



# Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

April 2018

Vol. 26, No. 3

## April Field Trip: Tower Hill Botanic Gardens

We're heading to Tower Hill Botanic Gardens on April 28<sup>th</sup> for our third field trip of 2018, (rain date Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>) and we're heading first for the [Field of Daffodils](#). This field has been planted with over 25,000 daffodils, and is a stunner in late April/early May, with its masses of color spreading over a wide area – a photographer's dream.

Our visit also coincides nicely with the 56th [African Violet Show](#), put on by the Bay State African Violet Society. This year's theme is "Dancing with Violets." There will be a wonderful display of unusual African Violets, a demonstration from 1-2 pm, and a sales area where you can pick up some interesting specimens that you will definitely not find locally.

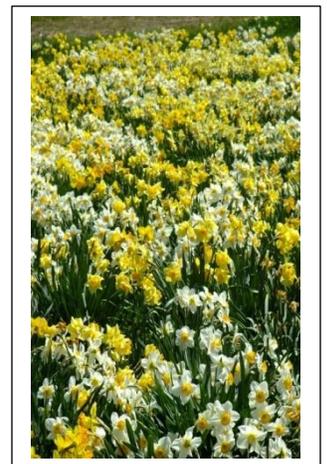
Tower Hill also has many other garden areas to explore while we are there. The Limonaia and Orangerie are 2 indoor areas with plants with winter interest. There are a total of 17 distinct gardens on a total of 171 acres. It will be a wonderful trip!

We will carpool from Cherry Rum Plaza, with the time emailed to those who RSVP. Admission is \$15 adults/\$10 seniors (65+). Please bring gas money for the driver. The group will choose where to eat lunch – there is a café onsite. Please contact Laura if you are interested in joining us. You may leave a message at 774-4594, or email [greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com](mailto:greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com). Those who RSVP early will be able to make decisions on timing and lunch. The address is 11 French Dr, Boylston, if you plan to meet us there. Garden Hours are 10 am – 5 pm. Hope to hear from you soon!



## April President's Report

Spring has arrived, even though the weather is still on the cool side, and with it the first tick of the season. I think I am going to investigate a pair of tick gaiters to try and stem the tide of unwelcome hitchhikers! // It's hard to believe that we'll be meeting to go over the grant applications this week, and the Extravaganza is less than 2 months away! As usual we will need help with plant donations, as well as needing help Friday night to sort and price plants, and on Saturday we'll need help setting up and "manning the fort" in shifts until the Maker's Mart closes at 3PM. Hopefully we'll be all sold out by then and clean – up will be a breeze! We also need help planning the garden tour this year. If you are interested in one (or more!) of the following jobs, we need to hear from you today so we can start planning! We need help with publicity; food; asking the various gardens we've compiled if they will host; sell tickets; be a co-host; help put up and take down signs. Each job is essential to the whole event, but each one requires just a little effort from the person performing it. Please don't leave it all to the steering committee – they'll thank you!



---

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tuesday, April 3, 7:00 pm:** Barrel Committee, 252 Davis St. Greenfield

**Wednesday, April 4: 6:00pm:** Grant Cttee, Taylor's Tavern, Greenfield

**Thursday, April 5, 5-8 pm:** Festival of Flowers Culture & Cocktails, Springfield Museums

**Sunday, April 8:** 1:00 – 4:00 pm Spring Clean-up at the Energy Park

**Monday, April 16, 4:30 – 6 pm** - Steering cttee, 40 High St, Greenfield

**Saturday, April 28:** Field Trip to Tower Hill

### Native Plants: What's Good for Nature is also Easier on the Gardener!

April 29<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm at the Hitchcock Center for the Environment, Amherst

*Co-sponsored by the Hitchcock Center and the Western Massachusetts Master Gardener Association*

Learn about the importance and ease of creating native gardens which are long-lasting, lovely and bolster biodiversity by supporting native insects, including pollinators and other wildlife such as nesting or migrating birds and mammals including us. Dan's discussion will include underutilized native shrubs for rural, suburban and urban gardens and why plants are better than mulch. Historically, native flowers, ground covers, shrubs, trees, ferns and grasses evolved and adapted perfectly to New England's growing conditions so they don't need pampering. His presentation, like the book, will help even novice gardeners learn how to landscape in a way that helps heal our ailing environment. The one and a half hour presentation is followed by a book signing and mini-tours of the gardens by master gardeners. Books will be available for purchase.

Presenter: Dan Jaffe, Propagator and Stock Grower at New England Wild Flower Society's Garden in the Woods, and co-author with colleague Mark Richardson of the new book, Native Plants for New England Gardens.

