



NEVER DONE!

THE GARDEN CLUB OF HARVARD

VOLUME XXIX-ISSUE 8



President Ponderings

Info: Jessie Panek

An article for the newsletter?? When I'd rather be in the garden? All I can say is Marijke is persuasive.... I am happy to see a little more rain coming down at this moment, which makes it easier to be back at the computer. But I'll keep it short. Thank goodness the Plant Sale managed to bring us such a nice rain!

In addition to bringing rain, the Plant Sale was a great success in every way. We made over \$7000 in profit, which funds all our community service and the programs at our monthly meetings. Thanks to every one of you, whether you dug and contributed perennials, potted, purchased materials, ordered vegetables, picked up annuals or herb baskets or vegetables, organized plants on the tables, or spent hours on the phone with Paypal to set up our credit card option! On the Big Day of course we have to thank the salespeople, talliers, cashiers, and those who made quick work of the cleanup. (AnaMaria gets extra credit for selling houseplants after spending the night before at Celebration!). There are many pieces to organizing and preparing for the Sale, and Marijke and her team did a great job. It looked like everyone had a good time, and our customers were happy with the excellent quality plants at the Sale.

Still coming up, another service we provide to the community is the flower arrangements to decorate for Bromfield Graduation. This is also a lot of fun. If you've never been involved, maybe you'd like to come see how we create those arrangements and learn how you can help. Contact Kathy Hewitt if you are interested.

Finally, to finish our Garden Club year, we will have our Annual Meeting Luncheon at Fruitlands, preceded by visits to two wonderful Harvard gardens. Watch your email for details.

Thank you for a great year. Please remember to renew your membership for next year before we head into summer.

Happy Gardening!
Jessie

Annual Meeting/ Luncheon/ Garden Tours

June 5, 2023

Info: Maria Day

MEETING AND LUNCHEON

Annual Meeting with lunch at the Fruitlands Café on Monday, June 5, 2023 starting at 11:30am.

Go to the [SignUpGenius](#) to choose your lunch and send a check in the amount of \$25 to Maria Day. Please make the check out to GCH.

Deadline is May 29

Hats are fascinators!

Festive, unique hats are encouraged! We want to keep this Garden Club tradition alive!

THE GARDEN TOURS

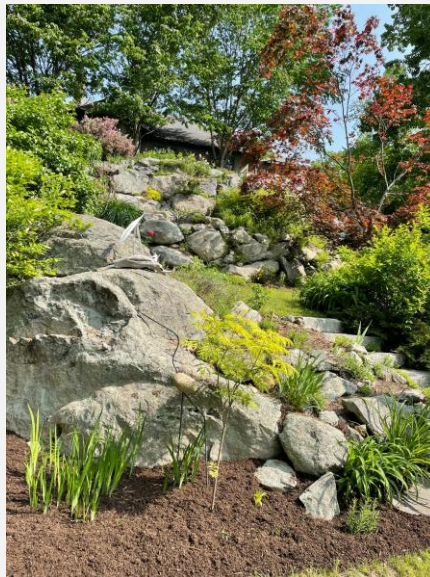
This year we will visit the gardens of Jud Ratliff and Willie Wickman.

You are welcome to start your garden tour at 9:00 am at one of the two gardens.

We'll send descriptions by email.



Jud and Bob's Garden:
46 Slough Road
(617-347-0685)



Willie and Brian's garden:
27 Willow Road
(508-479-0617)

Graduation flowers

Info: Kathy Hewett

The Bromfield School graduation will take place next Friday, June 2 at 5:30 on the playing field next to the library.

Our faithful cadre of Garden Club arrangers will be working that Friday morning starting at 9.

YOUR flowers, flowering trees & shrubs, and greenery make the arrangements. Every year arrangements are new & different, depending on what you bring us.

Remember to cut things early in the day on Thursday. Put them in water ASAP, and condition them overnight in water that covers as much of their stems as possible. Please bring them to the playing field by the library by 9 - 10 am on Friday. We'll have containers of water and shade to maintain them as we arrange.

ANY questions, email Kathy Hewett (hewettkathy@gmail.com) or text or call her 978-456-3112. Think creatively! And thank you!

