



Garden Club of Buzzards Bay

From the Ground Up

February 2024

Presidents Message

Dear Members,

Has anyone else noticed that there seems to be a little more daylight at the end of the day? Could Spring be not too far behind? This time of the year gives us hope that the world is getting ready to do its Spring thing. It is our season!

Here at GCBB we are hard at work in the greenhouse. Anna and company are doing an amazing job of getting us ready to have one unbelievable plant sale. The plants are healthy, happy, and look great. I hope you all get to spend some time in the greenhouse. It is so rewarding. During this dreary time of the year, it is great to be around colorful, growing plants.



I have noticed that many of our committees are starting to meet and get ready for the coming year. Thank you all so much for all you do to make our dedicated group of gardeners extra special. Let's plan our own gardens as well. I am hoping to continue with my plans for a pollinator garden. It's very exciting to think about new plants and how they will work with existing gardens.

Enjoy this special time, as we move towards spring.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Sandy

(Photo: Heart Cloud, Linda Cornell)

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Succulents at the Greenhouse:



(Photo: Holly Barrows)

Changing of the Seasons



7" Amaryllis at Tina's (Photo: Tina Read)

A succulent at Fran Levin's:



(Photo: Linda Cornell)

Committee News

Grants Committee

Submitted by *Gig Lang*

The GCBB Grant Committee has announced this year's grant recipients:

ORGANIZATION	PROJECT	REQUEST	RECOMMENDATION
COMMUNITY BOATING CENTER	Compost units	1,100.00	1,100.00
Y.O.U.	Victory Garden 2024 prep	500.00	500.00
BUTTONWOOD PARK ZOO	Continue pollinator program at Zoo	1,000.00	1,000.00
LLOYD CENTER	Care, maintenance, signage, pamphlets	1,000.00	500.00
MASS AUDUBON	Community engagement-Monarch Watch	407.98	407.98
ROCHESTER LAND TRUST	Garden & walkway	450.00	450.00
YMCA SOUTHCOAST/HARVEST	Bird netting to protect blueberries	503.99	503.99
NATIVITY PREP SCHOOL	Tools, mulch, fertilizer, native plants & shrubs	999.72	1,000.00
	TOTAL	5,961.69	5,461.97

Greenhouse Committee

Anna Surma, Caroline Wehner and Holly Barrows

Submitted by *Holly Barrows*

The Greenhouse is full of color and growth! Over 1,200 plants are being nurtured in the greenhouse from cuttings donated by members. More are being added every week from the cutting bench; soon we will be planting from seed. The succulents are thriving under the tutelage of Leslie Bernert.

Michel Jodoin is creating coleus topiaries - something new this year. Also pictured and being tended by Carol Collier are "Crystal Palace Gem" geraniums - the contrasting green and yellow leaves are really special.

The Greenhouse is being well cared for with big thanks to our members but we do have some slots open for daily greenhouse duty in February so please do sign up [online](#). Thank you!

Members of the Greenhouse Committee working their magic...



(Photos: Holly Barrows)

Leslie having fun at the Greenhouse (Photos: Iryna Priester)



Plant Sale Committee

Submitted by Iryna Priester and Anne Heller

Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

The Rotch-Jones-Duff House
369 County Street,
New Bedford



The Plant Sale committee along with a couple of us who sneak into other people's business (Laura and Linda) is considering having a **BOOK TABLE** at the **PLANT SALE**. These books would be of course gardening books of all sorts ~ gardening, stories about gardening, kitchen gardens, herbs, propagation ~ you get the idea. So, as you start your spring cleaning or maybe you are doing a *winter purge*, please consider these treasured gardening books going to the GCB for the plant sale. If you have books and do not want to store them, contact Linda lindyc@davecornellcharters.com or Laura lcampbell64@comcast.net. We will happily store them for you or find a place in the Coach House. This is still a work in progress and details have not been completely solidified yet. BUT we wanted to get to you early to ease your mind as to what to do with all of those books you adore but don't need any longer. Somebody does. Let them go to the next generation of gardeners! This could be a wonderful added source of revenue for the GCB.

