

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2018

- 3-9 National Garden week
8-9 Nauset GC presents, "Art in Bloom: A Celebration of Art and Floral Design," 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM Crosby Mansion 163 Crosby Lane, Brewster MA, \$20 (advance sale); \$25 (at the door)
www.nausetgardenclub.org
11 Gardening Consultants Council Annual Meeting
13 GCFM Board Meeting, 10:30 AM Espousal Center, Waltham
16 Brockton GC, "Plant and Yard Sale" with the Brockton Historical Society 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. 216 N. Pearl Street, Brockton
23 Nahant GC, presents "Porches & Garden Tour" 11:00 A<M - 3:00 PM. Tickets are \$25. Please email nahantgardenclub@yahoo.com for tickets. Or call Margaret Blank at 781-581-0595.

July 2018

- 24-26 Southeastern District Flower Show, Heritage Museum and Gardens, 67 Grove Street, Sandwich. (See Page 6)

August 2018

- 17-26 Marshfield Fair Flower Show. Marshfield Fairgrounds, Agricultural Hall, 140 Main St, Marshfield, MA 02050 (See Page 24)

September 2018

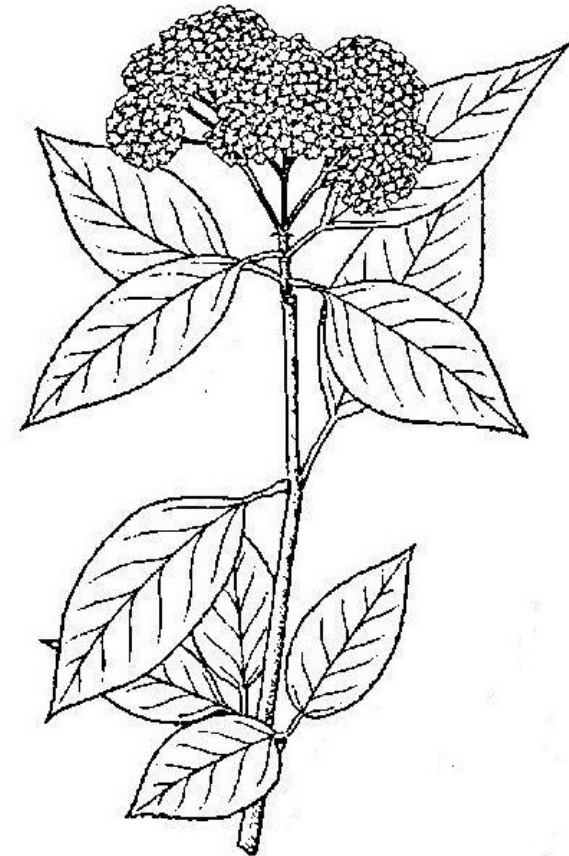
- 12 GCFM Board Meeting, 10:30 AM Espousal Center, Waltham
24 Back to Basics 10:30 AM Espousal Center, Waltham



MAYFLOWER

The Newsletter of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

Summer 2018



NATIVE SHRUBS: Nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*)

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Authors of *Roses for New England: A Guide to Sustainable Rose Gardening*
& *Rose Gardening Season: A Journal for Passionate Gardeners*

Look for us at the 2018
New England Flower Shows

Seeing
HISTORY
*Exploring the Past through
Landscape and Floral Art*

Martha A. Chiarchiaro
MA in History of Art, Williams College

978-618-9188
martha@chiarchiaro.com

Admire the
HISTORIC GARDENS
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MAYFLOWER

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

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Volume 24

11,147 members

Number 4

180 clubs

Organized in 1927 and Incorporated in 1949

PRESIDENT (2017-2019)

Suzanne McCance

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suzannebmccance@gmail.com

Theme: "Start with a Seed"

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Clubs

Susan Hinkel,

Director 2017-19

Vermont

802-389-0033

rerob@mac.com

Charter Member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

4401 Magnolia Ave.,

St. Louis, MO 63110

Nancy Hargroves,

President 2017-19

314-776-7574

headquarters@gardenclub.org

Theme: "Plant America"

**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.

President's Message



I find it hard to believe that a year has gone by since I was elected as your President. It has flown!

I would first like to thank those in my close circle and those of you in my larger circle who have helped me along the way. I know that this wonderful year wouldn't have been possible without you. Great things can happen when we work together.

I recently attended the National Garden Clubs Annual Conference in Philadelphia. It was an enlightening week. With members from all but 4 of the United States attending, it was a grand affair. Our little 'Bay State' is still at the top of the list battling against California and Georgia for the greatest number of members. Then, there's the other end of the spectrum with Hawaii who supports only FIVE Clubs. Think of it. 180 Clubs vs. 5 Clubs. OH! The things we can do!! This year we welcomed Swansea Garden club to the Federation and we have more in the pipeline.

At the Convention, I realized how fortunate The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts is to be able to run and support the 4 NGC Schools; Environmental Study School, Flower Show School, Garden Study School, and Landscape Design School. What a great accomplishment to have presented 'Back to Basics', 'Design Morning', and 'Horticulture Morning' series'. More so, to have each of these workshops filled to capacity! Almost all of the Federation's NINE Districts hosts, or co-hosts a successful and well-attended Flower Show. And there are NEW designers participating in those shows, rubbing elbows with seasoned, awarded designers. The Federation provides this and more, through Affiliation, to each of you nearly 11,000 members. Look beyond your own great Clubs. We are here for you

and we have a lot to offer!

All of this couldn't be done however without willing volunteers giving a little time and energy with the purpose of making a better today for our Clubs and Committees, and working for a brighter tomorrow!

