



Garden Club of Buzzards Bay

From the Ground Up

October 2025

President's Message

Dear Members,

We're back! As I begin my second year as president of GCBB, I find myself reflecting. I never imagined myself as a leader, but I've embraced the opportunity to guide this group of gardeners as we work together to make our corner of the world a little greener and kinder. Still, a garden club is never about just one person. It's about all of us—each contributing to our shared mission and lifting one another along the way. This spirit of collaboration was beautifully on display at our first club meeting, where Programming selected a wonderful venue and speaker—The Stone Barn at Allens Pond, with Alissa Young of Mass Audubon, who spoke to us about the Monarch Watch Tagging Program. Who knew you could place tiny stickers on those delicate wings? Hospitality treated us to delicious food, and Floral Design brought a touch of autumn with a stunning arrangement. Thanks to the Grants Committee, Alissa also received funding to establish a native garden just outside The Stone Barn—something that makes all of us, and especially our Horticulture committee, very happy. And thanks to Membership, we welcomed a group of new Provisionals—each one greeted with genuine enthusiasm. As we look ahead, I've been thinking about the core of our mission: to educate and inspire through horticulture, conservation, education, and community. Reflecting on our shared successes reminds us of the power of what we do. Now, let's move forward—together—into a new season of growth and connection.



Warmly,

~ Barb

Photo: Ruth Furman

“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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Changing of the Seasons



Photos: Linda Cornell

Committee News

Awards Committee

Submitted by Linda Cornell

In case you missed the GCBB annual meeting in June, here are the award recipients:

- GCA Club Commendation for Conservation - Lynn Keith, Keith Farm
- GCA Club Commendation for Historic Preservation – Rotch Jones Duff House Garden & Museum
- GCA Club Appreciation Award – Holly Barrows
- GCA Club Communications Award – Anne Heller
- GCA Club Judging Award – Ruth Furman
- GCA 25 Years of Service Certificate – Janet Sherwood
- GCBB President’s Bowl – Theresa Betit
- GCBB Horticultural Mentorship Award – Michel Jodin
- GCBB Valuable Member Award – Theresa Betit
- GCBB Wonder Woman Award – Natalie Mello

Conservation Committee

Submitted by Susan Rothschild

The Conservation Committee has not yet met this season; however, I have been in touch with Lauren Lowney, President of the Friends of Hazelwood Park. We are working on meeting with Mary Repoza, Head of Parks and Recreation of New Bedford, to share our Project Proposal and discuss how to move it forward. I recently met Todd Rapoza who is the City Arborist for New Bedford, and learned it is he who we would be directly working with at the Park in our project. I have given him a copy of our Project Proposal and briefly discussed our aims. He is interested in the project, and I think he will be a valuable asset to our efforts.

The new Zone I Conservation Chair is Phyllis Pollack of the Worcester Garden Club. She is currently working on a time slot for Zone I Zoom meetings. Our first meeting will be to share our clubs’ activities.

Garden Club of Buzzards Bay Tree to be planted soon in RJD streetscape
On September 8th, Michel Jodoin and I met with New Bedford Arborist Todd Rapoza to discuss the tree our club is sponsoring and the place to plant it. We selected the corner of Madison and 7th Street where Rose of Sharon planted by the RJD resides. Due to the location, Michel felt that a columnar oak would be a good choice due to the proximity of the adjacent building. This variety of Oak is “Fastigate” in the horticultural vocabulary, meaning “having the branches sloping upward more or less parallel to the stem”

according to Oxford Dictionary, which also states the term originated in the “mid-17th century from the Latin *fastigium* = tapering point, gable”.

The City has planted several of these fastigate Oaks along Union St, e.g. in the area of Union and Purchase. I believe these trees are the European *Quercus robur* ‘Fastigiata’. The Missouri Botanical Garden website states it has been “widely planted in North American since the 1600’s”. As this is not a native cultivar, I asked Ruth Furman if there was a native oak one, given our focus on native plants, and she indicated there is a Pin Oak: *Quercus palustris* “Green Pillar”. This cultivar I think should definitely be considered in our Hazelwood Park Oak planting project, and I think both deserve public notice as these smaller, less space demanding tree would seem a boon in urban gardens.

Following this thought, Ruth also reported other fastigate cultivars for consideration:

Maples: *Acer rubrum* ‘Walters Columnar’ and *Acer x freemanii* ‘Armstrong’
Sweetgum: *Liquidambar styraciflua* ‘Slender Silhouette’
Tupelo: *Nyssa sylvatica* ‘Tupelo Tower’ or ‘Afterburner’
Hornbeam: *Carpinus betulus* ‘Fastigiata’

Grants Committee

Submitted by Gig Lang

Our 2026 GCBG Grants cycle will begin on October 1, 2025. The application will be available online to the community. If any garden club member would like to recommend an organization, please do so. Send me their name and I will contact them with the application process. They must be a tax-exempt, non-profit organization.

