



# Never Done!

THE GARDEN CLUB OF HARVARD  
VOLUME XXXII-ISSUE 1



## Here's what Bill thinks...

Info: Bill Loehfelm

*Gardening is about enjoying the smell of things growing  
in the soil, getting dirty without feeling guilty, and generally  
taking the time to soak up a little peace and serenity.*

*Lindley Karstens*

Happy Early Fall. It's time to reflect back on our spring/summer gardening; what worked and what didn't...how we handled the heat...what might we have done differently.

We are a large (100+) group of folks who enjoy the outdoors and the time in the garden. It occurs to me that we probably all bring a slightly different approach to our gardens... What we plant...why we plant it ....and how crucial is the outcome.

I used to grow mostly vegetables and I realized that I wasn't terribly invested in outcomes. If I absolutely had to have a green pepper, I could pick one up from Market Basket. What I really enjoyed was spending two months trying to grow one...the weeding, watering, nurturing, and protecting...that was the good stuff.

With flowers, in my case, outcomes are more important. A plant that flowers feels like validation to me, that I got it right. I know there are many factors involved and that some plants flower in spite of my tending but I try not to overthink it.

I just really like playing in the dirt.

How about you?

September 2025

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# Membership

Info: Nancy Hartshorne

## Welcome Clare Perry.

Hello my name is Clare Perry.



My husband and I moved from Sudbury to Harvard 7 years ago to be closer to our children and grandchildren. We may have downsized our home, but gained landscape and neglected gardens in the process. Each spring I would look forward to the club's spring flower sale and this year decided to join the garden club to meet people and to get the opportunity to talk with other gardeners.

My interest in gardening began with my father and his love of vegetable and flower gardening. I would follow him around like a puppy helping him with his gardens. Through the years I settled with tried-and-true plantings like daylilies and hosta.

Now that I'm retired it's time to move on to more interesting plantings and hope that the garden club can help. Through meeting others, I look forward to volunteering and expanding my garden knowledge.

## In Loving Memory - Chris French Davis Ready 1934-2025



Committee Chairmen	
<i>Conservation (ACE)</i>	Mrs. Neil Powell (Nancy)
<i>Floral Design</i>	Mrs. Donald C. Green (Karen)
<i>Fruit and Flower Mission</i>	Mrs. Harry P. Sturdy
<i>Horticulture</i>	Mrs. David F. Remington (Chelsey)
<i>Hospitality</i>	Mrs. Gary E. Walker (Cathy)
	Mrs. Larry Wade (Sherrie)
<i>Landscape Design</i>	Mrs. Louise Fletcher
<i>Membership</i>	Mrs. Irving B. Meerow (Priscilla)
	Mrs. Brian Powers (Carol)
<i>Nominating</i>	Mrs. Lindsay Shives (Becky)
	Mrs. Turner Buford (Ellie)
<i>Plant Sale</i>	
<i>Program</i>	Mrs. D. Warren Vose (Ann)
<i>Publicity</i>	Mrs. Amy S. Brown
<i>Therapy Through Plants</i>	Mrs. David Ready (Chris)

Caroline (Chris) Ready joined the Garden Club in 1974 and, like so many of us longtime members, she had a sponsor and began with a "provisional" status. There was no doubt that she would pass muster, with her friendly, caring personality. Bringing joy and enthusiasm to everything she did, Chris made

a positive impact on any group of which she was a part. In the club she was on the nominating committee in 1998 and chaired the Therapy Through Plants committee in the '80s. We will remember how kind and empathetic Chris was and be inspired by her courageous and upbeat spirit. (Carlene Phillips)

# September 29, 2025

## Overheard in the Orchard

Speakers: Linda Hoffman and Ellen Harasimowicz



OVERHEARD IN THE ORCHARD  
- a hybrid artist book -

Conversations: Linda Hoffman  
lindahoffman.com

Photographs: Ellen Harasimowicz  
ellenharasimowicz.com

Join us for Overheard in the Orchard, a presentation by orchardist, writer, and artist, Linda Hoffman, and photographer, Ellen Harasimowicz, who will present their new collaboration, an artist book.

Through this course of one year, Ellen photographed in the orchard at Old Frog Pond Farm and Linda wrote down the conversations that took place between one *Golden Delicious* tree and their orchardist.

As apple connoisseur John Bunker wrote in the forward to their book, "Here is our chance to listen to one wise old apple tree."

