



# The GCFM

**2024 Awards**

*presented at the*

**97<sup>th</sup> GCFM Annual Meeting**

**‘A Learning Experience’**

**June 13, 2024**



## **A Message From the President**

Congratulations to the Massachusetts Garden Clubs who won State and National Awards at the 97th Annual Meeting in Andover, MA in June. It was exciting to see their names showcased on 2 mega screens in a very full conference room. The morning presentation from Lisa Murray, our Chair of Awards, and Nancy Costa who helped Emcee the event, along with Gail Hubacker, State Flower Show Chair, Nancy Martin, Youth Contest Chair, and Joscelyn Varieur, Scholarship Chair went very well, and it was with great pride that we can say, "Massachusetts did well this year."

We hope the Oscar-like presentation was fun for everyone and that it helped keep the pace interesting. The idea was to inspire many more clubs to participate in seeking out awards that they can apply for in the coming year.

Marjorie Dienhart  
GCFM President 2023-2025





# 2024 GCFM ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

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More than 230 Garden Club Members attended the 97<sup>th</sup> GCFM Annual Meeting that was held on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, at the Doubletree Hotel Ballroom in Andover, Massachusetts.

## Awards:

Thirty-five (35) state awards were presented to numerous garden clubs for their achievements in Massachusetts. On a regional level, five (5) awards were given by the New England Garden Clubs, while fifteen (15) awards were granted by the National Garden Clubs.

## Scholarships:

Eleven (11) GCFM scholarships for \$1,000 each were awarded, while five (5) of nine possible Helen Freidberg scholarships were awarded. Two (2) NGC scholarships for \$4,000 were awarded.

## Youth Poetry Contests:

Six (6) GCFM winners were announced, with two (2) of those individuals taking home a national prize.

## Miscellaneous:

Five (5) clubs celebrated landmark anniversaries.



# State Awards





# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS

## I. ARBOR DAY

### The Charlotte Lane Connor Arbor Day Award Silver Bowl and Certificate - Extra Large Size



A silver bowl is awarded to the GCFM club that conducts the most outstanding Arbor Day tree planting ceremony

**2024 WINNER**

*Danvers Garden Club*

## I. ARBOR DAY

### The Charlotte Lane Connor Arbor Day Award Silver Bowl and Certificate – Medium Size



A silver bowl is awarded to the GCFM club that conducts the most outstanding Arbor Day tree planting ceremony

**2024 WINNER**

*Holliston Garden Club*

## II. CIVIC DEV. / CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION

### A. Civic Projects

#### Certificate of Merit



Awarded to a GCFM club for an outstanding civic project resulting in a permanent improvement for public benefit in a town of the Commonwealth Municipal garden category. Application form must include “before” and “after” pictures.

**2024 WINNER**

*Acton Garden Club*

# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## II. CIVIC DEV. / CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION

### C. Continuing Civic Projects Award Certificate of Merit – Extra Large Size



Awarded to a GCFM club for continual maintenance of one or more civic projects. Application form must include number of years project has been maintained.

**2024 WINNER**

*Danvers Garden Club*

*Garden at Hospice House*

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## II. CIVIC DEV. / CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION

### C. Continuing Civic Projects Award Certificate of Merit – Medium Size



Awarded to a GCFM club for continual maintenance of one or more civic projects. Application form must include number of years project has been maintained.

**2024 WINNER**

*Dracut Garden Club*

*Town Hall and Library*

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## III. CONSERVATION & ENVIRONMENTAL

### IV. B. Conservation Certificate of Merit



Awarded to a GCFM club which, by completing a project in conservation demonstrates outstanding leadership – municipal gardens category.

**2024 WINNER**

*Groton Garden Club*



# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## IV. FLOWER SHOW AWARD

### F. Margaret E. Marsh Flower Show Achievement Award - Silver Bowl



A silver bowl, in memory of Margaret W. Marsh, presented to a club which stages a Standard Flower Show or Design Specialty Show receiving the highest point scoring of all shows currently applying for a national or state flower show award.

**2024 WINNER**

*Springfield Garden Club*

*“Welcome to the Park”*

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## IV. FLOWER SHOW AWARD

### G. Violet E. MacLaren Flower Show Schedule Award - Scholarship



Established by the Hamilton – Wenham Garden Club in memory of Violet E. MacLaren and awarded to a club that submits the best schedule for a Standard Show, Design Specialty or Horticulture Specialty Flower Show. The winning club designates a member to receive a scholarship to a Flower Show School given by the GCFM.

**2024 WINNER**

*Springfield Garden Club*

*“Welcome to the Park”*

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## IV. FLOWER SHOW AWARD

### O. The Ruth Wallack Schedule Award Silver Tray



A silver tray given by Beth Shalom Garden Club awarded in Ruth's memory for the most creative schedule of a Small Standard, or Standard Flower Show, or Design Specialty Show.

