



# Greenfield Garden Club

## Newsletter

Vol. 22 No. 7

July 2014

### President

Laura Schlaikjer 774-4594  
depalma\_3@yahoo.com

### Vice President

Dolly Gagnon 774-4031  
dgagnon@recorder.com

### Treasurer

Jean Wall 773-9069  
jeanwall1@verizon.net

### Recording Secretary

Jeanne Canteen 774-6605  
jeanne@trowbridgegroup.com

### Corresponding Secretary

Terry Atkinson 773-7428  
rosebushmusic@hotmail.com

### July Meeting

On Thursday, July 17, we will be heading up to Colrain to see the gardens of Tony Palumbo and Mike Collins. Everything you remember from our last visit several years ago - is gone! Superstorm Irene in August of 2011 washed everything away, and flooded the first level of their home. Think for a moment if you will of all the stories you read of the flooding. Think of the plants and rocks and soil torn away and the job it took to clean it all up and start again. That's endurance and commitment! Tony, the gardener of the two, turned his shock and disbelief into a desire to start again. With the help of his neighbor Paul Forth, who just happens to be a gifted stonemason and blacksmith, they started with the stream, turning it into a small pond with a stone spillway. Next, a stone retaining wall for a steep bank filled with flowers. Lastly, a circle of standing stone 100 feet in diameter with a fire pit in the middle. Tony did not want to recreate the old garden - he woke in the middle of the night early on with the ideas for this totally new space, and he and Paul worked from his sketches. Carpool from Cherry Rum leaves at 5:30pm.

*Laura Schlaikjer*

Directions: From Cherry Rum Plaza in Greenfield, you can either take Route 2 West, or go down Federal to Silver, take Silver to Conway St/Leyden Rd, go right, take a left on Nash's Mill Rd, take a right onto Colrain Rd. Follow Colrain Rd, which turns into Brook Rd, and ends at Colrain Shelburne Rd. (If you are on Route 2, take a right onto Colrain Shelburne Rd just past Hager's Market.) Turn right, heading north. In the center of Colrain, take a left onto route 112. Take your next right onto Foundry Village Rd. Bear right when joining Adamsville Rd. Heath Road is the second left. The last time I went by, the bridge was out, so park safely on Adamsville Rd, and walk across the bridge. Their home, an old Cooperage, is on the left. Route 2 is 15 miles/24 minutes, the alternate route is 12 miles/26 minutes.

### President's Report

Ah, July! - a month for picnics and hikes and swimming. I hope you were able to put down that trowel and join us for the club's annual garden tour. It was a beautiful day, and it was fun while selling tickets to greet all the folks eager to see this year's offerings. I don't believe they were disappointed! One brave soul did the route on her bicycle! I was very happy to see several faces of friends from work. Have you invited a friend to one of our events lately? If you have internet access, photos are already appearing on our Facebook page, so if you were away, you can take the virtual armchair tour. I am very excited to be heading up to Colrain to Tony and Mike's "Gifts of Irene" gardens this

*Laura Schlaikjer*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Thursday, July 17 6 pm**

*Gardens of Mike Collins and Tony Palumbo  
Colrain, MA*

*Car Pool leaves Cherry Rum Plaza at 5:30*

**Steering Committee Meeting**

*Thursday, July 10 6pm*

*Potluck*

*Home of Jeanne Canteen  
169 Old Albany Rd  
Greenfield, MA*

*Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletters. For the August Newsletter, please send to Linda Tyler by Saturday, July 26, at 1:00pm. Thank you!*

month. I hear the stonework is amazing. I do my best with my Leyden rocks, but I can't move stones that large! They are even mentioned on a blog I found called "Clonehenge" - you might want to check it out to see what others have made in homage to that great stone circle in England. We were also impressed with the hostas on this year's tour - there are so many varieties! We have all vowed we need a field trip to O'Brien Nurserymen (members get a discount!) in Granby, CT. We'll try and set a date at the next steering committee meeting on July 10th. We'll put it out via email and the website. (They have open garden days 7/18 - 7/20.) Have a great month, and I hope to see you soon!

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

***Jean Wall***

Balance as of June 27, 2014: \$6,071.72

Income: \$38.59

Expenses: \$1,480.58

Income: Interest; Dues; Extravaganza

Expenses: Newsletter printing; Program; Grant for downtown containers plantings.

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

or write to 40 High Street, Greenfield MA 01301.

### ***July To Do List***

***by Dolly Gagnon***

\*Gardens should explode with color and fruit this month, as long as you don't let them dry out.

\*Annuals: Check all annuals often for dryness; new plantings are especially needy as they establish their roots. Deadhead spent blossoms - snap or snip them off to reinvigorate flowering plants; you'll be rewarded by more flower and root growth.

For a second bloom, cut annuals back to half their height and fertilize.

Replace dead annuals with hardy annual or perennial newcomers.

\*Perennials: Perennials can be transplanted all month; keep on top of deadheading duties.

In mild climates, fertilize roses once a month throughout the summer.

\*Bearded irises should be separated and given a bit more space between now and August, especially if it hasn't been done in the past three to five years. After the last iris blooms fade, stop giving them water.

When leaves start turning brown, trim them down to green areas in a two-snip pyramid shape. Dig them up and cut apart their knobby rhizomes set them in the shade for a few days to harden off. Replant at the same depth (rhizomes should be approximately level with the ground) in soil that's been amended with processed manure and compost.

\*Vegetables: Even in the heart of summer, in most areas, you can keep planting vegetables for fall harvest.

Plant potatoes early in the month.

Sow seeds of leafy green and red vegetables: spinach, kale, Swiss chard, broccoli, Chinese cabbage, lettuce,

radishes, beets, carrots, peas, bush beans, onions and scallions.

