



Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

March 2023

Vol. 31, No. 3

Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf



One show only on **SUNDAY, MARCH 19 at 3:00pm**. Sponsored by the Greenfield Garden Club and proudly shown at the Greenfield Garden Cinema on Main Street. Tickets are \$5 per person, and can be purchased either at the door or [online](#). Masks, although not required by the theater are strongly encouraged. Click on the hyperlink in the photo, and see our Facebook page to learn more.

March President's Report ~ *Laura Schlaikjer*

After our wonderful annual meeting together, I realized that this is my 10th year as your president! Before that, I was treasurer for 5 years when I joined the club in 2007. 15 years of service and counting! Thank you for putting your trust in me for so long – I am humbled and grateful. Thankfully my current head cold (not Covid!) arrived after the meeting. I cannot remember the last time I caught a cold; it has been that long. (It's why the newsletter is behind schedule!) How about you? All that mask-wearing and hand sanitizer. The growing season is practically upon us! I see Sweet Morning Farm has seedlings already growing for their early growing tunnel which will supply their farmstand with baby greens: Napa, celery, chard, dandelion and parsley. Shoestring Farm in Colrain is also up and running. Did March come in like a lamb or a lion – I want to be prepared for the end of the month! There is a lot in this newsletter, so read on!



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2-5 – [Flora in Winter](#) at Worcester Art Museum

March 3, 5:15pm - GGC Steering Committee meeting

March 4-19 – Smith College [Bulb Show](#)

March 6 1pm – Winter Sowing at Bernardston Senior Center with Pam Lester

March 14, 6-7pm – [Lawns to Meadows](#) with Owen Wormser thru GCC.

March 19, 1-4pm – Seed Swap at Just Roots

March 19, 3pm – Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf at Garden Cinema

March 20, 5:24pm EDT – the Vernal, or Spring Equinox

March 30 – April 2 – 10th Annual [Festival of Flowers](#) in Springfield

*Our life is March weather, savage and serene in one hour.
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson*

ORDERING FROM SHOESTRING FARM FOR 2023

This is the start of Colrain resident Rich Pascale's 51st year of supporting himself strictly through agricultural means! As you will not be able to find him at the Greenfield Farmers Market this year, you will be able to order plants and use curbside pickup, or arrange delivery to Greenfield or Shelburne Falls. His 2023 plant list and full instructions are available [here](#). Pick-up days are Tuesdays and Saturdays, 8AM – 5PM, April 29 through June 3rd.

A little interesting history of Colrain/Coleraine. Colrain, MA was first settled in 1735 as "Boston Township No. 2", organized into an independently governing town body in 1745, and was officially incorporated on June 30, 1761.

Although originally named Colrain in 1745, and officially incorporated under that name in 1761, the town spelled its name (and appeared on maps) as "Coleraine" for over 112 years until in 1873 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts insisted that the town begin to spell its name as it was officially incorporated.



Don't forget to check out Margaret Roach's excellent **Monthly Garden**

Chores on her website:

<https://awaytogarden.com/category/chores-by-month/>

It's Time to Renew Your Membership!

Becky George, our Club Treasurer, will be happy to accept your membership check for 2023. Individuals are \$20 and families are \$25. There will be a place in the Annual Meeting Invitation to include your dues, or you can choose to send it in separately. Becky's address is 61 Madison Cir, Greenfield, MA 01301. We thank you in advance for your continued support. Remember that memberships make a nice gift!

**BECOME
A MEMBER**

Officers 2023:

President/Newsletter/FB/Website:

Laura Schlaikjer

Vice President:

Marsha Stone

Treasurer:

Becky George

Recording Secretary:

Pamela McBride

Corresponding Secretary:

Eva Carrier

At Large Member/s: Nicki Shipman;

