



NEVER DONE!

THE GARDEN CLUB OF HARVARD
VOLUME XXVIII, ISSUE 01



President Ponderings

MaryAnn Piasecki

September Presidential Ponderings

Welcome back gardeners! It has been a great summer for the trees, shrubs and the ducks. The tomatoes at my house were not so great. So sorry to disappoint but I have no charts or spreadsheets on the growth of the tomato plants. We spent most of the summer watching the leaves fall as the blight took over the plants. It was a great year for green beans, peppers and the garlic bulbs are huge.

I also got plenty of exercise mowing the greenest lawn ever. My lawn mower is exhausted and is renegotiating its contract regarding mowing in the rain. My motto for next year is to be a “grower not a mower”. I am working on reducing my lawn by 20% this fall. The most obvious lawn areas to eliminate are places where the grass doesn't thrive in the first place whether it is a rock out cropping or a very sunny spot that dries out quickly. My “natural” yard will incorporate more native plants—trees, shrubs, and flowering perennials. My lawn mower has thanked me in advance.

General Meeting on Monday, September 27

Program: Acton Arboretum
2 Taylor Road, Acton

Tour by Bettina D. Abe
Town of Acton Nature Resource Assistant



The Acton Arboretum is situated on 65 acres of town conservation land in the heart of Acton, Massachusetts.

The Arboretum boasts a trail system through open meadows, beside woodland ponds, along a glacial esker, and through a bog.

A handicapped accessible trail provides access to the herb garden, butterfly garden, hosta garden, daylily garden, rhododendron garden, lilac fragrance garden, and a pond planting. The Wildflower Trail provides access to a wide range of woodland habitats.

Parking is available at the Arboretum's main entrance, off Taylor Road. Much of the area adjacent to the parking lot is handicapped-accessible and is open, with graveled paths, gardens, bridges, and picnic tables. Trails and paths crisscross the entire area.

There is limited parking so we are setting up carpooling
leaving St. Theresa's church at 9:00 a.m.

Please signup utilizing the attached signup genius indicating whether you plan to attend,
and/ or willing to be a driver or passenger.

Signup will be open until Wednesday September 22nd

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c45a5ae2ca6fa7-acton>

Civic Beautification

Info: Kathy Jackson



Weeding of the Town Hall border on a hot August day.

Kathy Jackson, Claudia Wesley.

Not in the picture: MaryAnn Piasecki, Jessie Panek, Marijke Vallaey (photographer)

Helping gardening friends



Arline Marteney was delighted with the help of the Harvard Garden Club, weeding her front yard in September. Kathy Jackson, Janice Rusiecki, Jessie Panek, Arline, MaryAnn Piasecki, Claudia Wesley. Maria Day and Marijke Vallaey (photographer) not in the picture.

Creative gardeners



Early in the season, Amy Cataudella gifted me one of her yellow cherry tomato seedlings.

It took off, planted in 100% compost.

Alas, chipmunks ate all of the yet-to-ripen green fruit.

This was my creative solution.

Now to figure out how to harvest the soon-to-be-ripe tomatoes!

Phyllis Clawson

Looking forward to rhododendron season



*In Madelaine Ferguson's beautiful garden.
Attached is 'Valse des fleurs – Tchaikovski'*

Gardening Friends we will miss

Note from the editor: The obituary of Chelsey Remington was not in the yearbook and for that I'm sorry. To keep the records correct I pasted it in next year's yearbook

The electronic version of the 2021-2022 yearbook is updated.

Chelsey Carrier Remington

July 15, 1939- March 2, 2021



She began her volunteer activities in her then hometown of Harvard, Massachusetts in 1973. She chaired the antique show for many years, which benefited the Harvard Public Schools. She was President of the Harvard Garden Club, President of the Harvard Historical Society, a Governor of the Concord (Massachusetts) Museum and a Trustee of Fruitlands Museums in Harvard for eleven years.

More yearbook changes

Info: Marijke Vallaey

Marge Darby

New email is: darbymarge@gmail.com

Marge Cell: 978-340-1281

LL: 978-245-5245

SJD Cell: 508-341-0731

New address: 18 Nathan Pratt Drive # 102

Concord, MA 01742

By now everyone should have gotten their paper copy.

A big thank you to everybody who helped hand-deliver and an even bigger thank you to Carlene Phillips who was a great help in proofreading!

Library Flowers

Info: Mary Jane Ellison

Thanks everyone for the beautiful arrangements for the library this summer and now, fall.

Library Flowers 2021 is a wrap!

Thanks to everyone who signed on for library flowers. We have filled all of the 2021 slots.