I realize that the face of the Garden Club is changing. Our 'Golden Girls' are retiring. Their shovels have been put down and they are giving away their containers. The world is turning and our lives are all changing. Our mother's (and father's) Garden Clubs have lost their relevance in our rapidly changing, and challenging environment. We need to find a new, attractive relevance to mirror our changing lifestyle and climate.

Last June I promised a bold step into technology and social media. We have a presence on Facebook and Instagram. More importantly, we are in the final developing stages of a sparkling, new GCFM website. It promises to be informative and interactive. The last paper issue of GCFM's 'Mayflower' was sent to you last month. It too will be formatted into the new website. We need to embrace a greener future, even if we go kicking and screaming. This process takes time and your patience is most appreciated.

Let's take a last look at numbers. Even though we are the third state in NGC membership standing we cannot sit back and wait for the magic to happen. It takes the Board of Directors, you, and me. I encourage you to step up and volunteer on a greater level. I'd love to see what you have to offer to the Federation and what the Federation can give back to you.

Have a wonderful summer in the garden!

Suzanne

Poetry and Essay Contest winners



BUDDING POETS. Gia Milone and Paige Mathews are congratulated for their award-winning poetry in the annual Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts contest sponsored by local, state and national garden clubs. Milone's poem won first in the state among second graders. She is in contention for a national award. Mathews won Honorable Mention at the state level. From left: Superintendent of Schools Jon Bernard, North Reading Garden Club Co-President Anne Lundell, Gia Milone, Paige Mathews, State Poetry Chair Charlene Malek of the NRCG, Little School second grade teacher Beth Leavitt and Little School Principal Christine Molle (North Reading Transcript photo by Michael Geoffrion Scannell)



Amaya and Dasia Allen of Tewksbury are winners of the GCFM Poetry and Essay Contest. Sixth grader Dasia submitted a poem titled "A Seed's Journey." Amaya submitted an essay with the theme "Community Gardens - A Solution to Blight, Crime and Hunger." Both were sponsored by Tewksbury Garden Club. Pictured above left to right: Roberta Kane, Amaya Allen, Dasia Allen, Jackie Stone and Marsha Ledbury.

**Lifetime Achievement Award to
Mollie Lue Traggis (1934 - 2018)**

Presented at the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.
Fall Conference October 28, 2014, by President Marisa McCoy

It is a tribute to the modesty and altruism of this recipient that she has done so much for so many for so long, yet her name will be familiar mostly in the south shore and Southeast districts, in several garden clubs in Maine, and in our Judges Council. She has been a mentor, a leader, a gardener, a designer, a Master Flower Show Judge, an innovator, a supporter, a teacher, a friend, and a role model.

She began her garden club career in 1970 in the Hanover Garden Club, eventually serving as president before moving to Maine for several years until returning to Massachusetts. She has served on the boards of four garden clubs, including as president, she was a District Director, a co-founder of the Maine Herb Society, and an organizer of junior gardeners as a result of her abiding interest in introducing young people to design and horticulture. After completing Flower Show School, she chaired standard flower shows for junior gardeners which won two national awards. she served as Youth Awards Chairman for the New England Region, chaired the first Garden Study School in Maine, served as the Smoky Bear/Woodsy Owl Chairman, and became the state Horticulture Chairman. As a member of the Wareham Garden Club, she has served as Awards Chairman, Flower Show Chair, Parliamentarian, Nominating Committee member, and Corresponding Secretary.

This lady is a genuine treasure wherever she goes and whatever she is doing. she is a kind, dependable team player who always gives more than her share in everything she does.

On behalf of every garden club member in Massachusetts and Maine who has flourished because of her gentle influence and inspiration over so many years, I am honored to present a Lifetime Achievement Award to Mollie Lue Traggis of the Wareham Garden Club.

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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>.

The completed form must be submitted to the GCFM, Inc. Office, 219 Washington St., Wellesley Hills, MA 02481, gardenclubfedma@gmail.com

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

COVER STORY

Viburnum lentago

Viburnum lentago commonly known as nannyberry is a large, upright, multi-stemmed, deciduous shrub that grows throughout eastern North America. It is 14 to 16' tall and 6 to 12' wide. It likes full sun to part shade and is low maintenance, requiring only a moderate amount of water. Prune in May, immediately after flowering, since flower buds form in summer for the following year. Unless naturalization is desired, remove root suckers to control spread.

White flowers appear in spring and give way in autumn to blue-black, berry-like drupes which often persist into winter and are quite attractive to birds and wildlife. Fruits are edible and may be eaten off the bush when ripe or used in jams and jellies. Leaves have variable fall color ranging from drab greenish-yellow to reddish-purple.

Nanny goats apparently feed on the ripe berries (more so than Billy goats), hence the common name, nannyberry. There are no serious insect or disease problems. However, mildew and leaf spot are occasional problems. Nannyberry can be used as a shrub border, tall hedge or screen, and its suckering habit is conducive to naturalizing.

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PHOTOGRAPHER

Entry Day One

Section A: Blockbusters

Eligible for Designer's Choice, 4 entries per class. Plant material in the exhibit may be dried, treated, dyed, and/or fresh.

Class 1: Jurassic Park – Cascade Design

Class 2: Star Wars – Transparency Design

Class 3: Cleopatra – Traditional or Creative Design

Section B: Classics

Eligible for Tricolor Award, 4 entries per class. All plant material must be fresh.

Class 4: Casablanca – Exhibition Table

Class 5: Wizard of Oz – Traditional or Creative Design

Class 6: Grease – Creative Multi-Rhythmic Design

Entry Day Two

Section A: Blockbusters

Eligible for Designer's Choice, 4 entries per class. Plant material in the exhibit may be dried, treated, dyed, and/or fresh.

