Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

July 2025 Vol. 33, No. 7

Flower Power at Patten Hill Flower Farm

DATE: Sunday, July 20
TIME: 3:00 pm
ADDRESS: 135 Reynolds, Rd, Shelburne Falls, MA
HOST: Barb Parry
RSVP: greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

Come and join us as we tour the gardens and greenhouse at Barb's personal flower paradise in the always beautiful Shelburne Falls. The Bridge of Flowers is still not open yet, but you can see many of the lovely blooms that Barb uses in her flower business. Barb's farm is also home to 3 rescue mini-donkeys, a llama, and some very spoiled sheep. Barb's bouquets are available at many local markets.

Please RSVP so we know how many people to expect, and to form a carpool. We can also stop for ice cream on the way home if it's a hot day.

July President's Musings ~ *Laura Schlaikjer*

Tomato twine holder/dispenser

I get excited when a new garden gadget appears. For years I have kept my large spool of tomato twine in its cardboard box in a plastic shopping bag. It's not the best method – rain, holes in the bag, etc. I recently ordered more twine and when I saw the zippered bag with twine hole, 2 pockets, and 3 belt loops, I was sold. I use the twine not only to tie up my tomato vines with plastic clips, but also to repair my blueberry netting when rodents chew holes in it. Adding 6 blueberry bushes in 1996 was a great addition to our property. They do not require too much care – some fertilizer, some pruning, some fencing and netting, and we have a whole year's supply of berries for jam, pies, teacake and more. What shrubs/plants do you have that you are glad you added to your garden? ~ Laura

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 9 – 5:15pm – Steering Committee Meeting
July 20, 3:00pm – Trip to Patten Hill Flower Farm
July 19, 10-4 – 2 open gardens in Ashfield (see page 8)
August 15 – trip to Pickity Place in Mason, NH (see page 4)

A perfect summer's day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing and the lawn mower is broken. ~James Dent

Danny Botkin from Laughing Dog Farm has invited club members to come and visit his recently revamped gardens in Gill. We are in the process of choosing a date for the visit. From Danny:

My wife, Divya Shinn and I and various seasonal interns, volunteers, neighbors and friends, run a unique and diversified homestead and organic "micro-farm" in central Franklin County, Massachusetts.

Laughing Dog Farm consists of 3+ acres of raised beds, greenhouses, inter-planted perennials, vegetables, flowers, herbs, fruit and nut trees, as well as a small herd of delightful, multi-purpose, dairy goats.

Our mission here is not only to steward the land and grow the finest food in the world, all year long, for ourselves and others... but also to teach, promote and inspire wider participation in small-plot, "permaculture-inspired", food production! (...and have an abundantly good time doing it!)

Look for a separate email when the date is chosen and RSVP to come and tour this amazing farm.

*Don't forget to check out Margaret Roach's excellent **Monthly Garden Chores** on her website:* https://awaytogarden.com/category/chores-by-month/

Franklin County Fair Booth

Fair Theme for 2025:
"A Blue-Ribbon Affair"

We need a few volunteers to get together and brainstorm possible ideas for the club's booth at the fair. It's prime real estate opposite the back door of the Roundhouse and a great way to connect with members of the community who visit the displays every year. Once we have an idea, we can move on to the logistics and then the actual set-up. Please lend your brain to this planning stage!

Officers 2025:

President/Newsletter/FB/Website: Laura Schlaikjer
Vice President: Marsha Stone
Treasurer: Becky George
Recording Secretary: Pamela McBride
Corresponding Secretary: Nicki Shipman
At Large Member/s: Eva Carrier; Celt Grant; Jane Alexander

The 2025 Westminster (VT) Garden Tour

Gordon & Mary Hayward's Westminster West gardens will once again highlight this year's Westminster Garden Tour celebrating its 22nd anniversary. Over the years the event has become the major fundraiser for Westminster Cares. The tour will be held July 5 & 6, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

Tickets are $20 for one, or $35 for two; they are good for both days of the tour. Children under age 16 get free admission to the Garden Tour. For tickets, visit our **Garden Tour Tickets Page.** Tickets will also be available throughout the tour at the Haywards' garden or at the Westminster Institute.

