

# GARDEN CLUB OF HINGHAM

## CLIPPINGS SPRING EDITION 2021



Dear Fellow Club Member,

Happy Early Spring! As I write this, the sun is shining brightly but the temperature outside is only in the low 20s. By the end of the week we may see 60°. The ups and downs will eventually get us there and I know I will be ever so grateful for the opportunity to spend more time outside.

As you know, we've been holding our monthly meetings on the internet using Zoom. Our speakers have adapted fabulously to presenting remotely and we've enjoyed live flower arranging, were exposed to the wide world of succulents and cacti, discovered pleasing plant combinations with Laura Bibler, and Maureen Bovet helped us each make a list of gardens to visit — all within an easy drive of Hingham.

This issue of Clippings previews our upcoming meetings this Spring. If you haven't used your computer or smartphone to join into a zoom meeting, we hope you give it a try. Haven't zoomed before? Club members are available to help you get started and comfortable using zoom - please call (781-771-2496) or email ([mauragreeleygraham@gmail.com](mailto:mauragreeleygraham@gmail.com)) me and we'll get you all set up.

Also in this issue of Clippings are highlights from our Junior Gardeners, a garden tour featuring a favorite photo from club member's gardens, and much more. Here are photos from my yard — it's not my barn, but I love the view!

Maura



## Upcoming Meetings

March 17, 2021 **Your Body and the Garden with Susan Guest**



This presentation will get you moving into better health and enjoying your garden more. Gardening can be demanding on the body with raking, digging, bending, pushing and pulling. Yet when gardening is done correctly with adaptive tools and methods, it can be safe and pleasing for the body, mind and spirit. Susan is certified in teaching group fitness classes; senior exercises; Tai Chi for Healthy Aging; Nia Cardio Fitness; and Ageless Grace.

April 14, 2021

### **'Sustaining the Monarch, One Yard at a Time'**

Learn about the monarch butterfly – its natural history, migration, the reasons for its decline and the many conservation efforts that are currently underway along its migration pathway. Then experience an entire season of blooms that you can plant in your own yard to help monarchs and other pollinators.



May 19, 2021 **“Jaw Dropping, Traffic-Stopping,  
‘Get the Neighbors Talking’ Containers”**



Speaker **Deborah Trickett**

Join award-winning container designer Deborah Trickett to learn how to take an ordinary container and turn it into something spectacular! Deborah’s work has been featured in The Boston Globe, Garden Gate magazine, New England Home magazine and on the TV show New England Dream Home. She is a Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist and a frequent lecturer on container gardening at the Boston Flower and Garden Show, as well as the Philadelphia International Flower Show. She also teaches classes and workshops at the Arnold Arboretum in Boston.



June 16, 2021 **A Walking Tour of Cross St. Flower Farm, Norwell**



Speaker **Nikki Bartley**

Cross St. Flower Farm is a 7-acre site that grows over 50 varieties of specialty cut flowers using sustainable, natural methods. Owner Nikki Bartley describes her enterprise as “a love letter to our community. We hope the flowers make you smile as you drive by our fields.” Join your Garden Club friends and enjoy the calm and peace of the farm. Be inspired to include some new varieties in your own garden. Attendees will wear masks and maintain appropriate distancing.



## JUNIOR GARDENERS



Laura Spaziani continues her great work with our junior gardeners despite the pandemic. She has been delivering the members flowers on special occasions so they make their arrangements at home. Hopefully by the spring, participants will be able to meet in person. In this Valentine Junior Gardener meeting from last year, the girls painted a collage of 8 squares and then also made a floral arrangement. Trader Joe's has been great to donate their discarded flowers for our group.



