



Needham Garden Club Newsletter

May/June 2018

LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Happy Spring to all of our members!

It looks like it is finally here after a brutal March and a very nippy April. We are hoping that the sight of flowers blooming and plants emerging will comfort our hearts as we continue to mourn and miss our gardening sister, Char Sidell.

We are anticipating a lovely program about tulips on May 1st which was delayed due to the Ruth Wallack Program, "A Floral Journey from Afar," with Francine Thomas. All logistics worked out beautifully, so we were

able to fit it all in this time!

The lecture was well worth our regular programming delay.

Make sure that you

take a moment to read the "Gardening Tips" section of our very vibrant website (www.needhamgardenclub.com). There you will find interesting and up-to-date information. For instance, is bark mulch—long the garden must-have—a true gardening friend or a nitrogen depleting foe? We are fortunate to have this handy and interesting resource. It's also fun to see the ever-changing selection of photos of flowers around town and memorializing many of our really interesting activities.

As we wrap up the programming year, we want to thank you for your time, talent, ideas, and contributions that make our club the superb organization that it is.



Upcoming Calendar

May 1, 9:30 a.m. Ila Cox presents "The History of the Tulip"

May 11, 10:00 a.m. Wreath-making workshop and informal self-guided garden tour at Elm Bank

May 15, 11:30 a.m. Annual Meeting and Luncheon at the Needham Golf Club

June 2, 8:00-3:00. Plant Sale at the Street Fair on the Needham Common

June 10th. The Needham Women's Club Garden Tour

Co-Presidents: Nancy Agler and Diana Conroy

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE NEWS

Please join us at the Needham Garden Club's Annual Meeting and Luncheon, which will be held this year on Tuesday, May 15th, at the Needham Golf Course: [49 Green Street, Needham](#).

The business meeting will begin promptly at 11:30 a.m. with lunch to follow at 12 noon. Please bring any photos you have of this past year's projects and programs. Please send a check for \$30 payable to Needham Garden Club to Mary Toran ([124 Marked Tree Road, Needham 02492](#)) at your earliest convenience.

The luncheon is sponsored by the Hospitality Committee with centerpieces provided by the Flower Arranging Committee. This event is always well attended and is a great way to catch up with old friends and new.

Co-Chairs, Hospitality: Mary Toran and Cathy Flaherty

HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE NEWS

SAVE THE DATE. SATURDAY JUNE 2ND

The Needham Garden Club plant sale will be held at the Needham Business Association Street Fair on the Town Common from 10 to 3. Working hours will be from 8 to 3. There will be sign-up sheets at the general meetings. This is a whole club activity coordinated by the Horticulture Committee. We need for members to contribute plant divisions from their gardens and to work at the sale.

Now is the time to start dividing and potting up the plants so they will look healthy for the sale. Use clean plastic nursery pots as the clay pots are too heavy for customers to carry. Pots will be available at the meetings on May 1st and 15th and on the left side of the driveway at Cathie Cummings' house (189 Valley Road) for pick-up at any time. We will also have plant labels available at the meetings.

Plant Division Tips. Have your pots and soil ready (also dig a hole in your garden if you are keeping a division for yourself). Water the plant well. This will aid in separating the roots. Dig up the plant. Use a pitch fork, garden claw, or a sharp tool to separate the roots. Some plants are easier to split than others. Pot up the divisions, water them well, and place them in a shady area. Once the plant has recovered, you can move it to the light condition appropriate for the plant and keep the soil moist.

Please deliver your plants to the Town Common on sale day between 8 and 8:30. Chapel Street will be closed to traffic beginning at 8:30. We will send out an email of the location of our tent when we find out where we will be. If you cannot deliver your plants on Saturday, you can drop them off at the locations below the week prior to the sale (May 29th–June 1st). Make sure all plants are labeled. If the plant is not in bloom, please indicate the flower color. Unidentified plants do not sell.

Drop-off spots:

Cathie Cummings, 189 Valley Road. On the stone walls along the driveway.

Vivian Weller, 81 Bess Road. Beside the garage.

Co-Chairs, Horticulture Committee: Cathie Cummings and Eileen Mecagni



FLOWER ARRANGING COMMITTEE NEWS



The Flower Arranging Committee will be running a May program at Elm Bank. This creative workshop will take place on May 11th. The day will begin at 10 a.m. with a walk among the gardens, weather permitting. This will not be a guided tour but an hour to walk around and see the changes and ask questions if you see a gardener. If you wish to come just for the program, then arrive a little before 11 a.m.

We will be making a live ivy wreath. This wreath will be highlighted with spring flowers/plants. The ivy should continue to grow for quite a while and the flowers or colorful plants can be substituted with new ones when needed. The ivy will be set on a ring and attached by wire and pins. Moss will cover and

surround the ivy.

To register for this event, please e-mail Lyn Jekowsky at lynjekowsky@comcast.net. Then mail a check made out to the Needham Garden Club for \$25 to Lyn at 530 High Rock Street, Needham, MA 02492. There will not be a meeting to sign up for this event because of our April schedule change. Sign-up deadline: May 4th, as we need to order the plants.

Items to bring to this workshop:

- A paper bag for trash
- Scissors
- A pair of panty hose (Only need one leg so can share)
- A bag lunch

We will be providing drinks, paper goods, cookies and bars, and all the materials needed for the workshop. We look forward to this fun event together.

The Flower Arranging Committee

PROGRAM COMMITTEE NEWS



This program, originally scheduled for April, will be held at 9:30 on May 1, 2018, in the Community Room of the Needham Library.

