Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

January 2022 Vol. 30, No. 1

Armchair Travelers Rejoice - So Many Choices!

Artists' Gardens in New England
with Jana Milbocker of Enchanted Gardens

Some of our most beloved painters, sculptors and authors were inspired by the gardens they created. Visit the private havens of Edith Wharton, Julian Alden Weir, Childe Hassam, Daniel Chester French, Emily Dickinson, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Celia Thaxter and others. Join us for a virtual tour of these gardens by Boston-area garden designer, speaker, and author, Jana Milbocker. Jana combines horticulture, design, and travel tips to educate, inspire and delight both new and seasoned gardeners. Jana loves to visit gardens and historic sites in the U.S. and abroad, and share her trips through her books, photos and blog. She is the author of The Garden Tourist books (published by her landscape design firm, Enchanted Gardens) and has lectured at flower shows, horticultural societies, garden clubs, and libraries throughout the Northeast. Jana is past president of the Holliston Garden Club, & active in the Garden Club Federation of Mass, Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and GardenComm International.

There will be no formal GGC meeting this month. The zoom meeting at left is just one of several that members can sign up for in the coming months (see other articles in this newsletter). Some have limited capacity, others unlimited. They seem to be filling up quickly. A search on one site's calendar will reveal other interesting lectures being held too, so poke around for interesting topics. See the article about Felinghuysen Arboretum (NJ) (pg7). They have many pre-recorded webinars that may be of interest. They were found while searching their event page for Jana's zoom meeting there on the 20th ($10/$15 and NOT recorded) with the topic: **Garden Tourist's New England**.

January President's Report ~ *Laura Schlaikjer*

The Jan Brett Exhibit at the Norman Rockwell museum runs through March 6th, and is definitely worth the visit. Get a pass at the Gnfld library to pay $10 admission.

Hello friends! Welcome to the New Year! It's already Jan 8th and I am still enjoying my tree. I may be the last person reading this to still have their tree up! (It goes up right before Christmas eve, so…) I hope you are doing well in this never-ending covid cycle. We had a wonderful GGC Holiday Party with careful members, and no infections were reported. We have decided that holding the annual meeting in person at the Whately Inn is not advisable for January, so we are pushing it off until March. We invite you to take advantage of the many virtual programs available (read on!), and we will return in February with a zoom program of our own. There are many fun things to do this month – the Clark Art Museum has free admission all month. Here is a link for the Berkshire Botanical Events Calendar. What New Year's resolutions have you made? Any trips being planned? What birds are at your feeder? What new plants in the seed catalogues have caught your fancy? Looking forward to seeing you soon! ~ Laura

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 20, Thursday 5:00pm – Steering Committee Meeting

"Greet each day with the joy of birds welcoming sunrise."
~ Samoan proverb

Margaret Roach's Virtual Garden Club

Enrollment is closing soon for The Virtual Garden Club — a three-month program that features six 90-minute classes hosted live on Zoom, a recorded lecture, lots of Q&A, and a private Facebook group. Over 370 people have already decided to participate. If you've been meaning to register but haven't had time, you can **enroll right here**.

If you're still on the fence, you might be wondering what sort of things you'll learn in the club. Here are 11 examples. Inside this upcoming season of The Virtual Garden Club, you'll discover how to:

- **Shop the catalogs** with an insider's eye—including sources you may not know
- **Sow seeds like a pro** to grow the strongest edible and flower seedlings
- **Choose seed-starting gear that works—**from lights to potting medium
- **Combine mixed groundcovers into '"mosaics"** to create dynamic designs
- **Incorporate a richer variety of fragrances** into your garden
- **Know which plants are best purchased bare-root** or as "liners"
- **Find great native nurseries** for woodland, meadow and prairie species
- **Identify which "nativars"** provide maximum ecological services
- **Finish 90% of your deciduous tree and shrub pruning** during winter months
- **Understand the latest on the growing threat** of Asian jumping worms
- **Get realistic tactics for gardening with deer** and other "nuisance wildlife"

If you're interested in any of those topics, or in the opportunity to ask questions of Margaret Roach and Ken Druse over the next few months, join the club! The first class is January 13th (full schedule and other details at the link below), and **enrollment closes soon**!

