



# MAYFLOWER

Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts Newsletter



*The Mayflower is an online newsletter, full of clickable internet links that can take you to GCFM resources*



## *The President's Message*

Happy New Year and welcome 2025!

Sometimes this time of year allows us to become reflective and if you have a favorite

room in the house where the sun shines brightly, you have the opportunity to sit in your favorite chair with a good book or garden magazines and dream of this year's garden.

We had a very robust fall season with classes/courses offered in Floral Design, Flower Show School, Landscape Design, and Gardening School. There was also the Topsfield Fair, Western & Central South and Central North Flower Show at New England Botanical Gardens. Many thanks to all of the Chairpersons for putting all of their energy into organizing these for our members to learn and grow in the world of gardening and floral arranging. The Judges' Council and Landscape Design Councils were also busy.

Now, on to the new year! Winter is the season that tends to keep us inside more but affords us the opportunity to watch webinars that are hosted by GCFM. We have **Learning about CANVA** coming up on January 30, 2025 which

will be hosted by Virginia Schmidt, the president of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs. On February 12th, **Blaschka Glass Models of Plants** by Jennifer Brown from Harvard University's Ware Collection. March 7th, we'll bring you Jim Agabedis speaking about **Organic Lawn Gardening**. These are all free to our club members and we hope you will all be able to set aside the time to watch them. You can [register here](#) for the Canva webinar. You will find the link on our website home page and on the state calendar.

There is a revised edition of **Guide for Club Presidents** which has been posted on our website. We hope you will find it helpful and useful, particularly for new club presidents. Procedure for Protocol has also been incorporated into the booklet. [Click here](#) and click on the view tab for "Presidents".

The recording for the **Directors & Officers (D & O)** insurance has been posted on our website. [Click here](#)

It has been a pleasure visiting so many of the garden clubs since September. Thank you for showcasing all of the wonderful achievements of your garden club. I also appreciate the newsletters that you send me. They help me get a bird's eye view of your activities.

Congratulations go to the Sudbury Garden Club, the winner of a **NGC Plant America Grant!** I am very pleased to announce that the **Sudbury Garden Club** received **\$1900** for their project.

**GCFM OPPORTUNITY!** GCFM is looking for a Treasurer for the 2025-2027 Administrative term. If you are interested in working with the Executive Team in this capacity, please see the requirements for the position in the Want Ad section of this Mayflower issue.

We are gearing up for the **GCFMs 100th Anniversary Fundraiser** which will be held on **April 30th**. For your convenience, online registration is now available to purchase your tickets(s). Hope to see many of you there! See more info in the newsletter.

Wishing everyone a wonderful 'start of the year' despite a few more months of winter. We look forward to Ground Hog Day hoping that Punxsutawney Phil will not see his shadow and spring will arrive early in 2025.

Enjoy each day!

*President Marjorie Dienhart*



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“Moments of Joy”  
NGC Standard Flower Show  
November 1-3, 2024  
Central North & Western &  
Central South Districts

See Pages 9-11 for Full Article



## GCFM Receives NEGC Awards

The New England Garden Club (NEGC) held its Annual Conference in Warwick, RI on October 23 & 24, 2024, and Massachusetts came home with several awards.

- The Helen Hussey Champlin Award is given for the largest number of new members in a state garden club. **The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts** was the winner of this award with 460 new members.
- The Pamela C. Hebert Garden of Youth Award was awarded to **The Groton Garden Club** for its excellent and innovative "Gardening at the Library" project for preschoolers.
- **The Acton Garden Club** received an Award of Recognition for its revitalization of the Oval Garden in front of the Town Hall.
- **The Garden Club of Norfolk** received the Yearbook Award for Class 3, 30 - 44 members from New England Garden Club and the Virginia Grandpre Wildlife Gardening Award for a townwide initiative to increase awareness of pollinators and their habitats by creating an educational garden.

We are so proud to win the Helen Hussey Champlin Award, and proud of all our garden clubs for helping us win this prestigious prize. Congratulations to Groton, Acton and Norfolk.



## GCFM TREASURER WANTED

**Join the Executive Leadership Team to help chart the future of the GCFM**

**Be the "go to" Financial Resource for the GCFM Organization**

- QuickBooks familiarity (not just Quicken)
- Bookkeeping/accounting basics
- Understanding of financial statements
- Understanding of and adherence to regulatory / compliance requirements
- Comfortable with spreadsheets
- Familiar with electronic payments
- Comfortable with cloud storage and file sharing



Microsoft Excel



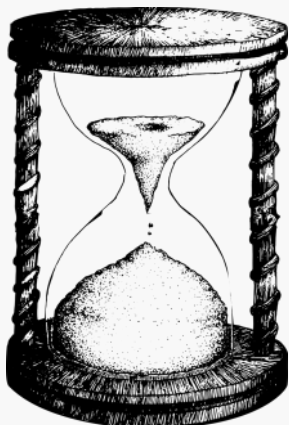
Google Sheets



QuickBooks

Kindly reach out to our Nominating Committee Chairperson, Donna Garrabrant, if you are interested at [chrisanddonnacc@gmail.com](mailto:chrisanddonnacc@gmail.com) or 860-916-5004.

## DON'T MISS THESE DEADLINES...



**FEBRUARY 1:** NGC Scholarship applications are due. Send directly to NGC <https://gardenclub.org/college-scholarships>

**MARCH 1:** Ames Tool Grant Application Deadline. Send directly to NGC <https://gardenclub.org/ames-tools-grant>

**MARCH 10:** Mayflower Deadline Submissions for SPRING ISSUE. Send email to [GCFMmayflower@gmail.com](mailto:GCFMmayflower@gmail.com)

**MARCH 31:** Helen Freidberg Scholarship Deadline. Send [applications](#) to [jerrytosches@msn.com](mailto:jerrytosches@msn.com)

**APRIL 1:** GCFM Scholarship Applications and Financial Statements (High School Students). Email [GCFMscholarship@aol.com](mailto:GCFMscholarship@aol.com)

## GARDEN CLUBS AT WORK



### BOXFORD

Members of the Boxford Village Garden Club met on December 4<sup>th</sup> for their annual holiday meeting and created 13 wreaths, 4 pots, 2 baskets and 1 swag to be placed at thirteen different locations in Boxford.



*BVGC members Carolyn McPartlin and Laura Dike create wreaths*



*Robyn Riley hangs wreaths at Lincoln Hall in Boxford*

### FRAMINGHAM

The Framingham Garden Club had a great pre-sale of wreaths for email customers in November, co-chaired by members Sally Vetstein and Kathy Hoogeboom. After Thanksgiving, all hands were on deck for the Holiday Greens sale, chaired by member Shannon Fitzpatrick, where creativity abounded with 140 centerpieces made,



*The Framingham Garden Club's holiday celebration photo with our guest of honor, Dot Moody, on her 100th birthday celebration. Sitting left to right: Past Presidents Nancy Martin, Mary Hayden, Dot Moody, and Minal Akkad.*

over 80 wreaths decorated, and 40 baskets and 20 swags made. The December monthly meeting followed, with a special celebration for honorary member Dorothy Moody (member for 47 years and Past President 1983-1985) who was celebrated for her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### HANOVER

The Walnut Hill Garden Club participated in the first Holiday Stroll at Hanover Crossing in November. Wreaths and snowflake kits were given out to families at this successful celebration. We look forward to more community collaboration with the Hanover Crossing team in the future.



