



Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

November 2017

Vol. 25, No. 8

Festive, Handmade Holiday Wreaths



What's your fancy? Door # 1, Door # 2, or Door # 3? We will be making traditional wreaths and kissing balls with spruce and pine, so hopefully Door # 3 is not on your list! As usual we will meet at Chapley Gardens, 397 Greenfield Rd, Deerfield on **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 at 6:00 PM**. Wreaths are \$10 and kissing balls \$20. RSVP to: greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com or call Linda at 413-522-1686. We need to give Stacey a count of kissing balls, and the club will need to make sure we have enough rings for wreaths. Bring a folding chair, pruning snips, florist's wire, work gloves, and wear layers as the greenhouse could be cool. Please also bring a snack to share. The club provides cider. A bottle of wine would not be unwelcome! RSVP early!

November President's Report

A new month – a new season (maybe??) Last night, Halloween, there was the first hard frost here on our hillside in Leyden. It was a funny sight on the deck – every winter coat I owned was wrapped around a pot of still viable but tender plants, including a beautiful pot of strawberries with deep pink flowers that have been producing all summer. (Thanks to Shoestring Farm in Colrain!) We are also still eating fresh tomatoes, albeit plums and cherries. The vines had that lovely season-ending virus despite best efforts at removing the dead and dying leaves. The garlic is still in the shed – hope to get that planted Saturday. While I was outside in the brief moments I have after work and before it gets dark, I saw my husband, raking and blowing leaves and even pine needles.

The place looks great, but does he have to rake up *everything*?? I was interested to read Margaret Roach's timely article on [Lazy Gardening](#) (see next page). If you can leave it – leaves, needles, 'dead' seed heads – you should. She talks among many other things about the ecology of leaf litter. Certain Lepidoptera leave larvae and eggs on leaves that fall from their preferred host species. What happens when you then rake and remove, or worse – bag up or shred – those leaves? The caterpillars are now far from their needed hosts or simply dead. She points us to another page on the Habitat Network on how to [Make Messy Look Good](#). What she doesn't mention, is how to make my life partner understand that messy is not only OK, it's essential. My only hope is our 10 year age difference. Wish me luck!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri-Sun, Nov 3-5: 23rd Annual [Franklin County Cider Days](#)

November 4 – 19: Smith College Fall [Chrysanthemum Show](#)

Thursday, November 16: 6:00 pm – Wreath-making @ Chapley Gardens

Friday, November 17: 6:30pm – Spfld Garden Club event – see pg 3

Tuesday, November 28: 6:00 pm – Steering Committee – 40 High St, Greenfield

Friday, December 8: 6:00 pm Holiday Party – 40 High St, Greenfield

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ONE AND ALL!

Garden Tour 2018

We are looking for several volunteers to help plan and execute the Garden Tour next June 23/24. We have identified the gardens we'd like to invite to host, but we need more volunteers in the following areas:

- Planning the map/brochure with garden descriptions
- Mapping the route
- Putting up the daisy's and other signage
- Selling tickets the day of the Tour
- Making food / organizing food donations
- Co-hosts the day of the event at those gardens that need them
- Help with advertising
- There will be no raffle this time
- There will be no weeders this time

The steering committee will find the gardens and chair committees. We welcome any suggestions of gardens to contact, and we need YOU to step up and offer a little bit of your time to help make it a success. Those who work the day of the tour and are prevented from visiting the gardens will be able to go on the private tour on Sunday along with the host gardeners. (Hard rain on Saturday however, will cause the Tour to be on Sunday, so there will be no opportunity for a private tour.)

Take the Lazy Gardener Pledge!

Are you trying to do too much in the fall? Raking up all the leaves, or blowing them halfway across town? Removing or cutting down all the spent flowers head? Cutting down snag trees? STOP! A too-tidy yard becomes a barren world for birds, insects, and wildlife. Margaret Roach has a podcast/interview that you need to absorb! Here's the link:

<https://awaytogarden.com/saner-approach-fall-cleanup-habitat-networks-rhiannon-crain/>

You can take the pledge here:

<http://content.yardmap.org/special-pages/pledge-to-be-a-lazy-gardener/>

Key points:

Leave the leaves, where you can.
Leave dead flower seed heads.
Let grass grow tall and set seed.
Build and leave a brush pile.
Nix the chemicals.
Leave snags (dead trees).
Delay garden clean-up to spring.
Plant more native species instead of fussy ornamentals.
Pledge to be a Lazy Gardener – your wildlife will thank you!

Officers 2017:

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

DOUBLE CHOCOATE ZUCCHINI BREAD

Favorite of club member Norm Hirschfeld

2 large eggs
1/3 C honey
1/2 C vegetable oil
1/2 C brown sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 tsp salt
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp espresso powder
1/3 C Dutch process cocoa powder
1 2/3 C unbleached all-purpose flour
2 C shredded, unpeeled zucchini, gently pressed
1 C chocolate chips (Ghirardelli 60% are good!)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F; lightly grease a 8 1/2" x 4 1/2" loaf pan.

In a large mixing bowl, beat the eggs, honey, oil, sugar and vanilla until smooth.

Add the salt, baking soda, baking powder, espresso powder, cocoa, and flour, mixing until well-combined.

Stir in zucchini and chocolate chips.

Pour batter into the prepared pan.

Bake the bread for 60 to 75 minutes, until loaf tests done (a cake tester or toothpick comes out clean when inserted into the center of the bread, a smear of chocolate notwithstanding.)

Remove bread from oven and let cool for 10 - 15 minutes before turning it out onto a rack.

Cool completely before slicing; store well-wrapped, at room temperature.

Makes one 8 1/2" x 4 1/2" loaf. *Courtesy King Arthur Flour*



Springfield Garden Club Presents:

An Evening of Floral Design through the Centuries

Friday November 17 at 6:30pm, the Springfield Garden Club will present "**Timeless Beauties**," a floral demonstration of designs through the century. The program will be held at the Community Life Center, adjacent to the First Baptist Church, 50 Parker Street, East Long-meadow, MA 01028. Participating at the event, and designing in view of the audience, will be Heather Sullivan, AIFD, of Durocher's Florist in West Springfield; Matt Flatow from Flowers, Flowers in Springfield, and Bob Whitney, AIFD, long-time employee, now retired from Springfield Floral Supply in Springfield. Refreshments will be served. **Tickets** are \$10 in advance, and \$15 at the door. They can be purchased in advance by contacting Judy at 413-599-0462, or send an email to her at: springfieldgardenclubma@gmail.com. Seating is limited. *This is going to be a great event and we will be auctioning and raffling the arrangements, so you might be bringing something nice home for Thanksgiving!*



Treasurer's Report

Balance as of Oct 31, 2017\$6, 320.16
Income\$0.10
Interest
Expenses \$0.00

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 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.