Civic Beautification

Info: Kathy Jackson, Maribeth Marcello and MaryAnn Piasecki



At the fire station.

Thanks to Lisa Li and Maureen Remeika.

April Program: PEONIES: LOVE OF MY LIFE

ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, Christine Paxhia shared her vast knowledge of peonies.

Peonies like neutral soil.

Great companion plants are lupine, camassia, allium, foxglove, bearded iris and lilac.

There are three types of peonies: herbaceous, woody and itoh /intersectional peonies.

Leave 3 feet between the plants.

A couple of her favorites:

- Sea shell is fragrant and is self-seeding.
- Port Royal's color is spectacular as is Festiva Maxima. Philippe Rivoire is extremely fragrant.
- In a shady spot, in a woodland garden: Paeonia obovate.
- Old Faithful doesn't need staking.



Membership

Info: Nancy Hartshorne

Welcome new member: Jane Vasta



Jane has been married to her husband, John, for 37 years and they have three grown children, ages 33 and 29 (twins), who all attended the Harvard schools.

They also have Owen, an absolutely adorable two-year-old grandson they are lucky to spend a lot of time with. They have lived on Hynes Lane in Harvard for the past 24 years. Jane retired from teaching last June, most recently having taught three- to five-year-olds in the integrated preschool program at Green Meadow School in Maynard. She's happy to finally have time to do the things that she really enjoys - like joining the Harvard Garden Club!

Besides gardening, some other hobbies of hers are hiking, canoeing, knitting, and cooking (yes cooking!).

Jane is looking forward to participating in as many Garden Club activities as possible in the future!

Congratulations Marty Green!



At the Town Meeting on Saturday, April 29, Marty and Paul Green were named Citizens of Note.

Miss Mary P. Abbot



Pat Jennings as Mary Abbot presenting the Garden Club at the Historical Society during their program "Harvard in the First Half of the 20th Century. A Living History".

*YEAR'S END APPROACHING QUICKLY;
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!!!!*

Nancy Hartshorne
Membership

Hello fellow gardeners,

Thank you to the members who have already renewed their membership for the July 2023-June 2024 year.

If you haven't renewed yet, please do so as soon as possible.

We treasure your involvement with the Garden Club of Harvard, a place to exchange ideas and to learn about new trends in landscape design, vegetable gardening, horticulture, conservation, and flower arranging. As the old saying goes: "More heads are better than one." Each member enhances the vibrancy of our club!

To renew, please fill in the membership form on the next page of this newsletter. To save you time, write "NC" on the lines next to address, phone, and email if everything is the same as last year. Please mail the form and a check, payable to the Garden Club of Harvard, to

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

We will also collect renewal forms and dues at the Annual Meeting & Luncheon on June 5th at Fruitlands.

Deadline for membership renewal is June 30th.

Thank you for being a member of the Garden Club of Harvard!
Happy spring!

The Garden Club of Harvard - Membership Form



We provide a forum for people interested in gardening, horticulture, conservation, flower arranging, and landscaping. Members share their expertise and learn from speakers and field trips. Club activities and service projects give members hands-on opportunities to learn, be creative and give to the community.

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 optionally include a 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 circle the level of membership you're interested in:

Active Member(s) \$35.00 (Add \$5.00 for 2nd family member) **Supporting Member** \$50.00

Name(s) _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Address _____

Street Address AND Post Office Box, if applicable. Town and Zip Code if other than Harvard.

Email Address: _____

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

Day & month (not year!) of your birthday: _____

Preferred month to serve on Hospitality Committee: _____

How did you hear about the Garden Club (if you're a new member)?

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

SERVICE COMMITTEES AND MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS/CHOICES

Active members are required to participate on at least one service committee. Please indicate your service choice(s).

____ **Annual Luncheon:** Secures luncheon site and coordinates the annual meeting (June).

____ **Awards:** Researches/promotes award opportunities for Club projects available through the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts.

____ **Bloom N Art:** Organizes/participates in annual (March) exhibit showcasing artwork from the Bromfield School students paired with flower arrangements created by members of the Club. And/or provides assistance in planning, publicity, volunteering at the event.