*Walnut Hill Garden Club members Kerrienne Karlberg and Lisa Azizian*

### HOLLISTON

The Holliston Garden Club decorated their town library for the holiday season. Many thanks to Judy Dewitt, Diane Hayden, Carol Holly, Valerie Howes, Deborah King-

ston, Jill Malcolm and Sharon Thornton. The Holliston residents really enjoy seeing the library so festive.



*The Holliston Library*

### HULL

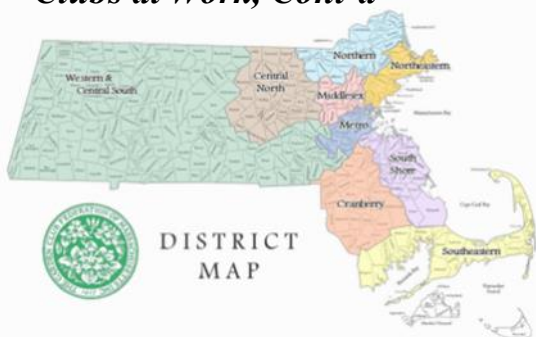
Hull Garden Club members are autumnizing town signs and islands to welcome visitors. The Garden Club maintains several sites around town and, with a lot of help from volunteers, updates with new plants, weeding and general clean up with seasonal savvy and holiday holly.



*Hull town marker "autumn-ized" by Hull Garden Club*

Hull Garden Club elves assembled seaside-inspired wreaths, fundraising scholarship and educational programs for the club. Our Hull Garden Club members brightening up town signs and islands for the holidays.

**Clubs at Work, Cont'd**



*Christana Gamota, Ruthanne Igoe and Georgia Glick*

the group. Members brought refreshments, decorations, containers, and a set of pruners. It was a fun time to relax, chat and have some fun with friends. Many thanks to Ann Webster and Jane Halverson for organizing and planning the party.



*Hull Garden Club members decorate one of the town's islands*

**LEXINGTON**

The Garden Club sponsored a booth at the Nov. 18th Science Fair Kick-off at the Estabrook Elementary School in Lexington. The booth demonstrated soil erosion on different habitats. It also had a seed planting activity.



*Vicki Blake, Lauren Foohey, and Miranda Cohen*

Annual LFGC Holiday Greens Party was held on December 9 at the Church of Our Redeemer in Lexington. Members collected greens from their yards to share with

**NAUSET**

The Nauset Garden Club is pleased to announce that Maria Sanchez Roa is this year's recipient of their Scholar Award in the amount of \$2000. Maria is an Environmental Science Major from Martha's Vineyard in her second year at UMass Amherst. She noted as a Hispanic woman in STEM, she hopes to use her heritage, language, and knowledge to conserve our lands and educate others on the importance of conservation and environmental science.



*Nauset Scholar Award recipient Maria Sanchez*

**NEEDHAM**

The Needham Garden Club planted over 300 daffodil bulbs at the Needham Town Common, digging holes, adding fertilizer, and then placing the bulbs. Now we really can't wait for spring to come!



*Needham Garden Club members plant daffodil bulbs at the town common*

**NORFOLK**

A small team of Garden Club of Norfolk members gathered greens from pines, holly, and other plants to create holiday greens baskets. This annual tradition, donating baskets to our local food pantry, is a way to give back to our community. It was well attended by many club members and the atmosphere was festive and cheerful.



*Norfolk Garden Club members head into the woods to gather greenery to make wreaths*

**NORTHBOROUGH**

The Northborough Garden Club learned how to "Prepare the Garden for Winter"

**Clubs at Work, Cont'd**



by Lifetime Master Gardener, Gretel Anspach, who discussed varied topics from the importance of the correct soil pH to what plants to leave untrimmed to help sustain our winter wildlife.



*Francesca Bombara*

Francesca Bombara, a former GCFM Board Member who held many various positions and is now our co-president, demonstrated at our November workshop how to make a parallel arrangement. We were taught this uses multiple groupings of plants with 75% facing in one direction. Sounded easy but with strict rules of design to follow, we were happy to have such an excellent teacher.

To welcome the holiday season, the club made "Fairy Lights for Winter Nights". Many of the glass jars were filled with tiny lights and lots of red for a Christmas theme while others favored a general softer winter feel. Fun to make and no two looked alike.

**PAXTON**

**Bus Trip**

On September 8, 2024 29 PMAGC members along with 19 non-member friends took a bus trip to visit best-selling author and Pulitzer Prize winner Edith Wharton's home in Lenox, MA. We had gorgeous weather to explore the gardens and seeing the painstaking dedication to preserve her home.



*Paxton Garden Club members gather outside the Edith Wharton House in Lenox*

**Educator Grant Recipient Awarded**

On September 10, 2024 the PMAGC Educator Grant Subcommittee was honored to present the Paxton Garden Club's inaugural Educator Grant to Richards Memorial Library (RML) Children's Library Kristin Steinmetz. The Edible Garden will provide many opportunities for learning programs for all ages of young people: preschool through high school, and, by extension, their families.

Visit our website for the full press release: <https://www.paxtongardenclub.com/our-news>

**READING**

On the first Sunday in December the Reading Garden Club holds its annual Memory Tree Lighting Ceremony. This year we were so pleased to have a feature

article in the READINGS magazine with a story and photos of our event.



*The Memory Tree in Reading*

The Memory Tree Celebration provides an opportunity to purchase a light on the tree to remember a loved one or to celebrate an event. All proceeds go towards Reading Garden Club projects in the town of Reading. We have a brief commemorative service and music before going outside to light the tree.

**SCITUATE**

Thanks to a generous Plant America Grant, the Scituate Garden Club (SGC) has been able to complete the restoration of an historically appropriate culinary and medicinal herb garden at the Scituate Historical Society's Cudworth House which dates from 1797. The house and garden are centrally located in town, ad-



*Scituate Garden Club members restore a historical garden at the Cudworth House*

### Clubs at Work, Cont'd



*The Cudworth Garden, restored*

adjacent to the active senior center and town gymnasium, and highly visible from a busy sidewalk. The 18'x5' garden had been planted in the past but had become overgrown with aggressive weeds and invasives. SGC took on the project of restoring it to serve its original the historical and educational goals. Originally planned as a small-scale clean-up and replanting, the support of Plant America enabled the project to expand to include plant restoration, soil enhancement, a new border, educational labels and signage. In determining the 35 herbs and plants that were historically grown in the garden, the SGC Herb committee followed historical documents, the plant suggestions of local herbalist and historian Darlene Beauvais and consulted with the gardeners at Colonial Williamsburg. The garden officially re-opened in spring 2024. A complete list of the plants can be found at <http://www.scituategardenclub.org/wildflower-garden>

### SOUTHBRIDGE

The Southbridge Garden Club enjoyed a lecture titled “A Sense of Wonder: The Natural World of Rachel Carson,” delivered by member Ellen Duzak in September. The Club held its annual meeting/ luncheon at Hartman Herb Farm in Barre.



