

# Grapevine

March 2022

Volume 73 No. 7

## Sudbury Garden Club

*Gardening and Gathering Together!*



### Be Careful With Nature

Don't put litter out in nature  
Don't eat out in nature and leave litter  
Don't put secret eggs in the birds nest, only real ones will do  
Everyone has to eat carefully in nature  
Some foods are not good for the environment and animals  
Be careful with nature, be kind and caring as much as you can be  
Everyone loves nature you see

**By Phoebe (December 13, 2021)**

Phoebe is 6 and Lynn Noland's Granddaughter!

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Poetry contest sponsored by **GCFM/NGC** for kindergarten to 14-year-old children in Massachusetts. Theme was Song Birds and their Natural Environment.

I was babysitting Phoebe, age 6, in December and we were discussing the poems theme. She started reciting her story about birds and nature and I quickly added it to my notes. Phoebe won regionals and the winners' poems are sent to Nationals. NGC will choose their winner, and will make a book of the poems for the winners. Hope she can keep advancing.

Lynn Noland

## GENERAL MEETING

### Wednesday, the 9th

Masks are still required!

**9:30 am In-person at Memorial Congregational Church**

**10:00 am Business Meeting**

**10:30 am Presentation**

### Spring Ephemerals

**Presented by Joan Butler and Jana Millbocker**

Native woodland wildflowers such as Bloodroot, Jeffersonia, and Hepatica are the stars of the early spring garden. In this presentation, you will learn more about their habitats, ideal growing conditions and unique adaptations! Joan Butler and Jana Millbocker are avid gardeners, plant collectors, garden designers and writers. They are past presidents of the Holliston Garden Club and are active in the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts and other horticultural societies. They have presented programs at the Boston, Connecticut and Maine Flower Shows, and to numerous garden clubs, community groups and libraries.

Jana Millbocker is a garden designer and owner of Enchanted Gardens, a landscape design firm in Holliston. Her new book, *The Garden Tourist's New England, A Guide to 140 Outstanding Gardens and Nurseries* was published in 2020.

Joan Butler is a Master Gardener and a retired Horticulturist. She currently serves on the GCFM Board as Recording Secretary. Joan is a former Chairperson of the Massachusetts Landscape Design Council, a member of Garden Consultants Council and an accredited Flower Show Judge.

## BOARD MEETING

Board Meeting Date: **Wednesday, March 23** at 9:00 am.

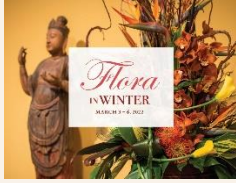
In person at **Sara Solomon's home**



## CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES

## Flora in Winter

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Flora in Winter at WAM is scheduled for **March 3–6**. Masks are required and you must show proof that you are fully vaccinated. Tickets for non-members are \$28, and must be purchased in advance. A virtual tour is available on March 4 for \$15.

## Library Flowers

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Monday 3/7 Carol Shapanka  
Monday 3/14 Barbara Clifton  
Monday 3/21 Jean Vnenchak  
Monday 3/28 Pat Drobinski



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](mailto: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.

## Gathering of the Green Thumbs Lunch Date

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- **When** - Friday, March 4 at noon
- **Where** - Cést le Vie, 30 Main Street, Northborough
- **RSVP** - Marilyn Hodges, 617-548-7080 by **2:00pm on Thursday, March 3.**

We have added this lunch since there is no group visit planned for Flora in Winter at Worcester Art Museum this year.

## Gathering of the Green Thumbs - April Change

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Lunch at the **Wayside Inn** on Friday, April 1st at 12:00 noon. To sign up phone or text Pat Drobinski at 978 621-8888.

This change was made since we were unable to make a group reservation for Tea at the Boston Public Library.

## Plant Sale

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Plans are moving along for this years' Online and Live Plant Sale.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm at Patti's.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

Lots of hands make light work for us all so we encourage everyone to get involved.

59 Hopestill Brown Road, Sudbury

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### Art in Bloom at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

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In person Art in Bloom is back in the museum for the first time since 2019! Unguided tours (up to 25 people) at the MFA will begin on Friday, April 29th through Sunday May 1st.



This year Carol Shapanka and Nancy Hulme will be representing our club and we are hoping to get a group together on **Friday, April 29th**. We need to get a head count of how many members are interested in going on a 'trek' to the MFA by March 2nd if we plan to go in as a group. Alternately, members can visit the museum on any of the three days on their own. Please click on the link below!

[SignUpGenius](#)

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### SGC Store to open in March



Watch for an email with the link to an online store through Graphic Connections located at 730 Boston Post Road in Sudbury. We will be offering fleece vests, fleece jackets, t-shirts, hats, and possibly a few other items with our lovely logo on each one. This is not a fundraiser, just a way to wear your membership with pride! The store will only be “open” for 10 days so when you see the email, order right away if you are interested. You can go to Graphic Connections for sizing.