If any club member has any questions, please contact me. The Grants Committee is excited for the grant cycle to begin.

Holiday Greens Market

Submitted by Holly Barrows, Carole Griffith, Susan McLaren, Natalie Mello, B.J. Pease, Jan Tatelbaum

The air is still warm, but we are already planning the December 6th Holiday Greens Market! We are excited about some fresh new ideas which will assimilate well with our fabulous and festive traditional offerings.

As usual, we will have workshops to help you learn and create prior to the week of 12/1-5 when the wreath-making, fresh green creativity and fun is happening at the Coach House. We hope everyone will join in!

The workshops are open to all GCBB members and will take place after Greenhouse in the Coach House on Tuesdays at 10:30:

10/28.... Wreath-making

11/4..... Moss tree-making

11/11.... Holiday Bow-making

11/18.... Milkweed pod angels and updating of pinecone angels

We use LOTS of fresh greens, and we absolutely need your HELP this year! All types of decorative greens (boxwood, pine, hemlock, spruce, cypress, Pieris (andromeda), cedar, fir, winterberry, juniper, mountain laurel, rhododendron, inkberry, eucalyptus, arbor vitae, etc.) are welcome. More on conditioning and timing of delivery in the next newsletter.

If anyone still has poppy pods in their garden, please save! They make lovely angel heads!

Please call Holly Barrows at 678-637-1446 with ideas and questions. Thank you!

Membership Committee

Submitted by: Anne Heller and Cheryl Gamsby

We're delighted to add a great group of Provisional members to our Club this year: Cristy Ballou, Cindy Carey, Lucy Huidekoper Edson, Gay Gray, Jean Herbst, Leslie Longfield, and Jan Tatelbaum. They share our enthusiasm for all things garden-related, and we're looking forward to seeing them in the greenhouse, on committees, and at our meetings.

Other Club transitions include the passing of Nancy Crosby, a member since 1986, and some resignations: Ellie Smith, Ruth Ann Walega, and Ellen Walsh. We thank Ellie, Ruth Ann, and Ellen for their contributions to the Club and wish them well.

Visiting Gardens Committee

Submitted by Carolyn Wehner and Martha Yules

On September 2nd, the Visiting Gardens and Horticulture Committees of the Garden Club of Buzzards Bay (GCBB) decided to visit the public gardens in New Bedford. Now a park open to the public, it remains a horticultural jewel. Allen C. Haskell, a well-known horticulturist, resided in the home on the property with his family and created a unique garden, along with managing a nursery which was a favorite of South Coast gardeners. After

Haskell's death, his heirs sold the property to the Trustees of the Reservation.

Native Pollinator Spiral Garden

Designed by Kristin McCullin, senior horticulturist and manager of the gardens, a spiral, native pollinator garden, was the focus of the visit. Kristin introduced the project for a group of twenty-two GCBB members and guests.

Various volunteer groups along with the Massachusetts Master Gardeners worked on the initial planting, care, and maintenance of the garden over a period of three years. The third year is known as the "leap stage" when the plants are fully established and display vigorous, mature growth. This concept is part of a common gardening adage, "The first year it sleeps, the second year it creeps, and the third year it leaps" which set realistic expectations for gardeners, explained Kristin in her presentation.

Kristin described selecting the seeds from Ernst Conservation Seeds, the largest native seed sellers in the eastern United States. A representative of Ernst worked with Kristin to select the appropriate seeds for this area. In addition, there are grey birch trees (*Betula populifolia*) and pine trees planted throughout the half acre space with blueberry plants forming the garden boundary. The serpentine path includes stone steppers and benches throughout.

After our tour, we sat in a shady garden area to enjoy snacks and beverages; it was an enjoyable morning.

A reconnaissance team to Highfield in Falmouth on a picture-perfect August day (Photo: Iryna Priester)



Provisional Member Bios

Cristy Ballou

My love of gardening began right here in South Dartmouth where my family spent our summers. I would watch my mom deadheading, transplanting and dragging heavy hoses to and fro. I still have two of her most beautiful climbing Roses with me-- having transplanted them two or three times. Since that time, my husband, Russell Brackett and I, have lived in Boston, Colorado, and finally spent the last 27 years in Weston Massachusetts, where we raised our four children. Two years ago, we moved down here full time.