*Southbridge Garden Club members putting up wreaths*

The annual Holiday Greens Sale took place the first weekend of December. Members worked diligently to collect greens and created beautiful door swags, wreaths, and tabletop decorations.

### TWICKSBURY

After a successful garden therapy event in October, The Tewksbury Garden Club had several fundraisers in November. The first was held at the Hilton Garden Inn and featured floral designer Lisa Oberholzer-Gee, and several gorgeous raffles for all the attendees. The second fundraiser that month was a Boxwood Tree event, partnered with GROW greenhouse, and open to the public.



*Tewksbury Garden Club members at their display on the town's walking trail*

To wrap up this busy month, garden club members created a display along one of the walking trails in Tewksbury as part of the town's Winter Tree Walk program that encourages residents to take to the outdoors in the colder months. A site was selected along the Pinnacle Trail for the club's display. The team decided to encourage people to take a selfie in nature by creating a picture frame between 2 trees using the club's colors of pink and gold ribbon. The 'frame' was decorated



*Tewksbury Garden Club members making wreaths*

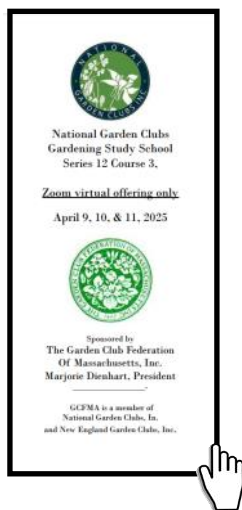
### GCFM TRIVIA GAME

1. When and where was the first Blue Star Memorial Marker placed?
2. How many clubs did GCFM have when it was founded?
3. When was the Mayflower first published?
4. When did GCFM become 501(c)(3)?
5. Which GCFM president planted a tree in the Boston Public Garden with Boston's Mayor Menino?
6. GCFM headquarters has had three locations – can you name them all?
7. When was GCFM's seal designed?
8. Which GCFM president has an annual scholarship for three schools named after her?
9. How many presidents has GCFM had as of 2025?
10. Which GCFM president served as a WAAC in WWII?

Answers on Page 19

with laminated ornaments of the club's logo and vegetable and flower seed packets, as well as a few snowflakes.

During December, the ACE committee (Action Committee for the Environment) continuing its hard work after a busy fall cleanup - decorated lamp-posts and containers with wreaths and holiday greens, as well as some of Tewksbury's municipal buildings.



SIGN UP NOW!

**WALTHAM**

**Farm Day:** This event at Waltham Fields Community Farm on October 19 showcased local non-profits and the work done on the farm. Waltham Garden Club volunteers talked with attendees about our club's mission and gave away free native perennial plant



*Waltham Garden Club members during Farm Day*



*Waltham Garden Club members decorate Town Hall*

seed as our "swag." Kids delighted in the fun hands-on experience of the potato patch, and many a pumpkin tic-tac-toe game was played as well.

**City Hall Decorating Event:** The Waltham Garden Club Elves decorated the interior of Waltham City Hall on November 21-22. Under the leadership of Gail Drakos and Evelyn Hietsch, the halls and doorways festively showcase a variety of wreaths, swags, and trees. Everything was decorated beautifully with lights, bulbs, glitter, and ribbon.

**"Dazzle in December":** This annual holiday event, held at the Robert Treat Paine Estate on December 12, was enjoyed by members and guests alike. Speaker Bob Whitney was entertaining and walked us through a variety of different styles of beautiful arrangements. Members were entertained with floral design ideas and then had the opportunity to take home some of the Bob's wonderful designs.

**WILLIAMSTOWN**

The Williamstown Garden Club closed out the 2024 activities with a bang. Our annual meeting was held in October, featuring board elections and a wonderful pot luck lunch. It is great to have



*Incoming president Karen Parker and outgoing president Maria Siskind*

some new faces on our board. Our November meeting featured a nearby floral designer whose arrangements are unusual and dramatic. A few lucky members got to take home the display arrangements. In December, we continued our annual tradition of sponsoring our own winter floral arrangement workshop; local seniors were invited to join in the creation of winter arrangements using found greens, pods, berries, cones and more in tabletop arrangements. This has become a well-loved tradition.

We ended the year with our annual holiday luncheon, featuring a beautiful *buche de Noel* and our own table arrangements. We joined long-time member Anne Tiffany to celebrate Anne's 95th birthday! A great time was had by all.



*Happy Birthday to Anne Tiffany*





**An NGC Standard Flower Show  
presented by  
Central North District &  
Western & Central South District  
at the  
New England Botanic Garden  
at Tower Hill  
NOV 1-3, 2024**

*“Moments of joy surround us. An unexpected bloom takes our breath, a cooling shade grants healing rest, and a loved one’s touch brings tears to our eyes. May this show remind us of those moments and make our hearts sing”*

That introduction captures the theme of the 2024 Tower Hill Flower Show – Moments of Joy - which was held on November 1-3, 2024 at the New England Botani-



*Donna Shapleigh, Hudson Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 10: “First Steps”*

cal Garden. This biennial event has been a joint project of the Western and Central Southern District and the Central North District for many years. Over 25 garden clubs participated in the show, either on the hard-working flower show committee or as an exhibitor in one of the shows 78 exhibits. Some things may take a village, but a flower show takes a whole state, and then some.

The New England Botanical Garden pro-



*Ruth Evans, Framingham Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 2: “Butterflies Dancing”*

vided a lovely venue for the show with beautiful gardens outside, featuring a four-season display of the finest plants for cultivation in New England, and collections of ornamental, edible, and native plants. Inside the main hall, the flower show exhibits were complimented by the collections of tropical plants and citrus trees in the Garden’s two conservatories.



*Sally Jablonski, Worcester Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 6: “Holding Hands”*

Moments of Joy included three Divisions – Design, Education and Horticulture. The Design Division included 48 entries from Massachusetts Garden Club members, as well as designs from other Federated



*Lisa Pattinson, Comm. GC of Duxbury  
First Prize, Class 12: “First Dance”*

Garden Club members. The Design Division was divided into four themed Sections - Joyful Time Alone (Tri-color Award), Joyful Family Moments (Designers Choice Award), Joyful Celebrations (Table Artistry Award), and Joyful Firsts (Petite Award). Each Section had three classes of design with four entries in each class. Blue ribbon winners in each class were eligible to win a Section award and one design was eligible for the Award of Design Excellence, which is offered to the highest scoring blue ribbon exhibit scoring 95 or above in Design Division. This year’s award was given to Linda Pare from the Ashland NH Garden Club (see Page 2 for photo).



