2015 was a year rich with reflection and gratitude for what makes the Bridge of Flowers greater than the sum of all that we do here, now. Thousands of visitors from all over the world signed in at the Kiosks and left their notes of pleasure in visiting this flower Bridge in the midst of a bustling and friendly little town. And, thanks to your enthusiastic response to our Friends request for help with building a much needed new Garden House, our Friends donations were impressive!

The Bridge of Flowers committee used those funds, coupled with assistance from our Memorial fund, and generous in-kind donations, to complete the building of a new Garden House! Hats off to committee member Maureen ‘Mo’ Moore for coordinating this project from beginning to end! Designed by architect Kim Erslev and built by Mark Landy Design/Build Services, the new Garden House reflects loads of local talent and gets kudos from admiring visitors! Local carpenters and Fitzgerald Fencing created a new work area at the Garden House, using the existing gate and fencing materials. And a beautiful new sign created and installed by Chris Reilley Design enhances the Buckland entrance to the Bridge.

Acts of kindness made it possible to carry on the building and maintenance on the Bridge. At the opening of our season, we were without electricity and water. To keep plants growing and carpenters building, our neighbors—VFW Post 8503, the Hurleys, the Cornishes, the Lawlers, and the Mosers—all gave us these vital utilities.

This was also the year we were greatly saddened by the loss of our assistant gardener, Lisa ‘Tish’ Murphy, who passed away suddenly in March. A Master Gardener, she was instrumental as coordinator for the Western Massachusetts Master Gardeners Association, and later as assistant gardener on the Bridge of Flowers, a job she loved—and we loved her! She formed the collaboration between the Bridge and Master Gardeners to volunteer as docents. Truly our ambassador, Tish took the time to smile and talk with visitors. This year, you will see a small tree at the stone fountain on the Bridge, an Eastern Red Bud with heart-shaped leaves, honoring Tish.

We are grateful to our Head Gardener, Carol DeLorenzo, who celebrates 15 years on the Bridge, coordinating all the design, the plantings, repairs and replenishment of our gardens, all while training a new assistant, Elliston Bingham.

We hope you are among the many to enjoy the bloom times in 2016 when the force awakens with its abundance of lush colors to welcome you, our community of Friends, who are the keystone that keeps the Bridge strong!

Respectfully Submitted
Bridge of Flowers Committee 2015
Nan Fischlein and Elaine Parmett – Co-chairs
Peggy March – Treasurer  Judy Harlow – Secretary
Carol Angus, Kay Berenson, Lynda Leitner, Pat Leuchtman, Mariana Luz, Maureen Moore, Marjie Moser, Joanne Soroka, Marion Taylor

Bridge of Flowers
P.O. Box 335
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

In 2015!
For your support
Thank you

2015 ANNUAL REPORT
Bridge of Flowers
Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts

We are grateful to our Head Gardener, Carol DeLorenzo, who celebrates 15 years on the Bridge, coordinating all the design, the plantings, repairs and replenishment of our gardens, all while training a new assistant, Elliston Bingham.
Our volunteer ‘Blossom Brigade’ came out in force throughout the season adding their poetic touches in raking, weeding, and deadheading to keep the gardens beautiful.

Our Plant Sale in May was a resounding success! The enthusiasm of many helping hands from community and school groups who posted upper and potted with set-up and sales, created a synergy that made for a huge success! We thank Peter & Marjie Moser for the use of their property for dividing and potting the plants for the plant sale while the Garden House was under construction.

Our outreach welcomed representatives from Lake Lure Flowering Bridge, N.C., and Amsterdam, N.Y.’s Overlook Pedestrian Bridge. It seems our Bridge has inspired others to create public garden bridges. And several interviews and articles about the Bridge appeared in the media. Please visit our newly revamped website, www.bridgeofflowersmass.org to see more.

This year we proudly added a new category of giving in our Friends program, the New England Aster, generously demonstrated your sentiments and trust for donations of $500 or greater. Friends like you have

New England Aster (gifts of $500+)

Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association
Greenfield Cooperative Bank
Greenfield Savings Bank
John & Barbara Hurley
Shelburne Falls Area Women’s Club
West End Pub
Anonymous

Gardener’s Circle (gifts of $250-499)

Blue Rock Restaurant & Bar
Cynthia Brown
Carl’s Four Season Yardscape, LLC
Clark’s Covarr Parts, Inc.
Charlie & Lisa Cornish
Christopher Reily Design
Pat Cadam & Cynthia Brown
Country Aire Campground
Davenport’s Service Station
Dennis’s, Esq.
Cheryl Dukes & Valene Brooks
Thomas Dame & Denise Duval, ESQ
Eddie’s Wheels, Inc.
Kim Ernslev
Jonathan F. George Sr., CPA, CFP
Nancy Heniemann
Michael C. Herr
Hillside Nursery
Janice Boudreau Advertising
Lorraine & Hale Johnson
Judith & Robert Lawler
Lanoue Tree & Landscape Service, Inc.
LaPierre’s Advertising
Mirick Insurance Agency
Richard & Judy Nicholas
Peter & Eva Otten
Reall, Lucenti, & Lucenti, LLP
John W. Richardson, Attorney
Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum
Shelburne Falls VFW, Post 8503
Stillwater Porcelain
Gordon & Marion Taylor
True North Transit Group
War Plumbing & Heating
Cliff & Carol Washer
Brent Young, Mill River Farm
Anonymous