Class 1: Pirates of the Caribbean – Cascade Design

Class 2: Avatar – Transparency Design

Class 3: American Graffiti – Traditional or Creative Design

Section B: Classics

Eligible for Tri-Color Award, 4 entries per class. All plant material must be fresh.

Class 4: Roman Holiday – Still Life

Class 5: Tarzan – Traditional or Creative Design

Class 6: Fantasia – Creative Multi-Rhythmic Design

Division II - Horticulture Classes

The Oscars

Entry Days One and Two

Section A: Cut Flowering Annuals – Best Actor/Actress

Eligible for Award of Merit, one cut stem, one bloom.

Class 1: *Helianthus* (Sunflower)

Class 2: *Tagetes* (Marigold)

Class 3: *Zinnia* (Zinnia)

Class 4: Any other show-worthy specimen

Section B: Cut Flowering Perennials – Lifetime Achievement

Eligible for Award of Merit, one cut stem, one bloom

Class 5: *Echinacea* (Coneflower)

Class 6: *Helenium* (Helen's Flower)

Class 7: *Rosa* (Rose)

Class 8: Any other show-worthy specimen

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

Present
Lights, Camera, Action
An NGC Standard Flower Show



Marshfield Fairgrounds, Agricultural Hall,
140 Main St, Marshfield, MA 02050
781-834-6629

August 17-26, 2018
12:00 noon to 10:00 pm

Admission included with Marshfield Fair General Admission Ticket
GCFM is a member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc.
GCFM President – Suzanne McCance

General Chair and Schedule - Mariette Wooden
303-748-5505, mmwmembercgcd@gmail.com

Design Entries - Lisa Pattinson
781-264-5015, lisa.pattinson@gmail.com

Signup Genius:
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b4eafac29a4fc1-marshfield>

See GCFM Website for Complete Schedule

Division I - Design Classes
The Movies

ATTENTION GCFM BOARD of DIRECTORS

Board of Directors Meetings will be held at The Espousal Retreat House
and Conference Center on the following dates:

- Wednesday, June 13, 2018 10:30 AM
- Wednesday, September 12, 2018 10:30 AM
- Wednesday, October 3, 2018 10:30 AM

Jill Malcolm, *Corresponding Secretary*

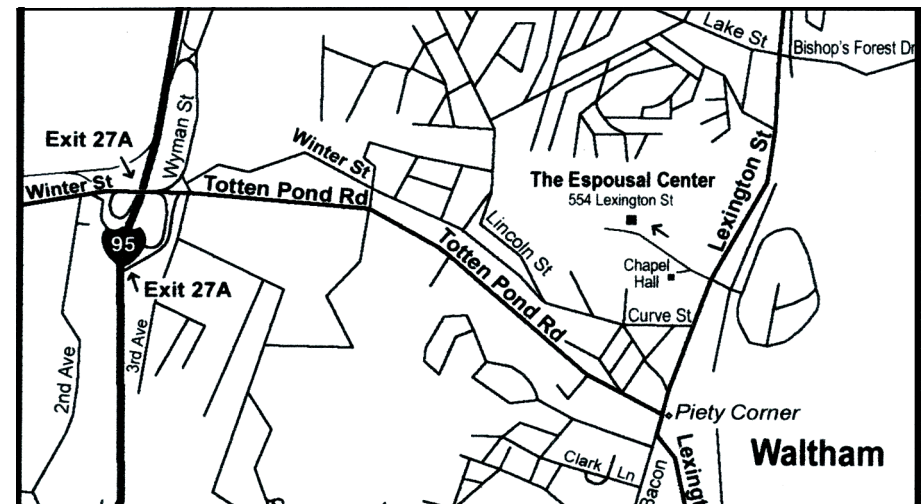
DIRECTIONS TO THE ESPOUSAL CENTER

554 LEXINGTON STREET, NORTH WALTHAM, MA 02452-3029
FRONT DESK: 781-209-3120

EMAIL: ESPOUSALCTRR@RCN.COM WWW.ESPOUSAL.ORG
PROGRAM COORDINATOR, JESSICA CIARIAMAGLIA: 781-209-3112

OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 – 4:00, MON-FRI

From the North: Exit Route 128/I-95 at Exit 27A, Totten Pond Rd.
East. Follow Totten Pond Rd. 1.7 miles toward Waltham. Turn left at Lex-
ington Street and go 0.3 miles to sign on left for 'Espousal Center'.
From the South: Exit Route 128/I-95 at Exit 27B, follow signs for Winter
Street and turn right onto Wyman St. After 0.2 miles, turn left at traffic
light for Totten Pond Rd. eastbound. Follow Totten Pond Rd. 1.7 miles
toward Waltham. Turn left at Lexington Street and go 0.3 miles to sign on
left for 'Espousal Center'.



The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.
SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
PRESENTS

“art is everywhere you look for it...”

...el greco”

An NGC Standard Flower Show

The flower show theme is inspired by artists with varied mediums who are located throughout the Southeastern District, with 17 clubs.



Heritage Museum and Gardens, 67 Grove Street, Sandwich, MA 02563

Free with Museum Admission. Tuesday July 24 noon-5pm
Wednesday –Thursday July 25-26, 2018 10am – 5pm

13 Design classes including popular Table and Petite Designs
New! Patio Vignette Companion class!
Botanical Arts, Artistic Crafts and Fairy Gardens!
30 Horticulture classes filled with summer's bounty!

Wish to Volunteer and to Hostess?

Contact Gail Reilly 508-428-7395; gailcreilly@comcast.net

Questions about horticulture entries?