Harvard Senior Center  
16 Lancaster Road  
General meeting starts at 9:30 am  
followed by the program. library  
book

### Library Flowers in October

Oct. 6: Suzan Osborn  
Oct. 13 Barbara Heim

Oct. 20: Kim Morton Halloween Diorama  
Oct. 27: Kim Morton Halloween Diorama

### Hospitality Team in September

Janine Andrews  
Maria Day  
Carol Hartmann

Team leader: Claudia Wesley

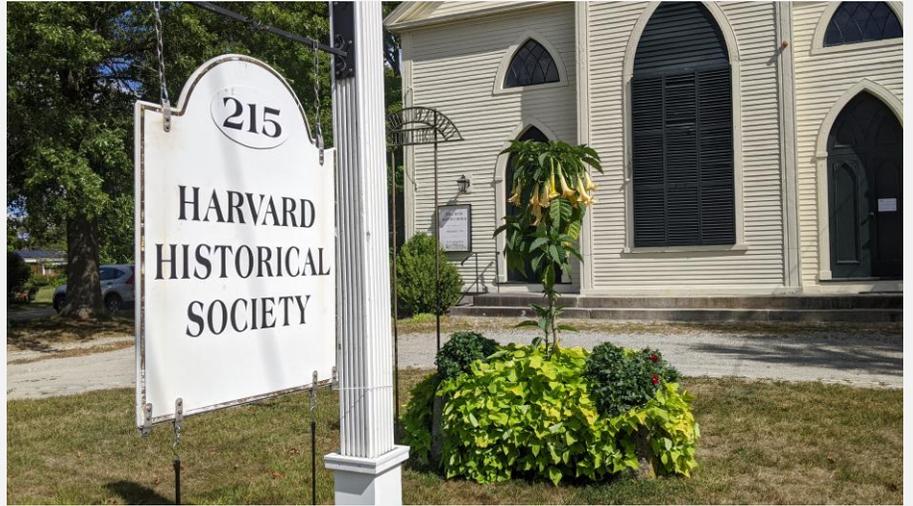
Kathleen Turnbull  
Maureen Remeika

# Civic Beautification

Info: MaryAnn Piasecki, Kathy Jackson, Maribeth Marcello



*Planter in front of the General Store*



*Planter at the HHS*



*Horse trough on Ayer Road*



*Planter in front of the Town Hall*

*Pictures by MaryAnn Piasecki and Marijke Vallaey*

# Garden Club Gathering in Jessie's garden

on September 14, 2025



*Pictures by Lisa Brown  
Picture of Janine and Lisa by Marijke*

# Library Books

Info: Kathy Dollard

As spring became summer this year, the Library Committee worked with Mary Wilson, Director of the Harvard Public Library, to purchase books that you – GCH members – had recommended earlier in the year. Nine members recommended 32 books, a huge increase over the year before when 4 members recommended 16 books. We believe you, because of your interests in gardening and nature, are the experts on what books the public might also like to read.

After careful consideration of all the recommended books, including conferring with those members who recommended books, we purchased 18 of the 32 recommended books – generally in the categories of Flower Gardening, Flower Arranging, Food and Self-sufficiency Gardening, and Nature. We included several children's books in the Flower Gardening and Nature categories, as children's books have been very popular with members who want to enjoy books with their children and grandchildren.

Over the next several newsletters, we'll introduce each of the books we donated, and hope that you will find a few that you would like to read.

Please keep your recommendations coming! At every meeting there will be a "Green Sheet" on each of the tables for you to list your favorite gardening and nature books. Please be as specific as possible, including the title and the author – and your name, in case we can't track down your request.

Do you have any favorites in these categories? Please let us know, either via the Green Sheet or email Kathy Dollard ([nfpc@charter.net](mailto:nfpc@charter.net)).

- *Conservation*
- *Famous Gardens/Gardeners*
- *Gardening from Seeds/Winter Sowing*
- *Historical Gardening*
- *Natural Gardens*
- *Plant Identification*
- *Container Gardening/Houseplants*
- *Gardening in Climate Change*
- *Habitat Gardening/Attracting Pollinators, Birds, Insects, etc.*
- *Landscape Design*
- *New England Trees, Shrubs*
- *Other ideas?*

The Library Committee – Kathy Dollard, Heidi Siegrist and Dee Lee

# In Madelaine Ferguson's Garden



Pale yellow small cup daylily



Cranberry Baby small cup daylily



Kousa Dogwood – pale pink and white new variety



Yellow Azalea

# Library Flowers

Info: Mary Jane Ellison



Thanks to Carol Hartman, Marijke Vallaeys, Ally Zhu, Pat Cooper, Claudia Wesley, Lisa Boutelle.

