. In February the club had a talk by Dan Ziomek on “Birds in the Garden,” and they made a boxwood tree at a workshop in December.

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Shrewsbury Garden Club

After a decade of hard work, the Shrewsbury Garden Club dedicated its Community Fragrant Garden, located on the Town Hall property, on June 16, 2018. (See photo of garden below). The garden is designed



so that the visually challenged can enjoy a vast variety of scents from the dozens of plants growing there. At the ceremony, the garden club was presented with a certificate by House Speaker Robert DeLeo.

Garden Club of Amherst

The GC of Amherst created a 18th century garden located east of the historic 1700s Strong House Museum and behind the 1927 Jones Public Library. This garden is a flowering oasis in the very heart of Amherst. The Garden Club of Amherst plants and maintains this delightful space for everyone to enjoy. (See photo below)



Northborough Garden Club

On March 5, 2019, the Northborough Garden Club welcomed Allison Field from OARS, the non-profit watershed association for the Assabet, Concord and Sudbury Rivers. Allison spoke on "Assabet River-Flowing Forward," an informative program on OARS' work on the Assabet, which flows through Northborough on its way to join the Sudbury River in Concord and ultimately the Merrimack River in Lowell. There is an aqueduct, a falls and many old dams along the town's portion of the river. The stream meanders through forests and wetlands and provides great walking trails throughout for those who wish to avail themselves. Wildlife abounds, including blue herons, large mouth bass, other species of fish and painted turtles. OARS is served by many volunteers who work to keep the rivers clean and useable for all.

MIDDLESEX DISTRICT

Joanne Lyons, District Director

Reading Garden Club

In December the Reading Garden Club visited the beautiful 1878 Eustis Estate mansion in Milton and saw the lavish decorations during "A Victorian Christmas." (See below; Sally Nitzche, Michelle Occhiuti, Mary Jo Nappi, Adeline Kilduff, Ann Morris, Barbara Carney, Joan Cushing, Sue Shealy, Carol Moran, Nancy Reid). The mantle pieces were



adorned by decorations inspired by nature and
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several arrangements were done by local area garden clubs. Then members enjoyed a delightful lunch at the Granite Links Golf Club.

Crystal GC of Reading & Wakefield

Nancy Vargas, owner of Le Jardin Blanc, presented "Eco Friendly Floral Design for the Winter Holidays" for the Wakefield Garden Club and the Crystal Garden Club of Reading and Wakefield in December. *(One of the designs pictured right.)*



Winchester Home & GC

Winchester Home & GC looked to be creative the first of the year with table arrangements. In January they had "Designing Edible Centerpieces" with Lou Greenstein and in February, they had "Creative Tablescapes" from the MFA with Margaret Graham.

METRO DISTRICT

Fawn Hurwitz & Ruth Ecker

The Fairbanks Garden Club

The Fairbanks Garden Club will be awarding a \$500.00 scholarship to a Dedham High School student who would like to pursue a career in environmental education. On November 30th they had a fundraiser for the scholarship fund in which they decorated and raffled off ten Christmas trees *(pictured below)* in the foyer of the Dedham



Community Theatre. It was a wonderful success because it coincided with the Dedham Stroll and the whole town was out for a fun night and ten lucky people went home with a beautiful decorated Christmas tree.

Wellesley House and Garden Club

In January the Club received a \$1,000 grant from National Garden Clubs for a Plant America Community Project for work in Wellesley Square's Central Park that has been ongoing since 1963. Diseased trees had to be removed, creating sunny growing conditions. In coordination with the town's Department of Public Works, it has been decided to plant natives throughout this inviting park, outfitted with benches, a picnic table and a sculpture, "Girl with Butterfly."

Recent field trips included visits to Boston Public Market and Historic New England's Eustis Estate in Milton.



