



Grapevine

April 2024

Volume 76 No. 8

Sudbury Garden Club

Plant so your own heart will grow ~ Hafiz ~

"April is the kindest month. April gets you out of your head and out working in the garden" - Marty Rubin

"April is also Membership Renewal"- Membership Committee



GENERAL MEETING



**Wednesday, 10; 9:30am
Memorial Congregational Church**

Six Simple Steps to Successful Rose Gardening
Presented by Mike and Angelina Chute

Discover how easy it is to grow beautiful roses in your home garden, once you know how! Mike and Angelina Chute's presentation, *Six Simple Steps to Successful Rose Gardening*, takes the mystery out of growing beautiful roses and explains everything you need to know. As co-owners of RoseSolutions, a landscape consulting company that specializes in roses, they include lots of tips and personal anecdotes.

Accomplished garden writers, the Chutes will be available to sign copies of their books, *Rose Gardening Season by Season: A Journal for Passionate Gardeners*, as well as *Roses for New England: A Guide to Sustainable Rose Gardening*.

The Chutes maintain a website (www.rosesolutions.net), a blog and publish a quarterly newsletter, *The Northeast Rose Gardener*. Co-founders and past presidents of the Rhode Island Rose Society, they have held lectures and workshops throughout New England, including the Boston Flower and Garden Show, the Maine Flower Show, and the Newport Flower Show.

Hospitality Committee: **Connie Sanchez Morillo, Coordinator.**

Joan Buxton, Kaffee Kang, Tara McElroy, Kathleen Sawyer, and Loring Schwarz

Community Outreach - Spring Pansies

We will be making Spring Pots of Pansies for Bridges by EPOCH **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 24: 9:15 am

Location: Memorial Congregational Church

Refreshments: Diane Kaplan



CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES

Library Flowers

- Monday 4/01 Christine Angoff
- Monday 4/08 Sara Salomon
- Tuesday 4/16 Diana Cebra (Patriot's Day)
- Monday 4/29 Pat Drobinski



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.

April is Membership Renewal Month

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



There are three tabs to check. All Active Members are required to sign up for:

- Membership and Committee Assignments
- Hospitality
- Library flowers from September 2024-June 2025

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.

Ann will also have her computer at the April meeting to help sign you up!!



Civic Beautification - Spring Clean-up

Date: Wednesday, April 3, 9:30 to 11:30am

Location: Heritage Park

Bring gloves and garden tools



Gathering of the Green Thumbs Lunch Date

Date: Friday, April 5 at noon

Location: Sudbury Point Grill, 120 Boston Post Road, Sudbury

RSVP: Barbara Fay: 508-380-1607

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!



It's the Budget Time of Year

All Committee Chairpeople are requested to send their proposed budget request to our Treasurer, Janelle Landrigan at sgc.treasurer76@gmail.com by **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10**. We will be discussing the tentative 2024-2025 budget at the April board meeting.



Earth Day

Earth Day, Peter Noyes Elementary School & Sudbury Center, Saturday, April 20, 10-2.

We have a few SGC volunteers but are looking for a few more to sit at our table. We will have a professional presence to recruit members and educate the community on Natives vs Invasives. Please join us! Sign up [here](#).

Information about the town wide [event](#).



Art in Bloom Field Trips

Thursday, April 25, Fitchburg Art Museum to view Jo Ann F & Heather H's creation

Leaving @ 10:30 AM from Ascension Church parking lot, breakfast close to the museum, back 3:00ish, tickets cost \$9, \$5 for adults.

Sign up to drive or ride [here](#). Information about the event [here](#).



Friday, April 26, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston to view Juju & Carol's creation

Leaving @ 9:00 AM from Ascension Church parking lot, lunch on site, back 4:00ish, ticket cost \$27.

Sign up to drive or ride [here](#). Information about the event [here](#):

Garden Information

Spring clean up can be started after we have three to five days of 50* weather. The reason being, insects of all kinds have wintered over in soil, leave's, dry flower heads and stems. Once we have warmer temperatures, the insects can emerge and survive to pollinate our gardens.

FYI-Prior to 1948, if there was a house with a lawn it was clover or violets or natural ground cover. Fertilizers were invented and those natural plantings were classified as weeds through department of agriculture and grass was the improved lawn cover, using fertilizer for the up keep. Now 7 decades later those natural ground covers are coming back as a lawn, not needing fertilizer, promoting pollination and our bee population.

Lynn

PLANT SALE UPDATE

The Plant Sale Chair people are busy preparing for our annual major fundraiser which will be on Saturday, May 11th. Save the date! How can you help? I'm so glad you've asked.



Digs – We will be digging up members' plants beginning in early April. What would you like thinned out? It's like free landscapers coming to your house. Ask your neighbors if they have plants for us, too. Sign up [HERE](#) to host a dig, or attend a dig. If you are unable to host or attend a dig, you can make a donation towards the expenses for the plant sale. Check the [website](#).

Houseplants – New this year! We will be featuring a table so that you can share your most prolific plants, even if you don't have an outside garden. Let's have a nice variety of your finest plant offsprings to tempt the Mother's Day shoppers.

