



Greenfield Garden Club

Newsletter

Vol. 22

July 2013

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July Meeting

Thursday, July 18, 6pm, Conway, MA. Carpool leaves Cherry Rum at 5:15pm.

Laura Schlaikjer

It's a summer of road trips! This month we are excited to be heading up to Sue Bridge's place, Wildside Cottage and Gardens, to hear more about its history and see its marvels. If you were at the annual meeting, you will recall the wonderful slides that Jono Neiger showed us of Sue's transformation of the 8 acres of then fallow land and overgrown tree farm she purchased in 2007. A special treat: Jono Neiger of Regenerative Design Group will help lead the tour. Jono is a nationally respected figure in this approach to land design. He was key in identifying the seven small microclimates on the land, and what might flourish on them to produce an abundant edible landscape. The goal here is to create a demonstration homestead for the 21st century, almost energy-independent, and capable of helping provide food security for a broader community. The gardens surrounding her home are now a diverse and beautiful edible landscape carefully planned to offer abundant year-round foods to humans, wildlife and beneficial insects. Directions from Greenfield: To get there take Exit 25 off 91S, turn right on 116 N, go about 5.5 mi; note Greenfield Bank on right, take the first left onto Whately Road, heading south, then take the first left onto Fisher Place Road, heading east. Take the first left up a steep hill to Wildside Gardens. You might want to bring bug spray and a folding chair...

President's Report

Laura Schlaikjer

It's July already, and I have not finished planting my vegetable garden yet - how is yours coming along? Do we dare complain about the rain, or will we then enter a dry spell? It seems like we have changing seasons in more than just the usual sense! I hope you are geared up for the garden tour, which is Saturday, July 6th. Encourage your friends to check it out if they have always thought about going but need that little push to make it a reality. Also, now is the time to peek into local gardens that might be good for next year's tour. If you see one, please tell us the address so we can contact them. June's trip to Abigail Rorer's home in Petersham was absolutely amazing. Her gardens and knowledge of succulents and cacti are a marvel. Her greenhouse was packed "cheek to jowl" with pots filled with unusual specimens, and her outdoor vegetable and flower gardens were well-ordered and full of interesting varieties. Our field trip to Boylston to see John Trexler's one acre *Continued on page 2*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend any and all meetings!

Garden Tour, July 6 9:00 to 4:00
Tickets on sale at Trap Plain

Tuesday, July 16 5:30p.m.
Rain Date July 17
Trap Plain work bee

Thursday, July 18 6:00
Gardens of Sue Bridge
Wildside Cottage and Garden
Carpool leaves Cherry Rum Plaza at 5:15p.m.

Tuesday, July 30 6:00pm
Program/ Steering Committee Meeting
with Pot Luck
Home of Donna Mollard
House On The Hill
330 Leyden Road, Greenfield

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletters. For the August Newsletter, please send to Linda Tyler davidptyler@comcast.net by Saturday, July 28 at 1:00pm.

Thank you!

Treasurer's Report

Jean Wall

Balance as of June 30, 2013: \$5,949.68

Income: \$18.16

Expenses: \$259.03

Income: Dues, interest

Expenses: Newsletter, plants purchased for Trap Plain, programs

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to Jean Wall at 773-9069

or write to 40 High Street, Greenfield MA 01301.

President's Report (continued from page 1)

wonder and then Tower Hill were equally stunning.

Our unscheduled stop at Sterling Greenery had the car packed with plants headed back to new homes in Franklin County! Please check out our Facebook page for photos from all of these events, and we hope to see you on July 18th in Conway. Happy Gardening!

(Planning for events in 2014 needs to start soon!

Please contact the club if you are either interested in meeting to discuss this or just have an idea that you'd like us to consider. Send us an email at: greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com)

Garden Tips

Dolly Gagnon

Following are a few garden tasks that I found interesting and are tips from Annie Garden and Gift Shop in Amherst.

- Deadhead roses by cutting back to a leaf with five leaflets.
- Prune or shear your evergreen hedges to retain clean lines.

