



# Greenfield Garden Club

## Newsletter

Vol. 22 No. 8

August 2014

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### August Meeting

Laura Schlaikjer

**PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR THE AUGUST MEETING!**  
**We will be meeting on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at GCC.**

We are delighted that Abrah Dresdale will be our guide as we take a stroll through the net zero greenhouse and permaculture beds at Greenfield Community College. Abrah will be able to tell us about the overall plan for the gardens, and what phase of implementation that they are currently in. She will also be a fount of knowledge about local food programs, especially the relatively new Farm and Food program at GCC. This program provides students with an interdisciplinary understanding of the ecological, economic, political, and social systems as they relate to food and farming. Students can take courses such as Mushroom Foraging and Cultivation, Permaculture Design, Beekeeping, Four Season Farming, Organic Gardening, Food Preservation and Introduction to Food Systems. Since 2011, Abrah has taught Introduction to Food Systems and Permaculture Design at Greenfield Community College. She is the Coordinator of the Farm and Food Systems program, co-advises the Permaculture Club, and serves as the Garden Coordinator for 'Living Laboratory' permaculture garden on campus. As the 2013-14 David Bird Fellow, Abrah traveled to Tamil Nadu, India to help with reforestation and food security efforts. She has taught permaculture design courses at Permaculture f.e.a.s.t., Southern Vermont Permaculture, Wesleyan University, and UMass-Amherst. Abrah uses mentoring and ecological design as tools to facilitate positive change in partnership with people and communities.

Directions: Greenfield Community College is located near the intersection of Interstate 91 and Route 2. Take exit 26 off I-91 and follow the traffic rotary to Route 2 west. Once on Route 2, take a right at the first traffic light onto Colrain Road. GCC is located on College Drive, six-tenths of a mile ahead on the left. Parking should not be a problem this time of day. Choose a place to park (Lot A or E might be closest), and let's plan to meet in front of the greenhouse, which is on the left side of the building as you approach it.

### President's Report

Laura Schlaikjer

I cannot believe that August is here already! Soon it will be time for the Franklin County Fair and harvesting the last veggies before the frost. Where does the time go? We still have some exciting programs left on our calendar for 2014, so even though it may be cooling off outside, we will be happily moving forward with our "hot" topics! Do you have an idea for next year's program? Is there something you want to learn, or a garden you'd like to

### UPCOMING EVENTS

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

#### **Monthly Meeting GCC**

Thursday, August 28 5:30 pm

**\*Please note date change!**

Abrah Dresdale

Net Zero Greenhouse and  
Permaculture Beds

#### **Steering Committee Meeting**

Thursday, August 28 following

Monthly Meeting

#### **Fair Booth Work Bee**

Time and place TBA

Tuesday, August 11

#### **Work Bee Trap Plain**

Tuesday, August 12 6:00pm

#### **Community Meal**

Wednesday August 13 5:00 pm

Second Congregational Church  
Greenfield

*Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletters. For the **September Newsletter**, please send to Linda Tyler by Saturday, August 30, at 1:00pm. Thank you!*

visit? Please send us your suggestions and ideas by email! It's time to start to put that calendar into place. Our next community event is the Community Meal, which is scheduled for Wednesday, August 13th. Please let us know if you are able to bring a dish, and serve at this very rewarding task. There is an article further along that will give you all the details. We also need help with the Fair booth. We are coordinating efforts with Valley Fermenters and the Franklin County Beekeeping booth with a bee theme. There is an article on that here as well. Please support your club by actively participating in activities such as these - as they say, many hands make light work! See you soo

### ***Treasurer's Report***

***Jean Wall***

Balance as of July 27, 2014: \$5,381.74

Income: \$895.13

Expenses: \$110.02

Income: Interest, dues, Garden Tour

Expenses: Newsletter printing, Garden Tour

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to Jean Wall at 773-9069 or write to 40 High Street, Greenfield MA 01301.