Horticulture Committee

Submitted by Barb Brown

Did you know that as a GCA garden club member you are able to nominate a favorite plant to be considered for the GCA's annual Freeman Medal award? The Montine McDaniel Freeman Horticulture Medal acknowledges "the cultivation and use of native plants: trees, shrubs, ground covers, vines, and perennials that are little known but are deemed worthy to be preserved, propagated, promoted, and planted." The nominees are either an herbaceous plant (even years) or a woody plant (odd year) This year's 2024 Plant of the year was bestowed upon "*Passiflora incarnata* (photo, right) *Passiflora incarnata* is a perennial climbing vine originating from the southeastern



United States, native to zones 6-10. With its vigorous growth habit, this vine elegantly intertwines itself around trellises, fences, and arbors. The ornate floral structure, captivating fragrance, abundant nectar, and lavender color entice a diverse array of pollinators, including butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds."

Nominations for 2025 are currently being accepted and are due May 31. You can find this info and more on the GCA website, but for now, here are the nomination requirements.

- The plant must be an herbaceous plant in the even years, or a woody plant in the odd years.
- Herbaceous plants have leaves and stems that die back to the ground in winter leaving the plant's root system to provide new growth each spring; woody plants have an above ground structure that survives through the winter adding a new layer of woody tissue each year.
- The plant must be an outstanding or unusual species or cultivar of a North American native plant (in the case of a hybrid, at least one-half of the plant's parentage must be native to North America) that is underutilized.
- plant must display attributes that enhance the landscape, are attractive to wildlife, and/or are effective environmental plants, e.g. those that control erosion.
- plant must not be readily available for landscape use in at least one major portion of the country but must be in propagation for commercial distribution.

For a little eye candy while we hibernate, you might check out nature photographer/artist, Mary Jo Hoffman and her work at The STILL Life. I never tire of her work.



Here is a link to an article about her:

<https://www.ppa.com/ppmag/articles/the-still-life>

And, for those on social media, her Instagram account is worth checking

out: <https://www.instagram.com/maryjohoffman/>

Scholarship Committee

Submitted by Mary Schubert

Thank you to all who responded to the opportunity to contribute to the GCA Scholarship Fund when paying your yearly GCBB dues bill. With your contributions and a little boost from the Executive Committee, we sent \$1,000 to support the Coastal Wetlands Studies GCA Scholarship.

When making this donation, we honored Holly McDonough who eased us into the future by creating the GCBB Website. Her vision has kept GCBB's communications at A+ level since 2011. As she moves on from this responsibility this year, we salute her for her major contribution to our club.

Thanks to Carolyn Willard's idea 10 years ago of allowing our members choose to support the GCA Scholarship Fund at annual dues time. I thought you might be interested on this anniversary to see the names of others who have been honored with our donations:

2023 – Holly McDonough
2022 – Ruth Furman
2021 – Janet Sherwood
2020 – Carolyn Willard
2019 – Mary Schubert
2018 – Fran Levin
2017 – Happy Webb
2016 – Nonnie Hood
2015 – Timmy Shapiro
2014 – Betsy McBratney

Thank you again, and I hope in the coming year you will continue to support this donation at annual dues time. Remember that our own Ellen Christie is the Zone I Scholarship Representative for the next two years.



Zone I Awards

Submitted by Carla Morey

The Garden Club of Mt. Desert proposed a candidate for a GCA Medal, and I am happy to announce it was a grand success!



GILBERT BUTLER, OUTDOOR ENTHUSIAST, ENVIRONMENTAL PHILANTHROPIST, AND CONSERVATION EDUCATOR has won:

The Margaret Douglas Medal is awarded for notable service to the cause of conservation education will be presented to Gilbert Butler for opening hundreds of thousands of acres to the public and educating young people on how to interact with and enjoy nature.

Gilbert Butler is an accomplished outdoorsman and highly regarded environmental philanthropist who is passionate about opening vast, beautiful parcels of land in the United States and South America for public recreation and enjoyment.

These lands bought through his Butler Conservation Fund are turned into multi-use recreational trails and nature parks for outdoor education and public use. The aim of these investments is to encourage people to get outside and be active.

