



# Never Done!

THE GARDEN CLUB OF HARVARD  
VOLUME XXXI-ISSUE 3



## Here's what Bill thinks...

Info: Bill Loehfelm

And so we head into the time of sweatshirts, hats, gloves and leaf raking. Somebody somewhere will have a burn pile going and the smell of the smoke will make us smile. Birds will be in flight; there will be no mosquitos; it will start to get dark way too early; it will be colder "than it should be" in the morning and warmer "than it should be" at 2PM. We'll marvel at the colors we've seen so many times; we'll eat/bake apples, buy mums, get 'just the right' pumpkin and eventually, and resentfully, turn on the heat in the house.

It's a poignant time of year. Those of us "of an age" wish time would just slow down. Out in the garden, the plants have done all they can for this year. Some needed more nurturing; some should have been relocated; some triumphed over the heat and sporadic rain while others did not. Some attracted critters, some escaped unscathed.

I'll bet if we polled our members (not to worry, we won't) we would find a similar mix of responses. Spring/summer, the garden season, is a time for growth and creative survival. Fall is a time for re-grouping and assessment before we head into the quietness of winter. Like the garden, we will plan, adjust and get ready for the spring to come. But first, we'll tend our garden and then we'll rest.

### *Autumn meadows shall sleep...*

*And here I come to stand for a while and watch how the cow parsley does softly sway as Autumn tells it to slowly wither away and return back to seed. How perfectly it does show us that everything has its day, and that nothing shall forever stay.*

Athey Thompson

### **OCTOBER 21**

Board meeting at 9:30 at the  
Congregational Church

# GARDEN CLUB OF HARVARD TREASURER'S REPORT

September 1, 2024

APPROVED

CATEGORY	BUDGET	EXPENSE	INCOME	NET
Affiliations / gifts	\$ 1,225.00			\$ -
Annual Luncheon	\$ 300.00			\$ -
Community Support: Bloom N' Art	\$ 1,800.00			\$ -
Community Support :Civic Beautification	\$ 950.00	\$ (175.07)		\$ (175.07)
Community Support: Garden Therapy	\$ 500.00			\$ -
Community Support:Graduation Flowers	\$ 200.00			\$ -
Community Support: Library Books	\$ 325.00			\$ -
Community Support:Library Flowers	\$ 50.00			\$ -
Contributions/Donations to GCH	\$ -			\$ -
Correspondence	\$ 100.00			\$ -
Federation Dues	\$ 550.00			\$ -
Flower Arranging	\$ 100.00			\$ -
Fundraisers	\$ -			\$ -
Garden Tour	\$ 200.00			\$ -
Grants:Educational	\$ 500.00			\$ -
Historian	\$ 100.00			\$ -
Hospitality	\$ 100.00	\$ (50.95)		\$ (50.95)
Holiday Greens	\$ 350.00			\$ -
Insurance	\$ 675.00			\$ -
Interest Income	\$ -		\$ 488.13	\$ 488.13
Membership Income	\$ -		\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00
Membership Maintenance (for Our Club)	\$ 100.00			\$ -
Paypal	\$ 350.00			\$ -
Plant Sale	\$ 8,000.00			\$ -
President's Fund	\$ 200.00			\$ -
Programs	\$ 2,400.00	\$ (300.00)		\$ (300.00)
Publications:Newsletter	\$ 200.00			\$ -
Publications: Website	\$ 400.00	\$ (359.64)		\$ (359.64)
Publications:Yearbook	\$ 600.00	\$ (431.50)		\$ (431.50)
Publicity	\$ 150.00			\$ -
Rent-	\$ 1,700.00			\$ -
Special Projects	\$ 1,000.00			\$ -
Treasurer/Administrative	\$ 850.00	\$ (285.48)		\$ (285.48)
<b>TOTAL values, excel calculation</b>	<b>\$ 23,975.00</b>	<b>\$ (1,602.64)</b>	<b>\$ 813.13</b>	<b>\$ (789.51)</b>
<b>Quicken reported values (proof)</b>		<b>\$ (1,602.64)</b>	<b>\$ 813.13</b>	<b>\$ (789.51)</b>



# Nature Trails

Info: Pam Durrant

*Rathore & East Greenway on October 3, 2024*



Standing: Mary Maxwell, Deb Dowson, Carole Herbin, Jud Ratlif, Kathy Dollard, Bill Scott, Margaret Kusner, Catherine Warner, Pam Durrant.

