



# Needham Garden Club Newsletter

March/April 2016

## LETTER FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL:

What a peculiar winter we had! Most of us are ready to bid it adieu. There is nothing like seeing the garden centers open up after a hiatus and start stocking the items that give us hope that we'll get outside among the plants soon. We in the garden club have plenty to look forward to, both inside and outside. Get ready for lots of fun ahead in the next two months. Here are some of the upcoming events to put on your calendars-- details to follow in the Newsletter.

Saturday and Sunday, March 5 and 6-- "Needham's Art in Bloom" in which many of our members participate.

Wednesday, March 9, 7PM-- "Heirloom Annual Plants" with Barbara Pierson of White Flower Farm. Contact Karen Taggart for details.

Thursday, March 17, 9AM-2PM-- Boston Flower and Garden Show. Contact Karen Taggart for details.

Tuesday, March 22-- Succulent Dish Workshop with Donna Lane.

Tuesday, March 29, 7PM-- Annual Tri-Club meeting at the Village Club.

Sunday, April 10-- Community Council's Annual Fashion Show/Fundraiser featuring three Needham Garden Club members.

Tuesday, April 19-- "Welcoming Spring: Ikebana" with Kaye Vosburgh.

Diana Conroy  
Administrative Council

## COMMITTEE NEWS

### *Program Committee*

Tuesday, March 29-- The Tri-Club Meeting will be at the Village Club at 7PM. The presenter will be Steve Janavicus, owner of Flowers by Steve. He will demonstrate six spring arrangements using Dutch and Japanese flowers.

Tuesday, April 19-- "Welcoming Spring: Ikebana." Kaye Vosburgh has studied Japanese Flower Arranging in the Sogetsu School of Ikebana since 1981. In her flower arranging demonstrations, whether Japanese or American style, Kaye stresses the creative process and shares her ideas and plans as she creates each new design. The principles of design will also be discussed as guideposts in creative flower arranging. Symbolism and unspoken thoughts are often expressed through Ikebana.

Bonnie Waters and Lori Markell, Co-Chairs



## **Horticulture Committee**

**March Horticulture Tip:** When planning your garden for the coming year, consider plants that attract pollinators. One good resource is the USDA web site, which has pictures and descriptions of flowering plants in our region.  
[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/nrcs144p2\\_027028.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs144p2_027028.pdf)



April 19-- The Horticulture Corner at the general meeting will feature the plants from our Citrus Seed Challenge. In addition to your plants please have an index card with your name, the type of seed and the date when planted. You may also include other useful information such as light source and fertilizer used, etc.

Also, you can bring in seeds, a plant cutting or division that you wish to share with other members.

Sign up for a shift to work at our plant sale on Saturday, June 4.

April 20-- In preparation for the plant sale there will be a seed planting work shop at Cathie Cummings' home at 10:30AM. We will be planting flower seeds for distribution of seedlings to children at our plant sale on June 4. We also will need volunteers to care for the seedlings for the six weeks prior to the sale.

Change of date in the yearbook. A schedule change has been made for our trip to the Garden in the Woods. It will now be on Tuesday, May 24. There will be a sign up at the April meeting. You can also call or email Cathy MacFarlane or Cathie Cummings if you will not be at that meeting.

Cathie Cummings and Cathy MacFarlane, Co-Chairs

## **Flower Arranging Committee**



Donna Lane, a Master Gardener, will lead the succulent dish workshop on March 22, 9:30 -12 in the Community Room at the Library. She will discuss and show how to plant with a focus on placement, color, form and texture. Donna will also give tips for garden care and preservation.

Participants who have signed up will need to bring newspaper to cover their table and a paper bag for clean up. You may also want to bring clear plastic gloves or garden gloves as we will be working with soil.

This is a great opportunity to learn about succulents and to have beautiful house plants in your home or to give as a gift. The workshop is filled, but everyone is welcome to come and sit in the back and watch.



"Modern Mass" arrangement from GCFM's Floral Design Workshop at Elm Bank  
About a dozen Club members participated in the Tuesday morning workshop creating a "Modern

Mass" arrangement. Each participant received the same container and flowers to work with and was guided through the arrangement by a Senior Talented Designer. All came out slightly different but everyone went home with a little "Breath of Spring." Participants included Cathy Flaherty, Jo Belval, Eileen Mecagni, Bonnie Waters, Jodie Gleason, Monica Foley, Fawn Hurwitz, Nina Saltus, Anne Carlson, Martha Schleck, Fabienne Madsen and Karen Taggart. Each year the GCFM sponsors three workshops and charges \$135 for the three of them. If you are interested in participating in the next one in April, let me know. Often a person can't do all three, but can usually find someone to substitute. -Karen Taggart

Monica Foley and Karen Shapiro, Co-Chairs

## ***Community Outreach Committee***

While the winter is quiet for Community Outreach, the spring is the start of our busy season.

