



# Needham Garden Club Newsletter

May / June 2019

## Letter from the Co-Presidents

*Hello Fellow Gardeners!*

We have had a wonderful start to 2019 with programs that are wisely looking at caring for our gardens in a way that works in harmony with nature. We now have a much better understanding of Honeybees and their needs, Sustainable Gardening, and Dividing and Transplanting ins and outs.

The Boston Globe had a wonderful article about flowering herbs that are beneficial for butterflies, bees and hummingbirds, as well as for us humans. ("Plants for you and Pollinators," March 31, 2019.) Many herbs that we grow are not actually native but were imported from Old World Europe, and they tend to attract the (imported) European honeybees, which are the honey machines that are in danger. Native herbs are an important source of nectar for native butterflies. Interestingly, the herbs with the very small flowers such as dill and cilantro attract the very small native bees. As with many other plants, a variety of flowering herbs is the key to providing a growing season that provides a steady source of pollen.

After being inspired by this article, I have purchased Chives, Marjoram and Borage, as well as Nasturtiums, which are also bee magnets! I will plant them in various spots. We hope you have fun with some flowering herbs this spring and summer, and plant a container, raised bed or garden bed with flowering herbs to add flavor and variety to your garden and cooking!

**Nancy Agler and Diana Conroy**  
**Co-Presidents**

## Upcoming Calendar

Pot up your plants for the June 1 Plant Sale!

May 7, 9:30 a.m. ~ Board Meeting & Presidents' Luncheon, home of Karen Taggart

May 8, 11:00 - 1:00 ~ Flower Arranging Workshop: "Sculpture and Floral Design," Elm Bank

May 9, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ~ GCFM Metro District Annual Meeting, Wellesley College Club

May 21, 11:30 a.m. ~ Annual Meeting & Luncheon, Needham Golf Club (Members Only)

First Week of June ~ National Garden Week

June 1, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ~ Annual Plant Sale, Congregational Church of Needham, 1154 Great Plain Ave.

June 5, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ~ GCFM Annual Meeting, The Hilton Boston Dedham, 25 Allied Drive, Dedham

June 11, 9:30 a.m. ~ Board Meeting (includes new Board members), home of Anne Carlson



## **Program Committee**

### **GCFM Metro District Annual Meeting & Luncheon**

This year's meeting, to be held on May 9 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Wellesley College Club, will feature floral designs by Sue Kaplan. The cost is \$40. Checks can be made payable to GCFM and mailed to Fawn Hurwitz, 500 South St., Needham, MA 02492.

**Fawn Hurwitz and Lori Markell, Co-Chairs**



## **Flower Arranging Committee**

### **Workshop: "Sculpture and Floral Design"**

The Flower Arranging Committee has organized a program on May 8<sup>th</sup> at Elm Bank entitled "Sculpture and Floral Design." This creative workshop will be facilitated by Debbie Kraft and assisted by Lyn Jekowsky. Come early to wander Elm Bank's spring gardens. The workshop will begin at 11:00 in the Parkman Room.

We will be creating floral designs using simple sculptures, which are specially commissioned and produced for this workshop. Then we will choose materials (for example, wide metallic ribbon, floral water tubes, chicken wire) to enhance our sculptures, creating unique structures on which to build our floral arrangements. Enrollment in the workshop is limited, with very few seats left; however, a waiting list will be created. The cost is \$15. A check payable to the Needham Garden Club may be mailed to Lyn Jekowsky at 530 High Rock St., Needham, MA 02492, or brought with you to the workshop.

Items to bring to this workshop include: a paper bag for trash; scissors/floral scissors; wire cutters if you have them; a bag lunch. We will provide drinks, paper goods, baked goodies and all the materials needed for the workshop.

We are looking forward to this new and creative floral design event.

\*Note: If you sign up and are not able to come, even at the last minute, please let Lyn know, as a waiting list will be established. [lynjekowsky@comcast.net](mailto:lynjekowsky@comcast.net)

**Lyn Jekowsky and Nina Saltus, Co-Chairs**

## **Hospitality Committee**

### **Annual Meeting and Luncheon**

The Annual Meeting and Luncheon will be held this year on Tuesday, May 21, at Needham Golf Club, 49 Green Street. The business meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m., with lunch to follow at 12:00 noon. Please bring any photos you have of this past year's projects and programs.

Please send a check for \$30.00 payable to Needham Garden Club to Mary Toran, 124 Marked Tree Rd., Needham, MA 02492, no later than May 14.

The luncheon is sponsored by the Hospitality Committee, with centerpieces provided by the Flower Arranging Committee.

**Mary Toran & Cathy Flaherty, Co-Chairs**



## ***Nominating Committee***

The Nominating Committee has been hard at work, and is pleased to share the slate of proposed Officers and Committee Chairs for 2019-2020.

