



Garden Club of Buzzards Bay

From the Ground Up

December 2022

Presidents Message

Dear All,

Hello December!

There is something special about December, I guess it's because we save the best for last. The goodwill and cheer that abounds during this time of the year is wonderful, bringing family and friends together in the spirit of the holiday season.



Our meeting at the Mattapoisett Public Library featured Heather Mc Cargo from the Wild Seed Project. Thank you to our hostesses for providing us with a delicious selection of goodies.

Meanwhile... back at the Greenhouse. Anna, Caroline, and Barbara have some cuttings that are thriving! It is such a treat to be working there and watching things grow. At 10:00 on a Tuesday morning, a little magic is happening in the coach house as well. Under the watchful eyes of Linda Cornell, Tina Read and Sue Daylor, Christmas is happening for our Winter Greens Sale on December 3rd. It is so much fun to be there and make things. If you have not joined us yet, make it a point, it's fun, educational (I learned how to make a rather fantastic bow for a wreath last week...), and it's just plain nice to be together again.

I wish you all the best for the spirit of the season. No matter how you celebrate, may you find peace and joy and enjoy the warmth of family and friends.

Happy Holidays from my home to yours,

Sandy

Photo: Beth Ladd - A beautiful blue primrose blooming after the frost

Table of Contents:

Letter from the President:	1
Changing of the Seasons	2
Committee News	
Greenhouse	3
Winter Greens Market	4
Grants	5
Horticulture	5
Features	5-6
Links of Interest	7-8
Accolades	8-10
GCA	11
Notebook Updates	11
New Provisional Members	11
Holiday Party	12
December Calendar	13
Until Next Time	14

Changing of the Seasons



Afternoon sun on the last of the season's dahlias.

A Beach Day in November

Sunset at Round Hill Beach



Savoring every minute of an unexpected beach day on Sunday, November 6, 2022.

Photos: Laura Campbell

Committee News

Floral Design and Flower Show

Submitted by Tina Read & Carla Morey

On behalf of the Little Compton Garden Club and our Floral Design Committee, we would like to invite the Garden Club of Buzzards Bay to join us on Wednesday, April 12th, 2023, at 9:30am at St. Andrews by-the Sea Church for a Floral Design Demonstration with Kathy Michie. Kathy will demonstrate the designs on our upcoming ***Autumn Joy*** Flower Show schedule.

Greenhouse

Submitted by Caroline Wehner

Yesterday members put more coleus in pots; Ten members worked from 9 to 11 am.



Gail Davidson admiring the coleus. Photo: Caroline Wehner

Winter Greens Market

Submitted by Tina Read, Sue Daylor, and Linda Cornell



**Garden Club of Buzzards Bay
Holiday Greens Market**
Saturday Dec. 3, from 9:00-2:00
**Rotch Jones Duff Coach House
7th Street Entrance**

**Proceeds support the Club's Grants Program
In Conservation, Civic Beautification, Sustainable
Agriculture and Scholarships**



Grants Committee

Submitted by Gig Lang

The Grants Committee will meet in the beginning of December to review the Grants. The deadline for applications was November 30th. After the committee review, we send recommendations to the GCBB Executive Committee. The 2023 grant cycle allotment is \$3,000.

Horticulture Committee

Submitted by Barbara Brown

If you see someone chasing down squirrels, that's probably one of your diligent Horticulture committee members desperately trying to collect and propagate baby oaks for next Fall's flower show with Little Compton. Seriously, my awe of mother nature has never been stronger, growing an oak tree is not as easy as one might think!

On another Hort front, I'm sure we were all inspired by our passionate and informative speaker at the Mattapoisett Library, Heather McCargo of The Wild Seed Project. In an attempt to prevent an "evolutionary dead end"—yikes! —the Hort committee will propagate native seeds as a group activity—the timing is perfect. If all goes well, we might just have native seedlings to add to the plant sale in May. Connecting existing natural habitats with native species in our personal gardens is so important—we hope to educate and encourage Southcoast gardeners to follow suit. Wish us luck!

Features

The ripple effect of contributions to the GCA Scholarship Fund

Submitted by Mary Schubert

Being a chair of the GCBB Scholarship Committee carries the responsibility of encouraging our members to add a few dollars designated to the GCA Scholarship committee when writing their membership dues check.

In past years we have had the benefit of several GCA Scholarship winners sharing their experiences, the most recent was visiting Rosetta Elkin, who enjoyed the GCA/AAR Fellowship in Rome and now works at the Arnold Arboretum in Boston.

Another GCA/AAR Scholar I had the pleasure of keeping in touch with during her fellowship is [Thaisa Way](#). If that name looks familiar to you, she was an authority quoted in the most recent GCA Bulletin article about [Women Gardening for Civic Engagement](#) (see page 28). At that time, she was an Assistant Professor at the University of Washington.