*Margo Yie, Beth Shalom Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 11: “First Day At School”*

While the focus of flower shows tends to be on floral design, the Tower Hill show also includes horticulture and education

## Moments of Joy, Cont'd

divisions. These divisions tap into the diverse talents of garden club members and allow for a broader base of participation in the show. This year's Horticulture Division offered 10 sections, and 39 classes, all themed to reflect the joy of nature. Over

50 horticulture specimens were on display in classes that included themes such as *Celebrating Winter Color*, *Savoring Flavor-filled Life* and *Blooming Bliss Indoors*. Exhibitors were eligible for the Award of Horticultural Excellence, Award of Merit (5), Arboreal Award and Growers Choice Award. The winner of the Award of Horti-

cultural Excellence was presented to Beate Bolen from the Springfield Garden Club.

The Education Division included two exhibits: "Greener Design Choices: Better Options than Oasis" which offered information on environmentally friendly options for floral design mechanics, and "How to Use Two Elements of Design to Develop a Principle in a Design", a step-by-step illustration of how a designer might use two elements of design



Tracey Burhoe, Ashland NH Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 4: "Telling Tall Tales"



Valerie Howes, Holliston Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 1: "A Spot of Shade"



Gail Reichart, Milford Greenleaf Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 7: "Anniversary Waltz"



Vana Nespor, Springfield Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 9: "Favorite Holiday"



Leigh Hudson, Worcester Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 5: "Playing Games"



Ann Huntoon, Gentian Garden Club  
First Prize, Class 8: "Today's Your Birthday"

## GCFM Experts Warn Floral Foam an Unnecessary Danger to the Environment

Invented in 1954, this dense, lightweight material holds water and supports flower stems effortlessly, which instantly made it a favorite of professional and amateur florists alike. Unfortunately, floral foam does not decompose efficiently. It takes thousands of years to break down, along the way creating microplastics that easily spread polluting water sources, killing wildlife, and ultimately damaging human health as they enter water systems and the food chain. Floral foam is also incredibly toxic, containing high levels of formaldehyde, barium sulfates, and carbon black.



Kathy Hawes' Exhibit  
"Greener Design Choices"

### Moments of Joy, Cont'd

(Color and Line) to create a Principle of Design (Rhythm) in a Line Mass floral arrangement. First place in the Educational Division was presented to Vana Nespore from the Springfield Garden Club.

The viewing public was very complementary throughout the whole weekend and enjoyed a spectacular flower show! If you were unable to attend, please check out the wonderful PowerPoint created by Shannon Fitzpatrick, the show photographer and a member of the Framingham Garden Club.

~ By Jill Malcolm

Note: You can find Shannon Fitzpatrick's Moments of Joy PowerPoint Show on the GCFM website, <https://www.gcfm.org/flower-show-awards>

Kathy Hawes, a member of the Sharon Garden Club, featured examples of eco-friendly alternatives in her stunning exhibit "Greener Design Choices" at the Moments of Joy Flower Show at Tower Hill, which included the following:

- Armatures
- Chicken wire
- Container with openings
- Flat wire ball
- Floral mesh
- Grids – manufactured
- Grids – created with tape
- Hairpin frogs
- Kenzan (pin holders)
- Plant material as support
- Sustainable floral blocks
- Sustainable H2O pouches
- Stones as stem support
- Water tubes

Hawes' exhibit also stated the following disposal instructions:

Floral foam is a plastic that is not recyclable or biodegradable:

- All foam products should be sent to landfill-bound trash only
- Floral foam should not be put in the compost, the garden, or in nature
- Water containing foam fragments should not be poured down the sink or into storm water

When reached for comment, Hawes stated, "Floral foam is easy to obtain and use, so making the change to eco-friendly and sustainable floral design products will take more time, more effort, and more planning by all of us. But the payoff will be



Pin holders and frogs on display

huge - a cleaner environment for the future."

Although there is no ban yet, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has classified floral foam as a probable human carcinogen. Most florists have stopped using it, especially since there are so many easy alternatives. Many floral shows take pains to offer strict guidelines, such as GCFM's own "Moments of Joy", which stated that the "use of floral foam such as Oasis should be kept to a minimum" in their Division 1 Rules.

While instructing a "Basics in Floral Design" class on October 18, 2024 to the Boxford Village Garden Club, Master Judge LuBeth Kuemmerle warned her class of the dangers of floral foam, and proceeded to lead her students through the exercise using layers of chicken wire.

With more ecological awareness, and more teachers like Kuemmerle and Hawes, the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts (and perhaps the rest of the world) may someday stop using floral foam completely.

By Karen Brockelbank



Kathy Hawes' Exhibit "Greener Design Choices"

**Get Tickets for the GCFM Centennial Prelude Fundraiser - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025**

**Date:** April 30, 2025  
**Time:** 10 AM - 12 PM  
**Place:** DoubleTree by Hilton  
 11 Beaver Street, Milford, MA  
**Tickets:** \$45

On April 30, GCFM will present a lecture by Michael Derouin, a second-generation floral designer and floral educator, at our Centennial Prelude Fundraiser at the Double-Tree by Hilton in Milford, MA.

Come join us for this unforgettable event.  
 Doors open at 9:30.

**Click Here For Tickets**



**BY MAIL - send your check to:**  
 Penni Jenkins  
 241 Elm Street  
 Walpole, MA 02081  
 Deadline April 22, 2025

**No refunds.**



MICHAEL DEROUIN

**ABOUT MICHAEL DEROUIN:**

With over 30 years of experience in the floral industry, Michael Derouin has devoted his career to floral education, retail, wedding, and event design. Beginning in his family's florist business in Southern Connecticut, Michael later joined one of Connecticut's oldest florists in Greenwich in 2007. During his 13-year tenure, he played a key role in transforming the business into a distinguished luxury brand. He is currently focused on rebranding another century-old florist in the suburbs of Boston, MA.

Michael's extensive experience provides him with a profound understanding of all facets of floral design, establishing him as a highly sought-after educator. He is passionate about sharing his expertise and enjoys presenting educational programs for both industry professionals and floral enthusiasts. Additionally, Michael holds memberships in prominent floral industry organizations, including [AIFD](#), [AAE](#), and [PFCI](#).

Beloved by garden clubs nationwide, Michael Derouin is renowned for his educational and entertaining approach to floral design. With 30 years of industry experience, Michael delivers engaging and informative demonstrations and classes. He shares invaluable design techniques, mechanics, and tips that are easily implemented by both novice arrangers and seasoned pros.

Teaching and sharing his lifetime of knowledge is Michael's greatest passion. *"There is an immense sense of fulfillment when sharing knowledge and teaching others,"* he says.

**APRIL 30**

## Flower Show School Report

Flower Show School, Course 1 was held on October 16-18 at the Doubletree by Hilton in Milford. There were 52 students; 32 students from Illinois, Ohio, Delaware, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island and 20 from Massachusetts. Twenty-seven students took the exam.



Cathy Felton was the horticulture instructor and she shared her knowledge on arboreal needled evergreens and succulents. Students were impressed with the many varieties of specimens shown as teaching exhibits.



Lynn Fronk was the Design instructor and she taught mass, line mass and line design. She created six designs for illustration (three are shown on this page). Nine Judges' Council designers created many different and beautiful presentations of mass and line-mass designs for practice judging.