Join The Club Before It Closes

A new year is like a new chapter in life. It is your chance to write an amazing story for yourself. May you have good health, prosperity, and happiness in the New Year!

Annual Meeting 2022

We have decided to run the Annual Meeting in March this year. We will try to run it in person, but will pivot to virtual if necessary. We are looking for a speaker who can do both options. Please send suggestions by Jan 20 (if possible) when the steering committee meets to discuss it:

greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

We would love it if several people would form a nominating committee in order to propose a slate of officers for this new year. We will need a new treasurer since Joanne is moving out of state. Committee members ask each current steering cttee member if they wish to continue in their role, and work to find other interested members for open seats. They then present the slate at the annual meeting.

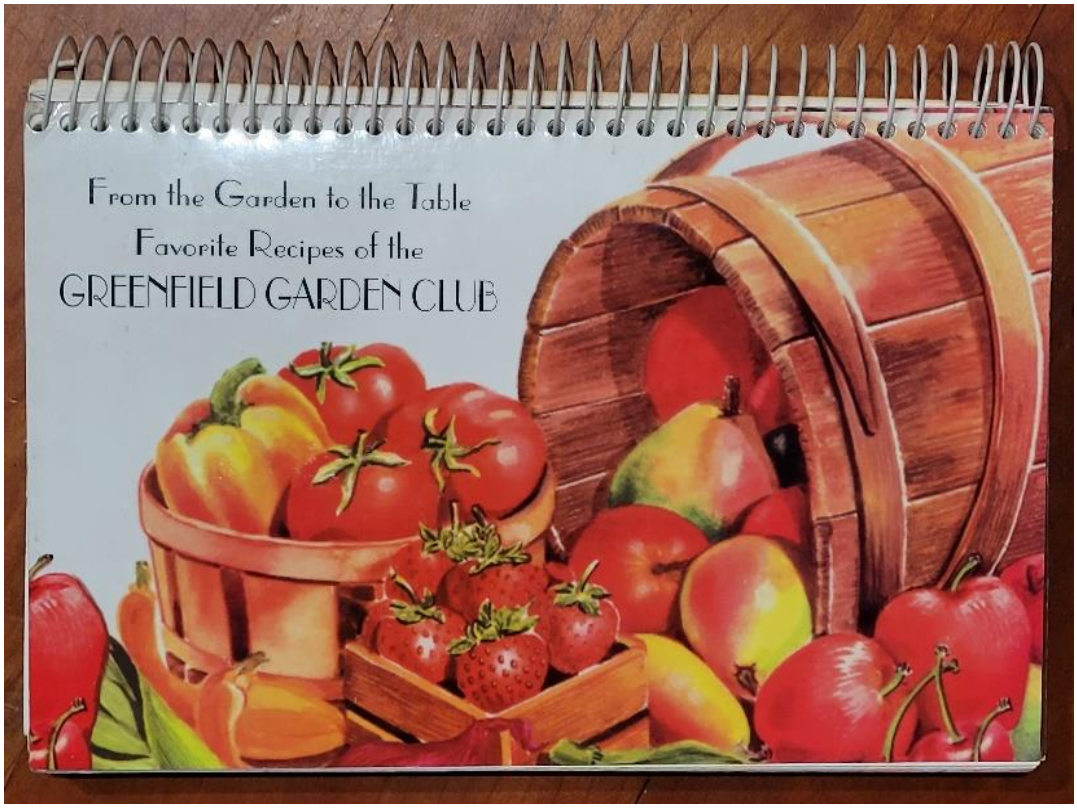
Current officers – please write up your annual reports while 2021 is still fresh in your minds!

We hope to see you all soon!