Soon after returning from Rome, she was asked to join a group of accomplished Landscape Engineers to select 10 of the most important [Public Gardens in the USA](#) by the PBS. It was broadcast on their television stations.

This past week, I received a bulletin from the [American Academy in Rome](#) and was delighted to see she was featured as a returning fellow in 2023:



THAÏSA WAY

Mercedes T. Bass Landscape Architect in Residence February 13–May 5, 2023

“A Rome Prize Fellow in 2016, Thaïsa Way is director of garden and landscape studies at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collections, as well as professor of landscape architecture for the College of Built Environments at the University of Washington. Her research interests include feminist histories of landscape architecture and urban public space.

Way is the author of a monograph of the firm Gustafson Guthrie Nichol, titled *GGN Landscapes 1999–2018 (2018)*, as well as *The Landscape Architecture of Richard Haag: From Modern Space to Urban Ecological Design (2015)* and the award-winning *Unbounded Practice: Women and Landscape Architecture in the Early Twentieth Century (2009)*. With Eric Avila, Way edited *Segregation and Resistance in America’s Urban Landscapes*, to be published in 2023. Another forthcoming publication is a study of the Dutch American landscape architect Arthur Edwin Bye.

While in Rome Way will return to her work on the history of gardens as works of art and as ways of making place. It is “a crucial place-based history of garden design” that relates to her Rome Prize project focusing on the history of drawing in landscape design. “‘How do we re-imagine places in the landscape?’ is a question that forms a thread in all of my work,” she said.”

Links of Interest



My December Chores:

THE PAUSE THAT REFRESHES: Gardeners, like their gardens, benefit from a bit of dormancy, and the time is upon us. Enjoy it. I've already shared some of [my winter plans](#), and here's the rest of one of the easiest of the year's to-do lists:

Seed-catalog season gets going in earnest later in the month, so early December is prime time to inventory leftover seeds and store them in a cool, dry place. A friend stashes his in the fridge, first sealing in zipper bags with the air squeezed out, then placing the bags in a sealed plastic box rather than having strays get lost among the yogurt and mayonnaise. If you want to test your germination rate now, [here's how](#). Toss those more than a few years old and make a list of what you'll need. [Not that any act of self-control stops me](#) from ordering yet another gourd or pumpkin variety, or some oddity I simply must have or perish. My list of favorite sources is in the right-hand sidebar of every page here; my 2009 order [is here](#).

Position your seed-shopping easy chair to point out the window, where there are still riches: [all kinds of fruit](#), including berries, [bark](#), new [birds](#). Did you join [Project Feederwatch](#) yet?

Remember: Take the mower in for service after the final mowing, rather than in the spring rush, then store without gas in the tank by running it dry. Oh, and there are [overwintered plants](#) in the basement and garage to check for possible water needs, and also [produce like potatoes in storage](#). One bad apple, as the saying goes. Examine for any mold or softness.

HOUSEPLANTS

KEEP AN EYE OUT for signs of [houseplant](#) pests like spider mites, mealybugs, and scale insects. If tackled before they get out of hand, nonchemical methods are usually successful: a simple shower, insecticidal soap spray (as directed on label) or with the most tenacious (like mealybugs) sometimes an alcohol swab and Q-tip. Overwatering is the biggest risk to houseplants in winter...go easy.

START A POT OF PAPERWHITES in potting soil or even easier, [pebbles and water laced with alcohol](#), and stagger forcing of another batch every couple of weeks for a winterlong display.

WAKE UP [AMARYLLIS BULBS](#) by watering once, placing in a bright spot, and waiting for them to respond. If no dice in a couple of weeks, water again...but don't repeatedly water an unresponsive bulb or it may rot. It will tell you when it's ready for action.

TREES & SHRUBS

CLEAR TURF OR WEEDS from the area right around the trunks of fruit trees and ornamentals before snow flies to reduce winter damage by rodents. [Hardware cloth collars](#) should be in place year-round as well.

BE EXTRA-VIGILANT cleaning up under fruit trees, as fallen fruit and foliage allowed to overwinter invites added troubles next season.

SCOUT FOR VIBURNUM BEETLE egg cases on bare viburnum twigs now through April. Remove cases by pruning off affected wood to reduce larvae and beetle issues in the coming year. The bump-like cases are usually on the underside of youngest twigs. I also [watch in May for larvae hatch](#) and rub the twigs then to squash the emerging pests.

PREVENTIVE PRUNING: Always be on the lookout for dead, damaged, diseased wood in trees and shrubs and [prune them out](#) as discovered. This is especially important before winter arrives with its harsher weather, where weaknesses left in place invite tearing and unnecessary extra damage. Remove suckers and water sprouts, too.