(Pictured left to right: Burkey Pratt, Cindy Jaczko, Anne Ammons, Ruth Ecker, Deb Cogill, Barb Viechnicki, Beth Bierbaum, Regina Bibb)

Chestnut Hill Garden Club

The Chestnut Hill GC members have been working in partnership with the City of Newton to restore Hammond Pond habitat. In 2006, bio-retention beds and two perimeter sand filters were installed at the southern edge. The members of the club took on the task of designing vegetative buffers and continue to act as stewards of this unique landscape. The garden was the first of its type on municipal land in the state of Massachusetts and it is used as a model for other municipalities.

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Needham Beth Shalom Garden Club

The 11th Annual, award-winning Needham Art in Bloom was held March 8-10, with 70+ exhibits. This show, brought together Needham High School students' multi-media art work with floral interpretations by members of Needham's three garden clubs: Kalmia, Needham and Beth Shalom Garden clubs (See photo of art & design below). Sue



Kaplan, Beth Shalom Garden Club's co-chair, explained the event's magnetism by saying, "Needham's Art in Bloom really appeals to everyone - art lovers, flower lovers, seniors, students, couples, families with young children everyone!"

The Medfield Garden Club

The Medfield Garden Club hosted Federation President, Suzanne McCance and Vice President, Bonnie Rosenthal, at a special event in January, "Tea, Talent and Thanks." (See photo of buffet table left) The Medfield Garden Club has an eighty-five year history of its annual Appreciation Tea. This year's Appreciation Tea included an exhibit of twenty-six entries of



member artwork, crafts and photography celebrating the talent of members. The buffet table was a work of art in itself!

Dover Powisset Garden Club

In March the Powisset GC had Chef Liz Barbour demonstrate how to use found objects, fruits, vegetables, fine china, fresh herbs, and flowers to create a three-dimensional still life design for a buffet table. Following the demonstration Liz did a cooking demonstration and tasting of 2 seasonal side dishes.

Evening GC of West Roxbury

The club has five civic sites that they care for during the year. They are; the flagpole garden at Beethoven Elementary School, Caledonian traffic island Mass DOT Visibility Site, entryway garden & reading garden at the West Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library (see photo below); the West Roxbury



Parkway entrance to Allandale Woods Urban Wild and the monument there commemorating the annexation of West Roxbury to the City of Boston.

NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT

Susan Anderson, District Director

News from the Marblehead GCs

The Cottage Gardeners of Marblehead & Swampscott hosted a luncheon in mid-January bringing together the presidents and program coordinators of the five

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garden clubs of Marblehead. This was an extraordinary opportunity to get acquainted and share information on program selection, civic responsibilities, fundraising, and to support each other going forward.

Manchester Garden Club

In early December the Manchester Garden Club participated in the Castle Hill "By-the-Sea Christmas" event. The "Bride's Room" won top vote by the visiting public for "Best Room." Teresa Ramirez and Maria Schmidt are two of the floral designers who helped create the lovely winter arrangements (pictured right).



Cottage Gardeners of Marblehead & Swampscott

The Cottage Gardeners of Marblehead & Swampscott participated in holiday decorating at The King Hooper Mansion along with the four other Marblehead garden clubs. This year's theme was ***Christmas Around the World***. The club's assignment was to represent a traditional German holiday celebration and included greens, authentic German nutcrackers, toys and ornaments (decorators pictured below).



The Salem Garden Club

Members of SGC enjoyed preparing for the Christmas Boutique at a workshop held on November 29th. Wreaths, boxwood trees, swags, and arrangements were created by members to sell at this annual fundraiser. (Pictured below are Bonnie Henry, Judy Giunta, Nancy Lutts, and Linda Vaughn.)



NORTHERN DISTRICT Marsha Ledbury, District Director

Topsfield New Meadows GC

The New Meadows GC decorated the Topsfield library for the holidays (pictured below). They also held a workshop to make boxwood trees for the Council on Aging.



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Topsfield Garden Club

The club hosted an Expo on April 13th in Topsfield Center. There was floral demonstrations, food trucks, fun for the kids and vendors and exhibitors.

