



Barbara D. May
36th GCFM President
1993-1995
“Together We Grow”
181 clubs – 12,244 members



Together We Grow! provided the focus for this administration. The administration updated and improved many of GCFM's operations. New computer equipment was purchased and our many forms were improved. There was continuing development of our bi-monthly magazine, the *Mayflower*. Bylaws were revised. This president worked to involve all our membership in our educational programs.

Workshops that included program ideas for clubs, Garden Therapy, Historic Preservation and the how-to of Awards all encouraged this concept. The continuing design workshop program taught many members the basics of floral design. But more significant is the fact that several of the students in the class went back to their clubs and taught their members what they learned.

We began to interface with more organizations within the state. GCFM served on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Urban Tree Association; as an advisor and endorser of the Landscape Design television program "Breaking Ground"; and successfully petitioned the Massachusetts Legislature to declare the first week in June "Garden Week" in perpetuity.

During this administration, the most significant program developed was "Massachusetts Gardens on Tour", a garden tour which encompassed 58 gardens throughout the entire state. The average garden had 250-300 viewers per day, per garden. We perceive this project as one of the most positive public relations tool we have ever had. This fundraiser helped our scholarship funds as well as GCFM's general fund.

Member clubs continued service to their communities with tree plantings, civic gardening projects, garden therapy and preservation of historic buildings. They were responsible for recycling centers and involved in many aspects of improving the environment.

GCFM is a vital part of the horticultural and environmental movement in the state and we work in partnership with the other organizations that foster the same ideals of National Council. "We Love to Garden and it Shows."

Note: Barbara May served as NGC's 60th President from 2007-2009.