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## 24th Art in Bloom - A Showcase of Floral Extravaganza - April 28 thru May 1

Members, if you would like to participate in the Fitchburg Art Museum's Art in Bloom, please **email:**  
**[co-presidents@sudburygardenclub.org](mailto:co-presidents@sudburygardenclub.org)**

The Laurelwood Garden Club in partnership with the Fitchburg Art Museum **invites you to be an interpreter** in the 2022 **Art in Bloom** event to be held at the Fitchburg Art Museum, 185 Elm St., Fitchburg. Interpreters have free admission and a complimentary ticket to the Friday evening Champagne Reception. Visit the Fitchburg Art Museum between February 16 thru March 27 to select your Artwork and complete the Interpreter's Registration packet. We have 40 Artwork pieces to be selected. Museum hours are Wednesday – Sunday from 12 to 4 pm.



## Color Me Floral Workshop - March



Hello SGC Members!

Just a reminder to sign up for the Color Me Floral workshop in March. We are thrilled and grateful to have two of our SGC members, Jeanne Lucey and Heather Halsey demonstrate and guide us through creating a floral arrangement. It will be a fun workshop where we will create and bring home a beautiful arrangement! Reminder to all that the sign up deadline is **Monday, March 21, 2022**. The

workshop is limited to 15 people...so sign up as soon as you can!

Thanks,  
Juju

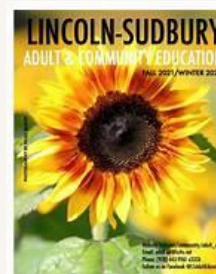
### Here Are The Details:

- **Date:** Thursday, March 31
- **Time:** 3:00 pm
- **Place:** Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbanks Road
- **Cost:** \$35.00
- **Sign up deadline** - March 21

[Sign up here!](#)

## LS Adult Education Class: Flower Arranging for a Cause

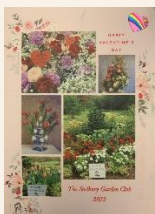
Jo Ann will be running a class through Lincoln-Sudbury Adult Education on **Thursday, March 24** from 7-8:30 pm at the high school. The goal is to publicize Sudbury Garden Club, educate the public on some simple flower arranging techniques and create small arrangements to be donated, they will probably go to the Meals on Wheels program and not Sudbury Food Pantry as listed in the brochure. A couple of members have volunteered to help Jo Ann already, let her know if you would like to also help or go ahead and sign up for the class!



It is listed on page 3 of the Spring 2022 brochure, you can sign up for this class here: [lsrhs.net/community/adult\\_ed](https://lsrhs.net/community/adult_ed) There is a \$35 fee to cover LS Adult Ed. administrative costs and the cost for flowers and supplies.

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### **Sending Love right back to the Membership Committee!**



Thank you to the Membership Committee for sending beautiful and thoughtful Valentine's postcards to all of us!  
We LOVED them!

Jo Ann & Patti & all our BELOVED members!

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### **Membership Committee**



A very important member of the membership committee's name was missing from our postcard, Barbara Fay!

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### **Getting Back to normal at GCFM (Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts)**

District Directors are the conduit between our clubs and the GCFM. Please let me know if you would like to be an assistant to me for this coming year, to take my place in 2023-2025.

Thanks,  
Lynn Noland  
Central North District Director



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### **February Community Outreach**

50 arrangements were distributed to recipients of the Sudbury Food Pantry.



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### **Thank you from a scholarship recipient**

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Hello,

My name is Hannah and four years ago, the Sudbury Garden Club awarded me a scholarship to help fund my college education. I wanted to reach out to thank you again for this support and give you a brief update on my studies.

This spring, I will be graduating from Cornell University's College of Engineering with honors. I have been studying environmental engineering with a focus on climate change and environmental modeling. While the pandemic has been very disruptive, I've still had an incredible experience and was thrilled to return to the classroom this past fall. While I've learned a lot from all my classes, I particularly enjoyed a class called Renewable Energy Systems Engineering, which I took this past fall. In this class, I studied the various sources of renewable energy, technologies for harnessing such energy, and even worked on a project to design a solar carport at Cornell.

I have also worked in two different research labs during my time at Cornell, and in my current lab I am adapting a computer model to help predict the global atmospheric spread of fungal crop diseases. This research has been extremely rewarding and I'm so grateful to work with such incredible scientists. I'm currently writing a senior thesis on my research and plan to work for the lab after graduation to hopefully turn my thesis into a paper for publication.

