



Never Done!

THE GARDEN CLUB OF HARVARD
VOLUME XXXI-ISSUE 7



Here's What Bill Thinks - How can I....

Bill Loehfelm

How can I know what the trees really feel?
Standing so still on the edge of the field.

How can I know how the soil feeds the seed?
And does it much care whether flowers or weed?

How can I know the feel of the sun?
Warming so gently what the farmers have done.

How can I know what the bees really see?
What must it be like in the mind of a bee?

How can I know what the birds seem to need?
Picking their favorites, finding their seeds.

How can I know how the rain really smells?
When it bounces off leaves and gathers and swells.

How can I know how the vines choose their way?
Creeping and twisting wherever they may.

How can I know the taste of the dew?
The very first rinse when the morning is new.

How can I know what it's like in the wind?
When you wave and drift and wobble and bend.

How can I know what you see in the night?
Is it quiet and still just before the first light?

And how can I know what the farmers all know?
How it all works; what makes it all grow.

How can I....
help.

General Meeting and a discussion on March 31

Charlotte Vallaeyes will talk about different types of gardening and Jessie will teach us nomenclature. There will be lots of time to ask questions and discuss ideas about our own gardens.

It will be fun, as always!

*HARVARD SENIOR
CENTER
16 LANCASTER ROAD
AT 9:30 AM*

Hospitality Team on March 31

Team leader: Carole Herbin

Denyse Cox, Stephanie Hooper, Mary Jane Ellison

Deborah O'Rourke, Jeanie Colony, Marijke Vallaeyes

Membership

Info: Nancy Hartshorne
Pat Jennings

WELCOME!

Maura Visconsi
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Erika Holzman and Nancy Hartshorne
at the New England Flower Exchange.

RENEWAL IS IN THE AIR ...WELCOME TO THE 2025-26 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

What better way to celebrate Spring than by renewing your commitment to the Garden Club of Harvard for the upcoming membership year, starting on July 1, 2025 and running through June 30, 2026.

The membership form is also attached. Please complete and bring with you to our next meeting on March 31. In addition to checks (payable to *Garden Club of Harvard*), we now accept credit cards at all meetings this spring.

If you prefer snail mail, please send the form and check to
Nancy Hartshorne

Membership, Garden Club of Harvard
160 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard, MA 01451

Let's get this done by June 1st!

The Garden Club of Harvard

Membership Renewal Form

An **Active** member attends Garden Club meetings, participates on a service committee, serves on one hospitality committee per year, and helps with the annual plant sale. An active membership may include a second family member living at the same residence.

A **Supporting** member may attend meetings but need not take part in other activities, although many volunteer to do so.

Please check the level of membership you're interested in:

Active \$35 _____ **Family** \$40 _____ **Supporting** \$50.00 _____

Name(s) _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Address _____
Street Address AND Post Office Box, if applicable. Town and Zip Code

Email Address: _____

Information in the Yearbook is used for intra-Club correspondence only.

Please make your dues check payable to **The Garden Club of Harvard**.

Send your check AND this completed form to:

Garden Club of Harvard Membership
c/o Nancy Hartshorne
160 Prospect Hill Road
Harvard, MA 01451

ACTIVE MEMBERS REQUIREMENTS (Optional for Supporting Members)

Club activities and service projects give members hands-on opportunities to meet new people, learn, be creative and give back to our community. Our Garden Club thrives best when everyone is involved.

Hospitality: *All active members are expected to provide refreshments and to help with set up/clean-up at one meeting each year. Please circle your preferred month. If blank, you will be assigned as needed. Sept. Oct. Nov. Jan. Feb. March April*

Plant Sale: *All active members are required to help with the Plant Sale, our major fundraiser. Helping opportunities include donating plants, digging, potting, pricing, setting-up, and picking up annuals/vegetables/herbs from suppliers, as well as working on the day of the Sale.*

Service Committee and Project Involvement: *Active Members should choose at least one additional way to serve our community or our members. Time commitment ranges from 'one & done' to coordinating a year-long activity. Please choose at least one Service Committee to PARTICIPATE in OR one Service Activity/Project to LEAD or Co-LEAD.*

Service Committees to PARTICIPATE IN:

__ **Bloom N Art:** Arranges flowers for, helps with planning or publicity, and/or volunteers at the annual (March) exhibit showcasing artwork from the Bromfield School students paired with flower arrangements created by our club members.

__ **Civic Beautification:** Participates in planning, planting, upkeep, and watering of public landscapes and containers in Harvard.

__ **Garden Therapy:** Works with groups of elders at assisted-living facilities, using plant materials and garden projects as therapy.

__ **Graduation Flowers:** Helps make floral decorations for Bromfield graduation.

__ **Holiday Greens Workshop:** Participates in a workshop creating winter arrangements for homebound residents.

__ **Library and Fivespark Flowers:** Provides an arrangement/plant for a week at the Harvard Public Library, Garden Club meetings, or special events for Fivesparks.