Contact Sally Baer; sallybrighambaer@gmail.com

Questions about floral design entries?

Contact Kathleen Coyle; kmc Doyle2@verizon.net

Educational Exhibits, Artistic Crafts, Fair Gardens questions?

Contact Geri Williams; geri3williams@comcast.net

Questions about the Flower Show?

Contact Hila Lyman at 508-548-0841; hilajeane@comcast.net

View flower show schedule on www.gcfm.org under flower shows

This Flower Show follows the requirements of the NEW NGC Handbook for Flower Shows Revised 2017. To purchase the NEW Handbook, contact National Garden Clubs, 1-800-550-6007 or www.gardenclub.org

The SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT presents

your property and ask them to plant organic plants.

- Increase the pollinator habitat in your yard, including plants, water, and nesting areas.
- If purchasing seeds for planting, make sure the seeds have not been coated with neonics.
- Read up on the topic and actively advocate for regulations to limit/prohibit the use of these chemicals. Support research on organic alternatives.

Resources for more information:

Pollinator Plants for the Northeast—with pictures and growing information.

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/52321238e4b07e97b45071fd/t/5a9dae6ef9619a4a8cd8006d/1520283252384/Pollinator+Plants+and+pictures.pdf>

Attracting Native Pollinators---a wonderful resource book.

<http://xerces.org/announcing-the-publication-of-attracting-native-pollinators/>

How can neonics kill bees? Report.

<http://xerces.org/neonicotinoids-and-bees/#>

Beyond Pesticides Best newsletter for current regulatory information and action.

<https://beyondpesticides.org/>

Pollinator plants.

<http://www.xerces.org/bringbackthepollinators/>

By: Maria Bartlett

Environmental Awareness Committee

Andover Garden Club

BLUE STAR MEMORIAL LANDSCAPING

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“Blue Star Memorial Landscaping”

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***THERE IS NO BETTER TIME THAN NOW
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For Information Contact:

Donna Vallois, Blue Star Memorial Chairman

390 Arlington St.

Dracut, MA 01826

978-937-7078

dvallois@verizon.net

Neonics Are Hurting Bees and Other Living Things

By now, we have all heard about the dire die-off hitting many species of bees. Although some of this problem can be traced to mites, virus and fungal diseases and the loss of foraging habitat, much focus has been on NEONICOTINOIDS (“neonics”). These chemical pesticides began to be used in the 1990s on agricultural crops and on nursery plant materials (shrubs, trees, flowers, etc.). Since 1999, they have become the most used pesticides in the world.



Previous research suspecting toxicity has been confirmed: neonics pose both acute and chronic risk to aquatic life and birds and are highly toxic to bees. Because they are water-soluble, they can move through the environment to nearby plants and water bodies if applied as a drench, and they can drift to surrounding areas if sprayed. They can also persist for months and even years and can accumulate from one season to the next. Their action is systemic, so they reach into all parts of the plants including the pollen and nectar of flowering plants.

For the past few years, much attention has been focused on this issue in the US. A study in 2014 showed that 51% of pollinator (flowering) plants sold at Home Depot, Lowe’s and Walmart contained problematic levels of neonics. So, instead of helping the bees, butterflies and humming birds by bringing home pollinator/nectar plants, gardeners were unknowingly serving up toxic chemicals! The EU released a comprehensive assessment in March 2018 and is suspending the use of most of these neonics on agricultural and organic food crops. Canada has already instituted bans. Our EPA is dragging its feet: a January 2017 review with primary input from the chemical industry concluded neonics pose “no significant risk” and the EPA seems ready to reregister their use for another 15 years.

Due to pressure from Xerces, Friends of the Earth, other organizations and consumers, some progress is being made: Home Depot will phase out plants containing neonics this year, Lowe’s will phase them out by Spring 2019, and BJs did so in 2014. Maryland and Connecticut have banned retail sales of these pesticides, as has Dover, NH, Ogunquit, Maine and many other cities.

Backyard gardeners can help in several ways:

- Avoid use of all pesticides around your home. Instead, seek out non-chemical alternatives
- Ask your nursery if potted plants—especially species that support pollinators—have been treated with neonicotinoids. Do not buy. When possible, purchase organic plants. *(Continued on Page 23)*
- Ask your local nursery to stop selling neonicotinoid products. Avoid products that include: imidacloprid (i.e. Merit), clothianidin, thiamethoxan, and acetamiprid.
- Request that landscape and gardening companies not use pesticides on

“art is everywhere you look for it...el greco”

An NGC Standard Flower Show

Summary of the Schedule:

Horticulture Division I – “Elements of Design”

Flowering Branches of *Hydrangea*

Flowering Perennials like *Asclepia*, *Echinacea*, *Hemerocallis* (Daylily), etc.

Bulbs, Corms, Tubers like *Allium*, *Dahlia*, *Lilium* (Lily), *Gladiola*

Vegetables such as peppers, squash, beans and more!

