



Grapevine

April 2023

Volume 74 No. 8

Sudbury Garden Club

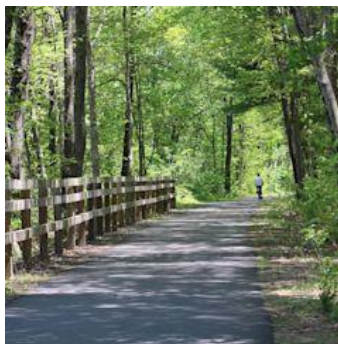
Flowers, Food, Friends, and Fun



But it might be great for the Plant Sale!!

GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday, the 12th, 9:30 am
Memorial Congregational Church**



Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Project

Presented by Department of Planning and Community Development

A representative from the Sudbury Department of Planning and Community Development will present an overview on the status of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail project and highlight the benefits for public health and safety, environmental restoration, and mitigation. The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) will be a 25-mile rail trail between Lowell and Framingham, along the former Lowell Secondary Track right-of-way of the Old Colony Railroad (Full BFRT Corridor Map and Status). In Sudbury, the rail corridor extends through the center of Town, approximately 4.4 miles from South Sudbury near Route 20, north to the Sudbury/Concord Town Line (Sudbury BFRT Project in Design Map).

Hospitality Committee: Marilyn Hodges, Coordinator.

Michelle Coyle, Kaffee Kang, Jeanne Lucey, Patty McCann and Jane Morrissey.

Community Outreach

On **Wednesday, April 12th**, we will be making **55** Spring Pots of Pansies for the Sudbury Food Pantry **AFTER** our General Meeting at MCC. All supplies will be provided - just bring your garden gloves. We welcome any and all members to stay and help us assemble the arrangements that are sure to provide spring cheer to recipients. We plan to start at **11:30am** and should be finished in less than an hour.



Pat Drobinski and Diane Kaplan

BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, April 26, 9:00 am

Location: Janelle Landrigan's Home, 22 Deacon Lane



CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES

Gathering of the Green Thumbs

- Date: **Thursday, April 6 at noon**
- Location: The Colonial Inn, 48 Monument Square, Concord
- Please RSVP to Marilyn Hodges, 617-548-7080



Library Flowers

- Monday 4/3 Betsy Ressler
- Monday 4/10 Nancy Brisebois
- Tuesday 4/18 Diana Cebra
- Monday 4/24 Sandee Kelley



**Roses are red
violets are blue
Now is the time
to pay your dues**

April is Membership Renewal Month

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

There are three tabs to check. You can sign up for:

- Membership and Committee Assignments
- Hospitality
- Library flowers from September 2023-June 2024

Payments: Dues can be paid either:

- 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.
- Or for **APRIL ONLY** paying with a credit card through PayPal on [SGC website](#).

Important Note: there is a fee to use your credit card, so dues are: Active: \$52.00, Associate: \$68.00 and Supporting \$84.00.



Civic Beautification

Heritage Clean-Up will be on Wednesday, April 5th 9:30 -11:30.

Please come and start getting our lovely park ready for our Spring. We will be trimming and deadheading plants, fixing winter damage, and preparing the beds for Spring planting. Please bring your rakes and clippers.



Pansy planting at Heritage Park will be on Wednesday, April 19th 9:30-11:30.

Please come with your trowels, rakes, and clippers.

SGC at Earth Fair at Goodnow Library Saturday, April 22 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Sudbury Garden Club was invited to have a table at the Earth Fair at the Goodnow Library on Saturday, April 22. We have created 2 shifts for the fair. We have posters to display and handouts. The first shift will include set up and the second shift will be taking down our items, both shifts represent the club at the table and answer questions about our club.

Sign up [HERE!](#)



Art in Bloom at Fitchburg Art Museum, Thursday, April 27

Let's celebrate & admire the lovely arrangement created by our own Carol Shapanka and Juju Lem Pang at Fitchburg Art Museum's Art in Bloom! We will meet at the Ascension parking lot at 10:30 AM, cars can be left there for the day. We will head first to Slattery's in Fitchburg for lunch. Then we will go to the museum (which opens at 1:00) to view the art and especially Carol and Juju's arrangement. Sign up to be a rider or driver if you are interested in this event. You will be responsible for purchasing your own ticket (\$15 adults, \$10 Seniors) pitching in for parking fees and paying for your own lunch.

Sign up [HERE!](#)



Sunshine Committee Update

So far this year we have sent out 13 greeting cards to club members as a function of member support. In addition, we have made 2 charitable donations in memory of member's deceased loved ones. We are grateful when members let us know when our cards and messages would be appreciated. You can reach either of us by email, text, phone or a new, soon to be activated form, Sunshine Request, on the SGC website.



Pat Drobinski and Patty McCann

Thank You from Sudbury Pines

Dear Friends at the Sudbury Garden Club,
The residents and staff at Sudbury Pines wish to thank you for the lovely flower arrangements sent for Valentine's Day. The residents loved them!



