

Grapevine

May 2024

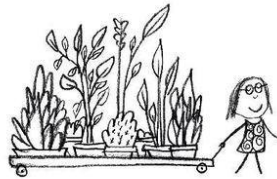
Volume 76 No. 9

Sudbury Garden Club

Plant so your own heart will grow ~ Hafiz ~

"April was Membership Renewal and May is the Plant Sale"

HAPPINESS IS



...buying plants.

At the

PLANT SALE

Everything you need to know about the annual Plant Sale

We have contacted everyone in SGC to confirm your tasks for Set up day Friday, May 10 from 9am- 7pm and on Sale day Saturday, May 11 at 9am -12pm. If you need more details on what you will be doing or need to change your commitment, please call Carol Shpanka, Leslie Lowe, Mike Hunter or Jo Ann Forester.



Cashiers and Talliers will be trained on Friday 9am by Janelle Landrigan.

We will be having coffee, snacks, pizza and sandwiches on both days inside lower Town Hall for those working.

Members and friends will be dropping off their plants to Town Hall beginning at 9am on Friday and will continue throughout the day. If you need us to deliver your plants to Town Hall on Friday, please make arrangements with Carol Shapanka or Leslie Lowe. Student volunteers will be there to help us starting at 3:00pm on Friday and 8am on Saturday.

Members Plants

Send your list of plant donations to us at sgc.plantsale76@gmail.com as soon as you know what you'll be donating. Kaffee will put them on the Master List and will offer plants online if there are at least five of them. Patty McCann will contact you when she has printed your weatherproof labels. She'll have them ready on her front porch. Place the labels on your clean, dry pots just before you bring them to Town Hall.

Craft Boutique

Please bring your priced and wrapped crafted donations to the Craft Boutique table in the large tent by 8:30am. Frances Gillespie and Pauline O'Bray will be at the table to help you.

House Plants

Bring your labelled house plant donations to the House Plant table in the large tent. Frances Gillespie will price your plants.

Bake Sale

Whole breads and cakes sell well as a treat for Mom on Mother's Day. Please label your items and give a list of ingredients noting common allergens. Joanne Bennett will take care of the pricing. Please bring them to the Bake Sale table when you arrive at 8:30 Saturday morning.

Sign up [here](#).

Change in Policy on Members Purchasing Goods

Members may purchase plants from the online shop beginning April 27 at 9am. The online ordering will end on May 9 at 5pm.

Check <https://www.sudburygardenclub.org/copy-of-plant-sale> for the Online Shop. You may pick up your plants when the shop is fully stocked around

6:30pm Friday, May 10 or on Saturday, May 11 from 9-11 am.

During the live sale 9am-12pm, members may make purchases anytime, but you may not hold plants in the holding area, which is for the public. When customers put things into the holding area, a tallier will mark a sheet with your prices. If we reduce prices at the end of the day, the items in the holding area will be sold for the original price on the

tally sheet. We cannot hold any purchased items for anyone. You should take them to your car.

6ft folding tables

We're selling the plants from tables this year to save our backs. If you've been storing a 6 ft table at your house for SGC, please let us know. We also like to borrow as many card tables, 6 ft long tables or saw horses as we can. Please let us know if you can lend us one. Please drop the tables on Thursday May 9 at 7pm at Town Hall or at the latest, 9 am on Friday May 10. You can pick them up at 1:30pm after the sale.

Lawn Signs

Please remove any plant sale yard signs that you've placed in yards after the sale and bring them to the May meeting on Wed May 15.

Questions: sgc.plantsale76@gmail.com

Carol Shapanka 978-821-6309 c

Leslie Lowe 978-201-0538 c

Mike Hunter 978-580-1069 c

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 15; 9:30am
Memorial Congregational Church

Plant Sale, Prizes and Pruning!

Please come to our May meeting where we will have a slightly extended social time for chatting and eating. We will also reveal our Plant Sale profits and gather your thoughts on the event. We will have several amazing prizes for all members present to have the opportunity to win. And Rainey Fountain from Hartney Greymont will give us some instruction on pruning our shrubs. Please also bring your checkbook to pay for the Annual meeting at the Wayside Inn and your dues if you haven't already done so.

Hospitality Committee: **Nancy Brisbois, Coordinator.**

Joy Aldrich, Judy Handley, Diane Kaplan, Jane Morrissey, Rita Sadowski.

BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, May 22: 9:00 am

Location: Connie Sanchez Morillo's Home, 148 Ford Road



CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES

Library Flowers

- Monday 5/06 Nancy Brisebois
- Monday 5/13 Frances Gillespie
- Monday 5/20 Leslie Lowe
- Tuesday 5/28 Kaffee Kang (Memorial Day)



If you need to reschedule your date for providing flowers, please find someone to trade with you and let **Bonnie Parri**, the Library Chair know. **Please remember to pick up your container when your week is up.** Thank you!