Gilbert shuns the spotlight and wants the conservation projects his talented team undertakes to speak for themselves. These projects focus on what he calls “legacy geographies.” These are areas that have ecological significance, natural beauty, and offer opportunities for healthy outdoor recreation. Examples include the Adirondack region and Shawangunk Ridge in Upstate New York, Mount Katahdin and Cobscook Bay in Maine, low country coastal areas of South Carolina and Georgia, and the Patagonia region of Chile and Argentina.

To further efforts to provide outdoor education to young people, Gilbert founded the Butler Outdoor Education Fund in 2011. This fund provides school-age children with

free outdoor education and recreational opportunities. Programs combine outdoor activity with lessons in the sciences and history with the hope of instilling a love of outdoor recreation while fostering environmental stewardship.

Using his business acumen and passion, Gilbert has created a legacy for the organizations and geographies he values and for the people, especially young people, who are touched by these beautiful areas and what they can teach.

Proposed by Garden Club of Mount Desert, Zone I



Local Interest

An invitation and message from Aaron Teixeira Community Connections Coordinator at the Westport Land Conservation Trust:



We will be highlighting the Why Are Oaks Special exhibit for the next few months, in addition to our ongoing walks and explorations of our Westport landscapes. All of our events are listed on our [website](#) and highlighted in our bi-monthly newsletter. Please sign up if you don't already receive it!

We are so grateful to the Little Compton Garden Club and the Garden Club of Buzzards Bay for sharing their award-winning exhibit with us. We look forward to more opportunities to collaborate and share knowledge and resources on conservation with the members of our community.



For more information contact:
Aaron Teixeira
Community Connections
Coordinator
Westport Land Conservation
Trust
Westport, Massachusetts
02790
508-636-9228

Links of Interest

Online Help for Indoor Plant Parents:



[House Plant Journal – An Engineer's Approach to House Plants](#)

Looking for Native Plants? Search this database by zip code:

[Native Plants | Audubon](#)



Here is an example from a search of zip code 02748:

King's-Cureall

Oenothera biennis



Also known as Common Evening-Primrose, this biennial wildflower grows 2 to 6 feet tall. Its hairy, leafy stalks bear spikes of yellow flowers that open in the evening and close by noon. It can grow in full sun to shade, and in dry, rocky or sandy soils. This plant attracts several moth species, as well as small mammals and deer that eat the foliage, and birds that eat the seeds.

Annuals/Per., Fruit, Nuts, Butterflies,

Attributes Caterpillars

Add to your plant list

Buy Now

May attract

Woodpeckers



Wrens



Vireos



Finches



Thrushes



Cardinals & Grosbeaks



Garden Club of America



The Real Dirt (TRD) is a triannual newsletter produced by the Horticulture Committee for GCA club members. Featuring in-depth articles and handy tips for gardeners of all levels, *The Real Dirt* has something for everyone. From a treatise on the benefits of off-season gardening to the how-to's of espalier, *The Real Dirt* digs into the heart and soul of the GCA, sharing wisdom from one gardener to another. The following is an excerpt from the most [recent issue](#).

PLANTS' BEST FRIEND

Dogs' celebrated noses enable them to find a drop of scent in a body of water the size of 20 Olympic swimming pools. Now, researchers are harnessing this "superpower" to aid in the fight against an invasive insect—the spotted lanternfly. Researchers at Virginia Tech and Texas Tech are partnering with the National Association of Canine Scent Work. To date, hundreds of olfactory-trained dogs have been recruited to help detect spotted lanternfly eggs before they can hatch.

First spotted in Pennsylvania in 2012 on a shipment of plants from China, the bugs have now spread to 14 states and pose a grave danger to 70 plant species. Lanternflies cause significant damage to the plants they feed upon by leaving a sweet residue that encourages mold, powdery mildew, and attracts other pests.



Eight-year-old border collie Flint has been trained to sniff out spotted lanternfly eggs. Photo courtesy of Citizen Science



Spotted lanternflies pose a major threat to trees, orchards, vineyards, woody plants, and flower gardens.