Danvers Garden Club

In March the Danvers GC had a program on "Birdscaping: Home Sweet Habitat." The program was given by Jana Milbocker and Joan Butler. The program gave members ideas to encourage birds into their yards.

Chelmsford Garden Club

In March the Chelmsford GC had a program entitled "David Austin's English Roses for New England Gardens," presented by Mike and Angelina Chute (pictured below with their book on roses).



Groveland Garden Club

The Little Red School House, as it's affectionately called by townsfolk, is owned by the Town of Groveland, and leased to the Groveland Garden Club. The Club saved the building from demolition in 1969 and has since lovingly cared for the schoolhouse as a living exhibit. To date, they have repaired the roof, installed new insulated windows, donned a fresh coat of paint, updated plumbing that hooks into the city sewer and repaired the foundation. They are still working towards updating the electrical and replacing the ceiling (that was damaged by the old leaky roof), as well as adding shelving in certain areas for storage.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

Gail Reilly, District Director

Aptuxcet Garden Club

Many hands make light work for the annual greens sale held by the Aptuxcet Garden Club in early December 2018. All wreaths, swags and table arrangements were hand made by members (see photo below) along with delicious holiday desserts!



Evening Garden Club of Plymouth

The Evening Garden Club of Plymouth did 123 small arrangements for the Meals on Wheels program at the Plymouth Council for Aging (See photo below of club with arrangements) and which were delivered with each meal. Actually there are 140 meals delivered each day but they only had flowers for 123. The club covers the cost so it is done only once a year.



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Attleboro Garden Club

Members of the Attleboro Garden Club listen intently to a docent explaining the history of Linden Place Mansion in Bristol RI. The mansion was all decked out for the season. The group met for lunch at co-President Joscelyn Varieur's home in Bristol. The Attleboro Library was festively decorated for the holiday season by the Attleboro Garden Club.



(Members of the Attleboro GC with docent at the Linden Place Mansion in Bristol, RI.)

Osterville Garden Club

Osterville Garden Club held their "Coastal Christmas" House Tour on Dec 8. Five homes were decorated by the club and 705 tickets were sold to the public. Each home featured unique floral arrangements. (See photo right of one decorated room.) A



boutique featured items crafted and designed by

members. People attending urged us to repeat the tour next year!

Garden Club of Hyannis

The Garden Club of Hyannis worked at the Cape Cod Hospital to decorate seven different areas of the hospital with gorgeous trees. Also members decorated the Hyannis Public Library both inside and out. The club had a very informative presentation on "The water quality on Cape Cod" by Andrew Goitleib, Executive director of the Assoc. to Preserve Cape Cod. (Below, members of the GC of Hyannis who helped to decorate at the Cape Cod Hospital.)



Falmouth Garden Club

In November, 2018, the FGC presented "High Tea Time." (See photo right) Veteran designers matched up with new members to create a 'tea time' vignette from around the world. Each team presented their design, explanation, and story. It was a most informative and pleasurable meeting!



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SOUTH SHORE DISTRICT

Roni Lahage, Director

December had south shore clubs holding holiday greens sales and celebrating with luncheons and parties, and saying bye to member snowbirds as many clubs do not meet in January.

Hull Garden Club

The Hull Garden Club celebrated the holidays by distributing small pine cone trees to members to decorate. The beautifully decorated trees (Pictured right: one of the clubs Holiday Trees) were then raffled off at their annual December party, along with a Yankee swap.



Marshfield Seaside Gardeners

Marshfield Seaside Gardeners held their first very successful annual wreath sale in early Dec. Members designed, constructed and decorated two styles of fresh wreaths in traditional and seaside styles. The wreaths were advertised locally, with pre-ordering suggested. The remaining wreaths and additional greens were then sold at the North Community Church Holiday Fair. (Pictured below: Seaside Gardeners of Marshfield: Jean Leahy, Marcia Joyce,



Carol Keaveny, Sue MacPherson and Sue Sylvester.)

