



# Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

March 2016

Vol. 24, No. 1

## Bring out your Inner Artist on Friday, March 18th

Garden Club members and their guests are invited to register soon for this year's Wine and Canvas night on Friday, March 18, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Parish Hall at Saint James' Episcopal Church located at 9 Church St in Greenfield. The art we will be replicating is called "Bubble Trees." We chose this one because it leaves a lot of room for personal interpretation and embellishment.

You don't need a degree in art to participate. Come and enjoy playing with line and color under the expert tutelage of the Wine and Canvas artists. Participants are encouraged to pack their own picnic (PYOP?! – drinks and snacks to keep you hydrated and having a good time! Don't forget the cups, napkins and corkscrew! This is a BYOB/BYOSnack event!

Since this is not a fundraising event, the Wine and Canvas base price of \$35 is the final price. All supplies –smocks, paints, palettes, brushes and canvas - will be supplied. There are several ways to sign up. Registration is open online for this event (credit cards) at the Wine and Canvas website: <https://www.wineandcanvas.com/wine-and-canvas-calendar-springfield-ma.html>. For those of you without internet access, please leave a message for Laura Schlaikjer at 413-774-4594 to reserve a spot and mail your check made out to Greenfield Garden Club to the club's treasurer, Jean Wall, at 40 High St, Greenfield, MA 01301. Seats are limited this year, so reserve yours today. You can also email the club and then mail your check



*'Bubble Trees' is a lively study in exuberant colors*

to: [greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com](mailto:greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com). We recommend you arrive 15 to 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to get signed in and seated. Please check out the FAQ section of their website at [www.wineandcanvas.com](http://www.wineandcanvas.com) for further information. We look forward to learning together!

Parking is available along the street and behind the Parish Hall off of Church Street.

## Poetry for the Gardener's Soul

### A Sacred Place

I'm going to plant a heart in the earth  
water it with love from a vein  
I'm going to praise it with the push of muscle  
and care for it in the sound of all dimensions.  
I'm going to leave a heart in the earth  
so it may grow and flower  
a heart that throbs with longing  
that adores everything green  
that will be strength and nourishment for the birds  
that will be the sap of plants and mountains.



Rosario Murillo

### In Praise of the Potato

Potato, sojourner north, first sprung  
from the flanks of volcanoes, plainspoken kin

to bright chili and deadly nightshade,  
sleek eggplant and hairy tobacco,

we could live on you alone if we had to,  
and scorched-earth marauders never bothered you much.

I love you because your body's a stem,  
your eyes sprout, and you're not in the Bible,

and if we did not eat your strength,  
you'd drive it up, into a flower.

*David Williams, from Traveling Mercies. © Alice James Books, 1993.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Garden Club programs are generally the third Thursday of each month.*

**Sunday, March 6**, midnight. Deadline for submitting your completed grant to the club, either by mail or email.

**Thursday, March 10. Grant Committee**, 6:00–9:00 p.m., Taylor’s Tavern Boardroom, 238 Main St, Greenfield. Interested? Call Laura at: 774-4594.

**Friday, March 18**, 6:00 p.m. **Bubble Trees** at the Wine and Canvas event. Saint James’ Episcopal Church, 9 Church St, Greenfield.

**Tuesday, March 22**, 6:30 p.m. **Steering Committee** Meeting with Potluck, 40 High St, Greenfield. All are invited. RSVP to: greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

## 25 Years Ago

A group of dedicated gardeners gathered together 25 years ago to form the Greenfield Garden Club. On June 20, 1991 the first By Laws were drafted. They were revised on February 20, 1997. **Purpose:**

The Greenfield Garden Club is an organization of persons interested in gardening; who will stimulate community interest in gardening.

The Greenfield Garden Club will help maintain public gardens, monuments, or other community properties.

The Greenfield Garden Club will promote knowledge, awareness, and interest in gardening through public programs and demonstrations.

Membership shall be open to all individuals concerned with the club’s purpose.

We are proud to say that we feel that we are still true to our purpose 25 years later. We are helping to maintain public gardens (Trap Plain and the Energy Park) and promoting community interest in gardening through our various programs and special community events. Here’s to another 25 years of fostering a love affair with gardening in our community!

## President’s Report

*from Laura Schlaikjer*

March has certainly come in like the proverbial lion – there are branches all over the driveway and lawn, and I thought the wind was going to suck the screens right off the windows! I guess its Nature’s way of keeping the trees pruned!

Early March brings with it the deadline of the Grant program at midnight on the 6th, and proposals are starting to arrive in earnest. Members of the grant committee will meet on Thursday, March 10 to read and discuss them in the Boardroom at Taylor’s Tavern. It really is wonderful to see what the teachers have in mind for their students.

The newsletter is in need of a publisher, as Susan Farber has new time constraints that prevent her from continuing. My hat is off to her as I try to fill her shoes in the interim! If you have talents in either Microsoft Word or Publisher, and have some time to spare each month for this creative endeavor, please contact the club.

