



Mrs. Ralph S. Davis (Helen S.)
22nd GCFM President
1966-1968
***“The Enhancement of Nature
by the Hand of Man”***
187 clubs – 12,160 members



Probably the most important achievement of this administration was the exemption of GCFM from Federal Income Tax as an organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code by the Internal Revenue Service.

Six new clubs with a total membership of 357 were added to the roster. A new Blue Star Memorial Highway, including portions of Routes I-95 and I-495 from Rhode Island to the Essex-Middlesex County line was dedicated. Two courses each for Flower Show Schools and Landscape Design School were held. The Conservation Committee held its annual fall meeting at the Wellesley Congregational Church. “The Challenge of Our Environment” was the theme of the day. Anti-Litter and Civic Development (Sears) have expanded their programs.

One of the many rewarding district projects was the successful launching of a beautification program in Roxbury on a neglected lot; a pocket park with a garden area with the assistance of children, parents and even an elderly grandfather to create an island of beauty.

For garden tourists, *Visiting Gardens in Massachusetts*, a list of 78 outstanding landscapes, was available to members at the GCFM headquarters in Horticultural Hall.

Sixty-one flower arrangers attended the first symposium to be offered in Massachusetts; and *The Flower Show Manual*, compiled and edited by the Flower Show Evaluation Committee of GCFM, went through two sold-out printings.

In 1967 Mrs. Davis had the pleasure of accepting the Sears Regional Civic Beautification Silver Bowl on behalf of The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts. The award was based on the aesthetic quality and permanence of projects undertaken and the percentage increase in application grants.

Note: Mrs. Davis also served a term as Director of New England Garden Clubs (NEGC) 1978-1980