



Garden Club of Buzzards Bay

From the Ground Up

November 2024

President's Message

Dear Members,

The Southcoast has been blessed with beautiful weather, creating the perfect conditions for our community of gardeners to wrap up the season. And, possibly to squeeze in a final sail...

From the successful launch of the greenhouse to a field trip to Share the Harvest Community Farm in Dartmouth, and the start of committee projects, it has been a rewarding time to come together, sharing knowledge, growing connections, and continuing our mission of education and collaboration.

November has us preparing for the onset of winter, while we delay its arrival with cozy gatherings, culminating with Thanksgiving as we join in celebration. For something to look forward to, please note the following dates on your calendars:

- ★ December 7th, 9-2:00 is our Holiday Greens Market. The greens market workshops began on 10/29 and will continue for 3 consecutive Tuesday in the coach house. These are fun and festive events! Please join in.
- ★ November 21st — just in time for Thanksgiving, our next club meeting at the Southworth Library. Plan to be inspired by the work of our very talented floral design and flower show committee.
- ★ The GCBB holiday party – December 12th will be very special this year as we celebrate the season at the New Bedford Yacht Club! Time to be announced. This is a new and fun event space which will better accommodate our members. Deborah Burke is a hostess goddess! TY

Enjoy the beauty of this special season,

~ Barb

“The mission of the GCBB is to educate and inspire our members through horticulture, conservation, education, and community involvement. The camaraderie of our greenhouse fosters lifelong friendships and a deep love of gardening”

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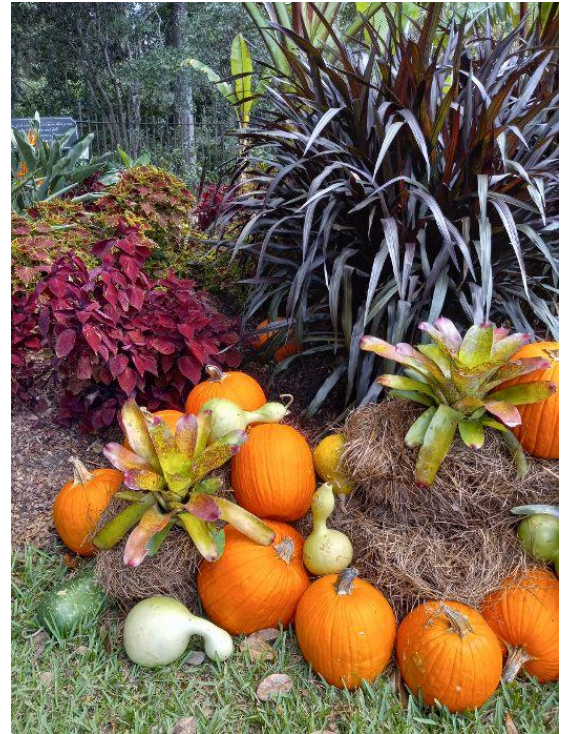
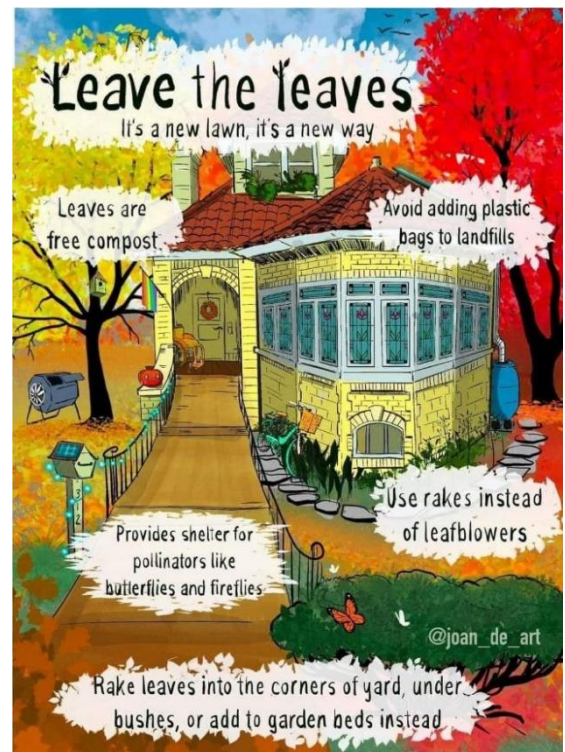


