

<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p><u>September 23, 2021</u></p> <p>The monthly meeting of the Natick Garden Club will be held on Thursday September 23, 2021, at 7 pm via Zoom (access opens at 6:45)</p>	
<p>www.natickgardenclub.org</p>	<p>September 2021</p>

Welcome to our 24th year!

President's Letter

As September comes to an end, I hope that everyone is fortunate enough to have memories of some joyful summer events with family and friends and that your gardens were a place of peace in spite of the many weather challenges.

With the help of many, the last few months gave us an opportunity to participate in the Club's outside events and to show the community the good work that we do. As we move back inside and likely by Zoom for a while, I hope you will all be pleased with the line-up of speakers starting with Suzanne Mahler on September 23rd.

Stay Well!

Linda Lentz

Natick Garden Club President 2021-22

Dates to Remember

- **Thursday, September 23rd** First meeting of the NGC 2021-2022 year, via Zoom
- **Thursday, September 23rd 10 am** Fall Plantings Downtown and Library: Let Terry Monahan know if you can help tmmfitz@comcast.net
- **Thursday, September 30th** Field trip to Tower Hill, organized by Jean Egerhei. See attached pdf for details and ticket info!
- **Thursday, October 21st 7 pm** October meeting

September Program

September 23, 2021 (via Zoom)

Suzanne Mahler – Flowering Trees and Shrubs for the Home Landscape

Suzanne Mahler will take us on an exploration of flowering trees and shrubs with a look beyond the fleeting flowers to varieties that provide colorful foliage and fruits, attractive forms and textural bark. Her expertise and experience with her own extensive collections of woody plants and perennials will spark year-round interest for our own gardens.

As we did in the spring, we will meet via Zoom, starting at 6:45 to allow for people to log on and get settled. *The meeting will start at 7pm; this is a public meeting so feel free to invite friends and neighbors.*

Topic: September Program

Time: Sep 23, 2021 06:45 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89186059750?pwd=T2FJN2ZBRkRheHh3TkZTZUtxOXp6Zz09>

Meeting ID: 891 8605 9750

Passcode: 276053

Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

2021-2022 Natick Board of Gardeners

Officers

President	Linda Lentz
Vice-President	Betsy Szymczak
Secretary	Rosalind Forber & Liz Milch
Treasurers	Ann Marie MacKinnon & Pat Polimeno
Membership	Helen Johnson & Catherine Clifford
Programs	Geri Wadness
Federation Liaisons	Linda Lentz & Betsy Szymczak
Past President	Jean Egerhei

Committee Chairs

Annual Dinner	Lillian Graffam
Auction	Bryan Smith

Downtown Plantings	
Spring:	Martha Coleman
Summer:	Sheila Tiberio, Betsy LePain
Fall:	Elizabeth Carroll
Winter Greens:	Helen Johnson, Ann Katan
Earth Day	Linda Lentz
Facebook	Sue Mandell
Festival of Trees	Ellen Yetman
Garden Tour Calendar	Earlina Jamison
Horticulture	Heather Oluwole
Hospitality	Martha Coleman, Joanne Rampe, Susan Shipman
Library Containers	Terry Monahan
Library & Pollinator Gardens	Jill Miller
Library Holiday	Rhea Gallagher, Fran Guthrey
Decorating	
Library Indoor Plants	Connie Lane
Logo Items	Alison Parnes
Membership Book	Sue Mandell
Natick Days	Linda Lentz
Newsletter	Catherine Clifford, Kate Grzesiuk
Nominating	Jean Egerhei
Photographers	Judy Sabol, Sheila Tiberio
Publicity	Kate Grzesiuk
Scholarship	Sue Mandell
Trip Coordinators	Jean Egerhei, Carolyn Wirth
Web & Zoom Masters	Linda Vitagliano, Laurie Adelstein

News, Notes, and Upcoming Events

2021 Scholarship Recipients

Choosing among a superb number of garden club applications was a difficult choice this year, but two young women stood out for the Natick Garden Club scholarship committee. We were able to award each of these applicants \$250 to help further their education.