Squatting: Fay Childers, Donna Guarino, **Daniela Rissil**, Marijke Vallaeyes.

*(name in bold: prospective new member)*

During that walk Pam fell and broke her shoulder. But she is still very much involved in organizing our walks. She asked Mary Maxwell to take over and on October 10 Mary walked the Murray trail.

On October 17 Pam suggested Willard/Poitras trail to view the blooming witch hazel trees.



*Mary finding the witch hazel tree! Donna, Carole, Maribeth, Mary with daughter Kerrie, Marijke  
Pictures taken by Patrick Vallaeyes*

# General Meeting October 28, 2024

## *PANEL DISCUSSION*

Oh boy, what a year this has been in the garden! Jumping worms are building family trees, the heat and humidity have broken records, some plants have had record production (hydrangea), and some just gave up and died. This program will look back on summer (and forward to winter), in a panel discussion led by members, and featuring the ever-popular questions and answers.



HARVARD SENIOR  
CENTER  
16 LANCASTER ROAD  
AT 9:30 AM

### *Library Flowers in November*

Nov. 4: Meg Bagdonas  
Nov. 11: Jane Vasta

Nov. 18: Marijke Vallaey's  
Nov. 25: Fay Childers

### *Hospitality Team in October*

Team leader: MaryAnn Piasecki

Fay Childers  
Pam Durrant  
Fran Maiore

Phyllis Clawson  
Katie Gandek  
Jeanie Colony



# September Meeting and Program



At the September 30 general meeting Margaret Murphy introduced Martha Chiarchiaro, who presented a wonderful program about women floral artists from the sixteenth century to the present day.

Martha shared her enthusiasm and extensive knowledge of art in her dynamic talk and wonderful slides.



# Jessie's Horticultural Meander

Info: Jessie Panek

Will it be tonight? Or tomorrow? Or in two or three weeks?? Maybe you got hit already. First frost is always unpredictable. You may know that your property—or a part of it-- tends to get frost earlier than others, or that you're a bit protected by the local topography.

Whenever it is, there are always last-minute things to do: bringing in house plants, cutting the last of our dahlias or other flowers we might have, harvesting the last tender vegetables and, of course, basil. Perhaps some of you are industrious and have a fall crop in a cold frame or greenhouse, but I never manage to get around to that! This year instead of pulling up my dead vegetable plants, I am just cutting them off near the ground. I've heard that leaving the soil undisturbed helps keep some of the good microbes alive through the winter so they are ready to go to work first thing in the spring.

First frost brings a flurry of activity in what is otherwise a quieter season when I enjoy watching the slowly moving bumblebees huddled on the last flowers, the beautiful fall colors, and the arrival of the juncos and white-throated sparrows. As I wander the garden in fall, I make a list of where I want to do something next year. Do I have a gap where something died? What has become too shaded and needs a better spot? What is crowded and needs dividing? (Now is the time to think about what you want to dig for next year's plant sale.)

I also collect seeds of plants I would like more of. Harvesting seeds makes me more aware of Nature's generosity. I haven't had great luck with perennial seed starting, but it's fun to try. Mother Nature seems to have better luck, so I scatter seeds in the garden as well as planting some in pots. If you'd like to try some seed starting yourself, the Conservation Commission has some free, easy to grow native seeds you can pick up at the office in Hildreth House. There are species for any site-- shade, sun, wet, or dry: Blue wood aster (*Symphyotrichum cordifolium*), Spotted bee balm (*Monarda punctata*), Foxglove beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*), Northeastern beardtongue (*Penstemon hirsutus*), Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*), Three-lobed coneflower (*Rudbeckia triloba*), Broad-leaved mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum muticum*), and Flax-leaved aster (*Ionactis linariaefolia*). I've heard we may have a winter sowing workshop early next year.