FLOWER GARDEN

MOLE PATROL: I am still setting out mousetraps under boxes, buckets or cans in the gardens where I see any activity, [to rid them from my beds](#) and borders.

PROTECT ROSES FROM WINTER damage by mounding up their crowns with a 6- to 12-inch layer of soil before the ground freezes. After all is frozen, add a layer of leaf mulch to further insulate.

Accolades

Accolades for the Holiday Elves



A tip of the hat and a ringing of the bells go out to our group of gifted, inspired Holiday Elves who have come to the aid of our annual **Greens Market**. They have shown creativity, patience, and a joyful heart as the creations manifest right in their hands. We are so fortunate to have women who not only bring out the best in one another but also bring their incredible imagination and talents to the workroom. Please remember to come and marvel at all the work these innovative women have designed! **December 3rd from 9:00-2:00.**

Creating a Bow: Lessons from the Experts





Garden Club of America



PHOTOGRAPHY CONFERENCE

Save the Date!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023

This virtual conference will be open to all GCA club members!

Registration will launch in December via an email sent to everyone. The registration link will be posted below when registration is open.

We look forward to having you join us for this very special virtual

[Photography Conference.](#)

Notebook updates

Nancy Purdy resigned from the club when she and Dick moved, but wanted people to know her new address:

Nancy Purdy
44 Willow Pond Circle
Medway, MA 02053

Welcome to our newest Provisional member:

Kate Fentress
1157 Russells Mills Rd
Dartmouth, MA 02748
508-642-5284
kate@fentress.net



It is that time of year! The holidays are in full swing as evidenced by the busy elves preparing all the beautiful items for the Greens Sale.

On Tuesday, December 13th at 11:00 am you are cordially invited to attend the Garden Club of Buzzards Bay Holiday Gathering in the Coach House at the Rotch-Jones Duff House.

Join us after your time in the greenhouse or your morning activities. There will be food, catered by Farm and Coast, holiday decor, soft music, and a libation or two!

Wear your finest holiday sweater or the ugly one you save just for these occasions.

This year we will be asking for a donation to the **Department of Children and Families, New Bedford Office**. There is a holiday drive every year with the hope of finding at least one gift for the 52,000 children that are in and out of the system. The teens are hit the hardest and the New Bedford Office has asked for water bottles, if possible, **Hydro Flasks**. These can be purchased through numerous sites and can be found in stores. If you can, please bring one or more to the party on the 13th with a gift bag, if possible, they cannot accept wrapped items.

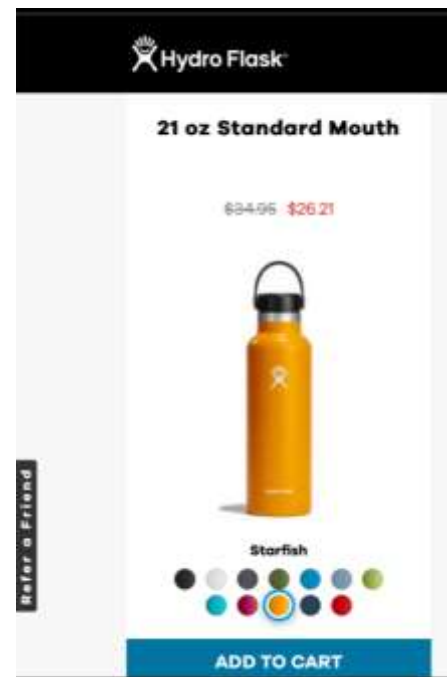
Here are three links below that show the typical size. You can use your discretion and go a little bigger if you wish, but the 21 oz size is a good option.

Please make sure the delivery date will be before December 13th if you order online:

<https://www.hydroflask.com/bottles>

<https://www.dickssportinggoods.com/p/hydro-flask-standard-mouth-21-ozbottle-with-flex-cap-16hflu21zstndmthfcac/16hflu21zstndmthfcac>

https://smile.amazon.com/Hydro-Flask-Standard-Flex-RAIN/dp/B08WX2QWC5/ref=sr_1_26?crid=29RID6NAVQ5X1&keywords=hydro+flask+21+oz&qid=1669846215&sr=8-26



December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:00 Winter Greens Market Workshop	2 9:00 Set Up for Winter Greens Market	3 9:00-2:00 Winter Greens Market 
4	5	6 9:00 Greenhouse	7 	8 9:00 GBCC Exec. Comm Meeting	9	10
11	12	13 9:00 Greenhouse 11:00 GCB Holiday Party	14	15	16 First Night of Hanukkah 	17
18	19	20 9:00 Greenhouse	21 	22	23	24
25 Merry Christmas! 	26 Last Night of Hanukkah Happy Kwanzaa!  First day of Kwanzaa	27 9:00 Greenhouse	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 

Until next time...

Remember to pause (or paws)

and spread joy this holiday season.