Container Plants grown for foliage or flowers

Collections of Annuals, *Hosta* and Foliage Perennials

Displays of Flowering Annuals, *Hosta* and Container-grown Succulents

Design Division II – “Attributes of Design”

Section A. ‘Expression’ Designer’s Choice Award

Class 1 ‘Cultural Center of Cape Cod’ Duo Design

Class 2 ‘Millstone Sculpture Gallery’ Featuring exhibitor’s sculpture

Class 3 ‘Cape Cod Symphony’ Multi-Rhythmic Design

Section B. ‘Beauty’ Table Artistry Award

Class 4 ‘Jobi Pottery’ Exhibition Table including pottery

Class 5 ‘Windy Hill Farm’s Weavers’ Functional Table for Two

Class 6 ‘Balfour Jewelers’ SuperBowl Tailgate Party for Four

Section C. ‘Harmony’ Tricolor Award

Class 7 ‘Tao Water Gallery’ A design influenced by the Orient

Class 8 ‘Fine Art’ Designer’s Choice of Style

Class 9 ‘Bayberry Quilt Show’ Traditional Mass Design

Section D. ‘Distinction’ Petite Award

Class 10 ‘Focus Gallery’ Construction Design, 10”

Class 11 ‘Arthur Moniz Gallery’ Transparency Design, 9”

Class 12 ‘Pairpont Glass’ Creative Design, 6”

Section E. ‘Distinction’ Companion Class

Class 10 ‘Coastal Crafts Gallery’ Patio Vignette Design

Education Division III – “Learn”

Competitive Educational Exhibits 1, 2, 3, 4

Botanical Arts Division IV – “Floribunda”

Section A. ‘Precision’ Artistic Crafts Award

Class 1 ‘Bead Society of Cape Cod’ Bracelet

Class 2 ‘Eisenhauer Gallery’ Ballet Tutu on mannequin

Class 3 ‘Maggie Mae Designs’ Fascinator Hat

Section B. Class 1 ‘Highfield Hall’ Fairy Gardens

DISTRICT DOINGS

CENTRAL NORTH DISTRICT (Joyce Fricke, Director)

Nine Central North District garden clubs – **Colonial (Marlboro), Framingham, Holliston, Hopkinton, Hudson, Pinefield (Framingham), Northborough, Sudbury and Wayland** – banded together to decorate the historic Wayside Inn for the holidays. Coordinated by Sudbury Garden Club, which has been doing this project for the past 25 years, teams tackled different rooms of the inn, based on a theme of “celebrating times gone by.” Traditional, colonial-era decorations dominated, with the lobby featuring a special patriotic tree.



The Wayside Inn’s patriotic Christmas tree, surrounded by a few of the volunteer-decorators from nine GCs

For Acton Garden Club’s November Horticultural Study Group meeting, members Dorothy Marquis-Omer and Fran Portante presented an illustrated talk titled “Fragrance Plants, Foliage Plants and Plants

with Interesting Bark.” The group meets seven times a year. At the club’s annual planning meeting each January, members identify topics that interest them, and volunteers research and prepare the programs.

Every December, members of **The Garden Club of Harvard** come together for a holiday greens workshop, arranging flowers and greens to make centerpieces for their homebound neighbors. This year members were surprised by a special visitor, Mrs. Claus.



Harvard GC members Sandy Jordan (Mrs. Claus) and Holiday Greens Co-Chair Deborah Dowson

Colonial Garden Club of Marlborough held its 15th annual Pear Tree Boutique in December. Members put their creative, innovative and technical skills to work creating fresh and artificial holiday arrangements. Over 80% of the 200 member-made items were sold in the boutique’s first 20 minutes.

(Continued on page 11)

RUTH WALLACK PROGRAM

“A Floral Journey from Afar”

On Wednesday, May 25, 2018 the bi-annual Ruth Wallack program was held at Regis College in Weston. This year’s program was “A Floral Journey from Afar” with Francine Thomas from Tauranga in the North Island of New Zealand. She is a qualified teacher, judge, demonstrator and lecturer for the Floral Art Society and Consultant for florists. In 2016 she won New Zealand National Floral Art Designer of the Year and represented New Zealand at the Wafa World Show in Dublin, Ireland.

The day began with Wallack Lecture chairman, Helga Frazzette introducing the Wallack family members who were attending and then introducing the speaker. With music from New Zealand playing in the background, Francine began by doing a design that represented the founding of New Zealand, which looked like a cloud to early explorers (*below lower right*). Other designs represented New Zealand’s water, volcanoes and forests (*below lower left*). She did several hand held designs (*below center*) with the help of Tony Todesco (*below upper right*). With a great sense of humor Francine had everyone in awe and laughing through 90 minutes of designs.



(Continued from page 21)

Scituate Garden Club hosted a public forum on “Problems with Lyme Disease and Other Tick-Borne Diseases” to help raise awareness of best practices when it comes to deer ticks.

Weymouth Garden Club members created wreaths, swags, ever-green arrangements and bundled branches of greens for their Wreath & Greens Sale at Weymouth’s Annual Christmas in the Square event. Proceeds from the sale benefit club beautification projects, which include the Abigail Adams Green maintenance fund and town daffodil plantings.



Weymouth GC members staffed the club’s greens sale. Left to right: Charlotte Champagne, Sue Wencek, Sandra Clendenen, Suzanne Sullivan, Yoshie Picciotto, Anne Nichols, Joanne Kelley, Ellen Shaw, Carol Johnson, Santina Bottari and Ellie Conlon

President Pins/Past President Bars

GCFM is offering for sale *sterling silver* President Pins with the Federation Seal and/or Past President Bars. Please note changes in price due to increase in silver price and added tax.

Cost: Pin alone - \$50 plus \$3.13 in tax **plus 6 first-class postage stamps for shipping.**

Bar alone with connecting chain that attaches to pin - \$30 plus \$1.88 tax **plus 1 first class postage stamp for shipping.**

Pin and Bar - \$80 plus \$5.01 tax **plus 6 first-class postage stamps for shipping.**

To order, complete the form below and mail it with check and stamps to:
Jill Malcolm, 33 Bonnie Dr., Holliston, MA 01746
Make check payable to: GCFM, Inc.

