



NEVER DONE!

THE GARDEN CLUB OF HARVARD
VOLUME XXVIII, ISSUE 06



February President Ponderings

It feels like spring is right around the corner. The seed catalogs are coming in and the thoughts of seeing green are coming into focus. We have started the planning for our annual plant sale that we have not had in 2 years now. But we are this year and I cannot wait.

Bill Loehfelm is heading up this year's sale on May 14th. He has already ordered the vegetables and herbs from our supplier. We will be officially kicking off the plant sale on March 21st for all members. Did you know that participation in the planning and preparation of the plant sale is part of our bylaws; not that anyone would ever want to miss the most fun event of all! So start your pondering on what you would like to do? Do you like to make plant labels, dig plants, pot plants, and sell plants? We will have a job for you!

See you at the potting shed soon.

Bloom N Art on March 19 -20 at Fivesparks

Saturday March 19: from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sunday March 20: from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Plant Sale on May 14

Info: Bill Loehfelm and Sarah Tate

This year we will be adding houseplants to the plant sale! If anyone has houseplants to contribute, that would be great! Feel free to start propagating or dividing and let Sarah Tate know what you have so she can start keeping track of the potential selection.

If you need any help with the propagating process connect with Sarah and she can help you out.

General meeting on Monday, February 28

Joint meeting with the Woman's club

Program

A Visit from Mary Abbot

Speaker: Carlene Phillips



Mary Abbot will talk about the many different aspects of her life in Harvard, starting at the age of 24 when she and her brother Frank ran a farm and orchard on Bolton Road.

Schooled in landscape architecture and horticulture, Mary had extensive flower gardens, and she will talk about the joys and tribulations they brought.

In 1927 she started the Garden Club of Harvard, and she will describe some of the club's programs and projects over the years.

She was also an active member of the Harvard Woman's Club, and she recalls many of their entertaining and edifying programs.

Mary was an avid reader, and she will have some of her favorite gardening books with her to share with the audience.

When: February 28

***Where: Holy Trinity Parish St. Theresa's Church
15 Still River Road***

Time: 9:30 am

Membership

Info: AnaMaria Nanra

It's that time of year again! Wait, what, HUH?? If that was your reaction, don't worry, it was mine too! Membership renewal has been a bit nutty the past couple of years due to the pandemic and not having in-person meetings. But as in so many aspects of life right now, we're TRYING to get back to a normal routine!

For clarification, in February, we start to actively pursue and accept membership renewal forms/dues. These dues are applied to the following membership year, which begins in September. (The dues you paid last year will cover you through this membership year, which ends in July).

If you want your information to appear/remain in the yearbook, your membership must be recorded/paid for by August 1, at the very latest. Chairs for membership and Yearbook work together to gather/share information so we only have to bother you once a year! So the sooner we have your membership renewal, the easier it is for the Yearbook chair to get the new edition ready (not at the last minute).

Paper copies of the Membership Form will be available at our next meeting, which is this coming Monday, February 28! So please bring your checkbooks and we can get a large chunk of these done right away!

You can also print a form following this [link](#) from the Garden Club of Harvard website. Fill it out at home and bring it with you to the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please mail the form and your check to me:

AnaMaria Nanra
Membership, Garden Club of Harvard
38 Old Littleton Rd.
Harvard, MA 01451

If you are going to mail your form and dues, please send it to me at the above address, not to the Garden Club PO Box. It will make it easier for me to keep track of and record everything before sending the money to our Treasurer. (If you do happen to mail it to the PO Box, I'll still get it eventually!).

Oh, one more thing. A few very smart ladies have figured out an easy way to 'fill out' their forms by simply adhering a sticker address label to the form! Then you only have to fill out a few more spaces by hand. 🤞

Hope to see you at the meeting!

AnaMaria Nanra
Membership Chair

Native Spring Ephemerals

Program on January 31, 2022

Speaker via Zoom : Amy Mawby
Garden Educator and Photographer



Ephemerals are native wildflowers that grow in rich woodland. They grow, bloom and set seed in the brief period after the ground thaws and before the trees leaf out and block the sun.

Trillium, Dicentra, Twinleaf are examples of ephemerals

Interesting fact: Ants are partners in propagation. It's called Myrmecochory. Certain spring ephemerals produce elaiosomes (fleshy parts attached to the seeds). The ants will take the seeds to their colonies as far as 70 yards away

to feed the elaiosomes which are rich in protein /lipids to their larvae. The seeds are abandoned in the nest where they can germinate.

Colors to brighten a winter's day



This beautiful bush lives at the corner of our house in Caba Rojo, Puerto Rico.