***Lynne Braley & Anne Carlson, Co-Chairs***

### Officers

Tri-Presidents

**Nancy Agler**

**Diana Conroy**

**Jane Lischewski**

Recording Secretary

**Jane Brand**

1<sup>st</sup> VP (Programs )

**Pat Hession**

**Bonnie Waters**

Corresponding Secretary

**Bonnie Waters**

2<sup>nd</sup> VP (Flower Arr)

**Carole Grosberg**

**Lyn Jekowsky**

**Nina Saltus**

Treasurer

**Martha Schleck**

### Chairs

Community Outreach:

**Cathie Cummings**

**Lynne Jones**

Finance:

**Martha Schleck**

Flower Arranging:

**Carole Grosberg**

**Lyn Jekowsky**

**Nina Saltus**

Horticulture:

**Karen Taggart**

**Vivian Weller**

Hospitality:

**Anne Brain**

**Cathy Flaherty**

Membership:

**Nancy Gallerani**

**Eileen Mecagni**

**Debbie Wentworth**

Newsletter:

**Carol Alper**

**Amy Cicala**

Nominating:

**Lynne Braley**

**Anne Carlson**

Program:

**Pat Hession**

**Bonnie Waters**

Ways and Means:

**Diana Conroy**

**Fabienne Madsen**

Communications:

**Gail Davis**

**Lyn Jekowsky**

**Trish Cruickshank**

(Publicity)

(Social Media)

(Yearbook)



## ***Membership Committee News***

### ***Attention All Members!***

It is that time of year when the Membership Committee collects dues for the coming year. The dues are \$45 for an Associate Member and \$40 for an Active Member. Checks should be made out to the Needham Garden Club and submitted to Eileen Mecagni or Bonnie Waters at or before the May 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Luncheon 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 02492 or Eileen Mecagni, 173 Valley Rd., Needham 02492.

Dues must be paid by July 1, 2019, for you to be listed in the 2019-2020 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.

***Bonnie Waters, Eileen Mecagni and Nancy Gallerani, Tri-Chairs***

## **Horticulture Committee**

### **Save the Date: Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Needham Garden Club plant sale will be held on the side lawn at the Needham Congregational Church, 1154 Great Plain Ave., from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Working hours will run from 8:00 to 1:00. There will be sign-up sheets at the general meetings prior to the event. This is a WHOLE CLUB activity coordinated by the Horticulture Committee. We need our members to contribute plant divisions from their gardens, houseplants from their homes, or other garden related items (gloves, tools, gardening books – new or gently used) and to work on the day of the sale.



Now is the time to start dividing and potting the plants so they will look healthy and presentable by June 1st. Please use clean plastic nursery pots rather than clay pots (which are too heavy for customers to carry). Pots will be available at the meetings on May 8 (Workshop at Elm Bank) and May 15 (Club Annual Meeting and Luncheon). In addition, pots can be picked up at Karen Taggart's (7 Sutton Road) on the left side of the driveway any time prior to the sale. Plant labels also will be available at the meetings, and, if requested, sent by email from Karen Taggart ([taggartkaren@comcast.net](mailto:taggartkaren@comcast.net)) to be printed out by any member.

**Plant Division Tips:** Have your pots and soil ready. Water the plant to be divided well in advance (which will help in separating the roots). Dig up the plant using a pitchfork, 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 plants have recovered, you can move them to the light condition appropriate for the plant and keep the soil moist.

Please deliver your plants to the Congregational Church lawn on the sale day between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. If you cannot deliver your plants on Saturday, you can drop them off at the locations below during the week prior to the sale (May 28-May 31). *Make sure all plants are labeled! Unidentified plants do not sell!* If the plant is not in bloom, please indicate the flower color. Drop-off locations:

Karen Taggart, 7 Sutton Road. Along the left side of the driveway.

Vivian Weller, 81 Bess Road. Beside the garage.

**Karen Taggart & Vivian Weller, Co-Chairs**

## **Community Outreach**

Community Outreach held its final Garden Therapy session on April 25<sup>th</sup> at Wingate. Our pilot program of using Paul Revere bowls in place of baskets was met with rave reviews at Briarwood. Everyone involved thought the arrangements were most attractive.



When you are out and about please notice the Noyes Garden. We have enjoyed the crocus bulbs which fully bloomed and the daffodils which follow. We are also anxiously awaiting the flowering of our memorial rhododendron. Spring is here and life is good!

**Lynne Jones & Debbie Wentworth, Co-Chairs**

## Social Media Committee

Have you checked out the club's social media lately? New gardening tips are on the website, and garden photos from members' travels have been added to the site. If you have tips or photos to share, please send them to Nancy Agler at [niagler@aol.com](mailto:niagler@aol.com). And keep sending photos, especially of community service events, to Lyn Jekowsky at [lynjekowsky@comcast.net](mailto:lynjekowsky@comcast.net). Lyn will post them on the club's Facebook page.



## From the Corresponding Secretary

If you have news concerning one of our members, be it illness, a death in the family or a celebratory occasion, please let Corresponding Secretary Cathy MacFarlane know.

[cathy@macfarlaneenergy.com](mailto:cathy@macfarlaneenergy.com)



## Newsletter Committee

Please send your announcements, photos and ideas for the newsletter to Carol Alper ([carol.alper25@gmail.com](mailto:carol.alper25@gmail.com)) or Amy Cicala ([amycicala293@gmail.com](mailto:amycicala293@gmail.com)).

**Committee chairs:** If you are planning a Garden Club event for September or October, please send us your article by **August 10, 2019** so it can be included in the next newsletter.

**Carol Alper & Amy Cicala, Co-Editors**



## Recent Events



Dahlia planting workshop on a sunny day!



Pat Hession creating planters at the Needham History Center and Museum

# Needham's Art in Bloom





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*georginaarrietaruetenik  
photography2019*



## Garden Therapy





## *Annual Plant Sale*



On the next page is a flyer about the upcoming plant sale. Please print it to post or distribute, or copy and paste it into emails to spread the word!



**NEEDHAM GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 1**  
**9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**NEEDHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**1154 GREAT PLAIN AVE.**  
**(across from the Post Office)**



- \*Just in time for planting***
- \*Perennials grown in Needham Gardens***
- \*Houseplants lovingly tended by members***