Open Gate GC of Foxboro

Carol Chambers and Carol Fraser of the Open Gate Garden Club of Foxboro decorated an unusual "Kitchen" Tree in the southern tradition for this year's Mass Horticultural Festival of Trees. They incorporated all kinds of kitchen implements and used pot holders as a tree skirt. (Pictured left: their entry at MA Hort's Festival of Trees) The Open Gate GC of Foxboro has been participating in this annual event for many years.



Sharon Garden Club

In early winter, Sharon Garden Club members enjoyed an educational walk thru Sharon Conservation Land with club member and native plant expert Ed Burr. It was a spectacular morning as Ed highlighted native, edible and medicinal species, also describing their role in local ecology. (Pictured above; Sharon Garden Club on a nature walk.)



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Foxboro Garden Club The February meeting of the Foxboro Garden Club featured Neal Sanders' candid and funny presentation "Flower Show Confidential". Lively questions followed; club members and guests from other gardens club enjoyed socializing and refreshments.



(Pictured above; February 2019, Foxboro Garden Club meeting)

Amateur Gardeners of Milton

The **Amateur Gardeners of Milton** held their annual Valentine's Day Garden Therapy at the Milton Council on Aging function room (see photo below).



Always a popular event, the garden club hosted more than 80 senior citizens, offering them a complimentary lunch, and providing the materials and a demonstration of how to make a lovely flower arrangement to bring home.

Weymouth Garden Club President Yoshie Picciotto of the Weymouth Garden Club led members in a workshop to create "Kokedamas" or Japanese moss balls at their February meeting. All the plants used were rooted by club members.



(Pictured above: Weymouth Garden Club members with their "Kokedamas".)

The Gardener

The gardener does not love to talk.
He makes me keep the gravel walk;
And when he puts his tools away,
He locks the door and takes the key.

Away behind the currant row,
Where no one else but cook may go,
Far in the plots, I see him dig,
Old and serious, brown and big.

He digs the flowers, green, red, and blue,
Nor wishes to be spoken to.
He digs the flowers and cuts the hay,
And never seems to want to play.

Silly gardener! summer goes,
And winter comes with pinching toes,
When in the garden bare and brown
You must lay your barrow down.

Well now, and while the summer stays,
To profit by these garden days
O how much wiser you would be
To play at Indian wars with me!

Robert Louis Stevenson

The South Shore District, Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.
and The Marshfield Agricultural and Horticultural Society

Present

South Shore Summah
An NGC Standard Flower Show



Celebrating 20 Years of GCFM Flower Shows at the
Marshfield Fair, Agricultural Hall, 140 Main St, Marshfield, MA 02050
781-834-6629

August 16-25, 2019; 12:00 noon to 10:00 pm

Admission included with Marshfield Fair General Admission Ticket

Horticulture Classes, Abbreviated

Section A: Yard Games, Cut Annual Grown for Foliage: one stem

Class 1: *Caladium*

Class 2: *Coleus*

Class 3: *Ipomoea*, Sweet Potato Vine

Class 4: Any other show-worthy specimen

Section B: Picnics in the Park, Cut Perennial Grown for Foliage: one stem

Class 5: *Brunnera*

Class 6: *Heuchera* (Coral Bells)

Class 7: *Hosta*

Class 8: Any other show-worthy specimen

Section C: Party Favors, Cut Flowering Annuals: one stem

Class 9: *Dahlia*

Class 10: *Helianthus* (Sunflower)

Class 11: *Zinnia* (Zinnia)

Class 12: Any other show-worthy specimen

Section D: Fireworks, Cut Flowering Perennials: one stem

Class 13: *Echinacea* (Coneflower)

Class 14: *Helenium*

Class 15: *Rosa* (Rose)

Class 16: Any other show-worthy specimen

Design Classes

Section A: Fun in the Sun

Eligible for Tricolor Award, All plant material must be fresh.