Outside of the classroom, I am also passionate about working with a climate justice organization called Climate Justice Cornell. We advocate for local, state, and national policies that would help mitigate the impacts of climate change in an equitable manner. Perhaps our biggest accomplishment was in 2020 when, after almost a decade of student activism, we helped convince Cornell University to divest our endowment from the fossil fuel industry.

Looking forward, I hope to work for a national research lab, and am particularly interested in the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL). I believe my education and passion will allow me to play a role in making our world more sustainable and just.

Thank you again for your support and I hope you have a happy and safe 2022.

Sincerely,

Hannah Brodsky

## BIRDIE BITS



### Birding and Gardening in February

Doug Tallamy's book, *Nature's Best Hope, a New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard*, a Christmas request, still sits in a pile on my bedroom table, ready to be picked up when there's more time to read. You would think February might be that time, but instead, I think all of us have been working harder, still trying to stay safe and sound, doing nearly everything in a different way than we did 2 years ago. It has become tedious, for sure! Instead of books, plant and bird magazines seem to be just the right size for browsing and dreaming of Spring, of planting and more time outside, maybe even with fellow gardeners if we're still heading in the right direction

Better Homes and Gardens Jan/Feb issue featured hearty hellebores. The photos are so stunning that I don't see how I can part with this magazine. In my mind, I've planted a whole hillside of hellebores for the neighbors who walk by to admire. Right now, this area has moss and whatever "weeds" have decided that my neglect is perfect for them.

The Jan/Feb issue of *The American Gardener Magazine* features Zestful Zinnias on the cover. Again, in my dreams I've planted those in a perennial bed near the driveway where I and my neighbors can see the pollinators that flock to them and the birds that will enjoy the seeds. I think of my mother with her vases all over the house filled with zinnias, sweet peas, and gladiolas. I used to think my childhood house looked like *Better Homes and Gardens* all summer long. I know where my dreams of a cutting garden originate. I hope my mother knows how much I benefited from growing up with her love of flowers.

I grew up with birdfeeders, too, and rows of sunflowers in the garden that attracted birds in late summer. Now Wild Birds supplies my sunflower seeds and all the banquet of suet and seeds a bird's heart can imagine! When I'm not dreaming of planting in the Spring, I'm watching the birds at the feeders and hoping the red-tailed hawk as well as the Cooper's hawk will find a meal elsewhere. For the first time we've heard ravens in the yard, and I wonder how they will fit in with the hawks and crows that nest nearby.

During the last snowstorm we had over 50 birds in a mixed flock come in for food. There were grackles, starlings, and red-winged blackbirds. In the flock there were male redwings, juvenile redwings, and a few females. I never remember seeing them this early. There were so many that when they spooked and flew off into the trees, there was an audible whirling of wings.

We've had bluebirds and robins all winter. The robins dined on the winter berries that I bought from Russell's Garden Center to fill my deck planters. So did the bluebirds! Both species have loved the heated deck bird bath, taking vigorous baths even in temps well below freezing. Now on warm days, the bluebirds are beginning to inspect



the bluebird houses. The real estate market is hot with limited numbers of houses available!

It seems obvious that our gardens are very connected with bird life and insect life. Our bird and garden sources give us permission not to be as tidy in our gardens and to be more aware of natives and pollinators. In some ways, I feel that I've gone back to my country roots where we had no exotic plants or trees in our gardens. Childhood memories are beginning to inform more of my gardening practices now. I just hope we can bring back some of the endangered butterflies and bees and birds that we took for granted not so long ago.

Since we can't plant outside quite yet, there are some wonderful programs and exhibits in the local area coming up soon. The Concord Museum is featuring "Alive with Birds", a collaboration with Mass Audubon Society featuring William Brewster, the first President of Mass Audubon from March 4-September 5. Visit [concordmuseum.org](http://concordmuseum.org).

Elm Bank, MA Horticultural Society's Gardens in Wellesley, is featuring winter guided tours on March 2 and 9, from 10-11 AM. Tours feature winter garden interest with an eye out for what will be happening soon in the Spring. Visit [masshort.org](http://masshort.org).

Tower Hill Botanical Gardens is always a great getaway in the last of winter with the orange and limonaria ablaze with colorful plants and fragrant blooms. Visit [towerhillbg.org](http://towerhillbg.org).

Spring really is just around the corner, right after the foot of snow that came in on Friday, February 25th! I plan to curl up with more garden and bird magazines and dream of having the most beautiful bird-filled gardens ever this Spring. We hope you have Spring dreams, too.

Happy Spring,  
Karen and Marilyn

## PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**APRIL 2022 GRAPEVINE  
DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES  
THURSDAY MARCH 24**



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### VISIT OUR WEBSITE



**Sudbury Garden Club**