Service Projects and Activities to LEAD or CO-LEAD:

__ **Programs:** Plans and organizes speakers/programs for monthly Garden Club meetings.

__ **Special Activities:** Plans and organizes a variety of field trips of interest to members.

__ **Annual Luncheon:** Secures luncheon site and coordinates the June annual meeting.

__ **Garden Tour:** Organizes a tour (for members) of local gardens to visit after our annual meeting in June.

__ **Historian:** Saves appropriate materials for Club Archives at the Harvard Public Library.

__ **Horticulture:** Shares information about plant cultivation at meetings and/or in newsletters.

__ **Library Books:** Works with the director of the Harvard Public Library to choose books related to horticulture or nature for the Club to donate to the Library.

__ **Membership:** Keeps records of members, provides name tags, organizes the annual membership drive, greets and provides outreach to new members.

__ **Nature Trails:** Leads nature walks on trails, usually on Thursday mornings. **Newsletter:** Publishes/distributes a monthly Garden Club of Harvard digital newsletter.

__ **Nominating:** Nominates new officers, committee and project chairs to fill vacancies. (one member-at-large needed to assist Board)

__ **Publicity:** Provides information to the public about the Club's meetings and special events via the Harvard Press, the Federation website, and social media (e.g. Facebook and Nextdoor.)

__ **Webmaster:** Maintains the official website of the Garden Club of Harvard.

__ **Yearbook:** Publishes the yearly program and membership contact information.

Any special skills like finance, technology, graphic design, desktop publishing, grant writing, proofreading, book club coordinator, etc.?

General Meeting and Joint Meeting with the Woman's Club on March 3

GARDEN CLUB, WOMAN'S CLUB DONATE TO LOAVES & FISHES



We collected 163 pounds of diapers.

A 12-pack weighs about a pound and so we collected just short of 2000 diapers.

A whole lot of parents in our community will feel less stress because of us.

Pictured: Jim Breslauer, L&F board member; Bill Loehfelm, GCH president; Heidi Siegrist, Woman's Club president, and Patty Stern, L&F executive director.

Well done, Harvard!



Members enjoying the sweet and savory snacks. Meg Bagdonas, Pat Jennings and Maureen Remeika

Pictures by Deborah O'Rourke and Jessie Panek

| CATEGORY | BUDGET | EXPENSE | INCOME | NET |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Affiliations / gifts | \$ 1,225.00 | | | \$ - |
| Annual Luncheon | \$ 300.00 | | | \$ - |
| Community Support: Bloom N' Art | \$ 1,800.00 | \$ (200.00) | | \$ (200.00) |
| Community Support :Civic Beautification | \$ 950.00 | \$ (393.45) | | \$ (393.45) |
| Community Support: Garden Therapy | \$ 500.00 | \$ (90.00) | | \$ (90.00) |
| Community Support:Graduation Flowers | \$ 200.00 | | | \$ - |
| Community Support: Holiday Greens | \$ 350.00 | \$ (181.85) | | \$ (181.85) |
| 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 | \$ - | | \$ 35.00 | \$ 35.00 |
| Garden Tour | \$ 200.00 | | | \$ - |
| Grants:Educational | \$ 500.00 | | | \$ - |
| Historian | \$ 100.00 | | | \$ - |
| Hospitality | \$ 100.00 | \$ (50.95) | | \$ (50.95) |
| Insurance | \$ 675.00 | \$ (268.00) | | \$ (268.00) |
| Interest Income | \$ - | | \$ 1,004.25 | \$ 1,004.25 |
| Membership Income | \$ - | | \$ 545.00 | \$ 545.00 |
| Membership Maintenance (for Our Club) | \$ 100.00 | | | \$ - |
| Paypal | \$ 350.00 | \$ (0.89) | | \$ (0.89) |
| Plant Sale | \$ 8,000.00 | | | \$ - |
| President's Fund | \$ 200.00 | | | \$ - |
| Programs | \$ 2,400.00 | \$ (317.25) | | \$ (317.25) |
| Publications:Newsletter | \$ 200.00 | | | \$ - |
| Publications: Website | \$ 400.00 | \$ (359.64) | | \$ (359.64) |
| Publications:Yearbook | \$ 600.00 | \$ (431.50) | | \$ (431.50) |

Horticultural Meanders

Jessie Panel

Happy spring! What signals you that spring has finally arrived to you? Is it the peepers, the sound of redwing blackbirds, the whoosh of huge flocks of grackles? Maybe just the longer days and the warmth of the sun, or a favorite spring bulb like the crocus or snowdrop. Whichever it is, the temptation to get out there and get your hands dirty is strong.

Remember that although WE may think it's spring, a lot of 'good' insects are still sleeping and waiting for warmer days to come out from their winter resting places. Ideally days will average 50° before we do too much cleanup in the garden. Historically this looks to be about the second week of April.