**2024 WINNER**

*Springfield Garden Club*

*“Welcome to the Park”*

# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## V. GARDEN THERAPY

### A. Mrs. Ralph H. Davis Silver Bowl Silver Bowl and Certificate of Merit



A silver bowl awarded to the club with the most outstanding program of garden therapy.

**2024 WINNER**

*Country Garden Club  
Of Weston*

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## VI. HISTORIC PRESERVATION

### C. Historic Preservation Certificate Certificate of Merit



Awarded to a GCFM club for decorating historical buildings of importance to the heritage of a particular locality.

**2024 WINNER**

*Country Garden Club  
Of Weston*

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## VII. LANDSCAPE DESIGN

### A. Virginia F. Thurston Landscape Design Award Award and Certificate of Merit



An award to honor Virginia F. Thurston's interest in promoting landscape design, given to a club for outstanding activity in landscape design. The activity may be an education program or project using good design for public benefit.

**2024 WINNER**

*Framingham  
Garden Club*





# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## VIII. MEMBERSHIP AWARD

### Membership Award Silver Tray and Certificate of Merit



A silver tray awarded for the most innovative activity or outstanding effort to increase membership including publications used.

**2024 WINNER**

*Chelmsford Garden Club*

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## IX. PROGRAM AWARDS

### A. The Evelyn D. Cronin Horticultural Award Certificate of Merit



Awarded to the club for an outstanding year-long series of horticulture workshops with member participation.

**2024 WINNER**

*Acton Garden Club*

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## IX. PROGRAM AWARDS

### C. The Helen Freidberg Award Certificate of Merit



For the most outstanding single horticulture program given by a member of the club to its membership

**2024 WINNER**

*Garden Club of Norfolk*

# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## IX. PROGRAM AWARDS

### D. The Patricia C. Michaud Award Silver Vase and Certificate of Merit



A silver vase, given by the Scituate Garden Club for an outstanding design program given by a member of a club to its membership.

**2024 WINNER**

*Garden Club of Norfolk*

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## X. PUBLICITY / PUBLIC RELATIONS

### A. Public Relations Certificate of Merit



Awarded to a GCFM club who have reached the general public in an especially outstanding way.

**2024 WINNER**

*Country Garden Club  
of Weston*

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## XI. PUBLICATIONS

### A. Publications Award Certificate of Merit



Awarded to a club for publications, excluding periodicals / yearbooks.

**2024 WINNER**

Category: Brochure

*Danvers Garden Club*

# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## XI. PUBLICATIONS A. Publications Award Certificate of Merit



Awarded to a club for publications,  
excluding periodicals / yearbooks.

Category: Cookbook

**2024 WINNER**

*Framingham Garden Club*

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## XI. PUBLICATIONS A. Publications Award Certificate of Merit



Awarded to a club for publications,  
excluding periodicals / yearbooks.

Category: History Book

**2024 WINNER**

*Groton Garden Club*

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## XI. PUBLICATIONS A. Publications Award Certificate of Merit



Awarded to a club for publications,  
excluding periodicals / yearbooks.

Category: Digital Booklet

**2024 WINNER**

*Waltham Garden Club*



# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## XI. PUBLICATIONS

### B. Margaret K. Bell Newsletter Award Silver Tray



Awarded for the best newsletter.

**2024 WINNER**

*Waltham Garden Club*

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## XI. PUBLICATIONS

### C. Yearbook – under 20 members Certificate of Merit



Awarded for the best garden club yearbook.

**2024 WINNER**

*Medway Garden Club*

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## XI. PUBLICATIONS

### C. Yearbook – 20-29 members Certificate of Merit



Awarded for the best garden club yearbook.

**2024 WINNER**

*Franklin Garden Club*

# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## XI. PUBLICATIONS

### C. Yearbook – 30-44 members Certificate of Merit



Awarded for the best garden club yearbook.

**2024 WINNER**

*Garden Club of Norfolk*

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## XI. PUBLICATIONS

### C. Yearbook – 45-69 members Certificate of Merit



Awarded for the best garden club yearbook.

**2024 WINNER**

*Wakefield Garden Club*

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## XI. PUBLICATIONS

### C. Yearbook – 70-99 members Certificate of Merit



Awarded for the best garden club yearbook.

**2024 WINNER**

*Acton Garden Club*

# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## XI. PUBLICATIONS

### C. Yearbook – 100-300 members Certificate of Merit



Awarded for the best garden club yearbook.

**2024 WINNER**

*Hamilton - Wenham  
Garden Club*

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## XII. COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION

### The Mary F. Brewer Roadside Beautification Award Silver Tray and Certificate of Merit



A silver tray, known as the President's Tray, awarded to a club for outstanding roadside beautification within the boundaries of the club's township.