Two very generous donations totaling almost \$3,000 made this Flower Show School possible. We look forward to having Course 2 in 2025 on April 15-17.

~ A summary of Ruth Gorman's report, by Linda Jean Smith

Rhode Island  
April 10-13

Vermont  
March 7-9

**UPCOMING FLORAL SHOWS  
BY NEGC MEMBERS**



Floral design is an art form that can be very gratifying. You can register now for **FLOWER SCHOOL COURSE II** given by experts Barbara May, Pam Braun and Cathy Waitinas. Simply click on the image to the left and register for class <—

**DID YOU KNOW?** GCFM currently has **19 Flower Show Awards** that garden club members can apply for every year, plus some special prizes like the Cindora Goldberg award. Learn about them by clicking on the image to the right —>

## Ring in the New Year at the Rose Bowl - by Susan Miner

What a fabulous way to ring in the New Year! Seven members of GCFM and the New England Garden Clubs Director flew to Los Angeles for a five-day dream trip with Road Scholars to the Rose Parade. There were over 500 participants divided into small groups of 35. Our members were part of Gray Group led by Dr. Vanetta Perry from New Mexico.

Saturday was our initial orientation to the exciting events planned and an opportunity to meet others in our group. Our eight travelers sat together for the opening dinner and you could feel the excitement in the room.

The first full day was on Sunday at the float barn. Our team was assigned to one of the Artistic Entertainment Services (AES) barns which was completing 13 of the floats that would appear in the parade. We were fortunate that the decorating process was



Members gathered the first evening for dinner and orientation

at the phase of roses being cut and inserted into water tubes. Each tray held 100 prefilled water tubes and we were given 4 tightly wrapped packages of beautiful roses from the onsite flower barn. Over the course of the day we contributed to many floats – City of Torrance, UPS Store, Visit Mississippi, San Diego Zoo and several others. As the day progressed some of our group switched to other projects in the barn that entailed gluing seeds to parts of the floats. We returned to the hotel tired but delighted. The day ended with dinner and a movie about the 2 year process a



Bonni Dineen putting roses in water tubes

community-spirited volunteers who work all year to ensure the success of both the Rose Parade and the Rose Bowl Game. Our last session was from a past Rose Queen. The Rose Queen and Rose Court are iconic traditions, steeped in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses' history. It was fascinating to hear about the history and activities of the Rose Queen and Court.

Monday morning was spent at the Ambassador Auditorium in Pasadena for three morning presentations. First was from the Painted Ladies Rodeo Performers – a multigenerational team of mothers, daughters, and granddaughters riding to inspire hope. They are an extreme drill team that rides paint horses and are one of the equestrian groups in the parade. Second was a presentation from two "White Suiters" so named for their iconic white uniforms. It was interesting to learn about the 935 dedicated, com-



Carts and carts of roses ready to be attached to their respective floats



New England Garden Clubs Director  
Susan Miner

community-spirited volunteers who work all year to ensure the success of both the Rose Parade and the Rose Bowl Game. Our last session was from a past Rose Queen. The Rose Queen and Rose Court are iconic traditions, steeped in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses' history. It was fascinating to hear about the history and activities of the Rose Queen and Court.



GCFM members gathered by the tree in the Ambassador Auditorium. Front row: Bonni Dineen and Diane Bullock. Second row: Priscilla Chesna, Nancy Bullock and Kathy McFarland. Third row: Lucille Sampson, Jack Sampson and Susan Miner

That afternoon we enjoyed the third session of Bandfest at Pasadena City College. Each year, the marching bands (along with their dancers and auxiliary groups) chosen for the Rose Parade put on high-energy field shows highlighting their musical talent and creativity.

## Rose Bowl Trip Report, Cont'd

Tuesday was a day trip to the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles. The museum houses European paintings, drawings, sculpture, illuminated manuscripts, decorative arts, and photography from its beginnings to the present, gathered internationally. Of particular interest to our group were the gardens. We found harmony especially in the art and nature of the Getty's Central Garden. Created by artist Robert Irwin as a multi-sensory experience, it is also the largest registered artwork in the Museum's collection. There were hundreds of botanical delights to enjoy.



*The Central Garden at the Getty Museum featuring the floating maze of azaleas*

That evening was New Year's Eve which started with a reception, plated meal and fun props to begin the new year. We celebrated the New Year with the broadcast from the East Coast so we could get some rest before tomorrow's very early start.

Wednesday was the big event we were anticipating. We loaded the buses early to get through the streets of Pasadena before they were closed. Our seats in the grandstands were halfway along the parade route which stretches for 5.5 miles. So as everyone was watching the Tournament of Roses Parade on TV, we still had about an hour before it would arrive at our location. We were entertained by the fly over of the USAF B-2 Spirit (stealth bomber) and sky writers before the parade. It was such an exciting two-hours enjoying the floral floats,



*Roses adorning the impressive tail of a peacock*

marching bands, and equestrian units. That afternoon we had free time to use as we would like. The evening's dinner was followed by a performance by a Ragtime Orchestra with great arrangements of Scott Joplin's familiar music as well as other composers – all music had botanical titles.

Our last day included a trip to Floatfest to view the completed floats up close and admire the details of our and others handiwork. This is a 2-mile display featuring all the Rose Parade floats after their appearance on the parade route. It was the conclusion of a wonderful tour as we headed back home.



## UPCOMING WEBINARS



### JANUARY 30

#### Introduction to Canva - Victoria Schmidt

Discover everything you need to know about Canva's most popular document types. Create and access amazing visual content, social media posts, video how-to guides, presentations, free templates and more. No experience required. Click [HERE](#) to register.



### FEBRUARY 12

#### Ware Collection of Blaschka Glass Models - Jennifer Brown

A talk by the collection manager on this exquisite exhibit, better known as the Glass Flowers.

### MARCH 7

#### Organic Lawn Care - Jim Agabedis

A talk by Jim Agabedis of Minuteman Landscaping, on the benefits of organic landscaping.

[GO TO GCFM WEBINARS PAGE](#)





# ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

with Maria Bartlett

## FOOD WASTE... The Harm it Does and How to Help

Astonishingly, most U.S. families end up tossing 25% of the food they purchase....that's the contents of one out of every four grocery bags!! That is very costly, adding up to about \$1,350 annually per family! More than 36 million tons of food waste was generated in just one year in 2012!

All sources of food waste make up about 40% of what is thrown out as trash all across the US. This is either dumped into landfills causing the release of large amounts of climate change greenhouse gases when the food is broken down OR burned in incinerators using lots of energy and producing lots of CO2 in the process.

In addition, there is the issue of the vast amounts of wasted resources required to produce and deliver that food (water, land, fertilizer, labor, refrigeration, transportation)!

What can you do?