**2024 Floral Design Conference:
Tuesday, February 6th
11:00AM – 3:30 ET**

The “[For the Love of Flowers](#)” conference will include demonstrations by both international and GCA designers and teach us about eco-friendly alternatives to flower foam and tips on how to make your botanical art creations more easily. The conference instruction is planned for arrangers of all levels.

The conference will consist of two sessions on February 6th; we hope you can attend both! Each session of this conference is a live Zoom webinar featuring pre-recorded presentations followed by interactive Q and A sessions with the designers.

This conference will illustrate how designers are inspired to create in their own style and help you find your own artistic floral direction. We each relate to our floral material differently: filler flowers, form flowers, or line elements - which is your favorite? Do you grow what you can use in your own designs? See how these grower/designer/trend forecast experts chose their materials to create their own unique designs. Botanical arts demonstrations will wow us and encourage you to explore this medium further.

Finding inspiration comes in many forms - let's have fun as we explore together. What flower speaks to you most? Share it in your designs.

Last Day to Register is Sunday, February 4th

**To view upcoming GCA conference offerings, visit the
GCA Conference & Events page:**

[THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA \(gcamerica.org\)](https://www.gcamerica.org)





Each month, we at the newsletter would love to acknowledge our members who are having birthdays. If you would like to participate in the fun, please send along the month and date of your special day to lindyc@davecornellcharters.com or lcampbell64@comcast.net.

Wouldn't it be nice to be honored by your GCBB friends??

We'll get the ball rolling:

Linda Cornell - February

Laura Campbell - September



View From My Window



Cheeky squirrel at Ruth Jolliffe's

Fran Levin in her happy place (Photos: Linda Cornell):



Miles Away

Photos from Anne Heller's New Zealand adventure over the Christmas holiday:



View of Lyttelton Harbor, just south of Christchurch.



New Zealand Flax



Cardoons (wild artichokes or artichoke thistle)

(Photos: Anne Heller)

Holly Barrows visited the “Garden Lights, Holiday Nights” at the
[Atlanta Botanical Gardens](#)





Holly McDonough shares this stunning photo of her favorite walking beach, Lido Key Beach, Longboat Key FL.



Susan Mead just returned from a trip to Costa Rica:



February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Groundhog Day 	3
4	5	6 9:00 Greenhouse	7	8 9:00 Executive Comm. via Zoom	9	10 Chinese New Year 
11  Super Bowl	12	13 9:00 Greenhouse	14 Valentine's Day 	15 10:30 Monthly Meeting via Zoom*	16	17 Random Acts of Kindness Day 
18	19 Presidents Day 	20 9:00 Greenhouse	21	22	23	24 Full Moon 
25	26	27 9:00 Greenhouse	28	29		

* Monthly Meeting (Virtual): via Zoom - Joann Vieira, Director of Horticulture,
Trustees of Reservations <https://thetrustees.org/>

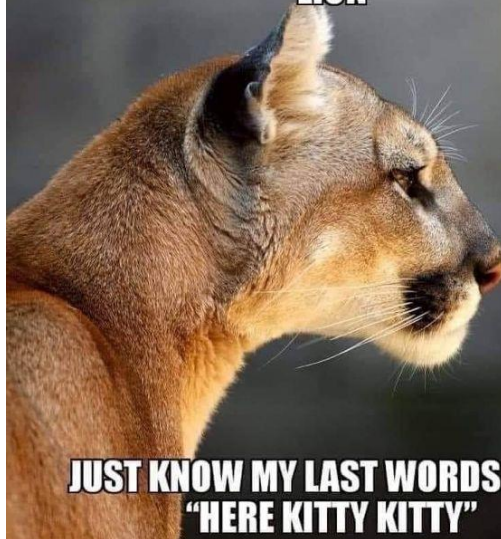


Just for fun...

I knew joining [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)
would be a bad idea.