In addition to the Haywards gardens, Cyndy Fine's "Kismet", The Laughlin's Family Garden and the Westminster Center School's garden will also be on this year's tour. For any additional questions or interest, please email wecares@sover.net

Westminster Institute - 3534 US Route 5, Westminster, VT: Tickets for the Garden Tour and program; Public Restrooms (portable toilet at The Haywards Gardens.

Saturday, July 5th - 1:30PM (Institute): "Landscaping Ideas That Work"

In this inspiring lecture with **Julie Moir Messervy** of **JMMDS** you'll see a host of visual ideas as well as design tips, before and after images, case studies and essential information to get you started.

Saturday, July 5th - 2:00PM to 4:00PM

Westminster Historical Society's Museum and Bradley Law Office will be open. Located on Main Street (Route 5) - just across the street and slightly north of the Westminster Institute.

Garden Tour Raffle To benefit Westminster Cares

17 Fabulous Prizes including a garden-inspired handmade quilt by Ann Ashcroft, quilter extraordinaire. Other prizes include a set of wooden Adirondack Chairs and Table, a Crab Apple Tree and an overnight stay at the Grafton Inn, in Grafton, Vermont.

Drawing to be held on Sunday, July 6th; need not be present to win.

For Sale at the Haywards Gardens: Morning Star Perennials

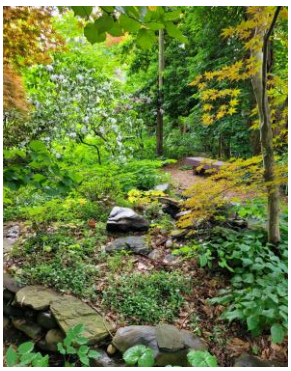
A Family owned and operation business in Rockingham, Vermont. Specializing in uncommon perennials and hard-to-find plant varieties, as well as old time favorites.

Garden Books: Gordon Hayward is the author of eleven books on garden design, two of which have won national awards. A selection of his books will be available for sale at the Haywards' and Gordon will be available to inscribe therm.

To learn more about the books and see photos of the garden - visit **HaywardGardens.com**

We filled the original reservation of 15, and have added 5 additional seats! RSVP today!

Visiting the Kinsey-Pope Garden in June. Carol Pope was thrilled to have us visit in June, and says please come back any time. Her garden must be an oasis of cool in the heat of summer. The entire lot is planted in now-mature trees, with an understory of shrubs and small trees like Japanese maples, and colorful ground covers. We have made her an honorary member of the club in thanks for her generous welcome.



Van Gogh's Flowers

May 24 – October 26

New York Botanical Garden

10AM – 6PM

Tickets need to be reserved online.

Closed Mondays

Field trip anyone? NYBG becomes the canvas for the colorful brush strokes of one of the world's most revered artists during *Van Gogh's Flowers,* where you'll revel in the beauty of the flowers that inspired his iconic paintings—by day, and by night. Find yourself immersed in **botanical displays and large-scale art** as you wander through a breathtaking lawn of monumental sunflowers, and see the expressive masterpieces bloom in recreations made of living flowers. **As the sun sets, join us on select evenings for Starry Nights**, featuring a dazzling drone show—the first of its kind at a cultural institution in NYC—along with live bistro music, performance art, and cocktails and light bites for purchase. **You've seen the paintings, now see them come to life in a way that only NYBG can deliver**—and let Vincent van Gogh's unforgettable world of art and nature envelop you in a vibrant daydream during this botanical celebration of the internationally acclaimed painter.

Looking forward to a cool drink during the hot days of summer? Remember shrubs and switchel? These vinegar drinks are making a comeback. Switchel has been called Haymaker's Punch and the farmer's Gatorade of the 19th century! Even Martha Stewart weighs in on the subject. Shrubs are a sweetened vinegar-based syrup, also known as drinking vinegar. The Spruce Eats has a good page on shrubs - making your own and recipes to make with them. Wouldn't a Pear and Pomegranate Champagne Shrub taste good? Or how about an Apple-Fennel shrub with a shot of Bourbon and a splash of Ginger Beer? Explore the basics and then make your own for when the sun is over the yardarm, as the sailors used to say.

