Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

November 2020 Vol. 28, No. 9

Annual Holiday Wreath-Making Event

LIMITED TO 10 PARTICIPANTS. Stacey will help with the kissing balls, and members can help with the wreaths. Dress in layers as it will be cool inside the greenhouse. Bring light work gloves, hand snippers to cut greens, florist wire if you have some (we can share), and a favorite folding chair (there are some there). The club will supply cider and snacks. Bring some extra singles in case you want Stacey to make you a seasonal bow with your choice of ribbon (she is an expert bow-maker!). Scout your yard (or Agway or a supermarket), and bring holly, cedar, other greens, grasses, cones and berries to dress up your wreath (see photo) if desired. Pine, spruce and fir (or similar) will be provided. Parking on-site. Invite your friends and neighbors! Make sure to RSVP to make sure we have enough greens and metal rings on hand, and enough kissing ball forms prepped for you. Masks and social distancing will be in place. If you are feeling unwell or are unsure about joining, please err on the side of safety and stay at home.

Location: Chapley Gardens, 397 Greenfield Rd, Deerfield, MA 6-8PM

Wreaths are $10 and Kissing Balls are $20

RSVP: greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

MASKS ARE MANDATORY

November President's Report ~ *Laura Schlaikjer*

Only two months to go in 2020! Let's hope the New Year brings relief to us all in more ways than one! This is such a challenging time. We are still planning on holding the wreath-making event, but time will tell if we have any takers as Governor Baker puts on the breaks. Corona fatigue, political fatigue – it's all taking its toll. Make sure you get as much outside time as you can – not easy with it getting dark earlier - but the fresh air, and sights and sounds of nature are worth it. Need a different view? You can literally open up a new window online with Window Swap. Users have recorded 10 minutes looking out their window all over the world. You can even submit your own view. Russia, Cypress, Portugal, Norway, all over the US – it's fascinating! Our mental and spiritual health is so important right now. Let's make sure we take care of ourselves, and each other. Check up on friends. Send a card. Make a phone call. Gather on Zoom. Wishing you all the best!

Butterfly Weed

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 7-8 – Special offerings for Cider Day Weekend/Cider Trail
November 19 6-8 PM – Annual wreath-making at Chapley Gardens
December 4 6-8 PM – Steering Committee

Questions? greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

Plant for Winter Appeal According to Piet Oudolf

"For me, garden design isn't just about plants, it's about emotion, atmosphere, a sense of contemplation. You try to move people with what you do. You look at this, and it goes deeper than what you see. It reminds you of something in the genes – nature, or the longing for nature." ~ Piet Oudolf

On a past business trip to Chicago, I ended up in Lurie Garden in late fall. I had not heard of Piet Oudolf. I was immediately drawn into this oasis of calm in the heart of the city, taking photos as I went. Not much was in bloom, but the drifts of colors – perennials, grasses, and seed heads - were still amazing. The ebb and flow in the garden was a stark contrast to the tall, gleaming metal and glass buildings all around it, and yet they went together perfectly. A couple started to enter the gardens, and I heard the man say, oh, there's nothing in bloom here, and they turned and walked away! I thought – but open your eyes and LOOK! By now I have also visited the High Line, and seen the movie Five Seasons. I have definitely heard of Piet Oudolf – and I love his work. I think the club should plan a visit to NYC and the High Line. Mine was a July visit, and I was blown away. I am sure it's a treasure in all seasons, even winter. I'd love to rent the Five Seasons movie and show it at The Garden Theater. I highly suggest you spend time on his website – oudolf.com – and check out his ideas and his favorite plants. You will not be disappointed.

October Meeting a Success!

We had a very nice monthly meeting outdoors - masked, and socially distant – around the fire pit. Charlie Olchowski guided us through a series of local ciders and we chatted amiably about their various qualities, as well as our personal likes and dislikes. This list was long, and we had a nice spread of fruit, cheese, pickles, crackers and other snacks to cleanse our palates between them. Here are the samples we tried so you can look them up and try them at home! (Ryan & Casey and Big Y both carry these brands and others.)

West County Cider – Century Cider; Tremlett's Reine Des Pommes; Mullins Yellow.

Headwater Cider Company – Quercus; Hey Nineteen

Artifact Cider – Wild Thing; Feels Like Home

1911 Established – Raspberry; Black Cherry

Officers 2020:

President/Newsletter/Website:
Laura Schlaikjer
Vice President:
Marsha Stone
Treasurer:
Joanne Burns
Recording Secretary:
Annette Kilminster
Corresponding Secretary:
Eva Carrier
At Large Members:
Vacant
(Looking for 2 volunteers!)

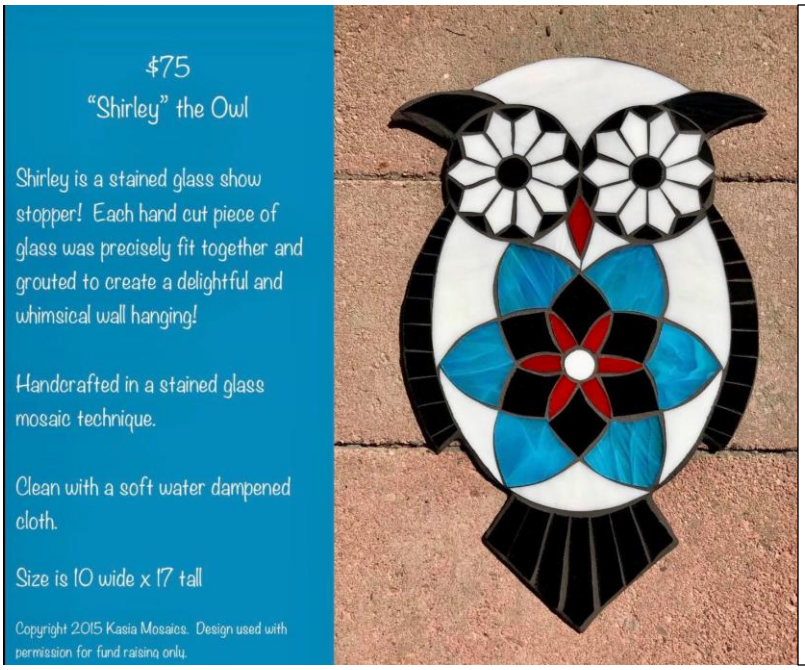
Mini Mistletoe Mart To Go!

