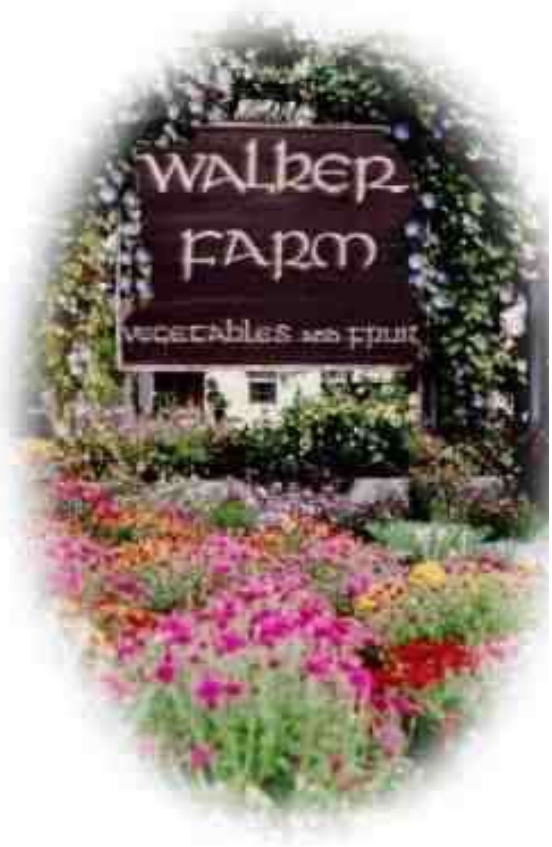
Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

March 2020 Vol. 28, No. 1

Annual Meeting with Jack Manix from Walker Farm

The Annual Meeting of the Greenfield Garden Club will be held Sunday, March 29, at the Whatley Inn. After a wonderful meal and a brief business meeting, we will be treated to an illustrated talk by Jack Manix, owner of Walker Farm, located in Dummerston, VT. Jack will delight us with slides and talk entitled "Exciting New Plants and Treasured Old Favorites." He will also give us a little background history of the farm. There will be a social hour starting at 12:30, the buffet at 1:30, and a brief business meeting will start at 2:30, preceding the speaker. The meeting will adjourn at 4:00 PM. Invitations have been mailed, and are also available for download from the homepage of our website: www.thegreenfieldgardenclub.org. Please come, and bring a friend!



March President's Report

If March did not come in like a lion on 3/1, it's performing like one a few days in, with some very windy days! Maple sugaring has begun in earnest in the hill towns, and warmer weather is predicted. Flying insects have emerged (moths?) and the deer are very visible in the early evening as they look for new grass. Soon the chorus of peepers and spotted salamanders will make their appearance. I hope many of you will be able to come to our annual meeting. I will go out on a limb and predict no snow! It will be fun to be back at the Whately Inn, and it's been way too long since Jack Manix from Walker Farm has entertained us with delicious thoughts of the new growing season. Please note that several of our committees need volunteers – I hope you will read those articles and find a way to support the club. We have a full year of events planned, and there may be a few spontaneous trips thrown in, so make sure we have your email address, and keep your eye on our website and Facebook page. See you on the 29th!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 15 – Midnight – Grant Submission deadline

Thursday, March 19, 6pm – Grant Committee, Taylor's Tavern

Monday, March 23, 5:30 pm – Steering Ctee , 116 Bungalow Ave, Gfld

Saturday, March 21, 8:45 – 2:15 – WMMGA Symposium, Deerfield

Sunday, March 29, 12:30pm – Annual Meeting, Whately Inn

Wednesday, April 1, 9:30am-8:00pm – sign up at circulation desk at Greenfield Public Library for the Seed Swap

Margaret Roach's March Garden Chores:
https://awaytogarden.com/the-march-garden-chores/

Gardener wanted to buy this house!