Ashna Hill will be attending the University of Washington with a major in environmental engineering and agriculture. She was co-founder and head action strategist for the Sunrise Movement Hub at Natick High School. They pressure local politicians to pass legislation for sustainable actions, educate the school communities about the urgency of climate action and organize local environmental events. Ashna

is intrigued with the idea of vertical farming and her ultimate goal is to aid in the design and construction of community centers that are a vertical farm and resource center in underprivileged areas.

This system will allow people to be more connected and in touch with the food growing process, be carbon neutral and provide jobs and produce to community members.

Fiona Ripp will attend Brandeis University in the fall with an undecided major. As a junior, Fiona awakened her desire to pursue environmental work throughout her life with her enrollment in AP Environmental Science. During the pandemic, she offered to build a community garden at the senior housing complex in Natick. She was turned down by the Housing Authority, but that did not deter her. She came back with a step-by-step plan with contributions from the Natick Organic Community Farm, the Natick Garden Club (blackberry bushes), Patriot's Landscaping, a local artist for site specific sculptures and the editors of Natick Neighbors. The plan was accepted. From there, the project blossomed from two to fifty beds with collaboration between Renewable Natick, the Natick Housing Authority and Fiona's community partners with the award of a Climate Change Resiliency Grant of \$141,793. Fiona envisions this garden to be a gathering place for communal socialization, the harvesting of fresh produce for low-income residents and a retreat to relax and see the butterflies and bees.

Many thanks to the scholarship committee for their time carefully reading all the applications, ranking the candidates and finally coming to agreement on these two outstanding candidates.

Marilyn Lustig, Lucia Frenkel, Laurie Adelstein, Elizabeth Carroll, Doris Fina, Pat Polimeno, Ann Marie Mackinnon, Martha Coleman and Sue Mandell, Chair



Ashna Hill



Fiona Ripp

Natick Days 2021

Natick Days was a great success! And lovely to be back after it was cancelled in 2020. The weather was perfect, there were lots and lots of people and everything went very smoothly!

The bean toss game that Laurie Adelstein and her family made attracted a lot of kids. It was fun watching as they tried to toss beans into the colorful flowerpots and walked away with a prize. We handed out several membership forms and information about the club and one has already been returned with a check, so welcome to new member Melissa Boyer.

From set up to clean up the volunteers made it fun and very easy! Kate Grzesiuk and her husband delivered all the big stuff and came back later to pick it up! Lucy Morris was terrific at setting up and figuring out how to best show off our banners, game, items for sale and club information. Geri Wadness, Fran Guthery, Judy Sabol, Jean Egerhei, Sue Mandell, Elizabeth Carroll, Heather Oluwole, Betsy Szymczak, Marci Sapers and Monica Foley worked the table, collected tickets and money, encouraged children to play the game and others to buy bulbs and gave lots of good information about the club and even answered a few gardening questions. Here's the full link to photos with a few below:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/7RdysXDjfkCMA5A7>



On-line Plant Sale finale

Again this year, we wound up our summer-long on-line plant sale finale at the Farmers' Market. On Saturday, September 18th, the club's table at the Farmers Market was both busy and profitable. We sold lots of plants, had wonderful conversations about gardening with residents new and old, gave out so many membership forms we ran out, and sold out of the tulip bulbs Linda Lentz had packaged for Natick Days.

Volunteers came and many stayed past their shifts, engaging passers-by, answering questions and selling up a storm. A special thanks to the cash team, having the Square made a big difference.

Thanks go (in alphabetical order) to Laurie Adelstein, Elizabeth Carroll, Catherine Clifford, Mary Beth Connolly, Rosalind Forber, Lillian Graffam, Kate Grzesiuk, Ann Katan, Linda Lentz, Sue Mandell, Liz and Henry Milch, Pat Polimeno, Judy Sabol, Susan Shipman, Bryan Smith, Sheila Tiberio, and Linda Vitagliano, all of whom helped in some capacity to make this another successful event for the club (more than \$750) and a great way to close out the plant sale.