Denyse Cox



Kathy Hewett



Judy Warner



Joy DiMaggio

Signup for 2022

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c45a5ae2ca6fa7-library1>

Please include an index card with your name and the club name;

also include the name of the flowers in your display

Carlene's book

Info: Carlene Phillips, 978-456-8694 or carphillips@charter.net



A Common History: The Story of Harvard's Identity

I fell in love with Harvard center the first time I saw it. But it wasn't until I learned about the history of the Common that its beauty deepened for me. As I got to know more about residents of the past, the difficult choices they made, and the natural disasters they endured, the beauty of Harvard's landscape was intensified by a sense of connection to the people and events that had shaped it. Learning facts and stories such as:

- how many churches have stood on the same spot
- why it took 72 years to ban pigs from the Common
- how fires changed the Common
- where the painter Luke Pollard lived
- who jumped over a table to impress a beau

gave me a sense of identity with Harvard's past and a heightened sense of community. I hope this book helps others to experience what I have.

backcover of the book

Town Climate Change

March 2021: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts signed the Climate Change bill whereby the state has a legally binding statewide requirement of an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2050.

The local impacts of climate change are presently evident and are expected to increase in intensity from more severe storm events, increasing heat and drought, increasing pestilence and disease, increasing impacts to water and soil resources, and increasing impacts to native natural and agricultural flora and fauna, resulting in damage to public and private lands and ecosystems in Harvard, and harming the health and welfare of its residents.

The Harvard Community Resiliency Working Group and the Harvard Energy Advisory Committee, after careful and critical examination, wrote a climate resolution. In August it was presented to the Select Board. The members of the Select Board endorsed the resolution and voted unanimously to commit the town to the State's climate goals.

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To ensure the support of Harvard residents of the resolution, it appears as

**A Climate Change Warrant Article,
to be presented
at the Harvard Fall Town Meeting
on October 16, 2021, at noon.**

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Once it is adopted, the citizens of Harvard will be on record as supporting the activities necessary to address climate change, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adapting to climate change, and mitigating the impact of extreme weather events. Future climate-related proposals can assume that the town agrees climate change is a serious issue, and our debate can focus on the best ways to address it, rather than whether or not climate change is happening.

The Harvard Garden Club supports the resolution.

See attachments for more info.

War memorial plantings

Info: Pat Jennings



Harvard's Select Board established the War Monument Restoration Committee in 2018 to restore our town monuments in any way needed. The WMRC is finishing its restoration of the WWII Monument at the corner of Routes #110 and #111 in Harvard center.

The plantings remain to be done. The WMRC vision is to keep the area very simple with material that will enhance the view of the monument from the Town Common. **The Harvard Garden Club voted to help with the buying of the Ilex Glabra 'Shamrock', common name 'Inkberry'.**

These plants will provide the right setting for the rear of the granite markers.

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

COA update

Info: Margaret Murphy and Heidi Siegrist



There is VERY exciting news for the Harvard Council on Aging (COA)!

The Permanent Building Committee (PBC) has selected a building for the new Harvard Senior Center. **The new site for the Harvard Senior Center is the 5400 sq. ft. former medical building at 16 Lancaster County Road**, conveniently located near the Post Office, Foxglove, Bowers Brook, Harvard

Green, and the McCurdy Track.

Why a new building?

The Hildreth House is no longer a viable option. Architectural firm DAI will design the renovation of the building to create a space which reflects and supports the core vision of the COA. It is a building which will allow “ongoing social, recreational, and educational” programming for residents age 60 and above, providing ample space required for the COA’s large groups.

Commitment to Community: In addition to COA specific programming, the building design will enable community use for events, as well as, serve as a warming or cooling station or shelter during extreme weather events.

Numbers: The current capital request is for approximately \$2.5 million; significantly less than the previous request of \$4.3 million in 2019.

Vote: A vote to approve MUST pass on OCTOBER 16 (Town Meeting) AND on NOVEMBER 2 (Election ballot).

Questions? Informational meetings to be announced soon.

The Friends of the Council on Aging: <https://www.facebook.com/FHCOA>

Jumping Worms arrived in Massachusetts!



Some of our members were shocked to find hundreds of crazy, wriggly worms in their garden.

These invertebrate creatures deplete the topsoil of nutrients, they damage plant roots and alter the soil's water holding capacity.

They are highly invasive and we definitively don't want them in our garden!

When you find some, put them in a sealed bag and throw them in the trash... (A treat for our chickens)

Jessie Panek recommends dropping the crazy worms into a yogurt container of vinegar to kill them.

When you find one worm you are likely to find a number, and that way you can keep adding them to the container until you are done for the day.

After a day you can dump them (very dead) into your compost or edge of the woods.

HES Building Tour

The Harvard Schools PTO is pleased to host another round of HES tours, September 29.

Please come anytime between 6:30pm - 8:00pm.

Tours will be given by the HES Building committee, and refreshments provided by the PTO.

All members of the Harvard community are welcome to attend.

We hope to see you there!



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 Vallaeyes
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 Vallaeyes
Bloom N Art: Marijke Vallaeyes, AnaMaria Nanra