I did take a few detours along the way. After graduating from Middlebury College in 1980, I moved to NYC where I worked as an editor in a publishing start up and tried hard to be a city slicker. I loved it, but it was a tough transition from the mountains and open spaces, so I decided to follow my curiosity about “the West” and moved to Colorado.

In Denver, I worked as a broker for Dean Witter and then managed the United Bank of Denver’s foray into the in-house brokerage business. After 5 years of amazing camping, hiking and ski adventures with old and new friends, Russell and I returned to NYC to go to Business School. Having decided we ‘needed’ the ocean closer by, we moved to Boston, where I went to work in the pension fund advisory business with Copley Real Estate Advisors.

I stopped working briefly when our fourth child, in four years, took us by storm. I kept busy with PTO fundraising work, volunteering on church committees, and creating a more service-oriented church school curriculum for our community at First Parish Church, sparked by volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity.

I spent a wonderful 6 years in the public schools as the Weston coordinator for the METCO program – the longest continuously running school desegregation program in the country. During that time, I also served as a board member of the Brackett Refugee Education Fund which helps children, who have been displaced from Burma, get an education. Through both experiences I learned a



great deal about the difficulty of bringing economically diverse communities together, and the importance of education.

A year ago, I completed a Certificate of Landscape & Ecological Systems at the Boston Architectural College, where I really began to understand the importance of creating native landscapes and protecting ecosystems through thoughtful planning. Our home is on three acres, and my husband keeps inviting more deer to graze on almost anything, so there is plenty to work on. This summer I have been involved in a few small projects for friends in South Dartmouth.

Russell and I are happiest with all our kids and their spouses/ partners, our dogs, and honeybees, nearby.

I'm looking forward to learning much from all the resources opening up through this industrious club, and the GCA: how to make gardens grow better, landscapes be more eco-friendly, and especially how to propagate plants as beautiful. as those I bought (too many of!) at the GCBB spring sale.

Things I love to do: ski, read, photography.

Things I wish I did better: knitting, cooking & singing.

Cindy Carey

After spending summers in the area for my entire life and raising our family in New Canaan, Connecticut, Chris and I moved to Nonquitt full-time in 2017. I have a long family history in Nonquitt, Dartmouth and New Bedford as my mother grew up here and my father's family (descendants of the Rotches of RJD) were



some of the early settlers of Nonquitt. We feel fortunate to have three adult children. Our oldest travels between San Francisco and Connecticut for work and the others live and work locally around Boston.

Flowers and gardening have been a passion of mine for a long time. Once we moved here, having left my New Canaan gardens behind, I began to transform our property by creating two gardens and adding to them each season. I also have window boxes and many pots that adorn our patios and stone walls. I admittedly have a lot to learn about gardening but just love it!!

Professionally, I have been an Emergency Medical Technician for over twenty years at New Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Until very recently, I still traveled back to New Canaan each month to fulfill my shift requirements. I now work remotely; quality controlling medical charts and go back to train new EMTs every few months on proper ways to write those charts.

Previously to becoming an EMT, I worked in the corporate travel business and then retired when our oldest entered middle school. Following my “retirement” I became PTA President of their school and served on the Board of Trustees and became very involved in Horizons Student Enrichment Program for many years. Horizons started as a summer program for underprivileged children attempting to bridge the gap in their education during the summer months and transformed into a full year, national program of enrichment.

These days beside “puttering” in my garden, I am involved on the board of Nonquitt and serve as a Trustee.

Lucy Huidekoper Edson

I was born at St Luke’s Hospital. My parents were living in Connecticut but were visiting my mother’s family (the Beckmans), who lived down the street from the hospital. My Dad, Peter Huidekoper, grew up in Washington DC, but spent the summers in Nonquitt, where he met my mother sailing in Buzzards Bay. I spent most of my childhood in New Canaan, CT, the oldest of five children. We came to Nonquitt every summer. I went to Westover School and Stephens College, majoring in elementary education. I met my husband, Bur, there and we married in Nonquitt after graduation. We spent a few years in the service and then moved



to Quincy, IL and from there to Fort Smith, AR where we lived for 45 years. We have three children, Emily, Kate and Will and four grandchildren. After the kids were older, I taught four-year-olds at our church preschool and then was a substitute teacher until we moved here in 2023. I really enjoyed serving at our church, Junior League and other organizations. Sadly, my husband died early

this year, but I have been busy finding my new life. I am trying to improve my pickle ball game, learning Mahjong, involved in two book clubs and mentoring at Nativity Prep. When my parents retired here my mother, Mimi Huidekoper, loved her time in the Buzzards Bay Garden Club so it feels really good for me to become a provisional member. I am looking forward to learning, helping and making new friends.