Wayne Gelineau

Deerfield Valley Art Association Presents

Artists Reception

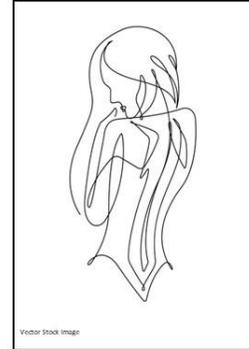
Sunday March 5

1-4pm

Figuratively Speaking

February 24 - March 19

*An exhibit of the human figure
in drawing, painting, fiber, sculpture*



Vector Stock Image

Open

Friday & Saturday 12-5pm

and starting March 5th

Sunday 12-4pm



Fiddleheads Gallery

105 Main St.

Northfield, MA

www.deerfieldvalleyart.org



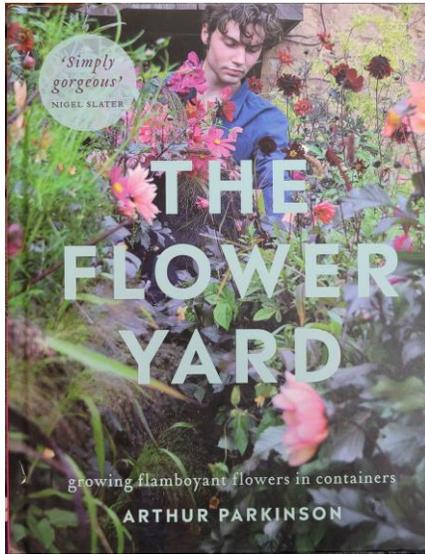
Club member Annette Kilminster has some of her art on display this month at [Fiddleheads Gallery](#).

The opening reception on March 5th has sadly been canceled due to the recent snow, and rescheduled as a “Closing Reception” on Sunday, March 26th from 1 – 4 pm.



(Photo from 2022 by Laura Schlaikier)

The GGC Steering Committee is interested in setting up a trip to visit **Naumkeag** in Stockbridge, MA for their annual bulb festival. Stroll through 8 acres of world-renowned gardens decorated with over 75,000 daffodil, tulip and minor bulbs celebrating spring in the Berkshires. The 48-acre estate will come to life with the colors and spirit of spring with a variety of blooms, containers, displays and decorations against the backdrop of stunning views of Monument Mountain and the Berkshire Hills. The first floor of the house will be open for self-guided tours along with a seasonal gift shop located inside the house. There will be mixed bouquets and container plants for sale at a pop-up shop located outside the greenhouse along with a pre-sale of spring bulbs. Refreshments available for sale at the onsite snack shack. Tickets go on sale shortly to members. **Please email the club asap with your interest** so we can coordinate the purchase of tickets on the same day and time. Please let us know if you are a member of The Trustees and are willing to purchase an extra ticket for another GGC member. Contact greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com



The Flower Yard: Growing Flamboyant Flowers in Containers is one of the many amazing books on display and ready to check out at the Mass Aggie Seed Library. (I am sure you can also order it thru your local library.) The author, lacking adequate garden space, does all of his gardening in pots of various types and sizes. The photographs are dripping in saturated colors and will leave you drooling. I found this quote to be inspiring: “To be a gardener is to be an artist; you are painting a living picture, one that is never finished but that continues to evolve, delight and draw on our mind’s imagination.” For a more detailed look at the book and it’s author, click [here](#) to read more about the author and his gardens in England with Gardenista. You can also find him as a co-host on Sarah Raven’s podcast, [Grow, Cook, Eat, Arrange](#). Grab a cup of tea and listen while you have time!

MARCH RECIPE: DR ANDREW WEIL’S COLD REMEDY

From: Natural Health, Natural Medicine

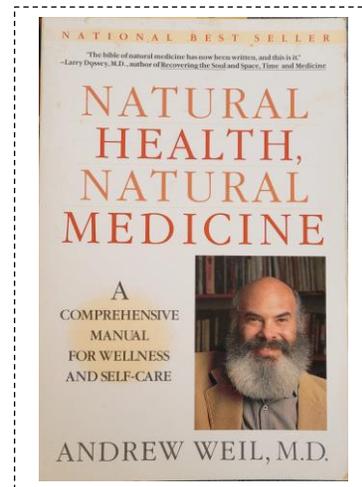
For head and chest congestion, malaise, and chills, Try this powerful tea.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups cold water
- 1 inch piece of fresh, peeled gingerroot
- ½ tsp cayenne powder
- 2 TBSP fresh lemon juice
- Honey to taste
- 1 or 2 fresh cloves of mashed garlic

DIRECTIONS:

Grate the gingerroot and place in a small pot on the stove with the cold water. Bring to a boil, then lower the heat and simmer for five minutes. Add the ½ tsp cayenne (or more or less to taste) and simmer for one minute more. Remove pan from heat. Add the honey, lemon juice, and the mashed garlic. Stir to dissolve the honey and combine the ingredients. Let cool slightly and strain if desired. Then get under some warm covers and drink as much as you like.



To prevent colds in the first place, Dr. Weil suggests using vitamin C regularly. At the first sign of a cold, eat 2 cloves of raw garlic. Take echinacea, again at the very first sign of an approaching cold. Chapter 13 in his book talks about short-term fasting, gargling, and nasal douching, all of which are helpful. He writes: “Digestive organs are the largest and bulkiest in the body, and their routine operations consume large amounts of energy. The simple act of not eating rests this system and frees up much of that energy for the body to use in healing. Fasting means taking in nothing other than water (or water and herbal teas with no calories). Short-term fasting (1-3 days) is a goof home remedy for colds, flus, infectious illnesses, and toxic conditions of all kinds.”

