



Needham Garden Club Newsletter

November/December 2017

Letter from the Co-Presidents

Hello Members! Our program year got off to a wonderful start in September with an energetic program by Carolyn Ellis and Beth Paisner. Their well-choreographed presentation gave lots of information and ideas. October's mixer was "Gourdeous" with lots of creativity, interest and fellowship. Briarwood welcomed us with open arms as we started our garden therapy with appreciative residents.

November's presentation will give us even more ideas for floral designs for the upcoming holiday season. We are gearing up for our biggest fundraiser of the year, and the Ways and Means Committee has put in hours and hours of time to prep for another successful sale.

We have much in our lives that is beautiful, inspiring and interesting. November is a month to reflect on being thankful, and we are thankful for a vibrant and energetic club filled with women committed to the science and art of plants and flowers.



Upcoming Calendar

November 7, 9:30 a.m. ~ Board Meeting

November 9, 10:30 a.m. ~ Bow Making Workshop

November 21, 9:30 a.m. ~ Floral Design with Anna Holmes, Community Room, Needham Library

November 29, 9:00 a.m.-12 noon ~ Make Your Own Wreath, Community Room, Needham Library

November 30, 10:30 a.m. ~ Garden Therapy, Avita Memory Care Center

November 30, 2:00-5:00 p.m. ~ Wreath Sale Set-up, Fellowship Hall, Congregational Church

December 1, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. ~ Wreath and Arrangement Workshop, Congregational Church

December 2, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. ~ Wreath and Arrangement Sale, Congregational Church



Program Committee

November 21, 2017: “Floral Design”

Anna Holmes, owner of Flowers by Anna in Cataumet on the Cape, is an award-winning floral designer who has been in business for over 40 years. She is an FTD certified master floral designer and floral consultant. Anna will demonstrate five different styles of arranging followed by an opportunity drawing.



Lori Markell and Fawn Hurwitz, Co-Chairs

Ways and Means Committee

The Ways and Means Committee is preparing for the **Annual Sale of Holiday Wreaths and Arrangements** to be held at the Needham Congregational Church in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 2, 2017. Please note this is a **new site** in the main building. All members are asked to participate as this is the major fundraising activity of the year and a wonderful way to meet new members and connect with old friends. Below are the dates of upcoming activities.



Thursday, November 9. 10:30am - **Bow Making Workshop** at the home of Lynne Braley at 60 Old Farm Road. Novice and expert bow makers needed. Please sign up at our next meeting.

Wednesday November 29, 9am - **Make Your Own Wreath**, Needham Public Library Community Room. This is for NGC members who had pre-registered.

Friday, December 1st 9am to 5pm - Calling all members! **Making of wreaths and arrangements** at the Congregational Church. Sign up sheets will be available for shifts at the next two General Meetings at the Library.

Saturday, December 2nd 9am to 1pm - **Annual Sale of Wreaths and Arrangements** at the Congregational Church. Sign-up sheets will be available for shifts at the next two General Meetings at the Library.

If you can take a **small sign** for your front lawn to advertise the Wreath and Arrangement Sale they will be available at the November 21st General Meeting. Please sign the sheet to indicate you are taking a sign. Please help us advertise this event.

Janice Berns and Jane Lischewski, Co-Chairs

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is delighted to welcome Kathleen LaCerde as the latest new member of our garden club. She has already participated in our NGC Member Workshop Gourd Challenge which was held on October 17. Kathleen lives in Needham and is interested in gardening, golfing, hiking, baking and reading. She will be on the Community Outreach Committee.

At September's meeting we handed out 5 new member application packets so hopefully there will be more new members to follow. If you know of anyone who is interested in joining, please contact SallyToran@hotmail.com or bonniewater@comcast.net.



Please note the following date changes:

Two of the dates for the Floral Design Workshops offered by the GCFM have been changed. The first session will now be November 7th. The second will be January 23rd. The April date did not change.

The April 24th general meeting, "The History of the Tulip," is being rescheduled to May 1st. Location and time will stay the same (Needham Library at 9:30AM). This is due to a conflict with the Wallack Lecture offered by the GCFM. International Designer Extraordinaire, Francine Thomas, will present "A Floral Journey From Afar."

Please make these changes in your yearbook and personal calendar.

Hospitality Committee

The **Flower Arranging Committee** is scheduled for hospitality duties at the November 21 General Meeting.

Hospitality & Board Members will take care of goodies at the December General Meeting/Workshop/Sale.

Mary Toran and Cathy Flaherty, Co-Chairs



Carolyn Ellis and Beth Paisner creating floral arrangements at the September meeting.