____ **Book Club:** Leads/participates in a periodic garden-themed book club.

____ **Civic Beautification:** Provides for annual/long-term beautification of visible public areas in Harvard and participates in seasonal plantings, upkeep, and watering.

____ **Floral Arranging:** Organizes occasional workshops allowing members to learn about and improve their floral arranging skills.

____ **Garden Therapy:** Works with selected groups of elders/assisted-living facilities, using plant materials and garden projects as therapy (October through May).

____ **Garden Tour:** Organizes a tour of local gardens to visit after our annual meeting in June.

____ **Graduation Flowers:** Organizes/helps make floral decorations for Bromfield graduation.

____ **Historian:** Saves/files appropriate materials about the Club at the Harvard Public Library.

____ **Holiday Greens Workshop:** Organizes/participates in workshop where members provide greens and trimmings and create winter arrangements for homebound residents.

____ **Horticulture:** Presents information about cultivation of plants at the monthly meetings.

____ **Hospitality:** Organizes the refreshments for monthly Garden Club meetings. *All active members are expected to contribute to Hospitality once a year.*

____ **Library Books:** Works with the director of the Harvard Public Library to choose appropriate books related to gardening/horticulture for the Club to donate to the Library.

____ **Library Flowers:** Organizes/helps provide arrangements/plants to be displayed weekly at the Harvard Public Library and at the monthly Garden Club meetings.

____ **Membership:** Keeps records of members, officers, committee and project chairs and member activities. Organizes the annual membership drive, nametags for meetings, greets and provides outreach to new members.

____ **Nature Trails:** Leads nature walks – meets Thursday mornings throughout the year, weather permitting.

____ **Newsletter:** Publishes/distributes a monthly Garden Club of Harvard newsletter online.

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

____ **Plant Sale:** Organizes the annual (May) plant sale. *All active members are required to help with the sale, the Club's major fundraiser.*

____ **Programs:** Plans and organizes speakers/programs for monthly Garden Club meetings (September-April), joint meetings, and special events.

____ **Publicity:** Provides information to the public about the Club's monthly meetings and special events in the Harvard Press and digital social media (i.e. Facebook and Nextdoor.)

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

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

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

Please indicate any other special skills you might offer to the Garden Club (i.e., finance, technology, graphic design, desktop publishing etc.)

Treasurer's Report March 2023

GARDEN CLUB OF HARVARD TREASURER'S REPORT/BOARD 3/31/2023

INCOME	Total to Date
Annual Luncheon	\$ -
Contributions/Donations toGCH	\$ 125.00
Other Fundraisers	
Hospitality	
Interest Income	\$ 360.31
Membership Income	\$ 600.00
*Miscellaneous Income	\$ 654.33
Plant Sale	
TOTAL values, excel calculation	\$ 1,739.64
Quicken reported values (proof)	\$ 1,739.64

EXPENSE	Total to Date	Budget	Budget Balance
Annual Luncheon	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Community Support: Bloom N' Art	\$ (100.00)	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,700.00
Community Support :Civic Beautification	\$ (198.31)	\$ 950.00	\$ 751.69
Community Support: Garden Therapy	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Community Support:Graduation Flowers	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Community Support: Library Books	\$ -	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00
Community Support:Library Flowers	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Correspondence	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Federation Dues	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Flower Arranging	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Garden Tour	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Grants:Educational	\$ (280.00)	\$ 500.00	\$ 220.00
Historian	\$ (35.06)	\$ 100.00	\$ 64.94
Hospitality	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
HolidayGreens	\$ (50.00)	\$ 350.00	\$ 300.00
Insurance	\$ (268.00)	\$ 550.00	\$ 282.00
Membership Maintenance (for Our Club)	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Affiliations / gifts	\$ -	\$ 1,225.00	\$ 1,225.00
Plant Sale	\$ -	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
President's Fund	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Programs	\$ (989.34)	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,410.66
Publications:Newsletter	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Publications: Website	\$ (364.24)	\$ 150.00	\$ (214.24)
Publications:Yearbook	\$ (400.40)	\$ 400.00	\$ (0.40)
Publicity	\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Rent-	\$ -	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Special Projects	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Treasurer/Administrative	\$ (327.88)	\$ 850.00	\$ 522.12
TOTAL values, excel calculation	\$ (3,013.23)	\$ 20,800.00	\$ 17,786.77
Quicken reported values (proof)	\$ (3,013.23)		

