Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

October 2021 Vol. 29, No. 9

October means Apples and Cider!

"The Cider Scene and Trends"

~ With club member Charlie Olchowski

Gather 'round the fire-pit with our 3rd annual cider-tasting with commentary and appetizers. Sunday, October 17th from 3 to 5pm at 41 Meadow Lane, Greenfield. RSVP to the club email so we can estimate food and beverage purchases. (greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com)

Charlie Olchowski, Greenfield, MA

~ from the Big E's "Meet the 2021 Judges."

Charlie Olchowski has been a judge of alcoholic beverages since the inception of the Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) in 1985. He is the ninth judge to be certified in this international program that has nearly 8,000 active judges. In organizing one of the competitions for the New England Homebrewer of the Year Award, he and others included ciders and meads in the judging. It was the first real forum for judging ciders in the U.S. Charlie has judged ciders at many local, regional, and national events. He actively works in cider education and his cider writings have appeared in many periodicals. He is a panelist in several forums at Cider Days held in Franklin County, Massachusetts each November, which he co-founded with Paul Correnty in 1994. He was a judge in the 2018 competition at The Big E.

October President's Report ~ *Laura Schlaikjer*

Cooler and shorter days are in order, and the harvest is coming in. What new recipes are you trying this fall? What does your table centerpiece look like? Mine is pictured at right. I notice that Aubuchon's has a massive amount of canning jars on hand, but boxes of lids are still hard to find. I have harvested 2, 5-gallon buckets of hulled chestnuts, and I see some volunteer trees sprouting under the main trees. If anyone is interested in taking one home to grow out, let me know. They will require ample space in your landscape! We will be discussing the annual meeting at the next steering cttee mtg – do you have a preference for the date/time between January and March? We still have a deposit at the Whately Inn, and hopefully Jack Manix from Walker Farm can finally deliver his talk and show some slides. Will it really be 2 years since we had to put that on hold? We will need a slate of officers for the meeting – possibly a new treasurer if Joanne decides to leave Greenfield for a warmer clime. I notice that the previous incarnation of the GGC had rules that stipulated that officers could only serve for 2 years. Hmmm. Wouldn't it be nice to get a new perspective every 2 years?! I am looking forward to seeing many of you on 10/17! ~ Laura

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 8, Friday 5:00 PM – Steering Committee Mtg
October 17, Sunday, 3-5 PM – Monthly meeting with Cider Tasting
November 15th – deadline to sign up for the newest Master Gardener training course at www.wmmga.org

No spring nor summer's beauty hath such grace
as I have seen in one Autumnal face…
~ John Donne, "Elegy IX: The Autumnal"

Fall 2021 Webinar Series From Gardener's Supply:

10/4 Fall Planting Tips • 6-7:30pm | $15
Fall is the perfect time to plant trees, shrubs, fruits and perennials. In this webinar, our expert Tom will guide you through fall planting tips. Sign-up

10/19 Houseplants 101 • 6-7:30pm | $15
Learn all about common houseplants and how to care for them from our in-house expert Ellen. Sign-up

Enchanted Gardens (Jana Millbocker)
Free Lectures via Zoom

10/12 Darien, CT Library • 7:00 – 8:00pm Sign-up.

Magic of the Winter Garden

10/14 Indian Valley, PA Public Library • 7:00pm Sign Up.

The Garden Tourist

10/27 Hardy Plant Society (CT) • 7:00pm | $10 for guests

Fallscaping (How to register: send an email to: HardyPlantCT@gmail.com for sign-up and payment details.)

Pollinator Pathway: Preparing Your Garden for Winter

10/6 Wed at 11am via Zoom Register here. Sponsored through the Darien, CT Library. Louise Washer and Deepika Saksena are the presenters. Both are on the steering committee of the Pollinator Pathway Northeast.