March with The Gardener's Supply Winter/Spring Education Series

Hosted at the Burlington (VT) Garden Center. Attendees can attend either in-person or virtually using zoom. Please select the ticket according to how you plan on attending.

March 11 | 9:30-11:00am

Closer to Nature with **Silvia Jope** (\$15) *Purchase Tickets*

Interested in creating a garden that is a haven for people and wildlife alike? That is energy wise, multifunctioning and designed for beauty and biodiversity? In this seminar for environmentally-minded folks of all experience levels you will learn the basic principles and steps behind landscape planning while approaching it through the lens of ecology, sustainability and energy efficiency.

March 18 | 9:30-11:00am

Native Landscaping with **Jacob Holzberg-Pill** (\$15) *Purchase Tickets*

From their eye-catching beauty to their show-stopping flavor native plants make a wonderful addition to our gardens and yards. These incredible species also support crucial biodiversity for wildlife and pollinators with food and habitat. Natural plant communities are often more resilient and require less maintenance than other landscapes. There is a perfect native species for every niche in your diverse planting plan.

March 25 | 9:30-11:00am

Building an Outdoor Room with **Paul Simon** (\$15) *Purchase Tickets*

From their eye-catching beauty to their show-stopping flavor native plants make a wonderful addition to our gardens and yards. These incredible species also support crucial biodiversity for wildlife and pollinators with food and habitat. Natural plant communities are often more resilient and require less maintenance than other landscapes. There is a perfect native species for every niche in your diverse planting plan.

Winter Seed Sowing

March 6th at 1pm at the Bernardston Senior Center - 20 Church St Bernardston MA

What is Winter Sowing, you may ask? Come and listen to Greenfield Garden club member Pamela Lester of Gill talk about the advantages of starting your seeds in late winter in opaque (not white) milk jugs or other plastic containers. These containers act as mini greenhouses, keeping the seedlings warm enough despite colder outside air temperatures. Natural precipitation (rain and snow) will reach the soil and seeds through the open lid, helping them to germinate in early spring. It's a bit of plant it and forget it, with Mother Nature doing all the work. Forget the tables and lights, seed-starting mats, and other equipment. We'll talk about supplies, how to prepare the jugs, the best soil to use, and the plants best suited to this technique. Handouts will be provided. Pamela gardened this way last winter for the first time and is eager to share what she has learned with us. Bring your curiosity and enthusiasm for gardening and start saving your containers now! Free to attend. Don't forget to bring a friend!





Smith College Bulb Show: Saturday, March 4th to Sunday, March 19th

With over 8,000 bulbs brought to flower, you won't want to miss this year's Spring Bulb Show. From daffodils to hyacinths, tulips (of course) to freesia, fritillaria to muscari, Lyman Conservatory will be the place you want to visit come early March. Our greenhouse horticulturists and Smith College work study students have been hard at work coaxing these bulbs to flower for the show. This year's show will also feature something new: commissioned artwork from three Smith College student artists.

The Bulb Show Opening Lecture will be given by Rachel Beth Sayet, at 7:30 on March 3rd in the Carroll Room. [Learn more.](#)

2023 Bulb Show Hours are:

Sunday-Thursday, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm and Friday & Saturday, 10:00 am - 8:00 pm

Members-only hours, 9:00 - 10:00 am daily (Not a member, but wish you were so you could attend the members-only hours? [Sign up today!](#))

For groups of 10 or more, be sure to [sign up in advance on our website.](#)

Please note, there is no parking on College Lane during the flower show. There is free on-street parking near campus, as well as parking options throughout the campus. [Check the map](#) for more information.