Gay Gray

I was born in NYC and when I was three my family moved to Watertown, NY where my father opened his medical practice. We would spend time in the summer at the St. Lawrence River (also known as the 1,000 Islands) at my grandparents' house. My grandmother had a vegetable garden and a beautiful informal parterre garden with arbor benches, and I loved playing and helping her in her gardens. Hence my love of gardening began!

I was an Education major with a Psychology minor at the University of Vermont. My senior year I student-taught in London and then traveled in Europe for a few months. After doing that I realized I barely knew my own country, so after graduation I worked and traveled throughout the US for a year. I then moved to Boston and lived in the city until I met my husband Sam, who is a professional



photographer. We first lived in Westwood, MA and then later in Wellesley, MA where we raised our three children. Our two daughters live on the West Coast (San Diego and the San Francisco area) and our son and his family live in Lexington, MA. It's nice to have one close by, though CA is a great place to visit.

In Boston I first worked at Markline Company before I started teaching. I taught pre-K and Kindergarten in Cambridge for five years and then helped open a nonprofit childcare center in Roslindale, where I also taught

Kindergarten. When my children were young, I was primarily at home with them, which I was thankful for and loved. During those years I was a Discovery Toys sales rep, worked at a frame shop and co-authored a guidebook to independent shops and cafés in and around Boston, which was a rewarding challenge.

Over the years I volunteered at my children's schools both in and out of the classroom. We were a host family for METCO students, I was a PTO member, and on a variety of school committees: fundraising, yearbook, gardening and library. I was a member of the Wellesley Hills Junior Women's Club (community service and fundraising for local nonprofits and college scholarships), treasurer for Birchfield Farms Inc. (where we now live), on a local tennis committee, a volunteer at Wellesley's Food Pantry, and for 12 years I volunteered as a PAL (Playspace Activity Leader) at homeless shelters for Horizons for Homeless Children. Whenever I could I substitute taught, which led me back to teaching and running the library program at The Village School in Milton, MA, which I did until we moved full time to South Dartmouth in 2020

Wherever I taught I always wanted to share my love of gardening with my students. I always had plants or gardens either inside or out for them and I loved how excited they would get when the seedlings started to sprout, as it gave them such a sense of accomplishment. Gardening is "hands on" learning for children of all ages (adults as well) and it teaches patience, responsibility, teamwork, flexibility, science, math and most importantly the rewards and wonders of nature.

When we moved year-round to South Dartmouth because of our house construction my garden beds were a big blank palette and a bit overwhelming. With the support of friends and fellow gardeners I gained the confidence to "take it on" and design and plant my garden beds. The pandemic slowed the process down because there was a limited selection and supply of plants. A great piece of advice I received was to look at my gardens as "rooms" that could be rearranged over time for a variety of reasons, and how true that has been! Needless to say, I have already done a lot of rearranging in my garden beds! I really enjoy going to garden tours for ideas and I'm always in awe of the variety of beautiful gardens. I have been a tour guide quite a few times for the Beacon Hill Hidden Garden Tour, which I really have fun doing.

I have always had lots of plants in my home and gardens, small, large, shady and sunny, and I enjoy the rewards, taking on the challenges (not always!) but always their beauty. I look forward to contributing and learning as a member of the GCBB.

Outside of gardening I like tennis, skiing, golf, traveling, walks/hikes, pickleball, crafts, audiobooks, needlepoint and most importantly my time with family and friends.

Jean Herbst

I grew up in northern Wisconsin in a rural community, as a sixth generation of folks who immigrated from Germany around 1900. My ancestors came here because land grants were being offered in Wisconsin, and families who came were given 40 acres of land. This part of Wisconsin is not really ideal for agriculture, as it has a short growing season (Zone 3). But the hardy newcomers worked the land when they could, as subsistence farmers, while primarily supporting themselves in the logging industry.

My father (and grandfather) worked at a paper mill, but they also raised animals and planted gardens in their spare time. The produce from the garden was canned and frozen, along with cold storage of potatoes and onions, to last the winter. To this day, my parents (ages 89 and 85) raise vegetables and fruit. I attribute their long and healthy lives to staying busy with physical work and eating healthy and unprocessed foods that they grow themselves. I try to emulate them and have my own vegetable and perennial gardens here in South Dartmouth, but also in MidCoast Maine, where we spend our summers.

