

Grapevine

January 2022

Volume 73 No. 5

Sudbury Garden Club

Gardening and Gathering Together!

Wave goodbye to the old year
and embrace the new -



full of hope, dreams, and good
health.

Wishing you a happy new year
full of joy!

FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENTS' DESK

Gratitude

At this special time of year we would like to say how very grateful we are for each and every one of you! We have many gardening adventures to look forward to in the coming months and just need to “dig in” at home for a while as the weather gets colder and to keep each other safe and healthy. But we wanted to take a minute to express our gratitude to some folks who worked real hard to bring joy to others this holiday season.

Thank you to our Community Outreach chairs and the chilly helpers who worked in a garage and created colorful fall arrangements that went to the homes of delighted Meals on Wheels recipients in Sudbury. They also coordinated a big, energetic crew over at Sudbury Senior Center who assembled festive boxwood creations for the residents of the Sudbury Pines Nursing Center.

Thank you to our Party Planners who worked so hard for 2 years and were finally able to pull off an amazing, joyous and delicious Holiday gathering at the Marlborough Country Club. We chatted, we laughed, we celebrated...together and toasted the members who were not able to join us that day.

Thank you to those who help us spread the word far and wide, by paper and computer, about how INCREDIBLE the Sudbury Garden Club is.

Thank you to the over 25 merry elf Sudbury Garden Club members who helped decorate the Wayside Inn, someday you just might be recruited by Santa, you are so good at bringing on the holiday decor!

Thank you to our Color Me Floral chairperson for enabling us to color our homes with flowers in the fall and looking forward to another opportunity in January.

Thank you to our Silver Plate chairperson and all the members who generously donated to bring holiday help to local families in need.

Thank you to members who scrounged, cut and assembled greens to go in the Senior Center pots and those near the police station.

Thank you to our Grapevine creator extraordinaire for squeezing this last minute message into the Grapevine since it will probably be delivered to her past the deadline!

And again, thanks to all of you, whether we see you at every meeting or haven't seen you in a while, we are thinking about you, planning for you, and look forward to seeing you soon in the dirt, on the computer and amidst the flowers.

Have a joyous holiday!
Jo Ann & Patti

ZOOM GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, the 12th

9:30 am Social Time

10:00am Business Meeting

10:30am Presentation

Pollinating Meadow Gardens: Layout & Plant Combinations Presented by Maria von Brinken

Plants that attract beneficial pollinators help our bird populations feed their young. Maria explores using native plants in an ornamental way to create dynamic, stunning meadow gardens. Layout techniques, that echo the way plant communities intermingle, will make your colorful meadow garden look cohesive and natural. Choice plants will be highlighted.

Maria, Principle of Maria von Brinken Landscape Garden Design, is an award-winning certified designer (APLD and LI) with over 30 years in professional practice. Maria specializes in custom design and offers project management and installation. Trained as a fine artist, color theorist and organic gardener, she brings years of critical design thinking to her landscape solutions. Her design has been featured in Fine Gardening Magazine, Landscape Ideas You Can Use and others. Maria's lectures and workshops have been featured at the MHS, Radcliffe Seminars and various conferences. See her website for her design portfolio, blog, and services maria@mariavonbrinken.com. Maria has been a member of our club since 1986!

The Zoom link will be sent out the week of the presentation.

BOARD MEETING

Board Meeting Date: **Wednesday, January 26** at 9:00 am.

In person or Zoom: **TBD**



CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES

Library Flowers

Monday 1/3 Loring Schwarz
Monday 1/10 Joanne Bennett
Tuesday 1/18 Marion Tratnyek (MLK, Jr. Day)
Monday 1/24 Sandee Kelley
Monday 1/31 Heather Halsey



Please remember to pick up your container when your week is up. Thank you! 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 also send a picture of your display to Heather Halsey at **halsey@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.

Wayside Inn Decoration Take-down!



Ring in the new year by helping with Wayside Inn Decoration Take-down!

Please help pack away all the bits and bobbles that have brought joy to so many!

Even if you were unable to help decorate, you can still help un-decorate

Click **here** to sign up!

