Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

June 2019 Vol. 27 No. 3

June President's Report - *Laura Schlaikjer*

Happy June everyone! Between work and the rain, I finally had a chance to work in my gardens yesterday. I hope you have been faring better than I! We are resting on our laurels from the successful Extravaganza Plant Sale - see Jan's note below. It was a perfect day, and we are very proud of our accomplishments as a club – thank you all! Coming up this month, we will be visiting Just Roots Community Farm on June 20 – see page 2. (Directions: turn onto Glenbrook Drive from Leyden Rd. You will pass a white farm house, then a large brown apt building. Then you will pass our large red barn. Parking is in a lower lot directly following the barn. Our tour will start up at the barn. There is plenty of space for parking.) The club has been invited to come see the work in action of one of our grant winners. On Friday, June 21 from 10 to 12, at Mohawk Trail Regional School, the garden intern we funded along with Alia Woofenden and summer camp students will be planting the raised bed they built on June 1st. It's a great chance to see our money in action! If you go, please let us know and send photos! My peonies are still tight buds covered in ants, but Deb Loomer is hoping that multiple people will be able to share 3 to 4 stems of blooming peonies for her daughter's bridal shower. Contact info at the bottom of this page. Please make note of the upcoming committee meetings. We welcome new members all the time, even if you can't make all meetings (pg 2). As always, you can email the club at any time with your thoughts and ideas: greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com.

Annual Extravaganza Plant Sale Wrap-Up - *Jan Adam, Chair Fundraising Committee*

What a wonderful event we had this year!! The plant were amazing and we had so many and a great variety! Just about sold out! As you heard we made almost $2000! Great job by the committee organizing, and to everyone in the club that contributed plants, put up posters, posted on Facebook, helped out with plant marking, and helped on Saturday! Great team work!! We could not have done it without the commitment of all of you! Thank you!!

We also greatly appreciated having the Master Gardeners, the Pollinators, and the Tree Committee all there to provide great information. We also had a fabulous location and incredible weather!

We will be holding our next Fundraising Committee meeting on Thursday June 13 at 6pm at 252 Davis St in Greenfield. Snacks will be provided! We'll be reviewing how the extravaganza went so we can make next year even better! If you can't attend, please send any comments to me and I will share at the meeting. Email JanAdam12@yahoo.com. Thanks! We welcome the positives as well as suggestions for improvements or additions. For example did you like the new location? Are there additional things you would like to see us do? Did anything not work well or should be modified. We will continue to have a great event if we keep working at it and improve it each year. So thanks in advance for your feedback!!

The club has a Face Book Page and a Website:

Facebook: Greenfield Garden Club (Like us!)

Website: www.TheGreenfieldGardenClub.org

PEONY REMINDER!! Deb Loomer needs @ 30 peony stems for her daughter's bridal shower in mid-June. If multiple people can donate 3-4 stems, she will come pick them up. Please contact her at: daloomer@yahoo.com

June Meeting -*Thursday June 20- 6pm*

This month we will be having a personal tour of the Just Roots Community Farm Project in Greenfield. We will begin with a brief business meeting (no more than 15 minutes) to provide the latest info and answer any questions/get feedback from the group.

Meryl LaTronica will be our guide as we wander the farm, garden plots, the barn (in progress), the new compost area, and talk about how they are pulling everything together! They grow over 50 different types of fruits, vegetables, and herbs on @ 7 acres. Come learn more about them and see the work in action!

As usual, the meeting is free and open to members and non-members alike. Please bring a friend!

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of April 15, 2019 .. $2,779.67

Income $125.07
Interest, dues

Expenses..... $315.00
Refund dues over-pmt, cash drawer for plant sale

Balance as of May 15, 2019…… $2,589.74

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to the club Treasurer: Joanne Burns, 14 Freeman Street, Greenfield MA 01301

Fund Raising Committee – *Jan Adam*
Thursday June 13 6:00 PM at 252 Davis St. Greenfield.

- Wrap up on Extravaganza and start planning the 2020 Garden Tour.

The Program Committee – *Joanne Burns*
Monday June 17 6:00 PM at 14 Freeman Drive Greenfield.