I left Wisconsin after graduating from the University of Wisconsin with a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering. I initially worked as an engineer in California and Connecticut. I met my husband, Scott Lindblom (who is a native of Dartmouth) shortly thereafter, and moved here to marry him. We have lived in South Dartmouth for 36 years and have two sons, Jack and Max. Jack is also an engineer, also attended the University of Wisconsin, also loves to garden, and chose to live in Madison after graduation (where we happily visit often with him and other family). Max lives nearby, here in the Southcoast area.

I retired in 2023, having spent 30 years teaching Computer Science at Wellesley College (I transitioned from being an engineer to teaching after getting a post-graduate degree in Computer Science). This turned out to be a good career for me while raising my family, since I was able to work part-time, but also had time off in the summer and during other holidays. I was very involved in parent/school organizations for my children, serving as an officer in the PTO of



the elementary and middle schools they attended, and also in the theatre and music parent organizations in high school. Having a flexible schedule also gave me time to develop my gardening skills, which I continue to enjoy as a relaxing and fulfilling hobby. I also spent 35 years teaching exercise classes, including every kind of aerobics, spinning and yoga. I still ride my bike, walk and hike, and do yoga as often as possible, at home, but also when we are travelling somewhere (which we have done a lot of since my retirement). The photo I've included is from our recent trip to the Grand Canyon, where we hiked to the bottom and back and were amazed by the natural beauty of our own country. Another recent trip was trekking in Nepal, and as a result, we support the Hands In Outreach program which provides educational opportunities for economically disadvantaged girls in Katmandu.

I have spent my life appreciating nature in all its forms, in serving my community in various ways, and in education. For all these reasons, I am happy to be joining the Garden Club of Buzzards Bay!

Leslie Longfield

I grew up in the quiet, rural town of Granby, Massachusetts. From a young age, I was athletic—running cross-country, playing basketball, and competing in track and field. I also had creative interests and joined the Drama Club, where I discovered a love for set design and the energy of theater.



I went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education from UMass Amherst. After college, I felt a strong pull toward service and joined the Peace Corps. I was assigned to Guatemala, a country that left a lasting impression on me. Though I didn't complete the full two-year program, the experience profoundly shaped my perspective—and eventually led me to my husband, Mike, who served in Guatemala a decade later.

When I returned home, I began teaching physical education in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, a career that spanned 31 years. During that time, I earned both a Master of Science and an Educational Specialist degree from Florida International University, which helped me move from teacher to assistant principal.

I called Miami Beach home from 1986 until 2017. It was vibrant and diverse, and it shaped both my personal and professional life. When I retired, I joined Mike, who had taken a teaching position at Upper Cape Tech (UCT) vocational school in the South Coast area.

After years of city living, I wasn't sure about a quieter life, but during one visit, Mike showed me New Bedford—and it immediately felt right. It was walkable, historic, had a beach, and a strong cultural vibe. We bought a 1912 foursquare house near downtown and Buttonwood Park.

Last year, we visited the Garden Club Greens Market for the first time. I met several members who encouraged me to get involved. I reached out and was invited to join the Greenhouse, where I was lucky to be paired with my mentor, Carol.

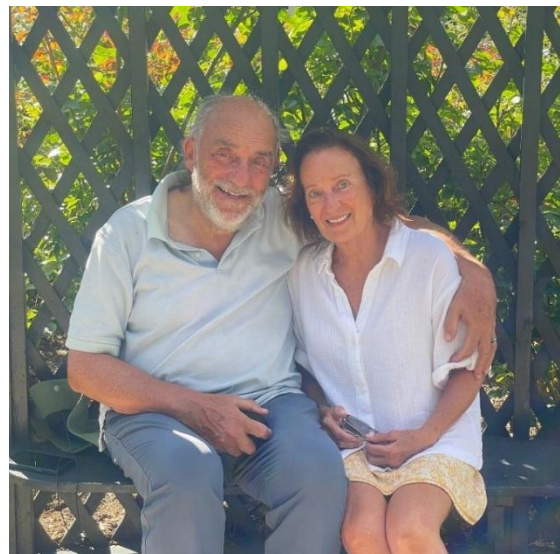
As someone still new to the area, I'm excited to grow roots—literally and figuratively. I hope to develop a green thumb and create a colorful garden. I also love hiking, coffee, traveling, and meeting new people. This past year, I completed two Caminos in Spain—and I'm already planning the next one.

Jan Tatelbaum

I feel blessed to live in this area of Massachusetts. I believe I was "found" at the Congregational Church by the Green Team; Susan McLaren, Deborah Burke, and Holly B. Barrows. Though Holly says it was when I asked if she needed help with her holiday projects last year. Any way about it, I'm saying that joining the church Green Team exposed my skills and love of plants to the current members of the GCBB.