Photo: Michel Jodoin

Changing of the Seasons



Committee News

Conservation Committee

Submitted by Susan Rothschild

Sandra Fairbank, who is our current GCA Zone I Conservation Rep, has scheduled monthly mtgs for club Conservation Chairs for the last Tuesday of the month. We had our first mtg end of September and it was interesting to meet the attendees and hear about different club projects such as Native Plant gardens. I reported on our Oak tree restoration and community education ideas at Hazelwood Park in New Bedford and mentioned the restoration of the dahlia garden facilitated by Ellen Christie—both in collaboration with New Bedford Conservation Agent Chance Perks.

Topics of particular importance discussed at the Zone I mtg were plastics and “pfos and pfoa”, short for perfluoro chemicals, of which some 15,000 types are serious threats to us and our planet. These chemicals are used in all sorts of products such as Teflon in cooking ware, cosmetics, ScotchGuard, and various plastics like water bottles and food containers. Informational sources include an article about 3M company and pfos recently published in the New Yorker magazine; the Netflix production “Dark Waters” about the DuPont chemical company role in this contamination; and the website “mommavation.com” regarding cosmetics. Also mentioned was the website for “Beyond Plastics”. This is an organization started by Judith Enck, now at Bennington College, who served as a U.S. EPA regional administrator and is an expert on plastic pollution—particularly microplastics which are ubiquitous in us and our world. I think it these are topics worth knowing more about, so your Conservation Committee will be exploring putting together educational/source fact sheets.

The [National Legislation Affairs/NAL](#) meeting in Washington, D.C. is coming up on March 23 – 26, 2025. This is a chance to meet with congressional representatives and their staffs involved in U.S. conservation policy. More info on that to come. But if you are interested now, please let our President Barbara Brown know.

In this regard, we also discussed how our clubs might be in contact with our own state and local representatives to find out about legislation affecting our communities as well as to advocate policy positions of concern that may not show up on the national screen. I think such an initiative might be coordinated at our club level as GCBB members have broad experience and expertise though Conservation can certainly serve as focus for thoughts for action.

Before closing, I would like to remember Joan Underwood for all her contributions to the Conservation Committee. Joan was tireless in her advocacy for environmental protection. Even when her health was faltering, she took time

to lend her sculptural birds to our Autumn Joy oak educational exhibit. They added both wonderful whimsy and an appealing visual that strengthened our theme of the importance of oaks to healthy forests.



Lastly, please take a look at the GCA website on [Conservation](#) issues. And if you have an inquiry on Conservation in Zone I, please let me know and I can pose the question at the next Zone I meeting. Happy Fall!

P.S. Two of our little oaks saved from the Autumn Joy educational exhibit have found homes. Chance Perks has planted a white oak at Oak Grove Cemetery (photo) and a red oak at Hazelwood Park. He has

three more red oaks that will find a home in other New Bedford locales.

Greenhouse Committee

Submitted by Co-Chairs: Anna Surman, Cynthia Brown, Michel Jodoin, Teresa Betit

We had a wonderful opening day at the greenhouse on September 15. We received many donations of beautiful plants and got busy prepping them and planting them in the cutting bench. We're off to a great start as we begin our growing season in anticipation of our annual Plant Sale in May 2025.

We welcome plant cutting donations from all GCBB members! If you are interested in donating, we are asking you to focus on your healthiest, disease-free, and pest-free specimens. This year, we are particularly interested in fancy leaf geraniums, zonal geraniums, vining/trailing plants ("spillers"), coleus, and any other interesting, rare or new varieties of annuals that you believe would be popular items at the Plant Sale. Note the plant name, species, and color (if a bloomer) so that we can make signs for each plant and track our inventory, or we are happy to pick up or take cuttings from your plants, if interested.

If any of you have had the opportunity to see the window boxes and garden outside the Coach House, you will be impressed by the beautiful geraniums and coleus that Michael Jodoin carefully tended over the summer. Many of these plants will be used to start our propagation plans for this year, so many thanks to Michael for all his hard work.