Horticulture Committee

Begonia challenge results- it turns out that growing begonias from tubers is a challenge. There were mixed results from no growth to leaves with no flowers to very nice flowering plants. Some of the better results were displayed at our September meeting and the flowers were lovely.

On September 26th a group of 15 of us walked the Rose Kennedy Greenway from Chinatown to the North End. Each of the parks had a unique landscape, and there were a variety of water features and art works in each one. It was a good tour made even better by finishing in a North End restaurant for lunch.

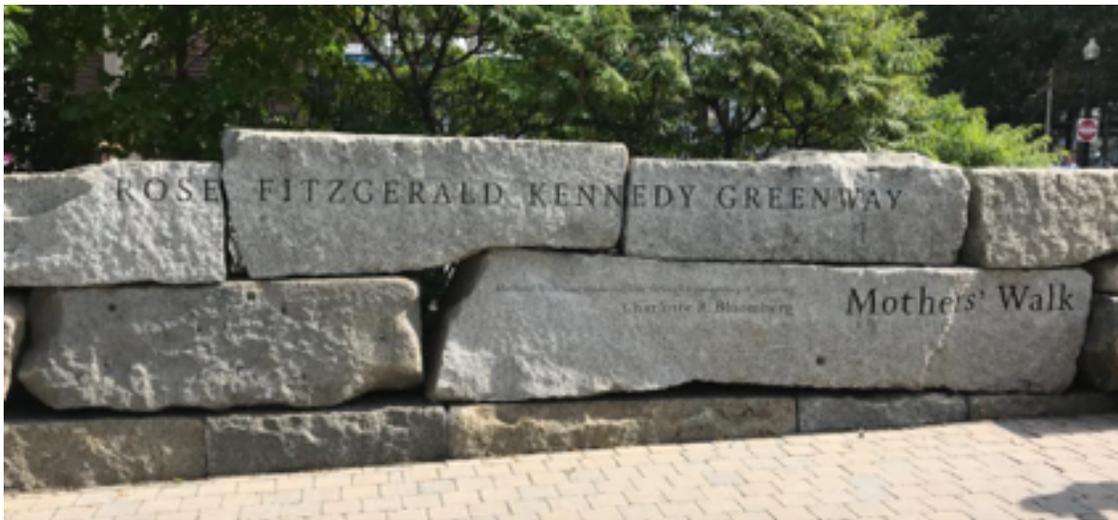
Check out the Horticulture Corner in November for tips on holiday and winter flowering plants. Horticulture tips.

If you are not going to bring your begonia plant indoors for the winter, you can save the tuber to plant next year. Dig up the tuber and let the stem and leaves dry out for several days and remove them. Shake off any dirt. Place in a paper bag or cardboard box with some peat moss and store in a cool area like a garage or cellar that is frost free.

Fall clean up- if your plants are healthy leave the seed heads of plants like astilbe, cone flowers, thistle, liatris and sedum for winter interest and for the birds to eat.

Cathie Cummings and Eileen Mecagni, Co-Chairs





A gardening book has been purchased for the Needham Public Library honoring the memory of Peggy Haggerot.

Also email me for any member events, if you know someone who is sick, had a death in the family or just needs some cheering up. I will call or send a card.

Cathy MacFarlane, Corresponding Secretary

Community Outreach Committee

Your Community Outreach Committee has been active during the month of October. A major event was our Garden Therapy session at Briarwood Nursing Home. The residents at Briarwood especially appreciate creating attractive flower baskets to take back to their room. Additionally, our members enjoy working with the residents as they smile with pride at the arrangements they have made.

Another activity in October took place at Noyes Garden as we planted both daffodil and crocus bulbs. These will beautify the space next Spring as we recover from the snowy winter forecasted for us.

In November we will provide another Garden Therapy opportunity. This time we will be at Avita of Needham. This will be our first opportunity to work with the residents of Avita. We anticipate an uplifting experience for all involved. Any club member is welcome to participate in these events. Merely add your name to the sign-up sheet as it is circulated at our meetings. We look forward to member participation at any or all of our activities.

Lynne Jones & Debbie Wentworth, Co-Chairs

A great time was had by all at the October mixer- "Let Gourds be your inspiration."



Newsletter Committee

Please send your photos and ideas for the newsletter to Carol Alper (carol.alper25@gmail.com), Amy Cicala (amycicala293@gmail.com), or Jane Brand (ajbrand@comcast.net). If you are planning a Garden Club event for January or February, please send us your article by **December 10, 2017** so it can be included in the next newsletter. Thanks.