The Flower Garden

- Be on the lookout for slug damage, chewed leaves with no bug in sight. Spread slug deterrent such as Sluggo around effected plants. Hostas are a particular favorite of slugs.
- Deadhead annuals such as Zinnias, Geraniums, Petunias and Verbena to encourage new blooms.
- As the weather dries out — whenever that will be — be sure to water your containers daily, especially those in direct sun.,
- Install plant supports for tall blooming plants such as Dahlias.
- Remove all weeds before they have the chance to flower and set seed. A year in weeds — seven in weed. Veggie garden:
- Fertilize the entire garden every two weeks with Pro-Grow organic fertilizer, a high nutrient blend of natural ingredients that all plants, trees and lawns respond to with rapid and sustained growth. Safe for food crops regardless of days to harvest.
- Mound up the soil around your potato plants. New potatoes that are exposed to the sun will turn green and become poisonous.

The Lawn

- Mow your lawn when the grass is dry; never remove more than one-third of the grass blades at a time in order to keep your grass healthy and resistant to disease.

- Avoid bagging your clippings when possible. The cut grass blades are a great source of nitrogen for your growing lawn.

- Water early in the morning so that the grass won't remain wet for long periods of time; this will help reduce fungal diseases.

Jumbo Annuals

- Add an instant punch of color to garden patio with jumbo annuals. Choose from a wide array of Coleus, Zinnias, Marigolds, Snapdragons, and Celosia.

Trap Plain

Linda Tyler

After having 4 different dates rained out his past month, Trap Plain is in desperate need of attention! Unfortunately our fearless leader, Richard Willard is very busy with his own gardens in preparation for the Daylily & Arts Festival (see article) so we will need to muddle through on our own! The plan is to remove weeds, edge, and take non-orange daylilies from the daylily bed and replant them in the main garden. The long term goal is to fill in the main bed so there is not as much room for weeds and remove the entire daylily bed further lessening the need to weed.

Please join me on at 5:30 on Tuesday, July 16 prepared to weed and transplant daylilies. We will plan to work about an hour and see what we can accomplish. Rain date will be on Wednesday, July 17.

The Peace of Wild Things

When despair grows in me
and I wake in the middle of the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,

I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron
feeds.

I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.

And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting for their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

~ Wendell Berry ~

Program Committee and Garden Tour for 2014

Yes, it is already time to start thinking about 2014! How time does fly! Programs for 2014 will be discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting at 6:00 p.m. on July 30 at the home of Donna Mollard, House On The Hill, 330 Leyden Road, Greenfield. As

with all committee meeting, it is open to all members and you are encouraged to attend, especially if you have an interest in programs for 2014. This meeting is a pot luck but we would appreciate knowing how many will be in attendance so please contact Linda Tyler at 522-1686 or davidptyler@comcast.net.

If in your travels you pass a local garden that catches your eye, jot down the address and get it to the Steering Committee. It is in July when the club starts looking for gardens for the next year's tour. Are you interested in being on the Garden Tour committee for 2014? Let your voice be heard!

Stockbridge Farm Events 2013 Season

Tuesday, July 16. Cooking Class: A Floral Feast--
Cooking with Flowers

Different Drummer's Cooking School, Northampton,
MA. 6:15-8:45.

<http://stockbridgeherbs.com/index.html>

Quick Pickles from Different Drummer's on June 19

4 Tablespoons white wine or herb infused vinegar

1 Tablespoon sugar

Dash of hot sauce

Salt and pepper to taste

4 Cups sliced cucumbers

1/2 Cup thinly sliced shallot or red onion

1/2 Cup thinly sliced garlic scapes

2 Tablespoons fresh mint--julienned

Mix vinegar, sugar, hot sauce, salt and pepper. Add onions or shallots. Let mellow for 5 minutes. Add cucumbers and mint. Serve!