Class 1: **Music Circus**, American Traditional Mass Design

Class 2: **Farmers Market**, Creative Mass Design

Class 3: **Regattas**, American Traditional Line or Line-Mass Design

Section B: More Fun, Fun, Fun

Eligible for Designer's Choice, Plant material may be dried, treated dried, and/or fresh.

Class 4: **The Beach**, Creative Line or Line-Mass Design

Class 5: **Carnival**, Creative Armature Design

Class 6: **Arts Festival**, Choice of Creative Design

The Plastics Pollution Crisis: Did You Know it is Growing?

Maria Bartlett, Environmental Awareness chair

We have all heard that only 9% of plastics are recycled: the rest are burned (resulting in toxic air pollution) or buried (overflowing landfills where they never decompose). Or they are discarded into the environment where they pollute waterways and land areas. We have all seen pictures of the huge island of plastic waste the size of Texas floating in the ocean west of Hawaii and the fish, birds and mammals killed by ingesting the discarded pellets and plastic bags. But, are we aware that the petrochemical industry plans huge increases in plastics production worldwide to meet the increased demand, especially for packaging?! Exxon alone is investing \$20 billion in new infrastructure along the Gulf Coast to increase production of plastics. Other companies are expanding along the Ohio River Valley and in Asia. The industry sees investing in plastics production as a way to thrive as fossil fuel consumption for electricity generation and transportation decreases.

The problems with plastics are:

- Chemical-laden waste water is discharged from production plants into bays and streams.
- Air pollution is increased as production plants release SO₂, VOC, NO, carcinogens and particulate matter.
- Large tax incentives given to companies reduce budgets available for schools, health care, and other important community needs.
- Large amounts of water are used for production, often in drought-prone areas.
- Agricultural lands are being converted to industrial uses.
- Production plants are often built in hurricane prone areas resulting in toxic emissions when plants are shut down.
- Increased plastic waste goes into the environment as very little is recycled.
- Increased fossil fuels used in plastics production increases climate change.
- Harm is caused to wildlife through ingestion of plastics.

The companies take little responsibility for the environmental damage and the greenhouse gases emitted, and their small efforts so far amount to green-washing. They make us feel that it is the up to citizens/communities/government to deal with recycling and the other very real consequences.

What can we do?

- Make sure our legislators and regulators support tough environmental rules via Clean Water and Clean Air rules. Vote for those who will do so.
- Eliminate petrochemical companies from any of your investment portfolios
- Reduce our use of plastics to as close to zero as possible by totally eliminating single-use plastics (plastic wrap, water bottles, etc) and by substituting glass/stainless steel and biodegradable containers for other plastics. Buy wooden toys.
- Join campaigns to require petrochemical companies to pay the full environmental costs of their products. Get active locally to support reuse/reduce campaigns.
- Responsibly recycle all plastics it is unavoidable to use.
- For more information: <https://www.thenation.com/article/plastics-pollution-crisis-fracking-petrochemicals/>

POETRY and ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS



Four Harwich Elementary School students, sponsored by the Harwich Garden Club in the national Garden Club Poetry Contest with the theme "Pop Goes the Seed." for 2018-2019. In this year's competition, Julia Rodrigues was named the Kindergarten First Place State Winner of the poetry contest for her poem titled "Bees." Sarah De Souza was named the Kindergarten Second Place State Winner for her poem, "Queen Bees." In addition, Julia Zacharias and Lamis Kefel

received Certificates of Appreciation for their participation in the competition..

As the statewide First Place winner, Julia Rodrigues' poem has been forwarded to the New England Regional division for further judging. Congratulations to these students on this honor! Left to right: Julia Rodrigues, Julia Zacharias, Donna Coveney, Lamis Kefel, Sarah De Souza, and Beth Connors

Abby Wall of North Reading won Second Place in the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts High School Essay Contest. Sponsored by the North Reading Garden Club, Abby was awarded a check for \$100 for her essay, "The Effects of Bottled Water." Pictured, left to right: Anne Lundell, Co-president, North Reading Garden Club, Charlene Malek, GCFM Essay Contest Chairperson, Abby Wall, and her mother, Laura Bowers.