- Continue planning programs for this year.

Steering Committee – *Annette Kilminster*
Thursday June 27 at 6pm. 116 Bungalow Ave, Greenfield

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join meetings to help the club move forward!! You guessed it - we need YOU!

Membership Dues

If you have not paid for 2019, please send your check, payable to The Greenfield Garden Club and mail to Joanne Burns – 14 Freeman Drive Greenfield, MA 01301.

Please include your name, phone number, address, email address, as well as if you are interested being on a committee (see committees listed to the left) or other ways to connect with the club. Use the handy form on page 6.

The Garden Tourist: 20 Destination Gardens and Nurseries in the Northeast

6:00 – 8:00 PM

LeVanway Meeting Room, Greenfield Library

Do you enjoy touring beautiful gardens? Jana Milbocker will show you the best public gardens, nursery display gardens, and private gardens open to the public in the Northeast to visit for inspiration! Learn about each garden's highlights, ideal times to visit, and enjoy a visual tour of each amazing destination.

This event, sponsored by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library, is free and open to the public.

http://www.enchantedgardensdesign.com/the-garden-tourist

Bylaw Update *Marsha Stone*

Look for the revised Bylaws in your email very soon. Please review them, and if needed send any comments to Marsha at mds41@comcast.net . The plan is to briefly discuss and then vote on them at the potluck meeting on **July 18th** at Norm and Marsha's home. A big thank you goes out to the folks who spent hours going over the original bylaws to make them more user-friendly for the club going forward. The potluck will start at 5:30 PM at 41 Meadow Lane, Greenfield.

Gardening for Pollinators

Why Native Plants Matter to Pollinators and Song Birds

Wednesday, June 12, 6:30pm - 8:00pm

1st Congregational Church, 43 Silver St, Greenfield, MA

Refreshments will be served.

Dr. DESIREE L. NARANGO, URBAN WILDLIFE ECOLOGIST, will talk at this free event!

"I am fascinated with the ways that plants and animals interact with each other, their environment, and with us, and what enables birds and insects to thrive, especially in landscapes altered by humans such as urban yards and forests and farmland," said Desiree Narango. "There is tremendous opportunity for people to manage their own properties in ways that makes positive impacts on wildlife! In my research, I aim to provide information that will help people make decisions that will help preserve biodiversity in our rapidly changing world, from plants choice for their gardens, to how often they mow their lawns. "

Dr. Narango grew up in Baltimore City, MD, where her only interactions with the natural world were in her backyard watching squirrels, catching earthworms and climbing dogwood trees. After receiving a B.S. degree in Environmental Biology, she spent 5 years as a traveling field ecologist studying wildlife from the deserts of Arizona to the rainforests of Ecuador.

After visiting all these amazing places, she became aware of how urban development has drastically reduced the quality of habitat for wildlife in our cities and towns. She then became interested in studying how we can improve our urban landscapes to increase biodiversity and involve the public in the process.

To write her dissertation, Desiree Narango spent countless hours observing chickadees, where they nest and what they eat, and came to some fascinating conclusions, which she will share with us. Her PhD advisor was Dr. Doug Tallamy, entomologist at University of Delaware, and author of the seminal book, *Bringing Nature Home, and Dr. Peter Marra, head of the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center in Washington D.C. She is now a* visiting *postdoctoral researcher at University of Massachusetts with Dr. Susannah Lerman of the US Forest Service.*

"We are fortunate that Desiree is now a visiting research scientist at UMass," Said Nancy Hazard of Greening Greenfield, "and that she is eager to share what she has learned with homeowners, land managers and conservationists. We have much to learn from her message of 'native, native, native' and why plant identity matters as we think about what we want to plant to support pollinators, and build biodiversity and beauty in Greenfield."

This talk is the third in Greening Greenfield's campaign called, ***Planting for Pollinators! Let's build biodiversity and beauty in Greenfield****. To find out more about their campaign go to their web site at: www.GreeningGreenfieldMA.org or call 774-5667.*

Thoughts on Trees – *Pat Leuchtman*

This spring I noticed with particular attention all the flowering trees in Greenfield. I've been amazed to see ornamental crabapples, redbuds, tulip poplar, magnolias and dogwoods. There are so many shapes and colors - a lovely welcome to the spring.

