



Grapevine

November 2023

Volume 75 No. 3

Sudbury Garden Club

Plant so your own heart will grow ~ Hafiz ~

In November, the earth is growing quiet. It is making its bed, a winter bed for flowers and small creatures. ~ Cynthia Rylant



GENERAL MEETING



Wednesday, the 8th, 9:30 am
Memorial Congregational Church

Field to Fork: Horticulture of the Food We Eat

Presented by Michele Schuckel

Think about plants in a new way! The science, horticulture, and economics of where our food is grown and how it gets to our tables is fascinating! We'll explore the origins of cultivated crops, what it means for products to be GMO-free (or not!) or Certified Organic, ways to decrease food waste, and more. A Certified Master Gardener, Michele is passionate about the art and science of horticulture and leading a balanced and healthy life, both in and out of the garden. She utilizes organic practices and weaves native plants into cut flower arrangements and creative tablescapes. Michele has designed for Art in Bloom at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and created cut flower arrangements for numerous residential and commercial events. Gardens she has designed are thriving in Vermont, Michigan, and Massachusetts. Michele Fronk Schuckel, MBA, BSN, RN, is the owner and principal designer of Natural Selections, Designing Native Gardens. She has served on the Board of Directors for Land's Sake, a nonprofit farm and forestry organization committed to connecting people to the land and providing hunger relief through the availability of fresh vegetables.

Hospitality Committee:

Leslie Lowe, Coordinator. Frances Gillespie, Mike Hunter, Janelle Landrigan, Cathy Manwaring, Bonnie Parri, and Frances Shashoua

Silver Plate

We will be collecting money for Thanksgiving and Holidays at the November meeting. The Silver Plate is requesting donations for the important gift cards we provide for our community.



You can also send checks, made out to the Sudbury Garden Club, to our treasurer, Janelle Landrigan, 22 Deacon Lane, Sudbury.

What is The Silver Plate? A plate or basket is passed around every year in the Fall. The money is used to buy gift cards for Thanksgiving groceries and for the holidays so that families are able to celebrate.

Thanking you in advance for your continued support and generosity.
Sara Salomon

BOARD MEETING

- Date: **Wednesday, November 29, 9:00 am**
- Location: **Pat Drobinski's Home, 94 Woodside Road**



CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES

Color Me Floral Workshop

Sign up closed. Just a reminder for everyone who has signed up.

Tablescapes (Everything Floral, But The Dishes)

- Date: Thursday, November 2, 2023
- Time: 10 AM - 12 PM
- Place: MCC

Thanks for all your support,
Juju Lem Pang and Carol Shapanka



Gathering of the Green Thumbs Lunch Date

Date: Friday, November 3 at noon

Location: Chill, 416 Boston Post Rd, E., Marlborough

RSVP: Joanne Bennett, 978-460-2146 by November 1

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!

Library Flowers

- Monday 11/6 Marilyn Ellsworth
- Monday 11/13 Sally Gaburo
- Monday 11/20 Carol Shapanka
- Monday 11/27 Judy Newell



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.



SGC 2023 Wayside Inn Christmas Workshops

- Carol Shapanka's house, 170 Wayside Inn Road (driveway is 1st right on Prides Crossing Road)
- Tuesdays, November 7 & 14, 1 – 4 pm

Calling all Elves!

Let's get together and get our Christmas decorations ready for The Wayside Inn's holiday season. This year marks the 50th year our club has participated in decorating the Inn.

We will be sprucing up stairway and outdoor lamppost garlands by adding extra greens, pinecones and ribbons. If you have any **faux greenery (swags or pieces), red berries, apples or pomegranates** you are no longer using, please bring them so we can wire them up and put them to good use. **Wire cutters** are needed so we have enough to go around.

Bow making will also be happening! If you're lucky enough to have one of **Jeanne Lucey's custom bowmakers**, please bring it to the workshop. Thank you, Jeanne!

Our 2023 "White Christmas" themed Lobby Tree ornament will also be assembled. This takes time since we will be making about 30 of them, assembly line style.

Please join us. There will be snacks.
Carol

Community Outreach - Thanksgiving Arrangements

- **Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 9:30 to 11:00 am
- **Location:** Sudbury Senior Center
- **Recipients:** Sudbury Meals on Wheels



BIRDIE BITS



Owl Obsession

Have you heard owls calling around your house perhaps at dusk? Or maybe maniacal hooting woke you up during the night? Chances are you've heard a barred owl. Many birders describe the call as "Who cooks for you, who cooks for you all." But barred owls make many other sounds as well. The sounds have been described as squalling, snarling, growling, hooting, and caterwauling. They can make sounds like a monkey or a "woman being murdered shriek". It can be a wake-up call for sure when you hear this kind of banter in your yard in the middle of the night!

Some people put up wooden nest boxes (sold at Wild Birds Unlimited) to attract owls as a natural solution to keeping the mice population in control. Barred owls also eat rabbits, birds, insects, and crustaceans.

Barred owls generally lay 2 eggs in March. Babies grow quickly, only spending about 6 weeks with their parents. Some birds need to learn their song from their parents, but owls are hard wired right from birth with their distinctive owl calls. Barred owls are considered highly intelligent and able to adapt to urban areas that are densely populated.

Owls suffer from the same rodenticide poisonings that we've talked about with hawks and raptors. Rat poisoning will be passed up the food chain to large predators such as owls. The poison contains a blood thinner which will cause a slow death or weakness which might be at the heart of owl-car collisions.

Since owls generally hunt at night on mysteriously silent wings, some cultures give them spiritual meaning. Owl sightings may be considered harbingers of death by some cultures or a herald of good fortune in others. Indigenous cultures have always looked upon owl sightings for predictions and premonitions. Birds move between earth and sky, day and night, so who better to turn to for clues. There's a name for it- "avimancy"- from the Latin for bird and the Greek for prophecy.

For whatever reason, I have loved owls probably more than any other bird in my 48 years of living in Sudbury. Somewhere along the way, an owl collection developed in my house. One day my granddaughter tried to count all my owls. She gave up in just one room after finding owls everywhere from coasters to books to candles to chimes to pillows. This was NOT my idea. When friends found out about my love of owls, it just morphed into great ideas for gift giving for any occasion. Those of you who have collections of any kind might agree. You, personally, did NOT buy all those items! I would find it hard to part with any of them now, though.

I hear screech owls and great horned owls in our yard. But it's the barred owl that most speaks to my soul. I hear them at 4 PM as I'm gardening in the Fall and at 4 AM as I'm between dreams and reality. Their hoots back and forth are a comfort to me- all is well.

Respectfully submitted by
Karen and Marilyn

A LONDON GARDEN IN THE AUTUMN

Sharing beautiful photos of my brother and sister-in-law's garden, taken on October 29th!
Ann



PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**DECEMBER 2023 GRAPEVINE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27**



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[SGC Website](#)

Keep in Touch!