Album of all of Judy's photos are [here!](#)

Assistant editor's note - huge thanks to Catherine, Bryan, and Laurie for spearheading our main fundraiser. Their work was extensive and over a long growing season. They managed three in-person sales and the online effort, and net about **\$5,800** for the club!!!!!! Well done, you three.



Summer Downtown and Library Plant Maintenance

All summer long, teams of dedicated members watered, fertilized, watered, deadheaded, watered and watered. It showed, and still shows! Thanks to great organization by Sheila, and a 'bucket brigade' of members with water in the trunks of their cars who 'adopted' a planter, the downtown planters, including the bridge, looked great all summer! When you stop and think what the town would look like without the beautiful planters it definitely would be a dramatic change. You all are awesome!



2021-2022 Programs - please watch future newsletters for any Zoom adaptations needed due to the pandemic

September 23, 2021 Zoom

Suzanne Mahler – Flowering Trees and Shrubs for the Home Landscape

October 21, 2021

Erin Espinosa – Transforming Landscapes, Transforming Lives

November 18, 2021

Mary B. Hayes – Hands on Garland Making A \$20 materials fee will be charged.

December 16, 2021

Pot Luck Holiday Dinner

January 20, 2022

Deborah Chud – A Piet Oudolf Story

February 17, 2022

Debra Alvarez – Tales of a Gardener’s Journey

March 17, 2022 Bring food pantry items.

Laura Bibler - Our Grandmothers Knew What They Were Doing!

April 21, 2022

Sally Muspratt – Rethinking Uses for Annuals

May 2022 – date TBD

DIY Program Members bring their expertise on a topic of interest to share with others.

June 2022 – date TBD

NGC Annual Plant Extravaganza Auctions Online and In Person

June 2022 – date TBD

Year End Recognition Dinner and Celebration Annual celebration and installation of new officers and committee chairs.

Tidbits worth sharing....

Doris Fina has had luck with LL Bean’s insect repellent clothing. Shop [here](#).

Check these websites for (virtual) events, classes and workshops of interest.....

- Arnold Arboretum <https://www.arboretum.harvard.edu/>
- Garden Club Federation of MA <https://www.gcfm.org/schools>
- Garden in the Woods aka Native Plant Trust <https://www.nativeplanttrust.org/education/>
- Mass Horticultural Society <https://www.masshort.org/Events>
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden <http://www.towerhillbg.org/index.php/visit/what-s-happening/events-calendar/>
- Frederick Law Olmsted (all programs free!) <https://www.nps.gov/frla/special-events.htm>

Reminders:

- Betsy Szymczak is now the contact for the NGC Sunshine Fund. If you know of a member who should receive a card from us, (illness, bereavement) please let Betsy know at Szymczakb@gmail.com or 508-208-8686.
- Since we aren't meeting in person, recycling gardening books, magazines, or catalogs becomes more challenging. We could post them in an addendum to the newsletter if that sounds helpful.
- Send photos of any and all club activities and events for inclusion in the newsletter to caclifford18@gmail.com and/or kategrzesiuk@yahoo.com

Useful link(s):

- The UMass Extension Gardener monthly e-Newsletter *Clippings* is always worth reading. You can always read it here: <https://ag.umass.edu/resources/home-lawn-garden/newsletters> And you can subscribe at: <https://extension.umass.edu/landscape/home-garden-email-list>
- You can always read the latest issue of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts newsletter *The Mayflower* online at: [Mayflower](#)

"If someone asked me what my idea of luxury is, I think my answer would be:
flowers in the house all year round."

--Mary Sarton, *Plant Dreaming Deep*

Thanks to Laurie Adelstein, Linda Lentz, Sue Mandell, Judy Sabol and Sheila Tiberio for their contributions of content and photographs to this issue.

Catherine Clifford & Kate Grzesiuk