Daylily & Arts Festival

Daylily & Arts Festival, Glenbrook Gardens, July 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bring your lunch and have a picnic! Watch the artists at work or indulge yourself in the marketplace with many hand made products. Best of all the daylilies are in full bloom! This event features field dug daylilies, mini market place, painting in the garden, and a daylily naming contest. Please NO PETS since there is no shade to park in. To reach Glenbrook Gardens from Main Street, Greenfield: Take Conway Street. Conway Street turns into Leyden Road at the 91 overpass. Continue up Leyden Road, turn left onto Glenbrook Drive near Camp Keewanee. Go down the long driveway immediately on your right. There is marked parking along the driveway. Glenbrook Gardens is the last house on the driveway. Contact info:

Richard Willard, 23 Pickett Lane, Greenfield, MA
Phone:413-772-6997

Email: silvergarden@yahoo.com.

Web site: www.silvergarendaylilies.com.

Try these tips for creating a garden that's both people and wildlife friendly, Courtesy of the National Wildlife Federation Newsletter:

*Fence it off. Use strategic, wire mesh fencing with holes one inch or smaller to protect special plants from deer, rabbits or groundhogs. Close-knit netting is inexpensive and can cover fruit to protect from birds.

*Plan borders and pathways strategically. Use mulched pathways between beds that are as narrow as possible. Small mammals will be less likely to brave your garden for fear of exposure to predators, and also don't like to walk on uncomfortable areas such as those covered with hard mulch, pine needles or straw.

*Discourage rodents. If rodents are a problem, don't use bird feeders or create brush piles. Instead let your plants provide shelter and feed birds naturally with their seeds and fruits. Rodents are not attracted to natural vegetation.

*If you can't beat 'em, join 'em. Many gardeners simply plant extra to share the bounty with wildlife and still find there's plenty left over for themselves. Just think of the great feeling you'll get knowing your garden is benefiting both people AND wildlife!

Ample Harvest

Emily Fulmer

My name is Emily Fulmer and I am the Grower Outreach Coordinator for AmpleHarvest.org. I want to tell you about how a partnership between Master Gardeners and AmpleHarvest.org can help diminish hunger in your community.

AmpleHarvest.org is a nation-wide nonprofit campaign—backed by the USDA, the White House, and Google—that is connecting backyard and community gardeners who have a bountiful harvest with local food pantries that are ready and able to accept donations of fresh food.

AmpleHarvest.org provides the only free, searchable, online database of food pantries across the country so that gardeners can find a convenient location to donate. So, next time a gardener has a bigger harvest than they can handle, instead of throwing the fruits of their labor in the compost pile, they can feed hungry families in their community. Check out our Master Gardener page at www.AmpleHarvest.org/MG

If your MGs are working with Plant A Row, they should also help promote AmpleHarvest.org – the two programs complement each other and

AmpleHarvest.org offers several features not available on PAR. Please let me know if there is anything more I can do to help you get this information to your MGs. Together we can put our skills to work to eliminate hunger in America. I look forward to hearing from you!



Greenfield Garden Club
23 Hastings Street
Greenfield, MA 01301

The following vendors have agreed to provide the listed discounts for members who show their membership card when making a purchase. We really appreciate their support.

Please respect their offers by remembering these generous discounts are for our club members only when your card is presented.

Annie's Garden Store 515 Sunderland Road, Amherst. 10% off regular priced plants.
Backyard Birds Strong Ave. Northampton 10% off regularly prices items except thistle birdseed
Baystate Perennial Route 5/10 Whately 10% off regular priced plants
Chapley Gardens 397 Greenfield Road – RT 5/10 Deerfield 10% off regular priced plants and pond supplies
Fairview Gardens 8 Main St. Northfield 10% off everything except cut flowers
Five Acre Farms 110 Hinsdale Rd., Northfield 10% off regular priced plants
Glenbrook Gardens 54 Glenbrook Drive Greenfield 10% off regular priced plants and products
Greenfield Farmers Cooperative (Agway) High Street Greenfield 10% anything garden related
LaSalle Florists Rte. 5/10 Whately 10% off regular priced plants
O'Brien Nurserymen, 40 Wells Road, Granby, CT 10% off plants
Silver Gardens 23 Picket Lane, Greenfield – 10% off daylilies
Warm Colors Apiary 2 South Mill River Road South Deerfield – 10% off
Wilder Hill Gardens 351 So. Shirkshire Rd., Conway, 10% off plants and consultations
Any vendors that are interested in offering our gardeners a discount please contact the Steering Committee.