### ***August To Do List***

***By Marie Iannotti, gardening expert, compiled by Dolly Gagnon***

For many gardeners the month of August begins the downhill slide into off season. Warm climate gardeners have a second chance, but some don't have a second wind after summer's heat. Your garden is hardier than you think and there are planet of gardening tasks for August that will keep your flower and vegetable gardens going longer, as well as opportunities to get a head start on next year's garden plans.

- \*Seed a fall crop of peas and spinach and keep harvesting. There's always something to make with zucchini.
- \*Pick herbs for fresh use and for drying. Harvesting will keep them growing longer.
- \*Order spring bulbs for planting and forcing.
- \*Check that your mulch hasn't decomposed and add more as needed.
- \*Spread a mid-season layer of compost or manure.
- \*Keep deadheading and harvesting.
- \*Leave some annual seeds to self-sow.
- \*Start saving seeds and taking cuttings.
- \*Remove any diseased foliage now so it doesn't get lost in the fall leaves.
- \*Cut back the foliage of early bloomers like Brunnera and hardy geraniums, to revitalize the plants.
- \*Prune summer flowering shrubs as the flowers fade.
- \*Take pictures of your garden at peak. Take pictures of container combinations you'd like to repeat.
- \*Make sure the cold frame is ready to go.
- \*Begin dividing perennials. Start with the bearded iris.
- \*Pot up perennial divisions for spring plant swaps. Sink the pots into the ground this fall and they'll be one less chore in the spring.

\*Plant trees, shrubs and perennials now, so they can take root, and keep them well watered.

\*Get your fall-blooming crocus and colchicum planted so they'll bloom on time.

***Franklin County Fair***

***Linda Tyler***

***Work Bee Monday, August 11. Time and place to be announced!***

The Franklin County Fair is fast approaching! This year we would like to focus on a booth filled with plants that attract pollinators. We will include educational signs that help inform the fairgoers of the importance of pollinators.

We will begin working on the booth on Tuesday, September 2 and will finish it up on Wednesday, September 3. Besides asking for your help assembling the booth we are also asking your help with accents for the booth and plant materials! Do you have any bee habitats that we could borrow? An attractive pot that is portable and you are willing to share? More importantly, please consider potting up a few of the plants in the following list to be included in the booth. Although the plants need not be in bloom because we are going to emphasize you should have plants blooming in every season the plants do need to be in good condition. If you can help out please contact Linda Tyler at (413) 522-1686 or e-mail davidptyler@comcast.net. Thank you so much for your help. Looking for another prize winning entry!

### ***Seeds of Solidarity***

Our next Solidarity Saturday tour is August 9th, 10am This is the time to visit! Come learn and connect with others on this tour of our site by the founders. Solar greenhouses, no-till cardboard methods for abundant low maintenance gardens, solar electric and hot water systems, energy efficient buildings, and youth and community programs that Grow Food Everywhere will inform and inspire. There is no cost or pre-registration and all are welcome; donations to support Seeds of Solidarity's youth and community programs are always appreciated. After the tour, visitors can bring a potluck lunch to share with others, and enjoy chatting around Seeds of Solidarity solar powered farm stand filled with summer produce. (Next visiting day is Oct 18). Directions here on our website.

### ***Seeds of Solidarity Ecology of Sound***

Sat. Aug 30, 3PM to 5.30PM

Experience a magnificent, body and spirit-moving workshop on our farm with Brazilian percussionist Ricardo Frota at our farm as we explore rhythms of the drum and nature. After the afternoon workshop, participants are invited to stay for a potluck and more music around the fire.

Get info on cost and pre-registration. ***Crisp Cucumber Salsa or Salad***

Note: 1/4 cup is only 16 calories! YES!!! Going to having this ALL #summer long!!! For salsa chop very fine and for a salad make pieces bigger and cut back on the spices and hot pepper.