Additional Exhibits at Lyman:

While visiting the show, don't miss the **Into the Glasshouse** exhibit on display in the Church Gallery featuring stunning student work that was inspired by the plant collection at Lyman. And be sure to walk through the other Lyman houses to view the artwork created from students in the J-Term botanic garden paper making class, **Papermaking with Plants.**

[MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE BULB SHOW](#) – MARCH 4-19 - FREE

[BERKSHIRE BOTANICAL BULB SHOW](#) – MARCH 3-20 – FREE

[ELIZABETH PARK SPRING GREENHOUSE SHOW](#) – MARCH 5 – 10 - FREE

2023 WMMGA In-Person Spring Gardening Symposia

Berkshire Symposium - *Spring into Gardening*

Saturday, March 25th

8:00AM - 12:00Noon

Lenox Memorial Middle School, Lenox

This year's Berkshire symposium will have a choice of four topics:

- *Landscaping as a Form of Stewardship*
- *Houseplants 101*
- *How to Create Natural Ecosystems in Your Yard*
- *Creative Container Gardening*

Upper Valley Symposium - *Gardening Together Again*

Saturday, April 1st

8:00AM - 12:00Noon

Frontier Regional High School, South Deerfield

This year's symposium for "Upper Valley" will have a choice of four topics:

- *Carefree Shrubs for Your Landscape*
- *The Pleasures of a Cutting Garden*
- *The Diversity and Natural History of New England Bees: Contemplation for the Garden*
- *Gardening Well into the Future*

Lower Valley Symposium - *Let's Get Growing!!*

Saturday, May 6th

8:00AM - 12:00Noon

Westfield Middle School South, Westfield

This year's symposium for "Lower Valley" will have a choice of four topics:

- *Gardening for Four Seasons*
- *Selecting and Planting Trees and Shrubs*
- *Containers with Herbs*
- *Growing Bigger, Better Vegetables.*

[Click here to go to our website](#) for more information and to register!

ANNUAL MEETING IN PHOTOS

February 19, 2023 at Champney's Restaurant and Tavern in Deerfield



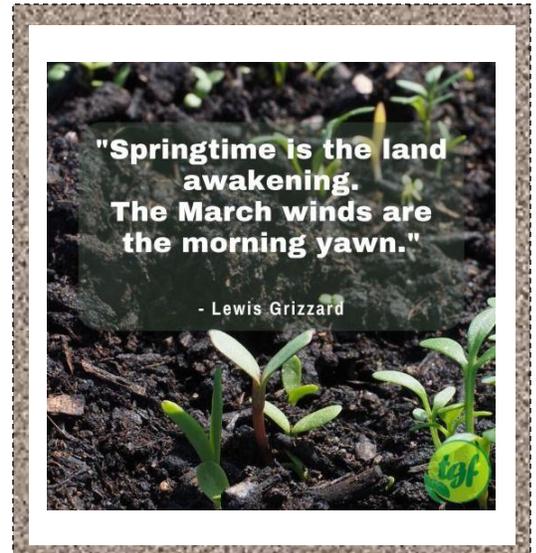
Planting Seeds Using Soil Blocks

Were you inspired to try this method listening to Paulina Borrego at our annual meeting? Chelsea Green publishing has a very [in-depth article](#) on using this technique, and you can check out the blocks in many sizes from the Mass Aggie Seed Library. Paulina recommends [Fort-Vee potting mix](#) if you can find it at a retailer near you. I believe she gets it in Brattleboro. Here's a [great video](#) showing you how one bag of 20 quart Fort-Vee will make 122 20-cell (3/4" size) blocks, or enough for a rockin' 2,440 seedlings!!! (\$15.85 +S/H [here.](#))

At the Steering Committee meeting on March 4th, we accepted the resignation of Pamela Lester as Member-At-Large, as she realized she has too many thing on her plate. In her place we voted to accept the nomination of Wayne Gelineau and warmly welcomed him into the fold. We are off to a great start – look for the many activities being planned and be sure to support as many as you can.



Craft project anyone? Click on the photo for directions. Start now to have some nice spring gifts ready for Mother's Day!



Treasurer's Report

Balance as of Dec 16, 2022\$7,393.09
Income\$1,920.22
Interest \$0.22; Membership & meals \$1,920.22
Expenses \$405.71
Printing, stamps, envelopes \$155.71; Movie Rental \$250
Balance as of Jan 16, 2023\$8,907.60

*All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to Greenfield Garden Club:
 c/o Becky George, 61 Madison Cir
 Greenfield MA 01301 **Questions?**
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com*

**APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
 Wednesday, March 29th
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com**



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.

Baystate Perennial Farm

36 State Road (Route 5/10), Whately
10% off regular priced plants with membership

Chapley Gardens

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

Greenfield Farmers' Cooperative (Agway)

269 High Street, Greenfield
10% anything garden related

Silver Garden Daylilies – 23 Picket Lane, Greenfield

10% off daylilies

Any vendors interested in offering our club member - gardeners a discount, please contact a member of the Steering Committee – thank you!!

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

Mill River Farm Market – Conway

Road/corner 116 & Rtes 5/10. S. Deerfield
10% off plants in Spring and Fall

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