Happy New Year from
Jo Ann Forester, Chairperson for SGC of Christmas Decorating at the Wayside Inn

Gathering of the Green Thumbs

Our Lunch Date on Friday January 7 to C'est la Vie has been **postponed**. Stay tuned!





Our Dinner Date on Wednesday, January 19 at 6:00pm to El Basha has also been **postponed**. Fingers crossed for February Gatherings!

Color Me Floral Workshop - January



Wednesday, January 19, 2022

Time: 10:00 AM

Place: Persephone Flowers Shop

29 Hudson Road, Sudbury

I am excited to announce that all the spots have been filled for my next Color Me Floral workshop in January! Look out for the next

workshop later in the year.

Thanks,

Juju

GCFM

Check out the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts' **NEW** website. Information on local events, clubs, education opportunities, flower shows, awards, projects, resources and their newsletter; The Mayflower. <https://www.gcfm.org>



Thank you to our own Lynn Noland for being our district chairperson for the GCFM.

From the Massachusetts Master Gardener Organization



Home Gardening Webinar Series - Winter

Four online classes packed with practical information to get you and your garden ready for the 2022 growing season

Wednesdays evenings, 6:30-8:00pm

January 19 & 26; February 2 & 9.

<https://www.massmastergardeners.org/home-gardening-webinar-series>

BIRDIE BITS



Celebrating 2021 and all the Birdie Bit Readers

Lately, I've been concentrating on a wildlife sighting every day to write about in my journal. Many of you have also let us know what you've seen in your yards, or you've included us in some very insightful observations from wildlife guides to which you subscribe. We've been feeling grateful to all of you who let Karen and me know that you enjoy this column. Thanks to you all. It means so

much to be connected, especially during this long covid-19 siege.

My wildlife sightings this month include 2 deep black squirrels, the size of gray squirrels, on Canterbury Lane in North Sudbury. Although I've heard reports about these squirrels in neighboring towns for years, this is my first sighting ever in Sudbury.

Then just one street away from my house, on Briar Patch, I watched as a large (so probably female) red-tailed hawk spread her wings majestically over her catch, a hapless gray squirrel, on the ground. As she defended her catch, her eyes were on me even while blue jays flew in circles over her head, scolding her. She looked so fierce that I had to applaud them for their courage.

On the back roads of Sudbury near the high school, my husband and I stopped for several minutes as 16 turkeys made their thoughtful way across the street. Traffic stopped in the other direction, too. Here's what I think the turkeys were gobbling about: "I've got family on both sides of the road- I'm not sure- should I cross or should I stay?" Finally, all the turkeys crossed to the other side. Have you ever experienced a trickle of turkeys? "Trickle, a slow thin stream". That described them exactly!

Besides my own sightings, Trina Baker, who lives about 2 miles away, emailed me that she was watching a mother bobcat and two cubs romping around her yard. In my

46 years living here I've never heard of a bobcat in anyone's back yard. Bears, deer, coyotes, fishers, raccoons, skunks, opossums, and turtles, yes, but a bobcat is a rarity. Trina lives near a swampy, woodsy habitat that may be just right for the bobcat family.

On Christmas Day a cardinal pair and a bluebird pair visited our heated birdbath on the deck. What a beautiful sight! Downy (diminutive) and hairy(huge!) woodpeckers visited the suet feeders. Mixed flocks of birds flew in during the storm- two song sparrows that should be well south of here; four starlings; two Carolina wrens; several blue jays; house and gold finches; titmice; one white-breasted nuthatch; one pristine male red-bellied woodpecker; scores of juncos; and a flock of robins in the crabapple tree. All seemed right with the world. The birds were the best Christmas present ever.

Your backyards and gardens are havens for wildlife, too. We love to hear what you have at your house. Thanks to all the readers and gardeners and wildlife watchers.

With best wishes for a very Happy, Safe, and Healthy New Year.

Karen and Marilyn

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**FEBRUARY 2022 GRAPEVINE
DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES
THURSDAY JANUARY 27**



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HAPPY
New Year