Welcome to our Provisional members: Bianca Bator, Sara Englis, Carole Griffith, Jennifer Webb, and Martha Yules! And all GCBB members are always welcome at the greenhouse, so please feel free to join us any Tuesday at 9:00 am if you want a wonderful way to start the day.

Garden History & Design

Submitted by Nan Sinton

The garden history and design committee met in the Coach House on Wednesday, October 23 at 10 am for the orientation meeting. We reviewed the GCA goals for our committee, discussed our work during winter/spring of 23/24, and started to identify projects for the 24/25 season. Our second meeting is scheduled for the Coach House on Wednesday, November 21 at 10 am. As well as the committee members, we welcome Provisionals to attend.

Holiday Greens Market

Submitted by Holly Barrows



**Holiday
Greens Market**

**The Rotch-Jones-Duff House &
Garden Museum Coach House
396 County Street, New Bedford**
(Access the Coach House from the Seventh St. Gate Entrance)

Saturday December 7, 9am-2pm

Handmade decorated wreaths, centerpieces, garlands,
tabletop trees, swags, arrangements, ornaments and more!

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

December 7 will be here before we know it; festivities have already begun!

We will gather in the Coach House between 10-11pm after Greenhouse on Tuesday 11/5, 11/12 and 11/19 to prepare. On 11/5 Tina Read will show us how to make holiday bows and shell trees. On 11/12 we will assemble twinkle light containers with Natalie Mello and on 11/19 will be helping to assemble our favorite pinecone angels on 11/19. This is an all-club invitation to join the fun and camaraderie.

We ask that you hold off on your evergreen pruning until later in November (think Thanksgiving time frame) so we will have fresh greens to work with. Please consider cutting different types of evergreen, boxwood, beach grass plumes, holly branches with berries - be creative! Please leave your greens outside the Coach House from 11/28 onward. If you need help with the pruning, please let us know.

We will be making wreaths, table arrangements, swags, topiaries etc. in the Coach House from Monday 12/2 - Thursday 12/5, starting at 9am. Come join the fun, everyone is welcome.

If you wish to work the day of the Holiday Greens Market, 12/7, there will be an online signup.

Thank you for your time and creativity!

Horticulture Committee

Submitted by Carol Collier

Soil testing on February 25, 2025!

We have invited a Massachusetts master gardener who is trained in the process of soil testing and can give us all a basic overview of our garden soils. (bring samples for testing!) See link in the [Resources](#) section on the GCBB website: "UMass Soil Test" explaining the process. We will offer a basic soil test but encourage members to send samples to UMass for in-depth analysis of their soil.

Website Committee

Submitted by Laura Campbell

Recently you heard the call from President Barb to find someone willing to take the helm of the website. Her request is in response to my need to step

down from the website so I can focus on working with Linda on the monthly newsletter.

In addition to having the impressive title of Webmaster (some say 'Webmistress' but that one doesn't quite work for me), here is a what being the Webmaster requires:

Uploading documents and images to the website as well as periodic tweaks to the Holiday Greens, Plant Sale, and Grants pages to keep the dates and images current.

Do I have to learn how to program? No, the website uses WordPress, an easy to navigate web platform. If you have mastered using a word processing program, you will be just fine.

How much time will it take? It depends on the month. Most months there is nothing that needs to be done unless the Membership Roster changes (typically a couple times a year). When the new GCBG yearbook comes out, those documents need to be uploaded (drag and drop) to the Membership page and the dates for the Holiday Greens and Plant Sale need to be changed on those pages.

What about all those sign-up sheets? The club's original Webmaster, Holly McDonough graciously agreed to stay at the helm on this task. Holly is readily available for questions and, as anyone that has worked with Holly knows, she is delightful to work with.

Another part of the Webmaster responsibilities is keeping GCBG Google Calendar up to date. This is easy to do, just a matter of adding committee meetings once you are notified via email by the committee chair.

Optional but highly encouraged: Participation in periodic Zoom calls with other GCA club members in charge of their club's website. It is a lovely group of women, eager to share and help one another. It is fascinating to learn what other clubs are doing with their websites and a great way to meet women beyond the GCBG. The meetings happen 1-2 times a year.