POETRY and ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

The Wareham Garden Club is very pleased to announce that Maeve Geagan-Lopes has won Second Grade First Prize for the state of Massachusetts for her poem "My Beach Fun"!



Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts President Suzanne McCance and Northern District Director Marsha Ledbury presented Dasia Allen with the GCFM First Place Grade 7 Certificate for her poem "Courage of a Seed" during the Northern District meeting. The Tewksbury Garden Club sponsored Dasia in the National Garden Club's Poetry Contest. *(Pictured left Dasia's mother, Dasia and Charlene Malek)*

The North Reading Garden Club was pleased to sponsor student entries in the "Pop Goes the Seed" poetry contest. First Grade winners were thrilled to receive their certificates. Pictured at left, front row from left: Cameron Kusinski (second place), Caroline Miller (first place state winner), Kallie La Barge (third place), Caroline Miller (first place), Starr Gerrior (honorable mention); back row from left: E.E. Little School first grade teacher Patricia Elwell, GCFM Poetry Contest Chairperson Charlene Malek and Superintendent of Schools Jon Bernard.



**Registration for Flower Show School Course I
October 16, 17, 18, 2019**

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Garden Club: _____

Full Course with Exam: Oct. 16, 17, 18, Box Lunch \$140.00 \$_____

Two-day instruction, **NO exam:** Oct. 16, 17. Box Lunch \$135.00 \$_____

Wednesday, October 16 **ONLY**

Design: Design; Flower Show Procedure: \$ 75.00 \$_____

Thursday, October 17 **ONLY**

Flower Show Procedure; Horticulture \$ 75.00 \$_____

Wednesday, October 16, Box Lunch \$ 24.00 \$_____

Thursday, October 17, Box Lunch \$ 24.00 \$_____

Total Remittance \$_____

Food Allergies _____

Do you require Vegetarian _____

Please make CHECK payable to GCFM Inc. No refunds for canceled registrations will be made after August 1, 2019. Call Diane Bullock, FSS Chairman, 207-361-1818 or Dbull29441@aol.com with questions.

Mail completed REGISTRATION with CHECK and *The National Gardener* label

before September 1, 2019, to:

Jill Malcolm,

33 Bonney Drive

Holliston, MA 01746.

jillyjill07@comcast.net

Please affix MAILING LABEL WITH YOUR NAME from
The National Gardener or your NGC Life Number, here:

REQUIRED READING LIST

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL COURSE I

The National Gardener available online at www.gardenclub.org

Handbook for Flower Shows, (2017 revised edition)

Chapters 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14

Outlines of Period Floral Arrangement – Hanay

Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging

RECOMMENDED READING

Guide to the New Petite Floral Designs – Anna G. Burns

THE GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION OF MASSACHUSETTS, INC.

www.gcfm.org

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL COURSE I

Growing, Staging, Exhibiting and Judging

October 16, 17 and 18, 2019

Double Tree by Hilton, 11 Beaver Street, Milford, MA 01757

Accredited by: National Garden Clubs, Inc. www.gardenclub.org

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019

8:00am **Registration and Coffee**

8:15 – 8:30 **Greeting and Announcements**

8:30 – 9:30 **Procedure** - Sandra Joyce, Instructor

9:45 – 12:15pm **DESIGN** - Mary Huntoon, Instructor

12:15 – 1:15 **Lunch and Re-registration**

1:00 – 3:00 **Design Practice Point Scoring**

3:00 – 3:15 **Break**

3:15 – 3:45 **Design (continued)**

3:45 – 4:00 **Break**

4:00 – 5:00 **Point Score Exam**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2019