*The gate is open and you're invited ...*



*Stroll along the garden path and enjoy  
member gardens*



Christini Farren



Penni Hughes



Mona Pohl



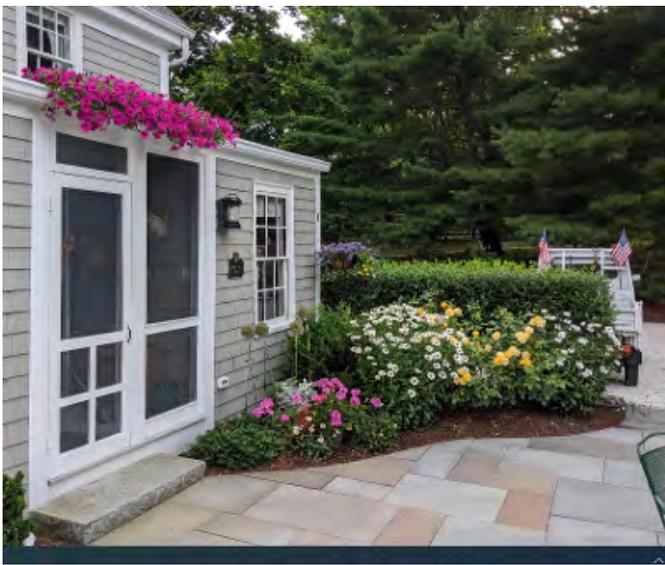
Carolyn Clark



Sherry Johnson



Jill Setian



Martha Clapp



Joyce Mandel



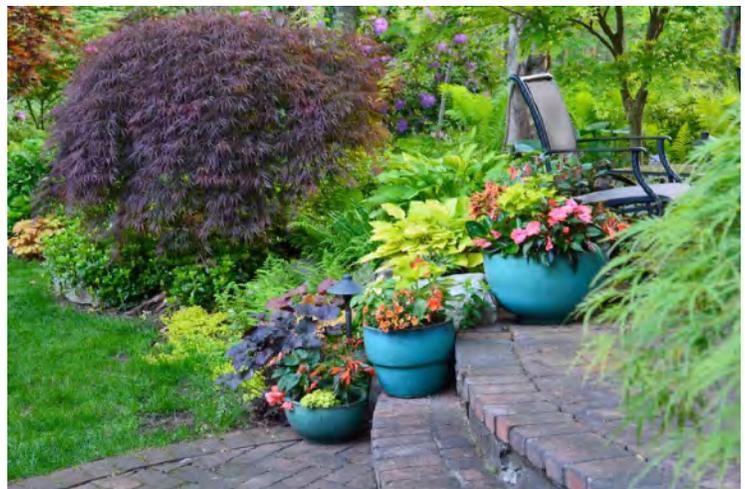
Patsy Bray



Susan Hollis



Pam Collins



Sarah Boynton



Mary Yeager



Nancy MacDonald



Mary Ann Frye



Kathy Norman



Valerie Bourret



Andrea Hancock



Carol Huse



Jane Shute



Susan Kilmartin

Susan Kilmartin



Nancy Hansberry



Carolyn Aliski



*How I love my little garden, where I sit and contemplate.  
 My perfect piece of paradise inside my garden gate.  
 Hanging baskets, pretty pots, the flowers are brimming  
 over.  
 The grass so green, the buttercups, the daisies, and the  
 clover.  
 The little gnomes are watching the pixies and the sprites  
 Dancing by the wishing well, aglow with fairy lights.  
 I can sit here contemplating until it's very late  
 In this magical piece of paradise, inside my garden gate.*