Linda and I keep getting great feedback on the club's newsletter. The newsletter takes time, and I'm stretched too thin to do both the newsletter and the website. I need someone to step up and work on the website. It is a great way to be involved in the GCBG with the benefits of working remotely, at your own pace, and on your own schedule. Please email or call me with any questions: lcampbell64@comcast.net or 508-654-1666.

Provisional Member Bios

Martha Yules

My profound love for gardening started when I was a young girl as a way to spend time with my grandmother and mother. But Nonnie Hood showed me how creative and fun gardening can be!

For almost 20 years, my husband, Sy, and I have lived in an 1881 Queen Anne Victorian home in South Dartmouth. Our gardens are our "maker space," where we grow various flowering and vegetative combinations to combat the deer. As a provisional member, I am eager to learn more about historical gardens, landscape design, and plant propagation.



Engaging and building a vibrant & connected community is my mantra. In 2021, we tried our hands as entrepreneurs and launched Grow Cocktails, a line of culinary craft (canned) cocktails. These days, I am a marketing and media sales consultant for South Coast Almanac and run a small service business called *Extra Set of Hands*. Previously, I have spent years fundraising for independent schools and other not-for-profit organizations, most recently for the Dartmouth YMCA's Share the Harvest. Before that, I worked in the advertising industry in New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Providence. Today, I contribute as a town meeting member and am a proud mother of four & grandmother of five, with another arriving in March!

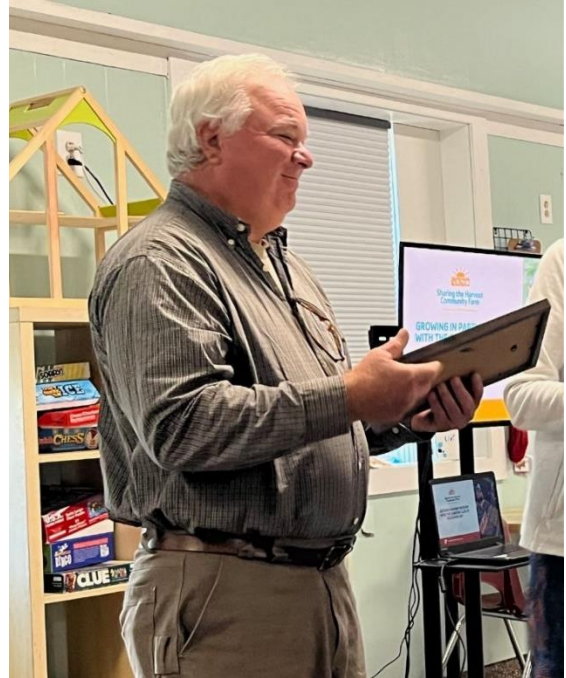
When Sy & I love to travel to spend time with our children, we enjoy visiting public and private gardens and parks, seeking inspiration along the way.



Features

October Monthly meeting highlights

Before the scheduled program began, Linda Cornell for the Awards Committee presented Rick Peckham from Peckham's Green House in Little Compton, RI with the well-deserved GCA Club Horticulture Commendation for his years and years of work on the Greenhouse at the RJD. Consulting on everything from four legged creatures to microscopic infestations, Rick has been a behind the scenes partner in helping the club not only rid the greenhouse of 'issues' but helping us reach our goal of having an organic pest management system.



As Linda said in her presentation, “If you haven’t been to Peckham’s Greenhouse. The question is why not?!” It is more than a greenhouse; it is an experience!

Peckham's Greenhouse



It all started five generations ago in 1866, when Albert Peckham purchased the Peckham farmland. For the rest of the nineteenth century, he and his sons pursued farming with a hard-working New England spirit, specializing in vegetables, fruits, dairy, and of course, flowers. Later,

Raymond Peckham and his wife Clara continued the family farm, focused mainly on root vegetables. In the 1960s, their son Albert and his wife Mary Jane pushed the business towards house and garden plants. Their dedication proved fruitful, as the business grew and became a trusted name in the community for all things plants.



Today, Peckham's Greenhouse is run by Albert and Mary Jane's youngest, Rick Peckham, and his wife Laura. As a fifth-generation farmer, Rick keeps the family business growing with personalized customer service and commitment to the community. Local schools, garden clubs, and the Little Compton Community Center can always rely upon Peckham's for support in their many beautification projects.