Libraries frequently have programming that is free on zoom. Feel free to explore the internet by Googling library+gardening+October+2021+ zoom, and see what comes up! I found this: Belfast (ME) Garden Club, **October 19** – Winterizing Gardens with Jean Vose – you can click here to see their website and sign up: https://belfastgardenclub.org/

Bug Hotel

A poem by Naomi Shihab Nye

"We're in the middle of an insect
Apocalypse." ~ bird expert
Once a set of words seizes you
Find the tiny room to live in
Return there every hour
Check on your roommates
The wasp
The moth
The ladybug
The dragonfly
Who has a suitcase
Blessed Bumblebee
Who snores
Weary ant
Who needs room service
Firefly
We have not loved you enough
Precious denominators
Essential elements
Of a whole gorgeous meadow
A park
A desert
Royal families of the air & ground
Stay here
Stick around
All the keys
Are on your ring

Officers 2021:

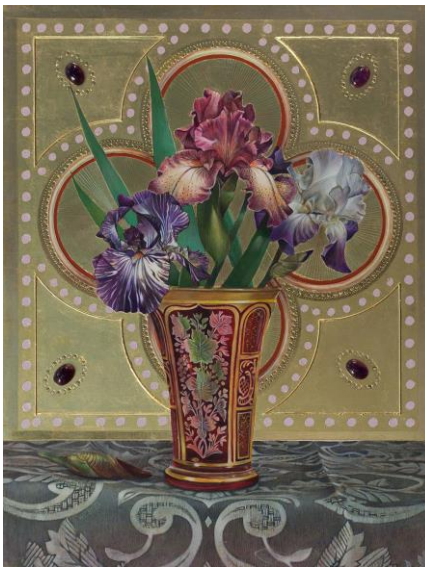
President/Newsletter/Website:
Laura Schlaikjer
Vice President:
Marsha Stone
Treasurer:
Joanne Burns
Recording Secretary:
Annette Kilminster
Corresponding Secretary:
Eva Carrier
At Large Members:
Nicki Shipman
(Looking for volunteers)

Fred Wessel, an artist based in Northampton, contacted the club in May, asking if he could purchase, or come and photograph, 5 or 6 stems of German Iris to use as models for an art project. He wanted deep blue, pale blue, and white. Several folks had what he was looking for, and we set him up with his models (for free!). He was kind enough to send us photos of the work in progress, and the finished product, entitled "The Three Graces." We are in awe of his work, and highly suggest you click here to see the rest of his work, (and his wife's work) and read about his progress as an artist. His works are displayed in museums and fine galleries.