1. BE AWARE OF THE ISSUE - that alone can help you reduce waste in your own home.
2. Plan menus, use lists and shop wisely.
3. Use all leftovers, store where you can see them!
4. Repurposing food scraps into jams and sauces
5. Freeze items you cannot use right away
6. Donate unneeded items to food pantries
7. Compost kitchen scraps in your backyard or kitchen composter or register with a local pick-up composting service.
8. Help your town organize a community-wide composting service. **SEE what the Harwich Garden Club is doing to further composting in their town!!**
9. Help organize in your area to have excess food donated by grocery stores and restaurants to food banks, pantries, etc. **SEE the League of Women Voters Food Waste Tool Kit LINK: <https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/2023-06/Food%20Waste%20Toolkit.pdf>**
10. Support local initiatives for community composting and legislation that advances composting in your state.



Food Pantry Donation

## Is Your Club Into Conservation? Get Noticed!

There is a new feature on the Environmental Awareness page for clubs who do conservation work - like Harwich. Just send in a picture of your club at work with a paragraph or two, and your hard work will be posted on the GCFM website in our new **"Spotlight on Garden Club Conservation Efforts"**.

Join clubs like Harwich and send in your stories and photographs of environmental projects such as efforts to eliminate invasive plants and preserve native species. Does your club have programs to educate members and/or the public about pollinators, and organic ways to treat pests? Do you bare-root your plants before potting them up for your yearly Plant Sale? Do you work with a seed library, or a pollinator pathway in your town? We want to hear about it! Send in your information to [gcfmwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:gcfmwebmaster@gmail.com).







## GARDENING: Frustration or Fulfillment?

When my older brother was four years old, he saw a bee that he thought was falling off a flower it was trying to pollinate. He reached out to help it back onto the flower and was shocked with hurt dismay when he was stung.

Stinging disappointments are ever-present in the garden. Even seemingly simple decisions can be difficult, and opposing problems often present similarly. More than once, I have attended to a plant with yellowing leaves, watering it diligently, only to later discover that its issue was actually oversaturation! My well-meaning efforts often backfire.

The needs of every plant can vary – really, they are all divas! And gardeners? We can be even more finicky than plants! The right balance of gardening techniques and activities differs for everyone and fluctuates over time. In my own garden, many plants fail, some survive, a few thrive. I work hard to understand each plant's needs and to provide the right solution for each situation, but the process is stressful. The choices are abundant, the results often uncertain, and a moment of inattention can render useless months of work and dedication.



*Lisianthus*

But there is also joy along the journey. The thrill of discovering newly germinated lisianthus seeds! The delight of harvesting indoor-forced tulips while still in pajamas during a winter storm! The wafting scent of a tuberose. Even the simple anticipation of warm weather brings joy as I spend my wistful winter months dreaming of blooms and planning.

So, while the challenges of horticulture feel endless and the failures frequent, I have learned to forgive myself when things don't work out. Instead, I focus on the many opportunities to learn and delight and grow. And though I do not find every moment of the work pleasurable, I do find it meaningful, and the challenges I overcome heighten my enjoyment of the outcome. "Happiness cannot be pursued; it must ensue," writes Viktor Frankl in 'Man's Search for Meaning.' Happiness is often a result of gardening for me, and the trials and tribulations just part and parcel of the journey.

*Horticulture is not one-size-fits-all.  
There is room for everyone.  
There is room for you.*

There are just under 70 days until spring. Though the weather is harsh, and the winter days are cold and dark, we still can find joy in nurturing horticultural beauty.

Here are some of the things you can do right now: try winter sowing seeds outside and try germinating lisianthus seeds inside.

### WINTER SOWING

Take an empty plastic container such as a gallon size water jug and use it to start seeds. Place the containers outside in a protected area and leave them all winter, essentially unattended. Trudi Davidoff is known for popularizing this method in the early 1990s and it is considered an easier, more efficient way of seed

starting that mimics the natural environment. By using the cold and fluctuating temperatures of winter, seeds are able to germinate when the conditions are naturally right for them, without the need for special equipment or constant monitoring.



*Plastic Milk Jug Sprouting Method*

'Winter Sowers – The Original' Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/18mQWbRQnp/>



### SOWING LISIANTHUS INDOORS

Plant lisianthus seeds indoors. Lisianthus are beautiful rose-like flowers that are notoriously slow growing. You can start them inside right now in order to transplant them outside in the spring.

'Lisianthus Seed Starters' Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/18HDgmc7Pc/>



*Happy planting!*

## Her Shirley Farm Landscape Project, Part Eleven - Juliet Silveri

*Bees Sleep on Solidago, A Unique Vertical Design Idea, and the Barns Get a Landscape-Flattering Color*

Towards the end of the perennial blooming season autumn brought one of my latest bloomers, *solidago rugosa* 'fireworks,' into a striking yellow fountain that hummed with bee visitors. After a time of busy pollinating, the exhausted bees fell asleep hanging onto the underside of the blooms. They may have been a little tipsy too.



**Sleepy bees hang in the solidago.**

It was a year with a couple of remarkable annuals. Annuals fill gaps in my perennial garden, and every year I experiment with new ones. This year's features were nasturtiums and Shirley poppies.

Out of a few nasturtium seeds came long vines and many many flowers, bright orange, which crawled and spread and wound around perennials like an alien being. On my way back from the compost pile one day, I noticed a bright orange flower looking out from inside my arborvitae, from about four feet up. It had grown up inside the tree and came out to bloom, creating a vertical design idea that I have never seen before. An interesting way to bring color up to eye level. One would think the arborvitae was too dense to allow the light for this nasturtium to grow and bloom in it.

I had sprinkled Shirley poppy seeds in a space in my garden in March, and watered the seedlings through April and May. This is the first time I have witnessed the exquisite artistry in the colors and shades and shapes of these flowers. They have now seeded themselves, so may appear next year as well. The photo



**Have you ever seen nasturtiums grow up and through an arborvitae?**

here does not represent their delicate beauty well enough.

The fall drought was stressful for us gardeners. I watered constantly, and between my new bio hedge and my Japanese holly hedges it was hard to keep up. Spring will show my success or failure.

A landscape and its buildings must work together with respect to color, at least. My house and barns were yellow when I moved in. Because yellow is bright it is not a color that complements a landscape. It steals atten-



**These flouncy Shirley poppies would be difficult to live without.**

tion. The new shade of gray transforms the buildings so they fade into the background, so the landscape can become the focus. Yet the gray also glows in the right type of light. Perfect. I started the perennial show outside of one barn already, with a line of *persicaria*

*amplexicaulis* 'golden arrow,' with beautiful bright green foliage and long spiky magenta blooms. These were originally planted in my perennial garden, and are now repeating in front of one of my barns. They grow to three feet, so should not grow up in front of the barn windows. Next year I will show a picture of them blooming.



**A barn in color transition. Gray flatters the landscape, yellow steals attention from it.**

To give me something to look forward to in the spring, I bought a small variegated *eleutherococcus sieboldianus*, five-fingered aralia shrub, to plant in front of the woods on the north side. This white and green variegated spreading shrub will glow from down back and create its own presence and allure for me. Although it is currently looking sad in a pot on my porch, it will perk up at the first hint of warmth in March or April. This easy-to-grow and tough shrub will be an eye catcher, and a pleasure to observe, as it grows 6 to 8 feet tall.