Pat Jennings

Winter Fest - Saturday, February 26, 2022



Fruitlands Museum and the Harvard Lions Club are teaming up to throw out the winter blues and awaken the Fruitlands hillside with a festival day of family-friendly activities. Join for a day of seasonal celebrations!

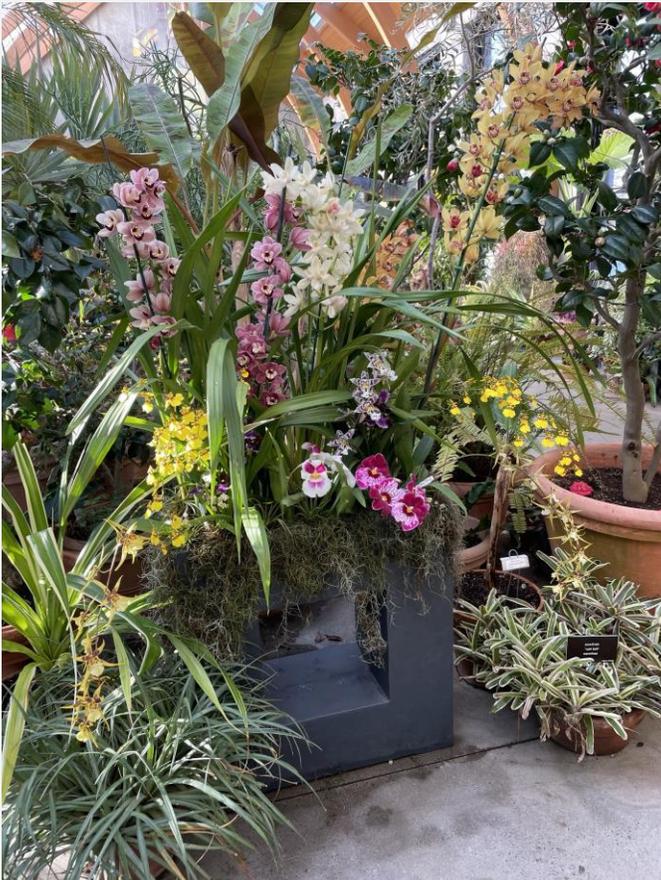
PRISMATIC, AN ORCHID EXHIBITION

Saturday, February 12 – Sunday, March 20, 2022

Inspired by color and light, Tower Hill has combined dazzling plant displays and vibrant art installations to bring you this year's orchid exhibit, Prismatic!

This experience begins as soon as you enter the lobby and continues throughout Tower Hill's indoor spaces, including the Limonaia and Orangerie, which are adorned with 1,400 colorful orchids and sparkling works of art.

Your journey also includes a walk through a rainbow in the Milton Gallery and a view of a shimmering George Sherwood sculpture in the Cafe



EARTH DAY “SHOW AND TELL” ALL OVER TOWN

Harvard Climate Initiative Committee is planning a Harvard Earth Day event with the mission of uniting our community in a broad conversation about sustainable living on April 30th (rain date on May 1st) from 11am – 5pm. In addition to having some activities in the center of town, our vision is to have community members share their sustainable, resilient, and “green” projects and activities at their homes, farms or in the town center.

We are reaching out to the Garden Club to see if any of you might be interested in showing other community members any of the following: your native plant installations, worm bins, compost systems, vegetable garden, rainwater catchment, permaculture, bee keeping, electric tools, or any other garden-related project that leads to lower energy footprints and the protection of wildlife and flora. There’s no need to commit to the full day. Any 2+ hour window would be fine.

It doesn’t have to end there! We are also seeking community members that have air or ground sourced heating/cooling systems, induction stoves, solar installations, electric vehicles and bikes, etc. So if you have multiple things you would like to share – all the better. If you simply have an interest and some time to give, we will need plenty of volunteers as well.

We are also hoping to find some sponsors to offset expenses – any suggestions along those lines would be helpful too. Perhaps you are aware of a local business that is using sustainable practices that might be interested.

This is an idea in its gestation stage, so we don’t have all the details worked out, but we hope to have a fun and informative event with plenty of community participation and we will provide support. Appropriate COVID protocols will be determined at the time and observed to keep everyone safe.

Please contact me if you have interest or ideas to share. deborahorourke@verizon.net

Thank you and Happy Spring!

The Harvard Climate Initiative Committee

Annual Garden Tour – June 6, 2022

Info: Suzan Osborn (suzanosborn@gmail.com) and Sarah Tate (sjt@sarahjanetate.com)



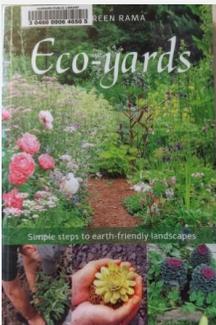
All members are invited to offer their gardens for selection for the **June 6, 2022 Annual Garden Tour**. It is not too early to start dreaming about and planning your garden. Any size garden would be enjoyed on the tour and, as we gardeners know, all gardens are in progress.

