



Mrs. Donald Parkes (Jeanne-Marie)
32nd GCFM President
1985-1987
“Unity in Gardening and Friendship”
193 clubs – 12,060 members



GCFM was honored by being the recipient of the New England Region Unified Project Award, National Speech winner, National Essay winner and a National Scholarship winner.

Although active in all phases of national and state objectives, the main focus of the clubs was Civic, Conservation and Beautification projects which was evident in their communities. The Chelmsford Garden Club was the recipient of a National Arbor Day Foundation Award (the only garden club throughout the country to receive one). The clubs became more involved with state agencies. Examples are: Adopt-A-Lot and Adopt-A-Brook projects (cleanup and maintenance of state owned properties). Landscape Design Critics judged the yearly park competition for the Park Commission and GCFM was asked to assist with the Boston Harbor Island cleanup. A worthy district project was The Amory Woods Conservation Sanctuary. The significant feature of its design is to accommodate people with physical restrictions, one of the very few natural areas accessible to everyone.

The members were most helpful and supportive of state and district meetings, fund raisers, numerous workshops, waste conference, wildflower projects, and schools. GCFM awarded \$10,050 in scholarships and the clubs awarded \$46,000 to worthy students. Silver president pins using the design of the GCFM seal were manufactured and available for club presidents and past presidents.

A study was conducted on the redistricting of clubs, bylaws were revised and the Guidelines for Executive Board Members were updated.

Note: Jeanne-Marie Parkes also served as NEGC President from 1997 – 1999.