FLOWERING ANNUALS & BEDDING PLANTS

Fill your outdoor containers and garden beds with color and cheer by planting seasonal annuals.



HOUSEPLANTS & TROPICALS

Whether you're a novice grower or an experienced green thumb, Peckham's has all the supplies you need for creating and maintaining your interior jungle.



HERBS & VEGGIES

All the potted herbs and veggies you need to get your garden started off strong! We offer a multitude of seasonal choices for home grown goodies.



PERENNIALS, TREES, & SHRUBS

Looking to add to your living landscape? We carry lots of fun varieties of healthy perennials, trees and shrubs hardy to the New England area.



FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

Fresh flowers are available as single cut stems, bouquets, and holiday table arrangements. Call or stop by to place an order for delivery or pick up.



SEEDS

A satisfying project for adults and kids alike! We offer a year-round variety of vegetable, herb, and flower seeds.



SOIL AMENDMENTS

We offer potting soils, seed starting mix, composts, mulches, fertilizers, and more.

Be sure to make a trip to Peckham's Greenhouse soon!

[200 W. Main Rd., Little Compton, RI](http://200.W.Main.Rd.,Little.Compton,RI)

THE GCA'S SHIRLEY MENEICE HORTICULTURE CONFERENCE (SMHC)

Submitted by Ruth Furman



WHO WAS SHIRLEY MENEICE? Or THE LEGACY OF SHIRLEY MENEICE

Her name is legendary in the halls of the GCA and throughout its clubs across the country. She was a most revered horticultural icon. Starting in the 60's, after her children were grown, Shirley satisfied her horticultural interest by growing and hybridizing camellias at her home in California. Her skill and expertise became known among camellia experts worldwide and in 2004 the American Camellia Society named a new variety after her.

Shirley was active in a number of club positions and went on to undertake many GCA leadership roles including becoming a horticulture judge.

Always looking for creative ways to stimulate horticultural knowledge, Shirley created the GCA's first propagation pamphlet that is the basis for the updated version still available on the GCA website. After 9/11, the GCA's plant exchange program, a much-anticipated part of the annual meeting, was discontinued but Shirley and the Horticulture Committee found a new way to inspire horticultural enthusiasm for GCA members. In 2002 the first educational horticultural meeting took place at The Huntington Botanical Gardens in



San Marino, CA. It was a great success and the GCA Executive Committee voted for the workshop to forever carry her name. Shirley died in 2004 just

before her 97th birthday after decades of graciously sharing her horticultural knowledge and mentoring. To this day the famed SMHC continues to inspire and delight attendees.

Post COVID, the GCA holds a virtual conference in the odd years; even years are in-person at various locations. When you as a GCBB member, get the opportunity to go to the SMHC, DO NOT HESITATE – just say yes, it will be one of your best experiences!



We had a wonderful tour with Ashley Brister Farm Director of Sharing the Harvest. Want more information? Check out

[Sharing the Harvest - YMCA SOUTHCOAST](#)

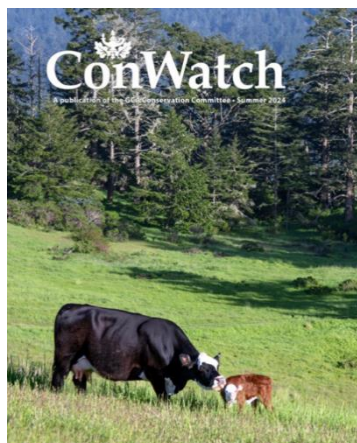
and/or watch a video: <https://youtu.be/cA8NpGamjDE>



Garden Club of America



News from the [GCA Conservation Committee](#):



To learn more about Undergrounding Overhead Utilities for a More Resilient Future and The Power and Potential of Regenerative Agriculture, read ConWatch Summer 2024:

[ConWatch: Summer 2024: The Impact of Agriculture \(gcamerica.org\)](#)

or

[2024SummerCW.pdf \(gcamerica.org\)](#)