Greenfield Garden Club member Susan Farber is selling her house in Greenfield to move in with her beloved in Amherst. Double lot includes front perennial border, flower beds, large vegetable garden, fruit trees (Asian pears, cherry, paw paw, apple, peach) and blueberries. Farthest back is a shady strip of woodland for the likes of Jack-in-the-Pulpit. Vegetable garden soil enhanced to grow nutrient-dense food (à la Steve Solomon). Garden shed. All this on a third of an acre. Walk or bike a mile to downtown (library, co-op, theater). House is 1940 Cape, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, with wood floors. New oil furnace; otherwise, house is powered by solar panels. 33 Birch Street, Greenfield. $189,000. skfarber@gmail.com

Fundraising Committee: Now is the time to start thinking about plant divisions and seed starts to donate to the Extravaganza plant sale. Did your Forsythia root a branch? Did your Hellebore have babies? If you let us know what/how many you have, we can make laminated signs for them. EM us!

GRANT COMMITTEE

Members who would like to be on the Grant Committee, which will meet at Taylor's Tavern on Thursday evening, March 19, at 6PM, should please email the club to RSVP as soon as possible. The current grant deadline is Sunday, March 15th. Please encourage any organization who gardens with children to apply. Submission information is on our website, and letters have been mailed out to all schools and organizations on our mailing list for Franklin County. A news release was sent to The Recorder. Do you know a previous winner? Make a point to go visit their site!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We need 3 people to volunteer to be on the Nominating Committee to find a slate of officers to present to the membership at the Annual Meeting. ***PLEASE*** contact the club **ASAP**. This is a vital function that will keep the club running smoothly for another year. We need everyone to pitch in! Thank you!

Officers 2020:

President and Newsletter Editor:
Laura Schlaikjer
Vice President:
Marsha Stone
Co-VP :
Jan Adam
Treasurer:
Joanne Burns
Recording & Corresponding Secretary:
Annette Kilminster
At Large Members:
Eva Carrier
Richard Willard
(All positions are up for reelection!)

Join the Greenfield Public Library Seed Swap

1. Sign up with your name and email at the circulation desk
2. Bring 25-30 seed packets into the library by Wednesday, April 15. These packets can be saved seeds from your garden, excess seeds from last year, or split up regular store bought packets - we all know you don't need all those seeds!
3. Pick up your seed swap surprise packet on or after Earth Day, April 22. You will be receiving 30 new packets of seeds for your garden!

You will get a reminder email on April 3 with these instructions and more details from your GPL librarian, Misha

Hadley Garden Center is now Gardeners Supply at Hadley Garden Center

The employee-owners of Gardener's Supply are excited to announce the opening of their newest garden center in Hadley, MA. Hadley Garden Center, a Pioneer Valley icon for 50+ years has joined their family of employee-owned garden centers. They are excited to build on their legacy and proud to become part of the Pioneer Valley community.

Make sure you sign up for their Gardener's Club:

- 3 year guarantee on all trees & shrubs
- 2 year guarantee on all perennials
- 3 month guarantee on all houseplants
- Advance notice of sales and special events via e-mail
- Special member-only sale events
- Special member-only discounts
- Buy 4 Get 2 Free on our popular spring gardening seminar series. View our Seminar Series Schedule.
- 10% discount every day at the Garden of Eatin' Café (Williston Garden Center & Outlet only)

"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt."

- Margaret Atwood

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

(& save the dates)

The Fundraising Committee is in need of new leadership, as Jan Adam has moved half-time to Florida!! This is a vibrant committee with many great ideas, chief among them our 2 major events, the **Extravaganza** (plant sale) on **May 23rd**, and the **Garden Tour** on **July 11th.** Please email the club if you're interested in this role!

A mild winter will have ticks out even now, before the ground has dried out for us to do much real gardening. If you are out picking up sticks and assessing your yard, take normal tick precautions. Awareness and personal protection measures are still the best defense against tick bites. Do a tick-check whenever you come in from spending time in shady, damp, brushy, woody, or grassy areas. For more information, click on this website: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/tick-borne-disease-information-for-the-public

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of January 15, 2020 .....$4,906.68

Income $45.12
Interest ($0.12), Dues ($45)
Expenses $420.00
Holiday Party ($102); Whately Inn ($300)
Balance as of February 15, 2019 .....$4,549.80

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to the club Treasurer:

Joanne Burns
14 Freeman Street
Greenfield MA 01301

APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Monday, March 30
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

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

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