Officers 2021:

President/Newsletter/FB/Website:
Laura Schlaikjer
Vice President:
Marsha Stone
Treasurer:
Joanne Burns
Recording Secretary:
Annette Kilminster
Corresponding Secretary:
Eva Carrier
At Large Members:
Nicki Shipman

Did you know that the **Greenfield Garden Club** published a **cookbook** in the early days of its current incarnation? There is no date, but I would have to assume that it came out between the founding in 1991 and, let's say 1995. It's a spiral-bound, landscape-oriented volume that can stand up on your counter. I am looking forward to sharing recipes with you via the newsletter this year. I am sure many of these ended up at meetings, bake-sales, potlucks, and on the refreshment tables at the Garden Tour. Here is a Garden Tour classic! Bon Appetit!



CUCUMBER SANDWICHES

1 loaf party bread (I use pumpernickel)
1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese
1 Tbsp. milk
1 pkg. Good Seasons Italian dressing (dry)
dill weed
2 large cucumbers

Let cream cheese soften at room temperature for 10 to 15 minutes. Add milk and dressing and mix together with fork. Spread on bread and top with a slice of cucumber and sprinkle of dill.

Fran Bourassa

Shopping List

party bread
cream cheese
milk
Good Seasons Italian dressing
dill weed
cucumbers

2022 Winter/Spring Webinar Series (Zoom) with Gardener's Supply. ($15 per class)

Webinars will be live; recordings will be sent to all registrants within 48 hours of the webinar.

Houseplants 101 Webinar Tuesday, January 25 | 6-7:30pm. *Presenter: Ellen Bortner*

Regenerative Gardening Webinar Tuesday, February 1 | 6-7:30pm. *Presenter: Rebecca Lindenmyr*

Design for Traffic Stopping Curb Appeal **Webinar** Saturday, February 5 | 9:30-11:00am *Presenter: Kerry Mendez*

Closer to Nature Webinar Tuesday, February 8 | 6-7:30pm. *Presenter: Silvia Jope*

Seed Starting Webinar Tuesday, February 15 | 6-7:30pm. *Presenter: Markey Read*

Composting 101 Webinar Tuesday, February 22 | 6-7:30pm. *Presenter: Mike Ather*

Uncommon Fruits Webinar Tuesday, March 1 | 6-7:30pm. *Presenter: Jacob Holzberg-Pill*

Gardening for Life Webinar Tuesday, March 8 | 6-7:30pm. *Presenter: Toni Gattone*

Vegetable Gardening for Beginners Webinar Tuesday, March 15 | 6-7:30pm *Presenter: Charlie Nardozzi*

Fruit Trees Webinar Tuesday, March 22 | 6-7:30pm. *Presenter: Charlie Nardozzi*

Pruning 101 Webinar Tuesday, March 29 | 6-7:30pm. *Presenter: Charlie Nardozzi*

Jana Milbocker at Enchanted Gardens Zoom presentations – many are free.

1/11 **Sharon Public Library (MA)**, Artists' Gardens in New England, 7:00 pm, ZOOM

1/12 **Medfield Garden Club (MA)**, Designing Sunny Perennial Gardens, 10:00 am ZOOM

1/19 **Cheshire Garden Club (CT)**, The Garden Tourist's New England, ZOOM, 7:00 pm

1/19 **Beth Shalom Garden Club (MA)**, The Magic of the Winter Garden, ZOOM, 7:00 pm

1/20 **Frelinghuysen Arboretum (NJ)**, The Garden Tourist's New England, ZOOM, 7:00 pm

1/24 **Brockton Public Library (MA),** The Magic of the Winter Garden, ZOOM, 7:00 pm

1/26 **Lunenburg Public Library (MA)**, Gardens of Cornwall & Devon, 6:30 pm, ZOOM