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Mail to _____
Street Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone # _____

____ Number of Pins@ \$50 each ____ Number of Bars@ \$30 each

____ Number of Pin/Bar Combo ____ Stamps for shipping

Total Enclosed _____

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Colonial GC of Marlborough members display their holiday boutique handiwork.

Fifteen of 30 **Pepperell Garden Club’s** former presidents attended the club’s Christmas social, some traveling from as far away as Pennsylvania. Following a program on “Teas in Time: 1908” by Rita Parisi, tea pot centerpieces were awarded to winners of an opportunity drawing.



Fifteen former presidents of Pepperell Garden Club

Sudbury Garden Club member Patti Walch coordinated the creation of 20 custom arrangements that were distributed to area residents by Meals on Wheels prior to Thanksgiving. The club also donated 55 boxwood trees to clients at Sudbury Pines Extended Care. In January club members took a road trip to view the “Flora in Winter” show at the Worcester Art Museum;

member Donna Johnson exhibited her Ikebana-inspired floral interpretation of an 18th century Chinese incense burner.



Sudbury GC members show off boxwood trees donated to local extended care clients.

The Thursday Garden Club of Sudbury decorated Florence Hosmer House for the holidays based on a patriotic theme, “Florence through the War Years.” Decorations included a tree, bunting, period artifacts, and music from the 1940s. Hosmer contributed to the World War II effort by painting portraits of injured soldiers. The club also participated in the Massachusetts Horticultural Society’s “Festival of Trees” fundraiser, donating and decorating a tree entitled “Over the Rainbow.”

A few elements of *The Thursday GC*
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of Sudbury's patriotic-themed holiday decorations at Hosmer House

CENTRAL SOUTH DISTRICT (Ruth Evans, Director)

At the ripe old age of 318, the Town of Framingham officially became a city on New Year's Day. **Framingham Garden Club** created floral arrangements for the inauguration of the city's first mayor, Dr. Yvonne M. Spicer. The club also provided red, white and blue arrangements for the pre-ceremony reception. The event was attended by many federal, state and local officials including U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren and Secretary of State William Galvin.

Pictured top right, one of several arrangements for Framingham's mayoral inauguration ceremonies created by Framingham GC members Marie Forgue and Nancy Martin

Pinefield Garden Club (Framingham) held a winter con-



tainer gardening workshop led by club member Judy Wester, who made two spectacular outdoor arrangements using both store-bought items and greenery from her garden. Two lucky people won the arrangements in an opportunity drawing.

Judy Wester, Pinefield GC container designer



Franklin Garden Club members helped 20 clients of the Magnolia Heights Gracious Retirement Living Center make holiday wreaths. Club members prepared materials ahead of time so the activity could be completed in one session. Center residents were excited and impressed with the wreaths they created.

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Community GC of Cohasset members helped to staff the club's boutique at their holiday house tour. Left to right: Kate Farrington, Julie Hess (chair), Barbie Bowman and Marlene Tabor

Easton Garden Club's holiday greens sale was the club's largest and most successful 2017 fundraiser. Led by Robin Kallfelz and Darya Cotter, club members decorated over 75 wreaths plus numerous swags, arrangements, bouquets, boxwood trees and potted amaryllis. The community knows to come ear-



ly, as many items sell out in the first hour. *Easton GC held a successful holiday greens sale.*

Hull Garden Club members decorated holiday wreaths for the club's 6th annual sale, which sold out quickly.

Seaside Gardeners of Marshfield and The Yise Gardeners

(also Marshfield) decorated two rooms at the Daniel Webster Estate, for the landmark's annual holiday show house. Unique and creative holiday decorating ideas gave the event "must see" cachet.

Mattakeeset Garden Club of Pembroke hosted aromatherapist Patrice Green for a talk about Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). Many gardeners experience the effects of low light and shortened winter day-length. Club members learned how to reduce and relieve the winter blues by using oils, scents, sunlamps and exercise. Attendees went home with a complimentary essential oils applicator.

Norwell Garden Club was recently recognized by the Norwell Beautification Committee as "an outstanding organization dedicated to beautifying the Town of Norwell by designing, planting, and maintaining public gardens throughout the town." As an example, the award called out the garden at the intersection of Jacobs Lane and Main Street.



Norwell GC members (left to right: Nancy McBride, Barbara Cain and President Laurie Hall) receive the club's service award from State Representative David DeCoste (far left) and State Senator Patrick O'Connor (far right).

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Thirty-two members of **Osterville Garden Club** took part in a behind-the-scenes tour of the “Flora in Winter” show at the Worcester Art Museum; club member Susan Dewey served as docent, sharing what goes into the planning and care of the floral designs and offering tips on how to keep floral designs fresh and healthy even in the middle of winter. The tour was informative to both design and horticulture enthusiasts.

To share the joy of the holiday season, eighteen members of **The Evening Garden Club of Plymouth** created mini arrangements that were distributed as part of the Old Colony Council for Active Living Meals on Wheels program.



Some of the flowers used by Evening GC of Plymouth members to make donated arrangements

SOUTH SHORE DISTRICT (Roni Bache Lahage, Director)

Canton Garden Club held a successful holiday house tour fundraiser. Members worked in teams to decorate three houses chosen to represent what can be done with properties of different sizes. Themes included “A Cozy Woodland Christmas” (small home), “Coming Home for the Holidays” (medium sized home), and “A Sporting Christmas House” (large home). The event also included a holiday boutique. In addition to its financial success, the event also gave visitors an opportunity to learn about the garden club and see what members do.



An informal dining area decorated by Canton GC members for their house tour.

Community Garden Club of Cohasset's Yuletide House Tour was a huge success.

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Gail Matanes of Franklin GC helped a senior make a holiday wreath.