So don't be shy. If you do feel shy, please email Suzan Osborn and Sarah Tate for advice and encouragement.

Never Done is our club's motto. And please remember: you can recommend a friend's garden (with their permission). The garden tour is our traditional treat after dessert at the Annual Meeting Luncheon. We look forward to hearing from You!



Library Books



As you all know the Garden Club donates books to the library. Lately I found a fantastic book about flower arranging by Judith Blacklock. A couple of days ago I was intrigued by a title in the plants section: Eco-yards by Lauren Rama. And lo and behold..it was a book donated by the Garden Club!

An excerpt: "Accept and Benefit from Having Some Weeds.

Dandelions with their deep tap roots are great soil aerators. Lamb's quarters is a weed and it's very nutritious."

Bloom N Art: March 19-20

Info: Marijke Vallaey's and AnaMaria Nanra

Interesting books (available in our local library)

Art In Bloom at Home Museum of Fine Arts, Boston	Flower Arranging by Judith Blacklock The complete guide for beginners
Space and Color in Japanese Flower Arrangement by Kasumi Teshigawara	

Bloom N Art History by Theresa Ledoux

When I joined the Garden Club in 2016 at the urging of my neighbor, MaryAnn Piasecki, I met this woman, who was president of the club at the time. What I didn't know was that Shirley Boudreau was a force to be reckoned with! Other than badgering me to become more involved with the Garden Club, she had this idea that we could replicate an initiative that was trending with other local garden clubs, as well as the MFA in Boston, the WAM in Worcester, the MET in NYC, and other great museums across the country and the world. If they could pull it off, why couldn't we?

Partnering with the art department teachers at the Bromfield, the Harvard Public Library, the Harvard Cultural Council, and willing arrangers at the GCH, she made this objective a reality.

Our first Bloom N Art was in 2017. In the foreword to the program, Shirley wrote,

"This is the year that the stars seemed to line up and lead the way to making Bloom N Art a reality." That first exhibition was successful beyond all expectations. In the following years, the exhibition grew with a greater number of student artworks and GC members' floral interpretations, and the number of people attending.

Shirley's vision was never easy to achieve. From the first year in 2017 to the last in 2021, we were always working around a multitude of issues resulting from the integration of our many collaborators into a cohesive presentation. But none of those problems were greater than the unprecedented world-wide pandemic in March 2020. That was an incredible challenge, as we were preparing our 2020 exhibition on the same day that Harvard was shutting down the schools (it was thought, just for a few days for cleaning) and the library. Ultimately, the schools and the library were closed for months.

In 2020, Marijke Vallaey's and AnnaMaria Nanra, two GCH members who took on this initiative after Shirley's untimely passing in the spring of 2020, were able to pivot to a new model. The 2021 exhibition was exclusively online. The positives were that Bloom N Art still existed, that many people who were unable to attend because of Covid, distance, etc. were able to see the amazing work of our students and GC arrangers. But, we were unable to smell the flowers, and understand the textures of the arrangements and the artworks.

Despite all odds, the stars did align with Shirley's vision, and we continue to align with her as we prepare for our 2022 Bloom N Art presentation.

Library Flowers

Info: Mary Jane Ellison
(pictures Marijke Vallaeys)



Carolynn Luescher



Cindy Dumser



Meg Bagdonas



Christine Moeser

Officers for 2021-2022

President: MaryAnn Piasecki
Vice President: Jessie Panek
Secretary: Stephanie Hooper
Treasurer: Pauline Carroll

Committee Chairs

Historian: Carlene Phillips
Hospitality: Pending Covid Restrictions
Membership: AnaMaria Nanra
Newsletter: Marijke Vallaey
Nominating: Margaret Murphy, Janice Rusiecki
Programs: Margaret Murphy, Janice Rusiecki
Publicity: Marty Green

Projects

Annual Luncheon: Maria Day
Civic Beautification: Kathy Jackson Garden
GardenTherapy: Janice Rusiecki
Garden Tour: Sarah Tate, Suzan Osborn
Graduation Flowers: Kathy Hewett
Holiday Greens Workshop: Deborah Dowson, Denyse Cox
Horticulture: Connie Grabow
Library Books: Helen Berry
Book Discussion Group: Helen Berry
Library and Meeting Flowers: Mary Jane Ellison
Nature Trails: Pam Durrant
Plant Sale: Claudia Wesley and Bill Loehfelm
Webmaster: Betsy Howard
Yearbook: Marijke Vallaey
Bloom N Art: Marijke Vallaey, AnaMaria Nanra