Live iris models

An initial drawing

More progress



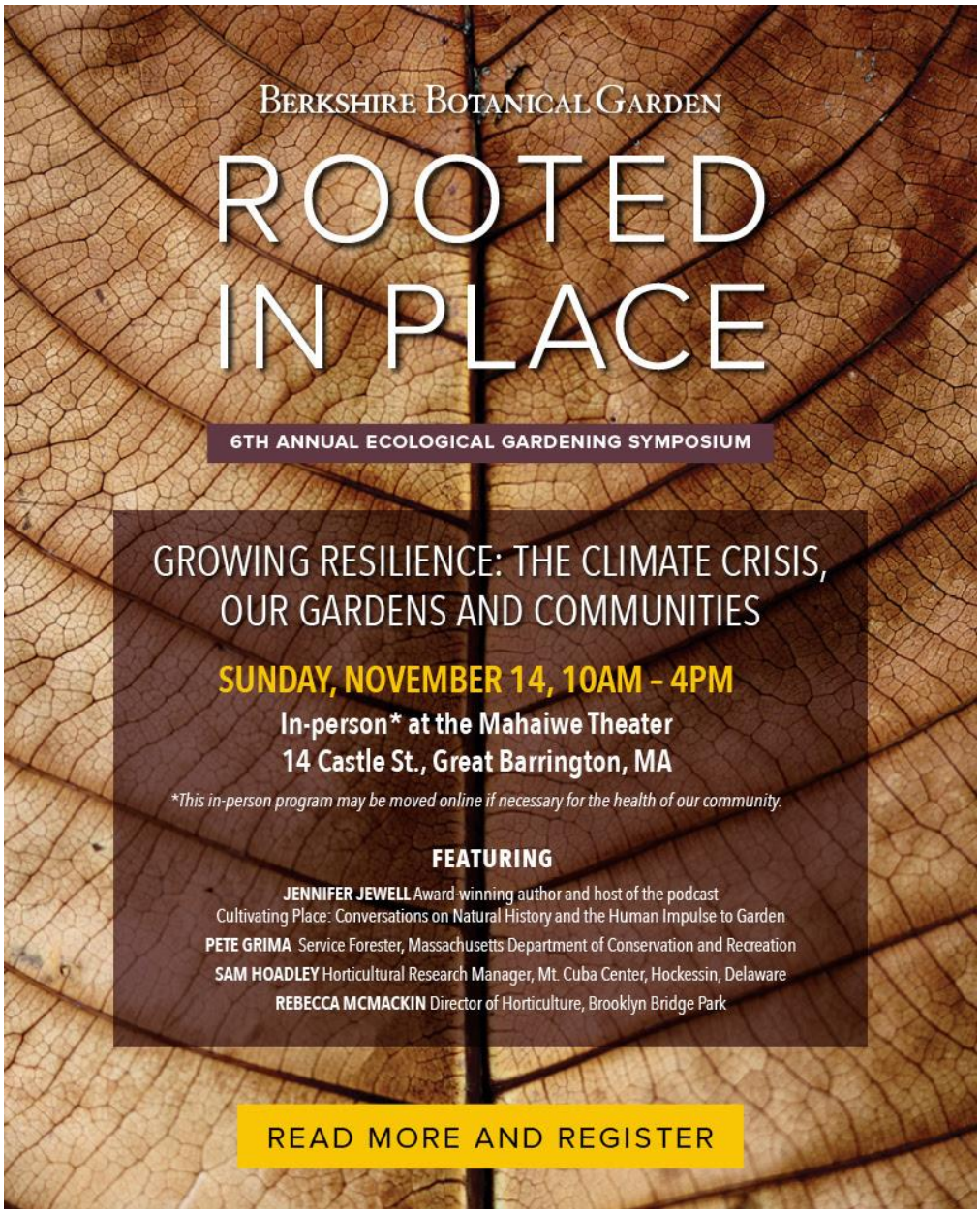
A close-up

"My newest Flower Icon - 3 Iris (3 Graces). 17 x 14, tempera with gold and silver leaf, and amethyst gemstones. Sgraffito frame."

The finished work

From Fred's Artist Statement:

"I believe that in our search for novelty in post- modernist art making, we often lose touch with certain basics: beauty, grace, harmony and visual poetry are nowadays rarely considered important criteria in evaluating contemporary works of art."



Members; $95

Non-members: $115

Students: $55

(Tuition includes a voucher for lunch at nearby restaurants.)

Lectures:

How a Place-based Garden Culture of Care Strengthens Places and Their People.

-Jenifer Jewell

Envisioning a Future Forest

-Pete Grima

Knockout Natives Species and Cultivars

-Sam Hoadley

Lessons in Built Ecology

-Rebecca McMakin

GCC Garden Tour 2022 – we are still hoping to hear from our members!