A partial list of this season's work:

- The garden hedges have been sprayed with anti-desiccant,
- The birdbath has been leveled and kept from sinking with a deep foundation of marble chips,
- The bio hedge has been watered and watered and watered,
- The compost pile has created black gold dirt,
- Wood has been split and stacked,
- The lawn has been mowed and mowed,

## Her Shirley Farm, Cont'd

leaves have been gathered, chopped, and used as mulch or as compost material,

- A few overly enthusiastic plants have been moved out of the perennial garden,
- Three tough plants (winterberry holly, lemon drop azalea, and serviceberry) have been planted in the secluded mini forest, and watered and watered,
- The little meadow that established itself in an inconvenient place has been neglected, and it loves that,
- Of course, bittersweet and invasive rose bushes have been cut and pulled,
- Latches have been replaced on the barn doors,
- The barns have been painted, landscaping in front of them (and next to them, and behind them) to come next. At last!

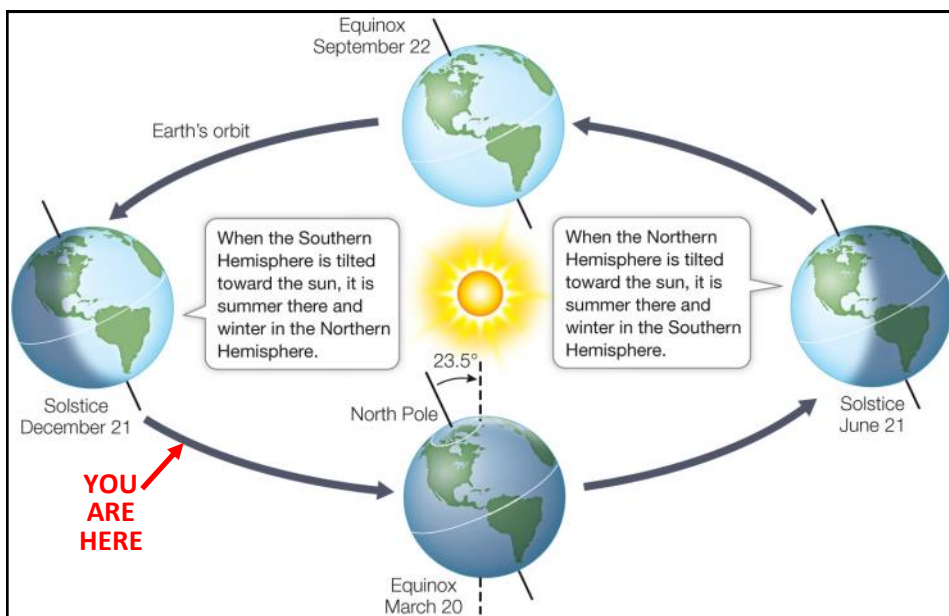


The barns are now an agreeable gray color against which every color works.

Winter solstice is behind us and daylight is increasing. Spring is 79 days away, on March 20.

I continue to keep in focus my theme that holds my land together, of a gentlewoman's farm with pastoral beauty, with wide open grass areas, several types of gardens and planted areas, and paths with destinations. There is structure, but there is also wildness.

Now we must wait until spring.



## Countdown to Spring

As we slowly emerge from the darkness of the Solstice, I distract myself by checking my "Sundial" app every day. This addictive little database tells me exactly how many seconds of daylight we gain every day as we inch our way toward the Equinox. I know what time I will see dusk and dawn, provided there are no clouds to block the sun. This handy little app also tells me information about the moon, such as how many days until it is full or new, and the percentage of illumination.

I realize this behavior is obsessive. It's a game I play every year as I pine for longer, warmer days and my time in the garden. I confess I am not a fan of either Solstice, preferring balanced days rather than ones where only 10 hours of darkness or light is provided.

But, no matter how much time I spend counting statistics, It doesn't make Spring come any faster.

JANUARY 13 - Sunset: 4:33  
Minutes gained: 1:02

By Karen Brockelbank



"Sundial screenshot"

### GCFM TRIVIA GAME ANSWERS

1. 1947; Lynnfield, Route 1
2. 39
3. 1949, under the name "Newsletter"
4. 1967
5. Arabella Dane, 37th GCFM President
6. Horticultural Hall, Boston; Wellesley Community Center; Waltham
7. 1934
8. Helen Freidberg, 35th GCFM President
9. 51
10. Helen Bourne, 16th GCFM President

# OBITUARY

## Adrianna O'Sullivan 1948 - 2024



Adriana was born in Schijndel, The Netherlands. She graduated from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts and Design in s'Her-togenbosch, specializing in ceramic sculpture. Her works can be found in the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam and the Boymans Beuningen Museum in Rotterdam.

A member of the Sharon Garden Club for many years, Adriana served as president from 2006 to 2008. She designed gardens in the center of town, the community center, public library, fire station, town hall, railroad station, Lake Massapoag and Our Lady of Sorrows Church.

As a GCFM board member for many years, she served as Horticulture chairman, Gardening School and Gardening Consultants Council 2005-2007 chairman, Landscape Design Council chairman and South Shore district director 2009-2011.

She was popular on the garden club lecture circuit throughout New England and New York, speaking about low-maintenance, drought tolerant plants and how to create beauty with texture and foliage color and her wonderful birth place, The Netherlands.

With a degree in Landscape Design from the Radcliffe Seminars, Harvard U, Adriana consulted and designed private gar-

dens. In recent years, she served as board volunteer at Montage in Framingham designing and installing the community and private gardens of residents.

Anyone who knew her will remember her smile and friendly disposition as well as her true love of gardening. She was always willing to help. With her passing there is one less beautiful flower in the garden.

~ Linda Jean Smith, GCFM Historian

[Lehman, Reen, McNamara Obituary](#)

[Legacy.com](#)

## Susan Satz Kaplan 1936 - 2024



Susan Satz Kaplan, 88, of Needham, MA, passed away on October 27, 2024. Sue was born on May 10, 1936, in Poughkeepsie, NY to Elizabeth and Louis Satz. She was the beloved wife of Jay Kaplan, loving sister to Naomi and brother-in-law Paul (predeceased), dear mother and mother-in-law of Peter and Mary, Bill and Catherine, and Jim and Caroline, precious grandmother of Drew, Ben, Frances, Lily, and Hattie, and extraordinary aunt to SaraJane and Ed Goldberg and Richard and Bonnie Lapidus.

Sue was a natural teacher, brimming with curiosity and can-do spirit. As an undergraduate at Connecticut College,

she painted in oils and drew exquisite still lifes and portraits. After earning her BA, in Education and Art History, she fell in love with a handsome young Coast Guard officer from Great Neck, NY, her dear Jay, and they were married on November 23, 1958.