We'll be searching for plantings for Noyes gardens that are poor soil/salt tolerant, and hoping for a good amount of rain this summer. All of the plants that we tend to must be watered with water that is hand carried in, so we are always grateful when Mother Nature lends a helping hand.

Our spring Garden Therapies will get started with our visit to Wingate on Thursday, April 21, at 10:30 am. With plenty of helping hands, this is a pleasant task, and most rewarding. Please do sign up for this if you have not had the opportunity to do it in the past. We know that you'll be glad you did!

Nancy Agler and Diana Conroy, Co-Chairs



## ***Membership Committee***

We have several new members that have joined the club since September. I am going to list them all again so you can add them to the back of your yearbook. As usual, please remember to greet anyone you see who is new. It is always hard to step into a group for the first time. We want to continue with our great reputation of being an inclusive and friendly group. Also if you know anyone you would like us to contact in regards to learning more about the club or joining, let us know.

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Committee: Community Outreach Mentor: Nancy Agler

Anne Carlson and Sally Toran, Co-Chairs

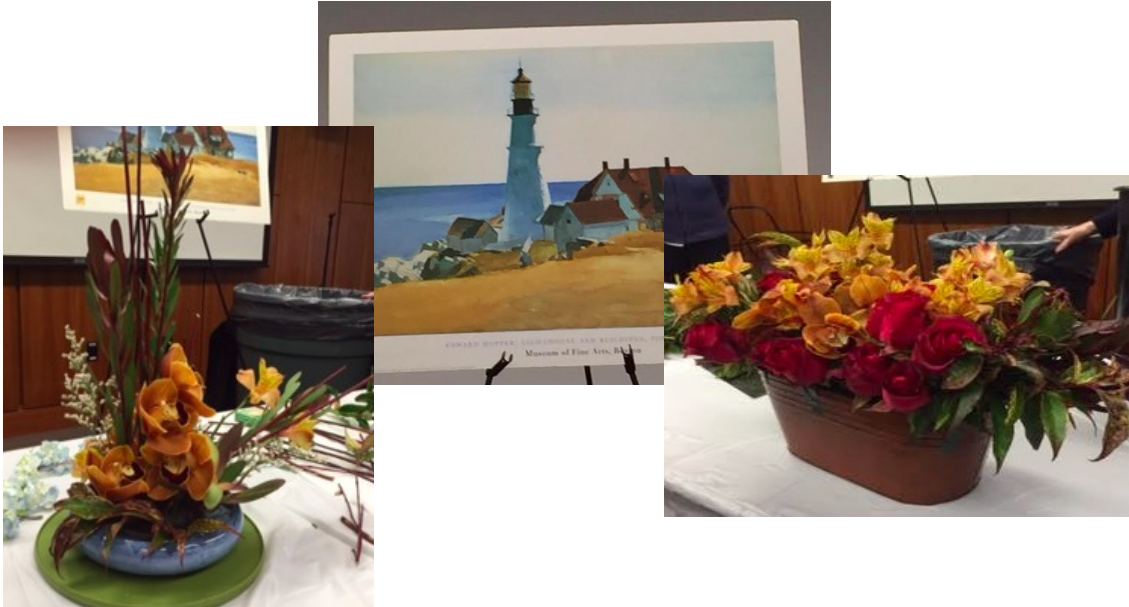
## ***Newsletter***

Happy Spring! Please keep sending your photos and ideas for the newsletter.

The deadline for the May/June newsletter is April 10, 2016.

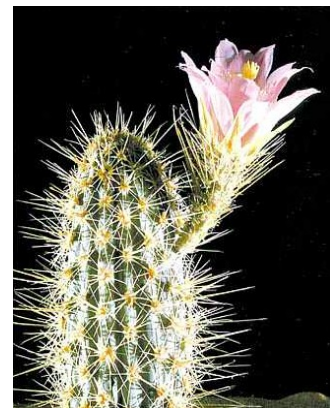
Amy Cicala and Carol Alper, Co-Chairs

## Art in Bloom Road Show



Interpretations of a painting by two presenters from the MFA during our January meeting.

## Blaschka Glass Flowers



Jenny Brown shared some history and images of the Blaschka Glass Flowers at the Harvard Natural History Museum in February.