O'BRIEN NURSERYMEN – OPEN DAYS 2025

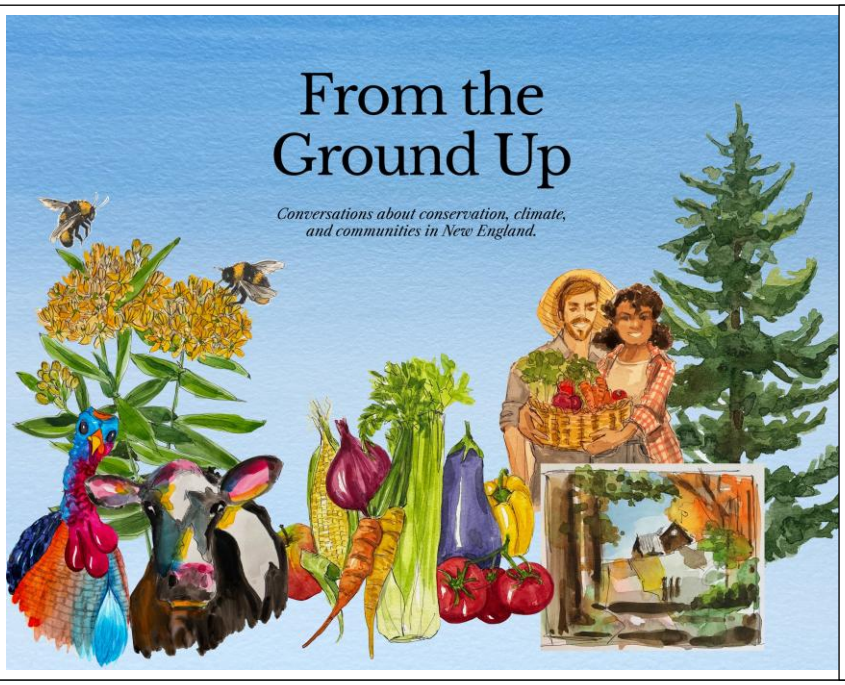
40 Wells Rd, Granby, CT

sales@obrienhosta.com

Use your 10% discount on your purchases!

July 4, 5 & 6 – Hazy, Hot & Humid, Checkout out Cool Ferns
July 11, 12 & 13 – Discover our Dazzling Daylily Display, for 2+ months, a Tradition
July 18, 19 & 20 – We offer Hardy Hydrangeas, that will bloom in your garden.
July 25, 26 & 27 – Is your Anemonopsis Blooming, or still teasing?
August 8, 9 & 10 – Hosta Dividing Demo, Each Day at Noon
August 22, 23 & 24 – Unique Conifers for the Winter Garden, ahh hell, Everyday!
September 5, 6 & 7 – Japanese Woodland Peonies! Granby Farm Day (Saturday)
September 12, 13 & 14 – Did you see dem, cooool Sedums?
September 26, 27 & 28 – Many Dwarf & Variegated Ginkgos, for Golden Fall Color
October 10, 11 & 12 – End of the Hosta Season Sale
October 31, Nov. 1 & 2 – Visit now for Amazing Fall Colors of Japanese Maples, etc.

Hours: Friday 10-5; Saturdays 10-5; Sundays 10-5 (On Above Dates Only)
Also by Appointment – Please Call Ahead
They accept cash, check, or firstborn child – but not credit cards!



From The Ground Up

From the Ground Up is a quarterly periodical that embodies the vision of Wildlands, Woodlands, Farmlands & Communities—a collaborative conservation initiative of organizations and individuals working together toward a collective vision for the future of New England and the six states it comprises. Subscribe for free.

Hillside Garden, Ashfield, MA

Open Days 2021: Saturday, July 19

Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Contact the club to order tickets for you!

greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

My garden is a 1 to 1.5-acre terraced garden on an east-facing slope. I prefer showy annuals and perennials and go for as much color as possible throughout the season. Stonework is the backbone of the garden for both terracing and edging details, and the design has inadvertently resulted in a bit of a maze with several beds connected by crushed stone paths.