Wendy Burley, plus Activities Staff and The Residents at Sudbury Pines

Member News

Member News: As many of you know, besides gardening, Kaffee Kang also likes to paint in her spare time. In April, she will be featured as the “Artist of the Month” on the Arts Wayland website:

<https://artswayland.com/>. Some of her works can also be seen this month at the Goodnow Library, as part of the Arts Wayland spring themed art show. The show will run April 4-29. And you are all invited to the opening reception on April 15, 3-5PM.



Sudbury Garden Club

**Plant
Sale**
2023

Oh No...

Plant Sale plans are coming along beautifully. We are having an On-Line Sale with pick-up at the Peter Noyes Parking Lot AND a Live Sale in front of the Town Hall as we did last year. You will be receiving an email soon from our Communications Committee verifying where and when you can help us on Friday and Saturday, May 12 & 13.



As in previous years, we are purchasing many annuals and perennials but will need to transport them all ourselves. Heather will not be available this year with her truck and long trailer, so:

We're in a Pickle!!

Do you know of someone (even non-members) with a truck, minivan, or SUV who could help us transport plants on Friday May 12th. We need trucks, large vehicles, and strong people to load, unload, and stock our live sale in front of Town Hall.

Student Volunteers will not be available until later in the day.

Please email Patti at pattigoforit@yahoo.com if you can help!

**Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you,
Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, THANK YOU!**

WORKSHOP PHOTOS

March Ikebana Workshop

SGC members participated in a Ikebana Workshop lead by Joy DiMaggio of the Thursday Garden Club. Joy started the workshop with a brief history of Ikebana. She spoke about her continuing education of this art form. Members had a learning experience and created a Moribana floral design to take home. It was a lot of fun, laughter to creating our own arrangement. What a beautiful way to welcome Spring!

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



BIRDIE BITS

Spring Has Sprung!

Have you seen the “Welcome to Spring” signs at the Sudbury Police Station? It must be official!

The birds seem the first to “know”. Some of our male goldfinches are already sporting brilliant yellow feathers. They sing from the tops of the oaks on sunny, warm days and brighten the witch hazel like festive ornaments.



The small group of 4-5 overwintering bluebirds is now more likely the past 2 weeks to be just a pair, thinking of nesting, exploring our bluebird houses. The male sits on top of the bluebird house, defending his territory against new Spring arrivals, the red winged blackbirds. We watch the red wings flying to and from nearby Hop Brook Marsh. One lone male arrived at our feeders early in March. Now there are others, braving the elements to make sure they have choice properties to attract the females. Females are still waiting until insects are abundant enough to support their families.

On a walk this week near the house we encountered a male turkey strutting his stuff. With a cobalt blue head and wings outspread, expanding, and contracting, he was indeed admirable. He looked so large and daunting that we crossed the street in hopes of avoiding a charge! But he was not thinking about us. He was looking for females and was on his way to happy hunting grounds.

The true harbinger of Spring for me is the arrival of the ruby throated hummingbirds from their wintering grounds in South and Central America. Sometimes my daughter in central Maine sees hummingbirds on her farm before they grace my yard. Usually, Barbara Baumgardner also has her annual visitors back before “mine” arrive. I put out the hummer feeders the first or second week of April in great anticipation.

A red fox ran through our yard two days ago and chased a gray squirrel up a tree in our neighbor’s yard before exploring around their shed. Then he headed down to JoAnn Forester’s house just a house away to check on her chickens. We weren’t worried, though, because JoAnn has outfoxed the fox for now! In my mind I was creating a new den for the fox under our shed where our ground hog creature lived last summer. The green bean eater!! Fox doesn’t eat green beans. How great would it be if fox moved in to control that real estate. Fox could also control the chipmunk population. I’ve put out the welcome sign!

Two varieties of witch hazels are in bloom now in the yard and a few crocus blooms are appearing in random spots, probably moved by the voles. In February the hellebores started putting on quite a show and show no signs of stopping. We’ve seen skunk cabbages appearing in marshy areas where we hear our first Spring peepers. No peepers yet, but Spring seems a little early this year, and so we’re listening.

Every gardening magazine is featuring Proven Winners and test garden plants that have stood the test of time. I’ve circled “must have” native pollinators and fallen for some plants because of their names alone - Shrimp on the Barbie lungwort, Cordial Canary Bugleweed, Standing Ovation Little Bluestem, Americana Gold Rush Black Eyed Susan, and Sombrero Adobe Orange coneflower! Who could resist?

I plan a butterfly puddling station this summer, basically a mud puddle in an old birdbath using sand, soil, and water with rocks on top for sunning and sipping. The butterflies will warm up on the rocks and sip up nutrients and minerals. I imagine a garden full of butterflies and bees. Hope springs eternal.

Happy Spring, Happy Gardening,
Karen and Marilyn

FROM OUR FRIENDS

Fairy House Trail

The Thursday Garden Club will be having their Fairy House Trail on May 21, 10:00am-4:30pm at the Wayside Inn. Tickets go on sale on Eventbrite on April 1st.

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**MAY 2023 GRAPEVINE
THURSDAY APRIL 27**



Editor

Ann Boland

Phone: 978.460.1132

E-mail: ann755@gmail.com

[SGC Website](#)

Keep in Touch!