I was born on a full functioning dairy farm in central Ohio. Both my father and grandfather were city boys, so this idea of farming was a real learning curve for everyone. Being born in June, I'm certain I was outside at a very young age.

Farming is really hard work. I got involved early helping plant, weed, water, and harvest. I loved every minute of it! We sold the farm when I was going into ninth grade. We moved to a city but still had yard space for vegetables and flowers.



I chose to study business in college, landing a job as a clothing buyer. I moved around a lot as many buyers did (usually for a better company and a better salary). I still managed to garden.

In 1998, I decided to go into sales. I met David, my husband, at a trade show. In 2001 I moved to South Dartmouth to be with David. I worked various sales jobs that took me out of town often. So, in 2012, I decided to go to work for David as a buyer at Big Value and worked there until retiring in 2022.

David and I married at Rotch-Jones Duff House on a beautiful day in July. Each year we go back and reread our vows. It is a special place for us and even more special now since I will be spending so much time there!

I love nature, soaking it all in each day no matter the season. I hope each of you read what Barb Brown sent that included a quote from Gil Fernandez: "I sincerely believe that man should leave this earth a little better, and at least as beautiful, for the privilege of having lived on it."

May we all do this daily....realize every day is a gift. Let's spread love and do all we can to stay "green." Thank you all for letting me be part of GCBB.



Features

GCA Annual Meeting 2025 April 27-29 in Jacksonville, Florida Flower Show: Flora and Fauna



"Sunrise over the Appalachian Mountains"
by Carla Morey

Congratulations to Carla! Her arrangement was 3rd place out of 6.



Barb Brown and Carla Morey

GCA Zone I Meeting September 16 in Dedham, MA
Flower Show: Reimagine!

Here are some highlights from the Zone I Meeting hosted by Noanett Garden Club. GCBB hit it big at the Flower Show!

Floral Design Class 1 Somewhere over the Rainbow

“Pick a color from the rainbow and highlight its tints and tones”

Michel Jodoin, first time exhibitor placed 2nd in a very competitive class. It rained purple!



Horticulture:

Michel Jodoin, first place and the Clarissa Willemssen Propagation Award for his twin coleus topiaries.



Barb Brown - 1st place for her zebra grasses - *Miscanthus sinensis*



Ruth Furman - 1st place for the Zone I Plant Exchange and the GCA Novice Award in Horticulture.

Eastern Red Cedar - *Juniperus virginiana*

Propagation of a plant grown from seed sourced from the New England ecoregion and from species native to NE; woody plants, perennials, annuals, biennials and vines were all acceptable.



Photos: Carla Morey



Michel Jodin getting a little help from a friend (Photo: Holly Barrows)



A must have native for your garden



For the past several years Janet Sherwood has been growing a lovely native that is in bloom now, attracts pollinators and is well-behaved. It was the winner of the GCA Freeman Medal for a perennial. For full details here's the link: [2026 Winner: Vernonia lettermannii 'Iron Butterfly'](#)

You won't be disappointed.

Proposed: Janet Sherwood Seconded: Ruth Furman

September GCBB meeting

The September meeting was held at the Stone Barn Farm at the Mass Audubon Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary. As Barb Brown shared by email before the meeting, the Stone Barn Farm

“... was originally built in the mid-to-late 1800s as a dairy farm, later becoming an equestrian stable in 1929. Mass Audubon acquired the property in 2006 and renovated the barn in 2010 to preserve its antique character while incorporating modern amenities. The barn now serves as a base for educational programs and a base of operations for naturalist-led nature education at the sanctuary, which is a protected area of beaches, woodlands, ponds, and marshes spanning hundreds of acres.”

What you may not discover is that the south coast region's ubiquitous osprey nesting platforms were the original creation of Stone Barn residents, Gil and Jo Fernandez as a reaction to the declining bird population around 1965. Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary now annually

monitors the breeding activity of 80 pairs of ospreys on nearly 100 nesting platforms in Westport and Dartmouth, MA.

These pioneering environmental activists paved the way for today's advocates, such as Thursday's speaker Alyssa Young of Mass Audubon—a GCBG grant recipient—who will discuss the monarch watch programming and tagging project.