Wyoming Valley Farm, Ashfield, MA

Open Days 2021: Saturday, July 19

Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Contact the club to order tickets for you!

greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

Wyoming Valley Farm was once a working farm in the Spruce Corner neighborhood of Ashfield, MA. Purchased 10 years ago, the property has been under renovation to reclaim open fields and successional landscapes around the perimeter of the homestead. New perennial gardens were planted in the past couple of years around the house and barn. The residential gardens are still young and evolving. The intent is a natural transition from well-maintained perennial beds around the house to a tended wild edge that transitions to pastures and woodlands. While still evolving, our gardens are home to many birds and pollinators, and we look forward to expanding this habitat in the coming years.

The Garden Conservancy's
Garden Master Series

Garden Masters Series programs are connoisseur-level educational events at exclusive and significant landscapes. They offer in-depth study opportunities that bring garden enthusiasts together with experts in horticulture and design. While meeting new friends, program participants are offered bespoke experiences to explore the philosophy of garden creation, design theory, and diverse gardening traditions.

Date: Friday, July 11, 2025

Time: 10 am - 2 pm

Location: Beverly, MA

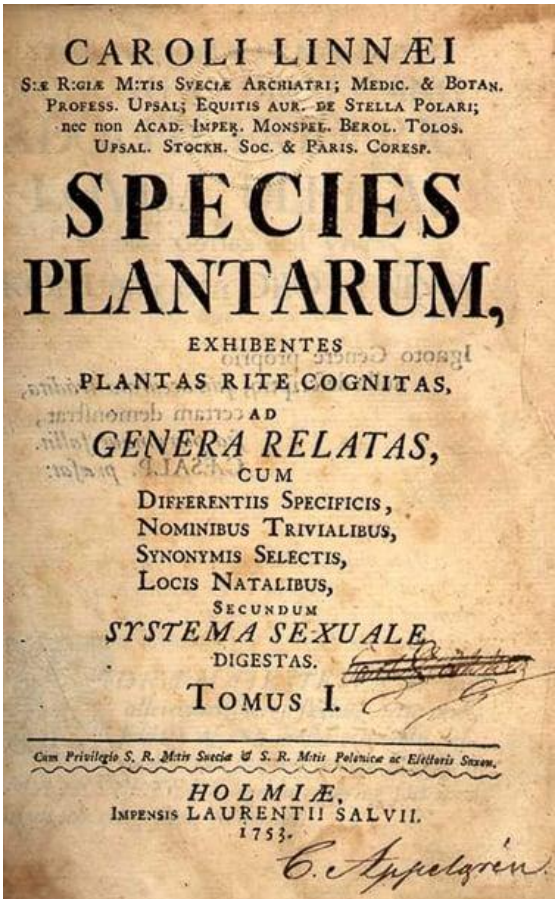
This program explores the history and future of Moraine Farm, Frederick Law Olmsted's earliest residential landscape, located in Beverly, MA, now under the stewardship of The Trustees, the oldest and largest land conservation and preservation organization in Massachusetts. The program includes a talk and in-depth tour followed by lunch on site. It will be hosted by senior staff members from The Trustees who are leading an ambitious project to restore and open Moraine Farm to the public. Moraine Farm was Olmsted's first master plan for a residential country seat and served as a laboratory for ideas that culminated in his design for Biltmore in North Carolina. Owned by the same family for generations, this program offers a rare behind-the-scenes look at The Trustees' early efforts to restore and open a major American landscape.

*Make it a weekend getaway in New England! Registration includes **free admission** to other Trustees-owned public gardens on the North Shore, including **Long Hill** (10 minutes away), the **Crane Estate's Castle Hill** (25 minutes away) and **Stevens-Coolidge House & Gardens** (30 minutes away).*

$150 non-members / $120 members

Register by contacting the club (greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com) and Laura can help you place your order online. Their policies have recently changed, so all orders have to be placed online using the club's account (using the club email and password).