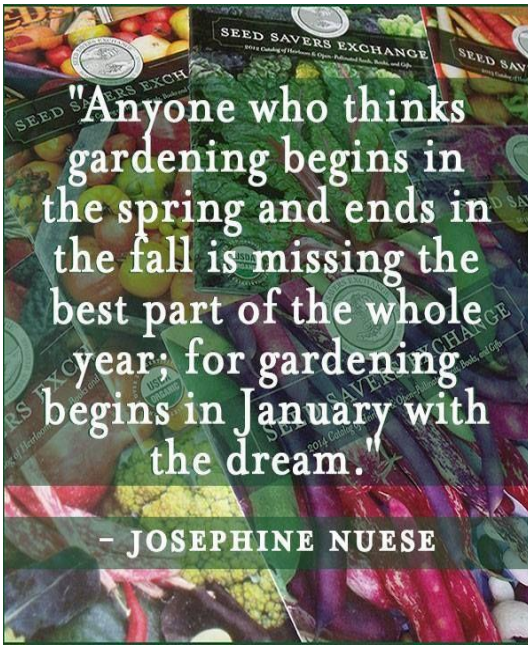
1/27 **Lincoln Public Library (MA)**, Artists' Gardens in New England ZOOM 2:00 pm

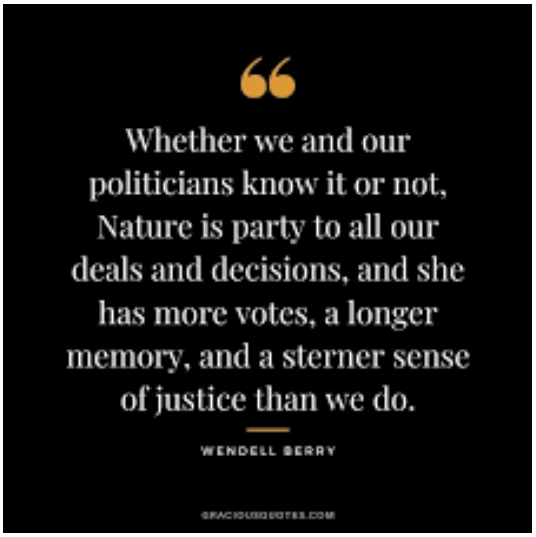
GGC MEMBERSHIP 2022: It's a new season! Please continue your membership by sending in your dues for the new year ($20 per person, or $25 per household). Remember, memberships make a nice gift for the gardener in your life! Please make checks payable to: Greenfield Garden Club; and send them to: Greenfield Garden Club, PO Box 309, Greenfield, MA 01302. Thank you for your continuing support!

Ways to Bring on the Light! (From Seeds of Solidarity)

There are many small ways and actions, even in seemingly dark times Here are a few of our favorites in no particular order:

- Give and enjoy candlelight, beeswax is especially nice. Save the small ends of candles to mix and match and remelt adding a fresh wick and essential oil. You can remelt wax in a small ball jar set in a pan of water on low heat, watching carefully.
- Make and enjoy bright colored soups with carrots or squash, rich in vitamins A and C. Use your own or purchase locally grown winter squash and carrots. Simplest is to saute onions, garlic and ginger in some butter or olive oil, add some chopped carrots and/or peeled and cubed butternut squash, add water to cover and cook until veggies are very tender. Use an immersion blender or food processor to blend until smooth. Season with salt and pepper. Add water or milk to desired consistency. Make an extra quart for a neighbor.
- Make your own or buy cards from local artists. Add a poem, your own or from a favorite poet. Spend a dark evening (or many) off screen writing some to friends, or to send via an organization that supports those incarcerated or in recovery. Or paint small stones with uplifting words and seed them around your community for others to enjoy or take.
- Drink a lot of herbal tea. Buy in bulk from a coop or herb farm or small company (search for local farms in your region that sell such). Make your own blend - we like a tasty and nourishing soothe of any combination of chamomile, tulsi, nettle, mint, oat straw and rose or lavender. Put some in little packets or jars to keep on hand as spontaneous gifts.
- Start and end your day outdoors, if even for a few deep breaths of crisp fresh air with your feet on the earth.
- Enjoy seed catalogues. If you have a garden, start to plan. If you don't, send a gift certificate to a school or community organization near to you that has one so they can buy some. Some of our favorite seed companies are True Love Seeds, Hudson Valley Seeds, Fruition, Seeds from Italy, Fedco and Johnny's. Or make a donation to an organization such as Indigenous Seedkeepers Network or I-Collective to support seed rematriation and traditional foodways.
- Promote wellbeing with lots of rest, and whatever practices and ways of of moving through the day and conversing promote kindness and gentleness and reduce stress for yourself and others.