Please remember to ask the Librarians for permission to go behind the desk if you need to use that sink to water your display.

Please also send a picture of your display to Heather Halsey at halseyh@mac.com. The pictures will be added to our website! However, and wherever you want to take the picture is fine, either at home, or at the library.

April WAS Membership Renewal Month

You can renew on SignUpGenius: [HERE](#), and also renew on the [SGC website](#).

There are three tabs to check. All Active Members are required to sign up for:

- Membership and Committee Assignments
- Hospitality
- Library flowers from September 2024-June 2025

Payments: Dues can be paid:

- By mailing a check (Active Membership: \$50.00, Associate \$65.00, Supporting: \$80.00). Made payable to SGC and writing membership renewal in the memo and mailing to Ann Boland, 35 Pendleton Road, Sudbury.



Still waiting for members to renew!

Gathering of the Green Thumbs

Date/Time: Friday, May 3 at 12 pm

New location: Eastside Grille at Marlborough Country Club,
200 Concord St. Marlborough, MA

RSVP: Contact Marilyn Hodges 617 548-7080 **ASAP!**

Join us for lunch! This is a **fun** and great way to get together with old and new members of the club without having to do any gardening!



Summer Watering

Please check all available slots and take as many as you can. There are four areas that need watering so check to see what is needed in each:

- Library
- 117 Island
- Heritage Park
- Town Hall Planters



Remember - light rain does not reach the roots. Take a shovel to see how deep the moisture is and you will know how much to add. Pull a few weeds - if this is done several times a week they will never get ahead of us!!

[Summer Watering Sign Up](#)

SGC & TGC
Watering Truck



Watering Truck

Directions:

Once you have signed-up we will mail you a copy of these instructions to have with you in the car.

We water unless it has been raining for weeks like last year. (It's dry under the surface).

If you can't fulfill your slot, please find a replacement.

Questions should be directed to Frances Gillespie at 781-354-3170.

Go to the Water Department on Raymond Road by 7:15 am. Driver is likely to be Mike L.

They will have filled the tank and be ready to start on the route. Be sure they have filled the 4, 2, gallon jugs for Rte. 27.

You will follow the water truck in your own vehicle. The clear tank has markings that are visible from the back end of the truck that tell you how much water has been used as it is sprayed out. At each location, you will monitor this level to let them know when enough water has been used so you can go to the next location.

There is ample time at each stop to read in your car or chat with the driver if you choose.

Locations are as follows:

- Library - park in the front circle 15 gals
- Rte. 27 Planters - park in the fire station. Large containers (4, 2 on each bucket) will be used to water these so no monitoring is required.
- LS High School - 30 gals. Park at the abandoned white house pre-school.
- Island at Morse & Mossman Roads - 10 gals Park in the house driveway with your blinkers on.
- Rte. 117 Island - 15 gals. park in the church lot.
- Island at Willow & Pratt's Mill - 15 gals.

There will be about 5 gals left which is below the discharge level.

This process will take about 1 1/2 hours. Give Mike a big **THANK YOU!!** and **THANK YOU** for helping make Sudbury beautiful!!!

Watering Truck Sign Up

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Meeting - New Date

The SGC Annual Meeting will take place at the Wayside Inn on **Tuesday, June 4th**, at 12 noon. Please note that this is a change from the date in the yearbook. This buffet luncheon will take place in the upstairs ballroom at the Inn. After a generous subsidy by the Club, the cost is \$25.00, all inclusive, per person. You can mail your check to Pat Drobinski, 94 Woodside Road, Sudbury, made out to the SGC and writing Annual Meeting in the memo. Kindly respond by **Friday, May 24th**, if you plan to attend.



This promises to be a fun, festive, social event!
Pat and Diana

[Attending? Click Here!](#)

BIRDIE BITS



Native Pollinators and Insects in our Spring Gardens

I recently attended a wonderful program hosted by Wild Birds Unlimited in Sudbury. The speaker was Demetra Tseckares, owner of Gardens by Demetra, based in Maynard. The heading on the postcard invitation was “Transform Your Yard into a Living Landscape” showing beautiful wildflowers and shrubs most likely taken at New England Wildflower Society, Native Plant Trust in Framingham. The back of the card read “Now is the Perfect Time to Start Planning your Backyard Oasis, Filled with Birdsong and All the Good Bugs”. What gardener could resist all of that in one short hour?

The program lived up to the hype and more. Demetra uses Doug Tallamy’s Nature’s Best Hope as her “Bible”. She is an advocate of the 70/30 concept by which she means grow 30% non-native in your gardens and 70% native if you want to feed the birds and keep the biodiversity that nature needs. This means that if I have 3 peonies, I should have 7 Clethras or 7 Fothergillas or 7 native Sumacs. If I have a weeping cherry, pretty as it is right now, I had better also have a good number of white or red oaks.