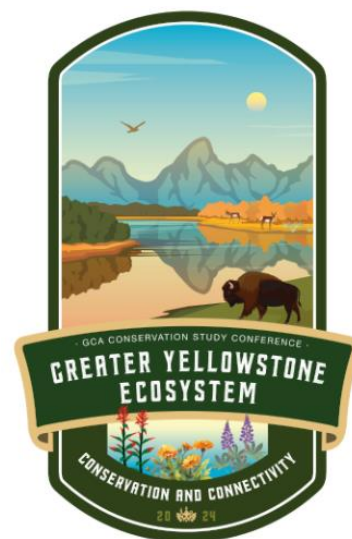
2024 Virtual Conservation Study Conference

The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: Conservation and Connectivity

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

11:00 AM - 3:30 PM ET

Registration is free and open to all GCA club members. The Garden Club of America invites you to register for the 2024 Conservation Study Conference, *The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: Conservation and Connectivity*. Join us, virtually, for an exciting, informative day of immersive presentations and vibrant conversations with National Park staff, researchers, wildlife biologists, authors, and artists exploring the magic of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.



The conference will consist of two sessions with a short 30-minute break between sessions. Each session of the conference is a Zoom webinar featuring both live and pre-recorded sessions with interactive question and answer opportunities with select presenters.

Conservationists, naturalists, travelers, and all outdoor enthusiasts should not miss this extraordinary opportunity to experience and learn about the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, one of the largest nearly intact temperate-zone ecosystems in the world. The GYE spans 22 million acres and covers parts of Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho and incorporates Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, six national forests, three national wildlife refuges, as well as tribal, state, and private lands. Join the Conservation Study Conference and learn about conservation efforts and the ecological connections among grizzly bears, wolves, bison, and other species important to the ecosystem.

For more info and to register:
[2024 Conservation Study Conference](#)



November Birthdays



Each month, we at the newsletter love to acknowledge our members who are having birthdays. November Birthdays to celebrate:

 **Ruth Jolliffe – 11/16**

 **Belated birthday wishes to Helen DeGroot!**

Helen celebrated her 95th birthday on October 16th She would love to hear from GCBB and GCA friends: 508-525-2057 (cell phone).

***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.**

Local Interest

From Marcy Busch:

Didn't make it to Newport to see the 'Great Elephant Migration'? The herd has moved to Manhattan's Meat Packing district and it's spectacular to see them parading about the skyscrapers. The 20 elephants are made of an invasive weed 'Lantana Camara' by indigenous artisans in South India. The exhibit promotes human-wildlife co-existence in an age of biodiversity loss.



Photos: Marcy Busch



Newport Elephant photo: Linda Cornell



To kick off their 50th Anniversary year,

Sogkonate Garden Club

has created a

2025 Planting Calendar

filled with planting tips from our own expert gardeners
and local photos taken by members of our community.


Enjoy this unique and useful calendar throughout the coming year.
Proceeds will help support our programs and services in our community.

The Calendar is **on sale now** for **\$10 plus postage**

To order your calendar go to

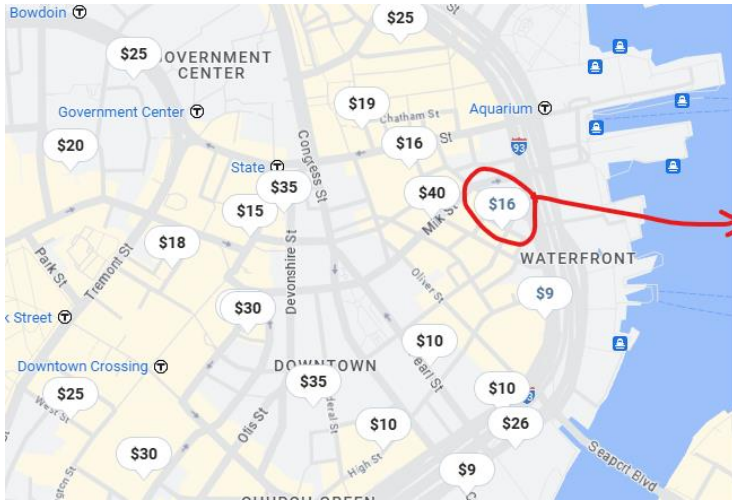
<https://www.sogkonate.org/store/p/sogkonate-garden-club-50th-anniversary-2025-calendar>

Makes a great holiday gift too!

