

Springfield Garden Club
November 2019 President's Newsletter
Special Festival of Trees Edition

Are you ready? It's November – SGC's busiest, most exciting month. Your outdoor work should be done for the season and it's time to turn your attention to **Festival of Trees** and, of course, Thanksgiving. Please print the first two pages of this newsletter for a convenient reference of all activities and requests. We would love to see you at as many of these events as possible.

The Festival invitations are in the mail! Remember to return your RSVP and ticket money to **Barb Riotte** at 152 Fairground Road; Springfield, VT 05156.

Festival of Trees Workshops

- 🌲 Wednesday, Nov. 13, Wreath Workshop at **Barb Riotte's** home, 152 Fairground Road. 9:00 a.m. until finished. Bring lots of greens, such as arbor vitae, balsam and white pine. Bring your gloves and clippers. Coffee and refreshments will be provided in the morning and a soup and bread lunch will be served.
- 🌲 Saturday, Nov. 16, Moving Day. 9:00 a.m. until finished. Time to move decorations to 100 River Street and set up trees in the Great Hall. Meet at our storage area at **Lane Eye Assoc.**, 441 River St., N. Springfield. Coffee and refreshments served. We need trucks, men and 5 foot or taller ladders!!
- 🌲 Monday, Nov. 18, Decorating Day. 9:00 a.m. at The Great Hall entrance on Pearl Street. Coffee and refreshments available. You can bring a lunch or we often order lunch from Cuppity Cakes. Men and ladders are most welcome!!
- 🌲 Wednesday, Nov. 20, Creative Workshop. 9:00 a.m. at **Jean Swanson's** home, 482 Skyline Drive, Weathersfield. Coffee and refreshments served. Bring your own lunch. **NOTE:** Steep drive, please use low gear to save your engine and the driveway.
- 🌲 Thursday, Nov. 21, Creative Workshop. 9:00 a.m. at **Jean Swanson's** home. Coffee and refreshments served. Pizza provided for lunch!
- 🌲 Friday, Nov. 22, FESTIVAL OF TREES. "Winter Wonderland"! 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at The Great Hall. Arrive at 5:30 for our group photo. Have fun!!
- 🌲 Saturday, Nov. 23, Post-Event Clean Up. 9:00 a.m. until finished. This clean-up involves removing our tables, dismantling Creative Sales and Silent Auction areas and sweeping the floor. All trees and major decorations will remain in place until early January.

November FOT Tip #1: Pack a tool kit and keep it in your car for the month of November. Tools you will need at workshops and Great Hall: gloves, hand clipper for greens, wire cutters, needle nose pliers, scissors, screw driver, magic markers, glue gun if you have one and water bottle.

2019 SGC CALENDAR

June 12 – "Plants for Birds & Restoring our Community, One Garden at a Time" & Membership Drive. 6:00 pm, First Congregational Church.

July 10 – Garden Tour with Suzanne Dvorsky, Landscape Architect, Tunbridge VT. 11:15 a.m. meet at Peebles.

August 14 – Tour Pleasant View Gardens, Loudon NH, "Proven Winners". 10:00 a.m. meet at Peebles.

Sept. 11 – Rockefeller Natl Hist Park, Woodstock, VT. Tour of mansion & gardens. 8:45 a.m. meet at Peebles

Sept. 18 – Fall Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m. at Claremont Savings Bank

Oct. 2 – Fall Gardens Clean-Up, 9:00 a.m. at Springfield Plaza (Peebles)

Oct. 9 – Festival of Trees Planning Meeting & Potluck. Bring a dish. 11:00 a.m. at Barbara Riotte's home.

Nov. 13 – FOT Wreath Workshop, 9:00 a.m. at Barbara Riotte's home.

Nov. 16 – FOT Moving Day, 9:00 a.m. at Lane's storage.

Nov. 18 – FOT Decorating Day, 9:00 a.m. at The Great Hall.

Nov. 20 & 21 – FOT Creative Workshop, 9:00 a.m. at Jean Swanson's home.

Nov. 22 – Festival of Trees! 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. (Be at Great Hall at 5:30 for group photo.)

Dec. 11 – Annual Holiday Luncheon, 11:00 a.m. MacLaomainn's Scottish Pub, Chester, VT

November FOT Tip #2: There are many hostess assignments in November. Please check your program books to see if you are on the hostess schedule.

FOT Needs and Requests:

- 🌲 The FOT Food Committee is anxiously awaiting volunteers to make appetizers for the Festival. Please let us know soon if you are willing to make an appetizer. We have recipes. None are difficult. Let us know by email or phone. **Sue McCausland** is tasamom741@vermontel.net and **Bonny Andrews** is bonnyandrews65@gmail.com.
- 🌲 The Creative Workshop Committee needs five *Bushes Baked Beans* cans - the short 16 ounce cans. Please bring them to the first workshop on Wednesday, November 20.
- 🌲 The Decorating Committee needs big fat pinecones, at least 4 inches in diameter. They can be returned in January if you want them back. If you have any, email **Jean Swanson** at jeank@sover.net or **Lynn Likus** at likus@me.com.
- 🌲 A volunteer is needed to watch over the Creative Sales table and the Raffle and Silent Auction Tables for one hour, the afternoon of the Festival (November 22), 3:30 to 4:30. If you can fill this important slot, contact **Sandy MacGillivray** at sandymac@vermontel.net.
- 🌲 The Raffle Committee needs baskets – larger sized – at least 18” long and 4” deep. If you have any you can donate, email **Carol Eramo** at ceramo@vermontel.net.