New England is warming faster than the rest of the planet, new study finds

The region is warming significantly faster than global average temperatures, and that rate is expected to accelerate as more greenhouse gases are pumped into the atmosphere, and dangerous feed-back loops contribute to climate change. Curious? Worried? Read more here.

Margaret Roach's excellent Monthly Garden Chores:
https://awaytogarden.com/category/chores-by-month/

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of Nov 15, 2021 ..... $8,409.95

Income $20.21
Interest $0.21; membership $20
Expenses $0.00

Balance as of Dec 15, 2021 ..... $8,430.16

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to the club Treasurer:
c/o Greenfield Garden Club, PO Box 309
Greenfield MA 01302 **Questions?**
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

February NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Sunday, January 30th
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

This year my sister-in-law came up with a wonderful idea to connect our far-flung family during the holidays. She delivered holiday bags containing baked gingerbread walls and roof pieces along with a bag of royal icing to each household, from San Luis Obispo to Austin TX, to Greenfield, MA and Radlett, England, where she and my brother live. Then everyone created their masterpieces (!) and shared their photos and process. Such fun! I also happened upon the photos of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum's 2020 Gingerbread Wonderland (cancelled in 2021), and was amazed at the winning entry in the adult category. Maybe the Greenfield Garden Club should sponsor a gingerbread "competition" next year! Enjoy the photos! (My humble house is bottom left, and Elise's is bottom right.) ~ *Laura Schlaikjer*

Members of the Home Garden Club of Morristown NJ: Sally Barmakian, Karen Curry, Sheila Fortune, Helene Havers, Barbara Lysenko, Sue McElroy, Linda Pastorino and Pam Venanzi, created their dream She-Shed. It includes a formal garden, a veggie garden, and an amazing potting shed full of everything you need to take care of the gardens. Incredible!

PREVIOUSLY RECORDED EVENTS offered through Frelinghuysen Arboretum

The Friends of **Frelinghuysen Arboretum (NJ)** have recorded a number of events over the past year, which are available on their Pre-recorded Events page for a nominal fee.

7/14/20 - Summer Science: Composting and Eco-Friendly Yard Care

7/22/20 - Dahlias

9/22/20 - VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION: Too Many Tomatoes

1/1/21 - VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION: James Beard's Oatmeal Bread

2/1/21 - VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION: Lentil Soup

3/1/21 - VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION: Rice and Peas

3/6/21 - COMMUNITY GARDEN CONFERENCE RECORDINGS: Understanding Disease Management, Food Safety and Coordinator's Roundtable

4/1/21 - VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION: Lovely Leeks

5/1/21 - VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION: Brewed to Perfection

5/13/21 - A VIRTUAL GARDEN TOUR OF IRELAND IN MAY

6/1/21 - VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION: Ruby Red Rhubarb