Part of what makes fall in my garden less hectic is that I do much less fall cleanup than I used to. The trick is figuring out the balance that works best. The ecological goal is to help wildlife, including the 'little things that run the world' (E.O. Wilson's description of insects). I cut back my peonies and iris, but I try to leave most of my perennials with seedheads standing for the winter. On those I do cut, I leave 12-15" of stalk for potential overwintering sites for insects or bees. 'Leaving the leaves' is the new mantra, and I will leave most, but I plan to rake off the heavy layer of oak leaves that made a haven for voles last winter. I will move those leaves onto the compost pile which we will leave unturned until late next spring when any overwintering insects have had time to emerge. We leave most of our meadow untouched for all to enjoy the grasses and other seedheads over winter, we but mow each area every few years in order to keep the woody plants from taking over.

Speaking of unwanted woody plants--a good activity in the lovely fall weather is removing woody invasive plants. As leaves start to fall, the twining stems of bittersweet become more obvious, and the bright red of seedling burning bushes draws attention. Look for them-- and pull them out! You may notice that most invasive plants hold their leaves later in the fall than our native species; it's part of what gives them a competitive edge, but it also helps you spot them!



# Civic Beautification

Info: MaryAnn Piasecki, Kathy Jackson, Maribeth Marcello



*Horse trough on Still River - Horse trough on Ayer Road - General Store*



*Photos by MaryAnn Piasecki, Marybeth Marcello and Judy Warner*



# Library Flowers

Info: Mary Jane Ellison



Thanks to:  
Carol Hartman - MaryJane Ellison  
Claudia Wesley and Mary Maxwell



# Library Flowers

Info: Mary Jane Ellison

*The Diorama initiated by Teddy Coffin and now maintained by Kim Morton is currently on display until the end of the month!*



*THESE ARE SOME FRAGMENTS OF THE DISPLAY, NEXT TO BARBARA HEIM'S OCTOBER 14 ARRANGEMENT*

## Membership



After being Harvard residents for over 50 years, Judy and Ira Ockene moved to The Carriage House on Lee's Farm in Wayland. After retiring they became members of the Garden Club and Judy participated in as many activities as possible.

Margaret Murphy, Judy Warner , Marty Green and Marijke Vallaeyes visited her for her birthday.

## Meal Train

Info: Margaret Murphy

If you are recovering from surgery or feeling under the weather, the last thing you need is to worry about cooking. The Garden Club wants to be there for you and Margaret has organized the "Meal Train" to take care of your meals. Don't hesitate to contact her for more information.

## Loaves and Fishes: Food security is important!

Info: Bill Loehfelm

As a dedicated garden club, we're proud to be an integral part of the Harvard community.

This summer, many of our talented gardeners generously shared their homegrown tomatoes, beans, and other fresh produce with those in need. We don't want to stop once the summer is over but we will sustain our contributions to the community's food supply. Here is a list of what is most needed:

Ensure	Salad dressings	Hamburger helpers	Canned pasta	Ketchup	Jelly
Canned ravioli	Cake mix	Canned chili	Hearty beef soup	Clam chowder	Canned fruit
Baked beans	Pancake mixes and icing	Canned tomato products	Body wash & shampoo	Crackers	Reusable grocery bags
Coffee	Tea	Vegetables	Pasta sauce	Kidney beans	Carnation



# 2024-2025 Officers Committee and Project Leaders

<b>Officers</b>	
President	Bill Loehfelm
Vice President	Marijke Vallaey's
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 Vallaey's
Civic Beautification	Kathy Jackson, Maribeth Marcello, MaryAnn Piasecki
Corresponding Secretary	Stephanie Hooper
Garden Therapy	Mary Maxwell, Janice Rusiecki, Nancy Webber
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	Meg Bagdonas, Margaret Murphy
Library Books	Kathy Dollard, Heidi Siegrist
Library/Meeting Flowers	MaryJane Ellison
Membership	Nancy Hartshorne
Nature Trails	Pam Durrant
Newsletter	Marijke Vallaey's
Nomination	Jessie Panek, Nancy Hartshorne, Member at Large
Plant Sale	Maureen Remeika, Jane Vasta, MaryAnn Piasecki
Programs	Janice Rusiecki
Publicity	Judy Warner, Meg Bagdonas
Webmaster	Betsy Howard
Yearbook	Carlene Phillips, Marijke Vallaey's

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