

# West Newbury Garden Club



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Next Meeting - June 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6:45pm - Annex Building

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## **Flower Arranging with Margo Pullman**



Our June meeting will feature WNGC member Margo Pullman who will share her expertise with flower arranging. Margo's interest in floral training came as a result of her love of flowers and her time with Boston's MFA floral designer program. This 10 week training includes topics like mass design, color theory, contemporary design, and floral mechanics. Margo has continued to enhance her learning by taking floral master classes with designers Ariella Chezar, Francoise Weeks, Laura Dowling and Christian Tortu. She is passionate about teaching others so join us for a fun and informative evening!

*Members are reminded to bring \$30 for annual dues to the June meeting or mail to Jane Jeffers no later than July 15<sup>th</sup>.  
No meeting in July or August.*

*Our first Fall meeting will take place on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. More details to follow in our September newsletter!*

**PLEASE BRING PLANT SALE YARD SIGNS TO THE JUNE MEETING!**

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## **May Meeting Highlights**



Our annual meeting took place on May 5<sup>th</sup> with over 50 members in attendance. The board members were elected for the 2022-2023 calendar year and all by-law changes were accepted by the membership. Members enjoyed an abundance of food as part of our annual pot-luck tradition. Alison Scher was recognized for her 29 years of membership and contributions as past president, board member, and former webmistress of the WNGC website and WNGC Facebook page.

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## **Congratulations to our Scholarship Recipients!**



*Silas Bucco &  
John Terry*

We are pleased to announce our 2022 scholarship winners! Our first scholarship recipient is Silas Bucco from West Newbury. Silas (pictured to the right with WNGC member, John Terry) attends the University of Rhode Island as an environmental science major. He spent last summer interning at the [Gulf of Maine Institute](#) and will return this summer for a second year. Silas also helped out at this year's plant sale. Thank you, Silas!

Our second recipient is Caleb Calderwood who also lives in West Newbury. He is a senior at Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical High School and studies Natural Resource Management. He will attend Great Bay Community College next year. Congratulations Silas and Caleb!

## Annual Plant and Bake Sale

Our annual plant fundraiser was a great success, with an excellent turnout from our community and beyond! A big thank you to the following members:

**Plant and Bake Sale Chairs** - Gail Dinero and Barbara Butler

**Digging Committee** - Chair Gail Dinero and members Lori Boudrow, Karen Claggett, Heather Conner, Carrie Crowley and Members Helena Dion, Dianna Fogel, Jane Jeffers, KC Swallow, Claudia Woods-Estin

**Sun Plants Committee** - Chair Lynn Boyd and members Barbara Merrill Hannah Page Koch, Deb Whitaker, Diane Teed, Joan Reynolds Ann Craig, Katie Clapp, Joanne Gay

**Shade Plants Committee** - Chair Linda Schaeffer and Co-Chair Kathy Krajieski and members Karen Claggett, Deb Duncanson, Anne Fitzgerald, Mary Kuck, Mary Moody, and Honorary Member, Dave Kuck

**Native Plant Committee** - Chair Kathy Mandeville and members Gail Dinero, Nancy Pau, Carol Decker, Andrea Caswell, Debra Caminiti, John Terry, and Judy Bloomgarden

**Holding Area** - Chair Jane Jeffers and members Helena Dion, Rosemarie McCobb, Maureen Leonard, Lori Boudrow, Wendy Gus, Susan Dougherty, Donna Greene, Anne Selig, Chris Gerzon

**Bookkeeping and Cashiers** - Chair Jane Jeffers, and members Dot Cavanaugh, Marie Scher, Alison Scher, Carrie Hometh, Dianna Fogel

**Bake Table** - Chair Maureen Harris and members Peg Duchemin, Sarah Robinson. and Sharyn Dahn

**Publicity** - Chair Karen Diambola and members Karen Claggett, Cyndy Bourquard, Jane Jeffers

Lastly, to all our members (and family members) who also helped with digging, publicity, set-up, breakdown, and for those who provided beautiful baked goods. Our sincerest apologies to anyone that may inadvertently been omitted. The enthusiasm of our members and sincere interactions with our customers was greatly appreciated!