I realize that it's very hard to wait but try to just take it slowly. For now, I'm going around cutting down tall spikes of perennial stems but not disturbing the leaf litter in my gardens.

This is a great time to do any pruning of woody plants while you can still see the structure. It's not too early for some things in the vegetable garden like planting peas I just heard a traditional saying from Margaret Roach on A Way to Garden: "When Spring peepers peep, plant your peas,". It certainly is time to be starting seedlings to be starting some seedlings for your vegetable garden inside, if you do that



I've heard a few questions about the winter sowing that we did: no, it is not time to take the tape off! The tape only comes off after you have seedlings growing. The extra warmth in that little greenhouse protects the young seedlings as well as helping germination. As the sun gets warmer, it is easy for this little greenhouse to get too hot, so I would suggest putting your milk jug in only partial sun if it's not there already. The soil will dry out very quickly when it gets too hot. You do need to start thinking

about whether the jug is drying out and needs to be watered, especially if we don't get much rain. You can water with a gentle spray through the top. I wouldn't expect seedlings for several more weeks, depending on what species you planted and our temperatures. If you get them sooner, wonderful, but don't be discouraged if you don't see anything growing for 5 or 6 more weeks.

Bring your gardening questions to our meeting next week!

Nature Trails

Info: Pam Durrant



(Jane Vasta, Patrick Vallaeys, Pam Durrant, Kathy Dollard, Mary Maxwell, Lee Zupanic and Eileen Gorss) Picture by Marijke Vallaeys.

These conservation trails reveal not only natural beauty; Pam reveals the stories of former farms, as evidenced by the occasional plow.

Bloom N Art

March 29-30-31, 2025

Deborah Dowson, AnaMaria Nanra, Donna Guarino, Patrick Vallaeys

The 9th anniversary of Bloom N Art is on March 29-30, 2025.



Once again, the Garden Club of Harvard, the art department of Bromfield High School, and Fivesparks will work together to make this the highlight of early spring.

On Friday night there is a private reception for the student artists, the teachers/administrators and the Garden Club floral artists.

The show is open to the public Saturday, March 29 (10am-4pm) and Sunday, March 31 (12-4pm)

Plant Sale

Info: Jane Vasta, Maureen Remeika, MaryAnn Plasecki



Mark your calendars - the GCH plant sale is approaching and there are lots of ways you can help to make it a success!

A sign-up genius with job opportunities and descriptions will be emailed soon, but in the meantime, here is an outline of preparation activities and dates to remember:

Labeling Workshop: Thursday, **April 3**, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

Potting - week 1: **April 15, 16 and 18** (coordinators, potters, plant diggers, and plant ID experts)

Potting - week 2: **April 22, 23 and 25**

Potting - week 3: **April 29, 30 and May 2**

Potting - week 4: **May 6, 7 and 9**

Watering - week 5: week of May 12

May 16 set-up at Westward Orchards (this includes transporting herbs, annuals, and veggies from local vendors)

May 17 - Plant sale at Westward Orchards and cleanup after the sale (this includes "check-out" duties as plant talliers a cashiers)

Library Flowers

fo: Mary Jane Ellison



*DONNA GUARINO,
MARYANN PIASECKI*

*JESSIE PANEK
MARIJKE VALLAEYS*



Library flowers in April

April 7: Fay Childers

April 14: Dee Lee

April 21: Carol Hartman

April 28: Maria Day

Call for HCG Artists

Suzan Osborn, cuarator of the General Store Gallery
suzanosborn@gmail.com

It's not too late to participate in the art exhibit of work by Garden Club artists which is being planned for the General Store 2nd floor gallery and scheduled for **mid April thru end of June**. You may submit one or several paintings with garden, flower or landscape themes.

Several artists are already signed up to show their art work.

If you are interested or would like more info., please email Suzan before the end of March.

And if you are already signed up, please send her a confirmation.

I'll send full guidelines to participating artists on April 1. (April Fools' Day, but no joke)

It will be super fun to see the artistic creativity of our Garden Club shine.

2024-2025 Officers Committee and Project Leaders

Officers

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| President | Bill Loehfelm |
| Vice President | Marijke Vallaey |
| Recording Secretary | Carlene Phillips |
| Treasury | Deborah O'Rourke |

Committee and Project Leaders

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Annual Lunch | Maria Day |
| Bloom N Art | Deb Dowson, AnaMaria Nanra, Donna Guarino, Patrick Vallaey |
| 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 |
| Nomination | Jessie Panek, Nancy Hartshorne, Member at Large |
| Plant Sale | Maureen Remeika, Jane Vasta, MaryAnn Piasecki |
| Programs | Janice Rusiecki |
| Publicity | Judy Warner, Meg Bagdonas |

Thanks, Carlene Phillips for proofreading, always much appreciated!

www.harvardgardenclub.org

Garden Club of Harvard on Facebook

<https://bloomnart.harvardma.org>

2022