



NEVER DONE!

THE GARDEN CLUB OF HARVARD
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President Ponderings

MaryAnn Piasecki

October Presidential Ponderings

I have been pondering on whether we might have witches in the garden club. I have witnessed clusters of members foraging mushrooms on Harvard trails. Some of the mushrooms are wild in form and color, and not a common household edible. And then there is the group that bought kits to grow mushrooms at home. Next thing you know members' yards will be covered in moss, and we might find them meditating in the garden or harvesting during a full moon.

The overwhelming clue to this notion is the hundreds of perennial herbs we sell each year. My research has indicated that two of the top 5 plants for a witch's garden include herbs such as Lavender, *Lavandula spp.*, and Sage, *Salvia officinalis*. This year alone we sold 48 Lavender and 28 Sage plants to garden club members only. Lavender might be being used in rituals to enhance clarity and bring love. According to Witchipedia (yes it's real), Sage has a history and long folklore in witchcraft. The name Salvia deriving from the Latin word Salveo "to heal" or "to save". An old witch's proverb says "Why should a man die who has sage in his garden?" I better go; my cauldron is starting to boil.



September 27, 2021
Acton Arboretum
Tour by Bettina D. Abe



General Meeting on Monday, October 25

THIS IS OUR FIRST INDOORS MEETING SINCE THE START OF THE PANDEMIC IN MARCH 2020!

Houseplants are your friends, I promise

Speaker: Sarah Tate



Sarah often hears from incredible gardeners that they struggle when it comes to houseplants. With the re-emergence in popularity of houseplant culture coupled with the direct benefits of living amongst plants inside our homes, it is a great time to either try again or to take your collection to the next level.

She assures you anyone can have great success with houseplants; it is all in “getting it right.”

Join Sarah for an overview about approaching your indoor garden.

She will discuss how you can get started, understanding particular lighting, soil, seasons, plants that will work for you, and propagation methods from simple to advanced.

The interior landscape awaits!

When: October 25, 2021

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

Time: 9:30 am

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic we have to follow the CDC guidelines and the archdiocese requirements:

- Distanced seating
- No food served
 - Masks

Civic Beautification

Info: Kathy Jackson



Kathy Jackson arranged the planters at the general store



Kathy and MaryAnn filled the urns at town hall with beautiful mums.



Thanks to Nancy Gasser for her ever-changing displays in the Harvard Historical Society horse trough.



Kathy Jackson and MaryAnn Piasescki's fall plantings in the horse trough on Ayer Road

Photos by Marijke Vallaeys

Nature Trails

Info: Pam Durrant

Thursday, September 30: Willard - Poitras Conservation Land (see pictures of the mushroom hunt)

Thursday, October 7: Pin Hill Conservation Land

Thursday, October 14: Bare Hill Wildlife Sanctuary/Bowers Springs to Vaughn Hills



Are these edible mushrooms?



Photos by MaryAnn Piasecki

Library Flowers

Info: Mary Jane Ellison
(pictures Marijke Vallaey)



BARBARA HEIM



CONNIE GRABOWY



SUZAN OSBORN



**Another picture
of TERRY
COFFIN'S
Halloween
diorama**

War Memorial

Info: Pat Jennings

*The Garden Club donated inkberry plants
to the War Memorial Restoration Committee.*



Photo by MaryAnn Piasecki

On a rainy day in late September, John Lee and Steven Cronin planted the bushes, following the instructions given by Pat and Jessie.

The committee's vision to keep the area very simple with material that will enhance the view of the monument from the Town Common is accomplished!

The dedication of the monument is scheduled
for Sunday, November 7, 2021.

In the Archives of the Harvard Historical Society

Herb Workshop

Following a very interesting meeting on "Herbs in the Art of Homemaking" the Harvard Garden Club is sponsoring an Herb Workshop for interested members. It will be directed by Mrs. Clyde McAllister at her home on Shaker Road from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on October 10th.

Plans are to make herb butter, herb vinegar, and pomanders which proved very popular last year and something new for 1973 will be an herb cosmetic. To take part in the workshop you will need a quart size bottle for the vinegar and any small size container for a sample of the butter or cosmetic. Also if you have any dried or fresh herbs please bring them.