8:00am **Registration and Coffee**

8:15 – 8:30 **Greetings and Announcements**

8:30 – 9:30 **Flower Show Procedure** – cont'd

9:30 – 9:45 **Break**

9:45 – 12:15 **Horticulture** – Sandi Joyce

12:15 – 1:00 **Lunch and Re-registration**

1:00 – 3:00 **Horticulture Practice Point Scoring**

3:00 – 3:15 **Break**

3:15 – 3:45 **Horticulture Practice Point Scoring**

3:45 – 4:00 **Break**

4:00 – 5:00 **Horticulture Point Scoring Exam**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2019

8:30am **Registration**

9:00 – 12:00 **Written Exam**

□ The Exam includes ten questions on each of the three subjects. The tenth question of each subject is taken from the books on the Required Reading List and the Glossary for Design, pages 139-154 and will not be covered during the lectures.

2019 Northern District Annual Meeting

By Linda Jean Smith

The 2019 Northern District Annual Meeting was held on April 24th at the Tewksbury Country Club. Over 50 people were in attendance representing 14 clubs. District Director Marsha Ledbury introduced GCFM officers, President Suzanne McCance, 1st Vice President Bonnie Rosenthal, 2nd Vice President Betsy Howard, and Treasurer Ann Webster.

The morning program consisted of a presentation by Danvers GC co-president, Julie McCarriston, with a PowerPoint presentation on some of their club's projects especially creating a new award to honor a long-time member Evie Frasier. Pat Flaherty, floral designer and owner of Evergreen Florist in



Stoneham, (pictured above right with District Director Marsha Ledbury) followed with an interesting talk on the florist business over the 40 years she has been doing it. She had interesting stories and interesting designs with a few florists tips along the way.

Following the morning talk was a break and time for boutique shopping for the vendors. There was a display of trayscapes done by several of the garden clubs; North Andover, North Reading, Andover Spade & Trowel and Tewksbury (pictured below).



A buffet lunch followed. Table centerpieces were done by the Boxford Village GC (pictured right.)



The afternoon had two guest speakers. Rose O'Neil of the Tewksbury GC spoke of how the club updated a tired rain garden at the senior center in town. Then Tina Girdwood, president of the Andover GC, showed how the club ran a very successful holiday house tour fundraiser with the organization and prep that was needed.

The Northern District Awards were presented by Helen Ann Knepper, Awards Chairman. The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Ann Lange of the Andover GC (pictured right). The Pauline Jensen Award went to Jane Jeffers of the West Newbury GC,



who was not in attendance. The Katherine Suozzo Horticulture Award went to Joan Rollenhagen of the Village GC of Andover (pictured left in pink). Certificates of Distinction went to Dorothy Falk of the Boxford Village GC, Judy Wright of the Andover GC and Evelyn Frazer of the Danvers GC. Dana McKay of the Andover GC received the district scholarship for Gardening School. District Director Marsha Ledbury gave Linda Jean Smith of the Open Gate GC of Chelmsford a Certificate of Distinction for her help during Marsha's two years as district director.

As special guest in the afternoon was Dasia Allen, a 7th grader who won the GCFM Poetry Contest. She read her poem, "Pop Goes the Seed" to the club members in attendance. She was sponsored by the Tewksbury GC.

Attendees headed home around 2:30 PM after a very informative day.

Presidents Pins/Past Presidents Bars

GCFM offers sterling silver Presidents Pins with the Federation Seal and/or a Past President Bar.