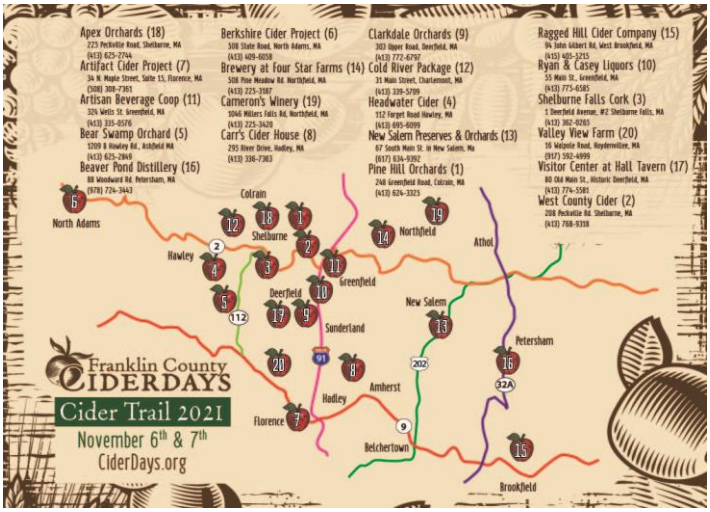
We are looking to gather together a **Garden Tour Subcommittee**, and we need to start looking for gardens (and their owners) who would be willing to share their love of gardening with local garden folk who appreciate an interesting garden–in-progress. Please send an email to the club if you are interested in helping out in any capacity. As I mentioned here last month, the previous Tour committee members, who have planned and executed many recent Tours, have put in their time and are looking for others to step forward. We are also looking for gardens to be on the tour. If you or your neighbor has a garden for the Tour, please email the club ASAP so that we can reach out: greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com. If jumping worms end up causing a moratorium on plant sales, and they appear to be in Franklin County, we will need this as a source of income for the club. Please send in your ideas today!

GGC MEMBERSHIP: Please keep your club membership current by sending in your dues. $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 the club treasurer, Joanne Burns, at 14 Freeman St, Greenfield, MA 01301. Thank you for your continuing support!

November means CiderDays!!

For the 27th Annual CiderDays, we will be celebrating all things cider, apples, and orchards with the CiderDays Cider Trail, featuring local orchards and cideries that you can drive to in the safety of your own car. Some venues on the trail will have special offerings. **Check back often for new activities being offered**: www.ciderdays.org

Click on the hyperlinked map below for info on the 20 stops on the 2021 Cider Trail taking place on Nov 6th & 7th this year.



An Interview with Paul Stamets!

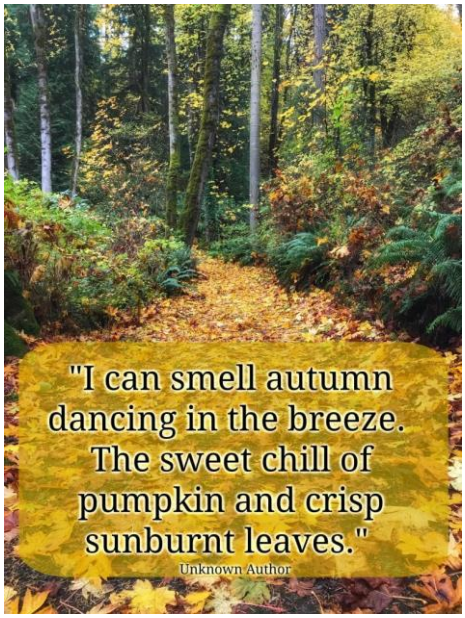
Our own Paul Stamets was recently interviewed for an article in the magazine *Scientific American*: "Future Space Travel Might Require Mushrooms". Paul talks about his 'astromycological' venture with NASA in which they explore the potential extraterrestrial uses of fungi, including terraforming planets and building human habitats.

Paul Stamets. Credit: Trav Williams Broken Banjo Photography

Click here to read this fascinating interview with Paul Stamets!

Want to learn more about Fungi Perfecti? Click HERE.

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



Meet Your Neighbors – Greenfield Library

Were you unable to attend the library's recent Meet Your Neighbor featuring the Greenfield Garden Club? They are making the recording available for a short time on YouTube. Here is the link to the recording: https://youtu.be/Ji-kPN0Gnkc One takeaway I have from a little research is that the first club was founded in 1927, and many of the archives are located at the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association in Deerfield. It would be interesting to check them out!

Oct. Treasurer's Report

Balance as of Aug 15, 2021 ..... $8,646.74

Income ..... $.23
Interest $0.23
Expenses $50.00
In memoriam – Linda Tyler's mother
Balance as of Sept 15, 2021 ..... $8,596.97

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to the club Treasurer:
Joanne Burns, 14 Freeman St
Greenfield MA 01301 **Questions?**
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

November NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Friday, October 29th
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