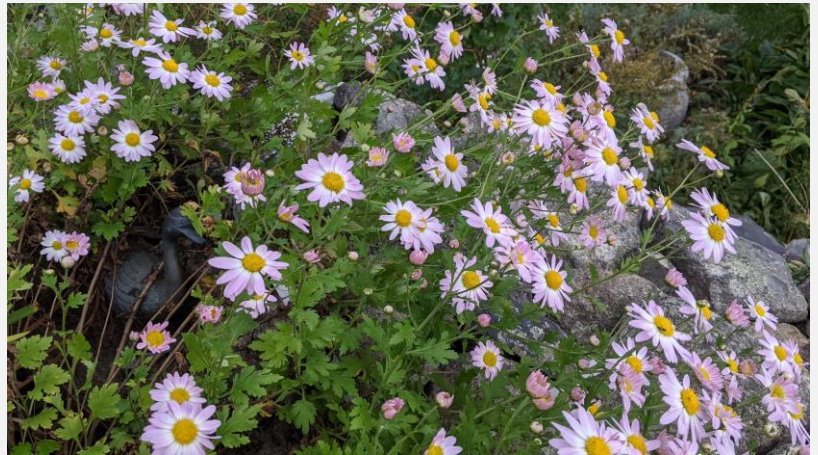
Members not already signed up for this workshop can join the group by calling Mrs. McAllister at 456-3969.

In our gardens



*Hummingbirds loved the flowers.
The birds are gone and the Ipomoea vine is taking over
the rocking chairs on the front porch of Kathy Jackson*

*Becky Jane chrysanthemums thrive in Carlene
Phillips' garden in memory of Becky Shives,
longtime Garden Club member.*



*Can anyone identify this very tall, very late-
blooming aster in Carlene's garden?*



Dahlias in Marijke's garden

In Gardens Everywhere

Denyse Cox visited the Fernwood Botanical Garden in Michigan



Pumpkins and mums on Pat Jennings' porch.



Surprise in Judy's garden! A praying mantis!

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**‘A requirement for regular active membership is to
participate on at least one service or other committee’.
(GCH bylaws revised 2015)**
.....

Kathy Jackson would love to have more help in the Civic Beautification projects.

**Deb and Denyse have been doing the Holiday Greens Workshop for years
and they want to pass the torch.**

**There are more fun activities where you could help.
Ask the chairperson and he/she will be happy to give you all the necessary information.**

Annual Luncheon: Secures luncheon site and coordinates annual meeting.

Book Discussion: Books are chosen based on the love of gardening.

Bloom N Art: The yearly exhibit shows Bromfield students' art alongside floral designs by the Garden Club of Harvard.

Civic Beautification: Provides for annual and long-term beautification of visible public areas.

Flower Arranging Workshops: Organizes occasional workshops to allow members to improve their skills in making floral arrangements.

Garden Therapy: Works with assisted living facilities to provide hands-on flower arranging.

Garden Tour: Arranges June tour of gardens for club members following annual meeting and luncheon.

Graduation Flowers: Provides the flower arrangements for the Bromfield School graduation.

Historian: Saves and files appropriate materials about the club in the Harvard Public Library.

Holiday Greens Workshop: Members provide greens and trimmings to make arrangements for home-bound people in town and for members' own decorating.

Horticulture: Provides information about growth and cultivation of plants.

Hospitality: ON HOLD due to the pandemic. Organizes the refreshments for club meetings. All active members are expected to work on the hospitality committee once a year.

Library and Meeting Flowers: Provides flowers for the library and centerpieces and arrangements for meetings.

Library Books: Works with the library director to choose appropriate books related to gardening and horticulture for the club to donate to the Harvard Library.

Membership: Keeps records of members, officers, committee and project chairs, and members' activities.

Nature Trails: Organizes walks on conservation lands.

Newsletter: Publishes and distributes newsletter online for members to download.

Nominating: Nominates new officers, committee and project chairs to fill vacancies.

Plant Sale: Organizes annual May plant sale. Active members are required to help with this sale, the club's major fundraiser.

Programs: Plans and organizes the programs for the monthly meeting, joint meeting, and extra events.

Publicity: Provides information to the public about the club's monthly meetings and special activities.

Webmaster: Maintains the club website.

Yearbook: Publishes yearly program and membership data.

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
Therapy: Mary Maxwell
Garden Tour: Suzan Osborn, Carlene Phillips
Graduation Flowers: Jessie Panek and 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