Income/expenses in Quicken-not in budget

*Miscellaneous Income - \$654

The Garden Club in the community



Maribeth Marcello and Marijke Vallaeys made two floral arrangements as raffle items for the Bromfield PTO fundraising event in May



The COA has a new home on Lancaster County Road. Maria Day, Kathy Hewett and Sheila filled the raised beds with leftovers from the plant sale.

Horticultural musings

Info: Betsy Morton

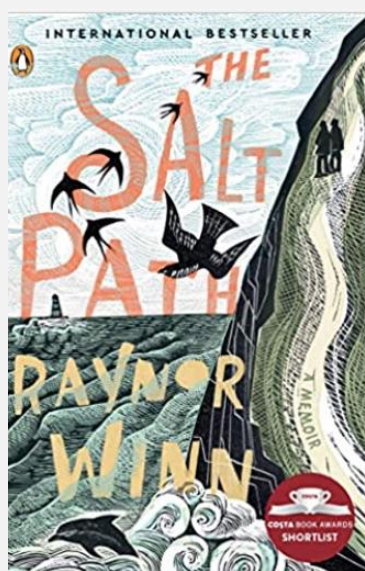
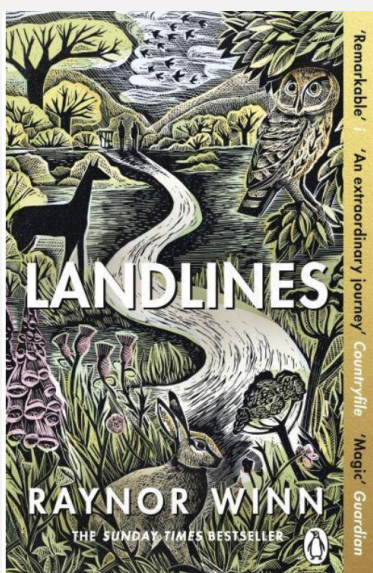


Please read the Harvard Press, “Consider This” by Sharon McCarthy and Chris Mitchell, a 3-part series on water use in Harvard. The first of the series was in the May 12 edition of the Press. The 2nd article on May 18 with the 3rd article following next week. (editor's note: couldn't resist adding this excerpt because of the plant sale publicity in the Harvard Press).

It's been an interesting spring. With a couple days in winter with below zero degrees. Then a deluge of rain early April, dry until May 19, and another deluge of rain on the 20th. The NE plant specialists predict that this weather pattern will continue. A good time to plan and get rain barrels.

What didn't bloom in my garden were forsythia, mountain laurel, winterberry, andromedas, witch hazel, iris, and rhodos with dead buds and little bloom. (Especially good blooms have been on lilacs, and the peonies are looking to be spectacular.) Without the blooms, the pollen is absent as well as the fruit. What could this mean for pollinators?

I'd like to close by recommending author Raynor Winn. Her first book is The Salt Path (2018). She has a fascinating story, though you have to get past the first incredibly difficult early parts until you are with her and her husband walking the 630 miles of the Southwest Coastal Path in England. She's a naturalist which comes through in her writing, though she never uses that term. The books are full of her appreciation of the “oneness” of Nature in its many forms and guises. Her third book Landlines came out in 2022, which the Harvard Library was kind enough to buy for their system.