**IF IM EVER KILLED BY A MOUNTAIN
LION**



**JUST KNOW MY LAST WORDS WERE
"HERE KITTY KITTY"**

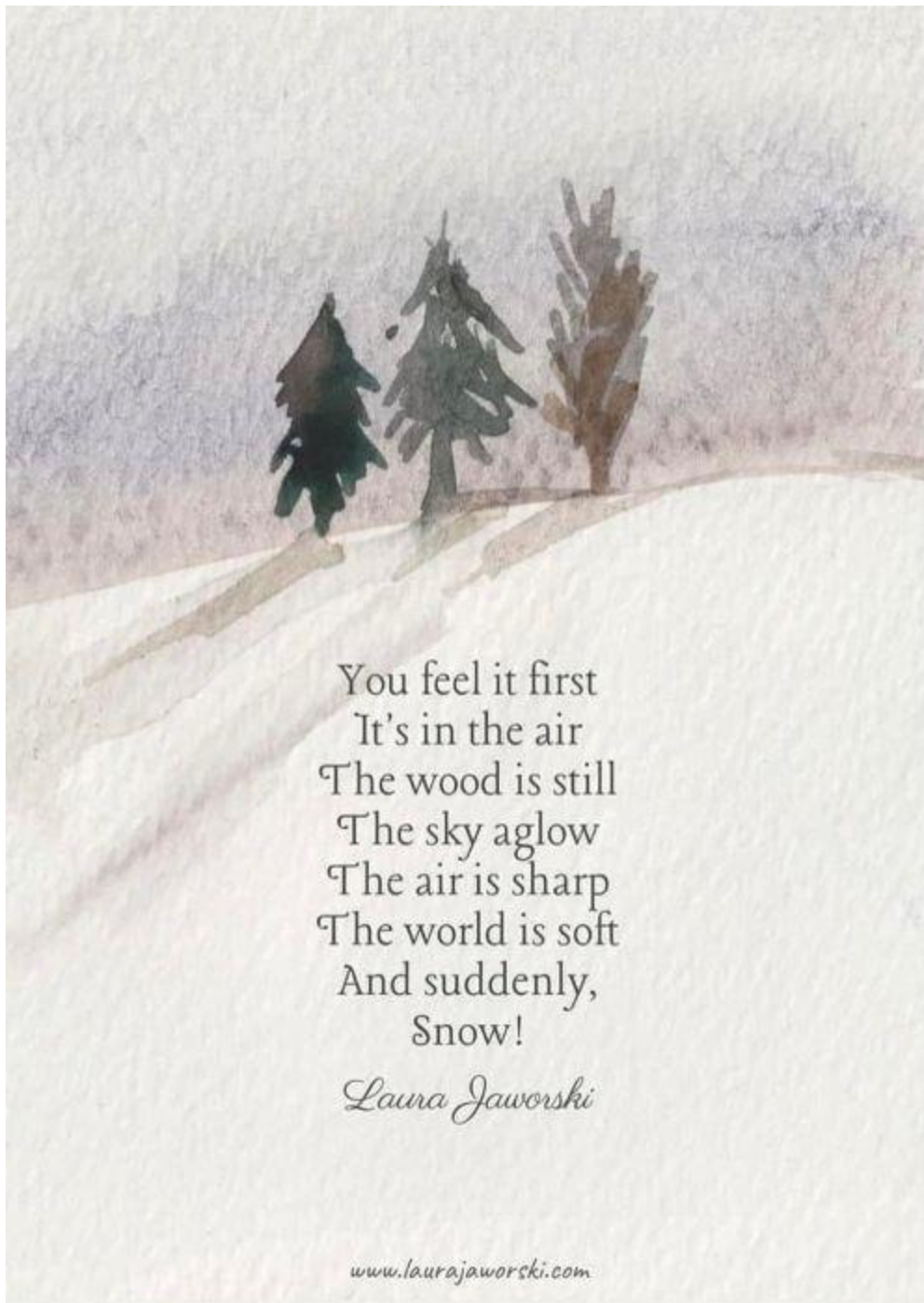
Until next time...



“Anyone who thinks gardening begins in the spring and ends in the fall is missing the best part of the whole year; for gardening begins in January with the dream.”

— Josephine Neuse





You feel it first
It's in the air
The wood is still
The sky aglow
The air is sharp
The world is soft
And suddenly,
Snow!

Laura Jaworski

www.laurajaworski.com