While you're marking your calendars, don't forget our December 11 annual Holiday Luncheon at 11:00 a.m. at MacLaomainn's Scottish Pub in Chester. This is always a fun and festive celebration. A good way to unwind and enjoy the camaraderie after a successful Festival. More details will be emailed as we get closer to the event. There is still time to send two of your garden photos to **Deanna Dexter** at dexter@vermontel.net to take part in the Guess Whose Garden display.

Santa Toy Drive for the Springfield Santa Claus Club - **Deanna** is organizing this toy collection drive again this year. If you would like to sign up, she will have the children's wish list of toys available at our Wreath Workshop on November 13. Deanna will collect the toys at our December 11 Holiday Luncheon or you can drop them off at her home. Email Deanna to make drop-off arrangements at dexter@vermontel.net.

SGC had a busy October. The October 9 Fall Potluck and FOT Planning meeting at **Barb Riotte's** home provided us with a lovely lunch and productive FOT discussion. It was a perfect fall day to enjoy the foliage and view from Barb and Karl's lovely spot on the hill. A bittersweet note: Carolyn and Rich Lane are moving to South Carolina Nov. 1. We were delighted she could join us. We thank both her and Rich for their many years of generous service to SGC and Springfield. We'll miss Carolyn's contributions and warm friendship. We'll miss Rich and his scrumptious homemade breads. We wish them much happiness in their new adventure. Carolyn wants to share their new address: 4 Sugarmill Drive; Okatie, SC 29909. She said, "We would love to see everyone."



Another important accomplishment this past month was the placing of the memorial paver for **Kathleen Marshall**. Kathleen continues to be dearly missed. The paver was purchased with donations SGC received in Kathleen's memory. Thanks to **Wes Marshall** and **Sue McCausland** for bringing this to fruition. The paver is located next to the paver commemorating Wes' sister, Goldie May, at the Iron Bridge Memorial Walkway.



Our successful October 16 Fall Cleanup put our gardens to bed for another season. We started the day with temperatures in the upper 30s but warmed up fast – because of the rising temperatures and all of the hard work. Thanks to everyone who contributed, either that day or in the days leading up to the event. Gratitude also goes to the Town of Springfield for picking up and cleaning out the wrought iron planters and to the River Valley Technical Center students who remove and store the bridge boxes. Peter MacGillivray's work to remove the soil from those bridge boxes is essential and appreciated.

We were well-represented at the October 1 Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont (FGCV) Fall Meeting in Dummerston. Scott Farm Orchards was a delightful venue with great food. The clubs in the Southern District were perfect hosts. It was especially nice that **David King** and **George Palis** included this event in a visit to Vermont from their home in California. It was great seeing SGC's west coast members and catching up on each other's news. If you haven't been to this orchard, it's a VT treasure for your to-do list. Owned by Landmark Trust USA, it's a fascinating orchard with over 120 varieties of heirloom apples, carefully cared for by Orchardist Zeke Goodband. Google his name and you'll see he's quite famous and a very interesting person. This is also the home of The Stone Trust which is the only facility in North America offering year-around education and training for dry stone wall construction.



News from FGCV: Two important Tuesday dates for your 2020 calendar.

- June 2, 2020 – Annual Meeting at The Castle Hill Resort in Ludlow.
- October 6, 2020 – Fall Meeting at the State House in Montpelier.

One non-garden related topic worth mentioning is Microsoft will stop issuing security updates for Windows 7 as of January 14, 2020. Our club is so dependent on electronic communication, this is an important deadline to keep in mind. It means, if you have Windows 7 your computer security won't be protected from hacking. The only solution is to upgrade to Windows 10. Upgrading can be frustrating but I upgraded about a year ago and it wasn't too bad! To give you an idea of price, EssCor in Claremont will do the upgrade for \$65 and that includes an installation of Windows Defender as well. Please talk with your favorite tech support provider before January 1. We want to keep each other safe from the "weed infestation" of hacker bad guys.

Enjoy the glorious fall weather. I hope to see you soon at a Festival workshop!



Enjoy!
Cheryl



Fun at the Fall Potluck. ↑ Barb, Lynn, Cheryl, Carol and new member Alicia Jenks at her first SGC meeting! ← Sue, Evelyn, Joc, Therese, Barb, Margaret, Deanna and Glenna.



Barb, Joc, Sandy, and Carol cleaning up Town Hall garden.



Sandy and Cheryl on the Clinton Street Bridge.



Therese and Deanna working hard at Blue Star Memorial Garden.



Many workers needed at the Rts. 10/106 Garden. Deanna, Cheryl, Margaret, Joc, Lynn Karen (who rarely gets to be in a photo!), Carol.



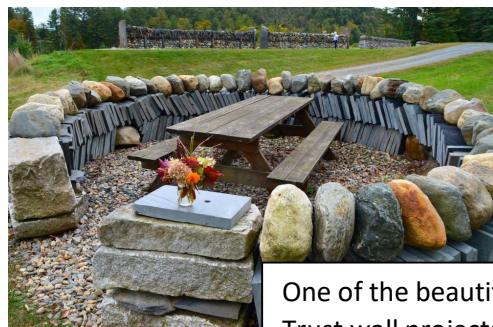
Lynn and Rosann weeding and pulling hoses from the Plaza Garden.



Barb, Barb, Cheryl, Deanna, Rosann, David, Karen - at the FGCV Fall Meeting, in front of a flower bed and stone wall the Brattleboro Club recently constructed with a National Plant America grant.



Zeke Goodband demonstrating his apple tree grafting technique.



One of the beautiful Stone Trust wall projects.