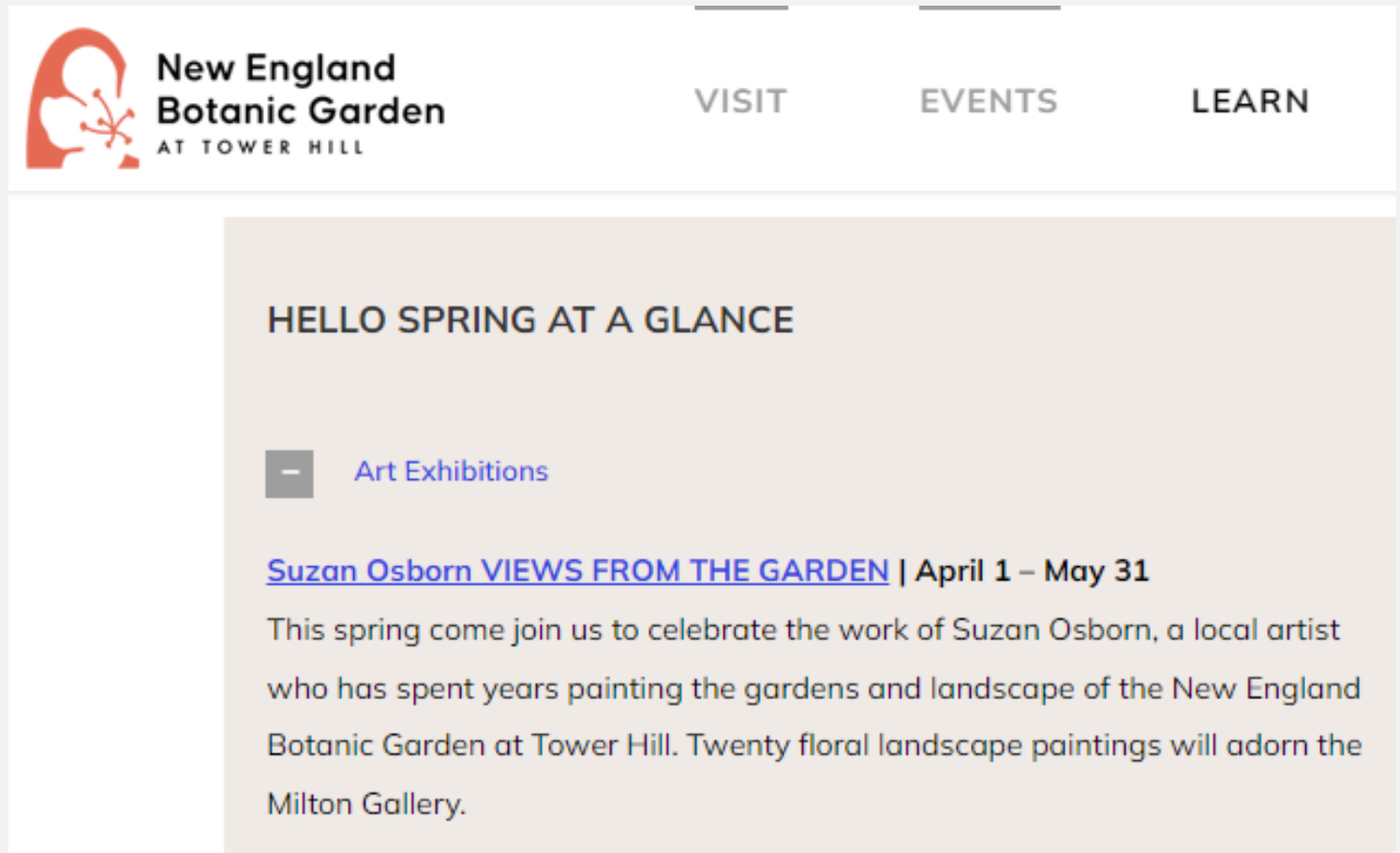
PUBLICITY

Info: Kate Guthro

<https://www.harvardgardenclub.org>

[Garden Club of Harvard](#)

[Bloomnart.online](#)



The screenshot shows the header of the New England Botanic Garden website. The logo on the left features a stylized red flower and the text "New England Botanic Garden AT TOWER HILL". To the right of the logo are three navigation links: "VISIT", "EVENTS", and "LEARN". Below the header, a large light beige box contains the text "HELLO SPRING AT A GLANCE". Underneath this, there is a small grey square with a minus sign followed by the text "Art Exhibitions". Below that is a blue link "Suzan Osborn VIEWS FROM THE GARDEN | April 1 – May 31". The main text of the announcement reads: "This spring come join us to celebrate the work of Suzan Osborn, a local artist who has spent years painting the gardens and landscape of the New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill. Twenty floral landscape paintings will adorn the Milton Gallery."