"I sincerely believe that man should leave this earth a little better, and at least as beautiful, for the privilege of having lived on it. It is natural way of giving thanks; and it is the ultimate satisfaction we can all achieve, be rich or poor, skilled or untrained, humble or heroic. We don't own the earth we walk on; as the Native Americans admonish us, we are merely tenants. Our 'osprey orchard', as our trees, will be thriving long after we are gone. It is our only connection with eternity." - Gil Fernandez



Alissa Young from Mass Audubon (GCBB grant recipient) giving an informative presentation on Monarch Watch Programming and Tagging:



Photos: Linda Cornell



Garden Club of America



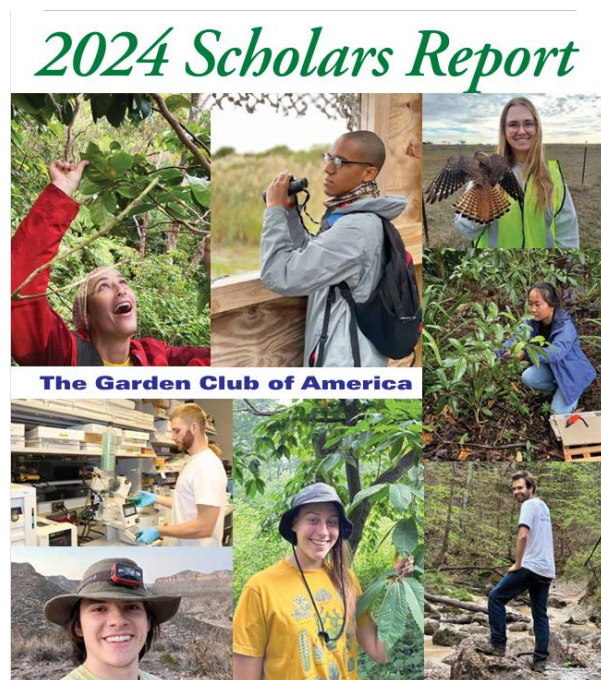
THE GARDEN CLUB *of* AMERICA

The [GCA homepage](#) has a wonderful short video on how the GCA scholarships change lives. Please take a minute to watch it.

Last year over \$459,000 was awarded to 10 scholars. Read the [2024 Scholars](#)

[Report](#) to learn more about the fascinating work the scholarships support in 12 areas:

- Botany
- Coastal Wetland Studies
- Conservation & Ecological Restoration
- Desert Studies
- Garden History & Design
- Horticulture & Related Fields
- International Work & Study
- Landscape Architecture
- Native Bird Habitat
- Pollinator Research
- Summer Environmental Study
- Urban Forestry



To learn more about GCA Scholarships, visit the [Scholarship Committee](#) page on the GCA website.



View from My Window



It's apple picking time at Linda Cornell's!

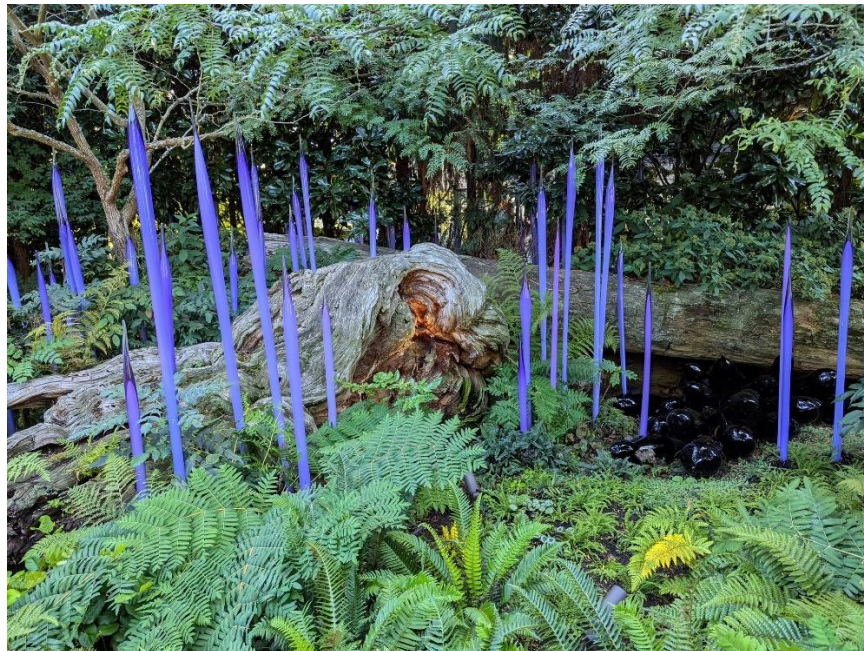
Jan Tatelbaum shares moments of beauty captured in her garden:



Miles Away

From Margaret Forbush:

On our way to Alaska we spent a few days in Seattle, where we visited the [Chihuly Garden and Glass](#). It is a museum with a garden; the interior features his work and the outside places that work in the garden setting. Spectacular!



