

Grapevine

December 2022

Volume 74 No. 4

Sudbury Garden Club

Flowers, Food, Friends, and Fun



HOLIDAY PARTY

Wednesday, the 14th, 4:00 – 6:00 pm
Memorial Congregational Church

The parlor will be transformed into a Winter Wonderland!

We will be serving appetizers, cookies, wine, punch and seltzer.

Sign up [HERE](#) to contribute to the Holiday Party!

Helen Crary, Coordinator and her helpers: Nancy Brisebois, Juju Lem Pang, Bonnie Parri, Loring Schwarz, and Susan Vingiano.

If you need a ride to and from the MCC, please contact the [Co-Presidents!](#)

BOARD MEETING

No Board Meeting in December!



CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES

Library Flowers

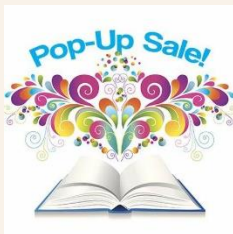
- Monday 12/5 Tara McElroy
- Monday 12/12 Heather Halsey
- Monday 12/19 Sara Salomon

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 **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.

Pop-up Garden/Flower Book Sale to benefit Sudbury Garden Club



Sunday, December 4, 9-12 at the Wayside Inn Tavern

We will be selling used books including garden design, flower arranging, vegetable growing and more! A “green” way to give gifts this holiday season and support our club.

Books will cost \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

Come on by!

Community Outreach/Kissing Ball Workshop

We are pleased to announce a new event, along with a traditional one, at the Senior Center on **Wednesday, December 7th** from 9:30-11:30.

Our traditional event is:

We want to make 50 Small Boxwood Trees for the residents of Orchard Hills. All supplies will be provided, but please bring your



own clippers. In the spirit of the holiday season, let's bring joy to the many recipients! Please sign-up on **Sign-Up Genius** to help make them.

Our NEW event is:

Rather than Members purchasing the supplies and making Large Boxwood Trees again this year, Heather & Patti will provide the supplies and guidance on how to make a kissing ball. The cost is **\$25** per ball.

The Senior Center is offering these events to the public so space may be limited for our Membership as the Center has a maximum number of 30 persons allowed in the space so - please sign-up as soon as possible.

If you would like to make a kissing ball here's how to pay by December 1st:
Go to the website **<https://www.sudburygardenclub.org/events-2>** (opens November 1st) or send Patti a check (or give cash) at **59 Hopestill Brown Road.**

Sunshine Committee

The Sunshine Committee of the Sudbury Garden Club sends cards and notes of support or condolence to members in the club's name. We ask that all members let us know of any member who might benefit from a cheerful or meaningful message from the Sudbury Garden Club throughout the year.

Pat Drobinski & Patty McCann

NOVEMBER FUN

Sudbury Doing Good Fair November 5



Color Me Floral Workshop - November



Club members participated in the November CMF Workshop and created a beautiful versatile welcome wreath. Under the guidance of Heather Halsey and Jeanne Lucey, we learned how to create a wreath with seasonal components to go with each season. Jeanne Lucey taught us how to make a beautiful bow using an invention she made and gave to each of the participants. It was

a fun morning and everyone went home happy! Thank you Heather and Jeanne for your guidance, creative design, and plans into making this workshop a success!

Juju Lem-Pang and Carol Shapanka
Co-Chairs, Color Me Floral Workshop



Thanksgiving Community Outreach

On November 23rd, the Community Outreach Committee gathered at The Sudbury Senior Center to create 26 Thanksgiving arrangements for the Meals on Wheels program. The arrangements were delivered that same day to the program recipients. The entire event took place in less than an hour – many hands really do make light work! The colorful autumn insert is custom made by Diane with a Thanksgiving greeting from The Sudbury Garden Club on the reverse side.



Pat Drobinski & Diane Kaplan

Lots of Fun Decorating the Wayside Inn!





SAVE THE DATE

Pop Up Color Me Floral Workshop

How would you like to chase away the winter blues and learn something new? Color Me Floral Workshop will be having a pop up workshop on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 from 10am-12pm. We will learn how to use Agrawool and design a linear floral arrangement reflecting elements of a painting, sign up is limited to an intimate number of 10. You will be able to signup through our website under “events” after December 3rd. The cost is \$37.00 (\$2.00 PayPal surcharge) or pay by check \$35.00. Check payable to SGC with a note for the CMF Workshop. Send checks to Juju Lem Pang, 50 Ridge Hill Road, Sudbury. Please note the deadline to signup will be **Monday, January 16, 2023.**

Thanks!

Juju Lem Pang and Carol Shapanka



BIRDIE BITS



Winter's Gleaners and Cleaners

When you look out over the stark landscape right now it's easy to see some strong black flyers. A few years ago you could safely say "There go the crows". Today, though, they might be ravens. More seem to have moved into our area. The only way I can tell them apart at a distance is the croaking voice of a raven versus the caw of the crow.

The crows do us many favors, even though they have a reputation for mischief. Yes, if they can, they will eat songbird eggs and babies. I remember all the scarecrows in the fields where I grew up in NH. All were dressed in farmer's clothing and straw hats to resemble the resident farmer and perhaps save the corn crop. Crows are super intelligent birds, though. Soon enough, they picked up on the fact that the "farmer" never moved. The crows moved right in and had a feast!

In the Fall after the hay is mown and the corn cut down, crows will flock into the fields to glean what's left of the crop that no one else is claiming. Along the way if there are bugs and grasshoppers, all the better. Now there are gleaning societies, and I have to wonder if the crows set the example of never wasting good food.

Besides being excellent gleaners, crows are also our best winter clean up crew. This morning I saw a deer beside the highway, a casualty of a nighttime encounter with a much bigger predator. Although the town highway crew tries to take care of our many casualties, sometimes the crows arrive first. They can be quite brazen and fly out of the way of traffic at the last moment. Seldom do you see a dead crow on the highway though. They often work in family groups with enough members to keep an eye on approaching vehicles. Small animal road kills are gone before we even see most of them! We are much healthier because of the crows cleaning up of our highway casualties.

During the winter I like to watch the crows at our suet feeder. One seems to be designated to be the chipper. The crow first tries to get the metal cap off the suet feeder. If that doesn't work or if the crow doesn't get the feeder completely off the pole and onto the ground, the next attempt is to break off a large piece of suet for the family waiting on the ground. My fondness of crows is partly because of their very obvious family manners. Working together, everyone gets to eat.

It's also very helpful to have a "murder" of crows around when the hawks swoop over the yard. How the crows gather their friends so quickly is a mystery, but soon enough, they are swarming the hawk and being real pests. All the songbirds are on full alert with no chance that the hawk is going to have a meal. I should feel sorry for the hawk, just another hungry bird going hungry once more!

If you enjoy knowing more about our intelligent corvids, an excellent book to read is called Gifts of the Crow by John Marzluff and Tony Angell. There you will learn that crows mourn their dead, love their coffee and beer, use cars as nutcrackers, and love to windsurf and frolic in the wind and snow. By the time you finish the book, I can almost guarantee that you're going to adore crows for the rest of your lives!

Best wishes for Happy Holidays and lots of time for watching the birds this winter.
Karen and Marilyn

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**JANUARY 2023 GRAPEVINE
DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28**



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