After moving to the Boston area, for several years, to the delight of her many students, Sue taught Kindergarten at the public school at Hanscom Air Force Base, in Lincoln, MA. While raising their three rambunctious sons, Sue turned her creative gifts to floral design, becoming a central member of Temple Beth Shalom's Garden Club. Her Highgate House studio brought joy and beauty to decades of happy customers as they celebrated their weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, graduations, and more. Sue taught, mentored, judged, and lectured widely, winning many awards, from the MFA's famous Art in Bloom, the New England Flower Show, Maynard Winston Awards, and others. Of her many floral recognitions, Sue was perhaps most proud of her work with the Art Department at Needham High School, teaming up with students to create Art in Bloom, hosted annually at the Needham Public Library. In addition to her dearly beloved relatives, Sue loved her "Floral Family" deeply.

Continue reading at

[Brezniak Funeral Home Obituary](#)

*"Nature's first green is gold,  
Her hardest hue to hold.  
Her early leaf's a flower;  
But only so an hour.  
Then leaf subsides to leaf.  
So Eden sank to grief,  
So dawn goes  
down to day.  
Nothing gold  
can stay."*

~Robert Frost



## Book Review

**The Garden Against Time, by Olivia Laing**  
**Published by WW Norton & Company, 2004**



*The Garden Against Time: In Search of a Common Paradise*, by Olivia Laing: published 2004 by WW Norton & Company

Olivia Laing is an English writer, gardener and herbalist, with several fiction and non-fiction books under her belt. *The Garden*



*Against Time* was written during Covid, when Laing and her husband Ian Patterson bought the home of late English gardener Mark Rumary, with the intent of

restoring his beautiful gardens. This had been her dream since childhood and now as a middle aged woman, the dream of her Paradise was coming true. For those of us following that dream, this story will resonate.

Her restoration required patience, research and hard physical work, yet there was joy of discovery in the wild and untamed beds. Laing has employed her knowledge of history, philosophy, politics and culture, all relating back to her restoration of Rumary's home and surrounding acreage. Early in the book she states that "a garden is a balanc-

*ing act which can take the form of collaboration or outright war" and, "if I did get Rumary's garden, I would restore it, I told myself, but I would also trace how it had intersected with history, as even the smallest garden invariably must, since every plant is a traveler in space and time."* This Laing accomplishes, as she takes us from the time of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, through ancient gardens, and into the 17<sup>th</sup> century through our own time.

This book requires time and patience, a dictionary, and perhaps Google itself if we are to understand what Laing is presenting, but it is a wonderful and informative read. So much to think about!

Phyllis Foley  
 Greenleaf Garden Club



*British Author and Gardener*  
 Mark Rumary

*Would you like to submit a book review for the Mayflower? Contact the Editor at [gcfmmayflower@gmail.com](mailto:gcfmmayflower@gmail.com)*

## A Note From The Editor

Thank you for your submissions during the past year. It has been a pleasure getting to know some of you and learning about your projects. As someone new to GCFM, it has been my privilege to attend recent events such as the Annual Meeting, and the "Moments of Joy" Flower Show at Tower Hill. While there is still so much to learn, I hope that these experiences make me a better editor for the *Mayflower*.

As we and our gardens hibernate through another winter season, may we look forward to warmer days ahead, and the advent of Spring.



Karen Brockelbank  
[gcfmmayflower@gmail.com](mailto:gcfmmayflower@gmail.com)



### A "HOW-TO" FOR SENDING IN YOUR SUBMISSIONS

**DEADLINE:** The next *Mayflower* Issue deadline for submissions is **March 10.**

**TEXT:** Please try to keep your stories 75 words or less.

**PICTURES:** Attach image files (usually JPG's) to your email, do not embed them in your document.

**CAPTIONS:** Please provide captions for each photo you submit.

SEND IN YOUR NEWSWORTHY ITEMS TO  
[gcfmmayflower@gmail.com](mailto:gcfmmayflower@gmail.com).

**All photographs in this newsletter have been supplied courtesy of each Garden Club submitting the information**

CLICKING ON THE AD WILL TAKE YOU TO THE SPEAKER'S WEBSITE / MORE INFO



A Joyful Adventure

- Tales of a Gardener's Journey
- Victory Gardens: Then and Now
- Spiny and Spectacular: A Cactus Chronicle

Unhidden Gems

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- Discover engaging facts and stories about plant life, their gardens history, and surprising exhibits
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Savedbythegarden.org

**Naturalistic Gardening**

New Perennials: A Love story  
Not Your Mother's Garden  
Reimagined Gardens



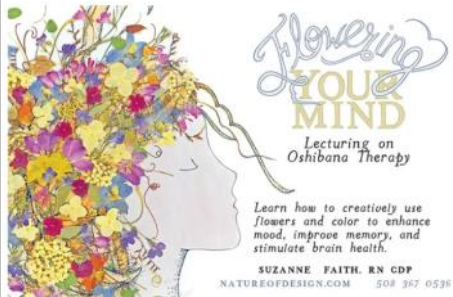
**A Walk Through the Garden with Eleanor Roosevelt**

Carol Cohen, Historian, Educator and Performer presents a look into the life of The First Lady of the World, Eleanor Roosevelt.

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

Publishers of the e-newsletter *The Northeast Rose Gardener*

**Lisa Doucett**

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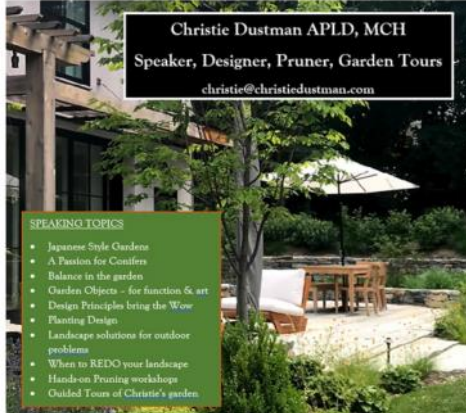
The size of the canvas you want for each participant influences expenses for the program though most are inexpensive when bought in multi-packs. Call/text me to discuss.

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- Planting Design
- Landscape solutions for outdoor problems
- When to REDO your landscape
- Hands-on Pruning workshops
- Guided Tours of Christie's garden



**Diane Edgecomb**  
with harpist Margot Chamberlain



Please visit our website <https://www.gcfm.org/program-speakers-2024> for full details

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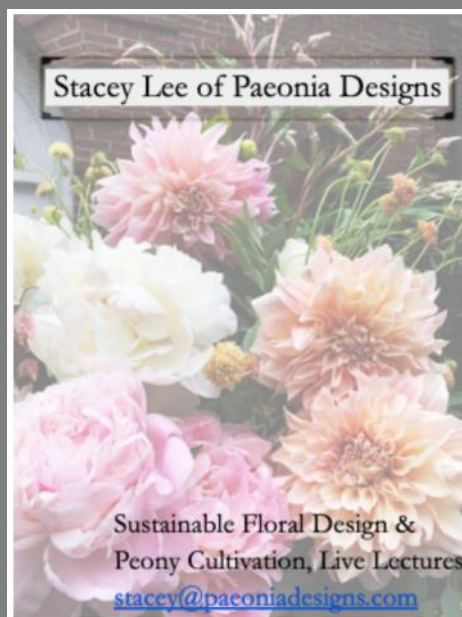


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