New England Botanic Garden AT TOWER HILL

VISIT EVENTS LEARN

HELLO SPRING AT A GLANCE

– Art Exhibitions

[Suzan Osborn VIEWS FROM THE GARDEN | April 1 – May 31](#)

This spring come join us to celebrate the work of Suzan Osborn, a local artist who has spent years painting the gardens and landscape of the New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill. Twenty floral landscape paintings will adorn the Milton Gallery.

Suzan will be in the Milton Gallery
Wednesdays through May 31 from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

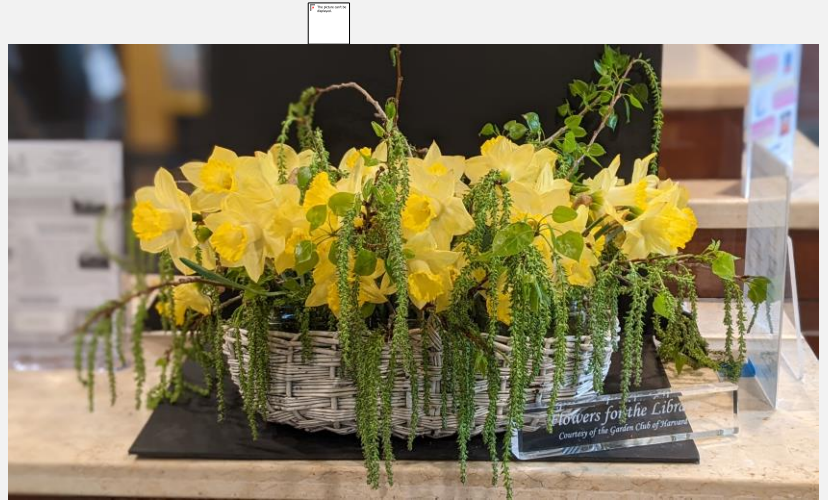
[More info here](#)

Library Flowers

Info: Mary Jane Ellison



Dee Lee



Maria Day



Meg Bagdonas



Marty Green

Plant Sale: April 25 – May 20, 2023

Info: Marijke Vallaeys, Carole Herbin, Margaret Murphy





More pictures in the June newsletter.

Nature Trails

Info: Pam Durrant



April 6: West Oak conservation land with views to mountains, a beaver pond, several stream crossings.

April 27: Fruitlands trails

May 11: Ohlin Land



Proposed slate 2023-2024

Officers	
President	Jessie Panek
Vice President	Bill Loehfelm
Recording Secretary	Denise Cox
Treasury	Deborah O'Rourke
Committee Chairs	
Historian	Carlene Phillips
Hospitality	Meg Bagdonas
Membership	Nancy Hartshone
Newsletter	Marijke Vallaes
Nomination	MaryAnn Piasecki,
Programs	Margaret Murphy, Janice Rusiecki
Publicity	Kate Guthro
Projects	
Annual Lunch	Maria Day, Bobbie Taylor
Civic Beautification	Kathy Jackson, Maribeth Marcello, MaryAnn Piasecki
Garden Therapy	Mary Maxwell, Janice Rusiecki, Nancy Webber
Garden tour	Katie Gandek, Jud Ratliff, Maria Day
Greens workshop	Kathy Jackson, Nancy Webber
Graduation flowers	Kathy Hewett
Horticulture	Betsy Morton
Library books	Heidi Seigrist
Library/meeting flowers	MaryJane Ellison
Nature Trails	Pam Durrant
Plant Sale	Carole Herbin, Marijke Valleys
Web Master	Betsy Howard
Yearbook	Carlene Philips, Marijke Valleys
Bloom N Art	Deb Dowson, AnaMaria Nanra, Marijke Vallaes

Thanks to Carlene Phillips for proofreading, always much appreciated!

Pictures by Patrick and Marijke Vallaes and by MaryAnn Piasecki