Greenleaf Garden Club of Milford continued their 50th anniversary celebration with a winter solstice-themed potluck supper and workshop. In preparation for the club's June Standard Flower Show, member Hazel Schroder presented a table-for-two and led the group in making a centerpiece. *Greenleaf GC of Milford members at work on a centerpiece*



In November **Holliston Garden Club** welcomed Burt Ford for his final holiday floral arrangement presentation prior to retirement. Using fresh and silk flowers, he completed six beautiful designs –

from table arrangements to wreaths to door swags. *Floral designer Burt Ford presented to Holliston Garden Club.*



Natick Garden Club was recently treated to a lecture by club member Betsy Szymczak (pictured below), president of the Buxton Branch of the American Begonia Society and Division C, J, K, P, and R winner in the 2017 Begonia Show. Betsy discussed how to grow and propagate begonias and showed examples of different species and hybrids.

Garden Club of Norfolk members created 25 holiday greens baskets



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for families served by the Norfolk Food Pantry. In addition to greens, dried pods and cones, baskets included flowerpot snowman ornaments made by members at an August workshop, as well as decorative frosted gingerbread cookies.

GC of Norfolk members display some of the baskets created for the



local food pantry. Left to right: Sally Eykel, Gail Tuveson, Ann Prior, Tricia Romanus, Stephanie Markham, Joanne Wason, Emily Nicodemus, and Sharon Pierce

METRO DISTRICT (Ruth Kenworthy Ecker and Fawn Hurwitz, Co-Directors)

Medfield Garden Club hosted Dan Jaffe from the New England Wildflower Society for a presentation on “Design-less Gardens.” The program focused on easy-to-grow plant suggestions as well as plants for hummingbirds, butterflies and pollinators. The club once again held its Holiday Home Sale fundraiser, which was previewed by a table at the Medfield Holiday Stroll. *Pictured top right, Medfield GC members Laurel Scotti, Joanne LaFrancesca, Nancy Brais and Eve Potts manned a table at Medfield Holiday Stroll.*

Noanett Garden Club’s daffodil and native plant garden at Massachusetts Horticultural Society’s Gardens at Elm Bank has been certified as a Monarch Waystation,



making it an official part of a network that protects and conserves monarch habitat. The idea of joining the network was inspired by a presentation by Nantucket Land Council resource ecologist Emily Molden, a passionate monarch advocate.

Norwood Evening Garden Club held a “Fabulous Fall” Small Standard Flower Show at the Westwood Public Library. This was only the second show put on by the 20-year old club. Members and guests filled the event with horticulture specimens, informative educational exhibits and lovely fall arrangements. The club also donated a “Homespun Christmas” tree to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society’s “Festival of Trees”; ornaments were crafted by club members using recycled and natural materials.

Pictured Page 13, top left, Donna Lane (L), Susan Cosman (R) and Lorraine Devine (not pictured) decorated the Norwood Evening GC’s tree at the Festival of Trees.

The House & Garden Club of Wellesley donated a “birds and bees”-themed tree to Massachusetts Horticultural Society’s “Festival of Trees” and visited the show as a club. Members made wreaths for the town hall and a local housing

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bury Public Library Festival of Trees, an annual fun family event. Remarked one club member, “Nothing feels better than taking something like a special quiet place that is so close to our hearts and adding the magic of Christmas.”



Former Tewksbury GC presidents with their holiday tree. Left to right: Joan Unger 1984, Yvonne Hall 1986, Cathy Harvey 2013, Jackie Stone 1997, Marsha Ledbury 1998, Judy Dziadosz 1972, Betsy Grecoe 2004

New Meadows Garden Club of Topsfield held a fall meeting at Nunan’s Nursery in Georgetown,



where members participated in a workshop to create Halloween “pumpkin people.” New Meadows GC meets nine times a year. The club’s mission is to foster knowledge of home gardening and decorative

arrangements and to support civic projects.

Sandy Whelan and Jane Cullinan (Co-VPs of New Meadows GC of Topsfield) show off their “pumpkin people.”

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT (Gail Reilly, Director)

Aptucxet Garden Club of Bourne was recently named to the Bourne Historical Society’s Volunteer Hall of Fame. The club was cited by the society for its long-standing commitment to the community and for remaining true to the organization’s educational and historical goals. Club members first planted an herb garden at the Aptucxet Trading Post in 1963 and have since expanded and redesigned the gardens.

Falmouth Garden Club ran a successful holiday greens sale chaired by Stephanie York and Lori Bisbee. Club members came together to help by promoting the event, collecting greens, donating supplies, creating decorative ornaments, building baskets, and doing clean-up.

Over 1,300 visitors enjoyed **The Garden Club of Hyannis’s** 2017 Holiday Showcase at the Cape Cod Cultural Center. Members’ decorating and floral design skills brought to life the theme “Celebrations around The World.” Shoppers lined up early for the boutique of gorgeous handmade wreaths, ornaments and gifts handmade by members.

Pictured page 18 top left; Scotland display in the GC of Hyannis Holiday Showcase

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of Northern District clubs also participated on behalf of their businesses.

Previous page: Andover GC member Nidhi Singhal with her design for Stevens-Coolidge's fall event

Members of **The Chelmsford Garden Club** donated mugs with mini boxwood trees for 92 senior center guests of the local Meals on Wheels program. Mugs were tagged with a card wishing recipients happy holidays and providing plant care instructions.

The Country Lane Garden Club (Chelmsford) donated materials for a flower arranging workshop at the Chelmsford Senior Center, covering principles of basic design and color



selection. The free event was filled to capacity. Each participant took home their own creation.

