



Grapevine

January 2023

Volume 74 No. 5

Sudbury Garden Club

Flowers, Food, Friends, and Fun



GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday, the 11th, on Zoom
Business Meeting 10:00 am Speaker 10:30 am**

**Fair Haven Photographs: Gorgeous Gardens of New England
Presented by Joanne Pearson**

Prior to her career as a professional photographer, Joanne Pearson was a registered landscape architect in Massachusetts where she practiced for 12 years, including 4 years at the renowned firm, Sasaki, in Watertown. Her photographs of gardens, landscapes and people have been featured in books, calendars, and magazines, including Yankee, Vermont Life, and Farm and Ranch Living. Joanne is the solo photographer for Mahoney Publishing's, "Flowers and Gardens of New England". She photographs gardens, lifestyle and food for inns and resorts throughout New England. Joanne regularly lectures on gardens and photography, seeking to inspire and educate her audiences with her beautifully illustrated presentations. Gorgeous Gardens of New England features some of her favorite public and private gardens. She will share the fascinating history of these gardens and offer valuable tips on garden design and techniques for photographing flowers and gardens.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3510198124?pwd=UjAweno4R2lCcXJ2b3grTkNNYmNaZz09>

Meeting ID: 351 019 8124

Passcode: 011956

BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, January 25, 9:00 am

Location: Helen Crary's Home, 1 Hunt Road



CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES

Library Flowers

- Tuesday 1/3 Jeanne Lucey (New Year's Day)
- Monday 1/9 Marilyn Hodges
- Tuesday 1/17 Michelle Coyle (MLK, Jr. Day)
- Monday 1/23 Helen Crary
- Monday 1/30 Joy Aldrich



Gathering of the Green Thumbs

- Date: Friday, January 6 at noon
- Location: Oak Barrel Tavern, 528A Boston Post Road
- Please RSVP to Marilyn Hodges, 617-548-7080



Pop Up Color Me Floral Workshop

Now that the holidays are behind us, how about creating something beautiful and at the same time, learn something new! There is still time to sign up for this workshop. Color Me Floral Workshop will be having a pop up workshop on Wednesday, February 1, 2023. We will learn how to use Agrawool and design a linear floral arrangement reflecting elements of a painting.

Sign up through our website under “[events](#)”. Please note the deadline to signup will be **Monday, January 16, 2023.**

Juju Lem Pang and Carol Shapanka



DECEMBER FUN

Wayside Inn Decorating Crew!





Community Outreach/Kissing Ball Workshop





The Black-Capped Chickadee

You probably already know that the black-capped chickadee is our state bird. I start thinking more about these little birds when winter arrives because they seem to be everywhere in the yard, flitting to and from the feeder with one sunflower seed in their beak. They fly to a safe place protected by shrubbery and open the seed with sharp beaks. It seems so time-consuming when life and death in the winter depends upon the number of calories consumed in the daylight.

But there is a back-up plan. These birds store seeds, too, and they have terrific memories for their storage sites. According to an article in the Boston Sunday Globe, Dec. 25, 2022, by Jennifer Nash, these birds can wipe part of their memory banks clean of deleted food sources to make room for the new sources!! This allows the hippocampus to grow so that a new map is made to mark the new hiding territories. Also, when the parents are feeding their young in the nest, they make sure to feed plenty of spiders, a natural source of taurine. Taurine is an amino acid needed for brain health. Chickadees automatically know this. How's that for a "bird brain"?

In the winter, chickadees need to eat nearly constantly in the daylight hours to keep up their body warmth. Sunflower seeds and suet are good sources of energy if you are planning to feed birds this winter. They also love to come to heated bird baths for a drink and sometimes for a bath, too, even in the winter! Chickadees conserve some of their warmth and energy by holing up in a tree cavity or a protected space during winter nights. Their body temperature can drop by 18 degrees F to conserve calories.

Chickadees are an early warning system to many birds, even migrating warblers in the Spring. Nearly all birds, even those in the tropics that haven't heard chickadee calls before (according to the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology) have proven to understand the chickadee calls warning of predators. It saves a lot of energy for migrating and backyard birds if they hear the call and don't have to be on constant alert themselves. Chickadees also bring flocks of winter birds to good sites for food and water. In the winter, birds that normally would be very protective of their territories share with others. Not until early Spring do chickadees narrow to two in the yard to protect their nesting sites.

How do chickadees know male from female when they all look alike to us? I've always wondered about this, and today I found the answer! According to David Allen Sibley in

his book, *What it's Like to be a Bird*, all birds can see ultraviolet light, a whole range of color beyond purple. White cheeks of chickadees look very different in ultraviolet light with the males having a much stronger reflection on their cheeks.

If you have patience and the desire to hold a chickadee in your hand for feeding, they are a likely first bird to land on your open palm if you are holding sunflower seeds. Try standing near your feeder, very still, with outstretched palm. Other birds likely to land after seeing that you are not going to move or drive them away, are tufted titmice and red breasted nuthatches. According to the Sunday Boston Globe, the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary is a wonderful place to experience tiny feet on your palms. There, the birds are acclimated to humans near the feeders. I'm sure this experience has caused many people to become "birders" and to protect our yards and conservation areas for the wildlife.

May the New Year bring peace and enjoyment in our gardens.
Karen and Marilyn

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**FEBRUARY 2023 GRAPVINE
DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES
THURSDAY JANUARY 26**



Editor
Ann Boland
Phone: 978.460.1132
E-mail: ann755@gmail.com

[SGC Website](#)

Keep in Touch!