*Susan C Walkinshaw-Kelly*

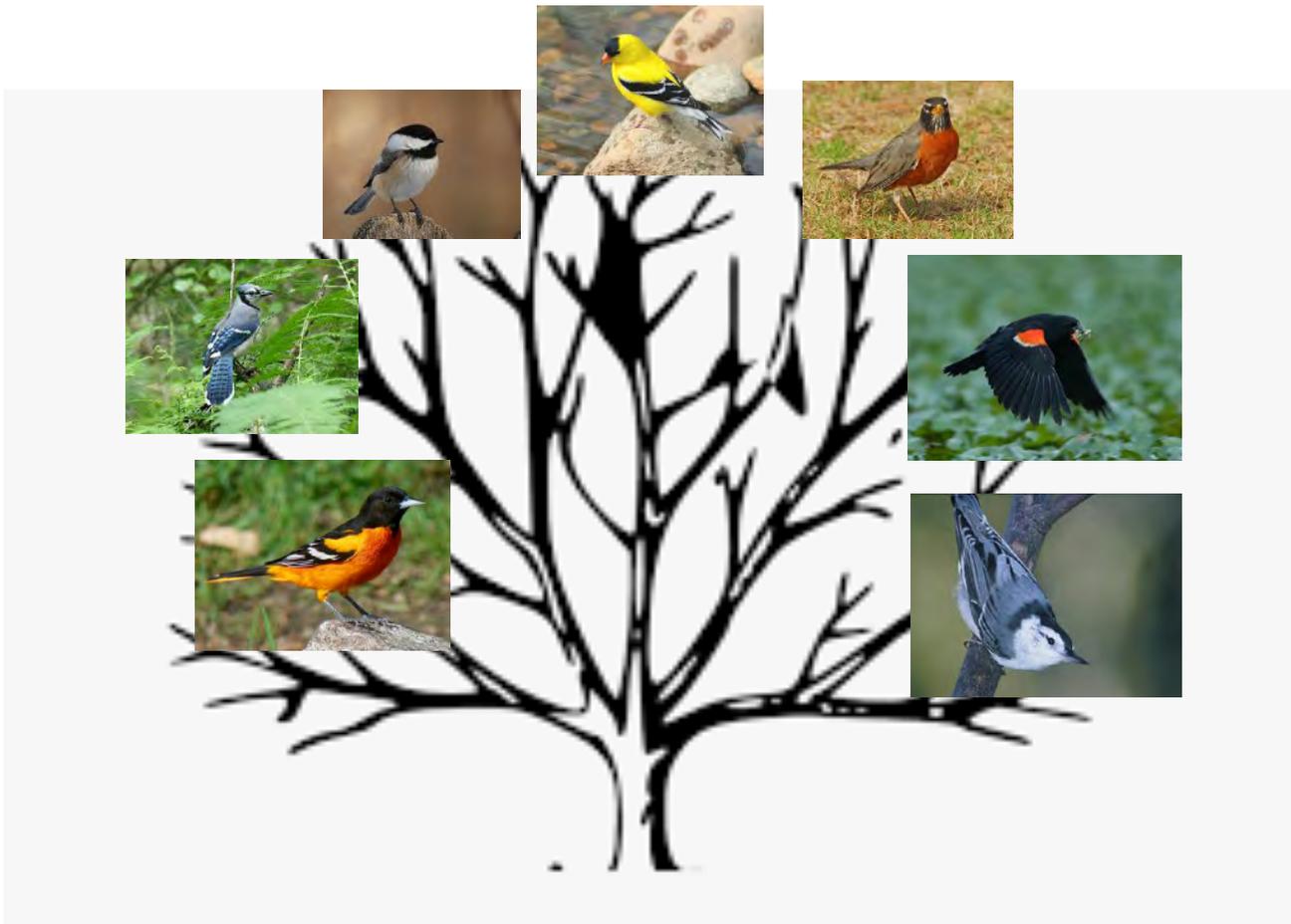
## Spring is for the birds!!!

Many migratory birds are returning to Massachusetts to join those species that wintered over.

### **Birds benefit gardeners in many ways:**

1. Controlling insects including aphids, mosquitoes, spiders, grubs, slugs, and other bugs, eliminating the need for harmful pesticides.
2. Reducing the rodent populations. Larger birds, including kestrels, owls, and hawks hunt mice, voles, rats, squirrels, snakes, and other unwelcome visitors.
3. Pollinating flowers by sipping nectar. Hummingbirds, orioles, and other birds are efficient pollinators adding blooms that attract other birds.
4. Consuming unwanted seeds. Towhees and sparrows consume great quantities of weed seeds, making them effective landscapers.

### See if you can identify the following birds:



Clockwise: Baltimore Oriole, Bluejay, Black-capped Chickadee, American Goldfinch, American Robin, Red-winged Blackbird, White-breasted Nuthatch



## How to Attract More Birds to Your Yard

1. Offer a variety of seeds in separate feeders.
2. Provide suet only in cold weather.
3. Peanut butter is a good substitute for suet in the summer. Mix one part peanut butter with five parts corn meal. This all-season mix attracts woodpeckers, chickadees, and warblers.
4. Provide fruit for berry-eating birds.  
Fruit specialists such as robins, waxwings, bluebirds, and mockingbirds rarely eat birdseed. To attract these birds, soak raisins and currants in water overnight, then place them on a table feeder, or purchase blends with a dried fruit mixture. To attract orioles and tanagers, skewer halved oranges onto a spike near other feeders, or supply nectar feeders.
5. Provide nectar for hummingbirds.
6. Store seed in metal containers. Keep the cans in a cool, dry location; avoid storing in the heat. Damp seeds may grow mold that can be fatal to birds.
7. Locate feeders to avoid window collisions.

*-Steve Kress, Audubon*

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## Pussy Willows

According to an old Polish legend, a mother cat was crying at the bank of the river in which her kittens were drowning. 

The willows at the river's edge longed to help her, so they swept their long graceful branches into the waters to rescue the tiny kittens who had fallen into the river while chasing butterflies.

The kittens gripped on tightly to their branches and were safely brought to shore. Each springtime since, goes the legend, the willow branches sprout tiny fur-like buds at their tips where the tiny kittens once clung.

*Many thanks for garden photos  
Wishing all a safe and happy spring!  
Carolyn Clark - Editor*