2 cups finely chopped seeded peeled cucumber

1/2 cup finely chopped seeded tomato

1/4 cup chopped red onion

2 Tbsp. minced fresh parsley

1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped

4-1/2 tsp minced fresh cilantro

1 garlic clove, minced or pressed

1/4 c reduced-fat sour cream

1-1/2 tsp lemon juice

1-1/2 tsp lime juice

1/4 tsp ground cumin

1/4 tsp seasoned salt

Tortilla chips (For salsa)

In a small bowl, combine the first seven ingredients. In another bowl, combine the sour cream, lemon juice, lime juice, cumin and seasoned salt. Pour over cucumber mixture and toss gently to coat. Serve immediately with chips or as a fresh salad.

### ***Trap Plain***

Trap Plain is in desperate need of your help! It has been a hectic year and Trap Plain has paid the price. We will be having a work bee at Trap Plain, our community display garden, on the corner of Federal Street and Silver Street on August 12 at 6:00 pm. If we can get 10 people there ready to weed and edge, the garden will look great. Please, join us and in an hour we should be able to conquer those weeds! The more people, the more fun it is and the quicker the job is completed! See you there!

### ***Community Meal***

Our annual Community Meal is scheduled for Wednesday, August 13, at 5:00 pm. The entrée will be meatloaf. Besides entrees we will need plenty of side dishes and some desserts as well. If you can help by donating food or serving please contact Linda Tyler at 413-522-1686 or by emailing [davidptyler@comcast.net](mailto:davidptyler@comcast.net) and let me know what you will be bringing. They usually serve 80 to 100 people at this meal. Food can be dropped at the church at 4:30. The clients also love that the club provides flowers for the tables which they are allowed to take with them after dinner. Please bring arrangements in containers you do not need returned. Thanks so much for your help!

### ***From Blossoms***

From blossoms comes  
this brown paper bag of peaches  
we bought from the joy  
at the bend in the road where we turned toward  
signs painted Peaches.

From laden boughs, from hands,  
from sweet fellowship in the bins,  
comes nectar at the roadside, succulent  
peaches we devour, dusty skin and all,  
comes the familiar dust of summer, dust we eat.

O, to take what we love inside,  
to carry within us an orchard, to eat  
not only the skin, but the shade,  
not only the sugar, but the days, to hold  
the fruit in our hands, adore it, then bite into  
the round jubilation of peach.

There are days we live  
as if death were nowhere  
in the background; from joy  
to joy to joy, from wing to wing,  
from blossom to blossom to  
impossible blossom, to sweet impossible blossom.

~ Li-Young Lee ~

(Rose)

***First Wednesdays Speaker Series presents The Politics of Food and Farming August 6, 6-8pm Taken from the Greenfield Library Newsletter Sponsored by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library with the World Eye Book Shop.***

***"The Politics of Food and Farming" Ron Krupp***

Why is it if we have a surplus of food in this country, farmers have to continue to produce more to stay in business? And why are so many farmers going broke? Why are we facing an obesity epidemic in the U.S.? This talk will focus on such questions as well as provide local and sustainable food solutions through a discussion of community gardening, farmers' markets, canneries, and healthy lifestyle changes. Ron Krupp is the author of *The Woodchuck's Guide to Gardening*, a Vermont organic gardening book—now in its ninth printing—which has sold more than 18,000 copies since 2000, and *Lifting The Yoke*. Ron has been the garden, farm and food commentator on Vermont Public Radio for the past 10 years, and he was the founder of the Brattleboro Farmers' Market in 1972. For the past 15 years, he has coordinated the 3-acre, 165 plot Tommy Thompson Community Garden in the Intervale in Burlington.

<http://seedsofsolidarity.org/workshops-and-events/>



Greenfield Garden Club  
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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, and when your card is presented.

- Backyard Birds Strong Ave. Northampton 10% off regularly priced 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
- Sugarloaf Nursery 25 Amherst Rd, Sunderland- 10% off regular priced plants
- 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.