Are you baffled by botanical names? [Izel Native Plants] blog can help. Many thanks to club member Beth Schreier for alerting me to this website. If you would like to learn more about how important botanical nomenclature is, and how to pronounce those names, then this site is for you! There are other great features beyond botanical names. Tags you can explore are Soil Ecology, Native Grasses, Biochar, Ecological Restoration, Ecoregions, Pollinators, and much more. Check it out!



CAROLI LINNÆI
S:Æ R:GIÆ M:TIS SVECIÆ ARCHIATRI; MEDIC. & BOTAN.
PROFESS. UPSAL; EQUITIS AUR. DE STELLA POLARI;
nec non ACAD. IMPER. MONSPEL. BEROL. TOLOS.
UPSAL. STOCKH. SOC. & PARIS. CORESP.

SPECIES PLANTARUM,

EXHIBENTES
PLANTAS RITE COGNITAS,
AD
GENERA RELATAS,
CUM
DIFFERENTIIS SPECIFICIS,
NOMINIBUS TRIVIALIBUS,
SYNONYMIS SELECTIS,
LOCIS NATALIBUS,
SECUNDUM
SYSTEMA SEXUALE
DIGESTAS.

TOMUS I.

Cum Privilegio S. R. Mtis Suecie & S. R. Mtis Polonice ac Electoris Saxon.

HOLMIÆ,
IMPENSIS LAURENTII SALVII.
1753.

C. Appelgren.

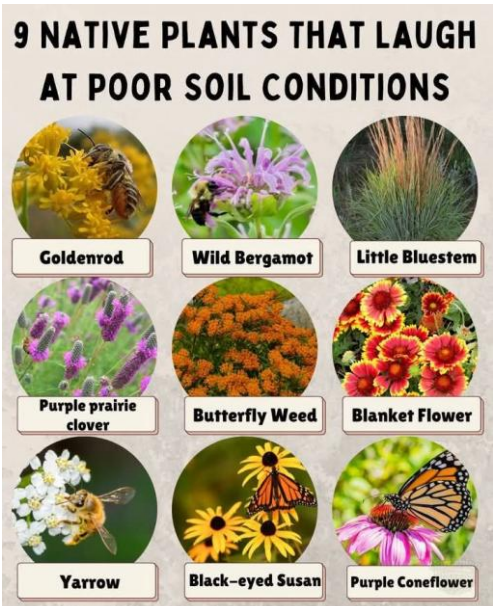
Plant taxonomists (professional plant-namers) have used Latinized binomial nomenclature (the current standard for all living things) ever since the naturalist *Carolus Linnæus* first published *Species Plantarum* in 1753, which was at a time when Latin was the academic language of Europe. And no, that wasn't his real name, Carl Linnaeus Latinized himself too, not just the plants in his book!

Big Bluestem grass: a keystone prairie grass

The Grasses are Here!

The Grasses are Here!

At Checkerspot Farm the grasses are grown and ready to be taken home. Receive a free pot of Little Bluestem, Indian Grass, Sideoats Grama, Canada Wild Rye, Riverbank Rye or Little Bluestem with a 3-pot purchase of similar size starting Friday, July 4th and running through the end of the month. Why do you need grasses? Read about why native grasses are an important and beautiful part of any native plant garden here. Checkerspot Farm is located at 30 Jacksonville Rd, Colrain. The nursery is open Fridays from 3-6, and Saturday & Sunday from 10-5. If you happen to visit when the store is not open there are 3 ways to pay remotely – credit card, Venmo, or Paypal. (Be sure to check out their Concert t-shirts and tote bags too!)



Flower Pot Family as captured at this year's Glastonbury Festival in the United Kingdom.

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of May 16, 2024 .....$6,077.25

Income $2,956.43
Interest $0.18; Membership: $65.00; Extravaganza: $2,891.25

Expenses $600.00
Extravaganza cash set-up: $500; Recorder ad: $100

Balance as of June 15, 2025.....$8,433.68

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to Greenfield Garden Club:
c/o Becky George, 91 Smith St #111, Greenfield MA 01301 **Questions?**
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

August NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Monday, July 28th
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 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

Shelburne Farm and Garden
355 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne
10% off anything garden-related

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

Floral Affairs
324 Deerfield St, Greenfield
10% off anything in the store