\*\*\* *Registration is required and seating is limited – register today for this free event.* \*\*\*

**IN MEMORIUM:** New Initiative to Honor Club Members Who Have Passed.

Up until recently, when a club member has passed away, we have planted a tree or shrub at Trap Plain in their memory. Since the club no longer oversees the Trap Plain area, Jan Adam suggested that we partner with the [Greenfield Tree Committee](#) with a donation to honor these members.

We have recently lost 3 long-standing and very active members of the Club: Carol Doerpholz, Dolly Gagnon, and Nancy Stone. The steering committee has recently voted to give the Greenfield Tree Committee a gift of \$250 in their memories. We are in conversation with Annette Kilminster (who is also a club member), Nancy Hazard, and Mary Chicoine, hoping to find a time to draw members together for a tree-planting ceremony this spring. If you have suggestions for the steering committee to consider as we plan this event, please contact one of us (our info is in the box below).

#### Officers 2018:

**President:**

Laura Schlaikjer 774-4594  
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

**Vice President:**

Marsha Stone 773-0201  
mds41@comcast.net

**Treasurer:**

Jean Wall 773-9069  
jeanwall1313@gmail.com

**Recording Secretary:**

Linda Smith 772-0675  
Lhsmith22@comcast.net

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Deborah Loomer 863-9421  
daloomer@yahoo.com

## Spring at the Energy Park

The dedicated group of Energy Park volunteer gardeners are greatly looking forward to getting back to work this spring. Efforts will begin with clean up, and then, as weather permits, finishing work on the pathways and (the most fun part) designing, planting and caring for the gardens.

During the spring months of April, May and June we are on the job Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. We will also have a **Spring Clean-Up Day on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 4:00 pm**, including cookies and lemonade!

During the summer months we sometimes work in the cooler hours of the morning instead of the afternoons. We would be so delighted to have other members of the Garden Club join us when they can. And, if you are just interested in seeing our work there, we would be happy to show you the park, and tell you about our plans and projects there. We have been known to work even in a bit of a drizzle, but if the weather is not so good, it is best to call us to be sure we will be there that afternoon.

We are enthusiastic about working with the mission of the Greenfield Energy Park in creating sustainable gardens and pollinator-friendly plantings at this little gem of a space in downtown Greenfield. And we are so grateful for the support of the Greenfield Garden Club.

Please call me, Linda Smith, at home (413 772-0675) or on my cell (413 834-2352) to arrange to meet for a tour or to let me know you if you might be able to join us - or to check in about the weather.



Pat Leuchtman at work in the Energy Park.

For more info, visit their website:  
<http://www.greenfieldrecreation.com/energy-park.html>



## Treasurer's Report

**Balance** as of March 30, 2018 .....\$6, 584.11  
**Income** .....\$38.15  
*Interest, Dues, Contribution*  
**Expenses** ..... \$31.32  
*Domain renewal; supplies*  
**Correction**.....\$232.00  
*All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to the club Treasurer:*

Jean Wall  
413-773-9069  
40 High Street  
Greenfield MA 01301



## Greenfield Garden Club

PO Box 309  
Greenfield MA 01302-0309

### MEMBER DISCOUNTS

These vendors have agreed to provide the listed discounts for members who show their membership card when making a purchase. We appreciate their support! Please respect their offers by remembering these generous discounts are for club members only and only when your card is presented.

**Backyard Birds** – 15 Strong Ave., Northampton  
10% off regularly priced items except thistle birdseed

**Baystate Perennial Farm**  
36 State Road (Route 5/10), Whately  
10% off regular priced plants

**Chapley Gardens**  
397 Greenfield Road (Route 5/10), Deerfield  
10% off regular priced plants and pond supplies

**Five Acre Farm** – 110 Hinsdale Rd., Northfield  
10% off regular priced plants

**Greenfield Farmers' Cooperative** (Agway)  
269 High Street, Greenfield  
10% anything garden related

**Silver Garden Daylilies** – 23 Picket Lane, Greenfield  
10% off daylilies

**LaSalle Florists**  
23 LaSalle Drive (Route 5/10), Whately  
10% off regular priced plants

**O'Brien Nurserymen** – 40 Wells Road, Granby, CT  
10% off plants

**Sugarloaf Nursery** – 25 Amherst Road, Sunderland  
10% off regular priced plants

**Warm Colors Apiary**  
2 South Mill River Road, South Deerfield  
10% off

**Wilder Hill Gardens**  
351 South Shirkshire Road, Conway  
10% off plants and consultations