



# Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

October 2018

Vol. 26, No. 7

## October Field Trip: Mt. Auburn Cemetery

Our final field trip of the year will be a day trip to Mt Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA Saturday, October 13 (rain date Sunday 10/14). The fall foliage will make this day a treat. Founded in 1831, it's the first landscaped rural cemetery in the US. It's a national historic landmark, a birder's paradise, and final resting place for 90,000 souls. It has a renowned horticultural collection distributed over rolling terrain with ornamental plantings, ponds, sylvan glades, monuments, fences, fountains and chapels. The wide range of garden styles over the 175 acre site range from Victorian-era plantings to contemporary gardens. There are over 5000 trees representing 630 taxa. October highlights: Fothergilla, Ginkgo, Japanese Maple, Scarlet Oak, Sourwood, Sugar Maple, Viburnum, Virginia Sweetspire, White Oak, & Witchhazel. The cemetery is open from 8AM-6PM (the tower, with its panoramic view of Boston, Cambridge & beyond, closes at 5PM) Free to visit.

This will be a full day trip due to the distance. Those who RSVP to Marsha's email at [mds41@comcast.net](mailto:mds41@comcast.net) will be kept in the planning loop, and will help make decisions on what time to leave and what we should do for lunch. As usual we will carpool from Cherry Rum Plaza in Greenfield. Be sure to look at the [Mt Auburn website](#) before the trip to familiarize yourself with how best to enjoy your visit. Picnicking in the cemetery is not allowed, so we will find sustenance elsewhere. Please plan to join us!



## October President's Report

Fall is officially here! If I had to choose, I would have to say that it's my favorite season. Sunny but cooler (hopefully!), with apple picking, fall festivals, all things pumpkin, hot soups, feeling comfortable in a vest or a sweater but not willing to give up the sandals yet (!), fighting the squirrels for every last chestnut on the tree, starting garden clean-up, and wondering in which bed to plant the garlic. Hoping it will be sunny on the weekend so I can battle the weeds that crept into the vegetable garden and not start at a disadvantage next spring. We've firmed up the date for the November wreath-making at Chapley Gardens: Thursday 11/15 at 6pm. Prices are still only \$10 to make a wreath and \$20 to make a kissing ball. If you can RSVP to the club email, we can help Stacey prepare, especially for the more labor-intensive kissing balls. We've decided to forego the appetizers at the holiday party – it will be a full-fledged potluck. Start looking for that perfect Yankee Swap gift – I found mine just the other day in Leyden – and I'm not telling! Looking forward to lots of fun and surprises. See you at one of the myriad fall festivals in the area this month!



Photo by Brooks Mathewson

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, October 13** – All day Field Trip to Mt Auburn Cemetery

**Tuesday, Oct 30, 4:00 pm** - Steering cttee, 21 Highland Rd, Gill

**Thursday, November 15, 6:00 pm** – Wreath making at Chapley Gardens

**Friday, December 7, 6:00 pm** - Holiday Party with Potluck, 40 High St

### Why I Mulch with Leaves -- *Linda Tyler*

I never till or turn over my garden any more. If you till your garden it will give you great results for a while, but in the long run, it doesn't benefit the garden. Tilling disrupts the soil food web in the garden. When you till, you basically break up that web, and the long-term health of the soil deteriorates. Besides, tilling is a lot of hard work!

Fall is the perfect time to turn your garden into a no till garden! My mulch of choice is leaf mulch. First of all, it is FREE! Most people's lawns have plenty of leaves in the fall, and leaves are a lot lighter and easier to spread than the store-bought mulch. Most people deal with the leaves in the fall anyway, so why not put them to good use. You do need to chop the leaves to make them work well. Use a lawnmower and run over the leaves several times to chop up them up into a perfect texture for the garden.

Your garden will also benefit from the leaf mulch. As the leaves decompose they not only add nutrients to the soil, but they also act as a moisture block to lock in the moisture, making the need for watering less frequent. That blanket of leaves not only holds in the water, but they keep the soil from getting too hot on those more extreme days and they hold in the heat at night. Mulched leaves also keep weed seeds out of your garden. Yes, you might find a couple of maple tree seedlings sprouting in the garden, but they are easy to spot and easy to pull. Don't forget the worms! Worms love a nice leaf mulch! Your worm population will multiply greatly, and will aerate the soil, bringing oxygen to your plant's roots.

After changing to a no till garden, your work in the spring comes down to raking back the layer of leaves, digging a hole or row for your plants and seeds, and letting things grow. I used to till, but that stopped a long time ago. I am a total convert. I recommend you give it a try. Not only is it easy, but no more weeding the garden! Now, that works for me!