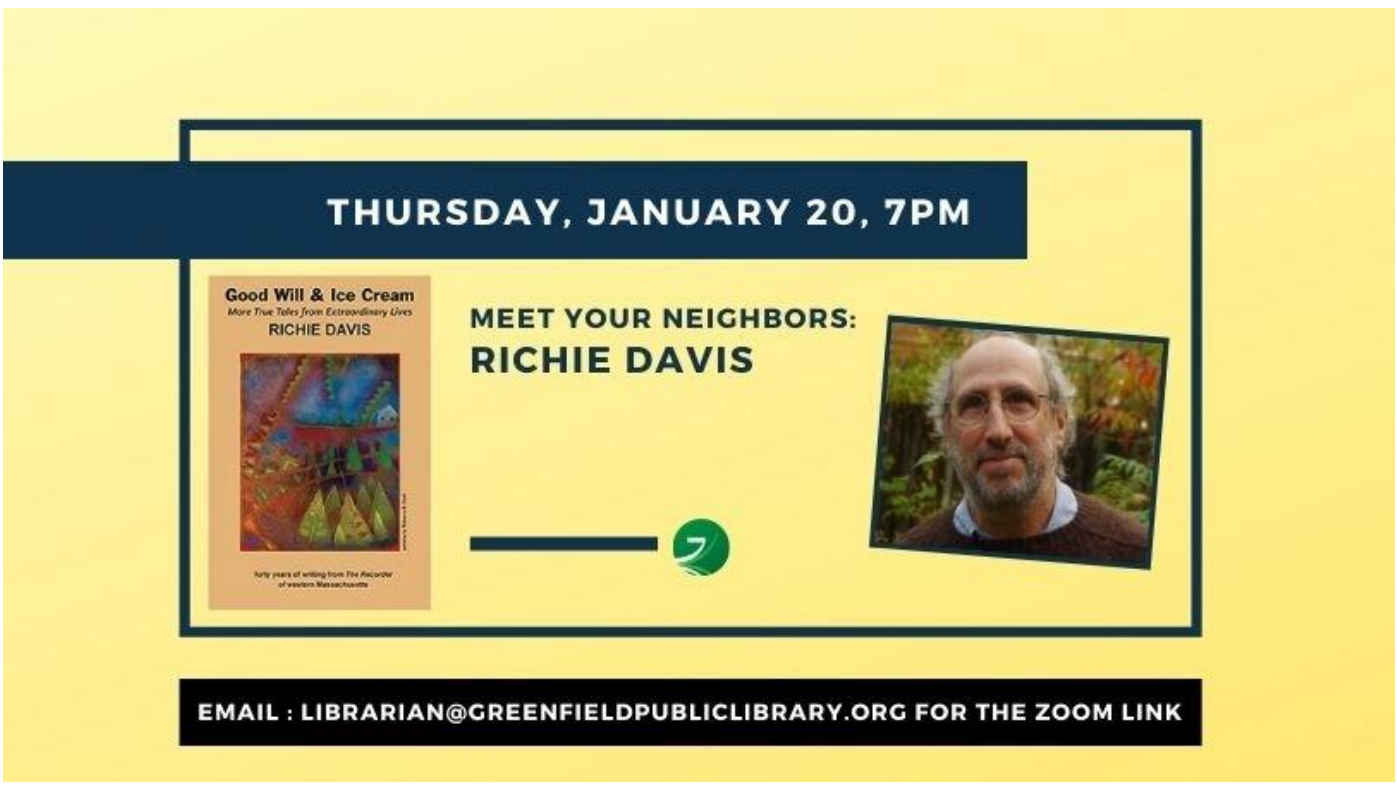
6/3/21 - VIRTUAL TOUR OF GARDENS IN CORNWALL & DEVON IN JUNE

6/13/21 - Growing Strawberries in the Home Garden

6/13/21 - VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION: Strawberry Spoon Cake

9/30/21 - THE LATE SUMMER GARDENS OF THE COTSWOLDS with Judy Snow

10/1/21 - VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATION - Winter Squash Risotto with Rosemary.



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
10% off regular priced plants with membership

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

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

Silver Garden Daylilies – 23 Picket Lane, Greenfield
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 Drive (Route 5/10), Whately
10% off regular priced plants

O'Brien Nurserymen – 40 Wells Road, Granby, CT
10% off plants

Mill River Farm Market – Conway Road/corner 116 & Rtes 5/10. S. Deerfield
10% off plants in Spring and Fall

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