ONLINE SHOP OPENS on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, at 9 am

As many of you know, the GGC used to serve a community Meal every year. Here is a good way to support a local mission this season. All proceeds go to the Saints James and Andrew Mission Fund allowing them to continue providing free meals and personal items to our community. This past spring when a gap appeared in the community meal schedule, they created Sunday Sandwiches and feed a growing number of people each week. The meal costs $2.65 per person and is enough food to last for 2 meals between the soup, sandwiches, granola bars, and so forth. If you are in a position to support their mission by shopping at the ***Mistletoe Mart To Go****, or by sending a special contribution marked 'mission fundraiser,' please know it is a great help to their ministry and our community as a whole.* **Photos of their handiwork can be found on the GGC Facebook page – their products are truly awesome! Open Nov 9-15.** Check the church FB page to access the Mart: https://www.facebook.com/saintsjamesandandrew **Here's how it works:**

1. The online catalog will be open from **Monday, November 9 to Sunday, November 15, 2020**
2. Browse through our amazing products and click to buy whatever you like.
3. Pick up your purchase(s) on **Saturday, November 21, 9 am to Noon or Sunday, November 22 from 2 to 5 pm** at our walk-up windows located at the Saints James and Andrew parking lot, 8 Church Street, Greenfield, Massachusetts.
4. Shipping is limited to customers outside of Franklin and Hampshire Counties.

Questions? Contact Di Kurkulonis, of the Ss James and Andrew Fundraising Team: dkurkulonis@gmail.com



Greenfield Garden Club Invites You To

Make A Wreath or Kissing Ball

Thursday, November 19th
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Chapley Gardens
397 Greenfield Rd., Deerfield
More Details & Directions Are Available at thegreenfieldgardenclub.org

Please R.S.V.P. by November 17th to
413-522-0901 or
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com
Cost is $20 for a Kissing Ball and $10 for a Wreath

Greens and a wreath ring will be provided but participants are welcome to bring their own greens or other natural decorations. Bows and other small decorative accents are for sale. Participants are encouraged to bring clippers, gloves, and a folding chair. Dress in layers since the greenhouse will be cool. Masks are mandatory and we will be maintaining social distancing.

Please share this poster with your friends and neighbors! We have to limit the size, but want to support Stacey and her business. We always have a great time, and this will be our last in-person event of the 2020 season.

Reality check: No snow by 2100? A recent article in Science Daily warns of the effects of a longer vernal window.

"We found that climate change could alter the vernal window so much that by the year 2100, 59% of northeastern North America -- which goes from Maine to Virginia -- would not accumulate any snow," said Danielle Grogan research scientist in UNH's Earth Systems Research Center and lead author. "Historically, an average of 27% of the northeast goes without snow but by the end of century states like Connecticut and Pennsylvania could be snow free."

In their study, recently published in the journal *Environmental Research Letters*, the researchers looked at a variety of ecological factors that determine the length of the vernal window which scientists define as the transition time from winter to spring when there isn't any snowpack or forest canopy. They focused on three key vernal window events: snow disappearance, spring runoff, and budburst -- the appearance of buds on plants that signals the end of the vernal window. Climate datasets that projected future temperature and precipitation were used to drive simulation models to assess the shift in both the opening and closing of the vernal window as well as the effect on rivers and surrounding ecosystems over the period from 1980 to 2099.

"Snow melt is a major event for rivers and forests in the northeast," said Grogan. "It moves nutrients from the land to the rivers, boosts water levels and triggers essential spring happenings like the migration of fish. Losing the snow and the melt would change ecosystems on many levels and remove key signals that would disrupt natural patterns like fish mating."

Previous studies have examined how climate change will alter the vernal window but few have explored the impact on rivers and surrounding areas during this transitional period. Researchers say by lengthening the vernal window and decreasing snow melt conditions in this area it could become similar to southern snow-free regions and would be a fundamental change in the hydrologic character of the northeast.

Journal Reference:

Danielle Sarah Grogan, Elizabeth A. Burakowski, Alexandra R. Contosta. **Snowmelt control on spring hydrology declines as the vernal window lengthens**. *Environmental Research Letters*, 2020; DOI: 10.1088/1748-9326/abbd00

University of New Hampshire. "Longer mud season, no snow could alter northeast US rivers by 2100." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 2 November 2020. <www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/11/201102133336.htm>.

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

Cider Days Trail 2020 – make sure to visit https://ciderdays.org/venues

Despite there not being any in person workshops or Cider Salons this 26th season, some venues on the 16 stop Cider Trail will have special offerings on Cider Days' official weekend, November 7th-8th. Download a pdf of the Trail postcard from their website. Many of these establishments sell some of the ciders we sampled back in October. Make sure to check them out!

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of September 15, 2020..$7,863.58

Income $145.19
Interest $0.19; Dues $45; Plant donation $100
Expenses $46.25
September meeting: $46.25
Balance as of October 15, 2020 .....$7,962.52

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

December NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Sunday, November 29
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