For information on leaf mulch, check out [www.leaveleavesalone.org](http://www.leaveleavesalone.org). Shredded leaves are great for mulching your fall-planted garlic beds, and for putting your other beds to sleep for the winter. It will protect the soil from drying winds and keep the soil organisms happy all winter. For three great no-till gardening methods, take a look at this webpage: <https://northernhomestead.com/no-till-gardening-methods/>

### Tomato Sauce with Onion & Butter á la Marcella Hazan

28 ounces (800 grams) whole peeled tomatoes from a can (San Marzano, if you can find them)

5 tablespoons (70 grams) unsalted butter

1 medium-sized yellow onion, peeled and halved

Salt to taste

Put the tomatoes, onion and butter in a heavy saucepan (it fits just right in a 3-quart sauce pan) over medium heat. Bring the sauce to a simmer then lower the heat to keep the sauce at a slow, steady simmer for about 45 minutes, or until droplets of fat float free of the tomatoes. Stir occasionally, crushing the tomatoes against the side of the pot with a wooden spoon. Remove from heat, discard the onion, add salt to taste (you might find that your tomatoes came salted and that you don't need to add more) and keep warm while you prepare your pasta. Serve with spaghetti, with or without grated parmesan cheese to pass. Buon Appetito!

#### Officers 2018:

**President:**

Laura Schlaikjer 774-4594  
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

**Vice President:**

Marsha Stone 773-0201  
mds41@comcast.net

**Treasurer:**

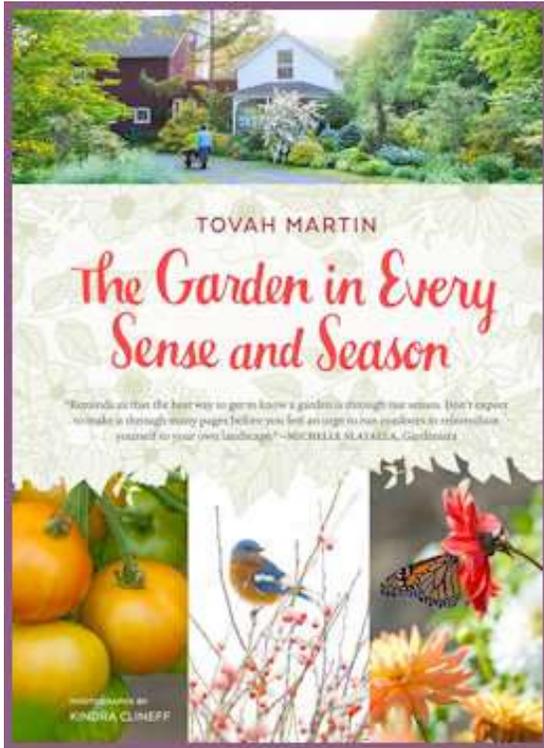
Jean Wall 773-9069  
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**Recording Secretary:**

Linda Smith 772-0675  
Lhsmith22@comcast.net

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**The Garden in Every Sense and Season** – a new book by Tovah Martin. So much of gardening is focused on monthly checklists, seasonal to-do lists, and daily upkeep. But what about taking the time to truly enjoy the garden in every sense? *The Garden in Every Sense and Season* does just that. Beginning with the heady blooms of spring and closing with putting the garden to bed in winter, Tovah Martin mindfully explores her garden through smell, sound, touch, and taste—prompting you to plug in to your own landscape. Join her to explore the bounty that your garden offers. Learn to notice the smells of spring’s daffodils, enhance your backyard so it is filled with summer’s tweets, see how you can make the various shades of autumn interplay, and taste winter’s juicy citrus grown indoors through 100 evocative essays. *The Garden in Every Sense and Season* urges gardeners to inhale, to savor, and to become attuned with their gardens.

## CLAY CLASSES AT ARTSPACE IN GREENFIELD



### HAND BUILDING FOR ADULTS

Mondays, 7:00 -8:30 PM

Clay is easy, relaxing, forgiving, and fun to use. Learn coil, slab, pinch, and several decorating techniques. Make functional and sculptural objects you will treasure for years. We will make animal garden sculptures, painted and carved platters, toad houses, mugs, and more. No experience necessary.

### KIDS CLAY

Mondays, 4:00 -5:30 PM, ages 5-13

Kids love touching clay, and making things they will use, treasure, and be proud of for years! We will learn hand building and decorative techniques to make sculptures, tiles, treasure boxes, and cups and bowls that they can eat out of! Projects will reflect the interests of the class.

Classes start on October 15, taught by Rhonda Wainshilbaum. 413-772-6811



## Treasurer's Report

**Balance** as of September 30, 2018 \$5,446.34

**Income** ..... \$150.13

*Interest, Fair First Place award*

**Expenses**..... \$0.00

*Extravaganza*

*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  
*please contact the Steering Committee.*