Craft Boutique – New, too! Share your special talent or hobby and make something fun or practical to contribute to our sale: Artwork, jewelry, whatever suits your fancy. You decide and set your price.

Saw Horses – New or old, we need yours for our perennial tables. Yes! Everything will be off the ground and easy to see this year.

Friday, May 10th – We will provide snacks to our volunteers in the afternoon to sustain you as we all work to get ready for Saturday.

Saturday, May 11th – The Big Day!!! All hands on deck. We will provide coffee and baked goods/donuts to wake you up and prepare you to help the expected throngs of plant enthusiasts.

Thank you for contributing!
Carol Shpanka, Leslie Lowe, Mike Hunter

Our Plant Sale Needs You!

The plant sale steering committee has many jobs, large and small, that need to be filled for both Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11. Jo Ann Forester is going to reach out to each member, hopefully by phone, to help you be matched with the best jobs for you. We will have 2-4 hour shifts all day on Friday, May 10th; you can let her know your availability, and we hope everyone will be available on Saturday, May 11 from 8:30-12:30. You can always email her at joann.forester@gmail.com or text at 978-460-0915 but she really hope to chat with all of you!

Let's go Plant Sale 2024!

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Meeting - New Date

TUESDAY, June 4th, Wayside Inn

Time: 12-4pm

More information to follow...!



BIRDIE BITS



This month, Wild Birds Unlimited publishes a fascinating article about the Bald Eagle, and I would like to share it with all of you since it contains some interesting facts.

Did you know that in preparation to laying their eggs, which can happen from early March to early April in Massachusetts, Bald Eagles often start building their nests as early as December? That is because eagles build some of the largest nests in the bird world.

Their nests can reach widths of over eight feet wide and up to twelve feet high! They can take up to three months to build and weigh hundreds of pounds. Eagle pairs may reuse their nest year after year, adding onto the existing structure and making it even bigger each nesting season. Eagles usually mate for life.

Eagles build their nests in trees of considerable size such as maples, oaks and pines by weaving together large sticks. Soft materials such as grasses, moss, pine needles and feathers are used to fill in between the sticks and soften the nest.

Both the male and female eagles bring nesting material to the site, but it is the female who constructs the nest.

Once the nest is ready, the female will lay from one to three eggs (very rarely four) with the separation of a day or two between eggs. Both parents incubate the eggs, with the female spending more time on the nest and the mate providing her with food, The incubations period lasts about 35 days, after which the first egg will begin to hatch, The eaglet will pip the egg to start the hatching process A pip is a small hole the eaglet makes as it begins to break through the egg. If there is more than one egg, the eaglet's siblings will begin hatching at two to three day intervals.

When they first hatch, the eaglets are covered in a light gray down, measure four to five inches, weigh only a few ounces and need almost constant brooding from the mother – she sits on them as she did the eggs to keep them warm. During these early days, the father and eventually the mother feed fish, birds, and mammals to the eaglets by breaking off small pieces of food and placing directly into their beaks. By the time they are six weeks of age, the eaglets can tear off pieces of food and feed themselves from the prey brought to the nest by the parents.

By their ninth week, the eaglets are fully grown and covered in dark brown feathers. Soon they begin making short flights to branches surrounding the nest and between their eleventh and twelfth week, they make their first flights from the nest and the parents begin teaching them how to find and catch food on their own. The juvenile eagles will return to the nest and stay in the general vicinity with their parents until sometime in the fall when they are fully ready to hunt and care for themselves.

Once the juvenile eagles leave their parents, they can travel great distances looking for food. For the first four or five years of their lives, they continue to travel, until the time they reach sexual maturity and begin establishing their own territories and looking for mates. This is the point in their lives when their dark brown head and tail feathers mold completely into their adult white feathers.

Bald Eagles have undergone a remarkable resurgence in Massachusetts. In the early 1900's, they had completely disappeared from the state due to habitat loss, hunting and pollutants such as DDT. In 1982, the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife began relocating 41 young eagles from Michigan and Canada into the area of the Quabbin Reservoir. That was the beginning of their remarkable recovery in the state. According to Mass Wildlife, we currently have over 80 pair of Bald Eagles in Massachusetts from the Berkshires to the Cape.

Some days, I am fortunate to see one perched along the highway.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn and Karen

ART SHOW



So proud of our members, Juju Lem Pang and Carol Shapanka for their contribution to the Worcester Art Museum: Flora in Winter. Seeing art in a whole new way.

Arrangement Title: Becoming Spring

In a few short weeks, we will be welcoming spring. Our attention will turn from the bare winter landscape to the awakening of flowering bulbs and perennials in our gardens. The colors, texture, and design of this arrangement brings hope, renewal, and welcome to a new season. We hope that when you look at Becoming Spring, you will feel the same.

POSTCARD

Membership Renewal Postcard

Did you put your postcard on your fridge as a reminder to renew by April 30th? We hope you did!!

Happy Renewal Month,
Membership Committee



PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**MAY 2024 GRAPEVINE
THURSDAY, APRIL 25**



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[SGC Website](#)

Keep in Touch!