Tomatoes and peppers are sun lovers, so you should see lots of growth. Keep them off the ground and harvest them as soon as they ripen so pests don't beat you to the draw.

Keep mulch around tomato plants evenly spread and slightly moist.

Plant veggies now for fall and winter harvest.

Transplant greens such as kale and collards, broccoli, cauliflower and early cabbage.

\*Pest control: Root rot is a frequent hazard of wet seasons; help prevent it by thinning mulch around vulnerable plants.

Look for slugs under moist mulch and in ground cover; a favorite retreat.

Spray honeysuckles for aphids every 10 to 14 days; spray them with an insecticidal soap or give them a strong blast with a hose.

\*Harvest

Harvest ripe vegetables and fruits as soon as possible. Help strawberry plants stay strong after harvest. Clear out weeds, then clip or high-mow tops, avoiding plant crowns.

\*Container plants:

Variety is the spice of container gardening. Combine containers of different shapes, sizes, colors and textures.

Try grouping similar flowers with a zap of something completely different.

Move pots around, from sun to shade, or just for a change of mood.

Branch out from terra-cotta pots and window boxes.

Get funky with old washbasins and hand-painted coffee cans. Just be sure containers have drainage holes in the bottom.

\*Enjoy the summer!

### ***Garden Tour 2014***

***Laura Schlaikjer***

The club has just wrapped up its 22nd Annual Garden Tour, and the comments are all positive! This is also the time when we are scouting for gardens for next year's tour, so please forward us information on any gardens you think we should look over. I want to thank Deb Loomer for putting together the map/ticket - she

can probably drive the route in her sleep! Many thanks too to our tireless Tour Committee members: Jeanne Canteen, Norm Hirschfeld, and Elise Schlaikjer for finding and securing these 9 wonderful gardens. Thanks too to the 9 owners for opening up their special places to the public for 2 days. You know they went to extra lengths to make them look their best for us! I also thank all those who offered their time as weeders, garden hosts, or who baked or donated food for the refreshment table. We also had a new twist this year - Becky George's new house needs a yard plan, and we asked folks for their input by handing out her plot plan and encouraging all ideas and comments. Participants were then entered into a drawing for 2 tickets to the Green River Festival. Congratulations to club member and winner, Susan Farber. We also had some unexpected plant freebies - Beth White donated some very happy potted baby amaryllis, and Dave Gott swung by with free Voodoo Lilies and Dahlia tubers. We must also thank Pat Leuchtman for her fabulous article on the tour the preceding Saturday. The Tour Committee is looking for new members - contact the club if you are interested in joining us!

### ***Jewelweed***

***Linda Tyler***

Jewelweed is in the impatiens family and is actually a very beneficial plant! Not only do a lot of bird species, mice, and bees love jewelweed but it has medicinal uses as well. Did you know jewelweed juice helps ease the itching of poison ivy and other skin irritants? Jewelweed is also very adaptive, being able to survive in zones 2 to 11 and is a native plant in much of the United States and Canada.

Then there is my favorite aspect of Jewelweed, also known as Touch-Me-Nots, their seed spreading capabilities. As a child I bet most of us have popped a seed pod or two. Even as an adult I have a hard time not seeking out a full ripe seed pod and touching the tip to make seeds explode everywhere!

Although easy to pull it has a habit of taking over a garden. If you have an area of your yard that you can allow it to grow without disturbing the peace of your flower bed, you might want to leave a patch for all to enjoy.

### ***Stockbridge Herbs***

\*Tuesday, July 15

Cooking Class: Herbs 101:

Making the Most of the Farmers' Market

Different Drummer's Kitchen

Northampton, MA

6:15-8:45 PM

### ***Silver Garden Daylilies***

\*3rd Saturday of July & August

Daylily Open House Sale

at Glenbrook Gardens

9AM - 4PM

\*Second Saturday of July

Daylily and Arts Festival

at Glenbrook Gardens

9AM - 4PM

<http://www.silvergardendaylilies.com/Events.php>

### ***O'Brien Nurserymen, LLC***

Like hostas? Then you should visit O'Brien Nurserymen, LLC, 40 Wells Road, Granby, CT 06035. Amazing assortment of hosta, empimediums, and other assorted plants. Here are this year's Open Garden Days for O'Brien's:

Grass for Shade

July 4, 5 & 6 "Did you see dem, Sedum?"

July 11, 12 & 13 "Discover our Dazzling Daylily Display"

July 18, 19 & 20 Toad Lilies, Great Summer Flowers for Shade.

### ***Quotes***

"The landscape belongs to the person who looks at it."

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson ~

"There is something of the divine mystery in everything that exists--we see it sparkle in a sunflower or a poppy.....sense it in a butterfly that flutters from a twig or a gold fish swimming..."

~ Plotinus ~

"Care for the community of life with understanding, compassion, and love"

~ The Earth Charter ~

"When eating a fruit, think of the person who planted the tree."

~ Vietnamese Proverb ~

### ***I Want to Go***

I want to go soon and live away by the pond, where I shall hear only the wind whispering among the reeds. It will be success if I shall have left myself behind. But my friends ask what I will do when I get there. Will it not be employment enough to watch the progress of the seasons?

~ Henry David Thoreau ~

### ***Starting with Little Things***

Love the earth like a mole,  
fur-near. Nearsighted,  
hold close the clods,  
their fine-print headlines.  
Pat them with soft hands --

Like spades, but pink and loving; they  
break rock, nudge giants aside,  
affable plow.

Fields are to touch;  
each day nuzzle your way.

Tomorrow the world.

~ William Stafford ~



Greenfield Garden Club  
P. O. Box 309  
Greenfield, MA  
01302-0309

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 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
- 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.