Lecturer and tulip specialist Ila Cox will spotlight tulips as some of the true and inexpensive signs of spring. Their worth, however, was once compared to the value of gold, and a country's economy depended on them. Join us as Ila explores the history, economics, and journey of the tulip, including the amazing "Tulipmania."

Co-Chairs, Program Committee: Fawn Hurwitz and Lori Markell

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

NEWS

The Community Outreach Committee is happy to report that our Noyes Garden is greeting spring with many happy crocus blossoms. Daffodils will follow shortly.

Noyes Garden hosted several activities this spring. On April 14th, we spread Noannet Gold mulch to enrich the soil for future plantings. One future event will be planting a native bush/small tree in remembrance of our departed members. A sign honoring these ladies will be at the site in recognition of their contributions to the NGC.



On Thursday, April 26th, we provided a Garden Therapy event at Wingate Nursing Home where the residents assembled to create their flower arrangements. This is a much loved event at Wingate as they look forward to our coming every year.

At our upcoming club meetings there will be opportunities to sign up to water our new remembrance bush/small tree and other plantings at Noyes Garden and to water our library urns. Remember, BYOW at Noyes Garden!

Co-Chairs: Community Outreach Committee: Lynne Jones, Debbie Wentworth

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!

It is that time of year when the Membership Committee collects your dues for the coming year. The dues are \$45 for an Associate Member and \$40 for an Active Member. The checks should be made out to The Needham Garden Club and submitted to Sally Toran or Bonnie Waters at or before the Annual Luncheon on May 15th at the Needham Golf Club. If you are not planning to attend the luncheon, please mail your check to Bonnie Waters, 22 Redington Rd., Needham. Dues must be paid by July 1, 2018, in order for you to be listed in the 2018-2019 Garden Club Yearbook. Please get your payment to us on time so that we don't have to make time-consuming reminder calls. We sincerely hope you plan on renewing your membership, but if not, please let us know.



Co-Chairs, Membership Committee: Sally Toran and Bonnie Waters

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS

We're delighted to present the slate for next year, to be voted on by the membership at the annual meeting.

PROPOSED OFFICERS AND CHAIRS 2018-2019

Officers:

Co-Presidents: Nancy Agler, Diana Conroy

Recording Secretary: Jane Brand

1st Vice President (Program): Fawn Hurwitz, Lori Markell

2nd Vice President (Flower Arranging): Nina Saltus, Lyn Jekowski

Corresponding Secretary: Cathy MacFarlane

Treasurer: Martha Schleck

Committee Chairs:

Community Outreach: Lynne Jones, Debbie Wentworth

Finance: Martha Schleck

Horticulture: Karen Taggart, Vivian Weller

Flower Arranging: Nina Saltus, Lyn Jekowski

Hospitality: Mary Toran, Cathy Flaherty

Nominating: Anne Carlson, Lynne Braley

Newsletter: Carol Alper, Amy Cicala

Publicity: Gail Davis

Programs: Lori Markell, Fawn Hurwitz

Yearbook: Cathie Cummings, Nina Saltus

Ways and Means: Jane Lischewski, Mary-Louise Kehoe

Social Media: Nancy Agler, Lyn Jekowsky

Membership: Bonnie Waters, Nancy Gallerani, Eileen Mecagni

Submitted by Co-Chairs, Nominating Committee: Lynne Braley and Karen Taggart

NEWSLETTER

We take a break from the club for the summer, so the next issue will be for September/October. Please submit articles for any fall activities or photos from club events to Carol Alper and Amy Cicala by August 10th. Happy summer everyone!

Thank you to the many club members who contributed to the Codman Academy Foundation in memory of Char Sidell. Here is the acknowledgment from the foundation.



637 Washington Street
Dorchester, MA 02124
617.287.0700 [p]
617.287.9064 [f]
www.codmanacademy.org



March 29, 2018

Needham Garden Club and Friends
c/o Ms. Amy Cicala
293 Brookline Street
Needham, MA 02492

Dear Ms. Cicala,

On behalf of the Codman Academy Foundation, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$440 in memory of Char Sidell.

Codman won't be the same without Char in our library, but as we mourn the loss of a beloved member of our community, we are also celebrating the tremendous impact she had on our school and our students. Her passion for education, literacy, and social justice were evident every day she spent at Codman and were at the forefront of every lesson she taught. Teachers reflected on her ability to always find the right book for every child and for taking the time to get to know our students on a deep personal level. She is remembered for always making the time to talk to students and staff members, for making recommendations or lending out books for siblings and families, and for building a library that was a space for creativity, imagination, and wonder.

A lifelong educator and advocate for early literacy development, Char brought a wealth of knowledge to Codman that transformed our K1-8 library into a vibrant, engaging space for students. From filing and cataloguing hundreds of books, to sending crates of books home with staff members for their own children, Char saw reading as a hobby and passion, not as a chore. Her influence is evident in the filled bookcases in every classroom of our school and her love of literature is carried on by the countless students she inspired while at Codman.



It is our pleasure to direct this donation to the Char Sidell Fund for early childhood literacy development and library operating support.

Appreciatively,

A blue ink signature of Thabit Brown, written in a cursive style.
Thabit Brown
Head of School

For your records, I can attest that \$440 of this gift is tax-deductible. Codman Academy Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization described in Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code and is not a private foundation within the meanings of Section 509(a).

Codman Academy Foundation

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WINTER

Needham Art in Bloom. The artwork was created by Needham High School students; the arrangements by garden club members. Thank you to all who participated