It’s the oaks, she explained, that have the greatest number of insects and caterpillars that are needed to feed bluebirds and chickadees. Guess how many caterpillars it takes to raise a family of baby chickadees?? According to Doug Tallamy, it takes 350-570 caterpillars each day or between 6000 to 9000 caterpillars to raise the baby chickadee family to adults. I didn’t know I had that many caterpillars anywhere, say nothing of in my oak trees. But I do see by the end of summer that I can’t see a single leaf on the oak tree near my deck that doesn’t have insect damage. Demetra pointed out that we all seem to love Ginko trees, but scientists have looked at that tree here in New England and have seen nary an insect. It’s not native to our area, and it essentially is beautiful but not helpful for our biodiversity.

All life on earth depends on insects. We all know how important bees are to our food chain. If no bees, no pollination, and a great loss of food crops. Other insects are very important to pollination, such as moths and flies, wasps, butterflies, and many others. According to the Spring 2024 edition of the National Wildlife magazine, there are between 5.5 million and 7 million insect species on the planet with only about 1 million currently identified. In recent

years we probably have all heard more about the insects that cause problems for people such as ticks and mosquitoes. Scientists think that like birds, insects are losing ground due to loss of habitat and climate change. We haven't paid much attention to insects, but 96% of birds wouldn't be here without insects. Most baby birds don't eat seeds. Their lives depend upon caterpillars. There are other essential insects that we wouldn't want to lose such as those that help eliminate pest insects, and these insects we think of as "good" bugs- the dragonflies, ladybugs, parasitic wasps, and dung beetles which clean up and recycle animal waste to keep our earth healthy for us.

There was a discussion at the Wild Birds Unlimited program about the sprays used to eradicate ticks and mosquitoes in our back yards. It is distressing to have neighbors who spray routinely all summer when we're trying so hard to attract butterflies, bees, and pollinators to our yards. We do understand the concern of neighbors, especially for their children and pets. We all have to be more vigilant than we ever used to about ticks. Unfortunately, there are no sprays that just target ticks or mosquitoes. All the other insects die as well. I'm hoping that the young students will bring home important messages to their parents about the harm insect spraying is doing to so much wildlife and biodiversity. I think many of us are seeing that the native pollinators aren't bringing in as many butterflies as we had hoped. Our yards may be an isolated park right now. But as more and more people read about the value of native plants and pollinators, the hope is that we all may live more lightly on the land.

I saw a blue spring azure butterfly on a walk on Easter in Stow. It was flitting around a mudpuddle in the woods with no flowers around. Another early butterfly that I often see is the mourning cloak, a brown, maroon large butterfly with creamy edges around the wings. It is one of the few butterflies that hibernate over the winter and lives to fly again in the spring. These are the insects that give us the hope that all gardeners feel in the Spring. With our own butterfly garden just coming to life at Heritage Park, we can all look forward to the best insects that nature offers.

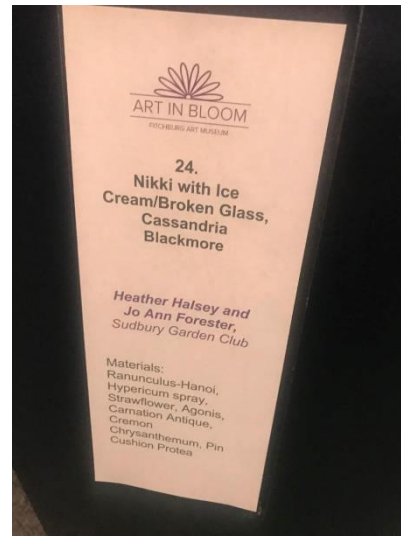
Happy Spring, Happy Birding, and Happy Gardening,
Karen and Marilyn

FITCHBURG ART MUSEUM, ART IN BLOOM MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, ART IN BLOOM

How lucky are we to have Sudbury Garden Club represented in two Art In Bloom shows!

On Thursday, SGC members visited the Fitchburg Art Museum to see the floral arrangement designed by Heather H and Jo Ann F. It was a beautiful arrangement interpreting Nikki With Ice Cream/Broken Glass, Cassandra Blackmore.

On Friday, SGC went to the MFA, AIB to see the floral arrangement designed by Carol S and Juju L P. Carol and Juju interpreted the Day of Atonement, Karl Knaths with a floral arrangement. The floral arrangement encompassed many of the colors and textures of the cubist painting. This painting depicts the events in 1939 when the Nazis set the Jewish quarter of Warsaw on fire during a brutal campaign. We chose this arrangement design to replace the chaos with some order and beauty. We created some movement to depict rising to redemption (heaven).





PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**JUNE 2024 GRAPEVINE
TUESDAY, MAY 28**



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[SGC Website](#)

Keep in Touch!

