



Nurture Nature

Monday Memo

April 22, 2024

Hello Everyone,

TONIGHT ON ZOOM @ 6:30 pm! I hope many of you will join in on the webinar tonight hosted by **Gail Hubacker, the GCFM Flower Show Award Chair**. [Register here](#). This webinar will tell you how Flower Shows are evaluated, Book of Evidence requirements, application deadlines and there will be a panel discussion. It will be very informative.

At GCFM, we are trying to continue to educate our members on every facet of the organization be it awards in general, flower show awards, treasury webinars to get all of your questions answered, floral design classes, landscape design school, gardening studies, FUNDamentals, and then some fun webinars which help you learn more about gardening.

Always check our website under the flower “**Latest Events**” to see what’s hot in the month of April. [Click here](#) to view.

On April 29th, GCFM will present a webinar on “**How to Start a Garden Therapy Program**”. The Framingham Garden Club panel will present with slides and have a Q & A. [Register here](#).

Just a heads up: Kate is generally in the office on Tuesdays from 11 AM - 2 PM. Next week, as an exception, she will be in the office on Monday, 4/28 and not on 4/29, in case you want to reach her or go into the office.

Volunteer Opportunity!!! We are looking for a photographer for our Annual Meeting on June 13th in Andover. If you have this talent and will already be attending the meeting, we would like to talk to you. Please reach out to [me](#) if you are interested in helping us out for the day. Thank you.

Another Volunteer Opportunity!! The Scholarship Committee is looking for two more members. According to our bylaws, the committee consists of a Chair and 6 additional members. Currently, there are only 4 additional members which was an oversight on our part. This committee handles the 11 scholarships that GCFM offers every year. It is a very well run

committee and Joscelyn Varieur has done an outstanding job getting the word out to schools across the state. This commitment is only once a year to review the applications once the deadline has been met. All meetings are done by zoom. Please contact [Joscelyn](#) if you have an interest in this committee.

Happy Earth Day!! National Garden Clubs is celebrating Earth Day by suggesting a gift idea with an Earth Day Youth Book "My Green is Gone" written by our National President, Brenda Moore. Let's remind kids this EARTH DAY of how important it is to care for our planet. This book is for elementary school children grades K - 4.

[Click here](#) to order.

Condolences are in order for William Thurston, husband of Ginny Thurston, our GCFM state president from 1977-1979.

[The Virginia Thurston Healing Garden Cancer Support Center](#) is saddened to announce the passing of its founder Bill Thurston at age 102. Services will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 2-5 pm at the Virginia Thurston Healing Garden and Cancer Support Center at 145 Bolton Road, Harvard, MA. [Bill's obituary](#)

It is with the heaviest heart that I have to announce the passing of **Suzanne Mahler**, a beloved Master Gardener and Horticulturist and long time member of GCFM, having served as Horticulture Chair for many years as well as a long time member of the Walnut Hill Garden Club of Hanover. Suzanne had a wealth of botanical knowledge and gave many, many lectures over the years. She continually educated us about the garden landscape, often using her own garden as examples of what to do, and what not to do, or what to do after so many years of established trees and shrubs. She opened her garden to anyone who was interested in visiting, especially in July when her daylilies bloomed profusely. A remarkable woman. Numerous clubs will fondly remember her as she was a popular program speaker for many years. She was a gift to the Federation and gave generously of her time.

Read Suzanne's obituary [here](#). The family has decided to do a memorial later in the spring. For those who might not know her, please take the time to look at how marvelous she was, [Suzannemahler.com](#) to view her website. She was a pure delight and she will be sorely missed but her legacy will be the garden she created over 40 years and the knowledge she imparted to us all.

Enjoy each day.



Marjorie Dienhart
GCFM President

We come from the earth, we return to the earth, and in between we garden.