**2024 WINNER**

*Groton Garden Club*

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## XIV. WEBSITES AND OTHER MEDIA

### A. The Barbara May Website Award Certificate of Merit - Medium Size



Awarded to a member club for a website maintained by that club.

**2024 WINNER**

*Garden Club of Norfolk*



# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## XIV. WEBSITES AND OTHER MEDIA

### A. The Barbara May Website Award Certificate of Merit - Large Size



Awarded to a member club for a website maintained by that club.

**2024 WINNER**

*Waltham Garden Club*

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## XIV. WEBSITES AND OTHER MEDIA

### B. Media Production Certificate of Merit - Extra Large Size



Awarded for the best media production

**2024 WINNER**

*Paxton Garden Club*

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## XIV. WEBSITES AND OTHER MEDIA

### B. Media Production Certificate of Merit - Large Size



Awarded for the best media production

**2024 WINNER**

*Weymouth Garden Club*

# 2024 GCFM STATE AWARD WINNERS



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## XVI. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

### A. Mitzi Belitsky Award

#### Silver Vase and Certificate of Merit



A silver vase, the gift of Leslie Frost, awarded to a GCFM club in recognition of an outstanding program of achievement in working with youth.

**2024 WINNER**

*Groton Garden Club*

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## XVII. SPECIAL AWARD

### A. Cindora Goldberg Award

#### Certificate of Merit



An annual award given in tribute to Cindora Goldberg to honor the ability she had to continually see and create in an innovative manner.

**2024 WINNER**

*Alda Barron*

Aptuxet Garden Club  
of Bourne





# **NEGC Awards**

New England Garden Clubs



# 2024 NEGC AWARD WINNERS



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## Laura Wetmore Conservation Award



For their innovative pilot program on Food Waste Diversion. The objective of this project was to educate students and school staff on the importance of food waste diversion to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**2024 WINNER**

*Wollaston Garden Club*

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## The Cornelia Williamson Watson Award for Historic Preservation



For a project to restore two Victorian gardens and produce a video presenting the history of Victorian gardens. The lecture and distribution of their video was a successful public education aspect of the gardens' restoration.

**2024 WINNER**

*Aptucxet Garden Club  
of Bourne*

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## The Mary Stone Garden Therapy Award



This year 28 members volunteered in teams to reach one of 11 classes scheduled. The mission is a community outreach endeavor to create a positive learning experience for senior residents.

**2024 WINNER**

*Framingham Garden Club*





# 2024 NEGC AWARD WINNERS

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## New England Wildflower Society Award



An education program or project using native plants. The objectives of this garden project are to provide club members an opportunity to grow native plants in a public setting and see how they perform.

**2024 WINNER**

*Groton Garden Club*

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## Excellence in Teamwork Award



For their project to produce high quality educational videos about gardening, horticulture and allied creative activities to inspire and educate gardeners. Over 29 gardening-related videos are now made available for all to enjoy.

**2024 WINNER**

*Weston Garden Club*





# National Awards





# 2024 NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS



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## **CE-2 PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS** **Certificate of Merit and One Hundred Dollars**



For their Arbor Day celebration and Treespotters program to educate the community and plant and protect trees

**2024 WINNER**

*Holliston Garden Club*

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## **CE-5A BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT** **Certificate of Merit**



To decorate the interior and exterior of the Golden Ball Tavern creating a showpiece for the community to learn about this historical landmark and enjoy the beauty of the holidays.

**2024 WINNER**

*Country Garden Club  
of Weston*

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## **CE-6 COMMUNITY PROJECT WITH NATIVE PLANTS / WILDFLOWERS** **Certificate of Merit**



To commemorate the club's 100th Anniversary by installing 100 native plantings at ten municipal gardens maintained by the club and involving the entire membership.

**2024 WINNER**

*Groton Garden Club*



# 2024 NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS



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## **CE-8 LANDSCAPING OF PUBLIC OR RELIGIOUS GROUNDS** **Certificate of Merit**



To commemorate the club's 100th Anniversary by installing 100 native plantings at ten municipal gardens maintained by the club and involving the entire membership.

**2024 WINNER**

*Groton Garden Club*

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## **FS-1C CLUB STANDARD FLOWER SHOW** **50-99 Members** **Certificate of Merit**



A Book of Evidence is required and evaluated. One per state may be awarded.

**2024 WINNER**

*Springfield Garden Club*

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## **MAE-1 MEMBERSHIP AWARD** **Certificate of Merit**



For creating a brochure to advertise the community work of the club and invite new members to join.

**2024 WINNER**

*Danvers Garden Club*



# 2024 NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS



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## MAE-1 MEMBERSHIP AWARD Certificate of Merit



For a membership recruitment campaign to increase membership through a program using branding, marketing, networking, and increased community awareness.