Over the Memorial Day weekend we attended a wonderful family gathering with the requisite barbecue, pasta salad, and some unusual cookies baked by the younger set. We drove to Tyngsboro, and back again. This is a two hour drive in each direction on Route 2 and smaller highways as we got closer to our destination. All along the way we were surrounded by trees of every sort. I would not even begin to try and identify them as we sped by.

At our daughter's house the holiday spread was served up in the shade of a lovely tree. I'm ashamed to say I paid no attention at all to what kind of tree it was. We were busy with family, food, and catching-up conversation.

It didn't matter whether we were paying attention to the specifics of the trees in our daughter's yard, we were aware of the shade, the breeze.

We live in a town where trees are our everyday companions. We may not pay explicit attention to the blessings they give us every day, but there are occasions when we do. A couple of weeks ago Greening Greenfield was part of a great tree planting party on Birch Street – appropriately enough. Everyone could celebrate the young trees that would bring a new character to the street as well as beauty and shade.

As we drove past all those nameless trees on our way to Tyngsboro, I noted that Massachusetts does a pretty good job of supplying trees that improve and protect our environment. On my phone I searched and learned that Massachusetts has 62% of forest cover.

Arriving home I went to the North Carolina State University program Trees for Strength https://projects.ncsu.edu/project/treesofstrength/benefits.htm that gives a full and amazing list of benefits of trees.

"Trees absorb carbon dioxide and potentially harmful gasses, such as sulfur dioxide, and carbon monoxide, from the air and release oxygen." This is clean and healthy air for us all to breathe. In fact, "one large tree can supply a day's supply of oxygen for four people."

Another benefit is "ameliorating heat from paving. Trees can shade hard surface areas such as driveways, patios, building and sidewalks thus minimizing landscape heat load -- a build-up of heat during the day that is radiated at night resulting in warmer temperatures. Ideally, 50 percent of the total paved surface should be shaded."

In addition "trees help reduce surface water runoff from storms, thus decreasing soil erosion and the accumulation of sediments in streams. They increase ground water recharge and reduce the number of potentially harmful chemicals transported to our streams."

The list of benefits is long. "Trees are the least expensive plants you can add to your landscape when you consider the impact they create due to their size," and they attract birds.

Trees also affect our communities. "Trees enhance community economic stability by attracting businesses and tourists -----people linger and shop longer when trees are present. Trees make communities livable for people and their activities. People walk and jog more on streets with trees; children and adults have a cool place to play or relax in the summer, thus increasing their interaction with neighbors."

Arbor Day may be the one day we pause to give thanks for our trees, and plant more. But there is never a day we do not need, and enjoy our trees!

https://projects.ncsu.edu/project/treesofstrength/benefits.htm

Fundraising Committee Update

Jan Adam

Now that the Extravaganza is behind us, we are planning to start working on the Garden Tour for 2020! We want to find gardens and give the gardeners plenty of time to plan, so we will be searching this summer for potential gardens. Please drop us a note at: GreenfieldGardenClub@yahoo.com or join an upcoming meeting! We believe that everyone knows of a beautiful garden or two, and we would love your input to put together a great tour for 2020! Thank you!

Meeting:6/13/19 6pm at 252 Davis St.

2019 Club Officers

President:
Laura Schlaikjer
Vice President:
Marsha Stone
Co-VP & Newsletter Editor:
Jan Adam
Treasurer:
Joanne Burns
Recording Secretary:
Annette Kilminster
At Large Members:
Dotty Janke
Pam Lester
Richard Willard

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

June 25

For the July Newsletter

Send any items of interest to members to: Jan Adam
JanAdam12@Yahoo.com

Plants on Paper: Two Centuries of Collecting, Studying and the Art of the Flora in Plainfield: June 1- July 31, 2019
Shaw Memorial Library - 312 Main Street - Plainfield, MA, 01070

The Plainfield Historical Society presents a two month-long exhibit of a nineteenth-century botanical collection of pressed plants and flowers, manuscripts, books, photographs, and other items from its collection, complemented by botany-themed art by Plainfield residents.