The steering committee has been meeting to plan and think about the direction in which the club should be headed, mindful of the responses on the recent questionnaire. We have decided to step up our game, and are starting with the June 5<sup>th</sup> visit of Tovah Martin. World Eye Bookstore has been invited to sell Tovah’s books at the event, in time for the book-signing portion of the day. Tovah wants to support independent booksellers rather than bring her own stash of books. We love her even more for that!

If you are interested in attending the workshop part of the event, you will need to start looking for that special glass container in which to create your masterpiece. Check out tag sales, second-hand shops, and antique stores, of which there are plenty in this area. The internet will probably whet your appetite and give you ideas of what to look for. It’s never too early to start looking!

I hope your thoughts are turning to spring and you are eager to participate in club events. Don’t forget the club’s plant sale when you start planning this year’s garden! Donations of extra plants are much appreciated!



### Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the National Park Service!

From March 5-13, 2016 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, see the nation's oldest and largest indoor flower show while celebrating the Centennial of the National Park Service. Stunning floral displays will represent more than 30 national park units, including Independence National Historical Park. Experience botanical exhibits inspired by natural parks - the grandeur of Yosemite, the desert landscapes of Saguaro and Joshua Tree, the lava flows at Hawaii Volcanoes - as well as the stories represented in America's cultural and historical sites like Valley Forge and Hopewell Furnace.

## Officers 2016

### President:

Laura Schlaikjer 774-4594  
depalma\_3@yahoo.com

### Vice President:

Dolly Gagnon 774-4031  
Dolly.gagnon75@gmail.com

### Treasurer:

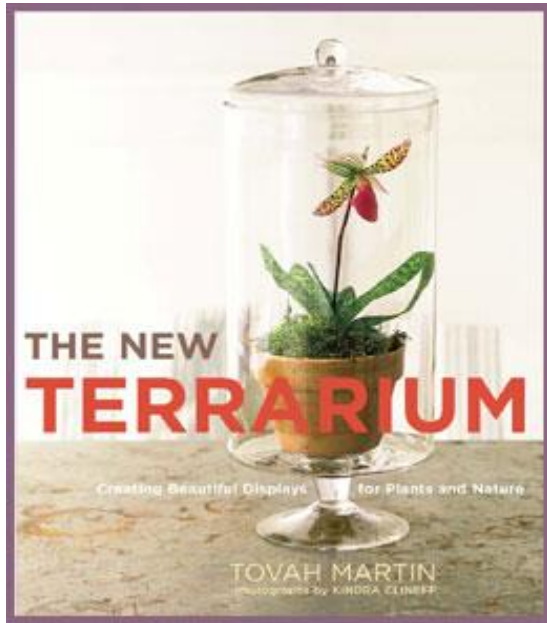
Jean Wall 773-9069  
jeanwall1@verizon.net

### Recording Secretary:

Linda Smith 772-0675  
Lhsmith22@comcast.net

### Corresponding Secretary:

Deborah Loomer 863-9421  
daloomer@yahoo.com



## Glass Act: Celebrated Gardener and Author Tovah Martin to Speak

Save the Date!! On **Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**, Tovah Martin will come to Greenfield at the invitation of the Greenfield Garden Club to give a Lecture, Book-Signing, and Workshop based on her book: “The New Terrarium.”

We hope that The Brandt House Inn, at 29 Highland Ave, Greenfield, MA, will be the venue. The lecture begins at 1:00 p.m., and will be followed by the book signing and then the terrarium workshop, with the latter wrapping up by 4:00 p.m. The workshop will have a maximum of 30 people.

This is a fund-raising event for the club. The lecture will be \$25 per person for the general public and \$20 for members. The lecture with workshop will be \$50 per person or \$40 for members.

This event is still in the planning stages. If you would like to help with publicity, tickets, or other details, please contact the club soon at: [greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com](mailto:greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com). We welcome all who are interested to help with this exciting project.

### Terrarium plants

*Terrarium-worthy plants are dwarf and prefer high humidity and low light.*

*In other words, cacti and succulents do not perform over the long haul.*

*But many lowlight tropical plants are custom-made for a terrarium career:*

Miniature orchids

Ferns

Mosses (especially Selaginella moss)

Fittonia — nerve plant

African violets

Tillandsias — air plants

Peperomias

Pileas

Dwarf ivies

Miniature rhizomatous begonias/ Strawberry begonia — Saxifraga

stolonifera

Creeping fig — Ficus pumila

## Treasurer's Report

Jean Wall

Balance as of March 1, 2016 ..... \$6,295.20

Income (Jan & Feb) ..... \$2,155.00

*Dues, Interest, Tour*

Expenses (Jan & Feb) ..... \$1,397.49

*Newsletter, Programs, Tour*

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to:

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 prices 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

**Glenbrook Gardens**  
56 Glenbrook Drive, Greenfield  
10% off regular priced plants and products

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

**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

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

**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

*Any vendors interested in offering our gardeners a discount, please contact the Steering Committee.*