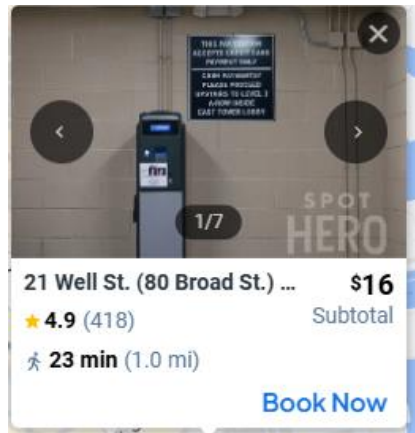
			
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
			
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
			
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER

This planting calendar was made possible by members and friends of the Sogkonate Garden Club, www.sogkonate.org. Special thanks to all who provided photos.
Cover photo: "Burchard Triangle, West Main Road, Little Compton" by Kate Kelley.

Tip from Barbara (BJ) Pease:



#16:



SpotHero is the website I used to find parking in Boston recently. It was so easy to use - directions, price, payment and you can cancel without penalty provided done within their timeline. The next time you are driving to Boston or Providence and need a parking space, check out:

[SpotHero | Get Everywhere Easier | Reserve Parking and Save](#)



Miles Away

Michel Jodoin shares his pictures from a recent visit to South Carolina.





The Magnolia plantation is outside of Charleston South Carolina, and I visited it the first week of October. It is the only Romantic styled garden that is open to the public for a fee and is the first private garden in the U.S. to do so, shortly after the Civil War. The plantation is still owned by the descendants of the first owner. It made its fortune from growing rice and lost the fortune with the loss of the war having invested totally in the Confederate dollar. Opening the gardens after the war saved most of the property. In the late 1800's, the U.S. government listed only 3 major sights in the country as must see for

their beauty and majesty: the Grand Canyon, Niagara Falls, and Magnolia Gardens.



Nan Sinton's English gardens from Roman Days to the 21st century

In late August Nan Sinton led a group of garden enthusiasts to visit private and historic gardens in Yorkshire. Some of the highlights included a stay at the National Trust's garden hotel [Middlethorpe Hall](#), and visits to a private garden with a Roman wall, and a remote 12th century Abbey where the owners have created a knot garden within the ruins, as well as the Royal Horticultural Society's new planting at [Harlow Carr](#), Piet Oudolf's design for [Scampston Hall](#), the famed garden at [York Gate](#) and many others. We were wined and dined by hospitable gardeners and returned with new planting thoughts and many recipes for Coronation Chicken! Nan's next stop is to southern Italy in the Spring.



Medieval knot 12th century Abbey



RHS Harlow Carr



Roman wall in Yorkshire

Photos: Nan Sinton

Closer to Home

Stunning succulents at Fran Levin's:



Photos: Barb Brown

November 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Deviled Egg Day Naughty chickens lay deviled eggs
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends Fall Back	4	5 Election Day 9:00 Greenhouse 10:00 Holiday Greens	6	7	8	9 Art Museum Day 
10	11 Veterans Day 	12 9:00 Greenhouse 10:00 Holiday Greens	13	14 9:00 Executive Committee	15  Full Beaver Moon	16
17 Take a Hike Day 	18	19 9:00 Greenhouse 10:00 Holiday Greens	20 10:00 Garden History & Design	21 10:30 Monthly Meeting*	22	23
24	25	26 9:00 Greenhouse	27	28 Happy Thanksgiving! 	29	30 Small Business Saturday 

* Monthly Meeting - Thursday, November 21st
 Location: Southworth Library 732 Dartmouth Street, Dartmouth
 Floral Design demonstration: Come be inspired by the work of the GCBB's very talented floral design and flower show committee. Carla Morey and Tina Read will be teaching us how to create floral arrangements for our Thanksgiving table.

Just for fun...

I understand being a responsible adult...
but every day?
Every single day?
That seems a little excessive.

The **Good** Quote

I'm at the age where I gave
up my dream of ever being
a Disney princess.

Evil queen is now within
my grasp.



Until next time...