Join us for the festive opening on **Saturday June 1, 9:30 am-12:00 pm**, including a formal opening at 10:00 am followed by a nature walk with Nan Childs (rain or shine). Flower-themed refreshments will be served. Did you go botanizing as a child? Dry your flowers in a book? The fields and woods of Plainfield have inspired residents since settlement to collect and dry flowers and leaves, study botany, and make art. These activities have deep roots. The study of Massachusetts and United States botany flourished from the late 18th century, when botanizing became a scientific pursuit, as well as an abiding hobby for many. Plainfield 's first doctor, Dr. Jacob Porter, was an avid botanist in close contact with the era's leading scientists. The Plainfield Historical Society was recently given an "herbarium," a collection of dried plants and flowers labeled with their scientific names, created in 1854 by Samuel Francis Shaw, Porter's neighbor and a doctor in the U.S. navy, in the center of Plainfield for a class at Williams College (Shaw grew up in the Shaw Hudson House). The herbarium was lost, saved fortuitously, and found its way to the PHS thanks to Robin Sauve of Longmeadow. The exhibit is built around the herbarium, with materials on and by Dr. Porter, including a floral calendar of Plainfield, the Shaw family's pursuit of wildflowers, and art and poetry by later/ current Plainfield residents. The exhibit will be accompanied by a number of programs :

✤ **June 1** - Saturday @ Shaw Memorial Library - 9:30 am-12:00 pm - opening at 10 am followed by a wildflower walk with naturalist Nan Childs (rain or shine). Flower-themed refreshments will be served.

✤ **June 8** - Saturday @ Shaw Memorial Library - 10 am-12pm Talk on 19th-century botanicals by Pamela Weatherbee, author of Flora of Berkshire County.

✤ **June 15** - Saturday @ Shaw Memorial Library - 9:30 am-11:30 am Botanical Painting with local artist, Beverly Duncan. Fundraising event.

✤ **June 27** - Thursday@ Shaw Memorial Library - 6:30 - 7:45 pm Presentation on 19th century scientific illustrator and botanical artist Orra White Hitchcock by Reba-Jean Pichette, curator of the Shelburne Historical Society.

✤ **July events** (tba) will include a fern-focused nature walk, a program on gardening and field management for pollinators and a walk-in participatory poetry-in-your-pocket reading (bring your favorite or own flower or botanical-themed poem).

The exhibit and events are free and open to the public. Donations to fund care of the PHS and Shaw Hudson House collections will be accepted. This program is funded in part by the Plainfield Cultural Council, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. For more information, contact PHS curator Pleun Bouricius, pleunbouricius@gmail.com, 413-634-2250.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM – PLEASE DETACH AND SEND IN WITH YOUR PAYMENT.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Circle Membership Level: Single: $20 Family/Household: $25

Please mail this stub with your check made out to: **Greenfield Garden Club**, and mail to Joanne Burns, 14 Freeman Dr., Greenfield, MA 01301

I'd like to help with the following committee/s: _____

_____

I'm interested in learning about: _____

_____

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.

Baystate Perennial Farm
36 State Road (Route 5/10), Whately, MA
10% off regular priced plants

Chapley Gardens
397 Greenfield Road (Route 5/10), Deerfield, MA
10% off regular priced plants and pond supplies

Greenfield Farmers' Cooperative (Agway)
269 High Street, Greenfield, MA
10% anything garden related

Silver Garden Daylilies – 23 Picket Lane, Greenfield, MA
10% off daylilies

Any vendors interested in offering our club member -gardeners a discount, please contact a member of the Steering Committee – thank you!!

LaSalle Florists
23 LaSalle Dr (Routes 5/10), Whately , MA
10% off regularly priced plants

O'Brien Nurserymen
40 Wells Rd, Granby, CT
10% off regularly priced plants

Mill River Farm Market
Conway Rd/Corner 116 & Rtes 5/10, S. Deerfield, MA
10% off plants in Spring and Fall

Warm Colors Apiary
2 South Mill River Rd, South Deerfield, MA
10% discount

Wilder Hill Gardens
351 South Shirkshire Rd, Conway, MA
10% off plants and consultations