Lisa Mellgard's photos of Colorado during Wildflower Season:



My cross-country camping trip in April, May and June of this year gave me the opportunity to be in the mountains in Colorado at the beginning of wildflower season. If you haven't ever seen it, it's spectacular. My niece got married in Crested Butte, CO on June 20th so we were there as the flowers began their fantastic show. We stayed until the end of the month and did lots of hiking. The display begins

with entire hillsides of blooming lupines. When we were walking on trails over 10,000 ft, the paths wind through fields of blooming columbine. It was breathtaking, and not just because of the elevation. Needless to say, I want to go back and see the peak of the show which is in July.



Many thanks again to Ruth Furman, Margaret Forbush and Holly Barrows for taking on my Treasurer responsibilities so I could be away.

Susan Mead's photos from her trip to Copenhagen, Denmark (top photo) and beautiful fjords in Norway.

Reflections...



Nan Sinton recently took a tour to southern Italy:



The boxwood parterre at Castello Ruffolo dating from the 17th century



In Puglia (the "heel " of Italy) poppies and very old olive trees.

Leslie Longfield shares photos from her trip to Spain:



October Birthdays



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

- 🌸 Barb Brown – October 11th
- 🌸 Helen DeGroot – October 16th (95!)
- 🌸 Susan Rothschild – October 24th

*If you would like to participate in the fun, please send the month and date of your special day to lindyc@davecornellcharters.com or lcampbell64@comcast.net.

In Memoriam



Nancy Crosby

We lost a beloved member of our club recently. Nancy Crosby was a member of the GCBB for 39 years. A highly involved member, she joined the GCBB in 1986. She was awarded the Garden Club of America Club Appreciation Award in 2002 and received two Garden Club of America Member Years of Service certificates.

30 Years of Service (2016):

“Her thirty years of fun-loving nature, knowledge of plants, garden, and business acumen has enabled this adventuresome, responsible, capable, and loyal member to enhance each committee and leadership role.”

35 Years of Service (2021):

“An indefatigable member, involving herself in all activities, helping novice members, encouraging new activities while partaking in hits and misses of caring for the gardens.”

Her list of accomplishments are many, including:

- A founder of **the RJD Garden and Museum**.
- Served as President for the **American Wine Makers (Home Brewers) Association** and testified before a U.S. Senate subcommittee to legalize home brewing. A year later, in 1979, the law was passed helping to launch the craft beer movement.
- Along with Jan Hall, she started **Partners Village Store** in Westport. Partners became a vital part of the community and earned them **Westport Women of the Year** in 2012.

- Spearheaded many of our Club's entries in the **Boston Flower Show**. Many of them taking the Blue Ribbon.
- Helped lead the successful fight to save **Dartmouth's Destruction Brook Woods**.

In short, there wasn't much she couldn't do. She was always generous with her time and her talents. We are fortunate to have had her as a member of GCBB and even more fortunate to call her friend.

To learn more about this amazing woman, please read her interview in the Garden History and Design committee's [Gardens are our Legacy](#) on the GCBB website.



9 PLANTS NOT TO CUT IN FALL

Birds Need Them for Winter



1. **Coneflowers**
(Echinacea)



2. **Black-Eyed Susans**
(Rudbeckia)



3. **Sunflowers**
(Helianthus)



4. **Joe-Pye Weed**



5. **Goldenrod**



6. **Ornamental Grasses**



7. **Sedum**



8. **Asters**



9. **Native Shrubs**

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Full Moon  Hunter Moon	6	7 9:00 Greenhouse Set-Up 10:00 RJD Tour for Provisionals	8	9 9:00 Executive Committee	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day	14 9:00 Greenhouse Opens	15	16 10:30 Monthly Meeting*	17	18
19	20	21 9:00 Greenhouse 10:30 Orientation for Provisionals	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 9:00 Greenhouse 10:30 Holiday Greens Mkt Wreath making	29	30	31 	

*Monthly Meeting Topic: Introduction to Floral iPhotography
 Speaker: Angela C. Brown, Photographer
 Hostesses: Barb Brown, Holly Barrows, Ruth Furman, Sandy Hall, Lisa Mellgard.

Just for fun...

When you're over 50 and
they say put a band aid
on where it hurts



You know if you don't
rake the leaves they turn
into soil, right? They
don't break into your
house and drink all your
wine or anything.

Avellinaforms

Until next time...

Don't ask me for advice...
We'll end up on the beach
looking for seashells.



Nobody is too busy,
it is just a matter
of priorities.

Teaching Soul