Country Lane GC members Brenda Morris, Cynthia Chase and Maureen Morse helped lead a flower arranging workshop for seniors.

For the 17th time in as many years, **Open Gate Garden Club** (Chelmsford) decorated the Chelmsford Historical Society's Barrett-Byam House for their annual holiday open house. Decorations were consistent with the mid-18th century period.

Pictured top right; Open Gate GC



(Chelmsford) members assembling greens for holiday decorations at Barrett-Byam House

North Reading Garden Club began the fall season with their annual Harvest Buffet and a flower auction, which included former club presidents and resident experts Charlene Malek and Suzanne Kramer. Members also celebrated the season with a flower arranging workshop led by former president Judy Colburne, who is a National Garden Club Flower Show Judge.



Former club president Judy Colburne led a North Reading GC floral design workshop.

Former presidents of **Tewksbury Garden Club** decorated a "Plant a Seed"-themed tree for the Tewks-

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complex. Their traditional holiday luncheon and auction raised approximately \$2,000 for Wellesley Friendly Aid's camp scholarship fund. To start the New Year, the club hosted a lecture entitled "Part II of Fuller Brook Park: Wellesley's Environmental Resources and Issues," with Brandon Schmitt, Director of Wellesley's Natural Resource Commission, and Cricket Vlass, Landscape Planner, Department of Public Works, Park & Tree Division.

Wellesley Garden Study Group celebrated its 65th Anniversary with a Christmas luncheon hosted by members Pam Boyer, Susan Hill, Liz Tecca and Polly Gardener at the Wellesley Community Center. The event celebrated long-standing members Polly Gardener and Libby Bachman. There was also a special thank you for participants in this year's holiday marketplace.



Wellesley Garden Study Group honorees Libby Bachman and Polly Gardener

MIDDLESEX DISTRICT (Joanne Lyons, Director)

Carlisle Garden Club has a relatively new initiative focused on seed propagation, pollination and saving, with an emphasis on heirloom seeds. For 2017-18 the club is concentrating on seed-related education. Planned activities include holding an annual seed swap; assessing the possibility of starting a seed library; collecting free or low-cost seeds; assembling a library/reading list of relevant books; creating presentation illustrating seed-related projects; and showing the movie "Seeds: The Untold Story" at Gleason Public Library.

Lexington Field & Garden Club partnered with the Lexington Historical Society to hold a Holiday Greens and Décor Sale. The event brought together things people love to remember at holiday time: glittering keepsake decorations, pomander oranges, handcrafted gifts, and the wonderful scent of evergreens. Imaginative arrangements, small and large, used fresh and

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dried materials in new and creative ways.

Reading Garden Club had a busy holiday season with many activities. The club took a trip to the decorated Crane Estate, held a “Memory Tree” lighting and visited the seniors at Daniels Nursing Home. A highlight was adorning the historic Parker Tavern with horticultural decorations for their biannual open house.



Reading GC members helped to decorate Parker Tavern. Left to right: Liz Krugman, Michelle Kane, Denise McCarthy, Barbara Carney and Bev Connelly

Waltham Garden Club presented a “Holiday Surprise” program with floral designer Tony Todesco at the historic Robert Treat Paine Estate. Over 130 club and community members attended. Tony created stunning pieces, sharing his expertise in structural floral design.

NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT (Nancy Davidge, Director)

The Friendly Garden Club of Beverly honored former president Marion Robinson by donating a copy of NGC’s early reader children’s book *The Saved Seed* to the Beverly Public Library Children’s collection in her memory.

Hamilton Wenham Garden Club has taken to heart the National

Garden Club’s two-year theme “Plant America.” With the support of the Town of Wenham, the club broke ground in November for a new garden space at Pingree Park to be open to the public.



Groundbreaking for Hamilton Wenham GC’s *Garden for the Community* at Pingree Park

The Arrangers of Marblehead and guests were introduced to six New England owls as part of an “Owls of the World” presentation by naturalists Marcia and Mark Wilson, founders of Eyes on Owls, an organization dedicated to educating people about wild owls and their habitats.



Naturalists Marcia and Mark Wilson shared their owls with The Arrangers of Marblehead.

The Nahant Garden Club held a boxwood tree workshop at the Na-

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hant Life Saving Station. Over twenty members participated, creating personalized trees for the holidays.



Nahant GC members at work on holiday boxwood trees

Peabody Garden Club members decorated the local Historical Society’s Nathaniel Felton Jr. House for their annual holiday open house. To complement the apple orchards of Peabody’s own Brooksby Farm, members chose free greens and apples as their theme. In January, members created over 120 floral arrangements for residents of the facility that hosts the club’s meetings.

The Salem Garden Club’s annual Christmas boutique fundraiser – held in conjunction with the “Christmas in Salem” House Tour – featured decorated wreaths, boxwood trees, swags, arrangements and other items. Club members also provided decorations for one of the homes featured on the tour and created seasonal decorations for downtown street planters and City Hall window boxes.



Salem GC members decorated City Hall planters in preparation for holiday festivities.

NORTHERN DISTRICT (Marsha Ledbury, Director)

A pre-Thanksgiving “Rooms in Bloom” open house at Stevens-Coolidge Place gave visitors a chance to step back into the 1920s and experience the elegance of life on a farm-turned-gentleman’s-estate. Rooms were decorated with fresh floral designs provided by participating florists and garden clubs including the **Andover Garden Club** (represented by Nidhi Singhal, pictured below), **New Meadows Garden Club** (Topsfield, represented by Rita Gavin), and **North Andover Garden Club** (represented by Nancy Norbedo and Nancie Savastano). Other designers



who are members of Northern District clubs also participated on behalf of their businesses.