**2024 WINNER**

*Chelmsford Garden Club*

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## MAE-4 PUBLICATIONS Certificate of Merit



For a book chronicling the club's century long dedication to civic and environmental responsibility and love of gardening on its 100th Anniversary.

**2024 WINNER**

*Groton Garden Club*

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## YW-8 HORTICULTURE EDUCATION FOR YOUTH Certificate of Merit



For the project "Teaching Children About Gardening" to read to preschool-aged children and educate them on the importance of plants and gardening.

**2024 WINNER**

*Groton Garden Club*



# 2024 NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS



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## NGC FOUR STAR AWARD



To achieve Four Star status, one must acquire Master status in each of the four National Garden Club Schools

**2024 WINNER**

*Susie MacPherson*

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## PLANT AMERICA GRANTS



Winning projects enhance public areas, honor veterans with Blue Star landscaping projects, educate children and adults about the joys of gardening and create pride through local, city, and county projects.

**2024 WINNERS**

*Acton Garden Club*

*Littleton Country Gardeners*

*Scituate Garden Club*

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## AMES GRANT



For selection of the AMES Tool Grant, consideration is given to the following:

- Value of the project to the community
- Level of club member participation
- Need and planned usage of the tools requested
- Uniqueness of the project

**2024 WINNER**

*Nahant Garden Club*



# 2024 NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS



## ESPOMA GRANT



Espoma offers \$250 grants to 20 local clubs each year with projects with a vision that aligns with their organic philosophy.

## 2024 WINNER

*West Newbury  
Garden Club*









## Eleven Students \$1,000 GCFM Scholarships:

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The MacLaren Scholarship **RYAN CHRISTIANSON** from Centerville, MA  
Northeastern University

The LDC Scholarship **MARISA GAY** from Taunton, MA  
UMASS Dartmouth

The Baker Scholarship **SETH LONGEY** from West Springfield, MA  
University of Idaho

The Sargent Scholarship **LUC-ANDRE SADAR** from Centerville, MA  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

The Leach Scholarship **ELISE EICHNER** from Hingham, MA  
UMASS Amherst (High School Senior)

The Cole Scholarship **MADISON HOLMBERG** from Tyngsboro, MA  
Eckerd College (High School Senior)

The Cleveland Scholarship **HARRISON SACHS** from Bedford, MA  
Cornell University (High School Senior)

The Bent Scholarship **ALISON DEMBEK** from Bernardston, MA  
UMASS Amherst

The Motley Scholarship **ELINOR EVERETT** from Beverly, MA  
UMASS Amherst

The Patterson Scholarship **BEN LLOYD** of Amesbury, MA  
The Conway School of Landscape Design

The Conley Scholarship **DONOVAN LANDRY** from Amesbury, MA  
Salem State College



## **Helen DeOrsay Freidberg Scholarship Winners:**

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**Kathy Leva**

Middlesex District

Lexington Field & Garden Club

**Garden Studies School**

**Pat Fleming**

Northeastern District

Hamilton-Wenham Garden Club

**Garden Studies School**

**Barbara Reichter**

Northern District

Andover Garden Club

**Landscape Design School**

**Nancy Costa**

Southeastern District

The Garden Club of Hyannis

**Landscape Design School**

**Kathy Hoogeboom**

Western & Central South District

Framingham Garden Club

**Flower Show School**



# 2024 National Scholarship Winners

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## HELEN HUSSEY CHAMPLAIN SCHOLARSHIP



\$4,000 Scholarship

**2024 WINNER**

*Seth Longey*

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## BARBARA D. MAY SCHOLARSHIP



\$4,000 Scholarship

**2024 WINNER**

*Donovan Landry*





# **Youth Contest Winners**





# GCFM Youth Poetry Contest Winners

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## **Grade 1**

**Benjamin Sawyer**

*Things I See in the Garden*

## **Grade 2**

**Melanie Dean**

*Spring Green*

## **Grade 3**

**Jayleigh Queenan**

*Three Poems*

## **Grade 4**

**Joseph Buteau**

*A Walk Through the Garden*

## **Grade 5**

**Teresa Martin**

*A Little Green*

## **Grade 7**

**Isabella Calvo**

*Spring and Summer*





# 2024 NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

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## NGC FIRST PLACE WINNER



Sponsored by Franklin Garden Club.

**2024 WINNER**

*Melanie Dean*

*"Spring Green"*

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## NGC HONORABLE MENTION



Sponsored by North Reading Garden Club.

**2024 WINNER**

*Benjamin Sawyer*

*"Things I See in the Garden"*







# 2024 GCFM Landmark Anniversaries

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<u>Years</u>	<u>Club</u>
75	Aptuxet Garden Club of Bourne
75	Saugus Garden Club
50	Lazy Daisy Gardeners of Chelmsford
50	Village Garden Club of Dennis
25	Open Gate Garden Club of Foxborough