*(photographs by Carol Hartman, Judy Warner and Marijke Vallaeys)*

# Notes on FY'25 Year End Report and the Proposes Budget for FY'26

Info: Deborah O'Rourke

## **FY '25 Year End Report**

Net Income is roughly \$1100 higher than FY '24. While there were fluctuations in many categories, this can be attributed mostly to decrease in rent (-\$1000).

## **Proposed Budget**

The GCH Board has voted to present this budget to the Membership for their vote at our September meeting.

### **Notable changes:**

1. **Affiliations / gifts** – this category represents payments that we make annually as donations or in lieu of membership to local organizations. This year we propose increasing most payments and added the Native Plant Trust as a recipient.
2. **Bloom N Art** - \$200 increase proposed due to rising costs of fresh flowers.
3. **Technology Service fees** - \$250 increase proposed to add a subscription to Sign-Up Genius and an additional Zettle card reader for processing electronic payments.
4. **Special Projects** – Proposed budget was increased by \$2000 to help accommodate the cost of an engraved planter for Town Hall in celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Garden Club of Harvard.
5. We eliminated some “place holder” categories that have not been utilized in years. This resulted in a total decrease of \$400 in the budget line items.

**Plant Sale** – Net income for 2025 exceeded 2024 by \$1223.03. Gross receipts were higher and expenses slightly lower.

If you have questions, please contact [Deborah](#) by email.

# Summer Fieldtrip to the YC Art Museum in Acton

Info: Nancy Hartshorne, Meg Bagdonas, Maria Day

From Carlene Phillips article in the Harvard Press:

Stone carving at the YV Art Museum is creating archaeology for the future.

At the end of Quarry Road in North Acton, near Nara Park, is an art museum and sculpture park. But those descriptors don't even begin to capture the unique and diverse pieces and the interactive experiences of the YV Art Museum. There is something amazing at every turn—so much so, it's hard to absorb all that's going on here in one visit. The museum is open every day; details are on the website.



Immerse Yourself in the World of Modern Creativity: [Contemporaryartsinternational.org](https://www.contemporaryartsinternational.org)

## Blooming in Oklahoma



Many years ago I bought fall aster "October Skies" at the plant sale. I loved the color. I gave my sister in Oklahoma a start of it.

Recently it's begun to bloom here in Broken Arrow, though not as fully as it will in a few days.

*Just a happy reminder of the long blooming arm of our plant sale offerings.*

Kathy Hewett

## Blooming in Harvard



*To save the zinnias from the long-awaited rain, Dee Lee arranged them in a blue teapot*



*Natives in the border, white wood aster and goldenrod (MVO).*

# Officers Committee and Project Leaders 2025-2026

<b>Officers</b>	
President	Bill Loehfelm
Vice President	Marijke Vallaeys
Recording Secretary	Carlene Phillips
Treasury	Deborah O'Rourke
<b>Committee and Project Leaders</b>	
Annual Lunch	Maria Day
Bloom N Art	Deb Dowson, AnaMaria Nanra, Donna Guarino, Patrick Vallaeys
Civic Beautification	Kathy Jackson, MaryAnn Piasecki
Corresponding Secretary	Stephanie Hooper
Garden Therapy	Mary Maxwell, Janice Rusiecki
Garden Tour	Katie Gandek, Jud Ratliff, Maria Day
Graduation Flowers	Kathy Hewett
Greens Workshop	Nancy Webber, Kathy Hewett
Historian	Carlene Phillips
Horticulture	Jessie Panek
Hospitality	Eileen Gorss, Mary Maxwell
Library Books	Kathy Dollard
Library/Meeting Flowers	MaryJane Ellison
Membership	Nancy Hartshorne, Pat Jennings
Nature Trails	Pam Durrant
Newsletter	Marijke Vallaeys
Nomination	Jessie Panek, Nancy Hartshorne, Member at Large
Plant Sale	Maureen Remeika, Jane Vasta, Beth Conlon-Smith
Programs	Jeanie Colony, Maria Walton, Janice Rusiecki
Publicity	Judy Warner, Meg Bagdonas
Special Projects	Nancy Hartshorne, Meg Bagdonas, Maria Day
Webmaster	Betsy Howard
Yearbook	Carlene Phillips, Marijke Vallaeys

*Thanks to Carlene Phillips for proofreading, always much appreciated!*