Jane Jeffers & Lori Boudrow



Steve Jeffers, Dot Cavanaugh,  
Marie Scher, Alison Scher



Nancy Pau, Kathy Mandeville,  
Carol Decker



Susan Dougherty



Christine Gerzon

## ***Memorial Day Parade – Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>***

Remember! Members are asked to meet at the West Newbury Learning Center parking lot (277 Main Street) at **10:00 AM**. Decorate your sun hat and join other WNGC members on our float honoring our veterans and celebrating our town.

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## ***Yearbook Updates for 2022-2023***

Members are asked to please notify notify Membership Chair, Linda Schaeffer no later than July 15<sup>th</sup> if you would like to make any changes to your assigned committees or if you will not be renewing your membership.

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## ***Art in the Garden – Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>***



*Art in the Garden*, a collaboration between West Newbury Garden Club and the West Newbury Cultural Council, will feature nine gardens and artists this year. WNGC members assist by selling tickets in advance, or at each of the garden sites. Margo Pullman, WNGC member, is coordinating this event and members are still needed to work at each garden to check tickets. The WNGC website will be updated to include write ups for each garden, along with the artists and musicians!

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## ***Garden Visits this Summer***

Barbara Merrill is organizing visits to member gardens in July and August as well as possible field trips. Contact Barbara if you'd like to host a visit, have destination ideas, or for more information.

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## ***Nourishing the North Shore***



[Nourishing the North Shore](#) is a Newburyport based non-profit working to expand food access in our community. They specifically partner with local farmers to distribute produce to food insecure individuals and families. Their mission is to ensure equal access to healthy, local food to all members of the North Shore Communities in a manner that builds community, fosters connection, and promotes dignity and self-reliance. For more information on volunteer opportunities and their activities , contact them.

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***Welcome New Member:*** Gwentyth Hoffman

## ***Herbal Corner – Oregano*** by Alison Reyes



Oregano (*Origanum Vulgare* & *Origanum Majorana*) is a hardy herb that will flourish in Zone 6B in the spring and summer months. Oregano grows best in full sun with at least 6 hours daily, and soil that is well drained. When spacing oregano, allow 8-10 inches between plants. Oregano is heat tolerant with ideal growing conditions between 60-80 degrees fahrenheit.

Fresh oregano works great as an antibacterial agent due to its powerful phytonutrient properties. For centuries, oregano has been used to fight infections such as staphylococcus aureus. Packed with fiber, antioxidants, vitamin K, iron, calcium, and vitamin E, you can't go wrong with oregano! Chop and add the leaves to your favorite marinara sauce, sprinkle on top of your favorite pizza, add to a tomato, onion and olive salad or spinkle on top of meat, poultry or fish before roasting. Oh Oregano!

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## ***Notes from a Novice Gardener*** by Andrea Caswell



Cause of death - vinegar and lemon juice

The Battle of the Weeds has begun. What a formidable adversary we have in these foes! I quickly understood that they'll win the war, but have decided I can at least pitch a few battles, especially now that the threat of snow seems past and we can go outside. I've been fighting weeds in several areas, including in a bed along the patio, in a "pollinator patch" by the mailbox, and in the driveway. Yes, weeds growing up through tiny cracks in the driveway, making those cracks bigger! All the usual suspects are involved: quackgrass, pokeweed, fleabane (I think). The point is weeds, weeds, and more weeds.

Here's what I've learned about fighting them so far:

- Weed work is incremental. My motto is, "Progress never counts as failure." This is a quote about writing books by the wonderful Ann Patchett, but I find it works well for weeding too.
- Correct body position really matters! I've regretted awkward reaches and twists I've made in my quest to get at more weeds. As a reminder to keep my body well-aligned, I remind myself to "face the weeds" so that I'm twisting less.
- It's easy to pull weeds for too long without taking a break. No break = backache.
- Spray a mixture of vinegar and lemon juice on existing weeds to kill them. I mainly did this in the driveway, using a one-gallon pump sprayer to target weeds coming up through the cracks. I didn't mess around, either! I purchased an industrial-strength vinegar containing 30% acetic acid for the job (a minimum of 20% is recommended for efficacy). I mixed 4 oz. of lemon juice (from an expired bottle sitting in the fridge) per one quart of vinegar. The driveway weeds were deader than doornails within an hour or two of spraying.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding your weeding tips. Best of luck out there!

## **Contact us**

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WNGC is a member of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts. Read their quarterly newsletter Mayflower for articles, announcements, events and workshops.

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### **Stay Connected to WNGC**

Note: WNGC Board meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Board members' homes. Please contact Lori Boudrow if you wish to attend.