Gifts In Memoriam

Candace Bath
Candy Hess
Ida Mae Blaisdell
Jane Burnett
John And Marjorie Burnham
Eunice A. Chadwick
Gweny Colbertson
Adeline Fortier
Erna C. Herzog
Frank & Lee Kobrick & Putney
Lisa "Tish" Murphy
Helen Bosworth Parsons
Susen Robbins
Rita and Arnold Schwedock
Irene Smith
Valerie M. Smith
Karen A. Soles
Ann Elizabeth Stanforth
Catherine Elizabeth Woodard

Silver Trowel (gifts of $100-249)

Madeline & Howell Adams, Jr.
Shannon Allen & Brian O’Neil
Carol Angus
Arlington Garden Club
Lee Armstrong & Mike Lumpkin
Amy & Craig Barry
Pamela Boaze
Bridge of Flowers Business Center
Myra & Earl Carlow
Michael Chovec
David Closed Chapman Close
Cohn Financial Services
Sally L. Cornish
Kate & Tom DaFonte
Deborah Daniels
Ronald & Karen Dobosz
Constance Emmett & Suzy Groden
Emily Farnese
Andrea & Steven Frank
Lois Gifford
Joan Greenfield
J.W. Wagner Trucking
Keystone Market
Kathleen & Kenneth Kippenberger
Kate Law
Pat & Henry Leuchtman
Peter & Marion London
Tom & Gail Lucia
Marilana Luz
Joan MacLey
Mildred March
McCusker’s Market & Franklin Community Co-Op
Karen O. Moore
Dick & Dianne Muller
Jessica Murrow
Nancy L. Dole Banks & Ephemeria
Elaine & Richard Parmett
Barb & Mike Parry
John & Margaret Payne
Patricia R. Pratt
Regina Purinton
Patricia Ryan
Shelburne Falls Booksellers
Randi Stein
Stump Sprouts
Steven Thomashow
Cynthia Tomasinii
Irene Tomassinii
Anne Vogel
Judee & David Wayne
Josh & Johanna Weinlein
Janet & Robert Weissman
Donald & Marcia Wheeler
Karen Winkler
Deborah Woodson
Anonymous

Green Thumb Club (gifts of $25-99)

David Adie & Deb Hoyle
Callie, Don & Liza Ahern
Bill Austin
Vernon Avery
Ballet Renvers
Harriet Barlow
The Bellwood Family
Bladder’s Insurance Agency Inc.
Marlene Borér
Boswell’s Books
Buck Creek Pizza House
McCoy & Polly Byers
Constance Clarke
Nancy Conaway-Razcka
Davenport’s Service Station
Anush Dawidjan
David A. DeSimone
Karen Fairbrother
Fred & Lois Feldman
Judy Fog
Franklin Land Trust
Polly French
Michael Garfield-Wright
Lucia Gates
Gail Gaustad
Sharon Glazer
Jacqui Goodman & Norman Beebe
Dr. & Ms. Gregory Grillone
Judy Ann Harlow
George & Carole Hartling
Nancy Haen
Phyllis Herrera
Basil & Barbara Hoffman
Carol Hooker
Nancy Parland & Steve Howland
Doris Hughes
Jennifer, Brian & Braedon Hydrafrom
J. H. Sherburne Fine Art
Rita Jaros & Wes Talley
Sally Judd
Richard & Sharon Khachadoorian
Kim Klein
Antoinette Kuzminska
Winston & Marie LaBelle
Lake Lure Flowering Bridge
Bill & Lynda Leitner
Brian & Pat Lowell
Carly Lumsden & Eric Thiedemann
Peggy March
Tim & Carol March
Nathalie McCormick & Mark Pichette
Geraldine Mead

Memorial Hall Association
Elizabeth D. Merrill
Lisa & Ted Merrill
Bill & Amy Mish
Wanda Mooney
Sarah E. Neelon
David Nims
Sylvia Orcutt
Jon & Marilyn Osgood
Susan Petis
The Perry Family
Julie Petty & David Reading
Deborah Phillips
Jim Picard, Cabinet Maker
Malcolm & Catherine Porter
Pothole Pictures
Elizabette Radysh
Bennie Randall
Jean and Larry Ratkoff
Aidan Tremblay
Pam Roberts
Mary Robertson & Stefan Koskia
Barbara and Bob Ruchumes
Patricia Ryan
Sue Samoriski
Tony & Sarah Schoedel
Ann & Edward Shanahan
Susan Sherer
Rev. Margarette Sheehan & Dorothy Merliam
Shelburne Falls Arts Co-Op
Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters, LLC
Steven Shulda
Sylvia Smith
Russ & Cheri Snow
Gene & Patricia St. Pierre
Dennis & Susan Stetson
Shauna Stokes & Joe Chew
Strawberry Field
Bill Sweeney
Carolyn Taylor
Don & Kathleen Upton
Wandering Moon
Ann Wetherbee
Nancy & Joe Woods
Anonymous