The Pin alone is \$50.00 plus \$3.13 tax and \$3.66 shipping

The bar alone is \$30.00 plus \$1.88 tax and \$3.66 shipping

The Pin and Bar combo is \$80.00 plus \$5.01 tax and \$3.66 shipping

To order, please complete the form below and mail to:

Jill Malcolm

33 Bonney Drive

Holliston, MA 01746

Questions? Contact Jill at 508-429-4395 or jillyjill07@comcast.net

Garden Club: _____

Mail to: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Item Description	Quantity	Unit price plus tax & shipping	Total
Presidents Pin		\$56.79	
Past President Bar		\$35.54	
Pin/Bar Combo		\$88.67	

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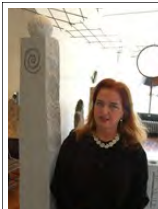
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*Look for us at the 2019
New England Flower Shows*



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2019 Gloucester's Garden Tour | Saturday July 6th — 10:00 to 4:00

"Gloucester's Stunning Back Shore"

This year's Generous Gardeners' Garden Tour will provide the opportunity to see hidden backyard gardens behind many of the impressive facades on Atlantic Road and neighboring roads. One iconic property on Sherman Point is 3.5 acres of manicured lawn and gardens that served as a small golf course for the original owner.

Tickets are \$30 each and may be purchased the day of the tour at the Stop & Shop parking lot, 6 Thatcher Road, Gloucester, or in advance on our website GenerousGardeners.org. This is a self-guided walking tour of 3 miles roundtrip from Stop & Shop.

Photography welcome • No pets • Rain or shine

For more information contact Susan Kelly,
susan@generousgardeners.org or 781-346-1363.

Proceeds are for beautification of Gloucester public gardens.



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Save the Date

Buxton Branch
American Begonia Society

New England Chapter of the American
Gesneriad Society

Annual Sale and Show
September 21-22, 2019

Tower Hill Botanic Garden
Boylston, MA

**GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION OF MA
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

I/We would like to make a gift to the GCFM Scholarship Fund:

Name: _____

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Garden Club: _____ District _____

Amount of Gift: _____

If your gift is in Honor of or in Memory of someone, fill in the appropriate information below.

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Name: _____

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Gift given to a specific Scholarship –Name: _____

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Garden Clubs that make a gift of \$50 or more will receive a certificate of appreciation as well as an acknowledgment card.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 2019

- 5 GCFM Annual Meeting 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Hilton Dedham 25 Allied Drive, Dedham, Massachusetts, 02026
- 12 GCFM Board of Directors Meeting, 10:30 AM
- 26 Falmouth GC will host "June Blooms", A Tour of Seven Falmouth Gardens including a Garden Boutique/Plant Sale 10 am to 3 pm. Tickets are \$25 in advance; \$30 day of tour. For more information visit: falmouthgardenclub.org or call Janice Burton at 508-333-4016.

JULY 2019

- 13 The Wareham GC, presents "A Summer Garden Sampler Garden Tour" 9am-4pm. Start at the Wareham Public Library, tour through six lovely Wareham properties - big gardens, small gardens, trough gardens, moss gardens, herb gardens, organic vegetable gardens, vista gardens, and gardens by the sea. For more information: warehamgardenclub@gmail.com
- 13 Salem GC hosts "A Stroll Through the Gardens of Salem" Willows Neighborhood 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Rain or Shine. Tickets: \$22 day of the tour at the corner of Winter Island Rd. and Fort Ave., Salem, MA. \$20 if purchased by Thursday, July 11, 2019 at www.SalemGardenClub.com

The Salem Garden Club hosts a self-guided "Garden Stroll" with a tour of private gardens in the Willows. Featured are more than 10 traditional, quaint, and eclectic gardens. Complimentary refreshments of lemonade and cookies will be served to strollers along the route. Local musicians and artists will be featured in several gardens. These private gardens are not handicapped accessible. Pets and carriages are not permitted.

For tickets and more details visit our website at www.SalemGardenClub.com.

For Updated Calendar Listings, go to www.gcfm.org
and find the latest additions under Events

WIND, WAVES & LIGHT

**ART IN MOTION BY
GEORGE SHERWOOD
APRIL 13 – OCTOBER 14**

This unconventional exhibition features large stainless steel sculptures that move and change with the wind. An artist and engineer, George Sherwood creates kinetic sculptures that evoke shimmering leaves and waves of light on water.

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